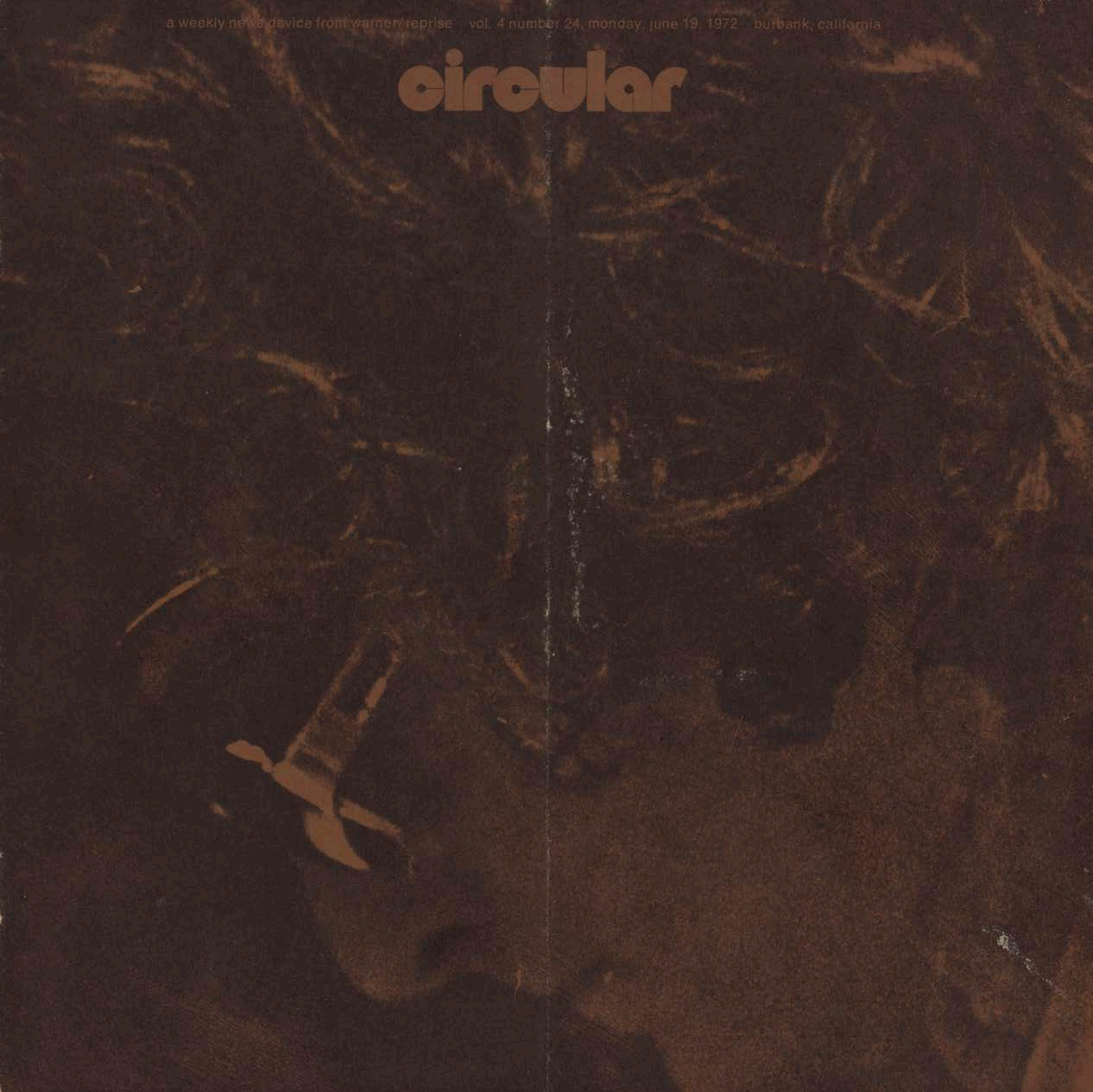
