{THE BLUE BANNER}

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Festival

referring to music festivals like Bonnaroo and Lollapalooza.

Bird performed during Bonnaroo 2006 and sat in with Georgia-based My Morning Jacket. He said he is open to the idea of sitting in with other musicians at this year's festival.

"Nothing is planned as of yet, and I haven't taken a good look at who is playing. But if it's the right people, I'd sure do it," said the Chicago native.

While artists such as Bird, Band of Horses and The Decemberists cater to more mellow, songwriting junkies, artists such as Pretty Lights, Animal Collective and Girl Talk provide the inspiration to dance to thousands of concertgoers, said Greg Gillis of Girl Talk. "People (at Bonnaroo) are ready to party, ready to jam," he said. "My music is kind of celebration music that you can party and dance to and, at a festival, it's almost easier to engage the crowd."

Bonnaroo began in 2002 with headliners Widespread Panic, Trey Anastasio, The Stringcheese Incident and Phil Lesh and Friends. Over the years, promoters AC Entertainment and Superfly Productions diversified the talent recruitment, recognizing the evolution in summer music festivals, according to Brad Lovejoy, UNC Asheville student and coauthor of *Guerilla Street Team Marketing*.

"The diversity of genres in recent years reflects society's diverse tastes and will, in theory, bring us all closer together," Lovejoy said. "Music festivals are about being who you really are, without being restricted by rules, ethnicity or musical preference. The jam scene has known this for decades, and now other types of music fans will have a chance to experience it for themselves."

This year's headliners include Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, Beastie Boys and Phish, playing their first festival since the farewell performance in Coventry, Vt., five years ago.

In addition to a rock 'n' roll legend in Springsteen, hip-hop legends in the Beastie Boys and experimental legends in Phish, the festival features soul legends Al Green and Erykah Badu, along with rap legends Public Enemy and Snoop Dogg,

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according to Lovejoy.

Entertainment options don't stop with music and comedy, according to the festival's promoters.

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An air-conditioned tent located in the Centeroo stage and vending area rotate a variety of movies 24 hours a day. Screenings include documentaries, world cinema, short films, animated films and the NBA playoff games.

The festival also features a beer tent, a silent auction, various workshops and kids' activities among a multitude of other amenities.

For information on ticket prices, the complete lineup, volunteer opportunities and anything else regarding the festival, visit www.bonnaroo.com.

Urinetown

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is where all the discovery lies. People were learning so much about their characters and beginning to do some pretty funny things. Every night was hysterical because every person there loves what they are doing."

Faculty member Jim Driggers of the literature department said being a cast member was a challenging experience.

"I wanted to be a part of the play because I knew the music and thought it would be great fun to sing in those big group numbers," Driggers said.

Collaborating with a group of passionate people was very rewarding, Goff said.

"The drama department is a family," Goff said.

"Working in the conditions we have to, you really have no choice. Many of us take on different jobs — lights, set construction, costume, acting. We have to work together in situations where there are literally lives at stake."

Driggers said he wanted to see what he was made of while involved in the play.

"I am always amazed by the scope and depth of talent of the students and faculty at UNCA," said Driggers.

"We were given a wide range to explore and develop our characters, and most nights I just felt like a lamp post standing on stage while all this creative buzz was happening around me," Driggers said. grew. Broccoli, cabbages, everybody was trippin'. No pattern, everything was just random."

The children of the Pisgah View complex ran out onto the field and started digging away, White recalls. The complex, one of Asheville's most dangerous public housing projects, threatened the younger community members' safety, White said.

"A lot of the media came over here to film the dead body laying in the street or somebody with their hands behind their back in handcuffs. But here is this garden in the middle of this horrible place where gunfights are breaking out all of the time and people are selling dope everywhere, but here is this garden that is flourishing."

Now, the garden has all the ingredients for a salad: arugula, romaine lettuce, cucumbers, beets, tomatoes, Chinese cabbage and, in the summertime, watermelon.

"Last summer, my watermelons were bangin'," White said. "One dude came down and wanted to trade crack for those watermelons."

AmeriCorps' Project March dedicates their mission to aiding children of the community housing projects of Asheville. A homework club meets every afternoon from 3 until 5 p.m. with a snack, homework help and an activity. Anna-Marie Smith, activity specialist for Project March says the Pisgah View Community Peace Garden encourages children to eat healthier.

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"They are very curious about what is new to them," Smith said. "It is so important for them to know how to eat healthy. It is another resource we can give to them which will spring into eating right at home."

White recently received a \$3,500 grant for a youth summer gardening camp. He also provides healthy eating demonstrations for after school programs like Project March.

"When the tomato plants were just starting to flower, there were a bunch of kids standing around the raised bed. A little boy asked me, 'What's that?' I said, 'That's a tomato plant.' His response was 'I thought tomatoes grew in cans," he said. "Everybody I tell that story to laughed about it, and so did I, but then it hit me how pitiful it was that a child didn't know that things don't grow in cans."

Terri Zimmerman March, Health Promotion Program and Healthy Buncombe program coordinator at the Buncombe County Health Center acknowledges that many Americans are overweight and practice unhealthy lifestyles. But, she said, with the growth of local farms and gardens like the Pisgah View Community Peace Garden, more positive outcomes will arise.

Community members receive boxes of fresh produce along with quick and easy recipes, March said.

"It's a great way for families to teach each other about different types of fruits and vegetables," she said. Lawn Party

"I feel that the event has been really well done, especially the food," said Renee Binderwald, a freshman whose major is currently undecided. "Unfortunately many people I know couldn't make it because they are too busy studying for next week. I try to explain to them that it is healthy to take a break. It's a shame, because this is a lot of fun, and like I said, the food rocks," Binderwald said.

The festival featured decade-inspired themes for food, such as 1970s fondue, 1980s Jello and 1990s raw foods, among others.

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Garden