



## Rock Show

### T-A staff debates the US Festival

By Kevin Brass

**R**ecently, the newsroom of the Times-Advocate became embroiled in a serious debate. It was not about sewer districts. Rather it concerned whether some of the younger staff members should risk a trip to this weekend's **US Festival** at **Glen Helen Regional Park** in San Bernardino.

At least two were set to go. This prompted others to reach into their souls and ask: Do I want to frolic with 200,000 drunken rock 'n' roll fans? Most quickly answered no, and went about finding better things to do over the long Memorial Day weekend. A quick look at the schedule, however, made others think twice about the three day-festival. That is when the argument really heated up.

There were those tempted to go on the first day, Saturday, which features the Clash, Men at Work, Stray Cats

and Wall of Voodoo. Others, including this writer, felt Monday's lineup — headlined by David Bowie — would be worth braving the throngs of people, heat and congestion. (To the newsroom's credit, there was not a single vote for the heavy metal day, Sunday, with Van Halen, Scorpions, Triumph and a host of other head-bangers.)

Saturday certainly is an interesting lineup, with English Beat, Oingo Boingo and INXS also on the bill, but, except for **Clash** and Men at Work, none of the other groups is headline quality. The English Beat, Wall of Voodoo and even Stray Cats are groups worth seeing. But all can be enjoyed at smaller venues.

On the other hand, Monday's lineup is full of stars: Stevie Nicks, the Pretenders, Missing Persons, U2, Berlin and Quarterflash, among others. It will be a rare opportunity to see Bowie months before he starts his American tour, and the Pretenders, a different group after the deaths of guitar player James Honeyman-Scott and bassist Pete Farndon (who left the group the day before Honeyman-Scott died). As long as one might be able to put up with Johnny Cougar for 45 minutes, Monday appears to be the day to go.

Of course, the debate was only for academic purposes. Everyone involved soon realized that no matter what the lineup, it would not be worth the hassles. The US Festival must be the best concert money can produce — complete with a full-blown technology fair — but communing with 200,000 people

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## US '83: 'It is



Associated Press Photo

US Festival organizer Steve Wozniak mows a section of grass recently at the site of the fest in Glen Helen Park in Devore. It will run through the weekend and on Sunday, June 5.

## Bowie dons his own face

By Lynn Van Matre  
The Chicago Tribune

**A**fter turns as the spacey Major Tom, glam-rocker Ziggy Stardust, the crooning Thin White Duke and a few other performing personas, David Bowie is calling it quits with characters. No more musical facades for rock's chameleon, a musician whose 17-year career has found him — as his song, "Changes," put it — relentlessly ever ready to "turn and face the strange."

And what a long, strange trip it has been. Since changing his name from Jones to Bowie in the middle 1960s (to avoid confusion with Davy Jones of the Monkees), this one-time commercial artist has: achieved mass success as alien rocker Ziggy Stardust; pushed on into rhythm and blues and disco — and, unlike most of his fellow rock stars, managed to make a credible transition to the stage and films. The last half-dozen years, in fact, have seen Bowie realize the "Renaissance

Man" ambitions of his youth, combining recording with roles in the play "The Elephant Man" and several movies.

Right now, his finely drawn profile — topped by a shock of newly blonded hair — is higher than ever. "The Hun-

"I am an extraordinarily private person, and I think that probably gave birth to the radically extreme characterizations I adopted when I decided to push forward the songs I was writing.

ger," a haute horror film in which he ages hundreds of years in a period of several days, just opened to mixed reviews, though nearly everyone agrees



# awesome'

By Ray Richmond  
T-A California News Service

**A**pple Computers mogul **Steve Wozniak** is back with another rock music festival designed to unite all in song and technology, and as he says on a television commercial, "It is awesome."

So he says, anyway.

More music, more grass (the lawn kind) and less heat and smog are expected for the second "Event of the '80s," US '83, which unfolds over Memorial Day weekend at **Glen Helen Park in Devore**. The gates will open daily at 10 a.m., and the event will take place from noon to midnight on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The best in new music, heavy metal and rock 'n' roll will be on display alongside the latest in computers and video.

The first US over Labor Day weekend last year succeed in spite of clashes between promoter Bill Graham and employees of UNUSON, the Wozniak-created corporation that produced the festival.

It worked in defiance of sweltering temperatures that exceeded 100 degrees each day. The mercury crept as high as 110 a few times.

Indeed, staying cool was as high a priority as hearing the music. Squirt bottles filled with water were the rage. Perfect strangers thought nothing of coming up and zapping you in the face with a few good splashes. And you were grateful for it. Prestige was measured by the number of plastic containers you possessed and the amount of liquid in them. Water cannons also plodded around the 500-acre festival site, spraying the sweltering hordes day and night.

But now we have another festival and another season. The first one closed out a hot summer. No. 2 falls in a cool, wet spring, and temperatures are expected to be a comfortable 75 to 85 degrees. Rain is the only fear.

Anyway, those who will be traveling

to US should have a somewhat different set of needs than the last group.

Last year's survival kit would have included a sun visor, sunglasses, spray bottle, canteen, T-shirt, shorts, sneakers, sleeping bag, ground cover and flashlight. You can probably leave the spray bottle at home this time — and take a sweater and rain hat, just in case.

The best in new music, heavy metal and rock 'n' roll will be on display alongside the state of the art in computers and video.