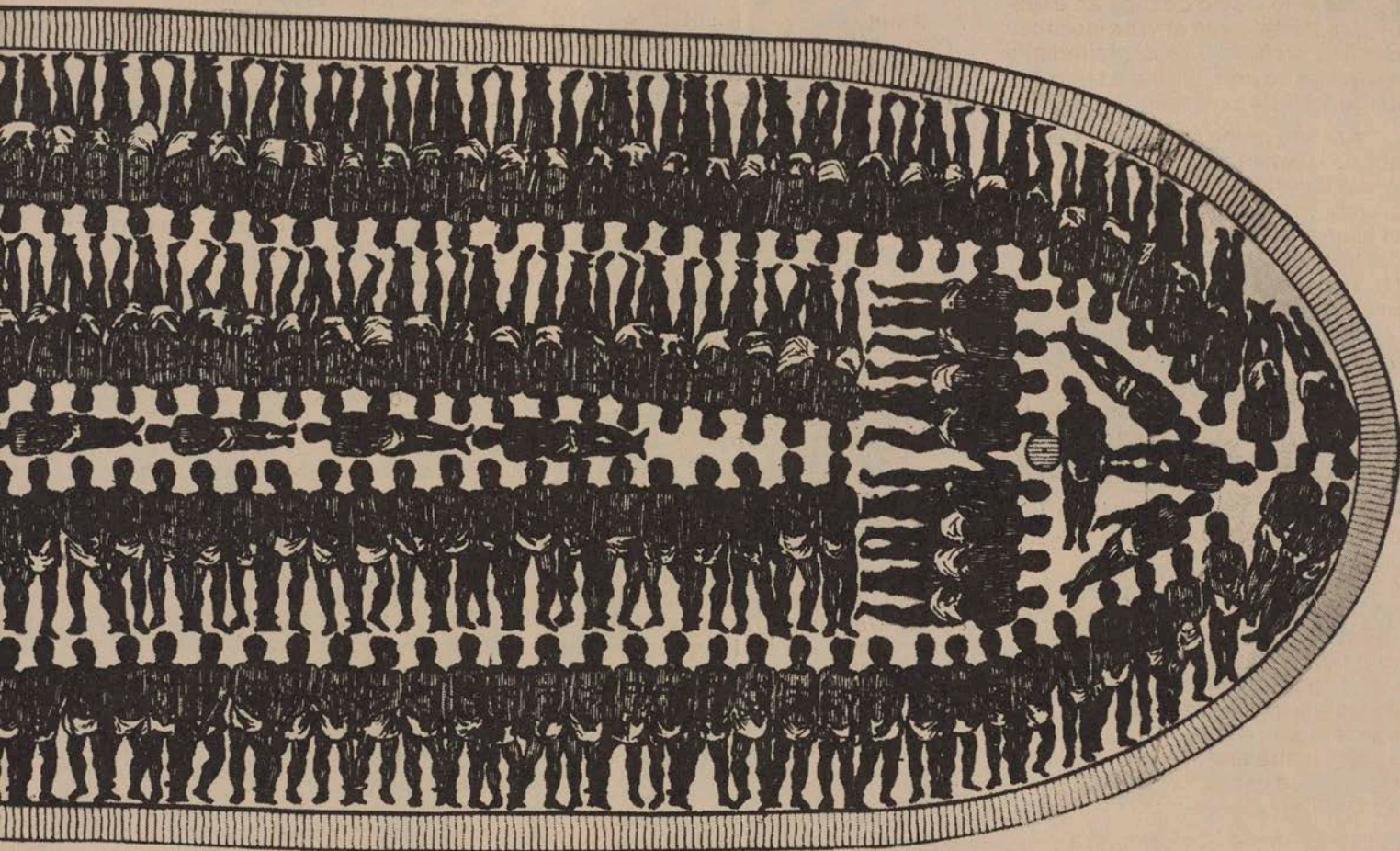


