

NEW SINGLE AVAILABLE NOW!

GUYTHE GORITHA

BY DAVID DUNDAS



* HOHNER

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FIVE YEARS AGO

		Week coding July 10, 1973		
	Last This			
1	1 1 SKWEFZE ME, PLFFZE ME Sade (Polyder)			
ż	2	WELCOME HOME Peters & Lee (Fallips)		
- 2	3	HUPE ON MARS Device (RCA) HUPE ON MARS Device (RCA) HUPE ON MARS Device (RCA)		
- 2	- 6	BORN TO BE WITH YOU Dave Edwards (Rockpile)		
à	- 6	ALBATROSSFleetwood Mac (CBS)		
19	- 7	TAKE ME TO THE MARDI GRAS		
5	- 9	SNOOPY VERSUS THE RED BARON		
- 8	IÓ	GIVE ME LOVE (GIVE ME PEACE ON EARTH) George Harrison (Apple)		
		(recogn runnium (reppie)		

TEN YEARS AGO

		Week ending July 10, 1968
Las	t th	is .
	Vee	
100	-11	BABY COME BACK Equils (President)
3	ž	SON OF RICKORY HOLLER'S TRAMP O. C. Suiti (CBS)
		I PRETEND
- 5		JUMPIN' JACK FLASH Rolling Stones (Doctor)
ıô		YESTERDAY'S GONE Cupid's Inspiration (Neum)
ii		YUMMY YUMMY YUMMYONIO Extras (Pre)
- '2		NURDY GURDY MAN Desertion (Pre)
		LOVIN THINGS
- 7	- 2	DOALS THE AND THE STATE OF THE
- 4	- 9	BLUE EYES Don Pertridge (Columbia)
- 8	10	MY NAME IS JACK Mustred Minn (Fantan)

15 YEARS AGO

Lan	n	Week ending July 12, 1963
- 4	real	
3	m	TM CONFESSION Freed, Michal (Columbia
		PLIKE IT
13	ñ	DEVIL IN DISGUISE
ű	- 2	ATLANTIS Columbia
24		SWEETS FOR MY SWEET
- 3	- 2	TAKE THESE CHAINS FROM MY HEARYRay Charles (HMV
17	2	TAKE THESE CHARGEROM ME HEART
	₹	WELCOME TO MY WORLD
6	- 8	DECK OF CARDS
4	- 6	IF YOU GOTTA MAKE A POOL OF SOMEBODY
		Freddie & the Oreamers (Calumbia
10	20	DA DOO BON RON



SINGLES

Week ending July 15, 1978

This Last Week (1) YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT John Travolta/Olivia Newton-John (RSO) (7) LIKE CLOCKWORK

27 (—) SHAME
Evelyn "Champagne" King (RCA) 2 27
28 (—) CARRY ON WAYWARD SON
Kansas (Kirshner) 1 28
29 (—) FOREVER AUTUMN
Justin Hayward (CBS) 1 29

30 (-) STAY

30 — STAY

Jackson Browne (Asylum) 1 30

BUBBLING UNDER

BOOTZILLA — Bootsy's Rubber Band (Warner Bros); 5-7
0-5 — City Boy (Vertigo); YOU AND 1 — Rick James (Motown). PRODIGAL SON — Steele Pulse (Island).

U.S. SINGLES

Week ending July 15, 1978

Week		
- 1	(2)	BAKER STREETGerry Rafferty
2	(1)	SHADOW DANCINGAndy Gibb
3	(4)	MISS YOURolling Stones
4	(7)	STILL THE SAME Bob Seger
5	(6)	USA TA BE MY GIRL The O'Jeys
6	(3)	IT'S A HEARTACHE Bonnie Tyler
7	(5)	TAKE A CHANCE ON MEAbba
8	(13)	LAST DANCE
9	(9)	YOU BELONG TO MECarly Simon
10	(10)	THE GROOVE LINEHeatwava
11	(12)	BLUER THAN BLUE Michael Johnson
12	(16)	GREASE Frankie Valli
13	(8)	DANCE WITH MEPeter Brown
14	(18)	THREE TIMES A LADYCommodores
15	[11]	YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT
		Olivia Newton-John/John Travolta
16	(14)	TWO OUT OF THREE AIN'T BAD Meat Loaf
17	(21)	LOVE WILL FIND A WAYPablo Cruise
18	(22)	RUNAWAYJefferson Starship
19	(19)	I CAN'T STAND THE RAIN Eruption
20	(28)	UFE'S BEEN GOODJoe Walsh
21	(26)	COPACABANA (AT THE COPA). Barry Manilow
22	(23)	FOLLOW YOU FOLLOW ME
23	(27)	MY ANGEL BABYToby Beau
24	(24)	WONDERFUL TONIGHT Eric Clapton
25	(25)	ONLY THE GOOD DIE YOUNG Billy Joel
26	(30)	MAGNET AND STEELE Walter Egen
27 28	()	KING TUT Steve Martin
28	()	I'M NOT GONNA LET IT BOTHER ME
29	11	TONIGHTAtlanta Rhythm Section
30	(—)	HOT BLOODEDForeigner
		Courtesy "CASH BOX"

ALBUMS

1 11 SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER		t Last fook			
Various (RSO) 12 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			SATURDAY MIGHT FEVER		
3 SOME GIRLS		117		12	1
12 LIVE & DANGEROUS Thin Litzy (Vertigo) 6 2	2	(5)	STREET LEGAL Bob Oylan (CBS)	3	5
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5 (4) OCTAVE Moody Blues (Threshold) 6 (7) KICK INSIDE	4	{2}	LIVE & DANGEROUS		
(7) KICK INSIDE 19 1 1 7 (6) ABBA THE ALBUM 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1			Thin Lizzy (Vertigo)	6	2
7 (6) ABBA THE ALBUM	5	(4)		5	4
15 TONIC FOR THE TROOPS Boomtown Rats (Ensign) 2 8 9 20 GOLDEN GREATS Hollies (EMI) 1 9 10 (8) NEW BOOTS & PANTIES Ian Dury (Stiff) 24 5 11 (26) WAR OF THE WORLDS Various (World Records) 12 11 12 (12) AND THEN THERE WERE THREE Genesis (Cherisma) 15 2 16 16 (17) BAT OUT OF HELL Meat Loaf (Epic) 17 6 16 (17) BAT OUT OF HELL Meat Loaf (Epic) 17 6 16 (17) PASTICHE Johnny Mathis (CBS) 13 4 16 (17) PASTICHE Menhattan Transfer (Atlantic) 20 7 16 (17) PASTICHE Menhattan Transfer (Atlantic) 20 7 17 18 18 18 19 19 19 19 19	8	{7}		19	
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BUBBLING UNDER	30	(19)		-	**
				5	19
	TH	E WO		4); D	IRE

I'me WUHLD'S WORST RECORD — Various (K-Tel); DIRE STRAITS — Dire Straits (Vortigo); HARDER THAN THE REST — Culture (Virgin); LOVE ME AGAIN — Rita Coolidge (A & M).

U.S. ALBUMS

Week ending July 15th, 1978

Week		
-1	(5)	SOME GIRLSRolling Stones
2	(2)	CITY TO CITYGerry Rafferty
3	(1)	SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER
		Bee Gees & Various Artists
- 4	(9)	GREASEVarious Artists
- 5	(6)	SHADOW DANCINGAndy Gibb
6	(3)	NATURAL HIGHCommodores
7	(4)	STRANGER IN TOWN
		Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band
	(8)	DARKNESS ON THE EDGE OF TOWN
	en	Bruce Springsteen
9	(7)	FEELS SO GOOD Chuck Mangione
10	(13)	BUT SERIOUSLY FOLKSJoe Walsh
11	(10)	THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAYVarious Artists
12	(17)	SONGBIRD Barbra Streisand
13	(12)	LONDON TOWNWings
	(15)	EARTHJefferson Starship
15	(14)	THE STRANGER Billy Joel
16	(4-4)	DOUBLE VISIONForeigner
18	(18) (11)	BOYS IN THE TREES
19	(19)	SO FULL OF LOVE The O'Jays
20	(20)	IT'S A HEARTACHE
21	(-)	OCTAVEMoody Blues
22	(23)	ABBA THE ALBUMAbba
23	(16)	FMVarious Artists
24	(25)	DOUBLE PLATINUM Kiss
25	(21)	RUNNING ON EMPTYJackson Browne
26	(-1	WORLDS AWAY
27	(28)	AJASteely Dan
28	(22)	CENTRAL HEATINGHeatwave
29	()	YOU'RE GONNA GET IT
		Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers
30	(—)	BAT OUT OF HELL Meat Loaf
		Courtesy "CASH BOX"



The Stranglers' HUGH CORNWELL

STRANGLERS

THE STRANGLERS may have to "do a Sex Pistols" by appearing under assumed names in smaller cluss, if they are ever to perform in London. This would have the dual effect of restricting audience numbers at low-capacity venues, and thwarting any GLC attempt to ban them — as their true identity would not be revealed until they went onstage. And they are now seriously considering this possibility, in the light of their continued bad relations with the GLC.

Attempts earlier this year to play either Alexandra Palace or the Queen's Park Rangers football ground were blocked by the council, and they've also been rejected by several leading venues in Inner London. Strangely, though, their latest project has been quashed not by the council, but by the promoter refusing to take a chance on what the official reaction might be!

official reaction might be!

As exclusively reported by NME, the band want to play a free gig in Hyde Park on a Saturday in August. But Virgin, who have the sole concession to rock events in the park, turned down The Stranglers on the grounds of the authorities' attitude to the band—though Virgin are going ahead with their own plans to stage a show there. Which leaves The Stranglers with their only possible approach to London gigs—annominity.

Maggie picks all-star band

MAGGIE BELL has lined up an all-star band to back her in her comeback concert at London's Royal Festival Hall this Sunday. It comprises two former Deep Purple members in Joe Lord (keyboards) and Ian Paice (drums), Roxy Music stalwart Andy Mackay on sax, Crawler's current lead guitarist Geoff Whitehorn, and well-known bassist Paul Martinez. and well-Martinez.

It's expected that other noted stage at the Festival Hall, though this would be a spontaneous

gesture, depending upon who is present at the concert.

After the London show, Maggic goes into the studios to start work on a new album — with Lord, Paice, Mackay and Martinez joining her for the sessions. But another lead guitarist will have to be found, as Whitehorn is unavailable.

able.

There are plans for Maggie to full nationwide undertake a full natioowide concert tour to the in with the album's release in the autumn. But it's not yet clear if she would retain batically the same band, or would form another outfit for touring purposes.

— but Linda cancels Festival Hall show

LINDA LEWIS has been forced to cancel her concert at London Royal Festival Hall next Tuesday (18), after being rushed to hospital (18), after being rushed to hospital liss week for an emergency opera-tion. The gig was to have been one of the series of "Capital Summer" shows at the RFH which, besides Maggie Bell's comeback on Sunday, also includes the first stage presentation of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Variations" (Saturday) and the Chieftains (Monday).

After returning from a holiday in Spain. Linda complained of severe stomach pains and in Spain. Lindu complained of severe stomach pairs and — following an explanatory examination at Reigate Hospital — was rushed to the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead where she underwent surgery. She expects to be discharged this week, but must then convalesce for two weeks. Her two warm-up gigs at Swindon (this Saturday) and Poole (Sunday) are, of course, also cancelled.

NEW CONFRONTATION OMS AT WINDSO

WINDSOR FREE THE WINDSOR FREE FESTIVAL is back on again this year, at its original site in Windsor Great Park — despite official condemna-tion of the event. The plan is tion of the event. The plan is to stage it for three days over August Bank Holiday, from Saturday to Monday inclu-sive (26-28), and already nearly 20 bands have been confirmed — w being added daily. with more

The last time it was held at Windsor was in 1974, when it was summarily broken up by the police, and organiser William Dwyer was charged with inciting a public nuisance. Dwyer feels that a gross injustice occurred then, and hopes the authorities will display moe humanity and goodwill this time.

He has already served notice

IT NOW SEEMS virtually

certain that there will be a second open-air concert at Knebworth this summer, and it's understood that it will take

place on Saturday, September 9. And as NME closed for

press, it was learned that the likely headliners are Frank Zappu and Peter Gabriel.

Promoter Frederick Bannis ter is away in Europe and was unavailable for comment, but he recently told NME: "We

have the stage already set up, so we might as well make use of it, providing we can lind suitable acts."

Free Festival back in the Great Park

of intent on the Crown Estate Commissioners, and they have replied saying that he has already caused a lot of irouble, and they couldn't consider any form of co-operation in another festival.

form of co-operation in another festival.

But when NME asked Dwyer if the event will definitely go ahead, come what may, he said: "We shall have plenty of prohems. there's no doubt about that. But the decision is made, and you can tell your readers that the festival is on." Currently working in Dublin, where he's setting up the Phoenix Park Free Festival, Dwyer leaves for London on August 9 to complete Windsor arrangements.

The success of the festival — or indeed, whether or not fits allowed to get off the ground—depends almost entirely upon the actions of the Thanes Valley Police. After the 1974 debacke, they came in for some heavy criticism for their sectics, and may not wish to seek another conferencies. confrontation.
When asked what their policy

When asked what their policy would be this timbus apokerstian for the force as: "whey "would have to seek ions fuctions" — which presumably puts the onus back on the Crown Estate Commissioners.

So the stage is set for a three-day event on the Cavalry Exercise Field at Windsor — with

bands, poets, musiciums, dance and theatre groups, discors, light shows, adventure playgrounds, food stalks, the lost It remains to be seen if the powers - that - be allow it to proceed unhampered.

Meanwhile, the organisers invite anyone interested in participating — bands, artists, light shows and general helpers— to write to them. The address is The Commune, BM-Circle, London WCIV 6XX.

The Dublin Phoenix Park Festival (August 5-7) already has over 70 acts lined up. It will be the second year the event has been staged there. In 1977, the Commissioners for Public Works, flally refused to allow it to take place, but it still went ahead. This year the Commissioners have already given permission for a one-day event, and the organisers are meeting with them this week, in the hope of extending their approval to cover the full there rises. extending their approvences the full three days.

ZAPPA, GABRIEL IN KNEBWORTH No. 2?

report is confirmed — to have settled on two acts with whom tionship.
An estimated he has a close working rela-

An estimated 100,000 people, undeterred by poor weather, attended the June 24 Knebworth concert starring Genesis and Jefferson Starship. And a similar crowd could be expected for Knebworth II, which will probably to the late the process of the start of be the last big outdoor gig of the summer.



suitable acts." It's known that he has cast his net far and wide in an attempt to find big-name hilltoppers, and seems now— if the Zappa and Gabriel UNITED ST ES TRADE CENTER

SHAM 69 should have been appearing at New York's renowned CBGBs this week, as part of their debut visit to the States. But in fact, they're still stack in London and unable to go to America, because the U.S. authorities have refused to growt lead singer Jimmy Parney an entry visa. Reason for the hun is that he's been courieted of a criatinal affence within the past 12 months. The offence in question took.

The offence in question took face last September, when the and were playing on the roof of the Vortex Club in London's Vardour Street, and police stop-

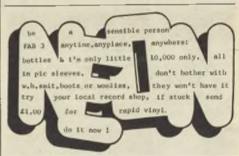
ped them because they were allegedly causing a disturbance. Pursey was charged with resisting arrest, and was fined £500 after pleading guilty — which he did, he says, because he didn't want to disrupt the band's gig schedule. Pursey told NME: "I'm choked for the rest of the band. We wanted to go there for the experience. But if that's guing to be their attitude, vod 'em — we've got plenty to do here ut home." Sham are now concentraling on their premy so us neer as nome." Sham are now concentrating on their new album, while plans are being made for them to go to the States in the nuturns, after the 12-month period has elapsed.

999 London benefits

999 headline a string of three benefit concerts in London at the end of this month. Currently on tour in Europe with The Strunglers, they return to play Kensington Nashville on Joby 27, 28 and 29, in aid of One Parent Familles. Admission is £1, and itchests will be available on the down or they can be obtained in advance from Box No.9, c/o Albion Music, 147 Onlard Street, London W1 (enclose s.a.e.). The band have also been working with producer Martin Russhent on their second album, for autumn release. Meanwhile their new single "Feeling All Right With The Crew" is issued by United Artists on August 18.

Pre-Christmas Wembley event

NME UNDERSTANDS that a week-long festival of top rock acts is to be staged at the giant Wembley Arena, formerly the Empire Pool in the late autumn. One of Britain's top promoters has booked the venue from Monday, November 27, to Saturday, December 2, inclusive — and the idea is that there will be a completely different bill on each of the six nights. No details are yet available, but it's expected that the series will feature major American as well as British acts



sensible records 1td, campo road, adinburgh 22

MUSIC BY POST Comprehensive Catalo This week's best selling SONGBOOKS NENGROUP Ervener It hours of the World ITHAMP TUTORS RORY GALLASIER Semple ROXY INUIA Specification (No THE JAM Specification (No GENERIS Seconds Out STATUS ONO 47 Semple PASH MUSIC STONES, S ELGIN CRESCENT, LONDON WIT

Shadows tour all September

THE SHADOWS go back on the road in September, head-lining a major 22-date tour, climaxing at London's Royal Albert Hall.

Albert Hall.

It will tie in with the release of their new EMB album, now almost completed but still outsided, following the success of their "40 Golden Greats" set — which was among the Top Ten ulbum sellers of 1977. Retaining the same line-up as on their previous concerts last autumn — Hank Marvin, Brice Welch, Brian Bennett and two seasion men — they play:

Southend Cliffs Pavilion

Southend Cliffs Pavilion

(September 1 and 2), Croydon Fairfield Hall (3 and 4), Newcastle City Hall (7), Wakefield Theatre Club (8 and 9), Leicester De Monford Hall (10), Bristol Colston Hall (11), Southarapton Gaumoni (13), Manchester Apollo (15), Derby Assembly Rooms (16), Blackpool ABC (17), Southport New Theatre (18), Halifax Civic Theatre (18), Coventry Theatre (22), Birmingham Odeon (23), Nottingham Commodore Suite (24), Oxford) New Theatre (25), Brighton Donte (29), Bournemouth Winter Gardens (October 1) and London Royal Albert Hall (2).

Apollo reprieve? GLASGOW'S Apollo Centre may yet be saved as a concert venue! Although the city council granted permission for the venue to be converted into a bingo hall, the Mecca Organisation — who were expected to purchase it for that purpose — now seem to be having second thoughts about the desirability of doing so. And the Apollo's owners are now considering offers from other would-be purchasers.

Scottish promoters Capital City Entertainments are interested in

buying it and retaining it in its present form. And with this in view, they are planning to stage a series of benefit shows to help raise funds. Sham 69. The Rich Kids and White Cats are among bands who have already offered their services, and any other acts willing to help should contact Mike Finch on 941 332 3198.

Finch, of the promotion

Finch, of the promotion company, told NME: "We're quite confident that we can save the Apollo, specially as the owners are keen on helping us."



ANDREW GOLD — who had a smash hit a couple of months ago with his single "Never Let Her Slip Away", reaching No. 2 in the NME Chart — returns to Britain in the autumn to headline a string of major concerts, as part of a full European tour. He's being brought in by promoter Barry Dickins of International Talent.

The exect period of his visit is still being linalised, depending upon whether European gigs precede or follow his British dates.

But it seems likely that Gold will be here fairly early in the autumn, and that his tinerary will include at least one show at a leading London venue.

London venue.

Dickins, who also promotes Linda Ronstadt in Britain, denied reports that she is playing a London concert on September 7. These stemmed from a ticket agency eductising a gig by Linda at Hammersmith Odeon on that date, though they have since admitted it was a mistake. Said Dickins: "I can assure you Linda won't be coming here until next year".

RECORD NEWS

Radio snubs Pistols disc

Pistols disc

THE SEX PISTOLS and Ronald Biggs' new single is not meeting with much joy, in terms of airtime. The BBC, while refusing to admit they've actually banned it, are nevertheless not playing it — a spokerman explaining that "none of our disc-jockeys like it and don't want to play it, so an official rolling is irrelevant." London's Capitol Radios are choosing to ignore it because "Biggs glorifies evil", and they add they they don't think it's a good record anyway! Radio Luxembourg, who say they weren't sent a copy and had to go out and buy one, are playing it — but only in their punk show at 7,30 pm on Sundays.

• North Walso five-piece

Streamys.

North Wales five-piece Hisronymus Bosch have their debut angle out on the independent Aeroo lebel, operating out of 27. Chobhem Road, Woking, Surrey, The self-panned titles are "Rockin" Rachmaninov" and "Plaster Of Parie".

A national sales and distribution service has been and up, specially to boost the marketing of the hundreds of smaller independent labels now operating. There's a sales force visiting up to 2,000 outlets astionally asch morth. The company is called Spertan Records and is based at 3-5-venex Parade, London Road, Wernbley, Middlesen k.49 7HD. (Telephone 01 903 2511).

Singer-composer Tomeny Roe, who enjoyed a string of chart hits in the '60s, has algoed with Warner Brothers' affiliated Curb, Records label. Ho's already started work on an album of self-penned songs for his new outlet.

The new Johnny G. single "Hippys Graveyard" is released this weekend by Beggers Banquet, and people attending Dylan's Blackbushe Airport concert on Saturday are inmited to watch the sky for further details!

Tavares have a new single titled "Slow Train To Paradise", taken from their aboun "Future Bound," released by Capitol tomorrow (Friday). Out the same day on the EMI label is "Gotta Move On" by Pussyloot.

Pete Shelley of The Buzzoocks plays guitar on three trecks on John Cooper Clarke's debut aboun, currently being recorded for autumn release by United Antiets.

Paul Jabers, star of the movie 'Thank God h's Fridey', is in London to promote his new single 'Trapped in The Stairway'. h's being rushed out by Casablance, and is taken from the film sound-

The Dooleys' latest single, out on the GTO label this weekend, is "A Rose flee To Die". It's taken from their recently released debut album "Booleys".

Magnet Records have signed Braun, a four-piace band who write all their own material, to a five-year deal. Their debut single is due next month.

The Sturks, a four-place from Briston in South London, have their debut single "The Good From The Bact" now on relegae. It's on Sel Pia Records, a new label formed by Pate Townshend, whose sight-track machine they used to record it.

Service Bloomfield, ised guiserist with rockability band Matchbox, has recorded his first sole abbum in Amsterdam, it's a teatily sole project in which he plays leed and steel guitars, beas, harmonics, mendolin and percussion, as well as singing, Release is planned for late August on the Rockhouse label.

P Following the success of the Moody Blues' comeback album "Octsve". Decca are rush-ralessing a single from the LP this weekend. Top side is the John Lodge composition "Steppin" in A Silde Zone, 'coupled with Greene Edge's "Till Be Level With You".

Beggars Banquet reissue The Lenkers' Rest single, "Shadow" "Love Story", this weekend, it was also the labels very first release. The Rinted edition comprises 1,000 copies pressed in blue!

Polydor singles out on July 21 include "Tonight" by Ringe Sterr and "Sign Of The Times" by Bryan Ferry. And Nins Simone has "Beltimora" on the affiliated CTS table.

Coinciding with his Black-bushe concert this weekend, CBS issue a Bob Dylam single culled from his current album. Titles are "Boby Stop Crying" and "New Pony".

New rock bend Mystery Train debut on Raw Records this month with the single "The Sur Story", detailing the success of the Sun label. Ethis Prealey's briginal outlet. B-side is "Tribute To Gene Viccom", and the initial pressing is in ten-inch form. Also from Raw this month is a 12-Inch reliasue of "Withdrawa!" by The Unwarried.

◆ Brooklyn band The Shirtz, currently touring Britisin, have their first single issued by Hannest this weekend. Top side is "fell Me Your Plans" taken from their recently released album "The Shirts", but the 8-side "Cyrinde" is unavailable elsewhers.



Steve Hertey, now living in America, hee his first colo album released by EAII this weekend — titled "Hobo With A Gril", it was self-produced, issued simultane-ously is a single taken from the LP, "Roll The Dica".

'People Unite' -upcoming bands in co-operative

In co-operative

PEOPLE UNITE is a new record label that's being run as a musicians to-operative. It's intended to overcome the "restriction of freedom" allegedly encountered by bands signling long-term deals with major companies. It's planted that all the acts involved in the new project will work together for each other on equal terms, with the stronger bands helping the weaker. Missy, the noots reggae band, head the list of acts on the label— along with new-wave outflist The Ruts and Milk, reggae band The Enchanters and solost Bongo Danny. All concerned will each have a single and album out by the end of the year.

FRAMPTON BULLETIN MAKING PROGRESS

PETER FRAMPTON is now out of intensive care after his recent care cash, and the latest bulletin from New York says he's making satisfactory progress. It now transpires that be sustained five broken ribs, not three as previously thought — plus a fractured right arm, three cracked ribs and a head wound. His parents have flown from Beckenham to join him in New York, where he's expected to remain in hospital until the end of next week. The world premiere of his film "Sgt. Pepper" has been put hack to July 24 in the hope that he will be able to attend, though it's still doubtful if this will be possible. But his plans for a world tour, due to start in the autumn and to include Britain, are unlikely to be affected — unless there are unforeseen complications.



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Wilko plans big autumn schedule

WILKO JOHNSON's Solid Senders are being lined up for a massive British and European tour in the autumn, to the in with the release by Virgin of their first album, currently nearing completion at The Manor. They'll be headlining upwards of 30 dates around this country, as well as visiting all Confluental territories where the album is available — and that's virtually the whole of Western Europe! As previously reported, they're playing a few gigs early west month 'to keep their hand in'— and these are at Exeter Routes (August 7), Penzance Garden (8), Plymouth Woods (9), Lundon Marquee (10 and 11) and Folkestone Leas (31ff Hall (12).

NAMES IN THE NEWS

BILLY CONNOLLY has signed for his most unlikely role to dane. He's playing the jailler in a production of the Johann Streuss opera "Gis-Fledermaus", to be stayed at Glasgow Theatre Royal during the Chiesmas and New Year period. STEVE WINWOOD joins forces with Georgie Farne & The Blue Flormes for the first land possibly less! time ever, in a ging at Cheltonham Payillon Club next Wednesdey [19] sterning at 8pm. Tickets are EZ-50 on the doors. ATLANTA Rhythm Section 1sorry we inadvertently called them the Atlantic RS last week] are now being lined up for a full British concert tour in the suturen, following their successful appearance at Knebworth last month.



PAT TRAVERS has completed the interup of his new bend, retaining Mers Cowling and bringing in formmy Aldridge (ex-Black Oet) and Pat Thrall (ax-Automatic Man), burnerity recording a new LP in Florida, they'll be back in Britain thorthy.

shorty.

ROY BROWN, the R&B singer who headlined a consert at the New London Theatre in February, returns to play a one-off date at London Oxford St. 100 Club on August 6 to promote his new LP "Cheapest Price in Town" on Faith

"Cheapest Price in Towen" on Faith Records.
ERIC'S, Liverpool's leading club venue, is expending into Menchester. It's taking over the Russell Club and, under the name of The Factory, is presenting Friday gigs there to part-compensate for the closure of the city's Rafters. First confirmed are Culture (July 21) and Suicide [28].
THE CRMANONS play a remembrance concert for the lete Marcus Mosiath Gervey — the risa behind the Back To Africa movement in America during the "20s — et Livespoot University's Mounford Hell on July 22, to raise money for gravey memoris.

a Sarvey memoral.
HERE AND ROW play a free gig
under London's Westway, cutside
Ceres Bajary (nearest tube
Lairmer Road), on July 20 from 6
to Spm. These will be a collection
to help pay the £500 fine imposed
on the band for playing an ourdoor
gig in Gravesend

THE MOODY BLUES, currently on a gramotional vielt to Europe, return to record three songs for inclusion in Thames TV's new series "The Kenny Everett Video Show". It's expected that details of their return to the concern platform will be approximed abortly.

Show: It is expected that details of their return to the concern platform will be announced shortly.

MAC CURTIS, the U.S. cockebilly ster, headlines an all-day Bank Holiday rock special at London Southpate Royally on Monday, August 28. Also set for the event (noon to midnight) are Crary Cavan, Frying Saucers, Matchbox and Shades.

U.K., the band formed earlier this year by a consortium of well-known musicians (Bill Brutord, Eddie Jobson, John Watton, Alan Holdsworth), are being lined up for a string of sefected British and European concerts in September, following their current triumphent debut U.S. tour.

**TAJ MAHAL will not now be visit-

TAJ MAHAL will not now be visit-ing Britain after taking part in Swit-zertand's Montreux Jazz Festival this month. Negotiations for him to play some dates here have now faften through, apperently on linencial grounds.

financial grounds.

CHABLES, now a six-place with the addition of second drummer Shap Lonsdale, are bedt in Britain after four months of touring the States with the Kinks, the Doobles and Alles Cooper. They're working on a new album, with gigs to follow soon.

Soon.

DAYE LEWIS Band have scrapped all July gigs, as they've shot off to America to record a new album in Miami's Criteria Studios, for October release by Polydor. All cencelled dienes with be re-set when they go back on the road in mid-August.

August
JENNY DARREN hes new gigs at
Tonypandy Naval Club (July 22),
Retford Porterhouse I28), St.
Albans City Holl (29), Newport The
Village [August 11, Dudley J.B.*
(12) and Middlesbrough Loffus
Club (13), A major sulumn tour is
being filed by to coincide with the
referse of her new DJM album.

refesse of her new DJM album.

MATCHBOX extend their current
tour with gigs at Wallington St.
Hetier's Arms (Juty 19), London
Willesden White Norse CAugust 4),
Bournermouth St. Stephen's Hell
(10), Portaled Town Hell (12),
Petaled Town Hell (12),
Petaled Town Hell (12),
Newcastle La Dotoe Vita (14—16),
and South Shields Tavern
(17—19).
JESSY DIXON, the U.S. gospel

(17—19). JESSY DIXON, the U.S. gospel singer already sat for London Rainbow on September 2 and several other dates, has added Birminghem Odeon on September 8 to his finereny. Two more shows have still to be confirmed.

have stiff to be confirmed. ALAN PREEMAN leaves the BBC this autumn after 20 years of discipckeying, first with the Light Programme, then on Radio 1. Apart from an extended visit to America to survey the soone there, he has not revealed his plans for the future.

OTORS JO

THE MOTORS, still riding high in the charts with their current single "Airport", are the latest addition to the lineup for this year's Reading Festival. They'll be appearing on the second day — Satur-day, August 26 — playing immediately before headliners

immediately before headliners Status Ouo, and following Spirit and Lindisfarne.
Their booking comes after NME's exclusive revelution last week that the Boomtown Rats will not be appearing on the Saturday, despite being announced for the bill. Commented Nick Garvey of The Motors: "At last we'll have a chance to show the world how unlike Ouo we really are!"

The band will also be playing a special one-off gig at London Marquec on August 25 as a warm-up for the festival. As reported last week, they're doing a 12-date tout during the second half of this month, for which the final venue has now been confirmed — it's at Devizes Corn Exchange on July 28. They begin a three-week holiday on August 1, returning for the Marquee and Reading.

The first 25.000 coopies of their

Marquee and Reading.

The first 25,000 copies of their new single "Forget About You", for release by Virgin on July 29, will be 12-inchers pressed in red vinyl — with three new Motors songs on the B-side. It then reverts to conventional seven-inch, with just one track on the B-side.

PERMANENT FESTIVAL SITE DRAWS NEARER

PLANS FOR A permanent festival site, approved by the Government, received a boost with the news that the former U.S. air base at Greenbarn Common won't be reactivated after all! The Americans wanted to use the Berkshire field as a base for 15 of their giant tanker aircraft, but local residents protested, and suggested that it might instead be used as an offical festival site. festival site.

Trouble is that some locals

Jack Jones sets autumn concets

autumn concets

JACK JONES headlines a week at the London Palldium (October 1621), as part of a nationwide tous he's undertaking that month. Provincial concerts are at Paignton Festival Theatre (October 3), Bournemouth Winter Gardens (4), Portsmouth Guildhall (5), Coventry Theatre (7), Oxford New (8), Croydon Fairfield Hall (9), Shefield Fiesta Club (1), Middlesbrough Town Hall (12), Liverpoot Empire (13), Bristol Colston Hall (14), Wakefield Theatre Club (23), Preston Guildhall (24), Bridlington Spa Hall (25), Derby Assembly Rooms (26), Manchester Apollo (28) and Slough Fulerum Centre (29).

Merger net big date with Dylan

MERGER, the London-based reggae band, are a late addition to the Bob Dyfan open-air concert at Blackbushe Airport this Saturday. Pull details of the event are in the Gig guide on page 45.

The Smirks, John Cooper Clarke and The Fall join Graham Parker & The Rumour in the first of three Anti-Nazi concerts at Manchester Alexandra Park tonight (Thursday) starting at 5.00pm. As previously reported, tomorrow's show concentrates on local bands — while Saturday's concert, following the rally, features The Buzzocks, Steel Pulse and China Street, among others.

wants to welsh on the idea, now they realise the base isn't becom-ing operative again. But a Depart-ment of the Environment spokes-man commented: "They can't man commented: "They can't have it hoth ways. They put up the idea and we now have it on file. Whether or not Greenham Common will be used for this putpose remains to be seen. Certainly the option is open to

ts."

The tanker base has now been switched to RAF Fairford in Gloucestershire, near the home of Mike Oldfield. And he is now considering selling his house and moving abroad, because the continual noise of the big Boeing KC-125 planes would make it impussible for him to work there.

Marquee double by Radio Stars

by Hadio Stars
RADIO STARS, now confirmed
for a Friday evening spot (August
25) at the Reading Festival, take a
break from intensive recording
sessions to play two nights at
London Marquee on July 20 and
21. Support on the first gig is Deep
Throat, and on the second night
The Backbeats (a name which
conceals the identity of a wellknown new-wave band, as readers
of last week's News Desk will
know). There are no advance
bookings, and tickets are only
available on the door. Also newly
set for the Marquee is Johnny
Moped on Monday next, July 17.

Speakeasy's farewell gig on Saturday

ONE OF London West End's top clubs, the Speakeasy, closes for an indefinite period. This follows a recent drugs raid when several of the patrons were busted, and it seems the club owner has decided to shut up shop while he considers his position.

Wings: the new line-up



THE FIRST PICTURE OF THE Wings line-up, now back to full strength with the addition of the two newcomers — guitarist LAUR-ENCE JUBER (extreme left) and drummer STEVE HOLLY (extreme right) — seen here flanking the nucleus of LINDA & PAUL McCART-NEY and DENNY LAINE. McCartney still hasn't officially committed limself to announcing Juber and Holly as permanent members of the hand, but the fact that he's seen fit to issue pictures of them suggests that they're there to stay. All live are currently recording and rehearsing for their expected stage return.



Rubinoos play outdoor show

THE RUBINOOS pay a quick return visit to Britain at the end of the month after completing their commitments in Europe.

They're coming in specially to headline a concert at London Regent's Park Open-Air Theatre on Sunday, July 30. If no one of the series being presented in conjunction with Capitol Radio, who are recording it for subsequent broadcast, though previous concerts in the park this summer.

have featured folk secs.

Supporting The Rubinoos in this gig are The Smirks who — after appearing in Manchester Park tonight (Thursday) — have newly confirmed gigs in their own right in High Wycombe Nags Head (July 20), Budley J.R.'s (21), Manchester Middletton Civic Hall (22), Leeds Florde Green Hotel (23), Nortingham Sandpiper (24), Birmingham Barbarella's (25), Sheffield Limit broadcast, though previous Cube (27) and Devizes Corn Exchange (29).

Ray Stevens in London shows; Temptations set

RAY STEVENS returns to Britain in the early autumn to play a pair of London concerts and two weeks in cobaret. He headlines two performances at the London Palladium on Sunday, September 24, followed by weeks at Manchester Goldlen Garrer (from 25) and Brimingham Night Out (from October 2).

The visit has been set up by

Joe English now with Sea Level

WHIII Sea Level
JOE ENGLISH, former Wings
ofrummer who left the band tast
summer after two years, is now
working on a temporary basis with
Sea Level. He's sitting in for regular drummer Jai Johanny Johanson, who's taking a long rest
following a back injury. Currently
recording a new album with Sea
Level in Macon, he'll be playing
with the band at the Montreux
Festival (Tuly 23) and London
Hammersmith Odeon (26). Meanwhile their new single: "That's
Your Secret" is released by
Capricorn this weekend.

Presley: another concert tribute

CONCERT UPDATE

ANOTHER stage tribute to the late Elvis Presley is about to be unveiled, this time by singer Heathchife. It debuts with two performances (5.30 and 8gm) at London's Royalty Theatre in Kingsway on Sunday, August 20, under the title of "Heathchiffer. A Tribute To Elvis". Promoted by John Martin for Derek Block Concerts, it's been five months in preparation. A full nationwide tour is being lined up to follow the London opening, making it the first major roadshow built around the Presley legend.





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HE BAD IVER AND BRIGADE

HE GREAT AMERICAN writer as wreckless hard-core alcoholic has become as cliched a semi-truism as the one about every U.S.

Downbear subject being some smacked-out-monkey-on-the-back veteran, those omnipresent shades consistently hiding pin-point pupils and all that jazz. Hey, and there's a whole

DAVIES

CHALKIE

jumbo-jotter's worth of names out there ready to gick up both to under contentions, though it's the furmer that's up for the cursory check-out right now. It seems that whole legions of those combatants all out to pitch for the accolade of the great American novel have made no secret of their penchant for getting rumbustiously 'soaped up'.

It's reached the point where it's become a tradition within itself, with the big leaguers of the cirrbosit-rated 30s like Hemmingway and Hammett soaking it up in those earlier decades right through to the current crop of literary jumbo-jotter's worth of names out

it up in those earlier decades right through to the current crop of literary stalwarts, some like Charles Bukowski, a tad long in the tooth age-wise sure, but still very much one of yer hot contemporaries, almost turning his bad liver problem into the very lynch-pin for a gnarled perspective in numerous works. The old "bad liver and a broken heart" brigade, warts and all, are heroes to many, their hifestyles positively

inspirational to a new breed to whom 'heroes', however anti-social the pitch, are as vital as the often-polluted

patch, are as vital as the often-polluted air they breathe.
"It's important to have heroes, y'know. Real important," states Tom Waits. Actually "states" is hardly the correct word to use with regard to what issues forth from Waits' Jarynx.

what issues forth from Waits' larynx.
"Growls" is a distinct
improvement, though even that werb
somehow fails to capture the sound
issued forth from the parced lips of a
man who sounds distinctly like some
blighted easualty of cancer of the
larynx and yet who, instead of using
some balm to heal said-grievous
condition, adamantly insists on
torturing his vocal chords further by
gargling periodically with an uneven
ratio of vinegar and gravel.
But then Tom Waits, as anyone
who's had agreeable cause to have
direct dealings with the gent will
verify, is very definitely a
"character".

verty, is very cerimery a character.

Dressed all in black on the occasion we met up (after all, as well as providing something of a ghoulish visual effect, it also saves on dry-cleaning bills), the vision of Waits' squat, undeniably "lived-in" exterior remains vividly locked in my memory bank, where it will undoubtedly stay up until the final second the Reaper makes his house-call.

Starting from the floor and working up, one acknowledged a pair of dagger-pointed Eye-talian

winkle-pickers bearing the traces of a prior spit 'n' polish, tight black pants, the material frayed at the rump, black shirt and the shoulders and toeso embellished by a most ornate style of 'mourring jacket' with distinct Puerto Rican uh pizzazz?') which looked like it had been slept in for at least 10 days on the too (pressibly to see if the days on the trot (possibly to see if the fit was OK)

It Was OK).

Topping this . . . uh . . . striking ensemble was a narrow-brimned slouch hat possibly stolen from a horse. And of course there was Waits' mug to behold — a face which, complete with a rather diseased-looking goatee and slit-eyes, possessed a general palour last sighted besmirching the wax ju-ju mask of a Screamin' Jay Hawkin's "mummy"

doll.

Waits, along with the striking visual, is also known for his takent as a wit, spouring forth jewel upon jewel of sharp gut-spitting dislogue when the spirit (and 'spirits') are/is wrilling during interview sessions. This, after all, is the nan who originated the classic one-liner (just one among many, mark you), "I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal lobotomy", which I an Dury — or Stiff Records — consequently swiped for one of their "New Boots & Panties" add some mentils back." ads some months back

A regular white with the gags, Waits however is not feeling in primo, locquacious wase-cracking form for

our rendezvous. Instead I'm our rendezvous. Instead I'm confronted with a pensive, excepted type possibly suffering from a hang-over (though that's purely my supposition) who even refuses a cold beer, preferring the caffeine book of Maxwell House.

Scancely true to form, bethinks Wourst trilly. To them, here is in more than the service of the serv

Scarcely true to form, bethinks yours truly — for here, here is a man who I'd figured was right there in the vanguard of that new breed mentioned back in the opening gambit, who id chosen to clutch the liquor-doused visions of his literary predecesors close to the breast, committing himself to utilize their sleazy har-hopping exploits as the perfect lide-style to follow through as carnestly and dramatically as any hell-bent young-blood could.

And though Waits just cuts short of fully confirming my contention, there were moments and almost theatrical little touches that led me to believe I wasn't far wrong.

