



TMA, as a band, are an enigma. On one hand, they're one of New Brunswick's most successful groups—they've had two songs on the Dirt Club compilation *Hardcore Takes Over* (1982), a debut album, *What's For Dinner* (1983) on Jimboco records, and a second LP, *Beach Party 2000*, which has just been released on ILA. On the other hand, anytime you see them they're complaining about everything under the sun, talking about joining other bands, or just shrugging their shoulders. I cornered guitarist Mike Watgate on one such occasion, and after an exchange of verbal abuse, he agreed to supply me with a photo and an interview.

I met up with him in the conference room of TMA headquarters. This is the photo he gave me (above). I'm not sure which ones are supposed to be Tom (bass & vocals) or Mike, but I know Al (cymbals & drums) is the one with the moustache. Anyway, Mike was wearing a gold lamé jumpsuit and puffing on a Cuban cigar. He told me I had fifteen minutes, so I started in with the obvious questions.

Q: What does TMA stand for?

A: Too Many Assholes.

Q: What are your influences?

A: I have none. I created music.

Q: Oh really? How old are you?

A: 1200 years.

Q: Gee, you don't look a day over 1000. Where were you born?

A: In Ponce De Leon's house.

Q: Seriously, though, how long has the band been together?

A: 17 years.

Q: Then why did your debut LP come out only three years ago?

A: Practice makes perfect.

Q: If the first album was perfect, why are you doing a second one?

A: Because my kidnapped parents would be killed if I didn't.

Q: How would you classify TMA?

A: Shit.

Q: What inspired "Miserable"?

A: Crack.

Q: What's your favorite club?

A: A billy club.

Q: No, I mean, where's your favorite place to play?

A: In my pants.

Q: Uh, how do you feel about your public image?

A: Oblong.

Q: Do you have any hobbies?

A: Yeah, tobogganing and crochet.

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: Glass and hair.

Q: What is your political viewpoint?

A: What?

Q: OK, who's your favorite president?

A: Taft.

Q: Who's your favorite actor?

A: William Demarest.

Q: Who's your favorite poet?

A: Nipsy Russell.

Q: Who's your idol?

A: Don Knotts.

Q: Who's on first?

A: Lou Costello's corpse. Ha ha.

Hey, that's pretty good. Ask me another one.

Q: Who does your hair?

A: The prison.

Q: What's your favorite saying?

A: No noose is good noose.

Speaking of which, you have half a minute left, Gladstone, so think fast.

Q: Uh, what's your philosophy of life?

A: Eat, Drink and be Scary.

Q: What's your philosophy of death?

A: See you in Hell.

One more question.

Q: Can I have your autograph?

A: No.

"Miserable" words by Tom.

"Miserable" music by Mike.

MENTAL FLOSS - WRSU's guide 1987

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# FACES

ROCKS

## VINYL MINEFIELD

*Beach Party 2000* (Jimboco/ILA) by Jersey punks TMA is a vast improvement over their '85 debut *What's For Dinner*. A heavy Ramones influence shows on this powerhouse of catchy hooks and jaw-sockin' guitar playing ...

# THE SPY

LYRIC

GETTING

## AROUND

TMA

TMA's long awaited second LP, *Beach Party 2000*, was cause for a recent celebration at New York's The Big Kahuna on Broadway & Houston.

The Independent Label Alliance/Jimboco Records and TMA, in association with Bryan Mechutan, ushered in the just released *Beach Party 2000* with a kickin' *Clambake For The Apocalypse*.

Watch for TMA's *Beach Party 2000*.

# MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL

NO. 56 JAN '88 \$1.00

## TMA - "Beach Party 2000" LP

An energetic and well-produced follow-up to 1985's *What's for Dinner?* On this record, the band moves away from the rough-edged wackiness that led to comparisons with the ANGRY SAMOANS in favor of a more streamlined, slicker sound. Traces of surf, sixties and metal are combined into a powerful guitar sound, but I miss the irreverence and originality of the 1st LP. Still, this is a strong release. (DF)  
(Jimboco Records/I.L.A., P.O. Box 594M, Bay Shore, NY 11706)

# ROCKPOOL

TMA

Beach Party 2000 (Jimboco)

Ah, music to power a submarine by . . . yeah there is a beach party feel to this record, the kind a school of sharks have with a bunch of fat brats. This is a record for anyone who has ever enjoyed feeding frenzy skanking AND doing the "Swim". Really. TMA's hardcore roots are showing; that kind of thrash call and response the singer plays with the rest of the band, the Evinrude drumming. The guitar work can be and is up to the velocity of the best of them but it (and the band) submerge right when you'd expect overblown overdrive. And it ain't the deep blue sea they submerge into. I dunno--is it a trend, surflam? I hope so. This record was my surprise hit of the week. Heed my words gentle reader--don't waste money on cocaine and wine coolers. TMA will give you all you need. Play "Only Time", "Feel Like Hell", "What Happened To You". This is one hell of a clambake. (Dist. by Independent Label Alliance P.O. Box 594, Bay Shore NY 11706)

Reyne Cuccuro

NOVEMBER 1, 1987



**TMA Beach Party 2000 (Jimboco, c/o Independent Label Alliance, P.O. Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706)**—Careful—this album will tear your head off! This second outing from Edison, NJ's finest veers between metal (say, Motorhead), pop (sorta like Husker Du) and punk, anchored by fluid, melodic basslines and great cascading riffs. It's LOUD, razor-edged rock 'n' roll from a three-piece that kicks up an amazing amount of dirt. Picks: "Only Time," "Feel Like Hell," "Hipster," "The Babysitter."

