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METAL IS THE LAW



OLD KIMBERLEY GINGER & HERB BEER IS PROUD TO PRESENT



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TOPIC WITTENSTORY

A CALL TO ARMS

The time to fight it now. We must all unite to rid this sad world of all that is not Metal. We have decided to start this 'zine with the express purpose of promoting everything that is good, loved or unloved, as long as it is METAL. This 'zine and subsequent issues will be released upon the earth whenever we have something to write about or whenever we have enough money to do it. This 'zine is sent out totally free of charge, if you want to support us please send stamps. The Crusader is compiled and released by DARK AGES a small, totally independent distribution service with the basic mission of promoting the word of metal in South Africa and overseas.

This year has been a very busy one in SA Metal with the release of two CD's. The "13" compliation CD featuring 13 SA bands. The other big CD release was the

GROINCHURN "Sixtimesnine" CD.

The big upcoming event is the "AGONY & ECSTASY TOUR 97", this is something you wouldn't want to miss. To close off with we want you to write to us and tell us what you want in the future, what you think of the Crusader and if you want future issues.

LET'S ALL JOIN FORCES, RULE WITH AN IRON HAND, AND PROVE TO ALL THE WORLD, METAL RULES THE LAND....





SPECIAL THANKS TO: Manie & Joe, Groinchurn, Dolphins Recs (France), Blush magazine.

THE CRUSADER IS A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT, INFORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE OPINIONS OF TWO ABSOLUTELY NARROW MINDED METALHEADS. IF YOU DISAGREE WITH THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THESE PAGES, WE DON'T GIVE A FUCK......

(If we all had the same opinions the world would be fucking boring)

GROINCHURN - LAUNCH PARTY

AGONY & ECSTACY TOUR '97

METALMORPHOSIS, SACRIFIST and JADED JANE are taking SA on with their Metal tour. This is going to be Metal aggression that you won't forget. They will kick off in East London and finish in Johannesburg. We'll make sure that we see them when they come to our home town and we hope that you will too. For the future we are hoping to see more of these truly courageous acts for Metal. A MIGHTY HAAAAAIIII.!!! to OLD KIMBERLY Ginger and Herb beer for believing in the power of Metal and sponsoring this tour.



Welcome to the APOCALYPSE!! From the beginning of time, man has feared this time. This page will be there for what I would call the APOCALYPTIC WARRIORS.

Christian metal has always had a thumbs down in the Metal colosseums of this country, but it is soon to be changed. Metal is the music weapon for which these bands have great respect. True warriors of their clan are they.

In South Africa we found two of these bands on the "13" compilation and they truly showed that they are just as aggressive and brutal as all the other bands featured on this CD. The two bands are PRAYER from Cape Town and GOLGOTHA from Krugersdorp (This place rules!!!!). With their death style vocals, aggressive guitar, bass and drum banging, they proved to be true APOCALYPTIC WARRIORS

TO GET A INTERVIEW PRINTED ON THIS PAGE, PLEASE WRITE TO:

APOCALYPSE 11 KLIBBE ROAD VALHALLA 0185 **PRETORIA** SOUTH AFRICA

GOLGOTHA MERCHANDISE

SEMBLANCE OF DOOM (Cassette) 6 Tracks for R30

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Band contact: 7 Farell Street, Mindalore, Krugersdorp, 1739, South Africa

NOVEMBER GRIEF

November Grief was formed in May 1994 out of the ashes of Stephanie's previous band "Burnin' Flesh" with the original line up of Annie Leclerc (Drums), Veronique Lambert (Guitars) and Stephanie Masson (Bass/Vocals).

Their first demo Evil-ution was recorded in their rehearsal room in December 1994, (The band does not seem to like this demo too much ???). A second Guitarist, Chantal Levesque, joined November Grief in May 1995, she gave the

band fresh ideas and a heavier sound. After the release of their second demo "To Live...In This World of Chaos", Veronique Lambert was replaced by Carol Roy. In August '96, Chantal Levesque left due to personal obligations, the band however is currently working on new material and searching for a suitable label to work with.

