

Reviewers: (MC) Mitchy-Poo Cardwell, (RK) Ramsey Kanaan, (STM) Sammy The Mick, (JC) Jimi Cheeta, (DM) The Reverend Dominic Moresi, (LD) Laura Davis, (RVH) Ray Van Horn JR, (TS) Tristan Staddon, (MWB) Matt "Windbreaker" Cote, (MR) Mike Rodriguez, (CDM) Charles David McCormick, (CC) Caleb Cattiverra, (NN) Nick Norton, (WMJ) William Jones, (MM) Max Maxxinson, (JBM) John Moore, (JCC) Jen Conrad, (SPO) Shannon P. O'Neal

**ANGELS AND AIRWAVES****"We Don't Need to Whisper" CD**

Honestly, how did you think this album was going to turn out? It's pretty damn good, but over-hyped much more so. Saying things like the American PINK FLOYD or THE POLICE just sets the bar so high for yourself that it's hard to live up to the expectations. This is the case with "We Don't Need to Whisper." This is a really good album, but isn't revolutionary. With instrumental buildups, it seeks a big sound, which suspiciously disappears any time the vocals come into play, leaving the listener wanting more. What they have done a good job of is separating themselves from the crowd. For what it's worth, ANGELS AND AIRWAVES does have an almost unique sound, and distinguishes itself from BLINK or BOXCAR. With a range of complexity, it also prevents itself from simply becoming background music, which works against it as well as for it. This isn't an easy CD to put in for a short car ride or for shuffle on the iPod, but taking the time to sit and listen is rewarding. Yet, for what it's worth, this album isn't the work of the world's next big rock band, and considering that's what it's aiming for...well...it just falls short and gets left behind by its own hype. (WDJ)

(Geffen Records / [www.geffen.com](http://www.geffen.com))

**THE BANK ROBBERS****"Tomorrow Belongs to Me" CD**

Ok, so first off, tomorrow does NOT belong to YOU – tomorrow belongs to US, just ask the fucking CASUALTIES man...and I dare you to disagree with them. No way this sissy lookin' group of four emo boys could take on those dudes. No way. So yep, this is just another one of the masses, making music that everyone else is making, doing nothing to separate themselves from everyone else. I can't even compare it to any one band – how about every band that's doing the same thing nowadays? If you like them, you'll like these guys. (MWB)

([www.nomilkrecords.com](http://www.nomilkrecords.com))

**THE BARRACUDAS****self-titled CD**

I really appreciate The BARRACUDAS for getting back together and not just milking the re-union aspect. This is an album of new material and it's good new material. The BARRACUDAS were a retro band in their heyday, so it's no surprise that this has a vintage sound to it. Traces of the REAL KIDS, FLAMIN GROOVIES (they even share a member) and '60s British Invasion seeps through now as it did back in the early '80s. Dig it. (JC)

([www.ndnrecords.com](http://www.ndnrecords.com))

**THE BELL RAYS****"@ The Barfly" DVD**

The might BELL RAYS caught in all of their glory. Sixty one minutes of the hot Rock 'n' Soul recorded at the Camden Barfly in London England in April of 2005. The band is powerful live and this is a great example. Eighteen tracks on this, including some that were not yet committed to record at the time of this show. Also includes 18 minute band interview. (JC)

([www.punkervision.net](http://www.punkervision.net))

**BELL RAYS****"Have A Little Faith" CD**

The opening track on this is pure '70s soul, sounds like it is a lost song off of the "Scream, Blacula, Scream" soundtrack. The rock returns by track two, but it is a rock that is honey dipped and fried up with some greens and fatback. The BELL RAYS have been around for fifteen years now. This new record seems to be the culmination of those years. The band is painting on a big canvas now. This is headphone music, there is a lot to appreciate here and one spin on a car stereo won't cut it. Spend an evening with this one, go deep with it, you won't be sorry. Not only are they writing great rock songs now, they are writing great

soul songs as well. The question is will either radio format actually put this in rotation? (JC)

([www.cheaplullaby.com](http://www.cheaplullaby.com))

**BETWEEN THE WARS****"Less We Believe" EP**

Holy fucking shit is this good! Mark my words – these guys are the new face of hardcore. Featuring ENSIGN front man Tim Shaw and ex-THURSDAY member Bill Henderson, they definitely don't lack the talent, experience, or drive to become the best, and if this EP is any indication, they're gonna be a force to be reckoned with for years to come. Definitely one of the best new hardcore bands I've heard in quite a while, and if you dig ENSIGN, or bands like 108 and BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME, you'd be digging on this too. Seriously good shit here, for sure. (MWB)

([www.thinkfastrecords.com](http://www.thinkfastrecords.com))

**BIGWIG****"Reclamation" CD**

BIGWIG hits hard with *Reclamation*. They open their fourth album stronger than most bands with "A War Inside", and are able to keep up with the high expectations throughout the remainder. The vocal approach of Tom Petta only amplifies the lyrical quality of this record. He mixes the aggression of early John Feldman of GOLDFINGER with the catchy approach of Fat Mike from NOFX. Mixed, it becomes its own sound, perfect for carrying the common political BIGWIG message (stronger than ever) through 11 great, melodic tracks. "Follow the Leader" shows off more of the band's musical diversity with metal infused guitar riffs that open the track.