a weekly news device from warner/reprise vol. 4 number 24, monday, june 19, 1972 burbank, california

circular



Randy Newman Discusses His *Sail Away* Album, Arthur Alexander, a Summertime Savior Song, the Real Meaning of "A Horse with No Name" and Other Intriguing Topics.



SAIL AWAY

In America you'll get food to eat
Won't have to run through the jungle
And scuff up your feet
You'll just sing about Jesus and drink wine all day
It's great to be an American

Ain't no lions or tigers—Ain't no mamba snake
Just the sweet watermelon and the buckwheat cake
Ev'rybody is as happy as a man can be
Climb aboard little wog—Sail away with me

Sail Away—Sail Away
We will cross the mighty ocean into Charleston Bay
Sail Away—Sail Away
We will cross the mighty ocean into Charleston Bay

In America every man is free
To take care of his home and his family
You'll be as happy as a monkey in a monkey tree
You're all gonna be an American

Sail Away—Sail Away
We will cross the mighty ocean into Charleston Bay
Sail Away—Sail Away
We will cross the mighty ocean into Charleston Bay

He looked out of place sitting behind a desk. Randy Newman just doesn't appear to be the kind of person who would occupy an executive's office, even at Warner Bros. But that's where *Circular* found him a week or so ago, during a search of the A&R department.

"Are you going to write a *cute* article, since it's for *Circular*?" When Newman grumbles, it's a nice grumble. With just the slightest bit of insincerity. "Just because this *company's* cute doesn't mean that I have to be. I was *never* cute. Even when I was a baby."

Staff Writer

Randy's got a new album out, called *Sail Away*. *Circ* wanted to ask him about that, but thought that a bit of biographical information might be in order first. "I was born in New Orleans. My mother's from there, and my father was in the service. We came back to Los Angeles, and I went to UCLA. I've known Lenny Waronker since I was about one. His father was involved with Liberty. I went over there with some songs that I'd written, and they signed me up at \$50.00 a month. I was eighteen and going to school at the time. By the time that I left, it had escalated to \$150.00 a month.

"I was on the back side of a couple of hits. My first song to be recorded was something called 'Somebody's Waiting' that Gene McDaniels did. Or maybe a song called 'They Tell Me It's Summer' by the Fleetwoods. I had a big hit in Japan. I don't know what the song was, but one day I got a big royalty check from Japan. 'I Don't Want to Hear It Anymore' was kind of a hit for Jerry Butler." Randy neglected to mention an obscure single or two on Dot, which he recorded himself.

For the record, Randy himself compares his voice to early Marvin Gaye. "... Before he learned to sing. I remember hearing 'Stubborn

Kind of Fellow' and thinking, 'Boy, this really sounds like me.'"

Fave Raves

Randy says that his idols are "Mo Ostin, Ray Charles and Mozart. No, I don't really have any idols. I loved Ray Charles. Loved him. His was the stuff that I listened to most. That and classical music. Fats Domino I loved. And Arthur Alexander's singles. 'You Better Move On', and 'Anna,' and that Barry Mann song he did . . . what was the name? (Randy then proceeded to hum, and then sing, the song until he reached the title) oh yeah, 'Where Have You Been All My Life?' *The Genius of Ray Charles*, *The Genius Hits the Road* and that one with the girls' names—*Dedicated to You*. That's the stuff I liked best."

Randy used to perform "You Better Move On" and "Blue Monday" in concert but, he says, "They didn't always get a great reaction from the audience. Folks would be buzzing about whether I'd written them. Then one night I short-circuited and forgot the words to 'You Better Move On.' That might have had something to do with it. I still do 'Blue Monday' on occasions. In Amsterdam, I did.

Out of Touch?

"I haven't been paying enough attention to what's been going on for the last five or six years. There'll be records that I like. 'Doctor My Eyes' is nice. And I love that Al Green record, 'Tired of Being Alone.' I liked America's record. When I heard 'the heat was hot,' I knew that it was going to be a two-million seller." Was Randy being, perhaps, a bit wry? "I really like the record. But then I listened to the words, so I'd have something to be bitter about. I figured out what 'A Horse with No Name' is about. It's about a guy who's pretending to take acid.

"I knew that Neil Young's record was going to be a hit. I didn't think that 'Mama Told Me Not to Come'

was going to be a hit. In fact, I was going to call them and ask them to not release it, because I didn't want to be responsible for breaking their winning streak."

