

ARTS

Dillon Fence gives local followers 15 minutes of fame in new video

By Katrina Wittcamp
Staff Writer

On a hot summer night in June, band members from What Peggy Wants, Queen Sarah Saturday and the Sex Police danced to the same Dillon Fence song, "Black Eyed Susan," all night long as Norwood Cheek, local video producer and musician, captured the moment on tape.

No, there wasn't a skip on Dillon Fence's new CD, "Outside In," which recently was released on the Mammoth Records label. Cheek, who plays bass for the Sex Police, was shooting Dillon Fence's second video, bound for air time on MTV's "120 Minutes."

The video was shot at the home of Lane Wurster, art director for Mammoth, who cleared out his living room to set up lights and a drum set. The band turned the makeshift set into something of a party by purchasing a pony keg, and some Chapel Hill residents were invited to attend the festivities and to be in the video.

"I think people were just more interested as friends of Dillon Fence," said Tim Roven, guitarist for What Peggy Wants. "The video was secondary to just having a good time. No one was there furthering their own egos by being

in the video. There was a genuine enthusiasm instead of mock enthusiasm." Much of the lively spirit in "Black Eyed Susan" relies on the fact that it was done with friends of Dillon Fence and produced by a close friend of the band.

"Making the video with one of your friends is a more comfortable, open-ended, creative atmosphere," said Greg Humphreys, lead singer of Dillon Fence. "(Cheek) is sort of a natural at it.... He moves with the camera well."

Roven, whose band also has had a video filmed by Cheek, agreed that he was confident in his work. "Norwood has such a great eye and a real feel. And he doesn't try to cram the bands into his style."

The video goes something like this: the band members from Dillon Fence — Scott Carle, Kent Alphin, Chris Goode and Humphreys — are all in Humphreys' old convertible Cadillac on their way to a party when the car breaks down. They get directions from local folk artist Clyde Jones after pushing the car to the gas station where, in real life, Jones spends much of his time.

"Clyde Jones and the local music scene was an interesting juxtaposition," Roven explained. "Clyde has nothing to do with the local music scene. He

doesn't even own a stereo. Clyde Jones represents, on one level, what the Chapel Hill music scene strives for — to create art without incumbent financial and media pressures."

In the second part of the video, the band dreams of being at the party, and when they wake up they find themselves in the right place. Dillon Fence bursts into the party, and the crowd parts in the middle as the band makes their way through and begins to play.

Jessica Spangler, who was at the video-shooting party, said, "It wasn't like anyone had to try. Everyone there was involved in music or knew someone that was involved."

Like many videos, the story told in the video of "Black Eyed Susan" has little to do with the actual lyrics of the song.

"We decided not to follow the story line of the song and give it another dimension," Humphreys said. "Since (the video) is a part of what you do, it should be used as a way of expression, to give the song another dimension of enjoyment."

Dillon Fence's first video, "Collapsis," also produced by Cheek, has already been played on MTV's "120 Minutes." The video shows clips of the band playing in a warehouse surrounded



Norwood Cheek of the Sex Police has directed videos for 17 local bands

by candles while Humphreys roams around in a house surrounded by children playing outside.

"To me, 'Collapsis' is a very innocent song," Cheek explained. "There is a strange connection with the kids playing outside and Greg — it invokes the fact that Greg and the kids are intertwined in some way. It has no real story line, it's just mainly images."

Cheek said that the tone of the new video was much less serious than in the first. "Greg had the idea of (Dillon Fence) wanting to get to this party. He wanted to give it a Beatles kind of feel, like in the movie 'A Hard Day's Night.'"

Cheek, who has done videos for about 17 local bands, said the editing for

"Black Eyed Susan" would be done in about two to three weeks, and if it is shown on MTV, it will air sometime in August.

As for their new CD "Outside In," Humphreys said the band had high hopes for it. "There are so many different kinds of songs.... It goes in so many different directions. 'Collapsis' is a good introductory song. 'Black Eyed Susan' sounds like a pop single off of AM radio," he said.

