Strictly Jazz

By MARIAN M. COLE

A famous person was once quoted as saying, "Music makes the world go around." And how well was that put. So, dealing with our music jazz, I have a list of late recordings to pass on to you.

Shelly Manne records one called "Swinging Sounds." Mel Torme With Marty Paich Dektette" is something new by Mel who's making his another comeback. A new release by Milt Jackson is called "The Jazz Skyline." On this album, Milt plays with Hank Jones, Wendell Marshall, and Kenny Clarke.

One jazz critic appraised it as "one of the best integrated selections in the history of recorded jazz." (That's your cue to give this one a particular listen.) "What's New" is an album of experimental jazz. Teo Macero and Bob Prince are heard on this one, and it does got excellent write-ups from critics.

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SOME OF THE sides cut are: "Neally," "Adventure," "Heart On My Sleeves," "Sounds of May," "Fanfare and Fantasy" and "24 18."

"Mel Powell Out On a Limb" is one fresh-cut. Clarinetist Tony Scott's newest claim is entitled "Both Sides of Tony Scott." "The Jazz Workshop with Bill Byers' has" just been released.

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ON THE WHOLE, most well-liked musicians feel a certain humbleness toward the public: That is I see claim is entitled the selling qualities of any musician. Now and then you run across an artist with such enormous talent that he takes little heed to the niceties in the business. With that statement, the name Gerry Mulligan is brought to mind. Gerry is an exceptionally polished musician, and he knows it.

"He has been quoted as saying "Get rid of the amateurs." At another time he made the statement "I don't expect everyone to like my band, but I do expect to realize that we always play well because we are all professionals and are proud of being proficient."

But to throw aside the positive, conceit in Gerry's manner, and to grade him only from a musical standpoint, my findings are he is an outstanding figure in the baritone saxist class. At present, he is head of a quintet, which incidentally is vacationing for the summer.

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FALL MIGHT FIND him still unsettled as to keeping his aggregation at the present size or enlarging it. Gerry claims that he would make less money with a big band, but regards that as little bearing on his decision.

Asked once about the future of jazz, Gerry commented "a lot of jazz's future is resting with colleges and jazz societies."

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A NAME designating a strange being in the musical entertainment world is Thelonious Monk. Monk, as he is called for short, is a North Carolina borned pianist who has had quite a mysterious and interesting career.

No specific reference given to the year of his birth. The Monk chooses to leave that unmentioned. He migrated to New York with his family at the age of four. His musical career had its beginning when he began taking piano lessons at ten.

But remembering back to his start, he regards himself as being a self-made and styled musician. He asserted once "I have liked something about nearly every musician I heard, but I never patterned myself after any particular one."

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THE MONK'S music is indeed self-styled. There are few people who can really comprehend his work, even though he has thousands of curious admirers. He is called by some critics as being eccentric. There is far more truth in that than falsehood since most of his inspiration for compositions comes from within.

To deal with him wholly both as a person and musician, would be difficult. But to sum him up in a musical light, I estimate him as being unique, a great musical contributor, and above all, the master in his works.

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A COOL RELAXED atmosphere produced of the setting for the jazz session held last Sunday afternoon at Washington's newly opened jazz haven.

The session offered four hours of entertainment to a capacity filled audience with Sonny Stitt as an added attraction. Upon arriving on the scene a little late, I caught the closing of the first set with Buck Hill's group and Sonny Stitts on bandstand.

After a moment's pause, a local group took over the show and carried through the second set. The boys played exceedingly well. Each piece got its fronts, mainly the drummer and the vibrist.

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THE THIRD set brought back Sonny Stitts along with the Buck Hill aggregation. Sonny blew in great style. And so did my good man Buck Hill as competition grew heavy. Each member in the very able group took turns sharing the limelight, as minutes long solos were played.

I departed after sitting through four sets feeling that evening was well spent.

SIDELINE NOTES:

Bobby Hackett and his new jazz band will go on tour for the duration of this month and August. Their first stop is in Canada.

The New York City board of estimate has included an appropriation of $50,000 for live music in the budget for the '56-57 fiscal year.

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A NEW JAZZ label recently signed vocalist Leigh Travis and the Bill Wallace Trio.

The first Annual New York Jazz Festival is scheduled for the stadium at Randall's Island August 24th and 25th.

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"Stars of Jazz" a TV show originating in Hollywood, made its debut recently with Stan Getz, and Kid Ory as the first guests.

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AFTER APPRAISING a Clifford Brown recording, Dizzy Gillespie had this to say: "The trumpet was superb; by far the best on the record. Songstress Mary Ann McCall has signed a three-year contract with Savoy Records. Ernie Wilkins is in charge of arrangements for her first LP which is under the direction of Ozzie Cadena.

