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### On the Cover

On our cover this issue are Johnny Cash, Muddy Waters, and four University of California students singing as part of a Free Speech demonstration at Berkeley, California. The photographs of Cash and Waters are by Dave Gahr and the photograph of the Berkeley students is by Howard Harawitz.

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# SING OUT!

## THE FOLK SONG MAGAZINE

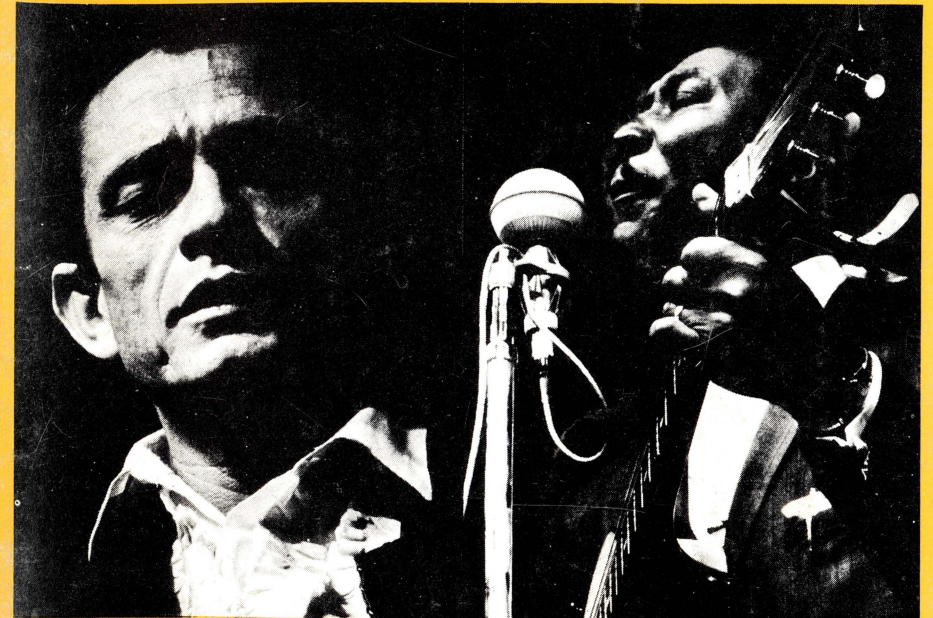
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With International Section

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JOHNNY CASH

MUDDY WATERS



STUDENTS AT BERKELEY





Berkeley student demonstration

UPI Telephoto

*Folk process on the campus*

## Songs from Berkeley

by Irwin Silber

What was, perhaps, the most revealing expression of all in the recent free speech demonstrations at the University of California (Berkeley) came through in a student-composed verse to the tune of "I Don't Want Your Millions, Mister."

We don't want mass education,  
From IBM machines so blind.  
But just to be treated as human  
beings,  
Our cause is freedom of the  
mind.

It was a theme stated again and again in the vast outpouring of songs, parodies, and topical verse that was

so characteristic of the Berkeley campus last fall. "Hail to IBM" (to the melody of the chorale section of Beethoven's 9th Symphony) depicts a "mighty factory" of education:

Make the students safe for  
knowledge,  
Keep them loyal, keep them  
clean.  
This is why we have a college,  
Hail to IBM machine!

One song describes U. C. as the "Womb With A View," while another (to the tune of "Come All Ye Faithful") simply states:

O, come all ye mindless,  
Conceptless and spineless,  
Sell out your integrity to IBM

No one knows just how many songs were written by U.C. students, their faculty friends, and intellectual Berkeley neighbors. But songs and singing were an integral part of the now historic battle on the California campus spearheaded by the Free Speech Movement (FSM).

It is hardly a coincidence that the most significant demonstration of student unrest on American campuses of the last decade should be characterized by an outburst of topical song. It is a reflection of the sure hold folksinging has on the campus -- and the great flexibility of the topical/folk song tradition that lends itself to spontaneous expression.

To date, the Free Speech Movement has produced a songbook, two 12-inch LPs, and a 7-inch LP of topical Christmas carols. Leading folksingers (Joan Baez, Barbara Dane, the Freedom Singers, Malvina Reynolds) have lent their voices to the battle -- and a whole bevy of writers and song-leaders have played a leading role in the movement.

From the beginning, there was an identification of the Free Speech Movement with the cause of civil rights. Many students believe that it was the San Francisco civil rights demonstrations of last spring (largely manned by Berkeley students) that incurred the wrath of some powerful Bay Area interests (read: former Senator Knowland, etc.) resulting in the ban on such activity that triggered off the controversy.

