

Big Drill Car powerfully nails California pop-punk

By Brian Meves
Staff Reporter

Big Drill Car
"Small Block"
Cruz Records

Wrap all of your favorite Southern California pop-punk bands into one big riff wad. You'll get Big Drill Car. "Small Block" is the recently released six-song EP by the Hunting-

ton Beach, Calif., quartet Big Drill Car. The EP was previously released in 1987 on Varient Records.

After the success of the debut album, "Album/Tape/CD Type Thing," "Small Block" offers people a taste of earlier Big Drill Car.

Powered by vocalist Frank Daly, guitarist Mark Arnold, bassist Bob Thomson and drummer Danny Marcroft, the band hands out loud and fast-paced guitars over a battering beat. The guitar riffs slash in and out of every song with a smooth and necessary force — if you took away the guitars, it would be like taking the battery out of a car. It just wouldn't crank up without it.

Thomson's bass lines are fairly common breakneck thumping with occasional melodic shifts, while Marcroft's drums are faster than ever, initiating a vibrant pace for the songs.

Daly sings and talks with a very personable voice — the kind of voice that drives you to plead for more. He possesses one of the better voices in the Southern California pop-punk scene.

Lyrics are definitely not the strong point of Big Drill Car's music. Most of the songs deal with the generic idea, "Boy loves girl, girl loves boy, boy dumps girl, girl dumps boy." But it really doesn't matter. Who expects a pop-punk band to sing about deep ideas?

The best songs on the album are "5 Year Itch," "Les Cochons Sans Poils" and "Let Me Walk." They each combine a fast, furious guitar sound, with a melodic blend between both the leading vocals and the chorus.

"Mag Wheel," another great song, opens up with a screeching car and then a crashing sound. It's a funny song that explains the joys of a mag wheel. An interesting effect of this song is the chorus echoing the lyrics.

"Small Block" is a complete group effort, with all four members having their own intricate part to play, and combining successfully.

Big Drill Car may be a mold of all the Southern California pop-punk bands, but it's definitely appealing.



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Carol

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enlarged cast of 47, forcing more attention to be paid to choreography, direction, costume design, production and stage lighting.

The show is directed by Bruce Tinker; the scenic designer is Larry Kaushansky. Lighting for the program was designed by Steve Shelley; Associate Professor Janice Stauffer designed the costumes. Both the costumes and the lighting are new for the Lied Center performances.

Elaborate sets were constructed for the show; one scene is performed on a 24-foot turntable.

To get the audience in the Christmas spirit, choirs from Lincoln-area high schools will perform before each performance. The choirs will perform

in the Lied Center's Steinhart Room 30 minutes before each performance.

On Thursday, Lincoln East High School's Chamber Choir will perform; Friday, the Horizons from Lincoln Northeast High School will sing. Lincoln High School's Madrigals will perform Saturday at 1:15 p.m. and the Lincoln Community Gospel Choir will vocalize Saturday at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, Bell Canto from Lincoln Southeast High School will perform.

Tickets are \$14, \$12 and \$10; tickets for UNL students and youth 18 and under are half-price. To obtain tickets, contact the Lied Center Box Office between 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

"If you're not in the Christmas spirit when you see the play," Hofeditz said, "you will be after. There's no way to avoid it. The costumes, the music, the visuals of the play get everyone in the Christmas spirit."

Pylon

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played with extreme care; it's never sloppy, never tempted into solos. This allows bassist Michael Lachowski and percussionist Curtis Crowe room to assemble a solid foundation for Vanessa Briscoe Hay's erratic vocals.

Hay's vocals are perhaps one of

Pylon's most distinguishable traits. She casually sings delicate melodies and then, without warning, often rips into booming, obnoxious screams.

"Chain," however, has less of these impulsive outbursts than does older Pylon songs. Yet Pylon has brought this trait, as well as all of their devices, back for a soundly reconstructed band whose new material won't disappoint. It simply will impress.

