



George Clinton

FUNK STYLE

Shoes maketh a man and George Clinton sure knows. But he who took funk to new frontiers got rained upon when he recently played Phoenix Festival in England. The two hour set by his 17 strong band was described as "turgid funk" by the *NME*. But meanwhile in New York funky folk gather to worship his holy grail with Bill Laswell's compilation *Axiom Funk's Funkcronicomicon*. Artists appearing in new or remixed forms include George, Bootsy Collins, Bernie Worrell, Sly Stone and the late P-Funk guitarist Eddie Hazel.



Neil Young

JAMMING IN THE NEIL WORLD

The much-anticipated Neil Young album *Mirror Ball* has recently been unveiled. Recorded this year in Seattle, *Mirror Ball* sees Pearl Jam taking over the backing band role from Crazy Horse, while PJ vocalist Eddie Vedder chimes in on vocals with Young. The Neil Young/Pearl Jam partnership first went public in 1993 when they performed live at the 1993 MTV Video Music Awards, and since then they have appeared together on several occasions, including a 'surprise' set at the Annual Rock 'N' Roll Hall Of Fame inauguration ceremony in New York, earlier this year.



'Wake Me Up Before You Go Go!'

GEORGE MICHAEL RECORDS AGAIN

George Michael has settled his fight with Sony Records. The singer has left the label to record for David Geffen's new label Dream Works SKG for North America and Virgin for the rest of the world. Both Sony and George Michael appear to be winners. The deal is for only two albums and Sony get \$30 million to \$40 million USA to release the singer from his contract. Sony also retain the rights to do a 1997 artist-supervised greatest hits compilation (with new tracks) and Sony will also get a percentage (approx 3%) on the sales of George's albums on his new labels. The first single 'Like Jesus to a Child' will be released in September.



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