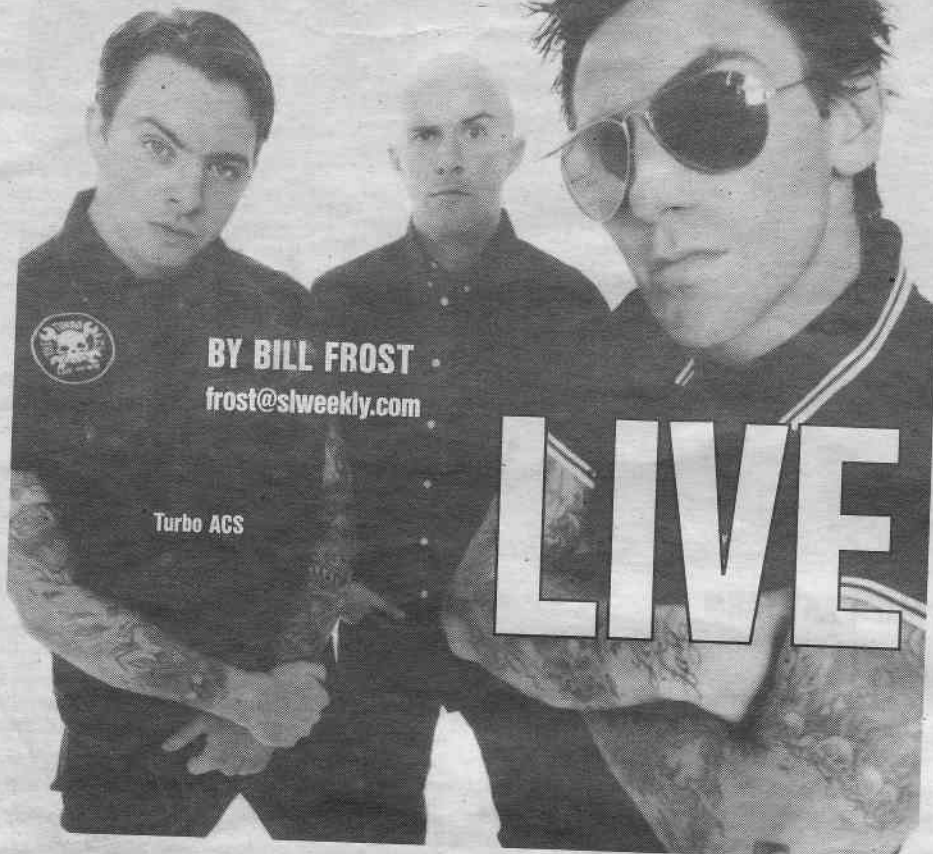


THIS WEEK'S MUSIC PICKS



BY BILL FROST
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Turbo ACS

THE MERMEN

In a just world, the Mermen would need no introduction; the mere mention of their name would be enough to incite crowds to venture (pun fully intended) out on a pre-holiday Thursday night. The San Francisco trio of guitarist Jim Thomas (oft mentioned as a combo of Dick Dale and Jimi Hendrix), bassist Jennifer Burns and drummer Martyn Jones have been thrashing through psychedelic surf instrumentals for over a decade, releasing one of the most mind-bending albums of the genre, 1995's *A Glorious Lethal Euphoria*, along the way. Let freedom ring—right through your cerebral cortex. **THURSDAY, July 3 @ The Dead Goat Saloon, 119 S. West Temple, 328-4628, 9:30 p.m.**

BLOOD BROTHERS, DDM

The Blood Brothers' screamy modus operandi should be apparent by now, having visited Utah more times recently than Orrin Hatch—direct your attention to openers Dance Disaster Movement, the latest entry in this crazy lil' "dance punk" scene. Where supposed stylistic soulmates !!! (Chk Chk Chk) are big 'n' funky, Long Beach duo DDM keep it claustrophobic 'n' arty along the lines of '80s post-punk experimentalists like Public Image Ltd. But they still want that ass on the dance floor and believe in the (at least faux) power of positivity, hence the white jumpsuits. **SATURDAY, July 5 @ Bricks, 579 W. 200 South, 7 p.m. Tickets: 800-888-8499 (with These Arms Are Snakes).**

TURBO ACS

A New York City garage-surf-punk trio who shake and wail like The Supersuckers barreling through Reverb Canyon, the Turbo ACS aren't just an NYC band: "We're an international rock & roll machine!" says the PR machine. *Automatic* (Gearhead) is the

needed by—check this pedigree—Blag Dahlia (Dwarves) and Billy Milano (SOD). "We're really happiest roaming the world playing to all the cool people who feel the same way we do," guitarist Kevin Cole says simply. "People who want it louder, faster and flip the bird in the face of disaster." Hey, it rhymes! **SUNDAY, July 6 @ The Urban Lounge, 241 S. 500 East, 746-0558, 9:30 p.m.**

TAB BENOIT

"A lot of the songs on this album were written just prior to the session, and some were actually written at the session," Louisiana Telecaster master Tab Benoit said via publicists about his latest record, *Sea Saint Sessions* (Telarc). "I like that style of recording—leaving the music open to be a part of it and not coming in with everything so planned out." Benoit's spontaneous, straight-up Cajun blues and considerable six-string chops are on display in the clubs and fests with such regularity, it's almost easy to take him for granted. Don't. **MONDAY, July 7 @ The Dead Goat Saloon, 119 S. West Temple, 328-4628, 9:30 p.m.**

THE SHARP EASE

With addictive bash-pop tunes like "Lick My Ass" and a bar-honed live show that's been likened to classic Go-Gos with a hot Iggy injection, Los Angeles' Sharp Ease are a worthy addition to the town's long line of all-female guitar groups—even nominated as Best New Band in *L.A. Weekly's* 2003 Music Awards. Win or lose, they're sitting on a new rock anthem. "We have, like, middle-aged moms coming up to us, like, Oh, can I have a copy of 'Lick My Ass'?" guitarist Sara Musser told the *OC Weekly*. "Lick My Ass" could revolutionize the whole world." **MONDAY, July 7 @ The Zephyr Club, 301 S. West Temple, 355-2582, 9:30 p.m. (with Shesus).**



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