NOVEMBER GRIEF TO LIVE...IN THIS WORLD OF CHAOS

(10 BATTLE AXES)

This 9 track demo with an intro is one of the most amazing demo's I have ever heard. Professionally recorded in Studio Le mur du son



in 4 days and produced by Jean-Francois Dagenais of "Kataklysm". I cannot believe that such brutal and totally "pissed-off" vocals can come from a beautiful woman, Stephanie must have a possessed throat. Her voice is Fucking amazing, the music behind the voice also proves without a doubt that November Grief are here to stay. This band RULES, the recording labels will soon be falling all over each other to sign November Grief. Band Contact: P.O.BOX 5107, Station B, Montreal, QC, H3B 4B5, CANADA.

(Lunatic)



HEMIEW)



V.O.D BLOEDRIVIER MORBID RECORDS 10 BATTLE AXES

A MIGHTY HAAAAAIIIIL !!!!!!!!

To one of the gods of SA METAL. The CD was recorded by Morbid Records in Germany and what a recording this is. With versatile vocals that range from clean to death inetal, warrior guitar playing, battering drums and bass playing that would even get Geezer Butler to pay attention, makes this CD

a metal master piece. This CD make you want to say "THANK GOD I AM A METALHEAD!" Songs include: BLOEDRIVIER (Instrumental), FUNERAL, IF IHAD A SOUL, NEEDLEDIVE, J.M.S.P and more. Look out for the two hidden tracks at the end of the CD. The two songs was recorded live and they are "Welcome to South Africaaargh" and "March of the VOD". Band contact: V.O.D 19 Devon Street, Oostersee, 7500, Cape Town, South Africa

(J.M)



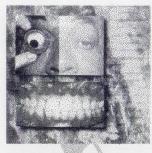
NILE

FESTIVALS OF ATONEMENT ANUBIS RECORDS

10 BATTLE AXES

Summoned from the book of Thoth comes this band of incredible musicians. This CD reminded me of why I like extreme music, the use of extreme lyrics coupled with the aggression necessary to deal with the thoughts that they inspire. The track "Godless" has

entered my hall of fame as one of my favourite tracks ever. Brilliant Death Metal combining aspects of Black, Doom and Grind with interesting atmospheric pieces in the Ancient Egyptian vein. I would most definitely recommend this CD for any Death Metal fan. Band contact: P.O.Box 6062, Greenville, SC 29606-6062, USA. (Lunatic)



GROINCHURN SIXTIMESNINE MARBIL ENTERTAINMENT

9 BATTLE AXES

Why the fuck haven't you got this one yet? Groinchurn's trademark of speed and noise with the odd slower (only slightly) track thrown in to make for a cacophony that sounds like a pneumatic drill has run out of control in your speakers. Track four totally sucks (IT'S NOT METAL) but this is

easily made up for by the song "T'M A CUNT" which is the best track on the CD. Heavy and brilliant. This CD rules!!! Band contact: P.O.Box 4478, Vereeniging, 1930, South Africa. (Lunatic)



METALMORPHOSIS BLISTERED SILVA MOON RECORDS

9 BATTLE AXES

HAIL!!!! This is what you would expect from 'MORPHOSIS. This four track CD features BONEYARD, PASSION MOTHER, FLESH and FISHES OF MEN. There is just no stopping the metal of this band. It starts with a majestic intro and bursts into total aggression. Excellent vocals, guitar, bass and drumming makes this CD a must for any metalhead. Taste the fear!!!!!!

Band contact: P.O.Box 2540, Saxonwold, 2132, South Africa. (J.M)

DELAYED ACTION BOMB BEYOND THE MIRROR DOLPHINS RECORDS (FRANCE) 9 BATTLE AXES

A MIGHTY HAIL!! We must admit that we were a bit sceptical about an album starting off with a track called "LITTLE FLOWER", but soon realized that this CD is horrifically brutal!! Tracks like "Incest" and "I believe" are destined to become classics. If real Death Metal is your type of music then this CD is for you. Absolutely possessed vocals combined with intelligent riffing. Fuck Pantera this is what Metal in the nineties is supposed to sound like. Band contact: 35 rue de Kerampont, 22300 Lannion, France. (Dark Ages)

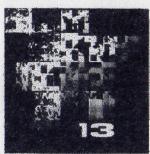


VARIOUS STRANGER THAN PARADISE DOLPHINS RECS (FRANCE) 8 1/2 BATTLE AXES

HAIL!!!! A well produced compilation from 17 Metal bands. This compilation rules!! The bands are: Spasmorhilius, File 101, Eviternity, Downright Malice, Tommyknockers, Abyssia, Acturnum, Scarve, Desperate Corruption,

Gorgon, Core, Broken Edge, Carcariass, Our Grace, Inhumate, S.O.S and D.A.B. The bands

ranges from Heavy Metal to Death Metal. No false Metal on this compilation, just aggressive music from beginning to end. This CD is a must, if you're not a wimp, and you can handle the power of metal. A true crusading effort from the French record company. The only thing left to say is "Crank it up to 10!!!!" Band contact: 35 rue de Kerampont, 22300 Lannion, France.