Folks traveling to this year's festival near San Bernardino are urged to leave just about everything else at home, everything else meaning drugs, alcohol, bottles, cans or food. No thermoses or coolers, either. Those toting in food and drinks are being asked to limit their provisions to day-pack size containers.

Food will be one of the improvements in this year's festival, promises merchandising manager Ian McRae. Food was not very important at US 1; it was too hot. Still, there was a decent variety of edibles, everything from hamburgers, hot dogs, tacos and barbecued sandwiches to corn dogs, pizza, fried chicken, nuts, ice cream, fresh fruit and a variety of drinks. Beer and wine were the only alcoholic beverages served.

The alcohol available will once again be limited to beer and wine. There will be three giant beer gardens. The food will include what McRae calls "an excellent international selection. Name a country and we have something from it."

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## for '83 tour

Bowie's makeup is great. ("I spent most of my time," he noted, "being dipped in rubber.")

"Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence," which was hailed at the Cannes Film Festival, in which he plays a British prisoner of war in a Japanese prison camp, is scheduled for release late this year. A new album, a collaboration with Chic's Nile Rodgers entitled "Let's Dance," has just been released; the title track is already a hit single. A concert tour, his first in five years, is due to begin soon after the US Festival — sans glitter. If his life can be divided into periods and packages, today's look is very much David Bowie: After the Glitter is Gone.

Bowie, just-arrived in New York after winding up tour rehearsals in Dallas, laughed. "That's right," he said, in a hoarse voice that threatens to disappear and probably is not helped much by his cigarette habit. "After the



Associated Press Photo



## Harp variety tonight

Harpist Melissa Morgan will perform classical music, folk jazz and original compositions tonight as the Escondido International Folk Concerts series continues at the Mathes Community Cultural Center. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at the center, 247 S. Kalmia Ave., next to the public library. For further information, call 741-4691.

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## •US '83

Continued from page 7

There will also be more concession stands selling food, including 40 scattered throughout the site and another 40 in the International Food Bazaar, says McRae.

If you want T-shirts, buttons and other souvenirs, McRae says that all of them will be easier to procure this time around at approximately 40 stands at the festival site, campgrounds and parking lots.

Handicapped facilities will be doubled this time around, adds McRae, with two large platforms in the festival site's 57-acre concert bowl area. The disabled can also park their cars in a special preferred area, with the press. Concessionaires will be on hand to deliver food to those who may have a difficult time getting around.

Craig Tosher, a senior vice president for UNUSON (short for Unite Us in Song) and a production designer at the site, explains there will be showers and Port-a-Potties aplenty.

The showers, technically called "oases" because they are not true showers (a metal stick coming out of the ground spewing water out the top), will number between 6,000 and 8,000 and be divided into four areas. Two are on the site itself, two in the campgrounds.

But Richard Lewis of Mahoney/Wasserman and Associates, the US Festival '83's public relations firm, warns, "They will probably be cold." More than 2,500 Port-a-Potties are expected to dot the festival site, possibly as many as 3,000. Drinking fountains will also be in good supply.

As a result of the alleged planning, the site will not resemble a dust bowl quite so much as it did last time. The concert viewing area, as well as the entire site, is now covered with grass, says Previte.

The campground area has been leveled and is less lumpy, but you are still advised to bring some sort of cushion unless sleep is not a priority.

Then again, if camping is not your bag and you long for a nice hot shower and warm bed, get on the phone to make a reservation pronto. Hotel rooms near the US site are scarce at this late date.

The Hilton Inn in San Bernardino, approximately 15 to 20 minutes from the site, has been booked completely for months. Ditto for the San Bernardino Holiday Inn. The Travelodge in Colton had a few rooms free early last week because of a group cancellation. Howard Johnson's in Colton also had a few open rooms last week.

See you at US. □

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	Patty Melt.....	\$2.95
	Red Snapper.....	\$3.50
	English Boiled Beef.....	\$3.50
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Tuna Salad Sandwich.....	\$2.75
	B.L.T.....	\$2.75
	Meatball Sandwich.....	\$2.95
	Filet of Sole.....	\$3.50
	Beef Tips Burgundy over Noodles.....	\$3.50
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Corned Beef on Rye.....	\$2.95
	BBQ Beef Sandwich.....	\$2.95
	Tuna Melt.....	\$2.95
	Filet of Cod.....	\$3.50
	Pepper Steak.....	\$4.25
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Grilled Cheese.....	\$2.50
	Turkey Salad Sandwich.....	\$2.75
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	Mahi-Mahi.....	\$3.50
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Tuna Melt.....	\$2.95
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	Fish Sandwich.....	\$2.95
	Fish & Chips.....	\$3.50
	Red Snapper.....	\$3.50
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	Roast Beef Sandwich.....	\$2.95
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	1/2 Baked Chicken.....	\$3.95
	BBQ Beef Ribs.....	\$3.95
	New York Steak.....	\$7.25
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Beef Tips Burgundy over Noodles.....	\$3.95
	Filet of Sole.....	\$3.95
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<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Roast Turkey.....	\$3.95
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	Roast Lamb.....	\$4.50
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<b>THURSDAY</b>	Beef Stew.....	\$3.75
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	Halibut Steak.....	\$5.25
	Top Sirloin Steak.....	\$6.00
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