■ Continues over







From previous page

NE THING, though, remained patently cle through our little dialogue, and that was that Waits has most adamantly become the character he set out to oversey. After he out to portray. After his statement about the necessity of having heroes, he wryly turned with a distinct undertow turned with a distinct underflow of pride latched on to the self-effacingly casual nature of this additional comment — "Well, now I'm a hero to some people too, y 'know'. "Oh, wateresses, truck-drivers, divorcees" — Waits casually trosses out the

Waits casually tosses out the vocations of fans he's vocations of fans he's encountered with a wry gleam in his eye, almost as if it could just as easily be a put-on. But Tom Waits, arguably the only artists on Asylum Records who doesn't own a pair of cow-boy boots and absolutely their most uncompromising and fearsomely talented songwrater, does have his ongwater, does have his te of supporters

They've stuck with him for five albums, watching him grow from the stumble-bum grow from the stumble-burn quasi-folkie whose songs penned in that ilk on his debut album, "Closing Time", proved so 'promising' that even cowboy charlatans The Engles recorded one ("Ole" 55"), through to the ornery jazzbo bar-fly trading the promise of the Golden Cowpic for the realities of fow-rem 'mondorama' stiffed up with a maverick chaser of humanity.

maverick chaser of humanity.
Each subsequent album
seemed more resiliently
left-field — the hip dip into
bop narrative while looking for
"The Heart Of Saturday
Night", the weird-beard dive
jive coming deep from the
heart of Swingland
("Nighthawks At The Direct").
Threash to the preschadure. ("Nighthawks At The Diner") through to the punch drunk truisms of "Small Change" wherein Waits' seemingly religiously fervent reliance on his bar-fly image was, by this time, commencing to become worryingly maudlin and self-indulgent at times even if his muse was showing accs on at least five somes. at least five songs

al least five songs.
And then finally this year (or last year, if you're in the USA) came "Foreign Affairs".
Waits' best album by a long shot— and with a vengeance.
Still a criminally underrated record, on it Waits seemed evoidaiged and, more to the point, he was treading new ground in at least one case—the stunning "Potter's Field" with its genius 50s. B movie of the Dragnerig gener soundtrack the Dragner genre soundtrack arrangement and the arrangement and the composer's chilling, divetting narrative making for a literally

stunning tour de force.
No more naudlin "Bad Liver And A Broken Heart" extrapolations. Waits instead had overhaused his muse.
Well OK then, so "Fooreign Affairs" presents our Mr. Waits in blistering lettle. And yet, white virtually alf Asylum 'artistes' can shit-kick their way around the US Hot 100. way around the US Hot 100 way around the US Hot 100, Waits can't even get one of his winklepickers into the chart. I wondered out foud just exactly how the Asylum corporate were dealing with the gentleman, as far as the latter could divine.

"We-e-e-II, they ain't so bad, I guess. They don't really try and impose their ideas on how I should sound or how uncommercial I am, My

uncommercial I am. My manager's more into all that. Like he's always on at me to quit drinking, quit smoking, take a shave

ATIS' MANAGER.
by the way, is one
Herb Cohen, whose
afore-stated interests regarding
his protege's career do tend to
ring somewhat ironic when one
considers that this is the same
Herb Cohen who one Herb Cohen who once managed Frank Zappa and The Mothers of Invention, Captain Beefheart and his

Magic Band, Alice Cooper, Wild Man Fischer and that whole freak-show who showcased their brand of

showcased their brand of musical 'mondo bizarro' on the Zappa/Cohen-instiguted Straight and Bizarre labets. Waits himself, a Los Angelo born and bred, was discovered by Cohen in typically unorthodox circumstances. "Yealt," be reminisces, non-edussedly recalline that

non-plussedly recalling that very first encounter. "He came

very first encounter. "He came up to me by the phone booth at the Whisky a GoGo and asked if I could lend him ten bucks!"
At this point, Watts had a portfolio of songs and was performing them at the usual dives, heavily under the influence of Ray Charles wocalese, adding between vocalese, adding between toors pitch of low-grade Lenny Bruce banter for the audience. He found himself joining Cohen's weirdo clientele and was to strike up a feiendship with another of Cohen's less bizarre talents, the late great Tim Buckley. Buckley in fact recorded on of Waits' songs (the maudin "Martha" from "Closing Time") on his last but one album, "Sefronia".

"Tim was a mother of a singer. I mean, he should have been doing things like 'My ocalese, adding between

been doing things like 'My Funny Valentine' — things like that. His vocal range was

phenomenal.

"And the sickest thing was that his death was just a stupid accident. The guy who gave him that smack was just a very good friend of his — I mean, you can't blame him (the fained) tealls if www.you.

good rivend of its — I mean, you can't blame him (the friend) really, it wan't his fault. It was just one dumb, sickening accident. The worst thing was that the guy (Buckley) still had so much to give. He'd hardly even begun."

Mention of drugs, abeai marcotics, reminds me of a quote attributed to Waits claiming that he more or less "sept through the 60s", thus missing out on flower-power. Woodstock, you name it. Somewhat sceptic about this Rip Van Winkle stunt, I ask the question again, figuring that Waits' teenage years spent with his divorced father in L.A. must have drawn him, however feetingly, in with the hippies and emerging drug culture of the cry. hippies and emerging drug are of the era

His reply is typically sly and off-hand

We-e-elf, I never mes

off-hand.

"We-e-ell, I never messed around with any goof-balls, if that's what you mean."

Goof-balls?

Yeah....oh you don't know...ha, beenies, y'know...benzedrine pills, "Keep ya up all night and then some."

All see. Unlike Kerouse and Neal Casady, whose benzedrine-riddled adventures Waits totes around like composite volumes of the Bible. Waits in fact seems more enamoured of the great literary figures of America (his most excitedly stated boast is that he's a good friend of "Buck" — Charles Bukowski — than his nation's musicians. "Buck" — Charles Bukowski

- than his nation's musicians,
although he's more than partial
to running down a list of
hard-living jazz and r'n'b
artists who've helped shape his
own niyle of repertoire.
All of which conveniently
leads us to the very nature of
his stop-over trip to Blighty—
for just one day. The trip was
the result of both him and
manager Coben having been

manager Cohen having been manager Cohen naving occ flown over to Paris for discussions with artist Guy Peelhaart — he of Rock Dreams fame — who wants Waits to do the text for his

follow-up volume.
"Book's called Vegas"
growls Waits. "It's like..." growls Waits. This make Guy's tribute to all the great American heroes of the decade American heroes of the decade—everyone from Sinatra to Pearl Bailey... Joe De Maggio, George Raft... they're all in there and it just so happens that all the ones he's chosen had one thing in common and that was that they spent time in Las vegas. Thus the title. Las Vegas, see, is used as kind of a back-drop,"

• OMEWHERE AROUND here, I set into a rap about his penchant for singing about heing sleazily drunk and my contention that the condition seems a fully-founded malaise among innumerable American trae-blues who've slowly let the bottle turn their once razor-edged perceptions into bloated, maudlin

bloated, maudlin solf-indulgence. Waits seems unprepared or unwilking to deal with the subject at length, mumbling almost embarrassedly amost embarissedly something in the realm of,
"We-eell everybody's got some sort of 'Jones' y'know. If you look hard enough", before eventually capitulating and turning the dialogue into satire by jokingly asking whether I want him to lay down on the couch for a shot of psychiatry. That tends to ice the subject until the composer of such grand paens to that-fly pathos as "The Piano's Been Drinking (Not Me)", "Warm Beer And Cold Women" and "Bad Lives & A Broken Heart" resolutely reposts with a defiant: "But I'll rell you one thing for sure. If I have to write one more song about booze and being drunk and aff dast, I'm going to throw up! Seriously! I've had enough of all that. It's all become played-out. There's changes dies. something in the realm of,

all become played-out. There's changes due." Meantimes, Waits has now

reached a status in his Mother country whereby he can

bill-top at good clubs and, in certain cities, decent-sized halls. His repersoire and Itwixt-numbers repartee is augmented by a trio of sax, standup bass and drums—at musicians hand picked from musicans hand picked from long-term excursions through the Manhattan red fight jazz clubs. And as an added attraction, Waits makes sure his show is always. Uh. Tieshed out by the presence of a professional stripper just to keep that sleaze rating up and on the holi on the bail.

Concerning a possible outraged Women's Lib faction backlash, Waits just shrugs.

backlash, Waits just shrugs.

"Ah that's all just one big crock of crap. Man, do you know how much those girls get? Well, it's damn good pay.

"People who get morally offended" by all that are just ... man, they should talk to some of those girls, check out just what goes into being a good stripper. It's not just taking yer clothes off, it's a goddam art to them. They take it seriously at that, Plus, that's what I happen to consider "real performing."

Talking of real performing leads Waits, somewhat whimsically at first, to relate the first time he really, really

whimsically at first, to relate the first time he really, really suffered from stage fright.
"Pretty recent, it was too. For some goodforsaken reason, I'd been booked to perform at a Gay Liberation Benefit and it was a real. . . uh testy audience out there. The worst hing was, though, that I had to follow Richard Pryor (the renowned U.S. black comedian) who'd just comedian) who'd just completed his act by screaming "Kiss my rich black ass, you laggots" and storming off the

l'aggots" and storming ou une stage.

"We-e-e-ell I was in something of a quandary at that particular point, but I went on anyway and started off with ... well, for some reason i'd chosen to perform the old show tune "Standing on the corner watching all the girls go by". Something sorta told me it might go down well!"

Sulface to say, Waits managed twi more selections chain-smoking five Lucky Strikes in the process and darted off the podium to a mixture of bermisement and

feisty antipathy from the

dience. The interview continues at The interview continues at an easy pace, taking a number of topics along in its path. Waits, for example, likes Elvis Costello, and lan Dury and Graham Parker, thinks Patti Facility is resolved. Smith is "rock's answer to Phyllis Diller (for the uninitiated a U.S. comedienne known for her feisty manner and less than ravishing looks). and less than ravishing books), and claims that he is moderately "Big in Japan — even though they obviously didn't moderated a word I was singing when I toured there a month or so back."
Waits is also a walking guide to Los Angeles' sleaze-pits and run-down bars. In true form, his home is a room in the run-down Santa Montea hotel that also housed that other

run-down Sama Monica hotel that also housed that other champ-een juicer, 'limbu' Mocrison, during his years of fame and cirrhois.

Finally the talk lands on the topic of exactly how Waits intends to change musically. Various suggestions are mulled over agreeably—a touch of hard-nosed rhythm'n' blues could spruce up a strong force

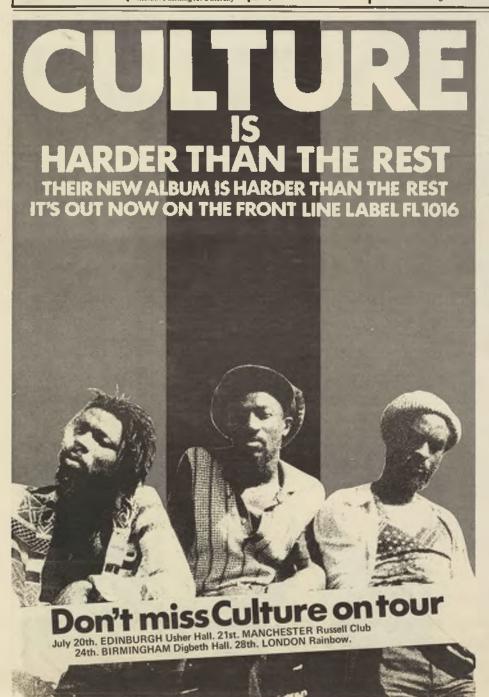
hard-nosed rhythm'n'blues could spruce up a strong force field in Waits' gut-bucket juzzbo pitch, I suggest. He nods thoughfully and talks about a tentative shot at working with juzz funk pianist George Duke. He finds it hard to define the sound he's hearing for that next shot, but it's there and a September date has been slotted in tentatively Asylum for this up an'

has been slotted in tentatively by Asylum for this up an comer's release.

I mention finally that Waits may be stifled for subject matter, having foresworn booze-songs back there, and the reply has all that classic blase, gravel-throated succinctness of the man at his meat... uh locquacious.

"We-o-ell, when it comes to the other choices, all know at

the other choices, all know at least one damn thing. I'll be choosing homicide over romance anyway!"

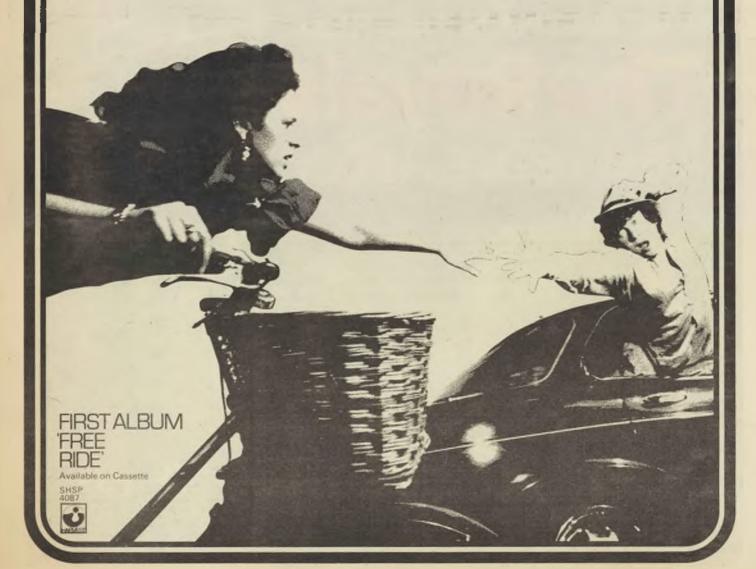


MARSHALL HAIN

Not a solo singer. Not an American Soul Band. Not even a ten-gallon-hat boogie outfit.

Kit Hain and Julian Marshall's first album is rich in rhythms and melody and has that vein of individuality running through it that made "Dancing in the City" such a big hit.

REE RIDE



Ballistic Sure Shots

'... It's certainly one of the best reggae compilations to hit the racks in a long time.' Record Business

Ten titles by eight different artists: Jolly Brothers, Psalms, Trinity, Alton Ellis, Lloyd Lovindeer, The Naturals, The Royals, Prodigal Creator.

A complete cross-section of the most interesting areas of contemporary reggae from the Dub of Trinity, through the accessibility of The Royals and The Naturals to the Jolly Brothers classic song 'Conscious Man'.



The Royals Ten Years After



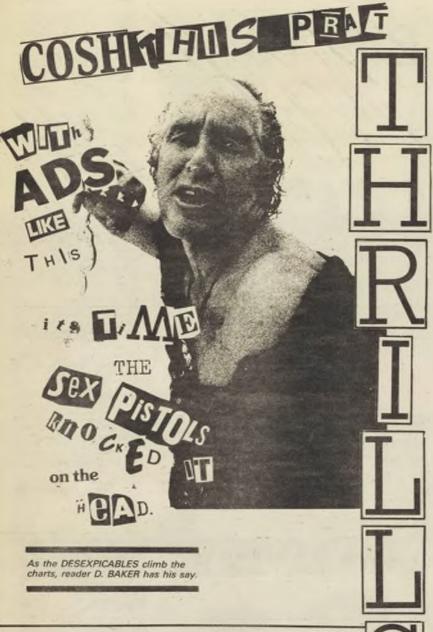
The Royals

The long awaited follow-up to their debut album 'Pick Up The Pieces'.

Conceived, written, sung and produced by Roy Cousins in Kingston's Channel One Studio, this superb new offering can only consolidate The Royals' position as one of Jamaica's foremost vocal groups. As ever, Cousins proves himself one of the most lyrically perceptive and vital writers in reggae today.

UAS 30189





Cook and Jones see the light, but —

TALCY MALCY

H. BUT WHAT would Thrills be without its weekly shot of obligatory Sex Pistols jolly media jackanapes? Yet another in an

ever-continuing series, this week's uncoverings centre themselves on the current state of themselves on the current state of play regarding Messrs Steve Jones and Paul Cook who, according to an official statement by Virgin primo Richard Branson (presumably backed up by benevotent Takey Male 'the Mug' McLazen) "are The Sex Pistols." Meaning that Rotten is long torgotten and Sid Vicious is no longer a bona fide Pistolero either - or so Branson would

Not that Lydon/Rotten has been totally blanked from the Pistols' corporate memory bank however, as he is the subject of not one but two songs that Jones and Cook have been busy

recording in the studio recently.

The first is the already-infamous "London Boys", written and performed by Johnny Thunders. It is one of many tracks on Thunders' now-completed solo album, which leatures fearsome ensemble playing from the Cook-Jones axis along with the odd contribution elsewhere by

the likes of Phil Lynott, Steve

the likes of Pful Lynort, Steve Marriota and Only Ones' Peter Percett and Mike Kellie. (Thunders, by the way, is currently back in New York—visa troubles again — and apparently may well be working full time with Manhattan c&b group The Senders, alongside constant commanion and constant companion and look-alike Henri-Paul. Other reports have him in a tentative affiance with the Link Wray-less Robert Gordon, though Chris Spedding is also a possibility for that notified with

that particular gig.)

Meanwhile, the mooted

Thunders-Jones-Cook band – although a still-born venture after the Shepherds Bush duo got a fair gander at Thunders' penchant for consistent career cock-ups — has consistent career cock-ups — has succeeded in cutting mustard in the studio. Scheduled for a late August release on Real Records, the album is surprisingly

powerful.

Ah, but what about the other

Ah, but what about the other Rotten song (sie) performed by Jones and Cook, I hear you ask? (Get on with it. — Ed.)
Entitled "Here We Go Again", it's one of four tracks recorded by the pair, with Steve singing, playing guitar and has while Cook handles the trups. (Does he play drams as well? — Ed.)

Continues over page





NOT VERY funny thing happened to several NME

NOT VERY furny thing happened to several NME staffers on their way into the office recently.

Amidst all the tacky bric-a-brac and plastic wares an display nitry Carnaby St, a few repugnant little fin badges were crapping up on several staffs. Next to the garish portraits on badges of Your Fave Singers (40p each of three for a quid) appeared a sequence of Nati slogans and insignia— a lame example of which appears above. Some of the others were real fulus: pix of Adolf, Third Reich eagles and one which, ha ha, claimed "The Judges at Nuremberg had no sense of humaur."

and one which, he ha, claimed "The Judges at Nuremberg had no sense of humour."

NIME's Julie Burchill and Danny Baker had a few words with one of the stall owners and the hadges have since disappeared (from view, at least). Thrills also had a few words with Peter Small of Communication Vectors, the firm which supplies these little beauties. Or rather, claims Small, used to: "We had so much trouble — people seemed to take offence — that we thought it bast to drop them."

From whare did they originate? "They were designs taken from an old wer book."

And when did you stop producing them? "About a year and"

And when did you stop producing them? "About a year ago." Funny that they should have only appeared in the Carnaby St area

during the past week.
"People must be Xeroxing them," says Small.

INSPECTOR KNACKER

THEMPAS

ULY 4th — American Independence Day, as it happens — could have been a historic day in the annals of rock music. An open-air free concert starring Joan Baez, the Beach Boys and Santana had been planned to take place outside the Winter Palace in Leningrad, before an anticipated audience of 650,000

b30,000.

However, barely a week before the big day, the Russians abruptly cancelled the entire arrangements, leaving the concert promoters with considerable chaos to sort out. Not only had visas already been arranged, not without difficulty. for the 143 artists and technicians who would artists and technicians who would have been involved, but the concern

arisis and reconscious who would have been involved, but the concern stage was in the process of being erected, some of the equipment had been shipped to Helsinki, and more was on the point of being freighted from Hull.

The promoters were not the only ones put out by the cancellation. Thousands of Russian youngsters had turned up for the concert anyway, many having arrived from far-flung parts of the U.S.S. R. According to the Monting Stan, "News of the concert was published in the local press weeks ago, but no announcement of its cancellation was ever made." When they arrived to find it cancelled, they reacted as most Western audiences would have done in like circumstances — angrity;

in like circumstances—angriby; noting broke out, and fans and police joined battle. The authorities had no compunction in using smoke grenades and water cannons to disperse the crowd. A number of arrests were

The concert, which would have become the centre-piece of a projected movie, Carnival, was originally the brainchild of Dimitri de Grunwald, an energetic white-haired film producer who has set up several prestigious Hollywood movies, including The Millionairess and The Yellow Rolls Royce, and who was actually born in Lenningrad. It was made possible because of a cultural exchange agreement signed recently between the Soviet and the U.S. state departments. Under its terms, there is provision for at least The concert, which would have

THE BIG NIET



one rock band to play concerts in Russia annually. The first group to reap the benefits of this was the (Nitty Gritty) Dirt Band, who played 25 shows behind the Iron Curtain in May of last year, all to sold-out audiences; their most successful Russian concerts were in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev. However, apart from the innocuous Cliff Richard, they remain the only contemporary rock act to have successfully completed concerts inside Russia.

successitury comp.

Russia.

While responsibility for the musical side of the Leningrad festival was

devolved to the well-known U.S. promoter Bill Graham, de Grunwald himself arranged all other aspects of the concert-cum movie. Russian interest in the scheme was successfully kindled, and the State film company, Sovinfilm, was even persuaded to put up half the budget. The rest was provided by the Rank film division of Britain. CBS and Levi-Strauss.

CBS were clearly interested in the possibility of opening up a lucrative market behind the Iron Curtain—they are the only U.S. record company to have dealings with

Melodiya, the Soviet state record company. Thrills asked de Grunwald, in his London hotel last week, whether or not it was a condition of financing the project that all the bands on the bill were CBS artists. "It wasn't quite a condition," he replied, "but it simplified the logistics; otherwise it would have been another six months of discussing contracts, releases and all the rest of

contracts, releases and all the rest of

Levi-Strauss — that's right, the jeans people — were attracted for similar reasons. "Their president had

made trips to Russia to assess the market potential, and then through Bill Graham we discussed his sponsoring the thing. He didn't want us to plaster the square with posters, but to gently make their name known."

but to gently make their name known."

Obviously, the project called for quite fearsome logistics, which de Grunwald had been working on over the last two years. However, shortly before it was all due to happen, he was suddenly called to Moscow and given the word. The hig Nict.

He has still been given no reason for the valle-face of Soviet officialdom, although it is apparent that the order came from fairly high in the Krenlin.

the Kremlin.

the Kremlin.

The concert may simply have been the victim of the new Cold War iciness, as Carter and Brezhnev exchange words over ticklish topics like human rights; equally, it may have been cancelled because someone at the Kremlin belatedly realised that they were merely facing the same old enemy— American conomic imperialism, this time in the insidicous guise of Western youth culture. If this was the case, then de Grunwald believes they are lighting a losing buttle.

He says that he has seen for himself

hattle.

He says that he has seen for himself that the interest in rock music there is enormous. "There is a growing number of bands there, some of whom I thought outstanding. They are certainly not ballaliate bands, either — they really are comparable with our own big groups, It's not as if I was taking clocks to the natives — they are an up-to-date audience."

After the cancellation of the concert, Joan Baez went to Russia anyway, on a tourist visa. Newspaper reports have suggested that she made some recordings there, although it is doubful if these will be issued. However, she definitely visited the Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov and his wife, and exchanged messages with them, which no doubt means that she will be persona non grata in future.

DICK TRACY **BOB WOFFINDEN**

THRUUGS

MORE TALC

The four tracks, all Jones The four tracks, all Jones compositions (with titles including "Black Leather" and "Lonely Boy"), are the first time the pair have taken a shot at working on their tod. And the results, though hardly earth-shattering or original, are still good enough to warrant release — particularly in the wake of the hidious Ronnie Biggs debacle (see Thrills 1/77/8, the charts this week, alas, and Danny Baker's poster pastiche).

Indeed, everyone who's heard the tapes is in agreement that

these new songs should be released in their virgin (sic) form Everyone, that Is, except Makolm McLaren (Wondered where he'd got to. — Ed.)

Mr McLaren, upon hearing the songs, immediately demanded that one of the so-called Train Robbers be dragged in to handle the vocals in place of Jones. The result so far is an apparent

dead-lock twixt the duo as Maky, who remains adamant about the Train Robber stunt. McLaren's desperation count, meanwhile, knows no bounds. He is currently attempting to dust up old Pistols stand-bys—nonoriginals like "Steppin' Stone" and "Substitute" amongst the frazzled few — for release via Virgin.

And so it goes, getting more And so It goes, getting more and more desperate and depressing, leaving Jones and Cook somewhat pissed off and extremely confused by it all.

Apparently both contracts with McLaren and Virgin are still operative for something in the

operative for something in the region of two years and the puir are thus imprisoned. Or so it would seem, Latest grapevine reports, however, strike a note of

counter-defiance, claiming that Steve Jones at least has got himself a lawyer on the case in an attempt to stop McLuren from using Jones and Cook as his hapless puppets. WURLITZER WONFOR-THEMONEY

NEEDS This unfortunate (an purely circumstantial, etch) juxtaposition spotted in his local Kirkintilloch Herald by reade ERIC SHAWN, ex-member, he says, of Kirkintilloch's fave rave combo Buster Hymen and The

The Lone Groover

BENYON





SIGN OF THE TIMES

PETITION is being organised to protest London Council's decision to han The Stranglers and other groups from playing at Alexandra Palace

Anyone wishing to sign this petition or to obtain copies of it for circulation, should contact:

GARY BAILIES/RON WILSON, 22 Birnam Road, London N4

THROUGS

Coke adds life...

COCA-COLAT AND "COKE" ARE THE STERED TRADE MARKS WHICH IDENTIFY THE SAME PROTUCT OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY ARCHIVE **FUN** SPECIAL

JUST WHO THE **HELL ARE WE?**



OWN AMONG THE FAG ENDS, discarded condoms and soiled knickers in the office archives I recently found the accompanying unnamed portrait of five likely lads, whom I assume to be either the NME staff-writer's glee club, circa 1958, or an American rock'n'roll(?) quintet of

either the NME staff-writer's glee club, circa 1958, or an American rock'n'roll(?) quintet of similar viritage.

Idon't know who they are, nor do any of the present NME staff, nor, surprisingly, do any of my mates, some of whom rate themselves as gen kiddies when it comes to mouldie-oldie identification parades.

So here we have a competition situation.

The basic rule is dead easy: the first person to correctly identify the group wins a rare single.

The qualifications of this basic rule are a bit more complex. For instance, since I don't know who the group is, how and I going to know whether you're right or not! Somehow you'l have to include evidence of their identity. (A photo-copy of an original press-cutting that includes their name; a lock of the bass singer's hair; a copy of your mum's paternity suit against the lead singer; that type of thing).

Secondly, what single are you going to win? Well, something from the same period as the group seems appropriate. I have about 1,500 singles in my 'Someday-I'm-gonna-auction-this-lot' box, including a goodly number of rarish rock and rab items from the late '50s and early '60s (US & UK pressings), so name about a dozen of your most wanted records and there's a lair chance I'll have one. If you turn out to be the winner and I haven't got one of your dozen choices you'll just have to send me a longer list, woncha?

Silly replies will be judged on the fallabout-ometer and the winner will automatically receive a pack of 20 recent disco singles, mostly performed by Eurobints with an abundance of tit and thigh but little or no musical credibility.

recent disco singles, mostly performed by Eurobinis with an abundance of the and thigh but little of no musical credibility.

This competition is not open to staff or contributors of other music papers, editors of rock'n'roll fenzines, especially American rock'n'roll fanzines, or radio personalities called John Peel and Charlie Gillen. If Bill GIL S

CLIFF WHITE

THRICOS

POETRY CORNER

The Bus Driver's Prayer (As performed by Mr Ian Dury)

UR FARVER, Which art in Hendon, Harrow Road be thy name. Thy Kingston come, thy Wimbledon, In Erith as it is in Hendon. Give us this day our Berkhamsted, And forgive us our Westminsters As we forgive those who Westminster against us. For thine is the Kingston, The Purley and the Crawley, For Iver and Iver,

Crouch End.



MR DURY greets the day with the Bus Driver's Prayer and a nice bit of frii bread. Pic by LAURENCE COTTRELL





Albedo 0.39 Record, RS 1080 Cassette; PK 11741



Spirat Record: PL 25116 Cassette: PK 25116

an artist in progress, pausing at Beaubourg. Beaubourg – a modern symphony. Music from the soul in the age of the machine.

RCA



eaubourg ecord: PL 25155 assette: PK 25155



AUREEN AND The Meatpackers were a Cambridge hand who crowned a performance at one of that fair city's annual collegiate May Balls by chucking freshly-roasted yeal cutlets into the audience. The reaction of this audience — upper echelons of Britain's educated — was

something to witness, so I'm told.
The Soft Boys, certain parts of
whom blossomed forth from whom blossomed forth from these unspeakable Meatpackers, are keeping — all things being relative — a low profile at this year's May Ball (rented-suit a go go; corny 'rock' discotheque; jiggling in pavilions by the river; things probably haven't changed much since '66; but the drink is free.

hings probably haven't changed much since '66; but the drink is free . . .).

The Soft Boys might win medals, and metaphors, for Low Profile. An inconsciously studied avoidance of image'. Five individuals (whaddya mean 'cliche''). Their image is the image of The Soft Boys. My 'image', your 'image'. A sense of honesty and right-angled humour prevails.

Fornerly 'Dennis and The Experts' (who included, fact-fans, Charlie Gillet's brother Alan Lamb, on guitar), The Soft Boys are, presently, Robyn Hitchcock (guitar, words), Kimberley Rew (guitar). Andy Metcalle (bass), Morris Windsor (drums), and Jim Melton (words, harmonica, brothen strings repaired). Kimberley has been with them for six months. Otherwise, these Soft—conceptual continuity by any other name — Boys have existed for eighteen months or so.

They have just completed a minor touring schedule. Before that, they had been known to play sporadic support dates (notably The Dammed at the Rainbow farewell, and Costello at a Roundhouse freebie).

They had no manager, initially signed to an indie. Raw Records. ("Give lt To The Soft Boys", an EP). They are now clasped within the loving arms of Radar. There is a tense Spressent — "(I Want To Be An) Anglepoise Lamp' "'Fat Man's Son' They so into the studio probably in July, to record an album. Then, a Major Tour.

The Soft — or the three I spoke with — Boys talk of the single warmly. But they are not entirely satisfied. They could have done better. Yes, but. There is charm, playfulness, wisdom, depth, wordplay (a cerebral Monkees') An outlook, awareness, quickiness: the prerogative of the self-oducated (bias! bias!)

bias!)

All of The Soft — what I've heard — Boys' material is open. The songs are written by Robyn, except "Cold Turkey" and "Heartbreak Hotel" which were written by someone else. The Soft Boys perform "Heartbreak Hotel" in the John Cale manner. Tense, brooding, what some would calt "Gothic". Very inmediate. All the songs are inmediate. And songs traditionally — hooks, choruses, that kind of stuff. Like the Pop Group which the Barrett-centred Pink Floyd sometimes threatened to be ("Apples and Oranges" speeded up).

Titles might clue you in: "Where Are The Prawns?": "Return Of The Sacred Crab"; "Human Mussic"; "Ugly Nora". The music is metallic, but never heavy. Suaring, bleached (Soft) boy harmonies to take you by surprise. The jagged, (yet soft) guitar duets never lose anchorage on the structures of the songis!. Harmonica is the soft (clock) machination which ties it all up, makes it sound risky, individual, positive
The Soft — but what isn't an influence? — Boys come out of years of permutaling cross-breeding Cambridge bands. Only one of them has a degree. One other went to college (and left after a month). They have their roots in folk musse. No Pric catalyst here, son. They're not that 'young' — all things being relative.

Like certain others — Dury, Costello, Landscape, Throbbing Gristle — who have practious little to do with the p'ok rink, they have been arred and aided by the New Broom, sweeping everything under the carpet (category) with equal force.

At least it corners you some attention, if you're lacky. It may be harmful in the long run, or at least, as long as rock runs. Robyn: "The whole thing about rock musics is that it's supposed to be self-reliant, and it will

■ Continues over page

SOFT BOYS _ JUST **CLEVER DICKS?**



SOFT BOYS' singer ROBYN HITCHCOCK makes public his affection for populist Tchaikovsky ballets



SOFTIES

last five years, until you either fall asleep or find a better way — grow a beard and settle down".

I mention Syd Burrett, Richard

beard and settle down."

I mention Syd Barrett, Richard
Thompson — who seems to have
found religion. "That's just ... that's
just his phone-hox, I guess." I enquire
about a poster sighted by a friend,
which advertised in enppearance of a
Syd Barrett Band at one of the May
Balls (after all, Syd is allegedly still
dormant in Cambridge).

"No, that's the original Syd
Barrett. The original Syd
Barrett is about
sixty, he's the president of the local
Musicians: Union — he leads a local
dance band."

Ah, so, Such is Cambridge! As for
the labled, the Genius Syd nee Roger
Barrett, the one of whom everyone
has their own story to tell?
Robyn has no such stories. He
acknowledges Barrett as in
influence. And Martin Carthy.
"They sing in English and I like their
guitar styles." Also, Bob Davenport,
George Harrison, Richard
Thompson. "But I hate laid-back stuff
— which is where Harrison and
Thompson often fall down a bit.
There's a thin line between being
soulful and being dreary. Which is
why Hend to be absurd — it's much
harder to be genuinely emotional
about something."

soulful and being dreary, Which is why Head to be absured—it's much harder to be genuinely emotional about something."

He evades my barbs about Genuine Absurdity. I ask him what he 'B'be doing in five years' time. "Oh, painting and drawing. It just depends low long it all takes. But I'm not setting out to be anything other than an obscure cult fringe; obviously there you've got marketing problems..."

No, he probably wants to be A Star. He's something of a wizard already. Later, I karn from another member of the band that the genial Hitchcock has in fact been trying to flog his songs for years; before the p"nk purge! deluge "people wouldn't have been prepared to listen." I do wonder if they are now (one set of Identi-kit values replaced by another?) It's a question of, yes, Image.

But for the present—sectivity

But for the present —activity, ambition, fresh idea and music which



THE SOFT BOYS: "We've seen a few flash Italian movies, too Beneath Hitchcock are (I to r) Andy Metcalfe, Morris Windsor, Melton and Kimberley Rew. Pic by ROSALIND KUNATH is Windsor, Jim

defy categorisation (hoorah!). Ah, categories, the word-machine-traps of an Industry. Robyn Hitchcock (less so the other members of the hand) is not actively hostile concerning interviews, he just thinks they're a bit daft, restrictive. His advice to me: "Take everything out of it (transcript of interview) systematically. There won't even be a 'quote', there won't be any 'quotes' about what it's doing... Just nothing there at all." And again "There's no point in talking about the Soft Boys, as such". No

substitute for seeing them, hearing them, or whatever,

He didn't talk about The Soft Boys, He ddift talk about the history to as such. (I owe all the history to Kimberley and Andy). I did talk, quite fluently, with him. It was interesting, amusing but rather irzelevant.

Go on, ask me to put a label on The Soft Boys! ('OPEN OTHER END'!),

IAN PENMAN

THROUGS

LET'S MAKE A DEAL

CECOND ONLY to gold Sand diamonds as one of the world's most stable currencies, cocalne has become crucial in the rapid development of South America as the fastest-expanding record market.

Due to currency restrictions imposed by various South American countries (or for that custer arost Third World customs), the only method for foreign investors to recoup any profits hus often been either by re-investing in local industry or accepting (non-cushable) air tickets as payment.

So, as South America produces

so payment.

So, as South America produces
some of the highest-grade cocuine in
the world, this easy-to-transport chic
narcotic has intely been fransformed
into acceptable international
collateral.

collateral.

Sanctioned by those governments concerned, a mustber of major American companies have been accepting cocaise in tien of record royalties. However, after skimming off a few ounces for immediate family

and friends, how to dispose of a few million backs worth of lifegal surcotics without running toul of international rairs has proven to be a minor obstacte. No sweat! Seems those very same surcomments who subseted white

No sweat! Secons those very same governments who authorised white powder payments have been only too eager to set up negotiatious with repotable underworld dealers who, for a handsome commission, will distribute and sell the cocalne on the world market.

The money is then handered by various methods and quietly paid into either an un-numbered Swiss bank account or directly into online of a

account or directly into coffers of a

account or directly into cuffers of a label's substituty company. Such is the amount of hush-money available to ensure a smooth, low-profile operation, mobody of any import has so far been busted. It remains to be seen which record label will be the first to be railed and precisely how they'll try and explain away their underworld consections. ROV CALID ROY CARR

THROLUS



No more cover stories on DEVO if that's the result. Thanks to IAN HILLIARD. As for T. PARSONS, reader T.S. IDIOT says it was a sobering

"...A MOST SATISFYING LIST

WITHOUT SOUNDING FLAMBOYANT, IT'S A IECE OF STUNNING RTUOS NOTA OF PRETENSION..."

Paul Brett will be appearing at the Royal Festival Hall on 15th July, for the first public performance of 'Interlife'.



Paul Brett:

Composed by Paul Brett
Produced by Tom Newman
(Producer of Tubular Bells, Hergest Ridge)

Paul Brett plays Aria guitars.

Record: PL 25149

BOB DYLAN

The new limited edition 12" single

Baby
Stop
Crying CBS 12-6499

is from the new album

'Street-Legal' BOB DYLAN

CBS 86067





HOME

B CULT manager/producer
Sandy Peartman has been
doing more of late than just
shepherding his charges
around and making sure

that all the lasers were turned on during the Cult's recent six-week European

lour.

Indian restaurants and the
British Museum Sigured
prominically in Mr Pearlman's
UK visit, for a start—and let's
not forget The Chath, whose
upcoming second album he
also found the time to work on,
Bross roan selections.

Basy man.
More to the point, before leaving the States Pearlman was in San Franctice for a week producing a demo for CBS of The Readymades, one of the Instest-rising new wave outilis on the West Coast. With a very radio-planable

With a very radio-playable three-song EP out on Automatic Records, the Automatic Records, the not-quite-one-year-old Readymades have built quite a lollowing for themselves — a coasiderably younger following than most of the other American new wave hands have developed.

The band got its EP deal on the very first right they played, when Automatic president Gregg Turner saw them open up for LA's The Zippers at the Mabuhay Gardens in San Francisco. But The Readymades hadn't exactly just popped up out of nowhere.

Mory Goldstein (keyboards, sax), Wayne Ditzel (guitar, bass) and Ricky Studge (guitar) have been playing in every conceivable type of band — together and separately—for years. In fact, when Shudge auditioned for The Readymades he came from playing with a saksa band, and was attired in wide bell-buttoms and platform thoes. The band was ready to reject bim out of hand till bementianed that his favourite band in the universe was The mentioned that his favourite band in the universe was The Ramones. And, sure enough, the next day he came to rehearsal directed like a refuge from a Ramones affoun jacket.

Drummer Brittley Black, son of accomplished Jazz skinman Dave Black, head established himself as the most conversel; and talented

energetic and talented drommer this side of Rat Scables as a member of Crim

THE READYMADES (L-R): Morey Goldstein, Jonathan Postel. Brittley Black, Wayne Ditzel and on his knees, Ricky Sludge.

He wound up leaving that band on the day they released their second single — after he was sure he had his mug on the picture sleeve — because he felt they were too sections. Readymades leader/basy-player/vocalist Jonathan Postal left The

Avengers for the same reason — and because the other three

Avengers had found another bass player and weren't felling him where they were

him where they were rehearsing.

The Readymades got together, thanks to the ruinistrations of a fair vixen named Roxanne who was dating Jonathan, Mory and Ricky. As if happened, Postal left The Avengers with Straugher Hogh Cornwell, an old buddy, was in town. Hearing his material, Cornwell encouraged him to form a band of his own, which he managed to do with Roxanne's other boytriends.

The Readymades were an instant success with the audience at the Mabohay, if not always with the punk

audience at the Mabuhay, if not always with the punk in-crowd, many of whom take a dim view of Postal's ironic attitudes towards punk mures. The band's wide range of catting the state of the somewhal theatrical stage antics and their considerable musical dexterity have won them a large and growing number of lans in San Francisco and I.A., but these things aren't always looked things aren't always looked upon as virtues by some of the straight-and-narrow punk hard-liners. Still, with the

possible exception of The Nuns, Dils and Avengers, more people pogo to The Readymades than to any other tocal bands.

But, ultimately, it is the creative tension between Junarihan Postal and Mory Goldstein which may make The Readymades a major musical fure. You can almost call it—forgive me—a McCartney/Leann combination, with Goldstein providing the pop melodies as grist for Postal's harder, more desperate mill.

providing the pop melodics us grist for Postal's harder, more desperate mill.
"Moory," explains Postal, "is a happier, more safelifed person, a well-adjusted person, a Well-adjusted person, flyera may set of circomstances, he'll learn to function in them.
"He has awards from schont and from Little League and he has jazz awards. Things come easy to him. He's very takented. He's a good singer; he plays well, he's good at haseball.
"Me — I'm a cynic, I've always been un the outside. I was always the last one to be chosen in sports. I harely play my instrument well enough to get along. My voice is only

acceptable because Dylan and

acceptable because Dylan and Lou Reed have been accepted before me," (I rulght add that Goldstein was the only one of them to have gotten the lovely Roxante, although Postal claims he didn't really give it his best charge. his best shot.)

The fact remains, however, The fact remains, nowever, that there is a certain functional lension that exists between Postal and Goddstein, between Postal and the rest of the band — in fact, between Postal and the rest of the world.

world.
The result, according to Pearlman, is "better than great, better than a good tandoor in fact." For Cornwell, who sat in on their recent recording sessions, they are "one of the most significant bands on the West Coast." And to this reporter, well, The Readymades are surely one of the more interesting.

one of the more interesting faces of the

faces at the mon-English-clone-type American new wave.
They hope to visit Landon in the fall. (Don't we all?)
JACK BASHER

THROCUS



"...it's 12" of pure fun." N.M.E. The new album from ADVERTISING called 'JINGLES'.



