

CD Reviews



Minxus
Pabulum, ☆☆☆

Minxus now with their debut on American records. A three piece indie pop band and pioneers in the field of cheap wholesome entertaining ga-

rage pop rock. Minxus songs have been described as having a strange shimmer, we can only suggest that you find out for yourself what all the hype is on this band of Paki-



Mack 10
Armed and Dangerous
Priority, ☆☆☆

Mack 10 goes back to the day with Ice Cube and before that. He knows what's down and what ain't jiffy. If you think this is just another gangster rapper from Elay who wears baseball hats, dark clothes, sports a skin and drinks 40's in the studio while hanging out with his mack garden tool girlfriend, than you have hit the nail on the head. You might ask yourself what does that have to do with me, a suburban yuppie college student type who lives at home with his parents and for a good time takes his girlfriend out to the Hard Rock to stare at tourists. Nothing, this album has nothing to do with your meager, meaningless

suburban existence. To really understand the force and power of this insane crazy loco style of rap you have to do the following. Go to 7-11 and buy three forties of Old English Malt Liquor and then at the same 7-11 buy a twenty dollar bag of Mexican weed, (both of these birds can be killed with one stone at any 7-11 in Vegas and especially the one directly across from campus). Now go downtown and check yourself into one of those cheap motels on Fourth Street, don't forget to bring your boom box, now sit in that room all night drinking and smoking, you have to make sure the window are open so you can catch the ambiance of the downtown night. After one night of that rap will never sound the same to you again.

Stiltskin
The Minds Eye
East West Records, ☆

Stiltskin's favorite songwriters are Lennon and McCartney, Dave Gilmour and Roger Waters, Pete Townshend, Peter Green. They think it's funny that they have a grunge image and are asked if they are influenced by Nirva-

na. That's what the press release for Stiltskin says. What a pack of lies. Stiltskin are about as grunge as your grandma. Who writes your press releases. Don't even waste your money on this less than strong hair farming band. They should change the name of the band by substituting the t for an h.

☆☆☆☆
Highly Recommended. A classic in its genre.

☆☆☆☆
Something new and original. Try it, you might like it.

☆☆
Same old sound, same old style, no risks if you al-

ready like the band.

☆☆
If your lucky maybe one good song. You can always trade it in for \$2 credit at your local record store.

☆
Junk. What was the record company thinking? Don't buy it



Veruca Salt will play the Huntridge Monday. Miss this show and you'll be hearing about it for months.

Hit Really Hard and Groove Heavy

BY DANNY KIM
STAFF REPORTER

On Monday, the dreaded first day of finals, Veruca Salt will play at the Huntridge Theater. Last summer, Veruca Salt became the subject of many labels, being touted as the 'next big thing.' Veruca Salt ended up signing with Geffen, and released the LP, *American Thighs*, soon after they received their contract. Their first single, "Seether" became an instant hit with the mrv crowd. Last year, Veruca Salt toured with headliners Courtney Love and Hole, making fans everywhere they went. Now, Veruca Salt is the headliner, and they are touring with Fig Dish and The Muffs. With less than two weeks away, I interviewed drummer/backup vocalist, Jim Shapiro.

Find any good albums lately, or are you too busy making 'em?

Certainly not too busy making 'em, but somehow I don't know if they're out there. Is there a record I've liked recently? I don't know, I listen to old f--ing records.

Has anyone ever told you that you look like Sideshow Bob?

Yes. I didn't like it then, I don't like it now. You gotta learn to accept things like this and move on.

How much did John Bonham affect your own drum playing?

Entirely. Basically, I think that the two influences on the way I

Name	Jim Shapiro
Occupation	Drummer/Backup Vocalist of Veruca Salt
Color	Dark Green, Orange, and Gray
Hometown	Chicago
Film	<i>Seven Samurai</i> by Akira Kurosawa
Food	Pork Chops
Words to Live By	"Make extra sandwiches for later."

play drums are this guy named Doug Cohen, in the first band that I ever played in. In college it was called U Thant, and he was the Secretary General of U.N. back in the sixties, early seventies. We just liked the way it looked in print, it looked fucking awesome in print, quite frankly. He was just like this super, heavy, hard hitting drummer. When I tried to play drums for myself, because occasionally we played shows at the end where I tried to play as much like him as I could: hit really hard, keep it simple, get the groove really heavy. Right around then I was starting listening to Led Zepellin records too. So Bonham, basically... I treat *Physical Graf-*

fiti as the drum bible. Everything you want to know to play drums in a rock band, it's on there somewhere. Most of it is in the either "Cashmere" or wantum style. I guess there's the rover. He's the guy, there's no question.

What kind of songs would you like to play, and what kind of direction do you see Veruca Salt heading in now?

We've had songs in the set for awhile now that are clearly going to be on the next record. And the ones of those that I like best happen to be, call me shallow, the kind of upper-middle tempo, straight-out rocking songs. I like pop music. The heavier the better, but I like songs that have a ton of structure and a ton of melody. There are maybe three or four of those on the album that I'm really fond of.

Kinda like "Number One Blind?"

To me, my only problem with "Number One Blind" is the arrangement that makes the verses so light. I don't really like the quiet-loud thing all that much. I'm not that into it. I like it loud-loud.

Like an intensity say of; I wouldn't say that "Seether" is exactly intense-intense...

Well "Seether," it's certainly close to what I'm talking about. It's pretty much rock straight through. My favorite songs are

Please see Veruca—10



Summer is coming and that can only mean one thing to UNLV students: Drink beer, drink more beer and complain about the Las Vegas desert heat.

PHOTO BY JOHN QUINLEN