

## THE JERRY GRAY STORY



# THE JERRY GRAY STORY

*"The Jerry Gray Story" has been compiled to provide researchers and music fans an overview of the musical life of Jerry Gray (1915-1976) following his discharge from the US Army Air Force in late 1945.*

*This chronology documents all known daily activities, media articles, commercial recording sessions, transcription library recording sessions, radio broadcasts, film productions, television appearances, theater appearances, and personal appearances of Jerry Gray post-WWII.*

*This encompasses three primary locations and time frames: The New York City Years 1945-1947; The Hollywood Years 1947-1969; and The Dallas Years 1969-1977.*

*These are presented as:*

*Part 01 - 1945-1946*

*Part 02 – 1947*

*Part 03 – 1948*

*Part 04 – 1949*

*Part 05 – 1950*

*Part 06 – 1951-1952*

*Part 07 – 1953-1954*

*Part 08 – 1955-1960*

*Part 09 – 1961-1968*

*Part 10 – 1969-1977*

*Additionally, we will eventually include as:*

*Part 11 – Song Index*

*Part 12 – Location Index*

*Part 13 – Artist Index*

*Part 14 – Recording Session Index*

*Part 15 - Discography*

*This is a work-in-progress. There are still many items, articles, stories, photographs, and label scans to be reviewed and confirmed. They will be included in future versions. As of today, our full work product is about 2,342 pages and 526,447 words.*

*Events are posted chronologically. However, like topics are grouped together when possible [such as record reviews and media reports of a specific event].*

*Recording sessions will show only the matrix number and the primary released recordings for each song.*

*Part 15 - Discography to follow will document all known commercial and transcription recording sessions and radio/film/television/personal performances and their known releases in detail.*

*We have attempted to locate as many different yet representative contemporaneous newspaper stories, magazine articles, trade journals, and all pertinent documents relating to Jerry Gray. We have also included similar stories relating to other cast members and associated musicians. This can take us away from our primary task. Yet this will add perspective from those around Jerry Gray.*

*With today's computer technology, "The Jerry Gray Story" can easily be updated as new information of events from some 70 years ago are located and verified.*

*Time shown on audio files is the actual time of the music. It does not include applause or dialogue. The only exceptions are the label times for the transcription libraries [Standard and World].*

*Capitalization of song title indicates audio file is in our collective archives.*

*This No-Cost Jerry Gray Chronology/Discography is compiled for research purposes and is not intended for commercial distribution. No portion may be used without written permission.*

*Much appreciation is directed towards all who over the years have played an important role in documenting the activities of Jerry Gray post-WWII*

*Christopher Popa, Ernie Edwards Jr., Mike Morris, Bill Korst, Dick March, and Jay Popa are credited for their original and earlier discographies. We recognize all those who have preserved and shared the many included photographs.*

*Special recognition is given to Richard Claar, Darwin Boyd, Rich Mittelstadt, Bill O'Donnell, Mark Cantor, Don Lance, Steve Ryan, Steve Kramer, David Kiner, Henry Schmidt, Robert Robbins, Dave Weiner, Jerry Haendiges, Mike Marshall, Lowell Kuntz, David Fletcher, Eric Jason Lee, David Shelton, Ron Standridge, Jason Bennett, Debbi Bush Whiting, Pam DuBois, Lynda Wells, and Dr. Michael Arie.*

*Team Jerry Gray ..... Karl Pearson, Ed Polic, Rob Ronzello, Dave Smith, and with a special acknowledgement and a very big thank you to Al Gray, the son of Jerry Gray.*

*Cover picture ..... publicity photo – Jerry Gray and his Band of Today – MCA.*

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## **THE JERRY GRAY STORY – 1945-1946**

[Updated Jun 15, 2018 – Version JG.001e]

### **November 29, 1945 [Thursday]:**

Jerry Gray [aka T/Sgt. Generoso Graziano, 31354534] was discharged from the US Army Air Corps at Andrews Field, District of Columbia.

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### **December 1, 1945 [Saturday]:**

With the timely discharge of various members of Major Glenn Miller's Overseas Orchestra, including Jerry Gray, as well as the discharge of various professional musicians from other service bands, Don Haynes began assembling the post-World War II Glenn Miller Orchestra.

The following is the first known published article announcing that Tex Beneke is slated to lead the new GMO. Jerry Gray was to be the music director and chief arranger.

Variety, Nov 21, 1945, Page 49, Orchestras-Music:

#### **Tex Beneke, Ex-Navy, Due to Take Over Band Of Late Glenn Miller**

Tex Beneke, the sax and singer with Glenn Miller's pre-war orchestra, got out of the Navy Monday (19). He was discharged from the Norman, Okla. base as a chief petty officer.

Beneke, slated to take over a 35-piece band that will work under the billing of the late Major Miller, won't start building the band until late January at least. He'll get into N.Y. around Jan. 5 and will do radio guest shots for a while. When the band is formed, it will consist of French horns and 12 strings and will be based on the Army Air Forces orchestra conducted by Miller before his disappearance on a plane trip in the ETO.

Arrangements made for this band while it was in service will be used by Beneke. Before Miller joined up he made an agreement that, since the service band's arrangements would be written by his own men who came into service with him, they would be in his own style and must become his property upon his discharge from uniform. Miller's Air Forces orchestra is now in the process of being broken up. It made its last public date last week at the National Press Club's Presidential Dinner in Washington. This week, 15 of the musicians will be discharged. Most of them will await the formation of Beneke's band since they are under contract to Don Haynes, Miller's former manager, who will handle Beneke.

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**December 7, 1945 [Friday] thru December 27, 1945 [Thursday]:**

Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Dec 1, 1945, Page 12:

**Johnny Desmond, G.I., Next at N.Y. Strand**

Johnny Desmond, ex-GI who was vocalist with the Maj. Glenn Miller AAF band all over the E.T.O., gets his first break since his discharge as a special attraction on the Hal McIntyre orchestra sound stage show at the N.Y. Strand beginning Friday, Dec. 7. Johnny, who crooned for hundreds of thousands of GIs in England, Belgium, and France for the last two years, expects to see a lot of his old pals at his debut at the Strand.

The Strand screen feature on the same bill will be "Too Young To Know" starring Joan Leslie and Robert Hutton.

[Author's Note: Although Jerry Gray is not specifically mentioned in this Johnny Desmond appearance with Hal McIntyre, there will be an apparent professional relationship beginning between Jerry Gray and Johnny Desmond and Tex Beneke during this time frame.]

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**December 9, 1945 [Sunday]:**

The Sunday Times-Signal [Zanesville, Ohio], Dec 9, 1945, Section 1, Page 7:

**BROADWAY By Jack O'Brian**

NEW YORK, Dec 8 – (AP) – The famous Glenn Miller Air Force orchestra, whose excellence has been attested by professional music critics of all sorts, will remain intact now that the entire orchestra is getting into civilian clothes . . . The General Amusement Corporation announces that plans are complete to have Tex Beneke, the tenor sax virtuoso and former Glenn Miller side man lead the band . . . Jerry Gray, who was Miller's top arranger both in prewar days as well as in service, will continue in that capacity . . . The band numbers 35 men, all AAF veterans . . . it will break in as a civilian outfit at the Capitol theater here January 17 . . . Then an extensive theater tour and an already assured commercial radio show.

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Sunday Times [Cumberland, Maryland], Dec 9, 1945, Page 19:

**Glenn Miller Band Back In Civilian Life**

**All 35 Members Are AAF Veterans**

By Jack O'Brian

NEW YORK, Dec 8 – (AP) – The famous Glenn Miller Air Force orchestra, whose excellence has been attested by professional music critics of all sorts, will remain intact now that the entire orchestra is getting into civilian clothes . . . The General Amusement Corporation announces that plans are complete to have Tex Beneke, the tenor sax virtuoso and former Glenn Miller side man lead the band . . . Jerry Gray, who was Miller's top arranger both in prewar days as well as in service, will continue in that capacity . . . The band numbers 35 men, all AAF veterans . . . it will break in as a civilian outfit at the Capitol theater here January 17 . . . Then an extensive theater tour and an already assured commercial radio show.

[Author's Note: This article is included as it is the first known reference to Jerry Gray continuing as an arranger with the Glenn Miller Orchestra directed by Tex Beneke post-WWII. There will be a handful of similar references in the coming months.

The first definitive independent role of Jerry Gray as an orchestra leader and arranger will be with the Philip Morris Follies/Frolics of 1946 as first reported below on January 13, 1946.]

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**December 26, 1945 [Wednesday]:**

Variety, Dec 26, 1945, Page 36, Orchestras-Music:

**Army Officially 'Presumes' Death Of Glenn Miller**

U.S. Army Air Forces officially "presumed" Major Glenn Miller to be dead last week. This information was wired to the late bandleader's widow at her home at Teaneck, N.J., exactly one year and a day after Miller's disappearance during a flight in an Army plane from London to Paris, Dec. 15, 1944.

About the same time as the Army dispatched its wire to Mrs. Miller, the last of the Miller's big Air Forces orchestra was being discharged from service. Only 21 men of the original group were still in uniform last week, and there were returned to civilian life at the same time.

Twelve of the group are under contract to Don Haynes, former lieutenant in charge of Miller's orchestra after his disappearance, and they will join the new band that will work under Tex Beneke, former sax man with Miller's pre-war band.

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**January 1946:**

Metronome, Jan 1946, Page 17:

***Glenn's Band to Carry on Under Tex Beneke***

Glenn Miller's band is carrying on! Following plans set by Glenn and his close friend and manager, Don Haynes, before the former's disappearance in the European Theatre a year ago, the thirty-five-piece orchestra will debut before the American public on January 17 either at the Capitol Theatre in New York (depending upon the length of Tommy Dorsey's run there) or in Providence, R.I.

Personnel of the eight brass, five reeds, four rhythm, and twelve strings orchestra will be comprised predominantly of soldiers who played with Major Glenn Miller's Overseas Army Air Forces Orchestra. Tex Beneke, recently discharged after a long tenure in the Navy, will front the outfit which will be billed as the "Glenn Miller Orchestra with Tex Beneke."

In addition, the saxes will include Freddy Guerra, Jack Ferrier, Vince Carbone, Mannie Thaler and possibly Willie Schwartz. Trumpets will be Steve Steck, Bobby Nichols, Whitey Thomas and Graham Young; the trombones, Jim Priddy, Johnny Halliburton, Nat Peck, and Paul Tanner. Drums and bass are as yet unset, though Moe Purtill, still in the Navy, may fill the former chair, and either Trigger Alpert, Doc Goldberg, or Rolly Bundock, all ex-Miller men, may be on bass. Stan Freeman, an arranger will play piano, while Bill Conway, one of the original Modernaires, will play guitar and sing with the Crew Chiefs, comprised of featured vocalist Artie Malvin, Steve and Gene Steck, Murray Kane, Conway and an unannounced girl singer. Addison Collins, the sensational young French Horn player of Miller's Army unit, will also remain with the civilian orchestra, as will twelve of the string section.

The entire outfit, except, of course, the girl, consists of ex-servicemen. That also goes for the three arrangers, Jerry Gray, Ralph Wilkinson and Norm Leyden, all of whom arranged for the Army aggregation. Gray, also arranger for the original Miller civilian band, will be musical director of the new unit, which goes into brush-up rehearsal the first week of January.

The band will record for Victor and will probably be heard coast-to-coast on a radio commercial. Theatre bookings after the Capitol in New York include the Adams in Newark, Palace in Cleveland, Michigan in Detroit, Chicago in Chicago, RKO in Boston, Earle in Philadelphia and Capitol in Washington. GAC is booking, while Haynes, it's manager, and Helen Miller, Glenn's wife, will retain a controlling interest in the organization.

Photograph of Glenn Miller, Tex Beneke, and Hal McIntyre with caption:

**Glenn Miller**, according to AAF reports now "presumed to be dead," watches his former vocalist and sax star, Tex Beneke, who will soon lead the revived Glenn Miller Band. That's Hal McIntyre at right.

[Author's Note: Included below are a few miscellaneous articles and clippings relating to a post-WWII Glenn Miller Orchestra and early Jerry Gray fan mail.]

Down Beat, Oct 1, 1945, Page 10:

**Immortal Miller Ork – Cherry Point, N.C.**

To the Editors:

Orchids for Sgt. Gene Byrd's letter in this column of the August 15 issue! He is absolutely right in stating that Glenn Miller's music should be resumed even though Glenn might not be back.

Jerry Gray, as Glenn's arranger when Miller led his immortal Moonlight Serenaders and also his army band, seems like the most logical successor.

There are multitudes of fans who still favor Glenn's bands over the present so called "orchestras." Let's bring back the greatest band ever assembled!

Of course all this will have to wait 'till Jerry Gray and the others return from the service. It's up to Mr. Gray.

Pfc. C. Warchalowski

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Down Beat, Dec 15, 1945, Page 10:

**Miller Memorial Band – San Francisco, California**

To the Editors:

We of Fleet Hospital number 111 are hoping that Jerry Gray will consider taking over the original Glenn Miller band with Ray Eberle and Tex Beneke and the Modernaires. For although Glenn Miller is gone, his fans will remember him and would like to keep his name alive with the forming of the old Miller band going under the name of The Glenn Miller Memorial Band with the original members.

The Crew

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### January 4, 1946 [Friday]:

Variety Daily, Jan 4, 1946:

Keywords: Band of the late Glenn Miller, fronted by Jerry Gray, arranger, may move into the Tuesday spot now tenanted by the program with Barry Wood, Roland Young and Cornelia Otis Skinner. Definite decision has not yet been reached

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### January 5, 1946 [Saturday]:

The Billboard, Jan 12, 1946, Page 5:

#### **Biow's 2 Shows Sub "Ignorant," Skinner**

NEW YORK, Jan 5. — Stan Joseloff, radio head of the Biow Agency, this week wrapped up two new shows for Philip Morris to replace *It Pays To Be Ignorant* and the Cornelia Otis Skinner — Roland Young stanza. *Ignorant* will be replaced by *Holiday and Company*, a situation comedy show scripted and supervised by Abe Burrows. An as yet untitled ailer, featuring ex-Sgt. Johnny Desmond, goes into the Skinner-Young slot.

*Holiday* goes on CBS at 9 p.m. Fridays, and Desmond to NBC's 8 p.m. Tuesday time. The Burrows stanza features a pair of ex-vaudevillians, Ray Mayer and Edith Evans. Ray Block handles the ork, and Jack Roche, formerly of *Duffy's Tavern*, will call the cues.

Singer Margaret Whiting, comic Herb Shriner, and Jerry Gray's band will work with Desmond. Ward Byron will produce that one.

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### January 9, 1946 [Wednesday]:

Variety Weekly, Jan 9, 1946, Page 190, Radio:

#### **BIOW'S BRACE OF NEW PHILIP MORRIS SHOWS**

With the cancellation of its two shows skedded for the end of this month, Philip Morris, via Biow agency, will sponsor two new programs in the slots it currently holds on CBS and NBC. Feb 1 show on CBS will find "It Pays To Be Ignorant" off the air in favor of "Holiday & Co.," featuring vaudevillians Ray Mayer and Edith Evans and Ray Block's orchestra. Situation comedy show will be handled by Abe Burrows.

The "Johnny Presents" opus will make way on NBC, Jan 22, for a musical format featuring Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and Jerry Gray's orchestra. Desmond is skedded to leave his current chore on "Teentimers Club," Feb 16, the end of his 13-week cycle. Show is NBC ailer sponsored by Teentimer, Inc., and handled by Buchanan agency.

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**January 11, 1946 [Friday]:**

Daily News [New York City, New York], Jan 11, 1946, Page 17C:

**Listening In – With Ben Gross**

**The Notebook** . . . Twenty-five-year-old Johnny Desmond, the former “GI Sinatra,” is busily preparing for his debut as star of “Follies of Forty-Six,” replacing, as already announced, the “Johnny Presents” program on WEA, Tuesday, Jan 22, at 8 P.M. Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and Jerry Gray’s band are in the line-up.

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**January 13, 1946 [Sunday]:**

The New York Times [New York City, New York], Jan 13, 1946, Page 5 X:

**ONE THING AND ANOTHER By SID LOHMAN**

Also bowing out this month is the program with Barry Wood, Cornelia Otis Skinner and Roland Young (WEA, Tuesday, 8 P.M.), which will disappear after this week’s broadcast. In its stead will be a new variety show starring Johnny Desmond, singer; aided by Herb Shriner, comedian; Margaret Whiting, vocalist, and Jerry Gray’s Orchestra. Mr. Desmond also will continue to be the leading attraction at 11 A.M. Saturdays over NBC.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jan 13, 1946, Page 5H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

**HERE AND THERE ON THE AIR**

A SHOW featuring Margaret Whiting and Johnny Desmond, the singers; Herb Shriner, the comedian, and an orchestra led by Jerry Gray is reported bought as a replacement after one more broadcast for the KSD-NBC net program now starring Barry Wood, Cornelia Otis Skinner and Roland Young Tuesday evenings.

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January 14, 1946 [Monday]:



Johnny Desmond, Jerry Gray, and Tex Beneke  
Reviewing Jerry Gray arrangements for the Tex Beneke-Glenn Miller Orchestra

[Photograph by Associated Press, dated Jan 14, 1946]

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Johnny Desmond and Tex Beneke  
Down Beat cover, February 11, 1946

[Photograph likely taken same date as the above Associated Press photograph]

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Broadcasting, Jan 14, 1946, Page 4:

### **Business Briefly**

MORRIS REPLACEMENTS • Philip Morris & Co. on Jan. 22 replaces *Johnny Presents* on 114 NBC stations with *Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Tuesday, 8-8:30 p.m. Agency, Biow Co., New York.

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The Stanford Daily [Stanford University, California], Jan 14, 1946, Page 2:

### **ON THE DISCS – By LARRY FRANKLEY and GEORGE ECKSTEIN**

**OFF THE RECORD** – The Glenn Miller AAF band will become a civilian venture under the leadership of long-time Miller stand-by Tex Beneke. The band will be known as “Glenn Miller Orchestra with Tex Beneke,” and will be first presented to the public this Thursday in New York. The entire personnel will be comprised of ex-servicemen, including arranger Jerry Gray, who worked for Miller in and out of khaki.

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### **January 15, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jan 15, 1946, Page 11:

#### **AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

**NEW GLAMOUR** show starring Johnny Desmond, the GI singing sensation, premieres on Jan. 22, replacing “Johnny Presents.” Desmond rose to international fame as the vocalist in Maj. Glenn Miller’s air forces band. Titled “Follies of ’46,” the new program will feature Margaret Whiting, singer; Herb Shriner, comedian; and Jerry Gray, orchestra leader.

Incidentally, since Miss Whiting recorded “It Might As Well Be Spring” she has been stepping out on the airways. A regular member of the Saturday Night “Celebrity Club” show, she has been pitch-hitting for Jack Smith, during his current bout with the flu. An accomplished singer, she combines a lively personality with an excellent voice.

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### **January 16, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Jan 16, 1946, Page 3:

**Walter Winchell** (Copyright, N.Y. Daily Mirror)

**MEMOS OF A MIDNIGHTER:** Margaret Whiting, the darling of the platters, has signed to double for the Continental Can program and the Phillip Morris Show. Her recording of “It Might As Well Be Spring” put her in the Hooper heaven.

[Author’s Note: The Continental Can “Celebrity Club” is broadcast over CBS Saturday evenings, with John Daly as Host, along with Ray Block and his Orchestra.]

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**January 17, 1946 [Thursday]:**

Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Jan 17, 1946, Page 19:

Photograph of Herb Shriner with caption:

**RETURNING** – Herb Shriner, left, returns to the airwaves next Tuesday with his own WEAFeR.

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**January 20, 1946 [Sunday]:**

The New York Times [New York City, New York], Jan 20, 1946, Page 5 X:

**BEING THE SAGA OF JOHNNY DESMOND** By SOL JACOBSON

In the summer of 1944 when the Yanks were determinedly slugging across Normandy and down the Brittany peninsula, they would frequently march or roll out to battle to the accompaniment of ironically sentimental ditties sung from London by Sgt. Johnny Desmond. Later, in Germany, when liberated radios provided ground forces with more air entertainment, Johnny achieved even a great degree of popularity among his fellow G.I.'s for his unaffected vocalizing.

In those days and until last fall he was singing over AFN Paris with Glenn Miller's Band of the AAF. Purple-hearted Joes used to lie in Quonset-shaped hospital wards in Europe predicting a rosy future for Sgt. Desmond. NBC felt likewise about the 25-year-old Joe, for the day after he received his discharge last Nov. 23 he was MC'ing and singing on the Teen-timers Club, a weekly Saturday morning stint.

No longer will his service pals have to endure the adolescent-slanted program to hear their favorite yodeler, for Desmond has been signed to star on the "Johnny Presents" show, starting Tuesday on NBC. Evidently many of his G.I. aficionados were willing to wade through the teen-age banter, judging by the sergeant's fan mail.

A slender, brown-eyed youth, Desmond sports a crew haircut and inevitably invites comparison with Sinatra, not only by his relaxed microphone manner but by fancying noisy bow ties. The Detroit-born singer, who began his career in St. Joseph's parish choir when he was 11, disclaims any similarity to The Voice.

"We don't have the same type of pipers. No two guys sing alike," he says. "Anyway, I don't try to sing like him and I don't encourage bobby-soxers to squeal. I want the audience to listen. Once that hooting stuff starts as a gag the kids get serious about it." A casual listener to John's Saturday morning audience realizes the teen-timers disagree, or else they're squealing from force of habit.

**Royal Approval**

Europe's distaff adolescents displayed a marked similarity to their United States sisters when they further depleted Europe's paper stock with gushing notes to Johnny. Even Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret were numbered among the admirers when he sang for them at Bedford. Desmond, whose transcriptions are still a regular feature of AFN, continues to receive these emotional missives.

But, like Sinatra, Desmond is a solid family man. His wife, former Bob Crosby chanteuse, Ruth Keddington, is philosophic about Johnny's oral appeal to the opposite sex, weighing it against his

popularity with Joes and tars. The Desmonds are more concerned with an expected addition to their family come next July.

Desmond, christened De Simone, is the second of four children. He studied voice and piano at the Detroit Conservatory of Music for three years while attending Northwestern High School. Prior to enlisting in the Air Corps he worked for Gene Krupa's and Bob Crosby's bands. For three and a half years Johnny wore olive drab. With the exception of thirteen weeks of basic training, he carried an Army specialty number of a drummer, since there is none for a vocalist.

At Enid, Okla., when Johnny completed training, he doubled in the post band as timpanist and singer. Upon learning the late Glenn Miller was forming a band, John made application and was accepted following an audition. A week after D-day he and his cohorts landed in England, where they remained to weather the buzz-bombs. The last eight months were spent on the Continent, six in France, two trouping in Germany on one-nighters, the most memorable of which was at Nuremberg, where 40,000 Joes crammed Hitler's Sportpalast last July 1 to hear the show.

### **In Paris**

Desmond won the affection of Parisians last February, when at three concerts for civilians in the Opera House he surprised the grateful audience by singing such then-hits as "I Walk Alone" and "I'll be Seeing You" in the Gallic tongue. Like General MacArthur, Desmond hopes to return. He is particularly anxious to sing in London and Paris again. And there is a spot in the French Alps, the hamlet of Chamonix, he'd like to show his wife.

That officer-enlisted men relationships were not always churlish is demonstrated by the fact that ex-Capt. Don Haynes is now his manager. Haynes was Desmond's commanding officer. M/Sgt. Norman Leyden, one of Glenn Miller's three orchestrators, now arranges Johnny's tunes. To date, the G.I. threat to Sinatra has been handicapped in his civilian chores with a multiplicity of orchestras. He was noticeably at his best recently on a broadcast which backed him up with his buddies from the Miller aggregation. The resultant superior orchestrations and close harmonies helped homebound listeners understand better why the sergeant was such a hit wherever the Armed Forces Network was tuned in.

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jan 20, 1946, Page 4-C:

### **AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

The "William and Mary" sketches, which have been presented on the Tuesday night show of Barry Wood over WTAM, are being replaced this week by "Follies of 1946" starring Margaret Whiting and Johnny Desmond.

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The Greenville News [Greenville, South Carolina], Jan 20, 1946, Page 9:



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The Tennessean [Nashville, Tennessee], Jan 20, 1946, Page 5-C:

### **Over The Air Waves**

Tuesday –

The Philip Morris Follies of 1946, new show which will star Johnny Desmond, singing favorite of the overseas AAF, will make its formal bow, Tuesday (WSM, 7 until 7:30 p.m.). Featured with Desmond will be Margaret Whiting, whose best-selling record of "It Might As Well Be Spring" sky-rocketed her to popularity. Herb Shriner, the "Wabash Humorist," will be starred as comedian.

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Kingsport Times-News [Kingsport, Tennessee], Jan 20, 1946, Page 7:

WKPT Air Lines by Dy. L. Twister – Salutations! . . . In other words, Hi there! . . . We're back again with more stuff and things about radio . . .

And whilst we're talking about the "Johnny Presents" show, the show changes its format and name this coming Tuesday at 8 o'clock; henceforth it will be known as the "Follies of 1946," and will star Johnny Desmond currently on the "Teentimer's Club" every Saturday at 11 a.m. over WKPT. Herb Shriner, the comedian, and Margaret Whiting the singer, will be on the show along with the 30-piece orchestra of the late Maj. Glenn Miller. Jerry Gray, who used to be top arranger for the original Miller band will take over as leader. This promises to be one of the top shows on the air, so we'd suggest you give it a listen.

Lincoln Sunday Journal And Star [Lincoln, Nebraska], Jan 20, 1946, Page D-6:

**FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE by MARCELLA SLAJCHERT**

Johnny Desmond, singing favorite of the overseas AAF, will be starred on the "Follies of '46" which replaces "Johnny Presents" beginning Jan 22.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jan 20, 1946, Page 5H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

**Johnny Desmond Heads New KSD Show**

Billed With Margaret Whiting in Series at 7:00 P.M. Tuesday

NEXT Tuesday evening, a new show will go into the 7:00 – 7:30 spot on KSD hitherto occupied by the series featuring Barry Wood, Cornelia Otis Skinner and Roland Young. It will be called Follies of '46, and its cast will consist of Margaret Whiting and Johnny Desmond, the singers; Herb Shriner, the comedian; a chorus of 16 women singers and a 30-piece orchestra led by Jerry Gray, who was the arranger for the late Maj. Glenn Miller's orchestra.

Twenty-five-year-old Johnny Desmond won wide notice as singer with Glenn Miller's Air Forces band. Miss Whiting has starred in the Saturday Night Celebrity Club and on other radio programs. Herb Shriner, no stranger to listeners, has been rising rapidly in fame as a comedian.

On the opening program, Desmond will sing "Symphony" and "Waiting For The Train To Come In," and Miss Whiting, "It Might As Well Be Spring." The two will join in singing a medley of songs from "Oklahoma."



[Author's Note: This publicity picture of Margaret Whiting goes back to November of 1941, with the CBS microphone having been cropped out in promoting this new NBC program.]

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Radio Life [West Coast], Week of Jan 20, 1946, Page 17:

KFI (640)	8:30–9:00 p.m.	Johnny Presents
KFSD (1450)	8:30–9:00 p.m.	Johnny Presents

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## January 22, 1946 [Tuesday] – Overview:

The first NBC broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* program was Tuesday, January 22, 1946.

This *Philip Morris Follies of 1946* NBC radio program is the second known music involvement of Jerry Gray following his discharge from the Army Air Force on November 29, 1945 at Andrews Field in Washington.

This weekly Philip Morris-sponsored NBC Network radio program was also known as *The Philip Morris Follies*, *The Follies of 1946*, *The Johnny Desmond Show*, *The Philip Morris Frolics*, and beginning in late July, *The Margaret Whiting Show* and *The College Frolics*. This program, with these several different names during a 33-week run, replaced the popular Philip Morris *Johnny Presents* drama program.

There were two live broadcasts of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* each Tuesday evening; one at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and the second at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. It appears some central time zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central time zone stations carried the later broadcast.

*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* starred Johnny Desmond, with Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, The Follies Girls [16-member vocal chorus], and Jerry Gray and his Orchestra with strings. There was also a vocal group on occasion with unidentified male and female singers, eventually to be named the Tune Toppers Quintet.

Although the program was broadcast thru September 3, 1946 (33 weeks), Johnny Desmond left the program after July 16, 1946 (the 26th week).

At that point, Margaret Whiting became the featured host. The Tune Toppers Quintet were added to radio logs. It appears Herb Shriner may have left the cast at the same time as Johnny Desmond.

To “fill” the role of Johnny Desmond on the *Follies/Frolics*, a male singer was to be hired as a special guest artist for each program.

Art Lund was the guest artist on the August 6, 1946 broadcast. There were discussions with Harry Babbitt to join the cast as a regular for the last four broadcasts, August 13 thru September 3. These negotiations must have been unsuccessful, as Del Casino was hired and billed as a guest artist for these remaining four broadcasts.

The final broadcast with Margaret Whiting, Del Casino, The Tune Toppers Quintet and Jerry Gray and his Orchestra was September 3, 1946.

Along with weekly NBC Network broadcasts of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, the Armed Forces Radio Service transcribed an edited version of the weekly programs for subsequent rebroadcast on the AFRS network.

AFRS released material from the first 26 weeks of this 33-week series on 16-inch transcription disks labeled as *Johnny Desmond's Follies* or *The Johnny Desmond Show*.

Beginning with the July 23rd broadcast [the 27th week], now starring Margaret Whiting, the AFRS rebroadcasts were issued as the *College Frolics*, as each program now featured a Co-Ed Musical Salute to a well-known national college.

The Philip Morris representative agency, The Biow Company, had begun searching for a replacement program during the summer of 1946. Their choice was Rudy Vallee, with a start date of Tuesday, September 10, 1946. Both the Biow Company as agents, and the NBC radio network executives, were very disappointed in the Vallee Show and placed it on a week-to-week contract.

During the *Follies* time frame, Johnny Desmond was also the featured star of *The Teentimers Club* on NBC. He also appeared as a guest on the NBC *Carnation Contented Hour*, and a Treasury Salute to a B17 pilot. Johnny Desmond also traveled to Cleveland for a remote *Teentimers Club* broadcast and a major convention where he was backed by Alvino Rey and his Orchestra.

Just prior to the *Follies*, Johnny Desmond was the featured guest vocalist with Hal McIntyre and his Orchestra appearing at the Strand Theater at 47th and Broadway, New York City, New York.

During the *Follies* time frame, Margaret Whiting was also the co-star on the weekly ZIV syndicated *Barry Woods Show* and starred weekly on the CBS *Continental Celebrity Club* with John Daly, comic Jackie Kelk, the piano poetry of Carmen Cavallaro, and Ray Block and his Orchestra.

During the *Follies* time frame, Herb Shriner opened an engagement at the Roxy Theater on February 14, as well as appearing as a guest on various radio programs.

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**Composite members of the Jerry Gray Orchestra on *The Philip Morris Follies/Frolics of 1946*:**

Trumpets: Billy Butterfield, Andy Ferretti, Steve Lipkins, Don "Skippy" Lipsey, and possibly Jimmy Maxwell.

Trombones: Will Bradley, Billy Pritchard, George Arus, Phil Giardina, Walt Mercurio.

Reeds: Hymie Schertzer, Paul Ricci, Hank Freeman, Art Drelinger, Al Klink, an unknown oboe player.

Rhythm: Bob Kitsis, piano; Barry Galbraith, guitar; Trigger Alpert, bass; Mory Feld and Davy Tough, drums.

Strings: George Ockner, Fredy Ostrovsky, Harry Katzman, Dave Sackson, Nat Kaproff, Henry Brynan, Maurice Bialkin, Kurt Dieterle, Hal Fermansky, Phil Frank, David Schwartz, Tony Gray, and an unknown harp player.

Show Director/Producer – Ward Byron

Writer – Jay F. Jones

Announcer – Ken Roberts

The "walking-talking" Philip Morris Billboard – Johnny Roventini

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## January 22, 1956 [Tuesday] radio logs:

NY Times: 8–8:30 pm Variety: Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Songs; Herb Shriner, Comedy; Gray Orchestra WEA (Premiere).

Brooklyn Daily Eagle: 8:00 – “Follies of 1946,” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra, WEA.

Washington Post: Philip Morris Follies (Johnny Desmond) WRC

Chicago Daily Tribune: 7–7:30 pm Johnny Desmond Show WMAQ

St. Louis Post-Dispatch: KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and Chorus.

LA Times: 8:30–9:00 pm Follies 1946 KFI

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### **NBC Follies program numbers and broadcast dates, with AFRS program numbers where known:**

Episode 01 – Jan 22, 1946 ..... Including “Russian Patrol” – Complete program at Library of Congress  
Episode 02 – Jan 29, 1946 ..... AFRS 01, as per Harry MacKenzie in *The Directory of AFRS Series*  
Episode 03 – Feb 05, 1946 ..... AFRS 02, includes material from later broadcast  
Episode 04 – Feb 12, 1946 ..... AFRS 03, date confirmed. Audrey Marsh filled in for Margaret Whiting  
Episode 05 – Feb 19, 1946  
Episode 06 – Feb 26, 1946 ..... AFRS 04, per Dave Goldin *RadioGOLDIndex* – first song “Great Day”  
Episode 07 – Mar 05, 1946  
Episode 08 – Mar 12, 1946 ..... AFRS 06, John Conte filled in for Johnny Desmond on late broadcast.  
Episode 09 – Mar 19, 1946 ..... AFRS 07, John Conte filled in for Johnny Desmond on both broadcasts  
Episode 10 – Mar 26, 1946 ..... AFRS 08  
Episode 11 – Apr 02, 1946  
Episode 12 – Apr 09, 1946 ..... Program name change from “Follies” to “Frolics”  
Episode 13 – Apr 16, 1946  
Episode 14 – Apr 23, 1946  
Episode 15 – Apr 30, 1946  
Episode 16 – May 07, 1946  
Episode 17 – May 14, 1946  
Episode 18 – May 21, 1946 ..... Reported to be AFRS 15; First Song, Sioux City Sue  
Episode 19 – May 28, 1946  
Episode 20 – Jun 04, 1946  
Episode 21 – Jun 11, 1946  
Episode 22 – Jun 18, 1946  
Episode 23 – Jun 25, 1946  
Episode 24 – Jul 02, 1946  
Episode 25 – Jul 09, 1946  
Episode 26 – Jul 16, 1946 ..... Last Johnny Desmond show, MacKenzie shows as AFRS 23  
Episode 27 – Jul 23, 1946 ..... First Margaret Whiting as star, Complete program at Library of Congress  
Episode 28 – Jul 30, 1946  
Episode 29 – Aug 06, 1946 ..... NY Times radio log lists Art Lund as guest  
Episode 30 – Aug 13, 1946  
Episode 31 – Aug 20, 1946  
Episode 32 – Aug 27, 1946 ..... AFRS *College Frolics* #6.  
Episode 33 – Sep 03, 1946 ..... Last program for *Philip Morris Follies/Frolics of 1946*

There are uncertainties with the AFRS program numbers and the correlation to original broadcast dates.

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**January 22, 1946 [Tuesday] – Details:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 01:**

Waiting For The Train To Come In – v Johnny Desmond

It Might As Well Be Spring – v Margaret Whiting

Symphony – v Johnny Desmond

Russian Patrol – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

Oklahoma Medley – v Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting and the Follies Girls

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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[Author's Note: A copy of this complete NBC Network broadcast is believed to be held by the Library of Congress.

It appears that each *Philip Morris Follies of 1946* program included a salute to one of the popular shows from Broadway or to well-known Broadway composers.

The *Philip Morris Follies* NBC Network Radio Broadcast was broadcast on a delayed basis over KGU in Honolulu, Hawaii, weekly on Monday evenings at 8:30 p.m. local time. This first week's show was aired 7-weeks after the mainland broadcast. By late April, the delay was down to only 3-weeks, which means 4 programs were likely not aired in Honolulu. A 16-inch acetate copy was likely used, pressed on the mainland and delivered to Hawaii via ship or by airliner.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jan 22, 1946, Page 17:

**RADIO By William Juengst**

DAY'S DOINGS – You're due for premieres t'night . . . on WEAH . . . "Follies of 1946" will star **ex-Sgt. Johnny Desmond** (also emcee of the same mikiery's "Teentimers Club") and **Margaret Whiting** in the vocal dept., and **Herb Shriner** as comedian . . . **Jerry Gray** will front the orch . . . And there'll be a "chorus line" of 16 photogenic femmes (picked just as if you were supposed to be able to see them) . . .

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jan 22, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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Rochester Democrat And Chronicle [Rochester, New York], Jan 22, 1946, Page 19:

**"Follies of 1946" 8:00 P.M.**

This new glamour show will make its formal bow tonight with Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting doing the vocals with Jerry Gray's Orchestra. Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist," supplies the comedy.

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Pittsburgh Press [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jan 22, 1946, Page 29:

By Si Steinhauser

Topflight acting yields to music and clowning tonight at 8 on KDKA when Johnny Desmond, the singing sergeant, what was Glenn Miller's band, Margaret Whiting, a blond warbler, and Herb Shriner, comedian who was in Baron Elliott's overseas GI outfit, replace Cornelia Otis Skinner.

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jan 22, 1946, Page 17:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, PREMIER: "FOLLIES OF 1946" with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, vocalists; Herb Shriner, comedian; Jerry Gray's orchestra, and chorus.**

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The Sandusky Register-Star-News [Sandusky, Ohio], Jan 22, 1946, Page 9, Turn The Dial:

NEW YORK, Jan 22 (AP) – Coming up tonight: NBC 8 New Follies of 1946, replacing the Cornelia Otis Skinner – Barry Wood show. Cast will include Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting as singers, Herb Shriner as comedian, Jerry Gray's orchestra and a 16-voice girl's chorus. Desmond, Shriner, and Gray recently were discharged from the Army as sergeants.

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Jan 22, 1946, Page 11, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: A brand new format is started on the "Johnny Presents" show, titled the "Follies of 1946." Vocal stars are Johnny Desmond, baritone, and Margaret Whiting, soprano. Director of the 30-piece orchestra is Jerry Gray, who was top arranger for the late Maj. Glenn Miller and then manager of the Miller AAF Band after the Major's disappearance on a flight over the English Channel. Desmond also was with Miller's band in Europe. Featured comedian is Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist." Adding the "Follies" touch will be 16 vocal lovelies, selected for beauty of voice, face and figure. Ward Byron produces and Ken Roberts announces.

[Photo of Johnny Desmond included]

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The Newark Advocate and American Tribune [Newark, Ohio], Jan 22, 1946, Page 10:

### **DAILY RADIO PROGRAM**

New York, Jan 22 (AP) – Coming up tonight: NBC 8 New Follies of 1946, replacing the Cornella Otis Skinner – Barry Wood show. Cast will include Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting as singers, Herb Shriner as comedian, Jerry Gray's orchestra and a 16-voice girl's chorus. Desmond, Shriner, and Gray recently were discharged from the Army as sergeants.

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The Greenville News [Greenville, South Carolina], Jan 22, 1946, Page 10:

### **Philip Morris Follies Will Be Heard On WFBC Tonight**

The new Philip Morris Follies of 1946 opens its premiere broadcast over WFBC-NBC tonight at 8 o'clock, with "Waitin' For The Train To Come In" sung by baritone star Johnny Desmond.

Vocalist Margaret Whiting follows with her special treatment of the song that made her famous, "It Might As Well Be Spring." Desmond's second appearance highlights the song he made popular with GI's in the ETO, the French adaptation, "Symphony."

Conductor Jerry Gray presents the orchestra in a sparkling arrangement of "Russian Patrol," top selection of the late Major Glenn Miller's AAF band. Desmond, Miss Whiting, and the 16-voice chorus of "glamour girls" complete the program with songs from "Oklahoma."

Herb Shriner provides comic interludes.

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jan 22, 1946, Page 9:

### **MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

FOLLIES OF 1946, A new glamor show, starring Johnny Desmond, singing favorite of NBC's Saturday morning "Teentimers' Club," and Margaret Whiting, lovely blonde singer, star of CBS's Saturday Night "Celebrity Club," makes its formal debut tonight (7, WIRE-NBC). Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist," whose comedy has been compared with that of the late Will Rogers, will provide amiable buffoonery. Jerry Gray, top arranger for the late Maj. Glenn Miller's band, conducts the 30-piece orchestra. The Follies presents 16 lovelies, selected for beauty of voice, face and figure. The program combines the glamorous features of a Follies show, with fresh, young talent in music and comedy. It will replace the "Johnny Presents" program.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jan 22, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

### **RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray's Orchestra (first of new series).

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jan 22, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**Highlights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946 John Desmond, Margaret Whiting premiere

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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Dixon Evening Telegraph [Dixon, Illinois], Jan 22, 1946, Page 4:

**Day By Day On The Air by C. E. BUTTERFIELD**

Coming up tonight" NBC 7 New Follies of 1946, replacing the Cornelia Otis Skinner – Barry Wood show. Cast will include Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting as singers, Herb Shriner as comedian. Jerry Gray's orchestra and a 16-voice girl's chorus.

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The Green Bay Press-Gazette [Green Bay, Wisconsin], Jan 22, 1946, Page 16:

**Radio Programs By C. E. BUTTERFIELD**

**Central Standard Time**

Coming up tonight: NBC, 7 p.m. – New Follies of 1946, replacing the Cornelia Otis Skinner – Barry Wood Show.

Cast will include Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting as singers, Herb Shriner as comedian, Jerry Gray's orchestra and a 16-voice girl's chorus.

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The Daily Argus-Leader [Sioux Falls, South Dakota], Jan 22, 1946, Page 8:

**Radio Programs – Central Standard Time**

Coming up tonight: NBC 7 New Follies of 1946, replacing the Cornelia Otis Skinner/Barry Wood show. Cast will include Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting as singers, Herb Shriner as comedian, Jerry Gray's orchestra, and a 16-voice girls chorus. Desmond, Shriner, and Gray recently were discharged from the Army as sergeants.

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The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Jan 22, 1946, Page 7, Radio Programs:  
KGNC (1440) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Johnny Presents, NBC

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Albuquerque Journal [Albuquerque, New Mexico], Jan 22, 1946, Page 8:

**K O B** Tuesday, January 22, 770 KC, **K O B**

★ A PARADE OF STARS EVERY DAY ON KOB ★

**JOHNNY PRESENTS THE PHILIP MORRIS  
FOLLIES OF 1946 . . . . . 9:30 P. M.  
Sponsored by Philip Morris Cigarettes**

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The Fresno Bee [Fresno, California], Jan 22, 1946, Page 7:

**Notes on 580**

"The Philip Morris Follies of 1946" new glamour show which will star Johnny Desmond, singing favorite of the overseas AAF, will make its formal bow over KMJ tonight at 8:30 p.m. It will replace The Johnny Presents program which has been heard in that spot. Featured with Desmond, is Margaret Whiting, one of the bright gal singers on the musical horizon. Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist" whose comedy style has been compared to that of the late Will Rogers, will provide amiable buffoonery. The 30-piece orchestra will be conducted by Jerry Gray, who was top arranger for the late Major Glenn Miller and the manager of the Miller AAF Band. For an added attraction, "The Follies" will present 16 vocal lovelies. The program will combine the glamorous features of the "Follies" show with fresh, young talent in music and comedy. Desmond, Shriner, and Gray are all recently discharged veterans.

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The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Mar 10, 1946, Page 12:

**KGU News**

A sparkling new radio show patterned after the famous "Follies" of Florenz Ziegfeld, the "Philip Morris Follies of 1946," will start on KGU Monday at 8:30 p.m. It's a line-up of fresh, young talent headed by Johnny Desmond, baritone favorite of the late Major Glenn Miller's AAF overseas band. All of star performers are in their twenties but they're not without plenty of professional stage and radio experience behind them. Margaret Whiting, song stylist of the "Follies," has a technique of singing with a beat which makes her unique among today's singers. Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist," furnishes the comedy relief for the program. Raconteur, philosopher and harmonica wizard, his homespun witticisms have been compared to those of Will Rogers. A special "Ziegfeld touch" is added by the addition of 16 vocal glamour girls to the cast. "Johnny," the program's internationally known call boy, is assisted in his introductions by two beautiful show girls, Isabelle Gibbs and Michael Ann Travis.

Photograph of Johnny Desmond included.

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Variety Weekly, Jan 30, 1946, Page 34, Radio Reviews:

**"PHILIP MORRIS FOLLIES OF 1946"**

**With Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray orch, chorus, Johnny, Ken Roberts**

**Writer: Jay Franklin Jones**

**Producer: Ward Byron**

**30 Mins; Tues., 8 p.m.**

**Estimated Talent Cost: \$7,500**

**PHILIP MORRIS**

**WEAF-NBC, N.Y.**

*(Biow)*

Replacing "Johnny Presents," the new "Follies" show, on preem (22) impressed as one of the fresher shows on the air. While format is based on established variety lines, freshness of talent, spirited pacing, and good all-around production provide solid fare. Both the sponsor and the agency rates kudos for an ambitious effort to inject new talent into the postwar commercial radio picture.

With ex-GI's Johnny Desmond, Herb Shriner, and maestro Jerry Gray, the appeal seems built around the juve trade, but it's a show that will hit mature listeners with equal effectiveness, especially with addition of Margaret Whiting, whose recording of "It Might As Well Be Spring" has catapulted her into the bigtime fringe.

Musical portions of the session are well handled. Desmond, well publicized as the GI Sinatra and known to listeners on the "Teentimers" NBC Saturday show, is certain femme lure. Numbers are robust and appealing with "Symphony" as his highlight. Margaret Whiting, of course, does the "Spring" tune in her easy and appealing way.

Jerry Gray's music is lush and literate. He was arranger for the late Glenn Miller and approximates his style in the jivey sequences. Along with that, he has semi-classic overtones in his work that merit attention from all grades of listeners.

Shriner, reminiscent of the late Will Rogers, does his Hoosier humorist stint in the best vaude tradition. Gab is homey and pungent, and well delivered with a harmonica stint as the walk off.

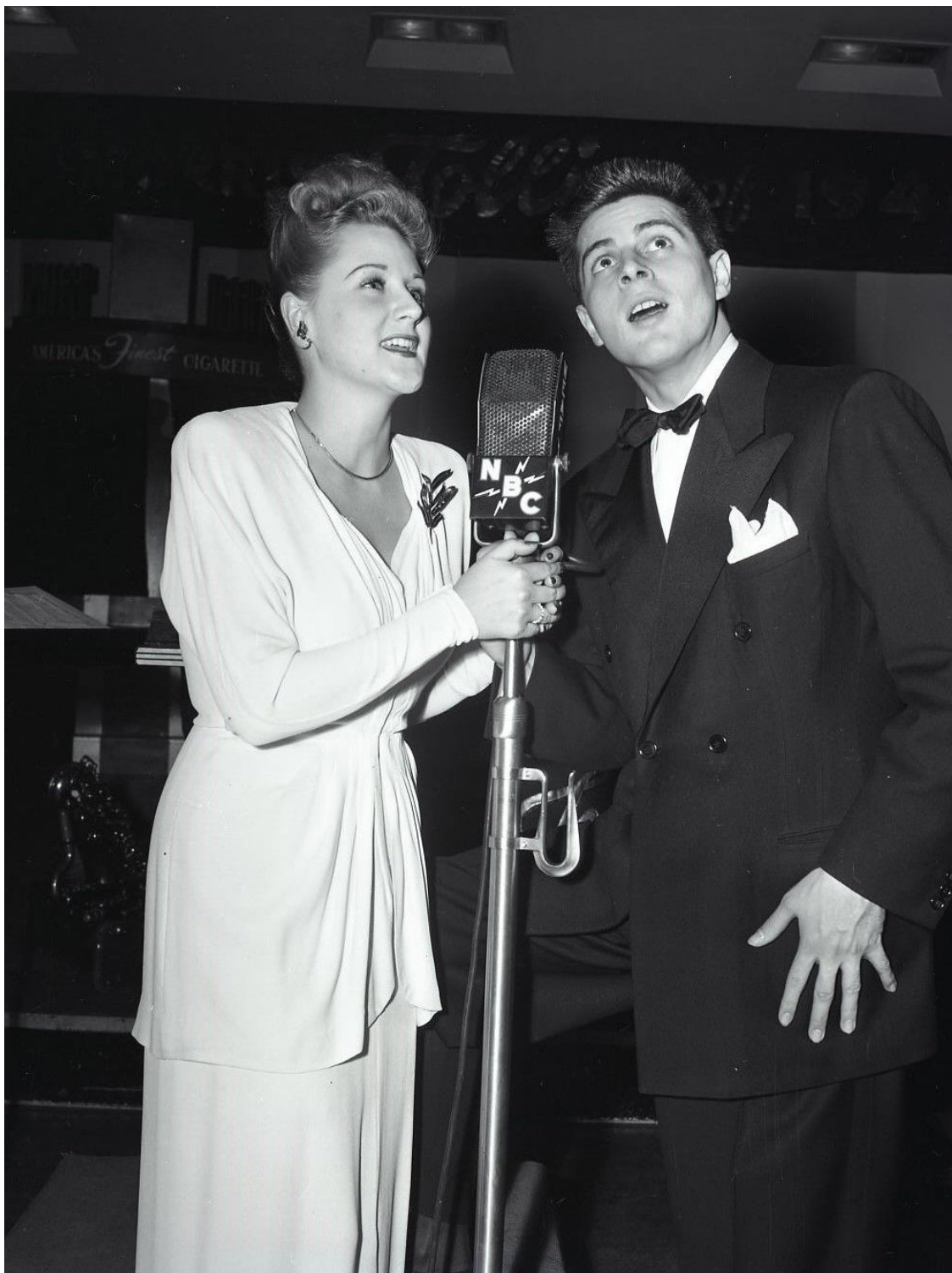
Rest of the talent comprises a femme chorus for vocal background with a section of them doing announcement chores in unison to provide a cute effect.

Commercials are comparatively brief and well delivered.

*Jose.*

[Author's Note: Although this *Variety* review was published on Jan 30, 1946, it is included under the original broadcast date articles of Jan 22, 1946.]

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Margaret Whiting and Johnny Desmond  
Philip Morris Follies of 1946, dated January 22, 1946

[Author's Note: Team Jerry Gray has the original negative for this photograph. See *The Metronome*, April 1946 issue below for additional photos taken from this date.]

**January 23, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

Daily News [New York City, New York], Jan 23, 1946, Page 30:

**Listening In – With Sid Shalit**

**Variety Pattern Unchanged** . . . It being the accepted formula for radio variety shows to include a boy and a girl vocalist, a comedian, and an orchestra, "Follies of 1946," premiering over WEAJ at 8 last night, did nothing to deviate from this pattern. Since we've long abandoned hope for new program ideas, we could only judge performers and results. These were good.

With Johnny Desmond, so-called GI Sinatra, and Margaret Whiting as singers, Herb Shriner as laugh-maker, and Jerry Gray, former Glenn Miller arranger, heading the orchestra, the show got off to a nice start. Statistics on the cast: Desmond and Gray were together with the late Major Glenn Miller's AAF Band; Shriner is also an ex-GI, and all four principals are under 30. Youth will be served and youth, in turn, served dialers generously.

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**January 25, 1946 [Friday]:**

The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Jan 25, 1946, Page 16:

**In The Groove**

**VETERAN'S DEBUT**

A former GI sergeant, whose vocalizing with the late Glenn Miller's Army Air Force band overseas won him a sensational reputation among Army men and European bobby-soxers, has just made his RCA Victor debut. He is Johnny Desmond, presented with Russ Case and band in "Don't You Remember Me?" and "In The Eyes Of My Irish Colleen." Creamy quality of his voice is excellently displayed on the A side. Rhythm marks the flipover with a light romantic touch.

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**January 27, 1946 [Sunday]:**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jan 27, 1946, Page 5H:

## **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

### **Johnny Desmond in Second Show on KSD**

JOHNNY DESMOND will sing "Aren't You Glad You're You?" and "Slowly" in the second broadcast, at 7:00 Tuesday evening, of KSD's new Johnny Presents program. Margaret Whiting's song will be "Someone To Watch Over Me." Tunes from "Showboat" also will be featured.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jan 27, 1946, Section 2, Page 12:

### **RADIO: By BILL LADD – Courier-Journal Radio Editor**

Herb Shriner of Fort Wayne, Ind., goes on the N.B.C. "Follies of 1946." He was discovered by an Australian booker who took him there for a series of engagements. He is compared with Will Rogers in all the publicity.

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Kingsport Times-News [Kingsport, Tennessee], Jan 27, 1946, Page 7:

WKPT Air Lines by Dy. L. Twister – Hello, friend! Settle back in some nice easy-chair and enjoy the latest news of some of the top radio stars, 'cause here's another edition of Air Lines ... Next year's results may include a show that made its debut Tuesday night at 8 o'clock over NBC-WKPT. It's the "Follies of 1946" and stars ex-GI Johnny Desmond (Le Cremer to ze French bobby-soxers), a lad with a grand voice and easy manner, and his co-workers ex-GI Herb Shriner and ex-GI Jerry Gray.

You'll be hearing much more from Herb Shriner, the comedian with the Will Rogers manner plus a harmonica, and Jerry Gray, who leads (and arranges for) the late Maj. Glenn Miller's band of 31 top musicians. The arrangement of "Russian Patrol" they played on this past Tuesday night's program was downright hair-raising. They have a lovely lass on the show whose dulcet tones come easy to the ears ... Margaret Whiting. This reporter cannot recommend the "Follies of 1946" too highly!

I've got a beef (and in this meat shortage, too!) The two girls who introduce Johnny Desmond on his new "Follies" show should either synchronize their voices better, or they should be replaced by one good voice. I rather lean towards the second suggestion, 'cause who sees these beautiful dames anyhow? Television isn't here yet (darn it); I don't think they add to this great show.

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The Nashville Tennessean [Nashville, Tennessee], Jan 27, 1946, Page 5-C:

### **Over The Air Waves**

The peppy "Aren't You Glad You're You?" will be Johnny Desmond's opening song on the second broadcast of the Philip Morris Follies of 1946, Tuesday (WSM, 7 p.m.). Jerry Gray will conduct the 30-piece orchestra in "Oranges and Lemons," the tune employed as a station break by the AAF Band during its broadcasts over the BBC. Tunes from the current "Showboat" revival highlighted by Desmond, Songstress Margaret Whiting and the 16 vocal lovelies will be next.

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Radio Life, Week of Jan 27, 1946, Page 15:

KFI (640)

8:30–9:00 p.m.

Philip Morris Follies

KFSD (1450)

8:30–9:00 p.m.

Philip Morris Follies

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## **January 28, 1946 [Monday]:**

Broadcasting, Jan 28, 1946, Page 70:

### **NETWORK ACCOUNTS – Changes**

Philip Morris Co., New York (Philip Morris Cigarettes), Jan. 22 replaced “Johnny Presents” on 114 NBC stations with “Philip Morris Follies of 1946,” Tues. 8-8:30 p.m. Agency: Biow Co., N.Y.

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The News-Herald [Franklin, Pennsylvania], Jan 28, 1946, Page 8:

### **Young Radio Star Can’t Kid A Lot About The News By JACK GAVER**

NEW YORK, Jan 28 – UP – The Central High School crowd out in Ft. Wayne, Ind., ought to get an extra kick out of hearing Herb Shriner on the radio because he’s an alumnus of eight years ago. The same goes for ex-GI’s because Herb is an Army of alumnus of three months ago.

Herb, who was coming along pretty well for a young fellow before the war, has had no trouble sneaking back onto the civilian payroll, where comics always are welcome. After a few warmup guest shots on air and some after-dinner appearances, Shriner felt sufficiently at ease to put his name on a contract for the Philip Morris Follies of 1946, heard each Tuesday at 8 p.m. on the NBC network. The singing star of this new show is ex-GI Johnny Desmond.

Shriner, now 27, is a tall, blond chap whose comedy is linked up with current events. His delivery is somewhat on the style of the late Will Rogers, he’s definitely not in the snappy night club comic groove. He writes his own radio material, depending pretty much on the newspapers for inspiration for his monologues.

“The trouble right now is that there’s so much in the papers you can’t kid about,” Shriner deplored.

### **Started as Harmonica Player**

Shriner, who started out as a kid harmonica player in Ft. Wayne, still uses this instrument in his act. His big regret is that the Battle of the Bulge a year ago last December forced his outfit to leave Bastogne in a hurry, with the result that he abandoned several excellent German-made harmonicas which he had managed to collect.

However, Herb got one prized possession out of Europe – a German motorcycle. He found it abandoned in Cologne and proceeded to dismantle it. He mailed it home to Hollywood, Calif., a piece at a time, about 15 packages in all. When he got a furlough last July, he put it together and went around amazing the California traffic cops, who couldn’t figure out what kind of a machine he was riding.

The motorcycle, the radio show and life in general are pretty “jazzy,” to use Herb’s favorite word.

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**IT'S THE CALL FOR  
BETTER SMOKING**

**FOR SMOKING-  
PLEASURE THAT  
IS UNMARRED**

... When you smoke Philip Morris, your enjoyment of the world's finest tobaccos is unmarred by smoking-penalties. This cigarette is proved better for your nose and throat — superiority recognized by eminent medical authorities; a statement no other cigarette can make! So...

**CALL FOR  
PHILIP  
MORRIS**

**AMERICA'S  
FINEST  
CIGARETTE**

Creators of famous cigarettes for 92 years,  
always under the Philip Morris name

PHILIP MORRIS & CO. LTD.  
LONDON

[Author's Note: As we have no Philip Morris audio commercials from the *Follies of 1946* broadcasts, we are including representative print commercials of the time.]

**January 29, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 02:**

Aren't You Glad You're You? – v Johnny Desmond  
Someone To Watch Over Me – v Margaret Whiting  
Oranges And Lemons – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
Slowly – v Johnny Desmond  
Showboat Medley – v Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and the Follies Girls

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 1, Part 1 is marked SS-2-20-9 and Johnny Desmond 1, Part 2 is marked SS-2-20-10. Dated January 29, 1946.

**This is AFRS 1, first in the series of the *Johnny Desmond Follies*, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 1:**

AFRS OPENING (0:17)  
AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU'RE YOU (1:35) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME (3:01) – v Margaret Whiting with Billy Butterfield on trumpet  
ORANGES AND LEMONS (3:33) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
SYMPHONY (2:13) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
DIALOGUE (0:25) – Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting  
TWELFTH STREET RAG (3:19) – Herb Shriner on harmonica and comedy routine  
IT MIGHT AS WELL BE SPRING (2:45) – v Margaret Whiting \*  
SLOWLY (1:51) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
DIALOGUE (0:35) – Johnny Desmond and Herb Shriner  
STATE FAIR MEDLEY:  
    “OVERTURE” (0:21) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, v the Follies Girls  
    ISN'T IT KIND OF FUN? (1:13) – v Margaret Whiting  
    THAT'S FOR ME (1:53) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
OKLAHOMA MEDLEY:  
    “OVERTURE” (0:31) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, v the Follies Girls  
    THE SURREY WITH THE FRINGE ON TOP (0:58) – v Margaret Whiting  
    DIALOGUE OVER MUSIC (0:37) – Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner  
    PEOPLE WILL SAY WE'RE IN LOVE (2:05) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
AFRS CLOSING (1:04) – ORANGES AND LEMONS (reprise) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

The announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 30:11

**AFRS Announcer:** *The Johnny Desmond Follies, with Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, our 16 lovely Follies Girls, and the star of our show, Johnny Desmond.*

[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Folies*, AFRS 1 –

The songs and medleys on this AFRS transcription primarily come from the January 22, 1946 NBC broadcast and the January 29, 1946 NBC broadcast. It is unlikely that we will know whether they are from the east coast (early) or the west coast (late) programs, as there apparently are no AFRS notes and so few performances known to exist today for comparison.

AFRS would typically remove four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original NBC broadcasts and then insert additional songs and/or an extended closing reprise to fill out the AFRS disk time to 30 minutes.

*Symphony, It Might As Well Be Spring*, and the *Oklahoma Medley* on AFRS 1 are likely from the January 22nd broadcast based on advance newspaper listings.

\* There was likely a Philip Morris commercial between the Herb Shriner segment and *It Might As Well Be Spring* by Margaret Whiting. The introduction to Margaret would likely have been done by Michael Ann Travers and Isobel Gibbs, the two "Johnny's girls" who were also included in the Philip Morris commercial. See the February 4, 1946 *Broadcasting* article below.

*Aren't You Glad You're You, Someone To Watch Over Me, Oranges And Lemons*, and *Slowly* are likely from the January 29th broadcast based on advance newspaper listings.

The *State Fair* medley may have come from the January 29th program, although advance newspaper listings show a medley from *Showboat* as the weekly Broadway tribute. It is possible the *State Fair* medley replaced the *Showboat* medley on the January 29th program, or is from a later program.

To further add mystery to the Broadway tributes, AFRS 2 includes a medley from *Girl Crazy*, yet the newspaper listings for the next two programs list a medley from *Carousel* and a *Richard Whiting tribute*. This *Richard Whiting tribute* appears on AFRS 3 with a confirmed broadcast date of February 12th.

As only one Broadway/Composer tribute appears listed by the advanced newspaper listings for each weekly broadcast, we will only likely determine the actual broadcast dates if additional NBC Network transcriptions or program scripts are located.

There will also be other questions presented when you see the included content of later AFRS *Johnny Desmond Folies* transcriptions.

It will be most helpful if we can determine the actual release dates of the AFRS transcriptions.

It is possible the content of some of the AFRS transcriptions comes from several broadcasts.]

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[Author's Note: The *Philip Morris Folies* NBC Network Radio Broadcast was broadcast on a delayed basis over KGU in Honolulu, Hawaii, weekly on Monday evenings at 8:30 p.m. local time. This first week's show was aired 7-weeks after the mainland broadcast. By late April, the delay was down to only 3-weeks, which means 4 programs were not aired in Honolulu. A 16-inch acetate copy was likely used, pressed on the mainland and delivered to Hawaii via ship or by airliner.]

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The Brooklyn Daily Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Jan 29, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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The New York Times [New York City, New York], Jan 29, 1946, Page 41 L:

**RADIO TODAY**

**8-8:30 Variety:** Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Songs; Herb Shriner, Comedy; Gray  
Orchestra – WEAF

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jan 29, 1946, Page 8:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM: "FOLLIES OF 1946" with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, vocalists; Herb Shriner, comedian; and Jerry Gray's orchestra.**

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Jan 29, 1946, Page 8, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: Tunes from "Show Boat," which is enjoying a Broadway revival are highlighted by Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting and 16 vocal lovelies on the "Follies of 1946." Herb Shriner provides an interlude of comedy, Ken Roberts announces.

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The Greenville News [Greenville, South Carolina], Jan 29, 1946, Page 10:

"The Philip Morris Follies of Forty-Six" will feature Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting in a medley from "Show Boat" tonight at 8 over WFBC-NBC. Ex-Sergeant Desmond will also sing "Aren't You Glad You're You" and "Slowly," while Miss Whiting will offer "Someone To Watch Over Me."

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jan 29, 1946, Page 5:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

WIRE-NBC brings you a complete evening of all-star comedy, for your listening pleasure. "Follies of 1946" featuring Johnny Desmond and Herb Shriner, whose comedy steals the show, is heard at 7 o'clock.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jan 29, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jan 29, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**Highlights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Johnny Desmond sings "Slowly"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jan 29, 1946, Page 10:

Airglances By Mary Little

Johnny Desmond, baritone, Margaret Whiting, vocalist, Herb Shriner, comedian; 16-voice chorus and Jerry Gray's orchestra stage the Philip Morris Follies at 7 p.m. WHO.

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The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Jan 29, 1946, Page 11, Radio Programs:

KGNC (1440) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Johnny Presents, NBC

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The Ogden Standard-Examiner [Ogden, Utah], Jan 29, 1946, Page 9:

**NBC PARADE OF STARS**

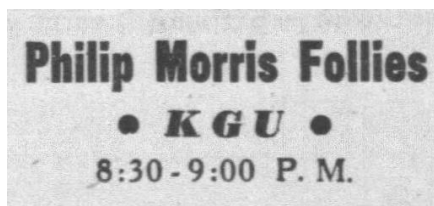
Johnny Desmond, Singing Favorite Stars on The New "Follies of 1946"

9:30 p.m.

TUNE IN – **KDYL 1320** on your dial

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The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Mar 18, 1946, Page 9:





Johnny Desmond at WEAF microphone – Bandstands read “Philip Morris Follies of 1946”  
[This picture taken on a Tuesday evening between Jan 22, 1946 and Apr 2, 1946]

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**January 31, 1946 [Thursday]:**

*The Daily Pantagraph* [Bloomington, Illinois], Jan 31, 1946, Page 4:

**In Hollywood BY ERSKINE JOHNSON**

Wedding bells will ring any minute for William Eythe and Singer Margaret Whiting.

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*Iron County Record* [Cedar City, Utah], Jan 31, 1946, Page 9:

**Star Dust ☆ ☆ ☆ STAGE SCREEN RADIO [Released by Western Newspapers Union]**

**By VIRGINIA VALE**

One of the most interesting things about the new "Follies of '46" heard on NBC Tuesday evenings is that all the principals are under 30. Johnny Desmond, "The G.I.'s Sinatra," Margaret Whiting (who's engaged to Bill Eythe), Herb Shriner, a radio favorite before joined the army, and Bandleader Jerry Gray, who was Glenn Miller's arranger – they're all in their 20's.

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**February 1, 1946 [Friday]:**

WOW NEWS TOWER [Omaha, Nebraska], Feb 1, 1946, Page 5:

**AAF Star Heads Philip Morris Follies**

"The Philip Morris Follies of 1946," new glamor show which stars Johnny Desmond, singing favorite of the overseas AAF, made its formal bow over the NBC network on Tuesday, January 22 (7 p.m., WOW), replacing the "Johnny Presents" program.

Featured with Desmond, who currently is starred on NBC's "Teentimer's Club," is Margaret Whiting, whose best-selling record of "It Might As Well Be Spring" skyrocketed her to popularity, and Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist."

The 30-piece orchestra is conducted by Jerry Gray, who was arranger for the late Major Glenn Miller and then manager of the Miller AAF Band after the major's disappearance at sea. "The Follies" also presents a female chorus of 16, selected on the same basis as the chorus of a Broadway musical – for beauty of voice, face, and figure.

Desmond, Shriner, and Gray all were recently discharged from the Army with sergeant's ratings. Ward Byron produces the "Follies of '46." Ken Roberts is the announcer.

[Author's Note: Published Monthly by WOW, Omaha, Nebraska, to "Increase Enjoyment Of WOW Radio Programs." Subscription is fifty cents a year, payable in advance.]

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Burlington Daily Times-News [Burlington, North Carolina], Feb 1, 1946, Page 4:

**Walter Winchell On Broadway – Copyright 1939 Daily Mirror, Inc.**

. . . One day the dictionaries will include Jerry Gray's new word: Billboneheads . . .

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The Brookshire Times [Brookshire, Texas], Feb 1, 1946, Page 4:

**Star Dust ☆ ☆ ☆ STAGE SCREEN RADIO [Released by Western Newspapers Union]**

One of the most interesting things about the new "Follies of '46" heard on NBC Tuesday evenings is that all the principals are under 30. Johnny Desmond, "The G.I.'s Sinatra," Margaret Whiting (who's engaged to Bill Eythe), Herb Shriner, a radio favorite before joined the army, and Bandleader Jerry Gray, who was Glenn Miller's arranger – they're all in their 20's.

[Author's Notes: This story appeared in numerous newspapers over a four-week period.]

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**February 3, 1946 [Sunday]:**

Radio Life [Los Angeles, California], Week of Feb 3, 1946, Page 17:

KFI (640)	8:30–9:00 p.m.	Philip Morris Follies
KFSD (1450)	8:30–9:00 p.m.	Philip Morris Follies

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Radio Life [Los Angeles, California], Week of Feb 3, 1946, Page 11, Precasts & Previews:

Radio Roundup from KFI – WHAT’S NEW: Variety

Tuesday, February 5 – “Follies of Forty-Six” KFI 8:30 pm (30 min.) Starring singer Johnny Desmond. Featured will be Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and Jerry Gray.

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The Nashville Tennessean [Nashville, Tennessee], Feb 3, 1946, Page 5-C:

**Over The Air Waves**

Tuesday – Johnny Desmond, romantic baritone star of the Philip Morris Follies of 1946, will offer “Oh, What It Seemed To Be,” Tuesday (WSM, 7 p.m.). His second number will be “Don’t You Remember Me?” Margaret Whiting will sing the old favorite “Somebody Loves Me.” The entire company supported by the sixteen singing Follies Girls, will close with tunes from “Carousel.” Herb Shriner will be heard in an interlude of “Wabashful” comedy.

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Kingsport Times-News [Kingsport, Tennessee], Feb 3, 1946, Page 7:

WKPT Air Lines by Dy. L. Twister

Here’s our biography for this week . . . Herb Shriner, humorist on the new “Follies of 1946” show (NBC-WKPT, Tuesday, 8 p.m. EST), is Ohio-born (Toledo) and Indiana-bred (Fort Wayne), but went to Australia to be discovered. Not until he broke up his band of harmonica players to go “down-under” to try a new tack – that of comedian – did he begin attracting attention.

As Herb tells it, “I was in Chicago in 1938, playing a benefit – for my landlady – when a booker from Australia saw me and arranged to put me on the next boat for Sydney.”

Herb and his homespun witticisms scored an instant success with Australian audiences. He came back to the West Coast of the U.S. and his slow, bashful mixture of comedy and philosophy caught on immediately with audiences welcoming a change from “rapid-fire” comedians. Radio, bowing to the public demand, signed him. He made guest appearances and was on a major program for several weeks before entering the service.

Herb’s 2½ years in the Army netted him five battle stars on his European campaign ribbon. He was discharged a few months ago with the rating of sergeant.

Herb is proud of a collection of 300 harmonicas and a typewriter he bought in Australia – it types entirely in upper case. Critics have said that Herb is the “nearest thing to Will Rogers” that they have heard yet. Quiet a compliment.

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**February 4, 1946 [Monday]:**

Broadcasting, Feb 4, 1946, Page 56:

Picture with the following caption – INSPECTORS OF GAMS surrounding Johnny are Arthur Goldman (l), Biow Co. account executive on Philip Morris, and Ray Jones (r), Philip Morris vice president. Johnny's girls, who made debut at new *Follies of '46* (NBC, Tues., 8-8:30 p.m.), are Mike Travers (on Johnny's right) and Isobel Gibbs.

[Author's Note: Johnny of course is Johnny Roventini. Johnny's girls wore matching tops and caps with Johnny, as well as relatively short skirts].

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The Coshocton News [Coshocton, Ohio], Feb 4, 1946, Page 4:

Along Broadway By Dan Walker

Something definitely new in ladies' cosmetics: Johnny Desmond's likeness on a new compact.

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**February 5, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 03:**

Oh, What It Seemed To Be – v Johnny Desmond  
Somebody Loves Me – v Margaret Whiting  
Don't You Remember Me? – v Johnny Desmond  
Symphony – v Johnny Desmond  
Carousel Medley – v Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and the Follies Girls

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 2, Part 1 is marked SS-2-27-9 and Johnny Desmond 2, Part 2 is marked SS-2-27-10. Dated February 5, 1946.

**This is AFRS 2, second in the series of the *Johnny Desmond Follies*, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 2:**

AFRS OPENING (0:17)  
LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW! (1:41) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
SOMEBODY LOVES ME (1:50) – v Margaret Whiting  
ORANGES AND LEMONS (3:11) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
I KNOW THAT YOU KNOW (1:35) – v the Follies Girls  
CZARDAS (1:35) – Herb Shriner on harmonica/comedy routine with Johnny Desmond  
OH, LADY BE GOOD! (3:02) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME (2:42) – v Margaret Whiting with Billy Butterfield on trumpet  
DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME? (3:07) – v Johnny Desmond  
SLOWLY (1:51) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
DIALOGUE (0:35) – Johnny Desmond and Herb Shriner  
GIRL CRAZY MEDLEY:  
    “OVERTURE” (0:24) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, v the Follies Girls  
    BIDIN' MY TIME (1:01) – v Margaret Whiting  
    EMBRACEABLE YOU (2:07) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU'RE YOU (1:29) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
AFRS CLOSING (1:14) – OH, LADY BE GOOD! (reprise) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

The announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 30:09

**AFRS Announcer:** *The Johnny Desmond Follies, with Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, our 16 lovely Follies Girls, and the star of our show, Johnny Desmond.*

[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 2 –

The songs on this AFRS transcription are likely to come from at least two different broadcast dates, yet primarily February 5, 1946. It is unlikely that we will know whether they are from the east coast (early) or the west coast (late) programs, as there are apparently no AFRS notes and so few performances known to exist today for comparison.

AFRS would remove four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original broadcast and then insert additional songs and/or an extended closing reprise to fill out the AFRS disk time to 30 minutes.

ORANGES AND LEMONS is inserted in this AFRS program from the January 29th NBC broadcast. It was also included on AFRS 1. This version runs about 22 seconds shorter than AFRS 1, as the intro had been edited out.

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME is also inserted from the January 29th NBC broadcast. It was also included on AFRS 1. This version runs about 19 seconds shorter than AFRS 1, as the intro had been edited out.

SLOWLY is also inserted the January 29th NBC broadcast. It was also included on AFRS 1.

AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU'RE YOU is also inserted song from the January 29th NBC broadcast. It was also included on AFRS 1. This version runs about 6 seconds shorter than AFRS 1, as the intro had been edited out.

OH, LADY BE GOOD! likely comes from the February 12th NBC broadcast.]

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[Author's Note: The *Philip Morris Follies* NBC Network Radio Broadcast was broadcast on a delayed basis over KGU in Honolulu, Hawaii, weekly on Monday evenings at 8:30 p.m. local time. This first week's show was aired 7-weeks after the mainland broadcast. By late April, the delay was down to only 3-weeks, which means 4 programs were not aired in Honolulu. A 16-inch acetate copy was likely used, pressed on the mainland and delivered to Hawaii via ship or by airliner.]

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*The Berkshire Evening Eagle* [Pittsfield, Massachusetts], Feb 5, 1946, Page 16:

8.00 – WEAf – Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Songs; Herb Shriner, Comedian; Gray Orchestra.

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Feb 5, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra; WEAf

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*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Feb 5, 1946, Page 18:

TODAY'S RADIO HIGHLIGHTS

8:00 P.M. – WEAJ – Johnny Presents – starring Johnny Desmond – tunes from “Carousel” – also Margaret Whiting, a 16-voice all-girl choir and Jerry Gray’s Orchestra.

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*The News-Herald* [Franklin, Pennsylvania], Feb 5, 1946, Page 4:

**The Voice of Broadway By DOROTHY KILGALLEN**

**Tops in Town: Johnny Desmond’s recording of “Don’t You Remember Me?”**

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*Pittsburgh Press* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Feb 5, 1946, Page 31:

By SI STEINHAUSER

Herb Shriner, the radio clown, who was overseas with Baron Elliott’s gang and is on the NBC network, collects bicycles as a hobby. The 8th Air Force boys saw that he got a German bike.

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*Asbury Park Evening Press* [Asbury Park, New Jersey], Feb 5, 1946, Page 5:

Advertisement:

RCA VICTOR RECORDS

NEW POPULAR VICTOR RECORDS  
20-1796 – Don’t You Remember Me? Johnny Desmond

[Author’s Note: Excellent marketing. Same song included on tonight’s *Follies* broadcast.]

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Feb 5, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight’s Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting spotlight songs of romance on “FOLLIES OF 1946”**

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*The Greenville News* [Greenville, South Carolina], Feb 5, 1946, Page 12:

Tunes from “Carousel” top a program of romantic music featuring Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, a 16-voice all-girl choir, and Jerry Gray’s orchestra on the “Philip Morris Follies of 1946” tonight at 8 over WFBC-NBC. Herb Shriner contributes the comedy.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Feb 5, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Johnny Desmond in "Don't You Remember Me"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Feb 5, 1946, Page 16, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: New and old favorites are sung by Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting on "Follies of 1946." The Jerry Gray orchestra, the 16 singing Follies Girls and Desmond and Miss Whiting join for a medley of songs from "Carousel."

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Feb 5, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY – P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Feb 5, 1946, Page 2C:

**BROADWAY By WALTER WINCHELL**

QUOTATION MARKSMANSHIP: Herb Shriner – Bilbo's foolibuster.

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The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Feb 5, 1946, Page 11, Radio Programs:  
KGNC (1440) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Johnny Presents, NBC

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**February 6, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

The Elwood Call-Leader [Elwood, Indiana], Feb 6, 1946, Page 8:

**QUOTES OF THE WEEK**

"I saw a picket carrying a blank sign – looking for a sponsor" – Herb Shriner, Hoosier commentator.

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**February 8, 1946 [Friday]:**

*The Plain Speaker* [Hazleton, Pennsylvania] Feb 8, 1946, Page 15:

**RADIO CHART LISTENING POST**

Jerry Gray, conductor of NBC's "Philip Morris Follies of 1946," blushes when he hears that commandment about honoring one's father and mother. Not actually a disobedient son, Jerry opposed his parents only in the type of music he chose to play. In accordance with their wishes, he took lessons under the first violinist of the Boston Opera House, but he spent his evenings in the local "hot" musician's hangout, learning how to play good jazz.

He organized his first dance orchestra when he was 12, leading and doubling on the violin. After high school, he took the band on tour of cafes around his native Boston. On his 21st birthday, Gray received a telegram from Artie Shaw offering him a place as first violinist in Shaw's reorganized string orchestra. He advanced to become Shaw's top arranger, responsible for such recorded hits as "Begin The Beguine" and "Softly, As In A Morning Sunrise."

When Shaw's orchestra disbanded, Gray joined Glenn Miller, scoring new triumphs with his arrangements of "String Of Pearls," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," and "Pennsylvania 6-5000. For a short time before entering the service in 1943, Gray did arranging for Andre Kostelanetz.

Glenn Miller, then a Captain directing the AAF band, put in a bid for Gray's services as arranger. After Miller's disappearance over the English Channel, Jerry took over the leadership of the band and returned to this country in 1945 to musically direct NBC's own AAF program, "I Sustain The Wings."

On his discharge in November, 1945, Jerry was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

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**February 9, 1946 [Saturday]:**

*The Billboard*, Feb 9, 1946, Page 20:

Jerry Johnson flacking Johnny Desmond and Jerry Gray on Coast for Don Haynes.

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*Daily News* [New York City, New York], Feb 9, 1946, Page 20:

**Broadway – By DANTON WALKER**

Fans of Margaret Whiting (and they are legion) will hear their darling on the Philip Morris air show Feb 12 in a medley of songs by her father, the late Richard Whiting.

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**February 10, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*The Coshocton News* [Coshocton, Ohio], Feb 10, 1946, Page 7:

**Twisting Radio Dials By MARY COLLINS** News Staff Writer

Do you know Johnny Desmond? Well, if you don't, you will! Right out of the "wild blue yonder" he comes to head a line-up of fresh, young talent in a sparkling new radio show – NBC's new "Philip Morris Follies of 1946," patterned after the famous Ziegfeld "Follies" spectacles.

We're sure you'll like this engaging young baritone, recent favorite of the overseas AAF in Europe, who sang with the late Major Glenn Miller's AAF band, and received fan mail in three languages from admirers. Before that, he was a member of Bob Crosby's Bob O'Links and star vocalist with Gene Krupa.

Tune in any Tuesday night at eight o'clock to hear this new show over WHIZ, which includes "Johnny," the program's famous call boy; 16 glamour vocalists; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; and Jerry Gray, top arranger for the Miller AAF band, and conductor after Miller's disappearance in a flight over the English Channel.

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*The Greenville News* [Greenville, South Carolina], Feb 10, 1946, Page 10:



HERB SHRINER, the Wabashful humorist, brings his harmonica and home-spun witticisms to WFBC-NBC each Tuesday night at 8 o'clock on the "Philip Morris Follies of 1946."

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Feb 10, 1946, Page 5-I:

## **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Photograph of Herb Shriner with caption:

**HERB SHRINER, COMEDIAN IN  
KSD'S JOHNNY PRESENTS SHOW  
AT 7:00 TUESDAY EVENINGS.**

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The Nashville Tennessean [Nashville, Tennessee], Feb 10, 1946, Page 26-A:

### **Over The Air Waves**

Tuesday –

The singing Follies girls will feature Irving Berlin's spiritual ballad, "Abraham," in celebration of Lincoln's birthday on the Philip Morris Follies of 1946, Tuesday over WSM at 7 p.m. Singing star Johnny Desmond will plead for "Just A Little Fond Affection" and will follow with a new love song, "In The Moon Mist." Margaret Whiting will offer two numbers.

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Kingsport Times-News [Kingsport, Tennessee], Feb 10, 1946, Page 7:

### **WKPT Air Lines by Dy. L. Twister**

Unless your columnist misses his guess by a long shot, the new "Follies of 1946" program is a lead-pipe cinch to walk off with some of the "best" honors 'long about this time next year. The crooning of J. Desmond is smoooooth stuff. Margaret Whiting has a lovely pair of pipes, Herb Shriner is nowhere near the peak of his fame, and the arranging and conducting of Jerry Gray with the late Maj. Glenn Miller's band is too good to earn the adjective "marvelous." I'll make this prediction with one qualification . . . provided the quality of the program remains the same as in the past three weeks.

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The Shreveport Times [Shreveport, Louisiana], Feb 10, 1946, Page 17:

### **"Abraham" Featured by 16-Voice Chorus on NBC's "Follies of '46"**

Songs by romantic Johnny Desmond and an inspired interpretation of "Abraham" by the 16-voice chorus, will feature the "Follies of Forty-Six" on Lincoln's birthday, Tuesday, Feb. 12, over NBC and KTBS at 7 p.m.

Johnny, who is getting to be known as "The Haircut" because of his GI bob, will offer "Just a Little Fond Affection" and "She's Funny That Way." Blonde Margaret Whiting lends her lovely voice to "Day By Day" and "Breezing Along With the Breeze." Jerry Gray's orchestra gives out with "Blue Skies" and "Lady Be Good." Herb Shriner, the Wabashful Humorist, provides the laughs.

[Author's Notes: This is the first indication that Jerry Gray and his Orchestra performed two numbers on a Follies broadcast.]

Radio Life [Los Angeles, California], Week of Feb 10, 1946, Page 17:

KFI (640)	8:30–9:00 p.m.	Philip Morris Follies
KFSD (1450)	8:30–9:00 p.m.	Philip Morris Follies

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Radio Life [Los Angeles, California], Week of Feb 10, 1946, Page 28:

Radio Life Lines By EVELYN BIGSBY

Johnny Desmond, star of the new “Follies of Forty-Six,” is the G.I. credited with bringing back the hit French song, “Symphony.” If we hear it as often this week as we did last we’re gonna make him take it back.

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**February 11, 1946 [Monday]:**

Down Beat, Feb 11, 1946, Front Cover and Page 1:



### **Miller Vets On The Cover**

Two veterans of the famous Glenn Miller band pose for the cover of this issue. Johnny Desmond sang with Miller's AAF band overseas, building a reputation which won him his own radio show (NBC's *Teentimers Club*) on his return. Tex Beneke played sax and sang with Miller's civilian band before the war, served in the navy himself and now conducts the new Glenn Miller orchestra, currently at the Capitol theater in New York.

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Down Beat, Feb 11, 1946, Page 1:

### **Tex Beneke To Do One Nighters**

New York – Tex Beneke's Glenn Miller orchestra will do some one-nighters after a statement to the contrary, it was disclosed as the General Artists' Corp. submitted the band for two weeks of touring.

Thirty-five-piece band will ask \$3,000 nightly, with a 60 percent cut.

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[Author's Note: See Jan 14, 1946 AP photograph of Jerry Gray, Johnny Desmond, and Tex Beneke, presumably taken at the same time as the above *Down Beat* cover photograph of Johnny Desmond and Tex Beneke.]

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**February 12, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Audrey Marsh, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 04:**

Just A Little Fond Affection – v Johnny Desmond  
Abraham – v Audrey Marsh and the Follies Girls  
In The Moon Mist – v Johnny Desmond  
Day By Day – v Audrey Marsh  
Blue Skies – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
Oh, Lady Be Good! – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
Richard Whiting Medley – v Johnny Desmond, Audrey Marsh, and the Follies Girls.  
    Breezing Along With The Breeze – Audrey Marsh  
    She's Funny That Way – Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 3, Part 1 and Johnny Desmond 3, Part 2.  
Dated February 12, 1946.

**This is AFRS 3, third in the series of the *Johnny Desmond Follies*, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 3:**

AFRS OPENING (0:22)  
JUST A LITTLE FOND AFFECTION (1:20) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
DAY BY DAY (2:40) – v Audrey Marsh [a Follies Girl, filling in for Margaret Whiting]  
MINUET IN G (2:38) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
OH, WHAT IT SEEMED TO BE (3:15) – v Johnny Desmond  
ABRAHAM (1:40) – v Audrey Marsh and the Follies Girls  
OH, YOU BEAUTIFUL DOLL (1:15) – Herb Shriner on harmonica and comedy routine  
BLUE SKIES (2:35) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
IN THE MOON MIST (3:23) – v Johnny Desmond  
TRIBUTE TO RICHARD WHITING:  
    “OVERTURE” (0:24) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, v the Follies Girls  
    BREEZIN’ ALONG WITH THE BREEZE (1:13) – v Audrey Marsh  
    SHE’S FUNNY THAT WAY (2:35) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls  
DON’T YOU REMEMBER ME? (3:08) – v Johnny Desmond  
AFRS CLOSING (1:02) – MINUTE IN G (reprise) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

Announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 29:56

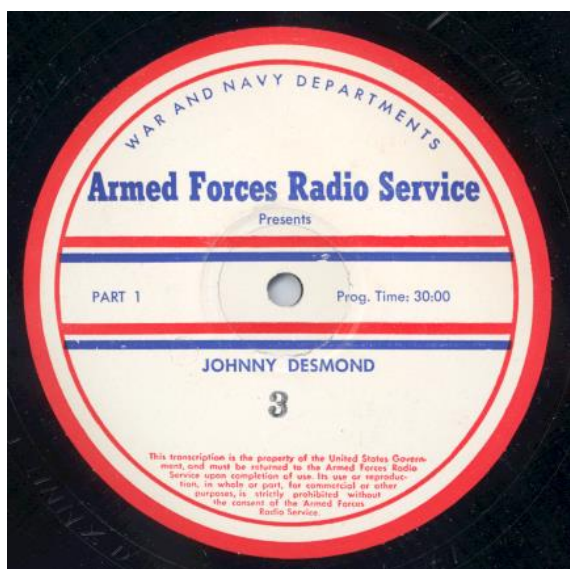
**AFRS Announcer:** *Presenting The Johnny Desmond Follies, with Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray and his 31 men, our 16 lovely Follies Girls, Audrey Marsh substituting for Margaret Whiting, and the star of our show, Johnny Desmond.*

[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 3 –

Audrey Marsh, one of the Follies Girl, is filling in for Margaret Whiting who was unable to perform. The reported diagnosis was German Measles.

Audrey Marsh [Audrey Lois Zellman Monk] was a very successful vocalist, going back to the late 1920's. In the 1940's and 1950's she was a popular jingle singer, as well as singing with the Mitch Miller Singers and The Ray Charles Singers. She is the mother of Meredith Monk.

A small portion of the Johnny Desmond introduction to BLUE SKIES is missing where the two sides of this AFRS disk were overlapped.]



*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Feb 12, 1946, Page 13:

#### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Feb 12, 1946, Page 12:

#### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGHLIGHTS**

8:00 P.M. – WEAF – Johnny Presents – Irving Berlin's "Abraham" tops a Lincoln's birthday celebration featuring singing star Johnny Desmond, his vocal partner, Margaret Whiting, the 16-voice all-girl choir, Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

Altoona Tribune, Altoona, Pa., Feb 12, 1946, Page 13 [with small picture of Johnny Desmond]:

Good Morning radio friends. Here is your Radio Reporter.

A sparkling new radio show patterned after the famous "Follies" spectacles of Florenz Ziegfeld, that's NBC's new *Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, heard over WFBG at 8 p.m. Tuesday. It's a line-up of fresh, young talent headed by Johnny Desmond, baritone favorite of the overseas AAF.

All of the featured performers are in their twenties but they're not without plenty of professional stage and radio experience behind them.

Desmond's rise to fame was precipitated by servicemen returning from the ETO, whose stories of the singing sergeant's popularity made the country sit up and take notice. He sang with the late Major Glenn Miller's AAF Band, receiving fan mail in three languages from European admirers. Before his army career, Jonny Desmond was a member of Bob Crosby's Bob-O-Links and star vocalist with Gene Krupa.

Featured with Desmond is Margaret Whiting whose recording of "It Might As Well Be Spring" skyrocketed her to fame. Daughter of song-writer Richard Whiting, Margaret was encouraged by his musical collaborator, Johnny Mercer, to try her luck in radio. After a series of guest appearances on major network shows, she joined Freddy Slack's orchestra. With him, she learned the technique of singing with a beat which made her unique among today's song stylists.

Herb Shriner, the "Wabashful Humorist," furnishes the comedy relief for the *Follies* bill. Raconteur, philosopher and harmonica wizard, his homespun witticisms have been compared to those of the late Will Rogers. Recently released as a sergeant from a two and a half year hitch in the Army, Herb is resuming a promising career which began in vaudeville.

Jerry Gray, top arranger for the Glenn Miller AAF Band, and conductor of the band after Miller's disappearance during a flight over the English Channel, leads the *Follies* 30-piece orchestra. Gray, also an ex-sergeant, was discharged from the AAF last November after receiving the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

A special "Ziegfeld touch" is added to *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* by the addition of 16 vocal glamour girls to the cast. There were selected on the basis of Broadway musical show requirements . . . beauty of voice, face, and figure. "Johnny," the program's internationally known call boy, is assisted in his introductions by two beautiful show girls . . . blonde Isabelle Gibbs and dark-haired Michael Ann Travis.

*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* introduces an ingenious new twist to radio entertainment and promises to be one of this year's outstanding programs.

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Feb 12, 1946, Page 21:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, an interpretation of "Abraham" by a 16-voice choir is featured on "FOLLIES OF 1946"**

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*The Evening Independent* [Massillon, Ohio], Feb 12, 1946, Page 4:

**Along Broadway – BROADWAY ROUNDUP By Dan Walker**

... Fans of Margaret Whiting (and they are legion) will hear their darling on the Philip Morris air show Feb 12, in a medley of songs by her father, the late Richard Whiting.

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Feb 12, 1946, Page 14, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME: BY WILMER G. MASON**

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: The singing Follies girls feature Irving Berlin's spiritual ballad, "Abraham," in celebration of Lincoln's Birthday as a feature of the "Follies of 1946."

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*The Atlanta Constitution* [Atlanta, Georgia], Feb 12, 1946, Page 19:

**ON THE AIR – By Paul Jones**

A tribute to the memory of Abraham Lincoln on the anniversary of the late President's birth, will be given during the Follies of 1946, which will be heard at 8 tonight via WGST.

The Singing Follies Girls will feature Irving Berlin's spiritual ballad, "Abraham," as the highlight of the program, while singing star Johnny Desmond pleads for "Just A Little Fond Affection" and follows with a new love song, "In The Moon Mist." Margaret Whiting offers "Day By Day," then quickens the tempo with the rhythmic "Breezing Along With The Breeze." Jerry Gray will conduct the orchestra in the playing of "Blue Skies" and "Lady Be Good." Desmond concludes with "She's Funny That Way."

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*The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis, Indiana], Feb 12, 1946, Page 15:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

ALL OF RADIO LAND will pay tribute to Lincoln's birthday with music and drama. Irving Berlin's modern spiritual, "Abraham," may become immortal along with Lincoln's birthday. Fred Waring will present the musical tribute on his show for the 137th birthday anniversary of the Civil War President (10 a.m., WIRE-NBC). The singing follies girls will feature the same ballad on "Johnny Presents," same station, 7 o'clock.

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Feb 12, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946 Johnny Desmond sings "In The Moon Mist"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Feb 12, 1946, Page 2D, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

#### RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

---

Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Feb 12, 1946, Page 10:

Airglances By Mary Little

Johnny Desmond, baritone, Margaret Whiting, vocalist, and Herb Shriner will be entertaining again on Follies of 1946.

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The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Feb 12, 1946, Page 7, Radio Programs:  
KGNC (1440)                      7:00–7:30 p.m.                      Johnny Presents, NBC

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### February 13, 1946 [Wednesday]:

The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Feb 13, 1946, Page 16:

**Walter WINCHELL** (Copyright, N.Y. Daily Mirror)

ENCORCHIDS: Herb Shriner's quipping via NBC Tuesday eves.

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### February 14, 1946 [Thursday]:

Madera Daily Tribune and Mercury [Madera, California], Feb 14, 1946, Page 4:

#### notes on 580

We want to clear up a question that has been bothering a number of readers during the past two weeks. The question is: why does the band on the "Follies of 1946," heard at 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, sound just like the old Glenn Miller. Reason: 29 years old Jerry Gray, formerly Miller's top arranger took over the band's leadership when Major Glenn Miller was lost in a flight over the English Channel.

K M J – NBC **580 ON YOUR DIAL**

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**February 17, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*The Coshocton News* [Coshocton, Ohio], Feb 17, 1946, Page 3:

Photo of Johnny Desmond with caption:

A sparkling new radio show patterned after the famous "Follies" spectacles of Florenz Ziegfeld . . . that's NBC's new "Philip Morris Follies of 1946," heard over WHIZ Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. It's a line-up of fresh, young talent headed by Johnny Desmond, baritone favorite of the overseas AAF.

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*The Nashville Tennessean* [Nashville, Tennessee], Feb 17, 1946, Page 26-A:

**Over The Air Waves**

Tuesday – A medley of tunes from "Babes In Arms" highlights the Philip Morris Follies of 1946 on WSM at 7 p.m. Singing star Johnny Desmond will offer "Where Or When" and Margaret Whiting will contribute "The Lady Is A Tramp." The 16 singing Follies girls will present the syncopated "Lullaby of Broadway."

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**February 18, 1946 [Monday]:**

*Olean Times Herald* [Olean, New York], Feb 18, 1946, Page 7:

*Voice Of Broadway* ----- *By Dorothy Kilgallen*

**GOSSIP IN GOTHAM**

. . . . . Margaret Whiting, the click canary, is bedded with German measles, of all things.

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*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Feb 18, 1946, Page 17:

**Hollywood** By Hugh Dixon

Hollywood, Feb 17 – Bill Eythe has been taking out Buff Cobb despite Margaret Whiting's announcement in New York that he's going to marry her next month.

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**February 19, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 05:**

Thou Swell – v Johnny Desmond

Wait and See – v Margaret Whiting

Oh, What It Seemed To Be – v Johnny Desmond

Lullaby Of Broadway – v the Follies Girls

Babes In Arms Medley – v Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and the Follies Girls

Where Or When – v Johnny Desmond

The Lady Is A Tramp – v Margaret Whiting

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

[Author's Note: It is not known whether Margaret Whiting had recovered from German Measles and participated on this broadcast.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Feb 19, 1946, Page 15:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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*Rochester Democrat And Chronicle* [Rochester, New York], Feb 19, 1946. Page 17:

Advertisement:

WHAM  
Voice of the Genesee  
DIAL 1180 NBC

**Wabashful Wit  
Herb Shriner  
"Follies of 1946"  
8:00 P.M.**

[Picture of Herb Shriner with his harmonica]

Herb Shriner, the Wabashful Humorist,  
brings you his harmonica and home spun  
witticisms. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting  
with Jerry Gray's orchestra present the  
show tunes of the past and present

Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Feb 19, 1946, Page 9:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FOLLIES OF 1946: Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting offer medley of tunes from “Babes in Arms”**

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Feb 19, 1946, Page 10, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: A medley of tunes from “Babes In Arms,” sung by Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, highlights “Follies of 1946.”

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The Greenville News [Greenville, South Carolina], Feb 19, 1946, Page 12:

A Medley of tunes from “Babes in Arms” highlights the “Philip Morris Follies of 1946” program to be heard tonight at 8 o'clock over WFBC-NBC.

Singing stars Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting will offer several tunes to the accompaniment of Jerry Gray's 31-piece orchestra.

Herb Shriner will provide “Wabashful” humor.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Feb 19, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs –** *These listings are correct as they go to press*

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946 Medley from “Babes In Arms”

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Feb 19, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Feb 19, 1946, Page 7:

Airglances By Mary Little

NEW SONGS, old songs and medley from "Babes in Arms" will be sung by Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting during the Follies of '46, 7 p.m. over WHO. Desmond offers "Thou Swell," "Oh, What It Seemed To Be" and "Where or When." Miss Whiting sings "Wait and See" and "The Lady Is A Tramp."

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**February 21, 1946 [Thursday]:**

Kingsport News [Kingsport, Tennessee], Feb 21, 1946, Page 4:

**WASHINGTON COLUMN By Peter Edson**

William Eythe says that his break with Songstress Margaret Whiting is official.

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Shiner Gazette [Shiner, Texas], Feb 21, 1946, Page 6:

**Star Dust**

**STAGE ☆ SCREEN ☆ RADIO**

By VIRGINIA VALE

*ODDS AND ENDS – Herb Shiner, comedian of the air's Follies of Forty-Six, collects bicycles as a hobby – has three, including a German one picked up when in Europe with the 8th Army Corps.*

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**February 22, 1946 [Friday]:**

Daily News [New York City, New York], Feb 22, 1946, Page 25:

**Listening In**  
With Ben Gross

"The difference between a merely good orchestra and a sensational one is in the arrangements," says Jerry Gray, who leads the musicians on WEA, Tuesdays at 8 P. M. "In the aggregate, there isn't too great a gap in the qualities of most band instrumentalists. In fact, many of the same men play in several studio orchestras. But yet the music produced by them in one is outstanding and in the other, merely so-so. It's a matter of arrangements." Jerry should know. His own arrangement of "Begin the Beguine" catapulted Artie Shaw to fame, after the song went almost unnoticed in the musical show, "Jubilee." Later, he performed a similar miracle for Glenn Miller with "Chattanooga Choo-Choo." In Major Miller's employ for years, Gray became a sergeant in the AAF and served as arranger for the late musician's Army Air Forces Band. Then, after Miller's tragic disappearance, he conducted the famous crew for a while.



**Jerry Gray**

\* \* \*

**February 23, 1946 [Saturday]:**

Williamsport Sun-Gazette [Williamsport, Pennsylvania], Feb 23, 1946, Page 12:

Margaret Whiting, lovely blonde songstress of the "Philip Morris Follies of 1946," missed last week's broadcast, victim of a mysterious attack of German Measles. "But I thought that was a child's disease," wailed elderly 24-year old Maggie.

**February 26, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 06:**

Great Day – v Johnny Desmond

I Get A Kick Out Of You – v Margaret Whiting

Personality – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspapers articles and Dave Goldin, see below]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 4, Part 1 and Part 2 markings are unknown. Dated February 26, 1946, per Dave Goldin.

This is AFRS 4 of the *Johnny Desmond Follies* series, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 4:**

From Dave Goldin's *RadioGOLDIndex* – Johnny Desmond's Follies. February 26, 1946.

AFRS Program #4. NBC net origination, AFRS rebroadcast. The first tune is "There's Gonna Be A Great Day." Herb jokes and plays a fine harmonica. A good show. Johnny Desmond, Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and His Orchestra. 29:51. Audio condition: Excellent. Complete.

[Author's Note: We have yet to locate a copy of *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 4.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Feb 26, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra; WEA

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Feb 26, 1946, Page 13:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FOLLIES OF 1946: Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and Herb Shriner**

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Feb 26, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Johnny Desmond sings "Personality"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Feb 26, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

**RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Feb 26, 1946, Page 7:

Airglances By Mary Little

Johnny Desmond sings "Personality" and Margaret Whiting offers "I Get A Kick Out Of You" during the Follies of '46, 7 p.m. over WHO. Desmond once served under Major Glenn Miller, the famed band leader, who was listed as missing in an air flight during the war. When Iowa remembers her heroes she could add the name of Glenn Miller. He once lived in Clarinda.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Feb 26, 1946, Page 7, Radio Programs:  
WHO (1040)                      7:00–7:30 p.m.                      Follies of 1946 Jerry Gray Orch.

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**February 27, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

The Ruthven Free-Press [Ruthven, Iowa], Feb 27, 1946, Page 24:

**Star Dust ☆ ☆ ☆ STAGE SCREEN RADIO [Released by Western Newspapers Union]**

ODDS AND ENDS – Dancing is the chief hobby of Johnny Desmond, star of "Follies of 46" – he learned to dance when he wasn't allowed to sing because his voice was changing.

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**March 1946:**

Purple Parrot [Northwestern University], March 1946, Page 10/11:

*The Local Jazz Scene:* IT'S IMPROVING BY BENNY BENNETT

A GREAT big bushel of rosy red apples goes to Ann Lavery this morning, kiddies. Miss Lavery, a shrewd Evanston co-ed, is responsible for – along with her sophomore council colleagues – a rather incredible innovation in campus café-society: and I mean, of course, that this commendable organization is attempting to whip up not any punk, tow-bit band for its April twelfth Cotillion but instead, Tex Beneke.

Personally, my hat's off to any local people who are willing to spend a few extra bucks for an outfit that will satisfy those whose primary interest is jazz.

Whether the sophomores will actually book the Beneke group for their affair is a matter for question at the moment, but the significant thing seems to be that somebody has finally recognized the need for some of that top-drawer talent in connection with Northwestern dances. Miss Lavery has gone after it in a big way.

She told me what kind of a fight it's been, and I'm perfectly agreeable about briefly passing it on to you here today at absolutely no increase in prices. Initially, the Soph council has to prove to powers of authority in these matters that the price of a band in Beneke's bracket is justifiable in light of a budget and the occasion. Dickering in this case was evidently done with Chicago representatives of Don Haynes, Beneke's manager.

The price quoted was in the neighborhood of two thousand, according to my source, and despite what most people will think, this is an unbelievably reasonable figure. Second-rate, semi-names are commanding not much less than that this year. In fact, Pat Lombard in the William Morris Agency office here informed me recently that Charlie Spivak and Vaughn Monroe are available for single dates later this month at a three thousand minimum. Like everything else, prices for artistry have doubled.

Beneke and band, nevertheless, would be cheap at any mark. Billed as "Glenn Miller's orchestra with Tex Beneke," the deal is just that. Personnel of the thirty-five-piece unit, including twelve strings and six vocalists, is comprised predominantly of the boys that played with Major Miller's Army Air Force crew, which also involved Jerry Gray, a matchless arranger for both the old civilian band and army aggregation. Gray, incidentally, has assumed the musical directorship of this one that Beneke is fronting on a series of eastern theatre engagements. Then Helen Miller, Glenn's wife, got together with Haynes and Gray and by contributing the old library of scores that established Glenn as the nation's favorite in '40 and '41, she's retaining a controlling interest in the new organization.

No slouch, certainly, was that AAF band of Glenn's – after he was reportedly missing as well as when he first took his bunch to England. You may quote me as saying it was one of the smoothest bits of machinery ever conceived in the modern realm. Arrangers Gray, Ralph Wilkinson, and Norm Leyden were responsible for providing an unsurpassed collection of sideman with imaginative material that is still hardly equaled by anyone today. One thing, this trio know how to write for strings. Unfortunately, though, little of his music has been preserved on wax – outside of a few army "V-disc" pressings, and they're literally collector's items now.

Reedmen Jack Ferrier, Willie Schwartz, and Fred Guerra, horn men Steve Steck and Bobbie Nichols, and trombonists Jim Priddy and Paul Tanner are among those back working for Tex.

Moe Purtill may fill the drum spot, and either Trigger Alpert, Doc Goldberg, and Rolly Bundock (all ex-Millermen) may be on bass. With this sort of lineup (plus strings) I'm thinking, happily, that a good many of those AAF scorings are being utilized and will continue to be so. My New England operator, however, has not reported either way as yet.

Photograph of Tex Beneke is included within this article.

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No curative power is claimed  
for PHILIP MORRIS—

*but*

AN OUNCE OF  
PREVENTION  
IS WORTH  
A POUND  
OF CURE

**PHILIP  
MORRIS** are scientifically proved  
far less irritating to the nose and throat.

Eminent doctors found—as reported in an  
authoritative medical journal—that:  
WHEN SMOKERS CHANGED TO PHILIP  
MORRIS, SUBSTANTIALLY EVERY CASE OF  
IRRITATION OF THE NOSE OR THROAT—  
DUE TO SMOKING—EITHER CLEARED UP  
COMPLETELY, OR DEFINITELY IMPROVED!

**CALL FOR PHILIP MORRIS**  
FAR FINER FLAVOR—  
PLUS FAR MORE PROTECTION

The advertisement features a central image of a hand holding a Philip Morris cigarette pack and a pen. The pack is labeled 'ESTABLISHED OVER 100 YEARS', 'PHILIP MORRIS INC.', and 'MADE IN U.S.A.'. Below the main headline, there is a small illustration of a smiling man in a red uniform and cap, with the text 'CALL FOR PHILIP MORRIS' overlaid.

Philip Morris Print Advertisement in this time frame.

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**March 2, 1946 [Saturday]:**

The Billboard, Mar 2, 1946, Page 14 – MUSIC:

**New York Commercial Network Shows – Peatman Points [Ratings]**

The Biow Co., 9 Rockefeller Plaza, Cl. 6-9300

Follies of 1946

Ward Byron

Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray (ork)

Rating of 9.9

For comparison, *Teentimer's Club* with Johnny Desmond was only a 4.3 rating, *Guy Lombardo* was 5.0, *Your Hit Parade* was 13.4, *Woody Herman* at 4.1, and *Fred Allen* at 26.8 rating.

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**March 3, 1946 [Sunday]:**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Mar 3, 1946, Page 5H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Johnny Desmond will sing "Begin The Beguine," "Give Me The Simple Life" and "When Your Lover Is Gone" in KSD's Johnny Presents show at 7:00 Tuesday evening.

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**March 4, 1946 [Monday]:**

Mount Carmel Item [Mount Carmel, Pennsylvania], Mar 4, 1946, Page 3, Radio Broadcasts:

Tuesday, March 5

WEAF (660)	8:00–8:30 p.m.	Johnny Desmond Margaret Whiting
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The Odessa American [Odessa, Texas], Mar 4, 1946, Page 3, On Your Radio Today:

Central Standard Time (Tuesday)

NBC	7:00 p.m.	Johnny Desmond
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Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting  
Possibly from a Philip Morris Follies/Frolics of 1946 rehearsal/broadcast

Photograph by Conrad Eiger of Life Magazine Fame [unknown date]

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**March 5, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 07:**

Give Me The Simple Life – v Johnny Desmond

When Your Lover Is Gone – v Johnny Desmond

Cole Porter's "Jubilee" Medley – v Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and the Follies Girls

Begin The Beguine – v Johnny Desmond

Just One Of Those Things – v Margaret Whiting

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Mar 5, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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*Altoona Tribune* [Altoona, Pennsylvania], Mar 5, 1946, Radio Section, Page 13:

Photograph of Jerry Gray with caption:

**THE LEADER** – Ex-Sgt. Jerry Gray conducts the 30-piece orchestra on NBC's new "Philip Morris Follies of 1946." Former top arranger for the Glenn Miller AAF Band, he studied to be a concert violinist.

