

Connections Magazine

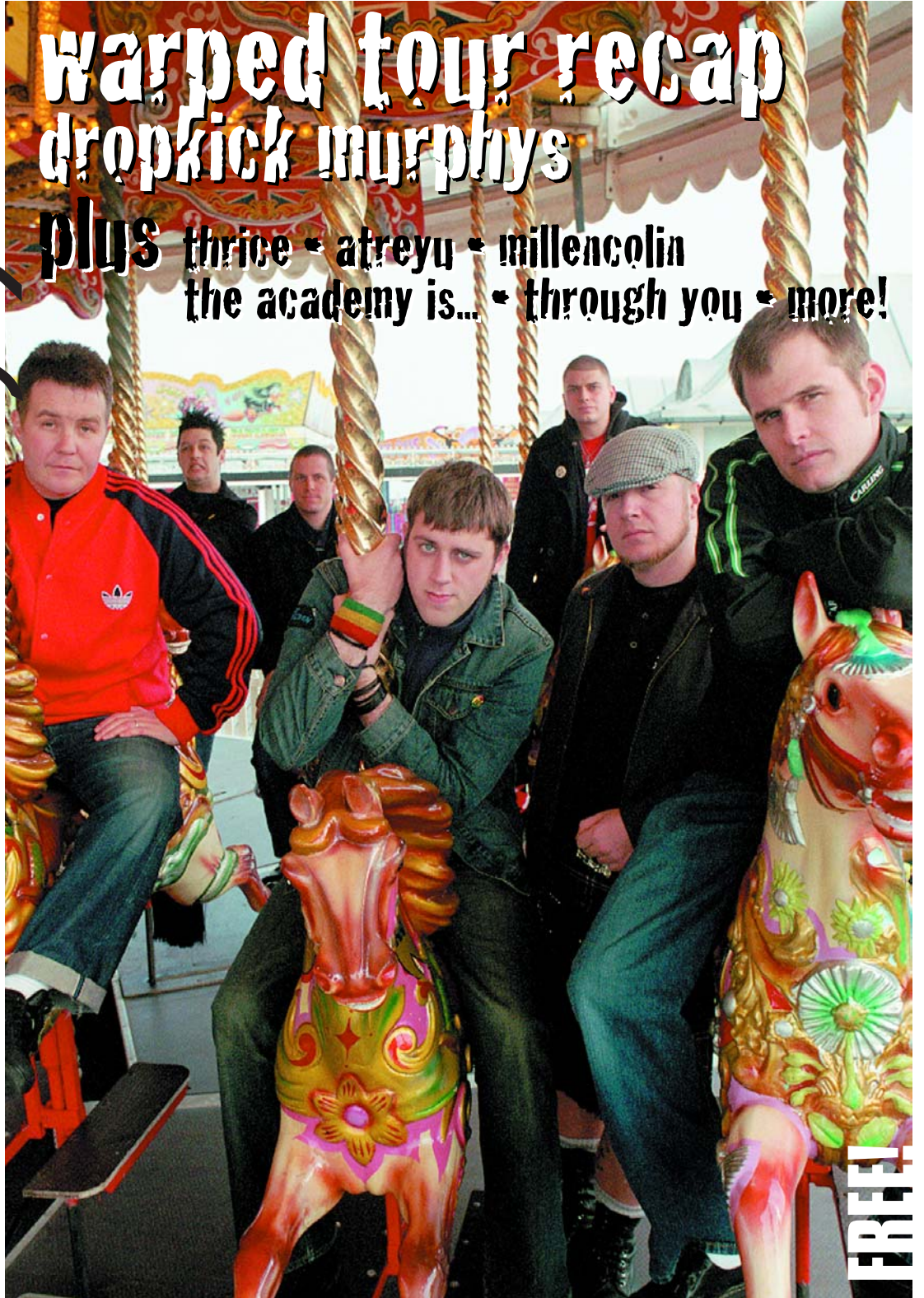
SPORTS
Volume 4, Issue 90

- Reviews
- Local & National News
- Events
- More!

