ACROSS Billy Mackenzie, 8 Visege, 10 Swan, 11 Dury, 12 Olivia Newton-John, 15 Diassic, 6 Let's Groove, 17 Landscape, 20 Reward, 21 Nation, 22 Sparks, 25 ol, 25 Line, 27 Wedding, 28 Reed, 23 Human Leegue, 20 Linte, 23 Seconds, 1

ue Ochiels, 2 Leve is All is All Right, 3 Greme, 4 News Of The World, 5 Ian, 6 , 7 My First, 9 Shigas in The Night, 11 Dr. Hook, 13 Wild As The Wind, 14 ger, 18 Sande, 19 Pair, 22 Sting, 23 Al Green, 24 Kate Bush, 25 La Folie, 30

LAST WEEK'S POP-A-GRAM SOLUTION
The Best, Paperiate, Belle Stars, Charlene, Tempti
DOWN: Beatles
POP A-GRAM WINNER: Susan Anderson, 25 Caiga
Kent CT's 640.

Remember, you have to complete both the Pop-A-Gram and X-word to qualify to win an album. Send your complete entry to Popagram, Record Mirror, 40 Long Acre, London, WC2 9.IT.

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY Zig Zag Club, London

STRIP away the deceit, forget about the 'Stones' at Wembley, consign 'Combat Rock' to the dumper, forget about rock n'roll. In short 'rock', its bloated 25 year history and all those who sall in her — is declared totaly irrelevant.

Take the Birthday Party. What a mess, such excess; better put them down they il maie your hands diry. I'm not saying the Birthday Party completely subvert rock traditions; for at their heart is a minimalist dynamic, familiar to punk rock when it had edge, and the souzziest late Sixties New York rock. Yet the Birthday Party dom't steal, they simply stretch and savage reference points and remembered moments, until their rock' is mutant, until their rock' is mutant, until their rock' is devoured.

Driven by mayhem and primitivism, Birthday Party music, takes the listener deeper and deeper into a world where the very eurface of 'rock' music is cut and bruised. Guitars moan and screech, vocals scratch, and catch a pained venom. If the guitar is the scapel, then the drum is some kinc of victious hammer, unsubtie, unloving, but effective.

Surrounding this cut and fury, is a bass that throbs and noves with a wicked sexuality, and a leather troused bass player who bumps and grinds with comic gay-bar overkill.

If the Birthday Party strive to pull rock 'n' roll apart at the seams, and I needs to be done, then the result is not always very comfortable. Expect to be disturbed!

For this writor great music needs a sense of soul, light and optimism that the Birthday Party are simply unable to offer. Birthday Party, wallows in this darkness, falls to illuminate, and ultimately accepts defeat.

The Birthday Party shook me up, turned me over — but they didn't win my heart. Rock'nroll is set up for the kill, but when it dies! I want a celebration not a funeral.

Eirthday Party? That's an ironic name, eh? Are you beginning to understand what I mean?

Jim Reid

BAUHAUS Lyceum, London

Lyceum, London
THOSE WHO decry Bauhaus
ought to ask themselves what
drew others in droves to see
them at the Lyceum on Sunday.
Let this be a hint.
The set opened with 'Bela
Lugosi's Dead' which had Peter
Murphy drawing his coat up intosimulated bat-wings and filting
intimidatingly across the stage,
his face spot-lit from below,
entirely erased of those famous,
gaunt features.
The sound lived up to the
visuals, everybody doing their
bit with sensitivity or venom as
required. But the accolade goes
to Daniel Ash for his bewitching
quasi-classical guitar playing.

to baniel Ash for his bewitching quesi-classical guitar playing. Spirit broke free of the fetters which vinyl had fried but on it, raging and soaring. Stigmats Martyr was performed as a perverted passion play, with Peter as Christ in a mimed crucifision, then as a radiant red skeleton, ending with the agonised Latnate bleesing. The encore was Bowle's 'Zlggy' and, ironically, received the most rapturous reception of the evening, serving as an

the evening, serving as an intuitive bond between Bauhaus and their audience, both locked in a common admiration. Genuine tear to the eye, lump



THE CLASH Fair Deal, Brixton

IT'S FIVE and a half years since I first sew The Clash and times have changed. Fundamentally The Clash are will control the same.