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Mar 5, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FOLLIES OF 1946: Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting sing medley from "Jubilee."**

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Mar 5, 1946, Page 14, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: COMEDY AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: A medley from Cole Porter's "Jubilee" is featured on "Follies of 1946," with Johnny Desmond, singing star, offering "Begin The Beguine" and Margaret Whiting, "Just One Of Those Things." Rounding out the cast will be the 16 Follies girls, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and Herb Shriner, with his homespun humor.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Mar 5, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Medley from Cole Porter's "Jubilee"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Mar 5, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

P.M. 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Mar 5, 1946, Page 10:

WHO (1040) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Follies of 1946 Herb Shriner

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Mar 5, 1946, Page 10:

**Airglances By Mary Little**

Johnny Desmond will sing "Begin The Beguine" during the Follies, 7 p.m. WHO.

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The Ogden Standard-Examiner [Ogden, Utah], Mar 5, 1946, Page 7:

Advertisement – KDYL

**NBC PARADE OF STARS**

“Follies of 1946”  
Starring Margaret Whiting  
9:30 p.m.

Tune In – **KDYL** 1320 on your dial

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The Ogden Standard-Examiner [Ogden, Utah], Mar 5, 1946, Page 7, Radio Guide:  
KDYL (1320)                      9:30–10:00 p.m.                      Johnny Presents Follies of 1946

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Albuquerque Journal [Albuquerque, New Mexico], Mar 5, 1946, Page 8:

**K O B** Tuesday, March 5, 770 KC, **K O B**

★ A PARADE OF STARS EVERY DAY ON KOB ★

**PHILIP MORRIS FOLLIES OF 1946 . . . . . 9:30 P. M.**  
**Sponsored by Philip Morris Cigarettes**

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**March 7, 1946 [Thursday]:**

The Indian Journal [Eufaula, Oklahoma], Mar 7, 1946, Page 8:

**Star Dust**  
**STAGE ☆ SCREEN ☆ RADIO**

By Virginia Vale

*ODDS AND ENDS – Dancing is the chief hobby of Johnny Desmond, star of “Follies of 46” – he learned to dance when he wasn’t allowed to sing because his voice was changing.*

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**March 12, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**Johnny Desmond was stricken with a strep throat after the first show at 8:00 p.m., and reportedly rushed to the hospital. John Conte subbed for Desmond on the live broadcast at 11:30 p.m.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 08:**

Do You Love Me? – v Johnny Desmond (John Conte on 11:30 p.m. broadcast)

I'm Glad I Waited For You – v Margaret Whiting

Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief – v Johnny Desmond (Vocal Group on 11:30 p.m. broadcast)

The Little Red School House – v Margaret Whiting

(Back Home Again In) Indiana – v Johnny Desmond (John Conte on 11:30 p.m. broadcast)

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below. Note the songs listed above and not included on AFRS 6 may have still been included on this NBC broadcast.]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 6, Part 1 and Johnny Desmond 6, Part 2. Likely dated March 12, 1946.

**This is AFRS 6 in the series of the *Johnny Desmond Follies*, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 6:**

AFRS OPENING (0:15)

'S WONDERFUL (1:06) – v John Conte and the Vocal Quintet

I'M GLAD I WAITED FOR YOU (2:56) – v Margaret Whiting

ORANGES AND LEMONS (3:11) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

DOCTOR, LAWYER, INDIAN CHIEF (1:46) – v Quintet (likely 2 gals and 3 guys inc Bill Conway)

CZARDAS (1:09) – Herb Shriner on harmonica and comedy routine

LIMEHOUSE BLUES (2:07) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME (3:16) – v Margaret Whiting with Billy Butterfield on trumpet

THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE (0:56) – v Margaret Whiting

DIALOGUE AND SKIT (2:22) – Margaret Whiting, John Conte, Herb Shriner, and Ken Roberts

(BACK HOME AGAIN IN) INDIANA (2:10) – v John Conte and the Follies Girls

SOMEBODY LOVES ME (1:48) – v Margaret Whiting

MINUET IN G (2:37) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

AFRS CLOSING (1:31) – ORANGES AND LEMONS (reprise) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

The announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 29:51

**AFRS Announcer:** *Presenting The Johnny Desmond Follies. Johnny Desmond, who usually starts The Follies off with a song, could not be with us tonight. So, here in Johnny's usual place to explain his absence and get our show underway is that boy from Indiana, Herb Shriner.*



[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 6 –

This AFRS of *The Johnny Desmond Follies* is unique in that we can clearly identify those songs from the March 12th NBC Network broadcast as from the 11:30 p.m. "West Coast" broadcast.

AFRS would remove four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original broadcast and then insert additional songs and/or an extended closing reprise to fill out the AFRS disk time to 30 minutes.

ORANGES AND LEMONS is inserted in this AFRS program from the January 29th NBC broadcast. It was also included on AFRS 1 and AFRS 2. This version runs about 22 seconds shorter than AFRS 1, as the intro had been edited out.

CZARDAS by Herb Shriner is a different version from AFRS 2.

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME is included in this program at the beginning of Part 2. Although it also appeared on the January 29th NBC broadcast and on AFRS 1 and AFRS 2, this is a different performance of the same arrangement. Surprisingly, Margaret Whiting introduces it as "for the very first time." We know otherwise.

Billy Butterfield played the trumpet on the January 29th version of SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME and hit a few clunkers. We are unable to confirm he was on this broadcast.

SOMEBODY LOVES ME is inserted in this AFRS program from the February 5th NBC broadcast. It was also included on AFRS 2 from this same date. The introduction has been edited out from AFRS 2 to this AFRS 6.

MINUET IN G is likely inserted from the February 12, 1946 NBC broadcast, and also appeared on AFRS 3.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Mar 12, 1946, Page 17:

#### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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*Rochester Democrat And Chronicle* [Rochester, New York], Mar 12, 1946, Page 17:

Advertisement:

**WHAM**  
**Voice of the Genesee**  
**DIAL 1180**  
**NBC**

**Johnny Desmond**  
**Emcees**  
**"Follies Of 1946"**  
**8:00 P.M.**

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The Bradford Evening Star [Bradford, Pennsylvania], Mar 12, 1946, Page 7:

WEAF (660)

8:00–8:30 p.m.

Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Mar 12, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FOLLIES OF 1946: Johnny Desmond sings ballad, “Do You Love Me?”**

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Mar 12, 1946, Page 13:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

JOHNNY DESMOND, romantic baritone star of the “Follies of Forty-Six” will be thrilling the palpitating heart-beats of the feminine sex with “Do You Love Me?” and “Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief.” He will also pay tribute to our Hoosier state by singing “Back Home In Indiana” as only Desmond can sing it. Margaret Whiting will lend her graces to “I’m Glad I Waited For You” and recalls the days of “The Little Red School House” (7, WIRE-NBC).

Herb Shriner, the Follies’ ray of sunshine, is making his first personal appearance in New York since he was discharged from the Army last fall.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Mar 12, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day’s Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Herb Shriner comments on situation

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Mar 12, 1946, Page 2D, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray’s Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of ’46; Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, singers; Herb Shriner, comedian; chorus; Jerry Gray’s Orchestra.

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**March 13, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

*The Evening News* [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania], Mar 13, 1946, Page 10:

**New York CAVALCADE By LOUIS SOBOL** – King Features Syndicate. Inc.

Profound Statements –

ARTIST HERB SHRINER: “My idea of a pal is a fellow who knows you like a book but doesn’t leave you on the shelf.”

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**March 17, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis, Indiana], Mar 17, 1946, Page 20, Editorial Page:

A letter from Claude A. Mahoney, who was one of The Star’s lights before he went to make a name for himself in Washington, tells how another Hoosier boy, Herb Shriner of Fort Wayne, brought down the house at a recent party of the White House Correspondents’ Association for President Truman with some pertinent remarks on a situation which is becoming increasingly embarrassing to all the male population.

In a dead-pan style reminiscent of Will Rogers, Shriner fondled his white shirt front and stated: “I got it off a guy who was being inducted.” It’s an idea. Why can’t we have the draft boards publish those lists again?

Shriner, who seems headed for the big time after 29 months as an infantryman in the Eighth Corps during the war, sharpened his wits in troop entertainments. Sometimes during each performance, he would yell out, “Anybody here from Indiana?” and it seemed that half the audience invariably shouted a thundering affirmative. The other half apparently was from Brooklyn.

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**March 19, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with John Conte, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**John Conte continued to fill-in for the ailing Johnny Desmond, who had been ill with strep throat.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 09:**

It's Anybody's Spring – v Johnny Desmond  
All Through The Day – v Margaret Whiting  
Who's Sorry Now? – Jerry Gray  
Spring Is Here – v Johnny Desmond  
Shoo Fly Pie And Apple Pan Dowdy – v Margaret Whiting  
It Seems To Be Spring – v Margaret Whiting  
Don't You Remember Me? – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below. Note the songs listed above and not included on AFRS 7 may have still been included on this NBC broadcast.]

[Author's Note: "Don't You Remember Me?" appears to have been moved back to the March 26th broadcast when Johnny Desmond returned from his illness.]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 7, Part 1 and Johnny Desmond 7, Part 2. Likely dated March 12, 1946.

**This is AFRS 7 in the series of the *Johnny Desmond Follies*, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 7:**

AFRS OPENING (0:10)  
WITHOUT A PENNY IN YOUR POCKET (1:15) – v John Conte and the Vocal Quintet  
'S WONDERFUL (1:06) – v John Conte and the Vocal Quintet  
ALL THROUGH THE DAY (2:51) – v Margaret Whiting  
I'M ALWAYS CHASING RAINBOWS (2:43) – v Margaret Whiting  
CHEROKEE (1:44) – v the Vocal Quintet  
WHEN YOU WORE A TULIP (1:30) – Herb Shriner on harmonica and comedy routine  
WHO'S SORRY NOW (2:15) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
BLUE SKIES (2:30) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
OH! WHAT IT SEEMED TO BE (2:30) – v John Conte  
SPRING TIME EXTRAVAGANZA:  
    IT SEEMS TO BE SPRING (0:55) – v Margaret Whiting  
    DIALOGUE/SKIT (3:19) – John Conte, Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Ken Roberts  
    APRIL IN PARIS (2:05) – v John Conte and the Follies Girls  
BEGIN THE BEGUINE (2:20) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
FOLLIES CLOSING AND PHILIP MORRIS THEME (0:14) – John Conte/Jerry Gray Orchestra  
AFRS CLOSING (1:11) – WHO'S SORRY NOW (reprise) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

The announcer is Ken Roberts. Total program length is 29:51

**AFRS Announcer:** *Presenting The Johnny Desmond Follies, with Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and the Orchestra, Herb Shriner, and subbing for Johnny Desmond while he is ill ..... John Conte.*

[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 7 –

AFRS would remove four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original broadcast and then insert additional songs and/or an extended closing reprise to fill out the AFRS disk time to 30 minutes.

'S WONDERFUL is inserted in this AFRS 7 program from the previous week's 11:30 p.m. broadcast. It was originally also included on AFRS 6.

I'M ALWAYS CHASING RAINBOWS may have been inserted from an earlier broadcast.

BLUE SKIES is likely inserted from the February 12, 1946 NBC broadcast. It was originally also included on AFRS 3.]

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Mar 19, 1946 radio logs:

*NY Times* and *Chicago Tribune* list John Conte in place of Johnny Desmond on the *Philip Morris Follies of 1946* for this date.

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Mar 19, 1946, Page 17:

#### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Mar 19, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

#### ***Tonight's Tuning***

8 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond declares "It's Anybody's Spring" on "FOLLIES OF 1946."

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Mar 19, 1946, Page 9, Radio News And Comment:

***THEY TELL ME:*** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY 8 p.m., WLW: Johnny Desmond sings "It's Anybody's Spring" during the "Follies of 1946" program.

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Mar 19, 1946, Page 13:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES BY MOLLY STAR**

JOHNNY DESMOND, star of two coast-to-coast shows, was stricken with a strep throat after his last Tuesday show, "Follies of 1946" (7, WIRE-NBC). John Conte subbed for him on the rebroadcast for the same show, and did the same on the Desmond program Saturday morning. We're hoping extra hard that Johnny will be back for tonight's show and the musical line-up. He's scheduled to sing "It's Anybody's Spring," "Spring Is Here," and "Don't You Remember Me?" Margaret Whiting, charming singing partner to Desmond, will sing "Shoo Fly Pie," and "It Seems To Be Spring." So much music about spring . . . and it's still March. Jerry Gray will lead the 31-piece orchestra in "Who's Sorry Now?"

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Mar 19, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Desmond says "It's Anybody's Spring"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Mar 19, 1946, Page 5C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. John Conte, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

**RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; John Conte, Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Mar 19, 1946, Page 7:

WHO (1040)                      7:00–7:30 p.m.                      Follies of 1946 Johnny Desmond

**Airglances By Mary Little**

With spring just around the corner The Follies of '46 will swing into a love song program at 7 p.m. over WHO. Johnny Desmond opens with "It's Anybody's Spring," Margaret Whiting will sing "All Through The Day," Jerry Gray will lead the 31-piece orchestra in "Who's Sorry Now?" and Desmond will answer in song with "Don't You Remember Me." Herb Shriner gives with comedy.

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# Johnny Desmond

March 19, 1946

Dear Aunt Bess,

So nice to get a letter from you. Please forgive me for taking so long to answer. My excuse is a lot of work.

Tony Paris is in California singing around Hollywood. I've recorded four sides for Victor. They are:

"Don't You Remember Me"

"In The Eyes Of My Irish Coleen"

and

"In The Moon Mist"

"Do You Love Me"

Hope you can purchase them. Enclosed you'll find a picture for Margie. Hope she enjoys it.

Thanks for writing and my best to you and June.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Johnny Desmond". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.



**March 24, 1946 [Sunday]:**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Mar 24, 1946, Page 8-I:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Johnny Desmond, who as unable to sing on KSD's program at 7:00 last Tuesday evening because of throat trouble, expects to be back in the show next Tuesday. John Conte substituted for him last week.

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**March 26, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Unnamed Vocal Quintet, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 10:**

Don't You Remember Me? – v Johnny Desmond

You're An Old Smoothie – v Margaret Whiting

We'll Gather Lilacs – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

[Source – Newspaper articles below]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 8, Part 1 is marked SS-4-10-9 and Johnny Desmond 8, Part 2 is marked SS-4-10-10. Dated March 26, 1946.

**This is AFRS 8 of the *Johnny Desmond Follies* series, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 8:**

AFRS OPENING (0:14)

SHOO FLY PIE AND APPLE PAN DOWDY (1:40) – v Johnny Desmond and vocal quintet

IF I HAD YOU (2:57) – v Margaret Whiting

YOU CALL IT MADNESS BUT I CALL IT LOVE (3:12) – v Johnny Desmond

ONE-ZY TWO-ZY (I LOVE YOU-ZY) (1:44) – v vocal quintet

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (0:56) – Herb Shriner on harmonica and comedy routine

PERSONALITY (2:07) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

THE CARIOCA (2:32) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME? (2:59) – v Johnny Desmond

AFTER YOU'VE GONE (2:07) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

YOU'RE AN OLD SMOOTHIE (0:58) – v Margaret Whiting

DIALOGUE (2:21) – Herb Shriner, Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and Ken Roberts

WE'LL GATHER LILACS (2:13) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

WHO'S SORRY NOW (2:14) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra with AFRS identification at 1:58

AFRS CLOSING (0:34) – AFTER YOU'VE GONE – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

The announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 30:03

**AFRS Announcer:** *The Johnny Desmond Follies, with Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, our 16 lovely Follies Girls, and the star of our show, Johnny Desmond.*

[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 8 –

The unnamed vocal quintet consists of two guys and three gals on this transcription. Bill Conway had said he was one of the male voices in this quintet.

At least three songs on this AFRS transcription disk are from the NBC broadcast of March 26th, based on the various newspaper and trade journal listings. These songs are DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME, YOU'RE AN OLD SMOOTHIE, and WE'LL GATHER LILACS.

WHO'S SORRY NOW is likely from the March 19th NBC broadcast.

The remaining songs on this AFRS transcription are likely to come from at least two different broadcast dates. It is unlikely that we will know whether they are from the east coast (early) or the west coast (late) programs, as there are apparently no AFRS notes and so few performances known to exist today for comparison.

AFRS would remove four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original broadcast and then insert additional songs and/or an extended closing reprise to fill out the AFRS disk time to 30 minutes.

DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME? is a different version from that appearing on AFRS 2. As this title was also shown in contemporaneous newspaper articles to be heard on the March 26, 1946 NBC broadcast, we believe this version is from the March 26th broadcast. A-B comparison confirms they are similar, but different versions.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Mar 26, 1946, Page 17:

#### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Mar 26, 1946, Page 20:

#### **TODAY'S RADIO HIGHLIGHTS**

8:00 P.M. – WEAF – Follies of 1946 – Johnny Desmond, back on the program after brief illness, sings "Don't You Remember Me?" – Johnny and Margaret Whiting conclude the program with "You're An Old Smoothie" and "We'll Gather Lilacs."

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Mar 26, 1946, Page 30:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

#### ***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FOLLIES OF 1946: Johnny Desmond returns after two-week illness.**

---

*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Mar 26, 1946, Page 8, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: Johnny Desmond, absent recently from the "Follies of 1946" program because of a short illness, returns to his regular singing spot on the show.

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Mar 26, 1946, Page 8:

Photograph with caption:



**SINGS ON WLW**

Margaret Whiting is featured feminine singer on "Follies of 1946," heard at 8 p.m. today and each Tuesday on WLW.

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Mar 26, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs –** *These listings are correct as they go to press*

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Mar 26, 1946, Page 5C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Mar 26, 1946, Page 12:

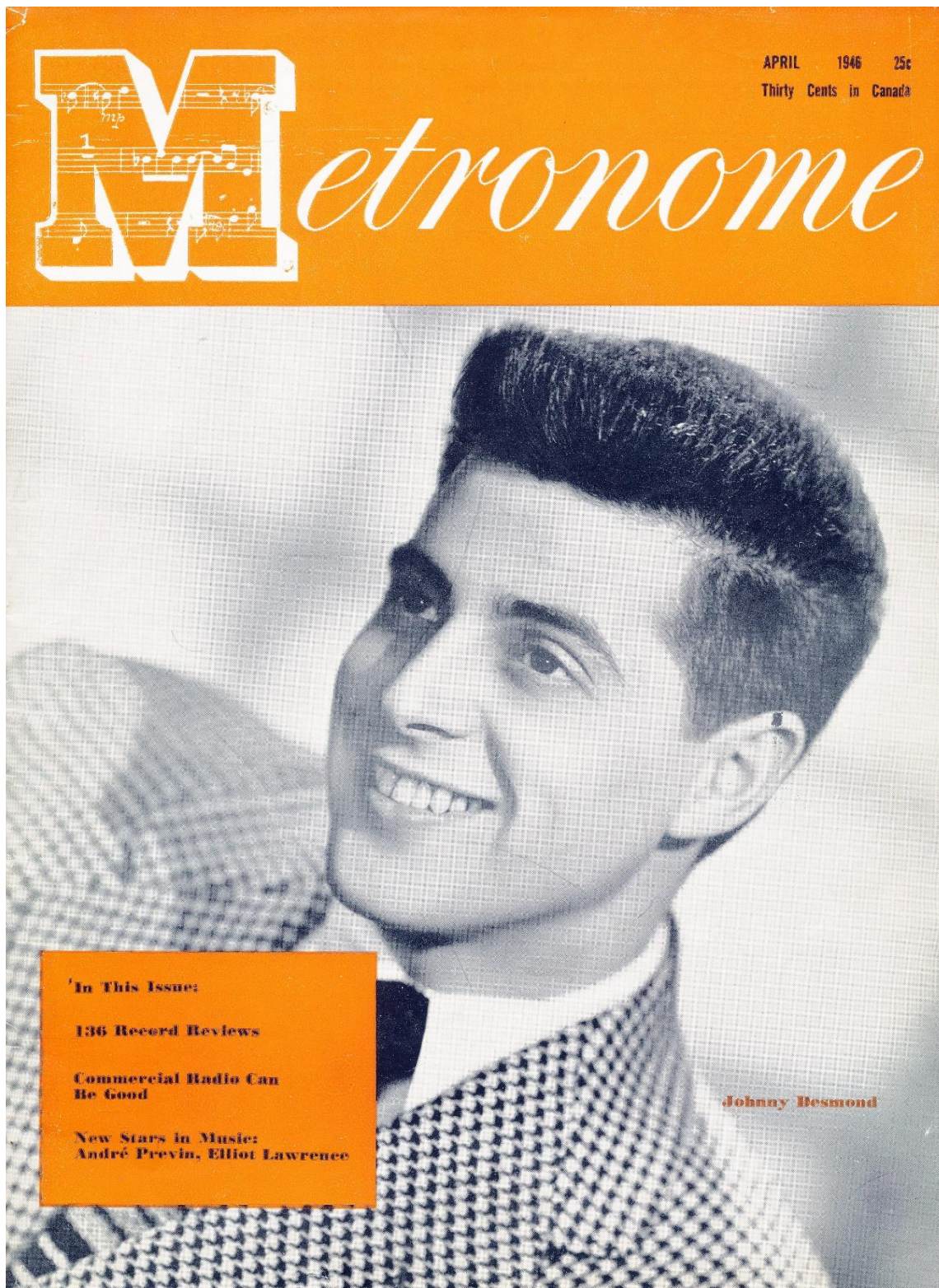
WHO (1040)	7:00–7:30 p.m.	Follies of 1946 Jerry Gray Orch.
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**April 1946:**

Metronome, Apr 1946, Front Cover:





# COMMERCIAL RADIO CAN BE GOOD

**Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting  
and Jerry Gray's great band  
prove the point perfectly**

**By George Simon**

JOHNNY "On-the-METRONOME" - Cover" DESMOND, Margaret "It-Might-As-Well-Be (Ed. Note: 'It Is!')-Spring" Whiting and Jerry "I-Used-to-Play-Hot-Accordion-in-Boston" Gray — those are the three names which headline the most modern musical radio show on the air today. That's the Philip Morris program, broadcast over NBC Tuesday eves from eight to eight-thirty, EST.

JOHNNY is the singer who has come up so fast since his discharge from the AAF several months ago, the young Detroit who first sang as a member of a not too good vocal quartet with Bob Crosby's band, then latched on as soloist with Gene Krupa (where he didn't sound too good either), and finally landed in the Army, where, after some anxious times, he joined Major Glenn Miller's outfit and sounded great. His success overseas was immense. He was labelled "The Creamer," because *Time* magazine neatly explained, "his voice is as smooth as cream." While folks back home were catching Sinatra, soldiers overseas were catching Desmond, and loving him because it re-

minded them of home. Everybody said he couldn't miss when he got back, and he hasn't. He's not only star of the Morris show, he also has his Saturday morning *Teentimers' Club* and he records regularly for Victor. He has reached the popularity goal aimed at by just about every singer.

But Desmond is not completely happy. He'd rather play tenor sax! (Note photo on next page.)

MARGARET is the girl who first achieved national prominence via her Capitol record of *It Might As Well Be Spring*, a tune, incidentally, which she chose herself for the recording date, despite general opposition from those who were supposed to know better, a record on which Paul Weston got top billing. She was a good singer before then and has been since, as her new records and her weekly appearances on the Morris show and on her Saturday night coast-to-coaster attest. She is the daughter of the late Richard Whiting, one of the top composers of the past few decades, and is, herself, a native Hollywoodian who delights in throwing parties for top film stars.

JERRY used to be chief arranger for Artie Shaw and Glenn Miller in civilian life and for Glenn in his Army days. This is his first fling at fronting his own outfit and from the sounds of things it is the greatest dance-band-type outfit ever to hit commercial radio. Much credit, naturally, goes to roly-poly Gray, whose manuscript the orchestra plays. But certainly an equal share must be distributed to the unit which Harry Katzman, who was with Jerry in Miller's band, organ-

ized from a mixture of dance band and studio musicians.

Outstanding, if only by contrast with all other units on the air, is the rhythm section, comprised of four men who had never played commercial radio before: drummer Morey (Benny Goodman) Feld, bassist Trigger (Glenn Miller) Alpert, guitarist Barry (Claude Thornhill) Gailbraith and pianist Bob (Artie Shaw) Kitsis. This is a section which disproves once and for all the stupid theory that dance band musicians can't play radio shows and that you can't jump if you can read and vice versa. This quartet does everything it has to do and just about twice as well as any other rhythm section in the history of commercial radio.

The brass, too, is immense. Sparked by Billy Butterfield, who's given plenty to play on the shows, it also features trumpeters Andy (Tommy Dorsey) Ferretti, Steve (Jimmy Dorsey) Lipkins and trombonists Will (Will Bradley) Bradley and Billy (Frankie Masters) Pritchard. The saxes have, in addition to Hymie Shertzer, Paul Ricci and Artie

Drellinger, two former Miller men, Al Klink of the civilian band and Hank Freeman of the Army unit. And the strings are comprised chiefly of men who served overseas with the Major Glenn Miller AAF Orchestra.

Like the band that is billed as "The Glenn Miller Band with Tex Beneke," Jerry Gray's outfit also carries with it much of the spirit of Glenn Miller. Many of its members were associated with Glenn for years. Jerry was his musical mainstay. Johnny was his featured singer. Like a Miller band, this one is superbly rehearsed. And as Glenn Miller led the way in commercial dance bands, Jerry Gray, his musical companion, is leading the way in commercial radio, leading it with the smartest, the most musical, the most modern studio group yet assembled, a credit not only to Glenn Miller, to Jerry Gray, to all its members and to all associated with this program, but also a credit to commercial radio shows, a living proof that music can be commercial and still remain musically honest. Here's proof that commercial radio can be good!



**The Great Gray** laughs, reads and explains to Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting and comedian Herb Shriner in the left-hand column. At the right he leads his orchestra. Saxes are (l. to r.) Klink, Ricci, Shertzer, Drellinger, Freeman. Trumpets are Lipkins, Butterfield, Ferretti, Lipsey. Trombones are Pritchard, Bradley, Gardine, Mercurio. Fiddles are a lot of guys with Johnny Desmond sitting among them on tenor sax.

APRIL, 1946

19

## COMMERICAL RADIO CAN BE GOOD

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**By George Simon**

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Likely date of these photographs is January 22, 1946:



*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* – Conversation with Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray, Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, with announcer Ken Roberts in the background.



Jerry Gray; Guitar – Barry Gailbraith; Reeds – Al Klink, Paul Ricci, Hymie Shertzer, Artie Drellinger, Hank Freeman; Piano – Bob Kitsis; String Bass – Trigger Alpert; Unknown oboe.



Drums- Mory Feld; Trombone – Billy Pritchard, Will Bradley, Phil Giardina, Walt Mercurio; Trumpet – Steve Lipkins, Billy Butterfield, Andy Ferretti, Don “Skippy” Lipsey.



Front: Violin – unknown, Harry Katzman, unknown; Middle: Violin – unknown, unknown, Dave Sackson, Nat Kaproff, unknown; Back: Cello – Maurice Bialkin; Johnny Desmond; Viola – Henry Brynan.



Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Johnny Desmond



*Band Leader*, August 1946:

Photograph with caption:



On NBC's "Follies Of 1946" – Comedian Herb Shriner, band leader Jerry Gray, and vocalists Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting.

[Author's Note: Although not published until the August 1946 issue of *Band Leader*, this photograph likely is dated January 22, 1946. The original negative envelope from this photo session indicates numerous pictures were taken. Team Jerry Gray has acquired ownership of several of the original negatives.]

**April 2, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*, Episode 11:**

Atlanta, Ga – v Johnny Desmond

In Love, In Vain – v Margaret Whiting

Laughing On The Outside (Crying On The Inside) – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Apr 2, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 – “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra;  
WEAF

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*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Apr 2, 1946, Page 13:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGHLIGHTS**

8:00 P.M. – WEAF – “Philip Morris Follies of 1946” – Margaret Whiting sings Jerome Kern's “In Love In Vain.” Other special music.

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Apr 2, 1946, Page 30:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FOLLIES OF 1946: Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, and Herb Shriner.**

---

The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Apr 2, 1946, Page 7:

Advertisement – WLW:

**FOLLIES OF 1946, 8 PM**

Johnny Desmond sends a  
Musical Salute to “Atlanta, Ga.”  
and then turns to the torchy  
“Laughing On The Outside,  
Crying On The Inside.”

WLW

700 ON YOUR DIAL  
DIV OF THE CROSLY CORP.

---

The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Apr 2, 1946, Page 7:

Photograph with caption:



**WLW WABASHFUL**

Herb Shriner is the “Wabashful Humorist”  
and harmonica wizard heard at 8 p.m.  
today and each Tuesday on the “Follies of 1946”

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 2, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Follies of 1946  
Crackerbarrel commentator Herb Shriner

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 2, 1946, Page 5C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FOLLIES OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Follies of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Apr 21, 1946, Page 12:

**KGU News**

Bad luck sometimes comes in threes, and Herb Shriner is worried. He is the third and only remaining star performer on NBC's "Philip Morris Follies of 1946," who hasn't been forced to miss a broadcast because of illness. Recently, the Follies' thrush, Margaret Whiting, was stricken with measles. Then singing star, Johnny Desmond, was rushed to the hospital. However, all are hail and hearty at this writing and may be expected to entertain at the "Follies" on KGU Monday at 8:30 p.m.

[Author's Note: This *Honolulu Advertiser* story applies to this program. It is dated Apr 21st, as the Follies airing in Hawaii are now only 3-weeks delayed.]

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**April 6, 1946 [Saturday]:**

The Billboard, Apr 6, 1946, Page 22, Music – As Written:

Arranger Jerry Gray doing okay in radio. Just drew a 13-week extension as maestro of *Follies of '46*, NBC Philip Morris program.

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*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* – A later series of rehearsal photographs taken by William P. Gottlieb at NBC studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.



Note: Bass Saxophone on table near bottom of this picture and Hank Freeman behind Johnny Desmond



*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – Rehearsal with Margaret Whiting*





The Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – Rehearsal Card Game  
Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting and possibly Ken Roberts (l) and Herb Shriner (r)



*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* – Rehearsal with Jerry Gray, Conductor;

Front row – Al Klink, Paul Ricci, Hymie Schertzer, Art Drellinger, Hank Freeman [reeds];

Middle row – Bob Kitsis [piano], Trigger Alpert [string bass], Barry Galbraith [guitar], and unknown [oboe];

Back row – possibly Mory Feld [drums], George Arus and Will Bradley [trombones].

Note reeds are playing bass clarinet, clarinet, clarinet, flute, contrabass clarinet in this picture.



The Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – Rehearsal with Brass Section

Front row – GEORGE ARUS, Will Bradley, Phil Giardina,

and possibly Walt Mercurio (not shown) [trombone];

Back row – Steve Lipkins, POSSIBLY JIMMY MAXWELL, Andy Ferretti, Don “Skippy” Lipsey [trumpet].



*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – Rehearsal with String Section*

Front row – unknown, Harry Katzman, unknown [violin];

Middle row – unknown, unknown, Dave Sackson, Nat Kaproff, unknown, unknown [violin];

Back row, Maurice Bialkin [cello], unknown, Henry Brynan [viola].

The harp is either not present at this rehearsal or not in these pictures.

Among other string players used by Jerry Gray were Kurt Dieterle, Hal Fermansky, Phil Frank, George Ockner, Fredy Ostrovsky, David Schwartz, and Tony Gray.

Some of the others may be in the above picture.



*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – Rehearsal with Jerry Gray and Hank Freeman*



*The Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – Rehearsal with Maestro Jerry Gray*

**April 8, 1946 [Monday]:**

Pottstown Mercury [Pottstown, Pennsylvania], Apr 8, 1946, Page 4:

**Voice of Broadway By DOROTHY KILGALLEN**

**Tops In Town:** Jerry Gray's arrangement of "Limehouse Blues," the oldie . . .

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**April 9, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York. The "Follies" name was officially changed to "Frolics" effective this broadcast.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 12:**

In The Moon Mist – v Johnny Desmond

I Can't Get Started – v Margaret Whiting

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

---

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Apr 9, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Apr 9, 1946, Page 32:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FROLICS: Margaret Whiting sings "I Can't Get Started With You."**

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Apr 9, 1946, Page 11, Radio News And Comment:

***THEY TELL ME:* BY WILMER G. MASON**

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: Formerly titled "Follies of 1946," the Tuesday program in this spot, starring Johnny Desmond, is renamed the "Frolics Program," beginning today.

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Apr 9, 1946, Page 11:

### **MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

THE TIME AND CAST are still the same, but with Spring on the lea, another show is up to changing its name. No longer known as "The Follies of 46," renewed for 13 weeks, the sponsor is now calling it "Frolics." . . . Desmond, Shriner and Margaret Whiting stay top-billers on their regular date (7, WIRE-NBC).

Like the rest of you fellows, Desmond loves his loud ties and bold sports jackets (when he can find them), so he isn't reminded of the old olive drab he wore as a sergeant in the AAF. Incidentally, Desmond is the only musical member of his family.

Margaret's mother and sister always send her wires wishing good luck before a broadcast. And every time her movie actress sister Barbara makes a broadcast the wires buzz the other way.

Herb Shriner loves to visit a Hungarian gypsy restaurant on New York's upper East Side, take out his harmonica and sit in with the gypsy musicians. He knows hundreds of gypsy tunes.

---

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 9, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

### **High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond Sings "In The Moon Mist"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 9, 1946, Page 2D, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

### **RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Apr 9, 1946, Page 12:

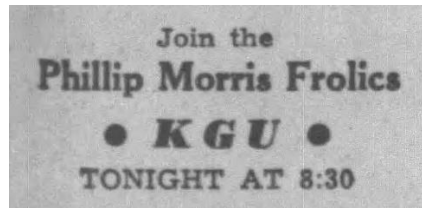
### **Airglances By Mary Little**

*The Follies of '46 heard at 7 p.m. over WHO becomes the Frolics with tonight's broadcast. The cast and format of the show remains the same. Johnny Desmond, the handsome ex-G.I. will continue as star of the program which also features Margaret Whiting, singer and the Wabashful humorist, Herb Shriner.*

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The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Apr 29, 1946, Page 9:



[Author's Note: This *Honolulu Advertiser* ad applies to this program. It is dated Apr 29th, as the Follies airing in Hawaii are now only 3-weeks delayed.]

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#### April 11, 1946 [Thursday]:

The Post-Standard [Syracuse, New York], Apr 11, 1946, Page 5:

**DID YOU KNOW THAT EVERY TEENAGER IN SYRACUSE** who was lucky enough to get a ticket for *The Teentimer Show* will be at Keith's Theater Saturday morning at 11 o'clock? It's the national radio show, doing a personal appearance here this week . . . with Woody Herman's Orchestra and Johnny Desmond, singing master of ceremonies. The tickets were free . . . and we're sorry there are none left.

This Syracuse appearance is sponsored by Edwards and by WSYR.

[Author's Note: This article on Johnny Desmond appearing in Syracuse and the following article on Margaret Whiting indicates the cast of *The Philip Morris Follies* were also active with other engagements and musical commitments.

We will see Jerry Gray also add in other musical appearances in the recording studios backing and arranging for popular vocalists.]

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#### April 12, 1946 [Friday]:

The Daily Herald [Circleville, Ohio], Apr 12, 1946, Page 9:

##### **ARMY PROGRAM**

Margaret Whiting, rising young radio singing star, will again lend her talents to the cause of Army enlistments, when she makes a second guest appearance on the Mutual Network Army recruitment program, "Men of Vision," Saturday, (3:30 to 4 p.m., EST). Miss Whiting, who is heard on several nationwide radio shows, developed her effortless technique while singing with Freddie Slack and his orchestra, and attained overnight success when her recording of "It Might As Well Be Spring" skyrocketed her to vocal prominence. The 321st Army Service Forces Band, directed by Sgt. Jack Matthias, will supply the musical background. Pfc. Buddy Moreno is the regular vocalist and Private Bill Hinds handles announcing chores.

