

Red Collar

[Captain Obvious](#)

<http://www.musicbanter.com/general-music/24705-cmj-weekly-top-5-a.html>

The band's first release *The Hands Up EP*, is a post-punk triumph, drawing from influential bands like Fugazi and Jawbox, while maintaining a unique and intriguing voice. Lead singer Jason Kutchma is captivating, with a weathered yet melodic every-man quality that is never more apparent than on the album's gem "Used Guitars."

[Here Comes the Flood](#)

<http://www.musicbanter.com/general-music/24705-cmj-weekly-top-5-a.html>

Punk equals dumb if we are talking about the music, right? Basic chords, brain dead rhythms. Wrong. Red Collar is a quintet from Durham, NC, who have just put out an EP called *Hands Up*. They know how to turn around the beat. It's raw, it's powerful and it's smart. If you are tired of Green Day and such, Red Collar is your ticket to advanced DIY punk music.

[Visions and Revisions](#)

<http://undid.blogspot.com/2007/10/red-collar-true-to-their-roots.html>

Their debut, "[\*\*The Hands Up EP\*\*](#)," mixes pop hooks with a punk attitude fusing the best elements of Fugazi, Jaxbox and local faves Superchunk. You can't call them pop, you can't call them rock, and you can't completely call them punk, but you can call them a damn fine up and coming band out of an area known for its music. They prove that new music can still be smart and mean something.

[Berkeley Place](#)

<http://berkeleyplace.wordpress.com/2007/09/30/real-rock-and-roll-the-blakes-st-and-red-collar-hands-up-ep/>

This is a really great rock and roll record. Kinda punk, kinda hard rock, and tons of fun, this is a rare example of an EP that leaves me wishing there was a complete album to listen to. Since I'm such a slow blogger, you've probably already heard about them from the umpteen sites that reviewed them already, but I'm posting anyway. Lets create a groundswell. More Red Collar!

[Veritas Lux Mea](#)

<http://www.musicbanter.com/general-music/24705-cmj-weekly-top-5-a.html>

What sets Red Collar apart from most new R-I-A (rock-indie-alt) bands these days is that they've actually got some quality lyrics, as evidenced by the ones in "Hands Up"

[Indie Blog Heaven](#)

<http://indieblogheaven.typepad.com/indieblogheaven/2007/09/the-band-red-co.html>

Political, with angular guitar riffs, and lyrics that are a cut above most, these shouted anthems are golden, especially the track "Hands Up." If you're a fan of The Hold Steady, the band channels them nicely on the track "Used Guitars."

[Bring Me Up](#)

<http://www.musicbanter.com/general-music/24705-cmj-weekly-top-5-a.html>

Don't go ahead thinking this music is like other post punk bands, because there is an evident experimental twist to many of their tracks which hails to a unique flair that shouldn't go unnoticed. I'd have to say "Red Collar" has re-written the rule book on this genre.

#### [Theft Liable to Prosecution](#)

<http://www.musicbanter.com/general-music/24705-cmj-weekly-top-5-a.html>

If you ever wanted to hear Bruce Springsteen fronting Fugazi here's your chance with Red Collar...

#### [Three Hive: Sharing the Sharing](#)

[http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red\\_collar.php](http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red_collar.php)

These Durham, NC rockers take me back a decade or so, sounding like a solid Dischord band if Dischord were down south in Alabama. Country Fried Hardcore? Springsteen fronting Fugazi? Sacrilege? Perhaps.

#### [The Glorius Hum](#)

[http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red\\_collar.php](http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red_collar.php)

Jason Kutchma's voice is weathered, and when he sings "we were made / to fail every day" there's no bitterness, no anguish, just dark acceptance. And more importantly, kindness: "And I wish you all the luck / that I never had."

#### [The Oak Room](#)

[http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red\\_collar.php](http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red_collar.php)

There's a lot of good stuff happening for Durham's Red Collar. They've put out a great EP and have a release show this Friday at 305 South. Even better, they got a slot at the Reverbnation showcase at SXSW later in the month. Couldn't happen to nicer folks.

#### [Diversions](#)

[http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red\\_collar.php](http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red_collar.php)

Steeped in post-modern disillusionment, punk rock passion and the notion that the truth might hurt, but it's always the best policy, Red Collar's debut EP is the sound of the brokenhearted overcoming. It's a stuck-in-the-middle class, educated, but street smart credo. It's a "three chords and the truth" punk mentality, a post-punk cynicism, an indie rock melody, and an anthemic quality born in a barroom...

#### [Azltron](#)

[http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red\\_collar.php](http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red_collar.php)

Red Collar is fittingly titled, as their sound implies the strain it takes to move oneself from blue collar to white collar. Their Hands Up EP explodes with the energy of quitting time on Friday afternoon. Their energetic narrative and unwavering punk aesthetic recall those crazy nights out with your best friends that upon reflection seem almost poetic.

## Diversions

[http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red\\_collar.php](http://www.3hive.com/2007/09/red_collar.php)

Frontman Jason Kutchma was best described with the word impassioned. His stage presence was powerful as the band sped through disillusioned rock songs such as “Used Guitars” and “Hands Up,” off the new EP. Though the band has often been compared to Fugazi and Bruce Springsteen, on stage, Kutchma brought to mind the intense sincerity of Joe Strummer.

## Adventures in Carolina

<http://adventuresincarolina.blogspot.com/2007/07/red-collar.html>

Red Collar are a five piece from Durham, NC. I'm not going to try and pigeonhole them, they just play good modern rock 'n' roll. Listen to them. They put on such a good show. With so much energy, even in the bloody hot pit that is the Local 506. They put a smile on our faces. I don't think you ask for much more than that. I paid money to see a lot worse bands and I will pay good money to see Red Collar again.

Other mentions:

[Powerpopulist](#)

[Circles of Concrete](#)

[Rock Sellout](#)

[Indie Surfer](#)

[Earfarm](#)

[Side one, Track one](#)

[The Oakroom](#)

[Diversions-August 2007](#)

[Diversions-April 2007](#)

[Happy Clap Music](#)

[Breakfast of Champions](#)

[Music Banter](#)

[My Old Kentucky Blog](#)

[The Punk Guy](#)

[Large Hearted Boy](#)

[Everybody Cares, Everybody Understands](#)

[Gimme Tinnitus](#)

[It's Too Long](#)

[Pop Tarts Suck Toasted](#)

[The Music Slut](#)

[Parasite and Sychophants](#)

[5 Acts](#)

[Rockin Blog](#)

[Green: Music Blog and Plus Encore](#)

[ELBOW](#)