

SMASH HITS

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Would You Want To Kidnap WET WET WET??!

Well, Some Bloke Did!
- See Pages 26-28

+
12 HIT SONG DVD'S including
WHITNEY HOUSTON
TREASURE

POSTERS: PET SHOP BOYS
A-HA MEL & KIM

+
BROS
MICHAEL JACKSON
BELINDA CARLISLE
DEBBIE GIBSON
DEREK B
CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT



▲ 16-17 THE PRIMITIVES



▲ 10-11 BROS



▲ 44-45 BELINDA CARLISLE



▲ 52-53 CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT... LIVE!



▲ 26-28 WET WET WET... CHAT!

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"hello viewers,

Michael Jackson here, Do you like my "hat"? Rather groovy,

don't you think? Anyway, enough of this idle banter. I'm here to tell you about some more "dates" I'll be playing an my forthcoming and well-happening British tour. They are as follows: Cordiff Arms Park, July 26; Paicr Ui Chaoimh, Cork, July 30; Leeds Roundhay Park, August 29.

And what's more, I'm giving away 25 - 25! - special square shaped picture discs of my "Man In The Mirror" single. To be in with a chance of winning one just answer the following simple question: What is my date of birth? Answers on a postcard to **The Smash Hits My, What A Groovy Hat Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** by March 22 please. Bye...."



POSTER



A Tale Of Potato Picking, A Paper Round And A Perv Called Prince



▲ Taja Sevelle: not a very practical outfit for picking potatoes, eh viewers?

Prince came waltzing up to me in a nightclub wanting to know my name. I'm not surprised he noticed me – my hair was totally ridiculous, stuck out about two feet in every direction. I was actually knocking people over with my hairstyle!

Taja Sevelle, sitting on the end of a trans-Atlantic phone line, is explaining her "monumental" encounter with His Regal Not-Very-Tallness, i.e. Prince, back in 1983, an occasion which has led to her now recording the quite splendid *Love Is Contagious*. "I'd been an extra in a crowd scene on his *Purple Rain* movie a while before that and though you can't see me in the film, he remembered me in the nightclub from that. Once he'd heard me sing, he offered me a record contract with his label, Paisley Park, immediately."

Though it's her first single in Britain, at 26 years old Ms Sevelle has been "making music" for eight years, ever since she decided she didn't want to "go crazy" on her parents' potato farm. "I'd been raised in the city of Minneapolis until I was about 12, when my parents decided to buy themselves a potato farm," she remembers.

"It was great at first, until they made me drive tractors and pick potatoes. That was horrible. I went crazy and had to be sent back to the city. I don't eat potatoes any more."

After leaving school, getting involved in various dodgy bands and making no money whatsoever, Taja started her first paper round.

"I had to get up at four in the morning to deliver 200 newspapers. I gave it up when it snowed. Then I had another job which was really sick. I handed out alcohol samples at a liquor store (*American word for off licence*).

I quit drinking myself after giving that job up. By this time though I'd got myself some songs together, got a producer, and then won a part as an extra in *Purple Rain*...

And the rest, as "they" say, is "history"...



Photo: Paul Butler

BLUB! SIOBHAN'S LEAVING THE

It's official! **Siobhan Fahey** has announced that she is leaving **Bananarama**, the all-singing, all-dancing, girlie threesome who have rocketed to worldwide acclaim with their spiky pop tunes and riddle "dance" routines. Sarah Dallin and Keren Woodward (the other two members) will, however, be continuing as Bananarama.

An "official statement" explains the situation "thus": "Bananarama, Britain's biggest ever all-girl group, today announced the departure of founder member Siobhan Fahey to pursue a solo career. Replacing Siobhan will be an old friend of the group, Jacque O'Sullivan, previously lead singer with The Shillelagh Sisters. Sarah Dallin and Keren Woodward said today: 'We're obviously sad after six years to see Siobhan leave and we wish her all the best in the future. It's great to be working with Jacque as we've known her a long time and we're looking forward to starting work on our new album'.

Bananarama (as they'll continue to call themselves) are now releasing "I Want You Back" from their Wow! LP. The song has apparently been re-recorded or re-mixed or something so that Jacque is singing instead of Siobhan. Jacque will also feature in the new video. Well!

▲ Siobhan Fahey The original



▲ Jacque in the Shillelagh Sisters' - is she the one holding a stick

WIN SOME "FAB" "GEAR"!

George Harrison. Worra wonky old trouper, eh? After his hit "Got My Mind Set On You", he's now harking back to his long lamented days with famous best group of yesteryear The Beatles, with "When We Was Fab". And though his use of English leaves a lot to be desired, his single "packaging" is really quite er, fab. Sol 25 - 25!! - of you can win this limited edition single in a box, which also has a colourful poster and your very own cut out and keep (almost) lifesize George, depicted in "tasteful" cardboard. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question correctly: Which city did the Beatles all come from? Was it: a) Carlisle; b) Liverpool or c) Kettering?

Answers on a postcard to the Smash Hits Four Lads Who Shook The World (Whatever That Means) Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF to get here by March 22.



● Madonna here, I'm squashed into this little space to invite you to enter a terrific competition. 25 lucky listeners can win a special compact disc version of my "You Can Dance" LP (which contains 7 "mixes" of the songs as opposed to 12 "mixes"), if they can answer this question correctly: Which multi-talented pop singing sensation has become known for the phrase "Where's the cougar, matey?" Is it: a) John "Cougar" Mellencamp; b) Del Leopard or c) me? Answers to Smash Hits Madonna Competition, 52 - 55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF by March 22. Ciao!



THE DAY NEIL TENNANT MARRIED TIFFANY!

◁ It was the pop wedding of the century! Neil

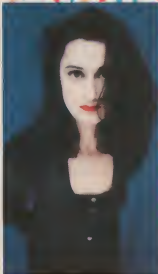
Tennant was to plight his troth to Tiffany with Chris Lowe as "best man"!!

Unfortunately, though, it all went horribly wrong. Dracula turned up at the wedding feast, bit Tiffany on the neck and she had to go and sleep in a coffin for a very long time before turning into a bat or something.

Neil didn't mind much though. He'd decided he didn't like Tiffany that much anyway and Dracula turned out to be quite a pleasant chap so they all went off fishing for carp with Chris' brand new rod. What an odd day it turned out to be!

A boring person writes: *Actually this is not strictly true. These are "stills" from the video for the new Pet Shop Boys single "Heart" and the girlie in the video isn't Tiffany at all. And the vampire isn't really a vampire but a bloke called Ian McKellen who's a bit of an actor type and actually the wedding isn't really a... (Yes, I think we get the "picture" - Ed.)*

'RAMS'



▲ The New Rams, Jacques O'Sullivan - doesn't she look a "nice" spooly

One of these blokes used to snog Madonna! And one of them writes her best songs with her!



▲ The Breakfast Club. (from left) Steve Bray (writes the songs), Gary Burke, Ed Gillyer, Dan Gillyer (had the kiss-ups)

When I kissed Madonna... it was wonderful. I melted. But only a few inches. (?) Jings! So that's what happens when one kisses the "rosebud" lips of the most famous person in the history of the kiss-up. And who might this "privileged" being be? Well, he's a bloke called Dan Gillyer, lead singer with **The Breakfast Club** who Madonna used to drum with many "moons" ago. Steven and Madonna had "a kind of a romantic thing happening" in 1979 when Madonna was not very famous in the least. She was, however, not very... um, subdued.

"I remember the first time I met her at this party," quavers Dan in his New York drool, "she was wearing a kind of circus outfit... very short with a tutu and leggings a darker shade of blue than the tutu. Sure she had incredible style! Absolutely. And she had olive oil in her hair which made it quite strange and matted and those were the kinds of things people weren't doing then. It was definitely influenced by punk but you could see she was moving in her own direction. It was quite weird, really, at the party, because she was just kind of sitting there and she seemed kind of depressed or something - I think she'd come to the party with someone she didn't want to be with. So I was her dancing partner! Am I a groover? Oh yeah! yeah!! You gotta see my videos! Lots of fancy-footwork. So we hit it off and got together - I think it was because I was kind of aloof, I wasn't trying too hard hihih."

But! As "fate" would have it, Madonna decided she would much rather be a singer (quite a good idea, actually) and she and Dan split up. "There was the normal separation anxiety of course, but I think we both knew it didn't have a feeling of permanency in it" - Madonna flitting off to find a "band" (except she only got as far as finding a drummer, called **Steve Bray**. Except he wasn't just any old drummer, he was an extremely talented and enterprising fellow who eventually went on to write

songs for Madonna called "True Blue", "Like A Virgin", "Into The Groove" and the "like"s.)

In the meantime, though, Madonna went off and found herself a solo recording deal and Steve joined **The Breakfast Club** as their drummer, co-producer and keyboard programmer which he does to this day, while still writing tunes for Madonna in his spare time (or something). And they're all still good "buddies", as it were.

"I had dinner with her just last week in Los Angeles and we had a great time," pipes Dan. "In fact, she's just dyed her hair dark like it was when she used to live in New York. I think it's just temporary for a little part in a play she's doing, but she was able to just walk into the restaurant and be fairly anonymous. She seemed really on top of things at the moment - she's having fun. We tended not to go into all the Sean Penn stuff - anyhow, since they've withdrawn the divorce papers maybe they're getting along fine at this point - she seemed pretty normal to me." Hoorah! **Bitz** supposes the Steve Bray person must be a "trifle" loaded by now, eh?

"Oh, absolutely!" confirms Dan. "He's written all the B-sides of all Madonna's records as well so he's doing pretty well! He's on his way to... ooooh, something. Have we ever asked him for a loan? Uh... Steve's been very helpful when we've needed him to be, ha ha ha." (i.e. they most certainly have. **The Breakfast Club** themselves are still trying to become ludicrously rich 'n' famous 'n' good-looking after nearly nine - nine!! - years of being not very successful at all. They've got a new tune called "Never Be The Same" (quite good actually). And if they don't become very famous in a jiffy, Dan will make boomerangs for a living.

"Yeah, maybe I could make boomerangs in my retirement cottage when I'm 70 - I make boomerangs just for fun. Every one of my boomerangs comes back - they can go 50 years and then... they're back, it's really quite amazing."

Bitz does not doubt it. . .

Bitz

Madness are back! Yippee!!!

▶ Yes, it's true. The so-called "Nitty Boys" who charmed the world with such jolly pop tunes as "Baggy Trousers", "Our House" and "House Of Fun" before they split up back in 1986, are back! Four of the original group i.e. "Suggs", Carl, Lee and Chnissy have decided to invent some new tunes, except this time they're calling themselves "The Madness". Their first single is called "I Pronounce You" and this is what they have to say for themselves: "It is in us and in you. May The Madness be with you."

Absolutely. (?)



Photo: Reuters

Oh no! Patrick Swizzle (or whatever he's called) has made a record!!!



"EH, (smaller) Remember me? (pout) I was that... (preen)... pretty mazin' lookin' guy in... (pout)... that seminal cinematic feature... (draoble)... Dirty Dancing. Wasn't I just... (mumma) Especially when I took my... (stwitch eyebrow) leading lady knowerrance in my great big huge gigantic manly chest with hairy bits on (berlee)... (puff)... and husked breathily into her left jugular vein... (pant)... my celebrated lullaby serenade which goes by the name of

"She's Like The Wind" which isn't terribly complimentary but then my motto's always been 'treat 'em mean and keep 'em keen' eh beh what a hunkin' dude I am and no mista... (Listen Bitz, cease pretending to be the actor turned singer Patrick Swizzle this very instant and tell the listeners that his first ever single - indeed called "She's Like The Wind" (cough ahaargh) from Dirty Dancing - is "available", so to speak, extremely soon - Ed.) Bah! Rumbled...

RODDY FRAME

● He's the bloke from Aztec Camera whose "How Men Are" is hovering around the top 40. But did you know...

HE USED TO BE CALLED "DOODLES"!

"I don't have an embarrassing middle name at all - my name's Roddy Frame. It's really Roddy as well, not Ronald or anything like that. They wanted to call me after my dad and his name is Roger, but my mum said, 'Oh I hate that name, we'll call him Roddy because that's what he's going to get called anyway.' Do I have a nickname? Well, I used to get called 'Doodles' when I was very little but I don't know why."

SCHOOL WAS THE WORST EXPERIENCE OF HIS LIFE!

"I hated school. I thought it was the worst experience of my whole life. It was a nightmare and I had to leave when I was 16. I only ever hung out with the bad people because they were the only ones with a sense of humour. I used to get into trouble and the teachers used to belt me now and again."

DEE HEPBURN FROM CROSSROADS COMES FROM HIS STREET

"Dee Hepburn from Crossroads comes from my street. She's the Scottish girl in Crossroads who was in the film *Gregory's Girl*. She lived down my street. I'm telling you - we went to the same school. East Kilbride's becoming little Hollywood these days."

HE'S NEVER HAD A HORRIBLE JOB!

"I never had to do any horrible jobs when I left school but they tried to make me work though. Who? The Careers Office. Well, they called me in and I went down there in a pink nylon paisley shirt, my hair was dyed red and I was wearing red sandals. And I'm sitting there talking to this woman and she says 'We've got a job for you' and I said 'Well I'm interested in music, what is it?' She said 'It's on a building site mixing

cement. I couldn't imagine myself on a building site especially dressed like that. So I just called up a week later and said my parents were really keen and they were going to keep me. I don't know whether she believed it but I think she got the message."

HE'S BEEN AWAY FOR THREE YEARS BUT HE DIDN'T CHANGE A MINK!

"Where have I been for three years? Well, I didn't go off and do anything really interesting like become a monk or anything. All that happened was when I came home from the last tour... it takes you little bit of time to wind down. I was living in the middle of nowhere. I still have that place actually. It's where I do my writing. It's a little shack. But I haven't been there for a while because I've been a bit busy. Anyway, writing did take up most of the three years but like I tell you I'm really pretty lazy. And when I write a song I think, 'God! someone's probably going to pay £7.99 for this so it had better be good!' So you have to buckle down and make it good."

HE'S GONE AND GOT MARRIED!

"I got married a couple of years ago actually. (Long pause) She doesn't like me to talk about her - she gets really pissed off. She hates being thought of as just someone's wife. Her name's a Cathy but like I say she gets annoyed at me if you write about her."

BUT HE'S IN LOVE WITH LOTS OF PEOPLE!

"I'm in love with lots of people - I know that sounds quite hippy... I have a bit of an affair with some of the band. It's not like, well this is who I love and everyone else is an outsider. I get very affectionate with people I'm close to. I think love as a concept is just compassion and common sense. Like, I'm not in Bed

CRAP JOKE CORNER

- Q. Which pop group kills all known germs dead?
A. The Bleach Boys.
- Dearie me. What an appallingly inconsiderate piece of 'us' that one was. Many thanks Evelyn Hogan from Co Limerick, Ireland. If you can think of a similarly atrocious pun, send it to Smash Hits Crap Joke Corner, 50-55 Cernaby Street, London W1V 1PF and you'll receive absolutely nothing in return.