Jazzbo Dinosaurs

Circular asked Randy if he's ever won any Grammys—thinking particularly of his orchestral arrangement of Peggy Lee's "Is That All There Is?" "No, but I was nominated. Blood, Sweat and Tears had just come along, and all the jazzbo dinosaurs in NARAS were excited—they thought that jazz was coming back. And Blood, Sweat and Tears won everything. But they deserved it, though. What did they win it for? 'Hair'? No, that was the 5th Dimension. They won it for 'Spinning Wheel,' 'Lulu's Back in Town.' Harry's song was the same thing, and so was mine—'1941' and 'Bet No One Ever Hurt This Bad.' It's an obvious chord thing. Theirs is closer than mine. I didn't realize it at the time. I'm sure that they didn't either. *They* thought *they* were stealing from *me*."

Sail Away. Randy's fourth album. "The first one was primarily orchestral. The second one's group stuff and the third one's 'live.' The natural progression would be to have the fourth album acapella, but this is kind of a combination. It's a bit more piano-oriented, maybe.

" 'Sail Away' was going to be for a movie. I was going to be in it, and Elton John, and Kristofferson, and some others. It was going to be a multi-million dollar spectacular, and each of us would have 10 minutes to do whatever we wanted. My thing opened on a slave ship, and I would come off it in a white suit and glasses, with a band following me, and sing the song to the assembled natives. The people who were going to do the picture ran into some trouble with lawyers and contracts, though.

" 'He Gives Us All His Love' was used in the movie *Cold Turkey*. It's



not straight, but you can't tell on the album. That's why I don't do it 'live.' In the movie, they're showing pictures of all kinds of grubby stuff as I sing it. 'God's Song' came out of a song I was writing called 'Jesus in the Summertime'— you know, a mindless California type of Jesus song. I wrote it and didn't like it, and just kept on going and wrote an Old Testament one about a vengeful God instead. What I like best about that song is the yucca tree. You know it's the California desert. 'Jesus in the Summertime' was too easy. It just didn't work. I might do it sometime, if I fix it up a bit.

"I never liked 'Political Science.' It's too simple-minded. I never did it 'live.' Then I did it once, and everyone went crazy. I can't remember what inspired it. If there's a single from the album, that's probably the one.

"I haven't heard from Cleveland. I wonder what they think of 'Burn On, Big River' there. I was at the airport, and saw the river burning on television." Randy paused dramatically. "I know a lot of people from Cleveland. No one stays."

"'Old Man' is my favorite song on the album. It's rough to do in a club, because it's kind of depressing. You can't get the audience back, afterwards. It's better in concert."

No Favorite

Circular asked Randy what he felt was his best album. "I'm kind of predisposed toward liking the more recent stuff. I was proudest of the first album, in a lot of ways. I liked the orchestra and setting the pace right rather than just jaggling along. But, really, they all run together."

Randy feels that he's finally making some money from his albums, although, "Jethro Tull's new album has sold more in Atlanta than my total sales everywhere. They tell me, though, that *Sail Away* is getting more FM airplay than any new release except the Rolling Stones." Referring to his relationship to Warner Bros. Records and Warner Communications, Inc. ("... the cutest monopoly in the United States"), Randy is pleased. "They never bother me about what I want to do. They always seem to like what I do—legitimately, I think. It's a nice place to be."

April's Wonders

The normally alert Accounting chaps haven't been lately. Sorely missed have been those monthly recap IBMs which tell the world what sold best last April.

Now they come forth: April 1972's top catalog album sellers.

They are, as follows:

Top Ten

1. America (1)
2. Neil Young/*Harvest* (2)
3. *Malo* (3)
4. Jimi Hendrix/
Hendrix in the West (5)
5. Gordon Lightfoot/*Don Quixote*
6. Deep Purple/*Machine Head*
7. The Mothers/*Just Another Band from L.A.*
8. *A Clockwork Orange*/
Sound Track (6)
9. Jethro Tull/*Aqualung* (9)
10. Cold Blood/*First Taste of Sin*

