February 22-March 7 1979 25p

ABBA n colour

GENERATION JUPS

be won

FREE Pop Wallchart

DETAILS INSIDE

Words to the **TOP SINGLES** including

Contact lou Bet Your Love ur Sobbina Bat Out Of Hell Get Down

Sound Of The Suburbs

OLIVER'S ARMY

By Elvis Costello

Don't start that talking I could talk all night My mind goes sleepwalking While I'm putting the world to right Called Careers Information Have you got yourself an occupation

(All the words inside)

ONE ITCHY TRIGGER

By The Pretenders on Real Records

It is time for you to stop all of your sobbing
Yes it's time for you to stop all of your sobbing oh oh oh There's one thing you gotta do
To make me still want you
Gotta stop sobbing alone, stop sobbing

alone

Yeh yeh, stop it stop it stop it

It is time for you to laugh instead of

crying Yes it's time for you to leugh instead of trying oh oh oh there's one thing you gotta do
to make me still want you
Gotta stop sobbing alone, stop sobbing

al the Yeh yeh, stop it stop it stop it

e tear that falls from your ey . make a me want To take you in my arms and tell you to stop all your sobbing Uh uh uh ... uh uh uh etc There's one thing you gotta do To make me still want you

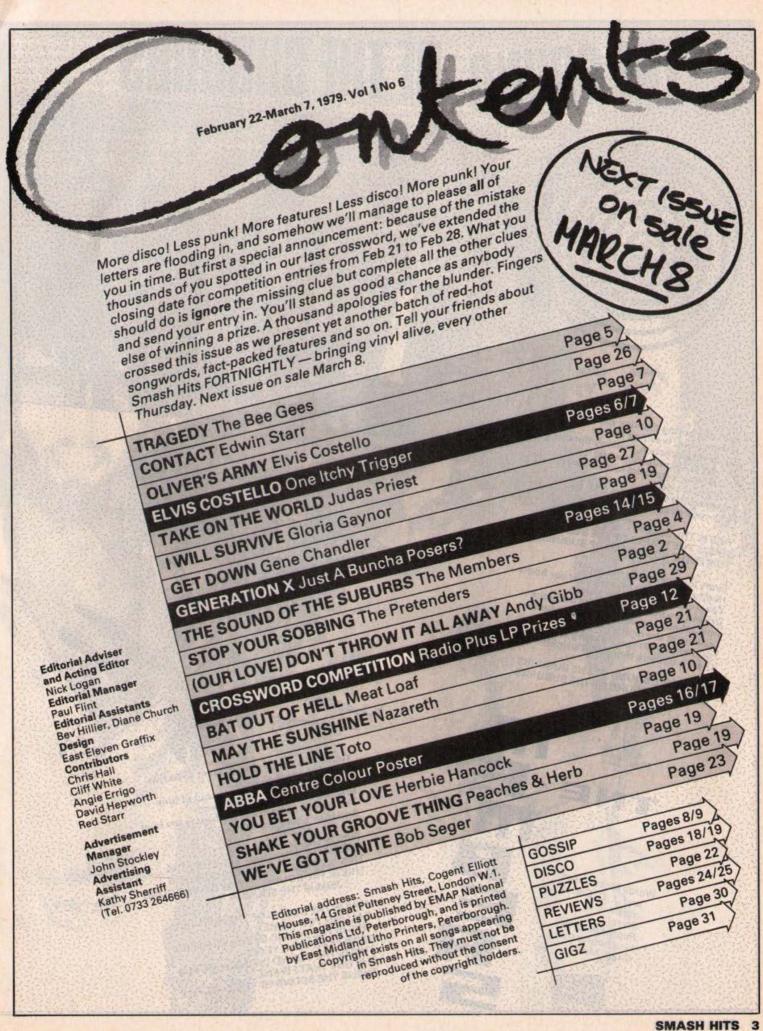
And there's one thing you gotta know To make me want you so Gotta stop sobbing alone, stop sobbing

Yeh yeh, stop it stop it stop it

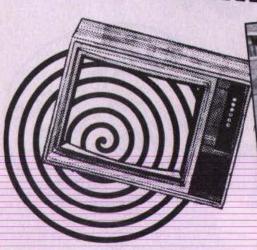
(Repeat last two lines, with ad libs, to fade)

Words and music by Ray Davies. Reproduced by kind permission Edward Kassner Music Ltd.

Chrissie Hynde of The Pretenders



THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS



Same old boring Sunday morning
Old man's out, washing the car
Mum's in the kitchen, cooking Sunday dinner
Mer best meal, moaning while it lasts
Her best meal, moaning while it lasts
And Johnny is upstairs in his bedroom
Sitting in the dark
Annoying the neighbours with his
Punk-rock electric guitar

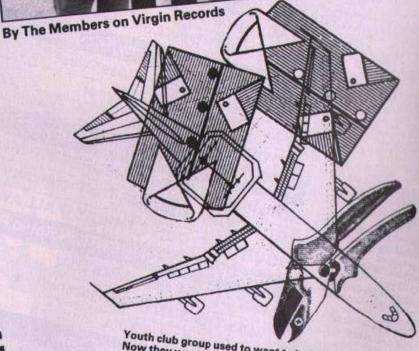
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS

Every lousy Monday morning
Heathrow jets go crashing over our home
Ten o'clock, Broadmoor's siren
Driving me mad, won't leave me alone
And Johnny stands there at his window
Looking at the night
I said hey, what you listening to?
There's nothing there (that's right)

THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS

Words Nicky Tesco
and J. C. Carroll,
music J. C.
Carroll,
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Rind permission
kind permission
Virgin Music.





Youth club group used to want to be free
Now they want anarchy
They play too fast, they play out of tune
Practise in the singer's bedroom
The drum's quite good, the bass is too loud
And I can't hear the words

THIS IS THE SOUND...
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
THIS IS THE SOUND... THIS IS THE SOUND...
THIS IS THE SOUND...

THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
CALLING YOU HOME
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
YEAH YEAH YEAH
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS
THE ONE THAT I WANT
THIS IS THE SOUND OF THE SUBURBS

Here I lie in a lost and lonely part of town Held in time in a world of tears I slowly drown Going home I just can't make it all alone I really should be holding you holding you Loving you loving you

Chorus

Tragedy
When the feelings gone and you can't go on, it's tragedy
When the morning cries and you don't know why
It's hard to bear with no one to love you
You're going nowhere

When you lose control and you got no soul, it's tragedy
When the morning cries and you don't know why
It's hard to bear with no one beside you You're going nowhere

Night and day there's a burning down inside of me Burning love with a yearning that won't let me be Down I go and I just can't take it all alone I really should be holding you holding you Loving you loving you (Repeat Chorus to fade)



ELVIS COSTELLO

LVIS COSTELLO likes to keep his past a mystery. This attitude has led fact-starved journalists to guess that he was once everything from an escaped mental patient to a one-time member of the Sex Pistols. The truth is nothing so exciting.

Costello was born and brought up in Liverpool. His real name is Declan McManus, the son of professional dance band singer Ross McManus.

He moved to London in his late teens, got married, had a child and took a job in the computer room at Eizabeth Arden Cosmetics. One story about him is that he used to study fellow passengers on the train to work, putting them into the songs he started writing.

By nights he played in bands, mainly for an outfit called Flip City. They were a pleasant, countryish group, but low on star quality. Flip City broke up and more or less gave up.

Declan McManus was of a different breed however. Convinced of his own enormous talent, he started to hawk his songs around every major record company in London, getting shown the door at every one of them

door at every one of them.
His break came in August
1976 when he turned up on
the doorstep of Stiff Records.
A shoestring company with
wacky ideas and big
ambitions, Stiff had then just
began operations from
behind a sleazy shop front in
Bayswater. They had about
fifty quid in the kitty, but a lot
of faith — and soon they had
Elvis Costello.

Jake Riviera, one of Stiff's founders, was impressed by

McManus's songs. Perhaps even more important, Riviera saw in Declan's unremarkable physical appearance the raw material which together they could use to create a new rock legend. A legend very much for the '70s.

HANG ON to your hats, now, 'cos here's where the Costello story starts to take off. He was signed up, put on a wage by Riviera to allow him to leave his job in computers but still feed his wife and kid, kitted out in some really nasty old clothes, given a pair of ludicrous horn-rimmed specs and generally made to look like Buddy Holly on Social Security.

He was re-christened Elvis Costello (back then, remember, the first Elvis was still alive). He just had to be good to carry it off.

Elvis was sent into the studio to lay down some of his songs with American group Clover playing back-ups, and with Nick Lowe as his producer. "Less Than Zero" and "Alison", two tracks from these sessions, were released as singles to a certain amount of intrigued reaction, but it was his dynamite debut album "My Aim Is True" which signalled that a major new talent had arrived.

By the time the album went on sale Elvis had assembled his own band, The Attractions. Pub-band veteran Pete Thomas handled drums, Bruce Thomas (no relation) from the Sutherland Brothers & Quiver was the bassist, and the combo was completed by Steve Naive from the Royal College of Music.

