

Allentown Fair Announces First Four Shows

ALLENTOWN (Lehigh Co.) — The Great Allentown Fair's grandstand is going a little bit country and a little bit rock 'n' roll, judging by the first four concerts announced for this year's exposition running August 26-September 1.

After a drought of classic rock shows in recent years, the Fair is opening with back-to-back electric guitar-toting headliners. On Wednesday, August 27, The Steve Miller Band will make its Fair debut. On Thursday, August 28, rock's "little 'ole band from Texas," ZZ Top, will be back at the Fair for the first time since 1983, when its mega-selling "Eliminator" album first went on the mar-

ket. Tickets for both shows go on sale starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26.

Swinging over to the Fair's staple, country music, one of its most renowned male performers, Vince Gill, is joined by the Country Music Association's "horizon" award-winner Bryan White for a Friday, August 29 concert. And on Saturday, August 30, John Michael Montgomery, who is riding high on the success of his current album "What I Do Best," will perform with country band Ricochet, which has been posting singles on the charts. Tickets for these two shows go on sale starting at 8 a.m. Tuesday, April 29.

None of these announced Fair headliners have a shortage of material to perform. The youngest of the artists, John Michael Montgomery, has produced four albums selling a combined 10 million copies including his most-heralded release, "Kickin' It Up," which debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Top Album Charts in 1994. Some of his top singles include "I Love the Way You Love Me," "I Swear," and "Sold! (The Grundy County Auction Incident)." Montgomery's special guest, Ricochet, is a six-member band that hit No. 1 with its first single "Daddy's Money" and an a cappella version of "The Star Spangled Banner."

Vince Gill is known as one of country's perennial hit-producers with six top albums, eight Grammys and every country music organization's award presented. The recent material from his "High Lonesome" album has been

as strong on the charts as his earlier successes, "Pocket Full Of Gold" and "I Still Believe In You." Gill's opening act, Bryan White, is on his own ladder to success being the youngest artist nominated for the Country Music Association's Male Vocalist of the Year title in 1996.

ZZ Top had been off the road awhile, but the trio recognized for long beards and their trademark classic Ford from "Eliminator," came back on the scene in a big way, playing to a mega stadium and television audience at this year's Superbowl half-time. Naturally, the boys sang their anthem "Legs," which catapulted their career from a cult to mainstream following. While their most noted hits, like "Cheap Sunglasses," "Pearl Necklace" and "Tube Snake Boogie," were recorded in the '70s and '80s, they continue to produce new material like this year's "Rhythmeen"

album and singles "Black Fly" and "What's Up With That."

The Steve Miller Band is known for turning concerts into hours-long jam sessions and this year's "Jokers Ball Tour" is being billed as such. The band has sold over 2.5 million concert tickets in the last eight years, even though the band is celebrating the 20th anniversary of some of its biggest hits like "Jungle Love," "Jet Airliner," and "Swingtown."

All seats for the country concerts are reserved. The grandstand is reserved and the track is festival for the rock concerts. Tickets to all of the shows are \$23. Admission to the Fair is \$4 for persons ages 12 and over. Half-priced \$2 Fair admission tickets may be purchased before August 27.

For fair box office hours, Ticketmaster and mail order information, call (610) 435-SHOW (7469) or visit the Fair's website at www.allentownfairpa.org.

Asgrow/Seedway Addresses Demand

HALL, N.Y. — Growers enthused by the performance of Roundup Ready soybean seed can order 1998 Roundup Ready seed needs now according to Don Wertman, Seedway president.

Experts predict 70 percent of soybean acres planted in the future will be Roundup Ready. To meet this demand, the industry must increase seed stocks at an unprecedented rate.

Growers and dealers have been frustrated by the lack of availability of Roundup Ready seed for 1997 planting. Asgrow wants to avoid that situation for 1998. Through March 31, 1997 customers can contract for 1998 seed through Seedway dealers.

Seed contracts are subject to confirmation by Asgrow, howev-

er, once confirmed, customers will receive the seed per the terms of the contract.

Wertman said, "Customers can lock in a supply of the best varieties now and avoid the frustrations of pro-rate next winter."

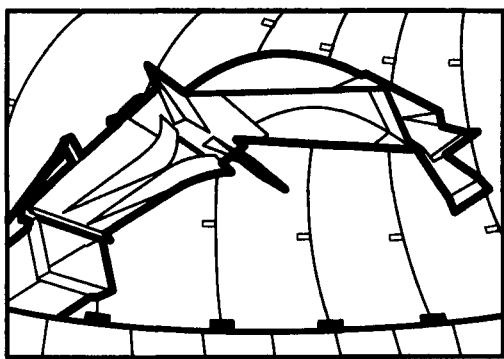
Asgrow RR soybean varieties are in demand because Asgrow placed the Roundup Ready gene into elite, new germ plasm, not older varieties. Field performance in 1996 was excellent.

Ordering seed a year in advance is common for seed companies, but it's a new concept for most customers according to Wertman. New technology requires new approaches and Asgrow/Seedway is providing an opportunity to meet anticipated demand.



A.L. Herr & Brother Expands

In a move to continue the business's growth and existence as a fourth and fifth generation family business, A.L. Herr & Brother recently broke ground for an expansion. The expansion is all encompassing and includes the parts department and showroom, as well as adding offices and doubling the size of the shop to 13,300 square feet. Pictured from the left is Jim Howell with baby James, Clint Herr, Bonnie Herr, Deborah Herr, Kenneth Herr standing, Harold Herr seated, Jeff Swope the primary contractor, Steve and Connie Herr (with shovel), Jeff Coslett with the Bank of Lancaster County, and John Blemiller with the Economic Development Company of Lancaster County.



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