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## DEAR DICKHEADS

#### DEAR DICKHEADS,

I am both impressed and scared shitless as I read Fishone Shadow's editorial in June's SLUG. I say I am impressed because Fishbone appears to be a really intelligent, thinking individual—and every one knows we need more people like that. It is definitely time for people everywhere to shout out and make the world see how diverse it is, and to see the importance of diversity. And sticking up for the beliefs of the Mormon church, my church, we believe in a person's right to do as he pleases.

But as I said before, I am also scared. No, I'm not some pussy who fears for my own safety. I fear for Fishbone Shadow, and people like him. Fishbone hates people like me, because the world works for us. What I don't think he realizes is that violent actions cause the world to go one step further to work against him.

Fishbone: Please catch on to what the world is gradually realizing. Violence is no answer. Keep screaming as loud as you can, no matter how badly you piss me off; but never let your muscles shut down your brain.

Idahoan Idiot

#### DEAR DICKHEADS.

First of all, let me state that I greatly admire you and everyone else involved with SLUG. It obviously takes a lot of hard work and dedication. However, I would like to respond to your tirade about the lack of support you get in the way of contributions. I have an idea as to something that contributes to that other than just apathy. That "something" is the fact that SLUG often comes across as a closed. aloof collection of blabber from a select group of somewhat selfimportant individuals. Combine this with the fact that much of the subject matter contained within recent issues is just plain uninteresting. I have been a faithful reader of SLUG since issue #5 and I have witnessed a shift in fous away from what I considered the heart and soul of your rag (punk and agressive underground music) to rather bland topics with even less widespread appeal than punk. For example, tattooing or paganism. Sure they

may be more legitimate topics of discussion but they certainly aren't as fun as music. And, like it or not. the main motivating force in the underground scene is fun. Sure, you can expand to other areas, but it has got to be negatively affecting you that you seem to be distancing vourself from punk. Even the reviews of albums lately have been mostly college rock bologna that has little in common with anything truly alternative. Now, I know that you are going to want to blame this on us, the readers, because we are supposed to be the contributors, but again I refer to my earlier comment that SLUG comes across as pretty much a closed party. Objectively, look over your last dozen or so issues and I bet vou will see what I mean.

I suggest re-evaluating SLUG's commitments and maybe having a special issue dedicated to music. I bet you a dollar it goes over better than any recent issue, especially if you have several features on several bands.

Take Care John Edward Branin, Logan

#### DEAR DICKHEADS,

l've read your magazine with interest for the last few months because I too have felt the need for an alternative publication here in this culturally deprived region. Oddly enough, JR comments in the June issue on apathy here in the area, and the Queer Nation as being the only group to voice their lack of rights. These two issues (apathy and the Gay Community) and the attitudes that seem to prevail tend to be a couple of the more explosive concerns which I would like to address in this letter.

I find the voice of your publication and most of those who choose to participate to be negative, destructive, violent, and ill-at-ease with themselves. This does not delegate an alternative point of view, and the apathy that you perceive can only be because most people are tired of listening to the rantings and ravings of the few who offer up nothing but negativism and destruction.

I'm not homophobic, I'm not LDS, and I'm not from Utah. I'm not one to be categorized incor-

## DEAR DICKHEADS

rectly into a moronic generalization of an attitude like so many of your indolent readers are so fond of doing. As is so often the case, the person/persons screaming about their own togetherness tend to be the least together. The worst homophobic I know is homosexual. I find your insecurities and your blinded-eye towards your own faults, screaming as loud as those whom you accuse.

Where is the balance? You don't even allow the same freedoms you expect to be given.

Well, I'm not sure that even a portion of your readers would be willing to stop and think long enough to assess the consequences of reactionary behavior. It happens on both sides of the fence, and it's still wrong-either side!

Be who and what you are, but be secure enough (and smart enough) to realize you can't expect validation from the whole world. And most of all—just quit your damn

Mr. Live and Let Live

#### **EDITORS NOTE:**

Thank you to everybody who responded to my plea for response. I do need to say a few things however. I never complained about lack of support. We get a lot of support from some really great people. I was complaining about the apathy that exists. We apologize if we couldn't fit your letter or other contribution in this time. If it is fitting and it isn't too long, we will try to fit them in sometime in the near future.

We don't ever mean to come across too negative but, sometimes when things are shitty...things are shitty. Keep those letters coming

DICKHEADS @ SLUG P.O. BOX 1061, SLC UTAH 84110-1061























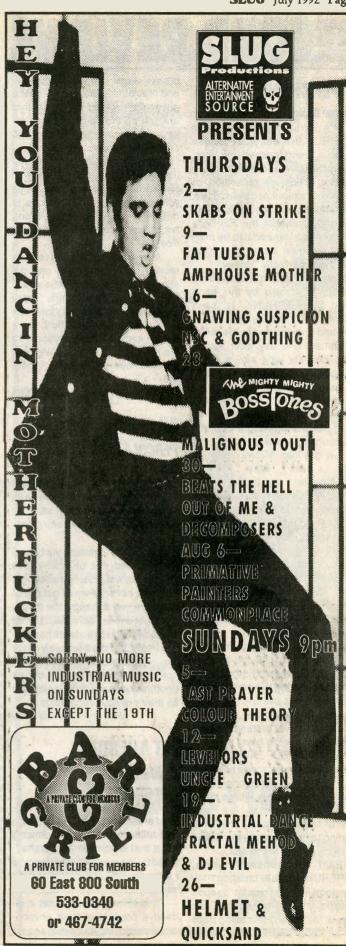












## **RECORD REVIEWS**

### **SUPERCHUNK**

Matador Recorde

The first time I heard SUPERCHUNK was on a Firehose album a friend passed my way, their latest *Live Totem Pole* E.P. Amongst this fine collection of songs was a number called "Slack Motherfucker." I couldn't recall placing it amongst the Firehose collection, so I figured it to be from the Minutemen days, seeing as how it was perfectly "Hosey."

Sometime later! purchased my first CD in months by this band called SUPERCHUNK. I'd been reading good propaganda about the band and decided to make the investment one day after spying this incredibly ugly album cover hiding in the racks with said moniker gracing the top.

Lo and behold, the album struck a chord within me immediately with its aggressive onslaught of primitive chortling, which you could say I really get into. Midway through album was "Slack Motherfucker." Up to that point ! felt SUPERCHUNK sounded a bit like a souped-up Firehose, but this song set my mind straight. Okay, they're doing a cover song, just like all emerging bands do on their debut album. As I probed further, however, the whole theory fell apart, "Slack Motherfucker" is a SUPERCHUNK original, it's on this. their third album, and Firehose was covering it!

I guess this doesn't mean a damn thing, but I thought it rather intriguing. So why would the mighty Hose be covering this song? Well, because it kicks ass and carries an attitude. Someday the whole album will be cover material for cool bands because it's great shit.

Apparently SUPERCHUNK are at the fore of a new scene breaking from North Carolina, originating from the band's own Merge label. Now that they're on the New Yorkbased Matador label, they are starting to creep across the nation and kick people in the ass.

Said influences aside, SUPERCHUNK are creating their own good sound. I'd call it "pseudo melodic grunge" because it can drive at that steady throbbing pace we all know and love, but often breaks away into neat little licks and musical muses. Heavy on the guitar and fronted by vocals that are just on the verge of being ofkey and sloppy, SUPERCHUNK never takes a dive.

