

THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS

7 OCT
\$2.50 US
\$3.00 Canada
UNAUTHORIZED AND PROUD OF IT
REVOLUTIONARY

HARD ROCK

COMICS

**THE
RED HOT
CHILI
PEPPERS**



SMITH
STROGAN



Our Music Talks...

OLD

HOT

HOLLYWOOD

LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA, 1975. THE STREETS OF HOLLYWOOD PRACTICALLY BREATHE SEX, DANGER AND EXCITEMENT.

ELEVEN YEAR OLD ANTHONY KIEDIS HAS RECENTLY MOVED FROM HIS MOTHERS HOUSE IN MICHIGAN TO L.A....



...But Our Rocks Smell Like Socks!!!

WE READ THE STUFF TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WE MEANT

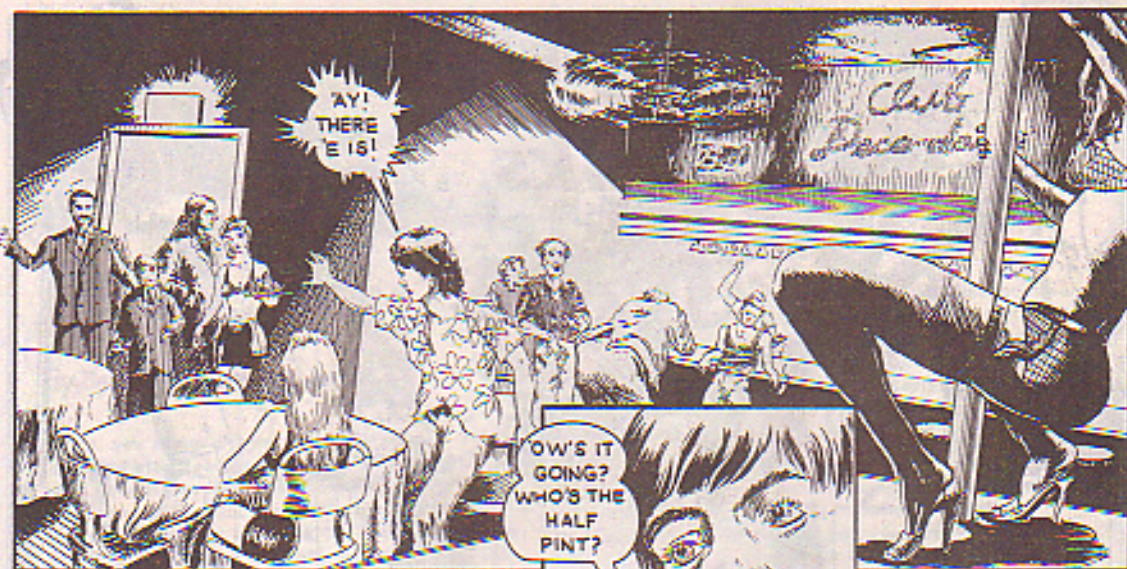
STORY: SPIKE STEFFENHAGEN

ART & LETTERING: MARSHALL ROSS



TODD LOREN PRESENTS

... WHERE HE LIVES WITH HIS FATHER. DAD GETS HIM INTO THE BEST CLUBS AT AN EARLY AGE. HE ALSO INTRODUCES HIM TO ROCK LEGENDS.



FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL,
1980. FUTURE CHILI
PEPPERS ANTHONY,
HILLEL SLOVAK, JACK
IRONS AND FLEA TALK
BETWEEN CLASSES.

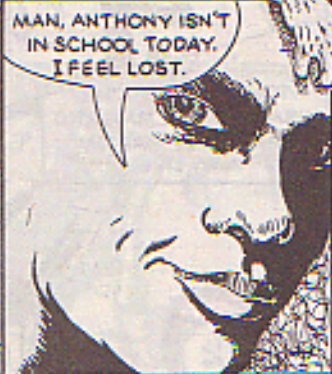
SO ARE WE
ON FOR
PRACTICE
TONIGHT?

YEAH, WE'VE
GOT A SHOW
IN TWO
WEEKS!

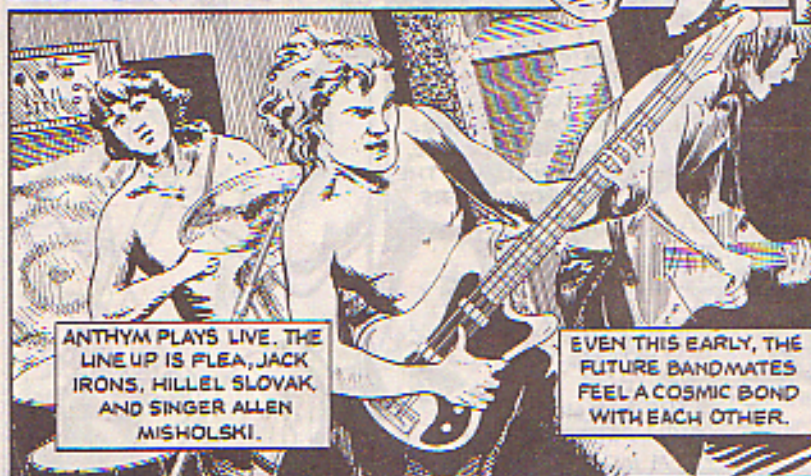
YOU GUYS SOUND
LIKE A CROSS
BETWEEN QUEEN AND
RUSH.

THINK YOU
NAIL THE
TEACHERS WITH
A MUGGERS!

"SPLAT"
PSA



FLEA LEAVES ANTHONY TO
JOIN FEAR. ANTHONY
AND FLEA ARE NOW
ROOMMATES.



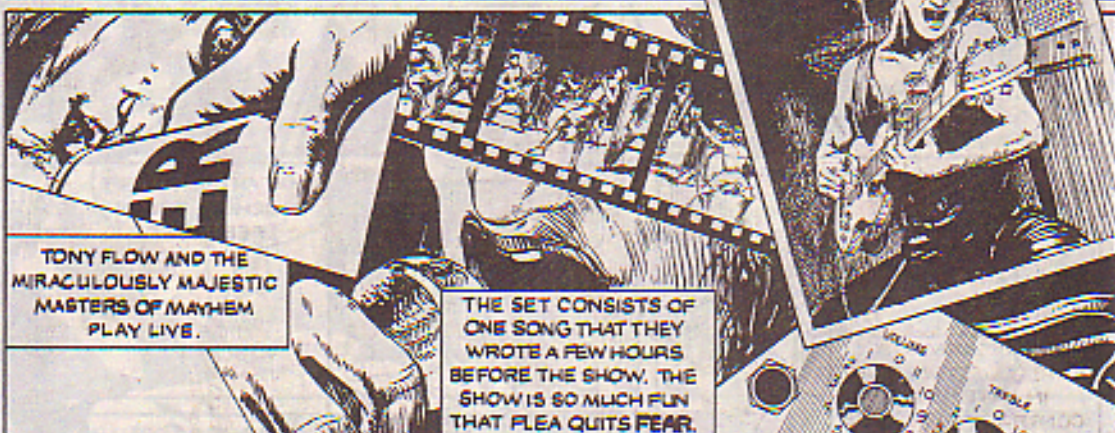
ONE NIGHT WHILE TALKING TO A FRIEND, THE COSMIC PUZZLE FALLS TOGETHER.

I KNOW YOU'RE HAVING FUN WITH FEAR, BUT WHY DON'T YOU DO A SHOW WITH HILLEL AND JACK WITH ANTHONY AS A FRONT MAN?

