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## STREET CRACKS

### Jeff Foxworthy brings 'necks' back to Detroit

By BOB SADLER  
SPECIAL WRITER



Georgia native Jeff Foxworthy has made it to Beverly Hills. How did he get there? By being one of the best stand-ups in the business? Sure. But he also came up with a signature bit that has endeared him to thousands.

Yes, I'm referring to the "You know you're a redneck if..." thing.

But do you know the rest of the story? (Sorry, Paul Harvey)

The initial idea for the whole bit originated in the metro Detroit area. Foxworthy was doing a show at Chaplin's East, a large club in Clinton Township. There he was, a Southern boy caught well north of the Mason-Dixon Line.

"They were kidding me about my accent, seeing I must be from the South — where all the rednecks are," recalled Foxworthy, who was an engineer at IBM before taking up comedy. "And here they are, the club was attached to a bowling alley. And they had valet parking! I mean look out the window, you don't think you've got rednecks around here. That's a baited field for rednecks. You couldn't keep a redneck away from a bowling alley with valet parking."

And so, an idea was born. It grew to the point where it became a five-minute chunk of Foxworthy's act. Soon, the bit started to develop a life of its own.

"It became a game for my wife and I when we were on the road," Foxworthy said. "We'd be driving to the next town and see somebody with their bare feet out a car window. We'd look at each other and go 'write that down.' So, then we had 50, then 100, then 200."

"Pretty soon, I was typing all of them up and taking them with me on the road. I would show the list to people, and they would say this is really funny, you should do something with this." So, we approached some publisher about it.

There must be a bit of redneck in all of us. The first "You Know You're a Redneck If..." book sold about a million copies. Foxworthy has also done an album and a series of Showtime cable specials on the topic, now being sold for \$19.95 through the proverbial special TV offer.

This fall, Foxworthy will release his sixth book, tentatively titled "Games Rednecks Play." Focusing on sports, the book contains a few jokes at Foxworthy's hometown of Atlanta and its upcoming hosting of the Summer Olympics in 1996.

"You know they won't have a game that big without a pig on it," Foxworthy said. "When they release the game, you know there'll be a bunch of guys in the parking lot with shot guns."

Another subject close to Foxworthy's heart is getting older. Life has settled down quite a bit for the actor, who has a home in California and two young daughters, ages 2 and 3. Aging was the subject of Foxworthy's 1993 book, "You're Not a Kid Anymore." The book successfully depicts the "You know you're a redneck if..." formula.

"You're not a kid anymore when you actually call about that adjustable bed on TV," Foxworthy said. "Or you can live without sex, but not without your glasses."

"My wife bought me an electric nose hair clipper for my birthday. That in itself didn't bother me; it was the replacement blade that came with it. Like I'm going to wear this thing out."

Foxworthy is excited to be coming back to the Detroit area. A huge baseball and Atlanta Braves fan, he has been to just about every ball park in the country, thanks to his job. However, there are a couple of notable exceptions.

"Everytime I've been in Boston and Detroit the teams have either been on the road or playing while I'm doing a show," he said. "I've driven by Fenway Park and Tiger Stadium, but never been able to go in to a game."

The Tigers are taking on the Oakland Athletics the afternoon Foxworthy comes to town. Here's a hat tip for Foxworthy — and a bunch of rednecks — will be there.

Jeff Foxworthy appears at 7:30 p.m. July 30 at Meadow Brook. Tickets are \$12 for pavilion and \$10 for lawn, available at the Pine Knob and Meadow Brook box offices, or call Ticketmaster outlets by charge, call (810) 645-6000.

## AT THE MIKE

Not exactly a home state... Glenn Stone provides the latest in the township through the Mark Miller's Country Castle in Royal Oak. Call (810) 645-6000 for reservations.

And now for something completely different... Long dormant, the old Northland movie theater in Southfield has found a new life as the Millennium Theatre Center. Among the entertainment planned for the venue of the Southfield Downtown Development Authority is a series of Friday performances by Mr. T's "The T-Team & Vegetables Company." Billed as a troupe in the tradition of Monty Python and the Kids in the Hall, they appear at 8 p.m. Aug. 5, 12 and 19. Tickets are \$10, available at all Ticketmaster outlets or charge at (810) 645-6000.

