

PLEASED YOUTH

Pleased Youth were interviewed outside of the Cattys Shack after their gig with Gang Green. Pleased Youth is Doug (D)-Lead Guitar Keith (K)-Bass & Vocals Greg (G)-Drums and Paul (P)-Guitar. FOE is me, and (B) is Bernie. and these are the characters in our little play. Try acting it out at home with your friends! The play begins.....

B-Would you guys be interested in playing at Penn State?

K-Is this an interview question?

B-No this is mine.

K-I'm into playing anywhere that will have us.

D-Where is Penn State at?

B-The middle of the state. (PA)

K-Yeah, we'll definitely do it, especially on a weekend. So far we haven't had a bad gig in PA yet, except for when we played Philly...

FOE-Real question #1, Why are you, Keith, handling the bass chores, and where is Andy?

K-Andy had other ideas about his future, he left. You know, he wasn't getting any younger and he wanted to settle down, start a family, drink wine coolers, hang out in saunas, eat different foods, and do luxury things. Kick back, relax. He didn't want to spend weeks in a stinky little station wagon, driving across the country playing in front of people who have never heard of us before, and then get no money. So he figured that wasn't for him, ahhh what a dumb guy. It was a friendly departure, and I was dabbling at bass, and Andy wasn't very proficient at bass, I was just learning, so I was already as good as him, so we

figured it would be a lot easier if we had me play bass, than have to bring someone new in the band, teach them the songs etc...
FOE-Why the name Pleased Youth?

D-Because Andy and Paul, the assholes they are, decided to name the band that before they consulted anyone else. So we got the name Pleased Youth because they thought it was funny. All these "youth" bands... Unfortunately I still have yet to get the humor of it and we still have the fucking name.

FOE-Are you Pleased?

K-I'm a Happy Guy.

G- Me and Keith are the happy guys, and Doug and Paul are the negative.

K-The pesimests, the realists.

FOE-Who's the happy kid on the cover?

K-Thats me when I was six, the t-shirt was superimposed on the cover through a friend of ours.

D-It was this one kid we know and we stuck the gel shit in his hair, took the picture and asked the kids parents and they said yeah, so now he's a star, he's on buttons, and all kinds of shit.

FOE-You've changed his life.

D-I told him he's gonna end up like a fuggin, Spanky from "Our Gang". He's gonna get fat and die..

K-He's gonna get into coke and the drug culture.

D-He's gonna have to live down the fact that he was on that record cover.

K-Lived too fast.

D-Either that or he's gonna end up like Robert Blake and god forbid he turns out like that.

K-He's gonna be on bad cop shows. By 19... Naw make it by 2003, he's gonna be staring in a bad cop show, I predict. He's gonna play a tough guy.

FOE-What happened to the first demo?

D-We were gonna put it to record but Dave left the band, right when we were gonna start doing it so we ended up shelving the whole idea.

FOE-That was Dave from AOD?

D-Yeah, They didn't know if we would be able to pull taht off or not, to get a new singer and all. Then we...

G-It all worked out for the better cuz



we are really glad that we didn't get that first tape out.

D-In a way, I kinda wish we did put it out.

K-I'd hate to have that representing us.

FOE-But it was good!

K-But we don't sound like that now.

D-It woulda been good to have something out we wouldn't be starting from scratch again.

K-But people wouldn't want to come and see us cuz they'd say "Aw, that thing sucks", "I don't want to see those guys". Its even like soome of the old stuff on the album doesn't seen to fit the whole concept, it makes Flipside call us, "Not unlike other thrash bands".

FOE-Why did you name the lp "Dangerous Choo Choo"?

G-I had a real hellish experience one time. Like the little kid on the cover, he was put in the same pose that I was once put in. (See the photo on preceeding page! Oh, by the way, he did have pants on when the pic was taken, I don't know where they went to) I was left on the railroad tracks by my mother and I saw that train a coming down the tracks and looked just like the little kid, and that thought just stuck with me.

D-Traumatized!

G-I figured that this was my first album with the band and I thought it was symbolic
K-Cuz the band is like that, its a risk, its dangerous, not unlike this train greg had to face.

D-Isn't it just like life though. You're on this dangerous choo choo that just might blow up at any fuckin moment. Thats why I think it fits the whole tone of the record.

D-Besides our happy personalities the music is very doom and gloom.

K-Very Cure-like, very Banshees.

D-Except for this dick over here who wants to write a happy song about going down to the shore and eating...

K-Ahhh, I ditched that idea...

D-Good. You're lucky, I woulda kicked ya in the balls.

K-I'm gonna write more songs about hating grown-ups.

D-The next song I was gonna write was about Keith clutching his gonads after I kicked him very hard with pointy shoes.

FOE-Next feneric question... Lunkhead...

K-Thats not our song, the lyrics are dumb. Well, they fit at the time. Its like look what we're doing now, hanging outside.

Unidentified Happy Person-Getting a tan.