HOOKING UP ORLANDO'S MUSIC SCENE SINCE 1998

warped tour recap dropkick murphys

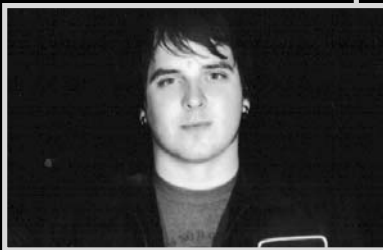
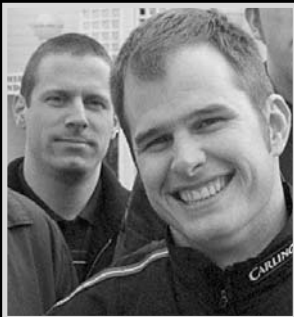
plus thrice • atreyu • millencolin
the academy is... • through you • more!



FREE!

SEP 05
Volume 4, Issue 90

INSIDE



10 THROUGH YOU

In a city saturated with talented musicians flooding the clubs every night of the week, it gets tough to find a band that stands out; a band that really catches the audience's attention. There are few, but they're out there and coming your way. Next time you're hanging out, pounding your beers, wondering if the cute bartender is taken...

14 WARPED TOUR RECAP

Another wonderful Warped Tour has come and gone. All that's left are the warm memories of the people I met on this year's tour. At the Orlando show, I caught up with members from Dropkick Murphys, Atreyu and MxPx while Thrice, Millencolin, and The Academy Is... were gracious enough to answer some questions via email after the tour was over. I appreciate each of the time these bands took to reflect on this year's tour. I will have to admit that the highlight of my day at the Orlando...

EVERY ISSUE

- 4 Connections National**
- 6 Connections Local**
- 8 CD Reviews**
- 18 Been There...**
- 20 Connections in Focus**
- 22 Connections Events**

Connections Magazine is available for FREE in most Orlando-area clubs, venues, CD stores, music stores, specialty shops and many other locations.

Connections Magazine

PUB/ED David Himes

PRODUCTION Destech Graphics

WORDS Shannon Del Valle
Paul Hennig
PamPam
Bing Futch
Kayla Anderson
Jaime Eschelman
Zaileen Roach
Jackson Downey

PICS Kevin Collier
Paul Hennig
Alicia Lyman

Connections Magazine is a publication of Destech Graphics and is published monthly. All copyright privileges are reserved by the publisher. Any reproduction in whole or in part without express written consent is strictly prohibited. Connections Magazine welcomes articles, promo kits, photos, story ideas and feedback. However, neither Connections Magazine nor Destech Graphics assumes responsibility for the return of unsolicited materials. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher, its staff or its advertisers. All advertisements herein are assumed by the publisher to be correct, but no responsibility for the contrary can be maintained.

© 2005, Destech Graphics

Connections Magazine
P.O. Box 533810
Orlando, FL 32853-3810
Tel 407-898-0455
Fax 407-895-3784
E-mail: connectionsmag@bellsouth.net

FROM WARPED MINDS...

Interviews by Shannon Del Valle

Another wonderful Warped Tour has come and gone. All that's left are the warm memories of the people I met on this year's tour. At the Orlando show, I caught up with members from Dropkick Murphys, Atreyu and MxPx while Thrive, Millencolin, and The Academy Is... were gracious enough to answer some questions via email after the tour was over. I appreciate each of the time these bands took to reflect on this year's tour. I will have to admit that the highlight of my day at the Orlando show was meeting Kevin Lyman and giving him past Warped Tour issues of *Connections Magazine*. He was a pleasure interviewing over the phone at the beginning of this year's tour and a fantastic person face to face. Now that I've sufficiently thanked everyone, let's get on with the interviews!

DROPKICK MURPHYS

Tim Brennan

How has the tour been going for you?

