

'The Wall' can be heard at The Wall

ROCK ON



ETHLIE ANN VARE

Pink Floyd's "The Wall" is one of the most popular pieces of conceptual rock ever recorded. The 1979 album sold 19 million copies, and the video of the 1981 film still sells briskly.

Essentially a performance piece, "The Wall" has actually only been staged in four cities. And when Floyd co-founder Roger Waters left the band, it was assumed that the classic would never again be seen live. Waters was once asked if he would be performing "The Wall" solo, and answered something to the effect of "Yeah, when they tear down the Berlin Wall, maybe...."

OK, you're ahead of us. "The Wall" will, in fact, be performed July 21 right on the Potsdamer Platz — what was no-man's-land between East and West Berlin. The monster show is being engineered by the people who staged Live-Aid, and it will feature symphony orchestras, military aircraft, some of the world's top rock talent, and inflatable characters the size of a football field.

The massive event will benefit the Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief, a UK-based emergency charity, and will be televised around most of the planet.

Well, that flurry of legislative activity demanding warning stickers on rock record albums has died down.

Thirteen of the 18 U.S. states proposing such legislation have withdrawn it, in favor of the music business monitoring itself.

There is one new consumer protection bill that has been introduced, though ... and this one we kinda like.

If a piece of legislation introduced in New Jersey passes, concert promoters will have to inform ticket-buyers whether the act they're coming to see is performing live or lip-synching to recorded vocal tracks. Miming your songs without letting people know that you're going to do so will be considered fraud.

Take that, Janet Jackson!

Radio DJs are taking over the television, folks. Next up: Rick Dees, perennial Los Angeles morning man and syndicated nationally with the "Weekly Top 40," will next host a late-night comedy hour on ABC-TV. The show is being described as "zany" (naturally) with "a special appeal to a young adult audience." It debuts on July 16 at midnight.

Band news: Metal mainstay Iron Maiden has appointed a new guitarist to replace departed Adrian Smith. He's Janick Gers, a hometown buddy of the Maiden crew with few professional credits to boast. At press time, Gers was "in too much of a state of shock to comment," according to Iron Maiden's publicist.

Glam rockers Britny Fox have lost their lead singer and their lead

guitarist in one fell swoop. Michael Kelly Smith broke his arm badly enough to force cancellation of the group's current tour, and then singer Dean Davidson used the hiatus to announce his intention to leave the band. It's currently searching desperately for a new vocalist.

Uh-oh. IRS Records has announced that it will no longer be manufacturing vinyl records for distribution. Compact disc and cassette only. How do we get turntables placed on the endangered species list?

Quote of the Week comes from metalhead Luke Morley, of the band Thunder: "Being in a band gives you a big advantage in picking up women ... except in L.A., where everyone's a musician. There, I say I'm a stockbroker."



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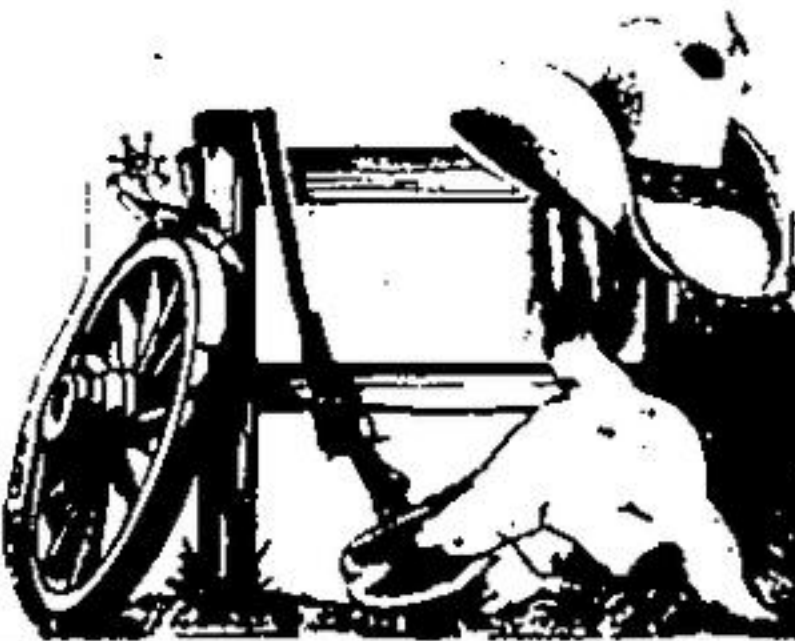
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GEORGETOWN CINEMAS

