

Woody Herman's 'herd' rolls in Sunday

Jazz sounds swing with versatility

Woody Herman, one of the most durable names in big band jazz, will bring his latest "herd" to Eugene Sunday for two performances, at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., in the Churchill High School auditorium.

The roster of gifted musicians who have worked with Herman through the years reads like the roll call of an era: Stan Getz, Zoot Sims, Al Cohn, Red Norvo, Milt Jackson, Ralph Burns, Chubby Jackson, Bill Harris, Jimmy Giuffre, Nat Pierce, Sam Marowitz and Jake Hanna. These and many more have contributed to the many phases of Woody Herman's music and to the field of jazz itself.

Herman began his show business life as a song-and-dance boy; he was on the road as a sideman by 16, and made his first

big step toward fame when he took over the old Isham Jones Band on Election Night in 1936. From that "Band That Plays the Blues" came the progression of "herds" that has set trends and captured audiences for an entire generation.

According to *The Jazz Book* by Joachim Berendt, "The 'First Herd' was perhaps the most vital white jazz band ever. 'Caldonia' was its biggest hit. When Igor Stravinsky heard this piece on the radio in 1945, he asked Herman if he could write a composition for his band. Thus the 'Ebony Concerto' came into being — a piece in three movements in which Stravinsky combines his classicist ideas with the language of jazz."

In 1947 came the Second Herd. This grew into the Four Brothers Band. Again, from *The Jazz Book*, "At this time, Herman was about to form a new band. He happened to hear a group with four tenor saxophones (Stan Getz, Herbie Steward, Zoot Sims and Jimmy Giuffre who were playing in a band in the Spanish section of Los Angeles, under trumpeter Tony de Carol) and was so taken with the sound that he hired three of them: Sims, Steward and Getz. In the place of the fourth tenor he put Serge Chaloff's baritone, to add warmth to the tenor combination. The new sound was made fam-

ous by a piece written for Herman in 1947 by Jimmy Giuffre. It was called 'Four Brothers' — hence the name of the sound. Along with the Miles Davis Capitol sound it became the most influential ensemble sound in modern jazz. Its warmth and suppleness symbolized the sound-ideal of cool jazz.

"In the 50s came the Third and Fourth Herman Herds — and so on; the transitions are blurred. Herman himself once said: 'My three Herds? I feel as if there'd been 80.'"

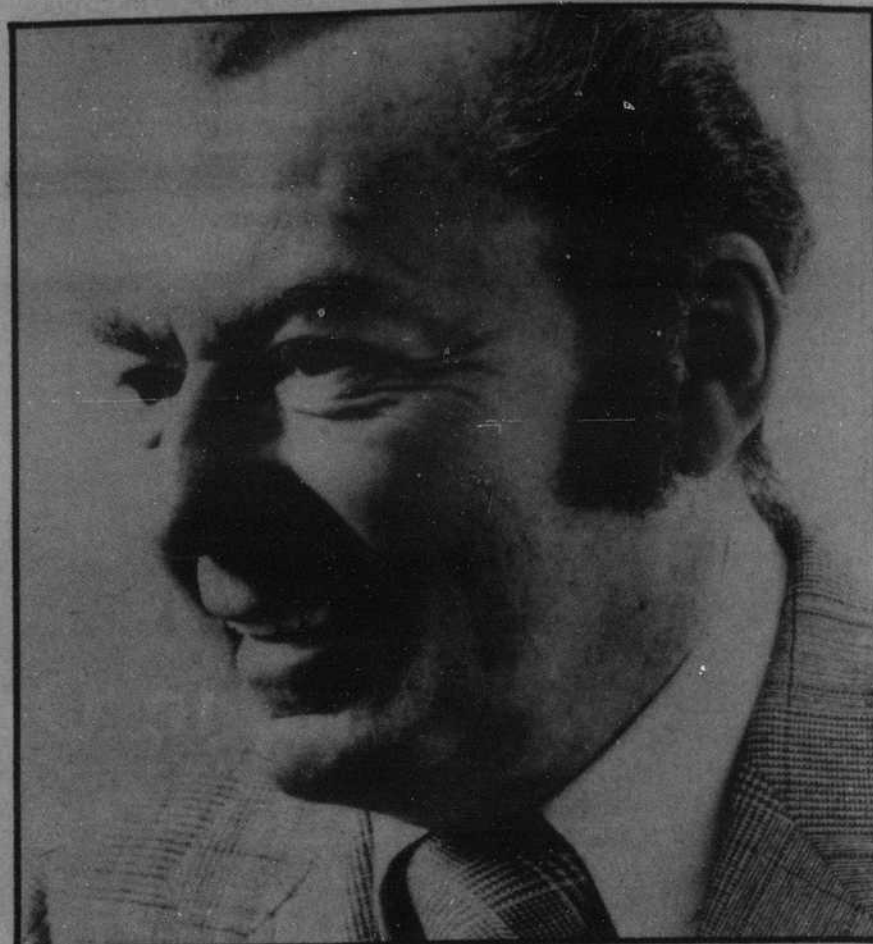
Herman has never limited his repertoire — except for consistent parameters of taste and excellence — a moving versatility that has allowed him to be always with and often ahead of his musical era. The Herman concert of today draws on all eras — from swing to rock — presenting the current and contemporary Herman reading of the musical scene.

