TopSides

WHITNEY HOUSTON earned a title of "Record Of The Week", Arista's efforts paid off by cashing in on the most point movement of any new contender. ATLANTIC STARR remains number one having another heavy week's worth of airplay and sales activity. Strong Ballads by LUTHER VANDROSS, SMOKEY ROBINSON, ANITA BAKER, ATLANTIC STARR et al, have dominated the charts of the past several weeks, but the Up Tempo super-sides by WHITNEY HOUSTON, THE WHISPERS, and DIANA ROSS are destined for the ride to the top of the charts. LUTHER'S heavy airplay on three different tracks has stimulated bullish over-the-counter album, tape, and CD sales. "Songbird" by KENNY G., a multi-format hit, is showing consistent gains on R&B, Top 40, A/C, and Quiet Storm programs.

WHAT'S NEW

R&B INTERNATIONAL

This issue of The R&B Report introduces R&B International, a series of weekly reports on the global marketplace as it pertains to the most popular genre of music in history, R&B.

With classic and contemporary R&B reaching top slots on several charts overseas, especially in the past year, the activity of R&B in foreign lands has become increasingly important.

Each week, columnist Don Tracy will elaborate on components of the international scene, illuminating its peculiarities, clarifying its mysteries, reporting its income opportunities.

In the first installment, Tracy explains why overseas radio offers such an attractive means of breaking new talent or product.

In coming weeks, he will discuss investment options, the politics of radio, as well as important legislative changes.

Please see page 12.

NARM AND WEA JOIN ARIZONA BOYCOTT

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The recording industry continues the snowballing boycott of Arizona, as NARM and WEA kill plans to convene in the state that refuses to observe the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please see page 14.

STRIPED HORSE NAMES LUSHKA

LOS ANGELES — Indie label Striped Horse names veteran Mike Lushka to VP/Marketing.

Please see page 14.

LUTHER NOW

By Belma Johnson

At times, the hottest record in the business isn't performed by the greatest artist. In the case of Luther Vandross, his records usually are the hottest and definitely he is one of the greatest.

Every lucky once in a long while, an artist is so great, so historic, that he makes you step back from the routines, the meetings, the marketing plans, and — yes — even the money. You step back to get a better view, to admire the talent.

Luther Vandross arguably is the best male vocalist of this generation. He makes you step back and admire.

Inside this issue:

- Ray Anderson explains the strategy for expanding Luther’s fan base;
- Bernie Miller talks about Luther’s busy production schedule;
- Danny Markus provides the management view of Luther’s success;

Please see page 19.
REGINA BELLE

“SHOW ME THE WAY”

From Her Soon-To-Be Released Solo Album

ALL BY MYSELF

Produced by Nick Martinelli
  Michael J. Powell

On Columbia Records & Cassettes
# Table of Contents

## Charts:
- Chart Summary
- The R&B Chart
- Major Market Movers
- Major Market Mentions
- Hitmakers
- Quiet Storm Chart
- Video Chart
- Album Chart

## Playlists:
- Quiet Storm Programs
- R&B Playlists
- R&B At Top 40
- R&B At AC

## Features:
- R&B International
- What’s New
- Cover Story
- Who’s Where
- Ivory’s Notes
- R&B Notes
- Who’s New
- R&B Quotes

## R&B Reviews:
- Singles
- Albums

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### MOST ADDED

**R&B**

**TAWATHA**

"Thigh Ride"

(Epic)

**TOP 40**

**SMOKEY ROBINSON**

"Just to See Her"

(Tamia)

**AC**

**WHITNEY HOUSTON**

"I Wanna Dance With Somebody"

(Arista)
STETSASONIC

FAYE
B/W FOREVER MY BEAT
STET

Play “FAYE,” the brand new single from Stetsasonic’s debut album ON FIRE. Produced, written, arranged, mixed, created, and Stetsasized by Stetsasonic.
For the third consecutive week, *Atlantic Starr* ranks at the top of the chart. *Always* is rapidly posturing itself toward being a timeless copyright.

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There Is Only One New Music Seminar...

The Eighth New Music Seminar, July 12-15, 1987
The Marriott Marquis Hotel, New York City

The only convention that brings together virtually the entire international music business. Look at the program of this year's meeting—it describes an unbeatable opportunity to increase your knowledge and contacts internationally. The daytime program, when combined with a nighttime program of performances by over 200 groups of every kind (applications to perform are being accepted now) in venues all over the city makes the NMS the only place to assure your future in the music business.

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- 2:00 PM
  DJs & MCs: The Battle For World Supremacy—Trials
- 5:30 PM
  Nightclubbing Around The World

MONDAY — JULY 13
- 10:30 AM
  Keynote Address
- 12:30 PM
  Songwriters & Publishers: A Follow-Up Workshop

TUESDAY — JULY 14
- 11:00 AM
  Rock Criticism

Save money, make your plans now to attend the world's best-attended, forward-looking music meeting. Join more than 6,000 of your peers in NYC in July and take advantage of the special early registration rate of $175.00 (good only until July 5th). Register by mail or use your credit card to register by telephone: tel. (212) 722-2115, telex 6971684 FUNK, fax (212) 289-3708. After July 5th rates rise to $225.00 ($250.00 at the door), so ACT NOW!!!

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...The Unconventional Convention
Harry Ray, Al Goodman and Billy Brown have spent their 20-year careers in and out of the spotlight. As the original Moments, they scored huge hits in the early '70s, and quickly disappeared. As Ray, Goodman & Brown, they scored the crossover smash “Special Lady,” then retreated. They are back again, and plan to stay. The celebration is at WWIN, WBMX, WGCI, WNOV, WGPR, WKND, KKFX, WKXI, WPLZ, WMYK, WJMI, KATZ, KRIZ, KKDA, KDLZ, KJLH.

The former Shalamar singer and “Soul Train” dancer took two years to plot her solo career. Her return to the scene was marked by the dance hit, “Looking For A New Love.” Only two months after the release of the album, Jody had earned her first solo gold. Significant action is happening at KMJQ, KDAY, WTMP, WKXI, WPLZ, WENN, WTHP, WAMO, KRIZ, KKFX, WMYK, KJLH, KSOL, WWIN, WCKX, WGCI, WBMX, WCIN, KMJM, WWIN.

The Lakeside LP — designed to return this veteran group to the spotlight — has succeeded so far. With the first single still earning significant radio play, Lakeside continues on its journey toward the top. The group has a “Relationship” with: WCKX, WAMO, WGPR, WTHP, WENN, KRIZ, KSOL, KJLH, KDAY, KMJQ, KDLZ, WTMP, WKXI, WJMI, WWIN, WBMX, WGCI, WNOV, WJMI, KKDA.

Claudja Barry keeps climbing the chart. Since her introduction in the 70’s, she has been a gift to dancers everywhere. Once again on her current single, Claudja has worked to keep herself in the limelight. The record is happening at WGCI, WBMX, WKXI, WWIN, KMJM, WKND, KDLZ, KKDA.

Jonathan Butler already is a star in his homeland, South Africa. By age 6, he was earning a living. By 13, he was one of the biggest stars in his country. So at 25, already he’s an industry vet. “Lies” can be heard on WWIN, WHUR, WGCI, WBMX, WCIN, KKDA, WMYK, WKXI, WENN, WKND, KMJM, WNOV, KDLZ, KMJQ, KJLH, KSOL.
MAJOR MARKET MOVERS

MAJOR MARKET MOVERS are the 15 titles showing the strongest movement toward the Top 30 R&B Chart.

MONET
"My Heart Gets All The Breaks"
(Ligosa/Warlock)
Uptempo
LW TW 50 39

Led by 17-year-old Bernadette Suarez, this trio continues to pick up huge support from Top 40 and R&B. Lou Rosario sings back-up. Tom Perri sings back-up and plays keyboards. Monet is breaking hearts at WBMX, WGCI, WQHT, WPOW, WMYK, KDAY.

FIRST CIRCLE
"Working Up A Sweat"
(EMI)
Uptempo
LW TW 44 41

The roots of First Circle extend back to the mid-'70s and a Top 40 garage band called Crossbow. The group’s evolution continued through the 80’s with the help of Randy Muller’s production skills. “Sweat” is hot at: WHUR, WILD, WQHT, WWIN.

LA LA
"If You Love Me Just A Little"
(Arista)
Uptempo
LW TW 72 45

In a shimmering debut, La La moves from behind the scenes as a successful songwriter to the foreground as a solo artist. Her first single, a dancey jam, was produced by the fellas of Full Force. Radio is growing weekly at WHUR, WNOV, WKND, WTHP, WPLZ, KKDA, KDLZ, KDAY, KSOL, WDAS, WVEE, WYLD, WGCI, WZAK, WENN, KPRS.

TEEN DREAM
"Let’s Get Busy"
(WB)
Uptempo
LW TW 61 46

In Columbus, Ohio, Lisa, Terry and Desiree have been singing and dancing together, since they were old enough to turn on the radio. Producer Chris Powell formed the group and molded the girls into an energetic, teen-oriented recording act. Teen Dream is definitely getting busy at WCKX, WGCI, WCIN, KMJM, WQHT, WENN, WTHP, WPOW, WTMP, KKDA, KJLH, WAMO, WHRK, XHRM, WKXI.

STEPHANIE MILLS
"I Feel Good All Over"
(MCA)
Ballad
LW TW 57 47

She began at age 3. By 11, she had sang at the Apollo. She won the heart of America portraying Dorothy in “The Wiz” on Broadway. She sold more than a million albums on her debut. And now she’s back with a splash and a smash. Showing early action at WCIN, WWIN, KATZ, WKND, WENN, WTHP, KSOL, WMYK, WTMP, KMJQ, WJMI, KDLZ, KKDA.
MAJOR MARKET MOVERS

Major Market Movers are the 15 titles showing the strongest movement toward the Top 30 R&B Chart.

KATHY MATHIS
“Late Night Hour”
(Tabu)
Uptempo
LW TW 60 48

Kathy Mathis grew up in Battle Creek, Mich., where she studied piano and sang in the church choir. She spent time in recording studios as a girl. In fact, she laid down some tracks at 14 and promoted herself at radio and retail. Getting rotation at KJLH, KSOL, WENN, KDKO, WGPR, KKDA, WGCI, WAMO, KATZ, KMJM, WKND, WKXI, WTHP.

