

# STRIVING

FOR TOGETHERNESS RECORDS

ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON!  
Split Winter Catalog 1997-98

@ttitude



# GREETINGS FRIENDS,

**AND FELLOW SUPPORTERS OF THE UNDERGROUND MUSIC SCENE...IT'S FINALLY HERE!!! THE SFT NEWSLETTER AND CATALOG!!!** We're gonna try to get 4 of these out a year, with greatly expanded content in terms of interviews and photos and stuff, so let us know if you're down with the program. We've teamed up with our friend Tad who runs the Pennsylvania chapter of Anti-Racist Action (A.R.A.) as well as ATTITUDE! We split all the expenses on this catalog to get it to the most people possible.

Thanks to everyone who's supported SFT in any way over the years - it's been a long crazy trip. To all our friends in the USA, Canada, Germany, Japan, The Philippines, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Spain, Indonesia, Hungary, Turkey, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Poland, Ireland, England, Belgium, France, The Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, Australia, Syria, Russia, and anyone we forgot...Thanks for your support, and in some cases your hospitality!! We encourage everyone to keep an open mind, and to realize it's a big world out there with a lot to experience. Don't limit yourself.

To anyone who experienced a delay in getting mailorder from us, We have just added a 3rd person at SFT USA HQ (besides Kev and Barbara ["Mad Monkey"]!) and he'll be focusing on doing all the mailorder so everything goes out the same week it's received. His name is James and he'll be reading your mail!

SFT Records simply exists to put out the best music you've ever heard. Everyone trumpets how "hardcore" they are and how this is "hard-core", and that is "hardcore", and all this bullshit to sell some shitty generic record. We try to keep it tight over here and just build something that can enable great bands to be heard and seen. A lot of great bands have come outta the SFT camp in the last few years, and they seem to be running things - It's all Good!

We hope everyone out there has a great holiday and winter season. 1998 should bring a lot of exciting new things to the "Striving Entertainment Corporation" Most of it we'll keep under wraps. Just expect more of the same, only more...and a lot of new stuff you haven't seen before. It just goes to show you that if you set your mind to it and apply yourself fully, you can accomplish anything. In closing we'd like to say, "Rest In Peace" to one of NYHC's Founding Fathers, Raybeez.

- Kevin Gill, December 1, 1997 SFT HQ

Special Thanks and Acknowledgements to Barbara ("Mad Monkey") for her countless hours of production work, etc. etc. We would also like to thank and acknowledge John Dudeck, Jonathan Giannetti, H2O, Murphy's Law, F451, Dave Mitchell and Strong Black Management for hospitality. You guys rule. Thanks to all the advertisers that supported this catalog. Thanks to EVERYONE that I owe money to for being cool about it and letting me pay in installments. Thanks to the Simpsons, South Park, ECW, WCW, WWF, and everyone who's STRIVING worldwide. Thanks to everyone who sends us free stuff.

SFT crew  
You guys  
Kick mad frig!!!

SFT-  
what's up? your label kicks  
same major ass. i just got the  
100 cd today. oh damn it's good.

By the way I love everything  
that you guys put out. thanks

Your SFT newsletter was rad! Out here, I  
hear a lot of stuff how NYC is dead. But  
you guys reaffirmed that it isn't.

HELLO TO SFT RECORDS! FIRST OF  
ALL, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR  
THE EXCELLENT MUSIC BESTOWED UPON ME  
BY YOUR GLORIOUS COMPANY. (ASS KISSIN')

Whats up dude? yo SFT is like  
The best hardcore label around  
its real cool your pushing hardcore so much.

#### For all y'all Web Crawlers:

EUROPE - [www.striving.de](http://www.striving.de)

USA - [www.striving.com](http://www.striving.com)

E-mail: USA - [striving@earthlink.net](mailto:striving@earthlink.net)

EUROPE - [strive@compuserve.com](mailto:strive@compuserve.com)



