

THE CHICKEN WIRE

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA FAN CLUB NEWSLETTER
AUGUST, 1996 VOLUME 2



ROCKIN' OUT WITH JAPAN
JASON AND CHRIS PERFORM AT SONY JAPAN DINNER



ANETTE, JASON, DAVE, AND HELGA BACKSTAGE AT
"NUMBERS" IN HOUSTON

WORLD WIDE WINNERS

THE PRESIDENTS POPULARITY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND THE REST OF THE WORLD IS GROWING. IT DOES, HOWEVER, SOMETIMES HAPPEN ACCIDENTALLY. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR TWO GERMAN MUSIC FANS WHO JOINED THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT THEIR 1996 TEXAS SHOWS. DESPITE A LANGUAGE BARRIER ON HER PART, ANNE HAD A CHANCE TO TALK WITH THEM IN HOUSTON AND HEAR THE STORY OF HOW THEY DISCOVERED THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

HELGA JORDAN WAS "EATING NUTS AND LISTENING TO THE RADIO" ONE EVENING WHEN SHE HEARD THE D.J. TALKING ABOUT A CONTEST TO WIN A TRIP TO TEXAS TO SEE A BAND SHE HAD NEVER HEARD OF. THE BAND WAS THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. WHILE THE RADIO STATION PLAYED A PRESIDENTS SONG THAT HELGA CALLED "NOT BAD BUT NORMALLY NOT HER TASTE" THE D.J. ASKED THAT SHE DESCRIBE HER LAST CONCERT EXPERIENCE. HELGA TOLD HIM THAT SHE HAD BEEN AT CLUB 33 IN DIETZENBACH AT A "GOOD JAZZ CONCERT" (HELGA SAID THAT THE SHOW WAS NOT THAT GREAT BUT SHE WANTED TO WIN!) IT WAS THE END OF THE NIGHT AND THREE JAZZ BANDS WERE PLAYING WHEN HELGA HEARD "THE VIBRATIONS GET VERY HIGH AND A DOG BEGIN TO HOWL". THE NEXT THING SHE KNEW, THE SAXOPHONE PLAYER BEGAN TO PLAY IN RHYTHM WITH THE DOG'S HOWLS! IN FACT, HELGA THOUGHT THE DOG HOWLING WAS THE BEST PART OF THE NIGHT. THE RADIO STATION ENDED UP LIKING HELGA'S STORY AND PICKED HER FROM FOUR FINALISTS TO WIN AN ALL-EXPENSE PAID TRIP TO AUSTIN, DALLAS, AND HOUSTON, TEXAS. ALTHOUGH SHE COULDN'T BELIEVE SHE HAD WON, IT DIDN'T TAKE HELGA LONG TO DECIDE SHE WOULD TAKE HER FRIEND ANETTE WITH HER. WHILE HELGA AND ANETTE WERE IN TEXAS, THEY FOLLOWED THE PRESIDENTS TOUR BUS TO ALL THREE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SHOWS! AND THEY GOT BACKSTAGE PASSES TOO! BY THE END OF THE HOUSTON SHOW BOTH HELGA AND ANETTE KNEW EVERY SONG AND ALMOST EVERY WORD TO EVERY SONG!

BEFORE THEIR TRIP TO TEXAS, NEITHER HELGA NOR ANETTE HAD BEEN TO THE STATES OR HAD HEARD OF THE PRESIDENTS. BUT WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS ACCIDENTAL, BASED ON WHAT ANNE SAW AND HEARD IN HOUSTON, HELGA AND ANETTE WENT BACK TO GERMANY LIKING THE STATES AND LOVING THE PRESIDENTS!



