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VOLUME ONE, ISSUE ONE

JUNE 1995

the BLUES NEWS



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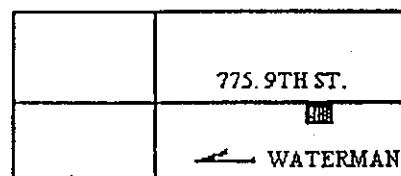
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the BLUES NEWS

JUNE 1995

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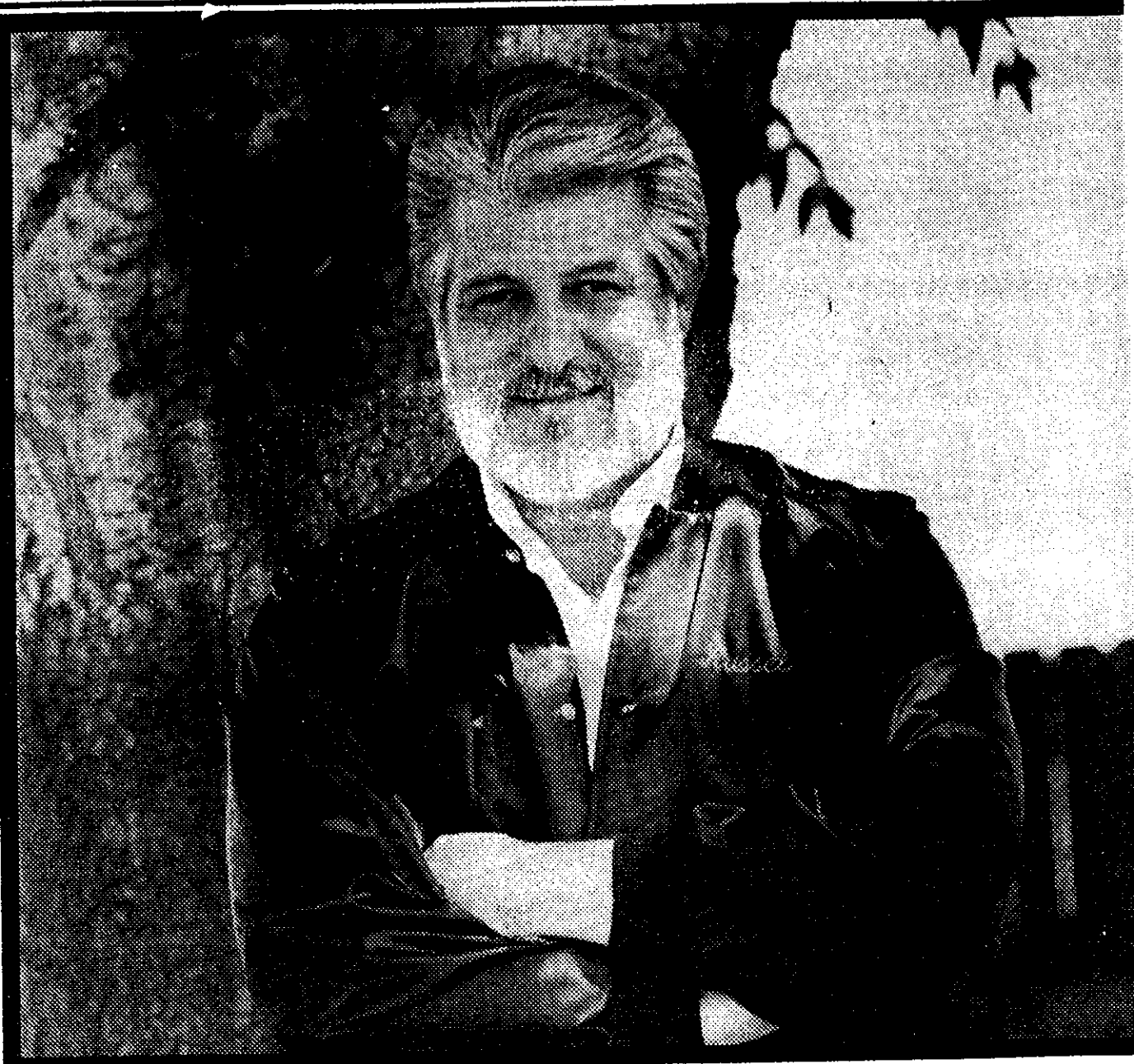


The Fourth Street Blues Band
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COVER PHOTO: Martin Crow of Shades of Blue

Photo by Derek Dale



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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the premier issue of *the Blues News*. Our goal is to bring blues and jazz lovers the latest in what's going on in the scene. This first issue focuses mainly on the blues. Future issues will contain more jazz information, but because of the outstanding growth of the blues scene in the Inland Empire and my personal love of the music, I felt it important to give you this side of things first.

