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Psychedelic Furs' Richard Butler with David Bowie after the Furs' gig at 'Hurrahs', NY.

SMALL STUFF

Bob Marley withdrew from his USA tour after collapsing due to severe exhaustion, backstage after his New York show. It's rumoured that Marley is looking for a new label and a two million dollar deal. Reggae brother Jimmy Cliff is now signed to MCA. And big in the same bag, are Toots & the Maytals who have recorded a live album, *Toots Live* that reviewers are comparing to Marley's classic London *Live* album. Island Records had 1000 copies in shops (a limited edition of course), the day after the Hammersmith Odeon gig was recorded. ... John Lennon is 40 this year, he has just done an interview for *Playboy* and his new album, *Double Fantasy* is only days away ... is nothing sacred? Kiss is changing its logo prior to a 10 day German tour, as the symbol is similar to the Nazi SS emblem. And in the US of A Frank Zappa has also compromised, changing his new album title to *Crush All Boxes*. It was *Fred Zeplinn* but was changed following the death of Zeppelin drummer John Bonham. A coroner has ruled that Bonham's death was accidental. He died from inhaling his own vomit, after consuming 40 shots or so of vodka ... by the way, the Bryan Gregory rumour is dead. When the Cramps heard the suggestion that the ex-member was dead, they called his LA home and Bryan answered the phone ... In a spot or two of bother, are pillars of good taste, Jerry Dammers, Johnny Lydon and Black Sabbath. Heavy metal may be back IN, but in Milwaukee when some goon threw a beer bottle, Black Sabbath's bassist Geezer Butler was knocked right OUT. Not aware of the incident, many fans just saw the band leave the stage and commenced to wreck the venue. Meanwhile in Dublin, when John Lydon returned to

Ireland with his brother's band, 4" by 2" (the inches are silent), an incident in a pub earned him a three month prison sentence for assaulting two barmen. Lydon appeared in court obviously bruised and his defence claimed it was Lydon who was the victim of assault as he left the pub of his own will after being refused service. He is currently out on \$500 bail (put up by Virgin Records) awaiting the appeal. What did Jerry Dammers do? He said the wrong thing backstage after a stormy Cambridge gig and got himself arrested ... the good news is that the Godfather of Soul, James Brown is doing a record with the TK label and that on the new Blondie platter *Auto American* (Mike Chapman produced again), Harry sings 'Follow Me' from the musical *Camelot* ... the new Residents' album is called *Strictly Commercial* and there are 40 one minute songs on the album. All tracks will receive airplay as the band's label, Ralph Records has purchased 40 one minute spots on a San Francisco radio station ... Lou Reed is lyricist and executive producer for first album by Chuck Hammer, the Bowie/Reed, guitarist/synth player. Reed's portrayal of a switched on record producer in Paul Simon's *One Trick Pony* is "the sole bright spot" (*Cashbox*) in the film ... the Eagles live double will include three tracks recorded in 1976 including "Take It To The Limit" with a 30 piece orchestra ... also live and double please, and out for Christmas, is Fleetwood Mac *Live*. On the 2LP set are three new songs including Brian Wilson's 'The Farmer's Daughter'. Green's 'Oh Well' features, as does 'Don't Let Me Down Again' from Buck/Nicks days ... pieces of vinyl to look out for: Boombtown Rats *Bongo Crazy*, George Thorogood & The Destroyers, Steely Dan newie, *Rockpile Sounds Of Pleasure* (billed as their first solo album), Joe Jackson *Beat Crazy*, John Martyn *Grace & Danger*, Ry Cooder *Borderline*, Creedence Clearwater *The Royal Albert Hall Concert* (Fantasy), Ruts *Grin & Bear It*, Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark *Organisation*, Jimmy Pursey *Imagination Camouflage*, Wishbone Ash *Live Dates II*, Monty Python *Contractual Obligation* (last Charisma LP), Toots & Maytals *Toots Live*, Rod Stewart *Foolish Behaviour*, Prince *Dirty Mind* and Specials *More Specials*.

TOURS

Currently travelling the country are Mi-Sex. Their remaining dates are Nov 12 Hastings, Nov 13 Gisborne, Nov 14 Tauranga, and Nov 15 Auckland's Logan Campbell Centre.

At Western Springs on Saturday Nov 22 and Athletic Park Wellington on Wednesday Nov 26 will be Elton John and his band. In the band are old sidekicks Nigel Olsson and Dee Murray and new additions James Newton Howard, Richie Zito and Tim Renwick.

Master guitarist George Benson does a one off at Auckland's Mt Smart Stadium on Sunday Dec 7. The show starts at 4pm and includes not only Benson's own band but a 23 piece orchestra.

And Kiss play Athletic Park Nov 30 and Western Springs Dec 3.

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