

The Big Update

Our Sixth Issue

Though started as a onetime lark to get people psyched up for Summerfest 1993 after a succession of good years (see article on page 4), the Big Update now has reached its sixth issue. While some people tend to promote anniversaries of the 5's (5, 10, 15, etc.) we will celebrate 6 since it is twice the number 3, or the number of good issues published. Some people will point out that much of the schedule information here is now available at www.ifitsnotthebigupdateitsshit.com so we are committed to offering more. We will print the schedule as you need to know it. We will tell you what is worth going to and what is not. We will cut through the b.s that the media elite and various conspiracies are trying to pass off. And most importantly, we will tell you who is sleeping with who. Don't think of it as a step toward tabloid journalism. Think of it as fullfilling your deepseated purlent interests. And for gosh sakes, do something this summer that we can write about in '99.

What's New In '98

Continuous improvement is not limited to American industry. The Henry W. Maier Festival grounds see improvements every year. This year we can look forward to:

-The lakewalk. Aesthetically pleasing landscapes including Milwaukee Harp Lights, mature trees, and grassy areas. Do I hear beer stands? Nope. Guess I won't be there.

-Briggs & Stratton Big Back Yard. Old Style copped out of their sponsorship so now we will have lawnmowers and an eclectic blend of musical performers and an at-home atmosphere.

-House of Blues Stage. It's sponsored by Jim Belushi so it has to be good.

-World Village Marketplace. This is the same old place where they sell state fair crap. They are adding a stage this year to get people to go to it.

-Pepsi Talent Search. Cute cherubs acting all grown up. Let's give the kids a beer.

-Ironman up for grabs. Fred is only going to fest for 5 days this year instead of 11. Who is going to pick up the slack?



They Number Four; They are the Twins

It has been lamented in this periodical that there was a perpetual shortcoming in our women's' corps. Specifically, women don't come back with us after one year's experience. Now Kelly Corrigan tried to explain the reason for the problem last year but her solution seemed to involve giving unnecessary respect so obviously there had to be a better way. That way was to find a group of ladies who were going to be around anyway and claim them for ourselves. We call them the twins because Sue and Sharon Stephany are in fact identical; however, it would be incomplete not to include Kay Casper and Candace Acheson in this group as well. They come to one of the biggest beer festivals in the world loaded with vodka and do a good job of saving tables for us. It should be pointed out that they seem amenable to

this relationship and have embraced us into their bosom. In fact, they have let us take some pictures while we were there.

A Bowel has Moved

For many years a wild, outrageous, and well-documented rumor has circulated that Ray maintained an actual spreadsheet that documented the comings and goings of everyone he knows at the Summerfest grounds. Someone even suggested that in addition to tracking the flight times, favorite bands, preferred credit card and least favorite beers of each attendee, Ray also assigned roommates at the Plaza. Well, I never got a co-operative roommate! Anyway, Ray has decided that the spreadsheet will be aborted in the womb of Excel. If 682,000 other people can find their own way maybe we can too. On the other hand, it was always so much fun to laugh at.

The Marcus Amphitheater

- 6-25 BoDeans-Should be on the second weekend
- 6-26 Phil Collins Big Band
- 6-27 Boyz II Men & other crap
- 6-28 Keeny G-They don't have enough beer for this one.
- 6-29 Bonnie Raitt
- 6-30 LeAnn Rimes
- 7-1 Mary J. Blige
- 7-2 Widespread Panic
- 7-3 Shania Twain-She's hot and has 2 songs
- 7-4 James Taylor-In My Mind I'm Coming from Carolina
- 7-5 Smashing Pumpkins

Harley Roadhouse (still Pabst to me)

- 6-25 TBA
- 6-26 Gufs-Should be second weekend as well
- 6-27 Cherry Poppin' Daddies-I'll pop yours
- 6-28 Temptations-Two hours of My Gal
- 6-29 Hall & Oates-The ambiguously gay duo
- 6-30 Steppenwolf
- 7-1 BlackHawk-A headliner in Milwaukee
- 7-2 Teen Idols-If you were a teen in '65