DAVE AND CHRIS AT ROSELAND, NYC



DAVE SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS FOR JAPANESE FANS

EXCERPT 2 OF DAVE'S EUROPEAN DIARY

DAY SIX -- TUESDAY APRIL 2

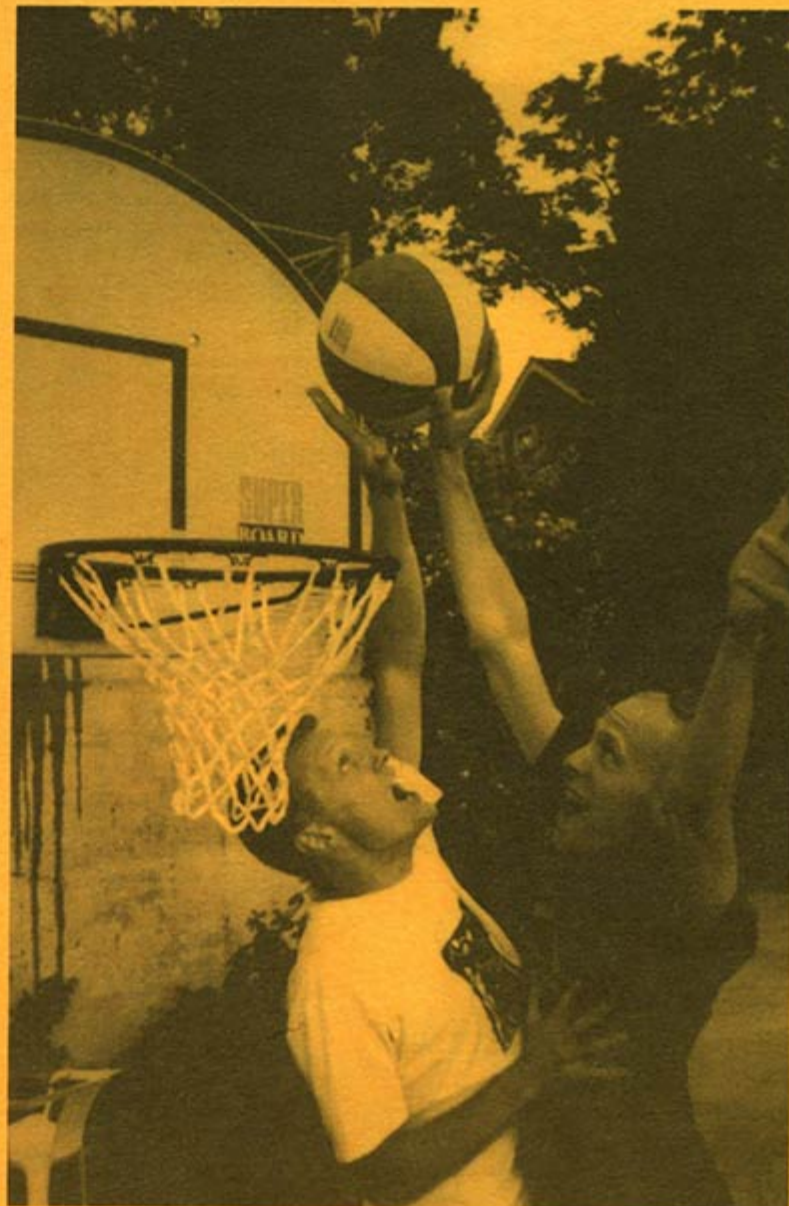
JUST FINISHED OUR FRANKFURT SHOW - THE BEST OF THE THREE STOPS IN GERMANY. THE CROWD WAS ENTHUSED FROM THE BEGINNING, POGOING (FOR THE UNINITIATED, POGOING IS JUMPING UP AND DOWN IN TIME TO THE MUSIC) WILDLY FOR THE DURATION OF THE SHOW. WE FEED OFF THE CROWD'S ENERGY, AND A NIGHT LIKE THIS IS PURE JOY. IT FEELS AS IF EVERYBODY IN THE AUDIENCE IS PART OF THE BAND AND WE'RE ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE A HUGE PARTY. A STELLAR GIG AROUND, REALLY -- GREAT AUDIENCE AND A PLEASANT CLUB (I.E., NICE STAFF, GOOD FOOD, CLEAN BACKSTAGE, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, AN ACCESSIBLE CRAPPER.)

