GEERS INTERVEIN Champion P.S-6 SXE Moslow's "SKINDEAD" THREAT: P. 14 LANGE L

SUCK WHAT?

+ MUCHE





Broke in Korea

March - April 2005

This zine is published bimonthly, in an every-two-months sort of way. Only time will tell if we get a second issue out.

Editors:

Paul Mutts Jon Twitch

Contributors

Joseph Atskunk Jack Daniels Nevin Domer Jane McKellar Amanda Morony Paul Mutts Soju Rat Jivoung Jon Twitch JM Verville

Translation

Nevin Domer Rip JM Verville

Art Jane McKellar

Photos

Jon Twitch (unless otherwise noted)

Lavout

Jon Twitch

Weird little monkey comics Joseph Atskunk

Contact

jon_dunbar@hotmail.com cyber_smoke59@hotmail.com

Message Board

http://brokeinkorea.tk

Show info

ioev@skunklabel.com http://skunklabel.com/eman.html

Contributors welcome

groups.yahoo.com/brokeinkorea

This zine was designed using a pirated copy of Adobe IndDesign CS. What are you gonna do about teacher from Australia. Once she

Joseph Atskunk has lived in or she'll throw down all over career in skeet-shooting.

Korea so long, he's beginning to forget what English was like. Originally from Texas, he's been here for six years.

He runs the seldom updated Skunk English page, and recently joined Rux as their extra guitar-

Currently studying Korean here, Nevin Domer is probably our best Korean speaker. Koreanophone? How would you say that?

He's the most sober one of all of us, Make it your mission to buy him a drink whenever you

Jane McKellar is an English gets drunk, stay out of her path, your blue ass.

Paul Mutts is half Korean who has forsaken his American citizenship. If you are with the authorities, remember that you cannot touch him unless he's on race, but it was an accident. American soil.

He just moved back from Salt Lake City, where he started the band Twelfth Street Staggers. A long time ago, he was in Rux. Now he just gets drunk early and starts a pit, no matter how few people are there.

The only full-blood Korean writer in this issue, Jiyoung played a few shows here with her band I Love JH, before mov-

About as stoic as a hummingbird on speed, Jon Twitch is Korea's most impolite skinhead. He wears red bootlaces because he's shed blood for the white

At shows you can find him taking pictures and getting drunk

He's only met us online, but JM Verville has his eves on Korea. Studying the Korean language in a military intelligence institute in Monterey, California, he also wants to make a personal connection with Korea's skinhead

He's coming to visit in Sep-

ing to Atlanta, Georgia to start a tember 2005. What are you running from?

Couch for sale?

Jon Twitch

You always hear punks talking shit about "selling out," but how many of them can resist the temptation if the opportunity arises?

Urchin (신현범), the lead singer of Seoul pogo band Couch, answered that question with a clear "씨발 안한대두."

Serendipity reached him on his cell phone when he was at work, high atop a partially constructed building. The electronics company Casio wanted Couch for a TV commercial for watches (we assume).

Up on that building, welding torch in one hand, cell phone in the other, he barely gave the woman time to finish her offer.

"Fuck it," is the translation, "I won't do it.'

Why would he turn down the chance for fame and certainly money? More importantly, why would anyone think to ask pogo punks to sell watches? Do they want to give a fledgling DIY band a break, or just use their image to make them the circus clowns of advertising? What was Urchin afraid of?

Urchin became fluent in English just long enough to explain his reaction.

"I don't care about money," he said, "I need money only for life--but I will not use my band for money because that is not fun. No fun.

By turning down the offer, Urchin distances his band from many other Korean punk bands, including some he's called friends. Crying Nut has hawked soju on Korean TV, and more recently the Ghetto Bombs appeared in a KTF ad, where they blathered about nothing and espoused an appropriately trendy slacker attitude.

"I don't hate the Ghetto Bombs and Crying Nut and other television bands, but I don't want that for my band," Urchin explains. "because Crying Nut and many other bands, before that those people were my friends."

Fame has changed hands in the past, but Couch won't compromise. Not without changing their name and at least three of their members.

Urchin didn't wait to ask the other two members for their input. Bassist Yee Jongjae, a little harder up for cash than Urchin, was disappointed.

Urchin recalled, "I said to Jongjae, 'hey, let's not make it,' but Jongjae has no money: 'Ooh, I want. I want!"

The opinion of the third member, Sharon, wouldn't have mattered. The Casio representative told Skunk proprietor Rip they only wanted Urchin and his bassist Yee Jongjae for the commercial, along with Jongjae's skinhead friend Yonggi (최영기), leaving out the band's female drummer. According to Rip (원 종희), the commercial wanted a "tough image: tough and wild and clownish," which obviously Sharon doesn't fit. So, essentially they didn't want the band Couch for the commercial, just their image, and not a complete one at

Under what terms would Urchin sell out his band and his principles? What about if a wily furniture manufacturer invited them to promote couches?

"No," Urchin answered, "because I like beds more than couches." He admitted perhaps he'd do it if they threw a few beautiful women under the

Barring that, you won't see Couch on TV anytime soon.

"I don't hate the commercial," said Urchin, "but if that commercial makes us clowns. I don't

"But, if that commercial owner gives Couch the chance to speak real truth, we will make it. But nobody will make that."

Casio was not contacted regarding this matter, mainly because they've probably forgotten Couch already and I doubt their PR people would have a clue about it





Come on down to Leon's Warehouse for all your home furnishing needs. Tell them Sharon sent you, and get one free couch with purchase of couch of equal or greater value.

A Clean Slate for Us Both

The autobiography of a Korean-American punk trapped in Korea

Part 1 leaving home

Paul Brickey

It's 2002 and I'm the youngest punk in the whole scene. On top of that I speak very little Korean despite living here since 1997 and having a Korean mother. The punks here looked past all those failings and welcomed me with open arms, something I was not accustomed to, even in my own home.

During my twelfth grade year in high school, I had enough of living at home, so I packed everything I owned in a green duffel bag, grabbed two guitars, and left. Like Max going to Where the Wild Things Are, I was going to live at Skunk from now on with the punks in what was Skunk club.

I left at midnight and started walking. Carrying all my stuff was hard so I decided to take a break

not the warmest place in the world in March at midnight. I zipped up my jacket and felt an excitement that any young man feels at the start of a long journey with the destination still unknown and without the means to get night's excitement hadn't there, but I didn't care. I the last cigarette of the night and tossed it into the river. Picking up my CD player. I sank into my jacket: that was home for the night. It kept the wind out and the music in. I remember falling asleep singing along to Rancid: "So I packed everything I own. Midnight (right word?) on... a kid could

In the morning I woke up when a rat ran across my legs. I hopped the turnstyle at Hapjeong station—bag, guitars and all-and took the subway to Sinchon. Back then Skunk was in a different location, tucked away in an obscure alley

> Rip, who was and still is the vocalist of Rux, had asked me if I wanted to play guitar for him. With the outgoing guitar player's blessing I could only accept. Rip and the bass player Joohyun had just gotten out of the army and got their band going and bought what was their rehearsal space and now my home. Fresh out of the army, I have a feeling he felt the same kind of unique excitement I felt back then. It was a fresh a clean slate to mark up however we saw fit. The world was our oyster, and

like the back of my hand.

very few people in Korea

knew about, close to the

size of a good-sized liv-

ing room. I couldn't fail

worm off yet and if I said

I knew where the key

was; owner Won Jong-

Hee (Rip) always hid it in

the same spot. I told him

I would be living there

from now on and to this

day I can still remember

the inflection and timbre

in his voice when he said

and turned on the light.

No one was there, but

there had been a show

a few nights before, and

trash was everywhere.

It stank of stale beer and

urine. It had naked light

bulbs and show lights

hanging on the opposite

wall of the stage which

off the ground. Home, I

cleaned it up a bit.

"Good." I opened the door

major understatement.

It was a small space that

under Hangang bridge— you knew only after go- nothing in heaven, hell, or ing a few times. I knew it anything in between could take that away from us.

I knew I wasn't up to par with Rux as far as my guitar-playing went. Rip and Joohyun did not settle for less than my best that day. The previous and I wanted to give them all that I could, I practiced for hours and hours smoked what I knew was I was elated it would be a on end without stopping. I played until my hands were numb and my fingers gelatinous.

My first show with Rux was right there at the old Skunk Hell. I was not the slightest bit nervous about playing. No butterflies, no nothing. We were pretty much only playing to the other bands that showed up; not many people would come out to see a show really. I got up on the "stage" and we started playing. I jumped around going crazy like I owned the place. We played our set, said our bit and we were done.

