





Canned Heat "The incredible pulling power of contemporary rock performers"

# Woodstock fiasco climaxes bummer summer

The incredible influx of 300,000 rock freaks to Max Yasgar's upsate New York dairy farm for the Woodstock Art and Music Fair last week was a predictable climax to a summer-long series of bummer pop music festivals.

In vain attempts to remix the ingredients that produced unforgettable vibrations at the historic Monterey (Calif.) pop music festival in 1967 (Janis, Jimi, Otis and grass on the grass were the magical mystery elements), pop promoters have been booking ever heavier casts of rock talent into gigantic open-air circuses ever since.

The impressarios hit their festival stride this summer, scheduling a dozen or more major rock extravaganzas at or near most of the nation's large population centers.

First indications that the 1969 festival season was to be a "down" scene came from the Newport Festival at Devonshire Downs in the northern end of California's San Fernando Valley. (The festival took its name from its proximity to Newport Beach, and should not be confused with the older festivals at Newport,

THE PROMOTERS of this June 20-22 festival promised to deliver a mind-expanding rock bill that included Jimi Hendrix Experience, Joe Cocker, Janis Jo-

## Top records of the week

Singles

1. Honky Tonk Wamen—Rolling Stones

2. A Boy Named Sue—Johnny Cash
3. Crystal Blue Persuasion—Tommy James & the Shondells
4. Sweet Caroline—Neil Diamond
5. In the Year 2525—Zager & Evans
6. Put A Little Love In Your Heart—Jackie DeShannon
7. Green River—Greedence Clearwater Revival
8. Polk Salad Annie—Tony Joe White
9. Get Together—Youngbloods
10. Laushins—Guess Who
11. Ruby, Don't Take Your Love To Town—Kenny Rogers & The First Edition
12. Lay Lady Lay—Bob Dylan
13. Baby, I Love You—Andy Kim
14. Supar, Sugar—Archies
15. Give Peace A Chance—Plastic Ono Band
16. My Cherie Annour—Stevie Wonder
17. What Does It Take To Win Your Love—Jr.
Walker & The All-Stars
18. Easy To Be Hard—Three Dog Night
19. I'll Never Fall In Love Again—Tom Jones
20. Workin' On A Groovy Thing—Fitth Dimension

Atbums

Albums

1. At San Quentin—Johnny Cash

2. Blood, Sweat & Tears

3. Hair—Original Cast

Best of—Cream
Blind Faith
Soft Parada

4. Best of—Cream
5. Blind Faith
6. Soft Parade—Doors
7. Romeo & Juliet—Soundirack
8. This is—Tom Jones
9. Crosby/Stills/Nash
10. In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida—Iron Butterfly
11. Smash Hits—Jimi Hendrix Experience
12. The Best Of—Boe Gess
13. Nashville Skyline—Bob Dylan
14. Age of Aquarius—Fiith Dimension
15. Led Zeppelin
16. Suitable for Framing—Three Dog Nighl
17. Bayou Country—Creedence Clearwaler Revival
18. Tommy—Who
19. A Warm Shade of Ivory—Henry Mancini & Orchéstra
70. Three Dog Night
Compiled by the Record Market Research division of Billboard Megazine.

Tune In

plin, Albert King, Edwin Hawkins Singers. Creedence Clearwater Revival, Steppenwolf, Buffy St. St. Marie, Albert Collins, Johnny Winter, Booker T. and the MG's. Rascals, Byrds and Three Dog Night,

Incredibly, all those big names showed, and so did 150,000 kids. That is to say, 150,000 got into the old fairgrounds where the action was. Thousands of others were turned away. (For two months Newport was to hold the record as the largest pop festival ever

Unfortunately, the promoters drastically underestimated the pulling power of a conglomerate of contemporary rock performers. Only a fraction of the crowd that made it into the festival grounds ever heard the music, because the sound system was woefully inadequate. The audio problem was aggravated by the thudding overhead of an omnipresent police helicopter. Even fewer people could see the performers, sight lines being limited by a low, six-foot stage. And 100-foot queues marked the inadequate number of stinking, overflowing portable toilets at all times.

