

# Bolton On-Line Updates

Published on-line by the Michael Bolton Platinum Club

September 2003 – Issue 72 Page 1

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the September issue of the Bolton On-Line Updates.

Exciting times ahead. Michael's new album, **Vintage**, is out and only a few days away from the beginning of the fall concerts!

The new fan club website at [www.michaelboltonclub.com](http://www.michaelboltonclub.com) now has a lyric search for most of Michael's songs and a preview with streaming sound of the new album check it out! If you would like to join or renew your membership you can do it directly online at the above address. If you have any membership questions you can email them to [info@michaelboltonclub.com](mailto:info@michaelboltonclub.com)

I'd like to personally thank each of you that contribute and send interesting articles for the Updates. It really couldn't be done without you!! Please don't forget to send your reviews and pictures of the upcoming concerts to [MBPlatinum@aol.com](mailto:MBPlatinum@aol.com) so they can be included in the next issue.

Best Wishes,  
*Gail,*  
Editor

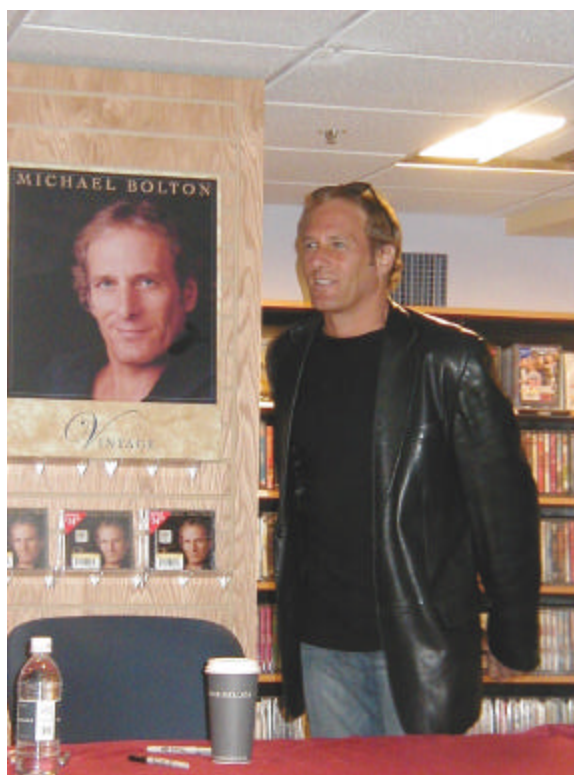


Photo: Laurie Schoenberg



Photo: London Features International

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST

**Official Fan Club Site:**  
[www.michaelboltonclub.com](http://www.michaelboltonclub.com)  
**Michael's website:**  
[www.michaelbolton.com](http://www.michaelbolton.com)  
**Great Fan Photos of Michael:**  
[www.michaelboltonphotos.com](http://www.michaelboltonphotos.com)  
**Michael Bolton Charities website:**  
[www.michaelboltoncharities.com](http://www.michaelboltoncharities.com)  
**Orrin Bolton's Fan Site**  
<http://members.aol.com/Anna4374/index.htm>  
**Ad for Vintage**  
<http://www.michaelboltonvintage.com>



### Decorative Boudoir Pillow

You can now purchase this great pillow from the fan club mall at [www.michaelboltonclub.com](http://www.michaelboltonclub.com)

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Following are the confirmed dates for this fall's concert schedule. All of the fan club seats at the venues have been sold and the sales closed. Please check the tour section of the password site or the new fan club site at [www.michaelboltonclub.com](http://www.michaelboltonclub.com) for further information on venue on sales and links to venue info. You will also find the schedule for other events as well. If you have any questions, please e-mail [info@michaelboltonclub.com](mailto:info@michaelboltonclub.com) or [MBPlatinum@aol.com](mailto:MBPlatinum@aol.com).

