



**RIVERBOAT
GAMBLERS
To The Confusion
of Our Enemies
Volcom Records**

The Riverboat Gamblers built their reputation as one of the most exciting garage punk bands in Texas with their hard-driving approach and maniacal live shows. They signed to Gearhead Records, home to some of the best underground rock n' roll from Sweden to the States. Yet, the band received more press coverage from a bloody accident than the music (the singer smashed the bass player's face after hitting him with a microphone). Despite the medical bills and cancellation of their tour, the band moved on to Volcom Entertainment and the production skills of Mudrock (Godsmack, Avenged Sevenfold). To the Confusion of Our Enemies rocks hard, but is a sonic departure from their garage days.

In its place is a crispy clean stereo onslaught of guitar crunch and up-front vocals. The Gamblers' sound goes back and forth from fast-tempo melodic rock to punk n' roll. It's a different approach, but the songs somehow manage to stay consistent despite mixing pop-punk into their Turbonegro-meets-Hellacopters sound. While their garage days may be gone, there are enough quality songs that kick ass in high fidelity to maintain interest for repeat listening.

-Colin Kutch