

# Opinion: Halftime show to be big flop

By John Simmons  
Copy Editor

Oh, the Super Bowl. Football is arguably the most popular sport in America today, and the Super Bowl is something for everyone. It has football for the fans, great commercials for the rest of us and the halftime show for everyone.

With a show that's supposed to attract audiences from all generations, the planners of the halftime show certainly have a lot of work cut out for them. For the last half of the 2000s, they had mostly temporary performers; then, after the infamous wardrobe malfunction of Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake, they swung the opposite direction. For most of my Super Bowl-watching years I've been watching performers like Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, The Rolling Stones and The Who perform on stage for minutes, bored out of my mind. To say these bands aren't good; they just lack the youthful appeal and cool style that my teenage self has come to appreciate.

But now the show producers are trying to appeal to my generation again, and this is something I'm grateful for; however, I'm not too pleased with their choice: The Black Eyed Peas.

In my book, The Black Eyed Peas are one of the worst things to happen to modern music. The abuse of Auto-Tune is out of control, and the music has gotten progressively more and more generic and less and less aurally pleasant. Don't even get started on the ways the song "(I've Had) The Time of My



Life" by Bill Medley and Jennifer Warnes was utterly ruined by BEP's song "The Time (Dirty Bit)." Come on, you know you hate that song, too.

Unfortunately, this isn't the first time that BEP has been involved with the Super Bowl. It was part of the 2005 Super Bowl pregame show "Bridging Generations" in Jacksonville, performing with Earth, Wind and Fire, Alicia Keys and Gretchen Wilson with The Charlie Daniels Band. They also performed at the 2009 NFL Kickoff Concert in Pittsburgh.

I have to give credit to The Black Eyed Peas for scoring the gig, and I understand that it's difficult for producers to choose an act that will suit a vast array of musical tastes, but I think BEP is a horrible representation of what my generation likes in music. Yes, they're a Grammy Award-winning group, but that really doesn't mean much to my peers and me. We want a good show, not a group that turns out such drivel as "Imma Be."

I think bands such as Lifehouse or Paramore would be more likely to appeal to the older and younger crowds, the sports buffs and those just watching for the fun of it. Honestly, I'd prefer to see Chris Brown or Lady Gaga up on that stage; at least their music doesn't sound like a bunch of deranged bees trapped in a tin can.

I have low expectations for this year's halftime show, but The Black Eyed Peas may end up surprising me in the end. I just hope they don't play "The Time (Dirty Bit)."

Photo Illustration by Michael Bonn The Clackamas Print

## +: For a good time, call 1-800-get-some-etiquette

From a big-time Las Vegas club to your local neighborhood, manners should follow wherever you go



By Joshua Baird  
Arts & Culture Editor

Know that most of us have either worked in a restaurant or retail job at some point in our lives. I believe that this is a great

arena for learning to be a better, more modest person. You get to experience some astounding customers, as well as some real halfwits and that makes you understand what other restaurant employees are going through, day in and day out. If you have ever had a rude or inconsiderate customer then you know exactly what it is like to be your good friend the bartender: you have to grin and bear it.

What I want to talk about this week is how to have an excellent time and still behave decently to your bartender or waitress.

The first thing that comes to mind whenever I think of my time behind the bar is the guy at the opposite end of the bar waving his money at me impatiently while I slave away making a large drink order for someone who came to the bar first.

**Rule #1:** If you want to get your bartender's attention without looking like a jerk, you should hold your money in your hand or pocket while resting your arm on the bar and watch the bartender. He will likely look your direction any second. If you make eye contact with him or her, he will probably give you a gesture to let you know that he sees you and will be with you shortly. Most busy bars will have two or more bartenders running around at any given time, and if he happens to be responsible for the waitress station

making drinks for people at tables, he will let one of his teammates know that you are there.

**Rule #2:** Don't whistle at him; it's just rude.

**Rule #3:** Just because you see a tip jar full of ones, don't assume that he earns too much money. Most times that jar is split up between the bartenders on the clock at that time, so he is making far less than you think. In fact, he may have to tip out the kitchen workers as well. Tip the poor guy, odds are he is just trying to support his family or pay his way through school.

**Rule #4:** If you have a large order for you and your friends, it's going to take a minute to prepare, and he may be preparing drinks for three or four other people while you watch him make your drinks as well. He is not trying to be rude; he is multitasking.

**Rule #5:** If you get cut off for being drunk, don't be a jerk about it. He is just doing his job as is dictated to him by the federal, state or even city governmental regulations. In these hard economic times, he simply wants to keep his job, and keeping you safe is his job.

**Rule #6:** No matter how sober you think you are, do not drive drunk. If you get pulled over or in an accident the police will notify the Liquor Control Commission, and they will fine the bar. Too many fines mean

your favorite pub can get shut down.

If you follow these six rules, you will not only be healthier, safer and happier, but the bartender will notice. We appreciate that kind of thing, and in some cases, the guy or girl who is the coolest may end up getting a drink bought for them by the bartender as a way to say thank you. In fact, because no one is perfect, the occasional drink may be poured wrong for another customer, and you may reap the benefits of that mistake.

**Disclaimer:** We at *The Clackamas Print* do not encourage drinking to excess or underage drinking of any kind. Remember to drink responsibly.



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