

dudes promise to play it safe this summer. "I think we'll wait until this tour's over until we go dropping into any pools again," Skiba says.

The Allman Brothers Band

JULY 5TH-SEPTEMBER 14TH

TICKETS: \$12.50-\$65

OPENERS: GAVIN DEGRAW, MOE.

"You'll hear some new stuff," promises Gregg Allman, who's been writing songs for a follow-up to 2003's *Hittin' the Note*.

Amphitheater audiences will also hear the Allmans stretch out on classics like "Whipping Post," and the band will stick to its blues roots with covers of Howlin' Wolf and others. "We have one hell of a repertoire," Allman says of the band's current incarnation, which includes guitarists Derek Trucks and Warren Haynes. "Someone just says, 'Play this song,' and, hell, we just play the damn thing."



Clarkson

Kelly Clarkson

JUNE 29TH-SEPTEMBER 10TH

TICKETS: \$28.50-\$75

Strange but true: Clarkson's guitar-heavy single "Since U Been Gone" has won the *American Idol* champ love from indie rockers like Ted Leo (who has covered the tune). Stranger but just as true: Her arena-and-amphitheater trek takes its name from her latest single - it's the Hazel Eyes Tour. For the big venues, Clarkson will have ramps that will extend out into the audience à la U2. Along with songs from both her albums, she'll toss in a medley of covers by some of her idols, including Janis Joplin and Eurythmics.

Devo

AUGUST 4TH-SEPTEMBER 5TH

TICKETS: \$20-\$68

"We have to dust off the yellow toxic-chemical outfits one more time,"

says Devo's Mark Mothersbaugh. He adds that the band's longest tour in almost a decade will exclusively feature songs from the group's New Wave heyday: "It's Devo diluted down to its essence." The band is also considering cutting a new album after the tour.

Bob Dylan/ Willie Nelson

THROUGH JULY 12TH

TICKETS: \$49.50 (KIDS TWELVE AND UNDER GET IN FREE)

OPENER: THE GREENCARDS

Dylan and Nelson are currently in the midst of their second summer road trip together - again playing minor-league ballparks. In addition to his familiar hits, Nelson has been covering Jimmy Cliff's "The Harder They Come," which he recorded for his new reggae album, *Countryman*. So far, the two icons haven't gotten together onstage, but some duets are likely to come.

"I'm sure before the tour's over we'll get together," Nelson says.