In that same room stood only a few inches which, just hours ago was filled with crazy moshpitting show-goers and bands, I was alone again. The smell of stale beer and urine was stronger than ever. It was still warm from all the moving bodies that once graced that small hare concrete slab which was wet now from sweat and spilled

This was only the beginning. The destination was still unknown and I didn't know if I had the means to get there, wherever there was. It couldn't have been a betstart for the both of us, ter start for such a journey that began only a few years ago.

Can a person with no home feel homesick?

Find out in our next issue... same Mutt-time, same Mutt-channel.

Enl isting



Vicious Nerds vox (임형규)



Kingston Rudy Ska vox and Half Brothers bass (이동훈)



It's sad but it happens. Every Korean male must lose two years of life to the army. Usually they go after college, but punks tend to go just when their band starts to get noticed.

If you think it's cool that they're doing their patriotic duty, good for you, but here's what it's like. Imagine if you went to prison for two years, but they taught you how to use guns, and you spent all your free time in a bus outside the American embassy or some place waiting for something to happen. The pay is miserable, and after you're finished, you can expect to be called up at a moment's notice. And don't get me started on the gay rape.

Things are gonna change pretty drastically when MF Crew compatriots Yeongsoon and Dokyo 13 enlist together, leaving their bands Attacking Forces and 13 Steps without a singer. My two favourite fucking punk bands, both disappearing at once.

Also vanishing is the drummer for Suck Stuff, as well as Vicious Nerds and Fuckers Everywhere. We're already strapped for drummers; can't they make an exemption for him? I guess his parents aren't rich and corrupt enough.

Vicious Nerds will also lose their singer soon as well. I just hope they don't give him any live ammunition.

On the bright side, the guys who enlisted a couple years ago are starting to come out all at once.

Say goodbye to all of these guys pictured here. Watch your cornholes, boys.

Our apologies if anyone has been left out.



Suck Stuff drums (권혁민)



knockdown guitar (김명진)



13 Steps vox (Dokyo 13)

Photos by Jon Twitch Attacking Forces vox (박영순)

Interview with a Geek

The Geeks have been around just about as long as anyone in the entire scene has. In that time they have generated a nice following and admiration in Korea as well as overseas. They're straight-edge hardcore. ves, but different than bands—sparing shirtless-machoman growling for their trademark pre-pubesent screaming and thrashy music. They are a breath of fresh air in what has become a stagnant scene marred by violence (and even murder) even in Korea where hardline isen't nearly as prevalent as it may be overseas or in the States. Here's Seo Kiseok, the lead singer, giving us a very personal view of the Korean hardcore/straight edge scene as only he can, as someone that's been in the

Q. What's your name and where are you from? A. My name is Ki Seok Seo. I've been to America,

scene from the start.

Ki. I'm from Seoul City. Q. How did you first get into underground (punk/hardcore) music in

Korea?

mail by Paul Mutts

and I started to love hardcore and punk in iunior school. We found Sex Pistols, The Clash, Buzzcocks. Ramones. Iggy Pop, Television, etc at first, and then we found Minor Threat, DK, Black Flag, Bad Brains, and 7 Seconds. In 1997 or 1998 Jun found the Our Nation compilation, and said "yeah check this out, this is Korean punk, let's go there!" I was totally down with the idea, we loved to see Korean punk! So we went to Drug. We've seen a lot of bands since then. And a few year later, We formed a hardcore band called the Geeks, found good hardcore kids!

Q. Is there a big straight-edge presence or scene in Korea?

A. Nope, but things have changed. It was like we were the only straight edge guys when we started, but now there are new straight edge kids coming up. And as for youth crew scene, I proudly say that we've made it. We've would you reccomend? A. There aren't any

other straight edge bands in Korea. But Check out Things We Say, which I play bass, and Vicious and Breaking Nerds, Ground. They are not straight edge bands, but they play youth-crew hardcore. Go get their demo, go to the show and have fun! And I saw Choke Slam; they were awesome. Good hardcore punk. vou guvs And should support 13 Steps. Great band, great dudes.

Q. The Geeks have gotten a little attention overseas (America, Canada, etc). Any plans on overseas touring?

A. We had gotten a little attention from all

over the world. And right now we're pretty much exposed to worldwide hardcore kids. I never expected to see things like this happen. I got emails from US, Canada,

from Florida. It's a very well known hardcore label, which is my favorite label at this time. Because of it, we got more widely exposed to hardcore kids

And we toured Japan last November with our best friends Last One Standing. It was great. Lots of fun, I will never forget. Tons of people

"I got e-mails from US, Canada, Japan, Netherland, Germany, Mexico, Argentina, Norway, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Croatia, Chile, Brasil, Indonesia, Malaysia...the list goes on."

-Seo Kiseok

came to our show, and they sang along to our own songs! I never expected things like that. It was great and unforgottable moment when I first saw kids singing along to our songs for the first time. They sang along to all our own songs not just cover songs. They did a lot of stage dives and circle pit. It's nothing but fun. And here's a funny story, we all went to the Disk Union before our show, I heard very familiar song, I was like "oh I know this song. but what's this?" They played our CD in their store. I still can't believe it. Anyway we will tour Japan for sure. And tons of hardcore kids in the US are into us, a lot of tour proposal is asked to us. Posi Fest 2005, they want us to play but we will see. I got a e-mail from a booking agency in Mexico too. We'd love to play everywhere. If there's one kid who still cares about this music, we will fly out to play our hearts out.

Q. If I go to a straight edge show in Korea could

with Think Fast Records | Leniov a beer in peace?

A. Haha you don't have to worry about it Sure you can. We have tons of non-edge friends drinking beer and soju, we don't care. We can be a friends through this music. It's our personal choice to live our life. We all are potential friends.

Q. What do you think of the straight edge scene in the USA?

> A. I love it. Because all the straight-edge kids/ bands that I know are very open-minded when it comes to straight edge in the US. Surely, there's so many bad/fake straight-edge taking straight-edge for the wrong reason, like hardline. Fuck it. To me straight edge

is about staying true to yourself, showing respect for others, having fun with your friends through the passion that hardcore brings

Q. Where do you see the hardcore and punk scene in Korea in 5

A. I want to see that more new bands will pop up everywhere. And more people will come to the show, support the bands. Right now, it's all about bands. There are tons of good bands but there's no scene You know what I mean? People don't know how to support a scene. I hope that things will be better than now. We will see. Personally, I want to see a new old-school hardcore scene. Hardcore is not about being tough. I want people to know what hardcore is about. Right now, people take meaning of it in a wrong way. They think hardcore is gang stuff, arrogant music, scary music like that, fuck it. It's about having fun with other hardcore kids. Things will be changed, because we will do our best to make it



Kiseok leads his crew in song before an audience in Hongdae Park.

Champions of straight-edge hardcore

Champion Korea tour with Geeks, 13 Steps, Things We Say

April 1 Anyang, Rockssin April 2 Hongdae, Skunk Hell April 3 Chungju, Roadking

Jon Dunbar

Quick, hide beers! A straight-edge band is coming. For those of us who've encountered straight-edge in our home countries, that's a pretty common reaction.

In Korea, there is no problem with straightedge. Kiseok, the lead singer of sXe band the Geeks, is one of the nicest guys you can meet. That's why I was apprehensive when I first heard that Seattle straight-edge hand Champion was on its way for a three-day tour in April.

So I called up the guitarist in Vancouver, and he eased my fears.

"People know Champion as a band where you do not fight at our shows." says guitarist Aram Arslanian. "We try to talk the talk and completely walk the walk, so if there's violence we shut it down.

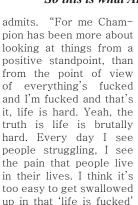
When a fight broke out at their last show, the band stopped playing and jumped into the pit to break it up.

"I'm an adult male-I don't walk around with X on my hand," says Aram, who's 29 years old. "We've all been straightedge for a long time, so it's not like some little kid saying 'ah let's be positive.'

"We have songs about straight-edge," he explains. "I don't judge people whether or not they're straight-edge; I judge them by their actions.

Champion songs are rarely negative, not the sort of stuff about murder and being nailed to the X.

"I don't have any interest in my life in being in a band that puts out negative messages, but I do like that music," he



attitude. I as a human be-

ing am a positive person

and I can work to over-

come it."

He was driving to work at 8:30am when I phoned him on his cell. Although the band is in America, Aram is Canadian, and commutes over the border for practices and shows. He's the only member of Champion with a day job, but he loves his work as a psychologist so much he can't walk away.

Now there's an unexpected mixture: straight-edge psychologist. How did that come about? Aram is very

"I've struggled with alcoholism in my life, he admits. "I don't think anyone from any culture would question that. Everyone is a different person. You gotta feel free to

talke your own path. Often the medium gets in the way of message. If you don't take straightedge seriously, or find yourselves enemies with the local straight-edge crew, it's not going to curb your binge drinking.

"There's so many lame conceptions about straight-edge," Aram, "part of it is because there are lame straight-edge and there's lame people in everything. If you can't handle me not drinking, what does that say about you, not what does that say about me."

Nobody wants to be an alcoholic, or addicted so any substance.

"I know there's a lot of pressure in many places in the world to drink,' Aram says

He could be talking

about Korea. Geeks singer Seo Kiseok agrees with him. "Yeah, you know it. It's fucking absolutely difficult to be straight here. There are pressures here and there. It's everywhere. If you don't drink, you're totally out of step with the world, and if you don't drink, you can't get a good promotion in your company. You can't make any friends in University if you don't drink. Drinking and smoking is what is only takes to be accepted in Korea.'

Despite this, Aram is excited to see the country. "I still can't believe i'm going to Korea," he enthuses. "For my entire life the number one destination where I wanted to go is Japan—Korea— China.

This tour of Korea is a late addition to the band's planned Japan tour. This part was organised by Aram's friend Sean O'Leary, a Canadian living in Korea who only recently discovered the

hardcore scene. It's quite an achievement to bring a foreign band from anywhere further than Japan. Skunk was in contact with the Dropkick Murphys, who have toured Japan and even planned to visit China for some shows, but they wanted too much money. Rancid's first question was also money, and every other band contacted asked too much

However, Aram and Champion have different priorities. "Hardcore bands by their very nature don't make money. We would go to Korea even if we lost money because we're excited to go. A hardcore band is about adventure and seeing the world and not being tied down 9 to 5



So this is what Aram looks like. Photo taken by Pat Stefano at some show, presumably in Seattle.

Sabot Jam Up South Korea

Sabot show review Club Aura, Hongdae January 29, 2005

Nevin Domer

I had heard exciting rumors about these American anarchists living in the Czech Republic, so when I found out they had a show in Seoul, there was no way I would miss it. Sabot is a drum and bass duo whose influences range from punk and hardcore to freeform and avant-garde They were the original rhythm section for a San Francisco progressive folk punk band. Forethought; then sometime around 1986 they picked up and moved to the Czech Republic and became Sabot.

Sabot played two shows in Seoul--both of them free. Apparently the owner of Aura thought they should build up a fan



Photo provided by Stu at Club 바다비.

base for their first time in Korea. The two bands that opened for them were both noise bands (including members from "the other" Bulgasari)

and I began to wonder just what I was getting into. I was relieved when Sabot came out; they started with a roaming funk bass line then stepped on the back. I can't really think of any drum and bass groups to compare them to other than maybe a much heavier version of Mike Watt. Imagine stripped down hardcore injected with jazz: something Candiria might play if they only had a drum and bass. Both the bass and drum parts were highly technical with progressive rhythms and changing time signatures.

They started off with the bipolar "Deadline" and played most of the other songs from that album (DIO) as well as some earlier material. Flying through their songs, I didn't get much chance to catch my breath. I spent the set pretty much staring in awe. There were no vocals on any of the stuff they played although they do have some in a few of their other songs. Different from anything I've heard since I've been in Korea, Sabot was a good band to shake me up a bit

over drive and didn't turn and inspire the imagination. Catching you offguard and opening the mind to new possibilities is the same energy that gave birth to punk in the first place. Sabot captures that energy well and in their own way. After the set I had

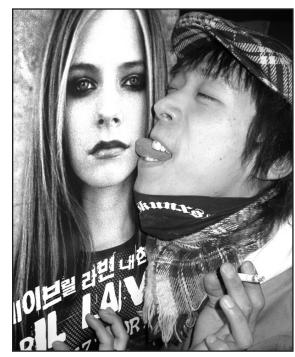
> chance to talk with Chris and hear about not only Sabat, but also CESTA "Cultural Exchange Station" he and Hilary run in Tabor (south of Prague). CESTA is a cultural / performance space "committed to developing communication through creative expression" and "discovering new ways for us all to cross barriers of intolerance and isolation." Through performances, workshops and gatherings they attempt to create a space to challenge accepted norms and promote participatory culture. I won't use this review to go into more detail but if you're interested, look them up

Bipolar Crossfire

Avril Lavigne: useless whore or hot slut? by Douchebob Novak and the fuck with the bowtie

courtesy of CNN Inside my head, war-

them. Their cackling kept me up at night when I saw ring factions fight over a poster for Avril Lavievery little thing I feed gne's upcoming Korean



Urchin gets close to his new girlfriend.

show. Here in this column I'll let both hemispheres of my mind have their

Cons go first, because that's the side my conscience supports.

Con

Do I really have to explain it for you?

Avril bothers us because part of her key to success was ripping off punk fashion and culture. Her songs approximate a watered-down approach to watered-down punk music from bands like Sum41 and Blink 182. but I bet both even those bands used to smash shit and drink forties in their teens. Avril. she's a disgrace to everything

Avril is more fake because she claims to be genuine. That's more an offence to us than anything virgin-turnedwhore Britney or walking STD Christina could do.

Half the time, Avril denies any relation to punk music, or any sort of tradition. Asked for her opinion about the Sex Pistols, she told Enter-

tainment Weekly, "Why would I know that stuff? Look how young I am. That stuff's old, right?" So, somehow, this girl has, while shunning punk, made a sound approximating it through making the music that she wants to make, which sounds pretty punk herself. Then she changes her creed for a different interview.

The same year, shortly after this first quote, she came out with this brilliant one: "I created Punk for this day and age...I'm like a Sid Vicious for a new generation." Johnny Rotten put it best when he said "I wish she was Sid Vicious, so she'd be

About all she's good for is a hate-fuck topped off with a good old donkey punch to the ribs to get her thoroughly-rapedby-the-music-industry vagina to clench up.

Pro

Both sides of this debate agree that Avril Lavigne is fuckable. Verily. There's no debating

She's hot, and her in-

fluence brought the dirty schoolgirl motif back into punk fashion. We need more chicks dressing like her at shows; I just wish fewer of them were actual grade-school students. Avril Lavigne is the

crown princess of the gateway punk bands. How do people get into punk? By following a trail that begins on MTV or in stadium shows. Other gateway bands include Green Dav. Blink 182, Sum 41. and any other band with a number that isn't Korean. People who get into punk through these bands quickly smarten up, because TV and mall punk can't compete with street-level bands.

So how many of us would be here without a gateway band? We don't need to give her an award, but we should understand her accidental contribution

This show could be a great place to put out the word about Korean punk. Probably a good number of people at that show have been looking for

Where the hell is Chungju City?

Chungju City Show review Johnny Royal, 13 Steps, Gum X, Attacking Forces, Low Blow Roadking Bar December 12

Jon Twitch

Korea might have a pretty decent punk scene, but it's all centralised. How often are there shows outside Hongdae, let alone outside Skunk Hell? At every chance I get, I support anything happening outside our little area. We need punk to thrive in all parts of the nation. Currently, the only other city with a vibrant punk scene is Chungju City.

Way down in the central province Choongchung Book Do, Chungju City is home to over 200 000 people, a small portion which run the MF Crew label. The M. if you're wondering, stands for Mooshimchun, a small river in Chungju. The F, well, use your fucking imagination

I took a two-hour train ride down to Chungiu last December to see Attacking Forces and 13 Steps, two of my favourite Korean bands. play in their hometown. Also with them were local hardcore band Low Blow, and touring groups Gum X and Johnny Royal. Quite a diverse bill, and not a two-foot-tall mohawk among them.

The terrain down there is much flatter than Kyunggido. When we got off the train, we could see for miles in all directions across wide open plains mostly used as farmlands. Pretty depressing place.

Our map to the venue directed us to "Choongdae." But looking at a map, we saw "Choong "Choong chung dae," book dae," and half a dozen other universities. Worse, none of my contacts were answer-

ing their phones. Our taxi driver scoffed and told us "Looking for Choongdae is like searching for Mr Kim in Seoul." We took a chance with Choong Book Dae, which the driver said was closer to downtown.

