

NEUROSIS

Derby *The Where house*

With Notts faves Pitchshifter failing to turn up (apparently due to stolen gear), and a very dodgy PA to work with, it seemed the cards were stacked heavily against US outfit 'Neurosis' making the punters' hard earned £3.50 worthwhile. They were not helped by the unfortunate support band (name not announced!), who without their singer (the bassist chose to "shout in the right places"), induced laughter and pity in the audience. The guitarist dug his grave even deeper when he led his band through and unconvincing cover of Discharge's 'Drunk With Power'. Sorry lads, but Cal would have nuted you.

Neurosis overcame this initial hurdle with ease. The thunderous rhythm triumvirate of Scott Kelly (guitar), Dave Edwardson (bass) and Steve von Til (guitar) ripped through the opening bars of 'The Web', and heads began to bob. Neurosis bolt out a venomous stream of pure aggression, which unaccustomed listeners clearly found hard to digest initially. The songs included 'Stripped', 'Flight', and the diverse title-track of their latest offering, 'Souls at Zero'. Clinical to the bone, mixing acoustic arrangements with dry power chords, bringing in keyboards, samples and visual effects to complete the framework, the Neurosis power-machine marches on victorious, letting the music do the talking. Sceptics are beat down; hell, even a 10-minute power failure can't prevent them reaching the culmination of 'Empty'. I am not totally convinced that even the most dedicated Neurosis follower would have been ready for this tonight. Brutal, intriguing, bloody good!

Matthew Burrows

OVERALL ... THERE IS A SMOUL OF FRIED ONIONS
12/92

NEUROSIS BRADFORD 1 IN 12 CLUB

First time in this country and the semi-underground Neurosis were here to prove themselves, and they did just that and more for me. Dominated by powerful rhythms, hard hitting vocals and a very strong purpose they tore through 'The Web', 'Souls At Zero' and 'Flight', and even though the sound wasn't fantastic they still managed to impress the audience. The excellent 'A Chronology For Survival' showed the band coming across as a really tight and complex unit, especially with the guitar works of Steve Von Till and Scott Kelly. Finishing with no encore just eight minutes of distorted instruments left me travelling home with ringing in my ears, satisfied that this was easily the best band I have seen this year.

S. RICHARDSON.

919 CENTRAL
12/92

SATELLITE TIMES AUGUST 1992

*Souls At Zero -
Neurosis (Alternative
Tentacles)*

Their press release states that amongst the band's influences are Pink Floyd and Joy Division - and that about sums up the sound they produce...but what it didn't mention is that the singer's voice comes from the pits of hell! A great monster of a sound - prime track is the rolling, thunderous *Crawl Under One's Skin*.