

NEW YORK (Cont'd from page 35)

out two shows for nearly all concerts since it began. Ticket prices are only \$1 and \$2, and all acts are names. Nearly all of the popular talents have put in appearances at the series and Ron explains that the festival has and continues to build popularity for acts. He says that Schaefer Beer picks up a large portion of the tab in order to bring entertainment to all of New York at prices everybody can afford. There's a feeling of oneness among the audience, almost like simple park bandshell concerts in Americana hamlets where everybody, young and old, can go to get it on. Ron Delsener knows his business and delivers in top form and New Yorkers and especially the industry should let their appreciation be known to city officials. The Schaefer Festival should stand as a model of competence through simplicity in music presentation.

fred holman

CROSSING THE BORDER

"You've hung up your great coat and you've laid down your gun/ You know the war you fought in wasn't too much fun/And the future you've giving me holds nothing for a gun/I've no wish to be living sixty years on." Lyrics by **Bernie Taupin**; they can be read on the printed page. Music by **Elton John**, but the melody won't show up here. So it goes. Elton John. He's a singer. A pianist. A songwriter. From Britain.

Phenomenons are not one person, they're amalgams. A small group of people get together, it may be only two, and a magic transformation occurs that yields a product way above the sum of it's parts. Witness: **Elvis** and **Col. Tom Parker**; the **Beatles** and **George Martin**; the **Stones** and **Andrew Loog Oldham**; **Cream** and **Felix Pappalardi**. **Elton** and **Bernie**, **Gus Dudgeon** the producer and **Paul Buckmaster** the arranger. The result can be heard on "Elton John," the man's first LP here (although it's his second in England) released on Uni. Already every major British trade and record consumer paper has given him unqualified raves. Already artists are recording his songs like "Skyline Pidgeon," "Lady Samantha," "Border Song," "Bad Side of the Moon," and "Your Song." Elton's melodies are unreal, diving, wheeling, climbing, incredible in their construction and beauty. His voice, his piano are both tremendously accomplished. He knows when to put a hard edge on his voice and when to whisper gently. And behind is that fantastic piano as anchor; the hub of a musical pinwheel constantly expanding outwards in rainbow hues to meet the unknown. Elton John is a writer and a singer of today and tomorrow and next week and next month and next year and next . . .

e.v.l.

CAN YOU IMAGINE? Having a birthday and being selected East Coast Girl Of The Week all in one week. **Adrea Tomars** couldn't imagine, but these things happened to her all the same. Adrea, who was due to turn 22 on Saturday (1), planned to celebrate that milestone by going for a run of Central Park's Dog Hill along with her pet canine of indeterminate breed **Bippy Tubbiclutz**. Adrea is presently employed at **Mamorsky, Zimmermann & Hamm, Inc.**, a recording studio and creative commercial house, where her duties include booking bands, making up commercial contracts and preparing tuna fish sandwiches for clients. The New York City born **ECGW** has a musical family background; her mother, a pianist, is a teacher at **Juilliard**. Adrea's interests include fashion designing (She has free lanced for various boutiques in the city), doing cosmetics modeling and watching cartoons on Saturday morning. Looking to the future, she says, "Eventually I'd like to open a custom fashion shop where each design is for only one person and made up only once." If that sounds like a good idea, you shouldn't be surprised. East Coast Girls Of The Week have long been noted for their good ideas.



LET THEM EAT CAKE

Bread is **Robb Royer**, **David Gates**, **Mike Boots** and **James Griffin** (as pictured, l. to r.). Bread is!

In the rock business, making it as an overnight success has become the rule rather than the exception. The exception has been artists, like **Gates**, who have struggled for years to finally make it. The **Beatles**, the **Stones**, the **Doors**, the **Jefferson Airplane** were all overnight successes.

David Gates, who wrote the hit single "Make It With You" and six songs on the group's brand new **Elektra LP**. "On The Waters," plus hits for the **Monkees**, **Petula Clark**. The **Friends of Distinction** and others, is not the only member of the group who has been around for a while. All the other members have all done extensive work as studio musicians.

It took them a while to make it (even as **Bread**, it wasn't until their third single and their second album, that they received the acclaim they so richly deserve) and it's a sure thing that they will be on top for at least as long a time to come.

MYSTERY MAN MAKES LORAIN—At last report our **Mystery Man** cyclist had traveled as far as **Lorain, Ohio**, a city almost half way across that state, on the shore of **Lake Erie**. Among his recent adventures: getting caught in a bad rain-storm and having to take refuge in a **Scranton** body shop (where he slept in a wrecked **Ford**); seeing the famed ice mine near **Coudersport, Pa.**; crossing the **Allegheny Mountains**, reaching an elevation of **2424** at his highest point and taking a dip in the waters of **Lake Erie**, just west of **Cleveland**. Interest in identifying the **MM** has mounted, with requests for interviews, etc. coming from as far away as **Louisville**. However, no correct answers were received this week regarding his identity, so the **Dolly Holiday** album continues to lie a moldering in our cabinet. More clues in next week's column.

BRIEFS—At least three local labels bidding for the talents of British rock performer **Terry Reid** following his recent stint at the **Whisky**—**Reid** (with former **Hoe Cocker** drummer, **Buce Rollands**; **Kaleiscope** slide guitarist **Dave Lindley** and **Eire** bassist **Chris Stewart**) follows with appearance in **Detroit, Mich.**, **Chicago**, the **Galena, Ill.**, **Festival**, the **Action House** in **N.Y.** (Aug. 7-8) and the **Isle of Wight Festival** at the end of August.