Throughout the demonstrations, when 800 students were being carted off to jail and at the height of mass rallies, the most popular songs were "We Shall Overcome," "We Are Soldiers in the Army," "Let My Little Light Shine," and other songs of the Southern freedom movement.

The influence of collegiate folksinging can be seen in the choice of tunes for the student parodies: "Streets of Laredo," "Talking Blues," "Hard Travelin'," Phil Ochs' "William Worthly," "Which Side Are You On?," "Times Are Getting Hard," and lots of others.

In the process of delineating the issues of free speech and assembly on the campus, the songwriters demonstrated a genuinely acute awareness of some of the underlying issues. One song, "Hey, Mr. Newsman," (words by Richard Kampf to the tune of a traditional blues; copyright 1964 Fantasy/Galaxy Records) may prove a revelation to those seeking a thread of truth beyond the obvious.

HEY, MR. NEWSMAN

Hey, Mr. Newsman, how come  
you're taking pictures of  
me? (2)  
Is it because of my long hair  
Or 'cause of my boots up to my  
knees?

Hey, Mr. Newsman, Abe Lincoln  
he had long hair, too (2)  
Or did you think Abe Lincoln  
Would have a crewcut just like  
you?

You call me a Commie, say that  
all my friends are Red, (2)  
But we've been freezing here for  
freedom  
While you've been sleeping in  
your nice warm bed.

Don't know if I'm subversive,  
just want to say what I  
please. (2)  
Strange how us subversives  
Keep fighting for democracy.

Yes, my hair is long, and I  
haven't shaved in days, (2)  
But fighting for my freedom  
While clean-cut kids just look  
the other way.

My boots are old, and my collars  
don't button down (2)  
But you don't need no tuxedo  
When you're fighting for the  
rights of man.

The students learned lessons in solidarity that were beyond the ken of the IBM machines -- and Don Paik captured this concept in a parody to "There's A Man Goin' 'Round Taking Names" (Copyright 1964 Fantasy/Galaxy Records):



THERE'S A MAN TAKING NAMES

CHORUS:

There's a man goin' 'round  
takin' names, (2)  
You may take my buddy's name  
But you gotta take me just the  
same.  
There's a man goin' 'round  
takin' names.

I read my Constitution long  
ago, (2)  
I read the Bill of Rights, read  
it nice and slow,  
I don't know much but this I know  
They ain't got no right to take  
my name.  
(Cho.)

There's freedom in the air,  
baby mine, (2)  
If it's a crime to speak your  
mind,  
I may be guilty, but I'm feeling  
fine,  
There's freedom in the air, baby  
mine.  
(Cho.)

Tell me which side are you on,  
baby mine, (2)  
You gonna stop, turn, hide your  
face  
Just when it looks like we'll  
win this race?  
Which side are you on, baby  
mine.  
(Cho.)

We will walk along together,  
baby mine, (2)  
Win or lose, stand or fall,  
If you take one, you gotta take  
us all,  
Each name means a thousand,  
baby mine.  
(Cho.)

The demonstrators also learned a  
valuable lesson in the techniques of the  
Communist witch-hunt when they  
found themselves cited as tools of a  
"Red plot." "The Lament of a Minor  
Dean" (to the tune of "Oh, What A  
Beautiful Morning") tells the story:

There are 5,000 Reds in the  
Plaza,  
There are 5,000 Reds in the  
Plaza.

The mike is so loud, and it's  
drawing a crowd,  
And I'm sure that our rules say  
it's just not allowed.

CHORUS:

Oh, this will look bad in the  
papers,  
This will look bad in the press.  
Call on the troopers from Oak-  
land,  
They'll get us out of this mess.

It's open revolt on the campus,  
It's open revolt on the campus.  
We're crawling with Reds 'neath  
our desks and our beds,  
And I wish that the Chancellor  
would call out the Feds.  
(Cho.)

Most effective of all, perhaps, was  
the batch of Free Speech Christmas  
carols sung all over the campus in the  
pre-holiday season. Here are two of  
them:

OSKI DOLLS (Jingle Bells)

Oski dolls, pompon girls, U. C.  
all the way!  
Oh, what fun it is to have your  
mind reduced to clay!  
Civil rights, politics just get in  
the way,  
Questioning authority when you  
should obey.

Sleeping on the lawn in a double  
sleeping bag  
Doesn't get things done, free-  
dom is a drag.

Junk your principles, don't  
stand up and fight,  
You won't get democracy if you  
yell all night.

SILENT NIGHT (B. Jablon)

Silent night, silent night,  
Nobody talks on the left or the  
right.  
Five hundred policemen armed  
to the teeth  
Circle the car like a black  
Christmas wreath.  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.