## IN YOUR FACE

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## **HIVE NEWS**

The HIVE held its first contest in 1996, awarding an autographed photo of the band to each person who submitted proof of a 3/11 birthday. There were 17 winners (and several of the UGLIEST driver's license pictures you have ever seen). The winners were:

| Heather Brash    | Wayne NJ         |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jeff Butterworth | Easton PA        |
| Todd Craig       | Roswell GA       |
| Melissa French   | Tempe AZ         |
| Ruth Greenbaum   | W.Hampton NY     |
| Darren Jacques   | VA BeachVA       |
| Ryan Kleeman     | Overland Park KS |
| Rich Lassiter    | Clinton SC       |
| Tim McCoy II     | Lee's Summit MO  |
| Dave Nickel      | New Brighton MN  |
| David Perez      | Dallas TX        |
| Shawn Richards   | Ogden UT         |
| Lauren Satterlee | Atlanta GA       |
| Marta Sokolawski | Mt. Prospect IL  |
| Sue Beth Stull   | Topeka KS        |
| Yvonne Weber     | Santa Rosa CA    |
| Sandy Ziplow     | Bloomfield CT    |

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

### HIVE TRIVIA

Of the 8,546 names on the HIVE mailing list, over 1,153 (over 13%) are from the state of California. Other well-represented states include: Georgia (479 names); Louisiana (431 names); Virginia (424); and Missouri (421). Over 800 names are added each month from the Hotline, direct mail and referrals from 311 fans. Every piece of HIVE mail is carefully read. We appreciate your comments and suggestions.

"I love it when the only sound that I hear is your infectious laughter. I will hear it again in 800 years if I'm still lucky."

# faq

We are often asked what equipment the guys are currently playing.

guys are currently playing.

PNUT 2 sm900 SWR amps
2 goliath 4x10 cabs
2 18's cabs
boss hyper fuzz
nady wireless
2 warwick streamer 5 string
basses

CHAD Orange County drums
Roland octapad
Sabian cymbals
vic frith sticks

Remo heads
NICK gibson les paul

ada 2 pre amp
4x12 mesa boogie cabs
Power mac w/visions midi
software

Roland JV 1080 sound module AKAI sampler & drum machine Nord keyboard

tape echo,Rhodes, Epiphone jazz guitar, clavinet,

TIM 2 PRS standard guitars alvarez acoustic mesa boogie strategy 500 2 4x12 cabs

SA 2 technics 1200 turntables bunktronics mixer

percussion

And the guys are currently listening to:
PNUT Frank Black, NWA and Monster Magnet

CHAD John McLaughlin, HR and Prince

NICK Fugees, Dub reggae, trip hop, old punk

TIM Old Bob Marley, old punk, Phish, Kenny Burrell, Viva Santana video

SA Old school reggae and hip hop, funk

An independent survey of hard-core fans revealed that FREAK OUT is the #1 most popular song; GRASS-ROOTS is the #1 album (so far!).

### 311 tour info 402-731-3110 joan8904@aol.com

## 311 has played

an awesome number of concerts in the past 6 years. (Remember that June 10th is the band's 6th anniversary!) We've attempted to compile a list of bands that they have played with during that time. Here is an admittedly partial list compiled by fans from all over the world: Fugazi, Yardapes, Phunk Junkees, The Urge, No Doubt, Dogg Eat Dogg, Smashing Pumpkins, Shootyz Groove, God Lives Underwater, The Nixons, Secret Skin, Heros and Villains, Violent Femmes, Reverend Horton Heat, The Kind, Fever Trees, Boingo, Beef The Millions. Curtain, Electric Sky, Dag, Slugworth, Cellophane Ceiling, Spider Monkey, KORN, The Cramps, Sunflower, Mr. Mirainga, Big Ass Truck, Cypress Hill, The PHARCYDE, 10,000 Maniacs, Kents, Adam Ant, Live, Stuck Mojo, Squirltribe, Man or God, Spacehog, Everclear, Monster Magnet, Lucy's Fur Coat, Doo Rag, Helmet, X, Sublime, Voodoo Glow Skulls, Rancid, Hole, MC 900 Ft. Jesus, 1000 Mona Lisas, Sunflower, Ritual Device, Tripping Daisy, Salmon, Lord of Word, Disciples of Bass, Public Enemy, Goo Goo Dolls, Stone Temple Pilots, Confidentials, The Samples. Green Day, Downset, Fifth of May, Lords of Brooklyn, Extra Fancy, Xtra Large, Kill Creek, That Statue Moved, Punkinhead, LA.Ramblers. Iris Anvil, Solefish. Turquoise Sol. Jimmie's Chicken Billygoat, Sinister Dane, The Shack, Psychodelic Zombiez, Giant Peach, Cadillac Tramps, Black Happy, King Missle, and Trip 66.

#### DAILY NEWS (NY)

Rap has expanded far beyond its origins, adapting to any music with a beat. A well-matched double bill brought 311, from Omaha and Los Angeles, and the Phunk Junkeez, fromPhoenix, to the Academy...Each band included two rappers; they rhyme and sing to neo-hippie rock (311) or to harsher hard rock (the Phunk Junkeez), both geared to dancers.

