



Capt. Lightfoot booked New Year's Eve at Hugo's

The Captain Lightfoot trio, above, will perform musical varieties and play for dancing New Year's Eve at the party in Hugo's restaurant and the Sabre lounge at the Edgewater Hyatt House. A special menu of prime rib, New York steak, lamb shish kabab and steak-lobster combination will

be served. The Edgewater will have another New Year's Eve party in its Empire Room, featuring the Alex Manriquez band, long a favorite at the hotel. The gourmet champagne buffet in the Empire room will be \$17.50 per person.

While they were performing at the Grand Hotel in Anaheim, they decided the name T-Bones was obsolete. It was Tommy who came up with their new name. He shuffled their first and last names around until he came up with a combination they all liked — Hamilton, Joe Frank and Reynolds. Meanwhile, they had been writing a lot of music and decided they were ready to take another crack at the Hollywood record industry.

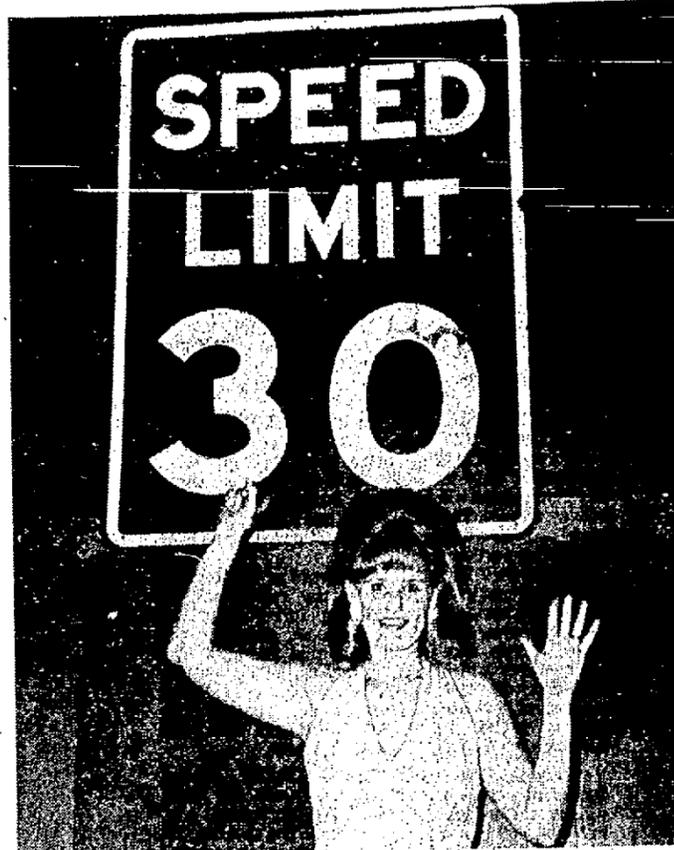
Ninety-nine per cent of the bands who seek record contracts in Hollywood are quickly rejected. Hamilton, Joe Frank and Reynolds made their approach like pros. First they spent \$1,200 of their own money to make a studio demo tape of three of their songs. They didn't try to get an interview by phone or letter with any of the big studios, Hollywood studios have a way of not returning phone calls or replying to the thousands of letters sent to them by recording hopefuls.

Their strategy was simple. They decided the man

Vicki cuts new 'Women's Lib' record

Vicki Lee, featured vocalist and instrumentalist with her Country Roads band at the Lancer's Lounge, Downey Avenue at Alameda Street, Downey, has cut two new records with Crescendo Records, Hollywood. They are her original songs, *Women's Lib* and *Cheatin on Your Mind*. *Women's Lib* has been a disc jockey "pick of the week" recently in Texas, Oregon and Washington. She is shown with gag highway sign at the Lancer's.

— Staff Photo



In person

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Birmingham, Ala., they met Joe Frank Carolo, thought he was unusually gifted, and added him to the T-Bones.

Soon after that the T-Bones cut a novelty record that made it to the top of the charts. It was titled *No Matter What Shape Your Stomach's In*. It was a takeoff on an Alka-Seltzer commercial, played with a powerful rock beat. After touring the U.S. and Japan, the T-Bones returned to Los Angeles, their home base.

they wanted to talk to was Steve Barri, vice president of ABC Dunhill records. They chose a day when they knew Steve was in town. They stationed themselves at the front door to ABC Dunhill's offices on Beverly Boulevard and waited for Steve to appear. They really lucked out. They only had to wait 30 minutes.

When Steve approached the door, Tommy spoke to him. Steve listened to his pitch for a few moments because he and Tommy were acquainted. (Tommy had previously cut a record at ABC Dunhill while working with another group.) Steve agreed to take the demo tape and listen to it. The next morning Steve phoned Tommy and said he liked the tape. He invited Hamilton, Joe Frank and Reynolds to return to the studio with their instruments and audition. He listened to them for five minutes. Then he grinned and said the magic words: "I want to sign you."

The three signed the contract that same day.

Afterward Steve revealed that for a year he'd been saving a song, *Don't Pull Your Love Out on Me, Baby*, waiting until he found exactly the right group to record it. He told Danny, Joe Frank and Tommy: "I think you've got the sound I've been waiting for."

The three went to work recording the song, working for five days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (and their working nights at the Grand Hotel in Anaheim.) When they finished, ABC Dunhill's executive staff was so pleased they recommended that the trio cut an album immediately. The three worked strenuously for a month recording 11 tunes for the album.

The fact that the songs were recorded didn't mean the trio was "in." The big studios are forever cutting records which, sadly, are never released. ABC Dunhill waited from November 1969 to April 1970

(Continued Page A-28)

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