VARIOUS 13...A COMPILATION BACK TO FRONT RECORDS 8 BATTLE AXES

Hall to this SA Metal compilation. I can't think of a better way to get hold of a lot of your favourite SA Metal bands in one dose. It features: Gutted remains, Retribution Denied, Groinchurn, Sacrifist, Agro, Deviate, Golgotha, Insurrection, Prayer, Mesadoth, Sexwax, Infectious Outbreak and P.I.T.T. Pure

intense Metal at it's best. It makes you realise what is happening on the Metal scene in this country. The only problems I had with this CD was that the quality of the some of the recordings are not as good as the other's and that "the punk" took over some bands sound. Other then that it has aggressive guitar, drums and bass playing with the brutal vocals of course. (The CD is available through Dark Ages)

(J.M)



D.A.B

DELAYED ACTION BOMB

Formed in April 1990, the band put out their first demo, "END OF TIME" in January 1991. This fist effort was quickly followed by an Eastern European Campaign during August 1991, the "MASSACRE TOUR". In January 1992 the band put out their second demo tape, "POWER OF HATE", followed by the "BLASPHEMOUS" campaign in Europe. By October 1992, the band put out it's first professional effort, "ALICE IN HORROR LAND" and sold about 800 copies in seven months. This tape caused D.A.B to receive several offers form labels and from promoters to play in countries like Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Austria, Poland and many more.

In October 1993 the band put out their fourth demo "ABYSSUS ABYSSUM INVOCAT". This demo has sold more than 1 000 copies to date, it includes a song written especially for D.A.B by Lars Rosenberg (Ex-Entombed). This demo gave D.A.B the opportunity to appear on 2 CD compilations, one from Shiver Recs (Belgium) and Mabrnr Recs (France). The band has appeared on 19 radio shows worldwide, 32 tape compilations, two video clips and played several gigs in France.

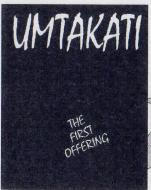
D.A.B then signed to Danger Recs (Portugal) for their first full album. The "STORMBRINGERS" CD saw the light in February 1995 and got tons of vary good reviews worldwide, as a masterpiece of brutal/melodic Death Metal. In 1996 the band moved to Thunder Recs. A demo was released through Agony Prods, called "DEMO '96". D.A.B then played the "PLAGUE OVER EUROPE TOUR" in September 1996, with the Brazilian act CORE, and with the English band PARRICIDE. D.A.B have appeared on two Dolphins Recs CD compilations,

"SOMETIMES DEATH IS BETTER" and "STRANGER THAN PARADISE". The bands second CD "BEYOND THE MIRROR" debuted in March 1997. See review on page 7.









UMTAKATI THE FIRST OFFERING

9 BATTLE AXES

A MIGHTY HAIL!!! To UMTAKATI'S true crusading sound on this four track demo. I know that the demo has been out for quite some time now, but because they sent DARK AGES a free copy and that it ruled so much, I decided to review it anyway. About these guys musicianship I can only say that they brutally rule!! This is good old fashion death metal, with intelligent riffs and aggressive vocals. If you have the balls for metal this is a must Look out for the UMTAKATI/DIEVERSION split CD

that's coming out soon on Marbil Entertainment. Band contact: P.O Box 101, Port Shepstone, 4240, South Africa.