Date	City, State	Venue
September 18, 2003	Sterling Heights, MI	Freedom Hill Amphitheater
September 20, 2003	Elmira, NY	Clemens Center
September 24, 2003	Bloomsburg, PA	Bloomsburg State Fair
September 25, 2003	Orillia Ontario Canada	Casino Rama
September 27, 2003	Atlantic City, NJ	Trump Taj Mahal
September 29-30, 2003	Verona, NY	Turning Stone Casino
October 3, 2003	Mashantucket, CT	Foxwoods Resort and Casino
October 4, 2003	Westbury, NY	Westbury Music Fair
October 7-8, 2003	Windsor Ontario Canada	Chrysler Theater
October 11, 2003	Sandusky, OH	State Theater
October 12, 2003	Kalamazoo, MI	Miller Auditorium
October 16, 2003	Joliet, IL	Rialto Square Theater
October 18, 2003	Jackson, MI	George E. Porter Center
October 19, 2003	Indiana, PA	Fisher Auditorium - IUP Campus



Photo: Gail Atkinson

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## **The 11th Annual Michael Bolton Charities' Gala and Celebrity Golf Classic**

**Why:** Proceeds from this event will benefit The Michael Bolton Charities, which was established in 1993 to assist children and women at risk by supporting such programs as: Prevent Child Abuse America, Kids in Crisis, Boys Choir of Harlem and Domestic Violence Crisis Center. The Michael Bolton Charities aims to serve as an instrument of compassion to give to those less fortunate children and women, a better chance for life. The Michael Bolton Charities has also created "Safe Space" in New Haven, Connecticut, which utilizes the arts to provide an environment designed to foster self-esteem, leadership-skills, job training and awareness of social issues.

**When:** Sunday - September 21st, 2003 - Gala and Auction (black tie)

5:30 p.m. - Silent Auction

7:00 p.m. - Dinner/Entertainment

Monday - September 22nd, 2003 - Golf Classic

11:00 a.m. - Shotgun Tee Off

5:00 p.m. - Cocktail/Awards Reception

**Where:** Gala and Auction: Stamford Marriott Hotel - Stamford, Connecticut

Golf Classic: The Wee Burn Country Club - Darien, Connecticut

**Who:** Joan Lunden will be returning for her 11th year as Mistress of Ceremonies, the gala will feature, comedian/actor, Rob Schneider, comedian Tom Dreesen and special performances by Richard Marx and Michael Bolton and his band. In for the celebrity golf event will be Jamie Farr, Dan Jansen, Alan Kalter, Phil Linz, Don McPherson, Matt McCoy, Bill Shuffenhauer, Joe Piscopo, Richard Roundtree, Governor John Rowland, Kevin Sorbo and Gary Waslewski. The Michael Bolton Charities' Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Frances Preston, Chairman/CEO, BMI and celebrated sports figure and ESPN commentator, Bobby Valentine.

**How:** Gala Ticket: \$500 per person Golf Playing Spot: \$600 per person (includes a guest ticket to Cocktail/Awards Reception) Golf Playing Spot with a Celebrity: \$2,000 Two Gala Tickets and One Golf Playing Spot: \$1,500 18th Hole Gallery Ticket and Cocktail/Awards Reception: \$125 per person

Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact The Michael Bolton Charities at (203) 483-6463. or [galainfo@michaelboltoncharities.com](mailto:galainfo@michaelboltoncharities.com). Also, check Michael's charity site at <http://www.michaelboltoncharities.com> for more info on the pricing packages when it becomes available

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## Jamie Farr Kroger Classic

Long time Michael fan, Patty from Indiana was there and sent us a few comments and some great pictures:

When we were at about the 14th hole, the guys from the Ohio Lottery made our golf group choose a golf ball out of a bag and the one who chose the ball with the lottery symbol had to golf for one million dollars. Well guess who chose the winning golf ball? Michael, of course and if he won he would get 1 million dollars!! I think it seemed to be a little more pressure than he wanted at the time!! He said, "One million dollars!! I'd have to pay too many taxes!!" His reaction was really cute! Needless to say he didn't make the shot, but I think he was relieved!!



Here is a little info on Michael's group:

Second low net went to pro Giulia Sergas and partners Doug Goare, Larry Moore, Ron Enser and Merrill Dean at 50.18. In third place was pro Dorothy Delasin and partners Steve Saddemi, Tom Hopkins, Mike Gibbons and Gary Geiger at 50.83. Fourth place went to the team headed by pro Joanne Morley (Michael Bolton, Richard Walinski, Dennis Johnson, Dale Tolson] at 50.84.

