

You know, life has turned out to be my Grade Eleven class. I can look around and there are a couple of achievers, and there are a couple of people who are probably going to go to jail. But most of us will probably just survive okay and probably have a happy life. And that's good enough for me.

For the rarefied air of being the big hit, there's a huge price to pay and I was never sure I wanted to pay that price—just the sacrifices you have to make to get to be at the top of any field. As an athlete or an executive...the choices that you make every day, you have to put aside something that you might enjoy doing, or something that might reward you in some other way to stay focused.

You know, you see these Olympic athletes who are practising sixteen hours

Below Left: Jason, the band. *Below Right:* Bandleader Steve at the keyboard during set-up for a Jason gig in 1973.



Unlike other musical artists of the Seventies, Steve rejected the emaciated, naked-chested rock star look in favour of a floor-length fringe.

a day and are on this specific food regimen. They're not with their families, they can't practise whatever it is they do where they live. So all of a sudden they're living in Arizona or some place where they can do their event all year.

I just felt that the success wasn't going to give me enough to justify not spending time with my friends. That was a price I wouldn't pay.

MAG: *Was there a price you would pay?*

STEVE: You know, when we had our band, we had a P.A. system—Traynor equipment, built by Pete Traynor. And I was talking to him one time and he was saying that if you wanted to raise the power on your P.A. system—let's say it was a hundred decibels—and if it took five thousand watts of power to make a hundred decibels, then to have a hundred and three decibels took ten thousand