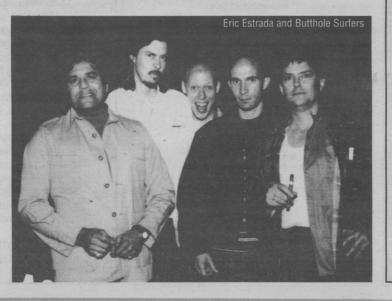


- Columbia have signed Offspring to a multi-million dollar, four album deal. Epitaph will retain at least European rights to the band's next album. The first Columbia album will be later this year.
- **OMC** single 'How Bizarre' is now released in the UK and is being played by the influential station Radio One. **Pauly Fuemana** will travel to London to appear on the chart TV show *Top of the Pops* on June 24.
- The bassist in 70s disco/funk band **Chic**, **Bernard Edwards** (1952-1996) died April 18 in a Tokyo hotel from puemonia. Edwards' playing on tracks such as 'Good Times', 'Le Freak' and 'Dance Dance' was frequently sampled. Edwards had just completed a **Powerstation** album with **Robert Palmer**, **Andy Taylor** and Duran Duran's **John Taylor**.
- The USA summer festival tour **Lollapalooza** has its first non-music act on the mainstage Asian martial arts masters the **Shaolin Monks**.
- 200 fans rioted, trashing London venue the Forum, causing £75,000 of damage, when rappper **Busta Rhymes** failed to appear for the capacity 2,000 audience, due to his not having obtained a work permit.
- The **Neil Young** with **Pearl Jam** live album has been put on hold. There's no plan for its release this year. Neil Young's new album *Echo* with **Crazy Horse** will be released in July.
- Butthole Surfers kidnap former *CHiPs* TV star Eric Estrada in their video for 'Pepper'. The video is directed by Gavin Bowden who did 'Warped' and 'Aeroplane' for the Red Hot Chili Peppers.
- Nicky Wire of Manic Street Preachers injured himself turning over in bed and a fill-in bass player from Pete Townshend's band had to do the Later With Jools Holland TV show. After intense physiotherapy Wire is now on the UK tour.
- The Japan-only **Blur** live 2 CD set *Blur Live at the Budokan* has been made available via Blur's UK Information Service to stop fans having to pay rip-off import prices. The Information Service address is PO Box 21, London W10 6XA, England.
- Green Day blame "personal problems" for ending their touring career. The band claim to be "burnt out" and cite Mike Dirnt's "panic attacks" as the primary reason for their ceasing to tour.
- Mariah Carey is asking for an expensive backstage rider on her USA tour. The singer wants a sushi bar, a pasta bar, black carpet, yellow linens, a dozen trees with white twinkle lights, 1940s-style club lamps plus a bar and two bartenders.
- The Jamaican Govt have apologised to Bono, Jimmy Buffett and Island Records boss Chris Blackwell for firing on their plane in January when the police mistook them for drug smugglers.
- The Surfrider Foundation is releasing a fundraising compile *MOM* (music for our mother ocean) to help raise money to campaign for clean surf beaches. Bands donating a version of a surf



classic include **Pearl Jam** 'Gremmie Out of Control' (Silly Surfers), **Ramones** 'California Sun' (Rivieras), **Pennywise** 'Surfin' USA' (Beach Boys), **Silverchair** 'Surfin' Bird' (Trashmen) and **Helmet** 'Army of Me (Bjork). The album also has new songs by **Porno For Pyros**, **Primus**, **Seven Mary Three**, **Everclear** and **Pato Banton**. The compile is on Interscope Records.

- Noel and Liam Gallagher made an unannounced appearance at a May Ocean Colour Scene gig in London. The Oasis brothers did three acoustic songs on their own and joined Ocean Colour Scene for the Beatles' 'Day Tripper'.
- Smashing Pumpkins cancelled their May 12 Belfast show after a 17 year old girl was killed when several fans fell to the ground, in a crush, at the front of the Pumpkins' Dublin gig the night before
- Henry Rollins has recorded disco hit 'Funky Town' with dance queen Ru Paul. The Lips Inc track will appear on an album of covers of one hit wonders. Henry Rollins has signed to David Geffen's DreamWorks label.
- Irish journalist **Bill Graham** (44) who discovered **U2** and introduced them to their longtime manager **Paul McGuiness**, has died of a heart attack. **Bono** and the **Edge** cut short recording in Miami and flew to Dublin to attend the funeral. They performed Leonard Cohen's 'Tower Of Song'. Bono and U2 manager Paul McGuiness were pallbearers. Graham was the leading writer for Dublin music magazine *Hot Press* founded in 1977.
- New show on Max is True School TV, presented by deejays DLT (Joint Force) and DJ Sir-Vere (Phil Bell). The hour long show screens 10pm Wednesdays and 11am Sundays and will feature hip hop vids and some live local gigs.
- In a charity soccer game **Blur** beat **Oasis** 2-0. The Oasis team consisted of **Liam**, **Guigsy**, road crew and **Robbie Williams** (Take That). Liam was with girlfiend **Patsy Kensit**.
- Restless Records are issuing a moog album by Roger
 Manning of Imperial Drag with alternative favourites such as
 'Smells Like Teen Spirit', 'Come Out And Play', 'Evenflow' and
 'Black Hole Sun'.



Quote

"I met with Steven Spielberg and I said: 'Put me and Barbara Streisand in a musical." JOHN TRAVOLTA plans a career dive.

"Good critics you can learn
from, in the sense they will be
constructively critical and maybe say
to you something nobody else would
say to you because they're afraid. So,
sometimes the only person you can
really trust is a critic,
'cause they don't care."
ROBERT DE NIRO can take the heat.

"I experienced racism, but not like they do in Croatia, where you could be put in jail just for speaking your own language." COOLIO thinks global village.

"LA Reid [head of Arista's
LaFace label)]just spent a
million dollars on a Toni Braxton video
Herb Ritts shot. He didn't like it. He
threw it away. That's spending."
New Motown boss ANDRE HARRELL
conducts a power reading.

"She wasn't an acrobat, but she wasn't a dead fish either." Chicago Bulls star DENNIS RODMAN on Madonna's sexual prowess.

"I used to subscribe to the idea some kind of drama had to be going on in my life in order for me to be creative. But Bach was a happy family man, yet he made this wonderful music." STING on being 40-something.

"The only time I reveal my sexuality — apart from the bedroom — is onstage."

MARIANNE FAITHFULL on the old 'a place for everything, and everything in its place' adage.

"Sobriety, marriage, and an incredible surge of success have not brought the serenity I thought they would." BONNIE RAITT on being 40-something.

"I have no food in my refrigerator, but I have every album by Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan in my record collection."

JEFF BUCKLEY says you can be cute and budget wisely.

"Bands are hip to the movie game. Cut three extra tracks for your album and hustle those rejects to those Hollywood stooges.

They'll buy anything."

DAVID WAS on the money-for-nothing side of movie soundtracks.

"It's like two musicians:
if they don't click off each other,
it doesn't work right, ever.
The rhythm is off. When you're lucky
to play with somebody who gives you
something, then it makes it easier.
You help each other."

ROBERT DE NIRO explains
why acting with the Holy Trinity of
Harvey Keitel, Joe Pesci and Chris
Walken is a breeze.

"He'd done so many drugs and had drunk so much alcohol that the smell came through his skin." DON HENLEY'S ex-lover LIZA GREER spills the stinking beans.

Second Child Stint

The Album features: Disappear + Crumble + Desire You + Promise + Prove You Wrong

IN STORES JUNE