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

- 9 Martin Fry of ABC (30)
- 12 Marlon Jackson of The Jacksons (31)
- 13 Adam "Clear Oh" Clayton of U2 (28)
- 15 Terence "Trouf" O'Ryan (26) (then here)
- 17 Mike Lindup of Level 42 (29)
- 19 Bruce Willis of the Moonlighting Team (33)
- 20 Mark "Mark" King of Level 42 (30)



DAVID LEE ROTH



Wedge but if Paul Weller was starving and I had two bags of crisps I'd give him one."

HE LIKES HANGING AROUND IN BARS WRITING POETRY!

"I've been getting into writing a bit of poetry these days. Even if your poetry's crap it's really good to hang around in bars in Spain with pieces of paper and pens and your beret on. It's a good pose. I consider myself to be an artist rather than a pop star, if you know what I mean. My favourite thing in the world is pop, I must admit, but I just see it as art. I think 'Same Old Love' by Anita Baker is up there with some of Van Gogh's famous mad painter who cut off his ear best. Definitely!"

HE THINKS SLEEPING IS BORING!

"Recently I've been listening to ambient (i.e. very snoozesome) music like Brian Eno and stuff like that. You're supposed to put it on as background music but I like listening to it because it's really good. Actually I'm one of these people who goes to bed at four in the morning and can't sleep until five. I'm completely insomniac. To be asleep just seems pretty boring to me."

WHEN HE ASKS PEOPLE THE TIME THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM!

"I was in Covent Garden the other day and I tried to ask three people for the time. Having an accent and looking the way I do – like a real scruff – you would have thought I was insulting their family. They just all looked at me and pushed past like they thought I was going to rob them or something. In Glasgow if you ask someone the time you get their life story and you end up round their house having tea."

HE'S 24, BUT HE DOESN'T FEEL VERY OLD!

"I just turned 24 in January. I'm getting old. Actually I don't feel at all old – I feel exactly the same way that I did when I was 17 only I've got a bit more sense. What do I want to do by the time I'm 30? Oh, I can't think like that. I reckon if I'm still breathing and we've still got a colour telly I'll be doing alright."

- He used to be the lead singer in Van Halen, who was rather famous!
- He's now a solo 'artiste' with a new single called "Just Like Paradise"
- What's more he's on the *Biz* blower this very second to talk about the subjects closest to his heart. E.g.:

"ADVENTURE"

"I'm trying to take the scenic route through life, so rather than spend my money on toys – like that extra car that I'd probably never use – I spend my money on travel. I like checking out little islands with nonsyllabic names. There's a lot to see and the further out to the fifth corner of the world I can see the better. I like the jungle too – I've been to some of the best jungles in the world."

PERV BREEKS

"I used to wear tight pants all the time, yeah. It's part of the great rock 'n' roll tradition. But nowadays they're selling those pants in every local store. They come in a little package – next to the bubblegum in every store. So I've decided it's time for a change. My look's going to be completely different – somewhere between a 'gauche' ('sultry' bandit type) and a ski-ing instructor."

BEING "A VAMPIRE"

"There's a lot of fringe benefits to being a rock 'n' roll star but the ride itself is what being in rock 'n' roll is all about. When I'm on tour, on the road, I like to live like a vampire and not sleep for a couple of days in a row – it's good for getting those day-glo cheekbones. The time I go to bed when I'm on the road is the time I get up when I'm not working. I like to get up at dawn and trek off into the great airbrushed sunset. But the rock 'n' roll lifestyle suits me – the circus, the foreign legion, travelling gypsy, submarine crew, highwire act, a troop-like manoeuvre to real debauchery." (???)

CLIMBING ABOUT ON ROCKS

"My video is like the sort of greatest hits of my climbing escapades. It was taken from several different climbs that I've done. I've been doing that sort of stuff for years and years now. Doing a climb, whether it's a 10 minute climb or a 10 day climb, is like poetry – you're doing something that's melodic and you can look over your shoulder when it's over and say 'at least I did that.'"

Win! Some famous faces you can bash in and put back together again!



- See Rick Astley, Madonna, James Dean, Marilyn Monroe and "Saucy" Sir Samuel Fox in billions of little jigsaw pieces.

- Rebuild their faces in around three seconds, amazing all your friends with your powers of intellect (or something).

- Laugh as your chums are still grappling with Rick Astley's hairstyle after a week (because you've hidden the last piece – hair hat!).

- Chuckle with delight at the oodles of fun "guaranteed".

HOW TO ENTER

We have 50 – 50! – Jigstar (hence the name) puzzles to give away, to the first 50 – 50! – pop swots to answer the following question correctly: Which of the Jigstar stars mentioned above is still alive? (a) Marilyn Monroe; b) James Dean or c) Samantha Fox? Send your answers on a postcard to Smash Hits Smashed Up Celebrities Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF by March 22, remembering to mention which Jigstar you'd like to win.

WICKED WAR PAINT: Experiment with over 50 different shades of Boots 17 eye shadow.



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BROS



Good grief viewers, what on *earth* are Bros up to on the video "set" for their new single "Drop The Boy"? "Er, jumping on trampolines, handing out *Jelly Tots* and taking their trousers down, *actually*," reports a rather horrified Sue Dando. . .

▼ "Bimey, Luke, this grass is a bit springy!"



▲ "Coo, Matt, you're not wrong!"

Matthew Goss, aged 18 months, is crawling around on the floor with brother Luke, while a "little thug" named Craig Logan is preferring to spend his time thumping the twins for all he's worth.

Yes indeed viewers, strange things are afoot on the "set" of the video for the new Bros single "Drop The Boy". As Matt explains, "the whole song's about teenagers growing up and saying to their parents, 'look, will you stop treating me like a young boy; I'm a man now?'" So we decided to use babies playing the parts of us as toddlers in the video.

"Mostly, they just sit around banging away on their little drums," chips in Craig, "or throwing things about and screaming and crying — though those bits have been cut out. They'll look as though they're playing all the percussion on the song. We had to put *Jelly Tots* on the drums and all around the stage to keep them happy, but they still spent most of the time bawling. We were trying to be nice to them to try to quieten them down, and they'd just be screaming at us.

▲ "So I threw them around the room a couple of times

to straighten them up and they were OK," adds Matt, "waggishly".

And do the babes resemble any of you then, Matt?

"Only Craig's. His kept beating up the baby twins — he was a proper little thug. Just like Craig was when he was little, really aggressive."

Craig: "Apparently I was about the size of Luke and Matt put together when I was born. I was really big — about 9lbs at birth — and er, yes, I suppose I was a bit of a one for the aggression."

So, apart from screaming youngsters strewn about the place, what else is going on in the new "vid"?

Matt: "We thought it would be a bit of a cliché to do a story, so there isn't one. We just do a lot of leaping about high in the sky making funny shapes with our bodies. It'll look as though we can jump really high when ▶



▲ "Ladeez an' ganniemien, I give you... Craig Logan!!!!"



▲ Bros and their new xylophone player (that har).

◀ it's shown on the telly, but we actually used trampolines. I spent most of the video with my right ankle swollen to twice its normal size, because I strained it, not through being too energetic – I just got my foot stuck in the springs as I was getting off!

"The funniest thing was when I was being filmed bouncing on the trampoline ("showing off" mutters Craig from somewhere in the background) and I went about 20 feet up into the air, did a somersault – backwards – overshot the

trampoline and landed in front of the lighting equipment – on my feet. The whole crew on the set just stood there with their mouths gaping open. I thought 'woah! Let me do that again', even though it was an accident and I was terrified at the time!

"We all came out from the video with an injury," says Luke. "When they were shooting me playing drums, I had the cymbals positioned too far away from each other so when I went to play them I hit myself in the eye with one. I didn't even ▶

▼ "Er...not too sure if I like this, ackchehlo..."



▲ "Fool...I think I'm about to be sick on my expensive togs."

◀ notice till Matt went "Eurrgh, what's that blood pouring down your face?"

Oh dear. They didn't get on very well at all, did they? Don't suppose any of you have ever been, er, sick on a trampoline, have you?

"NO!"
And, um, you weren't forced to do trampoline practice during your games period at school, either?

"NO... But I was the school football captain," offers Craig helpfully. "I was pretty good at it too, but I kept getting all these ankle injuries. Matt hated the game. He couldn't handle kissing the rest of the team whenever he scored a goal!"

Matt: "At least I never used to encourage the boys to kiss me, Craig! [???" I much preferred the track and field events, like running. Me and Luke were really good at long distance, we used to run for Surrey. But a lot of the time during games, we both used to sneak off to spy on the girls playing netball, just so we could look up their skirts and see what colour knickers they were wearing heheheh."

"Would you like to know what knickers we're wearing today?" butts in an ever "accommodating" Craig

suddenly.

Er, no thank you very...
"Well I'm wearing blue ones today; what about you, Luke?"

Luke: "Mine are brown with white lacy bits. Matt, what underwear have you got on, mate?" (At this point Matt decides to unpeel his jeans for an impromptu fashion "parade", accompanied by Craig's running "commentary") "... hang on... oh yes, it's Mickey Mouse boxer shorts with love hearts on. They are fantastic, Matt. Thank you..." (Yes, thank you, that's quite enough of that for now – Ed.)

I think that's quite enough sauce for one interview, thanking you very much, boys...

▼ Craig: "Stupid boy..."



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Doctorin' doctorin'

We've got a hot one for you can you take care of it
We've got a hot one for you can you take care of it
Yow just fill me yeah
Listen listen listen for the beatbox (beat dis)
Now who's jockin' the house
That wicked plastic man

Doctorin' the house doctorin'
We're doctorin' the house doctorin'

So stop your hands to what he's dain'
Wah wah yeah yeah wah yeah
Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar
Hey baby you want to dance with me
That's right

It's an attack
Oh boy what a great record
I say I say
The sound of now that wicked plastic man

Doctorin' the house doctorin'
We're doctorin' the house doctorin' doctorin'

Listen listen listen for the beatbox (beat dis)
Now who's jockin' the house
That wicked plastic man
How do they do that
It's really quite simple
You just mangle
That wicked plastic man

Doctorin' the house doctorin'
We're doctorin' the house doctorin' doctorin'

Ah sure is cruel of you cats to leave me all alone
By myself to watch this little old kid playing actually
Say kids what time is it

It's time for house
I see the magnificent
Give it to me give it to me
Give it to me give it to me
The music maker

Doctorin' the house doctorin'
We're doctorin' the house doctorin' doctorin'

Oh my goodness
Ho ha ha you'll see the plastic men are coming
They're coming
Ha ha ho ha ho ha ho
Plastic man plastic man

Words and music by More/Black/Yazz
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Oh Ahead Of Our Time Records

COLDCUT

featuring Yazz and the Plastic Population

Doctorin' the house



George Harrison

WHEN
We Was

FAB



Back then long time ago
When grass was green
Wake up in a daze
Arrived like strangers in the night
(Fab) long time ago when we was fab
(Fab) back when income tax was all we had

Careers fleeced you in the morning light
Casualties at dawn
And we did it all
(Fab) long time ago when we was fab
(Fab) you're my world you are my only love

And while you're in this world
The fuzz gonna come and claim you
But you mo better wise
When the buzz gonna come
And take you away
Take you away take you away

The microscopes that magnified the tears
Studied warts and all
Still the life flowed on and on
(Fab gear) long time ago when we was fab
(Fab) but it's all over now baby blue
(Fab) long time ago when we was fab
(Fab) like this pullover you sent to me
(Fab gear)
And you've really got a hold on me
(Fab gear) long time ago when we was fab

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WET WET WET

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B/W
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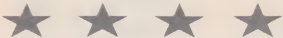
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the Ori

- She's called Tracy and he's called Paul!
- She used to hide in her schoolteacher's shoes! (?)
- He's got a dinosaur that lives in his fridge! (?)
- "They're both a bit bonkers," declares Sylvia Patterson. . .

TRACY PAUL

"I remember me mum taking me to school on the first day and I cried my eyes out! This teacher came along and led me into this toy cupboard and there were all these toys. . . um, who's that woman who lives in the boot with the hundreds of children? Did Mother let 'em 'round, yeah! Er, no it's not! Anyway there was this big shoe with hundreds of little people made out of felt so once I was in there I forgot all about me mum."

Tracy Spencer is the singer in *Ver Primitives*, currently hurling ep the charts with the rather less "Crash". She is 20 years old, has an "average brain" and is, in fact, the smallest person in the entire stratosphere.

"I'm at least five foot five foot one, I think. I should get together with Jellybean? Ooooh (*caris nose in supreme disgust*) not fancy that at all."

She went to an all-girls school in Coventry "but the boys' school was just over the back so there was a bit of . . . mingling ethic" until she was 16 when her entire family thought England and Coventry especially was a self boring" and fazzed off to Australia for something to do.

"It was sooo exciting, a great place! I didn't bother getting a job or anything because I already had money saved up and me parents gave me some - so I just went down the beech end sun-bathed! I do go quite brown, believe it or not."

After three years of sun-worshipping and being "attacked by mosquitos", Tracy returned to Coventry and decided to try to be a pop person for a living.

"I'd tried to be in bands in Australia but. . . um, Australian bands aren't very good. I'd always sung, y'see - in the backs of cars and all that (?) and when I came back I saw the ad in the paper for a singer. And that was that."

Indeed, Tracy now lives in one half of a hoese in Coventry "with me little furry creatures. Me cats. The girl who lives in the other half of the house has cats, too - we've got ten between us! Apart from that my house is really boring. I suppose - I do have a nice big double bed though, and a few records. . . old stuff like Nancy Sinatra, The Beatles, Marc Bolan - I was brought up on all that because me parents were a bit. . . into all that. They're only 40."

And now their daughter with the 'maxin hairdo is suddenly quite famous. "I'm a bit wary of fame. I got recognised in the taxi this morning and it was sooooo embarrassing!! Still, at least I'm not akint any more. I can lead the cats *Wiktas* now es opposed to *Katkins*."

Well that's alright then!!

"I used to want to be an archaeologist because I thought dinosaurs were still alive in America end I thought if I collected a lot of dog-bones I could make a cow. I grew out of it."

Oh (?). Paul Court is 22 and he's the guitarist in *Ver Primitives* who writes all their jingling pop rumblers and he's a bloke who likes making up a load of old blethers for a lark i.e. "My parents were Indian elephants. They came to Britain for a better class of doughnut". Hmmm.

"I wanted to do something really meaningless so I could plan out how to be in a band and escape it all. So I washed dishes for a while and dug trenches in the First World War. (?) Well, it *might* have been a building site but it was like the First World War. I worked in a kitchen once and when the bins were over-flowing with pizzas and cheese sauces I had to stand on them and squash it all back down again. And I only had one pair of shoes. I thought "an excellent job. This is what I got 'O levels for."

"I was. . . but he suddenly spurred the kitchen when he was approached by two blokes on a bus."

"They said 'We know you can play the guitar. How many chords can you play?' I said 'four' and they said 'if you pretend you can only play three then you can be in a band.' So I joined; we rehearsed in a shop, did a few gigs and split up. Then we got back together again and Tracy answered an ad we put in a music paper for a singer and joined."

