a bit too large, a bit too flat, a bit too long, a bit too fat, *check the model on the magazine' coved*, isn't it scary *how you look different from her?*



see you look **exactly** *like her!* and now we're proud to tell you that the next on the list is you, *you just lost your identity* and this time it was only your body, but your mind will be next, we'll soon control all the rest, you won't have to worry about anything you love, what you like or what to think, we always gonna be there to do it for you, we're the media you're best friend-we love you but your mind etc...

(*from the song* "shadow of a picture" by **HIATUS**)

body and this has to be stop, they're not abeject, they're not experiments

*oh well, I've been stunned by the society, by the media, even by the punk community, who telling everyone that if *you* don't look exactly like those calvin klein's models or some rocknroll superstars or some of those shitty filmstars, then it will be hard to get a fucking place in their community, or even a place around them. *you* should wear the right shirts, jeans, shoes etc. if *you're* far from that, then *you* will get humiliated etc and because most people can't handle that, they'll retreat to these tradition and make those mad scientist happy to use this poor unlucky schmuck as an experiments.

*so, my idea on beauty(and perfection) has definitely nothing to do with looks and figures. I can understand that it's a pleasure to see beautiful healthy body of men/women who know how to do with it, but using other unnatural plants/drugs is totally foolish and can be dangerous to your health and body. of course that's none of my business but think about your friends, family, loves ones etc. could they still be so happy seeing you suffering, hurting, torturing, dying from starvation and addicting to drugs because you want to looks like someone else? it's not stupid to be fat, thin, ugly etc but it's more than silly killing yourselves just because of some model in a stupid magazine.. at least, try to use your brain!!!

→this is my opinion, have nothing to do with the song and the writer/player of the same song, they might have different views, and the song/lyrics could be meant for something else, who knows?-

they're not products to sells, etc... STOP SEXISME! xxxsahaxxx.



Editorial:
So, #5 finally completed after 6months, I thought I could be earlier than this since most stuff here done via-email, but I'm late(better late than never) probably for some other crappy-reason. Anyway, last time the issue was more stressed on DIY-Hardcore/Punk/Emo/Metal bands, etc. but this time it was more Hardcore. Not because I want to choose certain people for my zine, but it's just that the HC scene have my interest more than the other. I have lotsa project coming after this such as the Sober 'zine, the Hardcore newsletter and I hope in late july or so I will release at least one tape, it's either the Seein Red discography, the Petrograd discography or the Endstand discography and probably 2-3 more compilation tapes. I had a problem(probably all Punks who did a distribution in m'sia too) with the custom service here, they stole most of my stuff(mostly CDs that I'm supposed to sell on consignment here) so now I ended up owing people such amounts of dollars and because of this, I also had to stop my CD distribution, such a sad story but what more is there to say ☹
I try to charge this zine as cheap as possible for the international readers(and only ask for the postage), and keep the same price as before for the malaysian readers(and I know it's a bit pricey or unfair but it's for a good cause, believe me!). For distributors(in abroad), send me 5$ and I'll try to send probably 10-15copies. In malaysia, get it from the infamous DIY-distro around your town. If you don't have anyone, then ask someone to do that or you can do it for your own hometown scene. Send me 20RM and I'll try to send you a stack copy of it(around 10-15copies). If you manage to copy it on *chlorine-free/wood-free paper*(and it's pretty damn expensive) then I'll send you a free flat copy(send some postage please!). And just don't call me as a greedy zine-maker cos I've been doing it all my life and never gain a shit out of it(except for all the cool/nice people I know). I will continue again the paper distribution, so please write if want your zine available in malaysia. Trade is okay too, but please write first and I also could copy your zine here. Let me know how would you preferred?
"why 4RM?!! that's a rip-off!!!": Ok, here's the damn answer. Embrace #5 will definitely get photocopy on paper that no one would care about, even the so-called environmentalist(especially in the HC/Punk scene). I am totally got sick of some people who put some writings about *"lets save our goddamned earth!!!"*, in the zine which never even get print/copy on recycled paper, that's totally full of shit. So now, it's either they do it or I do it myself. I'm sorry again to those who have to pay more but that's the way it is. The paper is too expensive and yet I needed some money too to get it all photocopy(and it's also not cheaper), I hope this is quite a good reason otherwise just criticise me the way you like. *Here's an idea:* If you don't agree with the single price, then what about buying with bulk-price? It is more cheaper and you'll get a lot of zine that you can sell some of it to your friend with any price that you think is ok for a punk-zine, how about that? I hope this is clear, any question? xxx

communication to:
**Saha, 4a lrg 6,
kg baru, 86000 kluang,
johor, malaysia.
(sahaembrace@hotmail.com)**

Label news and information:

Embrace is a DIY-record label. I'm planing to release a CD in the future. As for now, I will put many discography or re-release stuff on a tape version. I will mainly work with many great band from the European scene(and maybe from the States too). I'm not focused on music style, but will base on trust and the common idea that we share together. I wanna show that the HC/Punk-community over here in Malaysia/Asia don't have to rely on major record label/distribution to get the stuff available for us(we don't even need them in the first place!!!). Many people who consider themselves as complete DIY were pretentious hypocrites(especially in the Malaysian HC/Punk scene, do I have to expose their name?). They still used the industry just to get their music spread widely, therefore could be able to capitalize-money without even care about the real DIY-ethic(and those who support them sincerely all this while). Despite of some record label/distribution over here who have already exploit the scene, Embrace will definitely keep it genuine, Independent and DIY. Probably by the time you read this, I will release the Seein Red discography tape(fast political Hardcore with no need introduction), and hopefully after then, the Petrograd discography tape(from Luxembourg, they're very political-pop-punkrockers), the Endstand discography tape(finnish best Hardcore!), the Alcatraz tape(French emo with socialist idea), and the Wide Awake discography tape(yes, it's the legendary US Hardcore band), before the armageddon rise and split the world into two. All of this tape will only get sell in Malaysia/Asia, and all of it are more than just a music released. The "Against Sexism/Racism" compilation tape which is my first released is still available(60minutes with 20 International DIY-HC/Punk bands, A5zine booklet + 23songs) and I still need some distribution for it, please get in touch, I prefer trade against the master copy since the postage could annoying anyone. If you want to buy, send well-hidden cash 5$USppd. Bands, send tracks for future compilation tape. Ok, that's all for now, please keep in touch. This is an active DIY-punk label.
front cover: Strength Approach(italy)
back cover by Yours Truly

Embrace #5 copied on a wood-free paper:
*chlorine free(E.C.F.)
*cellulose pulps from Algae harvested from Venice Sea lagoon(save the trees in the virgin forests)
*Neutral pH. ACID FREE-LONG LASTING

Contribution is needed badly!!! I need permanent contributor one from each country, will you take the job(without even asking for the salary), please?!!!
Scene reports with photos if possible, don't write too long or too short(and please mention about the sXe scene unless if it's non-exist). I'm still looking for person who lives in Paraguay, Mexico, Equador, Bolivia, Sweden, Ireland, Scotland, Czech Republic, Malta, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Argentina, Bosnia, Australia, New Zealand, Yugoslavia, Israel, Serbia, Portugal, Lithuania, Austria, Turkey, Belarus, even from India, Taiwan, Hawaii, Thailand, Hong Kong, China, Sri Lanka to write something about their Hardcore scene.
Promo CD is needed for reviews, don't send vinyls=but please put them in tape format and send it with lyrics to be sure it will get a review in this lovely zine.
Ads page? Maybe I do it one day and I want you to pay for it, like 5$ for a half page and 10$ for a full page?? Why not?
Last but not least, if possible, send your contribution(photos, writings, scene reports etc) via email so it will be much more easier for me. Participate and be part of the Embrace conspiracy!!! xxx

life. Lastly, I would like to thank: Saha and this interview, Chuck and his help, Bill(xtillidiex) and his kindnesses, our families, our friends, all of the people who helped us and you reading to the end. Thank you. Struggle for positive way!!!

CROSSING POINT(south africa)

1) Okay, Where to begin? I'll start off with the guitarist who is my brother, his name is Brandon he is 27 years old and has been involved with Punk and Hardcore since he was about 16 years old. He got into Punk through a friend at school and since then has been playing bass for several bands such as Manic Brats, Splashrodds, Subversive Noise Insurgents, (some others) and Crush which did really well, the music was a perfect mix of Hardcore and old school punk like Spermbirds ala Minor Threat. They have been on various compilations, and had been going for about 7 years. Unfortunately the drummer had to spend more time with his family because of his 2nd child so the band decided to call it quits, However they are still active in the scene with Brandon now playing in Crossing Point! Kurt our Bassist is originally from England and loves to BMX in his spare time. He plays for another band called Burn't Out were he plays Guitar. I met him at Crush gigs a couple years ago. Grant is also from England and he is now our 2nd Drummer. He is studying Drums at University and loves all different styles of music but subscribes to the Punk Ethic. Unfortunately he recently fractured his wrist when he fell off his Vespah so we are out of action for a couple of months plus he is going for a 2 month holiday in England to visit his brother but we are going to have someone else to fill in while he is away. lastly we have Wesley, thats me! I got into punk and hardcore through my brother. In my spare time I work on my zine, I enjoy drawing and making T-Shirts that display the Hardcore and Straightedge ethic. I am also constantly trying to find ways to make the world a better place. I used to skate but I don't have as much time as I spend more time with Punk activities instead. To answer your 2nd question on Hardcore well, I don't like to define Hardcore, all I like to say that (in my view) that it is the most postive musical and philosophical movement around, but I can only speak for what I know. I know their are some scenes eg. violent bands that give Hardcore a bad name but I don't consider them Hardcore more like hypocrites! Because I believe Hardcore is about being open minded, and trying to work towards a solution and the 1st step is tolerating one another! I also believe that Hardcore doesn't neccessarily been that the music is "heavy" but more like the lyrics have alot of "substance", but generally Hardcore are pretty much a heavier type of Punk rock where the lyrics are more like the old punk was because todays punk has the same lyrical content as Janet Jackson! Although their are still some good bands out there. I think that its hard to define Hardcore because it is kind of a scene were people can be themselves and not stick to some tradition.
2) When I first heard Hardcore it blew me away! It turned my life around! The music, the message, the scene, the postivity, the political correctness-everything seemed to make sense. I used to be into lame music before I heard Hardcore and their was nothing that it gave me and that's what Hardcore gave me it gave me the courage and strength to be who I wanted to be! Thats why I started a band because I am sick an tired of racist, sexist idiots in this country not to mention the drug abuse and Political hypocrisy that's been happenning around lately. I wanted to make people realize that they were human-not some T.V show and that their was something better in life. We only live for a short period of time-we should make the most of it.
3) Yeah, I can relate to it and so much! So many things in my life has changed because of it.

FUERZA DE VOLUNTAD(chile)

1) Victor(bass) is studying for going to the university. He doesn't have a girlfriend. Claudio(guitar) is working in a exchange company, he have a family and two children. Gonzalo(vocals) is working and studying all relationated with publicity, he have a girlfriend and he is in love. Andres(drums) is working and he is married since 8 years now, he have two children. Also he studies english. For us HC is coming from punk and HC took the positive way of it, HC is a way of living for us. HC doesn't support violence or sexism or racism or homophobia, etc... Generally HC is a little bit toughest than punk but now it has been influenced by metal and emo or indie rock.
2) We are all involved in HC since a lot of years but that is not important to us, the important things are to be concious with our lyrics and thoughts. Fuerza De Voluntad started in 1996. I think that we are into ideas, spirit, positivity, music, etc but for us it is very important the social things... we want that HC gets involved with things like poverty, the oportunityless, and things that affect us, sons of workers.
3) HC affect us in everything, because of HC we have learned a lot of things that affect us directly in our lives and in our actions... we are still angry with things that we see all the days in the street, here in south America the situation is very delicate, everyday we saw womens with their children with nothing to eat, people without houses and of course that things makes us unhappy. Of course HC effect us because our lives go around it and we always protest against things that we dont like.....we are not conformists.
4) There is a lot of things that bothers us in HC.....we dont like that people talks in the behinds of people...we dont like people that think they own the truth, we dont support violence in the shows and people that only take care about music and buy cd and shirts and they dont give a shit about social things...and people that think that HC is a hierarchy and beacuse that they know people or play in a band don't pay the shows.....thanks and take care. Fuerza de Voluntad!
ed: hey, did you enjoy??? if you want their addresses, please asks me and i'll send it to you, OK?

next: **Seein Red discography tape, Sober #1, Hardcore newsletter #6, Embrace #6 out in Sept/Oct. Send stuff for review and also I'll start doing Ads-page, send it with dollars on your stuff(zines, CD, vinyls)on a tape version with covers etc!).** **...see ya!!!**

contribution for their society..and that's who I call Hardcore.

SECOND WIND(japan)

1) Ok, sure. SECOND WIND are four: the guitarist is TEPPEI WIND, the bassist is SYOUJIROU WIND, the drummer is KENTA WIND and the vocalist is me(AKIRA WIND). Our sound was not a little influenced by IGNITE, STRIFE and the like, because we like them in common. And TEPPEI who is a musical nucleus of us like metal bands such as MEGADETH and IRON MAIDEN, but I think it influence on our sound in a good sense. Of course he don't have the sauvage hair like them. All of our words are written by me. We sing against racism, fascism, sexism and all prejudice. And we sing against unreasonable violence which include meat-consuming. However, we basically sing about "growing into better ones than ever" and "fighting against our evil and weakness inside". It's easy to put the blame on someone for various problems of the world, but these problems are caused by cruelty and exclusivity that larked in minds of us all. However, not that I approve of continuing these problems. I'm a god-free, but I'm interested in philosophy of Buddhism recently. And I respect Gandhi. His principle of non-violence is my ideal. I can understand a little if someone follow after veganism, he tend to be millitant, because animals are so suffering from our selfishness. However, I think that violence is just violence. Maybe I'm a mere idealist for them, but I wish that each person think by oneself and do something all he can little by little. After all Gandhi was shot and killed by violence, but I think he isn't the defeated. We always play with these minds: "I will try to do my best in this place I live" and "We will change better than ever". All members of us are drug-free, but we aren't a "straight edge band". We're greatly influenced by straight edge's philosophy and we respect it, but we are drug-free not for the purpose of calling ourselves "straight edge". We take our lifestyle by each personal choices of us. And we're in the same way about non-meat-eating. It's my reason for non-meat-eating that I don't wanna conform to the system of slaughter and the cruel sense of value. I have some vegetarian friends, one of them decided to eat fish and egg after due his consideration the other day. I don't oppose his change and I think that it's even natural for him, because it's caused by his very careful thought. Of course, my ideal for veganism is constant. It's the most important learning by oneself, thinking for oneself and acting. If not, everything means nothing for him. And about definition of Hardcore, I can't define universally because I don't have a good knowledge of Hardcore bands. However, I try to state by my interpretation it means "seizing essence of things". And then it links to "suggestion against it and declaration of intention". Sometimes they filled with anger, sometimes they filled with grief, sometimes they filled positivity... they has various expression. Anyhow, I don't think it's only sound or style. "More than music", it's important for me. I don't like mere loud music particularly. And originally I like calm music better than it.



