



THE SPOT FOR
\$5 LONG ISLANDS
\$2 PBR'S
POOL TABLES
NEVER A COVER
FREE PARKING AFTER 5PM
HEATED/COVERED SMOKING AREA

99 W. BROADWAY • EUGENE • 683-3154

music BY VANESSA SALVIA

NOFX PERFORM AT
THE MCDONALD
THEATRE ON
WEDNESDAY.



Forging a Head

Doom metal, punk make for heavy week.

Thanks in part to local band **YOB**, who are gaining a worldwide following as purveyors of sludgy doom metal, Eugene is attracting incredibly talented touring musicians from the doom metal genre. Frequently, downtown Eugene venue Samurai Duck is the epicenter for these doom gatherings, and the latest band YOB has enlisted to the Duck is **Place of Skulls**.

POS has a most impressive metal pedigree; guitarist and vocalist Victor Griffin penned some intense, Sabbath-influenced riffs with his legendary bands Pentagram, Cathedral, and Death Row, and ex-Oversoul, ex-Revelation bassist Dennis Cornelius joins forces with drummer Tim Tomaselli.

POS' second CD, the newly released *With Vision*, features Griffin and Tomaselli along with guitarist and vocalist Scott "Wino" Weinrich, whose claims to fame include the bands St. Vitus, Obsessed and Spirit Caravan. Griffin infuses his smoldering melodies with bluesy riffs, gruff vocals and classic doom grooves. This solid release is heavy yet melodic and accessible, with a mature, spiritually aware aesthetic that comes from decades of experience and a deep Christian faith allowing for an acceptance of the dark side of life.

Speaking by phone from his Tennessee home, Griffin timelines his band history from the beginning of Death Row in the late '70s. Death Row's name was changed to Pentagram in 1983, and Griffin-era Pentagram existed until 1996. Griffin admits that despite Pentagram's popularity, doom metal is not a universally accessible form of music. "It's a pretty underground scene. The scene's growing and has grown a lot within the past five or 10 years, but our popularity is still an underground thing," he says.

Griffin, who began playing guitar at age 9, explains that his motivation to make music most of the world may never understand is rooted in experiences of his early youth. "Ever since I can remember, music has been a large part of my life. After seeing early concerts, like ZZ Top and Nazareth in the early '70s, that had a profound effect on me as far

as what I wanted to do. I never wavered from that and it's become what I do and who I am."

Griffin and Place of Skulls will appear Friday at Samurai Duck along with YOB, who will be performing songs from their recent release, *Catharsis*.

Eugene's McDonald Theatre will host the **Punk Voter Tour** Wednesday night. The Punk Voter Tour (www.punkvoter.com) is a coalition of punk musicians who are seeking to motivate and educate punk fans about the importance of political awareness and voting. The three touring bands, **NOFX**, **Alkaline Trio** and **Authority Zero**, are discouraged by the fact that in the 2000 election the percentage of 18 to 24-year olds who voted fell to an all-time low.

Jello Biafra, iconic former singer for punk band Dead Kennedys, is master of ceremonies for the event. Biafra is no stranger to the political realm, having run for Mayor of San Francisco, fought the PMRC and given spoken word performances with a political agenda.

Biafra, who founded the seminal music label Alternative Tentacles, also ranks as the first musician to face trial for the content of a musical recording, stemming from an H.R. Giger poster that was included in Dead Kennedy's 1985 album, *Frankenchrist*. Biafra was acquitted of indecency charges in that incident, and since then he has been a tireless supporter of musician's rights.

NOFX has been a band for more than a decade, and their one-two punch is spastic skate punk with humorous, sarcastic lyrics poking fun at capitalistic society, racism and "Just Say No" conservatism.

Mesa, Arizona-based Authority Zero throw a little of everything into their mix including foreign language (guitarist Brian Marcks is a language scholar). Alkaline Trio, who make angular indie rock in the vein of Samiam, will round out a bill that should attract fans of many different facets of punk, bringing young people together for the music and sending them off armed with knowledge. The show is all ages. **EW**

writers: do you just wanna rock?

WRITE MUSIC REVIEWS FOR **EUGENE WEEKLY!**
We are now accepting submissions of CD reviews by local writers.

What's in it for you? You'll just do it for the glory... (These are unpaid reviews, but you'll get to see your work in print!) What's in it for us? We'll boost our music coverage and get rockin' reviews from the experts (that would be YOU) who know what's *really* happening in the music world. Reviews should be between 100 and 200 words, on any musical genre, and should be emailed to cal@eugeneweekly.com under the subject heading: "Local CD Review." Please include complete information about the CD, including band name, album name, year and record label, contact information so we can reach you, as well as a short bio about yourself. For additional guidelines and information, contact Jacquelyn at Eugene Weekly: 484-0519, Ext. 26



Keeping Real Variety in Music
KRVM
91.9 FM

AND
A SHORT STRANGE TRIP
PRESENT THE SECOND ANNUAL

GRABBEUL FRIDAY

MARATHON FUNDRAISER

Beginning at 8am

Friday, March 26, 2004

GRABBEUL GOODIES ★ SPECIAL GUESTS
GRABBEUL DEAD ALL DAY

KRVM 91.9FM ★ EUGENE, OREGON