4 BY FOUR
“Want You For My Girlfriend”
(Capitol)
Uptempo
LW TW 88 50

These four family members from Queens, N.Y., (Damen and Lance Heyward, Steve Gray and Jay Jackson) had been keeping busy by putting on their own shows, impressing crowds with their four-part harmonies and stage routines. Their idols were the Jackson Five, Stevie Wonder and the Temptations. After three of the four members graduate high school in June, the group will tour. Recent adds at WTMP, KDAY, WPLZ, WENN, WKND, KMJM, WCIN, WGCI, WBMX, WWIN.

TEMPTATIONS
“Someone”
(Gordy)
Mid-tempo
LW TW 54 52

The Gentlemen of Motown have been making hits longer than some of their colleagues have been alive, yet their sound remains current and hot. Their classic harmonies and ceaseless style still stand. Record is on the move at WWIN, WBMX, WGC, WNOV, WCIN, KATZ, KMJM, WGPR, WKND, WENN, WBMX, WMYK.

REGINA BELLE
“Show Me The Way”
(Columbia)
Mid-tempo
LW TW 96 53

Born to a musical family, Regina Belle grew up singing. Her first gig was a $25 salary she earned singing “Don’t Ask My Neighbors,” a cover of the Emotions song. She was 12. Regina also played trombone, baritone, the tuba and the steel drums in high school. Her break came when she landed back-up spot with the Manhattans. At 24, she’s ready to go solo. Regina is showing the way at WWIN, WBMX, WGC, WNOV, WCIN, KATZ, KMJM, WBMX, WTHP, WJMI, WPLZ, WTMP, KDLZ, KDAY, KSO.

LOOSE ENDS
“Can’t Stop The Rain”
(MCA)
Ballad
LW TW 64 54

For Loose Ends founder Steve Nichol, it all came much too easy. He majored in music, earned his degree, put a band together, and within a year of graduation, not only had a record deal, but was sitting comfortably atop the charts. For this British trio, it only gets better. Picking up the loose ends are WYLD, KDKO, WAMO, WENN, WTHP, WVEE, KDKZ, WKXI, WTL, WCKX, WBMX, WGIC, WNOV, WCIN, KATZ, WGPR, WILD.
MAJOR MARKET MENTIONS

Tides receiving significant national radio activity

STARPOINT “D.Y.B.O.” (Elektra)
WWIN, WHUR, WCIN, WJMI, KJLH, WTMP, WKXI, KMJM, WGPR, WDAS, WVEE, WHRK, WEDR, WBMX, KDAY, WSOI, WTYC, WYLQ

LABI SIFFRE “So Strong” (Chrysalis)
WHUR, WQHT, WSOI

ONE WAY
“Whammy” (MCA)
KDLZ, KMJQ, WWIN, WHUR, WCKX, WNOV, KATZ, WTHP, WKXI, KKDA

VESTA WILLIAMS “Don’t Blow A Good Thing” (A&M)
WCKX, WBMX, WQHT, WILD, WKND, WTHP, WPLZ, KJLH, KZZP, KSOI, WMYK, WCIN, WHUR, KRIZ, WJMI, WKXI, KKDA, KDLY, WQHT

ISLEY BROS. “Smooth Salin’ Tonight” (WB)
WWIN, WHUR, WCIN, WILD, KRIZ, WTHP, WMJ, WKXI, KKDA, KDLZ, KMJQ, KJLH, KPRS

NAJEE “Feels So Good To Me” (EMI-America)
WHUR, WQHT, KRIZ, KZZP

SUGAR BABES “We Rock The Beat” (MCA)
WCKX, KATZ, KKDA, KDLZ

NAYOBE “Second Chance” (Fever)
WCKX, WQHT

TOUCH “Without You” (Supertronics)
WWIN, WQCI, KMJM, WKND, WQHT, KDAY

SHEILA E. “Koo-Koo” (Paisley Park)
WHUR, WAMO, WTHP, WJMI, WPLZ

JANICE McCLAIN “Let’s Spend The Night” (MCA)
WCKX, WNOV, WILD, WPLZ

JON BURFORD “Oughta Be A Law” (Next Plateau)
WAMO, KJLH, WQHT, WILD, WTMQ, KMJQ

VESTA WILLIAMS “Don’t Blow A Good Thing” (A&M)
WCKX, WBMX, WQHT, WILD, RKND, WTHP, WPLZ, KJLH, KZZP, KSOI, WMYK, WCIN, WHUR, KRIZ, WJMI, WKXI, KKDA, KDLZ, WQHT

JAZZY JEFF “A Touch Of Jazz” (Jive)
WILD, KJLH, WQHT

KRYSOL “I Might Fall In Love” (Epic)
KMJM

FAT BOYS “Falling In Love” (Tin-Pan/PF)
KDAY, WJMI

GERRY WOO “Hey There Lonely Girl” (Polydor)
WNOV, WCIN, KMJH, WGPR, WKND, WTHP, WMJ, WKXI, KMJQ, KSOI

MEL & KIM ”Respectable” (Atlantic)
WQCI, WKND, WQHT, KDAY

ERIC B. “You Got Soul” (4th & Bway)
WTMP, WFXC, WZAK, WKND, KDAY

O’JAYS “Don’t Take Your Love Away” (PR1)
WWIN, WHUR, WNOV, KRIZ, WENN, WKXI, WUSA, KDLZ, KSOI, WTMQ, WTHP, WJMI, WPLZ, WTMQ, KDAY

COMMODORES “United In Love” (Mercury)
WHUR, WAMO, WGPR, WTMQ

ISLEY BROS. “Smooth Sailin’ Tonight” (WB)
WWIN, WHUR, WNOV, KJLH, WTMQ, KDAY

NAJEE “Feels So Good To Me” (EMI-America)
WHUR, WQHT, KRIZ, KZZP

SUGAR BABES “We Rock The Beat” (MCA)
WCKX, KATZ, KKDA, KDLZ

NAYOBE “Second Chance” (Fever)
WCKX, WQHT

JILL JONES “Mia Bocca” (Paisley Park)
WJMI

DEBBIE DEB “I’m Searching” (Jamped)
WWIN, WHUR, WQHT, WJMI, WPMO, KKDA

DIANA ROSS “Dirty Looks” (RCA)
WBMX, WNOV, WAMO, KJLH, WTMQ, KJLH, WPLZ, KDLZ, KDAY, KJLH, WTHP, WJMI, WTMQ, WTMQ, WZAK, WQHT

SOUL CLUB “I Want Your Guy” (MCA)
WILD, WQHT

PHYLLIS HYMAN “Ain’t You Had Enough Love” (PR1)
WCKX, WNOV, WQHT, WTHP, WPLZ, KJLH

MARLEY MARL “He Cuts So Fresh” (MCA)
KDAY

MERGE “Let’s Have Some Fun” (Nuance)
WTHP, KDAY

TAWATHA “Thigh Ride” (Epic)
WWIN, WHUR, WNOV, WCIN, KATZ, WPLZ, WWNB, WJLH, WJMI

LL COOL J “I’m Bad” (Def Jam)
WHUR, WQCI, KKFX, WTHP, WMYK, KDAY, WFXC, WPLZ, WXYV, WJMI, WQHT, WTMQ, KJLH

11
"This is a great opportunity for small record companies

The promise of lucrative opportunity.
Because of its worldwide appeal, R&B music offers international business opportunities. As these words are being read, an intercontinental revolution is underway in the radio and record businesses.

International deregulation is at hand.
In Japan, as many as 50 new stations could spring up imminently. In England, as many as 200 stations are waiting to be born. In West Germany, 700 new stations soon could come to be. All of these infant stations will be starving for R&B product and R&B acts, like babies waiting to be fed.

There are millions to be made.
This isn’t a dream, an illusion or hyperbolic speculation. These estimates indicate the predicted effect of deregulation. National monopolies, lethargic cartels and dusty legislation have conspired against reason for decades. Circumstances have pent up enormous demand, a virgin marketplace.

When the Reagan Administration brought deregulation to the domestic radio community, the effects were widespread and longstanding. Even today, the echo sounds on.

Multiply the effect.
Imagine a deregulated world: Small record companies have dozens of outlets nearly begging for product. New acts choose their avenues for exposure. For the informed and energetic, opportunity has no borders.

Introducing Don Tracy, your guide to international radio and commerce.
After 14 years as the talent and producer of a program with a worldwide, daily audience of 200 million, as a consultant on international radio and syndication, Tracy has the expertise to explain the marketplace, its impending transformation and the ways to make money through it all.

In a weekly series of articles, Tracy will provide the fundamentals on the international community, country by country; trends and chart action pertaining to R&B; economic opportunities for the record and radio industries.

R&B International will be your guide to lucrative opportunity. Promise.
— Ed.

"Stand By Me" by Ben E. King, "Reete Petite" by Jackie Wilson and "When A Man Loves A Woman" by Percy Sledge — all songs from the 60’s — have become hits all over again recently in Europe.

This has created a new interest in 60’s R&B, in particular, and R&B music generally. It also has created interest in the international marketplace.

For many people in our industry, the international radio market remains an enigma. This article is to explain some basic points about the market and ways to exploit it... Government controls on the broadcasting slowly are being lifted in places such as Great Britain, West Germany and Japan. These markets are important to the airplay and sales of R&B music. The deregulation offers an opportunity, similar to the opportunities created in this country when the Reagan Administration deregulated domestic broadcasting.

Two fundamental questions: Why did these government controls exist in the first place, and what opportunities does de-regulation offer?

The answers vary, country by country.
Let’s take England first, the largest consumer of R&B, outside of the United States. In the early days of British radio, manufacturers had to create programming to encourage radio sales. Consequently the manufacturers formed the British Broadcasting Company, the forerunner of the British Broadcasting Corporation.

The company was given a royal charter, placing it an arm’s length from the government. Its purpose became to inform, educate and entertain — in that order. For a half century, the purpose and priority of the BBC has been the same — public broadcasting. Also, the BBC is funded by a broadcast fee, collected by the government, via the Post Office. In addition, the false belief has persisted that airwaves are scarce and, therefore, have to be carefully controlled to prevent ‘mayhem’ — broadcasters interfering with each other. Thus, regulation.

