

Festival Starts 7th Year

Rain Fails to Dim Folk Show

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Maybe the folk music purists— if there are any left—didn't quite dig it, but the Philadelphia Folk Festival grooved into its seventh year Friday night with quite a mixed musical bag.

From teenage song writer Janis Ian to ageless Doc Watson and from the old-world-styled Pennywhistlers to the electrified Sweet Stavin Chain, the festival took off in a mad dash and never

bothered to slow down to catch its breath. The whole affair was seasoned with a healthy sprinkling of rain. A half hour into the concert the predicted "widely scattered showers" decided to scatter themselves over the festival site, the Old Pool Farm in Upper Merion, Pa., near Salford township near Schwenksville.

Umbrellas popped up and blankets became raincoats for the next 40 minutes, but the

crowd of several thousand barely stirred.

Patrick Sky, who has been called a low pressure country folk singer, was one of the evening's hits. The cherubic Sky delivered a steady stream of patter along with his songs, all written by himself.

DIRGEFUL TUNE

From a dirgeful tune about people incapable of loving, he launched into the "tragedy" of an old hog caller done in by a pinball machine.

Sweet Stavin' Chain, a Philadelphia electronic blues band, started out loudly, but settled down to two solid numbers, "Never Say No" and "Tore Down."

Their last selection, "Stormy Monday," had the best beat, but the lead singer tried a bit too hard.

POWERFUL FINALE

John Denver put on a good show singing about, among other things, dirty old men. His voice was a little raspy around the edges, but he managed to deliver a powerful finale about the "Sound of Freedom."

Joni Mitchell, her long blonde hair flowing over a floor length gown, received a standing ovation from the audience after singing five of her own songs.

The 24-year-old Canadian girl has a striking voice that matches her talent as a wordsmith.

WEARS HOMBURG

Jerry Jeff Walker, who has recently arrived in the folk spotlight, came on stage in a leather coat and black homburg to sing his hit "Mister Bojangles," about a dancer whom he met in a New Orleans jail.

As always, Doc Watson and his son, Merle, achieved near perfection on guitar and banjo. The blind Doc sets a mood on stage with his stories from the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountain area.

Janis Ian ended the concert after 1:30 A.M. and had the audience cheering her contemporary songs. At 17, she is truly an amazing performer.

A London group, the Young Tradition, made quite an unusual sound with three part harmony on several old English ballads, including a very explicit one on the seduction of a country girl.

JOAN BAEZ TO SING

Igra, an East European folk song and dance ensemble, managed only one dance because of the slippery stage. The dance was none the less animated and quite colorful.

Philadelphia's answer to Newport continues Saturday and Sunday. Workshops start at noon both days and food is available on the festival grounds. Saturday night's concert starts at 7:45 P. M. and the Sunday concert at 7:30 P. M.

But the piece de resistance will be the solo concert Sunday at 5 P. M. by Joan Baez. The entire festival is sponsored by the Philadelphia Folksong Society.

Service Not Exactly 'Self'

Chilean Women Flock To New Coin Laundry

SANTIAGO, Chile, Aug. 23 (AP).—When the business opened on Apoquindo ave. in Santiago's most affluent neighborhood, government ministers and other bigwigs toasted its success with a cocktail party.

The Chilean capital had what any world capital ought to have: a self-service laundry and dry cleaner.

MORE PREDICTED

In fact, it is Santiago's second such operation. The first, a small pilot store, opened a few months earlier with what backers call booming success. They predict at least 10 more will open in Santiago in the next six months. So far, promoters say, Venezuela is the only other country on the continent with self-service laundries.

The first Santiago residents to try the new venture were North Americans. It was just like home in Toledo, O., or Phoenix, Ariz., from the familiar sign out front to the new U. S.-made washers, dryers and dry cleaners inside.

That's about where the similarity ends.

First, the price is many times the U. S. level, carefully posted in four languages. And the service is not exactly "self."

DRESS-UP AFFAIR

From the time a uniformed young man helps milady out of her car at the curb until he carries the clean laundry back to the car, someone else does most of the work. There's no feuding with change machines that don't change or vending machines that are out of soap. Helpful attendants supply those things, too.

With all this luxury, no one dares appear in denims and hair curlers. Chilean women arrive in mesh stockings, block-heeled shoes, suits and fancy hairdos, looking almost as elegant as when they go for tea or cocktails.

New Mrs. America

Mother of 3 Wins Crown

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug. 23 (AP). — Mrs. M. Bryon (Joan) Fisher, 29, a former college beauty queen from Salt Lake City, Utah, is Mrs. America 1969.

The part-time schoolteacher and mother of three was crowned by Marlene Cochran of Shawnee Mission, Kan., Mrs. America 1968, in coronation ceremonies opening the Minnesota State Fair in St. Paul.

51 LADIES

Other finalists in the event were: first runner-up Chris Esmay, 33, Cheyenne, Wyo., Joy Berlemann, 34, University Park, N. M., Terry Cole, 28, La Canada, Calif., and Mildred Harris, 43, Raytown, Mo.

The ceremonies climaxed 10 days of competitive events for 51 ladies and their husbands in the Twin Cities. Mrs. Fisher won the safe driving event and was a finalist in pancake cooking, money management, fashion and modeling competition.

EX-COLLEGE QUEEN

The brown-haired, hazel-eyed woman holds an education degree from Brigham Young University, where she was a college snow queen.

Among her interests she listed skiing, sewing, cooking, flower arranging, and playing the piano. She serves as a district officer for the Republican Party and a counselor to teenage girls.

She will remain in the Twin Cities for 10 days as a guest of the Minnesota State Fair.

For the very latest word on the very latest styles, read Rubye Graham in *The Inquirer*.

