

FREE



MEMPHIS

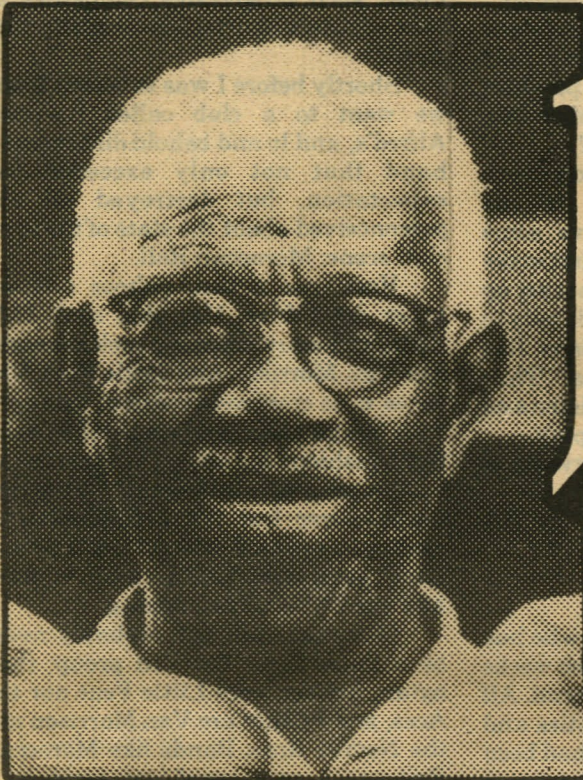


STAR

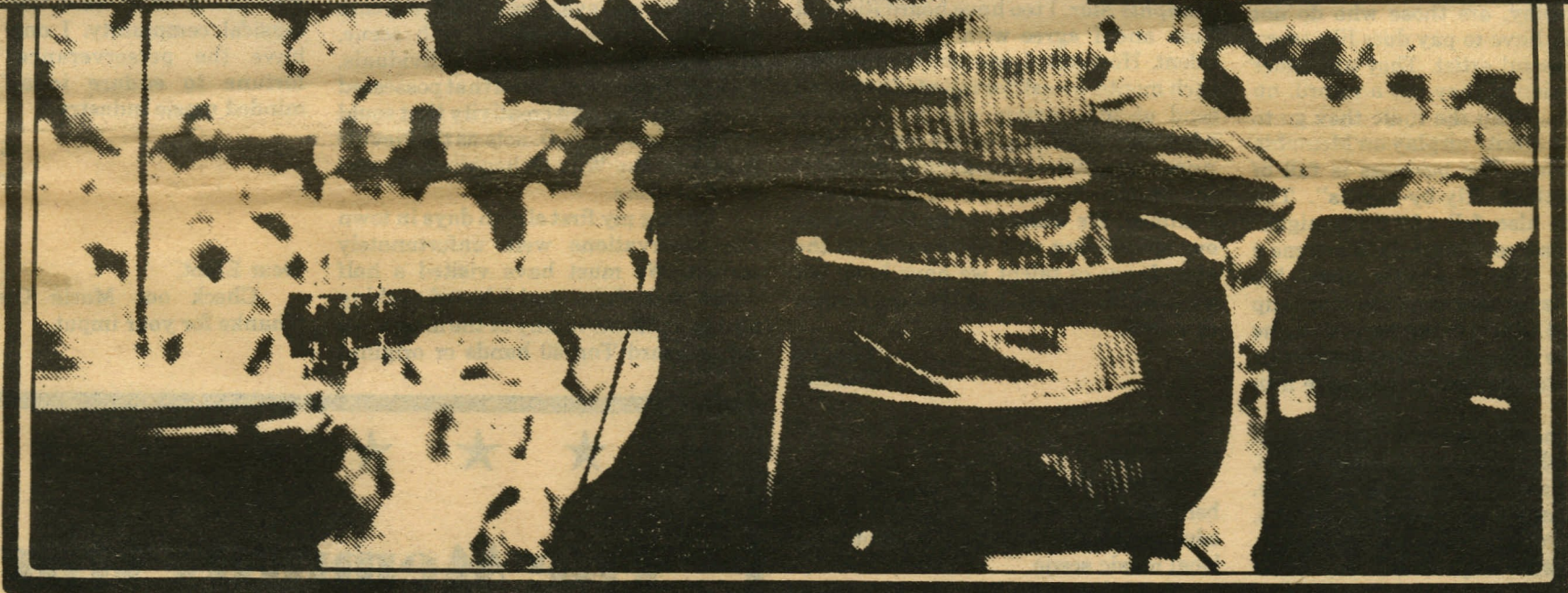
the voice of music ...in memphis!

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4

OCTOBER, 1981



Memphis



"FURRY" ★ LEWIS

Special Gift Offer

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(Composit courtesy of Jim Godown of T-Shirts International, Inc.)

by Jim Santoro, Editor

In the recent past, there have been many articles written about the man we knew as "Furry" Lewis. It would seem redundant to repeat his life story for you, telling you all his good points and all his bad points, his successes and his failures. Furry was an ordinary man with extraordinary talents. He was a great entertainer developing his own style of blues and he surely will be missed. So in his honor, we are presenting this special cover page of the

Memphis Star as a tribute to the man and his music. "Furry" is not gone forever, he's just playing to a different audience.

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Memphis Music

Also Read About:

Memphis Star T-Shirt Contest

Bill Black Combo

Stan Kesler

And Our Hero - Freddy Fame

This Free Paper is Advertiser Supported By People Who Believe in Memphis Music.

Letters To The Editor

The Memphis Star encourages reader input. We desire to be the sounding board for the Memphis music community. However, opinions expressed or implied are those of the writers of letters to the editor. We will offer space for opposing views.

Dear Editor,

I would like to comment on your recent editorial which appeared in the September issue of the "Memphis Star" on the subject of radio stations featuring a "Make It or Break It" hour.

First, let me ask where you have been in the last two years? WMPS has had a "Make It or Break It" hour since 1979 which comes on every night on WMPS and still does.

Second, in your editorial you mention that the problem with new material not being aired lies within the radio stations themselves. Why blame the radio stations? As Program Director of WMPS I am directly responsible for everything that comes out over the airwaves. I am all for supporting local talent. Memphis has a wealth of it and always has. But you have to realize there are several factors that determine getting multiple airplay on any radio station. Competition is one factor. There are many new and developing artists who do not realize the competition they are up against when they decide to make music their life style. Most of these new artists that I have talked to, who blame the radio stations for their song not getting airplay, are those who do not realize they have to pay dues like every other successful artist. They are under the impression if they cut a record, no matter how cheap the route they go to get it cut, it merits airplay on Memphis radio stations. The business is full of these so-called "fly-by-nights". The business is also full of "fly-by-night" producers and record labels. Show me a local artist who is serious about his talent, realizing the competition he is up against and who is doing everything he can to make it big, no matter what price they have to pay and I will give him support!

But some of these local artists think they can walk in to any recording studio, cut a record and believe it merits airplay. Anybody can get a record cut these days. Some try to do it as cheaply as possible, which doesn't say much for their expectations and they are the ones who do the most complaining about the radio stations not playing their records.

