

PHOTOS BY FRANK MULLEN & KINKS

# the Roach Motel

MORE BEER

**MORE BEER**- An Extremely Palsy Excuse For An Interview With Gainesville's Incredible Roach Motel by Lisa Angel



**Russ**- Bass; also singer in Slime; idolizes Family Feud's Richard Dawson because "He's drunk all the time"; occasionally becomes possessed by some TV preacher and spews forth endless damnations from the mouth lasting up to 7 hours at a time.



**George**- Guitar; also singer in the George Tabb Experience; suffers a mild form of cretinism; a human phenomenon, a legend in his own mind.



**Bob**- Thinks he sings; ex-member of the Sensitive Fish; the life of the party; the Blood & Guts of the Roach Motel; an obnoxious mof; has an average attention span of about 2 to 3 minutes... tops.



**Frank**-Drums; ex-member of the Bazookas; not present; probably out doing tons of speed somewhere.



**Jeff**-Lead guitar; ex-member of Diarrhea Don & the Shitstains and the Liquid Plumbers; also plays guitar in the Ruling Youth; an acid casualty; probably gene-recessive; Black Sabbath's most loyal fan; probably supports the Budweiser corp. singlehandedly.



The interview took place in Bob's trailer (G-ville, May 25), surrounded by cageless birds, empty beer cans, and the just plain offensiveness of these guys themselves. The best part of the interview was all the beer in the refrigerator.

Bob-Hi Barry!

SR-When was the "Roach & Roll" 45 released?

B-Dec. '82.

SR-What did you think of your reviews?

B-Barry wrote a ruling review.

Jeff-Most everyone liked us except Boston Rock.

B-and Max R&R. They wanted more polygrip or something.

J-They liked "More Beer".

Russ-Who cares about Max R&R.

B-They think we hate women, but that's not true.

Just ask my girlfriend.

(Cindy-no comment)

B-She's shy.

J-More beer! Shit, it's not even cold.

R-Man, you can't get beer cold!

J-Shit.

R-That's your problem, Jeff. One has to learn to be satisfied with the temperature of beer as it is.

SR-George, who's your favorite guitar player?

(This question caused a lot of clamour and snickering.)

J-Johnny Rotten!

George-No, Johnny Ramone rules.

B-Who's your fav. bass player?

G-um, Russ, I guess.

R-Oh! George! (swoons)

SR-Bob, who's your fav. singer?

B-(in a Henry voice) Heenry!!! & George Tabb from the George Tabb Experience and Ken Decker of Penis Hymers.

SR-Who's your fav. guitar player?

J-Besides myself?

SR-Yeah, besides yourself, Jeff.

J-Keneth Richards.

B-Ted Nugent, c'mon...

J-Nah, Ted sucks... The guy in Black Sabbath is pretty good. Johnny Ramone sucks. Sorry George.

B-Let's ask some real questions: George, would you sell out?

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R-Only if he couldn't give blood anymore.

G-Bob, do you have AIDS? (Bob got AIDS in jail).

R-Bob, who has the most teeth in the band?

SR-I've been trying to get a tape from you all week. If your head wasn't attached to your body, would you lose it?

B-I threw that tape out 'cuz Morbid Opera was on it. They stole "Creep" from us and they stole our "Squeal Like a Pig".

G-It's ours. Jimmy Barf started it back in '81. That's it, ask Jeff.

(An anonymous squeal here)

J-Barf's been squealing for years.

SR-Okay, so who has the biggest nose in the band? Everybody-GEORGE!!!

G-Let's settle this once and for all! Get a fucking ruler!

(Cindy was chosen to measure the incredible Roach Motel's noses...being impartial & all)

R-From the tip to the base! and the widest part! And measure the width too!!

