

Alternative Music Alternatives

by Shawn Swanson
The Collegian

Sonic Youth
"Dirty"
DGC

If you were expecting a progressive sounding pop album from New York City's premiere alternative music innovators, you will be sadly disappointed by the seventh album from Sonic Youth. The second major label waxing appropriately entitled "Dirty" is reminiscent of the early 80's punk rock style of uninhibited expression through noise. Thruston Moore, Kim Gordon, and Lee Rinaldo are the main conspirators of the effort, and have collectively challenged the tastes of the typical listener of the Lollapaluza bandwagon. Butch Vig, of Sub Pop Records, has lended his expertise on the engineering platform to shape the tunes into a classic Youthian form. Sonic Youth has also recruited D.C.'s only hard-core deity, Ian Mackaye, to play x-tra guitar on "Youth Against Fascism." They have created a perfect blend of distortion and meaningless lyrical content in songs like "Sugarane." The twelfth song "Chapel Hill" is a tune reflecting back on the underground music scenes of old and the up and coming scenes of the future. The album is a genuine piece of work. A must buy if you can scrounge up enough pocket lint.

Helmet
"Meantime"
Interscope Recds.

It is no longer safe to walk outside, they have finally done it. The loudest, heaviest, and most powerful underground band has signed a million dollar deal with a major label called Interscope. Helmet is based on the lower east side of Manhattan, and has been making hard-core music for a number of years.

Their latest album "Meantime" has soared up the Alternative charts. The title track stands out as a modern anthem of teen anxiety. It is a melody of distorted power chord death and is a fitting beginning to the album. When you listen to this album in its entirety you may find it to be monotonous and choppy at times. But when you begin to feel an inkling of disinterest, you'll reach a song that bludgeons your ears like a sledgehammer. "You Borrowed" is perfect example of a tune that just makes you want to move. This record is a solid investment for any Helmet fan. However, if you have never been exposed to Helmet before, you might want to pick up the nine song E.P. entitled "Strap It On". It is a good way to see if you have the "nads" to be a true Helmet fan.

Upcoming Alternative Release
Velocity Girl
untitled
Sub Pop

Velocity Girl is the latest band to sign with the independent conglomerate Sub Pop Records out of Seattle. They are Sarah Shannon-vocals, Jimmy Spellman-drums, Archie Moore-guitar and vocals, and Ryles on bass. The band hails from Silver Spring, Maryland; just a tad north of D.C., and have essentially started their own music scene because they didn't fit the genre coming out of the central metropolitan area. Velocity Girl has a very unique style somewhat like a nursery rhyme crossed with a wave of fuzz. They write nice, happy, catchy melodies that make an addictive form of ear candy. Velocity Girl gives you a taste of their soul in every song that really can't really be expressed in words. Keep your eyes open for the new album, it will make your year.

Smooth and Rock Serve Up Hard Rap

by Liam O'Mahony
The Collegian

Pete Rock and C.L. Smooth
"Mecca and the Soul Brother"
Elektra Records

Pete Rock and C.L. Smooth represent a new style in the world of hip-hop flavor. Their first full length LP "Mecca and the Soul Brother" reveals many different and innovative sounds produced by D.J. Pete Rock; while C.L. Smooth delivers socially conscious lyrics without "the sticker" (the Explicit Lyrics sticker to be more precise) appearing on the cover of the album. The entire album is marked by beats slower than that which many

hip-hop followers may be used to, but it is definitely hittin'. The first single "The Reminiscence Over You (T.R.O.Y.)", which has been featured on Yo! MTV Raps, is a dedication to the late Trouble T-Roy of Heavy D and the BoyZ fame. It is clearly

spotlight since last summer's EP release, but are now producing the group Run DMC and making re-mixes.

If you like slow, thought provoking rap, this album is the one for you. On a scale from 1 to 459 (1 being the lowest and

"If you like slow, thought provoking rap, this album is the one for you."

the strongest track and should be regarded as an emotional tribute to a late friend in the rap world. Heavy D and Grand Pub deliver cameos in "The Basement" and "Skinz" respectively. The song "Anger in the Nation" responds to the idea that everybody can "get together". These two artists (Heavy D and Grand Pub) have remained out of the

459 being the highest), I would give this album a well deserved 411.

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Weekly Crossword

" Hats Off To You ! "

By Gerry Frey

- ACROSS**
- 1 Smaller portion
 - 5 Chair person, eg
 - 10 Messrs. Malone & Spade
 - 14 Burn medicine
 - 15 Cognizant
 - 16 Race track
 - 17 Scottish hat
 - 19 Phone and bucks lead in
 - 20 Succulent
 - 21 Type of hat
 - 23 Greek portico
 - 26 Winged
 - 27 Sixth sense
 - 30 Ms. Ferber & others
 - 32 Flower part
 - 36 Brand of felt hats
 - 38 Dance light
 - 39 Surfelt
 - 40 Straighten the ball
 - 42 Heraldic term
 - 43 incidents
 - 45 Signed on
 - 47 Suit material
 - 48 Hat parts
 - 49 Draft org.
 - 50 Wager
 - 52 Mr. Carnegie
 - 54 Burns without flame
 - 58 A Lewis Carroll heroine
 - 62 Knell
 - 63 John Paul II's hat ?
 - 66 Therefore
 - 67 Sardinia's mainland
 - 68 Ms. Turner
 - 69 Middle point
 - 70 Thick
 - 71 Superlative endings

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69						70						71	

- 7 Messrs. Quayle & Rather
- 8 Sports palaces
- 9 Heavy
- 10 Pedro's hats
- 11 Affirm
- 12 Gift bearing kings
- 13 Bridge coup
- 18 Computer measurements
- 22 Long ago
- 24 Stenches
- 25 Ms. Bancroft
- 27 Dangerous curves
- 28 Barrel part
- 29 Paul & Mary's partner
- 31 Daisy-like flower
- 33 Wines & harbors
- 34 Do follower: At-tainables
- 35 City in Northern England
- 37 Hop-a-long's hat
- 38 Alabama city
- 41 City in Oklahoma
- 44 Care for
- 46 Muslim religion
- 48 Bawl out
- 51 Lukewarm
- 53 Cream of the crop
- 54 Flower part
- 55 Greater portion
- 56 Ms. Korbut
- 57 Bridge part
- 59 Flammatory suffix
- 60 Penny
- 61 Epochs
- 64 Messrs. Hirt & Bundy
- 65 Soap ingredient



PUZZLE SOLUTION ON PAGE 10



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