ALAN FREED

PRESENTS

THE BIG BEAT



















ALAN FREED

Alan Freed was born December 15, 1922, in Johnstown, Pa. He describes his childhood as normal, although the family was far from affluent. He showed some musical talent at an early age, and was introduced to the trombone. At the age of 12 or so, after seeing the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra on tour, he wanted to become a concert trombonist, but that ambition disappeared a few years later when, as Freed said, "I got the dance band bug."

In high school, Freed organized a band, named it the Sultans of Swing after a famous Harlem orchestra of that

name, and played dates in Salem and its environs.

"We got 50 cents a man for an evening's work, and at that pay we couldn't afford orchestrations. So we played blues or Dixieland, which are the easiest things to jam," he said. "We spent most of our orchestra earnings and allowances traveling up to 200 miles on a Saturday night to hear a name band that was playing in the area, and many times I said to myself, 'Someday I'll have a dance band of my own.'"

Freed's musical ambitions waned later. When it came his turn to go to college, he enrolled in Chio State for a course in journalism, but this did not meet with his father's approval. "He had his heart set on his sons becoming doctors and lawyers," Alan recalls. "He never thought of a newspaper man being a professional. So just to please him I switched to mechanical engineering. I hated every minute

of it - I just couldn't make it.

"One day I peered through the window of the campus radio station and that was it — I was gone. I hung around waiting for a chance to announce or do anything, but nothing happened."

Freed said he mentioned his new-found radio ambitions to a speech prof, who gave him books to read and suggested that he practice talking by reading newspapers aloud.

Once, after auditioning for CBS in New York, he was told that his Midwest accent was too grating and that "if I had any other profession I should get out of the radio announcing business as soon as possible." But Freed persisted and in 1945 landed a sports announcer job at WAKR in Akron, Ohio.

Through an accident, he became a disk jockey.

"One night," Freed said, "as I finished the 11:10 sports broadcast I got a very quick call saying the disk jockey for the 11:15 show had not shown up. As I was the only announcer in the studio, I was elected. I grabbed a stack of records, any records, and the engineer in the control room told me which ones were popular. So I did the show. The next day the sponsor called me up and said he liked the show. The owner of the station did too, so he fired the other guy and gave me the job."

Eighteen months later, Freed was working on WJW in Cleveland. At the urging of Leo Mintz, owner of Cleveland's largest record shop, who had noticed that "race" records were beginning to get popular, Freed played only Rhythm and Blues records on his show. He christened the style Rock and Roll to avoid the racial stigma of the old classification.

"It was more Leo's idea than mine," he said. "Only the other day he called me up and told me, "I had the foresight and you're making all the money."



Early in the program, Freed developed his trademark — slamming out the beat with his hand. At first he whopped the table top, wearing a golf glove to protect his hand, until someone gave him the idea of using a telephone book which was softer than wood.

When Freed was ending up his college course, he renewed an acquaintance with a girl he had known since gradeschool days. In 1944, when he was making \$42 a week in Youngstown, Ohio, he and Betty Lou were married. They had two children, Alana, who is now 12, and Lance, who is 10.

He has branched out into the movie business, as both actor and producer. In January, 1956, Columbia filmed "Rock Around the Clock," in which Freed played Freed. It is this picture which features Bill Haley and many other Rock and Roll stars, that has riotously introduced Rock and Roll to England.

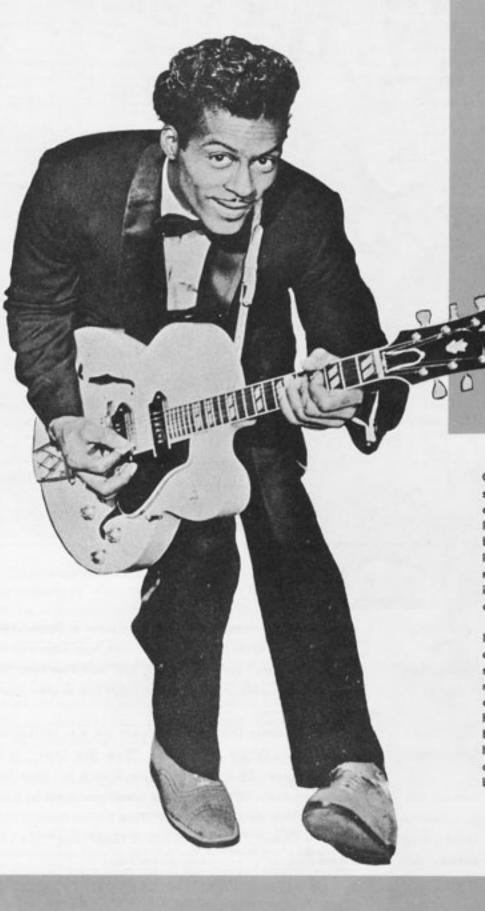
Freed has twice been given the Pittsburgh Courier's brotherhood award, but he firmly resists any suggestion that