The combination can be extremely uplifting, but sobering all the same because of the angst within the lyrics. Yes, I'd love to hear this package live, singing songs like "Sick to Move" and "Seed Toss"

After a few spins, I had to have more of this three guy, one gal stimulant. It took a trip to Seattle to find their previous albums, "Tossing Seeds" and "No Pocky for Kitty," and it was well worth it. Both serve as an excellent introduction into the progression of a pleasing new noise. I hope you can check them out.

— Ivar John Zeile

## All PERCOLATOR

CPU7

Sometimes I wonder if ALL will ever change. Though they've been doing the same happy stuff for years, they just keep getting better.

Percolator contains the typical well-rounded mix of catchy love songs and, well, catchy sad songs. ALL can never seem to get out of that love/live a happy life mode, and that's fine with me. What started with Descendents has carried into ALL and will probably never die. Percolator is an immensely uplifting effort that will be as unobtrusive yet wholly enjoyable as their previous recordings.

-- M. Hell

### **FAT TUESDAY**

**Califuneral** 

Red Decibel.

An accessible grab bag of musical endeavors, FAT TUESDAY's first full-length LP is a promising effort that is somewhat overshadowed by the press kit's tendency to categorize FAT TUESDAY's sound as every band except for their own.

This Minneapolis quartet is indeed a product of their environment, displaying much of the same intensity the Replacements did when they made their drunken lambada onto that scene in the late 70's. If FAT TUESDAY can avoid the pratfalls of future categorization, the chances of establishment for them on the basis of their own credibility might be possible.

Though somewhat nondescript, Califuneral is a likeable effort that would be enjoyable if it didn't lack a distinctive identity. FAT TUESDAY's ability to cover a variety of musical styles would allow them a chance to become an entity of their own.

- Charles Johnson

## **BUFFALO TOM**

LET ME COME OVER

**RCA/Beggars Banquet** 

Despite the fact of the nearlyoverplayed radio status of the song "Taillights Fade," Boston's BUF-FALO TOM is slowly becoming a more prominent name in the "alternative rock" market. Switching from the growing indie label SST to Beggars Banquet brought on a bigger listening audience with the band's 1990 release Birdbrain. Their style is tight, upbeat, grungy, and melodic, not unlike fellow North Easterners DINOSAUR JR. But vocalist/quitarist Tom Maginnis has a style that is quite clean sounding, mixed in with that certain musical mayhem. Birdbrain was an album full of anost, weird lyrics, and that grungy-noisy pop feel that has become quite popular in the recent past. But in terms of the band's progression, think of Birdbrain in the adolescent stage, and Let Me Come Over as the post-puberty

In this release, the melodies are more audible, the fuzz is turned down slightly, and acoustics are more dominating than before. Mostly. The extent of the band's diverse writing style is shown on the tracks "Frozen Lake," and "Mineral," which shroud with a mellow style of emotional overtones. But don't think that the album is boring by the sloweddown style the band has evolved to. Songs like "Saving Grace," and "Velvet Roof" are extremely reminiscent of their earlier material, complete with grunge and catchy lyrics, giving more of a full spectrum of sound, throughout the course of the entire album. It's worth buying, Lpromise.

- Ryan Workman

## UNCLE TUPELO

Rockville/Dutch East Trading

I always assumed that any music related to country-western style had ties to excessive twang and hickshit attitudes: UNCLE TUPFLO is one of the few exceptions to the rule. Yeah, they use lots of acoustic quitars, and an occasional banio and harmonica here and there. But what was surprising was how they could take these stereotyped KKAT ballads of "drinkin" in bars, and losin' their true luvs" (amongst other redneck sob stories), and fuck them up to a point where even the grungiest "Seattle" fan could crack a smile. Take, for instance, the song "Postcard." a tune that jumps out in a tight, noisy fashion, then relaxes into a strummin' sing-along harmony, and then sporadically gets the grunge a'goin' again, without missing a beat. The influence of country on these guys hasn't by any means ruined their sound, for in its own odd way, it all fits together, very tightly knit and very musically inclined. The extent of "twang" on this album is only comparable to bands like Firehose and the earlier-era REM sound, so I personally didn't find anything annoying on the album.

Faves of mine were "Looking For a Way Out" and their tribute "D. Boon" (speaking of the Firehose connection), which is quite catchy in its upbeat essence, and steady rockin progression. This album is by no means a country-western work. Personally, I think of it as a pissed off, home-down rock band, who is proud of taking CW music and twisting it out of the norm and into something that pleases people with real taste in music.

- Ryan Workman

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## POLITICS.

## THE MYTH OF PROGRESS

## **And Other Regressive Delusions**

"If you're not saying 'no' to fascism, you're saying 'yes."

-Consolidated

"This is America, Home of the Free. 'Free' means you don't have to pay.'"

- Abbie Hoffman

For a human being, as for any living organism, the simple though incomprehensible process of life occurs quite easily under the proper conditions. A human will generally live and learn and grow according to its environmentally imposed limitations, capitalizing on its inherant capabilities.

Naturally.

We humans however have been tricked into allowing our natural functioning to be manipulated, restricted and finally abandoned altogether for the sake of "progress." Anarrow arbitrary interpretation of the world formulated by rich, paranoid men has become the established myth which excompasses and enslaves us all.

Heads of state, political and economic heorists, and industrial pionears had, by the 1800's, defined "objective reality" in such a way that they were compelled to conclude that each nation, each tribe, must compete with the others for the material resources of our planet. This doctrine is affirmed by Charles Darwin's axiom of "survival of the fittest," which has been used to explain away the massively unequal financial opportunities available to members of different "plasses" throughout the world.

(It's curious to note that Christianity, our country's official state religion, is the complete opposite of free market, "survival of the fittest," capitalism, teaching us to cooperate and treat our fellow human beings as we, ourselves, would be treated. For me the greatness of the Bible is it's flexibility of interpretation. It teaches

"thou shall not kill," while other passages are used to justify and even sanctify murder. How could a nation so intolerant and warhappy as the United States purport to be a Christian nation? Hypocrisy or blasphemy? Sure the meek are going to inherit the Earth — after the greedy have left it uninhabitable.)

Anyway: The absolute need to mercilessly compete against other life forms for bare survival has certainly produced some astonishing technological achievements for us humans, but only at the cost of incalculable suffering and untold tragedy for millions. Yet still each generation by and large accepts the necessity of our king-of-the-jungle political, economic and social attitudes, dehumanizing, cruel, and ultimately unsuccessful as the may be.

What the fuck is wrong with us?

And how much of it is our own doing?

#### RITUALIZED INSTITUTIONALISM

"If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem," I'm often heard to say. Most people, however, take the opposite view, reasoning, "If I'm not part of the problem, I must be part of the solution." These people, unfortunately, don't realize how much a part of the problem they are just by sheepishly perpetuating the status quo, nor indeed, even the extent of the "problem" which afflicts them. They figure that because they, themselves, have never enslaved anyone, or participated in a genocide, they're OK.

It occurs to me that the primary corrupters and ruiners of human-kind are, ironically, the very same institutions which humans have established in order to serve them and improve their lives. Humans seem to believe that any progress is good and desirable, though 99% of the time, newly instituted facilities, products and services create



increased demand, rather than satisfying existing needs. They can put a man (or woman, or almost any damn thing they please) on the moon, but some 30 million men, women and children die each year of the most preventable disease on Earth: starvation. (Think about that for a minute.)