2) When I first know about Hardcore, I was struck by the spirit rather than the sound. I was impressed by Hardcore, because it has spirit of opposing and insisting. I think that it brings us great ideas and movement based on the spirit. I think that it's great and has value other music not have. It's just "more than music". Of course I listen to other music, and I love music. Though I'm a god-free, I like religious music pretty well- ENYA and the like, for example. I have a good friend who is a devotee of Krishna. He is a vocalist of a band called KANEN-INKA. And he is very nice guy and create very good songs. I think that good of music aren't related to religion. I don't wanna be obstinate by my principles in the sense. And I wanna associate with various people. I think that it's undesirable to make walls each other by differences of principles. And I think that finding mutual points of sameness is more important than finding each other's differences. However, I'll never bend my conviction to negativities of society.

3) I repeat, "seizing essence of things" is a big important thing I learned. I think that I didn't have doubts at all and I was only conforming to surroundings so far. I didn't know well about what I wanna do and how I wanna live. In short, I didn't know myself. I think that it opened my eyes to see them. However, it's not only Hardcore but also my friends gave good influence on me. Because I have really good friends, I'm a so lucky guy. It's not few who have come apart now, but all of them are treasures of my life. So I'm happy now. I'm displeased at society and the world, but I think that it's the inside-out of my complexes. I have a hatred for these things, because I'm recognizing evil parts inside of me. In short, it's struggle against myself.

4) Well, when I come to seize essence of things, then my troubles are inexhaustible. But we can't expect our human progress without troubling and considering. And they're proof of which living just like myself. These thoughts and SECOND WIND are extremely important for me, but they aren't all of my life. My life contains enjoying other things(skateboarding is only drug for me!!!), working a job worth doing for me and so on. Because I still have so many complaints about myself, I think that I can't be perfect one in a lifetime. But I'll try to be better one than ever, because I'm the only one who can change my

REVIEWS: I'll review everything's sent to me but no pretentious/potential asshole; L&F, Victory, Epitaph etc, not because of I dislike them but they just won't fit in my HC "scene". I'll also review stuff with barcodes but no lyric sheet will get really bad reviews. I like everything from pop, punk, old-school, nyhc, emo, indie, metal, grind, crust etc so send your stuff; CD, vinyls(please put into a tape version and don't forget about the lyrics sheet, cover etc), cassettes, zine, newsletter, etc xxx

NO REASON WHY "separate ways" demo [Danny Van Caster, Veldstraat 296, 2930 Brasschaat, Belgium] This is one of my favorite old-school HC band. They're the reason why I stayed in the scene without getting bored by some evolution that invaded the scene(emo/metal, emo/indie, emo/powerviolence, next; emo/old-school, arggh!!!). Lyrics went from typical unity stuff to a pro-abortion song. B'67 "give out" demo I like this one even though the sounds is sooo bad especially the live songs(4 tracks). They sang in Russian but there is an explanation to all the song, which is rather cool although too short. Good band, nice people and they are from Russia, the HC-scene there is just move forward so give them a few more time to get fully organize(damn it, give them your full-support!!!). FORECLOSURE "forgiveness denied" demo Yet another cool old-school HC from Holland, with good lyrics and gruff-singing. But the sounds here isn't the best so I'm not having so much fun listen to this(and they ain't the best musician as well, just kidding). But I'm pretty certain that they will work for that and make the best production for their next release. CITA ATTIEKSME "we're responsible" demo Maybe they don't sounds like YOT, Bold, Judge etc but I still like it for the honesty, sincerity and lots of thought that they've put out into the messages(against sexism, take a responsibility towards our world, etc). Being HC from an exotic-place(like from Malaysia), I understand completely how damn-hard it is to make everything's good just like everybody does in Belgium, Holland, Germany etc so, give this one a little credit will you??? KIDS LIKE US truth alone triumph 7" [Commitment records, Klien Muiden 38, 1393 RL Nigtevecht, Holland] Ohhh, yeah!!! I love this a lot. My favorite band on Commitment records. More melodic than other bands on this label, but the basic is still youth-crew HC. The best thing about them is the lyrics(with the explanation), when others try to do more straight forward(and ended up being cheesy unfortunately), KLU keep it up by being well-thoughtful and intelligent. Just get this one and then proves me if I'm wrong about it, if you can. OIL 7" [Commitment records] This was quite an old released but it's still kick ass. Reminds me a lot to Nations on Fire, in fact the singer sounds a lot like Edward's NOF. Songs about wanting the metal out of the HC scene, collecting colored vinyl(is that wrong? I guess I'm lucky to not have a turntable) and some personal issues. Good band, no problem! I'm looking forward to their new release. REACHING FORWARD pride is everlasting 7" [Commitment records] Yuck!!! Musically, they're old-school HC and they've done it well until you read some of the dumb lyrics. I thought HC is more than just a t-shirt, stage-diving, youthcrew etc but this wasn't the case for Reaching Forward(because that is what they sings about for the most part), and I had a hard times to deal with their idea on Hardcore like try to make a bunch of moron to beat up people they don't like(and Reaching Forward also called themselves straight-edge???). PRODUCT X who makes the heroes... 7" [Commitment records] Oh man, I love their Hometeam EP; brutal, fast and lots of energy. Just like KLU, they make the best personal lyrics(not just a dumb 88-slogan) in which I can relate to. Somehow I think this one lacks of energy(or maybe they just have different sounds) that I heard on their previous EP, but it's still fast, brutal, yet emotional and raging old-school HC, so what more is there to ask??? X-MEN we won't take part 7" [Commitment records] Funny, all of them wear mask on stage so nobody will know who they are. This is more like Judge, SOIA, etc (more NYHC than European style). Thank god the lyric was not dumb, otherwise wearing mask is not such a bad idea at all. VITAMIN X once upon a time... 7" [Commitment records] Still youth-crew old-school HC(so fucking nostalgic or what?!!) and try the best they can to keep it real while the vocals annoying a bit. Their first EP is really good and this is(too) as powerful as the first one(even more faster). And they have good lyrics/messages being written allover the impressive sleeve cover. OK, I'm not really into this although the music is pretty excellent. ONEXMORE they say that you sold out 7" [Commitment records] This is soooo well and better than their first EP. This time they're even angrier, even more faster, noisy, crazy, ruthless and mean. These guys(from Belgium) don't learn how to play slower so they just get straight-to-the-face and sometimes very fast like their old 7" meets 97A. I love it! I love it! I love it!!! HIT THE LINE HARD compilation 7" [Commitment records] A good compilation featuring all-American bands doing their own thing. Mostly play ace old-school-style but what do you expect? Reinforce has a funny song about skateboarding, One Way(cool personal/political lyrics), Until Today and No Comply(another fun skate-song). Most of them were unknown in the States so maybe that's the reason why Commitment documented them on this compilation. The drawings on the sleeve cover were pretty good or maybe even a little cliché? FAIRFIGHT the neverending road 7" [Commitment records] New released from Commitment. Co-produced by Menno Bakker who're responsible for all the Seein Red records, so this got to be a top-notch production. The singer has the best English-pronunciation out of every band on Commitment - they're the best musicianship, got the best songwriting, well-thoughtful lyrics so, that quality have make this as a perfect release and this just happened to be their first record, isn't that superb? I can't say anymore better for Commitment released because everything they put out is so well-done and most bands play good music with good messages(okay, not every one of them). PETROGRAD "isabelle" CD [Diff, 3 Rue comte de Ferraris, L-1518, Luxembourg] The very fine first album by this political pop-punk-rockers after tonnes of singles and split records. To be honest, this can't give the feelings I had from their marvelous split LP with Active Minds. The music here is catchy or rather easy listening or let just say even more poppier than their early stuff, but the message is still political, well-thoughtful written and as sharp as a razor blade cutting through one's skin. Lyrics mostly about personal struggle, animal rights, exploitation, relationship and "what about me" is a song's questioning on

religion. Whether if I do like it or not, the CD never stop playing on my stereo while I keep do a little dance to songs like "toys"(for the nice reggae-guitar and the cute keyboarding), "it takes a lot more" and "quicksnap memories"(which have a quick solo-keyboard on it). STILL LIFE "madness and the gackle" CD [Sunflower Tribe, po box 618, Moorpark, CA 93020, U$A] I love Still Life because they sounded nothing like indie-garbage bands that we could hear everywhere else nowadays. Their lyrics are full with sincerity, emotions and true-feelings. This second album is quite similar to their split 12" with Jara. The acoustic "looks like tomorrow" have become my favorite ballad song of all time now, while "dopamine" could be direct to people or bands that selling out because of losing direction in the Independent scene. This 10 songs CD is pretty slow, whining, whispering, tear-jerking for more than 30 minutes make you forget about all the madness that happening around for a while. Oh yeah, the best EMO cover I've ever seen. THE PROMISE RING "very emergency" CD [Jade Tree, 2310 Kennwynn rd, Wilmington, DE 19810, USA] I've been wanted to hear something from this band in such a long time. At first, I thought it's bad but after a few listening, I can enjoy to this CD for a whole day without even listening to anything else. It's so catchy and breed body-shaking, head-nodding and foot-tapping. Easy listening pop-rock and they exactly know how to make people feels happy with that formula. I've heard they're already on MTV but there is no surprise at all(good musicianship, good songs, good-looking, all the key to become success is there), but I still respect them for staying on Jade Tree although they could make a lot of cash in somewhere else. FAMILY CD [Liberation, caixa postal 4193, Sao Paolo-SP, 01061-970, Brazil] I never heard any HC band from there before so I was totally impressed by this little present. Remind me to Strife and Mouthpiece but this is even more faster, better, with well-thoughtful lyrics about taking control of yourselves, friendship, life and more personal issue. Powerful Hardcore in 20 minutes(8 songs) and a hidden track in the end. Ready for some thrill in the mosh-pit anyone?!!! RAINER MARIA "atlantic" CDEP [Polyvinyl, po box 1885 Danville, IL 61834, USA] Indie-Pop with a heavenly soothing voice from the female singer(although she's out of tune). Every time I listen to these three songs CDEP, I had so much of relief and it's like all the rages and hatred inside me being wash out and clean up by this amazing-trio. Their lyrics of course are personal and could be related to love, sadness, hopeless, etc but I like it. The problem is that the lay-out sucks and I hate playing 10 minutes long CD. FINE DAY "january" CD [Spread, po box 355, Cambridge, CB4 2FT, UK] A posthumous released thanks to Isaac who put out the fabulous Tribute/Beacon split 7" some year back. This band came out of the DC area in the States and got their influence from a lot of bands around there especially, Fugazi(obviously), Lungfish etc and you can hear that from the full guitar-distortion and the songwriting. Anyway, this is a compilation of their songs from 92-93 and after 6 years of the band's defunct, finally the anger and the frustration being released. It still sounds delightful-fresh and I'm sure many fans of DC-post-hardcore will appreciate this record a lot. SPY VERSUS SPY CD [Subjugation, po box 191, Darlington DL3 8YN, UK] This is actually quite original(musically) and not particularly similar to any English emo-band(Schema, Baby Harp Seal, Tribute etc). It's very hard for me at first to accept this ugly-singing 6 songs mini-CD, and to make it even more worst, they didn't bother to include a lyric sheet instead putting out horrible artwork and thank list on the sleeve. Poor Subjugation, they should gives more than a listening pleasure. HELLNATION "fucked up mess" CD [Sound Pollution, po box 17742 Covington, KY, 41017, U$A] There is two grind band that I like so much these days, first would be Assuck, Dahmer and the third one could be this band. This is beyond my expectation, it is more like thrash-hardcore with speed drums and horrifying singer. Lyrics mostly about personal issues. Short CD, 10minutes, 24 songs + a shitty bonus track, and they sell this CD as a full-length album when it's all can be fit on CDEP or 10", this is a total rip-off!!! ALCATRAZ CD [Stonehenge, 21 rue des brosses, 78200 Magnanville, France] Tremendous released!!! Music-wise similar to Peu Etre, Bob Tilton, Fugazi etc + excellent musicianship. The booklet is fat(60pages on recycled paper!!!), political writings which I can relate to(humanity, revolution, socialism, HC scene, etc). 13new songs + their previous EP, split EP, compilation CDs, etc altogether for more than 60minutes(could be boring for those who don't like emo). I would love this even more if the vocals could be a little bit poppier(but I don't think it's gonna work for French-Emo). FAST TIMES "counting down" CD [Smorgasbord, 50 Woodstock road, Carmel, NY 10512, U$A] Wow! Fast Hardcore with an incredible female singer + a few good lyrics(as well as some fun lyrics too). 16songs and three live tracks(as bonus) in the end. They must be rock everyone who went to their show over there in The States/Europe and if only they could ever make it to Asia, oh well. WINDFALL "awaken" CDEP [Smorgasbord] Another good released from this label. Melodic rocking post Hardcore(or just call it whatever you want) that gives me goose bump all around my neck especially the good voice of the female singer(I thought she's from a popular band on the radio). Lyrics mostly about relationship, love and so on. SUBMISSION HOLD "waiting for another monkey to throw the first brick" CD [Ebullition, po box 680, Goleta, CA 93116, U$A] Fuck this boring shit!!! I just can't bear with this style; something like when crusty mix with Luciano Pavarotti and some emo/indie crap. Only worth for the well-thought political lyrics/writings in the booklet, otherwise this got to be in the dustbin. SIN DIOS "guerra ala guerra" CD [Potencial Hardcore, Apdo. 52.059, 28080 Madrid, Spain] Fuck! This is soooo incredibly marvelous and they're a band that everyone in the HC/Punk scene should listen to. Fast, sometimes melodic and get more faster from songs to songs and some pop-style too, it's varied but the basic is punk-hardcore. It's got huge booklet in spanish/english and very political as well as if their life is completely depends to it. 19 tracks, sings in Spanish, socially awareness, anti-music industry, and so on. Everything they did concerning this release is huge, well-written and well-arranged. MINERAL "endserenading" CD [Crank!, 1223 Wilshire blvd #823, Santa Monica, CA 90403, U$A] Ohhhhhhhhhhhhh! Dear Lord of the dawn, please kill me right here, right now because I don't want to lives anymore, ever, after listened to this long way journey to find my way home CD. And the lyrics, if I have a

bands, rehearsal facilities or whatever, that could not be said about the Netherlands they have organizations to guide you through these difficulties.

