It may be the Devil and it may be the Lord ...

But it sure as hell ain't human

NIRWANA





By DAWN ANDERSON

Ah, Aberdeen — a town where there's nothing to do but drink fishbeer and worship Satan. The Melvins were from Aberdeen. Remember? Now the Melvins' fan club is cranking out some pretty heavy riffs on their own. They call themselves Nirvana, a name that signifies both everything and nothing. If you don't understand this you can either take a course in world religion or you can witness Nirvana incarnate next time they perform in the big city.

Nirvana's head guru Kurdt Kobain lives in Olympia now, but he first began crunching out Melvins/Soundgarden style riffs in the town that time forgot, learning everything he knows by watching the Melvins practice. Endlessly.



Nirvana, consisting of Kurdt on guitar and vocals, Chris Noeoselic on bass and Chad Channing on drums, is still a young band, but

they're fast on their way to becoming Buddhas, or at least Bodhisattvas, of the Northwest pain-rock circuit.

Since some people seem to think Backlash is a consumer guide (what a novel ideal), it's probably only fair to inform you that if you didn't like the Melvins, or if you did like the Melvins but think leadbelly music has run its course, you won't like Nirvana. But it's also important to stress that this is not a clone band. The group's already way ahead of most mortals in the songwriting department and, at the risk of sounding blasphemous, I honestly believe that with enough practice, Nirvana could become. . . better than the Melvins!

Nirvana: taking black rock to the extreme.



ONE PLEASE RELEASE ME, Let MC GO!

This section is a LaBel UPDaTe section. YES, SoMeoNe Said cares about not only BANDS & MUSIC but LABELS & LABEL PEOPLE, too!!

YOU send us information, promo-type things(viny), pictures, articles...) or anything on what the heck yer doing, releasing, workingage or whatever and we will include it HERE.

Keep US posted and we'll keep everyone else posted!!

Please understand this is <u>not</u> a review section.

This is a LIST of what is being released of the and information on what labels and bands according to their label are doing!

Also the future will include an article each issue on one label and all the ACTIVE bands they have on their label. OK? OK! So send every scrap of information and places and addresses of where to find more information on your label: things like how you started & WHY. Who is currently on your label, promo on them-pictures etc.

This regular section is done by me and i the outlet for the records that stick in my head and that I MuST tell people about RoaSTeD ALiVe will not be the only section like it in SOMEONE SAID. Othe are being collected to do their own section and whatever vinyl you sen. I reach them, too. I purchase many records but the only way to insure that, our releases won't be missed and miss mentioning is by feeding us ViNYL.

SouNDS like blackmail, doesn't it? Ouch!

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TAM editorperson

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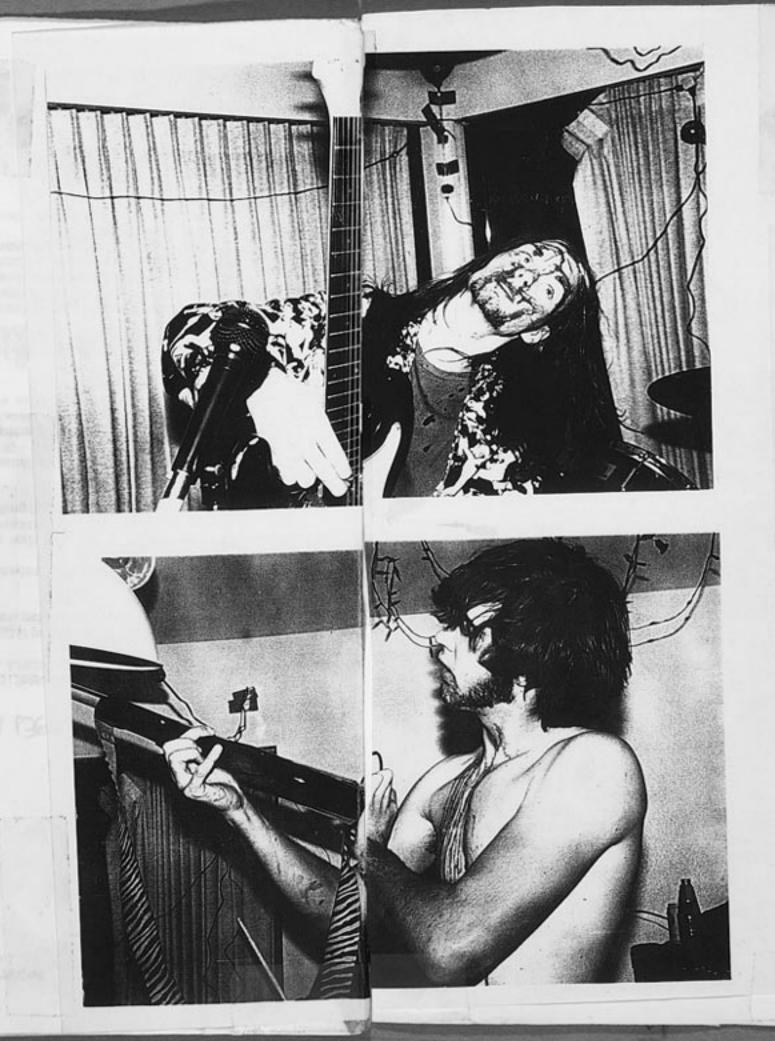
"Our biggest fear at the beginning was that people might think
we were a Melvins rip-off," Kurdt
admits. Yet the association has
probably also worked to the band's
advantage. Nirvana recorded an
ear-splitting demo tape which immediately had every noise addict in
town flapping his lips over the next
great white hope of grunge... and it
probably didn't hurt that Melvin
Dale was sitting in on drums (this
was before Chad joined).



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MIBVANA

They're becoming the kind of band that can turn an entire audience into zombie pod people by their sheer heaviness (this is a compliment).



NIRVANA

"Love Buzz"/"Big Cheese" (45) SubPop

BY NOW YOU KNOW: IF IT'S ON SubPop, it rocks. And this little chunk of sound — the first from the boys with the name that belongs on KNUA — certainly lives up to that tradition.

The danger for Nirvana is that other, more notorious SubPop ensembles will make so much noise this disc could disappear. It shouldn't, "Love Buzz" is one hell of a first effort, anchored by an elegant, brooding bass line. Both cuts are resplendent in gnarly, treated wocals. Serious traces of musicianship leak through, the production is exceptionally clean, and there's even an approachable guitar solo on "Love Buzz."

Nirvana sit sort of at the edge of the current Northwest sound — too clean for thrash, too pure for metal, too good to ignore. Absolutely worth the investment.

· Grant Alde

All Photos: TRACY MIRANDER

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