They shut themselves away in a house in Cornwall and rehearsed like crazy.

AT THIS stage Elvis had only one solo appearance to his credit — supporting The Rumour at the Nashville in West London on May 27, 1977 — but he was to return to the same place three months later with The Attractions to a rather more enthusiastic reception.

If the album didn't convince people that here was a talent of sizeable proportions then the live shows did. Seven hundred people were locked out of the Nashville, a medium-sized pub, and the album entered the LP charts in the first week of release.

Elvis Costello happened so quick his audience could hardly keep up. He'd turn up and do a show completely made up of new songs. His mind seemed to be racing. He wrote and recorded with the frenzy of a condemned man and performed these startling songs like he was drowning.

On stage he was obsessed, shooting out put-downs of old girlfriends, old bosses, the record business. Anything that got in his way, he just savaged it with a couple of clever couplets. He told a writer, "The only emotions I understand are guilt and revenge".

These were the feelings which dominated his debut album, 10 years of pent-up frustrations bursting into the light of day. But Elvis Costello didn't just throw mud and scream. When he aimed, he generally hit the target. The tightness of the songs and the buzzing urgency of his melodies kept his anger in check.

"Watching The Detectives", a brilliantly constructed song with a reggae beat, went to No. 15. The second album, "This Year's Model", saw Elvis turn his attentions away from personal feelings to look outward at the business of fashion. His new single "I Don't Want To Go To Chelsea" was another 45 which leapt out of the radio and took you by the throat.

Small wonder that Elton John felt embarrassed when listeners to Capital Radio, the London station, voted him top male singer of the year. Elton thought the award should have gone to Elvis Costello, and said so. Most people agreed with him. (Incidenally, Costello's fans now also include Bob Dylan, who's gone out of his way to watch him play.)

watch him play.)

"Radio Radio", a biting
onslaught on the state of the
airwaves, also hit in a big
way. Here was Radio 1
playing a record which
insulted just about everything
they stood for! Only Costello
could get away with it.

AND SO TO "Armed Forces", with Elvis bringing a whole new area of subject matter within range of his beady eye.

He still shies away from interviews, sometimes gets in fights with photographers and occasionally, as recently happened in Australia, starts riots when he refuses to do encores at concerts.

Sometimes he seems like a spoilt child — trying it on to see how far he has to push people to get a reaction.

The only danger now is that he'll overstretch himself trying to crack the American market. He works at a punishing pace. But he's so far ahead of his rivals in terms of sheer talent that it's hard to see him failing now.

ONE ITCHY TRIGGER By David Hepworth

Don't start that talking I could talk all night My mind goes sleepwalking While I'm putting the world to right Called Careers Information Have you got yourself an occupation Chorus Oliver's army is here to stay Oliver's army are on their way And I would rather be Anywhere else but here today There was a Checkpoint Charlie He didn't crack a smile But it's no laughing party
When you've been on the Murder Mile
Only takes one itchy trigger One more widow, one less white nigger (Repeat chorus) Hong Kong is up for grabs London is full of Abs We could be in Palestine Over-run by a Chinese line With the boys from the Mersey And the Thames and the Tyne But there's no danger, it's a professional career Though it could be arranged With just a word in Mr. Churchill's ear If you're out of luck or out of work We could send you to Johannesburg (Repeat chorus) By Elvis Costello o And I would rather be anywhere else but here Radar Record (Repeat these two lines to end)

BUZZ NEWS GOSSIP NEWS



Jean Jacques Cometh

THE STRANGLERS are going to be coming at you from all directions over the next few weeks. They have a live album, "X Cert", out February 23, recorded at The Roundhouse in London and at the summer open-air gig at Battersea Park. There's also a Stranglers film nearly completed, and a new studio album about to be recorded.

On top of that Hugh Cornwell and Jean-Jacques Burnel are both making solo albums. Jean-Jacques' will appear first. Titled "Euroman Cometh" it's set for release on March 30.

You can read the full scam from Monsieur J.J.'s own lips in Smash Hits soon.

BUZZCOCKS are another group working on solo projects. Drummer John Maher is making an album, Steve Diggle is recording his own single, and Pete Shelley also has a solo single coming out soon. In addition Shelley can be heard performing a solo acoustic set, one number to be broadcast each night, from February 25 on Manchester's Piccadilly Radio.

However the group are denying reports that all this

solo work means a Buzzcocks

split. As a group they have a

new single out March 2.

Mad Den Returns

THOSE OF YOU who have been writing in to ask what's happened to Mad Den Hegarty since he left Darts will be interested to hear he is still with Magnet Records as a solo artist.

Den, who is an epileptic, had some problems from being on the road too much. But he'll soon be back in business with a single, "Voodoo Voodoo", which is released on March 2. You can also expect him to be turning up on TV fairly soon.

MILLION DOLLAR BASH

PETER FRAMPTON is the latest rock millionaire to be sued by a former girlfriend. American Penny McCall, who says she helped make pretty Peter a star through her tender, loving care and brilliant business mind, wants half of his estimated £4 million fortune.

Penny claims that Peter "threw her out on the street" after five years, and after she had left her husband (a roadie) and given up everything for love of PF.

"All I can show for it now is an expensive wardrobe," she says. Well, that's a lot more than most of us can show for our labours.



Peter Frampton: What's he got to grin about?!



ACCORDING TO some reports, Sham 69 have finally been forced to admit defeat in their long-running battle to halt the

hooligan element among fans. An extremely upset Jimmy Pursey, Sham leader and singer, recently told a Sham 69

UFO warning

EARTH, WIND and Fire, currently the top-selling soul group in the world, are bringing their spectacular American stage show to Britain.

Their latest LP, "The Best Of Earth, Wind And Fire", is high in the charts, as is the single "September", but even people who aren't all that keen on EW & F on record will be knocked out by their on-stage visuals.

Their show combines fine contemporary soul music with leader Maurice White's

interests in Egyptology and UFOs, and uses some very clever sets, costumes and effects.

The musicians arrive on stage in space capsules, bassist Verdine White levitates into the air during a solo, and other illusions are carried off with a lot of good humour.

They'll be at Bingley Hall, Stafford, on March 2 and Wembley Arena, London, on March 3 and 4. NEWS GOSSIP NEWS GOSSIP NEWS

Jimmy Pursey (left) broke down and cried.

SHAM SHUT SHOP

audience at Aylesbury that they were witnessing the band's last-ever live performance.

The decision has gradually been forced on the band, which has always attracted some of the rowdiest, hardcore punk and skinhead fans.

Frequently at gigs, Jimmy has had to spend most of his time trying to keep the kids under control. Despite his pleadings, fights have broken out, and Sham 69 have got the kind of reputation which means that many venues won't book

The last distressing episode for Sham 69 occurred at the Middlesex Poly when a rough situation got totally out of hand. The gig was ruined and people were injured, causing Jimmy to break down in tears.

He seems now to have come to a decision, however reluctantly, that he can't go on.

Sham 69 will continue to make records, but unless Jimmy changes his mind there will be no more live dates.

RATS WINNERS

HERE ARE the winners of our **Boomtown Rats photo** competition. Autographed Rats posters will be sent to the following: Fiona Perry, Paignton; Jenny Stirling, St. Leonards, Exeter; Mercedes Minaya, Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks; Nora Stapleton, Kirkby, Liverpool; Clare Ransom, Oxney, Watford; Joanne Briant, Southsea, Portsmouth; Joseph Burnand, Dalton, Huddersfield; Richard Lane, Canvey, Island; Jill Tait, Gorebridge, Midlothian; Neil Goulding, Basingstoke.



The Sound Of The Suburbs

THIS IS The Members, a new group from Camberley, Surrey, who have their first hit with the single "Sound Of The Suburbs". Founded by singer Nicky Tesco, a former insurance salesman, they are appropriately called The Members because there have been quite a few of them during the group's 18-month history. After an initial, breakneck-fast, punk phase and a flirtation with reggae the final line-up — singer Nicky Tesco, drummer Adrian Lillywhite, guitarist Gary Baker, bassist Chris Payne and rhythm guitarist Jean-Marie "J.C." Carroll — have settled down to play punky, reggae-ish pop. Last November they supported Devo on tour, and now they look fairly well set up, with an album on Virgin due soon.



BY CONTRAST this is Leif Garrett and Marie and Donny Osmond smiling for the camera during a day spent doing the London tourist spots. They are completely oblivious to the fact that they're about to be mown down by a working model of a British Airways Jumbo Jet. Only the quick-witted presence of the gent with the beard, Leif's manager, prevented disaster when he sped the teeny trio to safety on Leif's ever-present skateboard. This is nonsense of course. What really happened was that the pilot was dazzled by all the flashing dental work on display and ploughed into the ground, safely out of range.