4) Sebastian:When there's money involved, people change! HXC are not. The competition between bands hurts, aren't we all expecting the same? Appreciation from bands and friends, having fun doing a show, or going at one. Macho attitudes pisses me off, we are all in this together you know. Prejudices on individuals without even spoken to them, is the wrong way to come across. Off course these arguments aren't only relating to Hardcore, it is just HUMAN.

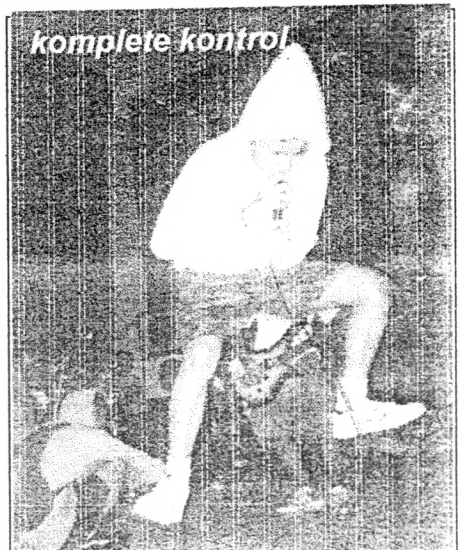
KOMPLETE KONTROL(indonesia)

1) KOmplete KOntrol is me (Ari,19) on positive screaming, Ronnie(22) on 6 string guitar, Yadi for a change(21) on bass, and Agus (22) on drums. I'm a senior high student and have a part time job at a notariat service. I organize the Straight Edge collective here and running a newsletter called The Edge news. The collective have several activities for distributing free foods, clothes for the less fortunate people and it's called Buka Tangan Project. Yadi is working relance at a traditional restaurant. Ronnie is running asop which is his family own..he loves Ensign a lot. Agus is still loking for a job.. he's down with Sick Of It All very much. Basically we just wanna play simple fast Hardcore the way it should be played and have the energy like the real Hardcore bands that influenced us. To us Hardcore is, like I said before, is like a NEVERENDING ROAD. On the road we through..we have so many things that we can find, so many values that we can and still carry on along the way, and that includes: independence, positivity, energy, creativity, sincerity, communication(worldwide friendship), good friends, social concern, and anything that we can't find in any other life. By Hardcore we can get an education on life..to live independence..for me personally Hardcore is MODESTY.

2) I'm absolutely sure that everyone who got in touched with HC in the first time was attracted by its style of music. I grew up on Punkrock(Sham 69, The Cockney Rejects) and also that happened to me. The lyrics of HC was and is so realistic, no broken hearted line or so-called modern love etc. I was straight in love with HC. But then I discovered that it was more than just music. It's a full realistic movement. The Do-It-Yourself principles are so admirable. We have to be involved in it if we want to build the scene, not just sit back and listen to your marvelous new record. Especially when I discovered Straight Edge ..wow..the lyrical suggestions of basic clean living is so inspiring me. Social and environmental concern are two things that make me really really love Hardcore. Those two things that I can not find in any other scene or life in general..it makes myself clear about what I should do with my life and society.

3) Yes, most of my life can relate to what HC have teached me. Well..there are so many aspects of my life that have been changed by it..but not all of them. If I never met Hardcore maybe I would be sit back on my couch and watch sitcom all day, wasting my parents money, and neglecting my environment and my daily basis where I live. With HC, I can express myself as me, ARI TRUEKORE, without have any feeling or pressure to follow the latest trends or fashion shits which is a very lame life for me(the glamorous kind of living).

4) I would answer this in two different versions. First of all, we know that nothing on this planet Earth is perfect, including Hardcore, there are so many things to be fixed here..fix there..build here..build there. But when I'm talking HC in general, HC as a world communication I would say it's getting better time to time, We see Hardcore scene almost in every country, even though it's not a huge scene but from some/few scenesters, I'm absolutely sure it will be grow stronger, everybody starts from nowhere and the true will remains..right?? Second of all, when I'm talking about Indonesian HC scene especially in Bandung, I would say I'm not quite happy with it. With the people who are consider themselves as Hardcore as they can be, but in reality there are nothing but a bunch of rich kids who collect records and buy expensive imported band t-shirt. They don't understand that Hardcore is coming from our heart, from our soul..and even worse they don't recognize any or what DIY means and how much it is important for Hardcore movement. I say this not because I want to be labeled as a true Hardcore guy..no..no. I still need to learn a lot everything about HC from everybody who concern.. from you, Saha. From my friends and anybody who positively positive supporting about Hardcore progression. What I truly sad is about when there are so many ethnic conflicts, religion conflicts and many people who are starving..they just pretend that it never happened or maybe they don't even care at all.. I'm very dissapointed with that. But for sure there are so many people who



also pay attention to what's goin on and take a

people really look strange towards you if you tell them you don't drink, smoke etc. And especially when I was just into punkrock and hc, I was kind of insecure about a lot of things and I just drank and smoked because that was what the other kids around me used to do and I felt the need to fit in. But at a certain moment I just got the idea it didn't feel right anymore and because of Hardcore and straight edge I could find the motivation to stop doing those things. I became straight edge when I was already 21 years old, at an age that a lot of people just drop out of it I guess. So I have the idea the choices I made are pretty thought over and well-based. And you won't hear me saying "true till death" or something, but right now this is what I feel the most comfortable with. Finally I think Hardcore has in a way made me a more caring and critical person towards the things that surround me in daily life. But as I said, that could also be a result of personal growth in general. About the second part of the question: I consider myself a happy person. I have a lot of good friends, loving parents and a nice place to stay and I have the opportunities to do a lot of things I want to do. Also I think the Dutch government is not too bad. Ofcourse there are a lot of things I disagree with, but all in all I think Holland is a nice place to live and people can be relatively free and happy, compared to a lot of other countries. Still I'm also sad about things I see around me. I get sad if I see people are starving in the third world, while in the US a guy like Bill Gates has so much money he could feed a whole country with. I get sad if I see how people are homeless in such a rich little country as where I live in. I get sad if I see how people exploit and slaughter animals. There are so many things that really bother me, but on the other hand all I can do is try to live my life the best way I can by being an aware and critical person.

4) Rutger:One thing that bothers me about Hardcore is the fact that there are so many people walking around who think they just know it all. Because they are Hardcore, they are the righteous few and they have that better-than-you mentality which I can't stand. Another thing is that whole negative and tough guy shit. To me being Hardcore is more than just moshing as hard as possible and wearing Tommy Hilfigger clothes. There are bands who spread right wing ideas and still get accepted in the HC scene, I can't understand that. To me that's not Hardcore. More? All people talking shit about eachother, let's focus on the real important matters and not on things like who dropped the edge and stuff like that. People who are straight edge but still are as sexist as possible. Sometimes a joke isn't funny anymore. Maybe I'm taking it all too hard and maybe I sound a bit negative over here, but some things just are exactly the opposite of what I feel Hardcore is about. Still there are things in Hardcore like the friendship, the music and the ideals that are so important to me that I wouldn't want to miss it for one moment. And hey, we all like to complain a bit every now and then don't we?

NO REASON WHY(belgium)

1) Sebastian: First I like to say under influence of my parents I grew up with music like Jimi Hendrix, Black Sabbath and Deep Purple, instead of laughing them in the face, I started to enjoy the music and got more interested in it. Although I went on the look out for new things and I passed by AC/DC, Motorhead, Metallica, DRI, SOD, to Suicidal, Anthrax over to Youth of Today, then 8 years ago I got to know A.F. and Sick of it All a new world was born for me ...Hardcore!!! Lots of bands between the late 80's and early 90's got my attention, which revealed great bands with real energetic performances on stage. Anyone has to make out what Hardcore means for him/herself. If you start to make definitions, you start to categorize and judge people by the way they are living their life. I support those who are trying to make the best off it and having fun whether if they are straight, vegan or not. What kind off a person I am? Haha, hard to say about myself isn't it? You should ask the band members! I can tell you my personal interest besides old-school HXC?! I am 25 and I live together with my girlfriend for almost 2 years now. I used to skate, but now I got more into snowboarding, it hurts less then skateboarding when you crash! I also ride a motorcycle CBR600 to get my speed kicks.

2) Sebastian:I think we should ask ourselves the question what comes first, the music or the lyrics. For me I'll buy a record cause I like the music, and because I'm a singer I will always read what the band has to say. But this doesn't mean I agree with everything they're bringing forward! It's wrong to dislike a band for not being on the same political level with 'em. STR8 bands often write lyrics about friends loosing the edge and they consider them no longer a friend, that's fucked up. The drunk guys are evil, what with all the people who drink and organize shows? Suddenly there is nothing wrong with them anymore, as long as they can play and preach their straight lines on stage...??? Don't get me wrong, I appreciate both sides, but keep your feet on the ground. I experienced it with our latest recordings, when it came to the point they didn't liked No Reason Why cause of the lyric I wrote. Making music should be an art with freedom of speech! I guess another thing I like about our scene is all the people getting involved, doing bands, shows or starting a zine. This I like as much as I dislike all the macho assholes considering themselves part of the scene and not realizing they're destroying it!

