

& OUT THE OTHER



We Think We've Spotted a Trend

IF THE WRETCHED TELEVISION SERIES *Joe and Valerie* didn't sate your disco craves (you call that dancing?), take heart. *Variety's* casting column notes that the producers of *Disco Queen*, a musical comedy, are searching for an actress for the title role; they want someone "lovely, well built, graceful, good disco dancer, fine actress." They also need a Mr. D.J., "egotistical, tough, macho." Just like real life. And if that news doesn't set your soul a-hustling, catch these backbeats: a pilot for a new television series called *Stayin' Alive*, based on, you guessed it, *Saturday Night Fever*, has been picked up by ABC, and Robert Stigwood has announced plans for a sequel to the film, you surmised it, *Saturday Night Fever* — but John Travolta hasn't said yes yet. There's also a *Thank God It's Friday*, which is about disco but has nothing else to do with, you knew it, *Saturday Night Fever*. Speaking of John Travolta . . . in his latest three-picture deal with independent production company Orion, Travolta was given a precedent-establishing right to final cut of the films. This has agents and producers in a tizzy, because now every big star will want final cut. There's a catch hidden in all this: what director worth his percentage will work with a 23-year-old kid who has final approval of an entire movie?

A Rose By Any Name Is Just As Smelly

MICHAEL MCKEAN AND DAVID L. LANDER were all set to appear on *America 2 Night* in their usual guises as Lenny and Squiggy from the *Laverne and Shirley* show. The script was written, the hair greased, all was ready — and then Paramount Pictures said no, they couldn't do it. It seems that McKean and Lander sold Paramount all rights to the Len and Squig characters (for a rumored \$5.00, and no jokes about being overpaid). Paramount did not deem *America 2 Night* a suitable showcase for their property, but McKean and Lander went on the show and did Lenny and Squiggy anyway. They just called themselves Denny and Anthony.

Write If You Get Work

ROBBIE ROBERTSON AND MARTIN SCORSESE no longer share a luxurious pad in Bel

Air; they now share the luxurious Sherry Netherlands Hotel in New York City, along with Robbie's near-constant companion, actress Genevieve Bujold. Also moved to New York are Michael Becker and Donald Fagan of Steely Dan. They never did like Los Angeles and bitched about it all the time they lived there, but they're not dumb; they kept their Malibu beach houses, just in case. So will Linda Ronstadt — keep her Malibu colony beach house, that is — but she'll lease it, furnished, for a rock-queenly sum while she moves closer to dry land and the action.

What, No Bambi?

PAUL WINTER CONSORT'S NEW ALBUM, *Common Ground*, lists these somewhat unusual composers: a wolf, an eagle and a whale. Honest. Winter says he was inspired by their sounds, and any songwriting royalties earned by the beasts will be donated to wildlife protection organizations. The song "Wolf Eyes" has Winter and his saxophone jamming with a she-wolf in a forest in Indiana, which so intrigued Dr. Erich Klinghammer, director of Wolf Park and a prof at Purdue, that he's decided to study imitative behavior in wolf-call patterns. You see, after Winter left the forest, the wolf continued to howl to Winter's tune for four nights.

Rock Nightmares

TOM WAITS AND ARTIST GUY PEELLAERT, the man who painted evocative scenes full of famous faces in *Rock Dreams*, are collaborating on a book about Las Vegas. Yep, that's the big V. Peellaert, who lives in Paris, will do 80 paintings for the book and send transparencies of them to Waits in Los Angeles as they come off the easel; Waits will then write about each. So far they have one painting of Marlene Dietrich alone on a plane, one of Vegas' gangster founder Mickey Cohen and one of Meyer Lansky, bookkeeper for the Mafia. Waits has never been to Vegas, so he went for three-day's research and was outraged. When not toiling over transparencies, Waits is writing songs for his next album and considering film offers which have started to trickle in since his acting stint in *Paradise Alley*. He plays a barroom piano player, even wrote three songs for the Sly Stallone flick, one of which has the wonderful title, "Hello Sucker, Merry Christmas."

Bad News:

CBS RENEWED *The Incredible Hulk*.

Good News:

ABC CANCELLED *The Six Million Dollar Man* and *Baretta*.

Best News:

WARNER BROS. PICTURES will bring back short subjects and cartoons to your neighborhood screens. The Roadrunner, Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and Porky Pig will return in brand new adventures. Included in this rebirth will be a new installment of *Duck Dodgers in the 24½ Century*, which director Steven Spielberg has volunteered to write.

