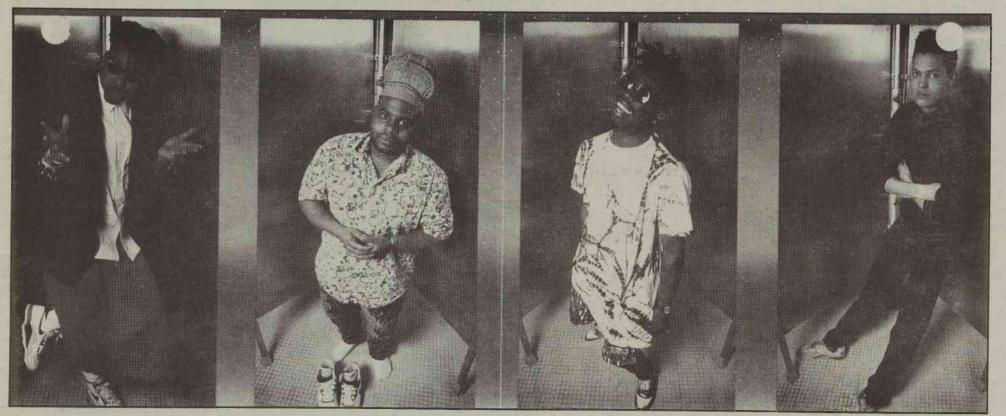
## **Band Profile: 24-7 SPYZ**



By Zach Hanner

Hold on to your dreadlocks kids. The funkiest, hardest, dopest jam masters are back...and straight outta Cali.

24-7 Spyz, one of the premiere black rock and funk bands in the nation, has Spyz have advanced into a top-notch put together their sophomore effort, musical band of the '90s. Gumbo Millennium, and it shows that they're more than a flash in a pan.

Often compared to crossover success Living Colour, this San Franciscobased group succeed in creating their singer Peter Fluid. Their cover of Kool own style and keeping it funky at the and the Gang's "Jungle Boogie" got same time. Following the lead of Living some serious rotation on MTV in the Colour and Bad Brains, 24-7 Spyz proves summer of '89. that a black band can crack into the punk/funk genre previously dominated hours in the studio making sure their by white groups like Red Hot Chili new product was as clean and jammin' Peppers and the new fan-faves, Faith No

The key idea to understanding and respecting this varying-from-the-norm style music is that art differs from person to person. Blacks advancing themselves in varying types of music should be encouraged, not denounced. And the

Spyz debut, Harder Than You, on In-Effect Records, was well-received by critics and funk fans alike for its harddriving bass and smokin' vocals by lead

It's obvious that the band spent long as their last. The first track, "John Canelly's Theory," opens up with a classic

Black Sabbath groove laden with thick the new. bass by bassist Rick Skatore. Skatore's muscle definitely pushes the band to much heavier horizons than the last album. Drummer Anthony Johnson works in perfect synchronicity with Skatore's pluck/thump style providing some def beats. Jimi Hazel holds things together with a solid guitar reminiscent of the late Hilel Slovak of Chili Peppers fame. Finally, Fluid's vocals paint a picture of how often the lives of the Spyz is spiced to its finest - 24-7.

Last Tuesday, the group opened for Jane's Addiction at Memorial Hall. The set was jumpin' the whole time the Spyz Eric B. & Rakim, the four masters of jam blasted out some of the best amplified work ever down in those old-style walls. It was a symbol of the new age invading

The Spyz don't play possum with their beliefs as is evident in lines like: "Niggers, crackers, 'Spics and Jews/ Words the Devil likes to use/ Hate is gonna slit your throat/hold your ground don't be abused." Words like these get across their philosophy of racial harmony without demeaning their house rockin' party ideal.

While flexing on most tunes, they do some artistic range on tracks like "We'll Have Power" and "We Got A Date" adding another dimension to an otherwise thrashing style.

If you're already a Spyz fan and were on stage. Movin' the crowd like happened to miss the concert, don't worry. Around spring time, the group will be back around the area, so keep your ears and eyes open. In the meantime, remember: Spyz is dope.