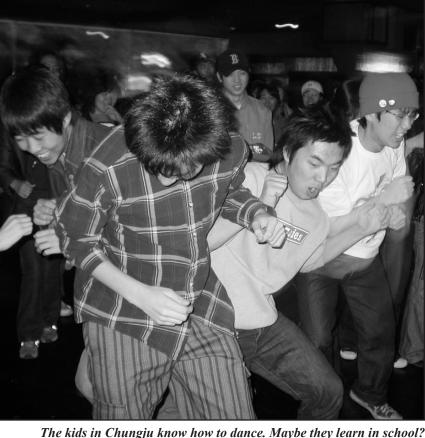
It turned out right and we made it to the club, Road King. It was a small venue without a real stage. All the chairs were thrown into the booths, leaving no room to sit. As we came in, Johnny Royal were warming up. It was empty except for other band members, reminding me of the days when the only people there to watch your band were the members of the other

The show had no cover, and I discovered that the bar wouldn't serve alcohol that night. I tried playing a game of pool but the owner shooed us away. I figured it was good that two of my favourite bands were here, because this show would

Then the opened. Something like 100 high school and middle school-sized kids poured in. They were young, small, and probably the future of Korea's punk, five years down the road. Not a single mohawk or skinned head among them, but these kids couldn't pull that off in their schools. They gathered around the stage area, and when the first band, Low Blow, started, they were ready.

You don't see moshing that violent in Skunk Hell. At least not without Paul there. They kept it up through the first act, and all the way through the rest of the night. Although the second band, Attacking Forces, was a vastly different style, there was no pause from the crowd. They chanted along with all the songs like this was their favourite thing

The lack of a real stage turned into an ad-



vantage, that the crowd wasn't separated from the bands. It's probably been a while since anyone watched Gum X play on equal footing with the

You haven't seen 13 Steps play until you've witnessed them in their own hometown. There was no escape anywhere in the crowd from the insanity that erupted. I'll never listen to CJHC the same way again.

By the end of the show, most of the girls got to the front for Johnny Royal, the dual-leadsinger hardcore unit. It was like a wall of jailbait death. When they finished, the band members found themselves signing

at Korean punk shows. At the end of the night, the kids filed out fast to beat their curfews. The MF Crew upper crust took the rest of us out

autographs, a rare sight

drinking. It turns out 13 Steps vocalist Dokyo 13 is a pool shark at pocketball, and Chungju motels don't have good porn.

The Chungju City show had one thing Hongdae doesn't have in abudance: young blood. Most of these kids aren't of age to start bands yet, but soon they will, and many of them will end up in Seoul

Start learning Chungjuese



What's got the Johnny Royal lead singer scared? Jail bait!

CRASHED OUT

Photos by Jon Twitch

Where most of us foreigners come from, passing out in public will first get you kicked out of the bar and second get you in a jail cell. That's why we can't resist the opportunity for a good prank, or at least humiliate them somehow, such as by taking pictures. See if you can spot yourself.



I always enjoy seeing people fall asleep inside Skunk Hell. It's the ultimate degree of scenesterism, to be able to say, "I know this band so well, I can sleep through them." Power to you.



This Air Force guy woke up a few minutes later feeling as sober as a, as a, really boring guy. He's since been transferred to another country, on an unrelated note.



Rux lead singer and Skunk owner Rip doesn't have a sleep schedule anymore, so he'll fall asleep wherever he lies.



Last one standing: Mike. Also departed to Germany with the Air Force.



Where does a giant Korean skinhead sleep? Wherever he wants.



And finally, a classic of Urchin trying to eat soup in his sleep.



Here we see some guys enjoying a sensuous Korean punk body buffet of soju bottles and leftovers..



Rip falls asleep so often that it's worth a repeat. I'm not saying he's lazy, just that when you're your own boss, you get to sleep whenever you want. Which, from what I understand, is never at night.

Suck Stuff sucks nothing

Translated into Korean by Rip

English re-translation

by JM Verville. Q: Suck What? A: There is no real meaning. It is a name that our bassist's friend Kang Seok-jin made up for the band. When we originally named the band, we thought very carefully and had a lot of opinions. Then we just decided to share them with Kang Seok-jin and decided to become Suck Stuff. There is no firm meaning that

tradictory. Q: How did you first get into punk music in

we have to show but you

could say it has to do with

everything in the world

being in conflict and con-

A: We formed the band out of our friends that liked going to rock concerts. We wanted to play fast music-we hated the idea of playing love songs-and as we began playing we became punks. It seems that the style that fit us best was punk, and that it would be good for us to take this route.



Chul-hwan is rendered speechless by the savagery of primate rape.

Q: Your sound seems to come from many different styles. What are vour main influences?

A. At first it was the Business, the Clash, Misfits, Rancid, Dead Kennedvs. G&R. Slaver. etc. that were our main influences. More recently we have received a lot of our influence from oi, vouth crew hardcore, reggae. and skate punk.

Q. How do you feel about scene unity with the division between Skunk and Chaos Class? What did vou write "One Unity" about?

A. We don't really think about the scene as being divided. We just think of the Korean scene as "Korean Hardcore/ Punk," not as divided into Skunk and Chaos Class. We haven't really seen any of the conflict or division with our own eyes. If there is any division at all we want to have a very positive and good influence in relieving it. However, we haven't yet seen such conflict and division

The meaning of "One Unity" is just as it says.

thought about the bands who started before us. and even the bands that will start after us, and we thought of the fanzine that hasn't been made yet, all of the shows, all the demos. We even thought of the cheap, neighbourhood feasts we'd have when we played. We really thought of the future... whether we will be together when we have to get jobs, when times are tough, when Korea is in dark times. We really do not know. It is also a song that says "Thank you very, very much for what you've done and let's be together in the future" to all of the important people. It is a very simple song with a simple message. It is a song that is sort of like the 'thank you' to all these people. The phrase "Stand Your Ground" also really comes to mind when we talk about this song.

Q. Many of our friends outside of Korea really like your style. Any plans or hopes to tour overseas (North America, Europe)?

A. We have thought of it. We are very envious of GMC and the various Skunk bands that have gone and toured in Japan. If there is an opportunity, for sure we will go on tour. However, we are at the point where we haven't completed our full length album, and we need to finishing that first. We'll practive very hard, and when the opportunity comes, we will seize it.

Q. In what direction is Suck Stuff going?

A. We have no special plans for that. Right now we are just trying to get our message out more. and get our music to everyone that we can. We want to just follow the motive that we've had from the start-performing with other bands is really our first priority.

Q. Where do you see punk in Korea going in

A. We think that it



Here's a shot of Suck Stuff in Anyang

will get better. I think that it will get warm er and more intimate. If you think about it, it has not even been ten years since there has been punk in Korea, and the Korean hardcore punk scene has been around even less time, but nonetheless, the Korean scene is no worse than any overseas scene, and has a very fresh sound and unique melody. We think in the future that it will definitely continue

And now in Korean: Q: 썩스터프라는 밴드 이름의 뜻은?

A: 밴드이름의 뜻은 없 습니다. 초기에 우리bassist`강석진`이라는 친구가 지어준 이름입니다. 다양한 의견들이 나왔으면 다양하 고 신중하게 생각해서 지 었을텐데 의견제시한친구 가 이친구밖에없어서 그냥 이걸로 하게 되었습니다. 굳 이 뜻을 부여하자면 `세상 모든것들의 모순`같은 뜻도

Q: 어떻게 한국에서 평 크밴드를 시작하게 되었나

A: 락콘롴을 좋아하는치 구들이 만나서 밴드를결성 했고, 달리는음악하고싶었 고 찌질이 사랑노래는 부르

Continued on the next page



Suck Stuff

continued from last page

기싫고 .. 하다보니 펑크를 하게되었습니다. 저희랑 가 장 잘맞는것같고 여튼 하길 잘한것같습니다.

Q: 썩스터프의 음악은 여러가지 사운드를 담고있 는데 어디서 영향을 받으셨 나요?