3) Sebastian: HARDCORE A WAY OF LIFE!!! To me this is only for the chosen ones, consider it a gift! If you can make a life out of it, that's great for you. Imagine, doing a zine, playing a band, going on tour and running a record label in the meanwhile making friends and contact persons abroad instead of working for your boss and doing what you've been told? I think the most of us guys playing in a band or whatever, also have their job to make a living. ONLY by hanging around in the scene doesn't get you anywhere. Unless you're sure of a big inheritage. My feet will stay on the ground, it's a choice you have to make, I know pro-snowboarders they get money to travel the world and make sure to be on the right spot at the right time to show off for their sponsors. Those guys are incredible, but when they reach the age of 30...or they get a bad injury their dream life is over. Overhere in Belgium the government have no interest in supporting starting girlfriend, I would rip-it-off to write a love letter typewriter, and will admit that I wrote it in hope that she will touch by it and put her ear(in sudden) close to my heart so she can hear how much dearly I love her and how I wanted to get old with her for the rest of my goddamned-life. Now you're gonna need a lot of patience to survive all the songs here because this is one hell of a slooooooowwwwwww and whining piece of a good music. I just love it. HIATUS "the brain/el sueno de la razon produce monstrous" CD [Nabate, BP92, 4000 Liege 1, Belgium] Fuck yeah!!! This is one of the best(if not the most) Hardcore band in the world. Their last effort('the brain 12") reminds me to Unhinged first LP. Their lyrics were mostly political and well-done. The other 12" in this CD is one of the best Hardcore/Crust records to my knowledge so the idea to put both of this released together is quite a good idea + some other bonus tracks, with pretty nice booklet as well. DETESTATION CD [Skuld Releases, Malmsheimer str. 14, 71272 Renningen, Germany] I still hold a fucking grudge toward this band for some reason. Anyway, this is almost a complete discography, it's quite thrashy-punk with high-pitched screaming vocals. But I enjoyed the lyrics more than the music. Not much I want to say even though they're quite a good band. CAN'T STOP THIS TRAIN "v/a" CD [Join The Team Player, Altottingerstr. 6A, 81673 Munchen, Germany] This is one of the best compilation CD I've ever heard so far(but I never got that much). Reminds me to the "some ideas are poisonous" on Ebullition some years ago. Huge booklet(political writings, addresses, lyrics, etc) and with bands like Seein Red, Assuck, Boy Sets Fire, Sabeth, Mine, Separation, Reversal of Man, Enfold and others, this should be a real winner. 18(unreleased) tracks for almost 60minutes; a lot of US-indie label should learn something from this. EMPOWERMENT #14 [El Trasgo, BP 40111, 35101 Rennes Cedex 3, France] Actually, I'm a little confused since the editor sounds pretty much tiring because of the attention that the bands from the States had, but then most stuff; interview(Dropdead), reviews, news, ads, even photos were pretty much focused on american big-bands/labels(revelation, equal vision, victory, etc). I must say that there is a lot bunch of nonsense in here!!! THINK AGAIN #2 [c/o, po box 55, 6880 AB Velp, Holland] Wow! I mean wow, this is pretty punk-rock kind of zine. The lay out is eyes-pleasing, most reviews and interviews even photos, ads, news were revolved around the punk rock bands/labels/zines/scene. If this is huge, they should be a Maximum RocknRoll for the European scene. 60% of the zine were included with reviews and since it mostly put out stuff that I never heard of, I'm enjoying myself through it because it's honest and well-written. Interviews with Man Lifting Banner(with members from Seein Red, Mainstrike, Deadstoolpigeon etc), Thumbsdown, Indecision, Out Cold, Stone Cold(one of the band members said something about One Life Crew *"their music is just cool and everybody knows what they're about and that's not really cool, but musically I think they're a great band"* hahaha, now can I say my favorite band is Earth Crisis because I loved their firestorm EP musically even though what they said wasn't really cool, if this is Hardcore then somebody would have to kill me!!!), Good Clean Fun, The Pizz, The Apers, Hot Rod Honeys, Dog Food Five, etc pheww, I hope I didn't miss anyone here. MINDBREAKER #1 [Bart, Doornikseweijk 134, 8500 Kortrijk, Belgium] You'll be surprise when you dig this one(and I was the first time around). Politically(correct) zine which is far from dumb and boring(maybe, but I thought PC is irritating). Actually, I never finish yet with the whole contents except the interview with Self-Conviction(Brazil) and some writings; making a living of Hardcore, straight edge, etc but there is too many in here which probably gets you months to complete. SIDE UP #2 [Ato, blk 110, Bedok North rd, #02-2288, 460110 Singapore] Cool HC-zine from the Lion City-kids(actually I never got that much zine from there although we're just 2hours travelling). Interviews with the H8000 darling's Spirit of Youth, Commitment records, Spirit 84, Born, E-Town Concrete, Eternal B(Japan), Side Off(Belgium), Struggling Time, Motive etc + scene reports, photos, reviews, some writings, tonnes of ads(and if they could get rid some of them, using small print, etc this can be a little bit more better). MISFORTUNE #2 [Tom Ryckaert, Keizerkarelstraat 76, 9120 Melsele, Belgium] Heavy metal 'zine. Interviews with Aftershock, Congress, Trapped in Life, Timebomb, Deformity, Fragment of Reality, Length of Time, Contrition, Indecision and AWOL. So, as you see, most band play from bad heavy metal to power speed thrash metal and it's weird that somehow all of them seems to be more HC than the people from ACDC, Black Sabbath, Kiss, Slayer etc. Maybe HC have grown up nowadays, so everyone, start to learn doing solo, alright???!!! STRONGLY OPPOSED #2 [Rania, po box 692, WV1 1XP, Wolverhampton, UK] Interviews with Hibernation(Greece), Rashit(Turkey) and ChineapplePunx + lots of writings about the absurdity of people's attitude towards others who they reckoned as the abnormal, lunatic or whatever, communication which is lacks in today's society, short writings about nature, racism, homophobia and a lot of issues that tickles her. Maybe the writings will never change anything or not much inspiring but at least there is still someone who really care about to have a better world, hey aren't we all??? SCORPION #5 [Willona, po box 7804, Washington, DC 20044-7804, U$A] It's anti-racist, feminist, punk, DIY and nicely printed. Very internationally focused with scene reports from Brazil, Peru, Puerto Rico, Indonesia, Mexico, south Africa + interviews with Ricanstruction and White Frogs, reviews, columns, Fugazi show report, ads etc. Not much to say about this but it's already impressed me with the effort which is not too Americanized. Dammit, she must know everyone in the world by now, more than I did!!! RECYCLED ART #1 [Sharon Silverman, po box 1212, Haverhill, MA 01831, U$A] Pop zine, Pop culture, but I like it because I can relate to all the contains; mostly drawings, photos, writings etc. interview with Vonda Shepard(pop singer). Bits expensive though so if you don't like the description above, never bother about this one. REINFORCE #3 [Adil, #10 lor. 110 Changi, Singapore 426365, Singapore] Another Hardcore zine from the Lion City. Marvelous lay-out and not too bad interviews with Coalition records, One Percent records, Sang Froid, Now Or Never and Angels in the Architecture. There's a lot of writings/columns here and mostly about the HC scene, letter section in which they have argued who's more better than who(girls or boys) that got me pretty thrown up, and a couple more ranting to top it all.

**reviews done by saha and it's subjective, therefore most of you will not agree with it, no? keep on sending stuff, thank you!!!*

(e)mails:

"Yesterday I was on a family party (my aunt got 60!) and I realized again how much being a vegan straight edge punkrocker makes an "unsocial" person... somehow I'm glad about it!"-*Jobst/Peace of Mind,Germany.*

"Yeah, we heard about the riot in Jakarta, also about East Timor etc... I hope peace and happyness, and respect for eachother will finaly come"-*Alain/Unhinged,Belgium.*

"it's unbelievable that our band is known in such parts of the world but it shows that Hardcore still is a network that covers the whole world and that there are Punks everywhere!"-*Paul/Seein Red,Holland.*

"You said HC is not about unity, it's about individually? I don't get it, because I think unity is important for us, at least for the movement(he.. he.., that's the NYHC kids said all the time). And how can we prevent the capitalist system? Because our lives is surrounded by it(capitalist things). From our t-shirt until our food. I think all we can do is to minimalist it not eliminate it"-*Eko,Indonesia.*

"Oh well. Hardcore is more about communication, I know, and this is what is keeping me motivated, so...Mmh, you seem to be very depressed. I guess I can understand, because life is such a confusing, stressful thing. I think I'm a rather "pessimistic" and "depressed" person too, but I never thought about suicide actually. Life is dark, but I always find something worth living. Even when I'm very sad, my dreams of a better world and a better future keep me alive. I think people like us who don't fit in the "mold" and don't want to be a part of this world, we should be more "united" and we should take care of each others in a better way. I see the punk community as my only "family". Solidarity should be the keyword for us, what do you think?"-*Christophe Mora/Stonehenge,France.*

"Punk isn't a perfect way of life(there is even many problems-I guess you already know that) and we don't have to reject people who think in a different way(or if we do, we're nothing else than a close-minded people, just as people we dislike: cops/businessman/fascist-nazi...). I'll prefer to explain for what I'm fighting for about a thousand times than just say to someone "get out of my way, you're not my friend and you'll never be!", even if sometimes it's really boring ☺!"-*Niko/Soiled,France.*

"As muslems don't drink alcohol and also smoking and using drugs are considered bad things by most muslems, I had expected all muslems into the HC-scene to be sXe, but that seems not to be the case. In my opinion sXe has nothing to do with religion - you can be sXe and christian, muslem, Jew, krishna, hindu or athiest at the same time. Straight Edge can help you to become a better human being, just like the teachings of religions can - in this way, sXe and religions can be complementary to another, instead of being rivals. I don't know how sXe can be a threat for the muslem faith, as most things sXe stands for, can also be found back in the muslem faith. But as sXe is not a religion, but a personal choice, it is maybe seen as dangerous and undermining the trust in the muslem faith. I don't know...It's a pity that being sXe seems to be not accepted in the Malaysian HC-scene - in every HC-scene there are people that give you shit for being sXe and at the end of the 80s, also in Europe one was sometimes afraid on certain shows to put X's on one's hand, because people would react negatively about it: but now it's totally accepted and, although there are still people in the Dutch HC-scene that have problems with sXe(claiming sXe to be 'intolerant', while in reality they are the ones that are intolerant, in my opinion), the large majority of non-sXe HC people accept and respect sXe, which is cool I think"-*Robert/Commitment,Holland.*

ed: here's more from my sXe comrade…

"Yes, Commitment Records does only put out records of sXe-bands. I know some people think that this is stupid and I have even been labelled a fascist because of this, but I don't care. I started Commitment Records to promote the positive sXe, so I think it's nothing more than logical that I will only put out positive sXe bands, as these are the kind of bands I want to support. Nobody makes any problems if labels only want to put out hardcore bands(meaning hardcore as a music style), but if I choose to select bands on their ideas, instead of only their music, people have a problem with it, while I think ideas are more important than music - and sXe is a real powerful choice, because you are not only talking about changing the world, but you are really doing something about, by starting to change the world by changing yourself. I have heard about the "Sober"-project and I think that's a really cool project! I hope it will work out fine. Straight Edge is a great idea, and I think it's very important to learn people all over the world about it, not only by talking about it, but especially by living it(as living an idea is much more powerful than only talk about it).

FORECLOSURE(holland)



1) Rutger: First of all we have Paul, our singer. He's 24 years old and he studies something with computers. You could say he's a real computer geek because he only gets off-line when he gets hungry or sleepy or when he has band practice. Paul can also make the coolest statements on stage, it's his new hobby. Next we have Matthijs. He's actually a guitarist, but since our previous drummer left in September he's been abusing the drumset ever since. Every week he comes up with some new facts about things he has read or heard somewhere and he's very eager to share his new insights with the other band members. Thereby he's a real ice hockey-hooly, supporting the Tilburg Trappers is like a religion for him. He's also 24 and besides Foreclosure he's gonna play in a avangardistic grindcore band with jazz influences, called Perforator. Tobie is the oldest band member with his 25 years of age and he's our guitarist. He studies how to entertain people in a cultural way or something like that. He's also a big Star Wars fan, but I'm not really sure about that anymore since the last/first episode. 'Our new drummer is called Maarten and he's 22. He will start playing drums for Foreclosure when he's recovered from his back operation he had two weeks ago. He's into newschool and Mouthpiece so we're curious what that will bring for our sound. Anyway we're very happy that he's willing to drum in a crappy band like ours. And finally there's me, Rutger. I'm 24 and I play bass. I study social sciences and you could say I'm totally addicted to hardcore. Together with Tobie I also play in a 8 piece band called Stoorzender, which is a lot of fun to do. It's also like a fast hardcore, maybe powerviolence band. I think the thing we as a band have all in common is our love for the music and we're all pretty much into the animal rights stuff. But mostly on a personal level though. A little definition of Hardcore is not such an easy question I think. But to keep it short, I think Hardcore is first of all a movement, which has it's origins in the punk movement of the late 70s, early 80s. Music is an important factor, but it's also a way of life (pretty cliche to say, but true though), living a critical life and doing things yourself, apart from the mainstream culture. Hardcore is a counter culture against the settled mainstream mentality and a way to create an alternative to this. It's also how you treat others and your surroundings in the wider sense of the word. I don't know if that makes any sense, but it shows I can't just say what Hardcore means to me in just a few words.

2) Rutger: You already summed up some pretty important things about what attracted me in Hardcore in the first place. Before I started to listen to punkrock and Hardcore, I was kind of into metal. Not really fanatic though, because I really did not like the attitude and the negativity the most of those bands spread. I've also always hated guitar solo's, they make no sense to me most of the times. So then I discovered hardcore and punkrock with bands like Bad Religion, Circle Jerks, Gorilla Biscuits, Insted, SOIA and all and this gave me the opportunity to listen to cool (fast & loud) music with a meaningfull message and a positive attitude and a lot of energy. So after I got to learn about those bands, I became really enthousiastic about hardcore and punk and i wanted to learn about it and everything. And by reading lyrics and fanzines, the ideas became more and more important. And I think the fact that Hardcore is a like a movement, just grew on me. In the beginning you just listen to the records and visit some shows. But by reading fanzines and attending shows more and more often it just became a bigger part of my life. It has inspired me in a lot of ways and it definitely has shaped me into the person I am today for a big part. Lately I'm also more into the political side of Hardcore. I like bands that have lyrics that make you think about certain things and lyrics that go further than the "me, you, youthcrew" stuff. Not that I don't like youthcrew bands. In the contrary, but sometimes I have the idea it's all a bit simple repeating the same words over and over again.

3) Rutger: I don't really know if Hardcore changed aspects of my life, because if you as a person grow up, you always change certain aspects of your life and you always gain new insights. And since I've been into punkrock and Hardcore for about 8 or 9 years now, it's kind of hard to say which things in my life are solely the result of being into Hardcore or just the result of growing up. But it's definately true that Hardcore has made me aware of a lot of things in life and it has been the basis for a lot of choices I've made. One aspect in my life that is certainly changed by Hardcore is the fact that I try to live a vegan lifestyle and that I'm straight edge. Both things really make me happy and play a big role in my life. For being vegan it's that via Hardcore I came in contact with veganism and started thinking about it and finally decided to live like that too. If I was not into Hardcore, I think I probably would have been a vegetarian too. But you can never be sure about that, because lyrics from bands like Youth of Today, Gorilla Biscuits and Insight definately helped me to think about vegetarianism and to make that choice. Being straight edge is a personal choice for me, but I think without listening to straight edge bands, reading lyrics and zines and being part of the HC-scene I would never consider to be straight edge. Because outside the HC-scene

back into the Hardcore scene. As for P(olitical) C(orrectness), I consider it to be an important part of the scene now. But there are people(call them shortsighted or stupid) who can make any good idea sound absurd, and sometimes it does harm to the ideas itself.

3) (Sasha): HC definitely has taught me to look at the world in a different way-to see all the problems modern society is facing now: inequality, oppression, greed and made me care about such problems as animal rights and drug-free lifestyle, which most people don't bother to care about. It has also showed to me that a person can do almost everything if he really wants to and if he has his friends to help him. But of course I can't be happy, because there are lots of problems and flaws in the society as well as in the HC scene. The most important problem is that it's very difficult for people to accept something new, something they are not used to, even if they know it's right. (Sergey): HC taught me to care about issues that I didn't know about and not accept blindly everything that society has to offer.

4) Sasha: Though there are things in HC that turned out to be different from what they were meant to be, I still see nothing that can prevent a person from self-improvement. Definitely HC should help you to change yourself first, because only then you can shout about changing the world. Sergey: There is something I don't like about HC (bands that don't have any certain messages, tough-guy-image bands, people fighting at shows, etc.) but the good thing is that usually negative things are the reason for some positive action, so I guess it's a natural process.