Ten Tracks produced and 4 tracks re-mixed by Andy Arthurs. available on Cassette

ROBINSON FOLKS OFF ALONE

Botest singer for reading on has played two sologies, sens TRB, in the past week—at Middleboro and at London's Golden Theatre, in the Berbican, where Tom's 45-minute set followed an hour-long revue by the Gay Sweatshop Theatre group. Accompanying himself on a 12-string guitar with a small amp, Robinson premiered two new songs—a sequel to TRB's well-known "Martin", and another called "Blue Murder" which tells the story of Liddle Towers. (Towers was arrested by Gateshead Police for being drunk and disorderly one night a couple of years ago. He struggled, and died from injuries sustained in the process; a verdict was returned of justiliable homicide. A new enquiry has just been opened). Tom's show also leatured impersonations of Noel Coward and Lou Reed, and according to Thrills' person on the spot he was "very funny, warm and extramely entertaining—there was the hin of a major talent". Robinson is rumoured to be playing solo in Bristol next this week, though his management deny it. They do tell us that there'll be a major UK tour by TRB starting mid-September. Thrills' parting confession: we're simply mad about the boy, OK?







OUR SPINNERS PICK THE WINNERS



(1) IAN DURY

(2) ELVIS COSTELLO

(3) ROLLING STONES

DEVO (5) NICK LOWE

(6) JACK NITZSCHE (7) BUZZCOCKS

(8) STARGAARD (9) JILTED JOHN (10) WIRE

What A Waste (Stiff)

I Don't Want To Go To Chelsea (Radar) Miss You (EMI)

Satisfaction (Stiff; I Love The Sound Of Breaking Glass (Radar)

Hard Workin' Man (MCA) What Do I Get

(United Artists)

Which Way Is Up (MCA)

Jilted John (Rabid) I Am The Fly (Harvest)



(1) BOB DYLAN

(2) ELVIS COSTELLO (3) PERE UBU

(4) BUZZCOCKS

Street Legal (CBS)

This Year's Model (Radar) The Modern Dance (Blank)

Another Music In A

Different Kitchen (United Artists)

(5) BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

(6) RY COODER

(7) MAGAZINE

KRAFTWERK

CULTURE

(10) KEVIN COYNE

Darkness On The Edge Of Town (CBS)

Jazz (Warner Bros.)

Real Life (Virgin)

The Man Machine (Capitol)

Africa Stand Alone (Virgin) Dynamite Daze (Virgin)



OTHER FINE DISCS FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE

SINGLES: THE CLASH: White Man In Hammersmith Palais (CBS). The DARTS: Boy From New York City (Magnet). X RAY SPEX: The Day The World Turned Day-Glo (EMI Int.). TAPPER ZUKIE: Dangerous Woman (Phensic) (Front Line). MAGAZINE: Shot By Both Sides (Virgin). BUZZCOCKS: I Don't Mind (United Artists). THE CLASH: City Rockers (CBS). WILKO JOHNSON: Walking On The Edge (Virgin). CHEAP TRICK: Surrender (Epic). GREG ISAACS: Mr Know It All (DEB). EVELYN CHAMPAGNE KING: Shame (RCA). TRB: Rising Free (EMI). THE JAM: News Of The World (Polydor).

LONG PLAYERS: ROLLING STONES; Some Girls (Rolling Stones). MINK DE VILLE: Return To Magenta (Capitol). CULTURE: Harder Than The Rest (Virgin). TOM ROBINSON BAND: Power In The Darkness (EMI). PETER GABRIEL: Peter Gabriel (Charisma). ALBION BAND: Rise Up Like The Sun (Harvest). MAGMA: Attahk (Eurodisc). ROSE ROYCE: In Full Bloom (Warner Bros). WARNE MARSH-LEW TABACKIN: Tenor Gladness (Disco Mate). STRANGERES: Black And White (United Arrists). THIN LIZZY: Live And Dangerous (Phonogram).

BEST RE-ISSUES: BIG STAR (No. 1 Record Radio City) (Stax), TAPPER ZUKIE: Man Ah Warrior (Mer).

BEST COMPILATIONS: THE COASTERS: 20 Greatest (Atlantic), LESTER YOUNG: The Lester Young Story (CBS).

TALKING HEADS



MORE SONGS ABOUT





AND FOOD

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A PREFATORY WORD FROM WHAT'S LEFT OF YOUR HUMBLE FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURHOOD SINGLES

REVIEWER
AGAINST ALL the laws of nature and logic, most weeks the record industry manages to cough up a few singles that stand head and shoulders above the mainstream dross that filters out of the multitudinous pressing plants of our fair land. Whether it's from a big name on a heavy duty second label or some blushing hopeful on an indie, there's usually something that Restores Faith In Rock And Roll As A Positive Force In The Universe, something that's witty, moving, exciting, entertaining ... what the hell. You know: something that makes you want to take it home and play it to death; loud and with the windows

This sort of record is what we in the trade refer to as a Single Of The Week. No such record has been released this week. Sure, there's a released this week. Sure, there's a fistful that you can actually listen to without breaking out in an unpleasant rash or developing an irresistible urge to wreak serious damage on something or somebody, but single of the week? Vinyl came there none.

This week's column, therefore, its something of a non-event. Still, some weeks you ear the product, some weeks the product eats you. Onwards.

 PUZZLER OF THE WEEKTHE
WHO: Had Enough/Who Are You
(Polydor). Two advance notices: first
out of the box: The Who mattered more to me when I was growing up than any other band, even The Beatles and The Stones and The Beales and The Stones and The Kinks, and I owe them for that. Secondly, their achievements are on a scale so grand that a new single from them would be, almost of necessity, a disappointment unless it simultaneously embodied and surpassed everything wonderful that they've done since that day in 1965 that I saw them doing "I Can't Explain" on Top Of The Pops while in höspital waiting for an emergency operation. That being said, it's inevitable that thus—the first Who single in three years—should be a disappointment, but it's still a suprise that it should be this much of a disappointment. disappointment. It's a double A-side: "Who Are

It's a double A-side: "Who Are You" by Townshend and "Hall Ennugh" by John Entwistle. I trust it will appear as no slight to The Ox to mention that most Who freaks would play the Townshend side first (especially since it's the title track of the forthcoming elpec), but "Had Enough" is both the better track of the two and closer to The Who mainstream, being a simple song of rebellion delivered by Roger Daltrey in — it must be said — towering form. Both sides are framed in a gargantum weller of synthesisers,

in — it must be said — towering form. Both sides are framed in a garganiuan swelter of synthesisers, android electric symphony or chestras ablaze, much in the manner of "Ouadrophenia" only more so. If that makes you gulp twice and succumb to a faint feeling of unease, you're right. The synthesisers do little (on the Entwistle side, anyway) that couldn't have been done better by Townshend's guitar (with a few judicious overdubs, needless to say). Townshend's guitar is as vital an ingredient of The Who's sound as Moon's dramming (present and more than correct, thank you guy'nor) or Daitrey's pride and passion, and its subdued quality and lack of prominence definitely damp the fires. "Who Are You'' is inconsequential widdles for guitar and the ubiquitous synthesiser; pretty in places and twitchy in others.

Whether The Who, like The Stones, are currently pursuing a policy of staying ahead of the opposition by brains rather than haw, the they're going to have to think and lect harder rather than play hander. Pete Townshend has, in an unprecedented fit of honesty for a rock star, taken us into his confidence as to why he is no longer as powerful

rock star, taken us into his confidence as to why he is no longer as powerful and prolific as he used to be, and therefore it would be ton churish to abuse him for those deficiencies that he is himself working so hard (and worrying so much about) overcoming. At least Townshend and The Who are hack, and next time it! He better. It would be a pleasure indeed to see The Wio coping as well with the problems of heing a World's Greatest Rock. Band Of A Few years, Ago in 1978 as The Stones are. At least, as Tony Parsons mordantly remarked, they're rock star, taken us into his confidence

W 1 80 WHO ARE YOU HUTBIA CHRID CHAPPEL ROOSH DAL THEY -ARORNSEY WINCT DINOL B Prosentare BTUDEYT BEIAN CLOUD BLIFF WHITTARE OF EARC AZY CONNLINE OOV SHA OUR IDT ANIN CHELTHIO ARE YOU MACONALO 7878 TON TAKEAWAY 200 TOURNET 2 NO o PERE TOWNSHEND CAS IDI AMIN THE WASHINGTON TELL A OTEVENS NOV 25A OHW FULLER FUNKTO S IONIC FOURIOT

"Who Am I" as seen by CONNIE JUDE

both doing better than The Sex

O SON OF PETE (1)
THE JOLT: I Can't Wait (Polydor).
Seeing as how (sniff), The Jolt are a threepiece hand signed by Polydor Records and have a one syllable name beginning with 'I', they've been compared more than somewhat with a certain well-known New Wave band who've blown too much of their energy on a second (and largely disposable) album when they should have been cracking singles out at—bottom line—a quarterly rate. The nave been cracking singles out at — bottom line — a quarterly rate. The Jolt take many of the same ingredients used by The Jam, but they take them to different places with a sound that's simultaneously thinner and more frenetic. Backed, incidentally, with the worst version of "Route 66" ever released. Oh welf,

 SON OF PETE (2)
THE SKUNKS: Good From The Bad
(Fel Pie), Eel Pie Records in Pete
Townstend's way of helping out
bands that he considers deserve this bands that he considers deserve this honour, and considering that The Skunks stand elhow and hips above many of the acts that major labels are squandering their gell upon, releasing "Good From The Ball" may be considered something of a public service. The song is interesting, the performance fierce, restrained and more than serviceable, and the production—done at the band's own 8-track in Brixton—professional. The proverbial band worth watching.

 SODA PRESSING LOU REED: Street Hassle (Arista).
A 12-inch EP, no less, leaturing the title track of Loulou's new album — all eleven minutes of it — on one side, and the original Velvets versions of "I'm Waiting For The Man" and "Venus In Furs" (specially borrowed from MGM, gang!) on the other.



Pic steeve of the week

"Street Hassie" struck me as the only interesting work Lou's done since "Berlin" (itself his only interesting

THIS WEEK'S REVIEWER:



work since the Velvets) — there's no more horrific insight into the junkie mentality in all of rock and roll — and of course the Velvet's cuts are, as ever, essential — il scarifying — listening. The only reason I'd suggest that you approach this package with a suitable degree of caution is that it's unquestionably the worst-pressed and manufactured record I've encountered all year. So warped it resembles a Moebius strip in black-plattier form, more redotent of erunchy noises than the cereal I had for breakfast today . . . sometimes I wonder if record companies realise that people play records as well as simply buy them.

 SOMETHING OF THE WEEK
JOHNNY MOPED: Little Queenic (Chiswick). Ahem — you gotta admit it's different. The words are different — or rather, it's Uncle Chuck's lyric or rather, it's Uncle Chuck's lyric (most of it, anyway) — cut-up in neo-Burroughsian manner. The vocal approach is different — not that different from a horny tomeat serenading the neighbourhood from atop an overflowing dustbin, admittedly — but certainly different from anybody else duing "Little Queenie". We might as well own up, fellow passengers on Spaceship Earth—Johnny Moped is different. QEL Is there any chance of Ted Carrol donating Moped's hrain to science?

OCREEPY EXPERIENCE OF THE

SUICIDE: Cheree (Red Star). This record gives me the creeps. The creeps in question used to call themselves Alan Suicide and Marry Suicide, which was quite appropriate back when I first heard them on "Max's Kansas City" album, and on this evidence they've got a lot better at it. One man singing, one man playing a whole gang of unpleasant objects wit keyboards attached, quiet, hissing and so impossible evil it'd scare you to death if it wasn't all so/so/so studied. Are we not men? We are L-O-B-O.

WE CAN DANCE IN THE MOONLIGHT AS SOON AS I'VE FOUND MY RED SHOES (blues)

INTERVIEW: Birmingham (Virgin). First Magazine, now Interview. On imagines that Virgin are waiting imputiently for someone to form a imagines that virgin an impatiently for someone to form a band called The Arts Page so that they can sign then up too. Interview's gacan to Brum sounds unconnily like Elvis Costeflo singing over one of Trin Lizzy's milder backing tracks, and sounds not the tecniest bit unpleasant. We mean it, Vasaasaasaasaasaa.

OAND THE REST OF THE SUNCH JIMMY JAMES AND THE VAGABONDS; I Cun't Stop My Feet From Dancing (Pye). What a coincidence. I can't stop my mouth from yawning.

MIKE MORAN: My Baby Gives It Away (Mercury). And your label's gonna have to do likewise.

SLEEPY LA BEEP: Good Rockin'
Boogle (Charly). Sings like his name,
and does the bass parts like a champ.
Rockabilly obsessives will dote.
Casual listeners will find it
undistinguishable from ordinary
rockabilly except that the voice is
deeper. They will be missing the
point.

THE INTELLIGENTS: Rockin' Band (Atlantic). Both the name of the group and the title of the track are direct contraventions of the Trade Descriptions Act.

CARL PERKINS: Honey Don't/Right String Buby/Tennetsee/Put Your Cal Clothes On (Charty EP), THE BEACH BOYS; California Gles (Capital). Who the reissues are (Capitol). Whe the reissues are among the finest records of the week, you know there's something seriously wrong with the rousic industry (yeah, i know that everyone's saving up their hot singles for the autumn, but it's still annoying). That being said, those two records would be truly lustrous gerns in the singles collection of anybody who doesn't already possess them.

SOME GIRLS GET LET DOWN BY ■ SOME GIRLS GET LET DOWN BY THEIR PRODUCERS MADDY PRIOR. Baggy Pants (Charysalis). Studiedly charming little piece of '30 disco sung v. nicely, but producer Ian Anderson has for some reason whacked Maddy's voice right to the front of the mix and compressed it slightly so that she sounds oddly inexpressive, and "inexpressive" is the last word that I'd ever expect to apply to Maddy Prior. Odd.

SUZI QUATRO: The Race Is On (RAK). Chineichap product of the Smokicque kind country changes set to the kind of reggae beat you get played by people who don't listen to reggae but think they know what it ought to sound like. Good singing, but ~as ever —so far below what Quatto and her band are capable of the cit is benefit benefit in grabut. that it hardly bears thinking about. Still, it's a chart cert and that (after all) is the name of the game.

GERRY RAFFERTY: Mary Skeffington (Logo). Droopy little song fit only for the terminally sensitive. Acute shortage of inspiring sax riffs.

JONA LEWIE: The Baby She's On JONA LEWIE: The Baby She's On The Street (Stdf). A highly boring record despite the attractive piano part. If this guy becomes the rave of 1980 and this record is acclaimed as a classic, I shall just have sit on the sidelines and regret missing the opportunity to jump on the Jona Lewie bandwagon while I had the chance.

CAROL DOUGLAS: Night Fever (Gall). A devasating exercise in pointlessness which is predictably already churning 'em up in the discos. Definitely proof that disco eschews anything that gets in the way of the direct connection between feet and cars — like soul or beain.

2 TIMERS: Now That I've Lost My Raby (Vingin), Living proof that fast, loud poprock music needs't be offensive to adult ears.



HE BIG STAR story seems to have taken up a considerable part of my writing life. This is the fourth time in three years that I've sat down and tried to make sense of one of America's least known or understood cult bands.

known or understood cult bands.

To be honest I was lost for an angle. Even the imminent reappearance of their enigmatic and previously unobtainable first two albums, "Number One Record" and "Radio City", plus the unweiling, on the Aura label, of Alex Chilton's third attempt to make good (three years in the can and he still couldn't get it out of his system) didn't really inspire me to bite on the journalistic nut.

You see Pat limit with all these."

journalistic nut.
You see I'd fived with all three albums so long that having made up my mind as to their place in the rock and roll superstructure there was very little way I was going to fasten onto the Big Star streamline and give it the urgent propelling thrust that these sons of Memphis, Tennessee needed to persuade all you lucky potential first time viewers.

So when the boss man called me on the editorial hot line and stated his case for the feature I sighed into my Ribena.

Y DEBUT Big Star article never reached the presses of this paper. I wrote it in 1975 as a result of spending many evenings drinking and rapping with original founding member Chris Belt, whose contributions to the first album were manifestly as important as Alex Chilton's but who decided to throw in the towel as a result of the evil vibrations going down in the Ardent. Memphis studio acres

studio arena.

Not being inclined to accept Chilton's star-struck ego (Alex was a Box Top from '66 to '69 and knew the colour of a hundred dollar bill) Bell finally sickened at the first fight fought 'twixt Chilton and bassist Andy Hummel and walked out on the unfolding decades's slipped

The Bell interview material, I have since

The Bell interview material, I have since discovered, gave a rather one-coloured vista, but at the time I took it on reasonable trust and was hopping mad when the article never appeared.

So it was that three years on I dusted off the manuscript, sighed at the fronty of it all.

After all, Big Star finally bit on the bullet when Chilton's third album, more or less a solo dive into depression of the smacked out variety, failed to find an outlet. After returned to New York and proceeded to live a lower's life of foolish excess — a death run for the pills and the booze.

I couldn't take the third album seriously

I couldn't take the third album seriously myself. Not being prone to find inspiration or solace in another's self-induced stupidity I filed the tape away for a mood I intended not to reach and forgot about Alex Chilton altogether.

Then last year the man turned up on the Ork label with Jon Tiven producing. It was not a renaissance I admired. The E.P. "The Singer Not The Song" and the subsequent singles "Shakin' the World (From 34th. & Lex)" and then "Bangkok" (both backed with the old Seeds Iament — "Can't Seem To Make You Mine") were not really the way I remembered Mine") were not really the way I remembered

The rest of the band had slipped into

The rest of the data was applied obscurity. In desperation I went back to the albums an started to look for something new. It was only when I really listened to the lyrics that the undiscovered patterns that I needed began to

What gradually struck me was that th commonly cited comparison points for Big Star as the initial avatars of a power pop explosion who came before their time were only partially

correct.
While the songs do exhibit a certain fow rent charm the actual tinny veneer of locked Fender
Strats over a four to the bar and beat it backdrop

are merely the superficial aspects which made the band so instantly appealing.

Another popular scam on them tends to ignore the lyrical content at logether, claiming that the mix is so goddam metallic and taut that, you can't hear the words anyhow and don't even

Hence admirers of "Number One Record" and "Radio City" often find no connection between Chilton in the ascendant and the grizzly morbidity of the latterday chip on the shoulder Alex. To really see the facts straight you have to go right back to the beginning.

RIEFLY, WHEN Chilton was 16 he RIEFLY, WHIEN Chitron was 16 he dropped out of high school and joined The Box Tops — him eyed soul and Alex could pitch his voice just right for that. Bell records staff producer-cum-writer Dan Penn gathered his young clan in the Memphis. American Sound Studios and saw his faith the fifth of the staff of the second staff or the second staff or

gatacterins yound Studios and saw his faith justified with a string of top spot singles — "The Letter", "Cry Like A Baby" and "Neon Rainbow" to name but three.

Other outlits operating in similar areas included The Righteous Brothers, The Young Rascals groovin" on the East Coast, Tommy James and The Shondells and Paul Revere and The Raiders on the wackier end of things. At the end of '69 The Box Tops dishanded and Chiltron went to New York with his 12 string, his book of nouveau fulk ditties and a lot of money which he bew in the grand manner (and still only 19).

Back in Memphis three local sprogs called Chris Bell, Andy Hummel and Jody Stephens had themselves a bar band, Ice Water, cooking up current favourities: Free, James Gang and Bealles numbers..., a travelling juke box. Bell had some ambitions and studio time in a small



forth Avalor studio called Ardent where the

North Avalor studio called Ardeni where the Vice President of the company. Terry Manning, and engineer John Pry, used to let him loose on his demos after-house. Bell and Alex were old mates, even played together in '64 so that when the wandering hero popped in to the studiosine day there was sufficient excitement generated to make Ies. Water a four-piece.

Chilton first suggested a move back to the Big Apple — he'd been in Ardeni before and didn't like the operation much though there has always.

Apple — he'd been in Ardent before and didn't like the operation much though there has alwaysbeen a fatal attraction for Chilton to return to Manning's fold. It can be argued that the working combination of Big Star and John Fry is as fine in its own way as that relationship Hendrix had with Eddie Kramer and The Grateful Dead had with Dave Hassinger. The first album took in year. Manning and Fry had other proteges too, attong them Hot Dogs and Cargo. Fry had an idea that with this roster Memphis could develop into the new pop capital of the South. In a sense he was right. Tennessee does actually boast the largest number of undiscovered geniuses extract on the recording planet.

net. Nevertheless, the climate was too estranged from hard rock ethics to appreciate Big Star et al. To rectify this Fry and Manning held a Rock Writers Convention hoping to unleash all their acts but it was Big Star who stole the critics?

Though I formerly agreed that "Radio City as the real McCoy I've since altered my view commodate that first album. The nexus of the material is Bell-Chilton

The nexus of the material is Bell-Chilton composed, the opening track setting a puos which the band maintained from one end of the vinyl to the other. All the Big Star ingredients are in "Feel" from the punk put-down of the gats who put out too often to the aura of sublimated violence always present when Chilton has a woman on the mind. Offsetting the crunching chord changes these asy plenty of R&B riffs which come straight out of the Booker Tand lumips Walter nouth. T and Junior Walker mould

An off-centre tenor sax break cuts into

An off-centre tenor sax break cuts into Chillon's sneering multilayered bank like the police busting up a small hours shinding for teer degenerates.

The surprises start with "The Ballad Of El Goodo", a number Chilton had lying around from the days when he was avoiding the draft. The surprise, though, is not that the is a fally-flored protest sensing a trip to Nam. fully-fledged protest against a trip to 'Nam which this boy wasn't making but in the choice

which this boy wasn't making but in the crosse of language. Children is singing about God at his side and sounds like he means it. Yet the religious angle in so much of Chilton's writing has been completely ignored. How could a punk there have anything to do with religion? Wouldn't make sense. But there it is and again and again out! I find Chilton bringing a Southern Auraria.

make sense. But there it is and again and again you'll find Chilton bringing a Southern Agrarian conscience out of the closet and slipping it next to the songs about gurls and cars.
"The Balkad Of El Goodo" is a seminal Big Star song. In it you can ascertain the divergent influences at work within the Bell and Chilton team. Where Bell was always an Anglophila—keen on Roy Wood and McCartney — Chilton comes over like a fleedging Roger McGuinn. The arrangement is pure Byrds and the sentiments a fine distillation of a mood prevalent in American West Coast rock dating back to the birth of the electric Dylan.

"In The Street" is unique to the group, containing some of the linest tyrics of frustrated concrete concret kids with time to kill, money to burn and an itch to amoy their folks. Dig this: "Hangin" out, down the street The same old thing we did last week/Not a thing to do but talk to you/Seed your car and bring it down? Thek has up, we'll drive around/Wish we had a joint so bud'. Yesh, the Big Star had class, heavy class fred on an articulate frustration which made sawse to initiated youth in Memphis. The classhing goitars and sumptuous taythm riffs belie the image of Big Star as primarily club punks, however; the playing is perfectly realised.

playing is perfectly realised.

"Thirteen" builds on a wall of tyrical socustic lines and Chilton's remarkable hold on lost innocence. The words again capture a period with finesse:

innocence. The words again capture in period with finesse:

"Won't you tell your dad get off my back —
Tell him what we said 'bout 'Pain It Black'."
Tee Water's neo-Heavy Metal roots show up in 'Don't Lie To Me', all brawling, brooding middle finger posturing, an anthoro to swing a greased chain to. The electric furore generated cuts absort the entire English punk catalogue and makes earrent 'power pop' seem aven more fasticusty mythical.

Bassist Andy Hummel's "The India Some" is an unungruity which makes the grade. Utilising an Ekzabethan baroque backdrop Hummel winders find the realings of fanisay where he's fiving in a big house in India diniking gin and tonics and playing a grand plant. Sounds daft but it succeeds in the way Syd Barrete's acid utterances succeeded.

The juxtiporation of teenage emotion with adult cyalchan finds outlets throughout, from the George Hurrisonesque "Try Again" to the Blonde On Blonde" transitions on "Watch The Seniries".

Side two is balanced with a gentler aspect of

Side two is balanced with a gentler aspect of Side two is cataneou with a gentier aspect of Big Star. The implementation of acoustic sounds are as important to Chilton's sense of composition as the Fender brain scrambling. I'lt take the twin guitar dueuting of "When My Baby's Beside Me" with its "Revolver" schoos-over Thin Lazy any day. "Number One Record" bows out with a congular day of pricing accounting one of which

graceful pair of picking favourites, one of which, "STI'00%", deserves consideration in the great short song of all time, "Red Crayofa" not withstanding, 56 seconds of bliss.

Now you might think this opener would have kept Ardent happy. Not so. Manning and Fry hagglot ever the quality of the material and put stumbling blocks in the band's way. There were problems with the cover, which featured the electricaneon structure logs of the Big Star supermorket chain from whence the name derived. On the back cover the band kook as stuffen as a bunch of bikers who just had their logs ripped off by the heat.

Chitton tired of the downhome atmosphere of Memphis and found the wanderlust on his

Memphis and found the wanderlust on his trivels with a Plastic Ono Band-type show which bombed. In his absence Fry cleaned up the tapes and the album hit the stores in small quantities and sold more on import in Europe than in Managhi.

and sold more on impossing another grudge over Memphis. Chilton returned nursing another grudge over management. The band were booked into school halts, cafeterias and movie houses in Corinth, Mississippi, and by all accounts played some pretty slovenly sets. Bell, the perfectionist, started laying down the law. He contributed a

great deal to the material which eventually became "Radio City" but lost any credits at his own insistence — with the result that other tunes they played five were excluded at the last minute, songs like "So Dear" and "I Got Lost". The growing tension at rehearsals and Chilton's tendency to lose his temper gave Bell an out. Big Star continued as a trio and finally made it to New York for a stint at Max's Kansas City. Both RCA and Polydor offered Ardent options but Manning refused the risk unless he could get distribution for 1 ktot Dogs and Cargo. "Radio City" emerged in the twilight glow of this bitterness and marked the beginning of Chilton's wasted period.

Chilton's wasted period.

"Radio City" bites hardest when Chilton is at "Radio City" bites hardest when Chilton bits downest, meanest and nastiest. It's ton much an X-rated artefact and anyone who finally deciphers the lyrics will probably be shocked at the incidence of sheer venom, the anti-women numbering and the desperate indication that you are witnessing the full scal-stide of a totally committed artist sinking into the depths of his own deprayity. Many of the tracks begin inoccently enough

the depths of his own depravity.

Many of the tracks begin innocently enough until he gets the hate working on his apparently tortured nervous system.

The overall mood is set by the seedy cover and the flip picture of the Big Star trio looking decidely boozed — Chilton is pointing a finger right our at ya, his face a ferret-like warped teer. And from "O My Soul" you're on your own with his one, coming to terms with barely-welled sarctam and spin-out messages that would intimidate a Sex Pistol.

"Life Is White" is an enigmatic stice of the Chilton causate, perhaps an attack on Chris Bell. The title is certainly a parody of "My Life Is Right" which he and Biell worked up for the first album. Whoever the socipient, he or she gets it in the mouth.

in the mouth.

At all times the music on "Radio City" tracks

At all times the music on "Radio City" tracks alongside the lyrical meaning. On "Life Is White" the pace is murderous, a freatic left-field piano bridge colliding with Chilton's derailed feedback.

By contrast, Hummel's "Way Out West" is a joyride, comparatively straight in melody and tone and relying on a well-executed series of tasteful bass ruis. Then Chilton gets back to the diri digging for "What's Going Ahn", utilising a sublime chord sequence with a succinct attack on the peripheral women slumming it round the backstage door:

"I like love but I don't know/All these girls come and go/Ahways nothing left to 29."

When he isn't obsessed with his own sexual role Chilton still sounds on top of his personal philosphy — which he never does on the third album.

"What's Going Ahn" and its companion piece "You Get What You Deserve" give full indication of a certain irritating smugness, though both weld the sentiment to melodies which wouldn't sound out of place on a vintage. Realles album without ever exemptifying the depictation multiple of The Prepharing. derivative qualities of The Raspberries of

derivative qualities of The Raspberries or Baddinger.

"Mod Lang" (as in modern language) peels off side two like the Stones in their pre-geriantedays. Chilton's performance is classic, hollering out the odds in a right coustly upight shrick:

"I want a winess... I want to testify".

It duesn't add up to anything except great rock in 'noll in the manic dervish department with literary leanings (the boy burns off Verlaine and

Memphis legends BIG STAR never made it big, but blew a few minds along the way - including their own... At least, that's true of main man Alex Chilton, who gradually sank to the depths of artistic degeneracy and despair.

On the occasion of the release here of their first two albums as a 'double' (on Stax), MAX BELL looks back over a mercurial but disastrous career.

Smith with ease, no love lost between them and Alex either).
John Fry boosted the sound on "Back Of A Car" with the aid of Richard Roseborough's percussive talents but generally the goods come unadomed and with a live studio spontaneity coving from a very company.

unadorned and with a live studio spontaneity outing from every component.

Chilton's own guitar parts are unimpeachable, the bad craziness of his vocal delivery matched by a devastating depth old rhythm attack and assorted lead lines that had the edge on any other comparable record made that year (1974). For example, "Duisy Glaze" modulates from a first half of pathetic jilted love to some second half reminiscences of a bizzare punch-out with a cast of drag fags seen through Chilton's stage eye.

cast of drag fags seen through Chillon's stage eye.

"Radio City" reaches some sort of a climax on the taus precision of its best known song, "September Gurk", where the mood is regulated through an up-tempo-tone in direct collision with the increasingly depressing sentiment. They go out with some muted soul baring a la the first record, two songs just over a minute long, "Morpha Too" and "I'm In Love With A Gif" an instrumental backing of piano and strummed acoustic giving an ironic twist to the singet's search for the unattainable.

Stax Records inability to sell anything which wasn't primarily black R&B (witness the fate of Don Nix) mean that as sales figures for America went Big Star might as well have stayed home in bed.

NLATE 74, early '75 Chilton gave it one more try, the result being his legendary album, 'Sisters, Lovers', which Aura are now releasing as 'The Third Album' (shame on them for changing the tile). White label copies and poor quality tapes of this sikes surfaced in 1976 as a result of Fry's sending demo copies to some onscrupulous A&R men.

"Sisters, Lovers' owes an immense debt to Lou Reed's 'Berlin' which you may remember was the aftermath of his short lived marriage. Where Reed's maudilin sick omelodram had the lasting appeal of a fifth rate soap opera Chilton suggested be'd gone right off the beam. Hummel had returned to college to finish his Master's in Chemical Engineering, Bell was helping his brother run a fast food business and occasionally worked on his meisterwork, "I Am The Cosmos" (now available on Car Records) and Chilton and Stephens were banging their heads against brick walls.

The cast list included local hot side men Tommy McClute and Steve Cropper producer Jim Dickinston on keVosades and eutras and

The cast list included local hot side men Tommy McChure and Steve Cropper producer Jim Dickinson on keyboards and guitars and even Jerry Lee's original drummer. Tarp Tarrant, brought back to provide the beat on a version of "Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On" where Childron sounds so shot that the only shakin' going on must have been a result of delinium termors. "Sisters, Lovers" is essential listening for any Childron devote but he wayned of its uter by

"Sisters, Lovers" is essential listening for any Chilton devotee but be warned of its utterly hopeless atmosphere and morbid contents. Chilton can still come over like Roger McGuinn on "Kizza Mc" but he's dredging a squalid barrel where the chesmut mare has been traded in for another kind of horse, the big white out. Fear and loathing in Memphis reach optimum proportions in yet another anti-groupie tract, "You Can't Have Mc" with Chilton's message as squalid as the women he despises.

"You Can't Have Me" with Chilton's message as squalid as the women he despices.

His Catholic panic attempts to find solace on "Jesus Christ", on which an eeric Wurlivzer supplies incongruous fairground panicutation to the Neil Young-Bavoured guitar must. As usual he stands to be judged according to his own Old Testament rigour:

"And the wrong shall fail, and the right recoal"

The discomfort that this mood inflicts on the

The discomfort that this mood inflicts on the listener is increased throughout side two. "O., Dana" managed to fuse a Burry Manilow style melody beneath layers of apologetic paranoia: "I worry whether this is my last life! And God—if you're listening! im sorry I can't help it." That seeminal comment on Chilon's phase on "Sisters, Lovers" is contrasted immechately with his interpretation of Lou Reeds. "Fernme Fatale" where Alex takes Nico's part and a Fotole" where Alex takes Nico's part and a female chanteuse sings the back ups in French. The arrangement has a far more private weight than the original, but "Holocaust" is a truer

indication of the pit Chilton had dug out for himself.

The hyric here is so lacking in hope that even if Bob Ezrin had left "Berlin" unadorned and recorded it on two track in a terminal cancer ward it would still come over like a Marx Brothers script next to the picture unfolding here.

Brothers script next to the picture unfolding here.

The possible explanation for "Holocaust" is that it's autobiographical and while I'm generally wary of doom laden rock and roll angst, in context the fascination of Chilton's downer is in the same bag as "Tonight's The Night". Try singing along to this:

"Everybody goes as far as they can... even those who fall behind' You mother's dead, she said don's be afraid... your on your own/She's in her bed... /You're a wasted face, you're a said eyed lie, you're a holocaust."

In the now reoughisable style of the first two Big Slar albums Chilton bows out with two brief, acoustically orientated numbers. "Nightime" and "Kanga Roo". Impossibly, these cuts induce an even greater sense of abject solitude than their forebears.

He reserves his most poignant melodies for the final, miserable slump and the last total ejection of self-respect. There's an iced beauty in the imagery of Chilton scuttling alone through the streets friendless and unloved which you must either accept on face value or reject as too harrowing in subject matter.

Anyway you look at "Sisters, Lovers", the

must either accept on face value or reject as too harrowing in subject matter. Anyway you look at "Sisters, Lovers", the break from the days of The Boxtops and "Get me a nicket for an aeroplane" is complete. The danger zone of the rock world, its temptation to commit irreparable self-abuse, finds absolute summation in the career of Alex Chilton.

IG STAR'S swansong remained on the shelf while Ardent went through its own death ithroes. The legend of Alex Chillton was fostered by tales of embarrassing bar-room brawls and a helf-bent egocentricity hardly guaranteed to endeur him to his small body of demisers.

admirers.

On one occasion, at D. J.'s inbute show in Memphis (could have been for the late Presley), the compere was introducing his celebrity audicace — Booker T.' Cropper and friends — with the customary American blandness that accompanies such gatherings. All was going to plan until the scruffly figure of Chilton leapt from his sext demanding attention. from his sent demanding attention:
"What about me, ain't I famous enough for

The D.J. watched aghast as Chilton added some spice to the proceedings by leaping on stage and smashing wildly at the piano, yelling the odds and generally making a total asshole of stages.

Last year Jon Tiven dragged Chilton out of Last year Jon Tiven dragged Chilton out of the guiter and took him to the Terry Onk stable in New York for another try. The resulting E.P., "The Singer Not The Song," was not evocative of the style Big Star had, even with Chilton at his most deranged, although a partnership with the excellent Chris Stamey, the new North Carolina boy wonder, whetted the appetite for a revival which never materialsed.

The revival of interest in Big Star, particularly Publish Monotlibis: Industries doubt stress.

The revival of interest in Big Star, particularly English Monolithic Industries' double re-package (and by the way, EMI, J'Il be suing for copyright) has led to rumours of their reformation. Hummel, Bell and Stephens are agreed, but Chilton continues to flog his solo dream in Memphis, working sometimes at Ardent Studios and less successfully on the Funlabel at Sun records.

If they could steer clear of the utterly encervaing New York sycophants and the dreary sick rock clubs that still have some reputation as places where something is happening (it isn't) then we might yet see some action from one of the most genuinely electric experiences to emerge on vinyl in the last six years.

The stars are set fair and the climate is perfect for Alex Chilton to show himself once more. Somehow I think he doesn't want to take that

Somehow I think he doesn't want to take that chance. I'd love to be proved wrong.
DISCOGRAPHY
"BIG STAR — No 1 Record" (Ardens).
"RADIO CTTY" (Ardens).
"RADIO CTTY" (Ardens).
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IN TOWN TODAY...

ANNIE GOLDEN & HER FABULOUS SHOITS !!

NNIE GOLDEN gives good letter.
Bank on it: there'll be

one on its way right now. "Dear Phil" The Shirts are touring

one on its way right now. "Dear Phil ... "The Shirts are touring your country. Romember that feature you were going to write? First time Annie wrote was well over a year ago now. The Shirts were desperate, and they seemed to have turned me into some kind of last straw to clutch at. Apparently the only journalist for years who'd told them they were great, I found myself bearing the sword of the media. A bedraggled stream of letters arrived on my desk signed "Three Shirts fans, Brooklyn", and the like. "Dear Mr McNeill, We understand you are thinking of writing a reportion. The Shirts. ... "Funny how the surnames often coincided with Shirt surnames. — Ardito, Piccolo — and other similarly ethnic appellations. In a way, it transistorised the wholesad Shirts vibe.

I mean, I really loved this hand, but there was nothing to be said about them. Not in the UK press, annway.

I mean, I really loved this band, but there was nothing to be said about them. Not in the UK press, anyway. No record, no tour, what could Essy! Next time you're in New York, all you jetsetting readers.

Meanwhile the U.S. press was about as responsive to The Shirts as the Clash audience was to Suicide. So Lout the call.

the Clash audience was to Suicide. So I got the coll. J did nothing.

The call came, I did nothing.

Then The Shirts came to England earlier this year — to London, to be precise. They'd signed a deal with Harvest Records (because their own home labels weren't interested), and were recording here.

were recording here.
Annic Golden wrote to me again.

"Dear Phil..."
So off I went to see them again. Did another interview. Listened to rough mixes. Look forward to reading the feature, they said.
The call came and went. What, I reasoned, was the point? No record.

no tour — just a one-off at Dingwalls.
I'll wait till the time's right
But now there's no escape. The
time is bang on right. The band's on the road and my ass, as they say, is in a sling. Here come Da Shoits.

OTTOMS IS— or was, 18 months ago — a less than fashionable New York club. We were only there because we'd flicked through the Village Voice gig directory and The Shirts were the only name we'd even recognised. We assumed they'd be a punk group.

Even at 25, Annic Golden Inoked sweet sixteen. A ballet-shoe'd trance-eye'd ragdoll of a singer, she spent the entire second set chewing. (Afterwards, approached timorously at the bar, she drawled: "I was really unrayed in the first set because nobody had any gum.")

"Shirts' across her T-shirt, Annie swayed and pirouetted limply between a veritable bar rage of male rock armaments; two guitars.

rock armaments: two guitars, keyboards, bass and drums. What

keyboards, bass and drums. What music they made! Each song was chucked violently around between four vocatists, running their kines together, alternately, across one another, in unison, in harmony, reflecting the deranged trickery. The Shirts brought to every arrangement. — complex deranged trickery The Shirts brought to every arrangement — complex webs of textures and riffs, climaxes and dynamixes held together with extraordinary control, and I wondered if the other 99 people present realised this was the best hand they were ever likely to see.

Did groups like this still exist? This music, it was psychedelic! Drama!

Light and shade! Doom and foreboding! The sound of Jefferson Airplane, the twists and turns of The

Airplane, the twists and turns of The Grateful Dead, the speed of The Ramones. Ridiculous stuff. Sprawled on my hotel bed a couple



of hours later, Annie and Artie Lamonica exuded the fatigue, not just of two sets' exertion, but of five years of frustration. The CBGBs band that

of frustration. The CBGBs band that everyone ignored — "We've heard it so many times: "They're commercial, they'll get signed! "— and still no contract in view.

Artie's voice, you wouldn't believe it! It's that gangster movie Brooklyn archetype, just like the band's glorious array of (genuine) Italian monickers: Robert Racioppo (bass), John Criscione (drums), John Piccolo (keyboards), Ronnic Ardito and Artie Lamonica (guitars).

He told me about the band he and Annie were in before The Shirts,

Lackeys and Schemers. "Dey useta just play Brooklyn. Beer blasting colleges, block parties, nuthin' big at

All."
Not that being in The Shirts had brought Lomonica any wealth of fame. Their only gig outside of New York State in five years had been supporting Orleans in front of count 'em — 1,800 people. It was winter, they didn't have any money, they got sick. Scary times.
"Poe", the six-year-old highlight of any Shirts set, recalls their early days. "We were like the draids of Brogklyn," husked Annie. "Diving into garbage..."
Only the patronage of their

195a Park Lone, Tottenham, N.17 Roys Record Spot 487a Green Lones, Harringay, N.4

manager, CBGBs boss Hilly Kristal, kept The Shirts intact. We talked about possible deals, a session they were doing in Electric Lady with Genya Raven (Goldie Zelkowitz) directing men with cellos, a single in mind

N'THE END, it took The Man Who Signed The Sex Pistols, Nick Mobbs of EMI, to see the potential of this bizarre, grandiose band The

Shirts.
Spurred by EMI's example, Capitol picked up The Shirts in the States — and promptly stuck their our in by demanding that the band do a cover version single. Incensed, the sextet went off to show they could write their own 45s.