As you mentioned in your editorial, we, the Memphis radio stations, are playing the ratings game. But one record is not going to "Make or Break" us either. That is why I am all for supporting Memphis music and supporting local artists. But I am not going to give a local artist airplay if he thinks *just* because he cut a record and he's from Memphis he deserves airplay.

I wish some of these artists who use all their energy in blaming us for not playing their records would channel that energy in blaming us for not playing their records would channel that energy into developing their act more. We cannot be directly responsible for an artist making it big. We can sure help, but one radio station is not going to be the deciding factor in an artist's being successful. They have to look beyond us to reach their desired goal.

Walt Jackson
Program Director
WMPS Radio
Memphis

Dear Editor,

I have just finished reading the latest issue of your publication and wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed it. I'm so glad to see someone trying to give Memphis Music and Memphis Musicians the respect and recognition that they deserve.

I was also glad to see Richard Ross' name in your "Now Appearing" section. I have been one of Richard's fans for several years and have followed him around town to the various night spots where he has performed. I find it hard to believe that Richard is still unknown considering all the things he has done. He has had several songs recorded by major artists.

I think an article about Richard would be very much of interest to your readers, especially since Richard is so much a part of the Memphis Music Scene. How about giving him some recognition - he deserves it!

Thank you Memphis Star
Marie Owens

Dear Marie,

Glas to hear that you are reading the Memphis Star. I too have heard Richard Ross and I agree with you about his talent. However, I can not read minds, each month we ask for talented artists to send us information and let us know what they are doing. Check out our Now Appearing; Who's Happening; Writer of the Month, Entertainer of the Month; Features. We want to write as much as our advertising will allow us about the abundance of talent we have here, but we need that input. Ask Richard to drop us a line.

Thanks
The Ed.

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your publication! I believe it has the potential to finally educate the Memphis public about their local music scene.

I did, however, find one eyesore in your September issue. Chris Thomas' article on Foreplay was perhaps the most uninformative piece of rock journalism I have ever read. No where was there any mention of what makes Foreplay a "super" band, or what "clean, clear rock and roll" entails. What about their original songs? For that matter, what about any of their music? All we got were vague and seemingly subjective allusions to the music, and three paragraphs about frivolous subjects like Meat Loaf and wreckless driving. Sure, their manager was going to build them up; that's his job. But what *specifically* caused the writer to change his mind about the band? We were never told!

Mr. Thomas' article seemed to fit more within the National Enquirer mold than a seriously researched and objectively presented rock article. Let's have more on the music and less on the small talk next time.

Jennifer Stewart
Memphis, TN

Dear Jennifer,

Chris saw your letter before I did and immediately shot out a copy of it along with a copy of his "Foreplay" article to the National Inquirer in hopes that they will hire him. He claims that they will pay more than I do. I pay him \$14 a month and a bottle of Mad Dog 20/20, what else does he want?

Seriously, you brought up some very valid points. The direction of the "Foreplay" article was to give some insight as to the personalities that make up the group. The feature was not set up to criticize or analyze their music only to leave the reader with questions like yours "What do they sound like?" Thus getting them out in the club to listen and from their own opinion of Foreplay.

Thank you and looking forward to hearing from you again.

Ed.

Dear Memphis Star,

I am a New Orleans native who has been in Memphis for the last two weeks visiting my sister and her husband. All three of us are in our late twenties and are avid music fans. My sister had been talking to me over the past few years about how the Memphis club scene, although full of talented individuals, had yet to produce a band that possessed the excitement and creativity that could be found in such N.O. acts as the Neville Brothers, the Wild Tchoupitoulas, and the Radiators.

During my first eleven days in town her observations were unfortunately correct. We must have visited a half dozen rock clubs, and I heard nothing new or different in any of the music. We either heard Top 40 bands or original

acts whose tunes sounded like everything else on the radio. I thought to myself, "Where is the creative fire that fueled such progressive companies as Stax or bands like the Amazing Rhythm Aces?"

Shortly before I was to return home we went to a club called Solomon Alfred's, and lo and behold discovered a band that not only exceeded our expectation, but destroyed all our preconceived about the state of the local club scene: Moroccan Roll.

Here was a band whose original tunes drew from Memphis soul, N.P. R&B, and more eccentric rock elements like Van Morrison and Little Feat. The tunes were creatively written, arranged with imagination, and executed in skin-tight fashion. Moreover, without blind compromise to commercial tastes, the music never lost it's accessibility. A super-hot, reworked cover of the "Linus & Lucy" song from the Peanuts T.V. show had our whole table hopping.

Moroccan Roll will probably never be a Super-Star, Top Ten group; then again, neither were Little Feat nor the Aces, and neither are Van Morrison nor the Neville Bros. Bands like Moroccan Roll are a rare breed, an asset to a musical community. I only hope they have the perserverance and good fortune to endure today's narrow-minded music industry.

Elliot Ingles
New Orleans

Dear Elliot,

Check out Marie Owens letter. Thanks for your input.

The Ed.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Memphis Star

The MEMPHIS STAR is a monthly publication dedicated to the advancement and recognition of the many forms of music created and developed in and around our area. We are futher dedicated to re-kindle public awareness of one of Memphis' most valuable natural resources...Memphis Music. The Memphis Star is published monthly by TC and Co. Copyright 1981. All rights reserved. Opinions expressed or implied are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the ownership or management.

THE MEMPHIS STAR
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A New Face	

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Oktoberfest In-Memphis

Downtown will begin host Oktoberfest, Memphis' traditional fall celebration, sponsored by the Center City Commission, October 14-17 (Wednesday through Saturday). Oktoberfest features four days of musical entertainment on Civic Center Plaza combined with an arts and crafts marketplace, food concessions, 15K and Fun Run and much more.

Jazz, blues, bluegrass, and country music will be performed by 25 local artists. Performers include:

- The Settlers
- Ozark Express
- Prince Gabe and the Millionaires
- Louie Pierini's Memphis Dixieland Jazz and Blues Band
- Ruby Wilson and Fusion
- Sidny and Virginai
- Bethette Camille and 52nd Street
- Cindy Farr
- Kaya and the Weldors
- Dixie Bluegrass Boys
- Ben Cauley and Power
- Sid Selvidge
- Donald O'Connor
- John Paul David

Who's Happening

This section is set aside to let Memphis know what is happening in the careers of Memphis area artists, writers, T.V. and Radio personnel. We welcome your contributions. Articles should be 80 words or less. Articles must be received by the 21st of each month. No pictures please. Send to:

Memphis Star
P.O. Box 38956
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Borderline is at it again. They are currently forming a new back up group with a full rhythm section and should be playing again locally in a matter of weeks. Their current single, "Is It Right" is on the market and a new single "Touch Me Now" will be released in conjunction with their re-appearance in the local club scene.

Paul Compton (August 81 Writer of the Month) has just completed writing a song that has everyone over at Shoe Productions pretty excited. Detailed have not yet been released, but don't be surprised if you hear a Paul Compton song on the radio soon.

"**Homestead**, a Memphis based group, will be soon releasing their first single entitled "Driving' Down The Highway" on J Records. Press Chief Larry Anderson of J Records says that the record should be available in your local record store by the first of the year."

Tony Jo White, is back on tour again after a brief "vacation" home in Memphis. We hope things go well for him.

