

FREE THE READY SET POSTER INSIDE

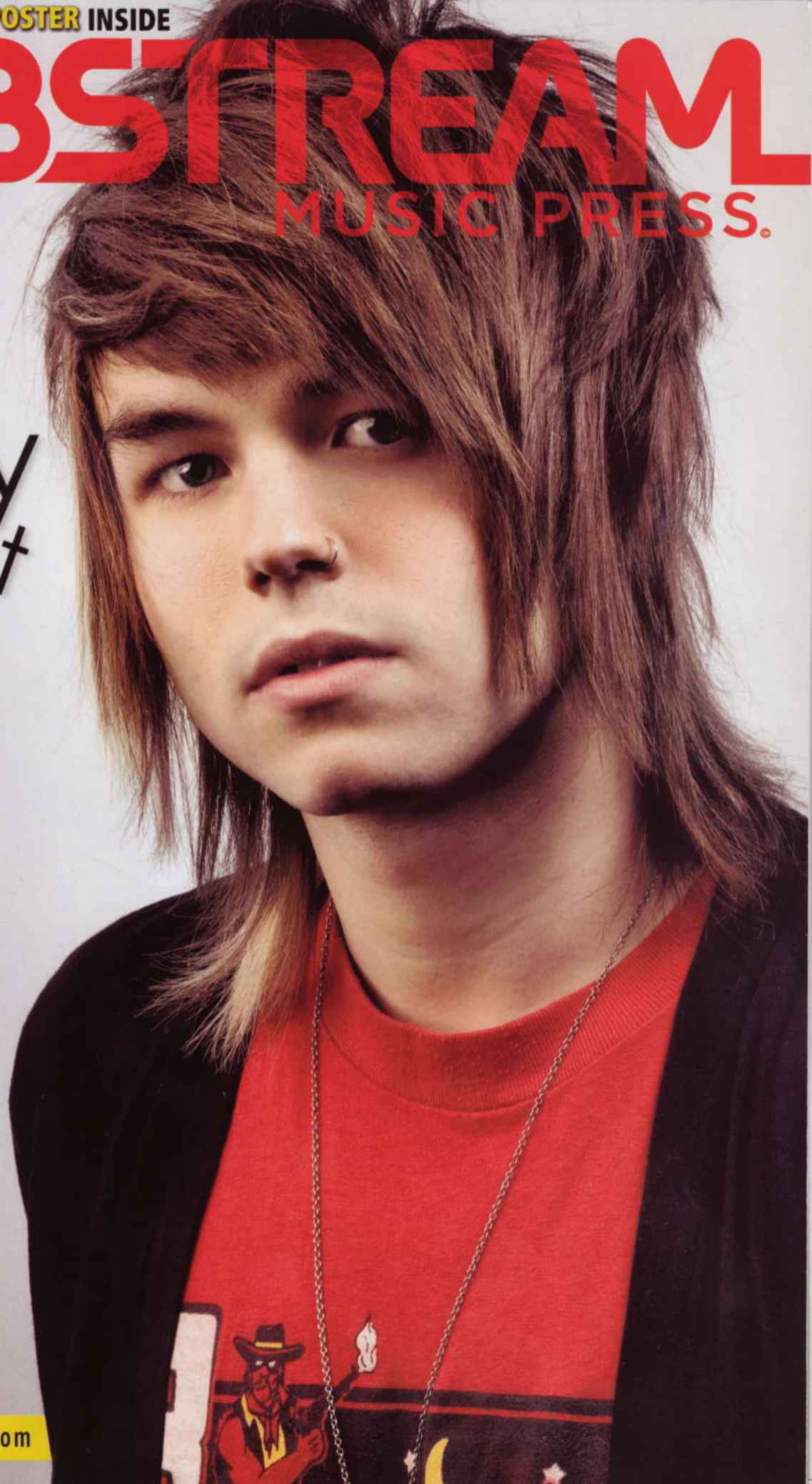
SUBSTREAM

MUSIC PRESS.

