

# Behind, through, and under — review

By Glen Boswall

Judging from the mix of compliments, insults, pats on the back, shrapnel, and death threats I have been receiving for the past several months, I'd say people are at least reading my column.

So what have I got against Kick-Axe? What is wrong with Pat Benetar's latest? What is so bad about sunglasses and deck shoe music?

Nothing, nothing and nothing (respectively). I like most of this stuff.

For those of you who find my articles a trifle one sided or feel that I am a musical snob (what are the peasants up to these times?), I urge you to read on and discover how I came to write for the Gem.

I was kicked out of the Metal Munchers of Canada (MMC) when it was discovered that I found Iron Maiden boring and I actually like Kiss (and freely admitted it).

This got me demoted to Garbage Metal Lovers of the Universe ("Crank it to ten and play it again" — club logo) where I failed the initiation by refusing to kneel before a porcelain statue of Motorhead.

The fact that I like the Stranglers, the Vibrators, and

the Sex Pistols raised some eyebrows among the Punk/New Wave crowd but I did not gain admittance to their elitist group because of my heavy metal connections and because I thought that Yes and Rush were musical groups.

I like some old Doobie Brothers tunes and have a few Jim Hendrix albums in my collection but the Vintage Intellectual Music Association (VIMA) rejected my application on the following grounds! 1. I had no desire to listen to Jim Morrison and the Doors in a dimly lit room. 2. I talk much too loudly in quiet coffee shops. 3. I did not

### Favourite Popular Groups

- The Police
- U2
- The Cars
- Billy Idol
- The Scorpions
- Krokus
- John Cougar
- Jimi Hendrix
- Pat Benetar
- Peter Gabriel
- Def Leppard
- ZZ Top
- The Doobie Brothers
- Bryan Adams
- The Spoons
- Rush
- Prince

have one Beatles album in my collection. And 4. I thought hash was something made with leftovers for a Saturday night meal.

I was seriously thinking about laying out \$70 for a pair of sunglasses, so I made up a list of some of the applicable groups I like — Missing Persons, Men at Work, Billy Idol, John Cougar, Parachute Club, and Ultravox — and mailed it to the Flash In the Pan Club complete with a photograph of myself wearing expensive sunglasses and all the latest attire from Christopher's Jean Shop.

My application, however,

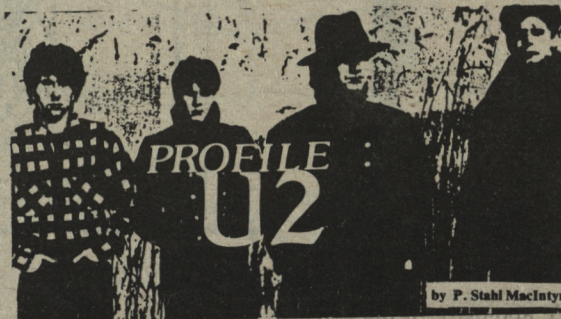
### Favourite No-So-Popular Groups

- Kiss
- B.T.O.
- Styx
- Men at Work
- Sex Pistols
- Jefferson Starship

was rejected because of my insane fear of Duran Duran and a general lack of good looks (I quote from the letter of rejection I received, "... and in closing, we must say that even the expensive sunglasses [which you obviously borrowed] cannot hide the fact that you are not attractive enough for our exclusive club.")

So, the only people left to take me in were the Gemmies. I sit in no-man's land and write my articles. If you still feel I have a one-sided view of music, I present to you a list of some of my favourite groups so that you may admire, laugh or ignore.

- The Runaways
- Vangelis
- Kraftwerk
- UFO
- Saxon
- Nazareth
- Kate Bush
- The Stranglers
- The Vibrators



The members of U2 formed the band in 1978 while attending school in Dublin, Ireland. BONO VOX, the lead singer of the band, was quoted saying, "When U2 formed, we were a very, very arrogant band. Our motto was 'U2 was formed only to be bigger than the BEATLES'".

In April 1980, U2 was signed by ISLAND RECORDS, and release a single entitled "11 o'clock tick tock." The single created quite a stir in Britain and their homeland.