And virtually all of us suffer from some pathology, whether physical dysfunction or mental aberration, caused by our primitive child-rearing techniques and our brutal cultural order. The majority of us know what it is to want and remain unfulfilled.

Politicians and technocrats promise to improve our lives but all we get is more of the same.

#### THE MYTH OF CHOICE

When asking yourself what your share is in the world's confusion and malignancy, keep in mind the following:

From our births under institutionalized medical conditions, to our indoctrination in school, to a lifetime in a workforce of thankless creatively-devoid labor to the mandatory disposal of our corpses, we are force-fed a steady diet of morals, customs, laws, fashions, ideals, and so on. We are the consumers of an ideology of fear, hatred and abdication of responsibility; to ourselves or to anyone or anything else. All of the choices on major issues that we make in our lives - our diet, our vocation, our religion, our leisure — are prescribed before mandated by "popular ion," forced by econopolitical directive, and petuated as status quo

For example: As v know, the hidden curric behind compulsory so ing is to instill confo and submission to th tablishment. And vet of us would agree that dren need to go to sche receive formal instru about how to live in our etv. and also to receive fication attesting to "Schooling" has been synonymous with "I ing," and this is obvi not the case.

Because most of w considered education school is mere repetition

endless facts, students re grades based on their abil memorize data and satisfy ricular requirements rather on their ability to be effectly man beings and function cessfully in the "real world."

Schools create and recreased technology and increased institutionalism creased technology and increased technology and in

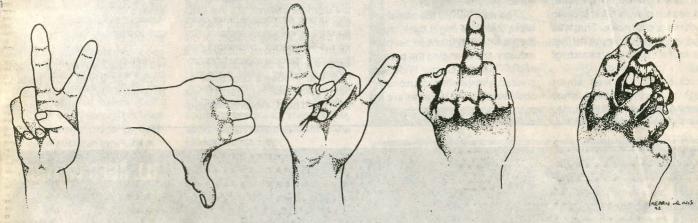
Another monolithic state tution, one which is more undentifiable as a run-arrok as of the people, is the military and trayed as necessary to the sure of our way of life, though bo essentially anti-life because quantify human worth into counts which deny individual.

The fundamental problem the human species is that interrelationehips, we tend to often than not, view and trei ers as things, rather than p deserving of respect, as all are. The reason that we do because we live in a constant of war: we are inextricably to the local, regional and competition for the control Earth's resources.

The Pentagon and Wall control your lives! Resist t pressors!

— Eric M. Zs
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## MISCELLANEOUS

## CIGARETTE REVIEW CAMEL WIDES

Camel Cigarettes have always represented established class to me. But, I've had trouble dealing with their marketing strategy as of late. I enjoy the classic logo on the package, in fact, I'll admit that the only reason I smoke 'em is because they're the one decent package on the market.

All of a sudden they come up with this assinine campaign with these highbrow, Joe-Slick guys. The subliminal message of the classic camel was not in the phallic representations but in the image of a man crawling through the desert, not in search of water, but looking for a damn good smoke. That was always in the back of my mind, not some loutish pricks in search of babes.

Luckily, Camel was smart enough to keep the established packaging, and conduct their me-



dia blitz with the stupid crew. Who cares since all cigarette advertising will be vanquished in about fifteen seconds anyway.

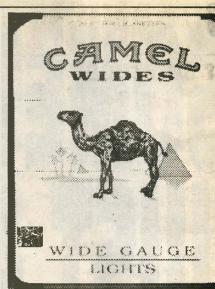
The men behind the camel are wiser than one might think, sucking the ingenuity from brother brew industry and changing the product itself. Thus the Camel Wide was created, showing the unsuspecting observer that all cigarettes are not equal.

Shit, what direction can a cigarette really go? We've already seen the wave of elongated cigarettes, produced by pansy-ass companies for pansy-ass fools. If anyone you know still smokes these oh so elegant thin sticks, kick them in the ass! They are the truly stupid.

Even if you're trying to quit, the stress involved in smoking these derelict cigs is enough to make you break out the Marlboro Reds the second your pansy ass friends leave the room. No, slim and long is not

the answer; it makes a mockery of the smoker.

The Camel Wide, however, is the ultimate answer. It's the solution that brings smoking back to the people, aiming straight for the heart. It's broad and stubby like a cigar. It's got a dangerously small filter that exudes a cool draw as flame gets closer to finger. It burns bright and hard, allowing the natu-



ral smoke mystique to come to f fore. Yeah, it's bad because smo ing is bad and only bad peop smoke.

I almost quit smoking until advent of the Wide. It's just good, why stop? Sure it's still jus wad of dried leaves rolled in son paper, but if you can't taste the difference, you must be nuts!

Ivar John Ze



## **PAGANISM IN UTAH**

## SPELS & SMELS:

This is the second in a two-part series on spellcraft using things that smell good. Now that you've been made aware of some of the basic protocols around magic and spellcraft, we'll move on to some of the more creative aspects of working with your nose to change your consciousness.

First of all, forget much of what I told you last month. Magic is an intuitive process, and I, as well as most pagans I know, make it up as Igo along. What's most important to remember is the rule of three: whatever you put out there comes back to you three times; and so it's important that you carefully and clearly ponder your objectives before you begin your process.

Another thing that's important to keep in mind is that whatever you do affects the universe in which you live. For me, that means being careful to use only natural botanical essences; never those products which are made from synthetic substances. Most synthetic fragrances are derived from petroleum; I neither want to put them on my body nor to encourage such misuse of Earth's resources. While natural essential oils do tend to be more expensive than the cheap shit you can buy at the local bath shop, they are readily available at such places as Gypsy Moon and New Frontiers, and one sniff will tell you that whatever the price, it's worth it.

Many pagans develop a system of correspondences to help them figure out which smells to use for which kinds of purposes. My own system is based on the four elemental energies, Earth, Air, Fire and Water. Each of these elementals is associated with certain directions, colors, energies, and scents. Depending on the desired effects, I then utilize scents associated with these elemental qualities. My systemismy personal system; what has meaning for me may or may not have meaning for you. However, it is useful as an illustration of how such a systèm can be developed.

Earth is generally associated with North, The colors associated with this element are green and

brown. For me, Earth energies produce the sense of being grounded on the earth, are relate to the material plane. Scents such as vetyver, patchouli, deer's tongue and oak moss are associated with Earth. I utilize these scents to feel more grounded as well as to help me realize my ideas and dreams into physical reality.

Air is generally associated with East. The colors associated with this element are yellow and white. For me, the intellect is associated with Air. Sandalwood, lavender, clary sage, copal and cedar are all associated with Air within my own system, and I use these scents to help clarify my thinking.

Fire is generally associated with South. The colors associated with Fire are red and orange, and for me, this element is related to passion and excitement. I associate a wide variety of scents with Fire, including cinnamon, clove, carnation, frankincense, neroli (orange flower), and all manner of citrus. I use these scents to give me an energy boost, as well as to make myself feel more sexually attractive.

