

news briefs

FLORIDA REPORT by Boz

Morbid Opera are my favorite new band down here. They are: Lisa, vocals; Libby, bass; Nelson, guitar; and Chewy, drums. They haven't quite figured out how to play their instruments yet, but that never stopped anyone before. A real "punk" band, and I'm not talking about HC, thrash, or oi.



PHOTO: LAUHA

They're fast, psychedelic, slow, trashy, noisy, and funny as hell so don't miss them. The best thing in Florida since Teddi and the Fratgirls! The Abusers have broken up and supposedly Matt and Andy are forming a glitter band, to be called Saint or something like that. Oh well...the Menstrual Cycles are talking to NO FUTURE Records about some vinyl. Let's wish them luck. Speaking of English record deals, the Screaming Sneakers, (now called PSI Force) have a set up to do a couple of singles with Polygram UK. Congratulations! A new Larry Joe Miller single should be coming out on Open one of these days, also...finally saw Radio Berlin at the disco awhile back. While I really don't care for their brand of music, their stage set-up was awesome. It was all black (my fave color) and they stood on these weird platforms that had these bright lights in them- I think they were chicken egg incubators or something...speaking of eggs, we have no new Charlie Pickett news this issue. Sorry. Also no new Eat news, except that Mrs. O'Brien had a baby boy and I got sick on my cigar. Thanks Eddie!...Isaac Baruch's new band is the U.S. Furys. How 'bout a Reactions reunion, Isaac? Coolest club in town is still Finder's...27 Birds is OK, but a bit conservative (no HC). The New Wave Lounge still has the best booze. Thanks George! The Essentials have a new bassist (again). His name is Henry, and from what I saw,

he's quite good and adds alot to the band. Crucial Truth are back in town for the next few months and Leo's back on drums. Oh yeah...Gary got some new tatoos. He's got quite an art collection now. Latest rumor is that Mont really hates Killing Joke- he just says he likes them 'cause they're more revolting than Adam Ant. Hey, Mont, before you do another cartoon in retaliation- I'm only kidding! Seriously, Mont's an OK guy, and he puts out a zine with another OK guy, James. The name of the zine is F.L.A. Decay. Send a buck or so to them at 2925 Poinsettia St., Ft. Lauderdale, Fl., 33316. CHEERS!

ANARCHY IN THE SECOND CITY CHICAGO HARDCORE

BY DAVE READ

Well, here's my report from the 20th-century center of subterranean culture. Chicago- some may call it the Windy City. Some may call it the city that blows.

The first thing I should discuss is the punk bars, there aren't any. Last year the infamous Oz, scene of Autumn records' "Busted at Oz" live 12", closed down. A few months later, O'Banions, formerly located on the lovely and scenic 800 block of North Clark Street, closed down, leaving Chicago without a punk venue.

But all is not lost though. Through the help of our great local promoter Eric Nihilist, Thursday nights at Club C.O.D. has been established as hardcore night. Once again punk bands have a place where they can get booked regularly. The Cubby Bear Lounge, a small pub on Chicago's North side also books punk bands occasionally. There are plenty of lighted discos all over Chicago that are just like a certain club with an unmentionable name in Lauderdale, but I won't get into them here.

Now I guess I'll talk about the bands- first and foremost are the EFFIGIES, who should be appearing somewhere in South Florida by the time you read this. They look like the typical hardcores- ya know, boots braces, and boneheads. Their sound though, is unique, somewhat slower and more sophisticated than most Clifornia punk bands. They are a band that must be seen live to be appreciated. Their shows are no-holds-barred total trash bashes. In Chicago their gigs are as violent as anything that happens in El Lay. On a recent tour of the West Coast they backed up the likes of the Dead Kennedys, the Circle Jerks, and DOA. In their home town, they have opened for the U.K. Subs, X, Anti-Pasti, and the Rockats among others!!!??? They are favorites of both Keith Moriss and Jello Biafra. Eral, the guitarist, may be the best axeman of any punk band in the country. Philo Cramer included. And the vocalist has the stage presence of a lobotomized Joe Strummer.

Check them out on the previously-mentioned "Busted at Oz" (Autumn Records, 2427 N. Jansen,

Chicago, Ill. 60614), their over-produced but still powerful "Haunted Town" EP previously released on Autumn but now distributed by their own Ruthless label (Ruthless Records, 319 S. Jefferson Chicago, Ill., 60606) and their brilliant new 7" "Bodybag/Security", also on the Ruthless label.

Another one of my favorite Chicago bands is the relatively new group ARTICLES OF FAITH. They are an unpretentious 4-piece slam band that plays fast and tight. Their drummer is the best on the Chicago scene. They have gone over well opening for Fear and Black Flag. No wax from these guys, but I'm hoping.

One of Chicago's favorite local groups is the skinhead trio TRIAL BY FIRE. They are the second incarnation of STRIKE UNDER (see "Busted at Oz"). Three members of STRIKE UNDER got rid of their lead singer to form this much tighter three-piece. They play extra-simple three minute masterpieces with a distinct CRASS influence. No word on any records from these boneheads.

