

October 16, 1976

Billboard's 14th Annual

World of Country Music

Top
Performers
Today

Where To
Contact Stars

Country's
International Inroads

World of Country Music

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Credits

Editor, Earl Paige. Story direction Gerry Wood, Country Editor. Art, Daniel Chapman and Steve Brown. Production, John F. Halloran. Directory listings: Jon Braude, editor; Joan Elsener, associate editor.

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In 1940, Broadcast Music Incorporated became the first licensing organization for Country music. We made sure that publishers and writers had their performance royalty rights protected. And, in doing so, BMI has helped make Country part of our nation.



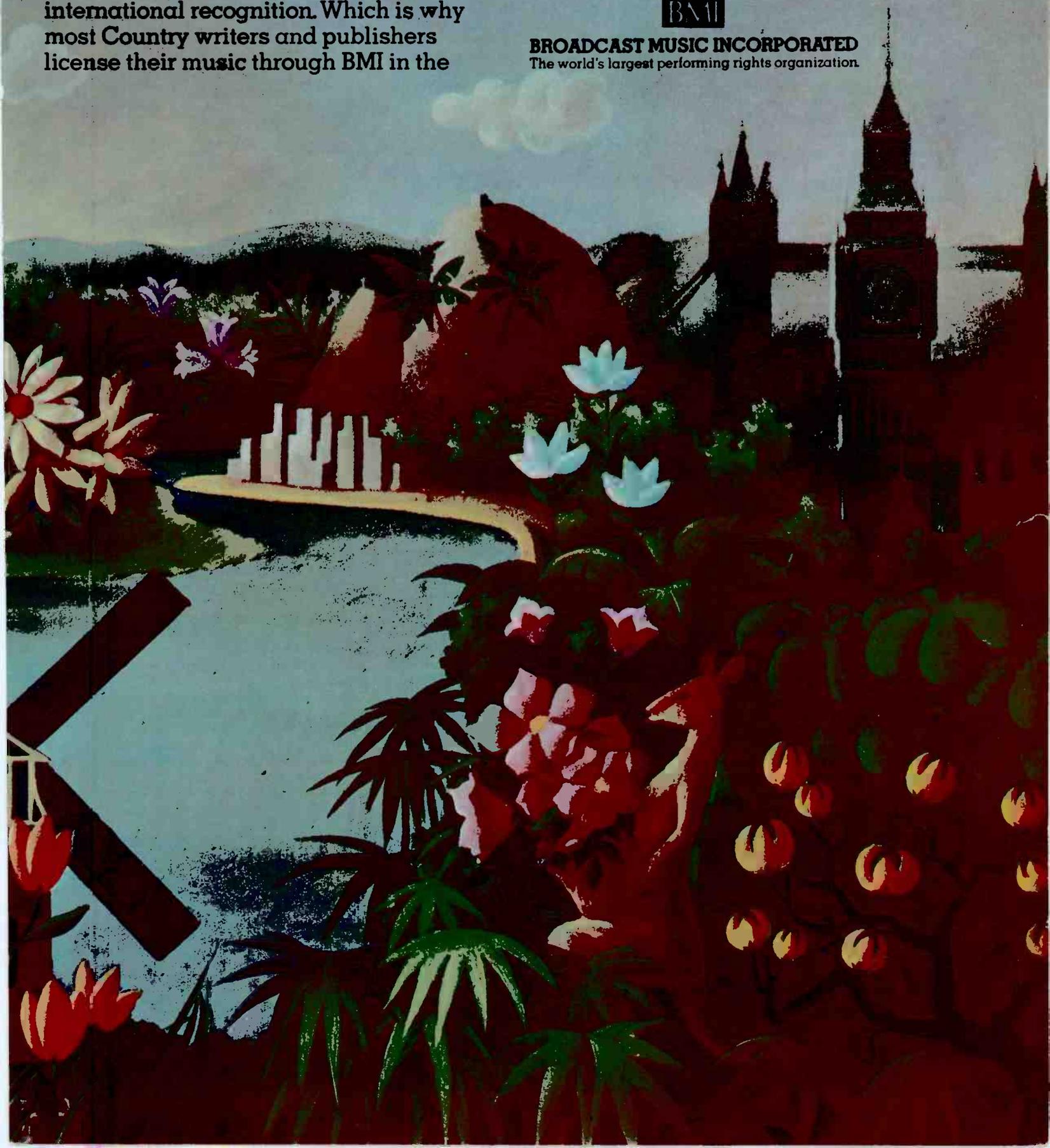
COUNTRY MUSIC HEARD ROUND THE WORLD.