YEAH, THAT COULD BE FUN.

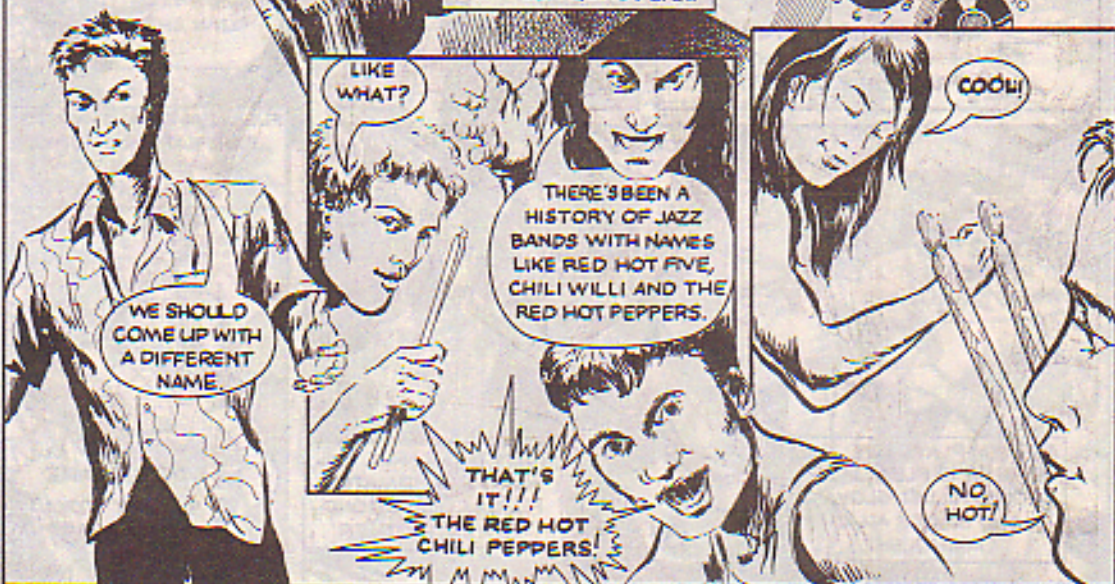
SINCE WE'VE BEEN GETTING INTO FUNK, MAYBE WE COULD PUT THAT IN WITH OUR PUNK INFLUENCES.

I'LL CALL THE OTHER GUYS AND SEE IF THEY'RE INTO IT.



TONY FLOW AND THE MIRACULOUSLY MAJESTIC MASTERS OF MAYHEM PLAY LIVE.

THE SET CONSISTS OF ONE SONG THAT THEY WROTE A FEW HOURS BEFORE THE SHOW. THE SHOW IS SO MUCH FUN THAT FLEA QUITS FEAR.



LIKE WHAT?

WE SHOULD COME UP WITH A DIFFERENT NAME.

THERE'S BEEN A HISTORY OF JAZZ BANDS WITH NAMES LIKE RED HOT FIVE, CHILI WILLI AND THE RED HOT PEPPERS.

COOL!

THAT'S IT!!!

THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS!

NO, HOT!



WORK BEGINS ON THE ALBUM. ALTHOUGH THE BAND CHOSE THE PRODUCER, THEY FIND IT HARD TO TAKE SUGGESTIONS.

WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY...

THE PEPPERS SHOW THEIR FEELINGS ABOUT ANDY'S PRODUCTION WITH A GIFT.

WHAT!
IT'LL SOUND LIKE CRAP THAT'S WHY!!

'RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS' IS RELEASED IN 1983. THE QUARTET HITS THE ROAD, PLAYING MOSTLY TO PUNK CROWDS. THEY ALSO PARTY HARD!

GO! THIS

THE BAND VENTURES INTO THE STUDIO AGAIN. THIS TIME THEY WORK WITH THE LEGENDARY GEORGE CLINTON.



YEAH, KEEP THAT VIBE GOING.

*YET ANOTHER 703 PIONEER OF PUNK-FUNK.

...NICE AND SMOOTH...



MAN, IF ANYONE ELSE TRIED TO TALK TO ME WHILE I WAS PLAYING I'D TELL THEM TO GET LOST.

BUT NOT HIM!



ANYTHING HE HAS TO SAY IS WORTH HEARING.



GEORGE IS ONE OF THE GREATEST MUSICIANS IN THE WORLD. HE'S MADE SO MUCH BEAUTIFUL MUSIC.

HMM, THESE BOYS ARE PRETTY FAIR... ROUGH, BUT THEY'VE GOT STYLE!

HE'S SO UNTOUCHABLE... LIKE NOBODY CAN EVER TAKE WHAT HE'S DONE AWAY FROM HIM.

MORE TOURING FOLLOWS. LIFE ON THE ROAD HAS BECOME ONE BIG PARTY, ONE BIG DEADLY PARTY.



KILLER STUFF, DUDE.

THE CHILI PEPPERS ARE A PRODUCT OF L.A.. THEY LOVE THE CITY AND TEND TO MISS IT WHILE ON THE ROAD. WHEN THEY RETURN, THEY SUPPORT THEIR FAVORITE BASKETBALL TEAM, THE LAKERS. (WHO ELSE?)



IN 1987, THE UPLIFT MOFO PARTY IS RELEASED. THIS TIME, PRODUCTION IS HANDLED BY MICHAEL BEINHORN.

THE DISC MARKS THE TURNING POINT FOR THE BAND. NEW FANS ARE GAINED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER HEARING THE ALBUM.

WE REPRESENT THE HOLLYWOOD KIDS, ORGANIC ANTI-BEAT BOX BAND...

THEY COVER DYLAN'S "SUBTERRANEAN HOMESICK BLUES"...

THESE GUYS ARE GREAT?

JOHNNY'S IN THE BASEMENT MIXING UP THE MEDICINE, I'M ON THE PAVEMENT THINKING ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT...

A SECRET TRACK IS BURIED ON THE DISC. I CAN'T REMEMBER THE NAME OF IT...

BUY THE DISC AND LOOK FOR IT, DUDE!

IN 1968 THE ABBEY ROAD EP IS RELEASED. ALTHOUGH THEY WANT TO APPEAR NUDE, THEY ARE UNABLE TO.

THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS



YEP, THEY AIN'T WEARIN' NUTHIN' BUT COCKS AN' WE AIN'T GONDA ZHOW IT! BUY THE ALBUM IF 'N YA WANNA ZEE THE STUFF. SIGNED ~~THE CENSOR~~ THE CENSOR2

THAT'S COOL. WE FOUND A WAY AROUND THAT.

WE WORE SOCKS ON OUR ROCKS!

THE ABBEY ROAD EP

THE ALBUM COVER COMES TO LIFE WHEN THE BAND PLAYS THEIR ENCORE.



THAT'S A PRETTY LAME WAY TO GET ATTENTION.

YOU'RE JUST INVITING THE CENSOR'S WRATH!

IT'S NOT ABOUT ATTENTION. IT'S ABOUT FREEDOM.

THE AUDIENCE GETS THE VIBS. I REMEMBER THINKING: IF MUSIC MAKES ME SO EXCITED THAT I FEEL COMPELLED TO THRUST BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE FLOOR, IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL TO MAKE PEOPLE FEEL THAT WAY WITH MY MUSIC.

ALTHOUGH THE AUDIENCE GETS IT, THE BAND IS STILL RELATIVELY POOR.