he is a do-gooder in the field of race relations.

"I'm no champion of the Negro people just because they are Negroes," he said. "Of Negro music, yes. Because it's honest, not because it's Negro."

BILL HALEY & HIS COMETS





CHUCK BERRY

CHUCK BERRY is the spell-binding, guitar-playing song stylist who first skyrocketed to national fame and fortune with his jubilant recording of "Maybelline" long the top-selling record, not only in America, but all over the world, wherever music is played and listened-to. The present world popularity of rock and roll music was contributed to, in part, by the pulsating rhythmic beat and emotional exuberance of the dynamic MR. BERRY.

Since hitting the musical jackpot with "Maybelline", "Thirty Days" and other equally great recordings, CHUCK has enjoyed unprecedented personal popularity, making appearances in every major night spot across the nation. His extraordinary talent as a guitarist, coupled with a magnetic singing style has enshrined him in the "Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame'. BERRY's newest smash-hit tune "Roll Over Beethoven" has already captured public fancy and is currently among the most popular rhythm and blues tunes now being played, sung, hummed and whistled.



Don and Phil Everly, whose smash hit and million-seller recording of "Bye, Bye Love" was followed by another million-seller in "Wake Up Little Susie", have skyrocketed to overnight stardom via three mediums: recordings; television guest shots and personal appearances.

Besides appearing regularly on the ever-popular "Grand Ole Opry" television show, the handsome youngsters have guested on many of the top-rated shows.

"Bye, Bye Love", their first recording for Cadence, was directed by President Archie Bleyer and set off an immediate and tremendous nationwide reaction for the handsome young Kentucky-born singers, who have been in show business for 12 years. The gifted youngsters made it two smash hits in succession with their "Wake Up Little Susie".

The boys, who were born in Brownie, Kentucky, traveled extensively for 10 years with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ike Everly, as a family singing group. Their first radio appear-

ance, when Don was 8 and Phil 6, took place at Station KMA in Shenandoah, lowa. As a duo, the boys were signed to the "Grand Ole Opry" Show on May 11, 1957 and have been featured on this tremendously popular country and western music show ever since.

The versatile Don and Phil Everly are also outstanding songwriters. On the flip side of "Bye, Bye Love" is an Everly original, "I Wonder If I Care Enough". When Don was 16 he wrote "Thou Shalt Not Steal", recorded by Kitty Wells and later the brothers wrote "Here We Are Again", sung by Anita Carter; "It Takes A Lot of Heart" and "The Life I Have To Live", recorded by Justin Tubb.

The Everly Brothers have poise based upon a vast store of youthful experience, and yet display at all times an appealing shyness and natural timidity that wins the hearts of fans everywhere.



JO ANN CAMPBELL

Twenty-one year old Jo Ann Campbell is a lass with star dust in her eyes. From the time she was a drum majorette at Fletcher high school in Jacksonville, Florida, she has always wanted to be in show business. She started right away too, traveling to Europe with a U.S.O. troupe at the tender age of sixteen, and dancing for the G.I.'s there.

Jo Ann has always had a desire to sing, and being born and brought up in the South, the music they now call rock and roll came natural to her. It was the music she was weaned on, the music that was part of her.

When she came to New York to try her luck in the Big Town, she left four years of professional dancing behind her and determined to make the grade as a singer. She has since sung at various night spots and was hailed by Variety for her rock and roll tunes in an Apollo Theatre stint that literally took the Harlem hotspot and the entertainment world by storm.

