

Riot-torn **SLADE** return to rockers-exclusive

RECORD & Radio MIRROR

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7p

Is he the greatest?



STEVIE WONDER
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Glitter tour

GLITTERMANIA is set to break out in June with at least six dates set for Gary and the Glitter Band.

The short series of dates will start at London's Rainbow theatre on June 15 when there will be two shows, followed by Oxford New Theatre (June 16); Southampton Gaumont (18); Cardiff Capitol (19); Glasgow Apollo (23).

Further dates still to be confirmed include Manchester, Southport, Newcastle and Birmingham. Gary is expected to have a new single released in early June to coincide with the tour.



REGGIE'S little romp at Watford football stadium at the weekend drew more fans than the Hornets (Watford) do all season - still they should worry...

The club stand to gain more than £20,000 thanks

to Mr John's overriding benevolence and the thirty thousand plus who packed the ground will no doubt be ready to see a replay should one be arranged. Naturally the entire match between Elton John plus Rod Stewart

and Nazareth - was filmed and recorded for promotion and a possible live album.

STOP PRESS: We hear Queens Park Rangers are to perform TOMMY at the Rainbow...

Cassidy quits

AT 24, superstar David Cassidy is to retire from live appearances, he told RRM in a telephone interview from his Hamburg hotel this week.

This means that his forthcoming concerts in this country will be his last anywhere. His farewell concert will be at Manchester City

Football Club on May 28. "I won't be doing any more live performances after that," he said. "But I'll definitely be making albums and recording. I'm packing it all in because of the strain and I want to live my own life. My future plans include getting a house built on the land I own in Hawaii. I want to say goodbye to the kids and I want them to be in no doubt that I mean it - that this really is the end of it all. And I don't want them to be sad because I'm not. I have never been happier in my life."

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New pop show

GRANADA Television's newly launched twenty-five pop programme '45', already shown in most regions of the country is set for screening in the London area on May 24.

Programme producer Muriel Young comments: "For the past three years we've desperately been trying to make the television authorities aware of the need of an adult pop programme. This is just the beginning for bigger and better things..."

The current series consists of ten shows with the same format as Granada's Lift

Off. After a short break the series is scheduled for a late summer return. Radio One disc jockey Emperor Rosko will compere the programme.

Lightfoot concert

GORDON LIGHTFOOT will be in concert at London's Royal Albert Hall on June 7, his only British appearance this year due to heavy commitments in America and Canada.

In brief

T A S V A L L A N
PRESIDENT, the Finnish band currently in this country are undertaking a 20-date college and club tour at the moment with additional dates still to be added. May dates are: Essex University (May 1); Lafayette, Wolverhampton (8); Middlesex (Poly) (9); Goldsmiths College (10); Collegiate Theatre, London (11); Cleopatra's, Derby (16); Sheff Disc, Worthing (17); Shyft, Westbury (18); Barbarella's, Birmingham (19). The tour coincides with the release of the group's latest album, Milky Way Roses which was released on April 5. Alan Sivell starts his British tour at London's Theatre Royal on May 19. Other dates - Hippodrome, Bristol (21); Town Hall, Birmingham (22); City Hall, Newcastle (23); Town Hall, Leeds (24); Empire Theatre, Liverpool (26); Free Trade Hall, Manchester (27); St Andrew's Hall, Norwich (28); Guildhall, Plymouth (June 2). Two dates in Wales have yet to be confirmed. The Portsmouth Sinfonia Portsmouth orchestra that can't play its instruments - are set to make their debut appearance at the Royal Albert Hall on May 28. Seafford have a new single, Liverpool Lou produced by Paul McCartney, released this week on Decca. Ian Carr's Nucleus follow up their successful London concert with a series of May and June dates. Ian Carr is currently working on music specially commissioned for the Shakespeare Centenary celebrations. Tour dates - Westfield College, Hampstead (17); Sheffield University (18); The Turrington, Finchley (23); Christ College, Cambridge (June 10); Padgate College, Warrington (14); Stoneground, Manchester (15); Leeds University (19).



GEORDIE got a gold disc for one million sales worldwide of their hit single, All Because Of You. The band, Brian John-

son, Brian Gibson, Tom Hill and Vic Malcolm are seen here being presented with their award from Emperor Rosko.

Geordie are in the middle of a European tour and return in time to appear on London Weekend TV's Saturday Scene on May 25.

SSS SH!

DENNY Laine, the extra Wing, was spotted in the well-known peeper's paradise, the Speakeasy, last week looking extremely miserable. We could sit here all day wondering why, but we'll be kind and suppose that he's just not feeling too good.

Elton John, looking fatter than ever these days. It's down to the health farm for you Reggie my boy.

