

EXCLUSIVE ROCK LEGEND BACKS SCOTS HACKER'S FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

They'll try and do what they did in Chicago ..it was wrong then and it is wrong now

ROCK legend Graham Nash yesterday revealed why he has joined the fight to stop Scots hacker Gary McKinnon being thrown into a US jail.



By **BILLY SLOAN**

The Crosby, Stills And Nash singer has volunteered to record a new version of his 1971 hit *Chicago* in a bid to stop McKinnon being extradited to America for snooping on the US military.

He will join forces with Chris Martin of Coldplay, Sting and Pink Floyd's David Gilmour on the track to highlight McKinnon's struggle to stay in Britain.

The Blackpool-born rocker, 67, will perform the song when Crosby, Stills And Nash play live at Edinburgh Castle on July 11.

Saucers

He aims to put pressure on British politicians to act to prevent McKinnon, 43, being sent to the US for trial.

Nash said: "I think the US government are being heavy-handed. If you open the Pandora's Box of the digital world, you'd better watch out what happens. You've got no control. The toothpaste is out of the tube and you can't get it back in."

"You have this autistic guy sitting in his apartment in London tapping into a few web pages because he was searching for UFOs and flying saucers. I fear they'll throw Gary into a US jail and we'll never hear about him again. If we bring enough attention to the case, they'll have to give it up."

"It's a preposterous situation so I say f*** them - I want to help Gary."

In 2002 McKinnon - who has Asperger's syndrome - was indicted by a US court accused of hacking into

more than 90 American military security systems.

A campaign led by his mum Janis Sharp has also won the support of actress Julie Christie and London mayor Boris Johnson.

Nash said: "The true essence of Chicago is that if we pay attention we can change the world."

"The song was written after a friend told me peace activists had been charged with disrupting the Democratic National Convention in Chicago."

"They needed money for their defence fund. I wrote the song to help them out."

"You can't chain, bind and gag a man, put him on the stand and call it a fair trial."

"This song is much more relevant today than when I wrote it. Isn't that sad?"

When his band headline Edinburgh Castle, they will celebrate the 40th anniversary of their self-titled debut album.

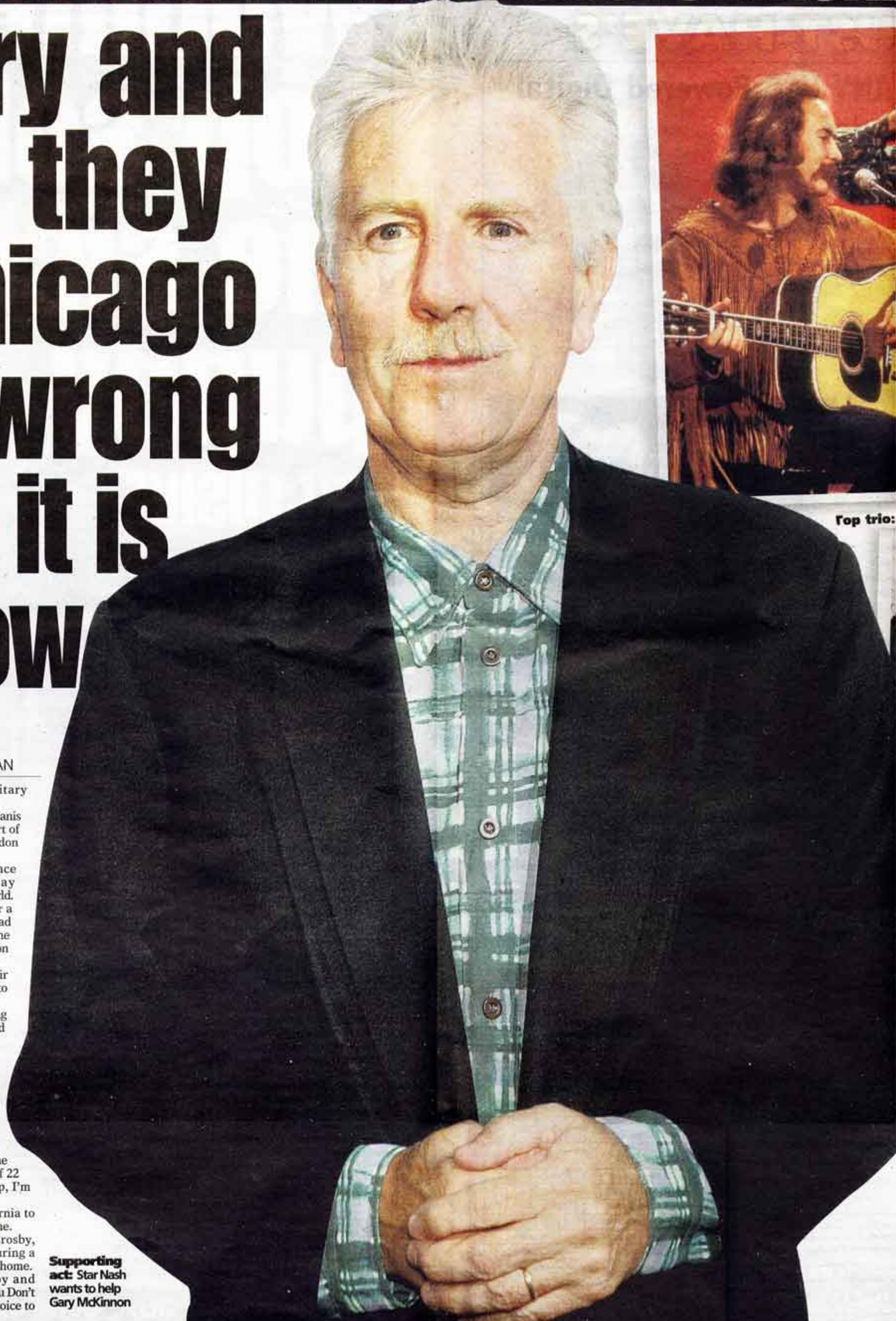
In the 1960s Nash shot to fame with The Hollies, whose run of 22 hit singles included *Bus Stop*, *I'm Alive* and *Just One Look*.

