

Billy De Loach: November 1972 - March 1973

Real Name: William DeLoache. Born: 1948. Billy is of French origin, is tall with dark hair and grey eyes. He was married in 1971 but has no children. His wife's name is Sue. He has played the Farfissa organ (since 1960) and is also a good singer and harmoniser. His relationship with the group was rather strained and this was partly the reason why the group temporarily broke up in 1973. The group were doing two shows at the Capital Theatre, Passaic in New Jersey on the 23 March. After each show Billy would not do encores claiming that he had laryngitis. The result of which Frankie, suffering from stomach ulcers and nerve trouble, lost his temper. He sacked Billy and all the rest of the group and took 6 weeks rest. When the group reformed in May 1973 Billy never came back and Lee Shapiro joined.

Bob Grimm: January 1971 - November 1971

Bob Grimm temporarily joined the 4 Seasons for touring purposes only upon the retirement of Tom De Vito. Bob had very long hair (atypical of the group) and although a skilled rhythm guitarist was not compatible with the Seasons' "image". He was replaced by Demetri Callas in November of 1971. Bob cut a solo album and played on the one-off single on W. Brothers "Whatever You Say/Sleeping Man" which was released in the UK only in September 1971. Prior to joining the 4 Seasons, Bob had been a member of a group called Light who had recorded for Bob Gaudio (on Bob's own Gazette label) a single titled "Buena Vista/Day Dream" in 1967. Grimm left the group because of other commitments.

UK New Musical Express (16/1/71) by Richard Green

REQUESTS OVER FOUR YEARS GAVE FRANKIE VALLI A HIT

ANYONE not familiar with the story behind "You're Ready Now" might be excused for thinking that a little girl or a choir-boy was singing lead! All that's happening, in fact, is Frankie Valli demonstrating some facets of his remarkable voice which ranges from baritone to tenor to a high falsetto.

And it's not a new record, either. It was first released back in 1966, after the Four Seasons had already notched up a string of hits all over the world.

Frankie's record company told the NME: "We were still being constantly asked for this record even after four years. So we decided to re-release it. We've heard that copies of the record were being sold privately for quite high prices."

But having a hit on his own, without the other members of the Seasons, doesn't necessarily mean that Frankie will go solo automatically. He's content with the way things are going for the group as a whole — and the group's many vested interests in other businesses.

"I'd wanted to be a solo singer

By RICHARD GREEN

for a long time before 'You're Ready Now' was released," he revealed in a transatlantic telephone call. "But we're such good buddies there's no question of us splitting up. Why should we? We've got the best of both worlds, we stick together. Occasionally, however, I make a record on my own or do a solo spot without any protests from the others."

Outside of recording and performing, the Four Seasons have a number of other projects to keep them active. Frankie ran through them for me.

"We produce our own discs, we have a production company,

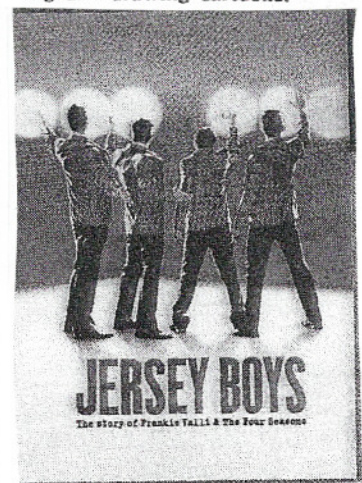
we have several publishing outlets and an artists' management corporation," he pointed out. "We are always looking for new talent."

"We do all this because we have worked hard for our success and we don't want to throw it away. We've also worked out a great attitude to our career. We can work both the teenage and the cabaret circuits, putting on shows to suit both type of audience."

Frankie is a founder member of the Four Seasons. He and Tommy de Vito met Bob Gaudio just after the latter had written "Short Shorts" with Buddy Randell for the Royal Tens. Bob wanted to get a group together and the three men teamed up. With Nick Massi they worked together as the Four Lovers for a while without much success. Then in 1962 they recorded "Sherry."

After a time, Nick was replaced by Joe Long and still the hits continued. "Rag Doll," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like A Man" and "Let's Hang On" among others all marked by Frankie's peculiar voice.

Thirty-five-year-old Frankie is very much the family man with three children at home in Newark, New Jersey. He taught himself to play the drums and is a big band jazz fan who plays football and basketball. He also enjoys sketching and drawing cartoons.



FOUR SEASONS

As you know by now, Motown has signed up the Four Seasons to record under their MoWest label. The contract runs for five years, with full European and presumably, world wide rights. The group has already finished recording an album with fifteen tracks being cut in all at the MoWest studios in Los Angeles. It's thought that a single will be taken from these sessions. Before you all die with curiosity, the tracks are: When the morning comes/Save the children/Thank you/It would be easy/Don't take your love from me/You're a song that I don't sing/Never gonna give my love to you/Loving you, that's my thing/Sun country/The night (begins to turn your head around)/Touch the rain child/A new beginning/My heart cries out for you/Time will tell/Love isn't here like it used to be

FOUR SEASONS

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