SHORTS

THERE'S a "new" John Travolta single, "Whenever I'm Away From You", due on February 23. The same single was first released a year ago, before "Saturday Night Fever" and "Grease", and sold about three copies. The song was also the title track of an album that sank without trace - until recently when it was reissued as "Sandy", just in time for the Christmas market. It will be very interesting to see how far this one goes, this time around, for Mr. Charisma Of 1978 without a popular film to back it up



SPEAKING of Travoltas, did anyone catch Johnny's elder brother Joey on The Donny & Marie Show recently? The poor kid is too much like John to make it on his own account, but not enough like John to make it in the same



MEANWHILE Denise Crosby, granddaughter of The Old Groaner, Bing Crosby, wants to be a singing star, too. But her punked-up version of "White Christmas" didn't get her too far. My advice to the descendants and relatives of showbiz superstars is to go into brain surgery or landscape gardening instead



ONE-HIT wonders take hope. Paul Evans, who made the Top Five with "Hello
This Is Joannie", was last in
the upper regions of the
charts all of 20 years ago
with a song called "Seven
Little Girls Sitting In The Back Seat". He also wrote "Roses Are Red My Love" for Bobby Vinton — ask your mum — and "When", which Showaddywaddy recorded a couple of years ago.



PIC: FINN COSTELLO

6 The World

By Judas Priest on CBS Records

You got to leave your seat, gotta get up upon your feet We're gonna move you to the rhythm till you never can stop We got the power we got the music And you bet your life we can use it Gonna take you rock bottom, gonna take you to the top

t yourself in our hands so our voices can be heard id together we will take on all the world t yourself in our hands so our voices can be heard d together we will take on all the world

Move a little nearer you know you got to follow your Cos we need you like you need us for show We're gonna drive you we're gonna ride you We're gonna get right inside you And if you wanna keep going just shout out for more e a little ne

(Repeat chorus)

Sing your song we'll listen to you Sing your song the spotlight's on you

(Chorus twice)

Words and music by Glenn Tipton and Rob Halford. Reproduced by kind permission Arnakata Music Ltd.

The Line

By Toto on CBS Records

ne way that you hold me
ne way you say you care
ne way you've been treatin' my friends
ne way that you stayed till the end
ne way you look that you say that you'll do

Chorus
Hold the line
Love isn't always on time whoah whoah
Hold the line
Love isn't always on time whoah whoah whoah

It's not in the wo rords that you told me ray you say you're mine ray that you came back to me ray that your love set me free

et chorus)

Repeat second verse and chorus,

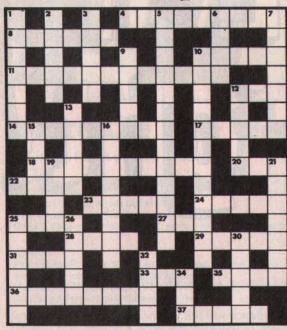
Love isn't always on time
Love isn't always on time whosh whosh . . .

Words and music by D. Paich. Reproduced by kind permission April Music.



Again we're offering a radio cassette recorder to the winner and 50 copies of a top new album to the runners-up. This time it's the Generation X album, "Valley Of The Dolls" featuring the hit single "King Rocker", which is up for grabs. You know the score: the first correct entry opened after the closing date gets the radio cassette recorder, plus a cassette of the Gen X LP. The next 50 correct entries opened each get a copy of "Valley Of The Dolls" on Chrysalis Records. Prepare ballpoints, kiss lucky charms . . . away you go.





No. 6

Name

Age

(BLOCK CAPITALS)

How to enter

Simply solve our crossword puzzle, writing the answers in ink, pen or ballpoint. Complete the coupon with your own full name and address, then cut it out and post it in a sealed envelope addressed to: SMASH HITS (Crossword No. 6), 41 Broadway, Peterborough PE1 1RY. Make sure it arrives not later than March 7th, 1979, the closing date. Sen-der of the first correct entry checked after the closing date will win the radio cassette player. Senders of the next 50 correct entries will each receive a copy of the Generation X album.

The Editor's decision on all matters relating to the competition will be final and legally binding. No correspondence can be entered into. The competition is open to all readers in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Eire, Channel Isles and the Isle of Man, excluding em-



ployees (and their families) of Smash Hits and East Midland Allied Press.

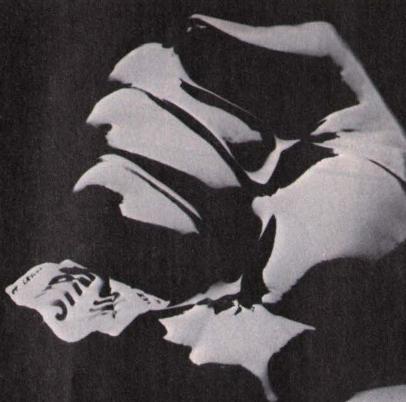
ACROSS

- 4 More than just your common or garden starl
- See 2 down
- 10 & 1 down Sounds like Blondie's affections should be handled with care! (5, 2, 5)
- Dr Feelgood singer (3, 9)
- 12 U.S. disco group in a state of constant combat!!!
- Male or female, he's disco's prettiest star!
- Inexpensive, this rock Trick!
- 18 Emerson and Lake are his heavy rock colleagues (4, 6)
- 20 Rhythm sticker
- 22 Fourth Former who figured in a 1978 Rats hit
- 23 Darts newie (3, 2)
- Coloured singer of "Just The Way You Are"
- New wave group who carry disease . . . swat 'em!
- Brian Eno reversing is a single 27 figure
- Marc's old band (1-3)
- & 26 down Dean Friedman hit
- 31 Irish singer, she's hidden in Dan and Dianal
- First name of Paul Simon's partner on "Bridge Over Troubled Water"
- Anna Marie Lawrie as she's better known
- See royal (anagram 3, 5)
- 37 Dolenz the Monkee

DOWN

- See 10 across
- & 8 across Costello's new LP
- See 30 down
- Pretty-boy singer/guitarist who stars with Bee Gees in "Sgt. Pepper" movie (5, 8)
 - Poly Styrene's glasses!
- 1978 No. 1 for Ireland's top group (3, 4)
 "Substitute" hitmakers — or a
- blow to the head!
- 10 Stranglers guitarist and singer (4, 8)
- 12 & 21 down A big hit for 36 across (4, 1, 4, 3) "I'm ---- Woman" — Chaka Khan
- 15 It's fun to stay where you can hang out with all the boys! (1, 1, 1, 1)
- Diana Ross' old group
- Don't join Oliver's one, sez E.C.
- See 12 down
- Another name for a violin or for a con trick!
- See 29 across
- & 3 down Rock 'n' roll legend who had a No. 1 with Mrs Whitehouse's favourite song, "My Ding-A-Ling"
- 32 Heavenly instrument
- 34 Mr Robinson

Attangleta (XCERT)





Album UAG 30224 Cassette TCK 30224



(GET A) GRIP (ON YOURSELF) • DAGENHAM DAVE • BURNING UP TIME • DEAD RINGER HANGING AROUND • I FEEL LIKE A WOG • STRAIGHTEN OUT • CURFEW DO YOU WANNA? DEATH AND NIGHT AND BLOOD (YUK10) • 5 MINUTES • GO BUDDY GO

OST BANDS would waste no time in setting the dogs on you if you dared call them posers. Generation X, on the other hand, have always taken great pride in their capacity to out pout any bunch of hipsters on the block.

A good proportion of their three-year history seems to have been devoted to dreaming up new and yet more outrageous stunts for getting their pictures in the papers, spending hours fixing cameras with moody stares, decked out in leather, lace, satin and tat.

You could be unkind and suggest, as many critics have, that some of the time they've spent hypnotising wide-angle camera lenses could have been better employed working on their music.

BACK IN 1976, when something dark and noisy was starting to happen in a central London club called The Roxy, Generation X were in there with the New Wave pioneers, along with the Pistols and The Clash.

They cut it loud and fast and Billy Idol looked very good indeed, strutting and posing to perfection. If style was what it was all about, then this lot seemed like a good bet for mass appeal . . . Top Of The Pops, the Daily Mirror, The Big Time. They weren't short of a good pedigree either.

Gen X bass guitarist and prime mover, Tony James, had been a founder member of the London S.S. along with a young Mick Jones, now of The Clash, at a time when admiration for The New York Dolls and fast, trashy rock and roll was a one-way ticket to nowhere.

When that bunch fell apart,

James had an idea for a new band capable of projecting, first and foremost, the kind of ice-cool near-feminine image he so admired in the Rolling Stones and the New York Dolls.

Billy Broad was captured direct from Sussex University, recruited as a vocalist and renamed Billy Idol, a decision which has since proved something of a millstone round his neck. The drum chair was taken by Mark Laff while Bob 'Derwood' Andrews played a vaguely heavy metal guitar. James put them all through his grooming process and the Big League seemed just a recording contract away.

It wasn't, and still isn't, proving to be as simple as that. Their main problem was getting to sound as good as they looked. The noise they made careered between simple, flashy pop and flat-out hard rock after the style of Mott The Hoople, and took in a lot more in between.

Their first Chrysalis singles, cut in 1977, are still their most satisfactory because they're simple chart contenders produced with an acute ear for the strong hook line by Sweet producer Phil Wainman.

"Your Generation", their debut single, was a powerful enough answer to The Who's song of ten years earlier. The follow-up, "Wild Youth", was even better, a driving, clean-limbed chant, clear and memorable. Good pop singles both of them, though they didn't—as hoped—take the charts by storm.

