

READER REVIEWS

*With alot more help
from his friends*

Goodnight Vienna

Ringo Starr

Apple

It's just about that season when all the formally recognized charitable organizations make their presences felt. Recently, a much less formal charity returned to the scene when Ringo Starr released his second solo rock-album, *Goodnight Vienna*. As you will recall, last year Ringo assembled some of the biggest empressarios in pop music to donate to, and help contrive his first album-venture into the world of rock, including old friends Messrs. Lennon, Harrison, and McCartney, 3/4ths of a quartet once known as the Beatles.

Well, again this year, Mr. Starr has attempted the same feat, albeit not achieving the same landmark results. In *Goodnight Vienna*, Ringo again assembles some of rock's biggest biggies, who donate their services to their favorite charity (Ringo) however, he only manages to get half of the Beatles (including himself) to give him a hand. But he does manage to pull in such well-known names as Billy Preston, Harry Nilsson, Dr. John, Nicky Hopkins, Elton John, and, of course, John Lennon.

On first hearing Ringo's new album, one is stricken by the apparent half-assedness of it, because, at first, it seems like the second side is extremely good vs. the apparent ineptitude on the first side. But after a few times around, one can really appreciate this album's consistency.

My first reaction to side One was that Ringo should have left and turned it all over to his backup band. It seemed at first that the music was terrific, while Ringo's voice did naught but destroy its effectiveness. After a few listenings, however, I began to see the beauty in Ringo's voice, how its simplicity and rough smoothness actually enhanced such tunes as the title cut (written by Lennon), "Oo-Wee" (by Poncia-Starkey), and "Occapella", which features a cameo vocal by Dr. John. Even so, Ringo still bombs on the other two cuts on this side: "Snookeroo", written by Elton John-Bernie Taupin, which Ringo just can't phrase correctly, and which he makes more comical by his ineptitude than it was meant to be; and Roger Miller's oldie, "Husbands and Wives", where Ringo is just too schmaltzy for words.

On Side Two, I was struck immediately by its apparent contrast to Side One. This apparent contrast quickly became more fuzzy, however, as I began to discern the first side's high-points, and the second side's low spots. Still, Side Two is the better, and on it, Ringo manages to generate enough energy and interest to carry one thru the rest of the album.

The best song on the album, "All By Myself", leads off the second side, and then he hits us with the only completely self-composition Ringo has on this album, "Call Me". "Call Me" is a strange song. It sounds too trite to be believed, so I didn't believe it. I think it's designed to be some kind of self-satire on Ringo's Beatle-writing and-singing days. It seems to have traces of "Octopus's Garden", "Don't Pass Me By", and even "Step Lightly" (from Ringo). This side is rounded out by his current AT-40 entry; a Hoyt Axton composition which is a nice piece of light comedy; and a Nilsson composition, which is kind of schmaltzy, but not too bad. The album finishes with a reprise of the title track, when Lennon admonishes everyone "Once more, with Gusto".

On the whole, this album's not too bad, but its no masterpiece (Ringo might have been closer to that). Of course, I don't for once believe that Ringo ever even wants to produce a masterpiece; he just wants to have fun. Although it first impressed me as being a Jekyll & Hyde type of work, *Goodnight Vienna* turns out to be a nice decent, fun album. Just what everyone expects from Ringo.

-Jim Bollinger

Band Day at University Park:

A Photo-essay by Reader Lensmen

Bollinger & Prouser

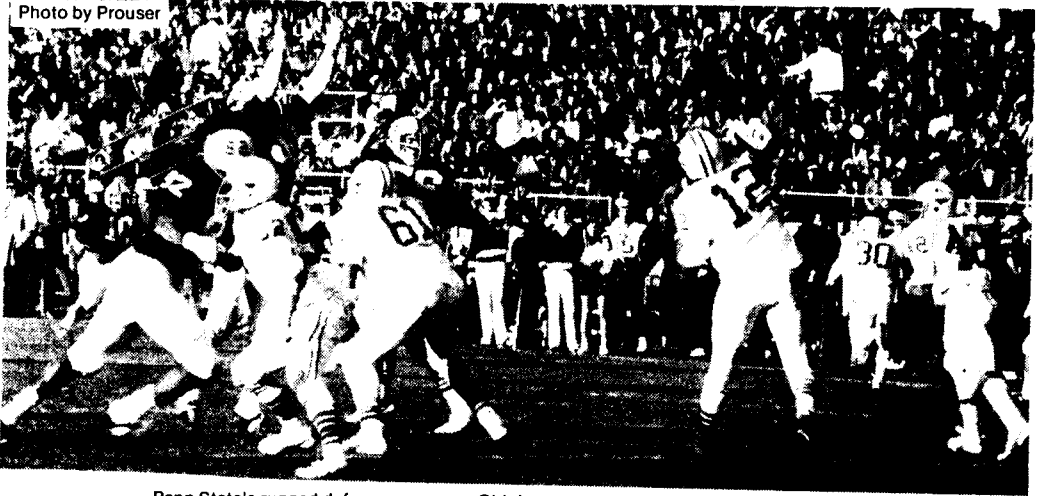


Photo by Prouser
Penn State's rugged defense pressures Ohio's quarterback. Penn State won 35-16 on a cold, but sunny, Band Day 1974.



Photo by Prouser
Jim Curley (28) fights for yardage against Ohio University on Band Day.



Photo by Prouser
Penn State coach, Joe Paterno, paces the sidelines as his team rides to a 35-16 victory over Ohio University.



Photo by Bollinger
Over 6,000 high school band members from all over the state joined the Blue Band in saluting PSU's CottonBowl-bound football team on Band Day 1974.



Photo by Bollinger
The Nittany Lion greet the many Penn State fans in the stands on Band Day.

More Women enter engineering

University Park, Pa. -- While engineering still appears to be a male bastion, women are beginning to wake up to this profession's job opportunities, says Dr. Nunzio J. Palladino, dean of the College of Engineering at The Pennsylvania State University.

He offers some statistics to illustrate his point.

Since 1967, the enrollment of freshman women in engineering has risen from 0.4 to 7.6 percent at Penn State Campuses, he reports. In 1967, only five women were enrolled in engineering at the University; in 1972, there were 13; and this year, the female freshman enrollment has jumped to 96. The number of freshmen women enrolled in engineering at the University Park Campus, for example, has jumped from 0.7 to 4.8 percent since 1967—from two

to 66 women.

"The fact that women currently comprise less than one percent of all U.S. engineers," says Dean Palladino, "is probably due to a preconceived image of engineers which does not include women."

Dr. Palladino thinks there's a misconception on the part of the general public that engineering jobs require more brawn than brain.

"The mental labor usually far outweighs any sort of physical exertion, and most engineers work in offices, not at construction sites," says Dr. Palladino.

Penn State is among various universities throughout the country which are inducing women to enter this formerly male oriented profession.

Brochures on opportunities in engineering are sent to Pennsylvania high school juniors and seniors and to women who express interest in engineering. The University has also produced a series of radio and television spots on what the engineering profession has to offer women.

"But despite the fact that we're trying to encourage qualified women to accept the challenge of the engineering profession," says Dr. Palladino, "the College of Engineering does not maintain a double standard. Our women are treated the same as the men."

In an ugly and unhappy world, the richest man can purchase nothing but ugliness and unhappiness.
-George Bernard Shaw.

WATERGATE COSTS

Investigating the Watergate scandal has cost the American taxpayer more than \$1 million and is expected to run up a tab of \$4 million or \$5 million before the case is closed.

Humor is a rare gift; if you can laugh at the world, and yourself, you're lucky.

Worthless

A nickel goes a long way these days—you carry one for a long time before finding anything it will buy.
-Press, Oskaloosa, Ia.

A smart man figures out his excuses ahead of time.