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The state of the state o

STANRIDGWAY
FROM UNDER COVER
TO OVER THE TOP

BIG BLACK
TED BARTON
ANNA DOMINO
CAMPER VAN BEETHOVEN
FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD
DONINGTON ROCK MONSTERS LET LOOSE

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CONTENTS LEMMY, QUOTO

Motorhead and Status Quo both take to the road before Christmas

MOTORHEAD embark next month on their first full series of British dates in over two years, close on the heels of their Castle Donington appearance.

Their autumn tour, entitled Eight Days In June, takes them

to Birmingham Odeon September 15, Newcastle City Hall 16, Edinburgh Playhouse 17, Bradford St George's Hall 18, Manchester Apollo 20, Cardiff St David's Hall 21, London Hammersmith Odeon 22, Nottingham Royal Concert

Tickets are priced £6 and £5.50 (with the exception of Bradford and Cardiff where all tickets are £6).

The tour precedes a three

month American tour, and they will be supported on all dates by Zodiac Mindwarp And The Love Reaction.

STATUS QUO reaffirm their retirement yet again when they release a new album at the end of the month, and

The new LP, called 'In The Army Now' and released on

Vertigo on August 29, includes

embark on a major UK tour in

December.

Quo's two recent hits', Rollin' Home' and 'Red Sky', as well as nine new songs.

The UK tour, featuring the line-up that played the recent dates with Queen, will climax with a Christmas Eve show at London Hammersmith Odeon.

They play Brighton Centre December I, London Hammersmith Odeon 2-4, Bradford St Georges's Hall 6-7. Glasgow SEC 9, Whitley Bay Ice Rink 11, Birmingham NEC

Damned Serious Business . . .



THE DAMNED, who have just completed recording a new album, will be undertaking a "seriously large UK tour" beginning in October.

They play Limerick Savoy October 1, Cork Sir Henry 2, Belfast Ulster Hall 4, Dublin SFX 5, Hanley Victoria Hall 8, Leeds University 10, Hull City Hall 11, Preston Guildhall 12, Liverpool Royal Court 13, Edinburgh Playhouse 15, Aberdeen Capitol 16, Dundee University 17, Glasgow Barrowlands 18, Newcastle City Hall 20, Manchester Apollo 21, Sheffield City Hall 23, Cardiff Ritzy 26, Birmingham Odeon 27, Bristol Colston Hall 28, Guildford Civic Hall 29, Southend Cliff Pavilion 30, Oxford Apollo 31, Portsmouth Guildhall November 2, Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall 3, Nottingham Rock City 4, Ipswich Gaumont 6, Norwich UEA 7, Reading University 8, and finally London Hammersmith Odeon 12.

Tickets are priced £4.50 and £5, except London where tickets are £4.50 and £5.50.

Damned fans will also get a chance to see them on ITV's Rock Around The Dock on August 29, when they will be performing with none other than the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

KILLING JOKE have announced their first UK tour in over 18 months. They play London Hammersmith Palais September 28, Leeds University October 1, Manchester Apollo 2, Birmingham Odeon 3, Poole Arts Centre 4, Bristol Studio 5, Newcastle Mayfair 8, Glasgow Barrowlands 9, Liverpool Royal Court 10, Sheffield University 11, London Hammersmith Palais (again) 12. To celebrate the event, EG have released a special 12-inch

single of 'Adorations'.

STAN RIDGWAY follows up his surprise hit, 'Camouflage', by releasing a double A-sided 45 entitled 'The Big Heat'/'Salesman' on IRS on September 8.

VINNIE VINCENT, the former Kiss lead guitarist, releases an album called 'Vinnie Vincent Invasion' on Chrysalis on August

DEAD OR ALIVE release their first single for almost 12 months, entitled 'Brand New Lover', on September 8. They are currently in the studio working on their third album for Epic, which is due for release in the autumn.

LISA LISA CULT JAM and Full Force have added an extra date to their brief tour in September. They play Nottingham Rock City on September 28, and tickets are £6.50 and £5.50.

BUCKS FIZZ, who have apparently hit it big in the gay discos in the US, release their version of Stephen Stills' 'Love The One You're With' on Polydor this week.

THE JACK RUBIES promote their mini-album 'Witch-Hunt In Lotusland' at Stoke Newington The Three Crowns August 29, Chalk Farm The Enterprise September 7.

Producer Martin Rushent organises celebrity show to publicise Sickle Cell Anaemia; **Imagination's Leee** John records single with same objective

IN THE week when it was announced that Band Aid has raised more money in the last year than any other charity in the UK, the music business has now turned its resources towards the killer disease Sickle Cell Anaemia, which affects up to one in five black people (mainly those living in white society in the West).

Record producer Martin Rushent has organised an event at his studio near Reading on August 30 that will feature The Stranglers, General Public, Hazel O'Connor, Lenny Henry and a number of other as yet unconfirmed stars. Rushent hopes that it will raise money for research into the disease,

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GO

13-14, Sheffield City Hall 15-16, St Austell Coliseum 18, London Hammersmith Odeon 21-24.

Tickets go on sale on August 21 at all box offices except Whitley Bay. Tickets are also available for the Glasgow SEC and Whitley Bay dates by postal application from MCP Ltd, PO Box 124, Walsall, West Midlands, WS9 8XY, for which a SAE and a 30p booking fee should be included.

BALAAM AND THE ANGEL have announced an extensive UK tour, following the release of their debut LP, 'The Greatest Story Ever Told'.

They play Manchester International 11, Cambridge Guildhall September 13, Birmingham Powerhouse 15, Kentish Town Town And Country Club 16, Nottingham Rock City 17, Newcastle Riverside 18, Glasgow Rooftops 19, Aberdeen The Venue 20, Dundee The Dance Factory 21, Burnley Mechanics 23, Peterborough Tropicana 24, Leeds Warehouse 25, Leicester Polytechnic 27.

Tickets are £3, or £3.50 on the door.

To coincide with the tour, a single called 'Light Of The World' is released on Virgin on September 1.

Something To Bragg About ...



BILLY BRAGG, East London's "rhyming rapscallion", has announced details of his British autumn tour, when he will be airing songs from his forthcoming album, due out next month.

After playing at the Picnic At The Palace gig at Fulham Palace on September 21, our Billy sets out to Brighton Top Rank 22, Birmingham Powerhouse 23, Nottingham Rock City 24, Lincoln Ritz 25, Hanley Victoria Hall 27, Manchester Apollo 28, Llandudno Astra 29, Blackpool Opera House 30.

Billy will be supported by the Mint Juleps and Thirteen Moons, and tickets will be £4.50.

After touring Europe in October, Billy returns to his UK tour at Portsmouth Guildhall November 3, Bristol Studio 4, Cardiff University 5, Aberdeen Capitol 7, Glasgow Barrowlands 8, Newcastle Mayfair 9, Leeds University 10, Kilburn National Ballroom 12, Ipswich Gaumont 14, Norwich UEA 15.

CELL AID

and attract enough attention for live radio and television coverage.

The day is split into three parts: the first will feature local Reading bands, the second will include the Vindaloo package and Simon Townshend's new band, while the final part will consist of any of the stars present who wish to perform.

Leee John of Imagination has also put together a record along the lines of Band Aid that features Paul Weller, Level 42, Phil Fearon, David Grant, Tom Robinson, Aswad, Tom Bailey and many others, in the hope of highlighting this disease.

The artists are collectively known as People In Progress, and the single, which is entitled 'This Is My Song', is due out next month.

The day of the recording, which is thought to have seen the biggest turn-out of black artists ever in the UK, was put down on video, and there is talk of arranging a concert later in the year.

THE FALL OF THE SMITHS



Morrissey men to tour

THE SMITHS, who are currently playing a sell-out tour of North America, have announced a UK tour for the autumn.

They play Carlisle Sands
Centre October 13,
Middlesbrough Town Hall 1-1,
Wolverhampton Civic Hall 15,
St Austell Coliseum 17,
Gloucester Leisure Centre 18,
Newport Centre 19,
Nottingham Royal Concert
Hall 21, London Kilburn
National Ballroom 23, Brixton
Academy 24, London Palladium
26, Preston Guildhall 27,
Llandudno Astra 28 and
Manchester Free Trade Hall
30

Tickets are available through the venues and usual agents.

BOB DYLAN PRESS CONFERENCE - SEE NEWS EXTRA ON PAGE 35

HAWKWIND, those well-known space rockers, have announced a mammoth UK tour to follow the release of their new album, 'Love Chronicles', due out at the end of September on GWR.

The dates for the forthcoming tour are St Albans City Hall November 7, Birmingham Odeon 8, Derby Assembly Rooms 9, Oxford Apollo 10, Leicester De Montfort Hall 11, Edinburgh Playhouse 13, Newcastle City Hall 14, Manchester Apollo 15, Liverpool Empire 16, Cardiff St David's Hall 17, **Bristol Colston Hall 18,** Bradford St George's Hall 20, Leeds University 21, Hanley Victoria Hall 22, Sheffield City Hall 23, Ipswich Gaumont 24, Worthing Assembly Hall 25, Portsmouth Guildhall 26, London Hammersmith Odeon 27-28, Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall 29, Malvern Winter Gardens December 1, Nottingham Rock City 2, Preston Guild Hall 3, Guildford Civic Hall 4, Peterborough Wirrina Stadium 6, Dunstable Queensway Hall 7.

Tickets range from £4.50 to £6, depending on the venue.

JOHN WAITE follows his appearance at the Reading Festival with two dates at the London Marquee on August 25 and 26, to promote his latest single 'If Anybody Had A Heart'.

ZZ TOP have added a fourth night – October 23 – to their sold-out Wembley Arena shows.

NATIONAL ORDER

Autumn tour, single and album from New Order

NEW ORDER set out on tour next month to promote their forthcoming single and album releases.

They play Newcastle Mayfair September 10, Edinburgh Playhouse 11, Glasgow Barrowlands 12, Dundee Caird Hall 13, Birmingham Tower Ballroom October 2, Royal Albert Hall October

Tickets for the Royal Albert Hall go on sale on August 22 priced £5 and £6, and ticket details for the other gigs will be announced soon.

The band release a single called 'State Of The Nation' in mid-September, taken from the album 'Brotherhood', which is due out in the first week of October.

Talk On The Wild Side ...



TALKING HEADS release a new single called 'Wild Wild Life' on EMI on August 26, which is taken from their brand new album, 'True Stories', due for release on September 8.

True Stories is also the title of the film on which David Byrne, the band's vocalist, guitarist and songwriter, has been working for the past two years.

Virtually all the story ideas originated from various newspaper articles which he began collecting on the 1983 Stop Making Sense tour. Byrne was also responsible for the screenplay and direction of the film, which is scheduled for release towards the end of October.

CHRIS DE BURGH, currently riding high in the singles and album charts, has added five dates to his forthcoming UK tour.

The extra shows are at St Austell Coliseum September 11, Stafford Bingley Hall 20, London Wembley Arena 29, Brighton Centre October 6-7.

SUZANNE VEGA returns to the UK in November to play two concerts at London's Royal Albert Hall, following her Prince's Trust appearance sell-out dates in June and April.

Tickets for the shows – on November 17-18 – are available from the Royal Albert Hall Box Office or by post from the Suzanne Vega Box Office, PO Box Office 77, London SW4 9LH. Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to Suzanne Vega Box Office, enclosing a SAE and 50p per ticket booking fee.



5TA ON TOUR

August 21st CHIPPENHAM - Goldiggers · 22nd MANCHESTER - Boardwalk · 23rd SHEFFIELD - Leadmill · 28th RAYLEIGH - Pink Toothbrush 29th BRIGHTON - Zap Club · 30th LEICESTER - The Princess Charlotte ·



THE WOLFGANG PRESS take to the road this month to promote their third album, 'Standing Up Straight'. They play Romford The Rezz on August 20, London Bay 63 21, Bristol The Spiral 26, Chelmsford Chancellor Halls (with Felt) 29, Croydon Underground 31.

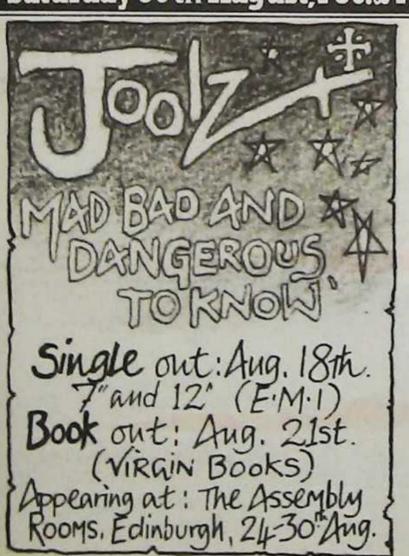
THE SOUP DRAGONS, who recently rode high in the indie charts, will be appearing at London Dingwalls on August 21, Dudley JB's 22, Bath Moles 23, Leicester Princess Charlotte 24, Newcastle Riverside 25.

FEIDEI, the Leeds rock band, set out on a mini-tour next month to promote their recently released single, 'Snowblinde', at York Winning Post September 5, Bridlington Mountbatten 20, Leeds Warehouse 28.

THE INSPIRAL CARPETS, the Oldham garage band, will play in their home town at the Hurricane Club on August 22 and at the Mare And Foal on September 8.







CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT return from New York, where they were making a video for their latest single 'Misfit' at the invitation of Andy Warhol (who directed and appeared in it), to play Charing Cross Heaven August 21, Brixton The Fridge 23, Brighton Escape Club 25.

HOW WE LIVE set out to promote their debut single 'Working Town', on Portrait, at Gravesend Red Lion August 22, Lincoln Cornmill 23, Wokingham Angles 28.

STEVE MARSHALL, who releases his debut double A-sided single entitled 'Feel No Way'/'Lightning' on State Of Emergency (through Red Rhino) on August 25, has set up three dates for his "live multi-media show". He will appear at Brixton The Fridge on August 29, Battersea Arts Centre September 20, Birmingham Midlands Arts Centre October 20.

KABBALA, one of the most popular African/Soul groups on the club circuit, play London Ronnie Scotts August 20-23, Basildon Festival Hall September 11.

A MOTION INDUSTRY set out on the "road to massiveness" when they play at Southsea Portland Hotel August 20 and September 2, Southampton Youth Festival 20, Southampton Joiners Arms 16.

5TA have announced some dates to promote their second single for Arista, 'My Brilliant Career', when they play Manchester Boardwalk August 22, Sheffield Leadmill 23, Rayleigh Pink Toothbrush 28, Brighton Zap Club 29, Leicester The Princess Charlotte 30.

CONDEMNED 84 continue on their "Nutters Tour" to promote their recently released EP 'Oi Ain't Dead' at Fetcham Riverside Club August 22, Isle Of Wight Scooter Rally 24, Leeds Adam And Eves 27, Carshalton St Heliers Arms 28.

THE PRIMEVILS, Fun Patrol (James King), Francis Anthony And The Underworld and The Believers will play Glasgow Mayfair on August 24. Tickets are £3, and all proceeds go to Scottish Medical Aid For Nicaragua.



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- 10 LINCOLN RITZ THEATRE
- 11 LONDON HAMMERSMITH ODEON

- 14 IPSWICH GAUMONT

HEADLINING

READING ROCK FESTIVAL SAT. 23RD AUGUST

G K T R A G K

DR FEELGOOD's 'A Case Of The Shakes' 1980 album, perhaps as distinguished for its Barney Bubbles cover as for its musical contents, is reissued by Edsel. Nevertheless, the "Perfect For Parties" slogan on the sleeve still holds good six years later, particularly if all Barney's bottles have been consumed first.

MANFRED MANN's 'Soul Of Mann' album from 1967, which tried to prove that behind their pretty pop image was a bunch of jazz musos trying to get out, has been revived at the whim of See For Miles. The tracks - all instrumental - were taken from their first three albums and EPs and include "cover" versions of 'My Generation' and 'Satisfaction' (I) as well as their own more stylish 'Abominable Snowman' and 'Bare Hugg'.

AL GREEN virtually completes the reissue of his '70s catalogue on his own Hi label (through Demon) with the first of his religion-obsessed albums, 'Explore Your Mind', which includes the seminal (well, to Talking Heads anyway) 'Take Me To The River', the more enigmatic and adventurous 'Al Green Is Love', and 'Full Of Fire' from 1976 which marked a return to more conventional material.

MARIANNE FAITHFULL, Kathy Kirby, Lulu and The Vernons Girls are among the '60s vamps on 'Girlzone' released by Impact (through Ace). But this is not a hits collection; the tracks come from deep in Decca's vaults where the compilers also uncovered stuff from forgotten starlets such as Adrienne Posta, Louise Cordet, Beverley and Antoinette.

VICIOUS CIRCLE (who include two ex-Luddites), Bantu and Fish Shoots Man are all featured on an EP called 'View Of Jerusalem' on Wounded Knee (through Revolver) this week.

COLONEL ABRAMS releases his "long-awaited" single called 'Over And Over' this weekend on MCA.

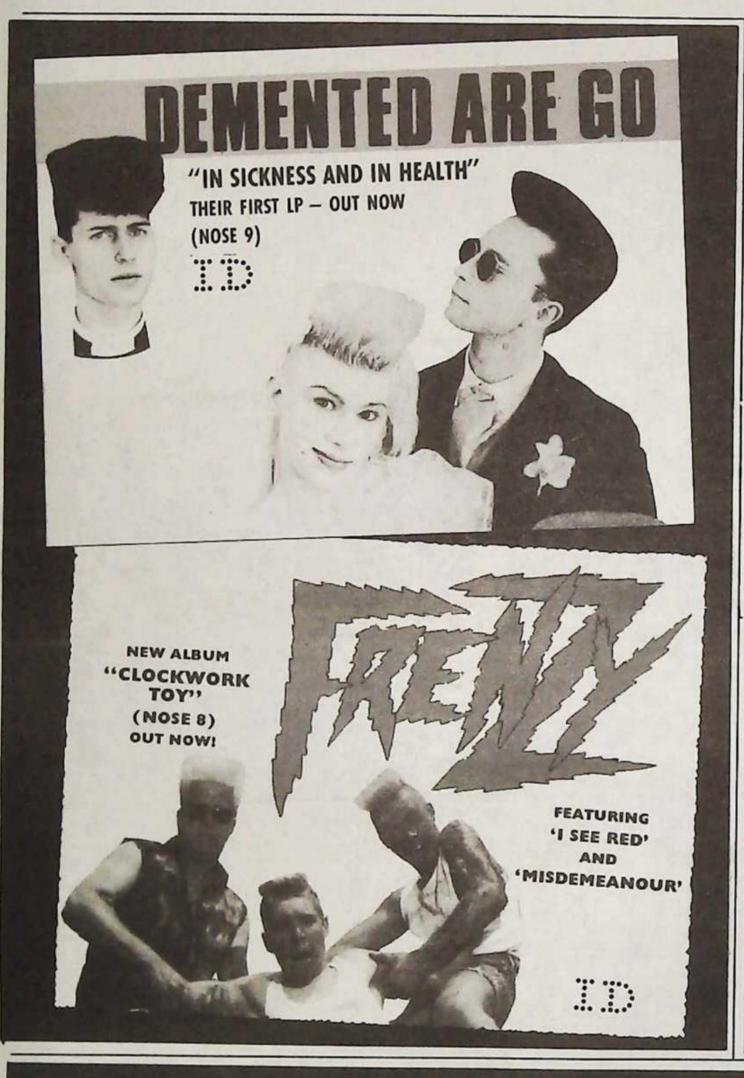
KENNY G, who came to the nation's attention last year with the infectious club single 'Hi, How Ya Doin", releases a follow-up in the form of The Temptations' classic 'What Does It Take (To Win Your Love)', on Arista this week.

MATT FRETTON releases his first single for two years, called 'Palpitating Heart', on IDK (through Rough Trade) this week.

BOYS DON'T CRY release a new single entitled 'Hearts Bin Broken' on Legacy this week.



GOODBYE MR MACKENZIE, from Scotland, release their debut double A-sided single, 'The Rattler'/'Candlestick Park', on The Precious Organisation (through Fast Forward) on September 1.







ROD STEWART - SEPT 18, 19 and 25

UB40 - NOV 8/9 SIGUE SIGUE SPUTNIK - OCT 13 STRANGLERS - NOV 3

SPANDAU BALLET - DEC 22/23/24/26 Stargreen Box Office, 20/21a Argyll Street, opp London Palladium, Oxford Circus, London WI ACCESS/VISA CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS 01-734 8932

STREETSOUNDS quickly cash in on the success of UK Fresh 86 - held at London Wembley Arena last month - with the release of 'Hip Hop/Electro 13'. It apparently includes "over £80 worth of import material for the price of a normal album" from the likes of Africa Bambaataa And The Family, Aleem, World Class Wreckin Cru, Lovebug Starski, Eric B, Real Roxanne with Hitman Howie Tee, Roxanne Shante and Grandmaster Flash.

WHIPCRACKAWAY, the Manchester band, release their debut single called 'The Horse's Tale', which "has a wild but mild smattering of Country and spaghetti Western", this week on In Tape (through Red Rhino).

THROWING MUSES release their self titled debut LP on 4AD on September 1.

AGENT STEEL, one of the maelstrom of US metallica, release a new single, 'Mad Locust Rising', on Music For Nations this week.





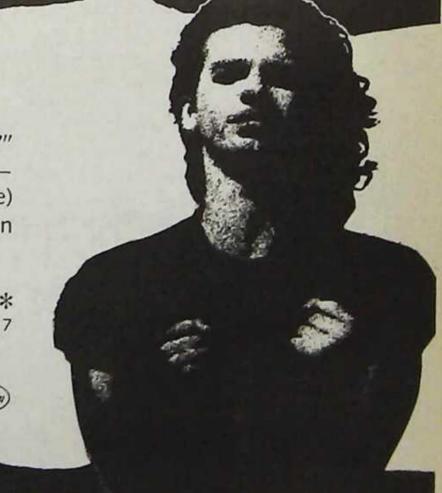
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BARCLAYS

SO/23/B



A rubbery Limelighter in her party gear



...and the bottom line

Pix: Jayne Houghton

Condom Minions

THOSE TEARAWAY terrors of the Aussle axe-grinding scene, AC/ DC, have finally discovered the Joys of rubberwear, Judging by this still (below) from their new video. It's got more shiny blackclad damsels than you could shake a can of Mr Sheen at. But our hearts really go out to the three 'cycle sluts' shown here. God, those zips must have been uncomfortable . . .

Meanwhile, back in the old country, Daniel James, the man who has dressed more lissome celebrity limbs in latex than most pervs could cram into a week of wet dreams, staged his very own glossy fantasy fashion show at London's Limelight club last Monday.

With a press show at 7pm from which our own resident rubber reporter Tony Mitchell

was excluded thanks to a hiccup at the Limelight's press office - and a punters' performance at midnight, Daniel succeeded in proving that a little length of latex goes a long, long way.

Evidently he'd run out, though, halfway through making up actress and Pleasure

And The Beast chanteuse LA Richardson's cossi. What other reason could there have been for her appearance dressed in nought but a black mermald's tall? But then again, as the Limelight pix above show whatever the age, whatever the sex, everyone looks great in rubber.





Bogus metal reviewers Pretending to kick ass Being a tightfisted blob **Puffs from Southport** A million dead violinists Nom de plumes



Crucial Brew Ralph's chat-up lines Being a curly Hoaxes **Everywhere but Paris** Chateau Huxley '86

MOUNTAINEERING

MOVE OVER wimpy, wanky British pulp popsters. Stand aside second rate Only Ones rip-off merchants. Sod off back to your day jobs, you Droopy Dragons, you Distant Shrimps, you petty Shelley revivalists, because here comes a force ten gale of brutal bad breath, here come the Porno Sponges, the 1980's unleashed fireballs!

The Porno Sponges hail in a gob of frenzied psychedelic guitar terrorism, spit and bollocks from somewhere called Providence in the good ol' USA. Providence indeed. The Porno Sponges discovered that alcohol was a food far in advance of modern medical thought, and have been living on Newcastle Brown Ale ever since. This one lapse in good taste apart, the Porno Sponges are, as they say, shit hot.

Tearing the hearts out of their Gibson Les Pauls with a degree of vim and not a little animation, these four young Americans (average age 20) reel off a whole succession of amphetamine paced, treble topped sub '60s classics, in which covers of The Yardbirds' 'Psycho Daisies' and The 13th Floor Elevators' 'Fire Engine' fit flush against home grown gems such as 'It's Untrue' and the amazing 'Going Places, Eating Things'. Contact the Porno Sponges at PO Box 28432 Providence RI 02908 USA, and make some noise Goddammit!

ROGER HOLLAND

BITES... BITES... BITES... BITES... BITES... BITES...

 NEWS HAS reached us from an exclusive corner of the international racing circuit that Andrew Ridgeley can't drive very well. It seems he's had six crashes in eight races, which is pretty damn silly if you ask us. We tried to find out just what was going wrong. Does his nose get in the way? Are his feet too big? Or is he just a bloody lousy driver? Nobody was prepared to blab. Whatever the reason, his live-in lover Donia Florentino has begged him to stop. "He wakes up in the middle of the night going *Brrruumm brrruumm,* she told Jaws, "and he can't seem to stop talking about fuel levels and all those car things. He's possessed and I can't take much more of it."

 MIDGET ROCK star Prance, the man who really fancles himself as a ladykilling superstud, is terrified of naked female flesh. And the reasons for his phobia are deeply psychological, say experts.

*Prance has seen so many bare boobs and bums that he has developed a mental backlash," says US psychologist Dr Werner Krankelshuster.

"He can't tell what's right and wrong. He has no perception of what naked female flesh really means, so he gets scared and panics whenever he sees it. When he stops trying to be a pop star and settles down, he'll grow out of it."

● THE DOCTOR'S record company have put the blocks on his bonking activities with Medics backing singer Wendi West.

He's got to work, they say. and the only way they can get him to churn out the hits is to stop him getting too frisky which is what happens when Wendi is around

So Wendi is chained to the sink in their flat in Blackheath while the Doctor is "somewhere in Wales". "I may be living like a monk," he said "but it doesn't half help my songwriting."

Says Wendi: "Let's just say I'm not happy about it. But if that's what it takes to keep me in black lipstick ...*

MARCH OF

Hello Campers!



CVB: Bad art or black rock?

IF FREUD was a teenster in today's plastic heartlands, he'd have picked up a copy of Camper Van Beethoven's 'Telephone Landslide Victory' album last year when it sneaked out on California's most innovative indie Independent Projects.

Then, old Siegy wouldn't have looked in amazement earlier this year when REM's Michael Stipe voted it one of his fave albums in Rolling Stone. But would the analyst in the Beatles wig have been able to suss the band's pertinent lyrics?

"There's not a line here that rhymes with anything/I had a dream last night but I forgot what it was."

Hmm, yeah. So now that Rough Trade have unleashed their LP in the UK we can ask just who are these neo-classicists who seem intent

on fusing ska with jazz, folk with funk (and in the process covering a Black Flag song)? And is it true that they're Jesus freaks?

"Jesus freaks!" exclaims Camper crooner David Lowery, "where did that one come from? No, I think we've got to deny that categorically. Er, well, I suppose Jonathon and Chris look a little like flower child Jesus freaks, but really!"

So how about this fusion of ethnic musical styles that seems to be part and parcel of the Beethoven sound.

"Well, I'm not really sure, I always thought we played polka music.'

But according to the world's press, CVB play anything from Tex-Mex, country, '60s psychedelia and everything mentioned before. Siegmund Freud scratches his ear

One thing that's agreed is that CVB are a welcome breath of fresh air, but will the west coasters transcend the cliquey rock circles and make it in the pop world? After all, their songs are strong enough.

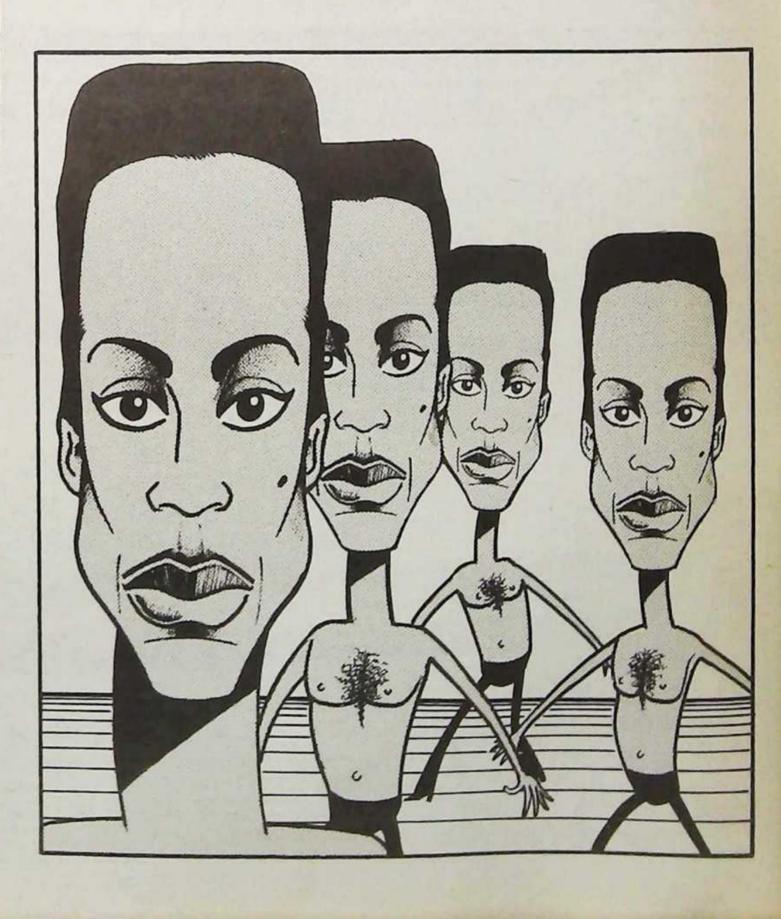
"Why not? I'd love to have five or six pink Cadillacs."

In the UK, the password at Rough Trade HQ is 'Take The Skinheads Bowling' - the single cut from the Campers debut - and the future for these third generation Modern Lovers is looking decidedly rowdy.

But David, is it art?

"Er, low art, I guess," chuckles Lowery. "Or maybe it's just bad art."

DAVE HENDERSON



LOVELY PEOPLE IN ETHNIC MELODRAMA

"We're too old, too political and too weird for the charts"

IT'S DARK. In the back of a van Just off Oxford Street, Debbora holds one up and says: "They look Just like vaginas, don't they?"

What are they exactly? "They're a kind of dried pear," states the whole of her band - Andy - and we begin the Interview.

Yes, Akimbo are a very ideologically sound duo, but even an "aw, It's too cold to go on a march*-type person like me can love their music. Debbora's voice is hugely emotional and their eponymous debut LP stood out earlier this year as something refreshingly raw and delicate. Different.

The current 'So Long Trouble' five-track EP is equally vitriolic and more sharply-focussed, while their live shows are a form of ethnic melodrama.

"My background is theatre but Andy's is music," says



Debbora. "Only recently did we realise we've acquired an 'Akimbo sound'."

"It's come about 'cos neither of us know the rules," says Andy. "If we were more steeped in recording culture we'd probably sound more like other people."

Debbora claps her hands. "And who needs that?"