WHILE THE VIBES turned sour inside, the scene outside the festival grounds soon waxed violent. Since tickets cost \$7, hundreds of youngsters came to the festival admittedly to crash the gate. During a disorganized assault on the festival's \$11,000 worth of hurricane fencing, severe hassling with police commenced. Some of the kids blew their cool and launched rocks and bottles. The cops counter-attacked with batons. When the three-day casualty tally was taken, it showed 300 injured (15 policemen) and 75 arrested. An estimated \$50,000 in damage had been done to homes and businesses in neighboring Northridge. Producer Mark Robinson claims the whole atrocity lost him \$150,000.

A week later the festival spotlight focused on Denver, where promoter Barry Fey had booked another heavy pride of talent into his Denver Pop Festival at Mile High Stadium. Big names were again Jimi Hendrix, Creedence Clearwater. Johnny Winter and Joe Cocker. with the Mothers of Invention added. A lot of lesser-known groups were also on

Again, it was a small group of gatecrashers who provoked a peace-officer riot. At the final concert, while a group called Zephyr played doggedly on, the cops began lobbing tear gas canisters at a flying wedge of would-be crashers. The wind wafted the gas clouds inside the stadium and thousands of paying customers prostrated themselves on the playing field to avoid the fumes. Zephyr played on. Totals: 38 arrests, nine injuries, including three policemen.

Notable in the Denver episode was police deployment of a portable tear gas generating machine called "Pepper-Fog." This weapon sprays a mixture of tear gas and Mace. It was turned on a crowd of 500 kids from which a watermelon rind was launched at police.

August 23, 1969 • Page 10 The Charleston Gazette

Reported the Denver Post, "The vast majority of those who suffered from tear gas were guilty of no more than being in the wrong place at the wrong time."

WITH TWO BUMMERS a matter of record, everybody expected fireworks at the Atlanta International Pop Festival at the Atlanta Raceway on July 4 and 5. All the elements of disruption were present. There was another hyper-magnetic including Blood Sweat & Tears, Booker T. and the MG's Canned Heat. Chicago, Chuck Berry, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Janis Joplin, Joe Cocker, Johnny Winter, Led Zeppelin and a dozen other excellent acts. There were the high ticket prices (\$8.50 per person at the gate). And there were the cops. This time cracker cops.

Atlanta shocked the world of rock. Nothing happened. The city reinforced its claim as the most progressive big town in America. The cops were cool and hip. The kids payed their money and generated the mightiest mass groove since Gandhi. The talent took care of business. And the promoters took care of toilet facilities. It was the summer's only "up" scene and showed that a rock-style circus maximus can be pulled off if handled right.

Caught up in the love scene, the Atlanta fuzz even took a tolerant view of grass. In one documented instance, two back-up musicians for Johnny Winter returned to their hotel room just as two narcs were uncovering a stash of weed. The cops told the musicians to stick around and they'd be back in the morning. They returned at dawn with nothing more than a gentle lecture.

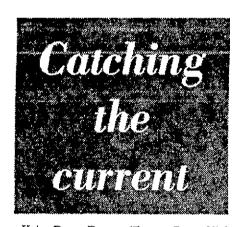
THAT SAME WEEKEND, the 16th annual Newport Jazz Festival started to wail. Famed impressario George Wein had decided to mix rock with the jazz. And with the rock came the kids. Attendance hit 80,000, a record for the festival. Thousands of the youngsters perched on a hill outside the festival grounds and when the rock got going in

ing the Jethro Tull set) they swooped down, toppled the fence, integrated themselves with the blazer-straight jazz buffs and threw the festival up for grabs. The same thing happened the following night while Sly and the Family Stone were on stage. The upshot was 60 arrests and this vow from Wein: "There will never again be any rock at any of my festivals because of these petulant and destructive youths."

Now the stage was forbodingly set for what promised to be the biggest bummer of the summer, the Woodstock Music and Art Fair scheduled for Aug. 15-17. The promoters, all under-30 cats from New York City, were thinking big. They were signing the heaviest cast in the history of rock, a bill they expected to draw crowds up to 100,000 in a single

Like Robinson, they were seriously underestimating the pop-cultural imperative of acts like Joan Baez, Arlo Guthrie, Tim Hardin, Richie Havens, Laura Nyro, Ravi Shankar, Canned Heat, Creedence Clearwater, Janis Joplin, Jefferson Airplane. The Band, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Iron Butterfly, the ubiquitous Joe Cocker and Johnny Winter, Crosby, Stills and Nash and the Who. (Worried about this bill's pulling power, they added Jimi Hendrix at the last minute!)

