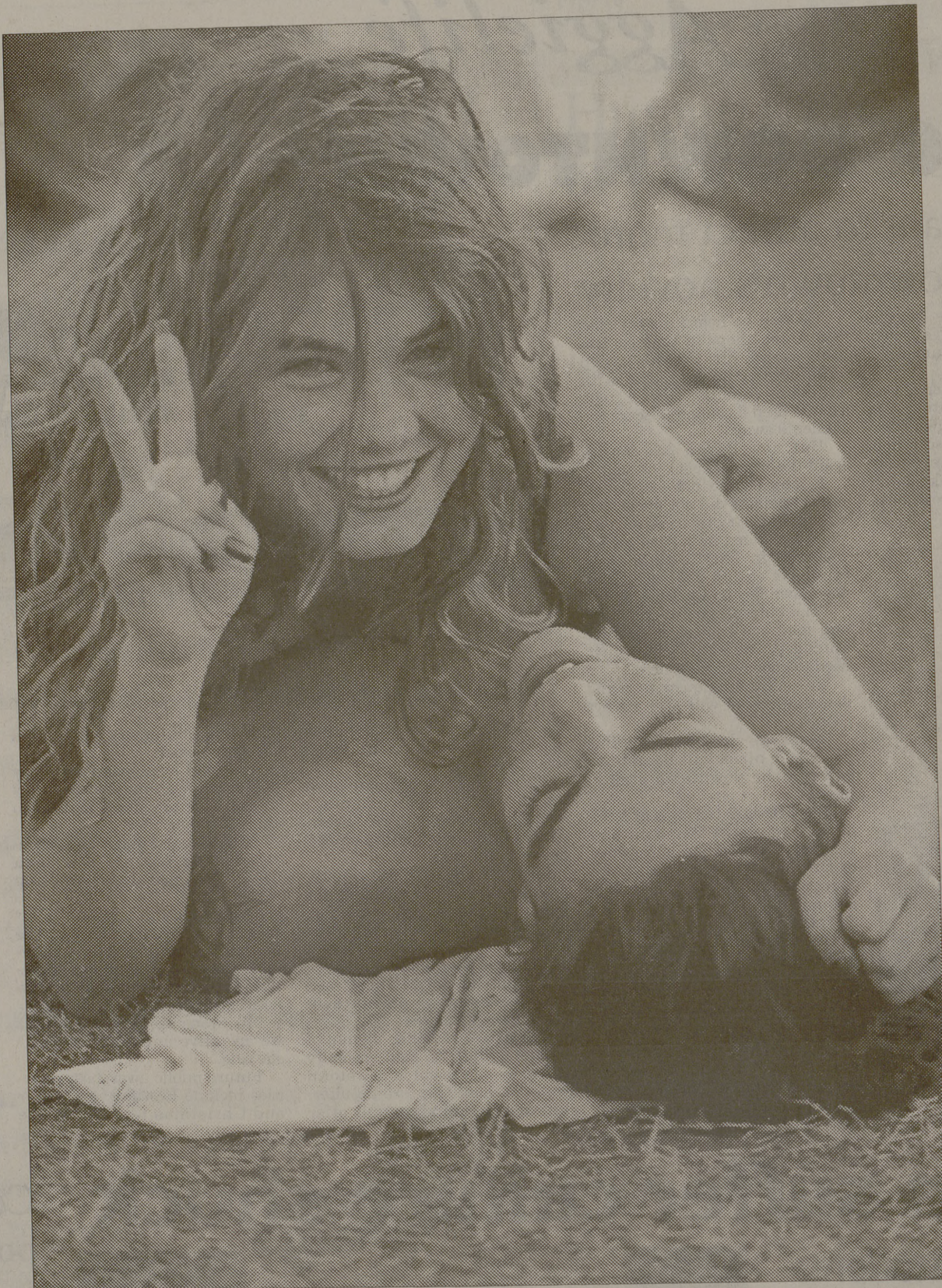


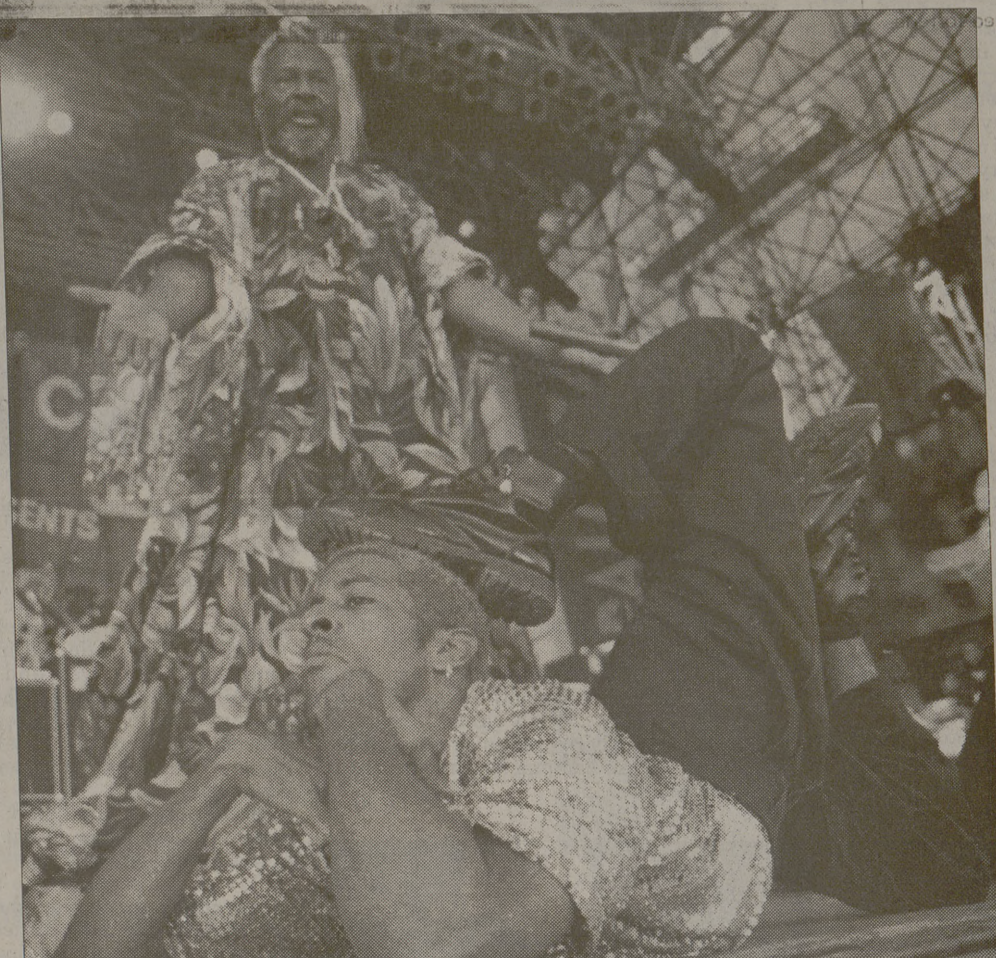


# LOLLAPALOOZA '94



(Above) A couple enjoys a relaxing moment during the concert.

(Right) George Clinton funks it up with the P-Funk All Stars. The creator of influential songs such as "One Nation Under a Groove," "Atomic Dog," and "Flash Light," performed with a collection of all star members of his two former groups, Parliament and Funkadelic.



(Left) Billie Joe, lead singer of Green Day belts out a tune during the first performance of the day. Joe later invited fans onstage to perform silly versions of Twisted Sister's "We're Not Gonna Take It," and Survivor's "Eye of the Tiger."

(Above) Rappers Phife Dawg and Q-Tip from A Tribe Called Quest perform "Check the Rhime" during their 45-minute set.



Beastie Boys (from left) MCA, Mike D. and Ad-Rock open their set with "Sure Shot."

## MASSIVE MUSIC GREEN DAY & P-FUNK SHINE PUMPKINS & BEASTIE BOYS PERFORM POORLY IN FESTIVAL

BY ROBERT T. CLARK  
The Battalion

First things first - Lollapalooza was no Woodstock. After enduring an incredibly long day of blasting music in 96-degree heat, I wonder how people made it through three days at Woodstock. For the 20,000 fans at Lollapalooza at Houston Raceway Park on Aug. 19, it was the type of day that you are just happy to get through.

