



Photo by Erich Boekelheide

Writer seeks Nixon dreams

By KATY LASSWELL
Of the Emerald

The man dreamed he was looking up at the sky, it was filled with bombs. All that he could see was the bottom of bombs, and every bomb was a vote for Nixon. Sounds strange, maybe a bit prophetic? There are more dreams of and about the ex-President and each reflects the dreamer's feelings toward Nixon.

Jeff Jens, a young Michigan writer, is looking for additions to his collection of Nixon dreams. Jens, 26, recently spent approximately \$300 to advertise for people to send him their Nixon dream-visions. The advertisements are beginning to pay off.

In one dream a woman reported watching the world being destroyed on the evening news and feeling that, "Nixon was at the heart of it." Another woman dreamt that she had a telephone conversation with Nixon. When she woke up it seemed to her that Nixon was talking to her "like Napoleon" from his place of exile, an island in the Mediterranean.

Jens became interested in Nixon dream-visions when he had his own, during Watergate. He has had two since then. While awake Jens dislikes Nixon, but when dreaming he is sympathetic to the former President.

"I think he (Nixon) is a very durable dream figure," says Jens. "The love or hate relationship that

so many people have with him translates into strong dream images."

Jens thinks that there has probably been an increase in Nixon dreams recently because of the David Frost interviews on television.

Other Nixon dreams have pictured Nixon in a variety of ways. One dream showed Nixon, Mao Tse-tung, Leonid Brezhnev together. The three men were slapping each other on the back, "obviously in high spirits," remembered the dreamer. "My impression was that they had just put one over on everyone."

Jens said that a lot of symbolism shows up in Nixon dreams.

Because of the publications in which he has advertised (Saturday Review, some underground newspapers and the Emerald to name a few; there is currently an advertisement running in the Willamette Valley Observer), Jens has drawn responses mostly from young liberals. He would also like to hear from conservatives who have been dreaming of Nixon.

Jens' address is C.R. 388, Grand Junction, Mich., 49056. There is, however, a dream connection in Eugene if you would rather talk to someone rather than write it. Joan Biease, a University student, can be reached at 343-6804 if you would like more information about Nixon dreams (nightmares?).

Neil Young's latest country, re-releases

Record review — "American Stars 'N Bars" by Neil Young.

Produced by Neil Young & David Briggs with Tim Mulligan.

Reprise Records MSK 2261
Copyright 1977 Warner Bros. Records.

By MARK ROWE
Of the Emerald

Yes, friends, it's Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young time once again — though not necessarily in either that order or all together. While Neil beat his (ex-)amigos to the punch by releasing his album about a week before theirs, the odds are that Crosby, Stills & Nash will run away with all of the laurels.

Rationale behind this wild statement (and rational thought is a perilous commodity when dealing with Neil Young, the reigning schizo king of rock and roll) is that CS & N have not recorded together in about eight years while Young has kept up his album-a-year production with or without the others. By this twisted reasoning

ment in releasing old material, but the tactic is not only a little worn, it is also casting doubts about Young's ability to compose enough songs to make an entire album of current material.

Side One, with Crazy Horse and the Bullets, strikes a definite country vein that has only touched Young's previous solo attempts which lean more toward a nihilistic brand of burnt out folkie music.

Now, while much of "Stars 'N Bars" is mining for solid rock along the lines of Young's best tunes like "Cortez," or "Revolution Blues," there is also the man's mining once again for solid gold. The allure of his success with the "Harvest" album must have finally been too much and two of the songs from Side One, "Hey Babe" and "Hold Back the Tears," could be potential hits.

Both tunes have the same feel that "Pardon My Heart" (from "Zuma"), and "Old Man," not to mention "Heart of Gold," (from "Harvest") projected. It is with these songs that the Bullets (basically vocalist Linda Ronstadt and Nichollette Larson along with violinist Carole Mayedo) lend their greatest assistance.

It was okay when Billy Talbot and Ralph Molina of Crazy Horse sang along with Young, but the ladies smooth out the sound and take the edge off of Young's sometimes squeaky falsetto, allowing his songs to develop a greater depth, not being pinned down to Neil Young playing and Neil Young singing songs written by Neil Young.

In contrast to the overt influence of country music (progressive or otherwise) of the first side, Side Two, containing the older tracks is more like the old Neil Young; pure schiz.

Please don't mistake me, I like Neil Young. He is certainly one of the premier guitarists and inventive despite his vagueness and sporadic touring and, if nothing else, he keeps things interesting. "Stars 'N Bars" can no way be called his best effort, but it is a change and at least tells us that he was not totally defeated in his alliance with Steve Stills in last year's ill fated Stills/Young Band. It can perhaps pave the way for another, better album in the near future.

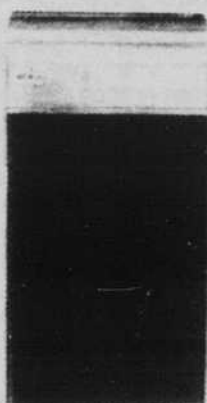
record buyers are probably hungrier for something that has been off the shelf for almost a decade than for the same old schmaltz in a different package. Pretty good rationale, huh?

As I said, Young, the schizo king of rock, has a new album out, "American Stars 'N Bars," and it is sort of a mix up of material that readily backs up my claim of mental derangement. Young has long been known for his succinct appraisals of the state of reality. (Witness "Barstool Blues": "I saw you in my nightmares but I'll see you in my dreams/ And I might live a thousand years before I know what that means." Or "Ambulance Blues": "It's hard to say the meaning of this song.")

"Stars 'N Bars" contains one side of recent material recorded this year with Crazy Horse and the Bullets, and one side of older tracks that, like Tonight's The Night, have been lying around for a while. Tonight's the Night, by the way, was an interesting experi-

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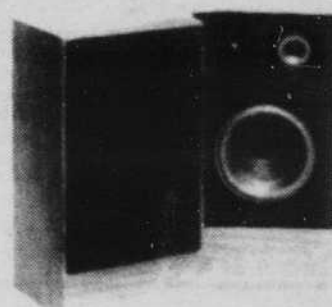
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