

Entertainment

The Manhattans

As the new decade approaches promising exciting changes, 1989 marks a year of changes for the Manhattans. After recording for Columbia for many successful years, they have signed on to Valley View Records and signed a new lead singer. Roger Harris makes his debut with the group on "Why You Wanna Love Me Like That" which is the first ballad to be released from their new album.

"Why You Wanna Love Me Like That" demonstrates the ballad style that the Manhattans are famous for and showcases the vocals of their dynamic, new, lead singer, Roger Harris. "Why You Wanna Love Me Like That" was produced by Gary Taylor, of Virgin Records, who has had success writing for the likes of Anita Baker and the Whispers among others.

Roger Harris is not a stranger to the Manhattans. Ron Tyson of the Temptations introduced Roger to Blue Lovett during an engagement at the Fairmont Hotel in New Orleans in early 1987. The Manhattans were so impressed they asked Roger to open for them during their upcoming tour in the Orient. After Gerald Alston's departure from the group, the Manhattans asked Roger to become their new lead singer. Prior to joining forces with the Manhattans, Roger sang with Cameo from 1979 to 1982.

The Manhattans are Blue Lovett, Kenny Kelley, Sonny Bivins and Roger Harris. The magic of their smooth resonant harmonies is the outgrowth of a deep-rooted R&B tradition born on the street corners of New York and Jersey City, where doo-wop strains were strong and overpowering in the late 50's. Is it that heritage which you hear in their voices and see in the precision moves they make as they perform.

The Manhattans' story goes back to Jersey City's Lincoln High School and the graduating class that included Blue, Kenny, Sonny and two past members, Richard Taylor and the late George "Smitty" Smith. They all listed in different branches of the armed forces. They vowed to get together after the service to pursue their music.

Once back home, they started to sing together almost immediately. They took their name from the popular mixed drink not from the borough of New York, nevertheless, the Manhattans would always be associated with the Big City. Their big break came in 1964, when they won third prize at an Apollo Theater contest and were spotted by Joe Evans, a former alto sax player in the Motown touring orchestra, who had just started Carnival Records. Joe, signed the Manhattans on August 15, 1964 (which they regard as their true anniversary date); their first release was aptly titled "For the Very First Time," a local New York hit that year, along with "There Goes a Fool."

"I Wanna Be (Your Everything)", written by Blue, broke as a national pop and R&B hit in the winter '65 on Carnival, as did the follow-up

"Searching For My Baby." Sonny wrote the next single, "Follow Your Heart," which also broke pop and R&B, selling over 500,000 copies. "Baby I Need You" came in 1966 (the same year as Smitty's "When We Are Made As One," re-done as a tribute to the late singer on 1985's *Top Hot To Stop It*) and "I Call It Love" in '67, both breaking the pop and R&B charts, by then a not unusual occurrence for the Manhattans. These hits and early touring earned the Manhattans NATRA's "Most Promising Group" award in 1968.

In 1969, the Manhattans were signed to King Records' Deluxe label. Starting with "The Picture Became Quite Clear" and "It's Gonna Take a Lot To Bring Me Back," the group had high R&B sales and regularly crossed-over to the pop charts with their smoothly produced sound. The Deluxe sides included the Manhattans' version of a country son, "From Atlanta to Goodbye," a cover of Little Willie John's "Let Them Talk," Kenny's "If My Heart Could Speak" and Blue's "One Life to Live." It was the last two titles that caught the attention of Columbia Records.

The Manhattans were signed to a worldwide contract with Columbia late in 1972. For the first time, they were able to work on their own production in the studio, collaborating with Gamble & Huff, and veteran producer, arranger, composer Bobby Martin at Philadelphia's Sigma Sound.

More hits followed, in 1974, with "Summertime In The City" released in advance of their next album with Martin, *That's How Much I Love You* and the followup single from the LP, "Don't Take Your Love From Me," the first Manhattans single to reach inside the top 40 on the pop charts.

Blue's "Kiss and Say Goodbye" made history in 1976, as the second single ever to be certified RIAA platinum under the new 2 million sales standard. The LP whence it came, *Manhattans* split production between Martin and Bert De Coteaux and became the Manhattans' first RIAA gold album. During the reign of "Kiss" as a #1 pop and R&B single, the group was honored with an American Music Awards nomination. The album charted for months and pushed to RIAA gold, and found the group breaking ground in Europe with a successful tour of England and several U.S. Armed Forces bases in Germany.

