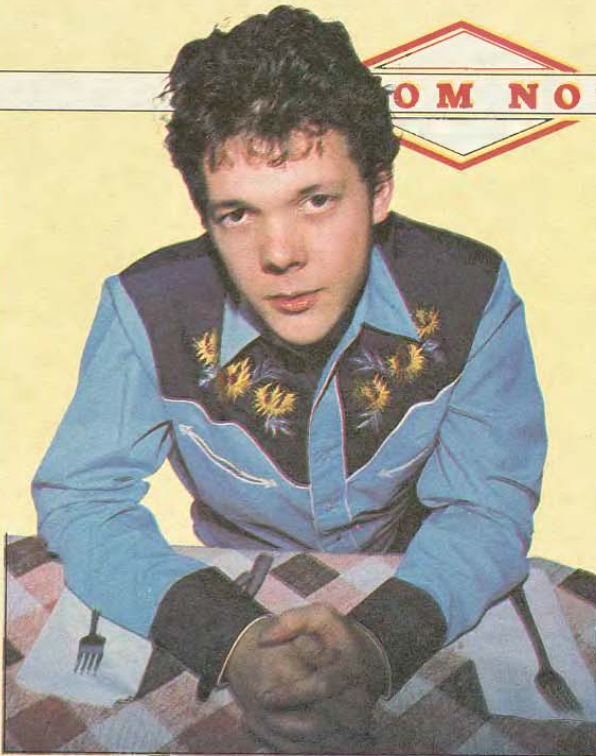


## Forbert faces the crossroads

**W**ith the release of his eponymously titled fourth LP, Steve Forbert is facing a bit of a mid-career crisis. "It's a crossroads, I think," says the singer/songwriter from Meridian, Mississippi, whose acoustic strumming and crisp voice powered such hits as "Goin' Down to Laurel" and "Romeo's Tune," but whose last album, *Little Stevie Orbit*, was a critical and commercial flop. "Although we've worked hard on this record and are happy with it, you just never know what'll happen."

On *Steve Forbert*, the singer eschews the naif-in-New-York topics of his previous efforts — "I can't tell that story anymore; you're only new in the city once" — and discusses instead the pressures of abrupt acclaim. "You kinda find out what it's worth after a while," Forbert says. "If your first record does really well, you can get overconfident, and you think maybe you know what you're doing. And anytime you know that, you'd better stop. To be honest, I had to stop after the third one; I think at that



point I saw what I might have seen earlier."

Forbert hopes that the new LP's fuller orchestrations will finally put an end to the New Dylan hype that's dogged him ever since he emerged from the Greenwich Village folk scene in 1978. "I always hated it," he says of the label, "and I still do." And what

### Forbert in New York

of New York's legendary spawning ground? "I still say Greenwich Village is the place to get started. But I don't know what it'd be like today. You don't see anybody playing acoustic guitar anymore."

## Clash drummer bolts the band

**I**wanted to prove to myself that I was alive," said Joe Strummer, explaining his three-week disappearance that forced the Clash to cancel their British tour. "Rather than go mad, I just went to Paris." Less than a week after Strummer's resurfacing, drummer Topper Headon left the group for good. "I think the Clash is the greatest," said Headon, "but the band is more than just music. I agree with their political stance, but I didn't enjoy living with it twenty-four hours a day."

Vowing to carry on as a trio — they kicked off their U.S. tour in Asbury Park — the Clash's next rallying cry, meanwhile, could be, "You've heard the music — now wear the clothes!" Alex Michon, who has designed the group's garb since 1977, hopes to mass-market Clash Clothing in America later this year. What's the difference between Clash Clothing and, say, a Journey T-shirt? "The difference is where we're coming from. We're gonna try to do the same thing the group is gonna try to do."

Which, as Headon notes, can be pretty amorphous. "It's all well and good to put out triple albums and do lots of things for free so the band doesn't earn any money. But a lot of kids feel that if we can't earn any money, who can?"



**A hungry couple:** Deneuve and David Bowie pose in filming *'The Hunger.'* Tony Scott

## Shatner's 'Trek'

**W**e touch all the bases," says William Shatner of *Star Trek II: the Wrath of Khan*. The *Enterprise's* captain states that the second big-screen treatment of the popular TV show deals with a number of

### The Go-Go's will release their new LP in July.

toe-tapper, "Cool Jerk."

With the album's title track out as a single, America's sweethearts have hit the road, carrying with them some spiffy notions for *Vacation* tour merchandise. "We want to sell suntan oil, beach towels and stupid sun hats," explains guitarist Jane Wiedlin. Adds singer Belinda Carlisle: "Our T-shirts will say DON'T BOTHER ME, I'M ON VACATION. We'll point to them when people want interviews and stuff." After hitting the likes of the Hollywood Bowl and Madison Square Garden, the group will head for Europe in October.



### Shatner with Leonard Nimoy

themes that hit close to home. "My face is fifteen years older, and that's part of the story — it deals with aging, with life and death." Shatner also feels that *Star Trek II* is far better than its predecessor, *Star Trek: the Motion Picture*. "Nobody was happy with that one. It lacked character development."



## Go-Go's go on 'Vacation'

**N**othing beats a summer vacation. That's what the Go-Go's are hoping: their second LP, *Vacation*, is almost

completed and should be out by the middle of July. Some of the tunes included are "Beatnik Beach," "Worlds Away," "We Don't Get

Along" (a song by bassist Kathy Valentine that's already been recorded by Phil Seymour) and, maybe, a cover of the Capitols'