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**April 13, 1946 [Saturday]:**

*The Billboard*, Apr 13, 1946, Page 20:

Don Haynes is also plugging his other properties while here [Hollywood] edging for a Warner pic deal for Johnny Desmond and setting the Modernaires on Perry Como's Chesterfield airer from here.

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*The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis, Indiana], Apr 13, 1946, Page 13:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

JOHN CONTE replaces Johnny Desmond on WIRE-NBC's "Teentimers" show beginning May 18 (Saturday, 10 a.m.). It is supposed Desmond will continue for the summer on the Tuesday night "Frolics" exclusively (WIRE).

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**April 14, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*The Pittsburgh Press* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Apr 14, 1946, Page 6 – Section 3:

By SI STEINHAUSER

Herb Shriner, who played the harmonica with Baron Elliott's Army Band overseas, is going back. Now on the air Tuesday nights, Herb is organizing a harmonica band to visit European concert halls.

---

*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 14, 1946, Page 16, Section 2:

**RADIO By BILL LADD** Courier-Journal Radio Editor

Quick Response . . . Herb Shriner, Hoosier humorist and harmonica player, has been invited to work at the Indiana State Fair.

---

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 14, 1946, Page 5H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Johnny Desmond will sing Irving Berlin's "Easter Parade," "In Love In Vain," and "Ah, Yes, There's Good Blues Tonight" in KSD's Frolics show at 7:00 Tuesday evening.

---

**April 16, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 13:**

Easter Parade – v Johnny Desmond

In Love In Vain – v Johnny Desmond

(Ah-Yes) There's Good Blues Tonight – v Johnny Desmond

Passage Interdit – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

---

*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Apr 16, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

---

*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Apr 16, 1946, Page 16:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Tonight's Tuning* – 8 – WTAM, FROLICS of 1946: Johnny Desmond sings “Easter Parade.”**

---

*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 16, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond Swing-symphonic “Passage Interdit”

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 16, 1946, Page 5C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner,  
Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

**RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner;  
Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

**April 20, 1946 [Saturday]:**

*The Decatur Review* [Decatur, Illinois], Apr 20, 1946, Page 4:

### **Along Broadway**

NEW YORK – Margaret Whiting was the victim for a very long while of having a dad in show business who didn't want his daughter to have any part of it. It's a safe bet now, however, that the late Dick Whiting, one of the greatest song writers in the business, would be mighty proud of his talented youngster. She's the fastest rising gal vocalist in the business.

Young Margaret tried for years to get into show business but was up against an amiable stone wall. No one gave her much attention until Johnny Mercer had her sing on a Coast sustaining program three years after her father died. The led to her recording, in 1943, one of her dad's own tunes, "My Ideal," a very smart waxing with Billy Butterfield's orchestra. From then on she was "in."

By the time she was 16 she had been in the Hit Parade, the Jack Carson show, the Ransom Sherman program. She left radio to sing with Freddie Slack's band.

Now at 21, she makes more than \$200,000 a year, has three commercial programs, probably the most of any gal singer in radio. Her record of "It Might As Well Be Spring" sold more than one million.

---

**April 21, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 21, 1946, Page 5!:

### **RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Johnny Desmond will sing "Where Did You Learn To Love?" "Welcome To My Dream" and "Alone Together" in KSD's Frolics show at 7:00 Tuesday evening.

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Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:



**April 22, 1946 [Monday]:**

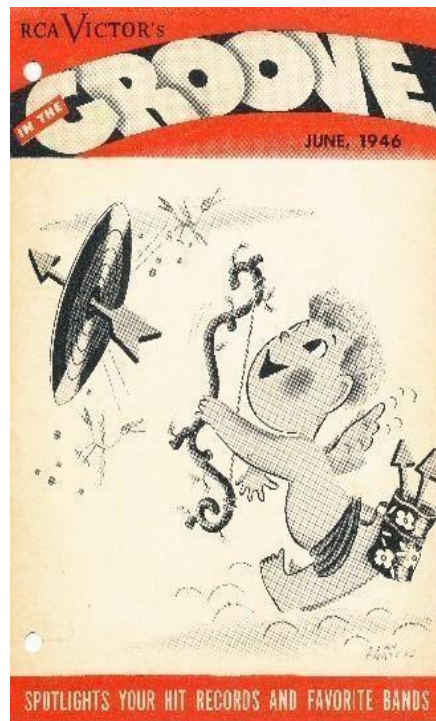
Broadcasting, Apr 22, 1946, Page 60:

Come Saturday, May 18, John Conte, vocalist, replaces Johnny Desmond on the NBC *The Teentimers Club* program sponsored by Teentimers, Inc. New York Sat 11-11:30 am.

Mr. Desmond is terminating his activities on the NBC show because of exclusive commitments with The Biow Co., New York for Tuesday night *Philip Morris Show* on NBC.

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RCA Victor's *In The Groove*, Jun 1946 Issue:



### **DESMOND Off "Teen Timers" Show**

On May eighteenth, Johnny Desmond bowed off the "Teen Timers" show with the reason given that he wishes to devote more time to his "Philip Morris Frolics" show. The parting of ways was on the most amicable note possible with "Teen Timers" wishing Johnny the best of luck.

John Conte took over in Desmond's place. The show will continue with its name band policy.

The Johnny Desmonds are expecting the stork next month.

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Metronome, May 1948, Page 23:

... His first radio show, a Saturday morning job for Teentimer Dresses, was going fine when a night show came up that demanded exclusive rights to his work. It seemed like a wonderful show, with Jerry Gray, Margaret Whiting and Comedian Herb Shriner to help carry the ball. But somewhere along the line, that ball was dropped, and Johnny and the program with it.

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**April 23, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 14:**

Where Did You Learn To Love? – v Johnny Desmond

Welcome To My Dream – v Johnny Desmond

Russian Patrol [Meadowland] – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra [Played for Listener Requests]

Alone Together – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Apr 23, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*Altoona Tribune* [Altoona, Pennsylvania], Apr 23, 1946, Radio Section, Page 1:

**RADIO GUIDE LISTENING POST – FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 29**

Margaret Whiting, vocalist on NBC's “Philip Morris Follies of 1946” Tuesdays 8:00 p.m. over WFBG, is superstitious about wearing flowers during a broadcast. “I won't wear them, no matter who sends them,” she says.

She always carries a good luck charm given her by her movie actor fiancé, Bill Eythe. If someone wishes her “good luck” before a radio appearance, Margaret says, “I go all to pieces.”

Herb Shriner, comedian on the same program, has a special “Don't” – he won't get a haircut on the day of the broadcast.

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Apr 23, 1946, Page 8:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Tonight's Tuning***

**8 – WTAM, FROLICS of 1946: Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting, vocalists.**

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Apr 23, 1946, Page 7, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

8 p.m., WLW: Jerry Gray, conductor of the "Frolics" orchestra, answers listener requests by repeating his version of "Russian Patrol," swing-symphonic version of "Meadowland."

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 23, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs –** *These listings are correct as they go to press*

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
Swing symphony in "Meadowland"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 23, 1946, Page 5C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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**April 26, 1946 [Friday]:**

Lafayette Journal And Courier [Lafayette, Indiana], Apr 1, 1946, Page 4:

### **Victory Varieties For “Prom Night”**

The Glenn Miller orchestra, conducted by Tex Beneke, internationally famous musical attraction, will be featured on the next Victory Varieties presentation in the Hall of Music at Purdue University in two shows Friday night, April 26, as one of the highlights of the Junior Prom week-end.

The orchestra, which consists of 35 members of the Glenn Miller AAF overseas orchestra, all picked by Major Miller from the ranks of the Army Air Corps, has played to over one million allied servicemen in eleven countries comprising the European Theatre of Operations. They were heard over all major radio networks in the United States and parts of the world where American fighters were stationed. In many instances, their broadcasts were beamed to the people of Germany as propaganda designed to quicken capitulation.

Tex Beneke, who was long associated with Glenn Miller both as star tenor saxophonist and featured vocalist, serves as conductor for the group which won the “Down Beat” music poll from 1941-44. The arrangements are by Sgt. Jerry Gray who did many of the Miller arrangements that have become legendary. He was appointed staff arranger for the overseas orchestra and later took over as conductor of the “I Sustain The Wings” radio program and all AEF and AFN broadcasts overseas after the disappearance of Major Miller.

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The Hondo Anvil Herald [Hondo, Texas], Apr 26, 1946, Page 11:

### **Star Dust ☆ ☆ ☆ STAGE SCREEN RADIO [Released by Western Newspapers Union]**

ODDS AND ENDS – Johnny Desmond, of the air’s “Follies of ’46,” is the only musical member of his family; brothers and sisters, father and mother, can’t sing a note.

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**April 27, 1946 [Saturday]:**

*The News-Palladium* [Benton Harbor, Michigan], Apr 19, 1946, Page 10:

**GLENN MILLER BAND COMES TO SO. BEND BALLROOM APRIL 27**

SOUTH BEND. April 19 – The Glenn Miller orchestra, now led by Tex Beneke, is coming to South Bend's Palais Royale one week from Saturday night (April 27) for a one-night engagement. Tex Beneke had taken over the band, replacing Major Glenn Miller who was lost in action on a flight during the war in the European theater.

Dance goers will remember the Glenn Miller orchestra of pre-war fame was re-formed in the Army and played in 11 countries in Europe for the Army Air Force. The present aggregation is made up of 35 members of this wartime band. It features Beneke as its star tenor saxophonist and featured vocalist and former Sgt. Jerry Gray who did many of the Miller arrangements which have become legendary.

Picture of Tex Beneke included.

[Author's Note: The continued inclusion of Jerry Gray in promotion material by Tex Beneke suggests Jerry Gray continued to arrange for Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller Orchestra during this time frame.]

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**April 28, 1946 [Sunday]:**

Daylight Savings Time change in some states. There was not a uniform national policy at this time in history.

Note new listening times for some of the major cities.

*NY Times* – 8-8:30. [On DST]

*Washington Post* – 7-7:30. [Not on DST]

*Chicago Daily Tribune* – 7-7:30. [On DST]

*LA Times* – 7:30-8. [Not on DST]

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**April 30, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 15:**

Shoo-Fly Pie And Apple Pan Dowdy – v Johnny Desmond

They Say It's Wonderful – v Margaret Whiting

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Apr 30, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra; WEA

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*Washington Post* lists *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946* as *Philip Morris Frolic* from here on.

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Apr 30, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, FROLICS of 1946: Johnny Desmond sings “Shoo Fly Pie.”

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Apr 30, 1946, Page 6:

Advertisement:

**on WLW tonight**

**P.M. FROLICS, 7 PM**  
Johnny Desmond serves a musical menu of “Shoo Fly Pie” while Margaret Whiting counters with “They Say It's Wonderful.”

**700 ON YOUR DIAL WLW**

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Apr 30, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
Herb Shriner and Margaret Whiting assist

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Apr 30, 1946, Page 5C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Apr 30, 1946, Page 11, Radio Programs:  
KGNC (1440) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Follies of 1946, NBC

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No curative power is claimed for PHILIP MORRIS, but—

**AN OUNCE OF  
PREVENTION**  
is Worth a Pound of Cure!



PHILIP MORRIS!—proved  
less irritating to nose and throat—famed  
for finer flavor and aroma . . . keener  
smoking pleasure!

**CALL FOR  
PHILIP MORRIS**  
AMERICA'S FINEST CIGARETTE

A slightly different Philip Morris Print Advertisement in this time frame.

**May 1946:**

Radio Mirror, May 1946, Page 10:

**FACING the MUSIC By KEN ALDEN**

The exciting arrangements heard on the new Johnny Desmond show are those of orchestra leader Jerry Gray, ex-GI. Before he was in the Army, Jerry did most of Glenn Miller's arrangements. Jerry is a retiring chap, frightened of newspaper interviewers.

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**May 3, 1946 [Friday]:**

Detroit Free Press [Detroit, Michigan], May 3, 1946, Page 30:

**TOWN CRIER BY MARK BELTAIRE**

Johnny Desmond, the Detroitier who sang himself to fame with the late Glenn Miller's Air Force Band, and who now has two network shows of his own, is here for a short visit with his family.

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], May 3, 1946, Page 14:

**New York BY L. L. STEVENSON**

**Faces and Places:** Jerry Gray, Stan Kenton, Lionel Hampton, and Paul Whiteman, music men all, with that subject farthest from their minds as they discuss the baseball season at Broadway and Forty-Eighth.

---

**May 7, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 16:**

My Mom – v Johnny Desmond [in honor of Mother's Day]

All Through The Day – v Margaret Whiting

Alone Together – v Johnny Desmond

Cuddle Up A Little Closer – v Margaret Whiting

Do You Love Me? – v Johnny Desmond

Tico Tico – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

South American Way – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

Flying Down To Rio – v The Quintet

Comedy Routine – Herb Shriner

Mother's Day Tribute

Musical Tour to South America

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], May 7, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*The Greenville News* [Greenville, South Carolina], May 7, 1946, Page 12:

**Desmond To Sing 'My Mom' Tonight To Honor Mother**

Singing Star To Be Heard at 7 On Philip Morris Fest

In tribute to Mother's Day, singing star Johnny Desmond offers "My Mom" on the "Philip Morris Frolics" program to be heard this evening at 7 p.m. over WFBC-NBC.

Johnny turns romantic with "Do You Love Me?" and "Alone Together." Margaret Whiting sings "All Through The Day" and "Cuddle Up A Little Closer," and the quintet features "Flying Down To Rio."

Jerry Gray's orchestra plays "Tico Tico" and "South American Way."

Herb Shriner presents humorous commentary on the day's headlines.

Harry Spears produces

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], May 7, 1946, Page 12:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**7 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond pays tribute to Mother's Day.**

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], May 7, 1946, Page 16, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

7 p.m., WLW: The Frolics singing star, Johnny Desmond, sings "My Mom" in honor of Mother's Day. His other selections are "Along Together" and "Do You Love Me?" Margaret Whiting sings "All Through The Day" and "Cuddle Up A Little Closer."

---

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], May 7, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
Musical tour to South America

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], May 7, 1946, Page 10:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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**May 11, 1946 [Saturday]:**

The Billboard, May 11, 1946, Page 10:

Johnny Desmond is transcribing songs in French for the State Department's overseas short-waving.

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The New York Age [New York City, New York], May 11, 1946, Page 11:

**BROADWAY CHATTER**

Club Sudan has become a veritable autograph hunter's paradise since singing idol Billy Eckstine moved in. Among the stars who've been in to lend an ear to maestro Eckstine's songs and music have been fellow bandleaders Count Basie, Vaughn Monroe, Jimmie Lunceford, Sam Donahue, Buddy Johnson, Jimmy Dorsey, Erskine Hawkins, Ray McKinley, Louis Prima, Johnny Long, Gene Krupa and Tony Pastor.



Also spotted at the Sudan recently were Pearl Bailey, June Richmond, Dorothy Donegan, Johnny Mercer, Margaret Whiting, Barry Wood, Eileen Barton, and Johnny Desmond.

[Author's Note: Club Sudan was formerly known as the Internationally Famous Cotton Club on Lenox Ave in New York City.]

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*The Amarillo Daily News* [Amarillo, Texas], May 11, 1946, Page 11, In The Groove:

Johnny Desmond is transcribing songs in French for the State Department's shortwave overseas for French fans who know him as "Le Cremer," from his armed forces network program of "Soldier and a Song" broadcast.

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*The Billboard*, May 11, 1946, Page 43:

### **Tony Martin and Jerry Gray Inked by Mercury Records**

Chicago, May 4 – Mercury Records which has talent for almost every type of disk, now has a male singer "anchor man" Tony Martin, who will record exclusively for the firm. Martin has already cut three disks for Mercury and the Al Sack's ork that follows Martin on the radio is featured on the disks also. Making a determined comeback, the singer has MGM and radio contracts under his belt. First Martin-Mercury release will appear June 1.

Diskery has also signed Jerry Gray and his ork. Gray was formerly arranger for the Glenn Miller outfit. Mercury will release five records twice a month, on the first and 15th.

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### **May 12, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*The Pittsburgh Press* [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1946, Page 6 – Section 3:

By SI STEINHAUSER

The Johnny Desmond baby expected in July will be named Johnny Jr., or Joni.

---

*Kingsport Times-News* [Kingsport, Tennessee], May 12, 1946, Page 11:

### **RADIO ROUNDUP**

... We had more of Herb Shriner's earthy humor. He's the funny-man on the "Frolics" program Tuesday eves at 8.

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**May 14, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 17:**

I Don't Know Enough About You – v Johnny Desmond  
If I Had You – v Margaret Whiting  
In Love In Vain – v Johnny Desmond  
Ain't We Got Fun – v Margaret Whiting  
Night And Day – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], May 14, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* [Rochester, New York], May 14, 1946, Page 21:

Advertisement:

**WHAM**  
**Voice of the Genesee**  
**DIAL 1180**  
**NBC**

**Johnny Desmond**  
**Singing Star of**  
**“Frolics of 1946”**  
**8:00 P.M.**

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], May 14, 1946, Page 16:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**7 – WTAM, FROLICS of 1946: Johnny Desmond interprets Cole Porter's “Night and Day.”**

---

The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], May 14, 1946, Page 16, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

7 p.m., WLW: Johnny Desmond, baritone, opens the Frolics program with "I Don't Know Enough About You" and then Kern's "In Love In Vain." Margaret Whiting offers two old-timers, "If I Had You" and Ain't We Got Fun."

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], May 14, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs** – *These listings are correct as they go to press*

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
In Porter's "Night And Day"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], May 14, 1946, Page 7:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Herb Shriner

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**May 16, 1946 [Thursday]:**

The Daily Times [New Philadelphia, Ohio], May 16, 1946, Page 10:

**RADIO RINGSIDE**

Shriner moves to boat . . . . . Herb Shriner, tired of living in hotels, tired of hunting apartments, has bought a 90-foot boat, formerly a rum-runner, now anchored in Flushing Bay.

---

**May 18, 1946 [Saturday]:**

*The Billboard*, May 18, 1946, Page 36:

**Majestic Pacts Jane Froman**

New York, May 11 – Jane Froman has signed a recording contract with Majestic. First date is set for next week, with backing by a Jerry Gray ork.

---

*The Hutchinson New-Herald* [Hutchinson, Kansas], May 18, 1946, Front Page:

**Blanche Farha Is Chosen Queen Of Pow Wow Fiesta**

Dark-haired Blanche Farha is the queen of the Diamond Pow Wow.

Miss Farha, 22, sponsored by the Hutchinson Elks club, was the winner in a field of 20 princesses of the city and was installed as Her Highness Friday night on Stage 1 before thousands of spectators.

Johnny Desmond, the youthful singing star of radio fame and former GI entertainer-newscaster of the armed forces network in the ETO, did the honors.

The "coronation" over, Desmond sang a couple of songs, "Embraceable You" and "Symphony." Cameramen had a field day on the stage and later in the corral back of the sod house where Queen Blanche and Desmond posed astride two white horses for newspaper cameramen and for Life magazine's photographers.

**Coast To Coast Broadcast**

At 9 a.m. Saturday morning the Pow Wow will go coast to coast over NBC when Will Osborne band, Singing Star Johnny Desmond, and the city's Teen-Timers broadcast for an hour over NBC from Convention Hall.

---

*The Hutchinson New-Herald* [Hutchinson, Kansas], May 25, 1946, Page 6:

**Johnny Desmond**, who thrilled the Hutchinson gals at the Pow Wow, and who thrilled the younger gals with his singing at the Teen Time broadcast, is leaving the Teen Timer program to sing exclusively for Philip Morris cigarette program.

Johnny Conte will replace Desmond.

Desmond also is considering a movie acting job. Hutchinson gals say he's handsome enough for it.

---

[Author's Note: Johnny Desmond was interviewed by *The Hutchinson News* staff on Friday, May 17th, while rehearsing with Will Osborne and announcer Tom Hudson at the Hutchinson Convention Hall. Desmond was singing "Here Comes Heaven Again" in rehearsal. Desmond stated the Hutchinson broadcast was to be his last program for Teen-Timers.]

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## Mid-May 1946:

**Jane Froman with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra; Majestic Recording Session, New York City, New York.**

Label – Jane Froman With Jerry Gray And His Orchestra (1946)

Label – Jane Froman Sings (1954)

T 738	MILLIONAIRES DON'T WHISTLE (2:33)	Majestic 1049 B
T 739	I GOT LOST IN HIS ARMS (3:12)	Majestic 1049 A
T 740	YOU, SO IT'S YOU (3:08)	Majestic 1048 A
T 741	LINGER IN MY ARMS A LITTLE LONGER, BABY (2:52)	Majestic 1048 B

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown.

This Majestic Recording Session with Jane Froman produced the first known post-WWII records with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra. Several of the likely musicians used in this session had also been recently discharged from Major Glenn Miller's Army Air Forces Overseas Orchestra.



Majestic 1048



Majestic 1048  
Duraflex Edition



Majestic 1049



Royale EP-254 with Red clear vinyl (1954)



Royale EP-254 Side B

Publicity and Reviews:

The Billboard, Jun 8, 1946, Page 24:

Half page advertisement for Jane Froman and Majestic Records:

Jane Froman  
On the stage ... on the radio ... in smart supper clubs  
millions have thrilled to Jane Froman's lovely voice.  
Now millions more will listen to her  
appealing songs on Majestic Records.

**I Got Lost In His Arms**  
Irving Berlin's hit song from "Annie Get Your Gun"

**Millionaires Don't Whistle**  
Majestic No. 1049

**You, So It's You**  
From the picture "Holiday In Mexico"

**Linger In My Arms A Little Longer, Baby**  
Majestic No. 1048

Majestic Records    Studio: New York City

---

The Billboard, Jun 15, 1946, Page 31/Page 118, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

I GOT LOST IN HIS ARMS ..... Jane Froman Majestic 1049.  
MILLIONAIRES DON'T WHISTLE ..... Jane Froman Majestic 1049.

---

Down Beat, Jun 17, 1946, Page 1:

**Jane Froman Cuts Platter**

New York – Jane Froman, known gal vocalist who returned to the business last December after being laid up for more than two years as a result of a Clipper crash in Lisbon, cut her first side the other day for Majestic.

Tune was *You, So It's You*, published by Miller, written by Nacio Herb Brown and Earl K. Brent. Number will be featured in the soon-to-be-released MGM film, *Holiday in Mexico*.

Brown is remembered for his penning of *Pagan Love Song* and *Temptation*, among others.

---

Variety, Jun 26, 1946, Page 48, Orchestras-Music:

**RECOMMENDED RECORDS (For Jocks and Jukes)**

**By BARRY GRAY** (*WOR-Mutual's All-Night M.C.*)

**Jane Froman** (with Jerry Gray Orch) – “I Got Lost In His Arms” – “Millionaires Don’t Whistle” (Majestic). “I Got Lost” is one of the sweeter tunes from the score of “Annie.” It isn’t handled that way by Miss Froman, who uses a stage delivery, and oversells it. Jerry Gray band is reproduced poorly here by Majestic. Dinah Shore’s version of this tune is best. Miss Froman is a much better event in person. “Millionaires” rates much the same. Definitely “club” material, and won’t be appreciated by the disc buyers. Not recommended.

---

Variety, Jul 3, 1946, Page 34, Orchestras-Music:

**RECOMMENDED RECORDS (For Jocks and Jukes)**

**By BARRY GRAY** (*WOR-Mutual's All-Night M.C.*)

**Jane Froman** (vocal with Jerry Gray Orch) – “You, So It’s You!” – “Linger In My Arms A Little Longer Baby” (Majestic). Jerry Gray Orchestra gives Miss Froman a fine background for her vocal, but as in other sides made on this date, the femme nitery star oversells for wax, and emotes for sight audiences with the sight audience lacking. Technically, the disc doesn’t give her a break for it is poorly recorded, probably due to Miss Froman working too far off mike and mugging from habit, instead of concentrating on mike. “Linger” is poor, primarily because of Miss Froman’s choice of this tune for a waxing. Both not recommended.

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The Billboard, Jul 6, 1946, Page 34, Reviews:

JANE FROMAN (Majestic 1048-1049)

You, So It’s You – FT; V.

Linger In My Arms A Little Longer, Baby – FT; V.

I Got Lost In Your Arms – FT; V.

Millionaires Don’t Whistle – FT; V.

It’s about time that the waxworks grabbed off the song-selling talents of Jane Froman, a name that commands respect and attention in show and smart sets. A far cry from the canaries that flood the spinning sides in this day, here is a lady who can really sing. Gives out from very deep down and gets under the listener’s skin with her lyrical projection. While these are not the first sides she has ever waxed it’s her first time on this label. And for those who can appreciate a good voice she leaves nothing to be desired.

Displays her vocal versatility on each of the sides, equally effective for each different type of tune. She makes ‘em literally wilt away as she warbles the wordage almost seductively for “You, So It’s You,” a haunting Latin lullaby; contrasting with beaut delivery for a beaut ballad in “Linger In My Arms A Little Longer.” Her notes fall like balsam on the lobes as she wraps her pipes around the lush Irving Berlin show ballad from “Annie Get Your Guy” in “I Got Lost In Your Arms.” And cutting an entirely different ditty facet, gives out like a million for a lively and lilting novelty ditty in “Millionaires Don’t Whistle.” Of particular note is the exciting and colorful musical background painted by the orchestra directed by Jerry Gray, making effective use of pizzicato Strad stuff.



Unfortunately, these sides are way over juke box levels, altho there are rich possibilities in the novelty "Millionaires Don't Whistle."

---

Life Magazine, Jul 29, 1946, Page 86:

Full page advertisement for Jane Froman and Majestic Records/Majestic Radio-Phonographs

HEAR JANE FROMAN SING: "You, So It's You" and "Linger In My Arms A Little Longer, Baby" (Majestic No. 1048); "I Got Lost In His Arms" and "Millionaires Don't Whistle" (Majestic No. 1049).

MAJESTIC RADIO & TELEVISION CORPORATION, ELGIN, ILL.

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**May 21, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 18:**

Sioux City Sue – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

When Your Lover Is Gone – v Johnny Desmond

Dancing In The Dark – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** Johnny Desmond 15, Part 1 and Johnny Desmond 15, Part 2. Reportedly dated May 21, 1946.

**This is AFRS 15 of the *Johnny Desmond Follies* series, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**The Johnny Desmond Follies, AFRS 15:**

AFRS OPENING (0:17)

SIOUX CITY SUE (1:33) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

I GOT LOST IN HIS ARMS (2:56) – v Margaret Whiting

OVER THE RAINBOW (2:31) – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

HEY! BA-BA-RE-BOP (1:36) – v vocal group

OH, YOU BEAUTIFUL DOLL (4:53) – Herb Shriner on harmonica and comedy routine

A STRING OF PEARLS (2:18) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

EMBRACEABLE YOU (2:46) – v Margaret Whiting

WHEN YOUR LOVER HAS GONE (2:44) – v Johnny Desmond

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD (1:08) – v Margaret Whiting

THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC (3:23) – v Johnny Desmond with the Follies Girls

AFRS CLOSING (1:03) – ON THE TRAIL [from Ferde Grofé's Grand Canyon]

The announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 30:09

**AFRS Announcer:** *The Johnny Desmond Follies, with Herb Shriner, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, our 16 lovely Follies Girls, and the star of our show, Johnny Desmond.*

[Author's Notes: *The Johnny Desmond Follies*, AFRS 15 –

The unnamed vocal quintet mix is unknown on this transcription. Bill Conway had said he was one of the male voices in this quintet.

At least two songs on this AFRS transcription disk are from the NBC broadcast of May 21st, based on the various newspaper and trade journal listings. These songs are SIOUX CITY SUE and WHEN YOUR LOVER HAS GONE.

The remaining songs on this AFRS transcription are likely to come from at least two different broadcast dates. It is unlikely that we will know whether they are from the east coast (early) or the west coast (late) programs, as there are apparently no AFRS notes and so few performances known to exist today for comparison.

AFRS would remove four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original broadcast and then insert additional songs and/or an extended closing reprise to fill out the AFRS disk time to 30 minutes.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], May 21, 1946, Page 17:

### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra; WEA

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], May 21, 1946, Page 15:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

### ***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, FROLICS of 1946: Johnny Desmond sings "Sioux City Sue," and Jerry Gray's orchestra plays Gray's composition, "String of Pearls."

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], May 21, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs** – *These listings are correct as they go to press*

7:00 WAVE – Johnny Desmond Serenades "Sioux City Sue"

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], May 21, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

### **RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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*Des Moines Register* [Des Moines, Iowa], May 21, 1946, Page 7:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 "Sioux City Sue"

### **Airglances By Mary Little**

Johnny Desmond will lead off his song show, 9:30 p.m. WHO with "Sioux City Sue" and will close the program with two ballads "When Your Lover Is Gone" and "Dancing In The Dark."

# PHILIP MORRIS PRESENTS

## TWO FINE PIPE MIXTURES

with the *bite out* and the flavor *in*!

And a world of new pleasure for the man who loves his pipe

Don't blame your pipe when it goes "haywire" to your tongue.

Instead, take this suggestion.

Try these two unusual pipe-mixtures. Try *both*. Perhaps even mix them, and try the combination.

You're almost certain to find *one* is exactly the pipe tobacco you've been looking for.

Exactly the blend to make any pipe you own *taste* better—with

far more pleasure in every puff.

Each mixture is well above average . . . in quality, blending and remarkable lack of bite.

*Both represent a big step forward in preparing fine pipe tobacco . . . a Philip Morris advance that keeps the flavor in, but "the bite out!"*

Today—at your favorite tobacco counter—*act* on this suggestion. This evening, you'll relax and really enjoy that pipe of yours!

### PROOF A-PLENTY!

Laboratory measurement of the irritation ("bite") in smoke, indicates that the average of six other leading pipe tobaccos is over **THREE TIMES AS IRRITATING** as REVELATION! Since BOND STREET also is produced by the same Philip Morris method, you'll find this goes for BOND STREET too!



## REVELATION

*One of the world's most Perfectly Balanced Blends*

A magnificent "flavor-balance" of five different, superb tobaccos . . . cut five different ways; it packs well . . . smokes clean, cool and even—every puff a pleasure!

## BOND STREET

*A Genuine and very different Aromatic Mixture*

Contains a rare aromatic tobacco never before used in popular-price blends . . . wonderful flavor . . . aroma . . . even the ladies approve. Smooth, cool, clean-burning.

*Either—  
15¢*

Philip Morris Pipe Tobacco Print Advertisement of the time frame

**May 23, 1946 [Thursday]:**

*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], May 23, 1946, Page 15:

### Shop Talk For Man Hunters

By Sheila McKeon

Singer Johnny Desmond, the fair-haired boy of Victor Records, shouted his life story at us the other day with the lilting "Hey! Ba-Ba-Re-Bop" as background.

Scene was a spectator-packed rehearsal where Desmo, as they say around the studio, was warming up a few numbers for the evening's performance.

Desmo has the crewest crew haircut in the music business and decided to be a singer when he was 11 years old. He was billed on his own radio show as the Italian John McCormack, but has since become a baritone.

His singing career isn't something that blossomed after he was tagged the GI Frank Sinatra, he wants the world to know.

"That GI Frank Sinatra business began as a gag," he roared – "Hey! Ba-Ba-Re-Bop" was still reverberating in the background.

"It was one of those lines thrown in for the boys in the band and somehow it stuck. It was good for publicity," he continued, bellowing "but I've dropped it. I don't want anyone to call me an imitation."

When the air cooled off and the 16 choruses of "Re-Bop" were through, we discovered that Desmo is really soft spoken and, also, that he saves his act for the microphone.

His path from the Detroit Conservatory of Music to the big time included a little tap dancing as well as stints with Bob Crosby, Gene Krupa and Glenn Miller's Air Force Band.

"After a year with Crosby," Desmo continued loudly – the quartet which had been on the verge of song let go – "I decided I was ready to solo and I came to New York and landed a job with Gene Krupa just before the war.

"Then I enlisted in the Air Corps and spent two and a half years with the Glenn Miller Band." Those two and a half years of song had radio and record agents crying for him when he became an ex-GI. He's happiest on the networks.

"I think I like radio work best because I like atmosphere – I'm just a ham," he yelled pleasantly.

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Variety, Jul 10, 1946, Page 40, Orchestras-Music:

### **RECOMMENDED RECORDS (For Jocks and Jukes)**

**By BARRY GRAY** (*WOR-Mutual's All-Night M.C.*)

**Margaret Whiting** (vocal with Jerry Gray Orch) "Along With Me" – "When You Make Love To Me" (Capitol). The disk opens with Jerry Gray at his best, and when Miss Whiting enters the turns, it doesn't change a bit. That gal sings. "Along With Me" comes to life on this side. With the exception of one mildly harsh phrase as the femme holds a note, her lyric-reading is excellent. "When You Make Love To Me" on the flipped side, although a torchier tune, will probably not be as commercial as the "A" side. It listens like Miss Whiting enjoyed making these turns best, but actually, even to the most casual listener, it's evident that she can "sing with feeling." Talking points: Miss Whiting in the east less than a year, soon opens at the Capitol Theatre (N.Y.) and is dickering to star on her own radio show in the fall. Both sides recommended.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 11, 1946, Page 3D:

### **The Record Makers By Charles Menees**

CAPITOL: There's nice Jerry Gray backing on Margaret Whiting's "Along With Me" and "When You Make Love To Me."

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St. Petersburg Times [St. Petersburg, Florida], Jul 14, 1946, Page 18:

### **I Cover The WAXWORKS**

#### **The Popular Platters**

MARGARET WHITING, accompanied by Jerry Gray and his orchestra, does some fine vocalizing in "Along With Me" and "When You Make Love To Me," on a new Capitol record. There are romantic lyrics, Miss Whiting is in excellent voice, and the music is listenable and danceable.

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The Billboard, Jul 27, 1946, Page 32, Reviews Of New Records:

MARGARET WHITING (Capitol 269)

*Along With Me* – FT; V.

*When You Make Love To Me* – FT; V.

The romantic appeal in Margaret Whiting's piping is plenty pronounced for "Along With Me." From Broadway's "Call Me Mister," tune is destined to climb high on the love lullaby ladder.

With strings accenting the orchestral accompaniment, Miss Whiting woos to win from the start.

Backside is rich in melodic content and takes on full meaning under Miss Margaret's honey handling.

