

OASIS SOAP OPERA

The Gallagher brothers, small guys with attitude, have returned to England after walking out on their USA tour and cancelling their Pacific tour. In Australia alone, 80,000 tickets were refunded.

But whether there's a crisis in the brotherly love stakes or whether the pressure of touring has made them both spit the dummy, is not at all clear.

When questioned by reporters in Chicago before their first USA gig Noel was understanding when facing Liam's absence, "You have to support people when they're going through a personal crisis. So, no, I don't feel like slapping him."

Media have sort to identify friction between the brothers, painting Patsy Kensit as a Yoko Ono like figure seeking to destroy Oasis and stories highlight the difference in the Gallaghers' incomes. Noel as chief songwriter collects 70 percent of Oasis royalties. Does Liam want Noel's money. Does Noel want the attention the singer gets?

With their touring cancelled, Noel has made it possible to achieve his mid-year plan to record a new album in October. Maybe the events of the last few weeks were designed just to clear the Gallaghers' calendar of unwanted commitments.

• **August 24 — Liam is Unplugged for MTV Unplugged** at Festival Hall, London. Liam loses it, hunched in a corner, in a foetal position, crying. Once he regained his composure, Liam refused to go on stage. Noel took over the vocals but MTV do not plan to screen the million dollar production. *NME* found such phrases as "half-cocked" and "debacle" to describe the churlish event.

• **August 26 — Liam does not board plane to Chicago**, leaving Heathrow Airport 15 minutes before the plane's departure to go flat hunting with girlfriend Patsy Kensit. A UK tabloid read, "PATSY'S GOT HIM BY THE WONDERBALLS."

• **August 27 — Liam-less Oasis play Chicago**. The large signs outside the venue read, "Liam Gallagher is ill and will not perform this evening. Noel Gallagher, song-writer & guitarist/vocalist will be performing all vocals & show will go on. Should you wish a refund, do not enter the building. Return your full untorn ticket to the point of purchase."

• **August 29 — Liam rejoins the Oasis tour in Detroit**. He performs the following night just outside Detroit, then it's on the road, next stop is a Festival near Toronto with Screaming Trees, Gin Blossoms and Neil Young headlining over Oasis.

• **September 4 — Oasis play MTV Music Awards in New York**. Performing 'Champagne Supernova', Liam spat, added "up yer bum" to the lyric and threw a beer can into the audience. There was booing when the song ended. He told a journalist "They're all here for one reason, to see the greatest rock 'n' roll band in the world."

• **September 12 — Noel returned to London looking shagged**. An official statement said the cancellation of the tour was a decision, "taken solely by Noel Gallagher on behalf of his four friends."

1 liners

English police intercepted a sulphuric acid bomb sent to **Bjork**. They were tipped off by USA police after the sender committed suicide ... **Snoop Doggy Dog** has made an out-of-court settlement to the family of the man he was acquitted of murdering. Snoop's new album *The Dogfather* will be released in November ... **Evan Dando** has told *NME* that his father and sister "ordered an intervention", forcing him into rehab after his return from Sydney mid-1995 ... the **ENIT** Festival tour run by **Perry Farrell** has been cut from 15 concerts to four stops, due to problems staging the unorthodox event and the loss of acts such as **Black Grape** and **Love & Rockets**. As well as the live show the Festival incorporated tree-planting and a communal meal ... **Guns N' Roses** are in an LA studio recording an album for release early 1997 ... **U2** plan to release a new single 'Discotheque' in January. During the recording of the album DJ / producer **Howie B** is being spoken of as the "fifth member" of the band ... **OMC** single 'How Bizarre' has hit No.1 in Ireland and now sold over 500,000 copies worldwide. Expect a new NZ single 'Land of Plenty' late October. In Australia and the UK the next single is 'On the Run' ... **Everclear** have recorded the **Smiths'** 'How Soon Is Now?' for a benefit album for LA club Jabberjaw ... **John Lydon** walked out on a USA MTV interview after he didn't like **Kurt Loder's** questions ... **Morrissey** has signed to the Mercury label ... **Blur** are

recording a new album in Iceland with producer **Stephen Street** ... **Elvis Costello** told LA media that his current tour with the **Attractions**, may be his last tour. Under the name "The Imposter", Costello has remixed **Tricky's** new single 'Christiansands'. **Tricky's** forthcoming album *Pre-Millennium* was recorded two years ago at Grove Studios in Jamaica ... guests on the new **Jon Spencer Blues Explosion** album *Now I Got Worry* include Memphis soul legend **Rufus Thomas** and Beastie Boys man **Money Mark** ... **Dead Flowers** have recorded a new single 'You Drink the Water, I'll Drink the Wine' at Sydney's Darling Harbour Studio, with producer **Robbie Rowlands** who recently did the **Head Like A Hole** album ... old-skool rapper **Schoolly D** is recording a new album in New York assisted by **Chuck D** ... **Paul McCartney** has collaborated with **Allen Ginsberg** to record a version of poet's 'Ballad of the Skeletons' ... the **Rolling Stones** movie *Rock & Roll Circus*, that was shelved nearly 30 years ago, will now be released on video ... **Filter** are releasing a 60 min video *Filter, Phenomenology, 1,137 Days on the Short Bus* with four live tracks, interviews, doco and two videos ... finally, a charity music biz golf tournament entitled *Fairway to Heaven* takes place this month in Las Vegas with REM's **Mike Mills** and **Bill Berry**, members of **Hottie & the Blowfish**, **Alice Copper** and **Richie Sambora**.

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THE NEW ALBUM
features the single
CORNBAG
plus
BEIGE OVERALLS FOR THE TRADESMAN
and
JELLYBAG

Fri Oct 4	MASSEYON Barridges
Thu Oct 10	WELLINGTON Victoria Uni
Fri Oct 11	CHRISTCHURCH Warners Hotel
Sat Oct 12	QUEENSTOWN Lava Lounge
Sun Oct 13	DUNEDIN Crown Hotel
Thu Oct 17	WANGANUI The Quay
Fri Oct 18	OHAKUNE Hot Lava
Sat Oct 19	PALMERSTON NORTH The Albert
Thu Oct 24	NEW PLYMOUTH The Mill
Fri Oct 26	HAMILTON Wailing Bongo, Waikato Uni
Sat Oct 26	OPOTIKI New Opotiki Hotel
Thu Oct 31	MT MAUNGANDI The Roadhouse
Fri Nov 1	AUCKLAND Powerstation
Sat Nov 2	TUTUKAKA Tutukaka Hotel

WILD side
BMC