With eight bands on the main stage ranging from the moody doom rock of headliners Smashing Pumpkins to the eccentric Brooklyn rap of A Tribe Called Quest, the music roared for eight full hours. Eight long, sometimes excruciating hours.

For those who enjoy people watching, Lollapalooza is heaven on earth. From a huge transvestite to a girl who covered her breasts only with electrical tape — the crowd was interesting, to say the least.

And with an interactive virtual reality amusement park, an electric carnival with computers to distort voices, laser and everything else under the sun and four more bands on the second stage, there wasn't a dull moment.

The festival also was a huge money maker, with vendors selling clothing and jewelry, causing some to call it an "alternamall" and "Dollerpalooza."

**loll**, *v.t.* to let hang loosely, as the toll.  
**loll**, *n.* the act of lolling.  
**lol·'pa'loo'za**, **lol·la'pa'loo'sa**, *n.* something very striking or excellent. [*Slang*]  
**Lollard**, *n.* [M.D. *lollaerd*, one who mumbled prayers or hymns, from *loll*]

But the focus is, of course, music. And it all started rather well, with Green Day leading the charge on the main stage. Fresh from the success of their humorously-titled debut album "Dookie," the band's interaction with the crowd was at times lewd and crude, but always entertaining.

Lead singer Billie Joe spat at a fan he found particularly annoying, leading to the fan's removal. When the fan turned, Joe took a verbal jab at him, as well as Soundgarden with his own rendition of their latest hit, singing "Black Hole Sun, won't you come/And wash away the rain/The high motherf---er is back again."

But it was Green Day's music that got the crowd going. After opening with "Welcome to Paradise," recent hits "Longview" and "Basket Case" were outstanding, thanks to Joe's distinctive voice.

Joe even brought fans on stage to join him in playing cheesy hits from the '80s, namely Twisted Sister's "We're Not Gonna Take It," and Survivor's "Eye of the Tiger." Somehow, thousands of fans singing "Eye of the Tiger" at an alternative music festival doesn't quite fit, but it provides some comic relief.

But following acts were disappointing. Nick Cave & Bad Seeds, L7 and the Breeders were less than impressive. But the eccentric raps of A Tribe Called Quest made a strong rap addition to the predominately alternative lineup. Lead rapper Q-Tip and his sidekick Phife Dawg wowed the crowd with "Electric Relaxation," "Check the Rhime," "Award Tour." A few shout-outs to the Houston Rockets and "Clutch City," didn't hurt either.

The relatively young crowd got a history lesson in funk master George Clinton and the P-Funk All Stars. The influence of Clinton's Parliament and Funkadelic groups affected everyone from Prince to the Red Hot Chili Peppers to Dr. Dre, and Clinton didn't disappoint with his funk. His 24-piece band had the crowd moving with "Up For the Down Stroke," "Give Up the Funk (Tear the Roof off the Sucker)" and "Atomic Dog." "Flash Light" seemed to last forever, but no one seemed to mind, as Clinton's just kept flowing.

Clinton's performance of an anti-drug rap was easily the best performance of the day, with lines like "There's no profit in pretending we're stopping it than selling it."

The Beastie Boys exploded onto the stage with their unique blend of rap, punk and funk. But the band's style became tedious, as the high-pitched vocal styles of Mike and AdRock quickly became unintelligible screams. Although it is impressive that they play their own instruments, it's disheartening when you realize it's been 45 minutes since you've understood a word they've said. But closed strong with "So Watcha Want" and "Sabotage."

Unfortunately, closer and headliner Smashing Pumpkins was the biggest disappointment. With the band's huge guitar sound, lead singer Billy Corgan's voice was just a faint, and at times blood-curdling scream. Renditions of "Cherub Rock" and "Disarm" were impressive, but Corgan's voice just didn't do the trick.

By the time the Pumpkins hit the stage, the crowd had ready for death. The combination of the extreme heat, the grass and dirt made for some terribly uncomfortable moments. And when it was all over, we peeled off the candy shell of dirt that had encompassed our bodies and headed for home.

And despite feeling like Keith Richards looks, it was worth it. The Lollapalooza experience is just that — an experience. And it was one hell of a show. One that will be impossible to forget. As '92 Lollapalooza alum Ice Cube would say, "Gotta say it was a good day."

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