

AUGUST 9, 1977 75c
the contemporary
music magazine

downbeat

10008270

INTERNATIONAL
**JAZZ
CRITICS
POLL
RESULTS**

JOHNNY GRIFFIN

**THE LITTLE
GIANT AND HIS
TENOR
VISITED.**

**SECOND GENERATION
FUSION BANDS:**

**SPYRO GYRA
AURACLE
SEAWIND
CALDERA**



DRUMS

- 86 Elvin Jones
- 67 Max Roach
- 65 Jack DeJohnette ★
- 48 Tony Williams
- 43 Art Blakey

- 43 Steve McCall
- 36 Barry Altschul
- 19 Steve Gadd
- 19 Phillip Wilson ☆
- 13 Milford Graves
- 12 Alan Dawson
- 12 Elvin Jones
- 12 Don Moye
- 12 Jack DeJohnette

VIBES

- 130 Milt Jackson
- 117 Gary Burton
- 107 Bobby Hutcherson ★
- 53 Lionel Hampton
- 33 Red Norvo

- 74 David Friedman
- 43 Dave Samuels
- 40 Mike Mainieri ☆
- 35 Karl Berger
- 32 Jay Hoggard

PERCUSSION

- 110 Airto Moreira
- 63 Don Moye
- 36 Guilherme Franco ★
- 29 Dom Um Romao
- 28 Collin Walcott

- 24 Nana Vasconcelos
- 24 Collin Walcott
- 22 Don Moye ☆
- 19 Paulinho da Costa
- 18 Sue Evans
- 17 Guilherme Franco

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT

- 90 Toots Thielemans (harmonica)
- 72 Howard Johnson (tuba)
- 39 Paul McCandless (oboe, english horn) ★
- 32 Collin Walcott (sitar, tabla)
- 32 Anthony Braxton (bass clarinet)

- 29 Bob Stewart (tuba)
- 19 Collin Walcott (sitar) ☆
- 18 Paul McCandless (oboe)
- 16 David Amram (french horn)
- 16 Joe Daley (tuba)
- 14 Howard Johnson (tuba)

MALE SINGER

- 84 Mel Torme
 - 76 Joe Williams
 - 59 Ray Charles ★
 - 57 Al Jarreau
 - 43 Eddie Jefferson

 - 30 Eddie Jefferson
 - 28 Joe Lee Wilson
 - 23 Al Jarreau ☆
 - 18 Bob Dorough
 - 18 Mark Murphy
 - 16 Leon Thomas
- 20 down beat

FEMALE SINGER

- 133 Sarah Vaughan
- 94 Betty Carter
- 86 Ella Fitzgerald ★
- 53 Carmen McRae
- 13 Joni Mitchell
- 13 Anita O'Day

- 24 Norma Winstone
- 24 Helen Humes
- 20 Karin Krog
- 16 Rickie Lee Jones ☆
- 15 Betty Carter
- 15 Carol Sloane
- 15 Carrie Smith

VOCAL GROUP

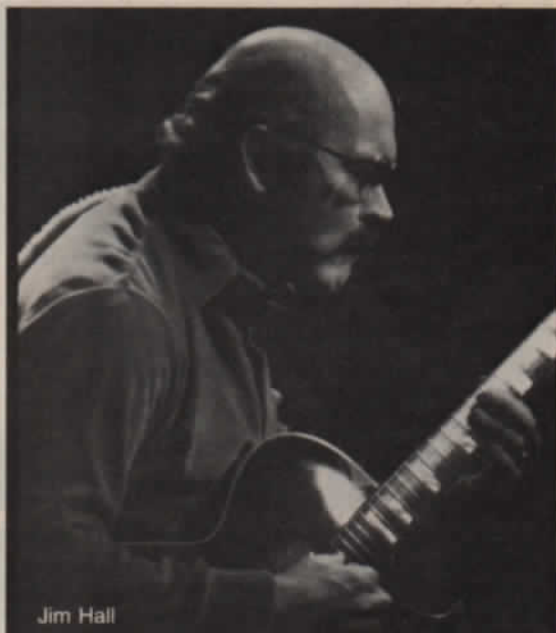
- 60 Jackie and Roy
- 52 Singers Unlimited
- 26 Steely Dan ★
- 24 Earth, Wind & Fire
- 21 Pointer Sisters

