

# The COCONUT TELEGRAPH

MARGARITAVILLE NOV 1987

VOLUME 3, NO. 11

## COCONUT COMEBACKS

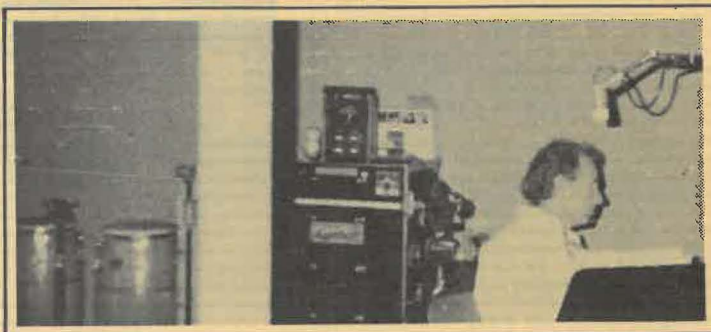
In response to Coconut Comebacks Sept. '87 letter, J.W. Atwood of Ann Arbor, MI., writes, "While we're requesting britches, I'd like to put my bid in for the yellow Levi's that Greg Taylor wore for the Pine Knob, MI. concert... don't suppose he'd like to give those to me would he?"

We seemed to have opened up Pandoras' Box of clothing demands. Please refrain from any further clothing requests as they will not be honored. On a lighter note, Marshall Chapman really liked the shirt the guy in the third row was wearing in L.A., think she could have it?

## SHRIMP BOAT SOUND - THE STUDIO THAT ROSS BUILT

IT'S NO MYSTERY WHY JIMMY BUFFETT HAS REMAINED SUCCESSFUL IN THE GUT-THROAT MUSIC BUSINESS WHERE "HEY BUDDY, KEEP YOUR DAY JOB" IS CONSIDERED A COMPLIMENTARY REMARK. JIMMY CONTINUES TO SURROUND HIMSELF WITH THE BEST AVAILABLE TALENT, FROM MUSICIANS TO SOUND MEN. WHEN HE DECIDED TO BUILD HIS OWN PRIVATE RECORDING STUDIO, "SHRIMP BOAT SOUND", HE WENT TO ROSS RITTO. ROSS HAS BEEN JB'S AUDIO ENGINEER FOR THE LAST 12 YEARS, STARTING WHEN JIMMY WAS THE OPENING ACT FOR THE EAGLES. ROSS HAS WORKED BOTH ON THE ROAD AND IN THE STUDIO, BUT IS EQUALLY SUITED FOR BOTH. HIS STUDIO

WORK INCLUDES STEVE GOODMAN AND PABLO CRUISE ALBUMS: HE HAS TOURED WITH JACKSON BROWNE, JESSE COLIN YOUNG, AND MOST RECENTLY, TOM WAITS. 'SOUND IMAGE', A "TOURING SOUND REINFORCEMENT" COMPANY IN LOS ANGELES OWNED BY ROSS AND HIS PARTNER, SUPPLIES AUDIO ENGINEERS FOR MANY CONCERT ACTS IN L.A. AND SAN DIEGO. ROSS ALSO UNASHAMEDLY ADMITS TO BEING THE AUDIO CONSULTANT FOR THE ROSE BOWL IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA. I SPENT THE GREATER PART OF AN AFTERNOON WITH ROSS, BUMMING CIGARETTES AND INFORMATION ON JIMMY'S NEWLY CONSTRUCTED PRIVATE RECORDING STUDIO 'SHRIMP BOAT SOUND'.



CT: What is all this stuff?

ROSS: This is a classic 1955 HAMMOND B-3 ORGAN coupled with a KREG SAMPLING GRAND PIANO channeled into a custom built AMEK ANGELA multitrack console technologically integrated with a binary synchronistically linked 16 track FOSTEX tape biformation.

CT: (Pause) What is all this stuff?

ROSS: We originally set up the studio to operate with a simple 16 track sound board, but outgrew that before the first note was recorded.

CT: Why is that? Doesn't each track represent a different instrument?

ROSS: No, an instrument could occupy more than one track. A set of drums, for instance, could take up to 10, add a guitar and vocals and 16 tracks are shot. Initially the studio was to have been for Jimmy to make demo tapes or try out new ideas. He then realized that with a little more time and effort (and money) he could have a professional recording studio. So now we have a board capable of recording and mixing a full 32 tracks.

