

screaming fans voiced their feelings. ‘Hysteria makes you feel great,’ said Rod. But it can be faked. In the United States, professional fainters and screamers are employed to rouse the fans. This, said Rod, can sometimes lead to a kick in the face. Well, it’s kind of you to let me know, Rod, but if you don’t mind I think I’ll switch over and enjoy a tranquil hour with ‘A Hundred Best Tunes’, introduced in soporific tones by Alan Keith.



May 1966 (UP)

Square on Pop!

We are told that Disc Jockey (Dee Jay, in pop parlance), Alan Freeman, is ‘a man who has an image and is determined to keep it’. I can well believe it when lethargic old me is caught up in his ‘relentless verve and neurotic pace’ as he reviews EP and LP tracks on the latest releases with fellow Dee Jay, Pete Brady, on ‘Newly Pressed’. So it’s no relief to turn to the equally breathless presentation of David Symonds on ‘Easy Beat’. But praise be, Mr. Symonds has laryngitis this week and is unable to appear.

Oh, but wait a minute! He *is* to appear after all! His usual energetic microphone manner is thankfully tempered by raw tonsils and strained vocal cords. Consequently his normally jaunty commentaries are reduced to a minimum and the listener can concentrate on the songs.

This week, the programme featured ‘Charts of the Past’ and looked at the BBC ‘Top Ten Tunes’ of five years ago. We hear Cat Stevens, Manfred Mann, Cliff Richard, Danny Street, and a host of others. The American influence comes through straightaway with the introductory gambits for the kids: “This

