

T R A D I T I O N A L  
*Jazz*  
S E R I E S

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

OUR FORTY-FOURTH PROGRAM

**THE WHITE HEAT  
SWING ORCHESTRA**

**DIRECTED BY  
CRAIG BALL**

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

**8 PM MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 15, 1986  
STRAFFORD ROOM  
MEMORIAL UNION  
DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

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## THE ARTISTS

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### THE WHITE HEAT SWING ORCHESTRA

A year ago when Red Norvo was on campus to open the seventh season of our series, he happened to mention that he was looking forward to participation in a planned upcoming event both honoring and featuring Benny Goodman, to be aired on public television. He was particularly happy to join again with so many old performing acquaintances, artists that to us represent such a massive contribution to musical culture. The event did take place later in the fall, and became one of the qualitative highlights of the spring TV season. Timely it was, because early this summer, Ben, as Red always referred to him, passed away, followed only a few weeks later by his most illustrious pianist, Teddy Wilson.

In his personal comments on that special occasion, Benny Goodman dedicated his program to Fletcher Henderson (d. 1952), whose creative and tasteful orchestrations provided the matrix through which the Goodman band's collective—and individual—efforts could flourish. It is thus most appropriate that the UNH Traditional Jazz Series offer its own tribute to the King of Swing through the contemporaneous sounds of an ensemble the very existence of which was inspired by the need to recapture both the letter and spirit of art like Henderson's, long in danger of becoming permanently relegated to the comparative fossilization of old recordings.

The **White Heat Swing Orchestra** first appeared here in October of 1983, just a few months after its birth, then once more during the following year, when already its success as a continuing unit was generating the mixture of cohesiveness and spontaneity worthy of the creative big-band tradition. In the intervening period the band has had growing accomplishment of one of its principal goals—reaching audiences of college age, and even younger. And it has a virtual residency at Cambridge's **Regatta Bar**, among other things serving jitterbug contests! (We must not lose sight of the fact that lots of good jazz over the years has accompanied dancing—Benny certainly didn't!) One of the band's most memorable moments was at the Portsmouth Jazz Festival in June when a surprise windstorm virtually flattened the audience, which promptly recovered, stood up—and danced!

Benny Goodman gave us much—the imagination and impeccability of his clarinet improvisation, balanced by his idealistic devotion to the formal classical literature, and his insightful exploration of the small combo within the big-band format. Yet he would doubtlessly have been a bit bemused by the media emphasis given after his death to the alleged significance of the famous 1938 Carnegie Hall concert. The true legacy of his artistic substance and influence, as distinguished from social acceptability and/or status, is in bands like the **White Heat Swing Orchestra** performing for continually wider audiences like our own.

After class this past summer a young high school student asked this writer, "Have you ever heard of Fletcher Henderson?" To Benny Goodman, and Craig Ball and the **White Heat Swing Orchestra**, this reflects the true measure of their success. Welcome back, and congratulations!

T R A D I T I O N A L  
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**THE WHITE HEAT  
SWING ORCHESTRA**  
CRAIG BALL, DIRECTOR

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CRAIG BALL, clarinet

JOHN PURCELL, alto sax

JAY BRANFORD, tenor & alto saxea

SCOTT ROBINSON, tenor sax

JOHN WHEATLEY, guitar

JOE MULHOLLAND, piano

MICHAEL PEIPMAN, trumpet

TOM LINDSEY, trumpet

DAVE WHITNEY, trumpet

JOHN PIERCE, trombone

JOHN TURNER, string bass

DAVE BRAGDON, drums

***Tape recorders and cameras are not permitted due to contractual arrangements.  
Your cooperation is requested.***

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## **THE SERIES**

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The UNH Traditional Jazz Series began in 1979. It promotes the enjoyment and understanding of the art through concerts featuring musicians of regional, national, and international prominence. The program represents a unique endeavor to expand interest and honor outstanding talent and achievement.

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.

Program Notes - Paul Verrette

Production - David Seiler

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## **THE SCHEDULE**

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| <b>September 15</b> | <b>White Heat Swing Orchestra:<br/>A Tribute to Benny Goodman</b> |
| <b>October 13</b>   | <b>Butch Thompson—Jimmy Mazzy Quartet</b>                         |
| <b>November 17</b>  | <b>South Frisco Jazz Band</b>                                     |
| <b>December 8</b>   | <b>Art Hodes, Solo Piano</b>                                      |
| <b>February 9</b>   | <b>Paul Verrette &amp; Tommy Gallant: Two Pianos</b>              |
| <b>March 9</b>      | <b>Gray Sargent Trio</b>  |
| <b>April 13</b>     | <b>Paramount Jazz Band</b>  |