FEUD(philippines)

1) First off, my name is Mike and I will be the one to answer your questions. I play bass in a straightedge hardcore punk band called FEUD which hails from the shitty country of the Philippines. Personalities, huh? RaymondXPositive which handles the vocal chores for the band is the serious kid among our bunch(but he does have a little sense of humor). He is currently taking up BS Biology and aspires to be a fucking doctor someday and is more in love with skateboarding and Hardcore than anything else. John john is the funny man of the group and he is also the one behind the hyper-kinetic drumming of our band. Paolocore is the most soft spoken of the group but he has the biggest sense of humor you can find in any Hardcore kid in your neighborhood. The newest kid on the block of FEUD is Kit Dadoors who is now our 2nd guitar player. We have decided to let him play with us because he has been following FEUD everywhere since we started and has actually become FEUD's official photographer for the first year of our existence so after several auditions and beat downs we gave him, he now plays with the most popular band to come out of the Philipines island, FEUD!!!

2) I guess I got into Hardcore the same way most of the readers did. I was looking for something different when I was in high school and then I met some weird dudes who did not belong with any other group from the school. I started hanging out with them and they lent me 2nd or 3rd generation tapes of old punk acts like DK, Exploited, DRI and local 80's hardcore punk bands like Urban Bandits, Betrayed, etc. and after 2 or 3 years I got more involved with the scene, I discovered straightedge and was totally hooked in it. I guess I was looking again for an escape when I saw my punk friends getting heavily addicted with alcohol and drugs. I met more kids like me and since then I have been into this sXe HC/Punk thing that we love and I started forming bands with my friends and then started a newsletter and then a zine. So I guess right now I'm into Hardcore punk because of its ethics, the music and the people and friends I've met through it.

3) Hardcore punk has taught me a lot of things since I got into it and without Hardcore I guess I might have been lost in the thick black fog known as society. Like when I was young I was heavily into religion(my family has been into religious bullshit and their lives has become a tradition for them and for the family to participate in it), into a lot of nationalistic stuff, drinking, smoking but when I heard bands like DK, Youth of Today, Minor Threat singing about how fucked up religious institutions are and singing about living a drug-free life-a lot of my fucked up views were changed and I was able to see the world in wider scope. I guess we can consider this as concrete evidence on how we can re-educate ourselves thru hardcore punk but it doesn't stop there. As DK once sang, "music scenes ain't real life", we must practice what we have learned and the go out in the world and so some positive changes for a change. I'm not unhappy with the way hardcore punk has been going. I know for a fact that the world will not change overnight just because the whole world is into hardcore punk. It's a slow and long process of reevaluating our values and hopefully by doing this we can make even the smallest change. I would be extremely happy if one guy came up to me and say that we have influenced his way of thought to be more open-minded, anti-homophobic, pro-choice. It may sound stupid to other people but it's a big deal to me.

4) One thing that really bothers me about the current state of the local hardcore punk communtiy is that some HC kids(or adults..haha) would act so fuckin "political" like they know everything and goes on to preach to everybody about gov't. systems, capitalism, organizing rallies, etc. and doesn't give a fuck about other's opinions. I think that's fucked up if we always shout to the whole world but we could not change ourselves. How about looking in the mirror and fully understand what the reflection in the mirror really wants. Do you want to attend rallies, protests, etc. or do you want to make love with the person you love the most? Realize what is it you really want in life and go for it! Don't let yourself be dictated by your "punk leaders". Make life more exciting for you and the people around you. As Catharsis puts it "don't settle for nothing. Choose your fuckin heaven".

"By the way I'm busy with a compilation tape. If you know any good political bands or better bands with a message (which should be equal to HC/Punk bands). Then let me know. It's a tape against identism. That's a word I invented for the discrimination that occurs in the world according your race, gender, nationality, sexual preferences,... These characteristics are a part of the identity our society gives us. But these have nothing to do with the person itself. So people are discriminated by the labels or the identity they are given. No one has control over this. You just get it through your birth. This identity is also a cage where people have to follow the pattern of behaviour that our society connects to this identity. So a woman has to do this, a gay person that, black people must do... I think you understand where I'm getting at. This is also a benefit, probably for the anarchistic fugitives support group here in Belgium"-*Bart/Mindbreaker'zine,Belgium.*

"I'm glad that you found my answers to be of some worth anyway, and about the thing that Holland is quite OK to live, it's definitely in no way meant as a nationalistic statement. I think even the most PC-folks must agree with me in a way. I didn't mean there's nothing to complain and that there are no problems or whatsoever. I just meant that Holland is a country where most people who live here, have relatively a big freedom to lives their life the way they want to, compared to a lot(if not most) countries"-*Rutger/Foreclosure,Holland.*

"You look so disappointed about the Hardcore scene, and it seems that you're disappointed with people in general as well... Anyway, I don't feel that way with the Hardcore scene. Not because it's not disappointing(there's so many stupid jerks and so many illusions with Hardcore), but because I've never expected that Hardcore can makes my happiness. There's many beautiful people in Hardcore, but there are more idiots than people who make things change... I understand that you can feel depressed because of Hardcore. All I can say is that I stay in this scene because there are still people who want to change the world. Only this is motivating"-*Titi/Alcatraz,France.*

"Usually when I go to a show there's only about 2 or 3 other black kids there. Maybe 3 or 5 Asian or Latino kids but mostly everyone is white. I grew up in a white neighborhood where my family was the only black family. I used to listen to pop music and Hip Hop up until I was 15 but then I got into punk. I liked Hip Hop because it was political and revolutionary but then the mainstream Hip Hop started getting to be all about stuff I wasn't interested in so I stopped listening to it for years(I'm 24 now and I started listening to it again). I started going to punk shows because I was really interested in the way they were set up in DC. Most of the shows in DC are for political events or benefit shows to raise money for charities or to talk about certain issues. So, I've never had a problem with race in DC(even though there are some racist kids here) because for the most part people like Fugazi and other bands try to make the shows a safe space. But I have gotten hate mail about my zine and been bashed in letters and stuff for talking about race issues. That sucks and it's frustrating but I feel like that's why I'm doing the zine: I want to confront people about race and women's issues too. The US is a highly racist society but I feel a lot safer at a punk show than at a rock concert. The same isn't true for kids I know in other scenes. I know kids who have had a lot of trouble at punk shows because of their race, that sucks"-*Willona/Scorpion 'zine,USA.*

"In April we(4 comrades) established Priama Akcia-Anarchokomunisticka Organizacia Prace(I guess no translation is needed, Praca means labour). We have some technical troubles now with putting out our 3rd issue of anarcho syndicalist newspaper and we don't do any actions at this time, but we work on a campaign against unemployment and for shorter working week. Plus we work on theories and self-educate. We should start more serious activities in autumn. Situation in Slovakia is bad, even worse than I told you last time(a year ago?). Unemployment is almost 20%. Fucking expensive goods and all the common things related to daily existence. Unions, as usual, silently watch while factories fire workers. Typical class consensus/collaboration mentality. As for the scene, I don't know much about it as I'm out of it for good. But scenesters say it's almost dead. In Bratislava a sXe collective/distro organises show almost every week and there are quite stabile places to play also in Cadca, Zvolen and Trebisov but nothing else much happens. I started to play with friends in a band..."-*Kopi, Slovakia.*

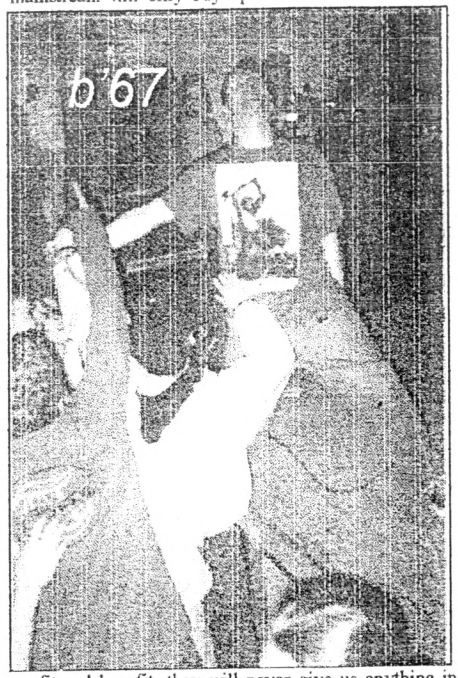
ed: although I don't write anything in response to what had been said here, it doesn't mean that I'm not aware of it, infact, I choosed to print it because I found it so interesting. In case if you want to send feedback or disagree with these people opinions, feel free to send me your response or asks me for their contact addresses.

MAKING PUNK ~~A NUREAL~~ AGAIN SENSEFUL

by saha "i'm fucking brainwashed"

So, what's new? What has changed? Regarding my life? The HC-scene? The people around me, or just the whole world? There's no answer yet to be found therefore no need to explain because nothing has change concerning the whole world, wait a minute, I thought we're here to fucking change it, no? Well, as for me, my life has been the same for 25years now, and I am getting awfully bored with it(what? why not kill myself??? good question!). So, am I gonna try something different like make a change of my personality and then give up my ideal? Fuck!!! I don't have to. If I wanna change it, then I would have done it when I'm 20 but now, it's too late and I've got to live with it somehow, well who cares about it anyway? Recently, I've been thinking to find a decent job(I've never been serious about it for so long), but then, I've thought deeply, if I got a job, what about the scene? I will surely not having enough of time to do anything if I work all day long, got home tired/bored/stressed out/fucked up/etc, leave everything I loved the most far behind me, and then be a bummer for the rest of my life, no way!!! I will remain active and keep contributing whatever I can to the scene, not to forget, to play my part and change something about the world around me(and I know it sounds like I'm a fucking moron). Of course I realized that I have to do something for a living, and I don't have anything against work either(even though I swear I will never gonna burn my ass off in some shitty factory). But, to be honest, I don't have any idea of what I'm going to do to make some money. I had think about to make drawing as my lifetime-career, be a cartoonist or an artist, publish my own magazine or even have my own gallery, be professional, establish my name into those glamorous entertainment world, get fuckin rich, get a lovely girl and travelling all around the world together, and then live happily ever after. I've been pondering about that since ages, so I think this is the best time to follow my own dream, therefore, make it reality, but it's just too bad that now I'm stuck with the Hardcore scene, and that's it until one day, I'll get totally burn out ☹. *"Hey now, hey now Don't dream it's over Hey now, hey now When the world comes in They come, they come To build a wall between us We know they won't win"-Crowded House.*

Almost everyone I know have said that I had to go outside and be like the person next to me who owned a life(it means to have a decent job, married, family, transportation, a place to call home, etc). But I already has one(although it's far from being luxurious), this is my life so why do I have to bother searching for more??? I'm totally happy with this kind of life, what make me feels sad about it is that I keep getting a lot of criticism and peer-pressure(which reduce my enthusiasm about life and so on). It's not me who make my life looks miserable but it's the people from the outside, people who have nothing to do with myself, people who never knew myself very well, oh my goodness, don't I have a choice?(my life, my choice). Moreover, there is a kind of people(who have capitalized the society in a larger scale) who will never agree with my reason. These people thought that they had some kind of capability to say what is right for others who they see as too weak, or incapable, or ingenious, or not manageable comparing to them(maybe they're right about that, just maybe...). They think that it is their responsible to make others to be a good person so that they can exploit them and use them in any way they can, I'm not that stupid to buy those lies, you know. And read the lines: People like this will never give support and encouragement to us. They only have one motivation; it is to destroy us. Just think about how all those righteous-crap go down with their threatening statement, saying that we're just a bunch of trash and causing a lot of social problem(haha, I guess if that's true we'll probably live in peace right now). This is truly disappointment considering that one of our goals is to make this world a better place(ever heard this line before? I'm repeating it again!). How can we achieve all of this beautiful-dream when we actually can't work with the rest of the society. I can't negotiate with them although there is a part of myself telling that I should be more rationale to the situation outside from my scene. Maybe they also want to make everything's good or even better and I know that there is a lot of people from the society which is great and inspired with their works and accomplishment, but most of society's approach to get organize are definitely contrary to our ideas and goals. How can we work together with the society who will definitely go against our idea(l)s(and they probably thought the same too)? Supposed I could figure out something as the answer, but the more I think more of an effect on the Hardcore community than the other way around. That's sad. So many kids buy all kind of mainstream shit and think it is Hardcore. The mainstream will only buy up Hardcore for their own



profit and benefit, they will never give us anything in return. This scene told me about vegetarianism in a new way that I had never thought about before. It told me drinking is lame, and I was so glad because I felt the same way and could now relate to people that were into the same scene as me.

4) Hardcore is not perfect. I have already mentioned the mainstream sell-out thing. I also hate the package thing. You go to a show, buy some records, a t-shirt, and then you are into the scene. And you do nothing else. I'm not saying everyone should be political spokesmen. But help set up a show(or start setting up shows yourself). Write a column for a zine(or do your own zine). Learn three chords and start playing in a band. Organize or join demonstrations. DIY, people , DIY! Some people even drop going to shows in their town for some idiotic reason. If there is a Hardcore show in your town that was set up by people in the scene, you should go there. If you don't like the band playing, hook up with people and hang out and support the organizers!

CITA ATTIEKSME(latvia)

1) Our line-up since the beginning of a band is: Andris- vocals, Edijs- bass, Valdis- drums and Janis (me)- guitar. CITA ATTIEKSME is not a sXe band. Only 2 of us are sXe. 3 band members are vegetarians and one is vegan. Valdis studies in high school, but other band members are students of the university. Definition of Hardcore... It's not easy to answer, but for me HC is about taking care of many issues: humans, animals, nature etc. HC is not about a fashion for us. In our local Latvian scene almost everybody is into HC just for fashion and almost nobody cares of anything else. Situation here is much more worse than in the rest of Europe, I'm sure about it. But I really hope something is gonna change soon.

2) Mostly these were positive ideas. It looked like HC bands really have/had something to say & not just singing about pointless issues like almost all other style bands do. But talking about politics I'm disappointed now because one part of HC movement seems so much apolitical nowadays. HC and politics shouldn't be divided. Fighting for animals and sXe at the same time the bands shouldn't forget about political issues.

