

**NEW YORK — THE SUTHERLAND BROTHERS & QUIVER: 2+4=1**

Merging is a difficult proposition, especially when it involves six people. Musically speaking, however, the experiment has worked quite well for the Sutherland Brothers & Quiver, originally two distinct entities who have combined their talents to form one of the most interesting conglomerations in pop music today.

The quality of life was happy for Iain and Gavin Sutherland, but somehow they weren't fulfilled playing the rounds of small London folk clubs. "We felt we were stagnating," smiles Iain. "We had been discussing the idea of getting a band together for a long time, but the right situation didn't present itself till we started talking to Quiver."

Quiver, a quartet whose own path to the top had been blocked by a number of traditional stumbling blocks, from lack of rehearsal space to finding the right manager, had been casting about for some fresh blood and Iain and Gavin had the right formula, so the two groups took the communal plunge.

As it so often does, timing was to play an important role in the merger, because Iain and Gavin had half-finished their chart album for Island Records, entitled "Lifeboat," and were about to begin working on it again when plans to combine forces were finalized. "As it turned out," muses Gavin, sipping a luke warm beer in his hotel room three hours before departure to Kansas to join the Elton John tour, "the album is a Jekyll-Hyde piece, kind of. Not that it's hideous (laughing), but it represents two different time periods and therefore two different approaches to the music."

Certainly the addition of Quiver added a depth to the Sutherlands' songs and hence the name of the group recognizing the contributions of both parties. Tim Renwick's lead and steel guitars ride strongly on the back of a tight rhythm section of Bruce Thomas on bass and Willie Wilson on drums. Pete Wood's keyboard work accents the ensemble perfectly, lending depth and highlights to a very full sound.

It was very fortunate for the group that their hit single, "You Got Me Anyway" coincided as it did with their opportunity to open the bill for Elton John on his recently completed 45 data marathon tour of the U.S. "It certainly forced us to get as tight as we'd ever been before," remarked Gavin afterward by phone from



THE SUTHERLAND BROTHERS & QUIVER

Miami, acknowledging that the tour was arduous, but worthwhile.

"Working with Elton was a very good experience for me personally, as well as for the band," continues Gavin. "We probably had our best reaction in New York although playing in Honolulu was really a gas." But if success comes slowly sometimes, when it does arrive it comes with a flurry. As soon as the band arrived home in England, they started working on their second album for Island and have to start thinking about their own British tour to coincide with its release early next year.

"We've already got some of the stuff for our next album completed," says Iain, "and I think we sound much more like a band than we did on "Lifeboat." We've really had a chance to adjust to each other and I think the new songs reflect that very well. They're high energy tunes and though we really haven't had the chance to think about a follow-up single yet, there are a couple of possibilities, "You and Me" and "Silver Sister."

In the meantime, the marriage is working well, and the band is pausing to take stock of where it's at for them right now. They are in the sensitive position that some bands can't handle. They've had a successful single and album and have been exposed to countless thousands on the Elton John tour. The question is, what do they do for an encore? "We're just going to keep on playing music as best we can and work on our songs," says Iain, matter-of-factly. "We're not concerned with all the political aspects of our music, we just play."

For the time being, that's plenty good enough. The responses they got across the country were sensational, especially towards their hard rockin' songs like the Buddy Holly classic, "Not Fade Away" and their single. One of the most charismatic experiences of the entire tour took place in Kansas in the football stadium the group appeared at. Gavin got so involved in what he was doing he got caught up in a tangle of wires and took a head over heels fall, but deftly recovered without missing a beat, much to the delight of an enthralled audience of over 35,000.

The singular, striking characteristic of The Sutherland Bros. & Quiver is their unselfish attitude in playing. Obviously, any one of them could dominate the group's sound, but they work closely together so as to best utilize all the talent they have at their command. Says Iain, "We respect each other as musicians and friends, and we all realize that what's best for the group is best for all concerned." Pursuing one of the most coveted achievements in the music industry (a gold record) may not be easy, but the group is determined that it's going to be fun. Gavin put it quite well: "We play because we enjoy it, and our audiences have fun. You can't expect more than that. david budge.