AT A FESTIVAL IN FINLAND, THE BAND SHOWS ITS RESPECT FOR THE HEADLINING GROUP—THE RAMONES.

ONE,
TWO,
THREE,
FOUR!

WHAT THEY WANT,
I DON'T KNOW,
WE'RE ALL REVVED UP
AND READY TO GO...

WHAT?!?

AFTERWARDS...

HEY
YOU!

THAT WAS THE MOST
UNPROFESSIONAL
THING I'VE EVER
SEEN !!!

WE DIDN'T MEAN
IT TO BE
INSULTING.

WE LOVE
THE RAMONES

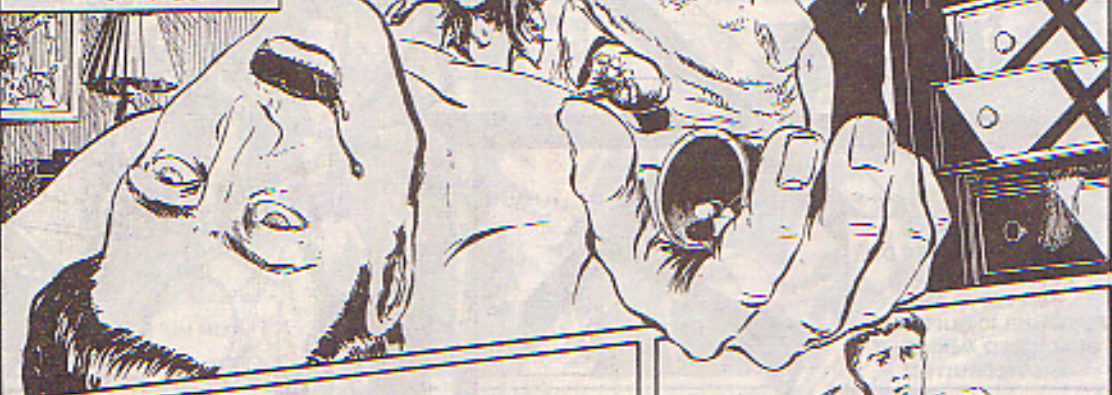
YOU'LL NEVER
GET AWAY
WITH THIS!

ACTUALLY...

...I FOUND
IT RATHER
AMUSING.

YOU
WOULD!

ON JUNE 27, 1968, HILELL HAS HIS LAST HIGH. HE IS FOUND IN HIS APARTMENT, DEAD FROM AN OVERDOSE



DAMN IT. I MISS HIM SO MUCH...

NOTHING WILL BE THE SAME WITHOUT HIM.

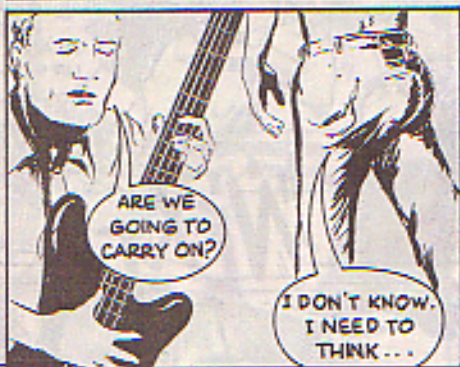
... I CAN'T GO ON WITH THE BAND. I JUST CAN'T.

WE UNDERSTAND...

TAKE CARE.



I KNOW. LOOK GUYS...



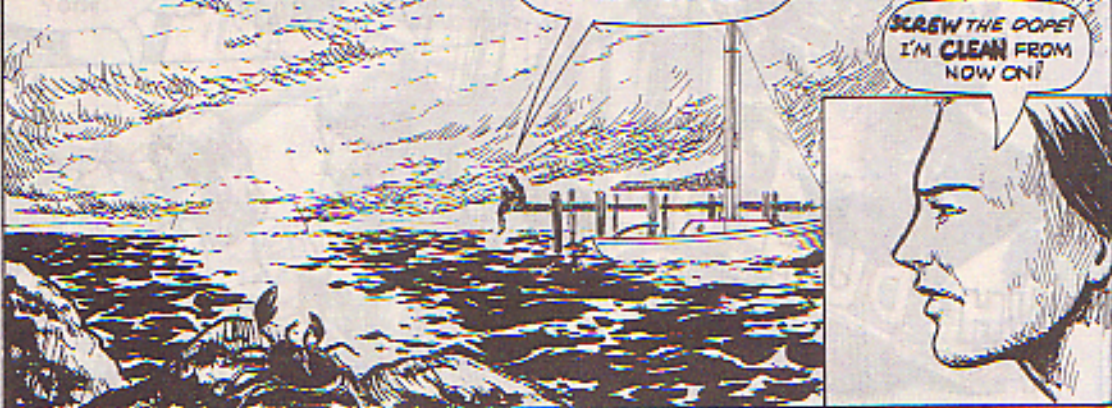
ARE WE GOING TO CARRY ON?

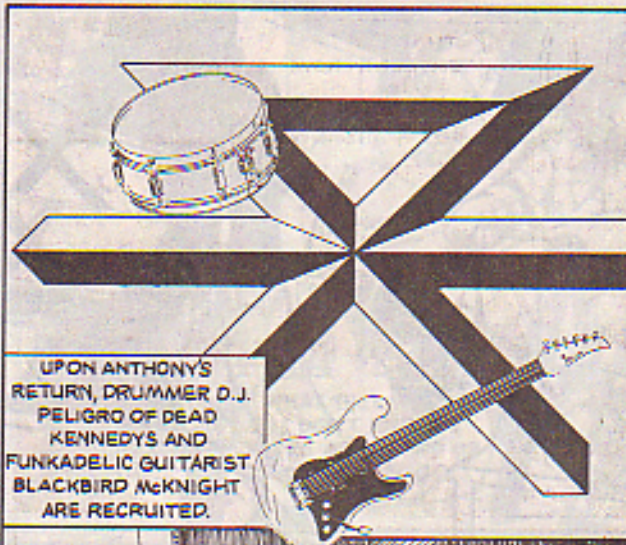
I DON'T KNOW. I NEED TO THINK...

ANTHONY RETREATS TO A SMALL FISHING VILLAGE IN MEXICO.

HILELL WILL ALWAYS BE A PART OF US, NO MATTER WHERE HE IS.

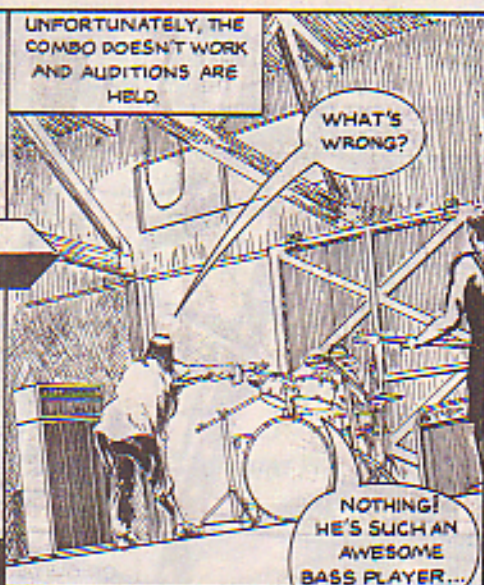
SCRAB THE DOPE! I'M CLEAN FROM NOW ON!