KULA SHAKER, A BAND FROM LONDON, HAS BEEN WITH US SINCE BERLIN, AND THEY CONTINUE TO AMAZE ME. THEY RECENTLY SIGNED ONTO OUR LABEL (SONY) AND ARE OBVIOUSLY HUGE ROCK STARS IN THE MAKING. THEIR MUSIC IS A FLAMMABLE COMBINATION OF THE BEST OF THE WHO, SMALL FACES, LED ZEPPELIN, DEEP PURPLE, AND SPENCER DAVIS GROUP. CHRIS, JASON AND I WATCH THEIR SET EVERY NIGHT FOR INSPIRATION.

BACK TO LAST NIGHT IN HAMBURG FOR A MOMENT. THE PRESS OFTEN ASK US IF WE HAVE ANY "CRAZY, ZANY" STORIES FROM THE ROAD. WE DO NOW. AFTER THE SHOW IN HAMBURG WE HEADED BACK TO THE HOTEL FOR SHOWERS. WE'RE ABOUT TO PULL OUT FOR THE OVERNIGHT GRIND TO FRANKFURT WHEN JOHN CLIMBS ON THE BUS AND ASKS WHICH ONE OF US STASHED THE NAKED GIRL IN HIS BUNK. FUNNY GUY, JOHN. "NO, REALLY," HE INSISTS AND WE ALL PILE OUT OF THE BUS FOR A LOOK. JOHN OPENS THE HATCH TO HIS BUNK, REVEALING A BLONDE-HAIRED DAMEN OF RUBENESQUE PROPORTIONS. AS WE SAY IN AMERICA, SHE IS BUCK NAKED. JOHN ASKS, "ARE YOU COMFORTABLE, MISS?" LIKE I SAID, JOHN IS A FUNNY GUY. THE NAKED GIRL IN QUESTION RESPONDS AFFIRMATIVELY AND TURNS TO SMILE AT ALL OF US AS IF THIS IS THE MOST NATURAL THING IN THE WORLD. I AM TERRIFIED. I GET BACK IN THE BUS AND WATCH THROUGH THE WINDOW.

THE BRAZEN MISS EXITS THE BUNK AND STANDS NAKED ON THE STREET. IT IS BELOW FREEZING. SHE CHATS WITH JOHN FOR A MOMENT, THEN HEADS TO THE BUS'S FRONT DOOR AND STARTS UP THE STEPS. MAYBE SHE WANTS TO DRIVE, I USED TO BE A SCHOOL TEACHER, AND I SUMMON MY MOST COMMANDING TONE AND ORDER HER TO "GET OFF THE BUS, NOW."

SHE GETS OFF THE BUS AND AFTER FIVE MORE MINUTES OF SURREAL BILINGUAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH JOHN, FINALLY DONS HER CLOTHES. AS WE DRIVE AWAY SHE IS HEADED OFF INTO THE FRIGID HAMBURG NIGHT.



CHRIS AND DAVE TAKE TIME TO PRACTICE FOR DREAM TEAM III

PRESIDENTS' NEW ALBUM IS ON ITS WAY

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAVE A NEW ALBUM . ON ITS WAY TO YOU. AS SOON AS THEY COMPLETE THE LAST LEG OF THEIR 1996 TOUR IN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA, THE GUYS WILL GO INTO THE STUDIO TO PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE NEW RELEASE. LOOK FOR THE PRESIDENTS' SECOND RELEASE ON THE NOVEMBER 5, 1996 !



P.U.S.A. Fan club member
Jeff Mitchell

THANKS TO P.U.S.A. FAN CLUB MEMBER

JEFF MITCHELL FOR THE GREAT ART !