I must admit that I could use some help with information on the jazz scene, as I am not in contact with as many jazz musicians as I am with blues musicians. So here's my plea to all blues and jazz contacts out there. Please feel free to let me know what's going on in your respective areas. We here at *the Blues News* are dedicated to the expansion of the jazz and blues scene and the more you let us know what's going on, the better able we become in doing just that.

This is a magazine for all who share in the love and the fun of truly good music. Please support local musicians for they provide us with so much and they are good people. If you happen to run into something you don't like or bad attitudes let us know for we have a forum for that too.

Thanks for picking up a copy and enjoy!

sincerely,

Eric Harnden

Topanga Blues & HERITAGE

1995 festival

The 12th Annual Topanga Blues and Heritage Festival at Paramount Ranch,*
a site in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation area, a unit of the National Park Service

Saturday, June 17, 1995, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Rich and Maureen
DelGrosso



Juke Logan



Brenda Burns



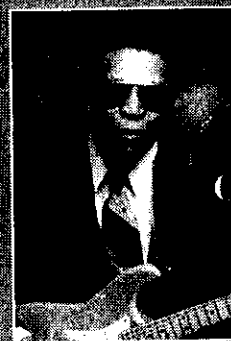
Frankie Lee



Margie Evans



King Ernest



Cash McCall

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picnic, low back lawn chairs,
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Tickets are \$18.50 in advance from Ticketmaster.
Lamar's in Long Beach, and Rhino Records in West
LA. / At the door tickets are \$23.00
Kids under 12 are free.



This year the Topanga Blues & Heritage Festival is
co-sponsored by the Southern California Blues
Society & the National Park Service.
For more information call SCBS at
(714) 821-6870 or (800) 498-6870,
or the NPS at (818) 597-9192, x201



Shades of Blue, like a storm of mythic proportions.

On my various journeys to shacks throughout Southern California I had the chance to see an extraordinary performance at the House of Blues. I'm telling you it was a very impressive show. Not a person in the house sat down, from the time Shades of Blues hit the stage to the last note emanating from Deano George's wailing Stratocaster. I could only find myself in awe and as I watched on I noticed that people were standing on their chairs to see Deano George strum a muffled chord and pick away to one of Hendrix' classic tune "Voodoo Chile". It was as though Hendrix was there himself. Deano's version was refreshing and soulful. Watching him play this song can only leave you with one question. How can this guy play so fast and precise without spontaneously combusting. It is something you too will wonder about when you go to see them in your area.

Shades Of Blue's roots began in Boston where Deano George & Jimmy Thomas screwtnized music theory at the berklee school of music, feeling it was time for them to move on they found themselves in L.A. where they ran an ad. guitarist & drummer looking for bassist & harmonica player serious souls only, which in turn is the name of their new CD. Well this ad brought them two very good musicians from diverse back grounds John Vera & Marty Crowe where the four have been shades of blue for some time now.

Shades of Blue consists of Deano George (lead guitars/vocals), Jimmy Thomas (drums), John Vera (bass/vocals), Marty Crowe (harmonica),

SHADES OF BLUE / LINE-UP.

JUNE 10 LAKE ALICE RIVERSIDE
JUNE 22 HOUSE OF BLUES L.A.
JUNE 23 LEGENDS COVINA

WILLIE COLTRAIN

*DIRECTIONS: (New Location) To reach Paramount Ranch, take the Ventura trwy 101 to Kanan Rd south, turn left at Cornell Way, veer to right, south 2.5 miles, entrance is on right side of road.