However, we've helped Country artists earn more than just money. For with the aid of 38 foreign performing rights societies, they've also earned international recognition. Which is why most Country writers and publishers license their music through BMI in the

first place. You see, when it comes to helping Country writers, we've got everyone beat by a Country mile.

BMI

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The world's largest performing rights organization.



Keeping tabs on Nashville and its spiraling music business is roughly akin to reporting on the inner workings of an explosion in progress. The situation is changing that fast.

What brought Nashville to recording prominence—its laidback and Southern soul and sound—is threatened by a pace of life that would make an executive from New York or Los Angeles feel right at home. Gone for the most part are daylong beer drinking sessions that brought songwriters elbow close to the town's top producers and artists. Gone are the leisurely gatherings of a strata of music business personalities that accidentally accomplished enough to earn international recognition. Gone, but certainly not forgotten, are those good ol' days when songs were sung, and accepted, from the

This, then, is Nashville '76—country music at a critical crossroad.

Country Crossroads. Sounds like a good title for a John Denver song, doesn't it? Instead, it's the ballad of Music City—1976. The last year has been the most unique, dynamic, illustrious and traumatic in Nashville's 30-year history as a record-making, record-breaking recordopolis.

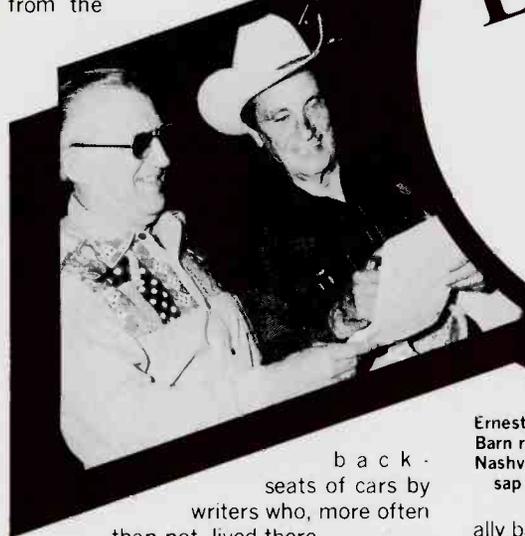
It was the year that Hank Snow, a country traditionalist, quit as president of the Assn. of Country Entertainers, a tradition-

and Denvers as well as the Snows, Acuffs and Tubbs.

Then Wesley Rose, one of Nashville's alltime great music leaders and a diehard traditionalist who once called country radio stations urging them not to play a particular Elvis Presley record (which was an Acuff-Rose song) because he didn't like the trend of country stations playing pop . . . well, Wes-

The Exploding, Evolving Nashville Scene

By GERRY WOOD



Ernest Tubb (right) and Owen Bradley at Bradley's Barn recording his new MCA album. Right: ASCAP Nashville chief Ed Shea serves award to Ronnie Mil-sap (right) as writer John Schweers looks on.



ley has just signed a new distribution deal with ABC Records for his Hickory Records. And what did Wesley say? He said he wants across-the-board action on the ABC/Hickory artists. Don Gibson on the pop charts? Why not? A country artist going pop is just another indication that country has gone national and international. No compromises in integrity, talent and performance need to be made for a country act to go pop.

Waylon Jennings once said he couldn't go pop with a mouthful of firecrackers. He spent most of July 4th eating his words and firecrackers. Even his wife, Jessi Colter, went pop—without a mouth full of firecrackers. And Waylon's outlaw friends such as Willie Nelson joined him in the Big Crossover.

While Nashville also produced some top non-country (strictly pop, MOR or soul) hits, artists in other parts of the country surprised a lot of people, including themselves, by landing on the country charts. The Bellamy Brothers? Oh, yes. "Let Your Love Flow" received loads of country air-

(Continued on page 65)

back - seats of cars by writers who, more often than not, lived there.