"All I wanted to do was make a bit of a racket in the top 40. Here's a quote in my best John Lydon accent 'We're the jazz that hates Johnny' heh heh, (?) Bands like the Pet Shop Boys make music that sounds like a wasp flying round a lightbulb. Do you know the Pet Shop Boys? (?) They're about 50 years old? Oh. There's our song on the radio. It's in the top 40 now, y'know. I'm sick of hearing it, actually - it sounds like toothpaste."

Ahem. . . Paul says he "lives in a hovel in Coventry that's got a bed and a carpet and mould on the walls but it is *aristic* modern" and one of his favourite pastimes is dithering around with fluffy things.

"I've got about five glove puppets - a white rabbit, a Sweep. . . Sweep squeaks but Sooty doesn't I do anything because he's a boring old. I've got a girlfriend - she often gives me fluffy things. She gave me a dinosaur that lives in a fridge. Because that's where the food is, except there's only one ice-cube. (?) Can I tell you a joke now? How do psychoanalysts like their eggs? You don't know, do you? Freud."

Oh dear. . .

imitives

Here you go way too fast
Don't slow down you're gonna crash
You should watch watch your step
Don't look out gonna break your neck

So shut shut your mouth
'Cause I'm not listening anyhow
I've had enough enough of you
Enough to last a lifetime through
So what do you want of me
Got no words of sympathy
And if I go around with you
You know that I'll get messed up too with you
No no no no no no no no no no no no no no
No no no no no no no no no no no no no no

Here you go way too fast
Don't slow down you're gonna crash
You don't know what's been going down

You've been running all over town

So shut shut your mouth
'Cause I'm not listening anyhow
I've had enough enough of you
Enough to last a lifetime through
So what do you want of me
Got no care for misery
And if I go around with you
You know that I'll get messed up too with you
With you with you

No no no no no no no no no no no no no no
(Slow down you're gonna crash)

Repeat last two lines to fade

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On BMG Records

CRASH

Treasure

a-ha: stay



SHIP OF FOOLS

I can't believe what is happening to me
My head is spinning
The flowers and the trees are encapsulating me
And I go spinning

He was the baby of the class you know
He really didn't know that one and one was two
Two and two were four
He was the baby of the class you know
He really didn't know that
Really didn't know that
Oh what a fool so

Chorus
Ooh do we not sail on the ship of fools
Ooh why is life so precious and so cruel

I close my eyes and I try to imagine
What you're dreaming
Why can't you see what you're doing to me
My world is spinning
You were the baby of the class you know

You really didn't know that one and one was two
Two and two were four
You were the baby of the class
You were so young and so uncertain
Suffer little children
Oh what a fool so

Repeat chorus

He was the baby of the class you know
He really didn't know that one and one was two
Two and two were four
He was the baby of the class
He was so young and so uncertain
Suffer little children
Oh what a fool so

Repeat chorus

Ooh do we not sail on the ship of fools
Ooh why is life so fragile and so cruel

Repeat chorus to fade



on these roads



The cold has a voice
It talks to me
Still born by choice
It says no need to hold

Old man feels the cold
Oh baby don't cause I've been told
Stay on these roads
We shall meet
I know
Stay on my love
We shall meet
I know I know

Where joy should reign
These skies restrain
Shadow your love
The voice trails off again
The voice trails off again

Old man feels the cold
Oh baby don't cause I've been told
Stay on these roads
We shall meet
I know
Stay on my love
You feel so weak be strong
Stay on stay on
We shall meet
I know I know
I know my love I know

Feel the cold
Winter's calling at my home
Stay on these roads
We shall meet I know
Stay on my love
We will meet I know so
Stay on
I know
Stay my love
Stay on
We will meet
I know I know I know

Words and music by A-Ha
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On WEA Records

DOMINION



In the heat of the night
In the heat of the day
When I close my eyes
When I look your way
When I meet the fear that lies inside
When I hear you say
In the heat of the moment
Say say say

Some day some day some day
Dominion
Come a time
Some day some day some day
Dominion
Some say prayers (some say prayers)
And I say mine

In the light of the fact
On the lone and level
Sands stretch far away
In the heat of the action
In the settled dust
Hold hold and sway
In the meeting of maned
Down in the streets of shame
In the betting of names on gold to rust
In the land of the blind
Be king king king king

Some day some day some day
Dominion
Some say prayers (some say prayers)
And I say mine

In the land of the blind
Be king king king king
Some day some day some day
Dominion

Some say prayers (some say prayers)
I say mine

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R SVP

★ Want someone to write to? Send a postcard with your name and address in **BLOCK CAPITALS** plus a few words about yourself to: **RSVP, Smash Hits, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.** And please enclose a phone number where we can contact you. This won't be published.

● **Hi, my name is Michelle and I'm 17 years old. If anyone aged 17 and over is interested in The Cure, The Sisters Of Mercy, Siouxsie And The Banshees and The Jesus And Mary Chain** please write to Michelle Matlock, 14 Whitson Way, Montrose, Scotland DD10 9DX

● **Hello out there to all you sponditious people aged 12-14.** My name is Nick and I'm 13 years old and I'm looking for penpals male or female. I like most things on TV especially *Neighbours* and *Bread* and I also like Five Star and A-ha, so if you're interested please write to Nick Waters, Aquarius, Long Hill, Runfold, Farnham, Surrey

● **Hi, we are two 15 year olds and we're looking for penpals from all over the world aged 13 and over.** We like Run DMC, Beastie Boys, Public Enemy and LL Cool J. Please write to Alan and Fred 109 Ormonde Ave, Glasgow G44 3SN

● **Hello, I would like to hear from anyone aged 16 or over that still likes Duran Duran.** I'm 17 and that's about it. Please write to I like everyone Rachel, 18 Harstone Lane, Caterham, Surrey CR3 6BD

● **Hi, I'm a 15 year old in search of anybody from anywhere in the world who is around the age of 14 plus.** I like Madonna, Rick Astley, Beastie Boys and other chart music and also having a good time. I dislike being people and doing nothing so if you are interested please write to Tammy, 80 Kings Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0PE

● **Attention all Americans!** I am an English 14 year old who would like penpals from anywhere in the USA. I like The Pet Shop Boys, T'Pau, George Michael, Madonna and chart music so please write to David Mitchell, 23 Shepherd St, Norden, Rochdale, Lancs OL11 5SU

● **Hi, I'm Nicola and I'm 14. I'm into most music especially The Pet Shop Boys, Wet Wet Wet, The Commodores and Def Leppard as well as James Dean and Merilyn Monroe.** If you are male or female, aged 14-16 and interested please write to Nicola, 2 Dawlish Close, Hucknall, Nottingham NG15 6NY

● **Hi, I'm Mike, I'm 14 and I like The Housemartins and Madonna.** I would like a penpal aged 14-16 so if

you are interested please write to Michael Todd, 21 Collingwood Terr, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 2EX

● **Hi, I'm a 12 year old girl who would like to write to anyone aged 12-14.** I like Wet Wet Wet and Moonlighting so if you are interested please write to Susanne, 17 Glen Luss Road, Greenock, Scotland PA16 9NR

● **I would like penpals aged between 10 and 12 from anywhere.** I like Michael Jackson, Rick Astley, Mel & Kim and Michael J. Fox so if you're interested please write to Vicki, 15 Carlin Gate, Bishop, Blackpool, Lancs FY2 9JU

● **My name's Sarah and I'm into fashion, UB40 and Madonna** so if you are interested in having a penpal and are aged between 11 and 13 write to Miss S Harding, 2 Macbeth Close, Hartford PE18 7PB

● **Are there any Duran Duran fans left in this world? I'm 18 years old and I also like Japan and Prince** so if you are interested please write to Stefan de Jongh, Faberstraat 380, 2561 EM Den Haag, Holland

● **Hi, I'm Alison and I'm 14. I'm into Def Leppard, Billy Idol and many more.** I'm looking for penpals from anywhere in the world who are about the same age so if you are interested please write to Alison Topham, 160 Shilton Road, Rawcliffe, York YO3 6RY.

● **Hi, my name is Roger Hegan and I come from the Emerald Isle.** I am 14 years old and would like someone to write to from America. I like U2, AC/DC, Bruce Springsteen and others so get writing to 12, Falcarragh Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9, Ireland

● **Hi, I'm Liz, I'm 14 and dying for someone to write to. I'm into Wet Wet Wet, Then Jerico, Bruce Willis and Phillip Schofield.** I'd like anyone with the same interests, male or female aged 13-15 to write to me at 39 Willow Drive, Charmock Richard, Nr Chorley, Lancs PR7 5NL

● **Hi, I'm Joanne, I'm 10 years old and I'm looking for a penpal from anywhere in the world.** I like Madonna, Rick Astley, Mel & Kim and Five Star. My hobbies are collecting badges and stamps. I am looking for a penpal between 10 and 12 so please write to 2 Highdials Road, Newall Green, Manchester M23 8YW

● **Hello there! My name is David and I'm 20. I'm into Level 42 and I'm also interested in funk and soul music.** I am a keen footballer so if you are interested in having a penpal please write to me at 3 Heusman Close, Newport, Pagnell, Bucks MK16 8TB

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i.e. A bit of "fodder" for the brain while you're enjoying that refreshing afternoon "cuppa" and munching away on a fairy cake.

SONGWORDS

● Using a pencil, biro, a felt tip or even a broom handle dipped in paint if you're completely mad, join up each bit of "lyric" with the name of the song it comes from.

"I'll be the sun shining on you
Hey Cinderella, step in your shoe
I'll be your non-stop lover"

"I am blinded by your smile and
I'm crazy 'bout your walk
I shiver and I shake when I hear
Your baby talk"

"You've suffered for your art
With the jogging in the park
You know you should go far"

"And the world's alive with
With the sound of kids
On the street outside"

"She stands with a naked fame
I stand with the sons of Cain
Burned by the fire of love"

"Ah people say that I'm not so systematic
But when I'm down I'm in manual
Lord Time and time again I walk on by"

"My conscience is clear
I know right from wrong
That's a laugh I know nothing"

"We go our separate ways
With nothing but a smile
Hearts break in many ways
Oh how you're broken mine"

"The Look Of Love"
Madonna

"In God's Country"
U2

"Valentine"
T'Pau

"Angel Eyes"
Wet Wet Wet

"When Will I Be Famous?"
Eddy Grant

"Get Outta My Dreams Get Into My Car"
Beyoncé

"Give Me All Your Love"
Whitesnake

"Heaven Is A Place On Earth"
Selinda Carlisle

AGES

● Some pop stars are rather long in the tooth; others are very short in the tooth indeed. Match each pop star to his or her correct age by drawing a squiggly line; just like the one we've already done for you.



30 23 45 36 21 40 19 20



MIDDLE NAMES

● Using your skill and judgement (and a suitable writing implement) match each pop star to their middle names by drawing a squiggly line.

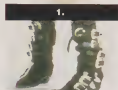
George O'Dowd
Rick Astley
Christie Hynde
Derek Dick
Prince
Neil Tennant
Mick Hucknall
Feargal Sharkey

William Rogers
Shan
Alan
Francis
Paul
Ellen
James

A SELECTION OF FEET



● Blimey! Pop stars do wear some rather silly shoes, don't they viewers? But can you recognise a pop personality from their preposterous footwear? Study these pictures of pop stars' feet and then tick the name of the person you reckon they're attached to. Chillblains ahoy!



1. Terence "Trout" D'Arby
 Michael Jackson
 The "Hedge" from U2



2. The Communards
 Pepsi And Shirie
 The Pet Shop Boys



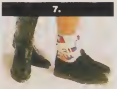
3. Marti Pellow
 Michael Jackson
 Ben Vöpeliere-Pierrot



4. Gordon the Gopher
 Bubbles
 Debbie Gibson



5. Tiffany
 MCA of the Beastie Boys
 Madonna



6. Blue Mercedes
 Pepsi And Shirie
 Mel And Kim



7. The Housemartins
 Bon Jovi
 Wet Wet Wet



8. David Coverdale
 Carol Decker
 Prince

I'm parched" Tea-time Quiz

TRUE OR FALSE

● Which of the following statements about pop stars are true and which are complete lies? Tick the appropriate box.

1. **Marti Pellow** from Wet Wet Wet's very first bicycle came "disguised" as a red London bus with a horn on it.

- True
 False

2. **Terence "Trout" D'Arby** has the entire set of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* which he uses to prop up his television having sawed the "feet" off the TV in the name of "aesthetic experimentation".

- True
 False

3. **Pai** from **A-ha** once swallowed a dandelion.

- True
 False

4. **Bono** once lobbed some doggy "doo" onto the head of his Spanish teacher at school.

- True
 False

5. When **Luke Goss** from **Bros** was born his skin was blue.

- True
 False

6. **Debbie Gibson's** cat, Miffkins, is allergic to cat food and will only eat cauliflower, Smarties and braised pork.

- True
 False

7. **Tiffany** won her school-essay competition when she was seven with the celebrated pennance "When I Am A Nurse..." She won a \$3 book token but she lost it.

- True
 False

5.



- Bros
 Curiosity Killed The Cat
 Def Leppard

10.



- Zodiac Mindwarp
 Johnny Hates Jazz
 The Bangles

DAFT THINGS THAT POP STARS HAVE SAID

● Study each of the "quotes" in this section and tick the box next to the name of the person you think made the ridiculous remark. It's as easy as pie (unless you're a complete half-wit).

1. "I'll have a drink I would be... a vodka martini cocktail."

- Boy George**
 Carol Decker
 Terence "Trout" D'Arby
 Bald Bloke from The Screaming Blue Messiahs

2. "I know exactly what I'll be doing when I'm 50. I'll be a half-wit, hopping around on one leg - the village idiot."

- Rick Astley**
 Madonna
 Mags from A-ha
 "Mike" Smith

3. "I love to pick my nose. I'm just not satisfied until my nose is Klington free."

- Chris Lowe**
 Zodiac Mindwarp
 Belinda Carlisle
 Tiffany

4. "Wouldn't it be great to get carried everywhere in a basket? My ambition is to get a wheelchair and someone to push me everywhere."

- Keren from Bananarama**
 Clark Datchler
 Morten Harket
 Sir Stanley Housemartin

5. "I think the world is a dead carcass, and I think the purpose of human beings is as maggots."

- Ad-Rock from The Beastie Boys**
 Debbie Gibson
 Allison Moyet
 Robert Smith

6. "I'm a big eater. I eat a lot. If I'm in an Italian I'll have an appetizer - fried zucchini - a salad and a minestrone soup and bread and I'll also order garlic bread and then I'll have a big bowl of pasta and probably some kind of fish or something..."

- Tiffany**
 Fish from Marillion
 Madonna
 George Michael

7. "I love doing the laundry. I love taking it out and folding it up. I used to be really pernickety and iron everything. I even used to iron my underpants."

- Michael Jackson**
 Kylie Minogue
 Morrissey
 Jimmy Somerville

8. "I'd kill my mother for rock 'n' roll."