the
Ready
"LIKE set
WOE"

this issue

STATES
D.R.U.G.S.
I SEE STARS
DEAS VEIL
EISLEY
A SKYLIT DRIVE
CHIDDY BANG
ESCAPE THE FATE
UPON A BURNING BODY
VAMPIRES EVERYWHERE
THE DAMNED THINGS



#23 FEB/MAR 2011 US \$4.99 CAN \$5.99



www.substreammusicpress.com

THE MATERIAL

For California band The Material, being unsigned and doing everything on their own has had its ups and downs. After several lineup changes weeding out members who weren't prepared for the responsibility of a DIY project, the band solidified its roster with Colleen D'Agostino (vocals), Jon Moreaux (guitar), Roi Elam (guitar), Kevin Pintado (drums) and Jordan Meckley (bass).

The Material released their first full-length album, *What We Are*, on January 11 in Hot Topic. The record, which was a project that spanned two years, was intended to be released earlier, but the band decided to release another EP before putting out a full-length. Moving up to Portland last fall, the band recorded seven songs before moving back to L.A. to finish the album.

"We had the tight knit family experience of cooking/eating our meals together and living in close quarters, which was a lot like being on tour but with an available shower and bed every night," said Elam. "We would usually record for 10-12 hours a day to ensure we were getting the right takes and tones we wanted for the album. The end result is something that we are all very proud of and we are extremely excited to share it with the world."

In order to afford the costs of recording their album, The Material asked for donations from their fans who responded admirably. With the combined donations from listeners and money out of their own pockets, the band was able to make their dreams of a full-length release a reality, but they knew the hard work didn't stop there. "The most obvious disadvantage of being DIY is a lack of funding...you have a hard time getting the same visibility and credibility as some signed bands," said Moreaux.

"One advantage is the control and choice we have in everything we do," he continued. "We've talked with a number of labels and they each have a different vision for us. Every one of them has said, in so many words, 'If you want to make it, you have to change to be more like this other artist.' We're not in a rush to sign away our own vision of The Material to become a carbon copy of another artist. Being DIY allows us the option of making that choice."

The Material's relentlessness has given them several rewards, including some great tour spots not often afforded to smaller, unsigned bands. "The

highlight of my touring season last year would probably be playing Warped Tour in San Diego," said D'Agostino. "Playing a big show in your hometown to a crowd full of people that know the words to all your songs never gets old."

The dedication this band has to their fans is unwavering. From blog posts to video updates to giveaways and more, The Material is constantly reaching out to develop relationships with their fans and show their appreciation for the support they've received thus far.

"We feel that it's important to connect with fans on a personal level and it seems that it's expected for bands to be more accessible," said Elam. "Our generation has instant access to everything, and I think that has made everyone's attention spans extremely short; so the more information we can put out there for our fans, the better."

2011 promises big things and the band couldn't be more excited. "I think 2011 is going to be the biggest year so far for the band," said Meckley. "Not only do we have a new full-length album, but we're also releasing 'Stay Here Forever' on Rock Band, booking a bunch of tour dates and working hard on totally revamping our live show. We're also working on making a name for ourselves in the international market so that our fan base can grow and we can tour overseas."

"We're not in a rush to sign away our own vision of The Material to become a carbon copy of another artist. Being DIY allows us the option of making that choice."

One thing is for certain: no matter what happens with The Material, they will always remain rooted to their fanbase. "I just want to thank everyone who has helped us in any way over the past few years," said D'Agostino. "Thank you for believing in what we do, supporting us in all we've done, and for being our motivation to keep going when times are tough."

By Kelly McDonald





THE MATERIAL

BUY THE HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED DEBUT FULL LENGTH ALBUM

[*what we are*]



AVAILABLE NOW

HOT TOPIC

cdbaby



iTunes

amazon MP3

ALSO AVAILABLE NOW
"STAY HERE FOREVER"
ON THE ROCK BAND NETWORK



WEARETHEMATERIAL.COM · TWITTER.COM/THEMATERIAL · THEMATERIAL.BIGCARTEL.COM