Kevin Ayres has a new album out on May 24 - why isn't he a gigantic star? Expect a Thin Lizzy split story next week.

The word is that if Ann Peebles' single, I Can't Stand The Rain continues to climb the charts she will visit these shores for promotional purposes - so get buying kids, it's the best single released in years anywhere.

Hawking lady Stacia looking fatter than ever - if that's possible. She was spotted last week wearing a micro-mini and black stockings.

At the Status Quo party after the opening night of their tour in Bristol, their manager Colin Johnson having a great time throwing beer and water over all and sundry. Quo are also having trouble booking into hotels, seems they have a somewhat unfortunate reputation. I wonder why?

Facilities for the press at Elton John's gig abysmal, we don't expect a champagne and caviar reception - well not at a charity gig anyway - but whose bright idea was it to put the press enclosure behind the toilets? If you were trying to come on far enough away so that we wouldn't notice your considerably increased waistline Reg - you failed miserably. Eric "I Made Queen" Hall The promotion man at EMI well according to him anyway took me out for a lovely evening to The Apollo and Le Foyer clubs the other week topped off with a slightly less frothy dessert at the Speakeasy (Yawn). Tom (I'll do anything to get me picture in the Mirror) Jones' exploits in Venezuela last week were as boring as ever. If I'd been Harold Wilson I'd have left him to it. A visit to Britain by Jobriah has been called off according to Elektra's Bill McAllister, because "he wants to open at Broadway first" don't we all dears? Go out and buy your Thunderbirds singles IM.

MEDIATELY the best record released this week. We hear that Diamond Dogs is Burt's best yet - must be good, we should have a review for you next week.

Donovan single

DONOVAN's new single on the Epic label is Sailing Homebound, a track from his recent 10th Anniversary album. The B-side, Yellow Star, is also from the recent album.

FIRST LOVE ON A MOUNTAIN TOP
THEN 'EVERLASTING LOVE'
AND NOW...

NEW SINGLE

ROBERT KNIGHT
'BETTER GET READY FOR LOVE'





Reviews

Peter Jones

Record Mirror



Reviews

James Hamilton

BAD COMPANY: Can't Get Enough (Island 6191). Keeping bad company ain't so bad... this single could keep this highly promising and fast-growing band in royalty income for a while. What can they not get enough of? 'Tis love. Good hard-driving sounds, a powerful attack, and all at a mind-grabbing mid-tempo beat. Good company, more like. **CHART CHANCE.**

CANDICK GREEN: Leave A Little Love (Decca F 15512). Who Do You Think You Are was a steerable hit for the team, and this is, if anything, a shade more commercial. Harmony voices on a persistent mid-tempo beat. It's not exactly ambitious, but it's very pleasant and stylish - full-sounding voices in places, with strings mingling along. And a very useful lead voice. **CHART-CELT.**

MICK RONSON: Smoother On 10th Avenue (RCA Victor 5022). Love Me Tender wasn't loved, that is. Now this Richard Rodgers' number from the Roman album of the same title appears. Big, vibrant guitar tones take the much-revered melody along, and there are astringent instrumental off-beat effects also on the way. Surely album sales, it'll surely make the chart. Trouble is that I STILL go strong for Love Me Tender! **CHART-CELT.**

CLIFF RICHARD: (You Keep Me) Hanging On (EMI 2150). With forceful piano behind him, and a guitar chorus added in, this is the kind of song and production that suits Cliff right down to the ground. It's a romantic beat-ballad, with strings filling in mid-way, and he fairly pours out the lyrics. This cornified type of material is not overdone. Quite definitely about to become Cliff's hundred-thousandth hit, or whatever the fantastic total is now. **CHART-CELT.**

BUDGEIE: Zoom Club (MCA 133). Specially-recorded at Rockfield, in Wales) version of the album track - from the LP In For The Kill. It's shortened, penned by the three gentlemen - and could get them into the Fifty Main selling point is the vocal work, strangled and tortured in places, of basist, Burke Sherry. Add in Tony Bourge's guitar and new boy Peter Boot's drumming open the cage and let them fly. **CHART-CHANCE.**



THUNDERBOLT: Central Park Arrest (Philips 6006 336). The three ladies have been on Mott's Roll Away The Stones on stage with Mick Ronson, on Lou Reed's Walk On The Wildside - and now Dari, Karen and Casey are out on their own. They're three white ladies contrary to rumours based on their soul-laden sound. They've earned the respect of many top names, from Jerry Lee Lewis to Rick Bogart and Appice. And this debut was written by Lynsey de Paul. Can't ask for more. **CHART CHANCE.**

