

Off The Record

by Gary McDonald

ABBEY ROAD - The Beatles

As is so often the case in the course of creative progression, the Beatles are moving in a full circle. Dylan has completed his circle and the Stones and Beatles are in the process of completing theirs. The Beatles first efforts were primitive musically and lyrically. Gradually their work became more and more sophisticated until it reached a peak in the elaborate, ornate "Sgt. Pepper" and "Magical Mystery Tour" albums. When their music began to get too rococo they started to circle back. "The Beatles" was far more informal than the two preceding albums and "Abbey Road" is a still farther regression. Predictably, their next album, "Get Back" will do everything the title implies. It will mark the completion of the creative circle.

This album exudes the qualities that have put the Beatles in the upper echelon of popular music: lyrically and melodically tight compositions built on a foundation of basic drum patterns and crisp bass guitar playing that is deceptively simple; superb production and arranging; and consummate vocals.

There is at least one element of this album that is notably atypical of the Beatles. This album gives the individual musicians involved more opportunity to exercise their instrumental virtuosity than in recent albums and possibly more than any of their preceding albums. Ringo gets a solo on "The End," George has several solos, most notably on "The End" and "I Want You," and John and Paul both get scattered chances at soloing.

In their effort to "Get Back" there are several songs in the old time rock n' roll vein that sound a bit camp. Nevertheless, they can be enjoyed at face value. Look for even more groups claiming "to go back to their roots" after this album.

Side two is a medley of sorts. Most of the songs flow into the next or at least provide some logical transition between cuts, but

there is no affected "unity of purpose."

Several individual tracks stand out. "Come Together" uses a rhythmically interesting interlude between verses employing a blues chant style not unlike that of Chuck Berry. George Harrison's "Something" is outstanding simply because of its strikingly beautiful melody. "Maxwell's Silver Hammer" is conspicuous because of the contrast of the satiric lyrics and the innocent tone and background setting. The fact that "I Want You" has such major musical digressions and still manages to come out a unified entity makes it a noteworthy track.

The beauty of the Beatles is that they offer something to most everyone. Because the songs are so conveniently ambiguous, one can construe his own meaning out of them; or, none at all, if he so chooses. In their previous albums the Beatles have had the ability to give the listener meaning or rescue him from it. This album is no exception.

TURNING POINT—John Mayall

When, in the early '50's, John Mayall first began emulating his blues idols like B.B. King and John Lee Hooker, it was hardly a lucrative field of endeavor. He could scarcely earn a living. Nevertheless, he persevered and gradually the form of music he pioneered to the white youth began to catch on among white middle and upper middle class university students. With the help of fellow band member Eric Clapton, who earlier achieved fame with the Yardbirds, but still had not received the apex of his popularity, Mayall became something of a legend and his beloved blues at last became accepted by the mass public. This history is loosely documented in Mayall's recent release entitled "Looking Back."

Now, approximately a decade and a half after his professional entry into the field of blues, Mayall feels compelled to once again be a pioneer and set a new course in which to express

himself. So now that the market is saturated with groups that exploit heavy Claptonesque lead guitar and affect the blues mystique, he has decided to drop the heavy lead guitar and drums, and migrate to a quieter form of blues. Hence, we have Mayall, with a new band, recording live at the Fillmore East, an album of music that has been described as "blues without bashing."

The compositions are all by Mayall, or Mayall in collaboration with bassist Steve Thompson, and display Mayall's unique introspective style of blues. As always his guitar playing is concise and tasty. Mayall is at the pinnacle of harpists and his rhythmic as well as melodic style of playing is showcased on "Room to Move," and to a lesser extent on other numbers.

The salient difference between this and former bands is, of course, the lead guitar. Jon Mark, the new guitarist, plays acoustically. His lines are consummate. Combined with the thoughtful phrasing typical of good jazz guitarists is a technique not unlike that of a classical guitarist. In this context his performances are refreshing and exhilarating.

Johnny Almond is the "rover man" in Mayall's new lineup. His varied use of wind instruments always serves its function well. His fill-ins keep the sound full and his accentuation of other elements of the music keeps the texture rich.

