EDITORIAL

Metalmania Sweeps Into Yuppieville

Michael Hutchins of INXS interviewed by Jane Pauley on NBC’s Today show? Eddie Van Halen, accompanied by Sammy Hagar, the entire Van Halen band and all the members of Scorpion, Dokken and Metallica host a full-media press conference, everybody whose anybody shows up and news of a pending nine-hour heavy metal concert makes national news headlines?

Something’s happening here.

Concert promoters confirm that they no longer look to teens to fill up the venue when Rush or Yes or David Lee Roth come to town. Not by a long shot. This audience is now primarily 25-40; perhaps because the stars are also 25-40 (and above). Heavy metal then, is no longer the music of the rebellious young, making their show one long, loud vulgar gesture against the establishment. Rather it is, ever-increasingly, the music of the establishment. And this establishment enjoys itself. It is a generation not of vipers but of indulgers.

Indulgers not in the sense of drugging-out, but of dining out. Indulgers who don’t hesitate to cater to their audiophile whims, or to satisfy their fashion preferences. And, somewhere along the line, their musical tastes jumped from Julio Iglesias to Guns and Roses and the rock industry began to take note.

Those of you who still smile when you think of Johnny Mathis crooning “Chances Are,” better look for sanctuary. Head for the hills all you lovers of Manhattan Transfer, Creedence Clearwater, and rock the way Elvis rolled it... we are at the dawn of new heavy metal day, and it looks like we might have a meltdown.

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WINNER’S CIRCLE

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Times Two
Reprise

Cash Box research from both radio and retail activity indicates the following record exhibits Top Ten potential.
talks
directly to
Radio & Retail
each and
every week.
THE POWER OF “FAITH.”
The No. 1 album sold with three consecutive No. 1 singles: "Faith" and "Father Figure." Over 4 million copies sold worldwide, covering 10 million in the U.S. over 8 months, an 8-month tour, and coming to America this summer.

WRITTEN, ARRANGED AND PRODUCED BY GEORGE MICHAEL.
“FAITH”
Includes the
newest single
and next
No. 1 hit,
“One More Try.”

“FAITH”
Something
you can
believe in...
from
George Michael.
Jazz Great Gil Evans Dies

NEW YORK—Gil Evans, one of the most well-respected and wide-ranging arrangers in jazz history, died March 20 of peritonitis in Cuernavaca, Mexico, where he was recuperating from prostate surgery.

Evans, born Ian Green in Canada, first came to national prominence during the Swing Era with a set of haunting, classical-tinted arrangements for the Claude Thornhill Orchestra; charts that blended such instruments as harps and tubas into the dance band wash. Many of the charts were revamps of bebop hits, though, and his rhythms more liquid than those of bebop bands.

The work caught the attention of Miles Davis, who found in Evans a musical soulmate. Their first collaboration was as part of the elaboration of the "Cool" band that Davis assembled for a series of concerts and Capitol recording sessions in 1949 and ’50. The impressionistic nature of the music was a tonic to the more hectic sounds of bebop and swing, and, though the bar was high, it was the public, the nonet had an enormous impact on the jazz of the next decade. Evans and Davis, along with John Lewis, Gerry Mulligan, and a number of others, continued the trend towards melodicism and classicism that Evans had spearheaded in the Thornhill band.

Through the mid-'50s Evans scored numerous pop vocal sessions before hooking up again with Miles Davis, in 1957, for Miles Ahead, an album that placed Davis’ pinpoint, romantic trumpet-playing in Evans’ arrangements. The album was a smashing success and it began an extraordinary series of Davis-Evans collaborations, including the landmark Sketches of Spain and Porgy and Bess. The Davis-Evans albums were all made for Columbia (later CBS, I think) and all have remained in print to this day (they are now available on CD as well). Although Davis and Evans ended their collaborations in the early-’60s, the two remained fast friends, and Evans provided vocal and musical aid for many of Davis’ other recordings, including Bitches Brew and the more recent Columbia and Warner Bros. albums.

Around the same time he began working with Miles Davis, Gil Evans started making records under his own name, star-studded outings that spotlighted his unique arrangements and his musical catholicity. Beginning with Gil Evans Plus 10, the albums, recorded for a variety of labels, included such classics as Out of the Cool, The Individualism of Gil Evans and Great Jazz Standards. Again, most of the albums were made today, and most have now seen CD reissues.

During the late-‘60s, Evans’ musical curiosity led him into the waters of rock and ‘n roll, as he began experimenting with electronic instruments and rock and R&B rhythms, about the same time that Miles Davis was treading more pop-oriented waters. A planned collaboration with Jimi Hendrix turned into a Hendrix memorial LP after the guitarist’s death and, in recent years, Evans has formed a lusty, jazz-meets-rock ensemble that generally sitting-in with such names as Phil Collins, rolling on Hendrix as dissectioning the music of Monk or Mingus. The Gil Evans Orchestra has been a popular jazz festival attraction during the ‘80s and, from 1983 until January of this year, it held down a usually-SRO Monday night at New York’s Symphony Space, where it recorded live (Gramavision has released several of those albums, originally recorded for Japan’s King Records, with several more on-deck).

Over the past several years, Evans had greatly increased his visibility, scoring up his latest, one of the landmark professions (Absolute Beginners, The Color of Money) and appearing on the most recent albums by Sting and Robbie Robertson. Sting was so taken with Evans that he frequently showed up at Sweet Basil on Monday nights, sitting in with the band and he did a concert with the band at Italy’s Umbria Jazz Festival last summer.

His last recording sessions were (Continued on page 14)

Windham Hill Appeals To Kids And Yuppies

Elite Children’s CD Rabbit Ears Line Flourishes

LOS ANGELES, CA—If the Windham Hill Rabbit Ears CD series were books, they would be leather-bound, gilt edge volumes with illustrations by the likes of Maxfield Parrish, Arthur Rackham and Kate Greenaway. That is their immediate appeal: to the visual senses of the adult buyer rather than to the less sophisticated graphic taste of children. It is the diametric opposite of the Disney philosophy, playing off “elegant” rather than “cute.” And the Windham Hill philosophy is apparently working. The CD’s are showpieces in the fashion of a tastefully understated suit by Coco Chanel; meant to catch the eye of a discriminating parent.

The narrators are Hollywood’s elite: Jack Nicholson, Cher, Muriel Streep, Jeremy Irons. The accompaniment are provided by such creme de la creme performers/composers as Bobby McFerrin, Michael Hedges, Art Lande and others from the A list. The stories themselves are classical, covering the classics with the broad, rich strokes of Hans Christian Anderson as in The Ugly Duckling; or filling in soft blues and grays in more subtle tales, as evidenced in the Kipling story that borders on social commentary, The Elephant’s Child.

Unlike Cher, in telling the well-known stories of a misfit who is laughed at through his awkward youth, amazes at his storytelling talent. She is magical, and The Ugly Duckling is nothing less than enthralling.

Jack Nicholson we’ve come to expect magic from, and he doesn’t disappoint. Hoohahs, too, to whatever genius thought of using the unique composing and performing talents of Bobby McFerrin in providing a counterpoint, and the mind-pictures that flow through Nicholson’s brilliant narrative. Rudyard Kipling would smile.

It is apparent that, since leather

(Continued on page 14)
LOS ANGELES — The 23rd annual “Academy of Country Music Awards” telecast, which emanated on Monday, March 21 from Knott’s Berry Farm in Buena Park, California, was hosted by country music superstars Reba McEntire and Hank Williams, Jr.

The winners, presented with “Hat” awards, were voted by the members of the Academy of Country Music. Initial ballots, mailed to the Academy’s voting members on February 4, contained a list of the top nominees as selected by the Academy’s Awards Selection Committee with the approval of the Academy’s Board of Directors. Members voted for one in each category: A space was also left in each category for write in votes. The top five vote-getters in each category appeared on the final ballot which was then mailed to the same members on February 26. Votes had to be returned by March 11 to the Van Nuys, California accounting firm of Call and Call, which tabulated the final results.

Performers on the telecast were Lyle Lovett, Alabama, Moe Bandy, Merle Haggard, The Judds, Buck Owens, Restless Heart, Tanya Tucker, Dwight Yoakam, k.d. lang, Larry Boone, Nanci Griffith, Marty Haggard, Libby Hurley, K.T. Oslin, Jo-el Sonnier, Dana McVicker as well as hosts McEntire and Williams.

Presenters included The Bellamy Brothers, Earl Thomas Conley, Robert Conrad, John Davidson, Sandy Duncan, Exile, Mickey Gilley, Deidre Hall, Highway 101, Ann Jillian, Kathy Mattea, Roger Miller, Marie Osmond, Carl Perkins, Markie Post, Charley Pride, Eddie Rabbitt, T.G. Sheppard, Sweethearts Of The Rodeo, Randy Travis, Jessica Walter, Holly Dunn and Steve Wariner.

The winners in major categories were as follows:

**Top Vocal Duet:** The Judds (RCA)
**Single Record Of The Year:** “Forever And Ever, Amen” (Warner Bros.); Randy Travis, artist; Kyle Lehning, producer

**Video Of The Year:** “80’s Ladies” (RCA); K.T. Oslin, artist, Marc Ball, producer; Jack Cole, director

**Top Female Vocalist:** Reba McEntire (MCA)
**Song Of The Year:** “Forever And Ever, Amen” (Warner Bros.); Randy Travis, artist; Paul Overstreet and Don Schlitz, composers; Writers Group, Scarlet Moon, MCA and Don Schlitz, producers

**Top Vocal Group:** Highway 101 (Warner Bros.)
**Top Male Vocalist:** Randy Travis (Warner Bros.)
**Top New Male Vocalist:** Ricky Van Shelton (Columbia)
**Top New Female Vocalist:** K.T. Oslin (RCA)
**Album Of The Year:** Trio (Warner Bros.); Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt, Emmylou Harris, artists; George Massenburg, producer
**Entertainer Of The Year:** Hank Williams, Jr. (Warner Bros./Curb)

It must be... on Elektra Superior-Quality Cassettes, Compact Discs and Records © 1988 Elektra/Asylum Records, a Division of Warner Communications Inc., ©
SINGLE RELEASES

OUT OF THE BOX

CHER

Cher has never sounded more assured, and she negotiates the emotional highs and lows of this fine tune with a believable edge. Jon Bon Jovi co-wrote and produced the track. Has all the elements of a memorable radio tune. After the success of the first single "I Found Someone" from her new self-titled LP, this should score well on AOR and CHR.

PEABO BRYSON

Peabo has the rare ability to sound sincere and sexy at the same time. On this catchy little ditty he sings his heart out. The song builds very nicely into the chorus hook, and using little sax licks, the listener plugged in. This should hit heavily on Urban, CHR and anywhere great songs are played.


A vision of a future where civilization is overrun by nature, much to the chagrin of the natives. David Byrne is a genius at saying it all between the lines, and this little gem is lighted with a greener-grass lives.


A sexy and sultry performance by the Transfer, on a truly romantic tune for the late eighties. Great feel and atmosphere.


Chapman has a lovely deep voice, and she knows how to evoke images of despair in the life of desperately needy. A star on the rise, and an artist to watch.


A smoking, balls-out rocker with a really unusual style. Features Plant’s inimitable vocal style, and his old cohort Jimmy Page provides some fine support on guitars, neatly pinpointing the record apart. The tune is from Plant’s critically acclaimed LP: Now And Zen, undoubtedly his best work since Led Zeppelin. Should receive heavy AOR airplay.

FEATURE PICKS


A vision of a future where civilization is overrun by nature, much to the chagrin of the natives. David Byrne is a genius at saying it all between the lines, and this little gem is lighted with a greener-grass lives.


Chapman has a lovely deep voice, and she knows how to evoke images of despair in the life of desperately needy. A star on the rise, and an artist to watch.


A lovely ballad from his Elektra LP Nothing But The Truth. Blades is a fine singer and conveyer of emotional content in a song.


The endless quest ends up in The Church. They are the heirs to R.E.M.’s throne. Should find an big audience on AOR.


This time it’s ELP without the L. The teaming with San Jose’s Robert Berry has resulted in taking a straight ahead rocker and putting Keith Emerson’s distinctive keyboard stamp on it. AOR hit.


This is a very good remake of an R&B standard. Suave takes a light approach and makes it work. Urban hit.


A spirited dance spin. Features nice percussion and horn syncopation. Smash hit potential all around.


A wonderfully melodic tune evocatively performed by Dan Hill. This is a very accessible CHR hit, and should be heard.

THE ADVENTURES – Broken Land (4:07) – Elektra (7-69414) – Chrysalis Music-Rare Blue Music Inc/ASCAP – P. Gribben – Producer: G. Bell

A U-2-ish sound, but more tuneful. Builds to a terrific chorus that’s hooky and memorable. A hit on AOR and CHR.


GEORGE HOWARD – Love Will Conquer All (5:58) – MCA (MCA-532) – Brockman Music-Dyad Music Ltd.-King Arthur Music/ASCAP

MENTAL AS ANYTHING – Don’t Tell Me Now (4:00) – Columbia (C.7-07763) – Syray Pty Ltd/APRA – M. Plaza – Producer: R. Gottcrrer
ALBUM RELEASES

OUT OF THE BOX

JONI MITCHELL
Graffiti On A Train - Geffen (GHS 24172) - Producers: J. Mitchell - Bar Coded
— Guest shots from the likes of Billy idol, Don Henley, Wendy & Lisa, Wil- lie Nelson, Thomas Dolby and Peter Gabriel highlight Mitchell’s out- standing new LP. “Snapes And Lads- pers,” a duet with Henley, is already making noise at radio: watch for “Dancin’ Clown” and “My Secret Place” to make strong impacts as well.

GODLEY & CREME
Goodbye Blue Sky — Polydor/Relativity (835 348-1) - Producers: Godley & Creme - Bar Coded
— Latest from the prolific, eclectic duo is a polished grab bag of quality pop/rock tunes that should cause many to take instant notice. Godley & Creme’s success as video directors will undoubtedly result in strong MTV exposure. Standout tracks include “10,000 Angels,” “A Little Piece Of Heaven” and “The Last Page Of History.”

THE BEARS - Rise And Shine — Primitive Man Recording Company/L.R.S. (RS-42139) - Producers: A. Belew - Bar Coded
— Second album from Adrian Belew and The Bears should inundate at AOR. Album’s accessibility should introduce band to a wide audience and start to make noise at some adventurous Top 40 outlets.

MORRISSEY — Viva Hate — Sire/Reprise (9 25699-1) - Producer: S. Street - Bar Coded
— Morrissey gained notoriety as vocalist for the now-defunct U.K. sensations The Smiths. His solo debut LP, produced by Stephen Street, should firmly establish this U.S. cult hero with a wide audience.

PAUL JACKSON, JR. — I Came To Play — Atlantic (7 81841-1) - Producer: P. Jackson - Bar Coded
— Mostly instrumental outing should capture the attention of a variety of formats: from B/C to Jazz to New Age. Watch for the funky title track to polish the dance floor.