ROUND ABOUT here, things started to turn a little sour and it's tempting to suggest that the band over-reached themselves, that they tried to



take on things they were neither ready nor cut out for.

Deciding that they didn't like Phil Wainman's rather strict approach, they ditched him in favour of Martin Rushent, at that time doing well as producer for The Stranglers and Buzzcocks.

Broadly, they turned their back on pop and aimed for serious heavy rock band status.

"Generation X", their debut album, was in the main unsatisfactory. It tried too hard and was neither one thing nor the other. It got bad press reviews and sold poorly. Generation X found themselves out of fashion, while all their old Roxy pals were doing very well indeed (in the early days of

punk at The Roxy, Gen X gave Sham 69 their first break).

Instead of going out on the road and building a strong following from the ground up, they stayed at home and licked their wounds. They still had their pictures taken frequently of course, but it seemed like a weak attempt to build up a mystique that they hardly deserved. "Ready Steady Go" made the chart, and then there was silence for a year.

They poked their noses above ground again at the beginning of this year with the single "King Rocker", and an album called "Valley Of The Dolls" produced by former Mott The Hoople singer lan Hunter.

In truth, their new effort, although boasting the Mott The Hoople high-energy approach you would associate with lan Hunter, still doesn't solve all their problems. The sound is overall tighter and more punchy and the opening track "Running With The Boss Sound", is one of their best shots to date, but the rest leaves question marks about their future prospects.

They're still neat posers, though, and, if they come to terms with their own abilities and decide to do what they do best, there's a great pop band somewhere just dying to get out. Gen X can still overcome

all the obstacles that currently face them, but first they must realise that if you're going to bother dressing to kill for Top Of The Pops, you ought to go to the trouble of miming properly. Yes, I'm talking to you, Billy Idol.

Even so, "King Rocker" has been their biggest single to date, and it at least gives the band a bit of breathing space to decide their next move. It takes some of the pressure off. In fact, if "King Rocker" hadn't made it, there's a good chance that Gen X would have broken up.

David Hepworth



JUST A PRETTY
BUNCHA POSERS?
Or is there more to

Generation X?



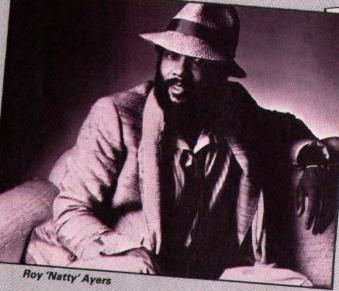
16 SMASH HITS





STRAIGHT TO YOUR FEET







Bev's Disco Picks

ME AGAIN, back with the disco news. I reckon the world's going Disco Crazy, least my part of the world is. If you can dance well, dress well and sound clued-up about the latest sounds (which I'll

help you with) then you'll be a big hit yourself (ouch).

News on the latest sounds, in brief 'cos there's so much good stuff around: Two great dancing singles are Instant Funk's "Got My Mind Made" and Gene Chandler's "Get Down". Gene looks like having a big smash with his one. It's his first hit for 20 years or so,

apparently — I wouldn't really know since I wasn't born then.

Edwin Starr's another "oldie" who's been waiting a long time for another hit. "Contact" is great — I think it's got a touch of the Sylvesters about it. Talking about Sylvester, I've just heard that he's had an operation on his nose. Dunno why, 'cos I wouldn't

have thought he could have got any prettier.

Here's a strange thing: I found myself dancing to Leif Garrett's "I Was Made For Dancing" while I was out the other Saturday night. Why strange? 'Cos I don't like him, but it's hard not to dance to his record.

The Jacksons are in the country now and have just brought out a new 12ins disco mix of "Destiny", which has a remixed version of "Blame It On The Boogie" on the flip. The new "Boogie" is a knockout for dancing.

Any rumours you've heard about Gary's Gang being related to Gary Glitter . . . forget 'em. Gary's Gang are unrelated to the old GG and their "Keep On Dancin" is a big disco hit.

Now for something completely different, whistle stompers. For all you folks like me who can never decide what to wear, I've been scanning my eyes around my local disco and the hottest gear at the moment is vivid, balloon-shaped trousers topped with a boxey jacket. I've got a diamante brooch on mine, and also wear a knitted or spotted bow tie. Mine's bright turquoise so you'll recognise me if you see me around. I wouldn't recommend that the boys get into this stuff though . . . unless their name's Sylvester!

I'd be interested to know what the fashions are in your local disco (boys and girls), and in what dances you do and what records you like. Drop me a line.

Don't worry about your dancing. It's easy. Even if you've got two stiff legs, all you've got to do is get out onto the floor and move 'em from side to side. Once you get the hang of it you can start drawing attention to yourself by carrying a whistle and giving a couple of whooh whoohs every now and then in time to the music. That's whooh whooh to you, whistle stompers.

- 1. GENE CHANDLER Get Down (20th Century)
- 2. INSTANT FUNK Got My Mind Made Up (Salsoul)
- 3. EDWIN STARR Contact (20th Century)
- 4. TWO MAN SOUND Que Tal America (Miracle)
- 5. ROY AYERS/WAYNE HENDERSON Heat Of The Beat (Polydor)
- 6. HERBIE HANCOCK You Bet Your Love (CBS)
- GARY'S GANG Keep On Dancin' (CBS).
- 8. **DENNIS BROWN** Money In My Pocket
- 9. DAN HARTMAN Countdown/This is it (Blue Sky)
- 10. PEACHES & HERB Shake Your Groove Thing
- 11. SHALAMAR Take That To The Bank (RCA)
- 12. THREE DEGREES Woman In Love (Ariola)
- 13. RHANI HARRIS Six Million Steps (Mercury)
- 14. THIRD WORLD Cool Meditation (Island)
- 15. BARRY WHITE Just The Way You Are (20th Century)
- 16. FUNKADELIC One Nation Under A Groove (Warner Brothers)
- 17. CERRONE Je Suis Music (CBS)
- 18. OLYMPIC RUNNERS Sir Dancealot (Polydor)
- 19. CHANSON Don't Hold Back (Ariola)
- 20. GREGG DIAMOND Cream (Always Rises To The Top (Polydor)
- 21. CHAKA KHAN I'm Every Woman (Warners)
- 22. CHIC Le Freak (Atlantic)
- 23. JACKSONS Destiny/Blame It On The Boogle
- 24. MILLIE JACKSON My Man Is A Sweet Man (Polydor)
- 25. BLONDIE Heart Of Glass (Chrysalis)

You Bet Your Love

By Herbie Hancock on CBS Records (12 ins. version)

Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet your love on me

I know people who say lovin' comes from luck (You better bet your love on me) And superstition's all they trust (You better bet your love on me)

Oh oh oh darlin' you bet your love You better bet your love on me Oh oh oh darlin' you bet your love You better bet your love on me

If your palms are feeling itchy it's your night (You better bet your love on me) Say your prayers until you've got them right (You better bet your love on me)

Oh oh oh darlin' you bet your love You better bet your love on me Oh oh oh darlin' you bet your love You better bet your love on me

Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet your love on me (Repeat)

Fantasy Maybe Santa Claus will be a real good boy (You better bet your love on me) Stuff your socks with love just like a toy (You better bet your love on me) You can make a birthday wish Ask an angel for a kiss You better bet your love on me

Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet your love on me (Repeat)

Oh oh oh darlin' you bet your love You better bet your love on me Oh oh oh darlin' you bet your love You better bet your love on me

Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet better bet your love Better bet your love on me (Repeat to end)

Words and music by Herbie Hancock, David Rubinson, A. Willis and Cohen. Reproduced by permission Panache Music/Rondor Music.

Get Down

By Gene Chandler on 20th Century Records

Fine fine foxy lady Get down, get on down Way out moment on a spanking boogle Baby get on down, get on down.

l know a funky place that we can dance all night You can be my lady if you play your cards right But you gotta get down Get on down, get down baby Get on down, get down sugar Get on down.

