



NOFX

Eric...gtr
Mike...bs & vox
Erik...drm
El Hefe...gtr

NOFX dont play what's trendy or cool. "If bands are going to play metal-funk," says bassist singer songwriter Fat Mike, "we'll give them reggae-oi. Where I come from punk was uncool and that's what I loved about it." Punk rock ideals are upheld (and sometimes destroyed) in **NOFX**'s famous-for-being-goofy lyrics. This is fun music, and it's not interrupted by political grandstanding or social consciousness. It is there, if ya want it, (like it is in National Lampoon), but you have to dig, and the band sure isn't going to point the way.

NOFX is back with their fourth long-player, entitled White Trash. Two Heebs and a Bean. The original racial slurs used to describe the band's ethnic orientation had to be toned down for the music-buying public, according to insiders. It's all in a day's offending for **NOFX** whose last LP, Ribbed was voted third best album of the year in 1991 by Flipside readers poll, and the cover --an extreme close-up of a condom package-- took the number two, we-try harder award.

The band originally evolved from the early-'80s punk rock club scene. They soon caught the **Do-It-Yourself** bug--those guys can do it, so can we. Taking that one step further, **NOFX** escaped the slime pit that was the Hollywood circuit and started booking their own out of town gigs. These boys have covered Europe four times and the U.S. eight times, every

more...

NOFX bio cont...

one a D.I.Y. adventure. At some point everybody learned how to play their instruments.

In their eight years NOFX have captured a flag on the Stratego board that is punk. Mike and the band started their own label, FAT WRECK CHORDS and released the 7-inch The PMRC Can Suck On This, proving that delicate titles were a strong point early on. Liberal Animation put them on the map, followed by S & M Airlines (voted third best album of the year in 1989 by Flipside readers poll) and then Ribbed, a punk rock masterpiece of hard, fast music with sarcastic, biting wit. Mike still releases NOFX singles and EPs from time to time, "just to see if I can do it," the most recent being the last year's EP The Longest Line. The kids all loved it.

With the band's sixth release it's time to stir things up a bit. Musically the band has thrown in many a new ingredient into their bubbling punk stew. Mike had inferred in an L.A. Times piece that the band was working on a fusion they called lounge core and it has come to fruition on the new disc in "Straight Edge," an old Minor Threat song mangled beyond recognition. Imagine Louis Armstrong wringing out his sweaty handkerchief on Ian Mackaye's set-list and you have a glimpse at the picture. Are you ready for Mexi-reggae? Check out "Johnny Appleseed." You can do the old soft shoe on Bo Derek's implants during "Buggley Eyes." Of course, the reggae-oi has gotta be in the mix, so prepare to Jah-mosh to "Bob," complete with horn section.

Don't freak out, though, there's still plenty of the rip-roarin,' done-the-way-ya-like-it punk rock, and it's still as irresistible as ever. "Please Play This Song On The Radio" includes lyrics that prohibit airplay, "She's Gone" is as potent an up-tempo tear jerker as you'll hear this millennium.

Meanwhile, the band has a new member, El Hefe, and yes, he's the bean. As a kid, he was in the film The Bad News Bears. Is that punk or what?

In February, NOFX they take on the whole continent with a tour that goes from Canada, through the U.S., down to Mexico, where "Johnny Appleseed" is expected to reach "Smells Like Teen Spirit" popularity. Europe gets NOFXed in June.

You've got no excuse to miss the party.