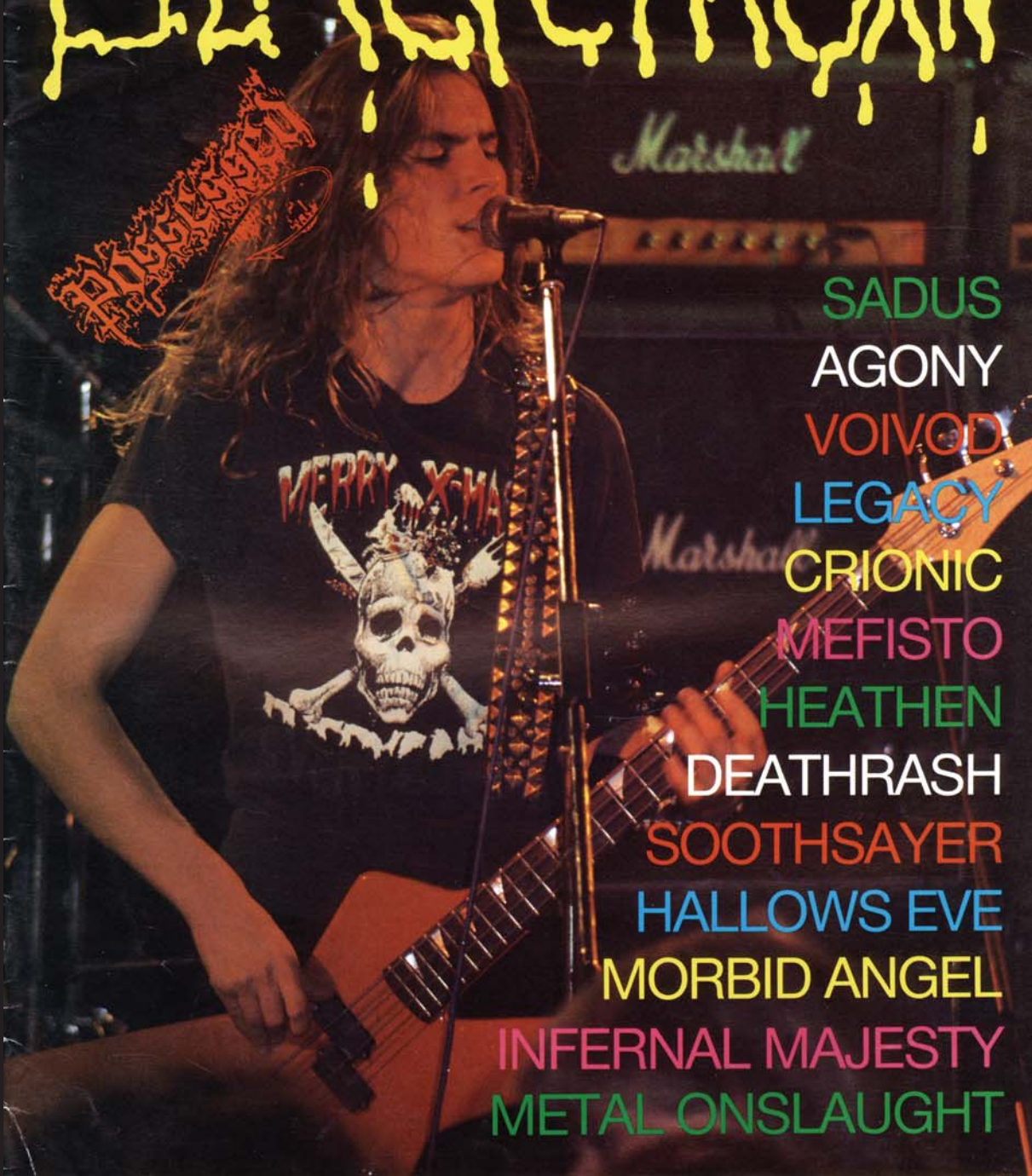


BLACKTHORN



- SADUS
- AGONY
- VOIVOD
- LEGACY
- CRIONIC
- MEFISTO
- HEATHEN
- DEATHRASH
- SOOTHSAYER
- HALLOWS EVE
- MORBID ANGEL
- INFERNAL MAJESTY
- METAL ONSLAUGHT

NO. 5 MEDIO 1987 PRICE: D.KR.20/US\$3/FF20/DM5/CAS\$4/AUSS\$5



Ufff, more death than metal. I almost begin to miss the plain heavy metal demos we used to receive (in fact) Morbid Angel was started in '84 by guitarist Trey Azagthoth in Tampa, Florida, but the original group had some short comings which required a change in personnel. During their first major recording session it was realized that the drummer and bassist were not up to the level of technical facility that the two guitarists had achieved (second guitarist is Richard Brunelle). Therefore they moved to Charlotte, North Carolina (wow, the mecca of metal, huh! Does there live also but farmers there?), to join forces with bassist Dave Vincent and

drummer Wayne Hartsell. The matched techniques of the current line up make possible accuracy and speed which were never possible with the old line up. Actually it's not very often we give a re-release tape a big review, but in this case we feel that the band has so much to offer both technically as well as musically, that we'll do an exception.