B-(being measured) What is it?! This isn't a



German audience! Don't measure in centimeters!  
 C-1½ inches, Bob.  
 B-That's bigger than some parts of my body.  
 (George was next)  
 R-Hey! Don't suck in your nose!...It's George  
 by a nose!  
 C-ew, Jeff, boy!!  
 G-Oi vey, Jeff.  
 B-My, That's a big one!  
 G-Drumroll...This is truly exciting folks!  
 SR-So who's the lucky winner?  
 B-George has the biggest nose. He was holding  
 it in, even. I predict George will buy the  
 next Suburban Relapse.  
 SR-Next question...  
 B-Ask, Who drinks more on stage? Now this is  
 what readers want to see!  
 J-Bob does.  
 B-No, you do. You've passed out three times on  
 stage!  
 J-No, I fell down three times! I didn't pass  
 out!  
 B-The reason we kicked out Paul (ex-bass player)  
 is because he kept kicking our beers over on  
 stage.  
 SR-He did dumb jumps with a dog collar on.  
 J-He thought he was Devo in his spare time.  
 SR-Since Paul and now John (also ex-bass player)  
 are out, what are you guys gonna do for a bass  
 player?  
 R-I'm interested in this myself. (pseudo-tempor-  
 ary bass for RM)  
 J-So am I!  
 R-Well, I'd like to be a permanent Roach.  
 SR-Why?  
 R-'Cuz they're fucking swell, what can I say?  
 They're totally incompetent....  
 B-That's us.  
 R-and haven't gotten any better. And all I've  
 ever wanted to do is hang out with these  
 swell guys and play bass for them and drink  
 a lot of beer.  
 B-Fucking A!  
 (Applause)(This was the turning point for Russ's  
 career as he became the new pseudo-permanent  
 member of his idol band, the incredible RM).  
 B-Ask us why we let Rhonda (ex-bass)(another  
 one) play bass?  
 SR-Okay, why did you let Rhonda play bass?  
 B-George, answer this.  
 C-Huh? She was pretty incompetent.  
 B-Terrible.  
 C-We had to stop every five minutes...  
 B-or else she'd sit on us...We said okay.  
 C-We had to rent a U-haul to drive her around.  
 B-We could have an ex-drummer and ex-bass player  
 convention of ex-Roaches.  
 SR-Where's your favorite places to play?  
 J-Smitty's (Tallahassee)  
 C-Cool place.  
 R-Reality Kitchen...best place in Gainesville.  
 B-Frank's house.  
 SR-Tell me about the cool place you played at  
 Saturday night, The Spot. I loved it. It looked  
 like a squat. Is it abandoned, or does some-  
 one own it?  
 R-It's across from Whiskey River, a cowboy bar.  
 There's holes in the floor, broken windows...  
 A guy named Andy owns it. He lets bands play  
 there.  
 J-Lots of roaches...cool bathroom.  
 SR-What do you think of the Florida scene?  
 C-Cichlids rule!  
 SR-Oh shit! Next question-What type of following  
 would you say you have?  
 J-Hippies, little skinheads...  
 C-People that have two bucks.  
 SR-Who writes the incredible Roach Motel lyrics?  
 B-George writes all the dumb ones.

J- I write all the good music and Bob writes  
 some lyrics.  
 R-Jeff writes all the long guitar solos.  
 B-All the Black Sabbath songs.  
 J-All the great music is by me; all our hits.  
 Frank wrote a song once, but we dropped it.  
 And Paul wrote a song...  
 B-But we dropped it.  
 J-It may have been the dumbest song ever written.  
 G-Dumb rules.  
 SR-Where's your drummer, Frank? Still in the Be-  
 zookas?  
 R-He's in Mexico.  
 SR-What do you have against Mexicans? Anybody can  
 get a wetback if they sweat enough and "Where  
 the hell's your fucking green card?"!!?  
 J-It's all Ricardo Montalbon's fault.  
 R- If he hadn't brought Tatoo over...that slimy  
 little...  
 J-I liked the "Frito Bandito" commercials and he  
 took 'em off t.v. so...I wrote the music and  
 Diarrhea Don (of the Shitstains) wrote the  
 words.  
 SR-Diarrhea wrote the lyrics? I always thought  
 one of you guys wrote it.  
 J- No, Diarrhea Don did it.  
 SR-Is "Now You're Gonna Die" intended to be  
 sexist?  
 J-George wrote the lyrics to that.  
 B-It's about a particular girl. It's the McGuigan  
 (Terminal Fun) Syndrome. He can't fuck a girl  
 so you write a bunch of songs about her. George  
 isn't anti-women. It's a dumb song. I'm sick  
 of it.  
 SR-Are you planning any new vinyl?  
 J-A three album set.  
 C-An album.  
 J-Maybe not an album.  
 SR-ACK!! BIRD SHIT!!!  
 J-That's disgusting.  
 B-It's just water.  
 J-Bird spew.  
 B-(to his birds) KILL!! ATTACK!! He wants to make  
 a nest in your hair, Jeff. He thinks you're a  
 tree. You combed your hair today?  
 J-No way.  
 B-Why do you wear your shirts backwards?  
 SR-And inside out?  
 J-Well...  
 R-'Cuz he drops so much acid.  
 C-Do you see colors and stuff, man?  
 SR-What bands do you like/hate?  
 C-I hate Terminal Fun. John McGuigan is a dick.