Somehow I don't think your mum will be seeing Akimbo on Wogan before Christmas.

"We're too old, too political, and too welrd for the charts," says Debbora – a woman who Inspires applause from support groups at soundchecks.

"Maybe welrd and political will get trendy," muses Andy. Then we're on to a nice little earner."

"My youth culture," continues Debbora, "was The Beatles, The Temptations and The Supremes. . . It was all about love, not politics. If

someone had come up to me and started saying I'm a woman, with my head held high, I'd have thought Aw c'mon, I don't wanna know 'bout that; I wanna bop! I don't wanna think!"

Andy sees something in this too. "I'm a bit uneasy about some of the songs. Some people are turned off by anything that's... evangelistic."

Debbora: "Are you saying our music is like that?"

Andy: "No, Just that there could be a danger, y'know?" How did you get Robert Wyatt involved in the record (he sings on the anti-apartheld gem 'The Machine')?

Debbora: "I Just phoned him up and asked hlm. Life's short; I'd ring anybody."

This I believe. She suggested doing the interview in the Ladies' at the 100 Club. I was game but Andy went all coy. Akimbo will continue to stir

AKIMBO: Debs and Andy - not EastEnders audiences up and down the country: are friends of The Polson Girls; have a track ('The

Rap') on the recent Miners'

really lovely people. Andy says: "We want something that doesn't sound too forced but at the same time is forceful. That was quite good, wasn't It?"

Strike album 'Dig This'; and are

"Yeah," says Debbora. "Too many 'ums' for me, but it was airight."

'Well Chris can edit the ums out."

"I think he should put them In."

Decisions, decisions. Where shall I put the core?

"A drama coach once sald to me 'You're a big black woman, there's no way you can be Invisible. So if you're gonna go

on a stage, do It." She does.

CHRIS ROBERTS

JAMES BROWN

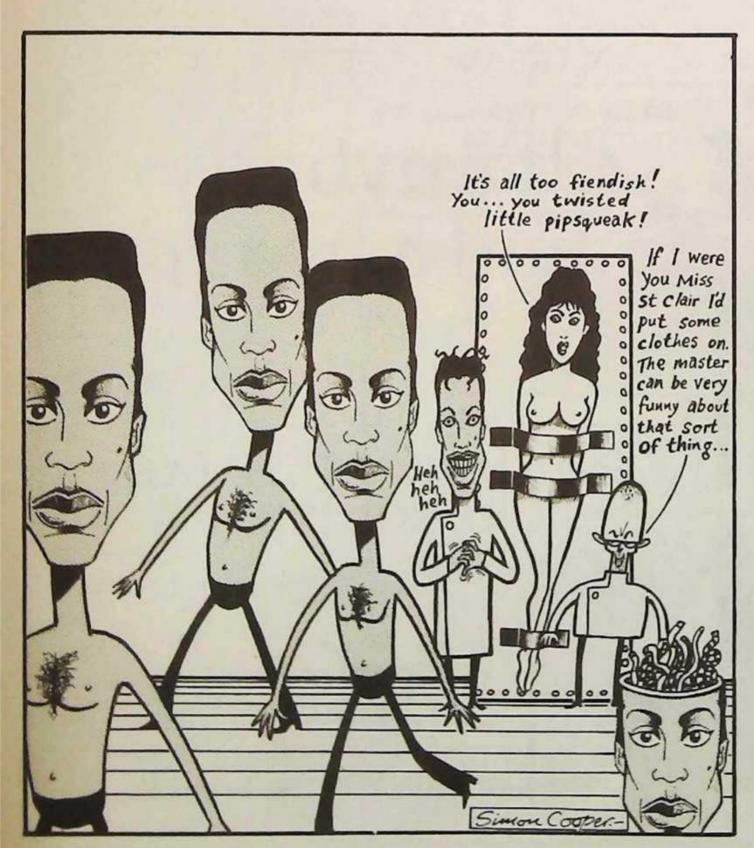


WELL I suppose someone has to be. After months of speculation and concern, the dynamo pop exposé team at the Daily Express (a big Fleet Street organ if there ever was one) have revealed the truth about the identity of The Cult's mysterious singer.

Yes it's true, Ian Astbury is actually played by Lisa Marie Presley, 18, daughter of El and Priscilla. Although Priscilla refused to comment, a friend informed Jaws that the Dallas star was "really

pissed off" that her daughter had been singing with "the bunch of big hippy bastards". Mrs Presley's dead husband, Elvis, is reported to have disliked The Cult intensely, ever since they murdered 'Mystery Train' accapella style at his graveside in Memphis. And as the cloud of shame mushrooms from the Presley household, we here at Jaws would like to be the first to offer our sympathy.

THE MIDGET MUTANTS Sinister Doppelganger Plot



WHAT WAS the one blg question that remained unanswered after the Purple Rainstorm's flying visit to these shores last week?

It wasn't the height of his heels. Nor the length of his contract. It was: how did he manage to be in so many different places at the same time?

At least a week beforehand, those fearless investigators on The Sun had established that His Royal Badness would be partying every night after the Wembley Shows at the Marquee in Wardour Street. And certainly no one could have been fooled by the club's denials, or its claims that the evenings in question were actualy a residency for Redditch-based band Heavy Sausage.

But explain, if you will, the equally undeniable fact that Prince partied into the early hours at the Empire Ballroom, Leicester Square on at least two of the nights in question, even taking part in the semi-finals of come Dancing (and winning, naturally).

Add to this the certain knowledge that on Monday night the electric man held court at Busby's while, according to most newspapers, he was actually dancing the night away at Stringfellows with 'Leather Mistress' and toplessmodel-cum-not-really-ex-girlfriend-of-Andrew-Ridgeley Jackie St Clair.

But expecting us to believe that Prince did all this, and Jammed at Kensington Roof Gardens with Ron Wood and Eric Clapton, is just stretching the bounds of possibility

Unless, of course, you know what we at Jaws know. And what we know is that there's not just one Prince, but at least eight of them, each a perfect synthetic clone of the original, who actually spent his entire stay in Britain lounging on his hotel bed, eating popcorn and watching re-runs of The Avengers.

It was a masterly piece of deception. The Dally Mirror nearly cracked it when they noted that Prince had apparently arrived in the country with 27 minders, when no more than three were seen with a Prince at any time.

But let's face it - if you were the real Prince, you'd have better things to do than hang out with Samantha Fox or try to teach Duran Duran the rudiments of music.

Well there you are then. The evidence may be circumstantial, but the logic's unassallable.

THE SUN sets saggy over Shaftesbury Avenue. Clammy Americans float drawling accents across my face, the air hangs with the hamburger-heavy smells of a summer city night, hotdogs, boy scouts, and wealth.

Two minutes walk from Leicester Square tube station there's an old. cold church full of disco. Disco lights, disco music, disco dawks squawking disco at the disco bar, disco soul boys and disco photographers. Disco sequins fall from the disco walls and land on the disco church benches.

In the disco toilets, a polite young man sits amongst a show of disco toilet accessories like chewing gum, hairbrushes and all the perfume you need to transform yourself from a grubby insect of the metropolis into a mighty, grubby disco king.

The toilet attendant tells two such grubby disco city boys that he earns 250 disco pounds a week for sitting in his pleasant smelling, warm, disco toilet.

The two grubby city boys stop their disco scoffing and go back to the free disco drink.

There's white wine, minerals, and disco lager. If you're lucky - and there are no slobby, styleless disco celebs at the bar you can grab at least two disco wine glasses full of vinegar.

"O'right Jim. Look at this place then, it's like a right f***** old garage, innit. And it's cold."

Ron Rom's whisper brings me out of my glam, disco dream with a shiver. He's right. The Limelight, London's latest nightspot for famous highlifers and rich knobs, is cold.

Shading myself from the glare of too many fake suntans I look to the roof of the church. This is difficult as the view to the top of the spire is obscured by myriads of empty-headed disco people, with their divvy disco haircuts and their stupid disco conversations, hanging over the balconies.

Most drop their gobs whenever a starlet titters by. Disco Spizz 86, in his cut-off jeans that reveal all of his chubby thighs, parades from one disco doorway to another. Disco Nightlife, in his crisp, dark blue denim flared dungarees, follows him, his Cool Hand Luke convict crop flutterless in the wind. Disco Mallet (95 years old and still only two foot tall) brays his inane laugh over and over again.

Turning my back on this banal show of flowery false personalities, chummy bum tonguing, and horseflesh, I leave. Back in the street I stoop discretely and vomit. And you'll be pleased to know that this was decidedly non disco vomitting.

JAMES BROWN

ANNA DOMINO is my name. I'm a singer who admits in ironic tones that "I am a scatterbrained neurotic girl".

But really, though, I'm simultaneously analytical and at home with machines. So I am not as people perceive me to be.

At the moment, I am sitting in a South Kensington bistro talking to Richard Jobson and Michelle from Les Disques Du Crepuscule and drinking cappuccino.

I am here because the writer from Sounds is an hour late for our interview.

Someone dressed in black leather has just walked in the door. OW AS I step inside the bistro I am an unshaven journalist called Jack, who has had his ventricles twisted by sitting in a traffic jam for an hour.

I am searching for a platinum blonde vocalist who, until yesterday, I'd thought of as some sort of cross between Annie Lennox, Joni Mitchell and Sade.

Then I got the lyric sheet with Anna Domino's upcoming eponymous album.

Reading her words, charged with chaos, fragility, self doubt, guilty anger and strength, however, changed my mind.

"Life begins with a broken heart", she sings on 'Take That'. And I do. EXT TO the bistro I, that's Anna, drop first a button, then my leather trenchcoat, and say to Jack, "Oh God, I knew that would happen."

He doesn't help me pick them off the pavement but is looking at the leather cap I'm wearing.

As we walk back to the hotel I'm staying at I tell him that I moved from the States to Belgium because it offered me a chance of making a record, although I find Brussels a bit tedious.

"Yeah?" he smiles, surprised. "I usually have a really good time there." ANNA AND I are now in the hotel lounge. A much travelled daughter of divorced parents, she tells me that when she was young she liked to stay as invisible as possible. For example, if she was staying in a hotel she would make the bed and tidy the room before leaving "so there would be no trace of me left".

Anna wrings her hands constantly, her conversation is punctuated by nervous gasps and delicate laughs, and she is prone to launching off at tangents such as: "I was thinking the other day that clouds probably think because of all the electrical energy in them that discharges during storms".



ANNA: knocking the spots off

Eye And Eye

Sound Of The Sewers

MANY DOLCE vitas ago, back in the prehistory of package tours, a plane jointly chartered by the Chelsea Supporters Club and a seminal group of Club 18-30 goers was on its way to the Costa Brava when it was inexplicably forced to crashland beside an isolated Catalonian hamlet.

These simple Spanish peasants somehow adopted this motley crew as god figures, assimilating and emulating their habits. The 'gods' are now long gone, but their spirit lives on in the Catalonian theatre company, La Fura Dels Baus (translates

appropriately as Vermin Of The Sewers).

In a supreme act of cultural conmanship, La Fura hoodwinked the hapless ICA into giving them a week's residence in the Isle Of Dogs, and the cream of the capital's arts journalists turned up last week to witness their orgy of vulgarity.

"Violence is necessary," said spokesman Andres Morte, as his boys stripped off and crammed raw eggs into their gobs ('Del Sol Sangria Party'), launched a sledgehammer attack on a Mini ('Stamford Bridge



ARCH! OK the yoke's on me.

Samba'), charged each other in supermarket trolleys ('Inter City Shopping Mall Rampage'), and consumed raw sheep's entrails ('Sun 'N' Sea Bar-B-Q').

The Shed's cultural attache Bill Brotherton was there on the terraces: "This is what I call Kultur. These boys done good."

ROD CORKHILL

BETTER TED

THERE'S THIS pair of legs dangling from a hole in the ceiling of Manchester's International Club. Short legs, wrapped in tweed and shoed up with a neat pair of brogues.

From the hole there's an almighty roar and those members of the Andy Kershaw Roadshow audience who aren't Young Farmers laugh. Ted Barton climbs back down onto his throne and starts the next song. With his battered acoustic guitar in his hand, normality reigns – If you can call a man who plants trees in the floorboards of his living room normal, that is.

Tell me about rock and roll, Ted.

"I'm not too keen on rock and roll – I try not to let it interfere with my day-to-day life, anyway. I guess my favourite bit is the line where Elvis says, If you've no one to dance with you should do it with a chair."

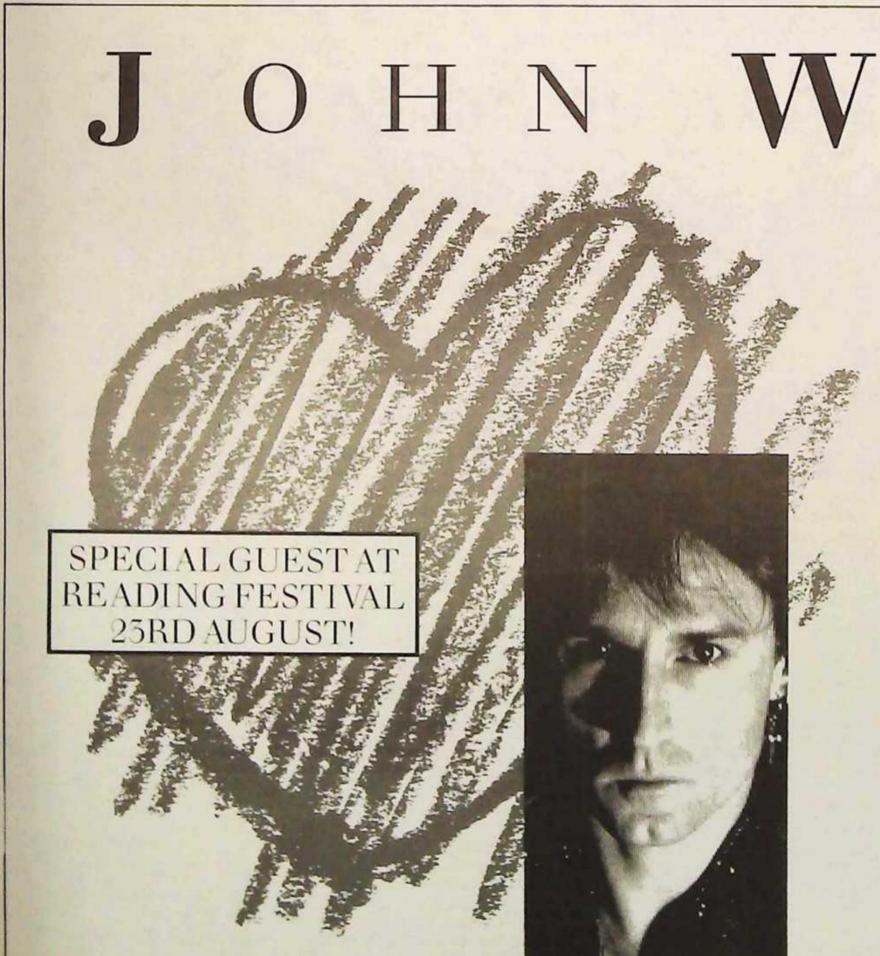
Deliberately vague, Ted and I stumble

through the Interview. I ask about his background and get treated to the gore 'n' bore details of his birth. He doesn't expand too much on his pleasant little Cherry Red hit 'It's A Fine Day' sung by one Jane, and he doesn't even mention his passion for The Ramones and Beefheart.

"I'm a bit embarrassed that I still feel a need to get up and perform, play music. I thought it was something you'd grow out of. . . like wanking ten times a day when you were 14."

Fine, but that doesn't explain why you're so popular.

"I don't know. I get on stage for myself. . . oh, and my brothers. What I do there I do for myself, it's just incidental that audiences like it. And I don't really like interviews. I'd much rather people just wrote what they think instead of asking me questions."



NEW SINGLE
"If anybody had a heart"

PRODUCED BY DON HENLEY DANNY KORTCHMAR J.D. SOUTHER



ALSO AVAILABLE ON ALBUM & TAPE "Mask of smiles" & "No breaks"

DOMINO - UHM, Jack hasn't asked me if that is my real surname.

"I've been meaning to write a biography of myself for years but I always stop after about the second word," I say.

"I sit down with a sheet of paper and get confused as to what is or isn't important. Should I tell lies or tell the truth? I can't do either with conviction."

He inquires if I get an energy stimulus when things go wrong in my life and if there is a streak of masochism in my lyrics. I think about this for quite a while and sigh.

"I sure wish I knew how to answer questions like that." OPPOSITE ANNA, separated by a small table, I am silently cursing not being punctual. I like to spend hours with inteview subjects. Today I will have 30 minutes. She says: "The lyrics might deal with failure or seem like a crushing weight, but it doesn't really fit because I'm optimistic in a bizarre way.

"I don't believe the world is going to end or that art or literature are deteriorating. But it's true that in my songs I am reacting from the point of view of somebody who is not actively in control. How I've learned to deal with my life is to acquiesce. I don't think that is particularly female, though."

MY WORST ever hangover? It occurred on New Year's Eve in 1982 in New York. Instead of going out I drank this huge bottle of rum and took photographs of the programmes on TV.

"Drinking and drugs are a problem," I tell him. "But it's like everything else, I don't know where to place myself in the scale of things . . . I have got a pretty volatile imagination, though. If I allow myself to get weak it'll kinda go crazy and feed on me. And you never want to do that even once. Because once you've figured out how to have a nervous breakdown by destroying the protective mental barriers you'll go through it again and again."

NSIDE THE hotel lounge, Anna speaks about how she was once sent to a psychiatrist by a friend who said she was "driving him nuts". The result was that the psychiatrist had a nervous breakdown and retired.

"All I wanted to do was talk about my dreams and then all this grief happened," she gasps.

Dreams are one of the first things that Anna can remember. In a recurring dream, she is walking up the path to the front of a house. On of the pathway are bushes, and behind the bushes are dwarves. "You won't go in," they say. Anna walks up to the door but can't open it and wakes up.

UTS! I can see Jack looking at me and thinking I'm loopy. I'm afraid he's getting very bizarre answers to his questions. So I whisper to him: "The whole image of the scatter-brained, neurotic girl is just sitting there waiting for me. It's very difficult to avoid. But what you are seeing and hearing now is a social character. This is how I present myself for the lack of a better idea, but this is not exactly how I feel really . . .

"People are always asking me for opinions, to take sides. I can't because taking sides is a pretentious, selfish act. It's like saying I prefer the colour red to green. I mean, so what?"

UT IN the street we shake hands, Anna and I. I think about how much I have enjoyed meeting her and laugh at the way tape recorders develop severe magnetic problems when she uses them. When I get home and listen to the tape of the interview, I hear her say: "How come we have to put everything into grids? It's like Alien, here is a species of being that doesn't think in straight grid types of notions but rather thinks in this art noveau, organic way. If it was to make a plan it would look like something that just grew out of the ground." Anna Domino is planting

something odd.

JACK BARRON

THAN DEAD

People enjoy Ted Barton because what he



TED: throne it all away

Mick Peek

does he does comically well. What he does is how and mutter. He explodes his mouth around the concrete pop that makes up his set; a set that could not be called musically nice but is almost always entertaining.

He achieves brilliance through extremity. It is exciting to count the horror ripples that gather on audiences' foreheads. It's exciting to hear the smalltown hecklings inspired by fear; to sense the desperation to be a part of something where there are no outsiders.

It's even funnier to watch the gobdropping when Big T offers to make up a song on the spot and then delivers a tuneless barrage of primal screaming and guitar string thrashing.

One man and his confidence. I suggest you settle back and observe.

JAMES BROWN

BITES ... BITES ...

wondering, is Lydia Lunch these days? In Holland apparently, Amsterdam to be precise. Has the city of sin seduced the daughter of filth into abusing its urban body to satisfy her own flesh-soaked fantasies? No, she's writing a book actually, and rumour has it there will be some clean bits in it.

CLIFF RICHARD rarely makes a spectacle of himself. But that's what he's just done in a Gallup poil commissioned by the British American Optical Company. He came first in Scotland and second to Michael Caine in the overall UK goggles championship. We reckon he's been framed.

AFTER OVER a year of speculation, Jaws can now reveal the real reason behind the sacking of Butthole Surfers' drummer Cabbage. She stunk. She didn't wash and the rest of the band kept passing out 'cos of the smell.



CURRENT PICK of the crop on the old 'gosh-aren't-pop-stars-witty, have-you-heard-my-stupid-Ansaphone-message-yet-it's-great' vicious circle is top pop record label boss Dan Treacy.

Following in the heavily trodden footsteps of promoter Jon Beast's pitiful effort ("F" off world, I'm not paying you a penny!"), wacky Television Personality Dan sits in his office giggling and changing his message each time somebody rings. So if one caller gets the "This is the home of Guru Daniel Treacy. Unfortunately, Bagwan Dan is out at the moment seeking spiritual enlightenment..." razzamatazz, complete with soundtrack to match, then the very next caller is likely to find himself caught up in the zany world of those other Traceys and their International Rescue. It seems that Dan pilots Thunderbird Seven!

We'd give you the number so that you could check it out for yourselves but then we'd never be able to get hold of the swine.

NICKED CORTINA



YOU SHOOK ME ALL NIGHT LONG

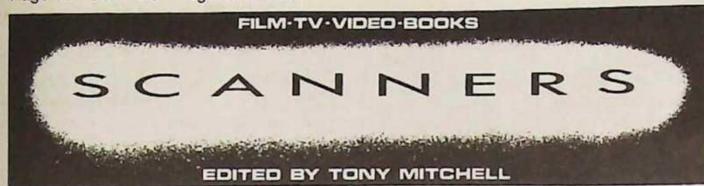
Limited Edition Gatefold Sleeve Package
On Initial Quantities of 7"
3-Track 12" Includes
Previously Unreleased LIVE Tracks

YOU SHOOK ME ALL NIGHT LONG - Studio Version SHE'S GOT BALLS - Live Version Featuring BON SCOTT YOU SHOOK ME ALL NIGHT LONG - Live Version

YOU SHOOK ME ALL NIGHT LONG - Studio Version SHE'S GOT BALLS - Edited Live Version

*Produced By Robert John 'Mutt' Lange





COSTUME DRAMA



It began with his mother's kidnapping.

And ended with deadly intrigue.

MOLLY RINGWALD suddenly realises she's talking to Chris Roberts' dad

PRETTY IN PINK

(UIP Paramount)

MUCH LIKE the new version of the song, Pretty In Pink is the spirit of youthful innocence as viewed through slightly more detached and jaded eyes, but ultimately in John Hughes' follow-up to The Breakfast Club, humour and romance win the day.

However much realism is sacrificed in the name of accessibility, Hughes' stream of smart-ass one-liners and five-minute melodramas leaves the likes of Neil Simon croaking in the geriatric ward.

It's the simplest of stories – girl (Molly Ringwald) works in the record shop (rebellion!!), is courted by zany-wacky-loony type, but has crush on upper-class twit who's marginally less of a twit than his buddies. Eventually Richle asks her to the prom, which makes Duck Man (the "crazy" one) play a lot of

GENE

HACKMAN

Otis Redding and The Smiths records.

But! Richie is a two-faced shit! So! Gutsy Molly makes herself a pink dress. And! We mustn't give away the ending. It's all highly entertaining and glibly perceptive.

Harry Dean Stanton Is on a roll of roles at the moment. Here, as the father who can't accept his wife is never coming back, he's again magnificent, wry, understated. When his daughter tries to talk calm sense into him and his face takes on a wrinkly glow of utter vulnerability and he bleats, "But ... but I love her", I for one had to tie my legs across my eyes. (The fact that he looks exactly like my dad in this film did not in any way affect my subjectivity. No siree.)

All this adolescent schlock and a soundtrack featuring New Order, the Bunnymen, and – oh dear – OMD. Unprovocative but quick and classy in a Desperately Seeking way.

DILLON

... A powerful

new thriller

CHRIS ROBERTS

FORCED EXPOSURE

(American Mega-Fanzine)

with Bile by the trashcan-full, and more scatalogical outpourings than a city sewage system could handle, comes the latest issue of arguably the best music mag in the world. If you like to be eaten alive by noise and are missing a handy vibrator for the eyes, then Forced Exposure, from the scourges of Boston, Massachussetts, is the appliance of science you've been looking for.

Actually, it comes from Waltham, Ma, but who the hell has heard of that sticksville? And anyway, it's near enough to Boston to pass muster. Sleazy, sweaty, sex-cited and busy snorting up the mass insanity which festers like a great lake of pus in America, the mag is now on its tenth issue and looks set to run and run.

Every publication is only as good as the skills of its writers, and in Jimmy Johnson, Byron Coley and Big Black boy Steve Albini (see interview on pages 32 & 33), FE has some of the nastiest and funniest perverts ever let loose on typewriters. They peel back the scabs of the most exhilarating and excruciating rock bands around, and more often than not, their critiques are right on the rusty nail.

The current 114-page bloodblaster features a cover story on Lydia Lunch which is so in-depth, it almost counts every hair on her body (mmmm) let alone her head, and rivals their superb dissection of Sonic Youth a couple of issues back. Beyond their penis-and-butt prose obsessions, what bursts through above all is Johnson and Coley's attention to detail and enthusiasm for their subjects. They simply know what they're writing about, and have pretty impeccable taste. which is more than can be said for 99 per cent of professional hacks.

Consequently, Forced
Exposure is worth mugging a cripple for on the strength of its short, sharp, shocking album reviews alone. If you're interested in the maximum demolition derby detonations of the likes of Neubauten, Swans, Butthole Surfers and similar fellow travellers down the anal canal of modern music, then you'll not just want to peek at but keep these scribblings by The Boston Stranglers.

A quarterly, the next mag will gag with a Butthole Surfers interview as well as a lot of other evil stories. To subscribe, send an \$18 money order made payable to Forced Exposure to PO Box 1611, Waltham, Ma 02254, USA.

JACK BARRON

MUSIC MASTER

(John Humphries Publishing)

AN INCREASINGLY gargantuan tome, now in its 12th edition, which takes over 1,800 pages to list more than 68,000 records, tapes and CDs currently available.

But the policy of listing records alphabetically rather than chronologically, and ignoring any albums deleted before 1980, restricts its reference value. Here at Sounds it's a very useful blaggers' guide.

HUGH FIELDER



ANDY AND Giorgiou proving they're on different planes

CHINESE WHISPERS

WHAM

Wham! In China - Foreign Skies

(CBS/Fox Video)

IF YOU were one of the 72,000 at the recent farewell concert at Wembley Stadium, you've already seen this 62 minute travelogue with pop's most credible duo. And you'll no doubt be amazed to learn that this slice of self promotion has now been entered into the *Guinness Book Of Records* as the largest audience at any film premiere. Now is that stretching a point, or what?

But for those of us otherwise engaged on that momentous day, the China Tour video comes as something of a pleasant surprise. While it's all pretty much bog standard in form and production, the disconcerting clash of cultures which subsequently distances band and audience is fascinating to watch.

While George and Andrew entertain Fleet Street hordes against the panoramic backdrop of the Great Wall Of China, confused, be-suited businessmen try to grasp the reality of Andrew's oversized tartan jacket (but then, don't we all?) and his matching ego. Surprisingly colourful teenagers struggle with the Wham! lyrics, complain that they can't hear the words, and demonstrate their aikido excercises in an effort to dance to this alien music. And, yes, there are the toothless, smiling, crinkled faces of the Chinese old, all filmed in slow motion . . .

Musically, the live footage spans a clutch of the hits ('Club Tropicana', 'Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go', 'Everything She Wants', 'Careless Whisper' . . .) and successfully demonstrates Andrew's ever dubious musical contributions and George's

surprisingly perfect sense of rhythm.

So why did backing singer Shirley claim the trip was a horrid nightmare on breakfast TV? Perhaps because of the distinctly puzzled, so-what-was-all-the-fuss-about expressions on so many of the faces. Perhaps because adulation was so restrained that George Michael was free to run and dance through the audience virtually unhindered. Perhaps because it's a country where they have "hits" like 'Our Community Centre Is Brightly Lit'.

What, they silently seem to ask, does Wham! mean? Ah, you tell us . . .

CAROLE LINFIELD

PRODUCTIONS Presents A ZANUCK/BROWN Production AN ARTHUR PENN Film GENE HACKMAN - MATT DILLON "TARGET"

GAYLE HUNNICUTT JOSEF SOMMER Original Score by MICHAEL SMALL
Story by LEONARD STERN Screenplay by HOWARD BERK and DON PETERSEN
Produced by RICHARD D. ZANUCK and DAVID BROWN
Directed by ARTHUR PENN Released by ** Rank Film Distributors

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(Sidgwick & Jackson)

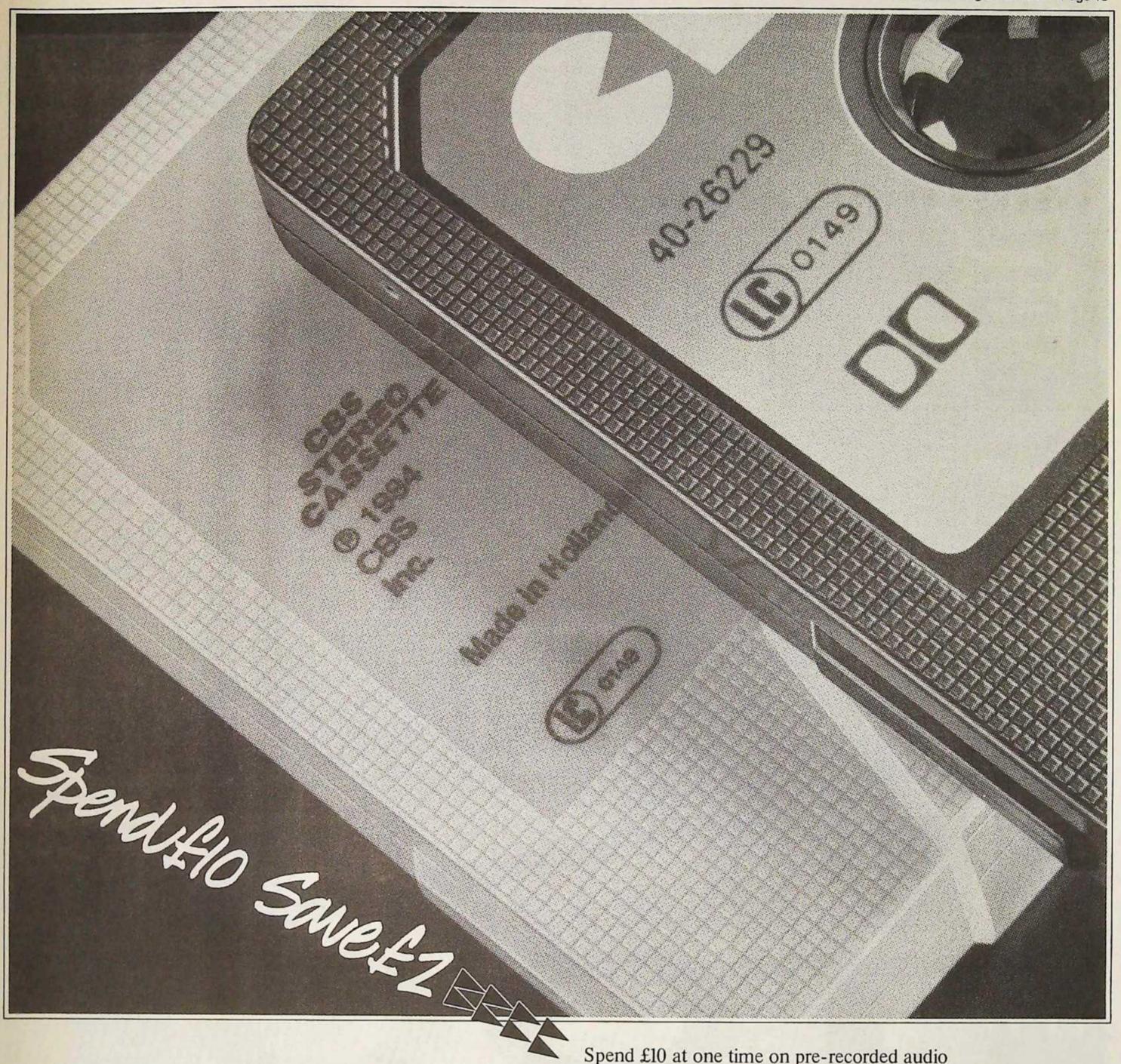
ALTHOUGH THE book claims that the Spands have proved "there is a lot more to them than their wardrobe", the author conclusively fails to prove this dubious speculation. John Travis never actually manages to explain just why Spandau are so mega.

