



MORRIS O'SHAUGHNESSY of Westland is the drummer for the rock band, the Salem Witchcraft. The four-member group has been working together since January. (Observer photo)



THE TWO GUITARISTS with the Rock Band, the Salem Witchcraft, are Jim Duffey of Plymouth, (left) and Arlen Viscelli of Livonia. Both singing too. In the background is the organist, Dave Hall of Garden City. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

Rock Band Has PA, Will Travel

By BETTY MASSON

Like wow, man! I could really dig it, if it wasn't quite so loud!

In case you haven't guessed, the subject is rock music and the subjects are four Observerland musicians, who of their breed have got to be among the best.

They want to be "better than the Grand Funk Railroad, the Doors and the James Gang all together." They may very well make it, because, besides \$1,500 worth of PA system, they all have talent and work hard at their music.

If you stand back, a long way back for these over-30 ears, the sounds they make are very good, sweet and rhythmic.

OBSERVERLAND'S OWN rock band calls itself the Salem Witchcraft and its four members are Dave Hall of Garden City, Arlen Viscelli of Livonia, Jim Duffey of Plymouth and Morris

O'Shaughnessy of Westland. Dave is the organist and Morris really pounds the drums. Arlen and Jim play guitars — Arlen, lead, and Jim, bass.

All four are also vocalists, and Arlen and Dave are composers and arrangers. So far Arlen has composed six numbers for the band. One of their favorites is "My Life Is You," and it's really very good.

The four have been playing together since January. They practice up to five hours a day in the Duffey's basement.

Jim and Morris were two years with another band. They asked Arlen to join them in December, after hearing him play, and "found" Dave through the musician's union to which they belong.

Their manager is Robert Drake of Westland, and it was he who recently arranged their biggest break, an appearance on TV. Since then, they've been in greater demand.

THE BOYS, who are mostly self-taught, have had every encouragement from their parents, who "flipped out" when we were on TV.

Possibly Dave's mother could be most sympathetic. She used to sing with Jimmy's Jives in Dearborn. Morris and Jim revealed with pride that both have fathers who sing. Not rock, but they're still proud. According to Jim when he heard his father sing at a party, "I really flipped out."

Jim is attending Schoolcraft College and is studying business against that day

when they really make it big. Morris works in a convalescent home, and Arlen and Dave devote all their time to practicing, composing and arranging... except when some new piece of equipment is needed. Then they find an interim job to help pay for it. The boys claim "the louder the music, the better the tone." They have to have all the amplifiers going or poor Morris and his drums would be drowned out.

And who am I to argue? I once "flipped" over Woody Herman... as loud as possible.



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In Comedy Role Turgeon Takes Honors

By LORAIN McCLISH

"Cactus Flower" is a very funny show, and the Farmington Players keep their reputation as the elite among community theaters with their 47th production that continues through the next two weekends at the Players Barn. It was good to see Pierre Turgeon back again. He grabbed himself another choice comedy part — this time the role of Igor Sullivan — and ran away with honors for the most relaxed, completely-at-ease actor on the stage.

IRONICALLY, this is a flaw many local theater groups find themselves with — one actor who is so very poised he makes his on-stage fellows appear stiff by comparison.

Both Norm Hosking, as Dr. Julian Winston, and Merrilien Haugen, as Toni Simmons, took turns suffering in this respect in scenes with Turgeon, then jumped back into turning out some genuinely good comedy.

Kathryn Totz was the exception. In the role of snappy, sassy Stephanie Dickinson, she held her ground every minute of the way. And as Stephanie's defenses fell in the play, Miss Totz seemed to lead the

entire cast into a freeer swinging atmosphere. By the time Stephanie was about to get her man, she had the whole audience in love with her.

Sal Sisto and David Gelebert stood alone with refreshing, light, and very well-done character parts.

The play was directed by Noral McNeely. Others in the cast are Bob Gregory, Joanne Kaman and Isabel Howard.

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