In 1968 he moved to California to join the West Coast music scene.

The first performance of Crosby, Stills and Nash took place during a party in singer Joni Mitchell's home.

Nash said: "David Crosby and Stephen Stills began singing *You Don't Have To Cry* and I added my voice to

Supporting act: Star Nash wants to help Gary McKinnon



Top trio: Graham, centre, with Crosby and Stills in their heyday, played Woodstock



60s success: Nash, second left, had 22 hits with The Hollies

give it a three-part harmony. We knew we had something special."

The trio auditioned for Apple Records, the label founded by The Beatles, but they were turned down flat by George Harrison.

Nash said: "I've not got a clue why he turned us down because we were great. We weren't too crushed because we knew we had something unique."

The group were later snapped up by US record mogul Ahmet Ertegun for his Atlantic Records label.

They played their second gig - with mate Neil Young - at the Woodstock Festival in 1969, sharing a bill with The Who, Jimi Hendrix and Santana.

Nash said: "The event had a great energy from 400,000 kids who turned up to say love is better than war."

Highlights of Crosby, Stills And Nash's career include classic hits such as *Love The One You're With*, *Wooden*

Ships and Suite; *Judy Blue Eyes*. They were inducted into the Rock And Roll Hall of Fame in 1997.

Nash said: "It was nice to join all my heroes, including Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly and The Everly Brothers."

He performed his hit song *Teach Your Children* with Brooke White on *American Idol* last year.

He said: "I don't like these TV reality talent shows but taking part in *American Idol* was a great experience."

Nash cannot wait to step on home soil again and hopes to squeeze in a visit to his home town, Blackpool.

He said: "In 2002 I took my two sons to show them where I was born."

He is looking forward to walking out at Edinburgh Castle.

He added: "To play in the city will be a big thrill."

"The show will be a 40-year celebration. I never thought we'd last this long but we can still write great songs."

SUNDAY EMAIL
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Anthem captures mood of a city in turmoil

GRAHAM NASH wrote *Chicago* after 1968's Democratic National Convention in the city erupted into violence.

The turbulent year had already seen the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy and the bleak mood threatened to explode in anti-Vietnam protests.

Mayor Richard Daley told the police to use all force necessary to keep order as 10,000 protesters came up against 23,000 police officers and National Guardsmen.

Radical activists Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, and three other members of the "Chicago Seven" were convicted of inciting a riot and



Riot: Chicago was a battleground some of the song's lyrics refer to their trial.

They read:
*So your brother's bound and gagged
And they've chained him to a chair
Won't you please come to Chicago just to sing
In a land that's known as Freedom
How can such a thing be fair...
It's dying - if you believe in justice
It's dying - and if you believe in freedom
It's dying - let a man live his own life
It's dying - rules and regulations
Who needs them, open up the door*



US jail threat: Hacker McKinnon