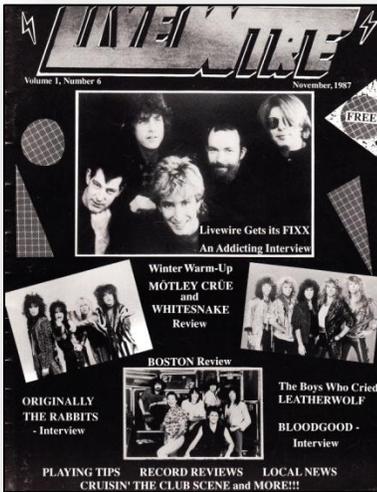


BLOODGOOD IN THE MEDIA



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 Author: Crash McNamara

Which of the following doesn't belong?

- A.) Venom
- B.) Bloodgood
- C.) Slayer
- D.) Black Sabbath
- E.) Slim Whitman on bad acid...

The correct answer is B. despite their grim name. Bloodgood plays ruthless white metal that sears to the bone. Form Queensryche and Heart country, the Seattle foursome lets loose some scorching Messianic rock that leaves Stryper sounding like Air Supply. From deep in the heart of a misery-Missouri hotel, Michael Bloodgood, the band's founder shares his revelations on the IRS (no, not Imitation Rock Stars...) food stamps and being a soldier of The Light.

LW: Last time I was out in L.A. I heard you guys on KNAC. Obviously not every station in the nation is as hip and happening. How's airplay for you guys in the rest of the country?

MB: "It's terrible, as is it for most bands like this. I mean metal is definitely not a genre of music that garners a lot of airplay, unless they're into a lot of crossover metal like Van Halen or Bon Jovi. Of course the question is: is it really heavy metal? Most of your heavy metal is like Iron Maiden or Judas Priest. I think Priest only had one top forty hit an Iron Maiden, well we all know they get no airplay but their albums sell millions and go platinum anyway."

LW: How did a neutral medium like music become such a battleground for good and evil?

MB: "Well, I think basically music is just one of the many ways man expresses himself. Since the beginning of time, banging on cave walls and stuff. I think any time there's a choice to be made, make a choice for good or bad, music itself is a neutral entity. So, why not for God? I also think the Devil's had his hand in it as well. Satan has always taken what God intended to be a good thing and turned it around for his own purposes. It can be something good – it can be something bad – it's what you do with it."

LW: There's this big illusion, as I'm sure you are aware, that Christian 'rock stars' lead glamorous and wealthy lives. Obviously this is not the case with Bloodgood, I hear...

MB: (Laughing) "It's not the case with most Christian artists."

LW: Were you really on food stamps there for a while?!

MB: “Yeah, as a matter of fact, back in '87, or '86 rather.”

LW: Hopefully that will change

MB: “Yeah. You know, that’s always my favorite line. Critics always think we guys are in it for the money. Afraid not guys. I’d love to show them my tax returns. I get sympathy letters from the IRS now. There’s very little money, especially at this level. Even at large levels it doesn’t compare to secular competition. Our motivation is different. We just keep the pedal to the metal.”

LW: You’re on Capitol now. That could be very interesting for Bloodgood’s career...

MB: “I hope so (Laughing). Interesting in a good way it’s very important for us because with Capitol’s distribution now we can make the record much more available which is really important for us to reach as many people as we can.”

LW: How does your latest release, Detonation, differ from Bloodgood’s previous releases?

MB: “It’s faster for one, it’s a heavier record. I think there’s a little bit more maturity in the songwriting. I would hope anyway, spiritually heavier. There’s also production in there and Mark Wells (new ‘Visual Timekeeper’) is on this album.”

LW: For someone who’s never been to a Bloodgood concert, what can they expect?

MB: “Well, it’s nothing different from what I’m sure they’ve seen before in the sense that it’s gonna be loud; it’s gonna be a good show. We’re a very theatrical band, but what the difference is that we emphasize Christ. the Spirit will very much be there. No ego trips.”