Next, Eleven On

11. T. Rex/*Electric Warrior*
12. Alice Cooper/*Love it to Death* (15)
13. Fleetwood Mac/*Bare Trees*
14. Black Sabbath/*Paranoid* (10)
15. Neil Young/*After the Gold Rush* (11)
16. Neil Young/*Everybody Knows This is Nowhere* (12)



America

17. Goldie Hawn/*Goldie*
18. Mary Travers/*Morning Glory*
19. Jesse Colin Young/*Together*
20. Alice Cooper/*Killer*

Those Fabulous Twenties

21. Faces/*A Nod's as Good as a Wink . . .* (7)
22. Tony Joe White/*The Train I'm On*
23. Jimi Hendrix/*Smash Hits* (24)
24. Little Feat/*Sailin' Shoes* (23)
25. Peter Yarrow/*Peter* (20)
26. Neil Young (2)
27. *A Tribute to Woody Guthrie*
28. John Stewart/*Sunstorm*
29. Zephyr/*Sunset Ride*
30. Joni Mitchell/*Ladies of the Canyon* (36)

Trust Those Over Thirty, Too

31. Jethro Tull/*Stand Up* (25)
32. Jethro Tull/*Benefit* (22)
33. Earth, Wind and Fire/*The Need of Love* (13)
34. Alice Cooper/*Easy Action*
35. Jimi Hendrix/*Electric Ladyland* (26)
36. Grateful Dead/*American Beauty*
37. *The Best of Bill Cosby*
38. Black Sabbath/*Master of Reality*
39. *Deep Purple in Rock* (39)
40. Randy Newman/*Live*



Items

T. Rex Slides Into July

★ Those bangagongers of England, T. Rex, have a new LP slipping this way *circa* mid-July. Among the disc's hot-ones are "Telegram Sam," "Metal Guru" and "The Slider." The latter is, appropriately enough, the title of the album.

Playing for Free

★ This week finds Herbie Hancock playing a series of free concerts in the New York area as part of the Orchestra City of New York program. Among the assorted locations



at which Hancock and his sextet will appear are St. Thomas Church, Westchester Penitentiary (Valhalla, N.Y.) and Creedmore State Hospital (Queens). Hancock's third Warner Bros. album, *Crossings*, is giving ears around the country reason to keep listening.

Hot Pants?

★ The panties in which all copies of Alice Cooper's imminent *School's Out* album are to be wrapped may delay the release of the album slightly. Last *Circular* heard, U.S. Customs people had halted a massive shipment of the undergarbs from England on the grounds that they are flammable. This very moment, *Circ* was told, scientists are testing the flimsies with matches and assorted possible flame retard- ing sprays. Ah, the record biz.

Title of the Week (Singles Division)

★ Ted Taylor, who now records for Ronn (distributed by Jewel) takes title honors with his latest waxing: "(I'm Just a Crumb in Your) Bread Box of Love."

Birthday Ballyhoo

★ This week's celebrations include the following musical notables: Guy Lombardo (June 19), Paul Kelly (June 19), Brian Wilson (June 20), Ray Davies (June 21), Peter Asher (June 22) and Phil Harris (June 24).

When the Warner Brothers Were Kids

★ Thirteen years ago this month WB made its bid for the popular market with the following LPs: *Waltzing in HiFi* by David Terry, *Pete Kelly's Blues* by Dick Cathcart, *Broadway 58-59* by Eddie Le Mar and *Beach Romance* by Roger Smith.

Record for Rat

★ Ben, the rat, movie star of the film *Willard*, has reached the heights of stardom with a newly formed fan club of his own. Among the items fan club members will receive are pop posters and tee-shirts bearing the likeness of their idol. The most memorable gift his followers will receive is a 45 rpm disc of his theme song, a new ballad from his forthcoming flick.



Group Supports Safety Belts

★ Johnny Holiday and Guard Rail will tour the U.S. in support of the National Safety Council's campaign to urge drivers to wear their safety belts. Slogan for the campaign is "Don't go on a death holiday. Go on a Johnny Holiday!" The group does not record for Warner Bros. or any of its relatives.