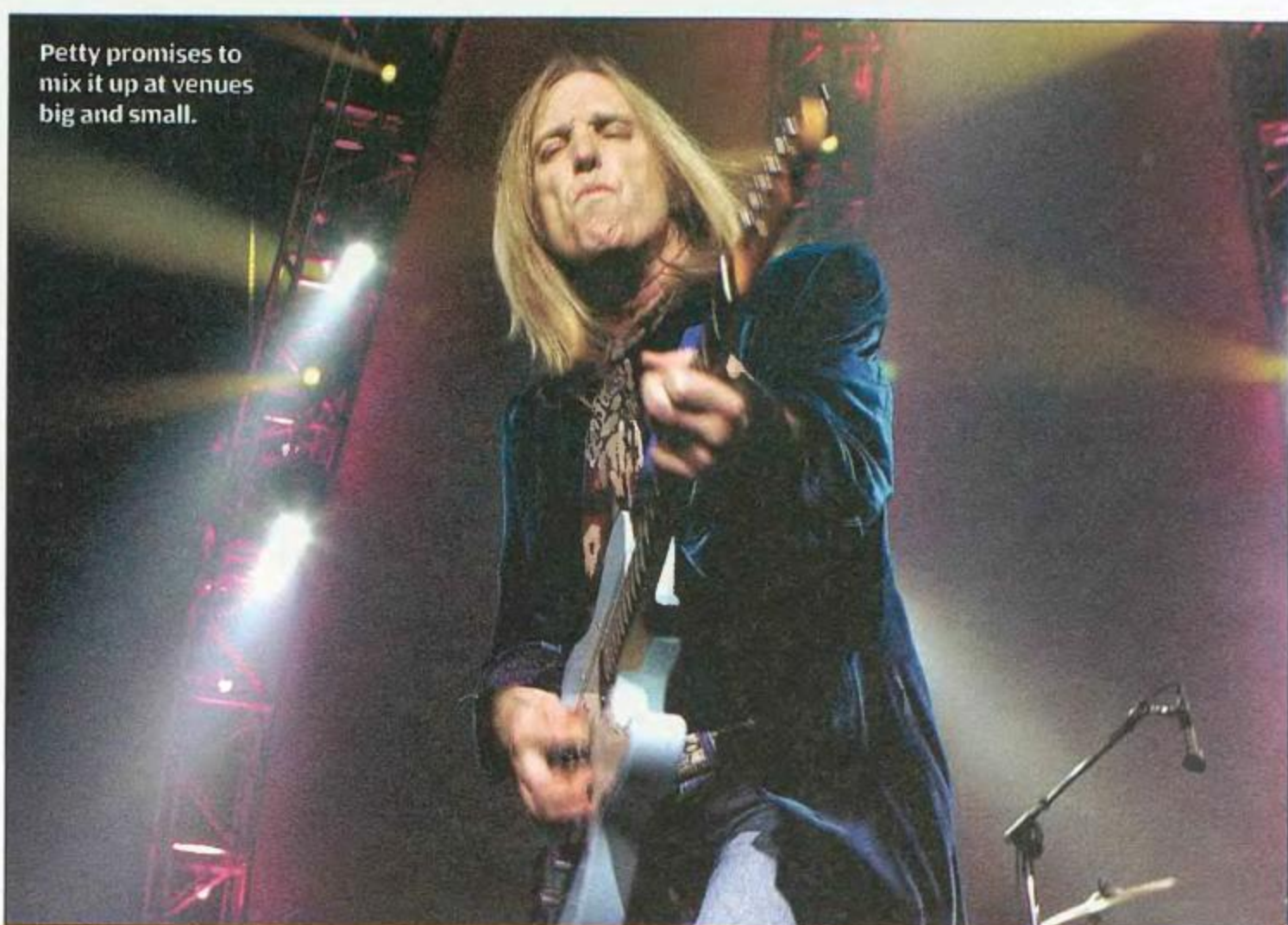
Buddy Guy

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 10TH

TICKETS: \$10-\$59.50

OPENERS: ERIC JOHNSON, JONNY LANG

"One day you wake up and you're a senior citizen," says Guy. "That's the way life is." Guy will turn sixty-nine on July 30th, but judging from his recent performance at the New Orleans Jazz Fest, Guy is no old fart on guitar. In the Big Easy, Guy - a 2005 inductee to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame - boiled down fifty years of showmanship, scratching and poking his six-string, playing behind his neck and escorting the polka-dot Fender on its customary trip through the crowd. This summer Guy will be all over the U.S., playing everything from state fairs to amphitheaters - even the Rib Fest in Indianapolis. To those of you going to his show in Utah: Bring birthday presents.



Petty promises to mix it up at venues big and small.

Tom Petty

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 3RD

TICKETS: \$20-\$67.50

OPENER: THE BLACK CROWES

Here's a frightening thought: Tom Petty says that since their last tour, the Heartbreakers "are actually better." How is that possible? Says Petty, "I don't know. But we rehearsed quite a bit this time - we're very confident." The band has so many songs nailed that on its forty-two-date U.S. tour (with the reunited hippie rockers the Black Crowes), set lists will vary substantially from gig to gig. "Of course we're doing plenty of hits but also some hits we haven't done in a while," says Petty, citing gems like "Listen to Her

Heart" and "Don't Do Me Like That." "Then we'll throw in some old-time rock & roll, some R&B and some album tracks like 'Wildflowers' and 'Crawling Back to You.'" superfans should catch a couple of his smaller

"The stage set's great - it's gonna crack your head," says Petty.

gigs (such as the two-night stand at the Greek Theatre in Berkeley, California), where Petty promises longer, crazier sets.

Also, prepare to be visually stunned. "It's the greatest stage set we've ever had," he says. "It was inspired by Saul Bass, who did screen titles in the Fifties and Sixties, like *Anatomy of a Murder*. I can't describe it - you gotta see it. It's gonna crack your head."

