

Got the blues tonight?

By Mike Workman

The ArtsCenter has got blues if you want it tonight.

Blues slide guitarist John Hammond (who also plays the harmonica) will be in concert at the ArtsCenter in Carrboro tonight at 8 p.m.

Hammond's latest album, entitled *Got Love if You Want* It is his first major label release in more than 15 years. And he's sharing it with

Hammond has played with rock legends like the Rolling Stones' Bill Wyman and the great Jimi Hendrix, who held his last job as a sideman in

Hammond's band in New York City. He contributed to the Grammy award-winning 1984 compilation *Blues Explosion*, which also included performances by Stevie Ray Vaughan, Koko Taylor, J.B. Hutto and Sugar Blue.

Hammond specializes in Delta blues, inspired by Mississippi Delta bluesmen like Robert Johnson. His father was John Henry Hammond, who played a key role in the discovery and development of the careers of Billie Holliday, Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen,

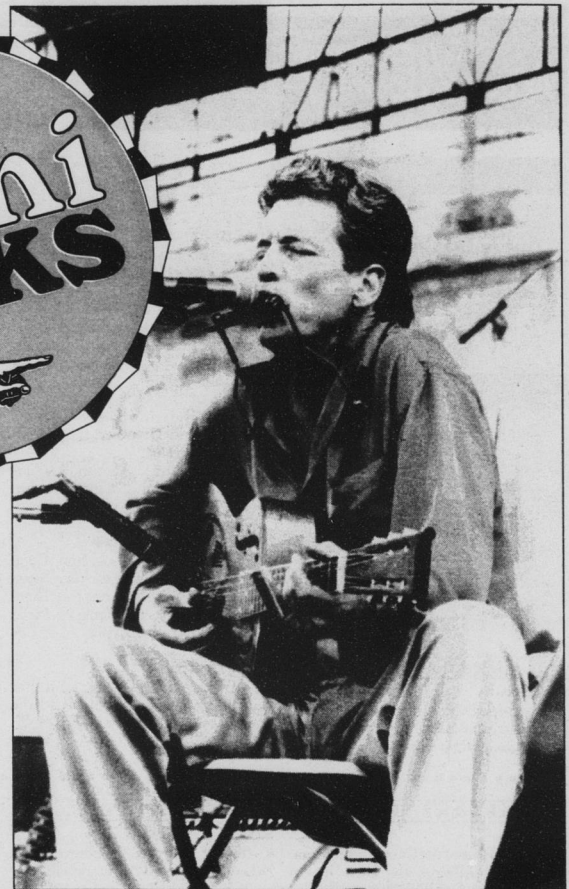
Aretha Franklin, Pete Seeger and Count Basie.

Songs from Hammond's new album include remakes of Chuck Barry's



"Nadine," Charles Brown's "Driftn' Blues" and Son House's "Preachin' Blues."

Admission to the show is \$10. Call the ArtsCenter at 929-ARTS for more details.



THURSDAY

Duke (jazz) deserves respect

By Scott Timberg

Jazz, unlike basketball, is based on cooperation instead of competition. That's why every Carolina Blue-blooded Tar Heel owes him or herself a trip to Duke University sometime this spring to check out the North Carolina International Jazz Festival.

Duke's jazz series is consistently one of the best in the South, and the gruff but lovable Paul Jeffrey frequently invites friends and colleagues from all over the world to add to the programs.

Duke's Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Festival Ensemble, which back up most of the performers, are mean little combos. I've seen jazz all over the East Coast and Western Europe, and few shows beat, say, a gig I caught at Duke last fall led by drummer Ralph Peterson, one of Jeffrey's former students.

Can't promise anything will be that good again, but why not?

Tonight Joanne Brackeen, composer and pianist, performs at 8 p.m. in the Nelson Music Room on East Campus. Brackeen was the only female Jazz Messenger in the history of Art Blakey's accomplished hard bop group. She also played for three years with tenor saxophonist Joe Henderson. After playing with Stan Getz and Dexter Gordon, she set out as her own leader in 1977.

Brackeen is one of a few pianists who can hold her own playing solo, and who has recorded this way in the past.

Her style is composed of bebop, Brazilian, "out" stuff and free jazz. Jazz critic Nat Hentoff said of Brackeen, "The music comes from her like a force of nature." The New York Times called her "an exuber-

antly hearty romantic" with a "clear, ringing tone."

