

ARTS



**Donut Fiends**

**Chemical People**  
*The Right Thing*  
Cruz Records  
by Bruce Adamson

"Is Gilbert Hernandez going to do our cover art? Big ass cool!"

"I'll give you my Judge Dredd anthology for your Traci Lords video. I'm jonesin' for Traci!"

"After rehearsal let's hit Fat-burger, chow down and cruise Venice Beach! Maybe we'll spot the Hulkster! Gnarly!"

Question: What happens when you pool the energies of three culturally deprived Beverly Hills teenagers? Answer: No, not a sitcom. You get the Chemical People, Southern California's newest pretenders to the post-Partridge family trash rock throne.

*The Right Thing* is the People's third release and marks a turning point in the band's evolution.

Gone are the porn stars which graced the covers of *So Sexist* (their debut) and 1989's *Ten Fold Hate*, in favour of a band portrait courtesy of Love and Rockets (the comic) artist Gilbert Hernandez.

For all their attempts at L.A. culture cool, the Chemical People just don't cut it tune-wise.

After checking out their press,

kit I was completely psyched for some mindless, goofy three-chord action but gads, I wasn't ready for this.

Chemical People have less than zero to say and Motorhead-wattage to say it with.

Lyricaly, the band is absolutely nowhere. The most interesting thing they can write about is donut addiction.

The track "Aqua II", the sequel to *Ten Fold Hate's* "Aqua" poignantly states, "You keep on swimming down a muddy coast/ Someday you're going to get the most/ You try to be like Aquaman/ Even though you know you never can, you never can" — Huh?

Musically, the band is no better or no worse than a zillion other three chord keep-the-solos-short-dude bands.

The band's two instrumental offerings ("Nutro" and the "Jam") reveal limitations rather than ability and are strictly filler. Memories of frosh week keg party jams at Western immediately come to mind.

Even production assistance from label mates All, can't focus Chemical People's alleged talents. Stay at the beach dudes!

**Rebellion, gloves and indigestion:  
Up York manifesto**

up york

by Howard Kaman

*Up York*  
York Federation of Students

The cover is black. The colour of rebellion.

In today's world where the NDP rules the most populated province in the country, black rules.

As a biker wears his leather, *Up York* wears its cover as protection — and as a warning. It presents views in a memorable, graphic way that defines the rejection of authority.

The new student handbook makes no attempt to comfort newcomers. In many ways, it demands the reader to ask questions about the university and who runs it. Indeed, it may be a bit much for those who have trouble finding their way around York's maze of concrete.

In a series of short articles, the book intends to raise the

eyebrows and tempers of new students. In the first piece,

Raising Hell, A History of the Student Movement at York, Doug Saunders traces the rise of student power at York.

The reader should take into account that this is only one view of our history, a view advocated by the current YFS. And of course, the essay gives accolades to YFS president Jean Ghomeshi for his "Unde to Fight for Student Rights" slogan which signalled the return of progressive rhetoric. The whole book is like this, stories on clubs, newspapers and colleges which goad you to pull heads with the administration.

While rebellion is fine and dandy, it must be used with discretion. Only constructive criticism is taken seriously, and *Up York* has no answers. It promotes student control of our institutions, without clear guidelines as to how things

should be run.

The little cartoons and drawings detract from the seriousness of the subject matter. Why does Jean Ghomeshi's introductory essay merit a serious picture of its author, while the other YFS members are represented by short comments and cute cartoons? It's just another opportunity to put Ghomeshi on a pedestal when the only you has just barely beaten.

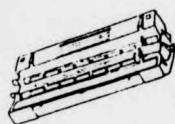
Although the idea of *Up York* is a fine one, it needs to be qualified. A section entitled "Making Sex Safe" is a welcome addition, but the accompanying picture of damaged condoms, as well as the use of words like "cum", "fucking" and "fisting" raise a grave attempt to undermine the intelligence of York students.

I would recommend that every student read *Up York*, but take it with a dram of salt. And a glass of water. Some of it may not be so easy to digest.

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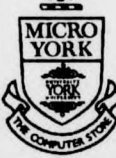
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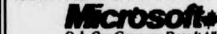
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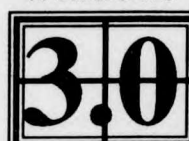
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