

FOR THE RECORD

PASSING REMARKS — Leon Russell, currently dazzling country audiences under the cover of "Hank Wilson," may continue along those lines for a while. He is currently in Nashville, mixing down tracks he recorded "live" at, of all places, the Grand Ol' Opry. The album is scheduled for release later this Spring. . . . Also recording a new album is **Gordon Lightfoot**, in Berkeley, California. The man seems tireless. His new album was released this week. . . . Beginning January 15, the **Pointer Sisters** will embark on a European tour which will be highlighted by appearances at the MIDEM gala concert in Cannes, France on January 20 and the London Palladium on January 27. The Sisters' tour will also include several tapings of European and American TV shows, including a BBC special, and programs originating from Amsterdam, Luxembourg and Bremen, Germany. They return to the U.S. on January 31 to headline at Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas through February 13. . . .

Birthday celebrations in the world of rock this week include: **Roy Kenner** (James Gang) (Jan. 14), **Chuck Berry** (Jan. 15), **Bill Francis** (**Dr. Hook & The Medicine Show**) (Jan. 16), **Mick Taylor** (Rolling Stones) and **Chris Montez**, (both Jan. 17, **Bobby Goldsboro** (Jan. 18) and Jan. 19 would have been the birthday of **Janis Joplin** had she survived. . . . The **Firesign Theatre**, probably the weirdest bunch of bananas to hit the recording industry ever, are in the process of getting ready to tour. It should be very interesting. . . . **Aerosmith** is currently recording their second album in New York City. It is scheduled for May release. . . . **Paul Simon** is planning a "live" LP of material recorded during his 1973 tour of this country. No release date has been set as of yet. . . . **George Harrison** is readying his next album, scheduled for release in a couple of months. Upon release, it will probably mean four albums by the **Beatles** once again in the Top 10. Speaking of which, here's yet another reminder concerning my now infamous **Beatles** poll which has to date received the totally underwhelming response of one (count 'em one!) card. So folks, once again, here's that sure-fire way to have fun on the **Beatles'** 10th Anniversary of their first American charted single ("I Want To Hold Your Hand," January 11, 1964 was the date). Please send me your ten (10) favorite **Beatles** songs, five (5) favorite **Beatles** albums and favorite (1) **Beatles** film. The address is: "Passing Remarks" c/o Arty Goodman/Cashbox/119 West 57th Street/New York, N.Y. 10019. Deadline is still February 1. . . .

The new **Bob Dylan** Asylum album is ready to roll. Should be in the arms of the world within the next two weeks. Ditto the new **Joni Mitchell** Asylum collection. . . It has most certainly been a week for **Carly Simon**. On Monday, Mrs. James



JONI MITCHELL AT RADIO CITY—PRIME TIME

Taylor gave birth to a 9 pound bundle of joy, **Sara**. On Tuesday, her new LP, "Hotcakes" was released, and it shipped gold to boot. By the way, "Mockingbird" by **Carly and James**, off the album, should definitely be the single. It is outrageously good. . . . The new New York pop night club, **The Bottom Line** is scheduled to open later this month. Rumors have been flying that the opening act will be either the **Kinks**, or **Cheech & Chong**. It's about time this city gave birth to a club of this sort. Should it work (and there's no reason why it shouldn't), it will definitely become the most exciting pop club in America. . . .

Projected single for **Brownsville Station** as a follow up to their hard driving "Smoking In The Boys Room," is their great cover of **Hoyt Axton's** "Lightnin' Bar Blues," also from their rejuvenated "Yeah!" LP. . . . Watch out for **Kiss**, the first band signed to **Neil Bogart's** Casablanca label. The hard rockers' debut LP is scheduled for release in early February. Former **Cash Box-er Kenny Kerner** and his partner **Richie Wise** produced. . . . The **Soft Machine** are about to embark on their first U.S. tour in over five years. Their last tour, in 1968, was with the late **Jimi Hendrix** which included 70 dates. Performances scheduled thus far include dates in Toronto, Montreal, Fort Lauderdale and Youngstown, Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio, all in February. . . . As I predicted when I first heard, and reviewed, the single here a couple of months back (you heard it first, right here!), "The Way We Were" by **Barbra Streisand**, from the movie of the same name, is a shoo-in for Best Song at this year's Academy Award presentations in April. Ms. Streisand's performance seems to get better with each spin. . . . Speaking of Academy Award nominations in the Best Song category, others may include the late **Jim Croce's** "I Got A Name" from the film "The Last American Hero," "Nice To Be Around" as performed by **Maureen McGovern** from the film "Cinderella Liberty" and "Remembering" as performed by **Lana Cantrell**. . . . **Cher's** "Dark Lady" is her best single to date and should be topping the charts in a matter of just a few weeks. Station acceptance has been incredible. Just sit back and be dazzled by those great lyrics. . . . **The New York Dolls**, who set a precedent by rocking the Waldorf-Astoria last Halloween, have set their "First Annual Valentine's Day" concert for the Academy of Music on February 14, here in New York City. Also, **Melanie** will be performing her annual Birthday celebration concert this year at the New York Metropolitan Opera House on February 3. . . . **Joni Mitchell** will be performing at Radio City Music Hall on February 6. It will be the first pop concert at the theatre that will begin before Midnight. The scheduled starting time is 8PM. . . . "An Evening With **Stephen Stills**" at Carnegie Hall has been increased to two, February 8 and 9. . . . The reviews thus far for America's youngest living folk legend, **Bob Dylan**, with the **Band** have been glorious. From what I've heard, they loved them in Chicago and Philly (coincidentally, both cities suffered the wrath of winter the respective nights of the performances). . . .

Jerry LaCroix is currently working on his second solo LP and first for Mercury Folks who have performed on some of the sessions so far include both **Johnny and Edgar Winter**, **Rick Derringer**, **Hugh McCracken** and **David Spinozza**. **Todd Rundgren** may show up one of these days as well. . . . arty Goodman



NO STARCH, PLEASE—Leon Russell and Denny Cordell christen their new video van video unit which was especially designed with four color cameras, four video tape recorders, and complete editing facilities. Shelter Records is the first recording company to purchase their own video van, and it will be used for a number of television specials, in addition to taping Shelter artists.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Jesse Colin Young Band

HOLLYWOOD — Jesse Colin Young's itinerary for the month of January has been announced. All dates are western with future eastern dates to be announced within the next week.

January 15 Special Events Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City; (17) Ice Palace, Las Vegas; (18) Field House, Brigham Young University, Provo; (20) Celland Arena, Fresno; (21) Robertson Gymnasium, University of California at Santa Barbara; (23) Spokane Coliseum; (24) Portland Coliseum; (25) Seattle Arena; (26) University Coliseum, Oregon St. University, Corvallis; (31) Denver Coliseum.

Manfred Mann's Earth Band

NEW YORK — Polydor recording artist Manfred Mann and the Earth Band are returning to the US for a major tour. The tour commences with ten dates on the west coast with **Uriah Heep**, the first of which is in El Paso, Texas on January 25 and the last of which is February 10 in San Francisco. The Band will then continue touring on their own with dates to be announced in the near future. For dates on the **Uriah Heep/Manfred Mann Earth Band** tour, please see **Uriah Heep** itinerary in "On The Road Again" column of January 12.

Fleetwood Mac & Silverhead

HOLLYWOOD — Silverhead, British-based MCA Recording artists, return to the states after a one year absence. Silverhead kick-off their 30-day, 15-city tour with Warner/Reprise artists **Fleetwood Mac** on January 25 in New York. Other dates and venues include:

Jan. 26, Academy of Music, New York; Jan. 31, Civic Auditorium, San Jose; Feb. 1, Eureka, CA, Humboldt State College; Feb. 3, Yuma, Arizona, Civic Center; Feb. 6, Twin Falls, Idaho, Southern Idaho College; Feb. 7, Boise, Idaho, Bosie County Fairgrounds; Feb. 8, Portland, Oregon, Paramount Theatre; Feb. 11, Salt Lake City, Utah, Terrance Ballroom; Feb. 12, Chaney, Washington, East Washington State College; Feb. 14, Chico, CA, State College; Feb. 15-16, San Francisco, CA, Winterland; Feb. 17, Long Beach Auditorium; Feb. 20-24, Whisky A Go Go in Los Angeles.

Puzzle

HOLLYWOOD — Puzzle will begin an 11-city tour in Chicago on January 30th at the Quiet Knight, according to group manager **Bob Cullen**. Scheduled to coincide with the release of the Motown's artists' second album, the tour will cover New York, Los Angeles, Boston, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cleveland, Washington, Seattle and Denver, with confirmed dates to be announced.



BACKSTAGE BONES—At the Palladium with **Wishbone Ash** are **Don Wasley**, MCA special projects; **Ted Turner**; **Michele Di Giorgio**, publicity; **Lindy Goetz**, MCA promotion; **Martin Turner**; **Steve Ursan**, MCA vice-president of promotion; **Andy Powell**, and **Dennis Morgan**, national album promotion.