



Recording notes



by Bob Switzer

Firstly let me point out that these are my own opinions and are not necessarily those of this paper or any of its contributors. If it is assumed I have lousy

taste, then I take full blame. Hopefully this column will stir some interest in LPs not usually previewed and, with luck, some deserving artists will receive recognition. If you're expecting

glowing tributes to Neil Young, Grand Funk, and their ilk, you'd be best advised to stop here. They have yet to come from my mouth, let alone my pen.

The two LPs I'd propose to

evaluate are "Hawk Squat!" (J.B. Hutto and the Hawks Delmark DS-617) and "Demolition Derby" (Sandy Bull Vanguard VSD-6578).

HAWK SQUAT!

J.B. Hutto is one of the youngest of the Chicago-based bluesmen and certainly one of the finest. His style is usually Mississippi Delta slide (or bottleneck) and he is a very smooth guitarist. Usually working with a small combo (guitar, bass, drums) he appears on "Hawk Squat!" with a larger group accompanied by, among others, a well-known blues pianist/organist named Sunnyland Slim (Albert Luandrew).

The selections range from beautiful slow numbers like "The Feeling is Gone" and "Too Late" with long guitar lines (bless slide-style guitar!) to some rockin' items such as "Hip Shakin'" and "Hawk Squat" (which is really a loose yet cohesive "jam" number). J.B.'s voice shines throughout and except for "Hip Shakin'" the mixes are good. "Hip Shakin'" failure is mostly the engineer's fault — for once, volume could have been an asset.

For those listeners who respect the sounds of Muddy Waters and Elmore James, you'll find what you're looking for in their student J.B. Hutto. (note: "Hawk Squat!" is not the first effort from J.B. Some of his finest work can be found in the 3-volume anthology Chicago/The Blues/Today on Vanguard where he works with

a small combo).

DEMOLITION DERBY

This is Sandy Bull's fourth album and in some five — six years and it is by no means his best. Bull is, I should point out, more of an inventor, an innovator, if you will, than a guitarist. This is not meant to be a put-down; Les Paul or Jimi Hendrix would fall into the same category. Bull is always interesting and "Demolition Derby" certainly fills that category. The LP is mostly of two flavours — Arabic and Calypso. Two cuts, "Tennessee Waltz" (which shows Bull can't sing) and "Last Date" (the Floyd Cramer classic of some eleven years ago) are country textured.

Probably the most interesting, for this listener anyway, was the cut "Easy Dals St." which is more Arabic than anything. Perhaps it would have been better had it been shorter (9:19 is a bit much!). "Cheeseburger" is no more than a thirty second explosion from overfeeding amps or something. I'm certain at times only Bull knows how he gets his various textures and sounds.

For an interesting investigation of what Sandy Bull is all about — Buy the LP. If you have a chance, however, get any one of his first three albums. About all one can say to encourage an interest in a worthwhile performer who has put out an LP disappointing by comparison to past successes is — "It'd be good 'head' music."

PART-TIME AND SUMMER STUDENT JOBS

If you intend to be in Halifax next summer and for a few years; if you are willing to undergo some training; if you are prepared to go to 1147 Beaufort Avenue, at nights (before midnight) to sleep "working" week-on and week-off (as detailed below); if you want a summer and Christmas-type job at Wm. Stairs, Son & Morrow, Limited, you may be interested in applying for this job opportunity, which falls into three parts:

Part 1: Training — consists of going to 1147 Beaufort Avenue during the college year for a couple of hours a day (morning or evening) to learn the night job working for and with A. D. Stairs who is a quadriplegic. This usually takes about ten or twelve sessions and you will be paid while training.

The training for "the day job" (at 1147 Beaufort Avenue — while you are working at Wm. Stairs, Son & Morrow, Limited) will take place after exams and will qualify you to relieve the permanent person going on holidays and to do the job over Christmas and/ or New Year's.

Part 2: Involves a summer job (clerical or warehouse) at Wm. Stairs, Son & Morrow, Limited. Hours of work are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition, I will pay one hundred dollars to those who will work at my home over Christmas and/ or New Year's.