- 19 Anita Kerr Singers
- 16 Manhattan Transfer ☆
- 13 Jackie Paris and Ann Marie Moss
- 9 Novi
- 8 Pointer Sisters

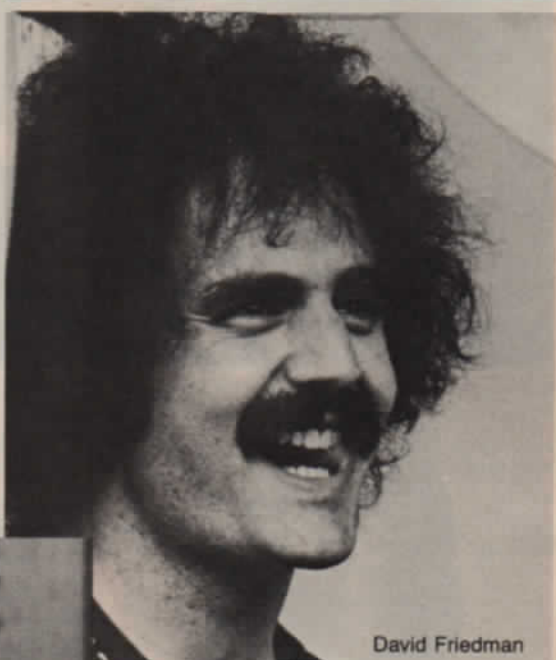
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- 45 B.B. King
- 43 Ray Charles ★
- 30 Aretha Franklin
- 26 Otis Rush
- 26 Muddy Waters

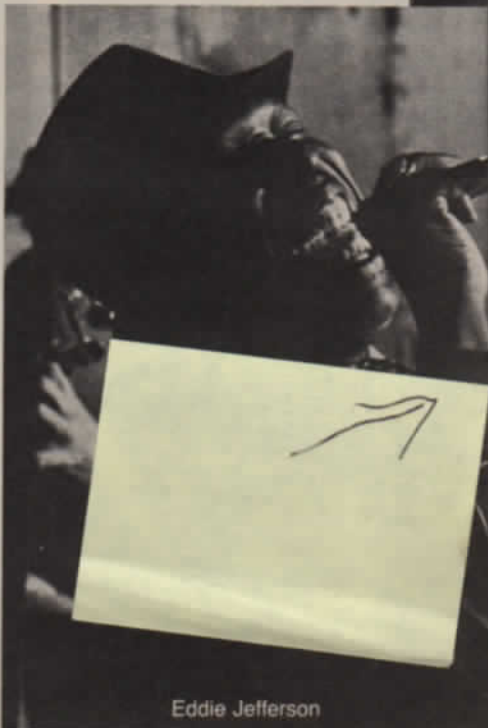
- 23 Junior Wells
- 14 Clifton Chenier
- 14 Albert King
- 14 Professor Longhair ☆
- 12 Albert Collins
- 11 Son Seals
- 11 B.B. King
- 10 Muddy Waters



Jim Hall



David Friedman



Eddie Jefferson

MORE RESULTS

Hall Of Fame: Teddy Wilson—5; Erroll Garner—5; Stan Getz—4; Art Blakey, Sun Ra, Phil Woods, Harry Carney, Eddie Jefferson, Oliver Nelson—3 each.

Composer, Established: Chick Corea—25; Cecil Taylor—22; Wayne Shorter—17; Gerry Mulligan—15; Roscoe Mitchell—14; Horace Silver—12; Keith Jarrett—11; George Russell—10; Ruben Blades—9; Ralph Towner—9; Ornette Coleman—8; McCoy Tyner—7; Gil Evans—6.

Composer, TDWR: Muhal Richard Abrams—9; Horace Silver, Brian Eno, David Grisman, Pat Metheny—8 each; Philip Glass, Woody Shaw, Bill Holman, Josef Zawinul—7 each; Steve Reich—6; George Russell—6.

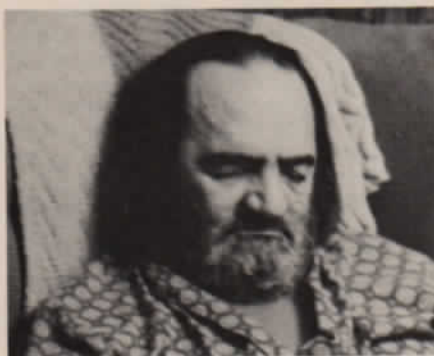
Arranger, Established: Charles Mingus—23; Sun Ra—18; Slide Hampton—16; George Russell—16; Chick Corea—13; Bill Holman—13; Louie Ramirez—9; Nat Pierce—9; Sy Johnson—7; Anthony Braxton, Bob Brookmeyer, Gerry Mulligan—6 each.

