EARTH, WIND & FIRE: ELEMENTS FOR SUCCESS

O'Connell New Phonodisc President
Russia & China To Musexpo
Chess, BTM Group Launch U.S. Label
Phil Jones Starts Raintree Label
Schiffer Motown Planning V.P.
Stone To MCA A&R Admin. Post
"Wildfire" — the white-hot new single from Michael Murphey!
A single that's burning it up all over: named "Record to Watch" in Bill Gavin's Report; breaking big in San Francisco, Denver, Boston, Philadelphia, Houston, Nashville, Louisville, St. Louis; and moving strong on the charts.
The weight behind "Wildfire" is Michael's smash LP "Blue Sky—Night Thunder": bullets in all three trades and an incredible response wherever it's heard!
It's all happening for Michael Murphey On Epic Records and Tapes.
Where Did All the Adventurers Go?

In today's economy, many label execs are pulling in their horns and concentrating only on "pre sold" artists and merchandise... using their pencils scalpel-like on the record press-run and the order blank, as well as in every other creative and marketing step, to safeguard that profit-loss ratio. But, hey... where did all the glamour go... the good old showbiz bizazz that created new songs, artists and labels and fueled the very lifeblood of this industry?

As outlined (even lauded) in last week's editorial, scientific, cost-conscious management, has proven itself on the music marketplace. But if that same attention to the decimal point precludes a creative flow of ideas and product from the street and out to the stores, then the regrettable conclusion that we foresee is simply a recycle of tunes and records by established artists, ultimately resulting in stagnation.

The music business is a commercial art, obviously. But it seems that too many stand on the side of "commercial" while those on the "art" end are snickered at as being either naive or hopelessly romantic. Entrepreneurial financing, once in hot demand, is being discouraged by this "IBM" thinking, with cost-profit data being jammed down the creative throat with the pedantic intent of a fifth grade math teacher.

Hey, we're not suggesting a return to the high-rolling "Beatles" days but we are warning producers and manufacturers that any extreme posture... be it bullish or bearish... is dangerous.

This business has taken on the image of the Broadway theater which recognizes only smash hits or outright flops. Record makers are leaning toward the theory: "punch hard on the sure and solid material but lay back on the new or the if-come records." But there are countless ways to bow new tunes and acts on record without falling prey to skyrocketing production costs (remember the old days?) and minimize the risk in making records.

Going "first class" with a new release is grand but if the production/promotion dollar is so tight that releases by unknowns get shorted out, a dangerous condition may be brewing that may have terminal results downstream.
HEARTWOOD IS A GROUP OF SEVEN NORTH CAROLINA BASED MUSICIANS CHARACTERIZED BY MELLOW, EASY GOING, SWEET SOUNDS. HEARTWOOD IS VERY MODEST, TITLING THEIR NEW ALBUM, "NOTHIN' FANCY."

WHEN Y'ALL LISTEN YOU'LL AGREE!

AVAILABLE ON GRC RECORDS AND TAPES:
GENERAL RECORDING CORPORATION
Thanks to everyone at A&M, to all the distributors everywhere, and to my producer Jim Price for making "You Are So Beautiful" so beautiful.
Monument Expands, Diversifies, Reactivates ‘Sound Stage’ R&B Label

NASHVILLE—With roots deep in its country heritage, Monument Records is looking to the future in the broadening of its base and diversifying its roster to cover almost all areas of the pop, country and r&b fields. It was approximately six months ago that Rick Blackburn, former director of sales for Epic and its Custom labels (where he worked closely with Monument president Fred Foster) left Epic to become up vp of marketing and gen. mgr. of Monument’s Sales and Promotion and now, in addition to the above, Foster and Blackburn have devoted all of their energies to: 1) bringing home the first Billy Idol and Dan Hart singles (LP, EP, 45), 2) purging the Monument roster to some twenty “good workable acts” as Blackburn puts it; 3) developing direction plans to build those twenty acts into ten, and 4) broadening the roster by diversifying into areas of music Monument had never been in before by signing key artists that will compete with each other and whose potential the company strongly believes in.

With Foster guiding the air aspect of this broadening and Blackburn the marketing, Monument has just reactivated the Sound Stage label to serve as the company’s entry into the business of making first r&b single under the new administration featuring newcomer Chet Davenport on vocals and the band Ready Freddie, a Bill Justis production. We will now marry our r&b releases to the Columbia Custom Label Division for r&b under the supervision of LeBaron Taylor and help CBS help ourselves, said Blackburn. “Having been with CBS for eight years, I know what that company can do with good talent, and I hope to have Monument’s department work closely with the Custom label department to bring us our development plans to fruition.”

Of course, we will maintain a complete involvement with country music. Kris Kristofferson and Rita Coolidge on the chart will be given a new concentration. Kris is in the studio now cutting his next LP. On the instrumental end we have country music’s best in Marty Ray, Mickey McCoy (who never has had a LP out this week), Lloyd Greene, Boots Randolph and Arthur Smith of Dueling Banjos fame whose new LP ships next week. There will be a strong campaign to develop Larry Gatlin into the star we think he can be. While he has had his highs and lows as N.Y., we’ll just push him in a pop direction.” (Gatlin appeared on N.Y.’s most popular recording this past week.)

On the pop end, Monument has just signed veteran Tommy Roe and his new single “Glimmer and Gleam” ships next week. The single brings together again producer Felton Jarvis and Roe. Jarvis cut many of Roe’s earlier hits including “Darlin’ and “Here Comes That Woman.”

Other new additions to the Monument roster are: Long John Wilson, a Cajun style band we have signed up; Michael Bacon, a pop directed singer-songwriter currently on tour with Don Potter; and we have a young group the Hub Cords, who are working and stuff a solo LP in Nashville of jazz and Dixie music, and Barefoot Jerry, a Nashville blues man who may soon be a Monument act. Blackbird describes them as FCM-country rock.

Blackburn also announced that Monument would be issuing a two disk Al Hirt-Pete Fountain “live” LP recorded in New Orleans during the Super Bowl Game week called “Super Jazz.”

The new additions to our roster,” concluded Blackburn, “are all designed not to conflict with one another with a style and style and are designed for the important label in all areas of pop music in the near future.

Russia, China Join Musexpo

NEW YORK—Roddy S. Shashoua, president of I.M.I. Ltd., parent company of International Music Exposition, has confirmed that delegates from Russia, the People’s Republic of China, the European Community block, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and East Germany and The Democratic Republic of the Sudan will join in participation at the Musexpo ’75, which will take place in Las Vegas from Sept. 21-24.

Jones Starts Raintree Label

HOLLYWOOD—Raintree Records, Inc., an independent recording company, has opened here, according to company pre- sident, Jules Jones. Raintree will be operated by Jules Jones to expand the creativity and opportunity of the independent record producer.

A record industry veteran, Jones spent 12 years with Motown as a sales man and market analyst. He had recently been re- cently vice president of Polydor, Inc.

We will announce the signing of a very important talent in the next few weeks,” adds Jones. “We are also looking for hit product from a number of independent producers who have experience with promotion, distribution and sales.

Jones added that Raintree would be distributed through the independent dis- tributors Ray Cavano, director of artist development and, Mel Baisor, director of tour coordination. They are based in the New York office. BTM entered into the joint venture with Renares Jones based on their extensive in the exploitation of European artist management, primarily British, and their knowledge of the present European progressive field. BTM has had enormous success in breaking new American acts in the United States and a new company worked with Chess/Janus on such acts as Al Stewart, Camel and Walking Down the Highway.

Copeland stated, “The thrust of BTM centers around the breaching of an act. Once accomplished, it is essential to have a solid company behind you—one which is experienced in the aspects of marketing, promotion and publicity. Based on our previous successes with Chess/Janus, there is no doubt that our objectives can be accomplished.”

Another effort in the BTM marked the debut of a new label called “Super Jazz.”

Savoy is the debut LP from Bad Company; Maggie Bell’s “Suicide Sal” and the Pretty Things’ “Silk Torpedo” are held for the next week. Eric Clapton’s “There’s One In Every Crowd,” which entered at a bullet point 87, is a hit in the fourth week. Guy’s “Welcome To My Nightmare” is at number 13, “Cocaine Park” by Hot Chocolate on Big Tree is a new LP at number 18 after six weeks. Roxy Music’s “Country Life” and Kahlil Gibran’s “The Prophet” is at number 18. Richard Harris also continues to be charted with his theme from The Duellists. Casual’s best selling r&b album is “Average White Band” at number 8, after continued on pag. 10
Anderson Named Col. Sales Dir.
NEW YORK — Paul Smith, vice president of sales and distribution at Columbia Records, has announced the appointment of Gordon Anderson to the position of director of sales and artist development.
Anderson will be responsible for the support of Columbia artist tours throughout the country, including field support for radio airplay and the coordination of merchandising and advertising campaigns in the field. In addition, he will coordinate the sales department’s activities with the artist development, artist relations, promotion and management promotion departments of all the CBS labels. He will report directly to Mike Matlaid.
Anderson first joined CBS Records in 1969 as a local promotion manager in Chicago. In March 1972, he was promoted to regional promotional merchandising manager for Columbia Records in Chicago, a position he has held until this time.

MCA Names Stone To A&R VP Post
HOLLYWOOD — Arnold Stone has been named vice president of artist and repertoire administration for MCA Records, Inc. by the label’s president, Mike Maitland.
Stone, who will report directly to Maitland, will schedule the release of product for MCA, and will be responsible for the supervision of recording budgets and the mixdown of the performance by artists of their contractual commitments.
Director of administration of MCA Records for five years, Stone had the same position at Kasbo Records in New York prior to its consolidation in 1971. He had previously been with Columbia Records as assistant manager of operations and promotions manager for seven years.
In making the announcement, Maitland stated: “We are proud of Arnold Stone’s administrative guidance and I am delighted to extend his responsibilities.”

Famous Signs Pub Deal With Gernhard
NEW YORK — Famous Music Publishing Companies and Phil Gernhard have entered into a long-term exclusive worldwide publishing agreement, it was reported last week by Marvin Cane, chief operating officer of Famous Music. The new pact is an extension and expansion of an original agreement signed in 1971 and includes all original material produced by Gernhard and recorded by his acts.
Among the artists represented in the new arrangement are MGM recording artist Jim Stafford, Big Tree’s Lobo, and writer David Bellamy, who co-wrote Stafford hits “Spiders And Snakes” and “My Bulldog Drinks Champagne.”
One of Gernhard’s first projects under the extended Famous pact will be a record production deal for David Bellamy. He is also spending considerable production time on the Jim Stafford eighth-week summer series on ABC-TV which began taping May 16.

Ross Exits London Post
HOLLYWOOD — Jack Ross, director of west coast artist relations for London Records, has resigned. Ross, in his three years at the London post, was responsible for artist development activities, TV exposure and special radio promotion for such artists as Bloodstone, Al Green, Ann Peebles, 10cc and ZZ Top. He can be reached at (213) 985-0947.

Wade Conklin
New Buddah VP
NEW YORK — Wade Conklin has been named named vice president of Buddah Records. It was announced last week by Art Kass, president of Buddah Conklin is presently in charge of southeast regional promotion and will continue to be based in Nashville. He becomes the fourth executive to currently hold the title for Buddah.
A former musician, Conklin has been in the record business for five years. He worked briefly with Cotton in Nashville and then joined Polydor there. For the past four years, he has been with Buddah initially as the company’s local man in Nashville then in charge of southeast regional promotion.

Korobkin Exits ABC: Will Join Law Firm
LOS ANGELES — Leonard Korobkin, vice president, business affairs of ABC Records, will resign that position effective April 7 to join the law firm of Harris and Fredericks as a partner.
Korobkin will be located as resident partner in the law firm’s new west coast office in the ABC Entertainment Center (Century City) in Los Angeles. The firm now to be known as Harris, Fredericks and Korobkin will continue headquarters on the east coast in the Time-Life building in New York.
A member of the New York and California Bar Associations, Korobkin has been associated with American Broadcasting Companies, Inc. for the past six years. Prior to becoming vice president of ABC Records he was general attorney of ABC Pictures and ABC Records.

Dash Named Col. Product Director
NEW YORK — Walter Dean, executive vice president of CBS Records, has announced the appointment of Joseph F. Dash to the position of director of new product development. Dash will be responsible for the commercial expansion of the four-channel market and for various other assigned projects. In connection with his extensive responsibilities in this area, he will work closely with Stan Kavan, vice president of planning and diversification. He will report directly to Dean.
Dash first joined CBS Records in 1969 as director of planning at Columbia. In 1972, he was appointed director of diversification.

Schiffer Named New Motown VP Of Planning
HOLLYWOOD — George Schiffer has been named to the newly created position of vice president of planning for Motown Industries, it was announced today by Gordon Riess, executive vice president and chief operating officer for the entertainment complex.
George has a wealth of knowledge about our industry and all phases of Motown, which he has been associated with for many years. I’m quite sure that his promotion to this new position will be extremely valuable in helping to obtain the future goals of our company,” Riess said.
Schiffer, a graduate of Harvard College and Law School, has been representing Motown as a lawyer since 1960 in many areas, domestic and international, before joining the company.
Prior to starting his own law practice in 1969, Schiffer was associated with the law firm of Orenstein, Arrow & Schiffer, and was previously connected with Warner Bros. Pictures legal department.
An acknowledged copyright expert in the music industry, Schiffer will be responsible for long-range corporate plans and projections.

Dashev Joins A&M Records
HOLLYWOOD — David Dashev has joined A&M Records in the newly created position of assistant to the president, announced Jerry Moss, president of the label. Dashev will report directly to Moss and perform in a multifaceted capacity.
Dashev was previously east coast director of A&R for Capitol and from 1972 until his recent appointment, was the manager of the Persuasions, currently recording on A&M.

Appere To Head Rocket U.S. & R
LOS ANGELES — Robert Appere has been named west coast director of artists and repertory relations of Rocket Records, it was announced by Rocket president John Reid.
Appere’s appointment continues Rocket’s American executive expansion and follows the recent addition of Dennis Maitland, label manager for the west.
Appere has been involved in every facet of the record business including producing, engineering, arranging and writing. He’s also been a sideman. He was involved in the release of more than 200 albums since beginning his musical career at A&M in 1971.
Among Appere’s recent efforts were as producer and engineer on Neil Sedaka’s top single “Laughter In the Rain” and the “Sedaka’s Back.”

LOOKS REAL GOOD! — El Chico, the originators of the ‘Brown Sound’ have re-signed with MCA after five years recording on the label. Pictured at the signing are (left to right) Mickey Lepe (lead guitar), Bobby Espinosa (guitar), Fred Baca (guitar), Tom desarrollo (guitar), and former MCA vice president Mike Maitland.

Schiffer
Schwartz Bros. Reports Losses

NEW YORK — Schwartz Brothers, Inc., a leading regional music merchandiser with distributing, rack merchandising and retail operations, reported a loss of $65,637 or $0.99 per share on sales of $21,859,783 for the year ended Dec. 31, 1974 compared with net income of $252,333 or $3.33 per share on sales of $21,706,768 for the previous year.

The company noted that its Harmony Hut retail chain, whose sales have doubled in three years, is now the largest revenue and profit producer in the company. However, Schwartz distribution and rack merchandising operations reported a $1.1 million decrease without a commensurate decrease in expenses. These operations also experienced a substantial increase in uncollectible accounts receivable and a significant increase in interest expense.

By the end of 1974, Schwartz Brothers cut its operating and overhead expense considerably. It has also made preparations to eliminate certain leased warehouse operations, the company noted. The cost reduction programs are expected to be realized in 1975. The Harmony Hut subsidiary, whose sales increased 27% in 1974, plans to open a new store in Richmond, Va. before the end of 1975 in the Regency Square Mall, Richmond's largest shopping center. The company also is negotiating to acquire three music stores in the Washington, D.C. area.