BLACK ‘N BLUE — In Heat — Geffen (GHS 24180) - Producers: G. Simmons - Bar Coded
— Produced by KISS’ Gene Simmons, In Heat should drive hard rockin’ Black ‘N Blue to arena status. Watch for album to create legions of new fans.

TIMES TWO — X 2 — Reprise (9 25624-1) - Producers: Various - Bar Coded
— Sophisticated dance/pop should cause an immediate stir at both retail and radio. Especially noteworthy are “Strange But True,” “Painted Heart” and band’s cover of Paul Simon’s “Cecilia.”

SEMI-TWANG — Salty Tears — Warner Bros. (9 25682-1) - Producers: Various - Bar Coded
— Semi-Twang showcase an extremely powerful collection of tunes on this great LP. With tracks (separately) produced by Mitchell Froom, Chris Thomas and Jerry Harrison, Salty Tears should warrant an instant listen at many formats.

GEOFFREY WILLIAMS — Heroes, Spies And Gypsies — Atlantic (7 81786-1) - Producers: Various - Bar Coded
— R&B vocalist should receive instant and tremendous B/C radio activity via this slickly produced LP. Best tracks include “What For,” “There’s A Need In Me” and “Cinderella.”

KING’S X — Out Of The Silent Planet — Megaforce/Atlantic (7 81825-1) - Producers: S. Taylor-King’s X - Bar Coded
— Madmen of metal create a fierce backdrop for their melodic rock tunes. Co-produced by the band and Sam Taylor, Out Of The Silent Planet should create attention on the metal and AOR front.

DWEEZIL ZAPPA — My Guitar Wants To Kill Your Mama — Chrysalis (BFV 41633) - Producer: B. Hill - Bar Coded
— Second album from the son of Zappa is a well-crafted collection of ten Zappa family originals: nine by Dweezil and one from dad Frank (the first single, “My Guitar Wants To Kill Your Mama”). Radio should respond nicely, and video exposure won’t hurt either.

FEATURE PICKS

THE SMITHHEREENS
Green Thoughts — Enigma/Capitol (CI-48379) - Producer: D. Dixon - Bar Coded
— Exceptionally strong follow-up to band’s debut LP, Especially For You. Watch for album to garner immediate attention at AOR radio nationwide with eventual Top 40 crossover saturation. Among the best tracks: “Only A Memory,” “If The Sun Doesn’t Shine” and “Drown In My Own Tears.” Another masterful Don Dixon production...

RECORDS TO WATCH

THE WILD SWANS — Bringing Home The Ashes — Sire/Reprise (9 25697-1) - Producer: P. Hardiman - Bar Coded
— The STRANGERS — All Live And All Of The Night — Epic (BFE 44209) - Producers: The Stranglers-T. Hayton - Bar Coded
— JOHN WHITEHEAD — I Need Money Bad — Mercury/PG (834 310-1) - Producer: G. McFadden - Bar Coded
— THROWING MUSES — House Tornado — Sire/WB (9 25710-1) - Producer: G. Smith - Bar Coded
— THE MISSION UK — Children — Mercury/PG (834 263-1) - Producer: J.P. Jones - Bar Coded
— MICHAEL JOHNSON — That’s That — RCA (6715-1-R) - Producer: B. Mahler - Bar Coded
— NORMAN CONNORS — Passion — Capitol (CI 48515) - Producer: N. Connors - Bar Coded
— ONAJE ALLAN GUMBS — That Special Part Of Me — Zebra/MCA (ZEB 42120) - Producer: O.A. Gumbs - Bar Coded
— HUE AND CRY — Seduced And Abandoned — Virgin (7 90646-1) - Producers: J. Goldberg/J. Biondolillo - Bar Coded
— PASSION FODDER — Fat Tuesday — Island (7 90899-1) - Producers: T. Hakola-Passion Fodder - Bar Coded

Cash Box April 2, 1988
Put the feature story on Cher first:

**NEW YORK** – If Cher wins the Academy Award for Best Actress for *Moonstruck*, she will have several fewer Oscars than Katherine Hepburn, but she will be ahead of Hepburn in gold and platinum albums. See, prior to her latest self-titled Gelfen album release (and prior to her current status as a bonafide movie star), Cher had amassed eleven gold and three platinum albums, four Number One singles, 12 Top Ten singles, 22 Top 40 singles. Not many Best Actress nominees can boast those kinds of numbers, nosiree.

“I didn’t sing for about five years,” says the former Mrs. Bono, former Mrs. Allman, about her first album in five years. “I thought a couple of times about singing again. I thought, nah, nah, nah, I’m not really going to do it. It wasn’t until John Kalodner (Gelfen & amp; man) got it on and kept on it and wouldn’t leave me alone about it. He said he really felt that I had something to contribute. It’s a real comeback—except maybe in the beginning—anything that I liked in rock ’n roll. He had a lot more faith in me than I had.”

The result is the hard-rocking Cher, which has put Cher in the odd position of having parents going to the movies thinking, “Gee, Cher can act,” while their kids are at home watching MTV thinking, “Hmm, Cher can sing.”

“It’s so bizarre,” says Cher. “I couldn’t become an actress for five years because I was a singer. Now everyone is worried people aren’t going to accept me as a singer because I’m an actress.”

About her experience in the studio, Cher says: “It was easier this time but it’s never been my favorite place. I sing much better in front of an audience. I’m a better performer than I am a singer. I just felt maybe I wasn’t going to be able to do it.”

But after a trip to a vocal coach, Cher decided that her “singing voice is about ten times better now than it’s ever been, including the time I was making hits,” and that it was “fullsteam ahead” on the album, between the filming of *Suspect* and *Moonstruck*.

-- Lee Jeske

**Cover Story**

**Cher**

**Cash Box**

**Anything Else Is A Compromise**

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**POINTS WEST**

**B**lurbs, **B**lurbs, **B**lurbs – The buzz is out on Parthenon Huxley’s debut LP, *Sunny Night*. Days, due at the end of April... On May 3 RCA Records will unveil Scenes From The Southside, Bruce Hornsby And The Range’s follow up to their debut LP *The Way It Is*. Timbuk 3’s long-awaited second album, Eden Alley, will be issued on I.R.S. on April 18... Expect new albums from No Shooz (Atlantic), Brian Setzer (EMI Manhattan), Ivan Neville (PolyGram), Jane Wiedlin (EMI Manhattan), Al Stewart (Enigma), Joan Jett (Epic), Devon Dilya (MCA), Moll’s (Atlantic), and be on the lookout for a "best of" compilation from R/O Speedwagon on Epic Records... Gelfen recording artist Gregg Allman is tentatively slated as the opening act on George Harrison’s long-awaited upcoming world tour... Enigma/3 Capital recording artists Poison are gearing up to release the follow-up to their 1986 multi-platinum debut *Look What The Cat Dragged In*. In addition, the band is preparing to head out on the road for their opening slot in David Lee Roth’s upcoming world tour...

**These Boots Are Made For Walkin’**

**Nancy Sinatra**

IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE – The song that defined an era and changed the face of rock and roll as we know it today... Rhino release has made available the 1966 rock classic “These Boots Are Made For Walkin’” to an anxious public. In addition, the original promotional video for “Boots” will begin Nascente Video rotation March 7 on VH-1/Video Hits One. Easily the most anticipated comeback of the century...

**Sittin’ In The Lap Of Luxury** – Recently, at the urging of the fab Hanna Holte, Epic’s Manager of West Coast Media Relations, *Points West* attended a listening party celebrating the releases of upcoming LP’s from both Cheap Trick and Jumble, the new release held at the Sunset Strip’s ritzy St. James Club.

Selections from the albums, Jeff’s *Up Your Alley* and Cheap Trick’s *Lap Of Luxury*, were played to a crowd that included Trickster’s Robin Zander and Rick Nielsen, Greg Giuffria, Mark Holmes of platinum album producer Toby Bonham of the Zito as well as a grabs bag of label heavies. Cheap Trick’s *Lap Of Luxury* celebrates the return of founding member and bassist Tom Petersson.

**Rock Talk** – A new national telephone service linking music superstars directly with their fans, *Rock Talk*, is set to launch April 1... with Gelfen recording artists Aerosmith as the first scheduled guests...

By dialing 1-800-660-1200, fans can hear all of Aerosmith’s members talking about “the group’s career, musical attitudes and their lives.” Utilizing Rock Talk’s advanced computer system, literally thousands of phone calls can be received daily and around the clock. There will be a different two-minute message from the band every day during the month of April.

“The initial response from the music industry has been overwhelming,” said Paul Amos, who originated the Rock Talk concept and who is the company’s president. “We’re especially proud to launch Rock Talk with Aerosmith.” Other major artists will be announced in coming weeks.

The price of a call to Rock Talk is $1.85 for two minutes. **HANGIN’ OUT** – Voss Records President, Dan Voss, visited Bus Boys from Brian O’Neal back stage after the band’s performance at Los Angeles’ Palace Theatre. The band is currently supporting their current Voss/Allegiance/Capitol LP *Money Don’t Make No Man*. The LP is the Bus Boys’ first album in five years.

**ROCKY ROAD** – Congratulations to Robert Gold, A&M’s Executive Director of Advertising and Merchandising, and wife Ava Gold (of Albert C. Martin & Associates), who recently celebrated the birth of their first child, Samantha Kahane Gold. Samantha was born at 3:25 p.m. March 14 at Tarzana Medical Center. She weighed in at 6 lbs. 15 oz. Atlantic recording artist Peter Frypton and his wife Barbara recently celebrated the birth of their second child, a baby boy, Julian. Julian was born March 19 at Cedars Sinai. Columbia recording artist Deniece Williams and manager/husband Brad Westering recently announced the arrival of Forrest Matthew Westering, a boy who check in at a healthy 9 lbs. 3 oz.

HEY!! – Check out new LP’s from Senti Twang (Warner Bros.), Tracy Chapman (Elektra), The Smithereens (Enigma), Capitol, Deacon Blue (Columbia), The Bears (Primitive Man Recording Company/I.R.S.), and be aware of upcoming releases from Feargal Sharkey (Virgin), Ricks & Blades (Elektra)... just some friendly biased advice. Until next week...

Tom De Savia

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**Cash Box**

**April 2, 1986**

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The Fit – Nice And Tight

By Julius Robinson

LOS ANGELES – The Fit is Chuck Gentry, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and producer, Chuck Ebo, lead-singer and songwriter. Their new album on A&M entitled Just Having Fun is more than the title implies – it is mature, fine R&B, along the lines of a Luther Vandross. Gentry, a veteran of Shalamar and an experienced session man, joined with fellow Sacramento native Ebo to make this engaging LP. He spoke to Cash Box about the influences and affection of his career, and of The Fit. Gentry’s production as the key to longevity in the business. "Quincy Jones is the epitome of a producer," says Gentry. "I want to continue to produce, as well as write, play and sing. You learn how to work with different styles and types of artists."

The group started as songwriting and recording project, formed by Leon Sylvers, Shalamar leader Howard Hewett, among others.

"With that kind of production perspective, The Fit definitely sounds like a "commercial" R&B group, but Gentry says, "I wrote many of the songs on the LP, aren’t trying consciously to conform to anything. Says Gentry, 'I know we should, but we don’t really think about radio as much as just trying to please ourselves. You’ll hear it’s a little more on the record, as well as some pop ballads. The response to our album is great, kids are into it, black, white, Latin, adults, even my grandmother like a couple of cuts. It crosses all the lines.'"

It was John McClain, an A&M label executive for Urban, who heard the guys at the urging of Ron Perry/Williams Entertainment.

"The name 'The Fit' was chosen because of the nice blend between Ebo’s voice and Gentry’s music. "We wanted to avoid a sterile sound. We use the technology, but we want that human touch too. In fact, it’s mostly just the two of us on the album, we want to put together a complete band, with full section, horns, backing vocals, everything, when we go on tour."

The single off the record is "Just Having Fun!". Says Gentry, "It’s about how people I knew had fun in the old days up in Sac – they’d pile in the car, drive down the street, and holler at your buddies. The innocent part of growing up."

"I think every song has potential as a single, from the dance tunes ("Just Having Fun") and "Stand-Up" to the ballads ("Here We Go", and "If We Take Our Time"). No matter what we’re doing, we have the same bottom line; we’re shooting for quality."

As for the new studio LP, Bragg has this to say, "I don’t see the point in recording another album of stuff I just hope the progression is from first one, Main topics are, ‘Picking and fighting, I’m not sure you can print that in Cash Box. If you just leave out the ‘u’ people might think it’s a different word, like ‘fucking’ or ‘focking.’ Quite probably.

JUSTINE ROCKS – "There is no story. There’s only what you see."
So says one young punkette when asked about her past mid-way through Satisfaction, the Justine 

TALENT ON STAGE

STING

THE FORUM, LOS ANGELES – On the heels of his smash LP, Nothing Like The Sun, Sting sold out two shows at the Forum. Sting is an innovator, a brilliant composer of tuneful songs that are an amalgam of Jazz rock and visionary lyrics. Yet curiously, despite his sharply honed personal style, and the collection of great musicians he assembles on record and live, despite the depth of first-rate material, there was something acutely self-conscious about Sting at the Forum. On this tour especially, as with the release of The Blue Turtles shows (where his rock-jazz solo concept was still a crap-shoot in a world pining for The Police), Sting seems to have distanced himself emotionally by being more of a leaping, shirtless, stringy-haired Dave Lee Travis. Perhaps it was the recent passing of his parents that has made it more painful for him to repeat the often intense and introspective (if somewhat cooler) vibe of that first solo tour. No doubt, this was a crowd pleasing, loose, gregarious performance, but strangely guarded at times.

The show opened with "Lazarus Heart" from Nothing Like The Sun, as emotionally revealing song as Sting has in his repertoire, hidden as an opener to a still unsoaked house. Here, Sting presented a new line-up, a more theatrical band, and perhaps only slightly less technically proficient than his first solo trek. Bradford Marsalis is still on horns, the amazing Kenny Kirkland continues on keyboards, singer Dolette McDonald returned, Delmar Brown is on tenors (and great sax solo), Jean Paul Cecarelli on drums, Tracy Wormworth on bass and vocals, Jeff Campbell on guitar and Mino Cecarelli on percussion.

(Continued on page 14)
Sting

Continued from page 13

Combining powerfully stated single lines accessible to a broad pop audience with the smooth flair of a most disciplined jazz master, Sting – Kirkland’s acoustic piano solos provided some of the most electrifying moments of the evening. Saxmaster Branford Marsalis was not spotlighted as much as individual moments, but his thoughtful blowing was an essential ingredient to Sting’s overall sound.

Overhead a giant video screen showed close-ups of the players and Sting during songs to good effect. An overly arty cameraman created a problem on the first night at the Fox, but after saying things excessively on Sting’s chest and nipples, eliciting screams during an encore of the gentle “Secret Marriage”, Sting apparently responded to this superficial display, and by the second night restraint was shown.

