

Weston

The players are: Weston - Jer, Dave, Chuck, Jim, the Roadies - Bix and Rocky, Sales woman - Alicia, and Record guy - Charles. Written by Chuck...

DAY 1, SEPT 29

After 2 days of going nuts, trying not to forget anything, we started the tour in typical Weston fashion - roaring into WFMU one-and-a-half hours late. We finally got to meet Doc Hopper, who played naked, and Horace Finker, who were awesome. We stayed at Charles's (Bern Blandsten).

Day 2

We show up in Long Island 2 hours late. I hope daylight savings time helps us out. We played with only one milke to a jumpy crowd of 90, sold stuff and took off for John Hiltz's. We got there an hour late and played to 20 people, got paid more than we deserved and took off for Charles's (again). He made us wheat pancakes. I only hope one day we can do as many favors for all these people who help us out. I predict that Bix will kill us all in our sleep during this tour.

DAY 3

Charles brought us some pizza and we hit the road for St. Mary's PA. Drizzly, Ugly. Bix drives like someone on TV (wheel left, wheel right, repeat), and we saw a car on fire. We got to St. Mary's and the place was right on top of the police station. 200 enthusiastic people, pinball, and free soda. Every show should be like this one. Francis Anthony Superstar rocked out, Jerkwater played their first show and were great. We did every cheesy rock move we could think of and signed autographs! We stayed at Superstar Head Georgino's house. We're lucky little dorks.

DAY 4

Hung out at Fred Weaver's. Rocky stole a fire extinguisher from a mall.

DAY 5

We made it to Cincinnati on time (!) This was the first place we didn't know anyone and it was strange. But we met Sleeper and hung out with them. When we started playing, there were two people in the audience, but Eric and Stu came down and told us it was just soundcheck. We played to 30 people later, and it was cool. Sleeper were awesome.

DAY 6

Woke up in the van with the fullest bladder ever. Dave and I bought hats that say GROUP on them. Eric, whose house we stayed at gave us a tape of his band, Fourteen, which ruled. We got to Detroit, which is scary and ugly. Everyone at the show seemed all cool and boring, but we played well and then everyone was talking to us and Sleeper kicked ass, and all of a sudden the night was going good. We left Detroit that night and stayed at a Super 8 motel and I watched Benny Hill till I fell asleep. I'm gonna miss Sleeper, but hopefully I'll get to see them at home.

DAY 7 *

This day was awesome, I wish I had more room. We got to Nellhouse in the afternoon, and it's big and nice. We walked around town and met an accordion-joke guy who was hilarious. I also bought an army bag at army/navy to put Avail patches on. I found copies of TEX and THE CHILDREN for 5 bucks each. We played a reckless set and everyone was acting so nuts we even did an encore! Megan, Helga, Grace, Beth, and Maggie took us to a kinky disco night at some club and we boogied and dirty-danced the rest of the night away.

DAY 8

Indianapolis - scary part of town - played with worst band ever - and Surburbia who were funny - played to one paying customer (amy) - almost got killed in parking lot - left for Kalamazoo

DAY 9

Got to Kalamazoo at 6 a.m. no one was awake to let us in. Me, Dave, and Rocky took a walk, while everyone else slept in the van. We fell asleep under an overpass and went to DonutNook and Rocky did something bad there... Everyone was cool and dull till the end of the night, then they were friendly. I wonder if people would be nice to us if we weren't in a band, too late now anyway, we are. When we played, Jim wore a dog collar around his neck, crashed into his amp,

and knocked the PA over. Move over Motley Crue - the real bad boy of Rock-n-Roll is in our band, so suck it!

DAY 10

Did laundry and then onward to the Windy City. We met a fireman, and asked him about the movie BACKDRAFT, and he told us to get out of the part of Chicago we were in or we'd get killed, we left. We got to the Fireside Bowl early. Kim and John Hiltz showed up and let us in. This place is cool, the 4 buck admission price includes free shoe rental. Everyone was totally friendly and everyone smokes here, my kind of town. Delta 72, w/ Greg Foreman of Junction fame, played a weird bluesy rock thing with organ and harmonica. We played crazy and did "faithfully" by Journey. This guy Andrew gave us the keys to his house in Milwaukee, so we went there and his roommate owned 9 cats. Boo.

DAY 11

Woke up and watched TEX - talked to Andrew and Milt about UFO's - played in a stinky basement - people smoked pot and drank - we didn't - Los Crudos --- LOS CRUDOS!!! This band rules! They talk a lot between songs, but you want to hear them talk, in fact, we talked to them all night. They made Milwaukee worth it.

DAY 12

Ate at Big Top this morning and saw a kid with a shovel imprint on the side of his head. Right before we got to Minnesota we got pulled over for speeding. The cop wanted to know if he could search the van and we said ok. He was cool as far as cops go. He asked us if we "do any Dead Milkmen tunes?" and told us he saw Black Flag 9 years ago, and upon finding nothing, let us out of our speeding ticket. We got to THP house in Minneapolis, and everyone was hospitable. They had wrestling/kung fu paraphernalia all over the house.