Where and When

★ Warners own Dion (DiMucci) teamed up with his old mates, the Belmonts, to conjure a bit of nostalgia for 20,000 fans at Richard Nader's Rock 'n' Roll Revival June 2 in N.Y. Dion and his Belmonts



earned two standing ovations with such oldies but goodies as "Teenager in Love," "Runaround Sue," "Wanderer" and "Where or When." The reunion of the Abraham, Martin and John-man and his pals has resulted in a forthcoming live LP.

Voter Motivation

★ The Warner/Reprise artist relations department is fast preparing an album of voter registration radio spots featuring some of the cream of the company's roster. Among those who have contributed urges to the polls are Arlo Guthrie, the Beach Boys, America, Todd Rundgren and Beaver and Krause. The collection of commercials will be available to radio stations across the country in about a month.

Purple Prehistory

★ An agreement with Tetragrammaton, the defunct label which first vended Deep Purple's wares, has led to the scheduled reissue of DP's earliest material on a fall Warner Bros. double album to be called *Purple Passages*. Among the sides on the LP are "Hush," "Kentucky Woman" and "Deep Purple."

Overseas Vibes

★ "Good Vibrations from London," a television special starring the Beach Boys, Joe Cocker, Sha Na Na, Ritchie Havens and Melanie, will air on the NBC-TV network July 18 at 9:30 p.m. (EST), with stereo simulcasts on FM in New York City and Los Angeles.

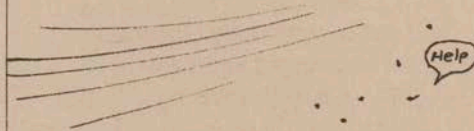
More Jethro

★ August will finally see the release of Jethro Tull's *Living in the Past* two-album collection of unalbum-sized singles and otherwise unavailable musical treats. Readers whose minds have not been corroded by the many available contemporary corrosives will recall that that album once was hoped for last Christmas.



Flea Disaster

★ Tragedy befell seven star performing fleas in London, England, according to the national *Times* there. The acting fleas, who were trained to walk tightropes and pull chariots, were felled by gale winds which swept them from their quarters.



Quoteworthy Review

★ Most memorable statement yet to come from reviews of the Beach Boys' new *Carl and the Passions—So Tough* album belongs to Steve Apple, who wrote thusly in the Philadelphia *Daily Planet*: "Carl and the Passions grows on you like a soft summer rash."



Inspirational Verse

Well, I called my Congressman
And he said, quote,
I'd like to help you son
But you're too young to vote

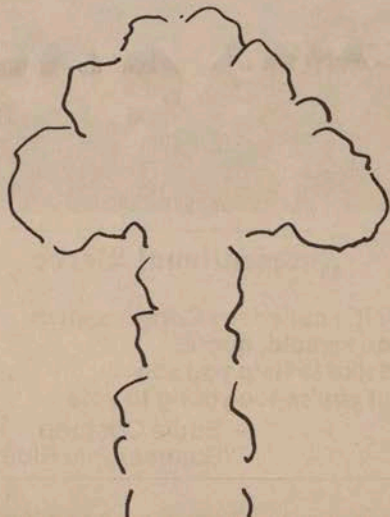
— Eddie Cochran
"Summertime Blues"

Fast Spins

Political Science

Randy Newman
REP 1102

WASHINGTON, October 29, 1972 (REP)—Arrangements have now been made in all 50 states to certify write-in votes for Presidential candidate Randy Newman. The shy satirist of song, who was drafted by the newly-formed Political Science Party after he galvanized America to near-unanimity with his foreign policy proposals, scored 93% on the latest Gallop Poll. Meanwhile, panic-stricken mobs jam all exit routes from London and Paris. Thousands of Japanese have fled to Australia, where they roam the plains disguised as kangaroos, having left their kimonos behind. South America voted yesterday to change its name to North Antarctica. With the All-American Amusement Park and Italian Shoe Conglomerate (formerly General Motors) in the lead, the Dow-Jones industrials hit an all-time high of 1102 today, matching the serial number of the Reprise 45 rpm record on which Mr. Newman's proposals were so successfully propounded. (The candidate's views on religion, nudity, nostalgia, dancing bears and other subjects may be found on his fourth Reprise LP, *Sail Away*).