UA Names Wilder S.E. Sales Manager

HOLLYWOOD — Sal Licata, vice president and sales, United Artists Records, has announced the appointment of Bob Wilder to the post of UA southeast regional sales manager.

In making the announcement, Licata noted that Bob’s experience in sales will be a tremendous asset to the company and we are happy to have him aboard.

Wilder was most recently manager of Disc-O-Tape, a Hartford, Connecticut retail outlet. Prior to that, he was a branch manager for UDC (now Phonodisc) in Atlanta and Hartford and a sales manager for AMP Products.

He also had been manager of a one-stop in Hartford for Transcontinental Distribution Corp., and a sales representative for Seaboard Distributing in Hartford.

Wilder, a Hartford native, will be headquartered in Atlanta, and report directly to Licata.

Wienstroer To WEA Atlanta Sales

ATLANTA — Bill Biggs, Warner-Elektro-Atlantic’s Atlanta branch manager, announces the appointment of Robert Wienstroer to Atlanta region’s sales manager. Responsible for marketing WEA records and tapes in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Western Kentucky.

Wienstroer had been sales manager of WEA’s Minneapolis office since July 1974. He joined the company as a salesman in the St. Louis market.

Kirkup To A&M E. Coast P.R.

HOLLYWOOD — Martin Kirkup has been named east coast director of publicity for A&M according to Andrew Meggreen, executive vice president. Kirkup will handle all press relations for New York City and the surrounding area.

Before joining A&M Records, Kirkup was the east coast press representative for Elektra-Asylum Records.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS — At the SNACK benefit concert held at Kezar Stadium in San Francisco on Mar. 23, to raise funds for the San Francisco City Schools. Doobie Brothers lead guitarist Tom Johnston received the thanks of Marion Brando for his participation in the event, which drew together the combined talents and energies of Mayor Joseph Alioto, Willie Mays, Rev. Cecil Williams, and a host of rock’s top artists.

A crowd of 60,000 viewed the Dobieys, Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Joan Baez, Jefferson Starship, Jerry Garcia, Santana, Tower of Power and Graham Central Station. Good to see all that fine music going to such a fine cause isn’t it? Making the introductions above at right is Barry imoff of Bill Graham’s FM Productions. During the concert a collection was taken for the American Indian Movement.

Avery Fisher Hall To Be Renovated

NEW YORK — The auditorium in Avery Fisher Hall will be demolished and totally reconstructed, according to Lincoln Center officials. The new hall will be re-named The New Avery Fisher Hall. The objective is to realize a concert hall of acoustical excellence.

Dr. Cyril M. Harris of Columbia University will be the acoustical consultant and the firm of Johnson/Burgee will be the architects.

The project will begin in May 1976 after the Philharmonic subscription season. The work will require approximately six months to complete.

While the details of the cost cannot be determined until the final plans are presented, the new hall will be financed out of the proceeds of the long bond of Avery Fisher to Lincoln Center.

ASCAP Elects New Board Of Dir.s

NEW YORK — The results of the biennial election for the board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers were announced today by ASCAP president Stanley Adams. The board members elected to serve for a two-year term commencing Apr. 1, 1975 are as follows:

The winter members in the major production field are Stanley Adams, Harold Aylen, Cy Coleman, Hal David, George Duning, Arthur Hamilton, Gerald Marks, Arthur Schwartz and Ned Washington.

The winter members in the standard fields are Aaron Copland, Morton Gould and Virgil Thomson.


Reddy Renews Irving /Almo Tie

HOLLYWOOD — Chuck Kaye, executive vice-president of Irving /Almo Music, has announced the re-signing of Helen Reddy to a long term agreement as a writer for the company. Reddy has been associated with Irving /Almo Music for the last three years and has written such well known songs as “I Am Woman,” “Love Song for Jeffrey,” “Best Friend,” “Think I’ll Write a Song,” and “More Than You Could Take.

Fania To Distribute Roulette Latin Disks

NEW YORK — Jerry Masucci, president of Fania Records, and Morris Levy, president of Roulette Records, have announced that as of Mar. 15, Fania will distribute all product of Tico and Alegre Records, and any and all other Latin labels controlled by Roulette.

Under the agreement, all activities of Tico and Alegre will emanate from 888 Seventh Avenue in New York. Fania will be responsible for all phases of operation, including production, pressing, sales, distribution and promotion.

Joe Cain, general manager of Tico and Alegre, will report directly to Fania president Jerry Masucci.


The addition of Tico-to Alegre to Fania Records comes on the eve of Fania’s tenth anniversary celebration.

Bloom Exits ABC Post

NEW YORK — Howard Bloom has relinquished his post at as east coast manager of public and artist relations, with ABC Records. Bloom came to ABC from Famous Music Corporation, where he was director of public and artist relations concentrating on the Sire and DOT labels.

He had previously been the editor of Circus Magazine and business manager and co-owner of Cloud Studios, Inc. Bloom can be reached at (212) 622-2278.

MMI Reactivated By Buz Wilburn

HOLLYWOOD — Buz Wilburn, having fulfilled his Music Marketing International (MMI) agreement with GRC (Atlanta), where he was the president of GRC and executive vice president, general manager of GRC, has returned to Hollywood from Atlanta to reactivate his MMI business activities. Wilburn completed his two-year contract with GRC March 19.

Commenting on the success of GRC and its related companies, Wilburn stated: “IMI designed the overall concepts and set the artistic direction. It's related companies entered into the mainstream of the entertainment industry ... I feel that goal has been accomplished. Working with Mike Theis has been an extremely gratifying experience. His ability to recognize and react to new talent is itself a rare talent. Mike’s business acumen and his ability to assess and guide responsible personnel will build GRC into a major position in the record industry. I am very proud and happy that GRC has been successful in the USA and internationally in spite of the various high costs of production and increasing economic difficulties encountered in the industry over the past two years.

Wilburn says he will now expand his MMI operation from Hollywood offices in order to work with artists, producers, record companies and music publishers in a skilled management/marketing approach for their product in the USA and internationally.

MMI will also be involved in producing artists and currently has finished masters available by songwriter-performer Jim Turner, described by Wilburn as in the style of Jim Croce and negotiations are underway with several labels for worldwide distribution.

Besides the record production division will also be actively engaged in music and representation of the artists produced by MMI making package deals for the. artists, their masters and songs.

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WORLD'S LARGEST SELECTION OF REPAIR AND DIY EQUIPMENT FOR AMP, largest selection of repair and original equipment items,_front or back, satisfaction guaranteed. Write: Catalog Dept. 804A, Valley Forge, PA 19482.
The decreasing availability of meaningful "money" labels has hurt many independent distributors. Can an independent distributor today, through the help of his remaining lines, succeed without being forced into retaliating, racketing and the like?

Sid Talmadge, Pres., Record Merchandisers

Yes, they can succeed, provided they work hard at it and have the cooperation and support of their lines. It's really a two way street with the distributor working to move merchandise and the labels providing service support and incentives to complete that job. We at Record Merchandisers find beneficial to do our own promotion right out of the house. We learned how to do it the hard way but are happier that way and certainly have a better control on our promotion. We are involved in many other areas in the music business, but as far as the concept of pure distribution goes, I have a lot of colleagues in the business doing very well these days, as we. It would certainly help if territories were expanded for us by certain labels, though. One bright spot on the horizon is the emergence of such newer lines as Island and Ansta. They're both going to be giants and the distributors with those and some of the other new lines have gotten a tremendous boost.

Bill Emerson, Jr., Big State Distributing

Well, I must tell you we’re into racket and one stopping and are seriously evening up our record business, but纯独立分销商 is still our biggest business. I believe, though, that a pure independent distributor can hack it, provided he’s got the cream of the lines, close marketing and a little more help to prevent drops from coming into the territory. We could all use a little more promotional help from certain labels and a little more cooperation to keep the vultures out of the area. Maybe I’m listing ideal conditions here but our overandout costs are skyrocketing and both distributor and record company had better work hand in glove with each other more than ever before, and I mean straight down the line.

Stan Lewis, Stan’s Record Service

We’re in the distributing, retailing, racket, one-stop, plus manufacturing areas — a combination of everything. But the success of independents who depend on distribution only depends partially on the city and how many distributors are competing in the same market. It all depends if he has A&M Motown, 20th Century. Chess and other large independent labels, including Nashboro, Jewel, Exollo and others, if he works the catalogs. Today, so many distributors are only selling the hits rather than the catalog as well as older blues and gospel, to name a few areas, and they are thereby missing the large number of 500 to 2,000 unit sellers. By working the catalog and working the lines that he has and also working the specialty markets, such as R&B, he can make it. Getting out and hustling, doing the job, that’s what is most important.

Irv Gomprecht, Zamoiski Distributors

Most assuredly, yes. We are totally dedicated to the future of indie distribution. We have been racket jobbing for about 8 or 9 years and we have had a successful program with consistent growth. However, there is a place for an independent record distributor in the business today, for there will always be new labels coming out which must use independent distribution. The reason is that as soon as these labels go to a branch, they will be lost in the vast expanse of product which the conglomerates have. Indie record manufacturing executives who sell to the giants just become a name and number on a personnel chart. They lose all independence when they become part of a large group. I feel that no large factory conglomerate can promote and sell the way an indie outfit can. They don’t have the creativity or the experience to promote. Also, they don’t have as well qualified a sales force. After all, we wear both hats.

Harvey Korman, General Manager, PIKS Corp.

It is extremely difficult but it is being done. We, here at PIKS, are proving that every day. Our manufacturers realize that the independent distributor is a necessary part of the record business and our suppliers have never turned their heads at any help on all levels that we have asked for. It all comes down to one basic point, do your total job as a distributor. Some of the independents have forgotten how to do that. They’re the ones that are in trouble.

Atlantic Chart Binge Pp. 7

America On Major Tour

HOLLYWOOD — America’s new album entitled “Hearts” has been released with Warner Brothers Records, in conjunction with the group’s upcoming spring concert tour.

The album features 12 new tunes all composed by America — Gerry Beckley, Dewey Bunnell and Dan Peek. It was produced by George Martin, who handled the same chores for The Beatles among other top contemporary artists. A single, “Sister Golden Hair,” will be released.

America’s tour, packaged by Hartmann & Goodman, gets underway Apr. 15 at Bloomington, Indiana on the University of Indiana campus. Highlights include three Chicago performances on Apr. 19-20, a Felt Forum (New York) engagement May 5, and a Los Angeles date June 2 at a yet undetermined site.

The major tour includes the following: Assembly Hall, University of Indiana, Bloomington, Ind. (Apr. 15); Auditorium, I.S.U. Bloomington, Ill. (16); Auditorium, Terre Haute (23); Notre Dame Convention Center, South Bend, Ind. (24); Roberts Stadium, Evansville, Ind. (25); Millet Assembly Hall, Oxford, Ohio (26); Memphian Coliseum, Jackson, Tenn. (27); Alumni Coliseum, Richmond, Ky. (28); Music Hall, Philadelphia (30); Stanley Warner Theatre, Pittsburgh (31); Civic Center, South Bend, Ind. (May 1); Capitol Theatre, Pasiac, N.J. (2); New Haven Coliseum, New Haven, Conn. (4); Music Hall, Boston (4); Felt Forum, New York, N.Y. (5); Dome, Rochester, N.Y. (6); Convention Center, Louisville, Ky. (7); Freedom Hall, Johnson City, Tenn. (10); Coliseum, Charlotte, N.C. (11); Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta (13); Municipal Auditorium, Birmingham (15); Mississippi Coliseum, Jackson (16); Mid-South Coliseum, Memphis (17); Physical Education Center, New Orleans (18).

Mums Chiefs Launching WB Film

HOLLYWOOD — Mums Records has hired four of the biggest hitmakers and songwriters to produce a film adaptation of a third Donald Westlake book for Warner Brothers. The book, to be called “Screenplay of the contemporary comedy is being penned by Carl Reiner.

Prior to this, Lands- Robert's Productions has had success with The Hot Rock for 20th Century-Fox (starring Robert Redford and George Segal) and Bank Shot for United Artists (starring George C. Scott), both based on Westlake books. The company also produces Paramount’s “Death Wish” starring Charles Bronson.

Columbia Gold

NEW YORK — The latest album by Columbia recording group Chicago has been shipped gold. The LP, “Chicago VIII,” was rushed released to meet the tremendous demand form retailers across the country. Advance orders alone were enough.

Buck recording artist Minnie Riperton, too, has gone gold with her debut solo album, entitled Perfect Angel. The LP has been certified gold by the RIAA since sales have exceeded $1 million dollars.

Labelle has also received a gold record for their album, Lady Marmalade. The cut, culled from the group’s Epic Nightbirds, LP, represents their firstcertified gold record.

The sound of Nolan — With four hits currently in the Top 100, Nolan has achieved an unprecedented success for a songwriter at any one time. Disco Tex the Sex-O-Lettes “Get Dancin’,” Frank Valli’s “My Eyes Adored You,” Labelle’s “Lady Marmalade” and Jim Gilstrap’s “Swing Your Daddy” make him one of the most sought-after songwriter/producers on the scene today. The Wes Farrell Organization, who has Kenny under contract, has plans to launch one of the largest campaigns in the company’s history. The campaign will be launched around the slogan, The Bound of Nolan to make record companies, producers, artists and film-makers more aware of Kenny’s enormous versatility. Shown above (l-r) are Rick Riccobono, Ron Anton, Kenny Nolan (seated) and Wes Farrell.

UA Taps Three For Field Promo

HOLLYWOOD — Ray Anderson, vice president, promotion, United Artists Records, has announced the appointment of Gary Bird, Jon Heathfield and Bob Hines to the posts of field promotion manager.

Gary Bird, named field promotion manager for the Ohio territory, is based in Cleveland. The Portland and Buffalo areas, was previously promotion representative for Polydor in the Cincinnati market, and promotion representative for Brut Records in Los Angeles. He also worked for The Warehouse retail chain Bird attended Cleveland State University.

James Heathfield, named field promotion manager for the Memphis, Nashville and New Orleans area, was previously field promotion representative for RCA Records. Heathfield was a promoter of concerts and manager of local groups in the Florida area. He attended University of South Florida.

Bob Hines, named field promotion manager for the Dallas market, attended Santa Barbara Junior College, and had been an advertising director for San Francisco’s KFRC to prior joining United Artists.

Bird, Heathfield and Hines will report directly to Anderson.

ATV Opens New Offices

NEW YORK — Effective immediately, ATV Records is located in new, permanent headquarters at 3 West 57thStreet New York, NY 10019. Phone: (212) 826-9636.

ATV Records Inc. is the American operating arm of Pye Records of London.

A Girl for Melanie

NEW YORK — Neighborhood recording artist Melanie gave birth Thurs. (27) to her second child, a baby girl, which she and her husband producer Peter Schekryk have named Jeodie. The 6 lb 13 oz. baby was born yesterday at New York Hospital, Hours before noon at the Jersey Shore Medical Center in Neptune, N.J. The couple’s first child, Leilah, was born in 1973.

Atlantic Chart Binge Pp. 7

six months on the chart. The Spinners “New and Improved” moves to number 46, and in its fifth consecutive week at that position. Castor Bunch goes to number 92. Atlantic’s newest soul album, “My Way” by Marvin Gaye, is at number 150, second week. A pair of new progressive jazz albums on the charts are Passport’s “Cross-Collateral” which moves to number 147 after six weeks on the chart and Stanley Clarke’s album on Nemperor Records reemerges at number 5 after more than three months.

Finally, Roberta Flack’s “Feel Like Makin’ Love” which entered the charts last week at a bulletted 53 has jumped to number 35.
From the band that couldn't buy a thrill but did count down to ecstasy and later found all kinds of logic in their pretzels.

The complete works of Steely Dan

Can't Buy a Thrill

ABOX-758

Countdown to Ecstasy

ABOX-779

Pretzel Logic

ABCD-808

www.americanradiohistory.com
Blaine Forms Prod. Company

NEW YORK — Steve Blaine, former chairman of the board of Jubilee Records, has formed a new production company with his wife Susie. The firm, Love/ventures, will be located at 801 8th Avenue, Suite 505, New York, N.Y. 10019. Blaine and his wife, who own the company, have also formed a new publishing firm, Blaine & Partners, Inc., which will be located at the same address.