J-Wargasm's good.

B-Wargasm is my favorite local band...and Hated Youth.

R-Slime!

J-Also Hated Youth.

G-Actually, I do like Terminal Fun, but John McGuigan...

J-Wargasm is better. They're more original. Terminal Fun sound like Minor Threat...a little too much like Minor Threat.

G-I like Slime.

R-I'm glad somebody does. (Russ sings in Slime)

J-Maybe if they did shorter sets.

B-If they did "At the Hop" less than ten times.

KKK

R-"At the Hop" is a good song.

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G-Moral Sex isn't too good.

R-We're gonna have all sorts of people showing up at RM gigs trying to beat your ass, George!

SR-Bob, you also put out Destroy fanzine. Don't you think you over do your coverage of the Roach Motel? Roach Motel "propaganda"?

R-YES!!

B-NO!!

R-Yes, Roach Motel has "only" been on the cover of Destroy five or six times.

B-Once, last issue, that's it!

SR-Well, who writes the incredible RM reviews for Destroy?

B-Jeff

J-Yeah, I review ourselves. Big deal.

B-What about Morbid Opera and Suburban Relapse?

SR-I never review Morbid Opera.

B-Well, we put out Destroy. What can you say?

SR-If you rule, you rule, right?

B-I have a t-shirt that says that.

SR-I used to rule.

J-I could rule if I wanted to.

SR-Are you planning another slamfest?

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R-Yes, son-of-slamfest.

B-Necros might play.

SR-A memorial for George?

R-Maybe this summer or early fall.

J-No Burning Dogs!

SR-Why does Frank wear pantyhose with the

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crotches cut out as shirts?

R-'Cuz he's a sex god.

G-He eats the crotch out first.

B-Don't print this.

SR-O.K.

R-He'll still respect us.

SR-What does everyone do outside the band?

G-Well, I like to surf, ski, hop into my jakuzi, watch t.v.

R-Bachelor #3, would you swallow or spit?

G-surf,ski...

R-skank,skate...

B-I want to find the cure for cancer.

R-I want to regenerate the toes I lost.

SR-Jeff?

J-I go to school.

SR-Your major?

J-Tycoonism.

R-I'm a dropout. I haven't had a job for about a year. I pay my bills out of deposit bottles and being a male whore. I collect enough to get by.

SR-And Bob goes to jail.

J-So Bob, how much did you squeal while you were in jail?

B-This is a short interview, George. Tell us about your sex life.

R-(in fridge) Can I drink this?

B-No! That's my last beer!

J-Hey give it to me!

SR-What's the story behind the incredible RM?

G-The Roach Motel started back in the late 50's.

J-When Bob was 20, then, when Bob turned 40, he decided to quit being a hippy.

G- the RM has and always will exist...the RM is God.

SR-O.K. What's the real story?

B-The first time we played, we played for nothing...all our friends came out...

R-Both of them...

B-We could have beat off and they would have gone "God, you're great!"

J-Basically, the story is the band sucked, until I joined.

B-We've had some good breaks, like playing with Black Flag and Sacchirine Trust.

J-And the Sluts...playing with the Sluts was a "big" break for us.

B-They stole my beer!

G-They're weird!

R-Sluts are God!