Carole King

JULY 6TH-AUGUST 14TH

TICKETS: \$20-\$114

On last summer's no-frills Living Room Tour, King performed in private homes and small clubs. This year, the venues will be a little bigger: On July 13th, the Brooklyn native plays New York's Radio City Music Hall, her first hometown

show in twelve years. King will perform solo-piano versions of forty years of classic pop songs, from the hits she wrote for artists like the Shirelles ("Will You Love Me Tomorrow") and Aretha Franklin ("Natural Woman") to the Seventies singer-songwriter masterpieces like "You've Got a Friend." Watch for possible guest appearances from her daughter, singer Louise Goffin.

Kings of Leon

JULY 15TH-AUGUST 20TH

TICKETS: \$19.50-\$27

OPENERS: THE SECRET MACHINES, SHOUT OUT LOUDS

Fresh off their tour with U2, the Kings of Leon are psyched to be the headliners again - this summer they'll get to drive the ladies extra crazy, squeezing in more tunes from their sick new album, *Aha Shake Heartbreak*. "This summer we're gonna open some eyes," says singer Caleb Followill, "and moisten some thighs." But what's the big news in the Kings' camp? Before their annual family reunion, drummer Nathan Followill shaved off his beard for the first time in four years. Says Caleb, "Mom was stoked."

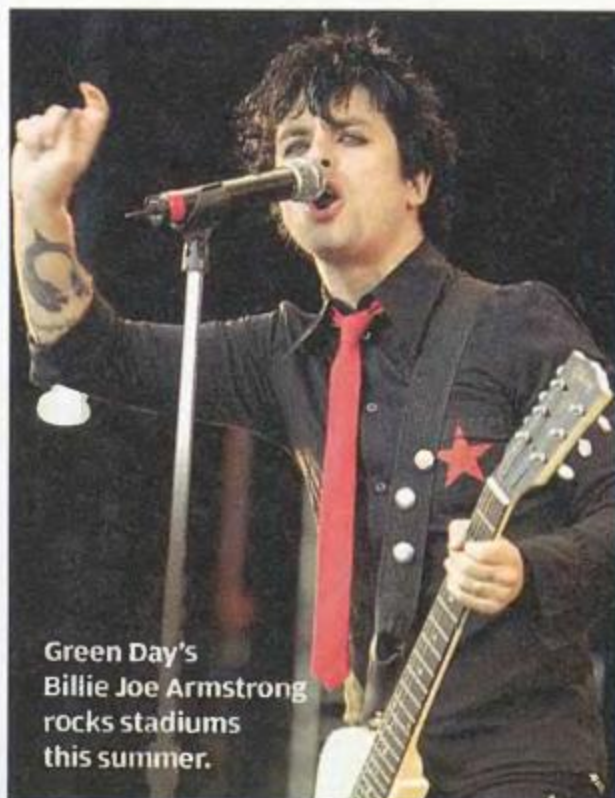
Dave Matthews Band

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7TH

TICKETS: \$36.50-\$61.50

OPENERS: JURASSIC S, DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS, G. LOVE AND SPECIAL SAUCE, RAY LAMONTAGNE

It's gonna be a rough summer for all the Dave Matthews Band haters out there. Says Matthews, "Those folks are going to become even more



Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong rocks stadiums this summer.

Green Day

AUGUST 10TH-OCTOBER 9TH

TICKETS: \$25.50-\$47.50

OPENER: JIMMY EAT WORLD

"With *American Idiot*, it was like, 'Well, let's go for it, and either we'll end up in stadiums or go back to the drawing board,'" says Green Day bassist Mike Dirnt. The drawing board will have to wait: Thanks to the band's career-milestone success (the album has sold more than 3.5 million copies so far), Green Day's summer tour will peak in massive venues like Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, while also including arena and amphitheater dates. "We are just gonna try to take the same show we have and make it bigger," says Dirnt. "Obviously it will be

more of a big rock show, with smoke and mirrors and lights. But no matter how big the show is, we try to break it down and make it intimate."