Part 3: Consists of going to 1147 Beaufort Avenue before midnight (winter and summer) AND SLEEPING UNTIL 8 A.M. EXCEPT for being up half an hour during the night. One of your obligations will be to arrive fifteen minutes before midnight to relieve the permanent person who is going off duty and to stay until the permanent person arrives in the morning — usually five minutes before 8 a.m. This includes an obligation to be easily reached by phone (and, if necessary, having a phone installed in your room). The pay for this "night work" is \$10 per night, in addition to the pay for the summer job.

These questions should be answered specifically:

— Are you prepared to start sleeping at 1147 Beaufort Avenue (getting up half an hour during the night) starting in March/ 73 — "working" week-on and week-off, with another student (presently employed), through the summer and succeeding college year.

Where will you live in Halifax during the summer?

— Are you prepared to work 4 p.m. to midnight for a month, or so, during the summer?

Applications are being received until January 15, 1973, in writing; address to A. D. Stairs, 1147 Beaufort Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Please state name, address, telephone number, age, home town, year and courses being taken, average of marks in previous year of college or school (as an indication of motivation and ability to learn a lot of detail and to increase chance of being accepted into graduate studies), height and weight, two or three Halifax references (character, integrity).

Preference will be given to those:

- over 18 years of age;
- who live within a half hour's walk of Oxford and South Streets;
- who plan to take graduate studies (Commerce, Dentistry, Law, etc.);
- who are over five feet ten inches and can lift a 160-lb. man;
- who can have some compassion about my situation but are not so sensitive that it will affect them;
- who intend to be in Halifax at University for a few years.

Selection to enable time for training for the night job will be made before February 15/ 73; training for the day job will take place during the summer. The sleeping at Beaufort Avenue will start in March/ 73. Pay for this is \$10 per night.

Write me a long letter, covering all the points in this advertisement, and tell me why you are applying and why I should pick you for the job. Ask all the questions you wish — I will try to answer them honestly and completely.

movie notes

by Stephen R. Mills

Commercial movies in metro this week are for the most part poor, which is par for the course, I suppose. The best bets seem to be the golden oldies playing in weekly runs at the Mayfair in Dartmouth. This week, a double bill — the original Mutiny on the Bounty (starring Clark Gable and considered by most critics to be far superior to the later Brando re-make) and a Laurel and Hardy omnibus — is featured... A series of quality films on Sunday afternoons at the Hyland is also worth catching. The Costa-Gavras classic "Z" will be screened this Sunday.

As for the regular fair at the various houses, my recommendation for this weekend would be Diana Ross in "Lady Sings the Blues" (at the Paramount). Paramount Pictures has been promoting it fiercely, probably hoping it will match the success of The Godfather. It's unlikely but "Lady Sings the Blues" should be OK as Ms. Ross and the central character, blues great Billie Holiday are similar in many respects.

Everyone has probably seen "The Rowdyman" (Capitol) and "Easy Rider" (Hyland) but, if not, they're good second choices. The three remaining features are "Wrath of God" (a routine Western with Robert Mitchum) at Scotia Square, "Ulzana's Raid" (Burt Lancaster in another routine western), "Portnoy's Complaint" (the film treatment of

Philip Roth's novel fails to catch any of the humour of the book. Richard Benjamin as Portnoy is terrible, Karen Black is good in the female lead, the dialogue is offensive in the extreme).

If you've seen every other film, play and concert in the cities and remain unsatisfied, go see one of these three.

Dal's Film society has several "to be announced" evenings coming up in the new year. If there's a movie you want to see — one you know will never be screened in Halifax otherwise — contact the society and make your wishes known.

I noted at the last several council meetings that movies were disussed. It appears someone wishes to revive the Cinesunday idea — showing fairly recent commercial films on campus at drastically reduced admission prices. It's a good idea and, to relieve the anxiety of council members, fairly easy to implement and inexpensive to operate. Popular movies are all available on 16mm from distributors in St. John, New Brunswick. The big plus, of course, is that it would give Dal students some other form of weekend entertainment than drinking on weekends.

Also, it would acknowledge the presence of a significant number of students under eighteen who, for all intents and purposes find the SUB off-limits on weekends. Next week — a review of "Lady Sings the Blues" and an idea of what to expect at Christmas.