The Manhattans were selected to perform at the Carter Inaugural Ball at the White House in January, 1977. Following an advance single, Blue's "I Kinda Miss You" came the new album, *It Feels So Good*, named after its first single, "It Feels So Good To Be Loved So Bad." The follow-up was Gerald and Sonny's "We Never Danced To A Love Song." That year they made their Broadway premiere as they opened at the Winter Garden with Natalie Cole. There were also a pair of movie soundtracks, "Moving" and "Class of Mrs. McMichael" and

they shared NATRA's "Outstanding Group of the Year" award with the Commodores.

"Am I Losing You" was released in January 1978, as an advance single from the next album, *There's No Good In Goodbye*. The wide-ranging album included the follow-up single, Billy Joel's "Everybody Has A Dream," as well as the Casinos' classic "Then You Can Tell Me Goodbye," and from Annie "Tomorrow."

In 1979, *The Love Talk* album and its first single "Here Comes the Hurt Again" were both released in March. With disco in full-bloom, Blue's "New York City" departed from the ballad format and turned up as an energetic dance tune when it appeared as the B side of the next single, "The Way We Were/Memories" medley. The year ended with a one-month tour of Europe, October-November.

1980, this landmark year began with "Shining Star" and the *After Midnight* album in March. The Radio/City "homecoming" on July 24th was an appropriate follow-up to RIAA gold for the single and LP. The performance at the CBS Records Convention in Miami on August 28th was another coup; as was their acceptance (shared with Universal Studios) of the \$1,000 Ampex Gold Reel award which turned over to the United Negro College Fund in San Antonio.

Lunchtime, on Sept. 28, found Michelob Beer and the New York Music Task Force opening "New York Music Week" with a Manhattans concert at Citicorp Plaza, broadcast live on WABC radio, the first live broadcast on the station since the Beatles (Back in 1976 WABC had chosen "Kiss and Say Goodbye" as #1 Record of the Year). Also that year, a noted performance took place Oct. 11 in Albany before Governor Carey and some 92,000 spectators, co-starring Leonard Bernstein, the Duke Ellington Orchestra and Helen Reddy. The N.Y. State Cultural Affairs Commission promptly asked the Manhattans back for future shows. In addition to special appearances in Canada, Bermuda and the Bahamas toward year's end, the Manhattans also travelled to South America for the first time, highlighted by a show on Chilean television.

November, 1980, marked the release of *Manhattans Greatest Hits*, underscored by an exhaustive 16-page special section devoted to the Manhattans in November 22's *Cashbox* magazine. "For 1981, it's onward and upward!", the introductory article summed up.

1981, *After Midnight* and *Greatest Hits* rode the LP charts into the new year, and the Manhattans' success was confirmed when "Shining Star" won the Grammy for "Best R&B Vocal by a Group" at the 23rd annual awards, live from Rado City, Feb. 25th. March found them in Japan for the first time, two weeks of concerts centering around the Tokyo Music Festival, where

"I'll Never Find Another" won the Silver Prize, and they danced away with the "Best Choreography" award in the bargain. They also played to a sold-out audience at the ultra-swank \$125-a-head Latin Quarter nightclub in Tokyo. Apropos, the *Black Tie* album was released in July along with a new single, "Just One Moment Away." An extended series of KOOL Jazz Festival dates with Aretha Franklin and Flip Wilson, kept the Manhattans' star shining brightly through the year.

A rigorous tour of U.S. military bases, in February-March of 1983, took the Manhattans to Italy, England, Germany, Alaska, Korea and Honolulu. During the tour they were presented with a plaque thanking them for bringing their music to overseas fans, honoring their sound and their longevity. Late spring marked the release of "Crazy" as the prelude to *Forever By Your Side*, the Manhattans 10th Columbia album.

With work underway on a new album, in 1984, the Manhattans broke for a major tour with Gladys Knight and the Pips (March through the Summer), as much a tribute to the great (Motown) choreographer Cholly Atkins as could be imagined. LP sessions were interrupted again during the summer for the Manhattans' annual world tour, this time extending into Korea, Guam, and Tokyo, then over to Europe and England. On Aug. 15, they celebrated their 20th anniversary in the biz.