HEIDI'S VIEW OF A VIDEO SHOOT

BY HEIDI BATT

THE FIRST PRESIDENTS SHOW I WENT TO WAS IN THE SUMMER OF '94. JASON WAS A FRIEND OF MINE AND I WAS VERY EXCITED TO SEE HIM PLAY IN HIS NEW BAND. I'D HEARD THEIR TAPE SEVERAL TIMES AND I LOVED IT. BUT AS MUCH FUN AS THEIR MUSIC WAS ON TAPE, IT DIDN'T EVEN COMPARE TO HOW GREAT THEIR LIVE SHOWS WERE. THE GUYS WERE EXCITED ABOUT PLAYING AND HAD A WAY OF MAKING EVERYONE IN THE AUDIENCE FEEL LIKE A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF THE BAND. I KNEW THAT THEY WERE



CHRIS AND DAVE PREP FOR VIDEO SHOOT OF "DUNE BUGGY"

GOING TO MAKE IT BIG. AND IF THEY MADE IT BIG, I HAD A CHANCE OF BEING IN ONE OF THEIR VIDEOS.

JUST AS I PREDICTED, THE PRESIDENTS DID MAKE IT BIG. SO THEY FILMED A VIDEO FOR "LUMP". I WAS SO EXCITED BECAUSE THEY ASKED ME IF I WANTED TO COME TO THE FILMING AND MAYBE BE IN THE VIDEO. OF COURSE I DID! SO I WENT AND WAS FILMED. THEY DIDN'T USE ME. I WAS DISAPPOINTED, BUT I GOT OVER IT. THE NEXT VIDEO WAS "PEACHES". THEY DIDN'T NEED ANY EXTRAS BESIDES THE NINJAS. I AM NOT A NINJA. THEY DIDN'T USE ME. I WAS DISAPPOINTED, BUT I GOT OVER IT.

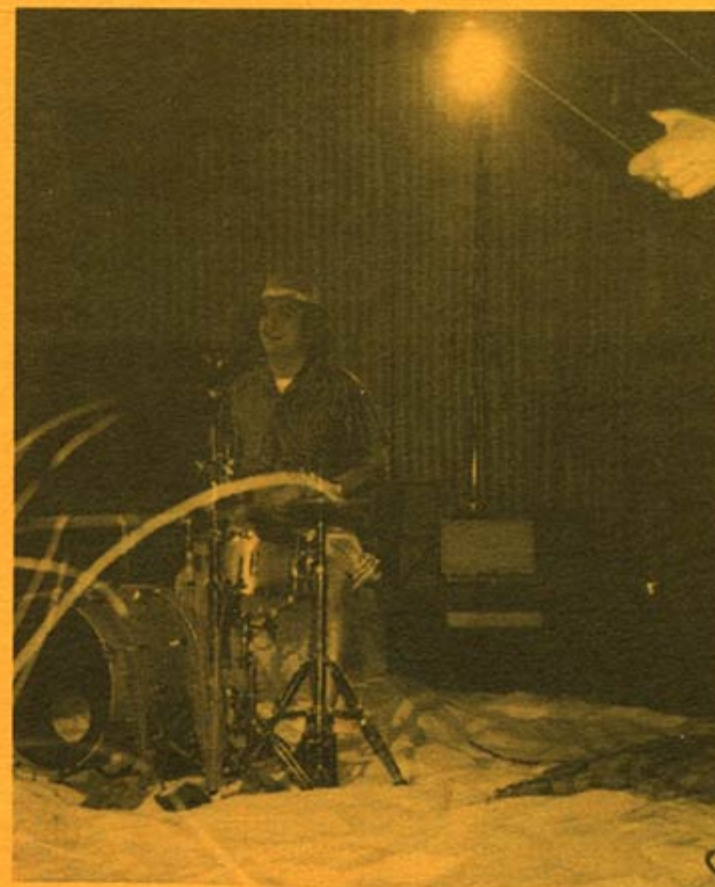
THEN THEY WERE FILMING "DUNE BUGGY". I DECIDED NOT TO GO BECAUSE THERE WAS A LOT OF WORK TO DO IN THE OFFICE. SO ANNE WENT SOLO. ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES AFTER SHE LEFT SHE PHONED ME. "DO YOU WANT TO BE IN THIS VIDEO?" SHE ASKED. "THEY NEED MORE PEOPLE." I WAS THERE IN TEN MINUTES.

