

# HOT-LINE FROM HOLLYWOOD!

## DANNY CALLING

*The weekend before Christmas is always something of a nightmare for leave-till-the-last-minuters like me. And this year was no exception. But it did have its bright spots. Like when I lifted the 'phone and heard a familiar voice crackling down the line . . .*

**DANNY:** Hi there, Pat! Happy Christmas! I hope I'm not interrupting anything?

**ME:** *Only an argument between me and some paper chains! And I never reckoned on getting such a nice interruption tonight! It's great to hear from you, Danny.*

**DANNY:** Well, I had it in mind to call you on Christmas Morning. But then I figured you might've fixed to go visit with your folks, and I wouldn't be able to get you. So here I am!

**ME:** *Marvellous! Will you be staying home for Christmas, Danny? Or have you got something else planned?*

**DANNY:** Oh no. We'll be home for Christmas, that's for sure. You know, I don't reckon it would feel like Christmas at all if we were any place else. Certainly, I'd be complaining if I was done out of Mom's Christmas cookies!

**ME:** *What about the rest of the family? Will they all be coming back home?*

**DANNY:** You bet! Of course, we see quite a bit of Cecilia and her husband anyhow, 'cos of them only living ten miles or so away. And Tony moved back in with us a while back. So nobody's gonna have to travel too far! Which is maybe lucky with the shortage of gas we've gotten over here right now.

**ME:** *Well, I hope you all have a wonderful time, Danny. Is there anything special you're hoping to get for Christmas?*

**DANNY:** I've received so many fantastic gifts already — a lot of them from fans over in Britain, too — that I reckon I'd be quite content if I didn't get anything more at all this year! But I wouldn't say no to a couple of amplifiers! You see, I'm really into playing guitar these days and I'm trying to get some really professional equipment together.

That's why I was so excited when I heard about the upcoming changes in Superstar . . .

**ME:** *Well, I'm certainly glad you approve. But I'd be interested to know just what — and how — you've heard!*

**DANNY:** Gee, I hope I've not put my foot in it! It was David as told me all about it after the last time you two rapped on the phone. But he never said it was to be kept secret . . .

**ME:** *Oh, if David told you, that's fine by me. It's not top-secret or anything. It's just that I was surprised you knew about our plans. I thought maybe you were psychic or something.*

**DANNY:** No. Just the Bonaduce Bugging Bureau at your service! Seriously, though, when David said you were going to extend the magazine into the more practical side of the music world, I really flipped. Don't get me wrong, Pat . . . I think the mag's great right now. But it sounds as though it'll soon be even better! I guess the idea is to open new doors for your music-minded readers in Britain. And I can tell you, I'm hoping to pick up a few tips myself! So make sure you feature bass guitar some time, won't you?

**ME:** *I certainly will, Danny. How's the playing coming along by the way?*

**DANNY:** Pretty well — at least on bass. But then it's still quite early days for me on lead guitar. So I can't expect miracles! I'm really working at it, though. I take two lessons a week at the moment and practise all I can in between. How's that for taking it seriously?

**ME:** *I'm full of admiration! Any signs of you playing live on The Partridge Show yet?*

**DANNY:** 'Fraid not. Leastways, nobody's mentioned it to me! But I guess I won't be ready for it yet awhile anyhow. I play live on tour, mind, and nothing terrible's happened yet. But then I stick with fairly simple things. I know there's still an awful lot of room for improvement. So I don't want to hurry things too much.

**ME:** *Well, I hope it all works out for you, Danny, and that 1974 will see you really making it on guitar as well as with the singing.*

**DANNY:** Thanks, Pat. I hope it's going to be a great year for all of you in Britain, too. It sure sounds like it's gonna be pretty exciting for all your readers — including me! — with all this extra music info.

So be sure and keep sending me my copies through, won't you? And keep in touch.