3) There are some things that HC has taught to me. Probably I would be a vegetarian without being involved in HC, but for sure I wouldn't have been a sXe if I hadn't listened to HC. But it's not easy to say which of ideas I believe in have changed because of HC and which are the opinions that coincided with HC and by whom I turned to HC. I hope you get the idea. I can be satisfied with things that have been changed inside of me, but I can't be satisfied because very few of our local HC/Punk kids don't share these ideas with me. And, of course, I can't be satisfied of many other things too in our society, like murdering humans and animals, homophobia, sexism etc.

4) Is HC perfect? no, of course, I don't think it is perfect either in our country or in the other world. It is full of fashion and trend and a lot of HC kids(especially here in Latvia) behave and think in the same way as consumers of show industry. There are a lot of things we have to change.

B'67(russia)

1) Right now B'67 consists of 5 people: Sergey(28) on vocals, Sasha(18) on guitar, Kirill(25) on guitar, Andrey(24) on bass and Pasha(25) on drums. It's hard to say what hardcore is for us, because it is a big part of our lives and the most important one. It is something very sincere and positive, something that brings people together for reaching a common goal - changing ourselves in order to change the world that surrounds us for the better. And of course it's a kind of music that we can have fun too!!!

2) Sergey: I got to know Hardcore about 7 or 8 years ago, when I heared Agnostic Front's "Victim in Pain". Before that I listened to a bunch of punk rock. I was first impressed by energy and aggression of the music, but after listening to bands like Minor Threat, YOT and other original Rev bands I started to realize that I could relate to the topics that were touched upon in the lyrics. Right now I can say that everything you mentioned makes me stay involved in Hardcore as much as I am now. PC is okay for me(we have some politically related topics in our songs) but only until it becomes a reason for some people to show-off. -Sasha: I've been listening to Hardcore for four years now. The first HC band I heard was I think Sick Of It All. I should say that I never liked the metal-influenced HC that, to my mind, lacks the spirit of unity and friendship that makes HC so important for me. That's why I like very much bands that play 88-style HC, because they brought the fun

band's name from EMPIRE into I. So here we are now, 4 individuals presenting their very own ideas of Hardcore music. A definition of Hardcore... If you want to know how we all together define Hardcore, you have to listen to I and read the lyrics. This is how WE understand Hardcore.

2) When I got in touch with Hardcore the first thing that impressed me was the positivity. I've been into Punk for quite some time before but I've never experienced a so positive athmosphere at a Punk-show than I did at my first Hardcore-concert. The kids were



very supportive and watched out for each other, I really enjoyed that and still do. Of course the political consciousness is also a part of it. I never could be part of a youth movement that does not at least TRY to change something about the things that are going wrong in our society. I don't want to claim that the Hardcore or the Punk-movement ever caused a crucial change but the absolute stagnation that Techno-kids for example embody, is the worst thing I can imagine. It's all about keeping one's senses open and head busy. All about staying critical. However, I never had the best opinion of political correctness. A lot of the kids who label themselves PC don't even think about what they are doing anymore. The only sense of their existence seems to fuck around with people who don't watch out for EVERYTHING. I totally support the idea of being careful with how you act and what you say but there should be a real conviction behind it. People who only criticise others but maybe don't even know WHY they do that, that is what I don't like about PC. And last but not least the music is a veeeeery big part of me liking Hardcore. I always appreciated the aggressiveness and the direct way of expressing your feelings that can only be found in Hardcore-music. At this point Hardcore is really unique.

3) I don't know if I understood this question correctly. Of course the things that I've experienced and learned through Hardcore and also Straight Edge have had and still have a major influence on my "daily life". One thing that changed since I am into Hardcore and Straight Edge for example is the way how I relate to other people. I avoid being unsincere and false. I also try to avoid those "communication games" of how to make someone else do what I want without directly asking him/her for it. Manipulation, that is what I am talking about. But it is really hard to be a candour person in a world of lies. As soon as you try to be honest, you have to show your weak points and other people have the possibility to abuse that. I had quite some problems with things like that but I will keep on living my life this way. I cannot deny what I have learned. That would mean to betray myself and that I'd never do.

4) There are a lot of things that bother me about Hardcore, or better about the Hardcore-scene. One thing that really pisses me off for example is that the HC-scene, as a sub-culture(at least it claims to be one), sometimes does not differ at all from the outside world, our society. There's peer-pressure, there's falsehood, there's manipulation, there's discrimination of minorities and there's money-making. It seems like some kids think that dressing "Hardcore" means being Hardcore but that is wrong. I've written this 100 times and I will keep on doing that until I die: HARDCORE IS NOT ABOUT CHAIN WALLETS, BAGGY PANTS, TATTOOS AND BAND-SHIRTS!!!! It is an attitude and to become a part of it does not mean to change your outfit but to change your mind! Fortunately these kids come and go very fast. From my experience they don't stay longer than 2 or 3 years and then disappear forever. The Hardcore-movement leaves a lot of space for improvement, still it is the best youth-movement in my opinion.

KIDS LIKE US(norway)

1) We are 4 guys: Even play drums and is a very nice guy. Kristian play guitar and is a nice guy too. I sing and I'm a little nice. Thomas play bass and is a funny, nice guy. Hardcore is what you do to yourself. It's not a piece of clothing. It's not the last record you got. It's what happens. It can be a show. It can be a demonstration. Voice your opinion. Get off your ass. Hardcore is to not sell out, to not give up and to make an effort!

2) I guess it was the music at first. But also that this was something different that went beyond the music. This was so unlike everything I had ever seen. It was these wierd bands that no one had heard of. They played so fast and were so angry. It was the unity at shows, the great people involved in the scene. It was zines, bands and people who spoke their minds. It was very outspoken.

3) Hardcore have changed me in many ways. I still get lots of inspiration from it to change things about my life that aren't that cool. But the outside community have about it, the more I feel disgust and eventually hate them more than I used to before(gezz, we are not going to change anything, aren't we?). Maybe the only hope left is by compromises, toleration and through discussion, having a conversation etc but could we up to that or perhaps will going to lose our temper and start a debate with them? Sure, that could possibly happen since we are very angry and emotional people. We can feel anything that is wrong, we can react to anything that is perpetually negative(by not being negative I hope) like the issue of nationalism, anti-choice and so on, and what about them? Will they also re-act the same? Of course and they will use a lot of reason such as religion, tradition and so on to prevent us from making a lot of sense. But no matter what I say, there is still genocide and masses of human exploitation, there is a cold war between religion, race and culture, between men and women, between people and animal, between rich and poor, between the so-called normal and the abnormal and so on. How to find a solution to all this when we could never find a simple answer of how to work together. I'm not blaming any particular community(I'm sorry if you think the other way around), but I try to figure out who're the responsible to all this sickening situation, are we the one or were people out there to be blame? What can we do then? Sit back and relax? Have more fun? And enjoy our own goddamned LIFE???

Living in this country is sucha nightmare(those who're happy are the one who dares to give away their precious life). I can understand why Punks in here afraid to go in the street and make a wall to protest about something which is wrong. We're too afraid of getting burst out of stick, getting kick by hundred of boots, afraid by not wearing a bullet proof, worried about getting arrest and jailed with some tough guy criminal, or even getting caught by people from the ISA. There is totally no freedom of speech in here even if the government will deny that(but the freedom of speech is actually belongs to them and those who're on their side, talking about justice anyone?), but of course that's not the issue here and I also don't think that we have to go marching on the street and screaming about something that we never feels strong about like for example: should we fight for human rights for some crazy-politician who demand nothing but their self-interest and so on???!(there is simply lots of thing to do in our scene rather than to waste our time on this nonsense). We should find a turning point to get the scene fully organize and finding a way to make the rest of our own community to work together, because there's already so much separation between people in the scene, there is too much names and images now, of course there's nothing's wrong with it but there's too much focused(whether if people talking bad or good about it) that somehow make us forget about the more substance issues. All of these looks sad to me, most Hardcore talking about unity and friendship but we're the one who don't want to get along with those who looks different than us(we're like a bunch of gang nowadays!!!). Most Punks claimed that they have better ideas to change the society but then can't be able to change themselves of getting too much from drunkeness and drugs(can you change the society by getting high all the time? Absolutely no!!!) *"drinking, smoking, acting like an idiot is not rebellion. It just keeps you sedated, you can never change anything if you are messed up"-yann boisleve.* And the most so-called Anarcho talking about peace and total freedom but they even don't want to be close with the rest which have dissimilar ideas(can they actually work with someone who're patriotic, right-wing, anti-choice etc? I don't think so). See, can we ever dream to change the fucking world? No more sloganism, symbolism, etc please!!! It's all only full with ignorance, hypocrisy, machismo, etc... and Hardcore is not about changing the world anymore(that's probably in the 80's), but it is about get ready to fucking change!!! But then, are we gonna loose all the hope and dream we had(after all this while) just because there's a people who still dying(from starvation, poverty, discrimination, etc), more and more women being torture(sexual harrassment, pornography etc), more and more men being slaughter in a battle field(kosovo, chechnya, etc) and so on. Ahh, I can feel all the energy is in the air, and I wanted so much more and do more than I did before(as if I ever done any), this time I'm filled with hope, dream and faith. Of course there is people who will laugh at me(and probably you will too???) but those people are wicked and afraid. Yes! People were afraid to fight so, they waste their time on mtv, hairdo, body-shapes, cosmetic, computer games, shoes, motorbikes, whatever. But then, this people expect us to believe in everything they did, what a bunch of idiot!!! In Hardcore, you can't have a high expectation, but it'll ask you to try, work for it. You can't wander for perfection, but it'll show you what to do, give you direction. Will you get all this if you're melting with the society? You can't, but will be forced to follow their ideals and goals. And when you retreat, it means your life is nothing anymore, you can forget about your dream and so on. Do you wanna lead this kind of life and be a puppet? Do you wanna be a slave and loose everything you love and make this world as a sad place to

live your life? No more sadness for me!!! No more disillusionment!!! No more depression!!! There is too many people of this kind and I don't want to be a part of it. Look at my face, I'm such a happier bloke, truthfully ☺.

Sometime not so long ago, I've got a letter from someone whom I know for a very long time. Someone who I can call a friend(not from the Hardcore scene tho), if even both of us never understand each others quite well, we still can get along and had a hell lot of good time together(although we had a totally different lifestyle and ideals). I still remember that he got so furious one day and give me a little preach about religion because we were discussing about abortion. He just can't believe that I am not against abortion, because he said that I am a muslim and I ought to be true blue to my faith in God and stuff like that(please learn something from this!!! Well, it's all about oppression you know, oppression!!!). But to me personally, differences towards "ideal" or "way of life" is not the reason to not getting along with someone. So many of you will call me as full of contradiction, because I am Hardcore and I am against any form of oppression, but then I get along with religious kind of people or just other people outside from the Hardcore scene. But, what's wrong with that? Do I have to reject them? Do I have to make them as if they're unworthy? Why can't punk like me having a friend with people who don't share my value or people who don't know about Hardcore? Of course they're really annoying and I have to face their sexist and homophobic jokes all the time(can you imagine that?), but I learnt something from this which is people are not the same, it will never be, no matter what I say or explain, only time could change them, not me, not my ideals, not my preaching and so on. If I discriminate them, it will get things worst because I will lives in a world of loneliness, and then complaining that the world being so unfair to me, that is so dumb don't you think??? Discrimination? Isn't there's too much of that already such as discrimination towards homosexuality, beggars, immigrants, criminal, queers, drug-users, weirdos, and so on. I still do think that people can get along very well even with someone who were democratic, or socialist, or communist, liberalist or even conservative(well, now I'm a real moron, am I?). Politically speaking, I don't really believe in segregation among human being. Of course, I am very much against nationalism, homophobia etc but I don't want to hate others just because they believe in all that. I knew a lot of people just like this, infact, most of them coming from my family or just my friends. I don't hate them as human being, but I hate their way of thinking, I hate their way of life(just as much as they hate mine!). I get along with them because I wanna show them something, to let them get something from me, to let them learn something from me, to make them see what I see and so on, even if they don't want to believe in my ideal, what can I say? But at least, I try to make them question their idea(l)s. I think that's what make relationship with others more interesting, rather than to accept people views blindly just because they looks like you or just because they convinced you that they're one of you(especially in the Hardcore/Punk scene, just think about those who only want to fit in!!!). I would rather have a friend that coming from the "normal" society than having thousand who wear the "right" shirt just to get acceptance in the scene(what a stupid things to do, isn't it?). I want people being honest with me whether if it's about relationship or communication, I think that's the point I'm getting at.

Ahh, I can see the sunrise outside, another day to start a new and spreading more colors in my empty life. Oh well, I have to stop whining and probably most of you "tough guy" out there might call me as wimpy-emo-loser but I like it when people call me that since obviously I am a real wimp. By the time I finished this issue, I'm listening to the Sense Field "building" CD(and it never stop) and I still am Straight Edge, a DIY-Punkrocker and still holds true to what I believe in most=HARDCORE. I still think that Hardcore is very much about unity, friendship, communication, solidarity and so on but there is strictly no room for racism, sexism, homophobia etc(I guess, there is no toleration for this kind of mentality, therefore no discussion). And don't forget about the DIY-thing(don't let those yuppies gets to you punks!). Indeed, cooperation not competition, that's the idea after all(agree or disagree, that's your fucking problem). Revolution??? Stay sober!!! Stay true!!! Stay active!!! Stay nice!!! Stay kind!!! Stay Independent!!! Follow your own dream!!! And no tolerance for sell-outs!!! Sometimes ago, I also had learn one thing which is LURVE (your own)LIFE, (create your own)FREEDOM, (keep your own)FAITH, (take care of your own)HEALTH, (and find your own)HAPPINESS, that's quite an ideal, isn't it? Alright, that's about it for this time. #6 out in september/october 2000 with the same old-story, *"proud to be Hardcore stay out of trouble"* and it's not just a catchy slogan you know so until then, thanks!!!

xxx

Here's the interviews with different Hardcore band from different countries all around the world. I sent them the same question but I expect them to send the different answers and yet they all did that(lucky me!). Everyone has their own words and I'm glad that the Hardcore scene has much to offer(not only with good music but also the thoughts and the ideas that rely on each of us). We all share the same common ground although not always with the same opinion, and that's HARDCORE...1,2,3...fucking GO!!!