THE FESTIVAL hassles began long before kids all over the country began poring over roadmaps looking for the site. Originally scheduled to be held at Woodstock, N. Y., the fair was moved 15 miles away to Wallkill when Woodstock natives became restless at the prospect of hosting 100,000 freaks. No sooner had the promoters gotten their Wallkill permit and site lined up than a local group called the Wallkill Concerned Citizens Committee sought an injunction to block the festival, charging that the event



Hot Dog Fans: Three Dog Night fans have been vocal in their disagreement with T-T-T's unfavorable review of the group's recent Charleston concert. We'll print as many of their letters as space allows next week.

THE GROUPVINE: Incidentally, Three Dog Night's first album has hit \$1 million in sales and they start work on their third album in Los Angeles Monday. New groups to watch: Area Code 615, Skunks, Turning Point, Ichabod and the Group Hog Express, Incredible Fog, Fat City, Frummox and Stix and Stonz. Locally-known singer Clay Hart has his first album, "Spring," out on Metromedia. Jefferson Airplane has won a bitter struggle with RCA, and so-called "objectionable words" in two songs on their upcoming album will stay in.

TV TICKER: The Beatles and Rolling Stones are among the groups already booked to appear on The Music Scene, a show to debut on ABC-TV Sept. 22. It will run 45 minutes on Monday nights. Other groups booked to date include Janis Joplin, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Roger Miller, Johnny Cash, Buffy Saine-Marie, Merle Haggard, Charley Pride, Pat Paulsen. Watch for the Bee Gees on the Johnny Carson show, Red Skelton Show, The Music Scene and the Glen Campbell Show in September, Harry Belafonte will guest on Julie Andrews' NBC-TV special Nov. 9. NBC has several other pop music specials planned, including a sequel to Motown's "TCB" of last year Watch for Cher on the Glen Campbell show early in the new season. Brooklyn Bridge will appear on the Merv Griffin Show Sept. 11, the Ed Sullivan Show Sept. 28 and Hollywood Palace Oct. 19. B. B. King will be on the Dick Cavett Show Aug. 29. Tommy Sands is getting together his own TV special for fall airing. The new Andy Williams Show, commencing Sept. 20, will regularly feature youth-oriented acts. Creedence Clearwater Revival, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, Donovan, Johnny Cash, Ray Stevens, Bobby Goldsboro, Buck Owens and Roger Miller are already set. Oh yes, Frank has another special set for fall, too.

SCENE STEALERS: Tonight, Red Coat Soul Review from Princeton at the Checkmate. Tomorrow night, King Sound Interpretors at Checkmate and halfpriced beverages at the Fraternity House Monday, open house at the Checkmate with the Barons. Aug. 27, Sounds of Defiance, Dukes and Inmen at Police Community Youth Center benefit at Civic Center, Aug. 29, Esquires at S. Charleston Recreation Center, Labor Day Weekend, Super Band from Louisville returns to Checkmate, Sept. 19 and 20, Mind Garage at the Fraternity House,

THREE DOG NIGHT fans read T-T-T. Do you?

would overburden the town's ability to deal with sanitation, traffic and security. The good burghers of Woodstock and

Wallkill can scarcely be blamed this week for saving "I told you so" to the citizens of Bethel, N. Y., who welcomed the fair with some enthusiasm at the last minute. Bethel, 98 miles from New York City, has about 2,500 population. The town board approved a license for the festival and a site was found in a large alfalfa field on Max Yasgur's dairy farm. The only local protest took the form of downtown sign urging: "Stop Max's Hippie Music Festival, No 150,000 hippies here. Buy no milk." Even opposition crowd estimates proved conserva-

The promoters announced that 300 offduty New York cops would be on hand to handle traffic, and that they'd taken out a \$3 million insurance policy to cover contingencies.