Also, still making noise on the Chicago scene are the SUBVERTS. Sure, their performance on "Busted at Oz" kinda sucks (they also have a 7" EP available), but they have gotten a hell of a lot better since. I saw them do a great set at O'Banions last year, despite the fact that only about a dozen people came to see them. Definitely worth checking out.

Another interesting band worth mentioning is DV8. I caught them two years ago when they were a New W__E band trying to sound like the Buzzcocks. Now they have dropped the pop and hopped on the hardcore bandwagon. I have only seen them once since their metamorphosis. And I have to admit that I was quite impressed.

Last but not least is SIX FEET UNDER. They have been playing the dives for several years now. Unfortunately, they are just about Chicago's only politically-oriented punk band. Members of this four-piece can be identified by a stupid facial expression and an equally stupid political slogan on the back of a leather or denim jacket. Their guitarist was one of the mongoloid boneheads on the Phil Donahue show a few months ago. They waste some wax on the B.A.O. Live LP and are threatening to release a 12" EP. A must buy for anyone who is into skeet shooting.

Oh yeah, I should mention that recently there has been a small flurry of activity centered in exotic, suburban Downer's Grove, Illinois. I've heard alot of good things about a group called RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED, though I have yet to check them out personally. So there you have it. Admittedly, the scene is pretty bleak, considering the fact that Chicago is the second largest city in the U.S. However, there are several great bands in the area that are not getting the publicity (and the recording contracts) that they deserve simply because they are not from L.A. or San Francisco or New York. The EFFIGIES, ARTICLES OF FAITH, and TRIAL BY FIRE are just as good or better than any of the groups that have come from those cities in the past year or two. Remember, don't miss the EFFIGIES when they come here some time this fall.

Oh yeah, Jon Hope, DIE KRUIZEN is not the only Wisconsin hardcore. HUSKER DU plays Chicago alot. They are a three-piece with a fine LP called "Land Speed Record" (on New Alliance) Their sound is very loud, very noisy, and very fast. And they have a drummer who looks like Pugsley from the Addams Family. I witnessed a HUSKER DU gig at Oz 2 years ago where said Pugsley clone went into a back room and returned with a 5-gallon can of blue paint. He proceeded to open the can and shower the audience with it. A band undoubtedly destined for a guest appearance on Solid Gold.

RAY GUN GOES BACK TO HOLLYWOOD

"An Observation" by TML

Why was it that most people were pro-war back before Pearl Harbor and during the wars that followed? In the 40's the government financed producers and studios to make movies that portrayed war as Fun! Adventurous! Romantic! You know, the kind where Johnny always came home to his girl. They brainwashed this country into wanting to go to war. They needed to get the country into the right frame of mind. War was the salvation of a depressed economy and high unemployment, and movies were the perfect vehicle. When the vets relayed stories from Vietnam, they said at first they felt like they were in a John Wayne movie, jumping off the helicopter with everyone, until a buddy's head got blown off next to him. Mom never bothered to portray those grisly details.

"So what?", most assholes would reply.

Fuckin WAKE UP! Seen or heard of "An Officer and A Gentleman" or "Inchon"? Seen the unemployment rate? RayGun strikes again! He's getting this country acclimated to the 'patriotism' of it all, the self-righteousness of the U.S. to be mediator of conflict, anywhere, especially where we don't belong. (Beirut ring a bell?) He's trying to be so slick, easing us into the idea, keeping the job market squeezed tight. Starting up registration for the draft again.

Where the hell is all the awareness we had



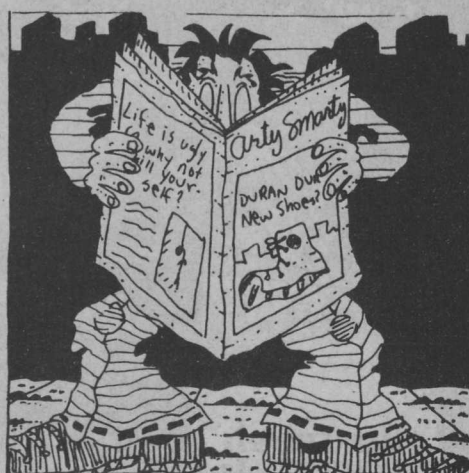
RONALD REAGAN THIS IS YOUR LIFE

- US President ● Propagator of Nuclear War in Europe ● Butcher of El Salvador
- Maggie's friend ● Prop of right-wing dictators from Guatemala to Argentina, from Turkey to the Philippines
- Opponent of the Equal Rights Amendment for women
- Anti-trade unionist ● Enemy of workers everywhere
- One-time actor in crummy movies

WE DON'T LIKE ONE BIT OF IT!

after Vietnam? We're being subtly swayed by this propaganda and don't see it coming.