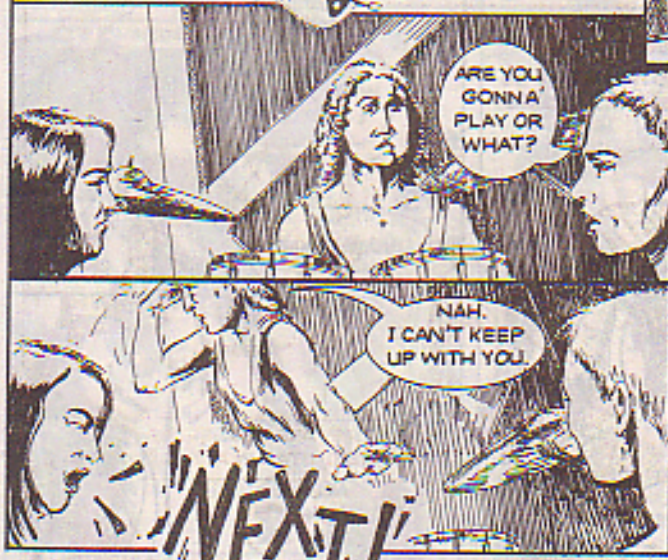
UPON ANTHONY'S RETURN, DRUMMER D.J. PELIGRO OF DEAD KENNEDYS AND FUNKADELIC GUITARIST BLACKBIRD McKNIGHT ARE RECRUITED.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE COMBO DOESN'T WORK AND AUDITIONS ARE HELD.



WHAT'S WRONG?

NOTHING! HE'S SUCH AN AWESOME BASS PLAYER...



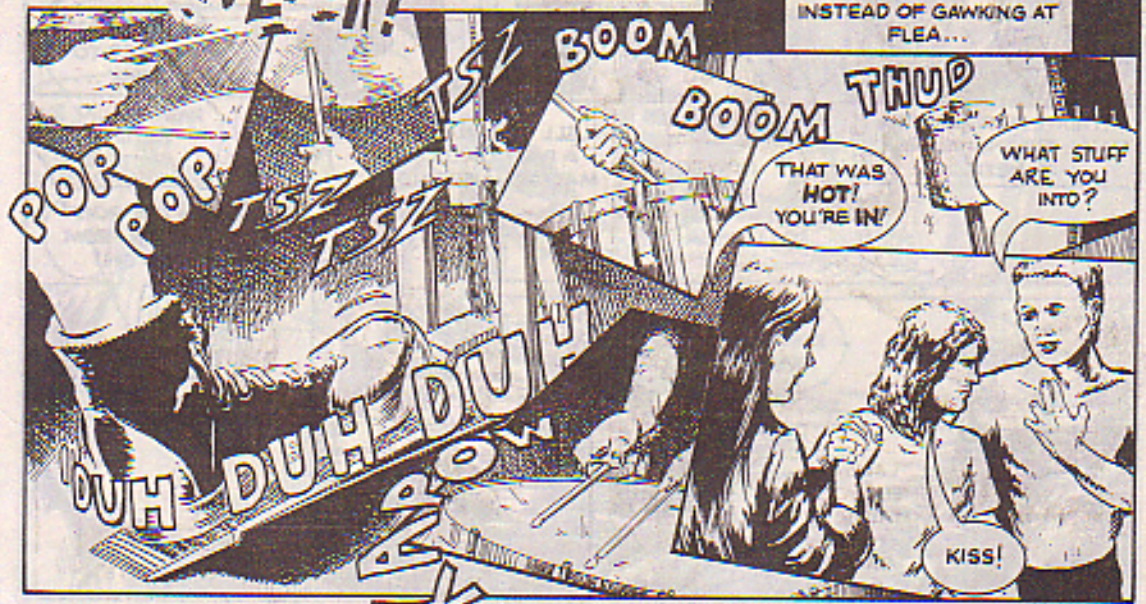
ARE YOU GONNA PLAY OR WHAT?

NAH, I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH YOU.

NEXT!



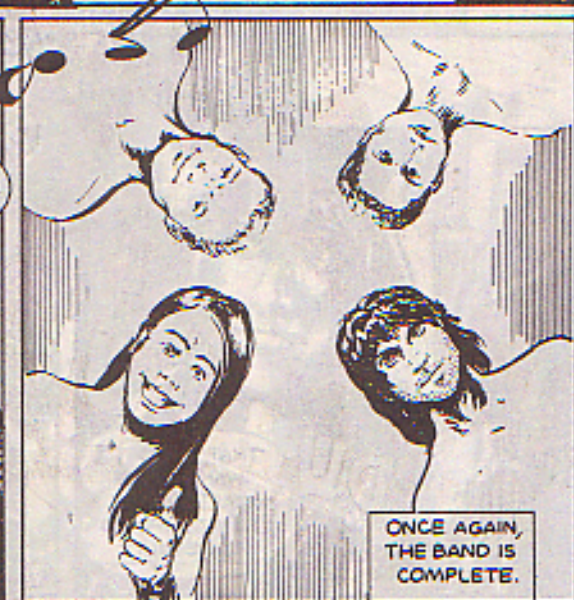
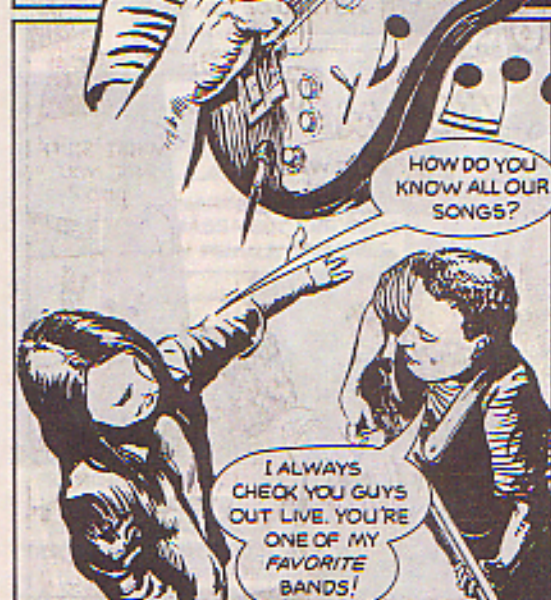
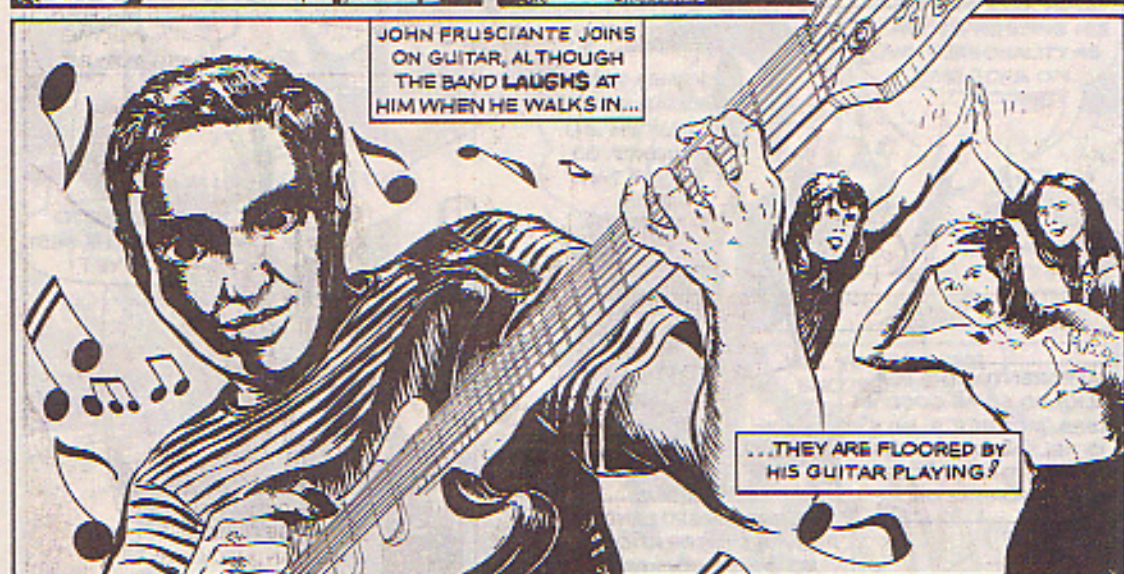
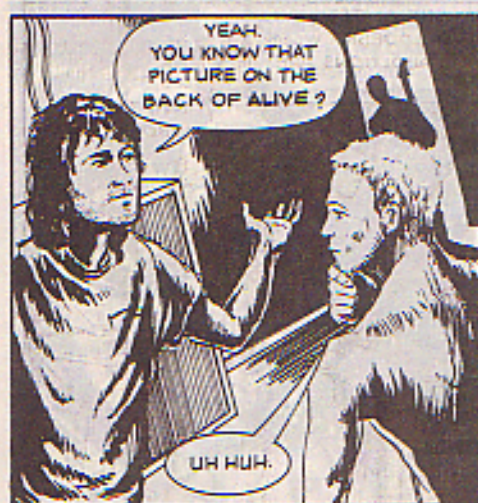
ONE DRUMMER, CHAD SMITH, GETS BEHIND THE SET AND KICKS ASS INSTEAD OF GAWKING AT FLEA...

