



On The Road

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And Bring The Kids

Lollapalooza Organizers Add Children's Attractions To Festival

A lot of those pierced, tattooed folks who were going to Lollapalooza a decade ago are now parents, and don't let that be a scary thought. Lollapalooza 2005 producers Capital Sports & Entertainment, along with Lolla founder Perry Farrell and HyLo Entertainment, have added a children's component to the July 23-24 festival at Chicago's Grant Park, called, naturally, Kidzapalooza.

HyLo president Tor Hyams says Kidzapalooza became possible when CSE set about rebranding Lolla into a "more family-friendly environment, where parents and kids can come together and enjoy a completely absorbing music experience." Hyams and Farrell partnered on Kidza after Hyams produced the 2004 Disney release "A World of Happiness," which featured a duet between



Farrell and Deborah Harry.

"My passion for the kids' space is pretty great and extremely sincere and important to me," Hyams says. "I pitched Perry, 'I bet everybody who grew up coming to see you and all the underground bands at Lollapalooza actually now have kids.' He certainly does, he has three kids of his own. So I thought, doesn't it make sense to have Kidzapalooza? So kids don't have to feel alienated from their parents because their parents are going to see this cool music that kids can't be a part of."

Access to Kidzapalooza

will be included with Lolla tickets and will feature family-oriented musicians, performers and DJs, as well as games, interactive activities, storytelling, an instrument "petting zoo" and other attractions. Performers include Gwendolyn & the Good Time Gang, the Candy Band, Daddy a GoGo, Ella Jenkins, the Quest Theater Ensemble, John Youst and special guest appearances by the main festival's acts including Farrell.

Kids 10 and under get into the festival free, if accompanied by an adult. "Given the fact that the whole 'palooza' concept has been this kind of fantastical, circus-like festival, this just makes total sense," Hyams says.

He adds that there are plans to roll out Kidzapalooza as a national tour next year, either before or

after Lolla dates on a potential Lolla tour.

TP ON TP: The upcoming Tom Petty bio "Conversations With Tom Petty," due in November on Omnibus Press, holds some intriguing insights into the artist's view toward touring. Compiled from a series of interviews with Petty by songwriter/journalist Paul Zollo, Petty asserts first and foremost that he and the Heartbreakers have always been a touring band, not just Petty and his sidemen.

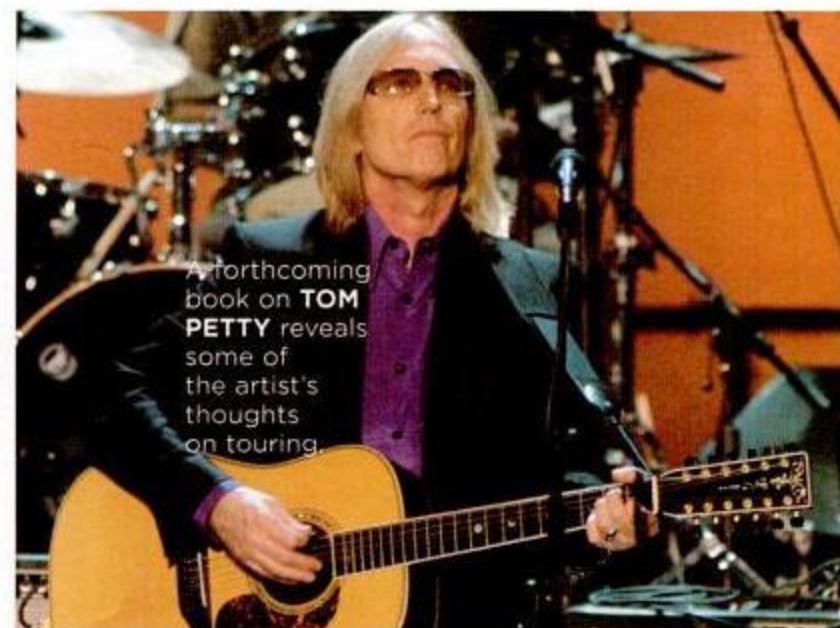
The book reveals some fascinating facts for Petty heads. For example, he despises meet-and-greets at concerts. "Record companies hate it because I don't greet people," Petty tells Zollo. "I've heard I'm aloof or arrogant. But I'm not. My brain won't deal with that. I can't deal with people before the show or after."