DAY 13

We loafed around all day, and then went to Extreme Noise records, owned by Punks, run by punks, punkin' punks, punk, pu, p. It was rad, and they gave us free stickers. We got to Mankato on time and the guy Jeremy, who put on the show was supernice and let us play 3rd. The kids were great, the place was great. I hope those kids don't take it for granted and let it go down the toilet. Carrie Coolgirl let us stay at her place.

DAY 14

Boring drive to Nebraska - show was kinda dull - bands were kind of dull - conversations were mostly dull - so we left and drove to South Dakota.

DAY 15

Rocky & I took the graveyard shift and almost ran out of gas. We saw some kind of collie/wolf thing trying to get in the van and drove away. We were delirious. We went to the Badlands and crawled around on the mountains, looking for caves and bobcats. Everyone at home we mentioned the Badlands to, never heard of it. If you're ever in the midwest, go there, you won't regret it. Also Wall Drug, which is the South of the Border of the midwest is worth checking out. Dave and I got matching imitation indian beaded belts for 3 bucks there. We went to Mt. Rushmore - Mt. Rushmore is more like it. The only good thing there is the gift shop. I found my camera (which I thought I lost 6 days ago) in one of my hiking boots, cool.

DAY 16

We lolled around all day at a bad mall and went to see Terminal Velocity starring nightlife king Charlie Sheen. It sucked. We went to a great record store that carried our record and then we played at Atomic Cafe, a cool coffee shop. We stood around goofing with kids all night, played well, and were sad to leave, but we heard there was a snowstorm coming to Denver, and we wanted to get there before it did.

DAY 17

Rocky and I drove the graveyard shift and got so paranoid about the altitude and oxygen deprivation, that we believed we were suffering from it. He had me convinced that my fingernails were blue. So we pulled over and called Bull & Jen (back in Philly) to ask them if they ever had it. They said no, so we just left. There was no snowstorm, so we drove all night for nothing. Everyone was a drunkard at this show except us, that's annoying. We decided to

drive to Seattle right away, since Tracey Wilson (Pahlia Seed) lives there and our show in Montana got canceled.

DAY 18

We drove through snowy mountains in Montana all day. At night, we got stuck in a traffic jam in Idaho for 2 hours.

DAY 19

We finally arrived in Seattle at 5a.m. after 29 STRAIGHT HOURS IN THE VAN!!! Never went to sleep. Dave and I walked around and yelled "Morning!" to everyone we passed. We got lost, and didn't get back to Tracey's till 11 o'clock. We went to some cool places in Seattle, and it's a beautiful futuristic place, and everyone walks their dogs around. I want to move here with Angela and walk our dog around and yell "Morning" to everyone. I'm going to skip some days here, a few canceled shows, and a show in Portland that I'd rather just forget. Tracey put us up and put up with us for 4 days, and we're lucky to have her as a friend.

DAY 22

At the border of California, they stop everyone and ask if you have any plants or vegetables to declare. It's completely strange. We had to get 2 u-joints replaced, and a fuel filter on the van for 100 bucks and then drove to Sacramento. The part of Sacto we played in had like 50 cafes in a 5 block radius...gross. They did have a great bookstore that had every book I wanted and a record store that let us use their bathrooms (!) The guy who ran the record store was hilarious and let us sit around and read zines. We played Mr. Spaceman and put shoes in our mouths, and jumped all over the place. We stayed at Scott ex-Sinker's house and his pitbull ate our sleeping bags.

DAY 23

We got to Berkeley and it was dull. We ended up playing last to about 20 people. Jim told us he's leaving the tour on Oct 30th and flying home so he doesn't lose his job. We're just gonna teach Rocky the songs and have him play them. We stayed at Jim's uncle's house in S.F. and it's a great house. Wish I had some \$\$\$, I'd move here in a second. We got some phone number's at Gilman to try to get a show for tomorrow.

DAY 24

We went to Hate-Assbury, and I just stayed in the van. We ended up glomming onto a bill with Tilt, who remembered us from when they played at Lehigh, and they helped us carry our shit in. We met Nikki Parasite and he offered to let us stay with him. The show was cool, kind of like a slightly cooler version of a frat party, everyone there was trashed. I have to thank Shanna from Gilman for hooking us up with this show and Nikki Parasite for putting us up for two days. Thank you.

DAY 25

Went to a BBQ with Nikki and met other Parasites and people from Tilt were there and I hung around talking to music lawyers.