But with the explosion of communications technology in the cable and satellite fields, more channels for communication have been opened, setting the stage for independent radio to grow.

Recently, the British government proposed to allow a very large expansion of the independent radio marketplace. The conservative government foresees no lack of frequencies for low-power radio stations. Instead, for the past year, the government has sought ways to exploit the new technology in the private sector,
and majors, for new artists and established stars’

and a way to expand and privatize broadcasting.

Against that background, here is the current situation.

There are four national radio networks: BBC radio 1, 2, 3 and 4. All are received across the country. Radio 1 is pop music, radio 2 is MOR, radio 3 is classical and radio 4 broadcasts plays, political programming and news.

Off-network, there are 32 local BBC stations that can’t afford to fill their airtime with music. These local stations, as a result, fill their time with local news and public affairs programming, which is boring at best.

Another 46 commercial radio stations program the same way — with heavy dependence on public-affairs programming — for the same reason: they can’t afford to play more music.

Why can’t they afford the music?

Because of the “needle-time fee.”

“Needle time” is the number of hours a station can play commercial gramophone records. (Note: There are additional fees per record and copyright royalty payments to be made, besides the “needle time fee.”) Phonographic Performance Ltd. is the organization administratively responsible for collecting the fee payments.

The fees make it too expensive for some stations to fill programming hours with music. For example, by law, a commercial station has the right to broadcast commercial music nine hours per day. But most can’t afford the fees they would have to pay if they programmed music the full nine hours. So they broadcast public-affairs programs to fill the time.

The BBC has a special arrangement. It pays the PPL a blanket amount for its worldwide operations, including local BBC stations. However, once that “needle time” is exhausted, the local BBC stations face the same problem as commercial stations — they must fill airtime with public-affairs programming. Or canned music.

As a result of these conditions, it isn’t surprising that pirate radio emerged. Pirate broadcasters are not licensed to broadcast. They have transmitters, find a free frequency and fire away. They pay royalties to no one. They program as they please.

One pirate, off the coast of Great Britain, is “Lazer,” whose on-air slogan is “Music is never more than a minute away.” The station broadcasts a minimum of news, public affairs and banter by air personalities. The popularity of the station demonstrates the potential of music-oriented radio. But legal stations can’t afford to match the programming format of Lazer, until the government and record companies can resolve their differences.

This presents a great opportunity for entrepreneurs in the United States.

Enterprising, small record companies are the best hope for overseas stations. By providing music, not subject to the “needle-time fee,” they allow the 32 local BBC stations and the 46 commercial radio stations to fill their air time with music. At present, they fill their airtime with non-music programming (or canned music) because that’s all they can afford.

But an independent label (or a major for that matter) that’s willing to provide music to these stations right away can open itself up to a brand-new crop of outlets. The profits are waiting.

For information about who to contact and how to start supplying music product to England, write Don Tracy, c/o The R&B Report, 6430 Sunset Blvd., Ste. 1201, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

In the next issue:

Tracy explains the radio market in other countries, and the ways to serve the needs of stations in these markets.

Ben E. King & ‘The Jones Boys’

Legends Ben E. King is pictured with two of his producers, Led Zeppelin’s John Paul Jones and Foreigner’s Mick Jones in London recently.

King is currently in the studio completing his debut album for Manhattan Records, which also includes tracks produced by Preston Glass (Aretha Franklin, George Benson, Kenny G.) The lp is expected out this summer.

In addition to John Paul Jones and Mick Jones, artists featured on the album include Dire Straits’ Mark Knofler, The Thompson Twins’ Tom Bailey, Ruby Turner, Helen Terry and Paul Young’s back-up singers. At a recent gig at London’s Palladium Ben E. was joined on stage for extraordinary renditions of “Stand By Me,” which topped the uk charts for three weeks, and “I Want To Know What Love Is” by Mick Jones, John Paul Jones, The Stones’ Ron Wood, Simply Red’s Mick Hucknall, Bad Company’s Simon Kirke and Willy De Ville.
LOS ANGELES — Striped Horse Records, a Hollywood indie, has tapped industry veteran Mike Lushka to head its marketing efforts. The label also announced that its first product will drop late this month.

Lushka, a veteran record man hailing from the Motor City, has earned his stripes over the years with Motown. He joined the company as a Regional Mgr. in his hometown in 1969, and in three years became VP/Sales.

Lushka oversaw Motown’s marketing during the years when Stevie Wonder’s Song To The Key Of Life dominated the R&B and Top 40 charts.

After Motown, Lushka consulted independent labels.

The cancellations were to protest Arizona Gov. Evan Meacham’s recent revocation of Martin Luther King Day as a state holiday.

NARM will move its annual conference (to be held Oct. 26-30) to Palm Springs, Calif.

‘‘What NARM is doing is a statement it must make,’’ said NARM Exec. VP Mickey Granberg. ‘‘To do less would be to fail our constituency.’’ Reportedly, a number of representatives of independent distributors, labels and one-stops indicated to NARM officials that they would not attend the convention in Arizona if the state maintained its refusal to observe King day.

WEA will follow suit by cancelling plans to confer in Scottsdale in favor of Palm Springs.

WEA could not, ‘‘in good conscience, conduct business in Arizona, a state which does not fully honor and recognize Martin Luther King Day, a proclaimed national holiday,’’ said President Henry Droz.

The state reportedly has lost at least 12 conferences as a result of the boycott.

The governor has said through a spokesperson that he originally revoked the holiday because it was instituted without the support of the Legislature.

However, the governor reportedly also has said he has no plans to reconsider adopting the holiday.

WEA INTERNATIONAL NAMES SHRIMPTON TO REPLACE LOCH IN TOP SPOT OF EUROPEAN ARM

WEA International has named Stephen Shrimpton chief of WEA Europe, promoting him from his former post as Sr. VP/Europe.

The promotion comes one month after the resignation of Siegfried Loch, after 16 years of service.

Shrimpton previously has been managing director of MPL Communications and EMI Music Australia.

His new appointment is effective July 1.

Youthful balladeer Gerry Woo recently visited Los Angeles radio station Power 106 on a promotional tour. Gerry’s cover of ‘‘Hey There Lonely Girl’’ is a big gainer on Quiet Storm and AC. (L. to R. Air personality Al Taverna, Gerry, PolyGram WC Promotion Mgr. Norvelyn Hunt. Photo by Arnold Turner).
## The R&B Hit List

### 1
**ISLEY BROS.**
Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)

### 2
**DIANA ROSS**
Dirty Looks (RCA)

### 3
**WHITNEY HOUSTON**
I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me) (Arista)

### 4
**L.L. COOL J.**
I'm Bad (Def Jam)

### 5
**STEPHANIE MILLS**
I Feel Good All Over (MCA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Artist/Song</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WBMS/Wilmington</td>
<td>A.C. Costley/PD</td>
<td>THE ISLEY BROS. Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFXA/Augusta</td>
<td>Carl Conner/PD</td>
<td>ISLEY BROS./ Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WZAZ/Jacksonville</td>
<td>Nat Jackson/MD</td>
<td>SHIRLEY MURDOCK/ Go On Without You (Elektra)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRDW-AM/Augusta</td>
<td>P.C. Wiley/MD</td>
<td>JODY WATLEY/Still A Thrill (MCA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KXOF/Tulsa</td>
<td>Michael Hightower/PD</td>
<td>ARETHA FRANKLIN/ Rock-A-Lott (Arista)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KWTD/Lonake, AR</td>
<td>Shelley Pope/PD</td>
<td>BISHOP REED/Have A Party And Dance (Money Tree)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOKY/Little Rock</td>
<td>George Frazier/PD</td>
<td>STEPHANIE MILLS/I Feel Good All Over (MCA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>KJCB/Lafayette</td>
<td>Tyrone Davis/PD</td>
<td>ISLEY BROS./ Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEAS/Savannah</td>
<td>Don Jones/PD</td>
<td>LA LA/(If You) Love Me Just A Little (Arista)</td>
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<tr>
<td>KHRN/Hearne, TX</td>
<td>Sedric Walker/PD</td>
<td>FAT BOYS/Falling In Love (Tin-Pan/PG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>KDKS/Shreveport</td>
<td>C. Erwin Daniels/PD</td>
<td>CLUB NOUVEAU/Why You Treat Me So Bad (WB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCLT/W. Helena, AR</td>
<td>Dell Simes/PD</td>
<td>ISLEY BROS./ Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WYNN/Florence, SC</td>
<td>Andrew Baily/PD</td>
<td>JESSE JAMES/ I Can Do Bad By Myself (T.T.E.D.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WQDE/Albany</td>
<td>Jonathon Devino/PD</td>
<td>WHITNEY HOUSTON/ I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Arista)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WORJ/Ozark, AL</td>
<td>Freddie Austin/PD</td>
<td>WHITNEY HOUSTON/ I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Arista)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WONE/Gainesville</td>
<td>&quot;Wild Bill&quot; Feinberg/PD</td>
<td>KDKO/Denver</td>
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<td>WZAX/Jacksonville</td>
<td>Nat Jackson/MD</td>
<td>SHIRLEY MURDOCK/ Go On Without You (Elektra)</td>
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<td>WZG/Elizabeth City, NC</td>
<td>David Linton/PD</td>
<td>DIANA ROSS/Dirty Looks (RCA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRVS/elizabeth City, NC</td>
<td>David Linton/PD</td>
<td>DONNA ALLEN/ Satisfied (21)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WUFO/Wilmington</td>
<td>David Michaels/MO</td>
<td>ARETHA FRANKLIN/ Rock-A-Lott (Arista)</td>
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<td>WQOK/Nashville</td>
<td>Cy Young/PD</td>
<td>WHITNEY HOUSTON/ I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Arista)</td>
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<td>WWOB/Washington</td>
<td>&quot;Wild Bill&quot; Feinberg/PD</td>
<td>L.L. COOL J./&quot;I'm Bad&quot; (Def Jam)</td>
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<td>WQQK/Nashville</td>
<td>Cy Young/PD</td>
<td>WHITNEY HOUSTON/ I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Arista)</td>
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<td>WRV/Wilmington</td>
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<td>DONNA ALLEN/ Satisfied (21)</td>
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<td>WRKS/Elizabeth City, NC</td>
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<td>WQCB/Charlotte</td>
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<td>WOAK/Camden</td>
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<td>L.L. COOL J./&quot;I'm Bad&quot; (Def Jam)</td>
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<td>Station</td>
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<td>Program Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Richard Lumpkin</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Hoppy Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>MARKUS ANTHONY</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WBNL/Tuskeegee</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>DONNA ALLEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WDKS/Fayetteville</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WHISPERS/Rock Steady</td>
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<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WABD/AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WJTB/N</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>JODY WATLEY</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Why You Treat Me So Bad</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WDFK/Columbus, MS</td>
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<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WHITNEY HOUSTON</td>
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<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WIDO/Fayetteville</td>
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<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>JANICE BULLOCK</td>
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<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WYOL/Louisville</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>STARPOINT/D.Y.B.O.</td>
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<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>JODY WATLEY</td>
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<tr>
<td>WJLD</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>WHISPERS/In The Mood</td>
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</table>
KJLH/Los Angeles
Licia Torres/MD
DIANA ROSS/Dirty Looks (RCA)