THE JOOK: Bish, Bash, Bosh (RCA Victor 5024). They're directly, commercial, full of life and this single is both noisy and potentially commercial. The vocal side is stronger than the instrumental therein, and the thing that comes over most strongly is the group personality. Which is quite likely a tribute to producer John Brumby. **CHART CHANCE.**

RUBY: Some Day I Will Return (Chrysalis). Reckoned to be one of the best knees-up bands in the business, lead singer Bar Munro leads the action, and is reported to be something like a mixture of R. Stewart and N. Holder on stage. This single isn't as fast as the build-up might lead you to believe, but it's very promising, possibly chart-action, and I look to their album Red Crystal Fantasies to add more weight. **CHART CHANCE.**

LARRY CUNNINGHAM: Good Old Country Music (Country III). This guy is Irish, very popular in the country field, and is now being recorded in Nashville, Tennessee. He's also RRM's top British solo performer, as voted in the recent country poll. This up-tempo country bunch, full of joy-of-hoedowning is a very likely chart, banjo and all. **CHART-CELT.**

SMIFFY: See You Later (Little Baby Love) (Antic). Peter Smith is the first to be released on Dave Dee's label brainchild. Idea is to go for the straight-commercial items, and this one fits the bill. It's a full-bill production, with all the usual noises and a walking-rhythm and Smiffy is responsible for song, singing, arrangement and production. Lack of name value may deter; but Peter L. Smith may hit it first time. **CHART CHANCE.**

DAVID DESEX: America (CBS 2176). David wrote both sides - further evidence that he's a better writer than some many give him credit for. With a moody show-type opening, voices and rasping instrumentation, this one gets off to obvious hit status from the first few bars. David's voice sounds echo-y, and it's got a finger-clicking, West-Side-Story clasp of presentation. That he sings with complete confidence is to understate it - he's thoroughly in charge. It's just about his track record so far album and all - that's my view. The production is ambitious but not overdone. **CHART-CELT.**

CCS: Hurricane Coming (Rak 172). No reference to Hurricane Smith, so far as one can judge. But it's another first-rate performance from one of the most m a s s a t e n e d aggregations around. It may miss the charts, because it's not directly in the parts, but the brilliant percussion, the voices chanting - could be a surprise biggie, too. **CHART-CHANCE.**

THE PEARLS: Guilty (Bell 1332). These ladies have so nearly made the charts in the past. It's a bounce-along piece, pretty well predictable once you get into the theme of being found guilty of grievous crime of "passion", and there's a clipped rhythm which pushes it along. Not, by any means, a sure-fire bet but it deserves at least a... **CHART-CHANCE.**

SACHA DISTEL: Oh My Joe (Polydor 2053 465). Ahah, the old Frenchman's charm, and fifty million French now ladies have gone wrong. Song has been much featured by Sacha on telly guest-spots, and is written by the highly commercial trio of Tony Macaulay with the Rogers Greenaway and Cook. Very, very amiable romantic stuff indeed. **CHART-CELT.**

PAUL BRETT: Seho Jack (Bradleys). In his various personnel switches - he's basically with Dave Griffiths now - Paul has gone for quality acoustic sounds, and has always insisted on ringing the changes as much as possible in terms of material. This single is up-tempo, bright, alert and nice.

THE KOP CHOIR: Let's All Go To Wembley (EMI). Mashed footballing voices on a cha-cha rhythm for a change. And, of course, they did get to Wembley.



DEBBIE DAWN: There comes That Song Again; Hands (Warner Bros K 16384). Get ready... 'cos if you can imagine the Shangri-Las singing "Those Were The Days" like Marie Osmond, this is gonna be your meat! Debbie Dawn, the 19-year-old daughter of the sheriff of Sonora, Northern California, and ex-wife of a lumberjack, was discovered by Britain's peripatetic Andy Wickham and Ian ("After The Ball") Whitcomb, the latter of whom wrote both sides of this. Kitch about sums them up. On top, Debbie's doing the European Tour with her chums from Kansas when "That song again" helps her fall for a romantically doomed young man in Vienna, and - as she tells us in a buxxy monologue - "It was in his winter lodge that he told me I'd only a month to live!" Uh-huh, there sure ain't no one quite like him in Kansas! The strongly Country-fied flip is that notorious marching ant-and-the striking cisco, which I wrote about some time ago. Now all those who enquired about it can hear the full filth, as Debbie in Tammy Wynette style tells about the parts of the male anatomy which "the hottest look in town" will soon be holding! **PICK OF THE WEEK.**