Now that her singing career has started to move, Jo Ann has allowed herself to show off a little more of her talent she has just recorded a tune which she wrote called "Come On Baby" for Eldorado Records. It's a rock 'n roller backed with a ballad called "Forever Young", and the record has

been receiving great notices and lots of plays.





Records, "TEACHER'S PET".

It really wasn't until his third release, "DE DE DINAH", that the entire country became aware that a new teenage idol had arrived. Wherever Frankie appeared girls screamed and fainted in the audience. They tore their hair and clutched their faces. When he stuck out his foot the girls tried to touch his white buckskin shoe, and almost everytime nearly pulled him off the stage. Wherever he appeared from there on in police protection had to be doubled and special escorts had to be hired to get him back to his hotel.

Frankie has a neat crop of black wavy hair with beautiful brown eyes that express his emotions and the average teenage girl can't help but swoon and faint.

He enjoys eating many types of food, but his favorites are spaghetti and veal cutlets. Frankie graduated from Southern High School in Philadelphia and hopes to some day continue his education by going to college. His future plans are to continue recording singles and albums and to enter into motion pictures.

Frankie lives with his mother and father and has no intention of moving as he is very accustomed to his home-like surroundings, which he does not want to lose.

JIMMY CLANTUN

The 18-year-old guitar-playing Jimmy hails from Baton Rouge, Louisiana and has two younger brothers, 14 and 17, who are also musicians. Jimmy's father is an instrument engineer at the Kaiser Aluminum plant in Baton Rouge while his mother does the household chores.

He organized a band about two years ago called "The Rockets" and the group was very popular at school and local dances in Baton Rouge. He recently auditioned for Ace Records and was immediately awarded a recording contract. His debut disk, "Just A Dream", whose lyrics, incidentally, tell the story of an actual experience in his life, hit the jackpot, both in sales and popularity.

At the present time, there is no "special" girl. He is not engaged, going steady or even has much time for dates. His personal, television and radio appearances over the past several months have kept him on a 7-day a week schedule.

The PONY TAILS

LaVerne Novak, Pat McCabe and Toni Cistone, who comprise the Poni Tails, are a peppy young trio with a style as crisp and bright as a brand new dollar bill. They combine and coordinate their bounce of youth with the sweetest blending of voices to come along in years. Be it slow, easy swing, barrelhouse rock 'n roll or rib-tickling comedy, the Poni Tails produce as the carefully polished performers they are. These versatile young ladies are capable of handling any type of song; can and do arrange their own music; memorize lyrics quickly, and give out with some superb interpretations of many everlasting "oldies".

Their rapid climb to popularity resulted from a song which the trio composed and recorded called "Que La Bozona". This tune, backed up with "Wild Heart", skyrocketed to become the girls' first hit. All this took place while they were still attending classes at Brush High School in their native Cleveland, Ohio. Poni Tail fan clubs sprang up like mushrooms all over the country.







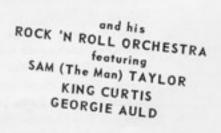






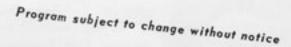
ALAN FREED PROGRAM

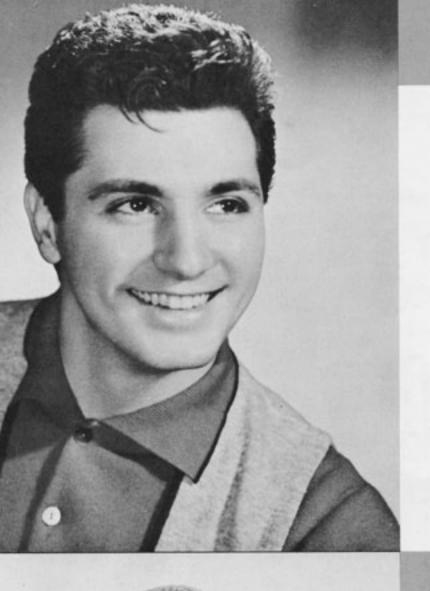
BILL HALEY and His Comets The EVERLY BROTHERS The KALEN TWINS CHUCK BERRY JIMMY CLANTON The PONY TAILS FRANKIE AVALON TEDDY RANDAZZO ED TOWNSEND JO ANN CAMPBELL The ELEGANTS The ROYAL TEENS JACK SCOTT The OLYMPICS BOBBY FREEMAN The DANLEERS BO DIDDLEY LARRY WILLIAMS DUANE EDDY GINO & A GINO & GINA BOBBY HAMIL TON The CLEFTONES











