

Maynard Ferguson's Spirits, Notes Soar

By MARY CAMPBELL
AP Newsfeatures Writer

Maynard Ferguson radiates so much enthusiasm when his band is playing that one wonders if it's all real or partly show business.

So one meets Maynard Ferguson to find that out. And in conversations he has enough additional verve and good cheer to cause his listener to walk around with a brighter spirit all day.

A New York Times review of a Newport Jazz Festival concert this summer began, "The brassy glory of Maynard Ferguson's orchestra shone brilliantly." And about the leader it continued, "He heightens anything he plays, even when it is not inherently dramatic, by seeming to almost kiss the last note as he leaps back holding his trumpet triumphantly in the air."

"I'm a performer and I openly know that and enjoy it and think that is part of my art," Ferguson says. "I'm a great lover of audiences and I really enjoy what I do."

"When I teach in the schools, I try to teach them to enjoy as they learn. I get some very serious young people, getting too serious. I think of music as mostly hooked into joy and pleasure."

Ferguson, born in 1928, has silver hair framing a face with muscles kept

boyishly plump by blowing his trumpet. In a short talk, one finds out that he's delighted about all sorts of things, small and great.

Frank Sinatra's lawyer has phoned his manager and asked, "How much for the kid?" and Ferguson, nearing 50, is tickled to be called the kid.

Ferguson was on camera two-and-a-half minutes as the flag lowered and

flame was extinguished at the Olympics in Montreal. He, a Canadian, played music written by a Canadian and the whole thing was televised and sent by satellite to an enormous audience.

His last two LPs and last two singles have been the biggest hits of his

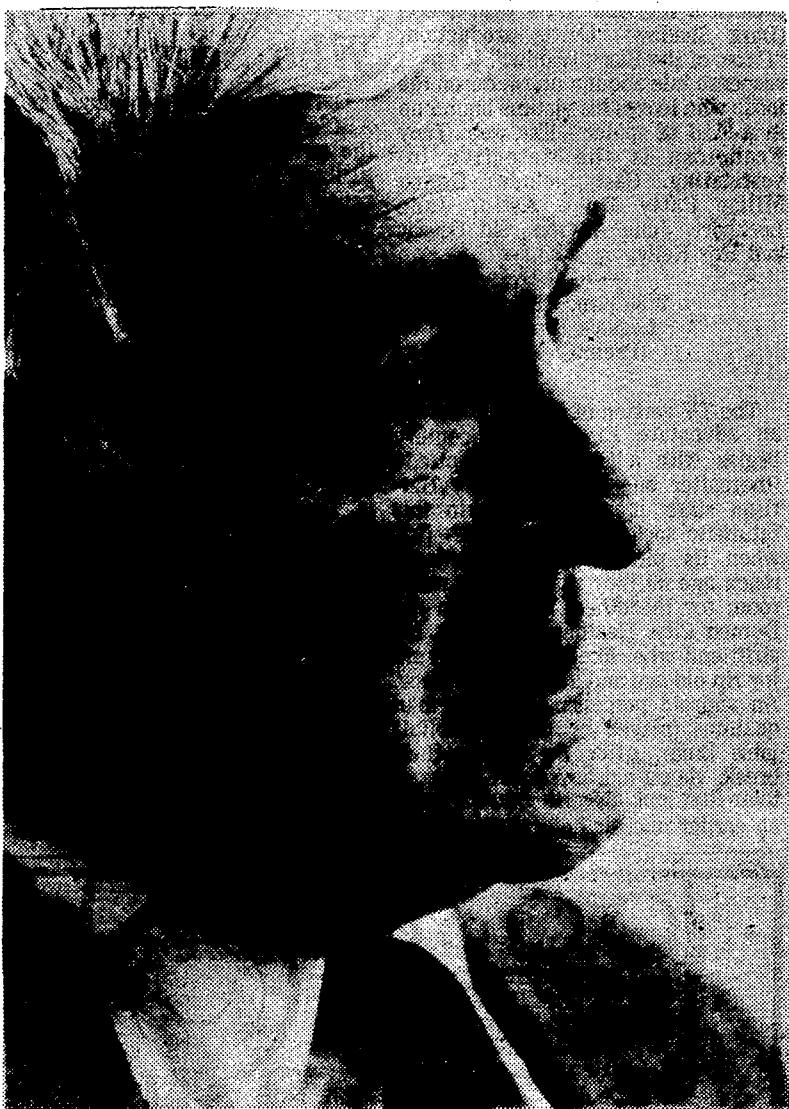
career. "Primal Scream" hit the pop charts and "Conquistador," which followed it, has sold more than 400,000 copies and is the best-selling big in years. "Gonna Fly Now," the theme from the movie, "Rocky," was a single hit for Ferguson. In Italy, it was a bigger hit than the version by

Bill Conti, the Italian who wrote it, played it on the soundtrack and had the biggest hit with the tune in the United States.

Ferguson's new single, "Star Wars," is selling well. So are versions by the London Symphony and Meco.



Trumpet-King



Curse Of Adam

Scholar Dr. Charles Frankel, Old Dominion Professor of Philosophy and Public Affairs at New York's Columbia University, is the editor-in-chief and host of "In Pursuit of Liberty." The four-part series examines the heritage and future of four basic liberties. "The Curse of Adam," dealing with the right to work, will be seen on WSWP-TV, Channel 9, Beckley, at 10 p.m. Wednesday.

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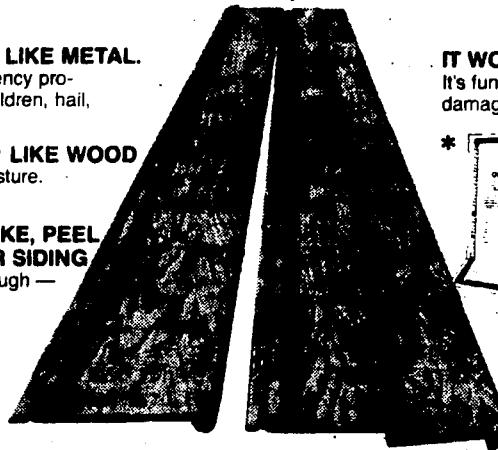
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