

ENTERTAINMENT ON REVIEW

By Monte Zepeda

It seems a little contradictory indeed that WAYS is bringing the Association to Charlotte as a part of the station's first Holiday Festival. Just about two years ago the Association released their first single record, "Along Comes Mary". The song went to the top of all the national charts but received so little airplay in Charlotte that few people in the city knew what the song sounded like.

In 1967 WAYS brings a group to headline its Christmas show that in 1965 wasn't good enough to warrant airplay.

However, it comes as no surprise that WAYS is bringing back Bobby Vee. The station has sort of taken Vee under its wing and helped him along with his career. The station broke Vee's single, "Come Back When You Grow Up", before any other radio station in the country. Since then, WAYS has apparently taken special interest in Vee. Recently two artists released a record called "Beautiful People". While most other top forty stations in North Carolina are playing the version by Kenny O'Dell, WAYS plays only Vee's version.

When will the contradictions end?

The Lettermen have released a new album as a part of Capitol's new sounds for '68. It's called "The Lettermen!! ...and 'Live'".

This record album presents a newer side to the popular campus concert group. In addition to the soft ballads, the Lettermen have included some of the recent, fast-moving hits that previously have not been thought of as "Lettermen style". For example, cuts on this album include, "Up, Up and Away", "Windy", "Sally Was a Good Old Girl", "Goin' Out of My Head", and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You".

Of course ballads have been included in this album.

Songs like "Love, This Is My Song", "What Now, My Love", "I Believe", "Meditation", and "Quiet Nights" will always prove to be the Lettermen's most popular presentations.

This "live -- in concert" album has a distinction that few "live" recordings can claim. The backup music is really of top quality. Every complimentary sound is featured -- even the most minute effect of percussion -- to make this a most entertaining album.

"Now if I ask for four, is it possible that I might get four? . . . Unh! Unh! Unh! Unh! Good godah! Don't play so much; don't be so mean!" Yes friends, Soul King James Brown has a new album out on the King label, "Cold Sweat".

James, long THE soul entertainer of the country, belts out more of the same in this album. Some examples are "Stagger Lee", "Good Rockin' Tonight", and "Kansas City", all in addition to parts 1 & 2 of "Cold Sweat".

But also in this album, James Brown slows it down a little and proves that he can sing as well as scream. An example would be the old standard, "Fever".

Jack Jones, now on RCA records, has a new album that has been featured prominently on WBT radio. It's a great new sound in records and it's a great new sound as far as Jones' style is concerned. He is no longer the crooner of the dime-a-dozen variety, but is a vocalist with a distinct singing style.

The album features "Live for Life", a song from the upcoming United Artists motion picture of the same name. But one of the best songs is "Without Her" which combines the upbeat of today with the orchestration of yesterday's classical works to come up with an unbeatable recording.

Other songs on the album include "The Look of Love" and "Homeward Bound" along with a number of newer songs that hold great appeal for the young and the youthful adults.

The album title? It's "Without Her".

Not much has been heard from the Sounds Orchestral of late but they have not been inactive. A new album by the group has been released by Parkway Records featuring the piano of Johnny Pearson, the man who made "Cast Your Fate to the Wind" such a hit.

This record has sparkling instrumental versions of many of the recent hit songs. Here is a list:

- "Guantanamera"
- "God Only Knows"
- "I Couldn't Live Without Your Love"
- "Black Is Black"
- "Michelle"
- "Somewhere My Love"
- "Listen People"
- "Love Letters"
- "Daydream" . . . and others

It is hard to describe the sound of this album. The songs are versions of the hits that have a certain appeal that is often lacking in such records. The songs sound a great deal like the original versions yet have enough variation. In other words, "Sophisticated Sounds" by the Sounds Orchestral is a necessary addition to an instrumental record library.

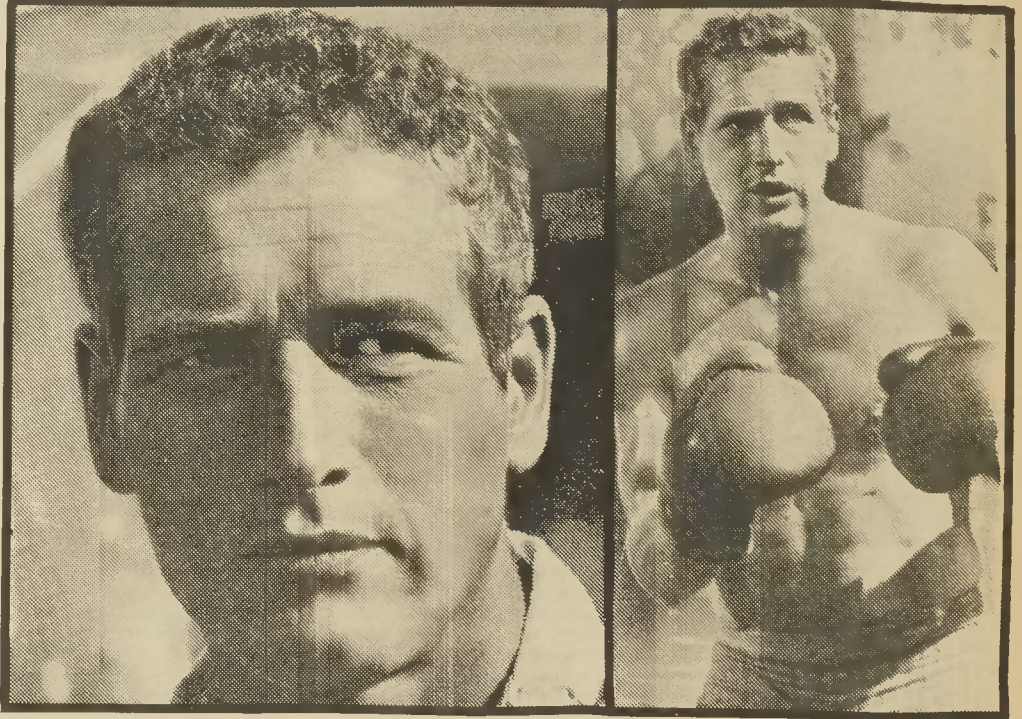
Bobby Vinton's new Epic album, "Please Love Me Forever", merits a listening. Everyone knows Vinton's style, so a description is unnecessary. So a decision on whether or not to get the album would have to be made on the basis of songs included. Here they are. In addition to "Please Love Me Forever", are "Love Me With All Your Heart", "Young Love", "It's All in the Game", "P.S. I Love You", "Bouquet of Roses", and "Who's Sorry Now".