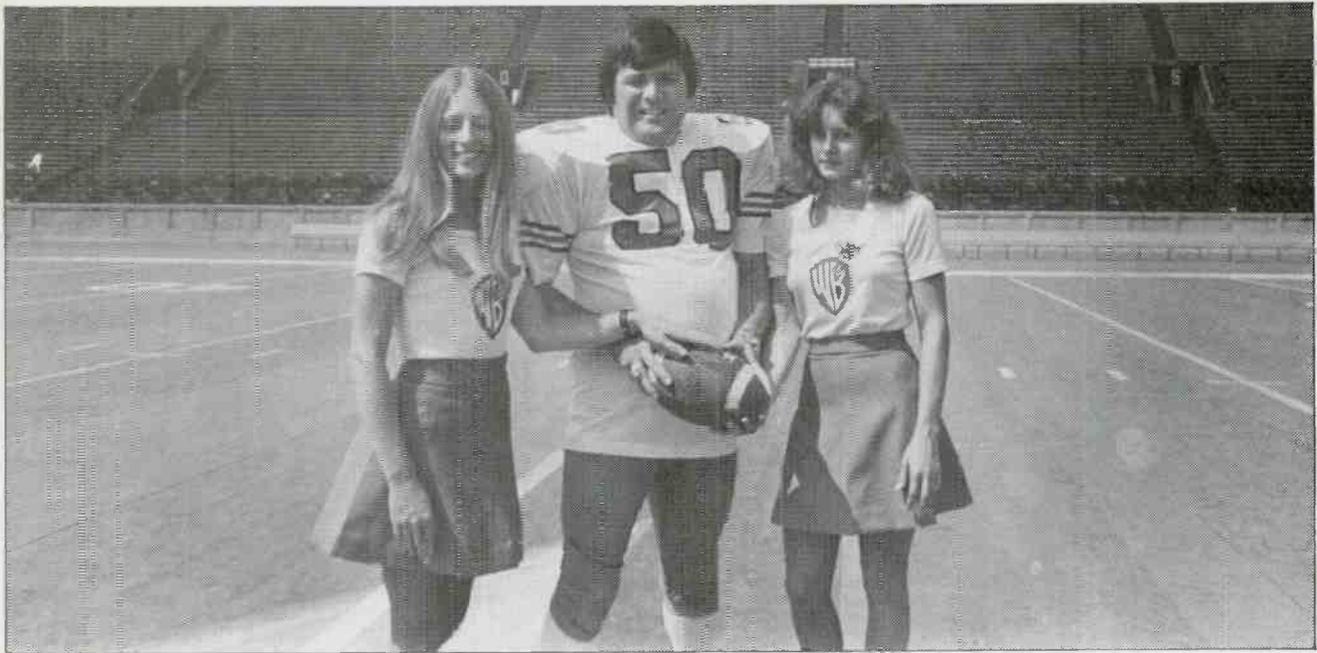
Here are the days of computer-banked surveys, jet swift trips to L.A. and New York to wrap up deals or rushing over to the plush Music Row hostelry, the Spence Manor, to finalize negotiations with the visiting show biz firemen from other cities.

Here is the new breed of Nashville music man: bright, creative, alert, knowledgeable and influential. Here lies the new Nashville—a fast-growing music center combining the creative energies of New York and L.A. with the Southern talent for expressing profound ideas in a simple way.

ally based group that wants to keep country music country. Snow thought some new uptown trends in his own recordings would conflict with the goals of the group, so he stepped down as president while remaining a member. The group, formed during the furor caused by a CMA award to Olivia Newton-John and other progressive country trends, really has some good objectives—and its executive director, Vic Willis, loves the Newton-Johns, Dylans

Bill Golden of the Oak Ridge Boys signs autographs (left) at CBS' Fan Fare booth, while at right Plantation star Webb Pierce visits some handicapped children.





Hits for the Coming Season!



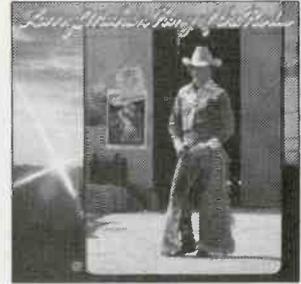
REX ALLEN JR.
Ridin' High
(BS 2956).
Including his current hit "Teardrops in My Heart" (WBS 8236) and "Can You Hear Those Pioneers."



DONNA FARGO.
On the Move
(BS 2956).
Including "Mr. Doodles" and "I've Loved You All the Way." Look for her new single soon.



EMMYLOU HARRIS.
Elite Hotel
(MS 2236).
Featuring her new single "Sweet Dreams" (RPS 1371), plus the hits "One of These Days" and "Together Again."



LARRY V AHAN.
King of the Rodeo
(BS 2959).
Features his debut single "Stunt Man" (WBS 8254).



THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND.
Long Hard Ride
(Capricorn CP* 0170).
Including the title track single (CPS 02581).



MARGO SMITH.
Song Bird
(BS 2956).
Her first Warner Bros. album, featuring "Save Your Kisses for Me." Her new single: "Take My Breath Away" (WBS 8261).



EAY STEVENS.
Just for the Record
(BS 2954).
Includes the hits "You Are So Beautiful" and "Honky Tonk Waltz."



DOUG KERSHAW.
Rogin' Cajun
(BS 2910).
Including "It Takes All Day (To Get Over Night)" and his new single "House Husband" (WBS 8257).



BUCK OWENS
Buck 'Em
(BS 2952).
His debut Warners album, featuring the new single "California Okie" (WBS 8255).