1)First of all, let me know the personality of every band members and a little definition on Hardcore...

2)When you first know about Hardcore, what is the thing that gets you excited about it, is it the music, the spirit, the ideas, the movement, the positivity, the political conciousness, or even the politically correct which play a big part of the Hardcore scene itself...?

3) So, do you think that your life can relate to what Hardcore have teached you ever since you know it and what is the one aspect of your life that have changed by it(which you never feels regret that it happened)? But are you still unhappy and what causes that feelings to occurred, is it the situation where you lives, the society or the authority?

4)And what is the one thing that really bothers you about Hardcore or is it already perfect that nothing can gets to you on the way to achieve something more personal?

STRENGTH APPROACH(italy)

1) It's pretty hard to describe all the Strength Approach members because as a band we went through a lot of line up changes in the past years and all the people I played with were so different yet particular...anyway I can tell you something more about the current line up featuring me, Alex, on vocals, Mirko on guitar, Adriano on bass and Andrea behind the drums...Me and Mirko are the only original members left from the beginning in 96 and thorugh all these years I learned a lot of things about him and he experienced how hard is to play with me because of my ideas and basically the way I choose to act...Mirko is pretty shy and Adriano is too but they are easy to spend lots of time with because we make fun of a lot of things and recently I've experienced on tour that we can laugh for a long time to death in our way and personally I can tell you I change my moods so fast and a lot of for the dumbest thing, it depends on the way we fool this or that...hey, don't get me wrong because we are not a bunch of idiots, I'm just saying we are funny people but strange things come through my head...sometimes I'm difficult to live with because of my head but I'm nice too as the rest of the band...hey, I forget to mention our new drummer Andrea...he loves to tell unbelievable stories about this or that but I really respect him because he's real also if sometimes he stands like a clown...I can tell you the word Hardcore stands for a lifestyle not only a musical style or something for a t-shirt...you can't wake up and tell "Today I'm Hardcore, tomorrow Punk or whatever", it's a state of mind, a way of approaching reality in a different way but the most we keep it sincere the best we live it!

2) The first time I got in touch with the so called Punkrock/Hardcore music I was like hit by a lot of "cool" things because I love the attitude, the ideas behind this kind of movement...everything seemed so perfect and in a way still is but sometimes I recognize a little world I refuse in the Hardcore scene and that's not good... Fun, positivity, commitment, communication, this is what's all about and I'm proud to be where I am and when I look back I'm happy with no remorse at all...

3) I've noticed that a lot of Hardcore kids talk about how hard is life or how hard is start again when you jump in this all. I mean that you go straight edge and that's ok for you but it doesn't mean that you have to drop the friends who are not, the same goes for a 1000 of examples...as I said I've no regrets at all and every moments spent by the day I turned into what I'm know stands like a victory in my life...yeah, I can't regret it because the friends I used to hang out with when I was not xxx or vegan are still my best friends and so on...I reached a lot of points this way and I really hope to keep on doing it...

4) As I said sometimes I recognize a kinda "little world" in this panorama because a lot of shit going on such as trends and stuff like that but it's as perfect as the way you live it and if you keep the things clear it can only work out so good...some people don't understand we don't need certain behaviours and they keep on pushing into Hardcore their business and stuff like that but there's no place for it and I want to shout it clear because if I had to live surrounded by this shit I could keep on living the way our modern society wants me to live...

I(germany)

1) It is not easy to answer this question concerning the other band-members so I will mainly refer to myself. My name is Christoph, I play the guitar for I and I am 21 years old and I am starting my social service next week, which I'm NOT looking forward to, because my girlfriend and my band will be 250km away from me. All men in Germany HAVE to do social services (or go to the army, which is even more fucked up thing). Daniel, our bass-player is finishing school in a month. He's 20 years old and really funny. He always comes up with some shit that makes us all laugh. Our drummer's name is Mischa, he's 23 years old and is studying computer-stuff in Munich. He's the oldest guy in the band and always tries to keep the musical level high by forcing us to play "straight", he he he. Oh, and he is my brother. And then there is the new vocalist who's name is Boris. He's just finished his social service and is now going to attend school again. Except Boris we were all playing in a band called EMPIRE before but about a month ago our singer (Peter was his name) decided to quit the band and so we started looking for a new vocalist. We asked Boris if he liked to join the band cause we had known him and his voice and both is really nice, he he he. Due to the fact that his vocal-style differs a lot from Peter's, we decided to change the

Point was formed in October 1998 when the bassist from Crush decided to form a total sXe band as everyone was into drugs and the vision of the future punks were going to be the same as the kids next door i.e: mindless idiots! *note: we felt that being sXe was the next level of creating change because the sXe ethic is a bigger step than just listening to Punk and nodding your approval. Our first gig was at a S.P.C.A gig(for a animal shelter business).The turnout was good with a variety of rockers, metal heads, punks coming to the show. We played with a mixture of bands from different genres at the only alternative club in Durban-Jamies. During Dec '98 to May '99 we played tons of gigs, I started a zine called United and people from all walks of life were showing signs of interest in the whole sXe ethic. During Jan-May period the band was going through rough times as neither of us had work and there is harsh racism towards whites in South Africa after the Apartheid era. My brother and I ran a web page company from his flat although we had many problems- people trying to take us for a ride. We still played gigs and writing new songs etc, etc. In May we all got Jobs eventually but we all still think that working for ourselves is the best solution. Our drummer decided to call it quit due to lack of dedication and was in the procees of immigrating to the UK to escape the harsh living conditions here in S.A. We got a new drummer who was super good and this is when we decided to go up to Johannesburg. We played a gig with Fuzigish, Leek and the 85'ers- it was awesome. The people up there were so cool and for the first time I met other kids who were into sXe. The scene there is such a united scene with everyone being friends with each other. When we came back we recorded a 5 tracks EP for Commitment Records in the Netherlands which is for a sXe compilation that's going to be coming out soon(contact them at:voogt@pscw.uva.nl or write at: Commitment Records: Klien Muiden 38, 1393 RL Nigtevecht, TheNetherlands). Our Drummer, Grant took a 2 month break in the U.K which kind of messed things up a bit because we wanted to play at the skate competition in July '99 at the new skate park in Durban. So we got the drummer from Crush to fill in for a couple of gigs and it went well. Leek and the 85ers came down from Johannesburg to do the gig. After Grant came back we continued to play gigs, a couple matinee shows which was a bit sketchy- one was actually at a small skate park in a suburb called Queensburgh- this was my ex-neighborhood were I was born and bred. Most bands in South Africa don't play Matinee gigs and most bands don't play all age gigs because most of the time they play at bar/clubs because of lack of venues so what we were doing was something different so the response from the audience was quite wierd. The whole idea of having a matinee was to try to reach to as many people as possible so this led to the: "Keep the Spirit" gig at a place called the Bat centre. This is such a cool place to hang out 'cos it is right inside Durban's harbour and the view you get from the Bat is simply amazing!-especially at night when you see the lights of the harbour and the massive ships parked 100m from you! The Bat centre is a arty type place were artist work/live thus you see alot of tourists and different people etc, etc. We also have our practice room there so it was logical for us to have a gig there so that we didn't have to move our equipment a long way. We had it in this courtyard which was cool and we had about 4 bands play: Still Thinking, Safety Pins, crossingpoint and Side Show. I was really excited about this gig because doing matinee's and reaching new people was what I wanted to do. I designed a poster and we photocopied tons of them and plastered the mall over town and in as many different neighborhood as possible. Unfortunately not many people came- just friends and the usual punks but there were a few young kids that came that had never seen this shit before so it was cool. We had a stall there as well and we sold Records, literature and was so cool 'cos finally we started to do what we wanted to do. The next gig was kind of a joke and a test: THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS! This was a competition for all bands from all genres to enter, the prize was a record contract and to play with South Africa's top mainstream band. yeeaaaah! We decided to enter, not to win but to reach different people because we would be playing with a mix of so many different bands. The first round gig we played with had a jazzy blues band-reaaally professional, a indian rock and roll band and us. The jazz band beat us and went to the next round but we got the title "lucky losers" which gave us a 2nd chance to enter if one of the winners of the other rounds dropped out. The next round-the quarter finals had one band that went on a tour so we got a 2ndchance to play. We played with a whole lot of mainstream rock bands- very generic and a trip hop band called 3sm. It was cool' cos yet again people came up to us and were really interested in our scene. We thought we wouldn't get thru to the semi's because of the trip hop band-they were really good-excellent stage presence and their singer was really beautiful (the judges were looking for a band they could market-so everyone thought they would win). But hey, we won! We laughed our heads off! Not at anyone but just because all the other bands took it so seriously. I saw the singer from 3sm and she was really mad and I said to her: "Hey, bad luck maybe you guys will do better next time" but she just ignored me and walked off! It's so sad that people take it so seriously. Like for sound check the other bands rock up in fur coats and looking all cool with these mucho attitudes- no one speaks to anyone etc, etc. But anyway we played the semi's with the same jazzband that beat us in the first round, a metal band and some African band. Everyone was really good for their style and there was such a huge crowd. of course we did not go down well with the most part of the crowd but the whole point was to reach as many people as possible... We didn't go through to the finals but we didn't care 'cos we made so many knew friends! After that we have been playing loads of gigs-mostly at Jamies in til about 2 months ago when Jamies got Burn't down. This was a sad day for everyone because not only for the alternative kids but the punk kids as well because it was a cool place to hang. There was a benefit gig for the club were tons of kids came- we played with a host of other bands of various styles and it was cool 'cos yet again we played to people that don't normally get to see us. That was our last gig because of our drummer, braking his arm therefore putting him out of action so we won't be able to play for a while because he is going to visit relatives in England for the July Holidays as well. ...Latest news! is that we have a new drummer filling in for Grant and we are going to be having a gig in about 3 weeks time. Our future plans is to play at some Youth Centres, Underage clubs, finish my zine and play at the new alternative club that Jamie of Jamies has opened which is called, get this....BURN Okay, that's it I hope you enjoyed this, if you don't use this then that's cool-but I hope you do though, Please keep in touch-I would like to write to you by post and send some of my art to you!

From Wesley(Crossing Point).

RUSSIA

Hi, this is Sergey from Moscow, Russia. First of all, I should say that Russian Hardcore/Punk scene is not that big due to lack of information and to the fact that no Punk/HC bands come to Russia to play(except some major bands like Biohazard/Exploited). The only independent Hardcore band that came to Russia from abroad were MDC in 1992. I'll try to focus on bands that represent(ed) Russia's own HC scene. I'll start with Moscow - my home city - because HC has developed mostly here. The first Moscow HC band probably were Distemper. They started in late - 80's and tried to play HC, but there was a strong thrash-metal influence in their music. In time, their music became more punky and melodic. Now they are a very popular ska-punk band. Step Back appeared in 1994 and were the first Moscow sXe band. They played old-school punk/hardcore in vein of 7 Seconds/Minor Threat with positive English language lyrics. Skygrain(consisted of all Step Back members at first) were the most famous Russian sXe band, mostly due to taking part in a commercial "Learn To Swim" festival of alternative music. At first, their music was mainly new-school HC influenced, but later they changed their sound to fast melodic HC with great Russian language lyrics. Their only 4-song demo was released as a split tape "We All Are Positive" with Posadil Derevo, Otkaz Ot Nasiliya and Cita Attieksme (old-school HC from Latvia). After changing their music once more, and a change in line-up they started to play under the name of Tri Kresta(XXX). Their music became a sort of chaotic HC with emo influences and screaming vocals. They split up this winter. Kartonka(Carton) played depressive emo rock with political as well as personal lyrics. In fact, they played only two shows in two years and had no songs recorded, because they were very lazy and passive. Now about Moscow bands that actively play now: 095 (this is the telephone code of Moscow) - they can be compared to such N.Y. bands as Madball, S.O.I.A. or Agnostic Front. Unconform started in '98 as an old-school HC band with a good positive message. In the fall of '99 they recorded a demo tape whi□h included 8 songs. Then they changed the vocalist and began writing new songs, the sound of which can be described as fast melodic HC with a touch of emo. They are often taken by mistake for a sXe band, but, in fact, they are not (only 3 of4 people in the band are sXe) (unconform@mail.ru). Bol' Razluki (Pain Of Separation), also a HC band in the beginning, went on to play depressive rock. Unlike Unconform, became much less interesting lately (I'm not sure if they exist now). Solntse i Stal' (Sun And Steel) is a new band, formed by ex-members of. Bol' Razluki and Unconform. Their music has strong metal influences and resembles Neurosis(?) a bit. VIA Zuname play punk/HC with songs in different languages (Japanese, Portugese, etc.), their music is unusual and interesting. They have recorded two demos. Noisy Diablo have only two people: a drummer/vocalist and a guitar-player/vocalist. They play a kind of noisy HC in vein of Amphetamine Reptile Records bands and maybe some late-Refused influences. B'67 is a sXe band, where I do the vocals. Musically, it is an old-school HC band. We have two tapes out: "New Lifestyle" and "Give Out". One of our songs will be out on Commitment Records International sXe compilation this summer. Counterstrike is a new Moscow sXe band. They are a real "youthcrew" band, because they are no more than 18 years old and play straightforward old-school HC. Out of HC-related 'zines, "Vzorvannoe Nebo" (Blown Up Sky) is the most well-known: the first issue was mostly sXe-hardcore influenced, but lately it became more emo and experimental stuff-oriented. All in all, 2 issues are out, both with compilation tapes. The third one is coming soon and is going to have lots of information, including interviews with Unconform, Spitfire, Smart Went Crazy, Spitboy (translation of an old interview), Seein' Red, Lumen and Anyway (both bands from Chech Republic) and lots more. (Vzorvannoe Nebo: 115569 Moscow, PO Box 1, Vitaly Baranov / blownupsky@yahoo.com) "Positive" is a punk/HC oriented antifa 'zine. Also two issues out (Moscow, 117593, P.O.Box 21,antpositive@mail.ru). "Old Skool Kids" (formerly known as "Punk/Hardcore Magazine") is a punk/HC 'zine. #1 includes T.Y.F., PB2K, Samiam, Posadil Derevo interviews + Dutch, New Jersey and Moscow scene reports, articles and tons of reviews. #2 is going to be about religion in HC-scene and will include interviews with Ensign, 095, Cause For Alarm + articles, columns and reviews(Old Skool Kids / B'67: 109147, Moscow, P.O. Box 64, S. Voloshin,swingbro@yahoo.com). A 100% sXe 'zine titled "One Planet" #1 is coming out soon... (One should know, that all russian 'zines are in russian language). As for punk clubs: there's only one club in the city(Jerry Rubin Club:jerryclub@yahoo.com), where HC/punk shows take place. Other clubs either have high-ticket prices or have stupid security guys. So, that must be all for Moscow.In St. Petersberg (Russia's second largest city and former - before 1917Revolution - capital) hardcore music emerged in early 90's, but hasn't been as successful as in Moscow. The first HC band overthere were probably Beerocephals: they played trashy punk/HC in vein of Extreme Noise Terror or Accused. Some people consider Chimera to be HC, but I think they were more like experimental music with punk, HC and even jazz influences. Their vocalist Retd committed suicide in 1997, causing the band to split up. They put out a CD, a split 7" with a swiss band S.F.D.F. and a couple of tapes. From now-existent bands, there are a few that may be described as HC. Marradjory(Merauders) play old-school punk/HC a-la DRI/Minor Threat(?), have 3 or 4 albums out, latest of which on HOBGOBLIN RECORDS(this commercial label is boycotted for releasing nazi-oriented bands, boycott them!). Pyat' Uglov (Five Corners) play tough guy metallish N.Y.-styled HC similar to Hatebreed/Biohazard. Svinokop is a new crusty HC band. Their vocalist does "Nozhi I Vilki"("Knives And Forks") 'zine(one of the best russian D.I.Y. 'zines, five issues out - the latest including an interview with Sned of Flat Earth Records, Laura Akai and Propagandhi +columns and reviews) and runs a small D.I.Y. tape-label "Sharapov Sound System"("Nozhi I Vilki" / Sharapov Sound System / Svinokop: 195009 St Petersburg, PO Box 30, Dmitrij Ivanov / xpimpisx@usa.net). Another good 'zine from St. Petersberg is "In A Free Land". One issue out so far, includes Dolby Systemu(Fuck The System) - a local political 77-style punk band and Spitfire (a very popular

