

'We're sorry David'

SHARRON PASCUAL, head fan of the David Cassidy Correspondence Club, 74, wants to apologise to David... over general fan behaviour at those controversial "final" concerts.

She says: "Please tell David I'm sorry for everything that's happened. I prayed

that nothing would go wrong, hoping we would all behave ourselves and see to it that nobody would get hurt. For I knew that if anything serious happened, most people would put all the blame on you.

"All those fans who started pushing towards the front at White City are to blame for the death of 14-year-old Bernadette Whelan - I know how bad it was down there for I was one of the fans near the front. And I

would have been crushed to death too, had I not asked to be taken out, and that was BEFORE you came on stage.

"I want to see you in Manchester, too, and everyone really behaved there. That's how I wanted your White City concert to turn out for you - I knew you were looking forward to it so much.

"It's a great pity that it took the death of one of your fans to make us all realise that it's just not worth all

the pain and agony trying to push to the front.

"I could hardly believe it really happened. I feel sick every time I think of how YOU must be feeling. But I hope people realise that any accident which happens at any concert is caused by the behaviour of the fans and not a case of some fault in the security or organisation.

"On behalf of all the fans at White City, I apologise for what's happened. We are so very sorry, David."

It's a bit of a giggle

AT a recent do where Paul McCartney and Wings were presented with special awards for Band On The Run and Red Rose Speedway, Paul's Scaffold-er brother Mike McGear got talking to veteran comic Arthur Askey - also a Liverpoolian.

McGear said that he'd packed the whole business in because he was fed up with it. But slowly he's realised he'd done the wrong thing - it came to dawn on him that the whole essence was to have a good time and a bit of fun, and also help others to enjoy themselves.

And Askey said: "I've been in the business for fifty years and it's still a joke to me - at least, that is how I've been treating it. A bloke asked me why I don't jack it in, and I said I'd miss out on the lovely meals like this, and having a bit of a giggle."

Rumble

QUICK as a flash, now - and you name the top five instrumental records of 1980? No? Merciful heavens, then you haven't got a copy of the magazine called Rumble, a specialist paper for collectors of instrumental records.

Even if you weren't even born in 1980, or have never really got into the sounds of people like Bill Black, the Champs, Jet Harris, Johnny and the Hurricanes, the Spotnicks and so on, Rumble still is interesting. Second edition is available at 23 Holmewood Road, Rainworth, Nottinghamshire - and I believe it's the only magazine devoted entirely to this aspect of record collection.

swing

NEW signing to the RCA Victor label - The Compton Swing Collection. And the CSC is made up of a bunch of schoolkids from Fulham, in West London - all under the expressive baton of ex-publisher, one-time BBC arranger, now music teacher Eddie Rogers.

Band is specialising in the big-band sound of the 1940's and onwards. They feature an unusual uni-sax sound, created by seven saxes playing in unison. The Compton Swing Collection, in the studios at the end of this month, is made up of musicians between the ages of twelve and 17 - and they're playing at the world charity premiere of Mame at the Shaftesbury Theatre on June 26.

Eddie introduced his music classes to swing music in an effort to create more than just a passing interest.



IF the Guinness Book of Records is present not the biggest singer in the business but probably the smallest.

She's Charlie James, and she's 4ft 7in precisely. Welsh-born, student at the Royal School of Church Music, protégée of comedian

Les Dawson, stalwart of the New Faces telly series. And now recording in most promising manner on the Polydor label.

NICE AN' HARD



Gary Holton Heavy Metal Kids



Living in Dread

IF you were a chart-starring pop idol, and you went to a foreign country, and you found a performer who was doing much of your own act... would you be bloody mad with him?

I ask the question because I would be really mad, yet our very own Judge Dread wasn't when he went to Germany and found a bloke who looked just like him, sang reggae in perfect English, and did a high spot on take off of his Mercurial Worship and Lord.

Said Judge Dread (English-style): "He was standing on stage and pretending to be me. Not easy, that. But the German audiences are not bad judges. This guy Herman Sigfrid is a fine singer. Much better, in fact, than me. Offstage, he's soft-spoken and well-mannered, in the know about Jamaican music. He's totally me. The face, the figure, the voice."

Adds the mighty Dread: "I bear him no grudge. It must be good publicity for me having a Germanic version of Judge Dread working in Europe. When he appears in Berlin, hundreds of East German Judge Dread fans risk death crossing the Berlin Wall just to see him." Judge wouldn't tell me a fib, but I have to report that his new single is Big Nine and is on the Big Shot label, and out soon.

Twenty years at the top

AMAZING fact. Bill Haley's Rock Around The Clock has now clocked up world sales of more than twenty million copies. As we've just celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the tune, that's a million sales every year on average.

supertrip

EVEN if they don't have much luck in personal contact with the King, fans of Elvis Presley are certainly super-organised. Coming up this year is the Supertrip... that's a visit to the States to stay at the Holiday Inn (South) in Las Vegas, on the Sunset Strip, just a stroll from the Hilton - and cabaret attraction Elvis. And in Los Angeles, they're staying at the Sheraton Beach Inn on Huntington Beach.

And there's also the Supercruise. They've chartered the liner Shota Rustaveli, Russian sister ship to the famed Alexander Pushkin - and the cruise/convention will leave Southampton November 13 and return on November 18. And this club, the official Elvis Presley Fan Club of GB and Commonwealth, with Todd Slaughter as secretary, is still the biggest of 'em all.