

RECORD NOTES

7

Neil Young: AFTER THE GOLD RUSH (Reprise, RS 6383). Neil Young has done it again with this, his third "solo" album. His haunting voice and mystical lyrics raise questions we won't be able to answer for twenty years or more. Young and Crazy Horse are joined by Greg Reeves, Steve Stills, and Nils Lofgren. Reeves and Lofgren play bass and piano respectively, while Stills supplies vocal support. Particularly excellent numbers are "Tell Me Why," "After the Gold Rush," and "Southern Man," which features a short solo by Young on the electric guitar.

Rod Stewart: GASOLINE ALLEY (Mercury, SR 61264). For those of you who knew what was happening before EASY RIDER graced the silver screen, you may well remember an English blues band called the Jeff Beck Group. If you do, you will undoubtedly also remember the soulful voice of Rod Stewart, who was the lead vocalist for the group. Having split from Beck and taken along the J.B.G. bassist, Ron Wood, Stewart has cut an album which is a masterpiece of contemporary blues. The emphasis is on a quieter, bluer sound than that which characterized the hard-driving style of Beck. Tracks which are exceptional include the title song, "Gasoline Alley," which features Stewart on vocals, Wood on all guitars, and Stanley Matthews on mandolin. Also, don't miss "Cut Across Shorty," with Stewart, voice; Wood and Martin Quilbuton, acoustic guitars; Dick Powell, violin; Pete Sears, bass; and Mick Waller, drums. A Good Album!

Quicksilver: JUST FOR LOVE (Capitol, SMAS 498). Quicksilver continues to grow, and on this album they have added blues guitarist Dino Valenti (who is featured throughout, somewhat to the chagrin of fans of John Cippollinas, whose guitar work characterized Quicksilver's first two albums). Nicky Hopkins, another Jeff Beck Group refugee, remains with Quicksilver, and his piano work is excellent. Another good album.

Iron Butterfly: METAMORPHOSIS (Atco, SD-33-339). I can only hope that the change is not yet complete, because Iron Butterfly has a long way to go. They have dropped Erik Braun, the eighteen year-old lead guitarist, and added two new members: Mike Pinera and El Rhino. The music is

still basically bubble gum-psychedelic in their old vein, but there is one number, "Butterfly Blue" (14:03), which saves the album. It's a nice blues number, but not worth paying several dollars for. Maybe next time.

ISAAC VAN PATTEN

If you aren't afraid to work, and if you can write, or are willing to learn, we want you—really, we do. Contact Frank Austin, 116 New Hall; Miss Janet Stone; Al Seitner, 114 New Hall; Miss Patricia Butler, 302 Montreat-Anderson Hall; or any other staff member for further information.