# STRIVING NEWS

SUCCESS SEEMS TO BE A MATTER OF HOLDING ON AFTER OTHERS HAVE LET GO

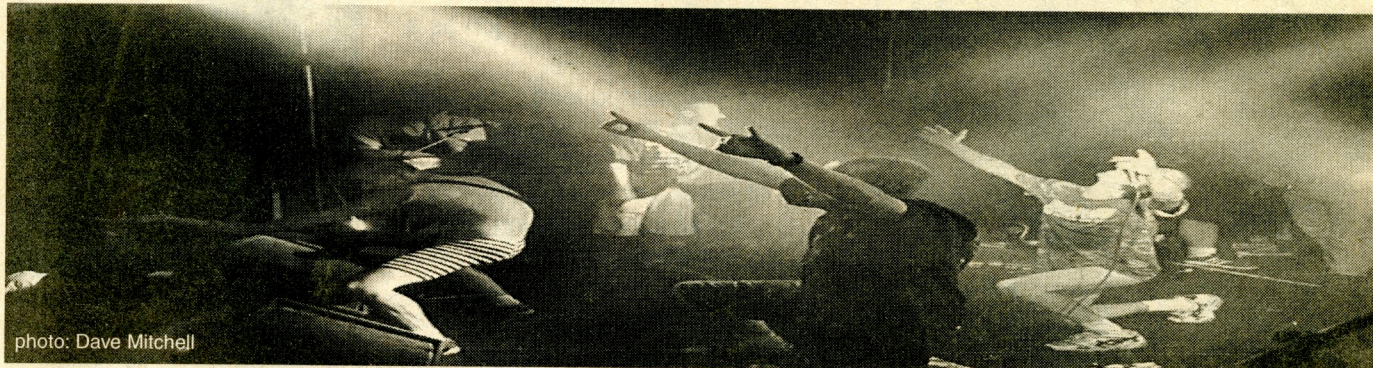


photo: Dave Mitchell

No Redeeming Social Value successfully rock out in Belgium during their second European tour.

## I'M NOT CRAZY! YOU'RE THE ONE THAT'S CRAZY.



Yes, what you've heard is true... Mike Redeeming has flipped his lid. While on tour in Europe, Mike became irrational, unreasonable, and in the words of Dean, "Crazier than a Shithouse Rat". Convinced of a conspiracy by the band and SFT RECORDS to murder him and dispose of his body in the countryside, Mike thought it would be in his best interest to escape his bandmates and flee into the mountains of Switzerland while the band slept. We are left with the impression that Mike stayed in the mountains for several days, before somehow making his way to the airport. Mike is safely back at home, although he is under heavy sedation. SFT Records officially denies any knowledge of a murder plot against Mike and cards and letters can be sent C/O SFT USA. From what we've been able to gath-

er from reliable sources, Mike cracked from the pressure of dealing with / travelling with

five wild Animals for 2 weeks in a van, as well as witnessing a carload of people get strewn and instantly killed all over the Autobahn, just 100 feet ahead of our van, but the primary cause, in this writer's opinion, was that depriving Mike of his primary source of nutrition: Chicken, led to a chemical imbalance in Mike's brain causing him to seek asylum in the mountaintops of Switzerland.

After Mike's departure halfway through the 4 week tour, NRSV was stuck! They begged, but Ozzy said

"No!" and Kent's boyhood pal, Bruce Dickenson had a previous engagement, so they

called the next obvious choice: Kevin Gill (aka Apeman Thrills / Kevlar Skills / Kevin For Togetherness /

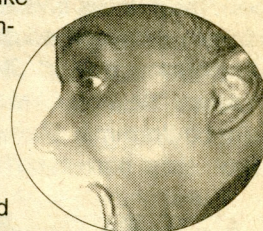
Yvonne Chill / Kevbot 6000...or as all his creditors know him, Kevin BILLS! D'oh!) of SFT Records fame to jump up on the mic! He did 1/2 of the "Hold My Beer While I Kiss Your Girlfriend" Tour, and came back for an encore to do the "Too Drunk To Tour 2", and there was not a full bottle of beer, an unsatisfied woman, or a kind bud to be found on the European continent upon NRSV's departure from both tours.

No Redeeming toured Europe twice in 1997, and headlined the Ackerpopp festival in Belgium in front of 5,000 people! They've recently gotten out of Back Pocket Studios with Shane Vetter and have a lot of new songs and surprises up their sleeves! Fear not knuckleheads, besides both NRSV full lengths being available

RIGHT NOW, there will be a NRSV / Romantic Gorilla / 6 & Violence 3-way split CD with 5 songs from each band! Out in early 98, Bee-yatch!!!! Check out <http://members.aol.com/sald75/nrsv.html>. Call NRSV at (718) 670-3773 / Write: PO Box 260196, Bellerose, NY 11426-0196.