The theme of “We’ll Be Together” was the optimum musical environment for the band to kick into full form. “Englishman in New York” followed, and Sting was at his puckish best, playing with the clever lyric and memorable melody like a divorcee when the plans they had for the land bunging a baby on his lap. Next, the sultry “Sister Moon” led into an introduction to “Murder By Numbers” from the Syncrondity casette. Sting did a little impression of Jimmy Swaggart waving around the album and claiming that the devil had written the song. “Sister Moon”, Sting, “Then I realized, I wrote the...song!”

Perhaps the most spectacular in.

Evans

Continued from page 8

summer of ’87 date with vocalist Helen Merrill, an updating of a 1956 album they had done together (using most of the same songs and charts); and an album of duets with soprano saxophonist Steve Lacy – whom Evans had used often over the years.

Elite

Continued from page 8

bound gilt-edged, profusely and remarkably illustrated children’s books have long been relagated to the collector’s book shelf, or to the dusty corners of antiquarian shops on London’s back streets, Windham Hill has created a new collectible for children to keep to adulthood, to

pass down to their own children like a well-worn Garden of Verses: the Rabbit Ear CD series.

According to a Windham Hill spokesman, more titles will be added later this year. For further children’s product information, see The Independent Way, pp. 15-18.

Gene Ferriter and Julius Robinson

for his own recordings – recorded in December of last year. Both albums will be out in May on the PolyGram-distributed Emarcy (Merrill) and Owl labels.

Gill Evans was one-of-a-kind. He was 75.

Sting’s instrumental segment was during a solo by keyboardist Delmar Brown, who sang brilliant upper register phrases in unison with his intricate synthesizer lines. “Set Them Free” seemed a bit ragged, but better was “Bring On The Night” featuring more great piano playing by Kirkland. “They Dance Alone”, Sting’s homage to the mothers and wives of the missing and imprisoned of Chile, was movingly done. “King Of Pain”, a Police classic, still works beautifully. And “Be Still My Beating Heart” stands as one of the most evocative tunes Sting has ever written, fluid and honest. The set closed with a roaring version of Jimi Hendrix’s “Little Wing”, “giving guitarist Jeff Camell a chance to stretch, playing a nice variation of Hendrix original solo and taking the whole feel in a more hard-core rock direction as the tune culminated.

The encore included a nice remake of “Don’t Stand So Close To Me”, “Secret Marriage”, and a solo acoustic version of “Message In A Bottle”.

Sting has certainly written some of the most original and memorable pop tunes of the past decade. Historically, jazz musicians have expanded and embellished familiar songs with sophisticated arrangements and skilled improvisations. Sting has managed to enhance the quality of his own material with an outstanding supporting cast of musicians well-versed in jazz, rock, funk, blues, Latin or just about any style that’s called for. It makes for an exciting and diverse show.

EXEcutives ON THE move

Swanson Upped – Wayne Isaak, executive director of publicity of A&M Records, has announced that Laura Swanson has been promoted to the position of West Coast Publicist. Swanson joined A&M in 1985 after interning at Capitol Records and most recently served as publicity coordinator. Swanson joined A&M in 1985 after interning at Capitol Records and most recently served as publicity coordinator. Swanson has been promoted to the position of vice president of national pop promotion for Atlantic Records, based at the label’s New York headquarters. The announcement was made this week by Atlantic senior vice president Vince Faraci, to whom Swanson reports.

Knesz Promoted – Margo Knesz has been promoted to the position of vice president / east coast general manager for Atco Records, based at the label’s New York offices. The announcement was made this week by Atco president Jerry Greenberg.

Schultz Upped – Ricky Schultz has been promoted to vice president for Jazz to correspond with the restructuring of MCA Jazz. Schultz previously served as executive director for MCA Jazz and will continue to function as president of Zebra Records.

Kennedy Appointed – Randall Kennedy will assume the position of national director of marketing for Jazz/Narada to correspond with the restructuring of MCA Jazz. Kennedy previously served as national sales manager for MCA Jazz/Zebra Records.

Lucoff Promoted – Don Lucoff will assume the position of national director of publicity for Jazz/Narada to correspond with the restructuring of MCA Jazz.

Higashioka Upped – Ted Higashioka will assume the position of national director for Jazz/Narada to correspond with their restructuring of MCA Jazz.

Deneau Named – I.R.S. Records national publicity director Cary Baker has named Susan Deneau to the post of publicity manager, I.R.S. Records. She will be based out of the label’s home office in Universal City.

Virgin Adds – Virgin Records announces a number of new appointments in its sales and promotion departments. Vice president of sales, Jim Swindell, names Jerre Hall midwest regional sales manager and Diana Fried national singles coordinator. In the promotion department, Phil Quararo, vice president, promotion, names Alex Miller northeast regional promotion manager and Dave Watson Great Lakes regional promotion manager. And Iris Dillion, director of national alternative promotion, names Gary Vance east coast dance promotion manager.

Katz Joins – Green Linnet Records expands as Steve Katz joins Wency Newton in broadening the already innovative and eclectic roster of artists recorded by the label in the Celtic tradition. Katz joins Green Linnet Records as ceo.

Drysdale Appointed – Stan Bauer, general manager, Magnetic Product: Division, Fuji Photo Film U.S.A., Inc., today announced the appointment of William Drysdale to the position of audio product manager.

Ginsberg Named – Bob Meyrowitz and Peter Kauf of DIR Broadcasting, Inc. have announced the appointment of Jay Ginsberg as their director of talent acquisition. Ginsberg will be responsible for booking talent for interviews and live concert performances for DIR’s radio and television programming.

Schneider Appointed – Onkyo U.S.A. Corporation of Ramsey, NJ, has named Len Schneider to the position of national product/advertising manager, it was announced by Mark Friedman, senior vice president sales and marketing.

Kozlowski Promoted – Relativity Records announces today the promotion of Jim Kozlowski to the position of product manager for Relativity.

Teifeld Appointed – Rick Bisceglia, vice president pop promotion, has announced the appointment of Jan Teifeld to the position national single director, west coast.

Rogers Named – Tony Anderson, vice president, R&B promotion, has announced the appointment of Rhonda Rogers to the position of coordinator of relations and the R&B department.

Robinson Joins – Gary Robinson joins dick clark productions as a director of business affairs it was announced today by Aviva Bergman, vice president business affairs for dick clark productions.

Glodow & Coats Formed – John Glodow, president and co-founder of Kink Baker Publicity Services, and Michael Coats, former KBPS vice president have announced the formation of Glodow & Coats Publicity Services.
### Cash Box Top Black Contemporary Albums

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### Black Contemporary

#### THE BEAT

**Hammer is Bustin'**

Another in the long line of talented young artist from the bay area of California has begun to make his presence felt in the world of music. Dedicated to musical stardom is M.C. Hammer And The Posse. Hammer AKKA Kirk Burrell is not only for the young viewers. Their soul stirring group, he is founder and president of Bustin' Records. This Oakland born native has always held a deep love and appreciation for music. As a student at McClymonds High School, he was drawn to rap music almost immediately when he first began to emerge from the inner city of New York and spread nationwide.

Hammer began his music career in the same manner as so many other prominent artists. He used to go around to local night clubs such as Slika and either get the DJ's to play tapes of his music or let him perform live. It wasn't long before Hammer developed a reputation and a following among bay area clubbers. It was this initial groundwork that paved the way for his first 12" release entitled Ring Em. The song caught the attention of many rap allies, clubs and radio station personalities (KPOO and KALX), which led to tremendous exposure on bay area station leaders KOSI and KMEL.

**M.C. HAMMER**

Hammer’s new 12" single Let’s Get It Started has thus far proven to be a monster hit. As was the case with the song “Ring Em,” this hot track was rocking the bay area street scene before it broke onto radio. The song is a hybrid of Another One Bites The Dust by Queen and It’s So Easy by Rick James. These familiar riffs have helped the song’s crossover (30+) appeal.

His LP entitled Feel My Power is a 9 song hip hop compiliation of music with something for everyone. Hammer certainly had a variety of multi-talented individuals participating in this project including MC Hammer himself, which included some of the West Coast’s finest producers.

The track rhythm on this album is refreshing and will set the pace for rap groups. Probably the best aspect of this album is the positive lyrics that are in harmony and handsomely complement each song along with Hammer’s skillful use of background singers. M.C. Hammer and The Posse are one of the few groups that not only understand, but have mastered the concept of entertaining a crowd with content. The livelie performances, have raised the stakes for other rap groups, which features lots of movement and dancing.

There you have your first insight on a mega-talented young artist who is breaking new ground and raising the standards for good artists in the music industry. Presenting for your listening pleasure The Incredible M.C Hammer And Posse on Bustin’ Records.

**TOP PRODUCER** - The best kept secret of the hip hop world has been disclosed, John F. Wilson, producer, writer and singer has a passage to Asia via Los Angeles producing top recording artists.

Hammer produced a single on Janet Jackson’s, Control album entitled Start Anew released on the international version which went in circulation through Japan. Wilson’s credits include LaToya Jackson, Barry White, The O’Jays, James Brown, The Impressions, Tower Of Power, Lawrence Hilton Jacobs, Alfonso Ribiero and Bilединest. His work was noticed in Japan when record company executives heard about his work on Janet and LaToya Jackson’s albums while serving as staff producer for Joe Jackson Productions, father of world renown Michael Jackson and family members. From these impressive credentials, Wilson was asked to produce one of their popular female singers, Minako Honda’s album entitled Over Seas which was the #1 album, compact disc and cassette for months in 1987. The success on production opened the doors further as Wilson produced a Toshiba commercial starring Richard Lewis, another top 100 popular male vocalist album, Shigera Matsuzaki and Momoko Kikuchi another leading female vocalist. But it doesn’t stop there, Wilson has produced a Vietnam artist, Lynda Tran Dang and Iranian’s male vocalist, Ahmad Azad who made #1 on their charts.

**John Wilson**

Wilson, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, holds both a Masters and Bachelors degree from Cleveland Institute of music and Cuyahoga College in Cleveland, began his musical career as a member of the 70’s group Sly, Slick and Wicked. He relocated to Los Angeles, when Joe Jackson hired him as staff producer for his family company. During his career at Joe Jackson Productions he also added to his credits director and talent coordinator for Mexico’s Friendship Festival in 1986 and directed Japan’s New Years Eve Televison Special live feed from Los Angeles to Japan starring Stevie Wonder, Janet Jackson, LaToya Jackson’s secret in the music industry has been disclosed. Wilson is surely bridging the gap between cultures world wide and while many are taking notice, he quietly states his motto, “When a man must, it is without good; how good is the man?” The world will soon see and have a much greater appreciation for the many talents of a man who has kept secret in the music business. John Wilson is a secret no more!

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**BOB LONG**
## CASH BOX TOP BLACK CONTEMPORARY SINGLES

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<th>#</th>
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<th>Artist</th>
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<td>MAN IN THE MIRROR</td>
<td>Michael Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>WISHING WELL</td>
<td>Terence Trent D’Arby</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>LOVEY DOVEY</td>
<td>Tony Terry</td>
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<td>OOO LA LA LA</td>
<td>Teanea Marie</td>
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<td>I’VE GOTTA GOOD TIME YEA</td>
<td>da'Krash</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>PLAYTHING</td>
<td>Debbie Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>EVERY DROP OF YOUR LOVE</td>
<td>Stacy Latifae</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>THINKING OF YOU</td>
<td>Earth, Wind &amp; Fire</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>FISHERNET</td>
<td>Morris Day</td>
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<td>LOVIN’ ON NEXT TO NOTHIN’</td>
<td>Gladys Knight And The Pips</td>
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<td>ALL IN MY MIND</td>
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<td>GET OUT OF MY DREAMS, GET INTO MY CAR</td>
<td>L.L. Cool J</td>
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<td>YOU ARE WHO YOU LOVE</td>
<td>Gavin Christopher</td>
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<td>SWEET SENSATION</td>
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<td>ROCKET 2 U</td>
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<td>FATHER FIGURE</td>
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<td>DA-BUDDY</td>
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<td>TAKE GOOD CARE OF ME</td>
<td>Jonathan Butler</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>WHAT'S THAT LOVE IS</td>
<td>(Atlantic 7-89123)</td>
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<td>THRILL SEEKER</td>
<td>Roger</td>
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<td>PINK CADILLAC</td>
<td>Natalie Cole</td>
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<td>I'VE BEEN A FOOL FOR YOU</td>
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<td>HERE COMES THE NIGHT</td>
<td>Melissa Morgan</td>
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<td>WHERE DO BROKEN HEARTS GO</td>
<td>Whitney Houston</td>
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<td>HOW LONG (Polydor 887 126-7)</td>
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<td>LOVE DON'T GIVE NO REASON</td>
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<td>YOU DON'T KNOW</td>
<td>(EMI-Manhattan P-80017)</td>
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<td>INSTANT REPLAY</td>
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<td>NEVER KNOWN LOVE LIKE THIS</td>
<td>Alexander O'Neal</td>
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<td>DO YOU LOVE</td>
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<td>NIGHT AND DAY</td>
<td>Al B. Surel</td>
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<td>EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE</td>
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<td>JUST HAVIN' FUN</td>
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<td>I AM YOUR MELODY</td>
<td>&quot;Norman Connors&quot;</td>
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<td>MERCEDES BOY</td>
<td>Pebbles</td>
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<td>STAND UP</td>
<td>&quot;Hindsight&quot;</td>
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<td>ONE MORE FOR THE LONELY HEARTS CLUB</td>
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<td>WILD, WILD WEST</td>
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<td>FALLING IN LOVE</td>
<td>&quot;Whistle&quot;</td>
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<td>DON'T MESS WITH MY HEART</td>
<td>&quot;The Skywars&quot;</td>
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<td>BED ROCK</td>
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<td>MY GIRL</td>
<td>&quot;Saue&quot;</td>
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<td>SOMETHING JUST AINT RIGHT</td>
<td>&quot;Keith Sweat&quot;</td>
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<td>LOVE ME ALL OVER</td>
<td>&quot;Kashif&quot;</td>
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<td>PIANO IN THE DARK</td>
<td>&quot;Brenda Russell&quot;</td>
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<td>THAT'S WHERE YOU'LL FIND ME</td>
<td>&quot;Deja&quot;</td>
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<td>IF I WERE YOUR WOMAN</td>
<td>&quot;Stephanie Mills&quot;</td>
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**50 DON'T WASTE MY TIME** (Solo) (P-70010)  Dynasty 53 7
**51 ONE TIME LOVE** (CBS Assoc. 254-07133)  Chris Jasper 69 6
**52 STRANGE RELATIONSHIP** (Elektra 7294615) Howard Hewett 70 9
**53 WHEN LOVE COMES CALLING** (EMI-Manhattan 80081) Paul Johnson 61 1
**54 I NEED SOMEBODY** (Profile 7180) Keicha Jenkins 66 1
**55 I BET YA' I'LL LET YA** (Motown 7009515) Ada Dyer 77 1
**56 FREE** (Island/B-K-53545-SP) Will Downing 56 7
**57 CAN YOU WAIT** (EMI-Manhattan 72936) George Pettis 67 8
**58 LOVE STRUCK** (A&M AM 3020) Jesse Johnson 68 1
**59 NO PAIN, NO GAIN** (Ms. B. 1204) Betty Wright 75 3
**60 WOULDN'T YOU LOVE TO LOVE ME** (Reprise 728712-A) Toja Sevill 60 6
**61 HOW COULD YOU DO IT TO ME** (EMI-Manhattan 728708) Regina Belle 78 1
**62 LIVING IN THE LIMELIGHT** (Stax 70997-A) Glenn Jones 79 3
**63 NEW GIRL ON THE BLOCK** (Atlantic 7-89117) Gerald Albright 72 4
**64 PAID IN FULL** (4th & B-way 7456) Eric B. & Rakim 64 3
**65 SAY IT AGAIN** (Arista 759-4656) Jermaine Stewart 80 2
**66 NO 1/2 STEPPIN'** (A&M 2996) Shaniece Wilson 20 15
**67 AIN'T NO WAY** (Atlantic 7-89110) Jean Carne 84 7
**68 NEXT TIME** (Motown 72923) Brownmark 39 6
**69 ANOTHER CHANCE TO LOVE** (Arista 7295466) Dionne Warwick & Howard Hewett 43 7
**70 RAINY NIGHT** (Motown 72922) Chico DeBarge 48 10
**71 I NEED MONEY BAD** (Mercury 870 160-7) John Whitehead 81 2
**72 FLIRT** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) Evelyn King 78 1
**73 YOU WILL KNOW** (Motown 1919) Stevie Wonder 31 12
**74 I CAN'T STAND THE RAIN** (EMI-Manhattan 72924) Tease 78 1
**75 LOOK WHAT YOU STARTED** (Motown 72923) The Temptations 24 15
**76 SITTIN' ON TOP OF THE BAY** (EMI-Manhattan 728708) Michael Bolton 76 3
**77 WE'RE GOING TO PARTY** (Heaton International 111) Future 64 2
**78 THANK YOU** (Fatealimmebe/Meicelga) (EMI-Manhattan 729187) 83 2
**79 LOVER FOR LIFE** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) Charlie Singleton & Modern Man 72 13
**80 DREAMS COME TRUE** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 2
**81 RUN TO ME** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 3
**82 REFLECTION** (Motown 72923) 73 4
**83 I CAN'T STAND THE RAIN** (EMI-Manhattan 72924) 73 5
**84 KEEP ON LOVING** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 6
**85 I CAN'T STAND THE RAIN** (EMI-Manhattan 72924) 73 7
**86 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 73 8
**87 GIRLFRIEND** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 9
**88 TWO OCCASIONS** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 10
**89 PUMP UP THE VOLUME** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 11
**90 WITHOUT YOU** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 12
**91 JAMES BROWN** (Motown 72923) 73 13
**92 ACTION JACKSON** (EMI-Manhattan P-80017) 73 14
**93 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 78 3
**94 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 78 4
**95 PLEASE DON'T GO GIRL** (EMI-Manhattan 72924) 78 5
**96 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 78 6
**97 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 78 7
**98 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 78 8
**99 I TURNED ME OUT** (From The Movie Action Jackson) (RCA 7607-7-544-A) 78 9
**100 EVERYBODY SAY YES** (Luke Skywalker) 78 10
THE INDEPENDENT WAY