One on the way: **DEBI HAWKINS' "I'll Be There"** (WBS 8269).

**This
season
it's
Warner Country.**



TOP Country

Awards



Charlie Daniels Band (above); comics Jerry Jordan and Jerry Clower (immediate right).



The information compiled for the top records and artist's survey is based on the weekly chart positioning and length of time records were on the respective charts from the issue dates of Sept. 6, 1975 through Aug. 28, 1976. Points were assigned to each weekly position, in reverse order for each chart in the categories represented. In addition, the number one position each week was assigned bonus points equal to the total number of positions on its respective chart. In this way all the records of a particular artist, publisher or producer were compiled, combined and placed in total point strength order. Where a record was shared by more than one artist, publisher or producer, and each was known in his or her right, the points were divided equally. Each artist, publisher or producer, however, was given credit for the record. These recaps, as well as the weekly charts, do not reflect actual sales figures. The ratings take into account the number of weeks the disk was on the chart, plus the weekly positions it held during its chart life. Each disk was given points accordingly for its respective chart, and in addition, the number one disk each week was assigned bonus points equal to the total number of positions on its respective charts. These recaps were compiled by the staff of Billboard's Music Popularity Charts Dept. under the direction of Bill Wardlow and Bob White.

Joni Lee (at angle above) Bill Anderson and Mary Lou Turner (top), Red Sovine and (below) Cledus Maggard.

- SINGLE OF THE YEAR: "Convoy," C.W. McCall
ALBUM OF THE YEAR: "Black Bear Road," C.W. McCall
OVERALL SINGLES OF THE YEAR: Ronnie Milsap
MALE SINGLES ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Ronnie Milsap
FEMALE SINGLES ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Tanya Tucker
SINGLES DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR: Dave & Sugar
OVERALL ALBUM ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Willie Nelson
MALE ALBUM ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Willie Nelson
FEMALE ALBUM ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Emmylou Harris
ALBUM DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR: Statler Brothers
PUBLISHER OF THE YEAR: Tree, BMI
SINGLES LABEL OF THE YEAR: RCA
ALBUM LABEL OF THE YEAR: RCA
NEW MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Cledus Maggard
NEW FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Joni Lee
NEW DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR: Dave & Sugar
NEW LABEL OF THE YEAR: Farr
MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR: Willie Nelson
FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR: Tanya Tucker
VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR: Bill Anderson & Mary Lou Turner
VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR: Statler Brothers
INSTRUMENTAL ACT OF THE YEAR: Bill Black Combo
COMIC OF THE YEAR: Jerry Clower
Jerry Jordan

The following awards represent an editorial staff consensus based in great part on a 12-month analysis of Billboard's "Hot Country LPs" and "Hot Country Singles" charts.

- BILL WILLIAMS MEMORIAL, ARTIST OF THE YEAR: Ronnie Milsap
ARTIST RESURGENCE OF THE YEAR: Red Sovine
SPECIAL BREAKTHROUGH AWARD: Charlie Daniels Band
PIONEER AWARD: CBS RECORDS COUNTRY DIVISION (for album pre-pack)



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Al Gallico



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-Al-

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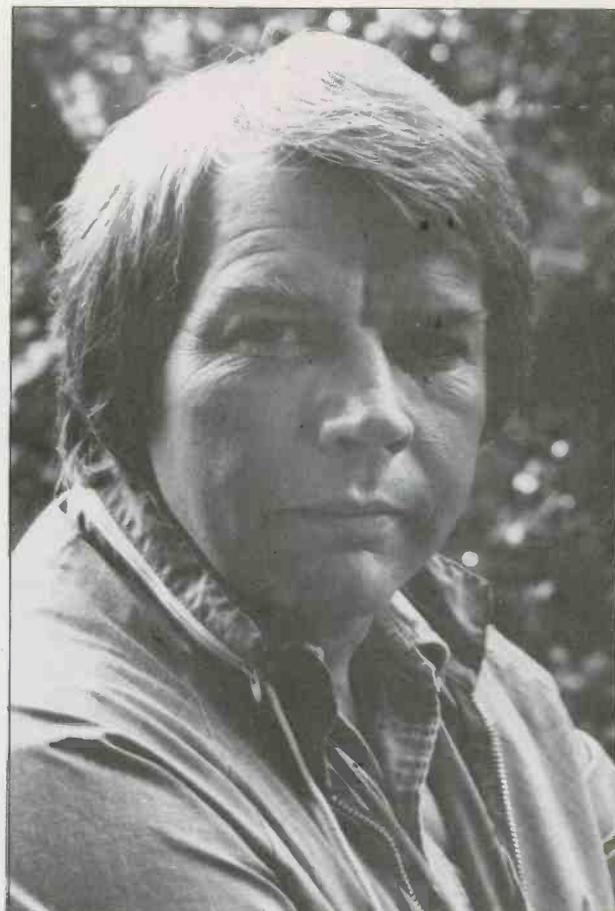
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Los Angeles, Ca. 90028
(213) 462-2251

