

## Mike Varney

### Showcase For New Talent



DONNA ROSNER

**Guitarist:** Jerry Wayne Rosner

**Age:** 28

**Location:** Yuma, Arizona

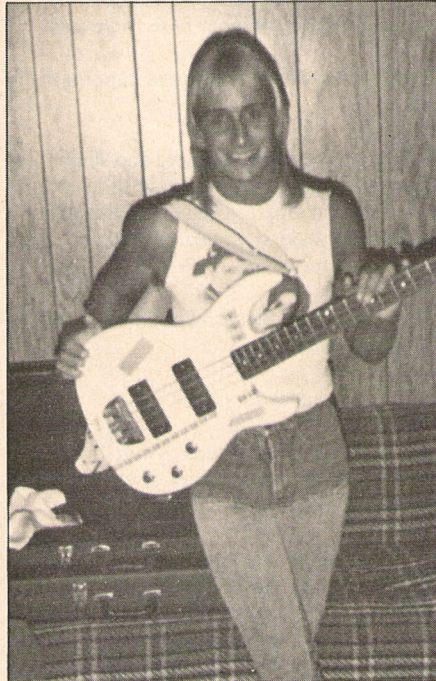
**Style:** Country, rockabilly

**Influences:** Albert Lee, Steve Morse, Chet Atkins

**Main Guitar:** Modified Ibanez Roadstar

Jerry played jazz guitar beginning at an early age, and during high school he performed with the school's jazz group and was asked to play in the Arizona Western College Jazz Ensemble. After meeting Joe Pass at a jazz camp, Jerry was inspired to practice every day. Once he heard Steve Morse with the Dixie Dregs in 1977, he turned his attention toward progressive country. This style came easily for Jerry, as his father had played a lot of Chet Atkins and Jerry Reed music at home while he was growing up.

An accomplished guitarist, Jerry has a country-bebop style that would be welcome at nearly any Nashville session. He plays with great articulation, taste, and right-hand technique. He has composed a catalog of pop tunes, as well as some progressive country-rock instrumentals that could gain him recognition if he's given the right break. "I'm trying to break into the song market by pitching original tunes to various artists and agents," he writes. "I would also like to put my own band together in the Las Vegas area, work on some of my originals (a la the Dregs), and put together an LP. My long-range goals are to play alongside Steve Morse, Albert Lee, Chet Atkins, and the list goes on." Correspondence: Jerry Wayne Rosner, 2540 Barbara Ave., Yuma, AZ 85365.



**Bassist:** Beaver Felton

**Age:** 29

**Location:** Orlando, Florida

**Style:** Wide-ranging

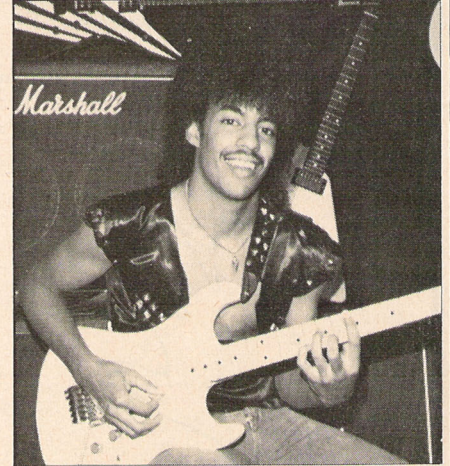
**Influences:** Chris Squire, Stanley Clarke,

Jaco Pastorius, Billy Sheehan

**Main Bass:** Peavey Foundation

Originally from Savannah, Georgia, Beaver began playing when he was 13 years old. At first teaching himself by listening to the Beatles, Cream, and Yes, he eventually shifted his interest to more jazz-oriented groups such as Weather Report and the Dregs. After high school, he gave bass lessons. Beaver has been recording his material for over 10 years. He's currently working on some new tunes, as well as an instructional cassette titled *Superchops*, which covers many techniques for bass soloing.

After hearing Beaver's live solo, I must say that such an instructional tape should be quite successful, since he possesses a large vocabulary of stunning bass riffs that blend fusion, funk, and classical chops with wide-stretched hammer-ons and outrageous harmonics. A synthesis of his influences, Beaver would be an excellent addition to any professional progressive rock and/or fusion act. Beaver adds, "My goal is to become a world-class player with a unique style consisting of funk, two-handed tapping, ultra-fast passages, chords, harmonics, and 'classical' arpeggiation." Correspondence: Beaver Felton, 200 Fern Park Blvd. #1703, Fern Park, FL 32730.



**Guitarist:** Tony MacAlpine

**Age:** 24

**Location:** Springfield, Massachusetts

**Style:** Progressive rock, classical

**Influences:** Classical music

**Main Guitar:** Kramer electric

Out of the thousands of tapes I've received, Tony's is a real stand out. A classical pianist since age five, he studied at the Springfield Conservatory under Marion Jensen, and later added guitar, bass, and drums to his accomplishments. As he got older, he began to listen to fusion music, but devoted most of his time to working on his own ideas. In recent years, he has listened extensively to classical music, and he continues to play classical piano in his spare time. Performing numerous shows with his band Lodestar, Tony has received rave reviews for his captivating stage presence.

His recent demo tape contains several amazing classical-metal instrumentals. Tony plays all the instruments, creating an extremely cohesive sound. Utilizing exotic scales, he has a perfect combination of speed and taste, falling somewhere between Yngwie Malmsteen, Uli Roth, Gary Moore, and Randy Rhoads. I recommend that all fans of classically-influenced metal listen to him now. He's a master in this style, and should have an extremely successful future. Correspondence: Tony MacAlpine, 156 Ambrose St., Springfield, MA 01128.

*If you are interested in appearing in Spotlight, send a cassette of original material, a biography (full name, age, location, style, influences, future plans, and equipment), and a clear B&W photo of yourself with your main guitar, labeled with the photographer's name and address. Send all correspondence to Mike Varney, Box P, Novato, CA 94948.*