Indie Groove

The spring has sprung, the grass has riz, I wonder where the new Run DMC album is? Word hath seeped out at Profile that the first single off the long-awaited LP will be released in April, with the album hot on its tail in early May.

Meanwhile, Doug E. Fresh and the Get Fresh Crew have got their act together and are taking it on the road in support of their hot new 12" single "Keep Risin' To The Top," the first release from their Reality album, The World's Greatest Entertainer, (distributed by Fantasy) which is due for mid-April release. Gear you up retailers, if Run DMC and Doug Fresh are coming this spring, can Salt-n-Pepa be far behind?

Jam Packed sends two new 12" dance singles on the Straight Up label: J.D. Ranks 10 doin' "Cruisin' Yardi Style" . . . a reggae-rap that moves to an island beat . . . and Tick 'Tock rappin' out "Destroyer" . . . which tells tall tales of Tick's prowess with the womenfolk.

Of course, Tommy Boy's Force M.D.'s 12", "Couldn't Care Less," is moving off the dance display shelf in fine fashion and the always innovative Tommy has released it on cassette as well (they call it a 12" cassette). Both the single and The M.D.'s album Touch And Go are climbing the charts with bullets.

We couldn't do all this talk without mentioning Select's hot product, UTFO's "Lethal" with guest artists Anthrax. The visually striking package holds a strong, steamy, righteous rap well performed by the Kangol Kid, Doctor Ice, and The Educated Rapper with their cohort, Mix-Master Ice. Flip side is S.W.A.T (Get Down) and they do do that. Watch for Select's new heavy rock group, Damien, to be making inroads on College and AOR radio on their journey towards the more challenging rock stations.

Item: The Distributor's Report will be a monthly feature, with the next reports due on the first Tuesday in April; the New Age column will also run monthly; and our College/AOR page will appear every six weeks. Classical Corner will be next in the April 1st issue. Our special topic this week, in keeping with the Easter holiday, is children's recorded entertainment product. This is our first effort in covering this rapidly expanding industry, and we will be exploring what's happening at all levels, from manufacturing to promotion to retail. Look for a children's special twice yearly . . . and put us on your advertising calendar for early August, when we will be bringing you the latest Christmas release news on the kiddie front.

Item: New Age/Jazz label Higher Octave sends over the much touted Cusco LP Apurimac which is already getting reported by indie distributors. For those who like to know such things, the album was inspired by Cusco leader/keyboardsist Michael Holm's journey to the Peruvian Andes, where the Apurimac River is considered the sacred source of the Amazon. The blend here of traditional Peruvian rhythms and contemporary progressive electronic instrumentation is as mystical as the album's thought-provoking jacket.

Item: Relativity, currently knockin' 'em dead with Surfing With The Alien by Joe Satriani, is preparing another monster from the new Dancing Hoods, called Hallelujah Anyway. Rock/Pop, of the Born In The USA variety.

Prediction: Country Joe McDonald and his wife Kathy will have a baby on May 25th. That was the easy part. It will be a 7 lb. 4 oz. girl which the happy couple will name Sabrina. Memo to Joe and Kathy: please let me know if I get any of this right. Additionally, at year's end, Country Joe will release a commemorative album celebrating the 20th anniversary of Woodstock. The album will be named Sabrina, will weigh 7 lbs 4 oz. and will be on the Rag Baby Record label. Corrections will be made as soon as better information is available. Where are you, Kreskin?

Item: Our Rappin' With Retail column debuts in this issue. Watch for it every week.

A special 'hello' and speedy recovery wish to 4th & B'way's Cathy Johnson. We missed you at NARM, Cathy; hope to see you at NAIRD for the IAC meeting on May 12th.

'Till next time . . .

Phyllis J. Wichman

Cash Box April 2, 1988

THE INDEPENDENT WAY

RAPPIN' With the Retailers

This begins a new weekly feature of The Independent Way. We invite retailers to contact us with any information they would like to pass on to independent record distributors and manufacturers, and will do our best to get phone calling to retailers around the country to provide the latest retail info on a variety of independent product.

STREETSIDE MUSIC / University City, MO (St. Louis)

Reporting: Joe Pile

"There's a new interest in bebop jazz, it's selling really well again, as is traditional jazz and blues on Rounder, Flying Fish, Shanachie and the other labels that specialize in that kind of product. As far as new bebop releases go, Bobby Coleman's solo LP is moving, as are the singles. Bebop Jazz seems to be making a comeback. Traditional Jazz and Blues always do well here.

TOWER RECORDS / Westwood, CA

Reporting: Lisa Marz

"We can't keep 12" singles on the shelves. That's our fastest moving product. Especially hot for us right now is J.J. Fad, L.A. Dream Team and Salt-N-Pepa is still moving well for us, too."

RECORD TIME / Rochester, NY

Reporting: Helen Timberlake

"Betty Wright is the hottest artist in the store right now . . . the Mother Wit LP and the 7" single are both flying out of the store. I wish the record label (Vision) would put out a 12" - it would be a big mover."

TOWER RECORDS / New Orleans, LA

Reporting: Dan Shepherd

"Ichiban's whole line is doing well. Clarence Carter's Hooked On Love LP is moving, as are the singles. Bebop Jazz seems to be making a comeback. Traditional Jazz and Blues always do well here.

POPLAR TUNES / Memphis, TN

Reporting: Jim Borge

"Motown's new Betty Wright single "No Pain, No Gain," are both moving. Ichiban and Malaco lines move out fast, Ichiban's hottest right now is Gary B.B. Coleman's LP If You Can Beat Me Rockin' You Can Have My Choir and the single from it, "Be Careful Where You Stroke." Also hot is the R&B LPs. On the jazz front there's this jazzbook record that is really amazing on a little label called Nuusunn, the artist is Chuck Robertson and the song is "Lollipops Man." We got it from Select-O-Hits, and that's about all I know about it.

Select-O-Hits / Memphis, TN

Reporting: Johnny Phillips

"Oh sure, "Lollipops Man," that's from 4-Sight Records, it's one of Vannis' (Vannis Rucker-Lopez, 4-Sight Records, 1413 N.W. 40th, Lauderdale, FL 33313) subsidiary labels. We're really having a lot of movement on it all over the mid-south area. But that's jukebox, you know, they couldn't play the big B-side on the radio. My big seller in 12" right now is Wreckin' Crew, "Fast Lane" / Turn Out The Lights." It's really doing well; and there's also "Hostile" with Ligosa on Warlock Records; and Tuff Crew's "Crown Rulers" on Phan Jazz. We're also getting action on Sutra's "B. Boy Pose," and Select's "Chubb Rock." There's a Miami label getting hot right now, in fact it's called Hot Productions and they've got a female rap act doing a response to the Salt-N-Pepa hit. The act is called LaTrinn, and the song is "Grab It. Rap is still big here."

TOWER RECORDS / Philadelphia, PA

Reporting: Joe Pile

"Joe Satriani's Surfin' With The Alien get's the front cover of our own magazine this week and it's a TOWER NO RISK DISC. It's on Relativity and we're selling it Pop. In Jazz, we like Fantasy's new Donald Byrd album Harlem Blues (especially on CD) and it ought to do well now that it's picking up area radio play. We rack New Age separately. We'd like to get CMG's Bob Berg album, and we've ordered it, but it hasn't been delivered yet."

MUSIC MENU / Seattle, WA

Reporting: Glen Boyd

"Gary B.B. Coleman's album is doing real well. So is Clarence Carter. In fact Clarence Carter's old single, "Strokin'" is still moving as fast as his new one, and the old album Dr. C.C. is also still popular. Ichiban is building a good catalog. And Malaco . . . they have a great line . . . Bobby Bland, Little Milton, Johnnie Taylor, LaSaLe, it's great. As far as New Age, we're rack it in with jazz because our impact station, KNUA, plays both. And then you have crossovers as well, like Profile's Bo Svensson's Living On The Edge. That album, by the way, is doing really well, too."
**Disneyland/Vista**

**Free Standing Bins Aid Sales**

Disneyland/Vista Records and Tapes will be releasing The Disney Collection - Volume II in early April, following the enthusiastic customer response to the release of Volume I last fall. Disney has developed a free standing bin for this and its other four CD releases with a full-color topper that reads "The Magic Has Never Sounded Better! Disney Compact Disc Center."

The Disney Collection - Volume II features twenty-four well-known Disney songs, including "When You Wish Upon A Star" and "Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo." The CD is packaged with a 16-page full-color booklet to enhance customer value. Shelley Miles, vice-president, Disneyland Records and Tapes, says "The market is performing even better than our early expectations. We are providing a truly special listening experience for both adults and children using our vast library of Disney music."

The company continues to experience good sales from its "Golden Anniversary of Snow White" series, which includes two cassette packages, an LP and a CD with a beautifully illustrated four-color read-along story book.

**REVIEWS**

**CLASSICAL**

A CHILD'S LOOK AT MOZART - Kid's Records KRC 1027

**MUSICAL CHAIRS/ A CLASSICAL MUSIC FANTASY FOR CHILDREN**

Kid's Records KRC 1003

They say that if you can hook them on the Classics at an early age, you have them for life. These two releases from Kid's Records attempt to do just that. The first is a biography of Mozart and an introduction to music, which can be seen through the eyes of Mozart's sister Nannerl. Included are excerpts of Mozart's most popular works with the original scoring, left essentially intact. The second combines popular works from various composers interspersed with a story that is closely tied to the work; a form of word-painting or program music for children. Both cassettes are well presented with each section being substantive, but not too long to allow young attention spans to wander.

**POP/ROCK**

Ms. Dunleavy presents a mixture of traditional and original songs sung to a light rock beat. The lyrics are simple enough for the youngest to understand and sing along. My audience of children from 4 to 13 years old liked "Robot Rumba," "Rockin' Robin" and the title song, "Tick Tock Rock." There are also various response songs as well, calling for the children to call out letters or numbers. All in all, this is a fine introduction to pop/rock music as well as being entertaining to preschoolers as well as older children. The album was produced by Bill Usher for Kid Glove Records.

**Kids Records**

**TICK TOCK ROCK / DEBORAH DUNLEAVY**

12" LP and cassette

Peter Pan Industries

**WHEN YOU DREAM A DREAM / BOB SCHNEIDER**

12" LP and cassette

This is a very clever album that covers a lot of pop/rock/rock background. There are participation songs like "Monster Walk" and "Band of Sounds." The latter has a distinctive Jamaican flavor and is sung by Schneider and a talented group of young vocalists in a creative a cappella fashion. It encourages the listener to join in, either as a tambourine, or drum or trombone. Included also is a fine cover of the Harold Arlen classic from The Wizard of Oz, "Over The Rainbow." The session was produced and arranged by Jack Schechtman at Toronto's Sound Studios.
Vermont Firm Grows With The Market

Vermont based Silo/Alcazar Distributors offers literally thousands of children’s cassettes, albums, CDs and videos. Its titles range from Ray Bolger reading The Wizard of Oz to Earth Mother Lullabies. Its lines include the sophisticated Windham Hill albums and CDs as well as offerings from children’s record manufacturers of all sizes. They all have one thing in common, they are high quality, listenable, positive product. The music styles range from bluegrass to jazz, folk to classical, rock to new age. The messages deal with self-esteem, health, cooperation, ethnic and gender equality, family relationships, peace and ecology, as well as providing recreational activity and good family fun.