'I wanted to see if I could draw a crowd'

"I observed my 10 anniversary in radio at Carr's Beach. It was a challenge. I wanted to see if I could draw a crowd . . ."

Bill Cook, New York disc jockey and manager of singer Roy Hamilton, was speaking before he returned to New York City this week.

He glowed with satisfaction over the record breaking crowd that witnessed the package show he sponsored last Thursday in connection with his anniversary in raido.

The overflow crowd on the beach snarled traffic in the Annapolis area. Cook said. Police were called to the traffic jam when an emergency ambulance was hindered on its way to the hospital with a child bitten by a snake.

ASIDE FROM the anniversary show, Cook explained that he would release Roy Hamilton's latest record upon his return to New York.

The title is "I Took My Grief to Him."

"That was the last record Roy made before going to the hospital," he said. "Roy took sick here last April while playing an engagement at the Howard Theatre."

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"I CHOSE TO come back here for my anniversary because disc jockeys in the area are very friendly," Cook stated. "You know there's supposed to be a lot of professional jealousy, but there isn't."

Friends in radio include Hot Red Hulbert and Chuck Richards of Baltimore; Happy Adams, Annapolis; Tex Gallihings, Cliff Holland and John (Lord Fauntleroy) Bandy, all of Washington.

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Birds sign former Tenn. State star

The Baltimore Orioles announced this week the signing of Fred Valentine, 21-year-old, switch-hitting outfielder, to a farm club contract.

Valentine was inked shortly after working out with the Birds before Saturday's game with the Kansas City Athletics.

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HE IS A 6-foot-1, righthanded throwing flychaser, and a student at Tennessee State University in Nashville. He will report to the Vancouver team of the Pacific Coast League at the close of summer school.

A baseball and football star at the Nashville institution, Valentine hit .310 as a freshman in 1954, and rapped the ball at a .326 clip for the Tiger varsity in 1955.

VALENTINE was scouted by Jim Russo and brought to Baltimore for a workout on the latter's recommendation. Manager Paul Richards was greatly impressed with what the youngster showed.

A switch hitter, Valentine was described as having "great power and a "fine" arm.

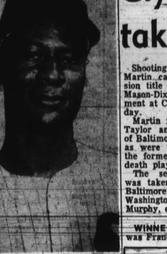
Born in Clarksdale, Miss., Fred attended Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis, and from there went to Tennessee State. He makes his home in Memphis.

83-year-old mother of Al Smith dies

ST. LOUIS Mo. — Funeral services for Mrs. Inez Smith, mother of Cleveland Indians outfielder Al Smith, will be held Sunday.

Mrs. Smith died Wednesday night at the family home in nearby Kirkwood, Mo., a St. Louis suburb. She was 83-years-old.

Notified during the first game of a twilight-night double-header against the Nats in Washington, Smith did not start the second contest. He left Washington by plane Thursday.



"SWEATBALLER!" — Manager Marty Marion of the White Sox joined Boston pilot Mike Higgins this Week in claiming that Cosmic Johnson, Baltimore Oriole righthander, uses forehead perspiration to get the effect of the illegal spitball while pitching for the Birds. Marion was so vehement in his protest Wednesday night in Baltimore that he was tossed out of the game, won by the Orioles, 4-3.

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Clyde Martin's 71 takes Mason-Dixon

Shooting a sub-par 71, Clyde Martin captured the pro division title in the fourth annual Mason-Dixon Open golf tournament at Cargoll Park here Sunday.

Martin finished ahead of W. Taylor and R. Thomas, both of Baltimore. Taylor and Thomas were tied for second with the former taking the sudden-death playoff.

The senior men's bracket was taken by J. Sembley, of Baltimore, edging P. Mayfield, Washington, D.C., with Arnett Murphy, of Baltimore, third.

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WINNER AMONG the women was Frances Mays, of Washington, D. C. Ethel Francis, Washington, and E. Rice, both of Washington, followed in that order.

Complete list of winners in the tourney, sponsored by the Pitch and Putt Club, of this city, follows:

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION
CHAMPION — Clyde Martin, 71 (one under par).
RUNNER-UP — W. Taylor, Baltimore.
THIRD — R. Thomas, Baltimore (tied).
FOURTH — Walter Stewart, Baltimore.

SENIOR MEN
WINNER — J. Sembly, Baltimore, Md.
RUNNER-UP — P. Mayfield, Washington, D. C.
THIRD—Arnett Murphy, Baltimore, Md.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT (WOMEN)
WINNER — Frances Mays, Washington, D.C.
RUNNER-UP—Ethel Funches Washington, D. C.
THIRD — E. Rice, Washington, D. C.

FIRST FLIGHT
WINNER — Irene Brown, Washington, D. C.
RUNNER-UP — Ethel Williams, Washington, D. C.
THIRD — Morphelia Winston, Baltimore, Md.