NAZXUL S/T DEMO VAMPIRE RECORDS (AUSTRALIA) 9-BATTLE AXES

Have you ever wondered what the apocalypse would sound like? I think I've found out. This demo, as the caption read, is "guaranteed to obliterate the universe and most sound systems". If you are a fan of intense Black Metal, then this demo is for you. The four tracks on this tape HYMN OF A DYING MOON, VERMIS MYSTERIIS, ETURNUM and EDEN are all absolute masterpieces of brutal and foreboding blackness. There are no keyboards and no atmospheric passages, therefore nothing boring. The band has recently released a full length CD

"TOTEM". I can't wait for my copy. Band contact: Vampire Records, P.O Box 669, Epping, NSW, Australia, 2121 (Lunatic)



NILE RAMSES BRINGER OF WAR ANUBIS RECORDS

9 BATTLE AXES

This is a three song demo show casing Nile's most recent material. Although the material is heavier than their previous release "Festivals of Atonement", Nile still manage to maintain their use of brilliant lyrics and amazing Ancient Egyptian chants. A lot of this demo is sung in what I would imagine is Egyptian (my knowledge of this language needs work). Track three wouldn't sound out of place on an "Equimanthorn" release while the other two tracks sound like a mixture of "Cannibal Corpse" and "Machine Head", it has to be heard to be believed Despite the comparisons this is

an excellent, original piece of Death Metal. A brilliant recording and packaging completes this offering. Band contact: P.O.Box 6062, Greenville, SC 29006-6062, USA.

(Lunatic)



DISMEMBERED FETUS I DON'T FEEL SO FUCKING GOOD PIGEONECK DISTRIBUTION 8 BATTLE AXES

FUCK!!!! Nine songs of groovy, grind with a selection of blast-beats thrown in for good measure Extremely sick and twisted porno Metal for those of us who do not fit in to well with society. The use of samples to introduce the songs as well as the extremely brutal music, brilliant recording and highly professional packaging make this tape a worthy addition to any demo collection. From the intro of "T'm going to help all of you to cleanse this diseased

planet" you realize that this music is not intended for the well adjusted among us. Don't expect to be able to hear any lyrics, all you will get is twenty-seven minuted of grinding intensity, do you need any more than that? Band contact: P.O Box 9450, Denver, CO 80209, U.S.A. (Lunatic)



FESTERING PUKE ILOVE RAPE...JERKING OFF ON YOUR MOM'S FACE TAPE!!! PIGEONECK DISTRIBUTION

8 BATTLE AXES

"Festering Puke would like to say that we are not directly prejudice against any race! We just like making fun of the whole human race. The world is fucked up beyond return and if you can't wise up to that reality then you are the truly ignorant one's !!!!" I love this band. This tape is absolutely himous, 68 songs in just over 30 minutes. Various anthems of hate and depravity with tiles like THE BLACK ALBUM (SUCKED), STOMP THE FAGS (pt.2) and I HOPE YOU HATE US make this tape a collectors item. The music is total

grindcore with plenty of porn and noise to add to the feel. If you can't afford phone sex lines, but love them, then you would enjoy this tape. Band contact: P.O.Box 9450, Denver, Co 80209, U.S.A. (Lunatic)



SEX WAX LIFE SCUMCORE 6 BATTLE AXES

This demo features the nine studio recordings, of which two found their way onto the "13" compilation as well as eight tracks recorded live at Mzuri Underground (RIP). Putting aside the all to evident punk influences, which I could do without, you will realize that this demo is actually very good, with a considerably larger budget and a lot less punk, Sexwax could record some even more brilliant material. If you enjoy songs about the government, yuppies and alcohol, then you will enjoy this demo. The quality of the recordings really sucks (which caused the low rating), but

that's a minor factor considering the amount that they spend on the recordings. Music to party... Band contact: 603 La Coruna, 89 Verdoorn St., Sunnypark, 0002, Pretoria, South Africa. (Lunatic)

METAL BANDS SEND PROMO MATERIAL FOR REVIEW!!!



DRIVEN TO KILL SEETHING

4 BATTLE AXES

"Out of the ashes of various Cape Town underground hard-core thrash and death metal bands, came the inspiration to create a new sound" (DTK). This is a band that combines technology with the real metal sound on their four track demo. The vocals, guitar and bass playing is aggressive and it rules. The reason that this demo got so few battle axes is because they used drum programming. SHAME ON YOU!!!!!!! If you like being in fashion and therefore like Pantera with a Ministry influence, then this is for you Band contact:

3 Lincolnfield Rd, Lakeside, 7945, Cape

Town, South Africa.

BANDS PLEASE SEND PROMO MATERIAL FOR A REVIEW TO:

THE CRUSADER P.O.BOX 39550 GARSFONTEIN 0042 PRETORIA SOUTH AFRICA

OR

THE CRUSADER 11 KLIBBE ROAD VALHALLA 0185 PRETORIA SOUTH AFRICA

BUT PLEASE ONLY METAL.