J-They aren't too talented.

G-But they're fun.

R-They're still God.

KK-

SR-Was opening for Minor Threat fun?

J-Yeah, they were fun to play with...make straightedge jokes...

B-It was pathetic though. All these people that are normally drinkers went straightedge for a week.

R-Not me...Is there a close place for beer around here?

SR-We drank it all already?

G-I only had one.

SR-Are you straightedge?

G-No. but I'm the closest one to it in the band.

B-Closest nerd in the band! (to Jeff) Why don't you cut your hair?

R-Why don't we get more beer?

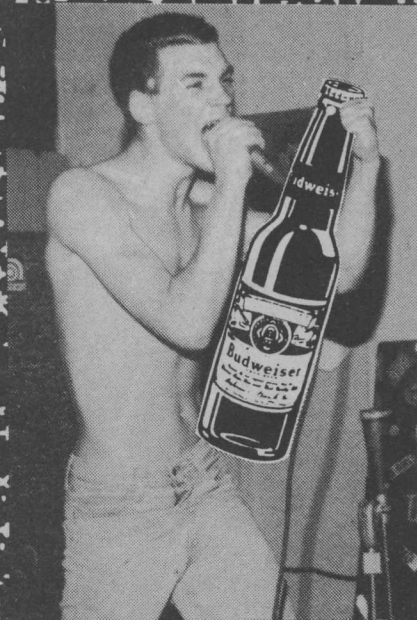
SR-What do you think of the Florida scene?

B-I can't understand why there's so many hardcores in north Florida and they don't have a fanzine up there.

J-They're in high school. They can't write yet. They're skating and stuff.

SR-Yeah, the only bands I've heard from north Florida are hardcore. Some hardcore is sorta stupid. How do you feel about the mindless generic stuff?

R-It's fun to get out and hassle the people who deserve to be hassled and to play loud and fast, but so many bands sound the same. Am





I supposed to give a fuck about these bands that sound identical? When most bands decided to play punk in the first place, they did so they wouldn't sound like Styx. They were against conforming. Now hardcore is conforming. It's like spikes and a leather jacket. G-Hated Youth is pretty generic, but they're good musicians.

J-They're about the best hardcore in Florida.  
SR-How about the scene here in central Florida?  
Can you get gigs fairly easily?

J-At Reality Kitchen.

B-Every week we had a gig there.

J-And the police came...

SR-Yeah, I hear the cops show up at almost all your shows.

B-The first time they showed up was funny. They said "Shut up or you're going to jail". Jeff put his guitar against an amp and made lots of noise. It was a joke. Now they come to every fucking gig! It sucks. You set up a whole show and sometimes don't get to play.

J-At Reality Kitchen the cops show up because they don't like the counter culture there.

SR-Is Roach Motel political?

B-Oh yes, very political.

R-We're marxist-anarchist-skum.

J-We did all the circle A's on campus, on the business building.

B-Like when we started as a punk band in '72 there was no one but us. So when we got hardcore in... '74 was it?

G-'75.

R-Every punk band in the world should have similar politics so I don't see why we should discuss it.

B-Don't listen to him. We're not political and we're damn proud of it.

SR-But all punks don't have the same politics. Some bands are coming out with "moral code" type stuff...neo nazis...

R-That's bullshit.

J-I'm against that.

B-Look at Max.R&R. Kids buy that to read about bands and then have to wade through political crap.

SR-But politics are important. What pisses me off is the fact that some bands/punks jump on the leftest bandwagon to be "in". They may not understand that anarchy is a good, workable alternative, not just a fad.

R-If you don't have anything, then you might as well be an anarchist. The anger is more important to me than the political crap. Might as well make 'em pissed. Punk began out of anger.

B-And humor. It used to be fun.

R-What happened to all the fun? It's draining out. Now you have to vote the straight party line to be punk. That's bullshit. It's become a fad.

J-But Max.R&R is a good fanzine.

B-The argument between Max R&R and Crawford is funny. I like it.

SR-Why exploit it though? I'm bored with it.