From Kids Records, one of the largest lines distributed by Silo/Alcazar, comes a collection of children’s cassettes, including Songs and Games For Toddlers by Bob McGrath and Katherine Smithrim and Kim and Jerry Brodey’s entertaining Simple Magic. Both cassettes feature sing-alongs, catchy little tunes, each of which are traditional children’s favorites. They seem to be a combination of the songs we all grew up on and a variety of simple songs, ones that don’t have long words or verses that a toddler might find difficult to remember. The cassettes for the smaller children are designed to involve the child with what’s going on and provide recreational activity, rather than requiring the child to simply sit and listen. Also on the Kids Records label is an unusual and interesting title: “What it means to be Jewish.” It contains a thoughtful, interesting storyline and features some of the more traditional Jewish melodies. While obviously aimed at the Jewish child, this cassette goes beyond ethnic lines and promotes understanding among the general population. From well-known and multi-faceted Laura Simms comes more of her fascinating storytelling. Any child (and most adults) would find themselves caught up in the excitement of her creative and well-told adventures. There’s A Horse In My Pocket is exceptionally appealing, but we must also recommend Ms. Simms’ Stories Just Night For Kids.

Kids Records offers an extensive catalog covering everything from toddler playtime cassettes to records that are aimed at helping children develop a social consciousness. Touch A Hand, Make A Friend and the album Peace By Peace both fall in the latter category.

The current trend leading towards providing quality home entertainment for the whole family has resulted in retailers setting aside much larger areas of floor and display space to meet the demands of this ever-growing market. Silo/Alcazar provides retailers with a comprehensive catalog which goes beyond being a mere listing of titles, providing capsule and in-depth reviews and visuals depicting the actual product. They also have a policy of aiding retailers in setting up kid’s corners, and carry display items such as oak and plastic cassette racks. Those wishing a copy of their 1988 catalog should contact Rob Coates, Silo, Inc., P.O. Box 429, Dept. 445, Waterbury, VT 05675 or call him at (802) 244-5178.

The Best In Children’s Music . . . And Everything Else

RAFFI
WEE SING
HAP PALMER
ROSENFELD & ZITZ
SHARON LOIS & BRAM
BOB (Sesame Street) MCGRATH
AND HUNDREDS MORE

Silo, Inc.
Box 429 Dept. 445
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 244-5178

Silo Records


**WHERE DID I COME FROM?**

The video that children and adults have been asking for...

Sex Education Can Be Fun!

LCA/Consolidated Video

WHERE DID I COME FROM VHS - 27 minutes

Where Did I Come From? is a gentle yet explicit animated video explaining the birds and the bees to kids of all ages. It broaches the subject in an extremely sensitive manner, starting with some of the sometimes hilarious explanations given to kids about where they came from, including "they served you with dinner at the hospital". The narration is very loving in tone and carefully written to complement the visual. In order to show the genitals, the filmmakers show mom and dad in a tub covered with suds, each gets up as the rubber ducky looks on in interest, and the sudS fall away revealing the parts. The act of intercourse is always associated with love, in one very nice scene mom and dad are shown in bed with hearts floating all about. All the animation has a humorous edge to it.

The liner notes say it best "From the sperm race to fertilization tango, from the comforts of womb service to the joys of birth, the facts of life are presented with the same love and humor that have made 'Where Did I Come From' a best selling book all over the world." The film is in color and runs 27 minutes. It is an LCA/Consolidated release, written by Peter Mayle and produced by Steve Walsh.

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**Concord Video**

**Featuring Budget & Mid-Line Children's Videos In Many Categories**

We reviewed Sunday School Stories in Concord's Fun Learning series, carrying a suggested retail price of $14.98 and recommended for children from 3 - 8 years old. The presentation was simple and straightforward, with the Story of Christmas and The Story of Easter told through the eyes of a small boy explaining the events to his dog. Limited animation is the visual technique employed, and it works well in this format. The 30+ minute cassette also includes a clever lesson called Right and Wrong, which allows the child to participate in answering questions about truth, about intentional lies and simple falsehoods. The final story, called You Are Somebody Special deals with self-esteem and uses real people to illustrate its points. The family we reviewed this cassette with consisted of four Latino/American children ranging in age from 4 to 11, and their parents. The four year old is probably still in front of the TV replaying Right and Wrong.

Concord also offers hundreds of other titles for both children and adults. Among the series offered for children are Children's Video Encyclopedia with six titles; Learn-A-Long, with five titles; Mr. Know-It-All's Video School and Mr. Know-It-All's Video Tales, with ten and six titles, respectively. Retailers wishing to acquaint themselves with this high-quality product may contact Gregory Stogel at 801 South Main Street, Burbank, CA 91506, or call him at (818) 842-5856 for a full catalog.

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**Recommended For Easter Airplay**

Remember "Dear Mr. Jesus", last fall? Okay, PDs, MDs and DJs - here's your chance to do it again. There are at least three cuts on this album that deserve airplay on country and adult contemporary radio as well as on Gospel/Christian stations. If you think "In God We Trust" is too red, white and blue, remember that didn't keep Lee Greenwood and Charlie Daniels from having huge hits. However, there are wonderful versions of old standards that are worthy of your attention. Check it out. For copies write P.O. Box 36, Mohomet, IL 61853.

**ALSO RECOMMENDED**

SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK - The Other Side - Flying Fish Records

SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK - Feel Something Drawing Me On Flying Fish Records

For listening copies contact: Flying Fish Records (312) 267-2310.

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**New World Video Releases New Children's Series**

**Little People Videos Coming This Spring**

Six half-hour videos based on Fisher-Price's popular Little People characters and featuring high quality animation will be available in the coming months. The title schedule provides for two releases in late March, Favorite Songs and Three Favorite Stories; two in June, A Visit To The Farm and Jokes, Riddles and Rhymes; and the final releases in September, Fun With Words and Christmas Fun. Major advertising promotion in both print and television broadcast media is planned.

In-store displays, including posters (available in the fall), counter-top displays that hold 12 (two titles) videocassette/booking packages (available with first two releases) and a free standing 3-dimensional floor display to house the entire Little People line (ready in the fall), will be available to retailers.

The product is available in VHS format only, and carries a suggested retail price of $14.98 (slightly higher in Canada).

Unfortunately, no product was available for review at press time; however The Independent Way will carry reviews of this line in Children's Special in late August. In the meantime, interested distributors and retailers may obtain full information from Larry Goldman at Bender, Goldman & Helper, (213) 473-4147.

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**Cash Box**

April 2, 1989
CASH BOX TOP RETAIL VIDEO CASSETTES

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CASH BOX TOP RENTAL VIDEO CASSETTES

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W. A R N E R  H O M E  V I D E O  R E L E A S E S  B A R F L Y  – Based on legendary poet/novelist Charles Bukowski’s screenplay, this film starring Mickey Rourke and Faye Dunaway explores the boozy world of an alcoholic writer and his girlfriend. What the film lacks in plot it gains in great characterizations, funny dialogue, and grimy atmosphere. Rourke, who plays the drunkard Henry, manages to write prose between brawls with bartender Frank Stallone and romantic (if somewhat degenerate) interludes with the Dunaway character Wanda and a literary editor played by Alice Krige. Criticisms you may have heard that the film celebrates drunkenness as a form of personal rebellion against the shackles of society are completely true, but beside the point. The film is about characters, sometimes disgusting characters, but nonetheless legitimate subjects. If you’re contemplating AA, you might wait this one out until after your first meeting. The video will be available May 25th, for $89.95.

Schocking News – Capitol Recording Artist Gina Schack, ex-Go-Go and leader of her new band House Of Schack, recently finished a video for “Middle Of Nowhere” her first single from her self titled LP. It was directed by Mary Lambert. Pictured (l-r) Mary Lambert and Gina Schack.

A N D  I F  Y O U  C H O O S E  T H E  M I C R O - W A V E  P O P C O R N – Quite seriously, MCA Home Video will release Dr. Heimlich’s Home First Aid Video in March. He is the inventor of the world-famous “Heimlich Maneuver” used to dislodge foreign material from a choking person’s lungs and throat. The video shows step-by-step procedures for dealing with all kinds of emergencies including choking, chemical burns, poison ivy, lacerations, animal bites, nosebleeds, black eyes, and scalding. The video will be advertised on nationwide TV giving consumers an opportunity to order by toll free phone for $29.95. WEINTRAUB AND WARNER BROS. IN HOME VIDEO DEAL – Weintraub Entertainment Group has made a multi-million-dollar deal with Warner Bros. Inc. for the home video distribution of 300 of the more than 2000 titles which comprise the Weintraub Screen Entertainment Library. The films listed include Amadeus, The Deer Hunter, The Elephant Man, and Tender Mercies. The territories covered in the deal will include the United Kingdom, Australia, France, New Zealand, Benelux and Spain.

TREKKIES REJOICE – Paramount Home Video has announced the release of the final 18 episodes of the original TV series Star Trek on May 11th for $12.95 each. Additionally, all 59 previously released episodes will be re-priced from $14.95 to $12.95. “The Cage,” the series pilot, and “The Menagerie,” a two part pilot, continue to be priced at $29.95. We got out our calculator and figured that for a little over $1000 you can buy everything that the crew ever did on TV. One of life’s big bargains.

Julius Robinson

Cash Box  April 2, 1988
THE DEL-LORDS
Based On A True Story – Enigma (D2-73326) – Producer: Neil Geraldo
The latest from critically acclaimed east coast outfit The Del-Lords should firmly establish band far beyond cult status. Expertly
produced by Neil Geraldo, Based On A True Story features guest spots from the likes of Mojo Nixon, Pat Benatar, the Pandoras and the incredible Ms. Syd Straw. The CD, complete with graphic art on the disc, translates well from its original analog recording to digital technology. Best cuts include "Cheyenne," "Whole Lotta Nothin' Goin' On," "River Of Justice," "I'm Gonna Be Around" and "The Cool And The Crazy." AOR will most likely benefit first from The Del-Lords infectious rhythms with inevitable crossover in time.

DEACON BLUE
Raintown – CBS (CBS 450549-2) – (Import) – Producer: Jon Kelly
This Glasgow, Scotland-based band provide a fresh, sophisticated, brilliant pop sound that should captivate American audiences as it has overseas. The import compact disc of Deacon Blue's stunning debut release includes two non-LP cuts, "Riches" and "Kings Of The Western World." Best tracks include "Dignity," "Chocolate Girl," "Loaded," "He Looks Like Spencer Tracy Now," "The Very Thing" and "Love's Great Fears." The compact disc of Raintown reveals crystal-clear sound with no annoying analog tape hiss evident. Don't miss out!

CD NEW RELEASES

ART GARFUNKEL – Lefty – Columbia (CK 40942) – Producers: Various
DEACON BLUE – Raintown – Columbia (CK 40915) – Producer: J. Kelly
GRANDMASTER FLASH AND THE FURIOUS FIVE – On The Strength – Elektra (60769-2) – Producers: Grandmaster Flash And The Furious Five
JONI MITCHELL – Chalk Mark In A Rainstorm – Geffen (24172-2) – Producers: J. Mitchell-L. Klein
THE SMITHEREENS – Green Thoughts – Enigma/Capitol (48373) – Producer: D. Dixon
TINA TURNER – Tina Live In Europe – Capitol (90126) – Producers: J. Hudson-T. Britten
GODLEY & CREME – Goodbye Blue Sky – Polydor/PG (835 348-2) – Producers: Godley & Creme
MORRISSEY – Viva Hate – Sire/Reprise (25699-2) – Producer: S. Street

THE STRANGERS – All Live And All Of The Night – Epic (44209) – Producers: The Stranglers-T. Hayton
BLACK 'N BLUE – In Heat – Geffen (24180-2) – Producer: G. Simmons
THROWING MUSES – House Tornado – Sire/WB (25710-2) – Producer: G. Smith
SEMI-TWANG – Salty Tears – Warner Bros. (25682-2) – Producers: Various
THE WILD SWANS – Bringing Home The Ashes – Sire/Reprise (25697-2) – Producer: P. Hardiman
TIMES TWO – X 2 – Reprise (25624-2) – Producers: Various
JOHN WHITEHEAD – I Need Money Bad – Mercury/PG (834 310-2) – Producer: G. McFadden
PAUL JACKSON, JR. – I Came To Play – Atlantic (81841-2) – Producer: P. Jackson, Jr.
GEOFFREY WILLIAMS – Heroes, Spies And Gypsies – Atlantic (81786-2) – Producers: Various

CASH BOX TOP 40 COMPACT DISCS

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21A MOMENTARY LAPSE OF REASON
12 CLOUD NINE
GEORGE HARRISON
(Dark Horse/Warner Bros. 2-20643)
13 THE JOSHUA TREE
U2 (Island 2-00681)
14 GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM
ROBERT PLANT (Parlophone/Capital 7 90663-2)
15 THE STRANGERS
All Live And All Of The Night – Epic (44209)
21B OUT OF THE BLUE
DEBBIE GIBSON
Atlantic (A 2-81780)
22 THE KINGDOM COME
DEBUT
26 CHERRY BOMBS
KINN (Columbia 2-00718)
25 DEBBIE GIBSON
Atlantic (A 2-81780)
26 KINGDOM COME
DEBUT
25671-2
27 TINA TURNER – Tina Live In Europe – Capitol (90126) – Producer: J. Hudson-T. Britten
28 WHITESNAKE
(Sire/WB (25710-2) – Producer: G. Smith
29 WHITNEY
WHITNEY (Columbia 2-00718)
30 CHER
(Reprise (25697-2) – Producer: P. Hardiman

TOP 40 COMPACT DISCS CHART IS BASED ON SOLELY ON ACTUAL PIECES SOLD AT RETAIL STORES.

Cash Box April 2, 1988
JAZZ

CASH BOX JAZZ ALBUMS

Title, Artist, Label, Number, Distributor

- Available on Compact Disc
- Platinum (RIA A Certification)
- Gold (RIA A Certified)

1. DIANE REEVES (Dianne Reeves) 2. MARALIS STANDARD TIME VOL. 1 (Wynton Marsalis) 3. STILL LIFE (Talking) 4. JUST BETWEEN US (Dizzy Gillespie) 5. DIANE SCHUUR & THE COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA (Diane Schuur) 6. 7 REAISONNANCE (Beanoord Marsalis) 7. AND YOU KNOW THAT (Herb Alpert) 8. COLLABORATION (George Russell) 9. JOE PASS (Joe Pass) 10. EVERY NIGHT LIVE AT A VINE (Joe Williams) 11. CONCERT DATE SEA FRONT FRIENDS CHUCK CRAWFORD ANTHONY BRAXTON (Chuck Crawford) 12. TRIBUTE TO COUNT BASIE (Miles Davis) 13. THE VERY BEST OF GEORGE HOWERD VOL. 1 (George Howard) 14. DUOTONES (Cerry G. Stim (Stim)) 15. NORTHERN LIGHTS (Danniel) 16. MICHAEL BRECKER (Michael Brecker) 17. SWINGIN’ WITH SWEND (Graig Irving) 18. THE GIFT OF TIME (Milt Jackson) 19. WALTER BEASLY (Walter Beasley) 20. STORIES WITH WORDS (Randy Brecker) 21. DOLPHIN SMILES (Phil Woods) 22. TIME AND TIDE (Time and Tide) 23. TIRAMI SU (Tirami Su) 24. FULL CIRCLE (Jinno) 25. BAZILIAN ROMANCE (Bazilian Romance) 26. CELEBRATION (Celebration) 27. DISCOVERY (Discovery) 28. A CHANGE OF HEART (A Change of Heart) 29. JEFFREY WALLACK (Jeffrey Wallack) 30. TRIBUNE TO THE ALLEY CAT (Tribune to the Alley Cat) 31. TRAILBLAZER (Trailblazer)

JAZZ FEATURE PICKS

MAGICAL TRIO 1 – James Williams - Emarcy 852-859 – Producer: Kiyoshi Koyama, James Williams Excellent post-bop pianist and composer fares exceptionally well in lighting-fast company. Art Blakey and Ray Brown; the first time, amazingly enough, that veterans Brown and Blakey have ever recorded together.

