

Thursday, June 26, 2003

## THE WEEKEND

### EXHIBIT



A fleet of 30 miniature ships in bottles has anchored at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle, in Detroit. The intricate boats will be on view through January. Admission to the museum is \$2 for adults and \$1 for seniors and children, 12-18. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (313) 852-4051

### FAMILY



Try the DinoSimulator at Dinosauria III for a prehistoric experience. The simulator costs \$3 per person and is located at the Detroit Zoo, in Royal Oak. Dinosauria III includes a trail with animated dinosaurs and a gift shop. Admission to the zoo is \$7.50 for adults, \$6.50 for senior citizens and children, age 2 to 12. Children under 2 are free. (248) 398-0900.

### CONCERT



Lynyrd Skynyrd and Deep Purple perform classic rock at 6:30 p.m., today at the DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston. Tickets are \$32.50 for the pavilion and \$20 for the lawn, available at Ticketmaster outlets or by calling (248) 645-6666.



Arnold Driscoll is one of the artists who captures the heart of Detroit in "Detroit Is the Best" by Spacehog. An exhibition opening Friday at the Detroit Club, 2177 Park Avenue in Detroit. Call (313) 831-1900.



## COME ENJOY COOL NIGHTS

BARBECUE, FIREWORKS AND FUN AWAIT YOU IN PONTIAC

BY SHARON DARGAY  
STAFF WRITER

More fireworks. Added children's activities. Plenty of barbecue. And the best news about Pontiac Cool Nights Festival this weekend is the admission price — it's free.

From the Pointer Sisters concert on Friday night to the final burst of pyrotechnics on Sunday, the second annual Fourth of July party will keep families in the holiday spirit through three days of free, fun activities.

"I think the Cool Nights sets itself apart from other festivals by giving people what they want for Fourth of July," said Jon Witz, founder and festival producer. "There are three nights of fireworks — the lights in the sky tradition. We have barbecue, which you think of for Fourth of July, and outdoor concerts."

Some festivals are about fireworks. Some are about food. I think this fea-

tival is about everything. And from a music standpoint, you can't get more culturally diverse."

Witz counts 14 different music styles in the three-day line-up of local and national acts, which include The Pointer Sisters, George Clinton and the P-Funk All-stars and The Romantics.

Festival organizers added children's activities to this year's schedule, hoping to turn the food and music fest into a family party.

"All the kids had last year were the fireworks. We're excited to add the family programming," Witz noted.

Youngsters who stop by the arts and crafts zone can make funky hats and creative bead necklaces, decorate plaster figurines and shape candle wax.

**Pontiac Cool Nights**  
What: A three-day festival of entertainment, food, children's activities and fireworks.

When: 4-11 p.m., on Friday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday.

Where: Located at the top of the Phoenix Center and in Lot 9 (at the foot of the Phoenix Center).  
Admission: Free

And they can ooh and aah with their families through three fireworks shows. Displays start at approximately 9:30 p.m., each night, preceding the national music acts.

"There's something for everyone. Our formula is to get corporate sponsors to pay for event costs. We make the food and beverages affordable and give

the proceeds to charity partners," Witz noted.

Organizers apply the same formula to Arts, Beats & Eats, a late summer taste, music and art festival which will swing into its fourth year in downtown Pontiac.

"We've given away a half million dollars to charity in three years at Arts, Beats & Eats. That's without charging anyone admission. And we make sure our food items don't cost more than \$4.50. Drinks are \$2," Witz said.

"I think the companies we have dealt with come back (for sponsorship) because they see us making a great event. Events like Arts, Beats & Eats show a track record. It shows we'll do the right thing at Pontiac Cool Nights."

General Motors is the title sponsor for Pontiac Cool Nights. Meijer, MotorCity Casino and AutoHahn Network are among the 16 corporations that underwrite everything from the fireworks to barbecue contest.

"I'm grateful for the sponsors who have. All of the sponsors came back from the first Cool Nights last year. The event costs \$200,000-\$250,000 to produce."

