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Records and Tapes

WHAT is the point in having a concert at Wembley Stadium and then sticking the stage at one end of the ground, thus allowing only the lucky few sitting on the ground near to the stage being able to see the acts? It is not as if they paid more — all the prices were the same.

I have been a great fan of Elton John for some time, but have never been able to see him on stage. I was therefore delighted when I was presented with a ticket for his Midsummer Music concert at the Stadium on June 21. At last, I thought, I will be able to see him.

"See" was the operative word, for although I had a seat only six rows back, I had to crane my neck to one side, and even then all I could see when he came on was a flash of blue.

I am not complaining about the sound, but when one pays £3.50 for a ticket, one does expect to be able to see from six rows back without a pair of binoculars.

Surely when you are showing a concert in a circular arena, the most sensible thing to do is to present the stage in the centre of the arena, so that people can actually see the concert as well as hear it.

By the way, the Beach Boys were better than Elton.
Hilary Nelman, Bedford Road, South Woodford, London E18.

Dear Elton: it would be nice to SEE you!

Gang: thanks

THANKS EVER SO much for writing about my fav group, Gang, in this week's DISC. It was really great to see their faces looking at me when I opened your paper, and their picture is now on the wall over my bed so I can look at them before I go to sleep.
Lynda Heron, Bourne Avenue, Sydenham, London SE26.

Gang: take-over?

IT WAS GREAT to see our group Gang in your paper. They are great and are the biggest group in South London, and we all know they will take over from the Rollers.
Jane Browning, Dartmouth Rd, Sydenham, London SE26.

Don't knock Gary

I AM SICK and tired of DISC and other Gitter halers.

From the very beginning you music papers have tried to write Gary off as a "one hit wonder". Now 11 hits (and many thousands of fans later), you've still got it in for Gary. As soon as one record doesn't get as high as his others, you are immediately trying to get rid of him.

Don't you think that after three years, you ought to give up knocking him, and start on someone else? Gary (in the eyes of myself, and his fans) is the greatest star that's ever lived.
Norman Tyler, Victoria Road, Bournemouth.

That Essex pic

I AM A great fan of David Essex and love all the pictures of him.

I had been told DISC had a double page pin-up of David, but when I saw the picture I was disgusted. I think you should have called it a double page pin-up for gardening fans — that would have suited it better.

When some girls in my class got hold of the picture he became the laugh of the week.

Do you think you could do another picture of him for fans like me?
J. Oesterman, Teversham Lane, Storkwell, London, SWE.

Slade: up and up

IN REPLY TO Greg Robinson's comments, I would like to point out that Slade are still the most exciting and talented rock group to emerge on the scene since the Beatles.

Slade have got to the highest peak in their careers and cannot possibly venture further except to break through in America. More time is being spent on this aim thus resulting in fewer singles being released at home.

Slade still and will always have a strong bond between them and their followers. So keep your opinions to yourself Greg please! This is only the beginning not the end!
Diane, Norbreck Road, Blackpool.

Slade: successful

I MUST SAY that I agree with everything that Peter James said (DISC July 5).

Slade are the most successful group since the Beatles and I'm sure they'll be around for a good many years.

One reason is that they write their own songs and therefore can change their style very easily, whereas other groups simply disappear when they can't find the right material.
David Kemp, Ingham Road, London NWS.



BCR's: grow up!

I READ DISC every week, including the letters page. It is very good, but I would like to say something. If you watch the tv show "Shang-a-lang" you will see the BCR's running up to the audience and touching them.

If they do the same kind of act in concert no wonder so many people get hurt. Don't you think that they could grow up a little and behave a little more like human beings?

I am a David Cassidy fan, and feel that if the BCR's were even half as good as David, they would be 100 per cent better than they are now.
Miss Cassidy, Timms Road, Rambury.

BCR's: older fans

IN MANY MAGAZINES (including DISC) people who write things about the Bay City Rollers seem to think that all their fans are aged between 12 and 15 years.

Well they are WRONG!! I am 17 years old and a great BCR fan who has followed them since the song Remember — not like some of these kids of 11, 12 and 13 who have only liked the BCR's since their tv series, "Shang-a-Lang".

I think it is about time we older fans got a mention in concert reports, etc.
Melanie Faulkner, Regent Road, Birmingham.

BCR's: gentlemen

I HAVE JUST seen the Rollers new TV series. May I say after all the fuss some of your readers have made lately, what pleasant nice gentlemen they are.

I am no crazy teenager, I am a mother of two and older than I care to admit, but I watched these boys on TV and I only wish that we'd had a group like that in my day.
Mrs Margaret Walker, Victoria Road, Portsmouth.

