

SKAGIT VALLEY HERALD

MOUNT VERNON, WA  
THURSDAY 20,439  
MAR 8 2007



18769AF  
SEVENDUST

**"Alpha"**  
Asylum/7 Bros. Records

Sevendust has been reborn on "Alpha," the group's sixth studio release and first for its own 7 Bros. label.

After seizing creative control of their career, battling personal difficulties, and overcoming near bankruptcy in label disputes, this Atlanta quintet has emerged with renewed focus and energy.

The group's previous three efforts had their moments, but Sevendust hasn't been this consistently hard-hitting since its self-titled 1997 debut or 1999 follow-up, "Home."

The guitar attack of John Connelly and Sonny Mayo is punishing and melodic, Vince Hornsby holds a tight bass groove, and Morgan Rose's relentless drumming and backing vocals are as focused and angry as his tortured lyrics.

Breathing life into Rose's confessionals are the versatile lead vocals of Lajon Witherpoon, who growls and spits fire in defiance before soaring to incredibly soulful highs.

"Driven," "Confessions of Hatred," "Aggression," and the title track hold up with the band's finest work, and "Deathstar," "Beg to Differ," and "Story of Your Life" are a welcome return to form as well.

Without question, loyal fans have always hoped Sevendust had a few records like this left to give.

■ John Kosik, The Associated Press

JOURNAL NEWS (NORTH EDITION)

WHITE PLAINS, NY  
FRIDAY 35,000  
MAR 16 2007

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SUNDAY COURIER NEWS

BRIDGEWATER, NJ  
SUNDAY 44,000  
MAR 11 2007



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- John Kosik, The Associated Press

bottomline A

ANN ARBOR NEWS

ANN ARBOR, MI  
SATURDAY 53,747  
MAR 10 2007

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(Asylum/7 Bros. Records)  
★★★1/2

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