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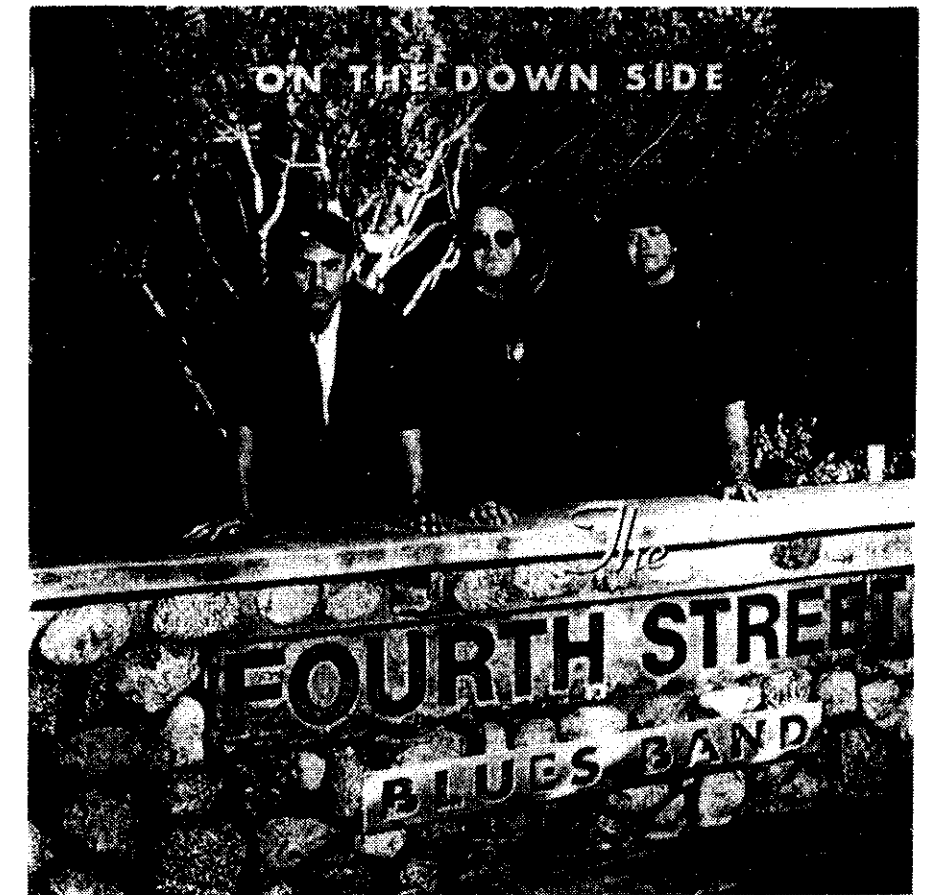
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The Fourth Street Blues Band

In that new "Hot bed of the Blues" the Inland Empire, home to Rod Piazza and the Mighty Flyers, has risen a new group - **THE FOURTH STREET BLUES BAND** with a new LP: *ON THE DOWN SIDE* (Crying Sky Records/840 W. Hawthorne St., Ontario, CA 91762). Watch out, Rod - you've got serious competition out there in these guys!

The Ontario-based band are Greg Serrato (lead guitar-vocals); Lawrence Perez (rhythm guitar); Dan Guerry (bass); Bob Smith (drums-vocals). Their name? Serrato's address, where they formed the band in a small garage behind Greg's home on the 600 block of 4th Street.

Their sound? Check out the blues-drenched *oh-so-soulful* version of "You Gotta Love Her With a Feeling" or their blistering all-instrumental "Hideaway," each written by blues great, Freddy King. Or get into the groove of **4TH STREET BLUES BAND** originals like slow and sexy track, "The Pain That I've Caused You" Las Vegas lament, "Gamblin' Blues," or the infectious, straight-ahead title track.



Serrato is a skilled guitarist who never overplays a lead and equally handles the lead vocalist role. Recent group addition Perez, as well as Guerry and Smith nicely compliment Serrato's playing, making for one solid band that can only improve with each passing day.