CT: So you would say this studio is comparable to any you've worked in in the past?

ROSS: Absolutely. We have one of the best keyboard setups in the country, a custom built AMEK board, two 16 track FOSTEX recorders, and the master stereo recorder for the final mix into stereo. But the good thing about this studio is that it

also has its own personality. This is the kind of studio I would expect Jimmy Buffett to have. Most studios are pretty stiff or stylized, look around here; it's colorful, it's pleasant, we've got a basketball hoop in the studio... plus the location is great.

CT: Bet it cost a bundle.

ROSS: Yeah, but I know a few tricks. For example, a full 32 track recorder is very expensive, but I was able to synchronize the 2 FOSTEX recorders together to get full 32 track capability.

CT: Pretty technically advanced stuff, is this routine?

ROSS: No, this is really sophisticated equipment.

There are only a few around, and even fewer of us who can use them properly.

CT: And you're one of those select few.

ROSS: Yeah, I guess.

CT: So how about the new album, will that be recorded here?

ROSS: Theoretically we could, but we're not going to. There are still a few bugs to work out in the system, and it's better to have all that done before laying out a new album. When Jimmy does an album he does it quick. He'll only record a song a couple of times. When it sounds right to him, we go with it. I've worked with other guys who'll record a song over and over, using every new technological toy available until in my opinion the heart and soul of the song are replaced with computer bytes and digital readouts. This spontaneity can be felt on the album. He performs that way on stage too. The live "You Had To Be There" album is a good example. So many other groups record a live album and then head back to the studio for overdubbing. Some "live" albums are recorded more in the studio than on stage. Our live album is totally live, everything on it is exactly what the people heard at the concerts. It went gold, too.

CT: The heading for this article is "The studio that Ross built". How much did you really build?

ROSS: The shell was here, but we gutted the building and started from scratch. We got offices, the sound room, the studio... and even a lounge with a TV and refrigerator, Bob the carpenter and I did most of the work ourselves. The studio is acoustically sound and electrically we're ready to go. This is the first time I've been involved in a studio from the bottom up.

Continued on back page.

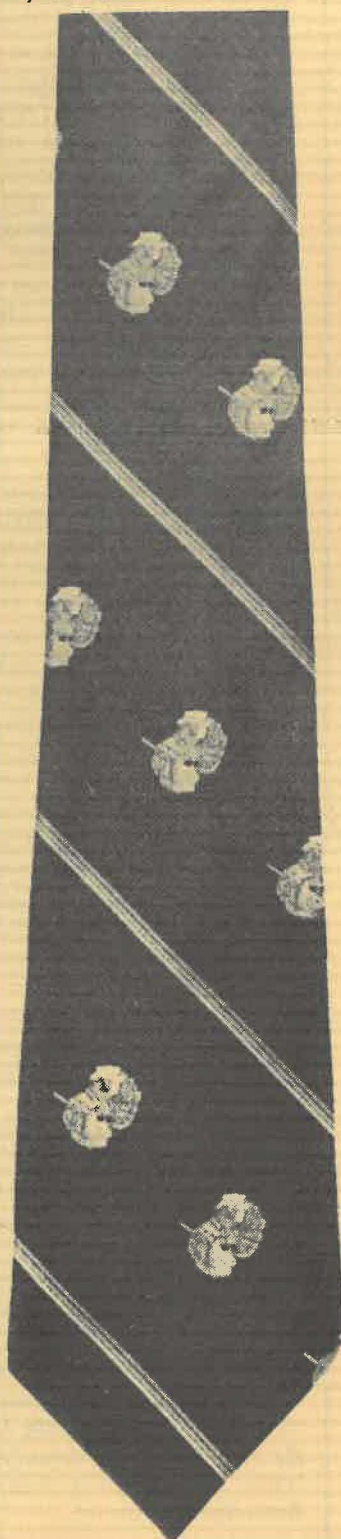




# FALL C

## NEW PARROT HEAD NECKTIES

A NEW PARROT HEAD PRODUCT SUITABLE FOR FORMAL WEAR. PRODUCED EXCLUSIVELY FOR MARGARITAVILLE. SILK BLEND TIE AVAILABLE IN BROWN, BLACK, NAVY BLUE, AND BURGUNDY. \$22.00