This is by far the longest tour we've been on in two years since the last Warped Tour. A couple of the guys in Dropkick Murphys have wives and kids, and we usually only go out for three weeks at a time. It's been real good overall as far as crowds, and we've been having fun playing. I think we psyched each other up for it to be worse than it actually was. We were all dreading it thinking, "Oh my god! Three months! What are we going to do!?" It's been so long since we've been out for such a long time, but we've all kept our heads. We're all pretty sane, and it's gone by real quick.

What have you done to kill time?

Not much. Usually, we'd sit in our hotel rooms on days off and watch TV or sit at our computers. We went to a couple shows to see friends' bands play, but nothing too crazy. We're not necessarily the rowdy bunch everyone makes us out to be. (*laughs*)

I know some venues are in towns and others are located in the middle of nowhere. Have you had a chance to take any excursions into some of the cities you've visited?

Today I didn't. Ken, our bass player, went off with the band today, but I don't know where they went. The other day, I left for a little bit. Every once in a while, we get to go outside the [Warped Tour] bubble, but it doesn't usually last that long. It's actually gotten to the point where you start to feel a little uncomfortable outside the bubble. (*laughs*)

I guess the other thing about going outside the venue is that you really have to keep track of time so you don't miss your ride (tour bus)

We like playing the Warped Tour because we get to see the same people all the time like the security guys and the people who do the stages. It's kind of like a big summer camp. There's a lot of good people on the tour, and Kevin Lyman definitely knows who to have work for him. He definitely has some of the best people on the road.

Before the tour started, was there any band you were looking forward to seeing?

I wanted to see Transplants, and that

I'll admit it. I miss seeing bands like Bad Religion, NOFX and Pennywise on this year's tour.

We definitely feel like... I'm only 23, and I feel like one of the older guys because I'm in Dropkick Murphys. There are so many bands on this year's tour that have only been around for five years or so. Two years ago, it was us, Rancid and Pennywise, and it was what you'd expect from the Warped Tour.

Before I forget, I wanted to tell you how much I like the new album



Dropkick Murphys

to the next town.

We actually had our assistant tour manager do one of those. He was out at a bar or something. He looked at his watch, and it was 1:15 in the morning. We were sitting in the parking lot of the venue wondering, "Where is this assistant tour manager of ours?" (*more laughs*)

What are your thoughts about the Warped Tour?

was about it. (*laughs*) The music genre has taken a bit of a turn (to metal and screamo). When I first saw the list, I was like "Who the f#ck is this?!" I found out a lot of those guys are great guys. I understand that a lot of these new bands are popular, but I never thought I'd see all the makeup on the Warped Tour. The tour is shifting with the times, which is good.

The Warrior's Code.

Thank you. We're definitely at our most comfortable point right now as far as playing music together as a band, and I think it comes out in the new record.

What advice do you have for new Warped bands?

You have to be hygienic if you're going to survive this tour. Bring socks, underwear and things like that. This

may sound cliché, but bands just have to keep working. There are a lot of bands who started a year ago that have these fat-ass record contracts making more money than I can ever dream to.

But don't forget about longevity. Let's see where those bands are five years from now.

But they can live off that one single. I don't have that luxury, unfortunately.

Have you made any new friends on this year's tour?

This may sound kind of obvious because they're a Boston band, but I had never met them before called The Explosion. I had listened to them before because James and a bunch of the other guys in our band are fans of theirs. I thought their music was okay, but when I actually met the guys, I saw they were the greatest bunch of guys I'd ever met in my entire life! I waited until I got to know them all before I saw them live, and they were amazing! I ended up buying the same record I had sort of dismissed several months earlier. You never know who you're going to meet. Some people turn out to be complete dickbags, and some people turn out to be the nicest people in the world. There have even been some bands where the guys that have been really nice, and we're like, "Damn. I wish they were dicks because I really don't like their band." (laughs)

Any memorable moments on this year's tour?