Meantime, Mobbs took boy wonder Harvest house producer Mike.

wonder Harvest house producer Thome to New York to sniff The

wonder Harvest house producer Mike Thome to New York to snift The Shirts. Impressed he wasn't — until Hilly Kristal set up a one-off CBGBs show for Thome's benefit. What did he see? "I saw energy," he intones. The album Thorne's benefit what did he see? "I saw energy," he intones. The album Thorne's put together with The Shirts down in Chiswick is 50/50 old stuff — including that very first Shirts song, "Poc", as well as their previously posited single "The Story Goes", the toylown episode "Tenth Floor "Clown" and the old stage opener "I'm Reduced To Whispering" — alongside the fruits of that let's-write-a-single spasm.

Listening to the tapes, I was let down. Where was that demented ambition I'd preserved in my memory? Maybe it was never there — or maybe Thorne and Capitol have conspired to erase The Shirts' old indiscipline.

Certainly, they recorded under stress. Annie Golden, almost down and out just a year before, was now up to her neck in contracts and commitments.

Shortly after I'd seen Annie and

commitments.

Shortly after I'd seen Annie and decided she was the future of rock in roll. Milos Forman, director of One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, had also seen Annie — at CBGBs — and decided she was one of the stars of his reception may be a received in the stars. of his upcoming movie version of Hair, the hit "60s flower power"

Daily Mirror), until her nerves were snapping.
When I visited chez Shirts, it happened to be one of Annie's days with Milos. All her co-workers went out of their way to say her double life hadn't affected the LP.
Well it's just arrived in the office, and it just shows you shouldn't go listening to rough mixes. The second side is hardly scimillating, but the first side's got it: fine, fierce stuff. Drama! Power! Their stuff, on that side at least, is in the accendant.
The Dingwalls gig had afready restored faith and sorted out a pattern, anyway. The Shirts

restored faith and sorted out a pattern, anyway. The Shirts blueprint, current live version — it's dead straightforward. Every song starts slow, quiet, hesitant — and then builds and builds refentlessly to one of those ludicrous climaxes. You will enjoy, OK.

A very strange and entertaining group, The Shirts. Armie Golden, future star.

But will she still find time to write?

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WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

Information

EDITED BY FRED DELLAR

The Great Stiff Voucher Mystery?

CAN YOU explain what Stiff's single and album vouchers are all about? — SIMON BRIDGER, St

Annes, Lanes.
WHEN STIFF Records was formed in the Summer of '76, Jake Riviera had

plans to release an album compiled from tapes recorded at the Hope and Anchor, featuring such hands as Dr. Feelgood, Kokomo and Ducks DeLuxe, I'd like to know what happened to the plans

for that LP? - ANDREW WRORELL

Cheltenham.

O Holy brunt rubber, Barman;
This place gets more like the
Stiff sorting office everyday;
Bout that voucher thing
though — I must admit that
had me pazzled too. And when
I phoned Stiff, they admitted
that they hadn't even worked it
tour either — which ion't
surprising really. But it seems
that the general idea is that one
day you'll have the pleasure of
mutilating your album and
single sleeves by chopping off
those vouchers, in return for
which Honesd Jake will send
you some absolutely ripping
gift — at least, that's what the
intention is.

you some absolutely ripping gift — at least, that's what the intention is.

Meanwhile, those beersodden tapes are not forgotten. The story is that Stiff's Dave Robinson ram a studio at the Hope and Anchor, recording all the bunds that appeared there and his office is currently stacked with tapes walting to be unleashed upon an unsuspecting public. The tabel is now having a mobile studio built and when that's completed — which should be in just a few weeks time — the tapes will then be sorted and an album fashioned in readiness for an early release. Meanwhile, somewhere in Gotham City

ONE COMMENT on the recent Info City answer to reader Hulme's question regarding Tae Yardbirds' album "Five Live Yardbirds": regarding the Yardbirds":
there exists an American
import album "Five Live Yardbirds":
there exists an American
import album on Springboard
SPB-4036 called "Eric Clapton
And The Yardbirds", which in
fact is "Five Live Yardbirds"
minus one track at the end of
each side — the two missing
tracks being "Respectable"
and "Here Tis". But as "Here
Tis" is available on the Charley album, it is possible, al
least here in Finland, to get
every track from "Five Live
Yardbirds" except "Respectable". Incidently, on the cover
the Springboard album there's
a picture of Clapton taken at
the time of his come-back
concert at the Rainbow in
1973.

— PERTII OJALA,
Terripollus, Finland,

Thanks for the info — but
how come all you'se guys up in
midnight sun country write
better English than most of us
Carmaby Street shufflers? I
mean. 1 can hardly spell
Tasawil. . er . . . Tasavalian Pres . . . er . . . oh,
hell, i meant Wigwam anyway!

SOMETIME ago, there used to be a series of R&B compila-tion albums — featuring Muddy Waters, Bo Diddley et

CLAPTON: with Mayall.

al — on the cheapo Marble Arch label. Can you tell me if they're still available? — R. BOND, Barking, Exex.

Sorry — Pye's Marble Arch label got phased out youks, ago, to be replaced by the Golden Hour series. And even though Pye still have some good bluesware in their catalogue — mainly culled from Vanguard — they're long since lost all those Muddy Waters, Bo Diddley and Little Water side, which eranated from Chess, a label now marketed in this country by Phonogram.

COULD YOU tell me who published The Bynds by Bud Scoppa? My local book shop have been unable to trace it?

A. READER, Rawmarsh, South Yorks.

WHAT'S THE latest state of play on Nick Kent's projected Beach Boys book?

CELMORE, Godulming, Sarrey.

OTENTIAL STATES OF THE STATES once working in a place that distributed both Bibles and sex hiterature — we once packaged some religious tracts in some spare sheets from Stocking Tops and got a note back from some trate Mother Superior who complained "Your books were fline but we didn't appreciate the wrapping paper?" — but I have managed to accertain that Scoppa's The Byrds is virtually unobtainable, being only published in New Zealand or thereabouts. I duano about Nick's tribute to those harmonizing members of wave watchers unanimous though — be just goes all controlled the first the least bashful John Tobler (else me that he (Tobler) has just penned The Beach Boys, published by Phoches at 95p.

I HAVE the Island EPs by Free. Spencer Davies and Traffic and wondered if these were any more available? -- B.O.F., Felling, Tyne and

Wear.

• Following a naceting of the Security Council (actually it was just me and Cliff Gater but that doesn't sound so impressive!) it was decided that Island had released 10 EPs in recent times, these being by Bryan Ferry (IEP 1), Eddie

And The Hot Rods ("At The Marquee" IEP 2 and "At The Sound Of Speed" IEP 5), less Roden ("Live" IEP 3), Mike Nesmith (IEP 4), Free (IEP 6), Traffic (IEP 7), Ultravox ("Live Retro" IEP 8), Jimmy Clift (IEP 9) and Spencer Davies (IEP 10).

SOME TIME BACK, an import album of previously unreleased Eric Clapton in John Mayall material was mentioned in NAME. Can you strends full details of this designates the strends of the designation of the strends of th

John Mayall material was mentioned in NME. Can you supply full details of this desirable object! — M. ANDER-SON, Loudon SE20.

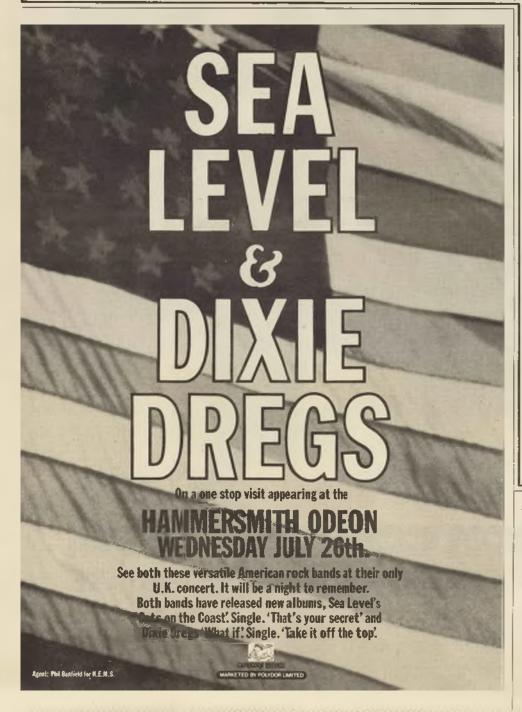
• It guess the album you mean is "Primal Solos." (U.S. London IC \$4003), which includes such Clappo-tracks as "Mandie", "It Hurst To Be in Love", "Have You Ever Loved A Woman?", "Bly Rye Bird" and "Hoochie Coochie Man", recorded by the Mayall, Clapton, Jack Bruce and Hoghie Flint line-up at London's Flintings Club in April, 1966. The other titles on the disc are "Look At The Girt" and "Start Walking", taped at Fahmer College, Brighton, in May, 1968, and "Wish You Were Mine", which stems from a Swedish gig later that same year. These latter tracks all feature Mick Taylor on guitar.

REQUIRED — a list of all

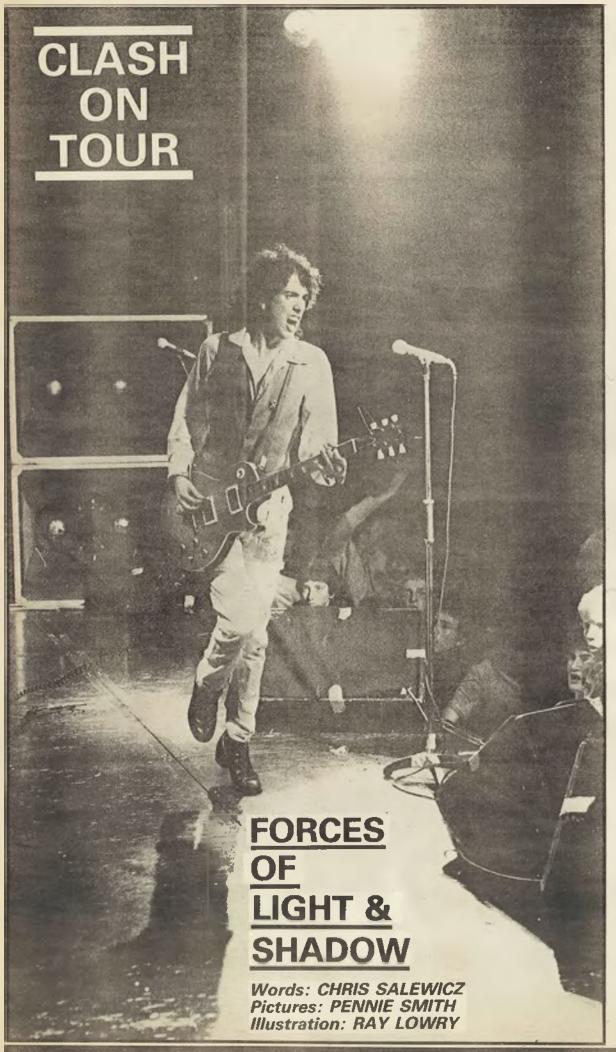
REQUIRED — a list of all Wigwam albums, stating availability, either on import or British labels. — EURO-FREAK, Haywards Heath,

Servex.

De Prior to 1975 and the release of "Nuclear Nightchob", I'd always thought that Wigwam were merely a ligment of lan McDonald's fertile imagination. But it seems that the band really existed long before then, their first Finnish Itapiack. Hard'n'Horny" (Love LRLP 9) being issued in 1999, soon after vocalist Jim Peembroke joined their ranks. Since then there's been the Kim Fowley-produced "Tombstone Valentine" (ERLP 19 — 1970), "Being" (LRLP 92 — 1974), "Live Music From Twilight Zone" (LXLP 51758) and "Carle 1975), "The Lucky Golden Stripes And Starpone" (Virgin V2851 — 1976) and "Dark Album" (LRLP 227 — 1977). In addition, a compilation album, "Wigwam" (LXLP 511 — 1972) has appeared, while Jim Pembroke has cut such solo albums as "Wicked Ivory" (as by Hot Thumbs O'Riley on Love LRLP 52 and deleted Charisma CAS 1071 — 1972), "Pigworm" (LRLP 71 — 1974) and "Corporal Cauliflower's Mental Function" (LRLP 44 — 1976), Wigwam multi-instrumentalist Peckas Dohjola carting "Pilkasilms Kanrankorva" (LRLP 71 — 1977), All the Virgin releases are still readily available, while the Love imports are obtainable in London from HMV. Oxford Street, or horough focal retailess, who can order from a wholesale firm called Studiu Imports, c'o Alfa 1.td, 25-27 Oxford Street, London W.1. (01-437-9226).







T'S AS IF THE Clash's "Police And Thieves" stage backdrop has suddenly transmogrified into moving 3-D.

The scene: the cobbled street down the side of the Glasgow Apollo, Round about midnight.

The dramatis personae: The Clash, fifty to sixty Clash fans, Clash drivers and security guys, an indeterminate number of members of the Glasgow constabulary.

The sound: C-R-U-N-C-H!!!

There it goes again: Paul Simonon, impeccably street-cool despite the Johnsons royal-blue shot-silk suit and Scotch House scarlet cashmere sweater, sinking down on his DMs onto the damp cobbles in a perfect staccato frozen-frame sequence as the back of his neck becomes the object of a manic, self-brutalising, truncheon-waying charge by an anorak-clad plainclothes Glasgow

cop.

It's a disgusting incident.

Highly emotive, riddled with
flashes and waves of fear and

There's a whole pattern of ironies binding this little scenario together: the Apollo bouncers, the police, even some of the kids outside the back of the theate, all hating The Clash because The Clash threaten the basic status Clash threaten the basic status quo on which their hatred has been erected. As the plainefollies cops suddenly emerge, chain-weighted truncheons in hand, from the shadows, they stir up ceric images of battles between the forces of good and evil. evil.

BACKSTAGE BEFORE the Apollo gig, a Glaswegian punk is haranguing Simonon. "You still doin all that politics staff? That's not music."
"It's not politics," Simonon replies, taking a hit from a bottle of Smirnoff vodka. "It's just the difference between right and wrong."
"Yeah. But a lot of punks don't understand the politics. They're just here for the music."
"Well," Simonon shakes his head, "I don't understand it either. I just know what's right and wrong. Like closing this place—that's wrong."
There's something horribly appropriate in The Clash being the last rock band ever to play the Glasgow Apollo—always (in)famous for having some of the best rock audiences and the most psychotic bouncers in the UK—before it's turned into a bingo hall.
Mure than any other band. The Clash really do can—no, not care, love—their audiences. And, by extension, their fellow-men, though maybe that's another matter.
Anyway, the bouncers, apparently, have long been standing by for this right.

night.
Tonight's the night, Jimmy, when they get their own back on the kids.
"Here!" One of them proudly pulls up his vest to show the band's personal. Steve English. "This sear's from the David Bowie show. And this one's from The Faces. And their (the shows a thick well across his belly) "is from the last time The Clash played here."

here."

The instant the band hit the stage it's like the Apocalypse is upon us and performing live in the stalls. Bogoing kids being dragged to the back of the hall and having the shit kicked out of them... Pogoing kids having the shit kicked out of them in front of the stage... "I'M SICK OF BLOOD."

JM SICK OF FUCKIN BLOOD."

Joe Strummer backs off from the mike and shakes his head to himself after pleading with the bouncers and kids to stop attempting to dismember each other. each other

each other.
They do stop. A little bit. But there are still obscene sights like a bouncer with shoulder-length hair diving head-first off the front of the

♠ Continues over page

ELECTRICAL SHOCKERS

a from previous page

orthettru pit onto the heads of the As he's coming off the upper one of

As he is cooking of the stage, one of the bouscore is waiting at the image. For Joe. Whisley-breashed, he been see suches many from Séraminer's face: "Ah'ting points have ye e-dest."

The word in that the bouncers are

intending to come up to the decising-count to bear the band apart hash bean famil. They are detaced, however, by a young lady whom the threate datasegment have transplitfully been to search on the threater datasegment have stage and remove her clother and do elever tricks with bottler

Meanwhile, the band, Strummer with a buiste of lettowade in this right hand, breid for the car that's parked just a few yards away from the

ige-door ,As soon as they're mit the door Joe screamed at by kala who'd been is somewhered at the flucture by brewthers knoked into all the flucture by brewthers "Why'd you no' do anything to help us." I harmest a guy who way she areas on end kicked out four program diarrang the flavor matches." "Ye' be' jee" hig' egized pap ustris, "anarth anothers. Sitement, who'd there is sear-ative the gip over the very the fain had been treated, wevers both and compensed friends the both of exampensed friends the trood. Instantly his varies are grobbed by riso analorised cops who we appeared from nowhere. As he's denged our into the road, both uniformed and plaunifothers copy appear to extremely from every cruck, in the prevention. Strummer, who'd tues on tear

Simonon moves in to assempt so drug Strummer free ... which is

and and manages to slop away and get beck up into the dressing-room wher Bernie Rhodes, the band's manager,

Berwie Rhedes, the band's unanager, is entertainmag un Auereian promotes who thaustation he's never seen anything like the access he's just sixtnessed inside the theater. Misk house, admapped energian state of total stock by some fina, who shoughe both limited the provides (filled streets hand) the following the limited of the limited to the limited of the limited to the limited to the limited of the limited to the limited to the limited of the limited to the limited

Strummer, ONE of his furthed properties replaced with a guitar strang, and

Semonous spend the night in the cells. "The people inside", sups Semonous later, "The people inside", sups Semonous and ni-dung, they really tracked to green. Giving use doy-ently und superior. Giving use doy-ently und superior. A contain new name spiret is maintained by the arrested push faire spending wheth of the sight is naping clovers after dorters of "The covers of the people of the sight is naping.

chorus after chorus of "The Prinone", the B-side of "(White Man) In Flamonorionish Palais" Contrary to the fears of those waiting for the jaint back of the hore),

neither Jost nor the bassist have son rough a time of it down the police rough a trace of it down the police utation—additionally in Jon points out, "Just in we were leaving for the last time one of the ongs or the flags resid to the one in charge of out, "Elow come you dout" for the may "A re you reformed or something?"

"So I suppose they could'te done that. But it there is refore they could'te.

The manistrates own where the pair appear the sent morning — both me on treach of the peace charges, with Saturaton also charged only. -omething like "attempting to free a prisoner" — reeks of austere, tiled Soutish Culvinian.

emphid eighty-year-old drunks, 18-year-old bookers — have been led betwee the alagistrate for him to sharpton his wit on, Saturativer,

sharpen his wit al. Stransmer, appearing studies his red it state of foreigh Abilition, is called to so estimate in Stransmer's quote So estimate in Stransmer's quote called the stransmer's quote called the stransmer in Stransmer's quote called the stransmer in Stransmer's quote called the stransmer in Stransmer in

"Yeah, sir." Foc snaps back

enty. "What is the nume of your group" requiries the magnitude.
"Vuls Clark." For enunciones

proudly,
"How appropriate," fittern the
entagistrate, just like he's seen them do
it is court-room means as the mayors.

Both Strummer and Supposen, whose approximate is assorbing of a replay of Ice's, pleud guilty. (Hey Joe, how come Paul pleaded guilty when he was quite obviously uncount? "Con I sold lum to. So we

rould get on to Aberdeen".)
For a fined £25, whilst Paul, who must be especially punished for young

NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS

retors or expressibly postenhed for gross to the cannibation of a french, has each leaves the conert to pay their finite, the hard some processor exchanged and first soe, their final, beauto the land of broad marks that the bod hidds in class othersys used to have on the first of the first the bod hidds in class of them to the bod hidds in class of their sole. the bot lide in draw ofways used to have on tap for walking buch to their have on tap for walking buch to their deaths after they'd just how slippered in front of the whale furth. In the street outside the down far the twice outside the down Maybe it with mentals calling this tour 'Clark On Parole'."

A LTIPOLIGH HE BELLEVES historial to have "tecrable with words" and had equal difficulty actions up. Cloth beautor Paul Satomore an exceptly for more Satisfaction in actually fas more articulate than the average rock

National Albertains and group founder Mark Jones, Statement upon the early years of his childhood in Briston, South London. Also the Jones, the

South Lentine. Also the fonce, the basals is the president of a foother standing the standing th

the distance point one one of your particular way of the patients and capital distance and capital distance and capital distance and capital distance and capital distance. The patients are weeken with just one fibrands fair. The patients with just one fibrands fair was a compared to the patients of th perfect David Bonde Indialitie, and sind-stoned for the rule of lead singer by roughing that words "ill its a roudewater. I'm a roudemaner" over and over for even expected small be too lead to stone. Catter, Jorna Golded him up again and other for units of the wanted in the lead to the lead of the lead of

the boss player in a new group by was. forming then be (Jones) would seach

nam
Since existing up the boss and joining
The Clash. Simoson feels his drawing
and planning have suffered. "But
then," he says, pouring me out a cup of test, "This getting better on the best that simplicity from dimining and pointing to bissoptaying: to say an instructible amount with just one flewing line of notes just like

Leonardo uned to palat."

Locundo Da Vinai, in fact, is one Anotherous has visini, in the cit, in one of Paul Simonium's major influentaria. All the wasted to du when he were to the Hyun Sha o may to fought from to draw cars and lowest-blacker "in the style of Loronando". Going into the bod-woost of his flat so get me a Chish dut poster, he shows me one of his paintings, a starte, seaster our dump with (almost a Clash clicke) the Wortway as buckground.

Westway to buckground.
Solutions bears has been tackvirged by playing along with The Remonte. We british and regain exceep, Although a sholithead in his early seems, he closus he over-a aready got too their field quest of Politis-bushing, through he didn't blanch of going through he didn't blanch of going through the court Politish and the politic bushing. Durving down Polistans

supermittien, though, were victed West Endians, though, were victed very differely, "When I win at school in South London I used to always want to be senter with the hardest buls no school. So I and get to figure 'eas

the black, "Asymy, I sucd so have all that Deep Purple and flavol wind stuff and jank lases to regger 'out I was a shiphest. Those regger secretar really used to say a fost our. Some of shore really size of cot."

As in Englash bassist who docata's shiph harmed a rively lasts, by the simp flat character and of the same of the manner.

find chrosers stateded to easive and dance about by the make, Snitonom is sottething of an econociast. And that's just for starters, "I must to be able to stick the ham belond my meet

and play it like Juni Menders, played the gorne Really also see its storm. Show people all the possibilities that it

Show people all the possibilities share it in a late semilective, but the late is a temperature of the late of the

A H YES, THAT CLASH
Parver Of Excellence that is
the prime reason for my being

Sittomore, in fact, it about to play the the rough tapes of some of the new material The Class bave recorded for their next E.P., the record for which the group have been in the studies bying down tracks more lim

After the shighty shortive alliance with Lee Perry — apparently whole when he was a support of the property of

ereflert fiham mental definition — and become A Reck. Bland.
Not put any road hands, newly you, Sendred, it is probable than raight arow the world. The hundred of the post year of the world. The hundred of the post year — (enfant), the iright secured productor, the constant frictions herveen the hand and record oreappray und. It appears, while that management loar, prisk Joe Samusqueritient loar, while Joe Samusqueritient loar, while Joe Samusqueritient loar, while Joe Samusqueritient loar, while Joe Samusqueritient loar that was the service of the Joe Samusqueritient loar was the service while Joe Samusqueritient loar was the Joe Samusqueritient loar of Joe

who are trying so restants frue to what he sees in the essential spirit of

Being an sauc with The Clash. Being do tour with The Clath, though, you do grandaully being no nee the bornd in they needs to see the ment of the control in they needs to see the ment of the thought of the they will be the seen and Strummer view it, fake Peckengan's yourse of the Waveern outlaw in The Wald fain and, the locars

Institution of another sine.

Except what to The Clark's case they are not machinesses but she comments of bester times. The odvance guards, the entirements of the New Age when Babylon's flaks hold on rock mone (and on bile) will finally

movif CLASH now suppear to be approximating the foliate from Although conte of them has been us go a left as it should have been. The Clash have put out a title of classic ingles in the subversibe "Complete" Control," their very own group another as "Classic Complete, and the control of the

in in the equate tapes Senionou play All the mulicotions are that when The Clark do has by release their second alboro it will be a reck money

India at.
Faries/arty neable are:

"Safe European Home", Written



OURINE VING UP TO Glasgow from the Manchemer pigs — in addition to the acheduled Sunday the stee date, The Clash also Standard vincore; carret, the Cana anno-played in hecter) figure a Restern Club-the following day — Neter Lovers and I have the choice of either a very crashined our or the wonder of British Rail Fases City.

As Jah han specially detayed the Denail Seed of the Canada Seed of t

after Strummer und Hones Freetmed ut England from beth rep to Domaina Hongland by Beth rep to Domaina Hongland by Beth rep to Possible and Hongland by Beth rep to Possible and Hongland by Beth rep to Hones for the Hones for th

Clerk number to be as authored by al-the band. Details the

the band. Details the Sciences/Headon ageous-shooting incident, of which both Mich Jones and I hearthy disapprove, 4 "Stay Free." A Most The Houple-lake authors written and sang.

20cmpte-like definite written intil san-citizely by Jones, about the gang he-was at a Chitol. A great, stering number that doubt be a Top Fee-stagic hit serie is not for the number of four-fetter woods.

* "Tommy Gose" An optempo-tecture, as they were over described, then follow the monators in consense four

tocker, in they were core described, than is fast becoming an instange fave Mone of the Syrins seem decigherable. Other intoo? "Julie's in The Drug Squail", "Croury Thors Are Here Again", "Scrivel On The Batherson" "One Ensistent "Scrivel On The Batherson" "One Ensistent "Cheapthates."

As Jah has specially detaped the Royal Scot by nearly vus thouse, see park it up at Preston tabree missakes start drought-ring from the commuter times that be unglet us Proin Manchester.

Thus returned that we arrive of the hotel in Glangow at exacely site, same number of site cost of the band,

thereby distinuing manager Bernie Rhodes' trust that Junes was only Rhodes I until that Joines may only investing this way to the "flush", and shat he would inevitably came that strong's show so be delayed. The group founder, Jones, the Schools and Stremmer, is a product

of the English art schroot system.
While the chythen section, and

where the thy lith accoon, and particularly the benius, provide the realy primal punk aspects of The Cutah, the anatral cope of the group's being appears to emanate from Jones, with Strummer operating us on

external expression of float scal. (It is increasing to once that although Stemanor on Both for super — Loo and Supertures on Both for superior — Both Source and Headon are Contress, it waster sign. Though logisally one might exprect from Though logisally one might exprect for exercise on the fire, it seems from the contract of the seems of removable to corresp that that indefinable water testion within The

enaconatus warm sensius within the Clinth is a direct result of this natrological themsety.) Setting both in the empty dising-our which we've found, Jones craftes an entipty Colle con on his realis hand and soldoquees on his south.
"Rock a roll really in an are form -the most emmodiate there is, the most sold in terms of practing out to the

But maybe one day if this off. becomes districtlying I negle go linels to passting. Though it is one of the most introverted existences there is.

"Every ritorising when you get up and go and look at what you've don the pervious day, in those moments row almost have to examine every raport of your life. And if you're s parater — or an artist of any sort, come to that — shen it's a full-time

custorine
"I've no patience with people who
claim to be arther and then just refla
about It. Just got on with it. whoseever
you're doing."
Sandy Pearlitum, Jones tells me,
just appraised so "arrive" one day.

Above-PACE SMONON and friend

"There's definitely some inner magic carde — whether consistent may range carde — whether consistent are offinitivian — within coch in roll. We be consumited of emission of this. From server to have been every server to have been every server to the capit poth, so sell us to be on the right poth, so sell us to be on the man.

heep it up.
"I think Pearlinus definitely and in un of the possibilities of that filed wile of rock in out. He introductly written to see in an another grounds to that he really souted to do with the Blue Oyster Cult, He knows the Cult don't scally sho it. And the knows we know it, non."

Working with Pearlman largus to

appear numerising like the Grand Quest. Which is usely as far as the U.S. division of CBS is concerned; The Quest For A 16st Album.

The Overs For A 166 (Album).

As the producer bias laboured in laboured in laboured in laboured in laboured in the laboured in laboured in the laboured in the laboured in the laboured the progress. As the tapes have been played back to these upwardly mobile purpose ment to these upwarely stabilists young ment, it has sometimes been receively for all four members of The Clank to be present in order to have chough people obughing and

♦ Continues over page

CLASHOCK

From previous page

dropping books on the floor when particularly subversive or obscene lyrics came through the speakers. Towards the end of the sessions.

Peaclman became increasingly reactiman became increasingly anxious over leaving what it seems he had begun to regard as Sandy's Perfect Studio Album in the hands of the band for the final mixing — particularly as they'd already been bitching about the cleanliness of the sound and expressing a desire to murk it up somewhat.

sound and expressing a desire to re-it up somewhat.

Matters reached something of a head shortly before Pearlman flew back to the States just prior to the tour. At a Blue Oyster Cult party thrown by CBS, Topper Headon placed a large cake on the head of the wife of Blue Oyster Cult's "gnome guitarist" Bock Dharma. Unfortunately the cakes gunarist Plock Drarma.
Unfortunately the cake somehow
slipped and splattered all over the
good lady's head, with the result that
several Cult roadies were on the brink

of tearing Topper to pieces. Not so Pearlman, however. He knew who was the graf culprit turned to me and said, 'You put the eye on him, didn't you? You made him do that, didn't you? "grins a somewhat benused Mick Jones.

HE ROCK AGAINST Racism (estival in Hackney once again appeared to put The Clash in a

these bands who're into pulling loads of girls backstage obviously can't be fulfilling their full potential when

fulfilling there to a put they're performing.
"Mind you," he admits, "all of this band are a right bunch of studs. I was the only one who slept on his own fact

"But we do try and treat them with respect. In some ways we're probably the first group to ever do that. And it's quite difficult: making them realise that you really are a human being is something of a necessary strain in the job. It's quite understandable, though. When I first met musicians I never saw them as

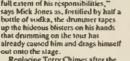
just people.
"But I think a lot of people are
"But I think a lot of people are

bett rining a receipt are keeping their eyes on us. Waiting for it to crack. So it can't, of course, "Listen, somewhere we played the other day there was some girl showing us the bruises this other band had given her. "I mean, where's that at?"

I mean, where's that at?"

LMOST EXACTLY twelve hours later Mick and I are Abuny Hotel in Glasgow, drinking whisky and smoking and recovering from the police aggre that's ensured neither foe nor Paul will be using their rooms tonight.

Mick, who has been unfairly criticised for being a poseur by people



sistements and his knyalties to the group.

"He's beginning to understand the full extent of his responsibilities," says Mick Jones as, fortified by half a bottle of vodka, the drummer tapes up the hideous bisters on his hands that drumming on the tour has already caused him and drags himself out onto the stage.

Replacing Terry Chimes after the first LP had been completed, Hendon joined The Clash just in time for the White Riot tour in the spring of last year. A karate freak—in Manchester Strummer spends his last sixteen quid in the HMV shop on a Bruce Lee import that he knows Topper ought to have—his musical pedigree includes having played with Pat Travers.

He now seems a totally integrated member of the band.

having played with Pat Travers. He now seems a totally integrated member of the band. The vibe at the Clash theatre dates is akin to what it once seemed only. The Faces were capable of attaining a warm, positive empathy between performer and audience in which no one person's contribution is any more one person's continuation is any more or any less vial than anyone else's. Except that The Faces only attained that level on about one in every ten gigs — and beneath that superficial empathy there always seemed to exist a subtly disguised contempt for their availables.

audience.

The Clash get up there every night.

Moreover, their sound, which in
the past has frequently been errafe to
say the very least, has now been
sorted out to an extent where you
know this is a big league rock band
you're witnessing and not some mere
experiment in anarchic creative

experiment in anarchic creative situations.

The set is about 50/50 old and new material — which, considering the paradoxically reactionary nature already evident in certain of the hardcore punk fans, is brave indeed.

And almost always it works.

After the first number — which I think is generally "Complete Control", although that might be complete mental aberration — you get (not necessarily in this order) "Tommy Gun", "Bang Bang," (featuring Mick Jones Ron Wood-like runs across the stage), "Capital Radio", the splendid "Stay Free", a "Police And Thieves" that frequently segues into a verse of "Bitzkrieg Bop", plus the one that reculy seems to confuse them, "When Johnny Cones Marching Home". The Clash also play "Cheapskates" and "London's Burting" and "White Riot" (generally as the encore) and "Janic Jones" and "Clash City Rockers" and, of course, the superth (White Man) In Hammersmith Palas". Plus several others that I've temporarily forgotten.

It's no wonder really that the kids at the front always seem into trashing the hall. The chemical fusion onstage

the front always seem into trashing the hall. The chemical fusion onstage the hall. The chemical fusion onstag is producing near-nuclear possibilities. After all, all influences duly considered. The Clash really di produce the best, the warmest, the most involving, the most enjoyable rock in roll shows I've ever seen.

Indeed, there were even rash moments during the quite magnificent Aberdeen gig when I start hallocinating that The Clash really were the '70s Beatles.

NTHE WAY BACK to the Precadily Motel in Manchester after Jones and Strummer had been out scoring some sounds — Jones had bought cassettes of Peter Tosh's "Legalise it", Al Green's "Let's Stay Together", Neil Young's "On The Beach" and Randy Newman's "Little Criminals" — we pass a piece of Manchester United graffin which, via an intelligent usage of paint, has transmuted into MU...NF. "About the best piece of art-work "About the best piece of art-work NTHE WAY BACK to the

MU...NF.
"About the best piece of art-work
they'll ever manage," snarls
Strummer sibilantly through the gap

Strümmer sibilantly through the gap in his front teeth.
A couple of hours later Mick Jones, Mary (the fan-club secretary, who's distraught at having only been given £15 by the Clash's management to \$15 by the Clash's management to form the band's appreciation society), and I are sitting up in Joe's room watching a highly emotive World In Action expose on the pucrile match fantasies of the Front, when a slightly tense version of the Strummer hip rockabilty gunslinger strolls in. He stands soowling at the programme for maybe two or three minutes.

"Did you talk to Bernie about all "Did you talk to Bernie about all these problems with the fan-club?" enquires Jones, as Mary disappears into the bathroom. In a sudden spasm of rage, Joe takes a penalty kick at the wastepaper

basket, a cassette just misses my head, and the band's onstage frontman storms out, followed shortly after by Jones who gools him down and discovers that the reason Joe's and discovers that the reason Joe's uptight is because he's been told he's going to have problems getting kids in to the Rafters gig for nothing. As a matter of fact, this Strummer incident is somewhat atypical—

although, in typical Leonine manner, he goes over the top a couple of times more in the next few days. In the Glasgow Apollo dressing-room he grabs by the throat a fan who is berating him for not having done more to stop the bouncers (this is perhaps a salutary lesson for the fanciater it is he who leads Mick Jones through the streets away from the police). But the days when those close to the hand would tell you that "the real problem in The Clash is Joe Strummer", the days when Joe would be found lying drunk in the gutter outside. Dingwalls with rain-water although, in typical Leonine manner, outside Dingwalls with rain-water washing into his mouth, now seem to be over.

washing into his mouth, now seem to be over.

The occasional losses of control on the road are purely due to The Pressure, mon.

In the past, though, as Joe himself admits, they were down to "the demon drink" — a problem which was solved when his bout of hepatinis earlier in the year obliged him to tay off the booze altogether for the next six months if he didn't want a permanently weakened liver.

"It doesn't half make you lose your friends, though, not going down the pub," he laughs. He also vigoroosty denies that the hepatitis was due to any ingestion of impure stimulating powders. Cocaine he considers to be "complete muck. If you snort ook you're in on your own. You don't want anybody and you don't need anybody. Which is a horrible place to be."

Joe has a very powerful aura about

him. Onstage, he never smiles. This hard man stage persons, like the pre-hepetitis love of booze, may well be an extension of the beligerent Scotsman within him. His mother is Scottish and he claims that the sound Scottish and he claims that the sound of baggipes renders him most emotional. (Jones, incidentally, is also a half-Celt—bis mother is Welsh whilst his father is Jewish.)

He is also, as are all The Clash, a

Miss taster is Jewish.

He is also, as are all The Clash, a very sensitive and perceptive bloke, though not necessarily a near-intellectual in the same way that Jones certainly is.

When he was about 18 (he's 25 now) and just getting set to leave the minor public school in Epsom to which his parents had sent him (and where they told him he wasn' "university material", which is how he ended up going to Central Art School in London for a year before deciding it was a waste of time). Joe's brother committed suicide.

Although he comments no further than that "it happened at a pretity crucial time in my life," it seems certain that this event had a significant bearing in creating Joe

certain that this event had a significant bearing in creating Joe Strummer, ally of the powers of positivism and light.

His brother, 18 months older than Joe, was a member of the National Front and was obsessed with the occult. In every way he seems to have been Joe's opposite. "He was such a nervous guy that he couldn't bring himself to talk at all. Couldn't speak

to anyone.
"In fact, I think him committing saicide was a really brave thing to do. For him, certainly. Even though it was a total cop-out."

ELEANS BACK on the bed-head in his Aberdeen hotel room. It's two in the morning and we're both pretty done in. All the time, he tells me, underlining what Mick had said earlier in the day, he haves acting signs — whether in the keeps getting signs — whether is form of actual emissaries or loss

form of actual emissaries or less tangible incidents — that he, and this band, are on the right path.

"I go in for that mumbo jumbo a lot myself." he smiles, "Like, when me and Mick went to Jamaica I was quite convinced we were going to die. At Heathrow someone dropped this ketchup all over the floor in front of us—and then we get there and we're driving through Trenchtown and I glance up at this wall and just see this one word: BLOOD.

"Mind you, nothing happened at all like that, and when I got back I thought." What a lot of time I wasted worrying."

worrying"."

Jamaica, mind you, was not a

particularly pleasant experience for the pair, who went over to JA kitted out as hard-line punks. Instead of welcoming them, black Jamaleans were calling them "white pigs" in the street. Unable to find anyone connected with the music scene— they spent their last Jamalean dollars on an abortive cab ride looking for Lee Perry's place—they stuck Lee Perry's place — they stuck themselves away in their botel rooms with a load of ganja and got down to

riting songs. Didn't they think they might look

Didn't they think they might look somewhat provocative; "Sure," Strummer smirks. "We fuckin' went out on the streets dressed to the mines. We thought we'd show 'em where it was at." He laughs. "Cos they all like looking sharp, too. "Boy, we got some funny looks. Sometimes when it got a bit heavy we'd pass ourselves off as merchant seame."

seamen.

Of course, one of the contradictions within The Clash is that all the warmth and positivism are hermred in by overthy aggressive imagery — and here I'm thinking of the "White Man" here I'm thinking of the "White gun logo, the militaristic stage backdrops, even the song titles: "Tommy Gun", "Guns On The

Roof"
"It keeps coming up, doesn't it?"
"Strummer nods. "I think it's just a reflection of what's out there. I really do think we are a good force, but we're dealing with the world and those images are just a reflection of what it is."

what it is."

Strummer first recalls singing

"When Johnny Comes Marching
Honse" as a kid in singing lessons at
school. Rather than being about the
American Civil War, as is the original, The Clash's version is subtitled "The English Civil War"

subtitled "The English Civil War".
"It's already started," says Joe
matter-of-facity, "Sure it has. There's
people attacking Bengalis with clubs
and firing shotguns in
Wolverhampton.

Volverhampton . . .
"What really gets me is it's a "What really gets me is it's so-o-or respectable to be right-wing. All those hig geezers in the Monday Club will probably switch over to the Front if they start making any headway. That's what happened in Germany— they turned round and said. 'Oh yeah, I've been a Nazi all along, mate. "It's a pity when the skint go out on the ramnage, that they don't and nown.

the rampage, that they don't go down the House of Commons and smash

the House of Commons and smash that place up.
"Any time there's any urban disturbances they always occur on the poor areas of town. Why don't they happen in the rich areas? More things would get smashed up if they did.
"If it's in London it's always in either the East End or in Notting Hill.

Or it's in Belfast or in Londonderry -they're like bomb-sites, the slums out

"You know, I was in Notting Hill the other day and I was walking alon and I saw that all of Tavistock Crescent is gone. And they used to seem to really know how to build houses fit for human beings to live in

houses fit for human beings to live in in those days.

"I mean, round by Westbourne Park Road these real egg-boxes have suddenly sprung up from behind the corrugated iron. Which is just brutal. I'd like to blow the head off the guy who designed those — or, better still, force him to live in it."

ESPITE HIS serious intent. ESPITE HIS serious intent.
Strummer agrees that many
Clash listeners seem to miss of
on the humour in their lyrics. I tell
him that there are certain tracks on the first album that make me burst out laughing everytime I hear them. "Yeah," he smiles. "I think some

"Yeah," he smiles. "I think some of it's really hysterical stuff. We all used to burst out laughing too, when we first started playing them ..." Mick Jones has told me that he finds it a strain when people try to look on the band as evangelists...

"Yeah, that's a bore. Just a load of old crap. I think you've always just got to be grateful for what you've achieved and then just try and achieve

achieved and then just try and achieve some more."

But why do you think you've got to that position where people think The Clash have The Answer?

"We give 'em good stuff. That's all. There aren't that many other groups around doing it. Sham's doin' it. So's The Sites and Stoutsie."

So look: it's merity two years on from when the band first started. How does it feel now?

"I could've told you the answer without hearing the question. We're a good group. That's the only answer.

"And when you're in a good group you feel good."



position of conflict with other hands

position of conflict with other bands.

"We said we didn't warm to top that
bill." Jones shakes his head. "We just
wanted to be part of it.