During 311's set...the music pulls together cannabis-compatible styles from Grateful Dead shuffles to Jamaican ska and dance-hall. Verses are rapped, choruses sung, as 311's lyrics risk self-contradiction by trying to merge hip-hop cockiness with hippie benevolence.

...like the Dead, 311 weakens most of what it borrows from black music; its rapping is anemic; its reggae lacks gravity. The song chugged along, monotonous despite the changing grooves. Yet fans who came to dance got their quota of rhythm.

#### Union Tribune (San Diego)

Although the first single, "Don't Stay Home," has received moderate airplay on alternative radio stations, Count SA said that the band does not depend on radio airplay for its sense of self-esteem. "We don't care about radio airplay because no one will make the band except the band and that will happen by touring," said Count SA. "The Grateful Dead set the example of how you should do it, and subsequent bands like R.E.M. hit stride after lots touring...Kids love the fact that a band isn't exploited and is still kind of a secret."

#### WARP Magazine

...311 has traveled like nomads for the past five years, migrating from Omaha, Nebraska, to Los Angeles in 1992. Now the group...has moved out of its house and simply lives on the road. The payoff hasn't come yet...but for Hexum, touring provides the most satisfaction. He hopes the band can maintain a cult following and doesn't envision selling millions of albums and becoming the next Green Day or Offspring.

"We don't play punky pop rock, which MTV is all over. We think our time is a little more down the road. I would like to be like the Grateful Dead," adding that the band played a song by the Dead on the night after singer-guitarist

Jerry Garcia's death. "The Dead always focus on their live shows and have people who travel around to see them. They're very successful, but they did it without hits and mainstream press. As far as how they approach the business side, they can't be beat."

311's music has a hip-hop vibe that compares with that of the Beastie Boys, but its eclectic influences and positive attitude distinguish it in the world of skate music. The band appeals to the skateboarder/surfer/snowboarder crowd, but doesn't cop a bad-ass attitude. If 311 has any kind of message to offer, it's one that urges its fans to avoid violence.

"We get a lot of fan mail from people who appreciate what we're trying to do," Hexum says. "Our audience is generally people like us who don't fit into any specific group," he explains. "There're stoners, skaters, and all kinds of suburban kids. It's not only white males; there's a lot of diversity. If you only appeal to one special group, you limit yourself. I think if I express all the different sides of my personality, someone will relate."

#### IRISH EYES (Metairie LA)

311 did not seem like just a band playing on stage; they were partying right along with the crowd. They looked like they were having the most fun, dancing around, getting into the songs, and interacting with the audience.

The craziest one on stage was SA Martinez, who was getting funky, rapping, and stirring up the crowd all at the same time. The music lost none of its quality by being live; in fact, it was actually better. They played their songs with an intensity which can't be felt on a CD.

Their first show in New Orleans was only \$1.50, this last one was \$16. They don't seem changed by their popularity, but their ticket prices do.

#### THE BEAT (Highland IN)

For those of you who haven't been subjected to 311 yet, let me be your salvation. The band's new self-titled release, in a word, "sucks." (It's not even worth the flowery journalistic banter.)

Musically speaking, the band

has some worth. Alas, vocalist Nick Hexum and Count SA (what kind of name is that anyway?) sound like 10 year-olds imitating the Beastie Boys. Let me also add that lyrically they have the verbal skills of Dan Quayle.

If nursery rhymes became the "new sound," then the song RANDOM would make millions. (I truly hope we haven't become that hard-up.) The track ALL MIXED UP offers a lame attempt at reggae that would make any Marley fan cry with laughter.

About the only rewarding factor of this CD is the semiinteresting six panel inlay. Which leads me to believe that this is just a bunch of rich kids trying to make it big. The music will only make you hunger for something better. (Rating: 3) BOSTON GLOBE

Indeed, the band's 70 minute set rocked. The monster bottom of bassist P-nut and drummer Chad Sexton steadily propelled the lithe rappers.

#### 99X Magazine

And you should not get intellectual about a band this guided by the funk. They bow before the funk; they pray to the funk--so much that it's easy to miss what the band has to say.

On their debut album aptly titled MUSIC, we discovered what a well-timed funk/rap machine they are. The follow-up GRASSROOTS showed they can experiment with the unknown. 311 is the result of a reviewed spirit, a bolder and more accurate statement of who 311 is collectively.

SOUTHWEST STANDARD (Springfield MO) "311 isn't Top 40, But who cares?"

CAVALIER DAILY (VA)

"Aliens, other dimensions influence 311."

#### MORE HIVE NEWS

We're planning on offering back issues of IN YOUR FACE in the near future. Check the hotline or the Update Letter for info. Over 40,000 callers have used the HOTLINE since its inception in August '93.

The average fan is 19+ years old and is named Mike, Chris, Matthew, Dave or Brian (guys) or Jennifer, Amy, Chris, Michelle or Jessica (gals).

#### CDimas from TX:

"It was beautiful. They played awesome. Doug and Nick were great with their singing and dancing. PNut is the coolest bass player I have every heard, seriously. Tim and his guitar rock and Chad played his drums like a maniac. It was wonderful. I was right in the front where all the s\*&^ was going on... But I enjoyed every minute of it. I can't explain the feeling that came over me when they started playing. They put on a great show. The Pharcyde was cool but when 311 came on after them, the crowd just want crazy. I seriously did not know that they were that popular."

#### TIM on AOL:

"Last night was one of the best nights I've had in a long time! I saw 311 for my third time, it was crazy! They opened with HOMEBREW (my favorite song) and played most of their best songs. If anyone who likes 311 hasn't seen them yet, you're missing out."

#### SUSU on AOL:

"The show was incredible. They opened with HOMEBREW and finished with IN YOUR FACE. All of the songs were a beat slower and a lot harder, but the crowd loved it. They didn't play either of their radio singles, which I personally thought was pretty cool. I was up at the front against the rail. (Yeti said I was the only person, especially girl, who was rockin' to the entire concert.) After waiting five months to see them again, it was definitely worth it. I was more pumped up than I have ever been in my whole life."

#### TABITHA on MTV:

"Another 'HORDE' guest act, the multi-ethnic reggae-funk band 311, has caused some inadvertent controversy in its hometown of Omaha. Nebraska. Two schools have banned the wearing of 311 t-shirts, because two African-American students plained that since 'K' is the 11th letter of the alphabet, the band's name could signify 'KKK,' as in the Ku Klux Klan. The band denies that, saying, 'The only people worth hating are organized haters, like the KKK.' 311, by the way, is made up of four white members and one Latino. Omaha police say no incidents have been connected to the 311 name, and they have no comment on what the band says is the name's actual inspiration: police code for indecent exposure.'

#### MATT ARONOWITZ in NY:

"Saw 311 at the Roxy in Huntington on Valentine's Day with Shootyz Groove and Trip 66. There was a lot of love and moshing in the building."

DR. FINDLEY (Westside High School, Omaha NE)

"TO: Homeroom Teachers

Please explain the following position Westside High School has taken dealing with the 311 issue.

We recognize the Band did not intend the number 311 to be a racial slur. However, due to the fact that some of our students interpret the meaning as a racial slur we have banned shirts with the insignia 311. It is important that we are all sensitive to how things can be perceived regardless of their intent. We need to remind ourselves that a perception is real to the perceiver. As always, we want every student to feel physically and psychologically safe when they attend Westside High School."

Matt LeMieux (Executive Director of the ACLU, Nebraska Chapter) as quoted in the Omaha World-Herald:

"It seems to me that...a discussion between the students who see the shirts as being racist, and the students who want to continue wearing the shirts would go much further toward improving race relations in your school, and in the community as a whole. Clearly, a total ban on the shirts will do nothing to further such relations."

#### ERIKA in KS:

"After seeing your recent show at Memorial Hall in Kansas City, my enthusiasm for 311's music was heightened. I had the good fortune to meet Nick Hexum's mom while waiting in line for the restroom. It was very cool to see how dedicated and excited she was about seeing the show."

#### ERIC in NJ:

"Recently I made a huge change in my life for the better. I believe the positivity in your tunes helped me stay afloat when it seemed I might drown in negativity. You've proved to me there is always a way out, even when things seem hopeless. I pulled up the reins before I smothered. I believe wisdom comes to me from many avenues and you guys certainly have your share."

#### CHELSEA on AOL:

"All right, this is my idea. I am in Astronomy, and we have to do summaries on magazine articles about space. I came across an extremely interesting idea...about this gal who is an astro-physicist and a musician. She has an album out called "Music from the Galaxies." It is radio wave signals from space translated into music...it seemed right up 311's alley. Totally cosmic, no?" TERRY in MD:

"I was just writing you guys a letter of appreciation for all that you have gotten me through. You've opened up my mind and musical mainframe in many aspects. I hope that the band stays tight and you all keep the vibe flowing on to your next album.. whenever that might be released.

#### JAKE in NY:

"Alane just told me that last night a Boston station on its 'love it or shove it' segment played DOWN. Usually the songs got about 40-60%. DOWN got a 94% LOVE IT- a new record!"

#### ANONYMOUS on AOL:

"The last time I saw 311 at the Filmore in SF will probably be the last time I pay money to see these guys live. The funk has been completely erased by a heavy handed metal riff while the groove has been replaced by something sounding like gangsta rap. At this last show I wanted to send the guys a note telling them to turn back before it's too late. The soul is gone... It's just too bad they had to give up the stuff that made them unique to gain the popularity that they have today."

#### HELEN MARTINEZ in NE:

(Omaha World Herald Letter to the Editor) "As a mother of a member of the alternative rock group 311, I am absolutely outraged that anyone can suggest that the group is associated with the Ku Klux Klan. 311 has worked long and hard to achieve its status in the musical world. It is mindboggling that these hard-working, incredibly talented young men can be so maligned by an undocumented rumor. The Ku Klux Klan is a vile and disgusting organization, but unsubstantiated rumors are also vile and disgusting. One just needs to listen to 311's lyrics to know that the group opposes hatred, guns and violence. The group's members have good Midwestern values, and those values have not been lost."