WHEN I WALKED INTO THE STUDIO, THE FIRST THING I NOTICED WAS THAT THERE WERE PEOPLE AND FOOD EVERYWHERE. THERE WERE COLUMBIA PEOPLE FROM L.A. AND NEW YORK. THE GUYS WERE THERE. THERE WERE PEOPLE TO RUN THE VIDEO, PEOPLE TO RUN THE CAMERAS, PEOPLE TO DO THE SOUND, PEOPLE TO DO WARDROBE-A LOT OF IMPORTANT PEOPLE. AND THERE WAS FOOD! THERE WERE FRUIT PLATES, CHEESE PLATES, BREAD PLATES AND A CHOCOLATE RICE KRISPIES TREAT PLATE. THAT WAS QUICKLY AN EMPTY PLATE.

I GOT CALLED TO THE WARDROBE ROOM. THERE WERE MANY RETRO BEACH OUTFITS FOR US TO CHOOSE FROM. ANNE IMMEDIATELY SPIED A GREEN AND YELLOW FLOWERY TANK DRESS FOR ME. IT WAS JUST RIGHT. I PUT IT ON WITH SOME VERY TALL BROWN PLATFORM SANDALS AND WAS READY TO GO. I FELT LIKE A SUPERSTAR!

THEN I WALKED INTO THE ROOM WHERE THE VIDEO WAS BEING SHOT. THERE WAS A HUGE PILE OF SAND ON THE FLOOR WITH A FIRE IN THE MIDDLE OF IT. THE FIRE SEEMED TO BE MADE OF PLASTIC LOGS WITH A LIGHT SHINING THROUGH RED AND ORANGE CELLOPHANE STRIPS. THERE WERE BEACH BLANKETS SPREAD AROUND AND A BIG LOG TO SIT ON. JASON'S DRUM KIT WAS ON THE SAND ALONG WITH A MICROPHONE EACH FOR DAVE AND CHRIS. ABOVE THE SAND PILE, SUSPENDED FROM THE CEILING, WAS A HUGE SOUND DEVICE THAT LOOKED AN AWFUL LOT LIKE AN ALIEN SPACE SHIP. IT WAS AMAZING.

ALL THE EXTRAS WERE CALLED TO A BACK ROOM WHERE WE WERE GIVEN LYRIC SHEETS SO THAT WE COULD PRACTICE SINGING "DUNE BUGGY". (I, OF COURSE, KNEW ALL THE WORDS AND DIDN'T NEED THE LYRIC SHEET.) THE AUDIO FOR THE VIDEO WAS GOING TO BE WHAT WE RECORDED THAT DAY RATHER THAN THE C.D. VERSION OF THE SONG, AND SO WE GOT TO SING ALONG WITH THE GUYS. WOW! IT WAS FINALLY TIME FOR US TO TAKE OUR PLACES. ROMAN COPPOLA, THE DIRECTOR, GAVE US A LITTLE INFO ABOUT THE VIDEO. WE WERE TO FIND A PLACE TO SIT IN THE SAND,



JASON AND HIS DRUM KIT DURING FILMING OF "DUNE BUGGY"

ANYWHERE WE WANTED, AND THEN SING ALONG, AS LOUD AS WE COULD. WE WERE ALSO TOLD TO HAVE FUN. AS HE WAS EXPLAINING ALL OF THIS I WAS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHERE I COULD SIT THAT WOULD GIVE ME THE BEST CHANCE OF BEING IN THE VIDEO. SO I LOOKED AROUND AND DECIDED TO SIT MY FLOWERY DRESSED LITTLE BEHIND RIGHT BETWEEN CHRIS AND DAVE. MIKE, OUR FRIEND AND MERCHANDISE GUY, SAT RIGHT NEXT TO ME. IT WAS ALL GOOD.

