

ROXY



KATHERINE TURMAN HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA

All the news, gossip & metal happenings stateside

■ This year's annual three day **FOUNDATIONS FORUM/F MUSICFEST** mirrored the LA music scene: a lot of bands, most of 'em not too great. The biggest draw at this year's convention, as always, were the events featuring free alcohol. (Some things never change!) And, of course, the **MÖTLEY CRÜE** party was packed with a testosterone army, hoping for a peek at the bodacious Pamela Anderson (Mrs Tommy) Lee. (They got one.)

The MusicFest (formerly Concrete/Foundations Forum) features 180 bands and the promise of too many Jagermeister shots, so I began pre-convention training. A pre-Fest warm up occurred at the Viper Room with a special show by San Fran up 'n' comers **THIRD EYE BLIND**, whose dark songs of drug use and relationship angst are delivered with an ironic, wonderfully melodic panache. From there, it was over to the Dragonfly for a too short set from **WAYNE KRAMER**, the former **MCS** guitarist, whose new Epitaph disc, 'Citizen Wayne', is wonderfully intense.

The MusicFest band showcases began in earnest on a Thursday and got off to a fizzling start with a pathetic, poorly attended set from **RAVEN** (yes, that Raven - **QUIET RIOT** headlined!) at the Palace, but quickly improved with a jaunt over to the Whisky to join the masses grooving to the Sabbath influenced heaviness that is **SLO BURN**, the band fronted by former **KYUSS** voice John Garcia.

The sidewalks were packed with inebriated

conventioners, so it was a tough fight into the Roxy to catch **HUMAN WASTE PROJECT** and pals **MANHOLE** (whose Janis Joplin cover tune was delivered with a deserved apology). Singer Tairrie B later showed up at the afternoon **FEAR FACTORY** 'Remanufacture' bash - the one that found Dino making nice with various porn stars inbetween sips of his Long Island Iced Tea. Upstairs from the Roxy (On The Rox) was the hopping party place. **KORN** and Human Waste Project producer Ross Robinson hung out, as did **WHITE ZOMBIE** drummer Johnny Tempesta, whose younger bro is in Human Waste Project.

After a well-earned night's sleep, Friday night began yet again at the Palace with a set from **EXODUS** (embarrassingly bad). During my hasty exit, I passed Johnny Tempesta on his way in to catch **TESTAMENT**, that revolving drum seat now occupied by Jon Dette again, with Paul Bostaph back in **SLAYER**.

Finally, though, the Viper Room boasted the first good, 'new' show of the convention: **THE CUNNINGHAMS**. A Seattle band akin to a pop D Generation, it was tough to leave them (record out on Revolution shortly!), but **SEVENDUST** and **ANTHRAX** were across the street at the Whisky. Sevendust's heavily melodic sound fared better than the Scott Ian produced **KILLING CULTURE**, who were on right before the headliner. The Thrax themselves were awesome, as always, and tried out new tunes.

Raced down the street two blocks to watch **POWERMAN 5000** go wild with their '90s rap/metal hybrid, plus cynical musical nods at **MARILYN MANSON**. Singer Spider has the charisma of bro, Rob Zombie, but not the hair.

Had to check out the Black Sabbath jam, featuring a very rotund **BILL WARD** on drums and a very alternative looking **BRUCE DICKINSON** on vocals. It was a who's who (or is that who's not?! of musicians for the jam and in attendance, but not standing too close to each other, were Gene Simmons and former **KISS** drummer Eric Singer. **ALICE IN CHAINS** bassist Mike Inez, newly returned from Hawaii, also watched intently as musicians played the songs he used to perform with the Oz Man.

It seems a newly minted LA phenomenon is the recycling of musicians. A lot of guys who had mid-'80s recording contracts are now back, mid-'90s (minus hair, of course!), with new record deals. To wit: Interscope Records' **PUZZLE GUT**, a cool, heavy trio, featuring former members of **BATON ROUGE** and **XYZ**, and on that same bill, but not quite in the same category, is **RULE 62**. Signed to Maverick, Rule 62 features former members of the **CADILLAC TRAMPS** and their smart, ultra melodic, dynamic rock (with punk overtones) sounds radio ready.

And look for another band with some 'ex-'s out this fall. Rumors are rampant round town regarding the demise of **STONE TEMPLE PILOTS**. Well, it's no secret (or not a well-kept one, anyway!) that STP, minus Scott Weiland and plus singer David Courtts (former **TEN INCH MEN**), have a record completed under the name **VITAMIN**. It's allegedly set for a fall release, and the fact that all the members of STP have solo deals fuels the rumours concerning the end of the band, although band manager Steve Stewart says otherwise. Their tour ended in San Diego, and tongues are wagging that it was the foursome's last together. Hmmm. More dirt as we dig it up!

Dino exchanging tongue juices with one of his porn pals at the MusicFest piss up



PIC: STEPHANIE CABRAL

METAL HAMMER 4 PLAY

THE ASTORIA

Make July 4 go with a real bang and get yer arse down to the LA2 in London. Four bands for just four quid - bargain!

First to start the night's mayhem will be London based, acid rock dub groovesters Delta Colony, and since they're gonna have a stack of record company bigwigs checking them out, be sure to give 'em a big cheer! Next on are ex-Beyond guys turned 'simian sluggers' Gorilla, whose frenetic brand of thrash punk is just what the doctor ordered. Melodic post-hardcore outfit Foil will be stepping out to demolish eardrums next and then, closing the night's entertainment, will be none other than Ricky Warwick's new band (sic), who're making a special one-off appearance. Inbetween the acts, expect our ever wacky DJ Krusher to raise the roof and generally insult everyone in the house.

Tickets are £4 advance/£5 on the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm; Delta Colony are on at 7:30 pm, so get out of the pub and get in there early!

PLUS WIN!!!

Not only will there be a free bag stuffed with CDs, stickers and tapes given away to the first 100 payers on the door, there's also the chance to defy death and throw yourself (and a friend) from Chelsea Bridge on a bungee jump, courtesy of our mates at British Knights. Inside each bag, you will find a competition form, which you should fill out and return to BK.

(Sic) • FOIL • GORILLA
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PLUS DJ KRUSHER

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