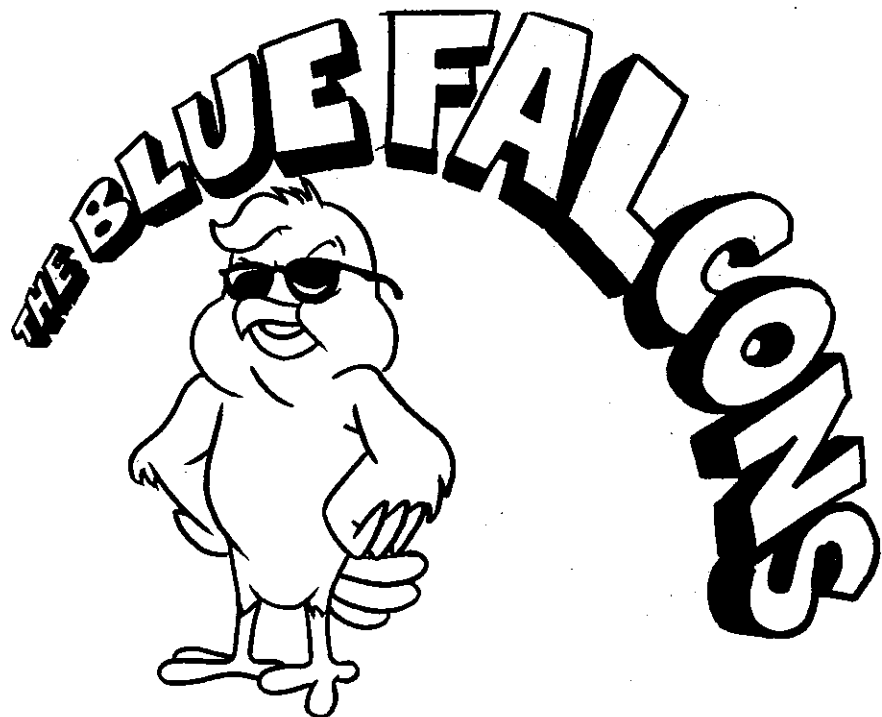
THE FOURTH STREET BLUES BAND'S UPCOMING SHOWS

JUNE 2,7,8 JIM AND I'S RIVERSIDE
JUNE 4 BLUES FESTIVAL FOR THE
HOMELESS LAKE ALICE

JUNE 10,17,24 MIKE'S TAVERN
REDLANDS

JUNE 11 CLIPPERS SPORTS BAR
LONG BEACH

JUNE 15 EL RANCHO RODRIGUEZ
775 9TH ST SAN BERNARDINO



Riverside's newest blues/boogie band is on the prowl and is quickly earning the reputation as one of the hottest acts in town with just cause. Stealing the hearts of blues lovers all over the Inland Empire.

They are sharp dressed with an uncanny sense of humor and an outstanding stage presence that captures your eyes and imagination right from the start of their show. The band's repertoire consists of a conglomeration of blues, boogie woogie and shuffles that keep you on the edge of your seat from start to finish. The blues they play are dark and hypnotic, boogie that take you all the way to Mississippi, Chicago and home again leaving nothing but a certain fulfillment we all crave to be a part of. an interesting part of what they do is they have an uncanny ability to make a person feel like they're a part of the show itself. Their love for the music and what they play is unmistakably evident by their bright smiles and bopping around the stage, dance floor and whatever else they can throw themselves on to entertain you. That is so refreshing! Their combined

talent transcends you back to a time when barrelhouses and juke joints filled with smoke and the smell of moonshine jumped from dusk till dawn. "The Blue Falcons" consists of five pieces: guitar, bass, keyboards, harmonica and drums.

"Doc" Ryan, guitarist for the band, is the founder and backbone of the band. He was raised in Trenton, New Jersey. There he grew up listening to his father, also a musician playing trumpet in a big band, which spurred his interest in music and had a significant roll in where Doc's musically today. Some of Doc's most influential people other than his father are guitar greats like T-Bone Walker, The Vaughn Brothers and Elmore James.

Dick Ziener is the piano/organ player in the band. He was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Redlands. As a young boy he remembers his father and mother, who also played music, rehearsing in the living room of his home there.

Continued on Page 12

the Blues News

The Rhythm Lords

"...this is a band that has been in the trenches and has the scars to prove it. They send out the rocking message and don't let up until you yell Uncle." Southland Blues Magazine



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With a *Pulp Fiction* darkness, "Voodoo Queen", the first track on THE RHYTHM LORDS' latest CD *Happy Hour*, grabs you and throws you back to the good rockin' times of rockabilly blues.

THE RHYTHM LORDS' sound comes from pure 50's, 60's swing, rock 'n' roll blues. with inspirations from such idols as Muddy Waters and Willie Dixon these guys play great blues. And with no doubt these fellows are COOL!

Vocalist/guitarist, Dale Peterson, Steph Traino on bass, Eric Von Herzen on harp, and drummer Kip Dabbs pound out fun rockin' music on this CD. A must for blues lovers or anyone with a love for the 50's sound.

the Blues News

Car enthusiasts themselves, they can be found cruising one of their many classic cars: Chevys, T-Birds, and Cadillacs to local car club shows or even playing at them. I personally saw them perform at Another Angel's in Corona and was well impressed with their live show as well.

