TALKING ROCK

Yardbirds excel in Tea Party gig

Last Thursday night the Tea Party opened its series of weekly shows featuring rock groups as the Yardbirds as one of the most enjoyable, somewhat technically flawed, shows of recent times. Although their hits "Heart Full of Soul," "Over Under Sideways" (their best song, from their second album), "Shapes of Things," and the extended, extended version of "I'm a Man" (which took up about 15 minutes), were drilled, why they are regarded as the most inventive of rock head grounds, why the Yardbirds were called the rock 'n' roll of the future.

The group's chief worth is the excitement they generate as a group and in this category they are second only to Big Brother and the Holding Company, who lack the musical virtuosity of the Yardbirds.

The Yardbirds are a real deal. They are even more important as an influence on other groups than as musicians themselves. The Byrds' Jim McGuinn is rather obviously a student of Jeff Beck—compare "Eight Miles High" and the earlier "I'm a Man" for influences. The Who also must have studied their techniques of feedback and fuzztone. In addition, New York's Deuces of Stoneham are almost entirely a copy of them and Jimi Hendrix.

With regard to the most recent news of Spring Weekend, all I can say is thank God we weren't stuck with the Union Gap. To reiterate what was said here some weeks ago, Jefferson Airplane is easily the number one American rock band. And they're even better live than on records. Don't pass this SW up.

To take care of another loose end: on the cover of Bob Dylan's album "John Wesley Harding" there are concealed in the lighter parts of the tree small pictures of people's faces. They are too small to be easily recognized, but I hazard a guess that two of them are Jim McCarty and George Harrison. John Wesley Harding (minus the g) was, incidentally, a real gunslinger of the old West.

PARTHENON RESTAURANT

AUTHENTIC GREEK CUISINE

EXCELLENT EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN WINES

ALL KINDS OF LIQUOR

UNIQUE HELLENIC ATMOSPHERE FEATURING THE ANCIENT GREEK TEMPLE OF HESPERIA

OPEN EVERY DAY

3:35 - 7:45

Extremely Moderate Prices

For Reservations Call 491-9292

924 Mass. Ave.
(BETWEEN MARSDEN AND CENTRAL SQUARES)

In the HUB of BOSTON

1200 BEACON STREET HOTEL

Greater Boston's Finest Motor Hotel

- 200 Air-Conditioned Rooms
- Color TV in ALL ROOMS
- 24-HOUR COFFEE SHOP
- Minutes from Downtown Boston by Trolley
- Ample FREE Garage Parking
- All Credit Cards Honored

Complete Facilities for
BUSINESS MEETINGS

Tel. 617/232-7979

1200 BEACON STREET, BROOKLINE, MASS.