

Crows: Performances come from MTV, VH1

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More songs from "Recovering the Satellites" can be found on the second disc of "Across a Wire." This disc includes 13 electrified songs that were recorded for MTV during the band's final show of its most recent nationwide tour in November 1997.

"Have You Seen Me Lately," which was written as a parody of the band's catapult to stardom, riffs along a guitar and drum-dominated landscape that surpasses the momentum felt on the "Satellites" version.

In other songs such as "Angels of the Silences" and "A Long December," I was left with a reaffirmation of the

band's musical prowess.

In all, both discs of "Across a Wire" reveal the band's skill at performing its past songs with polar proficiency.

And although a disc-two version of "A Murder of One" is too electrically pumped, it is a good album as a whole. When the band does come together, it validates the Crows' immense popularity.

"Across a Wire" reaffirms my belief that other band with only one dominant vocalist can convincingly play with such melodic dexterity. And like a favorite old book, "Across a Wire" strikes a familiar chord with the listener no matter what the changes may be.

Hookah highlights Hemp Expo

The second-annual World Hemp Expo begins Friday in Harrisburg

By Rob Moseley
Associate Editor

Residents of Eugene can rest assured that the invasion of craft vendors, organic food suppliers and free-spirited Deadheads that began with the Oregon Country Fair last weekend will continue for at least another week.

Those seeking an enlightening, mind-expanding experience need simply point that Volkswagen minibus away from Veneta to the east and hightail it north 16 miles to Harrisburg and High Five music, site of WHEE2!, the second-annual High Times World Hemp Expo Extravaganza. The festival begins Friday and continues through Sunday with a performance by local favorite Calobo.

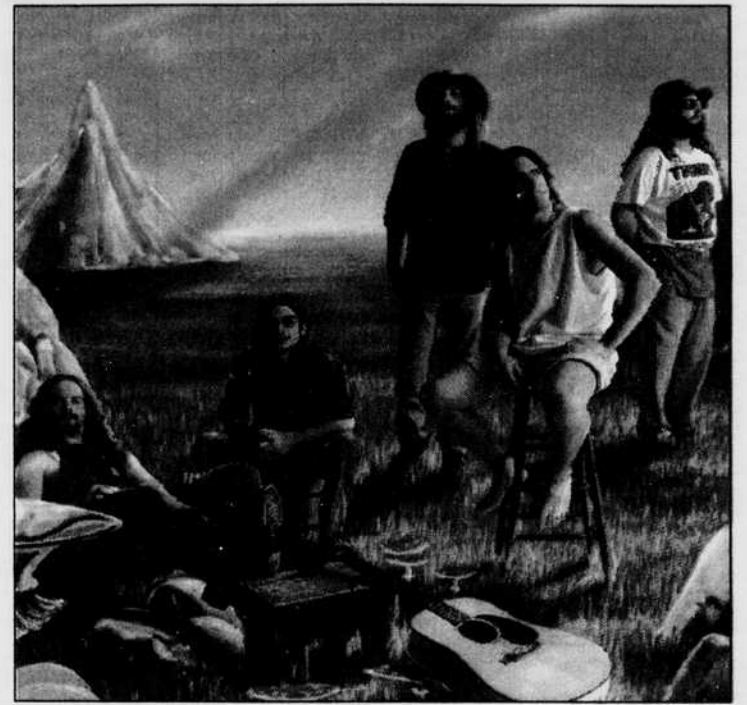
Also on Sunday's bill are Columbus, Ohio, natives ekoostik hookah, billed as a "Midwest psychedelic jam band."

"It's improvisational rock with as many different kinds of music we can throw in," hookah bassist Cliff Starbuck says. "It attracts a Deadhead crowd."

Formed in 1991, ekoostik hookah has built up a large and loyal fan base through the tried-and-true jam band method: touring, touring, touring.

The band's travels have taken it to Chicago's House of Blues, Seattle, Tennessee and, most recently, San Francisco's Great American Music Hall.

"People recognize the band's energy," hookah publicist Neil Mandel says. "Part of the magic of ekoostik hookah is, a—they're all



COURTESY

The cover art for ekoostik hookah's recently released compact disc, "Where the Fields Grow Green," an Acoustic Recordings release.

phenomenal musicians and b—they play well together. Plus, they have a good time with the audience."

The audience for this weekend's show is expected to include more than the 12,000 who attended last year's inaugural High Times World Hemp Expo Extravaganza.

In fact, this will be the second pro-hemp rally for ekoostik hookah.

"We played a NORML (National Organization for the Reformation of Marijuana Laws) benefit in Ohio," Starbuck says. "But we

don't get political."

Although the festival is billed as a hemp expo, Mandel says the band's impetus for playing the show shouldn't be misconstrued.

"It's a great exposure gig that's going to get them in front of a lot of people," he says.

The festival is billed as "an opportunity for the curious and knowledgeable alike to explore the state of hemp." A number of goods using hemp in various forms, including fiber, food, paper, industrial oilseed and construction material, will be on display.

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