"And then backstage there were nit
these numbers going down with Tom
Robinson's management—and
someone turned the power down on
us and made sure the PA wasn't
working mercents."

working properly.
"But," he node with a smile, "when

"But," he nods with a smile, "when we went onstage the sun started sharing, so obviously the forces must have been with us.

"However, there are so many groups who do treat their fam as if they're complete rubbish. I can't think of many groups at all who really still care.

think of many groups at all who ready still care.

"Who is there? Well, we haven't given up. Neither have The Skits either. Nor Generation X. I certainly don't think John Rotten's given up

don't think John Rotten's given up.
Nor Jimmy Pursey.
Actually, I don't think Keith Richard
ever gave up really. Mick Jagger
certainly did, though."
We talk for a few minutes about the
new material. Joe had told me that
the anthem-like new number, "Stay
Free", was about a friend of Jones'
whom I'd met on several occasions in
his role or dilbutante incumality.

which I o frect ones reveral occasions in his role as dilettante journalist. "It's not just about him," the guitarist says. "It's about all my gang in Brixton. That guy's the lucky one — he's escaped. "Two of the others both work in butchers, shope and are in the

butchers' shops and are in the National Front. Twenty-three and

National Front. Twenty-three and they're in the Front.
"I don't not talk to them because of that, though. I go and see them. Show them what I've done. Show them the possibilities.
"You know," he free-associates, "I'd

seems to me there are only three types of possible relationships:
master-pupil, or pupil-master, or —
and this is the really rare one that I've had about twice — a one-to-one
relationship where you both help each
other. That's the one to quest for,

'Actually, I've been reading a lot about organe energy lately. I've suddenly started realising that all of

"Hey, Joe — turn back a page. You don't know what you're missing,

who don't seem to understand that a certain dedication to looking sharp

certain dedication to looking sharp and stylish has always been an integral aspect of rock 'n' rollers, demonstrates a vision all too rare among rock 'n' rollers.

"You know when Joe was going over the top a bit in the dressing room tonight?" he asks through tight lips. "Well, the first reason that he could offer for those kids getting hurt in the Apollo was that it was all because of his giant ego, all because of his giant ego, all because of his consessive need to appear onstage. "Except that it's not that at all. Totally the reverse, in fact.

"I sometimes really do wonder if someone hasn't set out to get us. "But then, everytime you start

someone hasn't set out to get us.
"But then, everytime you start
thinking that maybe the answer is not
to play at all. I start noticing all those
strange things which we can't put
down to just coincidence. Like the
train today, or talking about that guy
from Melody Maker and then be
walks through the door.
"Coincidence, maybe. But there's
too many of them. It really does seem
sometimes like there's someone out
there carine for us.

sometimes like there's someone out there caring for us.

"Joe understands all that, too. That's why it really is something of a strain sometimes. Like living out your destiny everyday."

NEIGHT DAYS I see The Clash play six gigs — two of them, in Fulham and at Rafters in

Futham and at Raffers in Manchester, totally unscheduled and slotted in the day before the gig because the band found they had the time and the facilities to play.

The Raffers gig is notable not only for not being sold out ("Not only is it a return to playing club dates, but a return to playing club dates, but a return to go out—makes sure you keep your perspective," says Jones), but also for a certain drama involving Topper Headon and a girl — a situation that puts him in a position

TALKING HEADS More Songs About Buildings And Food

THE DEEPER you dig.

"THE DEFFER you dig.

Nick Kent talks about
"Talking Heads, "77".
"Things are entirely what
they appear and, behind
them, there is nothing —
Jean-Paul Sartre in

them, there is nothing — jean-Paul Sartre in Nausea, '32.
"It takes a lot of time to push away the nonsense. I've heard all I want to, I won't listen any more" — David Byrne on "Talking Heads '77".

I STUMBLED across the I STUMBLED across the mystery girl last week. She's in the bottom ten of the Top 50, I believe, with the best single ever made. It's called "Shame" and it's

on RCA.

Her name is Evelyn
"Champagne" King and I
don't know what she looks
like, where she's from, if she thinks she's probably a pretty, tupenny ha penny Muppett parrot-ing a pair of murky discom-posers (Fitch and Cross, anyone?). Nevertheless she has manufactured a monu-ment in the history of music, and said monument was practically wedded to our turntable.

So, substituting the latest Talking Heads sculpture for this beauty, the needle must have felt like Marilyn must have felt like Marilyn Monroe losing Joe DiMag-gio for Arthur Miller; ostensibly trading in the thick brawn for the sensi-tive brain, actually losing the dumb genius for the stultifying intellect.

From amazingly pretentious

Frum amazingly pretentious sleeve — photomosaics of Talking Heads (using 529 close-up Potaroids) and the Big Country (using 569) — and crumby, cynical title onwards I was lost in sheer space. Talking Heads call themselves after the US television jargon for a head-and-shoulders entertainer, thus making themselves enignatic and in need of explanation to us English buffoons. Tafking Heads are blinding you with words and, to a lesser extent, with their nationality — as all the other American new wave the other American new wave the other American new wave bands are so bruzenly doing these days. French girls, Rastafarians, and now Ameri-can artists — it's noculous when people turn their nation-ality into an art. "I'm Yankee — buy me." Rock and roll, so blinded by all thoses silk American formiter

Rock and roll, so blinded by all those silly American frontier myths, reminds me of those wet Britisht girls who used to chase after Gls, squealing for a pair of stockings. English rock fans realty look up to America and all its pretty trash; there isn't one "hip" middle-class. English kid who doesn't at one time or another wish he'd had to claw his way up from Hell's Kitchen.

Talking Heads are Sire's best-sellers — but that's not much because in America all



The Heads at home — the bit these white middle-class bellyachers aren' exotic at all, they're just middly successful citizens. Whatever Tafking Heads have over those other bands comes from the Eact that they come from New England and two of them are married to each other.

Apparently, Tafking Heads weren't overfond of the sound achieved on their first album — that Chinese — water torture - on - a minrot clearcyed clarity — and happily handed over their reputation to Brian 'Ultravox' Eno. Impressionable young David Byrne — Lorelei Lee with an

art school degree? And for all you people who thought the lists album was 'underproduced' (I may not know music from snot, but I have a great ear for production), here's just what you wanted. That brassy, befuidled sound was employed so much better on Roxy Music's first. This is a dirty great panoramic Technicolour job with battles going on all over the show, Byrne's voice mixed right down into the oocksure Valkyrie, guitars and skidding own into the cocksure Valkyrie, guitars and skidding synthesizers. And cherubs hold up the sky! That Eno — talk about a tart in a trance! He

gets Talking Heads to do what none of his other friends would as he snaps at Byrne's heets, until the optimistic tension of the last album starts sounding like the diary entries of a harrassed housewife. When Byrne's not chipping, it could be any embarrassed punk band galloping along at full dope only to get it all over with. Despite this, it's an infinitely better representation of the sound they sink to five — busy, brazen and oneventful.

Their songs are not short stories; [Occ in their good days (and from whom Talking Heads seem to have lifted a

Pic: JOE STEVENS good deat) did them once and for all. Their songs are false as all helk, that's all, and David Byrne's much tasded 'adopted-persona's songs, sound fike glove puppets with no hand in them.

Afour starts off with the ineffectual, hornifically force-fed and cowhop-paced "Thank You For Sending Me An Angel", the title not so much reigmatic as a clumsy after-thought: 'Oh baby, you can walk / You can talk / Just like me!" Ingenously inhumane. me!" Ingenuously inhumane, but Dee D Jackson's done it all before: "You can look / Tell me what do you see / You can look / You won't see nothing like me!"It does not make a person meter it does not make a person motion awe; it sounds more like Bachman-Turner Overdrive trying to figure out "Pratric Rose".

"With Our Love" is nothing force than an east way to get

those than an easy way to get from A to C: "I look out the window and I call that educa-tion / And I see all my friends standing out there and / I call that education."

that education."

Byrne may feel that evading people is the only way to hold their interest, and he may well be right. His calculatedly obtuse couplets and riplets attempt to steer clear of standard rock excuses for plots by plumbing the dubitous depths of a style extant in American into the restriction. junk-literature for a lifetime: the great William Burroughs cut-up swindle.

cut-up swindle. The first record wasn't really like that. It was a positive record. Love, love, love, David's kicked the habit now, the hick. His songs increasingly get the reaction of the first album's unrepresentative "Psycho Killer", attempt menace, achieve irritation. Byrne, before sounding to superior to be supercitious, now sounds like Hryan Ferry and Lou Reed's tog-of-love offspring — especially on the pared down "Out Of The Blue" that is "Warning Sign": "Warning sign warning sign 1 hear it had I pay on mind hear my toice hear my toice I it's saying something and it's not very nice."

There are just two good The first record wasn't really

saying somedining and it's not sery nice."

There are just two good songs beee, "Girls Want To Be With The Girls" and "Found A Job", both catchy tunes that appeal to a person's vanity (that's note and color of those raindrop tunes that appeal to a person's vanity (that's note and cold.) "Girls" is one of those raindrop tunes that should have taken the place of "Psycho Kilber" on the first alburn: "Girla don't want to play like that I Just want to dalk to the boys I Just want to dalk to the boys I Just want to that it is the proper of the print want to be with the girls. "Found A Job" traces married tedium over a TV dinner, Byrne playing the strait-jacket case of "Pulled Up" Ehewhere they perform AI Green's parched "Take Me To The River" like people who've voted for the wrong politician and just realised it. The much tafked-about "Big Country" seems to me like a grossly sub-standard "Circling LA" (Macc Thor). It's long and whining, an artist type's worm's eye view of a healthy town: "I wouldn't live there if you poid me to!" bleats Byrne, the big Jessie.

These songs music consenses to one.

the big jexxic.

These sorigs are stooges.

Music to muse inclessly by,
music to muse inclessly by,
music to make hists to. Make of
it what you will, I'm firished.

Talking Heads seem like nicer
people and better entertainers
than Television, Ramones,
Mink De Ville and all, but 1
still put teeth under my pillow,
pull the chicken bone, you
know. I wish . . .

Take it to the fives drougit

Take it to the river, drop it in the water, go back home and play your copy of "Shame".

Alternatively, buy it, play it, put it next to the first Talking Heads record. That's enter-

tainment.
I've heard worse.

These Shirts (They Don't Wash)



THE SHIRTS The Shirts (Harvest)

THESE SHIRTS have been trumpeted as more New Tack from New Yack. The tale (ha ha) is one of CBGB's (yawn), no

Contract, non-compromise.
On the evidence of their debut it's hard to see exactly what The Shirts were ever what The Shirts were ever asked to compromise; unless that is, they have. Their music is pleasant, slightly kooky, rather wistful. Neither wry nor hard. They should be on some Said compliation Slightly psyched-like, slightly 1614, slightly Blondie — softly softly into the comparison delicatessen we pad. Arusic Goldten is a powerful singer, but unfortunately more Fanny

(you remember Fanny) than Runaway,
Constructions keep to the verge, rather a dull gloss, mostly very similar to Blondie's "Plastic Letters" but without that allowin's pollshed Farfisaln-the-"by blend of old and new or Debbie and gang's arc-lamp-alternoon appeal.
The Shirts try to play it casual, all straight, a kind of manic-depressive late-teems all straight, a kind of manic-depressive late-teems samp; the wild and the innocent up in the loft reading. Poe or making love, so on so forth. But The Shirts don't wash

(sorry). Their vongs are tableaux constructed so as to involve the writer! singer in the memory of inmatunity, that fainted innocence, innocence through a steamed-up window (lich lich). This device ain! northing new—from The Ranousers to Bran Paul Sartre, people have sought refuge in sollpishite systems—nanking, But ya gudia have charm to pull it off... The opener, "Redword To A Whisper", sounds like texchamation) Budgie, then sliding into Blondacss. Amire Golden's volce can actually be

ruther painful: a screechy upper register modelled to suit neither lyric one image. "Empty Ever After" is lethnipic, with the lyrical staying-power of Alka Seitzer: "But Fean technipe, to change for rearning only life 'So it fits your bill of goods". A deastcover for unexciding luminure. "Teenage Crusch" and "loth Floor Clown" wrap the assetves in sea, and obscuring respectively, but the petry is second-hand, there is no ceal feeling of retreat from life, or Life tiself, "Lonely Android" is silly, but not

Martian-Martian silly enough. A song which tries to cross Jefferson Starship and CP30.

What?
"Poe" is just as dull, falling, fo fact, to honour Baudelaire's teenage-crush, frailling a power-chord thrash-out. The Shirts give good titles: p'raps they should out The Ramones." quick even further, maan, and stick to titles and titles alone.

Another safe music in a different Dormobile. The mundane sticking like a leech to struggling, warm New music.

Gimme DANGER, you little Shirts.

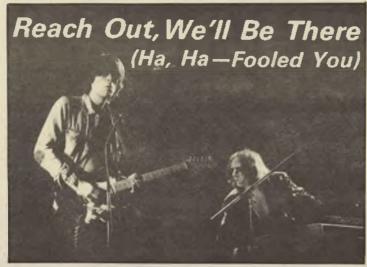
Ian Penns

Out Of Reach (Lightning) BEHIND ANOTHER. tangible but not always perceptible iron curtain — the tangled, intriguing, infuriating music of Can. It has circled for years. Over one compromise-hurdle after another: an abridged

Ob, the crystalline silence:

cyclone.

Ob. the crystalline silence:
the circunistances: the
industry. Forever a cold, harsh
morning, forever warm and
loving. The prevalent mood is
melancholy. When she moved:
... ob, when she moved:
... ob, when she moved:
... this a nervous angel.
We never receive the best of
Cas on record. At least not
yes, francially, the caucial
pracess set off by "Saw
Delight" reaches what would
seen to be penultimate
realisation within "Out Of
Reach". Just.
The album reconciles the
two sides of Can. With songs,
reptilian, Eastern, dream-clear
songs. And with the
open-ended search, their long
improviantory pieces. The light
pours out of both.
"Serpentine" is a meander
within condines. Michael
Karoll's guifar is a rushing,
pievelag breeze-glide, Irmin
Schmidt's acoustic plano a



Cansters Michael Karoli and Irmin Schmidt: Two for the dark road, Pic: PAUL CANTY

tush, clinging nest beneath. Rocko Gee's leass a slurs, shrugged-it-off, tense and torpid, meticulous and oblique (the epitome of latter-day

Can). Rebop's percussion is perpetual dice and stream as Schmidt and Gee tug the initial theme along, Jaki Liebezett's drums humming, clicking.

Essential, equivocal, not always perceptible. It is brief, the sensation pure, modul pop. Likewise Gee's "Pauper's Daughter"—

hopping, disco-plunder merge of Gee's soft disco-jazz confluence and Karoll's frightening, interse playing: the malevolent, hollow, the malevorem, nonon, struggling side of the Can-muse locked within Can-muse locked within popular structure. The lyrics have lost old indulgence. Music and lyric work as one, wherean in the past the two dialogues were often at odds. Gee's curling vocals ghost into

Gee's curling vocals phost into the purring, pure-neon mobility of the structure. Songs which do not caress sentiment: they go straight for the nerves, the durkness of the beant. "Novembee" is an evocation of a dark, atmospheric month. (The prevalent mood of the whole athum is one of melanicholy; it should have been released in autumn, neuthalos). A feeling, not surprisingly, of moving into abadiova and not emerging again.

into abadows and not emerging again.

An inflection of warmth rendy to snap, love ready to hote (always left that way with Can?) — abstract lyrical.

"Seven Days Awake" (great title) is "November" bent even title) is "November" bent even marrher south — can't tell the nalrage from the trieze. Knroll's rentoraeless morse-expressionism is even lawentive, bites, shivers, gulps. An exorcism. Schmidh's plano is (ec)esatic, dotted round the circumference.

is (expassic, dotted round the circumference.

"Ne Roses" is mearly, precisely, a bailed. What could have been a "new Can song", we must now whistle at vullight. Gee is the man behind the combine here, the one with the pop sensibility: "Send me no roses, tell me no lies."

"Like INOBE GOD" is how to picture the exit (a fine).

"Like INOBE GOD" is have to picture the exit (a final instalment of the Ethnological Forgery Serles?). An elluir, Delicious, fine spun. Crickets-singing, silver-blue, pure busann joy and andness. Tenrs fall.
"One fifere Duy" seems almost a play on the title, such is mood and execution thireally). What Con were all about: structured such that

about: structured such that play might be limitless. Yet it is a stab, no more. A shooting star. The demise. Suddenly, no

(Meantimes, both Rosko and Rebop have left Can since
"Out Of Reach" was recorded
— Well Cannected Ed.)

RADIO BIRDMAN

Radios Appear (Sire)

Radios Appear (Sire)
SUN AND sand and surfin'
but not the corny Orstralian
typecasts of brunzed lifeguards
on Bondi beach. This is the
pop noise of a new Australian
generation, treading in the
footsteps of The Saints at their
loudest and most uninhibited
but sounding more like a badly
produced MCS.
There's a balance between

There's a balance between the short redioplay hops and the longer, anguer pieces. The overall impression is of an American album coming from the wrong side of the world: most of the originals are the work of Deniz. Tek, the Michigan-born guitarist, but they all hypass the pomposity and contrived self-importance which has characterised the bulk of US rock since the late 66b.

'60s.
"What Gives?" launches with a flash of drums before with a flash of drums before the rifting and two-phrase chorus. The singer's over-eager and breathless so you can't hear the words, but it's only the noise that matters at this stage. Rannosic in its unsubtlety. With the instru-mental break it's a refreshing relief to notice that Ptp Hoyle's criping knobards are respect.

menial break it's a retresion relief to notice that Pip Hoyle's piping keyboards are respectably prominent in the mix, very unusual for music of this sort.

The second bout opens with my favourite piece. I like it because it's the most easily accessible and your don't need blonic ears to hear what's going on. It's "Aloha Sieve And Danno," a touching tribute to that most plastic of TV fantasies Hawaii Five-O. First there's the rolling waves, then the surfaing drums. The verses are flashes from the show, interspersed with thanks to Steve and Danno over Beach Boy harmonies. There's only one revival on

Beach Boy harmonies.

There's only one revival on the record and it comes as splash of familiarity before the dark closing sequence. It's The Thirteenth Floor Elevators' "You're Gooma Miss Me"; taken at violent speed with guitars straining in falsetto harmony.

This is a very loud and confident debut album from a virtually unknown band, bursting with energy and infectious ideas.

There's enough good humour, passion and rock and roll feeling, though, to give this album its own identity and style, and to make the appear-ance of the Birdmen more than welcome

Kim Davis

QUARTZ Quartz (Pye)

DESPITE the excessively phallic sleeve with its paedophile's pin-up. Quartz are just another limp blaco act, with no suggestion of bizarre sexual preferences in their music.

music.
The whole of the first side is taken up with a mercifully brief cut named somewhat immodestly after the hand, "Quartz". This opus sounds like a cross hand are Resturent, and the

estly after across between Kraftweek and the Ray Conniff Singers. Weird.
The second side consists of three instrumentals. Donnas Summer bocking tracks without Donna Summer. As for musical ideas, this band can hardly be accused of trying to set quartz into piut pots. If get quartz into pint pots. If even a fluid ounce of adventalin went into this set, it was most definitely squandered

Rab Edward

ALL ABOUT" (Mercury) horalds a return to form for Esther Phillips.

"ALL ABOUT" (Mercury) horalds a return to form for Esther Phillips.
"You've Come A Long Way, Buby", her first Mercury release—still an import only item—proved something of a disappointment. Though it contained a strong version of Yan Morison's "Into The Mystle", a welcome once-nore-around-the-block for Dhinah Washington and one of Esther's powerhouse bluesbusters in "You've Been A Good Ole Wagon", the unimaginative, production-line, discontentments of such oldies as "If I Loved You" and "My Prayer", allied to some other dult materiel and lacktustre arrangements by Pee Wee Ellis, did the former sister of Synanon (she entered the centre in 365' after a losing battle with heroin) no favours at all.

But "All Ahoun" is a far superior chop at the woodpile. Produced by ex-Crusaders' trombonist Wayne Henderson, the discretistic enough disco appeal to attract the would-be. Travoltas—though these tracks are treated with more subtlety than some of the "What A Difference A Day Makes" remoulds that have been shuffled Esther's way since that "75' hit. And her black coffee with a slice of lemon voice is also allowed to wrap sizell around such snuggle-up-to-your-best-girl-comforters as Bobby Lyte's "You Think Of Him" and Obje Jessie's "Pie In The Sty" in a way that would have received an approving nod from both Lady Day and the guby Dinah W.

Esther Phillips is a great singer, one of the few truly individual voices that are around right now. So tune in to her version of "Nanieve New Yorker", which comes on like a downtown taxi ride with With De Niro in the dinving seat, and hear how she can completely transform a song—then grab copy of "All About" before some computer-operated numbskull decides that the album would make a neat entry on the early deletion list.



VISITOR 2035

GARRISTER WENT white, It was almost as though he had seen a voodoo icon, and was afraid for the future.

"Oh God", he mumbled, and walked away. The three of us followed him after a time, and toward him eitien with his

and found him sitting with his back to one of the smaller chittering banks, his head on

and tourn time string with the smaller chittering banks, his head on his knees.

Ethen knelt down beside him and stroked his hair. He didn't move, but his voice came out of his covered lace quist clearly. "Why don't they just do us in and get it over with? Christ. I don't know how much longer I can go on like this." It was our second week istenting. He was speaking for all of us.

The four androids, modelled facially on Herbie Hancock, were programmed those two endless weeks ago by four manor technicians. Ray Deethorts, Peter Stround, Craig Pruess and Nigel Robinson. These four mistakenly and inhumanity assessed their craft and work to be beneficial to The Last Humans On Earth, the four fearing survivors occooned in The Shelter in some vain attempt to outlast the strange gaseous invasion. Music to calm the cerves, it was decided. Fatally.

The androids commenced their seven set pieces for the 4751h time. Their functioning was unstopppable. The four survivors had tried. Now their minds were flwisted, their time short. It was hopeless.

Garrister had once thought, so very early on, that the music

Garrister had once thought, so very early on, that the music so very early on, that the music pretty, symmetrical patterns of melodic jazz-funk fusion blotted with occasional patches of willowy electronics — was quite relaxing. Its equations of tructure and construction weren't particularly lacking either, considering the minor rating of the programming technicians.

But any feelings of affection

But, any feelings of affection But, any feelings of affection had totally dispersed. Now, it was a torture. An absolute torture. The murak permeated and dominated The Last Humans On Earth, their conciousness faded ... faded. The four died. Our of a boredom ... an unknown and terrifying boredom.

Centuries later, after the gases had disappeared, some travellers discovered the androids, still emitting the seven pieces: "Don Genaro's Walte", "At the Gates ... of Cosmic Consciousness"; "Toefunk", "Celestial Dream Song", "Centre of the Winds", "Cassiopea"; "Contemplation".

The travellers slammed health warning tabels on the sides of the matrices and continued their missions of discovery, shaking their heads.

Paul Morley

GLORIA MUNDI I, Individual (RCA)

"I, INDIVIDUAL, I, it was me ...", the defiant cry of a person running across a nightmare landscape of decay, disease and gloom; emotional and physical armageddon. The solipsism of desperation as society crumbles and rots and the only valid thoughts are fear and hatred. (Gulp! — Ed.).

and harred. (Gulp! — Ed.). Gloria Mundi give depressing glumpus of today and toworrow throughout a grim, almost humourless first album. The music, hursh and unpredictable, is rooted in new wave but carefully dismembered and re-arranged as a soundirack for the venumous lyrics.

They've given themselves room to stretch and experiment, four tracks fasting over six minutes, and the result is a curious but appropriate

over six minutes, and the result is a curious but appropriate form of art purels, an ingressions, discordant instrumental thresh. The first side contains the four longer pieces, each ramining into the next. It opens with a background of strange sounds, human we electronic, which fill most appaces on the album giving it a compelling flow which discourages the playing of just one track.

"The Prack" is a news of some

one track.

"The Puck" is a suga of gang mentality in dark dangerous streets, a grubby Clockwork Orange scene. The lyrics are

streets, a grabby Clock work Orange scene. The lyrica are adventurous, occasionally clumsy or cliched ("terminal 2006") but usually interesting. At least there's an attempt by the main sangwriter, Eddie Maelov, to find some new images for the language of destruction.

"Condemned To Be Free" is more accessible with a chanting chorus and almost a pleasant tune. It's the angry but proud declamation of a man responsible only to himself for his actions. The music as far has been load and uncettling, Beelboven's gultaringing mapleasantly over blithe mode unobjectionable by the occasional quiet passages. Sunking double prices of Rich Men Stande unobjectionable by the occasional quiet passages. "Daughters of Rich Men" changes the subject and settine. Smoother, less around.

"Daughters Di Rich Men" changes the subject and vetting. Somother, less argent, revealing some juzz roots, and making cutting remarks about certain young ladies, it's a brief respite hefore the final spite and accusations of "I Like Some Men."

This is Somehine's contribution and the rings it without much sympathy for the specimens she disserts. Mistendingly titled, it numbers be latendive techniques of the world's Saturday night romeon with perception but little bumour. An explicit unthem for girh who don't



Mundi's Eddie Maelov expresses HIMsett

need a tongue cammed down their throat as the full stop to very male encounter.

Shorter tracks on the second side begin with "I, Individual," a howling swipe at authority, programming and sex as mutual abuse with

stream-of-conscioumers lyri and a bombsite backdrap. "You Talk About It" is nothing-ever-changes punk.

"Park Lane" returns to the hiddback grouve of "Draughters," casual and lightweight with C.C.'s sax an essential feature. The fast two songs leave the rest of the about standing for during recontinuous trans-

rest of the album's funding for despair, resentment and accurately directed funy. "Split Personality" is the story of an insune mind with Mactov at his must ominous and pierving. Had me hopping round the room fooking over my shoulder. Beethoven's "Victim" closes the album: "He's a mindless wanker and he believes in peace and love and opportunity and everything on ITV and lies and muck and medicarity and artificializing curts like me..." Haven't you met that kind of boy next door?

met that kind or so, door?

I don't as a rule like
one-sided alibums, all negation
and no hope or all happlaess
and so heartbreak. It implies a
limited scope of emotional
expression on the part of the
band. Nevertheless, Cforia
Mandi have drawn their stark,
depressing imanges with
needle-shurp precision. If the
music is sentetimes contrived,
it's seldom dull.

And if they really hold out

s senous dain.
And if they really hold out
smore hope than the dying
out of the title ... well, it's no
is for them.

Kim Davis



Right back at the beginning it was Bessle Smith who set it all up. Maybe she wasn't the first blueslady to record — Mamie Smith grabbed pride of place for that slice of history — but it was Bessle who sailed in two-fisted and bawling, proving that black music could self almost as well as that provided by the antivasned Paul Whitengan. apily named Paul Whiteman

She also went her own way sexually according to her biographer Chris Albertson, a writer who provides the sleeve notes to "ACDC Blues" (Stash), a gay jazz compilation that includes Bessés "Foolish Man Blues", and a recorded interview with Ruby Smith, who was Bessie Smith's travelling companion for some 14 years.

companion for some 14 years.

As far as one-upmanship is concerned, the best soil import is the kind that's never likely to be released in this country — and "Bezerk Times" (German Beserkley) is one toen that fals into that happy category. Recorded live in Hamburg, it's a double featuring Geng Killin, The Rubinoon, Earthquake and The Tyla Gang but British Beserkley claim that it's substandard and not worlby of soiling the bins in the shops around Kingston-upon-Thames. But with the talents involved, it must have some thing going (or it, and my guess is that "Bezerk Times" will be a stock item with importers for some time to come.

Finally, a remainder to Groovies' fans that there's an EP around by Roy A Loney, who used to be the band's vocalist. Titled "Artistic As Hell", it features Loney, Cyril Jordan, George Alexander and Time Lynch, the original high school line-up, plus notice drummer. Danny Mihm, who joined the band around the close of '66, and Mike Houpt (guiday) and Cab Covay (pisno), whom we met before with Hot Knives, the band Cyril Jordan produced for KO Records.

Fred Dellar

leenage spots

This new two-minute-a-day treatment has everything you need to clear them fast. Clinical tests show it works.

Spots, pimples, blackheads . . . aren't they a nuisance! But now, you needn't live with them for long, because now Clean and Clear is here.

Clean and Clear was specially developed by Beecham dermatologists after studying young people's skin problems just like yours. Clinical trial has shown how well it works. And it takes only two minutes a day to use.

Everything you need

Clean and Clear is different in two important ways. First, it's a medicated gel wash, not an ointment, cream or lotion.
Secondly, it combines, in one preparation,
everything you need to clear spots fast.
Clean and Clear cleanses thoroughly but

gently - carries away excess surface oil and germs, and dries up spots. It frees blocked pores, to dissolve unsightly blackheads and it checks the cause of inflammation. What's more, it has an antibacterial agent expressly selected for its ability to penetrate and com-bat bacteria deeper down,



How to use Clean and Clear. Make a lather with water. Massage in for 1 minute twice daily. Rinse and pat dry.

Clinically tested

In order to demonstrate how successfully Clean and Clear works, a strictly controlled trial was undertaken in the dermatology clinic of a leading London teaching



All those taking part were young people and, in a high percentage of cases, the doctor in charge reported really positive

Clear healthy skin

Massaged in for just one minute twice daily, this Medicated Wash could make a wonderful difference for you too . . . effectively treat unsightly spots and pimples, help your skin look clearer and healthier than for years.

Get Clean and Clear at your chemists

Get Clean and Clear at your chemists today. It's easy to use, non-greasy, and no unpleasant odour or telltale trace remains on your skin. Most important of all, it has everything you need to clear spots fast - and





Available only at your chemist. Starting today, Clean and Clear your skin:

THE SHAMING OF



BROTHER BUDDY

VARIOUS ARTISTS
The Buddy Holly Story — Soundtrack (Epic Import)

THE VERY existence of this album is crucial to the immediate future of celluloid rock. Should it sell, and I sincerely trust that it doesn't, then it may well be seen as an acceptable (sic) yardstick by which future rock biopic soundtracks can be

measured.

Over the years, Hollywood has earned a rather unsavoury reputation for the insensitive and unacceptable manner in which it has translated the careers of various entertainers onto the screen.

Whether the subject has been Caruso or Josson, Red Nichols or Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman or Woody Guthrie, Leadbelly or Hank Williams, the end result has invariably been an innacurate stereotyped romanticism of the facts.

Hank Williams, the end result has invariably been an innacurate stereotyped romanticism of the facts.

Despite the fact that actual film footage of Holly is extremely rare (his appearance on The Ed Sullitan Show seems to be the only known stock to have survived), his innumerable recordings are widely available. Also as a recent 20-track TV compilation corroborates (it reached No. 2 in the NME charts), the public is just as familiar with his legacy as that of Elvis, The Beatles, Beach Boys and Stones. Furthermore, the fact that artists like Linda Ronstadt frequently cover Holly hits with commercial success substantiales the seemingly inexhaustible mileage in his material, if, according to reports, the film takes liberties with the legand, then the soundtrack album seems to go to extraordinary lengths in its attempts to destroy it. The overall impression is of an audition tape submitted by someone amongst the first to be turned down for the title role.

The difference between Gace Busen's (for it is

amongst the first to be talk of the control of the control of the difference between Gary Busey's (for it is he who portrays The Great Man) approach to the songs is the difference between Little Richard and Pat Boone's interpretations of

The fact that the producers of The Buddy
Holly Story chose not to have Busey lip-synching
to the original recordings is perhaps
understandable. And, while one doesn't expect
a perfect zerox of Holly's inimitable style, one would at least hope for something that cvokes what made Buddy Holly such an important

Influence.

To his everlasting shame, not only does Gary Busey rarely attempt this, but for the most part he totally disregards Holly's unique style. His phrasing persistently deviates from the original blueprint. Holly's distinctive hic-cupping trademark is replaced by a breathless out-of-tune ranting and any affinity with Holly's music is totally absent.

The same can be claimed of the backing. The entire miserable charade is brought into vivid disrepute during what is titled the "Chear Lake Medley". One assumes that this in-concert debacle represents some high-point in the film, in that it junks together five of Holly's best-known songs: "That'll Be The Day" (with blustering brass); a thoroughly dreadful "Oh Boy" (with strings): "Peggy Sue" (with piano replacing the frantic double-tempo guitar rhythm); "Maybe Baby" (again overloaded with orchestral droppings) and a shit-awful "Not Fade Away" (which bears absolutely no relation to the original).

The overall effect gives the impression that Buddy Holly (and The Crickets) were nothing more than a third-rate has bord.

Fade Away" (which bears absolutely no relation to the original).

The overall effect gives the impression that Buddy Holly (and The Crickets) were nothing more than a third-rate bar band. I'm sure Buddy Holly never saw it like this. I certainly don't.

About the only time that Busey comes within remote splitting distance of the Holly style is during a surreal acceptal a treatment of "I'm Gonna Love You Too" and one of Holly's earliest and lesser-known ravers, "Rock Around With Offic Vee". However, this should not be misconstrued as any saving grace.

This album is a disgrace in its hamfasted attempts to re-create the music and style of one of rock's much-laved progenitors. How on earth the Holly estate or Paul McCarring's publishing company sanctioned this travesty of a tribute is well beyond me.

The thing that worries me is the thought that not only might this album be bought in preference to actual Holly recordings—that's like Beatlemania theatregoers buying the "Original Cast" album instead of genuine Beatle records—but should this film prove big at the box-office, it will motivate others to meddle with things they appear to know absolutely nothing box-office, it will motivate others to meddle with things they appear to know absolutely nothing

about.
Indeed, I hate to contemplate what future acts of sacrilege will be enacted should Hollywood ever get around to making hiopics of Hendrix, Elvis, Cochran, Vincent or Jim Morrison.

Roy Care

AMANDA LEAR Sweet Revenge (Ariola)

START WITH a tall blonde person. A lithe, long-limbed model in leather or leopard skin. She has had a six page nude spread in *Playboy*.

swin. She has as as page mude spread in Playboy. Amanda Lear.
Her voice is low, deep, full. Dietrich or La Rue Amelodie, dully penetrating. She shops around, eager to exploit the vocal and performing poten-tial. British record companies shake their heads: "We don't need you. There's Twiggy." Twiggy came from those swinging '60s, grew up in the

70s, readily soft and famil(y)-

70s, readily soft and family)iar. Lear came from the
messed up 70s, grew up spicful and pulsating. Impatient
and obnoxious.
Lear fined German record
companies. They opened their
eyes and mouths: "We've been
waiting for someone tall,
blonde and nasty since the
war."

war."

Amanda makes a record, has a hit single. With minimal resistance becomes moulded as The White Disco Queen. In Germany and Italy, two minor markets, she is a star. She haber fame-fullfilment. She is intelligent enough to mess with

the mindless masses and it could happen here. Leer.
She describes her success as

She describes her success as "the quickest rise to fame since Hitler." Watch the eyes. Watch the twitches. Watch the verbals. The monster grows.
Play the record. It butbles stiffly around its pulsebeats. Vocally, she stalks with minimal variation, huskily and archly, through its mechanical figures. Suggestive and hypnotic? No. Sinister and eestatic? No.

No.
Almost got carried away there. Just a load of trivial theatre.

Paul Morley

PL 25157

RUSS BALLARD At The Third Stroke (Epic)
COLIN BLUNSTONE Never Even Thought (Epic)
DAN HILL Dan Hill (20th Century) ROY HILL Roy Hill (Arissa)

TO BE a successful singer-songwriter you have to be sincere and meaningful. In order to appear so, you can adopt various ploys. One of these is to use the word "Oh", as in "Oh, but I'm lost" (Russ Ballard). This emphasies your sincerity, and is quite easy to sine.

Russ Ballard uses "Oh" 27

Russ Ballard uses "Oh" 27 times, so his album is the most sincere, though Dan Hill soores the most blatantly sincere "Oh" with his "Oh and God, I just don't know if I can believe in you". It's more difficult to be meaningful, especially if you want to do it on the radio. The traditional tactic is to make sweeping philosophical statements in words of one syllable. Russ Ballard again performs

sweeping philosophical state-ments in words of one syllable. Russ Ballard again performs well with his "There II be good simes, there II be bad times, and in time, time may fade away", though the repetition of 'time' hints at a paradox, the meress suiff of which is likely to get you mixed from the Radio One playlist toot sweet. Dan Hill strolls away with the meaningful prize, though, with some nery profound state-ments. Like the succinct "Nobady's right, nobady's wrong, everybody's searching", the almost Buddha-like enigma of "I'm so high that I'm low but this is the only life I'd choose" and the classic, nos-Heglian dualism of the very meaningful indeed "I lone, I hate, I live, I die". Wow!! Wow!!

die". ' ore: wow!!

Of course, with singersongwriters of this quality, it's
even possible to be sincere and
meaningful at office.

One strategy is to remain
stoutly optimistic in the face of
great adversive. Plan 4 full, but it

great adversity. Dan Fill has it sussed — "I keep on smiling advough my tears" he mutters grittily, later adding that "For all the pain that meets my eyes I still believe in people". Wonderful!

Wonderful!
Another Sure-fire winner is agonised self-doubt. "What kind of fool must I be?" asks Russ Ballard. "What kind of fool hate I been?" echoes Colin Blunstone. "Like the fool I am", suggests Dan Hill, cager to be beloff.

am". suggests Dan Hill, eager to be helpful. It's obviously an advantage to be stupid, too. "My brain" in a parking zone", reflects a rueful Roy Hill. "What does it take to love you? What do I have to do?" asks a puzzled Russ Ballard, while Colin Blunstone is utterly bewildered — "What am I to do?" he wonders, "ean I let it show? Do I keep it to myself ur swould I let her know?" (No, no, his feelings, not NSU. For all their many and disastrous love and disastrous love

ings, not NSU. For all their many and deastrous love affairs, singer-songwriters never seem to suffer from those kind of problems. It must be because they only fall in love with nive girls.)

Dan Hill tries the opposite tectic. "Wemanplease don't my explaining how or why — I understand." he assert sasterfully. Though, lest one suspect him of arrogance, he does confess to having once been. "Unsure of my direction, using brains at my disguise". Guess people soon saw through that one, eh Dan? But it's all down to the album sleeve. Dan Hill. Roy Hill and Colia Blunstone all appear in the classic pose—

Hill and Colia Blunstone all appear in the classic pose—casual stance, open-neck shirt, face slightly in shadow, eyes fixed outwards on the hapless punter with a full-frontal stare. Who wouldn't buy a second-hand album from these boys? But Russ Ballard blows it. In what can each be a mismided

But Russ Ballard blows it. In what can only be a misguided attempt to appear witty or avant-garde (qualities more appropriate to persons with receding hairlines than to singer-songwriters), he has an abstract design on the front of his album and only puts in a personal appearance on the back.

MOTORING

THE CARS
The Cars (Elektra Import)

I'M NOT at all sure about this band. Their roots place them in the Boston, Massachusetts region which, not being New York or LA, guarantees them an immediate status in the great undiscovered territories. And this debut afbum from The Cars is very New England, dever-dever. Deliberate?

These five Cars (note the modern name, subliminally phallic 1978 cover work, designed by drummer David

achieving a brilliant chronse finish with no personality. Machines have no character. It is small coincidence that three of the five tracks clock in a 3.44 exactly, deviation equalling risk.

Side two is far better. Less samey, high grade retirned rock. The sound is Reggle Knighton meets Cheap Trick metamorphosing back into an updated Small Faces. When they attempt to be more ordinary they at least sound buman.

ordinary use, the cars' the cars' ingensity is the continual flow of the music, unchecked performance from carburettor



New Hatchback

Coupés

Fail To Impress

MAX BELL Sticks To Public Transport

Robinson) obviously must have known somebody. Got Roy Thomas Baker to Roy Thomas Baker to produce, got expensive gear, got the fashiorunble cheek bones, the slightly twee, synthetic now-drugged, precoclously clean, seen-it-sli-before stance of a group who could go all the way. Or park it here.

Plenty of guile in the project too. The Cara reek of technology, it has it necessarily sophisticated. Side one I don't like. Stylistically, their tailuences stem from glam rock. 1973 division. I mean it — "Good Times Roll" bolds few auroplase. I fundated Bross. Ferry. And then into a Sweet thrownway, "Best Friend's Girl". Singer, songwriter Ric Ocusek hints that one trump Gist", being.

Ocasek hints that one is card is bits vocalistic arrowymity, minimalist and sparse. Behind him the band cooks like a microwave oven. They're artificially hot.

- tootless future you'd to differ the sparse of 'Slar

In a tooties future you'd tap something to the beat of "Just What I Needed". Devo-tees might appreciate "To In Touch With Your World". Elliof Easton has a programmed guitar attack, in keeping with The Cars image the gets technical perfection. To this end Baker and keyboands Car Gree Hawkes keyboards Car Greg Hawkes maintain a soulless front,

to engine. Hence the smooth transmission from "You're All I've Got Tought" to "Bye Bye Love" is inspired with a netodic quiritiness that recalls the andly lamented Pavlov's Dog, the generation's sourcest animal.

"Moving in Stereo" betrays an American hokum, We've got this multiple choice studio, hove, so hat got this runltiple choice studio, hoys, so let's go nuts. Unfortunately, too many of their lyrical licks and choose clusters are obsessions, semi-steats and I know where they came from. Weather Report have a lot to answer for pluying with sterile instruments.

Instruments.

Odd that they hit the straightest road on "All Mixed Up" where the harmonies have a hunning pulse-rate enthely separate from Robinson's robotic finling and Hawkes' unimpressive sax break. See, I'm not enthely down on this board although this isn't the direction for the tail-end of the '70s that I had in mind.