MILES IN BED – Miles Davis, cancelled his slot at The Grammy Awards at the last minute, is in a New York hospital with "an infection in his leg caused by an injury sustained while touring France." He's expected to spend three weeks in rehabilitation for treatment. Get well, Miles.

Lee Jeske

Pure champagne! Perfection; yes, surprises, no.

EUROPEAN TOUR – The Newport Jazz Festival All-Stars – Concord Jazz CJ-343 – Producer: George Wein Pianist/impressario George Wein-led swing date featuring the extraordinary four-sax line-up of Al Cohn, Harold Ashby, Scott Hamilton and Norris Tuttle.

MEUS SONHO DOURADOS (MY GOLDEN DREAMS) – Narra Leao – Philips 832 639 – Producer: Roberto Menescal An unusual, but effective, album of bossa nova versions of American standards done in Portugese by the veteran Brazilian vocalist. Turn-about is fair play.

CAETANO – Caetano Veloso – Philips 832 938 – Producer: Gato Graco Mello Elegant, moving bosa nova tinged Brazilian pop music. Not as mellow as the Brazilian star's last two releases, but one that should find the same ears.

DIZ HERE – Dizzy Gillespie reads a monologue from Roach at a record release on a recent Musicians-organized Village Vanguard reception to announce the establishment of the Buddy Rich Memorial Scholarship Fund at the NYU School of Music.

PASSING ON – Dannie Richmond, one of the most distinguished of all jazz drummers, died suddenly of a heart attack March 16 while in New York between tours. In recent years, Richmond's unique, warm sound and her musical eloquence was her Schulz, formerly executive director of the Don Pullen-George Adams Quartet and in the odd tour and record with the Mingus Dynasty, but Dan- nie Richmond will be best remembered for his work with Charlie Mingus. He was primarily a saxophonist in the '50s when Mingus helped him turn into a drummer, and the sambaistic musical, and personal, relationship the two of them had for more than 20 years was rare in jazz. Richmond left Mingus for four years in the early-70s, but it was temporary: Mingus rehired him and kept him in his bands until his death in 1979. The Don Pullen-George Adams Quartet and in the odd tour and record with the Mingus Dynasty, but Dannie Richmond will be best remembered for his work with Charlie Mingus. He was primarily a saxophonist in the '50s when Mingus helped him turn into a drummer, and the sambaistic musical, and personal, relationship the two of them had for more than 20 years was rare in jazz. Richmond left Mingus for four years in the early-70s, but it was temporary: Mingus rehired him and kept him in his bands until his death in 1979. The 70s found of Charlie Mingus's music would have been different without the sound of Dannie Richmond. Dannie Richmond was a personal friend, and he will be missed. He was 62.

MCA TO MCA – See if you can follow this: MCA Jazz Marketing, Promotion and Publicity is now being directed by the MCA Records Group, which, according to the release, "further underscores MCA's continuing commitment to jazz." According to MCA Records president Myron Roth, "We consider jazz an important business here and in this way it can receive the same emphasis that we give to all the other styles of music." Everybody in the jazz division gets promotions to go with this, which is fine. This is the third time (and second vice president of MCA Jazz, now vice-president of jazz. Personally, I think it's time for MCA to dig a little deeper into its vaults. RCA, Blue Note, PolyGram, Columbia, and other labels are releasing classic items by the carton while MCA – which has Impulse, Decca (classic Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, etc.), Argo/Cadet, and other labels – has just published one other release here, a fusion release there. NEW BLUEBIRDS – RCA, sure enough, has just unboxed another dozen Bluebird CD-only reissues, another crazy quilt of releases rangeling far and wide with the label's jazz holdings. The releases are:
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CASH BOX TOP 100 ALBUMS

THE CASH BOX TOP 200 ALBUMS CHART IS BASED SOLELY ON ACTUAL SALES MADE AT RETAIL STORES.

Title, Artist, Label, Number, Distributor

- Gold (RIAA Certified)
- Platinum (RIAA Certified)
**NEW 12" RELEASES**

- **MAGIC LADY** (MOTOWN 4605MG)
- **BETCHA CAN'T LOSE WITH MY LOVE** (Motown S/E 61670)
- **IF WE TRY** (MCA, Inc./Bayuin Boat Music) (BMI) (Babyface-T. Coates-Lynelle E.) (Producers: L.A. Reid-Babyface)
- **MEL'S MORGAN** (CAPITOL SPRO-79303)
- **HERE COMES THE NIGHT** (Atlantic 76702)
- **JEAN BEAUVIOR** (COLUMBIA 44 07585)
- **PRINCESS & STARBBREEZE** (MCA 23855)
- **COLONEL ABRAMS** (MCA L33-17521)
- **WALTER BEASLEY** (POLYDOR 887 413-1)
- **NIA PEEPLES** (MERCURY 870 154-1)

**MOST ACTIVE**

- **DA' BUT**
- **NEVER GONNA GIVE YOU UP**
- **BED ROCK**
- **MOVE THE CROWD/PAID IN FULL**
- **MIRACLES EXPLODE**
- **GET OUTTA' MY DREAMS, GET INTO MY CAR**
- **PUMP UP THE VOLUME**
- **PIT SHOP BOYS**
- **NEVER CAN SAY GOODBYE**
- **LOVIN' ON NEXT TO NOTHING**
- **CAN'T WAIT**
- **LEAVE IT ALL BEHIND**
- **EASY TO TOUCH**
- **NEED SOMEBODY**
- **LIVE MY LIFE**
- **I'M THE ONE WHO REALLY LOVES YOU**
- **LOVE OVERBOARD**

**CLUB PICK**

- **EARTH, WIND & FIRE-Thinking Of You-Columbia**
- **BILLY OCEAN**
- **AL B. SURE-Nite And Day-WB**
- **GEORGO-Bed Rock-Motown**
- **JELLYBEAN-Just A Mirage-Chrysalis**
Judy Rodman: At Home
And On The Road

Judy Rodman, the popular MTM music recording artist, is one of those say-to-talk-to people. In fact, Judy was so easy to talk to, during our interview, that we strayed way off the usual path of topics planned, however, because we strayed, I find an extremely interesting man interest side of Judy Rodman. We were speaking of her many trips on the road to entertain her fans throughout the country. She related that she enjoyed the road trips but she worried about her husband, John, and her son, Peter. Back home, "You know, I leave frozen gala, already prepared by me, in the freezer for them. I make the menus and leave them 'stocked' before I take them on a trip. I'm very much into health food for all of us. I have found that the nutritional foods give me energy to perform during my shows. It seems that they simply provide the stamina I need."

Judy also spoke of an event involving her health kick, which she now says about. However, it was a bit frightening when it happened. I take a jug of distilled water everywhere I go," she said. "Well, late night, I was coming home in a recording session at the studio. When I stopped at a red light, I took a swig of water from my jug. I'll have you to know, two blocks later I was stopped by the police to check me for driving while under the influence!"

Displaying even more humor with a wide smile, Judy continued, "On the road, nutritional foods are sometimes hard to find so I take a lot of fruits and vegetables with me. Sometimes, I go to salad bars. But, if I can't find one...I eat a pizza and pray!"

Judy Rodman is doing a lot of writing these days, too. She says she has been a true songwriter for the past 6 or 7 years. "I haven't been prolific, but I'm proud of what I have written." Judy adds, "When I write, I want to be uncompromising. I have a couple of co-writers whom I try to write with each week."

When I was at Tahoe, I wanted to write while I was there performing. Robin Kaye at MTM, suggested that they send Jane Mariash Bach to Tahoe to write with me. It started a very productive writing team. We had never met before, but there was a musical chemistry between us as writers. Dewayne Orendre is another co-writer who makes me feel very comfortable when we write together. Others I write with are Tom Damphier and Casey Kelley, who has a great feel on guitar. I love performing, but writing feels so good, too, because of the creativity involved."

Judy Rodman is a very talented lady in all areas of her life. She takes care of her family, even while she is on the road, and she tours a great deal. Judy's new MTM single, "Goin' To Work," is scheduled for a mid-April release, and her new album, with Garth Fundis producing, is tabbed for release in July. No doubt, she'll be traveling even more!

Joe Henderson

ALBUM REVIEW

THE O'KANES-Tired Of Runnin'-
Columbia, C 46066

Jamie O'Hara and Kieran Kane come through strong with their second album release on Columbia Records. Not only are their vocals finely tuned, their songwriting abilities shine too! Co-writting nine of the ten cuts, O'Hara and Kane have developed a distinctive sound and are able to communicate it beautifully through their production techniques. The mandolin and accordion are used liberally throughout the album giving it character as well. We liked the title track "Tired Of Runnin'," "In My Heart," and the already-released "One True Love."

ALBUM REVIEW

JO-EL SONNIER-Come On Joe-RCA,
6374-R

Jo-El Sonnier released a varied product with his debut album on RCA Records. Shades of country-swing tinged with Cajun accordian provide the perfect background for Sonnier's emotional vocals. With two single releases, ("Come On Joe," and "No More One More Time"), Louisiana-born Sonnier is finally having chart success after 35 years of performing. Other hot cuts include "Rainin' In My Heart," (with guest organ soloist Steve Winwood, bluesy "Louisian 1927," and toe-tappin' " Tear Stained Let-

CASH BOX COUNTRY ALBUMS

Title, Artist, Label, Number, Distributor

ALBUM REVIEW

JO-EL SONNIER-Come On Joe-RCA,
6374-R
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>WHAT WILL BE IN JUNE (Warner Bros. 4-84112)</td>
<td>T. Graham Brown</td>
<td>(Capitol)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>TELL ME THE WAYS (Warner Bros. 7-27994)</td>
<td>Dwight Yoakam</td>
<td>(Capitol)</td>
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<td>ALL OF THIS AND MORE (Warner Bros. 7-28106)</td>
<td>Crystal Gayle and Gary</td>
<td>(Warner Bros. 7-28106)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>THE BEST I KNOW NOW (Capitol)</td>
<td>The Statler Brothers</td>
<td>(Columbia)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>I REMEMBER YOU (Capitol)</td>
<td>Glen Campbell</td>
<td>(MCA)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>BAD NEWS (Warner Bros. 7-28286)</td>
<td>Randy Travis</td>
<td>(Warner Bros. 7-28286)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>ANGEL ON MY MIND (Capitol)</td>
<td>Ricky Skaggs</td>
<td>(Capitol)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>ALL THE CAN'Ts (Capitol)</td>
<td>Kathy Mattea</td>
<td>(Columbia)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>I'LL BE WITH YOU (Warner Bros. 7-29105)</td>
<td>Skip Ewing</td>
<td>(Warner Bros. 7-29105)</td>
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<td>LOVE IS A LITTLE THING (MCA 52327)</td>
<td>Earl Thomas Conley</td>
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<td>ANGEL ON MY MIND (Capitol)</td>
<td>Kathy Mattea</td>
<td>(Columbia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>ALL THE CAN'Ts (Capitol)</td>
<td>Kathy Mattea</td>
<td>(Columbia)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>I'LL BE WITH YOU (Warner Bros. 7-29105)</td>
<td>Skip Ewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>LOVE IS A LITTLE THING (MCA 52327)</td>
<td>Earl Thomas Conley</td>
<td>(MCA)</td>
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<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CASH BOX COUNTRY SINGLES**
Randy Travis (Warner Bros., 7-27952-A) "I Told You So" (Capitol's Jim Boggs and Randy Travis): "This is one of those songs that fits perfectly with Randy Travis' voice," said Mike Boggs. "It's a song that really showcases his talent and makes him stand out as a singer." For me, it's a real highlight of this album.\n
**Southern Pacific** (Capitol, 7-27952-A) "Midnight Highway" (G. McFee, M. Norman): "This song is a great example of how Southern Pacific has been able to create a unique sound with its developing artists. It's a beautiful song with a lot of emotional depth."\n
---

**Nashville Note-Ables**

Maxx Records Showing Early Success!

Nashville, Tennessee - With both of its debut acts making a significant impact on the national record charts, Maxx Records is experiencing a burst of growth that has exceeded even the expectations of the label's top officials.

"Our activity has increased more than 100 percent," said Fred Morris, president of the Nashville-based independent label. "Before we were just another company, but now we're a record label with two acts on the charts."

The label's initial acts, vocalist Jill Jordan and country/rock threesome Don Juan, are being showcased on the charts less than six months after the label was formed. Morris and Maxx Records executive director Peggy Bradley both said they attribute much of the artists' success to "the right timing" as well as an aggressive promotional campaign.

"Fred actually spent about 18 months just developing the talent before we decided the timing was right," Ms. Bradley said. "We knew all along that the timing would have to be just right before we set our release dates."

Morris said the label has developed a "continuing policy" toward promotion which relies heavily on "the personal touch."

"We've spent a lot of time working closely with our artists on how to relate and respond to radio in a way that would cause the industry to respond to them," Morris said. "Our acts have remained in constant contact with radio people, and I think that's part of what's made the difference. We've put the emphasis on the personal touch, and that's something we will continue to do for any artist signed to the label in the future."

So far radio has remained extremely receptive to both artists, which Morris termed "the most gratifying part of all this to me personally."

The company's aggressive promotional stance has carried over into other areas of its operation as well. "Our main goal is to make Maxx Records as expansive as possible," Morris said. "We have many plans for the future that we think will result in Maxx Records becoming internationally known as a major independent label."

The company has already established a progressive reputation with its full move into the rapidly expanding Compact Disc market, with debut LP's by both acts - Jill Jordan's "Handle With Care" and Don Juan's "Powerful Stuff" - available in CD format, making it one of the first independent labels in the nation to make such a commitment. Morris also said that Maxx Records plans to enter the international marketplace in the near future.