Like the Who blasting through *Tommy* in 1969, Green Day have been playing *American Idiot* in its entirety at select shows - and the new songs are at least as well-received as any of their old hits. "I think right now is really the payoff for us," says Dirnt. "We're going out and reconnecting with our fans and getting to see how people really know the record. You can tell by the way people sing along what this record means to them - and that just comes full circle to what it means to us."

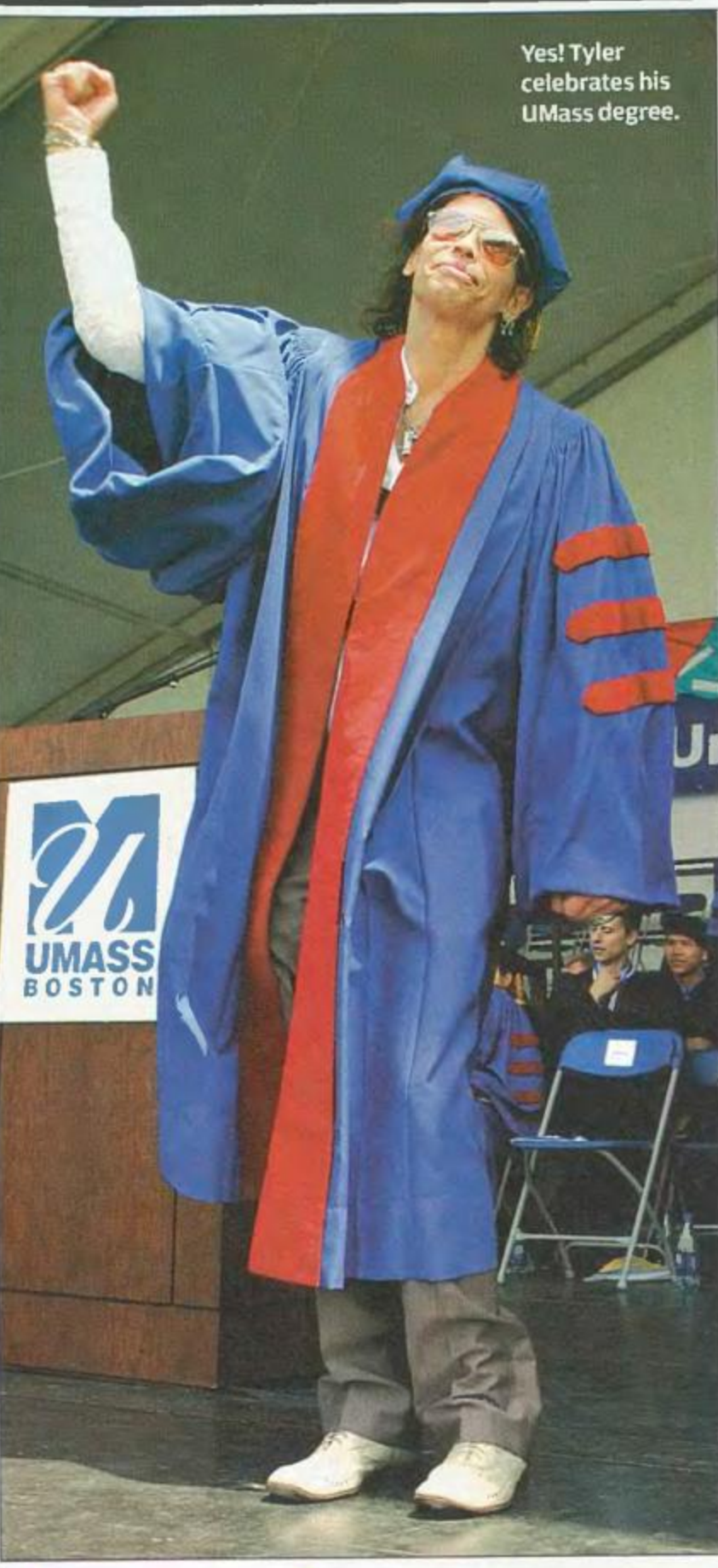
Dirnt's one regret: "I'll never see my own band live. But I've heard it's a really good fucking time."