"We like to touch all different emotions in the emotional spectrum. We are much happier with this recording than anything we've done. I'm just glad people are interested and glad people are watching."

School

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school board to prioritize its concerns among the many that are facing the district. He said at a press conference Tuesday that it was important to uphold the high standards that have earned the system respect nationwide and statewide.

Armed with good problem-solving skills, Royster said he thought his experience working with the system in a variety of ways would be an asset to the school board.

"Working with the Blue Ribbon Task Force gave a much greater insight on many different things, not just related to the task force," he said. "I do feel I bring a very broad-based understanding of issues."

Royster also served on the Long-Range Planning Committee, which made recommendations for secondary school students.

Although his experience primarily is linked to advancing the performance of black students, Royster said he thought he could represent the interests of all students.

"The goals of the task force say that the Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools will be a system for all students and that all students can learn. It is not the color of one's skin that should be at the forefront of advocacy," he said.

Candidates interested in entering the race for the local board of education can file for the Nov. 2 race with the Orange County Board of Elections in Hillsborough until noon Aug. 6.

Kelly Ryan contributed to this article.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

MUSIC
CODEINE CORAL and SPATULA at Local 506. 967-1646.

EITHER WAY PATSY DIES at the Cave. 968-9308.

DAYNA KURTZ at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

DON MEROZ AND FRIENDS at Pyewacket. 929-0297.

BARRY MANILOW at Walnut Creek Amphitheatre in Raleigh. 834-4000.

EVENTS
JUDY GOLDMAN will read from her book of poetry, "Wanting to Know the End," at McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends in Fearington Village. 542-3030.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

MUSIC
CREAM OF SOUL at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

EVIL WEINER and LUD at Columbia Street Bakery and Coffeehouse. 967-9150.

THE FAIRLANES at the Cave. 968-9308.

SLANT 6 with NOTHING PAINTED BLUE and MUNCH at Local 506. 967-1646.

THE MANLY STREET CHAMBER PLAYERS will perform at University United Methodist Church. 8 p.m. (919) 722-5838.

TRAVIS TRITT with TRISHA YEARWOOD and LITTLE TEXAS at Walnut Creek. 834-4000.

EVENTS
"ALADDIN" in the Union Auditorium. 8 p.m.

COMEDY
SELECTED HILARITY at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

TRANSACTORS IMPROV CO. at

the ArtsCenter in Carrboro. 929-ARTS.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

MUSIC
4 LEGS GOOD 2 LEGS BAD at the Cave. 968-9308.

TINALOVINGS at Columbia Street Bakery. 967-9150.

BILL PHILLIPS at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

STEVE TURRE & SANCTIFIED SHELLS at the ArtsCenter. 929-ARTS.

TAR and ARCWELDER at Local 506. 967-1646.

THE USUALS at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

MUSIC
CLUB VOGUE at Local 506. 967-1646.

SPATULA and STUN at the Cave. 968-9308.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

MUSIC
TIM STAMBAUGH at the Cave. 968-9308.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

MUSIC
THE MODERN PILGRIMS at the Cave. 968-9308.

WXYC NIGHT at Local 506. 967-1646.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

MUSIC
MUMBLEFISH at the Cave. 968-9308.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

MUSIC
BAND OF SUSAN at Local 506. 967-1646.

KUNDALINI at Skylight Exchange.

Arts & Entertainment CALENDAR OF EVENTS

933-5550.

CHRIS STAMEY'S BIG BAND at the Cave. 968-9308.

BILL & TONI STEVENS at Pyewacket. 929-0297.

EVENTS
ROBERT GREY will read from his book, "Saving the Dead," at McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends. 542-3030.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

MUSIC
THE AXIDENTS at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

INDIAN SUMMER at the Cave. 968-9308.

NEAR-BLIND JAMES and HARMONICA BOB at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

DAVID WILCOX at the ArtsCenter. 929-ARTS.

TINA TURNER with CHRIS ISAAK at Walnut Creek. 834-4000.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

MUSIC
BULL CITY BLUES at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

SYMPHONY OF BROTHERHOOD and THE LARKS at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

THE MAJESTIC LIONS at the ArtsCenter. 929-ARTS.

WHAT PEGGY WANTS at the Cave. 968-9308.

REBA MCINTIRE with AARON TIPPIN and RADNEY FOSTER at Walnut Creek. 834-4000.

EVIL WEINER and SPATULA record release party at Local 506. 967-1646.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

MUSIC
BITTER SONS and HAT at the Cave. 968-9308.

DSF EARTH CORP at Colonel Chutney's. 942-7575.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

MUSIC
JIM SMITH at the Cave. 968-9308.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

MUSIC
STAN LEWIS AND THE LAWBREAKIN' REVELERS at the Cave. 968-9308.

ZEN FRISBEE and JIMBO at Local 506. 967-1646.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

MUSIC
BRUSHED BY FLAME at the Cave. 968-9308.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

MUSIC
ROBERT HOYT at Columbia Street Bakery. 967-9150.

NEIL MORRIS, CHARLES PETTEE and JOHN DONNELLY at Pyewacket. 929-0297.

SUMMER WIND at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

TWEAKER at the Cave. 968-9308.

H.O.R.D.E. FESTIVAL at Walnut Creek, featuring Allgood, Blues Traveler and Widespread Panic. 834-4000

EVENTS
JAKISHELTON GREENE will read from her book, "Dead On Arrival," at

McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends. 542-3030.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

MUSIC
2 FISH BLUE at the Cave. 968-9308.

JANET BRATTER at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

MARCI with CHEW TOY and MUNCH at Local 506. 967-1646.

NIGHTBIRD at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

SPECK at Columbia Street Bakery. 967-9150.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

MUSIC
THE IGUANAS at the ArtsCenter. 929-ARTS.

LUANNE MCCARTHY and BLUES WITH A FEELIN' at the Cave. 968-9308.

OROGONY at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

VALENCE at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

MUSIC
DSF EARTH CORP at Colonel Chutney's. 942-7575.

SEVER and TRANSAM at the Cave. 968-9308.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

MUSIC
MUMBLEFISH at the Cave. 968-9308.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

MUSIC
BRUCE STEVENSON at the Cave. 968-9308.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

MUSIC
JIM WATSON at the Cave. 968-9308.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

MUSIC
THE TIM STAMBAUGH BAND at

Pyewacket. 929-0297.

THE VOXES at the Cave. 968-9308.

GREAT AMERICAN BLUES FESTIVAL at Walnut Creek featuring B.B. King, Eric Johnson, Koko Taylor and Junior Wells. 834-4000.

EVENTS
DAPHNE ATHAS will read from her book, "Crumbs for the Bogyman," at McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends. 542-3030.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

MUSIC
THE BAD DOG BLUES BAND at the Cave. 968-9308.

THE BOTTOM LINE at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

SLEEPYHEAD at Local 506. 967-1646.

BRUCE STEVENSON at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

COMEDY
TRANSACTORS IMPROV CO. at the ArtsCenter. 929-ARTS.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

MUSIC
MEREDITH D'AMBROSIO and EDDIE HIGGINS at the ArtsCenter. 929-ARTS.

DUKE LACROSSE and PINKY WYOMING at the Cave. 968-9308.

JACK AND PATTY LESEUR at Skylight Exchange. 933-5550.

KINETICS at He's Not Here. 942-7939.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

MUSIC
DSF EARTH CORP at Colonel Chutney's. 942-7575.

THE LARKS and CLAUD-NOVA at the Cave. 968-9308.

SPECIAL EVENTS
ANTI-SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL at the Forest Theatre featuring performances by the Somnambulists. "The Castle," August 4-7, 27; "Titus," August 11-14, 26 and "Johnny Moonboots Saves the World," August 18-21, 25. All shows begin at 7 p.m. 967-6247.

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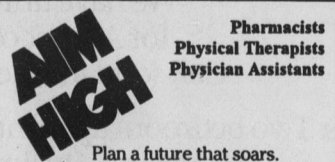
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