**FOR THE RECORD**

**PASSING REMARKS**—Apologies to Mandrill, their agency and management, and to Polydor Records for the erroneous listing in this column last week that the group was leaving Polydor to sign with RCA. The truth is that Polydor is about to sign the group on for another three years and that the marriage is as happy as ever. Should have known with Watergate and all, that "reliable sources" just ain't what they used to be . . . Focus has changed drummers. Pierre van der Linden has left to pursue a jazz oriented career. Taking his place is Colin Allen, a John Mayall graduate and most recently with Stone The Crows . . . It's birthday time again (remember it's the dates in those parentheses, not the celebrants age!!!). Those growing older this week include: Neil Young (11th); Freddie Garrity (remember Freddie & The Dreamers?) (14th); Petula Clark (15th); and Patti Page (15th). Also, November 17th is the 1st Anniversary of the James Taylor-Carly Simon marriage, which took place following James' Radio City Music Hall concert of last year . . . Roger McGuinn recently was introduced at his Roxy Theatre (L.A.) gig by Robby II, a duplicate of the robot who starred in that classic sci-fi flick "Forbidden Planet." It has been said the robot will do all of McGuinn's MCing in the future . . . Tim Rice, co-author of "Jesus Christ, Superstar," is a deejay on Capitol Radio, Britain's first commercial radio station . . . Lee Michaels has been reunited with Frosty, his drummer from the "heavy" days. Word is the next LP will be back to the Michaels of old . . . Now that Abe Beame has been elected Mayor of New York City, we wonder if he'll show up at Max's when Kinky Friedman and the Texas Jew Boys comes to town in mid November. After all, John Lindsay stopped by to see, and get up on stage with, Peter Yarrow a few weeks back . . . Sylvester (he of the Blue Thumb Hot Band) was recently mugged in New York while strolling near the Empire State Building. He surrendered \$15.00 . . . Black Sabbath, reported to be suffering internal heavy metal strife, has pushed back the release date of their new album along with their U.S. tour dates. No reason was given for the changes . . . That trend among rock and rollers (especially those from Northern California) towards short hair cuts has hit Hot Tuna. The group went and cut their hair real short, probably for the first time in a long, long time . . . Rick Wakeman will present his musical works, "The Six Wives of Henry VIII" and his newest "Journey To The Center Of The Earth," at a January 18, 1974 concert at the Royal Festival Hall in London . . . Santana recently drew over 100,000 persons to a concert in Caracas, Venezuela. It was reported that five folks were shot during a "minor riot" . . . Mike Martucci, the Cash Box Research Manager recently celebrated his 16th year with our mag. Heres to at least 16 more . . .

**EYES ON ALBUMS**—The new outing from John McLoughlin and his Mahavishnu Orchestra, entitled "Between Nothingness and Eternity," recorded last summer in Central Park, is due any day now . . . David Essex, tearing up the British charts with "Rock On," is also having his first U.S. LP release readied. It's also called "Rock On" . . . The Kinks are back!!! Their new LP, entitled "Preservation, Act 1" is almost ready to ship . . . Also, RCA is setting a release date for "The Best Of The Guess Who, Vol. 2" . . . An LP full of previously unreleased Jefferson Airplane material is on its way, too. Included is the never before on an album single version of "Have You Seen The Saucers" . . . Chi Coltrane, currently touring Europe, will have her second album, "Let It Ride," released sometime around the time she returns . . . In the studios of the world putting the finishing touches on new albums are Boz Scaggs, Alvin Lee & Mylon LeFevre, Alvin Lee & Ten Years After, Electric Light Orchestra (pushed back to January), Carlos Santana and Tir Na Nog (whose debut last year was sadly ignored) . . . Whatever happened to Wild Turkey??? arty goodman

**Black Oak Ark. Sets 500th Concert**

**HOLLYWOOD** — Black Oak Arkansas will reach a performance plateau no other rock band has achieved on Friday evening, December 7, at the Hollywood Palladium, when the group plays their 500th concert.

The event will be celebrated both during the show and immediately upon conclusion, according to Black Oak's manager, Butch Stone, who supervised the concert count.

Plans call for a "Second Annual Black Oak Arkansas Post-Concert Porno Film Festival" to immediately follow the Palladium date.

Records indicate that Black Oak Arkansas made its initial "play-for-pay" appearance in February, 1970, he reported. Thus, the 500th show comes some three years and nine months later.

To date, Black Oak Arkansas has played to more than 1.8-million people.

Black Oak Arkansas' current album, released last month, is "High on the Hog." It includes the group's new "Jim Dandy" single.

**Alice In Japan To Promo TV Spec.**

**TOKYO** — Alice Cooper arrived in Japan Oct. 19 to announce the worldwide release of his forthcoming LP "Muscle Of Love." He was greeted by an airport reception by 5000 fans.

200 journalists gathered at the Akasaka Prince hotel the next day for the largest press conference ever held for an entertainment personality in Tokyo. During the conference Alice received as a present several Geisha girls who attended him for the entirety of his five day stay in Japan.

A Channel 12 television special featured an interview with Alice as well as footage of the Alice Cooper group on stage. The special received the highest ratings of any rock music presentation ever aired over Japanese television.

**Sell-Outs Mark Moodies Tour**

The Moody Blues, British rock group, climaxed the first part of their North American leg of their 1973-1974 world tour with their 14th consecutive sellout on Nov. 8 at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Other highlights of the American tour included the sellout of the Louisville Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center, on Nov. 1, the first sellout there by a rock group, and the Moody Blues breaking the all-time concert gross record at Nassau Coliseum on Oct. 28.

They had spent some time in the recording studio prior to the tour. Coming up in January is the group's first tour of Japan, followed by dates in Hawaii and the American west coast. The group's eighth album will be recorded in late winter for release in the spring of 1974.