Water is generally associated with West. For me, this element is associated with matters of the heart and renewal. Many of the more common flower scents are associated with water, including jasmine, rose, and ylang-ylang, as well as some roots, like orris root. I utilize these scents when I am depressed to help process my sadness, and also when I want to feel romantic or sentimental.

Again, my associations may or may not work for you. What's important is that you develop a set of. meaningful associations for yourself and then experiment to find what works best for your own purpose. The way I got started was to acquire a number of high quality essential oils and smell them in a controlled environment to determine : how they worked for me. It is important to work with only a few oils at a time; the nose soon loses sensitivity. if it is exposed to too many scents at once. It is also important that you experience the freedom to innovate; I often combine scents from more than one element at a time, depending on what I want to achieve. Re- 🕽 member, the nose knows!

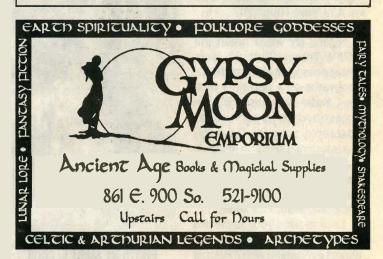


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# NEWTRIBALSM

by Tara Sudweeks & The MDFW Tribe

Tribe has been around for a long time. It is the oldest social structure that we can identify, and certainly the most enduring. So what do we mean when we say New Tribalism?

First, some introductions are in order. By we, I mean the MDFW Tribe. Clint, 20, is an anthropology student at the U. and works as a part-time janitor. Katie, 27, has a B.A. in English and works part-time as adata entry operator. Dave, 21, is a student pursuing work in the field of social sciences. Tara, 23, is studying the human condition through experience, and works full time.

Look around you. Is there a group of people that you do almost everything with? People that share the same interests or that give you support? That is a tribe. The New Tribalism is something you don't have to be born into. It is something you create. This is the same sort of social structure that has been used for centuries, but with a new twist. You can't choose your family (love 'em or leave 'em); but you can choose your Tribe.

Clint: New Tribalism to me means a voluntary family. We choose our tribe to be a support system of resources and contacts, and emotional support.

Katie: Most of the people who are interested in tribalism , tend to gravitate toward ecstatic experiences, activities as opposed to material objects.

Clint: A tribe is separate, a closed unit that gives us a sovereign identity; apart from the masses.

Dave: The new tribalism is the application and adaptation

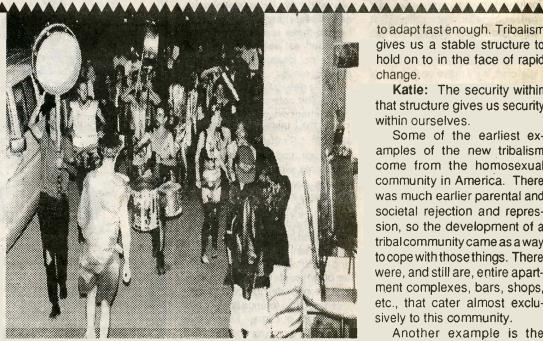


PHOTO BY MART L. COOK

**COVER PHOTOS: STEVE MIDGLEY** 

of ancient tribal structures to modern problems.

Clint: It's not an attempt to r go back to primitive living, it's just the realization of tribal nature in our society.

Katie: We couldn't go back, we're the children of T.V.

So why is tribalism coming back? We are not all products of the stereotypical "broken home;" some of our parents are still married, some are not. In talking, we discovered that people in tribes come from a wide variety of family situations and backgrounds. There are common factors, however. Increasingly prevalent is the feeling of alienation from the "status quo" of our parents and grandparents. The same high expectations are present—get a college degree, marry, buy a house, have a family, etc., but in a radically different social climate these things can be next

to impossible to achieve. A college degree is no longer a guarantee of a good job, and even if one is found, there is no guarantee that it can be kept. Many graduates are forced into low-paying, low-status jobs with the accompanying subsistence lifestyle.

The turning-away from the established system is no' an egotistical move for the most part, it is simply an answer to the forced poverty we have encountered. Tribalism is an opportunity to create our own status systems. A multi-cultural outlook enables us to find other ways of dealing with each other, and creates a more positive way to live.

Clint: We have evolved socially, but we are biologically programmed for the smaller group structure

Dave: Our world is changing so quickly that we are unable to adapt fast enough. Tribalism gives us a stable structure to hold on to in the face of rapid change.

Katie: The security within that structure gives us security within ourselves.

Some of the earliest examples of the new tribalism come from the homosexual community in America. There was much earlier parental and societal rejection and repression, so the development of a tribal community came as a way to cope with those things. There were, and still are, entire apartment complexes, bars, shops, etc., that cater almost exclusively to this community.

Another example is the feminist movement, which developed a tribal society in reaction to the patriarchal traditional society. This had some profound effects on American culture, to say the least. Among them were the Edual Rights Amendment and the nowthreatened Roe vs. Wade decision. A new aesthetic of femininity was set, redefining the way women perceived their own attractiveness, These can be loosely defined as tribal markings; the short hair, unshaven legs or armpits, lack of smothering makeup, as an example

Tribe is not limited or limiting.

Katie: I feel connected to humanity through tribal experience. When I go to a performance or gathering, I feel like I can leave my purse in a corner and not have to worry about whether it will be there when I return. There's that much trust.

We see the older views as being simpler, failer, and more

realistic. A lot of the misconceptions of our present culture are not present in people who are tribally oriented. The nondomination of Nature plays a big part — we feel like we are included in the world, and we feel the cycles of change more strongly. The concern over the environment as played up in the media is more fallacy than fact. We are concerned in a very different manner --- environmentalism as survival. If we don't change, we die, or our children die.

The youth culture of the sixties was polarized by a few big issues; the war, civil rights, women's liberation, freedom to "be yourself," etc. The times were too revolutionary to attempt to pin down in a few words. However, we can see that the rebellion was voluntary; back then you chose whether or not you got a job or went to school. Being a hippie

was something you were expected to grow out of. There was a vast idealism that they could change the world, and a great amount of optimism to support that idealism.

This is not the sixties. We are not hippies. There is no mass youth culture (unless you count the Deadheads) and the war is in our home streets. There are so many issues to divide our attention that any rebellion becomes more amorphous and involuntary than in the sixties. You can't grow out of economic repression. The illusion that America is a safe place is shattered. This is where the notion of tribes comes in. The concept of changing the world is in some ways still there. It has become more introspective, more of a personal goal. Through a stable tribal structure we can change ourselves, and have a positive effect on our environment and community.

The distrust of mass media has led to the formation of "network" tribes, where ideas and information not commonly available can be exchanged on a more personal level. Even though we may have never met the people we are in the network with, the information is trusted more than if it came through conventional channels. Crash Network is an excellent example of this. It brings together people with apartments or houses with people traveling and needing a place to crash for a night or two. The network covers most of America and a few foreign countries, and works on the honor system.

Warring tribes, more commonly known as gangs, are the most extreme examples of all the facets of tribalism. They are territorial, with all the tribal markings of clothing, language, inside information, etc. There

are extreme bonds of loyalty, and strong support systems in place. Even though these support systems can be used toward negative ends, they are still a valid example of a tribal society. Gangs were formed under the most repressive of circumstances, the poorest of inner-city neighborhoods, where they represent survival.

As for the future of the new tribalism, we feel that the use of tribal structure will increase while the established structure prevails. With the disappearance of the middle class, there will be more poor or "poverty-level" families and single people who will form their own support systems into more cohesive tribal systems.

