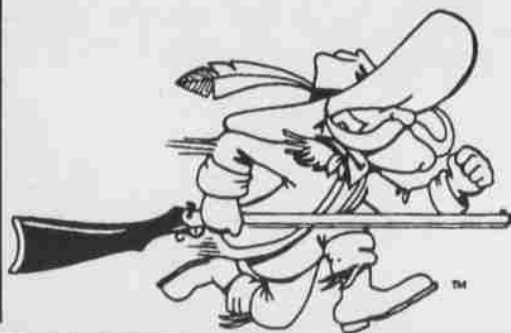


!variety!

REBEL
YELL

"That government
is best which
governs
not at all"

Henry David Thoreau as
quoted by John Malkovich

Damn the Machine; a "damn" fine interview

BY JAMES WILSON

STAFF WRITER

Someone who takes time out from a 34-city stint to talk about the food in New Orleans is, well, a damn nice guy, especially if he's famous.

Mark Poland is a damn, nice guy.

Poland, currently on tour with his brother and the rest of **Damn the Machine**, along with **Voivoid**, were in New Orleans when the talented drummer took a break from rehearsal to talk about food and love songs.

Even the tour manager, who originated the phone call (probably on his own calling card), is a damn nice guy.

"Just keep it under 10 minutes" was the only warning.

After the manager got the band to keep the sound checks under 80 db's, Mark Poland became a food critic. Following a lead question about the food in New Orleans (fast becoming the best lead question to ask anyone in New Orleans), Poland replied, "it's great, I love the food here. I went to a place

called Mother's. If you come to New Orleans, Mother's is the place."

A quick check with the editor revealed the expense account held no near-future trips to Mother's. Pity.

Over to things musical, Poland explained their latest self-titled release was recorded live—all but the vocals—with minimal overdubbing.

"Their were some melodies on guitar that were doubled, but most everything else on the album was laid down live right there," he said.

Poland's performance with brother Chris on their previous effort, *Return to Metalopolis*, contributed greatly to the quality they are now able to achieve with *DTM*.

"I'm sure it had a lot to do with that, because we were most anal on that album (*Return*)," he said. "I'd say we were a little less anal on this record and let the excitement come up more. For it's time, that was good, but we took a little bit looser approach and were less anal on this one."

Comparisons to greats

Megadeath's loss,
Poland's gain
by James Wilson
Damn Staff Writer

A damn good C.D.

Mix deep, meaningful lyrics, some tight, refined musicianship, and lots of quality studio time and you've got the self-titled latest from *DTM*, *Damn the Machine*. Had Radar O'Reilly delivered his famous line in the '90s, he might have said, "Ahhh, *Damn the Machine*."

This release is about 46 minutes of a hard-driving musical cocktail.

And it may never have been.

Chris Poland, primarily the lead and rhythm guitars for the band, used to swing the axe for Dave Mustaine and *Megadeath*, and before that, the *Circle Jerks*. "I realized I wanted to do something different," said Poland, "I thought the beginning of that was *Metalopolis*."

As *Metalopolis*, Chris' band included brother Mark Poland, and was purely instrumental in nature.

Still wanting something different, Chris moved forward, hanging on to brother Mark, adding bassist Dave Randi and vocalist Dave Clemmons, who left an audition tape under the rehearsal door.

The result of this union may be some of the most refreshing progressive rock to appear at a venue near you since, uh, Megawhatever. *Damn the Machine* is solid, and sounds as sweet as Mike Brady's Barracuda pulling in the driveway, to draw another machine analogy.

Lyrically, *DTM* tackles weapons research, history, and the entire world. Damn heavy stuff.

Shaken, not stirred, this is a damn good album.

Clearly this is a headline act disguised as an opening act. And that's the Polish joke that's been avoided all along, dammit.

don't seem to bother bands, and a comparison to Rush and the drum work they've produced doesn't bother Mark Poland. "That's a good one and I'll give you that, sure. And if that's an insult, that's a great one. Thanks."

