TRADITIONAL JAZZ SERIES

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

OUR TWENTIETH PROGRAM

THE BLUE THREE

DICK WELLSTOOD, PIANO
KENNY DAVERN, CLARINET
CHUCK RIGGS, DRUMS

SPONSORED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,
AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE
LIBRARY OF TRADITIONAL JAZZ

8 P.M. MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 12, 1983
STRAFFORD ROOM
MEMORIAL UNION
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
In a world where we are often forced to perceive music through somewhat established formats, whether it be New Orleans front line or classical string quartet, big band or symphony orchestra, it is refreshing to be reminded that genuine creativity so often occurs in less orthodox combinations which come into being because of the compatibility of the particular performers. Certainly a number of programs on our continuing series illustrate this reality.

This evening we will hear three artists renew an instrumental combination rare in its frequency but glorious in its tradition; the fact that such diverse talents as Jelly Roll Morton and Benny Goodman were drawn to it in the 20's and 30's indicates its potential when in good hands. In commenting on how The Blue Three approach the idiom, Dan Morgenstern, Director of the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers University writes that they "share important attributes, including lots of experience, command of most of the dialects of the musical speech called jazz, and a ready sense of humor."

Two other considerations can be added: their sense of historical perspective, and above all, their capacity to interrelate, which makes such a fragile and exposed instrumentation so rich and exciting.

Dick Wellstood gave a memorable solo recital at UNH two years ago, demonstrating his encyclopedic grasp of piano style from Morton to Monk with numerous stops in between. Tonight his proclivity for replacing the usual bassist with his own left hand will be tested in a different context.

Kenny Davern, who has played everywhere from the White House to Africa, is perhaps best known to the general public for his five-year collaboration with Bob Wilber and the *Soprano Summit*, but in more recent years he has given his attention exclusively to his first love, the clarinet. The thorough and imaginative manner in which Ken and Dick explore the manifold possibilities of their chosen instruments might remind us that of all those consistently utilized in jazz, piano and clarinet are the ones which have most inspired classical composers as well.

Chuck Riggs is a talented and versatile young drummer best known for his performances with Scott Hamilton, and his recordings on Concord Records.

The technique is superb, the reflective experience substantial, and the impulse vital, but most importantly, as Dan Morgenstern states, "It is music made as only friends can make it."
In keeping with the spontaneity of traditional jazz, the performers will announce their own selections.
THE SERIES

The UNH Traditional Jazz Series, now in its fourth year, promotes the enjoyment and understanding of the art through concerts including musicians of regional, national, and international prominence. The program is based on the fundamental convictions that there are no age barriers in the performance and appreciation of this idiom, and that its joyousness and creativity are ever-renewable. Our combined sponsorship unites students, faculty, and continually devoted enthusiasts in a unique endeavor to expand interest, and honor outstanding talent and achievement.

Many of the artists presented in our series are available only on private recordings not readily found in stores. For the benefit of the public, musicians wishing to do so are encouraged to offer their recordings for sale or mail order during intermission. A brief announcement may be made. The sponsors have no financial interest in such sales beyond offering a courtesy service to the artists and the public.

Cameras and tape recorders are not permitted. Your cooperation is requested. Films or recordings by the sponsors are for the benefit of students, who may inquire about their availability at the Dimond Library.

Program Notes — Paul Verrette
Production — Dave Seiler

COMING EVENTS

October 10       New Black Eagle Jazz Band
November 7       Mike Markaverich: Solo
December 5       “All Strings Attached” — Gray Sargent, guitar,
                 Jack Bumer, piano, Marshall Wood, bass
January 30       Tommy Gallant Quartet
February 27      White Heat Swing Orchestra
April 2           Dave Whitney Quintet