We May Be Sick

TO HYPE ITS NEW FILM, *If Ever I See You Again* (starring, produced and directed by Joe You Light Up My Life Brooks), Columbia Pictures and a computer have set up a toll free matchmaking service so that unrequited or even forgotten lovers might find each other again. Just like the man in the movie, who tries to find and rekindle an old flame, all you (unlike the poor slob in the movie, who has no computer) have to do is call 800-423-5250, leave your name as the person knew you, the name of the person you're trying to find, your telephone number and the city that "would link the two of you." If the object of your ancient affection also calls in, bingo. If not, maybe you'd like a date with the computer. It's a real cute XL40 Pertec computer, and it's a lot more interesting than Joe Brooks or his movies.

Wax Fax

COMEBACKS: The Moody Blues' first album in six years, *Octave*, will be out almost immediately . . . Black Sabbath celebrate their 10th anniversary this year with a U.S. tour beginning June 30 and a new album, *Never Say Die*, which has World War II as its cover motif . . . Remember Cheech and Chong? They just finished their first feature film, *Up in Smoke*, also starring Stacy Keach, Strother Martin and Edie Adams . . . Iggy Pop is on the road in Europe with three members of the original Stooges and one original MC5 . . . David Bowie says he'll launch three of his own projects this summer, one of which is probably a film (he finished *Just a Gigolo* with Dietrich) . . . Marty Balin is producing

Jesse Barish for RCA; Barish wrote the Starship hit "Count on Me" . . . Dickey Betts and his new wife had a baby boy, named Forest Duane.

Flick Fax

HENRY AND JANE FONDA will finally star in a film together, but not as father and daughter. In *The Journey of Simon McKeever*, Fonda pere will play an old man in search of an arthritis cure; Fonda fille will portray a doctor in Glendale who has the cure . . . James Caan and Alan Arkin will star in their second venture together, and perhaps it will be much, much better than their dreadful *Freebie and the Bean* . . . Sam Peckinpah is allegedly off in Bolivia researching a movie about the cocaine traffic . . . Francis Ford Coppola wants to release the 70mm print of *Apocalypse Now* with no credits. No titles, no names, no printed words at all. A program listing the cast and crew would be issued to audiences. *Apocalypse Now* will open in 35 theaters in 18 cities sometime next year; later, the 35mm prints in smaller theaters will have credits . . . Jerzy Kosinski's novel *Being There* will be a movie soon . . . and NBC will run a 10-hour mini-series of *Studs Lonigan* this fall.

Turnabout

STEPHEN BISHOP DID A FAVOR for his friend, director Richard Landis, by appearing as a cameo crazy in *Kentucky Fried Movie*. Now Landis has returned the favor, by appearing as a Bishette on Steve's latest album. Landis' special talent: whistling. Doesn't sound like a fair trade to us.

R.I.P.

YET ANOTHER SENSELESS ROCK DEATH occurred on April 21, when vocalist Sandy Denny, 31, succumbed to head injuries suffered in a fall down the stairs of a friend's home in England four days earlier. Best-known for her work with British folk-rock groups including Fairport Convention and Fotheringay, Denny had also recorded well-received solo albums and was twice voted "best female vocalist" by readers of *Melody Maker*. Denny played the part of the nurse in the all-star Ode Records version of *Tommy*; duetted with Robert Plant on Led Zeppelin's recording of "The Battle of Evermore;" and wrote a number of songs, including "Who Knows Where the Time Goes," popularized in this country by Judy Collins. She sang early rock and roll tunes on an album with several of her friends, jointly billed as "The Bunch." She married Fotheringay/Fairport guitarist Trevor Lucas in 1973; their daughter, Georgia, was 9 months old at the time of Denny's death.

RICK EVERS, 30, Carole King's third husband, died March 21 in Los Angeles after an apparently accidental overdose of cocaine, although some of King's music business associates think it may have been suicide. Police said there were "signs of injection." King was in Hawaii at the time. Evers and King were married about a year ago; Evers, who reportedly did time for robbing a 7-11 store in his native Utah, was making leather



jackets when he met King. After they married he became active in her career and co-wrote several songs with her that appeared on her last album, *Simple Things*. They moved to Idaho about 8 months ago but returned to Los Angeles recently where they reportedly quarreled, after which King went to Hawaii. No one is quite sure how Evers' death was kept so quiet for almost two months, but friends think her normally reclusive life, plus the fact that Evers was not well known, were major contributors. No official announcement was ever made.