Deborah Dejean is about to release a new single called "Are You Lovin' Somebody?" It was written by our own John Paul Daniels and Susan Jerome and will be released by Hand Shake Records.

Regina Bennett
Eros
Randy Hospel

Musicians will be performing from 11 AM - 2 PM Wednesday and Thursday, 11 AM - 9 PM Friday, and 9:30 AM - 8 PM Saturday.

In addition, on Monday and Tuesday, a Barbershop Quartet will stroll the Mall singing and passing out information about Oktoberfest.

Also, the Overton High School Gymnastics team will be performing on Civic Center Plaza on Wednesday, Oct. 14, between 11 AM and 2 PM.

Oktoberfest, held for the past eight years, is the longest-running annual event Downtown. It features the city's largest sidewalk cafe with tables and chairs set up in front of City Hall.

In addition to musical entertainment, Oktoberfest features regional and ethnic food specialties, beer, and an arts and crafts marketplace. Leader Federal Savings and Loan will sponsor, for the second year, a 15K and Fun Run on Saturday, October 17.

Welcome in the autumn season Downtown during Memphis' annual salute to fall. For more information, contact Wanda Webb, Center City Commission, 12 S. Main, Suite 745, Memphis, TN 38103 (901) 526-6840.

The Sound Rebound

(Sound Rebound is a new record review section of the Memphis Star. Our record reviews are somewhat different than others you may read for two reasons: first of all they deal with artists from and around Memphis, and secondly they are reviewed by professionals from Memphis area radio stations and our readers. We invite you to send us your reviews and opinions.

Education Opportunity For Lyrist and Composers

Two non-profit organizations will cosponsor a songwriters workshop entitled *Lyric Writing For Profit*. The Educational Resources Development Laboratory (EDRL) an organization formed to research and develop Educational programming and Music Of Progress, Inc. (MOP) an organization designed to advance the educational and economic opportunities for songwriters and performers will host and coordinate the event.

The workshop will be divided into a seven day session consisting of three weekends, (October 3-4, 10-11, 17-18) and the finale will take place on Saturday October 24, 1981. The times will be 9-1

a.m. on Saturday's and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday's.

Dr. Coby Smith, head of ERDL, said: "The response to the workshop has been positive. This kind of educational experience has been missing from the menu of available educational programs and ERDL is happy to be involved.

Serving as instructor/facilitator will be El Espada, a professional songwriter with over ten years experience and credits on several international recording acts. El Espada said, "The workshop is an excellent opportunity for persons considering entering the songwriting market, as well as, those who are already professionally involved." "This is a chance to acquire valuable experience, exposure, skills and explore career possibilities in a creative manner," El Espada said.

The Workshop will be held at the ERDL facility located at 1230 N. Watkins at Chelsea. For additional information call Dr. Coby Smith at 276-8841 or write information call Dr. Coby Smith at 276-8841 or write MOP INC. P.O. Box 3698 Memphis, Tennessee 38103

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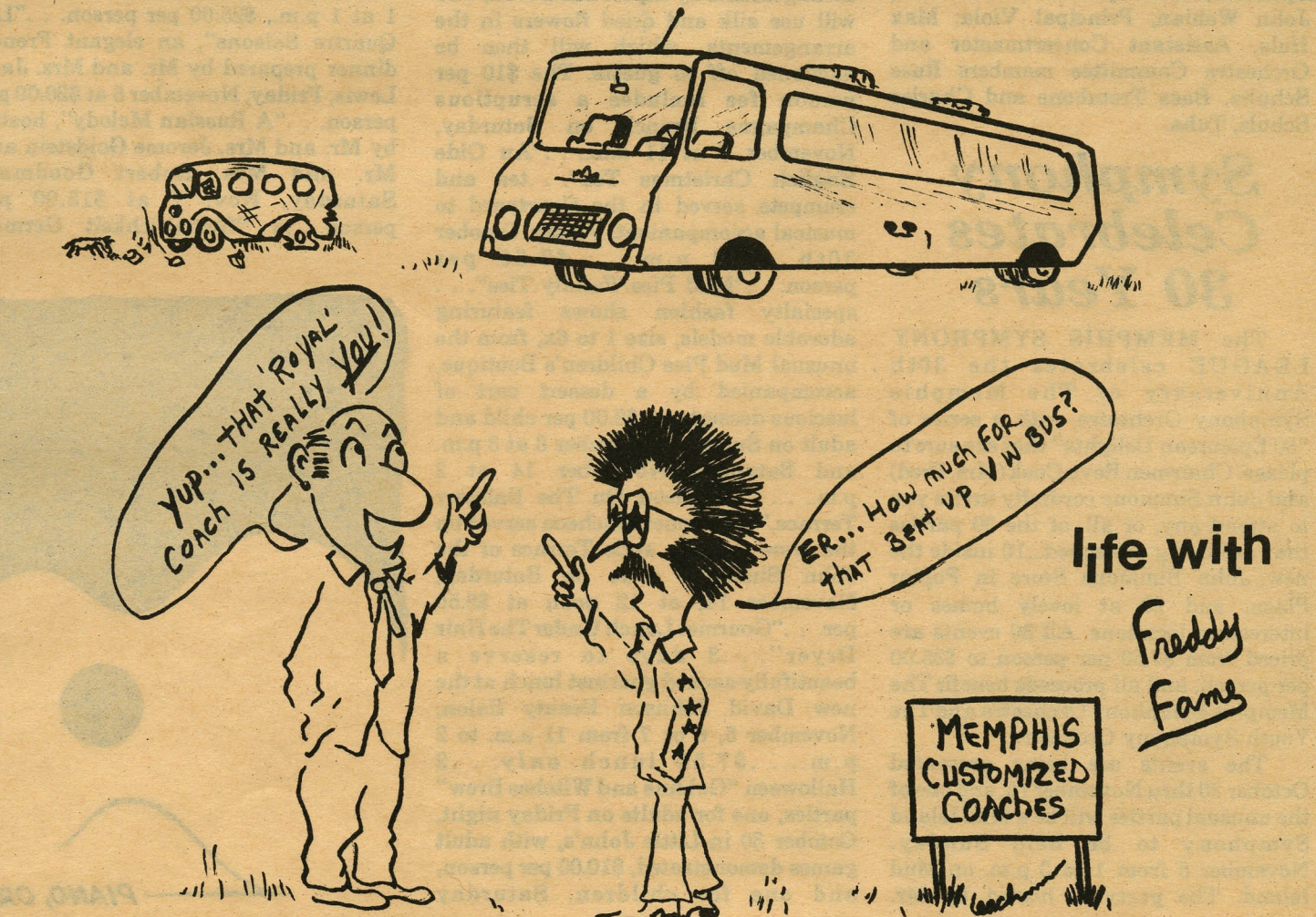
Notice

Borderline New Single

"Is It Right?"

Is Now Available At

Your Favorite Record Store.



Life with Freddy Fame

On The Finer Side

This section is devoted to articles and input about the Fine Arts in Music, including symphony concerts, musicals, and ballet. As usual, all articles, press releases, and reader input will be greatly appreciated. Write to the MEMPHIS STAR P.O. Box 38956, Memphis, Tn. 38138.

