

LOCAL RIFFS

# 'Rootsy' singer loves live vibe

**Artist:** Tracy Beck

**When started:** 2001

**Web site:** None

**Most recent album:** "Let the Wind Carry Me," a five-song EP available at the Barnes & Noble stores in Mayfair Mall and Brookfield.

**She says she sounds like:** "Really nobody. Just me. I consider myself more rootsy, more Americana." She cites Bonnie Raitt and Joni Mitchell as influences.

**We say she sounds like:** The songwriting is reminiscent of "Poems, Prayers and Promises"-era John Denver.

**Describe your look:** "Laid-back and casual."

**Favorite food on the road:** "I eat a lot of white cheddar popcorn."

**Unofficial band beverage:** "I drink a lot of red wine. I have a song called 'Red Wine.'"

**What other musician could you take in a fight?:** "Britney Spears. I think most women would want to do that."

**First gig:** A nameless bar in Mukwonago.

**Worst gig:** "That bar in Mukwonago. I had just put my back out, and I had to sit on a

stool all night in excruciating pain. I had an air conditioner roaring in my left ear, and since it was my first gig, I didn't know how to handle my sound system that well. And so I had all this feedback, and then I had drunks who wanted to sit up real close and watch me play guitar. I went home and cried after that one."

**Song you're most proud of:** "I would have to say 'Let the Wind Carry Me.' I spent the most time on that one."

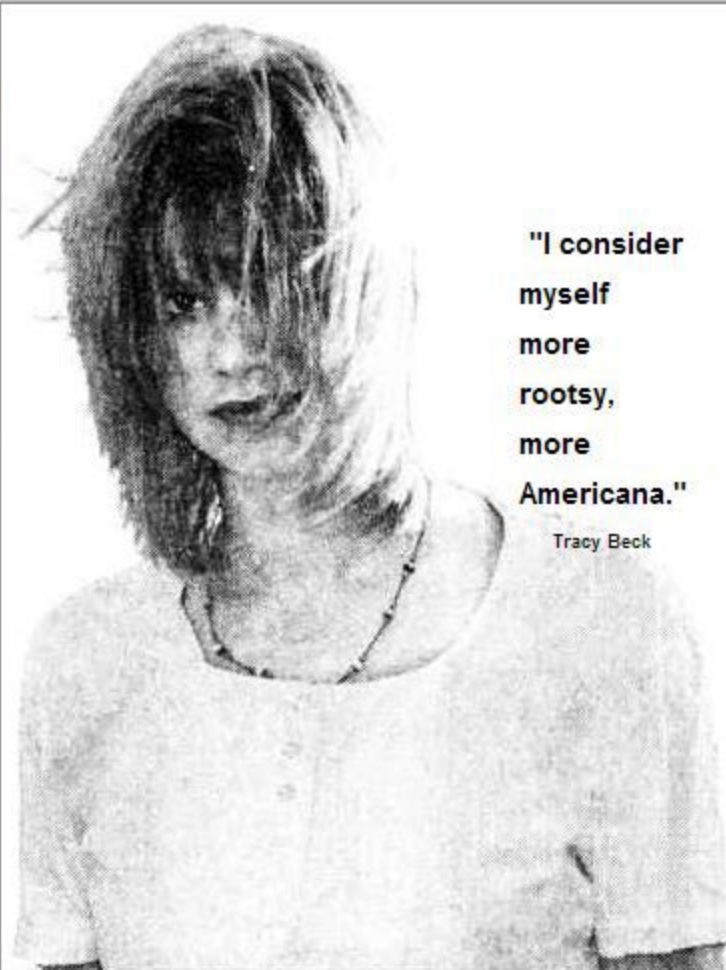
**Favorite song in the live show:** "Beat-up Blue Chevrolet."

**Why do you do this?** "Because I love it. It's something I've done for a long time. If I weren't doing it live, I'd be in my living room doing it for myself. It puts my soul at ease."

**Where do you want to be in five years?** "I'd like to have a couple more songs put out of songs I've written, and I'd like to have an established following."

**Next gig:** 7 p.m. March 8 at the Coffee House, 631 N. 19th St. (\$3.50).

— Dave Tianen



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