Katie: Tribe gives credence to the individual. Anything that says "You're okay" is going to win more votes. Tribes can be anything to anyone. You may be in one right now.

\_\_\_\_



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12 THE LEVELORS AND UNCLE GREEN	14 LOIN GROOVE AND PRODIGAL OF SMILES	15 STONE PONY AND SEX GANG CHILDREN	GNAWING SUSPICION and N.S.C. and GODTHING	VISION HOUSE	18 WOLFGANG PRESS
FRACTAL METHOD	ATOMIC 61	DEAD KATS	BOSSTONES with MALIGNOUS YOUTH	DIRT.	JOHN BAYLEY
HELMET and QUICKSAND	CLUB ZERO	SEXTANTS	BEATS THE HELL OUT OF ME	GAMMA RAYS	GAMMA RAYS



## BOOK REVIEW

## IN THE BLOOD

Nancy A. Collins **Roc Books** 

For those of you anxious for a new vampire novel but unwilling to wait for Anne Rice, Roc Books has released IN THE BLOOD, the latest in author Nancy A. Collins' three book (so far) series.

Cantered on the exploits of reluctant bloodsucker Sonia Blue, IN THE BLOOD begins with the recruitment of detective William Calumet Palmer (a hard-boiled character much in the style of Bruce Willis' classic MOONLIGHTING persona, David Addison) to discover the whereabouts of Ms. Blue.

But all is not as it would seem in this situation. The employer, one Dr. Pangloss, is himself a vampire. In fact, Pangloss is a powerful member of that "fraternity" and has some information for Blue and a mission of sorts. Even the choice of Palmer has a deeper motive: it seems he has acute psi ability.

Before long, the investigator has discovered Sonja Blue and he becomes involved in that "mission," which concerns the progenitor of Blue herself, Lord Morgan, and his plans to develop a master race of vampires. Some of the vampire elite see a threat in Morgan's blueprint and seek to eliminate Morgan, a purpose which nearly dovetails with Sonja's thirst for vengeance.

All of this sounds preposterous and hokey and it often is. Collins ccemploys a "no frills" style that is skimpy with literary devices and cuts straight to the tale at hand. Unfortunately, she also manages to use every shortcut and cliche r available to authors. Most of the exevents are either obvious before they occur or are "telegraphed" far in advance.

Even worse is Collins' use of cardboard or "stock" characters. with the only exceptions being Sonja Blue and William Palmer, though. Only in these two is there some semblance of "life": 'Sonja with her duality of spirit between the human side and the vampiric "Other:" and Palmer with his awakening psychic awareness and discovery of a Mayan past life.



It seems there should be good material here for an exploration of the "shades of gray" involved in the battle of "good vs. evil," but everything is "painted' with such heavyhanded and broad "strokes" that any point becomes obscured.

In all fairness, however, there is some merit to the book. It never lapses into overt melodrama, as many works in this genre are wont to do. And it is a fairly quick and entertaining read. Plus, Collins should be applauded for employing a powerful female as a protagonist, something lacking in most works of horror.

Additional high points include Collins' évident scholarship in magick and myth, indicated by her inclusion of demons, afreeti, elementals, trolls, and other creatures among the denizens of the underworld. There are also numerous in-jokes and references for the truly hip, especially in regard to TWIN PEAKS and the Church of the SubGenius. And who can hate any book which names one of the ruling vampire

lords Dr. Benway? Collins cheats the reader. While it is admirable that IN THE BLOOD, although a sequel to the earlier AFTER DARK and TEMPTER, may be read and understood without those earlier books, the shortcomings of Collins (who is also the writer on DC Comics' SWAMPTHING) make the novel a massive disappointment. Unless you're one of those folks who "lives" vampires . . . Scott Vice

## **COMIC REVIEWS**

### DEADLINE

Britain's coolest comics magazine, DEADLINE, continues into its fourth year. And while the quality and brashness of the material have faltered a bit, it's still one of those titles that elevates a market glutted with "fanboy" junk.

Begun by British comics artists Steve Dillon and Brett Ewins as an alternative to the often juvenile 2000 A.D., DEADLINE features cutting edge work by top cartoonists and hip music news.

The latest entry, #39, is highlighted by the return of favorite alum "Tank Girl" in an ode to Beat writer Jack Kerouac. Unfortunately, this loving tribute is probably lost on most of the ilk who make Tank Girl so popular. (Writer Alan Martin and artist Jamie Hewlett have both expressed a desire to kill the character off, but fan support keeps bringing her back.) Despite this limitation, though it's actually a pretty clever and amusing satire.

Similarly, enjoyment can be derived from "Underworld," part 7 of Nick Abadzis' masterful "Hugo Tale" saga about Hugo's unpleasant trek across America along with the sadistic Spooner. The more close-minded comics reader may be turned off by Abadzis' rough rendering style, but it is employed with maximum effect. And frankly, the unflattering portrayal of the good old U. S. of A. by a foreigner is stunning and powerful.

Also, this issue sees not one, but two installments of Evan Dorkin's wonderful "Milk & Cheese." Any comic strip which includes dialogue like "Go unconscious for the Lord!!" has to have some value.

But, as with any anthology, there are low lights. These include Jan Beeston's "Bubble Up and the Sideshow Freak" and Alan Martin's "... And It Looks Like We've Made It Once Again" and "Circle Sky — It Looks Like We've Made It to The End." While all are drawn by spectacular artists (Beeston himself, Philip Bond, and Glyn Dillon, respectively), the tales are pointless and ineffectual. Likewise, the once amusing Shaky Kane continues his descent into mediocrity.

But the worst part of the magazine, as usual, is the music news and interviews, conducted in a condescending and vapid manner by the staff. While thatkind of cleverness may be big in the U. K., here it appears merely annoying.

Plus...there's a free tape of 9 "upand-coming" U.K. bands which left this reviewer alternately frustrated and bored

Despite all these negatives, though, DEADLINE is still a worthy product. The promise of the return of D'israeli's "Fatal Charm," Peter Milligan's "Johnny Nemo," and possible inclusion of short "Pirate Corp\$!" look very bright indeed. (B&W/color, \$4.95)

(Aside: There is also an odious creation circulating in comics shops entitled DEADLINE U. S. A. Published by Dark Horse Comics, this noxious comic reprints some hard-to-find material from early issues of DEADLINE along with some new material.

The only real reason to buy DEAD-LINE U. S. A. is the occasional "Weird World" by Philip Bond, "Timulo" by D'israeli, and "Milk & Cheese" by Evan Dorkin.

There is also the mystifying but empty "Thirteen O'Clock" by the usually reliable Richard Sala and some truly pathetic work by Alec Stevens and Ho Che Anderson.

But the worst content is the amateurish "Gwar" strip. Honestly, my grandmother could do better.

To be kind, Dark Horse did at least lower the price of this comic from \$9,95 to the exorbitant \$3.95. But even that cost is over-inflated.

Look, but don't touch.)

#### **TABOO**

The title means just what it says in the case of Spider Baby Graphix's TABOO anthology.

Created by horror artists Steve Bissette and John Totleben, TABOO acts as sort of a clearinghouse for ideas by comics creators and horror authors that other publishers might consider... taboo.

And, with issue #5, this comic appears to be achieving an admirable identity.