Then followed the single with their debut album, "BOY", which received rave reviews in Britain and North America. The album gave birth to the A.O.R. smash, "I WILL FOLLOW".

U2's second album, "OCTOBER", did not do as well as its predecessor, even with the strength of "GLORIA", a song which BONO said "... it (GLORIA) was a real part of my life, and it came out through the song — people are frightened of it, but it makes our music strong."

Some people thought U2 were just another 'flash in the pan' so to speak, but this was not the case.

In 1982, U2 released a Godsend, the LP "WAR". This was heralded as the best LP of '82. With the emotion of "NEW YEAR'S DAY", ("... ARMS ENTWINED, THE CHOSEN FEW ..."), to the dramatic and very political "SUNDAY, BLOODY SUNDAY" ("... I WIPE YOUR TEARS AWAY, I WIPE YOUR BLOODSHOT EYES ...").

When asked about this song BONO replied, "... Fifteen miles from where I walk the dog there is craziness and murder being committed in the name of God — in the name of a lot of issues. It's bad, very, very bad."

U2 then released "UNDER A BLOOD RED SKY", a live recording of their Nov. 1983 concert at Redrocks by THE ROLLING STONE CRITICS-POLL and U2 was named the band of the year.

Their latest LP, "THE UNFORGETTABLE FIRE", is U2's best selling album to date. Breaking through not only A.O.R. but C.H.R. markets, the album is rapidly reaching double-platinum status in Canada. The album's single is "PRIDE (IN THE NAME OF LOVE)", a tribute to MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr. ("... EARLY MORNING, APRIL 4, A SHOT RINGS OUT IN THE MEMPHIS SKY, FREE AT LAST, THEY TOOK YOUR LIFE. THEY COULD NOT TAKE YOUR PRIDE ..."), and "WIRE" may possibly be the next single. The album is currently in the top five, and receiving the attention it deserves.

"... Music should be able to break down barriers, not build them." — and U2 are definitely doing the former.

U2 consists of: BONO VOX (vocals), THE EDGE (guitars, keyboards, backing vocals), ADAM CLAYTON (basses), and LARRY MULLEN Jr. (drums and percussion).

# Rock News

"The latest news in R n' R"

By P. Stahl MacIntyre

The SCORPIONS, under the production of DIETER DIERKS have decided to release a second double-live LP tentatively called "LIVE AT FIRST STING".

Ireland's own, U2, have set a record for the largest amount of tickets sold in the least amount of time at N.Y.'s RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL. The Hall was sold out in 18 minutes!

Proceeding the AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS, LIONEL "OUTRAGEOUS" RITCHIE, MICHAEL JACKSON, and a gala of other stars decided to follow in BAND-AID's footsteps and record a song with all the proceedings going to help relieve the famine in Ethiopia.

While being interviewed, MADONNA, when asked if she was contemplating a duet, said if she were, it would be with BILLY IDOL. Billy, who has taken quite an interest in MADONNA, let out somewhat of a 'REBEL YELL' when he heard the news.

The POLICE's next album, is going to be a live one, with the exception of a few new songs recorded this Christmas. But before this is released, keep your eyes and ears open for STING'S solo effort, produced by the british trio, TORCH SONG.

MICK JAGGER, of ROLLING STONE fame, has released his solo album called "SHE'S THE BOSS". The first single released from the album is "TURN THE GIRL LOOSE"/BW "JUST ANOTHER NIGHT". PETE TOWNSHEND, formerly of THE WHO, plays guitar on a few of the tracks, along with JEFF BECK and HERBIE HANCOCK. In other STONES news, their new untitled album is due out in June. This will be their first release on their new label, CBS records.

DAVID BOWIE, after getting a poor response from his fans over his latest album, "TONIGHT" (they were upset over the fact that the only new song written was 'BLUE JEAN') has decided to go back to the studio to record his next album, with all new material.

TRIVIA QUESTION: Who is DAVE EVANS and what name does he go by?

Answer to last weeks TRIVIA QUESTION: EDWARD VAN HALEN's home studio is called "51-50". It stands for 'mental case' in police lingo. The answer to this weeks trivia question will be in next weeks Gem.

## IDLE IDOL?

Possibility of duet between Idol/Madonna ...



presents

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