Future gigs:

• Steve Nelson, vibraphonist, and Pedro Moreira, tenor, March 26, 8 p.m., Baldwin Auditorium

• Ron Jackson, guitarist/composer/arranger, March 27, 8 p.m., Nelson Music Room

• Marcus Roberts, piano, April 1, 8 p.m., Baldwin Auditorium. Roberts is a big shot, has a hot new record, and those who want to see him should get tickets while they still can.

Tickets to all events available from Page Box Office 684-4444 or Ticket Master, 834-4000. General admission \$9, students \$8. Visa and Mastercard accepted. For more information call 560-4636, ext. 1133.

And remember, don't think too much about basketball.

See the world — almost for free

By Jennifer Brett

Everyone wants to travel the world. Almost no one can afford it. That's what University of Arizona graduate Mark Field thought, but he figured out a way to travel for next to nothing, and wrote a book about it.

The Courier Air Travel Handbook may not sound too appealing at first. The idea of gophering your way around the world might not seem too attractive — but wait! It's really not that bad. Here's how it works:

Companies that need to ship stuff to other countries buy round-trip airplane tickets for the goods because round-trip baggage moves faster. (Go figure.) Anyway, they've got the package, they've got the airline ticket, now they need someone to

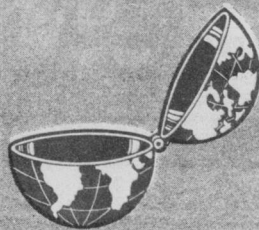
fly along with the baggage (seems the airline folks won't let baggage travel alone, maybe because it's no fun for them to lose it if there's no one there to wail and weep after their stuff's been lost). In short, these businesses need you, the flexible college student or grad who wants to travel, is flexible and most of all, is broke.

Important to note is that it's all perfectly legal. You won't be trans-

porting anything stolen or illegal — actually you won't have to haul it around, so what do you care? Anyway, it's all on the up-and-up and your input is minimal.

Even if you don't want to see the world via courier work, *Handbook* is a handy guide for anyone who's going to be travelling. Field has included ton of numbers for hostels, tourist centers and other places that can help you during a stay abroad. Also included, of course, are the names, numbers and profiles of companies who most frequently hire couriers.

Handbook is available in book stores, but if you can't find it, call (800) 345-0096 or send \$10.70 to: Thunderbird Press, 5930-10 W. Greenway Road, Suite 112, Glendale, AZ 85306.



Don't call 'em metal, flake

By Kristi Turnbaugh

Hey you, just because they're called Metal Flake Mother, don't be calling them a metal band! The Chapel Hill quartet's sound is about as metal as sawdust, and their songs are even tastier.

I could tell you to imagine clean, ringing guitars spread over swinging drum beats and assure you that that was MFM's "sound." I could say that most-of-the-time-lead singer Ben Clarke reminds me of XTC's Andy Partridge or sometimes Black Francis of the Pixies. But it ain't that simple, folks.

Metal Flake Mother — Ben Clarke, Jim Mathis, Quince Marcum and Paco — churns out near-perfect two-and-three-minute pop songs to fit any occasion. There's the instrumental, Ventures' surfish sound of "The Inquisition," the Eastern fairy tale-ish "Sutpen," the ballroom waltz of "Safer," the frantic rocker "Wiggle Like a Wide One," the moody, Creedence Clearwater Revival-ish "Our Love for the Bone," and the country-tinged "Got a Lot of Blood." And that's only a handful of the 17 gems on their glorious debut, *Beyond the Java Sea*, which has been out for more than a year. Don't have it? Buy it. It's on MOIST Records, so look for the pink cover with the clever design tipping its hat to '50s counter culture.

Metal Flake Mother rarely plays out, but they are — finally — this Saturday night at Cat's Cradle. Maybe they'll play oldies (meaning about two years old, the time that MFM's been together) like "Deem On" or "Elsewhere." Maybe Jimbo will break out his Krusty the Clown makeup to sing, "She's as mean as Mr. Grinch" in my personal favorite, "Mean to Me."

Whatever happens, it'll be worth your time to check out Metal Flake Mother. I urge you to witness one of the best Chapel Hill bands, and one you can't tuck away into the punk, grunge or metal corners.

SATURDAY