

"Kings



RAVE TIL DAWN

**GROUP:** Various ABEL: EMI

Techno music began as anunderground movement started by Disc Jockeys in the mid 1980's it grew steadily through the end of the 1980's and the beginning

of the 1990's. Rave 'Til Dawn is a compilation in the of songs by some of techno's most innovative

> Rave 'Til Dawn features number one dance tracks that have been instrumental in establishing techno or rave music as a viable music form. Many of the songs on the album were previously avalible only as independent 12 inch singles, several of which are imports only.

Bands such as Blue Pearl. Human Resource, Lords of Acid, and Quadrophonia are contributors to the album.

The music is fast and furious. mixing sound bites from television with synthesizer sound that makes for a great night of dancing. The album light on the political message front and heavy on the dance- and- have fun tip.

Originally released in the fall of 1992, the newest version adds three tracks, "Quadrophonia" by Quadrophonia, "Dance Your Ass Off' by Rtz Belgium, and "Dominator" by Human Resource. All three were selected because they "defined the impact of techno as well as proves its accessibility and the public's desire for it," an EMI exeutive said.

Among the best tracks on the album are Praga Khan's "Injected With A Poison" and Shut Up and Dance's "Green Man.

> - By Kaly Soto Oregon Daily Emerald



IN THE SHADOWS

GROUP: Merciful Fate LABEL: Metal Blade

The bone-dry notes of a guitar stab you like an icy winter's wind that blows across a cemetery. The pounding rhythms of guilt and betrayal beat in your ears like The Tell- Tale Heart of Edgar Allen Poe. And that voice. That voice... A siren that leads the listener through this din of orchestral malfeasance to a numb and horrible fate.

Mercyful Fate.

It's been nine years since Don't break The Oath, the last Mercyful Fate album, which has stood strong in heavy metal history like an "old oak hanging tree" for all to see. Mercyful Fate were unique. Unlike most death/ black metal bands that followed Venom's lead of adding Satanic lyrics and imagery to a Motorhead-like barrage of three -chord rifferama, Mercyful Fate used the musical complexity of Iron Maiden and a lyrical slant that had more in common with Clive Barker than Aleister Crowley. Many bands have tried to duplicate the cult success of this Danish band, including vocalist King Diamond with a solo career, but none have succeeded. In the meantime, old Mercyful Fate live recordings and poorly produced demos have sold hundreds of thousands of copies worldwide.

In The Shadows is the real thing once again. King Diamond, guitarists Michael Denner and Hank Sherman, and bassist Timi Hansen, have reunited with new drummer Snowy Shaw to make and album that must be cited as one of the best of the year. The lid to the coffin has been opened.

Among the most haunting of the songs on the album must be "The Bell Witch," "The Old Oak" and "A Gruesome Time," which were written by the classic team of Sherman and King Diamond. It is the half of the album written by Billy/... uh, King Diamond alone that quite expectedly sounds like more of his solo songs. Good songs, but too simplistic in arrangement to sound like true Fate. The album also features a guest appearance by Lars Ulrich of Metallica for a reworking of the early classic, "Return of the Vampire.

- By Ted Hinds For the Oregon Daily Emerald



IN UTERO ★★★ 1/2

GROUP: Nirvana LABEL: DGC

It's been a year or so since Nir-

become \$200 fashion pieces breezing down New York fashion show runways, and even had a line of deodorant named after one of their songs. If Nirvana would have put out an album a year ago, lead singer/guitarist Kurt Cobain has admitted the band would have

the

Grunge,"Nirvana has since fall-

en off the charts and out of the

CD players of music fans every-where who are finally done sniff-

Since the 1991 release of Nev-

ermind, Nirvana has watched the

city of Seattle become to music

what Hollywood is to movies,

seen the clothes in their closets

retaliated against thier unwant-

ed sell-out status by putting out an album of worthless crap to

Once

ing teen spirit.

weed out the trendy grunge-kids

from their true fans.
But the Nirvana thing has faded, finally giving the band a chance to put out an album without expectations. Without expectations of putting out another Nevermind, and without expectations of keeping the "Seattle Sound" intact. Without expectations of regaining their status as the "Kings of Grunge."

Indeed, Nirvana's new album In Utero is not another Nevermind; it actually takes a few pot shots at Seattle, and to call it grunge would be selling it short.

Cobain, bassist Krist Novaselic and drummer Dave Grohl have put out an album that is exactly what they wanted to put out.

The problem is, Nirvana will have to once again wrestle with the notion of being hip because, whether they like it or not, their music is great rock 'n' roll.

Good music is good music, and Cobain is a genius at writing the three- minute verse-chorus-verse

The song "Rape Me" starts off with nearly the exact same riff as 'Smells Like Teen Spirit," and rolls along with the same power and intensity. It has only 48 words in the entire song but is the one that jumps out at you right off the bat. It's almost obscene how much the song resembles "Teen Spirit," but it gives the listener an excuse to enjoy that classic riff all over

again. The biggest left turn the band takes is the opening track "Serve The Servants." The song actual-ly grooves, and you could even dance to it if you were so inclined. A swaying riff leads into the first line of the album, which pretty much sums up Cobain's experience over the past two years, "Teenage angst has paid off well / Now I'm bored and

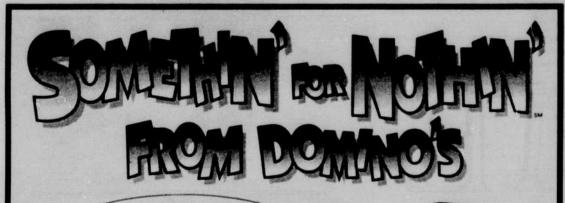
"Frances Farmer Will Have Her Revenge On Seattle" follows the traditional Nirvana format with Cobain's raspy voice being backed with a quiet guitar riff, and then exploding simultane-

ously with the instruments.
"Milk It," "Pennyroyal Tea,"
and "Heart-Shaped Box" also open with Cobain nearly whispering and then screaming like a wild man. But it does not get old for a minute.

Novaselic and Grohl provide the strongest and loudest punch in rock. There's nothing like listening to Cobain whine through the first three lines of the song, knowing that you're about to get leveled by a hammer of raw bass and drums.

On songs like "Milk It" and

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vana lost their hipness.