

One Cedric replacing another one this Saturday

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The weather should cooperate for this Saturday's third Sugar Jam at Village Market in Youngsville's Sugar Mill Pond, though organizers have replaced our own Zydeco great Cedric Watson with hill-country guitarist and master drummer Cedric Burnside.

Personally, I'd take either one, but this late-date replacement ain't too shabby, let me tell you. The new series Sugar Jam began July 23 with Rockin' Dopsie and continued with Devon Allman last month.

But let's speak about Cedric Burnside. Talk about a pedigree: He's the grandson of North Mississippi blues legend R.L. Burnside, according to what Derek Smith of his North Carolina-based management told me this past Monday.

"He's going to play two sets starting at 6 p.m.," Smith said. "We just signed him, but he is fantastic and we're excited to have him."

And these Burnside blues guys don't hold back, believe me, from singing their views of women and life.

Even in just the titles of some his tunes, the younger Cedric and his band shape a musical sensibility with ferociously honest lyrics and vocals about, well, women — and all that entails.

Here are a few examples and sample lyrics; some songs are of the ribald variety that I'd rather not print in a family newspaper for fear of reprisal from my editors here: "Dat Girl Is Bad" ("Black girls say she's tough, white boys say she's rad!"). Or how about "Don't Give a Damn" ("I am a good man, I am a kind man ... all I try to do is love you and treat you sweet ...").

Then there's one called "Firecracker," where Cedric sings, "She's a firecracker and she'll go off ... She sure know how to take good care of me ... but I got drunk one night and didn't come home ... and MAN ... to take her kindness for weakness is the wrong thing to do."

Burnside also won the Blues Music Award in Hot Springs for "Best Artist Debut" in 2009 and also "Drummer of the Year" in 2010.

To enlighten readers again about Sugar Jam, it's a monthly series and is held on selected Saturdays at the Village Market in Sugar Mill Pond. More shows will follow: Nik-L-Beer (are these guys busy, or what?) is set for Oct. 15, Cajun heroes Feu Follet will appear Nov. 19 and Geno Delafosse will play on Dec. 17.

Sugar Jam is held at the Village Market in the Traditional Neighborhood Development at SMP with a motto of "music, food and family fun." The shows begin at 6 p.m. and last until 9 at the Market, which is located on Waterview Road.

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