

NOTES OF THE WEEK...

The recent opening of the new Stax Records office in Memphis, Tennessee, under the direction of DAVID PORTER, newly appointed Vice President of the growing Fantasy family of labels, marked another milestone in the records of musical history.

It all came about under the scrutinizing eyes and scratching pens of a specially invited contingent of the press plus other guests Saturday December 10, with a wind blowing luncheon and show at the Holiday Rivermont, following a press conference with complete media coverage at the new Stax Records office in the Mid-town Towers Building on Union Avenue in Memphis.

The reactivation of Stax Records also brought about the replacing of the missing sound of real soul music that's been so sorely missed...the Memphis sound, that Stax Records was recognized the world over for. And with the official reactivation of Stax Records came the rejuvenated spirits of a community, a city, and a state, through their various representatives that shared the spotlight of the occasion with encouraging remarks, awards, etc. that was witnessed by hundreds in attendance.

awaited magic moment, that in the opinion of this writer, was almost too long in coming...however, praise God and all the responsible powers in-



Cletus Anderson

involved in making it possible...STAX IS BACK.

Not only is Stax back; the label is alive with old and new talent. The super talented Soul Children and the amazing talents of a new group known as Circle of Fire, featuring DONALD O'CONNOR are the first two groups signed under the reactivated label under the guidance of DAVID PORTER.

If you recall, the first big hit penned by DAVID PORTER, was Sam and Dave's recording of "Hold On I'm Coming." Now years later with the same talented song writer and producer at the helm of a reactivated label, it's rather ironic that the thoughts of this writer should flash back to that particular song that more or less says it all for the future of Stax Records under the umbrella of Fantasy Records.

That new hot recording trio from RCA Records, Odyssey, breezed into Angelton for the first time to meet the press and greet their many West Coast fans. Currently the group is riding high on the charts with "Native New Yorker". Seems this may be the best thing that has happened to the Big Apple in quite some time. If the city could do as well as the record, who knows, Nu Yawk could make a heavy comeback.

Many stars and celebri-

EBONY ETCHINGS, ETC. HOLLYWOOD

warren lanier



TRAMPS

ties came out to wish the King of Gospel Music, Reverend James Cleveland a happy birthday celebration. Among those in tribute to Reverend Cleveland included, D.J. Rogers, Martha Reeves, Councilman David Cunningham, Linda Hopkins,

lips, James Cleveland Singers, and Rodena Preston. Ji-Tu Cumbuka provided a short, moving statement and the M.C. for the da is Albert Popwell.

Cletus Anderson, owner of VIP Record Stores, is currently hosting VIP Celebrity Disco Night at the Kahuna's Bearded Clam Disco in Redondo Beach, California. Natalie Cole has already appeared and ABC Recording Artists, The Floaters, were on hand to add to the growing number of celebrities that are dropping by to entertain. Good luck Cletus.

Dr. Roland S. Jefferson, screenwriter for the film Disco 9000, is back in the movie making business. This time it's a film called "Perfume" which was written and is being produced by Dr. J. Rose Brumfield, former Miss Black California has one of the five leading female roles. Looks like Dr. Jefferson may have to make psychiatry a side line pro-

fession. Seems like some people have all of the good luck.

Marla Gibbs (Florence the maid on the Jeffersons) and famed musician, Horace Tapscott returned to Los Angeles with a bounty of gifts, resolutions, and into from their participation in the United Negro College Fund Telethon recently held in Waco, Texas, and that's Hollywood...

MAKE MINE MUSIC...

The Tramps - have been together for three years. Most of the members were originally from a group known as the Volcanos, who erupted with the tune, "Storm Warning" in 1965 on the independent Philadelphia based label, Artic Records. The merging together of the various members of the Tramps was typical of the many street corner harmony groups that could be heard throughout the city in the late 1950's, through the mid '60's.

"It's very true of many of your successful groups today," says Young. "Most of the guys were raised up on street corners, doing all kinds of crazy things and getting chased away by 'the man', hearing 'All you'll ever be is a bunch of tramps..."

"So when we got to-

gether to sing professionally we kept that name because it was a name we never forgot, and we didn't think anybody else would either. We knew that our name sounded kind of odd, and at first with a bounty of gifts, resolutions, and into fact, the first time we were presented at the Apollo Theater, we came out with dungarees in hobo fashion. The people found it difficult to accept us like that. So we decided to fool the public by dressing sharp, and we found it took them by surprise."

The Tramps love to dazzle audiences with their flashy costumes, but it's more than just their dressing that's given them such wide popular acceptance around the world.

"Our sound can be attributed to the style of the Coasters. Their sound was based around their lead singer and bass singer."

There's no problem identifying with "Where The Happy People Go", the album that takes its name from the smash single within.

"Tramps III" is their latest Atlantic album and it should establish them as superstars in the wide world of music.

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GEORGE DUKE REACH FOR IT including: Lemme At It/Hot Feet/Searchin' My Mind Just For You/Om! (Fresh Water)

LONE STAR FIRING ON ALL SIX including: Hypnotic Mover/The Bells Of Berlin/Time Lays Down Rivers Overflowing/All Of Us To All Of You

The O'Jays Collectors' Items including: Back Stabbers/Survival Let Me Make Love To You Love Music/Family Reunion

BOZ SCAGGS DOWN TWO THEN LEFT including: Whatcha Gonna Tell Your Man The Goods/A Clue: 1993

EARTH, WIND & FIRE ALL IN ALL including: Serpentine Fire/Jupiler Runnin' Love's Holiday/Fantasy

RAMSEY LEWIS TEQUILA MOCKINGBIRD including: Camino El Bueno Skippon That Ole Bach Magic Wandering Rose My Angel's Smile

AEROSMITH DRAW THE LINE including: Up/Down Know Why/Kings And Queens If For Sore Eyes/The Hand That Feeds

Paul Simon Greatest Hits, Etc. including: Slip Slidin' Away (Home) 50 Ways To Leave Your Lover Loves Me Like A Rock Still Crazy After All These Years

BILL WITHERS MENAGERIE including: She Wants To (Get On Down) Lovely Day I Want To Spend The Night Lovely Night For Dancing Let Me Be The One You Need

MAYNARD FERGUSON New Vintage including: Main Title (From Star Wars) Maria (From West Side Story) Smerazade/Cass/E! Vuelo (The Flight)

BILLY JOEL THE STRANGER including: Just The Way You Are From An Italian Restaurant Win Out (Anthony's Sonnet) The Good Die Young Vient

Lagging & Messina Finale including: Changes/You Need A Man Medley/Danny's Song/A Love Story House At Pooh Corner Thinking Of You

MOTHER'S FINEST ANOTHER MOTHER FURTHER including: Baby Love Baby Love (Mickey's Monkey Thank You For The Love/Burning Love Piece Of The Rock)

Lou Rawls When You Hear Lou, You've Heard It All including: Lady Love One Life To Live Trade Winds Dollar Green Unforgettable

Neil Diamond I'm Glad You're Here With Me Tonight including: Desiree Free Man In Paris God Only Knows Once In A While A

DENICIE WILLIAMS SONG BIRD including: Baby Baby My Love's All For You/The Season Time/The Boy I Left Behin

JAMES TAYLOR JT including: Handy Man/Bartender's Blues Your Smiling Face/Terra Nova/Traffic Jam

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