Record review

by Bob Woodhead

30/7/87

Phil Fearon is back in business with a new four-track 12in. single entitled "Nothing Is Too Good For You".

It is one of those songs that you have to hear several times before you start liking it. Having said that, it is not up to the standard of Phil's earlier recordings with Kandidate and Galaxy and he is certainly in need of some new ideas to halt the decline in his popularity.

Side two of the 12in. disc has two alternative versions of the song and another tune called "You Still Got My Love", which again is rather average and lacking inspiration.

Wet Wet Wet have released a very good follow-up single to their Top Tenner "Wishing I Was Lucky". The new one has a catchy tune and infectious sound and is called "Sweet Little Mystery". Their debut album is eagerly awaited.

With the renewed popularity of Sixties soul music several labels are cashing in by re-issuing many of the records from that era. One of the best compilations is "Atlantic Soul Classics" featuring 16 tracks like "Respect" by Aretha Franklin, "Sweet Soul Music" by Arthur Conley and "Dock Of The Bay" by the late Otis Redding. Inevitably the collection also includes the recent and much deserved No. 1 by Ben E. King "Stand By Me".

Staying with the "golden age" of pop, Stylus Music have released "Sixties Mix" which follows up their successful "Hit Mix 86" from last Christmas. This is another double package that has 60 sequenced hits of the Sixties by the original artists. The sleeve notes give career details of all the performers, plus dates and chart positions. With about 15 clips of songs on all four sides they generally last for more than a minute each so there is a substantial "chunk" of each tune.

Among the great songs are "Sorrow" by the Merseys, "Bobby's Girl" by Susan Maughan, "You Were Made For Me" by Freddie And The Dreamers and "You've Got Your Troubles" by the Fortunes. If you are keen on the nostalgia of the Sixties you should not miss hearing this record.

Columbia Records have issued a collection of Beatles tunes performed by the Baroque Chamber Orchestra entitled "The Beatles Seasons". They have transformed the songs into a classical style divided into segments representing all the four seasons, and the orchestration is delightful. I am sure that both Beatles fans and classical music enthusiasts will enjoy listening to this.

After six weeks at the top of the album chart Whitney Houston's "Whitney" has fallen to No. 3 this week.

L.P. CHART

1 Introducing The Hardling According To Terence Trent D'Arby.
2 Hits 6 (Various).
3 Whitney (Whitney Houston).
4 The Joshua Tree (U2).
5 Invisible Touch (Genesis).
6 The Return Of Bruno (Bruce Willis).
7 FLM (Mel And Kim).
8 Keep Your Distance (Curiosity Killed The Cat).
9 Bad Animals (Heart).
10 Sixties Mix (Various).

● Phil Fearon: in need of some ideas.