

ENDZONE

Endzone are a Lehigh Valley metal, rap, funk, punk band that just recently released their debut disc "Punt", on Really Big Records out of Allentown PA. Endzone is John (bass), Frank (drummer), Joe (guitar) and Jody (vocals). Interview conducted and stuff by Frank FOE.

FOE I understand someone works at Erv's.

END That's kind of how the band's final lineup took shape. Jody stopped off at one of his favorite watering holes (Erv's) where there are naked women dancing frequently, and John happened to be working at this establishment. John ended up talking to Jody when he was in the club. He was wearing a Punisher t-shirt in the club, and we're both into comics. So we got together through a common love of naked women and comics.

FOE Why the name Endzone?

END It has nothing to do with football. It was taken from a gay porno. We saw this box that had this guy making all these funny poses on it and the name came out of that. The disc is called "Punt", visually, I thought it would be funny to have a severed head on the cover and think about kicking it. A lot of the time I don't know if people get the joke, but as long as we get it. We like to have fun, and can laugh at ourselves. The lyrics are serious, but we still try to make the live show fun.

FOE How are sales of the new disc going, and how has the reaction been?

END I'm not really sure, but Dutch East India is distributing it in the US and Com Four is handling it overseas. Most of the reviews have been good, especially in the industry magazines. We gave our first demo away for free for 2 years, about 1,500 tapes. So that gave us a pretty big base to start from.

FOE What was the inspiration for the song "Think" off of the new disc?

END Chuck D of Public Enemy was giving a seminar up at Lehigh University. I'm a huge fan of Public Enemy. After the talk, I came out of there feeling like he hated every white guy in the world, I felt shunned by that. He came off like every white guy is against him. I just felt like relaying it myself. Hey, I'm with you, we're in the same boat. People called me a druggie or a loser because of the way I look. We have another song called "Think Again" which we wrote after we played with Mucky Pup at the Music Hall, with all the problems that went on there. The lyrics are blunt. I've always been a blunt kind of guy.

FOE How about the song "Gift From Dad". What does your Dad (Jody's Dad) think about the song?

END I don't know what he thinks about it. I was over there for the holidays. If my Dad feels any certain way about that song, it's just a reflection of our relationship, and he should know it as well as I do. That song is more of a self examination, than it is about my father. There have been times in my life when I've been in arguments, maybe with my girlfriend and then I think I'm being the same kind of asshole that my dad always was. My dad's got a lot of good things about him. I wrote it at a time when I left my house which wasn't on the best of terms. I don't want anyone to get the wrong idea.

FOE How do you feel about being in the magazine HIT PARADER?

END I felt like a pin up boy. Like win a dream date with Endzone. It's kind of a cheesy magazine but it's also something I grew up on, everybody I wanted to emulate was in that magazine, and I bought it every month. We're real happy about that. It was a thematic thing, where all of the songs were about abuse of some sort. It's weird when people come up to me at work saying they saw my picture. It's weird autographing cds and stuff. People at work are like, you guys are really making it, and I'm like, "I'm still working here!" Some guy came up to me at work and said hey you play with so and so, can I have your autograph? "What are you fucking nuts! I'm fucking cooking here, I don't want to overdo these fries!"

FOE In the song "Behavior Problems" one of the lines mentions something about you stealing someone's bike. Who's bike did you steal?

END It's funny, because a lot of things, it reflects back on me (Jody) as the singer, I will take certain situations, and put myself into it. I never stole a bike, in fact I had mine stolen.