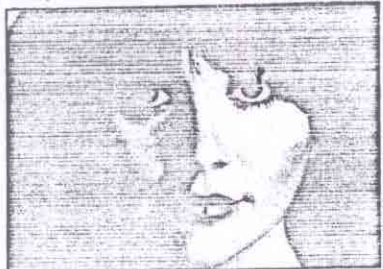




Larry Flynt's Hustler magazine offered Linda Ronstadt and nine other celebs one million beans for a photo spread. The scandal sheets were soon awash with her purported response, "Why not?" Hustler then called her "in good faith," according to a spokesperson. "The money sounded nice, but she didn't want to show her



Linda Ronstadt: high-priced spread.

charms to the world," says Hustler. "No consideration was ever given; the answer was always no," says Linda's manager Peter Asher. Either way, Flynt may need the million along with \$159 million more to pay off a suit by Penthouse publisher Bob Guccione and fiancée Kathy Keaton, Viva editor, who claim a recent caricature of them in Hustler was "lewd, indecent and embarrassing."

Just about everybody in attendance agreed that this year's Cannes Film Festival was one of the most memorable, it stunk so bad. Nevertheless a good time was had by all, owing, perhaps, to the international dope dealers who attended to preview the dope flicks. Village Voice pontificator Howard Smith may have run into one of them: he was late for the showing of his own movie due to torn muscles from uncontrollable sneezing.



Howard Smith: only his nose knows.



Deadheads share joint with Jerry Garcia, Sissy Spacek and John Davidson (right foreground).

Jerry Garcia was signing wet cocktail napkins, shirt sleeves, unclothed arms and open palms at the New York party for the opening of *The Grateful Dead Movie*. Between autographs, he passed around joints to other members of his band, all of

whom were in attendance except for bassist Phil Lesh who stayed behind in California. Also at the bash were the Dead's co-stars in the flick, the Hell's Angels, hobnobbing with the press, promo-people and, of course, the local fans and groupies.

England's premier punks, Johnny Rotten and the Sex Pistols, seem to be caught in the safety pin of destiny lately. Rotten caused quite a brouhaha when he said "fuck" on a BBC talk show, but the band made a lot of money when both A&M and EMI records successively broke recording contracts with them. The Pistols found a new label, Virgin Records, but ran into trouble when workers at the CBS pressing plant in England staged a temporary

walkout in protest of the "objectionable lyrics" in the band's new single, "God Save the Queen," which includes the lines "God save the Queen/A fascist regime made you a moron." The single shot up to the top 20 when it was finally released during Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee, although many record stores still refuse to stock it. Neither "God Save the Queen" nor the Pistols's first hit, "Anarchy in the U.K.," has yet been released in the U.S.

Two years after a media-hype overkill that threatened to destroy his rock career before it developed, Bruce Springsteen still keeps himself secluded from the press. Meanwhile, back in New Jersey,



Bruce Springsteen: born to run from the press.

Springsteen has been seen on occasion at the Stone Pony, the club he made famous, and cavorting at a local beach. But when Southside Johnny recently nixed a gig in Red Bank, New Jersey, due to a strep throat, his hometown Asbury Park pal Bruce came through as a replacement, singing with Johnny's Asbury Jukes and his own E Street Band. Springsteen recently resolved differences with former manager Michael Appel and has just finished recording a new album.



Grace Slick: skywriting her bio about Airplane and Starship.

Grace Slick is currently negotiating with publishers for the rights to her biography. Helen Rowes of the New York Times will pen Grace's legendary career with the Airplane and the Starship... International jet-setters are supposed to be hip, but when Princess Alexandra, Queen Elizabeth's cousin and one of the more conspicuous hiso's, asked Elton John "Do you take cocaine?" he had to admit he was stunned. But Cap Fantastic quickly recovered: "I told her I didn't take cocaine before I go on stage—which is the truth."

—Michael Chance & Peter Malloy



High Times

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