The less successful/commercial stuff, eg their second album 'Diamond', receives only a fleeting mention, as does the potentially interesting Live Aid experience. And their contemporary groups are cast aside with ultimate speed.

Travis might have been better advised to concentrate on their live performances (rather than just the one concert he appears to have seen), as well as describing in greater detail the making of their videos (rather than just how many, or rather few clothes the obligatory model has on). The pictures, most of which seem to have been taken over a period of half an hour, include no historical shots of the band at all.

Contrary to claims on the cover, this book does not appear to have been authorised by Spandau Ballet, who are reportedly considering legal action. Make of this what you will.

BERNARD ROSE



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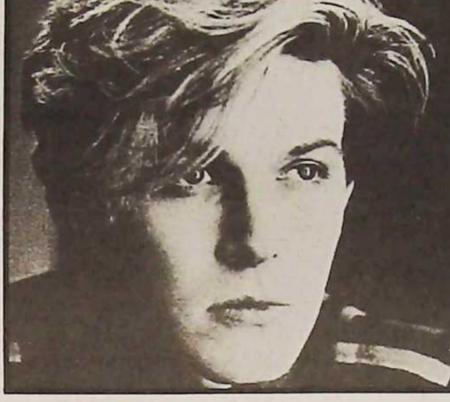


FIRSTLY TO Shella Gardner of Wokingham, who was intending to buy the recent digitally remastered reissue of the old Rolling Stones album 'Out Of Our Heads' to replace a battered original, when she found to her dismay that the reissue was completely different – not only the sleeve, but half the tracks. "How come?" she asks.

The problem here is that in their programme of digitally remastering the Stones' back catalogue, the people responsible at London/Decca seem unaware of a very fundamental point the difference between British and American issues of early albums. The 'new' version of 'Out Of Our Heads' is a reissue of the American version, which appeared earlier than its UK equivalent, and does indeed contain a very different selection of tracks, including several like 'The Last Time' and '(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction' which were taken from singles. When the British pressing appeared, it dumped these in favour of several new recordings - which then didn't appear in the States until they were rounded up on the 'December's Children (And Everybody's)' album, also never issued in Britain. The original UK 'Out Of Our Heads' has now been officially obliterated along with its additional tracks, so for the sake of Sheila and others, it's to be hoped that a UK-released digitally remastered 'December's Children' is part of the forthcoming programme.

In case other people are shopping for old Stones stuff with 1986 sound quality, there are plenty more of these apparent blunders in the reissue programme. The remastered 'Between The Buttons' is the US version, with fewer tracks than the UK, and again filling gaps with singles cuts. Perversely, though, 'Aftermath' is a straight reissue of the UK original, with a running time of over 50 minutes and containing several more tracks than the American equivalent. So be careful if you're replacing.

ORIENT EXPRESS



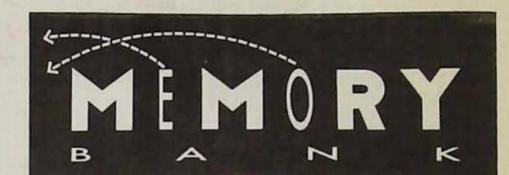
DAVID SYLVIAN: a ghost in the machine

THE JAPAN and David Sylvian discography in June elicited some further info that we haven't yet used. First, additions from Bernard Hamill of Middlesbrough: "Two singles listed were also available as picture discs, namely 'Ghosts'/ 'Art Of Parties' on Virgin VSY 472, and 'Forbidden Colours'/ 'Seed And Sower' on Virgin VSY 601. Also, 'Forbidden Colours' featuring Sylvian appears on the soundtrack from the movie Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence.

"David Sylvian also co-wrote and duetted vocally on the album 'Dreams Of Immigrants' by Sandii And The Sunsetz, released in the UK on Sire 25004-1, in October 1982. Additionally, he sings backing vocals on a 1981 album by the Japanese act Akiko Yaro, entitled 'From Japan To Japan'."

Ross Holloway of Headingley, Leeds, adds to his earlier Japan/Sylvian info by noting that the already-noted Canadian version of 'Tin Drum', which contained extra tracks, also had a different sleeve from the UK original, showing the same photo of the band which was featured on the back cover of the book A Tourist's Guide To Japan. Also, the track 'The Experience Of Swimming' has had a recent reissue on the album 'Sense Of Beauty', which is on the Uniton label.

Ross also notes two pricey
Japan bootleg double albums
which have done the rounds in
the past, and says: "'Japan Live
At Drury Lane', which could be
had for about £15, was a live
album with pretty good sound
quality. Also live, though I can't
vouch for the sound as I've
never heard it, was 'Japan At
The Budokan', which went for
about £12. This may contain a
version of a song called
'Heartbreaker' which they used
to perform in their early days."



Sunday August 24
1944 Birthday of Jim Capaldi, in Evesham, Worcs.

1945 Birthday of Ken Hensley of Urlah Heep, in London.
1957 Birthday of Jeffrey

Daniels, of Shalamar and Soul Train, in Los Angeles. 1961 Birthday of Chas Smash of Madness, in London. 1979 The Cars played a concert

to almost half-a-million people, in Central Park, New York. 1981 Mark Chapman was given a sentence of 20 years to life by a New York court, after

being found guilty of the murder of John Lennon.

1983 Death of Jerry Lee Lewis' fifth wife Shawn, apparently from an accidental overdose of prescription pills, at their Mississippi home.

Monday August 25 1949 Birthday of Gene Simmons (Klein) of Kiss, in Queens, New York.

1951 Birthday of Rob Halford of Judas Priest, in Birmingham.

1954 Birthday of Elvis Costello (Declan McManus), in Liverpool.

1970 Elton John made his live debut in America, at the Troubadour Club in Los Angeles.

Tuesday August 26 1959 Birthday of Danny White of Matt Bianco.

1967 The Beatles, Mick
Jagger and Marianne
Faithfull journeyed to
University College, Bangor,
Wales, to attend a
transcendental meditation
course under the Maharishi
Mahesh Yogi

1970 Jimi Hendrix made his last public appearance, topping the bill at the Isle Of Wight Festival.
1980 Bassist Tom Peterson left

1980 Bassist Tom Peterson left Cheap Trick, to be replaced by Pete Comita. 1983 Black Sabbath headlined the Reading Festival, with Bev

Bevan temporarily filling

their vacant drum chair.

Wednesday August 27 1965 Birthday of Glen Matlock. former Sex Pistol and Rich Kid, in Paddington, London, 1965 The Beatles met Elvis Presley for the first and only time, spending an evening talking and jamming at Presley's house in Bel Air, California.

1967 The Beatles' manager
Brian Epstein was found
dead at his London home, from
an apparently accidental
overdose of sleeping pills.

Thursday August 28
1949 Birthday of Hugh Cornwell
of The Stranglers.
1978 Tom Verlaine's band

1982 Blondie cancelled a proposed UK tour because of extremely poor advance ticket

1982 Snowy White left Thin Lizzy, to be replaced by John Sykes, ex-Tygers Of Pan Tang.

Friday August 29 1958 Birthday of Michael

Jackson, in Gary, Indiana.

1966 The Beatles played their final public concert, at Candlestick Park in San Francisco.

1976 Death of bluesman Jimmy Reed, aged 50, in Oakland, California.

California.

1976 The original Spirit came together for a reunion concert in Santa Monica, California, with Neil Young joining them for an encore.

981 Elvis Costello, U2 and Ian Dury topped the bill of Gateshead's Rock On The Tyne festival.

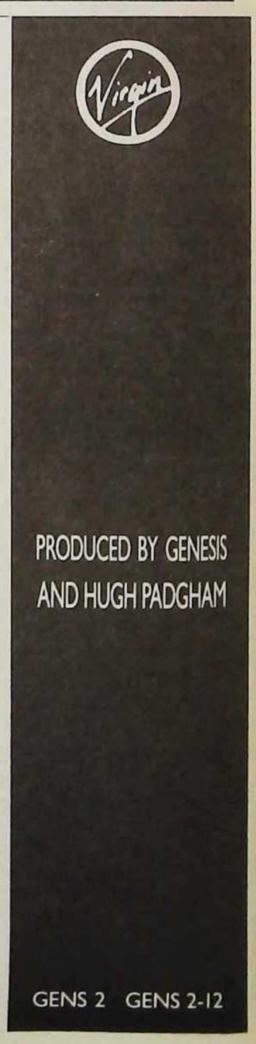
Saturday August 30
1939 Birthday of John Peel
(Ravenscroft), in
Liverpool

1950 Birthday of Mick Moody of Whitesnake.
1967 Birthday of Julie Turner of Rock Goddess.

1973 Drummer Denny Seiwell left Wings, hard on the heels of guitarist Henry McCullough.

984 Sotheby's in London raised almost £200,000 from an auction of Beatles-related memorabilia.





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CHRIS SUTTON: featured on the Sounds/Polydor EP



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BON JOVI: slippery customers

T ISN'T much to look at. Just an orderly scattering of painted houses punctuated by bars and pizza joints and drug stores and more bars with names like Larry's and Barry's.

There's a windswept boardwalk stumbling along the hazy eastern seaboard, the grey Atlantic spitting at dusty cars.

And there isn't much to do here 'cept go to the beach and drink beer, or go to clubs and watch bands doing cover versions of Van Halen songs, or switch on the gas and just drive.

But this is Springsteen country, the spiritual home of American rock, and few of its inhabitants would care to forsake it for New York's glitzy high life, only an hour away by dream machine but still a million miles from New Jersey's homely heartbeat.

I thir't you'd have to live here to properly understand . . .

A few miles from Asbury Park, NJ, lies Bradley Beach, a laid-back suburban resort where Jack Nicholson used to be a lifeguard. Here, in a small apartment overlooking the shore, with

a rusty barbecue cluttering the balcony and MTV flitting across a badly tuned TV screen, Jon Bon Jovi is cracking open beers and telling me about the "coolest" thing that ever happened to him. . .

"About a month ago, Southside Johnny & The Jukes had this tenth anniversary party at The Stone Pony and the guest list included Springsteen and Steve Van Zandt and Ronnie Spector ... We were in Vancouver at the time and I read about it in Billboard and said, God, I'm homesick, I wish I could be there for that party.

"So I called up the office and got them to send two of our gold records to Southside with a plaque saying, These records would never have been possible without the Jukes; Happy Anniversary from us. And he called me and said it's the first gold record he ever got!

"So he said, We're playing at this amphitheatre in New Jersey, why don't you come play with the band? And I went and played with the Jukes! Southside threw my hat into the audience; I was real pissed off because I loved that hat but . . . playing with them was, like, the coolest thing that ever happened to me . . .

"Those kind of things are more important to me than getting the big house in LA. I don't want it! F *** Hollywood! I live in Jersey. Right here, where the old men come into the local bar and they don't have a clue who we are, and we go to the beach and the kids come up and say hi . . . "

HIS WEEK, Bon Jovi release their third LP, and it's as fine a tribute as any to the place that they love and the people who inspire them. Called 'Slippery When Wet' and produced by Bruce Fairbairn - replacing 'Bon Jovi'/7800° Fahrenheit' producer Lance Quinn on the strength of his work with Black 'N' Blue - it isn't particularly innovative, but its rock is eager and varied and hard, from the catchy commerciality of the Top 50 single, You Give Love A Bad Name', to the pared down romance of 'Wanted Dead Or Alive'.

And every time I play it, it just sounds better and better, as if the band who created it really enjoyed what they were doing and who they were doing it with.

Guitarist Richie Sambora has a theory about this.

"It's as if Bon Jovi has something that's missing from other bands. Even when we're not working, we all still hang out together and there's a kind of camaraderie that you only seem to find with Jersey bands."

Richie's had plenty of opportunity to test out this theory because he and Jon - along with bassist Alec John Such, drummer Tico Torres and keyboard player David Bryan have toured with everyone from The Scorpions and Judas Priest to Kiss and Ratt in the past few years.

Not surprisingly, they're looking forward to taking their own show on the road and, although that's definite for Britain in the autumn, Bon Jovi are playing it cagey in the

"God forbid that we should ever open for

anyone ever again!" groans Jon Bon Jovi, his professional side, however, reasoning things through.

"Why play an arena if it's not packed, and why deal with someone like me opening up? You know, I made Stephen Pearcy crazy last year 'cos he had to keep us on the Ratt tour so long. We needed them but they needed us . . .

"This (American) tour is still tentative. All the big arenas across the country are on hold starting in December. But if the record's not big, not huge . . ."

In the meantime, there's Japan and a couple of Monsters Of Rock festivals in Germany and a UK tour and . . . and all in all, Bon Jovi haven't had a day off in over a year. But if they had, Richie explains, they'd only have spent them writing more songs. And they wrote nearly 40 for the 'Slippery' album.

"Jon and I, knock on wood (knocks enthusiastically), we became a creative reservoir. Something happened and we just locked in. We sat down and wrote and wrote and wrote ...

"We wrote about 35 songs and demoed about 25 in a 16 track studio in my hometown of Sayerville," adds Jon. "It was our rehearsal place for pre-production, and we played those songs for everyone and his mother."

In doing so, they found a novel way of selecting tracks for the LP.

Jon: "Around the corner from the studio there was a pizza parlour, and whenever we went there there'd be about 50 kids hanging From the same town that brought you Bruce Springsteen come ex teen pin ups BON JOVI who now want you to remember them for their music. ROBBI MILLAR flies over to Brucetown to discover that they're already set to become exhibits in a museum. GREG FREEMAN goes for the wet look

around outside the place. So on the last day, we took them all back to the studio to listen to the songs – they all had T-shirts on from Bon Jovi to Iron Maiden to Springsteen – and they told us what they liked and what they didn't like. It was great. Best thing we ever did!

"In the end, I played it for more than just that group of kids, I played it for lots of groups of kids, but no executive people, no management people..."

Thus the songs that got the votes made the record, regardless of whether or not they were the band's favourites ("There's one song called 'Never Say Goodbye' which everyone thinks is the greatest thing in the world. I'd've thrown it in the garbage") and even then, there's enough left over for another LP or, at least, for some lucrative songwriting credits on other people's records.

"We're working now on a couple of tunes for Jennifer Rush."

Jon drops this in quite casually.

"I don't know anything this woman has done; I know she's sold, like, five million records but now, apparently, she wants to be rock 'n' roll."

He shrugs, maybe crossing his fingers for the next five million.

LL OF this is, of course, quite some progress for a band who, to begin with, were dismissed by many as just another pin up package with guitar

hooks thrown in for good measure.

Although understandable, it's a viewpoint that hasn't done Bon Jovi many favours and one which Richie Sambora – next to Jon, the band's most obvious entry in the least-ugly-mug-in-rock stakes – is determined to bury, once and for all.

"We've had to go out for the last two and a half years and fight that image. That's why our management has purposely put us out with the heaviest bands on earth, to prove that we could stand up to them.

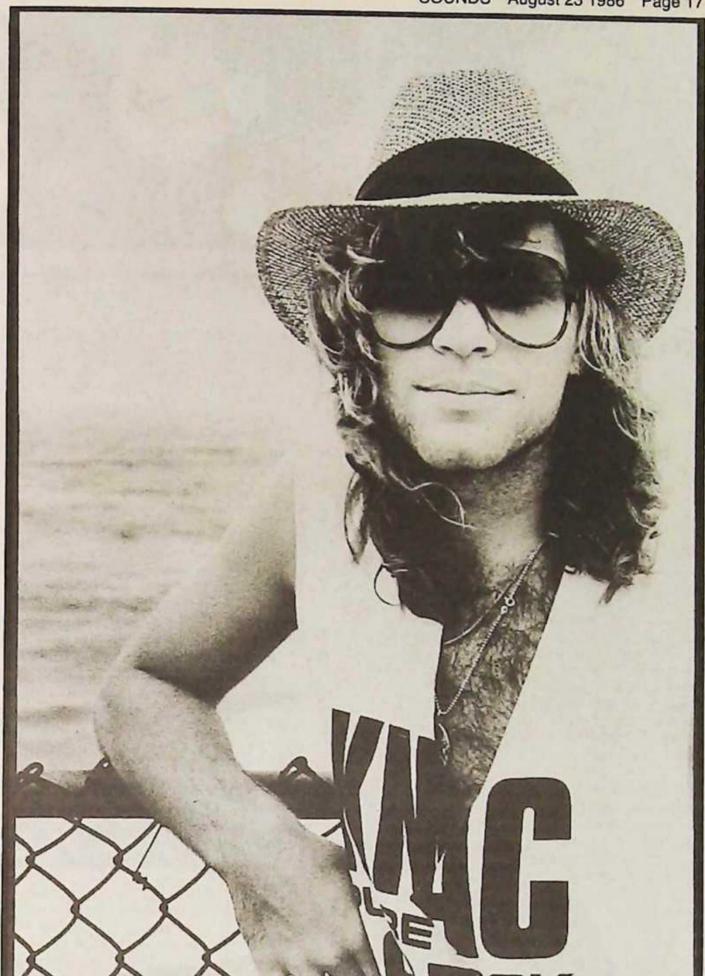
"We had to say to the public, Hey man, we're real. We're doing this and it comes from our hearts and our guts!"

Jon, too, is fed up with aesthetic bouquets.

"Vote us the best songwriters in town and my hand goes in the air, but sex symbol? I hate it. We don't want to be known as teenage pin ups, we want to be known as good songwriters and good musicians, and as people who are serious about what we do."

But if artistic credibility is a sometimes reticent caller – and Bon Jovi have plenty of years ahead of them to fulfil their ambitions – then there's one distinction that Jon can glory in right now. And it's one that's more than special to a Jersey boy.

"They're making a Springsteen museum down here," he enthuses. "It's gonna be about his whole career, now that he's bigger than God! And we're gonna be in that museum. That, to me, is worth more than anything."



BIGJON

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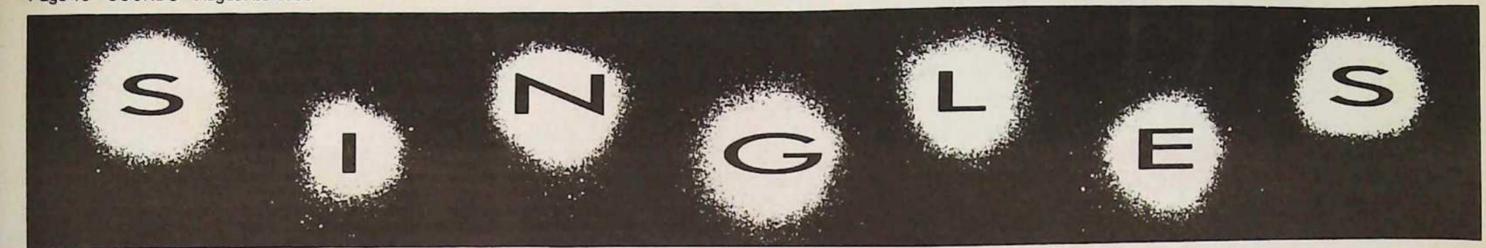
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DANISH 'ROCK': EVEN BETTER THAN THEIR LAGER



Reviewed by Richard Cook

CAMEO 'Word Up' (Phonogram) Larry Blackmon must be the real successor to George Clinton. The difference with Blackmon is that his against-the-flow attack actually throws up a hit every so often. In another bitter mêlée of metal and electronics, out comes 'Word Up', messier and nastier by far than the unrivalled 'Single Life'. The music finally threatens to cave in under a lunatic vocal arrangement, but the rhythm track's so savagely hard that such

SEX CLARK FIVE 'Neita Grew Up Last Night' (Records To Russia) From

diversions are strongarmed

aside. A sinister reason for

life.

letting 'disco' back into your

nowhere - Huntsville, Alabama, which must be about as nowhere as you can get - comes this four-song burst of beauty. Imagine a punk boy band who never heard The Clash, Pistols or Buzzcocks and had 'Rubber Soul' piped into their cradles. It's scratch without fuzz, urgency without haste, harmony on the verge of a snarl but too nice to old ladies to get really tough. The EP reaches a state of grace in 'I Want You Mine', which is as scrawnily perfect as they'll ever get. Properly, this should be the only document of the Sex Clark Five; they'll probably make an LP and

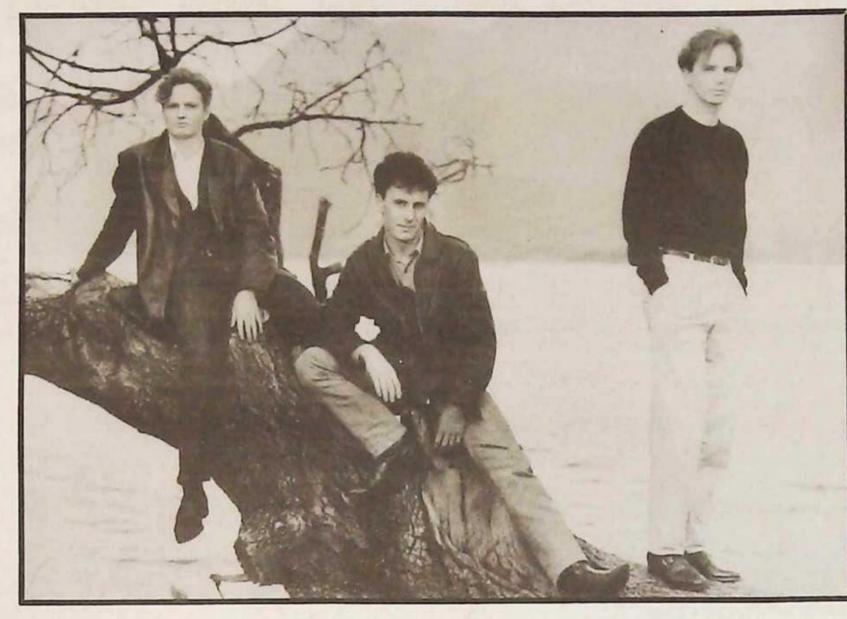
JOOLZ 'Mad, Bad And Dangerous To Know'

(EMI) If this is irony, it's got the subtlety of a steamroller falling off the Statue Of Liberty. A poet comes on as a ballbuster in the rancid drapes of metal guitar and asthmatic sax. I'd be appalled, if I could get my feet off the table.

THE BODINES 'Heard It All' (Creation) Having expected a gruff stomping noise, this lucid and cleanshaven song is a mild surprise. But not an especially tart or upsetting one. It sounds like mid-period Postcard, a bit more adept, a little less chaotic, yet the same studied carelessness and angry amusement -Josef K with a spit of polish. The Creation bands which scrap and yowl in their corner probably all aspire to something like this, a song just vague enough to be labelled profound and just energetic enough to turn the head. The great sham of indie credibility trudges on and these bands will flog amateur tune-smithery as if it were a badge of pride. The salutary point to note is that the loudest thing on the record isn't a guitar - it's a piano.

GENESIS 'In Too Deep' (Charisma) EURYTHMICS 'Thorn In My Side' (RCA)

When you've nothing new to tell, you shut your mouth or you tell the old story and try and make it better. You could tell it bigger, with a more



luxurious soundstage, a wider heart, a more lavish teardrop ('In Too Deep'); you could tell it with a lot more clutter, weave in a few more perky little details, sensationalise and sigh a little louder ('Thorn In My Side'). I suppose you end up hoping that enough people like hearing the old stories. Lucky for you that most of them don't want to hear anything else.

THE BEATLES 'Yellow Submarine'/'Eleanor Rigby' (Parlophone) Here's an unforgettable old story. For years I laboured under the illusion that the line was "Picks up the rice in a church where her wedding has been", but time (and better ears) made me into a wiser and sadder man. This is still one of the most broken, hopeless sorrows pop ever made, thrown into even harsher relief by the nursery rhyme on the other side.

TERRY AND GERRY 'The Last Bullet In The Gun' (In

Tape) They came as Billy Bragg's shambling children and here they are as Nick Lowe and Dave Edmunds. A folk survival is no bad thingnew languages come out of illiterate old tongues – but this curt, ungenerous song has little power to do anything useful.

ASHFORD AND SIMPSON
'Count Your Blessings'
(Capitol) BILLY OCEAN
'Love Zone' (Jive) RUBY
TURNER 'Bye Baby' (Jive)
ATLANTIC STARR 'Silver
Shadow' (A&M) Ashford

Shadow' (A&M) Ashford And Simpson lumber through a problem page of marital advice: only Smokey Robinson can turn this sort of mush into the stuff of a tragic spirit. After the layer-cake soul of Ruby Turner's 'I'm In Love', 'Bye Baby' is just another cream puff chewed up by this heavyweight mama. 'Silver Shadow' is a harmless fillet from the sometimes excellent 'As The Band Turns' LP, but Starr is a band that never quite fires up the funk. That leaves 'Love Zone' as the classiest way to

fingerpop from the kitchen to the bathroom. Everyone on the North Circular has been whistling this for months – bass twang you could hang your trousers on, discreet synths, Billy's gorgeous singsong. He sounds part cheerleader, part dimpled loverboy.

ANNA DOMINO 'Summer'
(Les Disques Du Crepuscule)
I START COUNTING
'Catch That Look' (Mute)
BROTHER BEYOND 'I
Should Have Lied' (EMI)

We'll head this section 'Victims Of Sound'. Anna Domino, who hardly has a voice to speak of (but what does that matter if you're a cult figure?) has it ploughed deep beneath a luridly jolly backing, I Start Counting mutter and wag a warning finger against a backdrop of grunting locomotives; and Brother Beyond get lost in the waves of a typically succulent Don Was production, It's the smart way to dress dullards as worthwhile people.

JAMES RAY AND THE PERFORMANCE 'Mexico Sundown Blues'/'Edie Sedgwick' (Merciful

Release) A wail goes up that James and his Performance have been ignored by reviewers. There they sit in the indie charts. The power of the pen says that this tedious pair of dirges demand very little attention anyway.

ROBERT HAIGH 'Music
From The Ante Room EP'
(Laylah) The merit of Haigh's
succinct systems music is its
brevity. Three pieces hardly
arrive, let alone outstay their
welcome: 'Passage', a piano
exercise, is over in a whisper;
'Andante' is a miniature
reflection; and 'The Colour
Red' sounds like a bee swarm

BOB DYLAN WITH THE HEARTBREAKERS 'Band Of The Hand' (MCA) THE POGUES 'Haunted' (MCA)

singing in the parlour.

Film soundtracks are the meal ticket of the desperate. If they're not by Tangerine Dream, Morricone or Ry

Cooder's dusty old bottleneck then I don't want to know. I doubt if anybody'll want to know about Band Of The Hand, directed by Paul Michael Glaser, and it's obvious from this wrecked stumblebum record that Dylan and Petty don't know much about it either. The Pogues, arguably the most overrated and inept group since The Honeycombs, fashion a piece of romantick British rocke to suit the lovable charm of Sid And Nancy. Highly apposite, I must say. These tykes are the Vinegar Joe of the '80s, which must mean that in another ten years Shane McGowan'll be Robert Palmer. Disturbing.

AFRIKA BAMBAATAA 'Bambaataa's Theme'/ 'Tension' (Tommy Boy)

Here's another one – based on John Carpenter's Assault On Precinct 13 music, but all the underplayed malevolence of that theme gets squashed under a mattress of Linns, vocoders and other examples of bad technology. 'Tension' has Bam rattling off some more urban apprehension, hard to take from a fellow who probably doesn't do his own laundry. Take this away and make me some soup.

CHAMPION DOUG VEITCH 'Margarita' (Congo) From Mexico via Trinidad to the Walworth Road. It sounds like something you hear in the bodegas in Kilburn - fiddles scrape, accordions wheeze, a trumpeter warms up for 'Tijuana Taxi' and Champion Doug Veitch mumbles along somewhere in the middle. If it was going to be any good at all it would've had to be much more messed up and raving than this, I'd be glad not to hear it again, senor.

THE BOLSHOI 'Books On The Bonfire' (Beggars Banquet) HANG THE DANCE 'Horseflesh' (LiL) FIDEI 'Snowblinde' (LiL)

Play the game! We need martyrs, crusaders, men prepared to cut off their genitals in the name of art! Here come some likely contenders. The Bolshoi, still plugging away, struggle through a luddite theory of culture's progress.
Considering their past work seems to have been based on an adolescence spent watching *Playschool*, this is an awesome advance. Hang The Dance are from Leeds; so are Fidei. 'Horseflesh' is horrible and meaningless, and 'Snowblinde' touches the hem of The Cult's garment without curing the sickness.

THE HIT PARADE 'See
You In Havana' (JSH) Cath
Carroll sings in a great
tradition of British girl-pop,
the long trembling arc from
Susan Maughn to Siouxsie S,
and it's a bit of a surprise
considering she has the
gentlest speaking voice I've
ever heard. On vacation from
the excellent Miaow, here she
guests with Julian Henry's
combo in a languid RSVP
caress. A melody to float you
out the window.

AND THE DAINTEES 'Slow Lovin" (Kitchenware) It's some measure of how far things have inbred when a polite try at the soulful rockaballad sounds mostly like somebody ripping off Scritti Politti. Not bad. On the other side is a 'Tribute To The Late Reverend Gary Davis', a variation on that gentleman's perfectly picked 'Candy Man'.

BILLY JOEL 'A Matter Of Trust' (CBS) THE PLEASURE HEADS 'Don't Fake It' (Molesworth)

Billy-Bob continues to make music as vast and empty as America and it still rings smarter than half of even the half-way decent bluster in this pile. While the world wouldn't have lost much if he'd gone off to run a restaurant instead of playing a piano man, I expect most of you have found room for his clumsily hare-lipped voice and flabbily intelligent songs. I wait for his next 'Uptown Girl' – this isn't it, but I can wait, I can wait.

Across the universe sit The Pleasure Heads, bashing and blundering through a flat churn of guitars and gestures. They're wondering what

SINGLE OF THE WEEK

THE BIG DISH 'Slide' (Virgin) There's no sin here, no slobbering, no mad passion or dark obsession. In fact, it's suspiciously clean, finely tailored to a regimental Britpop production, very knowing in its use of a Great Pop Hook. So why should 'Slide' be plucked out of the simpering mass of contenders? Because Steven Lindsay, singer and composer, is writing our nation's finest pop songs of today.

