

AROUND THE DIAL

Freed Sings And Fans Write

*'Request Review' Emcee
Stars With Bobby-Soxers*

By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

BEHIND THE MIKE: Meeting place for Akron teen-agers isn't a canteen or the corner drug store.....It's a recorded radio program called "Request Review" which airs nightly at 11:15 over WAKR.....Under the capable emceeing of Alan Freed.

Young Freed has injected something new into his disc show.....and the bobby-soxers eat it up.....They send requests dedicated to their latest flame or secret love.....Many a high school co-ed is breathlessly wondering who had "My Love" played in her name.....requested anonymously by "a secret admirer."

When Allen was assigned the late-hour program after his arrival in Akron last June, it seemed a pretty routine job.....Until one night

he donned earhones to listen to a recording of "Tampico".....and spontaneously broke into song..... along with the orchestra and vocalist.

Fan mail immediately increased.....listeners asked for more.....and Alan has been giving it to them ever since.

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STRICTLY AN ad-lib worker, Freed has made "My Father's Mustache" a local by-word.....side remarks deal with such characters as "Little Dale" and "Danny Boy".....



ALAN FREED
.....the bobby-soxers boy-friend

with "The Londonderry Hair" thrown in for puns-sake.

Many a Hollywood star would envy Alan his fan mail.....which averages about 500 letters and postcards a day.....plus telegrams and special delivery epistles.

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"**ANYTHING** can happen on a request program," Freed says, and usually does.....The receptionist at WAKR can attest to the number of phone calls that arrive during the course of one broadcast.....One such caused them both to smile.

A well-meaning mother was having trouble getting her baby to sleep.....so she called WAKR to have Alan sing a lullaby.....Result! Freed did.....but the baby didn't.

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A **HIGHLY** organized group of Alan Freed Fan clubs have sprung up in local high schools.....But Alan doesn't mind being the idol of the bobby-soxers, for as he puts it

Gags On The Air

BARBARA WEATHERBY: I can offer any wealth, a career, social position. What can you offer him?

JOAN DAVIS: A year's subscription to the Hobo News.

....."I'm one of them myself"..... And he is that, having just reached the ripe old age of 23.

Freed's radio idol is his big brother, Charles, who is director of serious music on the Columbia network.....A strange radio coincidence is that the two brothers compete for Akron listeners between 11:30 and midnight on Wednesdays.....with Alan spinning swing records on WAKR.....and Charles directing the more serious