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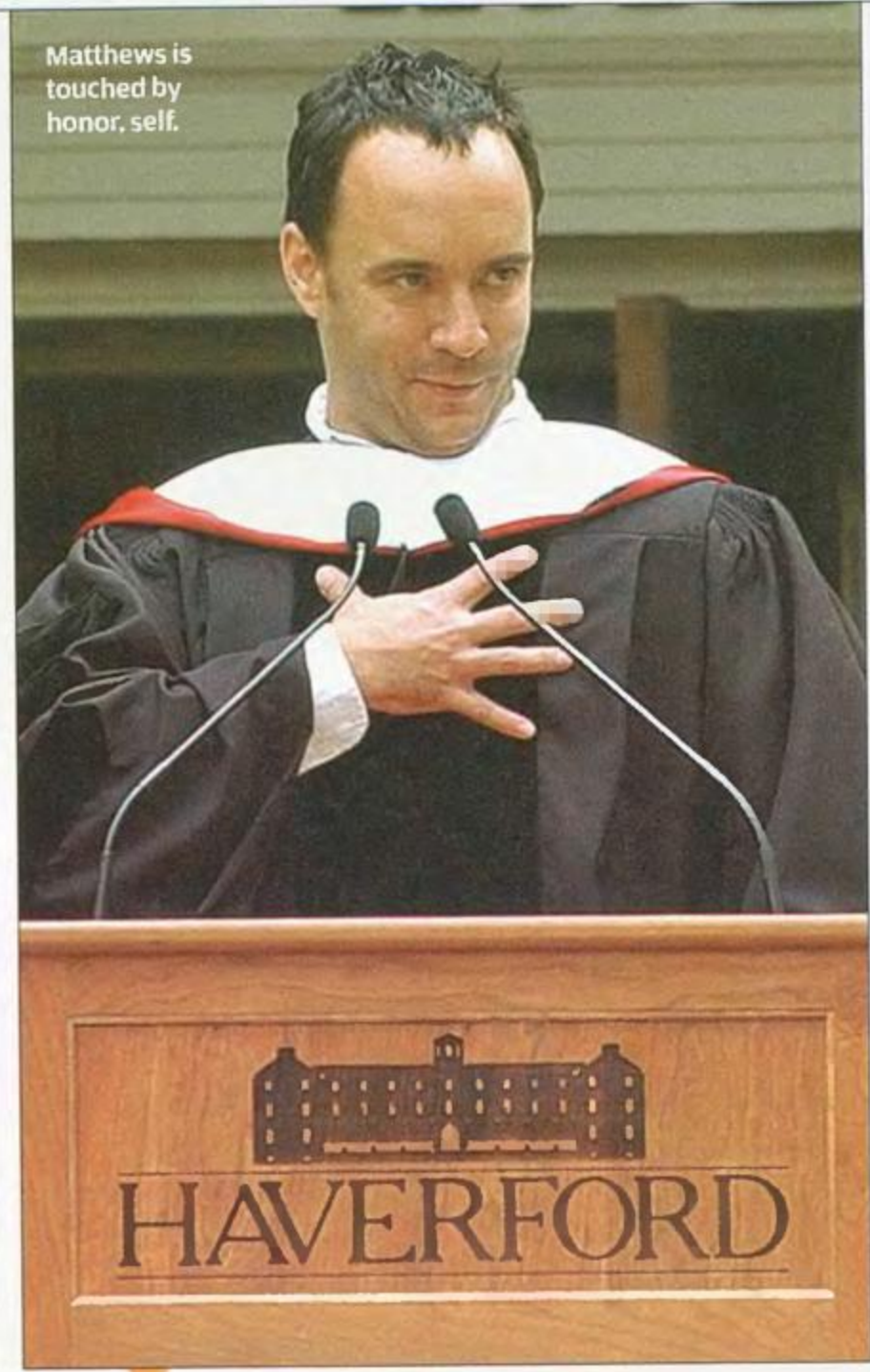
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JAMES DEVANEY/WIREIMAGE.COM (CLARKSON); MYCHAL WATTS/WIREIMAGE.COM (PETTY); ALEC MICHAEL/GLOBE PHOTOS (ARMSTRONG)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: RIBAMAR O CABOCCO/REUTERS/LANDOV; CAROLINE TOREM CRAIG/LFI; CHICO BATATA-AGECOM/REUTERS; MARC ANDREW DELEVY/FILMAGIC.COM; JONATHAN D. NIMEROFF; SARA DE BOER/RETNA; KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES; KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE.COM; BRIAN HINELINE/RETNA; THOMAS LOHNE/APP/GETTY IMAGES; ALEC MICHAEL/GLOBE PHOTOS



Yes! Tyler celebrates his UMass degree.