HOLLYWOOD — Bill Biggs, WEA's Atlanta branch manager announced that Roger Helms has been appointed the firm's district sales manager for North and South Carolina. Helms has been the resident sales representative for the Warner/Elektra/Atlantic Corp. in Charlotte since the inception of the firm's Atlanta branch in 1971.

Reddy Inks New MGM Grand Pact

LAS VEGAS — Helen Reddy has signed a new two-year entertainment contract with the MGM Grand Hotel, according to Bernard Rothkopf, the MGM Grand Hotel's executive vice president in charge of entertainment. She will begin her new contract when she returns for a 23-week summer engagement June 18 and is rescheduled for a two-week stint with comedian Joan Rivers November 5.

Heavy RCA Promo For Denver Tour

NEW YORK — RCA Records revealed last week that it would provide extensive advertising, promotion and publicity support for a concert tour by John Denver which begins April 1 and covers 29 cities. The tour, entitled "Celebrate," is under the personal aegis of Jerry Weintraub, head of Management Three and Denver's manager.

RCA Records national support will also cover the local cities on Denver's tour. It will be centered on Denver's current album, "An Evening With John Denver," his new single, "Thank God I'm A Country Boy," and the entire John Denver RCA catalog.

Tour cities include Atlanta 4/5; Washington 4/12 & 13 (8 p.m. and midnight both nights); Philadelphia 4/18 (8 p.m. and midnight); New York (Nassau Coliseum) 4/19 & 20 (8 p.m. both nights and midnight Apr. 19); Toronto 4/23; Detroit 4/25 (7 p.m. and midnight); Cleveland 4/26 (7:30 p.m. and midnight); San Diego 5/6, San Francisco 5/7, and Los Angeles 5/8-9 and 10.

 Brighton Enterprises Formed In Los Angeles

HOLLYWOOD — Brighton Enterprises, a total service merchandising company, was recently formed in Los Angeles to benefit rock stars and other well-known recording artists. The company, organized by Ken Raphael and Dave Ott, has been engaged in the creation and production of items to be sold at concerts, through mail order and at retail outlets. Other activities include the formation of fan clubs and licensing of products under the artist's name. Raphael has been involved in concert and motion picture production; personal and business management. Ott has extensive experience in retail, sales promotion, and merchandising.

FBI Raids Pirateeer

DENVER — FBI agents armed with a search warrant raided the premises of LP Products, Inc. at 502 E. 39th Avenue, and seized 43,000 pirated versions of copyrighted tapes and about 1,700 plastic bags that had not yet been inserted into cartridges.

The principal of LP Products, Inc., Herbert ("Speedy") Newell, recently pleaded guilty in Federal District Court in Albuquerque, N.M., to 45 counts of criminal infringement for which he has fined $22,500, and recently was enjoined from duplicating the recordings of record companies in a civil action which grew out of the criminal charges.

Garrett Cuts Tanya Tucker

HOLLYWOOD — Mike Maitland, president of MCA Records, has announced that Snuff Garrett will produce the first LP effort of the label's newly acquired country artist, Tanya Tucker.

Tony Nominees Headed By 'Wiz,' 'Mack,' & 'Charley'

NEW YORK — The majority of the Broadway musicals nominations for the 1975 Tony Awards were won by the Wiz, "Mack and Mabel," and "Goodtime Charley." It was announced last week by the American Theatre Wing.

The Wiz" and "Mack and Mabel" each won eight nominations and "Goodtime Charley" drew seven.

The awards will be presented on April 20, at the Winter Garden in an ABC television special.

The five general award nominees are: Best Musical: Mack and Mabel, Shenandoah, The Lieutenant and The Wiz; Best Actor in a Musical: John Cullum (Shenandoah), Joel Grey (Goodtime Charley), Raul Julia (Where's Charley); Eddie Mekka (The Lieutenant) and Robert Preston (Mack and Mabel); Best Actress in a Musical: Lola Falana (Doctor Jazz), Angela Lansbury Gypsy), Bernadette Peters (The Sphinx), and Ann Reinking (Goodtime Charley); Best Score: Letter for Queen Victoria, Shenandoah, The Lieutenant and The Wiz.

Southwind Signs Two New Groups

NEW YORK — Alan Lorber, president of Southwind Records, last week announced the signing of two new contemporary groups to the label. The two are Strongbow, a performing act from the Midwest, and Free Beer, an acoustic band from the northeast. Lorber is completing sessions with Strongbow at Mega Sound, North Carolina, and Brendon Harkin, lead guitarist with Arista recording group The Fallen Angels, is currently producing Free Beer.

Lenny Scheer, general manager, plans to continue the promotional tactics initiated with the Joe Droukas campaign at the label, which included a recent cross-country tour. On the release of the Strongbow and Free Beer albums, Scheer is planning to utilize tie-in campaigns at all major retail outlets featuring in-store airplay and point-of-sale display materials, posters and easel backs. When the bands tour, bus ads on FM stations in the areas entered will be made cross-promoting both the band's appearances and the merchandise on the retail level. Southwind Records is distributed by the Buddha Group.

Brighton LP Due Via Private Stock

HOLLYWOOD — A new Frankie Valli album, "Closeup," featuring his recent number one single, "My Eyes Adored You," has been released by Private Stock Records.

Produced by Bob Crewe and Bob Gaudio, the LP fits into a hit machine that during the past dozen years has given Valli, with and without The Four Seasons, record sales verging on 60 million.

Valli and The Four Seasons currently are completing a series of nitty and concert appearances in Florida.
"Nuthin' Fancy"

LYNYRD SKynyRD

March
17—Starkville, Mississippi
18—Hattiesburg, Mississippi
19—Chattanooga, Tennessee
21—Tuscaloosa, Alabama
22—Johnson City, Tennessee
23—Salem, Virginia
26—Miami, Florida
27—St. Petersburg, Florida
30—New Orleans, Louisiana
April
1—Lake Charles, Louisiana
3—Shreveport, Louisiana
5—Dallas, Texas
5—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
6—Houston, Texas
7—Austin, Texas
5—Fayetteville, Arkansas
11—Kansas City, Missouri
12—Memphis, Tennessee
13—Evansville, Indiana
15—Wichita, Kansas
16—St. Louis, Missouri
17—Lincoln, Nebraska
21, 22—Santa Monica, California
23—Phoenix, Arizona
24—San Diego, California
26—San Francisco, California
28—Sacramento, California
30—Spokane, Washington

May
1—Portland, Oregon
2—Seattle, Washington
3—Vancouver, B.C., Canada
4—Salt Lake City, Utah
5—Denver, Colorado
22—Milwaukee, Wisconsin
21—St. Paul, Minnesota
23—Chicago, Illinois
21—Cleveland, Ohio
23—Detroit, Michigan
27—Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
29—Buffalo, New York
31—Ulica, New York
June
1—Rochester, New York
3—Westbury, Long Island
5—Hartford, Connecticut
6, 7—New York, New York
9—Salt Lake City, Utah
10—Bangor, Maine
11—Lewiston, Maine
17—Hershey, Pennsylvania
19—Charleston, West Virginia
20—Washington, D.C.
21—Norfolk, Virginia
23—Indianapolis, Indiana
24—Louisville, Kentucky
July
4—Birmingham, Alabama
5—Atlanta, Georgia
6—Jacksonville, Florida

Nuthin' Fancy, a new album (MCA-2137)

Booking:
Paragon Agency
1019 Walnut St.
Macon, Georgia

Management:
Sir Productions
130 W. 57th St.
Suite 5D
New York, N.Y.
Motown Inks Shifrin

HOLLYWOOD — Su Shifrin has been signed to an exclusive long-term recording contract with Motown Records, according to Herb Belkin, Motown's vice president of creative operations, and Artie Mogull, president of Mogull Inc.

Belkin stated, "The signing of Su Shifrin to Motown marks the first artist to be acquired under the recently concluded Motown-Mogull production and development agreement. As usual, Artie's instinct for hit female artists is right on the money again."

The singer-songwriter makes her recording debut with two self-penned compositions, "All I Wanna Do" and "For You." Ms. Shifrin's songs will be published by Colgems Music Corp., a division of Columbia Pictures.

Su Shifrin, an American citizen, currently resides in England where she is considered one of London's top models.

Goldberg To ASCAP Post

HOLLYWOOD — Lawrence B. Goldberg has been appointed distribution manager for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) in New York. Goldberg is an attorney who joined ASCAP's legal staff last year. He takes over the distribution responsibilities from ASCAP attorney Gloria Messinger, who assumed the post on a temporary basis in May and now returns to other duties.

His Masters Wheels Ups Haber and Earl

SAN FRANCISCO — Gary Haber has been promoted to the position of general manager at his Masters Wheels Studio here. Haber himself announced the appointment of Mallory Earl as chief engineer and studio manager.

"We've now got the best engineer in the West," Haber declared. "Mallory has had extensive experience at A&R Studios and Media Sound back in New York, and has recorded product by Hot Tuna, Graham Central Station and Jefferson Airplane."

Darryll Prof. Mgr. At E.B. Marks Music

NEW YORK — Joseph Auslander, president of Edward B. Marks Music, has announced the appointment of Ted Daryll to the post of professional manager. Daryll, most recently associated with Barry Bergman through their independent production firm, previously served as A&R producer for RCA Records and staff songwriter for Koppelman-Rubin Associates.

Greene, Law Ink GRC Pacts

ATLANTA — Michael Thevis, president of GRC has announced the signing of two new groups. Mike Greene has a new album "Pale, Pale Moon," which will be released later this month.

Battisti Named To ASCAP Panel

NEW YORK — Frank L. Battisti, chairman of the music education department at the New England Conservatory of Music, has been appointed to the standard academic panel of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. ASCAP president Stanley Adams reported last week that the panel is an independent body that allocates cash awards to ASCAP writers above and beyond performance royalty income, and has distributed approximately $4,292,400 in its history.

Warner Inks Al Jarreau

HOLLYWOOD — Warner Bros. Records has announced the signing of singer-songwriter Al Jarreau to an exclusive recording contract. The announcement was made by the label's chairman, Mo Ostin.

Jarreau was signed after a performance at the Troubadour in Los Angeles to his first recording commitment, and will enter the studio in April with Al Schmitt producing. Pictured below (l-r) are Jarreau's manager Pat Raines, Jarreau, Ostin.

HEAVY HITTERS — Babe Ruth visited Capitol Records' executives in Hollywood while in town for a performance at the Shrine on Mar. 16. Babe Ruth records for Harvest Records (distributed by Capitol). Pictured (l to r) Don Zimmermann, Capitol's senior vice president, marketing; Steve Guri, Dave Hewitt; Bhaskar Menon, Capitol's president; Ed Spevock, Alan Shacklock; Bob Buziak, Capitol A&R executive; seated (l to r) "Jenny" Haan and Rupert Perry, Capitol's A&R general manager.

Music For Dancing In The Streets, (And Elsewhere.)

©1975 Motown Record Corporation
Queen: Intelligence & Taste

Queen is a rarity among the groups to emerge in the past few years—a heavy-metal band with intelligence and taste. They walk a unique boundary line which borders the vast wasteland of trashy heavy rock and roll on the one side and the largely uncharted land of the more subtle harmonic potential of rock on the other. The result is a sound which successfully incorporates elements of both worlds into a powerful, yet musically sophisticated product. Cash Box caught up with the English lads in New York while in the midst of their headlining U.S. tour, their second pass through America (the first being as support for Mott The Hoople last winter).

Queen was formed in 1970 when Freddie Mercury (vocals) joined up with two members of the recently-defunct Smile—Brian May (guitar) and Roger Taylor (drums). With bassist John Deacon’s entrance a short time later, the Elektra group, as it now exists, was complete. Playing original material from the outset, they developed a large following in England, especially on the university circuit. By the time of the first LP, recorded in 1973, they had developed a distinctive, yet unexplained sound characterized by a very dense instrumental layering coupled with tightly arranged vocal harmonies. It is significant that members of the band list both the Beatles and Hawkwind as heavy influences here, yet Freddie’s voice shows a touch of the Beach Boys’ Brian Wilson (are they really queens?). With the release of “Queen II” in 1974, the group worked further with the electric-acoustic contrasts explored on the first LP and also worked thematically with something of a concept for the record—one side being “side black,” the other “side white.” Writing chores were shared between Deacon (black) and Brian (white), plus one tune contributed by Roger. By this time they were well-established in England as a major new group, and also found themselves one of the most popular groups in Japan. Surprisingly, sales of both LPs were quite good in the U.S., despite the lack of heavy promotion and a tour. It was at this point, as Mercury and May note, that things got successively better and rapidly worse. The first U.S. tour (with Mott) was going well, until, halfway through, May caught hepatitis and they were forced to return home. With the first illness having passed, the guitarist then developed an ulcer. With one of the major writers out of commission, the other two band members finally made the LP and was late in being completed. The third LP, although a major tour had to be postponed and the LP was late in being done, fortunately, what came out of the first sessions, in addition to Mercury’s vocals, were songs from Taylor and Deacon, further broadening the compositional base of the band. With May’s return, he contributed his material and added the guitar tracks to the already-recorded pieces. With its release at the end of 1974, “Sheer Heart Attack” rose rapidly to the top of the British charts, as did the single “Killer Queen.” As a result the group completed their sell-out European tour and hit the U.S. shores, the strongest American response thus far being built, with the LP reaching the twenties on the chart, and the single, still rising, is bulbeted at #31 this week. “Sheer Heart Attack” shows a new-exploding Queen, but the singles—and the LP—varied tunes like “Misfire” and “Leroy Brown” (complete with genuine ukulele-banjo) along with the heavier, denser numbers.

Curiously, Queen has been able to pull off an image which often theatrically pits good taste and controversy, acceptance to being peremptory, to being a band whose music is as alienating. We have heard it all before, yes, but the question remains as to whether it is real or not. Many of the theatrical gestures shared between Mercury and May seem to be attributed to the wit and precision with which they record and perform, often with a large tongue in their collective cheeks (all the Queens have impressive education credentials. Brian has a degree in physics, Freddie is an accomplished graphics designer—he created the Queen logo).

In addition to Mercury’s fine voice, a major distinguishing feature of Queen is Brian’s extraordinarily dense guitar sound performed on a guitar made from 20 worth of parts. Each LP has the note “no synthesizers” necessitated in part by the fact that Brian’s May’s guitar orchestrations have the fullness of a synthesized sound. created through masterful overdubbing of parts. The expert use of multiple echo-chambers on stage permits May to play harmonies against himself (through his bank of 9 Vox amps—shades of Segaleampa), and the performance sound suffers little in comparison with what is preserved on disk.

As this article goes to press, we learn that the continuing saga of Queen illness continues as Mercury has developed a throat infection, forcing him to sing in one week-on, one-week-off cycles to prevent permanent damage. Queen is set apart from other heavy bands by the strength of their compositions plus excellent musicianship. Despite these setbacks (canceled gigs will be made up, we are told), don’t be surprised if Queen is playing the Garden next time round (and perhaps releasing an album of just synthesizers).

Kinky Friedman: Mrs. Friedman’s Son Makes Good

Kinky Friedman paced gingerly around his funky Sunset Marquis hotel suite, the omnipresent cigar clutched firmly in hand as he spoke, glancing from time to time to the kitchen stove where he awaited the water he would make instant coffee out of to boil. “Anybody want some coffee?” After having fought the Sunset Boulevard traffic to interview him, and after watching his incredible opening night performance at L.A.’s Troubadour, I had the feeling I was in for something a little out of the ordinary when asked to interview him, but the hustle and bustle that greeted me was a little overwhelming. A light rain was falling outside, and in the early stages of the tete-a-tete in walked Iggy Pop, of all people, incredibly eager to take a few laps in the hotel’s pool which, by this time, was only a scene from an Esther Williams movie. Sure enough, off came Mr. Pop’s material environs, and in the pool he leaped. The interview continued.