Seven Bridges Road

Steve Young
REP 1100

One of four similarly-surnamed singer-songwriters in the WB/ Reprise ranks, Steve Young is a Southerner who came to Hollywood during the early 1960s folk boom. Though stardom eluded him then, many musicians and friends took exception to his anonymity: Van Dyke Parks wrote part of his *Song Cycle* ("The All-Golden") about him. Gradually the word spread, and now comes an advance sampling of Steve's second LP (first for Reprise) which, like the absorbing story-song here excerpted, is called *Seven Bridges Road*. Steve, who recently moved from the environs of Hollywood to those of San Francisco, in Marin County, now plans another move—to Nashville, where he recorded the new album. "Seven Bridges Road," album and single alike, are pure country music, but with the wisdom (and a bit of the sadness) of a young man who's been to Hollywood and a lot of other places. The high-toned implications of the phrase aside, this is truly "town 'n' country" music.

Shout Bamalama

Wet Willie
CPR 0008

Yet another sneak preview, this ebullient effort signals the near-imminent arrival of the second Capricorn LP by Wet Willie, a stalwart Southern band whose earlier offering is available through corporate cousin Atco. Rock 'n' soul is the word for this sprightly composition by Macon's own Otis Redding. Following in the footsteps of fellow Maconian Little Richard's merry "Bama-Lama Bama-Loo," "Shout Bamalama" has heretofore been best known through Mickey Murray's 1967 regional hit single.

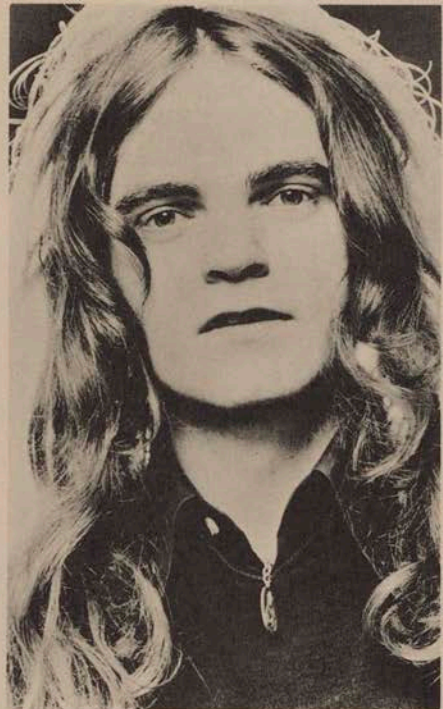
Wet Willie's version is totally true to tradition, especially in the tenor sax solo. Rock 'n' roll revival? Maybe. But a better term is rock 'n' roll *survival*, firstly because there is

a definite feeling of *unbroken* tradition, and secondly because Wet Willie cooks with the crack musicianship and stellar showmanship needed for survival in crowded 1972.

No Better Place

Roger Saunders
WB 7610

As singer-writer-guitarist of a group called Freedom, Roger Saunders has become richly renowned in his native England, thereby meriting a solo album of which this ode to



melancholy solitude is typical. Though "No Better Place" is not the first song to contemplate suicide as the most desirable alternative to something else, Saunders sounds like he means it, and the effect is uncannily powerful. Bill Shepherd, who arranged a hit song or two in similar vein for the Bee Gees, is just the man to maneuver emotions with his violins, as he does here and throughout *Thanks*, the above-mentioned Saunders solo album scheduled for release in the beginning of July.

Dr. Demento



When England's Electronic and Musical Industries, Ltd. (EMI) started issuing Beatles discs on its Parlophone label in 1962, American rights were not assigned to EMI's Stateside subsidiary, Capitol Records, but to an independent American outfit called Vee-Jay Records (previously known for Jimmy Reed and the Four Seasons). Vee-Jay released "Please Please Me" in the summer of 1963 with limited success, following up with "From Me to You." Swan Records landed the next one, "She Loves You."