## SHUTDOWN signs with VICTORY!™

Some Big News coming at ya from Brooklyn; Shutdown was approached by Tony V. himself after they played the benefit for Ray Barbieri at at CBGB's (with S.O.I.A., and a Gorilla Biscuits reunion!) We're very happy to announce that before Shutdown releases their debut full length on Victory in the Spring, they will do another EP for the mighty Striving!! The CD will feature two new studio recordings as well as live stuff and other classic Shutdown gems! It'll be out in early '98. Shutdown will be touring the USA two times before the Summer, and it looks like Europe is on the agenda as well! So, world, GET READY FOR SHUTDOWN!! Striving wishes the best for Shutdown and we are thrilled to have been able to work with them. Like Toby Sez: "Don't Forget Your Roots!" In other SD news, Mark recently celebrated his 18th birthday! Anthony has left the band, and Dion, formerly of Muddlehead has replaced him on the bass.



photos: Kevin Gill



Mark Scondotto after the Victory offer.





# SIX & VIOLENCE



Paulie & Kurt "grimacing musically" on stage.

The Six & Violence is at it again with a brand new concept CD, "Petty Staycheck". Graced with insane sound-effects, humorous and insightful lyrics, blazing speed, and general mayhem (all trademarks of the 6+V), this is indeed the heaviest Violence yet. The inter-related songs bring to light the all too common mistake of wasting one's life away toiling at a bogus job as a servant to the almighty dollar.

Kurt Violence, the twisted lead singer that spends most of his time hiding on the west coast, explains, "Petty Staycheck has songs about some painful stuff, namely YOUR JOB. It's all about realizing you are stuck for life in a job that keeps you petty, keeps you in check, and makes you stay. Working in Long Island City, taking the subway everyday, all I heard was people saying: 'same shit, different day,' and looking like

zombies- and this album is a gut level response to that fatal thinking. "Corporate Commando" is about temping in America and how evil it is, so we are encouraging temps to become corporate commandos and scam everything they can to get some "benefits" from their exploiters. "All My Best Friends Are Turning Into Their Dads" is about getting older and giving up on your dreams. We are all faced with these decisions, particularly in the Hardcore scene, where people make a lot of sacrifices and make choices that will drastically effect their lives. I've seen a lot of friends get too normal too quick."

Check out the Six & Violence website: <http://www.interport.net/~phatboy>. Death threats and pranks welcomed at: [The6andVio@aol.com](mailto:The6andVio@aol.com) or (718) 670-7164. You can catch Father Violence (Kurt Stenzel) gigging out in San Francisco with his psychedelic ambient band, "Beyond-O-Matic". Check out Beyondo at: <http://www.jamaelot.com>. Six & Violence drummer Dave Miranda (previously of Ludichrist), is also playing in an all new instrumental hard-rock/fusion band, "The Magic Elf": <http://www.magicelf.com>



It's amazing what a shower and a suit can do.



In August, Paulie G. wed the beautiful Marta.



The Fahrenheit boys chillin lovely.

## FAHRENHEIT 451

have been ripping shit up all across the country, leaving critics and audiences floored. All the heads down with the underground knew about Fahrenheit for a year or so already, but they seem just about ready to take it to the next level. Even in the October 25th issue of BILLBOARD magazine they cited Fahrenheit as being one of the three most talked about NYC bands, (the other 2 being H2O and VOD). The New York Times recently dropped their name as well.

Big plans are underway for F451 to re-release their "Thought

Of It" EP on SFT with new packaging and a bonus track as well as releasing it as a 10". A lot of labels have been trying to lure F451 away. We'll see how long they'll be around, as we would love to release some stuff and for them to appear on our next compilation. Speaking of comps, F451 will be featured on the A.R.A. Comp, which will also feature H2O, The Bosstones, and more! F451 is also appearing on a Japanese comp that Jimmy Gestapo and Steve Poss are putting together which will feature Shutdown, Downlow & Stress, to name a few. F451 are currently on tour with Maximum Penalty and Powerhouse! After that they'll move towards the mid-west and prepare to rock alongside H2O and Orange 9mm.. Frank 451 has recovered 100% from his unfortunate injury in September in Jackson Heights. You can call F451 at (212)358-5056.



Fahrenheit 451 on tour with Powerhouse & No Innocent Victim from San Diego.