A: 초기에는 Business. the Clash, Misfits, Rancid, Dead Kennedy, G&R, Slaver 등의 영향을많이받 았습니다. 최근에는 oi와 youth crew hardcore, reggae, skate punk 쪽에 영향을 많이받은것같습니

Q: 현재 스컹크와 카오 스클래스가 두가지 씬으로 나뉘고 있는것에 대해 어떻 게 생각하시나요? '워 유니 티'라는 노래는 무얼 말하고

A: 씬이 나뉘어진다고 생각해본적이 없습니다. 한 국씬은 말그대로 `한국하드 코어펑크씬` 하나라고생각 됩니다. 아직은 다 그친구 가 그친구고, 나뉘어서 대 립하고 서로눈깔 부라리는 현상같은걸 제눈으로 본적 이 없으니까요. 만약 머 나 뉘어진다면 좋은방향으로긍 정적으로 발전되갔으면좋겠 지요. 하지만 이조그만한국 땅에서 아직 그렇게보여지

원유니티`는 단어 그대 로를 말하는겁니다. 저희를 포함해 저희보다 일찍밴드 를시작한형들, 그리고 저희 보다 늦게결성된 밴드들 모 두 한국하드코어펑크를 위 해서 지금까지 아무도 봐주 지않는 이땅에서 팬진을만 들고 작은공연을해왔고 데 모를만들었습니다. 누군가 가 우리들을 볼때 싸구려 동네잔치라고 생각할수도 있겠죠. 미련해보일수도있 겠고...평생일해서 집한채랑 차한대살수있는대한민국이 라는 나라에서 아둔하게 딴 따라나 하고있다고 생각할 지모르겠지만 저는 이런 현 실속에서 펑크음악을 해왔 고, 그리고 하고있는 모든 저 의 소중한사람들에게 `정말 로 고마웠고 앞으로도 같이 해나가자`라는 아주 단순 한 의미의 메세지를 담고있 는 노래입니다. 앨범속지의 'thanks to'같은 의미의 노 래라고할수있죠. ㅎㅎ 갑자 기 `모`밴드 보컬분이 자주 했던말이생각나네요 stand vour ground!!

Q: 미국에 있는 많은 친 구들이 썩스터프의 음악을 좋아합니다. 미국이나 유럽 으로의 진출 계획이 있나

하진않아요. 더 열심히 연습 하고 노력해서 그런기회가 올때 당당히 나가겠습니다.

A: 아직은 이르다고생각

합니다. SKUNK쪽도그렇

고 최근 GMC밴드들도 일

본투어를 해온 몇몇밴드들

도 그렇고 저희가 봐도 부럽

기만합니다. 기회가 되면 꼭

Tour 해보고싶습니 다. 하

지만 풀렝스 앨범도 안만든

지금시점에서 그런걸 기대

Q: 썩스터프의 앞으로의 계획은 무엇인가요?

A: 아직 특별한 계획은 없습니다. 다만 저희의 메 세지를 더알리기위해서 노 력할것입니다. 이런문화가 있다는것조차 모르는 살기

버거운사람들에게 좀더 늘 려주고싶고 보여주고싶습니 다. 원래 제가처음생각해온 밴드의 모티브이기도 하죠. 여러밴드들과 같이 공연위 주의 활동을할예정입니다.

Q: 앞으로 5년간의 한국 펑크씬을 예상한다면?

A: 지금보다 더 좋아지 겠죠. 더 씬이 두터워질것이

dzgein~ 라 생각됩니다. 생각해보니 한국평크는 10년정도 밖에 안된거같습니다. 하지만 제 개인적으로 한국하드코어평 크밴드들의 노래는 그렇지 않습니다. 정말 해외에 내놔 도 손색없을만큼 멋진멜로 디와 메디트 가지고 있다고 생각합니다. 앞으로도 더 발 전적일거라고 생각합니다.



up on the Cross

Skinheads Attacks on Visitors Increase in Russia

(Dallas Morning News) May.20.1998

Skinheads Attack

Skinhead War in Russia

RUSSIA TO GET TOUGHER ON SKINHEAD ATTACKS

(Xinhuanet) May.19.2002

Moscow's Skinhead Threat

Russian Muslims Russian Duma Votes Through 'ANTI-SKINHEAD' Bill

Skinhead Leader Rails Against Putin
(The Observer) September.06.2002

RUSSIA Five Convicted Over Skinhead Rampage

Putin to Smash Skinheads

Russian Skinheads Mark Hitler's Birthday

(Union of Councils for Soviet Jews) May.01.2002

Jon Twitch

Hey! Lay the fuck off already! Headlines like these make me want to bitchslap whichever editor thought them up.

In most multicultural countries, it's assumed that all skinheads are racists. Even punks fear us. The Korean scene is lucky that racial violence isn't an issue or a constant fear; here, skinheads are judged by the individual, not by their haircuts.

This is in danger of changing, thanks especially to these pricks in Russia. Several incidents of racial violence have been reported there, many of them involving Koreans. Last March and go to punk shows?

a gang of racists beat a Korean man to death in Moscow, and the Korean embassy has fielded many complaints. The international media have gone out of their way to blame skinheads, and in a very short time Russia has been conquered by racist gangs.

Often you see phrases like "suspected skinhead" or "skinhead murder," with the word skinhead in quotations. Be very suspicious when you see that. Does 'skinhead violence' mean attacks perpetrated only by skinheads? Not necessarily. Does a 'suspected skinhead' wear Fred Perrys (St Petersburg Times) November.22.2002

Number of Skinheads in Russia Exceeds [5 ()()

(Pravda) February.04.2003

foreign stunent millen in Shinneau agua attach

(Independent Race and Refugee News Network) February.5.2003

I've never seen one. Is being a skinhead really a crime? Not yet. So think clearly and ask yourself, who created this mon-

The media and racist

'skinhead' groups have relationship. Mainstream entertainment and news support the assumption that skinheads are racial supremacists, which



Hello Dad, I'm in jail. A Russian bonehead behind bars hides his face.

always had a symbiotic on for their own credibility from other skinhead groups. In many places online white supremacists have posted propaganda which claims that the roots of skinheads, SHARPs, and role of reggae, are all fabrications of the Jews. People will go along with it, too, because the rest of us normal skinheads are low on credibility. Who ever made a movie about us?

> I've always said that anti-skinhead propaganda movies like American History X, Romper Stomper, or The Believer, serve the interests white supremacist

Russia Tracks Growing Skinhead Activity

Skinheads in Russia:

Who are They?

(Pravda) August.06.2003

Russian Skinheads to Stand Trial

Skinheads find their voice in Russia (Taipei Times) February 17.2004

Many Want 'Skinheads' Banned, Poll Finds

Racists Youths Murdered Korean After Skinhead Rally in Moscow

(Union of Councils for Jews in the Former Soviet Union) March.19.2004

And-Fascist Struggle

(St Petersburg Times) April.06.2004

Violence and Hatred in Russia's New Skinhead Playground

(The Independent UK) January.25.2005

groups. The more the media fights racist skinheads, the stronger they become. You may say that those movies make people think about racial issues and smarten up, but how many gutterpunks watched "SLC Punk" or Roger Cor-

man's "Suburbia" and turned away from punk? The answer is: less than fuck all. White supremacists watch supposedly anti-skinhead. anti-racist movies too, and it doesn't shake their core beliefs.

Here's another fun film trivia fact. Charles Robert Jenkins, an American soldier living in North Korea has acted in sev-

eral propaganda films. "In one," claims AP reporter Eric Talmadge, "he wore a skinhead wig to portray an evil American.'

First of all, "skinhead wig" makes a good oxymoron, but secondly,

Is being a skinhead really a crime? Not vet.

what the hell do North to know that there are Korea, an American deserter, news editors, and a bunch of idiots who got a rush off watching Romper Stomper, know about skinhead culture?

According to the Moscow Human Rights Bureau, there are 50 000 skinheads in Russia, which is believed to be

roughly half the world's skinhead population. This doesn't count non- and anti-racists, because apparently the authors of the report don't know what real skinheads are.