Arranger, TDWR: Alexander Von Schlippenbach—12; Bill Holman—10; Frank Foster—9; Wolfgang Dauner—8; Bob James—8; Dick Hyman—7; Sy Johnson—7; Gerry Mulligan—6; Heiner Stadler—6.

JAZZ CRITICS POLL

His talent was the kind that inspired arguments—most of them heated—and the adjectives flowed freely. Innovative, controversial, stubborn, daring, pretentious, intellectual, sterile, imaginative, egotistical, genius . . . all have been used to describe the unique personality that was Lennie Tristano; and when he died of a heart attack last November (see **db** 1/11/79) he had established his place in history as an important if somewhat mysterious figure. Rising to prominence in the 1940s, Tristano's provocative concepts quickly brought him to national attention as a pianist/composer/educator who offered a different view of jazz at a time when Charlie Parker was just beginning to achieve popularity. His approach was called "cool," and through his own work and that of his disciples it offered an alternate route to the hard driving bebop of the day.

Born in Chicago on March 19, 1919 during an influenza epidemic, Tristano was weak-sighted from birth and became totally blind by the age of nine. Having started playing the piano from the time he was able to reach the keyboard, he began formal lessons at the age of seven and played his first gig at 11 on C-melody saxophone. Branching out in all directions through high school he picked up a wide variety of instruments, including clarinet, alto and tenor saxes,



trumpet, guitar and drums; studied at the American Conservatory of Music; taught at the Christiansen School of Popular Music (1943); and performed around Chicago with dixieland and rumba bands. But by 1945 he was concentrating almost exclusively on piano and had already absorbed the influences of Earl Hines, Roy Eldridge, Art Tatum, Lester Young and Teddy Wilson. It soon became apparent that his was an unusual talent.

At the urging of bassist Chubby Jackson, Tristano finally left Chicago in 1946 to come to New York, making his first recordings in October of that year and appearing at clubs along 52nd St., where he was received with mixed emotions. He later told critic Ira Gitler, "I bombed."

By this time the Tristano style was already formed. Whether performing solo piano or with a small group, there were certain characteristics which were always evident:

flowing single note melodic lines, surprising harmonic twists, a propensity for playing several rhythms at once, unusual phrasing with little change in dynamic levels. The drums and bass were used in a mechanical sense as time keepers, while the horns exhibited a singular lack of tonal color and no vibrato, thus forcing the listener to pay attention to melody and counterpoint. Tristano abhorred the use of emotion in jazz for emotion's sake. Of his own music he once stated, "People have to listen. That bothers them. They only want music they can feel like the warmth in a heated room."

In 1949, Tristano recorded four quintet sides for Bob Weinstock which effectively marked the beginning of Prestige Records, was part of the Metronome All-Stars where he played with Charlie Parker, Fats Navarro and Buddy De Franco and then later in the year cut seven remarkable numbers for Capitol with a sextet which included his students Lee Konitz, Warne Marsh and Billy Bauer. These were landmark recordings, with the two free sides (*Intuition* and *Digression*) anticipating developments not only of the '50s but the '60s, too.

In 1951, Tristano opened his own studio and devoted most of his time to teaching, making only occasional public appearances over the next 25 years. Trombonist/composer William Russo has declared Lennie to be the first jazz educator: "For the first time in jazz's history we have a man who modified the procedure of the past, evolved new ideas of operation, and was able successfully to communicate them. He has applied the basic intellectual presuppositions of the great composers, with whom he is on familiar terms, without using their exact methods. In other words, he has applied his mind to music, observing how this process took place earlier, and yet forming a music exclusively based on basic jazz materials."

Over the years he recorded for many companies, though most of the albums are currently out of print. Because of the experimental nature of his music and his reclusive behavior he was often misunderstood. But Leonard Tristano was one of a kind, and he never compromised his art. His students over the years included (besides Konitz, Marsh and Bauer) Willie Dennis, Bob Wilber, Bud Freeman, Ted Brown, Sal Mosca, William Russo, Peter Ind, Connie Crothers, Liz Gorrill, and countless others. The devotion they showed caused him to be criticized in several quarters as a Svengali, and his followers dismissed as some sort of strange cult. As his legacy proves, Lennie Tristano was much more than that.