Not until Capitol's release of "I Want to Hold Your Hand" did Beatlemania cross the water in full force, but in early 1964 there was plenty of surplus hysteria to make belated hits out of its three Stateside predecessors. Vee-Jay even dug out the Beatles' very first Parlophone side, "Love Me Do," and snuck it out on a label called Tollie. Several erstwhile B-sides and album cuts like

"Do You Want to Know A Secret?" also turned up on these labels, with much sales.

Simultaneously, Atco and MGM discovered several heavy souvenirs of the Beatles' salad days in Hamburg, when they still had Pete Best and Stu Sutcliffe, and spent most of their studio time backing up singer Tony Sheridan. From this source came "My Bonnie" (MGM) and Ain't She Sweet" (Atco, with John Lennon vocal).

The winner of Dr. Demento's two-weeks-ago question (Q: Stogans and their respective labels? A: Liberty, RCA, Warner Bros. and Swan) is Todd Everett of Los Angeles, who requested *The Concert Sinatra*.

Honorable mention, but no album, to Larry S. Miller of Tarzana, Calif.

Each week the good doctor poses a music lore question whose answer is the focus of his subsequent column. The earliest reply to his question (mailed to Dr. Demento, c/o *Circular*, Warner Bros. Records, 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, Calif. 91505) wins any single Warner/Reprise catalog album (please specify choice). Answers will be geographically pro-rated on the basis of two days per time zone, ties will be judged on the basis of penmanship, wit and lucidity.

Artist Itineraries

Arizona

Jethro Tull
6/26, Coliseum, Tucson
6/27, Coliseum, Phoenix

California

John Stewart
6/27-7/2, The Boarding House, San Francisco
Maxayn
6/28-7/2, Whisky A Go Go, Los Angeles
Peter Dinklage
6/29-7/1, North Beach Revival, San Francisco
John Baldry
6/30-7/1, Fox Theatre, Long Beach

Colorado

Jethro Tull
6/29, Denver Coliseum, Denver

Florida

Allman Brothers Band
6/29, Curtis-Hixon Armory, Tampa
6/30, Coliseum, West Palm Beach
Alex Taylor
6/29, Curtis-Hixon Armory, Tampa
6/30, Coliseum, West Palm Beach

Illinois

Dionne Warwick
6/27-7/2, Mill Run Theatre, Chicago
Kindred
6/28, Elk Grove High School, Elk Grove
6/29, Lyons Township North High School, La Grange

Indiana

Cold Blood
6/28, Lake County Fairgrounds, Ground Point
Kindred
6/30, East Chicago

Top Ten

1. Jethro Tull/*Thick as a Brick* (MS/M5/M8 2072)
2. Alice Cooper/*School's Out* (BS/M5/M8 2623)
3. Allman Brothers Band/*Eat a Peach* (2CP/J5/J8 0102)
4. Neil Young/*Harvest* (MS/M5/M8 2032)
5. *America* (BS/M5/M8 2576)
6. Fleetwood Mac/*Bare Trees* (MS/M5/M8 2080)
7. Deep Purple/*Machine Head* (BS/M5/M8 2607)
8. Randy Newman/*Sail Away* (MS/M5/M8 2064)
9. Todd Rundgren/*Something/Anything* (2BX/L5/L8 2066)
10. Herbie Hancock/*Crossings* (BS/M5/M8 2617)

Massachusetts

Labelle
6/26, Boston Commons, Boston
6/28, Boston Commons, Boston
Ario Guthrie
6/28, Boston Commons, Boston
Faces
7/1, Boston Gardens, Boston

Michigan

Stovall Sisters
6/26-7/2, Fisher Theatre, Detroit

New Jersey

John Baldry
6/26, Sunshine Inn, Asbury Park

New York

John Baldry
6/27-29, My Father's Place, Roslyn, Long Island

Ohio

Kindred
6/27, Univ. of Cincinnati, Cincinnati
Seals & Crofts
6/27, Blossom Music Festival, Cuyahoga Falls

Pennsylvania

Faces
7/2, Spectrum, Philadelphia

Tennessee

Eric Quincy Tate
7/2, Memphis

Utah

Jethro Tull
6/28, Salt Palace, Salt Lake City

Virginia

Labelle
6/30, Roanoke