How to Play "Vitamin R (Leading Us Along)"

It's actually a pretty simple song and has five parts: intro, verse, pre-chorus, chorus and bridge. The intro [FIGURE 1] is played on the middle two strings and is strummed in a 12/8 rhythm. The fourth string is open, and I just alternate between notes at the ninth and seventh frets on the third string.

I use the same strumming pattern on the verse riff [FIG-URE 2], except here I palm mute the strings and alternate between the 10th and ninth frets on the third string. I then barre the bottom four strings with my index finger at the eighth fret and strum them, muting the whole time and still alternating between the 10th and ninth frets on the third string.

The pre-chorus [FIGURE 3] is all single notes played on the bottom string. It's all palm muted, except for what I play at the very end. On the chorus [FIGURE 4] 1 play one-finger power chords on the bottom three strings; I fret all of them with my index finger. I also throw in some natural harmonics [N.H.] on the top three strings, just a hair behind the ninth and sixth frets. In each case I lightly rest my middle finger across these strings without pushing them downthe distortion does the rest.

The only other part of the song is the bridge [FIGURE 5], which is comprised of power chords. It starts with big, fat four-note voicings of F5 and G5 played on the bottom four strings and finishes with two-string D5 chords that alternate with the open low string, which I chug away on with palm-muted downstrokes.

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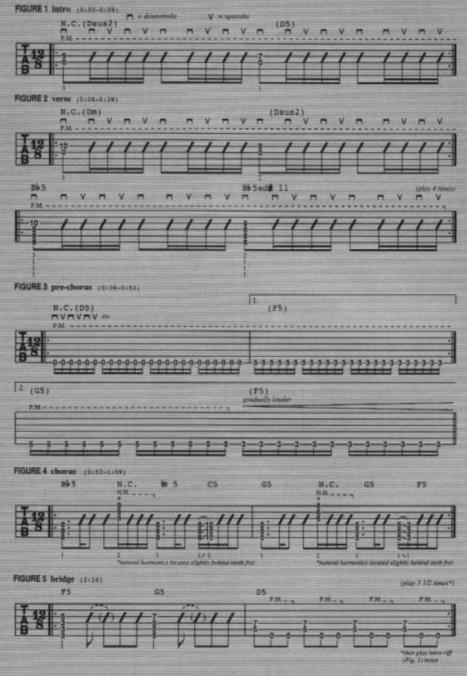
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Right now, there isn't a lot of music on the radio that sounds like this. Radio is pushing a lot of young bands that have made their first record and aren't well seasoned. Not that we're road dogs or anything, but we made two records prior to this one and did two long seasons of touring, so I think we have a pretty good idea of what we want to put on the radio.

Chevelle "Vitamin R (Leading Us Along)"

Elec. Gtr. in drop-D tuning down one and one half steps (low to high: B F # B E G # C #).

All notes and chords smand a minor third (one and one half steps) lower than written



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