Speech over, sit down and hear this subtle, unemphatic pearl: it seems like nothing at first, but Lindsay's insight into love song hackery and the way it's lifted by shining pop melody is second to none. This is just one taste from a forthcoming LP of amazing mastery — over-produced, arrangement a little too clever — but Lindsay's raw material is magnificent. He has a high, direct, unfussy voice, a voice that smoothes a song into shape without making it faceless, and his head seems to be full of flawless tunes.

What clinches it is The Big Dish's refusal to be weird and mysterious. It's all painfully clear, serene and certain, a thing to marvel at. Faith returns. If you can't hear it, you're probably finished.

they're doing in a Billy Joel review.

INXS 'Kiss The Dirt (Falling Down The Mountain)' (Mercury) A

fine line walked between depravity and keeping your fingers clean. INXS would be dumb FM rockers in any other lifetime but they keep hitting on the unexpected twist, the pointed bone of contention. The trick here is in the vocals smiling and angelic like a purring snake - and the way the music teeters between a harmless vamp and something filthier. The whole thing sounds like a bad story told behind somebody's hand. Pretty peculiar, though let's not get carried away here. They probably want to be Van Halen, after all.

SHIRLEY MURDOCK 'No More' (Elektra) A sweet dream in Roger Troutman's itchy brain, this is the steaming flipside to Cameo's icecool bravado. Troutman hears funk as a fantasy of his own, a thing to make massage parlour dolls dance (he must've grown up listening to Kraftwerk), and his airless, brittle productions have a fascinating cruel streak. Ms Murdock yelps and yowls effectively enough but the matter is in the hands of

SAM COOKE 'Twistin' The Night Away' (RCA) AL JARREAU 'L Is For Lover' (WEA) JERMAINE STEWART 'We Don't Have To' (IO) NAT AUGUSTIN

the man behind the desk.

'Ego' (A&M) How would Sam have viewed his descendants? Jermaine has to babble against his track, no time to breathe; Nat bounces on his bassline and lets the record make him. Jarreau grows shockingly dull on his Nile Rodgers picnic. The great man was saddled with a stupid dance record for one of his biggest hits but you can sense the shadow of a master towering over the feeble material. That Sam's talent has survived the crass packaging it's had to endure is the clearest tribute of all.

MECH CONT

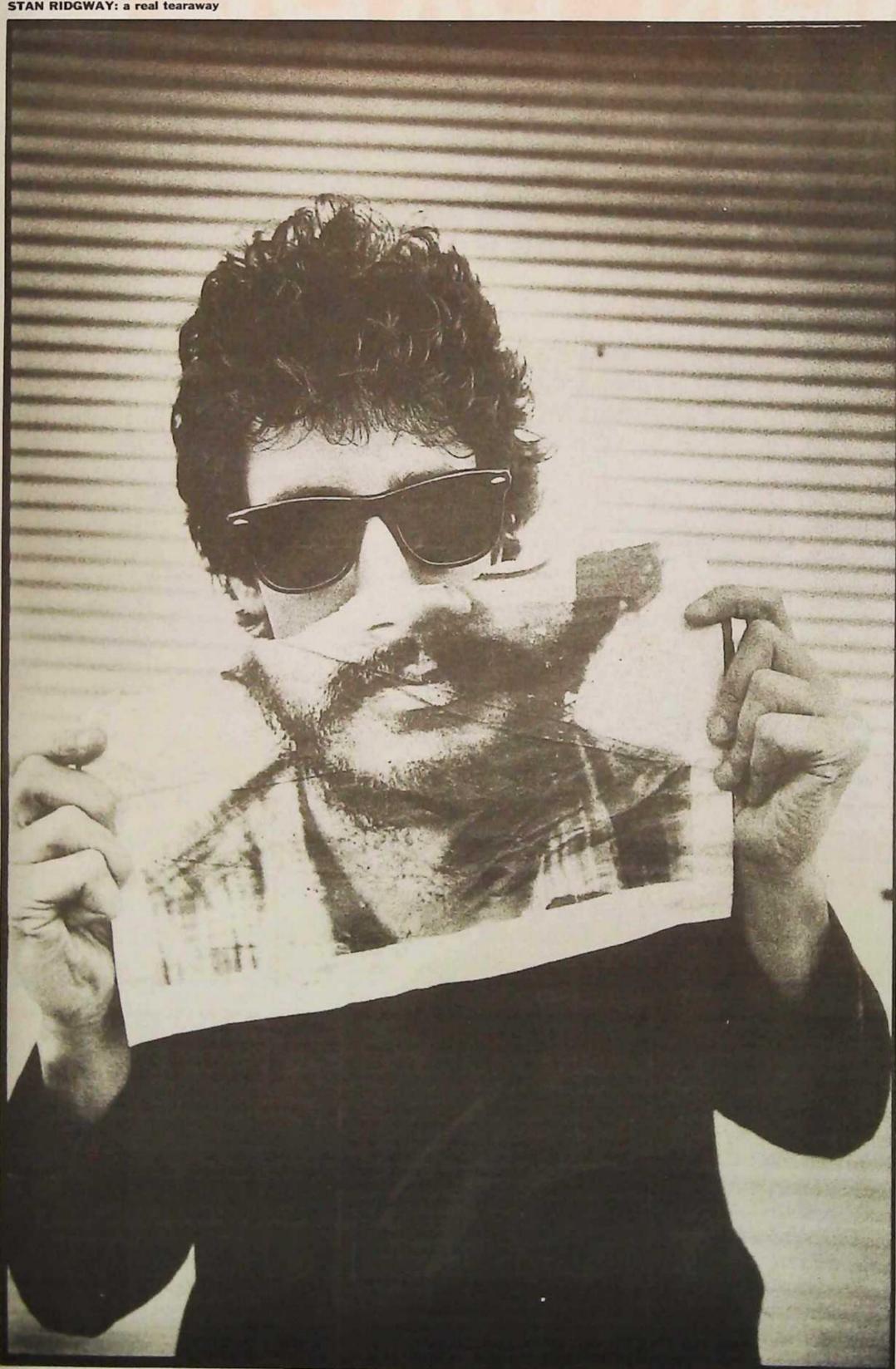
JOHN PARR

ROCK'N'ROLL MERGENARIES

7" AND EXPLODED 12"



ARISTA



HERE ARE those who question everything but accept nothing. There are those who hint at everything but tell you nothing.

And there are those who just watch. Silently, they watch. Inconspicuously, they absorb every low-life calamity, surburban drama and day to day madness.

Stanard Ridgway is such a peeping Tom, looking over life's ledge and lovingly observing every glorious insanity that makes the whole thing

But what, why and who is Stan Ridgway?

Is he the ghost in the machine of pop music? Is he a clown in an empty theatre, laughing at the surrounding madness while wearing a straitjacket? Is he an outsider locked inside the mysteries of human existence, sketching notes because he is too frightened or insecure to participate in the game of life himself?

Is he one of life's rejects, confined to the touch-lines and building a defensive wall around his own pessimistic views toward a world he narrates over? Is he a satirical social commentator talking to an America with a taste for blood?

Or is he just a singer, a good olde American boy questioning the modern madness of everyday society through his warm stories?

At the moment we'll take him as he is popularly seen by the pop world; a novelty, a quirky American guy who, for some insane reason, is at the top end of the national charts with a song about a heroic ghost called 'Camouflage'. But, cynically, we ask: what is he about?

Stan Ridgway - now opposite me - has a plastic, yellow looking skin, and this makes me wonder if Stan is one of those men-inblack aliens travelling the universe, spectating as humanity ignorantly destroys

He's quite an amiable, comical man. He smiles a suspicious grin and he talks continuously. In fact, he talks too much, spurting out an endless barrage of deeply conceived sentences that manage to keep Stan annoyingly objective towards himself.

Stan has this way of shirking one-to-one questions, using them as ignition keys to broader issues on the human psyche. This makes him unwittingly evasive; it's almost as if he's too frightened of revealing himself to a pop public thirsty for exhibitionists.

Stan's music suspends the intrigue further. It's spooky in its normality, but still interestingly fizzes with a smoke-screened Hammet style mystery and larger than life romance, throughout which Stan remains hidden in a narrative fog, a presenter of his own Twilight Zone. Meanwhile, he safely distances himself from the action and discovery.

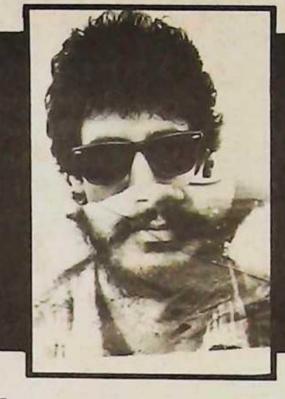
Like all peeping Toms, he dreads being discovered, and this is why he hides behind this image of being a dickhead.

He says of his comical but pratish stage behaviour: "It keeps people confused. I also do it because I'm always interested in staking out new territory and I think that is why that ridiculous clown show is quite important."

STAN RIDGWAY went through hell and back with his last band, Wall Of Voodoo. Now he's on his own and nearly at the top of the

national chart. So who is this masked man? RON ROM removes

the camouflage. RUSSELL YOUNG lets his reflex



TAN'S CLOWNISH behaviour developed at an early age. In his neighbourhood he gained a notorious reputation. Where most of us had malicious nicknames at school like 'Fatty' or 'Pongo', little Stan was baptised 'Mr Monster'.

I ask him why.

insanity.

"Well, I was the first guy in the block to subscribe to Monsters Of Film Land magazine. I also started monster clubs in the neighbourhood. I suppose I was a bit attracted to the eccentricity of The Wolf Man or Frankenstein, a lonely figure strolling through life."

So could you identify with Frankenstein? "Oh, absolutely! He was looking for a dignity that he could never really achieve. I use to have monster parties where I would dress up as Frankenstein's monster. I'd cake my face in green make-up and put some corks in my neck and walk down the neighbourhood calling upon the kids to come out and join in on my monster

"I also used to go into people's houses and take over their attics and make them into spook houses. I had these ventriloquist dummies, because I was also into ventriloquism, and I'd charge kids to come in and also to go out. You could say I was quite a capitalist like that.

"I also used to burn these dummies on people's lawns, and I remember one occasion where I was burning this dummy when the police came along and thought that I was burning a small child. They charged out of their cars with their guns drawn. It was quite a surprise.

"I suppose I was well-known in my neighbourhood. I just wanted to rebel because everything was so clean."

Were you a happy child?

"I was left alone a lot of the time, I was the second child y'see, so I sort of got a little less attention. I used to spend a lot of my time staring through the curtains, watching all of it going on. And, from a very early age, I would find things to amuse myself. I mean, I never thought I was lonely because I always had things to do.

"As I grew older, I found it easy to assemble friends and be in gangs. I always was the leader of the gang, and we'd go around stealing street signs and booze until the police caught us. I was really quite an anti-kid, I used to get drunk and go around pulling freshly planted trees out. I used to enjoy making trouble. At school I was shifted around a lot from class to class because all the teachers hated me.

"I suppose I just wanted some attention." Can you remember your first ever sexual

"Oh my goodness!" He moves awkwardly and continues, "I'm not going to talk about things like that. My sexual what?"

Sexual thought, I repeat.

"God, I don't know. I can remember several after that but not the first one. I know I started to get into a few physical features. No - I'm not going to get into this. Y'know I was pretty wild at High School and...no..." he exasperates.

I was just wondering if you ever felt guilty about sex in the way that, say, Catholics indoctrinate their children to be.

"I wasn't brought up like that, there was no evil. I believe there is a higher energy to support life giving things and so on. My mother once found a rubber in my wallet and freaked out, but that was about it."

TAN WAS brought up as a Christian Scientist, a religion that developed in America in the late 19th century at the time when there were certain evolutionary questions that weren't being

answered by the regular church.

Stan went into great detail about how Christian Scientists think. It was all really quite abstract, and, in many ways, similar to the Hindu faith. This may explain his logical explanations of human behaviour and his relatively unsure faith in humanity.

"I'm a sarcastic, hopeful person. I'm actually very hopeful. The sarcasm I think comes out of a certain survival mechanism that I have developed over a period of time. Sarcasm, I think, can be described as an attitude of hopefulness, because you're waiting for the good thing to happen and then, if it doesn't, you shrug your shoulders and you say, Well, what did you expect? You say it with a sense of inevitability so it's no surprise. That enables you to go to the next plateau."

Hasn't sarcasm been described as the lowest form of wit?

"I think so, but I distrust people who aren't a little sarcastic. I tend to think they're studying and sizing one up so they can gain some modicum of control."

Sarcasm also distances people.

"Well, I think most people are frightened of emotional confrontation."

Are you frightened of emotional confrontation?

"Oh, yeah! I think I invite it and at the same time I don't think it's worth it with certain people. You make a choice; in a relationship people make choices because relationships are built on emotional confrontations. They're explosions that happen."

You talk very rationally about things, Stan.

"Well, I guess I've had a lot of emotional confrontations."

Such as?

"Well, being a band leader for a lot of the

Isn't that more of a power struggle than an emotional confrontation? I was thinking about emotions being stretched.

"I think you're thinking too sentimentally about it. Y'see, human behaviour on one side just wants to be alone and have its own little room, and the other side says, Well, this is coming into my room and I have to deal with it.

"Am I making sense? I'm not sure. I spend most of my life being confused." Confused about what?

"Well, I have grand questions like everyone else. You just haven't thought much if you don't have those questions about life and things like that."

What things do you think about? "Well, y'know, I'm 31 years old and the human mechanism is a question I ponder. I think to myself - it sounds rather pretentious and pompous, but I think to myself - is there a God, or are we just sophisticated pieces of meat that simply think too much?"

What have you decided upon?

"Well, I'm leaning towards the sophisticated pieces of meat theory right now. Yet even in that respect there are still some questions that need asking. I tend to think most people are good."

Have you always thought like that? "Yes. It's like, as you carry on down the

lonely road you tend to think about these things. When you're 14, mortality and dying a death is so far off and you haven't really experienced it so you tend to be attracted to it."

Does death frighten you now? "Oh no. It doesn't frighten me at all. Death is an inevitability so you say to yourself, Well, if this is what is going to be going on then you'd better enjoy the process. Actually, I care less about it now than I did ten years ago. I just don't care

"I care about me, my friends and the people I love and I carry on normal sophisticated pieces of meat relationships. . ."

It's not that cold, surely?

"Well, no, I don't mean it to be that cold. I just meant it as a question, whether the spiritual aspect of people goes beyond their own exchanges, is there a higher energy and all that garbage. It's something we don't know about.

"As you know I was raised a Christian Scientist and I used to go to Sunday School and sit in empty rooms and stare at walls and have someone tell me it's all in my mind."

How do you look back on that? "Very positively."

Are you still a Christian Scientist? "No, I'm not, but you really can't run away from the way you are brought up."

TAN CONSIDERS his form of communication to be troublesome and provocative but not offensive. The huge success of 'Camouflage' has made him, like me, question why it has been so popular. There are ideas within 'Camouflage' that paradoxically question, in a non-committal way, the motives of America in the Vietnam war, but they are presented so subtly that they may be too clever for the apathetic pop public to decipher.

Therefore, the superficial elements of 'Camouflage', like its heroism, and dodgy lyrics like "hunting Charlie down" may be seen to be catering for the Rambo Reaganism now sweeping America, aided here by Thatcher's uncanny, devoted allegiance.

Stan is also worried that people will take the wrong ideas from the song.

"When I wrote the song there were many things happening in my life. My cousin, who was in Vietnam, had just died from a heart attack in his sleep. We had just marched into Grenada and I was sort of wondering what was going on, and really I was just examining my own feelings about it all. . ."

Do you think people see the Rambo element of 'Camouflage' before anything

"Well, I've thought about that a lot. In the States once I got a lot of criticism for a line which went, 'This modern world deserves a modern attitude, you've got to stick it to them before they stick it to you' and I guess that I'm so convincing people actually think that is my view. Sometimes you just can't command a dog to see in colour."

America really lost the 'Nam war and was awfully short on heroes, so don't you think with 'Camouflage' you've presented them with one?

A little annoyance sets in.

"Well, y'see, here is my view on this and it may not be too fashionable. I know it's very fashionable to be left in the UK. . ." Fashion doesn't really come into it.

"... Anyway, I don't know whether I am left or right, I'm kind of mixed up, I've got a lot of left and a lot of right in me. The way I feel about the 'Nam war is that it was a wrong war, but you can't disregard people's sufferings and sacrifice, on both sides, just like that. I was thinking a lot about soldiers and how governments start wars and not people. And in a lot of ways you kind of need wars. If you think about it pragmatically, you sort of realise that.

"If you examine history, most of the world's problems have been solved through conflict. I'm not saying that I want it. But these were things I was thinking about, and I didn't want to make a judgemental view

on the conflict because I don't think artists

There are a lot of people now thinking that Britain is just an outpost of the United States.

"I see that as a very frustrating factor with Europeans all over. Let me just say this. . . I don't agree with America marching in. . . and who am I, man? I'm just a f****** pop singer and we're talking politics and I don't know what the f*** is going on."

Don't you ever gather conclusions? "I do, I do."

Emphatically, he stresses this.

"But there are so many complex issues and what we are told or see is just the tip of the iceberg."

FEW years back Stan described himself as unstable. He had just left Wall Of Voodoo and was involved in a law suit. He considers this period to be one of his all time lows. I decide to use this to try and uncover any weakness he refuses to show, or any emotion he's too shy to demonstrate.

He states: "I'm very insecure on one level and on another level I think I'm God Almighty. I have gone through periods of my life where I have felt more unhappy than happy about things. I was touring a lot and I wasn't seeing my wife and I wondered what sort of marriage I had, because if you're married you should be together, and I think rock and roll is really anti-family."

But you don't really write about love? "I'm getting closer to it. I think love is a very personal thing and should remain private."

Do you believe in love in the modern world?

"Yeah. You mean like commitment and... yeah, love is the grandest concept of all. I believe people go into emotional commitments, I'm not an expert on it, me and Pietra (his wife) have only been married for ten years."

That's all. . . Have you ever been mentally on the edge of desperation?

"Oh, yeah. I've been suicidal. Just after I left Wall Of Voodoo was the worst, I just felt so depressed all the time."

Most people think that you are a bit of a

I guess others do. I guess they think I'm a bit of a weirdo making weird music and I've always had a weird name," he laughs. Are you paranoid about anything?

"I've never considered myself weird, but

"Well, I do have a fear about being in a line when you have to march along the street. At school I always used to walk out of line, I couldn't handle it. I sometimes get fearful that someone close to me might all of a sudden be swallowed up by the earth."

What are your worst dreams about? "Ahh, I used to be really into dreams. There was one dream that I kept having that made me feel really awful and frightened. It used to seem as if it was going on for hours.

"It would be that my eyes were looking down onto the earth, and all around the earth would be a gigantic line of people all staring out, straight ahead. It was absolute despair, and I'd be at the end of the line, hanging there. I'd wake up feeling terrible. Dreams can be so vivid."

So, Stan, do you believe in ghosts?

"Oh, yeah. I think if you examine it you'd have to be an idiot not to believe in it. I'd love to see one. Y'see, we just don't know, it's the same with UFOs."

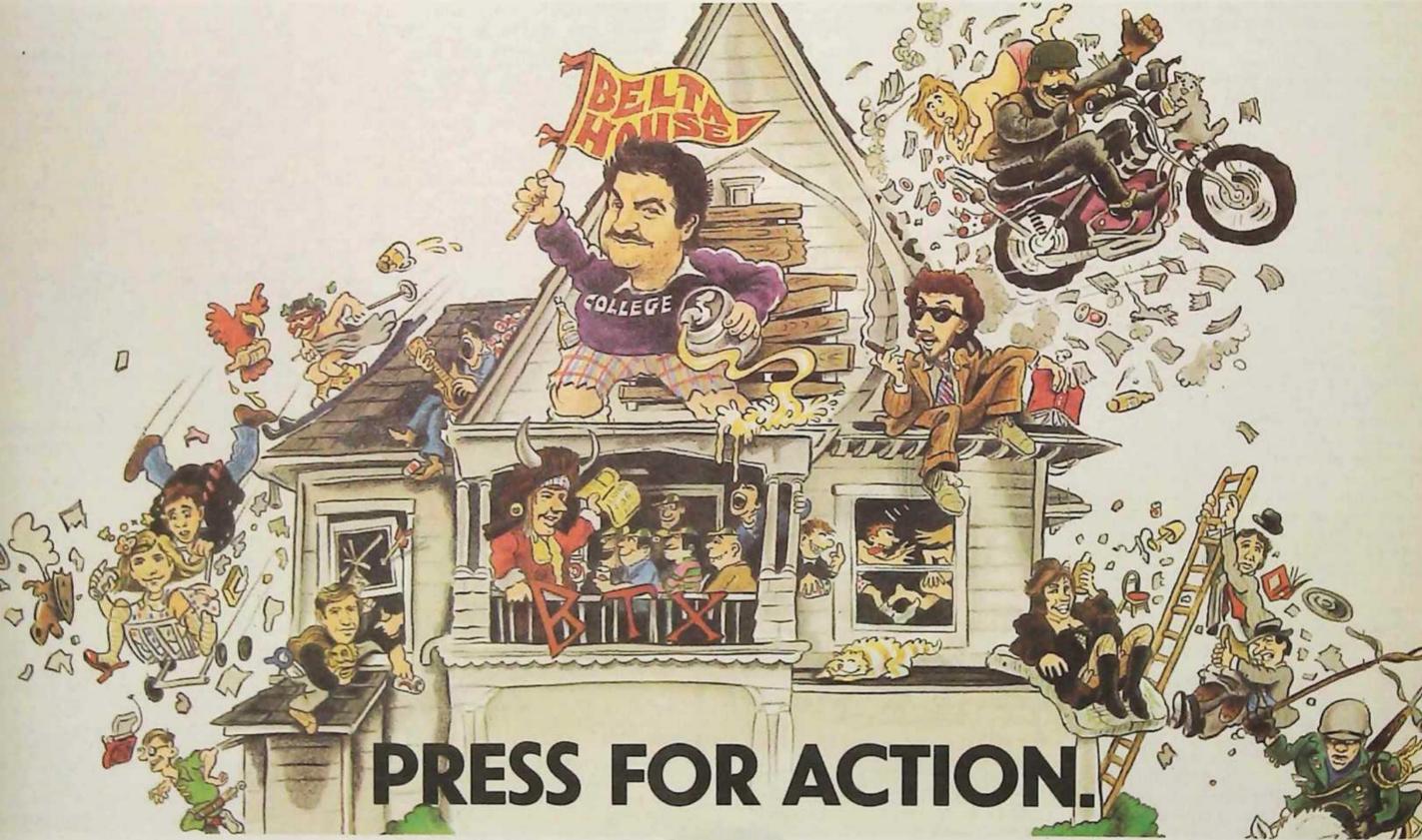
How do you view contentment in life? "Real contentment in life comes by living for other people. It enhances what you do yourself."

Finally, Stan, what are you?

"I'm just a clown."

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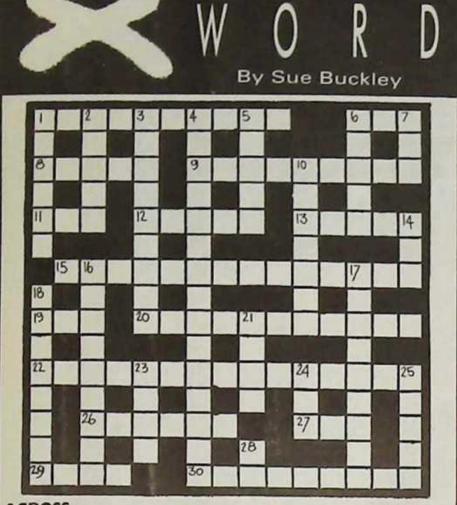


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ACROSS

1. Even lodger Ralph didn't know about his sons, but Jegsy can prove it (5.5) 6. Paul shouts up to this (3) 8. Ronnie Montrose fired this ray (5) 9. A crazed Chile poet urged his girl to take off her red frock (3.6 anag) 11. Trip for Kurtis Blow (3) 12. Yes, keeper of a lonely heart (5) 13. Hall's mate becomes horse fodder (5) 15. Maggie doin' a crazed moondance? (8.2.4) 19. see 3 down 20. The rich, rich man's woman? (5.6) 22. Technicolour Dream say ignorance is bliss... so the Tories deny us education (4.3.4.4) 26. Mick sounds as if he belongs to McTell! (6) 27. One of 4 down could be Bongo! (3) 29. What Paul's love could be ... but ah ah? Which Paul? (4) 30. In which good o!' Midge, like the Walker Brothers, couldn't care less (2.7)

MWOO

1. Winwood's new love (6) 2. Stallone manifestation in a gram bottle (5) 3. and 19. For Al Stewart it all began on the morning of a Bogart movie (4.2.3.3) 4. Roland's cookin' somethin' up for UB40 (3.2.3.7) 5. Queenly heart attack (5) 6. What Chubby says when playing pontoon (5) 7. McCartney had a honey one (3) 10. Just Hazel (7) 14. Apparently, he loved Nancy (3) 16. Accident at a Girlschool (3.3.3) 17. It's over for El (9) 18. As played by caustic musos in the late '60s... they probably had to concentrate? (4.4) 21. Chief Bunny (4) 23. Fleshy lady (4) 24. Label in the farm cart (1.1.1) 25. Bob made 'em on his planet (5) 28. Feelgood MD (2)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

ACROSS

Lounge Lizards 8. Ace 10. Ladders 11. The Police 12. Fret 13.
 Speak 16. Lab 17. Insider 20. Sin 21. Whole Wide World 23. Le 25.
 Lady 26. Miss 27. Warm 30. Break 31. Five Bridges 33. Castles In The Sky 37. Taylor 38. Latin 39. Sun

DOWN

1. Lulu 2. Under A Blood Red Sky 3. Great Fire 4. Lessons 5. ZZ Top 6. Reed 7. Show People 8. Animals 9. Eden 14. Glow 15. Intermission 18. Dream 19. Rooms 22. Iron Fist 24. Bang 25. Lib 28. UK 29. Wilson 32. Vinyl 33. Cat 34. Leo 35. Hot 36. Yes

WOMB WITH A VIEW

DEAR BEAT Of The Beast, If you thought that you had hit the big time when you played the Timebox then I'm sorry that you learned otherwise the hard way. I'd say £15 is pretty standard at most venues on the indie

Beast, you're a sound man. Keep up the good work. – J Hunn, ex-Hagar The Womb, now W.A.G.T.E.Y

SLADE VS WHAM!

DEAR CHRIS Roberts, in your Quiet Riot review (Sounds, August 9), you mentioned that Slade were the Wham! of your youth. This is an untruthful statement!

The reasons are as follows: Slade have had more number ones than Wham!; there are four of Slade, only two of Wham!; George Michael is fatter and uglier than Noddy Holder (No one is uglier than Noddy Holder – Letters Ed); Slade still look younger than Wham!; Slade have a sharper dress sense than Wham!; Slade are a rock band, while Wham! were thingies.

Ultimately, Slade could not have been the Wham! of your youth since there is no comparison. Slade are Slade and Wham! were Wham! – simple, ch?

Next time, review a Slade record and do something incredibly different to the rest of the journalistic world and actually give it a good review.

Anyway, long may you bitch! - Mad Dog Cole

LETTERS...

IT'S YOUR turn to play agony aunt!

Here's the lowdown: I really dig music, yet most of what I hear bores the hell out of me or turns me off. Most of the bands featured in your paper turn out to be mediocre, dull or dying. Ditto the music on the radio. Ditto the music featured on the telly. Is this the era of the lobotomised drum machine programmer?

There have been a few sparks recently... Dave Lee Roth covering 'Tobacco Road', Robyn Hitchcock 'N' The Egyptians' 'Illuminated Man' which sounds as if Syd Barrett had written it, and the Fuzzies' 'Sending It Up To The Spirit In The Sky' for being a funny pisstake.

Do you like soul music?
No? Well, do the trouser
press, baby! How can
anyone take the Top Of The
Wallets seriously any
longer? All there is to
listen to on that is the
sound of cash registers
ringing. It's not art, it's
con-artistry.

Funny thing how I'm getting into listening to classical music on the radio these days. It's like a breath of fresh air. — Peas 'n' Loaf, Jimi (I've got a guitar) McHashcake



Illustration by Simon Cooper

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Course	_Length of course
Term-time address	
Tick if statements and other correspondence to be sent to te	erm-time address 🗆
Signature	_Extra specimen signature
Date of birth	_Grant p.a. £

If any of the above details are not available please write "not known."

Whatever happened to FRANKIE GOES TO **HOLLYWOOD**, the likely lads of pop culture? BILLY MANN has lunch, chews the fat and gets a mouthful from a too relaxed HOLLY JOHNSON. Side order served up by ANTON CORBIJN



CHERRY BOMBZ have a knees up

ET OUT of it!" snarls Nasty Superstar (né Suicide), the Cherry Bombz guitarist obviously pushed beyond irritation by an exhausted lensman's pleas for poise.

But the photographer doesn't care. The Cherry Bombz are on virgin soil in Los Angeles, and he's got an exclusive slice of this dangerous European export documented on 35 millimetre Kodachrome. He can handle the abuse.

Bass player Dave Tregunna (recently pilfered from The Lords Of The New Church) and sticks sensation Terry Chimes are stretched out on the sidewalk, enjoying a few melting moments beneath the glorious LA sunshine. And Anita Chellamah, the Bombz' lovely leading lady, is snaking around a nearby table piled high with empy Budweiser cans and overflowing ashtrays.

She's grooving to The Suicide Twins' (Andy McCoy and Nasty Superstar respectively) acoustic meisterwork, 'Silver Missiles And Nightingales'.

This opus features an entire alternative orchestra, including several members of the late Hanoi Rocks, UK Subs frontman Charlie Harper on harmonica and Andy Metcalfe of Robyn Hitchcock and Squeeze notoriety tinkling some turbulent ivories. Basslines are courtesy of Patricia Morrison over which Hank Wangford's Bobby Valentino scrapes some savage violin.

"I really enjoyed doing the album, it was like a family thing," continues Andy with a wistful smile. "It's very intimate and moody. Somewhere deep down inside I must be a hippy or something - I just love acoustic

The Bombz, though, have been Andy's full-time occupation ever since the final surrender of his illfated career with Hanoi Rocks almost a year ago.

"I think when Hanoi finally broke up, it was a good kick in the ass for me. It kinda brought me down to ground level again, which is good for anyone," confesses McCoy. "But now, I don't think I'll ever want to work with any of those guys again. And Razzle . . . Razzle is just like a good friend that I haven't seen for ages. I'll see him again one day, I know."

LTHOUGH EUROPE is finally committing Hanoi Rocks to the history books, the legend is alive and kicking harder than ever in Los Angeles.

And comparisons, just as in Europe, are somewhat inevitable. But far from feeling intimidated by the phenomenal influence of their predecessor's fame on the West Coast, the Bombz are confident in the knowledge that they are indeed far too powerful to play second fiddle to Hanoi Rocks.