- Debbie Gibson**
 Bono
 Boy George
 Jon Bon Jovi

HOBBIES AND "PASTIMES"

● Pop stars while away the hours engaged in some very odd "leisure pursuits" don't they viewers? Tick which of the three hobbies listed you think each pop star indulges in.

1. **Goss from Bros**
 hedge-pruning
 water-skiing
 painting-by-numbers

2. **Terence "Trout"**
 collecting antique furniture
 roof-thatching
 brewing cranberry wine

3. **MCA from The Beastie**

- skiing
 blowing up Ford Escorts
 creating daisy-chairs

4. **Michael Hutchence from INXS**

- breaking up rocks with a tea-spoon (to teach oneself patience)
 jumping off cliffs
 macrame

5. **Morten "Morten" Harket from A-ha**

- collecting beer-mats
 Thai boxing
 deep sea diving

6. **Joe Leppard from Def Leppard**

- golf
 throwing wardrobes out of hotel windows
 fixing his neighbours' tumble-dryers

7. **Michael Jackson from The Jacksons**

- being mad
 sewing the soles on leather moccasins
 drawing

8. **Belinda Carlisle from The Waitresses**

- plane-spotting
 night classes in "Astral Projection And The Relevance Of The Indigenous Herb Culture"
 astrology

9. **Kylie Minogue from Kylie Minogue**

- working-out on a rack
 basketball
 tiddy-winks

10. **Clark Datchler from The Waitresses**

- praying to a poster of himself every night
 entering pickled-egg eating competitions
 collecting pogo-sticks

For the answers turn to page 61...

Tiffany

the new single

could've been

b/w the heart of love

(previously unreleased)

out now

MCA RECORDS

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Morning viewers! All you have to do to get hold of the wonderful items displayed here in the Smash Hits Shop is fill in the coupon, ticking which items you want, pop it into an envelope along with a cheque or postal "order" for the right amount made payable to Smash Hits and send the whole shebang off to The Smash Hits Shop, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF. And here are the items on offer...

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REVLON

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WET WET WET!

Well, first of all you get "kidnapped" by a mad taxi driver, then you get attacked by people who want to punch you in the head and then, as if all that isn't enough, you have to go to a swank restaurant in London with Chris Heath. . .

Can I get the embarrassing bit over with?" All four members of Wet Wet Wet try not to cringe. We've all just sat down at a posh London eatery the Criterion Brasserie where they're supposed to a) have a nice snack and b) tell *Smash Hits* lots of interesting things. The waitress, however, has other ideas.

"My sister," she begins, "is a big fan of yours."

"Are you Scottish?" asks Graeme.

"Yes."

"Which part?" asks Marti.

"Edinburgh – the posh part. Penicuik."

"They make good double glazing there!" exclaims Marti.

"That's right. Um. . . I know this is really embarrassing but my sister Mary would really like your autograph," continues the blushing waitress. "Er. . ."

There's obviously a slight problem.

"I don't know which of you are in the band. . ."

Oh dear.

"Don't you like Scottish bands?" inquires Marti, with maximum politeness.

"I'm a bit out of touch, you know? I've never heard any of your records."

Wet Wet Wet grin again, in a most friendly manner, and the waitress eventually takes the order (spinach omelette for Marti, cheese omelette for Graeme, "cheese toasties" i.e. toasted cheese sandwiches for Tommy and Neil) and disappears. Marti smiles sweetly and leans over towards me.

"Can we get this interview conducted," he beams, "before we meet any more Scottish people who haven't heard of the band. . ."

They don't mention her again but they're obviously a little surprised. Wet Wet Wet are, after all, rather famous these days. And though by nature they all seem fairly modest they can't resist proudly throwing into the conversation phrases like "our stunning debut album which has sold several hundred thousand copies". Nor can they help being

perplexed by the behaviour of some of the people who do know who Wet Wet Wet are.

"Back in Glasgow," frowns Graeme, "you get people coming to the door, seeing your mum. My mum's oblivious to it, it's 'come in, have a cup of tea.'"

"Oh, that's his bedroom," winces Marti, in imitation of what their mothers obviously say.

"It's crazy," Graeme continues.

"The thing that really does my nut is the letters we get from people in hospital that have had a horrific crash or are blind or something and want you to make an appearance in Scunthorpe to see them. It's brilliant if you can, but if you haven't time people say



you're a bastard, you know that?" He looks just a little miffed at the unfairness of it all.

"To try to combat that we make taped messages but even then sometimes their parents are still pissed off. . ."

"Things happen day to day that blow my mind," says Marti, picking up the theme. "I went back to my home town and went to a club and they had to shut it down because all these people were coming up to me – for autographs or to give me a punch on the head. It's like you get letters from some people who are totally infatuated with you and some who sound as if they're going to kill you."

"About a month and a half ago," says Graeme, "I went into hospital – I had back pains – and the nurse said 'oh you're in Wet Wet Wet, aren't you?' and I said 'aye'. She went away and these two nurses

came in and went 'right! we've got to take your clothes off!' He imitates his extreme embarrassment. "They were going 'this is going to be really amazing!' I was just. . . embarrassed."

That's not the only area of life that's become a problem. They still try to take buses but "get hassled quite a lot" and, it turns out, taxis aren't much better. . . "You want a story about a taxi driver?" exclaims Marti. "I was in this taxi and this guy looks in the mirror and says 'you're that geezer in Wet Wet Wet, aren't you?' and I says 'aye' and then. . ." Marti pauses for dramatic effect. . . he takes a right hand turn and drives me up to his house! "Go and meet my little 'uns! So I'm how ya doing? How ya doing?"

Tommy isn't as surprised as you might expect.

"I got that same taxi driver about a week ago!" he says.

"Did ya?" laughs Marti.

Incredibly, it seems as if the very same thing happened to him! Oddly enough Graeme too isn't as surprised as you might expect.

"Mick Mullen," he says. "That's his name. I got him about two months ago. He said 'my daughter really loves you, could you sign this autograph' – he let me off the fare. Then he said 'listen, have you got an old pair of shoes, an old shirt, anything you can give her?'"

And?

"I gave him a pair of socks. I think."

Marti and Tommy make a few rude remarks about what an undesirable item one of Graeme's socks is; as for Neil he says nothing, as he has done throughout the interview. Has he never suffered the Mick Mullen Experience?

"I don't usually take the same taxi firm," he says quietly.

"It's about music! Songs!"

Wet Wet Wet are talking about their favourite subject – music – and why Wet Wet Wet are so special at making it. The rest of the time they just seem

● Thanks to the Criterion Brasserie, Piccadilly Circus, London

(Left to right) Tommy, Graeme, Neil and Marti



POSTER



like four blokes from Scotland sitting round munching a bit of food, and chattering on when they talk about music it's different. Their eyes almost glaze over and they all start talking at the same time and at breakneck speed (well, not Neil of course, but no doubt he's thinking it). It's perfectly obvious that however many odd taxi drivers or Scottish people who've never heard of them they've met they're still utterly devoted to the idea of making music.

"There's no *individuality* in music at the moment. If you listen to a Wet Wet Wet album there's so many different colours, so many different entities, so much *depth*... there are nights and days... And we're so committed to this. We are so involved. We write our own video scripts... everything. It's our shot. Apart from this - cards on the table - I would just be a bad painter and decorator."

"Phew. As for their new single,

"Temptation"...

"If you like," says Marti, "this is our baby. It's very dear to us. It's a *timeless* song."

"It's just so strong," agrees Tommy.

"'Angle Eyes' was a step to cater for the adult audience," explains Marti, "and it just tucked them in. 'Temptation' is universal. It's almost anthem-like, with a great lyric touching such topics as *CND*. There's a bit of depth to it. There's a line in it 'when the *big guns* start/they're shooting with their *bullets of deception*'. It touches on the

WET

WET

WET

American/Russian sort of trip. "We've always been involved in things like *CND* and *Greenpeace* but we didn't want to ram it down people's throats... but there's depth in this like there was in 'Wishing I Was Lucky' which touched on the unemployment scene."

That's not something you shouted very loudly at the time though... "If we'd come out," explains Graeme, "and been serious and said 'Wishing I Was Lucky' was about unemployment, it wouldn't have worked so well. I think the whole reason we did take off was because we were happy to be there and having a good time. If we'd been really serious..."

He shakes his head. Marti meanwhile has a word or two more to say about

"Temptation"... "It's got *highs* and *lows*... nights and days... you're lifted up and plummeted back down," he gushes (he quite likes it).

"Honest music," says Tommy importantly, "for honest people."

"That sounds like 'Ant music for ant people' (a famous old *Adam & The Ants* slogan)," sniggers Graeme. "It's a true song," says Marti, (taking no notice). "It's a piece of your heart..."

He leans back and flashes his famous grin. You could be forgiven for thinking that nothing in the last 12 months could have gone better for Wet Wet Wet. You'd be wrong, however.

"We could have had three *number ones*," says Tommy earnestly, "instead of three top ten singles."

He's quite serious.

"I think we deserved more actually," agrees Graeme. "I think we've been overlooked. I really still don't think we're a household name in the way that Terence Trent D'Arby is."

"We have a couple of great songwriters in the band," points out Marti, "a bloody good vocalist and... " he smiles at Tommy, "a decidedly average drummer." They all chortle. "No, in fact he'll be the new Phil Collins." (That, incidentally, is meant as a compliment.)

"This album," says Graeme, "is great but the next album is going to be *amazing*. We've got about 70% of it written. There's a song called 'For You Are', there's

'H.T.H.D.V.G.T.' ('How The Hell Did You Get There?'), 'Critique', 'I Remembered The Times'... wait until September."

"We've had the stunning debut album," says Marti, "now we're going for the *mind-blowing* album."

Quite truthfully the four of them look as if they can't wait.

"Do you want my classic quote?" Marti suddenly asks.

"Four heads," he proudly announces, "are better than one dickhead."

Erm...

"This sort of place," murmurs Marti, looking around at the swanky surroundings, "the name's great... of the decor's fantastic but the prices are terrible... He's not wonderfully impressed. Nonetheless, they claim, have really picked up any extravagant tastes - they don't pay themselves enough anyway."

"Some weeks," says Graeme, "I've got no money in the bank. If you give yourself too much you start partying and the music goes downhill... we've never really had a lot of money anyway and we don't know how to treat it. We just go crazy, impulse buy. Tom's bought a Sony miniature telly."

"Which I never watch," says Tommy, raising his eyes to the ceiling. "I only watched it for a day. It was £155 duty free."

Oh dear. Chastened by the experience Tommy has now devised his infallible guide to careful souvenir shopping.

"The safest thing is to buy a t-shirt," he declares. "Wherever you go you buy a t-shirt and you always wear them and that reminds you of it."

"The more money you've got," continues Graeme, "the more hassles you get. I feel. Because we've got a mortgage to pay and to pay off the cooker... the telly... it's a lot on your mind as well as the music."

And, to prove the point that he's skint, he empties out his pockets - £6.45 and a half-eaten packet of mints, as it happens. Graeme is actually the only one of Wet Wet Wet already to have moved from home - "I liked the first place I saw" - but the other three are on the way. Neil and Marti have just bought flats ("an odd converted warehouse," says Marti excitedly) and Tommy is looking for somewhere nice "as long as it's close to my mother."

They don't mind one bit that it's taken so long - they think that going back to your bedroom at your parents' house after being on *Top Of The Pops* is actually a good thing.

"Mums aren't taken in by the hype," explains Tommy. "When you're on TV being supercool playing your hit single they just see their son up there playing around."

And, anyway, they say the food's better at home than at all the posh eateries pop stars get taken to.

"It's so disgusting," roars Marti. "Once the record company spent £180 on a Japanese meal," says Graeme. "Raw fish! We all came out starving. The record company's 'oh, Japanese food is really happening, really beautiful and it's *dead* trendy so I'm going to eat it.' It's crap. Give me a *Big Mac* anyday."

"Anything my mum makes," says Marti. "Mince and tatties," says Graeme. "Porridge in the mornings," says Tommy. "A cheese toastie," says Neil. "And I quite like eggs and bacon..."

Sign it 'To Mary from Penicuk!' says the waitress anxiously, collecting her sister's autograph. "And then," she says chirpily, "when I give it to her she'll say 'oh, I don't like them any more'. You know what these teenagers are like..."

Wet Wet Wet say absolutely nothing.

● Photos: Simon Fowler

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HOW TO ENTER

● Simply answer the following rather trickier pop questions (a glance through the free sticker book that comes with this issue might be handy) and send your answers on a postcard to The Smash Hits/Ferguson Competition, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF. Entries must arrive by March 22 perleaze.

- 1) Which member of Five Star relaxes by indulging in a spot of carp fishing?
- 2) Which member of Wet Wet Wet was born in a toilet?
- 3) How old was Madonna when her mother died?
- 4) What was the name of the "hippy" group Neil Tennant used to play in when he lived in Newcastle?



▲ Ferguson pocket colour TV



▲ Ferguson personal stereo

Some nosy Questions

● This is a questionnaire. You don't have to fill it in to enter the competition but it would be helpful. When you've completed it pop it in the post addressed to The Smash Hits Questionnaire, Ferguson Limited, 27 Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1ND to get there by March 16 i.e. rather sharpish pal.

1. Do you own any of the following items?

- Portable radio
- Radio cassette recorder
- Personal stereo with radio
- Personal stereo
- Cruise missile
- Music "centre"
- Pipe cleaner in the shape of a golf course

2. Where do you keep your radio?

- Your bedroom
- Parents' bedroom
- Coal scuttle
- Kitchen
- Living room
- Bread "bin"
- Bathroom

3. If you were buying a new radio or personal stereo, which of these would influence your decision?

- What your friends say
- What sort of vibes you were getting that day
- Colour
- Price
- "Style" of the equipment

4. Which of these do you listen to the most?

- Radio
- Cassettes
- Birds singing in the trees
- Records
- The rustling of the leaves on a blowy afternoon (so soothing)
- Compact discs

5. What would you like to hear more of on the radio?

- "Oldies"
- LP tracks
- Crap jokes
- Mad people "phoning in"
- News
- Gardening tips

6. Which of these statements do you agree with?

- There should be lots more radio stations
- Most "disc" "jockeys" are complete posers
- "Disc" "jockeys" are like friends
- Rock 'n' roll ain't noise pollution
- "Disc" "jockeys" should be gagged

7. What influences your decision to buy an LP?

- Advertising
- What friends say
- A favourable review from William Shaw in Smash Hits
- Hearing tracks on the radio
- Because you feel sorry for it
- Because would make fetching hat

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FIVE STAR **0898 100 742**

EASTENDERS **0898 100 735**

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NITRO DELUXE
FRANKIE IN COURT
KEVIN ROWLAND
TALKING HEADS

Q MAGAZINE

OUT MARCH 10

A TELE AUDIO MEDIA SERVICE

What are the names of Whitney Houston's cats? How many brothers and sisters does Michael Jackson have? Why are T-Pau called "T-Pau"? Let's face it, you haven't a clue, matey. But **Get Smart!** knows every single pop fact in existence. So if you have a pop query, jot it down on a postcard or the back of an envelope and send it to **Get Smart!, Smash Hits, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.**

get smart!