Since moving to ABC Records from Vanguard, Kinky Friedman has made a serious attempt at moving from what had been previously described as “off the wall” music into the realm of wide audience appeal and acceptance. Kinky’s primary goal, concurrent with the release of his current LP, seems to be to move the music into an area of credibility in people’s minds, not merely relying on the wit or humor inherent in his lyrics or on-stage antics. Thus, satire inherent in his music has entered the domain of overt comedy, and the legitimacy of the performance both on stage and on vinyl has been successfully achieved.

Previously named “Kinky Friedman and The Texas Jewboys,” Kinky’s group consists of Panama Red on guitar, “Little Jewford” Shelby on accordion, Snake Bite Jacobs, who possesses the extraordinary talent for playing two saxophones at once. Rainbow Colors on drums, and Skyrap Adams on bass.

“We like to think of ourselves as crazy pioneers,” says Friedman. “Pioneers in many senses. Firstly, we abandoned the idea of the Jewboys because the tag was offensive in terms of getting radio play for our material. We have plans for the future in television, and while we’d like to retain our identity as representing a Jewish/Texas ethic, which is pretty esoteric, we want to appeal to as many tastes as possible. Our performance is fifty times as energetic as ever; more musical, and we want to be enjoyed by a multitude of audiences. You can’t sell hot tamales to 1,000 people, so we’re laying off the hot sauce to some extent.

It is possible, then, if we interpret that last statement rationally, to state that there has been a change not only in Kinky’s music, but in the audience to which they appeal as well. In San Francisco, Kinky’s show is more spontaneous, more outrageous, because people can accept that at a concert. In Texas, where Kinky grew up on a ranch, an important anything one says and does is usually identifiable as being of a certain ethnic origin, and the first stories that emanated about his group a few years ago left one the impression that rednecks and jewboys make strange bedfellows. This may have changed. The package looks a lot different these days, and as a result, Kinky’s audiences in his home state are larger and more receptive.

“What I’d like to do eventually is begin a TV series that would bring together musicians of all different disciplines. TV allows you that leverage and exposure,” says Friedman, “as well as being somewhat of a psychodelic porter bushes. As Kinky himself suggests, perhaps the best title for a show of this nature would be The Kinky Friedman Irritative Hour.” Beginning this week, Kinky and the Boys embark on a U.S. tour with the Group, and Friedman is excited for the music that Kinky’s company also includes the Led Zeppelin. As we spoke, arrangements were being made for him to accompany that group on the road for some of their U.S. dates. Kinky sips his coffee, looks pensive for a moment, and relates other plans. “I’d like to be a psychiatrist Porter Wagner, sort of an amoeba engulfing the entire music industry and government. We’ll make Iggy Pop president, and Billy Swain vice president.”

Kinky has that uncanny feeling for one-liners, as is evidenced by his response to a question concerning how he deals with his critics: “Well, I wish ‘em a long, and very prosperous nose. His advice to us all is “Don’t lift nothin’ heavier than a lady’s dress. And most importantly, I thank you all deeply for being an American. Such humidity is to be respected in a star of this caliber.”

Kinky Friedman will curtail several more singles, prepare a new album, and continue with a rigorous road schedule. His favorite cuts from his new LP are “Popeye.” This one is called “Mama Baby Mama” (I’d Like To Jump In Your Pajamas). That’s a single if I’ve ever heard one...

Iggy, meanwhile, steps out of the pool, cold and dripping wet, and returns to the hotel room. “How was your swim?” asks Kinky. “Great,” replies Pop. “how’s your instant coffee?"
EAST COASTINGS—An original illustration of Telly Savalas (pictured here) was shown at a private exhibition as MCA Record’s official art. He was banned from the Foote Cone Gallery where the work of artist Carole Jean is currently on display. The gallery considered her rendering of Savalas (with lollipop) as “The Modern David’s lew” between MCA agreed to be the protecotorate of the work until they can prevent it to Telly upon his return from Europe.

From left to right—Carol Ross, MCA publicist; (center) Mr. Savalas; (seated) Carole Jean, artist; and Janice Arzou, MCA publicist.

BITS & PIECES—Word has reached us that John Wetton will replace Gary Thain in Uriah Heep by the time the group embarks on their next tour. The bass player was most recently seen with Roxy Music after having spent three years with Family and King Crimson. Kris Nicholson reports that Hudson and Ford, currently in the studios recording their third album, have fired their entire band with the exception of their drummer. Lou Reed, who has just had the second part of his Academy Of Music LP taped in New York, has ordered an album of electronic music entitled “Metal Machine Music.” According to a recent interview, he is also recording another studio album which will be called “Coney Island Baby.” ZZ Top’s fourth album for London, “Fandango,” will be released in a couple of weeks. It features one side of raw and recorded live in concert with their guests. Billy Gibbons, was recently awarded a $3,000 “Explorer” model guitar by the Gibson Company.

LIVE AT CB: The offices were abuzz with musicians last Monday when in the course of 45 minutes, we were granted a rare opportunity to attend a private earing of Telly Savalas’ new album for the audience. The program for the evening included a number of classic rock group’s recent tour in the form of a benefit concert. The group’s guitarist, Billy Gibbons, was going to perform with a local group called “Soul Explosion.” The event was sponsored by the Lieberman Enterprises supported by the carson Pirie Scott & Co. State store with numerous soul artists making personal appearances and performing daily throughout the run of the show. The Hues Corporation will be appearing at Mister Kelly’s through Mar. 29. Club recently introduced a special Sunday feature called “Talent Showcase” for the benefit of local hopefuls pursuing show business careers.

styx manager Vince DePaul and his wife, Paulette, became the proud parents of a baby girl, born Feb. 25. The little “lady” is called Tiffany Star. Ovation Records president David Gaff has recently completed work on the “Kokol single in release titled “Guilty Of Rock And Roll.”

The local Phonodisc branch of the new local group called Fawn has just completed their first album which will be released later this month. We inform you that the open-air concert date will feature an assortment of delights including, clowns, magicians, jugglers, balloons, and special events to be announced at the venue. The band is composed of Bill House and group’s current LP “Slow Motion” is being hot airplay features Deke Leonard and Mickey Jones on guitars. Terry Williams on drums, and Martine Ace on bass. Also appearing on the bill will be MCA recording artists Richard Berry & the立ons.

Curtis Mayfield will do string and horn arrangements for several tracks of the new Double Brothers LP. “Staple” according to producer Ted Temeleman Billy Preston host will do “The Midnight Special.” Apr. 25 following a co-head appearance by the Charlie Daniels Band. Apr. 11 Gladys Knight & The Pips will be on hand for a special appearance by the Blackbears, (Fantasy) has had a benefit at Howard University in the recent past. Apr. 23. Proceeds to the Paul E. Miller student loan fund Group’s Donald Byrd is a guest of the All-Star Jazz Band.

Columbia’s head of quadranchastics Ar., Lawrence, is writing potential hits in his spare time and on weekends.

Saulo Laron has been set for his film music debut by producers Martin Rackin and John Michael Hayes to compose and conduct the score for an upcoming feature called “Move of the Week titled” Nevada Smith.” starring Lorne Greene. Aretha Franklin has been tapped to do a national radio and television spot for the soundtrack to the movie. She is scheduled to record a new album at the end of the month.

Reggie Dwight played piano for Patti Labelle and the Bluebelles some years ago and has since worked as a session pianist and composer. He has now formed his own group under the name Labelle and Reggie Dwight. Elton John.
April 1975

r&b ingredients

Joe (Skinny Legs) Tex Mercury’s all-time biggest seller with “I Gotch You,” is currently working in Nashville with Bobby Marchan recording a new album to be released later this spring... The Ohio Players who sold out the Shrine Auditorium in L.A. last week did an outstanding set that included samples of their gold-grabbing LP “Fire...” Graham Central Station were also on the bill... The Miracles currently doing a stint at Disneyland are really thrilled that their follow-up single to “Don’t Cha Love It,” entitled “Geni-ii” is really moving. A distributor in Chicago called in to say that he sold 3,600 copies in 18 minutes even before it went retail... Wow! Watch out for this one... Thelma Houston Motown songs will be seen on the Johnny Mathis special on CBS and in March 31 in L.A. Along with Thelma, Johnny’s guests are Paul Williams, Barry Manilow and Alan & Marilyn Bergman, the songwriters... Managerial-wise, Pedro Farrer, husband of Mary Wilson of the Supremes has opened his own offices and has signed besides the Supremes, comedian Rodney Winfield and 20th Century recording artists The Younghearts... Much success Pedro... “Clean-Up Woman” Betty Wright has recently returned from a highly successful European promotion tour of England and Holland where her latest release “Shoahar Shoahar!” “Tonight Is The Night,” has been burning up the disco and sales charts... Buddha Records has another monster on their hands as Walter Heath has an exciting new single, “You Know You’re Wrong Don’t You Brother.” Heath is currently touring with Seals & Crofts. Congratulations are in order to Ramsey Lewis for being named #1 jazz pianist by Ebony Magazine. His famous trio was also named as “Top Jazz Combo.” Lewis is better than ever and riding high on the charts with his “Sun Goddess” LP... Blue Magic also received an Ebony award as “Most Worthy of Wider Recognition,” and deservedly so, as their “Magic Of The Blue” is a dynamite release... The Jackson Five having recently returned from gigs in Jamaica and Puerto Rico are now prepping for their opening at the Las Vegas Hilton in mid April. They are probably one of the best acts that ever hit the Strip... A new group to watch out for on the Golden Tone label is 21st Century. This group of five young men ranging in age from 14 to 24 has a debut release, “Remember The Rain,” which has already sold 20,000 copies in the Chicago area in less than two weeks. They made their professional debut with Billy Preston and have also worked with the fabulous James Brown... The Manhattans, Columbia recording artists, will appear at a testimonial dinner for New York broadcaster Hal Jackson Apr. 11 at the Hilton. All proceeds from the dinner will go to the Hal Jackson Scholarship Fund... After their fabulous concert here last week, Nona Hendryx of Labelle received Ryan O’Neal’s favorite baseball jacket at the after concert party... Johnny ‘Guitar’ Watson has a brand new single out on Fantasy Records entitled “I Don’t Want To Be Around,” which will also appear on his upcoming Fantasy LP... Sonny Rollins will be making a rare west coast appearance on Sat., Apr. 5, when he plays at the Pacific Coast Collegiate Jazz Festival at University of California, Berkeley. Rollins’ performance will close the two-day festival, which is one of the regional segments of the American Collegiate Jazz Festival... Bruce Wayne has been appointed vice president of operations with Robert Ellis and Associates. Wayne who has been with the company three years will be in charge and coordinate all road operations with A&M recording artist Billy Preston and ABC recording artists Rufus... Sisters Sledge, Atlantic’s bodacious quartet will be seen on the Mike Douglas Show Apr. 3 and will perform “Caught In The Middle,” and “Spirit In The Dark,” from their new release, “Circle Of Love.” Jimmy Johnson, brother of recording star is in Los Angeles at Gold Star Studios recording a new album ABC Records is releasing in April two new r&b records, “Woman Of The World” by Sylvia Smith and “I Fell In Love With God,” by gospel singer Nat Townsley, Jr... Gil Scott-Heron was paid tribute to at the City of Los Angeles and Councilman David Cunningham during his recent stint at the Roxy Theatre. Scott-Heron was honored in recognition of outstanding citizenship and activities enhancing the community... Eddie Kendricks recently stopped by Hollywood’s L’Orice Pizza store to chat with his many fans and personally autograph his latest Motown album, “For You...” That’s the poop... jess levitt

CHICAGO — The giant “Soul Explosion” sale sponsored by Lieberman Enterprises in cooperation with Carson Pirie Scott & Co. State Street store was a huge success! A vast selection of current soul product was displayed for sale in the store’s auditorium, which was appropriately decorated for the occasion, and a lineup of top recording artists made daily appearances during the weeklong event, performing live and holding autograph sessions for the heavy spectator traffic each day. Lieberman provided in excess of $100,000 worth of soul-oriented recorded product for the special sale and by week’s end chalked up substantial sales figures... Among the artists who appeared during the big event were: Blue Magic, Ben E. King, The Notations, The Commodores, Rasputin Stash, Les Roy Hursor, Linda Clifford and others.

A sampling of the crowd observes The Commodores’ performance. The Impressions, holding an autograph session on the opening day of the sale.

TK Productions To Dist. New Kayvette Label

MIAMI — Henry Stone, president of TK Productions has announced that TK will distribute the newly-formed Kayvette label which is headed by Brad Shapiro. Shapiro, a top producer in the industry, is currently working with gold record artist Millie Jackson and previously produced gold records for Wilson Pickett, Jo Simon and Jackie Moore. Jackie Moore, who earned a gold record with Precious, Precious, and achieved a hit with “Sweet Charlie Babe” will be Kayvette’s first artist. Miss Moore’s debut single for the new label will be released during the spring season with an LP to follow. Shapiro will continue to do independent production.

WATERS’ ON SOUL TRAIN — Shown during a recent appearance on Don Cornelius’ Soul Train TVer is Blue Note soul-pop group, Waters. The first vocal group ever signed to the 36-year old jazz label. Waters is out with their first UA-distributed Blue Note album “Waters.” and a new single called from the album. Find it. Shown getting on board the Soul Train are (from left) Keg Johnson, co-producer of the group’s album, (kneeling) Doreen, Luther and Maxine Waters, and Soul Train host Don Cornelius.

New Privilege Label Premiers With Thomas Dean LP

MEMPHIS — A new label, Privilege Records is coming out of Memphis with their first release, “Oh Baby” b/w Try A Little Harder” by Thomas Dean. Dean is the former lead singer and songwriter for the group Big Star. Privilege Records is owned and managed by Terry and Carole Manning as an independent record company, manufactured and distributed by Stax Records through its network of independent distributors. The initial product is rock, but Privilege plans to release many styles of music in the future... Rock & country classical... Terry and Carole formed Privilege after they ended their association with Ardent Records of Memphis. Terry was co-founder, vice president and A&R director of Ardent, and Carole was director of art and advertising... Privilege has the support of Terry’s many accomplishments as a producer, including most of Ardent’s releases, co-production of The Staple Singers, and various sessions with Led Zeppelin, ZZ Top and Isaac Hayes...
Labelle

THE FORUM, L.A. — At the opening engagement at the 18,000 seat Forum, an engagement that marked the last tour before she and her current group, Led Zeppelin proved that, so long as there is Jimmy Page and Robert Plant, all is safe for rock and roll. As Plant announced at the Forum, “This is the final appearance very special for their audiences, and in a two-hour set which included some rather outstanding ensembles, complete with extensive facade makeup, glitter hair etc., the group's lead singer, Lean, slender and supple in his movements, attired in an open chemise, he brings a special presence and dynamism to the Zep's music, that of lyric, always an integral part of what the band has stood for. Particularly effective these days is the rapport Plant has developed with his audience, much improved from years past. Whereas it is easy for a simple guitar calibar to rest easily on his laurels and remain egocentric, Plant makes a real attempt at being with his fans, augmenting their performance, via hand-clapping, and verbal exchange. When Zeppelin does "Stairway To Heaven," the audience collectively is raucous. The crowd remains transfixed to Jimmy Page's eloquent guitar intro, then erupts into the heat of the raucous lead section of the song.

