

Life

Heartbreakers hit 30

Petty, band marking milestone with tour

By **NEKESA MUMBI MOODY**
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK—Each week, Tom Petty selects some musical gems that have fallen into obscurity and beams them out on his satellite radio show, hoping to expose fans to some classic music that deserves another listen.

The rock legend is planning to apply some of that philosophy to his own vast catalog this summer, as Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers celebrate the 30th anniversary of the band.

Along with special surprise guests like Stevie Nicks, and supporting acts like Pearl Jam and the Allman Brothers, Petty is making the tour special by going back to the band's first album to play some rarely heard Heartbreaker tunes.

They'll also dust off songs they haven't played in concert for years—though Petty didn't divulge which ones for this interview.

But he did talk about why this tour may be the last blowout tour for the Heartbreakers, his new solo album and why he's allowed cameras to follow the band's every move for the last year.

Q Over the years, acts have proclaimed that this is their last tour but then go out on the road again... Is it safe to say that this may be your last tour?

A Well, never say never (laughs). It might be the last really extended one. I didn't mean to imply that we were going to stop playing. Whether or not we'll continue to do the really long ones, that take up four or five months, I don't know.

Q What is it about extended tours that you're leery of? Some people can be on tour all year long.

A Well, I've done that all my life. I'm not weary of playing music, I'm a little weary of traveling that much, but it's not even that. It's just that I have so

many recording projects I wanna do, going out for half of the year really eats into my time.

Q Being that your catalog is so vast after three decades, are there any songs you wish you could retire—or are there songs that you wish you could play more of?

A Well, you always want to play as much new stuff as you can, though it's hard for an audience, especially if it's really large, to take in a lot of new music, so I don't try and put a lot of those in. But if we get really tired of something we just retire it and replace it and maybe if we wanna bring it back later we do.

Q You also have your radio show. What kind of release does that give you to play what you want?

A It's a real joy. I'm really pleased that it's gone over so well. XM (Satellite Radio) tells us it's one of their top shows, and we get a lot of response, a lot of e-mails from listeners. The nice thing that I didn't really count about it is so many young people write in and tell us that they had no knowledge of this music at all, and are getting turned on to things. I had a girl write in who never heard of Chuck Berry. And she was in her teens and was thanking me for discovering Chuck.

Q Do you have any advice for your good friend Bob Dylan as he does his own radio show?

A No, he's going to be fine. He's doing a different kind of show that I do. I've just heard the first one, and I think it's fantastic.

Q Looking back at your 30 years, what are some of your achievements that blow your mind?

A That it's gone on so long is kind of mind blowing. I certainly never would have thought that.

Q Does it ever get old for you? Do you need time off to recharge?

A I think it's about time to do that because if you stay on the road all the time, it's not the most creative place as far as writing, it's very hard for me to write on the road, and I think if you do take some time away, you come back with a lot more enthusiasm for it, but I don't get tired. We're in such a nice position right now, things have gone so well. I have people approach me on the streets and say, thanks for writing the soundtrack to my life. I can't tell you how good that makes me feel as a songwriter.

Q Peter Bogdanovich is doing a documentary on the Heartbreakers. Has he been following you around with cameras?

A We've given him a lot more access than we've ever given anyone. He does follow us around with cameras, interviewing us, talking to lots of people. He's also filming some concerts. He's spent a great deal of time going through footage of the last 30 years. There's just a truckload of film that's been shot in 30 years, as you can imagine. So we have high hopes for the movie.

Q Does being under such close scrutiny ever get uncomfortable?

A (Laughs.) It's a little scary sometimes. I really admire Peter Bogdanovich, I always have and just the idea that he's doing this is pretty outstanding to me. But I also trust him. I told him early on, I'm just going to give you total carte blanche here and I'm going to trust that you'll make the movie you want, because what I don't want is for me to make the movie. I don't want it from my point of view... sometimes we're miked all day and it's a little nerve-racking, but I'm really glad that somebody of that caliber wants to get this story down, because it is quite a story, and I think it deserves to be archived.



Bailey Fish teams up with some boys to solve a mystery in the shadow of Lake Anna.

Go Fish with new local book

Character is back with Lake Anna fun

By **LUCIA ANDERSON**
THE FREE LANCE-STAR

Fans of Bailey Fish will be happy to know that the 11-year-old sleuth has another mystery.

"The Thief at Keswick Inn" is the third in the series of adventure stories for the 8- to 11-year-old set penned by Linda Salisbury of Louisa County. Salisbury also writes restaurant reviews for The Free Lance-Star.

This time out no unknown relatives show up as in "The No Sisters Sisters' Club," but Bailey does meet two brothers her age who share in her adventures.

While the children are helping the boys' parents renovate an old home, they discover some valuable and historic items. When these things vanish, Bailey and the boys join forces to catch the thief.

When she's not detecting, Bailey also has to deal with her mother's continuing absence in Costa Rica and her own adjustments to life in Virginia with her grandmother.

As in the previous two books, the action takes place on the Louisa County shore of Lake Anna and includes some historical information about the area—this time about local American Indian tribes.

Salisbury will be signing copies of "The Thief at Keswick Inn." Tomorrow, she will be at The Pear Tree in the Spotsylvania County Courthouse area from 8 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., and at Jabberwocky Children's Book Store on Caroline Street in Fredericksburg from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. On June 10, she will be in Orange County, at Marshall Farms Corner in Unionville (U.S. 522 and State Route 20) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Girlfriend is pining for a ring

Dear Carolyn:

My long-term boyfriend and I are very happy, and marriage has been discussed but never with a time frame. Recently I've been feeling more inclined to marriage, ready for the commitment and ready to celebrate with this wonderful man. I could talk to him about this but I don't and here's why: I can't shake my romantic notion of a surprise engagement. I've got this idea of his buying the ring and picking a special location and my crying with joy and surprise. I feel like a boob! Discussing marriage and agreeing to get engaged seem less exciting. I know this is stupid because the point is spending the rest of my life with a fantastic man, not having a great engagement story to tell at parties. Please smack me!

—Virginia

I'm sorry, I don't have it in me to smack someone who already feels like a boob.

TELL ME ABOUT IT
Carolyn Hax



There, now we both have our soft underbellies exposed.

I also don't think your distress is entirely boobular. Yes, what matters is the rest of your life and not the Big Proposal Scene. But given the way we're (currently) socialized, men grow up expecting to propose and women grow up expecting to be proposed to—a honking generalization, obviously, but stay with me—and so when a man doesn't buy a ring and pick a location and propose, a woman does sometimes start to wonder if he's paying attention to what makes her happy, or even wants her that badly.

Neither of these doubts should be dismissed just because they're mixed in with the über-silliness of diamond rings and knee-bends.

Since this is about wanting to be together, the obvious answer is for you just to propose. But since it's also about your ability to make each other happy, I don't think the obvious applies.

Instead, figure out whether your romantic hopes are realistic with this guy.

Is he even the bended-knee type? Or is he going about this exactly as you should expect, knowing him as you do?

If it's the former, has he given you other reasons to suspect he's hesitating? And if it's the latter, is his non-bended-knee-ness something that you, in day-to-day life, really love about him—or has it been a source of gnawing disappointment that gets tougher to shrug off each time?

If this were a sitcom, right now we'd cut to your boyfriend, and he'd be talking about baseball.

But ask yourself these questions anyway, preferably in the privacy of your own mind, and see



Tom Petty (performing last summer) is heading out on the road with The Heartbreakers to mark the band's 30 years.

John Davison / KNIGHT RIDER/TRIBUNE