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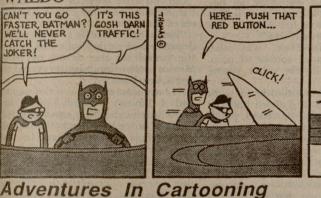


by Scott McCullar @ 1989

By KEVIN THOMAS











by Don Atkinson Jr.

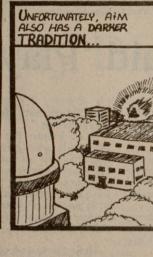


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Disc jockeys document Del Rio influence on roots of pop music

DEL RIO (AP) — Two British that came to have a profound impact to get the true story." Broadcasting Corporation executives say modern pop music fans owe a big debt to Del Rio.

Disc Jockey Nick Barraclough and BBC executive producer John Leonard in their quest to find the roots of modern music, came to Del Rio last month to research the area's impact on popular music.

The Beatles, Elvis, the Rolling Stones, Roy Orbison and all their predecessors owe their beginnings to Del Rio, according to Barraclough and Leonard.

"We owe an awful lot to what happened here," said BBC announcer Nick Barraclough. "Here on the border was where pop music really got

During the 1930s, '40s and '50s, radio broadcasts from across the Rio Grande inundated North America with a wide variety of sales pitches touting everything from auto-graphed pictures of Jesus to cures for whatever ails you.

A small building just across the border — equipped with a not-sosmall transmitter - was all that was needed to blast a message across an entire continent.

The first and most famous of these wildcat radio stations had its origins in Del Rio.

Dr. John Brinkley, probably best known as the infamous "goat gland specialist," came to Del Rio in 1931, bringing his unique medical practice

Outcry from medical authorities in Kansas, less than impressed with Brinkley's procedure for curing di-minished sex drive (implanting bits of goat testicles in the scrotums of afflicted men) led Brinkley to move his practice to Del Rio.

Brinkley set up shop in the Roswell Hotel in downtown Del Rio; at the same time embarking on a southof-the-border broadcasting venture

Britain in early 1990.

So now, nearly 60 years after Brinkley set up shop in Del Rio, millions of Brits will hear the booming voice of 40-year-old border radio veteran Paul Kallinger and other Del Rio residents recount their memories of the advent and heyday of stations XER, XERF and XERA.

In tracing the history of today's sound, Leonard and Barraclough found that popular music, on both sides of the Atlantic, had roots in Del Rio. Brinkley, by invading the airwaves to sell his many wares and hawk his various cures, provided a basis for what is now enjoyed by music lovers worldwide.

While Brinkley's was only one of several such stations, his was the one that went on to help shape the sounds of the 1950s and '60s — which in turn formed the basis for today's pop music.

"All over the world, radio at that time (the 1930s) was regarded as a way of conveying news and information — it was providing a service, Barraclough explained. "It wasn't until things started happening down here that radio was used as entertainment and a way of selling

The idea of producing a radio documentary highlighting Brinkley's contribution to music came to Barraclough after reading "Border Radio," a book by Bill Crawford and Gene Fowler that chronicles the evolution of the "Border Blaster" sta-

"Del Rio and this part of the country hasn't' really been recognized for its contributions to pop music," Barraclough said, "and John and I thought we've got to get (to Del Rio)

on modern popular music.

Leonard and Barraclough's work

Before coming to Del Rio, Barraclough and Leonard took out local Before coming to Del Rio, Barrahere will take the form of a one-hour advertisements asking anyone who radio broadcast that will air in Great had recollections of Brinkley's broadcasts to contact them. Local residents who have, on other occasions, consented to talk about their experiences with Brinkley and his broadcasts have become a bit gunshy due to sensationalized accounts of the Brinkley legend.

During the interviews Nick doesn't say very much," Leonard ex-plained. "He just says, 'Well tell us the story. What do you remember?' Then people can tell their story, and it's accurate. We don't try and distort it in any way.

'What we're trying to do is not so much to interview people as let them tell their stories," added Barra-

Brinkley's broadcasts had their first major impact on the country singers who later frequented such radio programs as The Grand Ole Opry and the Louisiana Hayride.

They were all artists who had been weaned on what they'd listened to on the border radio that was com-

ing out of Del Rio," said Leonard. I've been interested in folk music and country music all my life," said Leonard. "I listened to the Carter family 20 years ago, and what I've only just realized was that I was listening to broadcasts that were re-

corded in Del Rio. "Back when they were broadcasting on Del Rio radio, that was going out all over the whole world. The Carter Family - the way they played guitars — is exactly the same way country musicians play now," he continued. "And the country music influences are what Elvis picked up on, what Carl Perkins - all these people started to play like. All the people out of Sun Studios in Memphis - they were all influenced."

able form of rock. From glam (Ziggy Stardust) to disco (Young Americans) to New Age (Low) to top-40 (Let's Dance) even to punk (Tin Machine), David Bowie has done it all

And with Sound & Vision, little Ryko has done it all and done it very well. The collection costs a steamy 60 bucks, but even to this anti-CD reviewer, it's worth it.