## NEW CARIBBEAN SOUL PULLOVERS

1 LONG SLEEVE 100% COTTON SHEETING WITH OFF SHOULDER SLEEVE, ALSO HAS BANDED CUFFS AND WAIST. AVAILABLE IN WHITE ONLY. PULL-OVER FEATURES THE THREE NEW CARIBBEAN SOUL DESIGNS: CREST, CONCH SHELL, AND JB'S ALBUM AND PALM. SIZED S, M, L, & XL \$24.00

## MARGARITAVILLE LICENSE PLATE

2 FOR THOSE EASY TO PLEASE PARROT HEADS. MARGARITAVILLE LICENSE PLATE COMES COMPLETELY ASSEMBLED, READY TO USE. ONLY \$5.00

## NEW CARIBBEAN SOUL JOHNNY COLLAR

3 JOHNNY COLLAR LONG SLEEVE HEAVY 100% COTTON KNIT SHIRT WITH CONTRASTING COLLAR. FEATURES THE CARIBBEAN SOUL CREST PRINTED ON LEFT FRONT CHEST. AVAILABLE IN WHITE ONLY. SIZED S, M, L, & XL \$25.00

## JUBILEE

IN THE TRADITION OF "MAD MUSIC", THIS NEW CASSETTE COMBINES THE TALENTS OF KEYBOARDIST MICHAEL UTLEY AND STEEL DRUM AFFICIONADO ROBERT GREENIDGE. \$10.00



1



2



3







# SALT POND

**CT:** It looks terrific. Have you recorded anything yet?

**ROSS:** We recorded a Corona Extra commercial that's currently playing in California, plus we've layed out a couple of songs for the new album here.

**CT:** So what happens from here?

**ROSS:** It's all Jimmys' show. He has the luxury of having his own recording studio to use when the mood hits

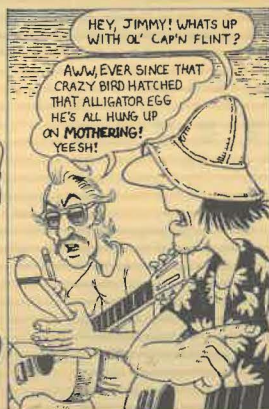
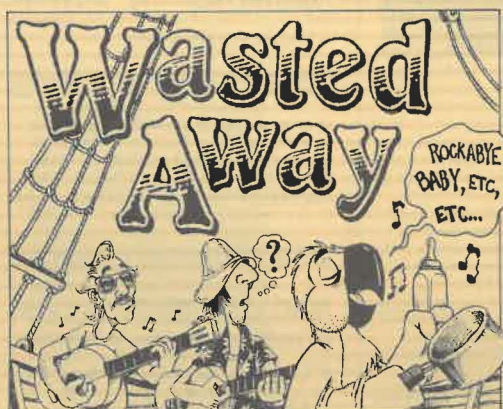
him. Plus other band members are coming down to record; "Fingers", Marshall Chapman, Tim Krekel, all those guys. And that's just for starters, why once we're set up...

**ROSS THEN BEGAN DETAILING FUTURE PLANS FOR THE STUDIO WHICH UNFORTUNATELY ARE STILL TENTATIVE (AND UNCONFIRMED) STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

## CONCERT REMINDER

For those of you fortunate enough to be heading south in November (or already live here), Remember... JB and The Reefers Benefit Concerts. Saturday, November 28th, Wickers Field, Key West, benefit for Friends of Florida "Save the Salt Ponds". Sunday, November 29th, Caribe Musicale at

Miami Marine Stadium, Latin Scholarship Benefit. Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefer Band and the Desparadoes, a 50 piece steel drum band led by Robert Greenidge, will play both concerts. These will be the only Florida concerts for the 1987 season. **For ticket information call BASS ticket outlet at (305) 633-2277.**



## The COCONUT TELEGRAPH

The MARGARITAVILLE STORE  
P.O. BOX 1459, KEY WEST, FL 33041

BULK RATE  
POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 225  
KEY WEST, FLA. 33040

MELISSA THOMPSON  
228 JOHN ST.  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

### NEW PARROT HEAD CLUB MUG

COLORFUL PARROT  
HEAD DESIGN  
ETCHED ON A 10 OZ.  
MUG. \$10.00