Ask any musician what he considers to be the primary example of the archetypal lead guitarist, and most certainly Jimmy Page's name will be among the first he mentions. Page has become that cipher, that feeling, that attaining assment of axes on tour, a lovely vintage Les Paul Custom and a double-necked S. G. Gibson among them. But it's not just the instrument he plays, nor merely the instrument he plays, that accounts for Page's effectiveness on stage. He has an improvisational genius unparalleled in rock and roll, compositions ranking high on the list of some of the greatest rock songs ever penned. "Dazed And Confused," "Communication Breakdown" and "Immigrant Song" are just a few examples of this man's inspired guitar work. Page is bedecked in a gold-trimmed black suit, and slinks around the stage for maximum dramatic effect. This is no Page control, his movement with his instrument lends a sense of tension to every lick or note. As Page plays, he fellow the ground for some mind-splitting arpeggios.

While it is clearly Page and Plant who are the foremost stars of the Zeppelin, mention must be made of the superb bass and keyboard work of John Paul Jones, who has of late taken on more seriously his role as melctron and piano man for the group. His function in that seat, often playing a Rhodes pair, bass keyboard, lends a full, orchestrated sound that despite Plant's reference to it as a "single guitar" is nothing less than the orchestra on tour" is highly effective. On drums is John Bonham, whose solo work, employing drum synthesizers, was superb. Often drum solos are tedious and filled with a desperate sense of showmanship, but Bonham is a technician of the highest order, and has full grasp of how to use drums as a lyric, instrument, something which he personal-ly has pioneered during his development in Zeppelin.

As for staging, the Zeppelin show made superb use of high powered fog machines and overhead lighting, filling the stage with an eerie, luminous array of colors. Also of particular role was the use of half a dozen or so lasers emitting variously colored light beams through-put the show. The lighting concept, with some very fancy sounding machine, was a work of genius, with each laser beam and its color being carefully chosen to complement the musical mood of the band on stage. The laser machine, one of the most intricate and expensive pieces of equipment in the industry, undoubtedly will make its appearance in rock presentations around the country, and should be a standard part of a rock group's touring equipment.

Suzi Quatro

ROXY, L.A. — April 1 opened to a spot on the bill, as the small female giant in tight black leathers stormed on stage to the raucous one-night crowd. No one was disappointed as the steady slide hammer bam-bam-wam-beat that is simply Quatro's music moved the crowd. "Can't Get Enough of You, Baby". There was no let-down after that as Suzi was at her best the whole evening, with her solid voice, her leg kicks and the Suzi Quatro (bass low on the hip) movements interspersing her act with new and old material. Suzi is really creating a fine polished act with terrific exuberance throughout.

Material from her soon to be released album, "Your Mama Won't Like Me" was well received by all the crowd; especially the title cut which is her current single and "1 Bit Off More Than I Can Chew." Also Suzi showed she can sing the ballads equally well and she introduced a lovely and stirring tune entitled "Mi- chael." Glynnis Queen, still proved to be the heavy show-stopper favorite as she did her own stomping/Kim Wilde Show. "All Shook Up" which proved she is some hard drivin' chick. Her backup group was excellent and provided a very tight and professional show.

Stray Dogs

Suzi Quatro and the Stray Dogs opened the show and were well received by the partial Quatro crowd. These Atlantic recording artists have a lot going for them as they really cook by combining the classical with the heavy metal sound. Snuffy Walden and Alan Roberts are two very fine musicians and singers who bring great life to the Stray Dog sound. Great crowd reaction to "World Winds" and "Junkyard Angel."
LINDA RONSTADT (Capitol P-4050)  
When Will I Be Loved (2:52) (Acuff-Rose/BMI) — P. Evey

BARRY BLUE (ABC-AV 4652)  
Thank You Baby (3:39) (Acvo Embassi/ASCAP) — Hugo and Luigi — G. Weiss

THE STYLISTICS (Capitol P-7011)  
Never Say I Love You (3:29) (ABC/Dunhill/One Of A Kind/BMI) — D. Lambert B. Potter

THE RIGHTOGEN BROTHERS (Haven-Capitol P-7011)  

BARRY MANN (RCA JH 10230)  
Nothing Good Comes Easy (2:46) (Summerville/Screen Gems Col./BMI) — C. Weil — B. Mann

BOZ SCAGGS (Columbia 3-10124)  
You Make It So Hard (To Say No) (3:20) (Blue Street/ASCAP) — W. Scaggs

ANTHONY AND THE IMPERIALS (Acvo AV-4651)  
Hold On Just A Little Bit Longer (3:30) (Cookie Box/Bom Mom/Belloti/BMI) — Barry — Hutt — Bell — Hill Brown

JOHN REID (Arista AS 0114)  
It Hurts (Little Ever Last) (1:39) (House of Gold/BMI) — J. Reid

JOHN REID (Arista AS 0115)  
It Hurts (Little Ever Last) (1:39) (House of Gold/BMI) — J. Reid

Produced and exclusively arranged by Glen Screen, John Reid treats a somewhat delicate subject — that of young teenage relations — both tastefully and eloquently with his usual dynamic vocal performance. Although the instrumental version is not quite as potent as the vocal, it still manages to communicate the essence of the song. It's a well-conceived piece, and the production is excellent.

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

ANDY WILLIAMS (Columbia 3-10113)  
Cry Softly (3:12) (Tree Pub/Alge/BMI) — K. Hillen — G. Sutton

Produced by Bill Sherrill with string arrangements by Bill McElhiney, Andy delivers a classic performance of a love song that is just what MOR programmers love to hear. "Cry Softly" is already gaining widespread major market coverage. Flip: No info available.

SISTER SLEDGE (Atco 7020)  
Circle Of Love (Caught In The Middle) (3:30) (Music Montage/BMI) — P. Adams — F. Hauser

This hot soul unit achieves a vocal sound which is at once reminiscent of some of the major female soul groups of the sixties while the arrangement is pure seventies inspired. Hot, danceable, evokes the couple with soul vocals and rhythm. Bound for crossover success. Flip: No info available.

DON MCLEAN (United Artists UA-XW164-X)  
Wonderful Baby (2:00) (Urrant/Andy/BMI) — D. McLean

Produced by Guy Lombardo with a vocal arrangement that gives us one of the classic vocal hits of the year. "Wonderful Baby" has all the makings of a major hit in the coming months. Flip: No info available.

RONNIE McNEER (Prodigi P614)  
Wendy Is Gone (2:45) (Macwest/Mtz/BMI) — R. McNeer — M. Cummings

With its catchy beat, "Wendy Is Gone" is making a strong push in the pop charts. The song features a simple but effective arrangement that is sure to appeal to a wide audience. Flip: No info available.

SHYLO (Columbia 3-10102)  
Finn Lovin' Woman (2:35) (Partner/BMI) — R. Scaife — D. Hogan

"Finn Lovin' Woman" is a country rock song that is sure to catch on with the country music fans. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

THE MIKE CUBB CROSINGITION (Capitol P-4054)  
You Were On My Mind (2:42) (Warner Bros./ASCAP) — S. Fricke

Produced by Mike Cubbing, "You Were On My Mind" is a strong pop/soul track that is sure to appeal to a wide audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

WINGS LIVELYRE (RCA JH 10230)  
Fishin' For Each Other (3:20) (Forest Friends/ASCAP) — W. Liverright

"Fishin' For Each Other" is a soft, melodic pop song that is sure to catch on with the adult contemporary audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

Olympic Runners (London 5-217)  
Sproutin' Out (Burlington/Uncle Boris/ASCAP) — Bee Hammond

"Sproutin' Out" is a fast-paced pop song that is sure to catch on with the rock audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

WILLIE CLAYTON (Pawn 5N-3806 Dist. Ltd)  
Too Much Of Nothing (2:50) (Jec/BMI) — P. Spantt and Howard Scott

"Too Much Of Nothing" is a soft, melodic pop song that is sure to catch on with the adult contemporary audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

MURPHY'S LAW (ABC P-12080)  
Somebody To Believe In (2:30) (C.A.M. — USA/BMI) — J. Murphy

"Somebody To Believe In" is a soft, melodic pop song that is sure to catch on with the adult contemporary audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

THE BRAID (ABC P-12082)  

"The Bed Beside You" is a soft, melodic pop song that is sure to catch on with the adult contemporary audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

CLIFF DE YOUNG (MCA 40388)  
If I Could Put You In My Song (3:15) (April/ASCAP) — R. Richards

"If I Could Put You In My Song" is a soft, melodic pop song that is sure to catch on with the adult contemporary audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.

RUTHIE NAVON (Capitol P-13063)  
I Love You (Capitol P-13063) — M. Adams — T. Hauser

"I Love You" is a soft, melodic pop song that is sure to catch on with the adult contemporary audience. The song features a great vocal arrangement and a catchy melody that is sure to stick in your head. Flip: No info available.
CONEY ISLAND — Herb Alpert & The T.J.B. — A&M SP-4521 — Producer: Herb Alpert
Herb Alpert is back with his free-wheeling delightfully fun trumpet and what a treat. The old T.J. Brass sound which brought all the world acclaim is even better than ever. Herb has arranged and produced this album magnificently and no doubt this package will leap to the top of the easy listening charts. "Coney Island," the title track puts you right there in New York munching on hot dogs and waiting in line for the amusements rides. For the sentimental the gorgeous ballad "Mickey" will bring back thoughts of that one special girl. Herb also vocalizes nicely on "I Belong" in his own warm sensual feeling style. Plus add in those other great Spanish, New Orleans uptempo beat tunes make this album a must for everybody.

A QUIET STORM — Smokey Robinson — Tamla D2MK — Producer: Smokey Robinson
Here is a delightful collection of 8 new tunes written and produced by the legend himself included in this brand new package is his hot single "Baby That's Backatcha." Between each track are fabulous howling effects that create the quiet storm. Smokey has never been more mellow. Other favorites include "Wedding Song," "Love Letters," and "Cocoonella."

SOLID — Mandrill — UA LA408 — Producer: Carlos Wilson, Louis Wilson, Ric Wilson, M.D., and Claude "Coffee" Cave
Mandrill's latest release "Solid" is a visual delight to the mind. This six piece band with roots in the African spirit are going to pull out all the stops with this groovy disc. Heavy funky rhythm combined with exceptional brass arrangements will make this a big winner. The moog work adds style to the metal sound in "Peck Ya Neck" which will make everybody get out and boogie. "Tee Vee," and "Solid" are great hard rock blues works and the sound of the congas and vibes will blow you out. A very fine package with strong crossover possibilities.

DRESSED TO KILL — Kiss — Casablanca NLBP 7016 — Producer: Neil Bogart & Kiss
The hard drivin' white-faced New York Kiss band are really going to burn the airwaves with their fabulous new release entitled "Dressed To Kill." The infectious steady beat of Kiss will make your mouth water as they get on up to "Rock and Roll All Nite," their latest single. The whole package really cooks and is well produced by Neil Bogart and the Kiss Band. Other favorites are "C'mon and Love Me," "Rock Bottom," and "Room Service." A sure fire chart burner, so pucker your lips, here comes Kiss.

KATY LIED — Steely Dan — ABC ABCD-846 — Producer: Gary Katz
Following their enormously successful first three albums Steely Dan returns with an even more dazzling and exciting album entitled "Katy Lied." One thing for sure, "Momma Didn't Lie" about this one. Wow! Steely Dan is back with more of that down-home rock sound that really explodes. This one will bust the charts Walter Beck and Denny Fagen's tunes are more melodic and breathtaking than ever. Gary Katz is also to be commended on producing such a fine package. Every cut is sensational and will turn everyone on to become Steely Dan freaks. "Bad Sneaker" is Top Ten all the way for sure with "Black Friday," "Doctor Wu," and "Any World" far not far behind.

THERE'S ONE IN EVERY CROWD — Eric Clapton — SO 4806 — Producer: Tom Dowd
The electrifying Eric Clapton has come up with another smash LP following up his most successful "I Shot the Sheriff." Eric continues to do more of those wonderful funky uptempo bluesy numbers, which blend the reggae rhythym along with his distinctive English blues style. Clapton's guitar work is sweet and gentle and his voice fluid throughout this very fine package of tunes. This one is sure to be on the Top 40 favorites for a long time..."We've Been Told (Jesus Coming Soon), Singin' The Blues," Better Make it Through Today and "Don't Blame Me."

THE MANHATTEN TRANSFER — The Manhattan Transfer — Atlantic SD 18133 — Producers: Ahmet Ertegun & Tim Hauser
It will hard to find a more refreshing album in the stores in the next few months than the latest offering from Ahmet Ertegun and his Atlantic label. The Manhattan Transfer: With a sound reminiscent of the 30's, 40's, and 50's, The Manhattan Transfer has created a rich blend of four part harmony and beautiful orchestration. Every cut is pure gold and this musical gem is a must. This album could be the sleeper of the year, as a lot of hard work has been put into this album and it shows. Their favorite tracks are "Tuxedo Junction," "Sweet Talking Guy," "The Cat is High," "You Can Depend on Me," and "Occapella." This will skyrocket with consistent airplay.

BE TRUE TO YOU — Eric Anderson — Aristat AL 4033 — Producer: Tom Sellers
With this release Eric Anderson will vault to the forefront as one of America's finest balladeers. His lovely guitar and sweet voice will haunt everybody's soul. His roots are country-western but this is not strictly a country album as strings and a jazz influenced orchestra are used. "Ol 55" never sounded better as this could be an across the board hit on all charts. All tracks are very easy listening and Clive Davis and Aristat Records may have struck gold with the Seventies happening with this album.

BLOW BY BLOW — Jeff Beck — Epic PE 33409 — Producer: George Martin
England's incredible Jeff Beck is back on the charts with his dynamic LP "Blow By Blow." Producer George Martin of Beatle fame has Jeff's sound down pat which will thrill all of Beck's enormous following. The cuts on this album reconfirm that Beck is one of rock's premiere guitar players and he uses his instrument to create a very funky "nerdy" yet really unique sound. "What's New Pussycat?" is an exception track in which Beck glides along so smoothly that you feel like you're speeding along on a finely-tuned Harley. This album will blaze onto all FM playlists and will be a big winner everywhere.

WHEN WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN — Johnny Mathis — Columbia PC 3342C — Producer: John Florez
England's incredible Jeff Beck is back on the charts with his dynamic LP "Blow By Blow." Producer George Martin of Beatle fame has Jeff's sound down pat which will thrill all of Beck's enormous following. The cuts on this album reconfirm that Beck is one of rock's premiere guitar players and he uses his instrument to create a very funky "nerdy" yet really unique sound. "What's New Pussycat?" is an exception track in which Beck glides along so smoothly that you feel like you're speeding along on a finely-tuned Harley. This album will blaze onto all FM playlists and will be a big winner everywhere.
WHILE YOU'RE DOWN THERE — Stray Dog — Manticore MAE-5011 — Producer: Austin Godfrey
While some dogs are on the prowl, Stray Dog is right on with their latest release. The band socks with power and drive as they work out on all 9 tracks, "Junkyard Angel," and "Wholedows," should bust out as big ones on radio playlists and could stay right onto the charts.

AMBROSIA — Ambrosia — 20th Century T4434 — Producer: Freddie Piro
Ambrosia are four young men from San Pedro who sound like they belong in England. Their exciting debut album on 20th shows great musical depth and should be a winner across all the board. All four sing beautifully together and the acoustic work, on all the cuts, is exceptional. The sound "freaks ears" will get a workout as this album has excellent special effects which are interlaced throughout the whole album. Christopher North plays keyboards with a wonderfully delicate balance which adds that special feeling to the tracks. Ambrosia has come up with a rare fine easy-listening rock sound, and a natural for FM play. We enjoyed all the tracks, especially side one which is worth the price of the album alone. Any one of the tracks could jump out onto the top of the charts.

YOU CAN'T GET OFF WITH YOUR SHOES ON — Barefoot Jerry — Monument KZ 33831 — Producer: Wayne Moss
The title of this album says it all as Barefoot Jerry wants you to keep your ears glued to their special electric country sound. Your feet will be tapping so watch out for stacked heels. The lyrics are homey and handsome on all the tracks. The pedal guitar and moog effects weave gently as the country blues boogie on down to make this a big one for FM playlists. Nostalgia fans will be turned on to Little Richard's old-time great "Lucille," "Sinkin' In The Sea" and "West Side of Mississippi" could also break as big ones.

