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Punts were best in Rock Room reprise

By TOM HARRISON
Province Music Critic

THIS WEEK

Although the group was ill-suited to last weekend's Gang Of Four concert at the Commodore, San Francisco's Punts made the best of their two nights at Gary Taylor's Rock Room.

The Punts are an intelligent and inventive pop-rock group whose first single, Shelly's Boyfriend, on Bondage Records puts a few new wrinkles in a familiar musical and lyrical theme. Fronted by Bonnie Hayes, who also happens to be a great dancer, the band's dates at the Rock Room went unnoticed for the most part, but should The Punts return they're worth a listen.

Pat Benatar's meteoric rise can best be described by her three appearances here. The first was a Cheap Thrills, budget-priced concert at the SUB Ballroom, which was witnessed by approximately 400 people. The second was 2,700-seat sell-out six months later in August at the Orpheum Theatre.

The third time in this Sunday at the Coliseum playing for an audience estimated at 12,000.

Opening for Benatar will be Billy Squier, whose second LP, *Don't Say No*, is just beginning to break via the single, The Stroke. Squier's background is as a mainstream hard rocker who first appeared on vinyl in the band Piper (two LPs on A&M), which was a mixed bag of light pop-rock and heavier material.

Squier's solo LPs have concentrated on the latter and according to Squier, that's the direction he wants to follow.

THIS WEEKEND

Sea Festival entertainment at Sunset Beach begins at 4 p.m. today with the Mulberry Street Jazz Band, followed by Skywalk and Bill Sample and Friends.

So if you're not at the Sea Festival and not at the Folk Festival, where are you?

Maybe at the Commodore. Doug and The Slugs are there tonight and Saturday, previewing material from their forthcoming album with David Raven and The Escorts opening tonight and Shari Ulrich tomorrow.

Or at the Gregory Isaacs concert at the Kerrisdale Arena, Saturday. Isaacs is a longtime veteran of Jamaica's reggae scene whose only previous exposure here was in the movie, *Rockers*.

Isaacs hit singles and LPs are numerous and reflect the several developments of reggae in the past decade from its transition from pop-based rock steady into Rastafarian consciousness. An early compilation LP, *The Best Of Gregory Isaacs*, shows him off primarily as a romantic soul balladeer to a light reggae beat, although his music has become progressively harder.

Also featured on the bill are would-be rockabillies Dale Hickey and The Hickorys plus the Truth And Rights Sound System.

—Greg Oaschuk photo

GREGORY ISAACS

Also up for weekend are Squier and Pat Benatar at the Coliseum Sunday and Ian McCoubrey with Lighter Than Air Sunday at the Brackendale Gallery near Squamish.

AT THE CLUBS

Piano great Jay McShann at the Anchor, Jim Byrnes Band at Rohans, David Raven and The Escorts finish the week at the Savoy before heading off on a Canadian tour, Dido and The Hand People (tonight) and the Soo Sauda Dance Troupe (tomorrow) at Soft Rock, Johnny Faith at the Lone Star Hotel, Brandon Wolf and Perris at Bronco's, Rhythm And Blues All Stars at the Town Pump, Bowser Moon at Gators, The Wires at the Zodiac, James Younger Band at Gamblers.

CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The fifth band confirmed for August 2nd's massive Summer Sunday Show at Empire Stadium is The Rockets, who likely will kick off the bill followed by Blue Oyster Cult, Loverboy, Ted Nugent and Heart. By late Thursday, ticket sales had reached the 8000 level.

Otherwise: Badaz Jazz, a lengthy showcase of Vancouver jazz talent at Vancouver Arts Club on Granville, July 26; David Sereda and Holly Arntzen, also July 26, at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre; Split Enz at the Kerrisdale Arena with Walter Zwol, August 11; Juice Newton at the Commodore, August 18.

Lots of acts in the clubs next week to pique interest. These include Hi Fi, a band led by Ian Matthews (formerly of Fairport Convention; Matthews Southern Comfort and a lengthy solo career) and David Surkamp (leader of Pavlov's Dog). Hi Fi is Seattle-based and is getting plenty of hype in that town at the moment. The band is at Bronco's July 21-25th.

Colin Linden, a Toronto-based guitarist with an LP on Ready Records, also has had plenty of strong advance press. He'll be at the Savoy. Bluegrass's Fiction Brothers are at Soft Rock Monday, followed Tuesday by one of the most respected artists in the Texas folk-country circuit, Townes Van Zandt. The Kings are featured Monday at Gators' live broadcast and Tuesday share a double bill with The Cry at the Commodore.

ENTERTAINMENT

Folk Music Festival for today, Saturday:

EVENING CONCERT SCHEDULE
FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1981

6 p.m. — Ra Cohen(folk), The Flying Karamazov Brothers; Holly Arntzen and Vancouver's Finest; Peter Alsop, Natasha Alyn; Ken Bloom; Frankie Armstrong, Roy Bailey and Leon Rosselson; Connie Kaldor; Hot Rize.