WHITESNAKE

What a lot of LPs they've made!

Dear **Get Smart!**,

Could you please tell me the titles of all of Whitesnake's LPs and when they were released? Also, what was the original line-up of the group and how has it changed? *Gemma, East Barnet.*

● David Coverdale and whoever happens to be in his group at the time have released eight LPs to date, namely: "Trouble" (October 1978), "Love Hunter" (October 1979), "Ready An' Willing" (May 1980), "Live In The Heart Of The City" (October 1980), "Come An' Get It" (April 1981), "Saints An' Sinners" (November 1982), "Slide it in" (January 1984) and "Whitesnake" (March 1987).

The original "line-up" reads "this": David Coverdale, lead vocals; Micky Moody, guitar/vocals; Neil Murray, bass; Bernie Marsden, guitar; John Lord, keyboards and Dave Dowie, drums. David Coverdale is the sole "surviving" member and there have been numerous "line-up" changes since. The current "line-up" is David Coverdale ("vocals"), Vivian Campbell (guitar), Rudy Sarzo (bass), Adrian Vandenburg (guitar) and Tommy Aldridge (drums).



▲ David Coverdale: what a productive chap he is!

TURN PAGE FOR FAM GLIM "SPECIAL"

The Rick Astley single that doesn't really exist!?

Dear **Get Smart!**,

Can you shed some light on a song called "Learning To Live Without Your Love", which I understand was a single released by Ochi Brown and Rick Astley? When it was released, who is Ochi Brown, and why hasn't anyone mentioned it before? *Carolee Fild, Gillingham.*

● Mmmm. A song called "Learning To Live Without Your Love" by Ochi Brown and Rick Astley was released in October 1987. It was, however, mysteriously withdrawn from sale "due to legal reasons" soon afterwards. "Learning To Live..." can now only be heard on Ochi Brown's LP, "Ochi". Until Rick came along, Ochi, a 25 year old one-time session singer had worked rather a lot with Stock, Aitken & Waterman. In fact she released a certain "Whenever You Need Somebody" in 1986. Though it went to number one in the US dance charts, the single flopped disastrously in Britain. Then, Rick Astley brought out a version of the same song in the autumn of 1987 and it "rocketed" to number one! It's all very strange...



▲ Rick Astley. He had a No. 1 hit with "Whenever You Need Somebody".



▲ Ochi Brown. Her version was a complete flop!

A PET SHOP BOYS LP CALLED JEALOUSY!?!?!?

Dear **Get Smart!**,

Can you answer a Pet Shop Boys teaser, please? On the American import of their "It's A Sin" single it says the song is off their forthcoming album "Jealousy" — so is this the title of their new LP? Also, did Neil and Chris really write the theme tune to the TV programme *The Clothes Show*? *Boris, Glasgow.*

● The Pet Shop Boys' American record company made a bit of a mistake, actually, when they sold on the sleeve that "It's A Sin" is from the LP "Jealousy". What happened was that the single came out in America before the LP "Actually" was released and they got the title wrong, the twits. Spookily enough, the "Boys" have written a "resounding ballad" called "Jealousy", though it's not been recorded yet. Heck! As to *The Clothes Show* theme the tune in question was written and performed by Neil and Chris. "In The Night", as it is known, was on the B-side of the original version of "Opportunities" and is to be found on their "Disco" LP.



NEIL CHRIS

DOES ANYONE WANT TO MARRY ADAM CLAYTON?

Dear **Get Smart!**,

Can you tell me how many children The Edge from U2 has, what their names are, and how old they are? Also, have the rest of the band got wives, children etc? *Bono's Earring, Dereham.*

● The "Hedge" has a wife, Aislinn, and two children, Aaron and Hollie, two and four years old respectively. None of the other members of "the 2's" have offspring, though Bono is married to Alison, and drummer Larry Mullen has a steady girlfriend, Ann. Adam Clayton is unattached.

A cut out 'n' keep
Smash Hits Collection

FACT

box

NO. 6



MORRISSEY

Full name: Stephen Patrick Morrissey

Date of birth: 22/5/59

Birthplace: Manchester

Home: Manchester

Height: 5' 11"

Colour of eyes: Blue

Hair: Brown

Marital status: Single

First hit: "This Charming Man" (with The Smiths), number 25, October 1983

Biggest selling single:

"Heaven Knows I'm Miserable Now", with The Smiths

● His mum's a librarian and his dad's a hospital porter!

● An ardent anti-royalist, he sent the Queen Mother a large bouquet of vegetables for her 87th birthday!

● He eats yoghurt every day!

● He once wrote a biography of film idol James Dean!

THE MASH HITS A-Z DIRECTORY

Take a rummage through this "directory", why don't you? Find the address of your favourite pop Johnny, then send off a letter with a stamped addressed envelope (or an International Reply Coupon if it's a foreign address - you can buy them in post offices) so that they can write back and send you some guff. The rest is up to you. . .

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AC DC
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Morden
Surrey SN4 6AN

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WD1 3YA

or
65 Rue Tony
11000
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St Albans
Hertfordshire

RICK ASTLEY
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SW District Office
Manchester
M15 4GY

ATTEC CAMERA
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M15 4GY

B

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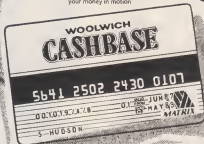
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Paying dues and learning vices
 When the big guns start headin'
 With their bullets of deception howay
 With the same upon your face
 You're going down second hand to almost new

Well I try to live life eye to eye
 (To eye to eye)
 But I say I had it far too tall
 (I had it far too tall)
 Show me one more sign
 Give me one more time
 'Cause you give me (give me)
 You gimme gimme gimme temptation baby
 Show me one more sign
 Give me one more time
 'Cause you give me (give me)
 You gimme gimme gimme temptation baby
 Sing along for the love of the children
 Sing along for the love of the children

And if this was to be true
 Say I'd grab all the tea in China
 And maybe all the top in Amsterdam
 Well I try to live life eye to eye
 But I say I had it far too tall
 Tall tall tall tall
 Show me one more sign
 Give me one more time

'Cause you give me (give me)
 You gimme gimme gimme temptation
 Show me one more sign
 Give me one more time
 'Cause you give me (give me)
 You gimme gimme gimme temptation
 Sing along baby for the love of the children

First you make me move
 Until I'm so damn close
 Oh take me back again
 Oh take me back again
 If I say I'm mighty thankful
 But it's a much too sorry
 Good God y'all

Oh paying dues and learning vices
 But no but no but oh no
 You won't waste my angry spirit
 Won't waste my spirit

Oh show me one more sign
 Give me one more time
 'Cause you give me (give me)
 You give me (give me)
 You gimme gimme gimme temptation
 Show me one more sign
 Give me one more time
 'Cause you give me you give me

Words and music by Clark Cunningham-Mitchell-Pellow ●
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 On Phonogram Records

People Are Strange



People are strange when you're a stranger
 Faces look jolly when you're alone
 Women seem wicked when you're unwanted
 Streets are uneven when you're down

Chorus

When you're strange
 Faces come out of the rain
 When you're strange
 No one remembers your name
 When you're strange
 When you're strange
 When you're strange

Repeat first verse

Repeat chorus

Yeah

Repeat first verse

Repeat chorus

echo + the bunnymen

Words and music by The Doors ●
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stay on these roads

ana

THE BRAND NEW SINGLE
 OUT NEXT WEEK!

PRODUCED BY ALAN TARNEY
 MIXED BY JOHN HUDSON

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Bea Carlisle



NAME: Belinda Jo Carlisle. I was named after my mum's favourite movie *Johnny Belinda* - it's a movie starring Jane Wyman (famous old actress) where she plays a deaf and dumb kid. Thank God I didn't turn out deaf and dumb - it would have been kinda hard to sing.

BORN: 17/8/58 in Hollywood, California. My father was a carpenter and my mum was a mum.

FIRST CRUSH: His name was Jack Wilder - he was a surfer boy. I was 14. Was it love? No, I don't think so. All we did was make out. I wanted to go steady with him but we made out on Friday night and of course at school on Monday morning he ignored me.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: I'm the oldest of seven children. There's me, my brother Butch, 26, my sister Hope, 24, my sister Mary, 21, Jo, 20, Josh, 13 and Sarah who's nine. I guess I was bossy when I was younger but I was also the guinea pig older sister. It's hard being the oldest because I was always really rebellious and my parents didn't know how to handle me. I wasn't allowed to go out with boys until I was 16 or 17 - now my sisters go out at 14. I was a little over-protected. They're all really proud of me - my little brother has a racket at school selling pictures of me for two bucks (about £7). I said he should give me 15.

NICKNAME AT SCHOOL: (Looks downcast) Ber-limpor. I was always overweight. And then in seventh grade at about 13 I lost 30 pounds to show them, so they called me Chicken Legs. I couldn't win. I've always been up and down - I've always had a weight problem.

FIRST CONCERN: The Beach Boys - I think I was 16. It was really great. No, I don't want to be up on stage at all - back then I never thought I'd be doing this because I don't really have a natural voice. I never really could sing. When we formed the Go-Gos (her previous group) we were sitting round at a party and I wanted to play bass but bass was taken so I had a choice between playing drums or singing so I chose singing. The first time I heard my voice it was the worst thing I'd ever heard - I was horrified. I've sort of developed it over the last ten years by going to lessons.

WHAT MAKES YOU CRY? Cruelty to people and animals - a lot of things. AIDS makes me cry. I try not to watch the news any more because most of it makes me cry. The last time I cried was two days ago. I'm a subscriber to *Dog World* and I was reading a story about a German

Shepherd dog who was real heroic - that makes me cry. I cry easily. Even happy things make me cry.

HOW IS YOUR ASIAN POT-BELLIED SWAYBACK PIG? He lasted for a little while. It was a little bit hard to handle. I just moved into a house (film star *Carole Lombard's* old house) and there are gardens and he was rooting up everything. He was going to be about 120 pounds and I just got scared at the thought - I thought it would be tough to handle. I'm trying to find this other breed that'll be about 30 pounds - they're an experimental breed that they haven't perfected yet which is really cruel in a way, it is sick, but if they're making them, why have it in a laboratory if you can give them a good life? I gave my pig back to the trainer so now I've just got four dogs and a parrot.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION? Yes, 'cause I've had experience of that. When I was 17 - this is a crazy story and it's funny telling it in an interview, people are going to think I'm nuts - I was about ready to fall asleep and I felt electricity go through my bed and jolt me three different times. I didn't know what it was. There was nothing plugged in, there was a spirit popping in my brain. Then on the fourth time sparks started flying from my arms and legs. I'm not nuts - it was the most frightening experience I've ever had in my whole life. I was told that that was very similar to spontaneous combustion (a 'wonky' phenomenon) where people supposedly burst into flames. I hurt very badly - it was like an electric shock. It lasted for about 15 seconds. I was hysterical for days after because I didn't want it to happen again. I've also seen a ghost when I was staying in London when I was about 19 - a real ghost. I think it was... it's ectoplasm (silly substance associated with ghosts)? It wasn't a human form but it was definitely a ghost and it was definitely pinning me down to the bed and I couldn't scream and I couldn't move and it was very cold, very very cold, and it was a whole mist... the second most frightening experience of my life.

CAN YOU CHANGE THE WHEEL OF A CAR? Probably can if I want to but I usually call Triple A - that's a roadside service. You've got to jack the car up, take the hubcap up, get all the nuts off, pull the wheel off, put it back on, put the screws back on, put the hubcap back on, take the jack, lower the car and then you're off. It's a pretty easy thing to do.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT THAT THE WHOLE UNIVERSE IS ON SOMEONE'S FINGERNAIL? Yeah. Definitely. When I start thinking about it it drives me crazy so I try not to. I'll never forget, I was in Switzerland once up in the Alps during summertime and it was a really really really crystal clear night and I sat there and thought 'we're just an atom

compared to everything else'. If we are an atom. We might only be a proton or a neutron or whatever. The other thing that makes me nuts is thinking 'what is a higher power? I'm not sure if it is a Supreme Being. I was brought up very strictly religiously as a Southern Baptist but now I've got older I've realised that organised religion is a load of baloney. I know there is something but thinking about it makes me crazy.

TELL US A SECRET ABOUT MADONNA: I saw her the other night - she has black hair now. There's this place in LA called *Heaven's* and I hardly ever go there but everybody else does. I was sitting by the dancefloor and no one was dancing and then she was the first one up with her friend - I thought 'great, I get a free Madonna show'. Then, the great thing, Gita Stallone (i.e. *Brigitte Stallone*) - Sly Stallone's ex-wife, the big blonde, got on the dancefloor. Even I wouldn't have the nerve to dance next to Madonna because she's such a great dancer. And it was like a face off, it was the funniest thing, I had to hide my face because I was laughing so hard. It was like she was trying to compete. I see Madonna at the gym quite often - we talk about which aerobics teachers are the best. I think I have hyperglycemia but she works out much more than I do. She's a real athlete. She was doing the advanced classes with weights on her ankles and wrists. She's heavy duty.

HAVE YOU EVER ACCIDENTALLY SWALLOWED A FLY? Yeah, and I accidentally ate a worm the other night. I've swallowed flies on my motorcycle. The worm? I was eating spaghetti sauce and I could definitely taste a worm. How do I know what a worm tastes like? Well, sometimes when you eat fruit there are worms in it. I don't know what a worm's doing in spaghetti sauce. Isn't that gross?

DID YOU KNOW YOU'RE THE MOST FAMOUS POP STAR EVER NAMED AFTER A TOWN IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND? Yeah, I've been there. The Go-Gos played there with Madness and I was so proud to be in my town. It was real nice. I think the small towns outside London are really cute.

WHY IS THE SKY BLUE? I don't know. I've never thought about that. Why not?

CAN YOU THINK OF A POEM ABOUT JON BON JOVI'S SPOOKY BEARD? We're going through some stuff with him at the moment (due to an alleged similarity between 'Heaven Is A Place On Earth' and 'You Give Love A Bad Name'). He's greedy. We've had muscologists come in and anyway how many millions has the guy made? He leaves a sour taste in my mouth. The poem? OK.