People, be aware of this slow, innocuous infiltration through movies and not be so blindly led by the late (hopefully) great (never) actor himself.



Baboon
Dooley
Rock
CRITIC
7 So Pt Trv
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AMERICAN YOUTH REPORT

**THE
BOMP
INVASION
IS HERE!**

OUT NOW



BAD RELIGION Only Gonna Die

CHANNEL 3 Catholic Boy

■ **LEGAL WEAPON** Pow Pow

● **ADOLESCENTS** Losing Battle

■ **FLESHEATERS** Pony Dress

● **LOST CAUSE** Born Dead

■ **RHINO 39** J. Alfred

■ **MODERN WARFARE** One For All

■ **DESCENDENTS** I'm Not A Loser

T.S.O.L. Sounds Of Laughter

● **SHATTERED FAITH** Reagan Country

HYPNOTICS Weird People

■ **MINUTEMEN** Working Men
Are Pissed

M.I.A. Tell Me Why

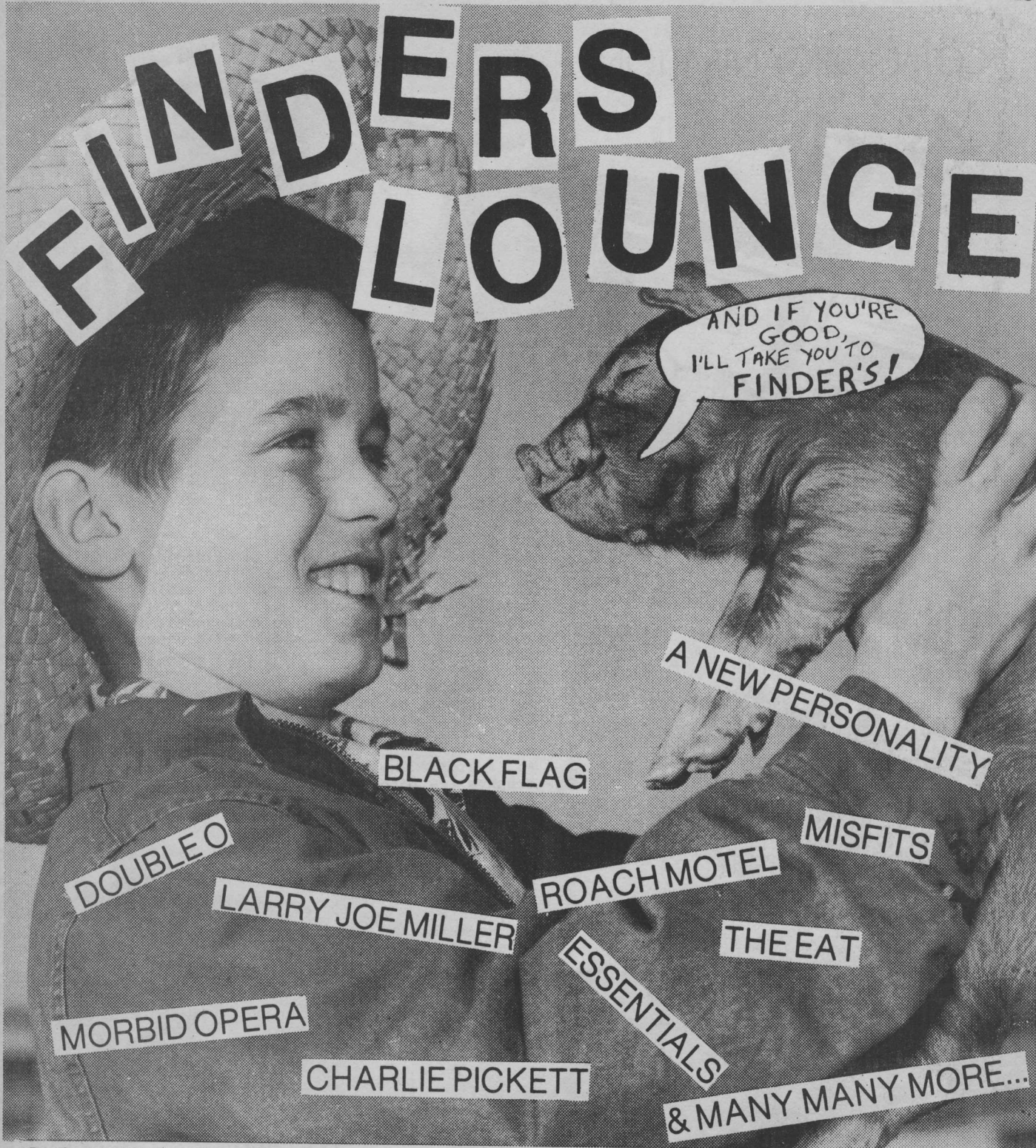
RF7 Jesus Loves You

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Mean Nothing To Me

■ PREVIOUSLY UNRELEASED
● FIRST TIME ON ALBUM



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