

4 Austin American-Statesman

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Austin Beat

Austin music gets air time in Israel

In the midst of the momentous Middle East peace negotiations, the Austin Rehearsal Complex's **Don Harvey** paid a visit to Israel, where his parents have lived for 20 years (and where Harvey began drumming professionally when he resided there from 1976-79). During the course of his recent stay, he was invited to appear on "Army Radio" — Israel's rock radio station — where he reminisced about his early recording experiences in the country and introduced music from David Halley (for whom Harvey drums), Joe Ely, James McMurtry and Pariah over Israeli airwaves.

"I was hoping to play more stuff, but it was shortened because of the major news events of the time," said Harvey, who didn't seem disappointed that the prospects for lasting peace in the Middle East meant a few minutes less exposure for Austin music.

HANDY NOMINEES: Austin blues veterans **T.D. Bell** and **Erlie Bowser** continue to garner national attention and acclaim. The duo's *It's About Time*, released by Spindletop Records, has been named a finalist in the Best Traditional Blues recording category of the W.C. Handy Blues Awards. The winners will be announced at the Handy Awards ceremonies in Memphis, Tenn., on Oct. 10.

Bell and Bowser will warm up for the Handy festivities with a performance Sept. 25 at the 21st annual San Francisco Blues Festival, appearing on a bill that includes **John Mayall**, **James Cotton**, **LaVern Baker** and **Mitch Woods**, among others. The two-day festival, held outdoors on the Great Meadow at Fort Mason, is the premier blues event on the West Coast. In the past it has served as a career springboard for numerous up-and-coming blues acts, and there's no reason to think it won't help Bell and Bowser to an equal degree, particularly when combined with the Handy Awards attention.

JUNIOR BASH: As a sign of commitment to the career of **Junior Brown**, Curb Records threw the biggest and most lavish music-industry party in recent Austin memory last weekend to celebrate the release of *Guit With It*. The back rooms and grounds of the Green Pastures restaurant were commandeered Saturday evening by the Nashville company, with label officials and junketeering journalists flying in to mix with local press, radio and retail folk, and to see Brown perform Saturday and Sunday in his natural habitat at the Continental Club.

"I feel like I'm running for office. Are there any babies I can kiss?" asked Brown at the banquet hall. As he moved from table to table for photo opportunities, attendees dined on fish and chicken, and bar-hoppers who usually guzzle Shiner Bock on their own

dollar took advantage of the open bar to quaff more than their share of Bordeaux and Remy.



Paul Glasse

Asked whether she was enjoying her immersion in show business, rhythm guitarist (and marital mate) **Tanya Rae Brown**

replied, "Yes, I'm enjoying it. Do I have any choice?"

In his welcoming remarks to the diners, Curb's **Dick Whitehouse**, who signed Brown to the label, affirmed that this city is known for producing a lot of special music, but that "there's only one unique artist in Austin with the name of Junior Brown." (Which is a good thing, because if there were four or five unique artists in Austin with the name of Junior Brown, there'd be a lot of confusion.)

ROUNDER ROUNDUP: It ain't Clint 'n' Kevin, but it ain't bad... **Tish Hinojosa** and **Marcia Ball** will be filmed in performance at La Zona Rosa at 8 p.m. Tuesday as part of a cross-cultural documentary celebrating Rounder Records recording artists (Ball recently was re-signed by Rounder after a few years' absence). Besides the Austin show, a film crew also will be chronicling the work of Rounder artists — among them, **Irma Thomas**, **Boozoo Chavis**, **Alsion Kraus**, **Steve Riley** and the **Mamou Playboys**, and others — in other venues around the country.

The Austin segment will be directed by **Bob Mugge**, who has directed documentaries on Sun-Ra, Sonny Rollins, Ruben Blades, Al Green and *Deep Blues*, an exploration of the people and music of the Mississippi Delta. **TRACY AT THE BAT:** **Tracy Lawrence** is doing your basic OK on the country chart these days, by virtue of his latest album, *Alibis*, and a fresh single, *My Second Home*. He's already won the Academy of Country Music's "Best New Male Vocalist" award, and now he's been nominated for a Horizon Award by the Country Music Association. All this in addition to being cursed with looks, talent and semi-fortune.

