



### Vatican City fuzz collar Father Guido Sarducci

I don't know what their problem was," grouched Father Guido Sarducci, after Vatican City police arrested the ersatz padre for impersonating a priest and taking photographs inside the holy city's confines without an official okay. Sarducci — whose wife calls him Don Novello — was collared by plainclothes Vatican authorities ("They must have had their Swiss

*Sarducci-Novello moments before his arrest*

Guard uniforms on underneath their suits; they looked kind of bulky") while getting his picture taken outside the offices of *LOsservatore Romano*, where the garrulous Guido purportedly toiled as a gossip columnist. That began a trek to no fewer than four different police stations, where Novello filled out form after form ("They took my hat and cape as evidence") before winning his freedom seven hours later. Sarducci was said to be recovering from the incident at the Capri home of Monsignor Fritz DeGrasso and planned to take his Shrine-mobile to Saudi Arabia and Salt Lake City, "where I want to be arrested for impersonating an Osmond."



### Which one of you is Mr. Clash?

*Multitone-baired Tom Snyder drew kudos for his parade of rock & roll guests, including the Clash (above, with teddy bear), the Jam and Elvis Costella. But by year's end, Tom and his eyebrows had fallen to the ratings scythe.*

### PR man warns acts: beware of your fans

In the wake of John Lennon's murder and John Hinckley Jr.'s Jodie Foster fixation, top press agent Paul Wasserman, whose clients include Linda Ronstadt, Michael Jackson and the Rolling Stones, offered his charges some stern counsel on artist-audience relationships. "I always say, 'Don't look people straight in the eye. Try to look straight ahead, because they're gonna be imagining that you're looking just at them, and that's gonna fan whatever fantasies these people have.'" As for letters and gifts: "Never, even if somebody gets something backstage to you, acknowledge anything." What of the normal fan who just wants to have some contact with his or her idol? "That's just the problem," Wasso noted. "You can't tell who's what. So you try to be as cool and indifferent as you possibly can."



*Dimples: he loves ladies.*

### She's got papers, he's got a hit

I'm a feminist. I loooove ladies," declared Richard "Dimples" Fields, who staunchly defended his controversial black-oriented-radio hit single, "She's Got Papers on Me." The song was attacked for what its detractors called its negative stereotypes of a shiftless, unemployed male and a domineering female. "The same people who say this is [only] a black situation are the same people who don't like *Amos n' Andy*. That show was funnier than hell. Black people aren't totally like that, but neither are they like *The Jeffersons*."

### Clifton kitsch earns fans' pans

Andy Kaufman cinched his guerrilla-comic status during a three-night stand at San Francisco's Warfield Theatre. Appearing in tacky tux and shades as Tony Clifton, the world's most obnoxious lounge singer, Kaufman murdered "I Left My Heart in San

Francisco" and other hits from the Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Perry Como songbooks — to a storm of booing and screaming — and traded insults with



*Kaufman with fiancée Kathie Sullivan*

### Old faces and close encounters

Nary a peep was heard from some rock titans this year. Graham Parker, though concertless in 1981, was in the studio by late summer with Jack Douglas and a collection of New York studio vets. Douglas described Parker's new material as "more R&B" than past efforts. ... Don Henley gave aural aid and comfort to Joni Mitchell's new LP, said to have a *Court and Spark* sound. ... Levon Helm cheerily announced that he was "taping up and coming back into the ball game" with a new album recorded in Muscle Shoals with the Cate Brothers. ... Stephen Stills and Graham Nash teamed up for a

new releas. "It's a brand new thing," exclaimed Nash, presumably with a straight face. Why no Crosby? "David was being diffi-

*Bruce, groom Weinberg, Clemons and bride Becky Shick (from left) at the drummer's wedding*



cult about certain things."

