

from the cover

Rockin' and rollin'

Bikelahoma combines music fest with Sturgis-type attractions

The Kentucky Headhunters
COURTESY



By Jennifer Chancellor
World Scene Writer

Think of it as Woodstock ... for Sturgis fans.

The folks over at Fever Fest in recent years have pieced together two internationally acclaimed music festival monsters: Country Fever and Rocklahoma.

This year, they've souped up those offerings with the addition of Bikelahoma, which runs Friday and Saturday at the Catch the Fever grounds just outside of Pryor.

Headliners for this adults-only, two-day event include a road-tested blend of Southern rock and alt-country, Red Dirt favorites: Jackyl, Kentucky Headhunters, Mike McClure, Red Dirt Rangers, Randy Crouch and more.

"Jackyl and Oklahoma go together like pretzels and beer," laughed band founder Jesse James Dupree in a recent telephone interview.

"Bikers in this area seem to like rock as well as the rock twist of Red Dirt," said Dave Giencke, director of operations for the Catch the Fever Music Festivals.

Giencke, aka multitask master, knows a lot about the Fever Fest productions — Bikelahoma, Country Fever and Rocklahoma.

"I am involved in every aspect of all the festivals, from budgeting to mowing the grass," he said.

This event is different from other Catch the Fever events in several ways, he said.

First, smaller stages at Bikelahoma mean many bands will perform in an oversized beer tent, rain or shine.

"The other shows (Country Fever, Rocklahoma) are more family-oriented and allow for family areas where this does not," he explained.

That also frees organizers to bring in Sturgis-style

side shows and thrill acts, from motorcycle stunt shows to tractor pulls to burlesque shows and more.

After performing at Rocklahoma last year, Dupree realized that a Sturgis-like event, hosted smack in the middle of America's farm country, would be perfect for motorcycle enthusiasts.

"This is about more than just a show. It's about the party," he said. "And we had such a great time at Rocklahoma that we wanted to take the next logical step and find an event we could really call our own."

Dupree said he rides his own bikes — a Kendall Johnson Custom and Harley Davidson Street edition — over 20,000 miles a year.

"People want it loud, proud, hard and honest, and that's how we rock," he said. "And that's how I roll."

One-day tickets are \$30, two-day passes are \$50, plus tax and handling, and can be purchased online at www.tulsaworld.com/FeverFest, by calling (866) 310-2288 or at the gate. Free parking and camping is also available.

BIKELAHOMA

When: April 18-19

Where: Fever Fest grounds, 114 S. Mill St., four miles north of Pryor.

Performing artists: Jackyl, Kentucky Headhunters, Bang Tango, Crooked X, Mike McClure, Red Dirt Rangers, Jackson Taylor, Dirty Penny, Tuff Profit, Cody Marks, Hosty Duo, Law Dogs, Randy Crouch, Pedal Point, Federation of Horse Power, Fletcher, The Afterglow and South 40.

Events: Flaunt Burlesque, Globe of Death, Wall of Death, Speed for Hire, tractor pull and more.

Note: Event is open to everyone ages 21 and older only. Free camping and parking also available.

Online: www.tulsaworld.com/FeverFest



Jesse James Dupree (left) of Jackyl says "Jackyl and Oklahoma go together like pretzels and beer." Sharing the Bikelahoma stage with Jackyl will be Jackson Taylor (top), Dirty Penny (middle) and Randy Crouch (above). COURTESY