The traditions and history of skinheads can only be told by skinheads. You'll be happy

> trad skins and SHARPs in Moscow, and they aren't happy. They're vastly outnumbered, but all they need for victory is to show that not every skinhead is a racist bonehead. If we can do that, we will disarm the racial supremacists' most powerful tool

Rappers, Skinheads vs. Nazis (Moscow News) April.20.2004

armenian ngos Indignant at skinkeads' actions in Russia (Caucasian Knot) April.24.2004

Voronezh Anti-Nazi Activist Attacked by Skinheads

(MosNews) April.30.2004

Russia Seeing Jump IN RACIAL ASSAULTS, 'Skinhead' Groups

(Cincinnati Post) June.10.2004

Skinheads Fight their 'Holy War'

Voronezh Skinheads Take

Skinheada Vs. Skinhead In Revenge for Verdict

(Gazeta.ru) October.18.2004



Image used without permission from Interskins Russian anti-racist skinhead sites: http://www.interskins.antifa.net/ http://nstop.h1.ru/ http://oioioi.ru

CD reviews

Vicious Nerds Sgt. Kang's Nerdy Hearts Punk Band 5.6.7.8 Records http://rainbowsunset.info

Nevin Domer

First it's the eyes, then a year old, and they've had and, thankfully, no skathe panicked spazzing, their balls on the table for core. after that come the oneliners all underscored by tight, fast hardcore.

and half stand-up com- like BPJC and MF Crew. edy troupe and, although come. If you take the bum and it's paid off. Geeks and switch Kiseok with singer Yim Hyeong- intro to "Where is Freegyu you end up with the dom?" is impressive. All Vicious Nerds, but that's of the songs are well- is its collection of new not to say you get the crafted and will definitely and unexposed bands. same sound. Don't ex- become memorable soon. pect youth crew hard-

songs are under one threaten to you!' minute and the one-word "Peace" clocks in at 13 seconds, but that's only by including the intro clip of soldiers marching. The lyrics are comical, from the absurdity of "I Hate Pickle" to the sarcastic attack of Seoul's mega- the backbone of Skunk lomaniac mayor in "Lee Label, mostly because Myeong Bak." Track lead singer Won Jonghee seven is a demo track also runs Skunk Label. made up of clips from It's surprising, then, he the other songs. It would has time to release his seem rather repetitive own CD. except the songs are so déjà vu.

Vicious Nerds are a on, just don't blink.

Bak," take a look over jor difference between on page 19 in our "Say the albums is in quality What?" feature.

The Explode Our Violent Social Story Chaos Class Records http://chaosclasspunks.com

Jon Twitch

most of it. The release by Explode. Chaos' founding band, signifies they're The Vicious Nerds are ready to be taken seriousa half short-core band ly along with older labels

it's the live show that's exactly what I wanted on cooperation that should gained them a loyal fol- it: trashy streetpunk with be heeded. To prove the lowing, this demo shows a whole lot of energy. Al- point, the song features that their music can though their live perfor- guest singers from Rux, stand on its own. This mance seems a little de- Cockrasher, Explode, 13 seven track, 8-minute rivative of the Unseen, it's Steps, and the Geeks. 47-second demo is their harder for me to notice on Make sure you find the first release and hope- the album. They've put a video online. fully a sign of things to lot of energy into this al-

core here but something shows and you see their more akin to early Circle CD for sale, buy a copy. to youth crew hardcore Or, as they say on the back like Breaking Ground, and Four out of the six of the CD, "the EXPLODE

Rux Another Conception Skunk Label http://www.skunklabel.com

Jon Twitch

Rux has always been

This CD marks Rux's short I never mind hear-third release. following a taste of them again; ing shortly on their 2004 it does however inspire album "Where Are We a rather weird sense of Going" and the two CDs closely follow the typical pattern for most punk band to keep your eye bands: the first one contains rough recordings of For a closer look at all their "classics," and Vicious Nerds' lyrics on the second has new and the song "Lee Myeong unfamiliar songs. A ma-

Various Artists Next Generation

Chaos Class Records http://chaosclasspunks.com

Jon Twitch

With one listen to this compilation, it should be pretty obvious that this is a blueprint. It's the same thing the "We Are the Punx in Korea" compilation did for Skunk. Only Chaos Class is less than this CD has no pop-punk

It's all a little lo-fi, in some places more than others, but that's okay for what they're going after.

The contribution by Suck Stuff. "One Unity." The five-track EP has lays down a message of

A few of the bands are seniors: aside from Suck If you have stereo, the Stuff, there is Cockrasher, A-zak, and Pulgasari. The album's strong point From the Unseen-esque If you're at one of their punk-core of Fuckers Everywhere and Explode skinhead bands like Dirty Small Town and Boot Bois

> energy of the songs. I always thought, in the first album, the songs were carried along solely by Won's voice, but in this one the rest of the band is right up front with him. Listen to the guitars on 'The Skunx" and you'll see what I mean.

Another improvement is the leaner track listing on this one. I get the feeling they used up all their materials on their last CD, which ran for 25 songs. Not that I don't appreciate the quantity. but they could've just as easily saved it all up and released it over three albums instead of one. That also kind of explains why all the songs on this one are new and still a little

unfamiliar It would've been nice to have "Another Conof the recording and the ception" quality recordAnthem. Right here is the youth of the scene and these are their ideas.

Pay attention to Vicious Nerds, guest starring 13 Steps singer Dokyo13; those guys are moving up, although they'll lose their singer growing to do.

Another point of interest is the inclusion of Chinese bands No Name and Evilheart, who share Lookout Records comps. If a lead singer. They met you think of bands like the ship. I predict we'll see begin to get a good feel them play here sometime for the sound of this comp.

So far, Chaos Class has be heard that way. kept its distance from Chaos Class. Hopefully Dog.'

tesy of Japanese band Royal Shamrock

you can try it out

the sticker they put on the cover. I mean, putting a sticker right on the CD insane and throw feces. just plain fun.

Various Artists Me & Pacifism

Underground Government Records http://www.undergroundgoverment.com

Nevin Domer

Tokyo-based Underto the army soon. Also ground Government Reworth noting is Lowblow, cords features popular a hardcore band from trash- pop-punk bands Chungju City, Breaking such as No People and Ground, formerly known Belly Button. "Me & Pacias Guillotine, are another fism" is their second comone to watch, although pilation album covering 17 they have a little more tracks from 17 different bands (their first was the 7inch "Me & Militarism").

Listening to this album reminds me of early the Chaos guys online Crumbs, the Smugglers, and built a quick frien- and the early Queers you'll Some of the recordings I'm looking forward to are pretty lo-fi which may seeing all of these bands be a strike against them play, and I hope they get but, in my opinion at least, around to having a big it tends add something to show in Skunk Hell soon. a style that was meant to

Some of my favorite Skunk, which has slowed tracks include the bouncy their growth consider- female fronted "Theme ably. Rather than shun- of Crazy Beef" by Crazy ning their elders, it would Beef, the dark bluesy be nice to see everyone "Can't Sleep Tonight" by coming together to make the Regentz and the bonmusic. Well, we'll see go and recorder groove what the future holds for of Soft Wrestler's "Black

One track that I just don't understand however ings of "Where Are We is Mu-kyoca's "Radio?!" Going" songs, but they it isn't a song but instead probably won't record two minutes of some Japathose songs again. At the nese kids talking. A Japavery least, they threw nese friend explained that four live tracks on at the they are imitating popuvery end, recorded at the lar radio programs and Ssamzie Music Festival that it's supposed to be a last year and featuring a joke. He seemed to think huge bagpipe solo cour- it was funny, but it doesn't seem to translate. Anvway, smack in the middle Once again, they've of the comp it breaks the included the lyrics, so momentum of the CD and vou can learn the words gets me reaching for the for the singalongs, and forward button. If it really all CDs come with a free needed to be included, pass into Skunk Hell so they could have stuck it at the end somewhere, as a And wait until you see secret track.

That track aside it's a great comp. If you're interested in Japanese punk case? It's new and excit- and/or the lo-fi trashing, but probably when pop-punk sound, this is a those little tabs break CD and label to check out. off I'm going to go com- And for those who still pletely fucking batshit have ears to listen, it's

Hollow Jan hyacinthus orientalis of purple independent

Joseph Atskunk

How do I begin? The first time I saw Hollow Jan(uary) they tried to make me cry. The nerve of the bastards. Honestly, I have never really been moved like that by a band in a long time. After all, it's quite a feat to have a whole club of snotty little punk kids, half-drunk on soju, stop in their tracks and stare dumbfounded like some caricature in a rainy day meets my dead lover in the forests of enchanment spoof. There could have been a fire and all would have been content with burning as long as the band kept playing; this is how alluring the melancholy of their music is.

In hyacinthus orietnalis of purple, Hollow Jan's "first" groomed release as a band, the listener gets close to the thick disconsolation that is the theme of the mini-cd, partly due to the dejection of Hwan Taek's shrill calls to Dolores or the painful harmonics and churning tempos that drive into bridges of melodic desolation. these guys around.

two lovers. I'm not sure if you are familiar of the tale of the god Apollo and the beautiful young Hyacinthus(remember this is Greek Mythology and Hyacinthus is a boy) but it ends in the death of the enchanting youth and a flower--the hyacinthus--being born from his blood. The title track seems rather befitting as the mournful ode to tragic loss of youth and beauty. Though they have very distinct sound al their own, to my ears anyway, they all became

This is the soundtrack to

your warm, euphoric au-

dial suicide. The single's

title--the name of a deli-

cate flower indigenous to

emphatic when I compared them to their apparent musical idols the Deftones. If the Deftones were responsible--musically that is--for creating this quintet of artistry and anguish, remind me to buy them a round. The world would be that much more of an ugly place without

Coming Soon

Korean punks record worth listening to. Infast, and record a lot. Around the time of publication

13 Steps will have a new full-length CD out. I've already heard one mp3 and it sounds promising. It'll be good they have a release before the singer joins the army.