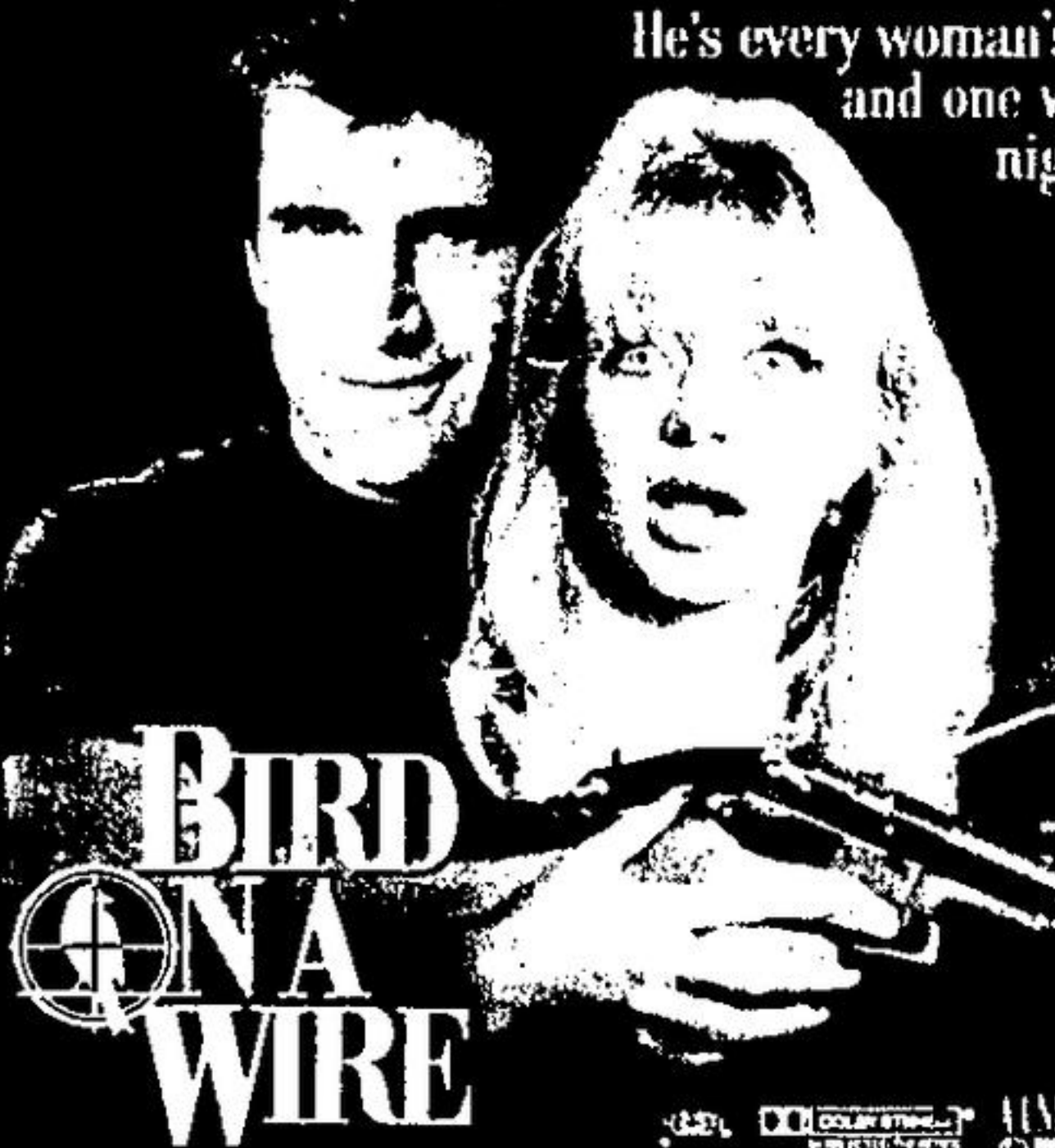
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