When the Memphis Symphony and Vincent de Frank celebrate their thirtieth anniversary season with the performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 on October 10-11, the string section of the orchestra will have four new members as a result of recent auditions.

The auditions held by the Memphis Symphony at Memphis State University resulted in the Memphis Symphony's string section having four new members.

Joining the double bass players will be:

Claudia J. Sampson - Mrs. Sampson has been a member of the Columbus, Ohio Shymphony; she recently moved to Memphis where her husband is Band Director of Kirby High School.

Julie Ann Dye - A student at Memphis State; formerly played with professional orchestras in Muncie, Richmond and Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Cello players joining the orchestra are:

Linda Canute - A student at Memphis State, where her husband is a graduate assistant in percussion.

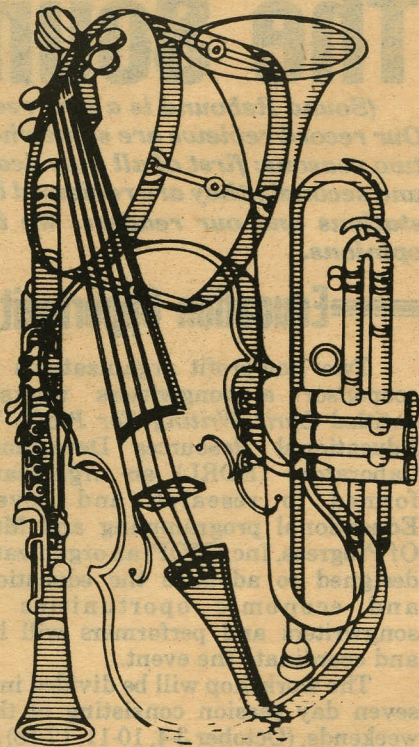
Sally Parsons - Has played with the Memphis Symphony previously as a substitute.

The audition committee was chaired by Vincent de Frank, Music Director and Conductor and included John Chiego, Principal Double Bass; Peter Spurbeck, Principal Cello; Ann Spurbeck, Principal Second Violin; John Wehlan, Principal Viola; Max Huls, Assistant Concertmaster and Orchestra Committee members Russ Schultz, Bass Trombone and Charles Schulz, Tuba.

Symphony Celebrates 30 Years

The MEMPHIS SYMPHONY LEAGUE celebrates the 30th Anniversary of The Memphis Symphony Orchestra with a series of "30 Epicurean Delights" that are sure to please. Chairmen Reva Cook (Mrs. Fred) and John Simmons cordially invite you to attend any, or all, of the 30 parties that are being presented...10 inside the new John Simmons Store in Poplar Plaza, and 20 at lovely homes or interesting locations. All 30 events are priced from \$7.50 per person to \$35.00 per person, and all proceeds benefit The Memphis Symphony Orchestra and The Youth Symphony Orchestra.

The events are being presented October 30 thru November 15, and one of the unusual parties will be a Mud Island Symphony to be held Sunday, November 8 from 1 to 3 p.m. on Mud Island. The party is hosted by Mr.



Charlie Vergos and Mr. and Mrs. Ned Stancliff and will feature a Monorail ride to the Island. . . Charlie Vergos's "Specialty" over the charcoal pit. . . Mud Island favors and entertainment by The Steamboat Strummers and The Memphis Youth Symphony ensemble. The price of the party is \$15.00 per person.

Some of the in-store parties include: "A Ticketry to Italy with Maestros in The Kitchen". . . Thursday night, November 12 at 7 p.m. The culinary talents of Ann Mcntedonico are demonstrated in superb Italian dinner presentation with maestro Vincent de Frnak, John Simmons and Chester Simmons lending their special talents to the evening. \$15.00 per person. . . . Babbie Lovett's "High Fashions Orchestrated For The Holidays", 2 fashion shows and a Living Magazine presentation, including lunch, on Friday, November 6 and 13 at 10 a.m. in the unique "Mine" boutique, \$10 per person. . . "Floral Variations"; a flower party demonstrating the art of floral arrangements by expert Bill Lovell, who will use silk and dried flowers in the arrangements, which will then be auctioned off to guests. The \$10 per person fee includes a scrumptious Champagne Brunch on Saturday, November 7 at 11 a.m. . . "An Olde English Christmas Tea". . . tea and crumpets served in the Courtyard to musical accompaniment, Friday, October 30th at 3 p.m. . . \$7.50 per person. . . "Mud Pies/Family Ties". . . specialty fashion shows featuring adorable models, size 1 to 6x, from the unusual Mud Pies Children's Boutique, accompanied by a dessert cart of luscious desserts. . . \$8.00 per child and adult on Sunday, November 8 at 3 p.m. and Saturday, November 14 at 2 p.m. . . "Luncheon On The Balcony Terrace," a gourmet luncheon served on the New Orleans style Terrace of the John Simmons store on Saturday, November 14, at 12 noon at \$8.50 per. . . "Gourmet Lunch Under The Hair Dryer". . . 3 days to reserve a beautifully-sacked gourmet lunch at the new David Johnson Beauty Salon, November 5, 6 or 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. . . \$7.50 lunch only. . . 2 Halloween "Goblins and Witches Brew" parties, one for adults on Friday night, October 30 in Little John's, with adult games demonstrated, \$10.00 per person, and one for children, Saturday

afternoon, Oct. 31st at 3 p.m., featuring Twyla Dixon who will paint your child's face for Halloween night. . . \$7.50 per person. . . "Buckingham Palate Fanfare Tasting Brunch" a delicious brunch prepared from Gourmet foods around the world and hosted by some distinguished Memphis bachelors, including Mason Granger, Lyman Ladrige and Tiff Bingham, Sunday, November 1 at 11 a.m., \$12.50 per person. . . and the Grand Finale Banquet, an elegant 6-course gourmet dinner, prepared and catered by Rene and Judith Vincent of Le Cafe Du Louvre (Main Entree, Duckling in Burgundy Wine) in the Grand Salons of the John Simmons Store and hosted by officers of the Memphis Orchestral Board, Sunday, November 15, featuring Suzuki String Players at 7:45 p.m., \$35.00 per person.

Other parties include: a Black Tie, seated dinner at the Hyatt Regency Memphis in Ballroom D, featuring Beouf Wellington as the main entree and spotlighting Max Huls on violin and The Symphony Singers in concert on Saturday night, Oct. 31, at 8 p.m., \$30.00 per person. . . "A Sabbath Meal" at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Makoswky Friday, November 6 at 7 p.m., \$1500 per person. . . a progressive dinner party in 4 of Mid-town's loveliest homes, Dr. and Mrs. Rex Amonette, Dr. & Mrs. Art Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Briscoe and Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers Menzies, who designed all 4 homes on Willett and Harbet, \$25.00 per person, Sat., Nov. 7. . . "Just Ducky" buffet, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rosemann in The Peabody Manager's Apartment, Saturday, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m., \$20.00 per person. . . "Composers and Canapes", hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Edward Kaplan and Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Grossman, Sunday, November 8 from 7 to 9 p.m., \$12.50 per person. . . a "Grand Country Concerto", a wonderful Sunday afternoon of champagne and brunch, horse and carriage rides, musical entertainment and favors at the beautiful home of Dr. Marshall Koonce, 1822 Overton Park, Sunday, November 1 at 1 p.m., \$25.00 per person. . . "Les Quatre Saisons", an elegant French dinner prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lewis, Friday, November 6 at \$20.00 per person. . . "A Russian Melody", hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Goldstein and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goodman, Saturday, Nov. 7 at \$15.00 per person. . . a "Gemutlichkeit German

