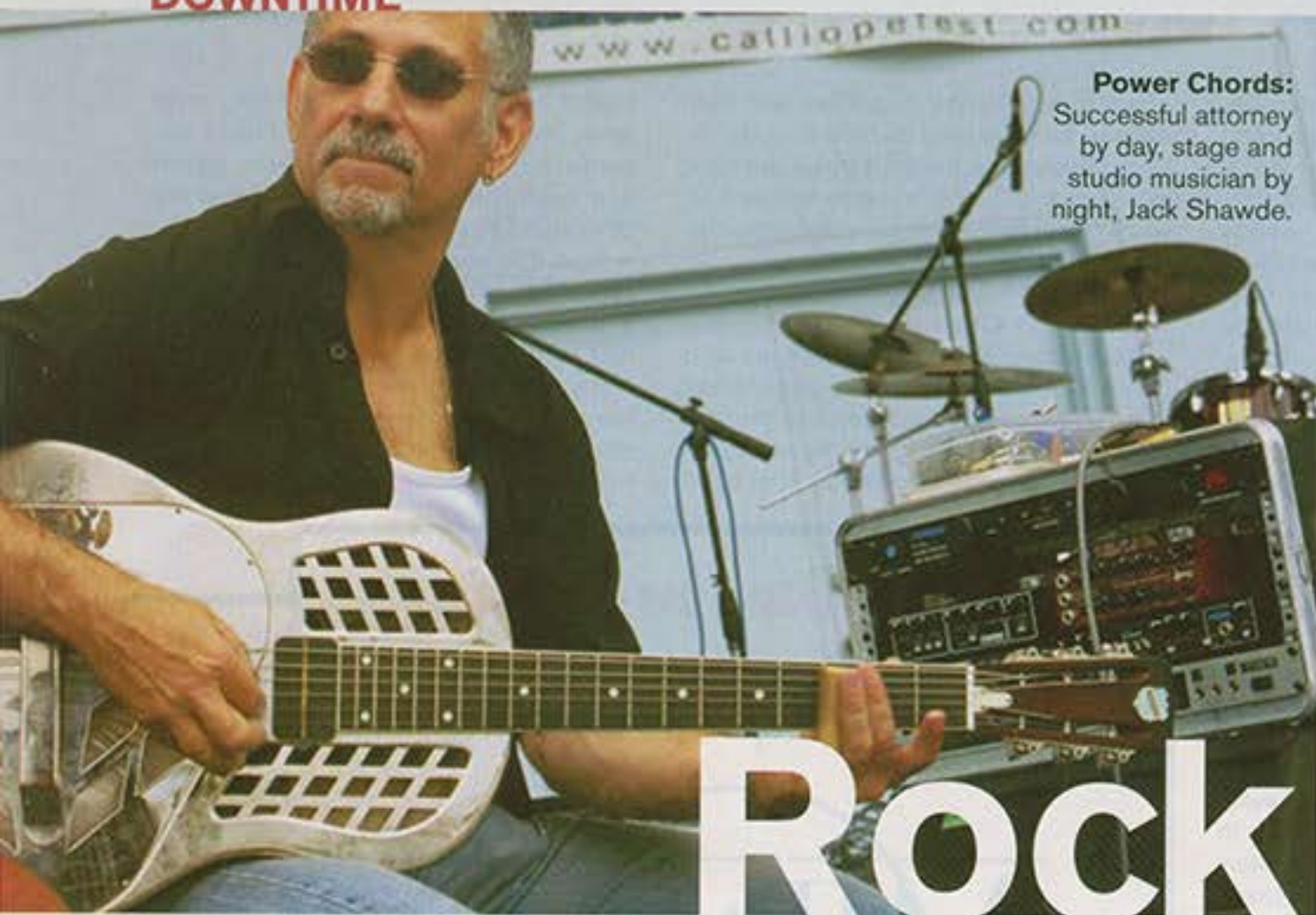




Power Chords: Successful attorney by day, stage and studio musician by night, Jack Shawde.



Rock On

Just after 6 p.m. Friday, on the 40th floor of the Wachovia tower in downtown Miami, the impeccably dressed chairman of Steel Hector & Davis' bankruptcy and creditors rights department unchains himself from his desk.

Within minutes Jack Shawde is tooling up Interstate-95. Reaching his Hollywood home, Shawde immediately backs his sport utility vehicle up to his garage and begins hauling guitars, amplifiers, staging and recording gear into the vehicle's attached trailer. The rest of his band will be there soon. "The gang usually meets at my house at quarter of seven," says Shawde, who along with the others, wastes no time in getting back on the road.

Four hours later, in the upstairs room of Miami's legendary music bar Tobacco Road, it is standing room only. On stage, the Diane Ward band is warming up. The bass player thumps a few strings while the drummer settles into his seat. Ward, one of South Florida's top female rock vocalists, adjusts her microphone. To her left, under the spotlight, in ripped jeans, diamond stud and a vintage Yes t-shirt, lead guitarist Jack Shawde straps on his electric guitar. With a nod from Ward, Shawde lets it rip, showing the smooth moves of a rock 'n roll veteran. With nimble fingers dancing up and down the neck of his guitar, Shawde throws the weight of his compact frame into each move, pushing and pulling his way through every note. It immediately becomes clear that this is not Jack Shawde's first gig.

His first gig, says the 52-year-old Shawde, was at age 10 back in New Jersey. The attorney studied philosophy in college before trading in his dream of teaching for a legal career. But through the years, Shawde never stopped performing. He recorded with Enrique Iglesias on his first album. "His father didn't want him to be in the music business, so we recorded the album secretly," Shawde says. Shawde also played with Iglesias at the Latin Grammy awards show.

And he has established himself as a session and band musician. His other credits include performing and recording with Bob Dylan, Ray Charles, Paul Butterfield, Al Cooper, Tom Petty, Richie Havens and Dr. John — to name just a few.

These days, Shawde performs regularly. During a typical year, he will do up to 75 shows, he says. "It can be exhausting," says Shawde, who might have a court hearing in Fort Lauderdale on a Thursday, and then a concert in Atlanta on a Friday night. "You have to be highly organized," he says. "Time management is critical."

The proud owner of 70 different instruments continues to get called into studios. "It's not a collection. These are guitars that I use. I play anything with strings — guitar, banjo, mandolin — that's why so many people call me, because they know I have this stuff," he says.

But for Shawde, performing live is still the best part of being a musician. Being a litigator helps keep his live muscles strong, he says, because his law practice



also has a performance element to it.

"When you look at the crowd and see people listening to what you are playing, it brings a positive buzz," he says. In those moments, "you're enjoying it, they're enjoying it and it just doesn't get any better than that." — Barbara Perkins