**A twin winner.**

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1946 Capitol Publicity Picture  
Used on the sheet music cover of *When You Make Love To Me*

**May 28, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

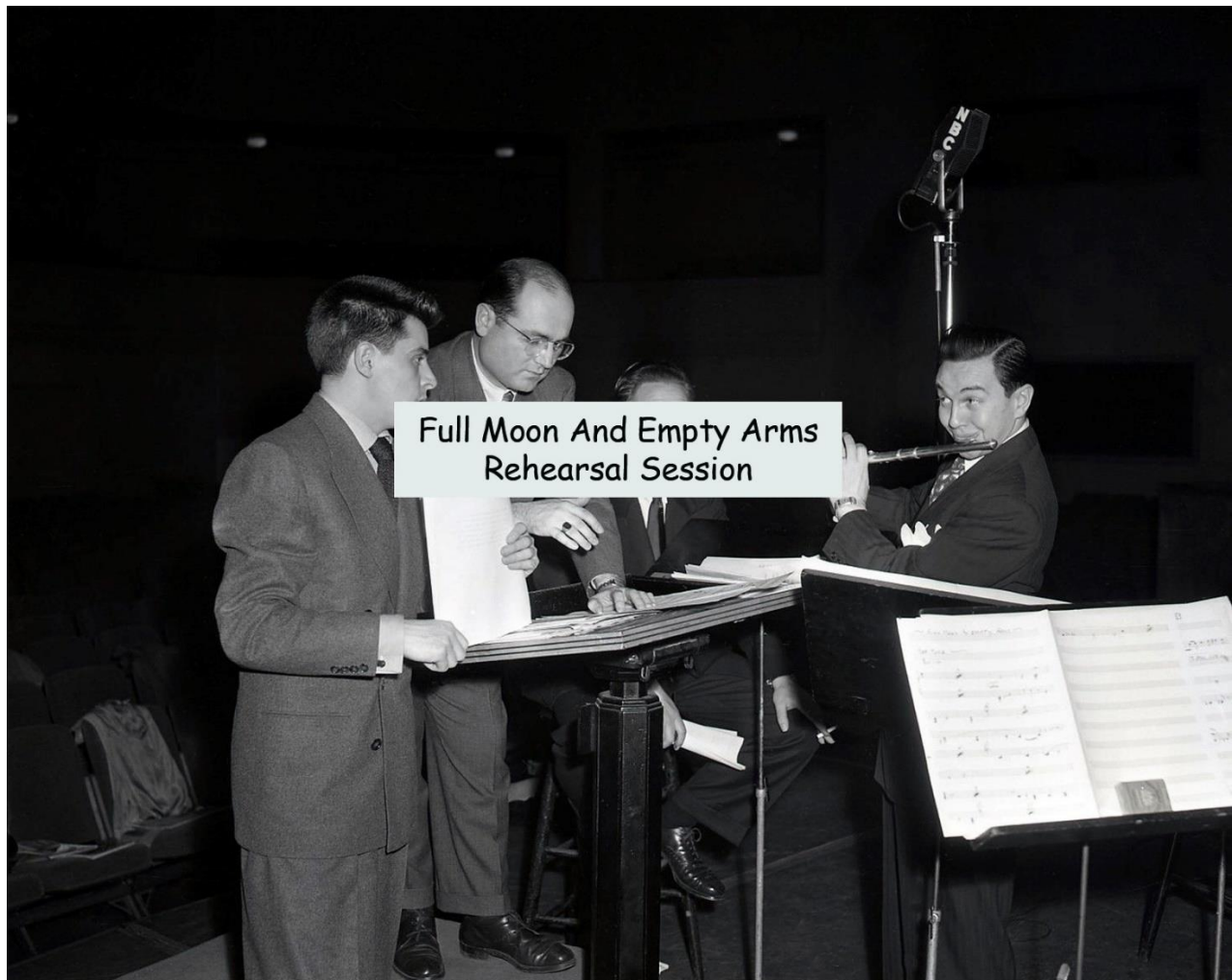
**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 19:**

Full Moon And Empty Arms – v Johnny Desmond and the Follies Girls

(Ah-Yes) There's Good Blues Tonight – v Johnny Desmond

Dancing In The Dark – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]



Johnny Desmond, Jerry Gray, Unknown, Artie Drelinger

[Author's Note: Team Jerry Gray has the original negative for this photograph.]

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], May 28, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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The Evening Star [Bradford, Pennsylvania], May 28, 1946, Page 10, Radio Programs:  
WEAF (660) 8:00–8:30 p.m. Johnny Desmond & Margaret Whiting

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], May 28, 1946, Page 13:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

**7 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond sings a tune based on Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2.**

[Author's Note: This song would be "Full Moon and Empty Arms" based on the second theme of the *Allegro scherzando*, the last movement from Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18, composed in the autumn/fall of 1900.]

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], May 28, 1946, Page 9:

Advertisement:

**on WLW tonight**

**FROLICS, 7 PM**  
**Johnny Desmond is the singing**  
**emcee of this musical program**  
**of latest hits.**

**700 ON YOUR DIAL WLW**

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], May 28, 1946, Page 7:  
WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], May 28, 1946, Page 7:

**Airglances By Mary Little**

**Singing star Johnny Desmond** will offer "Full Moon And Empty Arms," "Ah Yes, There's Good Blues Tonight" and "Dancing In The Dark," during his 9:30 p.m. show over WHO. Johnny has not Always earned his doughnuts and coffee by singing . . . there was a time when he was doing radio in Detroit, that he played a role on the "Lone Ranger" series.

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## June 1946:

RCA Victor's In The Groove, Jun 1946 Issue:

Meet the Artist

Johnny Desmond is twenty-five ... he began his singing career at the age of eleven on Detroit's "Uncle Nick's Children's Hour." Stopped singing when his voice changed at fifteen ... stuck to tap dancing and piano playing until his voice changed again, this time to baritone.

Out of the Army, Johnny has a large following among soxers and ex-GI's ... is gaining new fans through "Philip Morris Frolics" and RCA Victor records, latest of which is *In Love In Vain*.

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## June 4, 1946 [Tuesday]:

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 20:**

Where Did You Learn To Love? – v Johnny Desmond  
Anvil Chorus – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jun 4, 1946, Page 19:

### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*The Evening Star* [Bradford, Pennsylvania], Jun 4, 1946, Page 8, Radio Programs:  
WEA (660) 8:00–8:30 p.m. Johnny Desmond & Margaret Whiting

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Jun 4, 1946, Page 16:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

### ***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond sings "Where Did You Learn To Love?"

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jun 4, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
New treatment of "The Anvil Chorus"

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jun 4, 1946, Page 9:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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**June 5, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

Iowa City Press-Citizen [Iowa City, Iowa], Jun 5, 1946, page 7:

**Broadway – By Jack O'Brian**

Johnny Desmond, who sang his way while in service to the title of the "G.I. Sinatra," has returned to civilian status and a lot of success . . . his latest happiness is not professional nor financial, but a very personal bundle which he and his wife are expecting in July . . . Johnny says he hasn't much left to want, and his is a very fine young guy in the face of all his recent success. His hat, I'm glad to report, is the same size as prewar.

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**June 6, 1946 [Thursday]:**

The Decatur Review [Decatur, Illinois], Jun 6, 1946, Page 8:

and

The Waco (Texas) News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Jun 6, 1946, Page 4:

**Lights of New York By L. L. STEVENSON.**

TALL, RANGY HERB SHRINER, Indiana-born comic, came to talk about the boat on which he intends to make his home and thus escape the constant moves necessitated by New York hotel residence. He also talked considerably about the Indiana State Fair. As for the boat, it is 90 feet long and "has a beautiful hull." The only trouble with it, there is a hole below the water line.

That may be accounted for by the fact that in the mad days of prohibition, it was a rum runner – and the Coast Guard, much to the annoyance of crews, was fond of putting holes below the water line of rum-running boats. But Herb figures that by engaging in daily pumping until he can have the boat towed to a yard for repairs, he'll be able to keep fairly dry. The boat will have to be towed because right now, it has no engines.

"SCOTT MOORE, who plays Windy in 'Show Boat,' sold the boat to me," said Shriner, who is 27-years old and who seems to have picked up weight during the 20 months he was overseas



with the Army. "He didn't say anything about that hole until after he'd made the sale. But it isn't a very big hole."

"He also proceeded to give me a lot of advice. He knows all about the boat because he lived on it. As a matter of fact, the Moore baby was born right on that boat. It – the boat – will sleep eight people. When I get it shipshape, I'll put an engine in it and go fishing. Also places. Might even go to Indiana in it. Sort of roundabout though, the Hudson River, Erie Canal, Lake Erie, Lake Huron, the Straits of Mackinac and Lake Michigan."

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DESPITE HIS LOYALTY to Indiana, Shriner is really a Buckeye as he was born in Toledo. When he was still a lad, his family moved to Fort Wayne where he attended school – and spent a lot of time playing the harmonica. His first job was in Lima, or rather in a night club in the country near Lima. A Detroit booking agent sent him there. He lasted one week. His salary was \$30. Out of that, he had to pay the agent 10 per cent. He also had to pay railroad fare to and from Lima as well as his room and meals while there.

His room didn't cost him much because he lived at the Y.M.C.A. He held down his meals so that he had enough money to get out of town. His next show business venture was with four other boys. They purchased an ancient jalopy and toured. They didn't go broke until they reached Portsmouth, Ohio.

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BY GOING BACK to Fort Wayne at intervals and working at any jobs that happened to be handy. Herb managed to keep going in show business. After he'd had a lot of experience professionally (and in being broke), he was booked into Australia. Coming back to California, he was booked into Chicago. By then, he was cracking homely jokes as well as playing the harmonica. From Chicago, he went back to California. Next, he was signed for the Kate Smith program and came to New York. "And that," commented Herb, "seems like a lot more roundabout way to reach New York than going from New York to Indiana by boat."

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SHRINER WAS JUST getting a good start when the war came along. As a member of a special unit attached to the Eighth Corps infantry, he did a lot of entertaining overseas. The boys, he said, seemed to like his gags and harmonica playing. In Germany he ran across a big lot of choice harmonicas and thought he was set for life. But most of them got lost and now he fears he will have to give up harmonica playing because he can't get instruments to his liking. To give up harmonica playing would take away a lot of his diversion, he said. The most fun he has in New York is going around to little Hungarian restaurants and playing wild gypsy airs with the orchestras. He's good at it, too – I've been with him.

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HE HAS A WRITER who turns in ideas but he writes his own material. "It's like wearing a suit you've made yourself – if you can make a suit – because you feel better," he explained. "Now getting back to the Indiana State Fair. I'll get there some way. Among others who will be on hand Aug 31 are Olsen and Johnson, who are from Fort Wayne; Hoagy Carmichael, Singing Sam and a lot of others." Incidentally, Shriner's a member of Sons of Indiana in New York.

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Lubbock Evening Journal [Lubbock, Texas], Jun 6, 1946, Page 6:

**BY WALTER WINCHELL**

CURTAIN CALLS – Jerry Gray's NBC orchestra Tuesdays . . .

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**June 7, 1946 [Friday]:**

**Glenn Miller Orchestra directed by Tex Beneke, Victory Ball and Radio Broadcast, Pottstown Welcome Home, Air Force Association, Sunnybrook Ballroom, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.**

Radio Broadcast, KYW, NBC, 12:05-12:30 a.m. local time [just after midnight]:  
Details Unknown

The Philadelphia Inquirer [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], Jun 7, 1946, Page 27:  
KYW 1060                      12:05-12:30 am                      Glenn Miller Orch

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Pottstown Mercury [Pottstown, Pennsylvania], Apr 16, 1946, Page 1/6:

### **Ball Will Launch Victory Homecoming Observance**

Nothing bigger, nothing better anywhere in the United States. That's the scheme of things for Pottstown's Victory-Homecoming celebration Friday night, June 7 and Saturday, June 8, when 4,000 veteran servicemen and women will be officially honored by Pottstown and vicinity.

First on the agenda, to launch the two-day affair, is the military ball at Sunnybrook ballroom when a band of 35 ex-GIs led by Tex Beneke, will furnish the music for a dance at which more than 7,500 servicemen, their guests, and patrons will be present.

Music will be the highlight. In addition to the military ball, approximately 60 bands, drum and bugle corps and drill teams will parade the length of High Street beginning at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon, rain or shine.

Saturday night the Army Air Force Band will give a free concert on High Street, following which another dance will be staged at Sunnybrook Ballroom, which has been donated by Ray Hartenstine, proprietor,

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Pottstown Mercury [Pottstown, Pennsylvania], Jun 6, 1946, Page 8, Souvenir Edition:

### **Miller and Brooks' Bands Offer Music To Victory Dances at Sunnybrook Ballroom**

Two of the nation's top name bands, the Glenn Miller Orchestra led by Tex Beneke and including 35 ex-servicemen, and Randy Brooks' Orchestra, will be on hand to furnish music at dances at Sunnybrook as Pottstown observes its Victory Homecoming celebration this weekend.

The Glenn Miller musicians, all of whom were picked by the late Major Miller from the ranks of the Army Air Corps, will play for the Military Ball at 9 o'clock tomorrow night at Sunnybrook, while the Brooks' array, featuring the golden trumpet of Leader Randy, will hold the spotlight at Saturday Night's open house dance at 8 o'clock at the same spot.

Beneke's organization is the same band as that led by Glenn Miller during the war years, and, as members of the Air Corps, the men toured 11 countries in Europe and appeared before over one million Allied troops.

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Pottstown Mercury [Pottstown, Pennsylvania], Jun 8, 1946, Page 1/8:

## **Taps Are Sounded As Dancers Pause In Silent Tribute**

### **General Spaatz Commissions Band At Victory Ball**

During last night's military ball, the Glenn Miller G.I. orchestra was commissioned the official band of the Air Force Association, by General Carl A. Spaatz, commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces.

In presenting the orchestra's leader, Tex Beneke, with the AFA Insignia, General Spaatz said:

*Glenn Miller means something to the Air Forces. What he did for our morale overseas I can't express but I feel deeply grateful to him.*

*These men in his band are part of the Army Air Forces, and are members of the Air Force Association. We in the Air Forces feel that the band belongs to us.*

.....

The lights were dimmed and it seemed as though even hearts stood still for a moment of silence which was broken only by the resonant echo of taps in tribute to the men who will never come back.

After the last note of taps and its echo faded away, the lights were brightened, but faces were solemn. The GI orchestra, led by Tex Beneke, struck up the Army Air Force song in tribute to Capt. Glenn Miller, its leader, who like many other Americans will never return.

[Author's Note: The Army Air Force Song, THE ARMY AIR CORPS, was arranged for the Glenn Miller AAF Band by Jerry Gray.]

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jun 28, 1946, Page 19:

### **Music on Records** By Corbin Patrick

**THE TEX BENEKE-MILLER** band has been appointed the official orchestra of the Air Force Association, professional society of the A.A.F. In a mammoth ceremony at Pottstown, Pa., Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces, swore the band, en masse, into the Air Force Association and titled it the "Glenn Miller Squadron." Other military guests on hand to witness the band induction ceremony were Fleet Adm. William F. Halsey and Governor (General) Martin of Pennsylvania.

**JOHNNY DESMOND** sang before England's royal family in Bedford in 1944 while he was with the Glenn Miller AAF band. He scored a big success with the whole family, but his most ardent admirers were Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. That was evident then, but it is even more so now. At their request, Johnny is sending to the princesses, by air, two shipments of his latest RCA Victor records.

The Billboard, Jun 29, 1946, Page 76:

**Pottstown Dukes Bands 4G in Homecoming Fete**

POTTSTOWN, Pa., June 22 – To officially welcome home more than 4,000 servicemen and women in this Eastern Pennsylvania area, a Victory Home-Coming Celebration was staged. On Friday evening (7), some 7,500 dancers jammed Sunnybrook ballroom for the military ball, featuring the music of the Glenn Miller orchestra directed by Tex Beneke.

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Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Aug 1, 1946, Page 7:

Photograph of Tex Beneke with caption:

**‘SQUADRON’ LEADER** – Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller orchestra have been selected to furnish music for the first Army Air Forces Day as proclaimed for today by President Truman. The band has been designated by General Carl A. Spaatz as the official band of the Air Force Association, and re-titled ‘The Glenn Miller Squadron.’ The band will be featured tonight on a coast-to-coast broadcast over the Mutual network.

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Air Force Magazine, March 1947:

Members of Glenn Miller’s fabled wartime Air Force band have regrouped under the leadership of Tex Beneke, who had been with the Miller band since its beginning in 1938. The Beneke group is recognized as the official band of the Air Force Association and is “drawing record-breaking crowds in theaters and night spots from coast to coast.”

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**June 11, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 21:**

I Don't Know Enough About You – v Johnny Desmond

I've Got The Sun In The Morning – v Margaret Whiting

They Say It's Wonderful – v Margaret Whiting

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jun 11, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*Rochester Democrat And Chronicle* [Rochester, New York], Jun 11, 1946. Page 7:

Advertisement:

**WHAM**  
**Voice of the Genesee**  
**DIAL 1180**  
**NBC**

**Herb Shriner**  
**Wabashful Wit**  
**“Frolics of 1946”**  
**8:00 P.M.**

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Jun 11, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
Complains “I Don't Know Enough About You”

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jun 11, 1946, Page 9:  
WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jun 11, 1946, Page 9:

**Airglances By Mary Little**

Margaret Whiting will sing “I’ve Got The Sun In The Morning” and “They Say It’s Wonderful,” from Irving Berlin’s Broadway success, “Annie Get Your Gun,” 9:30 p.m. WHO.

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Radio Life, Week of Jun 9, 1946, Page 17:  
KFI (640) 7:30–8:00 p.m. Philip Morris Follies  
KFSD (1450) 7:30–8:00 p.m. Philip Morris Follies

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**June 12, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

The Evening Independent [Massillon, Ohio], Jun 12, 1946, Page 4:

**Along Broadway – BROADWAY ROUNDUP By Dan Walker**

Comedian Herb Shriner penciled in for the George M. Cohen role in the latter’s “Of Pigeons and People” in Williamsport, Pa. summer stock.

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**June 14, 1946 [Friday]:**

Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Jun 14, 1946, Page 2:

Advertisement – Namm’s:

GIRLS! NAMM’S “ALL GIRLS CLUB” PRESENTS:  
**HURDY-GURDY FASHIONS – TUNED TO SUMMER**  
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 10:30 A.M.

**MEET:** HERB SHRINER – The Wabashful Humorist

MARGARET WHITING – New Singing Sensation

Stars of the Philip Morris Frolics.

**SEE:** A terrific collection of sun-loving, fun-loving fashions.

COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS  
NAMM’S Fifth Floor Auditorium  
FULTON ST. AT HOYT, B’KLYN

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**June 15, 1946 [Saturday]:**

The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Jun 15, 1946, Page 4:

**New York BY L. L. STEVENSON**

**Faces and Places:** Benny Goodman, Jerry Gray, and Tom Redding, with Leo Durocher, exiting from Bob Olin's to catch the night baseball game.

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**June 16, 1946 [Sunday]:**

Radio Life, Week of Jun 16, 1946, Page 17:

KFI (640)	7:30–8:00 p.m.	Philip Morris Follies
KFSD (1450)	7:30–8:00 p.m.	Philip Morris Follies

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Brooklyn Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Jun 16, 1946, Page 25:

**Night-Life ON BROADWAY and in BROOKLYN By LEW SHEAFFER**

Herb Shriner, radio's "Hoosier Comic," comes by his homespun wit naturally. His father, an Indiana schoolteacher, compiled one of the first joke books published in this country.

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The Nashville Tennessean [Nashville, Tennessee], Jun 16, 1946, Page 17-B:

**Over The Air Waves**

Tuesday –

"Azusa," the California town with the peculiar name, will be saluted in song by Johnny Desmond on the Philip Morris Frolics program, Tuesday at 7 p.m. over WSM.

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**June 17, 1946 [Monday]:**

Down Beat, Jun 17, 1946, Page 3 – Sideman Switches:

Drummer Dave Tough is now with the Jerry Gray studio band.

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Down Beat, Jun 17, 1946, Page 7 – Trade Tattle:

Jerry Gray, ex-Glenn Miller arranger and currently director of music on the Philip Morris show, will wax with Mercury.

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**June 18, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 22:**

Doin' What Comes Natur'lly – v The Tune Toppers

Azusa – v Johnny Desmond, a salute to Azusa, California

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], June 18, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Jun 18, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond sings his version of “Azusa.”

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*The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jun 18, 1946, Page 11:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

JOHNNY DESMOND, who is heard tonight on “The Frolics” (7, WIRE-NBC), is having all the natural symptoms of a father-to-be. Young Demo is expected in July and Johnny threatens to send him back if he doesn't arrive with a crew haircut. Major Glenn Miller made him get his first GI cut and he's been a little superstitious about it ever since.

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Jun 18, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
Tune Toppers “Do What Comes Naturally”

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jun 18, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

#### RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jun 18, 1946, Page 7:

WHO (1040)                      9:30–10:00 p.m.                      Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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### June 21, 1946 [Friday]:

Radio Daily, Jun 21, 1946, Page 4:

#### **RADIO MAIN STREET – Broadway Bulletin Board . . . !**

. . . Philip Morris dumping its "Frolics" July 17th because Johnny Desmond didn't come thru with the Sinatra build-up. They're auditioning Ray Bolger, Minerva Pious, and Ray Bloch as a replacement.

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Variety, Jul 3, 1946, Page 23, Radio:

#### **Bolger NBC Show Hits Snag on 2 1/2 G for Star; Taylor's Two-Way Stint**

New Ray Bolger show auditioned last week by Biow agency as replacement for the Johnny Desmond "Philip Morris Follies" Tuesday night program on NBC has run into a coin snag.

Bolger, via Wm. Morris agency, wants \$2,500 a week as his share of the deal, it's reported, but Biow agency, it's claimed, regards the figure as too high. Set to co-headline with Bolger on the show is Margaret Whiting.

Henry Taylor has been set as the writer on the program, which gives him two-way Biow scripting operation. He's also taken over the scripting job on the Schick Monday night CBS show, which, incidentally, is now going on a week-to-week basis.

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## June 22, 1946 [Saturday]:

The Billboard, Jun 22, 1946, Page 24, Music – As Written:

Jerry Gray directed orks backing Margaret Whiting at the Capitol and Jane Froman at the Majestic, both in the past couple of weeks. Will record with his own ork for Mercury.

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The New York Times [New York City, New York], Jun 22, 1946, Page 15 I:

### **‘POP’ CONCERTS TO END**

Final Event Tonight to Be Led by Ann Kulmer, D. Broekman

The seven-week season of Carnegie “Pop” concerts closes tonight in Carnegie Hall with a program to be conducted by Ann Kulmer and David Broekman, with Mary Lou Williams, pianist; Gertrude Ribia, soprano; Johnny Desmond, tenor; and the Southernaires have been added to the list of participants.

Mr. Broekman’s orchestral offerings will include the Intermezzo from Puccini’s “Manon Lescaut,” and the overture, “Phedre,” by Massenet; Johann Strauss’ “Wiener Blut,” and Sousa’s “Stars and Stripes Forever.” He also will conduct the “Pop” orchestra of seventy musicians for Mr. Desmond’s solos, “I Don’t Know Why I Love You” by Ahlert-Turk and Jerome Kern’s “In Love In Vain.”

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The Salt Lake Tribune [Salt Lake City, Utah], Jun 22, 1946, Page 14:

### **TWITTERS**

**In the East** – Tri-Delt Alumna Mary Lou Rickey is in New Jersey for the Convention. She’ll visit Mrs. Johnny Desmond (Ruth Keddington) in New York before returning.

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## June 23, 1946 [Sunday]:

Lincoln Sunday Journal And Star [Lincoln, Nebraska], Jun 23, 1946, Page D-6:

### **FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE by MARCELLA SLAJCHERT**

Two shipments of Johnny Desmond records are being flown to Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose of England at their request.

Jimmy Stewart will portray the role of Glenn Miller in the movie, “In The Mood.”

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**June 25, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 23:**

No information.

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], June 25, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra; WEA

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Jun 25, 1946, Page 7, Radio News And Comment:

***THEY TELL ME:* BY WILMER G. MASON**

Tuning Tips: SONGS AND VARIETY

7 p.m., WLW: Starring Johnny Desmond and Margaret Whiting in the vocal roles, the "Frolics" cast includes the Tune Toppers, Jerry Gray and the orchestra, and Herb Shriner.

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Jun 25, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond – With Margaret Whiting and Herb Shriner

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Jun 25, 1946, Page 2D, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

**RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jun 25, 1946, Page 11:  
WHO (1040) 9:30 – 10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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The Ogden Standard-Examiner [Ogden, Utah], Jun 25, 1946, Page 11:

**NBC PARADE OF STARS**

“Philip Morris Frolics”  
Featuring  
Johnny Desmond  
8:30 p.m.

TUNE IN – **KDYL 1320** on your dial

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**June 27, 1946 [Thursday]:**

The Shiner Gazette [Shiner, Texas], Jun 27, 1946, Page 3:

**Star Dust ☆ ☆ ☆ STAGE SCREEN RADIO [Released by Western Newspapers Union]**

Photograph of Johnny Desmond with caption:

Johnny Desmond, NBC singing star, is a little worried about his first movie, slated to begin production this summer. “In Hollywood, they usually turn dancers into dramatic actors and singers into comedians,” says he. “I’ll probably wind up in a Western, co-starring with Trigger.” Johnny has a new pastime; when the records of his radio show, the Tuesday night “Follies,” are played back he sings tenor to his own baritone; it’s his ambition to work up a quartet that way, singing all the parts himself.



**JOHNNY DESMOND**

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**The PLAINSMAN Says:**

NEW YORK – The Plainsman and the Little Women came up here off and on for quite a few years before the war, but for one reason or another never seemed to find time to take in a radio broadcast. There always were more interesting – or what we thought were more exciting – things to do.

But this junket is largely for the education and edification of the Terrific Trio and when the boys decided that one of the things they wanted most to do was to take in a radio show, that was that.

We made the necessary arrangements with the brass over at the National Broadcasting Company and got lined up for the largest of the summer musicals – the Philip Morris Follies of 1946 – which gets under way here at the beautiful daylight saving time hour of 11:30 pee em., therefore is heard in Lubbock, say, at 9:30.

For the information of South Plains folks who have a desire to see a radio show when next they descent upon either New York or Hollywood, let us hasten to report that it ain't what you might think.

At least, it wasn't what we thought – from the standpoint of the studio audience, that is.

We didn't take into consideration that, after all, radio shows are for the radio audience, not for those present in the flesh. But we found out, right quick like, that the folks "out in front" are simply window dressing, and nothing more.

The radio actors and artists pay little or no attention to those seated in front of them, thus making the result entirely different from a stage presentation or a night club show.

In the whole half-hour presentation of the cigarette company's program, the only thing the visible audience heard clearly was the patter of the comic, one Mr. Herb Shriner and the 32-piece orchestra conducted by Mr. Jerry Gray.

A young fellow named Johnny Desmond, who radio people believe is on his way to top stardom as a crooner, sang several times, and so did his feminine vocal compatriot, Miss Margaret Whiting. But we out in front – several hundred strong – couldn't tell whether or not Mr. Desmond or Miss Whiting could sing a lick. They simply couldn't be heard across the footlights because they gave their all to the microphones.

That's understandable, of course. Their first job and only job was to get over with the radio audience and that's what they tried to do. There's no criticism intended, but we do want to pass along to the folks at home that time can be much better spent doing other things in either New York and Hollywood than in looking over a radio performance.

A radio show is interesting only in that the audience gets to see firsthand how nonchalantly an air feature – even a national network program is reeled off.

The cast, which was about 50 strong including the orchestra, the principals, and the young men and women making up the choruses, wandered around the stage when they were not actually working and young Mr. Desmond, the star, spent most of his time sauntering about with his hands in his pockets.

Apparently he has a great desire to be another Sinatra, because he had the Great Frankie's mannerisms down to a T – including the bow tie and the ragged hair-cut.

The thing that surprised us most about the whole business, which was staged in a large studio on the eighth floor of the RCA building in Rockefeller Center, was the way radio players “give” to the microphone.

Television is going to put a lot of ‘em out of business, because in their effort to put everything they can into a song they do considerable “mugging” or face-making.

That is caused by their bending every sinew to make their words and tones reproduce to the best advantage over the waves.

Most incongruous thing about the program we attended was the fact that although it ballyhoos cigarettes, and the special features of one particular cigarette, there was a “no smoking” rule enforced to the letter.

Even a quarter hour before the program got under way, ushers went around making people put out their cigarettes, even those who were smoking the advertised brand allegedly “kinder to your throat” than other.

Hey hey!

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### **July 2, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

#### **NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 24:**

Don't Be A Baby, Baby – v Johnny Desmond  
You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby – v Margaret Whiting  
More Than You Know – v Johnny Desmond  
If You Were The Only Girl In The World – v Johnny Desmond  
George M. Cohan Medley – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
Mary  
Yankee Doodle Dandy  
It's A Grand Old Flag

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jul 2, 1946, Page 19:

#### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray Orchestra; WEAf

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jul 2, 1946, Page 22:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Johnny Desmond, awaiting the arrival of his first youngster, sings “Don’t Be A Baby, Baby.”

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The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jul 2, 1946, Page 13:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

**JOHNNY DESMOND**, expecting his first youngster any day, really has the “Paternity blues.” Tonight’s Frolics” (7, WIRE-NBC) will feature Johnny singing “Don’t Be A Baby, Baby,” “More Than You Know,” and “If You Were The Only Girl In The World.” Margaret Whiting will interpret, “You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby.” If the baby is a boy the name will be Johnny Jr. and if a girl it will be Joni.

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 2, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day’s Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond – George M. Cohan medley featured

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Star-Times [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 2, 1946, Page 21:

**THE RADIO CORNER – BY GRANT CARTER**

TONIGHT: A George M. Cohan medley of “Mary,” “Yankee Doodle Dandy,” and “It’s A Grand Old Flag” will be played by Jerry Gray and the orchestra at 7 o’clock from KSD.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 2, 1946, Page 1:

**A CRACKERBARREL COMMENTATOR!**

He’s Herb Shriner, who adds his Wabashful humor to the gayly musical “FROLICS OF ‘46” every Tuesday evening at seven over KSD, 550 on your dial. (Adv.)

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 2, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

#### RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jul 2, 1946, Page 9:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Follies of 1946 G. M. Cohan Medley

#### **Airglances By Mary Little**

**JOHNNY DESMOND** will be singing "Don't Be A Baby, Baby," and "More Than You Know," during the P. M. Frolics, 9:30 p.m. WHO. Margaret Whiting, who has now signed an exclusive contract for the Frolics will be featuring "You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby."

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Beaumont Journal [Beaumont, Texas], Jul 2, 1946, Page 10:

#### **Today's Radio Program**

Jerry Gray and his orchestra will feature a George M. Cohan medley of "Mary," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," and "It's a Grand Old Flag" on the Philip Morris Frolics program Tuesday at 9:30 pm on KPRC.

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### **July 3, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Jul 3, 1946, Page 4:

#### **BROADWAY and BROOKLYN - NIGHT LIFE By LEW SHEAFFER**

Only a few years ago Margaret Whiting was a wide-eyed schoolgirl and sat on Paul Whiteman's lap – a neat trick, if ever we heard of one – when he visited her show folks. The jazz king opens this month at the Capitol. His singing headliner at \$2,500 per week will be the ex-schoolgirl.

[Author's Note: The Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra Capitol Theater engagement actually did not begin until Thursday, September 26 thru Wednesday, October 16. Margaret Whiting did not appear; Martha Tilton was the added star for this three-week engagement.

Margaret Whiting was released from her commitment to appear with Paul Whiteman so that she could appear on the new NBC Eddie Cantor Pabst Blue Ribbon show.

Margaret Whiting relocated to Hollywood during this time frame. She recorded three cuts with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra for Capitol Records in Hollywood on October 9.]

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Variety Daily, Jul 3, 1946:



Keywords: Jerry Gray cut contract with Mercury and plans to freelance here.

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**July 5, 1946 [Friday]:**

Pittsburgh Press [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], Jul 5, 1946, Page 37:

By SI STEINHAUSER

Ray Bolger, slated to replace Johnny Desmond, has hit a money snag and will not sign with the sponsors.

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The Decatur Review [Decatur, Illinois], Jul 5, 1946, Page 6:

**Lights of New York By L. L. STEVENSON.**

CUFF NOTES: Herb Shriner, comedian and avid motorcyclist, is forming a Sunday cyclist's club. The only membership requirement is that you own your own motorcycle.

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**July 7, 1946 [Sunday]:**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 7, 1946, Page 5I:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

**HERE AND THERE ON THE AIR**

The Frolics show now starring Johnny Desmond at 7:00 Tuesday evenings on KSD will be replaced July 23 by one in which Margaret Whiting will take the lead and Jerry Gray will lead the orchestra.

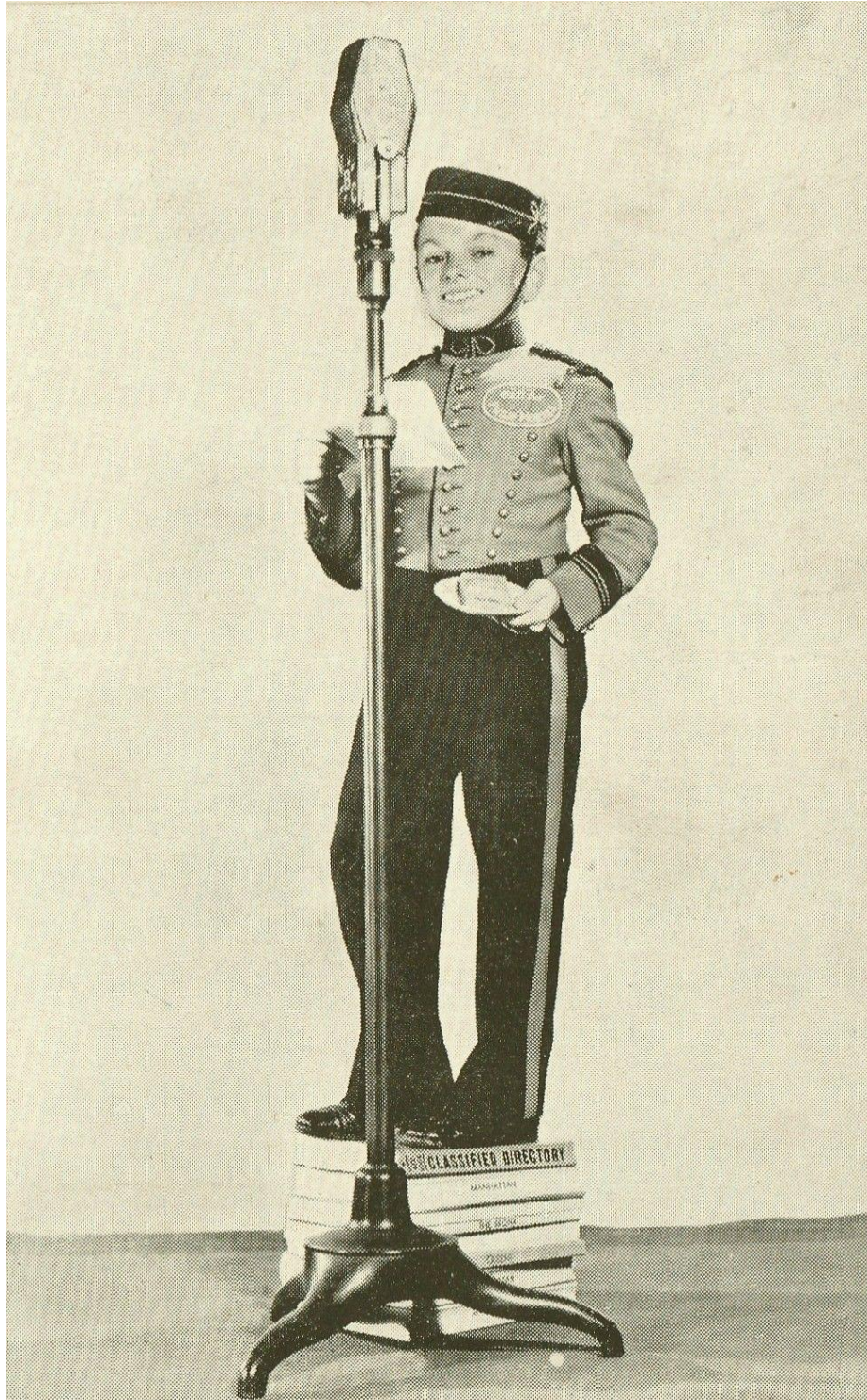
Sept. 3, this spot will be taken over by a show starring Ray Bolger, Ray Middleton, Miss Whiting and Ray Block's orchestra.

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July 8, 1946 [Monday]:

Penny Post Card, postmarked Jul 8, 1946:

*P. S. Don't Forget to "Call for Philip Morris"*



**July 9, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, The Tune Toppers Quintet, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 25:**

I've Never Forgotten – v Johnny Desmond  
All Through The Day – v Margaret Whiting  
Holiday For Strings – Jerry Gray  
South America, Take It Away – v The Tune Toppers  
Comedy Routine – Herb Shriner  
The Girl That I Marry – v Johnny Desmond  
Mean To Me – v Margaret Whiting

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below. Song listing not necessarily in order.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jul 9, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 “Follies of 1946” Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEA

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*The Courier-Journal* [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 9, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
Jerry Gray in “Holiday For Strings”

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 9, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner,  
Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

**RADIO FAVORITES TODAY**

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner;  
Jerry Gray's Orchestra.



Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jul 9, 1946, Page 7:

WHO (1040)

9:30–10:00 p.m.

Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

### **Airglances By Mary Little**

**JOHNNY DESMOND** will open the P. M. Frolics with "I've Never Forgotten" 9:30 p.m. WHO. Other selections will be: Desmond, "The Girl That I Marry," sentimental ballad from "Annie Get Your Gun," and "Alone Together" – Margaret Whiting, "All Through The Day" from "Centennial Summer" and "Mean To Me" – the Tune Toppers, the rumba hit from "Call Me Mister," "South America, Take It Away" – and Jerry Gray and the orchestra playing "Holiday For Strings."

Herb Shriner, the Hoosier humorist, will discuss current events.

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The Ogden Standard-Examiner [Ogden, Utah], Jul 9, 1946, Page 11:

Advertisement:

### **NBC PARADE OF STARS**

Johnny Desmond  
Singing Favorite  
on "The Frolics"  
8:30 p.m.

TUNE IN – **KDYL 1320** on your dial

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### **July 11, 1946 [Thursday]:**

Iowa City Press-Citizen [Iowa City, Iowa], Jun 5, 1946, page 7:

### **Broadway - By Jack O'Brian**

Johnny Desmond, the "GI Sinatra," favorite of the service fellows in Europe, whose continental broadcasts were liked as well by the French natives as by the guys in khaki, has decided to hang onto his collegiate crew haircut, or "stir" cut, which makes him somewhat unique in the crooning profession where long hair is seemingly as popular as it once was among violinists, Greenwich Village poets and symphony conductors . . . Johnny wore it when he first became popular overseas, where the French natives considered him such a smoothie that they nick-named him "Le Cremaire," because of the creamy quality of his crooning . . . The Desmonds are expecting a youngster shortly, and Johnny of course wants a boy . . . "And if he doesn't arrive with a crew haircut, we're going to send him back," Johnny says.

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**July 14, 1946 [Sunday]:**

*The New York Times* [New York City, New York], Jul 14, 1946, Page 7 X:

Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:

*Vocalist*

Margaret Whiting sings over  
NBC-WEAF, Tuesdays at 8 P.M.

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*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 14, 1946, Page 5H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

Johnny Desmond will conclude his run in the Frolics series on KSD at 7:00 Tuesday evening. Margaret Whiting, who has been singing on this program, will be promoted to featured singer in the show that will take over this spot July 23 and continue until fall, when Ray Bolger will be starred in it.

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**July 16, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, the Tune Toppers, and the Follies Girls, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**This is Johnny Desmond's last appearance on the *Frolics of 1946*.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 26:**

I Don't Know Enough About You – v Johnny Desmond  
Love Is Just Around The Corner – v Margaret Whiting  
Don't Be A Baby, Baby – v The Tune Toppers  
In Love In Vain – v Johnny Desmond  
Along With Me – v Margaret Whiting  
Limehouse Blues – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra  
When You Make Love To Me – v Margaret Whiting  
That Old Black Magic – v Johnny Desmond

[Source – Newspaper articles, see below. Song listing not necessarily in order.]

[Author's Note: This is the first time to our knowledge the vocal quintet has been identified in a contemporaneous newspaper as **The Tune Toppers**.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jul 16, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Margaret Whiting, Johnny Desmond, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray  
Orchestra; WEAf

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*The Atlanta Constitution* [Atlanta, Georgia], Jul 16, 1946, Page 13:

**ON THE AIR – By PAUL JONES**

Singing star Johnny Desmond features "I Don't Know Enough About You," "Black Magic," and "In Love In Vain" during the Frolic program which is a regular feature of WSB each Tuesday night at 7. Margaret Whiting, who shares the spotlight with Desmond, will offer "Along With Me," from the Broadway musical, "Call Me Mister," and "Love Is Just Around The Corner." The Tune Toppers sing "Don't Be A Baby, Baby."

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*The Indianapolis Star* [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jul 16, 1946, Page 13:

**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

JOHNNY DESMOND sings his last performance for "The Frolics" tonight (7, WIRE-NBC). Next week Margaret Whiting becomes the solo star of the show. Margaret's rise to stardom and a show of her own was one of the most spectacular in radio . . . less than a year.

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 16, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press**

9:30 WAVE – Johnny Desmond  
“Black Magic” and “Limehouse Blues”

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 16, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Johnny Desmond, Margaret Whiting, Herb Shriner, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and chorus.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY

7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Frolics of '46; Johnny Desmond; Margaret Whiting; Herb Shriner; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 16, 1946, Page 2C:

Advertisement:

**T O N I G H T**  
**Tune to KSD for**  
**MARGARET**  
**WHITING**  
**at 7:00 p.m.**

**KSD**  
**550 ON YOUR DIAL**

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jul 16, 1946, Page 7:

WHO 1040                      9:30-10:00 p.m.                      Frolics of 1946 Johnny Desmond

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jul 16, 1946, Page 7:

**Airglances By Mary Little**

**JOHNNY DESMOND**, who leaves P. M. Frolics after his appearance 9:30 p.m. WHO, will sing his three most popular songs, “I Don't Know Enough About You,” “In Love In Vain” and “Old Black Magic.” Margaret Whiting will become the star of the show the following week. She has been in second billing for the past six months. Her songs for tonight include: “Love Is Just Around The Corner” and “When You Make Me Love You.” She is 22 years old.

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The Ogden Standard-Examiner [Ogden, Utah], Jul 16, 1946, Page 17:

Advertisement:

**NBC PARADE OF STARS**

Johnny Desmond  
singing favorite  
on "The Frolics"  
8:30 p.m.

TUNE IN – **KDYL 1320** on your dial

---

**July 21, 1946 [Sunday]:**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 21, 1946, Page 5H:

**RADIO NEWS AND FEATURES**

**Margaret Whiting Billed as Show Star**

Singer Promoted to Lead Role At 7:00 P.M. Tuesdays on KSD

MARGARET WHITING has been promoted to star billing in KSD's Frolics show at 7:00 Tuesday nights, replacing Johnny Desmond with whom she has been appearing on the program. Jerry Gray and his orchestra and the rhythm quintet, the Tune Toppers, will continue in the show, which is to run until Sept. 3 when it will give way to one thus far planned to feature Ray Bolger; Minerva Pious, and Jack Smart, the character actor, and Ray Block's orchestra with Miss Whiting retained as soloist.

Miss Whiting has risen in less than a year from relative obscurity to stardom. Aug. 15, she made a recording of the song, "It Might As Well Be Spring," that became popular so swiftly that almost immediately she was launched on a career.

Photograph of Margaret Whiting, with caption:

**MARGARET WHITING, WHO IN LESS THAN A YEAR HAS RISEN  
FROM OBSCURITY TO BECOME THE FEATURED SINGER OF  
KSD'S FROLICS SHOW AT 7:00 TUESDAY EVENINGS.**

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The Shreveport Times [Shreveport, Louisiana], Jul 21, 1946, Page 15:

**'FROLICS' SINGER TO BE STAR ON SHOW ON NBC**

**Margaret Whiting, Featured on Series Regularly Takes Over Tuesday at 9:30 p.m.**

Margaret Whiting will become star of the "Frolics" starting Tuesday, July 23 over NBC and KTBS at 9:30 p.m. The singer, who has been featured on the show since its premiere last January, will celebrate her 22nd birthday on the day before she becomes star of "Frolics."

Jerry Gray and his orchestra and the Tune Toppers, popular rhythm quintet, will continue to be heard on the program in support of Miss Whiting.

In less than a year since the phenomenal success of her best-selling record, "It Might As Well Be Spring," Margaret has gone from comparative obscurity to stardom. She recorded the song last August, selecting it at the last moment and rehearsing it very briefly.

---

Denton Record-Chronicle [Denton, Texas], Jul 21, 1946, Page 4:

**Broadway By Jack O'Brian**

Johnny Desmond, the GI Sinatra, who was a European favorite as a crooner in Khaki, has dispatched a bunch of his new recordings to Britain's Princess Elizabeth . . . The Princess, who likes American swing music, was a Desmond fan when Johnny sang abroad with the Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band, and, after hearing him when the band played at Bedford, she requested that he send along his records if and when he made any upon returning home . . . Johnny now is waiting to hear her royal reaction.

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**July 23, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.**

**Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.**

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 27:**

**Co-Ed Musical Salute to Columbia University**

A copy of this complete program is believed to be held by the Library of Congress.

[Author's Note: The *Philip Morris Frolics* NBC Network Radio Broadcast was broadcast on a delayed basis over KGU in Honolulu, Hawaii, weekly on Monday evenings at 8:30 p.m. local time. The first week's show was aired 7-weeks after the mainland broadcast. By late April, the delay was down to only 3-weeks. A 16-inch acetate copy was likely used, pressed on the mainland and delivered to Hawaii via ship or by airliner.]

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*The Democrat and Leader* [Davenport, Iowa], Jul 21, 1946, Page 17:

Margaret Whiting becomes the star of Johnny Presents heard on NBC on Tuesday at 6 o'clock, beginning this week. Miss Whiting, who will be 22 years old on Monday, replaces Johnny Desmond on the program. Jerry Gray and his orchestra and the Tune Toppers will continue to be heard on the program.

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*The New York Times* [New York City, New York], Jul 23, 1946, Page 45 L, Radio Today:

**8-8:30 – Variety:** Margaret Whiting, songs; Jerry Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers Quintet - WEA

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jul 23, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray Orchestra, WEA

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*The Berkshire Evening Eagle* [Pittsfield, Massachusetts], Jul 23, 1946, Page 14, On The Air:

8:00 – WEA – Margaret Whiting, Songs; Jerry Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers Quintet

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*St. Petersburg Times* [St. Petersburg, Florida], Jul 23, 1946, Page 19:

**Music**

7:00 p.m. WFLA – Songstress Margaret Whiting becomes star of Philip Morris Frolics, supported by Jerry Gray and his orchestra and the Tune Toppers.

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The Atlanta Constitution [Atlanta, Georgia], Jul 23, 1946, Page 8:

**ON THE AIR – By PAUL JONES**

Margaret Whiting becomes star of the “Frolics,” starting tonight (WSB at 7), when the singer, who has been featured on the show since its premiere last January, will celebrate her twenty-second birthday the day before she becomes star of “Frolics.” Jerry Gray and his orchestra and the Tune Toppers, popular rhythm quintet, will continue to be heard on the program in support of Miss Whiting.

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jul 23, 1946, Page 30:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Bee's Bits***

**MARGARET WHITING** becomes the star of the “Frolics” tonight at 7 over WTAM. Since January, she has been co-featured with Johnny Desmond on the program. Margaret will be assisted by Jerry Gray's orchestra and the Tune Toppers.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 23, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**High Lights of Day's Radio Programs – *These listings are correct as they go to press***

9:30 WAVE – Margaret Whiting  
With Tune Toppers and Jerry Gray's band

ALL LISTINGS ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch [St. Louis, Missouri], Jul 23, 1946, Page 2C, St. Louis Radio Stations:

Programs on the broadcast band scheduled for today include:

7 P.M. KSD – FROLICS OF FORTY-SIX. Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orchestra and the Tune Toppers.

RADIO FAVORITES TODAY: 7:00 KSD, Johnny Presents: Margaret Whiting, singer; Jerry Gray's Orchestra.

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin] Jul 23, 1946, Radio Logs:

Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:

Margaret Whiting, singer on Frolics of 1946” since its premier last January, becomes the star of the show when a new format is inaugurated with the broadcast at 9:30 tonight over WIBA. A leading college campus will be selected each week for a musical salute by the cast.

Tonight's Aces – Music: 9:30 p.m. – **Frolics of 1946** (WIBA) Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray orchestra, Tune Toppers; salute to Columbia University with favorite music of students.

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Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Jul 23, 1946, Page 11:  
WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Frolics of 1946 Margaret Whiting

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Jul 23, 1946, Page 13, The Radio Dial:  
WBAP-WFAA 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray

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The Daily Argus-Leader [Sioux Falls, South Dakota], Jul 23, 1946, Page 9:



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Albuquerque Journal [Albuquerque, New Mexico], Jul 23, 1946, Page 8:

**K O B** Tuesday, January 22, 770 KC, **K O B**

★ A PARADE OF STARS EVERY DAY ON KOB ★

**Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orchestra . . . . . 8:30 P. M.**  
**Sponsored by Philip Morris Cigarettes**

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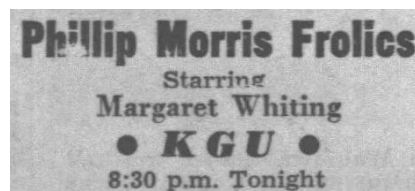
The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Aug 11, 1946, Page 14:

**KGU News**

A leading college campus will be selected each week for a musical salute by the cast of the "Philip Morris Frolics," beginning tomorrow night at 8:30 p.m. on KGU. Songstress Margaret Whiting is taking over as star of the program and Columbia University will be the first school honored. Jerry Gray and his orchestra, plus the Tune Toppers, rhythm quintet, will support Miss Whiting, and offer the favorite popular songs of the student bodies as indicated by a campus-wide polls. The alma mater of each college will be played.

---

The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Aug 12, 1946, Page 11:



Following the departure of Johnny Desmond from the *Frolics*, the radio logs now show –

*NY Times* – Variety: Margaret Whiting, Songs; Jerry Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers Quintet  
WEAF.

*Washington Post* – Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray's Orch.

*Chicago Tribune* – Margaret Whiting.

*Los Angeles Times* – M. Whiting

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### July 30, 1946 [Tuesday]:

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

#### NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 28:

Co-Ed Musical Salute to the University of Minnesota.

No additional information.

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Jul 30, 1946, Page 15:

#### TODAY'S BEST BETS

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray Orchestra, WEAF

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*Harrisburg Telegraph* [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania], Jul 27, 1946, Page 18:

WEEKLY RADIO GUIDE – TUESDAY, JULY 30

WEAR (660)	8:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Jerry Gray Orch. Margaret Whiting
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*The Evening News* [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania], Jul 30, 1946, Page 14:

WEAF (660)	8:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orch.
WKBO (1230)	8:00 – 8:30 p.m.	M. Whiting Show, Jerry Gray's Orch.

---

Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Jul 30, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By **BEE OFFINEER**, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Margaret Whiting salutes the University of Minnesota.

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The Index-Journal [Greenwood, S.C.], Jul 30, 1946, Page 3:

WCRS (1450)                      7:00 – 7:30 p.m.                      Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray and Orchestra

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Alton Evening Telegraph [Alton, Illinois] Jul 30, 1946, Page 11, Tonight's RADIO Program:

KSD (550)                      7:00 – 7:30 p.m.                      Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orch.

---

The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Jul 30, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

***Highlights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press.***

9:30      WAVE – Margaret Whiting                      Musical salute to Minnesota University

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin] Jul 30, 1946 Page 15, Radio Logs:

Tonight's Aces – Music

9:30 p.m. – **Frolics of 1946** (WIBA) salutes University of Minnesota with favorite music of students.

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The Oelwein Daily Register [Oelwein, Iowa], Jul 30, 1946, Page 5:

WHO (1040)                      9:30 – 10:00 p.m.                      Margaret Whiting Salutes Minnesota U.

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Jul 30, 1946, Page 11, The Radio Dial:

WBAP-WFAA                      9:30 – 10:00 p.m.                      Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray

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The Post-Register [Idaho Falls, Idaho], Jul 29, 1946, Page 3:

[For Tuesday, Jul 30, 1946 – Pocatello, Idaho]

KSEI (930)                      8:30 – 9:00 p.m.                      Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch.

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**July 31, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

The Indianapolis Star [Indianapolis, Indiana], Jul 31, 1946, Page 13:

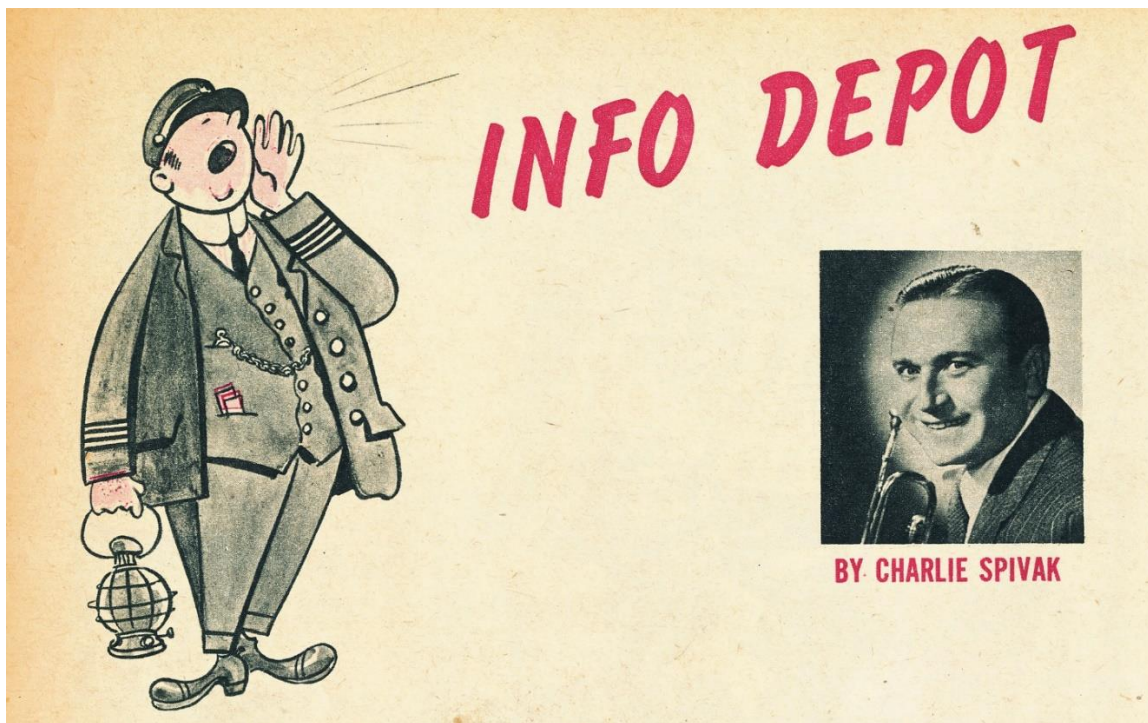
**MIKE-ROW-SCOPES By MOLLY STAR**

JOHNNY DESMOND has lined up another teen-timers show on WIBC-MBS for this fall. The show will highlight Johnny with name bands, an already established format on another network. "Carbon copies" rarely stand on their own feet.

---

**August 1946:**

Band Leader, Aug 1946:



Dear Charlie:

Could you tell me if Jerry Gray still arranges for the Glenn Miller civilian band?

George Wakzuk  
Stamford, Conn.

••• Yes, George, Jerry Gray arranges for the present Glenn Miller band.

[Author's Note: There appears to be a good two-month lag in the time source material was provided to *Band Leader* and when it was eventually published.]

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**August 1, 1946 [Thursday]:**

**Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra; Capitol Recording Session, New York City, New York. Capitol Session #351.**

Label – Margaret Whiting with Orchestra Conducted by Jerry Gray

978-2 PASSÉ (3:07)

Capitol 294 B

979-2 FOR YOU, FOR ME, FOR EVERMORE (2:52)

Capitol 294 A

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown.

---



The International Flavor of Jerry Gray:  
Recorded in USA, Manufactured in Sweden, for Telefunkenplatte Berlin

---

Publicity and Reviews:

*The Billboard*, Sep 7, 1946, Page 30/Page 116, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

FOR YOU, FOR ME, FOR EVERMORE ..... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) Capitol 294.  
PASSE ..... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) Capitol 294.

---

*The Amarillo Daily News* [Amarillo, Texas], Sep 20, 1946, Page 24:

In The Groove

**For You, For Me, Forevermore ..... 294**  
**Passe**

Margaret Whiting with orchestra conducted by Jerry Gray. The singer's brilliant recording molds the lyrics to her expressive song style for a new high in her career; unforgettable showcasing of a haunting sentimental ballad.

---

The Cash Box, Sep 30, 1946, Page 11, Music:

Capitol Records Advertisement:

**MARGARET WHITING**

with Orchestra  
conducted by Jerry Gray

'FOR YOU, FOR ME, FOR EVERMORE'

From the 20th Century Fox Picture  
"The Shocking Miss Pilgrim"

•  
'PASSE'

CAP. 294

---

The Billboard, Oct 5, 1946, Page 100 Reviews:

MARGARET WHITING (Capitol 294)

For You, For Me, For Evermore – FT; V  
Passé – FT; V

*Forevermore* (from *The Shocking Miss Pilgrim* pic) is another George Gershwin posthumous ballad. Margaret Whiting drags the tempo until side spurs yawns. Jerry Gray's schmaltz backing doesn't help any either. Flip fares better, as Miss Whiting appealingly projects the torch lyrics of the French importation. Gray's Strad heavy ork suitably frames the singing.

Pic tie-in may bring some takers to the topside, but it's the flip that will pay off.

---

The Cash Box, Oct 7, 1946, Page 9, Music:

Record Reviews By *Ralph Emmett* of "THE CASH BOX"

"Passe"  
"For You, For Me, For Evermore"

**Margaret Whiting**  
**(Capitol 294)**

• A sultry-voiced songstress is Margaret Whiting, and her talents fit right in with the melodies she waxes here. "Passe," you'll remember, is the tune introduced here by the French crooner Jean Sablon, and La Whiting gives it to us with an American touch. Nonetheless, the song doesn't lose its continental flavor and emerges from Margaret's throat still hinting of a Parisian love affair. Your better class locations should go for that, what with the trend that "sophistication" and a fast buck go hand in hand. Flipped, Margaret sings "For You, For Me, For Evermore," a worthy ballad made more appealing by our gal's talent and danceable thru the efforts of the ork under the direction of Jerry Gray.

---

**August 6, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, Guest Singer Art Lund, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 29:**

**Co-Ed Musical Salute to the University of California.**

No additional information.

---

*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Aug 6, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray Orchestra, Art Lund, Guest, WEAF

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*NY Times* radio log lists Art Lund as guest on *Philip Morris Follies* this evening.

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*The Berkshire Evening Eagle* [Pittsfield, Massachusetts], Aug 6, 1946, Page 16, On The Air:  
8:00 – WEAF – Margaret Whiting, Songs; Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers

---

*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Aug 6, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Margaret Whiting has Art Lund as guest in a salute to the University of California.

---

*Alton Evening Telegraph* [Alton, Illinois] Aug 6, 1946, Page 8, Tonight's RADIO Program:  
KSD (550) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orch.

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*The Cincinnati Enquirer* [Cincinnati, Ohio], Aug 6, 1946, Page 13, Radio News And Comment:

***THEY TELL ME:*** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: DIAL-STOPPERS

7 p.m., WLW: Songstress Margaret Whiting has Art Lund, vocalist, as her guest on "Frolics."

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 6, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**Highlights of Day's Radio Programs** – These listings are correct as they go to press.

9:30 WAVE – Margaret Whiting Jerry Gray and Tune Toppers Quartet

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin] Aug 6, 1946, Radio Logs:

Tonight's Aces – Music

9:30 p.m. – **Frolics of 1946** (WIBA) Margaret Whiting, with Art Lund as guest vocalist; salute to University of California.

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The Oelwein Daily Register [Oelwein, Iowa], Aug 5, 1946, Page 4:

Tuesday Evening Programs:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch.

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Aug 6, 1946, Page 11, The Radio Dial:

WBAP-WFAA 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray

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The Post-Register [Idaho Falls, Idaho], Aug 5, 1946, Page 8 [For Tuesday, Aug 6, 1946]:

KSEI (930) Pocatello 8:30–9:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch.

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### **August 13, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, Guest Singer Del Casino, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 30:**

**Co-Ed Musical Salute To Boston University.**

No additional information.

---

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Aug 13, 1946, Page 19:

### **TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Follies of 1946" Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray Orchestra; Del Casino, Guest, WEAF

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The Berkshire Evening Eagle [Pittsfield, Massachusetts], Aug 13, 1946, Page 18, On The Air:  
8:00 – WEAf – Margaret Whiting, Songs; Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers

---

The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Aug 13, 1946, Page 17, ON THE AIR:  
WEAF (660) 8:00–8:30 p.m. Jerry Gray's Orch.

[Author's Note: This is a listing for the *Follies of 1946* CBS radio broadcast. For radio history buffs, WEAf was to change call letters to WNBC two and a half months later on Nov 1, 1946.]

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Fitchburg (Mass.) Sentinel, Aug 13, 1946, Page 5, Radio:  
WBZ (1030) 8:00–8:30 pm Jerry Gray's Orchestra

[Author's Note: This is a listing for the *Follies of 1946* CBS radio broadcast.]

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Aug 13, 1946, Page 19:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Margaret Whiting has Del Casino as guest in saluting Boston University.

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Alton Evening Telegraph [Alton, Illinois] Aug 13, 1946, Page 14, Tonight's RADIO Program:  
KSD (550) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orch.

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Aug 13, 1946, Page 18, Radio News And Comment:

**THEY TELL ME:** BY WILMER G. MASON

Tuning Tips: DIAL-STOPPERS

7 p.m., WLW: Recently released from the Navy, Del Casino joins the "Frolics" show as an added singing star.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 13, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**Highlights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press.**

9:30 WAVE – Margaret Whiting Del Casino and Tune Toppers Quintet

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Aug 13, 1946, Page 7, The Radio Dial:  
WBAP-WFAA 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray

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The Oelwein Daily Register [Oelwein, Iowa], Aug 13, 1946, Page 5:  
Tuesday Evening Programs:  
WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch.

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Philip Morris Print Advertisement in this time frame.

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**August 14, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

Iowa City Press-Citizen [Iowa City, Iowa], Aug 14, 1946, Page 5:

**TEEN TALK – AP Newsfeatures**

Johnny Desmond's teen age fans collect his mimeographed radio scripts to paper their rooms (wouldn't your mom love that).

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**August 19, 1946 [Monday]:**

Broadcasting, Aug 19, 1946, Page 99:

Rudy Vallee is to return to air on NBC Tues 8-8:30 pm EST time sponsored by Philip Morris & Co and replacing *Philip Morris Follies*. Contract is to be signed early this week following Hollywood arrival of Milton Biow, head of the New York agency, The Biow Co., which handles account.

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**August 20, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, Guest Singer Del Casino, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 31:**

**Co-Ed Musical Salute to Ohio State University.**

No additional information.

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Aug 20, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Frolics" Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray Orchestra, Del Casino, Guest, WEAF

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*The Berkshire Evening Eagle* [Pittsfield, Massachusetts], Aug 20, 1946, Page 16, On The Air:  
8:00 – WEAF – Margaret Whiting, Songs; Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers

---

*The Gazette and Daily* [York, Pennsylvania], Aug 20, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S RADIO HIGHLIGHTS**

8:00 P.M. – WEAF – Frolics – Del Casino, guest vocalist.

---

*The Atlanta Constitution* [Atlanta, Georgia], Aug 20, 1946, Page 16:

**ON THE AIR – By PAUL JONES**

Song Favorites of Ohio State University students, as revealed in a campus-wide poll, will be featured on the "Frolics" program scheduled at 7 on WSB. Singing star Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and the orchestra, and the Tune Toppers Quintet will participate in the campus salute.

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Aug 20, 1946, Page 23:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Margaret Whiting Show: Del Casino guest, in musical salute to Ohio State University.

---

Alton Evening Telegraph [Alton, Illinois] Aug 20, 1946, Page 10, Tonight's RADIO Program:  
KSD (550) 7:00-7:30 p.m. Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orch.

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The Cincinnati Enquirer [Cincinnati, Ohio], Aug 20, 1946, Page 7, Radio News And Comment:

Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:



***SALUTES OHIO STATE.***

Margaret Whiting, star of the "Frolics" program, offers a musical salute to Ohio State University at 7 p. m. today over WLW-NBC. Del Casino is guest vocalist again.

Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin] Aug 20, 1946, Radio Logs:

Tonight's Aces – Music

9:30 p.m. – **Frolics of 1946** (WIBA) Del Casino, guest; Margaret Whiting salutes Ohio State University.

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 20, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

**Highlights of Day's Radio Programs** – *These listings are correct as they go to press.*

9:30 WAVE – Margaret Whiting Del Casino in salute to Ohio State

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The Oelwein Daily Register [Oelwein, Iowa], Aug 20, 1946, Page 6:

Tuesday Evening Programs:

WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Aug 20, 1946, Page 6, The Radio Dial:

WBAP-WFAA 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray

---

Daily Herald [Provo, Utah], Aug 20, 1946, Page 8:

Advertisement:

**NBC PARADE OF STARS**

Margaret Whiting  
Sings with  
Jerry Gray's  
Orchestra

8:30 p.m.

**TUNE IN KDYL 1320**

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The Honolulu Advertiser [Honolulu, Hawaii], Sep 8, 1946, Page 10:

**KGU News**

Song favorites of Ohio State University students, as revealed in a campus-wide poll, will be played on the "Philip Morris Frolics" program at 8:30 tomorrow night on KGU. Del Casino will be guest vocalist. The young tenor joins Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray and the orchestra, and The Tune Toppers quintet in the musical salute to Ohio State. Margaret Whiting, star of the program, has received a merit award from "Song Hits" magazine, which has chosen her "The outstanding female vocalist on the air."

[Author's Note: This *Honolulu Advertiser* story applies to this broadcast. It is dated Sep 8th, as the Folies airing in Hawaii was 3-weeks delayed.]

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## August 22, 1946 [Thursday]:

Variety, Aug 28, 1946, Page 1:

[Author's Note: From this article on Dick Haymes appearing at the RKO Theatre in Boston, Margaret Whiting and the Nichols Brothers also appeared as part of the stage show. Maurice Rocco substituted for Margaret Whiting on Tuesday, August 27th to allow Margaret to make her Philip Morris air show.]

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The Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Aug 22, 1946, Page 17:

### **Airglances By Mary Little**

Indications point to another return to broadcasting for Rudy Vallee when fall approaches. It would continue a network career started in 1928.

Vallee has been on vacation since the end of his Thursday night series on WHO late last spring. The new arrangement with a different sponsor would keep him on WHO, but in a Tuesday night half-hour, starting early in September.

Negotiations proceeding in Hollywood would call for Vallee to replace the current frolics show in which Margaret Whiting has the singing lead. Pending the signing of contracts, the makeup of the program has not been announced.

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## August 25, 1946 [Sunday]:

The New York Times [New York City, New York], Aug 25, 1946, Page 47:

### **AMATEUR SWING BANDS WIN NATIONAL AWARDS**

Two amateur swing bands, one large and one small, made up of high school pupils, won national honors last night in a contest at Carnegie Hall in which 194 young musicians competed before a capacity audience. Look Magazine sponsored the contest.

The Bruce Dybvig Band of Minneapolis won the award for larger bands, consisting of more than eight members, and the Hawaiian Swingsters of the Union High School, El Monte, Calif., was the winner among the smaller "combos" of eight or fewer players. The competing groups were the winners of the five regional elimination contests.

Two specialty groups also received awards, the senior group winner being the Marimba Madcaps of Northwestern University. The junior specialty award went to the Happy Woodchoppers of North Hollywood, Calif.

Thirty-one individual boys and girls received gold trophies too, for excellence in the performance of their respective instruments. The trophies were contributed by leaders in the popular music field, including Frank Sinatra, Woody Herman, Guy Lombardo, Stan Kenton, Jo Stafford, Spike Jones, Tommy Tucker, Duke Ellington and Charlie Spivak.

Also the King Cole Trio, the Three Suns, Oscar Moore, Chubby Jackson, Jerry Gray, Lionel Hampton, Louis Armstrong, Jimmy Dorsey, Vaughn Monroe, Louis Prima and Tommy Dorsey, some of these appearing in person to make the presentation.

The contest and the awards together carried the entertainment far beyond midnight. Martin Block and Ben Grauer, radio announcers, were the masters of ceremonies.

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Lincoln Sunday Journal And Star [Lincoln, Nebraska], Aug 25, 1946, Page 10-C:

Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:



ON TUESDAY nights, 6 p.m. over WOW to be exact, this young lady gives out with some lush vocalizing to the rhythms of Jerry Gray's orchestra. She's Margaret Whiting – only 22 years old and star of NBC's "Frolics" show.

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**August 26, 1946 [Monday]:**

**Background on Philip Morris program to replace *The Philip Morris Follies of 1946*.**

*The Newark Advocate and American Tribune* [Newark, Ohio], Aug 20, 1946, Page 6:

#### **DAILY RADIO PROGRAM**

New York, Aug 20 – Negotiations proceeding in Hollywood would call for Vallee to replace the current Frolics show, in which Margaret Whiting has the singing lead. Pending the signing of contracts, the makeup of the program has not been announced.

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*Broadcasting*, Aug 26, 1946, Page 93:

BIOW REJECTS PROPOSED SHOW. AGREEING with NBC, Biow Co. rejected proposed *Rudy Vallee* show under present talent setup for Philip Morris & Co. sponsorship. Show was to have replaced current *Philip Morris Frolics* on Sept. 3. Chief difficulty springs from combined agency-network dissatisfaction with last year's format. Present proposed package cheaper by \$5,000 weekly than that of last season, but not so strong talent-wise. Present Frolics remains until satisfactory replacement found, according to Jack Runyon, agency's liaison executive between New York and Hollywood offices.

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*Broadcasting*, Sep 9, 1946, Page 79:

Show Revamped. WITH FORMAT improved and talent lineup bolstered, *The Rudy Vallee Show* replaces *Philip Morris Frolics* on NBC starting Sept 10, Tues. 8-8:30 pm (EDST), with West Coast repeat 7:30-8 pm (PST). Hal Peary (Great Gildersleeve) and Lina Romy, film actress-singer, are to be opening guests. Scheduled originally to start Sep 3, show was turned down by NBC and Biow Co agency for Philip Morris & Co. Both agreed that proposed program was below standard.

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*The Billboard*, Sep 21, 1946, Page 5:

NY Sep 21 – Webs' crackdown on commercial programs was highlighted this week with National Broadcasting Company again tangling with the Biow Agency over *The Philip Morris Show*. All very hush hush, but the deal now is the NBC has accepted the Vallee show on a week-to-week basis. The web execs were dissatisfied with the program. Some staffers expected NCM would ax the show.

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**August 27, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, Guest Singer Del Casino, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast.

Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 32:**

**Co-Ed Musical Salute to the University of Texas.**

No information, although most songs on AFRS *College Frolics 6* are likely from this broadcast.

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**Armed Forces Radio Service:** College Frolics 6, Part 1 is marked SS-9-4-9 and College Frolics 6, Part 2 is marked SS-9-4-10. Dated August 27, 1946.

**This is AFRS 6 of the *College Frolics* series, sourced from the NBC Network Radio Broadcast of *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946* less commercials, and rebroadcast for our servicemen and women overseas by the Armed Forces Radio Service.**

**College Frolics, AFRS 6:**

AFRS OPENING (0:10)

I'VE NEVER FORGOTTEN (1:33) – v Margaret Whiting and The Tune Toppers

DIALOGUE SALUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS (0:29) – Margaret Whiting, Del Casino

ALL THE TIME (2:34) – v Del Casino

ROUTE 66 (2:12) – v The Tune Toppers

WHEN YOU MAKE LOVE TO ME (Don't Make Believe) (2:56) – v Margaret Whiting

DIALOGUE SALUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS (0:26) – Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray

AMERICAN PATROL (2:42) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

DOIN' WHAT COMES NATURALLY (1:51) – v The Tune Toppers

THE EYES OF TEXAS [under Salute to the University of Texas] (0:40) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, Margaret Whiting, and Ken Roberts

COME RAIN OR COME SHINE (3:07) – v Margaret Whiting

NIGHT AND DAY (2:13) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

TEMPATION (3:32) – v Del Casino

DIALOGUE SALUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS (0:21) – Margaret Whiting, Ken Roberts

ALWAYS (2:15) – v Margaret Whiting

AFRS CLOSING (1:34) – AMERICAN PATROL (reprise) – Jerry Gray and his Orchestra

The announcer is Ken Roberts

Total program length is 30:08

**AFRS Announcer:** *We bring you a Co-Ed Musical Salute, starring Margaret Whiting, The Tune Toppers, and Jerry Gray and his Orchestra. And here is our star, Margaret Whiting.*



[Author's Notes: *College Frolics*, AFRS 6 –

The Tune Toppers sound like two gals and three guys.