WGPR/Detroit
Joe Spencer/PD
DONNA ALLEN/ Satisfied (21)

WJMI/Jackson
Carl Haynes/MD
PRINCE/If I Was Your Girlfriend (Paisley Park)

WTHP/Thomasville
Mike Sanders/MD
LILLO THOMAS/I'm In Love (Capitol)

WPLZ/Richmond
Phil Daniels/MD
REGINA BELLE/Show Me The Way (Columbia)

KKDA/Dallas
Terri Avery/MD
TAWATHA/Thigh Ride (Epic)

KKFX/Seattle
Nes Rodriguez/MD
DIANA ROSS/Dirty Looks (RCA)

WKBV/Hartford
Melonea McLean/MD
HOWARD HEWETT/ I Commit To Love (Elektra)

WBIX/Chicago
Daisy Davis/MD
VESTA WILLIAMS/ Don't Blow A Good Thing (A&M)

KMJQ/Houston
Ron Atkins/PD
ISLEY BROS./Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)

WILD/Boston
Tonya Pendleton/MD
LILLO THOMAS/I'm In Love (Capitol)

KPOO/San Francisco
Jerome Parsons
FAT BOYS/Falling In Love (Tin-Pan/PG)

KMYX/Ojai
Howard Thomas/PD
ISLEY BROS./Smooth Sailin' Tonight (WB)

KDAY/Los Angeles
Greg Mack/MD
L.L. Cool J./I'm Bad (Def Jam)

WMYK/Norfolk
Dave Allan/PD
L.L. Cool J./I'm Bad (Def Jam)

KATZ/St. Louis
Cheryl Winston/PD
STEPHANIE MILLS/ I Feel Good All Over (MCA)

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**THE R&B REPORT™ RADIO ADVISORY BOARD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Member</th>
<th>Radio Station</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Alexander</td>
<td>WJLB</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>313-965-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terri Avery</td>
<td>KKDA</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>214-263-9911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Boyd</td>
<td>WVEE</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>404-898-8957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Garcia</td>
<td>KSD</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>314-997-5594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Gray</td>
<td>WRKS</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>212-642-4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Harrison</td>
<td>KDIA</td>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>415-633-2548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvin Hicks</td>
<td>WDMT</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
<td>216-388-6600</td>
</tr>
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<td>J. J. Johnson</td>
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BRING YOUR BODY TO THE PARTY

STARPOINT

WILL SUPPLY THE MUSIC

"D. Y. B. O."

(Dance Your Body Off)

The new single requested by radio, from the LP

SENSATIONAL

Produced by Lionel Job and Preston Glass, for Lionel Job Inc. and Glasshouse Productions.

BECAUSE IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO FEEL GOOD AGAIN...

ON ELEKTRA MUSIC CASSETTES, RECORDS AND COMPACT DISCS.

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"Luther Vandross is a consummate artist. He’s the writer, producer, arranger. He’s a showman. With an artist with that kind of depth, you’re talking mass appeal."

—Ray Anderson, Epic Sr. Vice President/General Manager

Since his days as the prodigious darling of the music industry, as the brilliant young back-up singer, as the premier jingles vocalist, Luther Vandross has promised to be an international superstar.

Every album project of his has reached platinum proportions, broken new soil and set up its successor. Every indication is that the Give Me The Reason LP will be Luther’s biggest yet.

With three straight No. 1 singles and a super tour going, with the album he’s producing for Gregory Hines (set up by their hit duet (There’s Nothing Better Than Love), Luther is in the thick of his prime.

Jim Caparro, VP/Sales, confirmed that Luther’s tremendous radio airplay and hot tour dates are selling albums.

“The sales have well exceeded 25,000 a week for several months. This will be his most successful album yet. His best-selling record before was just short of double-platinum. This go-round, we’ll exceed that easily,” he said.

The marketing of Luther is a unique assignment. Naturally, Epic’s immediate mission is to fulfill commercial objectives. But at the same time, the company insists on maintaining its vision of Luther the legend, the Vandross whose stardom can persist, the Vandross to be remembered by the generations.

He is an artist with a highly respected musical mind, a sense of humor, and an unmatchable vocal instrument. A natural star. Not every artist truly has before him the prospect of being a legend, not everyone has the chance to be an artist for the ages. Luther can live on.

Given all this, the strategy for Luther is extraordinarily important. It will long be the subject of scrutiny and debate.

Following is a study of that strategy.

Luther has built his name upon a base of R&B listeners, yet his talent inexorably empowers him to attract a much broader group of listeners.

“We knew his strength was with Black radio. But now we had to tap into mass appeal. With that attitude, we broke down a lot of barriers,” Anderson said.

“We are not done. There’s another release we’ll handle the same way.

Epic is attempting to do the ideal: to cross over the album, without abandoning or alienating Luther’s faithful base.

“Too many times, people try to make a pop record and betray their base,” said Diarmuid Quinn, Product Mgr.

“Luther, historically, has expanded with every record. His core audience responded to the first couple of singles. Now we are targeting a new audience for him, to make people aware of how great a talent Luther is. His tour is helping quite a bit. Most people, once they’ve seen him perform, are hooked forever.”

That premise, too, is one of the principles of the Luther campaign: to develop fans with the tour, to let Luther sell Luther.

“He’s always had style,” said Danny Markus of Alive Enterprises, Luther’s management company. “He puts a lot of time and effort and money into his performing. Luther always says, ‘We don’t want to mess with the tickets.’

“He sold out Birmingham the other night. It’s only the fifth time the building’s ever been sold out. And three of the other times were country acts. He can do so many things. He has his signatures. (Onstage), it’s like a rhythm, a routine.”

Even after selling out eight dates in England earlier this year, the demand for Luther has allowed plans for another eight dates at a larger arena. Already, by press time, he had sold-out six of the new dates, the seventh seemed certain to sell-through, and an eighth probably would be set up and sold out.

“He’s an international artist,” Anderson said. “Our network is, of course, one of the biggest in the world. Being the pro he is, Luther knew he had to go over there. So he went, and spent three or four weeks.”

Luther uses the breaks in his tour schedule to produce Gregory’s album.

“In some cases, musicians are meeting him in some city on the road. In some cases, he’s (working in) certain good studios along the way. Or he’s waiting for a day off to fly back to L.A. to complete the album. He’s a workaholic,” said Bernie Miller, VP/A&R.

Product Mgr. Quinn said the duet has been mutually beneficial for both artists. Luther benefits from working with such a popular, mainstream entertainer.

“And Gregory gets some musical credibility from working with Luther. What a great way to start a music career Q to have a No. 1 duet with Luther,” Quinn said.

The excellence and success of the single have heightened anticipation of Gregory’s LP, and electrified Luther’s album sales.

And it isn’t nearly over.

“We know we have at least two more singles,” said Maurice Warfield, who handles WC promotion for Epic. “We want to keep making No. 1 records, because we believe hit singles sell albums.”
Erik Nuri has joined RCA as VP/A&R, assuming responsibility for signing and developing new artists. Nuri will report to label President Bob Buziak. He joins RCA from CBS, where he was Dir./A&R — Black Music. Nuri attended Harvard.

Darryl Clark has been named Dir./Black Music Publicity at RCA. In his post, Clark will direct national publicity campaigns for R&B and crossover artists. He will coordinate the entire publicity department in executing the publicity plans. He joined RCA after most recently serving as National Public Relations Director for Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America.

Lydia Sarno is the new Dir./Video Operations at Virgin. Sarno had been in the Creative Marketing department at WB. Previously, she had worked for Chrysalis and A&M. Kathy Guild was simultaneously named Dir./Advertising and Merchandising. She also came from WB. Previously, she had worked at major advertising firms. Melanie Penny was named Dir./Graphic Arts Production. She most recently worked in independent film production. Previously she had been at WB. All three report to Co-Managing Dir. Jeff Ayeroff.

Dave Wheeler has been named VP/Sales at RCA. Wheeler will oversee all RCA product lines, including R&B, jazz, Top 40 and country. Wheeler joined RCA in 1969 as a regional manager. Teri Meunch has been named Dir./A&R — West Coast at the label. In her new post, Meunch will coordinate recording projects, as well as participate in talent acquisition.

Linda Brandon has been named counsel for BMG Music, where she will be responsible for drafting and negotiating artist contracts, as well as providing legal counsel on other matters.

George Lakes has been named VP/Promotions and Marketing at Tabu. Lakes was West Coast Operations Officer for AMI Management. Lakes will be responsible for coordinating the artist development of the label's artists, such as Alexander O'Neal, Cherrelle, James Robinson, Kathy Mathis, the Secret and the S.O.S. Band.

Joyce Castagnola has joined Virgin as WC Regional Sales Mgr. She had been Dir./Product Marketing at Wherehouse Entertainment. Michael Rosenberg was named EC Regional Sales Mgr. He joins Virgin from I.R.S. He also has worked in sales at MCA and PolyGram.