Dinner" hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Schuppe and Mr. and Mrs. James Kent, Saturday, Nov. 14 at \$15.00 per person. . . "An Evening of Florentine Cuisine", hosted by Mr. and Mrs. John Montesi and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Montesi III, Friday, November 13 at \$25.00 per person. . . "A Cajun Concerto" featuring the culinary talents of Dr. Charles White and hosted by Mrs. Marge Thrasher White on Saturday, Nov. 14 at \$15.00 per person at 7:30 p.m. . . "An Evening of Pavorotti and Mehta, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Neal and Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Nickl, Friday night, November 6, at \$12.50 per person. . . "A Seafood Sonata", hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Milton York and Dr. and Mrs. Morris Ray on Sunday, November 1 at \$12.50 per person. . . "Salads Intermezzo", hosted by Mrs. Robert Bryant and featuring luscious salads and ribboned recipes as favors, on Thursday, November 5 at 12 noon, \$7.50 per person. . . "Symphonic Duo, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Katz and Ms. Marion McAuley, Friday, November 13 at \$15.00 per. . . and many other delightful afternoons and evenings, all being donated to help raise funds for the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

Persons may buy individual tickets to each party or may purchase an entire party, upon availabilities, and reservations are now being taken at the Symphony Office, 3100 Walnut Grove Rd., Memphis, Tenn. 38111 - or persons may call (901) 324-3627 between 9:00 and 2:30 for party information and availabilities. Brochures, detailing all the events, will be available in the John Simmons Store, the Hyatt Regency Memphis or the Symphony Office.

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Hi Roller

What's The Scoop

Recently I've been hit with a lot of questions concerning publishing a song and such. For the benefit of all, I'm repeating some questions I was asked several months back.

Dear Hi Roller,

I have written several original songs but now what do I do with them? Should I try recording them myself or should I try to get them published?

Ralph J. Memphis

Dear Ralph,

I could write forever on answering your question. First if you don't have a copyright on your songs get one. Write or call the public library and request copyright forms. After you receive some fill out all necessary paperwork and send the same to the U.S. Copyright Office. This is for your protection. Should you record the songs yourself? Well if you have the bucks, time, and talent, go ahead. But here is a though. If you get your songs published with a reputable publisher he should have quality demos of your songs recorded at no charge to you. Let me back up a minute. Let's say that you send your songs to a publisher and he agrees to publish them. He should offer you a publishing contract for the songs he is interested in. If you agree to the contract

then the publisher's next step is to try and get your songs recorded by the best artist he can. (Remember most publishing deals are of a 50/50 split nature. This means that if the song is recorded and released you and the publisher split all royalties 50/50). This is a good situation in that the publisher makes no money until he gets the song recorded. To get the song recorded a reputable publisher will have the song copyrighted, complete all necessary paperwork and have a top quality demo of the song made, all at no cost to you. Also publishers are usually in situations where they frequently come into contact with top music industry personnel who might be interested in your songs. Face it, if you're like me you just don't have cocktails with Neil Diamond or The Eagles every Friday night, right? But your publisher might. Really the answers to your questions are up to you. If you do decide to go the publisher route remember this: If a publisher says that he will publish your songs for X amount of money from you, *avoid him like the plague.*

successful recording studio in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Several years ago he received a song sent to him for publishing. He rejected the song and sent it back to the writer. Several months later he heard the song on the radio. Turned out to be one of the largest selling instrumentals in recording history. Little tune called "Fly Robin Fly". Just can't tell. Needless to say my friend frequently wakes up at night screaming that robins are attacking him! Oh well I got off track a little. The best way to submit your songs to a publisher is as follows. Record two or three songs on a cassette tape. Include lyric sheets for each song and include a short bio of yourself. Also most publishers require that you include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Try to do all of this as professionally as possible. Next you wait for their reply. To get more information check with the public library or call all of the publishers in your area. Most will be happy to tell you what type of material they are looking for and how to submit same. One trick of the trade I have found is this. Say you want to send some of your songs to Liberty Records and you believe your material is great for Kenny Rogers. State on your letter that these songs are to be reviewed for a certain artist. Usually your chances or scoring are better if you do this.

(To see how you submit a song to a publisher read on.)

Hi Roller

Dear Hi Roller,

I have written two songs which I feel are as good as anything on the market today. How do I get these songs published.

Ann T. Germantown

Hi Roller

Send all questions to *Memphis Stars*, c/o Hi Roller, P.O. Box 38956, Memphis, TN 38138.

Ed. Note: For those of you who are not familiar with Hi Roller, his is our resident know-it-all and pain in the neck. We would get rid of him for his bad spelling and terrible jokes, but he works cheap. Hi Roller will attempt to answer any question (as long as it is legal) concerning music, stereo equipment; life; air; even fortunes - just about anything that he knows anything (or nothing) about - write to: HI ROLLER c/o *Memphis Star*, P.O. Box 38956, Memphis, TN 38138.

ANNOUNCING

The Memphis Star

"Best Looking" T-Shirt Contest

We are looking for the best looking Memphis Star T-shirts - • There will be two winners: The best looking guy and the best looking gal.

- To enter is simple, just send us a snapshot (B/W or color) of you in your Memphis Star T-shirt. • Judging will be done by a non-interested party, and will be announced in our December issue.
- Prizes are still coming in but so far they include the following for each winner.

* A year's subscription to the *Memphis Star* (6.99 Value)

* Borderline Record/LP Collection (8.99 Value)

* 2 Free ½ hour Tennis Lessons by Tennis Pro and Champ - Jim Kallenberger (*\$26.00 Value)

- Rules: 1. Contestants may not work for or be related to any one who works for the *Memphis Star* or any of our advertisers.
 2. Photos can not be in bad taste, this shall be determined by our judges.
 3. All photos become the property of the *Memphis Star* and can not be returned.
 4. Prints only, no negatives please.

Send photos to:

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 ATTN: T-Shirt Contest

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Songwriter of The Month

Stan
Kesler

(Each month the MEMPHIS STAR brings to you a story about a Memphis area songwriter. If you are a songwriter, famous or not, we would like to hear about you. Contact the MEMPHIS STAR and tell us about YOU.)

This month we would like to tell you about Stan Kesler. Stan is a very modest man and any information from him, about himself, is like pulling teeth. He has an amazing track record in the business and has written several popular songs as well as produced a few well known groups.

Stan was born near Oxford, Mississippi but considers Memphis his home since he has been here most of his life. He came to Memphis after getting out of the service and for six months or so worked at Sears until he could work himself into the music scene.

He started playing professionally with Al Rogers in and around Memphis. At that time, he was playing steel guitar in the background. Al influenced Stan to start writing, but it wasn't until a few years later that his real writing talents were discovered. The group received a good offer and as a result toured Texas for the next couple of years. Upon his return he began playing steel guitar for Clyde Leppard and started doing some recording at the old Sun studio. While at Sun Stan met Sam Phillips and through this association started developing his writing more seriously. A short time later, he teamed up with Bill Taylor to write the Elvis song, "You're Right, I'm Left, She's Gone". He also wrote Elvis' next release, "I Forgot To Remember To Forget".