Michael also performed at the gala event during the event. Here is what the local newspaper, The Blade, had to say:

**Then, what everyone was waiting for, headline entertainer Michael Bolton. He blew the audience away with his fabulous voice and passionate performance. Several songs were from his new CD, "Vintage," to be released this fall. Bolton, a social activist who hosts an event to benefit women and children at risk, said, "We have a lot to be grateful for; thank you for supporting this [LPGA] event." Then tears filled eyes as Bolton brought the house down when he sang the aria from Puccini's Turandot. After a standing ovation, he commented, "I'll continue to come back as much as I'm invited!" With that, a line quickly formed for celebrity autographs.**

Continued...



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Patty was also able to attend the gala and here is what she had to say: "I thought Michael's performance at the Gala was one of the most emotional and heart wrenching performances I've seen him do in all the 12 years I've been able to watch him!! We had lumps in our throats and tears in our eyes!! Especially for "If I Could"!! Just BEAUTIFUL!!"

At the dinner they did have a small auction where they auctioned off 2 things from a couple of sports stars, then they auctioned off 4 signed CD's of Michaels and one of his softball jersey's and a signed picture. All of this brought approx. \$2000.00. Then they auctioned off 4 autographed concert tickets with 4 backstage passes and an opportunity to have your pic. with Michael. All of that brought \$4000.00 and it was the top bid of the night on anything!! So afterward when we went up to the stage we were watching Michael have his picture taken with several ladies who had purchased these auction items. They were all really thrilled!!

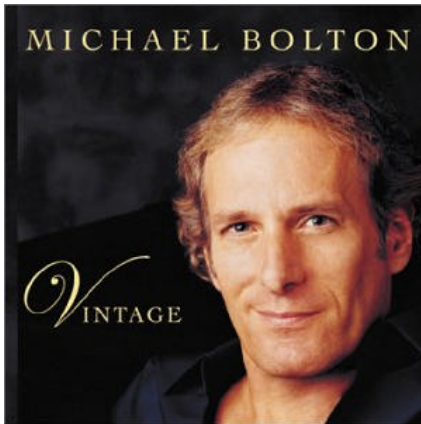
Following are a few great pictures that Patty took at the tournament!



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## VINTAGE

Michael's new CD entitled **Vintage** was released on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vintage** contains Michael's favorite masterpieces of the 40's, 50's and 60's:

Here is one review from the Barnes and Noble music critic:

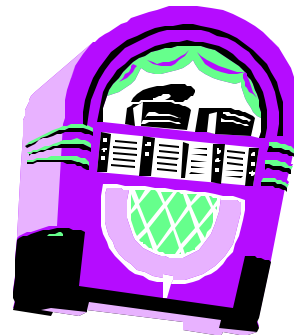
Like a host of pop singers recently, Michael Bolton has turned to the Great American Songbook for sustenance. With his considerable vocal chops still in tip-top shape, Bolton gives all he's got to such classic fare as "All the Way," "When I Fall in Love," "The Very Thought of You," and "What Are You Doing the Rest of Your Life," daring to go where Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, and other heavyweights have gone before. To his credit, Bolton -- who on previous albums has used his infectious enthusiasm to transform rock and R&B gems associated with others -- holds his own amid the daunting company. He's even savvy enough to slip in some vintage R&B hits amid the standards, including the Ray Charles favorite "You Don't Know Me" and Etta James's beloved "At Last." Will Vintage make you forget the classic renditions of many of these songs? Probably not, but Bolton sufficiently finds enough of himself in this material to put across personal and convincing interpretations. William Pearl



Picture from liner notes

## Michael Bolton "When I Fall In Love" The First Release to Radio Review by FMQB Radio Industry News

Take a classic artist and turn him loose on a classic ballad and watch radio respond. Few know their way around a ballad like Michael Bolton, and "When I Fall In Love" is the perfect song to prove that. Instantly familiar and even more so with Michael's raspy, soulful interpretation.



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## **Borders CD Singing September 2, 2003**

By Laurie Schoenberg

Got home a little while ago from Michael's appearance at Borders in NY and it was GREAT!! This is probably the best in-store appearance of Michael's that I've ever attended.