Well you're looking real good in your halter-top yeah yeah Baby get on down, get on down You've sure got style, don't you ever stop no no Baby get on down, get on down

Girl you're moving everywhere You're sure hooked up girl You make the people stop and stare Oh get down huh, get on down, get down baby Get on down, get down sugar Get on down Get down baby brother get down Get down baby brother baby get down (Repeat four times) I guess I love you Get down get down down ooh ooh ooh

You move like you're on wheels baby huh Baby get on down get on down huh Shift it in third gear mama Wanna get on down, get on down

Ain't nothing too good for you I know that you can do it too Get down huh, get on down Get down baby Get on down, get down honey Get on down Get down baby brother baby get down (Repeat to fade)

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Shake Your Groove Thing

By Peaches & Herb on Polydor Records

Shake it shake it

Chorus Shake your groove thing Shake your groove thing yeah yeah Show 'em how they (we) do it now

(Repeat chorus)

Show 'em how they do it now

Let's show the world we can dance Bad enough ta strut our stuff The music gives us a chance We do more out on the floor Groovin' loose or heart to heart We put in motion every single part Funky sounds wall to wall We're bumpin' booties havin' us a ball y'all

(Chorus twice)

We've got the rhythm tonight All the rest know we're the best Our shadows flash in the light Twistin', turnin,' we keep burning Shake it high or shake it low We take our bodies where they want to go Feel that beat never stop Oh hold me tight, spin me like a top

(Chorus twice)

There's nothing more that I'd like to do Than take the floor and dance with you Keep dancin' let's keep dancin' Shake it shake it shake it

Groovin' loose or heart to heart We put in motion every single part Funky sounds wall to wall We're bumpin' booties havin' us a ball y'all

(Chorus twice)

Shake it, show 'em how we do it now . . . (Ad libs to end)

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20 SMASH HITS

Bat Out Of Hell

By Meat Loaf on Epic Records

The sirens are screaming and the fires are howling Way down in the valley tonight. There's a man in the shadows with a gun in his eye And a blade shining oh so bright. There's evil in the air and there's thunder in the sky And a killer's on the bloodshot streets. And down in the tunnel where the deadly are rising. Oh I swear I saw a young boy. Down in the gutter. He was starting to foam in the heat.

Oh baby you're the only thing in this whole world that's pure and good and right
And wherever you are and wherever you go
There's always gonna be some light
But I gotta get out
I gotta break it out now
Before the final crack of dawn
So we gotta make the most of our one night together
When it's over you know
We'll both be so alone

Chorus

Like a bat out of hell
I'll be gone when the morning comes
When the night is over
Like a bat out of hell I'll be gone gone gone
Like a bat out of hell I'll be gone when the morning comes
But when the day is done
And the sun goes down
And the moonlight's shining through
Then like a sinner before the gates of heaven
I'll come crawling on back to you

I'm gonna hit the highway like a battering ram
On a silver black phantom bike
When the metal is hot and the engine is hungry
And we're all about to see the light
Nothing ever grows in this rotting old hole
And everything is stunted and lost
And nothing really rocks
And nothing really rolls
And nothing's ever worth the cost
And I know that I'm damned if I never get out
And maybe I'm damned if I do
But with every other beat I got left in my heart
You know I'd rather be damned with you
Well if I gotta be damned you know I wanna be damned
Dancing through the night with you
Well if I gotta be damned you know I wanna be damned
Gotta be damned you know I wanna be damned
If I gotta be damned you know I wanna be damned
Dancing through the night
Dancing through the night
Dancing through the night
Dancing through the night

Oh baby you're the only thing in this whole world that's pure and good and right
And wherever you are and wherever you go
There's always gonna be some light
But I gotta get out
I gotta break it out now
Before the final crack of dawn
So we gotta make the most of our one night together
When it's over you know
We'll both be so alone

(Repeat chorus twice)

Then like a sinner before the gates of heaven I'll come crawling on back to you

Words and music by Jim Steinman. Reproduced by kind permission Dick James Music.

May The Sunshine

By Nazareth on Mountain Records

Chorus

May the sun, the sun shine bright May the sun shine bright on you May the sun, the sun shine bright May the sun shine bright on you

Someone woke me up again last night Talking to me about my last time Don't teil me I know it's late Please please lay me down a line Pick me up before I start to fall Never let your dreams grow small

(Repeat chorus)

Talking to my lover she was out
It was independence Day.
Don't be nervous you can hold me tight
Someone turned the light out on the stairs
Was it just the wind I heard
Just another helping hand

(Repeat chorus)

Take me back down the yellow brick road Let me get my ticket to your heart Strangers hiding on my land Could it be it's keeping me apart Give me time don't you give me no love Let the sun shine in your heart

(Chorus repeat to fade)

Words and music by Dan McCafferty, Manny Charlton, Zal Cleminson, Peter Agnew, and Darrell Sweet. Reproduced by kind permission Panache Music.

Remember... next issue of Smash Hits on sale March 8

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The names listed are hidden in the diagrams. They run horizontally, vertically or diagonally — many of them are printed backwards. But remember that the names are always in an uninterrupted straight line, letters in sequence, whichever way they run. Some letters will need to be used more than once. Others you won't need to use at all. Put a line through the names as you find them. Solutions on page 30.

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C	A	S	E	E	R	G	E	D	E	E	R	H	T	0	E
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U	0	S	C	L	0	U	T	В	1	L	L	F	R	N	R
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Attractions Billy Idol City Boy Clout Commodores Diana Ross Earth Wind and Fire **Hi-Tension Judas Priest** Kate Bush Marvin Gaye Nazareth **Only Ones Paul Simon** Police Poly Styrene Replays Rush Sally Oldfield Sex Pistols Steel Pulse Third World **Three Degrees** Toto Voyage

Bianca Jagg Bonnie Tyle

Bianca Jagger **Bonnie Tyler Dire Straits** Doors Gene Chandler **Hot Rods** Joe Walsh Karen Carpenter Keith Richards Lene Lovich Maurice Gibb Meat Loaf Members Merger Mink DeVille Monkees Mr Big Mud **Pete Townshend** Peter Frampton **RAH Band** Ronnie Wood Stevie Wonder Wings Yes

We've Got Tonite

By Bob Seger on Capitol Records

I know it's late, I know you're weary I know your plans don't include me Still here we are, both of us lonely Longing for shelter from all that we see Why should we worry? No one will care, girl Look at the stars so far away

We've got tonight. Who needs tomorrow? We've got tonight babe. Why don't you stay?

Deep in my soul I've been so lonely All of my hopes fading away I've longed for love like everyone else does I know I'll keep searching even after today So there it is girl, I've said it all now And here we are babe. What do you say?

Chorus repeat

I know it's late, I know you're weary Ooh I know your plans don't include me Still here we are, both of us lonely Both of us lonely

We've got tonight, who needs tomorrow? Let's make it last, let's find a way Turn out the light, come take my hand now We've got tonight babe. Why don't you stay? Repeat verse three times

Oh oh oh why don't you stay?

Words and music by Bob Seger. Reproduced by kind permission Warner Brothers Music Ltd.



Got a nasty grease patch on your bedroom wall? Cover it up with this great

ABSOLUTELY



The Smash Hits Wallchart can be used to keep a record of the top hits of 1979 - it has spaces for you to enter the top three chart singles. Or you can simply fill in your favourite three singles for each week. Alternatively, you can use it as an attractive poster to brighten up a dull corner of the house. The Wallchart is absolutely free. Simply snip out the coupon below, then collect two more coupons and send all three to Smash Hits (Wallchart Offer), Park House, 117 Park Road, Peterborough PE1 2TS . . . If you missed the coupon in the last issue there'll be a bonus coupon appearing soon to help you to make up the number. Remember, you need coupons. OHARI POSTE another one in the next issue, on sale Thursday, March 8. and post THREE of these to get your free wallchart. HOW'S YOUR finances right now? Better than Britain's, I hope (or mine, for that matter), coz the goodies are still pouring out of the Record Biz like gems from a swag bag - so without much further ado, allow me to tempt you with the finest of the bunch:

LENE LOVICH: Lucky Number (Stiff 12in). If this remarkable lady is not Big In '79 I shall send my ears back for a new pair. Overloaded with quirky ideas on everyday situations, assorted extraordinary voices for each different mood and no mean talent as a sax player, she is more original than any half-dozen other New Wavers put together. Fine band, too, led by quitarist and co-writer Les Chappell. Once you've worn out the single, try her album "Stateless" - I did and it's seldom been off my turntable since.

BONNIE POINTER: Heaven Must Have Sent You (Motown 12in, pic bag). Different kind of lady. More orthodox song about the same joys of mating as explored by Lene. Just as attractive in its way. Originally a hit for The Elgins in 1966, this new version faithfully recreates the famous old Motown sound and should prove to be equally successful.

ELVIS COSTELLO & THE ATTRACTIONS: Oliver's Army (Radar, pic bag). Sorry if I'm treading on any corns here but I reckon this uncomfortable mix of serious 'message' song and clapped-out old pop melody is El's weakest effort for ages. He seems to be as humourless as a stuffed trout.

BONEY M: Painter Man (Atlantic). On second thoughts, I think I'll play "Oliver's Army" again. No really, I'm not just knocking Boney M out of habit some of their stuff has been skilfully put together. It's just that this ordinary reworking of The Creation's old hit is way below par.

REAL THING: Can You Feel The Force? (Pye 12in, pic bag). The most confident and competent track ever recorded by the four sons of Liverpool 8, who have

finally made the big jump from singalong pop songs to exciting disco/funk. Might confuse some of their established fans but should attract a lot of new ones. Seven inch version in transparent yellow vinyl.

ROD STEWART: Ain't Love A Bitch (Riva). Light 'n' easy-jogging beat ballad that makes sly reference to a couple of his past hits. Rod sounds even more strained than usual, as if he's singing one key too high for comfort. Probably helps to fill his recent album alright but it's nothing special.

DONALD BYRD: Thank You For Funking Up My Life (Electra 12in). Any misprints here and we'll have Mary Whitehouse on the phone. An essential buy for confirmed funk addicts, great bass sound and chugging rhythm, but probably as boring as a stopwatch to the rest of you.