A couple of months ago Chris Bartley had a single out called, "The Sweetest Thing This Side of Heaven". That record has been incorporated into an album that is sure to entertain. The album, on the Vando label, is the first by this 19-year-old newcomer to the entertainment business. It should prove to be another step of advancement for Bartley.

Anyone for an album of good dance music? Then "Ooh Baby, You Turn Me On" by Willie Mitchell should be the answer. Mitchell, a master of soul-rock, has never been better than he is in his album. Not a soul can listen to this album and keep from marking time in some way if not going into a dance outright.

Cuts from the album include the title song, "Soul Finger", "Slippin' & Sliddin'", "Sunny", "Pearl Time", "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag", and "Respect".

'Cool Hand Luke' Experience In Individualistic Action



PAUL NEWMAN is "Cool Hand Luke." In the new Warner Bros.-Seven Arts release, filmed in Panavision and Technicolor, Newman portrays a fiercely individual and incorrigibly independent man caught on a Southern chain-gang.

by Monte Zepeda

Lucas Jackson -- a true individualist. What does an individualist do when he drinks beer on a summer night?

Co: "What are you doin' there fella?"

Luke: "I just cut, uh, tha... ping...thing."

Cop: "You'd better come along with us."

What does he do? He uses a pipe cutter to remove the parking meters from their stands in a municipal lot. Result? Luke gets two years hard labor in a prison camp.

Welcome speech?

Cap'n: "It's all up to you. I can be a good guy or I can be one real mean son'nbich."

After a time the cruelty of the road gang mounts up to crushing pressure. Luke "gets rabbit in his blood" and runs. To make good his escape Luke has to stay ahead of the bloodhounds.

Dogboy: "Look Cap'n. Look what he done to Blue. He's dead. He run himself plum to death."

But success in escape is only temporary. Capture and return to the prison camp follow -- return to be used as an example.

Cap'n: "Ah, what we got heah is, ah, failuah ta communicate. Some men you just can't reach; some men you can't be nice to."

Luke: "I wish you'd quit bein' so nice to me, Cap'n."

For that remark Luke gets a blackjack across the back of the neck with a screaming admonition from Cal'n, "Don't you evah talk that way to me boy. Evah!"

But even with a set of legirons Luke gets away again. But to really get far away Luke has to dispose of the chains and the dogs following him. He seeks aid from two little colored boys.

Luke: "I sure do need some help. I wonder -- no you ain't strong enough."

Boy 1: "Tod do what?"

Luke: "To heft an axe."

Boy 1: "Sho' I can."

Luke: "Bet you can't."

Boy 1: "I can too!"

Boy 2: "Well then get it man!"

The problem of the chains is solved but what about the dogs? After spreading chili powder, pepper and curry --

Luke to boys: "You wanna have some fun? You remember how them dogs do when they come through and you tell me about it some day."

This time escape is longer but not permanent. After capture he gets two sets of chains and is put back to work.

Cook: "Luke, you gettin' a smell so that if you run again, I could track you myself."

Luke: "Yeah, well that should be easy for a genuine son of a bitch."

But the guards know Luke too well and realize that they have to break his spirit or he will run again.

Guard: "Luke, you see that ditch? That's Boss Kean's ditch and I told him that dirt in it is your dirt. What's your dirt doin' in Boss Kean's ditch?"

Luke: "I don't know boss."

Guard: "Then you better get in there and get it out."

Later when the ditch has been dug --

Another guard: "Hey Luke. What you doin' there?"

Luke: "I'm gettin' my dirt out of Boss Kean's ditch."

Guard: "Well I'll be damned if I'm going to have your dirt

in my yard. Get it out."

Later, after the hole has been filled.

First Guard: "Luke, I thought I told you to get your dirt out of Boss Kean's ditch."

Luke: "O.K., Boss."

On into the night after the ditch has been redug.--

Guard Two: "What's all this dirt doin' here, Luke?"

But even though all of this treatment in addition to beatings and humiliation does break Luke's spirit, it doesn't prevent that same spirit from rebuilding after the heat is off Luke.

So Luke runs again. But this escape lasts even shorter than the others. Cornered, Luke gets this proposition from a fellow convict.--

They got us boy. They was gonna kill you but I made them promise that if you gave yourself up they wadn't even gonna beat you up. Come on boy, give up."

What does an individualist do? See "Cool Hand Luke" starring Paul Newman at the Cinema I to find out.

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