Just the other day we were about to go onstage. This rainstorm came so everything got shutdown and delayed. The kids weren't too psyched about it, so they started throwing mud, bottles and all sorts of things. It wasn't our fault. We wanted to play, but we didn't want to get electrocuted. I was standing behind the amps surveying the crowd. Like I mentioned before, we've got lots of friends on the tour, and two of our good friends are heads of security, Steve and Mitch who are two very large gentlemen. I'm looking out, and this one kid is apparently pissed that we're not playing. He's looking at me and giving me the finger. I'm just like, "It's not my fault." All of a sudden, I see Steve and Mitch wearing these bright pink ponchos. They both walk up behind the kid, tap him on the shoulder and give him "the business" for it. That was one to remember. We played the Gorge, and that was amazing. Most of the shows have been awesome. When we went through Texas, Arizona and New Mexico, it was just hellish, but it was a dry heat. That doesn't make any difference to me. If I stick my head in an oven, that's a dry heat. (laughs) The bay area of California was beautiful. We were wearing leather jackets when we went into Canada and loving every minute of it. Now we're in Florida where every time you step off the bus, you feel like you're jumping into a hot pool.

If you could create the perfect tour,

who would you invite (dead or alive)?

Bouncing Souls would be for company more than anything. They are some of the greatest guys ever. There's this band from New York called The Exit. They wouldn't go over well with our fans, but I would be on stage every night loving the hell out of it. I would love to play with Elvis Costello and Joe

Right after this, we're going to Europe for 10 days, and we're home the month of September. On the 30th of September, we're doing Conan O'Brien. After that, we're going to Japan, and in mid-October, we're doing a tour in the US. We're back in Europe in November, then returning to tour the US, and we may be doing a UK tour in December.



Strummer. There are so many people I would take on tour to watch, and a handful of people I would take on tour so I could bug them every night. I'd be like, "Why did you do this when you wrote this song?" (laughs) Either way, it would be a sh#tty deal for them.

What are your plans after this tour?

We have quite the schedule on our hands, and it will probably go by quick.

How's Japan?

I've been there twice with the band so far. The first time was really quick, and there was no time to see anything.

—Continued on next page

FROM WARPED MINDS*(Continued from previous page)*

We were there a week the second time. When we were in Tokyo and the main cities, it's amazing. Once we got into the outskirts, there was nothing. I felt like such an idiot because I can't speak Japanese and I'm a real picky eater. I couldn't eat any food, so I was like, "Why don't they speak English?" Our drummer who's real cultured was like, "Nice. F#cking American." I was like, "Aargh. Sorry, I'm hungry."

That's my concern too about whenever I visit Japan because I'm a picky eater too.

I'm terrible in Europe as well. I'll go



days without eating, and people are like, "Eat something." I'm like, "They put mayonnaise on everything." The best thing is when I walk into a dressing room and see a whole bunch of bread. I think, "Oh sweet. I can eat today." *(laughs)* There are so many things that I say I hate that I've never even tried and never will try. I've never had sour cream. I've eaten sour cream and onion potato chips, but that's as close as I've gotten. I've never actually eaten sour cream, and I swear to God I will never try it. I don't want anything to do with it. Wrap your head around this one. I like pasta and I like cheese, but I hate macaroni and cheese. *(laughs)*

How's the catering on this tour?

It's really good, but I feel like it's always chicken. I don't go all the time, but it's been good whenever I've eaten there. Every once in a while they'll have something dynamite. Today they had dynamite cornbread, but they were also serving what looked like the ribs of a human being. When they put the ribs on the plate, the styrofoam plate cracked due to the "Flintstone"-sized ribs.

Any message for the Dropkick Murphys fans?

For everyone who has come out to the Warped Tour, support has been incredible! Hopefully, everyone likes the new record, and we can't thank you enough!

THRICE

Riley

Before the tour started, what bands

were you looking forward to seeing and/or hanging out with this summer?

My Chemical Romance. We've been friends with them for a few years, and we were looking forward to getting to hang out and watch their sets everyday. There were a few other bands that we'd toured with before or met over the years that it was good to see again like The Bled, Strike Anywhere, the Dillinger Escape Plan, and Reggie and the Full Effect.

Have you made any new friends on this year's tour?

Tons. Too many to list. The most memorable being Underoath and Bedouin Soundclash. I also learned that I live about six blocks from the Saosin guys, so we'll be hanging out on this

little break we've got.

