

Iron Curtain D.J.

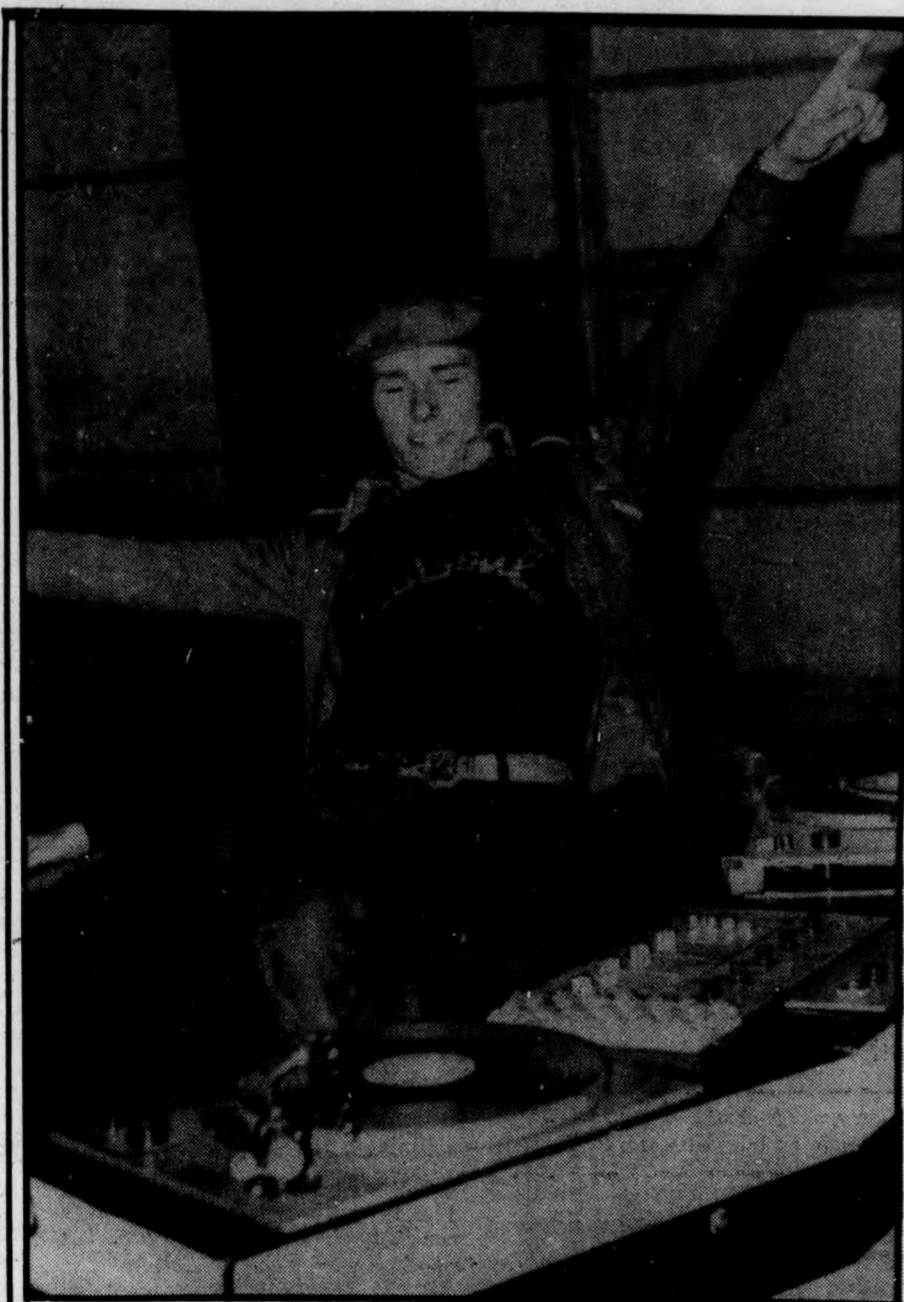
MELYNDA JARRATT
NEWS EDITOR

The Brunswickan receives some truly fascinating correspondence at times, and none is perhaps more interesting than the letter which filtered down to our offices from CHSR nearly two weeks ago, interesting because it came from a Polish disc jockey named Jan Pawul.

What was inside of this air mail envelope from Pawul was rather scanty and obscure, besides a single sheet of onion paper on which was written a request for correspondence, were three home made photos, one of which you see above and the other two containing a collage of news stories from various trade (radio) magazines located all around the world. From London to San Francisco. Jan Pawul is known in the trade as "The Iron Curtain DJ" and the "Pole Winning Jock".