By the time *Too Hot To Stop It* was issued in March, "You Send Me" was already a hit single for the Manhattans, just one of many treasures on the LP, which included the acappella version of Smitty's "We Are Made As One" in tribute to him. The Manhattans were featured performers at the Variety telethon broadcast in New York, April 7, to raise money for retarded and underprivileged children; they also performed at a Waldorf-Astoria fund raising dinner for Variety, in the Company of Henry Youngman, Maria Shriver, Brent Mussberger and others. Regina Belle joined in June and the touring continued, including the Manhattans first sold-out appearance at their home-state Garden State Arts Center, with Dionne Warwick. Into the new year the Manhattans found themselves spending a great deal of time on the college circuit, playing venues like Ole Miss and Purdue, an area they'd been neglecting for far too long.

The Manhattans' personify hardwork, perseverance and the highest artistry at all musical levels. The Manhattans have begun a third decade together with a new lead singer; Roger Harris, a new label; Valley View Records, and a new single, "Why You Wanna Love Me Like That." A single that reaffirms the Manhattans' appeal to everyone, and is a renewal of their promise to loyal fans that the Manhattans will always be around.



The Manhattans

Bronsters Sieze FSU's Radio Station

By Steven T. Ward

Several hundred Bronsters stormed WFSS and seized the station for 15 minutes on Friday night long enough to send a radio transmission. No one was injured; the radio tower suffered minor damages. The Bronsters fled the station at the end of the transmission.

"There I was, sitting in the booth, my headsets on, my hand on the control knob. It was seven o'clock, and I was getting ready to play some contemporary jazz, when all of a sudden the fire alarm sounds. Well, I'm not too partial to fire, if you know what I mean. I didn't even hand around long enough to press the play button...which meant the station went off the air.

"I got to the hallway and saw everybody heading for the front door. I didn't see smoke, but what I did see—and let me tell you, I've seen strange things in my time—it caused me to wet my pants. I haven't done that since the fourth grade when my mean cousin Tyrone wouldn't stop tickling my toes.

"Well, what I saw were Bronsters. Yes, sir, tiny, vulgar, little horse-apes, that make wet whispers and grunts, and are just plain gross. They kind of scurry and scamper, you know. Four of them stopped on their hooves, they stared at me for a second, then in unison looked at each other and burped. Awh, disgusting. Then, they disappeared into the radio room. Well, I wasn't going to hang around for autographs, you dig...I like living, besides, I needed to go somewhere and change my pants," said D.J. Smith.

Other witnesses spotted Bronsters climbing the radio tower. "It was the craziest thing I've ever seen. There they were, Bronsters, they were hanging this toilet bowl seat, connecting a wire to the tower, sort of like a satellite dish. One of them was sitting on the seat, looking at a map or something and pointing to the sky," said Jeri Simmons.

At home, Dr. McShane, an English Professor, heard the

transmission. "I was sitting in my recliner, patting my dog with one hand and reading Moby Dick when I noticed the radio went dead. I thought it was probably a technical malfunction, or a weather bulletin was coming on. I guess there was nothing for 15 seconds before a scratchy, wet sound started. It took me a moment to realize something—some creature—was trying to communicate. What is this! I jumped from my chair—unfortunately for my dog whose tail got squashed—and I grabbed my tape recorder. I missed a few words but recorded the rest till the end. "I read in the papers of the possible Bronsters attack from the newspaper. I hopped in my car and drove to Dr. Valenti's house."

Dr. Valenti, head of the Communications Dept. said, "I took the tape and played it. I recognized the sounds immediately as dialogue speeded up. I slowed the tape down, and there it was 'HELP...NEED ASSISTANCE. PLEASE COME HALLOWEEN NIGHT. WE HAVE LOST OUR HOME. NEED TO ESTABLISH CONTROL. NEED AT LEAST SEVERAL THOUSAND MORE BRONSTERS. P.S. BRING SECRET WEAPON.' After Dr. Hackley heard the tape, he was asked what he should do. "I'm calling the National Guard and Fort Bragg for help. I'll double the campus security. When Halloween comes, we'll be waiting for them...I have a dream...when the Bronsters arrive from outer space, I'm going to talk them into enrolling. Imagine, several thousand Bronsters getting their diplomas. It is my belief, perhaps my fate to try and make peace between us and the Bronsters and give them a good education so they can function normally in the world."

Until then, we have to wait and see where the Bronsters strike next. And strange events that happen on campus, please report to the Bronco's Voice. Get ready for the Halloween attack.