Schedule subject to change without notice. Evening concerts end at 11 p.m.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1981

10 a.m. — Stage One — Stringing You Along: Duck Donald Band, Duck Donald (host); Alex Kepler Group; The Harmony Sisters; Jayda Benoit Group.
Stage Two — Sing Out Loud, Sat Tell a Story: Martin Carthy; Mary Christ (host); Jim Post; Tamsin Van Esch.
Stage Three — Listen to the Voices of the Women: Frankie Armstrong; Joanna Cazden; Meg Christian; Hazel Dickens; Sweet Honey in the Rock, Bernice Reagon (host).
Stage Four — Recite Rhyme: Bob Carlin; Phil Cotton; Stefan Grossman; Henry Sapoznik (host); Peter Wernick.
Stage Five — How the West was Worked — Songs of Cowboys, Miners, Gamblers, Rounders: Debby McClatchy; Utah Phillips (host); Faith Petric; Jim Singer.

11 a.m. — Stage Two — How to Plat Pick the Guitar: Charles Sawtelle; Alan Sonnenfeld.
Stage Four — Songs Inspired by Places I've Been — or Would Like To Go: Mary McCaslin; Jim Post; Jane Sapp; David Sereda (host); Eric van Schmidt.
Stage Five — Diamantine: An Introduction.

11:30 a.m. — Stage One — Parents' Songs: Peter Alsop; Terry Garthwaite; Utah Phillips; Rosalie Sorrels (host).
Stage Two — Music of Appalachia: Guy Carawan (host); Hazel Dickens; Sarah Ogan Gunning; Anne Romaine.
Stage Three — Mandolin Manoeuvres: Louis Benoit; Duck Donald; David Essig; Alex Kepler; Jayda Benoit (host).
Stage Five — I Play the Fiddle: David Brody; Alice Gerrard; Tim O'Brien; Tom McCreesh (host).

12 noon — Stage Four — I'll Tell You a Story: Bobbie Louise Hawkins (host); Joe Heaney.

12:30 p.m. — Stage One — Elizabeth Cotten.
Stage Two — More Love Songs for New Times: Peter Alsop (host); Joanna Cazden; Meg Christian; Connie Kaldor; David Sereda.
Stage Three — Music as an organizing Tool — The Voices of Experience: Guy Carawan; Si Kahn (host); Bernice Reagon; Anne Romaine.
Stage Four — Songs from the Printed Word: Tanya Barnwell; Priscilla Herdman; Debby McClatchy (host); Leon Rosselson.
Stage Five — The Pipes: Grier Coppins; Alex Fraser; Carl Finlay; Ian Gouldhawke; Duncan McGillivray; Joe McKenna; Patrick O'Gorman (host).

1:30 p.m. — Stage One — French Music from New World and Old: Jeanne McCrorie-Duell; The Harmony Sisters; Rolande Alyn; The Cabarfeidh.
Stage Two — Blues and Ragtime as I Learned It: Martin Carthy; Hazel Dickens (host).
Stage Three — Ethnomusicology (8): Ken Bloom; Randy Raine-Reusch.
Stage Four — Ballads and Barrels: Terry Garthwaite and Bobbie Louise Hawkins.
Stage Five — To Holmes' Say Bailey: Faith Petric; Utah Phillips; Jim Post; Leon Rosselson (host).

2 p.m. — Stage Three — Priscilla Herdman.

2:30 p.m. — Stage One — The Old Time New Age Chautauqua — Featuring The Flying Karamazov Brothers; Wear And Tear(ds) Vaudeville; Lavender Jim Unionin and Two Dozen; Other Acts Yet to Be Announced: Jugglers, Clowns, Magicians, Puppeteers, Educators, and Healers.
Stage Two — Them Double Blues: Music from Eastern Europe: Tamsin Agnostou; Ken Bloom (host); Alex Kepler Group; Kapelye; Lavender; Antoniya Pelesko; Nicolas Tsiapas.
Stage Three — Old Fashioned Country Duets: Jayda Benoit; Jim Post; Jane Sapp; Bernice Tom James; Fiddler Brothers; Jim Singer and Mary McCaslin.
Stage Four — From Sea to Shining Sea: Holly Arntzen; Heather Bishop; Connie Kaldor; Mariposa Alyn; Paul Pure; Rick Scott (host); Nancy Wade.
Stage Five — Songs About Work and Workers: Ken Bloom; Bob Fish; Gaye Gunning; D Kahn; Lee Kilbey; Utah Phillips.

3:30 p.m. — Stage Three — Joe and Antoinette McKenna.
Stage Five — Dorsey Van Esch.

4 p.m. — Stage One — Celebration of Poems of Herbert Brody: Frankie Armstrong (host); Lane Bennett; Dave Van Esch.
Stage Two — Ballads Wide.
Stage Four — Surviving Sound Images or Self Help for the 80's: Walt Michael (host); Peter Alsop; Meg Christian; Vera Johnson; D Kahn.
Stage Five — Guitar Tuning: Rice; Dave Van Esch; Fiddler Brothers; Jim Singer.

4:30 p.m. — Stage Three — Voice in Harmony: The Harmony Sisters; Lavender, Annabel Gwenn (host); Marla Carthy and the Waterson; Sweet Honey in the Rock.

5 p.m. — Stage Four — Jazz's Blues: Holly Arntzen; Heather Bishop (host); Terry Garthwaite; Jane Sapp.
Stage Four — Hungrown and Old Timey Jam Session: Walt Michael (host); Dance All Night; Fiddler Brothers; Bob Rice; Michael McCreesh & Company.
Stage Five — La Musica De America Latin: The Cabarfeidh; Andre Alarcon; Contemporaria; Salsa; Edmond Jackson (host); Venezuelan Ja.

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Reader's Folk Music Festival schedule to appear in Reader's Magazine.

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