The fiendishness opens with Tom Marnick and Dennis Elletson's "39th and North," a dissection of the infamous (and nefarious) case of "The Black Dahlia." While this piece is largely inconsequential, it serves as a good aperitif for the material to follow.

And those contents are often stunning.

Atthetopofthelistis Jeff Nicholson's "Through the Habitrails." The three segments of this larger work-in-progress contained within reveal a bewildering and evocative look at life and work for a corporate entity. Depicted in symbolic fashion, the story is amusing but also depressing, as the company siphons off the employees' creativity and drives those same employees to maddening extremes. Honestly, Nicholson wields an incisive mentality which makes "Habitrails" astounding.

But no less incredible are two chapters in ongoing stories by Alan Moore, "The Lost Girls" and "From Hell." The first, remarkably illustrated by "underground" cartoonist Melinda Gebbie, is billed as "enriching pornography" and dwells on the foibles of Lady Fairchild and her mirror. The loneliness and despondency evoked by this simple tale leave one aching for more.

It is with "From Hell" that Moore achieves true perfection, though. Assistedby artist Eddie Campbell, Moore's ambitious intellect probes the history and mythology of the "Jack the Ripper" murders. But... Moore peers beneath the surface of those events and explores just what kind of mentality could have perpetrated such a hideous series of mutilations. Accepting author Stephen Knight's premise, Moore weaves together a fascinating tapestry involving conspiracy, mysticism, and madness.

Chapter 4 of this magnum opus sees Queen Victoria summon Dr. William Withey Gull to handle a matter a matter of some delicacy and Gull lures coachman Netley into the evolving and sinister deeds, with a coachride around the magickal haunts of London. All this is rendered by the sloppy but talented Mr. Campbell.

Frankly, all else in this comic pales in comparison to these works. There is a lightweight piece by the extraordinary Matt Howarth and an adaptation of a Ramsey Campbell short story by consummate illustrator Michael Zulli, but these are merely added pluses.

Those eager to rush out and buy TABOO should be warned that it is pricey at \$14.95 for 130 pages. /but the incredible interiors, coupled with the promising future addition of Neil Gaiman and Michael Zulli's "Sweeny Todd," make TABOO hard to resist. (B&W/color, \$14.95)

Afterword: There are at least three excellent mini-comics being produced locally: RHUTABAGA COMICS, CO-AGULATED COMICS AND PEZ. All are or will be available at various locations around the valley, so your humble reviewer suggests you attempt to find copies of all three, You won't regret it.

— Scott Vice

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## CONCERTS

# DECOMPOSERS AMPHOUSE MOTHER at the Bar & Grill

June 14th 1992

AMPHOUSE MOTHER. This three man band is "the band that fills in for all the bands that cancel around town," in this case for BLITZPEER who was supposed to play with DE-COMPOSERS this night, but who cancelled at the last minute. Who knew? Anyway, they're a nice opening band. They do laid back rock and roll, with some beautiful soaring guitar lines, and as their singer/guitarist put it, they effectively "killed time" before DECOMPOSERS. A lot of it.

DECOMPOSERS: Call me a sentimental fool, but I love this band. I've seen them three times now. The first time was in Pleasant Grove with SI AUGHTERCRISP STONEFACE, and GODTHING, and I was stopped in my tracks simply by the way they work together as a band. Left there with a new definition of "band" in my mind, not as a group of people working together, but as a single entity with five moving parts. I've seldom seen members of a band play off each other's energy with such flare, style, and natural ease. But I couldn't remember what the music sounded like, except that it was rockin'. So I went and saw them at B. J.'s Dance Club in late May, and that showwas not the same. They seemed a little tired and not so up, but Aaron saved the day by kicking off his shorts and doing the last half of the set in (apparently) nothing but his Ernie Tshirt. I bought their four-song cassette there to familiarize myself with some of their songs before their show at the Bar & Grill. And there, they more than fulfilled my original expectations. They rocked the house.

But first the tape. This tape is a real bargain. For four bucks, you get four rockin' tunes and about 60 minutes of blank tape for whatever you feel like sticking by them. The songs include "Heroes' (lyrics included), "Tom Fool," "Blowin Kisses," and "September," and each of these tracks proves that DECOMPOSERS rock in the studio as hard as they do on stage. The musicianship is flawless. The drumming comes through more

clearly than when they play live, and is quite impressive. And Aaron's vocals are full of the same impassioned desperation you see live, especially on "Tom Fool," a hardcore ballad about (as far as I can tell) getting involved with, to put it mildly, the wrong woman. Still, although this tape captures a lot of their energy, nothing can compare to their live show when they are up.

And up they were. Aside from a few monitor problems, the show at the Bar & Grill went smoothly, with the three quitarists pumping up singer Aaron until he exploded several times. Up till the first time, he had been wearing a baseball cap and round blue sunglasses and sort of hiding. Then in the middle of the second or third song, he let loose with a scream. and his glasses vanished. He didn't take them off, they just pooped into thin air right off his face exposing those eyes that see nothing while burning through your soul. Next they called Mike of SLAUGHTERCHRIST up and did a few songs with him questing on vocals, which added several new dimensions.

He got his glasses back on later until "Heroes," which he introduced as being about killing your mother (?) and which was definitely the climax of the show. They went through the song pretty much as it is on the tape until the end, where they hung on this one groove for a while, building up Aaron's energy until he literally exploded with a "WHATEVER HAP-PENED TO YOU?" throwing himself, hat, and glasses into a frenzy all over the stage. My heart stopped, my jaw dropped, and my guts turned to icewater. This guy is crazy, and he's selling it to us cheap. Amazingly, nothing was damaged except for perhaps some fans in the pit, which simultaneously erupted into chaos. This boy definitely feels his music. and more than anything else, that is what sells me on them.

Artists go through phases. The first is uncertainty. They're not sure what they're talking about, or if they are, they're not sure they really want anyone to know, so they hold back, and the result is always boring. Then maybe they get sure of themselves for a while and really let loose, and this is the band's golden age. Then they get jaded, and tired, and just kind of mumble their way through songs,

which is understandable if too bad. As long as an artist shows some feeling, any feeling, if only for a moment during a performance, that, to me, makes it worthwhile. DECOM-POSERS are in their golden age right now. Aaron is out there. He's got a message of desperation and abandonment, and if you see them you will feel it.

-- J. Daneb

## GODTHING and SLAUGHTERCHRIST at The Bar & Grill June 25, 1992

Any musical form stemming from the roots of improvisation and emotive spontaneity, i.e., anything remotely modern in our swamp pool of subculture, if it is premeditated or contrived, will fall far short of the blackened and sometimes poisoned stew of modern

Regardless of what lineage you lay claim, how pious or academic you aspire, you swim within the same sewage of pseudo-culture as the rest of us mutations.

When Igor Stravinsky said the "good composer does not imitate, he steals," he obviously neglected to consider the more aggressive forms and the live arena, because here execution is everything. Intensity truly separates the men from the boys. GODTHING is no exception.

GODTHING is a group of individuals bent on the idea everyone should ride Dante's rollercoaster hell-rideo'terror. Iwill ignore comparisons to OF CABBAGES AND KINGS and THE SWANS.

