

THOSE BIG BAND LEADERS WERE SOMETHING!

by Dick Baldwin (WNY)

Many of us recall those Band Days when swing was a thing, players spun off to form their own units and the singers Doris, Peggy, Joe, Frank, Modernaires, the Pied Pipers and the Four Freshmen set the scene and style for America's music.

The Freshmen were involved of course in the history-making, Bob-Ross-Don-Ken on the Stan Kenton bus and more recently, Bob-Autie-Mike-Greg with the late Woody Herman ork.

So, Back-To-The-Bands!

If you have been in the ranks through these latter Freshmen years and digested FRESH NEWS regularly, you should be familiar with past "match and memory" take home tests. Remember those 20-match band leaders and their theme songs, followed by the bands and their vocal groups?

Now, here's another match and remember - the big band leader and the promo tag or line that was associated with each. Scores aren't important, but memories are. Match 'em up starting here with one gift - Contemporary Concepts & Artistry in rhythm equals Stanley N. Kenton.

Match the leader with his tag -

Band Leader	Tag Line
1. Les Brown	___ A. Music Makers
2. Tommy Dorsey	___ B. In The ___ Manner
3. Shep Fields	___ C. Rhumba King
4. Glen Gray	___ D. And His Band of Renown
5. Count Basie	___ E. Birth Of The Cool
6. Gene Krupa	___ F. King Of The Clarinet
7. Russ Morgan	___ G. Sweetest Music This Side Of Heaven
8. Harry James	___ H. The Casa Loma Ork
9. Jan Savitt	___ I. Drummin" Man
10. Tommy Tucker	___ J. Sentimental Gentleman
11. Xavier Cugat	___ K. Edward Kennedy ___
12. Claude Thornhill	___ L. Moonlight Serenader
13. Bob Crosby	___ M. It's ___ Time
14. Randy Brooks	___ N. The Top Hatters
15. Les Elgart	___ O. Rippling Rhythm
16. Glenn Miller	___ P. Poet Of The Piano
17. Artie Shaw	___ Q. America's Prom King
18. Guy Lombardo	___ R. The Golden Trumpet
19. Carmen Cavallaro	___ S. The Bobcats
20. Duke Ellington	___ T. All-American Rhythm Section

The matches in chronological order:

20-K,
12-E, 13-S, 14-R, 15-Q, 16-L, 17-F, 18-G, 19-P,
1-D, 2-J, 3-O, 4-H, 5-T, 6-I, 7-B, 8-A, 9-N, 10-M, 11-C



Bob Spiegel and daughter Tracy (Abbott)
after the March concert

To FRESH FANS and "Tracy" Bob Spiegel (FL)

As a new member of the FFS, I thoroughly enjoyed my first issue of Fresh News. In particular I was struck by the article by Cynthia Solheim Albers. "I think that somehow we need to turn on my generation (20-35) so that their (Freshmen) music can live on and on," she is quoted as saying.

I had a recent personal experience that reinforced that observation. My daughter, Tracy, has been a nearly life-long fan of heavy metal rock. Now at thirty-something, I am beginning to see signs that she is turning more toward jazz groups and the great ballad singers. In March, I had a chance to take her to a Four Freshmen concert when they appeared with Mike Arena and the Altamonte Jazz Ensemble in a tribute to Stan Kenton in Orlando. The concert was fantastic and the group was stunning. True, the majority of the audience was silver-haired and I was moved by the emotion the guys stirred, Many, including me, left the auditorium with teary eyes.

But what was most meaningful to me was the comment Tracy made after "Blue World." This middle-aged 'teenager', who is used to groin-groping, half-naked guys with purple, spiked hair screaming over the screechy licks of their fuzztone guitar, without taking her eyes off them, said "I like these guys...a lot!" Tracy has become a new Four Freshmen fan simply because she was exposed to them. What's not to like? I have had similar experiences when I took a date to hear a big band for the first time (for them).

Right on, Cynthia! All we need to do is expose the younger generation to the music that will endure long after we're gone. Not to say we can force feed them, but we can simply lay it in front of them when the timing's right and let them come to their own conclusions.

Thanks, Cynthia, and thanks FF for a great night!