Not that they fit the

"70s that I had in mind.
Not that they fit the
industrial prop-pop mania. In
many ways they come from
another dimension but let the
possibilities of masterful
gadgetry cloud their strength.
Personally, I shall wait for
none plastic, some live proof
or continue to take public
transport.
Max Betl

TRISTRAMSHANDY

Tristan Shandy (Silvermore)

DELICATE AND Delightful, just the sort of frish folk to appeal to Chiefrains fans, but Tristram Shandy's sound is swelled by the inclusion of Terry Thompson's Godackt organ (14th Century and no jokes please).

The strength of the material s in its simplicity, melodies ike colwebs, as the instruments weave around to create a rich and memorable sound.

a rich and memorable sound.

Not everyone's pot of
porein, but nonethieless a
rewarding steat for the discerning. Difficult to get hold of, but
the curious should apply to
Silvermore Records. S Brigh-

ton Road, Surbiton, Surrey.

Patrick Humphries





You must have heard 'Don't Fear The Reaper,' the brilliant top twenty single from Blue Oyster Cult.

But have you heard 'Agents Of Fortune', the album it comes from? It was released in the summer of 1976, to a fanfare of critical applause.

Geoff Barton -Sounds said:

Agents Of Fortune does it. One-time aficionados should return to the Blue Oyster Cult fold in their droves, true fans will be delighted, converts will be many. It's very good indeed.

Mike Oldfield -Melody Maker said:

A magnificent allount, brimful of ideas and fresh approaches, both musically and -yrically



'Agents Of Fortune' has nine tracks, every bit as movin' as 'Don't Fear The Reaper.' 'Agents Of Fortune'

has been after you for two years now. Don't you think it's time you listened?

featuring '(Don't Fear) The Reaper'



THE UPSETTERS Return Of The Super Ape (Lian Of Judah Impon)

IN THE race of life you are beaten before you have

"A false witness shall not en by unnunished. He that speaketh lies shall perish. A false balance is an abomination to Jah Jah"so warns Lee Perry/
Scratch/The Upsetter on
"Psycha & Trim", one of
the two immediately outstanding tracks to be

outstanding tracks to be heard here.

It's been a long wait since the mighty and still unsurpassed "Super Ape". We'll furget about the disappointing "Roast Flah" pre-release album of a few mouths back. But has it been worth the wait? Do I risk life and death to comment?

and death to comment?

Two sides to every story, whereas "Super Ape" was uniformly excellent, this chapter does seem patchy in comparison. It's not such a siag-off since there are at least five strungs and thought-provoking tracks here, but the remaining ball of the album is — dare I say — average: an adjective I never thought could be apptied to Perry's pioneeting work in the passt.

pass.
Sad to report yet another
case of creative reggne artist
meets blinding inconsistency
head on. This, in other words hasn't quite restored my slowly flagging interest in reggae in general, and in Scratch in particular. But at least this in's not afraid to periment.

"Jah Jah Ab Natty Dread" is "Jah Jah Ab Natty Dread is initially the most leftal cut, surpassed after repeated listenings by "Psycha & Trim". It's packed full and over-brimming with trade-marked and crashing cywhats, whirling flutes and a basa rift from Jah himself. God help the devil and the Pope if the burter come to force the the lyrics come to force.
"Psycho" has a similar

theme, only the lyrical malice in slow burning: "You curse the roots, so you shall never inheric

Mistah Perry and the dancing spirit. Pic: ADRIAN BOOT



KING KONG REGGAE

Jah fruit. Even though they may be wondering what I'm talking about. "You can say that again! All delivered over an estable casede of archetypal Uppetter dub.

The fille track is as weird as this music is even likely to and

The fille track is as weird as this stusic is ever likely to get. Machine-gun shots and rattling noises, muted and distant Bechhearian soprano sax and incoherent mumblings. However I did catch: "Don't insult I, 'oot if you insult I, you will die!" Oh dear, what kave I caid?

"Bird In Hand" is retirious and hymn-like, featuring a single vocalist singing in a foreign tongue (could it be Congolese?) Unfortunately,

Perry bunches the track into a lairly mundane bass and

fairly mundane bass and percession workout, the vocals still faintly drifting through the mix. All this grinds to a halt with a terrifying, gurgling scream. This is madness.

The remaining tracks range from straightforward chants through a couple of crooning throwawys, a great instrumental in "Crab Yars" and a hark back to Ska. Altogether a disorientating album, only more of a challenge for it. Even with its many flaws, this knocks many flaws, this knocks creative spots off most of what's been passing itself as reggae lately.

PASADENA ROOF ORCHESTRA A Talking Picture (CBS) WILLIE NELSON Stardust (CBS)

Stardust (CBS)

NOSTALGIA'S SURE not what it used to be. Nowadays the only thing a lot of people got to look forward to is the past. Commercially it's everywhere television, movies and, of course, records. The Pasadean Roof Orchestra effort is pretty much what you'd expect, elegantly recreating hits from the '20s and '30s and cashing in on the success of the Beeb's Pennies From Heaven (included here, natch) along with "42nd Street", "You're Driving Me Crazy", etc.

Street", "You're Driving Me Crazy", etc.
It's all done competently enough, but The Temperance Seven were there earlier with a lot more style, and vocalist John Parry Jacks Viv Stanshil's clan and sincerity. The Willie Nelson exercise is a far more curious effort. As Nelson is in the vanguard of the C&W renaissance, it's a surprise to find him tackling the evergreens of Duke Ellington, The Gershwins and Irving Berlin, and to have the whole shooting match produced by Booker T. Jones. Maybe it's a penance for all those green onions.

Tasteful enough for late night 'easy listening', but so low key as to give a whole new interpretation to 'soportic'. Patrick Humphries

HUEY 'PIANO' SMITH & THE CLOWNS Rockin' Pneumonia And The Boogie Woogie Flu (Chiswick)

(Caiswick)

EVER SINCE It first established itself on the map as an Open City, the music of New Orleans has always exuded its own particular brand of joic devivre. Whether in jazz or R&B, the music's characteristic syncopation has permeated every new variation of familiar themes to come asstruttin' out of its innumerable fundations. parlours.

parlours.

During the '50s, the Crescent City's distinctive and infectious style of R&B adhered to this good-time premise with even more unbridled exuberance. As an outside observer, one got the impression that New Otleans was just one continual cent. was just one continual rent-party and the flood of record-ings just fly-on-the-wall extracts from the endless

extracts from the festivities.

Though it's possible to trace Smith's lineage through to Fats Domino, Professor Longhair and assorted Sporting Housepiano pumpers, he neverthe-

less managed to carve out his own Jaconic four-to-the-bar identity. Smith concentrated on a rolling mid-tempo shuffle stroll, assisted by a steady backbeat, gut-bucket tenor sax, plento of off-beat hand-clapping and, of course, The Clowins – three singers whose approach wasn't a stylus removed from The Coasters. Above it all, Smith's "acconditing" syncopated stroll was graced with nudging good humour.

Like many arisis, Smith's

humour.

Like many arrists. Smith's reportoire was based on a handful of tried and tested handful of tried and tested licks. The most popular was the much-covered album title track, which Smith cloned for "Tu-Ber-Cu-Lucas And Sinus Blues", another was "Sea Cruise" (a hit for Frankie Ford), though this isn't included. It's currently a Chiswick 45 and is essentially the wick 45 and is essentially the same as "Little Chicken Wah

Smith's other contribution to New Orleans' R&B Hall Of Fame is "Don't You Just Know It" which, together with its re-write "Don't You Know Yockomo", can be located on this 14-track album. Now that it's once again readily avail-able, a better Saturday night party album you'll not find at a comparable price

Roy Carr

RON GEESIN Right Through (Ron)

GEESIN, THE 28ny Scot hest known for his collaborative work on "Atom Heart Mother" now lives in self-sufficiency in Sussex, conducting his musical experiments away from the pressures of the music biz

This, his latest offering, is a mixture of the odd, the

beautiful and the annoying, making use both of "normal" instruments and those, like the "Door-o-plane" and "Rhythidoor", of Ron's devising.

Generally speaking, the tracks which are of more than merely formal significance are the longer ones: given time to unfold, pieces like "Throb Thensewards Thrill" and "Marion Above Physical Ph Motion Above Rhythidour' attain a satisfying, almost majestic wholeness absent in

some parts of the album

Although, it must be said, any majesty present isn't allowed to get out of hand; there's always Geesin's idiosyncratic, quirky humour, springing up and deflating pomposity when you least expect it. (Ron Records are available direct from Ron at Headrest, Broad Oak, Heathfield, Sussex TN21 8TU.)

Andy Gill

OKS: Beatles and Dylan Biographies Jazz Encyclopedia

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF JAZZ

Brian Case and Stan Britt (Salamander, £6.95) THIS PUBLICATION follows the successful formula established by the NME Encyclopedia of Rock
— a huge number of biogs (over 400 in this instance), illustrated by an equally large number of album sleeves and pics of artists, most of 'em in colour.

The authors could hardly be

bettered.

Brian Cese, well-known to those who regularly purchase who regularly purchase NME, is in my humble and slightly envious opinion, the finest scribe currently penning words of wisdom on the attributes of Dir, Bird, Getz, Cereños and associated thythm Gordon and associated rhythm Corroon and associated raythm kings, while his partner on this project, Stan Britt, is generally regarded as being one of the most knowledgeable jazz critics ever to sup at Ronnie

most knowledgeable jazz critics ever to sup at Ronnie Scott's.

Lintle wonder then that The Hissaneta Encyclopedia of Jazz pans out as a worthy addition to any music library.

Hardly a facet has been missed: the blogs pant the careers of New Orleans pioneers such as Kring Oliver, Bunk Johnson and Kid Ory; swing kings such as the much married Charlie Barnet (H times!) and Artie Shaw (a mere eight); bluesmen: boogie and reathouse pisanists; bop and renthouse pianists; bop and beret merchants; and a solid phalanx of new wavers from Coltrane and Ayler through to Authony Braxton, Cedi Taylor and Mike

Ceci Taylor and Mike Manter.

Though, by necessity, the artists rarely emerge as human (space — even in a publication of 224 22 × 30mm pages — only allowing run-downs on musical achievements), the writing compensates, being of a high order for such a project.

Aby hy necessity

Also by necessity, includy's heroes have failed make the final listing. So Glenn Miller has been

omitted, presumably because his hand was considered too commercial — though one might argue that Jimmy Dorsey, who is included, led might argue that Jimmy
Dorsey, who is included, led
an outfit even more dependant
on Tin Pan Alley — while Bing
Crosby gains an entry at the
expense of Frank Sinatra, who
frequently won the
Metronome poll and even
recorded with the Metronome
iographics. jazz all-stars.

However, such omissions However, such omissions are really of a minor nature and detract but little from the overall excellence of Case and Britt's book, which is wider in scope than John Chilton's excellent "Who's Who Of Jazz" and better to look at than Leonard Feather's "Encyclopedia Of Jazz", its only real rivals.

Fred Della



THE BEATLES Hunter Davies (Maylfower, £1.25.)
FIRST published in 1968, Hunter Davies' official biography of The Beatles had just been reissued, for the most part in its entire, original form.

When it first appeared the book was useful mainly for its thorough documentation of the hackground of the group— their childhoods have never been better researched— though in other respects it was a wasted proportunity. Davies a wasted opportunity: Davies eschemed opinions on the band's music, and also sketched in only the barest information about Beatle-

Its main value has been as the one authentic narraive about the group, though inevitaably in the years since it has been supplemented by the publication of other works, such as Alan Williams' The Man Who Gave The Beatles

Away.
Since the timing of the origi-nal publication was rather inopportune (it came out at a moment when the four were beginning to exist and work independently of each other, independently of each other, but before they had come to their bitte end), the author was clearly now alforded an opportunity to put the entire saga in perspective, especially since he retains kingering contacts with at least three of them (or so he tells us). However, Davies seemingly regarded the reissue as an irksome project, and has expended minimal energy on it; a six-page introduction and an eleven-page postscript constitute the bulk of the

Incompleat writings

book's trumpeted "updating".
His lassitude is readily demonstrated. In the introduction he describes the difficulties under which the work was originally prepared; the biggest single handicap was that discussion of Brian Epstein's homosexpailing was neceeded. discussion of Brian Epatein's homasexuality was precluded. Having admitted this, though, he might have been expected to amend at least one of the cryptic references to it in the text ("His unhappiness was part of an illness, an illness which dated back many years"), which many will now find grossly offensive.

In fact the introduction in note is curiously tasteless.

In fact the introduction in toto is curiously tasteless. Davies' reveries are morbid—"What F imagined would finally happen . . . would be that they'd all get killed in a car crash"—and his preocupation with their demise leads him, incorrigibly egolistic, neally to the fact that he has written their oblivaries for The written their obituaries for The

written their obituaries for The Times (4 though it was bod form to reveal such things). On the evidence here, however, it will need a sub-editing genius to raise the copy to the paper's required standard, since apart from Davies' juvenite style ("It was a pretty fed-up making process", he remarks of Beatles' recording sessions), he has clearly not sessions), he has clearly not concerned himself with the solo careers of each group

member, something he even has the galf to admit. ("In all honesty. I have very little interest in these later, post-Beatle activities").

There are two conclusions to be drawn from this: The Times should immediately locate someone better qualified to write about the four; and anyone who buys this book under the impression that it is

write about the four; and anyone who buys this book under the impression that it is what it purports to be (i.e. "updated to include the Beatles' solo careers") will find themselves short-changed. Indeed, the claims made for this reissue, whether in Rolling Stone adverts ("revised to include everything about their fives, loves and performances to date") or on the book's back toaket."

to date") or on the book's back placket ("includes detailed accounts of the solo careers of John, Paul, George and Ringo") are simply untrue. Even the discography is slipshod. Under U.K. singles, "The Long And Winding Road" is incorrectly listed (and is "reclease" even daired!). its "release" even dated!), while singles which have been issued, "Yesterday" and "Back In The U.S.S.R." (both "Back In The U.S.S.R." (both of which were chart entries) have been omitted — as have all the post." Let It Be." Beatle albums; and even if he wanted to avoid compilations, "Live At Hollywood Bowl" should have been mentioned. "The Best Of George Harrison" is allow missing and Pingol's Best Of George Harrison" is also missing, and Ringo's sixth album is erroneously referred to us. "Richard The 4th" (which would probably have made a better tile, though thats hardly the point). Similarly, the appendix on Beatle finances is now mean-ingless, and certainly required some kind of contemporary comment; but even the mories

comment; but even the monare still discussed in £sd terms

It's well known that the It's well known that the Beatles made many elementary mistakes during their careers, It now appears that one of them was in choosing Davies as their official biographer. When the original work was subsequently categorised by John Lennon as "bullshit" (a description which Davies" supremess, doesn's description. Davies' smugness doesn't permit him to admit) I found the criticism harst, however, the sad truth is that no word is more apposite for this more apposite for disgraceful reissue.

Bob Wolfie



80B DYLAN nibus, £1.50)

DYLAN: AN ILLUS TRATED BIOGRAPHY HLLUS-

Michael Gross
(Hamish Hamilton, £2.95)
BOB DYLAN breathes, cats, shits, pisses, talks, hears, sees, is Jewish, writes songs, is a dreadful painter, has a booked dreadful painter, has a booked nose, grows a fairly nonder-cript beard, and (if the U.S. critics are correct) makes lousy, self-fixated and overtiong movies about himself and his various identifies. He was once known for a piercing wit, and a penchant for obscure flights of verbal fancy which were as well-known in the mid-fobs as his current mysterioso munits-the-word persona is now. He is 37 years old and, as well as having been known as well as having been known on physically askault his ex-wife, has enjoyed a career as songwriter / troubadour for nigh on 16 years.

has enjoyed a career as songwiter / troubadour for nigh on 16 years.

He is a human being above all else, but he is also a genius — arguably the only bonatide one in rock, and his innumerable forays into the white heat of the spoulight have provided a hungry audience with the chance to ordain him a god — or a shaman, perhaps; a visionary, equally possible. It is this followers' uncontrollable uncontrollable

nary, equally possible. It is this followers uncontrollably desire to penetrate the granite-hard cocoon of an enigma that causes the most literary-inclined Dylan obsessives to pen endless theses on facets of the gentleman's hefty volume of work.

Questions remain unanswered — questions that, tied to the myth, have caused writers to expound at gargantuan length, either attempting to put forward their own theories about Dylan's various motivations and reasons for dramatic volte-faces, or else just contenting the melves by appreciating the mighty Zim via the unauthorised biography stand, simply going to great lengths to compose the latter using reminiscences from prior associates while otherwise piccing together the jig-saw puzzle of a career with salient quotes from the '60s Dylan and other arguably relevant pieces of ephemera.

Two volumes are hot off the

Two volumes are hot off the stands to coincide with the Zim's tout of the planet; the first, a lengthy chronotogical study of Dylan with hot snaps from all eras, penned by Michael Gross. The other is a far less weighty tome on the man from NME's own Miles, who has apparently been constructing a veritable colorconstructing a veritable colorconstructing a veritable coloring the second of the man over the last ten years, and whose current work is but a frugal precis of what the author had been compiling, but it has its moments, and in general granted me more actual unknown facts about Dylan than the Gross book,

As examples of this, I can point to a hilarious chapter which simply sets out the trans-

point to a hilarious chapter which simply sets out the transcript of an obscure 1965 T.V. talk-show spot with Dylan and compere Les Crane, which makes for a good wheeze; variances to the topics — Dylan's unpublicited donation to the right-wing Jewish Defence League, for example, plus numerous arguably trivial but nonetheless highly entertaining snippets — make the glossypamphiet-sized affair a fair purchase.

pamphter-sized affair a fair purchase. Miles also goes out of his way to interview such charac-ters as Rolling Thunder fiddle-player Scarlet Rivera for intriguing insights. Michael Gross's book is a whole different kettle of fish, Lavidhy libertrated with a keen

Lavishly illustrated with a keen out-take from the "Blonde On out-take from the "Blonde On Blonde" sessions on the cover, the book seems aimed more at those newly acquainted with the Big D. than a dichard like myself. Beyond the odd revela-tion of minimal consequence, the book does an adequate job by acine for alterative nown. the book does an adequate job by going for already-known factes rather than maverick reportage. The publisher of Tanantale seems the only one capable of givin new info on Dylan, though it's hardly rivetting stuff.

As for the glossy veneer and the illustrated biog-schick, the book does have its share of good prefuces, though again

book does have its share of good pretures, though again hardly anything I haven's seen before: Stephen Picketing's Dylan-fetish penodiculs have far more original shots of the Zim, particularly during the 66 period.

Ilowever, neither of these books compare favourably to Anthony Seadure's detective work on the man behind the mask in his biography, Bob Dylan. And ultimately, Australian Craig McGregor

mask in his biography, Bob Dylan. And ultimately, Australian Craig McGregor has them all beat, with his compilation volume, Bob Dylan: A Reprospective Ask Dylan himself. He gave McGregor his best-ever interview (well, certainly since the '66 Playboy babelogue').

Nick Kent



HONKY TONKIN' A Guide To Music USA A Guide To transfer A Guide To transfer Mootton (Moil Order £2.75 from 21 Melbourne Court, Anerley Rd. Penge, London SE20)

Richard Wootton

DESPITE THE title, and despite sections headed "Local Talent", this isn't a primer for U.S. bordellos.

It's the second edition, seven It's the second edition, seven times large, of a guide compiled by Richart Wootton and put out under the banner Charlie Gibert's Sunday Instehtime Redio London Flooky Touk show, aimed at the traveller seeking records, clubs, and other related pressed trivia in the Promised

Lano.
Chuck Berry may have enapped out the route but these aren't easy commodifies to find not in a country so de-centralized, where the state of Texas alone is bigger than all of Blighty.

Without this guide you might walk right past Buddy Holly's grave in Lubbock, or be waiting in the Macon

greybound bus terminal and not realise it was the place where Little Richard wrote "Tutti Frutti" while he washed

the dishes.
The spectrum of music covered is wide, from a and garde to bluegrass, with information on what each area has to offer and the emphasis on indigenous local styles.
You can find out where to see the real Divis Chicken (the nine "Field Do Ba" in Lake

enjun "Fais Do Do") in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where to

Charles, Louisians, where to hear the best zydeco in Lafayette, and how to get slooshed for free in San Antonio after you've had your fill of Tex-Mex music.

And should you be for the time heing insolvent, unable to stiford the somewhat pricey kind of expedition this guide is meant for, you could always buy it, a compass, and a map and get down to some serious chremning. Paul Rambuli

BRIAN CASE

HE RISE OF the big bands in the '30s ushered in a new breed of singer. If Ma Rainey and Bessic Smith could banjax a Boots weighing scale between them, the big band shouters could've barely squeezed through the chemists's door. It was a specialized Sumo category, and most of them looked like a face on a thumb.

There was Mildred Bailey, 'The Rocking Chair Lady'; Miss Ethel Waters who had a hit with "Underneath The Harlem Moon" "Underneath The Harlem Moon", and went on to steal the movie Member Of The Wedding as the Mother Courage of the kitchen: Dinah Washington, "The Queen", who had been known to haul out a roscie when riled; there was Big Joe Turner, 250 pounds of hollering barrender to threaten the shot abesets.

shot-glasses.

Bandleader Chick Webb fielded the Bandleader Unick Webb helded the mighty Ella Fritgerald; Ellington had Ivie "Stormy Weather" Anderson; Jay McShann had Jimmy Witherspoon. Count Basic lost Billic Holiday in 1937 — neither a bulger nor a better, but a subtle genius who could insinuate against a wall of brass—and brought in Miss Helen Humes to share the megaphone with Jimmy

The grand old slab of history walks The grand old slab of history walks past me at Ronnie Scott's bearing her stage costumes ahead of her on hangers. A large lady, she likes to take things easy until she hits the stage. "I don't go out in the day. I got my hair in curlers. I don't like your weather. Well, it was nice at six this morning, but who the hell goes out then?"

then?"
Backstage, her speaking voice plays singer's games with her sentences, elongating vowels to sermon-length, crowding up on conjunctions. She sits at the dressing table, and blows. "Right now, headquarters Nooooo Yawk, Home is Louisville, Kentucky. Ib-huh."

Helen, an only child, except for a half-brother, was always close to ber mother. "I useta play the piano with my mother, not professionally nor

mother. "I useta play the piano with my mother, not professionally nor muthin", just enough to play a song, and I'd sing or she'd sing. I had a professor, he was a Jew — uh, a German — he'd teach me all these blocks and stuft, and when he'd go, then I'd play my own little stuff. I'd just sit down and play and sing. We didn't have a record player — I just taught myself how to sing. "I useta live right next door to the Baptist Church, and I'd play for them and the Sunday Schoot. We had our little group and I'd play at an Orphans Home. You could play any instrument you wanted there at Miss Bessie Allen's — that's where Jonah Jones and Dickie Wells and all of them, they got steried. I tried to play trumpet a minute or two, then I tried playing clarinet, and I said, I'll just slick with the piano! "Miss Allen, she'd have a marching band for the boys where they'd go outs town for fairs and things, and then when they'd have a little affair at right, why, then that's when I'd play with the dance band.

"A fella named Sylvester Weaver, he heard me singin' one time. and he

"A fella named Sylvester Weaver, he heard me singin' one time, and he told Mr Rockwell at Okeh Records. Mr Rockwell came out to my-house and heard me and he had my mother bring me to St Louis and that's when I made my first record.

'I sang something called, 'Do What

Ya Did Last Night', another one called 'If Poppa Has Outside Lovin' and I think something else called 'Racetrack Blues.' I don't remember now. Mr Rockwell called by mother later and wanted to know if I could go on a theatre tour. Mom told him no, said I had to finish school, and after that whetever I mental to do. I could the work of the whotever I mental to do. I could that, whatever I wanted to do, I could

KEH RECORDS, like Columbia, Paramount, Vocalion, Brunswick, Gennett and Victor, combed the South for their Race markets in the '20s and '30s. Helen Humes came in at the tailend of the blues boom, which

cashed of the blues boom, which crashed with the Depression.
"Buffalo, New York — that's where I accidentally got started," says Helen.

After I finished school. I v there to visit some friends of mine, musicians and their wives, so one musicans and their wives, so one night they took me to this nightclub. The Spider Web. They said, C'mon Helen — now get on up and sing. I said, I ain't goma sing in this club— don't know nuthin' bout these

They said, Go ahead! So The Man said it was all right, and I got up and sang and The Man gave me a job. I was just making 25 or 35 dollars a week. You could do a whole lot with it then, but oh hoy, now!

"I stayed at The Spider Web a long time, then, the Vendome Hotel, then we went on up to Albany and after I left there I came on back home. They sent for me to come to a club in Cincinnati called the Cotton Club, and that's where Basie heard me. He wanted me to come with his band wanter the to come with in sand because Billic had just left, but I went the following year. I was working with the Al Sears band, and after we got to New York and I worked this big affair, John Hammond was there and he kinda got together to get me with

Helen started with The Count at 35 dollars a week. In her autobiography, Billie Holiday writes: "I joined Count Basie's band to make a little money and see the world. For almost two

and see the world. For almost two years I didn't see anything but the inside of a Blue Goose bus, and I never got to send home a quarter." "Well, I did!" says Helen. "Oh yes indeed. If I can't send money home, I don't work. I don't work just to be doin't somethin'. The first thing I would do when I got my little 35 dollars, I'd send I0 home and then whatever I had to do, I'd do with the 25. My mother would put it away for me."

"Wasn't your mother worried about you being on the road with 16 cats?" I asked.

cats?" I asked.
Helen shook her head, "She didn't worry. She knew I could pretty well take care of myself. And then, they were just so nice, they treated me like I was a little baby. I was their little

sister — but I still had to cook for them all the time! Cooking all up and down the road! We'd be in theatres. I'd be in the dressing room, I'd have

"You had to cook for the whole

"You had to cook for the whole band as well as sing?" A case for Spare Rib here, and no mistake, I thought. Catch Sinatra slinging hash for the Dorsey band!
"Jimmy Rushing on his own would keep you at the range," I said, thinking of the Humpty-Dumpty figure of Mister 5 × 5. Rushing possessed the most penetrating pipes in the biz, and a shoving way with the iambic pentemeters that has obviously influenced Helen Humes.
"Yeah. That was my boddy. Jimmy

"Yeah. That was my buddy, Jimmy could keep me haughin aaaaall night long! We'd be sitting there, Basie'd get mad at us. He could telt me some of the funniest jokes! We'd be sitting there on the stand and be'd reach over and he'd tell me something—he'd see something funny happening out there, you know—and I just had to laugh. We just had a good time!" Lady Day hadn't liked him much, resenting his bectures against

resenting his fectures against gambting and his reluctance to lend money. If e was one of the few in the band who could read music, however, and, as Mary Lou Williams recalls, "he could be heard 10 blocks away without a presention."

without a megaphone."

Everybody loved Lester Young.

without a megaphone."
Everybody loved Lester Young, though,
"Oh, he was a doll, Yeah, He'd wake us alt up early. We'd be on the bus and he'd come round — you know, they usets roll the dice — so Pres'd come by and shake 'em up and say 'All right — get up! My horoscope says I'm gonna win today!" Helen shook with laughter. "Wrooooong as could be! He'd be the first one broke! He was a lovely fella."
Helen moved to Los Angeles in the late '40s, working at Billy Berg's, the Alabam, Down Beat, the Plantation, and appeared regularly on Norman Granz's JATP concerts. She turns up in three 1947 short films with Dizzy Gillespie and His BeBop Orchestra—
Tan & Terrific, Jivin 'In BeBop and Ee Baba Leba, the latter the title of her first big hit on Aladdin, Oddly enough, she's also to be beard in Kazan's early Panic In The Savets from 1990.

The first Helen Humes I ever heard was a '80 of 'Million Dollar Secret' from around the time when Earl

JAZZ DIARY

IN ADDITION to his soto set at Bracknell, tenorman David Murray has been booked by ICS to play a concert at the Collegiate Theatre on August 11th with Butch Morris, Johnsy Dyani and George Brown. Another August gig to watch out for is Bobby Wellins playing his "Culloden Moor Suite" at the ICA on 13th.

Dick Heckstall-Smith & Big Chief weigh in at Patoey's Half Moon on July 16th, Georgie Fame & The Blue Flames are at the 100 Club on 17th, Soft Head are at The Phoenix on 19th and Turning Point and the OK Band are at 100 Club on 24th.

ar Ivo Club on 24th.
London Musicians Collective presents J-F Minjard,
Brett Hornby, William Embling, John Russell, Phil
Wachsmann, Tony Wren and John Latham on 15th and
an open session on the 17th, all cats welcome. Redbrass

will be playing a special concert at the Young Vic Theatre on July 16th.

Stargazer are playing at Crockers, Cotham 11th.
Bristol on July 11st and August 1st and 2nd and at Dingwalls on August 21st. Moontspirit are at The Red Door, Croydon on July 25th.

The best new releases in ages are blasts from the past on the Italian Jazz Connoisseur label: The Sonny Rollins Quartet, including Don Cheery, Henry Grimes and Billy Higgins, "Soutigart 1963 Concert"; the Man Roach Quintet and Sonny Rollins Trio Including Max, "Graz 1963 Concert"; "Eriv Dophy Quartet 1961".

New from Ogun, Louis Moholo's Octet with "Spirits Rejoice?" From Steam Records, the Stan Tracey's Octet "Sallsbury Suite", and Stan Tracey with Keith Tappet on "TNT". On Original Records, Mike Westbrook's Brass Band bring you "Goose Sance".

Ian Carr's glorious trail of musicianship through the years established his polition as a mentor to so many accomplished players who are now established names in the Jazz field themselves. The Rendell-Carr Quintel was perhaps the best known and loved British jazz group during the middle 1960's. In 1956, fain erganned and led the Animals Big Band which consisted of the pog group augmented by three trumpets, three tenors, and a baritone. Ian was also a founder member of the New Jazz Orchestra which included Jack Brace on bast. Ian Carr and Nucleus pioneered the jazz-rock area in Britain and were one of the first jazz groups to go deeply into the use of electric instruments and electronics. In January 1977, Ian tource in Germany, With the beginnings of some fresh musical ideas. Ian got together another version of Nucleus to do another tour in Germany, and during it, a live album—"In Flagrante Delicito"—was recorded on one night in Duren. The group was now a quintet, and lan was playing electric keyboard as well as trumpet. part of his search for new sounds and new areas of development.

IAN CARR'S NUCLE I FLAGRANTI DELI



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10 YEARS ON AND

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page colour spread. STONES Are they still ralling? THE PUNK TRAP Who got caught? YES Their complete story

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HAVE YOU SEEN IT YET? 48 PAGE AUGUST ISSUE OUT NOW 25p



Bostic was riding high on "Flamingo". A rumbustious, Red Hot Momma-ish song advising young girks to pall rich old theo and work 'em to death — "C'mon you bad old thing, gimme my morning exercise." "There's a variant called 'Helen's Advice' on the Black California' album," I cold her. "It lists the origin as unknown." "Well. I wrote it." said Helen.

album," I told her. "If lists the origin as unknown."

"Well, I wrote it," said Helen, mdignantly. "I don't know why they put that on there, because I should get some royalties on that. When it's a million dollar scoret, you halfa give advice to the young girls AND the old girls too! I'd got a whole lotta extra lyrics and I just kept adding on to it. It seems to be doing very well now. There's a girl here that's recorded it—oh, that is a shame that I can't remember her name!"

I sat and suggested all the girls I could think of, and it wasn't until I remembered that pretty well anybody under 60 is a girl or a boy to Helen that I hit on Beryl Bryden. "Burl Bryden! That's her! She plays a washboard."

Out on the West Coast, she excepted for I set in the remember.

Drytem: I tust series one propose washboard."
Out on the West Coast, she recorded for Lester Koenig's Contemporary label, kicking off with a startlingly incomparable "Songs I Like To Sing" arranged by Marty Paich and featuring Ben Webster, Art Pepper and a violinist called James Getzoff. Koenig's label has pioneered Pepper, Ornette, Cecil Taylor and hosts of commercially dangerous talents: his death is a blow to jazz.
"Did you have any trouble with BeBop? I asked, because she's really one of the great big band Swing vocalists."

ocalists.
"No, I didn't have no trouble with vocalists.

"No. I didn't have no trouble with it because I didn't sing it," she gutfawed. "I'd go in the studio and say. I'm gonna sing this — and they'd give ya a piano player couldn't read a note. He d' just hit a thing — CHING CHING CHING CHING CHING CHING I want last of the said. Qooodo no, cain't master this!

"How have you managed to hang in there for 40-odd years?"

"I have a liqueur that I drink called Rock in' Rye. It's a rock candy and they put pranges and cherry and all that stuff in it, and it's good for your throat. That's an old Kentucky drink, and I work as much as I want to. Knock wood."

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You won't believe your ears

ON THE TOWN

Howie proves hair is unnecessary

Magazine BRADFORD

ANYTHING can happen here. Punks still gob, grapple and get ejected, and those who lost their way through the mesh of foyers and balconies even rushed the stage for Peter Gabriel. This time around the management had removed the seats (so that Howle's devotees couldn't do it for them?), which was just as well, because there are still as many pogoers as National Fronters in Bradford.

Bradford.

If wasn't really necessary, though; Devoto still has a long way to go before he becomes a safety hazard. The precaution was as enignantic as the sam himself, but the performance transcended such trivial contemplations. For better or worse—and with a few reservations—Devoto has arrived to take the New Wave to another frontier. What the man facks in hair he certainly makes up in having.

to take the New Wave to another troother. What the man Incks in hair he evertulely makes up in lyvains.

For an apparently heavily strung-out thinkler. Devoto, nevertheless, surprisingly strikes some incredibly well-worn postured attitudes, as though the were trying to necure a degree of star recognition, rather than the straight-when a respect for his intellectuality which I was led to helieve was all he was interested in.

Maybe it's only because he has designs to be the total performer that makes Devoto frequently try to hard. And maybe you can forgive his singe excesses in the light of this belong the formative phase of his carer. He was, after all, endowed with fame and influential endorsements long before he earned them, and it's understandable and to be expected that his confidence is so premature as his charisma is undeniable.

In uny event, Devoto's appearance here — a rake of a balletomane, wearing a red jacket off a lady's 50% suit, concenting an improvised leotrard of his own gender's persuasion, and looking like a sever-plot blood donor — came as something of a shock. Devoto seemed to use the stage just because there was a stage to be used, his somewhat deliberate ceptitian bullet gyrations featuring clinical passion were as paradoxical an they were redundent.

There again, his musicians, primarily John McGeoch (prioneer gultur). Dave Formula (comprehensive key boards) and Barry Adamson (strict bacs) (that only leaves Murtin Jackson, I hanow, heir drummers have to get on with the job), contrived a gel of spectacular proficency. No doubt having a blind but secure faint in the direction Devoto is taking them, they see med.

Here heire the circumstances it had to be left to the en-Fauzcock to supply the blurred for all points and the solitary seeling-line. He blew the Rambert, but (to get thing) in perspective) very little che.

Frequently mounting a laddered topple-proof

Frequently mounting a laddered topple-proof

mike-stand (so that if every other medium failed, at least he could elevate bimself physically), Devoto fully justified all the compliments already put down. "Motercade", "Definitive Gaze" and the spooky "Barst", Three of the foor numbers I recognised — Devoto doesn't my much by way of explanation, and when he does, his fetish for gobbling the mike precludes much aural comprehension — corroborated the already-mooted early Roxy link and Thia White Howie's sense of melodrama and (perhaps justified) self-importance.

Magazine's live sound is essentially keyboards orientated (or was that just the mix?), that specific contribution ndeptly supplied by runaround Formula but welf-caenouflaged by Admisson's strident bass when they needed to avoid Formula appearing observate. McGeoch is similarly outrageously impressive, a real-life huminary, often producing guitar solos of unconditional brilliance.

ornmance.

Devoto himself is sometimes a fairly unconvincing, effere outsider, and the succeeds either through the enignar / charicana factor or elathrough his audience's total incapacity to identify with him.

through his audience's total incapacity to identify with blan.

He removes hisself from his adulators' perception of the realities of showmanship to the extent that be therefers spiritually to feave them allogether—he remains aware, though, that his contract demands that the show must go on. Perhaps knowing than people respect things they can't understand, Devoto reluses to offer accessibility. To be understood is uncost, "Shot By Both Sides" was rendered for the climax of the scheduled set, before the band returned featuring Devoto in red county cap for a couple of anonymous but powerful encores. While "Both Sides" was received with almost embarrussing sectains, Devoto impressively declined to give this number any more intention than he gave the others.

declined to give this number any more afterition than he gave the others.

Ironically, of course, Magazine, spawned from the energy of pask and the experimentation of New Wave, symbolise the full circle back to musical sophistication. Unlike their innumerable uncourt predecessors, this band isn't going to inspire the average impressee to hawk his ageing stateboard for a cheap six-string.

Likewise, Devisto might be the kind of guy who can take on ull-course with his fascinaring ideological discussions, yet he's hardly equipped on able to give any generation as improved mentality.

mentairy.

And I can see the next album being such a tour de force of artistic accomplishment that Magazine will be as far out of it as Genesis were to their

punk denomeers two years ago.

Time will tell. The ironies are there, but only of importance to the unnecessarily conselerations.

Personally, I'm glad that some more sense and enterprise has come via Devoto to the music of the 70s, and I don't came low or why it came. enterprise has come via De the '70s, and I don't care be

Ewwa Ruth

Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band LOS ANGELES

THE HARRIED press officers at Capitol Records wanted to ensure that Bob Seger's return to LA wouldn't be marred by unexpected mishaps.

"NOphotographers are to shoot during the first 30 minutes!" yelled the label's PR director. "I want Bob to get loose. When he's into the show he won't even know they're there."

there."
Judging by the triumphant
manner Seger took to the
stage, he obviously couldn't
have cared less if flashes were
going off.
Ruding high on the heels of
the well-tailored LP, "Stranger
In Town". Seger has reason to
bubble with confidence and
energy. After dilly drabbing in

energy. After dilly-dallying in energy. After dilly-dallying in rock circles with only marginal acceptance for well over a decade, the 32 years old Detroit-bred rocker is now a hone fide star. Segre probably flinches at such an accolade, but the fact, that his music has reached the masses is his stratest neward. greatest reward.
Amid all the 70s' changes in

direction, Seger has held on to the good time, rollicking spirit of 50s rock, but augmented it with tasty dones of R&B and jazz. There's such a genuine honesty pervading in his persona and music that he's

The Night Mover continues to stalk...



hard to fault. Even if you don't care for his work, you have to admire the man's commitment and persistence. Seger's set at the LA Forum showcased six songs from "Setsanger", all of which came off as well as any of the familiar oldies. With the dramatic instrumental shading of the bristling Silver Bullet Band, he tore through Frankie

Miller's "Ain's Got No Money", "Rock'n' Roll Never Forgers", "Ramblin' Gamhlin' Man" and "Beautifut Loser" hefore breaking the pace. Surprisingly, it was the reflective "Turn The Page", delivered from behind the keyboard, that was the first emotional highlight of the evening, with soothing colouring defily provided by saxist Alto Reed, Seger then strapped on an acoustic guitar, and went into a version of his single, "Still The Same"; a predictable, but nonetheless solid tune.

indid tune.

There's a freshness and vitality in his approach to every song that makes even the well-worn favourities sound like newly penned material. This became crystal clear during the second half of the 90-minute set as he concentrated on all the standards from "Night Moves" and "Live Bullet", with "Katmandu" capping off the programme.

Two encores later Seget drew yet another ovation, but exhausted by the frantic pace, he had to leave the stage.

Seger has repeatedly proved that you can stick to the basics—simple melody, a few good hooks, interesting themes—and make it work for you everytime. No real theatrics, overblown volume or elaborate customing; just old time rock in' roll with no holds barred.

The Night Mover continues There's a freshness and

barred.
The Night Mover continues

Justin Pierce

Taking trad punk into a new league

Penetration NASHVILLE

THE LARGE and very spikey-topped contingent that packed The Nashville on Friday night was proof enough that, to stalwarts of the New Wave, the gig was of great importance.

In fact, many irate-looking

door, and I doubt it'll make them feet any happier to know they missed a great show. Penetration, who formed nearly two years ago after seeing The Sex Pistoks, still have their roots very firmly in trad punk, but with so much variation as to be in a completely different musical league.

league.
No great believers in a uniform stage presence, visually, the band's front-line is a very mixed bag.



PENETRATION'S Pauline. Pic: PAUL SLATTERY

The recently acquired lead guitarist, Fred Purser, looks almost reserved alongside Neale Floyd, who plays rhythm, and obviously shares Keith Richard's keen interest

weith Richard's keen interest in a rosty complexion and the joys of prime physical health. Far right, we have man' beanpole bassist Robert Blamire, towering above the crowd and working solidly with the concise drumming of Gary Smallman.

the concise drumming of Gary Smisliman. And out front is the intentable Pauline, scampering around the stage, fetchingly clad in leathers, studded belt and a lurid yellow headband. Their songs, except for "Don't Dictate", are nearer observations than criticisms, and so don't feel the need to over-essert their ideas with brainless chord-bashing and rebet yelps, "Lowers Of Outrage", "Life's A Gamble", and "Race Against Time" were all perfectly balanced, rising, falling and doubling time to follow the changes in the lyrics.

commanding vocals (especially on Patti Smith's "Free Money"), and her nox-too-self-indulgent

theatries.
They seem to have mastered an exact mixture of a very raw live sound and Purser's supersmooth guitar solus. Very rarely do they become predictable, or loss a feeling of acceleration throughout the set.