50 Music Square West
Nashville, Tenn. 37203
(615) 327-2773

TOP Country

Albums, Singles



Albums

Pos. TITLE, Artists, Label (Dist. Label)

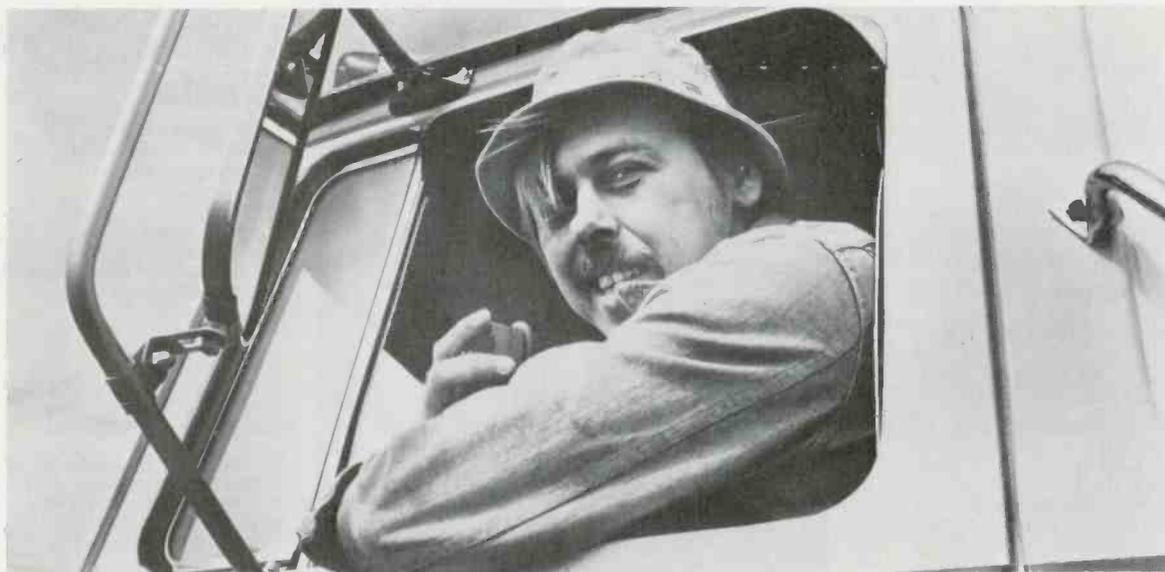
1. BLACK BEAR ROAD, C. W. McCall, MGM
2. THE SOUND IN YOUR MIND, Willie Nelson, Columbia
3. WANTED: THE OUTLAWS, Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, Jessi Colter, Tompall Glaser, RCA
4. REDHEADED STRANGER, Willie Nelson, Columbia
5. WINDSONG, John Denver, RCA
6. RHINESTONE COWBOY, Glen Campbell, Capitol
7. ELITE HOTEL, Emmylou Harris, Reprise (Warner Brothers)
8. ARE YOU READY FOR FREDDY, Freddy Fender, ABC/Dot
9. SOMEBODY LOVES YOU, Crystal Gayle, United Artists
10. FROM ELVIS PRESLEY BOULEVARD, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, Elvis Presley, RCA
11. BEFORE THE NEXT TEARDROP FALLS, Freddy Fender, ABC/Dot
12. PRISONER IN DISGUISE, Linda Ronstadt, Asylum
13. THE BEST OF THE STATLER BROTHERS, Statler Brothers, Mercury (Phonogram)
14. DREAMING MY DREAMS, Waylon Jennings, RCA
15. HARMONY, Don Williams, ABC/Dot
16. NIGHT THINGS, Ronnie Milsap, RCA
17. IT'S ALL IN THE MOVIES, Merle Haggard, Capitol
18. CLEARLY LOVE, Olivia Newton-John, MCA
19. THIS TIME I'VE HURT HER MORE THAN SHE LOVES ME, Conway Twitty, MCA
20. GILLEY'S GREATEST HITS, VOL. 1, Mickey Gilley, Playboy
21. WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ME NOW, Willie Nelson, RCA
22. LOVE IN THE HOT AFTERNOON, Gene Watson, Capitol
23. BEST OF DOLLY PARTON, Dolly Parton, RCA
24. SOMETIMES, Bill Anderson & Mary Lou Turner, MCA
25. THE HAPPINESS OF HAVING YOU, Charlie Pride, RCA

