

## Duckhills to play tonight at AnNam Tea House

By Rob Newberry  
The Battalion

Austin-based four-piece the Duckhills perform tonight at AnNam Tea House. The group may lack a little on the musical ability side, but their debut release *Remembering Spongecake* shows that the band can make up for it with truly hilarious humor.

*Remembering Spongecake* is very much a non-serious album. The cassette opens with the Prince-like "Obvious" (this has to be a take off on "Kiss"), with singer Benjamin McDonald crooning high-

The first time I listened to the release, I paid little attention until I hit the fifth song, "Pinchter." Hearing this very low voice explain his resort to childhood practice cracks me up: "Then I caught her stealing my cookies, so I pinched her." The bass line on the tune is perfect as well. After that, I rewound the tape and listened a little more closely.

The album is full of jokes and wacky explanations, and the liner notes as well, but the best songs are saved for last. "Lil bit Girlish" closes the album and pokes fun at the slobs in front of the tube on

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pitched vocals against a slowed-down funk background. Other songs on the album fall into the guitar-pop category, like "Helen." But for the most part, McDonald's humor carries the Duckhills' music well into the red on the laugh-o-meter.

Sunday afternoon: "I'm a 'lil bit girlish, I don't like to do boy-



things...I don't belch in public." But the highlight of the album is "Political," a song which should close the band's performance tonight. After explaining his crazy inspiration for a new message for the masses, McDonald belts out his visionary (ha!) philosophy: "I think apartheid is bad...I think world peace is good...I think starvation is real

bad..." To spew off the rest of the lyrics would ruin the show, but it definitely gets better. The Duckhills have been in the studio, hoping to release a follow-up in late October, and they plan to play a showcase at the New South Conference in Atlanta earlier that month. Their humor has won them a good-size audience in Austin, and the show tonight should be full of laughs.

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## Anthrax combines rap, heavy metal on latest

Continued from page 10

This Way", "I'm the Man" was the first attempt for a complete crossover between hard metal and rap, recorded back in early 1987.

The new version updates the song, bringing in the harder drum and bass lines common in today's hardline rap. It's good to see that the song that gave Anthrax respect in the rap community is getting a much needed revamping.

After four years, the song still holds as one of the best white rap songs ever. Let's see Vanilla Ice top this! "I'm the Man" follows "Bring the Noise" as one of the best cuts on the album. The guys should really think about releasing this as their second single.

Back to some old material, included here are two live tracks from 1990's *Persistence of Time*. Both "Keep It in the Family" and "Belly of the Beast" benefit from the live-treatment, as anyone who's been to an Anthrax show can tell you. Needless to say, these tracks rock, and the live versions are a lot rawer than the studio tracks. These tracks, along with "Chromatic Death" (a S.O.D. song, and former theme to MTV's *Headbangers Ball*) show that the band has definitely not lost

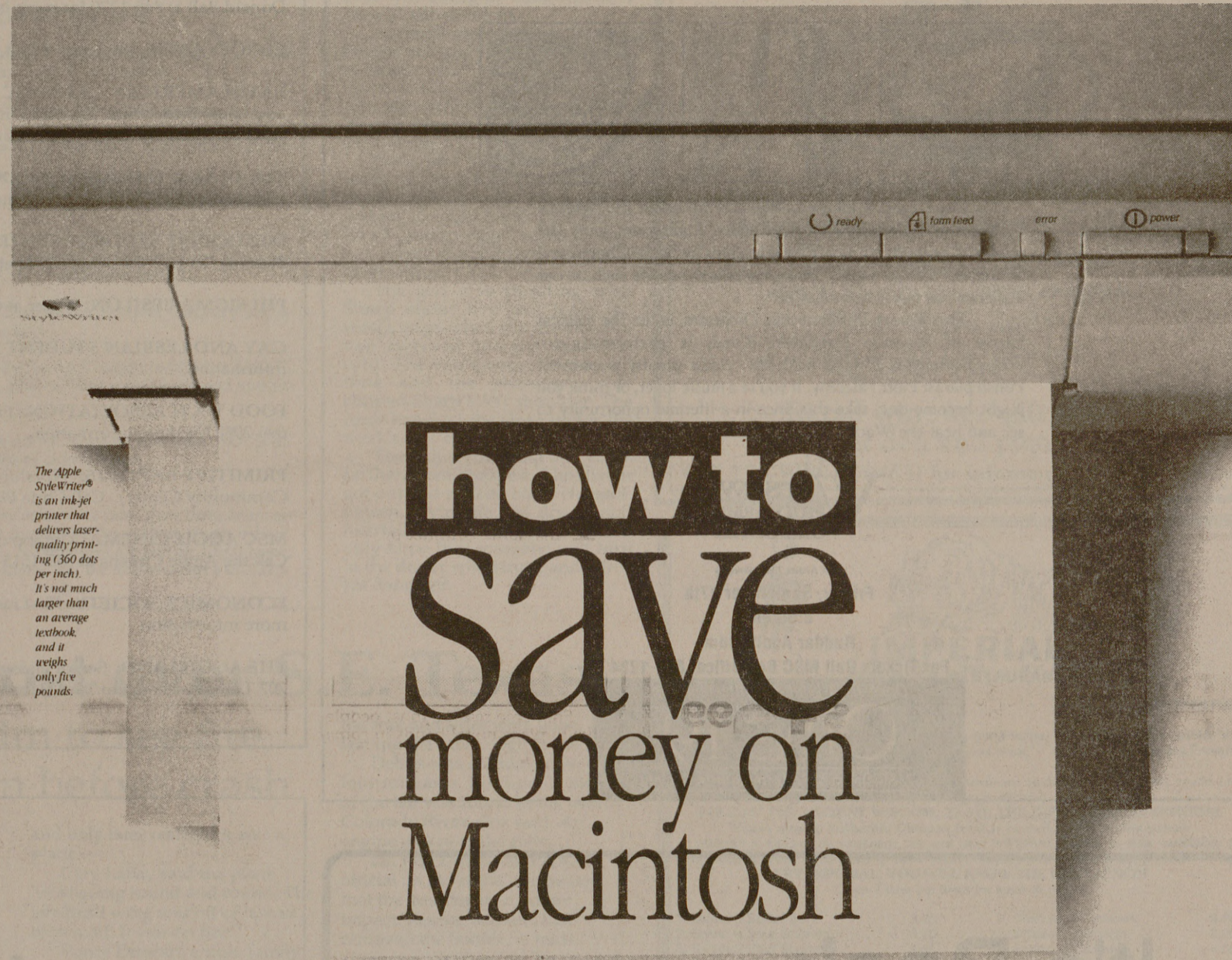
their metal edge.