WHILE THE SOUND WAS BEING CHECKED AND ADJUSTED, WE WERE TOLD TO SING. WE STARTED OUT WITH "DUNE BUGGY", BUT AFTER A LITTLE WHILE THAT GOT OLD. SO THE GUYS SANG SOME DIFFERENT SONGS, LIKE "TUBE AMPLIFIER". WITH THE HELP OF MIKE, THEY REWROTE JASON'S VERSE OF THAT SONG, REPLACING "I GOT MYSELF A NEW HAMMER AND PLIERS" WITH "I GOT MYSELF A NEW CYMBAL SUPPLIER". IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN JUST HOW FUN AND CLEVER JASON, CHRIS AND DAVE ARE. BUT I CAN SAY THAT WE ALL HAD A GREAT TIME JUST GOOFING AROUND, LAUGHING AND SINGING. IT FELT LIKE THE EARLY DAYS OF THE BAND WHEN THEY PLAYED SMALL VENUES SURROUNDED BY THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES.

ONCE EVERYTHING WAS SET UP, WE DID THREE TAKES OF THE VIDEO. THE GUYS SANG AND WE SANG WITH THEM. IT WAS A SING-ALONG WITH THE PRESIDENTS. AT THE END OF THE SONG THE FIREWORKS WENT OFF. IT WAS STRANGE TO HAVE SUCH BIG EXPLOSIONS INSIDE. AFTER THE THIRD TAKE, WE WERE ALL THANKED AND FREE TO GO. IT TOOK ABOUT THREE WEEKS FROM THE DAY OF THE SHOOT UNTIL THE VIDEO WAS FINISHED. WHEN WE FINALLY SAW THE FINISHED PRODUCT WE SAW A COLORFUL, FUN PUSA VIDEO. AND MUCH TO MY DELIGHT I WAS IN IT, LOOKING ALL GOOFY AND HAVING FUN! SO MY DREAM FINALLY CAME TRUE. I GOT TO BE IN A PRESIDENTS' VIDEO, AND IT WAS DANG FUN!



JASON WITH MOJO NIXON BACKSTAGE AT THE NEW 9:30 IN D.C. !

ON THE ROAD WITH P.U.S.A.

BY ANNE DEDERER

LEAVING NEW YORK CITY, SUNDAY JULY 23

HELLO AGAIN FROM THE ROAD ! AS I SIT HERE BEGINNING THIS, MY SECOND COLUMN FOR THE CHICKEN WIRE, I AM ON THE PRESIDENTS' TOUR BUS REMEMBERING THE NEW YORK CITY SHOW AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE WASHINGTON, D.C. SHOW .

THE PRESIDENTS PLAYED IN NEW YORK AT ROSELAND ON JUNE 21, THE SAME NIGHT THEY APPEARED ON THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN FOR THE SECOND TIME. I ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE THE SHOW. MY PLANES OUT OF SEATTLE AND PITTSBURGH WERE DELAYED TO THE POINT THAT BY THE TIME I GOT TO PITTSBURGH I KNEW I WASN'T GOING TO THE LATE SHOW! MY FRIEND, CALVIN, THOUGHT WE WOULD MAKE IT BUT ME, BEING THE SUPREME

PESSIMIST, KNEW WE WOULD NOT. OH WELL.(I HOPE YOU ALL GOT TO SEE

THE LATE SHOW THAT NIGHT! JOHN TRAVOLTA WAS A GUEST, CHRIS, DAVE AND JASON WERE ESPECIALLY ROCKIN' THAT NIGHT., AND EVERYTHING SEEMED TO CLICK!)

