"SUMMERTIME GIRLS" RETURNS ON NEW <u>ULTIMATE COLLECTION</u> FROM HARD ROCK PIONEERS Y&T

"We were born and raised on this music; it's in our bones. We look in fans' eyes and it's just as intense as before, with a lot of young people digging the whole thing."

--Dave Meniketti, Y&T

Recalling another San Francisco Bay phenomenon, Y&T just may be the hard rock version of the Grateful Dead. One of rock's most enduring acts and renowned for its live performances, loyal fans continue to champion Y&T even as its "Summertime Girls" still receives enormous summer airplay.

Y&T: Ultimate Collection (Hip-O Records), released June 26, 2001, compiles 17 of the band's best from the '70s to the '90s, each selection digitally remastered from the original tapes. Featuring the hits "Summertime Girls," "Forever" and "Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark" plus live performances of early classics "25 Hours A Day" and "Beautiful Dreamer," the album was compiled with the participation of the bandmembers. The package also includes liner notes by former Heavy Metal editor Gerri Miller.

Formed in 1974 in Oakland under its full name, Yesterday & Today, Y&T played a bluesy, heavy rock with strong melodies and enormous energy, songs not jams. Led by Dave Meniketti, a manic singer with big hair, Y&T became incredibly popular in the underground. One Oakland concert was shut down by the police before it began because of the crush of fans and the management company that showed up to see Y&T quickly signed the band.

Y&T debuted on London Records with <u>Yesterday & Today</u> (1976), followed by another album before the record label jettisoned its pop roster. Moving to A&M resulted in <u>Earthshaker</u>, <u>Black Tiger</u>, <u>Mean Streak</u>, <u>In Rock We Trust</u>, the live <u>Open Fire</u> and <u>Down For The Count</u>, which featured "Summertime Girls." Signed to Geffen Records, <u>Contagious</u> (1987) was followed by Ten (1990). Indie albums followed.

Y&T toured extensively throughout the U.S., Europe and the Far East. When a headliner--from Aerosmith, AC/DC, KISS, Ozzy Osbourne and Motley Crue to Heart and Rushneeded a support act to fill a coliseum, they'd call on Y&T. In Europe, the band became headliners before it was in the States, and performed at the prestigious Monsters of Rock festival in Donington, England. Here, many artists who opened for Y&T later became superstars, such as Van Halen.

Yesterday and today, Y&T remains one of the legendary hard rock bands.

 $\underline{Y\&T}$ is the latest compilation album in the Hip-O $\underline{Ultimate\ Collection}$ series which celebrates noteworthy artists.

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PRESS CONTACT: Sujata Murthy, Universal 310-865-7812

Todd Nakamine, Universal 310-865-7797

RADIO CONTACT: Elliot Kendall, Universal 310-865-9852