DISCOTHEQUE — Herbie Mann — Atlantic SD 1670 — Producer: Herbie Mann
Herbie Mann has come up with a big winner for Atlantic with his newest, "Discotheque." A super collection of disco rockers. Herbie's flute adds delightful spooky to "Pick Up The Pieces," "Lady Mountain," "Can't Turn You Loose," "I Won't Last A Day Without You." The background vocals are sensational and make each track a treasure. Stevie Wonder's "Bird of Beauty" never sounded better as the flute work will cool you out. This is a must album for jazz freaks as well as people who dig fabulous fluting.

THE BUCKINGHAMS — The Bunkinghams — Columbia KG-3333 — Producer: James William Guercio
The "Don't You Care" boys from Chicago are back with a dynamic two LP set that will launch them right back into the thick of things. Included are some fabulous new tracks along with their great hits of the sixties, "Hey Baby (They're Playing Our Song)," "Susan," "Don't You Care," "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy." Richly arranged and produced by James William Guercio, this double package of goodies should rekindle and delight everybody. This one will shoot up the charts like a rocket.

AL'S BIG DEAL — UNCLAIMED FREIGHT — AN AL KOOPER ANTHOLOGY — Al Kooper — Columbia PG 3389 — Producer: Al Kooper, John Simon, Bob Johnston
Wow! This is a winner! Two LP set that is nothing less than sensational. Not only is his finest doing the material that made him a household name but great tunes by Nilsson, Carole King, Donovan, Dylan, Paul Simon and John Prine in Al's meticulous fine style. Al has assembled quite a number of fine musicians from the Blood, Sweat & Tears Band which make the sound totally incredible. This one should tear up the top charts and get Al back in the hearts and minds of his loyal following. Great cuts are "I Can't Quit Her," "Without Her," "On A Perfect Free," and many more that will blow everyone out.

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST — The Headhunters — Arista AL 4038 — Producers: David Rubinson & Friends, Inc. and Herbie Hancock
The Headhunters without Herbie Hancock are a dynamite band and their latest effort on Arista records will undoubtedly make many more fans for this fine 5-piece. The band's excellent special effects which will definitely establish themselves as solo artists on their own. Their music is so lovely to listen to as they work out on the tracks, including " Severity," "Meditation," "Fine Music," which contains some very far-out flute work and the congas add a sparkling African sound. One of the most moving pieces on this disc is "Rima," which is a total sense experience in jazz. This one deserves heavy FM play, so watch out for The Headhunters.

BEAUTIFUL LOSER — Bob Seeger — Capitol ST 11378 — Producers: Bob Seeger, Punch Andrews, Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section
Solid boogie material with great support from the Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section and the Muscle Shoals Horn Section. Seeger's rocking vocals, though, are the highlight of the album. Powerful and rapsy when he has it to be sharp and tender at the same time. Seeger's vocals are excellent. Our favorite cuts are: "Beautiful Loser," "Katanandu," "Travelin Man," and "Fine Memory." Hopefully a single will be released to help push the LP high up into the charts.

If you like the basic funky blues The Meters are what is happening. Here assembled by Allen Toussaint & Marshall Sehorn is a fine package of 13 tracks that really get down to what they call the 'New Orleans back-beat sound.' Every cut is more funky than the next especially "Till 5." These four young men are all accomplished and gifted on their instruments to make for sheer listeners. Other great cuts are "Look- Ka Py Py," "Casy Strut," "The Meters Man," and "Ride The Pony."

THE SHOW MUST GO ON — Sam Dees — Atlantic SD 18134 — Producer: Sam Dees
Sam Dees is a songwriter who has turned out hits for Carson Larter, ZZ Hill and the Persuaders and now has a new debut album for Atlantic in which he takes over the vocal duties. Dee's voice cries out with warmth and sensitivity as he sings the lovely ballad "Child Of The Streets." All the cuts are very special: "The Show Must Go On," which should make a red hot single on the R&B charts. Dees has the uniqueness and earthiness to carry him on up there and this new album is a wonderful entry to the R&B charts for a soon to be solo star.

COMMON SENSE — John Prine — Atlantic SD 18127 — Producer: Steve Cropper
John Prine who keeps writing songs for everybody in the business has returned to the charts with a fantastic collection on eleven tunes that will tickle and warm up any turntable. Prine who is America's songwriter conscious has assembled fine musicians and the backup vocals of Jackson Browne and J. D. Souther to create an LP that will be everyone's favorite. Prine's genius in writing lyrics that lay it on the line and his Dylan-esque voice should give this strong FM airplay. Other favorites are: "Forbidden Jim," a bouncy reggae number, "Middle Man," "My Own Best Friend," and a coupled-up version of the legendary Chuck Berry's "You Never Can Tell." This one is worth five stars.

A VERY SPECIAL LOVE SONG — Jim Nabors — Columbia KC 33401 — Producer: Al DeLory
Jim Nabors' America's favorite personalities displays his special warm feeling in his latest release from Columbia. "A Very Special Love Song," which DeLory gave that special touch working with Glen Campbell has done a brilliant job in arranging the tunes of Charley Rich, Paul Williams and Bobby Bare to that sheer pleasure. All the cuts are great and Jim has never sounded better on "A Very Special Love Song," "Our Most Beautiful Love," "My Melody of Love," "Annie's Song," and "The Way We Were." A wonderful easy listening LP that will easily cross over to the C&W charts.
The "Tommy" war goes on... especially between Polydor and MCA. Polydor, of course has the soundtrack to the movie and MCA has the original rock operas. The Who. Polydor is really promoting their offering. Among the latest promos is a special $10,000 sweepstakes with the Who's "Tommy," which will be featured as the theme of the spring opera. Bob Siner, media director of MCA Records, bought exposure for a one-minute trailer, 20 theatres over the next few days to promote the LP. This is the first time that an advertising effort for a Who album has been used by a record company. Siner commented, "the trailer, which we will go on radio, will be keyed on comparing the original "Tommy" will reach an estimated million and a half people in those eight weeks. The dilemma spot is based on the MCA campaign theme: 'Who made the original "Tommy," and our "Tommy" is a "twofers," with the Who's original "Tommy.""

The local airing of the "twofers" effort for this "best of" release is "Siber," "The Trailer," "Siber," "The Who," and "The Who's Original "Tommy."" Each of the album packages will be accompanied by the "Tommy" campaign. In addition, special Roger Daltrey iron-ons and posters are being prepared to promote Roger Daltrey's MCA solo album, "Daltrey." The double LP rock opera "Tommy" by The Who was first released in May 1969. Since then, well over two million copies have been sold, according to Siner.

MCA Records, Inc. will release fifteen double LP sets at the end of March as part of the company's "twofers" catalog, according to Sam Passamano, MCA vice president of sales. These albums will feature music from the big band era of the 1940's. Artists included in this "best of" release are Charlie Barnet, Les Brown, Eddie Condon, Xavier Cugat, Jimmy Dorsey, Tommy Dorsey, Lionel Hampton, Glen Gray, Woody Herman, Gordon Jenkins, Louis Jordan, Artie Kane, Jerry Lewis, Red McCall, Xavier Cugat, and Bob Crosby. Passamano noted long before the death of radio (referring to Stan C omm's famous speech) at this year's NARM convention. MCA has been broadening its merchandising efforts. The sale of the entire "best of" catalog is independent of radio play. Sales promotion has also been "twofer." Each of the album sets included in this special "twofers" list is priced at $7.99. In addition to the new big band double album releases, there are sixty other "twofers" packages.

Dave Wheeler, RCA's national sales manager of Country music, has announced that Apr 1 will be the kick-off date for "Listen America," RCA's spring country promotion. The entire promotion will last six weeks and will include massive advertising, merchandising and promotional campaigns focusing on the company's "twofers" catalog releases and on its recent album releases. The release of the new album promotes its entire Country catalog. The recently released featured albums include: Ronnie Milsap's "A Legend Is Born," Charley Pride's "The Man," and Bobbie Bare's "Happiness," both from RCA. Since the album was released, "Happiness," particularly in demand. The "Listen America," program will also spotlight these April RCA album releases: Bobby Bare's "Happiness," Charley Pride's "Greatest Hits," Jerry Reed's "Mood Your Love," Floyd Cramer's "Masterpieces," and a two-record 19-song soundtrack album of the upcoming April 11th "In Concert," network television show. The album features: Charley Pride, Atkin, Ronnie Milsap, Dolly Parton, Jerry Reed and Gary Stewart.

The entire Phase 4 Records on the London label, is now in the midst of a two month push, according to Herb Goldfarb, vice president of sales and marketing. The Phase 4 catalogue consists of over 161 pop LP's and 102 classical LP's. The advanced promotion plans include large advertising and merchandising efforts for the entire catalogue of 291 titles, including a twenty channel mixer. As part of the promotion, London will continue heavy advertising in both the print and radio media. Order pads and other promotional materials are also available. London RE cords has also undertaken a television campaign to promote the "Engelbert Humperdinck Greatest Hits " series. The TV promotion was first done in England. From April 7 to 10, four television stations in the Philadelphia market will carry the 60 second color spot 32 times per week. This half "heavy saturation" campaign is being backed up with in-store advertising. The package includes excerpts from Humperdinck's 'Release Me.' "Last Waltz," "Spanish Eyes," and "Man Without Love." Motown shipped a new Smokey Robinson LP, "A Quiet Storm" last week and with it a special promotion-display piece, according to director of merchandising, Peter Senoff. The display is a 6 ft. die-cut figure of Smokey holding his new album. The display also doubles as a browser holding up to 25 LP's. Additionally, it illustrates Smokey's catalogue. Smokey for the merchandising campaign, the package also features a billboard on "Sunset Strip" and a four-color streamer illustrating the catalogue is "Take It From Smokey." A Quiet Storm

Steve Park, national account manager, Sky Records, says he has announced the rush release of "Rick Derringer's" second solo LP. Spring Fever. A major merchandising and promotion effort for the album features full-page 4-color print advertising in major rock publications and an extensive radio time buy schedule, as well as specially prepared in-store merchandising tools. Specially devoted local efforts to carry through with the promotion. Spring Fever are being created by the Epic/Custon local promotion force and coordinated by the regional promotion and merchandising managers. In markets across the country, the four-week arrangements are being expanded to radio stations and parties will be held in major markets to present the album to radio personnel and the local press.

Cashbox/Radio

The "Twofers" catalog for Canada, Ltd., has scheduled two major sales and merchandising programs for April. The first one, entitled "The Disco Scene," emphasizes the disco-tique as a means of exposing new product in Canada. Specific items designed for this promotion were chosen to achieve a maximum exposure. A special buy-in disc section in as many accounts as possible. The second merchandising program features Money's "Tall Paul." Davis catalog of six LP's and 10s will be offered as a prepack with a special discount, and a special poster will be given with each unit. Additional units have been purchased to tie in with a Mac Davis give-away contest at major radio stations. The campaign will further be supported by dealer mailings, in-store displays and retail advertising.

Mark Thomas, formerly the A.m.-2 p.m. jock at K-100 in Los Angeles, is the new PD at KAFY in Bakersfield, replacing Mark Daniels, who recently left the station. John Palmer, also at KIS, Ken Griffin, former all-night man and on the air at KIS.

Jack Alexander, MD at KEZY in Anaheim, is putting out a weekly tip sheet called In-Put, call him for a sample.

Galen Scott, mid-morning personality at WIRE, has become the new account executive at WXTZ (both WIRE and WXTZ are owned by Mid-America Radio, Inc., Gary Havens, public service director, promotion director, and utility announcer at the two stations, has been named Scott's air shift. He will continue as promotion director.

Further, Tom Adams, from WXYT to WOR, has been hired at WIRE/WXTZ as public service director, utility announcer and sports back-up, replacing Havens.

Scott O'Neil is the new all-night personality at KMPC.

WABC and WFAN teams will give the CBS Radio Network as an affiliate by mid-September, according to Sherrill E. Taylor, vice president of the CBS Radio Division, for Affiliate Relations. WJW is owned by the Storer chain.

Philip Costin has been named retail sales manager for KFI radio. He was previously general manager at KFI's sister station in the Cox chain, WIOD in Miami.

KMPF personality Roger Carroll has been signed to announce the Perry Como Springtime Special on CBS-TV March 27. Besides his evening shift on KMCP, Carroll also currently announces the Tony Orlando and Dawn. Columbia, McMillen and Willie, and McCloud TV shows.

WIXZ will soon become the only 24-hour country station in Pittsburgh when it switches from a beautiful music format to Drake-Chensaul's Great American country automated format, according to the station's general manager, Tony Renda.

PROMOTIONS AND PROMOTIONS: Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen, planted firmly in the winners circle at Golden Gate Fields race track in San Francisco, spent "A Day at the Races" and played a short set in between each race. Event was co-sponsored by the track and KSAN-FM, which ran a number of spots promoting the event.

KWST hosted the west coast premiere of the Twentieth Century Fox film "Four Musketeers," held in Hollywood last week.

WFLD has body has entered WLAC's latest contest. The station will draw the names of two lucky listeners, who will then fly over the Devil's Triangle and as if that's not enough, then spend a week on a sailing ship in the area. They will call in daily to report any strange occurrences and if they do not return or if they are never seen again, the station will select another pair of listeners to search for them.

WCFL is having a contest that sounds a bit safer. A winner will be drawn from postcard entries for a trip to Los Angeles and a dinner date with Ringo Starr.

WCOL in Columbus, Ohio, has embarked on one of the largest tornado safety campaigns ever undertaken by a private enterprise. With on the air spots and distribution of nearly a quarter of a million "tornado safe spot" stickers (stick them on the wall at home, put, call him, if you're ever in a house,) through public and private schools in the area, the campaign is aimed at alerting the public to the precautions that can be taken in the event of a tornado warning, with special emphasis on what can be done in a private home. The campaign comes almost at the first anniversary of the series of tornadoes that raked the nation's mid-section, causing many deaths and millions of dollars in damage.
MY ELUSIVE DREAMS
Charlie Rich (Epic 8-50064)

I JUST CAN'T GET HER OUT OF MY MIND
Johnny Rodriguez (MRC 73659)

I TELL YOU I'M GONNA GET THERE
Eddy Arnold (Columbia 106)

A LITTLE BIT SOUTH OF SASKATCHEWAN
Sonny James (Col. 3-10072)

THE BARGAIN STORE
Dolly Parton (RCA 10164)

YOU NEVER BEEN MELLOW
Donna Fargo (Col. 017541)

WRITE ME A LETTER
Bobby G. Rice (GRT 016)

ROSES AND LOVE SONGS
Ray Price & Sammy Morrow (MGM 14780)

ALWAYS WANTING YOU
Mervie Haggard (Capitol 4027)

IT DO FEEL GOOD
Bonnie Brown (BMI)

I STILL FEEL THE SAME ABOUT YOU
Bill Anderson (MCA 40351)

BEFORE THE NEXT TEARDROP FALLS
Dickie Finner (ABC 17540)

DON'T LET THE GOOD TIMES GOOL YOU
Melba Montgomery (Epic 43354)

BEST WAY KNOW HOW
Mel Tillis & The Statesiders (Mercury 73661)

YOU MAKE ME WANT TO BE A MOTHER
Ferlin Husky & Wanda Jackson (BMI)

MY BOY
Elvis Presley (RCA 10191)

STILL THINKIN' 'BOUT YOU
Billy Joe Royal (ABC 12068)

BLANKET ON THE GROUND
Johnnie Wright & Syl Johnson (BMI)

THE TEARS FOR A BOY
Loretta Lynn (Capitol 4027)

ROLL ON BIG MAMA
Joe Stampley (Epic 8-50078)

PROUD OF YOU BABY
Bob Luman (Epic 8-50065)

I CAN STILL HEAR THE MUSIC IN THE RESTROOM
Jerry Lee Lewis (Mercury 73661)