BCR's vs the rest

HOW DARE THIS Hilary girl even suggest that the BCR's outrank Led Zepplin and Pink Floyd?

How can she compare Eric and Woody, who are supposed to be guitarists, with the world's greatest guitarist, called Jimmy Page?

You try and compare "Rollin'" and "Once Upon a Star" with "Dark Side of the Moon", "Physical Graffiti" and "Led Zepplin, I, II, and III". You can't! It's like trying to compare a Mini with a Rolls Royce.

I thought the Osmonds were bad, but at least they have talent — which

BCR's: grow up!

is more than I could say for the Rollers.

Leon, Church End, Hendon, London NW4.

Not good looking?

I HOPE YOU don't mind me bringing-up an old subject, but I am amazed when I read that some people actually call Kiki Dee, Cilla Black and Cudagh Rogers pretty! Yuch!

Suzi Quatro isn't that bad, but none of them are good enough to be considered good looking.

There are only two girls in the entire pop business who have talent and good looks, they are Eve Graham and Lyn Paul.

I hope you don't think I'm "the other way" — because I am a girl myself and I happen to know pretty from downright ugly.
Toni Cox, Victoria Road, Chingford.

Unbeatable

AFTER HAVING READ a letter in DISC about the so called "old men of pop," I wanted to write to express my opinion.

I agree that groups like Status Quo, Queen and Cockney Rebel are brilliant. But you can't say the minute the Beatles break up or Bob Dylan gets a little older, that their music is rubbish and that no-one should like it any more.

The days of the various ex-Beatles, Dylan's and Eric Clapton's are not over. They still produce some of the best music around.
S. B. Hunt, Saltdean, Brighton.

Suzi's super

I AM WRITING in support of the letter about Suzi Quatro. I'm a 23-year-old girl — I love Suzi — and I don't care who knows it.

Roberta Collins, Terrace Road, Birmingham.

Don't interfere with good musicians

CONCERNING THE LETTER from Hilary, Cardiff published in DISC (June 28), I'd just like to say I hope Hilary will recover from her illness soon.

To say that the BCR's beat Pink Floyd, Led Zepplin and so on, she must be SICK! If having a good scream and dressing up appeals to Hilary she couldn't have picked a better group to support, but we don't want her interfering with good musicians.

As far as I'm concerned the Rollers can "roll off" to America (or wherever they're going) and stay there!

Also, thank you — whoever you were — for sorting out the problem about David Bowie! I'm glad somebody knows what has happened to him.

I'm surprised Angie has not made any comment concerning this matter — or is she "out of contact" as well? Perhaps her West End show has been occupying most of her time?

Can you give us any more details about the film?

For any frustrated Bowie fans I can recommend a book about him called "The Story of David Bowie" which tells all about Bo, L. Kemp, and his work. Well, now I've got that lot off my chest — about the BCR's — I'd like to thank you for the lovely picture you supplied with the letter about David and the lunatics of Romford! Keep up the good work!

PS: Three cheers for J. Edward Gitter.
Sharon Reid, Margaret Sq, Ballymoney, County Antrim, Northern Ireland.



WOULD you pay £3.50 for a view like this? Elton John at Wembley.

Samey Osmonds

HAVE YOU HEARD the new one from Danny and Marie Make the World Go Away?

I thought Status Quo were bad for repeating themselves, but this is unbelievable.

When I heard it, I thought the previous single I'm Loving It All Up To You, had been re-released, because the tune is exactly the same.
Roger Taylor, Grafton Road, Sebury.

Jealous Fins

WE HOPE YOU'RE sorry for us, 'cos we have to listen to Finnish pop music.

Thank you there in DISC for saying that Wigwam's single, 'Freddie Are You Ready' was the worst single of the week. It really IS. Believe it or not it's in Finnish charts.

We hope you have a 'good laugh' when hearing this example of a Finnish song. We can't laugh at them any more. We cry!

We think Finland is a very, very bad country for pop music. We're jealous of you there in England!
Jarmo Saari and Jukka-Matti Makkonen, Varnankatu, Turku, Finland.

The real Cassidy?

THE MUSIC WORLD is being told of a new artist to break the seal on teenyworship — and not before time either.

OK, David Cassidy appeals to young girls, but what seems to be forgotten is that they are not little girls any more. As David has grown, so his fans have grown with him.

Perhaps we have been ahead of him. In the past five years we have all tried to see the REAL man behind the youthful face. Now our chance is here. It's been a long time but it's worth it.

The music is new, bright, and stylish and we can now see the sun shine through the dark clouds.

Get It Up For Love is the better recording compared to I Write The Songs. Come on, David, boogie more like this. The long wait has been worth it.
Louise Gunnell, Chyngton Road, Seaford.

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