Meanwhile, Anit is busy autographing the bodies of the opening act's crew whilst Andy reaffirms his faith in The Cherry Bombz.

"This is a great band. Hanoi was better at the end, but we'd been together for five years. The Cherry Bombz are much better than Hanoi was at this point in their career. When Hanoi was only seven months old, we

"The Cherry Bombz have got a long way to go, but we're getting better all the time, and one day we're gonna be right at the top."

Aside from commanding the wizardry of a dangerous lick, Andy McCoy is, in my view, one of this decade's greatest song writers. His personal commitment to The Cherry Bombz is passionate and intense.

Now, the hopes and dreams that he doubtless once nurtured in Hanoi Rocks are, finally, being translated into a real future.

THE CHERRY BOMBZ are lighting the fuse of their rock 'n' roll rocket to stardom in Los Angeles. Will they make as big a bang as Hanoi Rocks did, though? You'd better believe it, claims an impressed MARY ANNE HOBBS after witnessing their firework display

O WHAT happens to pop when the steam runs out and all that's left is a small piece of over-cooked meat?

At the front end of last year something happened. Pop started to behave like an adult. The New Year opened to the sound of a thing called Band Aid, a phenomenon through which parents and children were joined in a state of blissful charity.

Then came Madonna and a little scruff from New Jersey called Springsteen. Both soon announced their intention to marry their partners, and so the whole pop thing suddenly turned into a nice, pleasant game of happy families.

Teenypop had slipped into a coma, while Britain's last great pop band, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, were left holding a ton of vinyl with the words 'Welcome To The Pleasuredome' stamped on it.

And then they disappeared, leaving us to sift through the scraps of gossip and secondhand stories of how many hotels they'd smashed up. Frankie, it appeared, was an animal on the loose with nothing to

After the Montreaux debacle, at which the tabloids had a field day reporting the vastly inflated cost of the Frankies' "high spirits", we read that Holly was to be replaced by Pete Wylie, that he was disgusted with the band's behaviour.

But even that little gem had been eclipsed earlier in the year by the news that their record company, ZTT, had mysteriously moved its operations to France for "financial reasons".

It was a move that took place in the year the Frankie loot was due in.

But now both band and record company are back and shaking dead fish over a single, called 'Rage Hard', and an album, 'Liverpool', due out next month. And, despite what could accurately be described as the band's persecution complex, they are once again talking to the meejah, the institution through which they rose and fell.

"I've kind of been holding back," says Holly over lunch at an Oxford Street restaurant. "I won't do interviews with the Sun group, like SunDay or the News Of The World because I find them morally repulsive."

Holly sounds cautious. The happy, flirtatious side of his character has been replaced by a cool, almost blank apathy.

"We've been stitched up by a lot of interviewers, y'know. We would go and do an interview and we were prepared to be really pleasant, as long as the questions were fairly pleasant and put in a pleasant way. And then you'd read the article and it could be really vitriolic y'know, or critical in a bad way. Or people would headline it with stupid things like Holly The Wally..."

Would you have preferred people to have said those things to your face?

"Probably, yeah, 'cos at least then you've got the opportunity to walk out and say, Well, obviously this guy has got a preconceived attitude and he's gonna stitch me up, so I'm gonna leave. That would have been a better

For the record, Frankie's absence over the past 18 months can be accounted for with more than a trail of crashed cars and irate hoteliers. They did some work as well touring, writing and recording in practically every corner of the globe.

But for Holly, who always stood out as the one who might enjoy his own company, it was also a period of reflection, a chance to gain some sort of post-holocaust equilibrium and a

perspective on just what the hell they'd gotten themselves into

"Some of it I've enjoyed," he muses, "because the pressure had been held at bay. It was a time to get your house in order mainly; and my house was in a hell of a mess and it's still not completely sorted out...

"Y'see, the organisational capabilities of us as a unit aren't that wonderful. Erm. . . it's the same for everyone who signs a record deal with a major label. For years and years this is the thing they want and, when the record company approaches them, they think, They've recognised my talent! At last I'll get the recognition I deserve! Whereas all the record company think is, Oh well, we can invest some money into this because there is the possibility that we can makes lots of money out of it. And you could almost be a packet of cornflakes in many ways.

"And when you're into music or anything creative, you don't want to think about the serious aspects of it. Musicians don't often have any business training, or any idea of legal language and things. So over the past two years I've had to kind of learn to read a contract and find out what are the implications of the things that we have signed ourselves to do.

"As far as business structure is concerned we didn't have a clue, and we still haven't got that much of a clue. And I started to worry about these things quite a bit because the whole thing had just run away with us, y'know, it was like this big wave. And all of a sudden I thought, I've got to sort things out, otherwise I could end up in a bankruptcy situation."

DESCRIBE Frankie as Britain's last great pop band because they effectively put the lid on the coffin of the idea that pop was something that separated the kids from their parents.

If, through Culture Club, parents and children joined together in the harmless petting of a boy called George, through Frankie they looked each other straight in the eye and came to the mutual conclusion that Love Is Good, War Is Evil, and Sex Is OK.

It was through these simple, naive slogans, presented by a lovable one, a handsome one and three rough diamonds, that parents and children chose to be consumed, holding this thing called Frankie close to their hearts.

"But being taken into people's hearts can be a bit unfair on you. . . d'know what I mean?"

"Although it's nice and everything, the expectations that rise up from that can be unfair on a mere mortal."

I'll start crying in a minute. Come on, what did my mum expect from you, Holly?

"I don't know what your mum expected from me, but a lot of people came up to me and said, Well, don't you think the LP was a bit disappointing? And I'd say, Well, yeah, of course it was, how could it be anything else after 'Relax' and 'Two Tribes'? How could we have ever made an album that was full of things like that? It makes things difficult when people have expectations. . . I mean I like the album."

So does my mum. But is what you're saying entirely right? The people who judged and criticised Frankie were never the people Frankie were really for...

"That's true."

They weren't 13, 14-year-olds and into Frankie.

"No, they were more like 20 and into Paul Morley... that was more of the media attitude ... "

So when you're talking about expectations, you're really talking about pressure put on you from those forces - the very sources Morley used to sell Frankie in the first place. I don't believe for one minute that the ordinary mums and dads and kids were disappointed with what Frankie did.

"I hope so."

They loved it. It was great

"It was great to be part of it as well. . . but

HOLLYWOOD BABBLE ON



HOLLY JOHNSON: a shadow of his former self

where does that lead you on to?"

That's my next question.

"Where does that lead us on to, you mean? Well, it was a very difficult kind of situation because it was, What do we do next? I mean, we could have done more of the same thing and people would have lapped it up anyway. We could have rode on that wave and had an album out within six months. But y'know, we didn't do that, we made a different kind of album."

Had you run out of steam in the end?

"Well... the desire to promote that album –
from all the people around us – was extreme.
And we were kind of pushed into really
working our arses off promoting it when, by
February of '85, the album had had its life; it
had done its thing. But then all of a sudden we
went and embarked on a bloody world tour to
promote an album that had had its life. And it
was a completely strange situation in which we
were just keeping everyone around us in
work...

"Y'know, the management and the record company were just squeezing out an extra 70,000 records here and there, which pissed me off no end. I didn't enjoy that. And what was fun in the first place turned out to be a pain in the arse – though I don't think the rest of the band felt that way about it."

HEN TONY James sat in his Kensington caff plotting the future of rock 'n' roll, he must have felt painfully upstaged when he saw this Frankie beast lumbering past his window. That was why Sputnik took five years to get off the ground – they had to wait for Frankie to leave the room. But what James failed to recognise, probably because the writing on his sunglasses obscures so much, is that Frankie was an education. In the end people felt slightly conned by this 'manufactured band' and their bloody awful T-shirts. They'd been fleeced, which is why they're not gonna take the bait again.

And Frankie, poor old Frankie, had bought themselves an image problem. They were the dumb puppets of Trevor Horn and Paul Morley, an impression ZTT did nothing to alter because, according to Holly in a 1984 interview with Liverpool magazine Next 14, they were playing a fixed game in which the creation of that image was a device "to hold onto us and keep us down, keep the ball in their court. That's how record companies work – divide and rule".

"But there was a substance to why we were successful as well," he says now. "It wasn't just a question of being media hyped. We were always more than that."

But people kept their eyes half closed to that and, as the weeks passed, Frankie looked more and more like a publicity stunt. It became popular for young bands to want to 'do a Frankie'.

'Getting signed up' came back in fashion, and bands spent more time looking for a shrewd, calculating management team than they did writing songs.

"Well, in a way, if it made them more aware of having to do that then that's an education for them, isn't it? Because what I did for years in Liverpool was just that. I got into artists and artists' angst, writing songs until they came out

of my ears, without having any release point for them.

"And I always hated the idea that you had to be loudmouthed about the situation. But then, having proper records out was something I wanted to experience. I had to kind of do that in a way."

And so he did, and let the record state that, by hook or by crook, Frankie became one of the most successful bands ever. But now, in the shadow of all that, there is a long dark tunnel as well. They are going forth into the unknown.

"I don't know what we're going to mean to the kids who bought 'Relax'," snaps the man who had them eating out of his hand. "How am I expected to feel that?"

All he tells me about the new Frankie product is that it is "more rock influenced than dance influenced". Bruce Springsteen rock, or heavy metal rock, I ask?

"Just rock," he says, at which point I back off. Is Trevor Horn still involved?

"He has the dubious title of 'Executive Producer'," says Holly, which appears to mean he came in at the end to make sure the floor was clean.

WO THINGS about The Return Of Frankie, however, are certain. One is that there will not be a different mix of the single out every week. The other is that Frankie will not be doing a repeat performance.

"I wouldn't even want to in a way. What's happened has happened, and now something different has got to happen instead.

"I've said this before, but I don't want to find

myself in 15 years time in a Queen or a Rolling Stones situation. Not that I'm trying to put them down, but it's not what I want in my life. And I'd hate to think that the best thing I'd ever written was 'Relax'."

So where does pop go when it's finished its lunch?

"I've got to go to the Virgin Megastore," he says, requesting the bill. While we're waiting he talks about acting ("I could never be satisfied just being an actor"), the Bunnymen ("I like the Bunnymen, but I'm not going to say I like Mac's songwriting because he likes his songwriting"), and his sympathy for his old sparring partner Boy George ("I've got sympathy because he's another human being; it was a public crucifixion and that was bad").

If he intends to leave the band he didn't say so; but if I had to guess I'd say he'll be gone by Christmas.

I'm disappointed with Holly. I expected more. I had deliberately asked to interview him alone in the hope that he would shine some new back-light on a piece of rock history. He didn't. All he did was say the same things as he said at the time, only in a slightly more cynical tone.

As we stroll down Oxford Street, dodging the oncoming human traffic, his mind returns to the ghost he has been fighting for the past two years

"Have you read Morley's book?" he asks.

No, but I've heard a lot about it.

"I was supposed to get sent a free copy but it hasn't arrived yet... ha ha. I'd never buy it... but then again I don't think he'd ever buy one of my records."

I wonder how many will?



FIVE STAR: sssh, don't mention Michael

HOT CHOCOLATE

FIVE STAR 'SIIk And Steel' (RCA PL 71100)*****

FROM THIS family vacuum, some stirring sugar-coated dance is girding its loins and jiving its ass. 'Silk And Steel' still sounds like Five Star's sweet tin melodies are carved out of still ice but, next to last year's 'Luxury Of Life', this arrives with a bout of the screaming hab-dabs. In other words, Five Star sound all grown up but, sunny side up, these songs roam wild.

Less virginal than they used to be, their motives still appear wide-eyed and lamb-like, but they're more playful now. The band list their worst experiences as "having a three inch splinter stuck in my hand", "my trousers falling down on TV", "fire alarms going off in the hotel in America". For whelps apparently so incorrupt and plain living, the sex throb of this LP sounds an astonishingly natural impulse.

With 'Can't Wait Another Minute' and 'Find The Time' leading the attack, one might cynically lounge back and wait for the standard dancefloor filler quotient. It never comes, though. 'Silk And Steel' might pass as some enterprising 'Best Of', the deft flicks just rush and rush. Doubtlessly, it will turn out as some 'Greatest Hits' collection, eight more potential hits locking horns here in a cut-throat tussle for attention.

'The Slightest Touch' is one high-energy, hotfoot sleaze, their rudest rhythm to date. 'Please Don't Say Goodnight' is class soul balladry, some high-pitched pleading that could have come from the pen of William Robinson himself, such is its scintillation. 'Show Me What You've Got For Me' struts with sensual abandon, one of pop's love affairs with carnal longing, drooling and dripping all the way to its voluptuous end.

'Rain Or Shine' is best of all, some mid-paced, sultry soul-slobber that is filled to the brim with the kind of ooooooh's and aaaaahhhh's that send the blood to my groin every time.

With their lucrative Cadbury/Music Link sponsorship now confirmed, my copy came complete with a bar of Crunchie. Yours perhaps won't. What you will grab, though, is the most lingering, most licentious thrill of black pop since last year's 'Whitney Houston'. Five Star might read like unlikely fiction — I mean they're still claiming to practice in their Romford garden — but they are beginning to sound like rapture. 'Silk And Steel' comes streamlined and air-brushed, but its fever and cunning makes for poison soul.

Five Star are growing up to greatness.

JONH WILDE

DEATH IN JUNE 'The World That Summer' (NER BAD VC9)****1/4

HO HUM, quandary time again... oh, bugger it, why make excuses? I like this record, OK? In fact, I like it a lot, and I just don't care.

Fortunately I know sufficiently little about the style guerillas to discourage me from giving their endeavours a relatively objective (don't laugh) hearing. In fact, the only qualms I have about proclaiming my unqualified approbation for 'The World That Summer' stem from the occasional falsetto harmonies, which at times are so out of tune I suspect they are a manifestation of some dastardly CIA/KGB hitech weapon designed to destabilise the nervous system. Whoops - there goes my middle ear!

If, as was the case with me, you have formed a clear mental image of Death In June without having ever actually heard any of their material, then you will be in for a (partly) pleasant surprise. I mean, a trumpet,

an acoustic guitar and a toy piano don't exactly spell rock 'n' roll, do they now?

Amazingly, tracks like
'Come Before Christ And
Murder Love', 'Break The
Black Ice' and 'Torture By
Roses' are quite tuneful, and
the album even has moments
which are almost tender
(erk!). Side three consists of
one track, a tape-loop
extravaganza called 'Death Of
A Man'. This is an art which –
like photography – is often
done, but rarely done well,
and Death In June do it better
than most.

The rather extravagent gesture of issuing a double album is, on balance, justified. Sketchy, sure, but then a sketch by Leonardo fetches big bucks.

ANDY HURT

SANBORN 'Double

Vision' (Warner Brothers 925 393-1)****
I SHOULD be disgusted by the idea of rich, comfortable Americans getting it together and recording this laid-back, night-light seduction music.

Soft jazzy funk, easy on the

ear, David Sanborn's saxophone smoothing out the Saturday night/Sunday morning bumps and Bob James tinkling ivories, weaving intricate chord around the instrumental tunes.

But my perverse nature lead me, even at the tender age of 12, to tune into late night Radio Two and imagine those romantic candlelight dinners and extended petting sessions that this music would bring me when my ugly duckling mug finally bloomed into a swan-like vision of male beauty.

But, like the WWII POWs who feigned madness to get back to Blighty and ended up turning mad themselves, I soon grew to genuinely like this style of easy listening, and one day found myself to be the proud possessor of a Grover Washington Jnr LP. Now, ten years later, I can wholeheartedly recommend this record featuring David Sanborn - a man who has blown his horn with David Bowie and The Rolling Stones - to all you who like musical fairy stories.

RICKY KILDARE

STATE OF PLAY 'Balancing The Scales' (Virgin V2382)*

BEAUTY IS in the eye of the beholder – or so people say. This album is an acute case of look but don't touch.

A glimpse at the colourful Art Of Noise type drawings on the cover stir an imaginative interest. But the contents . . . definitely music for drying the pots to.

Sickly traces of Dollar and other naff groups blend into an unidentifiable mush that slops around the turntable. The tracks are too long, too soft and too intermingled. In fact, for the first ten minutes I didn't notice any change between the songs at all.

I just cannot understand what has happened to this group. A while ago I reviewed their single, 'Natural Colour', and said that the rhythm weaved and slithered. The album features a re-mix of this but its rhythm is about as sneaky as an elephant in a sandpit.

There's just nothing exciting or remotely titillating about this album.

KEZ OWEN

TOT TAYLOR 'Box-Office Poison' (London

Popular Arts Total 3)****
IS THIS madness? Well, the enigmatic Tot has been toting his sandwich board around for some time now, forever hinting at some classically deranged quality. Hardly Roky Erikson, Syd Barrett or even Julian Cope extremes, mind. More like. . . Chris De Burgh reeling off the rails and heading for the funny farm where he'll bounce gladly off rubber walls 'til the cows come home.

In other words, Tot specialises in adult-orientated schmaltz with a loopy streak running like a seam through its middle. This begs an eager query. Is Tot totally bonkers and busting his tearglands to appear sane? Or is he packed with common sense and resorting to this slight deviance to beef up his act somewhat? Whatever his game, his latest excursion is still no closer to making up its mind.

Taylor would make an Agrade dealer in vapid, middlebrow treacle, a clever dick Jim Diamond if you please. Then again, he could go for the rubber wall world of crackbrained heroism and end his days talking to trees in gleeful rock obscurity, Robyn Hitchcock fashion. As it is, the identity crisis is evident - quite painfully so. Only on the closing 'My Independent Heart' does he strike some centre pitch, where he hesitates marvellously between maudlin and menacing, lamenting that: "I sound a false alarm when my heart lets me down".

Four stars for his dilemma, his line about meaning everything he never said, four stars for being trying. Is this madness? Not enough, or too much.

JONH WILDE

THE ENID 'Lovers And Fools' (Dojo DOJOLP 24)*****

WASN'T IT 1977 or thereabouts when The Enid were first launched upon us in a blaze of breathless publicity? Didn't they get that bloke from Yin And Yan – the one who, even today, sounds frighteningly like Kojak – to do a stunning radio commercial rooted in the catchphrase: "At last... salvation... The Enid have arrived"?

Did it not seem even at the

FLUX

FLUX 'Uncarved Block'
(One Little Indian)****

30 MPH. The music on night time radio as I drive west appals me. Janice Long is featuring a Smiths session from '83, tomorrow we're promised an Au Pairs wrinkle. Peel is digging into the archives for spins from The Specials and Magazine.

40 mph. Refusing to submit, I switch off the radio and think about the message on the run-out grooves of the new Flux album: "Sometimes you have to step backwards/Before you can move forwards."

50 mph. I, like no doubt most of the population, never heard the first two albums by the then Flux Of Pink Indians, namely 'Strive To Survive Causing The Least Suffering Possible' and 'The F*** C*** Treat Us Like Pricks'.

"I always imagined you were like some cross between Crass and Conflict," I told one of their camp down

time to be a little on the bloated side?

It almost goes without saying that The Enid bombed, or at least this is how it appeared. In reality the group were gathering a miraculous underground following – long-hairs mostly, offended by punk but equally scornful of pop, rock, metal and just about anything not performed by PFM or Van Der Graaf Generator, or even Yes at a push.

In 1986 The Enid remain hideously obscure yet they are apparently loved by thousands. Certainly they now have sufficient funds to put out their complicated and subtle (sometimes loud, sometimes quiet) modern classics in lavish sleeves on pristine vinyl and presumably make their money back.

Without doubt this is the highest quality indie LP I've ever come across. The sound is impeccable; the crashing bits crash, the swooshing bits swoosh, and the gentle interludes are deadly silent.

The actual music is too boring to even comprehend, but when entwined with the drills and chemical pumps of the dry-rot men in the next room it becomes, as if by magic, a heavenly clatter of

WORLD PARTY 'Private Revolution' (Chrysalis/Ensign CHEN 4)***

LEAVING THE Waterboys just when their recognition is peaking onto the same scale as their ambition, Karl Wallinger finds himself hampered by a press release courtesy of Platitude Promotions. "It became increasingly frustrating that his own ideas weren't achieving their full realisation" it blurts, as he attempts to set up his World Party out of earshot of the element-coveting fanfares of The Big Music.

Not that Wallinger's vision is a world away from that of The Waterboys' major domo, Mike Scott. Both see their songs as possessing a definite motivating force, but whereas Scott's exhorts us to reach for the stars, Wallinger's is bound up with a less spectacular, Summer Of Love-tinged altruism. Witness the communal cri de coeur of the title track, 'Private Revolution', and 'Making Love (To The World)'.

Of course, such sentiments are hardly very '80s. Contemporary fascinations are for market forces such as technology rather than elemental forces such as Mother Earth and, in the face of prevalent cynicism, it's hard to hide a smile when fed lines like: "No need to worry/No need to cry/'Cos we're all going to be on the same side/When we learn to make love to the world". This does have a depressing air of déjà vu about

Technically adroit ("at nine years old he started taking piano lessons but found his teachers to be mostly narrow-minded"), Wallinger can get this musicianship to work for him, as he does on 'Private Revolution', which has all the slinky articulation of a Prince track. Elsewhere it can work against him, producing a seamless, self-defeating fluency, overburdened with the hallmarks of the trained muso.

Throughout the album, you can hear what he's been listening to, with his vocals taking on some irritatingly Dylanesque inflexions (a cover of Dylan's 'All I Really Want To Do' is included) or a more morbid lizardine flavour on his Doors pastiche, 'The Ballad Of The Little Man'.

Nice songs, nice sentiments, but it's been tried before and

it didn't work then. . .

ROY WILKINSON

SUPERIOR

noon.

"Yes, I guess we were, but we can't keep doing the same thing," she replied. And they haven't. Quicker.

60 mph. We begin with the packaging. Outside, an elegant white envelope affair with lyrics. Inside, an anarcho-appropriation of the power symbols of the Capitalist, Communist, Chinese and Arab cultures. Juxtaposed, they seem such insignificant things to cause so much bloodshed.

Pick at random from the lyrics: "My dream still exists/Because I want it to/ Although I still believe/I'm not sure what to do." Flux are people who don't fit into prevailing so-called political solutions. This is a record of optimistic confusion. Faster.

70 mph. Partly produced by Adrian Sherwood and aided by luminaries such as Style Scott, Flux - Tim, Derek, Colin, Martin and Lou have somehow, sometimes

spectacular bitching brew out of the finest ideas of Wire, Pink Floyd, electro, rap, Matt Johnson and postpunk rock. Songs, occasionally too long for their own good, ebb and flow... but are nearly always underpinned by precise, rabid percussion. 'Uncarved Block' is a record that gradually reveals its strengths to you. More gas.

80 mph. Flux will probably be written off as some sort of hippy-punk-veggie-animalrights-Green-garden-

gnomes by people who think bands like Trouble Funk, who play the same riff for 20 minutes, are the giraffe's knees. Stamp that petrol pedal.

90 mph. All that doesn't matter. For, though hardly perfect, 'Uncarved Block' stimulates thought and, above all, doesn't sound like anything on your radio.

100 mph. Crash. **JACK BARRON**

interests, almost revolutionary in its contrasts.

For their resilience and determination against all odds, for their refusal to comply with ever-shifting fashion guidelines, and for quelling those troublesome red spores, The Enid are to be applauded.

MR SPENCER

OH'DEV 'Raving Bonkers' (LIMB 004)****

HERE IS a newsflash: the Netherlands have suffered a musical explosion. Wafts of uncontrollable vapours have leaked across the water and invaded British homes. Contamination is highly likely, so lock up your windows and board up your doors and don't allow the noise to escape. The only antidote for those infected is a concentrated shot of the same. And a syringe full of Oh'Dev is a painful cure.

This Dutch trash 'n' thrash combo have only six tracks on their album but they're long enough to immunise you for life. Oh'Dev rant at breakneck speed through 'The Gutter', guitars squealing like faulty brakes, swerving to avoid a nasty collision with an oncoming

drumbeat. 'Cock' entails more squealing, but this time slower, a drawn out agony that's good for your health but not your mind. And then 'Raving Bonkers' wipes everything clean with its almost rocking guitar rhythms, nonsensical drumming and vocals that spew forth from a blood raw throat.

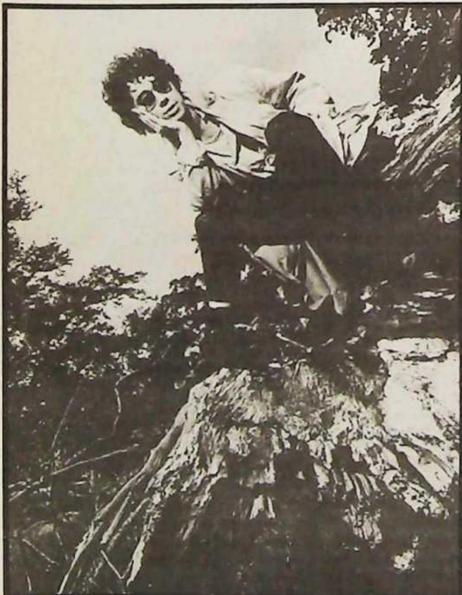
You can feel the pain and the intensity and endure it, if only because you know it's hurting them far more than it's hurting you.

But you'll writhe and squirm with the discomfort of side two. It stutters, quivers and stings, and you'll wonder why this most effective medicine has such a bitter taste.

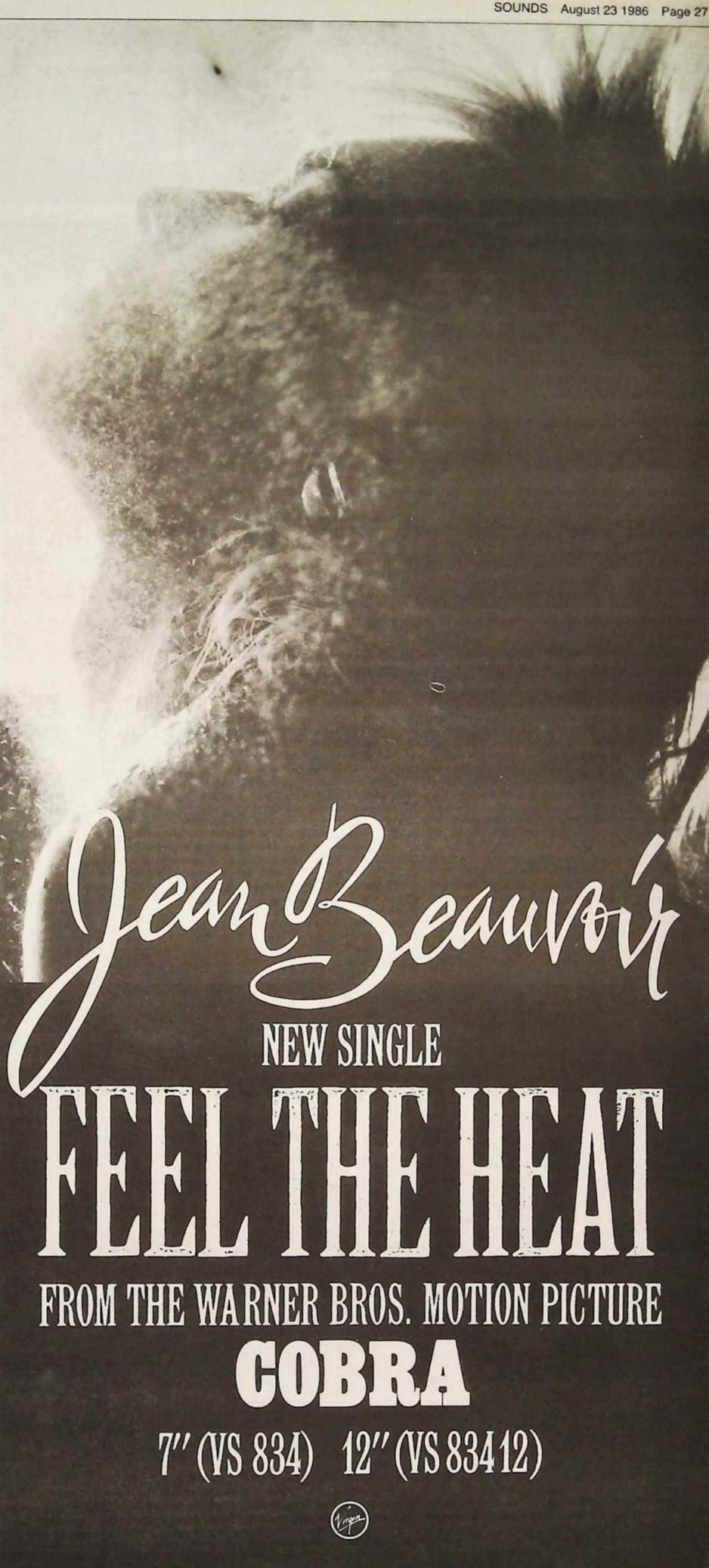
As the final track, 'On Your Knees', pumps faster and faster, penetrating further and further into your bloodstream, you'll wake up sweating and screaming and begging for mercy. Immunity has been achieved and it's safe to venture out into the disease-ridden world once more. Have a booster of Oh'Dev just in case, then another and another, until you're dependant or crazy or

KEZ OWEN

both.



WORLD PARTY'S Karl Wallinger contemplates a difficult descent



HERE AND NOW 'Been And Gone' (Cold Harbour COLDLP 002)***

A LONG long time ago, I heard whispers and mutterings about the live performances of a group called Here And Now. Years later people began to shout and rave about them, and now they're screaming for more, way too late.

This is the end. The legendary group that formed in 1976 alongside heavy mental disturbance Gong have finished. They've pulled the plug from the purple whirlpool.

Recorded live at the final Here And Now concert at Dingwalls, for a live record, this is the best quality recording I've heard. But that's because it's quiet, too quiet. Perhaps the crowd were numbed, perhaps the whoops and cheers were edited out to make way for Here And Now's somewhat lengthy songs.

Only two songs on this album warrant such awesome stony silence, and they are 'Drifting Away' and 'Ways To Be Free' - songs to be communal to. This is the music that I imagine Here And Now fans would remember. Music that bubbles and wobbles, guitars that rumble like gastric juices, sort of personal and suppressed, and drums that are tickled and bruised.

I'm disappointed, though. I expected to be pulled into the aforementioned whirlpool. I expected a struggle, a fight against being submerged, but the music is too safe. I can't believe that this album captures everything that Here And Now were all about; for a farewell performance it's uneventful, out with a whimper rather than a bang. I'm sure they deserve more, I'm sure they'll be sorely missed and I'm sure that it was time they went.

KEZ OWEN

SPACEMEN 3 'Sound Of Confusion' (Glass GLALP 018)**1/4

PROFESSOR HEINZ Wolff: "And ze problemm ziss week is to make a 40 minute longplaying record capable of dispatching even ze most insomniac of speed-crazed degenerates to the land of nod, using nussing more zan one and a half minutes worth of material."

Cabaret Voltaire have risen to this challenge with sterling resolution over the course of the last 12 months ("whoa hey funky yeah") and, consequently, have done almost irreparable harm to their reputation. Spacemen 3 have no such reputation to damage and can therefore be given a second chance.

'Sound Of Confusion' goes off at half cock. The basic fault here is that they start with a sound and worry about what to do with it after. The first couple of minutes sounded bloody great until someone I assumed to be either Emlyn Hughes, Alan Ball or Aled Jones started singing and I realised it was on at the wrong speed.

