

NEW LONDON COUNTY - WINDHAM - HARTFORD - MYSTIC - RHODE ISLAND

Sand Waves

Volume 16
Issue 9
June 2006

**An
Interview
with**

moe.

**CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS & MORE**

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6 JENNIFER TAYLOR	8 CHRIS LEIGH BAND	9 WICKED PEACH	10 TAYLOR MADE
13 SUGAR FREE	15 New London Little League Banquet	16 DARIK & THE FUNBAGS	17 RUN FOR COVER
20 T-RAY	22 STEVE CLEARY QUARTET	23 THE SUGAR DADDY BAND	24 WAR PIGS & RUST
27 TIME BETWEEN US	29 BRANDON DAVIS	30 HARD KNOXX	1 CAPITAL CITY SHOWCASE Original Bands

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FRIDAY 9th

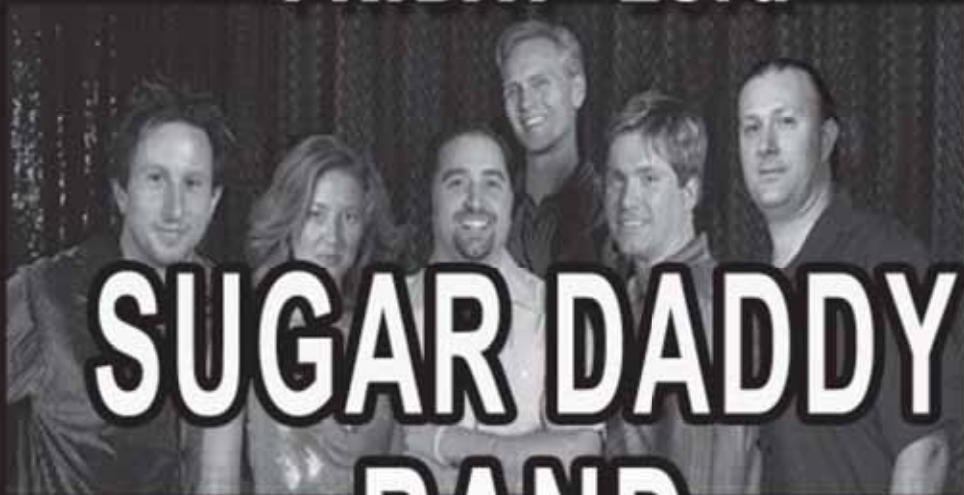


**WICKED
PEACH**

FRIDAY 16th

**DARIK
& THE
FUNBAGS**

FRIDAY 23rd



**SUGAR DADDY
BAND**

FRIDAY 30th

**HARD
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INSIDE THE WAVE

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KEEP IT A SAFE SUMMER

MADD.
Mothers Against Drunk Driving



DESIGNATE A DRIVER
Summertime means sun and fun. Before you include alcohol in your plans, please designate a driver -- it may save your summer and your life

Sound Waves

June 2006
VOLUME 16, NUMBER 9

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Sun-Thurs
4:00 ~ 10:00 Dinner
Fri-Sat 4-11

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Every Monday TOMMY G	¹ SCOTT GORDLEY TRIO	² PHIL NEWLAND	³ TBA
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¹⁴ FRANK & JERRY	¹⁵ DAN STEVENS	¹⁶ MORGAN DAVIS	¹⁷ DAN STEVENS
²¹ DAVE LAUDON DUO	²² GOPHER BROKE	²³ JAMES HARRIS	²⁴ BRANDON DAVIS
²⁸ RON DRAGO	²⁹ MEG HACKETT	³⁰ PHIL NEWLAND	Wine Tastings Every Tuesday Night (Seats must be purchased in advance)

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5 TBA	6 TBA	7 JASON JEFFRIES	8 PETER PERRI & PHRED MILESKI	9 THE PURE JOY BAND	10 TC1 TOM CASALE 4 piece jazz	11 LIVE MUSIC
12 TBA	13 TBA	14 JASON JEFFRIES	15 PETER PERRI & SURPRISE GUEST	16 TONY LEE BAND	17 ADAGIO ALL STARS	18 SUNDAYS
19 TBA	20 TBA	21 JASON JEFFRIES	22 PETER PERRI & PHRED MILESKI	23 KENT HEWITT TRIO MARCELLE GAUVIN Vocalist	24 GREG PICCOLO	
26 TBA	27 TBA	28 JASON JEFFRIES	29 PETER PERRI & PHRED MILESKI	30 KAREN FRISK QUARTET -Chris Hartley - Mark McCormick - Richard Sylvester	1 DAN HARTMAN QUINTET	

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REQUIRED**

**MUST BE 21
& OVER**

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RAIN DATE IS JUNE 18th, 2006

CONCERT DATES

BLACK 47

24 - Irish Festival, New Haven, CT

CHUCK BERRY

17 - Hubbard Park, Meriden, CT

CLINT BLACK

21 - Dodd Stadium, Norwich, CT

DEF LEPPARD / JOURNEY

28 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

DMX

2 - Civic Center, Hartford, CT

ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN

27 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

THE IGUANAS

11 - Cafe 9, New Haven, CT

JIMMY BUFFETT

29 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

KEITH EMERSON

24 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

LINDA RONSTADT

3 - Chevrolet Theatre, Wallingford, CT

LOS LONELY BOYS

23 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

LYNYRD SKYNYRD

21 - Dodge Music Center, Hartford, CT

MADONNA

25,26 - Civic Center, Hartford, CT

MELISSA FERRICK

17 - Station Park, Providence, RI

NINE INCH NAILS

20 - Dodge Music Center, Hartford, CT

THE RADIATORS

2 - Webster Theatre, Hartford, CT

SHAWN COLVIN

16 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

TRAIN

24 - Sunset Festival, Newport, RI

WALTER TROUT

30 - Black-Eyed Sally's, Hartford, CT

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Sat. 17th - **BILL PERRY**

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Sat. 24th - **DELTA WHISKEY**

