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Lead singer claims

BST not rock and roll

By JOHN VANORE
"Chicago plays good rock and roll, but we play jazz," said David Clayton-Thomas, lead singer of Blood, Sweat and Tears.

Clayton-Thomas made his statement in an informal interview after the Town Hall Series Presentation Friday night. Blood, Sweat and Tears played their brand of jazz before a near-capacity crowd at George Rollie White Coliseum.

"Jazz-rock" sounds like a term that Rolling Stone made up," he said, denying that the term applies to his group. Throughout the interview, Clayton-Thomas remained calm and friendly, but he kept an aura of professionalism about himself, just as he does onstage.

Clayton-Thomas rejoined Blood, Sweat and Tears late last year after a three-year hiatus. He quit touring because of the strain on his voice, and produced three solo albums in the studio during that time. Both he and the group, with Jerry La Croix filling in as lead singer, fell into a severe slump.

Such a slump, in fact, that record sales dropped off drastically. Their first three records, which featured Clayton-Thomas, were certified Gold Records, but nothing released since then has achieved that status.

Now that Blood, Sweat and Tears is back together, their collective creativity has risen to the point that, in addition to their latest release, "New City," two more albums are forthcoming. One is a studio production, and the second, slated for a November release, is a live recording.

Blood, Sweat and Tears played a very strongly jazz-oriented set Friday night, with some diversified flavoring from the realms of rock, blues, R & B, and Dr. John, who plays a unique Cajun jazz style. They performed all their hits, and most of the songs included an instrumental slot for a solo of one kind or another.

The warm-up act for Blood, Sweat and Tears was Gene Cotton, a Nashville-based folk-acoustic singer/guitarist/songwriter.

Cotton and his fellow guitarist Lenny Curley walked on stage unassuming, introduced themselves briefly, and broke out in a folk number which met with only lukewarm response. It was followed by "Chapel in your Life," a nice blues number, which definitely got the audience moving.

He then moved to break up the audience with "Sweet Old Country Spirit," a satirical spoof of country/western music. He drew some isolated hisses from the rednecks in the crowd, but most listeners got the joke.

Cotton next did his biggest single to date, "Sunshine Roses," which sounds very much like Don McLean's "American Pie." He followed it with a song dedicated to all the girls in the audience, called "The Teaser." That song drew about as many hisses from those girls as did Olivia Newton-John.

"Nineteenth Street Superstar," the next tune, seemed pale in comparison to "Thirty Second Waltz," which wrapped up Cotton's forty-five minute set. On "Thirty Second Waltz," accompanist Lenny Curley got a chance to really burn on guitar. Curley, who was playing here with Cotton for only the fourth time, opened up in the middle of the song with Cotton backing him. Cotton's documentary-style lyrics also added punch to the song.

After a fifteen minute respite, Blood, Sweat and Tears came onstage to face a fairly astonished audience. Everyone came to the concert expecting to see a fourth-rate acoustic warm-up act, and was bowled over by Cotton's excellent performance. In other words, the headliners, Blood, Sweat and Tears, were upstaged by a relatively unknown artist.

At any rate, Blood, Sweat and Tears (B, S & T) kicked off their set with "Lucretia MacEvil." The familiar single transformed into an instrumental, which then gave way to a saxophone solo by native Houstonian Bill Tillman.

This proved to be the pattern for the night. A given song would

evolve into an instrumental first, and then a solo of some sort would materialize.

Guitarist Georg Wadenius, a Swede by birth, next eased the band, minus its horn section, into a smooth Blues number. As it progressed, the horns joined in and faded out, leaving Tony Klatka to solo on trumpet.

"And When I Die" is one of B,S&T's three gold singles, and it ended up as one of the strangest numbers played Friday night. The featured soloist was Dave Bergeron, whose tuba solo started out like a case of beans. Although it ultimately came across fairly well, it was not really the high point of the concert.

Bill Tillman introduced "Spend," a Chick Corea jazz instrumental, and his excellent flute solo led into a fair electric piano offering by Larry Willis.