The newest SFT band is **NECK!** The powers that be at SFT always bring the freshest

sounds constantly! The latest installment in our discography represents our 18th release, and what a release it is. Neck have been on "Studio Lock-Down" with Crazy Larry for months recording their audio annihilation of brutally aggressive, hauntingly melodic, horrifyingly evil and heavy and sadistic and...you get the point. This is the record you need to possess...or is it the record you need to possess you?? Neck represents the cream of the crop of the new generation of underground music. A phenomenal vocalist, with sick and twisted lyrics, equipped with as much talent for crooning beautiful harmonies as wailing and shrieking like a mutilated hell hound. A powerful, dynamic and talented band of varying musical interests and playing styles. Hard-core/Melodi-Core/Emo-Core/Metal-Core/Grind-Core. Neck controls all these sounds and siphons them into a brand new musical machine. The future is now. Everything you thought you knew about music is about to change! Check out: <http://members.aol.com/neck4/neck.html>



Neck in the studio recording their SFT debut; 11/97

photo: Keith Hughes

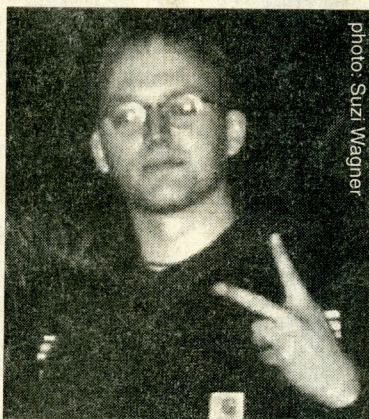


photo: Suzi Wagner

**EUROPEAN NEWS:** SFT Europe has just released the comeback of SXE-legends **VISION**, "**One And The Same**" for the European market. This was done in cooperation with PA-based **C.I. Records**, owned by Jeremy Weiss. The reaction has been very good so far - people like the punky elements of the record a lot and look forward to see Vision on tour with **Agnostic Front** from December 1st to 19th, when they play Germany, Belgium, Spain, France, Switzerland and Holland. • The famous German producer **Bruno Kramm** will remix at least one song for the forthcoming **NECK**-full-length. This is the 1st time ever, that a NYHC-band has worked with the Dark Wave / Industrial-based producer. Be warned: the final result of the complicated studio-work will blow your ears off! Bruno Kramm also plays keyboards in his own band "**Das Ich**". This band toured in the U.S. two times so far, including clubs like the Limelight (1994), CBGBs and The Bank (1997). After signing a major-deal in the summer, Das Ich will tour the USA, Canada and Mexico again for several weeks in 1998! • There are some interesting tours throughout Germany/Europe

this Fall/Winter (besides A.F. / Vision): **China Drum; Bosstones; No Fun At All; Bloodhound Gang; Extreme Noise Terror; Helmet; & Lagwagon. GangGreen** was cancelled as far as we know, along with **H2O**, who would have been on tour with A.F. After touring the US in the remainder of 1997, H2O will go to Australia, Japan and Hawaii in early 1998 and then come to Europe for 6-8 weeks. Also, H2O will play the 1998 **Warped Tour**. • The name of the new **Strain** CD, released on a German label, is: "**Bomb Wedemark!**" Wedemark is a German town and the hometown of **Lost + Found Records**, a label well-known in the US for releasing strange records and merchandise. • SXE-veterans **UpFront** just released their 1st album in nearly 10 years on the Berlin-based label, **Grapes Of Wrath** (which is part of the MAD / Coretex empire). The record is called "**Movement**" and contains 18 songs. • **Agnostic Front** will release a new EP in Germany to support the forthcoming tour. It'll contain 3 songs, which will also be released on the new CD but on the EP, Roger sings in Spanish! The record will be released in late November/early December and will be available in 3 different colors & 3 different sleeves, 1000 copies each. It's sold out already! Most of the copies were ordered by Lost + Found. • Belgium-based **I Scream Records** will release 2 interesting compilations early next year (January 20th) titled, "**Overload**" and "**Digital Zero**". In the U.S., **Victory** will release them as one double-CD. Besides bands like **Edgewise, Eightball, Better Than A Thousand and Snapcase**, "Overload" will contain songs from **25 Ta Life** and **VOD** ("Short Fuse" / "DTO"). "Digital Zero" will feature **NRSV** and **Fahrenheit 451** ("Planet Of The Dead" / "Settle") as well as **Integrity, Cause For Alarm, Despair and Next Step Up**. • That's the European News, and I'm Udo Meixner!

**SFT USA NEWS.....**SFT Records is trying out a Distribution deal here in the USA with a company called **Ground Zero Distribution (GZD)**. They offered to help us out, and they are about to be pulling some moves to try to get SFT up in more stores and distro's, so we can fulfill a lot of requests to get the bands out to your town out there - at least people could have a choice instead of buying all this **homogenized**





**bullshit** that is piled up like so many turds on the shelves of music stores today!! **Hardcore is Coming...**...real deal hardcore from the heart...The Heart Of the Core! **SFT RECORDS!!** And to all our friends who order from **our mailorder**, and sometimes it takes a **while**...well we've been working round the clock to make it better. Ground Zero has an toll free number that you can order **ANY SFT STUFF** from and have it in a few days!!! Just dial **1-888-HEY-PUNK**... It's that easy - watch for their full catalog and CD sampler coming at Ya!

