

KILLSWITCH ENGAGE

[EXPECT IT: SPRING (ROADRUNNER; roadrunnerrecords.com)]

AFTER NEARLY TWO YEARS ON THE ROAD

in support of 2006's career-defining *As Daylight Dies*, Killswitch Engage vocalist Howard Jones isn't exactly looking forward to the prospect of a writing a new record. "I'm enjoying the time off," he says casually. "It's nice to be able to stay in my own bed for once." That doesn't mean that the rest of KSE—guitarists Joel Stroetzel and Adam Dutkiewicz, drummer Justin Foley and bassist Mike D'Antonio—have been sleeping on the job. Since late September, the Massachusetts-based metalcore outfit have hammered out four new songs, with Dutkiewicz

once more in the producer's chair. "We've never been the kind of band that feel like [new songs] have to be 'bigger, faster, stronger, better' or any of that crap," Dutkiewicz declares. "Right now, we're taking everyone's ideas and trying to jigsaw all of the riffs and rhythms together." Conveniently, Jones' lyrical incantations are often the last piece of the puzzle. "I like to write in the studio at the last minute," says the singer. "Once I hear the music, I'll just sit and absorb it. I'll listen to it over and over again and then start writing things around it, coloring along the edges." [AP]