Finally, they did "Spinning Wheel," their first big hit. Its in-

strumental saw Wadenius shine for a short while on guitar, and then drop out in favor of the trumpets.

Towards the end, during "Mean Old World," Wadenius came as close as he ever did to a real guitar solo. Then, Clayton-Thomas repeatedly asked, "A&M, can you boogie?" After a few minutes, he had a fair number of people up and dancing.

Quite a crowd pressed up toward the stage and at the same time, a substantial number of concert-goers got up and left. Comments indicated many people considered their solos and instrumental breaks excessive and just got fed up with the grandstanding.

The encore was worth waiting for. "You Made Me So Very Happy" brought the house down. The crowd was now made up of enthusiastic listeners, now that a small discontented group had left.

Parking still hassle

(Continued from Page 1)

ence is acceptable, he said, because of high fluctuation in day student traffic. Still, the University Police (UP) say there are enough parking spaces for dorm students who just need a place to park.

"Between 6 and 7 a.m. today," Asst. Chief of Police Morris Maddox said Monday, "there were 600 empty spaces at Lot 50 (by Zachry Engineering), 150 in Lot 48 (east of Kyle Field), and 750 in Lots 56 and 61 (those across the railroad tracks)." He advised dorm students to park in these spaces before they begin to fill with day students at 8 a.m.

Chief Luther, who said the police do as much as they can for the dorm students in the Krueger Dunn-Corps area, looked ahead with a note of optimism. New parking spaces are under construction, he said, most notably a 318-car capacity extension on Lot 24.

However, he said, another lot for

day students, Lot 62, officially opened Monday. "This should reduce some of the illegal day-student parking in the other (Lot 23, 24, and 25) area," he continued.

He added that Lot 48 by Kyle Field is open to red sticker students. At first it was only for underclassmen, he said.

But traffic citations are still being dished out. Maddox said that although the police were lenient the first week for those dorm students unable to find close parking, that loophole no longer exists.

Parking violations are \$5 each, with a \$5 penalty if the ticket is unsettled for more than seven days.

More area jobs found, says TEC

The Texas Employment Commission (TEC) placed 440 workers in jobs in the Bryan-College Station area during August.

This is an increase of 70 placements over the same period last year.

The TEC registered 595 applicants for jobs, bringing the total number of present job applications to 1,350.

The rate of unemployment during July in the Bryan-College Station area was 4.3 per cent, the TEC said.

Claims for unemployment insurance in August doubled from last year's figures. The TEC said 741 unemployment claims were filed in August.

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The former attorney general also contended that the FBI and CIA knew Oswald worked in a building on Kennedy's parade route, but did not tell Dallas police of that potential threat.

Carr said he was motivated by a desire to improve the protection of the presidents and to restore the credibility of government investigations.

Carr, now an Austin lawyer, was acquitted of two federal charges arising from the Sharpstown stock scandal.

Oswald-FBI link suggested

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The U.S. Senate should investigate possible connections between Lee Harvey Oswald and the FBI or Central Intelligence Agency, says former Texas Atty. Gen. Waggoner Carr.

Carr said the inquiry also should cover the possibility that those agencies and the Secret Service knew Oswald was a threat to the life of the late President John F. Kennedy but failed to take protective measures.

Carr made the request for an investigation in letters, released Monday, to Sens. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Tex., and John Tower, R-Tex.

Carr, who conducted Texas' independent investigation of the Nov. 22, 1963 assassination, said the Warren Commission turned down his recommendation to take sworn testimony from each CIA and FBI agent who was in Dallas during the months before Kennedy was shot.

At the time, he said, there were persistent rumors that Oswald, whom the commission pinpointed as the lone assassin of the president, was in some way connected with the CIA or the FBI, but the heads of the

two agencies denied this.

Carr noted the FBI had received a threatening letter from Oswald a few days before the assassination but destroyed it.

Carr said the Senate should conduct a "thorough, independent and public" committee investigation "to determine the truth of 1.) whether Oswald was connected in some way with the FBI and 2.) whether the FBI and/or CIA and/or Secret Service had advance information that Oswald was a threat to the life of the President, yet, for whatever reasons, failed to protect the President from that known threat."

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