The two new songs on the album, "Startin' Up a Posse" and "N.F.B." are the funniest and most cynical songs here. "Posse" provides a tongue in cheek acoustic ditty, using all the words designed to get themselves the coveted Parental Advisory sticker. As Steven Tyler said, "It always guarantees a few thousand extra sales."

"N.F.B." provides a typical rock ballad. I'll let you figure out the acronym. What's surprising here is that the song is done with a fairly straight face. Despite inane lyrics ("I never meant to hurt you/ Or sleep with all your friends.") the song is exactly like the Poison-slaughte-rnelson garbage that's been giving metal a bad name.

And besides, don't we get the same kind of lyrics by bands doing this seriously? Apparently the band wrote this song in 10-minutes to show how easy it is, but the scary thing is that if this was the next single it would probably make the MTV Top Ten.

In addition to these previous tracks, cover songs ranging from "Protest and Survive" by early '80s hardcore band Discharge to "Parasite" on KISS' "Hotter Than Hell" album and you've got the key to this album and Anthrax in general: variety.



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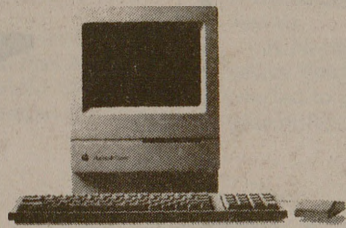
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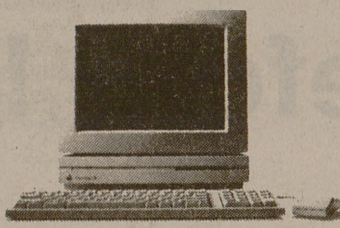
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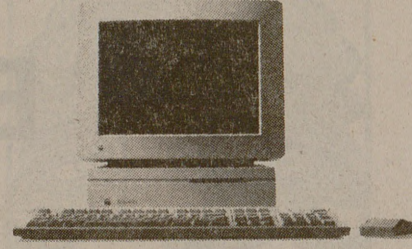
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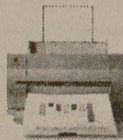
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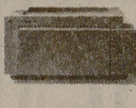
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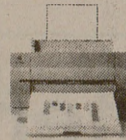
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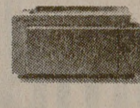
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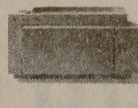
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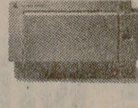
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### Sneakers

In College Station at 504 Harvey Road. Ages 18 and older admitted. Alcohol served. For more information, call 696-8888.  
Thursday - **Killer Bees**. Reggae. Starts at 10 p.m. \$5 cover.  
Wednesday - **Rif-Raf**. Rock. Starts at 9 p.m. \$3 cover for 21-years an older. \$4 cover for minors.

### Texas Hall of Fame

On FM 2818 in Bryan. Alcohol served. For more information, call 822-2222.  
Thursday - **Special F/X**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. \$3 cover.  
Friday - **Johnny Loud**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$5 cover.  
Saturday - **The Bradshaw Gang**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$4 cover.

### Equinox

Located at 329 University Dr. in College Station. Alcohol served. For more information, call 846-2496.  
Friday - **N the Rutz**. Rock. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$3 cover.

### Sundance Club

Located at 801 E. University Dr. in the Hilton. Ages 19 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-7500 for more information.  
Wednesday - **Texas Twisters**. Rock. Starts at 9 p.m. Cover. TBA.

## Comedy

Information is subject of change.

### Garfield's

Located at 1503 S. Texas Ave. Reservations recommended. Ages 21 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-1736 for more information.  
Thursday - **Robert York and Leonard Thomas**. Starts at 9 p.m. \$5 cover.

### Sundance

Located at 801 E. University Dr. in the Hilton. Ages 19 and older admitted. Alcohol served. Call 693-7500 for more information.  
Thursday - **Mitch Micheau and Scott Steehn**. Starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets: \$4 in advance, \$5 at door.

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