

Read the Oregon Daily Emerald



THE DOWN BEAT

Featured Band All Week
PATTERSON ALLEY
959 Pearl, Eugene Closed Monday

Jefferson Airplane 101: Social commentary through the music of space-fiction minstrels

By RITA THOMAS
Of the Emerald

You would almost think that two hours of credit would be given for memorizing (and understanding) the title of this SEARCH class. The course is called: "Jefferson Airplane: Acid Love Revolution, Epic Planetary Exploration, and Down Home (San Francisco Innovation) Funk."

If the title is examined closely, piece by piece, you can come to some fairly accurate conclusions about what Jay Roberts is trying to do with this class. Roberts thinks that the Jefferson Airplane is one of the most important American musical groups ever, "especially for a whole specific era—the whole Youth Movement-Revolution. The flower children era, which stemmed from and was concentrated in the San Francisco area."

What is the justification for studying an Acid Rock musical group, even if it is one of best? According to Roberts, "The Jefferson Airplane made more social comments than any other group. Their lyrics have really changed since their beginning. They started out with love songs and by their third album they were really saying something." Although Roberts is con-

centrating primarily on the Jefferson Airplane, the larger scope of his class is the entire San Francisco phenomenon, and the music which not only accompanied it, but resulted from it, and in a way, helped instigate it. Roberts will use the Jefferson Airplane to examine the entire spectrum of the San Francisco innovation in funk and acid rock music.

"San Francisco music, as a whole separate thing, started out when everyone's trip was love and peace. That goes for the Jefferson Airplane, too. The songs reflected the mood of the era. That mood died away, the more radical social movement began, and the Jefferson Airplane (and other groups) became more socially oriented. They progressed into a much tighter group. They were really together and were really beginning to lay some heavy stuff down," explains Roberts. He points out that the songs of the Jefferson Airplane make comments on issues such as women's liberation, drugs, the social revolution, religion, and the war.

The class will not concentrate entirely upon how San Francisco groups are similar, nor on their effect on that area. Also under discussion will be how the groups relate to the entire revolutionary

movement, the differences between the pop culture and the flower children, what acid rock really is, and how the groups relate to the drug culture and its members.

In regard to what acid rock is, Roberts says he hopes to explore all three levels such music can be enjoyed at: when you're in your normal condition, when you're stoned, and when you're on acid, "which is what it's really meant for anyway."

Regarding the so-called "drug culture," Roberts says the phrase is cliché and no longer meaningful. "The 'drug culture' originally was a state of mind. It doesn't necessarily mean that now. So a lot of people under thirty take drugs. Big deal. We don't call our parents the 'War Culture.' A person can be just as together and as far out as the phrase 'drug culture' originally meant, and never have used drugs at all. Some people who use drugs all the time really aren't into any kind of cultural trip—they're just into drugs."

The class, which meets two hours one night a week, is very relaxed and happy—a necessity according to Roberts. "Intercommunication is what this kind of class has to be based on. We're just talking about ideas and opinions and getting some background information for those who don't have it. We're not going to get into anything highly technical about the music changes or anything. I'm not a music major, so I couldn't anyway. I just want a lot of outward opinions from everybody."

One album will be listened to each night and then discussed. Articles on the group and their

music will also be read. Roberts hopes to spend at least one night discussing the record company, Grunt Records, formed by Grace Slick and Paul Kantner. Hot Tuna, a sort of faction of the Jefferson Airplane, will also be discussed.

Roberts is an undergraduate art major at the University. He has attended the University for two years and last Spring term taught a SEARCH class in Folk Music. When he decided to teach something this Summer, he wanted to get into "something more specific—and something I definitely like. I was looking for a group that was more socially meaningful than most—one that was really saying something."

Studying the Jefferson Airplane as space-fiction minstrels will surely reveal that they have a lot to say.

BRIEFS

MISC.

The following are a few of the volunteers needed this week by Lane County Agencies.

The list is compiled by the Voluntary Action Center, 673 West 10th Avenue, Eugene. VSO opportunities are open to anyone interested; RSVP is limited to persons over 60.

VSO — Like to play cards? Need a young woman to play gin rummy and visit with elderly gentleman once a week.

RSVP — Something you can do at home. Make bulletin board decorations monthly for local nursing home.

VSO-RSVP U-Pick helper and driver to take residents to U-pick farms to get produce. Should be able to help pick.

VSO-RSVP Male instructors and assistants needed in woodworking, archery, pool instruction or any area which appeals to boys. Must be established mature resident of the community.

(Continued on Page 7)

HOUSE of RECORDS

VISIT WHERE YOU FIND
THE BESST FOR THE LESST.

258 E. 13th
BETWEEN PEARL AND HIGH

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June 28 thru July 1st
Sheldon High School
2455 Willakenzie Road

7 pm each evening

June 28th

EMU 2:00 pm

room to be posted

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Official rules . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

southeast corner of 16th Avenue and Patterson Street.

James Saul, member of the city's planning staff, said the staff recommended denial of the permit because the University's proposed use "does not meet the criterion of a conditional-use permit."

With the R-4 zoning classification, "the city is attempting to encourage residential, instead of office use," he said, adding that the staff feels "the University should grow upward and not outward."

Five persons besides Van Oudenallen spoke in favor of the permit application at the hearing, and none opposed it.

Mary Whener, Terry Hughes and Lenny Jensen, who are co-owners of Mama's Home Fried

Truckstop, and Peter Hale said their main concern was that if the University had the permit, the restaurant would have a better chance of survival. "Somebody desiring high-density housing would be less fair to Mama's than the University," Hale said.

George Mayer, owner of the building in question, also spoke in favor of the application. "The structure has been remodeled three times in the last 15 years in an attempt to bring high-density housing, but only during one month was it filled to capacity," he said. "The money spent there was worthless . . . and it does not substantiate R-4 use."

Mayer added that if the permit application is denied, "the restaurant will go . . . It's sad, because I helped to build it."

On Campus

Yogi to speak tonight

An introductory lecture on Transcendental Meditation as taught by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi will be given at 8 p.m. tonight in 221 Allen. The lecture, "A Vision of Possibilities," is open to the public at no charge. The lecture is presented by the Students' International Meditation Society.

Campus Canadians to celebrate

Canadians on campus, their families and American friends will hold their annual Canada Day Picnic from 4:30 to 9 p.m. July 2 at Armitage Park. Eating, drinking and games for children and adults and the exciting Dominion Softball Championship will be featured.

In addition professor Guy Shellenbarger will be honored on his retirement this summer. Last year 350 people participated.