

rock notes

Blue Swede

Blue Swede: Swedish pop group Blue Swede, who had the big hit "Hooked on a Feeling" last spring, will headline a U.S. concert tour this fall. The group's latest single is a re-make of the old Association hit "Never My Love."

Kiss: Glitter rock band Kiss has completed a new album, "Hotter Than Hell," which will be released on the Casablanca label this month to coincide with the group's mid-September tour of Canada and the U.S.

T Rex: Marc Bolan, leader of T Rex, is on the verge of deciding to move to Texas from his British homeland. Bolan is reportedly tired of paying so much of his income to the royal tax man.

Wayne Rogers: Actor Wayne Rogers, a co-star of the M*A*S*H television series, is launching a singing career on the side. Rogers has been signed up to show off his voice on the Carol Burnett and Dinah Shore T.V. series this fall.

Family Affair

First there was the Cowsills, followed by television's Partridge Family, the Jacksons, the Osmonds, and the DeFrancos. Now, the music business is preparing for debut singles by two new family pop-rock acts.

The Allens, a family of five teenagers, have been signed to Motown records. Their first single, "High Tide," was written and produced by the Osmonds.

Then, there's the Rhodes Kids, a seven-member family act from Houston, Texas. The young performers range in age from 7 to 21. They've just signed with GRC Records.

Garfunkel vs. Moore

It's been awhile since America has seen a good fight between two versions of the same song, both vying for hit single status. But that's what's shaping up right now as both Tim Moore and Art Garfunkel have issued singles of "Second Avenue."

Moore wrote the song and has released it as his first disc for Elektra Records. Garfunkel, former partner of Paul Simon, heard Tim's song and decided to cut it himself. Both versions are getting air play, and most critics are finding it difficult to pick which is better.

Tim Moore, the top winner in the recent American Song Festival, says he is flattered that Garfunkel picked his song to record. But Tim's still hoping that he will have the hit version. (Moore won the grand prize at the song festival for his composition "Charmer.")

Earlier this summer it looked like a similar battle of the singles was shaping up between Lobo and Reuben Howell. Both artists issued renditions of the song "Rings". But Lobo's version on Big Tree quickly outdistanced Howell's Motown version to become a modest-sized hit. Due to the competition, however, neither version was as big a hit as the record companies would have liked.

Mott the Hoople

Ian Hunter, lead singer of Mott the Hoople, when asked why people want to become rock stars, said:

"It is either a thirst for money, or a thirst for power, or basic ego, or you are tired of being average, and sort of nowhere, and nobody looking at you. And you don't like it. You want it the other way.

"Which is probably a combination of all those three. Of them, I am one. I've got to be looked at."

Todd Rundgren

Producer-writer-singer Todd Rundgren plans to release his new album, "Utopia", this month on the Bearsville label. Half of the album was recorded live in Atlanta, Georgia and features an extended instrumental, "Utopia Theme." The flip side features two more concept pieces, "Freak Parade" and "The Ikon." Both were recorded in the studio.

The Who

The Who have decided that they will no longer play one-nighters in large American cities.

According to bassist John Entwistle, the Who from now on will "go to each city and play several days. It seems that when we play just one night in a city, we only play to about ten per cent of those who want to see us." In an interview with Circus magazine, Entwistle added, "We're going to slow our tours down and spread them over a year or so."

Entwistle says the British group decided to change its touring habits following its recent appearances at New York's Madison Square Gardens which sold out minutes after tickets went on sale.

Stevie Wonder

Stevie Wonder is making the final arrangements for his first major tour of the U.S. since his near fatal auto accident last year.

Stevie's label, Motown, reveals that the tour will kickoff at the Nassau Coliseum in New York on September 13 and will include cities throughout the country. Stevie also is scheduled to appear at the Zaire festival in Africa later this month, but the *New York Times* reports that he may cancel.

Alice Cooper

Alice Cooper's producer for the past four years, Bob Ezrin has formed a new record label to concentrate on singles. Ezrin's first signing for his label -- Migration Records -- is Garry Bonner, half of the songwriting team of Bonner and Gordon who wrote most of the Turtles' hits (including "Happy Together") and the Three Dog Night hit "Celebrate". Bonner's first single will be "Baby, Baby". The Migration label will be distributed by Atlantic.

Merle Haggard

Merle Haggard will release his 30th album this month. On the Capitol label, it will feature his back-up band The Strangers and -- appropriately -- will be titled "Merle Haggard and The Strangers Present His 30th Album."

The Rolling Stones

The Rolling Stones expect to tour the United States again before next summer, but they're more excited about the possibility of performing in some places they've never been.

According to Keith Richard, "I think we'll probably be doing the States in the spring. Before then Mick and I would like to go to the places we've never been before, the Third World and behind the Iron Curtain."

Richard adds that, "rock 'n roll seems afraid to go outside its well-trodden path, which is actually only a small part of the world. We'd like to play some of the other places," he says in an interview with *Rolling Stone* magazine.

"Name That Tune"

Fans of pop music of the fifties and before will be pleased to learn that the old t.v. game show "Name That Tune" is going prime-time this fall.

Game show producer Ralph Edwards brought back the "Name That Tune" show this past summer as a day-time offering on NBC. Now, NBC has announced that its owned-and-operated stations will begin broadcasting "Name That Tune" in early evening prime time beginning September 11.

Hosting the new evening show will be Tom Kennedy of "Split Second" fame. Dennis James will continue to host the day-time version. The evening show will be syndicated in cities not having an NBC-owned station.

A very popular show during the 1950's, the current versions of "Name That Tune" concentrate on oldies from that period and earlier. A few more-recent hits are thrown in, as contestants compete to be the first to recall titles of oldies but goodies.

Edmonton concert scene

Lovers of popular music currently face a wide choice of upcoming events by major artists.

Tonight, September 12, represents your last chance to watch Gazebo Theatre One perform Godspell at the Jubilee Auditorium, 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the SUB information desk. Hurry up, though; there were only a few tickets left at press time.

If you do not get a Godspell ticket, drive to the Kinsmen Fieldhouse where the re-formed Iron Butterfly will perform at 7 p.m.

On Saturday Sept. 14, Kenny Rogers and the First Edition will appear at the Jubilee Auditorium. The band has been without a major hit success for quite a while, but

their professionalism should assure good, middle-of-the-road entertainment.

Blood, Sweat, and Tears will perform at the Jubilee on Tuesday, October 1. Tickets for this concert are available at Mike's.

Other concerts by Karl Erikson ("Aerogramme") and by Stompin' Tom Connors have been arranged by the Students' Union. For details, read upcoming issues of *Gateway*.

Among all these good names, remember the good music at the Hovel. This weekend, the Hovel will present Lenny Breau featuring Cliff Barbaro, drums, John Tolson, bass, and Pete Thomson, flute. Tickets are \$2.00 for members, and \$2.50 for non-members.

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