HE TURNED IT INTO LOVE AGAIN
Lynn Anderson (Cap. 3-10019)

THE TIPS OF MY FINGERS
Jean Shepard (U A 591)

MATHILDA
Donny Gaye (WB 5017)

LONELY MEN, LONELY WOMEN
Connie Smith (ABC/Dot 15002)

ANOTHER SOMEBODY DONE SOMEBODY WRONG SONG
J J Thomas (ABC/Dot 14778)

LEAVE IT UP TO ME
Billy Larkin (Bryan 1016)

UPROOT
Anne Murray (Capitol 4025)

SMOKEY MOUNTAIN MEMORIES
Merle Street (GRT 017)

SOUFLFUL WOMAN
Charlie Rich (Capitol 5022)

SHE'S ACTING SINGLE
Skeeter Davis (Capitol 4022)

WHO'S SORRY NOW
Marie Osmond (MGM 14785)

IS THIS ALL THERE IS TO A HONKY TOWN
Jerry Naylor (Melodyland 6003)

WONDER WHEN MY BABY'S COMIN' HOME
Barbara Mandrell (Cap. 3-10082)

LOVING YOU BEATS ALL I'VE EVER BEEN
Johnny Paycheck (Epic 50073)

I GOT A LOT OF HURTIN' DONE TODAY
Conway Twitty (MCA 40359)

LINDA ON MY MIND
Conway Twitty (MCA 40339)

OH BOY
Diana Davis (ABC/Dot 15756)

ALL AMERICAN GIRL
Starrer Brothers (MRC 73665)

I AIN'T ALL BAD
Charlie Pride (RCA PB 10236)

WINDOW UP ABOVE
Mickey Gilley (Playboy 6031)

TOO LATE TO WORRY, TOO BLUE TO CRY
Ronnie Milsap (RCA 12228-A)

A MAN NEEDS LOVE
David Houston (Epic 8-50066)

CHARLEY IS MY NAME
Johnny Duncan (Dot 3-10085)

BACK HOME IN HUNTSVILLE AGAIN
Bobby Bare (RCA 10223)

DO YOU LOVE ME
Ronnie Milsap (Decca 40143)

WHOEVER TURNED YOU ON
Little David Wilkins (MCA 40345)

MISTY
Ray Stevens (Barrabub 614)

TRY TO BEAT THE MORNING HOME
"G" Shepard (Melodyland 60006)

SWEET COUNTRY MUSIC
Ricky Fills ("50 States" F331)

YOU'RE GONNA LOVE YOURSELF IN THE MORNING
Roy Clark (ABC/Dot 17545)

COMIN' HOME TO YOU
Jerry Wallace (MGM 14788)

WORD GAMES
Billy Walker (RCA 10205)

BUT I DO
Del Reeves (United Artists 593)

THOSE DAYS I BARELY GET BY
George Jones (Epic 50070)

FROM BARROOMS TO BEDROOMS
David Wilkis (Epic 50070-D)

COVER
Sammi Smith (Mega 1222)

MAMA DON'T LOW
Hank Thompson (Dot 904-1754)

I JUST CAME HOME TO COUNT THE MEMORIES
Bobby Wright (ABC 12062)

PUT YOUR HAND ON MY SHOULDER
Sunday Sahara (UA 4962-A)

LIFE'S LIKE POETRY
Lefty Frizzell (ABC 12061)

LIVE YOUR LIFE BEFORE YOU DIE
The Porter Sisters (ABC/Dot 9762)

by BILL ANDERSON
from his hit album
"EVERY TIME I TURN THE RADIO ON/TALK TO ME OHIO"
MCA 454
singles

DON WILLIAMS (Dot DOA 17550)
You're My Best Friend (2:43) (Don Williams Music - BMI) (W. Holbyfield)
Don's unmistakable style is at work on this tender ballad telling his woman that above all the things she does for him, she's also his best friend. Written by Waylon Holbyfield and self-produced, it's right in line with Don's other hits. Flip: No info. available.

JERRY REED (RCA 10247)
Mind Your Love (2:50) (Vector Music - BMI) (J. R. Hubbard)
Taken from his LP of the same name, and produced by Jerry and Chet Atkins, the story is of taking care of a good love while you have it. Production and vocals are different for Jerry, but lend the air of another chart topper for him. Flip: No info. available.

JERRY WALLACE (United Artists XW1618X)
All I Want Is You (2:36) (Tree - BMI) (L. Butler)
Produced just like Jerry is going to enjoy chart action on two singles on two labels at the same time. Jerry's telling his lady no matter what she offers him, it's not going to be enough, all he wants is her. Vocals are classic of the Jerry Wallace style. Flip: No info. available.

NARVEL FEELS (ABC/Dot DOA 17549)
Reconsider Me (3:27) (Sherley Singleton Music - BMI) (M. Lewis, M. Smith)
Narvel starts his association with ABC/Dot off to a bang with a solid uptempo tune destined to be one of his best. Produced by Johnny Morrison, Narvel has definitely put all of his well-known talents into this one. Flip: No info. available.

MAC DAVIS (Columbia 3-10011)
(If You Add) All The Love In The World (3:33) (Big Mitzi Music/Mashey Music - ASCAP) (I. Page)
Mac's powerful vocals deliver a message to all the people in the world on the subject of passion, a little love around. Excellent production will help this record on its way to all markets. Flip: No info. available.

ROGER MILLER (Columbia 3-10107)
Love A Rodeo (2:33) (Alhorn Music - BMI) (R. Miller)
Roger delivers this light-hearted tune with the Miller finesse. Vocals are warm and easy and lyric happy. Productions are exactly what was intended to make this one sure to please all markets. Flip: No info. available.

JACKY WARD (Mercury 73667)
Stealin' (2:44) (Jack & Bill - ASCAP) (J. Foster, B. Rice)
From the multi-talented pens of Foster and Rice comes another dynamic song and Jacky is just the artist to sing it. Vocals on this slightly uptempo tune are superb as well as production, making for a sure hit. Flip: No info. available.

LAWANDA LINDSEY: Capitol P4080
Postcard Blues (1:42) (Blue Book - BMI) (Michael K. McCormack)
Produced by Jim Shaw. Lawanda's latest single is an uptempo telling of her woe because all her man ever sends her is a postcard. Bouncy production will help this one find its way onto the charts. Flip: No info. available.

MELANIE (Neighborhood 10-001)
Sweet Misery (2:37) (Neighborhood Music - BMI) (M. Saka)
MELANIE's easy vocals and selection of material makes her open to any market. Her lilting vocals tell the tale of loving her man to any extent that may be necessary to keep him. Production builds and the listening is easy on the ear. Flip: No info. available.

REG LINDSAY: Con Brio CBK 102 A
Takin' A Chance (2:47) (Debdeve-Briarpatch - BMI) (E. Stevens, E. Rabbit)
A new artist again records a tune from the pens of Even Stevens and Eddie Rabbit to make him his first hit. Vocals are rich, as well as good uptempo production, all combining to give lots of airplay on this song about a man who thinks he'll take a chance just one more time. Flip: There You Go (Running Down My Cheek Again) (2:47) (Wil- jex - ASCAP) (L. Lindh)

THE COUNTRY CAVALIERS: Country Showcase America 160
Lady On The Run (2:33) (R. Marenco Music - SESAC) (C. Black, R. Marenco)
The Cavaliers are in fine shape on this tune, using the production talents of Ricci Marenco, to aid in telling their tale. Vocals are slightly different from the usual as is choice of material, all blend well to make it an all around good sounding record. Flip: We Were Made For Each Other (2:08) (Zant - BMI) (J. Maravel, B. Good)

JIM SINGLE: Bang 716
Famous Man (2:37) (Web IV - BMI) (J. Single)
Bang Records is here to stay, first with Paul Davis and now with Jim Single. Jim's tale of his lady leaving, doesn't bother him, he's gonna be a Famous Man anyway. Flip: Your First Fool (2:19) (Web IV - BMI) (J. Single)

JAY RAYMUST (Casablanca 820)
Smokey Mountain Cowboy (2:38) (Surety - BMI) (J. Ramsey)
Already gathering airplay in several markets, this tune is a slightly uptempo tale of a man's reminiscence of his mistress. As he tells us his woman of his favorite he reminds her that he will always be just like him. Excellent vocals and production will garner more markets for this one. Flip: Sunshine In My Morning (2:19) (Surety - BMI) (J. Ramsey)

LP's

BOOGIE WOOGIE COUNTRY MAN - Jerry Lee Lewis - Mercury SMR-1-1030
The Killer gives us a new LP with every note the Jerry Lee that everyone knows and loves. Selections include Remember Me (I'm The One Who Loves You), I'm Still Jealous Of You, Forever Forgiving, his current chart single, I Can Still Hear The Music In The Restroom, Thanks For Nothing, and Boogie Woogie Country Man, the title track. Produced by Jerry Kennedy it's sure to be one of Jerry's fastest selling LP's.

CHARLIE MY BOY - Charlie McCoy - Monument KZ 33384
Charlie "My Boy" McCoy just keeps turning out dynamic packages. There seems to be no end to what he can do, and it's only right that there is no limit. This self-produced LP includes The Twelfth Of Never, The Persuader, I Honestly Love You, his current single Everybody Stand Up And Holler For The Union, and Sweet Memories. Definitely another collector's item from the Real McCoy.

ALIVE & PICKIN' - Doug Kershaw - WB 0698
Producer: Buddy Killen
This album recorded live in Atlanta is packed with pure excitement from start to finish. Doug's vast talents are on spotlight as he shows his remarkable skill on the violin and accordian. His vocal range is vast from his tender ballads to country barn-storming pea-picking stompers. An album both country and rock fans will enjoy. Our favorites are Big Bunny Lo, "Alive & Pickin' and Louisiana Man." This could be a strong crossover contender.

ROY CLARK SINGS GOSPEL - Word WST 8654
Produced by Joe Allison. Roy steps out of his "picken' and singing tracks to put his talents to work with a field he's always wanted to do gospel. This is a collection of songs that is well done by a master of music. Selections include Magnificent Sanctuary Band, He Is My Everything, And A Closer Walk With Thee, A Brand New Day and Put Your Hand In The Hand. Roy's millions of fans will agree that this is a classic collection from the incredible Roy Clark.

THE DANNY DAVIS SINGERS - RCA AL 1-0091
The Singers' composed of all males, are definitely good listening. The voices blend beautifully and material selections are just right for them. Produced by Bob Ferguson, the selections include traditional songs, Born To Lose, You're Walls, and Singing The Blues and modern sounds Let Me Be There. Behind Closed Doors, and There Goes My Everything. The package is delightful listening destined to please all markets.

CHUCK PRICE (Playboy 6030)
Cheatin' Again (2:40) (Owwarz - BMI) (Larry Kingston)
Chuck enjoyed much success with his last single and will garner even more with this uptempo 'cheatin' song. He even goes so far as to ask God to help him quit by setting fire to the bed! Flip: No info. available.

MAC CURTIS (Raiwood 1017)
Pistol Packin' Mama (2:28) (Vouge Music - BMI) (Al Dexte)
A rockin' uptempo rendition of Al Dexter's classic tune. Mac's voice is rich and full of fire lending the ear a hit to this one. Flip: Same - short version.

EMMYLOU HARRIS (Reprise 1326)
Too Far Gone (3:30) (Al Gallico Music - BMI) (B. Sherrill)
Taken from her first LP titled Pieces Of The Sky. Emmylou uses lifting vocals on this powerful ballad. Talent flows smoothly to impress you with the fact that Emmylou Harris is destined to be a superstar. Flip: No info. available.
Hal Howard Appointed Electra Marketing Manager

ELK GROVE VILLAGE, ILL. — The appointment of Hal Howard to the newly created post of marketing manager has been announced by Electra Games sales vp. Tom Herrick.

Howard, a specialist in the field of marketing electronic video products was formerly with Motorola as an area sales manager and subsequently marketing manager. During his years with the giant electronics company, Howard developed a marketing plan to implement the company's entrance into the games components area.

During this period he became well acquainted with the electronic video games industry and many of its manufacturers and distributors.

"Hal's basic functions at Electra will be in the promotion of our line of games," said Herrick, "and in this capacity he will be helping to develop marketing strategy and will also be calling on both distributors and operators out in the field.

The company indicated it was soon breaking with a new game.

Midway Moves To Franklin Park

CHICAGO — Midway Manufacturing Company is moving its entire operation from Schiller Park to a new, more spacious facility in suburban Franklin Park, Illinois at 10750 Grand Avenue. The new factory complex will occupy approximately 90,000 sq. ft. of space, which is more than double the size of the firm's former premises, allowing considerably increased footage for production, loading, service, office and all other departments of the company.

The new site is expected to be ready for occupancy by April 1. All departments would be in operation at the Franklin Park plant by this date, with the exception of the firm's printed circuit division which, because of the precision equipment involved, will be relocated at a slower pace.

The new plant is choicely located in an area which is easily accessible to O'Hare airport and bounded by expressways and tollways, as a further convenience for customers. There are also numerous hotels and motels in the vicinity for the accommodation of out of town visitors.

Among current amusement machines in production at Midway are "Wheels," the firm's video driving game and a compact version of the unit called "Racer".

Cashbox Coin Machine News

Nevada Gaming Commission
Grants Bally Gambling License

To Acquire Bally Distributing Outlets In Nevada

CHICAGO — The Nevada Gaming Commission approved the recommendation of the Nevada Gaming Control Board to register Bally Manufacturing Corp. (NASDAQ: BALLY) as a licensee in the state.

The registration permit was granted.

Electra Bows UFO Chase TV

ELK GROVE VILLAGE, ILL. — Electra Games has announced the release of its new electronic video game, "UFO Chase: a fast moving, two-player combat game which pits two "space vehicles" against each other in the deep blue of space.

The object of the game for each player is to score points by ramming or bombing his opponent. Each spacecraft, one black and one white, is controlled by a joystick below which is a bomb-release button. The vehicles can be guided multividentally either to attack or evade. The length of the game is fully adjustable and is normally divided into 6 time frames of approximately 15 seconds each.

Each of the two players, thus, has three separate periods as both the aggressor and the pursued. As the attack vehicle, the player seeks out his opponent and can score 5 points by ramming him or 10 points by dropping a bomb on him. At the impact of a ramming or bombing there is a crash sound and the pursued spacecraft breaks up momentarily signaling the scoring points. The attack ship, however, is vulnerable to a random hit by the two moving asteroids which can deduct 3 points from his total score.

When his time is up, the attack ship becomes the pursued and vice versa, the change being signaled by a blanking of the TV screen and an accompanying sound "beep. The former attacker then becomes the attacked and must twist and turn his course and dive to stay out of range.

The game features three URLs sound modules and a total of six different sounds including motor sounds for each vehicle and bomb explosions. The game may be set for either 25 or 50 play and is packaged in a sturdy cabinet with wood-grained vinyl covering. It has a dual coin system accessible from the front. The TV monitor is solid state.

but must be reapplied in each of the next three years.

The commission also approved the license and continued service of Bill O'Donnell as Bally's president, and Sam Klein, a vice president and director, was also licensed.

In an effort to better regulate Bally which currently supplies approximately 90% of Nevada's slot machines, the Nevada Gaming Commissioner Peter Echeverria stated "I want the men who have responsible positions and substantial stock to be ultimately responsible for what the company does."

In granting the gaming license, it was understood that Bally would divest its mini-casino operations in Scandinavia, convert its foreign operating percentage arrangements to fixed rentals within six months, cancel one of its distributorship arrangements and eventually make a tender offer under a market formula intended to insure retirement before conversion, its privately placed $12 million subordinated debenture.

The divestiture of Bally's mini-casino operations in Scandinavia, according to Bally management, is not expected to have any meaningful impact upon earnings.

The commission permitted Alex Wims to withdraw his application contingent upon his resignation from one of Bally's subsidiaries, Bally Continental, within nine months. Wims recently resigned as a Bally director.