What did you do in your spare time and on off days?

Laundry.

In your opinion, where was the best show?

There were tons of great shows on this year's tour. My favorite was probably Minneapolis. We played last, the crowd was great, and we had a bunch of other bands and people working the tour on stage to watch us.

Was there a "bad" show? If so, where and why?

We had a string of shows at the very beginning of the tour that were "bad." We'd been off the road for almost a year, and we were rusty, and our equipment kept breaking. Technical difficulties are always frustrating. We just had to get back into the swing of touring, and it took a couple days. Orlando was tough too. I hurt my back again, and felt like an 80-year-old man. I could barely move, and I was in pain the entire set. It made things a little rough, but we survived.

Now that the tour is officially over, and hindsight is always 20-20, what would you have done differently on this tour?

I would have done laundry on the last day off. I had pants that could stand up on their own that I had to wear for the last few days of tour. Smelling like death warmed over is never a good thing.

What advice would you give to a band that is going to play the Warped Tour for the first time?

Lose your fear of using porta-potties and learn to hold your breath while using them. They're pretty brutal, but they're your only option.

ATREYU

Brandon

How has the Warped Tour been going for you guys so far?

It's been awesome. We're lucky to be on the main stage, so the shows have been awesome.

Last year, you played on Ozzfest, and this year you did Warped. How do you compare the two?

They're both really awesome. They're different crowds and different age groups, but they're both awesome tours.

Most memorable moment on this tour?

We played last in Pittsburgh, and it went really well. We had a huge circle pit going around the sound board, and it was awesome. Since we were the last band, we knew the kids were going to be tired, and we didn't know if they were even going to stick around. But they did, and it was an awesome show for us.

I always wonder what's running through the sound guy's head when he's in the middle of a circle pit.

Our sound guy gets stoked on it. He always gets super excited, and you see him put his arms up screaming "Yeah!" It's cool.

What bands were you looking forward to seeing on this year's tour?

The bands I've already known like My Chemical Romance. They're awesome to watch, and there's a band called The Receiving End of Sirens on



the Ernie Ball stage. They're really, really good. A lot of friends' bands like Yesterday's Rising on the Smart Punk stage. Transplants have been good. There are so many good bands.

Free time activities?

I'll try to watch The Receiving End of Sirens as much as I can and walk around watching bands. A lot of times, it's blistering hot, so I'll try to stay in. My girlfriend's out with us now, so I hang out with her to occupy my time.

Any advice for future Warped bands?

If you're not one of the main stage bands, find a friend that wants to go on a summer vacation, and let him drive for you. A lot of bands do this tour in a van. The drives are long. The shows end at 9 p.m., and you've got an eight-hour drive and have to be in the next town by 8 a.m. the next morning. You're up all day so try to get rest any way you can and drink lots of water. This year, it's cool because they've been using canned water, and there's been a lot more around. Make sure you try to get as much water and sleep as possible.

MILLENCOLIN

Erik Ohlsson

What was the most memorable thing, good or bad, that happened on this year's Warped Tour?

This didn't really have anything to do with the tour, but Dexter from the Offspring invited us to fly with him on his private jet. That was really cool! He owns a jet plane, and he flies it himself. Not this time though, since he was partying with us, so his co-pilot was flying this time. Steve Caballero also played the bass with us on our song "Black Eye" almost every show! That was great!

Before the tour started, what bands were you looking forward to seeing and/or hanging out with this summer?

Hanging out with our friends in the Street Dogs and watching The Transplants.

Have you made any new friends on this year's tour?

Not really, strangely... When we did the whole thing back in '97 and 2000, we made tons of friends, but it felt like

a different vibe this time. The part of the tour we did was super hot also, so a lot of the time was spent on the bus. Great meeting old friends though! The Vans and Warped people, Steve Caballero, Mike Frazier and a lot of bands we know.

What did you do in your spare time and on off days?

It was so hot, so we spent all the time on the bus pretty much! I worked on new artwork for a single cover we are releasing soon. We only had one day off, and on that one we just went to the