—Andrew Sussman

Discography

FIRST SESSIONS 1949/50—Prestige P-24081
CROSSCURRENTS—Capitol Jazz Classics,
Vol. 14—M 11060
DESCENT INTO THE MAELSTROM—Inner City
IC 6002

HALL OF FAME

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 18 Lennie Tristano | 6 Albert Ayler |
| 14 Fats Navarro | 6 Dexter Gordon |
| 14 Max Roach | 6 Lionel Hampton |
| 12 Ella Fitzgerald | |

RECORD OF THE YEAR

- 12 Charles Mingus
Cumbia And Jazz Fusion (Atlantic)
- 6 Dexter Gordon
Manhattan Symphonie (Columbia)
- 5 Sonny Rollins, McCoy Tyner, Ron Carter, Al Foster
Milestone Jazzstars (Milestone)
- 4 Cecil Taylor
Cecil Taylor Vol. 1 (New World)
- 3 Irakere
Irakere (Columbia)
- 3 Keith Jarrett
The Sun Bear Concerts (ECM)
- 3 Air
Air Time (Nessa)
- 3 Adam Makowicz
Adam (Columbia)
- 3 Woody Shaw
Rosewood (Columbia)
- 3 Zoot Sims/Jimmy Rowles
If I'm Lucky (Pablo)
- 3 Toshiko Akiyoshi/Lew Tabackin Big Band
Kogun (RCA)
- 3 Charles Mingus
Me, Myself An Eye (Atlantic)

REISSUE OF THE YEAR

- 16 Charlie Parker
The Savoy Sessions (Arista/Savoy)
- 6 Charles Mingus
Nostalgia In Times Square (Columbia)
- 4 Duke Ellington
Duke Ellington 1940 (Smithsonian Collection)
- 4 Dexter Gordon/Wardell Gray
The Hunt (Arista/Savoy)
- 4 Lester Young
The Lester Young Story (Columbia)
- 3 Eric Dolphy
Fire Waltz (Prestige)
- 3 Charlie Parker
The Very Best Of Bird (six LP set, Warner Bros.)
- 3 Billie Holiday
All Or Nothing At All (Verve)
- 3 Duke Ellington
At Fargo, The Crystal Ballroom, 1940 (Book Of The Month Club Records)

RECORD LABEL OF THE YEAR

- 12 Inner City
7 Columbia
6 Pablo
4 Concord Jazz
4 ECM
4 Arista
3 Nessa

RECORD PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

- 13 Michael Cuscuna
11 Norman Granz
4 Manfred Eicher
4 Carl Jefferson

COMPOSER

- 75 Charles Mingus
- 58 Toshiko Akiyoshi
- 49 Carla Bley ★
- 42 Thad Jones
- 27 Anthony Braxton
- 27 Josef Zawinul

- 35 Carla Bley
- 22 Henry Threadgill
- 11 Thad Jones
- 11 Kenny Wheeler ★
- 10 Chick Corea
- 10 Roscoe Mitchell
- 10 Toshiko Akiyoshi
- 10 Phil Woods

ARRANGER

- 79 Toshiko Akiyoshi
- 68 Gil Evans
- 59 Thad Jones ★
- 31 Carla Bley
- 25 Josef Zawinul

- 33 Michael Gibbs
- 26 Carla Bley
- 26 Slide Hampton ★
- 17 Toshiko Akiyoshi
- 13 George Russell

BIG BAND

- 115 Toshiko Akiyoshi/Lew Tabackin
- 79 Count Basie
- 75 Sun Ra ★
- 70 Thad Jones/Mel Lewis
- 33 Woody Herman

- 58 Carla Bley
- 39 Globe Unity Orchestra
- 22 Gerry Mulligan ★
- 19 Frank Foster
- 19 Frankie Capp/Nat Pierce Juggernaut
- 17 Jaki Byard's Apollo Stompers

JAZZ GROUP

- 57 Phil Woods Quartet
- 45 Art Ensemble of Chicago
- 44 Woody Shaw ★
- 36 Air
- 36 Weather Report
- 29 McCoy Tyner

- 50 Air
- 28 Old And New Dreams ★
- 27 Woody Shaw Quintet
- 24 Double Image
- 14 Heath Brothers