Roses are red
Violets are blue
Jon Jovi's beard's weird
And so are you



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WOOLWORTHS

Shall we do it again (yeah yeah)
 Shall we do it again (yeah yeah)
 wanna do it again (yeah yeah)
 Come on let's do it again now (yeah yeah)
 Do it (I know you're gonna dig this)
 That's right you've guessed it Easy Q's back
 With another funky beat for your 12" slack
 My posse and I had to do it again

To make sure you all know who's number one in England
 Well we called for a wine watched the competition
 Now we've decided we're on a mission
 To keep the dance floors loaded the jams packed tight
 Keep everybody sweat'n 'til the end of the night
 With funky beats that kick rhymes that kick
 Derek B is on the cut guaranteed to be quick
 And precise (yeah) and always on time
 You wanna take us on get to the end of the line
 Cause I'm the crown king of England Easy Q the first
 Mess with me boy and you'll need to be nursed
 So go ahead and try come on make me move
 Cause you're about to get served by the real good groove

(That's right) come on girl (that's right) come on girl

Changed my GTI for a Porsche

3.3 turbo of course

Driving down the M4 from my country retreat
 Looked in the mirror guess what (blue heat)
 Cops flashing light twice and I pulled over
 Two Old Bill jumped quick out the Rover
 They both walked up one looked inside
 Then the other one said with eyes open wide
 (Oh my God) it's Easy Q
 My daughter's got a picture on her wall of you
 I should give you a ticket you were going too fast
 But instead I'll settle for your autograph
 Signed two pictures and away in my car
 The phone rang up of course cellular
 It's Easy Q it's me Sarah Jane
 I was wondering if you'd like to do it again
 I said to you Jose why don't you leave me alone
 And with that I put down the telephone
 Cruised for a while turned up the CD
 JBL's were shaking to the sound of Public Enemy
 Parked my car in Soho I was heading for the Wag
 Winston at the door didn't give me any egg
 Got girls on my jock soon as I walked in the place
 Guess they recognised me from my photo in The Face
 Walked a bit further and who did I see
 Dark Hart Det Con 1 and on the wheels Derek B
 Wait to wait people everybody making moves
 Being rocked by the master of the real good groove

Chorus

(That's right) come on girl (that's right) come on girl
 (That's right) come on everybody
 (That's right) come on everybody

Nobody does it better now you'll know that's true

Beats fired up kick'n just for you
 The style that you're hearing pounding in your ears
 Is a style that's developed over many years
 My music is my life and I love it with a passion
 Do what I feel don't need to follow any fashion
 'Cause I've paid my dues in blood and sweat
 You think you've seen something you ain't seen nothing yet
 But as for right now I'm on the right tip
 If you're taking me serious well you must be a dip
 I may exaggerate a little but who cares
 You heard anyone dis me who dares
 The bass is pumping the tempo low
 Go on pump up your stereo
 You ready I'm gonna make you move
 Cause you're about to get rocked by the real good groove

Repeat chorus to fade

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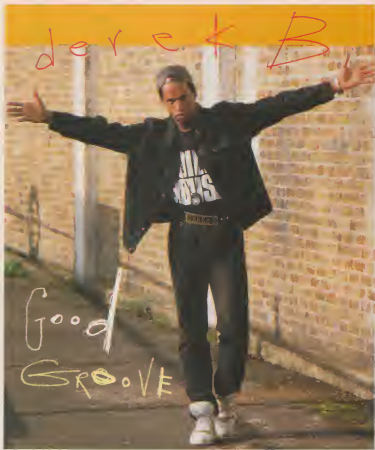


Photo: Norman Anderson

The lyric to 'Good Groove' is part two of a story that started in my first record which was called 'Get Down'. In that song I drove down the Kings Road (street in London famous for being rather "trendy") in my GTI and I met this girl, Sarah Jane outside a club called 'Crazy Larry's'. Her boyfriend was a typical yuppie, pin-striped shirt, red tie and all that and she jumps into my car and we say 'bye' to this bloke. It's just fun, about fun times - it's a typical boastful rap.

In the new song I'm not very nice to Sarah Jane. I've had enough of her now. But she keeps coming back for more. I rocked her world so good that she wants some more, ha ha ha. It's just tongue-in-cheek fun; it's not meant to harm anyone or be sexist or anything.

"Easy Q in the song is me. Easy Q and Derek B are one and the same. It's an alter-ego of mine. You see in rap there's usually a DJ and an MC, two different people. But I've taken on both roles

and given both roles different names. I never thought I'd ever be successful enough to have to differentiate between the two. In this song I've got a Porsche instead of a GTI and I've got a country retreat down the M4, just outside Slough. Actually I used to have a Porsche for a little while and I used to get stopped by the police regular as clockwork. To really run a Porsche you have to have the whole lifestyle and maintain it. I love good cars - fast cars, fast women, fast food, that's what I like. Anyway when I had my Porsche I kept getting stopped because I don't dress like you typically upwardly mobile black. I dress like a 'homeboy'. So they see this rough-neck guy driving this flash car and they just 'know that's not your car'.

"Perhaps I'll get a new one now I'm a pop star, he he he. Actually I'm a bit surprised that 'Good Groove' has got in the charts, but then again the cream always rises to the top, ha ha ha."

C'mon Everybody



Well c'mon everybody and let's get together tonight
 I got some money in my jeans and I'm really gonna spend it right
 Well I've been a 'doin' my homework all week long
 And now the house is empty and my folks are gone
 Ooh c'mon everybody

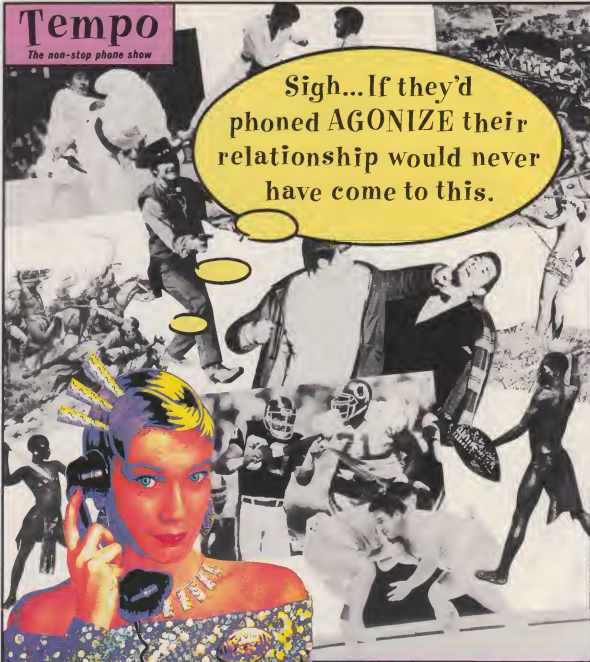
Well my baby's number one but I'm gonno dance with three or four
 And my house'll be shaking from my bare feet sloppin' on the floor
 Well when you hear the music you just can't sit still
 If your brother won't rock then your sister will
 Ooh c'mon everybody

Well we'll really have a party but we gotta put a car outside
 If the folks come home I'm afraid they're gonno have my hide
 There'll be no more movies for a week or two
 No more rum'n' around with the usual crew
 Who cares c'mon everybody

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Dear Black Type,

I was overjoyed that Rick Astley won the Best British Single award at the recent BPI awards. But my delight soon changed to horror as he was humiliated in front of thousands of people as someone else suddenly accepted his award and introduced The Who. *The Who?* I couldn't believe it; they haven't been around for years, they're finished. This was evident as they sounded like a group of screeching prats! The whole purpose of these awards was to give the pop talent of today and tomorrow awards. Rick has a lot of talent, he is the future of pop music. The Who were never even that in the past - I'm not surprised they sang "Who Are You?" - few people knew, or cared. The whole event was ruined by the BBC's stupidity, they deprived Rick of his proudest moment.

Yours angrily, A Devoted Rick Astley Fan, London.

Dear Black Type,

The organisers of the BPI Awards the major event in the pop year - should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves for their disgusting behaviour to Rick Astley. Not only should The Who not have been playing, what on earth possessed anybody to award them for the "great" contribution to pop music in the last 25 years? Exactly what have they contributed? When was the last time they had chart success, or even made a record? Since when has their "sound" been considered music? Perhaps the BPI were stumped for an alternative artist to whom they could present the award. In which case why give it at all? Angry, Wales.

Dear Blackest of Black Type,

It was my own fault, I realise that now. I should have guessed that it was going to be awful, but if the BBC insist on showing narcissistic affairs like the BPI awards, at least they could edit out the truly tedious bits and spare us having to see the affair "live". Then at least Rick Astley wouldn't be shamed, and we wouldn't have had to listen to boring speeches from Andrew "personality of a plate" Lloyd Webber.

Awards are normally given for excellence; if the best the record industry can come up with is Samantha Fox, Sinitta and the Bee Gees as contenders for prizes, then

LETTERS

WRITE TO: Sarah Hix, 52-55 Canaby Street, London W1V 1PT
The most splendid letter gets a £10 record token and a Black Type tea-towel. Everyone else gets a commemorative pendant (i.e. a badge).

they just shouldn't bother. Terry Wogan's Paunch, Birmingham.

Oh dear. These BPI people (whoever they may be) do seem to have dropped a birova "clanger", do they not? Did nobody out there enjoy the ceremony even a little bit? If you did, perhaps you could write to me, marking your letter "I enjoyed the BPI awards but then again I'm a bit of a tube," and we'll take it from there. Yo! (whatever that means).

Dear B.T.,

I am so glad that Rick Astley didn't win the award for Best British Newcomer. Don't get me wrong, I really do like Rick, I just cannot stand Wet Wet Wet, who actually won this category. I'm so pleased they won, because if the recent track record of "Best Newcomer" winners is anything to go by, they'll have faded into obscurity by 1989 (Hurrhh). Remember, if you will, previous winners Luke... Frankie Goes To Hollywood, Go West, The Housemartins. Where are they now, eh? I rest my case. Yours, Elaine S, Birmingham.

Dear Black Type,

Have you noticed that halfway through the song "New Sensation" by INXS, Michael Hutchence says "trumpet". There's nothing strange about that except that this exclamation is followed by a saxophone solo!!! Hrrmmmm. Does he: a) Not realise that it is a "sax" playing and not a trumpet; b) Not know what either of them are; or c) Not realise what a terrible songwriter he is (i.e. he says trumpet when he might just as well say saxophone)? Fishy, isn't it? Michael Hutchence's Leather Vest, Formby, Liverpool.



▲ Rick Astley ▲ Max Bygraves

Dear Black Type,

My own dear mother has discovered the terrible truth - a marked similarity between those two "warriors" of the charts, Rick Astley and Max Bygraves! They look like brothers and I'm convinced it's all just a plot to give Mr SingalongMax a new lease of life. Can anyone honestly say they've seen the pair together? At the same time? No I rest my case. White jazz, Birmingham.

So, the truth is "out". Max Bygraves, you claim, was unable to accept his BPI award for Most 'Maxin' Contribution In The History Of Popular Music, because on that particular evening he was taking the "guise" of Rick? Is this perhaps why all Rick's lyrics begin with the inimitable Bygraves' utterance "I wanna tell you a story..." At last!!! This blindingly obvious. And while we're on the subject, am I the only one to have noticed the similarity between those Proclaimers chappies, the quite remarkable resemblance between Matt and Luke from Bros, and the downright sinister likeness between Kylie Minogue and that woman from Neighbours??? Pop music is

indeed brimful of so-called doppelgangers and there is a token 'n' towel on its way to you for your powerful observation. Why, it's really quite extraordinary!!

Dear Black Type,

I have a snippet of completely useless information which you might nevertheless find fascinating. Sinead O'Connor is, as you know, a pop personage with a shaven head. And - her name "Sinead" is "skinhead" with a "k" and an "h" taken out!!!!!!!

This is extraordinary, is it not? The Phantom Spider Plant Grower Of Old Hershaw Town.

Dear Auntie Black Type,

I have a problem. I can't stop saying "Jeremy Beadle". I love his name. I love saying "Beadle" through pursed lips as quickly as possible. I love interrupting a conversation about world politics with the words "watch out Beadle's about" and watching people's reactions. I love saying "Beadle Beadle Beadle" with my nose pressed into a cushion. I love adopting a "yuppie" accent and announcing myself as "Jeremy" when I walk into a bus shelter. I've dyed my hair black and had a poodle perm. So what's the problem? Well, I haven't got any friends! What can I do? Yours with affection, Japonica Pussy, Exeter.

Where you're going wrong Japonica is your choice of name.

Not the name Japonica, which admittedly is pretty weird, but the name "Jeremy Beadle". Perhaps if you were to walk round saying the name "Gordon Bennett" you'd be offered a part in the top TV soap "opera", *EastEnders*, an ordinary tale of ordinary "Coclemy" folk. The close-knit community of Albert Square is noted for its warmth and spirit of kinship and is always ready to clasp life's strays to its collective "bosom". You're bound to make lots of friends as you spend many a happy hour enjoying "knees-ups" around "the old joanna", buying parsnips from Pete's "barrier", and finding out that your grandmother is in fact your long lost half sister or something. It's your only hope, Japonica, so would you do that for me? Would you, now? Please? Anyway I'm off...

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REVIEW SINGLES



REVIEWED BY RO NEWTON

THE CLASH: I Fought The Law (CBS)
The Clash have split up now but in 1979 this was a hit for them — a cover of an old '60s rock and roll classic which shows only too well that the likes of The Alarm & Co. aren't even fit to fasten these boys' bootee ties. Released as a taster for their forthcoming double LP of greatest hits, it gives you some idea why that thing called "punk" rock happened all those years ago...



EURYTHMICS: I Need A Man (RCA)

Annie Lennox sounds like a desperate woman as she grunts and growls her way through this "raunchy" number which basically says that she (them) would like some male company for the night, thank you very much. "I Need A Man" is the perfect answer to all those ageing heavy rockers like Iron Maiden etc., with sweaty chest wigs and bulging beer guts who croak on endlessly about sexy chicks in tight red dresses. If any of them happened to meet our Annie down a dark alley, she'd probably scare the pants off the lot of them...

DEBBIE GIBSON: Only In My Dreams (Atlantic)

Fluffy-haired Debbie Gibson is just one of the current epidemic of bright-eyed Americans who have sneaked in through the back door while Madonna takes a breather. "Only In My Dreams" is being craftily re-released after the success of "Shake Your Love" and it's probably the best song she's ever written. Swaying along with a cute, finger-clicking feel, plenty of rhythmic goings-on and the obligatory squeaky sax break — not to mention a harmless lyric that hardly taxes the brain, it's the sort of stuff that really gets miserable Morrissey's goat — and that's a good thing.

ROBERT PALMER: Sweet Lies (Island)

Robert Palmer is the sort of bloke who could sing about something as undesirable as pig's trotters and custard and still make it sound rather

appealing. "Sweet Lies" is slightly more laid-back than his previous rumbustious efforts ("Addicted To Love", "I Didn't Mean To Turn You On") and has really a rather peculiar sound to it. Robert sings along with himself but in a different key just to make life interesting, all accompanied by some lazy trumpet playing.

BROS: Drop The Boy (CBS)

Bros must be highly excited at the prospect of their new single hitting the "streets" as they just prove to their many critics that they are more than just one hit wonders. Certainly, a lot of people will prick up their ears to "Drop The Boy" as it leans more towards funk than pop and isn't nearly so annoyingly repetitive as "When Will I Be Famous?". Matt gets a chance to really let rip and do his best Michael Jackson impression as he pleads to be taken seriously by his "folks" while Luke and Craig get into the groove. Pry that they almost forget about the song...



THE SOUP DRAGONS: The Majestic Head (Rough Trade)

What was The Soup Dragons are. This has got to

be the weirdest record of the fortnight and certainly one of the most brilliant. The opening bit features some kind of classical violin concerto which is jolly pleasant until it breaks into a brain-cooding, mind-expanding mix of such '60s groups as The Who (before they drew their old-age pensions), The Beatles and The Monkees...not to mention being choc-a-bloc with the kind of melodies and harmonies that The Beach Boys would've been proud of. It's all very psychedelic and extra-terrestrial but who cares when it's this wonderful! Now, will you excuse me while I float off on cloud nine...

