

BOLAN IN ACTION - PHOTO SPECTACULAR

A Billboard Publication

RECORD MIRROR

APRIL 1, 1972

6p

**inside:
8 PAGE
COUNTRY
EXTRA**

**RANDY NEWMAN
THE MISFIT'S
POET**

MICHAEL JACKSON hits the Top 10 with his solo single "Got To Be There". And there's an LP on the way from the 12-year-old star of the Jackson Five.



FACE FOR GWT FESTIVAL

FACES, Don McLean and the Beach Boys are among the early bookings for the Great Western Express, the four-day multi-media Spring Bank Holiday pop festival planned by Great Western Festivals for the weekend of May 26 to 29.

Other star acts fixed to appear are Sha Na Na, Lindisfarne, Billy Preston, Groundhogs, Rory Gallagher, Humble Pie, Buddy Miles, and John Baldry. And there are more top-liners to be announced later.

A question mark still hangs over where the festival will take place. Actor Stanley Baker, a director of GWF, said last Thursday that the company had abandoned its plans to stage the event at Tollesbury in Essex.

He said the reason was that the projected site at Hunt's Farm did not match up to the code of standards which GWF has established and published for such events. Another factor in dropping Tollesbury was obviously the strength of local opposition similar to that which caused GWF to cancel earlier plans for a festival at Bishopsbourne in Kent.

Tollesbury villagers hanged effigies of Baker and fellow director Lord Harlech in the village square before the announcement that Hunt's Farm was unsuitable. Michael Atfield, chairman of the Tollesbury Association, stated that the Association would be pleased to let any other village "threatened" by the GWF festival have the results of what had been learned during the protest campaign.

An ironic footnote to the Tollesbury affair is that the village victory celebrations last Friday night included an invitation to young people to attend and bring their guitars "or anything that makes a joyful sound."

Baker declared that the site of the Great Western Express event would be announced early in April. It is believed that the company is delaying the disclosure of its next projected site to avoid alerting local opponents too early in the proceedings.

Christie festivals and new single

TONY CHRISTIE will appear in song festivals in Mexico and Bulgaria this year. He takes part in the Mexico Song Festival at Acapulco on May 7, and will be going to Bulgaria in June for another festival, at which the BBC will telefilm his performance for later transmission.

Christie returns from his South African engagements on April 12, and his new single will be released two days later. It is another Mitch Murray-Peter Callander composition called 'Don't Go Down To Reno', and Christie will be promoting it on a series of TV dates in Europe and the UK from the release date.

He will be starring in cabaret at Fagin's Club, Manchester, from May 1 to 6 and at the Batley Variety Club (21-27).

Diamond here . . .

NEIL DIAMOND makes his first British visit for nearly a year on May 22 when he arrives for a fortnight of concerts and TV engagements, arranged by impresario Arthur Howes.

The three concert dates are the Royal Albert Hall (May 27); Odeon, Manchester (30), and Odeon, Birmingham (June 1). Diamond will be accompanied on the Albert Hall concert by a 30-piece orchestra, and will perform his 'African Trilogy' from his 'Tap Root Manuscript' LP.

He will film an insert clip for screening on 'Top Of The Pops' on June 1, and goes to Germany on June 3 for dates there and in France and Holland.

plus Don McLean and the Beach Boys



DAD'S kind of music may not be top of their personal hit parade, but Dagel (left) and Danny still go along to the studio to cheer him on while he's making a new album in London. Dad, of course, is Tony Bennett.

David Cassidy — solo single and LP

DAVID CASSIDY of the Partridge Family made his solo single debut last Friday with 'Could It Be Forever', composed by Wes Farrell and Danny Janssen. The flipside written by Terry Kirkman is 'Cherish', and has been released in response to requests by British fans. The single is contained in a special

four-colour printed bag featuring a photograph of Cassidy.

His first solo LP is also for release here on May 5. It includes one of his own compositions entitled 'Ricky's Tune'. Cassidy is currently playing a string of sell-out concerts in the States, including one at

New York's Madison Square Garden which reportedly took 130,000 dollars at the box office.

The next Partridge Family album due for release in April is 'Sound Magazine', which has won an American gold award for sales totalling over one million dollars.

LIVE! Leonard Cohen

ALBERT HALL: Leonard Cohen has progressed admirably since his last appearance at the Albert Hall. Because his music is practically a one-man operation, the backings are really embellishments adding just that bit more to the atmosphere of the poetic lyrics. Last year, he seemed helplessly surrounded by a subdued but threatening Army and an alarming number of listeners. This fragility is still apparent, but he holds control better and the Army's additions to the numbers have been perfected, reaching an unusually high standard of musical communication all round. His renditions of songs like 'Sisters Of

Mercy', 'Suzanne' and 'Nancy' were actually better than the recorded versions. Sometimes one feels that Leonard trusts people too much, for when he makes statements like 'If you can't see or hear, move right up here on stage and relax', scores of people do it. From the top balconies to the fifth row in the stalls, bodies scramble for the stage. Some then took advantage of the 'free' approach and complained about the lights being used to film the show and the mike volume. Even when they were corrected, some people continued to shout. However, Cohen easily quietened them for a terrific second half and the high point with 'Passing Through', a five-part harmony song featuring the Army with Bob Johnston and Mona Washburn noticeably good. Upstairs applause confirmed the complete satisfaction of the listeners. At his best, L.G.



Donovan, Lulu, for Oxford Week

DONOVAN and Lulu are the latest additions to the stars appearing during the 1972 First Oxford Music Week organised by London impresario Robert Paterson. And jazz fans will have a treat in the shape of Count Basie and his orchestra with the Kansas City Seven. The concerts take place between May 7 and 14 at the New Theatre, Oxford.