TRUMPET

- 103 Dizzy Gillespie
- 76 Woody Shaw
- 72 Lester Bowie ★
- 49 Clark Terry
- 38 Don Cherry
- 37 Roy Eldridge
- 36 Freddie Hubbard

- 48 Kenny Wheeler
- 34 Jon Faddis
- 34 Warren Vache ★
- 21 Ted Curson
- 19 Charles Sullivan
- 17 Don Cherry

TROMBONE

- 76 Roswell Rudd
- 73 George Lewis
- 57 Albert Mangelsdorff ★
- 44 Bill Watrous
- 28 Jimmy Knepper

- 27 Jimmy Knepper
- 26 Albert Mangelsdorff
- 25 George Lewis ★
- 24 Ray Anderson
- 23 Paul Rutherford
- 22 Julian Priester

SOPRANO SAX

- 101 Wayne Shorter
- 73 Steve Lacy
- 59 Bob Wilber ★
- 46 Zoot Sims
- 33 Kenny Davern

- 37 Jan Garbarek
- 33 Steve Lacy
- 28 Roscoe Mitchell
- 17 John Surman ★
- 14 Lucky Thompson
- 13 Jane Ira Bloom
- 13 Lee Konitz
- 13 Steve Marcus

ALTO SAX

- 126 Phil Woods
- 71 Lee Konitz
- 59 Anthony Braxton ★
- 54 Benny Carter
- 52 Ornette Coleman
- 44 Art Pepper

- 67 Arthur Blythe
- 37 Richie Cole
- 32 Oliver Lake ★
- 27 Roscoe Mitchell
- 21 Chris Woods

TENOR SAX

- 107 Dexter Gordon
- 84 Sonny Rollins
- 64 Zoot Sims ★
- 55 Stan Getz
- 45 Johnny Griffin

- 45 Scott Hamilton
- 40 Chico Freeman
- 37 George Adams ★
- 27 Al Cohn
- 21 Jan Garbarek
- 21 Warne Marsh

BARITONE SAX

- 77 Pepper Adams
- 75 Gerry Mulligan
- 33 Hamiet Bluiett ★
- 31 Nick Brignola
- 30 Ronnie Cuber

- 57 Henry Threadgill
- 54 Ronnie Cuber
- 47 John Surman ★
- 37 Hamiet Bluiett
- 37 Nick Brignola
- 29 Howard Johnson



Charles Mingus



Dizzy Gillespie



Kenny Wheeler



Roswell Rudd



Scott Hamilton



Dexter Gordon

CLARINET

- 90 Anthony Braxton
- 78 Buddy De Franco
- 62 Benny Goodman
- 50 Bob Wilber
- 47 Perry Robinson



- 38 Perry Robinson
- 23 Jimmy Giuffre
- 22 Alvin Batiste
- 22 Kenny Davern
- 20 John Carter
- 15 Bennie Maupin
- 15 Theo Jorgensmann
- 15 Bob Wilber



FLUTE

- 72 Sam Rivers
- 71 Lew Tabackin
- 61 Hubert Laws
- 59 Jeremy Steig
- 56 James Moody



- 55 James Newton
- 36 Lew Tabackin
- 23 Henry Threadgill
- 21 Sam Rivers
- 19 Paul Horn



VIOLIN

- 172 Stephane Grappelli
- 64 Jean-Luc Ponty
- 57 Leroy Jenkins
- 34 Joe Venuti
- 26 L. Shankar



- 35 L. Shankar
- 30 Zbigniew Seifert
- 29 Noel Pointer
- 27 Michal Urbaniak
- 24 Leroy Jenkins



ACOUSTIC PIANO

- 90 Cecil Taylor
- 63 McCoy Tyner
- 41 Keith Jarrett
- 41 Bill Evans
- 36 Oscar Peterson



- 35 Joanne Brackeen
- 21 Hank Jones
- 20 Anthony Davis
- 18 Martial Solal
- 17 Don Pullen
- 17 Jimmy Rowles



ELECTRIC PIANO

- 107 Chick Corea
- 75 Josef Zawinul
- 71 Herbie Hancock
- 23 Kenny Barron
- 23 Sun Ra
- 12 Hank Jones
- 12 Cedar Walton



- 34 Kenny Barron
- 26 Richard Beirach
- 16 Patrice Rushen
- 14 Stu Goldberg
- 13 Stanley Cowell