Check out the band listings in this issue for upcoming RHYTHM LORDS shows

Happy Hour can be ordered from Rebecca Records (310) 987-1050

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3 TIMES BLUES



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The Blue Falcons Cont.

Dick is a guy who believes in longevity, which is proved by a twenty year stint with the band "Gross Prophet" a conglomerate of surf players, from the band "The Tornadoes". He only recently began playing the blues about six years ago with a local Redlands based blues band. He now has found a new home with "Doc" and "The Blue Falcons".

Mitch Alster, the band's bassist, was born in Bonn, Germany but grew up in Hamburg, Ohio. He graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in music for performance and education. Coming to Southern California in 1982 he formed an original band, that played the Hollywood circuit for several years, and still does occasional showcase gigs with that band.

Alvin "Skillette" Hicks, the drummer, hails from Tupelo, Mississippi and brings over thirty years of playing experience to the group. Although he has played everything one can imagine he is most at home laying down that groove that keeps your toes tapping.

Earl Saratte plays the harmonica with a style that puts him in a class all by himself. From Central California but raised in Riverside where he played with local bands in the late 60's and early 70's until he moved to San Francisco. That is where his musical career took off. Hitting the road with some of the great blues and boogie players like: Johnny Ottis, Big Joe Turner and "The Luther Tucker Blues Band. After being away for fifteen years Earl decided to come back home where he found the "Doctor" for his blues.

Listen folks if you haven't heard these guys yet, You got to get on the stick. It so refreshing to see guys playing so hot and yet enjoying themselves so much that you can't help falling in love with this band. So do yourself a favor go and see "The Blue Falcons" band and treat yourself. You deserve it!

"The Blue Falcons" can usually be seen every Friday and Saturday nights at Jim and I's, 3587 University Ave., Riverside, Corner of Orange St. (909) 788-8881

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The Boar's Head 1256 Foothill Blvd., Upland (909) 981-1818

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British Bulldog 1667 N. Mountain Ave., Upland (909) 946-6614

Carlos O'Briens 3667 Riverside Plaza Riverside (909) 686-5860
Rod Piazza in July

El Rancho Rodriguez Restaurant 775 9th St., San Bernardino (909) 888-3689
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June 15th - The 4th St. Blues Band

Espresso Yourself 350 W. Foothill Blvd., Upland (909) 946-0927

Jim & I's 3587 University Ave., Riverside (909) 788-8881
Wednesdays and Thursdays--4th St. Blues Band 7-11 p.m.
Friday and Saturdays-- The Blue Falcons @ 9 p.m.

La Casita Cafe 385 N. 'E' St., San Bernardino (909) 888-4877

Lake Alice Trading Co. 3616 University Ave., Riverside (909) 686-7343
Saturday, June 17th - Coco Montoya
Friday, June 23rd - Buddah Heads
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Mario's Place 1725 Spruce St., Riverside (909) 684-7755
Thursdays and Fridays in June - The Bill Hathaway Group 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 10th - Tony Palkovic Group 9 p.m.
June 17th - Jazz Junkies 9 p.m.
June 24th - Double Vision (Latin Jazz) 9 p.m.

Mentone Beach Yacht Club 1874 Mentone Blvd., Mentone (909) 794-1395

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Shelly's 8038 Haven Ave., Rancho Cucamonga (909) 944-9337

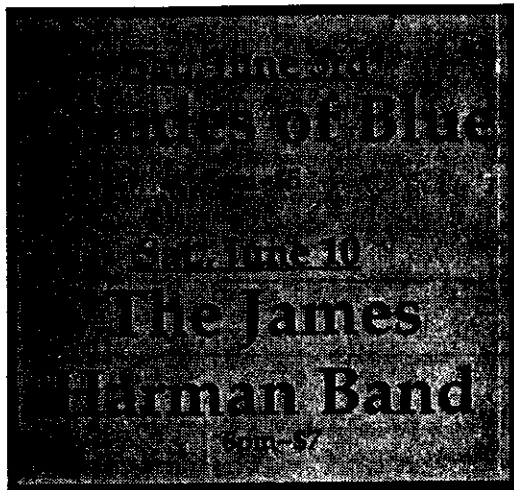
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... Southland Blues Magazine
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