Roger Klein has been named Assoc. Dir./A&R — WC at E/P/A. Klein had been Mgr./A&R — WC for Arista since 1985. Bill Frohlich has been named Sales Mgr./Mid-Atlantic Branch at CBS. He will be responsible for the Baltimore/Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia markets. Tom Gibson has been named Assoc. Dir./Product Management — WC at Columbia.

Barry Korkin, the current coordinator for the classics CD project at A&M has left to pursue other interests. He can be reached at 818/980-0430.

Gwen Franklin has joined Capitol as Dir./Marketing — Black Music Division. She had worked at A&M six years, most recently based in New York as National Promotion Dir. Tim Carr was promoted to Dir./A&R — E.C. He had been A&R Mgr.

CLARIFICATION

Gemma Corfield is Dir./A&R/Admin. at Virgin, contrary to an earlier report.
It never fails. Anytime a successful act is in transition, the rumors start. The whispers usually contend that the group has reached the end of its rope, that its hit-making days, for whatever reason, are over. In New Edition’s case, the rumor mill has been working overtime. Stories have been in the air for months. Among the more dramatic ones were whispers that the group’s lead singer, Ralph Tresvant, will pursue solo interests very soon. Bolder stories even insist that Tresvant already has recorded a debut solo album.

Other rumors had the group’s remaining members, in anticipation of Tresvant’s departure, talking with ex-member Bobby Brown, who went solo last year, about re-joining the fold. And then there was the story of NE’s former member Ronnie Devoe’s plans to start his own record company (?). The three have since divided the acts among themselves, with Smith continuing to work with Ready, Machat handling Abrams and the System, and Dern taking on MCA acts, Sugar Babes, the Body Sisters, and the 14-year-old vocal prodigy Shaniece Wilson, who is wrapping production on her debut A&M LP that features producers Bryan Loren, New Edition’s Ralph Tresvant and Ricky Bell, Teena Marie, Freddie Perren, the team of Jerry Knight and Aaron Zigman and Richard Rudolph.

The affairs of Bobby Brown, once AMI-managed, now are handled by his mother . . .

Rumor has it that a certain soft-drink company is so frustrated with the superstar it paid millions to promote its product, that it is considering pulling out of the agreement — even if it means paying the superstar off . . .

Private Conversation is the new single from Rick James protege Val Young, now recording for the indie label, Amherst. An LP, due this month, was co-produced by Stone City stalwart Levi Ruffin and Young. The project’s movement is worth watching. Amherst’s biggest splash, thus far, has been the best-selling albums of “Tonight Show” band leader Doc Severinson . . . There’s talk of an Earth, Wind & Fire reunion tour in October, featuring most of the former members. At least one major L.A.-based concert promoter’s name has been attached to the idea . . . Look for the multi-talented MCA act Robert Brookins to produce several tracks for vocalist Dale Bozzio’s Paisley Park debut . . . André Cymone has written and produced, with Julian Jackson, two tracks for the upcoming Beverly Hills Cop II soundtrack. One track will be performed by James Ingram . . .

Richard “Dimples” Fields, after a stint with RCA, is now recording for CBS, with a rendition of the Aaron Neville classic, Tell It Like It Is, due soon. Dimples’ move to CBS re-unites him with Ruben Rodriguez, who helped Dimples find success with the hit, She’s Got Papers on Me when both were at the Boardwalk label . . . Ready For The World, whose second MCA LP, Long Time Comin’, reportedly has sold about 900,000 units, just wrapped production on a video for the title track, with Peter Isakelson directing and John Small producing for Picture Vision in New York . . . Singer/songwriter Garry Glenn (he co-wrote Anita Baker’s Rapture) is at L.A.’s Sound Castle, cutting his debut Motown LP, with sessioneer Wayne Linsey handling the synth action . . . Is Motown also interested in the L.A.-based R&B band Jack Mack and the Heart Attack? . . . Vocalist Karreem, of “Star Search” fame, just finished leads on a remake of Shotgun, performed by saxophonist David Koz and produced by Jeff Lorber for the Karl Lorimar film, “Action Jackson,” starring Carl Weathers and Vanity . . . After years of trying to establish his group, The Skool Boyz, Stan Sheppard has decided that producing is steadier work. His current projects include tracks for the EMI LPs of Evelyn King, Michael Henderson and Focus — actually ex-Barkay members James Alexander and Mark Bynum — Bert Robinson’s Capitol LP and Anita Pointer’s first RCA solo single, Overnight Success, due in July. In addition, Sheppard has put together the group Scenario for a multi-album Island package . . .

Is MCA about to cut its 40-plus Black artist roster?
**SPOTLIGHTS**

**Lillo Thomas** (Capitol)

**Born:** Brooklyn, New York  
**Current Single:** “I’m In Love”  
**Current Album:** Lillo

**Background:** Thomas first broke on the scene in 1983 with “You’re A Good Girl.” The next year, his follow-up LP, All Of You, was released and Lillo was looking to re-capture his space at the top of the charts. Lillo’s first two LP’s set the stage for him to star in one of the most watched daytime soap operas in Brazil. Who would have believed that his main interest in life as a teenager wasn’t music, but sports? Lillo set a world record in the 200-meter dash, which qualified him for the 1984 U.S. Olympic team, but an untimely auto accident cancelled his plans for the Summer Games. While attending Parsons School of Design in New York, Lillo visited friends at a recording session. From there, he ventured into a singing career. He began doing sessions with George Benson, James Ingram, Howard Johnson, Melba Moore, and Evelyn King. But it wasn’t until he met producer/writer Paul Laurence that he decided it was time to try being a solo artist. With the album just released, this may become his biggest project to date.

**On Multiple Careers:** “I used to sing all of the time, whenever I could find a chance. Even when I was going to school at Parsons, studying illustrating. Since I was enjoying the arts, and I was running track, I didn’t consider music as a career. But here I am, with my third album and, if I may say, it’s one of the more intense projects to this date.”

—Reported by Darryl Lindsey

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**R&B NOTES**

**CROSSOVER KENNY:**
Arista is perky about the crossover pattern that’s coming into view. Top 40 is jumpng all over Kenny G.’s latest single, helping to push album sales through the roof. How did Top 40 catch on to Kenny? A little “Songbird” told them what R&B radio has known for a while: Kenny’s latest single fits a number of formats, even though it’s an instrumental. The song has been receiving plenty of Quiet Storm play from R&B radio. “But it’s proving itself to be working in all day parts,” said Tony Anderson, VP/R&B Promotion. “The activity at Top 40 has been tremendous for an instrumental.” Talk about hitting every day part: Traci Jordan, Dir./R&B Promotion, was in New York recently to celebrate her new LP Red Hot Rhythm & Blues. (L. to R. RCA President Bob Buziak; BMG Co-Chairman Michael Dornemann; President and CEO Elliot Goldman of RCA/Ariola; Diana; BMG Co-Chairman Monty Leufnner; and Exec. VP Rick Dobbis.)

Publicity says NBC ‘News at Sunrise’ used the song for a while during its wee-hour telecast. As for album sales: explosive. “Sixty-eight thousand last week alone,” said Lauren Moran, National Sales Dir. “This whole thing happened because of all the exposure on Black radio. It’s been a steady Top 10 to 20 album on the Black charts, almost from the beginning. Finally, pop picked up on it. It’s been a six to eight week building period. And it’s exploded the last couple of weeks — 20 to 25 thousand a week.” Anderson explains: “It’s not the record company making this work. It’s the music itself.” It’s admirable to be humble . . .

**JACKIE WILSON GETS HIS DUE:**
We extend our commendations for the industry support of the mausoleum to be built in honor of Jackie Wilson. The triumphant fund-raiser orchestrated by Jack “The Rapper” Gibson has made it possible to construct a memorial worthy of that great entertainer. Justice and generosity live . . .

**CREDIT AL CAMPANIS:**
Discrimination in both the record business and the baseball business: how’s that for a double play? When former Los Angeles Dodger executive Al Campanis said on national television that he doubted that Blacks have the “necessities” to manage a baseball team, he probably didn’t know he would start a revolution. Besides sparking a national debate (and losing his job), Campanis got a lot of people thinking and talking. Consequently, a Radioscope special report ought to get a lot of attention next week. “Special Report: Discrimination in the Recording Industry and in Major League Baseball” is scheduled for May 23 and 24. Radioscope, a Lee Bailey Production, is heard on 80 stations nationwide . . .

**COMMODORES SIGN MANAGEMENT PACT:**
The Commodores are the first act to sign with Jo-Ann Geffen & Associates under its new management division.
Following the success of his album last year, ALEXANDER O’NEAL has returned with a new LP, Hearsay, led by the smoking single, “Fake.” The first LP, Alexander’s self-titled debut, contained three Top 15 singles on R&R’s R&B chart. Alexander also experienced tremendous exposure on the hit crossover duet with Cherelle, “Saturday Love.”

Alexander is just entering the Spring of his career. He began singing at age 9, and has worked the cover-band circuit, toured Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and even founded and led a rock-n-roll band called “Alexander.”

As one of the original members of Flyte Tyme, Alexander spent two years developing his abilities. He left the group after it changed its name to The Time and began working with Prince. He never recorded with the group.

However, on his self-titled album, he collaborated with former Time members: Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis produced the project, while Monte Moir wrote and produced three tracks on it. Producers of the Year Jimmy and Terry have worked with Alexander on Hearsay, just as they did on the first project.

The new single is scheduled to be released this week.

In addition to the hot single “Fake,” other tracks on the album include “Hearsay,” “Critize,” “Crying Over Time” and the encore duet with Cherelle, “Never Knew Love Like This.”
The outfit has handled publicity, endorsements and the band's licensing for years...

**NIGHT TRACKS MAKING NOISE:**
World premiere fever has hit Night Tracks, the video program by Lynch/Biller Productions in Hollywood. Only a couple of weeks ago, the outlet debuted Jody Watley's "Still A Thrill" clip. And this week, Night Tracks gave the first view of Lionel Richie's live "Se La" video, shot in Holland. Impressive. Looks like the WTBS video unit is to be reckoned with...

**SIZZZZZLING:**
How hot is Jody Watley? She's soooo hot that her album went gold almost entirely on the strength of the first single, "Looking For A New Love." The new single, "Still A Thrill," has caught on big at R&B, but "Looking" is still going strong at Top 40. The record's support on Top 40 radio, in fact, has kept "Looking" near the top of The R&B Chart. Meanwhile, R&B radio has been hurriedly moving "Still" toward the chart...