"Rat Race" is a very creative concept, lyrically. Interesting variations such as these are littered throughout the album. This is *not* one that will soon be forgotten. (WDJ)

(Fearless Records / [www.fearlessrecords.com](http://www.fearlessrecords.com))

**FRANK BLACK****"Fastman Raderman" CD**

I was honestly thinking (hoping) that we would see a new PIXIES record out before a new FRANK BLACK opus. The band seemed to be on quite a roll with the touring that they have been doing, but maybe they don't like each other that way anymore (yet?). Instead the seemingly always prolific Mr Black slams down a double disk that is full of a vast array of quality music. The roster of guest musicians on this is pretty amazing, the rhythm sections from Motown, Stax, Muscle Shoals and Phil Spector's Wrecking Crew, as well as Levon Helm of the BAND, Tom Peterson of CHEAP TRICK, Buddy Miller and Marty Brown. Both disks are on the mellow side, with the rockers few and far between, with nothing as uninged as his earlier work. This is almost Frank Blacks tribute to American music, with heavy doses of country rock and a soul and or blues influence on a lot of tracks. I'm not really sure how I feel about this one, I think it's too early to tell. This will definitely need a few more listenings to digest. (JC)

(Back Porch)

**BLASÉ DEBRIS****"Creep Cool" CD**

Awkward name, but they are a pretty kooky band, so I guess that they can get away with it. Basically this is a good, spooky fun party CD. Much like the RAMONEScore bands, this could easily be considered MISFITScore. They shred out a little too much bad metal guitar, but all in all the songs are pretty good. (JC)

([www.altercationRecords.com](http://www.altercationRecords.com))

**BORN TO LOSE****"Sweet Misery" CD**

I've heard the name BORN TO LOSE tossed around in the past year, and had always wanted to check them out but never got around to it. Then I hear they sign to Sailor's Grave, which is without a doubt one of the best labels out there today, and I know that they must be as good as I've heard. Well let me tell you, when this little beauty showed up in my mailbox, I was jazzed. Psyched, even. Did it let me down? Shit no! BORN TO LOSE are playing some gritty street rock and roll, playing it fast and furious, with a unique vocal approach that I still can't compare to anything or anyone else. I've been thinking about what it reminds me of for the past 2 weeks and I'm still blank, so fuck it! All you need to know is that these dudes are the real deal, and if you dig anything from THE DUCKY BOYS to THE BONES, this is probably for you. (MWB)

([www.sailorsgraverecords.com](http://www.sailorsgraverecords.com))

**THE BOUNCING SOULS****"The Gold Record" CD**

It feels like it's been an eternity since the last new BOUNCING SOULS record, doesn't it? For years, they put out a CD every 2 years, like clockwork, from 1995 - 2003. So waiting three years this time around, that put some serious pressure on them as far as I'm concerned to churn out their best work to date. And it should come as no surprise to anyone that they not only lived up to those lofty expectations, but surpassed them. The SOULS are one of those rare bands that have never been content to simply

find a sound and stick with it, simply working within the confines of their style years after year. They are constantly pushing the envelope, trying new things, and redefining themselves and, at the same time, redefining what punk rock can be. Compare any one of their CDs to their next release after that one - you'll find similarities, but you'll find so much

is different. That's something that has always set them apart from the pack, and this time around, they push it even further and the results are beyond compare. A song like "The Messenger" sounds more like THE WHO, yet they also churn out "So Jersey," which is so SPRINSTEEN-esque it's scary. Then include "The Pizza Song," which even includes an accordion, giving it that pizza-shop feel - goddamn, these guys keep doing this nobody else has even thought of. This release only further cements their place in punk rock history, and to me, makes them the band of our generation, hands down. (MWB)

([www.epitaph.com](http://www.epitaph.com))

**CAPTAIN BEEFHEART****"Under Review" DVD**

The "Under Review" series presents us with an interesting idea—reviewing the careers of some of the more influential acts throughout the history of music. The CAPTAIN BEEFHEART edition is very well done, in comparison to something like THE VELVET UNDERGROUND's, which comes across as more of a "VH1 Behind the Music Episode" rather than a critical analysis of something. The man behind CAPTAIN BEEFHEART, Don Van Vliet, is analyzed with both praise and scrutiny by those that have played with him and a slew of others. The visuals of the DVD are presented well, and this proves to be a formidable look at the life of a musician who inspired so many of today's acts. Bonus features include more interview footage and a BEEFHEART quiz. (WDJ)

(Sexy Intellectual)