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29th - **T-RAY**

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16 DOUBLE FISTED	17 ALTER EGO
23 Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS	24 LEFT OF CENTER
30 CHRIS LEIGH BAND	1 MONSTER BUZZ

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Wednesdays ~ 7th - **SIDE KICK** 14th - **DAVE MAC DUO**

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For Our Calendar

& Band Websites Check Out

378 Rope Ferry Rd. Waterford, CT ~ 860-443-RIBS (7427) ~ Visit www.sunsetribs.com

Fri	Sat	Sun
2 BRUCE JACQUES	3 DOG & PONY	4 GIRL GONE BAD 5-9 on the patio
9 TWO PIECE NASTEE	10 WORTHY CAUSE	11 MASS CONN FUSION 5-9 on the patio
16 ON THE HOUSE	17 SDRUM	18 MELAENA 5-9 on the patio
23 BRUCE JACQUES	24 DOUBLE O JOE	25 KAYA 5-9 on the patio
30 TWO PIECE NASTEE	1 DOG & PONY	2 BLOOMER 5-9 on the patio

MUSIC NOTES

By Mark T. Gould

Novella From Big Pink

"Music From Big Pink," that gorgeous, understated, stunning debut album from the Band in 1968, has spawned countless hosannas, and not a few knockoffs from other groups and singers, but, until now, it had never given rise to fiction.

Yet, this identically-titled novella, or smaller novel, part of an imaginative, unique series called "33 1/3," from Continuum Books, is just as solid, thought provoking and interesting as the album that inspired it. And, much like it took several Canadians (and one splendid Arkansan) to put together that recorded masterpiece of Americana, it took a Scotsman to write a novel about a slacker weaving and out of the group's tale.

"My friend, Joe Pernice, wrote one of the first (and best) books in the 33 1/3 series, on 'Meat Is Murder' by The Smiths, and he suggested to me that I pitch them an idea," author John Niven, a self-described "overweight indie guitar player," told me in a recent interview. "For a while, I'd been kicking around the idea for a novel about a rock band on the brink on great success, but seen from the point of view of a hanger-on, a drug-dealer, bag-man kind of character, the type of guy who would be, at best, a footnote in the biography.

"The problem with fictionalized rock groups, however, whether it's in literature, or film, or whatever, is what you could call 'The Stillwater Problem', after the band in Cameron Crowe's 'Almost Famous,' " Niven said. "No matter how successful those things are, and I thought 'Almost Famous' was pretty good, it tends to fall short of the real thing.

"So I thought 'well maybe I could take an actual group, a real record, and hang the story around that...,' " he recalled. "I pitched the idea to David Barker, the series editor at Continuum and - God bless him - he went with it."

The results are spectacular, yet realistic and tragically grim, an ironic parallel to, in some ways, the Band's career. Niven's protagonist, Greg Keltner, a 23-year-old druggie and slacker, is involved with the group members in many, perhaps too many, levels. Tracing through the early days of the group's stay in Woodstock, at Big Pink, the magical house which spawned the record's title, through the "Basement Tapes" project with their friend Bob Dylan, the subsequent release of the album and on past the glory days of arguably our best, and, in some ways, most tragic, American rock group, Niven paints an insider's picture of the group members and the rock industry in all its torrid madness. Yet, for such strong detail and writing, he admits that he did most of it from the outside looking in.

"I was really a baby when Big Pink came out, and the period was like history for me," the 38-year-old author

www.Swaves.com

said. "Basically I did a lot of reading, Barney Hoskyns' biography, Greil Marcus' work, Levon's autobiography, a lot of Dylan books, piles of old press cuttings and the like. I've haven't met any of the Band, but I've been to Woodstock, and to Point Dume, in Malibu, where Shangri-La (the Band's recording studio) was." And, as is noted in the book's introduction, both Marcus and Hoskyns have read Niven's work and have praised his work.

Notwithstanding that creative distance, "Big Pink" clearly made a "Big" impression on him.

"I was introduced to The Band by a guy called Bill Prince, who is now deputy editor of GQ," Niven remembered. "We were in a band called The Wishing Stones. He sat me down one day and played me 'Big Pink.' It just ripped my mind apart. I mean, I was about 20 years old and I'd never heard anything like it in my life. Still haven't, actually."

Yet, as Niven points out, the group, and the album, are merely the backdrop to the real story, Keltner's growth, or lack thereof, across a decade, or so, of music.

"Hopefully, I got enough of The Band's personalities across for it to be convincing, but it's not really their story at all," he said. "I featured Richard Manuel and Rick Danko (the two deceased Band members) because I felt that they were the ones who would most likely hang out with someone like Greg.