Michael performed 2 songs..."If I Could" and "You Don't Know Me". I think he was a little nervous, first because he's only performed the songs twice before in public and also because we were all standing so close to him:) The store had him set up in a little alcove on the second level of the store with just a small rope barricade between him and us....we were probably standing about 3 to 5 feet away from him. Joey Melotti was there with him on keyboards and Joey told us he would be touring with Michael again this year!

OK...now for the important things...Michael was wearing blue jeans, a black t-shirt, black leather jacket and sunglasses. Now it was very cloudy and dreary in NY today, but those sunglasses stayed on through his performance. Actually, he needed them with all the flashes going off in his face...it was actually funny. He came in, went up to the microphone and thanked everyone for coming and all you saw were flashes going off everywhere. I laughed and asked him if he was blind yet...he said his sunglasses were specially made to reflect the camera flashes back on us<VBG>. His voice sounds wonderful and it was just incredible to hear him sing with just a keyboard backing him up.

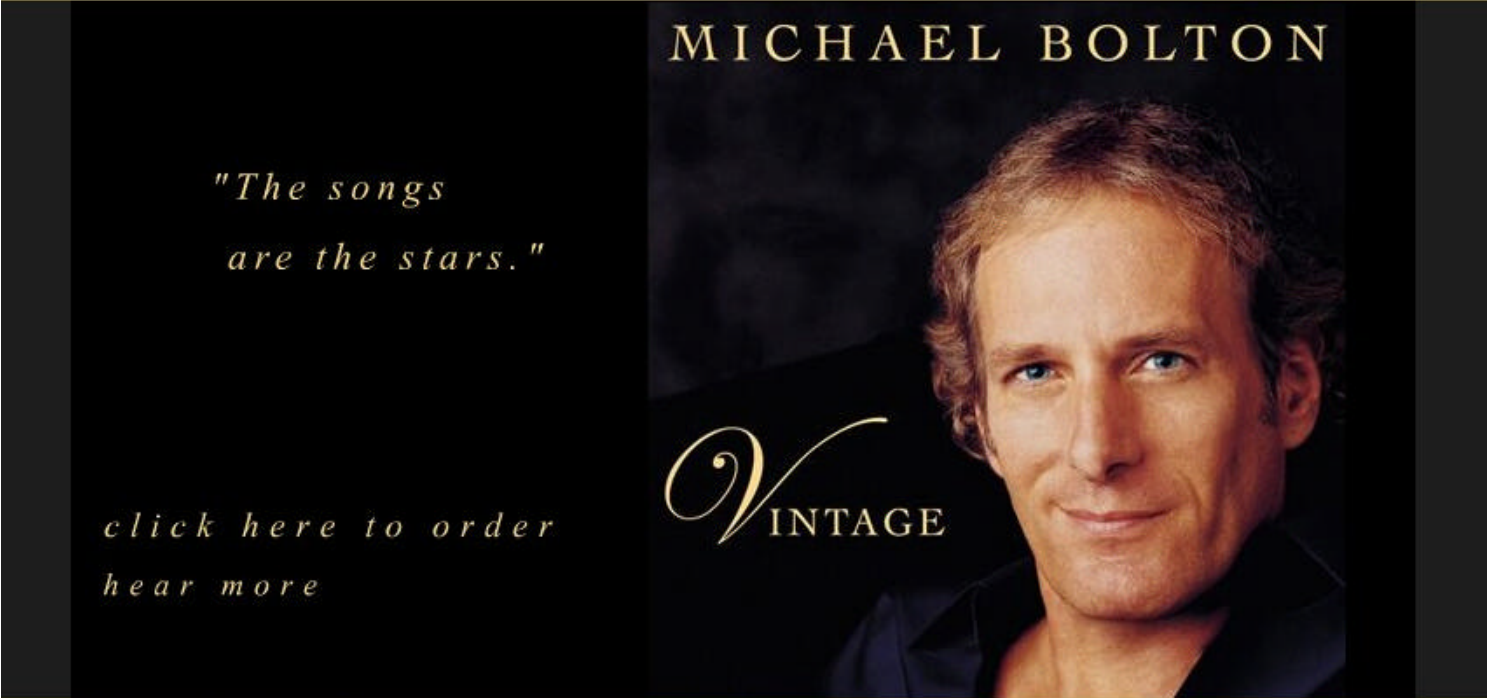
After he sang they took Michael over to a table where he could sign autographs and the crowd all lined up. There was a nice crowd there, but not overwhelming, so Michael spent quite a bit of time talking to each person as they went up to the table. He was more than willing to sign more than one item and he seemed to be enjoying himself. I had a rather long conversation with him and kept waiting for the Borders employee to start moving me away from the table, but he didn't and it was really such a nice experience. I wasn't going to go when I first heard about the appearance, but I'm really glad I changed my mind...it was definitely worth the trip into the city. Below are some of Laurie's great photos of the event:



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MICHAEL BOLTON

*"The songs  
are the stars."*

*click here to order  
hear more*

VINTAGE

discography biography current events contact links

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Check out Michael's brand new website set up by his production company, Passion Group, Inc. You can find it at <http://www.michaelbolton.com>. You will find a discography with albums and titles and a site to order each album if you don't have it in your personal collection yet.





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Here is an article about a fellow that knew Michael a few years ago:

## On Stage And Off, Music Is The Lifeblood Of Steve Buslowe



BY SHANNON HICKS

Steve Buslowe likes to think that he has had a reverse midlife crisis.

He did the traveling with the band thing when he was younger, for a number of years -- living out of suitcases, playing gigs at major venues around the world -- and now he's living a life that's a little more disciplined.

The Newtown resident is happy these days making a living working from the studio he has built in his home, where he teaches and continues to write music. He and his wife, Jane Calverley, and their four dogs live in a home near a busy stream and a backyard that continues to open and host grander gardens each year thanks to work the couple put into their land. But it's the work that he does indoors -- the writing and teaching -- that makes Mr. Buslowe happiest. And it's within his studio, surrounded by 38 gold and platinum records, guitars, instruments, photos and other souvenirs that Mr. Buslowe is happiest.

He is teaching bass guitar and popular songwriting to students of all ages, many of whom share the dreams he had. "Even when I was touring I always worked with a few students," he said. "Now I'm devoting all my time to teaching. There are many guitar teachers, but not many who specialize in the bass."

Students range from those who have never picked up a bass before beginning lessons to people who have played for a few years in bar bands who know they can sound better.

Music has played a large role in Steve Buslowe's life. His family -- he grew up in West Haven, where he has also recently begun teaching -- had a piano that he played on as a young boy, just plucking tunes by ear. He received his first guitar around age 10 and switched to bass a few years later when the band he was in needed a bass player. "We had two guitarists, no bass player, and the other guy was better on guitar than me," he readily admits.

"One thing I learned quickly is most people can play guitar but not everyone can play bass. You learn how to play bass, especially if you do it well, and everyone's your friend," he continued. Playing in bands continued through high school and college. He took a year off from college "to travel and live day by day," he said, before returning to school to finish studies for a math degree.

**Around that time Mr. Buslowe got into a club band that was playing gigs five to six nights a week. One night a musician named Michael Bolotin saw them play, and a few performances later Mr. Bolotin -- who later became better known as the performer Michael Bolton -- invited Mr. Buslowe to join his band. Mr. Buslowe said No Thanks at that point, but only because he wanted to finish school. After receiving an associate's degree he took up Bolotin's offer, joining Bolotin's band Blackjack.**

"Michael was a stepping stone for me," Mr. Buslowe said recently. "He gets a bad rap sometimes but I have the highest respect for him, and he always treated me with respect." With Blackjack, Mr. Buslowe played a number of clubs and met New York City-  
Continued.....

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**based musicians and songwriters (including Frankie Previte, who wrote the words and co-wrote the music for the Academy Award-winning song "I've Had The Time of My Life").**

One day Mr. Buslowe got a call inviting him to play "with some guy named Meat Loaf," he says. This was well before the career-establishing release of Meat Loaf's *Bat Out of Hell*, but it was an invitation to an audition so Mr. Buslowe took the chance. What he had no way of knowing was that landing that gig turned out, he says, "to be a dream come true ... it was a great time." Mr. Buslowe ended up working with Meat Loaf, a former Redding resident, for two decades.