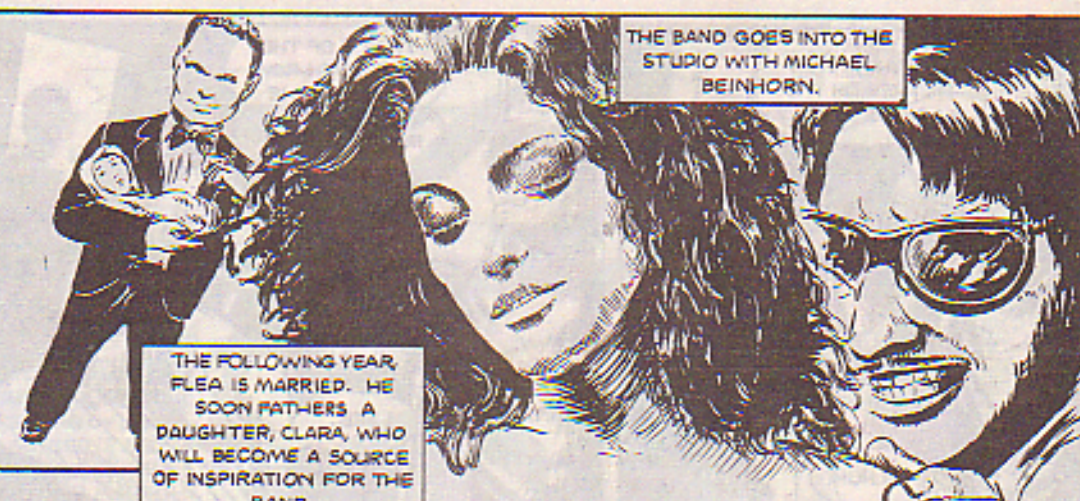


THAT WAS HOT! YOU'RE IN!

WHAT STUFF ARE YOU INTO?


KISS!



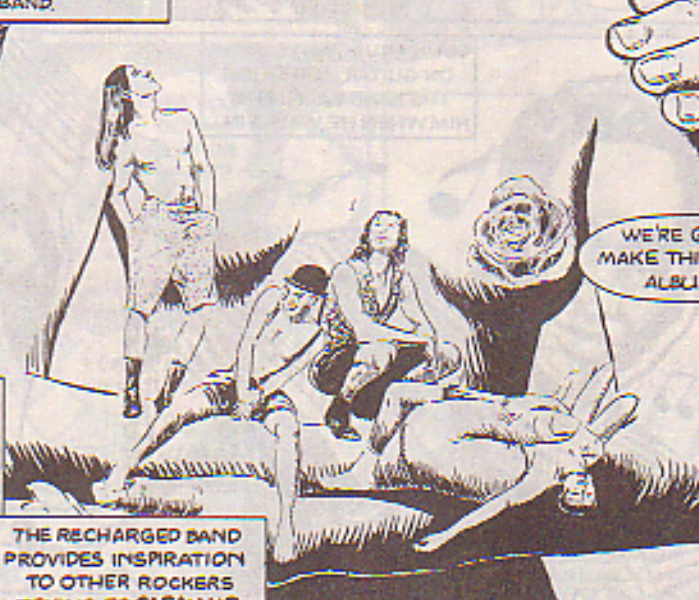


THE BAND GOES INTO THE STUDIO WITH MICHAEL BEINHORN.

THE FOLLOWING YEAR, FLEA IS MARRIED. HE SOON FATHERS A DAUGHTER, CLARA, WHO WILL BECOME A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION FOR THE BAND.




WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THIS THE BEST ALBUM YET!

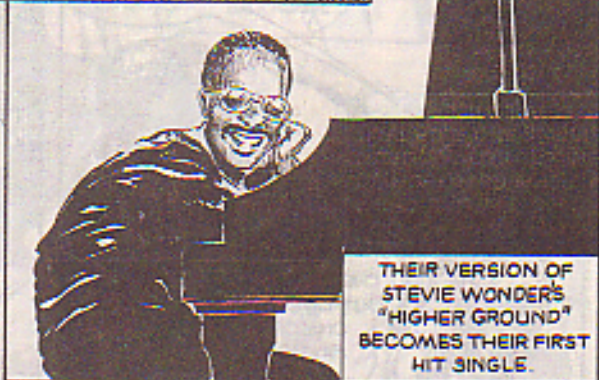


APPARENTLY THE PEP TALKS DO SOME GOOD. IN 1989, 'MOTHER'S MILK' IS RELEASED. IT GOES ON TO BE THE FIRST GOLD ALBUM FOR THE GROUP.

THE RECHARGED BAND PROVIDES INSPIRATION TO OTHER ROCKERS TRYING TO CLEAN UP.



THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO BE LIKE! THEY'RE LIVING LIFE TO THE HILT!



THEIR VERSION OF STEVIE WONDERS' 'HIGHER GROUND' BECOMES THEIR FIRST HIT SINGLE.

THANKS TO THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS' GROUND BREAKING, A NEW WAVE OF FUNK/PUNK/METAL BANDS BEGINS ROLLING IN.

FOR THE SAKE OF SELLING A FEW EXTRA MAGAZINES, SOME ROCK "JOURNALISTS" ATTEMPT TO START A FEUD BETWEEN THE BANDS.

ARE YOU A FAN OF FAITH NO MORE?

I LIKE THE GUYS AS PEOPLE, BUT I DON'T GO OUT OF MY WAY TO LISTEN TO THEIR MUSIC. SO I GUESS I'M NOT A HUGE FAN.

SO HE STOLE FROM YOU.

I DON'T THINK THEIR MUSIC IS ANYTHING LIKE OURS. I'M SURE HE'LL START EXPRESSING HIS OWN PERSONALITY AS TIME GOES ON.

HE ACTS LIKE YOU...

THAT CAME OUT OF ADMIRATION FOR US. HE WAS IN A COVER BAND, SO THAT'S WHAT HE KNEW.

I DON'T THINK THEY STOLE ANYTHING FROM US.

WILL YOU BE DOING ENCORES NAKED?

NO. IT WAS A GREAT IDEA, BUT UNFORTUNATELY PEOPLE ARE SO FREAKING SHALLOW, THEY COULDN'T CONNECT IT WITH THE CONCEPT OF FREEDOM.

CHARGES OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT ARE MADE BY FEMALE FANS.

HELP!!!

CHAD MEETS
LONG TIME
IDOL
PETER CRISS.*

MAN, YOU'RE
GREAT!!

THANKS!
IT'S NICE TO
KNOW THAT SOME
OF MY FANS HAVE
PURSUED THEIR
DREAMS.

* OF KISS (WATCH)

SPRING BREAK

SPRING, 1990.
THE PEPPERS PLAY
A LIVE SET AS PART
OF MTV'S SPRING
BREAK SPECIAL.

ONE THING LEADS TO
ANOTHER AND FLEA ENDS
UP IN THE CROWD
WRESTLING A FEMALE
FAN.

AS RUMORS OF ONSTAGE
RAPE LEAK OUT, THE
GOSSIP SPREADS LIKE
WILDFIRE.

THEY HE
PUMPED HER IN
THE TUSH ONSTAGE!

I THOUGHT
HE JUST
RIPPED HER
SHIRT OFF.

NO, YOU'RE BOTH
WRONG. HE DRAGGED
HER BACKSTAGE, CUT
ALL HER CLOTHES
OFF, AND FORCED
HER TO SMELL SOME
SEAT CUSHIONS !!

COOL!

GASP!

WE NEED TO CHANGE RECORD COMPANIES.

I AGREE. WE'RE BASICALLY BEING IGNORED BY EMI.

THE NEW STUFF WE'VE WRITTEN IS PHENOMENAL! IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT TO LET THEM DESTROY IT.

I DON'T THINK THEY MEAN TO. THEY JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND IT.

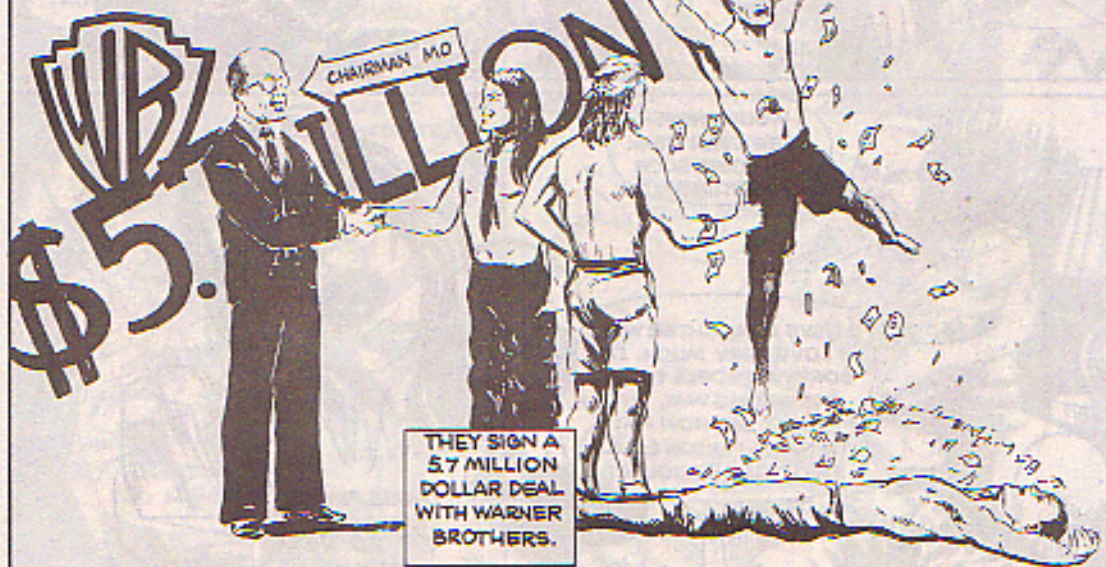
AFTER BEING HEAVILY COURTED BY SEVERAL LABELS, THEY GO WITH EPIC. HOWEVER, THEY REALLY LIKE WARNER BROTHERS CHAIRMAN MC ASTIN, WHO CALLS AFTER HEARING THE DECISION.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR CAREERS. I WISH YOU HAD SIGNED WITH US, BUT I WISH YOU THE BEST.

THAT WAS THE SIGN OF A CLASSY GUY. A REAL GENTLEMAN.

YOU KNOW, HE SIGNED HENDRIX.

MAYBE IT WOULD BE WORTH IT TO GO WITH SOMEONE WE REALLY LIKED.



THEY SIGN A 5.7 MILLION DOLLAR DEAL WITH WARNER BROTHERS.

AT THE OFFICES
OF MUSICIAN
MAGAZINE...

WE WANT TO DO A
KIND OF ADVICE
COLUMN "ASK THE
CHILI PEPPERS".

I WANT YOU
TO THINK
OF THE MOST
OUTRAGEOUS
ANSWERS TO
THESE
QUESTIONS.

SHOOT

5:27

MY BABY CRIES ALL THE
TIME. HE DRIVES ME
NUTS. WHAT SHOULD
I DO?

TIE UP THE
BRAT AND
LEAVE IT
IN THE
CLOSET.

WHEN THE ISSUE HITS
THE STANDS, THE
COMMENT DRAWS MANY
ANGRY LETTERS.

I WOULD NEVER
EVER EVEN THINK
OF DOING SUCH
A THING.

I HAVE A DAUGHTER WHO
I LOVE VERY MUCH. I'M
SORRY IF PEOPLE TOOK IT
THE WRONG WAY, BUT I
CAN'T SEE HOW ANY
THINKING PERSON COULD
TAKE THAT SERIOUSLY.

THOSE PEOPLE
CAN ALL
GO TO HELL
THEY'RE
IDIOTS!!

AS WORK ON THE NEXT ALBUM STARTS, IDEAS FOR A PRODUCER ARE DISCUSSED.

I DON'T KNOW...

C'MON. RICK RUBIN DID SOME GREAT STUFF ON THE BEASTIES' ALBUM.

BUT HE'S INTO THAT SLAYER TYPE STUFF. WE'RE REALLY AN EXPLOSION OF POSITIVE ENERGY.

AFTER SOME DEBATE, THEY GO WITH RUBIN.

YOU DON'T LOOK THAT EVIL!

EXCUSE ME??

YOU'VE WORKED WITH SOME GREAT PRODUCERS, BUT THEY'VE NEVER CAPTURED YOUR LIVE SOUND.

TRUE.

I DON'T THINK YOU DO WELL IN AN ANAL-RETENTIVE STUDIO ENVIRONMENT. I THINK YOU NEED A PLACE TO CONCENTRATE.

THERE'S A HOUSE IN WEST HOLLYWOOD, A MANSION. WE COULD RECORD YOU THERE. YOU COULD MOVE IN!

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?

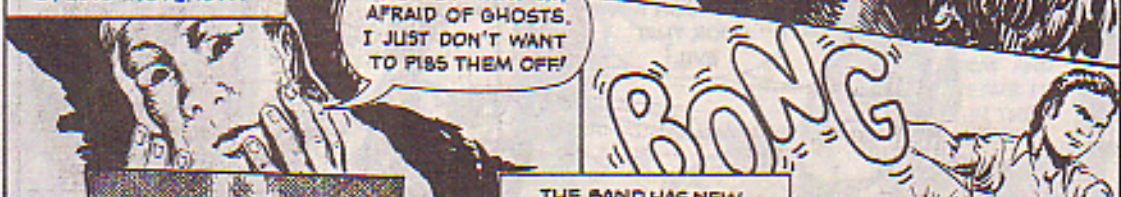
THAT SOUNDS INTERESTING!