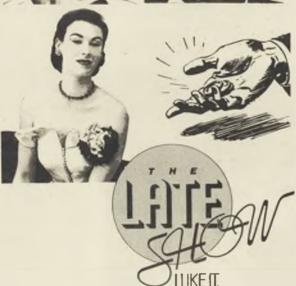
acceleration throughout the set. On this level, playing small venues, and to crowds of converts. Penetration can do no wrong. Countless punk hands that disintegrated over the last few months would still be on the circuit of they had half the imagination of this lot. I noted fresh graffitt on the much-shused khazi wall, which, I'd venture, was the modest artwork of the band's basiot. It read "Penetration—The Future Is Robert". Exactly what the future is will be stamped with a little more permanence by the artival of their first album. Mark Ellen











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DECCA

RAMBOW OPENS **TOILET TOUR**



PHILIP RAMBOW. Pic: DENIS O'REGAN

Philip Rambow HOPE & ANCHOR, LONDON

AND JUST when I was beginning to wonder (agnin) "Whatever happened to Philip Rambow?

Towards the end of last year, Rambow and a band that included Mick Ronson, Dave Cochran, and even a pair of female back-up singers, played a few very auspicious debut gigs in some of the clubs and

a few very auspicious debut gigs in some of the clubs and pubs of London, and rave reviews abounded. There were plans then for a provincial tour by the same band in January of this year, but Ronson became involved in production work, and no tour materialised.

tour materialised. No gigs ... and no word whether Rambow was or wasn't recording. All he had left behind was a track on the Hope & Anchor compilation, "Underground Romance", definitely one of the best on the album.

The reason why this was Rambow's first gig in over six months is, so I'm told by a source close to the band, that he has been recording (certainly the first I had heard

he has been recording (certainly the first I had heard of it). An album is on the way and Mick Ronson will be playing on it, although the was absent from this first stop on Rambow's Foilet Tour.

Rambow's band is back down to a trio, with the same drammer. Laurie Jellyman, but Dave Cochran, who, my source tells me, is busy doing session work, has been replaced by Mark Richardson, It's an undeniably powerful rhythm section, if a mitch heavy-handed at times.

Rambow himself showed no sign of nerves on his return to live performances. No need to say it was good to be back because it was obvious from the expression on his face.

Ronson was only missed during a few of Rambow's solos, which tend to be slightly ordinary, but his rhythm work was fine, beautifully deft and flowing. He was in fine voice,

too, a meaner and more nasal Van Morrison.

The real strength of the set, though, lies in the songs, gems all, from the opening "Don't Call Mc Tonto" onwards.
Compurisons are hard to come by; the songs are so adventurous, immediate, and free from sylisation. There's an air of hope even in defeat about many of them, and it's hard to ignore that Rambow looks happy singing them. The wood that springs to midd when talking about him is "genuine", because he eschews affectation and/or concern for image so completely.

The gig ends with Rambow atop a monitor at the front of the stage scratching at his guitar, his head inches from the ceiling, and a broad smile on his face.

He's going to be gigging.

on his face

on his face. He's going to be gigging throughout his month in London, and every Tuesday at the Hope & Anchor. Pardon the plug, but it would be very foolish to miss him.

Neil Peters

The Pop Group This Heat COLLEGIATE THEATRE, LONDON

TWO SEEMINGLY unconventional, superficially 'bleak', jagged modern-music outfits. Both engineer music suggesting radical departure, still somehow quaint.

Their chaes is meticulous but there is a common fault; both seem refuctant to communicate. I refer not to snakeskin-boot 'let's all stomp' rullying calls, nor to the operation of salivation balloons — just the simple accommodation of song titles. This Heat dummy and hatch volatile, sly music. They hop the accommodation of song titles.

though... As for the 'bleak' aspect of it all, well, certainly — nobody sailed all evening. But it cheered me up more than anything 'Fun'-flunted, to know that there is still hope of genuinely new

Rebel

DINGWALLS, LONDON

IT'S NO great liberty to assume that anyone reading under the name 'Rebel' mightn't be averse to slanging The Establishment with a little hell-raising

What you'd least expect is a band whose only serious commitments appear to be to guzzling ale, posing, and munitating old Chuck Berry numbers.

Exactly what. I'd like to know, is rebellious about a combo with an average age of about 35, and a brace of avous 35, and a brace of gultarises sporting Rod Stewart-type Greco-pineapple hairdos, hammering Stone's numbers so death with garish heavy metal riffs.

And where, I muse, is the defiance in a third axeman fritering around in grabby tweed jacket and cap, playing fills that are living homage to Status Que

As for their choice of material, what on earth is the point of churning out "Johnny B Goode". "Raute 66", and even some old blues number, while still clinging to pretensions of nowlty?

To make matters worse, me twin lead guitarists were both very proficient, as evinced by a song called "The Price Of Rainbows", so why they're content to be in the ranks of such a monstously unimaginative hand, I can't even hazard a guess.

Mark Ellen

Great Slate 'farewell'

Black Slate Junior Brown

MUSIC MACHINE, LONDON

THE ACCOMPLISHED Black State roadshow has

MUSIC MACHINE, LONDON
THE ACCOMPLISHED Black State roadshow has reached just about the limit of its capabilities without coursing a drastic change of direction.
Ouring the past year or thereabouts, riding off the success of Sticks Main", the group have maintained an active touring schedule in the UK, during which time they have gained both in terms of professional expertise and fante.
However, without the benefit of a secure recording outlet, Black Slate are now doorsed to circle an ever-decreasing futurity of small clob venues and audiences.
As a result, their management are taking the group upon a tour of Jamanica next month, where they will also be completing work on a long-awaited debut I.P at Upsetter's Black Ark studio.
The gig at the Music Machine was touted as Black Slate's great farewell performance. One of those dever-opted events like, say, Soft Machine's Middle Earth concert a decade back (when the board disappeased to Puris, not to return until a couple of years later, and then boasting a disquietingly different line-up). It proved a friumphant parting note.
First outstage was young Jundor Brown, newest act with Tempus Records — the previous label of both Steel Pulse and Maturibi — at the emburkation of his cureer.
Backed by Ladbroke Grove compatrious Aswad's rhythms section, plus Ras I of Brimstone and brother Lloyd Brown on percussion, Jundor Brown stage well, danced with flair, and moved acrosa stage with agreeable persence.
Sudly, his self-composed material left u lot to be desired in terms of originality. "Equal Rights", "Show The Youths The Way", "Jah Say" and "Isroel" all piled themes already given tyrical stricture by estertainers of more established experience. Jundor's closing number, merely, "Jah Fund Babylon Gulfty" — Juajor Stone Preservice.
Starting on the low-key "Sing A Little Song", Black Slate

plagintising the inspiration of Journing Spear's 1900 if respect demonstrated his potential and flair; the single inspired song in a small repertoire.

Starting on the low-key "Sing A Little Song", Black Slate paced the length of un inevitable stage act, including renditions of "They Can't Make Us, They Can't Break Us (Do What You Wannan Do)". The Abysinians: "Declaration of Rights", "Sticks Man", "It's Consing" and "This Is Reggee Music".

By the time the group moved into an "Endous" / "Natural Mystic" medley la tribute to the hormer Bob Marley, Black State's Music Machine audience were ecstatically foosting the band in ritualised dance.

This was followed by the climax of their show. The Janualcans' old Festival knees-op "Ba Ba Boom", at the conclusion of which they left the stage, only to return for an encore detailing their most recent release, "Live Up To Love".

Oth coo coo—screw coo coo—bagga bugaboo!

Penny Reel



BLACK SLATE. Pic: DAVE HENDLEY

Mike Westbrook **Brass Band** OPEN SPACE, LONDON

CABARET, THAT CABARET, THAT long-training standby of fringe theater, is one of those iditors that look easy on paper and usually turn out like a bellyflopped jelly on the boards. You can't just bung anything in, and rely on the old sketchbook excuse to puil you through.

skerchbook, excuse to pull you through.

Mike Westbrook, composer of "Mamn Chicago" and header of the troupe, knows all that backwards. More than anyone else on the British scene, he bears out Stravinski's definition that the composer is blice a shoemaker, pulling and pushing his material into the required shape: manual effect of required shape: manual effects or pushing his material into the required shape; manual gifts to offset the usual flannel about muses and divine inspiration. Westee is a time craftsman. No section of his latest work goes on too long, and all the transitions are seamless. For example, the way that fast.

transitions are seamless. For example, the way that Kate Westbrook's vocal on "Apple Pie" (lyttes by Adrian Mitchell) gives way to a book as interchange between roline and trambure which in turn evolves into something deleases the entry of a tenor and many well, shows just how

homogenous and organic the

bomogenous and organic the composer's craft can be. With a book based around Chicago's history of wardheeling pofiticians. Prohibition gangsters and the slaughterhouses, and an all-brass cast, memories of Brecht and Kurt Weill are Brecht and Kurt Weill are bound to be evoked; that toddling town has always been the political polemicist's dream. Westie has always been an unabashed celectic, taking bits and pieces from contrasting idsoms and pressing them into service — Weilt, Monk, Bali, R&B, Free iner.

The sound of the band is The sound of the band is sumptious, avoiding the compah and emphasizing the multed bouquet of missed brass, trumper, euphonium, tenor horn, sanophones. Cutstanding solo work from Paul Rutherford on trombute and the first ned dispensation. Paul Rutherford on Frombone and the fast and slippery alto of Chris Hunter. Phil Minton is a phenomenally gymnastic singer, a species of supercharged Leo Watson who can get the tunsils around the weirdest noises and make them

swing
Fun is the key-word, and
everybody left smiling. If you
miss them, check out "Goose
Sauce" by the Mike Westbrook
Brass Band on Original
Records.
Brian Case



Boomtown Rats HAMMERSMITH ODEON

THE LAST time I saw the Boomtown Rats prior to this emphatic Hammersmith triumph was last year at the Marquee. Remove the tinsel, the cameramen and the multicoloured beachballs that cluttered the stage beside Graham Parker's ace horn section, and the ace norn section, and the Rats remain basically the same good clubland R&B band they were in those far-off sweaty days. Towards the end this show, Bob Geldol took the time to

Bob Geldol took the time to thank the audience for the "best mue months" of his life. And there's no denying that the Rais have worked hard for their success or that it's been achieved with style, and again, undeniable ralent. It's hard to knock a band who go on of their way, as the

who go out of their way, as the Rats do, to make sure the kids

rais do, to make sure the kids are not shortchanged, but I still reserve a few doubts. For starters, they are going forward primarily by looking back; back, to the pop music of the early 708—the cherubic Johnny Fingers' keyboards

particularly recall the twists and squeaks of the old Sporks Mael-streem; back, more than anything, to the R&B of the Stones.

Stones.

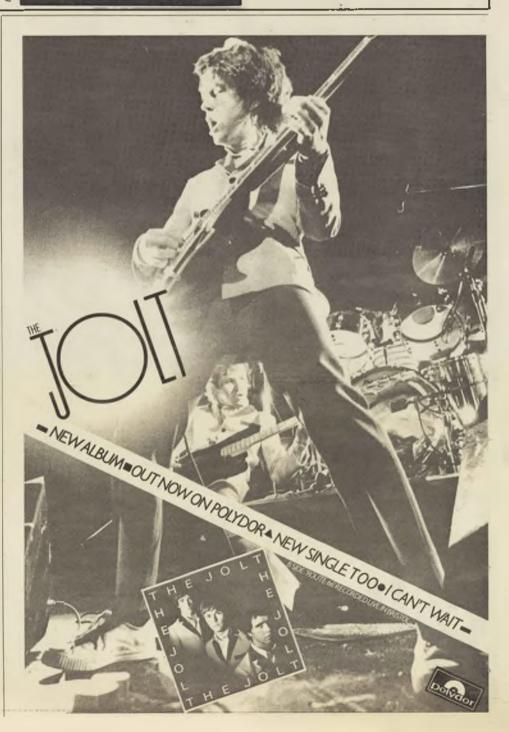
On top of that the irksome showband/showbir/ parodic left me feeling like the White Man In Hammersmith Odeon As Usee it, there are two R&B based bands, the Rats and The Jam, booked into the mainstream cleims or the New and The Jam, booked into the mainstream riding on the New Wave and enjoying considerable success at the moment. Of the two, The Jam are far superior. There's a him of desperation about the Rais and their sonic tonic not evident in the live fire and skill of The Isman.

evident in the five fire and skill of The Jam.
There's also something decidedly forced about the Rais in songs like the cringful "Joey" — a Springsteenesque sireet scenario that would send the Asbury One turning in his 69 Chevy.
The Rais — if the audience at Hommore mith was sending

The Rats — if the audience at Hammersmith was anything to go by — rival Junathan Ruchman in providing rock and roll for the under 14s. Which is fine.

only I'm 20, and I had T. Rex when I was that age and I don't really need the smug wholesale Rais now.

Adriso Thrifts



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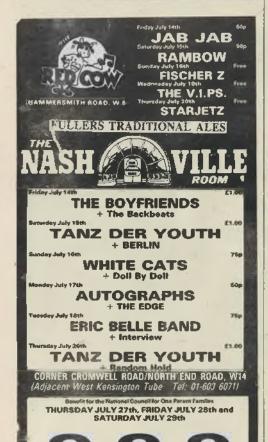
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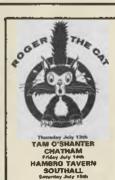
SORE THROAT



ADAM & THE ANTS

This Thursday, July 13th MARQUEE CLUB





SOUTHALL
tensered, July 18th
CRANBROOK
ILFORD
Westersberg July 18th
STAPLETON TAVERN
CROUCH END
ented by Vehicle Music
impre promotions 01:204 36

Siouxsie and the Banshees THE SHIRTS WHITE CATS ROUNDHOUSE SUNDAY 23rd JULY at 5-30 AT THE CALIFORNIA BALLROOM, DUNSTABLE

+ ROBBIE VINCENT

SATURDAY JULY 22nd at 7.30pm

Tickets CZ-50 from F. B. Moore Records Laton, Dunisible, Blotchley & Hischin Velgohore Luton (24/22, D. J. Holland Reco Ulbuzzed, Past & Present Race Welford, Spin-A-Diler Ablendon Squise, Northambon, telephone 311144, L. A. Recs High Street, Pushden, telephone 55064, Jordans Reco Silver Street Welfingborough, selephone 222689, Hilly Silver Street Bedford, Record Room St. Albatn. California Box Office, telephone Dunisible 67894 er an door on night.

HARVEY GOLDSMITH PRESENTS

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A UNIQUE EVENT THE ONLY U.K. CONCERT TALKING HEADS

MERGER

Wednesday 12th July £2.00 in advance £2.25 on door

THE RUNAWAYS

THE DICKIES

THE ADDIX

Sunday 16th July £2.28 in advance £2.50 on door

Doors open 7.15pm

Trickets available from the Box Office, Lyr The Strand, W.C.201-636 371S. The Harvey C Chapmells, 50 New Bond St. London WI 01-629 34

LAST THE WHITE **BASTION!**

246 HIGH ST. ACTON

C GAS 5

+ Skid Marks + Jerry Floyd Wed. 19th July 8.00

NSANGSRS

AT THE

RAILWAY HOTEL **WEST HAMPSTEAD** TUESDAY 18th JULY

JULY 14th YOUNG VIC JULY 15th RED LION, WATFORD JULY 17th ROCHESTER CASTLE — STEVE 01-727 9734

F Club Leeds. F Club Leeus. Thursday July 13th Garden, Middlesboro.

Friday July 14th MARQUEE LONDON, Monday July 17th

NATIONWIDE GIG GUID

Thursday

BIRMUNGHAM Survel Organ: RICKY COOL & THE ICEBERGS BIRMINGHAM Railway Hotel: MAGNUM BLACKBURN King George's Hall: THE CLASH-SHIKTIDE

BIRMNOHAM Railway Hotel: MAGNUM
BLACKBURN King George's Hail: THE CLASHSUKCIDE
BRIGHTON Albandra: THE SATELLITES
BRIGHTON Albandra: THE SATELLITES
BRIGHTON Becuriere: THE EXECUTIVES
BRIGHTON Becuriere: THE EXECUTIVES
BRIGHTON COMPANION BAS CAUS: THE
PIRANHASATTRINNICKY & THE DOTS
BRIGHTON Hungry Years: JODEY
BRISTOL Granary: CHAMPION
COLWYN BAY Diskland Showbar: THE ENID
COVENTRY City Coarte Club: RAY KING BAND
CROMER West Runton Parlibon: THE RUNAWAYS
CROYBON Fairfield Hall: KENNY BALL BAND
DERBY Station Hotel: STEVE ASHLEY
EDINBURCH The Place: GOOD STUFF BAND (resiCREENRORD School: PIN-UPS
HARLSTON Chikern Club: J.A.L.N. BAND
HAYES Affed Beck Centre: THE LATE SHOW.
/ZAINE GRIFF
HIGH WYCOMBE NOS: THE OUT
LEFDS 'F Club: JOHNNY MOPED
LEFDS Vira Wine Bes: LUIGI & DA BOYS
LONDON CAMPING TOWN Bridge HOUSE: FILTHY
MENASTY
LONDON CAMPING TOWN Bridge HOUSE: FILTHY
MENASTY
LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge HOUSE: FILTHY
MANASTY
LONDON HAMMERSMITH Red COW: WARREN
HARRY
LONDON HAMMERSMITH THE SWAN: UNCLE PO
LONDON HAMMERSMITH THE RUISING: FRED

HARRY
LONDON HAMMERSMITH The Swan: UNCLE PO
LONDON HAMMERSMITH The Rullard: FRED
RICKISHAWS HOT COOLLES
LONDON HARROW RD. Windsor Castle:
SOUNDER
LONDON ISLINGTON Hope & Andror: THE
SYLES

SOUNDER

LONDON ISLINGTON Hope & Anchor: THE
EXILES
LONDON KENSINGTON De Villiers Bar: GOLD
DUST TWINS
LONDON KENSINGTON The Nucleiche: THE
REZILLOSTHE INVADERS
LONDON MARquee Cabe THE AUTOMATICS
LONDON OLD KENT RD. Thomas A Beckett: THE
TIDME LEST

LONDON OLD KENT RD. Thomas A Beckett: THE TUMBLERS
LONDON SHEPHERDS BUSH Trafalgar: APOSTROPHE
LONDON SOUTHGATE Royalty Belleroom: CADILLACTHE BONESHAKERS
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Pegasus: O.K.
LONDON WANDSWORTHS RD. Southbank Polysechnic: THOMPSON TWINS
LONDON WATERLOO Young Vic (11 pm): RAINCOATTOTA WILCOX
LONDON W.C.L. Collegiace Thesire; CARLA BLEY
BAND

LONDON W.C.I. COREDAGE TREASURED AND LONDON WOOLWICH TREASURED SAILEM MANCHESTER Disabery Cavalcade: SALEM MANCHESTER Moss Side Alexandra Park (Amin-Nazi Lague Caraincia): GRAHAM PARKER & THE RUMOUR/JOHN COOPER CLARKETHE SMIRKSTHE FALL MELTON MOWBRAY Painted Lady: CISSY STONE BAND (for three days).

MELTON MOWBRAY Painted Ludy: CISSY STONE BAND (for three day)
MILFORD HAVEN Torch Theatre: KRAKATOA NOTTINGHAM Hearry Good Fellow: TEST TUBE BABES NOTTINGHAM Langley Mill Club: PARADOX NOTTUNGHAM Langley Mill Club: PARADOX NOTTUNGHAM Town ATMIS: ZHAIN PLAYMOUTH Meter: MAGAZINE PORTSMOUTH Cumberland Tavers: BLIND DOG PORT TALBOT Troobadour: KRYPTON TUNES POYNTON FOIL Centre: JOE BEARD SHEFFIELD Limit Club: THE LURKERS/THE DIKKES

SKEGNESS Festival Pavilion: GUYSNIDOLLS STOKE Etraria Rose & Crown: ALIAS

Friday

ABERYSTWATH Both Hall- KRYPTON TUNES BICESTER Nowhere Club: DOUBLE XPOSURE BIRMINGHAM Barbarella's: THE RUNAWAYS BIRMINGHAM Bard Organ: THE TIALIANS BIRMINGHAM Edgbaston Bell & Pump; JOHNNY COPPIN

BIRMINGHAM Barebarella'S: THE RUNAWAYS
BIRMINGHAM BERGODARIC THE TALLANS
BIRMINGHAM Edghandon Bell & Pumpi JOHNNY
COPPIN
BIRMINGHAM Elizahethan Days: BAD EARTH
BLACKBURN Dirty Duck: DAWNWEAVER
BACKBURN Dirty Duck: DAWNWEAVER
BACKBURN DIRTY BALL & THE SMOOTH
OPERATORS etc. (for three days)
BRADFORD Star Hotel: PACKIE BYRNE &
BONNIE SHALJEAN
BRISTOL COATON HAII: MAGAZINE
CARMARTHEN CIVE HaII: KRAKATOA
CHATHAM Tam O'Shaster: DOLL BY DOLL
COVENTRY Ryton Bridge: RENO
DERBY BELI Mose: STRANGE DAYS'BUZZ BAND
HAILSHAM Princes: Park: POSSUM
HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN HAII: THE LURKERS /
WHITE CATS /THE VENTS
HULL DOKEN CHOST CHIPA STREET
BRALE SYNGTON COUNTY CHOP: THE DODGERS
BROOMER FOR Chot: STEVE ASKLEY
LEGIS MUCH FOR CHOT.
LONDON CAMDEN DIRECTOR
LONDON CAMDEN

LONDON COVENT GARDEN Basement Club: METABOLIST LONDON COVENT GARDEN Rock Garden: THE RETAINERS

ENTIELD Starlight Room: GUYSTV-

The big one! **Dylan plays Blackbushe** Airport on Saturday

BOB DYLAN (top left) returns to Britain after completing his shows on the Continent, and plays list final European date on Saturday. It's the massive "Pleate" at Blackbushe Airport in Surrey which, if the weather's filme, could attract one of the largest crowds ever assembled in this country for a music event. ERIC CLAPTON (top right) and his band put in a quest appearance, along with GRAHAM PARKER (left) & The Rumour, JOAN ARMATRADING (right) and German band Lake. Fasten your sent-belts, prepare for take-oil.

SCARBOROUGH Penthouse: THE SHIRTS
SHEFFIELD Limit Cub: GLORIA MUND!
SLEAFORD Mags Head - PUGGERNAUT
SOUTHEND Westelf Pavilion: THE SPINNERS
SPALDING Springleds: THE NEXT BAND
SUTTON COLDFIELD Marismin Social Club: THE
UTENSILS
SWINDON Brunel Rooms; HI-TENSION
WATFORD Red Lion: DESPERATE STRAGHTS
WOLVERHAMPTON Laydaystet: WHIRL WIND
YORK White Swan; ETHEL THE FROO

Saturday

ABERTILLERY Six Bells: TRANS-AM
AYLESBURY Frians: MAGAZINE/THE SHIRTS
BATH Cuberhay School: THE SHORTWAVEBAND
BIRMINGHAM Barbarella's: THE RUNAWAYS
BURMINGHAM Barbarella's: THE RUNAWAYS
BURMINGHAM Barbarella's: THE RUNAWAYS
BURMINGHAM BARBAREL Grant BERNT FORD & THE
NYLONS
BERMINGHAM Kimps Heath Hure & Hounds:
MELANIE HARROLD (ex-Joanna Carlia)
BURMINGHAM Shorwood Rooms: REDM
BERMINGHAM MÖDHAM HARROLD (EN-JOANNA ARMATRADINGOGRAHAM PARKER & THE RUMOURLAKEMERGER
BRADPORD Golden Cockerel: THE EDDY
BRIDGWATER ARIS Centre: THE DANGEROUS
BROTHERSTHE LEAR JETS
BRISTOL University: THE ENID
BUDE HEAGHAM GÜNER FRINGE BENEFIT
CARDIFY Sophis Gardens: RİKKI & THE LAST
DAYS OF EARTH/THE CTMARONS
CARLISLE Flops Club: STRAW DOGS
CHELTENHAM Bishops Cleeve School: BANNANA
MOON
CHESTERFIELD Birmington Tavens: VESUVIUS
CROMER WEST RUNAN PAVIDE: THE SEARCHERS
DAGENHAM Longhouse Youth Chib: TICKETSPURPILE HEARTS/CLIQUE
GRANTHAM Bigsbys: THE NEXT BAND
GRAVESEND Red Lion: WHITE CATS
HANGE Bircheshe ad Gardeners: NORMAN JAY &
VINTAGE
HARLOS BURGER THE MONOS
KENDAL Brewery Arts Centre: THE GANG OF
FOUR
LEEDS Sungin Pour: RED EYE
LEEDS Vivis Wine Bas: DEADRINGER

HARROGATE P.G.'S Colo: CYANDE
HAWREN TOWER HORE: THE MONOS
KENDAL Brewery Arts Centre: THE GANG OF
FOUR
LEEDS Staging Post: RED EYE
LEEDS Viva Wine Bas: DEADRINGER
LINCOLN A.J.'s Chob: JAPAN
LIVERPOOL Lifinerhoad Red Lion: JUGGERNAUT
LIVERPOOL Lifinerhoad Red Lion: JUGGERNAUT
LIVERPOOL SANDING Apple: EMERGENCY
LONDON BATTERSSA Arts Centre: SWIFT
LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge Hosse: JACKIE
LYNTONS HAPPY DAYS
LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge Hosse: JACKIE
LYNTONS HAPPY DAYS
LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge Hosse: JACKIE
LYNTONS HAPPY DAYS
LONDON CHELSEA The Wiscataked; OVERSEAS
LONDON COVENT GARDEN Rock Garden: THE
RETAINERS
LONDON ENFIELD Startlight Room: GUYSNDOLLS
LONDON BENFIELD Startlight Room: GUYSNDOLLS
LONDON HAMPSTRAD E.G.A. Stadio: BLACK
SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN
LONDON HAMPSTRAD E.G.A. Stadio: BLACK
SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN
LONDON HAMPSTRAD E.G.A. Stadio: BLACK
SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN
LONDON HARLESDEDEN ROUS THEAT
KONTHE RUTS
LONDON NEW BARNET Duke of Lancaster: JERRY
THE FERRET
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Fegessus: BIG
CHIEF WITH DIKK HECKSTALL-SMITII
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON FEGESSUS: BIG
CHIEF WITH DIKK HECKSTALL-SMITII
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON FEGESSUS: BIG
CHIEF WITH DIKK HECKSTALL-SMITII
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON ROCHOSEY CARTE:
ERK? BELL BAND
LONDON WATERLOO Young Vic (11 pm): JAM

LONDON Upstairs at Ronnie Scott's: ROOTS LONDON WATERLOO Young Vic (11 pm): JAM TODAY LONDON W.10 Acklum Hall: CAROL GRIMES-

LONDON W.16 Acklam Hall: CAROL GRIMES-ANISTY

ANISTY

MACCLESFIELD Rose Street School: THE

LEMMINGSSILVERWING

MANCHESTER Carib Cito: RAY KING BAND

MANCHESTER Midland Hotel MATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Midland Hotel MATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Medical Hotel MATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Medical Hotel MATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Medical Hotel FATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Medical Hotel FATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Medical FATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Medical FATCHBOX

MANCHESTER Pembiroke

Hall: DESMOND

DEKKER

MANCHESTER Valeotine's: DOZY, BEAKY, MICK

& TICH

MIDDLESBROUGH Rock Garden: THE DODGERS

NOTTINGHAM Boat Club: BUSTER JAMES

NOTTINGHAM Hearty Good Fellow: OUTWARD

BAND

NOTTINGHAM Sandpiper: STRANGE MIST

READING Target Club: THE HEAT

RETFORD Proterhous: KRYPTON TUNES

RHONDDA LESINE Centre: KRAKATOA

SHEFFELD Limit Club: DAVE LEWIS BAND

SLAFORD R.A.F. CTANWER: STRANGE DAYS

SOUTHEND Westell Poviloon: THE SPINNERS

ST. ALBANS City Hall: TRAPEZE/BLEAK HOUSE

ST. AUSTELL New Corniba Riviers: THE RUBETTES

WOKING Centre Halls: THE INVADERS

ST. ALBANS City Hall: TRAPEZE/BLEAK HOUSE

ST. AUSTELL New Corniba Riviers: THE RUBETTES

WOKING Centre Halls: THE INVADERS

Sunday

BAKEWELL Monsal Head: WITCHFYNDE BARROW Crice Hall: "UP COUNTRY" with McCAR-THYSLIM PICKINS/STEPPINSTONE/PETER & MARY RIPM/MSCARLES

MARY
BIRMSHAM Railway Hosel: VIDEO
BLACKPOOL Imperial Hotel: DESMOND DEKKER
BRIGHTON Albambra: DOUBLE EXPOSURE
CANTERBURY Odeon: MAGAZINE
CARDIFF Chapter Arts Centre: JOHNNY COPPIN
CHRISTCHURCH Jumpers. Tavers: WHIRLWIND
GREAT YARMOUTH ABC Theater; CO-CO
KENDAL Brewery Arts Centre: THE GANG OF
FOUR

KENDAL Brewery Arts Centre: THE GANG OF FOUR LEEBS Viva Wine Bat: Q.P.O. LIVERPOOL DOVE & Olive: HYBRID LONDON ANGEL City Arms: ZHAIN LONDON BATTIESEA Nags: Head: JUGULAR VEIN LONDON CAMBEN Brecknock: THE VIPERS LONDON CAMBEN Drigwafts: THE SHIRTS LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge House: REMUS DOWN BOULEVARD LONDON CHISWICK John Bult: THE INVADERS LONDON COVENT GARDEN Rock Garden: THE EXILES

CONTINUES OVER . . .

Maggie's comeback at Festival Hall



MAGGIE BELL taunches her comeback with her new band on Sunday, in one of a string of three summer concerts at London Festival Hall. The other two shows are the first stage performance of "Variations" (Snturday) and The Chieftains (Monday). Unfortunately, the scheduled Linda Lewis gig on Tuesday has had to be cancelled (see news pages).

LONDON FULRAM TOWN Huft: REGGAE REGULAR/BLITZ
LONDON HARROW RD. Windsor Cartle: RAMBOW/THE RUTS
LONDON ISLINGTON Hope & Aschor: PIN-UPS
LONDON KENSINGTON The Nathville: THE BOY-

LONDON MANOR PARK Three Rubbins WARRIOR LONDON Marquee Club: NEW HEARTS / SPARE PARTS

LONDON NEW BARNET Duke of Lancaster: REBEL LONDON PADDINGTON Western Counties: STEVE

LONDON PADDINGTON Western Counties: STEVE BOYCE BAND
LONDON PLITNEY Half Moon; NOBL MURPHY
LONDON PUTNEY SAIr & GARCE: GREIG &
NIGBL'S FOLK AND BLUES NIGHT
LONDON SOUTH BANK Jubilee Gardens (free openair, 6 pm): REDBRASS
LONDON SOUTHGATE Royaky Ballcoom:
TAMMASHANTE:
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Pegassas: AUTOGRAPHS
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Rochester Castle:
CHARLIE DORE'S BACK POCKET
LONDON Upstairs at Ronnie Scott's: ROOTS

LONDON WATERLOO Yong Vic (II pm):
AMOLETRAM/PRAG-VEC
LONDON W.3 Pizza Express: RUBY BRAFF (for a week, excluding Sundeys)
LONDON W.3 Pizza Express: RUBY BRAFF (for a week, excluding Sundeys)
LONDON W.3 Actham Hall: PLEASURE ZONE / NIGHT FLIGHT / THE CRACK
MACCLESFIRLD Travellers Rest: THE ACCELERATORS
MANCHESTER The Factory: THE GANG OF FOUR
MANCHESTER Tydesley R.C.: THOSE NAUGHTY
LUMPS

MANCHESSER Valentine's: DOZY, BEAKY, MICK ALTON
MANCHESTER Valentine's: DOZY, BEAKY, MICK ALTON
NEWCASTLE Maylair Ballnoom: HOT SNAX
NOTITINGHAM Hearty Good Fellow: LAST CALL
NOTITINGHAM imperial Notet: SLIP HAZARD &
OUTENGIAM Megalomania at the Sandpiper: THE
TOURISTS
PORTSMOUTH Witshire Arm: STAA MARX
PRESTATIN Royal Victoria Hotel: THE EDDY
RETPORD Porterhouse: SONJA KRISTINA &
ESCAPE

31G GIII

COMPILED BY DEREK

LONDON FINCHLEY formation: MICKEY JONES BAND
LONDON HARROW RD, Windsor Castle: SPRING OFFENSIVE
LONDON ISLINGTON Cultural Festival: CHARGE
LONDON KENSINGTON The Nashville: WHITE CATSDOLL BY DOLL
LONDON OSFORD ST. 100 Chub: TONY MCPHEF &
TERRAPLANE

LONDON PECKHAM Montpelier (Junchtme): BLUE

MOON PECHIAAN MONIPER' (URCHIME): BLUE MOON ROVAL FESHIVAL HAIL: MAGGIE BELL & HER BAND LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON PERSON SORE THROAT LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON RICHESTER CASILE: BERLIN

LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Rechester Casile:
BERLIN.
LONDON STRAND Lyceum Bullroom: THE
RUNAWAYS
LONDON WATERLOO Young Vic Theatre.
REDBHASS
LONDON WATERLOO Young Vic Theatre.
REDBHASS
LONDON WACLI Pindar of Wakelield: SWIFT
LUTON Couters. BERZIN
MANCHESTER Band on the Wall: AQUA/CRISPY
AMBULENCENT. MATILDA'S BOYS
MARGATE Winter Gardens: THE WURZELS
NOTTINGHAM Bear LONE XYRO
NOTTINGHAM Hearty Good Fellow: THE PRESS
PAIGNTON Fellik Centre: THERAPY/MARTIN &
CRAHAM
REDHILL Lakers Hotel: THE CURE
SHOTTON Central Hole: THE EDDY
SOUTHEND Technical Collège: THE END
WHITLEY BAY REX HOSE: BLITZKRIEG BOP
WORKINGTON Cleator Moor WMC: NORMAN JAY
& VINTAGE

Monday

BIRMINGHAM Barbarella's SUICIDE
BIRMINGHAM Barrel Organ: WIDE BOYS
BRENTWOOD Bermin Club: DOLL BY DOLL
BRISTOL Stonehouse: BRENT FORD & THE
NYLONS

BUXTON Gaslight Club. STEPPER (for three days) CHADWELL HEATH Greyhound: THE LATE

CHAINELL HEATH Creyhould THE LATE SHOW CHESTER Quaintways. BULLETS CHESTERIELD Adam & Eve. SAMSON COICHESTER Recreation Hotel: JOHNNY COPPIN DONCASTER Balby Athmount Club: NORMAN JAY & VINTAGE EXETTER ROUTS. RACING CARS CLASGOW Doune Custle: THE MOTELS LEGIS VINTAGE CLASGOW Doune Custle: THE MOTELS STOMPERS LEEDS VINTAGE STOMPERS LEEDS VINTAGE WINE BAI GALLERY LEFEN Yeadon Percock Hotel: CYANIDE LINCOLN A.J.'S Chub: GLORIA MUNDI LIVERPHOL ETK'S: THE SHIRTS LONDON ANGEL City Arms. RAMBOW / THE RUTS

LONDON ANDEL CHY ORCHOOCK ONE. HAND CLAPPING CLAPPING CLAPPING OFFEN-SIVE / SNAX / JODIE LONDON CAMBEN Music Machine: JAPAN COVENT GARDEN ROCK Garden: TRADER CANDON HARROW ROAD Windoo; Castle: ZHAIN CONDON HARROW ROAD Windoo; Castle: ZHAIN CONDON HARROW ROAD Windoo; Castle: ZHAIN

TRADER
LONDON HARROW ROAD Window Castle: ZHAIN
LONDON KENSINGTON The Nashville: AUTOGRAPHS
LONDON Matquee Cub. JOHNNY MOPED
LONDON OLD BROMFTON RO. Trovbadous:
BROOK ROAD BUREAU
LONDON PLYINEY HIM Moon: HOT VULTURES
LONDON PLYINEY STAR & GATER, PENNY ROYAL
LONDON PLYNEY STAR & GATER, TENNY ROYAL
LONDON ROBINE SOOTE, CUb. MARY LOU
WILLIAMS: LOUIS STEWART QUARTET (for
1900 weeks)

WILLIAMS - LOUIS SIEWART GOARTE (10)
LONDON Rhys) Fesival Hall: THE CHIEFTAINS
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON PERSONS. BLUE
SCREAMING / MONOCHROME SET
LONDON STOKE, NEWINGTON Rochester Custle:
PRACI-VEC

PRAG-VEC
LONDON WEST HAMPSTEAD Railway Hote!: THE
HEAT / LANDSCAPE
LONDON W. I Speakray: THE BLADES
LONDON WOOLWICH Tramshed: WORLD
SERVICE

SERVICE
MANCHESTER Band on the Wall: THE OUT
NEWPORT Stow Hill Town Hall: J.A.L.N. BAND
NOTTINGSIAM Imperial Hotel: GWAIHIR
SHEFFIELD Fishs Club: CO-CO (for a week)
SUNDEBLAND Boldernakers Club: MATCHBOX
WOLVERHAMPTON Queen's Hotel: ATLAS



week for an alt-hus-brief visit, playing just four gigs. If you have seeing them, or simply fancy flown, you can carch them all Cromer (Thurs-day), Brinning and O'ri by and Saturday) and London (Sunday). Period above is Juan Jett,



THE MOTORS begin a new series of a dozen summer gigs in Coventry on Tuesday, followed by Birmingham on Wednesday.

O Other highlights this week: the Anti-Nazi Leugue Carnival in Manchester with Graham Parker (Thursday) and The Buzzcocks (Saturday); and Dartal free concert in Harlow on Saturday.

Tuesday

ANGLESEY Play Coch: HOT WATER
BIRMINGHAM Barbarella's: GLORIA MUND!
BIRMINGHAM Barbarella's: GLORIA MUND!
BIRMINGHAM Fighting Cocks: BRUJO
BIRMINGHAM Fighting Cocks: BRUJO
BIRMINGHAM Fighting Cocks: BRUJO
BIRMINGHAM Fighting Cocks: BRUJO
BISHOPS STORTFORD Triad Leisure Centre: TEAN
BEATS
BOURNEMOUTH Village Bow!: DELEGATION
BRIGHTON Richmond Hote: THE PIRANHASNUCKY AND THE DOTS
CHELTENHAM Plough Inn: CYANIDE
COVENITY Locaron: THE MOTORS
DONCASTER Romen and Julies: DAVE BERRY
EXETER ROME: SCRATCHER
ELESTOW Amphora: THE MOTORS
DONCASTER ROME: STATCHER
ELESTOW Amphora: THE MOTORS
LONDON CAMBER
LONDON CAMBER
DINGWALS: CHECKEL
LONDON CAMBER
DINGWALS: THE LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge House! THE
YOUNG BUCKS
LONDON CANNING TOWN Bridge House! THE
YOUNG BUCKS
LONDON STOKE NEW LICIDE
LONDON MATQUAC CLAB: SUICIDE
LONDON STOKE NEW INCTON Pegasus.
STRAIGHT &
LONDON STOKE NEW INCTON PEGASUS.
DESPERATE STRAITS
LONDON STOKE NEW INCTON PEGASUS.
DESPERATE STRAITS
NOT THE ON TOWN THE LIGHT SHAPA HOLE!
CONDON WOOL WICH TEAD RICH AND AND HOLE!
CONDON WOOL WICH TEAD RICH AND AND HOLE!
STRAIGHT &
LONDON STOKE PEW INCTON PEGASUS.
STRAIGHT &
LONDON STOKE NEW INCTON PEGASUS.
DESPERATE STRAITS
NUMBERON TO TOWN CUBE THE SHARTS
NUMBERON TOWN CUBE THE SHARTS
NUMBERON THE SHART

<u>Wednesday</u>

BIRMINGHAM, Barbareila's. PALOMINO
BIRMINGHAM Barrel Organ; BRUJO
BIRMINGHAM Golden Eagle: XILLING TIME
BIRMINGHAM Golden Eagle: XILLING TIME
BIRMINGHAM Golden Eagle: XILLING TIME
BIRMINGHAM May are Suite: THE MOTORS
BIRMINGHAM May fair Suite: THE MOTORS
BIRMINGHAM May fair Suite: THE MOTORS
BIRMINGHAM Parallay Hotel: RAINMAKER
BIRMINGHAM Parallay Hotel: RAINMAKER
BIRMINGHAM Parallay Hotel: RAINMAKER
BIRMINGHAM Parallay Hotel: RAINMAKER
BIRMINGHAM Parallay Hotel: ROSES
PRIGHTON Alambra: DANDIES
CHELTENHAM Parallay Hotel: ROSES
PRIGHTON Alambra: DANDIES
CHELTENHAM Plough Ina: ROADSTERS
DONCASTER Romeo & Judet: DAVE BERRY
GLOGOT THE STIRTS
GLOGOT THE STORT T

BAND LONDON PECKHAM Montpelier: BLUE MOON LONDON PUTNEY Star & Garter: DANA SIMMONDS & GREEG'S FOLK AND BLUES EXTENSIVED.