Pundamentally The Cleah are atili pretty much the same. The fact that they remain a wildly contemporary rock band le a tribute to their subtle shifts in musical and visual styles. Here's how they've gone about it.

Image-wise it's a case of from urban guerrillas to suburban oruloers. Neat body-hugging sleeves sawn-off-at-the-shoulders numbers carried with a swagger and perpetual 150 degree angle twist of guitar. The summer's definitive way of broadcasting a public service announcement.

broadcasting a public service sincouncement. Politically, they're still not afraid to leave themselves open to accusations of naivety. And why not? Not only was Paul Simonon's 'Guns Of Briston' crudely prophetic, but so were 'Carser Opportunities', 'Complete Control', 'Stay Free' and even 'Garageland'

to name but a few. For this reason they all merited inclusion.

Inclusion.

But politically, The Clash have also broadened their horizons. As every post—Safe Europeam Home fan will realise, it is the world which is now their oyster, from San Salvador to Siam (where the 'Combet Rock' sleeve was photographed). Hence the Trequent use of alidee portraying all manner of international news, from allhousthes of commandos to mug-shots of autocrats. They are still burnantharians, Affae all.

But politicians The Clash

After all.

But politiciens The Clash are not. Their approach should more realistically be interpreted as that of would-be journalists, pointing out rather than politing at. After all, then post 12 months in particular has seen them undergo their fair share of travel in their capacity as Trans-Atlantic troubadors.

Which brings us to The Clash, as it happens, dion't play a duff song all night, but

then they're not renowned for their turkeys. Neither did they go out of their way to promote the new product, but then they never were suckers for such obvious rock 'n' roll traps.

Still, 'Doespowered By Funit' wouldn't have gone amiss, especially since they don't indulge in a whole lot of dub these days (well they have to keep abrosant of dahlon, don't you know). No, the excesses of lest year's tour have been rectified, and it was down to a wide selection of short sharp stabe (cuta) from each phase of their carrier.

Delivery is still exciting yet a lot more controlled, the almost calculated calamness inswitably introducing a lot more tension into the playing. That this did not spill over indication of the greater maturity they now encourage and adopt. In fact The Clash oxed as laid back.

I guess in 1982 The Clash are still playing real cool lovers' rock.

Allike Alleholls

to the throat stuff.
You either love it or hate it; indifference just isn't in it. You can view Bauhaus as a crass, archaic-glam spectacle or as something to both caress and hammer the senses, some of which you may not even be aware of possessing.

Julianne Regan

PHYLLIS HYMAN Duke Ellington Sacred Music Concert, St Paul's Cathedral

IT'S PERHAPS not every day that you go to a gig at St Paul's Cathedral introduced by Rod Stelger and Douglas Fairbanks Jr. it's not every week that Phyllis Hyman comes over to sing for us. And it's not every year that she sings 'The Lord's

Prayer. Explanations? Well, I don't know if we've got time. This was a concert of "sacred" music written by the late jazz great Duke Ellington, staged in tribute to him as part of the City of London Feetival which is currently on in town. Ellington's musical passion came to be matched, in the 1960s, by his religious fervour, which spurred him to write a great deal of gospel work and perform it in special concerts. This memorial version found its religious niche in St Paul's, but the Cathedral's chances of taking off as a major rock venue are, I'd venture, limited. The acoustics? They were like this... this ... iss...

The crew gathered to remember Duke was, to say the least, motley; those revered actors I mentioned compering,

and appearances by such as Tony Bennett, Wayne Sleep, Jacques Loussler and tapdancer Will Gaines. The combination of reverberation and verbosity was often overpowering, and the vocal attempts of black operatic McHenry Boatright (this is not a loke) were ... um ... ribtickling, I'm afraid.

Anyway Phyllis Hyman, limited as was her appearance, did bring some life and charm to the great building, with her version of 'Tell Me The Truth initting at a silicy classiness of vocal which I hope we'll hear confirmed in a more regular setting before too long. This was not the place to mention it, but the lady's got the sex in soul to make it. Do I get a thunderbolt from the skies for saying it?

Paul Sexton

Paul Sexton