The opening night is titled 'Spring Jazz Festival' with the Basie orchestra and the Kansas City Seven, and the remainder of the week is rescheduled to feature Cleo Laine and the John Dankworth Quartet (May 8); Kris Kristofferson with his Band of Thieves (9); Shirley Bassey (10); Mary Hopkin and Ralph McTell (11); Donovan (12); Lulu (13), and Nana Mouskouri (14).

Webb here

SINGER/SONGWRITER Jimmy Webb arrived in Britain on Monday for concert dates and the recording of an album. Webb will play Barking Town Hall on April 6 with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and the entire concert will be recorded. He will appear at the Royal Albert Hall on May 8, also with the RPO.

Jimmy Miller signed

ROLLING STONES producer Jimmy Miller has signed a deal with the American ABC-Dunhill label, released here through EMI, to provide new acts and recordings for the label.

As well as the Stones, Miller has recorded Traffic, Spooky Tooth, Blind Faith and Spencer Davis in the past. His deal with ABC-Dunhill excludes the Stones and B.B. King, who is already released by the label, released here through drummer who has often played on sessions he produced.

The deal is for the American territories only, but will probably be reflected further afield in time as Miller is also acting as a talent scout.

Broughton, Curved Air tour dates

THE Edgar Broughton Band and Curved Air are both on the road this month for extensive tours of the UK, and both have new LPs coming out to coincide with their itineraries.

The Broughton band has been off the scene for three months preparing a completely new stage act as well as their new Harvest LP 'Inside Out' and a maxi-single, both due for release in mid-April.

The Broughton tour began last Friday and continues with Guildhall, Northampton today (Thursday); Sports Centre, Bracknell (Saturday); Free Trade Hall, Manchester (4); Town Hall, Reading (5); Mayfair Ballroom, Newcastle (7); Friar's, Aylesbury (8); St. Matthew's Hall, Ipswich (11); Civic Hall, Guildford (13); Lowestoft Technical College (14); Public Hall, Preston (15); Central Hall, Chatham (20); Town Hall, High Wycombe (21); Corn Exchange, Cambridge (22); St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich (26); Town Hall, Oxford (27); Edinburgh University (28); Leeds University (29); Guildhall, Salisbury (May 2); Trinity College, Carmarthen (5); Leicester University (6); Civic Hall, Wolverhampton (8); Liverpool Stadium (10); Town Hall, Devizes (12); Floral Pavilion, Brighton (20) and Brooklands Tech. Weybridge (26).

The Curved Air tour, which also has Nick Pickett and ex-Skid Row member Gary Moore on the bill, opens at the Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare, on April 8. Further dates are Free Trade Hall, Manchester (9); City Hall, Sheffield (10); Town Hall, Oxford (11); Music Hall, Aberdeen (13); Kelvin Hall, Glasgow (14); City Hall, Newcastle (18); Guildhall, Portsmouth (20); Colston Hall, Bristol (21); Reading University (22); Town Hall, Preston (23); Pacific Hall, Wolverhampton (24); St. George's Hall, Bradford (25); Town Hall, Middlesbrough (26); Regent Theatre, Boston (27); Dome, Brighton (28); Winter Gardens, Bournemouth (29); Victoria Hall, Stoke (30); St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich (May 1); ABC Wigan (2); ABC Chester (3); Pavilion, Buxton (4); Central Hall, Chatham (5); and Liverpool Stadium (8).

Curved Air's new LP for April release is 'Phantasmagoria'.

Nilsson — new LP

NILSSON is completing the recording of his new album at London's Trident studios this week, and will be in Spain over the Easter weekend for talks with RCA Espana executives and a brief holiday.

He then returns to Hollywood for reduction, mixing and editing work on the LP, which is expected to be released here late this summer. Nilsson's single 'Without You' and his 'Nilsson Schmilsson' album have both won gold awards in the States for a million sales of the single and one million dollars' worth of sales on the LP.

Mecca circuit bans Sweet

FOLLOWING an appearance at the Mecca Ballroom in Portsmouth, during their mini-tour of Britain, Sweet have been banned from appearing on the Mecca circuit, and several dates already booked for Mecca venues have been cancelled. The group were said to be behaving obscenely on stage.

"Their actions words and everything were obscene," according to the Portsmouth ballroom manager. "I made a report the following day to head office, and they were removed from the rest of the dates. We had complaints from the audience about the act, and I was called from my office to see the performance. There were very few people left watching the group at the end of their act, and in fact they arrived only half an hour before the dance was due to end, which didn't do them much good at all. Frankly it wasn't the sort of thing we have had here before."

When contacted by RM, Sweet's manager Nicky Chinn commented: "I think the whole thing has been vastly exaggerated and in fact I wish it was as bad as they said it was because Sweet would be really something! I also very much doubt that any of the kids complained. If they left it's more likely they had to catch the last bus home."

The group's management agreed that Sweet were twenty minutes late on stage. They have since completed successful dates at Reading Top Rank and the Chelsea Village, Bournemouth.

Olsson ill: tour off

ELTON JOHN cancelled his Italian tour last week until June because his drummer Nigel Olsson was taken ill with muscular strain. John, Dee Murray, Olsson and Davey Johnstone with Phillip Goodhand-Tait had concluded a successful seven-day German tour at Frankfurt last Monday when Olsson became ill.

He is resting at this parents' home in north-east England, and hopes to be fit to play a major gig with John at the Roundhouse Implosion in London on Sunday.