## Tour offers a H.O.R.D.E. of fun

■ The H.O.R.D.E. tour will spend the summer touring in the shadow of the acclaimed alternative festival Lollapalooza. But this festival has something more going for it — none of the bands have fallen victim to radio overplay.

By CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER



Hype is what the Lollapalooza Festival is all about. Organizer Perry Farrell has been on the cover of most major music magazines within the last few months. MTV covered the first night by having Smashing Pumpkins singer Billy Corgan interview fellow Lollapaloozians.

All the publicity, however, has left other big concerts like the "H.O.R.D.E. Festival" ("Horizons of Rock Developing Everywhere") in the dust. That tour hits Pine Knob Music Theatre's stage July 21, three days before Lollapalooza rolls in.

If Lollapalooza is the bearer of the world's top alternative acts, then the H.O.R.D.E. tour is the stepbrother who is shy before you get to know him.

The main difference between the two festivals is, obviously, the bands. The groups playing Lollapalooza have fallen prey to radio station programmers who inundate the airwaves with their music (like Smashing Pumpkins, The Breeders, The Beastie Boys). The blues/rock-inspired musicians on the H.O.R.D.E. bill are acclaimed for developing a solid following by touring diligently — without a lot of help from radio or retail.

It's not that the bands don't have hits. The Allman Brothers Band have toured all spring (including a few sold-out shows at the State Theatre in Detroit) and recently released "Where It All Begins" on Epic Records. Blues Traveler will release "Four," their fourth album, on Sept. 13. Sheryl Crow has even had her share of hype following the success of her hit "Leaving Las Vegas." Big Head Todd and the Monsters, who recently appeared on "Late Night With David Letterman," are finishing their follow-up to their successful debut "Sister Sweetly."

### Similar goals

The two really do have a lot in common, however. For example, the 3-year-old H.O.R.D.E. festival has similar goals to Lollapalooza.

"Anyone you're getting a lot of people together, it's a very positive thing. That's what both tours are trying to accomplish. The bands just are not as big as the bands on Lollapalooza — or as commercial," said Chandler Kinchla, lead guitarist for Blues Traveler, the band that created



H.O.R.D.E. of fun: Blues Traveler — Chandler Kinchla (left), Bobby Sheehan, John Popper and Brendan Hill — created the H.O.R.D.E. ("Horizons of Rock Developing Everywhere") tour which will feature bands on two stages.

the H.O.R.D.E. tour.

"The nature of the bands is a lot different (however)," Kinchla added. "With the majority of the bands the focus is on playing live. Most of us formed friendships before the tour. It's like a community and this is an outlet for that community to get together and jam."

Terry Thomas, drummer for second stage band Screamin' Cheetha Wheelies, said that he believes the

To spice it up a bit, organizers recruited Bill Graham Presents, producers of last year's Lollapalooza, to help out.

"They're upping the level a bit... making the concourse more accessible and more intelligent," he said.

Some of the highlights include an "LSD flight simulator," which is an enhanced kaleidoscope/mask that when held up to the light creates a psychedelic visual experience; the "Jimi Hendrix Exhibition," a museum that travels in a 45-foot tractor trailer which includes an interactive music machine; a bungee trampoline as well as a robo-surfer (like an electric bull, but with a surfboard).

"The idea is to get things where people can get over the nervousness of interactive and get silly," Kinchla said of the concourse's goal. "When people get silly they let their guard down and start opening up. It's really conducive to good music."

This year, a secondary stage has been made a considerable part of the show.

"The secondary stage is a much more integral part of the event. Last year we did it but it was very much on the sidelines," Kinchla said.

The side-stage bands include South by Southwest Music Conference favorites Ugly Americans and Chicago's Rollover. The Los Angeles-based band April's Motel Room is using their side-stage appearances on the H.O.R.D.E. tour to promote their Epic Records' debut "Black 14,"

which was released last week.