IT COULD BE... THE PLACE IS HAUNTED!



THREE QUARTERS OF THE BAND MOVE IN. CHAD COMMUTES TO THE STUDIO INSTEAD...

IT'S NOT THAT I'M AFRAID OF GHOSTS. I JUST DON'T WANT TO FISS THEM OFF!



THE BAND HAS NEW FREEDOM TO DO WHAT THEY WANT FROM USING SHEET METAL FOR PERCUSSION ON "BREAKING THE GIRL"...



... TO THE INSPIRED VERSION OF ROBERT JOHNSON'S "THEY'RE RED HOT" BEING SUNG AROUND A FIRE.

THESE LYRICS FOR "UNDER THE BRIDGE" ARE GREAT! SING THEM FOR THE BAND.



I'M KIND OF EMBARRASSED THEY'RE PERSONAL...



THE BAND IS AMAZED. THE SONG MAKES IT TO THE ALBUM.

I DON'T EVER WANT TO FEEL... LIKE I DID THAT DAY...

CLARA PROVIDES
INSPIRATION...

SHE'S SO
BEAUTIFUL.

SHE'S A
FREE
SPIRIT...

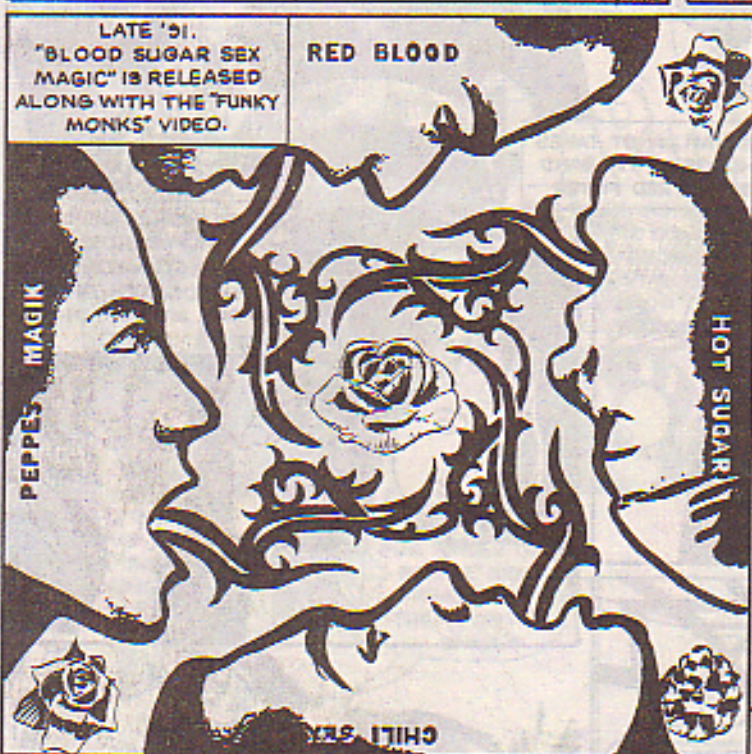
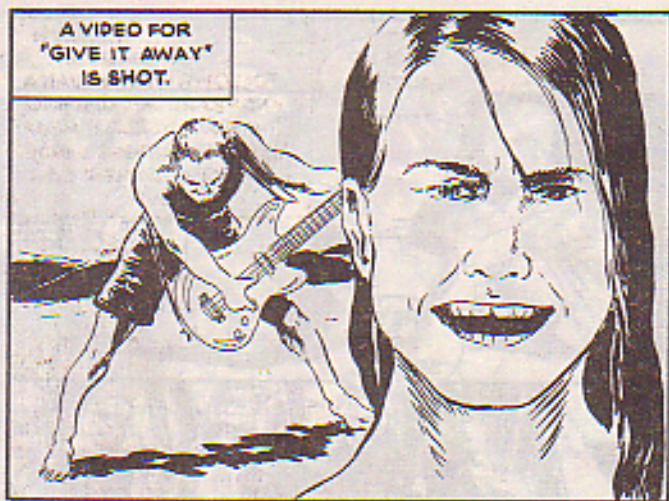
GUS VAN ZANDT TAKES
PHOTOS OF THE BAND
USING A RED FILTER.

RED FILTERS ARE USED
BY PARANORMAL
INVESTIGATORS TO
PHOTOGRAPH GHOSTS.
ONE APPEARS IN THE
PHOTO.

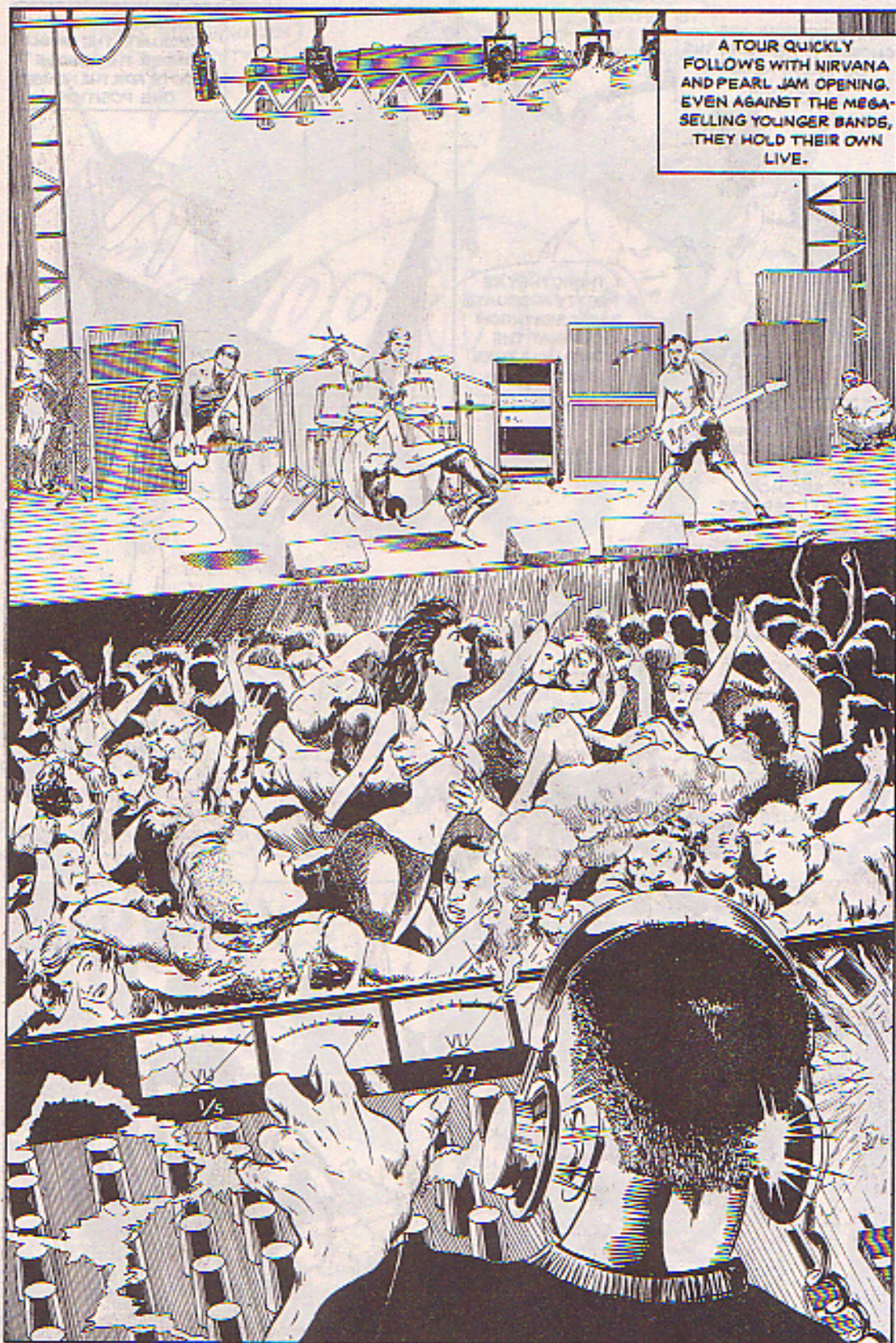
THE RECORDING
SESSIONS ARE FILMED
AND LATER RELEASED ON
THE "FUNKY MONKS"
VIDEO. AS THE
SESSIONS END...