OSMONDS: Steppin' Out (Mercury). By the cringe, even Los Mormosmonds have discovered the sinful pleasure of funky nights in a disco. A perky track, written by three of the family and co-produced by Maurice Gibb, it's not at all bad. If only they wouldn't grin so much.

BEE GEES: Tragedy (RSO, pic bag). Obviously this'll be a smash hit already by the time you read this so I need hardly add that the production of this ordinary song is great, making the thing seem to bounce along on a flexisteel trampoline, but if their irritating voices get any higher they'll pass right out of range of human hearing and the brothers will have to find a new, canine audience.

BLUES BROTHERS: Soul Man (Atlantic). In which a couple of yankee honkees, who were previously best known in America as satirical comedians, turn their hand to reviving 'real' soul music (as the rock press like to call it) and do an amazingly good job - mainly because they're accompanied by a band full of star musicians, including guitarist Steve Cropper, who played on Sam & Dave's original hit version back in 1967. S'alright, y'all.

INNER CIRCLE: Everything Is Great (Island 12in). An attempt to follow label-mates Third World into the disco charts that doesn't really come off, there being no instantly hummable hook line. The two reggae tracks on t'other side are much better.

MEAT LOAF: Bat Out Of Hell (Epic 12in, red vinyl). Even though he is as gross as a triple-decker burger smothered in ketchup and greasy chips, the Loaf sure knows how to deliver a song with full dramatic intensity. Trouble is, I'd have thought most interested parties would have bought the album of the same name already by

NICOLETTE LARSON: Lotta Love (Warner Brothers). Beautifully rendered version of

Singles referred to as coloured, vinyl, pic sleeve, or 12in versions are usually only available in this form during early pressings. Remember also that coloured vinyl doesn't normally play as well as plain black.

a tender Neil Young plea, arranged with just enough zest and backbeat to cross over from the Radio One and Two playlists to the less funky discos. It's what Americans call Adult Orientated Rock - and very seductive it is too.

TOTO: Hold The Line (CBS). Love it, but can't rightly explain why. Broken down for analysis, the individual bits of this record are nothing exciting. Put together, the catchy title part, intermittent heavy guitar riff, repetitive piano, harmonies and clean lead vocal all go to make a very appealing hit.

MILLIE JACKSON: My Man Is A Sweet Man (Spring 12 ins). Extended, remixed edition of one of Millie's earliest hits, recorded in 1972, before she got all rude and sassy. She now apparently hates it but it still sounds great to me.

THE BARRON KNIGHTS: Boozy Nights (Epic). Credit where credit's due: this is an exceptionally well-produced parody of Heatwave's "Boogie Nights". Not half as witty as some of their other efforts

JULIE & GORDON: J-J-Julie (Yippee Yula) (Pogo, pic bag). A comic (?) duet that's entertaining the first couple of times, irritates on third hearing and is ripe for destruction by any means possible after that. To be avoided.

NEIL DIAMOND: Forever In Blue Jeans (CBS). Well blow me down with a force nine gale, the rhinestone star with the big butch voice strays from his usual grandiose operettas to croon a country-flavoured stomp about how his girl means more than his money. Music for mums with a hint of teenbeat. Quite unexpectedly bearable.

DOROTHY MOORE: (We Need More) Loving Time (Épic). LATIMORE: Too Hot To Handle (TK).

Two for the romantics among you (are there any left?) when you've reached that point in the evening when you're entwined with someone special and feeling reckless.



Robin, Barry and Maurice look a bit put out that Red Starr should describe them as drips. Don't let it bother you fellas, Red's rude to everybody. It's just that his cornflakes had gone soft when he got up this morning...

POINTER SISTERS: Energy (Planet). Classy but so far hitless black American trio try out Carly Simon territory for size with an interesting if uneventful selection of (mostly) white American songs (Steely Dan, Bruce Springsteen etc) under a white producer. The result is pleasant and polished but definitely missing their usual zip. Next stop disco, girls? Best trax: "Lay It On The Line "Come And Get Your Love". (6 out of 10).

ALICIA BRIDGES: Alicia Bridges (Polydor). Not what you'd expect from her great disco single, "I Love The Night Life". Instead a striking but unfortunately very patchy collection of self-written mood songs, mostly soul and bluesy, from the lady with the kitty cat voice. The thin, polite backing scarcely does her justice either, but this is definitely different so check it out. Best trax: "Body Heat", "I Love The Night Life". (5 out of 10).

THE BEE GEES: Spirits Having Flown (RSO). You may hate me for saying this, but how these drips ever managed to write

that magnificent "Saturday Night Fever" soundtrack is totally beyond me. This is back to their gormless pap formula — overblown waferthin ideas, soul-less quavery singing, all the character of three gnats and as wet as the Atlantic Ocean. Listen very carefully before buying. Best trax: "Tragedy", "Spirits Having Flown". (3 out of 10).

VARIOUS ARTISTS: 20 Of Another Kind (Polydor). Reasonable collection of mainstream New Wave singles from last year for the non-singles buyer. All established stuff, however, including several hits, and only The Cure offer anything really new and interesting. Still, at least you know what you're getting this time. Dreadful cover. Best trax: choose your own! (5 out of 10).

GENERATION X: Valley Of The Dolls (Chrysalis). Ambitious but only partially successful attempt at straddling old and new waves. Side one sounds like Mott The Hoople (remember them?) trying to be Bruce Springsteen on an off

day, but side two is better, simpler and poppier. Some interesting lyrics as well, but the tunes could certainly do with tightening up. Best trax: "Friday's Angels", "Valley Of The Dolls". (5 out of 10).

HORSLIPS: The Man Who Built America (DJM). This blend of strong mainstream rock 'n' roll and old Irish melodies may take a few spins to sink in, but it's some of the very best music around right now so make a point of checking it out. Unusual poetic lyrics too, about lonely gold prospectors in America last century. Pick of the Week. Best trax: "Loneliness", "Green Star Liner". (8 out of

HERBIE HANCOCK: Feets Don't Fail Me Now (CBS). Six long tracks of jazz/funk/disco fusion from an excellent American pianist. Good to dance to but the long instrumental parts may get boring unless you're into clever musicianship. Certainly shows the Bee Gees where to get off when it comes to classy funk though. Best trax: "You Bet Your Love", "Tell Everybody". (5 out of 10).

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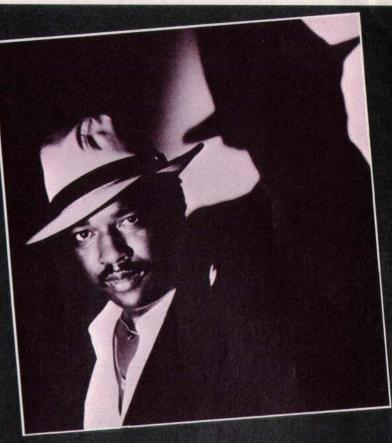
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Contact

By Edwin Starr on 20th Century Records

Contact

Across the crowded disco room Through a maze of dancing people She sat so quiet and all alone Wanting to catch the disco fever And as she raised her head her eyes caught mine And that was all that I needed In her eyes I saw the need for love So warm . . . soft pleading

Chorus

'Cause we've made Eye to eye contact Eye to eye contact. Oh oh oh oh yeah Eye to eye contact. We've made Eye to eye contact. You and me. Contact You were looking at me I was looking at you You were looking at me

Across the crowded disco room Oh your eyes told me the story My heart was beating like the drum As I fought my way over I never took my eyes away from yours Not even for a moment What I saw in your eyes made me realise You I wanted

(Repeat chorus)

Girl don't you get uptight, let's dance Everything's gonna be alright, let's dance Take a chance, oh and dance I sure like what you got You're sure enuff lookin' hot (dance) I sure like what you got You're sure enuff lookin' hot (dance) Come on and dance . .

Words and music by Edwin Starr, Robert Dickerson and Arthur E. Pullham III. Reproduced by kind permission ATV Music/Zonal Music

COMEBACK CORNER

Back to set you dancing . .

HEN YOU'RE goodfooting to the latest hot sounds down at the local disco, you're probably not too concerned to know about the artists in the grooves. No reason why you should be. Except for the few singers you're particularly keen on, it doesn't really matter who's singing what so long as it's good to dance to. The important thing is having a good time on the dance floor, right?

Dunno whether you've thought about it, but the fact that the artists' names are often unimportant can be a good thing. For a start it means that you're not being influenced (some say manipulated) by image or publicity campaigns, or whether or not the lead singer's wearing skin-tight pants.

You're just enjoying a record because you like the sound of it. The best reason of all.

It can also be a great help to fallen recording stars. In other areas of music, particularly rock, where image is more important than you may realise, singers or groups who've become unfashionable find it very hard to be accepted again. In disco, anybody who comes up with a good record is welcome.

Over the last couple of years there have been several names from the past getting disco hits, and this last month has seen at least two welcome American comebacks.

Behind the determined cry "I Will Survive" is a lady who was once dubbed 'Queen Of The Discos': Gloria Gaynor. That was back in 1975 when she was reaching the first peak of her career.

