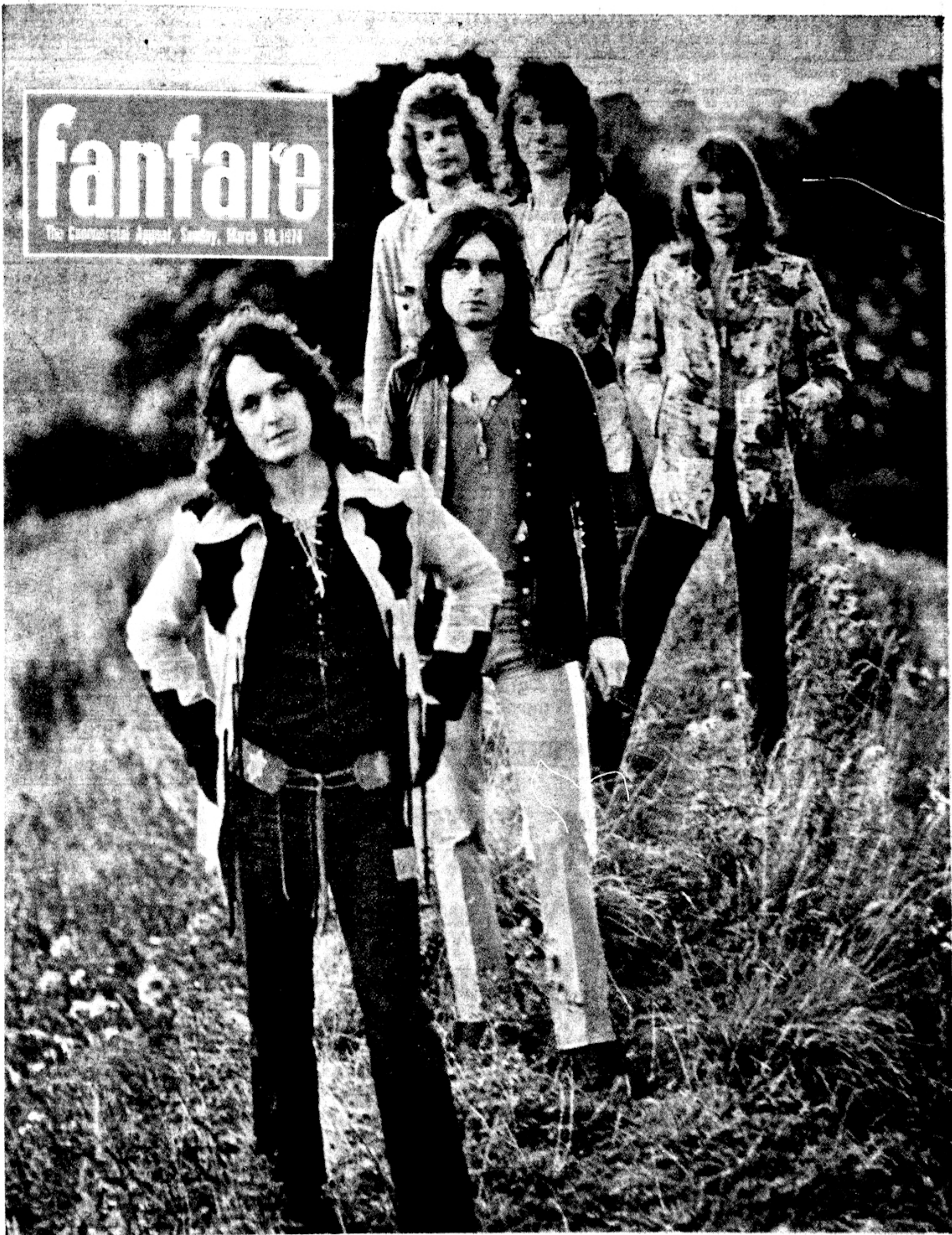


fanfare

The Commercial Appeal, Sunday, March 18, 1971



Members Of The English Rock Band, Yes, Which Will Play In Cook Convention Center Tonight, Are (back to front) Rick Wakeman, Chris Squire, Steve Howe, Jon Anderson And Allan White

*The Cover Story—***British Group Returns To Mid-South**

The seventh American tour by Yes, the British rock group, will bring it to Memphis tonight for what amounts to both a return performance and an inaugural.

The show at 8 brings Yes back to the city where it scored a triumph on its initial visit on Aug. 19, 1972. But that one was in the Mid-South Coliseum and tonight's show will be in the Cook Convention Center — the first rock presentation in that new and enormous hall.

The capacity of the hall will not be at the maximum for this show. A strike at the Heywood-Wakefield Co. in the East delayed installation of seating to the extent that Bob Kelley, whose Mid-South Concerts Inc. is presenting the show, said capacity tonight will be about 7,300 rather than the eventual 11,900.

All the seats will be portable, Kelley said. He has anticipated a sellout, particularly since the capacity of the hall was knocked down so sharply.

YES CONSISTS of the same five musicians who played before 6,814 in their 1972 visit to the coliseum. Only two of the five are "charter members" who were in the original quintet assembled in December, 1968, by Jon Anderson.

They are Anderson, lead vocalist-composer-lyricist, and Chris Squire, bassist, who sometimes is rated a co-organizer of the group with Anderson.

Completing the ensemble

now are guitarist Steve Howe, who replaced original member Peter Banks; keyboard man Rick Wakeman, who took over for charter member Tony Kaye in the summer of 1971; and drummer Alan White, who replaced Bill Bruford of the original five in the summer of 1972, not long before the concert in Memphis.

The personnel has been

unchanged since the drumsticks swapped hands — a remarkable stability for a rock group.

THE GROUP was organized by Anderson using a borrowed 300 British pounds. Its first break came when the American ensemble, Sly and the Family Stone, failed to show up for a job at a London club. Yes was called on to fill in, and it scored an immediate success.

Yes' trademark has come to be a blend of basic rock and sophisticated, near-classical strains.