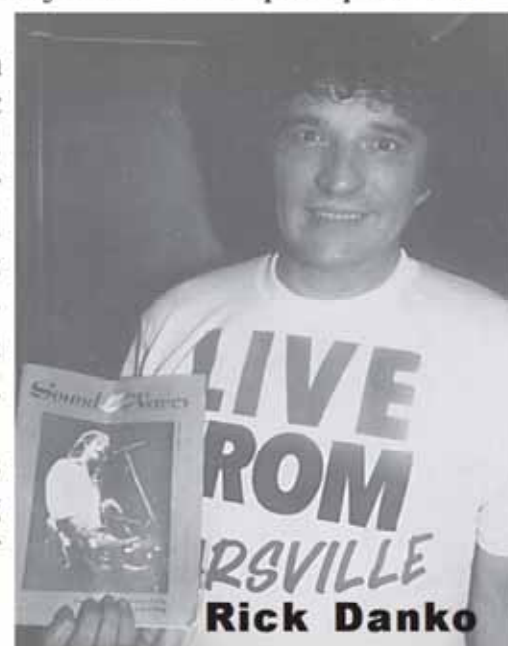
"Greg is an archetype, really. I worked for 10 years in the music industry, and you see a lot of guys like Greg," Niven observed. "You know, it's a pretty happening life when you're 23, selling drugs to rock and roll bands. You have access to the inner sanctum - you're in the limo, you're in the dressing room. However, it's not such a happy place to be when you're 40.

"It's very sad when you see these guys who have stayed a little too long around the campfire," he said. "What you have to understand is that a lot of these stories don't end too happily. Rock and roll is really a young person's medium, and your greatest work is often behind you at the age of 30. There's a lot of leftover life to kill you if don't have anything else to move onto."

"If it's hard enough for the guys who are actually in the group, it can be even harder for the people around them," he added. "People like Greg, who don't really have past glories to cherish, or royalty checks to help keep the wolf from the door."

Not surprisingly, Niven is sticking to the music industry for his second novel, entitled "Kill Your Friends," which he said is "set in the UK music industry, in the mid-nineties, and is about an incredibly amoral A&R guy."

If it's half as good as his "Music From Big Pink," it'll be another smashing success.





BAND DATES

BOOTIE & THE COOL & EASY BAND

2 - Yacht Club, Westerly, RI 8pm

COPPERHEAD

2 - The Sports Bar, Windham, CT
16 - Rick's Billiards, Putnam, CT
30 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT

DAN STEVENS

2 - Card Lake Inn, W. Stockbridge, MA
3 - Blues Festival, East Berlin, CT day
4 - Old Mistick Village, Mystic, CT
8 - King Eider Pub, Damariscotta, ME
9 - Suds Pub, Bethel, ME
10 - York Harbor Inn, York Harbor, ME
15 - RiverWalk, Mystic, CT 8:00
16 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
18 - G. W. Tavern, Washington Depot, CT 11:30am-2:30pm
18 - Red Lion, Stockbridge, MA
29 - Stone House, Guilford, CT 6:30-8:30
30 - Hospital Plaza, New Haven, CT 12-1pm
23 - Big Kahuna Café, Bridgton, ME

DAVE LOUDON BAND

2,3 - Lakeside Cafe, Coventry, CT
16 - Oak St. Pub, Manchester, CT
18 - Country Lounge, Wales, MA
21 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8pm

DON CAVEN

7,14 - Main & Hopewell, S. Glastonbury, CT

1800

2 - Hungry Tiger, Manchester, CT
9 - 125 Riverside Dr., E. Hartford, CT
16 - Gilo's, E. Hartford, CT
17 - Brickyard Cafe, Hartford, CT
23 - Downtown Cafe, Bristol, CT
30 - Bunkers, Wethersfield, CT

FAT BETTY

3 - Sandy's Lighthouse, Misquamicut, RI
9 - Christopher's Cafe, Groton, CT
24 - C.C. O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT

12 SOUND WAVES

GOPHERBROKE

2 - School St. Bistro, Westfield, MA 7-11
8,22 - Riverwalk Rest., Mystic, CT 8-11
9 - Tuscany Grill, Middletown, CT 8:30
10 - Frankie's, Westbrook, CT 7-10
15 - Elizur's Pub, Holyoke, MA
16 - Whip City, Westfield, MA 5:30-8:30
17 - Iron Chef, Essex, CT
21 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA 8-11
23 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
24 - Main & Hopewell, S. Glastonbury, CT 7
30 - Farmer's Market, Franklin, MA 1-4
30 - Oak Street Pub, Manchester, CT

GREEN TEA

3 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
13 - Captain Nick's, Block Island, RI
24 - Wood River Inn, Hope Valley, RI
30 - Christopher's Cafe, Groton, CT

HELLBORN

2 - Plan B, Uncasville, CT
3 - Bank St. Cafe, New London, CT
24 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
30 - Brookside, Preston, CT

JAMES HARRIS

7,14,21,28, - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT 10pm
20 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
9,23 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8pm

KURT VOLAND BAND

24 - Veterans Park, Jewett City, CT 5:30

LIVINTRUST

4 - Hat City Festival, Danbury, CT, 3pm
8 - The Red Door, Watertown, CT
14 - Alchemy, New Haven, CT
23 - Club Fuel, Lowell, MA
24 - Goodtimes, Somerville, MA

MATTHIAS STEELE

2 - Plan B, Uncasville, CT
24 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
20 - Brookside, Preston, CT

MIKE SAVINO / THE SONS

1 - Little Stone House, Guilford, CT 6pm
1,15,29 - The Ivoryton Tavern, Ivoryton, CT
2 - Memories on Main, Torrington, CT
3 - The Ivory Restaurant, Deep River, CT
9 - Sullivan's, Naugatuck, CT
10 - St Anthony's Fest, New Haven, CT 7pm
11,25 - The Driftwood, Clinton, CT 8:30pm
16 - The Old Corner Cafe, Naugatuck, CT
17 - The Black Seal, Essex, CT
23 - Donovan's Reef, Branford, CT
24 - J Roo's, North Haven, CT
30 - Coaches Corner, Cromwell, CT 5pm
30 - The Black Seal, Essex, CT

