

Album Charts

College Music Journal

1. Camper Van Beethoven  
*Key Lime Pie*
2. Red Hot Chili Peppers  
*Mother's Milk*
3. Sugarcubes  
*Here Today, Tomorrow ...*
4. Kate Bush  
*The Sensual World*
5. Primitives  
*Pure*
6. Mekons  
*... Rock-n-Roll*
7. Meat Puppets  
*Monsters*
8. Mighty Lemon Drops  
*Laughter*
9. Jesus and Mary Chain  
*Automatic*
10. Bad Brains  
*Quickness*

WXYC

1. Mekons  
*... Rock-n-Roll*
2. Mudhoney  
*Mudhoney*
3. Various Artists  
*Passion Sources*
4. Pale Saints  
*Barging into the Presence of God*
5. Lush  
*Scar*
6. Mommyheads  
*Acorn*
7. Muzsikas  
*The Prisoner's Song*
8. Les Negresses Vertes  
*Mlah*
9. Galaxie 500  
*On Fire*
10. Das Damen  
*Mousetrap*

If it ain't your thing, leave it alone

Ministry

A Mind Is a Terrible Thing to Taste

Sire  
●●●

It's hard to figure out what Tipper Gore is so worried about — the language “which may be objectionable to some listeners” is barely understandable anyway. And anyone who manages to listen long enough to get to the words is gonna be someone who, in all likelihood, doesn't particularly care about objectionable language.

Ministry's latest album, *A Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Taste*, is the sort of music that used to send my roommate into fits last year. Warning: this album is not for beginners. Unless you've had experience in listening to either punk or speed/thrash metal, don't even think about it. This music will put your head through the wall.

From the opening machine-gun guitar riffs of “Thieves” through to the bells and caterwauls of “Dream Song,” *A Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Taste* takes its listener on a musical ride through the twilight zone. This is an odd album. It defies classification and it defies explanation; it is instead an exercise in the extreme. It is a curiously uncomfortable, unsettling album — at times disjointed or monotonous, it has a pounding rhythm that insinuates itself into the body and brain. Kind of like one of those headaches where you can feel the dull, throbbing thud of the blood pounding in your temples.

ALISA DEMAO  
albums

The brainchild of Chicago-based Alien Jourgensen and Paul Barker, Ministry is the latest spokesband for an “assemblage of agro-rock practitioners around the world” known as the Tribe, a kind of Psychos From Hell Men's Association, which mixes music and band members in a free-floating sort of way. This means that any number of wonderfully psychotic alternative music commandos can be found on *Mind*, most notably guest vocalist Chris Connelly, from The Revolting \*\*\*\*\* and drummer William Rieflin.

Rieflin and bassist Barker infuse the rhythm section with a life of its own. Unlike so many other practitioners of today's seek-and-destroy, take-no-prisoners musical forms, these guys are more than merely back-up noise for guitar or vocal antics. On tracks such as “Burning Inside” and “So What” they are a tangible force, occasionally going so far as to overshadow Jourgensen's guitar.

This greatest strength is also the album's greatest weakness, unfortunately. “Cannibal Song” reaches the point of “Great beat, but where's the music?” “Breathe” is the best example of the tracks on which the group manages to achieve both this driving force and some kind of musicality, and is one of the best tracks on the album.

The most arresting song on *Mind* is “Dream Song.” The grounded ethereality of this song is summed up in



Ministry: 'Now where did we put that ax?'

a young girl's dream monologue, which ends with the question “Do you believe in angels?”

Ministry is gourmet music for the connoisseur. Well, maybe it's more like kinky sex. Either way, it's definitely an acquired taste. Like a trip through the looking-glass, in spite of all its oddities and distortions it is

curiously compelling. This is the type of music that gains a small core of nearly fanatical fans because people who like it absolutely love it. Everyone else absolutely hates it. If you are thinking about buying this album, get the music store to play it for you first. Or you might find yourself with more than you can handle.

'A winner never quits and a quitter never wins'

Black, Rock & Ron

Stop The World

Popular Records  
●● 1/2

Few people have heard of Black, Rock & Ron, a three-man rap group from New York, but after the release of their first album, *Stop the World*, the group may get the recognition they

BRYAN TUCKER  
albums

need. Although the album is mediocre in some aspects, Black, Rock & Ron have immense potential.

Black, Rock & Ron are two brothers and a third rapper. The group successfully produces a sound that spans all the way from a slow love ballad, “True Feelings,” to hard-and-lean rhythms such as “That's How

I'm Livin'.” Black does most of the rhyming, but Rock and Ron contribute on so many songs that the group sounds like Run-D.M.C.

Instead of talking to the listener, the rappers yell their way through such songs as “Black Is the Word” and “Getting Large”. This makes some cuts more annoying than powerful. However, most of the cuts will appeal to rap fans.

In the song “You Can't Do Me None” the listener is told, “We're not old school or new school but somewhere in the middle.” What they

mean is that their style is moderate, both danceable and hard. Perhaps Black, Rock & Ron should have stuck with one extreme or the other to give the album consistency.

*Stop the World* is surprisingly wholesome for rap music. Black, Rock & Ron thank God as well as their parents for success in making an album. The rappers do not curse or brag about how bad or how sexy they are. In “3 Brothers and Yvonne” they invite a girl named Yvonne to their hotel room, but she leaves because she is the only girl there. In the end, the

three rappers call it a night and go to sleep. The song is unusual because of its rejection of many rappers' need to show off. It makes the group unique.

One has to admire Black, Rock & Ron for their taste and dedication. “This album is the perfect example of fulfilling your destiny,” says Ron in “Rap Life.” The group's “a winner never quits and a quitter never wins” attitude is displayed throughout the album.

Sadly, *Stop the World* is crippled by poor sound and by inexperience. The message Black, Rock & Ron try to put in many of their songs remains unclear. Despite its good beat and serious potential, *Stop the World* will only make the world stagger a little.

**Mariakakis'**  
Restaurant & Bakery  
A Chapel Hill Favorite!

A friendly, family-owned restaurant serving superb Greek & Italian dishes • handmade pizza • beer & wine mixed drinks • desserts & pastas • banquet rooms

Serving Mon.-Sat. 11 am-9 pm  
15-501 ByPass, next to Eastgate Shopping Center  
942-1453•968-8610•(Across from the Holiday Inn)

**Lotus Inn**  
CHINESE RESTAURANT  
CHINESE GOURMET DINNER BUFFET  
EIGHT MAIN ENTREES  
All the SHRIMP, BEEF, CHICKEN & ORIENTAL VEGETABLES You Can Eat  
PLUS Fried Rice, Egg Rolls & Fried Wontons  
ALSO, LUNCH BUFFET \$4.95 MON-FRI.  
Hwy. 54 • 967-4101

**\$200 OFF**  
Dinner Buffet For 2  
with coupon only expires 12/7/89

What The Ratings Mean

- — miserable
- — mediocre
- — enjoyable
- — quite good
- — unmissable