WET WET WET: Temptation (Phonogram)

"Temptation", or as the cheery grin that is Marti Pellow sings "sm-py-shwan" — yet another track off their much-lauded "Popped In Souled Out" LP — is a real hotch-potch of styles and influences with no real melody to string it all together. It kicks off with a touch of the Elton Johns tinkling the ivories, meanders through a spot of Frank Sinatra (ancient old lurve warbler) style crooning, is spiced up with a few short spurts of '60s soul-sounding Hammond organ, screeches into a heavy metal guitar solo and finishes off with some rather vigorous Queen-like football chants courtesy of what sounds like the Glasgow Rangers Supporters' Club. A very strange concoction indeed.



TIFFANY: Could've Been (MCA)

Tiffany dispenses with the cheesiness of "I Think We're Alone Now" and adopts the mature, sophisticated air of a "woman of experience" (although how she managed that hopping from one shopping precinct to another is anyone's guess). Sounding like 16 going on 36, Tiffany draws her way through this yawning, middle-of-the-road ballad that is sure to become a must for insomniacs everywhere.

STATUS QUO: Ain't Complaining (Phonogram)

Ver Quo, eh! Worraband! Still rocking out after 60 years and still sounding like Chas' n' Dave at 90 m.p.h. This is a not very interesting record.

TAYLOR DAYNE: Prove Your Love (Arista)

Yet another American fantasist waiting in the wings to take over when Madonna abdicates the throne. But, apart from having a mass of red hair and a rather large mouth, Taylor Dayne hasn't got a great deal going for her. Oh "Prove Your Love" she flaunts a pair of powerful tonsils but it's all wasted energy because the song is mediocre and even all the grandiose production techniques slapped on to zap it up can't dispel the boredom. Oh dear...

FEARGAL SHARKEY: Out Of My System (Virgin)

I've never really been able to take Feargal Sharkey seriously since he made the bizarre swoop from posty-faced punk in the Undertones to lounge lizard in a snoot designer suit. To match his dress sense he's tried to make his music sound sophisticated but it just doesn't work. This latest single is an unremarkable song with a ploddy soul beat but at least Feargal still warbles on in the way only he knows how (thank goodness).



PETER MURPHY: All Night Long (Beggars Banquet)

Pete Murphy used to cavort about seductively in a skin-tight pair of black long-johns and little else as the singer in "gothic" group Bauhaus. These days though he's on his own and turned all respectable, in fact far too much so. "All Night Long" (nothing to do with a tune by Lionel Richie) is a song that slowly grows on you (quite like fungus) with plenty of nice twinkly bits and a luscious, soft melody to savour, but it never quite manages to grab you by the throat, or even, for that matter, tweak you on the nose.

SINGLE OF THE FORTNIGHT

ERASURE: Ship Of Fools (Mute)

Oh what a joy it is to hear a record that isn't taken over by twittering synthesizers, pumping bass lines and drum beats ten to the dozen, especially when it comes from Erasure who've built up their reputation making infectious dance music from those very ingredients. "Ship Of Fools" is first and foremost a song, not a load of sterile bumps and clicks cobbled together in the way that some of the records in the charts are at the moment. It also happens to be very soothing with the quavery tones of Andy Bell fluttering away softly while Vince Clarke provides a strong orchestral backing with loads of swirly strings and other "subtle" things. I actually think this is rather wonderful and just the thing for the more sensitive souls among us to nip our Horlicks to!



SINITTA: Cross My Broken Heart (Famfare)

"Cross my broken heart" laments Sinitta, in this tale of woe and despair as another boyfriend bites the dust. The romeo in question has decided that he's obviously so macho that he doesn't want to be her toy boy any more, and he's driven off into the sunset with her best friend in tow in... (yes, you've guessed it) a little red GTO! This has been a Stock Aitken & Waterman production.

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REVIEW CONCERT



**"DO YOU
REMEMBER
WHO
WE ARE?"**

▲ Curiously, they're back, but how come they've only written one new song?

CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT Hammersmith Odeon, London

Who are these knickers? Benjamin Volpeler-Pierrot is standing in the middle of the Hammersmith Odeon stage holding aloft a pair of girly er, undergarments, which have just landed at his feet from an appreciative puppete somewhere in the audience. In reply to his gentle enquiry, a unanimous "Aieeeeee!" goes up and about a billion hands punch the air. Ben turns his back on his female disciples, strolls over to the drums and hands the frillsome "gift" over to a grinning Mgo, who proceeds to stuff them into his trouser pocket, thus causing another



▲ The group's backstop (designed by Mgo)

delighted howl from the crowd. So begins the return of the long-lost "Curiosities, not seen since September of last year when their single "Free" completely flopped. After that they went missing - presumed dumped - to be

replaced by the likes of Bros. On tonight's turn-out though, they've not been forgotten at all, when Ben bellows "Do you remember who we are!", and ver Cats launch into "Curiosity Killed The Cat", deafening shrieks go up. Ben begins caworting about gaily, bobbing up and down, arms flopping this way and that, and doing the spidery dance that's peculiar only to him. Whenever he



▲ Ben's wizzily dancing

turns his back, "subtly" patting his bottom and left leg in time to the music, dribbly squeals of an even higher pitch go up at the sight of the pert Pierrot derrière.

In between each song we're treated to a lengthy pause as Ben "raps" with the "kids" (men), ranting on about how "good it is to be back in London" (as though they've been

off on a 16 month world tour) and generally, like, hazy'n' loose. We hear just one new song, "Name And Number" (probably the next single) and the question on everybody's mind is: how come they only seem to have written one new song in the last six months when they were supposed to be rehearsing in the studio? Nobody knows...

Instead the set is made up of songs from "Keep Your Distance", including the singles "Ordinary Day", "Mafia", "Free" and "Down To Earth". The most amazing event of the night though comes when Ben relieves his head of his new Andy Capp hat in the dark of the back area of the stage, wipes his sweating cranium with a towel, and walks back into the spotlight hatless!!!!!! And yes, the boy does indeed possess a thatch of "hair" (quite a bit actually).

Apart from this most monumental occasion in the history of rock 'n' roll, the rest of the affair runs the risk of being just a bit boring, with most songs tending to tumble together, not noticeably different enough from one other or so sparkingly well-played as to blast your toes off. Which isn't much "cop" for what was generally considered to be a birrova "comeback", is it vicwers?

Sue Dando



▲ Fluffy gets kibbled Ben-wads.

VIDEOS

If you ever doubted that Terence was a true star or that he was one of the most extraordinary live performers to appear in his life then you should be locked up in a room with this video of his live performance in Munich last year. It's quite extraordinary the way he manages to wriggle his trim little body and blurt out such confident versions of all of the ten songs from his LP at the same time (plus covers of the Rolling Stones ancient song "Under My Thumb" and Sam Cooke's "Wonderful World"). As for the video itself, it's a sort of stylish rock documentary, full of visual trickery to pep up the show, cut in with shots of Terry playing "The Rock Star", careering romantically on a white horse, chatting to lots of famous models in a restaurant etc. etc., peppered with snippets of Terry mumbaling away with the usual load of entertainingly arrogant tosh about how he talks to God and how he's got nothing but his genius to declare. Phew! At least this video supplies some evidence to back up his claims...

50 COPIES OF TERENCE'S VIDEO TO BE WON!

By some curious twist of fate we seem to have 50 - 50!! - copies of *Introducing The Hardline - Live* cluttering up the Smash Hits office, and curiously enough we seem to be giving them away in a competition too. If you want to try and get hold of one you must first puzzle out the answer to this question: What was Terence's first ever single? Was it: a) "Sign Your Name"; b) "If You Let Me Stay" or c) "E.T. Thinks My Tunes Are Happening"? Write your answers on a postcard saying whether you'd prefer VHS or Betamax and send them to **Smash Hits Terence "Trout" D'Arby Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** by March 22.

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY: Introducing The Hardline - Live (CBS Fox 65 mins, £9.99)



▲ Terence: "the usual load of entertainingly arrogant tosh"

DEPECHE MODE: *Strange* (Mute Film, 30 mins, £7.99)



▲ Loads of very black and white



▲ ...very murky, very word.



▲ ...images that don't make much sense.



▲ ...at all.

Strange is the title and it is indeed rather apt. This is a very rum "do", in fact. Instead of bringing out the usual pop video compilation i.e. lots of songs lumped together in a haphazard theme-free manner, The Mode decided to beetle off to a desert somewhere with an arty director bloke (Anton Corbijn - the chap who took all the photos of U2 in the desert) and go a bit barmy. With the songs "A Question Of Time", "Stranglove", "Never Let Me Down Again", "Behind The Wheel" and "Pimp" chundering on in the background, Ver Mode spend the full 30 minutes film time cavorting with babies, a tractor, several mawkish-looking vixresses clad in rubber (hem hem), a priest and some ancient crumblies dug up from a local village. How very odd. And even though it's shot in grainy black and white, and doesn't make the blindest bit of sense throughout, it's actually curiously compelling in an um, strange sort of way, and not bad value for money either.

Sue Dando

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S4

Brilliant!

That's Chris Heath's "considered" opinion of Debbie Gibson's first ever British concert at the Astoria in "downtown" London...



▲ Debbie calmly playing Pictionary minutes before she wanders on stage.



▲ The group The "London" t-shirt



▲ Debbie chortling her way through a few dance moves backstage.



▲ "I wrote this song in social studies."



▲ Fans "thronging" outside the Astoria stage door.

• Come on! Come on! Goodness, you're no good at this...

Debbie Gibson throws her hands up in despair. In 20 minutes she'll be onstage at London's Astoria for her first ever British concert but right now it's the last thing on her mind. She's far too busy giving a demonstration of her skills at Pictionary, a game which she has been explaining she always plays with her group while on the tour bus in America. What you do is have to draw sketches so that someone else can guess a particular word — she has chosen a word and is trying to get the Smash Hits "journalist" to guess what word her drawings represent, within the 30 second time limit. Unfortunately, much to her disgust, I am not doing very well.

"Er... hair? ... perm? ... permed hair? ... hair colour? ... hair dye? ... shampoo? ... conditioner? ... make-up? ... er...
 "Time's up!" announces Debbie's 13 year old sister, Denise, today's timekeeper. "Afrol" exclaims Debbie in desperation. She quite clearly doesn't think I'm much up at this. "Try this one," she says, starting scribbling again. "um...er...um...Indian?... (she starts waving her hands about)... Indian chief?... er..."

"Time's up!" shouts Denise. "It's India" is waving my hands to mean "shorter than Indian", lulls Debbie, monumentally unimpressed. "You're no good at this at all!"

"Oh dear. Never mind. Let's try again later," she says. Meanwhile there's loads else to do. Most pop types go a bit serious and wibbly before going on stage but not Debbie. "I just get excited," she grins. Instead she's busy singing songs — she trills a particularly fine version of Taylor Dayne's "Tell It To My Heart" — practising a bit of dancing with her two male dancers (quite brilliant, actually), and opening some presents fans have sent her.

First she finds a bit of jewellery which she examines with gusto (it's not the first piece she's been given — the heart shaped pendant necklace she always wears is from a fan) then she starts reading a wad of letters. "The best thing I ever got sent," she laughs, "was this video tape by two boys who'd filmed their own questions and matched them with answers I'd given when I was on TV on Hollywood Squares (The American TV show that Celebrity Squares was copied from). He'd asked 'how do you rate me from one to 35?' and I'd say '35' which was my answer to 'how old do you have to be in the senate?' and then he'd say 'what about Wayne here?' and I'd say '17' which is what I said when they asked my eye."

Sitting untouched in the corner of the dressing room is a modest pile of food — some chicken, some cold meat, some fruit and so on. Pop stars always have something of the sort provided and, unfortunately for concert bookers of the future, Debbie Gibson explains that her eye was caught recently by an article about all the weird things people ask for in their dressing rooms

"I'm thinking of putting something weird on my contract now," she chuckles, "Van Halen ask for MSM's (American Smartie type things) with the brown ones taken out, don't they? I'm thinking that, as I have a teddy bear collection, I'll ask them to always put a teddy bear in my dressing room, just to see if they read the fine print. I'd really clean up."

Not that she really needs many more teddy bears — she already has 35 on the shelves around her bedroom, her favourite being a grey one with a blue ski sweater and a hat and scarf.

"It's really cute," she says. "It was given to me by an ex-boyfriend as a present."

So is that why it's special?
 "No," she exclaims, quite horrified at the thought. "I only went out with him for a month. Anyway I got him a teddy bear too, so we're even."

Oh. With that Debbie starts getting ready to go onstage. Is she, I wonder, going to treat the world to a version of the first song she ever wrote (at the age of five), "Make Sure You Know Your Classroom"?

"No," she says, firmly. "It's too short... it doesn't have the right beat... and the lyrics are a bit juvenile."

There are, she reveals, quite a few other songs as well she won't be playing:

"I wrote a song about my puppy when I was about nine," she says. "It was called 'My Puppy Grew'. It went like, 'My puppy grew and grew / I didn't know what I should do... Very, uh, poetic..."

There was also a song called "I Come From America" which I wrote when I was 12. That was pretty silly but," she pauses, "that won me one thousand dollars in a songwriting contest — you had to write a song about America. That kinda started me off." It went, she explains, "I may look like I'm from Korea / I may speak like I'm from Africa / I may have an Italian accent / But I come from America," and she puts it success down to the fact "that the words weren't all corny and patriotic."

"Sorry," she grins. "They weren't patriotic."

WE ARE ON!"
 A huge chant erupts from Debbie and her backing band as they bound down the stairs to the concert, slapping each other's hands as they go. Seconds later they're onstage. "It's strange," Debbie had said a few minutes before. "When I go to concerts I'm always in the front trying to touch the artist's hand. A year ago I touched Billy Joel's hand and I walked around for weeks saying 'I touched Billy Joel's sweetly hand.' And now... And now it's happening to her. Immediately she appears there's a sea of hands at the front and she darts along touching as many as possible. Debbie's dancing — joined most of the time by two extremely good dancers — is impressive, her singing even more so and overall it's just 17 — she's not just 'good for a



▲ Debbie Gibson. Pictionary wizard and songstress.



▲ "Shake your love, I just can't shake your love (millipity)"



▲ The costume change!

teenager" or anything, she's good by any standards. Her best songs — "Only in My Dreams," "Out of the Blue," "Foolish Beat" — sound brilliant and even the roper songs on her LP sound fairly splendid tonight, in between she also slips in one old '50s song "In the Still of the Night" and two brand new songs, one of which is a ballad called "Love in Your Eyes" that is somewhere in between Whitney Houston's "Saving All My Love for You" and TPau's "China in Your Hand" and will probably be number one for several eons when it's eventually released. The only reminder of how young she really is comes when she introduces "Wake Up For Love" by saying "I wrote this song in social studies."

