

'Abbey Road' Auditioned

By CHUCK WATERS

Sometimes music offers not only variety, but if to be true to its purpose, it may also entertain. This is not to insinuate music has a solitary purpose; on the contrary it can be employed quite efficiently as a tool of education, social comment and so forth. But the truly successful album is one that if both lyrics and music were separated, each could stand on its own, expressing thought and mood so intertwined that the fusion creates nothing short of masterpiece.

It is a very, very select few discs that attain this reward. The Beatles most recent collection, ABBEY ROAD, almost reaches the said status. Perhaps the place in your record rack best suited for storage of this LP is for it to be secured in the middle of the Beatles' white covered double record set and considered as an integral part. Taking the music and lyrics of the double album as a whole, neither can really be dissected from the other without taking away some of the spirit and creative endeavor. Nevertheless, the three albums should be considered together for the works were composed at similar times.

ABBAY ROAD offers a musical spectrum, and although some of the compositions can be enjoyed wonderfully if broken down (not of necessity - this simply reflects the genius of Lennon and McCartney), when its taken in its entirety the sixteen songs are possibly the best ever recorded by the Beatles.

"I Want You", a seven minute plus band, begins with lyrics and music, but before the song is half completed the weight of the music itself carries you with it until its finish. The "She's So Heavy" subtitle is such an understatement; that one finds himself almost looking for the culprit that abruptly cuts the re-

cord off.

Inside, however, is still carried that same heavy, beating memory until side two relaxes the anxiety with a soothing lyric of dawn, "Here Comes the Sun." It asks little except to be enjoyed. George Harrison commented that the song "came to him one morning while resting in Eric Clapton's garden."

Side two contains Lennon and McCartney's "Morning Suite - seven cuts when considered together to tell a story. Actually, Paul referred to the fifteen minute segment as "allowing enough time for one to shave, bathe and get dressed;" thus the "Morning Suite" connotation. And sufficiently easy to understand, the first song in the series, "Sun King", is the gentle rouser. It is the sun unfolding upon a night dampened countryside as a healthy flower. "Mean Mr. Mustard" and "Polythene Pam" border as being "pure funky" and surprising and before you know it "She Came in Thru the Bathroom Window."

All well and good, and at this point the suite has served its purpose well - to transform a perhaps sleepy listener into an unfolding flower himself. But with "Golden Slumbers", strains of lyric praising sleep would seem to coax the now awake hearer back to those arms from whence he stirred. Not so. Ringo's drum solo in "Carry that Weight" is the only extended offering ever made save possibly the small

amount contained in "Birthday." Then, with typical British reserve, a venerated silence before Paul's jingle to his most royal lady. "The End" and quite aptly so.

Harrison's other composition on the LP is "Something" which the other members will unashamedly admit is the best on the record. Fortunately, this and the hauntingly beautiful "Come Together" are released as a single and should receive air coverage. The three remaining cuts may be smiled at. Two may be sung along with, "Maxwell's Silver Hammer" and Ringo's "Octopus Gardens." "Oh! Darling" is three minutes and twenty-eight seconds of Paul crooning in a 1950 vein. Again, enjoy it for what it is - harmless, clean fun.

Although the Beatles' ABBEY ROAD may not be a complete masterpiece, it is indeed excellent and deserving Gold Record status, if no other album by the Beatles should ever have been rewarded such. ABBEY ROAD . . . it will be interesting to see whether or not this street should become plagued with tourists intent on tearing our pieces of the wall and plaster so as to secure a souvenir of the Beatle heritage. Let's hope not.

NCW 'Pound' Proposed

By GARY CHRISTOPHER

The matter of "man's best friend" is currently getting much attention on the Wesleyan campus. Dogs of assorted shapes and sizes have of late been roaming about the campus and exercising at least as much authority as some students. Doug Yarnold, a junior Biology major, has proposed that something be done about this issue. Yarnold says that this problem has been prevalent in past years as well as now, but that no solution has every been presented by the administration other than simply the sporadic rounding-up and extermination of the animals. "The fact that students feed and care for the dogs is the most important reason for their remaining on campus; this does nothing, however, for the problem." Yarnold's proposal is that the dogs be housed in a pound or doghouse located on campus. This pound would be constructed and maintained by Yarnold and other interested students. This proposal, endorsed by Dean Wilde,

now hinges on the interest and financial support of students.

Yarnold's interest in this situation came as a result of one of Wesleyan's most recent acquisitions, a six-week-old mongrel terrier which was hit by a car and which Doug kept in his room for a week.



Doug Yarnold poses with injured addition to Wesleyan's dog pound.

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