Portland has smorgasbord of fine cuts

By Mike Koller
Of The Print

With Tri-Met bus pass in hand, I eagerly set off on a cloudy, rainy Saturday morning with only one intention in mind: to find the perfect record store in the Portland area.

The perfect record store I envisioned, with records and tapes selling for $3.99 each and an endless stock of both new and old releases, did not seem a reality as I trudged wearily from store to store. As my last hope of finding such a store vanished, I realized most stores vary little in prices and stock, and I could best present my day's findings by compiling a list of the various Portland record stores and then letting the reader decide which offers the most for the musically oriented public.

Al's Revord Store-3255 SE Oak Grove Boulevard

Nestled on the south side of the Fred Meyer's shopping center on McLoughlin Boulevard, Al's Record Store offers a little bit of everything for the record consumer, but Al's specializes in 45's (those little records you buy when you only like a certain song on an album). Although that may be a primary reason for buying 45's, they also come in handy when you hear a golden oldie on the radio and desperately want to be able to listen to it more than just once every two years on KGW. Al's Record Store has an enormous selection of singles from the 50's, 60's and 70's at an average cost of $1.29 per single— not a bad price for a quick blast from the past destined to bring back memories almost forgotten.

As far as albums go, Al's Record Store drops toward mediocricy with an average price of $5.99 per record and a somewhat limited stock on jazz, rock, easy listening and classical records. Al's also carries used 45's and albums, and takes orders for albums and 45's out of stock.

Longhair Music-400 SW 2nd, Downtown Portland

Though the TV commercials tell you, "Longhair Music is Portland's oldest full-service record store," they somehow fail to mention it is also one of Portland's highest-priced full-service record stores. With albums at $6.29 a shot and sometimes higher, I did not stay around Longhair for too long. In my short stay I did notice that Longhair Music does have a large selection of rock albums, and usually puts new release albums on sale for close to a dollar off. But if you're looking for an older album, stay away from Longhair Music unless your situation becomes desperate and you have to have the album desired immediately. Remember, though, you'll pay for your impatience.

Chrystalship Record Store

What constitutes a world class record store, which Chrystalship proclaims themselves to be in their TV commercial? I'm really not sure, but they do have a wide variety of music ranging from rock to belly dancing. Christalship's price on most records is a very average $5.99, but they do place several new albums on sale for $4.33 and $4.99. Chrystalship also can order albums they are out of.

Galaxy Records-3768 SE Hawthorne

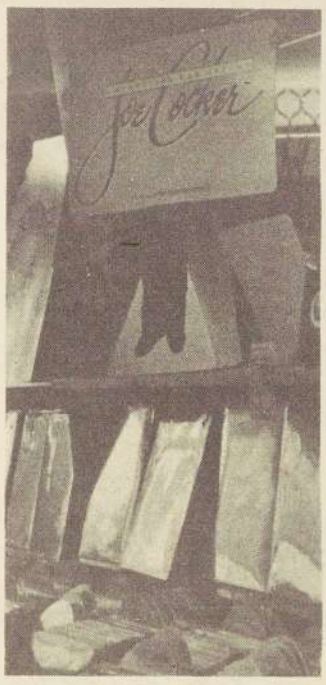
The shop's so tiny you've probably driven by it several times and never noticed Galaxy Records, but inside its small confines lie some of th better album prices in town. Many older albums go for $4.99, a dollar below the average, and they will gladly order any record they are out of. Galaxy also has a nice selection of new and old 45's for 89 cents apiece.

For What It's Worth Records-15591 SE McLoughlin Blvd.

For What It's Worth offers an average selection of records for the reasonable price of $5.66 with a sale price of $4.88. They are conveniently located in the heart of Clackamas County, and for 33 cents less than most record stores we might as well buy from our own county rather than the higher priced downtown Portland record stores.

The Used Record Stores:
Django's Records-111 SW Stark
Bird's Suite Records-720 SW Salmon, 3736 SE Hawthorne
Park Avenue Records-832 SW Park

If you are totally disenchanted with the record prices mentioned above (they will probably even be higher by the time you read this story), there is an alternative. Toward the end of my search I finally did find the $3.99 record, though it may have a few scratches here and there.



I am speaking about records, a possible mean combating inflating new re prices. The three used re stores located in downt Portland offer albums anywhere from 49 cents $3.50 depending on the dition of the record. With a patience and a good eye spotting possible scratches can find yourself a perf good record for around $2 Brand new, it would nearly six bucks. Used rec offer an alternative to sav few dollars well worth lo into.

As I wearily climbed on last bus out of town, ending day of record searchin noticed in the newspaper a for Columbia Record stating, "if you join now receive 10 new albums for cent." That, I thought, was answer to my long search as I read further the small said you have to buy more albums at only $9.9 the next three years. I realized at that price postage included I would financially unable to meet requirements, but my se was not totally a failu realized Portland has m record stores with at respectable prices for the sumer, but that still do mean I'm going to quit ching for my dream re store that surely must somewhere.

briefs

Games set

A new set of pool, pinball and foosball tournaments will take place in the College's game room, running from 3 to 7 p.m. every Monday evening from April 23 until May 28.

Featured in the competition will be amateur pool, which will exclude anyone who has won in previous contests and "last ball" in which the eight ball is sunk in the same pocket as the last solid or stripe. Pinball, foosball and regular pool will also be included in the competition.

Prizes for the Associated Student Government sponsored event are expected to include certificates for free gameroom participation, and free meals at Norm's Beanery (the College cafeteria).

"We are still not positive what the prizes are or how many there will be," said Mike Cookingham, ASG senator and one of the tournament's coordinators. "The funds available for prizes are dependant on how many entires there are."

Entires will be taken up until the night of the tournament at a fee of $1. The dates for specific tournaments will go as follows: April 23: Novice eight ball; April 30: Novice foosball; May 7: Pro last pocket; May 14: Cleopatra pinball; May 21: Pro/novice rotation; and May 28: Pro/novice foosball.

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FFA contest

Nearly 30 high schools from throughout the state will be on hand when the Oregon Association of Future Farmers of America holds its annual state contests at the College Saturday, April 28.

The competition, which is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. in Clairmont Hall, will be in agricultural mechanics, crops, meats, poultry, farm business management and FFA history. The contests will include skills demonstrations, judging and written tests.

Among the local schools participating are Canby, Molalla, West Linn, Etacada, Sandy and the Owen Sabin S Center.

The first place teams in division, except crops, wi vance to the National Convention in Kansas Mo.

For more information a the competition, contact Clackamas Commu College agriculture de tment, 656-2631, ext. 340

Mass band

A "mass band" consist Rex Putnam, Milwaukie, Clackamas high schools w featured on campus April 2

The band will have as a director Larry Curtis and perform in Randall Hall nasium at 8 p.m. The colle hosting this event and wil another of this sort on May

Anyone needing more formatin may call Gary N at 656-2631, ext. 293.

classifieds

wanted

Female ROOM MATE wanted to share furnished 3 bdrm 2 bath house in Milwaukie—$250/mo includes utilities—pets negotiable, non-smoker preferred. 654-8376 after 4 p.m.

for sale

Coors keg for sale $25. See Frieda Tr. G 8:00-5:00

AKC register, Silver Toy Poodle pup $125 632-7091

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