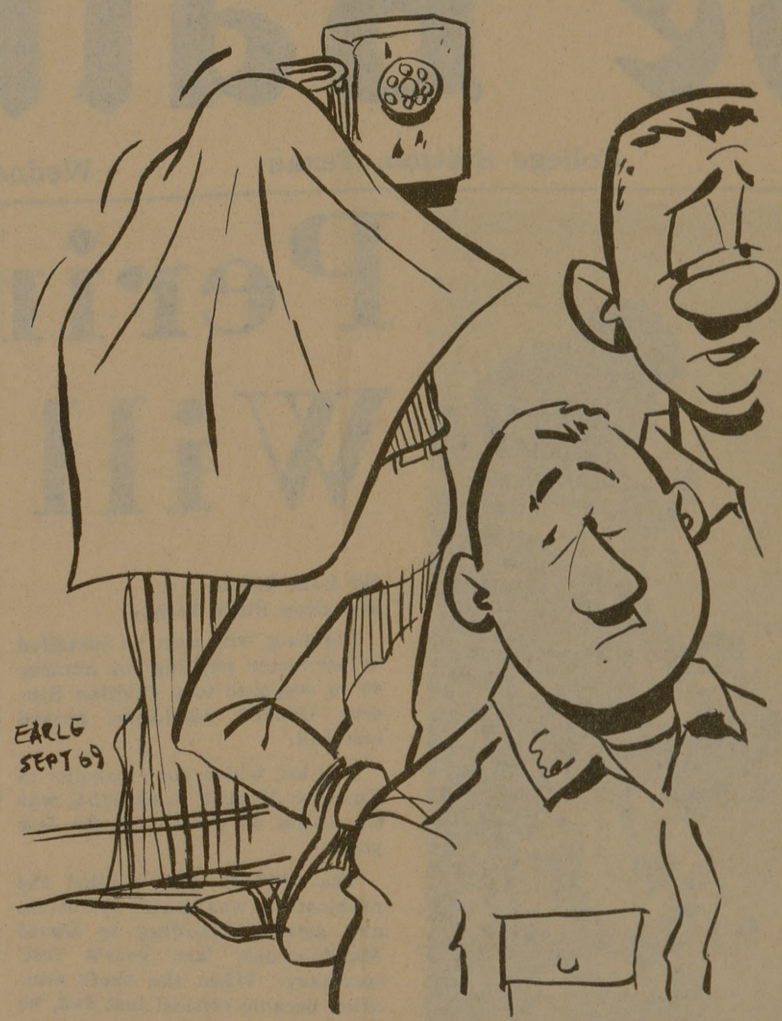
In a band without drums the significance of the bassist cannot be underestimated. In effect, he alone is performing a function that is usually allotted to at least two people. It is he who keeps the sound cohesive. Johnny Thompson, the bassist, keeps the varied elements of the sound from interpersing into chaos with the powerful bottom he adds to the sound.

This album would make poor muzak. It is challenging, but rewarding if one but takes the time to get involved with it.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle

Bulletin Board



"It's a personal telephone call—big deal!"

TONIGHT
Houston Hometown Club will elect officers at 7:30 p.m. in room 321 of the Physics building. Plans for the Rice game will be discussed.

Pre-Veterinary Medicine Society will organize at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the Chemistry Building.

THURSDAY

Dairy Science Club will have a wiener roast at 6:30 p.m. in Hensel Park. Dairy science production, manufacture and food technology majors and their wives or dates are asked to sign a list on the first floor of the Heep building.

Odessa Hometown Club will meet after yell practice in the Art Room of the MSC.

Rugby Club will meet at 8 p.m. in the Social Room of the MSC. Team workouts will be posted.

Texas A&M Parachute Club will show slides at 7:30 p.m. in Room 113 of the Plant Sciences Building. Prospective members are invited to attend.

Panhandle Area Hometown Club will elect officers at 8 p.m. in Room 3C of the MSC.

Abilene Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 206 of the Academic Building.

FOR BEST RESULTS TRY BATTALION CLASSIFIED

PALACE

"Me Natalie"

CAMPUS

"Death Rides A Horse"

Skyway Twin

EAST SCREEN

"Dirty Dozen" Plus "Grand Prix"

WEST SCREEN

"Daddy's Gone A-Hunting" Plus "Stalking Moon"

QUEEN

"Vixen"

CIRCLE

"Thoroughly Modern Millie" Plus "Born Losers"

Campus Briefs

Church Meet Features Theologian, Banker

A prominent Texas theologian and a Bryan businessman are among the speakers to be heard during the 24th annual Town and Country Church Conference Oct. 9-10 at the university.

They are Father Charles Elmer, pastor of Saint Theresa Catholic Church in Austin, and Bookman Peters, president of Bryan's City National Bank.

Father Elmer's talk is titled "Spiritual Countdown for the Church." Peters will discuss "A New Era, or Post-Apollo Apathy?"

The overall conference theme is "A New Era Challenges the Church."

