**Talking Rock**

By Steve Grant

Recently the Left Banke battled a conceiver-mixer in Rockwood Cage. Despite unfortunate circumstances they staged an entertaining concert, dividing fifteen numbers between two sets. Technical difficulties with the PA system, however, marred their performance. Between sets I talked to the four touring members of the group.

**Early history**

The Left Banke originally consisted of five members: pianist and songwriter Mike Brown, vocalist Steve Martin, guitarist Rick Brand, bassist Tom Flan, and drummer George Cameron. They came out with two big singles in "Walk Away Renee" and "Pretty Ballerina," which both hit and reigned respectively on Billboard. Their first album, which reached 67, expanded on their basic Baroque sound. They toured with manager Harry Lookofsky often serving as one of the backup pianists. Brown decided not to tour any more, and his place was taken by Emmett Lake at touring pianist, although Brown continued to write and produce for the group as well as play in recording sessions.

**Two Left Banke**

Next Lookofsky, who as manager held the contract, and Brown completely split away from the others, forming a new group which they called the Left Banke. Their "Try, Boy," written and produced by Brown, only made it to 30 nationally. The other four original members sued Lookofsky to the hit. While this was happening, "The Day May Call You Up Tonight" was released by the original group (it had been recorded before Brown left). It fapped completely. Then the suit was decided against Lookofsky, and Brown rejoined the group. Emmett Lake is now out, and the members don't want another pianist on tour. Brown still doesn't tour, although he did write and produce "Desiree" which is the group's first single since "Pretty Ballerina." It hasn't had significant airplay on the national top ten, but it probably will not last, say, the national top ten, but it should return to the group a sense of what dancing is about. For instance they staged an entertainment concert, dividing fifteen numbers between two sets. Technical difficulties with the PA system, however, marred their performance. Between sets I talked to the four touring members of the group.

**Recent developments**

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**Concert features area rock groups at Jordan Hall**

The First Boston Rock Concert has been booked into Jordan Hall, Boston on October 27. This novel idea for a rock concert has been intriguing many Boston-based groups-the Barbarians, the Scorpios, the Left Banke, the Scalas, the Bells, and the Stargazers. The show is billed as the surfacing of area groups-the Barbarians, the Scorpios, the Left Banke, the Scalas, the Bells, and the Stargazers. The show is billed as the surfacing of area groups-the Barbarians, the Scorpios, the Left Banke, the Scalas, the Bells, and the Stargazers.