CONCERNED ABOUT violence at other festivals, the Woodstock group called a meeting of the underground press and pop music leaders late in June to discuss the problem. Said Woodstock vice president Artie Kornfeld, "We are here to curtail incidents between kids and police. If we want to stop violence and tension from becoming the norm on the fair grounds, we've got to set new tones for the festival and redefine its meaning. Our concept is three days of peace and

The festival planners also promised a 'mathamtically computed' number of

### Ravenswood's coffee house at new location

RAVENSWOOD - The Ravenswood Coffeehouse, in it's new location in the VFW building, is open every Saturday and Sunday evening from 8-11 p.m. for teen-age entertainment. In previous weeks, the "Light's Out" from Ripley, and "Joe Leader and Company" have provided the music at the candlelit coffechouse.

Entertainment plans for future coffeehouse sessions will include bands for Saturday nights and a more informal format with folk singers or records for Sunday nights.

The Junior coffeehouse, for kids in the seventh and eighth grades, is open from 8-10 p.m. Wednesdays.

Both the junior and senior coffee houses are organized with officers and a board of directors. Officers fro the senior coffeehouse are Charlie Rymer, president; George DeLong, first vice president; Gary Fishback, second vice president, Judy Harris, secretary; and Jim Duranti. Junior coffeehouse officers are Robbie Fisher, president: Jennifer Anderson, first vice president; Scott Clendennin, second vice president; Sue Herrold, secretary, and Vickie Harless,

Coffeehouse Inc., is a nonprofit organization, with a group of adult advisers. and a board of directors made up of teen-agers, aside from the officers of each group. The teen-agers handle all their own expenses for utilities, entertainment, etc., from dues, and small profit, from coffee, cokes and potato chips, sold at the coffeehouse. Adults are always present, but are often young couples who either enter into the fun, or merely sit back and watch. (Lois K. McCann)

comfort stations, first aid stations, water supply stations and rice kitchens for kids with no money. Gate crashing was to be forestalled by busing kids from the parking lots to the fairgrounds.

All the elaborate preparations were rendered academic, of course, when Yasgur's farm sustained the largest invasion since Normandy. While sheer physical glut made it impossible for most of the kids to see or hear the musicians, not one serious cop-kid hassle was reported. Under duress, a cooperative spirit united the generations.

"It all happened," summed up Kornfield, "because we wanted to see all our favorite performers on the same stage

#### Record reviews

## $The king on the road \, back$

ROGER MILLER (Smash SRS My Heart to Bend (Instead of Break)"

following among the under-30s was once homespun philosophical samplers. as big or bigger than Glenn Campbell's The country trends in pop music con--back again with a record album.

Most heartening about this new Miller album is the fact that it includes three new Miller songs, the first of his own he's recorded in quite a spell. Roger ran dry as a 10-gallon cistern after writing and recording an unprecedented succession of hit songs and then tackling his own TV show. The rigorous recording pace sapped him and television-in its predictable manner-zapped him.

NOW, HAPPILY, he's regained the wit, spit and spirit that produced "Dang Me," "Chug-A-Lug." King of the Road." Engine, Engine No. 9," "You Can't Roller Skate in A Buffalo Herd" and a dozen other songs that comprise a unique genre in pop music.

The revitalized Miller is demonstrated best in this album with the song "Boeing Boeing 707," a gem of a witty ditty with the characteristic Miller rhythms and rhyme schemes that are rarely imitated successfully. Other examples of the restored Miller muse are "I'm Gonna Teach

and "Shame Bird," which rank with Dang me if it isn't Roger Miller-whose "Hard Headed Me" among Miller's best

> sidered, the time is ideal for a Roger Miller resurgence at the top of the charts. While this album doesn't contain another "Dang Me" or "King of the Road," I'm betting Miller's ready to scratch another big one on the back of the legendary en-

> RANDY BOONE COUNTRY (Gregar GG 70001) This fellow Randy Boone, who starred

in television's "Cimarron Strip" and "The Virginian." is a self-conscious imitator of the Roger Miller singing and songwriting styles. The results-particularly his writing-are embarrarsingly poor.

Two of the songs in this album, "Rippy Dang Dog House" and "Frog Dog Pollywog Song" are crude efforts at duplicating the deftness of Miller's "Do Wacka Do" or "Can't Roller Skate in A Buffalo Herd."

The only imaginable role for mediocrity such as Boone's is to provide the dull background against which artists like Miller appear in bass relief.

### Dear T-T-T:

debate over the desirability of cov- zette; 1001 Virginia St. E.; Charlesering wouth problems in the T-T-T ton, W. Va. 25330. Page. Here are some more representative letters.