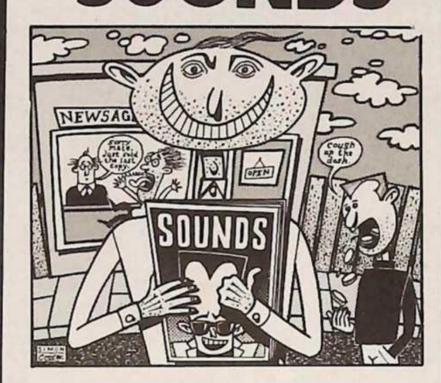
At 45 revs there's an energy present, whereas at 33 we've got the Mary Chain without the choruses. The Purple Things without the guts.

Faust could take an outwardly tedious noise and turn it into 13 minutes of captivating, brilliant noise Spacemen 3 have got to get back to basics.

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TO TO S

THE ROYAL MALE



PRINCE BENDS over backwards to give his fans what they want . .

A right royal
hype or a regal
revelation?
ROBBI MILLAR
peers through
the purple
haze and finds
that PRINCE
still reigns
supreme.
Crown prints
by GREG
FREEMAN

PRINCE AND THE REVOLUTION Wembley Arena

"If you're taking any of this seriously then you're a bigger fool than I am!"

WE TOOK it seriously alright. Right from when the very first whispered rumours met the printed word and the industry's stonily silent response. Right through to that mad, panicking stampede for tickets, the blagging and the begging; the buying, even.

And the tabloids took it more seriously than most, dredging up ye olde tales of Prince's tantrums at parties long past, scratching out wild theories about his supposed "fear of naked women" and then crowing with both revenge and confusion over his brief encounter with a

Page Three girl.

The Daily Mirror claimed Prince had 17 bodyguards in tow. I believe the correct figure was two or three. And even they — according to somewhat more reliable sources within the royal circle — had been instructed to keep a low profile.

In fact, the inside word was out that Prince was happy and relaxed, that he "loved Europe" and was really looking forward to playing Wembley, rehearsing for anything up to nine hours a day and deliberately juggling around the set to bring to prominence those songs – such as '1999' and 'When Doves Cry' – that had sealed his star status here.

Never mind the gossip, never mind the hype, never mind those long gone Lyceum memories. This, they said, would be one hell of a Prince show.

And so it was. But maybe not in the way that everyone expected ...

So as the lights cooled down on Tuesday, and the tension hotted up, from behind the black stage curtain floated the opening words to 'Around The World In A Day', cutting through the senses, pristine, immaculate. And there he was, looking almost like a waxwork doll: so self-possessed, so cool, so tiny. "Hello London!" And then he danced.

I have never seen anyone move like that; not David Lee Roth, not Tina Turner, not Michael Jackson, nobody. For close on two hours, Prince flickered across the stage, whirling and dipping, splits-ing and backflipping (in high heels?!), his sassy dance trio (Cherry Moon's Jerome Benton leading the way) shadowing his moves like Mafia hitmen. It was so slick, so professional; choreography doesn't seem an apt enough word.

And this, I think, was the key to Prince's performance: professionalism. Nothing was left to chance. It reminded me of, oh, Earth Wind And Fire; no less than a mid-70s soul revue, all glitter pants and 'Boogie Wonderland'. By rights, spontaneity should have suffocated on the Arena's stage, stifled by sterile showmanship. But for one man and his startling voice, his indisputable charisma...

In the end, Prince did what was expected of him and spent the early part of the show relentlessly plugging the 'Parade' LP. 'Around The World' segued into 'Christopher Tracey's Parade' and then the Revolution hopped from tightly coiled funk to haphazard jazz, matching and switching moods from New Position' and guitarist Wendy Melvoin's contribution 'I Wonder U', to a lush and schmaltzy 'Under The Cherry Moon'.

And yes, I guess some of us did get a little restless, but every time we started wondering if someone was maybe taking liberties, Prince would bounce back – throwing tambourines, or his yellow jacket, into the audience – and hit out with such perfect timing that all would be graciously forgiven.

Thus we got the carefree pop of 'Raspberry Beret', a red hot 'Delirious', a marvellous version of 'When Doves Cry' that was worth the hassle of admission alone — and if Prince was using backing tapes, which

he must have been unless he's a gifted ventriloquist, then they only added to the veneer of this Purple package – plus a '1999' that almost made Wembley seem like an intimate dancefloor.

But it was with 'Head' that His Royal Badness pulled out the trump card. Read the intro quote and you'll see what I mean. Because, as he humped and grovelled across the stage, grinding at his microphone stand like a cheap porno extra, the joke was quite clearly on anyone but him. In the end, it fell heavily on Fleet Street. "Sleazy!" they squealed. Oh, come on!

For someone who writes and plays and performs such rampantly sexy music, Prince is one of the most asexual rock stars in the galaxy. He might throw his undergarments into the crowd, he might wiggle his hips like a catwalk queen, but when he moans: "All the men call me Prince/The girls call me electric man", you don't have to be jammed up against the photo pit to recognise the evil glint in his eye, to realise that you're witness to one of the greatest displays of ham outside Denmark.

Sure, Prince is a sex machine... with the emphasis on machine.

But if he isn't a genuine superstud, then baby he is a star. What with pop music getting so bland and charitable and so downright acceptable, he's probably one of the only true stars we

have left.

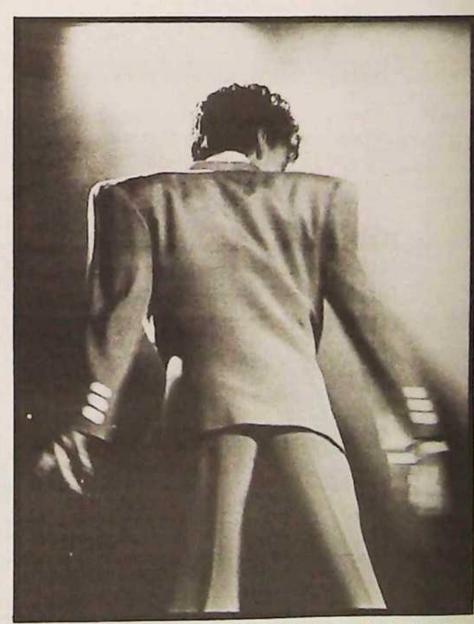
I mean, can you seriously imagine Prince accepting a cameo role in *Miami Vice*, or playing up to Wogan, or exchanging social pleasantries with the heir to the throne? Exactly. His arrogance and his awkwardness, his brilliance and his eccentricity: these are what makes Prince more than just another media puppet, another headline-grabbing celeb.

I don't think I'll ever forgive him if he does a 'proper' interview...

On Tuesday night at Wembley - I can't speak for the other shows, although Tony Mitchell, the man who some say virtually 'invented' Prince, eloquently described Thursday's show as "f"***** brilliant!" - Prince let us get as close as we're ever gonna get to his private inner sanctum. He let it rip with 'Girls & Boys' and 'Kiss' and 'Life Can Be So Nice', dancing delirious in pools of flashing coloured lights. The Revolution didn't put a foot wrong; I don't think they'd have dared to.

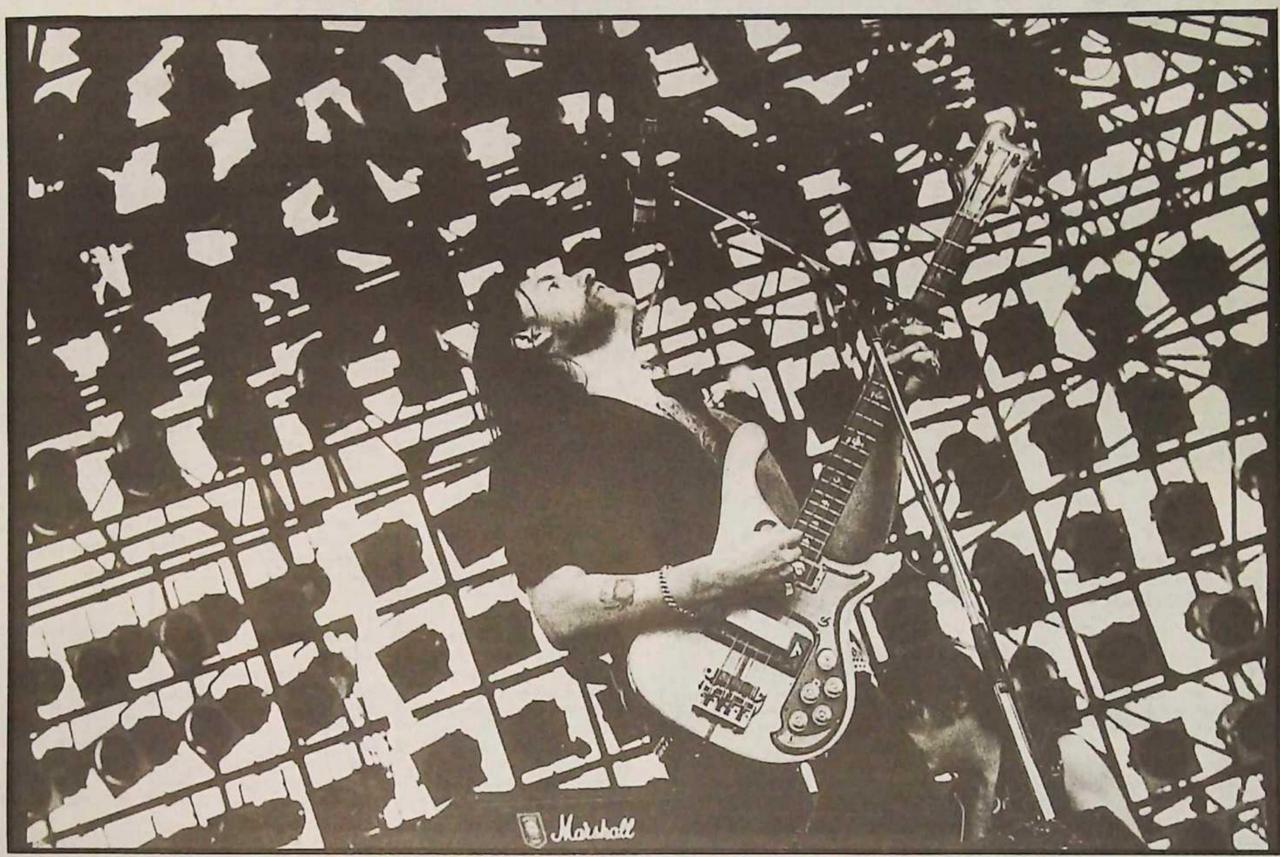
And after the Dance, the Sex, the Music – the Romance. Prince, clad in a scruffy overcoat, toting that famous phallic white guitar, played 'Purple Rain'. I doubt if the punters would have pulled him to bits if he hadn't, but it made the perfect finale, the icing on a cleverly constructed cake...

And yes, you really should have been there.



TONIGHT'S PRINCE soirce will be held in the window of Burton's tailors

THE UNORIGINALSIN



On a day when OZZY wrestles with his past and

everyone else grapples with the elements, BAD

NEWS' amateur 'eadbanging steals the show. ROGER

HOLLAND delivers a pat on the back to DEF

LEPPARD and MOTORHEAD, and a kick in the

shoots to kill

MOTORHEAD'S LEMMY: "surely one of these goddamn lightbulbs must work!"

MONSTERS OF ROCK FESTIVAL

Castle Donington THERE WERE two car loads of us, robber barons all, bound for Heavy Metal Heaven. The specially commissioned wigs were showering customised dandruff everywhere, the Zodiac Mindwarp loop tapes were giving us all splitting headaches, and the bullet belts were playing hell with the upholstery.

But then so what? Are we not bad muthaf ***** s? Of course we are. We are Real Men, and this is rock 'n' roll!

Get down, bang your head, boogie, blow your savings on a handful of the worst Tshirts known to man, throw your guts up all over your cardboard guitars, wave a chicken in the air...because you were born to be wild. Born to come and stand in a field in the middle of nowhere.

Warlock, yet another Teutonic rock band, have a singer who is All Woman and yet sings like Geddy Lee. More than this I cannot tell you, because some callously inconsiderate and clumsy bastards in a coach had taken it upon themselves to ram a number of cars on the motorway, causing a delay. This meant that my own party of fearless, foraging metal maniacs arrived with barely time to witness the closing number.

But given the manner in which their paltry sound had been cast to the four winds

codpiece to the festival mentality. STEVE DOUBLE by weak volume, we would have been no wiser had we

seen the whole set. Which raises the question: what is the point of compiling events like this if bands are not going to be allowed the power to compete with the raging elements? The festival mentality came to this country from those parts of America lucky enough to be blessed with a perfect climate. In this country, the weather is always going to threaten things.

Even if it doesn't pour down, those cold British nights and the fierce north wind will always make such days uncomfortably chilly. while that wind, of course, will take great pleasure in rending the sets of any group but the most powerful on the day. And you can read that word 'powerful' any way you

In this instance, umpteen thousand ticket buyers lost their chance to hear Warlock. And Warlock in effect lost their chance to make a favourable impression upon anybody

save those few close enough to hear the backline and the monitors.

The annual round of big rock festivals never fails to raise at least as many questions as it does cheap and easy laughs. And there are a few others I'd like answered, such as just what the hell goes on inside the heads of the morons who spend their whole day chucking bottles of beer or, more likely, liquid human refuse, high into the air at venture just to see which poor sod the thing will brain when it falls to earth?

Furthermore, why on earth do all these people make their individual pilgrimages to Donington anyway? They must have some good reason surely. To be herded like sheep throughout this longest day, to travel through the night each way, to be ripped off left, right and centre, and to have to wallow in the filth and the animalistic mire of the whole event cannot be any rightthinking person's idea of a good time. So you can only assume that these people

are not right-thinking.

And while there are thousands upon thousands here who quite clearly have no idea of the concept of thought at all - and who probably can't tell their left from their right anyway there are many others who really don't seem that stupid.

Obviously this music and this day offers these people something of great value, something approaching a sense of gathering, of celebration, of vast communal identity. And, equally obviously, they are happy to be able to repay these bands and this coarse and too often otherwise utterly worthless music for letting them share in this great ego-bolstering mass gestalt. It's a devotion so powerful that they, the brave male outlaws, will gladly suffer all the indignities of this day to pay mass homage to their heroes. In some distant corner of a far off field which will be forever adolescence...

The best T-shirt of the day was the one which boasted 'I saw Bad News f*** up at

Donington', and in some ways theirs was the best set of the day as well. Real mean bad muthaf****s with toothache, Bad News have polished their art so brightly you could squeeze your spots in it. Their audience participation gambit was even funnier than that of the Scorpions.

"I wanna hear you say, F*** off Bad News"!

"F*** OFF BAD NEWS!" And their total hell for leather, heavy holocaust, all out attack blew more than just the cobwebs out of Donington's collective eardrums.

"Is there anybody out there knows how to play guitar?"

"YEAH!"

"Well you won't f"" like this one!"

Bad News say the 'f' word more often than any other band on the bill except Ozzy, sing more songs about wanting "to f" my mum" than anybody except perhaps Carnivore, and win more fans than anybody outside the rock fraternity had thought possible. Say

what you will about HM fans, at least they can see the joke

Best new song of the day? 'Vampire Spunk Merchants From Hell', taken from Bad News' forthcoming double live set 'F*** Off Castle Donington!'. Rock 'n' roll? Phew!

Now that the waiting is over, Motorhead are obviously impatient to launch their new behemoth rock upon the nation. And what better place to do so than at Castle Donington? What better place? Do you want a list?

Motorhead have a lot to prove in terms of sales and bums on seats before they're going to be allowed to headline a bash like this. Consequently Lemmy and the chaps, the first of two bands with a lot to prove today, arrive at about three thirty pip emma and hit the East Midlands with everything they have bar a light show and a halfway decent sound.

The set is a carefully planned collection of oldies but goldies and brand newies, best defined by the manner in which the far too fast 'Bite The Bullet' now merges into the devastating anthem 'Built For Speed'. And with this new line-up, those old songs sound better than ever before (when you can hear them that is). For example, two cuts from the 'Overkill' album, 'Stay Clean' and 'Metropolis', both benefit enormously from the extra



SCORPION MATTHIAS JABS: "vot iz this sexist?"

dimension made available by twin guitarists Wurzel and Phil Campbell.

Unfortunately, just as Motorhead were winning through against the midafternoon apathy and the muddiest sound so far - and perhaps they were beginning to do too well for some people's liking - their guitars all but disappeared from the mix. I had been waiting eagerly to hear what 'No Class', a song which runs wild upon a distinctly 'Tush'like guitar motif, and 'Bomber', perhaps the most deadly metal riff of all time, would sound like in the hands of two hot to trot guitarists. And now, like Diana Ross, I'm still waiting.

Those of us with an encyclopaedic knowledge of the band's works could tell that they were playing these songs because we could just about make out the lyrics, but you could hardly distinguish the songs themselves beneath a top heavy drum sound and a flurry of bass activity.

That Motorhead somehow managed to wrench a couple of encores out of this set was a complete triumph in the circumstances.

Although people with as much money as Def Leppard have made in America have no real need to prove anything to anybody, still Sheffield's finest steely pop

metal combo approached their appearance at Donington, their first in this country since the birth of Christ, with a need to show the bastards.

It's been three long years since they released their barrier breaking 'Pyromania' album and swept to megasales in America, riding on the crest of a tidal wave of classic rock/pop mathematics and the advent of the MTV age. Three years in which they have, from all accounts, struggled to come up with a follow up, although given some of the problems they have encountered along the way, this is not an unreasonable delay, especially when you think back to Led Zeppelin.

And as if this question mark over their continuing prowess were not enough. Def Leppard are greeted by many of those here, not with the warm affection which would be afforded a huge American band making a rare and long-awaited visit to these shores, but with the chilly resentment somehow reserved for a British band considered to have deserted their countrymen for the lure of the dollar and the hot Californian sun.

Add to these circumstances the fact that drummer Rick Allen tragically lost his left arm in a car crash on New Year's

much of the interest in the band would revolve around the way in which they and he coped with this sad accident, and it can be seen that Leppard, perhaps even more than Motorhead, had a lot to prove to this audience. But like Motorhead, the

understandably if unhappily,

Eve 1984 and that.

band gave it their all, Rick electing to play solo with the aid of a computerised kit. Their sound was pristine, at least to begin with, and the clean cut razor-edged hooks which line their classy and almost sophisticated metal took the place by storm.

'Rock! Rock! (Til You Drop)' was the motto for the day, and with the genuine rock beauty of songs like 'Photograph' and 'Another Hit And Run', Def Leppard won through despite the obvious antagonism of some of the vast crowd.

As Ozzy Osbourne will be supporting the Scorpions later this month in Europe, they were one band who could be sure of a good sound throughout The Scorpions are the biggest rock band ever to emerge from West Germany. It's not hard to see why. Their reliable workmanlike rock commotion reflects the very essence of latterday heavy metal without ever approaching the shining beauty at its core. Uniformly relentless and one dimensionally brutal, the Scorpions are both depressing and rather pathetic.

Their hamfisted sexism tattooed across their foreheads by album titles such as 'Virgin Killer' and 'Taken By Force', and by artwork like the chewing gum molestation on the 'Love Drive' cover - fits clenched fist in iron gauntlet within the base framework of the form. Despite their obvious power, the Scorpions could only plough a dour and unforgiving furrow through a set not too dissimilar in blueprint to the one which preceded it.

But where Def Leppard's precisely structured rock soars with an effortless beauty born out of natural talent, the Scorps have built their success upon science, upon Heavy Metal By Numbers.

There was never any possibility of anybody stealing this show from Ozzy Osbourne, the most durable and successful performer in HM. Larger than life and two hundred times as loud, the man with the best collection of glitzy frock coats in the world gave us his all.

This might not have been the full American show indeed, I'm assured it was not - but you'd be hard put to spot what was missing. Ozzy actually arrived on stage in the lap of the kitchen sink!

I happen to know that Oz takes something of an interest in American wrestling, and so he at least will know what I mean when I call him the Adorable Adrian Adonis of rock 'n' roll. The man is so camp! The **Hunchback Of Notre Dame** let loose in Gary Glitter's wardrobe, he scuttles around the vast stage like a peroxide Groucho Marx on speed, the radio mike held just like that famous cigar of old.

The Star, The Blizzard Of Oz, The Ultimate Oz, he has



OZZY: "the next person to call me Big Daddy gets it!"

them eating out of his hoary old hand in less time than it takes Graeme Souness to get sent off.

But still I'm worried about him. He seems to have come through his 'So Tired' phase of uncertainty and indifference, but the direction he's taking now is just the one of least resistance. Ozzy Osbourne, I would say, is not half the man he used to be.

Consider, for example, the contradiction between his songs of old (say, 'War Pigs') and one of his most recent efforts, 'Thank God For The Bomb', with its ridiculous sneer of "nuke ya, nuke ya" and the enormous explosions used to punctuate the chorus. As his music becomes still more

stereotyped - although 'The Ultimate Sin' is actually and perversely his best solo album yet - and as he throws himself more and more into his gross and outlandish showmanship, it seems that Ozzy is becoming more and more a caricature of himself.

His set tonight included so many songs of the same basic leaden design -'Suicide Solution', 'I Don't Know', 'Killer Of Giants', 'Secret Loser' - that every vaguely different model (with the exception of the awful 'Mr Crowley') such as 'Crazy Train', 'Shot In The Dark' and even, God forgive me, 'Thank God For The Bomb', represented a high spot of sorts. As did the announcement that my

favourite rock keyboardist, John Sinclair, is now earning his wedge in the Ozzy band.

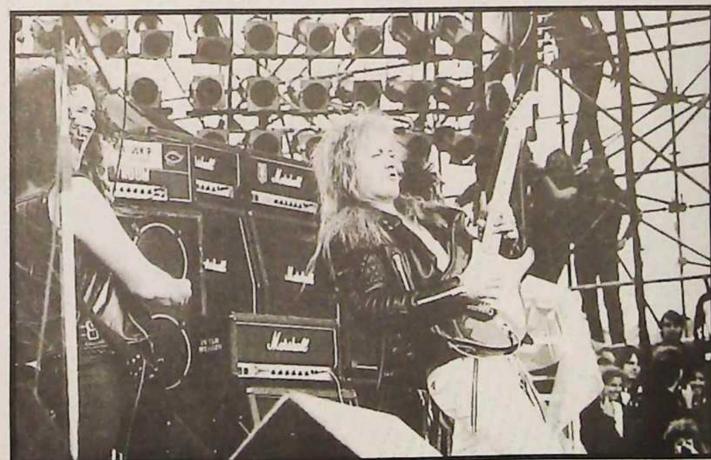
However, the real and undeniable highlights of the show were the two Black Sabbath songs, 'Iron Man' and 'Paranoid' ("Go f""" crazy!" commanded Oz), which served only to put the rest of Ozzy's material into context. I don't care how flash or how fast whizz kid guitarists like Jake E Lee and the late Randy Rhoads might be, they certainly can't/didn't write songs like other people used to.

Cue the closing highlight, the best firework display seen this side of a Royal Wedding, and slip quickly away into the dark.

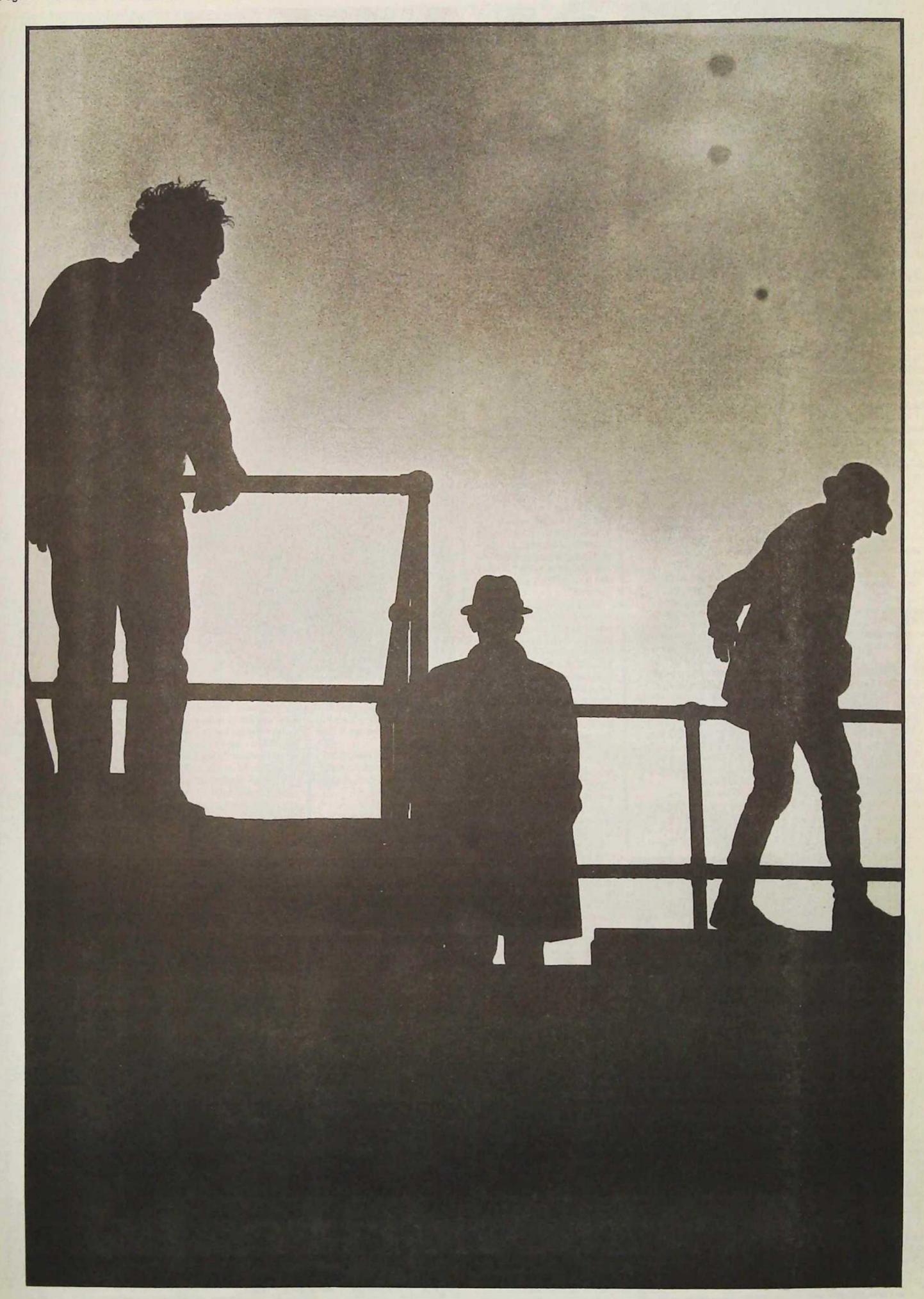
MORE LIVES ON PAGE 35



LEPPARD'S JOE ELLIOTT: "anybody out there gotta spare hamster?"



BAD NEWS: "we're not gonna get off this stage until you say we're heavy metal!!!"



THE MEN in Black, left to right: Dave Riley, Santiago Durango, Steve Albini

BEAUTY BEAUTY

"I am a wimp"
confesses BIG BLACK's
big wheel STEVE
ALBINI, a man who is
hated by nearly as
many people in
hometown Chicago as
the Mafia. JACK
BARRON thrills to the
sound of this
controversial trio, who
like feedback and
promise not to have
any children. EYE AND
EYE paints it black

THIS WILL STAY WITH YOU UNTIL YOU DIE

HE FORMALITIES are barely over. You enter this interview at the very moment the squirming hearts of darkness of three ugly Americans are stabbed by Hitler's dagger.

Your reputation as paedophiliac, sexist, racist, would-be Jew-burners precedes you, I tell the trio.

"Hah-hah-hah," chuckles Steve Albini at my half joke stroke half question.
"Ohhhhhhhh God," he then sighs as he realises I'm also serious, because these aren't laughing matters. Big Black have arrived in London to walk on a welcome carpet woven out of malicious gossip about themselves.

"There are many elaborate misconceptions about this band," continues Albini. "People make brilliant deductions about our world views by deliberately misunderstanding what we're on about for reasons of jealousy or revenge...

"In this day and age it should be obvious that anybody who thinks racism is a valid approach is terminally stupid... If we were approached by any serious right-wingers we'd just as soon piss on them as give them the time of day.

"We know what we're doing, so accusations of fascism I can handle because they're not true. But being accused of having facial hair really gets my fur up, hah-hah-hah."

A flat-topped, souped-up jarhead framed by deceptively mild granny glasses, Steve Albini, in his role as a writer for Forced Exposure magazine (see Scanners on page 12), is probably the most controversial rock critic extant in America at the moment. Minutes pass and it's evident he is not the vulgar, penis-fixated loudmouth I expected from his scribbling.

"I am a wimp," says the man who I'm told is hated by nearly as many people in Chicago as the Mafia. "But I believe in saying what I think and that the band should deal with matters that most people would

rather publicly deny existed. But just because we sing about something that's cruel or horrible doesn't mean we're propagating cruelty as a way of life. Far from it. And some people find it hard to understand that distinction."

Big Black, sliced with the guitar buzzsaw of Santiago Durango, sing true stories about child rape, the vain dress sense of Mussolini, slaughterhouse voyeurs and landlords who train their dogs to attack black people. The band hook on to emotions that drive humans over the edge of socially acceptable behaviour, and amplify them into a huge maelstrom of savage sound that has all the disciplined frenzy and attention to detail of a serial murderer.

"The things that interest me most are when the restraint mechanisms of society break down and people cut loose and do exactly what their urges tell them to, regardless of humanitarian concerns," continues Albini. "Everybody has the potential to go insane; one of the things about Big Black is that we're not pointing fingers but rather saying everyone is vulnerable to their circumstances and their fears.

"To deny that those passions and emotions exist is to basically make yourself a non-human. I wonder if there isn't an element of people on both the left and the right in America which is being hypocritical when it vehemently condemns pornography, lasciviousness and general sexual indulgences? I'd like to strap some of them into chairs, attach penile tension meters, show them dirty movies and see what their bodies and brains think about pornography. I'm sure it'd be the same as everyone else."

"Basically though, we just like beating the shit outta guitars," grins bassist Dave Riley through a mass of facial scar tissue, the legacy of an automobile accident.

"Yeah, we sound like three intelligent people in a car crash," echoes Albini.

THE SHOCKWAVES OF PUNK REACH MONTANA, THE NOISE RISES

HE SON of a mathematician-cumengineer, 24-year-old Steve now works as a photo-retoucher in Chicago but was raised in the "cowboy town" of Missoula in Montana.

"I didn't turn out like a cowboy because I thought they were stupid, and anyway, they were the people who were always trying to beat me up when I was at school," he says.

Even in Montana though, the shockwaves of punk rippled. And between working for local newspapers while in high school, Steve joined a legendary band called Just Ducky – legendary because only two people, one deaf person and a bunch of dead waterfowl ever saw them.

"We were terrible," Albini reckons. "So I went to journalism school.

