

DEAD SERIOUS

GOOD NEWS for fans of the exceptionally wonderful Grateful Dead. Veteran guitarist Jerry Garcia has been released from a Californian Hospital after collapsing into a diabetic coma.

Doctors diagnosed acute diabetes, a shock for Garcia, 41, who didn't even know he had the disease—presumably all those chemicals had kept his mind on other matters.

Incidentally, while the cat was away the mouse played... and my deputy Rosalind Russell described the Dead as "geriatric rockers." I am considering retaliation in the form of making her listen to Dark Star 20 times non-stop, an awesome task for even the most dedicated Dead Head.



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PETER HOLT

REDS TAPED

STAND BY for Russian rock. The first ever collection of tracks from Soviet bands will be available here soon.

They appear on Red Wave, a double album on the Hollywood-based independent label Big Time. The LP features cuts smuggled out of the USSR from four "unofficial" Russian bands.

Each group has six songs on the album, all of which were recorded over the last five years.

Because none of them officially exists, they can't record for the Soviet state-owned label Melody.

The woman behind Red Wave is Joanna Sturway, a Los Angeles singer-songwriter who first began collecting tapes from Leningrad's thriving underground rock scene when she visited Russia two years ago.

Joanna says she was spurred on to get the LP released after seeing "official" Russian rock outfit Autograph perform at Live Aid last year.

"They were so boring," she explains. "I wanted to show that Russians are like everyone else, and that rock 'n' roll is the same everywhere."

"I'm going to try to channel any profits the album makes back to the musicians themselves."

"At the moment they have to record on two-track or at best eight-track machines. They either inherit gear left behind by foreign bands or buy things on the black market."



LONDONER Catrina Lee wasn't even born when the Beatles had a hit with Here You Come. That was in 1962.

Now 17-year-old Catrina, who lives in Kent with her parents, hopes for a hit with her version of the song. Former Corona stage school student Catrina, granddaughter of the late band leader, Bob Hilton, has recently finished a four-month stint in Australia working with Rod Hull and Emu. But she's also an old hand at television adverts.

"I appeared in ads for Kikkal, Smarties and Citroen," Catrina tells me. "But the most memorable was for Jaffa Cakes. It was great at the beginning of the day, but after I'd eaten about 50, I never wanted to see one again."

STIFF UPPER LP?

UPON hearing the news that their record company Stiff is in financial difficulties, Irish rubble-rovers The Pogues have responded in a way unique to the rock business. They're gone on strike.

"At the moment no one knows what's going on, there's a

PRINCE'S PURPLE PARTY

PRINCE is planning to take over Britain's favourite—and grubbier—rock club, the Marquee in Soho, for parties after his three Wembley Arena gigs next week.

However, it's not as simple as that. The purple poseur has demanded that inside be painted purple for the occasion.

"We've been approached, but nobody's confirmed yet," confirms Marquee boss Jack Barry. "There has been a request to have the Marquee painted purple, but we would only agree to that on condition the club was returned to its usual low standard immediately afterwards..."



PRINCE: a treat after the gigs.

MICKEY TAKING?

PLANS for a new television series from the reunited Monkees (God forbid!) have fallen flat.

Columbia Pictures TV, the company which owns the rights to the original Sixties show, have refused to grant Toric, Jones and Dolenz (Mike NeSmith declined the invitation to the reunion) the use of the Monkees name for television.

Instead, they are taking the ghostly step of bringing the original producer out of re-

irement to supervise a show called The New Monkees, and auditions are underway to find a new, young quartet.

Which has moved Mickey Dolenz to remark: "That's the dumbest idea I've heard in all my life."

"They think all they've got to do is get four guys and call them The New Monkees and they'll be just as big as we were. It's ludicrous, stupid, if that was the case I'd have done it myself."

The re-formed Monkees, who are touring the States, are back in the U.S. chats with their single That Was Then, This Is Now.

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