

# Jazz Sparks Festivities

## Two Stars Set Stage, Reminisce

By JEFF POLLACK  
Jazz took a trip to the Nittany Mountains last night in the form of singer Chris Connor and the Kai Winding Septet. It showed its swinging head at the Spring Week Awards Night ceremony in Recreation Hall.

It was a return engagement for both performers and for them and the audience it was welcomed.

Miss Connor, who was here for a Schwab concert in 1956, sang many of her old favorites along with many of the newer ones.

Winding also made his last appearance here in 1956. At that time he was teamed with fellow trombonist J. J. Johnson.

Festivals and concerts were listed as the favorite performing places by Miss Connor. The previously fortified singer said the place she liked playing most was Randall's Island in New York City.

Winding, who also said college concerts were the audiences he enjoyed most, was careful to add that he wasn't just saying that because of where he was.

He said the college students were the best because they're the ones who buy the records. "They are the contemporary audience not only of today but of tomorrow," he said.

The trombonist, who played in England, the Scandinavian countries, Germany, Holland and France with his former partner J. J. Johnson last year,



CHRIS CONNOR AND the Kai Winding Septet performed at the Spring Week awards night last night in Rec Hall.

said the audiences over there are generally much more receptive.

However, he explained this by saying that they had less opportunity to hear American jazz regularly and hence took advantage of the chance.

Miss Connor said she has never been out of the country but added that she "sure would like to go."

Asked how she felt about jazz in relation to other music, she started to say she was prejudiced but settled for a brief, "I love it."

Ironically, the two performers who have played with each other on many occasions got their starts with the same band. Miss Connor's first real break

came with the Stan Kenton outfit. She said it was the first time she really "got before the public."

Winding said he played with Kenton after he got out of high school. He also played with the Benny Goodman orchestra.

He said he left Kenton in 1947 and did small combo work around New York. "Mostly in small jazz clubs," he said.

Then for five years he did commercial radio and television, appearing on such programs as the Patty Paige Show and Your Hit Parade.

Winding, more talkative than Miss Connor, said that with his present group he did almost exclusively college concerts. He said that between September and May

80 per cent of his work was this type.

The trombonist said his oddest performance was last Sunday when he played an afternoon date at Holy Cross. He said they played in a circus tent for about 500 people.

Asked a question he said is asked almost everywhere he goes why he broke up with Johnson—he answered simply, "It was a temporary arrangement to begin with."

He said that they were together two years and both felt their names were well known enough to go out alone.

He added he was sorry that was the only reason. "Most of the newspapers would like me to say we had a big fight," he said, "but we didn't." Winding quickly added that Johnson was one of his best friends.

Winding listed Chris Connor, Sarah Vaughn, Gerry Southern and Ella Fitzgerald as his favorite jazz vocalists.

And without knowledge of Winding's favorites, Miss Connor listed Kai Winding, Stan Kenton, Gerry Mulligan and Errol Garner as her favorite groups.

Winding, who makes his home in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., said he and the group would leave right after the performance for Louisville, Ky.

He is scheduled to play at the private Arts Club there. He will also stay over Friday night for a pre-derby ball.

Miss Connor leaves this morning for Camden, N.J., where she will spend a week at the Red Hill Club. She will then go to the Key Club in Minneapolis for a week and then on to Miami for the Jockey's convention.

Before he got up to return to the stage the trombonist made a plug for two new albums. An LP record now available, "Swingin' States," and an album to be released in June, "The City Beat."

# Cheers, Groans, Excite

By PAT DYER  
Spring week ended last night with cheers from the winners and groans from the losers, with song of jubilation from the top winners and from those who placed, with wild excitement as the tension of the last hectic weeks was released by the announcement of the winners of the biggest competition of the year.

Awards Night found sororities and fraternities filling the floor of Recreation Hall in tense anticipation of the results of their weeks of work. The first event, the introduction of the finalists in the Miss Penn State contest, resulted in long applause as the five girls walked down the white carpet to the stage.

The tension broke for a while as Jay Feldstein asked the girls about football. The crowd enjoyed greatly the slightly confused answers the finalists gave to the question, "What is a down?"

A roar of amusement ran through the hall from the time when Susan Donoghue said it takes 10 yards to make 4 downs to the last contestant's answer. Amused groans of, "Oh no, she can't be serious," were heard from the male portions of the audience.

When the coeds left the stage and Kai Winding came on, the crowd seemed able to relax and enjoy the show. Not so the various chairmen, however. One nervous sorority chairman was seen to stare at the stage while she unconsciously tore her program to shreds.

Winding's group and Chris Connor were decorously attired in blue or black suits when they appeared on the stage, a far cry from the open-toed sandals and desert boots in which they



JUBILANCE AND EXUBERANCE reigned the announcement that they won Spring

first appeared at Recreation Hall.

As the notes of the Continentals faded out and Feldstein again stepped up to the platform, this time to announce the new Miss Penn State, tension once more increased.

All eyes turned on the back of the hall as the finalists entered with Miss Penn State last.

As the new queen entered a scream arose from the front center section of the floor where her sorority sisters, Kappa Kappa Gamma, were sitting with their

Spring W ma Phi. as the stage. After tual diffic doesn't fi around t the audit one wasr ternity m gram in coheren! A on enjoyed Connor:

# Kappa, ASigPhi Win Spi

(Continued from page one)  
the 200-yard dash.

Aiding the Kappa sorority sweep was Shirley Pittman who won the individual Queen of Hearts championship.

There are no other results for the Queen of Hearts finals.

Winners in the float parade were, in the Greek and Roman period: first Phi Kappa Tau and Cross; second, Theta Chi and MacAllister Hall; third, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Kappa Alpha Theta.

In the Middle Ages category: Sigma Nu and Delta Gamma, first; Alpha Sigma Phi and Kappa Kappa Gamma, second; Pi Kappa Phi and Grange Hall, third.

In the 20th century: Sigma Alpha Mu and Kappa Sigma, first; Pi Kappa Alpha and Pi Beta Phi, second; Phi Kappa Sigma and Alpha Chi Omega, third.

In the carnival the division winners were:

The Greek and Roman period: first, Acacia and Alpha Delta Pi; second, Theta Chi and MacAllister Hall; third, Delta Sigma Phi and Kappa Delta.

The Middle Ages: Alpha Sigma Phi and Kappa Kappa Gamma, first; Theta Delta Chi and Chi Mu, second; Theta Xi and Sigma Sigma Sigma, third.

The 20th Century: first, Phi Delta Theta and Delta Delta Delta; second, Phi Kappa Sigma and Alpha Chi Omega; third, Beta Sigma Rho and Delta Tau Delta.

The standing for the Olympics were: 1. Alpha Sigma Phi and Kappa Kappa Gamma, 2. Sigma Nu and Delta Gamma, 3. Delta Sigma Phi and Kappa Delta tied with Phi Delta Theta and Delta Delta Delta, 5. Delta Upsilon and Alpha Epsilon Phi tied with Delta Chi and Zeta Tau Alpha.

The grand winner was decided on a point system for each event. The three winners of each category in the float parade received 30, 20 and 10 points, respectively.

Winner carnival points re: First pi worth 15 8; fourth, for third totaled a group s tied for and a ha Three ed the Penn S sponsor five. No p participat individua Hearts t The al

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