- 7-3 Jonny Lang
- 7-4 Foreigner

Levi's Rock Stage

(Milwaukee is the blue jean capital of southeast Wisconsin)

- 6-25 Brother Cane
- 6-26 Candlebox
- 6-27 Monster Magnet
- 6-28 Jimmy's Chicken Shack
- 7-1 Gravity Kilss
- 7-2 Seven Mary Three
- 7-3 Cold, Creed
- 7-4 Joe Satriani
- 7-5 Spacehog

Leinie's Lodge

(I'm a card carrying member)

- 6-25 Cowby Mouth
- 6-26 Buckwheat Zydeco
- 6-28 The Ally McBeal Chick
- 6-29 Pat Benatar
- 7-1 IVY
- 7-2 Dave Alvin/Freddy Jones
- 7-3 Mojo Nixon
- 7-4 Huffamoose (who?)
- 7-5 The Mighty Blue Kings

Miller Oasis

- 6-25 The Love Monkeys
- 6-26 Violent Femmes-What is with everything good happening the weekend I won't be there?
- 6-27 Ziggy Marley
- 6-28 The Radiators
- 6-29 Heart
- 6-30 Keb' Mo'-Can' Miss'
- 7-1 Brian Setzer
- 7-2 Chumbawamba-This is so fifteen minutes ago!
- 7-3 K.C. and the Sunshine Band-This could be fun.
- 7-4 Tonic
- 7-5 Marcia Ball

A Good Year for Wine

It's not enough to spend a lot of money on a bottle of wine. A connoisseur will argue that the year of the vintage is critical. Likewise, we had a little debate about good years of Summerfest. 1990 was a good year. 1991 was a better year. 1994 an excellent year. Someone (rhymes with John Hanson) claims '96 as the best. Why is this? The wine connoisseur can show graphs of total rainfall and frequency; measure acidity and sweetness. Our measuring stick appears to be a condom count. That brings us to our annual discussion of.....

Negotiable Morals

This newsletter column originated as a way for Fred to bitch that he didn't get any the previous year while everyone else did. Truth be told, he did get some once. Furthermore, half the group went and got married. Since it is well documented in Cosmo that sex stops after the honeymoon, Fred's bitch is no better than that of half the men who will be there. And they made lifelong oaths. So the bar has been lowered. A peck on the cheek from a perfect stranger will count as a score. If she buys you a beer, score double. If your wife thumps you soundly, you win the round.



SCORE!

House of Blues

- 6-26 Dirty Dozen Brass Band
- 6-27 Willy Porter
- 6-28 Lonnie Brooks
- 6-29 Morris Day & The Time-What! No Prince?
- 6-30 Geno Delafosse
- 7-1 Fabulous Thunderbirds
- 7-2 Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
- 7-3 Koko Taylor-my sophomore roommate smoked pot with her
- 7-4 Paul Cebar & The Milwaukeeans
- 7-5 Sonia Dada

Briggs & Stratton Big Back Yard

(I don't recall my backyard having 30 acres of asphalt)

- 6-25 Faith Hill
- 6-26 Lee Ritnenour
- 6-27 Smokey Robinson
- 6-28 Booze Brothers
- 6-29 Chicago
- 6-30 Gene Pitney
- 7-1 REO Speedwagon
- 7-2 REO Speedwagon-all new songs
- 7-3 Three Eye Blind
- 7-4 Ramsey Lewis
- 7-5 Jayhawks

Other Stages

There is a new stage called the Piggly Wiggly Big Gig Stage. I could be wrong but I think this is the area we normally called "the fountain". Those Damn Accordians will be playing here on a bunch of occasions. You only need to see them once. The band Brother will also play here. They have one cool song that uses Australian aboriginal instruments. Unfortunately, you have to buy the whole CD. Don't forget about the wandering performances of Truly Remarkable Loon and the guy who drives the birds around but doesn't do bird tricks.

**SUMMERFEST INFORMATION
ENCLOSED!**

SPECIAL COLLECTORS EDITION!

READ! MEMORIZE! BE THERE!

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