

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

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HOUSTON SCENE WILD

Long Hair Brings Mob Action

By DAN BATES
Youth Spotlight Editor

It was purely a case of mistaken identity.

But, though it might have proven the kind of mistake that is eventually good for business, that night it seemed just a wee bit deadly. Just a bit too close for comfort.

The five from Fort Worth had gone to Houston to see the Beatles — the kind of mop-topped British musical combo this locality's "Jades" model themselves after—in person and in action.

The Jades—Gary Carpenter, Larry Earp, Alvin McCool, Ronnie Brown and Jack Henry, all from the Haltom-Richland area — didn't want to be conspicuous. Not that night, at least.

So, realizing the stir their predominantly long hair might cause, they quietly took a row of seats in the very top row of the Houston coliseum where the famous four from Liverpool were playing and commenced to watch the show.

Pretty soon, somebody was watching them.

"Suddenly," as Larry tells it, "we noticed all these girls look-

ing at us with these binoculars. It was wild.

"So, playing along, we started waving and making faces. Suddenly, the whole floor was staring at us."

About that time, Larry recalled, "30 of the girls jumped up and started running toward us. But the police turned them away, thank goodness.

"It was wild."

The confusion stemmed, apparently, from Gary's amazing resemblance to one Peter Noone — better known as "Herman," of "Herman's Hermits."

Gary and the rest of the Jades have been together about a year. The North Texas State University freshman is lead singer.

Larry—a Haltom High School senior—and Ronnie—A Richland High senior—play guitars. Alvin—another Haltom High senior—is drummer and Jack—a Navarro Junior College freshman—electric - piano and organ player.

The pop-rock specialists recently won the "battle of the bands" at the Teen A-Go-Go in Round-Up Inn and will compete in another such "battle" at 8 p.m. Saturday in Sycamore Recreation Center.

Later that evening—about 10:30—the Jades will play at the Holiday A-Go-Go in Haltom City.

The five have a recording out: "I'm All Right," number 17 this week on KFJZ radio's popularity poll. The tune on the other side—"Till I Die"—was written by Larry.



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