BORN AND raised in Newark, New Jersey, Gloria spent her late teens and early twenties working round the small-time clubs with a couple of different soul bands before making her first record in about 1973. Recorded in Philadelphia, "Honey Bee" was a fine example of the then enormously popular 'Philly Sound' and was a big hit in the north-east American discos, which were just starting to flourish at that time.

The following year took her even higher, when, with a change of record company and a move to New York, she began recording the few smash hits that temporarily made her First Lady Of Disco.

Do you remember her winners? Mainly cleverly re-arranged versions of other people's hit songs, like "Never Can Say Goodbye", "Reach Out I'I Be There", "Walk On By". Somehow, though, she

Somehow, though, she eventually lost her grip on success and, after a couple of years at the top, gradually slid from the charts and passed on her crown to Donna Summer.

Now recovering from the fall, she is back to her old form, not only with the single but also a very good album, "Love Tracks" (Polydor).

EDWIN Starr goes even further back but may be better known to most of you. Although he wasn't classed among Motown's biggest acts at the time of his hits for that label, he has always been popular in Britain and has toured here many times.

In fact his popularity stems from before his Motown days, when, during 1965-66, he recorded such Northern Soul classics as "Agent 00-Soul", "Stop Her On Sight (S.O.S.)" and "Headline News".

Born Charles Hatcher in

Born Charles Hatcher in Nashville, Tennessee, he ended up in Detroit after his stint in the U.S. Forces.

Joining Motown in 1967 he was soon charting regularly with such memorable hits as "25 Miles" (produced by Harvey Fuqua, who's now recording Sylvester), "War" and "Funky Music Sho' Nuff Turns Me On."

It was Edwin who discovered Rose Royce and first employed them as his backing band.

About 1974 he left Motown and promptly fell from grace, for although his voice remained impressive he couldn't seem to come up with the right song or the right sound until "Contact" brought him eye-to-eye with the charts again.

Next time you're bumping your booty down at the disco, just think, you could very well be dancing in celebration of somebody's comeback.

Cliff White



I Will Survive

By Gloria Gaynor on Polydor Records

At first I was afraid, I was petrified
Kept thinkin' I could never live without you by my side
But then I spent so many nights thinkin' how you did me wrong
And I grew strong, and I learned how to get along
And so you're back from outer space
I just walked in to find you here with that sad look upon your face
I should have changed that stupid lock
I should have made you leave your key
If I'd have known for just one second you'd be back to
bother me...

Chorus

Go on now go walk out the door
Just turn around now 'cause you're not welcome anymore
Weren't you the one who tried to hurt me with goodbye
Did you think I'd crumble did you think I'd lay down and die
Oh no not I, I will survive
Oh as long as I know how to love I know I'll stay alive
I've got all my life to live
I've got all my love to give
And I'll survive, I will survive hey hey

It took all the strength I had not to fall apart
Kept tryin' hard to mend the pieces of my broken heart
And I spent oh so many nights just feelin' sorry for myself
I used to cry, but now I hold my head up high
And you see me somebody new
I'm not that chained up little person still in love with you
And so you felt like droppin' in and just expect me to be free
Well now I'm savin' all my lovin' for someone whose lovin' me

(Repeat chorus to fade)

Words and music by Dino Fekaris and Freddie Perren. Reproduced by kind permission ATV Music. STEP INTO 1979 WITH COLOUR ON YOUR CHEST



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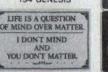
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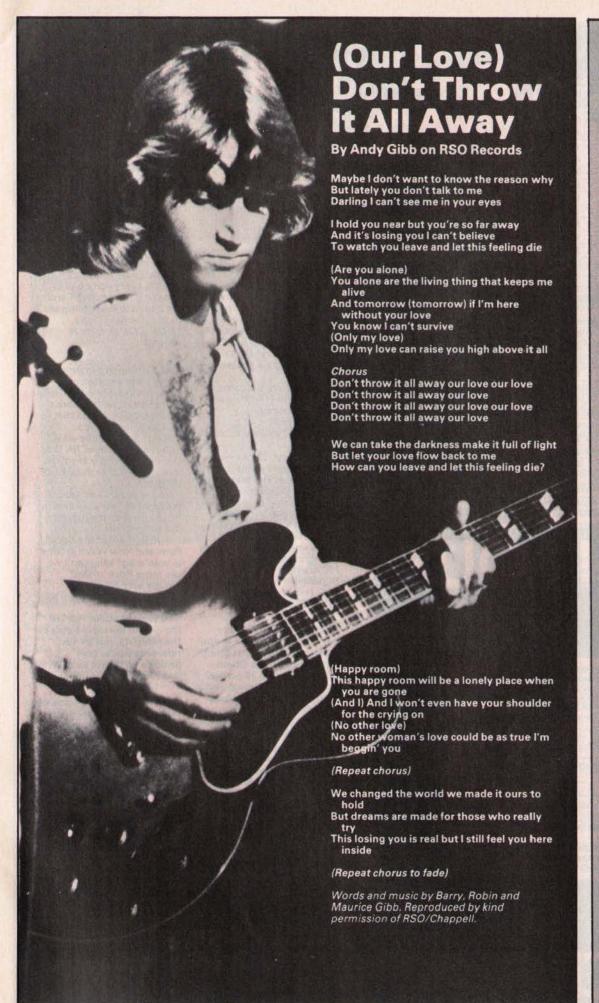
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PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20) You're starting to suffer from the recurring Piscean trait of not knowing your own mind. While you're dithering, be careful that someone doesn't take advantage of your soft nature.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20) Money problems are likely to bring a temporary halt to your plans. Don't take risks and make matters worse. Things will improve given time.

TAURUS (April 21-May 20) You may have some problems with a friend or partner who keeps misunderstanding your actions. If you want to keep their friendship, you're gonna have to work harder to explain.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) People are likely to get on your nerves over the next few weeks, so you're gonna need tact and patience to avoid blow ups.

CANCER (June 21-July 20) Your general outlook should start brightening a bit in early March, as things start going your way again after a difficult patch. Keep optimistic.

LEO (July 21-Aug 21) Social prospects have an exciting look to them, but your enjoyment could be tempered by some arguments and problems at work or school.

VIRGO (Aug 22-Sept 22) Keep watching your health, 'cos the work is still piling up. Rather than look for a change, which might be a mistake, just resolve to clear the backlog. Holiday plans might cheer you up.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22) The gradual improvement in your pocket won't be helped if you splash out on silly buys.
Exercise a little restraint until
you're sure that you've turned
the corner.

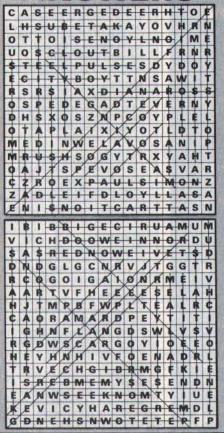
SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 22) Friends may seem extra special around now, surprising you with their generosity and thoughtfulness. Take them up on their offers; repay them when you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-

Dec 20) Work and domestic problems start to weigh heavy on you, although there's a chance of some good luck coming out of it. People may come to you for

CAPRICORN (Dec 21-Jan 19) You may be feeling in an argumentative mood, or impatient with people who
don't see things the way you do.
Take care that this doesn't cause
the end of a valuable friendship.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18) You may be feeling tired after the excesses of previous weeks. Now's a good time to take a breather, get a check-up etc, and let your energy return naturally.



Write to Smash Hits at 41 Broadway, Peterborough, PE1 1RY.

We DO read all your letters (honest), but sorry, we can't reply to those asking for the words to specific songs, unless they're upcoming hits which we would hope to be printing in Smash Hits anyway.

I WOULD like to know if Poly Styrene of X-Ray Spex has any hair, because Oliver The Punk (my brother) went to an Anti-Nazi League/Rock Against Racism concert and he said that while he was watching X-Ray Spex Poly took her hat off and revealed

I want to know if this is true, and also why she wears a brace over her teeth. Love, hugs and kisses. Emma Crowhurst, Rusper Road, Ifield, Crawley,

These and other burning issues concerning Poly and X-Ray Spex will be answered in a feature on the band coming up soon.

WHAT A fab mag, eh? However, there is one thing that really annoys me - you keep leaving out the shadow underneath the 'H' in

'SMASH'. I've had to put it in myself ever since issue No.1!

Please could you do something about this, OR send me a new black Tempo pen every 12 issues, O.K. Simon Barber ('STICKS' to his friends), Constance Street, Newport, Gwent. PS. Let's have some more Rich Kids and Fondlers, O.K. PPS. Brett says 'Howabout some more Eddie Cochran?' PPPS. But I wouldn't take any notice of him if I were

you . . . PPPPS. You're welcome to come round for coffee and bickies anytime Ultravox did! PPPPPS. The Clash poster is

epicl

Dunno about 'Sticks' -Hawkeye seems more appropriate! The man who drew the shadowless 'H' has had his toenails forcibly removed, and has been locked in a room with Max Bygraves records as punishment. But not before giving us our shadow back. PS. Are they Rich Tea or Digestive? PPS. Here comes another complaint!!!