SIMMONUS & VINTAGE SHOWCASE
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Pogassus 64 SPOONS
LONDON STOKE NEWINGTON Rochester Carde.
THE INVADERS
LONDON STRAND Lyceum Ballmonn: AUTO-GRAPHS
LONDON TROTTING Formsters Arms: U.K. SUBS /
RAPED - NORDOPYZ
LONDON WIMBLEDON F.C. Nelson's Club PEKOE
OBANCE

LONDON WIMPLE POON F.E. Netton's Club PEADE ORANGE NOTTINGHAM Soutopper: PI, YING SAUCERS PI, YMOUTH Big T.g. THE WURZELS PI, YMOUTH WOOD CENTER; RACING CARS SHEFFIELD Limit Club OTIS WAYGOOD BAND SKEGNESS FESTIVAL PAVILION, GUYS TO, DOILES SOUTHWILD GUDY THE FIRST BAND SOUTH WINDDPORD Railway Bell. ORIGINAL EAST SIDE STOMPERS USBURDED List of Hay: JOHNNY COPPIN WOLVERHAMPTON Lafayetie: ATLAS

24 HOURS TOUR

The Transmitters are playing inside The Speaker

Thursday 13th July

The Transmitters are playing outside 12.00am The Rainbow 5.30pp 1.00pm The Roundhouse 7.00pp

1.30pm Dingwall's 2.30pm The Lyceum

4.00pm The Nashville Rhoms 4.30pm Hammersmith Odeon

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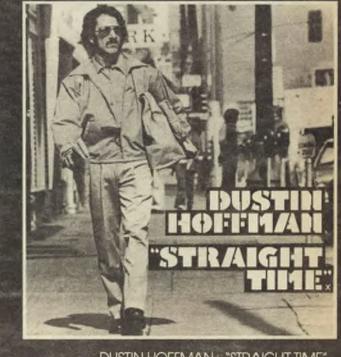
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Subway Sect Prefects

MANCHESTER

TWO GROUPS, both of whom have to some extent followed their instincts. Prefects have always been aware of the area they were aiming for; Subway Sect have developed through numerous incarnations testing almost by a process of trial

Neither have 'compromised', neither can ever be said to be confident with their product, neither play easy music. Both have a small audience both at the

their product, neither play easy music Both have a small addience both at the prevent and potentially. This is a tragedy, but only artificial additives plus facets like 'marketing' and 'exploitation' generally introduce consumers to a product, as Subway Sect and Prefects must suffer and struggle. Rock audiences and listeners are notoriously refuciant to contribute much effort to a performance, to meet half way, to assimilate. A lack of curiosity, a downright lack of shame. The Prefects have been together for 15 months, with one major personnel change in March which settled tensions of direction within the band. Since their early days they have matured totally, no longer are they a shambles, at cross purposes perhaps, humbrously slaphappy.

The process of discovery obvious in November of last year, when their music was developing effectively and healthly), is still alive.

They use ordinary rock instruments; was natured hass, drume.

healthly, is still alive.

They use ordinary rock instruments;
two guitars, bass, drums, vocals,
ucrasional mouth organ. The calculated
elements of Prefects composition are
movements, direction and speed of
sounds, plus spontaneity with its
ultimate ower, expressioners and

sounds, plus spontaneity with its ultimate power, expressioness and creation of atmosphere(s). The music is simplistic, repetitive, peculiarly 'tight', alternating, with subtle variations within a movement altering variations within a movement altering its mood. It cam be vage, intense, unnerving. It relies loosely on orthodox rock techniques like harmony, rhythm, metody, but somehow strains these techniques, swallows them and spews them up slightly changed, so that the masse is only distantly recognisable as a length.

rock'.
The length and width of songs is



A TALE OF TWO BANDS

indeterminate; there is fast music, slow music and fast and slow at the same - time music. A very fluctuating, liquified state of noise is created, rock rhythms used but somehow submerged so that the confliens of a rigid framework are evaded. The drumming is rock drumming. In a skit, relatively

so that the confines of a rigid framework are evaded. The drumming is rock drumming, on a kit, relatively fast, limited, but percussion is used as a son of interruptive noise, for fracturing, propelling, texturing.

All this is indicative of the way The Prefects use orthodox rock instruments annaturally, almost giving them new found roles. They have established their own natural techniques for playing, proving the emotional and musical possibilities present within minimal orthodox technique.

Significant of new found depth and maturity from The Prefects is the way they now slide their ironical and cynical view of pupular rock music into their set. The previously straight humorous 46-second delivenes of 'Bubermian Rhapsody' have now gone. During a doomy, lumbering improvisation, vocal

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phrases float to the top of the music, just out ... angels with dirty faces ..." then slide back into the music ... "shot by both sides"... an evocative, disdainful use of references.

disdainfol use of references.
They need more discipline and control before any thought of records—at times the music became an endurance test—but such thoughts are a long way off. At their most concentrated and intense, they teanscended all barriers and played some of the purest music I've heard. On the edge of madness and room for a smile.

smile.
Subway Sect are quite an enigma.
From the early days, when Clash,
Buzzeocks, Sex Pistols, Subway Sect
played the 100 Club punk festival, lead
singer Vic Guddard is the only
frontman not to have made a name for
himself (unlike Rotten / Strummer /
Devotol / Shelley).
Because of this obscurity he's
probably had more room than those

probably had more room than those others to indulge and experiment, and certainly it's hard to deny that be

himself is a strong, individual writer and performer, as unique as the four who have 'armved'.

Compared to the likes of The Prefects, Subway Sect have to some extent had things 'easy'. They've had comfortable access to gigs, and have also made a record — "Nobody's Scared", a sub-standard ecoording from a vague period in their existence.

The band have passed through many distinct periods; early basic manimal aggressive punk, through blank, flatly improvised rock, then, as their control of instruments became sturder, into tough, strong, coherent rock songs.

Now, fully technically able, they have arrived at a music that is unpredictable only in the surprising orthodoxy of its cumponents. The cond, very American style is probably obvious when

style is probably obvious when Goddard's lyrical and musical pretensions are taken into account. He funcies himself as some sixt of modern halladeer — a role to which he could do

hallacer — a tote to wheth the constant justice.

The Subways' set now relies on drive and exhilaration; they play compact, necessible, emphatic songs, short and self conscious, with just a dash of discordancy and some absurd linges of country rock.
Goddard's Dylan influences surface

Coddard's Dytan influences surface to incongrous promineroe. He is now a strong and versatile performer. A guitar toughly slung over his shoulder, he occasionally played some excellent solos, sweet pickings full of pull and mystique. His vocal delivery is casual and laconic, and he uses it in much the and laconic, and he uses it in much the same way as Dylan sometimes does to construct a melody; not fluently, but in

same way as Lylan sometimes does to construct a melody; not fluently, but in a sharp exaggerated manner; relying on length of sounds, rising and falling.

Occasionally he woold round off a phrase with a disconcering sheep warthe reminscent of very early Bulan. Very odd.

Subway Sect are very odd.

Ultimately, they are all about growth. How they enhance their current particular stance, one of a very odvious rock basis with a strong recognition of —though not reliance on —much cummonicative rock from Dylan to Verlaine, will be intriguing. What Goddard has shown so far hints that once he has shaken off the borrowed mannerisms, he could be very important.

Young Bucks NEWCASTLE

THE YOUNG BUCKS are glowing hot and the feeling is good. Good because I watched them when the fire was kindled

and the latent energy was submerged in a mish-mash of bard sound and rough playing. Good because with all the encumbant problems of a fleedghing they stack with it. Good because the ledghing they stack with it. Good because their feeling for music is part of the General Tyneside A waltening. Tonight the "Burks maert what P've got it. Whether on the Stan soul of "Backlield in Motion", or the New York insanity of "Backlield in Motion", or the New York insanity of their own "Gold Cold Morning", it's there. "Dance you buggers, Cmon disce:" Deads Pait Raiferry from behind his heyboards, Unnecessary; there's not a soul in the place who kai't moving. The night reflects the entire Bedrock Festival. With Newcastle Festival. With Newcastle Festival. With Newcastle Festival-backed credibility, we've got the Guildhalt, recently a no-go area for rock. Four nights, 16 local bands and not enough room to hit your glass. The Young Bucks meanwhile prepare to furn the vanguard, ready for the impending an assion of the rest of the country. Archie Brown, blowing life through his dirty sax, stowy becoming the foontains, "Cert Your Feet Back On The Greund" his sung, his command and we throw our beauts back and deem a technic.

throw our heads back and dance, eye to eye fashiun. Tony Wackworth, Van Morrison voice, pretty face and slashing R&B galfar. I tell you, he's gunan he fashionable. He's so damo sure of himself confidence.

The Young Bucks are a live jukebox, stocked with goodles like "Gloria" and "Lets Dance" but their own songs provide that fittle bit extra. The message? Look out, the North is about to rise again.

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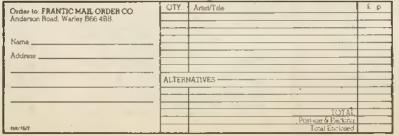
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Johansen goes frantic

David Johansen

SANTA MONICA

DAVID JOHANSEN, the guiding force of the misunderstood New York Dolls, is back after a period of

missing station and Dods off-shoot activity.

Azmed with former gultarist Syl Sylvain and a much tighter batch of musicians by his side, Johansen is on the road silvainty examing for 1 fall shake. With a strong and critically actalismed solo LP under his belt, the odds finally seem to be furning his

solo LP under no sens me way.

The only question is whether it's too late.

When the Dolls surfaced in the early '70s, they were a much-needed shot in the arm, inking away some of the attention from an over-abundance of singer-songwriters and tired bands: e-defining previously explored territories. A lthough they were bagged with the "glitter rockers", Johansen's songs had much of the bite that eluded the latter day Rolling Stones.

Whether the Dolls brought their inevitable downfull upon themselves is still questionable, but it's certain they're now uniced.

missed.

Enter Juhanese circa 1978.

Four years after the Dolfs stint, new wave, power pop and punk rock have taken over the Industry. Now there are hundreds of bands projecting an Irreverent stance and trying to make defiant statements. Johansen, no longer dusing anything really novel, has to prove he's better on musical merit alone. Image isn't going to help get press or sell records.

meeri aloue. Image isn't going to help get press or sell records this time.

With an inherent understanding of these problems, Johansen is talding his chances with a rough and rumble, affect mainstream hand.

There's almost a sense of masked desperation is his overly frantic approach. He takes the stage at the Santa Monica Civic and gues full throttle. He's not out to give you a chance to try and think about it; he's out to overwhelm with a batch of classy songs and unleasthed energy.



DAVID JOHANSEN Pic: CHRIS WALTER

DAVID JOHANSEN Pic: CHRIS WALTER

From the opening burs of "Cool Metro", Johansen kept the
audience translixed. Old Dolls fans were shricking along when
he launched into "Looking For A Kiss". They were almost too
loud, but the pace and assaulting power consumed the
auditorium in the frenzy.

Midway through the set, Johansen finally slowed thingdown. Strapping on an acoustic guitar he delivered a reflective,
reassuring version of "Frenchette": a new tune that chronicles
the story of sourcome trying to find themselves after enduring a
highly emotional romantic disappointment.

Lonellness and trustration seem to be themes Johansen wants
to explore. His riveting version of the LP's classic "Lonely
Treatment" was the show's highlight, with Johansen stalking the
stage in his sailor suit and slicked back hair.

Besides delving into the new album, readings of The Four
Tops" "Reach Out 1'll Be There", and the encore of
"Personality Crists", provided Johansen with a hulanced set,
It's a show that should gain him a greater following, and the
key new is to gain momentum.

Justin Pierce

Free Concert

SHEFFIELD

PAST LINE-UPS for the Free Concert (an annual event staged by the students union) have included, in one particularly forward-thinking year not too long ago, both the Kilburns and The Doctors of Madness.

At the side of that, this year's billing appears a little, ah, conservative at best. Or does the music biz really believe that what's needed in the aftermath of punk is a thorough dousing in the county retrogression of bands like Dire Straits and The Movies?

retrogression of bands like Dire Straits and The Movies?

The real reason, of course, that these two bands are bill-topping is that someone somewhere's done a little deal with A Certain Record Company, whose logo, expanded into a ten-foot high backdrop for the stage, beams down with corporate smugness on all the poor sods who have to try and stay awake through the affair. Far be it from me to ask why, at a time when the hume-grown music scene's act is follest tide for many a year (ever?), there's no sign of such as Cabaret Voltnire, 2.3 and The Human League: no, I'll mereby point out that of all the bands playing, none provided greater excitement than the token local band, The Extras, stuck ignominiously at the foot of the bill and having to perform at some ludicrous mid-afternoon time.

In retrospect, The Extras seem to have profited by the criminal neglect accorded Sheffield by record companies. Had they been signed a year ago, they'd have been either lost in the flood or despised for their refusal to adhere to any dogma (musical or political) you care to name.

Perhaps the best summation of their musical style is that they combine the urge of experiment—the only unifying factor of nearly all the Sheffield bands—with a deep-rooted love of Roxy-period rock (as in Eno), without resorting to the monochrome definition of XTC, probably their closest comparison.

monochrome definition of XTC, probably their closes tomparison.

Their performance, although not without its faults, was notable for the continued magnificence of guitarist Simon Anderson and the growing insanity of both rocalist John Lake and saxies Andy Quick.

The inclusion of jazz-rock drummer Mark Anderson now account.

The inclusion of jazz-rock drummer Mark Anderson now appears a minor coup, his tendency to push things too fast more than compensated for by the sheer power he lends the material.

Blackthorn are two guys (violin/mandolin and guitar) and one Julie Felix type who play music for people with shetland jumpers and bushy beards. Their name, in fact, says it all. Not my scene, I feel, and not the scene of 90 per cent of the audience, who disappear in search of other stimulants.

stimulants.
I grab a bite to cat, and return to hear a little of the aptly-named Rainmaker's set. A live-piece boogie band (keyboards, two guitars, bass, drums and superfluous; congas), they sound not unlike the Allman Brothers with a head cold.
Jab-Jab are a considerable improvement. A bizarrely-astired multi-racial foursome, they make a grand entrance, percussing themselves to the stage Osibina-style, and proceed to liven the proceedings with a potent combination. stage Osibisa-style, and proceed to liven the proceedings with a potent combination of reggae and drum-based funk. Enjoyable, and best when skanking it up, their version of "All Along The Watchtower" must have made them more than a few converts. From here on, however, things get a trifle arduous. For a start, someone seems

to have cocked-up the license application, so getting a drink becomes a matter of running a gauntlet of bureaucratically-minded students intent on letting pass only those with the requisite credentials (which caused not only lift-feeling, but dangerous crowd crushes near the doors).

Okay, so the event's gratis, but as gift horses go, this one could do with a new set of dentures.

As support for The Climax Blues Band

of dentures. As support for The Climax Blues Band recently, Dire Straits persevered against malfunctioning equipment and atrocious sound to give a commendable performance. Maybe I've seen them too many times in too short a while, but the soporific side of their music overwhelmed me: why should growing confidence manifest itself as enougher clinicality?

me: why should growing confidence manifest itself as growing clinicality?

A lot of this month's promo budget has been blown ostentatiously on The Movies, although when a band's that unexceptional I guess there has to be as hig a splash as possible, just to get the narme known. They may be very clever musicians: they're also, in my opinion, very boring. No busting barriers here, no stretching limits: no apparent attempt to achieve.

They are nor Steely Dan. Although they might be tickled pink with comparison. And so to Sandy and The Back Line, a Scottish AWB-style bunch of funktsers whose name is presumably a musicians' in-joke. Ha, ha. There's two saxes, a keyboard, a guitar, a bass and drums

keyboard, a guitar, a bass and drums behind a squat little fellow (Sandy) who seems to wantto be a stereotype white

souter.

So what's new? Not a lot. They murder
"I Wouldn'i Treat A Dog", thus
demonstrating that the equation "saxes +
funk + shouts + screams = soul" is more
presumption than certainty. Over and out.

Andy Gill

while the standard of Paddy

while the standard of Paddy Keenan's uiteann piping and that of the flautist's reels was breath-taking. The Bothies are one of the most together bands I've ever heard live. By the end of the set a handful of regules Morris

By the end of the set a handful of pseudo-Morris Dancers were jogging in front of the stage to add to the party atmosphere... and now I'm off to investigate The Boshy Band's three afforms. White, green and gold is the rainbow; know your culture.

John Gray

Irish Music **Festival** ROYAL ALBERT HALL

TIME SERVED in the RAH cold storage echo chamber listening to a classical recital (because that's what it amounted to) by The Chieftains a few years back was almost enough to dissuade me

enough to dissuade me from attending another folk gig at this huge venue.

However... I mingled with my fellow Paddies once again for this call to arms — e festival of traditional Irish music. Or more to the point, ex-Planty members supporting The Bothy Band.

Cladin erron, optional

Bothy Band.
Clad in green, optional
shamrock on right lapel, 1
found my seat to the plaintive
refrains of Liam O'Flynn's
uileann pipes — a short but
brilliant set that made one lung
for the old Plansty days.
Paul Brudy, surely the final
mail in their croun's cofficial

nail in that group's coffin, proved to me that he's truly Ireland's answer to John Denver. His spot seemed

over-long and uninspired. Five-piece De Danann sounded at first like

Five-piece De Danam sounded at first like speeded-up chamber music, and although their jigs and reels were proficient, I still missed Johnny Moyrithan and the songs they can do so well. We were treated to a single word number, an hilarious "The Song And Praises Of The City Of Mullinger", which had the entire audience laughing and the bodhran player making his single hand drum sound like a tribe of African porcussionists.

Before The Bothy Band came on, Christy Moore almost stole the show. Judging by the crowd calls for certain wongs — "Follow Me Up To Carlow" in particular — I'd say many were there to see him alone. He had the only real human contact with the audience.

buman contact with the audience.

It is performance of Planxty's famed "The Well Below The Valley" was stunning with just his own budhran secumpaniment. And the mistant "Only Our Rivers" was received with wild patriotte fervour.

The Woody Guthrie song

"Sacco & Vanzetti", "January Man" and a song about Man" and a song about Jerusalem, were on the other hand, attentively appreciated in absolute silence — until the lace crupted in a mass of whistling and stamping, bringing him back for "The Moving-On Song". He deserves to headline.

The Bothy Band miscale his

The Bothy Band raised the The Bothy Band raised the higgest appliause with an excellent mixture of songs and instrumentals. A Gaelle song, "The Twisting Of The Rope" worked really well with it's simple but haunting melody

FLASHE\$. . .

The Skids

NASHVILLE, LONDON

THE SKIDS are a bizarre signing for Vilipin. First impression is of surregate Budgie-Zep guitar tire plus drage-indected singer.

But a sense of dynamics emerges, with singer Richard Johson showing a fluir for the dramatle and guitariast Stuart Adamson an increndingly impressive ability to embroider u riff. Some of the riffs even sound like songs, with good, strong charuses.

"Sweet Suburbia" is rifte, but "Scared To Dance" and "Hope And Glory" are confident and convincing.

Richard Johson whichs and contoris in how the and heathers, sounding reasonably menacing. The closing two-parter about a bertuil rape in his native Glasgow is their best-structured song, hinging on a stocking repetition of "It's just not your day" a professional, hard-hitting set that established The Skids' identity... Watch them go.



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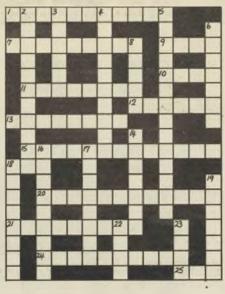
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1 Inspired by Chuck Berry,
written by Nick Lowe,
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(1, 4, 3, 5) (1, 4, 3, 5) 18 & 6 down. Leader and daftest

18 & b down. Leader and datlest Dari 20 Written by Chuck Berry, recorded by The MCS — title track from their classic second album (4, 2, 3, 3) 21 Another golden soul oldie, this one from The

ACROSS

1 A puzzler for Zimmologists
— does he mean lottering
without intent, not parking
on yellow littes, or not
allowing one's dog to foul the
footpath? Interpretations on
a posteard please to ... (6, 5)
? & 19 Top popsy ethnic
crossover t'ing — as played
by U-Blackburn and I-Jensen
on Radio I and If (2, 4, 3, 7)
9 Keith Emerson's old band
10 A McGarrigle sister

Temptations hit songbook (5, 4)

(5, 4) He was part of the final Family line-up—before that was one third of the trio who had a hit with "Resurrection Shuffle" (4, 6) A hooking in keeping Iggy straight!!

DOWN

JA toaster as handiman! As in "Man A Plumber" or "Blocked Sink In The Ghetto"! (6, 5) 3 More JA vibrations — Bob

Marley meets Ferrante &

Teicher, curious t'ing! Teicher, curious ting!
Does it describe the plates of
Randy's "Short People", or
Lowell's modest
achievement in the English
class?! (Come again! — Ed.)
(6, 4)
Wife, pop star,
photographer, mother! We
don't know what the critics
find to complain about . . . (5, 9)

from to complain about ... (5, 9)
See 18 across
Tosh or Green
Mop Tops movie and album
(3, 2, 2)
At which Akron's favourite
uninders got chrowered with

weirdoes got showered with abuse and beercans!

abuse and beercans!

17 Your third golden soul oldie

of the week — a week at

Wigan Casino if you get all

three right and go on for the
jackpot — this was a '60s hit
for classy Ms. Dionne

Warwick (4, 2, 2)

18 Capital Radio DJ and

any marter in estarted his

quizmaster, he started his broadcasting career partnering Kenny Everett on one of the pirate ships (4, 4) Sec 7

22 Manchester's contribution to the West Coast sing-a-song-writer maffa 23 J. Arthur Rank meets the

Pot-head Pixies!

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

ACROSS: Blockheads; 6 & 7 Lee Brilleaux; 9 "Venus And Mars": 10 Steve Priest; 14 Eric Idle: 16 (P.J.) Proby; 17 Spirit; 18 "(Glad To Be) Gay"; 19 Pete Shelley, DOWN: 2 Lurkers; 3 Collumer 4 Elector Priest 5 Culture; 4 Elaine Paige; 5 (Bobby) Keyes; 8 Dave Berry; 11 "The Idsot"; 12 Voidoids; 13 (Paul) Jones; 15 Bobby (Keyes); 16 Paul (Jones).

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What has happened to the NME? You're becoming a pain in the rectum. You slag off people like rectum. You slag off people like the Drones, Slaughter & the Dogs, Eater for being Pistols imitations, Wire for being bleak on stage, the Damned for splitting up "after musical indifferences" (when you said their last-ish single had "no chewn") the Vibrators for being chewn") the Vibrators for being bandwaggon jumpers and not admitting it, the Roxy farewell album because you say the sound is gone, Pete Shelley for being a romantic and countless other new bands for being Pistols imitators (again) and putting out "badly produced records".

produced records."

Listen, people still like those hands and still think punk is good. Your mag is fast becoming a weekly contest between writers to see who can use the biggest words to confuse the average reader. Your articles are average reader. Tour articles on Boney M and page after page of how Steve Jones and Paul Cook are destroying the name of the Sex Pistols by making records with any old fart hostered.

bastard.
This time last year you sold yourself This time last year you sold yoursel for punk. Led Zep were boring (and still are) you said. Now it seems because the Pistols are dead, punk is dead. It is unless you still believe in it So get out, see new bands and stopprinting all that crap about Dylan.

MARK BENSON, Leeds, Yorks.

MARK BENSON, Leeds. Yorks.
All what crap about Dylan, Mark?
Your main point seems to be the same
as that made continually by aggreved
Beavy Metal freat, 'cept that FIM is
essentially conservative and ponk is
(munically if not politically)
revolutionary. Any hand worth a
dann (in any scene) is developing—
take a look at Buzzecekis, Clash, Lüzzy
or anyone else who'n good—and
punk can't stamd still no matter how
much if jumps up and down. It's ton
late to stop now.—CSM.

DOES THE panel think that being a common criminal is worse than being a common (pompous, ligging, immature, self-obsessed) journalist? Yes. At least Burchill doesn't kill

people. CLEOPATRA, Cranbrook, Kens. P.S. Am I being too naive?

You are being too naive. How do you know Julie's never killed anyone? — CSM.

THERE'S BEEN some criticism of the high style of certain NME critics recently — but give me them any day in preference to the inconsequential and illiterate drivel of a Ms. Emma Ruth in her report on the Clash Leeds gig last week. (A) She cannot spell i.e. "exite", "pidgeon", "shakey".

(B) She uses impressive words without knowing their control. (B) She uses impressive words without knowing their correct meaning—"mandate" (in fact, an order from a superior to an infectior and totally wrong in the context of the turnout at a Stranglers gig), "ethic" (a system of morals—there is a punk code or doctrine, but not a punk ethic). (C) She uses jargonese phrases in the manner of an uneducated pinhead who's just read them in Parsons' reviews and puts them in to colour her English—i.e. "shifts the onis", "quasi-virtuosity" and "tight time limbo". What the shit do these mean, lell me? All Lean say, my good man, is that if you're having such mean, tell me? All I can say, my good man, is that if you're having such trouble getting reporters who can write English, I can recommend some primary-school kids who can do better than Ms Ruth. Yours exasperatedly. LORD PHARTONBY, Ponshouse. N.E.A. Hartlepool. P.S. She also spelt Messerschmir wrongly and it's crap about The Clash moving towards HM—they're more a regage group than that! P.P.S. Anyway, Wilko for P.M.

Spelling errors courtesy of Sleepy Summer Proofreading, so don't blame Emma — controversial lass that she is. — CSM.

CAN I just quote Paul Rambali on the Sex Pistols in last week's Thrills? It's only one short sentence but then tength is not proportional to inanity. length is not proportional to inanity. I think a for of people must have looked at the front of their ish's just to make sure, it was the NME they were reading and not the Paily Mail. The sentence is "This surt of things gives the 'Sex Pistols' a bad name." I don't think I can live with the knowledge that the Sex Pistols have soured their name. I always thought they were a nice burch of lads. NODDY, N.W. Essex.

They are, they are. . . - CSM.

MUST ADMIT I had that sinking feeling as I bought NME this week

We-e-e-e-lllll. . . .

It's a-one for the money an' a-two for the. . .



disorganised and semi-edited by CSM

when I saw bloody Devo on the cover (again), With all the hypocritical rubbish we've had flung at us lately about this group of gonzoids, I was about this group of gonzolds, I was expecting a few thousand more words of pretentious drivel similar to that fervently pen-pushed by one Paul Rambali back in March. But thank God for Tony Parsons. At least NME has caught itself on. Flow could it have taken you lot so long to suss out this bunch of home jockstraps with their "Zen woord-wanking bullshi?" Nice turn of phrase that, Tony. Your next assignment, Agent Parsons, will be against the shit thrown by Andy Gill about Kraftwerk (NIME April

29). A TALKING HEAD, Belfasi.

Thanks, Tinn. This page self-destructs in five seconds — CSM.

I WAS wondering if you could help me to realise a life-long ambition that I have had for some time now. I would like to vomit over Tony Blackburn during one of his afternoon radio programmes. Being of a shy and retiring nature, I wouldn't dare ask Tony myself, but I thought that nice Tony Parsons might slip it easually into conversation with Mr. Blackburn at one of his tupperware parties. at one of his tupperware parties. Fathing this, I would settle for wrestling with an ant on one of John Peet's programmes.

DAVE THE SHEEP DIPPER.

Namwich. P.S. Please print this letter
or I will declare war on Russia.

Fine! - JIMMY CARTER.

YOU BASTARDS, how are you making your newsprint smellso good nowadays? Bandwagon jumpers please note that I was the first to initiate the trend rowards smelling pages rather than reading (term. COUNT HORACE VON. IT SCHIELE Seasons and the page of the seasons are the seasons and the seasons are the sea ILLEGIBLE, Somewhi

Our ink is pockaged by Ted Lapidus.
— CSM.

DEAR MARGE, Last night I took DEAR MARCLE, Last night to do four Valium, drank a buttle of Dry Martini and dreamt I was Wonder Woman. Should I get psychiatric help or just sleep with the window closed? WORRIED MALE HETEROSEXUAL. Hendon.

Just the yourself up with your magic lassoo and keep quiet — CSM.

I CAN'T stand it any longer. Why doesn't your paper ever write abo Radio Stars gigs? Just ooz you've heard "Nervous Wreck" which

everyone knows is hog-awful, you write them off, but I can telt you, mate, that they're orgasmic on stage, I mean to say, what greater pleasure can there possibly be in life than to see Andy Ellison jumping off amps, diving into the audience, hanging from the roof, sommersaulting, breaking his nock as well as singing? I'm sure he's Batman in disquise. I've seen em 4 times but all you stiffs at MME are just concerned with Ronald NME are just concerned with Ronald Biggs, Brotherhood Of Man and the Biggs. Brotherhood Of Man Jano the Smurfs. So this is an order to you to shift that man Kent's arse down to their next gig to help them on their rise to fame. By the way, their music is good too. They re at Reading in August so they must be good. PAUL HALLIDAY (no address where so even a sifty or given: not even a silly one)

Monty Smiff declares himself an alty of yours, Paul, so receedax just a bit. Sucidentally, I've seen some of the crapplest bands of all time at Reading, so I'd keep quiel about that if I were you — CSM.

WELL, SORRY that I haven't written before but I've been so confused!? In an issue of NMF, "As-bag" Boomtown Rats were in. I know them, but who is Johnny Bollocks? I thought his name was Fingers! And some more, more words. STOP calling us Swedes bollocks, ye calling us for TRB, but come more often to Sweden, we miss come more often to Sweden, we miss you all. And I bet that you don't print this letter, why not abroad letters as MARIE THE PUNKROCKER.

Sweden.
Why not indeed? — CSM.

HOW COULD you do this to us? Tell HOW COULD you do this to us? I to us now or we'll scream ourselves sick and we can!! Why is NME against The Jam? i.e. one printing any gig reviews? So, you boring old faits in flared jeans and platform shoes, give yourselves a good kick in the arse and wake up to The Modern World, or would you rather stay alseep with The Moody Blucs??????

Moody Blues??????
PEARL VERT and SUE AGE,
Ayleshury, Bucks, HP sauce 57. The only person in the office who wears flares and platforms 6. Phil McNeil, and just inever The Jam. so rum that up your Rickenbackers

— CSN6

WHY DON'T NME have a West WHY DON'T NME have a West Midlands correspondent? What right have London bands got to rip off our groups' names? Did you know that the best bands in the world are the Coventry Automatics and the Coventry School Meals? SIMON FRITH (Boring old sociologist voyeur etc), Birmingham.

Don't think much of the Coventry Henry Cow, the' -- CSM.

COME ON, NOW; you must surely have realised by now that a few of us punters out here can actually read some of the rubbish you print in some or the running you print in Fagbag?!!! What's the big idea, printing "Marquis de Sardine's" letter two weeks running? It wasn't even good enough to be printed once! If you're short of letters, why don't you use some of my superb, brilliant, etc, etc contributions? ILLIE SHEPHERD, Helsun of JULIE SHEPHERD, Her-up of

Hesketh Bank, Nr. Pressor

Pity you haven't sent us any, innit?



"The bag was wonderful for me too, darling. . . "

INTERESTED to read the piece in last week's NME about the Lorelei fiasco in Germany. However, disturbed to see that Jonathan disturred to see that Jonaton Richman and the Modern Lovers had "pulled out". Not ture. The band were all set to Iravel to Germany, flights and hotels were fixed up, possible gigs in England at that time had been supported to the property of the time. Itignts any received the provided at that time had been turned down, when the promoter rang our office to tell us the festival was probably going to be cancelled as the weather was bad. Rats being smelt, phone calls were made to the Fatherland which established that not only was it a beautiful day but the forecast was neetly optimistic too. So. The pretty optimistic too. So. The promoter was contacted again and this time the truth started to appear. Seems he no longer wanted the hand on the bill. Strange since only a month earlier said promoter had seen the Modern Lovers by common consent steal the show at the Dutch Pink Pop Excitate and ersplayed them for steal the show at the Dutch Pink Pop Festival and grabbed them for Lorelei. He refused to account for this sudden change of heart but was prepared to be sued rather than have them on his stage. Now it doesn't take a genius to conclude that maybe one of the big bands on the bill didn't want but but sheet. No names, no nack on the ong bottos of the first state of the control Evidently. - CSM,

A FEW weeks ago I spoke to someone who had stopped buying the NME. "Not serious enough, man." A couple of pints later he asked if he could read my copy. Soon he was laughing his head off. He was having a good time which, surely to god, is what rock and roll is all about. Over the last couple of waret the NI M. E. good time which, surely to god, is what nock and roll is all about. Over the last couple of years the N.M.E. has been arrogant, disrespectful, angry and prepared to take sides on Racisism, petty officialdom and mediocrity in general. Various socialist publications have been doing the same thing for years but they've reached only a small section of the public. This isn't because the average person is dim writed or narrow minded. It's just that polities and partying up till now, haven't exactly gone hand in hand. The NMF seem to trying to do something to recitify this. You probably don't-get many letters like this, and I'm possibly just coming out with all this to get my name in print, but you're such this anyway.

R.J. S.LA YTER. Hendon.

Howeverdidjaguess? — CSM.

LAST NIGHT Nicky Horne played a track from Bob Seger's new althum. He said "Mmm, that's one of the best exports from Detroit since ... er ... cars I supprise." He's got to go. SHAKY MICK, Islington (cenne of the training

Howeverdidjaguess? — CSM.

the universe).
Where? — CSM.

IT WAS with disdain that I contem-IT WAS with disdain that contemplated the correspondence from one Pete the very obscure 'contained within your letters page this week. This chap seems to be under the defusion that his obscurity is greater than mine—the cad-One cannot tolerate such insolence. 1, Jude the obscure we have not in furn. obscure, am the zenith of true obscurre, am the zentili of true obscurity, just ask anyone who I am and they will reply instantly; "Never least of "sim, mate," or words to that effect. So I issue a challenge to this "Pete" chappie. Meet me at dawn on Firsbury Park and we shall see who is made observed!! JUDE THE OBSCURE, Islington.

No-one from Islington is obscure — CSM.

MY GIRLFRIEND says that whenever I've been reading NME I leave nasty black print stains down her bodee (and she's not a racist). Please leave nice white spaces at the bottom of each page so that people like me can pick their noses without being beaten up by the National Front.

Front.
AN ANGEL WITH A DIRTY
FACE (THE KING CREEP),
Winchester.
Try rubber gloves, --- MARTIN
WEBSTER.

IS PENNY his Reel name? STEVE, Wimbledon.

Who's real name? — PETER SEMON.

I'VE HAD more curries than you've had not dinocrs.
W. IMBLEDON (nee Theo Wrist)

Floh? -- CSML

COX

JOHN MICHAEL

Pic



Reggie gets a ride from Divine star of 'sickest movie ever made' Pink Flamingoes. Such things, such teeth, only in New York.

ISTEN, SUMMER may or may not be still here—
epending on whether you
elieve your calendar or
our barometer—but
eepy London town still
in't no place for a in't no place for a reet-fighting girl. At reast, Kensington's rock and roll palace the lashville certainly isn't — conclusion arrived at by s manager Dave Young ter a youthful person of e, female persuasion tobbered him with a bottle fter being refused dmission to a Penetration ig there last Friday on

differ owing refused diminision to a Penetration diminision to a Penetration in the remaining there last Friday on rounds of being ander-age.

Some 600 punters had nowed up to clock the leweastle punkos, and 100 of term had actually gained dimittance when Young opped the bottle, ortunately, he wasn't cut up to fierce, but decided to close the doors there and then nyway. At which point the odily wastes collided with the entilation and the remaining unters (a mere 500 or so) roke down the doors, a tolem penetration which led foung to holler cop in order to affeguard his premises against arther tape.

Order was eventually stored and after some

orther cape.

Order was eventually stored, and after some ensuation Penetration played the hucky 100, though ey've now been informed at they're "too big for the astiville" and won't be seen cre again. After a similar icident at the Marquee a stringht or so back, their urm-up-for-the-Reading-Festival g has been blown out, and ney won't be seen playing seen again either. Can this usen stardom, we here at "Zere ask ourselves"...

There was also an acute wortage of sweetness and light

There was also an acute tortage of sweetness and light. The Clash gig at Crawley pours Centre the following ight (Saturday, for those of our who're not keeping count) fies Swicide were forced listage by ten minutes of meeting by ten minutes of meeting numerous cuts bout the face (Call that a acce?—Ed.) (Not any more—where Ed.), while gangs of rival kinheads punched it out uring The Clash's set. C'mon, and oit outside the gig for—and save yourselves bread at the bands and punctes econvenience and aggro.cowzaboutt?

A nyway, peace in love in

Anyway, peace'n love'n at, masanasan, and on with show ... rearine had a laser stolen

eir van outside ster's Russell Club last , much as they'd like k unyway, are it should fall into

carefree, carefess or even criminal hands. But what, Tzez asks, were Magazine doing with a laser anyway? In the U.S. a government department has told Blue Oyster Cult to tone down their use of such potentially harmful

The U.S. rock fraternity's admiration of each other rages unabated. Detroit band The annated. Described an ine-seatheths have penned a ditty called "I Want To Marry Patti Smith", while a Chicago punk-band called The Crucified own a music publishing company named Joan Jett Is My Hero Music

more than Mike Oldfield will be deing for any Daily Mail staffers. Last Friday the paper carried a story about the one-time Hermit Of Hergest Ridge — in which they playfully rechristened him the — haldly stating that he was selling up his Cotswolds home and moving to the South of France. In true Fleet Street tradition, this story was a subtle blend of fact and fiction; it is true that he's moving house — driven out of Gloucestershire by the noise menace of the U.S. military



Topper & Paul make up with Topper at Paul make up with champion pigeon breeder Mr. George Dole, after agre-eing to pay him £700 compensation for pigeons they shot. Only in Landon.

aircraft operating from nearby RAF Fairford — but he's not leaving England, this scopt'e'd isle, this earthly Eden (et cetera ad nauseam) in the foreseeable

Deve on their one-time mentor, David Bewie: "Some mentor, David Bawie: "Some of his achievements are pretty incredible when you look back on them. It's a shame he's pure Las Vegas now." Sounds pretty bitchy to us. Wait, there's more. "He used to go round telling everyone Devo were 'One Eno and Four Robert Fripps." Ah, so that was what hurt. "Christ know what he meant by all that shit. We haven't spent more than five minutes of our lives with Fripp".

TRA-LA-LA

Quick unsolicited football Tzer: Spurs should be worth

heard of Bill Wyman at the front?...

Raunch, decadence and life in the fast line: Graham Nash and David Crosby recently went bowling together (rhar's a pretty boring piece of non-news — Ed) and during the festivities, of Willie dropped a bowling ball on Dave's foot — and broke it. This should result in a rather unusual footprint when Dave (along with Stills and Nash) plonks his paw into cement for Hollywood Boulevard's Hall Of Fame.

When Linda Roussied! turned up at a Los Angeles restaurant with governor Jerry

restaurant with governor Jerry Brown on her arm last week she was wearing a boy seoul uniform and roller skates (I thought that's what she always wore — Ed.); perhaps the skates were needed to flee tottle stiff from assets in concessary in case.

ladies over 30, Olivia Newton-John recently refused to tour Japan because of that country's indiscriminate staughter of dolphins, remember? Well, seems that the tour is going ahead after all (Japan, you will recall, is the world's second largest record marker! this fact is of course market: this fact is, of course, irrelevant) after assurances hed been given that steps would be taken to safeguard the interests of yip dolphins. Really? We can hardly believe

John Otway, now finally separated from Wild Willy, was last week spurned in court. He was scheduled to do jury service, but the detendant in the case for which he was a

the case for which he was a would-be juror objected to him, and he was dismissed.

One-half of the Abhia and Doman duo is pregnant. Lessee now, it's Althia — no. no, tell a lie, it's Donna.

The Runaways are no tonger without a recording contract. Joan Jett dropped on to NME's officers last week to reveal that the band are re-signing to Phonogeram. re-signing to Phonogram

GOLDEN **PROSE**

David Bowie is one of a dying breed who'd live on forever.

Rock On, July 1978

"Billie's interests outside writing are breeding cuts for shows, tennis and yoga."

Magnet press release accompanying new Billie Davis single, July 1978

Contrary to some front-page reports in the national press, Darts' Thump Thomson didn't thump Elvis Costello's drummer Pete Thomas, last week; they're really the best of friends. However, Thump, harmless lad that he is, did recently read a sight incide. narriuss fao that he is, ded recently spend a night inside, courtesy of the Danish government—for carelessly tossing vodka bottles from a fifth floor hotel room...

Weird one, this. Several members of the NME staff appeared to suffer a fit of collective apoplexy last week. When Suicide withdrew from the sumport staff in the Clerk When Stickide withdrew from the support stor in the Chash Leeds gig, Enima Ruth stated that the replacement support acts were Souxsie and flue Barestees and Chelsea, and even reviewed them, well, less than favourably. However, both bands had perfect althis they were given to the whore they were gigging elsewhere that night; the real that night; the real replacement act were The Specials, a Coventry band. Should we, perhaps, make a deliberate policy of slagging bands at gigs they never played? For example, Zeppelin were rerible last week at the Hope and Anchor

20p Sonics Rendervous Band, Rock Action, Ants Physic-al, Ants Valaise 25p Cosh the Driver, No Ose is Innocent, Sid Vicious My Way. 30p Here & Now

BUZZCOOKS CLASH POLICE 1999 UAZY SOD DHAM 89 IF IT ABYT STIRL STOLES PULSE SHOULDER

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