



JONATHAN DUNAGIN THE GAMECOCK Todd Youth, guitarist for Danzig and for Samhain during this tour.

n support of their recent release Satan's Child, Danzig performed before a near-sellout crowd of more than 1,000 people Nov. 10 at Spartanburg's Ground Zero.

The show's lineup included an opening set by death metal/hardcore band Hatebreed, a set by Glenn Danzig's former band Samhain, who haven't toured in 13 years, and an hour-and-a-half set by Danzig.

For those unaware of Glenn Danzig, he began his musical career in the late '70s with an underground punk-rock band called the Misfits. In the early '80s, he founded the band Samhain, which eventually evolved into his current, self-named band, Danzig.

The band Danzig has gone through many changes since its conception. After their first four albums and the highly successful song "Mother," which catapulted Danzig from underground status to the forefront of hard rock, band members parted ways in 1995.

However, Glenn Danzig continued on, picked up new members and came out with two more albums, which featured a heavier sound with industrial roots. Danzig's newest release, (*Danzig 6*, *Satan's Child*), came out on Nov. 2.

But all the changes aside, the true test of any band is how they sound on stage, a test that Danzig scored perfectly on. With bassist Lazie, Joey Castillo on drums and guitarist Todd Youth, Danzig captivated the crowd and showed that his band still deserves the following it has obtained.

Hatebreed began the night with an in-your-face hate assualt of music. Known for their insane breakdowns, Hatebreed punished the crowd with song after song off of their Satisfaction is the Death of Desire album.

With songs like "Burn The Lies," "Not One Truth" and "Driven by Suffering," they had the crowd ripping up the dance floor in a brutal circle pit. They left the crowd wanting more — and ready for Samhain.

When Samhain took the stage, the floor erupted in a massive sea of devil locks and crushed bodies. Samhain steamed their way through songs like "In My Grip," "To Walk The Night" and "Halloween II."

The crowd was most energetic during this performance, and most lethal. People were constantly being pulled from the pit, and it seemed as if the

ter," he said. "No one else turns around [and does big shows] like us show after show after show."

The Minchow brothers have owned the club since January 1997, and since then, Ground Zero has seen the likes of Fear Factory, Coal Chamber and Soul Fly, and is preparing for future shows from bands Megadeth, Corrosion of Conformity and Biohazard.

"There's definitely a need for this kind of music, and [besides], I like the music myself," Mick Minchow said.

In August 1998, the club moved from its location downtown to its new venue on Howard club was] unfairly pigeonholed. We had an openmic night, a jazz night and other cool shows that were poorly attended [because being a metal club gave us a bad reputation.] We're really a metal punk bar."

According to Jim Minchow, even though the change has caused a decrease in patronage during smaller shows because fewer people just walk in off the street, the change has helped Ground Zero pull in bigger acts.

"[Our new location] is cool. It's bigger, and we can have bigger shows," he said.

Not to mention better shows. Following Danzig's performance, Mick Minchow summed it all up

"Awesome! It was just cool," he said.

ollowing Danzig's performance, I arranged an interview with the man himself. Before Glenn Danzig playing in Providence, R.I. yesterday, I was able to conduct a phone interview with him and ask him questions regarding the tour he's on, his music and his future. Here's what he had to say:

Jonathan Dunagin: What did you think about the Spartanburg show?

Glenn Danzig: It was pretty crazy. The show was pretty crazy.

JD: Would you like to do a show at Ground Zero again?

GD: It's an O.K. place, but we would like to have used our whole stage set stuff, and it was kind of hot onstage. But I don't know, maybe we'll try somewhere else next time with a little more ceiling room. I jumped off the drum thing and hit my hand on a metal railing, so it was kind of tight onstage.

JD: After the show, I saw that you signed auto-

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Danzig rocks Ground Zero

BY Jonathan Dunagin

STAFF WRITER

band's intensity grew with every person removed.

This intensity reached a climax after the band left the stage and Glenn Danzig re-emerged with his head doused in what I assume was fake blood. The band then broke into the Misfits song "All Hell Breaks Loose." And at this point, it did.

Afterward, as if this were not enough, Glenn Danzig came back out onstage, fronting the night's main attraction, Danzig. For those who had seen them perform before, expectations were high. For those who had never seen them, the night had just begun.

During the next hour and a half, Danzig ripped through songs off their newest album, including "Five Finger Crawl" and "Satan's Child." They also ignited the audience by running through older songs like "Twist of Cain," "Her Black Wings," "Long Way Back From Hell" and "It's Coming Down."

Finally, for an encore, the band returned to the stage and played "Mother." Then they ended the night with a song by the Misfits that best suited the occasion, "Hatebreeders."

Fround Zero owners Mick and Jim Minchow said they were able to secure a major act like Danzig because of their club's reputation for treating bands fairly.

"Even when [shows] aren't perfect, we've treated bands fair," Jim Minchow said. "[We] treated an agent's bands well before, so he called us up and said, 'Hey, do you want Danzig?""

Major-label bands are nothing new to Ground Zero. According to Mick Minchow, it constantly has big names coming through.

"We do more national acts than anyone in North or South Carolina, or even Georgia for that mat-

Street when the city failed to renew the club's lease.

"[The city] didn't want us in there even though we had no violations," Jim Minchow said. "[Our



JONATHAN DUNAGIN THE GAMECOC

Lazie, left, bassist for Danzig, and Glenn Danzig, lead singer and founder of Danzig, outside Ground Zero after their show Nov. 10th.