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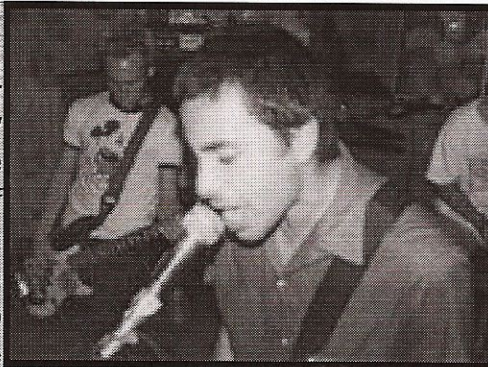
AUTHOR:
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BAND:
Scared of Chaka

CAR:
CONTOUR

INTERVIEW

With the release of their new album, *How to Lose* (702/Empty Records), SOC continues to create the fastest, garagey pop punk of the 90s. Amazing guitar work, a little distortion, and a whole lotta rock 'n' roll spirit make listening to SOC a refreshing and awesome experience! I recently had the opportunity to speak with Dave Hernandez, guitarist and songwriter.



K: Ok, beginning with the basics—who is Scared of Chaka?

D: I'm Cisco, that's the name that I go by, and I sing and play guitar. Ron (Skrasek) plays the drums and Dameon (Waggoner) plays bass.

K: The name 'Scared of Chaka', what does it mean, if anything?

D: It's a reference from an old Sid & Marty Krofft Saturday morning TV show called "The Land of the Lost". A family went back in time to the age of the dinosaurs and Chaka was simply one of the characters on the show. A Neanderthal little kid.

K: And was he pretty scary?

D: No. It's just one of those names that was a lot funnier six years ago when we started.

K: Still, it's a very distinctive name. Anyway, can you give me a brief history of the band?

D: Me and Dameon met actually a long time before the band started, but didn't really hang out much. I started the band with Jeff, our first drummer, who was on our first LP and *Some Sin*, and when Jeff left the band we asked Ron to play for a record. It worked out a lot better than just the record and he's been around ever since.

K: A lot of your releases are on 702 Records. How did you get involved with 702? Is Pete a good friend?

D: Yeah, yeah. Pete Menchetti is a really good friend. How we hooked up was that Zach (Damon)—who was in Zoinks, and he's now doing stuff with Crushstory—turned Pete onto a single of ours and so Pete booked us a show in Reno. I think it was with the Bouncing Souls - a big punk show. Anyway, we just became friends and kept in contact. Pretty soon he put out a record, our first full length. He's a great, great, great friend ... he's taken us to Europe twice. Just a cool guy.

K: Speaking of touring overseas, you were scheduled to tour Japan with Sicko. Why didn't you end up touring together? And how was Japan?

D: We went exactly a year ago actually 'cause it was my birthday when we went last year and it was my birthday just about a week ago. Japan was absolutely the best experience we've ever had: the best shows, made the best of friends, just magical. Yeah, so we were planning on going back this year with Sicko and the guy that we work with over there wanted to do something with us, Sicko, and his band (basically a superhuge pop-punk band in Japan), but after he started booking shows he realized that the draw was going to be too big for the clubs. So he wanted Sicko to tour first and then bring us over. Right now we're in the process of coordinating when we go over by ourselves.

K: How about the Albuquerque scene? I've heard pretty mixed reviews ...

D: At present, Albuquerque's going through a change. There's a bunch of new bands coming in and all the old bands are changing. Albuquerque's a really strange city in that there's not a whole lot to do, and so that explains the number of bands here. In my personal opinion, we have the best bands in every genre represented here. For example, Warsaw on Prank

Ford Contour

Scott and Loraine are happily married, with one little exception. They never agree on anything. He says "modern." She says "colonial." She likes regular. He wants extra-crispy. So imagine the reaction when they announced it was time for a new car.

"Smooth and comfortable," said Loraine. "A real driving machine," remarked Scott.

So, when they arrived in a new Ford Contour SE Sport days later, people were amazed. Finally, common ground. Then they got up to leave. "I'll drive," she said.

Shaking his head he replied, "I don't think so." Oh, well, here we go again. 170 Horsepower Duratec V-6. 100,000 miles between tune-ups (under normal driving conditions with routine fluid and filter changes). Advanced road-handling suspension. 1998 Automobile Magazine "all-star." Built To Last. Ford Contour. For more information, call Ford at 1-800-258-FORD or visit the Ford website at www.ford.com.