With both Jill Jordan and Don Juan now touring in support of their releases, Morris and Ms. Bradley indicated that they anticipate the company's rapid growth will continue. As its activity continues to increase, the staff of Maxx Records will also continue to grow, according to Morris, who said the company is in the process of additional hirings which will enable it to bring many related functions in-house.

Despite its rapid growth, Morris said the label will continue its "open door" policy concerning new talent and material submitted to each of its four publishing divisions. "Since things have really taken off for us, we've been deluged with material and potential artists," he said. "But they're not just heaping up here on somebody's desk. We will continue to closely consider everything that comes in."

---

**Feature Picks**

**Southern Pacific** (Warner Bros., 7-27952-A) "Midnight Highway" (G. McFee, M. Norman): "This song is a great example of how Southern Pacific has been able to create a unique sound with its developing artists. It's a beautiful song with a lot of emotional depth."\n
---

**Country Reunion**

The reunion concert, which took place at the Grand Ole Opry, featured some of the greatest country music acts of all time. It was an emotional evening for fans and performers alike, as they looked back on the rich history of the genre. The concert was a testament to the power of music to bring people together, and it left everyone with a sense of pride and gratitude for the legacy of country music.

Superb up-tempo tune from The Kendall's. Radio has been waiting for this one! Jeannie and Royce put on their boogie boots and capture everyone's attention. The lyrics say, "Feelin' the beat," and you surely will. A great arrangement and production contribute to make this an outstanding product. More lyrics..."oooh, baby..."it's good!

Look for this one to hit the radio playlists in a hurry. It's an excellent choice for the listeners. Our toes are still tapping.


Like everyone else, our review panel was smiling before the record was played. Before Tiny Tim was through the first verse, they were smiling from enjoyment. There's no mistaking the voice of the legendary performer, but it certainly is not the "Tip Toe Through The Tulips" falsetto of the 60's. This is Tiny Tim falling right into a fine western-swing groove and enjoying every minute of it. Now and them, someone steps into country and brings a pleasant surprise along with him. Surprise!

INDIE FEATURE PICKS

ROB CROSBY (Southern Tracks, ST-1095) This Is The Night (2:29) (Lowery, Courtland, Beauty And Willis-BMI) (R. Crosby, J. Brannen) (Producers: J. Brannen, C.M. Spriggs, R. Crosby)

We're excited for Rob Crosby! This up-and-coming artist and songwriter shows the best of both on this release. More products like this one will certainly get him to the top in a hurry. Great "feel" in this strong mid-tempo song. "This Is The Night" might well be called "This Is The Record" for Rob Crosby!


Tommy Bell really raps ours with his vocal on this blues and soul approach to a country ballad. Tommy really knows how to handle the feeling in a song. This beautifully simple production hands the ball to Tommy Bell, and he scores a touchdown in the middle. The moment the needle touches down on the record!

VICKI BIRD (16th Avenue, B-70413) A Little Bit Of Lovin' (2:45) (Chriswood, Screen Gems-EMI-BMI) (B. Wood, R. Cook) (Producer: J. Bradley)

The pretty, little song "bird" returns with an early spring release. She brought the sunshine to the faces of our panel with an excellent country vocal on this perky country song. Vicki is, perhaps, the truest country female vocalist of all the newcomers. You gotta love her...her vitality, on record, matches her in-person personality.

DARK HORSE CONSENSUS

THE KENDALLS-The Rhythm Of Romance-Step One, SOR-384

Our Dark Horse Consensus, this week, goes to The Kendall's, as chosen by the majority of reporting stations around the country. This could, and should, be a major hit for the talented father/daughter duo. Some of the many stations giving The Kendall's the nod were: WJRD, WDLW, KZNN, KOLY, KFDR, WATZ, WJBS and KBOE.

CASH BOX INDIES CHART

1 IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING Tim McPhail-Atlantic
2 BIG OLE TEARDROPS Ray Price-Step One
3 FIRST IN LINE Shuffle-Air
4 CAROLINA BLUE The Hi Lane Brothers-Killer
5 I HEAR THE SOUTH Vassar Clements-Spotlight
6 WE WERE LOVERS IN THE FIFTIES Johnny Trave-Tip
7 ECHO ME Margo Smith-Playback
8 I CAN'T TAKE HER ANYWHERE Darrell Holt-Arkoa
9 MUST BE LOVE Jubal-Britbit
10 I'LL KNOW THE GOOD TIMES Country Bit-Nunley-Country
11 SHOULDN'T IT BE EASIER THAN THIS Charley Pride-1st Avenue
12 LOVE AIN'T MADE FOR FOOLS Kevin Peach-Eversgreen
13 WHO EVER LOST YOU Brian Bale-Country Pride
14 THE OTHER WOMAN Ron Roberts-Rose King
15 OUT OF BEER Johnny Paycheck-Desperado-Badlands

NEW AND ACTIVE

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<tr>
<th>TITLE-ARTIST (LABEL)</th>
<th>TOTAL ADDS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ME LETTING GO – Andy Lee Smith (Skyway)</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAPPY DAY – Avondale (Holton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TONIGHT SHE WENT CRAZY WITHOUT ME – Mike Lunsford (Evergreen)</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>YOU CAN'T HURT ME – Sarah (Hub)</td>
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<td>LOOKIN' FOR A BABY TO ROCK – Randy Mow (Sundial)</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAKE IT EASY ON MY HEART – Shadow (ALH)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>THE GOOD LIFE – Mike Shaw (Film Street)</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>WHO NEEDS YOU – Carla Monday (MCM)</td>
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<td>MOONLIGHT SAVING TIME – Billy Wilcox (Door Knob)</td>
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<td>DON'T CALL US – Tuck Tuckfield (NSD)</td>
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<td>DOWN ON THE BAYOU – Ogden Harless (Door Knob)</td>
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<td>MISSIN' TEXAS – Kim Grayson (Soundwaves)</td>
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<td>LEAVE ME SATISFIED – Tiny Tim (NLT)</td>
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<td>BUFFALO VALLEY ROAD – Rosanna Rogers (GBS)</td>
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COUNTRY

SONGWRITER'S PAGE

TOP 30 NATIONAL CHART SONGS

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<th>TITLE-LABEL</th>
<th>ARTIST(S)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DAVID LOGGINS, J.D. MARTIN</td>
<td>Love Will Find It's Way To You-MCA</td>
<td>Reba McEntire</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>DEAN DILLON, REX HUSTON</td>
<td>Famous Last Words Of A Fool-MCA</td>
<td>George Strait</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>EDDIE RABBITT, BILLY JOE WALKER, JR.</td>
<td>I Wanna Dance With You-RCA</td>
<td>Eddie Rabbitt</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>MICHAEL GARVIN, TOM SHAPIRO, BUCKY JONES</td>
<td>Touch And Go Crazy-MCA</td>
<td>Lee Greenwood</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>HOLLY DUNN, CHRIS WATERS</td>
<td>Turn It Loose-RCA/Curb</td>
<td>Holly Dunn</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>DON SCHLITZ, CRAIG BICKARDT, BRENT MAHER</td>
<td>I'll Always Come Back-RCA</td>
<td>The Judds</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>JOHN SCOTT SHERRILL, DON DEVANEY</td>
<td>Cry, Cry, Cry-Warner Bros.</td>
<td>Highway 101</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>RON CROWELL</td>
<td>It's Such A Small World-Columbia</td>
<td>Rodney Crowell and Rosanne Cash</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>WYALON JENNINGS, ROGER MURRAY</td>
<td>If Ole Hank Could Only See Us Now-MCA</td>
<td>Waylon Jennings</td>
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<td>BROWN, BOUTON, BURCH</td>
<td>The Last Resort-Capitol</td>
<td>T. Graham Brown</td>
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<td>MABEL BLACK, AUSTIN ROBERTS, BUZZ CASSEL</td>
<td>Timeless And True Love-Warner Bros.</td>
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<td>L. ALDERMAN, R. FAGAN, P. RYAN</td>
<td>Americana-Curb</td>
<td>Joe Sandy</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>HANK WILLIAMS, JR.</td>
<td>Young Country-Warner Bros./Curb</td>
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<td>CONWAY TWITTY, JIM NANCE</td>
<td>It's Only Make Believe-Curb</td>
<td>Ronnie McDowell</td>
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<td>N. HOWARD</td>
<td>Life Turned Her That Way-Columbia</td>
<td>Ricky Van Shelton</td>
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<td>DENNIS LINDE</td>
<td>I'm Gonna Get You-RCA</td>
<td>Eddy Raven</td>
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<td>VANCE GILL</td>
<td>Everybody's Sweetheart-RCA</td>
<td>Vince Gill</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>LISA PALAS, JOHN JARRARD, MARK SANDERS</td>
<td>It Goes Without Saying-Alpine</td>
<td>Tim McIlrath</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>STEVE WARNER, GUY CLARK</td>
<td>Baby I'm Yours-MCA</td>
<td>Steve Wariner</td>
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<td>DAVID BELLAMY, RON TAYLOR</td>
<td>Santer Fe-MCA/Curb</td>
<td>Bellamy Brothers</td>
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<td>DALLAS FRAZIER</td>
<td>If My Heart Had Windows-MCA</td>
<td>Patsy Loveless</td>
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<td>LYLE LOVETT</td>
<td>She's No Lady-MCA/Curb</td>
<td>Lyle Lovett</td>
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<td>JOHN JARRARD, RICK GILES</td>
<td>Shouldn't It Be Easier Than This-16th Ave.</td>
<td>Charley Pride</td>
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<td>LEFTY FRIZZELL, BLACKIE CRAWFORD</td>
<td>Always Late With...-Reprise/Warner Bros.</td>
<td>Dwight Yoakam</td>
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<td>DON SCHLITZ, MICHAEL CLARK</td>
<td>True Heart-MCA</td>
<td>The Oak Ridge Boys</td>
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<td>BECKY FOSTER, JENNIFER KIMBALL, GREG PRESTOPINO</td>
<td>All Of This And More-Warner Bros.</td>
<td>Crystal Gayle/Gary Morris</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>K. BIRD</td>
<td>The Best I Know-My-Mercury/Polygram</td>
<td>The Statler Brothers</td>
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<td>JOHNNY MERCER, VICTOR SCHERTZINGER</td>
<td>I Remember You-MCA</td>
<td>Glenn Campbell</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>GENE PISTILLI</td>
<td>Too Gone Too Long-Warner Bros.</td>
<td>Randy Travis</td>
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TOP 20 INDIE LABEL NATIONAL CHART SONGS

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<td>LISA PALAS, JOHN JARRARD, MARK SANDERS</td>
<td>It Goes Without Saying-Alpine</td>
<td>Tim McIlrath</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>DAVE KIRBY, WARREN ROBB</td>
<td>Big Ole Teardrops-Step One</td>
<td>Ray Price</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>BUTCH BAKER, WADE KIRBY</td>
<td>First In Line-Air</td>
<td>Shurefire</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>DANNY HINSON, DERWIN HINSON</td>
<td>Carolina Blue-Killer</td>
<td>The Hinson Brothers</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>R.C. BANNON, J. BETTIS</td>
<td>I Hear The South-Shikatas</td>
<td>Vassar Clements</td>
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<td>J. TRAVIS</td>
<td>We Were Lovers In The Fifties-Tip</td>
<td>Johnny Marvin</td>
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<td>JERRY FULLER</td>
<td>Echo Me-Playback</td>
<td>Margie Smith</td>
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<td>JOHN JARRARD, WALT ALDRIDGE</td>
<td>I Can't Take Her Anywhere-Anoka</td>
<td>Darrell Holt</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>JOHN STARK</td>
<td>Must Be Love-Starbrite</td>
<td>Jubal</td>
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<td>DANNY MORRISON, SONNY BAILEY, TODD MORRISON</td>
<td>I Know The Good Times-Cannery</td>
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<td>JOHN JARRARD, RICK GILES</td>
<td>Shouldn't It Be Easier Than This-16th Ave.</td>
<td>Charley Pride</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>TERRY SKINNER, J.L. WALLACE</td>
<td>Love Ain't Made For Fools-Evergreen</td>
<td>Kevin Pearce</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>MICHEAL JAY, JAN BUCKINGHAM</td>
<td>Who Ever Lost You-Country Pride</td>
<td>Brian Bate</td>
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<td>RANDY ALBRIGHT, EDDIE SETZER</td>
<td>The Other Woman-Rose King</td>
<td>Ron Roberts</td>
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<td>MIKE DARWIN, HOLLY DARWIN</td>
<td>Out Of Beer-Desperado Bards</td>
<td>Johnny Paycheck</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>HAYNE DAVIS</td>
<td>If You Want My Love-Playback</td>
<td>Maura Sullivan</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>RONNIE GODFREY</td>
<td>Holiday Inn-Shower II</td>
<td>Ronnie Godfrey</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>SHIRLEY TURNEY</td>
<td>Shallow Waters-Gallery II</td>
<td>Tommy Shear</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>TIM WYATT</td>
<td>I've Tried To Make It With You-Wyatt</td>
<td>Wyatt Brothers</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>BOBBY YATES</td>
<td>From The Swamps To The Heavens-NSD</td>
<td>Bobby Yates</td>
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</tbody>
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RAPPIN' WITH THE WRITERS:

JIM RUSHING

Jim Rushing wrote his first song when he was 16 years old. His hometown of Lubbock, Texas was where Buddy Holly was packing the Lubbock Teen Center. Jim already had 13 years of classical piano training under his belt, and he appreciated all forms of music in 1957.

It was to be 14 years later before Jim moved to Nashville to pursue songwriting as a full-time career. In between came Vietnam with a special forces team, graduation from Texas Tech, graduate work at the University of Washington, and a string of anti-war demonstrations where "my classroom was liberated almost daily." Finally, in 1971 Jim moved to Nashville to pursue his dream.

After only two weeks in Nashville, Jim was given a small office at Moss-Rose where he began to perfect his craft. In another two years, he signed with Jack Clement and wrote for Jack Music. There he co-wrote with Don Williams, Wayland Holyfield and Bob McDill. Jim says, "I co-wrote four songs with McDill. During that time, he taught me the basics of songwriting with a special emphasis on the need for patience."

In the years that followed, Rushing wrote for various publishing companies including Tree, Maypop and Coal Miners Music. And, in 1985, Jim began writing for Rickie Skaggs' publishing company at the Wex Music Group. He and Rickie have written songs like "Rockin' The Boat" and "Cajun Moon" together. Many country artists have recorded his tunes. In addition to Rickie Skaggs, a few of the many are: Charley Pride, The Kendalls, Gene Watson, Olivia Newton John, George Jones, Linda Ronstadt, Don Williams, Conway Twitty and Loretta Lynn.

Jim Rushing says, "Writing is still a thrill, but more than ever before (17 years), it has become a studious situation, where a writer has to write his very best every day!"

Joe Henderson

CASH BOX April 2, 1988
Our congratulations to Tom Petit, who was recently appointed to president at Sega...Also learned that Bette Lockhart departed her executive position at Rock-Ola to return to her previously held position at Peerless, which is the real estate/parking firm owned by the company.