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

3 - C.C. O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT
5 - The Hungry Tiger, Manchester, CT
15 - Black-eyed Sally's, Hartford, CT 8pm
17 - Swing Dance, Lyme, CT 8:30
23 - Christopher's, Groton, CT

NEVER ENUFF

2 - Oakies, Narragansett, RI
3 - Burkes Tavern, Niantic, CT
17 - Sandys, Misquamicut, RI

RYAN HARTT & THE BLUE HEARTS

1 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
23 - Theodore's, Springfield, MA

SANTA MAMBA

17 - Water Street Cafe, Fall River, MA
26 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT 7

SOUND FACTORY

1,15,22,29 - Bank St. Cafe, New London, CT
2,9,10,23,24 - Plan B Cafe, Uncasville, CT
16,25,30 - Brookside Cafe, Preston, CT
3,17 - The Crossroads, Oakdale, CT

STU ECHARD

2,16,23,30 - Benidicts, Norwich, CT 5-7
9 - Chucks, Rocky Hill, CT 6-10
10 - Raddison, Cromwell, CT 6-9
17 - Sneekers, Groton, CT
23 - Steakloft, Mystic, CT 8-11
28 - Costellos, Noank, CT 6-8pm

2 CAT ZOO

15 - Nicola's Uptown Cafe, Westerly, RI
22 - The Dubliner, Uncasville, CT
25 - Voodoo Grille, Mystic, CT

WAR PIGS

9 - Brookside Cafe, Preston, CT
24 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT

WICKED PEACH

2 - Rick's Billiards, Putnam, CT
3,24 - One Pelham East, Newport, RI
9 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
10 - Reggatta, Fall River, MA

WORLD'S SMALLEST QUARTET

2,30 - Main St. Tavern, Old Saybrook, CT
3,16,24 - Oliver's Taverne, Essex, CT
9 - McKinnon's, Hartford, CT
10 - Brewing Company, Willimantic, CT
11 - Cady's Tavern, E Gloucester, RI
12 - Glock Grill Cruise, Higganum, CT
14,28 - Chowder Pot, Branford, CT
17 - Billy Wilson's, Norwich, CT
22 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
23 - Adams Mill, Manchester, CT

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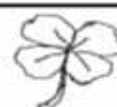
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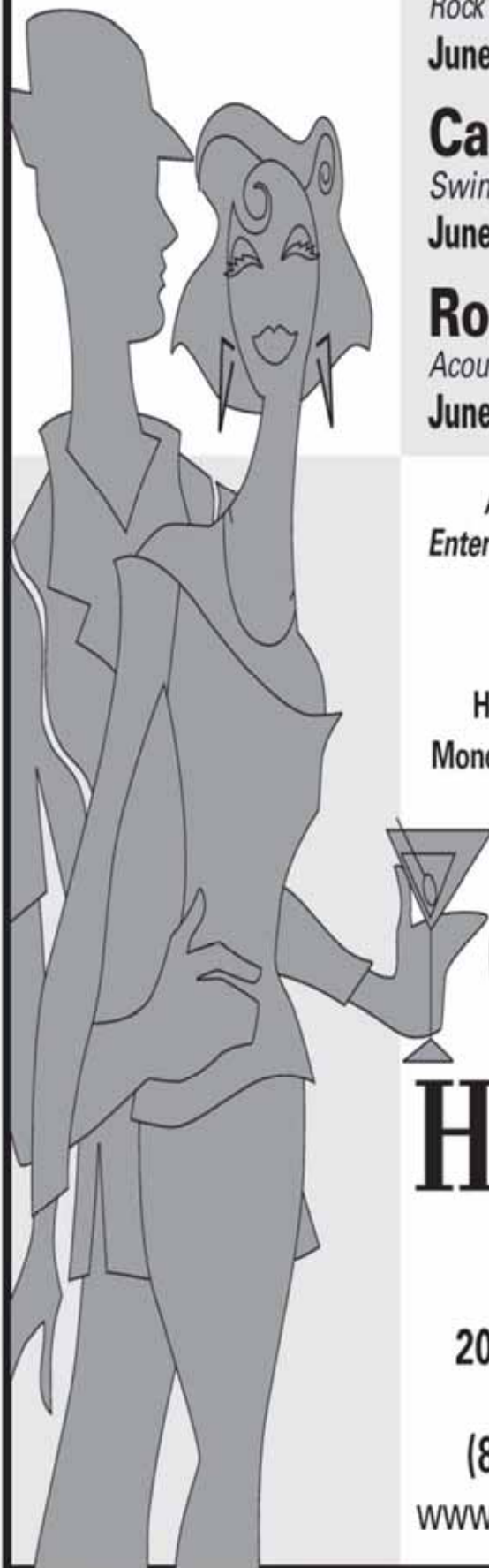
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PAUL RODGERS

Fox Theatre, Foxwoods Resort/Casino

Saturday, May 20th, 2006

The opportunity to see one of the great voices in rock music history brought out an enthusiastic crowd to the Fox Theatre for a night of classic rock hits. Paul Rodgers, the legendary voice of not just one but three supergroups; Free, Bad Company, and The Firm, was in town for a rare solo appearance, and when the smoke had finally cleared, the audience was blessed with a true appreciation of having heard one of the most powerful voices ever recorded on vinyl.