"I have a broad scope of what I like and only a few basic requirements," Herman says. The requirements being: "Reasonably good taste, quality and that it swings."

And critics have joined audiences in praising the Herman sound.

"It looks backward and forward in jazz," wrote Roderick Nordell in the *Christian Science Monitor*. "Making a whole band swing with the agility of a small group, using an entire trumpet section with the nimbleness of a single horn, giving a pulsing background to soloists, a fresh sound to familiar riffing, and a kind of biting exuberance to everything."

"What made the night... so spectacular was the deeply satisfying feeling that nothing had stood still, that we weren't captives of the past," wrote Charles



Woody Herman

Champlin in a Los Angeles Times review headed "Carried Away with Woody."

"Most of Woody's sidemen look hardly old enough to vote," Champlin continued, "but they play mind-blowing arrangements with a power and proficiency that I don't think even the earlier Herdsmen could cut and their solos are astonishing. Herman himself took roaring choruses on alto and soprano sax and clarinet with the enthusiasm and inventiveness of a new boy in town. And when the best brass section I've ever heard, and one of the best reed sections, wailed through a long, new arrangement of 'Blues in the Night,' Woody wore the pleased grin of a man, who after these several years, likes what he does and has joy in doing it triumphantly well."

As far back as 20 years ago, *The Encyclopedia of Jazz* had already given the Woody Herman talent a durable definition:

"His real importance in jazz history lies in his retention, often against severe economic odds, of an uncompromising band that progressed with each new trend and provided an incubator for some of the most brilliant soloists and arrangers throughout the years."

It will be interesting to see where the members of the 16-piece band who will be performing here in Eugene with Herman Sunday night are going.

Tickets for the event sponsored by TDA Productions/Jeffrey Ross Music are \$5.50 for students, \$6 for the general public and \$6.50 at the door. They are available at the Sun Shop, Eugene Music, Bremen Town and Chrystalship. 50 cents of every ticket sold will be given to KLCC-FM towards purchasing a new Optimod. This piece of equipment will enhance the signal quality of the station which is increasing its power to nearly 10,000 watts next month.

PSYCHIC

Advices on business, love & personal direction.

Jamil
P.O. Box 10154
Eugene, Oregon 97401
Phone anytime:
342-2210 484-2441

Complete Ice Cream Party
Items for All Occasions

31

BASKIN-ROBBINS
ICE CREAM

Milk Shakes
Special Sundaes
Cones

1365 Villard St. 495 Coburg Rd.
484-1031 342-3462
EMU Breezeway

31 Delicious Flavors

NOW... AT
THE PLACE



NO COVER
CHARGE

"2 for 1"
HAPPY HOUR
Mon - Fri
4 - 8

SPECIALS

MONDAY
"2 for 1"
9 - 10

TUESDAY
Ladies Night
½ Price

WEDNESDAY
25¢ Beer
9 - 11

Enjoy the Finest in Dining
from our

Continental Menu

Steak

Seafood

Monday - Friday 11AM to 2AM
Saturday 4PM to 2AM

160 S. Park
343-1896

Hear and Now is edited by Cheryl Rudert and Jerril Nilson. All art and poetry contributions are welcome. Additions to Out and About must be submitted by the Friday previous to publication.

OPENING THIS WEEKEND

The Belle of Amherst
by WILLIAM LUCE

with Priscilla Lauris
as Emily Dickinson



"This is a play to 'Lift your hat to!'"

-Don Bishoff, Eugene Register-Guard
October 15, 1977

MAUDE I. KERNS ART CENTER
corner of E. 15th and Villard

January 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29
Admission \$4.00 Curtain 8:30pm/6:30pm Sun.

-TICKETS AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT-
BACKSTAGE DANCEWEAR and
THEATRICAL SUPPLY

878 Pearl Street Phone: 686-2671
or at the door on each night of performance

Consider this
beautiful gift
and great value
from
one of Eugene's
leading jewelers.

FAMOUS
14 Kt. 'S'
SERPENTINE

15" CHOKER
\$19.98

7" BRACELET \$9.88
8" ANKLET \$12.88

CONVENIENT CREDIT
Student Accounts Welcome

Harry Ritchie's
JEWELERS
Home of Karpas Diamond Values