russian ska-punk band) interviews, an article about sXe and more(freeland@mail.ru). "Voice", a new 'zine, is coming out very soon (Voice: St. Petersberg 191025, P.O. Box 165, VOICEZINE@mail.ru). Another city with a small HC scene is Volzhskiy, a suburb of Volgograd(ex-Stalingrad). The fist HC band there was Koleso Dharmy (Wheel Of Dharma). They may be considered the first russian sXe band. They started around '93-'94 and played raw punk/hardcore in vein of early Dischord bands, such as Teen Idles and Minor Threat. They exist now, but don't have permanent line-up. They've made several recordings, the latest of which, "Zoon Politicon", which came out in early 2000, sounds more like hysterical metal/HC. Another band from Volzhskiy is Posadil Derevo(PlantedA Tree), they play brutal new-school HC with political/social lyrics. They appeared on "We All Are Positive" split tape. Three of its members also played in Breakwar. It was a crust/grind project with religious lyrics (Posadil Derevo/ Breakwar: 00011 Volgograd, PO Box 1813, Valentin Haritonov). In Volzhskiythere exist a couple of punk/HC 'zines: "+/- Beskonechnost'("+/- Infinity")is a 'zine made by Koleso Dharmy vocalist and there are three issues out (Dharma Wheel / +/- Infinity: Volgograd region, Volzhskiy, 4004105 P.O. Box 263,punch@mtts-voljsky.ru). "Nastoyasheye Iskusstvo"("Real Art") is the mostscandalous russian punk 'zine, for it contains lots of provocative and queer stuff(there are only about 10 (!) copies of each of its 3 issues and it's distributed only among russian punk/HC 'zine editors). Kirov, a small town to the east from Moscow, is the hometown of The Unsubs. They started in early-90's and until today are the only HC band over there. They play N.Y.-styled HC, a cross between Biohazard/Agnostic Front, but they also have more melodic songs in vein of H2O/Vision. They probably are the only existent HC band in Russia that has english lyrics to their songs. They have put out 3cassette releases so far: "Mind Frustration"(1993), "For The Strong Youth Only"(1998) and live-tape "In My City" (1999) (The Unsubs: 610021, Kirov, Vorovskogo110-173, V. Rednicov). "Play Hooky!" - one of the oldest russian punk/HC 'zines- has 9 issues out("Play Hooky!": 610011 Kirov, Sverdlova 15-14, Eduard Kireev). Tatarsk is a small town deep in Siberia and it locates the only Russian dis-core band Otkaz Ot Nasilija(Disviolence). They are sXe, their lyrics are extremely political and, above all, they are Krishna followers(!). They have two cassette demos out, first of which is included in the above mention 4-way split "We All Are Positive". Their vocalist also does "Yes Future!" 'zine, half of which is devoted to HC, half to spreading Krishna message among punk/HC kids (Otkaz OtNasilija/"Yes Future!": 632120 Novosibirskaja obl., Tatarsk, Lenina 97-15, Alexej Shvedov, yesfutur@online.sinor.ru). That's practically all about Russian Hardcore scene: these five cities are the only ones with active scenes and people(at least, that's what i know). For such a big country, as Russia is, it's certainly not enough. Nevertheless, more people are getting involved in Punk/HC community, which is great and gives way to optimism. So, if anyone wants to come to Russia, feel free to contact me! P.S. If you have problems with getting in touch with any of Moscow bands, you can do it through me (see Old Skool Kids / B'67 address).

ITALY

Here we go again… It took some time before I got the time to write this scene report down because of all my "businesses" dealing with the label, band and so on but here's finally an update about what's going on in Rome lately… Let's start with the band I play in, I'm talking about STRENGTH APPROACH(strengthapproach@hotmail.com). We got back recently from a successful Euro tour which made us play a lot of countries such as Spain, Portugal, Germany, England, Holland, Belgium and so on… We have promoted our new single "just leaving home" during this tour and it sold pretty well. This new 7" is out now on the famous SOA records and you'd be better not to miss it. Actually we are putting up a Scandinavian tour thanx to our friends from 7Records and beside this we are keeping on playing shows and working on new material for the long delayed full length also if we have not any idea about the label… Among the others thing some brand new stuff will appear on different compilations such as the one called "Never Break the Spirit" out soon on Face Reality records and some plans for split 7"s are in the work(probably with Colonna Infame Skinhead, Supersleuth and maybe with In My Eyes if they will get back to Europe for touring Italy, Spain and so on!) but the point is that we want to put out our first full length and a CD featuring all our previous releases so stay in touch… FACE THE FACT(facethefact@hotmail.com) are playing some shows and working on their new material they'll record soon as follow up to their debut 7" on Where It Lies Communications out as a split release with Nuclear Age Recordings. There were some rumors for a split with an American band but it won't take place and so we'll see who's gonna release their new stuff. Their debut 7" is still available through Where It Lies Communications and if bands like Cro Mags, Path Of Resistance are always on your turntable you should check this band out. RDD(lab9@libero.it) is another band on Where It Lies Communications and one of the best bands out of Rome in my eyes because of their music: think about a cross of Dag Nasty and Black Flag and you will get an idea, their debut 7" on Where It Lies Communications is going sold out in the sense that there are very few copies left and you should not miss it because of its energy, they got back on stage recently and the response was good as ever. A CD featuring their first demo out of print, their 7" "a reason to live" on Where It Lies Communications and some unreleased tracks is in the work to be released by Where It Lies Communications is in the work…stay tuned! REDEMPTION(xredemptionx@freemail.it) got back from their tour and actually they are not playing because the singer and the bass player live in Belgium and Germany but the rest of the band is working on the new material for some upcoming projects…check out their mcd and the split CD with Timebomb on War. Ds records and enjoy the music this band released with heart and passion… DEHUMANIZE toured together with Redemption in support of their single "Crystals" out now on War.ds records and actually they are keeping on working on new material for their projects but I've not noticed anything new about dates and stuff, I'll tell you more in the future. TIMEBOMB(timebomb@freemail.it) turned their style into something totally different from their previous releases…after their singer left one of the two guitar players started doing the vocal parts and the music switched totally into a Fugazi oriented style with socio-political lyrics…a new full length is on the way as well as a summer tour in Germany. The veterans OPPOSITE FORCE called it a quit because after some years the singer lost interest in the whole thing and so they decided to play their last furious show. Anyway a final mcd/7" will come out soon on Cane records…don't miss it! REMOVE are looking for a new singer after the old one left the band before their show and i really hope they will keep on playing because I totally support this young band playing a raw old school. RECEIPT is another young band playing a furious hatecore reminding of NYHC in some parts. They will record a single this summer and probably it will be self produced just to spread their name. PURIFICATION are about to release a mcd on Sobermind records this summer with an appearance at the famous Vort n' Vis fest. STRIDE, a new street punk band is doing pretty well with the new drummer and some shows are booked for these guys who got a demo out and soon will record their first release. PASSION is the new sensation in Rome. It's an all female vegan XXX band doing the hardest thing in the sense that thy play that classic Clevo style with really screamed vocals. Their debut will come out as soon as they will record their material… FREEDOM AND FEAR is an ultracore project featuring members of Timebomb and Passion and it reminds of political band such as Man Lifting Banner or Bloodpact but a little bit more raw… About the label I can tell you the most active are the one I run, Where It Lies Communications(whereitliesrcs@hotmail.com) shows booking, distro and so on. Then we have War.ds records and Surrounded records which run a big distro beside their releases mostly dealing with the vegan XXX message…what else? Ok, I could go on for hours but I really want you to get in touch to find out more about our hardcore scene…take the time and write me a line: Alessandro Blasi Via Roberto Lepetit 6600155 Roma-Italy.

SOUTH AFRICA

1980-1984: This was the period when the first Punk bands started in S.A with the punk explosion in the UK (sex pistols, The Clash etc). Bands like the Gay Marines were probably the first punk bands in South Africa to be formed.1984-1990: Powerage was the most longest running bands in South Africa and was formed under the Apartheid era in S.A. They were very political i.e they were against the fascist state and what it stood for and at times they were banned from playing and at times were under Police surveillence. When the apartheid laws were dropped the band had called it a day when some members moved overseas. They will always be remembered as the most dedicated people in the Punk scene. 1990-1996: New bands were spawned from Powerage such as Warspike-metal/Hardcore and Vengence S.A which had a girl singer. Another girl-fronted band was Outrage form Johannesburg which had lyrics that were animal rights and enviromental consciousness. Other Bands such as Splashrodds, Manic Brats, Subversive Noize Insurgents(experimental Hardcore) kept the Durban scene going. My brothers band Crush a mix between Oldschool and Newschool hardcore were one of the most active bands during this period when the scene seemed to die out. Other bands were leek(pop-punk Ska) from Pretoria near Johannesburg and Swank(newschool skate punk).1998-2000. A new band formed called Crossing Point(which I am in) with ex-members of Crush and Safety Pins. We are the first and only sXe band in Africa(unfortunately). Others bands that formed were Fuzigish from Johannesburg(ska Punk with trumpets), leek broke up and reformed after the guitarist when overseas for a year and are probably the biggest Punk band in S.A. Others were Neshamah a hardcore christian band from Cape Town(they have just recorded their 1stfull length and it is excellent -good sound quality and music). Pothole also from Cape town which is metal hardcore influenced between Sick of It All and Machine Head(?). They were formed in about 1995 and have just released their 2nd full length recently and it rocks! contact them at Road works, P.O Box 150, Bergvliet, 7760, Cape town, South Africa. These guys are good so please support them -if you like your music in this vein. Other bands are Pet Flys from Joburg, The Vendetta's Humphrey's Tea Cup, the 85'ers and a whole list of others.....The Johannessburg scene is booming at the moment and the shows are hugely supported compared to the early 90's. For the first time their are people who are getting into sXe and the scene is just getting bigger and better. Leek's frontman has formed a indie record company funded by himself called Croakroom records. He has just put out a compilation with all the active S.A bands with a few from Asia and America. If you like Ska and popPunk then you'll like this. The sound quality is good as well. Crossing Point is the only Hardcore band on it but if you are interested in finding about more about our scene then this is a good place to start(I don't have the contact details of Croakroom at the moment but youcan forward your enquires to me as I am sure I will get his address soon. Contact me at(wes@mailbox.co.za). The Durban scene unfortunately is dying slowly with the new rich kid bands with their clique friends who are slowly destroying the scene. Once Durban had the biggest scene but now all the old schoolers have either immigrated to the U.K. or have become Ravers or grown-up- although their are some cool guys still around. I guess, the problem comes from the media where the new generations has been taught that bands like Blink 182 and Green Day are Punk. Even though their roots are in it there is no Philosophy behind their lyrics, so today's punk thought that a Punk show is seeing your friends band, getting drunk, scoring chicks, back stabbing friends and then going home without watching the other bands play, although that is just the small part of the scene. Bands in Durban are Still Thinking(newschool), Burn't Out(newschool), Safety Pins(oldschool), Crossing Point(puritanpunk/hardcore) and Catch 22(newschool/ska). On a whole the scene in South Africa is growing with new bands from all genres forming giving South Africa a taste of different worlds... a good contact to the S.A scene is through the website: http://www.punk.co.za this site has tons of links to almost everyone active in the scene (if the site does not work contact me at wes@mailbox.co.za 'cos my brother is the guy with all the contact details so I may have got the address wrong). Here is a documentation of what my band has been up to since our formation as I only have a limited amount of knowledge of the s.a scene... Crossing