"When I'd been working for local papers in Montana, I'd been very wide-eyed about journalism. At college — Northwestern University, near Chicago — I soon learned the truth. For a term, I went to work on a daily paper in Indiana, and it was then that I found out that people who work on newspapers aren't idealistic proponents of the truth but simply greedy, scheming sons of bitches. It made me decide against ever writing for money. Consequently I have to pay to get my things published, hah-hah-hah."

Forsaking a lifetime on Grub Street, Albini instead went into grubby little Chicago punk clubs and joined a "skinny tie" group called Stations.

"Punk wasn't a cultural event in America, it was a curio," says the singer-guitarist. "There are millions of generic bands but I'd say that only now, with Sonic Youth, The Butthole Surfers, Scratch Acid, us and a few others, is the notion of music as individuality, the real point of punk, really taking hold in America."

Albini pulled into Stations at the same time Santiago Durango was forming one of

the seminal Chicago bands, Naked Raygun.

Now 28 years old, Durango had emigrated to the US from Colombia with his physician father who was "part of the brain drain". And while studying political science at The University Of Illinois, the guitarist was

simultaneously a catalytic force in The Windy City's music scene.

"He was one of the first three punks in Chicago," Albini says of the soberly dressed Santiago. "And I should also point out that Colombians are reknowned for their brutality."

"I'm really too old to be playing music now," comments Durango, who by day works as a legal aide. "But I guess I probably have some mental incapacity that keeps me going."

Long before Big Black were born, however, both Santiago and bassist Dave Riley were aware of each other's presence. The latter was pumping notes for an outfit called Savage Beliefs, and had his first conversation with the Colombian while Durango was vomiting his insides down a toilet in some club or other. The rapport was instant – they communicated on a similar intellectual level: "Baaaaaaaaarrrrrrffff!"

Originally from Detroit, 26-year-old Dave — who is currently engaged in film studies at Columbia University — says he comes from a middle-class background." My father worked for Ford. It was no big deal, we had a lot of rich relatives so we ate eggs a lot, hah-hah-hah."

It was while he was at college in Detroit where he was "jerking off into a fan, hahhah-hah", that Riley started guitaring with a friend. This gave him a foot in the door of a recording studio complex which specialised in the in-house production for the likes of George Clinton, Parliament/Funkadelic and Sly Stone, until one day Riley showed up for work to find the doors of the studio bolted.

"I did the obvious thing and moved my ass to Chicago," he explains.

Meanwhile Albini had been kicked out of Stations, not for refusing to wear a skinny tie but because he insisted with typical tact that "Bryan Ferry is a stupid fag". This didn't go down too well with his compatriots and Steve ended up licking his wounds at Northwestern, and recording Big Black's first EP, 'Lungs', by himself. Being charitable chaps always willing to lend a hand to self-confessed dorks, Dave and Santiago eventually decided to help him out...

"To understand Big Black, you should realise there are three elements common to us," says Albini. "First, we are all ex-speed freaks. Second, we will never have children. Third, we simply like to play guitars. Well, feedback more than guitars, actually."

NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP

IG BLACK ride their sense of irony like a jackhammer on a baby's skull, to the point where they are on the precipice of being one of the five most penetrating bands to emanate out of America in the past couple of years. That baby, paradoxically, is rock music, which despite its wrinkles, has yet to grow up fully in its textural and lyrical scope.

This is the world of Charles Manson, Kenneth Bianchi and Peter Sutcliffe, fatal thorns who line the primrose path we run down

Other forms of the arts, from literature through the theatre and movies to opera and ballet – essentially idioms of entertainment – have long dealt with the beast inside the body homo sapiens, and have been praised for doing so.

But when rock — one of the most instinctively aggressive modes of expression — attempts to grapple with such weird scenes inside the human torture chamber, it's either laughed out of court (as is the case with the cartoon imagery of heavy metal) or it's simply considered beyond the bounds of comment or good taste for such a 'frivolous' medium.

Jim Morrison sang a fictional story about the Oedipal complex of wanting to have sex with his mother and kill his father. Freud would have been happy. Big Black voice what happened in real life in the song 'Jordan Minnesota' on their latest and best Homestead album, 'Atomizer'.

A couple of years ago in Jordan, there was a very large, very well organised ring of families who were engaged in child-swopping at sex parties. The ring was busted and many adults were arrested by the police. But then in the first test court case, upon which the rest of the indictments hinged, the children broke down under cross-examination from defence attorneys who accused them of conspiracy. Pre-teen kids were accused of collaborating to fabricate the whole gross event!

Consequently, to save the children from having to testify, the cases were dropped and all the parents went scot-free.

"To me the whole thing seemed like a really sick analogy for America as a whole," says Albini.

But don't you think you're guilty of exploiting something like that for the simple purposes of cheap entertainment?

"No," is the instant, unanimous verdict.
"What we generally do is present what
we're thinking about in such a way that we
believe people will draw the same
conclusions we do," adds Steve. "It's
explaining what happened through our
perspective, a reporting of the facts as we
see them, as opposed to being politically
correct, which would be to state a dogmatic,
point-by-point condemnation of the activity.

"To do the latter is basically to treat your audience like idiots and think that nobody can figure out from the song that child rape is bad. I think that should be manifest...

"The same thing applies to our song about Mussolini, 'Il Duce'. People should really know that Mussolini isn't worthy of praise at this late date, we shouldn't have to educate them or preach to the converted. And once you've accepted that there's no point in being literal and dogmatic, you can concentrate on other aspects, like the absurdity...

"The thing that made me want to do a song about Mussolini is that I saw a picture of him. He was sitting there and it was obvious that the most important thing in his life wasn't that he ruled a country or killed people, the most important thing was his suit. That was so absurd, it was interesting."

"It's another example of what happens in situations of mass insanity," grins Santiago quietly.

"And, to people who think of themselves as rational, mass insanity is really fascinating. Or at least it is to me," says

So you think you're rational?

"I think I am until urges get the better of me," admits Albini. "And that's when you get into these long bouts of self-disgust and self-hatred and start to discount everything you've ever done. The moments when you contemplate suicide are when you realise how out of control you are. That no matter what you want to do, what you actually do is what ends up mattering. And that what you do is worthless."

Have you all contemplated suicide? "Yes."

What stopped you then?

"We're wimps," whispers Santiago with a smile.

"Nevertheless I hope that I could make the decision and go through with it." continues Steve. "If my productive life was over and all that was left was 40 years of remembering past glories, I'd like to get out of everybody's way. I used to think it would happen when I was 30, but it might be sooner."

All of Big Black react to this with a respectful nod. I sit wondering, as silence descends like a coffin-lid on the flat in Aldgate where we've met. It seems to me that in the 1980s, rock and roll's most volcanic eruptions happen when the topic on the agenda is death or degradation. Energy feeding off entropy, music as an emotional parasite, and so on and on...

So far the fourth member of the group, a drum machine, has remained silent. You leave this interview just as Big Black are starting to make a massive noise. It's the sound of the diapers being ripped off the grey-haired baby of rock.

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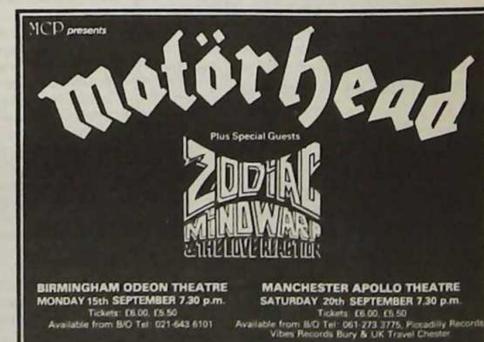


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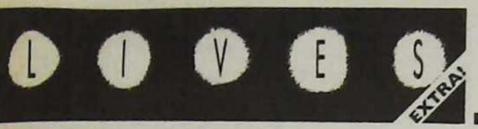
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SRV: Jimi Hendrix? Who's he?

VAUGHAN FREEZE

STEVIE RAY **VAUGHAN AND DOUBLE TROUBLE** Santa Cruz Civic aditorium, California STEVIE RAY Vaughan reckons he's the best guitarist in the world - and he's in a hurry to prove it.

Like a long distance runner who tries to burn off the competition by sprinting from the start, Vaughan quells all doubters in the first five minutes by opening his two-hour set with a long instrumental, during which he shows off literally every trick in the electric guitar book.

No wonder this west coast crowd goes apeshit: they know they're seeing the best, not just now, but quite possibly ever. Only one thing stands in Vaughan's way. Jimi Hendrix.

While the crowd got their rocks off - and boy, do they, whooping and whirling beneath a sweet pall of

marijuana smoke in the sort of heady rock ritual that died out long ago in Britain -Stevie Ray Vaughan boxes with the shadow of Hendrix.

This man is trying to lay the ghost of a legend. He goes about it methodically, displaying each of his goodies in turn. That breathtaking surge of acceleration out of 'In From The Storm'; that shimmering sound of 'Pali Gap', which I've never heard anyone else duplicate; even, to make it obvious, a rampaging version of 'Voodoo Chile', and the obligatory solo with his guitar behind his back. Stevie's got everything Hendrix had - except personality and charisma. that stuff that separates the artist from the session musician.

Stevie Ray Vaughan made his name as a session man, in fact. He was the thrilling Albert King soundalike on David Bowie's 'Let's Dance'.

Figuring, quite rightly, that his contribution to that great LP was just as important as Bowie's or producer Nile Rodgers', Vaughan waited until the eve of Bowie's world tour and suddenly demanded a huge pay rise before he'd bring along his hot licks. To Vaughan's surprise, Bowie told him to take a walk.

It was probably the greatest mistake of Vaughan's career. A spell with Bowie might have taught Vaughan the virtues of originality. What made his work on 'Let's Dance' so remarkable was the context. Bowie gave Vaughan's guitar pyrotechnics meaning. The way Vaughan presents them now, as the focal point of a competent four-piece rock band playing endless 12-bar blues riff while Vaughan solos on and on, it's much ado about nothing.

In a lot of ways Stevie Ray Vaughan from Austin, Texas, reminds me of Johnny

Winter, Austin's albino answer to Hendrix in the '60s. Like Winter, Stevie Ray has a famous musician for a brother (Jimmie Lee Vaughan of The Fabulous Thunderbirds, who are even hotter in the USA right now than SRV himself). And like Winter, Vaughan has no talent beyond his skills as a guitar slinger.

He may, like Winter, display a rudimentary showmanship - coming onstage in a huge Red Indian head dress that provides a colourful contrast to his pasty pale face (he looks like he's spent his whole life locked in his bedroom practising to 'Electric Ladyland').

But originality? Songs?

Stevie Ray Vaughan could be the greatest guitarist in the world. The way he's going, he's more likely to be the new Robin Trower.

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PHIL McNEILL

Jack Barron forsakes his Sunday lie-in and overcomes a function in High Wycombe on Monday to rush us this account of the Dylan press conference, called to publicise his new film Hearts Of Fire. . .



BOB TALE



BOBBY BOY with Fiona Flanagan: love that jacket, love that Spandex. Pic by Eye And Eye

BOB DYLAN held a press conference in London on Sunday. And the news about Bob Dylan is that there is no news.

Though the international media-cats hit fresh lows in absurd questioning at the conference - to launch the production of the movie Hearts Of Fire - mumbling Mr Zimmerman, one of the film's stars, remained just like a rolling stone who refused to be turned.

Dressed in a fringed leather jacket and staring through impenetrable shades at the journalists assembled in The National Film Theatre, Dylan - who plays an ageing, retired megarockstar in the movie, which also features Rupert Everett and newcomer Fiona Flanagan - seemed bemused by the whole affair.

Although he said less than the man from The Sunday Times, what he did say made more sense, and we learnt the following:

Dylan agreed to star in the film, directed by Richard Marquand (whose other projects have included Return Of The Jedi and Jagged Edge), because he didn't happen to be doing anything else at the moment and "wanted to see what acting was like". (Strange this, as he's already appeared in several films.)

Maybe he will continue to perform, as he has done recently, with The Heartbreakers, and maybe they will come to Britain. But maybe not.

No, said Dylan, he wouldn't change the lyrics to 'The Times They Are A Changing' if he was writing it today. A good song should transcend the time and circumstances in which it was composed.

He has always felt good about America but why should he make lyrical fun of Ronald Reagan when the President himself isn't very

Sure he tours to make money, he admitted, but what's so new about that?

 The '60s – shock, horror – have been and gone so why dwell on them, he reckoned.

No he never gets bored, said the singer while drumming his

Yes, it was that sort of press conference! The only real moment of humorous relief came at the justified expense of The Sunday Times' Philip Norman, who throughout the proceedings had dominated the questioning with bimbo inquiries.

On being asked by Norman if he realised how bored he would be making the movie, Dylan caustically quipped, "Maybe you'll be in

Scripted by sometime Rolling Stone writer Joe Esterhaus, who also wrote Jagged Edge and Flashdance, Hearts Of Fire has a soundtrack featuring the music of Wang Chung and Jolley And Swain, plus four yet-to-be-composed Dylan songs. Shooting begins in Britain next week and then moves on to Canada.

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This weekend, festival festivities continue with the return of the redoubtable Reading three dayer. On Friday the hordes of Gothdom will descend, breathing setting gel, as The Mission, Killing Joke, Balaam And The Angel and the Medics brave the weather. On Saturday, a mixed bag includes Saxon, John Waite and It Bites whilst Sunday boasts festival frequenters Hawkwind, festival fornicators Zodiac and festival fungus, The Enid.

On Bank Holiday Monday daytrippers to Lytham St Annes will be treated to a mammoth sea shanty led by resurgent rockers, The Icicle Works, and Birkenhead's favourite sons, Half Man Half Biscuit.

If you care for something on a more managable scale, the excellent Stump have London shows on Wednesday and Tuesday while the equally excellent Vee VV play London on Wednesday and Manchester on Saturday.

WEDNESDAY

BRENTFORD Red Lion (01-560 6181) Living Daylights/Bam Bam BRIGHTON Zap Club (727880) John Watts/Ian Porter/Jenny Cruze/Nick Sellars CHIPPENHAM Goldiggers Swimming In Sand **CROYDON** Cartoon Mick Clarke Band **DERRY Venue Rogue Male**

DUNSTABLE Wheatsheal (62571) Ozric Tentacles EDINBURGH Hoochie Coochie Club Frank Chickens **EDINBURGH Jailhouse Zero Zero** FAVERSHAM Ship Hotel Now Or Never

HARLOW Square (25594) Mournblade HULL Spring Theatre Vicious Circle/1982 Genuine

HULL Trog Bar (20261) General Wolf LEEDS Irish Centre Flaco Jimenez LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) Masque

LONDON Battersea Latchmere (01-924 3216) Run Riot LONDON Camden Dublin Castle (01-485 1773) The Boogie Brothers Blues Band LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) The Cardiacs/49 Scream LONDON Chalk Farm Enterprise (01-485 2659) Push/Breathless/Food For The

LONDON Covent Garden Piazza The Song LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Secret Act LONDON Fulham Greyhound (01-385 0526) Johnny Pinko/Capital Twist

LONDON Fulham Kings Head (01-736 1413) FRA LONDON Greenwich Tunnel (01-858 0895) XYZ/Bible Belt

LONDON Hackney Lord Cecil (01-533 0675) Care For A Waltz/Separate Energy LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon Hotel (01-748 2471) Vee VV/The Turncoats LONDON Harlesden Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Flaming Softies LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Bobby Watson

LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) Heist/Kill Ugly Pop/The Instinks/The Moss Poles/Resistance LONDON Leicester Square Comedy Store The Buzz LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Stump/President Reagan Is Clever

LONDON Shepherds Bush Wellington Hurricane Jane LONDON Walthamstow (01-527 1966) Corporal Henshaw LONDON W1 Marquee (01-437 6603) Fields Of Nephilim

MANCHESTER Boardwalk (061 228 3555) Pop Will Eat Itself NORWICH Santanas Here To Go NORWICH Shire Hall (627560) Collin Cross' Lonely Tarts Club Band ROMFORD Rezz Wolfgang Press

SLOUGH Pied Horse Caddyshack SUNDERLAND Chester Road Royalty Bill Redhead

WANTAGE The Swan Loose As Juice WIGAN Pier The Veil **WOLVERHAMPTON** Sheraton The Set

THURSDAY

BANFORD Marquis Of Granby Flaco Jimenez BARROW Bluebird (28481) The Tier Garden/The Word Is Out BEDFORD Angel President Reagan Is Clever BELFAST Leather Apron Club Sex Butcher BELFAST Ulster Hall Rogue Male BIRMINGHAM West Bromwich Coach And Horses (021 588 2136) Trevor Burton BRADFORD Frog And Toad Satanic Rites

BRENTFORD Red Lion (01-560 6181) Jimi Classic And The Sidekicks BRIGHTON Zap Club (727880) Timbuk 3 BRISTOL Moon Club (47147) Unity Station

CARDIFF Sam's Co-Stars **CARDIFF** Star Centre Born Sinners COVENTRY Weavers Arms (688939) Freefall **CROYDON** Cartoon The Miller Family CROYDON Underground (01-760 0833) March Violets

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EDINBURGH Jailhouse Zero Zero ELLESMERE PORT Ellesmere Arms Loose As Juice **GUILDFORD** Goldalming Scratchers Outside View HARLOW Square (25594) Traitors/Ultimate HIGH WYCOMBE Nag's Head Voodoo Child/Akasna LEEDS Adam And Eves (456724) Ice Child LEEDS Phoenix Club Hang The Dance LEEDS Pub With No Name Arena

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LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Baby Go Boom LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) The Magnificent Runner

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COLCHESTER St Mary Art Centre Billy Willy Hiccup And The Lonestar Prairie COVENTRY Hand And Heart UK Subs/The Sect/Clampdown

CRAWLEY Tilgate Wood Hut Nine Organs Of Battle/Primitive People/East In

CROSSKEY Institute (270301) Ursa Major CROYDON Cartoon Chuck Farley CROYDON Whitgift Centre Richard III **DUNDONALD** Castle Inn Regime EDINBURGH Jailhouse Zero Zero

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LEEDS Royal Park Fidei LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) This Yabis/Huge Big Massive LINCOLN Cornhill Vaults How We Live LIVERPOOL Pied Bull Deep Sea Jivers

LONDON Acton George And Dragon (01-992 1932) Irish Mist LONDON Brixton Fridge (01-326 5100) Curiosity Killed The Cat LONDON Camberwell Green Father Red Cap (01-703 9208) Midnites

LONDON Camden Dublin Castle (01-485 1733) Red Hot Pokers LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Geno Washington And The Ram

LONDON Chalk Farm Enterprise (01-485 2659) Yeah Jazz/Catapult LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Jazawaki LONDON Finchley Road Rims Angie Bowie And O Wow

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Byron Berline, Dan Crarey And John Hickman

LONDON Fulham Greyhound (01-385 0526) Eugenie Arrowsmith/Skin Games LONDON Fulham Kings Head (01-736 1413) The Vulcans LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Jazz Renegades/Daniel Takes A LONDON Hackney Lord Cecil (01-533 0675) The Rhubarb Tarts

LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon Hotel (01-748 2471) Restless/The Rapiers/The Hi-Liners/The Long Tall Texans/The Astronauts/Thatcher On Acid LONDON Harlesden Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) The Blues Band LONDON Herne Hill Half Moon (01-274 2733) Beat Maniacs LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Intelligentsia Zaire Magique

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Intelligentsia Zaire Magic LONDON Margery Street New Merlin's Cave (01-837 2097) Strange Delight LONDON New Cross Royal Albert (01-692 1530) A Bigger Splash LONDON North Wembley Dog And Duck K-State/Naked Room LONDON Notting Hill Carnival Skanga LONDON Old Kent Road Duke Of Kent Run Riot LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Boogie Brothers Blues Band LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) Fat Profit LONDON Ruislip Lids Flex-Able

LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Little Sister/Daniel Rival/

LONDON Whitechapel Alma Neah Fearties/Coming Up Roses **LUTON Switch Club Poison Justice** MANCHESTER Boardwalk (061 228 3555) Vee VV/Heads On Sticks MANCHESTER Gallery (061 832 3597) The Stark

MANCHESTER Rawtenstall Queens Outside View NEWCASTLE UNDER LYNE Bridge St Arts Centre The Big Town Playboys **NUTLEY Shelley Arms Raider** READING Cap And Gown (586006) The Fair Exchange

READING Festival Buddy Curtess And The Grasshoppers/FM/It Bites/The Outlaws/Outside Edge/Graham Parker/Rough Cut/Saxon/Skagarack/Ruby Turner/John Waite And The No Brakes Band ST ALBANS Horn Of Plenty The Press

ST IVES Corn Exchange Stormed
SHEFFIELD Leadmill (754500) 5TA/Rain And Tears
SOUTHEND Jeanettes The Shakers SUTTON IN ASHFIELD Golden Diamond The Veil **TELFORD** Ironmaster Vengeance TONYPANDY Royal Naval Club The Dave Markee Club

WARRINGTON Parr Hall Toy Bizarre WOLVERHAMPTON Scruples Cut Throat Jake And The Bailey Brothers WORKSOP Stanley Street BRSA Club Just Blue

SUNDAY

ALLOA Endrick Hotel Chasar **BIRMINGHAM Grand Prix Festival The Song** BIRMINGHAM Mermaid Union Thought/Fall Of Because BIRMINGHAM West Bromwich Coach And Horses Subtonics BRENTFORD Red Lion (01-560 6181) Living Daylights (Lunch) Under The Influence (Eve)

BRIGHTON Zap Club (727880) Nick Burbridge And Tim O'Leary COLCHESTER Osborne Street Works (570934) Jah Quadro CROYDON Cartoon Roy Peters (Lunch) Baby Laurel (Eve) DUDLEY JB's The Curtis Little Band

EDINBURGH Jailhouse Zero Zero GLASGOW Mayfair The Primevals/Fun Patrol With James King/Francis Anthony And The Underworld/The Believers (Benefit For Nicaragua)

HARROGATE Theatre (502116) Harvey And The Wallbangers ISLE OF WIGHT Scooter Rally The Business/Condemned 84/The Vicious Rumours KENDAL Brewery Arts Flaco Jimenez LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (553956) Maurice Coleman (Lunch) LLANHARAN Rugby Club Paul Dianno's Battlezone

LONDON Battersea York Gardens Beat Maniacs LONDON Brixton Old White Horse (01-274 5537) Run Riot LONDON Camberwell Green Father Red Cap (01-703 9208) Steve Waller (Lunch) Mick Clark (Eve)



KILLING JOKE in buoyant mood as they look forward to Reading

LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) The Restrictors/Rhythm System/ Phasers On Stun/Jo Jo Namoza/Whizz For Atoms

LONDON Chalk Farm Enterprise (01-485 2659) Sperm Whales/Centrepoint 3/Lobster Quadrille

LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-241 3961) Get Real/Our Mutual Friend

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Iggy Quail

LONDON Fulham Greyhound (01-385 0526) Laughter Castle/Blood Oranges

LONDON Fulham Kings Head (01-736 1413) Steve Gibbons Band LONDON Hackney Lord Cecil (01-533 0675) Paul Francis Trio

LONDON Harlesden Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Zoot And The Roots/Jazawaki

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) First Light

LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) The Zodiacs (Lunch) The Electric Bluebirds (Eve)

LONDON Ruislip Lids Flex-Able

LONDON West India Dock Road Buccaneer The Reactors

LUDLOW Starline Club The Big Town Playboys MANCHESTER Boardwalk (061 228 3555) Blubbery Hellbellies

NOTTINGHAM Russels The Dinosaurs

READING Festival The Cardiacs/Cherry Bombz/Chiefs Of Relief/Dumpy's Rusty Nuts/The Enid/Hawkwind/Lords Of The New Church/New Model Army/ Thrashing Doves/Well Well/Zodiac Mindwarp And The Love Reaction

REDHILL Home Cottage Richard III **ROCHDALE** Festival Outside View

SCARBOROUGH Stephen Joseph Theatre (370541) International Rescue/1982

Genuine **SELBY Gaffers The Craft**

TWICKENHAM Mulberry Tree Cry No More

UTTOXETER White Hart Just Blue WOKINGHAM Cantley House Hotel (789912) The Reactors (Lunch)

MONDAY

BARSHAM Roos Hall Nsimba Foguis/Taxi Pata Pata/Gaspar Lawal And His **Drumoro Band**

BATH Moles Club Jonah And The Wail

BIRMINGHAM Curzon Street Railway (021 359 2283) Hydra BIRMINGHAM Railway (021 359 2283) Briar/Chance/Zeb Dragon/Mystic

Revelation/Surface/Fayre/Sunsplash/Powerpoint/Israeli Movements/ Shadowlands/Shooting Rapids/The Candyheads/Mr Wilks/The Lost Boys/ Schneider And Ray (Children's Hospital Aid)

BIRMINGHAM West Bromwich Coach And Horses (021 588 2136) Red Shoes BRADFORD Braidy's (737955) Joy

BRENTFORD Red Lion (01-560 6181) Ah Leu Cha

CAMBRIDGE Melbourn Don't Call Me Shirley COLCHESTER Osborne Street Works (570934) Ugly CROYDON Cartoon The Chillun (Lunch) Joe Tornado And The Disasters (Eve) **DERBY James Wyatt Just Blue DUNSTABLE** Wheatsheaf (62571) Antz Avenue EASTCOTE Clay Pigeon The Crawdads/The River Boys HARLOW Square (25594) Ivor Dembina/James Macabre/Kevin Day HARROW Roxborough (01-427 5970) Deep Sea Jivers LEEDS Adam And Eves (456724) Out Of The Blue/No Tick LINCOLN Cornhill Vaults Ergo

LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Slim Gaillard/Rocket 88/Rover Boy Combo/The Playboys/Clive Jive Five LONDON Chalk Farm Enterprise (01-485 2659) The Servants/Miaow LONDON Covent Garden Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Winston And The

Churchills/Dreamtime/Beat Maniacs/Life Sentence/Badtune Men/Hey Hey

LONDON Dean St Gossips Spacemen 3 LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) John Cooper Clarke/The Panic Brothers/Storm/Street Arabs (Lunch) South Dublin Union/Irish Mist (Eve) LONDON Fulham Greyhound (01-385 0526) Dogs D'amour/49 Scream

LONDON Fulham Kings Head (01-736 1413) Fever Tree LONDON Greek Street Le Beat Route (01-734 6308) On A Catwalk/Josie Without Colours/Mask/Peter Panic/Phantasa

LONDON Hackney Lord Cecil (01-533 0675) Fiery The Angels Fell/Hard

Times/Radio Activity LONDON Harlesden Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) Shanty Dam/Poor Mouth/Call A

Doctor LONDON Isleworth Green Jokers Wild

LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) The Mousehounds/The Wickermen/The Ladykillers/Gunsupper

LONDON Kingston Grey Horse The Rhubarb Tarts LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Eugenie Arrowsmith

LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club (01-636 0933) Straight Ahead

LONDON Putney Half Moon (01-788 2387) A Bigger Splash

LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) Mea Culpa LONDON Ruislip Lids Flex-Able

LONDON Walthamstow Royal Standard (01-527 1966) Jah Warriors/2 Cold For

Hans/Dreams Of Dawning LONDON W1 Wag Club (01-437 5534) Jazz Renegades

LYTHAM ST ANNES Beach (712453) Icicle Works/Half Man Half Biscuit/The Membranes/The Inca Babies/The Turnpike Cruisers/The Riverside Trio/Vee VV/Way Out West/Sigh Language/Lone Wolf/Eric Delaney/Frank Flynn Trio/ Switzerland/The Buggs/Bandana/Clark Gable/Shady/Nirvana/Rosa Rugosa/ Too Much Texas/Tony Williams And Malibou

NORWICH Central Park Ritzy The Dinosaurs

NOTTINGHAM Mardi Gras (860401) Clint Bestwood And The Mescal Marauders/Marcel Marceaul

POWYS New Town Theatr Hafren Harvey And The Wallbangers SOUTHSEA South Parade Pier The Dilberrys STAFFORD Roosters Vin Garbutt

WARRINGTON Brittania Blues Brothers/Bladdered And Boned WHITSTABLE Harbour Lights The Group WREXHAM Kings Arms Stiffs

TUESDAY

BIRMINGHAM Burberries The Red Beards From Texas/Goats Don't Shave **BOLSOVER** Sportsdome Sam Severn **BOOTLE Old Fire Station Stiffs** BRENTFORD Red Lion (01-560 6181) FRA

BRIGHTON Zap Club (727880) Midnight Band/Radioactive Camel

CROYDON Cartoon Mike Blanch HARROW Roxborough (01-427 5970) Aces Of Rhythm

LEEDS Pub With No Name The Factory
LEICESTER Princess Charlotte (533956) Uncle Eric's Backstage Creepers

LONDON Camden Dublin Castle (01-485 1773) Big Ma McGhee And The Famous Blue Note Rhythm Kings

LONDON Camden Lock Dingwalls (01-267 4967) Dwight Yoakam/Timbuk 3 LONDON Chalk Farm Enterprise (01-485 2659) Vee VV/Slaughter Joe LONDON Covent Rock Garden (01-240 3961) Sex With Strangers/Halloween

LONDON Finsbury Park Sir George Robey (01-263 4581) Stump/Doctor's Children LONDON Fulham Greyhound (01-385 0526) The Blood Brothers/Perfect Day

LONDON Greenwich Tunnel Club (01-858 0895) Fairly Perfect People/Asylum LONDON Hammersmith Clarendon Hotel (01-748 2471) Empty Shell

LONDON Harlesden Mean Fiddler (01-961 5490) 49 Scream

LONDON Hoxton Square Bass Clef (01-729 2476) Marie Murphy And Her Men LONDON Kentish Town Bull And Gate (01-485 5358) The Dentists/The Wigs/We

Are Going To Eat You/The Locomotives LONDON Oval Cricketers (01-735 3059) Nyah Fearties/Voice Of The Beehive

LONDON Oxford Street 100 Club Peter And The Test Tube Babies LONDON Putney Zeeta's (01-785 2101) Cubic Wise

LONDON Redcliffe Gardens Cafe Des Artistes (01-352 6200) Fifteenth Spring

LONDON St James Park The Song

LONDON Woolwich Tramshed (01-855 3371) Knutz NEWCASTLE One Eyed Jacks Cantina Flaco Jimenez

NORWICH Scotton Barn Runestaff NOTTINGHAM Mardi Gras (860401) Don't Feed The Animals

