

## TOAD THE WET SPROCKET OFFER OPENING SLOT TO LOCALS FOR STARLAND BALLROOM SHOW ON JUNE 12

Toad The Wet Sprocket return to Starland on June 12, and in true reality-tv style, a contest is on to decide who will get to open the show. Starland has teamed with G Rock Rising to locate an opening band for this show. Interested bands can visit the Social G page, set up a profile and submit their info. The submissions will be whittled down to a group of five, and then the voting will begin! Visit the link for details at [grocksocial.com](http://grocksocial.com)

## LITTLE STEVEN'S WICKED COOL RECORDS SIGNS THE CHEVELLES

What do rocker fans and Jersey mobsters have in common? Well apparently they both dig Aussie pop slingers The Chevelles. Yep, The Chevelles have signed with Jersey legend and "Sopranos" star Stevie Van Zandt's Wicked Cool Records and they are releasing their anthology, which will highlight the best of their ultimate best,



entitled *Barbarella Girl God, Introducing The Chevelles*. The disc features 16 scorching tunes, including three brand new concoctions.

What I like about Van Zandt's approach to finding and working with great bands is that Wicked Cool harkens back to the early days when labels actually took the time to develop bands. Instead of throwing one album against the wall and running for the tax write off, Wicked Cool works with groups, recognizing that sometimes a freshman disc leads to a senior relationship, and that can only be good for all parties.

The Chevelles broke ground with 1992's *Kids Ain't Hip* and pretty much have continued over the past 16 years with several albums featured prominently in many rock radio/tv play lists all across Europe, the US, Japan and Brazil. In France, *Gigantic* (1995) spent two months on the Rock 30 Radio Chart, entering at No. 3 alongside such luminaries as Sugar, Suede and Aerosmith.

*Barbarella Girl God* pulls no punches, as it comes straight out of the traditional sonic sound pools of Soul Asylum, The Beach Boys, Kiss and even The Kinks. Ah yes, The Chevelles have the snarl of

Alice Cooper and the attitude of The Smithereens.

I caution you, this latest remastered set is highly addictive even after just one listen, showcasing a smart group with the ability to generate huge excitement with their unique brand of gritty power rock. The band just finished their West Aussie Power Pop Assault world tour and will be concentrating on working their latest release. Keep your eyes out for The Chevelles and watch for the release of *Barbarella Girl God* out on May 27 as well as their latest full-length *Accelerator* out this year.

Go check out the Wicked Cool catalogue that features other great bands like The Grip Weeds and The Chesterfield Kings at [wickedcoolrecords.com](http://wickedcoolrecords.com) and check out The Chevelles at [thechevelles.com](http://thechevelles.com)

## THE STONE PONY PRESENTS RICHIE SCARLET ON APRIL 25

This next Shoreworld legend also has something in common with The Chevelles as well. The Chevelles are labelmates with The Chesterfield Kings, whose record *Berlin Wall Of Sound* was produced by none other than Richie Scarlet. Scarlet has shared the Pony stage with Ace Frehley, Leslie West, Sebastian Bach, Alice Cooper and so many other rock kings. But the one thing he hasn't done yet, even after playing our famous room since 1985 is play The Pony under his own name. Hey, when you're as in demand as Scarlet, sometimes you just have to be patient.

That all ends on Friday, April 25, because Richie will be headlining

that legendary Stone Pony stage in Asbury Park. His all-star band will include Steve "Budgie" Werner (from Frehley's Comet) on drums, Karl Allweier (Frank Carrillo) on bass and Peter Gallinari (Richie Scarlet) on keyboards. Scarlet will be performing his own bombastic catalog, including much of his last album, *Revelation Supreme*. This will be a show you won't want to miss out on for any reason. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and merchandise will be available at the show.

Richie also wanted me to let you know he is starting a brand new CD in May, and is shooting for an October release. He can't wait to share his blitzkrieg of tunes with all of his fans. Come hang out with one of rock and roll's most underrated guitarists as he tears it up and down at The Pony this Friday.

## LONE SHARK ROCKIN' PAST MIDNITE—INDEPENDENT RELEASE

Formed in 2006 as a blues and classic rock cover band, Lone Shark was a featured band in several Jersey summer music festivals and local bar gigs. Building on the foundations that this beginning provided, Lone Shark quickly began to craft a sound that would become their own, making the leap into the original music arena.

Since 2007, Lone Shark have been writing their own brand of guitar-driven music, reminiscent of the many great blues-rock bands that came before them. They remind me at times of The Yardbirds and of course a little bit of Faces as well. There's no pretense here as Lone Shark bang it out in pretty much the same way as it was done in the late '60s.