ORGAN

- 94 Jimmy Smith
- 84 Sun Ra
- 48 Count Basie
- 39 Shirley Scott
- 24 Jack McDuff



- 38 Richard Tee
- 23 Eddie Louiss
- 18 Shirley Scott
- 15 Amina Claudine Myers
- 14 Carla Bley



SYNTHESIZER

- 135 Josef Zawinul
- 61 Sun Ra
- 48 Herbie Hancock
- 44 Jan Hammer
- 28 Chick Corea



- 44 Richard Teitelbaum
- 26 George Duke
- 26 Brian Eno
- 18 Denny Zeitlin
- 16 Jan Hammer
- 14 Chick Corea



ACOUSTIC BASS

- 94 Ron Carter
- 65 Charlie Haden
- 60 Niels-Henning Orsted Pedersen
- 53 Ray Brown
- 52 Dave Holland



- 63 David Friesen
- 43 Fred Hopkins
- 43 George Mraz
- 24 Niels-Henning Orsted Pedersen
- 23 Eddie Gomez



ELECTRIC BASS

- 135 Jaco Pastorius
- 86 Steve Swallow
- 72 Stanley Clarke
- 39 Eberhard Weber
- 19 Miroslav Vitous



- 44 Eberhard Weber
- 35 Miroslav Vitous
- 28 Steve Swallow
- 13 Anthony Jackson
- 12 Abraham Laboriel



GUITAR

- 70 Jim Hall
- 60 Joe Pass
- 48 Kenny Burrell
- 43 John McLaughlin
- 40 John Abercrombie



- 33 Philip Catherine
- 19 Jack Wilkins
- 18 John Abercrombie
- 18 Jimmy Raney
- 17 Ralph Towner
- 14 John Stowell



*poll listings
continued on page 20*



Clockwise from upper left:
Cecil Taylor, Perry Robinson,
Kenny Barron, Stephane Grappelli,
Joanne Brackeen, Pepper Adams.



the critics

CRITICS VOTE IN TWO CATEGORIES: ESTABLISHED TALENT (★) AND TALENT DESERVING WIDER RECOGNITION (☆).

Following is a list of critics who voted in this, our 27th annual International Jazz Critics Poll. Sixty critics voted in this year's poll, a 33% increase over last year's participation.

Scott Albin: **db**.

Joachim Berendt: author, *The Jazz Book*; editor, *Jazz Calendar*.

Chuck Berg: **db**; *Radio Free Jazz*; *Kansas City Star*; *Lawrence Journal-World*.

Larry Birnbaum: **db**; *Chicago Reader*.

Bob Blumenthal: contributing editor, *Boston Phoenix*;

contributor, *Rolling Stone*.

Michael Bourne: critic, WFIU, *National Public Radio*; freelance writer.

W.A. Brower: writer; photographer: **db**.

Richard Brown: writer; composer; guitarist: **db**.

Charles Carman: Editor. **db**.

Douglas Clark: **db**.

Chris Colombi: jazz reviewer, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; Cleveland correspondent. **db**.

Claude Carriere: contributor, *Jazz-Hot*; producer, France-Musique Radio, Paris.

continued on page 52

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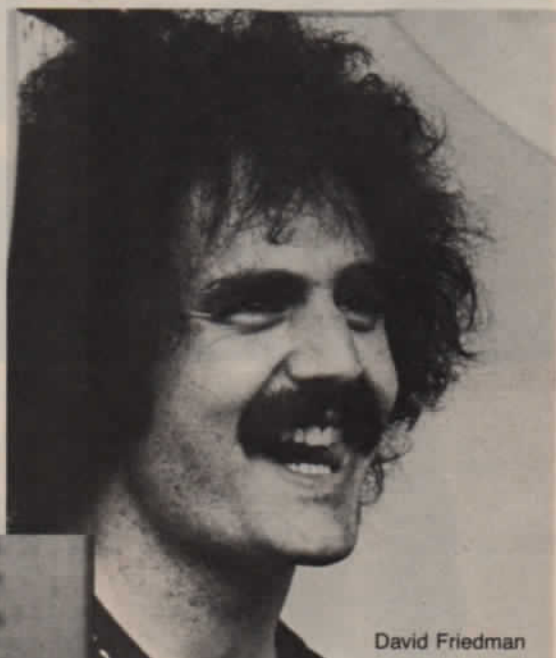
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continued on page 52