Kadelpians Meet - Plan Programs For 1989-90 School Year

By PATRICIA M. RAMOS

The Omicron Beta Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an Honor Society in Education, held its first meeting of the 1989-90 school year on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 2 p.m. Dr. C. I. Brown, advisor for the organization, welcomed all the Kadelpians who were present and expressed his hope for this to be the finest season ever for KDP.

A slate of officers was presented for approval. The 1989-90 officers will be Karin Tobias - President, Cecilia McBryde, Tony Smith, Barbara Crockett - Vice Presidents, Sheila Stocker - Treasurer, Katherine Melvin - Archivist, Patricia Ramos, Shaye Wilmers - Public Relations.

Kappa Delta Pi programs which will be continued during the current school year include a National Teacher Examination incentive award and Fayetteville State

University Educational Forum scholarships. The NTE incentive award is a result of efforts made by Kappa Delta Pi to effect higher scores on the NTE by students at Fayetteville State University. The award is given to all students scoring 670 or above on Part III - Professional Knowledge of the NTE. Any score of 670 is awarded with five dollars. An additional five dollars is awarded for each point over 670 point qualification. The largest award in the past was \$65. During the Educational Forum, at which Kadelpians serve as assistants, scholarships are awarded to deserving students to cover the costs of registration. Last year, fourteen scholarships were presented.

Several programs are currently in the planning stages. Among these is a KDP sponsored Job Information Service. Under this proposed project, school principals, superin-

tendents, and other personnel would be asked to come to Fayetteville State University and address the issues of current job availability and areas of greatest need. The proposed plan is for KDP to sponsor this program to provide current, relevant information for those planning a career in education.

Another program which KDP hopes to sponsor is seminars to aid students in preparing to take the National Teacher's Examination. Those Kadelpians who have taken and passed the exam would be asked to conduct the seminar and share hints and suggestions with those preparing to take it.

As a cooperative effort, KDP has been asked to pledge its support to two other organizations on campus, the Non-Traditional Students Organization and Sigma Tau Delta, an Honor society in English.

Kappa Delta Pi has recently been

honored with a \$500 donation. In an effort to promote the programs conducted by KDP, Mr. Leon Slocum presented Dr. Brown with this generous gift.

The Fall Induction Ceremony for new members will be held Oct. 27 in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Rudolph Jones Student Center. Ms. Karen Harris, a Fayetteville State University graduate and recipient of numerous educational awards, is scheduled as guest speaker.

KDP monthly meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month in Room 113 of the Butler Building. As we have a busy and hopefully a very productive year planned, we would like to enlist the support of all the students at Fayetteville State University. If you desire any further information regarding Kappa Delta Pi or any of its programs, contact Dr. C.I. Brown or Dr. Cathy Butler-Kosterman.

*Weekend

and being there, the actions were caused by some native people from the Virginia Beach and Hampton areas. The local and younger people not in college were upset because their friends were arrested for jaywalking and loitering, which was normal for the beach." Jackson was present during the rioting and he

said, "I was in the hotel room looking down at the National Guard hitting people in the stomach with riot batons." Trebor left to attend a function Norfolk state held to keep people from the beach area. The atmosphere had already been established by the police that something would happen. On the day of the festival, the police were fully dressed in riot gear.

"Old Blue and White"

Our colors so true. Oh Hail, White and Blue!
To Thee our voices ring,
Thou seasons may roll and changes unfold
Thy Praise we'll ever sing,
All honor and love and loyalty
We pledge our hearts anew.

Our Alma Mater F.S.U.,
We hail Thee, Old White and Blue.
We cherish each hall, each time honored wall
Each bending tree and bower,
Thou far we may roam, Thy spirit leads on

Welcome New And Returning Students



Tammye A. Jenkins

To Victory and power.
With courage and might and majesty
March on old colors true,
Our Alma Mater, F.S.U.
We'll stand by Old White and Blue!

The primary purpose of Fayetteville State University is to help you acquire a quality education which will prepare you to succeed in your adult life.

We, the returning student body, the administrative team and the entire faculty strongly believe in a commitment to education. You are encouraged to make your experience at Fayetteville State a commitment to excellence.

You, as a member of the student body at FSU are fortunate to be able to attend such a quality school. I challenge you to take advantage of this unique opportunity and add your support as we continue to improve the quality of student life.

Get the best education you can. Take advantage of the opportunities available at FSU, and best wishes for a successful academic experience. I am looking forward to the challenge of serving as your reigning 89-90 campus queen.

Thank you for choosing Fayetteville State University to play such an important role in your future.

Tammye A. Jenkins