HERE, YOU SOPPY twits have forgotten a clue in your crossword! How am I going to win a Bee Gees album when there's no 39 across? Apart from this though, your magazine is the best thing since Blondie. Rob Johnson, Oliver Road,

Leyton E10.

Grovelling apologies Rob, and to the thousands of other readers who pointed out our mistake. Sorry Here's what you should do. Complete the rest of the crossword, ignoring 39 across. Send it in and you'll stand as good a chance as anybody else of copping a prize. Because of the mistake we've decided to extend the closing date by another week. Get your entries in by Feb 28th, and we'll pick the winners then.

MY NAME is Jayne and I attend Friend's School, Lisburn. This letter is on behalf of 12 classmates and myself from the Lower 6th.

We want to thank you for such a great mag.

You're the only good pop mag that keeps us up to date with all the news, and we're really glad to hear that it's going to be out every two weeks. Every one of us has bought every edition of Smash Hits from No. 1 and we intend to keep doing so. Jayne, Orchard Close, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland.

I WAS glancing through one of my mate's copies of Smash Hits No. 4 when I saw that you had written about Buddy Holly and said that he was 23 when he died. Wrong! Buddy Holly was born on September 7th 1938 and died February 3rd 1959 making him 21 at the time of his death.

You also said he died on the night of February 2nd. In fact he died on the morning of February 3rd.

And why all, or almost all, Punk and New Wave groups in your mag? Why can't we see more Rock 'n' Roll groups and artistes? A Staines Town Teddy Boy.

You're right about Feb 3rd (he died in the early hours of the morning) but all our reference books give Buddy's birthdate as 1936 not 1938.

IN Smash Hits No. 3 some of my friends and myself have found footsteps on page 11. We do not understand their significance. The arrows come out of nowhere. Is the dance to the song "YMCA" or to "Le Freak"? I would like to know because I'm keen on doing the dance. Ruth Carter (and S. Quaile), Hamil Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

They're not steps to any particular dance, Ruth. We just thought they would make the page look a bit more interesting. Best way to learn to dance, says Bev, is just to let yourself go to your favourite record played as loud as you can get it. Whatever steps you find yourself making, they'll be the right ones.

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Cheap Trick Newcastle Mayfair Public Image Manchester Kings Hall Generation X Bath Pavilion Lene Lovich Warwick University, Coventry **Darts** Exeter University **Jacksons** London Rainbow Eddle & The Hot Rods Reading University Radio Stars Teesside Polytechnic Herbie Hancock Brighton Top Rank Average White Band Glasgow Apollo

Saturday (Feb 24) Cheap Trick St. Albans City Hall Generation X Birmingham Barbarella's Lene Lovich Sheffield University Billy Joel Birmingham Odeon **Jacksons** London Rainbow Eddie & the Hot Rods Hull University Radio Stars Sunderland Polytechnic Herbie Hancock London Hammersmith Odeon

Sunday (Feb 25) Cheap Trick London Hammersmith Odeon Billy Joel Bristol Colston Hall **Jacksons** Poole Arts Centre Eddie & The Hot Rods Redcar Coatham Bowl Generation X London Lyceum Average White Band Liverpool Empire Slade Watford Bailey's (For one week)

Monday (Feb 26) Lene Lovich Exeter Routes **Darts Lancaster University** Showaddywaddy Birmingham Night Out (For one week)

Billy Joel London Albert Hall Radio Stars Cambridge University Average White Band Sheffield City Hall

Tuesday (Feb 27) Lene Lovich Plymouth Metro Darts Newcastle City Hall Magazine Leicester University

Wednesday (Feb 28) Average White Band Aberdeen Capitol The Skids Newport Stowaway Graham Parker/The Rumour Cardiff University Darts Glasgow Apollo Radio Stars Southampton University Magazine Wolverhampton Polytechnic Lene Lovich Portsmouth Polytechnic

Thursday (March 1) Average White Band Edinburgh Odeon The Skids Cardiff Glamis Club **Darts Middlesbrough Town Hall** Bad Company Newcastle City Hall Earth Wind & Fire New Bingley Hall, Stafford Magazine Keele University Lene Lovich London Kings College **Undertones** Norwich Boogie House

Friday (March 2) Earth Wind & Fire New Bingley Hall, Stafford **Average White Band Lancaster University** Joan Armatrading Glasgow Apollo The Skids Bristol University Graham Parker/The Rumour Sheffield City **Darts** Leicester De Montfort Hall

Bad Company Newcastle City Hall

Radio Stars Doncaster Bircotes Sports

Magazine Uxbridge Brunel University **Undertones** Manchester Factory

Saturday (March 3) Earth Wind & Fire London Wembley Arena Average White Band Leeds University Lene Lovich Manchester University Graham Parker/The Rumour Liverpool **Empire**

Darts Bradford St. George's Hall Radio Stars Manchester Polytechnic Magazine Essex University, Colchester Steve Hillage London Rainbow **Undertones** Liverpool Eric's

Sunday (March 4)
Earth Wind & Fire London Wembley Arena Radio Stars Middlesbrough Crypt Club Undertones Middlesbrough Rock Garden

Monday (March 5) Average White Band Bristol Hippodrome Joan Armatrading Manchester Apollo Graham Parker/The Rumour Newcastle City

Darts Portsmouth Guildhall **Bad Company Edinburgh Odeon** Magazine Cambridge University **Undertones** York Pop Club

Tuesday (March 6) Average White Band Brighton Dome Joan Armatrading Manchester Apollo Graham Parker/The Rumour Edinburgh Odeon

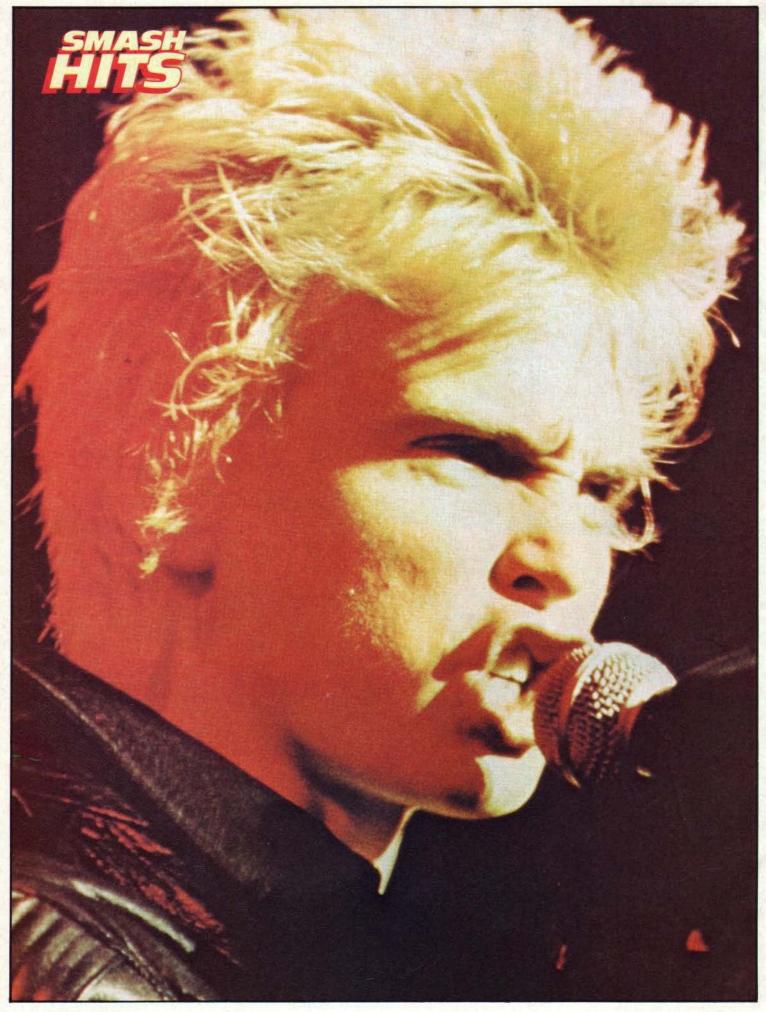
Darts Oxford New Theatre Bad Company Glasgow Apollo Undertones Sheffield Limit Club Radio Stars Birmingham Barbarella's Magazine Lincoln College

Wednesday (March 7) Joan Armatrading Bristol Colston Hall The Skids York Pop Club Graham Parker/The Rumour Aberdeen Capitol **Darts Ipswich Gaumont** Bad Company Glasgow Apollo Magazine York University Slade Bradford University

Thursday (March 8) Joan Armatrading Birmingham Odeon The Skids Leeds Fan Club Graham Parker/The Rumour Glasgow Apollo **Darts Manchester Apollo** Magazine Strathclyde University, Glasgow Average White Band London Rainbow Undertones Birmingham Barbarella's

While we make every effort to make our listings accurate, gigs are often subject to last minute change. We suggest you check

Darts, EW & F, Hot Rods, Undertones . . . locally with the venue before you set out.



SMASH HITS

BILLY IDOL