TEDDY RANDAZZO

Aside from being a top vocal attraction, Teddy Randazzo is also an accomplished musician. Ever since he can remember, his grandfather encouraged him toward a musical career. By the time Randazzo was 12 he was considered a first class accordionist, a truly talented pianist and also could play the bass and guitar. His childhood ambition was to become a concert accordionist and musical arranger.

At 14 Teddy gave his first recital at New York's Town Hall. After the recital he was offered a scholarship to the Juilliard School of Music. His burning desire to become a show business "attraction" was so strong, that he turned down the scholarship and joined a newly formed group called "The Chuckles." From that time his rise to fame has been meteoric. Since he's been signed as a solo vocalist Teddy has made many new friends and fans in every part of the country. While a member of the "Chuckles" Teddy starred in two Hollywood pictures, "Rock, Rock, Rock" and "The Girl Can't Help It."

There's no end to this boy's talent. He's also a composer and has written "Fallin' Out Of Love," "Rose Marie," "Fool In Love" and "Still Thinking Of You". During his "off-hour" times, Teddy will be found watching or playing baseball, which is his favorite hobby. He loves to fly and makes many flights all over the U.S.A.



ED TOWNSEND

Ed Townsend was born in a hamlet outside of Memphis called Fayetteville in Tennessee. As a tot he was moved to Memphis with his two brothers and two sisters and parents. His father is a Methodist minister. Later young Ed served as president of the church's Youth Council. At 17 Ed was elected president of the International American Methodist Episcopal Youth Council and was selected to go on a world tour with youth leaders from the U.S. He attended Mannassas High School and then Wilberforce University, and was graduated from Arkansas State College. For a year Ed served as a pioneering backwoods school teacher. When he was 22, however, Ed joined the Marine Corps and was sent to Korea. Horace Heidt happened to hear him sing at that time and invited Ed to join his troupe which toured the Near and Far East and then the U.S.

After he left Heidt he helmed his own TV show in Los Angeles and then formed his own music publishing business. He has composed tunes for Nat Cole, Bull Moose Jackson, Gail Robbins, Gogi Grant and Etta



JACK SCOTT





LARRY WILLIAMS

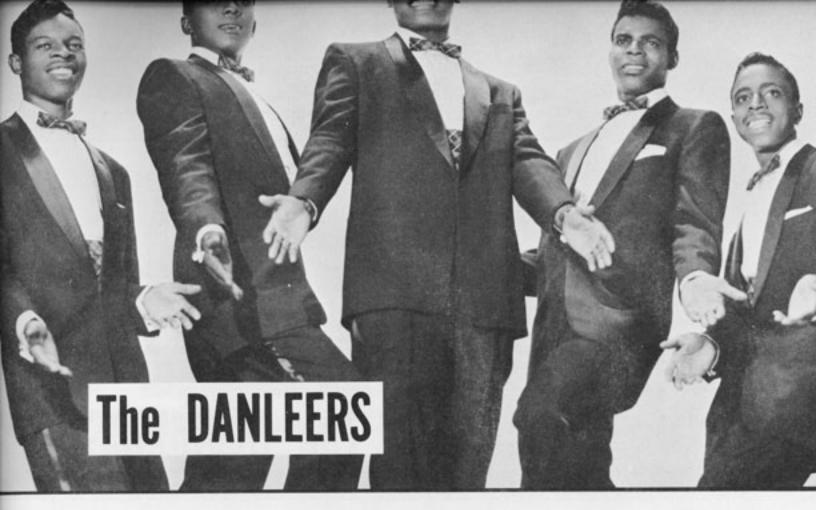
LARRY WILLIAMS is the fellow who is setting the pace throughout the country. First it was a lassie who really showed the classy sounds. "Short Fat Fannie" was the chick who was the pick of every Joe from Dover, Del. to St. Louis, Mo. This doughnut raked in the chips, and the Specialty folks were doin' flips with Larry's wailings. No sooner had "Fanny" begun to "fade" when Larry lifted up the shade and lo and behold, he struck gold with another queen — "Bony Moronie" was on the scene — and it's mighty nice scenery too! Here's a ditty that's pretty gone, and the Williams rendition, from dusk 'til dawn is from the land which the 'Jims' and 'Janes' command.