K-Go to shows stay outside. A good amount of the time, like some of us, all of us stay



outside when alot of bands are playing. The lunkhead stuff... it's not good, but everyone knows fightings not good, and what are they gonna do, say, "Well, these Pleased Youth guys think we shoulnd't fight so we should calm down".

D-I think the whole skinhead thing is dead anyway so thats pretty fortunate.

K-All thats been said about it, has been said and the song is like dumb skinheads are gonna follow 7 Seconds, who have the nicest love each other lyrics, they're still gonna fight. So I'd rather write about hating grown-ups.

G-Whats all this hating grown-ups stuff?

K-Next albums gonna be called "Keith hates grown-ups"

D-And the record after that is gonna be "Keith gets caught on fire by a grown-up"

K-How to say Keith hates grown-ups in 14 different ways.

D-Light the match...the fuse is gonna burn on you buddy.

FOE-More discussion on the lp.

G-Its got a pretty cool lookin' color.

K-A shade of blue not very common of most thrash bands today.

D-Very tranquil, the least threatening cover of a hardcore album.

FOE-I think it was AOD's first lp cover.

K-I wouldn't go with that.

D-I don't know, you never know, those guys coulda trashed the bathroom. Pie was flying everywhere, it coulda hurt somebody, one of the crusts coulda hit somebody in the eye.

K-Scary shit!

D-The record itself, I think we did it right, I think the next record will be

quite a bit better though, I think we've grown a bit.

K-I feel that this record was made in a transitional point, it was a lot of stuff we had done at different times that we felt should be on record, so I don't think the record has a lot of cohesiveness, but I think its mostly good though.

FOE-You keep talking about another record, do you plan to keep the band going long enough to do another record?

D-I look at it this way, this is like a new band, almost, after the record was over. If you notice the guitar sound is really dominant over the whole record, and in the early tape. So the guitars really carried the whole thing. But now Keith is starting to play bass runs, God forbid, actually on the record we're going to have out.

K-Its going to be a lot different.

D-We're not going to lose our edge, we don't wanna be wimpy, we wanna make sure we still have balls.

K-Yeah, we have a new fast one, its at least as hard and fast as this one (reference to Gang Green playing "Alcohol").

D-Well quite a bit faster than this.

K-Nah this is pretty fast, you know you could jog to it.

G-These guys are playing too long. I think 98% of the bands in the world play too long.

K-This is our angle. No matter how good they are, AOD, who are, we're very good friends with, we love them, we think they're a great band, and people, but they play too fuggin' long! We tell them, "You guys play too fuggin' long!". and they say we play too short. So we say would you rather bore people...

One thing I feel that after 12 songs I don't feel at my peak and can't give it my all.

D-face it, we play 20 min. they play an hr. we should both play 40 min.

K-Its convenient for us, how long does everyone want to run around in circles for anyway? Ya get tired.

FOE-Why'd ya do the cover of "Kick Out the Jams"? Do you listen to a lot of the older music, early punk?

D-I grew up on that stuff, before there was hardcore there was punkrock, I was listening to the NY Dolls when I was a kid. I mean, little dumb-dumb here was weened on 7 Seconds.

K-No it was Kiss, Aerosmith, Queen, Bowie..

D-But then you have bands like the Bad Brains who are totaly awesome! They blow everyone away! Ian might be energetic but he'll never do a backflip. The only other person besides that is HR and...

K-Steven Tyler.

D-He does not. He's to stoned out.

K-No he does it. I read it in Circus, it said, "Look for his backflips on the current tour" But I went to see Aerosmith, and the flips... they didn't occur. Anyway, Back to the punk rock thing, I'd rather see bands moving towards a more melodic sound than death thrash. It really sickens me to see bands go to death thrash.

D-Especially the lyric content.

K-Except for Metallica, they're a tight band and their lyrics are good.

D-Nah, their lyrics are still in Dumb-dumb territory.

K-Nah, they're saying "Bombs, bombs we don't want no bombs, we're gonna die and we don't want to die and bombs are bad" And I can dig that message. Its important that more bands says that. The next record is gonna be called "Keith hates Bombs"

D-No its gonna be called "Keith the dumb-dumb". See, this is why we're a punk rock band, we sit here and insult each other.

K-No, you insult me and I just listen to you, cuz I'm a happy guy. (Talk switches to how Keith wants to try to live up to the Skulls lifestyle)

Paul finally walks by.....

D-Paul, Paul! Here ask Paul the same questions all over again. Ask him what we think about promoters who put on shows in New Jersey.

FOE-What do you think about promoters in NJ

P-I think I can capsule all this up in a brief statement. I don't like promoters in general, save ScottSquat and a few others.

But theres one in particular who's taken all the fun out of punk rock. By making it too expensive and somewhat boring to go to shows at C.G. As far as South Jersey goes, I mean I like some of the kids down there but sometimes I wish they had a lil more motivation to go out and put on their own shows, start up more bands, and not be a slave to the high door prices. If I had the power to do something about it I would damn it! Thank you

FOE-Anything else....

K-Yes, I'd like to say if anyone calls up and says they want a show and says they're the X men, jump on it, cuz they're the best band from Jersey right now..

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