

Benefits Dostooned, cancelled: RIFF RAP

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Bad planning and poor ticket sales

Benefits postponed, cancelled

BY LIAM LACEY

THE CAN-AID concert for African relief, originally scheduled for Sept. 29 at the Canadian National Exhibition Stadium, will be postponed until next summer. The decision to postpone was made by Keith Sharp, editor of the rock publication *Music Express*, the concert's sponsor, following complaints earlier this week by two of Canada's top rock managers, Ray Danniels and Bruce Allen, that the concert was ill-conceived and badly timed.

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All the participants have agreed to meet in Toronto during the week of the Juno Awards (Nov. 4) to work out the details for next summer's concert. In a press release from *Music Express*, Sharp said he was "delighted that we finally got a commitment from all the leading lights to join forces and make the Can-Aid concert what we wanted from the outset," though he recognized that "there are obviously a lot of people who will be disappointed" that the concert couldn't be held this month.

Bruce Allen, Ray Danniels and MuchMusic producer John Martin have issued a joint statement saying they are anxious to be part of the project, which is intended to bring all of the best-known names in Canadian rock together for one charity concert.

The Quebec Live-Aid concert for Africa, scheduled for Sept. 12-13 in Montreal Forum, was cancelled this week because of poor ticket sales. Organizers Daniel Lafrance



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and Gil Courtemanche of Foundation Québec-Afrique said in an interview Wednesday that only about 1,200 tickets (about 10 per cent of capacity) had been sold. The tickets cost \$16.50 each.

Among the Quebec artists who were to have taken part were Michel Rivard, Paul Piché and Louise Forestier.

Joni Mitchell is one of several property owners in British Columbia's Sunshine Coast retreat, northwest of Vancouver, who are concerned about a nearby fish farm. She said Wednesday that the four-hectare farm, owned by the Norwegian company Scatech Resources,

spoils her view, and she is afraid seals, otters and whales will be shot if they get near the fish pens.

"I thought I purchased a piece of wilderness but it's being corrupted by industry," Mitchell said. "I wouldn't be at all surprised if we had no recourse since commerce reigns all, but it's such a beautiful spot we must do something."

The company, which intends to harvest chinook and coho salmon, says it will go ahead with its plans, and will attempt to keep away whales, otters and seals with electric fences.

The Canadian-produced video of a song about South African political

prisoner Nelson Mandela will be seen across the United States Sunday on MTV as part of a video competition. The song, entitled *Mandela*, was recorded by the Aaron Davis Band and features South African singer and percussionist Basi Hamlasela singing the Zulu lyrics. The production will compete against five other videos in MTV's "basement tapes" competition, with the winner determined by a telephone poll.

The unusual video, which depicts police breaking into an underground bohemian den (everyone has painted faces and wears costumes), also uses constructivist printing, not to translate the lyrics, but for simple messages about Mandela. Directed and written by Toronto artist Oliver Girling, the video won a similar phone-vote contest on CBC's *Good Rockin'* Tonight earlier this year. The Aaron Davis Band and Hamlasela play Tuesday and Wednesday at The Holiday on Queen and Bathurst.

The Four Tops, The Association, Tommy James, and Spirit are set to appear on a 13-city American tour with all profits to be donated to the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Restoration project. The tour is titled *Dodge Presents Legends For Liberty*, put on by the same company that previously presented the *Dodge Trucks Present Kenny Rogers* show, in which the proceeds went to Kenny Rogers.

Forthcoming concerts: AC/DC, the Australian "metal group with mettle," as *People* magazine dubbed them, comes to Maple Leaf Gardens Sept. 23. Tickets are on sale at BASS outlets.