Paul Rodgers hadn't toured as a solo performer in nearly two years, in part due to his recent collaboration with the band Queen, a pairing which had culminated into an extremely successful world tour that also produced a double-live CD and DVD, "Return of the Champions". Paul Rodgers is an extremely gifted singer, songwriter, and musician who has performed with virtually every name in music. Now looking confident and comfortable performing his own material, the audience was treated to an hour and forty minutes of selections from Rodgers' extensive musical catalog. And the famed voice sounded as strong as ever.

Rodgers and his band (guitarist Howard Leese (Heart), drummer Jeff Kathan, and bassist Lynn Sorenson) tore through a selection of hits from Rodgers' extensive rock and roll catalog. The opening riff of the Firm's "Closer" charged up the audience anticipating their past favorites, and Rodgers kept the musical hammer down from there. "Rock Steady" from Bad Company's 1974 multi-platinum debut album followed, and Rodgers proclamation to "have some fun tonight" was a sure sign that the band was planning on delivering what the audience wanted to hear. Rodgers moved to piano for "Run with the Pack", and his powerful voice seemed to really find its force with "Simple Man" that followed. The Firm material, despite now aged nearly twenty years, sounding modern and fresh, with Rodgers assisting on second guitar for "Radioactive" followed by a bluesy version of "Satisfaction Guaranteed". A cover of the Hendrix classic "Little Wing" was delivered to perfection, followed by Rodgers and the band reeling off Bad Company classics "Feel Like Makin' Love", "Shooting Star", "Rock and Roll Fantasy" and "Can't Get Enough" to close the set.

Rodgers and the band returned for an encore with "Saving Grace" followed by the 1970 classic anthem "All Right Now". A surprising second encore, "Ready For Love", was a very welcomed surprise and closed the show in classic fashion.

Paul Rodgers is the most soulful singers in rock music. With a musical career that spans back to the late sixties, Rodgers voice and stage presence remained in peak shape. Paul Rodgers voice is what rock music should sound like, and this effort clearly shows that Rodgers remains on top of his game.

- Don Sikorski

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Sunday June 18th - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY





By Bill Harriman

Back in the 1940's a pair of songwriters named Jerome Bresler and Larry Wynn wrote a tune called "Five Guys Named Moe." The song became a hit single by blues great Louis Jordan. Nearly fifty years later a small group of college buddies in and around the Buffalo area decided to form a band and name themselves after this song title. Soon after, "Five Guys Named Moe" was shortened to just "moe." And yes, the name of the band is lower case letters "m-o-e" with a period at the end. moe. And yes, it's one of the goofiest names in the history of rock music but for some weird reason, it suits this group perfectly.

The five guys in moe. right now are Vinnie Amico on drums, Jim Loughlin on percussion, Al Schnier on lead guitar, keyboards, and vocals, Rob Derhak on bass and vocals and Chuck Garvey also on lead guitar and vocals.

moe. is a jam band. That's a phrase that implies other things beside being a band that jams as Chuck will explain in this interview. However, moe. is most definitely a band that jams. To me they are the ultimate jam band. One example of what I'm talking about is a live disc they released back in 1996 called "Meat." The disc is over 46 minutes long and only has one song on it. That song, of course, is "Meat." And get this – the song only has one word that's sung. Yeah, you guessed it! The word is "meat." The rest is all instrumental jamming. Are you starting to get the idea? Some of moe.'s songs are so long they make "Mountain Jam" look like "Her Majesty." Of course that's a bit of an exaggeration but only a little bit.

I spoke with moe.'s phenomenal guitarist Chuck Garvey by phone. I'll admit that this interview is rambling, a tad disjointed, and all over the place – kind of like a moe. song. But hopefully it all comes together in the end – just like a moe. song!

BH – Hey Chuck, is the phrase 'jam band' something you guys embrace?

CG – "We definitely embrace it because we are a band that jams. We're an improvising rock band or you can say we're a jam band and people get the picture. It also has negative connotations, maybe more so a few years ago, but at this point jam band has become such a wide variety of music under the umbrella of jam band, that it's not a very

accurate way to describe things. You can say jam bands are part of the live music society and maybe they improvise and that's about it. It could be bluegrass. Is Bela Fleck considered a jam band? The Disco Biscuits are a little more techno, are they a jam band? We're pretty much like a rock and roll band that tries to write pop songs. There are a lot of variations on what a jam band is. So we embrace it because we are part of the live music culture, or the society that plays quite often in front of a live audience. It is what it is and I think that's where music is at right now. And it's really just a tag for all these alternative bands that you won't normally find on the radio or MTV."

BH – Besides moe. some of my other favorite jam bands are the String Cheese Incident and Widespread Panic and all of you are completely different from each other.

CG – "Yeah, there's as many differences as you can possibly think of and that's a great thing. That means basically that the music, not the music industry, but music in general is thriving in that there are so many different influences on younger bands or just the live music as a whole right now. And that diversity is something that I think is very good. And I think it's very good for the music industry even though what we're doing is kind of outside of that right now, especially since we have our own record label and we pay for our own recordings, and we do everything on our own. It's very much do it yourself. You don't have any big corporations looking over your shoulder telling you how to do things and that's really what the freedom in this scene is all about. It's just everyone doing what they want to do."

BH – I understand that you're working on a new CD now. Will it be the concept as the 'Wormwood' disc?

