



Bryan Adams

It's been an... experimental couple of years," says BRYAN ADAMS, who's worked on his forthcoming album with three different producers. The final album, due this fall, is being produced by MUTT LANGE, whose credits include DEF LEPPARD, the CARS and AC/DC. "He's a great singer," says Adams of his producer. "And it's nice for a singer to work with a singer, not to mention that he's got really clever ideas, songwise."

Lange came on board only after Adams had spent time in the studio with STEVE LILLYWHITE and BOB CLEARMOUNTAIN.

"It's been one tumultuous experience after another," says the Canadian

an rocker, who's just turned thirty. "I'm trying lots of new things. After ten years of making records, I wanted to keep challenging myself, and you've got to have fun, that's the key." Fun? "If you can make great rock records and have a laugh, that's the best part about being a musician."

One of the new songs - an "environmental" track - is titled "Don't

Drop That Bomb on Me." Says Adams: "It's about what's happening to the world and how we feel about it. But it's got a sense of humor about it, too, as you can tell by the title, right?"

Eighties nostalgia already? In the preface to his book *U2: The Early Days*, Irish rock critic BILL GRAHAM says the book is "a bio-

RANDOM NOTES

graphical sketch in words and pictures," based on the memories of those who saw U2 in the beginning. (Graham introduced the band to its manager, PAUL MCGUINNESS.)

But even the author admits that the photographs are a more reliable source than certain recollections. As one U2 follower told him, "I can't remember a thing. . . . I was drunk all the time."

Still, for U2 fans, the book is a treasure-trove of anecdotes and photographs from the band's club days, when BONO, the EDGE, a bushy-haired ADAM CLAYTON and a pouty-faced LARRY MULLEN fraternized with the transvestite band the VIRGIN PRUNES, played covers of THIN LIZZY's "Dancing in the Moonlight" and didn't take themselves quite so seriously. Most comical among the photos are a series of ill-fated publicity shots that have (understandably) never before surfaced.



Larry Mullen, the Edge, Adam Clayton and Bono (from left) in the early days

DEBBIE GIBSON claimed that "New Yorkers are the toughest critics in the world." Tell that to *Entertainment Tonight's* JOHN TESH, who was named Best Jazz Instrumentalist of the year at this year's SKC New York Music Awards, held at the Beacon Theater. (Gibson took home three prizes.)

MICHAEL BOLTON - voted Artist of the Year - spoke of his recent songwriting venture with BOB DYLAN.



KEVIN MAZUR

Bolton (left) and Lenny Kravitz

NOTABLE NEWS

MOTLEY CRUE's TOMMY LEE suffered a mild concussion when the rope he used to leap from the sixty-foot-high stage scaffolding failed to stop him just before he hit the floor at the band's New Haven, Connecticut, gig. Lee spent the night in the hospital but resumed touring with the band. (Besides the rappelling stunt, Lee also moons the audience during the show.) . . . MICHAEL JACKSON was honored as Entertainer of the Decade by GEORGE BUSH at the White House. . . . IRON MAIDEN's BRUCE DICKINSON has penned a novel, *The Adventures of Lord Iffy Boatrace*, which will be published in the U.K. next month. This month, CBS Records is releasing Dickinson's first solo album, appropriately titled *First Offense*. . . . FINE YOUNG CANNIBALS' ROLAND GIFT - whose most recent onscreen appearance was in *Scandal* - is making his stage debut as Romeo, in the Hull Truck Company production of *Romeo and Juliet*. The show, which opened in the U.K., will tour the U.S. this summer. . . . DANIEL LANOIS is producing PETER GABRIEL's next album. He worked with Gabriel on *So*.

the Roxy, in Los Angeles, in front of an audience that included TOM PETTY, JEFF LYNNE, BURT REYNOLDS and RANDY TRAVIS. But the woman who helped pen the classic "Stand by Your Man" did fine without the downer.

Wynette is now back in the studio, starting her next album. Lynne has just finished a solo album, *Armchair Theater*, due later this month, featuring pals Petty and GEORGE HARRISON. Word is that Lynne, Petty, Harrison and fellow TRAVELING WIL-

BURY BOB DYLAN will be going out on tour, with no one replacing the late ROY ORBISON.

Jeff Lynne, Ricky Van Shelton, Tammy Wynette, Randy Travis and Tom Petty (from left)

"He liked something of mine he heard on the radio and invited me out," Bolton said. "I think he respects my contemporary songwriting sensibility."

MELODIE GIMPLE



I was so dad-gum nervous backstage, I swear I wished for a Valium the size of a half dollar," says TAMMY WYNETTE, who played at