

Exclusive interview:
Linda Evans quest
for Aussie
leading
man

**COLOR SPECIAL:** 

Countdown

**Awards** 

preview



Punch-up!

Burt Reynolds

slugs

director

Who will grab the Gold?

Logies souvenir lift-out inside

## PAP'S BIG GUNS



#### Countdown's 7th annual Music & Video Awards boasts many superstars



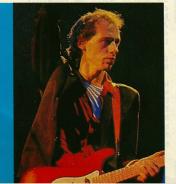
THE seventh annual Countdown Music and Video Awards promise to be the brightest, best and most prestigious show yet.

Telecast live from the Melbourne Sports and Entertainment Centre on Sunday, April 20, in front of an audience of 5000, this year's program will be shown at the new time of 7.30 pm.

A preview edition of Countdown will be shown as well at the usual time of 6 pm.

Special guest presenters include rock superstar Sting, Laura Branigan and Rick Springfield.

Local bands performing during



the evening include Kids In The Kitchen, Pseudo Echo, I'm Talking and Eurogliders.

Sensational American group Mr Mister, who have scored two number one singles this year, will be the evening's international guest performers. Two other live acts are to be announced.

INXS, who scooped the pool last year, look set to repeat that performance, being nominated in five categories including Best Group. Lead singer Michael Hutchence has also been nominated for Best Male Performer.

Sydney bands feature strongly in the nominations for the Johnny O'Keefe Award for Most Promising New Talent. In the running are Do Re Mi, Koo De Tah and the Rockmelons.

Two of these bands — Do Re Mi and Koo De Tah — will fight it out for Best Debut Single.

The strongest competition overall will be between the Divinyls, INXS, Mental As Anything and the Models who have all been nominated in the Best Single, Best Album and Best Group Video Performance sections.

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TOP CENTRE: Singer-actor Sting... guest presenter. ABOVE: American singer Laura

Branigan will attend.
BELOW LEFT: Dire Straits' Mark
Knopfler...via satellite from Perth.
TOP RIGHT: Sydney-based group
Do.Re.Mi.

FAR RIGHT: Mental As Anything . nominated in three categories. RIGHT: Michael Hutchence, lead singer of INXS.

Best International Act will be a fierce contest between Madonna, Wham!, Dire Straits, Duran Duran and Norwegian heart-throbs A-Ha.

According to talent co-ordinator Ian "Molly" Meldrum (top left), this year's awards ceremony will be "absolutely fantastic".

Highlights include satellite linkups with superstars in London, Washington, Los Angeles and Perth

Performances from nominated bands Models and Do Re Mi will be beamed via satellite from prestigious London nightclub the Hippodrome. An all-Australian audience

# READY TO 1 3 5







has been specially invited for the occasion.

Negotiations are now under way for superstars Elton John, Bronski Beat, Wham's George Michael and Feargal Sharkey to be special hosts from London.

Mental As Anything, nominated in five categories, will be linked to Australia via satellite from Washington. From Los Angeles viewers will be treated to appearances from Madonna, David Lee Roth and the Hoodoo Gurus.

This year's awards ceremony will be seen throughout the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States on MTV.

Lesley Hetherington

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### Sunday April 20

## Countdown to awards

THE event that unites the Australian rock music industry and keeps millions of Countdown devotees in annual suspense — the Countdown Music And Video Awards — is on again and promises to be a show to end all shows.

Telecast from the Melbourne Sports and Entertainment Centre before a star-studded audience and Countdown fans on Sunday at 6.00, this event will feature satellite links to Australian and international rock stars in London, Los Angeles, Washington and Perth.

Among the special guests will be the Los Angeles band Mr Mister. In less than six months this group has risen from virtual obscurity to international stardom, scoring two American number one singles. On the local front, Pseudo Echo, nominated as one of the Most Popular Groups will perform; I'm Talking lead singer, Katie Caberano, is one of the nominees for Most Popular Female Performer, and a contender for the Best Female Performance In A Video category.



 Laura Branigan is a special guest at the Countdown Music And Video Awards.

Pseudo Echo will also premiere their latest single. Special guest presenters at the awards include Laura Branigan and expatriot Rick Springfield.

The nominations for the various categories were the result of an exhaustive and comprehensive survey of Australian popular music held throughout 1985.