CG – "Not exactly but in the same way that we did 'Wormwood' with our own guerilla recording setup. We setup in the State Theater in Portland Maine and did all of our basic tracks there because it was a nice live room. It had its own ambiance and it was actually a very lively sound as opposed to going into a studio and recording the drums and having everything, you know, you kind of put this digital reverb and everything on later. This is something that jam bands, particularly live music bands, feel very at odds with because you're kind of creating music in a vacuum whereas we prefer the character of actually playing on a stage and playing to a room, playing to an actual space rather than just trying to make everything sound good under a microscope. So in that way it's going to be similar to 'Wormwood.' But right now we're doing overdubs in a smaller studio. So it's going to have different elements kind of put together but it's not going to be like the live beginning of 'Not Coming Down' where you can hear the crowd noise. You're not going to hear that kind of stuff on this album. It's going to be a bit different."

BH – Is there a release date yet?

CG – "We're thinking it's going to come out in January. We were hoping for October but it looks like January."

BH – Will moe. release another 'Warts and All' disc, the live recordings you've been releasing these past few years?

CG – "Yeah actually we have another one from Des Moines, Iowa of all places in the works right now. And actually I do the art work for the covers of those, the draw-

ings. So right now as we're in the studio I have to get that together and do some art work at the same time. I think they're waiting on me to get my shit together. But we have one picked and it's in the works right now. So we'll definitely be continuing that tradition."

BH - Chuck, I've always been blown away by the extraordinary chemistry between you guys. Where does that come from?

CG - "I think it's kind of like we made this little club and we have all of our own inside jokes and just the kind of things you have with friends from high school or college where there are just a couple of guys who have been through a lot together and for better or worse you're brothers. Definitely there's a sense of humor thing which is a big part of it and then another part of it is simply creating music and making art. It's hard to do with friends, it's hard to do with family, it's hard to be in a business together but I think the sense of humor and friendship is what makes the business aspect of it or the work of it easier. As long as you balance the two things you're going to enjoy yourself. So I think it's always kind of like a balancing act like that. You can get away with the jokes but you also you have to concentrate and support each other when you're actually working. We just kind of over time and a lot of miles of traveling and whatever, we struck a balance in how we do that. And keeping it fun is definitely a big concern for us."

BH - I really don't know much about your own personal story. How did your musical odyssey begin?

CG - "I started playing saxophone when I was around ten years old. My parents were both music teachers but I think they wisely decided not to try to teach me anything. But they were very supportive obviously through grade school and high school. So I played saxophone for nine years and I learned how to read music and play in front of people. Every once in a while you have to stand up and take a solo, you have to put yourself out there to make mistakes. I never had tons and tons of confidence doing that but at the same time I realized that I had a good ear for it and I knew that when you play with a bunch of other people in an ensemble or whatever, I knew how to balance what I was doing with everyone else. I think the first guitar I got didn't even have strings on it. I bought it for three and a half dollars from our next door neighbor at a tag sale. It was one of those Japanese Teisco Del Ray models, like there were four pick ups on it and locker switches, all kinds of crazy stuff. I didn't even know what it did but my dad had a little Ampeg amp that he played saxophone through and he gave the amp to me to goof around with, with the guitar. I think I was about thirteen, maybe a little bit younger and I didn't even know how to put strings on it. And I slowly learned how to do that and how to not get shocked by leaning on metal objects in my basement."

BH - Where was this?

CG - "This was near Utica, New York. It was just a slow learning process of how does the amplifier work, how does the guitar work. I never took any lessons but one of my

Continued Page 24



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BEN VAUGHN

"Designs in Music"

Big Hassle Records

From Big Hassle Records comes Ben Vaughn with his new CD "Designs in Music." When I first put this CD in I had no idea what to expect: Jazz? Rock? Alternative? Funk? Not a clue. And suddenly, as if beautiful sound waves were ripped from the heavens came an array of voices and their harmonies tweaked by 21st century effects in "Avanti." It was amazing, interesting, and damn good. But still, what was it? It's safe to say that Ben Vaughn has created a unique sound and definitely one that he can call his own. It sounds as if Jazz Fusion and Easy Listening met a cowboy and his musical caravan in the middle of the desert, all desperately seeking someone to play with.

Every song on "Designs in Music" is completely different and keeps you on your toes, constantly anticipating Ben Vaughn's next move. "Too Happy" is a song that truly is too happy and I guarantee that you will catch yourself whistling along with this tune. It's virtually impossible not too as the main melody is the human whistle. Other songs like "Crash Point" and "The Stalker Pt. II" give off a cartoonish sort of Pink Panther theme. In "The Stalker Pt. II" it seems as if there is a little man behind your speaker watching you, only you don't know it. The songs reflect a very sly, detective feel to them but in the aforementioned cartoon tradition. However, the entire album is not all music that some may not quite understand, for "Blues From Nowhere" and "While We're Here"

satisfy the tastes of Jazz and Blues fans with phenomenal piano, guitar, horn, and vocal work. Ben Vaughn even saves a soft spot for country lovers in "Smokehouse Serenade" with quite soothing banjo and violin parts.

To appreciate Ben Vaughn's music you need not be into any kind of music; "Designs in Music" has it all from Jazzy Standards to Country tunes to his own brand. It is an album that is great to just kick back, relax, and listen to at any time of the day any day of the week. "Designs in Music" is sure to relax you and have you coming back for more each and every time.

- Bryan Farrell

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TIP AND VAN ~ TAP OUT

COVER STORY CONTINUED

sisters had a little Beatle acoustic guitar as well so I just kind of taught myself how to play stuff on that."