Singles

Pos. TITLE, Artists, Label (Dist. Label)

1. CONVOY, C. W. McCall, MGM
2. GOOD HEARTED WOMAN, Waylon & Willie, RCA
3. THE DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN, Dave & Sugar, RCA
4. I'LL GET OVER YOU, Crystal Gayle, United Artists
5. ONE PIECE AT A TIME, Johnny Cash, Columbia
6. TEDDY BEAR, Red Sovine, Starday (Gusto)
7. STRANGER, Johnny Duncan, Columbia
8. ROCKY, Dickey Lee, RCA
9. EL PASO CITY, Marty Robbins, Columbia
10. I'M SORRY, John Denver, RCA
11. BROKEN LADY, Larry Gatlin, Monument (Epic/Columbia)
12. ALL THESE THINGS, Joe Stampley, ABC/Dot
13. ARE YOU SURE HANK DONE IT THIS WAY/BOB WILLS IS STILL THE KING, Waylon Jennings, RCA
14. FASTER HORSES (The Cowboy & The Poet), Tom T. Hall, Mercury (Phonogram)
15. 'TIL THE RIVERS ALL RUN DRY, Don Williams, ABC/Dot
16. IT'S ALL IN THE MOVIES, Merle Haggard, Capitol
17. DON'T THE GIRLS ALL GET PRETTIER AT CLOSING TIME, Mickey Gilley, Playboy
18. DRINKIN' MY BABY (Off My Mind) Eddie Rabbitt, Elektra
19. SECRET LOVE, Freddy Fender, ABC/Dot
20. SOMETIMES, Bill Anderson & Mary Lou Turner, MCA
21. I LIKE BEER, Tom T. Hall, Mercury (Phonogram)
22. YOU'LL LOSE A GOOD THING, Freddy Fender, ABC/Dot
23. EASY AS PIE, Billy "Crash" Craddock, ABC/Dot
24. LOVE PUT A SONG IN MY HEART, Johnny Rodriguez, Mercury (Phonogram)
25. 'TIL I CAN MAKE IT ON MY OWN, Tammy Wynette, Epic (Columbia)

CLEDUS MAGGARD



would like to thank everyone for

**Billboard:
BEST NEW MALE ARTIST, 1976**

**Record World:
TOP NOVELTY ARTIST, 1976**

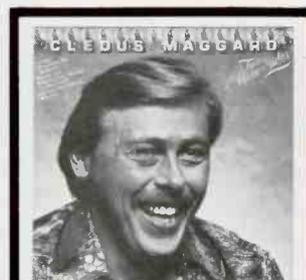
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WILLIAM A. LESLIE
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TOP Country

Vocalists

Male Vocalists Singles

Pos.	ARTIST, Label (Dist. Label)	No. of Singles on Chart
1.	RONNIE MILSAP, RCA Warner Brothers	4
2.	FREDDY FENDER, ABC/Dot GRT	3
3.	C. W. McCALL, Polydor MGM	2
4.	WILLIE NELSON, Columbia Lone Star (Columbia) RCA	2
5.	JOE STAMPLEY, Epic (Columbia) ABC/Dot	2
6.	RAY STEVENS, Warner Brothers Barnaby (Janus)	2
7.	DON WILLIAMS, ABC/Dot	2
8.	NARVEL FELTS, ABC/Dot	2
9.	FREDDIE HART, Capitol	2
10.	TOM T. HALL, Mercury (Phonogram)	2
11.	CHARLEY PRIDE, RCA	2
12.	CONWAY TWITTY, MCA	2
13.	MERLE HAGGARD, Capitol	2
14.	BILLY "CRASH" CRADDOCK, ABC/Dot	2
15.	GENE WATSON, Capitol	2
16.	SONNY JAMES, Columbia	2
17.	EDDIE RABBITT, Elektra	2
18.	JOHNNY CASH, Columbia	2
19.	GLEN CAMPBELL, Capitol	2
20.	MICKEY GILLEY, Playboy	2
21.	CHARLIE RICH, Epic (Columbia)	2
22.	JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ, Mercury (Phonogram)	2
23.	MEL TILLIS, MCA MGM	1
24.	T. G. SHEPPARD, Hitsville (Motown)	1
25.	MOE BANDY, Columbia GRC	1

