

# Jethro Tull plays newest songs

By NICK CHARLES

The pied piper of rock, Ian Anderson, will lead the merry men of Jethro Tull at 8 p.m. Wednesday at Cobo Arena in Detroit. Anderson and his group will feature the music of their latest Chrysalis release, "A."

Anderson's group members have changed since his last album, "Stormwatch." Drummer Barriemore Barlow has been replaced by Los Angeles drummer Mark Craney, keyboardist John Evan has been replaced by keyboardist and electric violinist Eddie Jobson from the group U.K.

Martin Barre, who joined Anderson on Tull's second album, "Stand Up," still remains, and guitarist Dave Pegg, who joined the group last year, completes the new line-up.

Anderson is by far one of the most intelligent composers in the popular music scene today. Born in 1947 in Edinburgh, of Scottish descent, he has been the nucleus of Jethro Tull since its start in 1968.

JETHRO TULL will play most of "A" since the point of a tour is to promote the newest recording. Anderson assures that the group also will play the older songs, too.

The album deals with both politics and society's outlook on everything from "Uniforms" to toys and four-wheel-drive cars. Side one of the L.P. seems to be more commercial, easily understood and enjoyable than its second side.

First song on the first side is "Crossfire," which is fantastic both lyrically and musically. It sounds like Jethro Tull has always sounded but a little more up to date.

Anderson said its concept comes from the Iranian Embassy siege. This verse from the song explains its political quality: "Caught in the crossfire on



Ian Anderson heads Jethro Tull coming to Cobo Hall.

Princess Gate Avenue/In go the windows and out go the lights/Call me a doctor. Fetch me a policeman/I'm down on the floor in one hell of a fight."

"Flyingdale Flyer" further convinces this listener that this is the best Jethro Tull album ever. The tight vocal harmonies blend with the music and lyrics like a hand in glove.

The song continues the concept of

"A." In it the Americans think "the Russians had worked an attack."

THE SONG "Working John, Working Joe" is probably one of the most commercial songs on the album. Since the song was written three years ago, it sounds more like old Tull than the others.

Its theme deals with white- and blue-

## preview

collar workers. The intricate lyrics of "Black Sunday" tell a simple and common fear of leaving for work wondering if things will be the same when you come back as when you left.

The song "Protect and Survive" was taken from a "government pamphlet of the same name which describes what to do in the event of a nuclear attack," Anderson said in a recent interview.

The song, even though written ingeniously, is somewhat lacking in excitement compared to the others.

The fast-paced Japanese-like "Batteries Not Included," which also appears on the second side, tells the story of a boy who wakes up on Christmas morning to find his new toy has no batteries. By the time his parents wake up he has come to like the toy without the batteries. The song features Anderson's son Jamie in his recording debut.

THE ALBUM also contains an instrumental called "The Pine Martin's Jug," which sounds just like its name. It's a danceable flute, jug and fiddle song occasionally interrupted by a pleasant modern-day electric guitar.

Some of the best songs are those that mean a little something different to each listener. The heavenly "And Further On" is a perfect example of this. Even though the album was supposed to be a solo effort for Anderson, he says he thinks the new members have made it more of a group effort than any other Jethro Tull album ever recorded.

## St. Dunstan's offers 'Finishing Touches'

St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook will present "Finishing Touches," a romantic comedy by Jean Kerr, at 5 p.m. Oct. 24-25 and Oct. 31-Nov. 1, at the playhouse in Bloomfield Hills.

Ticket reservations can be made by calling the 24-hour reservations service, 644-0527.

### Film views man and gold

The film "Man and His Gold" will be shown at 2:45 and 3:45 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills.

The half-hour movie tells the history of man and gold, in addition to the story of gold's modern role in industry as jewelry's most precious metal and as a standard in the marketplace.

Viewers can learn how gold is mined, processed and used and why man remains fascinated by the golden gift from the earth.

"Man and His Gold" is part of a Saturday film program at the institute, which offers natural history and science films to museum visitors at no cost beyond regular museum admission of \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for students and senior citizens.

anxiously awaiting word of his appointment as a full professor. His wife Katie, Maggie Bennett, understands his concern but identifies symptoms of mid-life crisis as well.

Their resident son Kevin, Brad Scott, is an astute and understanding teenager, while young Hughie, Pat Brooks, provides a background of pre-teen confusion.

BARBARA CLIFF plays Elsie, a graduate student on whom Jeff looks amorously. Oldest son Steve, John Shirk, compounds the household prob-

lems when he returns for the weekend with his actress friend Felicia, played by Dawn Daniels. Fred, the family friend, played by Garv Bowden, recognizes the undercurrents and offers comfort to Katie.

The St. Dunstan's Guild playhouse is located on Lone Pine Road west of Woodward. A form of valet parking services is available to drivers who drop their passengers at the door and park in the Christ Church Cranbrook lot; a mini-bus returns drivers to the door and chauffeurs them back to the parking lot after each performance.

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