Bands-

## Hard punk, hard rock bands blast into Cat's Cradle

## By ALLISON PIKE Staff Writer

was no other voice like Johnny Rotten's and that heavy rock had succumbed to makeup and leopardskin pants, along comes Defenestration and The Bags, who promise to blast Cat's Cradle away on Feb. 9.

Webster's Dictionary defines defenestration as a throwing of a person or thing out of a window. The name sounds appropriate for a band whose vocalist croons, critics say, in an undeniably Johnny Rotten fashion. In Boston's next Aerosmith, and The fact, Rockpool calls Tyson Todd Bags don't mind. Meade "another graduate of the Rotten School of Vocal Bombast."

Critics compare their punk-influenced well lately." brand of rock to the Who, PIL American Music Club.

"D.Y. Wanna (bubblegum)."

Meade is a vocalist after Johnny's stylistic means. heart, but maybe a taste of Meade's night."

Also blowing into the Cradle what I call hard rock." Tuesday is a powerful trio from critics.

Wood and drummer Jim Janota don't like to use any specific label for their Just when you thought that there sound, which they call a "hard-rock, garage-pop, heavy-metal-like blend." The March issue of Playboy compares The Bags' blend to the Ramones, Husker Du, and early Kiss.

> "You wouldn't believe how often we're compared to Kiss," Hardy said, laughing. "But I think we're musically more sophisticated than Kiss. We go for the pure hard rock 'n' roll sound."

> Other critics have called them

"I'm all for it," said Hardy. "They were the first band I was into when Defenestration hails from Norman, I was a kid. I'd heard of them before Okla., and features vocalist Meade, I'd ever heard of Led Zeppelin. They guitarist Todd Walker, bassist Joe were a big adolescent influence for Kollman and drummer Page Royse. me. It's nice to see them doing so

But The Bags don't like to be (Rotten's latest band) and the lumped in with the commercialized hard rock bands that prevail in the The band will stop at the Cradle media. The members admit that they Tuesday in support of their latest LP, have a hard-core influence in their Dali Does Windows. The album music, and they make it plain that includes songs like "Tripping Drag they will never change their sound Queens," "Bedlam Revisited," and to attract a huge commercial audience. "We would never do that," Johnny Rotten fans can judge for says Hardy. "We're not in it to get themselves Tuesday whether or not any audience beyond our musical

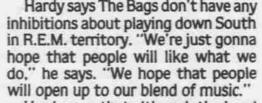
'Our sound is more reminiscent of lyrics will help: "Precious stretches of the late '60s-early '70s psychedelic tenderloin. Chicken hanging from the sound than of the '80s soft-focused light. This is drag queens ladies rock. It's like old Black Sabbath, Led Zeppelin and Aerosmith — that's

The Bags are now on the road Boston, The Bags. The band has only supporting their recently released been playing together for a little over debut LP. Rock Starve. The LP is two years, but their energetic blend selling well in the Northeast and The of rock is winning the favor of music Bags hope that the added exposure of their national tour will increase Bassist Jon Hardy, guitarist Crispin their listeners. This is The Bags' first

Defenestration will play Cat's Cradle Feb. 9 tour out of New England and Hardy Hardy says The Bags don't have any

says the band is looking forward to coming South. But the Feb. 9 show is their only stop in North Carolina. Afterwards, they will be traveling to South Carolina and other spots east of the Mississippi. In another month they will be heading out to the California-Texas area and finally up to Canada.

CHAPEL HILL



Hardy says that although the band is aggressive, it is far from being the harshest band around. 'We play in an aggressive manner

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like Husker Du, the Ramones and Bad Brains," Hardy adds. "We don't want to alienate people. It just so happens that we like distorted sounds and raunchy vocals."