April's Motel Room occupant Sam Nickell was pretty nonchalant about doing his first national tour with

side the Allman Bros.

"No one in this band (was set on) getting a record deal; playing parties was really cool, makin' a couple bucks here and there," the 20-year-old said.

Joining the three bands on the side-stage is the Screamin' Cheetha Wheelies Terry Thomas, the band's drummer, is most impressed with the family atmosphere that has created, as a result of the H.O.R.D.E. tour.

"I always liked the Allman Brothers. I always knew I'd be in the band that had the same kind of brotherhood. That's the thing I always dug. Thomas said in his slight southern accent.

That's what Kinchla had in mind when his band dreamed up the H.O.R.D.E. Festival.

"We're really proud to be able to create this whole entity. Big Head Todd is someone we get along with personally. It's about creating good music. We're not trying to outdo the year before. We want to just create a good bill."

The H.O.R.D.E. tour comes to Pine Knob Music Theatre, 1-75 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, at 9 p.m. Thursday, July 21. Tickets are \$25 pavilion, \$12.50 for lawn. For more information, call (810) 377-0100.

## George Clinton: A hit after all these years



George Clinton: At the Lollapalooza Festival.

By CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

At the Detroit Music Awards last December, funkster George Clinton commanded attention wherever he went. With his rainbow-colored dreadlocks and kingly robe, it wasn't hard to miss the Brooklyn, Mich., resident.

"I used to work in a barber shop. I know all the hair tricks," the gravely voiced legend said with a laugh.

His hair will be in full effect this week as Clinton returns to Pine Knob Music Theatre to play Lollapalooza. They'll be no mistaking Clinton and the Parliament-Funkadelic. He'll be the one on stage with a 30-member band that looks like it stepped straight out of a costume party.

At first Clinton may not seem to be a logical choice for Lollapalooza. But

it makes sense considering the fact that Clinton is the most-sampled artist in history. De La Soul, Hammer, Gerardo, Eric B., Too Short, Ice Cube and Digital Underground have used bits of his lyrics to make hit records.

"The 'Bow wow wow yippee yo yippee yip' that Snoot Dog's rap with Dr. Dre — that's a Clinton original. 'Free your mind and the rest will follow' as sung by R&B diva En Vogue is based on an old Clinton song."

Half of the fun for Clinton is watching the faces of the primarily young audience when they recognize his lyrics from other people's songs.

"I look at them and I watch them say, 'They made this.' But that's Snoot Dog's song. That's Dr. Dre. You can look at their faces and see a lot of them saying that. Because of

MTV, they (don't realize that they) know quite a bit about it," Clinton said.

He admits that in the back of his mind he always knew his music, some of which dates back to the late 1960s, was going to be "in" again.

"I knew the music was going to come back and be famous again. I never expected it to be as big as it really is. We thought we'd come back as nostalgia. When it did come back, it came back literally."

The Lollapalooza Festival comes to Pine Knob Music Theatre, 1-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township, July 23-July 25 and July 29. Tickets, priced at \$30.00 for pavilion and lawn, are still available for the July 29 show. Call (810) 377-0100 for more information.

## IN CONCERT

**THE REMAINS**  
Sun., 4708 Greenfield, Dearborn. (pav.)  
(313) 945-1920  
**St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.**  
(313) 961-AMLT  
**Wednesday, July 20**  
**THE REMAINS**  
Sun., 4708 Greenfield, Dearborn. (pav.)  
(313) 945-1920  
**St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.**  
(313) 961-AMLT  
**Thursday, July 21**  
**THE REMAINS**  
Sun., 4708 Greenfield, Dearborn. (pav.)  
(313) 945-1920  
**St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.**  
(313) 961-AMLT

**AS HAW**  
Big Fun, 700 Town Center Drive, Dearborn.  
(313) 336-6300  
**THE REMAINS**  
Sun., 4708 Greenfield, Dearborn. (pav.)  
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**St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit.**  
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**Friday, July 22**  
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