Those wedding bells were breaking up that old gang of Bruce Springsteen's this year. E-Streeters who tied the knot in 1981 included Max Weinberg, Danny Federici, Roy Bittan and Clarence Clemons, who wedded his Swedish bride on the edge of a volcano outside Honolulu. ... Mike Love was married to Catherine Linda Martinez by the "Reverend" Wolfman Jack. ... Jackson Browne and Lynne Sweeney made it official and expect a baby before long, as do the Tom Pettys. ... And Donna Summer and Bruce Sudano shared production credits on Brook Lyn, a bouncy daughter.

the audience. When one man unwisely claimed to be a talent scout from ROLLING STONE, Kaufman-Clifton growled, "Fuck you, punk. Ain't no magazine that got talent scouts. I been in the business long enough to know that." By the engagement's end, Clifton had taken to wearing a hard hat, apples were no longer for sale in the hall's lobby, and a net had been erected to intercept any other potential projectiles. "I tried very hard to understand and appreciate Clifton's show," said promoter Bill Graham, "and I couldn't. But the bar did a great business." )

# In the News, 1981

As is his custom, **ELVIS COSTELLO** released two albums in the same year: the sunnier-than-usual 'Trust' and the country-c3-western outing 'Almost Blue.' Touring with Squeeze on the heels of 'Trust,' Costello was ingratiating, funny and relaxed, a far cry from his original image as New Wave's psychic terrorist.



At first it looked as if it was going to be a bad year for **BOB DYLAN**. His LP, 'Shot of Love,' was a disappointment on the charts and on the radio, and his single, "Heart of Mine," fared likewise. But Dylan pressed on, playing Europe and launching a U.S. tour in the fall, and word from the road was good. Then, when the B side of the single—"The Groom's Still Waiting at the Altar," a totally unanticipated blast of 'Blonde' on Blonde'-style blues-rock—began getting heavy FM airplay, CBS hurriedly made plans to add it to the LP, and longtime fans sighed with relief. The message, obvious by now, bears repeating: Bob Dylan can never be counted out.



Who would've guessed that a fourteen-year-old, journeyman rock-c3-roll band from Champaign, Illinois, would wind up recording the best-selling LP of 1981? Probably not even the members of **REO SPEEDWAGON**, but that group's 'Hi Infidelity' LP, released late last November, sold more than 6 million copies in the U.S., becoming the second-best-selling LP in CBS Records' history.



The Jacksons released 'Triumph,' their first album since **MICHAEL JACKSON**'s solo disc, 'Off the Wall.' Despite the hit singles "Lovely One" and "Heartbreak Hotel," 'Triumph' wasn't the runaway success that Michael's solo outing was, with its four Top Ten singles and sales in the millions. Material from that album figured prominently in the band's summer and fall tour, but near the end, however, Michael (shown with Liza Minnelli) said it may be his last tour with the group.



**CARLY SIMON** told **ROLLING STONE** of her separation and likely divorce from James Taylor, her husband of nearly ten years, following some two years of on-and-off estrangement. The announcement coincided with the release of 'Torch,' an appropriately bittersweet collection of torch songs by Hoagy Carmichael, Duke Ellington, Rodgers and Hart and Simon herself. The LP drew critical raves.



To the surprise of almost everyone, 'Arc of a Diver,' **STEVE WINWOOD**'s first album in more than three years, shot up into the Top Ten early in the year and wound up selling more than a million copies. In interviews, Winwood promised that he'd put a band together and tour, but that never happened. Instead, the reclusive star spent most of 1981 at home in England, recording a new LP that should be out early next year.



"It's hard to be a fairy princess fifty percent of the time," admitted **STEVIE NICKS**. "I like my real self better." The Fleetwood Mac vocalist-cum-space angel teamed up with producer Jimmy Iovine for 'Bella Donna,' an LP that showcased her rough-edged alto and dreamy compositions to splendid and successful advantage. Other Macsters who stepped out alone this year were Lindsey Buckingham, who got to try out some of his wackier aural notions on 'Law and Order'; Mick Fleetwood, who trekked to Ghana to record 'The Visitor'; and John McVie, who was glad to step out, period, from a cocaine-and-firearms rap, after passing a battery of lie-detector tests. Late in the year, the band laid down a gaggle of tracks at Le Chateau outside Paris for the next Fleetwood Mac album.



**THE CLASH** kicked off the year by releasing a sprawling three-record set, 'Sandinista!' Then the group announced that it would play eight shows in June at Bond's nightclub in New York City, an event that turned out to be anything but smooth sailing for the band. Some of the scheduled English opening acts couldn't get out of that country because of a strike; one of the black opening acts was pelted with debris by an impatient audience; performances of some new songs were, in singer Joe Strummer's words, "terrible"; and the group had to add a second week of concerts when fire marshals discovered that the club had sold too many tickets.