Father Elmer received his Master of Education degree at Texas A&M and was a chaplain on the campus from 1954 to 1964. His doctorate in theology is from the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas in Rome, Italy.

The pastor is a veteran of the Normandy D-Day landing and

still serves as a reserve officer with the Fourth U. S. Army Chaplain Office. His many honors include an appointment as a papal chaplain and then as a Prelate of Honor to the Pope in 1968.

Peters holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Texas A&M.

In 1968, he was selected as the Outstanding Young Man in Brazos County. He has served as president of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce and was recently appointed to the regional advisory council of the Small Business Administration.

Prison Inmates, Guards To be Feted at Banquet

Fifteen inmates and two guards from the Texas Department of Corrections will be honored Tuesday night at a dinner in the Ramada Inn.

The inmates Friday completed a 15-week heavy equipment operators training school and will re-

ceive certificates of completion and teacher training certificates.

During the school, the men put in over 2,000 man hours of work during a five-week drainage project for the City of College Station.

Chief Instructor Al Jones reported the men, under supervision from his staff, moved about 30,000 yards of dirt to build a 1,700 foot drainage ditch at no expense to the city.

Jones said the work was on Bee Creek, south of the cemetery on Highway 6. The ditch was built 80 feet wide on top with an eight-foot flat bottom. The average cut is 11 feet, Jones pointed out.

Scheduled to attend are Mayor D. A. Anderson and members of the College Station City Council; H. D. Bearden, director of the Texas Engineering Extension Service; W. Dee Kutash, assistant director in charge of treatment, Texas Department of Corrections, and members of the TDC and TEES staffs.

The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced, and must be no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

1969 TPA Award Winner

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Jim Lindsey, chairman; Dr. David Bowers, College of Liberal Arts; F. S. White, College of Engineering; Dr. Donald R. Clark, College of Veterinary Medicine; and Z. L. Carpenter, College of Agriculture.

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M is published in College Station, Texas daily except Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

MEMBER
The Associated Press, Texas Press Association
The Associated Collegiate Press

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year; \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 4% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all new dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas.

EDITOR DAVE MAYES
Managing Editor David Middlebrooke
Staff Writers Tom Curi, Janie Wallace, Phil Brinker, Jay F. Goode, Pam Troby, Steve Forman, Bill Vasen, Gary Mayfield, P. Harrison, Raul Pineda
Columnists Monty Stanley, Bob Peek, John Platzer
Sports Editor Richard Campbell
Photographers Bob Stump, Bob Peek
Sports Photographer Mike Wright



CIVIL ENGINEERING
OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
AWAIT YOU, THE '70 GRADUATE

Shamrock

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

• College Division •

North Gate
331 University Dr.
846-3737

A division of ERC

Buy MORE for LESS

and GET the BEST!

SPECIALS FOR:
THURS-FRI+SAT
OCT. 2-3-4
1969
ALL QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED

GREEN GIANT KITCHEN SLICED GREEN BEANS	2 NO. 303 CANS	249¢
GREEN GIANT CR. STYLE CORN	2 NO. 303 CANS	249¢
WASHINGTON EXTRA FANCY RED DELICIOUS APPLES	1 lb.	15¢
SWANSON'S FROZEN T.V. DINNERS	EACH	55¢
GREEN GIANT SWEET PEAS	NO. 303 CANS	25¢
MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE	LB. CAN Limit One With \$5.00 Purchase or More Excluding Cigarettes.	29¢
HUNT'S SOLID PACK OR STEWED TOMATOES	NO. 300 CANS	51¢
BORDEN'S COTTAGE CHEESE	16 OZ. CTN	29¢
HUNT'S SLI OR H.LVS. PEACHES	4 NO. 2 1/2 CANS	\$1.00
USDA GRADE FRYERS	1 lb.	27¢
BROOKSHIRE BROS. BACON	1 lb PKG	89¢

REDEEM AT BROOKSHIRE BROS.

100 EXTRA TOP VALUE STAMPS

With Purchase of \$10.00 or More (Excluding Cigarettes) • One Per Family
Coupon Expires Oct. 4, 1969

REDEEM AT BROOKSHIRE BROS.

50 FREE TOP VALUE STAMPS

With Purchase of Any Size Box Cheerios Cereal
Coupon Expires Oct. 4, 1969

REDEEM AT BROOKSHIRE BROS.

50 FREE TOP VALUE STAMPS

With Purchase of 27-Oz. Can Johnson's Bravo
Coupon Expires Oct. 4, 1969

Brookshire Bros.

• THE BEST FOR LESS •