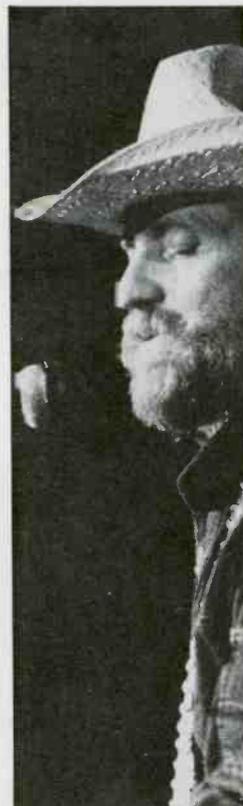


Female Vocalists Singles

Pos.	ARTIST, Label (Dist. Label)	No. of Singles On Chart
1.	TANYA TUCKER, MCA Columbia	4
2.	CRYSTAL GAYLE, United Artists	4
3.	BILLIE JO SPEARS, United Artists	4
4.	OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN, MCA	5
5.	EMMYLOU HARRIS, Reprise (Warner Brothers)	4
6.	SAMMI SMITH, Elektra Mega (PIP) Zodiac	3
7.	LORETTA LYNN, MCA	2
8.	JESSI COLTER, Capitol	1
9.	CONNIE SMITH, Columbia	3
10.	DOLLY PARTON, RCA	3
11.	DONNA FARGO, Warner Brothers ABC/Dot	2
12.	TAMMY WYNETTE, Epic (Columbia)	3
13.	LYNN ANDERSON, Columbia	3
14.	LA COSTA, Capitol	4
15.	BARBARA MANDRELL, ABC/Dot	3
16.	MARGO SMITH, Warner Brothers 20th Century	1
17.	SUE RICHARDS, ABC/Dot	2
18.	JEAN SHEPARD, United Artists	4
19.	ANNE MURRAY, Capitol	4
20.	JONI LEE, MCA	3
21.	LINDA RONSTADT, Asylum Capitol	1
22.	BARBARA FAIRCHILD, Columbia	1
23.	DOTTSY, RCA	4
24.	BRENDA LEE, MCA	3
25.	LINDA HARGROVE, Capitol	3

Male Vocalists Albums

Pos.	ARTIST, Label (Dist. Label)	No. of LP's on Chart
1.	WILLIE NELSON, Columbia RCA Plantation United Artists	2
2.	C. W. McCALL, Polydor MGM	3
3.	FREDDY FENDER, ABC/Dot GRT	1
4.	WAYLON JENNINGS, RCA	5
5.	GLEN CAMPBELL, Capitol	2
6.	CONWAY TWITTY, MCA	3
7.	ELVIS PRESLEY, RCA	3
8.	DON WILLIAMS, ABC/Dot	3
9.	RONNIE MILSAP, RCA Warner Brothers	3
10.	JOHN DENVER, RCA	3
11.	MICKEY GILLEY, Playboy	3
12.	JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ, Mercury (Phonogram)	3
13.	MERLE HAGGARD, Capitol	3
14.	CHARLEY PRIDE, RCA	3
15.	TOM T. HALL, Mercury (Phonogram)	2
16.	NARVEL FELTS, ABC/Dot	2
17.	GENE WATSON, Capitol	2
18.	CHARLIE RICH, Epic (Columbia) RCA	3
19.	TOMPALL GLASER, MGM RCA	1
20.	JOHNNY CASH, Columbia	1
21.	DICKEY LEE, RCA	3
22.	SONNY JAMES, Columbia	2
23.	MAC DAVIS, Columbia	2
24.	DAVID ALLAN COE, Columbia	2
25.	FREDDIE HART, Capitol	3



Female Vocalists Albums

Pos.	ARTIST, Label (Dist. Label)	No. of LP's on Chart
1.	EMMYLOU HARRIS, Reprise (Warner Brothers)	2
2.	JESSI COLTER, Capitol RCA	3
3.	OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN, MCA	1
4.	LINDA RONSTADT, Asylum Capitol	3
5.	DOLLY PARTON, RCA	1
6.	CRYSTAL GAYLE, United Artists	2
7.	LORETTA LYNN, MCA	1
8.	TAMMY WYNETTE, Epic (Columbia)	2
9.	TANYA TUCKER, MCA Columbia	1
10.	BILLIE JO SPEARS, United Artists	1
11.	SAMMI SMITH, Elektra Mega (PIP)	2
12.	LYNN ANDERSON, Columbia	1
13.	ANNE MURRAY, Capitol	1
14.	DONNA FARGO, Warner Brothers ABC/Dot	1
15.	BARBI BENTON, Playboy	1
16.	STELLA PARTON, Country, Soul, & Blues	1
17.	BARBARA MANDRELL, ABC/Dot	1
18.	MARGO SMITH, Warner Brothers 20th Century	1
19.	DOTTSY, RCA	1
20.	CONNIE SMITH, Columbia	1

TODAY IS CAPITOL COUNTRY.