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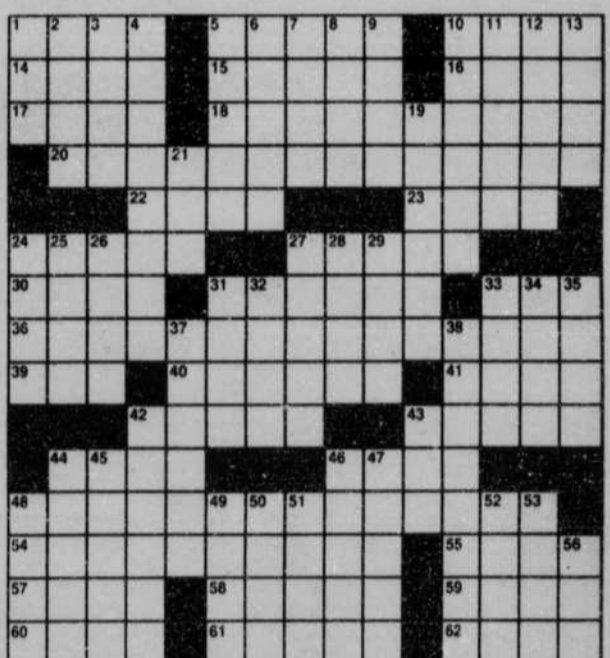
Specials from 10 to close

Crossword Edited by Eugene T. Maleska

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beatty film
 - 5 Deals with
 - 10 Central sections
 - 14 Ceramist's compound
 - 15 A. L. batting champ: 1971
 - 16 Actor Jannings
 - 17 Actress Merrill
 - 18 Roadside gutter
 - 20 How to give criticism
 - 22 Foreordain
 - 23 Bank (on)
 - 24 Nervous
 - 27 Lake Nasser dam
 - 30 President of Albania
 - 31 Fought for breath
 - 33 Greek letter
 - 36 Forte of Mr. Chips
 - 39 Long's partner
 - 40 Complete
 - 41 Myrmecologist's topic
 - 42 Relating to vision
 - 43 Manor-house style
 - 44 — War, 1920 Belmont winner
 - 46 Eclipse, with "out"
 - 48 Rambo's policy
 - 54 Wagoner's activity at the end of the day
 - 55 — moi (at my home)
 - 57 Elbow appendage
 - 58 "Ars —"
 - 59 Former Houston hockey player
 - 60 Contribute to the kitty
 - 61 — Bell (Anne Brontë)
 - 62 Clean
- DOWN**
- 1 "Mayberry —" TV program
 - 2 Severeid or Clapton
 - 3 The Flintstones' pet
 - 4 Hold firm to a decision
 - 5 Dacey's " — Avoid Probate"
 - 6 Fire signal
 - 7 In — (in place)
 - 8 With, to Bardot
 - 9 Caustic
 - 10 Hindu's devaloka
 - 11 A racemose inflorescence
 - 12 Budd or Sunday
 - 13 Weaver's reed
 - 19 Scream
 - 21 Bean or sauce precursor
 - 24 Monopoly corner
 - 25 Arbonne
 - 26 Fog's fellow traveler
 - 27 Frolicsome
 - 28 Get a move on
 - 29 — Got Tonight, 1976 song
 - 31 Indentation at the bottom of a wine bottle
 - 32 Shakespearean play part
 - 33 Lean towards
 - 34 In re
 - 35 Home of the K.G.B.
 - 37 News broadcast
 - 38 Maritime
 - 39 — Got Tonight, 1976 song
 - 42 Prompt
 - 43 Heavy weight
 - 44 — horseback (dictators)
 - 45 — in the Dark, 1964 film
 - 46 Certain hall call
 - 47 Beantown's airport
 - 48 — mater (brain membrane)
 - 49 U.S.C. rival
 - 50 Clash, in Cannes
 - 51 Add color
 - 52 Flushing stadium
 - 53 Entrepreneur Griffin
 - 56 Playwright Akins

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THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON