

FRIDAY, 6/2 \$4
THE LEAVING TRAINS
BILLY JACK · PEE
DEAD GIRLFRIEND

SATURDAY, 6/3 \$3
SODA GIRL RECORDS
Pollen Count Benefit with
twelve bands

SUNDAY, 6/4 \$8
NUTT STAULK
8pm
TRULIO DISGRACIOUS
Members of Fishbone,
Red Hot Chili Peppers,
& Suicidal Tendencies

MONDAY, 6/5 \$3
Ska from California
with
FILIBUSTER
THE CONSPIRACY

TUESDAY, 6/6 \$1
DISCO

WEDNESDAY, 6/7
7pm \$8
FROM SCOTLAND:
DICK DAUGHAN
(singer/songwriter)

10pm \$4
ELECTRIC
HELLFIRE CLUB
PENAL COLONY
THRESCHER

THURSDAY, 6/8 \$6
BUTT TRUMPET
WHITE TRASH
DEBUTANTES
BILLY JACK
GOD SQUAD

FRIDAY, 6/9 \$6
LOVE LODE
AVERAGE JOE
PORCH FIRE
MULTIPLE SARCASM

SATURDAY, 6/10 \$6
THE MOTHER HIPS
and guests

SUNDAY, 6/11 \$3
from Canada
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WITHDRAWL
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ONE WEEK ONLY!
5:00, 7:00 Nightly
Sun Mat 3:00 (\$3)

"DELICIOUS!"
A Film by Neil LaBute
9:00 Nightly

AMATEUR
A Film by Hal Hartley
10:00, 11:30, 1:00, 3:00

PULP FICTION
12:00 Nightly

FINAL WEEK! 5:20, 7:25 Nightly
the Secret of the Irish

FINAL WEEK! 9:00 Nightly
Sun Mat 3:15 (\$3)

Don Juan
DeMarco

"Truly hilarious."
TOMMY BOY

FINGERS

Continued from Page 7

"All we know about the first set is whoever's turn it is that night," Welnick said. Bobby Weir and Jerry Garcia alternate deciding what the opening song will be each night. The rest of the songs in the set usually alternate Weir-Garcia unless Phil Lesh interjects.

Welnick said his songs tend to come up during the second set. When it's Garcia's turn, he usually gives the song away while he's setting it up, Welnick said. But with Weir, it's a little more difficult.

"Sometimes I wait for him to count it off, and he has his back turned to me so I can't see or hear him," Welnick said. "So I'll drop in on like the second beat or the second measure."

For the second set, however, there is some discussion about what they might do.

"But that's always subject to any last minute veto on the part of a band member," Welnick explained. He said all the guesswork used to be scary, "but now I just find it interesting because it keeps everything new."

I asked him what he thought about Mydland never feeling totally comfortable in the band, as if he wasn't a full-fledged member.

"I still to this day can't understand how Brent felt that way," he said. "I've always felt comfortable with the band from the beginning."

Welnick wasn't always comfortable with the music though, as far as how well he performed.

"For a while I was bringing charts out on stage," Welnick said, "and they were actually calling the sets out... so I could be prepared."

I read him a quote from fellow band member Bill Kreutzmann in the book *Playing in the Band*. "Being in the Grateful Dead is sometimes too much of a responsibility."

Welnick agreed and said there are a lot of expectations put on him by his peers and himself.

"It's not always a party," he said. "There is some work, and

there is some consciousness involved."

He described himself as being an ambassador to the Grateful Dead. Everything he says and does in public reflects on the band, so he tries to be on his best behavior.

"I don't go breaking vodka bottles on my hotel room or anything anymore, like I used to with the Tubes," he said, laughing.

The Question

OK, so I had to ask him the question that he has probably been asked in every interview since the March 19th Philadelphia show this year.

Why did they decide to play "Unbroken Chain," a song they've never performed live? It's rumored that they played it once in the '70s, but so far nobody has found a tape to confirm it.

"Phil was riding in his car and had a big idea and decided to do it," Welnick said.

It was as simple as that.

The Philly crowd didn't react so nonchalantly.

"Big payoff! It was... the biggest audience reaction for the closing of the first set I've ever witnessed," Welnick said, proudly.

In the Studio

What about the album that they've been recording lately? They were in the studio at the end of last year and a couple of weeks before these shows.

"We have a few more basics laid to rest, but we haven't begun the overdubbing yet," Welnick said. He doesn't anticipate it coming out this year.

Being in the studio as a member of the Dead is "a lot different than doing albums with anyone else."

When he was recording with the Tubes, they were always under record company pressure to have everything done on time and within the monetary budget.

"No record company could push the Grateful Dead around like that," Welnick said. "They'll do it in their own sweet time and at their own additional expense and with all the caring and consideration they can give

to the music," he said, "making it, not perfect, but beautiful."

Dead Philanthropists?

The Dead care about their music, and they also care a lot about donating generously to a variety of charities. They set up the Rex Foundation (named after a crew member that passed away) after the IRS "started coming down on them pretty hard and punishing them" for all the benefit concerts they used to do.

They donate all the proceeds from designated Rex benefits (one of the recent Seattle shows was a Rex show, as is the July 2nd Deer Creek, Ind., show), so essentially the money is coming from the audience.

The money goes to 60 or more charities, including food banks, AIDS research and rain-forest preservation.

"We like to spread [the shows] around the country because a lot of the money goes back into the area," Welnick explained.

The band has raised about a million dollars a year for the past five or six years.

A crew member knocked on the door to inform him that it was 30 minutes until showtime.

I asked him if he thought they would play until the year 2000.

"That's the plan, yeah, for sure."

What about doing a New Years show for the new millennium?

"The New Years shows fell out with the death of Bill Graham," Welnick said. "But I could see a New Years gig on the year 2000 - if we start planning right now and make it a whiz bang deal."

Any last comments?

"Yeah, I would like to say to all the people that come to the shows: I know you're really cute with your puppies and everything, but give them a break! There are too many casualties, and nobody likes seeing that shit go down around them."

"If you wanna be cute then wear a puppy photograph on your forehead or something, but skip the dog thing, please, please, please! Bring your own self to the show; don't inflict it on the innocent."

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