Food

(Continued from page 6)

Sbisa, Bernie's features Italian entrees, salads, snacks, beverages and oven-fresh pizzas (a specialty item many label "delicioso").

There's no place better to get a re-freshing drink after you've finished a game of golf than at the Golf Course Snack Bar located in the Club House. Serving hamburgers, sandwiches, snacks and beverages, it offers reasonable prices and a convenient way to satisfy your hunger and quench your thirst.

Headed to the library, but need an eye-opening breakfast? If so, the Pavilion Snack Bar, located on the first floor of the Pavilion, is the perfect

verything here is grab and go. Most people are headed to class and don't have time."

-Loretta Sok, **Bus Stop Superviser**

pit stop. Besides breakfast items, it features sandwiches, hamburgers, daily lunch specials, Blue Bell ice cream, snacks and drinks.

Perhaps the busiest snack bar on campus is the Bus Stop Snack Bar in front of the Reed McDonald building. The structure, which was merely a bus stop four years ago, of-ten has more students waiting in line outside the entrance than inside. Among the items served are breakfast foods, hamburgers, salads, beverages and other snacks. An ideal place to eat and relax, it provides outdoor seating where many students take breathers between classes.

Loretta Sok, superviser of Bus Stop, said her facility serves students who usually are in a hurry.

"Everything here is grab and go," Sok said. "Most people are headed to class and don't have time."

She said cheeseburgers, corn dogs, egg rolls and Frito pies are the most common requests of students, while faculty members enjoy the snack bar's fresh chef salads.

"Most people enjoy our hamburg-ers because they come through a broiler, not grilled like in other places," she said

Common Denominator Snack Bar, located in the Commons Residence Hall Complex, has breakfast, lunch and dinner items. Hamburgers and sandwiches, as well as specialty salads, dessert snacks and beverages are offered.

Zachry Snack Bar, in The Zachry Engineering Center, provides pastries, sandwiches, snack foods and

Mickey Moeller, who manages Zachry, Bus Stop, Pavilion Snack Bar, Vet Snack Bar and Golf Course Snack Bar, said quickness has played a key role in many of the facilities' popularity with customers.

"They brag on the good quality food and say they've never been through a line faster," Moeller said. The two newest eating facilities

on campus are Ag CaFe and Pie Are

Ag CaFe is located on the first floor of the Biochemistry/Biophy-Building on the west campus. The first eating facility for west campus, it too, offers daily specials, sandwiches, soup, a fresh fruit and salad bar, pizzas, hamburgers, desserts, snack foods and a variety of beverages. Ag stands for silver; Ca stands for calcium; and Fe stands for iron — an appropriate name for a thriving, healthy business. It features a full line of breakfast and lunch cafeteria-style menu items. The cafe also also carries other items such as school supplies.

Peggy Gideon, who manages Pie Are Square and Ag CaFe, said her locations are geared toward homestyle cooking.

"People are thrilled at our variety that's offered," Gideon said. "Interaction has been terrific and our food is fresh and good.

Pie Are Square, located on te ground floor of the Civil Engineering Building, offers a full line of breakfast and lunch cafeteria-style

"I've had people from the telephone company and construction workers tell me they've never had such good biscuits," Gideon said, referring to the fresh ones made at Pie Are Square every day. "On some days, they come just to try our food, even when they're not working on

While A&M's growth already has affected its demand of new eating locations, Smith said he projects between three and four more snack bars in the next 10 years.

"We're always upgrading," he said. "On a campus our size, food and education have to fit together. Smith said eating on campus is a

good idea for several reasons. "You can't get off this campus conveniently without wasting a lot of

time," he said. "There's a loss of productivity when students eat offcampus. Besides providing jobs for stu-

dents and non-students, on-campus dining halls provide a place where students can meet and socialize, Smith said.

"It is an important part of college life," he said. "There's much more to life than what you get out of



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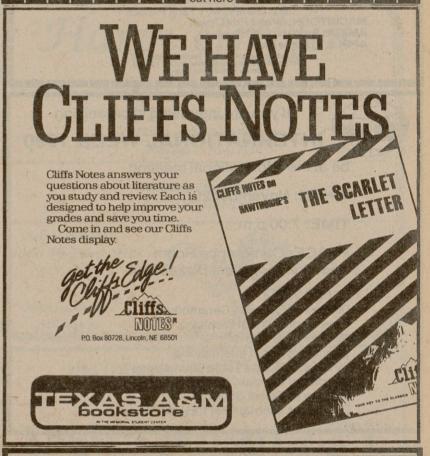
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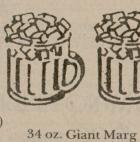


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Bowie

(Continued from page 6)

City," and a rare single version of "Rebel Rebel" that does circles around the classic original, are just a few of the gems Ryko has included to catapult Bowie's collection beyond being a meager greatest-hits

package.

In fact, "Changes," "Young Americans," "Sound And Vision" and "Ashes To Ashes" are the only "Changes," "Young hit singles released on Sound & Vision in their original format, a giant plus that should intrigue any blue-

collar rock fan. David Bowie, with apologies to John Lennon, is the greatest rock artist ever, conquering every imagin-

and done it well.