Vassline has a new CD that never seems to be around. Their release show was last year, but it's never available. If you want a copy you'll probably have to go to a hardcore show.

And Hon Label is releasing a compilation of all the active skinhead bands that should be

cluded wil be a few songs by Attacking Forces, who are also about to go on an army-related break. It should be a long CD and may include Blood Pledge, Oi! Broker, Dirty Small Town, Samchung, and I'm not sure who else

Probably the most anticipated will be Couch's upcoming album. They have one earlier foursong EP, but it's about time for an updated one. This will be their first recording with Sharon on drums, so all you fanboys can put on the record and do all your masturbation in the comfort of your own home

CD reviews | "I Love JH" loves Korea

I remember when I first moved to Korea. hated it.

I was raised in sunny California, and was raised with the ideals of Beverly Hills 90210. My parents sent me to an ordinary Korean public school, and I found Koreans and Ko-Korea--also relates to rean society to be very a rather somber tale of nationalistic, xenophobic, and conservative. In addition, it didn't help that all of my classmates listened to music made by plastic teen boy-bands that looked like girls. Through junior high and high school, I braced for the chance to get out of the country. I first found there

> was a punk scene in Korea through Crying Nut. I lived in Daejon when I first saw them in concert. Not only was I surprised that there was a band that played decent punk music at that time, but I was also surprised that there were several other decent bands in the underground scene I got involved in the punk scene after I graduated high school and moved to Seoul. I discovered a whole new world inside Korea.

It was mesmerising. I was surprised that in such a conservative country, kids had the courage to dye their hair red and grow mohawks. But most of all, I was amazed that in a country of homogenic culture, there were people who knew a lot more music than I did. And, many of them had



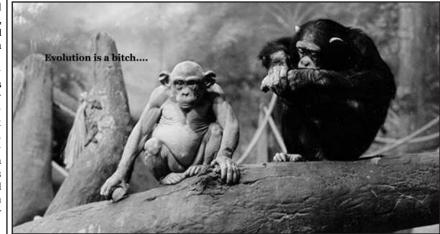
Jiyoung's Skunk Hell show in October.

not even visited a foreign country. It was an exceptionally small scene, but I wanted to see it grow. I wanted to see it grow to the extent that, when my parents announced they were moving out of the country during my freshman year in college that I refused to go. I had known the people in the scene for only a few months, and I wanted to see how it would evolve. As a result, I stayed in Korea 5 more years, and finished my college degree in the country.

I have left Korea for Atlanta two months ago, and I find that I have a lot to thank the Korean punk scene. First, it introduced me to indie music. Before, I got involved in the punk scene. I knew more music

than the average Korean, but most of the music that I knew were the bands that came out on MTV and K-ROQ.By listening to the stuff that the punk kids listened to, I got more extensive knowledge on punk and hardcore music. I got to know the legendary bands, and the indie labels that released great

But most of all, I have to thank the Punk scene for allowing me to open my mind and see Korea for what it really is.It is a country that has its shitty parts, but it is also a country that has alot of culture. And the people are generally narrowminded, but the people can also be exceptionally warm, once you get to know them.



What the fuck is Anthroprealism?



And now for some art. Or, if you will, Unrealrealism.

Jane McKella

What is art? What does art mean, if it means anything. Is art simply a wistful painting on a wall? A romantic sculpture in a garden? Or does art cover a wide variety of 'career choices'? Thespians call themselves artists, as do singers and songwriters. Even beauty and silicon surgeons use the term. So vou could conclude that being an artist doesn't just mean you can draw an elephant well. I ask, what are the

boundaries of art? Are there any? Is there anything about art that hasn't been invented yet, anything new? We've had all sorts of -isms: Renais-Impressionism Impressionism. Pointism, Abstract, Fauvism, Surrealism, etc, etc, etc, etc, etc, and etcism. Basically every form, style, and genre of art has been labeled, classed and filed into its appropria te folder. Everything else that comes along is a recycled effort of a few different styles 'repackaged' as something new. I am excluding all discussion on technological art as that is Spanish manure.

I intend to invent a new genre or 'label' of art. Anthroprealism. Or, simply put, Human Beings.

Now, I'm not talking about that real human body exhibition, or wax sculptures, or even those people who can stand still for 500 million hours covered in gold paint. No, not even striptease. I just mean everyday people and their styles.

Anthroprealism consists of uncountable sub-forms. For example, the woman who spends two hours every morning putting on a mountain of make-up and doing her hair, or the man in certain cases; when I see these people I think, "What a great example

of Shrouderealism". Or the Halmoni, with their distinctive style of short black hair and slacks the country over. Halmorealism. Then there's all the Japanese men always dressed in black and white suits, everyone in black and white, white and black on everyone, Monouniforealism. Then there's rural Australia, with its standard flannette shirt, or bonds T-shirt co-ordinated with stubby shorts and an unshaven face, that's called Boganrealism. Also the athletic. sports style. People covered in billboards of Adidas and Nike, with of course, pure white sneakers, Commersporealism. Those who cover themselves in Gucci or Chanel, Commerclarealism.

Then we've got Realrealism. The best example I can think of for this is in Cambodia, where there is no such thing as pre-meditated style. People wear only what they can afford, or just what's in the family closet-their lifestyles are reflected precisely through what they are dressed in. The hardships, poverty, missing limbs. Realrealism is the only sub-form of Anthroprealism where you can 'judge a book by its cover'

But, I want you to understand that I am not classing anybody here, I am simply creating a name for the different styles of art seen everyday, all over the world.

Anthroprealism
Shrouderealism
Halmorealism
Monouniforealism
Boganrealism
Commersporealism
Commercialrealism
Realrealism

Tonguetwistingmind-boggling.

So...that, then, brings me to punk.

The Dictionary of Bastard English

banana (noun) An Asian person who acts like they are white. Yellow on the outside, white on the inside. *I met lots of Koreans in Canada, but they were all bananas*.

bootfuck (verb) To repeatedly kick someone while they're on the ground. That asshole was hitting on my girlfriend, so we got him on the ground and bootfucked him.

crunk (adjective) Severely drunk to the point of sociopathy or a mixture of drunk and stoned. I got so crunk last night that I broke a store window and crawled inside to have a sleep. donkey punch (verb) To strike a girl while you're about to have an orgasm inside her, in order to make her squeeze up around you. Usually in the ribs. Joey's mom had such a wide cunt I had to donkey-punch her to feel anything.

douchebag (noun) 1) A bag of hygienic fluid used to clean out the vagina. 2) Jerk, asshole. I was a real douchebag last night. Sorry I pushed over your sister

freshcut (noun) A new skinhead. Look at that stupid freshcut sieg-heiling along with a Madness song.

sausage party (noun) Any social gathering with no women. Where are all the girls? I don't want to have a sausage party! shitload (noun) A large

amount. There's a shitload of beer in the fridge.

trenditional (noun) Someone who gets into a scene and becomes a snob about it. That freshcut thinks he looks cool, but last week he didn't know what skinheads are. He's so trenditional

WWJD? (abbreviation) It stands for What Would Jesus Do? Seen mostly on bumper stickers and George W Bush's blog. I don't know if I should break up with my girlfriend because she's a crack whore. WWJD?

Say What!?! Misheard Lyrics in Korean Punk Songs...Revealed

Nevin Domer

Coming to Korea and hearing bands sing in Korean oddly enough reminds me of high school—singing along to Bad Religion: "cats, sports, porn, hardcore" and wondering... "is that what they're really saying?" With all the misheard English lyrics it gets even more confusing when I can't figure out what language is being spoken! I want to use this space to translate (or mistranslate) all those songs that foreigners hear and try to sing along to but have no clue as to what's really being said. Hopefully this will help us understand each other better or at least realize that, "wow, that part wasn't in English after all!"