The songs on this AFRS transcription are likely to come from one or more different NBC broadcast dates; yet primarily from the original NBC broadcasts of August 27, 1946. It is unlikely that we will know whether they are from the east coast (early) or the west coast (late) programs, as there are apparently no AFRS notes and so few performances known to exist today for comparison.

AFRS removed four or more minutes of Philip Morris advertisements and commercial references from the original broadcast and inserted an additional song or two from a previous broadcast or an extended closing reprise to fill out the disk time to 30 minutes.

A possible AFRS insertion in addition to the audio of August 27, 1946 is the version of "Night And Day" by Jerry Gray and his Orchestra.]

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*The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* [Brooklyn, New York], Aug 27, 1946, Page 17:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Frolics" Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray Orchestra, Del Casino, Guest, WEAF

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*Akron Beacon Journal* [Akron, Ohio], Aug 27, 1946, Page 8:

**AROUND THE DIAL By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor**

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Margaret is joined by Del Casino in a salute to Texas University.

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*The Lincoln Star* [Lincoln, Nebraska], Aug 25, 1946, Page 10-C:

Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:

ON TUESDAY nights, 6 p.m. over WOW to be exact, this young lady gives out with some lush vocalizing to the rhythms of Jerry Gray's orchestra. She's Margaret Whiting – only 22 years old and star of NBC's "Frolics" show.

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*The Crosbyton Review* [Crosbyton, Texas], Aug 23, 1946, Page 1:

**TEXAS U. SALUTED**

Photograph of Margaret Whiting with caption:

Texas University will be saluted musically on Tuesday, August 27, by songstress Margaret Whiting, (above) on the Philip Morris "Frolics" over NBC. The favorite popular tunes of the undergraduates, as determined by a poll now being made, and a medley of Texas songs, will be offered by Miss Whiting, Jerry Gray's orchestra and the Tunetoppers quintet.

The Berkshire Evening Eagle [Pittsfield, Massachusetts], Aug 27, 1946, Page 18, On The Air:  
8:00 – WFAF – Margaret Whiting, Songs; Gray Orchestra; Tune Toppers

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The Evening News [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania], Aug 27, 1946, Page 18, RADIO PROGRAMS:  
WFAF (660) 8:00–8:30 p.m. Margaret Whiting, Del Casino guest

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The Gazette and Daily [York, Pennsylvania], Aug 27, 1946, Page 12, ON THE AIR:  
WFAF (660) 8:00–8:30 p.m. Jerry Gray's Orch.

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Akron Beacon Journal [Akron, Ohio], Sep 3, 1946, Page 19:

**AROUND THE DIAL** By BEE OFFINEER, Radio Editor

***Tonight's Tuning***

7 – WTAM, Margaret Whiting Show: Del Casino is guest in salute to Pittsburgh University.

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Alton Evening Telegraph [Alton, Illinois] Aug 27, 1946, Page 12, Tonight's RADIO Program:  
KSD (550) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Margaret Whiting, Jerry Gray's Orch.

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The Index-Journal [Greenwood, S.C.], Aug 27, 1946, Page 6:  
WCRS (1450) 7:00–7:30 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray and Orchestra

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Aug 27, 1946, Page 12, Section 2:

***Highlights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press.***

9:30 WAVE – Margaret Whiting Del Casino and Tune Toppers

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin], Aug 27, 1946, Radio Logs:  
Tonight's Aces – Music

9:30 p.m. – Frolics of 1946 (WIBA) Margaret Whiting, with Del Casino as guest, salute Texas University.

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The Waco News-Tribune [Waco, Texas], Aug 27, 1946, Page 11, The Radio Dial:  
WBAP-WFAA 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting and Jerry Gray

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The Oelwein Daily Register [Oelwein, Iowa], Aug 27, 1946, Page 7:  
Tuesday Evening Programs  
WHO (1040) 9:30–10:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch

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The Post-Register [Idaho Falls, Idaho], Aug 26, 1946, Page 3:  
[For Tuesday, Aug 27, 1946 - Pocatello]  
KSEI (930) 8:30–9:00 p.m. Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch.

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**September 1, 1946 [Sunday]:**

The New York Times [New York City, New York], Sep 1, 1946, Page 7 X:

**RADIO ROW: ONE THING AND ANOTHER**

Margaret Whiting, who has been heading a summer show on Tuesday evenings over NBC, has been signed as the feminine vocalist for Eddie Cantor's opus this winter. Cooke Fairchild and his orchestra will be back this season with Mr. C., who starts work on Sept. 26 over NBC.

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**September 3, 1946 [Tuesday]:**

Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, with Margaret Whiting and the Tune Toppers Quintet, Guest Singer Del Casino, NBC Network 30-minute radio broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, NBC Studios, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York.

Broadcast live at 8:00 p.m. New York City time for the east coast and broadcast live at 11:30 p.m. New York City time for the west coast. Some central zone stations carried the early broadcast and other central zone stations carried the late broadcast.

Last program in this series.

**NBC Network Radio Broadcast, *The Philip Morris Frolics of 1946*, Episode 33:**

**Co-Ed Musical Salute to the University of Pittsburgh.**

No additional information.

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The Brooklyn Daily Eagle [Brooklyn, New York], Sep 3, 1946, Page 19:

**TODAY'S BEST BETS**

8:00 "Frolics" WEA

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The Courier-Journal [Louisville, Kentucky], Sep 3, 1946, Page 10, Section 2:

**Highlights of Day's Radio Programs – These listings are correct as they go to press.**

9:30 WAVE – Margaret Whiting Salutes University of Pittsburgh

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Wisconsin State Journal [Madison, Wisconsin] Sep 3, 1946, Radio Logs:

Tonight's Aces – Miscellaneous

9:30 p.m. – **Frolics of 1946** (WIBA) guest Del Casino, tenor; salute to University of Pittsburgh.

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The Oelwein Daily Register [Oelwein, Iowa] Sep 3, 1946, Page 5:

Favorite Radio Programs Over Three Major Networks

WHO (1040)                      9:30–10:00 p.m.                      Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray's Orch.

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The Des Moines Register [Des Moines, Iowa], Sep 3, 1946, Page 14:

**Airglances By Mary Little**

Del Casino will be Margaret Whiting's guest on PM Frolics, 9:30 p.m. WHO.

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THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

**JOHNNY ON THE SPOT**

The Ringmaster Finds Out Why  
**PHILIP MORRIS**  
is so much better to smoke!

The Ringmaster thought he had Johnny on the Spot. "Why," he asked, "is PHILIP MORRIS so much better to smoke?"

"Because PHILIP MORRIS is the ONLY leading cigarette scientifically proved far less irritating to the nose and throat," Johnny replied. "That's

why the PHILIP MORRIS smoker really gets what other smokers only hope to get . . . better taste, finer flavor, perfect smoking pleasure!"

Yes, it's true . . . if every smoker knew what PHILIP MORRIS smokers know—they'd all change to PHILIP MORRIS, America's finest cigarette.

TRY A PACK TODAY!

**CALL FOR PHILIP MORRIS**

Philip Morris Print Advertisement in this time frame.

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**September 11, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, Mercury Recording Session, New York City, New York.**

534-3/535-3	RUSSIAN PATROL, PART 1/PART 2 (5:54)	Mercury 5005, EP1-3216
536-1	ORANGES AND LEMONS v TT (3:01)	Mercury 3197, 5147, and EP1-3216

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Steve Lipkins, Don Lipsey, Jimmy Maxwell, Bernie Privin, t; George Arus, Will Bradley, Phil Giardina, Walt Mercurio, tb; Hank Freeman, Hymie Schertzer, Art Drelinger, Al Klink, Ernie Caceres, reeds; Bob Curtis piano/celeste, Hy White g, Trigger Alpert b, Dave Tough d; Harry Katzman, George Ockner, Kurt Dieterle, Nat Kaproff, Fredy Ostrovsky, Dave Sackson, violin; Henry Brynan, Dave Schwartz, viola; Morris Bialkin, cello; Hal Fermansky, Phil Frank, Tony Gray, unknown strings; The Tune Toppers, vocal.

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**Publicity and Reviews:**

*The Billboard*, Nov 2, 1946, Page 28, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

RUSSIAN PATROL, PARTS I & II ..... Jerry Gray Ork Mercury 5005

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*The Billboard*, Nov 23, 1946, Page 110, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

RUSSIAN PATROL, PARTS I & II ..... Jerry Gray Ork Mercury 5005

[Author's Note: This advanced record release from Nov 2, 1956, was withdrawn.]

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*The Billboard*, Nov 30, 1946, Page 32, Music – As Written:

Chicago – Mercury releasing Jerry Gray's scoring of *Meadowlands, Part 1 and 2*, by his own band December 1. Arrangement is same one being featured by Tex Beneke and Glenn Miller Band, and which Gray did when he was AAF scorer for Miller.

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*The Billboard*, Dec 7, 1946, Page 112, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

RUSSIAN PATROL, PARTS I & II ..... Jerry Gray Ork Mercury 5005 and 5005-X45

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The Billboard, Dec 21, 1946, Page 23 – MUSIC:

Mercury Records Advertisement

Sensational! For Retail Stores Only

**JERRY GRAY**

And His All-American Orch.

**'Russian Patrol'**

Meadowland

TWO SIDES INSTRUMENTAL

MERCURY CELEBRITY SERIES 5005 – 75c

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Band Leader, Apr 1947:

## **JERRY GRAY**

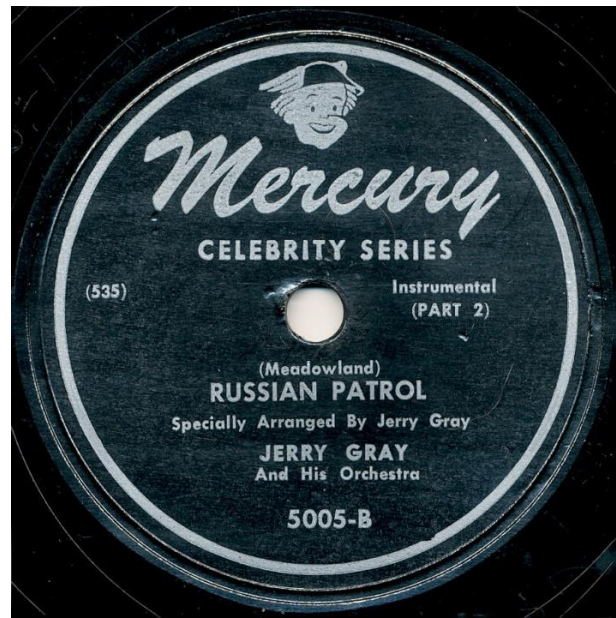
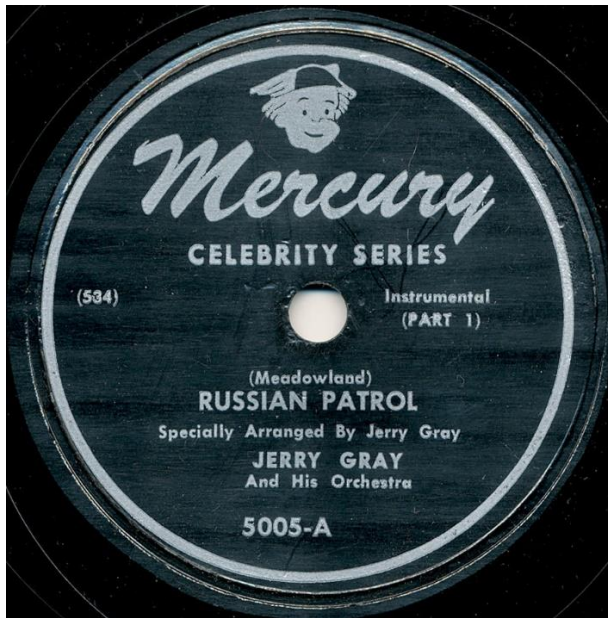
### **"Russian Patrol"—Part 1 and 2**

Remembered as the ace arranger for Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw, it's a rock 'n' rhythm adaptation of the popular "Meadowland" melody that Jerry Gray fashioned as "Russian Patrol." It's a finely knit ensemble whipped together to read his score, spinning solid on both sides of the biscuit. It moves along at a bright tempo, the studio aggregation playing with marked precision and persuasion. Scoring allows measure for the tenor sax rider on the first side, while the flipover finds the pianist in the solo spotlight. (Mercury 5005) **Musicians will gain greater appreciation for Jerry Gray's arranging.**

## **THE TOP TEN PLATTERS**

As selected by **BAND LEADERS & RECORD REVIEW** readers at the January Platter Preview held at Bridgeport, Connecticut:

1. **JALOUSIE**—Harry James orch (*Columbia*)
2. **A RAINY NIGHT IN RIO**—Monica Lewis (*Signature*)
3. **EVERYTHING'S MOVIN' TOO FAST**—Peggy Lee (*Capitol*)
4. **MANAGUA, NICARAGUA**—Kay Kyser (*Columbia*)
5. **GUILTY**—Nick DeLano (*Black & White*)
6. **CHEROKEE**—Charlie Barnet (*Cardinal*)
7. **I'LL CLOSE MY EYES**—Andy Russell (*Capitol*)
8. **A GAL IN CALICO**—Hal McIntyre (*Cosmo*)
9. **THAT'S THE BEGINNING OF THE END**—Bobby Doyle (*Signature*)
10. **RUSSIAN PATROL**—Jerry Gray (*Mercury*)




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*The Billboard*, Jun 26, 1948, Page 35, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

Anvil Chorus ..... J. Gray Mercury 5147  
 Oranges And Lemons ..... J Gray Mercury 5147

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*The Billboard*, Jul 3, 1948, Page 32, Record Reviews:

JERRY GRAY (Mercury 5147)

**Anvil Chorus** – Briefer rescoring of the cleffing Gray did for the old Glenn Miller band performed cleanly ..... 68 ..... 70 ..... 68 ..... 67

**Oranges and Lemons** – Tune Toppers sing Gray's original tune well; good arrangement but song's only fair; both sides of this disk are reissues ..... 69 ..... 70 ..... 67 ..... 70

Code for review ratings ..... Over-All ... Disk Jockey ... Dealer ... Operator

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*The Billboard*, Oct 28, 1950, Page 46, Advance Record Releases:

## POPULAR

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

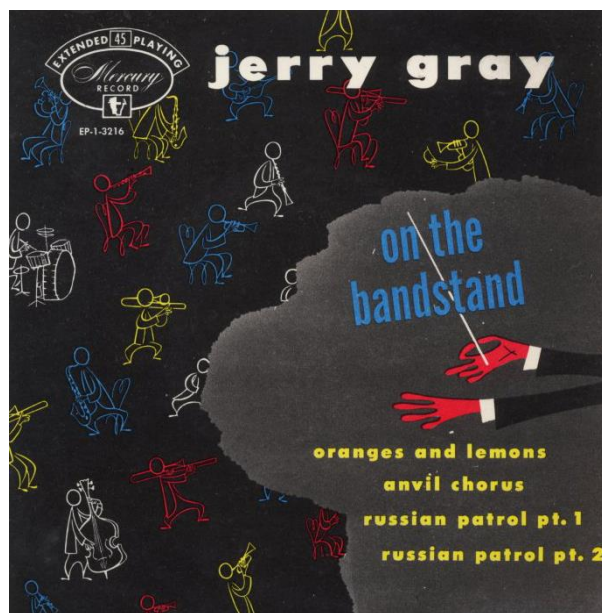
Oranges And Lemons – Jerry Gray Ork (Anvil Chorus) Mercury 5147

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45 rpm Single 1950 Made in US



45 rpm EP 1957 Made in England by Oriole Records Ltd.

### End of September 1946:

Jerry Gray travels from New York City, New York to Los Angeles, California during this time frame.

Margaret Whiting returned to her Hollywood home during this time frame. She became a regular on the new Hollywood-based NBC variety series starring Eddie Cantor and with the Sportsmen Quartet beginning Oct 3, 1946.

And the third original key Folies/Frolics cast member, Johnny Desmond, went on the “road” with the Johnny Long Orchestra. Opening at the Circle Theatre in Indianapolis on Thursday, Sep 5, 1946 for one week. Followed by one week at the Palace Theater in Akron, Ohio, opening on Thursday, Sep 12, 1946. Included in the stage show was Desmond’s version of his own composition, “She’s A Good Woman and You’re A Bad Man and You’re Doin’ Her No Good” and four other songs.

In early October 1946, Johnny also began a new weekly Saturday afternoon radio program on Mutual – “Judy ‘n Jill ‘n Johnny” – built around a mythical campus called Hubba Hubba College – with guest name big bands each week.

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### October 1, 1946 [Tuesday]:

Variety Daily, Oct 1, 1946:



Keywords: Jerry Gray, and readying to do first Coast cutting session in year for Capitol.

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**October 9, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

**Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray and his Orchestra; Capitol Recording Session, Hollywood, California. Capitol Session #417.**

Capitol 324 Label – Margaret Whiting With Orchestra Conducted by Jerry Gray

1439-3 GUILTY (3:09)

Capitol 324 B

1440-4 OH, BUT I DO (3:03)

Capitol 324 A

Capitol 438 Label – Margaret Whiting With Orchestra

1441-2 MY FUTURE JUST PASSED (2:51)

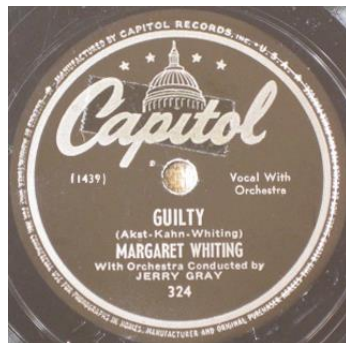
Capitol 438 B

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Musicians unknown.

[Author's Note: Capitol 438A is "*You Do*" Matrix 1939-3 by Margaret Whiting with Frank DeVol. Recording date May 22, 1947. Capitol 438A label reads Margaret Whiting With Frank DeVol And His Orchestra, and 438B label reads Margaret Whiting With Orchestra. Reviewers and others have incorrectly assumed 438B was Frank DeVol, rather than correctly crediting as Jerry Gray.

This is a different Margaret Whiting version of "*You Do*" than recorded on May 13, 1947, 1915-4, and released on Capitol CD 7-93194 and by Collectors Choice CCM-103 and Pair PCD2-1224.

The Jerry Gray/Vic Damone pairing on Mercury 5056 of "*You Do*" recorded Apr 23, 1947, frequently appeared on *The Billboard* Most-Played On The Air List.]





Nov 9, 1946 Capitol Recording Session – Photographs by Ray Whitten

Top picture shows the head of Jerry Gray just over music stand  
and an unidentified reed player in the bottom left corner

Publicity and Reviews:

*The Cash Box*, Nov 11, 1946, Page 15, Music:

Capitol Records Advertisement:

**MARGARET WHITING**  
With Orchestra Conducted  
By JERRY GRAY  
  
‘OH, BUT I DO’  
From the Warner Bros. Picture  
“*The Time, The Place, And The Girl*”  
•  
‘GUILTY’  
  
CAP. 324

---

*The Billboard*, Nov 16, 1946, Page 29/Page 30, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

GUILTY ..... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) Capitol 324.  
OH, BUT I DO ..... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) Capitol 324.

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*The Cash Box*, Nov 18, 1946, Page 12, Music:

#### **THE CASH BOX *Record Reviews***

#### **SLEEPER OF THE WEEK:**

**“Oh, But I Do”  
MARGARET WHITING  
(Capitol 324)**

• “Oh, But I Do,” as introduced here by Margaret Whiting, sounds like a big one for the trade, and considering that it’ll get very heavy plugging thru its inclusion in the motion picture “The Time, The Place, And The Girl,” you can expect the phonos to start ringing heavy with the number once it gets a chance to get around. A top romantic ballad in its own right, with enough trick lyrics to qualify as a novelty as well, Margaret treats the number with all the skill she’s noted for, and sells every phrase in her vocal with loads of expression. By all means, hear it.

Flipped, she offers “Guilty,” a fine ballad that’s made better by what she does with it, but not quite in the class with her topside.

The Jerry Gray orchestra provide melody that should be found welcome in the dance spots as well as to serve as a neat backdrop to the Whiting performance.

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The Amarillo Daily News [Amarillo, Texas], Nov 29, 1946, Page 18:

In The Groove

**Oh, But I Do ..... 324**

**Guilty**

Margaret Whiting with Jerry Gray conducting the band, in selections from the Warner Brothers film "The Time, The Place and The Girl." A-side presents the top ballad from the movie with "Hit Parade" choice rated high. The singer's velvet-voiced performance is tops. Coupling is a torch song with more than usual Whiting appeal, in which she pours her heart as the song was written by her father, the late Dick Whiting, one of the greatest of tunesmiths.

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St. Petersburg Times [St. Petersburg, Florida], Dec 22, 1946, Magazine Section Page 15:

**The Wax Works – TODAY'S BEST ON RECORD**

**On The Popular Side**

Another good Capitol this week features Margaret Whiting in "Oh, But I Do," and "Guilty." Jerry Gray conducts the orchestra.

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The Billboard, Dec 28, 1946, Page 21, Music Popularity Charts, Part III:

Records Most-Played On The Air

GUILTY ... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) ... #12 Capitol 324

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The Billboard, Jan 18, 1947, Page 22, Music Popularity Charts, Part III:

Records Most-Played On The Air

OH! BUT I DO ... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) ... #11 Capitol 324

GUILTY ... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) ... #15 Capitol 324

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The Billboard, Feb 22, 1947, Page 23, Music Popularity Charts, Part III:

Records Most-Played On The Air

OH! BUT I DO ... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) ... #11 Capitol 324

GUILTY ... Margaret Whiting (Jerry Gray Ork) ... #12 Capitol 324

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The Billboard, July 26, 1947, Page 134, Record Reviews:

MARGARET WHITING (Capitol B438)

*You Do* – FT; V.

*My Future Just Passed* – FT; V.



Falling easy on the lobes, Margaret Whiting Turns in a thoroughly pleasing interpretation of the screen-boasted *You Do* (from 20<sup>th</sup> Century-Fox Betty Grable vehicle, *Mother Wore Tights*). Frank De Vol's work creates the romantic scene here as well as for the ballad flip. Latter is another Dick Whiting revival. She sings her father's yesteryear hit with meaningful sincerity.

**Pix push should make *You Do* a tune-ladder climber. *My Future* may well come out of the past to prove a coin snatcher.**

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**October 16, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra and Frankie Laine; Paired Mercury Recording Session, Hollywood, California.**

Label – JERRY GRAY And His Orchestra, Vocal Chorus By Frankie Laine and "The Smart Set"

598-1 TEXAS AND PACIFIC v FL, SS (2:42) Mercury 3197, Mercury 5015

Label – JERRY GRAY And His Orchestra

599 Anvil Chorus Mercury 5015 (not confirmed, possibly unissued)

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Charlie Gifford, Monty Kelly, Manny Klein, Irv Lewis, t; Ed Kusby, Hoyt Bohannon, Ollie Wilson, Ed Guest, tb; Willie Schwartz cl/as, Les Robinson as, Don Lodice ts, Babe Russin ts, Chuck Gentry as/bari; Milt Raskin p; George Van Eps g; Art Bernstein b; Rich Cornell d.

Frankie Laine, v; The Smart Set, vg.

[Author's Note: The Smart Set is likely a vocal quintet, based on the advertisement for a Bel-Tone recording with Hal Brooks and Skip Nelson, *The Billboard*, Sep 7, 1946, Page 22. Also note the change in musicians from the NYC-based pool to the LA-based pool.]

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**October 18, 1946 [Friday]:**

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra, Mercury Recording Session, Hollywood, California.**

Label – JERRY GRAY And His Orchestra

600 ANVIL CHORUS (2:55) Mercury 5015, 5147

**Jerry Gray and his Orchestra:** Charlie Gifford, ALAN ARMER, Manny Klein, Irv Lewis, t; Ed Kusby, Hoyt Bohannon, Ollie Wilson, EARLE HAGEN, tb; Willie Schwartz, Les Robinson, Don Lodice, Babe Russin, Chuck Gentry, reeds; Milt Raskin p; George Van Eps g; Art Bernstein b; Rich Cornell d.

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A now rare German issue of recorded material from Mercury Records USA. The German record companies Regina (Astra-Regina Record company Berlin), and Austroton-Mercury (Austroton-Records) released US Mercury recordings for the first time in Germany. Later, the EMI-Electrola released Mercury Records on the 45 rpm Format. Note the incorrect label showing the vocal group as The Sept Smarts.

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#### Publicity and Reviews:

*The Billboard*, Feb 22, 1947, Page 27, Record Reviews:

JERRY GRAY (Mercury 5015)

Anvil Chorus – Instr.

Texas and Pacific – FT; VC,

Tho he captured early prominence as scorer for the Glenn Miller Ork, Gray doesn't stick to his previous arrangement for the ex-AAF music chief, on the "Anvil Chorus." This Gray penning carries about 75 per cent of the punch of the Miller scoring, but doesn't capture the commercial appeal of his former effort. Reverse, the first double artist deal for Mercury, pairing Jerry Gray and vocalist Frankie Lane and the Stardusters, harmony group. Tune, from Louis Jordan's "Reet, Petite and Gone," is another of the current railroad song epidemic, but doesn't approach "Atchison," etc.

**"Anvil Chorus" will pull in spots where the hepsters hang out, while reverse carries popular and some race appeal.**

Mercury Records Advertisement on the right two columns of the same page:

"TEXAS AND PACIFIC"  
"ANVIL CHORUS"

JERRY GRAY and His Orchestra  
Celebrity series No. 5015 – 75¢

Jerry Gray, Frankie Laine, and the Smart Set are West Texas bound on the "T.P." special; to be specific, "TEXAS AND PACIFIC" ... Combining the wonderful swingy music of Jerry Gray, the tantalizing voice of Frankie Laine, and the smooth crooning of a new group, The Smart Set. "TEXAS AND PACIFIC" is a new tune slated for top honors on the music boxes, and with record shops, jazz fans, bobby-soxers ... and well, just about everybody! ... Backed by "Anvil Chorus" another one of these famous Jerry Gray instrumentals.

Down Beat, Mar 26, 1947, Page 19, Record Reviews:

Anvil Chorus ♪♪

Texas And Pacific ♪♪

Anvil is much like the arrangement the old Miller band used to play, save that it's shorter. Nothing extraordinary happens with the solos here; as a matter of fact, Jerry gets cut by his old boss' disc on this one. T&P has reminiscent choo-choo tinges too, even with Frankie Laine helping out on the vocal. (Mercury 5015)

Variety, Apr 2, 1947, Page 43, Orchestras-Music:

**TEXAS and PACIFIC**

**GET ON BOARD!**  
WITH THIS GREAT NOVELTY SONG

Recorded by LOUIS JORDAN  
JERRY GRAY & FRANKIE LAINE  
PAT FLOWERS  
HOT LIPS PAIGE

1,000,000 DECCA, VICTOR,  
MERCURY AND APOLLO  
RECORDS ALREADY SOLD

**TEXAS and PACIFIC**

Recorded by LOUIS JORDAN  
JERRY GRAY & FRANKIE LAINE  
PAT FLOWERS  
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1,000,000 DECCA, VICTOR,  
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**TEXAS and PACIFIC**

Recorded by LOUIS JORDAN  
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PAT FLOWERS  
HOT LIPS PAIGE

1,000,000 DECCA, VICTOR,  
MERCURY AND APOLLO  
RECORDS ALREADY SOLD

26 MAJOR AIR  
SHOW SHOTS

50,000 COPIES  
ALREADY SOLD

**WATCH FOR THAT  
GREAT NEW "SPECIAL"  
MY BABY DIDN'T  
EVEN SAY GOODBYE**

**PIC MUSIC CORPORATION** • EARL MILLS, Pres. & Mgr. • 228 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois

## Railroad Hot On "T and P" Song Tie-Up

Chicago, April 1.

Louis "Choo Choo Ch' Boogie" Jordan has done it again. Current hit, "Texas and Pacific" by Jack Fine and Joseph E. Hirsch, is another Jordan discovery that's in the railroad vein and going along the tracks a mile a minute. 450,000 Jordan records of "T & P" have been sold already; 250,000 for the Jerry Gray-Frankie Laine platter; and figures figure to be ditto for disks by Pat Flowers and Hot Lips Paige. With over 50,000 sheet music copies sold, and 26 major air show shots, "T & P" is well on its way.

When the advertising manager for the Texas and Pacific Railroad, J. B. Shores, heard the song, he immediately phoned publisher's Pic Music Corp. in Chicago and made a dicker for a promotional tie-up. Song, it was agreed, is a natural for cooperative promotion.

Plans were set to distribute copies of the song on Texas and Pacific trains, and to feature song in railroad's advertising. Jordan will figure prominently in the tie-up when he makes a personal appearance tour of Texas in August. Special stunts and promotion are planned whereby song, Jordan, and railroad will all get a sock publicity boost.

Even without special promotion, Texas papers have been giving the song a terrific press coverage. Theme at pub's offices these days is "Get on Board!"

Radio And Record Stars with Band Leaders, June-July 1947:

JERRY GRAY

"Anvil Chorus"

"Texas And Pacific"

It was his arranging skills for the late Glenn Miller that attracted attention to Jerry Gray. But as a maestro, he doesn't do himself as much good. Perhaps he is trying to break into the Morton Gould – David Rose circles, but his orchestral transcription of the "Anvil Chorus," while rich in instrumental color, is a far cry from the sock "Anvil" that the Miller men once spun. Nor does it have the commercial appeal. For the flipover, rhythm chanter FRANKIE LAINE and the harmonizing STARDUSTERS join the large Gray aggregation on "Texans And Pacific." It's another in the current railroad song epidemic, but the ditty design hardly makes for an attractive line. (Mercury 5015) **For those who admire arranging skill.**

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The Billboard, Jun 26, 1948, Page 35, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date.

Anvil Chorus ..... J. Gray Mercury 5147

Oranges And Lemons ..... J Gray Mercury 5147

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The Billboard, Jul 3, 1948, Page 32, Record Reviews:

JERRY GRAY (Mercury 5147)

*Anvil Chorus* – Briefer rescoring of the cleffing Gray did for the old Glenn Miller band performed cleanly ..... 68 ..... 70 ..... 68 ..... 67

*Oranges and Lemons* – Tune Toppers sing Gray's original tune well; good arrangement but song's only fair; both sides of this disk are reissues ..... 69 ..... 70 ..... 67 ..... 70

Code for review ratings ..... Over-All ... Disk Jockey ... Dealer ... Operator

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**October 23, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

Variety Daily, Oct 23, 1946:



Keywords: Jerry Gray recorded four faces for Mercury.

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**November 1, 1946 [Friday]:**

Variety Daily, Nov 1, 1946:



Keywords . . . . . Jerry Gray back to NY after a few disc sessions with Margaret Whiting for Capitol and some solos for Mercury.

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**November 6, 1946 [Wednesday]:**

Variety, Nov 6, 1946, Page 50, Orchestras-Music:

**Music Notes**

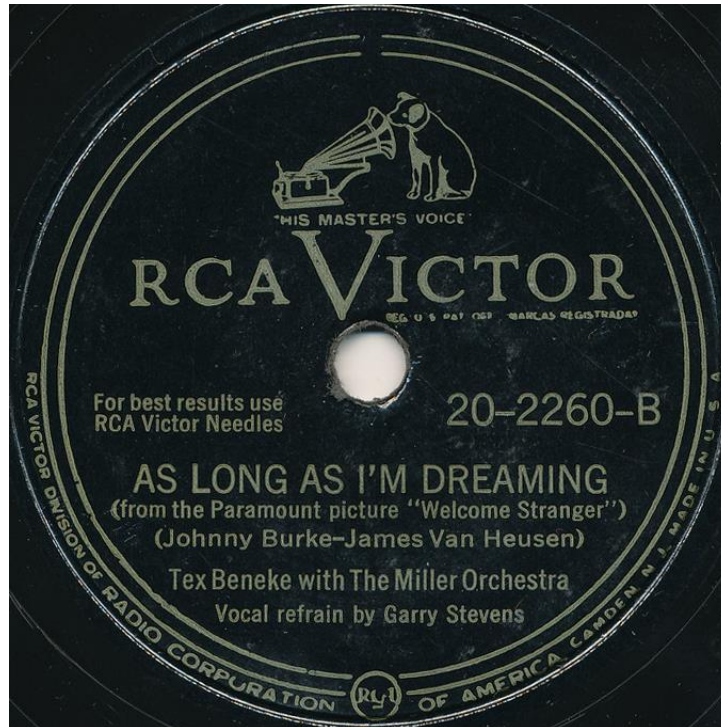
. . . . . Jerry Gray back to N.Y. after a few disk sessions with Margaret Whiting for Capitol and some solos for Mercury.

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**December 23, 1946 [Monday]:**

**Jerry Gray arrangement, Tex Beneke and his Orchestra, RCA Victor Recording Session, RCA Victor Studios, 155 East 24th Street, New York City, New York.**

D6-VB-3501-1 AS LONG AS I'M DREAMING v Garry Stevens (3:16) RCA Victor 20-2260-B



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Publicity and Reviews:

*The Billboard*, May 10, 1947, Page 31, RECORD REVIEWS:

**TEX BENEKE (Victor 20-2260)**

***My Heart Is A Hobo* – FT; VC  
*As Long As I'm Dreaming* – FT; VC**

Both songs are taken from the Johnny Burke-Jimmy Van Han Heusen screen score for "Welcome, Stranger." It's the ballad side, "As Long As I'm Dreaming," that packs all the promise for popularity. Tex Beneke provides it with a dream musical setting, kicking off with the sax-clary choir and then flooding his own tenor sax figures with the shimmering strings. Garry Stevens comes in for the lyrical refrain, all in keeping with the dream setting. Band gives it a bright jump design for "My Heart Is A Hobo," the ensemble cutting it as a riff figure with the maestro and The Mello Larks providing as much vocal color for the chant. However, the song itself has neither melody nor lyrical appeal.

**"As Long As I'm Dreaming," with the movie hype, stacks up strong for popular play.**

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The Billboard, May 10, 1947, Page 33, Advance Record Releases:

Records listed are generally approximately two weeks in advance of actual release date. List is based on information supplied in advance by record companies. Only records of those manufacturers voluntarily supplying information are listed.

POPULAR

AS LONG AS I'M DREAMING ..... Tex Beneke-Miller Ork Victor 20-2260  
MY HEART IS A HOBO ..... Tex Beneke-Miller Ork Victor 20-2260

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Radio Station WGY, Schenectady, New York, Nov 29, 1950:

Garry Stevens interviewing Jerry Gray and members of the Jerry Gray Band of Today.

Both Garry Stevens and Jerry Gray confirmed that the AS LONG AS I'M DREAMING arrangement for Tex Beneke was written by Jerry Gray.

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**December 30, 1946 [Monday]:**

The Cash Box, Dec 30, 1946, Page 14:

Season's Greetings from Jerry Gray and Mercury Records

**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

TO A GREAT BUNCH  
OF GUYS

*The Music Box Operators  
of America*

Tony Martin	•	Frances Langford	•	Tiny Hill
Harry Babbitt	•	Jack Fina	•	Frankie Laine
Connie Haines	•	Anita Ellis	•	Rose Marie
Rex Allen	•	Jenny Lou Carson	•	Art Gibson
Bill Samuels	•	Eddie Vinson	•	Chuck Foster
Albert Ammons	•	Jerry Gray	•	Sunny Skylar
Tito Guizar	•	Romy Gosz	•	Jimmy Hilliard
Jay McShann	•	Frank Parker	•	Prairie Ramblers
Dinah Washington	•	Myra Taylor	•	Ken Curtis

**MERCURY  
RECORDS**