Lawrence will be taking time out from the road to play a special show in Austin at Palmer Auditorium Friday. The show is a fundraiser for Parents Anonymous of Texas, a private concern that works to break the cycle of child abuse through intervention, parenting education, counseling programs and prevention programs.

In addition to Lawrence, the bill will feature **Toni Price**, **Bodie Powell**, the **Borderline Band**, **Bruce and Charlie Robison**, **Rich**

Brotherton, **David Halley**, **Champ Hood** and **Jud Newcomb**. The show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or through Star Ticket outlets.

RANGE BUT TRUE: **Front Range** turned in a depressing performance at La Zona Rosa on Tuesday night. Of course, they were obliged to, since they were special guests at Sarah Elizabeth Campbell's weekly Bummer Night symposium. Doubtless they will be restored to their usual effervescence when they perform at Waterloo Icehouse's Sixth Street and Lamar Boulevard location at 9 p.m. Friday.

HOTEL JAZZ: Live jazz is making upscale inroads as a couple of major local hotels are providing more music for their patrons. The Driskill Hotel, which enjoyed success with its lobby jazz series, has installed pianist **Sandy Allen** in its club, which sports the unwieldy but geographically informative name of The Bar at Sixth and Brazos. Allen will perform Thursdays through Saturdays, changing the musical setting each evening. Thursdays will feature Allen in a duet. Tonight's guest is saxist **Tony Campise**, with whom Allen performed at the recent Newport Jazz Festival. On Fridays Allen's trio takes over, and on Saturdays

it expands to a quartet, usually with the addition of a vocalist, although saxist **Tomas Ramirez** will fill the role this weekend.

The Stouffer Hotel at the Arboretum recently has expanded its live jazz schedule as well. Pianist and vocalist **Louie Carlington**, a former Houstonian who has carved out a successful European career, entertains Friday and Saturday. **Paul Glasse**, performing material from his hot-off-the-presses Dos Records release *The Road to Home*, plays Sept. 24 and the **Rich Harney Trio** performs Sept. 25. The music lasts from 8 p.m. until midnight.

TEXAS HERITAGE: The 12th annual Texas Heritage Music Festival begins tonight with a "Tribute to the Cowboy" — featuring **Buck Ramsey**, **Andy Wilkinson**, **Chuck Garrett** and **Keith Reimer** — at La Zona Rosa, and then shifts to Kerrville for a weekend's worth of activity.

Friday's program of cowboy music and poetry at Kerrville's Cowboy Arts Museum will feature many of the same artists from the Zona Rosa show. On Saturday and Sunday, Schreiner College in Kerrville has a music festival beginning at 11 a.m. each day, featuring a **Jimmie Rodgers** tribute on Sat-

urday and a concert bill headed by **Guy Clark** and **Townes Van Zandt** on Sunday.

MANDOLIN MAGIC: The second album of the Marc celebrating improvisation from mandolinist **Paul Glasse** will be celebrated throughout the weekend. Glasse and group will perform material from *The Road to Home* at 5 p.m. Saturday at Waterloo Records, at 9:30 that evening at the nearby Waterloo Ice House and at 6:45 p.m. on Sunday as part of the Zilker Park Jazz Festival.

TOP TURNS FOUR: Wednesday finds Top of the Marc celebrating its fourth anniversary, with **Toni Price** playing her weekly happy-hour gig 5:30-8:30 p.m., followed by a reunion of the recently disbanded **Atlantics Soul Review** from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Launched as a jazz club, the room has more recently seen cover bands dominate its weekend schedule.

This edition of Austin beat was compiled by Don McLeese, John T. Davis and Michael Point.

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