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Alternative Rhythms

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The Twins Radio Report N. Florida Video Music Vinyl Free Cassette!

martyrs

write songs about cars,

local music fans know what to expect when they go to see a D.T. MARTYRS show. Their shows are entertaining in a no-frills sort of way; no pretentious hair-do's or trendy clothes here. The MARTYRS play honest, straight forward rock'n'roll, reminiscent of early ROLLING STONES.

'We're influenced by ZZ TOP, THE GRASS ROOTS, that white R&B sound," Alan revealed. 'We're also influenced by THE OHIO PLAYERS, WAR, LITTLE FEAT,

Bob Dylan, and THE ROLLING STONES."

car radio. We make good music, it is just motivational music. It's the kind of music to wake up to in the morning, or drive Alan formed the MARTYRS in February of 1982, with ex-R.A.F. guitarist and singer Rusty Hammond. Since that time, D.T. MARTYRS have incorporated the talents of Pete Moss, Jim Johnson, and Doug Gilbert, to name a few. The MARTYRS current line-up uses ex-EAT member and baseball fanatic Michael O'Brien

love, and mental illness,

explained Alan Harmon, guitarist,

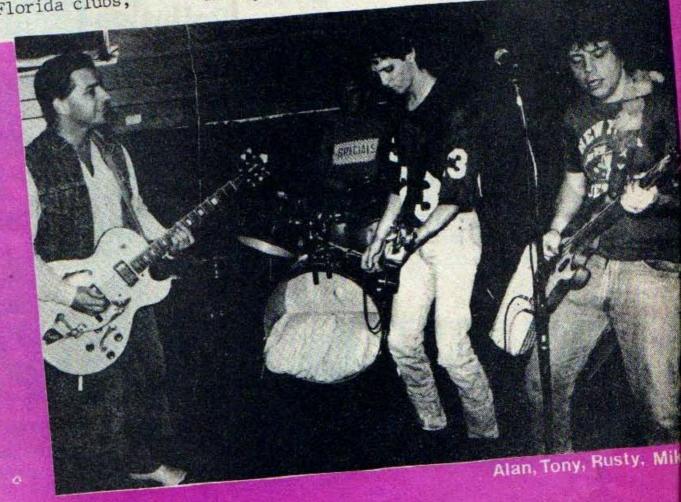
could like listening to on their

slide guitarist, and sometimes

vocalist for D.T. MARTYRS. "We are the kind of band people

on bass, and newcomer Tony Bazemore on drums. After over three years of playing South Florida clubs,

Ithough the MARTYRS have been around for quite a while, they have never released any studio recordings, or any other for that matter. Well, now it seems that our dreams have come true. The D.T. MARTYRS have just released their first recorded effort, on JETERBOY CASSETTES. The cassette is imaginatively titled Narcotics In The Carport, and includes three covers "The Shape I'm In, "originally by THE BAND, "Odds n' Ends" a Bob Dylan composition, and THE BEATLES' classic "Come Together." The remaining nine songs are originals, mostly written by Rusty or Alan. However, two of



the most outstanding songs on the cassette were

written, or co-written, by Michael O'Brien. The title cut, "Narcotics in the Carport," was cowritten by Michael; and it all came about as sort

of a joke, according to Rusty: "The credits on the tape say Michael and I. What happened was I had the riff, and then... there was some kind of joke. It was three or four practices before we recorded it, and we were standing around in the parking lot, and I was making jokes about the song 'My Boyfriends Back.'
There's this line that says "If I were you I'd take a permanent vacation," that is how it started. And soon I was saying 'My boyfriend's back, and he's gonna kick your face in." Somehow we switched to another song; and somehow, someone said something about narcotics, and they were somewhere. I don't know how they got there, but they ended up in the carport.

nd that was it! I said 'Ah ha! I'm going to write a song called "Narcotics In The Carport, just watch...I'll come back next practice and have one.' And I did. And all it was, was these weird riffs. I had three or four verses, and we just cut it down, with no regards to any logical progression or story line. I cut them all up, and just made them into two verses. We didn't have a chorus at all, it didn't mention narcotics in the carport. I said 'look, here's this song.' And Michael said 'Why don't we sing it, and make it into the chorus?' That song was about the most haphazard song ever written... It worked out really well."

The song that Michael wrote by himself is a masterpiece of urban living called "Search My Car." In all, the cassette is a very good

representation of a very good band.

()ith the cassette finished, the MARTYRS are ready and willing to start playing live again. Since Michael joined in September, and Tony a few weeks before they started recording, the band has not had any opportunities to play with their new line-up. Rather than rushing out to do a small tour to promote the cassette, the band wants to re-direct itself back into the local scene.

by kathy rohrbach

"The first places we would like to start playing," Alan explained, "are in Dade and Broward County. I can imagine a lot of people driving around in their cars listening to D.T. MARTYRS. It is that kind of music, it sounds best over a car radio. I think we could play to a larger audience than FLYNNS... FLYNNS is nice and everything, but...it's a very specialized group of people there. We could play at places that a band, say BROKEN TALENT, would not go over big in...We're a rock'n'roll band, and we can play in rock'n' roll bars."

() ith the new cassette, and the new members, The MARTYRS seem to have gotten a stronger sense of energy and incentive. They talk eagerly about doing shows again, to show the public that they are better than ever. And they are. If you can not see them live, then check out their cassette. As the band says, that is practically live, anyways. D.T. MARTYRS are a band with a new beginning. See them soon!