Lar' is only twenty-two, but already he's a steady teddy on the best seller charts. New Orleans, Louisiana is his home town, and the rockin' rhythms are his trademark.

The tale of the duke who's kicking up the dust was one that just started a few years ago. Touring the Oakland region of California, Larry had his own "team," and he and the boys were the answer to anybody's hit-tune theme. Playing the Steinway, the divine way, Larry soon found himself tickling the "keys" with Mr. Lloyd Price, and not too long thereafter, "Fannie's" beau was rockin' to and fro with the Messrs. Roy Brown, Percy Mayfield, and El senor Fats Domino.

DUANE EDDY

Many musicians concentrate upon their work so vigorously as to exclude other interests. As one well known guitar man put it, "Music is my only interest. If you wanna talk to me you gotta do it in E flat." Such is certainly not the case with DUANE EDDY. A strong swimmer and expert angler, Duane ranks hunting his favorite sport. As a young man full of surprises, Duane is, perhaps, most surprising in his reading habits. He is a regular reader of Wisdom and for lighter fare he favors the science fiction yarns of Ray Bradbury. Upon scanning the recordings which Duane has gathered into his more than ample collection it becomes evident to the observer that Mr. Eddy's taste in music is anything but plebeian. His abundant LP library contains records that run the gamut from Segovia to Satchmo. Duane, quite naturally, favors Rock-A-Billy and Blues and regards his record collection as one of his prize possessions. He enjoys a bit of spice in his food as well as in his music and he is a veritable



Bo Diddley, the 26 year old folk singer who is the rage of the rhythm & blues field, was born in a small town in Mississippi. Shortly after, his parents moved to Chicago. Here he faced his first audience at the age of ten on a street corner as the leader of a three piece combo consisting of two guitars and a washtub. Even then, the music they played was Bo's — the sounds were new and different, having a fast pulsating beat. Bo had no formal training, but he never missed an apportunity to face an audience and he continuously strummed his guitar searching for new sounds and then developing those sounds as they formulated in his mind.

He played in the school band and appeared at many church and civic functions, but his first professional engagement was in 1951 at the "708 Club" in Chicago. Between this milestone and his first New York appearance with the Dr. Jive Rhythm & Blues Review at the famous Apollo Theatre in 1955, Bo continuously played club engagements throughout the country. He has appeared on many television shows in both Chicago and Los Angeles, and appeared on Ed Sullivan's coast to coast "Toast of the Town" show.

Bo Diddley has appeared professionally only a little over four years, and his climb has been tremendous. Theatre managers, club owners and dance promoters will bear this out as they smile happily at their box office receipts while Bo is busy inside thrilling the throngs that come to hear and see him.







BOBBY FREEMAN

Bobby Freeman was born in Oakland, California on June 13, 1940 and at the age of 14 while attending Roosevelt Jr. High School, joined a vocal group called "The Romancers" and for a period of two years they played the local clubs in the Bay area.

Bobby then went on to Mission High School in San Francisco where he organized his own vocal group called "The Vocaliers" with Bobby singing lead. The group was highly popular with students all over the area, playing various high schools, etc.

While singing with the foursome, Bobby came to the attention of Jim Hawthorne, a disk jockey on station KYA in San Francisco at the time. Jim had Bobby make a tape of his tune, "Do You Want To Dance" and brought it to a representative of Josie Records who was in the area at the time.

The representative liked what he heard and lost no time in signing young Bobby to a recording contract — and Freeman hit the jackpot with his very first recording — "Do You Want To Dance."





GINO & GINA

BOBBY HAMILTON



The CLEFTONES



Sam Taylor



King Curtis



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