THE BIG TAKEOVER

all you need is love (five-disc dvd)

First things first, out of 10 possible stars, Palmer's *All You Need* gets 11. The British filmmaker has put together a remarkable five-DVD history of popular music, with innumerable rare films of a variety of musicians that makes it essential for any true fan of music history. The 17 episodes that were originally broadcast in England between 1976 and 1980 cover the roots of pop music both in Africa and Europe up to late '70s rock and anything else you can think or wish for. The first DVD is an intro, the second covers the early days of jazz, blues, and ragtime. The third covers vaudeville, Tin Pan Alley, swing, and musicals, the fourth has R&B, country, protest, and early rock, and the fifth is all rock. This is so well done it boggles the mind.