Lone Shark wrote, recorded and produced their first EP of original music, *45 RPM*, earlier this year. This freshman disc features five original tunes that showcase their well-replicated influences, and it's evident that they're a band that seems to be growing in their own right direction. The songs feature guitar oriented, gritty, rough-hewn rhythm and blues numbers all fronted by the blues harmonica work of Wayne Kessler.

Officially released in March 2008, *45 RPM* is available through [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com), iTunes and other Internet-based music stores. Lone Shark is Wayne Kessler, vocals, guitar and harmonica, Ron Banas, vocals, guitar, Greg McDermott, drums, and Jerry Owens on bass. Visit the band's website at [loneshark.net](http://loneshark.net)

## JOHN PADOVANO—BLUES FROM THE IRONBOUND CROONER

Padovano takes his moniker "The Ironbound Crooner" from the 20th century blue-collar section of Newark, NJ. The first thing I notice about this Jersey artist is his attention to detail with his "themes," as demonstrated on each project cover he has recorded. Meticulous care was given to the look and style of this lone bluesman's image.

From old photographs (one of his father, John R. Padovano, who was billed as the "real ironbound crooner"), to the trusty cappuccino cup I spied in several shots as he poses nonchalantly with his guitar or his megaphone, he's got an idea of what he wants to convey to you. This is crucial if you're selling yourself to the musical public.

Padovano's extensive past is pretty much summed up with this collection. A ragamuffin style of Redbone blues and freight train folk is all wrapped up in a gritty, street tough style that's all John's, and backed by a trio that's simply called Rainy Day Hobo. While the disc is pretty raw, it gives a good representation of Padovano and the craft he had evidently been honing for years.

Padovano plays a lot of coffee houses and other gin mills around the state and his show includes folk/blues and jazz/blues songs from his last four CD releases. While Padovano performs mostly along the shore area, he also appears in Princeton where he has performed concerts at Princeton University. His CDs are available at Jack's Music, Red Bank, NJ, SICA, Long Branch, NJ, [towerrecords.com](http://towerrecords.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), and at his site. Grab your coat and grab your hat and make the bus in seconds flat over at [johnpadovano.com](http://johnpadovano.com)

# loud notes

by Jen Kajzer



Testament played B.B. King's recently and there's nothing worse than a monkey wrench being thrown into your plans when one of the opening bands cancel or don't show up, and Testament winds up going on over an hour early! I missed most of their show but I did happen to get there in time to hear "Disciples Of The Watch" and "Alone In The Dark," along with a few other songs. As always, B.B. King's loves having metal shows on Sunday nights for some reason, but this show was sold out and packed all the way to the entry door to the room! It was hard to see the band, as there was hardly room to stand. In my case, I have to try the good old ballerina tippie toes move, which only showed me the backs of many formerly hot long haired men's bald spots, aka their skulls, as they still have the long hair. Chuck Billy sounded an awful lot like he did on the CD for all those songs, which I found rather weird but would like to think of it how he still sounds, without the assistance of any machines. A friend of mine said that when they played the Sounds of the Underground tour in summer '07 they sucked, and they sounded so bad. And I was concerned that I was losing my touch or my hearing because I thought they were amazing at SOTU. It was their first time together with Skolnick and the

other dudes in such a long time! And then my friend went on to say that she felt bad for them and hopes they can still draw crowds. Her loss for missing this show!

Testament's new album *Formation Of Damnation* will be released on April 29. Koch Records just signed **Hatebreed** and will release a series of highly anticipated future projects from the kings of hardcore metal. The long awaited Hatebreed DVD will be released through Koch as well. It was recorded on March 29 at Harpo's in Detroit, along with various tour stops in Germany, Philly, New York City and the band's home of New Haven, CT. The DVD is scheduled for a late summer/early fall release. Jamey Jasta states, "The band and I had set out to find an aggressive, forward thinking marketing and creative team to release the first-ever Hatebreed live DVD experience, a live album, and a cool unique covers record project, and teaming up with Koch Records is a perfect fit." Jasta explains, "There are other important projects that we are planning to partner with Koch Records to release. They are a smart company with a dedicated staff and I speak for the whole band when I say that Koch just gets it and aren't afraid to take risks and work their asses off. We are excited to start working together." Hatebreed are co-headlining the Jagermeister Tour, coming to Terminal 5 in New York City on June 28.

UPCOMING SHOWS: This Friday night, **Dimmu Borgir** play Starland Ballroom with guests **Behemoth** and **Keep Of Kalessin**. Tickets cost \$21 in advance, \$24 dos. Coming to B.B. King's in New York City this Monday are **Hate Eternal**, **Soilent Green** and **Skeletonwitch**. Tickets cost \$14 in advance, \$16/dos.