OSMOTHERLY Queen Catherine Skidmarks

GHARA

ALBUMS

UK SINGLES

- 1 1 THE LADY IN RED Chris De Burgh A&M
- 2 2 I WANT TO WAKE UP WITH YOU Boris Gardiner Revue
- 3 11 ANYONE CAN FALL IN LOVE Anita Dobson BBC
- 4 2 SO MACHO/CRUISING Sinitta Fanfare
- 5 10 CALLING ALL THE HEROES It Bites Virgin
- 6 6 CAMOUFLAGE Stan Ridgway IRS
- 7 13 AIN'T NOTHING GOING ON BUT THE RENT Gwen Guthrie Polydor
- 8 7 PANIC The Smiths Rough Trade
- 9 36 GIRLS AND BOYS Prince And The Revolution Paisley Park
- 10 14 DANCING ON THE CEILING Lionel Richie Motown
- 11 5 PAPA DON'T PREACH Madonna Sire
- 12 20 I CAN PROVE IT Phil Fearon Ensign
- 4 FIND THE TIME Five Star Tent
- 14 28 BREAKING AWAY Jaki Graham EMI
 15 8 LET'S GO ALL THE WAY Sly Fox Capitol
- 16 22 THE WAY IT IS Bruce Hornsby & The Range RCA
- 7 19 SHOUT Lulu Jive
- 18 BROTHER LOUIE Modern Talking RCA
- 9 WHAT'S THE COLOUR OF MONEY? Hollywood Beyond WEA
- 20 33 WHEN I THINK OF YOU Janet Jackson A&M
- 21 47 WE DON'T HAVE TO... Jermaine Stewart 10
- 22 26 ADORATIONS Killing Joke EG
- 23 31 CAN YOU FEEL THE FORCE? '86 REMIX The Real Thing PRT
- 24 12 FIGHT FOR OURSELVES Spandau Ballet Reformation
- 25 30 SHOUT Lulu And The Luvvers Decca
- 26 27 OH PEOPLE Patti Labelle MCA
- 27 HUMAN Human League Virgin
- 28 35 BURN Doctor & The Medics IRS
- 29 16 RED SKY Status Quo Vertigo
- 30 24 PRESS Paul McCartney Parlophone
- 31 QUESTION OF TIME Depeche Mode Mute
- 32 17 I DIDN'T MEAN TO TURN YOU ON Robert Palmer Island
- 33 37 FOOL'S PARADISE Melisa Morgan Capitol
- 34 38 DREAMTIME Daryl Hall RCA
- 35 GLORY OF LOVE Peter Cetera Warner Brothers
- 36 15 SOME CANDY TALKING The Jesus & Mary Chain blanco y negro
- 37 43 COME ON HOME Everything But The Girl blanco y negro
- 38 20 EVERY BEAT OF MY HEART Rod Stewart Warner Brothers
- 39 49 YOU GIVE LOVE A BAD NAME Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 40 50 LOVE ZONE Billy Ocean Jive
- 41 MORE THAN PHYSICAL Bananarama London
- 42 NICE IN NICE The Stranglers Epic
- 43 18 ROSES Haywoode CBS
- 44 44 GOLDRUSH Yello Mercury
- 45 32 MY FAVOURITE WASTE OF TIME Owen Paul Epic
- 46 HEARTLAND The The Some Bizzare
- 47 21 SUN STREET Katrina And The Waves Capitol
- 48 23 SMILE Audrey Hall Germain
- 9 KISSES IN THE MOONLIGHT George Benson Warner Brothers
- 50 48 SOWETO Jeffrey Osborne A&M

 Compiled by MRIB

1 — DANCING ON THE CEILING Lionel Richie Motown

- 2 1 TRUE BLUE Madonna Sire
- 3 2 INTO THE LIGHT Chris De Burgh A&M
- 4 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC VOLUME 7 Various EMI/Virgin
- 5 4 A KIND OF MAGIC Queen EMI
- 6 3 THE FINAL Wham! Epic
- 7 5 REVENGE Eurythmics RCA
- 8 7 PICTURE BOOK Simply Red Elektra
- 9 8 RIPTIDE Robert Palmer Island
- 10 11 BACK IN THE HIGH LIFE Steve Winwood Island
- 11 10 BROTHERS IN ARMS Dire Straits Vertigo
- 12 6 RAT IN THE KITCHEN UB40 DEP International
- 13 44 THE ORIGINAL Various Towerbell
- 14 13 EVERY BEAT OF MY HEART Rod Stewart Warner Brothers
- 15 15 HUNTING HIGH AND LOW A-ha Warner Brothers
- 16 18 QUEEN'S GREATEST HITS Queen EMI
- 17 9 FLAUNT IT Sigue Sigue Sputnik Parlophone
- 18 17 SO Peter Gabriel Charisma
- 19 16 INVISIBLE TOUCH Genesis Charisma
- 20 20 STREET LIFE Bryan Ferry And Roxy Music EG
- 21 12 THE QUEEN IS DEAD The Smiths Rough Trade
- 22 14 THE SEER Big Country Mercury
- 23 21 ONCE UPON A TIME Simple Minds Virgin
- 24 31 LOVE ZONE Billy Ocean Jive
- 25 68 THE PAVAROTTI COLLECTION Luciano Pavarotti Stylus
- 26 27 LIKE A VIRGIN Madonna Sire
- 27 32 STANDING ON A BEACH The Cure Fiction
- 28 28 COMMUNARDS The Communards London
- 29 24 WHITNEY HOUSTON Whitney Houston Arista
- 30 THE BRIDGE Billy Joel CBS
- 31 30 LUXURY OF LIFE Five Star Tent
- 32 26 WORLD MACHINE Level 42 Polydor
- 33 19 NOW THE SUMMER ALBUM/TAPE Various EMI/Virgin
- 34 23 LONDON O HULL 4 The Housemartins Go! Discs
- 35 THE HEAT IS ON Various Portrait
- 36 33 THE BEST OF THE REAL THING The Real Thing PRT
- 37 29 SUZANNE VEGA Suzanne Vega A&M
- 38 22 DRIVE TIME USA Various K-Tel
- 39 40 THE FIRST ALBUM Madonna Sire
- 40 PARADE Prince And The Revolution Paisley Park
- 41 42 YOU'VE GOT TO LAUGH Various Towerbell
- 42 36 PLEASE Pet Shop Boys Parlophone
- 43 39 NO JACKET REQUIRED Phil Collins Virgin
- 44 60 RAPTURE Anita Baker Elektra
- 45 THREE HEARTS IN THE HAPPY-ENDING MACHINE Daryl Hall RCA
- 46 25 ORGASMATRON Motorhead GWR
- 47 34 TOUCH ME Samantha Fox Jive
- 48 47 THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD Balaam And The Angel Virgin
- 49 55 THE GREATEST HITS Shalamar Stylus
- 50 45 CONTROL Janet Jackson A&M



DOBBO celebrates her chart success (and I thought it was Sharon who wanted to be a pop star)

SOUNDS

Blind Lemon Wilde

TAKE THE SKINHEADS BOWLING Camper Van Beethoven Rough Trade chuckle WE COULD HAVE BEEN LEGEND Tot Manchester Mass Suicide LIVE IN HAMBURG 1978 Charles Bukowski Buk cassette

The Duchess Of Hurt

TAKE THE SKINHEADS BOWLING Camper Van Beethoven Jonh Wilde's Left Leg
THE WORLD THAT SUMMER Death In June NER
SCARY IN A SKIRT The Fabulous Gender Bender Live In Chalk Farm

Roger Holland

OH LUCINDA (LOVE BECOMES A HABIT) The Only Ones CBS
MY REJECTION The Only Ones Requiem
MERSEYSIDE, MERSEYSIDE A Northern Horde Covent Garden By Night

Dave Henderson

STORY OF BOGSHED Bogshed Shellfish 45
MORNING SIR Bogshed Shellfish 45
RUNNER ON A BLUNDER Bogshed Food 'Imminent' LP track

Jack Barron

PURPLE RAIN Prince kisses God at Wembley
KISS Jonh Wilde in the Limelight toilets
SHADOW HILLS CALIFORNIA Head Of David guillotine Blast First

Edwin Pouncey

DIRTDISH Wiseblood Roughly mixed icon of filth 198666 Eugene Chadbourne Ralph 45 ZOMBIE MYSTERY PAINTINGS Robert Williams Blackthorn book

REGGAE TENS

PRE-RELEASE

- 1 GIVE ME NO BUN Little John Jammys
- 2 HUNGRY BELLY Frankie Paul Vena
- 3 GIVE SOME LOVE Sugar Minott Vena

6 SHOWBUSINESS Garfield The Lover Supreme

- 4 WORRIES AGAIN Anthony Red Rose Waterhouse 5 BABY BE TRUE Junior Delgado Jammys
- 7 FREE AFRICA Charlie Chaplin Vena
- 8 86 FLOOD Coco-Tea Harry J
 9 ROCK ME ROCK ME Johnny Osbourne Top Rank
- 10 FOLLOW ME Trevor Levy Firehouse

DISCO

- 1 I WANT TO WAKE UP WITH YOU Boris Gardiner Revue
- 2 SMILE Audrey Hall Germain
- 3 PUSH COME TO SHOVE Freddie McGregor RAS
- 4 ORIGINAL BANGARANG Nitty Gritty Jammys
 5 SIX STREET Jack Wilson Uptempo
- 6 MAGIC FEELING Michael Gordon Fine Style
- 7 BUBBLE WE A BUBBLE Maxi Priest 10
 8 LET ME DOWN EASY Marvin James Hot Vinyl

AUDREY HALL smiles

- 9 BORN FREE Winsome Fine Style
- 10 BE MY LADY Peter Honeygale Street Vibes

ALBUMS

- 1 HOLD TIGHT Dennis Brown Live And Learn
- 2 ROUGH AND RUGGED Shinehead African Love
- 3 TO THE TOP Aswad Simba

5 AT WORK Culture Blue Mountain

- 4 ALL IN THE SAME BOAT Freddie McGregor RAS
- 6 ROCK AND CALYPSO Echo Minott Sunset 7 SIGN OF THE TIMES Macka B Ariwa
- 8 FINAL MISSION Various Powerhouse
- 9 THE COLLECTION FOR LOVERS ONLY Tex Johnson Disco Tex
- 10 LOVE ME FOREVER Carlton And The Shoes Studio 1

Compiled by Dub Vendor, 274 Lavender Hill, Clapham Junction, London SW11

'70S SOCCER CHANTS

- HELLO/HELLO/CHELSEA BOOT BOYS (To the tune of 'Hello Hello I'm Back Again!') The Shed, Chelsea FC
- 2 OH/RODNEY RODNEY/RODNEY-RODNEY-RODNEY-RODNEYMARSH! (One of many Chicory Tip numbers) The Lott OPR FC
- MARSH! (One of many Chicory Tip numbers) The Loft, QPR FC
 3 IN YOUR HARTLEPOOL SLUMS! ('In My Liverpool Home') The Rookery.
- Watford FC

 4 RA-RA-RA FULHAM FC! ('Hot Love') The Hammersmith End, Fulham FC
- MI-ILLWALL/MI-I-ILLWALL/MILLWALL MILLWALL ('Amazing Grace') The Den, Miliwall FC
 WE'LL SEE YOU ALL OUTSIDE! ('Ta Ra Ra Boom Di Ay') The Paxton Aggro.
- Tottenham Hotspur FC

 7 HELLO! WE ARE THE BUTCHER COAT BOYS! (Complemented by cherry red Doc Martens and flappy white flares with pockets on the
- 8 GEORGIE BEST/SUPERSTAR/WALKS LIKE A WOMAN AND HE WEARS A
 BRA ('Jesus Christ Superstar') Maine Road, Man City FC
 9 CLAP-CLAP-CLAP-CLAP-CLAP-CLAP-CLAP-CLAP (rapid and

calves) The Stretford End in particular, Man Utd FC

Arsenal FC

- growing faster) All trendy clubs

 10 TOTTENHAM BOYS/MAKE MORE NOISE/WHEN THEY PLAY WITH TONKA
 - Compiled by Putney Bovver Boys

TOYS/LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA (This Old Man) The North Bank,

HOT METAL 60

SINGLES

- 1 YOU GIVE LOVE A BAD NAME Bon Jovi Vertigo
- 2 RED SKY Status Ouo Vertigo
- 3 4 THE ULTIMATE SIN/LIGHTNING STRIKES Ozzy Osbourne Epic
- 4 3 YANKEE ROSE David Lee Roth Warner Brothers
- 9 LONELY NIGHT Magnum Polydor
- 6 13 MAD HOUSE Anthrax Island
- 6 DEAF FOREVER Motorhead GWR
- AMERICAN GIRLS FM Portrait
- 8 DREAMS Van Halen Warner Brothers
- 5 THE DIO EP Dio Vertigo
- 11 18 WILD THING Jeff Beck Epic
- 7 STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART Bryan Adams A&M
- 13 12 WHY CAN'T THIS BE LOVE Van Halen Warner Brothers
- 14 10 WILD CHILD WASP Capitol
- 15 11 WHEN THE HEART RULES THE MIND GTR Arista
- 16 15 NOTHIN' AT ALL Heart Capitol
- 17 14 WHO MADE WHO AC/DC Atlantic
- 18 16 SUZANNE Journey CBS
- **ATLANTIC RADIO Rio Music For Nations**
- 20 19 TURN TO STONE Legs Diamond Music For Nations



QUIET RIOT, the only band with a three handed singer. Perhaps they ought to team up with Def Leppard ...

ALBUMS

- 1 1 ORGASMATRON Motorhead GWR
- 2 EAT 'EM AND SMILE David Lee Roth Warner Brothers
- 3 3 RAGE FOR ORDER Queensryche EMI America
- 4 7 INTERMISSION Dio Vertigo
- 5 QR III Quiet Riot Epic
- 4 GTR GTR Arista
- 8 LIGHTNING STRIKES Loudness WEA International
- 8 11 WHO MADE WHO AC/DC Atlantic
- 9 10 SPREADING THE DISEASE Anthrax Music For Nations
- 9 **HEART** Heart Capitol
- 11 16 THE ULTIMATE SIN Ozzy Osbourne Epic
- 12 13 AFTERBURNER ZZ Top Warner Brothers
- 5 5150 Van Halen Warner Brothers
- 14 18 MASTER OF PUPPETS Metallica Music For Nations
- 15 17 RECKLESS Bryan Adams A&M
- 16 23 ELIMINATOR ZZ Top Warner Brothers
- 17 24 THEATRE OF PAIN Motley Crue Elektra
- 18 12 RAISED ON RADIO Journey CBS
- 19 14 MISPLACED CHILDHOOD Marillion EMI
- 20 15 ROCKIN' EVERY NIGHT (LIVE IN JAPAN) Gary Moore 10
- 21 21 ANIMAL MAN Rogue Male Music For Nations
- 22 29 RIDE THE LIGHTNING Metallica Music For Nations
- 23 19 UNDER LOCK AND KEY Dokken Elektra
- 24 SINGLES 80-86 Venom Rawpower
- 6 TWELFTH NIGHT Twelfth Night Virgin
- 26 20 ON A STORYTELLER'S NIGHT Magnum FM
- 27 25 THE FINAL FRONTIER Keel Vertigo
- 28 KILL 'EM ALL Metallica Music For Nations
- 29 27 DANGER ZONE Doc Holliday Music For Nations
- 30 30 STAY UGLY Piledriver Roadrunner

IMPORTS

- 1 2 METALISED Sword Aquarius
- 2 3 AVIATOR Aviator RCA
- 3 1 SWEET SAVAGE Sweet Savage Sweet Savage
- 4 5 CONVICTED Cryptic Slaughter Death
- 5 8 ETERNAL DEVASTATION Destruction Steamhammer
- 6 METAL OF HONOUR TT Quick Megaforce
- 7 7 MAD Raven Atlantic
- 8 SPEED METAL HELL VOLUME 2 Various New Renaissance
- 9 RECOGNISE NO AUTHORITY Detente Metal Blade
- 10 DEPTHS OF DEATH Sentinel Beast Roadrunner
 - Compiled by Spotlight Research

MORRISSEY: success hasn't marred him

NDIE ALBUMS

- 1 1 THE QUEEN IS DEAD The Smiths Rough Trade
- GIFT The Sisterhood Merciful Release
- 3 4 HIGH PRIEST OF LOVE Zodiac Mindwarp And The Love Reaction Food
- 2 LONDON O HULL 4 The Housemartins Go! Discs
- 9 STEP ON IT Bogshed Help Yourself
- GIANT The Woodentops Rough Trade
- 5 DISCOVER Gene Loves Jezebel Beggars Banquet
- 8 BACK IN THE DHSS Half Man Half Biscuit Probe Plus
- 9 19 VICTORIALAND Cocteau Twins 4AD
- 10 12 MANIC POP THRILL That Petrol Emotion Demon
- 11 20 A DATE WITH ELVIS The Cramps Big Beat
- CONTENDERS Easterhouse Rough Trade
- 13 16 RUM, SODOMY AND THE LASH The Pogues Stiff
- 14 15 BORN SANDY DEVOTIONAL The Triffids Hot 15 25 BLACK CELEBRATION Depeche Mode Mute
- 16 OUT OF MY WAY Meat Puppets SST
- 17 13 BEST BEFORE 1984 Crass Crass
- 18 10 ONLY STUPID BASTARDS HELP EMI Conflict Model Army
- 19 22 LE MYSTERE DES VOIX BULGARES Various 4AD
- 20 UNCARVED BLOCK Flux One Little Indian
- 21 11 SHOULD THE WORLD FAIL TO FALL APART Peter Murphy **Beggars Banquet**
- 22 17 EVOL Sonic Youth Blast First
- 23 FRUIT TREE (BOX SET) Nick Drake Hannibal
- 24 23 MEAT IS MURDER The Smiths Rough Trade
- 25 18 UNLIMITED GENOCIDE AOA & Oi Polloi Children Of The Revolution
- 26 21 AFTER MIDNIGHT Restless ABC
- 27 24 WONDERLAND Erasure Mute
- 28 27 THE SINGLES 82-86 Play Dead Clay
- 29 26 DRUGS Bomb Party Abstract
- 30 28 GRUTS Ivor Cutler Rough Trade

Compiled by Spotlight Research

UPERMARKET

- LET'S GO ALL THE WAITROSE Sly Fox
- ANARCHY IN THE VG Sex Pistols FINE FARE FOR THE COMMON MAN ELP
- GIMME ALL YOUR BUDGEN ZZ Top
- SAFEWAY TO HEAVEN Led Zeppelin CO-OPERATOR Sade
- 7 SAINSBURY'S GIRLS Chris Rea
- **HEARD IT THROUGH THE WAVYLINE Marvin Gaye**
- **BRAND NEW KEYMARKET Melanie**
- 10 A MACE IN GRACE Judy Collins

Compiled by Robert Carrier's Trolly

TOURISTS' HABITS

- 1 STANDING ON THE LEFT OF ESCALATORS
- 2 WEARING GREEN SPRAY-ON HAIR COLOURING IN CARNABY STREET
- ASKING DIRECTIONS TO COVENT GARDEN FROM KNIGHTSBRIDGE WHEN YOU'RE IN A HURRY
- 4 WEARING UNION JACK IMMITATION BOWLER HATS

INDIE SINGLES

- 2 2 LIKE A HURRICANE/GARDEN OF DELIGHT The Mission Chapter 22
- 3 9 SERPENTS KISS The Mission Chapter 22
- 4 HAPPY HOUR The Housemartins Go! Discs
- 5 7 HEART FULL OF SOUL Ghost Dance Karbon
- 6 THIS BOY CAN WAIT The Wedding Present Reception
- UNDERSTANDING JANE The Icicle Works Beggars Banquet 8 10 CRUMMY STUFF The Ramones Beggars Banquet
- 9 25 1936 The Ex Ron Johnson
- 8 BRILLIANT MIND Furniture Stiff 10
- 11 5 LIVING TOO LATE The Fall Beggars Banquet
- 12 12 WILD CHILD Zodiac Mindwarp And The Love Reaction Food
- 13 11 MEXICO SUNDOWN BLUES James Ray And The Performance Merciful Release
- 14 14 BETTER DEAD THAN WED Class War Mortarhate
- 15 38 IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE Mighty Mighty Girlie
- 16 19 GEORDIE'S GONE TO JAIL The Toy Dolls Volume
- 17 16 I'M ON FIRE Guana Batz ID
- 18 18 BABY'S ON FIRE The Creepers With Marc Riley Intage

19 22 ALMOST PRAYED Weather Prophets Creation

- 20 30 TRUCK TRAIN TRACTOR The Pastels Glass
- 21 21 TRUMPTON RIOTS Half Man Half Biscuit Probe Plus
- 22 15 LEVI STUBBS' TEARS Billy Bragg Go! Discs
- 23 24 MORNING SIR Bogshed Help Yourself
- 25 13 **BLUE MONDAY** New Order Factory
- 26 43 I SEE RED Frenzy ID
- WHOLE WIDE WORLD The Soup Dragons Subway

24 23 THE DRAIN TRAIN Cabaret Voltaire Doublevision

- 28 41 CRYSTAL CRESCENT Primal Scream Creation
- THE SINGER Nick Cave And The Bad Seeds Mute
- 30 45 GIMME GIMME (A MAN AFTER MIDNIGHT) Leather Nun Wire
- 31 28 OI! AIN'T DEAD Condemned '84 RFB Recordings
- 32 26 E102/SAD? BMX Bandits 53rd & 3rd NEVER SAY DIE Broken Bones Fall Out
- 34 33 LIKE AN ANGEL The Mighty Lemon Drops Dreamworld
- 35 50 DRAG RACING Big Stick Blast First
- 36 29 NEW ROSE The Damned Stiff
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- Gonna Use It Vindaloo 44 31 HEARTACHE Gene Loves Jezebel Beggars Banquet
- 45 20 BIGMOUTH STRIKES AGAIN The Smiths Rough Trade 46 46 KEYS TO THE CITY Peter And The Test Tube Babies Hairy Pie
- 47 THIS IS NOT LOVE Yeah Jazz Upright
- 48 42 HOLY HACK JACK Demented Are Go ID
- 49 34 INSPIRATION Easterhouse Rough Trade 50 49 TWILIGHT WORLD OF SONIC DISCO Age Of Chance Riot Bible

PEEL QUOTES

- 1 LIFE'S LIKE THAT IN SO MANY WAYS
- 2 AH NURSE, THE SCREENS 3 THE TURBINES, THE SPOTLIGHT RHYTHM DANDIES OF THE WEEK
- 4 A CHART BOUND SOUND 5 THE PRIMATONS: THESE ARE GUITAR TOTIN' DUDES FROM ALABAMA
- 6 THAT WAS PART OF THE LABEL PLAYING 7 THERE IS NO SMASH HITS CARD FOR SEPTIC DEATH: PERHAPS NEXT YEAR
- 8 THE URUGUAY GOALKEEPER'S JERSEY IS VERY FRANK BOUGH
- I'VE AN APPALLING MEMORY, THE RETENTION OF A HAMSTER
- 10 THAT'S PRINCESS STEPHANIE OF MONACO. I WONDER IF SHE'D BE INTERESTED IN DOING A SESSION?
 - Compiled by James Tweedie
- 5 BUYING POSTCARDS OF PUNKS MAKING STUPID FACES
- 6 BLOCKING TUBE STATION ENTRANCES IN GROUPS OF 20... 7 ... CARRYING IDENTICAL WHITE TRAVEL BAGS
- 8 BOARDING RUSH HOUR TUBE TRAINS WITH TEN TONS OF CAMPING **EQUIPMENT** 9 ASKING POLICEMEN TO POSE WITH THEM FOR PHOTOGRAPHS
- 10 MOANING THAT THE BRITISH ARE INHOSPITABLE
 - Compiled by the last Yes fan in Streatham

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ANARCHO - GOTHIC couple into Sisters, Blyth Power, Fall, Cope, Monkees, seek penpals. Box No

DAVID 21 seeks an understanding punkette to create odd couple (London) Box No 17329.

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WATERBOY SEEKS watergirl for friendship. To write, meet, travel, gigs, N.E. anywhere. Box No 17331 DAMNED 27.7.86 Finsbury Park -

just inside tent - Hanoi Rocks-ish bloke in black shirt, waistcoat, black/mauve stripe trousers, blond hair; Girl with bright mid-blue hair and studded leather jacket wants to contact you. Box No 17332.

SHY GUY, 22 into holding hands, fruitgums, Kennedys, souples, Marychain, Shoppies, Halfman, gigs, full moons, seeks dark lady. Edinburgh Box No 17333. ARE YOU SEEKING occultists,

witches, circles etc? Pen-friends in all areas and throughout USA/ worldwide. Stamp to: Baraka Secretary, The Golden Wheel, Liverpool L15 3HT.

SHY LONELY male 30 seeks similar female London S.W.1. Box No

BORED MALE 25 into Genesis, Gabriel, Bowie progressive rock etc seeks female 20+ for friendship, nightout etc Bolton, Preston, Blackburn area. Box No 17335.

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MALE 26 SEEKS GIRL FOR LAST-ING FRIENDSHIP ANY NATIONAL-ITY LOOKS UNIMPORTANT I LIKE ALL MUSIC POP CONCERTS HEATHROW STAINES MIDDX. Box No. 17337.

MALE 24 punk seeks friends m/f to write meet. Box No 17338.

FEMALE 23 Smiths Fan seeks companion for friendship travel gigs. Box No 17339.

FEMALE 22 into P.T.V. seeks others B'Ham/anywhere. Box No.

PINK SPIKEY female into GLJ etc wants similar to write meet Julia 45 Lawnsdown Road, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, Westmids DY5 2EW

STRANGE MALE seeks female London. Box No 17341.

SCOTS GUY 23 new to London into music sports travel seeks intelligent girl socially. Box No 17342

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RECORD FAIRS

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12-4pm 40p BIRMINGHAM - BANK HOLIDAY Monday, August 25th - New Imperial Hotel, Temple Street (off New Street) 11am-5pm 50p (10am-£1)
7TH NORTH NOTTS Fayre Retford
Town Hall Friday 22nd August (10-

7pm) details (0777) 705273 EASTBOURNE SUNDAY 24th Aug. At The Congress Theatre Eastbourne admission £1 11am 50p 12-

FAREHAM SATURDAY 23rd Aug at The Fareham Hall Fareham admission £1 11am 50p 12-4pm BLACKPOOL SATURDAY 23rd August. The Winter Gardens 10.30am-4pm Trans-Pennine Fairs 0532-892087.

LIVERPOOL SUNDAY 24th August. Crest Hotel. 10.30am-4pm. Trans-Pennine Fairs 0532-892087

WARRINGTON MONDAY 25th August, Parr Hotel, Palmyra Square 10.30am-4pm Trans-Pennine 0532-

LEICESTER YMCA - 30th August.

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ANNUAL CHELSEA FAIR Town Hall. Kings Road. Saturday 23rd August. The big event this weekend. Tube - Sloane Square. Rock, pop. new wave 50s 60s etc. Organised by VIP Record Fairs - so its worth a visit starts 10.30. Info 0533 548821

PERTH - SATURDAY August 30th - Lesser Hall, St. Johns Place 11am-5pm 40p (10am-£1).

GLASGOW - SUNDAY August 1st - McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street, 11am-5pm 50p (10am-£1)

HARROGATE - SUNDAY 24th August (10-5) Cairn Hotel, Ripon Rd, Harrogate.

YORK - BANK Holiday Monday (10-5) August 25th - DeGrey DeGrey Rooms, St Leonards Place York. MANCHESTER RECORD FAIR. BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY SPECIAL. 25th August 10am-5pm Piccadilly Plaza Exhibition Hall. York Street. 50 STANDS FULLY BOOKED. New dealers. Buy Sell. Details 061-228

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GLOUCESTER, SUNDAY August 24th, Leisure Centre 11-12noon £1 12-4pm 40p.

PORTSMOUTH, SATURDAY 30th

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60'S + BEATLES Fair. Sunday 31st August Shepherd Bush Village

Hall, Nr. Shepherds Bush Tube. En-

of Beatles Records rarities +

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August Chancellor Hall, Town Cen-

BANBURY SATURDAY 23rd Au gust, St. Johns Ambulance Hall,

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THOUSANDS OF NAMES and addresses in the music business are contained in the 1985 edition of the Music Week Directory, including record companies, music publishers, recording studios, record producers and concert promoters. Price £10 from: Jeanne Henderson (Dept S), Music Week Directory, 40 Beresford Street, London SE18 6BO.

CORD OF Life. New tape "Winterland" Instrumental synth music. £1.50 cheques/PO's David Bennett 12 Norton Grange, Norton Canes, Cannock, Staffs.

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Cumbria LA97RP SIMPLE MINDS Club - Send SAE to Simple Minds Club, PO Box 48, London N6 5RU

U2 WORLD Service - Send SAE to U2 W.S. PO Box 48, London N6 ARMOURY SHOW Service - Send

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INFTECH

FEELTHE BURN!

WASBURN FORCE SERIES B-30 £599 QQQ VV

RETAILING AT the above price, the Washburn Force B-30 is without doubt a bassand-a-half. It absolutely exudes class and vitality, and wouldn't look out of place on any bassist from Pino Palladino to The Damned.

But it does appear to have its subtleties geared towards the conservative end of the bass playing spectrum, although time may prove otherwise.

Also, it's very much a bassist's bass, in that its design and overall construction wouldn't have stood a chance were it not for the long overdue introduction (to a world of tired Eagles and odious

Brotherhood Of Puke) to
Sting and Mark King. Once
they and a few others had
arrived, everyone was soon
to be found slapping, hunking
and funking the whole world
over. "Bass has arrived" read
the headlines. "And so has a
lot of crap" read the
smallprint.

So far as this spanking new bass guitar from Washburn is concerned, there's nothing remotely smallprint about it. Even if it does have a tendency to buzz a little (it is, after all, a prototype), it's still a pleasure to play and an excellent conversation piece among friends.

The fact that my turquoise B-30 falls within the realms of 'special order' is something I feel ought to be mentioned. All the other colours available in the Force series can, of



course, be purchased straight over the counter, these being candy apple, snowpearl white, pink, and translucent blue and red.

When it comes to a particularly flash dab of paint, Washburn certainly know their stuff, and the same can be said for their necks.

This particular rock maple neck, with a full scale 24 fret rosewood finish fingerboard, is so damn good to play. Very comfortable, very accurate and almost holographic, in as much as you have the impression of there being more frets than there actually are. No, I'm not pissed; I think it has something to do with the rather small ash body with its cutaways allowing excess freedom right up to the aforementioned 24th.

Normal dot markers are present, as opposed to snowploughs or whatever they're called on the six-string version, and the harmonic transfer neck joint once again allows for that extra sustain, maaan.

While we're on the subject of sustain, it has to be recognised that the unique Washburn bridge plays a major role in its execution. I say this because in this particular instance, the transmission between body and neck, when a note is

plucked, is so clear and forceful, it's almost transcendental.

As far as electrics are concerned, there's one Jazz style pick-up and another in the style of a Precision. The coils are connected on both, thus creating a humbucker effect which really is jolly good. Very colourful and very versatile. It employs sounds ranging from watery funk to Killing Joke to KC to the Level 42ers to all sorts.

The four controls are reminiscent of the sort you find on most mixing desks: volume, pan, treble (15dB) and bass (15dB). I found myself playing around with them for aeons as the possibilities are endless – a quality I personally find very encouraging.

Finally, it may be of interest to note that there's a Force B-32, which is £35 more expensive as a result of having gold plated hardware. What's more, if you can't afford either of these models, there's always the B-10 and B-2 which retail at somewhere in the region of £150-200.

Tell you what, I'll get a loan, you rob a bank and we'll meet at the nearest Washburn stockist. How's that?

DAVID MARX

RATINGS: QQQ - absolute perfection; QQ - good quality; Q - naff; VVV - a real bargain; VV - a fair price; V - definitely overpriced. Prices are full list unless otherwise stated

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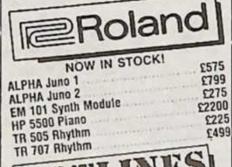
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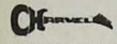
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