Roberta Flack drew press raves in her **L.A.** debut at **Shelly's Manne Hole** last week—"a new star to be reckoned with" wrote **L.A. Times** critic **Leonard Feather**. **Atlantic** would do well to rush her recording of "Rev. Lee" before someone else tries to cover her version.

Capitol's teenage marvel, **Jack Wild**, signed to guest on **Bing Crosby's** Xmas special. **Wild** is currently riding with two albums—"Pufn-stuff" and his own solo package "The Jack Wild Album."

Former **Christy Minstrel** leader, **Randy Sparks**, composing five tunes for the **AIP** flick "Angel Unchained." They'll be included in the two books he's currently writing—"The Best of Randy Sparks" and "Poetry and Lyrics of Randy Sparks."

Alan and **Marilyn Bergman** signed to write words to **Elmer Bernstein's** notes. Song will be sung over titles of "Doctor's Wives," a **Columbia** feature starring **Dyan Cannon** and **Richard Crenna**.

The **Rhine Maidens**, a **German** soft rock ensemble with two best sellers on the **German** hit parade in the past year, signed to an exclusive contract by **Rod McKuen**. Future recordings will be released in both **English** and **German** on his **Stanyan** label. **Rod's** first **Bowl** concert set for **Aug. 7th**.

"What's Happening," a free entertainment publication covering upcoming activity in **L.A.** and **So. Calif.** debuts this week. It'll be a bi-weekly guide with initial printing of **20,000**, distributed in record shops, department stores and other retail outlets. News sheet will spotlight around-the-town concerts, movies, nite life, radio, T.V., records, sports, theater, **Las Vegas** and events of interest to the "now generation." **Steve Tolin**, president of **Tolin Publishing Co.**, heads the publication.

Kent Records "open door" policy, announced earlier this year by v.p. and g.m. **Morey Alexander**, is paying dividends. Latest to be signed is **Sherwood Fleming**, a trash collector from **Santa Monica**. **Fleming** walked into the office a few weeks back and played his song, "Peace, Love and Understanding." It's an upcoming single featuring **Fleming**. Also recently signed to the label: **The Four Tees, She** and **Larry Davis**.

Jackie DeShannon signed for a guest shot on the **Jim Nabors Show** which will tape on **Sept. 25** for **November 26** airing. **Jackie** opens a two week engagement at the **Westside Room, Century Plaza Hotel** on **Aug. 18th**, her first local appearance in more than six years.

Dionne Warwick paced for a guest appearance on the **Dean Martin Show**, taping **Aug. 14-18** for airing later this fall.

HEMLOCK QUEEN at **Wayne State U.** in **Detroit** (1966), **Alexandra (Sandy) Sliwin** came to **L.A.** as part of the **Honey Ltd.** foursome who recorded for **LHI Records**. The group, now known as **Eve**, still works studio dates with **Sandy** but most of her working hours are spent as receptionist at **Amos** and secretary for v.p. **Tom Thacker**. **Sandy** is blonde, 24 and enjoys sailing, modeling she'll occasionally pose on behalf of **Commercials Unlimited** and vocalizing. Current pet project: The fourth annual **Amos Invitational Golf Tournament** (committee headed by **Tom Thacker, Dave Pell, Piggy Smith** and **Artie Valando** with **Jimmy Bowen** hosting the **Aug. 9th** meet at **Los Robles** in **Thousand Oaks**). **Sandy** is in charge of the entry list. She's also our breathtaking **West Coast Girl of the Week**.

Capitol celebrated **Peggy Lee's** re-signing with a **Bumbles** party last week. She joined in '44 but took a **Decca** sabbatical for three years. Which means she's been with **Capitol** for 23 out of 26 years. **Lee** is currently taping a **TV special** with **Tony Quinn**.

CHICAGO

Gordon Lightfoot was in **Chicago** briefly last week (on his first visit) to plug current LP "Sit Down Young Stranger" (WB), from which a single "Me And Bobby McGee" is being released by the label. **Gordon** has 6 albums to his credit but has not as yet been established on the singles charts. This promotional trip so to speak is the first such tour he's done in about 8 years, since most of his time is very profitably spent doing concerts in **Canada**, the **U.S.** and other areas. Artist's first **Chicago** concert will take place **November 13** in **Orchestra Hall**. **Gordon** is presently, temporarily handicapped by a broken right hand which, necessitated the cancellation of numerous dates, and is admittedly one of the reasons he hit the promo trail at this time! We enjoyed his visit (along with **WB** promo man **Roy Chiovari**) to the **CB** office . . . **Sven Jenssen** is enjoying a very successful engagement at **Mangam's Chateau** in **Lyons**. The **European** star wraps up his current commitment in early **August** and is tentatively scheduled for a major club date in **Miami**, prior to his return to **Germany**. **Jenssen** is quite an exciting performer, whose style and delivery in some respects is very **American**. His services are in much demand throughout **Europe** . . . The **Civic Opera House** was literally packed for the recent **Neil Diamond** concert. Songster grossed \$39,742 and was the first attraction to completely sell out every single seat in the house for two shows! Booking was presented by **22nd Century Productions** . . . **John Gary** and **Stanley Myron Handelman** headline the **August 18-23** bill at **Mill Run Theater** . . . **Sig Sakowicz** will emcee the big **Villa Scalabrini** benefit in the **Opera House** **August 15**, starring **Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett** and **Jackie Vernon**. Wonder if he'll perform his new single "On The Beach" (Mishawaka)! . . . "Joy", the musical revue starring **Oscar Brown Jr., Jean Pace** and **Sivuca**, opens in **George Marienthal's Happy Medium Theater** on **Monday, August 10**. Show just completed a highly successful six month run **Off-Broadway**.