DAY 26

After messing up our schedule and ending up in LA we drove to Santa Barbara. We played pretty well and dedicated a song to Kent McClard (we did "just like kent" instead of Kurt)

DAY 27

Woke up and played basketball with Jim and Rocky. We drove to LA and the place we played was a graffitied-up stinky mini-warehouse. The best thing about the night was Blank, a band from Maryland, who played a melodic/emo style, but more importantly, had a great sense of humour, we hung out with them all night. All of us ended up staying at that mini-warehouse that night and slept scared. We hooked up the PA system when Bickert started snoring and put the mic up to his face and his snoring through the PA shook the walls. He'll kill us all one day.

DAY 28

Picked up discs from Kent because we're running out of them - almost died on the Santa Monica freeway when some moron swerved away from a garbage can lid, lost control, bounced off the guardrail and shot straight at us. Rocky floored it, and he hit the guy behind us.

DAY 29

We stopped in some shit/trendy section of San Diego and stayed there all day. I talked to Angela on the phone, and realized how much I miss her and hate San Diego. We left tonight so we'd have all day at the Grand Canyon before our show tomorrow. Rocky & I drove the early morning shift and saw 2 bats, 1 muledeer, 2 coyotes, 2 jackrabbits, and a squished octopus on the side of the road. The desert got totally freezing after 3a.m.

DAY 30

Ate at the Fred Flinstone tourist trap and went to the Canyon. I dropped my camera about 60yds into the Canyon and went down to get it and it still worked. Dave and I met some funny German people. We found out our show was canceled in Flagstaff. We stayed at Shaunyah's house on a Navjo Indian Reservation and ate spaghetti and they told us ghost stories about skinwalkers. I didn't go out later, but J'mo, Alicia, and Bix said they saw shooting stars galore.

DAY 31

We left for El Paso and drove like 347,000 hours and got there an hour late anyway. We played to a pretty drunk, mostly Spanish speaking crowd, who were nice. Jim played like Mr. Ants-in-his-Pants guy, because it was his last show on tour. We took off right after the show so we could get him to Dallas in time for his flight home.

DAY 32

Dropped Jimmy off at the gigantic Dallas/Ft. Worth airport. Everyone had cool costumes on for Halloween except us. Everybody was so trashed there but friendly. Rocky played his first show with us and did really well. He played in his underwear. After the show they put a Patsy Cline album on & everyone was slow dancing (!!!?) I just went out on the porch and cracked jokes with Dave for the rest of the night.

DAY 33

Went to Copperas Cove to play at Pizza Bell. They had pinball, pizza & good bands. We played not so hot and I think I broke the guy's PA head. My shampoo exploded in my bag and got all over everything, including postcards I was going to send (anyone who didn't get postcards that expected them - this is why - sorry) This day just sucked. sucked. sucked.

DAY 34

I am sick. I caught some damn flu in Texas. We got to New Orleans and everyone went to the French Quarter except me, I'm sick. We played the show, but it was hard to enjoy, because I am sick...get the picture? I'm Sick!

DAY 35

I drove to Pensacola and we met Colten at the Waffle House & went to his house. His dad used to be a pro-wrestler, so I spent a lot of time talking to him about 60's and 70's wrestling. We played pretty well to a small crowd, got pizza and hung around with this Mississippi kid who was funny as hell. I am writing like nothing anymore, I'm sick & impatient to get home.

DAYS 36- END

I didn't write in my diary at all, and I can't remember much. We stopped at a truckstop in Alabama and bought a lot of souvenirs. In Georgia we played with Car vs Driver and they're the nicest. In Greensboro NC everyone was trashed, Bix and I got frisked by cops and my pants fell down. Me, Bix, and Rocky went to a disco party (that's what they promised anyway) and all they played was Birthday Party records so we danced to that, got bored, and left. Washington DC - Digger, Frank Foe, Erica, and Delta 72 kids were there, but I don't remember much, I just wanted to get home and we did. Oh yeah Hope, Gin, and Robert from Lancaster, drove 6 hours to see us in Atlanta Ga. and it was awesome to see them.

My Top 10 of the Tour

1. Jerky Boys 1 & 2 and Adam Sandler tapes
 2. Playing Van Halen 1 everytime we pulled into a town
 3. Busting on Bix
 4. Finding Kisses & Hugs fans all over the country
 5. The Badlands and the Grand Canyon
 6. Seeing people we knew in weird parts of the country
 7. Los Crudos
 8. Kinky Disco Night in Columbus, OH
 9. Finding TEX videotape for 5 bucks
 10. Driving delirious early-morning hours with Rocky & Dave repeating words over & over
- #### Bottom 10
1. People who are all cool & boring
 2. Annoying Drunks
 3. Seeing naked truckers washing themselves in the restrooms of truckstops
 4. Driving in the mountains anywhere
 5. Mt. Rushmore
 6. Spine - the worst band we ever played with - anywhere
 7. Houses that had pets that wouldn't leave us alone
 8. Missing my girlfriend
 9. Canceled shows
 10. My amazing exploding shampoo bottle