Stan wrote a song by himself called, "Playing For Keeps", this was recorded by Elvis just after he went to RCA in 1957. When Elvis returned from the Army, RCA put out an LP called, "Elvis

Is Back" and Stan got a cut on that called, "The Thrill of Your Love".

Stan explains that back then he would write his material with Elvis in mind and try to anticipate what Elvis would be looking for. He would usually present his songs to Sam Phillips and let Sam "pitch them to Elvis", but one time he "pitched" the song himself and it was rejected.

Early in the '60's, Stan started producing and is credited with releasing Bobby Wood, Domingo Samudio (better known as Sam The Sham and The Pharoahs) and Jerry Lee.

Currently he is mixing and helping to "direct traffic" at Phillips recording studio on Madison. He is also producing a country gospel called, "The Seekers"; as well as an attractive country singer named Lisa May.

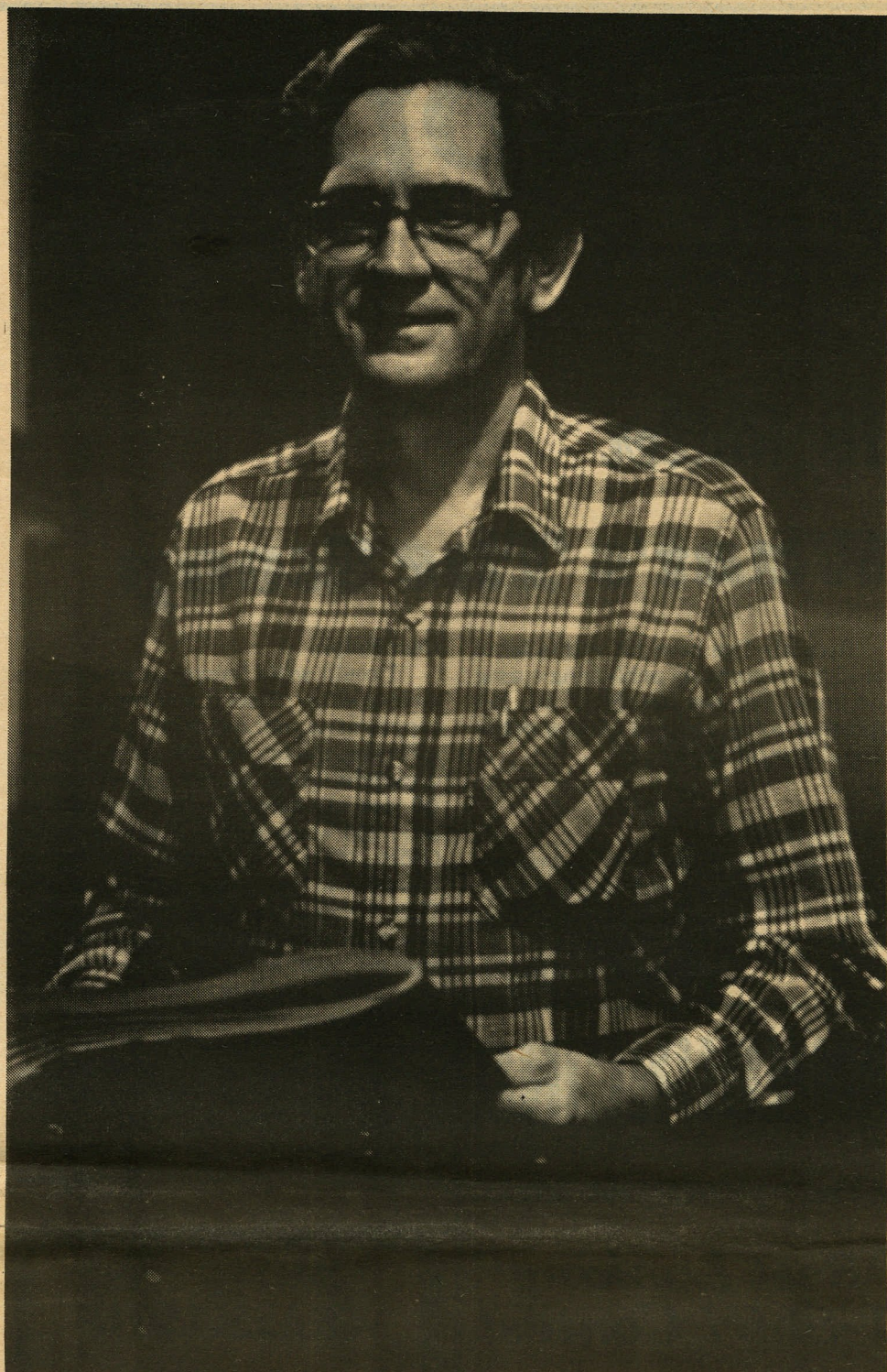
In reviewing the long list of songs he has written Stan feels that "If I'm A Fool For Loving You" is his all time favorite. He considers placing this song, "I Forgot To Remember To Forget" as a highlight of his career so far.

As a word of advice to songwriters, Stan feels that selling a producer on your song is the best route to go because he influences the others and an artist usually goes along with the producers suggestions. Also, do not be discouraged by rejections; if your songs merit it sooner or later, someone will pick up on what you are doing and you'll be on your way.

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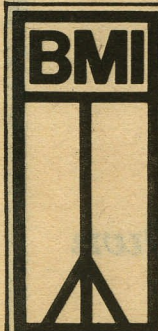
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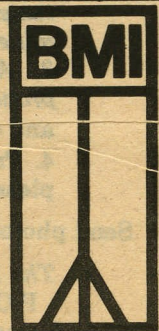
- Charlie Rich
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- Charley McClain
- Charlie Pride
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- Jerry Lee Lewis
- Bill Black Combo
- Johnny Cash
- Paul Kraft
- Shylo
- Dickey Lee

and countless others

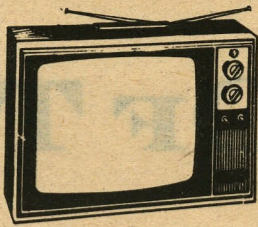


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TUBE REVIEW



Tube Review is a regular section of the *Memphis Star* that allows TV stations to pass on personnel changes, promotions, public announcements, opinions, and sneak previews of future shows, especially Memphis entertainment. We invite station reps to submit their notes of community interest to: *The Memphis Star*, P.O. Box 38956, Memphis, TN 38138. Deadline 20th of each month.

CH 24 - Almost every night is Saturday Night lately on Channel 24 lately. They have recently started showing the reruns of series "Saturday Night Live." Check it out if you want to bring back some "Gut Busting" memories of the past. (By the way, HI Roller thinks that Rose Ann Rosannadana is a 10!!!)