SECOND FLIGHT
WINNER—Cora Cade, Washington, D. C.
RUNNER-UP—Juanita Arvington, D. C.
Baltimore, Md.
THIRD — Lillian Bell, Baltimore, Md.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT (MEN)
WINNER — Buster Thomas, Washington, D. C.
RUNNER-UP—V. Terry, Aberdeen, Md.
THIRD — M. Street, Baltimore, Md.

FIRST FLIGHT
WINNER—A. Quince, Baltimore, Md.
RUNNER-UP—William Gardner, Baltimore, Md.
THIRD—P. Whitby,

SECOND FLIGHT
WINNER—J. Sembly, Baltimore, Md.
RUNNER-UP—M. Horn.
THIRD — Richard Holland, Washington, D. C.

MEDALIST
WOMEN — Frances Mays, Washington, D.C.
MEN — Clyde Martin, Baltimore, Md.

HIGH SCORER
WOMEN — Lillie Gullebeau, Philadelphia, Pa.
MEN — Talley Portee, Baltimore, Md.

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A total of 103 contestants took part in the tournament, largest of its four years. Of these, 67 were men and 36 women.

Long staff

MARSHALL, Tex. — Coach Fred Long, recently retired as athletic director and head football coach at Wiley College, has announced his grid staff for the coming season. Long has signed J. Forrest Kelly as backfield coach and Rudolph S. Robertson as line tutor.

Ring results

NEW YORK—Wayne Bethea, NYC, d. Jimmy Slade, NYC; heavyweights.

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—Eddie Machen, Richmond, Cal., kd Nino Valdes, Cuba (8); heavyweights.

BOSTON — Isaac Logart, Cuba, d. Wilbert Wilson, Boston; welterweights.

WINDSOR, Ont.—Don Jasper, Duluth, Minn., d. Jim Saunders, Winnipeg; heavyweights.

NEW YORK — Willie Troy, Washington, d. Jerry Luedee, New Haven; middleweights.

PITTSBURGH — Willie Graves, St. Paul, d. Al Andrews, St. Paul; middleweight.

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Classy field in meet at Morgan Sun.

Headed by Lou Jones, the world record-holder for the 400-meter dash, a star studded array of Olympians and ex-Olympians will be on hand for the Eastern AAU track and field championships at Morgan State College Sunday, at 2 o'clock.

Jones, now in the Army at Ft. Meade, set a world mark for the distance of 45.4 seconds in Mexico City last summer. Observers at the Pan-American Games expressed the belief that the terrified air aided him to his spectacular effort, and many were of the opinion he'd never repeat it.

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BUT THE former Manhattan College speedster not only repeated it, he beat it. At the Olympic final tryouts in Los Angeles two weeks ago, Lou turned in the sensational 45.2 clocking to lead the American qualifiers for the trip to the Olympic Games in Australia.

Others who are bound for Melbourne in November, and who are slated to compete here Sunday, are Andy Stanfield, the defending 200-meter champion from the 1952 Olympics; Horace Ashenfelter, white, who captured the 3,000 meter steeplechase at Helsinki the same year, and George Shaw, the New York Pioneer Club's hop-step-jump entry of four years ago.

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ALSO ENTERED in the Eastern are such outstanding Olympians as Lee Calhoun, Ken Bantum, Gordon McKenzie and Curtis Stone.

Calhoun is the National AAU 110-meter hurdles champion, who finished in a rare dead heat with Jack Davis, the world record-holder in the fence event in the Olympic finals. Calhoun a North Carolina College standout, is also the CIAA timber king.

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BANTUM, THE surprising young all-round star of Manhattan College, hurdles and sprints with the best of them, in addition to his shotput specialty. He is only the third man in history to put the shot 60 feet.

McKenzie and Stone, both of the Pioneer Club, will go in the distance events. The former is the holder of the American mark for six miles. The latter, a three-mile star, is a three-time member of the U. S. Olympic squad.

Sam Lacy

Proving that you never know . . . Fred Valentine, a 21-year-old, 190-pound power-hitter, was kept out of baseball at Tennessee State University where he attended school, during the past season . . . Reason was that football coach Howard Gentry intended to groom him as the No. 1 Tiger quarterback this fall . . . the coach wanted Valentine to concentrate on football and even signed him for a red take summer courses in order to avoid danger of academic ineligibility . . . Despite the fact Valentine had hit .310 as a freshman in 1954, and had been a .326 batsman for the variety in 1955, Tennessee coaches had bowed to the wishes of the grid mentor and sacrificed by letting Valentine remain idle . . . So, this week Fred signed a contract to play in the farm system of the Baltimore Orioles and can't play foot-ball with the Tigers, anyway.