Lee Myeong Bak by the Vicious Nerds

The Vicious Nerds have been gaining a large following recently with their comical songs and onstage antics mixed with a super tight brand of premature ejaculacore. I just about pissed myself laughing the first time I saw singer Yim Hyeong-gyu running around with his eyes bugging out. Their onstage banter is often the best part (something foreigners unfortunately tend to miss).

Many Vicious Nerds songs are pretty straightforward; however, I was intrigued by "Lee Myeong Bak," named after Seoul's current mayor. He has spent his time in office trying to transform the city and create a lasting legacy for himself. One of his many megalomaniac plans for Seoul is to reconstruct the downtown, destroying small businesses and the homes of many long-time residents in favour of more skyscrapers.

너 싫어 때끼놈 I hate you, bumbling fool (language used for babies) 우리 생각 해봤냐

Have you thought about us? 이것 저것 니맘대로

Here and there, doing as you please 이…맹박

Lee… Stupid Bak 네 위대한 업적

All of your great achievements 두고두고 기억하리

I'll remember forever 기리기리 기억하리

I'll remember always 절대 좋을(좆)대로 잊지않겠다

I'll absolutely never (fucking) forget 땍땍땍끼놈 이명박 시발놈

Bumbling fool--Lee Myeong Bak--fucker 우리들의 위대하신 저명한 시장님

Our great and eminent Mayor

THE BIMONTHLY BOOTFUCK

Jon Twitch

I know Korea is the most wired country in the world, so why are its websites constructed like a castle? The one site that pisses me off the most is e-mail provider Hanmail.

Patriotic name, seen on all

business cards. The fact that it sounds inspired by MSN Hotmail suggests trustworthiness. So then why does Hanmail reject messages from Hotmail, along with every other mail service I've tried?

That's right, if you use

whoever you want in the world. But they cannot reply. So what's Hanmail's deal? Xenophobic servers? Poor programming? Who cares: get yourself an account on an international provider.

Just Like a Punk Rocker by Suck Stuff

Here's a song we all know (and are quick to jump in with the English chorus): Suck Stuff's "Just Like A Punkrocker."

According to lead singer and guitarist, Yoo Chul-Hwan, "There's no special meaning—it's just about living as punk rocker—and staying true to your beliefs." Despite all the shit thrown at us everyday we should resist the temptation to sink back into the crowd (like some we see around us) and live our lives with dignity and pride. Although the verses highlight the suffering around us, the chorus becomes a valiant cry for an ideal. A nice positive message for a damn fun song!

Just like a punkrocker 병든 벙어리 시인처럼 Like a sick dumb poet 가난한 자들의 슬픈 연극처럼 Like a sad play by poor people just like a punkrocker

썩은 거리 위 창녀처럼 Like a prostitute on the rotten street

억지 웃음짓는 피에로들처럼 Like clowns forcing a smile

눈을 크게 뜨고 적의 몸에 총을 겨눠 With eyes open wide aiming (a gun) at the enemy

멍든 주먹 쥐고 적의 몸에 총을 겨눠
With bruised fist aiming (a gun) at the enemy

with bruised list aiming (a gun) at the e 이유없이 때리고

Hit for no reason 이유없이 욕먹고

Cursed for no reason 가만히 있다고 우릴 병신 취급하네

They say we're doing nothing and treat us like invalids

쫑알 되는 까마귀들 Squawking crows [old women]

Squawking crows [old women] 불만 많은 대머리들

Complaining baldies [old men] 쌩트집을 잡으면서 인상만 찌푸리지

Being falsely blamed my life clouds over 난 그냥 이곳이 화가 날 뿐야

I'm only growing angry in this place Chorus:

Chorus: Just like a punkrocker (X3)

Let me out of city

Just like a punkrocker 병든 벙어리 시인처럼

Like a sick dumb poet

가난한 자들의 슬픈 연극처럼 Like a sad play by poor people

just like a punkrocker 썩은 거리 위 창녀처럼

Like a prostitute on the rotten street

억지 웃음짓는 피에로들처럼 Like clowns forcing a smile

눈을 크게 뜨고 너의 몸에 총을 겨눠 With eyes open wide aiming (a gun) at you

With eyes open wide aiming (a gun) at yo 멍든 주먹 쥐고 너의 몸에 총을 겨눠

With bruised fist aiming (a gun) at you

우릴 구원해준다고 "They will rescue us"

[may be reference to false promises from the government]

ernment] 우릴 살려주겠다고

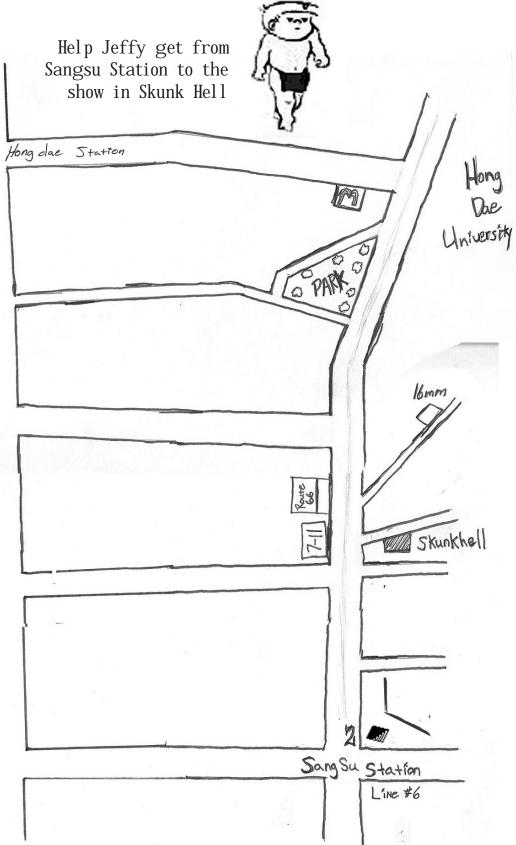
"They will save us"

뻔히 거짓말을 하네 bullshit! That's a blatant lie, bull shit!

just like a punkrocker, just like a bastards 끝도 없는 불만 고개 숙인 미친 자세

There's no end to your complaining with your head turned down (in that stupid fatal pose)

난 그냥 이곳이 화가 날 뿐야 I'm only growing angry in this place



- 1. Take subway line 6 to Sangsu station, one stop from transfer point Hapjeong.
- 2. Go out exit 2 and turn around and head backwards from the exit stairs.
- 3. Walk up the street for a little bit.
- 4. When you are almost at the 7-11, look up the second alley. You can see Skunk Hell clearly from the street.

The 15 Commandments of Korean Punk

by Paul Mutts

- 1. Get here early. Shows here usually start around 6:30 or 7:00pm and end around eleven, give or take.
- 2. You can always ask for an encore. In fact, it's rather encouraged.
- 3. Show up with the right currency. Remember, you're in Korea. There aren't money exchanges everywhere, and your money isn't as awesome as you think.
- 4. Being an asshole at a show doesn't make you punk; it makes you an asshole.
- 5. There's usually an after-party after the shows, and if you stick around someone will invite you along. Just be sure and pitch in for the bill.
- 6. No stupid soldier bullshit. You shouldn't even be in the area anyway, so don't make an ass of yourself or you'll get booted, or worse.
- 7. Bringing drinks in the club is fine. if not encouraged. If you break a bottle, especially in the moshing area, make every effort to clean up the pieces.
- 8. Take off any wrist spikes or Casio watches before getting in the pit. If you don't, you'll get picked on. By me.
- 9. There's a time and place for everything. The time for macho-man shirtless screaming is inside, during the show. For the most part, Koreans are still not quite comfortable with shirtlessness. Besides, you need a tan and a bodywax.
- 10. If you have a bag or jacket you want to take off (and keep relatively safe) give it to anyone behind the counter and be sure to remember who you gave it to. Jon or some other foreigner will usually be back there to help you. I've been going to punk shows in Korea for many years, and I have not seen something actually stolen.
- 11. Be polite. That's very important in this country if you haven't already guessed. We see enough foreigners that a rude one wouldn't be missed.
- 12. You'd be surprised at how many Koreans speak English, but don't expect them to use it around a stranger. In all honesty, you should be making an effort to learn Korean.
- 13. The customary hierarchy rules apply even at a punk show, more or less. Pour drinks for your friends, use both hands, don't treat locals like dogs and stupid shit like that. Common sense is a rare commodity.
- 14. Watch those elbows in the pit. You'll know if you're being a little rough. We'll know
- 15. We have shows just about every Saturday in Skunk Hell. One show is rarely advertised more than a week in advance, so we have schedules just like how all the bathrooms have toilet paper..