

MUSIC BEAT

Dance Tunes, New Blues, Old Country Star

Three Decembers ago the Lincoln Street Market threw a little party. Some of the employees offered to provide the music, so they hooked up their instruments and amps and cut it loose. The Cashiers were an instant hit, and have since played continually throughout the Northwest, making a go of it on the strength of their sound. But the years of subsistence existence of the Eugene musicians are taking their toll. One of the last chances for local fans to hear them this summer, and possibly one of their last local gigs ever, will be at the Pad West, with its new dance floor and outdoor beer garden, this Friday and Saturday.

Born of the Monday Night Blues Jam at Taylor's, the Spotlight Blues Band combines the skills of five musicians who have played with many of this area's best bands, such as the Party Kings, In Yo' Face and the King-snakes. Ricky Johnson on vocals and guitar, Johnny Moore on drums, Nathan Waddell on bass, Watermelon Slim on harp and vocals, and Randy Reese on sax make their collective WOW Hall debut Saturday night.

George Jones slipped onto the music scene in 1955, when the 24-year-old country singer's *Why Baby Why* hit number four on the national charts. Since then he's written over a hundred songs, had many hits, including a few with his ex-wife Tammy Wynette, and



Kathy Wilson of the J-Walkers. They'll be performing hot reggae and rock & roll to cool you off at Saturday Market this week. 2 pm.

has inspired such diverse performers as Bob Dylan, Linda Ronstadt and Elvis Costello. His latest album, *Ladies Choice*, features duets with nine female singers, including Emmylou Harris, Loretta Lynn and Brenda Lee. In the early eighties he began winning all sorts of awards, and Monday you'll be able to hear him yourself when he comes to the Hult.

Every week, besides the usual tempting smells and loose talk, it's music at the Saturday Market, usually three acts from about 11 am-3 pm. This week Avalon's "rhythm and bliss" play at 11, and

the J-Walkers' "reggae, rock and roll" go on at 2.

Next week, if you're looking for some fun on the "4th," you can boogie with the Ron Lloyd Band (known for hard-driving country rock and sweet ballads) followed by the Big Sky Mudflaps (who play a unique mix of rhythm and blues, big-band sounds and classical jazz). They'll be outdoors in the Cuthbert Amphitheater in Alton Baker Park, beginning at 6. You can also see the Autzen fireworks from there. Look for more coverage in next week's *What's Happening*.

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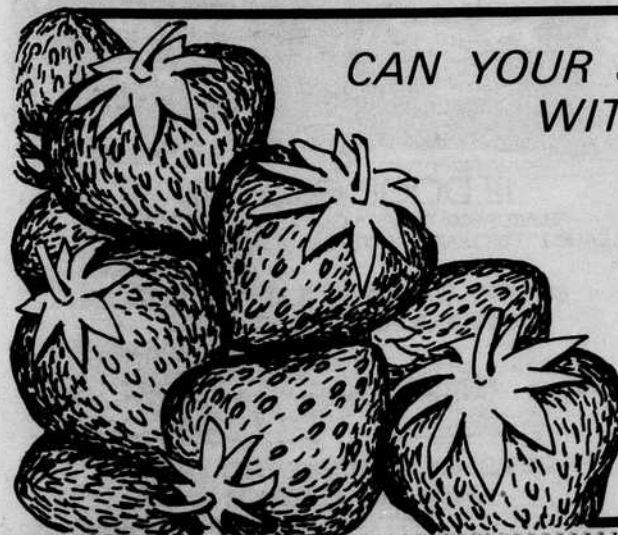
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