The "last" song is "Shake Your Love" — an especially long version they'd rehearsed just for tonight. In the middle of it she disappears for ages while the two dancers run through a quite preposterously athletic series of somersaults and leaps. It turns out she wasn't supposed to be gone for quite so long — afterwards her dad jokes "she probably tried one outfit, said 'nah', tried on another, said 'nah' again and said 'mum, take me shopping now'" — but she eventually reappears in torn jeans and a "London" t-shirt that she'd bought earlier that day. Then after two quick encores including a version of Elton John's rather tragic "Crocodile Rock", and lots more hand-touching, she scoots back upstairs.

"I loved it," she beams as she signs autographs and packs her things together. "We'll have to play Pictionary again another time," she laughs amiably (quite obviously also thinking "and, no doubt you'll still be utterly useless at it"). Oh well. . .



"If you ever see me again—
you never saw me before."

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME

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REVIEW FILMS

THE LAST EMPEROR (15, 162 mins)

There's already been a mammoth amount of hoop-ah about this epic film—endless features in the more snooty Sunday "news" papers and rumours that it's the most expensive film ever made—but is it any good? Well, yes, actually. It's the fascinating and utterly true story of P'u Yi, who was crowned Emperor of China in 1908, when only three years old. He lives in the splendour and isolation of The Forbidden City (so-called as only royalty can live there) in Peking and is considered divine, so mere mortals may not look at him—they have to turn away if he passes by. The film follows the twists and turns of his bizarre life, from having absolute power to being "re-educated" in a communist jail for crimes against the state. It's all utterly fascinating, lavishly made with obviously not a care for expense—they employed an incredible 19,000 people to appear in the crowd scenes—and, if you can bear the fact that it's over two and half hours long, it's also a hugely entertaining history lesson. Definitely recommended.

Lolo Borg



▲ Hello, viewers, I'm the Emperor of China's splendid palace. I live in the Forbidden City (which is a silly name isn't it?)



▲ Hello, viewers, I'm the Emperor of China and this is my lovely wife. Do you like my spectacles!



▲ Hello, viewers, I'm the Emperor of China's tutor. Do you like my 'topper'!



▲ Hello, viewers, I'm the Emperor again except I'm only three years old now, which is why I'm wearing a dress (only...)



▲ Two blokes who've just been told a "joke" by Jim Davidson (?)



▲ ...and forgive us, oh Lord, for once laughing at a Jim Davidson "joke" (?)

WITHNAIL AND I (15, 107 mins)

This is one of those films which you'll either love or find indescribably snootworthy, depending on taste. There are no thrills or special effects and precious little plot, however it's beautifully filmed, extremely amusing, brilliantly acted, and stars the rather attractive Paul McGann (he of TV series *The Monocled Mutineer*). He plays "I", the narrator of the film (you never do find out his name), the pale and spindly Richard F. Grant plays Withnail (pronounced Withnell), his haughty alcoholic mate. It's 1969, they're both out-of-work actors, and they're in an extremely ropey state, due mainly to drink, drugs, and a dire lack of money. They get so sick of their revoltingly squalid, freezing cold flat that they embark on a "holiday" in the Lake District—which turns out to be even sorer. They end up on a remote, rainswept hillside in a primitive cottage stalked by a sinister poacher and harassed by Withnail's barking mad Uncle Monty, a gargantuan gay toff who wears a radish on his lapel and takes a bit of a "fancy" to Paul McGann. The couple flee back to London, only to find their flat occupied by a hairy hippy drug-dealer and, er, that's about it really. The film ends when the friends part company, "I" getting a good acting job whilst Withnail slithers further down life's slippery slope. On a selfish level, it's meant as a comment on the end of the carefree '60s but it's also hilariously funny, almost like a slightly more realistic *The Young Ones*. Robocop it certainly isn't, but it is a mucky good yarn.

Vic MacDonovid (11)

ALBUMS

JERMAINE STEWART: Say It Again (10 Records)

The most entertaining part of "Say It Again" has to be the endless stream of credits on the sleeve—famous gossip and namedropper, Jermaine Stewart, whips through from a book-sized list of "thanks" that includes Prince ("had a wonderful time [singing]"), Nick Kamen, Bon Jovi (?), Donny Osmond, Jolynne, Five Star, Jody Watley ("got some dirt!"), Rob Lowe ("thanks for being there...") and several hundred more (finishing, you'll be fascinated to learn, with Peter's Cleaners and Am Toothpaste). Surprisingly, considering the time it must have taken him to write out all those names (let alone meet them all), Jermaine has also managed to record some quite good songs as well. There's two sorts really—either the swish pop of his current hit or some harder-sounding dance music in the vein of Jody Watley's (hardly surprising because she and her boyfriend Andre Cymone—Prince's childhood mate—have co-written a large chunk of the songs). He's also made a half-hearted attempt to follow up the "I'd rather have a nice cup of tea and talk about Chinese wall-hangings" sentiments of his last big hit "You Don't Have To Take Your Clothes Off" with the rather contrived "Don't Talk Dirty To Me" and the completely contrived "Don't Have Sex With Your Ex" (Mmmm...)

(6½ out of 10)
Chris Heath



ORCHESTRAL MANOEUVRES IN THE DARK: The Best of OMD (Virgin)

Poor old OMD. There they are, Andy McCluskey and Paul Humphreys, two of the nicest blokes you could meet, slogging away with a very silly name for the last ten years and yet what word best describes most people's opinion of them? Dull, that's what. Which is a bit of a shame really, because, as this best-of collection shows, they have made up for their apparent lack of excitement by producing some rather fine pop tunes. The best ones are on side one, particularly "Messages", "Enola Gay", "Souvenir" and "Joan Of Arc" ("Mad Of Affairs", while side two shows their less appealing drift into being more of a "proper" group with horns and things ("Locomotion", "So in Love") and less like two blokes, a drum machine and a funny dance. Yes, they should never have shortened their name from Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark to OMD, and yes, they really should try to look less like a pair of insurance salesmen. But I still like them anyway... (7 out of 10)
Bobby McIlheney

JERRY HARRISON: Casual Talk

(Phonogram) Quirky pop group Talking Heads will be releasing their first LP for a year and a half later this month, but in the meantime there's this offering from the group's guitarist, Jerry Harrison. To begin with the sleeve, it's an extremely unsettling photograph of hundreds of poverty stricken Brazilians. What this stomach-churning image has to do with the record heaven only knows, other than telling us that this LP is a very "serious" work. And "serious" it is. Like Talking Heads the music is "sophisticated" and "deliberately slightly odd", but the difference is that it's slightly rockier and slightly more gloomy, because of Jerry's rather grimy voice. Clever, yes, and it chugs along at a friendly pace, but basically it falls a little too neatly into the slot which record companies now call "Adult Orientated Rock" i.e. verging on the dull. (5 out of 10)
William Shaw

TAYLOR DAYNE: Tell It To My Heart (Arista)

Golly gosh. A dance LP that doesn't owe a smidgen of thanks to Sade, Aitken & Waterman! That is a bad thing! No it isn't, but neither is it completely good. Seven of the ten tracks are dance tunes, the best of which are the hits "Tell It To My Heart", "Don't Rush Me" and the about-to-be-a hit "Prove Your Love". These three are in a class of their own; the other seven songs are far less exciting. "Want Ads" with its corny lyrics, would do itself far better justice on a Sinitta LP. "Do You Want It Right Now?" has the occasional resemblance to "When Will I Be Famous?" by Bros. There's with its throbbing bass but none are much cop. A very average pop LP. (6 out of 10)
Peter "Peter" Loraine



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BROS

DROP THE BOY

I get down to dry my hair
With a little touch of gel
I read all the newspapers
But my mother still reads my mail oh oh yeah

I won't wish my life away
So tell me if you can
Who decides when I'm grown up
And turned into a man

Drop the boy drop the boy ooh oh
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
But they still call me boy
(So just drop it)

Drop the boy drop the boy ooh oh
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
And I'll be jumping for joy
When they drop the boy
When they drop the boy

I'm tired of the boy thing
I've got better things to do
I'd like to be in politics
Can't take another visit to the zoo oh oh yeah

No more bikes or plastic models
And braces on my teeth
I'd like to drive a Dino
And to live out of my reach

Drop the boy drop the boy ooh oh
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
But they still call me boy
(So just drop it)

Drop the boy drop the boy ooh oh
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
And I'll be jumping for joy
I'll be jumping for joy
When they drop the boy

Ooh drop the boy drop the boy ooh oh
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
But they still call me boy
(So just drop it drop it I said drop it yeah)

Drop the boy drop the boy
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
(I said drop it baby)

And I'll be jumping for joy
I'll be jumping for joy
Drop the boy drop the boy
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
(I said drop it)

But they still call me boy
(I said drop it drop it yeah)
Drop the boy drop the boy
I'm a man yes I am (I'm a man)
And I'll be jumping for joy

Words and music by Brothers
Copyright Control
On CBS Records

COMPETITION

Bros, eh? They're a hip-vocellin' bunch of duddeys and that's why we have 25-25! **WAGGLED!** copies of their "Drop the Boy" 12" single for you to win. To be in with a chance, answer us this: Which of the Camo Team was born first? Answers: Smash Hits/The Vocellin' Bros 12" Competition, 52-55 Canary Street, London W1V 1PP by March 22.

Where do broken

hearts go

Ooh ooh ooh ooh
I know it's been some time
But there's something on my mind
You see I haven't been the same
Since that cold November day
We said we needed space
But all we found
Was an empty place
And the only thing I learned
Is that I need you desperately
So here I am
And can you please tell me oh

Chorus
Where do broken hearts go
Can they find their way home
Back to the open arms
Of a love that's waiting there
And if somebody loves you
Won't they always love you
I look in your eyes
And I know that you still care for me

Ooh ooh ooh baby
I've been around long enough to know
That dreams don't turn to gold
And that there is no easy way
No you just can't run away
And what we had was so much more
Than we ever had before
And no matter how I try
You're always on my mind
So here I am
And can you please tell me oh

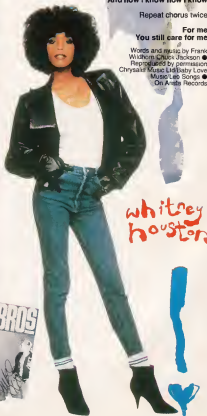
Repeat chorus

And now that I am here with you
I'll never let you go
I look into your eyes
And now I know now I know

Repeat chorus twice

For me
You still care for me

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OFF A
DUCK'S BACK.



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STAR TEASER

• All the names on the right are hidden in the diagram. They could run horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Some run backwards. But remember that the words are all in an uninterrupted straight line whichever way they run.

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ETAMAHNRFRNFHOMREJ
HECHNIISRYRSEMAJOMN
SJCKIKORUEEJOJENLAI
ANRANWNRONRROSYRA
EAEPFMINDREBSJTAGH
NOJNLALAJYEHKURETNC
AJHNRWUCLCFROJNYI
OLHNRUAUDCANAIEJHSR
ZJEANTMOBJAMANNODEA
ZPLABATNYSNIFYNJMM
ZJEONYEENAPRLOEA D
AYODCNBNFHERNUJN
JSUYANHYEENTBIAJLA
SJJJCOEARLNSOAKEJLS
ENAOJOWIOLNTOINASUJ
TWMFWASCLJEGENJMTS
HRSANRNHIVARJWQJJE
AOEQAUNYMAJCAHAJRJ
YBEOCSIHSEFNDRARHN
NSBANWGAALAPAZUCTA
NOEJYIMPOTEZZAJEIJ
HMCKNANRETRONIUJL
OAAKXERGNLLARPRREJ
JJJJRAHRETISOFEIDQJ

• Swizzle yourself upside down for the answers to your right!

SMASH HITS

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PUZZLE ANSWERS PRIZE CROSSWORD

No. 50 (10 February)
• The winner is Sarah Baxter from Fareham
No. 51 (24 February)
• The winner will be announced in the next issue; meanwhile the answers are whizzing about below

ACROSS 1 Clark Datchler; 7 'Rak Da House'; 9 'InX'; 11 'Strong As Steel'; 12 'I Don't Mean To Turn You Out'; 13 'Jesse'; 14 'Down To Earth'; 16 'Some Guys (Have All The Luck)'; 17 and 20 down Matt Bianco; 19 'Versus'; 21 'Promised You A Miracle'; 23 'Here To The Occasion'; 24 (N) Evil 25 'Football (Music)'
DOWN 1 Carolee; 2 'Ask'; 3 'Chaz'; 4 'Love Can't Turn Around'; 5 'Me (And My); 6 'The E Street Band'; 8 'Swing Out Sister'; 10 'Sign Your Name'; 15 'Chris' Real; 16 Green (Guthrie); 17 'Magine'; 18 'True Blue'; 21 'A View (To A Kill)'; 22 'Cry Wolf'; 25 Van (Halen)

STAR TEASER

Quiz Answers (pages 22-23)

SONGWORDS (in order):
"Get Outta My Dreams" - Billy Ocean; "Surre Me All Your Love" - Brandy; "When Will I Be Yours?" - Brandy; "Heaven Is - Behind Me" - Madonna; "In God's Country" - Kenny Rogers; "Wee Wee Wee Wee", "The Look Of Love" - Madonna; "Valentine" - Tina Turner
19. Shane MacGowan 20. Danny Coverdale 36. Ben Vereen/Peter Onyiah 46. Marli Heflow 27. Patsy Kensit 20. George Harrison 45
MIDDLE NAMES:
George Alan O'Dowd, Rick Paul Aslay, Christine Ellen Hynde, Derek William Dick, Prince Rogers Nelson, Neil Francis Tennant, Mack James Huchnick, Feigal Stan Sharkey

A SELECTION OF FEET:
1. Michael Jackson; 2. Pet Shop Boys; 3. Ben; 4. Balthus; 5. Bros; 6. Nica; 7. Pops And Shara; 8. The Hollies; 9. Prince; 10. Zodiak
TRUE OR FALSE:
1. True; 2. False; 3. False; 4. True; 5. True; 6. False; 7. False
DAFT THINGS...
Card Checker; 2. Mags; 3. Chris Lowe; 4. Kenny; 5. Alison Moyet; 6. Tiffany; 7. Jimmy Somerville; 8. Jon Bon Jovi.
HOBBIES AND PASTIMES:
1. Water skiing; 2. Collecting antique furniture; 3. Skiing; 4. Jumping off cliffs; 5. Deep sea diving; 6. Golf; 7. Drawing; 8. Astrology; 9. Basketball; 10. Playing to a poster of herself.

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THE SMASH HITS/LIVEWIRE TOP 20!!!

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SUNDAY MARCH 13 1988

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3	0898 700 8 03	3
4	0898 700 8 04	4
5	0898 700 8 05	5
6	0898 700 8 06	6
7	0898 700 8 07	7
8	0898 700 8 08	8
9	0898 700 8 09	9
10	0898 700 8 10	10
11	0898 700 8 11	11
12	0898 700 8 12	12
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16	0898 700 8 16	16
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18	0898 700 8 18	18
19	0898 700 8 19	19
20	0898 700 8 20	20

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