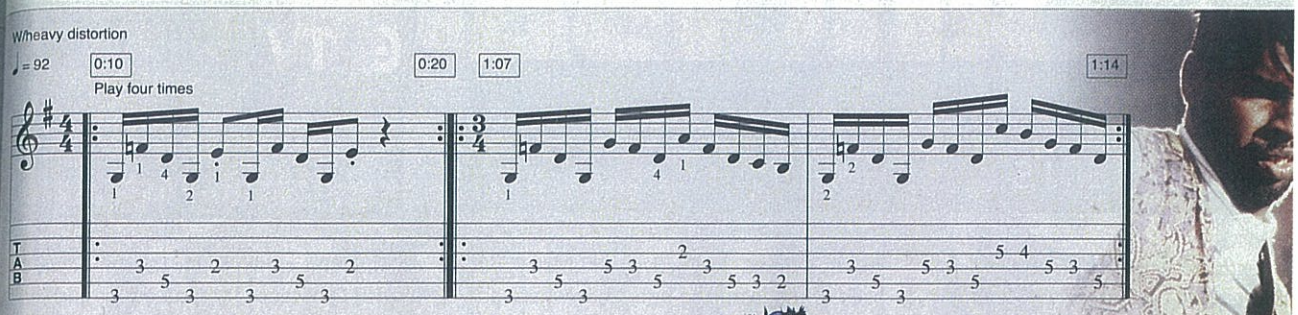
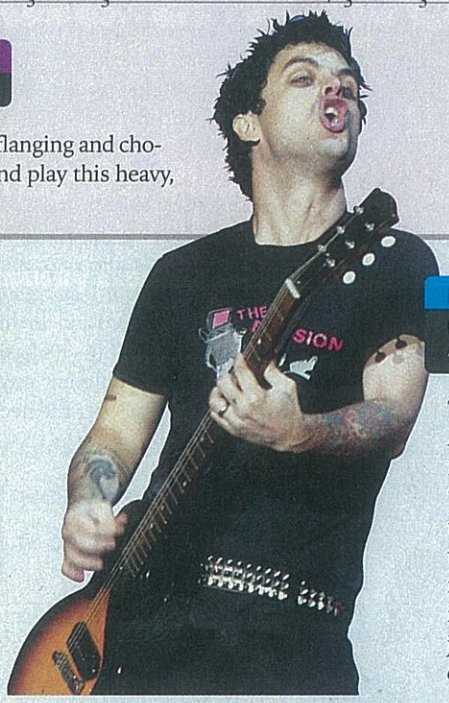


INTERMEDIATE
VERNON REID'S ROCKINEST RIFF

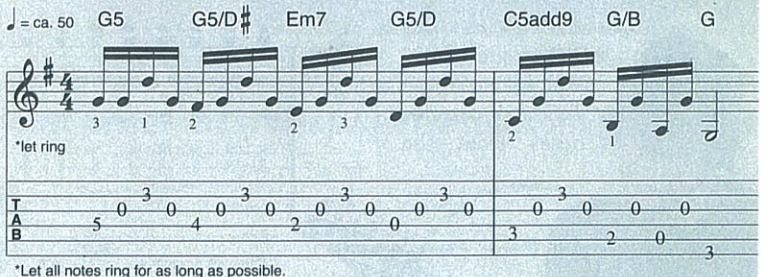
Crank a Pro Co Rat distortion, throw on some flanging and chorusing, a short delay, a touch of digital 'verb, and play this heavy, funky lick, and you may be transported back to 1988, when Vernon Reid and Living Colour burst onto the charts with "Cult of Personality." The song featured one of the most massive riffs this side of Led Zeppelin, and its main theme (bar 1) carried the song. To change things up, Reid would expand the lick by playing the sly, Mixolydian, 3/4 section that spans bars 2 and 3. Greasy!

Words and music by William Calhoun, Corey Glover, Muzz Skillings, and Vernon Reid. Copyright © 1988 by Dare to Dream Music, Darkology Music, Teenage Dog Music, Muzz Skillings Designee, and Famous Music, llc. All rights controlled and administered by Famous Music, llc. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Hal leonard Corporation.



BEGINNER
GREEN DAY'S "SEPTEMBER" SECRET

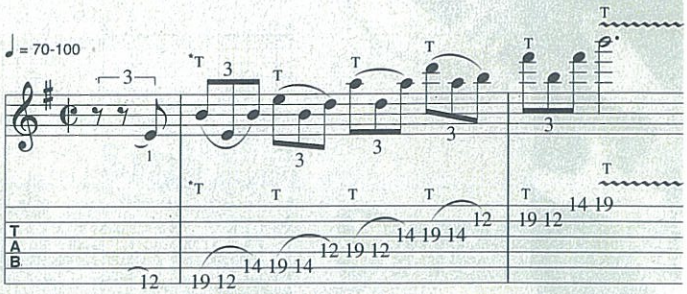
There's one thing tying together Billie Jo Armstrong's catchy guitar part on Green Day's 2004 poignant radio/video hit "Wake Me Up When September Ends"—the open *G* string. The next time you hear the tune, notice that this open note is featured in nearly every chord in the song's intro, giving the progression a unified jangle—the same pleasing drone you'll discover in the phrase presented here.



*Let all notes ring for as long as possible.

INTERMEDIATE
A FUN WAY TO TAP

What do you get when you intermingle Greg Howe-approved "hammer-ons from nowhere" (notes hammered by fretting fingers on strings that weren't previously ringing) with standard tapped notes? Ask Tony Smotherman, a finalist in *GP*'s Guitar Hero 2007 competition, and you get this fun, easy, and utterly explosive triplet ascent. For his refreshing take on tapping, the Orange Park, Florida guitarist wins a flight-ready aluminum **Warwick RC23010 RockCase Pedalboard**! (Pedals not included.) Newsflash: *Guitar Player*'s Guitar Hero is now called Guitar Superstar. To be considered for this year's competition, click to sonicbids.com/guitarsuperstar2008.



*T = tap note w/picking-hand finger.
All notes hammered, tapped, or pulled.

PHOTOS: ARMSTRONG—SUZAN / ALLACTIONDIGITAL.COM / RETNA LTD.; REID—© LARRY BUSACCA © RETNA LTD.