**BIRTHDAYS OF THE MUSIC INDUSTRY'S RICH AND FAMOUS**
Celebrating his gold debut LP The Return of Bruno, Bruce Willis is joined by Motown National Dir./R&B Promotion Maurice Watkins and VP/Marketing Miller London. (L. to R. Watkins, Bruce, London)

Birthday Monitorette Marge Calderone is getting swamped with requests to send along happy b-days to artists. This week, send your well-wishes to: George Johnson (May 17), Grace Jones (May 19), Fred Alexander Jr. of Lakeside (May 19), Micki Free (May 20), Ronald Isley (May 21). And — yes it's true — Cortez Harris of One Way (May 21) and Dave Robertson, also of One Way (May 22).

If you want your artist, friend, self or boss feted, send the same and birthdate to:

Marge Calderone,
The R&B Report
6430 Sunset Blvd., Ste. 1201
Los Angeles, CA 90028

**BUT HAVE YOU HEARD THIS?**
By now you may have heard about "store taping," the service offered by a company called Personics. A little over a week ago, the company announced that three years and $3 million of development had been spent to develop a computer system that allows customers to personalize cassettes in record stores. The idea is to discourage home taping. Customers can pick songs from a "catalog" and assemble them on a dream tape. Any songs, any order. Well...not any songs, considering CBS announced this week that the company will not supply product to any service of the kind. The company said such services are not in the "long-term interest" of customers or record companies...

**Najee (EMI-America)**
Born: New York, New York
Current Single: "Betcha Don't Know"
Current Album: Najee's Theme

**Background:** Because he grew up in the Queens area of New York, one might assume Najee's sound would be hip-hop street music. But it isn't. He's definitely a musician's musician, with mellow sounds that soothe the soul. On his current EMI debut, Najee applies his special touch to proven hits, "Can't Hide Love" and "Sweet Love." After studying at the New England Conservatory of Music, he ventured into the New York sessions circuit, providing services for Kashif, Chaka Khan and Melia's Morgan. Soon, after the word was out and Hush Productions brought him under wing, he landed a deal with EMI. After embarking on his first national tour, opening for Freddie Jackson and Ray, Goodman & Brown, critics raved, as they compared his talents to those of greats such as Grover Washington Jr. and Ronnie Laws.

**On Jazz:** "My mother played a very important part in giving support. She bought me my first saxophone at age 14. I lived in a very musical neighborhood during my high school years, so that pushed me to want to be the best. I believe I know what people like to hear and hopefully I can touch their hearts and souls along the way. One thing that I would like to bring back is instrumentals, and from what I hear, a lot of folks miss them."

—Reported by Darryl Lindsey
Surface, the new Columbia group, may be the best sleeper group on the R&B and Top 40 charts.

Happy, the first single of the group’s debut album (also tagged Surface, and recorded at Tito Jackson’s Ponderosa Studios) has quietly crept up the charts.

The mid-tempo ballad has hit the Top 10 on Billboard’s R&B chart, and has broken into the Top 40 on its dance chart.

According to a recent survey, among 84 stations incorporating Happy into their playlists, 71 were playing the song in heavy rotation, 12 medium and only one light.

Those numbers add up to a successful first effort by the trio of David Townsend, Dave Conley and Bernard Jackson.

The song’s success was no surprise to the group, nor to Columbia Executives.

“I vowed ten years ago to David Townsend that one day it was going to happen for us,” Conley said.

Even though their outside activities keep them busy most of the time, the members are not complaining.

“Nothing is hard or difficult when you’re doing what you want to do,” Jackson said.

“Things are finally coming above the surface for us,” Conley said. “Our songs are sensual, sultry, rhythmically and melodically strong.”

Cecil Holmes, Columbia’s VP/A&R - Black Music, said the group’s “unique sound” is the key to its success.

“For them to incorporate all those ingredients into a song and appeal to the masses is wonderful,” Holmes said. “It’s just what a record company wants to happen. This group couldn’t help but cross over.”

According to Conley, the group does not put emphasis on crossing over, at least not on music charts.
PROUDLY SALUTES
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The Legacy of Black Music

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• Features reflecting the timeless quality of great songs interpreted by past and present day performers
• R&B music, its impact in the international market place
• Tributes to the pioneer record company leaders and producers who formed the foundation of our business
• The Black Artists musical role in the motion picture industry

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*The next issue of the R&B Report will arrive June 1, beginning a five week series of special issues celebrating BLACK MUSIC MONTH*
John McClain on the Janet Jackson/Time Movie

We turned down the first screenplay. It just wasn't up to par. When you're trying to do something ambitious, it takes time. I think it's very important that we have a big black grossing film. We have to start having movies that are generating $100 - $200 million. That's what we're interested in.

Atlantic Starr's Barbara Weathers (on intra-group relationships)

When you tell everybody that you're involved, there's so many more people trying to get into your relationship. Trying to discourage you, or distract you and trying to get involved in something that's none of their business.

Rene Moore: (On break up of Rene & Angela)

There was a dispute at rehearsal between Angela and myself. It was nothing really serious, just a difference of opinion. Ronald Isley was there, strangely enough. Ronald got involved and sided with Angela. It got pretty verbal. Nothing really heavy. She got upset, and she left with Ronald Isley that day.

Jessee Johnson

We all have new stuff that we've written for the new Time album. I'll grab one of those old suits that I used to wear in The Time and go into my studio with it 'cause I'll get a vibe from it. When I write for The Time, I write for Morris. There's a lot of stuff he can pull off that I couldn't. He's a totally different character.

Cameo

Everything we do is going to be funky because we're black, but Cameo is a black rock and roll band. I'm not going to allow a record company to accept this group as lesser than any other act that's in the top ten. People call you a 'funk group' and automatically it's 'you can't have this, you can't have that.'

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For the second consecutive week, Stephanie Mills is overpowering the Quiet Storm chart. Her ballad, *I Feel Good All Over*, is appearing on playlists all over. The early enthusiasm for this record indicates smash potential.

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*Re-entry*
| Radio Station | City | Program Name | Days and Times | Songs
|---------------|------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| WZAK | Cleveland | "Pillow Talk/For Lovers Only" | Su 8p - 12a/M-F 6p - 1a | 1. PRINCE/Adore (Paisley Park)  
2. WHISPERS/In The Mood (Solar)  
3. CAT MILLER/Fool In Love (Solar)  
4. MIKI HOWARD/Imagination (Atlantic)  
5. LILLO THOMAS/Wanna Make Love (Capitol) |
| WJLB | Detroit | "Night Moods" | Su 9p-2a/M-Th 11p-3a | 1. RON BANKS/Closer I Get To You (Futura)  
2. HERB ALPERT/Pillow (A&M)  
3. KENNY G/Songbird (Arista)  
4. WINDSONG/Love Me Baby (Windsong Prod.)  
5. NAJEE/Betcha’ Don’t Know (EMI) |
| WBMX | Chicago | "Love Corner" | M-Th 10p - 12a | 1. GERRY WOO/Lonely Girl (Polydor)  
2. WINDSONG/Love Me Baby (Windsong Prod.)  
3. WHISPERS/In The Mood (Solar)  
4. JOHNNIE TAYLOR/Don’t Make Me Late (Malaco)  
5. ROSIE GAINES/Crazy (Epic) |
| KDLZ | Dallas | "Quiet Storm/Softones" | Su-Sa 7p - 12a | 1. LILLO THOMAS/Wanna Make Love (Capitol)  
2. SHIRLEY MURDOCK/Go On (Elektra)  
3. ISLEY BROS./Smooth Sailin’ (WB)  
4. LUTHER VANDROSS/Go Amazing (Epic)  
5. ATLANTIC STARR/Always (WB) |
| KATZ | St. Louis | "Mellow Moods" | Su-Th 9p - 1a | 1. ATLANTIC STARR/Always (WB)  
2. VANDROSS/HINES/Nothing Better (Epic)  
3. SHIRLEY MURDOCK/Go On (Elektra)  
4. MIKI HOWARD/Imagination (Atlantic)  
5. STEPHANIE MILLS/Feel Good (MCA) |
| WBLZ | Cincinnati | "Softones" | Su 9a - 2p | 1. ATLANTIC STARR/Always (WB)  
2. SHIRLEY MURDOCK/Go On (Elektra)  
3. FREDDEE JACKSON/Don’t Wanna Lose (Capitol)  
4. MELBA MOORE/Been So Long (Capitol)  
5. SURFACE/Happy (Columbia) |
| WBLZ | New York | "Quiet Storm" | M-Th 10p - 12a/M-F 12a - 3a | 1. ISLEY BROS./Smooth Sailin’ (WB)  
2. KLYMAXX/Still Say Yes (Constellation)  
3. WHISPERS/Give It To Me (Solar)  
4. TOMORROW’S EDITION/Million (Mellow)  
5. BABYFACE/Lovers (Solar) |
| WJMX | Washington, DC | "Quiet Storm/Softones" | Su-Sa 7p - 12a | 1. LILLO THOMAS/Wanna Make Love (Capitol)  
2. SHIRLEY MURDOCK/Go On (Elektra)  
3. ISLEY, JASPER, ISLEY/Brother (CBS Assoc.)  
4. JANICE MCCLAIN/Spend The Night (MCA)  
5. GERRY WOO/Lonely Girl (Polydor) |
| WMXK | Norfolk | "Sunday Night Slow Jam" | M-F 1p - 2p | 1. JANICE MCCLAIN/Spend The Night (MCA)  
2. ATLANTIC STARR/Always (WB)  
3. ISLEY BROS./Smooth Sailin’ (WB)  
4. PHILLIS HYNAM/Enough Love (PRI)  
5. HERB ALPERT/Makin’ Love (A&M) |
| WNOV | Milwaukee | "Afternoon Lovetrain" | M-F 1p - 2p | 1. JANICE MCCLAIN/Spend The Night (MCA)  
2. ATLANTIC STARR/Always (WB)  
3. ISLEY BROS./Smooth Sailin’ (WB)  
4. PHILLIS HYNAM/Enough Love (PRI)  
5. GERRY WOO/Lonely Girl (Polydor) |
| WFXC | Raleigh | "Mellow Madness" | Su 9p - 12a/M-Th 11p - 1a | 1. SHIRLEY MURDOCK/Go On (Elektra)  
2. SURFACE/Happy (Columbia)  
3. SMOKEY ROBINSON/Love Brought (Tamla)  
4. STEPHANIE MILLS/Feel Good (MCA)  
5. COMMODORES/United (PolyGram) |
| KYOK | Houston | "Love Set/Passion Zone" | M-F 1p - 2p | 1. SHIRLEY MURDOCK/Go On (Elektra)  
2. SURFACE/Happy (Columbia)  
3. FREDDEE JACKSON/Don’t Wanna Lose (Capitol)  
4. STEPHANIE MILLS/Feel Good (MCA)  
5. MIKI HOWARD/Imagination (Atlantic) |
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Songs</th>
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| WOAS    | Philadelphia | “Soft Touch”     | M-F    | 11p - 12a | 1. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
2. **SHIRLEY MURDOCK**/Go On (Elektra)  
3. **MIKI HOWARD**/Imagination (Atlantic)  
4. **ROBERT BROOKINS**/Come To Me (MCA)  
5. **STEPHANIE MILLS**/Feel Good (MCA) |
| WGPR    | Detroit   | *slow hours (not a title)* | Daily  | 1 Hour | 9a/12n/6p/10p |
| WHRK    | Memphis   | “Quiet Storm”    | M-Th   | 11p - 3a | 1. **DAVID SANBORN**/Chicago Song (WB)  
2. **PHYLLIS HYMAN**/All Alone (PIR)  
3. **MIKI HOWARD**/Imagination (Atlantic)  
4. **DENICE WILLIAMS**/Never (Columbia)  
5. **KENNY G**/Songbird (Arista) |
| WPEG    | Charlotte | “Quiet Storm”    | Su-7p  | 12a    | 1. **ANITA BAKER**/Same Ole Love (Elektra)  
2. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
3. **VANDROSS/HINES**/Nothing Better (Epic)  
4. **SHIRLEY MURDOCK**/Go On (Elektra)  
5. **DAVID SANBORN**/Chicago Song (WB) |
| WJMI    | Jackson   | “Mellow Morning Magic” | M-F    | 1a - 5a | 1. **SHIRLEY MURDOCK**/Go On (Elektra)  
2. **RAY, GOODMAN & BROWN**/Celebrate (EMI)  
3. **ISLEY BROS.**/Smooth Salin’ (WB)  
4. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
5. **KLYMAXX**/Still Say Yes (Constellation) |
| WJWI    | Norfolk   | “Quiet Storm”    | Su-9p  | 12a    | 1. **BABYFACE**/Lovers (Solar)  
2. **SHIRLEY MURDOCK**/Go On (Elektra)  
3. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
4. **VANDROSS/HINES**/Nothing Better (Epic)  
5. **MIKI HOWARD**/Imagination (Atlantic) |
| WJWW    | Greensboro | “Quiet Storm/Love Lites” | Su-9p  | 12a/M-Th 12a - 2a |
| WLPZ    | Richmond  | “Night Flight”   | Su-7p  | 3a/M-Th 10p - 3a | 1. **ROBERT BROOKINS**/Come To Me (MCA)  
2. **NU ROMANCE CREW**/Tonight (EMI)  
3. **NANCY WILSON**/Forbidden Lover (Columbia)  
4. **MILLIE JACKSON**/Imitation Of Love (Jive)  
5. **STEPHANIE MILLS**/Feel Good (MCA) |
| WLPZ    | Columbus  | “Foresplay”      | Su-F 9p | 12a    | 1. **SMOKEY ROBINSON**/Just To See Her (Tamla)  
2. **SURFACE**/Happy (Columbia)  
3. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
4. **MELBA MOORE**/Been So Long (Capitol)  
5. **VANDROSS/HINES**/Nothing Better (Epic) |
| WXYZ    | Baltimore | “Slow Jam”       | M-Th   | 11p - 2a | 1. **BABYFACE**/Lovers (Solar)  
2. **PHILIP BRICKMAN**/Celebrate (EMI)  
3. **FRANKIE JAMES**/Don’t Wanna Lose (Capitol)  
4. **STEPHANIE MILLS**/Feel Good (MCA)  
5. **RAY, GOODMAN & BROWN**/Celebrate (EMI) |
| WXYZ    | Pittsburgh | “Night Flight”   | Su 9p  | 12a    | 1. **PRINCE**/Adore (Paisley Park)  
2. **LUTHER VANDROSS**/Anyone (Epic)  
3. **LILLO THOMAS**/Wanna Make Love (Capitol)  
4. **LUTHER VANDROSS**/So Amazing (Epic)  
5. **MIKI HOWARD**/Imagination (Atlantic) |
| WXYZ    | Norfolk   | “Quiet Storm”    | Su 7p  | 12a    | 1. **BABYFACE**/Lovers (Solar)  
2. **SHIRLEY MURDOCK**/Go On (Elektra)  
3. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
4. **VANDROSS/HINES**/Nothing Better (Epic)  
5. **MIKI HOWARD**/Imagination (Atlantic) |
| WXYZ    | Columbus  | “The Soft Touch” | 24 Hours | | 1. **HERB ALPERT**/Making Love (A&M)  
2. **ASTRUD GILBERTO**/Listen To Your Heart (Elektra)  
3. **ATLANTIC STARR**/Always (WB)  
4. **VANDROSS/HINES**/Nothing Better (Epic)  
5. **SHIRLEY MURDOCK**/Go On (Elektra) |
| WXEE    | Atlanta   | “Quiet Storm”    | Su 7p  | 12a/M-Th 9p - 1a | 1. **ATLANTIC STARR**/All In The Name (WB)  
2. **RAY, GOODMAN, & BROWN**/Celebrate (EMI)  
3. **FRANKIE JAMES**/Still Waiting (Capitol)  
4. **VANDROSS/HINES**/Nothing Better (Epic)  
5. **BABYFACE**/Lovers (Solar) |
Quiet Storm Programs list the five most important titles of the week.

WGGI
Chicago

“Quiet Storm”
Su-Th 10p-2a

1. ATLANTIC STARR/All In The Name (WB)
2. RODNEY FRANKLIN/Broken Wings (Columbia)
3. LILLO THOMAS/-in Love (Capitol)
4. GERRY WOOD/Lonely Girl (Polydor)
5. KENNY G./Songbird (Arista)

WICJ
Jackson

“Testify Time”
M-Th 8p-9p

1. LESLIE WILSON/Please (Unknown)
2. JOHNNIE TAYLOR/Don’t Make Me Late (Malaco)
3. MILLIE JACKSON/Imitation Of Love (Jive)
4. CLUB NOUVEAU/Let Me Go (WB)
5. BABYFACE/Lover (Solar)

KMOJ
Minneapolis

“Late Night Love”
M-Th 2a-6a

1. PRINCE/Adore (Paisley Park)
2. HERB ALPERT/Make Love (A&M)
3. SMOKEY ROBINSON/Just To See Her (Tamla)
4. SYSTEM/Don’t Disturb (Atlantic)
5. SURFACE/Happy (Columbia)

WNEW
New York

“NY After Dark”
M-Th 10p - 2a

1. PRINCE/Adore (Paisley Park)
2. ATLANTIC STARR/Don’t Take Me (WB)
3. KLYMAXX/Can’t Stop The Rain (MCA)
4. MIKI HOWARD/Imagination (Atlantic)
5. HEAVY TRAFFIC/The Fire is Gone (Atlantic)

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THE R&B PLAYLISTS

Hots and Ads

WWIN/Baltimore
301/366-1400
Don Brook/PD
Natalie Stewart/MD

H ATLANTIC STARR
H LISA LISACULT JAM
H SMOKEY ROBINSON
H CAMEO
H SURFACE
H ARETHA FRANKLIN
H STARPOINT
H DONNA ALLEN
H MILLIE JACKSON
H ONE WAY
H SCOTT & RAVEN
H TAWATHA AGE
H PRINCE
H 4 BY FOUR
H NU ROMANCE CREW
H CLUB NOUVEAU

WMJW/Milwaukee
414-449-9668
Reb Hardy/PD
Reb Hardy/MD

H ATLANTIC STARR
H VANROSS/PINES
H SHIRLEY MURDOCK
H FREDDE JACKSON
H MELBA MOORE
H LUTHER INGRAM
H MARVIN SEASE
H JOYCE SIMMS
H LALA
H WHITNEY HOUSTON
H BEASTIE BOYS
H REGINA BELLE
H TAWATHA AGE
H DIANA ROSS

WNOV/Milwaukee
414-449-9668
Steve Harris/MD

H ATLANTIC STARR
H LIONEL RICHIE
H CLUB NOUVEAU
H FREDDE JACKSON
H LISA LISACULT JAM
H ISLEY BROS.
H ARETHA FRANKLIN
H TEEN DREAM
H DONNA ALLEN
H TAWATHA AGE

WGPR/Detroit
313/259-8862
Joe Spencer/PD

H 4 BY FOUR
H DIANA ROSS
H NU ROMANCE CREW
H CLUB NOUVEAU
H DONNA ALLEN
H 513/281-7180
H SURFACE

WONE/Washington
202/232-6000
Sobby Bennett/PD
Mike Archie/MD

H LISA LISACULT JAM
H HERB ALPERT
H ATLANTIC STARR
H CLUB NOUVEAU
A TAWATHA AGE
A LL COOL J
A REDD
A NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUN
A JESSIE JAMES
A SHEILA E.
A HOWARD HEWETT

WXOK/Columbus
614-464-0120

A VESTA WILLIAMS
A LESLIE WILSON
A LOOSE ENDS
A DARRYL DUNCAN
A DONNA ALLEN
A TEMPTATIONS
A SHERRIE PAYNE
A NAYOBE
A MOSELEY & JOHNSON

WRAX/Detroit
313/757-3000

A JERRY Boulding/PD
Daisy Davis/MD

H SURFACE
H CAMEO
H FREDDE JACKSON
H LISA LISACULT JAM
A VESTA WILLIAMS
A MILLIE JACKSON
A LOOSE ENDS
A DIANA ROSS

WGXC/Chicago
312/960-1470
Sonny Taylor/PD
Barbara Pritno/MD

H CAMEO
H SMOKEY MURDOCK
H SMOKEY ROBINSON
H LISA LISACULT JAM
H MILLIE JACKSON

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World Radio History
THE R&B PLAYLISTS

Hots and Ads

KLZ/Ft. Worth
817/631-1278
Michelle Madison/PD
Michelle Madison/MD

KDLZ/Ft. Worth
817/631-1278
Michelle Madison/PD
Michelle Madison/MD

KSOL/San Mateo
415/341-8777
Marvin Robinson/PD
Marvin Robinson/MD

KMJQ/Houston
713/623-0102
Ron Atkins/PD
Jay Michael/PD

KJLH/Los Angeles
213/299-5960
Cliff Winston/PD
Licia Torres/MD

KDAY/Los Angeles
213/656-1105
Jack Patterson/PD
Greg Mack/MD

KXOL/Los Angeles
213/299-5960
Cliff Winston/PD
Licia Torres/MD

KLJH/Los Angeles
213/656-1105
Cliff Winston/PD
Licia Torres/MD

DONNA ALLEN
WAVA/Arlington
703/534-0320
Mark St. John/PD Gene Baxter/MD
2 3
ATLANTIC STARR
24 26
SMOKEY ROBINSON
2 28
SMOKEY ROBINSON
5 24
HERB ALPERT
6 17
ATLANTIC STARR
8 20
DONNA ALLEN
22 19
WHITNEY HOUSTON
22 23
SMOKEY ROBINSON
25 19
LISA LISA/CULT JAM
25 20
KYMAYX
29 22
WHITNEY HOUSTON

WBSS/Baltimore
301/466-9272
Steve Kingston/PD
8
20
ATLANTIC STARR
20
ATLANTIC STARR
24
ATLANTIC STARR
26
ATLANTIC STARR
28
ATLANTIC STARR

WBZZ/Philadelphia
412/381-8100
Jim Richards/PD Lori Campbell/MD
12
24
ATLANTIC STARR
24
ATLANTIC STARR
26
ATLANTIC STARR
28
ATLANTIC STARR

WRDX/Washington
202/636-1036
Chuck Morgan/PD Pam Trickett/MD
6 5
ATLANTIC STARR
6 8
ATLANTIC STARR
6 14
ATLANTIC STARR
6 16
ATLANTIC STARR
6 22
ATLANTIC STARR

KBEG/Kansas City
816/315-3535
Steve Perun/PD Karen Barber/MD
3 1
ATLANTIC STARR
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ATLANTIC STARR
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ATLANTIC STARR

The R&B Report™
World Radio History
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**KISL/Los Angeles**
213/466-6381
Steve Rivers/PD GeneSanbloom/MD

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**KZZP/Mesa**
602/964-4000
Guy Zapoleon/PD KevinWeatherly/MD

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**R&B AT AC**

**THE R&B REPORT**

**PHYLLIS HYMAN**
LOOK FOR
"BETCHA' DON'T KNOW"

The next single from the #1 album "NAJEE'S THEME" on Billboard's Top Contemporary Jazz Chart.

The reunion of the year... the original

RAY, GOODMAN & BROWN
(formerly The Moments) with their hit single
"CELEBRATE OUR LOVE"
from the album "Take It To The Limit"

Still Building At The Black/Urban Level

Management: Hush Productions

We've Got The Flair!
WHITNEY HOUSTON
*I Wanna Dance With Somebody* (Arista)

The petite lady with the big voice is back with a hit. Coupled with a brilliant marketing strategy, nearly every station with an antenna is on this one “out-of-box”. It’s definitely a summertime record that sounds good on the radio. Whitney’s dance card should be filled for quite sometime with this smash.

WRITER: Merrill/Republican
PRODUCER: Narada Michael Walden

ARETHA FRANKLIN
*Rock-A-Lott* (Arista)

Lady Soul, The Queen of Rock & Roll, Aretha Franklin will rock you steady with her new single. Driving beat that will fill up any dance floor, as well as improve your TSL and cumes. Multiformatted, why wait?

WRITER: Walden/Johnson/Glass
PRODUCER: Walden/Johnson/Glass
PUBLISHER: Glasshouse Music, BMI/Irving Music Inc., BMI

ISLEY BROTHERS
*Smooth Sailin’ Tonight* (CBS)

Let’s face it: Ronnie Isley is a premier rhythm & blues balladeer. He just gets better with time. *Smooth Sailin’ Tonight* is in the groove with the style that the Isley’s have made famous over the years. Sharp production skills in the studio have filled any possible vocal hole with perfectly blended overdubs. Already hot at R&B radio. If you liked *Groove With You* you’ll love this one.

WRITER: Angela L. Winbush
PRODUCER: Ronald Isley/Rudolph Isley/Angela Winbush
PUBLISHER: Angel Notes Music/USA Exotic Music, ASCAP

ALEXANDER O’NEAL
*Taboo* (Tabu)

Jam & Lewis strike again with this new single from Alexander O’Neal (an original member of the band Flyte Tyme). *Fake* is fun, funky and will motivate you to the dance floor to do the wop (latest dance craze). Multi-format potential. Expect R&B radio to jump all over this one. You can “Fake” the funk.

WRITER: James Harris III/Terry Lewis
PRODUCER: Jimmy Jam/Terry Lewis
PUBLISHER: Flyte Tyme Tunes, ASCAP/Avant Garde Music, ASCAP

Major New Released (Singles)

Label: Columbia
Artist: Isaac Hayes
Title: *If You Want My Lovin, Do Me Right*
Writer: B. Jackson/D. Conley/D. Townsend
Producer: B. Jackson/D. Conley/D. Townsend
Publisher: ASCA
Catalog: 44-06789

Label: RCA
Artist: Diana Ross
Title: *Dirty Looks*
Writer: Scher/Gurden
Producer: Tom Dowd
Publisher: Black Lion Music/R.C. Songs/Matak Music, ASCAP
Catalog: 5172-7-R

Label: Motown
Artist: Family Dream
Title: *Rescue Me*
Writer: R. Pardee/M. Perison/V. Brooks
Producer: Dream Team Productions
Publisher: Beblica Music (ASCAP)
Catalog: 1894-MF

Label: Tommy Boy
Artist: Stetsasonic
Title: *Faye*
Writer: Stetsasonic
Producer: Stetsasonic
Publisher: Tee Girl Music (BMI)
Catalog: TB 897

Major New Releases (Albums)

Label: EMI America
Artist: Nu Romance Crew
Title: *Tonight*
Catalog: ST-17271

Label: JIVE
Artist: Jonathan Butler
Title: *Jonathan Butler*
Catalog: 1032-J

Label: Atlantic
Artist: Mel & Kim
Title: *FLM*
Catalog: 81739-1

Please send all configurations of product for review to: Graham Armstrong, Publisher

The R&B Report™
6430 Sunset Blvd., Suite 1201
Los Angeles, California 90028
(213) 461-4773
**Diana Ross**

RED HOT RHYTHM & BLUES (RCA)

6388-1-R

Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue. I believe that’s how it goes. Anyway, you can find it all in the new Diana Ross LP, *Red Hot Rhythm & Blues* (Diana, thanks for the plug for R&B.) In this LP, Diana has donned her ruby slippers and is headed “home,” back to her roots. Maybe not all the way back to the Brewster Projects of Detroit, but certainly back to the sound that helped to make her name a household word — the uptown sound of Motown. No it was not produced by the famed Holland-Dozier-Holland production team, but she did manage to give an up-start producer from New York a chance to write and produce what I feel is the best cut on the LP, a tune entitled, “It’s Hard For Me To Say.” Oh yeah: the ‘kid’ she gave a chance is named Luther Vandross. Other supremely sounding cuts include the current “Dirty Looks” and a “Heatwave Revisited” tune called “Shockwaves.” It’s funky and in the pocket. Ms. Ross, also, does a “Berry-good” job on two R&B classics, Jackie Ross’ “Selfish One” and the Drifters’ “There Goes My Baby.” Other strong songs include “Stranger in Paradise,” “Summertime,” “Tell Me Again,” and “Cross My Heart.” Overall it’s a good LP and warrants immediate attention at R&B, AC, Top 40 & Quiet Storm formatted stations. She’s still the Boss, Ms. Ross. It’s good to have her back.

—Graham Armstrong

**Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam**

SPANISH FLY (Columbia)

FC-40477

*Spanish Fly*, the second album from Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam on Columbia, marks a new maturity in both sound and talent for this group. Don’t get me wrong, they still have the same distinctive musical traits we’ve all recognized since “I Wonder If I Take You Home” but this time around, again with the able assistance of Full Force, they’re showing a grown-up quality, combined with their usual youthful exuberance. There’s enough single potential on this album to make selecting the next one very difficult. For me, it’s a toss-up among the highly danceable “I Promise You,” the very hot-blooded “A Fool Is Born Every Day” and the charming “Someone To Love Me For Me,” whose message is stated in its title. Meanwhile, “Head To Toe” is still bustin’ out at both R&B and Top 40 radio. You definitely should give Spanish Fly a listen and try to choose the next release for yourself. I guarantee: You’re in for a very tough decision!

—Charles Peck
Happy, the irrepressible single by Surface, has spun an irresistible video that was the fourth most popular clip this week. Radio listeners and now video viewers find it easy to like Happy.

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Luther Vandross' album is showing a strong second wind, carried by the strength of the hot single, There's Nothing Better Than Love. Fighting through tough competition at the top of the chart, Give Me The Reason stands at the threshold of No. 1.

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"The rhythms of the joyful spirit are rising ones."

- LANGSTON HUGHES

BLACK MUSIC FROM GEFFEN RECORDS

Cirocco
Janice Dempsey
Jennifer Holliday
Jesse's Gang

Ray Parker, Jr.
Donna Summer
Vaneese Thomas
John White

BRACE YOURSELF... IT BEGINS MAY 27
If I Was Your Girlfriend

The New Single From The Double Album Sign "The Times" Produced, Arranged, Composed and Performed By Prince