While on the subject of Oriole farmhands, word comes from the front office that ten Elliott Coleman is leading the Northern League in pitching as of this writing . . . The 20-year-old, former Birmingham Baron flinger has a 9-4 record, with a sparkling 2.13 earned run average . . . In 110 innings for the Aberdeen (Class C) club, Coleman, has fanned 104 batters while giving up 71 hits and 41 runs (24 of them earned) . . . he's walked only 59 . . . Elliott has been in 16 games and completed nine of them . . . Apparently, Coleman, a native of Nashville, Tenn., likes the South Dakota air.

It is to the credit of Charley Pratt that he is disinclined to accept that which is not his in athletic competition . . . even when his refusal to do so virtually lifts a boat ticket to the Olympic Games a Melbourne, from his pocket . . . Pratt's honesty robbed him of a place on the three-man decathlon squad that will represent Uncle Sam in the games in Australia next fall . . . During the two-day, ten-event competitions at Crawfordville, Ind., last week, Charley refused to ignore an official scoring error . . . and that cost him a place on the Olympian vessel leaving California in early November.

AAU officials erroneously credited the 22-year-old Ft. Dix, N.J., soldier with a shot put of 46 feet, 9 inches, worth 795 points . . . Charley could have looked the other way, but he didn't . . . he immediately pointed that his best toss had been 38 feet, 8¾ inches . . . This effort was worth only 564 points on the official scoring chart, or 231 points less than he was given . . . Pratt, a former star at Manhattan College, and oldest of a family of talented brother athletes in Palmyra, N.J., thus finished sixth in the final standings . . . The 231 points would have made him fourth and in position to step into the spot vacated by the Rev. Bob Richards, who relinquished his decathlon berth since he already had garnered a place on the track and field as a pole-vaulter. Pratt's action prompted the Associated Press to say on Sunday: "The decathlon, most severe test of man's all-round ability at running, jumping and throwing," in this case was "a measure of sportsmanship, too."

Althea Gibson actually brought home only one trophy with her when she returned to New York following her overseas tennis triumphs . . . "The rest are being shipped," Miss Gibson told A to Z. . . "It would have been too much of a burden to try to bring them all with me . . . My bags were stuffed with clothes from the beginning," she went on, "enough to take care of what I felt my needs would be on an eight-month tour . . . Then when you consider that, being a woman, I'd want to pick up a few things in the European shops, you have to realize that there was very little room for anything else."

Althea said the rigorous trip took about ten pounds off her . . . "I really haven't weighed, insofar as climbing on the scales is concerned . . . but I know I'm around 140 pounds now . . . I weighed 150 when I went overseas . . . Did Miss Gibson encounter many eating problems during her long journey? . . . "Only in Southeast Asia," was her reply . . . A visitor there has to accept the heavy starch diet, no fresh vegetables and no milk you feel safe drinking, owing to the lack of pasteurization" . . . Was Althea troubled by her backhand, as it was rather generally reported? . . . I most certainly was not . . . It wasn't great, but it was adequate . . . It wasn't great because no part of my game is."

The New York A.C., in denying Councilman Earl Brown's charges that it discriminates against colored persons and Jews, points to the fact that it presented its top annual honor, the Sullivan Award, to Mal Whitfield last year . . . But it fails to mention the many years it ignored colored athletes while giving the award to less deserving individuals . . . the years it bypassed Harrison Dillard and Whitfield before finally yielding to right.

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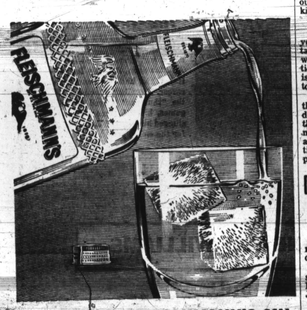

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What? Gin'n Nothing?

BASEBALL REGISTRY

Following herewith are the major league teams with colored players on their rosters:

ATHLETICS — Harry Simpson, Vic Power, outfielders; Hector Lopez, third baseman; Jose Santiago, pitcher.

BRAVES—Billy Bruton, centerfielder; Henry Aaron, rightfielder; Wes Covington, outfield; Felix Mantilla, shortstop.

CUBS — Gene Baker, second baseman; Ernie Banks, second base; Monte Irvine, outfield; Sam Jones, pitcher.

DODGERS — Junior Gilliam, second baseman; Roy Campanella, catcher; Jim Gilliam, utility infielder; Don Newcombe, pitcher; Sandy Amoros, outfielder; Jim Pendleton, third base; Dan Bankhead, pitcher; Joe Black, pitcher; Chico Fernandez, shortstop; Sam Jethroe, outfielder; Don Bessent, pitcher; Ronald Kline, pitcher; Carl Furillo, outfielder; Don Zimmer, shortstop; Don Drysdale, pitcher; Jim Gilliam, second base; Roy Campanella, catcher; Sandy Amoros, outfielder; Jim Pendleton, third base