Initially the set began with the giant semi-transient David Byrne meets Jean Genet, invoking words as daggers while torturing an STP endorsed guitar with untrimmed strings which danced in the lights like a mad Medusa. All the while, Pippy Longstocking, hair now dyed black and pig-tail free, regressed to an earlier life as a Jewish prophet incanting a final requiem through a barrage of stones hailed by unbelievers. I was a believer.

All members seemed locked in obtuse angles orbiting Mr. Bass Player the sun; Manson sister planets traded percussive duties with fervent energy. I watched one unblinking and red crowned Guinevere swaying serpentlike, eyes trance-like in devotion. This

is the stuff with which cults are born.

Orgasmic frenzy occurred when an unshorn Johnny Denver joined the ranks of guitar and voice with tall Genet; for a moment I thought I'd died and gone to Hell again and Branca was hosting with Symphony #5.

Impressive.

"L'art est un anti-destin."

- Andre Mairaux

Towhatbetter end could we arrive than the vehement and sonic maelstrom of SLAUGHTERCHRIST and their terrible revolt against fate.

A swan song and reincamation heralded with the grungier Waiting for the Sun, christened the birth of NOVOGENUS. I could understand the change. Never having been much for sensationalism or shock value, the latter being to me a sadistic manifestation of rebellion: to rebel openly for me is to grant that which we rebel against the assumption of authority. It's not that I prefer one name over another, why not create a numerical system of categorization and forgo the hype and nonsense of names altogether and get to the meat of the In this regard, matter? SLAUGHTERCHRIST is certainly a

"Music begins to atrophy when it departs too far from the dance."

om tne dance." — Ezra Pound

What could be considered tedious and academic in their earlier compositions is redeemed by the tonally immaculate scream of Michael Mayo.

Mayo's pagan hop could pass for a sacrificial Gallic dance to insane chanting above a peat-bog victim. Or a goldilocked and rabid Smokey the Bear stomping out imaginary fires.

Mike Mulholland sways like an autistic dinosaur, the serenity masking his post-coitus expression. His guitar articulations are both ferocious and hypnotic, matching the thunderings of bassist Mayo.

Few seemed to comprehend, or ever understand, the explosive musings of one of Salt Lake City's truly great bands. The few die-hard fans and the occasional Native Americans (who for some intriguing anomaly some cultural anthropologistwould find fascinating can't seems to get enough of these poss, make up the safety net withink keeps SLAUGHTERCHRIST from tumbling into the unrequited darkness of obscurity. Somehow I think they prefer it this way.

- Eastland

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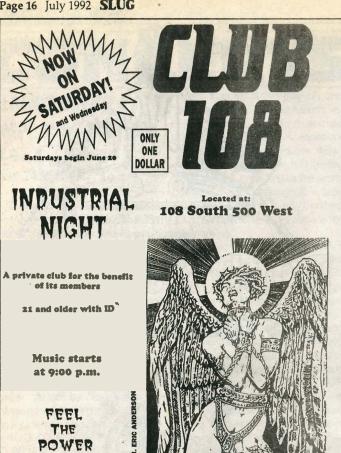


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## **MISCELLANEOUS**

## SUPPORT THE SOCIALIST **ALTERNATIVE IN 1992**

The Socialist Workers candidates urge working people, youth, and all who want to fight the increasingly reactionary course of the Democratic and Republican parties to support our campaign. Our opponents in this election have had a conspiracy of silence on the central issue in world politics: the fact that the imperialist war against Iraq last year was the opening guns of World War III. At the center of the debate in U.S. ruling circles is how they can respond to the new world disorder from the combined results of the war against Iraq, the fracturing of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and economic trade wars being sharpened by the world depression.

U. S. war moves against Iraq, North Korea and Libya and its determination to remain the undisputed military power in the world are examples of this course. Combined with the effects of the recession, these events have sharpened competition and trade disputes between capitalists around the world.

If capitalism is not replaced by working people, the international conflict among the imperialist powers will eventuate in a third world war. This can only be prevented by an international movement of workers and farmers that fights to disarm the warmakers and defend the victims of their wars, racism, and economic depression. We call on Washington to get its military forces out of every comer of the

The rulers' drive toward war mirrors their attacks at home. Both the Democrats and Republicans have moved to the right, challenging democratic rights, as woman's right to abortion, and Black rights. The response of the federal government to the antipolice riot in Los Angeles was to mobilize military and police personnel to put thousands of youth and working people in prison. The rightist direction of the two parties and the crisis of capitalism have produced radical ultrarightist forces such as Patrick Buchanan, David Duke, and Operation Rescue. It is reflected in the populist demagogy of H. Ross Perot.

They address the real and perceived concerns of millions with "solutions" that spell disaster for working people, making scapegoats out of immigrant workers, Jews, gays, "welfare cheats," and others. They aim to make us believe that something other than capitalism is the problem.

We begin with the fact that the working class is international. We have common interests, face a common crisis, and have a common enemy. In order for the imperialists to launch a world war, they must break the resistance of working people and get us to put their interests as exploiters

and profiteers ahead of our interests as a world class of toilers.

Working people can unite on a world scale to fight for protection from the ravages of the crisis of the market system. To this end we advance demands that defend the interests of all working people.

· Unemployment, which produces the competition for jobs, is the greatest division sapping the fighting capacity of the working class throughout the world. We must join together and fight to make the demand for a shorter workweek - for 30 hours work for 40 hours pay -- a universal rallying cry.

 Affirmative action in hiring, housing and education is the only way to organize a united fight against the downward spiral of our wages, working conditions, and standard of living. The employers profit of the oppression of Blacks and women, and use these divisions within the working class to keep us from uniting.

 The human toll capitalism is taking in Africa, Asia, and Latin America is unbearable for hundreds of millions. Working people in the semi-industrialized and semicolonial countries are suffering some of the most severe blows of the crisis. This is accelerated by the onerous debts these countries owe to the imperialist banks and the attempts by the wealthy rulers to unload the burden of enormous interest payments on the toilers. Aworldwide fight for the cancellation of the Third World debt

Fighting for these demands will counter the divide-and-rule tactics of the employers and their governments, putting the common interests of working people worldwide to the fore.

We urge you to join the fight to prevent World War III. Help build a movement of campaigners for the Socialist Workers candidates. Attend an international socialist educational and campaign conference in Ohio August 5-9.

Our candidates are: James Warren for President; Estelle DeBates for Vice-President; Patricia Grogan for U. S. Senate: Eleanor Garcia for Governor; William Arth for Lieutenant Governor; Nels J'Anthony for U. S. House, 3rd District; Eileen Koschak for U. S. House, 2nd District; and David Anshen for Utah Senate, First District.

To participate in campaigning for the Socialist Workers candidates, join us in open campaign meetings atour campaign headquarters every Satuliday at 10 am at 147 East 900 South; Salt Lake City, or call 355-1124.

