

rock notes

Chicago

Rock group Chicago is inviting all of its friends to attend their gala New Year's Eve party - on television. Chicago will host the salute to the new year, and their performing guests will include the Beach Boys, the Doobie Brothers, Olivia Newton John, and Herbie Hancock.

The show will be broadcast over ABC during its late-night "Wide World of Entertainment" time slot on December 31.

Originally, Chicago wanted to do the show live, but technical problems convinced the band to tape their party several weeks early. Taping of New Year's Eve currently is scheduled for November 26.

Hot Tuna

Jorma Kaukonen, lead guitarist for the Jefferson Airplane and its spinoff group Hot Tuna, has released his first solo album, "Quah", on Grunt Records.

The album is an entirely acoustical set which also features the guitarwork of Jorma's friend Tom Hobson. Jorma, who wrote all the material, says the set "is reflective of my current musical state of mind".

Trower

Guitarist-singer Robin Trower has announced that his new drummer will be Bill Lordan, formerly with Sly & The Family Stone. Lordan joins Trower for an American concert tour this month. Trower will play about 20 dates, mostly in the East and Midwest, before returning to his native England for a tour there at Christmastime. Chrysalis Records is releasing Robin's new album, "For Earth Below," to tie in with the tour.

Fairport Convention

Fairport Convention will release their 12th album shortly after Christmas on Island Records. Six tracks already have been cut in London, where the sessions are being held. During their 12 album history, Fairport has had 10 different personnel in the group, each album featuring new members. Lead singer Sandy Denny recently rejoined the group for their "Moveable Feast" album and their current U.S. concert tour. Sandy will also appear on the new album.

Maria Muldaur

For reasons totally unknown to man - or even Warner Records - the new Maria Muldaur album has had a slight - very slight - title change. Mid-way through production of the album, the title was changed from "Waitress in A Donut Shop" to "Waitress in The Donut Shop." When asked why the change, a spokesperson for Warner's art department said, "Oh... One never really knows about these things." The first run of the album features the title "Waitress in A Donut Shop" on the cover, while the label says "Waitress in The Donut Shop." Since "The" has apparently won out over "A", the next run of the album will feature the word "the" on both cover and label. Meanwhile, for the fanatical accumulators of the obscure, the albums with diverse titles may be a new rage in collectors' items.

Melanie

Melanie has completed work on a new album, "As I See It Now," which was produced by her husband-manager, Peter Scheekeryk.

The album features nine new songs written by Melanie as well as her interpretations of Bob Dylan's "Don't Think Twice" and Jesse Winchester's "Yankee Lady." Incredible String Band members Mike Heron and Robin Williamson back her up on the L.P.

"As I See It Now," will be Melanie's first effort to be distributed by Bell Records, which henceforth will handle her Neighborhood Label.

Bachman-Turner Overdrive

A few years back, two founding members of the Guess Who - Randy Bachman and Fred Turner - decided to drop out of that group to form a new band called Brave Belt.

Brave Belt recorded two albums for Warner Brothers, but both faded quickly into obscurity.

Warners dropped them, and Mercury signed them on. Meanwhile, Randy and Fred had decided to change their group's name. In fact, to use their own names. They called themselves Bachman-Turner-Overdrive.

Now that Bachman-Turner Overdrive is one of the world's major rock acts, Warner Brothers has decided to attempt to win back some of their investment in the early Bachman-Turner band. They're re-releasing an album of old Brave Belt recordings. Only this time the album will be called "Bachman-Turner-Bachman as Brave Belt."