Mr. Buslowe joined The Neverland Express -- Meat Loaf's band -- as its bassist and a backup vocalist when the band formed in 1977, and became its music director by 1988. Within a year the band went from playing smaller clubs such as The Bottom Line in Manhattan (small in size perhaps, but monumental -- like New Haven's Toad's Place -- in the number of major bands that have graced its stage over the years) to selling out Nassau Coliseum less than ten months later. While working with Meat Loaf, Mr. Buslowe was also introduced to Jim Steinman, who pens many of the songs performed by Meat Loaf. Mr. Buslowe and Mr. Steinman hit it off very well, and that association has led to more introductions for Mr. Buslowe within the music world. His work can be heard on a number of Meat Loaf albums including *Bat Out Of Hell II: Back Into Hell* (1993), *Midnight At The Lost and Found* (1993), *Welcome To The Neighborhood* (1995), *Dead Ringer* (1996) and *Live Around the World* (1996).

His resumes long and varied. Studio credits include session time with Celine Dion, Bonnie Tyler (with whom he has also performed live), and Air Supply, and he has recorded with Barbra Streisand, Aldo Nova, Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes, and Paul Stanley, among others. He has also played on commercials and movie soundtracks. He once took part in a live television broadcast from Modena, Italy, with Meat Loaf and Luciano Pavarotti, as well as Simon LeBon (Duran Duran) and Dolores O'Riordan (The Cranberries). He performed at one of President Clinton's 1997 inaugural balls, and also on Hulk Hogan's track on WWF's *Wrestling Album*.

Steve Buslowe was in the right place at the right time a few times during his life. One of those times he impressed someone enough so that his name was given to the musician Meat Loaf, who invited the Newtown resident to audition for his touring band. Mr. Buslowe joined The Neverland Express when it was forming back in 1977 and stuck with Meat Loaf for nearly 20 years. The common link to much of his career was Mr. Buslowe's work with Meat Loaf. After 20 years, Mr. Buslowe began to feel like it was time to take a break. "It was like a marriage. We had our ups and downs," he said. "I was happy, don't get me wrong, but I began thinking about things in the business that I didn't like and just felt like it was time to make a change."

When Meat Loaf moved from Connecticut to the West Coast to focus more on his acting career, it was the perfect time for Mr. Buslowe to retire from The Neverland Express. In June 1997 he earned his realtor's license and worked in that field for a time. It was completely different from the music world and enabled him to develop more marketing and networking skills than he'd ever had before, but it wasn't where his heart was. "The funniest thing would be when I'd be in the real estate office and the radio would be playing in the background and suddenly one of the songs I'd recorded on would come on," he said. "I'd be sitting there talking on the phone or doing paperwork but also listening and thinking 'Hey, that's me!'" His heart was obviously still in music, so back to work it was. When a friend who owns a music store invited Mr. Buslowe to sit in for one of the store's instructors while on vacation, it felt right. After that temporary work, Mr. Buslowe realized teaching was the next natural place for him.

Mr. Buslowe describes his teaching style as "karaoke for bass." He does a lot of sequencing these days, so what he'll do for students is create chord sequences, burn them onto a CD, and then send the students home with the CD to work with the sequences. When the student returns to the studio Mr. Buslowe picks up the lesson from the point to which the student has done his or her "homework."

In addition to his home studio, Mr. Buslowe is one of eight teachers at RVP Studios in West Haven. His creative focus is more on the music than the lyrics -- "I'm just not as motivated with the lyrics any longer," he said. "I can write song after song all day, but it's the lyrics that are tough." Steve Buslowe has lived what most musicians wish for: The international tours, the performances in front of thousands of people at sold out arenas, the big show. He was in the right place at the right time, and offers the following for up-and-coming musicians.

"You just have to do what you can," he says. "Keep going. I can't even tell you how many times I went to auditions. 'I've lived my life backwards,' he says happily. "I was able to go on the road for 20 years, and then look for something with more discipline. This is just perfect for me."

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Photo from [www.news.bbc.co.uk](http://www.news.bbc.co.uk)

## Michael Sings at the U.S Open

Michael performed "America the Beautiful" at the start of the 2003 US Open men's championship at the USTA National Tennis Association in Flushing Meadows, NY, on September 7, 2003.



Photo from [www.newscom.com](http://www.newscom.com)

## MORE OF MICHAEL AT THE HARTFORD OPEN Photos by Meri Ross:

