**Melody Maker**

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**Asylum giants fly in**

Joni Mitchell and Jackson Browne — whose album and single, "Doctor My Eyes," are currently both sellers in the States — arrive in Britain this Sunday (30). They play together on a few selected dates, and Jackson will also make solo appearances.

Another Asylum Records singer-songwriter, Joel, is also visiting Britain for a few dates during the middle of May. He is David Blue. Joni's album, "Blue," was dedicated to David.

Joni and Jackson appear together on Wednesday, May 3, at the Odeon, Manchester, followed by London's Royal Festival Hall — already a sell-out — on May 6. They then fly on for dates in Frankfurt (5), Amsterdam (14) and Paris (16).

Joni tapes a Soundel on Saturday BBC TV show on May 19 for national transmission.

**New stars for Lincoln**

EXTRA NAMES have been added to the all-star bill for the Great Western Express Festival at Lincoln over the spring Bank Holiday.

American artists, Helen Reddy and folk singer Steve Goodman, appear on Saturday, May 28. Spencer Davis Group with Sneaky Pete on guitar and Alan Hay on bass, plus The Average White Band, play on Sunday (28), and Jackson Heights and the Sunderland Brothers Band from the States appear on Monday (29).

Another big feature of the festival will be the folk tent. Artists booked for this special marque include Colin Scott, J. S. O. Band, Bill Bailey, Peter Rowan, John Hedley, Johnie May, Al Matthews, Anne Briggs, Silver and Buesa, Mick Skiffley, Boys Of The Lough, Cibo, Jonathan Key, Harlem Shaped, Gasworks, Derek Brimstone and composer Bill Purcell.

Contrary to rumours, T. Rex are not appearing at the festival.

**MOODIES' BIG SEARCH**

MOODY BLUES, whose lead guitarist Justin Hayward is pictured here, celebrated their return to England at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on Saturday. Having returned from audiences of 18,000 and more in America, they played to a capacity house of 10,000 at the Pool.

Hand on the lever of the ban on groups at the Royal Albert Hall, the Moody Blues have announced their plan to look for alternative English venues which can cope with large audiences of ten or twelve thousand. The following tribes in America, where few clubs and similar large indoor venues are used for rock concerts.

A list of groups are on a site where it costs a lot of money to put on shows. The Albert Hall was the only place where they could bring in a suitable number of people. Now they're going to look for other groups which have been successful with this format.

Once the Moody Blues have found alternative venues to the 2,000-capacity, they plan to stay in the past. They hope to play in them again in the future.