SUB Theatre plans great features

Last Tango In Paris, *Summer Wishes, Winter Dreams*, and *Lady Sings the Blues* will be showing at Students' Union Cinema during the next two weeks. "Tango", directed by Bernardo Bertolucci, starring Marlon Brando and Maria Schneider is showing today, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. "Tango", is one of the most celebrated films of the past few years combining the great acting of Marlon Brando and the direction of Bertolucci. Bertolucci was previously little known to North American audiences but won acclaim for "The Conformist" which was a visual masterpiece of light and sensitivity. Something reflected in *Last Tango In Paris* which I need only say is a great film. *Summer Wishes, Winter Dreams*, stars Joanne Woodward, runs December 13 and December 14 and *Lady Sings The Blues* starring Diana Ross show on Sunday, December 15.

In an interview with Mr. Vernon Torstensen, SU Theatre Manager, he explained that with the Christmas bread coming up, he was very busy planning the schedule of events happening in the SU Theatre for the coming months. Mrs Torstensen pointed out that the scope of the theatre's programming capabilities has expanded greatly



The Great Gatsby coming in January

during the past year. This has made it possible for the Theatre to begin its own sponsorship program, which began successfully with the "Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers" in October.

On February 8, the Anna Wyman Dance Theatre will perform. In addition to this, the group will be conducting dance workshops in conjunction with the Phys. Ed. Faculty. April 4, 5 and 6 the Theatre is co-sponsoring a series of performances with the Alberta Contemporary Dancers. Mr. Torstensen is presently negotiating with Paul Horn and his Quintet to appear in March.

Coming back to January the Theatre is sponsoring the Alberta Adult One Act Play Festival, tentatively January 20-21. It features amateur drama groups from all over Alberta and will consist of approximately 6 to 9 plays.

The Theatre due to its great versatility is used by a wide range of groups among them the Learned Society Conference, the

very important Dance Canada Conference, Orchestris and the annual Medical Students show. The Hovel and the Edmonton Jazz Society frequently hold concerts in the theatre and bring in numerous top musicians among them Joe Pass and Joe Henderson.

S.U. Cinema reopens in January with *The Way We Were*, starring Barbara Streisand and Robert Redford, on January 3, 4 and 5th. Also beginning in January is a special mid-week series with Fellinis *Satyricon*, *The Music Lovers*, *Women In Love* and *The Fox*. On January 10, 11 and 12th *The Great Gatsby* with Mia Farrow and Robert Redford will be showing. Other future features in January include *Sleuth*, *The Parallax View* and *Chinatown*.

Mr. Torstensen is also looking at a special Sunday matinee program of 6 Charlie Chaplain features.

This is only a partial description of all the events that will be taking place in the theatre, it probably rates as one of the busiest places in the University.

Aroused crowd for Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, who played at the Jubilee Auditorium last Monday, were a pure pleasure to see and listen to. The three-quarters full house, sat in relatively quiet appreciation as the group moved through an hour and a half of country and western, blue grass and even some Chuck Berry tunes.

Though their regular music is country, they performed the other material with ease.

The most enjoyable feature of the whole evening was the

zeal and enthusiasm with which they play. The members of the quartet of great multi-instrumentalists were constantly changing their instruments to suit the various numbers and each showed amazing ability and versatility on whatever they played.

Jeff Hahna's performance on guitars reinforced his existing image as a leader in the country and western guitar field. John McKuen on fiddle, steel guitar and mandolin is also a man with exceptional talent. Though

rather sedate at the start of their set, he soon played and danced up a storm. His solo musical story of a young hillbilly boy and a fiddling contest came a bit late for the aroused crowd. However amidst the hoots and hollers, he managed to pull it off.

Hanna, Ibbotson and Fadden returned to the stage for their final numbers which left the crowd on their feet clamoring for more. They returned with "Will the Circle Be Unbroken", having comedian Steve Martin joining them on

banjo.

As for Martin's hour long comedy routine, he proved to be mildly funny. In his final scene, himself on banjo and John McKuen on guitar showed that he should continue with music and leave the tiresome humor to others.

It was a refreshing performance played to an appreciative crowd. The manner of the crowd hopefully was noted by promoters and concert goers of other groups.

Richard Grynas
Bernadine Martenson

