rhythms and tone signature changes, 7/4 is a favorite of both bands. The Minutemen are a sort of jazz-funk-punk hybrid, generally sporting a loose, free sound with a lot of room separating the instruments and vocals much like the Gang of Four's first album.

The latest records by 't' Huskers and the Minutemen were both produced by a man who goes by the moniker Spot. He has had a big band in making punk music since the early days of Black Flag six years ago and has become the producer for hardcore bands. His talents have captured the bands he has recorded a, their absolute finest; such is the case with these two discs.

Both Husker Du's Metal Circus and the Minutemen's Buzz or Howl Under the Influence of Heat are disappointing primarily due to the inclusion of a couple of impromptu jam sessions. The sessions, while they may have been fun for the Minutemen, wear-thin after a mere 12 minutes. As a result, neither record has quite the impact of its respective predecessor. Even so, they are still quite good, and make the listener wish that they had included several more songs each.

Buzz or Howl is the less focused of the two records, primarily due to the inclusion of a couple of impromptu jam sessions. The sessions, while they may have been fun for the Minutemen, wear-thin after a mere 12 minutes. As a result, neither record has quite the impact of its respective predecessor. Even so, they are still quite good, and make the listener wish that they had included several more songs each.

The Minutemen played first at December 31, 1983, at the Channel, Seattle, Wash. Their set was brief, lasting only 12 minutes. According to the crowd, everything was there but '181's groove didn't help to the crowd. Everything was there but '181's groove didn't help.

The Huskers, from Minneapolis, once said, "We've got room in my wagon, need a ride?"

The Undercurrents of Tension present in the slower songs sounds as if all hell is about to break loose — the title of their 1982 album Everything Falls Apart says it all.

The Huskers songs, which are democratically distributed to the band as a whole, deal with politics more openly than do the Minutemen. Many of the lyrics are of a violent nature, such as the misogyny of Metal Circus's "Chains": "Hoy little girl, do you need a ride? Well I've got room in my wagon, why don't you jump inside? We could cruise down Robert Street all night long. But I think I'll just rape you, and kill you instead.

The Undercurrents of Tension present in the slower songs sounds as if all hell is about to break loose — the title of their 1982 album Everything Falls Apart says it all.

The Minutemen's songs are not overtly political, they use politics as a springboard for observation, as in "Paranoid Chant": "I try to work and I keep thinking of World War Three. I try to talk to girls and I keep thinking of World War Three."

The goddess six o'clock news makes sure I keep thinking of World War Three.

I believe that when I was in the body of George A. Custer quivered like a porcupine with Indian arrows, he didn't die with any honor, dignity, or valor.

I believe that when I was in the body of George A. Custer, American general, patrician, and Indian fighter, he died with shit in his pants.

While the Minutemen's songs are not overtly political, they use politics as a springboard for observation, as in "Paranoid Chant": "I try to work and I keep thinking of World War Three. I try to talk to girls and I keep thinking of World War Three."

The goddess six o'clock news makes sure I keep thinking of World War Three.

Generally, though, the lyrics tend to run like those from "The Tin Roof": "The punch line. The Minutemen's trademark is songs that are short and to the point, catchy, the type of jingo format used by virtually every other pop band. The songs tend to click in at just around one minute, hence the band's name.

Buzz or Howl under the influence of heat, "It's a powerful song," says it all. Buzz or Howl under the influence of heat, "It's a powerful song," says it all.

Bouncing on the gap between the title of the song "Obnoxious," from Everything Falls Apart, clearly states the prevailing attitude among the fans of the band.

Tell us we're obnoxious. You can't sell our product. Who asked you to? Say we play too fast. The music's not gonna last. Well, I think you're wrong.

Drew Blakeman