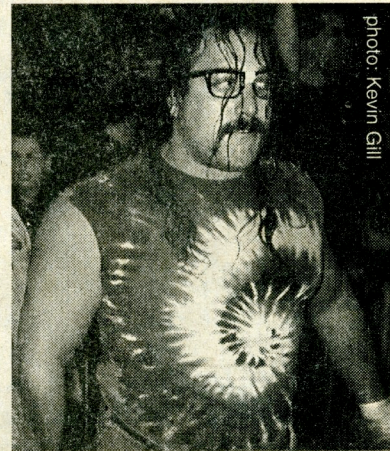


**ASSORTED JUICY TIDBITS:** • The show of the year recently went down in Philly, PA and featured a triple bill of **H2O, Murphy's Law, and Fahrenheit 451** at the sold out **Trocadero!!** If you weren't there, you dropped the ball, Son. • **VOD** have toured the world, played with Ozzy Osbourne and Black Sabbath on the Ozzfest Tour, and now are writing



H2O GO! Toby and Todd doing crowd control.

songs and working on a new album so watch for it in 98!! • **25 Ta Life** have dropped over 12 minutes of tunes on their new record "**Strength Through Unity, The Spirit Remains**" available through **Triple Crown Records**. • **District 9** have been playing some shows here and there with Kev 451 filling in the bass. District 9 are now in **top-secret meetings** with SFT Records to release "**Schoolahardknox**" on CD with all kinds of new and bonus stuff. If it all works out it'll be out in '98! • **H2O** just dropped their new record "**Thicker Than Water**" on the **Epitaph** label. Check out [www.h2ogo.com](http://www.h2ogo.com). • **Edison Records** straight outta Philly, just dropped CD's by **Overcast** and **Coalesce** so you know what's up. • A **CMJ Music seminar** held in September featured a Hardcore Blowout with **No Redeeming Social Value, Crown Of Thornz, Candiria, Shutdown, Fahrenheit 451 and Coalesce, Overcast & Indecision**. The venue was **WACK!** and the security was real eager to be stupid. When I say how stupid the



Big Dick Dudley going to work at ECW.

security was, I mean **No Disrespect** to my man and yours, ECW's own: (**BIG**) **DICK DUDLEY** who was on staff as a bouncer...although at one point, he did attempt to **chokeslam** Kent NRSV and Kevin For Togetherness!! • **Brutal Truth and Today is the Day** just **DROPPED BOMBS** on **Relapse Records!** Along with **Exit-13's "Smoking Songs"**, that makes at least three Relapse Records you need to have today! • **Insane Clown Posse** recently blew through Westchester, and if you missed it, you missed some Gwar-type **theatrics and insanity**. • **NawPost Records** is about to release a 7" by **Billy-Club Sandwich** as well as a record that will feature members of **Backfire** and **Dean Redeeming**. • **New Found Hope Records** outta College Point is about to release their newest H/C Compilation entitled "**United Nations**" Good work Greg! • Former **Without A Cause** bassist **Dave Mitchell** is the bassist in the Bronx-based hardcore band "**4 in the Chamber**". They will be releasing their own cd EP shortly • **Cipher's** debut full-length CD, "Recognize" will be out in mid-January. Contact them at [cipher@usa.net](mailto:cipher@usa.net). • **Other Web Sites to check out:** [www.hardcore-nyc.com](http://www.hardcore-nyc.com) and [www.liii.com:80/~nycore.nyhc.htm](http://www.liii.com:80/~nycore.nyhc.htm)

## RECIPES

When you're a bigtime record company like SFT, you have to learn the "Tricks of the Trade." You know stuff like, how can 2 people eat for 3 days for around \$7.00? Check out what Mad Monkey made for dinner tonight:

### Monkey's Mlnestrone Stew

#### YOU'LL NEED:

- 1 cup chopped onion
- 3 large cloves garlic, minced  
That means chopped up real small ya dummy!
- 1 TableSpoon of vegetable oil
- 30 oz (about 4 cups) of vegetable "broth"  
(AKA tomato sauce and water)\*

- 1/2 cup of dried pasta shells or rotini
- 1 teaspoon of dried Italian seasoning, crushed
- 1 cup of broccoli florets
- 1 (6oz) can of tomato paste
- 2 cups of cubed tofu
- 1 (15oz) can dark red kidney beans (we love Goya "oh boy-a!"), rinsed and drained
- Shredded parmesan cheese