A big hit! Concerns of opinion among the numerous showgoers we queried is that ACM ’88 was indeed an outstanding convention, in every respect! The convention site, Bally’s hotel in Reno, won everyone’s approval, especially for the exhibition facilities. Hopefully, by the time we wrap this up, we’ll have an attendance figure (estimates given bordered on 4000 or more) — but suffice to say, “well attended” is what we’ve been hearing. Williams’ marketing veeptee Marty Green mentioned that the best shows we’ve ever had!” The “Cyclone” pin, which Williams intro’d at the convention was “extremely well received.”...Loewen America prez Russ Strahan commended ACM management for presenting a “very well organized” event, in terms of the exhibit layout, educational program, et al. Both of the seminars he participated in (Firing Line and the Jukebox session) drew good numbers. The NISM phone line, likewise, did a continuous flow of traffic to their booth, a main attraction being the new c.d./combination unit which was unveiled at the show; however, Russ hastened to stress that the model is not as yet ready for production or delivery. He told us he noticed a sizeable turnout of western operators on the convention floor, along with operator representation from such areas as Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Florida and the Carolinas...Incidentally, both of the aforementioned gent’s said they enjoyed a tour of the show — and that’s what it’s all about...We heard comments about the three game gun redemption prices shown at ACM ’88 by Atari (Pot Shot), Sega/Bally/Bally and Taito/Top Shot)...As for the locale of this year’s convention — Reno, Nevada, which provided plenty of distractions for showgoers, especially at the gambling tables—all we can say is that most people did their gambling after show hours, so there was no apparent conflict. And from what we’ve learned, next year’s ACM convention will be returning to Reno...One of the “surprise” prices intro’d by Atari was “Vindicators”, a 2-player simultaneous tank game in a futuristic environment; along with “Galaga’88”, as a demonstration, a small-scale version of Dragon Spirit of Pac-Mania; and, of course, their popularly received “Pot Shot” redemption gun game...C.A. Robinson proxy Ira Bettleman had lots of people coming by the stand at the convention site, which provided a kind of “confined atmosphere” whereby most of the activities were held under one roof, making it much easier to participate.

ACME ’88 was “well populated”, he said, with a very good turnout of California ops and enough “new faces” to justify the “Greatest Show on Earth”. He definitely subscribes to the logic of moving the convention to different areas of the country of that’s what it takes to bring in new blood from the operator level...What about the equipment that was displayed? We didn’t get a “hit of the show” report but there was quite an outstanding lineup of product. To quote Atlas Dist. prez Jerry Marcus, “there was enough good equipment to keep the momentum going in the market...” adding that he didn’t see a “trend” on the floor. Jerry singled out Merit’s “Pub Time Premier Dart Game” as a “sleepier” of the show...Chicago operator Kem Thom made the trip to Reno with a few of his sidekicks to “see what’s up” and learned from the show to be “well attended” and certainly worth the trip. “I saw three dynamite pinball machines—Cyclone, Secret Service and Black Water 100, the latter having a dollar acceptor on it, which means three plays for a dollar and that’s great!” He also make mention of the abundance of basketball games that were featured at ACM ‘88, reminiscent of the “cranes and pay phones surge that prevailed when these pieces came into focus.” Kem, along with a few other showgoers we spoke with commented on the sparse Sunday turnout, and suggested that ACM management consider a two-day event...Terry Moss of Moss Dist. in Des Moines, IA was another satisfied showgoer who felt that ACM ’88 “was well attended”, offered a terrific seminar program; and he heaped praise on the manufacturers for presenting a “super” display of equipment. "All of the factories displayed their best and there was a good variety of equipment for operators to choose from," he said. Terry also made note of the outstanding turnout at the AAMA Charitable Foundation testimonial banquet honoring Sega’s David Rosen...He heard quite a number of favorable comments from ops as well as distrists on Capcom’s “Beer Frame” video bowling game...Understand Dynamo was showing a computer generated music machine in its suite...And now for a word from the sponsors. ACM management supplied us with some statistics, such as a total attendance figure of 4392 (exceeding last year’s figure); excellent attendance at the Spouse program; more than 650 at the AAMA Charitable banquet (honoring Sega’s David Rosen); about double the number (over last year) of participants in the various seminars; an increase in booths of 410 (over 87’s 375) and a count of 135 exhibiting firms (over 87’s 125). A first time accommodation for a show was the memory cockIiIi hour on Saturday which catered to over 2400 attendees! Quite a show—wouldn’t you say?

Camille Composio

Bally’s ‘Blackwater 100’

Get ready for the ride of your life with the new Bally “Blackwater 100” pinball, which portrays the world’s toughest race. This is not just laps around a track but a real road course that takes the ride through swamps, rivers, mud and more, as Bally Midway transforms all the excitement of the annual Davis, West Virginia motocross into a high-intensity pinball game.

Blackwater 100 features a three-ball player-activated start gate where players “rev up” to authentic dirt bike sounds. The multi-level playfield depicts the actual race environment — hair-raising turns, treacherous rocks and more. The “Special Test” side door flipper challenge for non-stop action.

Along with the introduction of Blackwater 100 comes a new price per play strategy. And the timing couldn’t be better, according to Steve Blattspieler, Bally Midway’s vice president-sales and marketing. “Blackwater’s unique game play really provides a timely opportunity for us to up our price strategy,” he said. “The realistic race theme and new pricing strategy/dollar bill acceptor combination make Blackwater 100 a sure winner!”

The new model is the work of Bally Midway design team, composed of Dennis Nordman, Nelli Façonner, Gary Oglesby and Tom Rammun.

Further information may be obtained through factory distributor or by contacting Bally Midway Manufacturing Co. at 10601 W. Bent son Ave, Franklin Park, IL 60131.

Premier’s ‘T-X Sector’

Premier Technology beckons players to teleport themselves to a new dimension in pinball, with the newly introduced Gottlieb “T-X Sector”, which utilizes two Transphazer Ramps that lead to the Teleport Stations.

The objective is to advance the Energy Level Bonus by shooting down the top bank and/or middle bank of drop targets and by hitting the left and right spot-targets when lit. The multi-ball objective is achieved when the Energy Level is at maximum strength and the player successfully enters the flashing Teleport Station. To gain access to the left or right Teleport Station players utilize the Transphazer Ramps to blast away in.

During the course of the voyage the multiplier value can be advanced each time all of the top and right drop targets are shot down. At key points, the player must knock down the rollover drop target that guards access to the left Transphazer; and then complete the skill shot up through the left Transphazer Ramp, engaging the Teleport-Multiplier-Countdown show display. Extra ball and special can be earned by hitting the left or right spot targets when lit.

In this model, Gottlieb’s popular photographic-art glass has been combined with a new lightbox design which moves the display panel from the top of the backglass, making the game action visible to spectators. In addition, tiny speakers are now located above the backglass and are directed toward the player, with a third speaker located in the cabinet. This combination of speakers, plus Premier’s digitized sound, produces clean, crisp music and sound effects and a clear speech that directs and coaxes the player throughout gameplay...

T-X Sector is available through factory distributors. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Premier Technology at 755 Industria Drive, Bensenville, IL 60155.
The city is Reno, the location is Sally’s Hotel, the event is the 1988 American Coin Machine Exposition, where coin kicks up its heels. In the following paragraphs I will be focusing on the cast of the show, with personal impressions of some of the equipment that was presented on the exhibit floor.

**Archrid** - Super 6 darts. No darts are hot.

**Arcadia** - Super Select System. The type of the future??

**Atari** - Pot Shot. A promising demolition machine. Knock prizes off a shelf by firing a ball bearing loaded Gatling gun at them.

**Atari** - Galaga 88. Galaxian, Octagon, Galaga II, and now Galaga 88, both as a kit and dedicated. The kit only fits Pacmania and Space Tron.

**Atari** - Blasteroids. Asteroids visited; but with more fireworks on fire. Early collections have been released.

**Atari** - Vindicators. A dedicated coin game; two player war againsturistic worlds.

**Atari** - Final Lap. For the larger ars. At two player competitive driving, two seats, two monitors. Yet! Two motorcycles.


**Bally Midway** - Escape From The 1st World pinball. So far top-notch game.

**Bally Midway** - Blackwater 100. A multi-ball, multi-flipper pinball.

**Bally Midway** - Blasted. A two player gun game; you are the blaster, borgs are the blastees.

**Capcom** - Beer Frame Bowling. Vertical, four-player. Remember back and white Midway track video bowler? This is a souped color version. A must for bar locations.

**Data East** - Heavy Barrel. Two player; dedicated bam, boom, splat in the renowned tradition of Ikari Warriors, Victory, Time Soldiers and Guerrilla Wars.

**Data East** - Vigilante. Already out. A hit kit a la Double Dragon.


**Greyhound** - their forte; basketball, cranes and pokers.

**Gremlin** - two wall games; Grand Slam baseball and Skeet Shoot.

**Konami** - Pro Quarterback. An excellent redemption piece based on current field reports. You too, can be Jim McMahon, John Elway or Doug Williams. A good companion for the basketball games.


**Konami** - Haunted Castle. Horizontal single player kit; and adventure theme; rescue the bride from the villainous vampire or the honeymoon is over.


**Kramer** - merchandising machines.

**Leland Corp.** - Viper. A sit down kit for Dangerzone and a dedicated anti-aircraft gun as well.

**Leland Corp.** - Strike Zone. A follow up to Double Play; kit and dedicated.

**Leland** - Arcadia Golf. You guessed it; a golf kit.

**Merlit/Nomac** - Premier Dart. The same reliable Pub Time; now with a monitor plus additional games like the Archnid 6000. Looks hot!

**NSM** - The Galaxy 200 looks their diversified line of graphics. Gatort intro’d their new c.d./combination unit.


**Rock-Ola** - the 0616 Signature in the standard and c.d./combo model. Introduced at the AMOA, it has been well received.

**Romstar** - Ninja Warrior. A triple monitor Darius style cabinet and a Double Dragon theme.

**Romstar** - Kageki. A two player, vertical, sumo boxing kit.

**Romstar** - Thundercade. A two player, vertical, shoot ’em down kit on motorcycles.

**Rowe** - reprised the R-92 standard, c.d./combo and video jukebox.

**Seeburg** - the forerunner in compact design. Paper-litened vividly the subdued color of its groundbreaking Laser Music System Box. They also introduced the Classic, a jazzy looking c.d. phonograph, circa 50’s.

**Sega** - Bull’s Eye. An arcade rifle game designed for redemption. You fire plastic pellets from an air gun at five targets. Your shooting proficiency is tracked on a monitor and recorded on a card that is dispensed at game’s end.

**Sega** - Thunder Blade. Sega strikes again. Upright and sit down helicopter war game.

**Shinobi** - horizontal kit; a proven winner a la Rolling Thunder.

**Sente** - previous and new kits will be released for the Sente System starting in April.

**Smart** - its featured performer, the update of Shoot to Win basketball; a compact, more manageable version.

**SNK** - Fighting Game. Sounds dangerous; a horizontal golf kit with a flipper with several golfing variations.

**Taito** - Top Shooter. For arcades. Highly touted rifle target range. Your target registers hits and is pulled back to you for redemption at the prize counter.

**Tecno** - Silk Worm. Kit; horizontal; interactive; at war with the world via helicopter and jeep.

**Williams** - Cyclone. Getting back on the right track. A pinball based on the blockbuster Comet.

In the final analysis, the impact of a trade show cannot be judged until the machines hit the locations and collections are compiled. No matter less, merchandising equipment seemed to be the most dominant and burgeoning genre. At ACME ‘88 there was more emphasis on redemption than at an evangelical reception. For arcades, the show was mixed; for games and Beer Frame Bowling, Heavy Barrel, Super Contra, Quarterback; Operation Wolf, Double Dragon, Strike Zone and Arcaidia are the best bets. Don’t forget Shinobi and Vigilante hitting high as the top two kits. For arcades, big is still in – Thunder Blade, various pinballards, Pro Quarterback, Final Lap, Top Shooter, Bull’s Eye and Pot Shot. And pins are making a comeback sooner than expected – with Cyclone and Secret Service out in front.

Some say ACME ‘88 was not a great show, but few would deny that it was a good show!

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**Bally Midway’s ‘Blasted’**

Bally Midway’s recently introduced “The most explosive new video in which players attempt to toy with the enemy – the menacing Cyborg! It was designed by Colin and Jeff Nauman, the team behind the “Rampage”! Lusted’s theme has a unique twist at the classic concept in a new style in the apartment buildings, off-and-factories of Scrapheap City. Playing the telephoto scope on the high intensity Laser Rifle”, the player quickly scans the opposite side of the street for the enemy and puts into obliviion anything that best features two or one-person multipleimages, the game’s screen “boasts both a wide-angle and a telephoto (gunshot) mode which allows the player to see the action through the eyes of his arachnid. A unique gun/handle/joystick combination allows the player to shoot and move with just one hand. Separate coin chutes allow players to buy in at any time as well as build up their reserves with multiple coins.

Blasted was among the new products displayed by Bally Midway at the recently held ACME ‘88 convention.

The new game will be available through factory distributors. Further information may be obtained by contacting Bally Midway Manufacturing Co. at 10601 W. Belmont Ave., Franklin Park, IL 60131.

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**30 YEARS AGO IN CASH BOX**

March 1, 1958 – For years the record industry has been plagued with the problem of bootlegging. It is estimated in some quarters that several record firms are losing as much as 25% of their gross business because their label and producer are literally being stolen. And yet no one has bothered to come up with an effective answer. If ever there was a project for the Recrod Industry Association of America, as spokesman for the record business, to work on, we would think this is it. Here obviously is an industry-wide problem which by the farthest stretch of the imagination cannot be termed controversial. Here obviously is a project which everyone who manufactures records should be in accord with – the attempt to keep the record manufacter’s product from being put on the market without his consent and without any income being realized by him. Why then no action? It’s time for the RIAA to act – and to act with vigour....The Record Industry Association of America, Inc., has developed a system for certifying 1,000,000 sales Gold Record Awards. In response to requests received from many segments of the record industry, the Board of Directors has arranged to provide facilities to confirm the sales attainment of any record which has been nominated as the basis for a Gold Record Award to be presented. Asking for 100,000 sales, the RIAA has asked its members to submit lists. Actress Ann Sothern’s initial vocal album venture, titled Southern Exposure, was released last week by Zenith Records. Paul Whiteman will be guest of honor of the 29th annual Chicagoland Music Festival. In the January 23rd issue of Down Beat Music Magazine, the jazz publication featured an item about an appearance by Keen Records’ star, Sam Cooke, on a recent A1 Jamboree show in Los Angeles. When one of Cooke’s music industry sources was asked by Jarvis to define the difference between gospel and pop singing, Cooke replied, “In gospel singing I feel as if I’m singing to the Lord, whereas in popular singing I try to sing to The Cash Box Top 30 list.”
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