WE GOT TO ROSELAND JUST IN TIME TO SEE THE GUYS PLAY THEIR LAST FIVE SONGS. SEEING PART OF A SHOW IS BETTER THAN SEEING NO SHOW AT ALL! I DID GET THE CHANCE TO TAKE SOME PICTURES AND TO GO BACKSTAGE AND TALK TO SOME LUCKY FANS WHO GOT BACKSTAGE TOO ! **DAVID HEATH AND EVAN GOLUB** WERE TWO OF THE LUCKY FANS WHO MET CHRIS AND DAVE. I PROMISED THEM THEIR PICTURE



EVAN GOLUB AND DAVID HEATH :TWO LUCKY FANS IN NYC

WOULD APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE CHICKEN WIRE. I DON'T THINK THEY BELIEVED ME...WELL EVAN AND DAVID, I REMEMBERED !!! (SEE PHOTO, RIGHT)

IT WAS GREAT TO SEE DAVE, CHRIS, AND JASON. I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM IN A LONG TIME AND I MISS THEM WHEN THEY ARE ON TOUR !

WASHINGTON D.C., JULY 23

SUNDAY MORNING WE GOT ON THE TOUR BUS AND HITCHED A RIDE ON THE TOUR BUS TO GO TO WASHINGTON D.C.. AFTER THE 4 1/2 HOUR DRIVE WE WENT RIGHT TO THE NEW 9:30 CLUB SO THE GUYS COULD DO THEIR SOUND CHECK . I NOTICED THAT THEY SANG "NOWHERE MAN" BY THE BEATLES SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE SOUND CHECK . I'D NEVER HEARD THEM DO THAT SONG.AND I WONDERED..WHY ?

THIS WAS ALSO THE FIRST TIME I'D BEEN AT A FULL SOUND CHECK. . THE GUYS ARE VERY PROFESSIONAL BUT I HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT THEY

ARE JUST AS FUNNY IN REHEARSAL AND SOUND CHECK AS THEY ARE IN THEIR SHOWS ! I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I GOT TO SEE TWO SHOWS IN ONE DAY !

THE NEW 9:30 SHOW WAS ONE OF THE BEST AND MOST ENERGIZED SHOWS I'VE SEEN THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DO IN A LONG TIME ! THEY ENDED UP SINGING "NOWHERE MAN"...SO THAT'S WHY THEY WERE SINGING IT IN SOUND CHECK ! THE GUYS ALSO SANG A LOT OF SONGS NOT INCLUDED ON THEIR DEBUT ALBUM INCLUDING "SUPERSONICS"(MY PERSONAL FAVORITE!) AND "TIKI GOD" . I LAUGHED OUT LOUD WHEN I HEARD THAT ONE !!

AFTER THE SHOW THAT I WILL ADMIT ROCKED MY WORLD, I SPENT A LOT OF TIME BACKSTAGE JUST WATCHING THE PRESIDENTS INTERACT WITH THEIR FANS AND FRIENDS. I KNOW THAT THE GUYS WERE REALLY GLAD TO TALK TO A LOT OF FANS AFTER THE D.C. SHOW. EVERYTHING THEY SAID AND EVERYTHING THEY DID PROVED THAT THIS SHOW WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. AND AS I RODE BACK TO NEW YORK ON THE 3A.M. TRAIN, WITH MY EYES AT HALF MAST AND TIRED BEYOND BELIEF, I COULD STILL FEEL THE EXCITEMENT OF THE PRESIDENTS SHOW AND THEIR SEEMINGLY NEVER-ENDING HUMOR AND ENERGY !

MAN, WERE THOSE PLANE TICKETS WORTH IT !!!! SEE YOU NEXT TIME !