Petty also recalls a March

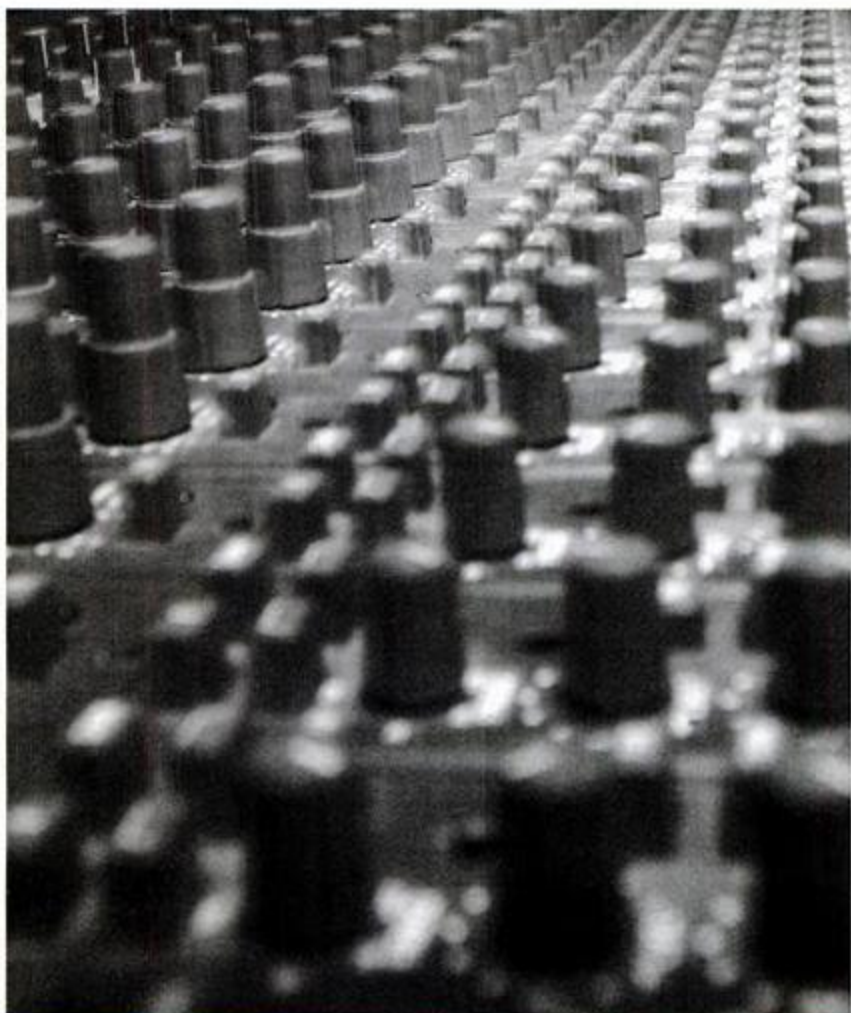
1990 show at the Forum in Los Angeles during the Full Moon Fever tour when he was joined onstage at the encore by Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen. With all three onstage at once along with the Heartbreakers, the group played the Animals' "I'm Crying," Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Travelin'

Band" and Dylan's "Leopard-Skin Pillbox Hat."

In recalling the show, Petty says, "Damn, that must have been a real treat for the audience." Well, I was at that show and I have to tell you, Mr. Petty, that it was indeed a real treat and a personal concert highlight for me.



A forthcoming book on TOM PETTY reveals some of the artist's thoughts on touring.



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