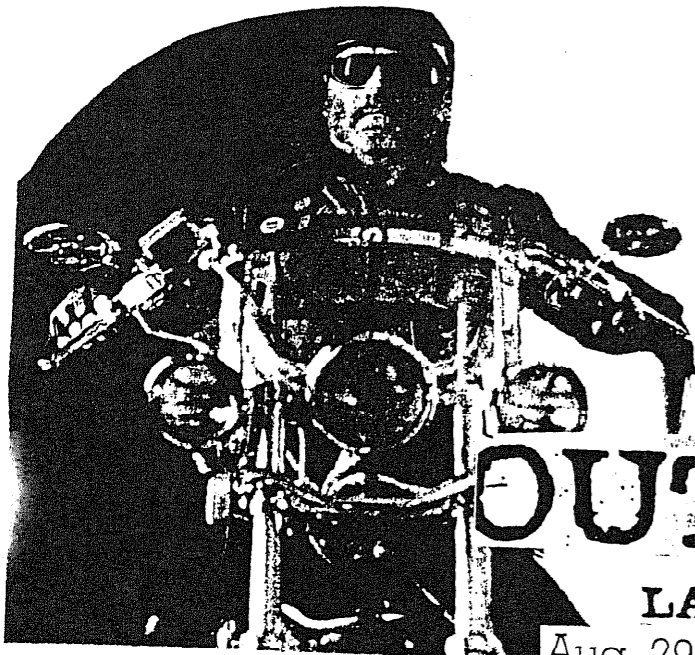


# Confederacy of Scum '97



## OUTHOUSE

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

Aug. 29-30

Normally, this would've gone in the next issue, but what I just witnessed on the Labor Day weekend can't wait for another 6 months, I've gone to a lot of great shows, but less than a handful can really qualify as 'Event' status - and I'm not talking big arena shows - those bore the shit out of me. I'm talking about shows where the band gets in your face, the music is great (regardless of genre) and almost anything can happen: The Burning Man Festival in the Black Rock Desert, Nevada (although when I went to it it was still fairly intimate and no bands had yet shown, but the spirit was there: & that's another story); SLEAZEFEST in GA is another, ( though I had to be satisfied with the album of that blowout). One common thread these events have is that they don't happen in the large urban areas - they take place on the outskirts, where the faithful gather like nomadic tribes for worship.

OK, enough buildup - let's get to the meat... I heard about this thru Anne Tangeman's (a name that's popping up fairly regularly in this issue) article in the "Mag" section of the LAWRENCE JOURNAL-WORLD, followed by a quick mention in Curt Flowers column in PITCH WEEKLY. It sounded like a can't-miss deal - 10 bands, 2 nights, \$7.00 a night at the infamous Outhouse.

The Outhouse is located roughly 4 miles east of Lawrence, KS, literally in the middle of nowhere - surrounded by cornfields in the midst of summer (bugs & heat), miles from the nearest neighbors - no-alcohol inside the building (but nothing's wrong with loading the cooler & drinking outside the place is a favorite and a natural for punk bands and the atmosphere is primed for literally anything to happen - I halfway expected to see the Manson Family coming out of the corn with long knives at one point (I think that was after the whiskey - but I'm digressing)



Friday night, the lot was packed with cars & the excitement level was high... kicking the whole thing off these guys for the past 6 months, and it was NASHVILLE PUSSY from Macon, GA. I'd been trying to see was worth the wait... they got things going with a set that raised the already sweltering room temperature to blistering. (Yes, they're named after a certain Ted Nugent song, that they ended the set with - Fans of the DOUBLE LIVE GONZO album will instantly understand. If they come anywhere near your town, get out & see 'em!) They were followed by LIMECELL, of Philadelphia; then came CONQUEROR WORM, from "Parts Unknown" - actually a tribute band to the man who was the honorary emcee for the evening, MR. SIMON STOKES. If the name doesn't mean anything to you, then you're not a fan of 60's biker-flicks. Stokes' songs made up a good portion of the memorable soundtracks of the Biker-film genre - he's also acted in a ton of stuff (Poltergeist 3 being one of the memorable ones.) My roommate in the Haight was a fan of the music, so the name was familiar to me... He's also done recent albums with the late Timothy Leary & Russell Means - the man is in his 60's, and here he was, still rockin' & doin' it better than guys half his age! The band from Austin, BUZZCRUSHER, unfortunately didn't make it - fortunately, that meant the headliners, Lawrence's own COCKNOOSE, could take the stage much sooner

One of the common bonds of the Confederacy of Scum bands is a love for and of professional wrestling & the emcee, The Cosmic Commander (of RANCID) threw himself into the role - well, I assumed it was a role to an extent - of Agitator with gusto, talking up his members of the audience who went "over the line", The 'mastermind' of this event, "The Colonel" was brought out to pump up the crowd (& his ego - though it was evident, he was a "character" in this spectacle. The CC didn't differentiate at all) to introduce COCKNOOSE in true WWF fashion. I understand the band opened for FEAR several years ago - they have a lot in common, from the antics of the singer (who looks a lot like Lee Ving did in the early 80's) to the charged aggression & goading of the crowd - the moshing got wild and a fight almost broke out - I was having flashbacks to THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION - then again, it might have been the liquor.

### SPECIAL THANKS & NOTICE TO:

- anne & debbie (@ Love Garden)
- NASHVILLE PUSSY (esp. jeremy & blaine)
- the Lawrence guys I gave a ride to after Friday's show
- justin
- brad
- gwenyeth (or close to that; the girl in the mohawk & t-shirt)
- the Whiskey Rebel
- The Colonel
- carrie from Normal, IL
- sarah & tom from KC (Cretin 66)
- heath & the crew from Columbia, MO
- beth & mike from SF, CA
- tara from Montreal, Canada
- pokey from Boise, ID
- & mr. simon stokes.