CHIBAGO: Byblos: (I've Been) Searching So Long (CBS 2245). Here's the jazzily Latin-ish Steely Dan-type flipside that I raved about recently. It doesn't completely overshadow the official A-side, a stolidly adventurous slow build-up with high-flying harmonies over the brass, but it's certainly a whole lot more fun. **USIC PICK.**

IKE AND TINA TURNER: Sweet Rhode Island Red (UA UP 35650). Too frantic and formless for my own taste but doubtless fine for fans, the Turners' February-recorded new single Tina feeling like a funky chicken to a tearaway beat and synthetic wailings. **POP.**

JOHNNY COWELL: Cigarette Ashes; Send Hand Happiness (Contemporaries CS 9001). If memories are correct, this attractive Fred Smith-type instrumental beater was Richard Temple's "That Beatin' Rhythm" and the Trips' "There's That Mountain", and came out not that long ago on a President label. It's a good and deep South vocal slowie. **R&B FIX.**

THE MASH: Theme From "M*A*S*H" (Suicide F 14115). The M*A*S*H March (CBS 1872). Re-issue time as the beautifully evocative Simon & Garfunkelish theme from the film comes out again: evocative, that is, if you loved the movie enough to see it three times and get the soundtrack album, like I did! Suicide is painless, go the lyrics, and in fact painless was the nickname of the camp's dentist, who went through a mock suicide ceremony because he was upset about his virility. Er, and bordering on bad taste, suicide is rumoured to have been the cause of BOBBY BLOOM's recent sad death; Bobby's "Montego Bay" and "Heavy Makes You Happy" have been re-issued back to back to cash in (Polydor 2001519). Other re-issues are the mysteriously ignored DANNY O'KEEFE's lazily laid-back beauty from 1971, "Good Time Charlie's Got The Blues" (Signpost SGP 337), THE BYRDS' back-to-back classics "Mr. Tambourine Man" and "810", and VAN ZANDERSON's 1967 US hit/UK miss - which became the basis of his future style and sounds as fresh today as it did then - "Brown Eyed Girl" (London HLM 10453). **REVIVED FIX.**

JACKSON FIVE: The Boogie Man, Don't Let Your Baby Catch You (Tania Motion TMG 895). While "Dancing Machine" gives them their first US Top 5 hit in yonks, the JS for some reason known only to EMI get lumbered with an older album track here - it's an innocuous, light-hearted beater with some catchy vocal work, clapping breaks and a bit of bounciness. My copy's practically pink and white from the reconstituted false teeth pressed in with the black vinyl, so the crisis must be biting deep, folks. The trickily funky flip is rather good.

ROBERT KNIGHT: Better Get Ready For Love; Somebody's Baby (Munich MNT 2774). According to my spy up North, this strings and brass-wrapped smooth clomper consulting fee, my spy will hit Monument to the hit they're still on Leave the money in used fivers under the third flowerpot on the left; then don't call us, we'll call you.

DAVID CANNIDY: If I Didn't Care; Evason Nones (Bell 1350). The material on his last delightful LP started the trend, and now the dear boy has gone the whole hog, doing a truly great revival of the ancient Inkspots odie, complete with a gloriously nostalgic backing of harmonica, while sounding more confident than ever, and it seems obvious that he really loves this kind of thing... as do I! After he's been a hit, maybe Island will even re-promote the similar but totally ignored treatment by Sandy Denny of the Inkspots' "Whispering Grass" (WIP 6176), as both are equally lovely Easy Listening slowies. On the flip, naughty David sings his own rather nice and completely modern dead slowie which he passes off innocently enough, although hip sniffers will be reading between the lines. **NOS. TALGIA PICK.**

BOBBY DARIN: Moral Monday (MoWest MW 3014). A live treatment by the late great (and he WAS great) despite the fashionable slugging of modern pop pundits hung up on Rock 'n' Roll purity; trouble is, this isn't as good as his original recording's treatment. The Fats Domino flip is disappointingly weak.

SAMI JO: Tell Me A Lie (MGM 2005406). The Sandy Fawcett-ish chick was recorded at Muscle Shoals where the Soul folk go, and her resultant slowie was bigger than Country in the US despite its more obviously Country connections.

AFRICAN MUSIC MACHINE: Black Water Gold (Pearl) (Contemporaries CS 9002). Re-issue of fairly recent Mojo number by the JB's-type Jewel/Paula house band from Shreveport, La. While Contemporaries new revival-cum-oddes Label are obviously aiming it at the South, they've also got something for the North.

WEE WILLIE & THE WINNERS: Get Some, A Plan For The Man (Action Act 4624). Get Some, and get DOWN, now! UHH! Blow your whistle now! Parry, parry, parry, parry. Yeah, and of its type it's one of the best. What's more, there's a tere, a slow preaching. **R&B FIX.**