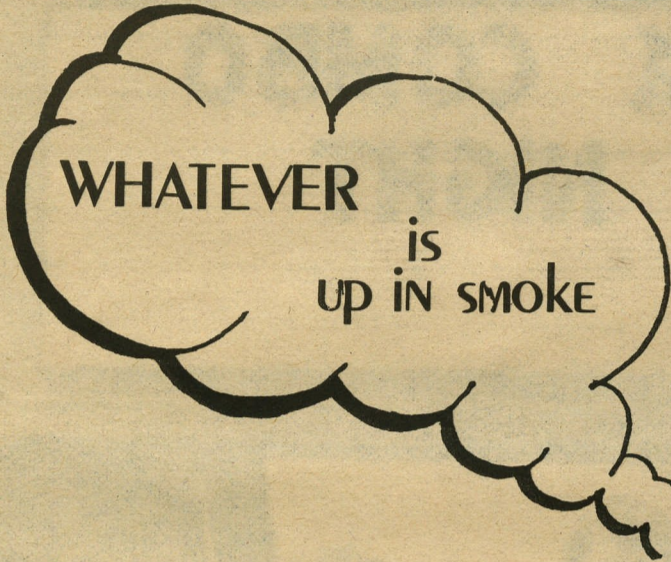


The Memphis Star is pleased to welcome Ms. Deborah Camp to its staff. Ms. Camp is a freelance writer whose work has been mainly in the area of music. A native Memphian, Ms. Camp has lived and worked in several foreign countries. Her educational and professional background is in anthropology, to which she attributes her keen interest in music.

particular culture. Music is just one way our society expresses itself."

About Memphis music, Ms. Camp adds: "I've long been a fan of our city's music. We've got so much talent here, sometimes it's hard to realize the value of our own natural resources. That's why I am excited about working with the Memphis Star. A publication of this sort is long overdue. Why keep Memphis music a secret? It's time we started telling others about it."

"There's a natural connection. All music is the product of a



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RADIO WAVES

(Radio Waves is a section of the Memphis Star for all the fine radio stations in and around Memphis. Let our readers know what is happening at your station, what personality changes and changes in station formats have occurred. Also let our readers know about your promotions and station sponsored entertainment or events. Press release deadline is the 20th of each month, no photos please.)

WSMS FM-92-- Has a Memphis music program in the Planning Stage. It will feature Memphis area Recording groups as well as other Recording artists who use Memphis Studios. Bill Haines, the station managers says "We are eager to get our hands on anything recorded in Memphis or recorded by Memphis groups." In addition, WSMS Personality Claire Fullerton is putting together a collection of Memphis music to be aired on her show in the near future.



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ENTERTAINER OF THE MONTH

by Chris Thomas

Each month the MEMPHIS STAR brings to you an in-depth story about an entertainer or group in the Memphis area. We would love to hear about YOU or your GROUP. Send your press kit or a letter of interest with as much information as you can think of to the MEMPHIS STAR P.O. Box 38956 Memphis, Tn. 38138. We will get in touch with you for more information.

October is a country music month and in conjunction with its celebration we are proud to present one of Memphis's all time favorite country groups, the world renowned Bill Black Combo.

One of the people responsible for the early success of Elvis Presley was Memphis bass player Bill Black. Bill traveled and appeared with Elvis from the beginning of the singer's career until 1959 when he left Elvis to form his own group, the Bill Black Combo.

Few groups in show business history have enjoyed the immediate and long lasting success that has embraced the BBC. The very first record recorded by the Combo was a smash. "Smokie" sold over a million copies as did two out of the next three releases on the BBC.

In the early '60's Bill Black's Combo won dozens of awards as the world's most popular instrumental group. With over a dozen hit records and over thirty albums released, they have remained one of the most popular musical aggregations in the business.

In 1962 Bill Black turned over the leadership of the combo to Bob Tucker, a Memphis guitarist who had been working with the group for some time. After Black's untimely death in 1965 the demand for the group was so great that Tucker signed what amounted to a lifetime agreement with Black's widow to keep the BBC active in recording and personal appearances as long as the public wanted to see and hear them. Bob Tucker is now in his 18th year as leader of the BBC.

Down through the years the BBC has done dozens of shows with other Memphis entertainers such as Charlie Rich and Jerry Lee Lewis. Although some people might consider the Bill Black Combo a rock act the truth is they have always been popular with country music fans. Seventy-five percent of their personal appearances are for country shows and clubs and they have always been one of the biggest juke-box sellers in the business.

To establish their place in the country music the combo released their first country album in 1975. It was entitled "Solid and Country." The album was such a huge success that it hit all the national charts in just a few weeks. One song on the album got such heavy airplay and request action that it was pulled for immediate release as a single. "Boilin' Cabbage," a fiddle, saxophone breakdown tune was so

popular that it hit all three national charts within two weeks of its release. It stayed on the charts for over three months and became the biggest country instrumental record of 1975. Subsequent combo singles and albums have also charted nationally gaining them even more fans with each new release.

Currently the members of BBC are Robert Gladney, sax; Gil Michael, Steel

and fiddle; Jim Hale on bass; Doug Davis, drums; and Bob-Tucker, guitar.

Lately the group has been spending a lot of time out of town on engagements but they are presently making plans to do some more recording in the near future.

On live performances Bill Black's Combo is truly a "show-stopper"

blending visual excitement with their unique sound.

Billboard magazine called them "one of the world's greatest bands." Record World magazine named Bill Black's Combo the number one new country instrumental group.

Bill Black's Combo is celebrating 20 years of playing "Memphis" music around the world.

BILL BLACK'S COMBO



WDIA Names New Music Director

Linanell Rodgers has been appointed Music Director of WDIA Radio by Charles Scruggs, General Manager.

Ms. Rodgers was promoted to Music Director after serving as Music and Market Research Assistant at WDIA since 1978.

Ms. Rodgers holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Shelby State Community College, where she was elected "Who's Who Among American Junior Colleges," and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Memphis State

University.

In her spare time, Ms. Rodgers enjoys sewing for her three-year old daughter April.

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Linanell Rodgers



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"WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

Last month we presented an article concerning the proposed Music Hall of Fame and asked what *you*, the readers thought of the idea. The response that we received was totally in favor with such comments as:

... you can count me very much in favor of having it here in Memphis. I think that it would be a great plus for the city. ... it would be great, just what we need to put us back on the map again. and... why not, if it wasn't for Memphis, there would not be half the music that is around today.

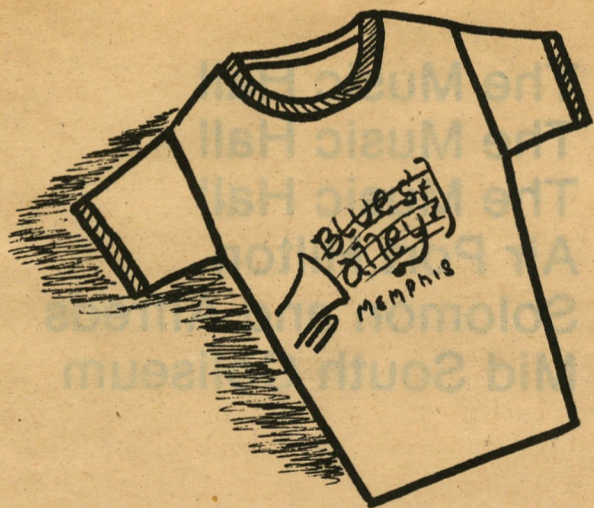
We thank you for your thoughts and comments.

