

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



What's All The 'Rage'?

By Al Stavola

Lion's Eye Staff Writer

The Battle of Los Angeles is the new, long-awaited release by Rage Against The Machine. Having seen huge success with their previous two releases, Rage is sure to make a fortune from this album. The new single "Guerilla Radio" is catchy and already receiving lots of play on MTV and WYSP.

However, after listening to *Battle of Los Angeles* several times, this reviewer would rate it as mediocre at best. This is due to two main factors: a lack of originality on the part of guitarist Tom Morello and irritating vocals by singer Zack De LaRocha. Morello seems to use the same riffs album after album. He's a very talented musician and shouldn't limit himself. Zack's vocals have always been somewhat choppy and nasal. However, on this album they seem more so than ever before.

Another factor, which could un-

doubtedly detract from Rage's overall popularity, is their seemingly endless struggle to be as controversial as possible. *Battle of Los Angeles* brings this problem to a new level. While Rage has been known to rabidly support convicted Philly cop killer Mumia Abu Jamal, this album takes that support up a notch. The song "Voice of the Voiceless" applauds Abu Jamal and demands his release from prison. This issue may cause problems for Rage in Philly. With groups protesting Rage concerts and threats of potential violence, the publicity surrounding Rage's arguments comes into question. Is it wise to take such a controversial stance if it might be harmful to one's sales and/or popularity?

Overall, *Battle of Los Angeles* is a fairly decent album. However, Rage's previous two albums were much better. If anything, this new release seems like a watered-down version of their previous work.

Conrad's Rollercoaster

By Regis Fields

Lion's Eye Staff Writer

The novella *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad blends the primal fear of the human soul with the uncertainty of unknown Central Africa and comes up with a commentary on human nature that some would like to believe does not exist. The story occurs retrospectively form as the narrator, a proper and analytical boat captain, recalls the events of his trip down the Congo river towards a fate named Mr. Kurtz.

The story stands as two kinds of journeys: the first down the river physically towards the ivory hunter Kurtz. The other a journey into the human psyche, a trip that due to an often

hostile and unpleasant environment evoked emotions out of the characters such as paranoia, panic, impulsion, and subtle forms of barbarism disguised in colonial good intent.

The story, told in the first person narrative, gives the constant insight and opinion of the captain Marlow, and it is through his turbulent inner emotions and refined outward attitude that the author attempts to involve the reader from river station to station on their quest.

This novella is good for those with the time and patience to develop a thought process that can be shared with the characters in the story. This novella will have no effect on a reader that does

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Book Review:

Native American Hero

By Regis Fields

Lion's Eye Staff Writer

In the biographical work of *Crazy Horse* put out by Penguin Publishing, the author paints for the reader what it may have been like to be the Native American warrior legend, Crazy Horse. In this work the reader journeys along with the legendary figure through his life in the turn of the twentieth century in the American southwest.

The events are factual and accurately provide the reader with a historical context of Crazy Horse's life. What makes this a most interesting work is that the background of his life is done with such historical accuracy that the reader not only can learn of Crazy Horse but can understand why he did what he did. The author goes into detail describing the areas in which he lived, the people he interacted with, the conditions of society pertaining to Native Americans, even insight is given into the

relationships he had with other Native American women.

The biography obviously is written from the third person viewpoint, but the omniscience of the author into every little detail of Crazy Horse's life does extreme justice to bringing a legend to life. Crazy Horse, the individual, vividly comes to life in this work, rarely does a work based in history give the audience such an immediate connection into the character make-up of a figure. Ultimately that is what makes this a great biographical work, because even something like warfare is expressed to the reader in terms that morally can be understood due to the character analysis and descriptors used to familiarize the audience. By the end of the work, the audience has no choice but to view the late Native American hero as a man with just as much character and decency as is ascribed to those labeled as mainstream American heroes.

Heavy Metal Never Dies

By Al Stavola

Lion's Eye Staff Writer

Looking for a unique blend of noise, aggression, and pure insanity? Then look no further because *Slipknot* fits that description perfectly. The nine-member Iowa act's self-titled debut seems to be doing well with the mall-rat set and many heavy metal fans. This album can immediately be compared to Korn's own self-titled debut album. Due to the intensity and ferociousness of the music. *Kerrang!*, a magazine which focuses on heavy metal music, described *Slipknot* as "...The most venomous, veinpoppingly furious album since Korn's 1994 and easily the best metal debut of the year."

Perhaps the major distinguishing factor of Slipknot is the band's unique makeup and act. All nine members wear masks and red jumpsuits onstage. In most cases, the band takes up the entire stage. With their many members: a lead singer, three drummers, two guitarists, a bassist, a sampler, and a DJ, this band has a strange makeup. With this unusual lineup and stage presence, it is obvious why Slipknot is such a popular live act. Also contributing to the band's popularity are their Ozziest appearances and a tour with Coal Chamber and Machine Head.

For anyone who misses the aggressive, bludgeoning music of Korn's first album, or who simply likes loud noise, *Slipknot* is the perfect album.

Static-X is another band that is seeing rising popularity. Their debut, *Wisconsin Death Trip*, immediately reminds the listener of some sort of White Zombie/Coal Chamber hybrid. With loud guitars, aggressive vocals, and catchy techno beats, Static-X is a welcome addition to the hard/metal music scene. The album's first single "Push It" has become big with ravers and has received radio play. The video uses some sort of stop-motion animation and is reminiscent of a Tool video.

Static-X is an excellent live act as well. Having appeared on the Ozzfest tour and as an opening act for such metal greats as Fear Factory and Megadeth, Static-X is well-traveled. Singer/guitarist Wayne Static is immediately recognizable with foot-long hair standing straight up over his head and a long braided beard.

Static-X is a unique entry into the music world. Their high-energy performances and catchy songs should propel them to fame. If you are a fan of White Zombie and other techno/metal acts, then this Midwestern quartet is definitely a band you should check out.

- WINNERS AT THE SGA COSTUME BALL -



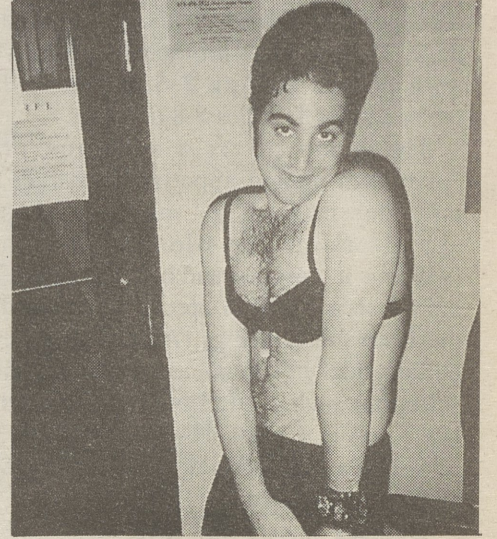
"Best Couple"



Dave Horevey as "Hippie Biker Cop"



"Best Inanimate Objects"



"Most Courageous Costume"