

Another ham mustered into fitness: RIFF RAP

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Another ham mustered into fitness

BY LIAM LACEY

The latest luminary on the trend toward calisthenic rock will make an appearance this month. Joining the ranks of Richard Simmons, Diana Ross, Olivia Newton-John and countless others (too feckless to mention comes Miss Piggy's Aerobic Exercise Workout Album.

Remember the hoopla in California when the legislature tabled a private member's bill asking that warnings be printed on albums that had subliminal Satanic messages (which could be revealed only when the record was played backward)?

Finally, a backward record really exists. Rhino Records in California has released a recording by a German band, Checkpoint Charlie, which plays from the inside of the disc to the outside. No Satanic messages though.

The same company was forced to withdraw its Hooked On Henny record (the best of Henny Youngman's

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one-liners set to disco) after K-Tel, which owns the Hooked On series, threatened to sue.

More bad news for Blondie. After selling poorly in concerts across North America, and with the new album not even cracking the top 30, the group has had to cancel an upcoming British tour. The tour, which was called Sept. 1, was started off due to lack of sales.

Former Spirit guitar ace Randy California is releasing an EP shortly, featuring Bob Dylan's All Along The Watchtower . . . The Disciples open for The Exploited on Sept. 18 at Larry's Hideaway . . . Three Canadian bands in the Sounds top 10 import charts this week: Saga, Toronto and Harlequin . . . Fast Eddie Clarke, late of Motorhead, has joined

ranks with Pete Way, late of UFO. The other member of the band was, briefly, Topper Headon, who recently left The Clash. Headon decided to leave Clarke and Way as well, because he was looking for something "more jazzy."

True Britt, actress Brit Eklund's story of her romances with Warren Beatty, Peter Sellers and Rod Stewart, and of her career, is available in England as a double cassette.

Home taping remains the most popular scapegoat for the woes of the record industry. But the push for a tax on cassette tapes in the United States has been stalled by the Senate.

The reason? Apparently, in an election year, nobody wants to strike a blow against consumers. Senator Daniel Moynihan,

among others, has suggested that cassette companies and record companies work out their problems themselves.

A syndicated London radio show, scheduled to air this weekend, promises to refute the popular theory that the late Door, Jim Morrison, was a junkie and an alcoholic. Interviews with several close friends from his last days will be included.

Up and Coming: Neil Diamond has added a third show Sept. 25 at 11:15 at Maple Leaf

Gardens . . . Comic Robin Williams comes to O'Keefe Centre for two shows Oct. 17. Tickets go on sale next Thursday through the O'Keefe box office and Ticketron.

With the release of a new album, Rough Diamonds, comes the news that the English heavy metal band, Bad Company, has already broken up; in fact, it happened about six months ago . . . Paul McCartney is producing a new single for Carl Perkins, entitled My Old Friend, and he's promised Perkins a gold record . . . David

Geffen, who recently stole Neil Young from Reprise Records (leaving Frank Sinatra as the sole artist on the label) has now won over Joni Mitchell as well. Mitchell's song, Free Man In Paris, was about Geffen. Her new album, which will be out in October, is entitled Wild Things Run Fast.