

EVENTS SEARCH

IT'S CASUAL, DEAD CHILD, TWEAKBIRD, NIGHTHORSE

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Dead Child's Retro-fitted Metal

By Mikael Wood



Would anyone be paying attention to Dead Child if the Louisville-based throwback-metal band didn't feature three guys who have done time in the seminal math-rock outfit Slint (including David Pajo, who's also played in Tortoise and Zwan)? Probably not. Sorry, dudes: Though there's a million solid reasons to leave behind the land of skinny jeans for the land of ripped jeans, the promise of a wide-open playing field is not one of them, since the Internet has created a metal scene every bit as oversaturated as the indie-rock scene. That said, I, for one, am stoked that Dead Child have a reason to stand out from the crowd, because their recent debut, **Attack**, is an unabashedly retro-minded pleasure I'd have regretted missing otherwise. These guys remember everything satisfying about early-'80s metal — crunchy riffs, lean grooves, vocals that ascend to womanly heights — without making a big deal about being defenders of a forgotten faith or anything. They rock, and that's it.