

# BIOGRAPHY



## 311

("Three Eleven")

Nicholas Hexum -- vocals  
Chad Sexton -- drummer  
P-Nut -- bass  
Timothy J. Mahoney -- guitarist  
SA -- vocals

**M**usic. It's the best way to describe 311's unorthodox, unconventional debut album of the same name. One of the freshest, most daring young bands in modern music, 311 incorporates a full range of styles to accomplish the seemingly impossible - a rapping, rocking, reggae, rhythmic album, with a style and substance decidedly their own.

This Omaha, Nebraska, band's sound simply defies description, even while it exceeds expectations. When vocalist Nicholas Hexum, guitarist Timothy J. Mahoney and drummer Chad Sexton graduated from high school together in 1988, they formed a group called Unity, throwing away the stereotypical categories of most bands. After an unfortunate breakup (due to a keyboardist who didn't work out and Hexum's departure for Germany) the band luckily reunited as 311, with added members P-Nut on bass and SA on vocals.

311 made their debut opening for alternative favorites Fugazi on June 10, 1990, at Sokol Hall in Omaha. The electrifying performance sparked a fervent local following, and 311 released their first self-produced album, *Dammit*, soon after. The band's second album, *Unity*, was a best selling local release that consolidated



Capricorn Records 120 30th Avenue North / Nashville, Tennessee 37203-1308 / (615) 320-8470 / FAX (615) 320-8476  
Warner Bros./Reprise Records 3300 Warner Boulevard / Burbank, California 91505-4694 / (818) 953-3223 / FAX (818) 846-8474  
75 Rockefeller Plaza / 20th Floor / New York, New York 10019-6908 / (212) 275-4500 / FAX (212) 275-4595  
1815 Division Street / Post Office Box 120897 / Nashville, Tennessee 37212-0897 / (615) 320-7525 / FAX (615) 329-1739



their growing reputation. Continuing on the trail to total diversity, *Hydroponic* followed four months later. 311 continued to play locally, selling out show after show, until they eventually moved to Van Nuys, California, in search of a higher calling.

The unique, high-energy sound of 311 first caught the attention of Capricorn Records in March, 1992. "We were very taken with them. They flow from genre to genre with such ease, but not at the expense of their musicality," explains Don Schmitzerle, Capricorn's vice president and general manager.

"We're part of a new school that says you can put anything and everything in music," Hexum explains. "New school bands do it their own way." Who belongs in the new school? "Bands that take as many styles as they want and know no boundaries - like Urban Dance Squad, the Beastie Boys, Bad Brains... and 311."

Featuring such songs as "My Stoney Baby," "Hydroponic" and "Freakout," all 12 mesmerizing songs on *Music* highlight an exciting mix of what 311 likes to call "rock-style rap." Incorporating a jazzy, melodic pace, "My Stoney Baby" is impelling and risqué. High-paced "Do You Right" is new-style salsa, sure to start your feet grooving. "Paradise" begins with an engaging guitar riff, slows into a melodic, reggae chorus, and then cranks it with a heavy metal barrage, further demonstrating 311's unrestrained musical style.

"I'd like it to be the party album to end all party albums," Hexum says of *Music*, produced by Eddy Offord (who worked with Yes). "*Music* will be the album that people put on when they get together and want to have a good time," he predicts enthusiastically. "Just as Led Zeppelin brought blues to a diverse audience in the 1970's, 311 will bring rap to fans of all types of music in the 90's."

"Don't try to label 311 or try to compare us to anyone else," Hexum insists. "Terms are just shortcuts to listening to the music and figuring it out for yourself."