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25.26 DOGHOUSE

> 37 **ABSTRAK**

30-31 THE COYOTE

## HOROSCOPES

These last few days have been spent in agon $\overline{\mathbf{v}}$ . I thought that some how it was possible to consume enough bran I could visit the toilet chamber thrice a day. Well, it worked, however this new found ideal of excretion left me at an honorary psychic meeting with cramps and gas enough to nuke the capital building. Even now I can hear the Love Boat off in the distance. Haunting, isn't it? Anyway, I have conveniently structured my horoscopes for your further insight and vision of destiny

## from your congenial psychic Nevis Invictus

LEO: (July 23-Aug 22)

This month will prove to be quite exciting. Have you seen the movie. "The Incredible Two-Headed Transplant," You too, will find a mad scientist attempting to put a killer's head on to your body. Wear clothes! Walking in the streets bare is not appropriate. Though revealing toes is in your thoughts lately, do expose your ankles even if you are male. Drink water and make vourself urinate seven times a

#### VIRGO: (Aug 23-Sept 22)

This month pretend you were raised by cats and meet animals that sing jazz-somewhere between Ella Fitzgerald and Louise Armstrong, but only this time, at Woodstock...with hand grenades. Be sure to tell someone that you love them. It is very important to be nice to animals, some day they will be bigger than you. Love is in the future, but not without a trial. Eat things that start with the letter "S." You will have dreams about an eccentric cowboy protecting his heard from herd from little beings from Ireland

#### LIBRA: (8ep 23-0¢t 22)

Please be nice to your family. They can and just might give you some green advice that will lead to a romance or sort of engagement in volving Gelatin. The closet contains red beings with names such as ID IKE, and SUPER EGO. Freud loves you and wants to use your brain in his after life with Erikson and Plaget. who plot on the cremation of a germ named Gary. Are gangs spraying your trees with paint? Eat red things, socks and dairy products.

#### SCORPIO: (Oct 23-Nov 21)

You know his/her name, you know the type of vehicle they drive in, you know what they look like with their eyelids reversed. Love, yes! Love is in the stars for you this month. Money and such worldly things should be ignored and don't forget to spray people with Water Weinies as you pass bus stops and social events, it's great to break the ice at parties and ready know. One last word for you Bar-B-Que.

#### SAGITTARIUS: (Nev. 22-Dec. 21)

Four Tales: Chain Smoker, Video Scandal, Rod Stewart, Satan's Station Wagon, Yes, nightmares are in your future. However, you can fight this terrible destiny with tomatoes and every thing used that usually cures you if you've been sprayed by a skunk. "Oranges aren't the only fruit." Join Scorpio for a bar-b-que and it may lead to love, romance, and the reinvention of synthetic plums with sugar and all the fixings.

#### CAPRICORN: (Dec. 22-Jan. 18)

A warrior girl on a magic horse vs. a bad princess will be in your thoughts scheme for the next little bit. Thus making you curious as to who will prove to be quite anti-lesbian. However, thinking about this, could have a worse effect on your psyche which might cause you to reveal your buttocks and scream, "Damn Yankees" for a period of 21 days. On the bright side of this month, love is near but stay away from evil influence, you know what they are. Glue and things pertaining to you and are not meant to be eaten.....

#### AQUARIUS: (dan. 20-Feb. 18)

This month you will know for sure that Cats are better than dogs. This conflict that has been burdening you will come to a head and be popped like a zit in Bermuda. The Cosmos has shifted so tell your friends of the places you will travel and the things that you will smell. Love is coming. and will arrive on your porch unexpectedly and sweep you off your feet and take you canceing in your pajamas. This person truly loves you wants you to know that no matter-what, you remain one of the most important things that has ever happened in his life. Suzanne Loraas, I love you

#### PISCES: (Feb. 18-March 20)

Unlike Aquarius, your month will be plagues of horrible gases and excrement problems such as the one I had (see opening statements) yet meet the opposite sex which you al-: 17 times worse. I have no solace, just

stay away from me.

#### ARIFS: (March 21-April 19)

Do you know what love is? Yes. vou do. However, just make sure that you tell that special someone that you would love to run and scream with them, in a public department store, which can serve as the ultimate dating experience. Pretend you own a hotel with a goofy nephew. Eat things that start with the letter "C." This month might seem that you relive the 1933 classic, "The Son of Kong," where two men and one girl find Kong's white son. This has nothing to do with racial feelings. Equality means, hunger satisfaction with twinkies and Arby's sandwiches.

#### TAURUS: (April 20-May 20)

You are about to reveal a scandal that will put a chic vampire behind bars. You and an ectomorph companion will be heroes. Do you believe in the science of shoe-lace configurations? If you suddenly seem unsure about who you really are. The only thing to do, is say nice things about others that hang out down town. Yes. you with the blond hair and leather jacket. I've had the urge to hit you with my front bumper. However, if I was a produce supplier and I found a merman I would do things slightly different than you.

#### GEMINI: (May 21-Juna 21)

" If you had the lob of labeling things in an assembly line would you still colon your hair? Stop shaving your evebrows. Love will come after the Skinny Puppy concert and the Cure concert. It is about time that you told that special someone your secret. Believe in the number 21 and 7. Your letters that will help you are "Y". and "F." Love scalphunters and find a Burt Lancaster Fan-Club. abo

#### CANCER: (June 22-July 22) "

is Edve is in the sight for you this month. I can't tell you who, how or where, but you will soon see. This is all I can tell about this menth except for the vision of fluorescent ghoul that will soon appear to tell about your fiscal affairs and sweating problems.

#### Dearest Horoscope Readers

The following occurrences have been foreseen through the Zodiac. This month bids me leave of my duties and sends me to far. a milite I am gone I leage win to the my apprentice, understudy, and ambidextrous humans oid, Delmontius Augmentus who has once of twice been known to change his name! However, I can only leave you with this journeying to your home and inhale Bob Hope. Until a later scandal, I remain Your Benevolent Psychic,

-NEVIS INVICTUS

## MOVIES/VIDEO

## HIGH HEELS

Directed by Pedro Almodovar Playing at the Tower Theater

The day a new film is unleashed from Spanish director Pedro Almodovar is a day worth living. Well, High Heels is finally playing in town, and all I can say is it's about fucking

That being said, here's my personal insight on the film, for never has a film or director been so in need of insight. Pedro is one of those directors who attracts a following because he has created a personal style; being the writer and director, he can do that. Those outside his clan might enjoy one or two of his efforts, but never catch his ultimate aroove.

I don't know how anyone will receive High Heels, because it's a little different. Sure it retains finely crafted subtle, dark humor, but it's even more veiled than usual. It also carries some deviant subtexts, but maybe they're not as bizarre as they first seem. Ultimately, I think that Pedro has created a real life drama with something genuine to say that all can appreciate.

Can he do that, you say? Of course he can; pretty well, too!

The story concerns a mother/daughter reunion and eventual bonding. Both are suspect in the murder of the daughter's husband Manuel. In a complex and far-from-pre-



dictable fashion, Pedro reveals who killed whom and why. The premise does have dark intonations, but it really carries a dramatic touch, a result of the fine talent in the performance of Pedro's latest fave Victoria Abril, and the equally wellversed Marisa Parades. They are really a joy to watch.

There still are wonderfully absurd twists, mostly found in the character Femme Lethal; is he a man, is he gay, is he Rebecca's mother, is he Rebecca's court investigator, or is he the father of the baby stirring in her belly? Yes, there is cohesion here, and you'll gasp as it's all revealed.

I'd say that Pedro is maturing and exploring, everything an established talent should do. If you see it and don't enjoy it, watch it again, because I find a lot of times it takes a second viewing to fully realize the value of an Almodovar film. If not, I hear another one of his earliest films has just been dug up and is hitting the streets. I'm sure that it will be guaranteed slapstick.

- Ivar John Zeile

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