Seeing that October is "Country Music Month", we would like to know this:

Who is your favorite Memphis area country artist or act?

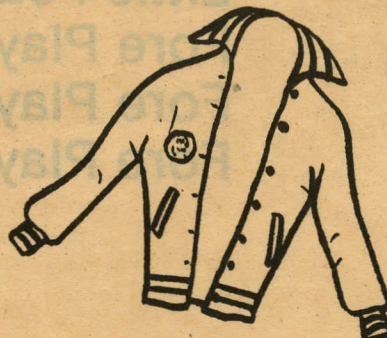
Give us up to three choices if you like. We will tally the answers and tell you the results in our November issue.

Send to: ATTN: W.O.Y.T.
The Memphis Star
P.O. Box 38956
Memphis, Tn. 38138



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Now Appearing

(Let Memphis know where you or your group is playing. Simply fill out the following and send it to: The Memphis Star, P. O. Box 38956, Memphis, Tn 38138 or call 794-STAR. Attn: Dept A Deadline is 20th of each month.)

Entertainer/Group Name _____ Style of Music _____

Club Name _____ Address _____

Telephone Number _____ What Days? _____

Times _____

(For our records, Where did you see the Memphis Star?) _____

By the way — How about mentioning us at your engagements? We could use the plug.

BACK SWING, Music from the 40's Captain Bilbos, (Next to #1 Beale Street) Sundays only, from 8 pm to 11 pm, 526-1966.

BLUES ALLEY ALL STARS, Blues, Blues Alley, 60 Front Street, S., seven days a week starting 7:30 pm, 523-7144.

DONNA BROCK & THE BANDITS, Country Western, J. Wis Corral, 4090 Winchester at Lamar, 363-5664 or 365-1095; (till 3:00 on Fri. & Sat., Wednesday thru Sunday, 9 pm till 1 am.

FRANK EGAN, Variety, Swiss Manor Germantown, Tn., 755-6710, nightly 7-11 p.m.

EROS, Soft Jazz, #1 Beale Street Monday thru Thurs from 7 pm to 11 pm and Fri and Sat from 8:30 pm to 1 am. 525-1116.

GOLDEN CLASSICS, '50s, '60s, Music, Captain Bilbos, Mon thru Sat from 9 pm to 1 am, 526-1966.

TOM HACKENBERGER, Variety, Bombay Bicycle Club, (Overton

Square), Tues. nights only 8 pm til?

JOHNNY HARRISON, C-W, Miss Kitty Longbranch Saloon, 777 N. White Station, 767-9179, Oct. 1, 2, 3, 9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. Special Appearance Oct. 2 at 11:30 p.m. by **Ronnie Simmerman**

HOMESTEAD, Country-Rock, Bronco Country, 867 Brooks Rd., Tues thru Sat starting at 9 pm. Call 332-9451.

MA RAINEY II, Blues, Blues Alley, seven days a week, starting at 7:30 pm.

NEON WHEELS, Rock, Antenna Club Sept. 30; Oct. 16, 17, 30, 31. from 10 pm to 2:30.

REBEL YELL, Blue Grass/C&W, Red Apple Lounge, 2949 Airways, Mon, Tues, Weds, from 8 pm to 12 pm 345-1250

RICHARD ROSS, Easy Rock, The Hearth, Tues thru Fri starting at 7:30 pm

GENE ROUSE, Light country, Holiday Inn Shelby Oaks Dr. Tues thru Sat from 9 to 1.

SETTLERS, Country, The Hearth on

Mondays only, starting at 7:30 pm 794-1381; and at Louie's on Sundays only starting at 7:30 pm, 685-9366.

TRAIL FEVER, Country Rock/Southern Rock, The Saloon, Macon Road Oct. 16-17th, 9:30 to 1:30

VISIONS BAND, Rock & Roll, appearing at T. Rocks, 3108 Thomas, Oct. 23, 24, 30, 31.

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Name _____

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Ad _____

1. Help Wanted

Full or part time sales manager needed to fill growing staff of the Memphis Star. Must be ambitious and believe in Memphis Music. Experience helpful, but will train. Apply to: **The Memphis Star, P.O. Box 38926 Memphis, TN or call 794-STAR.**

Sales minded person with Leadership Potential needed to take charge of our sales division - no calls please - send resume or letter of interest to: **The Memphis Star, P.O. Box 38956, Memphis, TN 38138 ATTN: Publisher.**

Wanted: Bass player and keyboards to back up local recording group. (Easy Rock/Light Country). Call Jim at 794-7827.

Wanted: Blues guitarist for forming groups, for audition appointment call Earl 345-1764.

2. Business Opportunities

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3A. Musicians Available

Lead guitarist - abundant studio experience - excellent references - seeking studio work and/or position with *serious* recording group. Preferably on label or with deal in sight. Call Britt (205) 479-2978.

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4. Entertainers/Groups Available

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Jim Santoro light folk and easy rock. Call 794-7827.

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Carlton Recording Company - Special 8-track recording time - \$30 per hour. We can also manufacture your LP's and tapes. We are a full production Company. Phone 393-8222 or 398-4255.

6. Equipment

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Must Sacrifice - Danelectro guitar with hardwood case, \$250; Morsite Bass, \$200; Dulcimer, \$75. Call 726-5184.

John Stewart Leaves Memphis

by Jim Santoro

John Stewart, a staff reporter for the Memphis Star since its beginning has recently moved to Muscle Shoals, Alabama to pursue a career as a manager of a racquet club. John, who brought us excellent interviews and stories will surely be missed by the Star and his readers. John and his wife, Cathy, are originally from Alabama and we wish them the best of luck in all their efforts.

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7. Personal

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8. Rip Offs

(This section is FREE, courtesy of the Memphis Star and our advertisers. Fill out the classified ad form and mail it to us. Send ID numbers and details/descriptions of items).

Ibanez Bass, (no case) taken from the Raleigh area. Call Mary Curry 372-8488. REWARD.

Fender Super Reverb amp on Sept. 10th from Medical Center. Early 1970's model on casters, Serial No.? 274-7989 anytime. \$100.00 reward.

9. Real Estate

- A. For Sale Residential
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10. Vehicles

The Memphis Star is your auto selling vehicle, especially vans and other trucks that can be used to haul bands and equipment. Use our special coupon.

11. Miscellaneous

Special Edition, "Collector's Item". The first BORDERLINE L.P. only 3000 copies were ever presed. All original songs from this unique Recording Group. As a Free Bonus receive two "new", never released singles. All three records only \$6.00 (P.P.D.) (L.P. alone sells for \$7.99 in Record Stores). Send check or money order to: QUIK STAR RECORDS, P.O. Box 38956, Memphis, Tn. 38138.

World Coins - Four mixed for \$1.00. Catalog of U.S. & Canadian coins available as well as catalog of World Currency. Write Box A - Attn. this publication.

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In Passing

In Memory of showmen and musicians of the Memphis area who are no longer with us. May they and their contributions be remembered always. (If you know anyone who has recently passed away please call us so we may honor them in a future issue of the Memphis Star).

Walter Lewis (Furry Lewis) 1893-1981. A man loved by hundreds and admired by thousands, died of complications following a cardiac arrest. Furry had been in the hospital since August 14, following a fire in his home. We will miss him.