According to Chris Poland, "There's nothing more frustrating than reading an article...where the band feels compelled to start explaining...what their songs are about."

Mark shares this opinion, but softened it somewhat. "If you've seen the video to 'The Mission,' you can pretty much tell what it's about. People will sell anything."

On subject matter, Mark laughed. "No, we don't (write love songs)," he said. "If we did somebody would end up getting killed in the end."

It's doubtful any love affair that springs up over *Damn the Machine's* work will end violently, but with albums like their latest it might be worth the risk of such heartache.

Damn the Machine will tear into the Huntridge Saturday, Oct. 16.

Art exhibit shows touches of sensuality

BY CATHY SCHWABE

STAFF WRITER

The Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art (NICA) is currently showcasing the work of artist Willi Kissmer through Oct. 29.

Kissmer's art is intended to appeal to the viewer on a subconscious level. This means that the images seen on canvas cause the viewer not only to see the picture but stimulates the mind to recall feelings of touch and texture as well.

Kissmer evokes most of these tactile feelings by creating images of fabrics or linens and exquisitely detailing folds and creases to cause the observer to recall the feelings those fabrics. Kissmer's use of cloths and linens are described by the chair of NICA, Mark Tratos J.D. in the catalog compiled by NICA and the artist for the exhibit.

"Cloth has become commonplace," Tratos said. "We wear it everyday, we sleep on it each night.

We cover our windows, furniture and a myriad of other objects with it. By making fabrics the subject of a painting, Kissmer causes the observer to contemplate cloth generally and the particular cloth depicted specifically.

"Because we drape our bodies with cloth daily, our bodies know much more about cloth than do our eyes. We know how the cloth feels on the skin. It is that intuitive knowledge that each of us has gained through feeling clothing, linen and silk over the years that Kissmer taps into."

Kissmer also uses shadow and subtle visionary tones via artistic medium to illustrate the conditions of a room or scene. The viewer can then recall certain moods and temperatures evoked by the particular shade and coloring of a scene.

In addition to his stimulation of the senses, Kissmer feels that his technique in creating art is also partly responsible for the overall reaction people have to his work.

Through the printing technique called "etching," Kissmer finds his mode of expression endless. Kissmer explains the two "cold" and "hot" forms of etching which require actual physical work on the plate and acid, respectively. These often involve the use of copper plates and the result is an etched appearance on the canvas filled with different colors of ink, creating a shading effect.

Said Kissmer: "Most often I combine both types, probably because I don't quite trust either one of them, a fact that stems from my lack of faith in my own complete mastery of either technique."

The exhibit is titled *For Your Eyes Only-Touch With the Sense of Vision* and is at the NICA gallery, located at the Cannery on Flamingo and Pecos. Be sure to browse through the museum's copy of the catalog for insight into the artist and his work. For more information call 434-2666.

THE REBEL YELL

U of W dropout and Gnu pro rider Jason Bass - photo J. Quinlan

Winter is near!

From the looks of the weather so far, it is gonna be another great winter for Utah and Nevada. Students at UNLV have a couple of different options.

- 1) Season pass at Brianhead. Though Brianhead is pretty flat and boring, it is famous for good powder and is the closest Utah resort, this year they are making snow and are supposed to open on Nov. 10. Student passes are \$225 before Oct. 15.
- 2) Lee Canyon. Lee Canyon is actually a half way decent mountain though the runs are short. This year snowboarding will finally be allowed every day of the week. The management is lame though so watch out where you do airs, cause they are not allowed.
- 3) Flights to Salt Lake City and Reno are only \$99. So if you have the cash and determination Squaw Valley, Brighton and Snowbird are only a couple of hours away.
- 4) Transfer to UNR and get a season pass at Squaw. Be careful because they require you to study at UNR and you will probably just end up back at UNLV with a low G.P.A. and your brain in a haze, like me.