I'VE NEVER BEEN SO
PROUD OF ANYTHING IN
MY LIFE! I'LL NEVER FEEL
LIKE A FAILURE AGAIN,
BECAUSE I'VE HAD A
PART IN MAKING A GREAT
ALBUM.

AS LONG AS WE KEEP OUR
LOVE FOR THE MUSIC AND
OUR LOVE FOR EACH
OTHER, WE'LL GET
BETTER! I THINK PEOPLE
KNOW THAT.



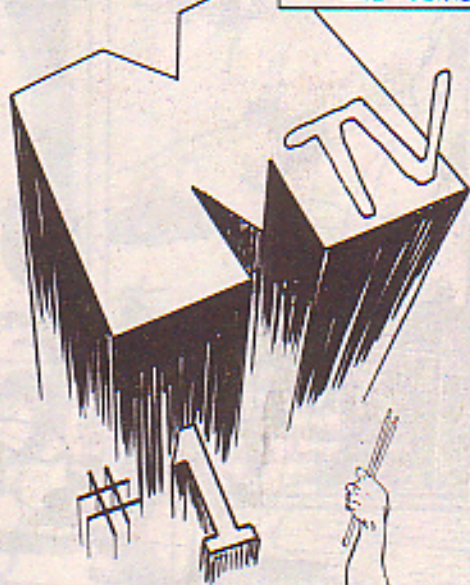
A TOUR QUICKLY
FOLLOWS WITH NIRVANA
AND PEARL JAM OPENING.
EVEN AGAINST THE MEGA-
SELLING YOUNGER BANDS,
THEY HOLD THEIR OWN
LIVE.



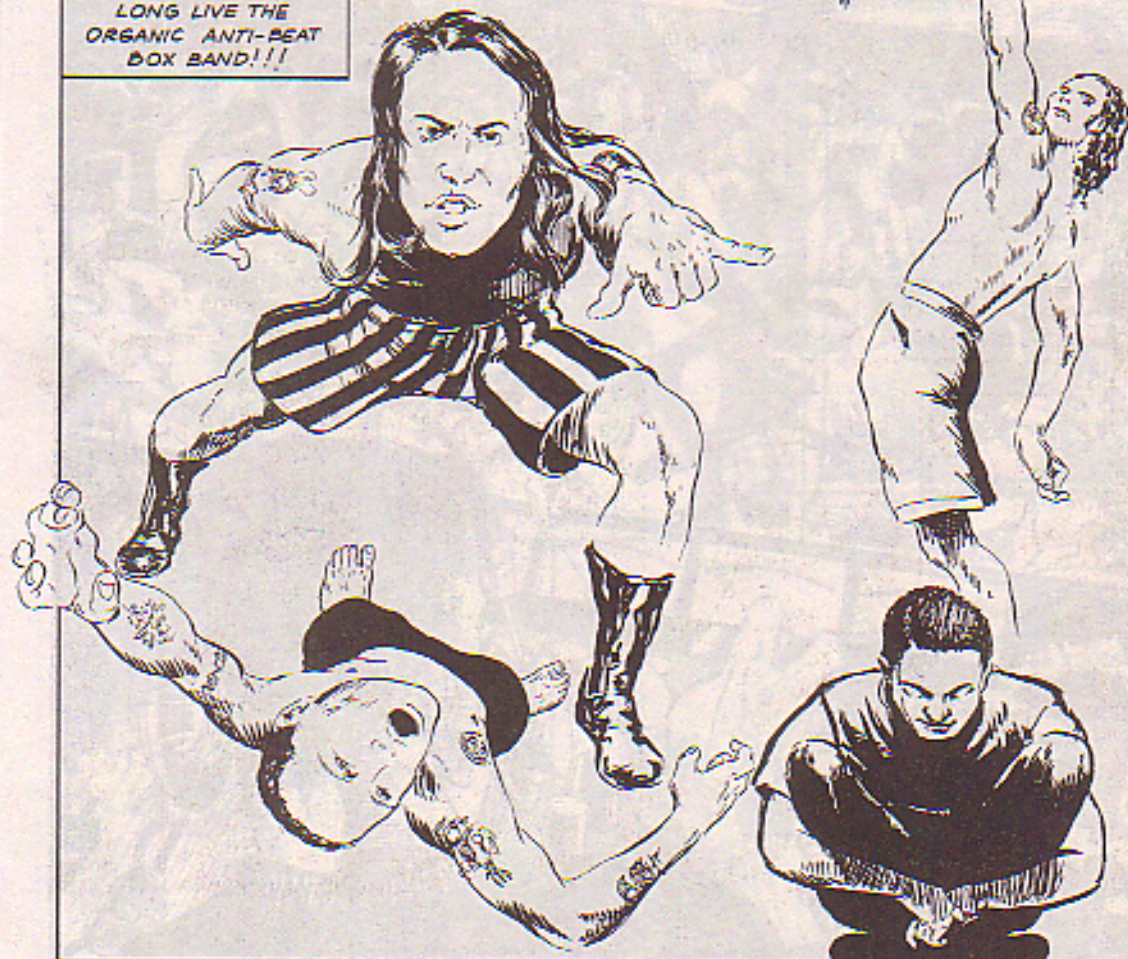
THE PEPPERS ARE CHOSEN TO HEADLINE THE '92 LALAPALOOZA FESTIVAL.



PERHAPS MORE THAN ADEQUATE, THE SINGLE "UNDER THE BRIDGE" SHOOTS FOR THE NUMBER ONE POSITION.



IN A WORLD OF KEROX WANNABES, THERE ARE FEW ORIGINALS. THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS ARE AMONG THE VERY FEW WHO DARE TO BE DIFFERENT. LONG LIVE THE ORGANIC ANTI-BEAT BOX BAND!!!



WRITTEN BY
SPIKE STEFFENHAGEN

EDITED BY
JAY & PATRICK

DRAWN BY
MARSHALL ROSS

PRONG

NO WAY TO DENY IT

OUR STORY KICKS OFF IN
THE LATE 80'S. TOMMY
VICTOR WORKS AT NEW
YORKS' INFAMOUS CBGB'S.

ONE DAY, A CONVERSATION
IS STRUCK UP WITH
DOORMAN MIKE KIRKLAND.

