

Hall of Fame series completed

Critic salutes lesser known inductees

by Gary L. Nolan
Collegian Staff Writer

Editors Note: This article completes a four-part series on the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Several of 1989's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees remain a large part of what is now termed rock and roll, but are often overlooked. Among these are Bobby Darin, The Platters, The Four Tops, and The Four Seasons.

Bobby Darin hit the Billboard charts early in his career, beginning in 1958 with the teen anthem "Splish Splash." He later went on to write classic hits that have been covered by such greats as Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr., including the famed "Mack the Knife."

Darin, in the midst of his successful career, followed the leads of many of his musical contemporaries by venturing into acting. Darin is distinguished from these contemporaries by his credits for 13 movies, filmed between 1960 and 1973, and a 1964 Oscar nomination.

Darin's musical career credits sixteen hits in the US and the UK, including one number-one hit. Darin died in December of 1973 of heart trouble, but his catalog of songs lives on.

The Platters, on the other hand, started their career in 1953 and climbed from obscurity; their first record on a national label reached the top five on the charts. Unfortunately, they were plagued throughout their career by numerous personnel changes. These changes, however, did not stop the band from recording fifteen hits, including four which topped the charts.

Due to legal differences, the Platters can exist no more. The band broke up in 1977, and members still face a legal injunction if any attempts are made to use the Platters' name in show billings.

The Four Tops were a Motown Records band formed in 1954 under the name The Four Aims. The group showcased the talent of Levi Stubbs, the lead singer whose ability gave them the reputation of a powerful live act.

Their first record, "Baby I Need Your Loving," climbed to number eleven on Billboard's charts. Their follow-up hit "I Can't Help Myself" gave the band its first number-one hit. "Reach Out I'll Be There," the group's second number-one hit, firmly established Motown Records as a commercial, as well as a musical, success.

Although The Four Tops also struggled through personnel

changes, the band recorded 23 hits. They still remain together, but the band members now live primarily off their successful reputation.

The Four Seasons, though famous for their harmonies like The Four Tops, were led by falsetto singer Frankie Valli. They served as the only American answer to the Beatles during the mid-sixties.

The Four Seasons began in 1953 under the name The Four Lovers, and their career boasted over eighty-million record sales. Their first hit, "Sherry," released in 1962, went to number one. They followed it with other chart-topping hits like "Big Girls Don't Cry" and "Walk Like a Man."

The group spent many years in a recording hiatus, and cashed in on the nostalgia act in cabarets, later signing to Motown Records. The Four Seasons piled up 22 hits, including five which topped the charts, and their sound remains a distinctive, guiding force in music.

These bands, though often overlooked in a history of the rock and roll institution, remind listeners that rock and roll's sound, much like America itself, is a melting pot of different ideas and beliefs. It is only through this combination of parts that the whole can be defined.

Liner Notes

Teen celeb charged with heroin possession

by Robb Frederick
Entertainment Editor

Lock the doors, keep a close eye on the children, and stay away from the mall - Tommy Hammond has been set free. Hammond, a vile, corrupt threat to God-fearing Alabama residents who have nothing better to do, has been acquitted of obscenity charges stemming from the sale of a 2 Live Crew record containing sexually explicit lyrics. That's right, he was arrested for selling a record.

Is this really necessary? In a society where schools across the nation are riddled with drug abuse, violence, and pregnancy, these parents who care so much about the purity of their children need to worry about the real threats the world offers, not about a few "offensive" song lyrics.

And now for the news...

• Teen star Corey Feldman is free on \$5,486 bail after Los Angeles police charged him with heroin possession. Feldman, who appeared in *Stand by Me* and *Lost Boys*, had been pulled over for a traffic violation when the heroin was found.

• Bob Weir of the Grateful Dead has been seen dining in New York with executives from Marvel Comics. The two parties are exploring the possibilities of a comic book revolving around the Dead.

• Will it never end? Plans for yet another superhero movie were announced after comedian Robin Williams expressed interest in bringing life to Dudley Do-Right, the cartoon Canadian Mountie who spent most of his time rescuing the

same girl from the same railroad ties. Considering the unprecedented negative criticism Williams drew for his film portrayal of Popeye, I'd rather pay to see a Village People reunion tour.

• Ron Kovic, the disabled Vietnam veteran whose life was chronicled in Oliver Stone's *Born on the Fourth of July*, has squelched rumors that he intends to run for Congress.

• Comedian Redd Foxx, who starred in the TV series *Sanford and Son*, allegedly owes the IRS over \$900,000 in past taxes. He has been ordered to turn over a gold watch given to him 13 years ago by Elvis Presley.

• Has anyone figured out how Bonnie Raitt won the Grammy for Best Album? If so, please enlighten me - I've been losing a lot of sleep.

• Director Oliver Stone has won this year's Directors Guild of America award, which usually forecasts the winner for the Best Director Oscar. In the 42 years that the Guild has been giving the awards, only three winners have not gone on to take the Oscar.

• Simple Minds, Peter Gabriel, Tracy Chapman, the Neville Brothers and Neil Young have committed to the "International Tribute for a Free South Africa," a festival scheduled for Wembley Stadium on April 16. Nelson Mandela has promised to attend and speak at the event.

• The next release by the Jeff Healy Band will include songs by Mark Knopfler and John Hiatt. Included on the disc will be a cover of The Beatles' "While My Guitar Gently Weeps."

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HOW TO ARGUE THE AKBAR & JEFF WAY

<p>PROVOKE YOUR OPPONENT.</p> <p>I LOVE YOU BUT I DON'T LIKE YOU.</p>	<p>CONFUSE YOUR OPPONENT.</p> <p>I DON'T UNDERSTAND.</p> <p>TYPICAL.</p>	<p>MAKE YOUR OPPONENT ANGRY.</p> <p>NOT ONLY ARE YOU PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE, BUT YOUR NOSE IS BIG.</p>
<p>THE SECOND YOUR OPPONENT IS EMOTIONALLY ENGAGED, MAKE LIGHT OF HIM OR HER.</p> <p>OOH, GRUMPLIOUS.</p>	<p>NEEDLE YOUR OPPONENT WITHOUT MERCY.</p> <p>YOU KNOW I CAN'T STAND IT WHEN YOU CALL ME GRUMPLIOUS. PLEASE DON'T CALL ME THAT.</p> <p>ANYTHING YOU SAY... GRUMPLIOUS.</p>	<p>WHIP YOUR OPPONENT INTO A FRENZY.</p> <p>GRUMPLIOUS! GRUMPLIOUS! GRUMP-LISH-EEE-YUS!!</p>
<p>AT THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT, BACK DOWN.</p> <p>I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY</p>	<p>ENJOY YOUR MUTUAL HAPPINESS.</p>	<p>NOW WAIT FOR YOUR OPPONENT'S TURN.</p> <p>SOMETIMES I LOVE YOU SO MUCH I HATE YOU.</p>

Reminder:

Student Organization
Budget Requests for the
1990-1991 academic year
are due this Friday,
March 16, 1990.

You can pick up
Budget Request Forms
in the
Student Organization
Council office or call
David at 6452.