

Platter Chatter

Artist Excels in Pop Music

By TOM LARSEN
For the Emerald

As of right now, John Stewart is to be counted among the very best of current pop composers. His first Capitol album, "Signals Through the Glass," with Buffy Ford providing beautiful vocal assistance, is the most exciting, most remarkable popular record I've heard in quite some time.

The ten selections are all written by Stewart, a former member of the Kingston Trio.

It is obvious that Stewart has paid close attention to his contemporaries mainly because he avoids many of their mistakes.

There is none of the arrogant incompetence that Lennon and McCartney exhibit in their work. There is none of the phony, contrived simple-minded

Packwood Schedules Talk at Headquarters

Robert Packwood, Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, will hold a press conference at 4 p.m. today in his downtown Eugene headquarters, 867 Wilamette St.

Packwood, who stands about even with opponent Wayne Morse in state-wide polls, does have a slight edge with voters in Multnomah County, Oregon's most populous county.

Russian Pianist Plays

Russian pianist Alexander Slobodyanik will present a concert at 8 p.m. today in the School of Music Recital Hall.

The cost is \$1.75 and tickets are on sale at the EMU main desk and the Music School office.

The program is sponsored by the Cultural Division of the ASUO.

Slobodyanik, 24, is one of Russia's youngest artists. This is his first concert tour in the United States.

Secretary Needed

Applications are available for the secretary of the ASUO chairman of Senate committees. Apply in 308A EMU, or contact Bob Winger. The post pays \$342.

PL-3 Schedule

FRIDAY, November 1
6:30 Huntley-Brinkley Report
7:00 The Voting Machine (Repeat)
7:30 Nursing Education
8:00 Candidates And The Issues (Repeat)

diction that plagues much of Dylan's work.

Nor is there an attempt to be really sophisticated and intellectual as there is in the songs of Paul Simon. (Compare Simon's "Old Friends" with the Eric Blau-Mort Shuman translation of Jacques Brel's "Les Vieux" and compare his "Overs" with Rodgers and Hart's "It Never Entered My Mind" if you want to see just how far Simon is from true sophistication).

What John Stewart has to offer are honest, natural, literate lyrics coupled with exquisitely enticing melodies.

Stewart's subject matter ranges from the shallowness of the "pink-poodled people at Sunset and Vine" to the desolate life on the "dark prairie."

One song tells of an old-timer caught up in imagined past glories: "Cody's hair is long and dirty as the rivers of L.A. Cody's mind is gone, you never know just what he's going to say." In "Draft Age," young Clarence Milloy is reminded "how terribly short it can be."

The two best songs on the al-

bum both deal with love. In "Santa Barbara," a young girl goes "running, reaching through the past" to recall a now-distant love. Buffy Ford does an excellent job on this wistful tune. "July, You're a Woman" is sort of a guide to highway seduction. It has one of those rare lyrics that begins with a great line and then keeps getting better line after line in a way that is hard to believe.

In order to do justice to the song, I would have to quote it in its entirety and even then I would be omitting the exuberant melody, not to mention Stewart's wicked, dirty old man delivery. It has to be heard to be fully appreciated.

Indeed, the whole album must be heard to be fully appreciated. It is not an album without faults; Stewart makes mistakes, some of them bad ones. But the achievements outweigh the errors and I do not think that Stewart has reached his full potential yet. This is only his first album. I already have my money saved to buy his second.

Emerald Article 'Shocks' Solon

A "shocked" candidate for the re-election to the Oregon legislature has written to the Lane County district attorney asking about prosecution possibilities against the Emerald for printing an alleged obscenity Oct. 4, it was learned Thursday.

The alleged obscenity was given to the Emerald as the name of a since-dissolved student group by that group's chairman. The Emerald subsequently learned it was misinformed and printed a statement to that effect Oct. 7.

Rep. Keith Skelton of Portland, said in the letter that he was "shocked" by the Emerald's story. Lane County District Attorney John Leahy was out of town Thursday.

If suit were filed against the Emerald, the charge would probably be a violation of ORS 167.151, said State Assistant Attorney General W. D. von Otterstedt Thursday.

Otterstedt added any action would probably have to be against one individual rather than the Emerald as a group.

A violation of this statute on disseminating obscene matter is a misdemeanor. It carries a jail sentence of not more than six months and/or a fine of not more than \$1,000.

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