

## What's Happenin': Thursday, August 21, through Wednesday, September 3

Written by Mike Schulz

Tuesday, 19 August 2014 06:00

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### Music

### Lydia Loveless

Rock Island Brewing Company

Saturday, August 23, 9 p.m.

Alternative-country musician Lydia Loveless is August 23's headliner at the Rock Island Brewing Company, and as a longtime resident of the city, I'm proud to say that her list of notable performances begins and ends in Rock Island.

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Don't believe me? Check out the artist's Wikipedia page: Both the first and last inclusions in the "Notable Performances" section are recording sessions that took place at Rock Island's Daytrotter studio. Now she's playing RIBCO, where she also performed in June of 2012. Loveless? Hell, we sure seem to love her!

The 23-year-old Loveless grew up on a farm outside rural Coshocton, Ohio, before moving to Columbus at age 14 – the same age at which she sang and played guitar in Carson Drew, her first band. That ensemble also consisted of her father and two older sisters, and within a couple of years, producer David Rhodes Brown approached Loveless with the idea of recording a solo LP, a process that began in 2007 and concluded with the 2010 release of the young musician's *The Only Man*

Armed with an album that PopMatters described as a "polished, throw-back-country-leaning breakthrough," Loveless' talents went on to capture attention at the South by Southwest Music Festival – notably that of the owners of Bloodshot Records, which, to date, has produced all of Loveless' subsequent recordings. Among them are 2011's *Indestructible Machine*, which *SPIN* magazine praised for the artist's "roaring vocals" and "utter lack of bullshit," and 2013's EP *Boy Crazy*, which AllMusic.com described as "further proof that Loveless is a major talent, and if her next album is as good as this, she may run the risk of becoming a very big star."

Consider the risk greater than ever. Loveless' most recent effort, this past February's *Somewhere Else*, entered *Billboard's* Heatseekers chart in the top 10, and the reviews she's received for it have been wildly effusive, with *Rolling Stone* stating that Loveless' vocals are like "Loretta Lynn and Patti Smith slamming shots as a Midwestern dive bar while cowboys and punks brawl out back." So plan on the same sort of experience when Loveless returns to Rock Island ... even though RIBCO isn't a dive ... and it's not known for cowboy/punk brawls ... and Loretta Lynn's not coming to the QCs 'til next month ... .

Lydia Loveless performs with opening sets by Twins and Iron Orchard, and more information on the concert is available by calling (309)793-4060 or visiting [RIBCO.com](http://RIBCO.com) .

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### Music

### Parkypalooza

Rozz-Tox

Friday, August 29, and Saturday, August 30, 7 p.m.

Tom Parkinson's hardcore-rock band Relentless Approach, based in Omaha, Nebraska, has toured the Midwest for the past six years. And when the musician, who spends much time in the Quad Cities, had the idea to gather like-minded artists for a two-day music celebration, he chose Rock Island's Rozz-Tox to serve as host venue. But given the roster of performers involved in his August 29 and 30 event, what's resulted isn't just another area summer-music festival. It's a freakin' summertime *palooza*.

"Within the punk and hardcore community," says Parkinson of Rozz-Tox's forthcoming Parkypalooza, "festivals of this size are pretty common. And I noticed that the independent, DIY scene here in the Quad Cities was really growing. So I thought this would be a great way to bring in my friends that I had met while my band has been touring the Midwest – a lot of old

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friends, and a lot of new friends – and we could have a pretty fun time.”

Given the lineup that Parkinson and Rozz-Tox proprietor Benjamin Fawks are presenting to fans, “pretty fun” might be low-balling it. In addition to sets by the local musicians of Meth & Goats, Cool Off, The Easy Mark, Lord Green, Straight Up, and Tong Po, August 29’s evening will showcase Nebraska’s Purgatory, Missouri’s Ski Ma\$K, and Iowa City’s Maleficarum. Saturday, meanwhile, will boast sets by our area’s King of Clubz, Ice Hockey, As You Were, and Kings; Chicago’s Weekend Nachos, Hate, and Sick/Tired; Wisconsin’s Deathwish and Wartorn; St. Louis’ Bath House Boys; Nebraska’s Feeder/Gainer; and Parkinson himself performing with Relentless Approach.

While Parkypalooza’s bands will play both Rozz-Tox’s main room and upstairs level, its organizer is holding off on announcing specific times or locations for the individual acts. “I do have a lineup kind of figured out,” he says, “but up until the date, I’ll probably be shuffling bands around. I do kind of want to discourage picking and choosing. I want people to come to *all* of it.”

Adding that “Rozz-Tox is one of the best venues in the Quad Cities, and this really couldn’t happen anywhere *else* in the Quad Cities,” Parkinson is justifiably excited about Parkypalooza – if, perhaps, just a bit bashful about its name. “I don’t know,” he says. “I guess that was just the most appealing-sounding, for lack of a better one. I’ve been called Parky my whole life, so it’s pretty fitting.”

Tickets to Parkypalooza are \$10 per night, and more information is available by visiting [RozzTox.com](http://RozzTox.com)

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