So why haven't we heard about him before? The most obvious reason is the tragic situation in which Poland finds itself - yes, Poland, as in Lech Walesa, Solidarity, and the Eastern Block. But the other important reason is the unique situation Pawul finds himself in as a pro-American music disc-jockey deep in the heart of Ruda Slaska, Poland. Ideologically, and musically, he finds himself at odds with the Polish style of life.

"I'm a big propagator and populariser of USA music" he wrote in a letter to Hot Tracks Express in San Francisco, a trade magazine for fringe music. "I'll do my best," he



DJ Jan Pawul cues up with his favorite T-Shirt on.
Photo courtesy, Jan Pawul, Poland.

says, because "I'm in love with USA." One doesn't have to guess what kind of trouble talk like that can get him into, but his biggest problem, or so he says, is this: even though he's the top DJ in Poland, he has great difficulty in obtaining American music. Quite a con-

tradiction for a disc jockey whose sole purpose in life is to play American records. As a result, Pawul is forced to rely

on the outside world for new music - in particular the UK and USA, But the comparative isolation of Poland, not only politically but from the mainstream of western pop music, raises great obstacles in his pathway to playing western music and his dream of becoming "a world class professional".

He explained his predicament in Disco International and Club News. "It is impossible to buy British and American records in Polish record shops. DJ's here have to rely on getting them sent by post from friends and producers abroad... the lack of material makes life difficult. I like soul music best and then pop and pop rock, but it's hard to find enough strong material to fill a show."

"I know all the new titles", he wrote, "but I haven't got many of them. It's my private tragedy. DJ who loves USA music culture but hasn't got much biggest hits from USA. You could imagine what success would be if I could play all best hits here."

Together, the Brunswickan and CHSR made an attempt to reach Pawul by phone on Tuesday, but one can only guess why it was impossible to reach him. The Polish operator said that the only radio station in Poland is located in Warsaw, but we weren't going to phone up a government radio station and ask them to help us

find this musical renegade.

He mentioned in the news clipping that he runs "Beatoland Disco", but we aren't sure if that is a club, a private radio station (which we sort of doubt in Poland) or maybe even a record store. We will simply have to wait until he replies to our letter we sent two weeks ago.

Jan Pawul is unique in the annals of International music. From the darkness of everyday life in Poland, his music provides a little bit of light and a window onto the Western world. But the frustration he must endure because of a lack of Western music certainly highlights the drabness of communist cultural restrictions. Western music, and its inevitable influences simply aren't wanted.

However, Pawul is not exactly the kind of guy who is going to let little things like the fact that he has no records stop him. That is why he has come forth with his story and exposed his situation to the Western world. All he really wants is to get in contact with people who, out of the kindness of their hearts, will send him records so that he can play them in Ruda Slaska, Poland. Won't you help this man make his dream come true? To get in contact with Jan Pawul, write or send records to:

JAN PAWUL
RUDA SLASKA 9
SKR. 2, POLAND

Quote of the Week

I prefer the blunders of youth to the success of old age.

Robert Louis Stevenson

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So we went down to the church yard to eat it and while we were eating the minister came out and told us to come in and get converted.

Bill said to me, "What shall I do with this here ham bone?"

I said, "Unbutton your shirt and put it against your bosom."

So he did it, and when we got in our seats which were about three from the back, the minister said, "My text will be 'remove thy sins from thy bosom'."

Well, Bill looked at me, and I could tell he was worried, so I said, "sit still Bill, he doesn't mean you!"

Again the minister said, "Brothers and sisters, remove thy sins from thy bosom."

Well, Bill looked at me, and said, "If he does that again, I am going to give him this here ham bone."

I said, "Sit still Bill he does not mean you!"

So then he sent a deacon down this aisle, and a sister down this aisle, and the three of them were saying, "Brothers, and sisters, remove thy sins from thy bosom."

Then Bill, he jumped up on his

seat and yelled, "Here take the ham bone! I never seen a man make such a damn fuss over a little piece of meat in all my life!"



THE LOUSE:

There were three fellows in a trench when something began to bite one of them on the neck. He leaned forward and put his hand down his neck.

Just as he did, a shell went over his head, and killed the other two soldiers in the trench.

He caught the louse, pulled it out, and said, "I love you you darling thing, do you know you have saved my life? I cannot give you the VC (Victoria Cross) or the DSO (Distinguished Service Order) but I can put you back to your quarters, so here you go!"

THE CARIBBEAN CIRCLE PRESENTS REGGAE NIGHT

Caribbean Supper: from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Menu includes: Rice Palau, banana salad curried chicken and beef. Dessert, Coconut Ice Cream

Reggae Pub from 9:00 - 1:00 a.m.

VENUE: SUB BALLROOM

Supper tickets available from caribbean circle members, SUB information office and International Student Advisors Office at a price of \$7.00.

Pub Free - WET AND DRY