Sengram's Gin Barbecue Competi-

Please see COOL, B2



The Pointer Sisters

## Music at Pontiac

### Cool Nights

Friday, June 29

4 pm — The Sun Messengers (GM Stage)  
5 pm — The Motor City Sheiks (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
5:30 pm — Duane Parham (GM Stage)  
7 pm — The Teen Angels (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
7 pm — Sunny Girl and the UV Rays (GM Stage)  
8:30 pm — Alexander Zovik & Friends (GM Stage)  
9 pm — Horizon (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
10 pm — The Pointer Sisters (GM Stage)

Saturday, June 30

Noon — Intrigue (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
2 pm — Straight Ahead (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
4 pm — Charles Anthony (GM Stage)  
4 pm — Kimmie Home (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
5 pm — Yancy (GM Stage)  
6 pm — The Brothers from Another Planet (GM Stage)  
6 pm — Spice (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
7 pm — The Reelmen (GM Stage)  
8 pm — The Edge (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
8:30 pm — Howling Diddys (GM Stage)  
10 pm — George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic (GM Stage)

Sunday, July 1

Noon — Charles and Gwen Scales (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
2 pm — Bon Temps Roule (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
4 pm — GRG (GM Stage)  
4 pm — Da Boote Brothers (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
5 pm — Svellet (GM Stage)  
6 pm — The Civilans (GM Stage)  
6 pm — Kaleidoscope (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
7 pm — Stewart Franche (GM Stage)  
8 pm — Johnny Rodriguez Latin Jazz (MotorCity Casino Stage)  
8:15 pm — The Romantics (GM Stage)  
10 pm — The 80s (GM Stage)



Parliament Funkadelic

### Children's entertainment

■ Gratitude Steel Band plays at 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., Friday at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Saturday; and at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Sunday  
■ Gordon Russ performs magic at 5:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Friday; 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturday; and at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., Sunday  
■ Roscoe clowns around at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Friday and 12:30 p.m., 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., Sunday  
■ Illusionist Chris Linn performs at noon, 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., Saturday  
■ Author Marian Nelson entertains at 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., Saturday and at 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday  
■ Ben Spitzer juggles at 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., Saturday and at 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday  
■ Harpbeat performs at noon, 2 p.m., 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sunday

## FESTIVAL

# Echo & The Bunnymen, Spacehog invade TasteFest

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER  
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

The sounds spilling from the New Center Festival delivers New York-based and U.K. bred Spacehog. The British quartet invade 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 3 on the Farmer Jack Stage. Influenced by legends like David Bowie, T. Rex and Roky Music, Spacehog hit national acclaim in 1995 with *In The Meantime*. Still mending the velvet goldmine of glam rock, the band's recent release *The Hoggysy* is supposedly singer Royston Langdon's idea of a tribute to his favorite flick — 2001 *A Space Odyssey*.

### Spacehog

Get out your glitter as this year's TasteFest delivers New York-based and U.K. bred Spacehog. The British quartet invade 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 3 on the Farmer Jack Stage. Influenced by legends like David Bowie, T. Rex and Roky Music, Spacehog hit national acclaim in 1995 with *In The Meantime*. Still mending the velvet goldmine of glam rock, the band's recent release *The Hoggysy* is supposedly singer Royston Langdon's idea of a tribute to his favorite flick — 2001 *A Space Odyssey*.

His brother and bandmate Antony Langdon admits, he's got no idea where the name came from. "It was my brother's bloody idea so I would have to



Listen: Echo & The Bunnymen make an appearance at this year's Comerica TasteFest.

**Comerica TasteFest**  
What: Features sights, sounds, treats and shopping by a plethora of metro area vendors.

When: 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, June 30 through Tuesday, July 3; 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 4.

Where: Detroit's New Center Area, along West Grand Boulevard, between Woodward Avenue and the Lodge Freeway and adjacent to the Fisher Building.

Admission: No charge. For more information: Call (313) 827-1101 or visit [www.tastefest.org](http://www.tastefest.org).

questions," he said during a phone interview from New York City. "I think he's completely loony. There is no connection apart from the title. It was going to be

### 2001: A Space Hoggysy

With songs like the majestic opener *Jupiter's Moon* and the sarcastic commentary on American culture forced by *This Is America*, Spacehog doesn't hold back. The band formed seven years ago, and features the brothers Langdon along with fellow Brits Jonny Cragg and Richard Steele.

"In 1994 we got the band together and we were rock stars by 1996," recalled Antony Langdon. On *The Hoggysy*, he penned what will become the next single, *At Least I Got Laid*. "My songs are always pretty comedic," he said. "It's (about) a sad state of affairs, the glut of being in a rock and roll band and what that's like. It's the saddest thing in the world to any to someone."

This great spaceconster has faced its ups and downs, though. Falling in and out of popular music favor tends to take its toll on Langdon. "We were big rock stars and then we were not big rock stars, it's a strange process," he said.

Whether its members are making headlines with their personal lives, as Royston Langdon has done since marrying actress and rock princess Liv Tyler, or for snatching up some fantastic tours, like the Brotherly Love Tour where the band opened for Oasis and The Black Crowes — Spacehog seems to be soaring again.

Please see TASTEFEST, B2