I do agree with Sandy Kelly, T-T-T should not be filled with stories about young people's problems.

Pamela Ramsey Charleston

I'm all for Sandy Kelly, I think we shouldn't have to read Thirteen-To-Thirty to find out about other people's problems.

I want to have the fashions and fads, as

Sandy says. Becky Wilson Charleston

In reference to Sandy Kelly's letter, I think she's entirely wrong. This page is the best place for news about young black and white problems. If teens don't concern themselves about these problems now, then they aren't old enough to drive

a car, buy beer or vote. Teens are always protesting that they want to be treated like adults, but they're going to have to interest themselves in this world around us and try to help the situation before they receive any additional privileges.

Surely our generation can do better

than past generations. Debhie Beane Charleston

Want to get in your rap on the sub-

Our readers are engaged in lively ject? Write T-T-T; Charleston Ga-

### "What's Happenin'?"



Jack Cook Galperin Music Co. Callin' all future Miss Kanawha Valley Majorettes! Want to know What's Happenin' in the baton world? Like, dig: It's the new Conn Star Baton with the Mini-Shaft that's leadin' the field! With handhammered indentions

that sparkle like stars and perfect balance throughout, these jewels are topped off with a warranty that won't quit. Man, we gott'em from 18 to 30 inches, so come on in and give'm

DIG: Galperin's big 50th Anniversary Sale is really swingin' now, Baby, with axes and amps being toted out the double doors by lot's a smilin' cats who just saved lot'sa bread. And the deals aren't on Lower Slobovian models either; these are Gibsons and Fenders and Standels and Guilds we're unwrappin' on ya. And here's a real switch, Charlie: Buy anything in the store that's over \$170 on our

birthday, and we'll give you a gift! Welcome back to the "Pascinations from the beach and Peahody's Warelouse; Virginia Beach, that is, Like Shaw and McHoul: I hope you had a ball and a fine gig.

Just got in something guaranteed to blow your mind a Pre-Amp by Electro-Harmonix that boosts the power of your present amp to outter limits! Come hear

a demo at lists at only 15 bills!

Sick Joke: "Did you know I had my voice insured for \$25,000?" "Oh Yea? What did you do with the money?"

Like, keep cool, come scope the scene, and dig ya later!

Crystal Blue Persuasion

This is the year for Tommy James and their fifteenth consecutive hit to land in copies. the Shondells. The quintet have sold more the top twenty five on the major record records in the last six months than in charts. They've sold a total of twelve

the entire three previous years of their million discs and none of their singles career. "Crystal Blue Persuasion" is has ever sold less than 500 thousand Words and Music by TOMMY JAMES, MIKE VALE and ED GRAY Key of A major Tempo - Moderately Slow

Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7 Look o - ver yon - der, What do you see? The sun is ris - in',

Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7 Amai? Bm7

Most def - i - nite - ly. A new day's com - in', Peo - ple are chang - in', most def - i - nite - ly.

A new day's com - in', Peo - ple are chang - in',

Amoj7 Bm7 Amoj7 Bm7 Amoj7 Bm7 D

Bm7 Amoj7 Bm7 Amoj7 Bm7 Bm7 Amoj7 Bm7 Amoj7

Gon - na see the light.

Bm7 Amoj7 Cm7 Bm May - be to - mor - row, When he looks down on ev-e-ry Bbmoj7 Cm7 Bbmoj7 Cm7 Bbmoj7 Cm7 Bbmoj7 Cm7
green field and ev e - ry town,

Bbmoj7 Cm7
Bbmoj7 repeat and fode Cm7
Bbmoj7 Cm7
Per-ma - sion, Yeah!

Crys-tal Blue Per-sua - sion, uh hub.

The big turning point came with "Crimson and Clover". After that smash the group decided that they would write, produce and arrange all their own material. If you ask Tommy about the group he answers "There's really no Tommy James and the Shondells--we're all one. We don't exist apart from each other. We

favorite time by writing T-T-T: Charleston Gazette; 1001 Virginia St. E.; Charleston, W. Va. 25330.

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ARE each other." We think this indicates a fine and delicate understanding about what a good group is all about. This week's tune was requested by Bobby Panley of Cannelton, Karen Shifflett of Cedar Grove and Reda and Shirley of Elmira, Request your

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