

Joe Horacek's baby grows up: Deep Jonah draws crowds to hear local, guest musicians

By LIBBY LEWIS

Joe Horacek gets a mysterious gleam in his eye when he speaks of Deep Jonah. It is not unlike that of a father's, for Deep Jonah is indeed Horacek's six-month-old baby.

Medical student Horacek and his Deep Jonah "family" have taken good care of the project, nourishing it with the



Lise Uyanik

best local solo talent and a warm coffeehouse atmosphere reminiscent of '60's coffeehouses only in structure. The mood is pure '70's now; the student populus gathers in the musky corner of the Student Union basement to enjoy good music and a special camaraderie that Deep Jonah perpetuates — not to band together in a common frustrated political cause.

Horacek saw the need for an outlet for soloists who had all but withered in the decade's transition — he had suffered it himself as a musician — and he convinced Archie Copeland, Union associate director, of the need.

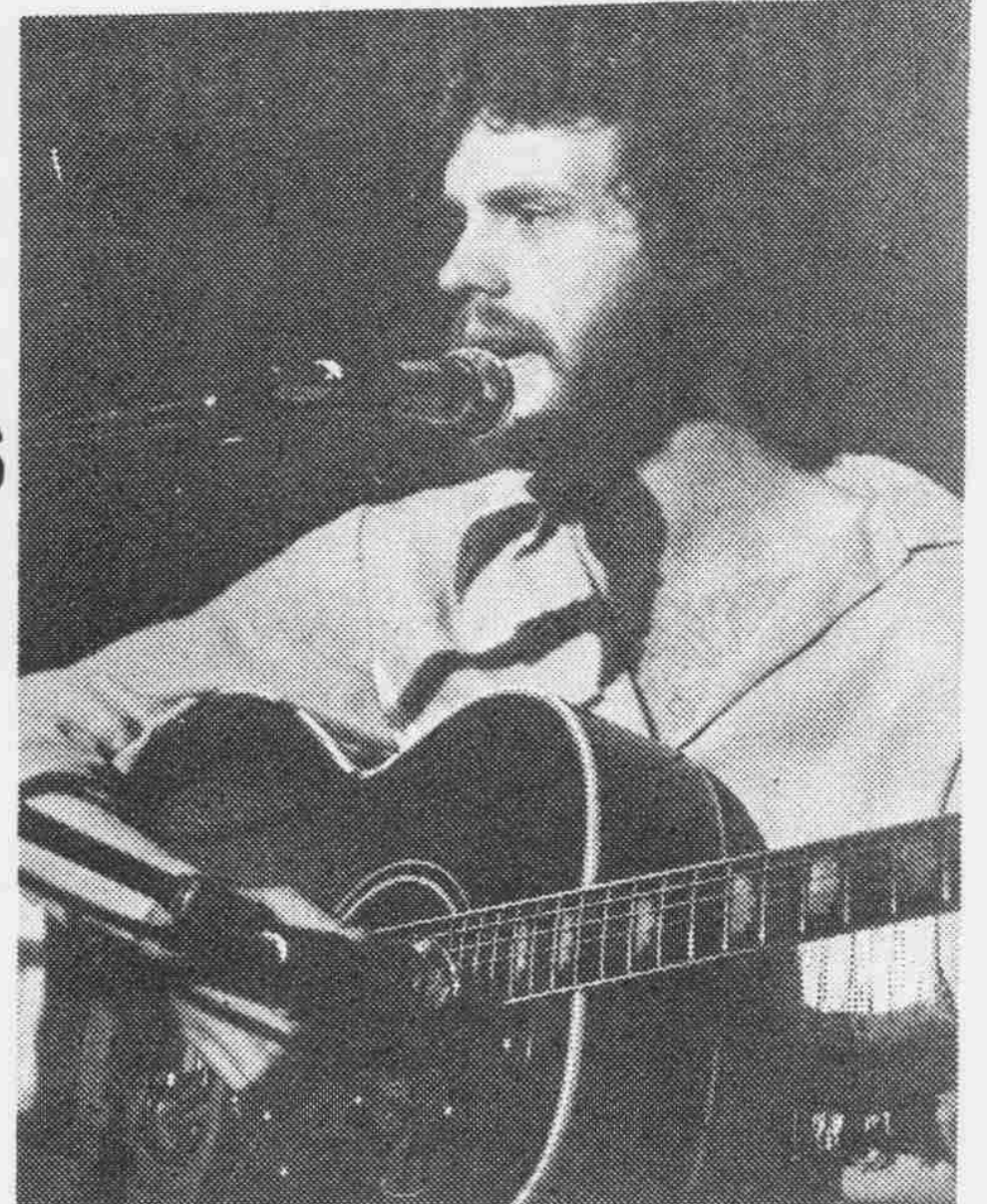
It turned into Deep Jonah.

Horacek had a rough several months getting it all worked out — for while Copeland was behind him 100 per cent, the Union itself showed no interest in Horacek's idea. Some money was coming in from the Union, but most of the support came from Copeland himself. If Horacek is "Pa" Deep Jonah, then Copeland is "Uncle."

Gradually the family grew and Deep Jonah developed a personality of its own. Soloists like Rod Abernathy, Frank Dieter, and Mike Cross appeared to play in the coffeehouse, signalling the need of a soloist drought in the area.

Sophomore Anna McClanahan will be heading the Deep Jonah family next year, and Horacek is confident to the point of excitement about her taking over.

"I spotted her from the very beginning — she knows just what needs to be done and she does it," he says. McClanahan has also been appointed Social Committee chairman for the Union next year, and Deep Jonah will be the committee's



Rod Abernathy (above) and Lise Uyanik (lower left) are just two of the musicians who will be performing this summer at Deep Jonah. Others slated include Barry Gabel, Frank Dieter and Jim Magill.

main project, so "the future looks solid for Deep Jonah," Horacek says.

Rod Abernathy will be starting off the summer at Deep Jonah this Thursday night. Abernathy's natural clowning and amazing guitar-playing have made him a favorite at Deep Jonah as well as at Cat's Cradle where he now plays with the group "Arrogance."

Barry Gabel and Doug Goldman will be playing June 2, Lise Uyanik will be featured June 9, and Jim Magill and Frank Dieter are slated for June 16.

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