BH - Were you one of those musical geeks who would play for hours on end and even sleep with your guitar?

CG - "Definitely, but not very well. It wasn't like I was playing scales or anything. I was just kind of like learning by listening to the Police and David Bowie and the Who and classic rock radio in general. It was really when I discovered David Bowie I realized that every album I bought from his catalog sounded different. There was like a different incarnation and a different sound and a different style to every album. And I thought that was pretty amazing. Where with the Police there was an evolution but they always sounded like themselves. So I just taught myself how to play by listening to bands like that and figuring it out. I already knew a little bit about theory from playing saxophone and just basically taught myself everything by ear."

BH - Tell me about the genesis of the band? I hear that it was you and Rob that started this adventure.

CG - "Rob and I met, he had gone to school near Utica and then New Hampshire and his first year at Buffalo was my first year at Buffalo. We met actually through a common friend who I went to high school with. And as it turns out, at the time, she was Al's girlfriend although Al didn't live in Buffalo. So Rob and I started playing acoustic guitars in the dorm we lived in. There was like a common bathroom with a big shower stall area whatever, an

acoustic guitar sounded great in there and basically rather than doing any kind of work we played acoustic guitar and hung out. That was pretty much it. Another common friend of ours got us together with a drummer and Rob had started learning bass after that first year. The following Halloween we played a bunch of cover tunes at a Halloween party in somebody's basement and that was basically the beginning of the band."

BH - I heard that these clubs in Buffalo would stay open to all hours and that you started stretching out your songs so you'd have enough material to fill the night. Is that true?

CG - "That's partially true. Actually at the time when we first started doing it the songs were bizarre and fast and not really extended. But in Buffalo the bars stayed open until four or later, so that had a little bit to do with it. But another aspect was we started traveling around New York state. Our first travel gigs were like Poniana where Al went to school and all of the small college towns in upstate New York and Erie Pennsylvania and Toronto. And basically, just to keep things interested for us on a daily basis, we started extending the songs. Al was a really big dead-head and he said 'why can't we start stretching things out?' It was really like if you have to play for three or four hours a night and you don't have a ton of material, you have to stretch everything."

BH - Do you feel like the band is still improving?

CG - "Definitely, there are periods where you feel like you stagnate and then all of the sudden there's a freshness to how you approach songs that we've been playing for

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LIVE MUSIC 8:30-12:30**

1st - ANDREW SPATZ

8th

SUGAR RAY NORCIA

15th & 29th - TBA

22nd

**ROGER CERESI &
GARY GRAMOLONI**

Room Available for Private Parties

ten years. And that comes from improvising, that comes from just being influenced by different things that are current. And keeping older songs current is another thing that keeps us interested. But what's hard is that every once in a while you feel like music sucks and then you hear something or you come across something that is new and fresh and it makes you excited about creating again. And that is something that's a constant process. Maybe I'll be down on my own abilities or songwriting or whatever and Rob is kicking ass and writing a bunch of tunes and it kind of goes in waves like that. But I think that's a good thing. That's how the band supports itself in that everyone is trying to bring some new sounds and a freshness to different kinds of music that we can try to make."

BH - Do you have any side projects that you're working on?

CG - "I did a side project called 'All Thumbs' which was with two friends, Gibb Droll and Johnny Hickman who is a guitarist for the band Cracker. It's just that sometimes you find the time to actually do it and other times moe. is just either touring or working or doing whatever quite a bit. And I think just as of late we don't have much time to devote to side things like that. We've been busy recording, touring, working on our DVD, and trying to release a 'Warts and All.' This past year has been really jam packed with moe. related stuff and there just isn't much time to do other things."

Check out www.moe.org for more information on this unique and wonderful band. Now what do you say we close this out with a few verses from that old Bresler/Wynn song?

"Who's the greatest band around
Makes the cats jump up and down
Who's the talk of rhythm town
Five guys names moe.
When they start to beat it out
Everybody jump and shout
Tell me who the critics rave about
Five guys named moe."





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Beach Buckets of Wings \$5.00
10 p.m.-1 a.m. Atlantic Coast DJ

Wednesday - Oldies Night
Guest D.J. - 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Thursday - Lobstermania
Steamed Lobster Dinner \$17.00
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Acoustic Dinner Show 7-10 p.m.

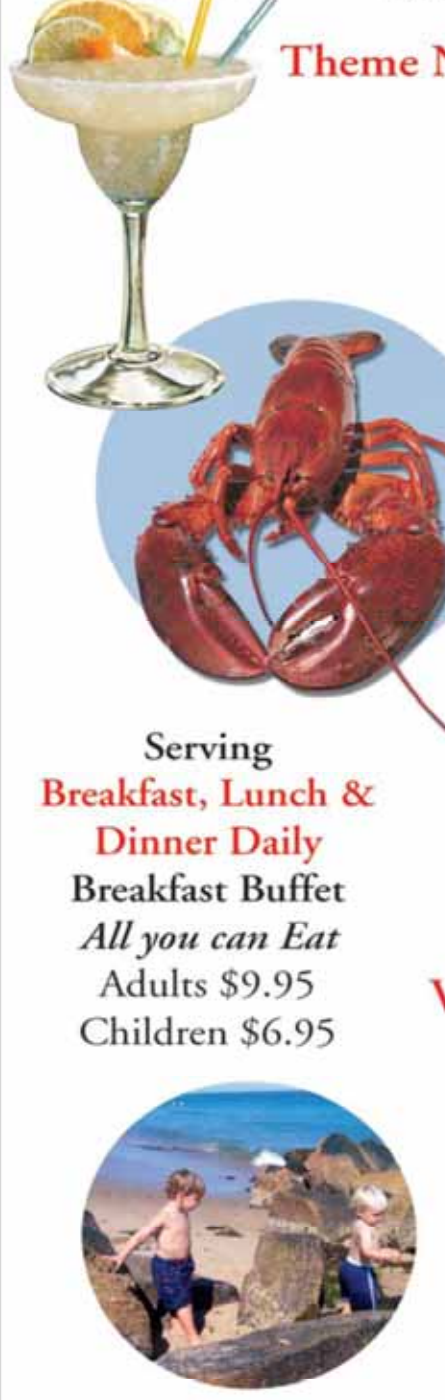
The Weekend -
at The Andrea
D.J. dancing
Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Sunday -
Acoustic Dinner Show 7-10 p.m.
Open Mic Night 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