Matthews is touched by honor, self.

That's Dr. Matthews

Steven Tyler of the Boston institution **Aerosmith** was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Massachusetts, which he adds to one from Boston's Berklee College of Music. Your move, Harvard. Meanwhile, **Dave Matthews** scored a full Doctor of Arts degree from Haverford. (He's a Quaker, it's a Quaker school, so they upped him to a graduate degree.) "Go save the world by being yourself!" he told the class of '05.

ON THE SCENE



Tom and Katie (Tomkat, for short) at MTV Movie Awards

- Britney Spears shaking hands with the very psyched Class of 2005 at Pendleton High School in Oregon, where Kevin Federline's brother Cameron was graduating.
- Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes bringing their "We Can't Be Stopped: PDA World Tour 2005" to the MTV Movie Awards.
- Mariah Carey, Denzel Washington, Jay-Z, P. Diddy, Patti LaBelle and Ludacris celebrating Island Def Jam CEO Antonio "LA" Reid's forty-eighth birthday at New York's Soho Grand Hotel.
- Missy Elliott and posse snaking through the crowd at S.O.B.'s in New York to check out London phenom M.I.A.



Courtney Love and daughter Frances Bean Cobain took in the *American Idol* finale in L.A. (Frances was rooting for Bo).

By Lauren Gitlin, Shirley Halperin and Gillian Telling

SMOKING SECTION

By Austin Scaggs

At 6 A.M. on June 2nd, the **Strokes** were winding down the recording of their third album and about to jet off for a vacation to celebrate drummer **Fab Moretti's** twenty-fifth birthday. Three days later, the Smoking Section got to hear all fourteen songs, which clock in at more than fifty-one minutes. Dare we say it? OK, we will: The awesome range and punch of the new one make the Strokes' first two albums sound like child's play. And those albums are excellent. "I don't wanna go overboard," says singer **Julian Casablancas**, sitting on a stoop on Fourteenth Street in Manhattan, "but I'm pretty excited. It's like a seedless watermelon - I like it." With no deadlines hanging over them in the studio, the Strokes had plenty of time to perfect the tunes, which, you'll be happy to hear, feature Casablancas' voice front and center for the first time. Just a few of the highlights: Casablancas venting on "Razor Blade" with the cutting line "My feelings are more important than yours"; guitarist **Albert Hammond Jr.** ripping into a solo on "Vision of Division," sounding like Dick Dale on crack; and the starkly beautiful "Ask Me Anything" (which came to the singer in a dream), featuring only Casablancas' vocals, and Mellotron courtesy of guitarist **Nick Valensi**. The album is slated for January, and expect a tour more major than the one following the previous album. "We were a little road-weary after *Room On Fire*, so it was light," says Casablancas. "Now I think we're ready for fatal touring again - to go all out. We got our energy back." The band is working closely with studio whiz **Andy Wallace** on the final mix and Casablancas is racking his brain for the album's title and artwork. But he feels like a weight has been lifted off his shoulders. "I'm relaxed now," he says. "Almost done."



Casablancas

The waiting is the hardest part: While relaxing in Malibu, California, just days before his summer tour kickoff in Florida, **Tom Petty** decided to launch this torpedo in the Smoking Section: "I'll have an album out by next year," says Petty, "unless it gets out this year, in the last little bit of December. It's called *Highway Companion*, and it's a solo record." If you remember correctly, his last two solo records - *Wildflowers* and *Full Moon Fever* - are freakin' unbelievable, so how does this one stack up? "I think it's a special one," he says. "I really do." Yes! At his gigs this summer, Petty and his amazing **Heartbreakers** will road-test a couple of the new tunes - a song called "Melinda," and, says Petty, "one that we're really excited about called 'Turn This Car Around.'"