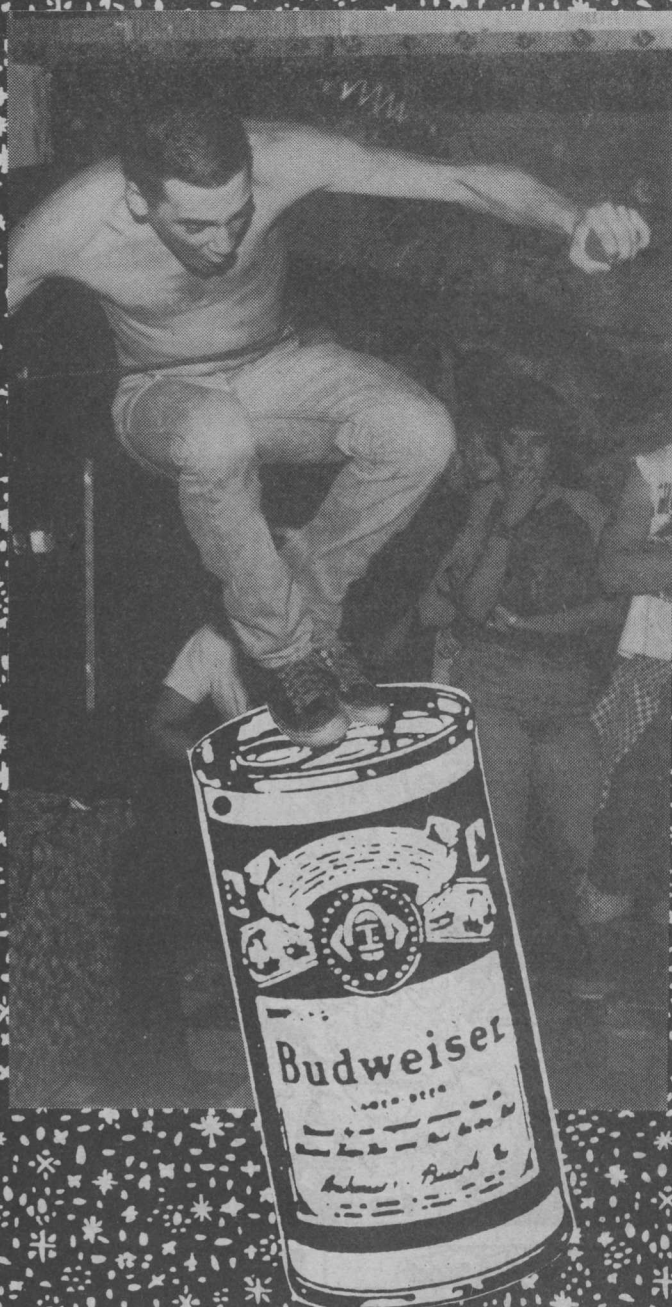
B-I like Flipside and Ripper better.

SR-The best fanzines have always been local: New Order, Mouth of the Rat, Borington Journal, Destroy, Suburban Relapse,...

R-I agree. The Florida scene is so fragile that I don't think we can introduce politics into it. All these bands are just on the edge of survival...just scrambling to stay alive. If we start fighting each other, then that's the end.

J-Most bands that do anything political, in north Florida anyway, are merely parroting other bands.

B-We're not that isolated down here. We've had some great shows; Black Flag, Minor Threat,



Misfits, D.K.'s soon, and the audiences aren't a bunch of assholes.

R-We can't help it if we live in the ass end of the U.S. There's a lot of bands down here. We just need to organize.

J-Bands are better financed elsewhere.

R-You have to work harder in Florida because you have to put it out yourself. Florida has one of the most original scenes because the venues are so small, you can do whatever wierd shit you want. The Florida scene needs to cohere, get over the petty shit, and we desperately need a strong independent label.

B-Being competitive and fighting between bands is useless. It really is.

SR-O.K., we've established the fact that you guys aren't pseudo-politicos...So what's the future for the incredible Roach Motel?

J-We're planning to break up one day.

B-Have fun.

R-More beer.

SHEER TERROR!!

# baboon dooley

gets the dream  
interview of his  
life when he meets

# Jello Biafra!