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Fri. 9th - AMERICAN MADE

Sat. 10th - **DIRTY DEEDS**

Fri. 16th - CUCUMBER JONES

Sat. 17th - DOUBLE FISTED

Fri. 23rd - TREND KILL

& STEALING PROVIDENCE

Fri. 30th - **COPPERHEAD**

Sat. July 1st - 1800

Fri. July 7th - PUSH BOXX

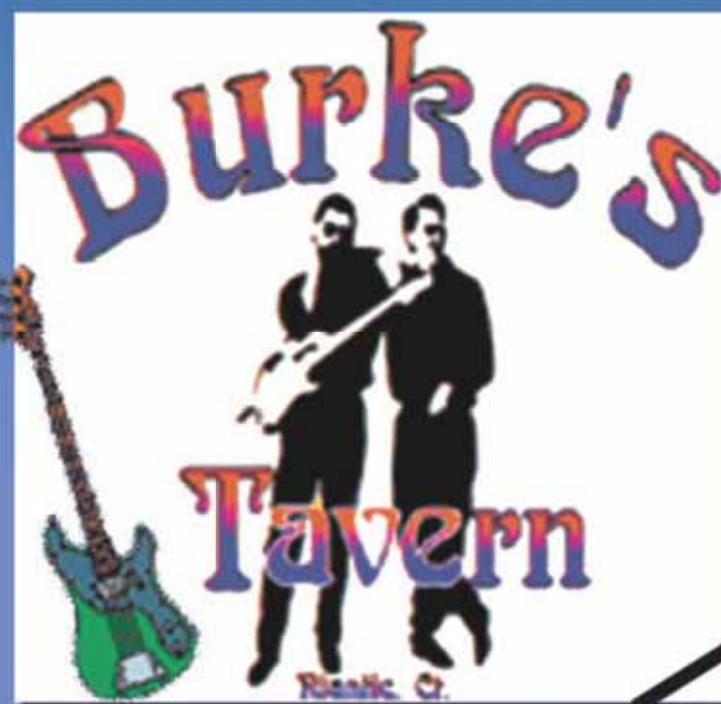
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Mexican Night music by **DAVE HOFFMAN**

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EVERY THURSDAY ~ **KARAOKE & DANCE** w/ RJ the DJ 8-12

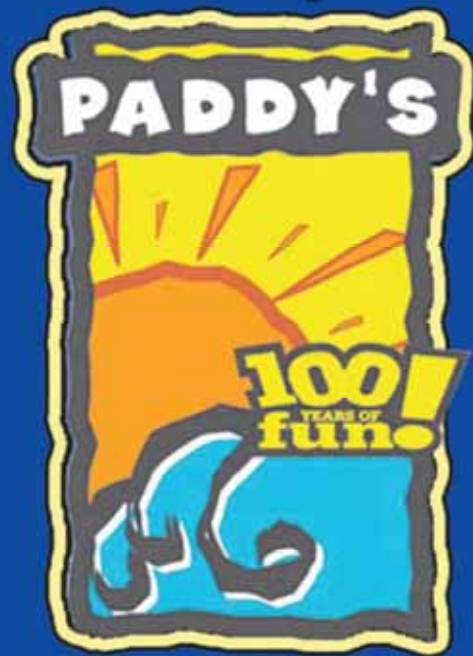
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5 Locals Rule DJ JOEY G Beach Volleyball	6 DJ Angelo MARGARITA MADNESS	7 Wheel Deal Night	8 C L A S S I C	9 KICK	10 3rd Annual Sun Fest JOVI	11 Deck Party
12 Locals Rule DJ JOEY G Beach Volleyball	13 DJ Angelo MARGARITA MADNESS	14 Wheel Deal Night	15 C A R S	16 3rd Annual Pimp & Ho Ball CONCRETE JUNGLE	17 FUNGUS AMUNGUS	18 DJ DAVE C
19 Locals Rule DJ JOEY G Beach Volleyball	20 DJ Angelo MARGARITA MADNESS	21 Wheel Deal Night	22 C A R S	23 THE DEGENERATES	24 JEFF PITCHELL & TEXAS FLOOD	25 Outside Deck Party TIKI SHACK
26 Locals Rule DJ JOEY G Beach Volleyball	27 DJ Angelo MARGARITA MADNESS	28 Wheel Deal Night	29 H O W	30 BACK LASH	4TH OF JULY WEEKEND 1st - DARIK & THE FUNBAGS 2nd - BAD FISH 3rd - WICKED PEACH	

EVERY FRI., SAT. & SUN. - Sunny DJ Deck Parties 1~5

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