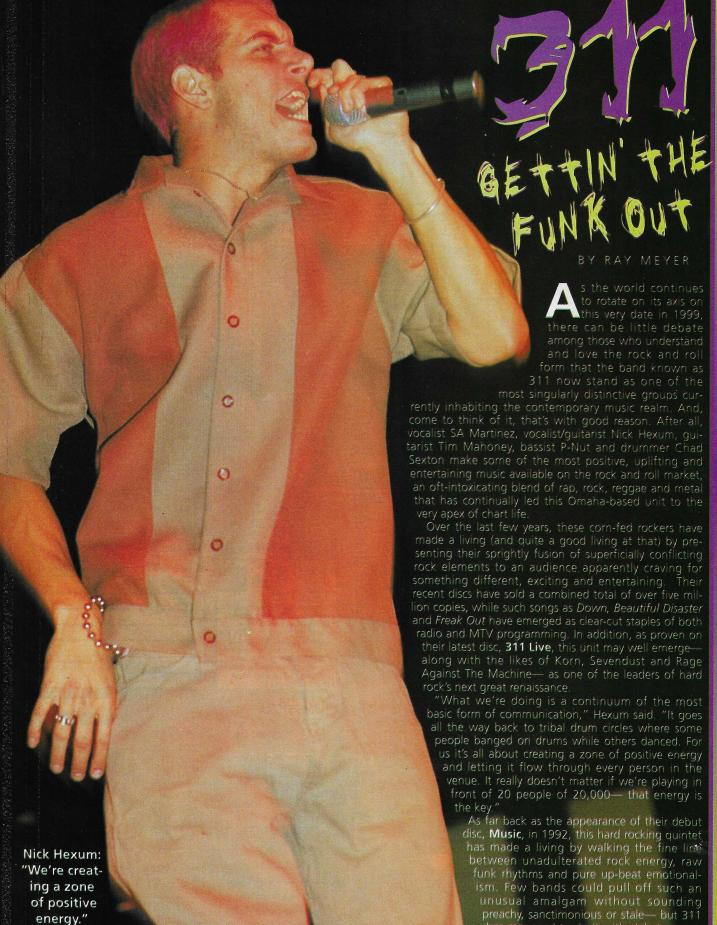
has managed to do it with style to spare



On both their 1993 disc, **Grassroots** and on their breakthrough 1995 outing, **311**, the band further refined their admittedly unusual approach, honing it to near cutting-edge perfection. By the time their 1997 effort, **Transistor**, rolled along, these guys were already well aware that they had emerged as one of the most visible, important and influential bands of their generation. But true to their grass-roots style, such a realization has had little impact on 311's good-time aspirations and focused determination.

"We've never looked over our shoulder at anyone or anything," Sexton said. "We've always believed that good things

were going to happen to this band ever since we started. You've got to have confidence to come from a place vehicle for satisfying the band's long-time fan base, and as a perfect introduction to the group's style for those just jumping aboard the 311 ship. All the expected fan faves are here, from the propulsive energy of Homebrew to the rock-steady rhythms of Omaha Style, all presented just the way 311 want their audience to hear them. That in itself stands as a major victory for this too-often-bootlegged unit.

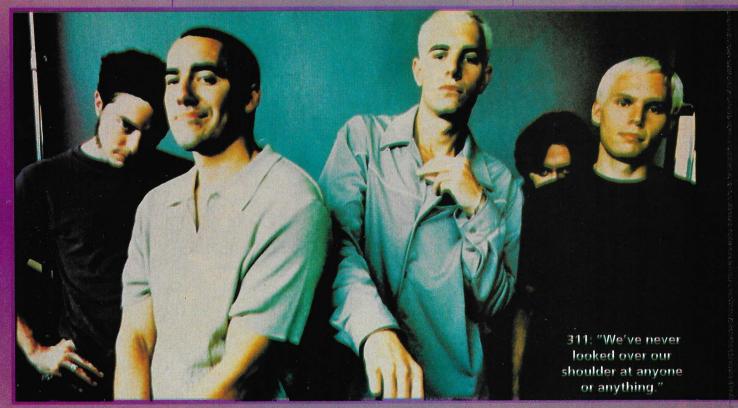
"We've really had a lot of people bring recording equipment to our shows and make their own tapes," said Hexum. "There are some really poorly recorded 311 bootlegs that are available illegally on a pretthat there are indeed to be no artistic or commercial limitations to be recognized by this special unit— and nothing could make the members of 311 happier.

"Rock and roll should never be exclusionary," Sexton said. "For years it seemed as if certain fans had this kind of music and other fans had that kind of music; city kids liked one thing and suburban kids liked something else. There's no reason that those fans can't enjoy a lot of the same music— as long as they're exposed to it. MTV has helped by playing a wider variety of artists in recent years. That's opened people's eyes and ears to the fact

that it's never 'white music' or 'black music', rather it's 'good music' or 'bad music.'"

It would seem from Sexton's

"What we're doing is a continuum of the most basic form of communication."



like Omaha and believe that you're going to make it in the music world. We knew there would be difficulties, but we've been very lucky. We know that, and we appreciate that. But I can honestly say that we've always believed that there's nothing capable of standing between us and the goals we've set for ourselves."

With their ever-growing fan base, as well as all segments of the rock media, now firmly in their corner, it's easy to understand 311's confident attitude. Response to **311 Live** has been uniformly positive from virtually all segments of the rock world, with the metal, pop and hip-hop communities all recognizing familiar elements housed within the band's slew of instantly infectious songs. Recorded during various stops along the group's 1997 world tour, this 14-song inconcert collection serves as both an ideal

ty wide-spread basis. We just decided that by professionally recording and mixing our own shows, we could officially release something we are really proud of."

As they've returned to the road, touring throughout Europe and America in support of Live, the members of 311 have been confronted by hordes of racially mixed, radically supportive fans all of whom have been drawn together by the band's rich blend of contrasting musical influences. Quite simply, there's something for everyone housed within the high-intensity grooves of 311, and that's just the way these guys want it to be. After touring the world over with everyone from Kiss to Beck to the Wu Tang Clan, 311 realize that they are in a unique position to reach beyond the limiting bounds so often placed on a hard rock band. It would seem words as if the members of 311 certainly have their heads screwed on straight. With the success of **311 Live** they have added yet another glowing chapter to their fast-growing book of rock and roll conquests. On a scene too often filled with angst-rid-dled, self-possessed and short-sighted artists only concerned with their own status in the music world, 311 have come along to prove that a band can have a liberal artistic approach, a bold social consciousness, and an up-beat attitude while still maintaining their rock and roll credibility. That alone should be enough of an accomplishment for any band.

"We've always believed that a 311 show is a real experience, and this recording captures the essence of that experience," Hexum said. "This is our way of thanking the fans for their continued support."