

Singer Takes Look At Anybody's Song

By MARY CAMPBELL
(AP) Newsfeature Writer

"We have no prejudice about well-known writers, you know," says tiny singing star Brenda Lee, explaining how she chooses songs to record.

Most of the time I do ballads in albums (she has seven, on Decca) but on singles, I do something original.

"Anybody who has a song and thinks it's good enough, sends it in. If we don't care for it, we write and say we're sorry but we didn't think it was my type of song."

"We've done songs from people that live in little towns you never heard of. They send in dubs — records they make dubbing them from tape — and we sit in the office and listen. They usually don't send in music, so we pick what we like and write it down."

"'Fool No. 1' was just a girl singing with an old out-of-tune piano."

The "we" Brenda refers to is herself, her personal manager for six years, Dub Albritten, and an a and r man at Decca, Owen Bradley.

Bradley transcribes the music that the three select for Brenda, makes the arrangements and supervises recording sessions.

Recording sessions last three hours and Brenda says, "We try to get four songs done, but we never make it. Owen is so technical, he really is. Sometimes we do just one song for a whole session."

"But we got 'I'm Sorry' in three takes — about 10 minutes." "I'm Sorry," the biggest hit so far for the 4 foot 9½ mite with the big, belting delivery, sold 1,227,000 and Brenda received her first gold record.

Her husband since April 24, dark-haired Ronnie Shacklett, 21, admits his first question was, "will it play?"

The couple hasn't investigated; the gold record is mounted under glass.

"We'll have an apartment in Nashville," Brenda says, "but we haven't had time to pick it yet."

A current appearance at the Copacabana in New York is to be followed by a one-night stand in Philadelphia and another nightclub job in Boston.

But Brenda doesn't expect much difficulty combining a singing career and marriage. "I only work 10 or 15 weeks a year and I record right in Nashville."

Shacklett works with his father who "owns a drive-in grocery store in Nashville." He explains that a drive-in grocery is a supermarket surrounded by a large parking lot.

Brenda says her fan club, also with headquarters in Nashville, averages 7,000 letters a week and those that comment on her marriage are approving it 7 to 1. The club is 68 per cent girls, Brenda says, primarily ages 13 to 16 and 21 and up. "Most of them write to say they want pictures or enjoyed a certain recording. Whatever they say, we pay attention."

Though she is a teen-ager, Brenda says she doesn't aim her songs especially toward teen-agers. And though she lives in the home of Grand Ole Opry, she doesn't sing country-western songs.

"I like standards best, ballads," she says, "like 'All the Way' and 'Lover Come Back to Me' and 'By Myself.'"

"I started to record four years ago, starting with up-tempo songs."

"Sweet Nohtins" was the song that started me off, then for two years after that I didn't have a big record. I really didn't get that discouraged because I liked what I was doing — one nighters, fairs, school affairs."



Oh! Oh! They've Split
Blonde co-ed Bonnie Lynn Volk, 20, of Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, N. Y., lets out a yowl as she suddenly finds that her stretch pants have split during the second annual intercollegiate elephant race in Long Beach, Calif. Bonnie borrowed some elephant-size stretch pants for a wrapper until some gallant male loaned her the checked walking shorts, which she wears, right. (AP Wirephoto)

Local Co-ed Takes Chemistry Honors At Texas Tech

Miss Karolyn Kirby of College Station has been named winner of the Merck Index Award at Texas Tech this year.

A senior chemistry major, Miss Kirby was one of four students honored in her field at the Lubbock school.

She has maintained a 3.93 grade point ratio out of a possible 4.0 during her four year stay at Texas Tech. Her award was for the senior with the highest scholastic ranking.

Chemistry Honors At Texas Tech

Other students awarded were Clark Huff and Louis Neal Irwin of Lubbock and Ronnie Foster of Amarillo.

Huff received the Chemistry Handbook as outstanding freshman student in chemistry as a result of his 4.0 grade average his first year in college.

A sophomore, Irwin won the American Chemical Society Affiliate scholarship.

The Frontier Chemical Scholarship went to Foster, who was a 1962 graduate of Amarillo Junior College before transferring to Texas Tech this year as a junior.

Faculty, Staff Members To Receive Watches, Cash

The ninth annual faculty and staff recognition and awards program were held at 4 p.m. Tuesday in Guion Hall.

Distinguished achievements awards of \$1,000 each were presented to eight faculty and staff members for outstanding work in teaching, research, student relations and extension service.

Each award winner also received gold watches. The checks and watches are provided by the Former Student Association.

Names of the winners kept secret until the meeting. L. F. Peterson, president of the former students and a member of the Board of Directors, were announced the recipients.

Another portion of the general faculty-staff session honored retiring personnel.

Both Dr. M. T. Harrington, chancellor, and President Rudder com-

mented on the 1962-63 academic year.

High School Grad Need More Writing

Many apparently well-prepared high school graduates fail to do just quickly enough to college and either drop out or make grades the first year, an advisor professor has reported.

Lee J. Martin, associate professor and chairman of freshman English here, writes about the problems facing first-year college students in the May issue of "Texas Outlook."

"The preparation for college must start in the elementary grades and carry right on through high school for all students," he writes.

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The right is reserved as the interest of the Owner may require to report and all bids, and to waive any information in bids received.

Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents may be secured from the office of the City Manager, City Hall, College Station, Texas, on deposit of twenty (\$20.00) dollars per set, which sum so deposited will be refunded provided the provisions of the Specifications regarding the return of such Documents are complied with.

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Mayor

ATTEST
S/K. A. Manning
City Secretary

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