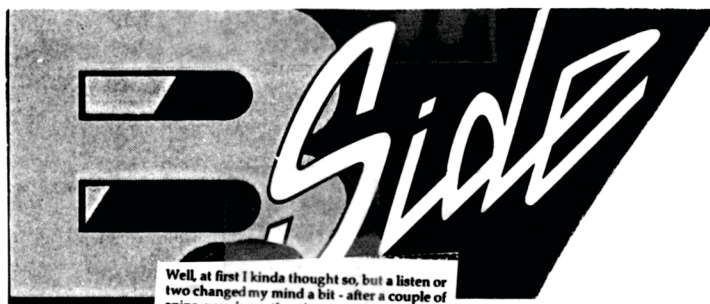
CMJ New Music Report, January 29, 1988



# The New Hampshire

By Arthur Lizie

TMA - *Beach Party 2000* / (Jimbo/I.L.A.) - Tom (bass/vocals), Al (drums), and Wattage (guitar/vocals), certainly have improved. TMA used to be typical, mundane hardcore, but now they're a fun, dancy surf/slam, band. Tunes like "What Happened To You" hit hard and could give the early Ramones a run for their money. Over a full album of fourteen slightly over-produced songs, the highlight being "Only Time" with a blazing solo, the intensity never lets up. A pleasant surprise.



Well, at first I kinda thought so, but a listen or two changed my mind a bit - after a couple of spins you know there's gonna be a volume two. There has to be. Mean growly vocals and music. These guys roll in the mud and then go for band shots, y'know? ~~Shit~~ bullets and piss gun powder. Yer ears'll ring FOR SURE and be damn proud of it! (Mercenary Records, 330 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10013) ... TMA Beach Part 2000 - Spirited metal rock on pop overdrive with enough to power their own plant for a city the size of El Ay. Buy this record and rock out to it. Or risk getting a rench smack in the head. (Jimbo Records/Independent Label Alliance) ... THE GREAT KAT Worship Mr. Orbic - AAAHHHM IN LULUBURU Hangover? What hangover? I am cured! Praise the Lord and pass me a beer! We're talking brains and beauty and balls all in one fan-f-king-tastic package. ~~folial~~ ~~Wes~~

FEB/MAR '88

## FACT SHEET FIVE #24

TMA, "What's For Dinner?" (\$8.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): This is a band that is punkrock. Not punk (pause) rock but punkrock, slured together, fast and slightly sloppy. Slightly fun. The titles are interesting: "Surf Nazis" ad "Astrological Geek" to name a couple, and the lyrics aren't bad either. It's a shame they're not enunciated a bit more clearly so people can make them out. The music is run of the mill, but it's tightly executed with the enthusiastic vigor that only a punkrock band can have. (LP/CS)

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## SPLATTER EFFECT

ISSUE #5 4/6-4/22/87

drunk all the time. Don't be too punk to smile!...While waiting for their first tour to start in the summer you can pick up Sand in Your Face's debut Lp which should be out any day now on Twisted Records...New Brunswick based TMA has a new disc comming out soon titled "*Beach Party 2000*"...*Out of Order*, a band heralded as the most exciting thing to come out of Chicago since the Great Fire of 1871 has released their debut Lp titled "*Paradise Lost*"...The Christian pop group, *New Song* have been



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the Delphobics. To get this release look for their ad in this issue... TMA to support their latest project, *Beach Party 2000*, will begin a US tour in June... Sacred Denial with Forefront Records has put together the album *Exhumed*. The material on it is taken from the band's formative years, '82-'83, but the songs have never been released and they have been remixed. The records are being pressed on blue vinyl. If sales go well with the disc there will be an album of new material by the band released in summer. That one will be called *Sifting Through the*

TMA - *What's For Dinner* - 12"/33/20 (Jimbo Records; PO Box 203: Ansonia Station; New York, New York; 10023): There is a similar attitude towards life and sex as ISM and Nig-heist, but with a difference—the hardcore-y songs are great and they don't rely only on the lyrics to get by. These guys are more than competent. That gives the message, if there is one, more credence. Some of the songs include the theme to *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* (though Husker Du's version is better) and a lust song to Nancy Reagan. And, of course, there's "Pins And Needles", which goes, "Pins and needles/Needles and pins/A happy man is a man that grins/What am I so mad about?/I don't know, I forgot." And there' isn't even anyone named Ralph in the band! † - F FANZEEN