

## Vanilla Ice comes back and colder than ever on Hard to Swallow

By Brad Moist  
Assistant Editor

Well, the man that told us to "Stop, collaborate and listen" is back at it again. Vanilla Ice has returned to the music scene with his newest project, Hard to Swallow.

First let me say, "do not be alarmed," for the once cheesy lyrics and flashy clothes that made Vanilla Ice popular is not what you'll find on his newest venture. Instead you will find aggressive and direct lyrics backed with slamming hardcore music that is dark and scary.

Producer Ross Robinson explained it best by saying, "What could be more punk rock than producing a Vanilla Ice album?" And if you know music, then you'll know that Robinson has produced such hardcore acts as KoRn, the Deftones and Limp Bizkit -- bands that have brought forth to the mainstream music scene a style of underground music that blends rapped, sung and screamed lyrics with music so intense it'll knock you off your seat.

Robinson does not disappoint in his latest production effort, which is perhaps the greatest challenge he has ever undertaken. Just imagine trying to produce an album for an artist that has been labeled an outcast and a one hit wonder. Not only is he producing an album, but he is reinventing an artist at the same time. Though don't forget it is Vanilla Ice himself who has changed his musical direction. But at the same time it is still hard to forget the shaved eyebrows and baggy windpants that made him who he is, or should I say, was. For that artist no longer exists.

To fully appreciate this album, one must have an affinity for this style of music. Second, one must completely remove any old visions and sounds you have of Vanilla Ice. Third, listen to the album as if you were just listening to the newest hardcore act. Because if you do that,

then I can't see how you won't love this album. If you are true punk, then Hard to Swallow is just for you.

Vanilla Ice leaves the flashy, girly lyrics behind this time. Instead he attacks the industry, critics, hypocrites and posers of the world. You

to hear that track seven is in fact the lyrics of "Ice, Ice Baby" but reved up and retitled as "Too Cold." The album is worth it just to hear this track.

It is quite an experience to hear some of the most famous lyrics ever set to music that is, for all intents and purposes, very hardcore. The guitar riffs on this track will stick in your mind all night along with the words that started it all for Rob Van Winkle. But "ice, ice baby" will mean something totally different once you have heard this version.

So, if you are down with old school, and you are totally punk, then this is a must get. Vanilla Ice is back ya'll. He erases all memories of being a one hit wonder with Hard to Swallow, because Ice is finally who he is musically and lyrically. Vanilla lets it all out with no compromises or remorse through 11 hard-hitting tracks.

Go out and get this disc. It is by far one of the best comeback albums ever.



Hard to Swallow hit stores on October 20 and was produced by Ross Robinson

can plainly hear the anger in his raps, as well as when he screams like a bat out of hell.

His emotional pain growing up is extremely vivid on the track "Scars" as Ice rips through the line: "Mother, did as good as you could, after all the abuse I still understood, 3 times divorced, and 3 times a kid, gave us more love than our father ever did." Though as he expresses his anger, he expresses his love for his own family by screaming out "True to my family, stay true, stay true."

On "F—k Me" Vanilla attacks those who jumped on the bandwagon and the critics by stating "Like Ginuwine, you tried to ride me like a pony. I'm the only one who's gonna shine. So forget it you critics who weren't with it."

The music is just plain intense on this track, and all thanks go to Robinson and Ice for putting together one heck of a studio band. There is enough intensity with enough melody on each track to slam you and catch you grooving.

Fans of old school will be pleased



photo by Kim Glass

## Kastle pounds the keys in Gallery Lounge show

Pianist Richard Kastle recently made a visit to Penn State Harrisburg. His performance on Oct. 14, in the Gallery Lounge was the first performance in a series of concerts entitled "Live in the Gallery Lounge." The event was sponsored by SGA and Student Activities.

Kastle's distinct style of playing classical pieces as well as his own while dressed as a modern day punker (dyed hair and all) has brought him much success. He has had the opportunity to go on tour as the opening act for Jay Leno, as well as appear on The Tonight Show.

He opened his performance in the Gallery Lounge with an original composition entitled "Atlantis." A piece that was so creative you could almost hear water in the music. His set included Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag" and Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody."

"Live in the Gallery Lounge" will host the local acoustic alternative act the Tony Perry 3 on Mon., Oct. 26, and jazz artist Sarah Pillow on Wed., Nov. 18. All shows start at noon.

## Manson back on WVU newsstand

From the Associated Press

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — An entertainment newspaper with a 5-inch photo of nude shock-rocker Marilyn Manson masquerading as a woman was returned to West Virginia University newsstands, nine days after a student-union supervisor had them pulled.

Spokesmen for Charleston-based Graffiti said the issue with the Manson ad was distributed to every college in the state, and WVU officials were the only one to complain.

"I think it's just kind of a slap in the face of the students at WVU," said operations manager D.B. Shawver. "Who are they to decide what should or should not be available?"

"I personally didn't find the ad particularly attractive, either. But it's not a graphic representation of

sex or murder or anything like that. It's just a strange photograph," she said.

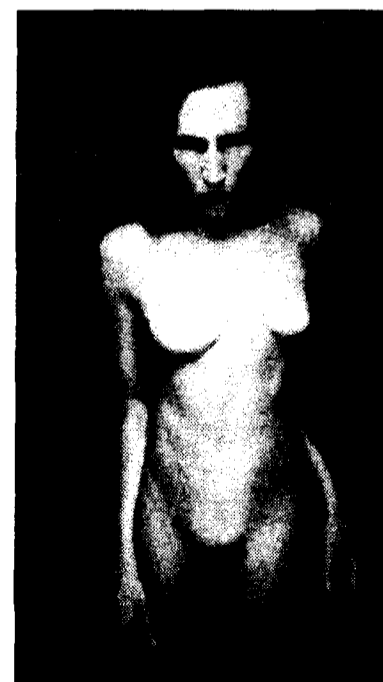
An unidentified information desk supervisor at the WVU student union, the Mountainlair, ordered the current issue removed after students and visitors complained, university spokeswoman Becky Lofstead said.

The complaints were not directed solely at the ad but also toward a story about how to find a homosexual partner, she said.

"Apparently, that was offensive to a lot of people who were picking it up and reading it," Lofstead said.

The supervisor, whom the university declined to identify, made a judgment call to appease those complaining, she said.

But because the free monthly publication had been approved for distribution by a student advisory board, it was returned to the Mountainlair, Lofstead said. A newsstand in the Mountainlair sells



Marilyn Manson on the cover of his latest album, Mechanical Animals

Playboy and other adult magazines, she said.

The ad, paid for by the record chain Disc Jockey, featured various CD covers, including Manson's "Mechanical Animals" and Sheryl Crow's "The Globe Sessions." It appeared in 75 U.S. newspapers.

The Chameleon Club presents...

**Mightyhead**  
w/ **Dilton**  
on Thurs. Nov. 5  
at 8:00 pm  
All Ages \$5

**Big Tubba Mista**  
w/ **Brown Derby Junction**  
on Thurs. Nov. 12  
at 7:30 pm  
All Ages \$6