

Ariel View
An overview of the Las Vegas scene
by Ariel -Staff Writer

Vegas Locals Offer Some Free Aspirin and Tender Sympathy

A lot of people don't realize how great and diversified the Las Vegas local music scene is. We've got tons of bands who are very talented, yet no one knows. Well, the time has come for the world to wake up and take notice.

Local boys Derrick Wells, Darran Wells, and Anthony Hudak have released a CD called *Free Aspirin and Tender Sympathy- The Las Vegas Underground* which features fifteen of Vegas' finest. The range of style goes from hard core punk to funk and even good old rock and roll. The bands are: **Vermin From Venus, Scrubs, A Lesser Dog, Under My Skin, Cries & Whispers, MJ-12, Pablo Diablo & the Little Red Devils, Mudslide, Sausage Hostages, Knuckle Sandwich, Papered Skin, Offta Mars, Paris Green, Wholes and Lethal Injection.**

The album pays tribute to the man who has done the most for the Vegas scene, Wayne Coyner, owner of The Underground Record Store. By the way, *The Underground* is the only place where you can pick up this CD.

Highlights on this album are **Mudslide** with "Full of Love," **A Lesser Dog** with "Operation Unsound," and **Scrubs** with "Farmer's Hankie." Not to say that these are the only good songs. No sirree! There's not a bad song on the entire album. It is definitely a **MUST HAVE!!**

So run out and pick it up. The Underground is located across from The Boulevard Mall at 1664 E Twain. And, when you're there, make sure you say "Hi" to Wayne.

Earlier this year, an idea was born that would change the Las Vegas music scene. Not only was it an idea, but it became an action as well. The "idea" is called *Free Aspirin and Tender Sympathy- The Las Vegas Underground* and it is a CD that features fifteen Las Vegas bands.

The concept has been tossed around for years, but it wasn't acted on until it fell into the minds of Derrick Wells, Darran Wells, and Anthony Hudak.

From start to finish, the album took three months. Word got out and bands started calling to get their place on the CD. There were only two requirements. The first was that each

band had to play one benefit at Favorites. All proceeds from the four benefits went directly into making the album. The second requirement was that each band had to give a DAT (digital audio tape) to the producers of the album. It was that simple. Several bands floated in and out of the project, not truly believing that it (the CD) would really happen. The bands featured on *Free Aspirin* are "the bands who believed we were really going to do it," says Derrick Wells.

Some interesting facts about the album: 1. The **Scrubs** song, "Farmer's Hankie" was recorded live in the studio. They didn't record track by track. 2. The album is dedicated to Wayne Coyner, owner of The Underground Record Store (which is why the album is called "The Las Vegas Underground"). As Wells says, "Wayne has always been there for the local scene." 3. *Free Aspirin and Tender Sympathy* is actually a sign at a gas station on Las Vegas Blvd. Wells feels that it "represents Vegas."

The benefits were the most important part for making the album. "We had a really good response from the audience," says Wells. "The town really came through." It is also important to note that the bands did not pay to be on the album or get paid. All money raised went into the CD's production. No one is making money from this project!

Derrick Wells did the artwork on the CD. There should be a contest to see if anyone can name all the members of this star-studded cover. My favorite is Elvis wearing a Ramones t-shirt! The inner sleeve lists each band separately with an address. This way the bands can be contacted personally. According to Wells, "it looks professional, yet underground." The bands represented on the album cover a wide range of alternative music. "There's something for everybody," says Wells.

This CD is the most important thing that has happened for the Vegas music scene. Of course, it should be supported. Make sure you stop by The Underground to get your copy. With this kind of push, it wouldn't surprise me if our bands get national (or even international) attention. By buying this CD, you are saying that you support the local scene and believe it's going somewhere.

Jim Wilson was charged with pointing a gun at someone outside the dining commons on 10/12/93.

from *Gangsters* pg.7

The pastor of the non-denominational church, Benny Jaques, is also an ex-addict that was "saved" in prison 13 years ago. According to Jaques, the church has no bias— anyone can come to them in need of assistance and they will be received with open arms.

Straight from the Hood is Victory Outreach's "dramatized version of what's going on in the inner cities today." Tickets, which require a donation of \$2, can be purchased at the Huntridge Performing Arts Theater, or for ticket delivery call 474-0600. Showtimes are at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 17.



The Variety Section were there for you every day. With or without John Malkovich.

Rack 'em up!

UNLV student D.J. Crabdree enjoys a good, clean game of pool at Family Billiards on a Friday night.

Photo: Todd Price

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