Their style may not be revolutionary, but they're certainly contributory to raising the standards. The tape was recorded on January 30th '87 and features the following tracks: "Unholy Blasphemies", "Chapel of Ghouls" and "Evil Spellia". The sound comes across

as being messy, especially the vocals, but that's due to recording conditions and not their skills, cuz they're great! And how is the music then? Well, it's hard to compare them to a common known band (I refuse to compare everybody to Slayer, though it's a very obvious and easy way getting around things with, "but you'll almost always be able to hear some Slayer inspiration in a great Death/Thrash metal band). I would say they sound like Fantic Warrior in the speed parts and Annihilator in the heavy parts. The problem with such a comparison, is that not every know these bands yet, and therefore the value as a guideline may be very limited. I hope you understand my scruples! Maybe this quotation from their info sheet would do it better than me: "The music is torment, the force is power, the method is perfection and the result is DEATH! This is death metal the way it was meant to exist, Morbid Angel lives and dies the fever of thrash!". They certainly don't hide their light under a bushel.

Do you know the price of this tape? cuz I don't! Write to: Morbid Angel, 3001 Central Ave. suite 133, Charlotte NC 28205, USA.

NUCLEAR DEATH

No no no, this has absolutely nothing to do with Nuclear Assault. Nuclear Death is a 3-piece coming out of the Arizona deserts in USA. They were formed in April '85 by Lori Bravo - bass/vocals who started out as a rhythm guitarist for Nuclear Death, Phil Hampson - guitar, joined his later on the same year. The line up was finally completed when Joel Whitfield joined them in April '86, one year after the beginning. Nuclear Death are into writing lyrics meant to stir the imagination, they do not believe in any kind of religion. They were so kind to enclose a lyric sheet, and to me it looked like they were into a religion, the religion of writing bad lyrics. No, that weren't fair, I mean there's so many bands writing bad lyrics, so I don't see any point in that comment, forget what I said about their lyrics, they're certainly above average. There's a person in this band who certainly isn't above average, I'm talking about sr. "No Talent" Joel, who's trying to play drums. I can only say that he is good at one thing, in running this band's forcing. And to the last bad criticizm: I hope that Phil will learn at least a few chords. I can't hear any on the tape they've sent me. The tape they've sent is a 1986 demo entitled "Wake Me when I'm Dead", and it has 5 songs on it. In their bio-graphy they mention several bands which should have inspired them. If I should pick one of those bands as their main inspiration it would be Destruction, but in this you must add a style of their own. I've been harsh against the talents of this band's members, mostly drummer Joel, so you could get the feeling that I don't like them at all. Well, first of all, I'm always a very critical person and I tend, at first to find the bad parts in a band, sorry but that's the way I am. Secondly, if I didn't like them in some way, you wouldn't even be reading this, because you couldn't find it in Blackthorn. Nuclear Death has got some very heavy and fast riffs in the best speed thrash metal style and with quite a few rhythmic changes. Then they've got a very strong singer in Lori Bravo. He has got a great voice to be singing in a band like Nuclear Death. The sad part is the drummer, he destroys the good general impression you could get if they just had an average drummer. Ok, I may be overreacting and some of you may not get as bad an impression as I did when you hear his and that's a "good" for you. If I was you I would be looking for a demo price. This tape is worth checking or at least the band is, but you can be looking for a long time as I haven't got the price. Between you and me, I guess \$ 3.99 should be enough. Nuclear Death, c/o Lori Bravo, 4556 W. Northview, Glendale, Arizona 85301, USA.

Soothsayer



Don't ever trust a soothsayer. These Four Canadians have called their band Soothsayer and they're also calling their music for thrash metal, but that's not the whole truth, they've also added some punk inspiration to it so as your mummy is telling you; don't ever trust a soothsayer - why don't I ever get to the point! They were formed in June 1985 by Simon Genest - bass and an unknown guitarist who left for personal reasons. The other members are: Stephan Whitton - vocals, Martin Cyr - guitars and Dan Clavet - drums. They've been a 4-piece since January 1986, but they seem to get along quite well anyway. Their favorite bands are: Slayer, D.R.I., Sacrifice, Aggression, Raw Power, Kreator and S.O.D. I think that if you mix all those you'll have Soothsayer. They've played together with Aggression and Possessed + they've done some headlinings as well. By October '86 they recorded a demo called "To be a real Terrorist". This 5-track demo features 4 brilliant songs: "Death Radiation", "Troops of Hate", "Kill Oppression" and "Build the Terrorism". Besides those they have 6 more songs, some are: "Narrow Minded", "E.T." and "A.I.D.S." (Anatomy Is Dead Sickness), so they should certainly have enough material for an album. I've always had Voivod as my fave Canadian band but to be honest; This demo release really puzzled me off. They're so fuckin' fast and tight, and the sound is good too. It's really a raging thrash metal act. OK, the track "Deadly Fear" which ends the demo, is too much punk, but I guess (hope) that's just for fun. Someone just gotta be among the best, and sure Soothsayer is one of those. I'm sure you won't consider your 5 dollars wasted if you order this demo. They also have shirts and stickers. Write to: Soothsayer, P.O. Box 5201, Beauport, Quebec, G1E 6B8 Canada.