The company in its own motion, agrees to use its best efforts to elect to the Bally board of directors a resident of Nevada. The nominee would be knowledgeable in matters pertaining to gaming policies. The commission accepted this motion.

The licensing approval now authorizes Bally to proceed in its plans to purchase Bally Distributing Co. of Nevada, its Nevada distributor.

Century's 'WHEELS' And 'RACER'

A New Line Of Computer Animated Games Are Here... And More Are On Their Way.

see MIDWAY'S

"WHEELS"

And "RACER"

Centuries 'WORLD SERIES'

game
Bally — Big Coin Business On An International Scope

CHICAGO — Bally Manufacturing Corp. President William T. O’Donnell in a statement accompanying the firm’s 1971 annual report to stockholders said, “In 1971 Bally Manufacturing Corp. continued to move rapidly ahead on a worldwide basis. The results were new record levels of revenues and profits together with strong growth both internally and through acquisition.” He further indicated that the firm would intensify its growth and expansion program throughout the decade of the seventies. Bally’s significant accomplishments, in the subsequent three-year period, add impetus to O’Donnell’s statement.

The firm has been enjoying considerable success in the area of equipment operation. Through its subsidiary, American Amusement Corp. (formerly Carousel Time), numerous Aladdin Castle arcades have been established in various areas of the country. The arcades are set up in shopping malls, on a long-term basis and, as indicated by Bally’s director of marketing, Ross Scheer, they are presently in operation in about fifty locations nationwide.

Since introducing its first pinball machine “Ballyhoo” in 1931, when Bally Manufacturing Co. was formed as a division of the then parent company Lion Manufacturing Corp., flippers have been an integral part of Bally’s manufacturing operation and account for a sizable percentage of the firm’s total annual production output. Citing the firm’s consistent progress in the production and marketing of flipper units Ross Scheer said, “We have made steady gains in our flipper market and have been enjoying a substantial increase in volume sales of our units. The Bally flipper is a quality product geared to sustain high earnings on location, and through the efforts of our highly skilled engineering and technical staff, we have succeeded in producing a simplified mechanism for ease of servicing.”

Scheer mentioned the firm’s extensive research and development programs in function at the various Bally facilities in Chicago, Reno, Nevada and elsewhere, for the purpose of exploring and testing new ideas and methods for future use in Bally products. The Nevada facility has been channeling a great deal of research effort into the electronics field. “Many of the innovations conceived through our R&D programs will figure prominently in the future production plans of both Bally and our subsidiary, Midway Manufacturing Co.,” he said, adding “Continuous research enables us to produce equipment that functions efficiently in the field, is simple to operate and maintain, and competitively priced.”

Bally is a major producer of pinball games to supply the extensive overseas market for this particular type of equipment, as well as the very limited domestic market, inasmuch as pinball games are prohibited in a large portion of the U.S. The units are legal, however, in such states as Nevada, Tennessee, Virginia, S. Carolina and Illinois. Japan and Belgium are among the most lucrative foreign markets continued on pg. 32
Our games outlast the players.

Fred and Flora have been playing Flim Flam for quite a long time, about two years in fact. But they, like millions of other Flim Flam Video Game Table Players, just never want to quit! And our Flim Flam Table just keeps gobbling up change.

Because of its durability and popularity—it will be around for a long time. What other video game table has a 24-month (or 24,000 players—whichever comes first) warranty on all computer boards? That's what happens when you've got something great. We know how to update, not outdate, a popular game. That way, we keep Fred and Flora happy—and the game owner happy, too.

Flim Flam Video Cocktail Tables are designed with the creativity and quality that not only makes a game exciting, but keeps it entertaining for years.

It has features such as:
- 2, 3 or 4 player positions
- Adjustable 11 or 15 point play
- Huge 19” green tinted screen
- Expert, pro and novice (Fred and Flora are experts) paddle sizes
- No dead spots
- Full court lines
- Weighs only 130 lbs.
- And of course, virtually no service-calls (Fred and Flora get upset when they have to stop playing)

Call your National Entertainment Co. distributor:
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In California Toll Free (800) 672-3557
3031 Tisch Way, San Jose, California 95128

Flim Flam Video Game Table from Meadows Games, Inc. and National Entertainment Co., Inc.

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Something new from Ebonite!


Something proven from Ebonite!
The reliable Futurion coin table with time-tested maintenance ease and profitability. Available for immediate delivery.

Want to know more? Call or write Aaron Goldsmith, Ebonite Coin-operated Products.

Ebonite Corp.,
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14000 N. W. 57th Ct.
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Do you have old video games?
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Then give them a new life!

Just convert that old video game to a cocktail game table, and start making profits again. EDCO Video Cocktail Table Kit allows you to do this fast and inexpensively.

Our kit is complete. All you have to do is exchange components from your old game to the EDCO VCT Kit, and voilà, you're off to the races! We are fully equipped to handle this for you.

Our kit is a strong and beautifully designed cabinet with a top of strong and durable black Formica, dark walnut cabinet accents with a hardwood trim to give an all around appearance of a game table.

For information call or write

EDCO Mfg. & Service Co.
9512 Jefferson Boulevard
Culver City, California 90230
Telephone: 213/836-3603

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Seeburg Distributors In Closed Meet

NEW YORK — A closed meeting of Seeburg executives and the company’s independent and branch office principals was held at the Park Lane Hotel here last Tuesday (25) to discuss the ramifications of SEGA’s proposed purchase of the Williams Electronics subsidiary, as well as their proposed acquisition of the South Atlantic branch office chain.

It was learned from several reliable industry sources that certain of the branch office heads were offered first refusal to buy their outlets from the parent company. In fact, we have reliable information that several branch heads are now in the process of arranging for capital for that very purpose.

This actually marks the first reversal in the jukebox industry’s many-year trend toward absorption of distribution outlets by the phonograph factories.

Bally: Future Bright

(continued)

Bally: Future Bright

kets for bingos. Bally has been producing a rather sophisticated bingo unit but, with the emergence of a whole new generation of players, a more simplified model has been designed to satisfy the current market.

With the purchase in 1963 of the major assets of Bally’s ancestral firm Lion Manufacturing Corp. by a group of businessmen headed by William T. O’Donnell, Bally’s field of operations was expanded to the manufacture and sale of a new type of slot-machine, which rapidly gained worldwide popularity and ultimately accounted for a major portion of the firm’s total business. At present, the U.S. market for slot machines is Nevada; however, proposed bills to legalize gambling are currently pending in such areas as Wyoming, S. Dakota and some counties in Maryland, as Ross Scheer pointed out. Passage of such legislation would obviously create a considerably expanded domestic market for this equipment. “We would like to impress upon state governments the high potential of the slot machine as a source of providing increased revenues,” Scheer said. “It’s actually one of the best instruments available for collecting taxes!”

He mentioned the wide selection of slot currently marketed by Bally both domestically and overseas, stressing the diversified style, design and play method of the various units. The Bally factory in Ireland produces an assortment of models for the specific territories of England and Australia. Gunter Wulf Apparatebau, another of the firm’s foreign subsidiaries, presently services the very flourishing gaming market of West Germany.

Domestically and overseas, Bally Manufacturing Corp. has grown and prospered, commensurate with the expanding worldwide influence of coin-operated amusement and gaming equipment. There are Bally subsidiaries and affiliates in such countries as Australia, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, France, Guan, Ireland, Japan, Sweden, Finland and Germany. Firm’s U.S. holdings include Advance Automatic Sales Co. of San Francisco, Diemaster, Inc. of Elmhurst, III.; Empire Dist. Inc. of Chicago; Great Lakes Acceptance Co. of Southfield, Mich.; Len Smith Mfg. Co. of Cicero, III.; MIDWAY Mfg. Co. of Schiller Park, Ill.; Original Equipment Motors, Inc. of Crystal Lake, Ill.; Palmer Industries, Ltd. of Chicago and Robert Jones International of Dedham, Mass. The firm has very production, marketing, engineering and service facilities in Chicago at its Belmont Ave. headquarters and the surrounding area.
Round the Route

EASTERN FLASHES

The BIG DO IN TOWN last week was closed meeting of Seeburg brass and their independent and factory-owned distributor principles. Very hush, hush, but the grapevines seem to agree that recent purchase by SEG A of the William's amusement plus from this year's show, the firm for use in the key-punching area, and the top line South Atlantic chain to SEG A, were tops on the agenda. Heard further word that certain of the company-owned distribution branches just might be heading for an independent status. If that is the case, the firm is certainly going to be looking pretty high on the list.

Jerry Porter, dependent, South family atmosphere to prevail in the distribution program. Dist. sales manager of Super Trade with Bally, the passing of Fred Bergquist, Theatre; "Wheels" was had by John Bergquist...Abbott in town this week for the release of "A Goose That Laid the Golden Eggs," was his major reason they had been in the area. The union of Abbott with Artistic was just a matter of time, says Larry Berke described it, and the whole story is "to be made for the 'sofisticated location'"...Incidently, since Midway has been trying to conduct business as usual during the hectic period of the factory's move into its new Franklin Park facilities, customers are being asked to exert a little patience until the move is completed. At presstime last week. Larry said that production lines were already in operation at the new plant and that other departments would, hopefully, be all settled in the facilities by the end of the week.

CHICAGO CHATTER

The upcoming MOA seminar at Notre Dame University, Apr. 25 and 26, promises to be a very informative and, by present indications, a very well attended event, according to MOA's Fred Granger who has already recorded a substantial advance registration. He said the seminar was discussed at length during the association's recent board meeting in New Orleans and an informal survey of board members revealed interesting ideas and methods on "Developing and Evaluating New Location Potential," one of the three seminar topics. The material was forwarded to the university professors who will be conducting the sessions. If this seminar succeeds to the extent we expect, Granger said, "we will undoubtedly schedule one for next year, in a different area of the country.

RACING, the compact version of the big selling 'Wheels' video driving game is being sampled by Midway this week by Larry Berke described it, is made to order for the 'sophisticated location'...Incidently, since Midway has been trying to conduct business as usual during the hectic period of the factory's move into its new Franklin Park facilities, customers are being asked to exert a little patience until the move is completed. At presstime last week. Larry said that production lines were already in operation at the new plant and that other departments would, hopefully, be all settled in the facilities by the end of the week.

ON THE SUBJECT OF QUARTER PLAY: Peoria, Illinois operator Les Montooth, whose route is exclusively music, predicts that "within two years at the most," the industry will see a substantial conversion to one for a quarter, three for a half, on phonographs. He's been testing this pricing, most successfully, on his own route and has noticed an increased acceptance at locations and no noticeable reluctance, on the part of customers, to play the machines. As for quad sound. Les said his collections on the quad units are "about double — and that's not bad!" He also made mention of the vast improvement of recorded product — which should certainly please the record companies, in view of the many complaints ops have registered in the past.

The records we've been buying lately are of much better quality. Les said, and we at Midway also report that record suppliers are offering more reasonably priced reissues which are more reasonably priced and not too long for juke box programming!

THE RECENT 2-DAY Bally-Midway service school at Shafter Distg. Co. in Columbus was a big success, we understand — and expectedly, since the sessions were conducted by Midway's Andy Ducaly and Bally's Tom Hata and Dick Linkens!

PAUL GALLIS, independent promotion man in the Chicago-Milwaukee market, has been introduced to a new single which he feels has high potential as a juke box hit. Title is "Brass Buckles," by Sheila Tillon on the Combat label.

We EXTEND BELATED birthday greetings to Tony Galagano of Gaigano Dist. here, who annually shares his big day with St. Patrick. — on March 17!

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London

An eleven-day tour by the partnership of Ian Hunter (ex-lead singer with Mott The Hoople) and Mick Ronson (ex-guitarist with Bowie's Spiders) ended on Apr. 2 after which the duo head to the States to play dates before taking up residence there CBS will issue an "Ian Hunter" album whilst RCA will issue a solo album by Ronson to follow up his current "Tonight's the Night" album.

Terry Oates has resigned as managing director of Compass Music. Explained Oates, "the Company should be run are fundamentally in disagreement with the policies being implemented, and much of which I feel compelled to resign. Oates took control of Compass four years ago and, in addition to representing the teen idol of Larry Shayne Music Inc which includes the bulk of Henri Mancini catalog throughout the world excluding the U.S. and Canada. Oates has been responsible for expanding the Compass catalog to include many important U.K. copyrights. Oates has no future plans but will "wait to see what turns up."

TV advertising has proved successful for Gordon Mills since Engelbert Humperdinck's "Blue Moon" has been a success with TV advertising campaigns in Japan and now I am launching a multi-thousand dollar push for these two albums in the U.S. tied in city by city with their 1975 concert tours. A new Tom Jones European tour is also being planned.

Noel Gay's general manager Ron McCreight has dined several realignments for the company's catalog and copyrights around the world including a catalog deal with MusicSpree for South Africa and with Riti Music in Italy. Noel Gay has also acquired Norway's Eurovision entry "Touch My Life (With Summer)" by Ellen Nikolaysen. The Dave Mindel-Gary Benson copyright "Don't Throw It All Away" which was a finalist for the U.K. entry has been included at all the Above and title has also been assigned to Famous Music (U.S.)

Perelance in the MOR/EMI series feature such names as Matt Munro, Ron Goodwin, Franke Vaughan, Moira Anderson, Roberta Roll and compilation album from Edith Piaf, most of the tracks of which are released in this country for the first time.

Columbia Bolsters Japan Business Wing

TOKYO — Together with the reformation of the structure of the company to strengthen its record department, Takami Shobochi, president of Nippon Columbia, has assumed continued control of business affairs of his company. Shobochi disclosed the new policy at a party which was held at the Hotel Hibiya Mar. 12. In his address, Shobochi said as follows:

"Japan's economy is still in a very difficult position. The business managing policy which depended upon the high promotional activities will not be functional from now on. In other words, Japan's economy, we can say, is in a severe crisis. The managers of business enterprises have to assume policy in accordance with stability or low growth economy. To meet these objectives we have to change the feeling in or outside of the company through personnel administration."

At the same time, the top staff of the company should accept the responsibility for the unfavorable results. From this point of view, I myself have taken the office as the chief of the Japan department for record. The reconstruction of Nippon Columbia will not be possible unless strong man continues. I'm going to make our company worthy of its 65-year-old history.

Canada

Evert Garretsen, president of Polydor Ltd. in Canada, has post to take on the position of general manager of Polydor B.V. in the Netherlands. One of his first tasks will be the organization of co-hosting with RPM of the film, "Tommy", of which Polydor has the soundtrack.

David George has been signed to A&M and he is currently working with producer John Stewart. A single is expected the label to change.

Robert Bone has been appointed branch manager for WEAs west coast promotion (Vancouver) and replaces Bill McCartney who leaves the company after an association of five and a half years.

London Records is now into an aggressive Rolling Stones promotion. Theme of the promotion is "The World's Greatest Live and Roll Band on London Where It All Began."

Motown Canada has appointed Alta Music Distribution as exclusive distributor for Motown product in Quebec and the Maritimes. The firm is headed by Alan Guillemette who was formerly with London Records.

Toronto's Thunder Studio has been burning the midnight oil with label and commercial work. On the label front Ian Tyson has been using the studio to produce his latest album "Sylvia" and should have an album ready shortly for release by Capitol. Skip Prokop, founder of Lighthouse and now being kept busy as a producer since leaving the group, has been cutting a session for Small Wonder. Label and release information not available to the producers using Thunder include: David Eissig, working with Willie P. Bennett and Terry Brown, and Joe Huffman preparing a session for Attic's latest signing, Magic Music. A&M is mounting a heavy promotion for "I'm Your Girl" by their artists nominated for Juno Awards. These include: Gino Vannelli (Most Promising Male Artist), Celia Cruz (Most Promising Female Artist), Boz Scaggs (Most Promising Male Artist), Linda Brown (Country Female Artist), Ian Foster (Country Male Artist), and Vicky (Folk Singer)."
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