ARAGORN

ARAGORN, a band many of us old Metalheads will remember. In fact if you can remember ARAGORN you are most likely to be getting a tad old. Aragorn was the first South African Metal band that I ever heard. I can remember my first Metal gig ever, it was in the late eighties, in Jacquelines (Pretoria) of all places. IRON MASK and ARAGORN were playing. Iron Mask were very good but then Aragon hit the stage, fuck, they blew me away. After that I went to go see them at every opportunity I got. In '89 and '90 they recorded at the SABC studios. Tracks like "On the Run", "Digital Breath" and my favourite "ROCK YOU (TILL YOU DIE)" will always be Metal anthems to me. The following is an extract out of a "Blush" interview (heh, heh, heh).

"ARAGORN are not a "thrash" band, we just play music we believe in. Good hard rock. Our show consist of 6,534% covers, when we do a gig, we really party and give our audiences a great time. We like to get audience participation. Pyrotechnics is a hobby of Andre's, so we use a lot of it on stage. We are also not scared of moving around. The entire show must be worthwhile for the audience. Before we go on stage we say - LET'S KILL!"



11 KLIBBE ROAD VALHALLA 0185 PRETORIA SOUTH AFRICA



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STRANGER THAN PARAD



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Deviate, Golgotha
P.I.T.T, Prayer
Insurrection
Mesadoth
Sexwax
Infectious Outbreak



We do not subscribe to the bad boy image of Metal. Aragorn is defenitily anti-drugs, as far as we are concerned it is not 'Sex, Drugs, Rock 'n' Roll', just 'Rock 'n' Roll' (sure, you can see this was meant for BLUSH magazine - Lunatic). We got our name from J.R. Tolkien's 'Lord of the Rings'. Aragon is one of the heroes who fights evil forces'. Mani says, "We fell that hard rock bands should stick together. To make it in this country we must build each other up and not break each other down. As Ozzy Osbourne once said: 'You meet a lot of people on the way up, don't fuck with them because you will meet them on the way down'.

ARAGORN are:

Konrad Tenaro
Jon Buckley
Andre Mullan
Jorge de Mendonza
Mani de Gois

Lead Vocals
Lead and Rhythm Guitar
Rhythm and Lead Guitar
Bass (ended up in STRYDER)
Drums (ended up in STRYDER)



WICKED SCRIPTURES

"...LEAVE BEHIND THE WEAK WE MUST TAKE THE STRONG IN HAND, TOGETHER ARE THE WICKED, VIOLENT FORCES IN COMMAND..."

This page is dedicated to those with a spirit that fights and overcomes. I am looking for bands who revel in the dark side of life. In future issues this page or more will be used to interview and review any forms of Black Metal or Dark Death Metal. Get in touch with me now!!!

Wicked Scriptures C/O "Evil" Ryan P.O.BOX 39550 GARSFONTEIN PRETORIA 0042 SOUTH AFRICA

THESE

"Borne of the red sun skies of Terra-Australis, formed under and by the night, forged of legend and blood, reigned with Evil, the terror begins..."

Nazxul's first release was their self titled demo, see the review in the demo review section. They have recently released a CD entitled "Totem", an album that took nine months in concept and execution. 11 Evil messages clocking in at around 70 minutes make this a masterpiece of Blackened brutality.

"Nazxul's Dark Empire shall shadow all lands. All skies will cloud, and blazing rain will wash down, the hidden will strangle the light. The end is soon, and the world is at it's mercy..." Band contact: Nazxul, P.O.Box 335, Annandale, Sydney, Australia, 2038. (Lunatic)

TILL HELL OPENS UP AGAIN!!!

The Dolphins Recs Company

35 rue de Kerampont 22300 Lannion - France Tel/Fax : 33.02.96.46.47.23

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EP'S .. 65

LONEWOLF..Holy Evil. French Loud Heavy DISGRACE. Five Hard Years..Brisilian Thrash/good vocals CREMATE..Enchanting Black Recess..Great, Dark from

CD COMPILATIONS .. 145

SOMETIMES DEATH IS BETTER...D.A.B/Deranged/Distrophy,etc...
DEATH OF GLORY...Abcess/extorsion..
STRANGER THAN PARADISE...Desperate Corruption/Gorgon/Eviternity...

AND MANY MORE!!!!!

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DARK AUSES CRUSADING FOR METAL

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