Freddie Hart
Anne Murray
Dr. Hook
Asleep At The Wheel
Glen Campbell
Tennessee Ernie Ford
Linda Hargrove
Ray Griff
Stoney Edwards
Merte Haggard
Jessi Colter
Colleen Peterson
Side Of The Road Gang
Steven Fromholz
LaCosta
Pam Rose
Comie Cato
Linda Hargrove
Carmen Moreno
R. W. Blackwood & The Blackwood Singers
Larry Ballard
Gene Watson
Michael Clark
Diana Williams
James Talley
Nashville: Frank Jones Bill Williams Ed Keeley Chuck Flood
Hollywood: Don Owens



TOP Country Artists, Publishers

Artists Singles

Pos.	ARTISTS, LABEL (Dist. Label)	No. of Singles on Chart
1.	RONNIE MILSAP, RCA Warner Brothers	4
2.	FREDDY FENDER, ABC/Dot GRT	3
3.	C. W. McCALL, MGM Polydor	2
4.	WILLIE NELSON, Columbia Lone Star (Columbia) RCA United Artists	2
5.	JOE STAMPLEY, Epic (Columbia) ABC/Dot	2
6.	TANYA TUCKER, MCA Columbia	2
7.	RAY STEVENS, Warner Brothers Barnaby (Janus)	2
8.	DON WILLIAMS, ABC/Dot	3
9.	NARVEL FELTS, ABC/Dot	4
10.	CRYSTAL GAYLE, United Artists	4
11.	FREDDIE HART, Capitol	5
12.	TOM T. HALL, Mercury (Phonogram)	4
13.	CHARLEY PRIDE, RCA	4
14.	CONWAY TWITTY, MCA	4
15.	BILLIE JO SPEARS, United Artists	4
16.	MERLE HAGGARD, Capitol	3
17.	BILLY "CRASH" CRADDOCK, ABC/Dot	4
18.	GENE WATSON, Capitol	4
19.	SONNY JAMES, Columbia	5
20.	EDDIE RABBITT, Elektra	3
21.	JOHNNY CASH, Columbia	5
22.	GLEN CAMPBELL, Capitol	4
23.	MICKEY GILLEY, Playboy	4
24.	OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN, MCA	5
25.	CHARLIE RICH, Epic (Columbia)	5



Artists Albums

Pos.	ARTISTS, Label (Dist. Label)	No. of LP's on Chart
1.	WILLIE NELSON, Columbia RCA United Artists Plantation	2
2.	C. W. McCALL, Polydor MGM	3
3.	FREDDY FENOER, ABC/Dot GRT	1
4.	WAYLON JENNINGS, RCA	5
5.	GLEN CAMPBELL, Capitol	2
6.	CONWAY TWITTY, MCA	3
7.	STATLER BROTHERS, Mercury (Phonogram)	4
8.	ELVIS PRESLEY, RCA	3
9.	OON WILLIAMS, ABC/Dot	3
10.	RONNIE MILSAP, RCA Warner Brothers	3
11.	EMMYLOU HARRIS, Reprise (Warner Brothers)	1
12.	JOHN DENVER, RCA	2
13.	JESSI COLTER, Capitol RCA	3
14.	OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN, MCA	1
15.	MICKEY GILLEY, Playboy	3
16.	JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ, Mercury (Phonogram)	3
17.	MERLE HAGGARD, Capitol	3
18.	CHARLIE PRIDE, RCA	3
19.	LINDA RONSTADT, Capitol Asylum	1
20.	DOLLY PARTON, RCA	2
21.	TOM T. HALL, Mercury (Phonogram)	2
22.	NARVEL FELTS, ABC/Dot	3
23.	CRYSTAL GAYLE, United Artists	1
24.	GENE WATSON, Capitol	2
25.	CHARLIE RICH, Epic (Columbia) RCA	3



Publishers

Pos.	PUBLISHER, Licensee	No. of Singles on Chart	Pos.	PUBLISHER, Licensee	No. of Singles on Chart	Pos.	PUBLISHER, Licensee	No. of Singles on Chart
1.	TREE, BMI	39	9.	AL GALLICO, BMI	15	18.	HALLNOTE, BMI	5
2.	ACUFF-ROSE, BMI	40	10.	PI-GEM, BMI	8	19.	WINDOW, BMI	11
3.	HALL-CLEMENT, BMI	10	11.	MILENE, ASCAP	9	20.	STALLION, BMI	4
4.	AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE, SESAC	4	12.	JACK, BMI	5	21.	COMBINE, BMI	7
5.	ALGEE, BMI	19	13.	TWITTY BIRD, BMI	5	22.	CEDARWOOD, BMI	5
6.	BARON, BMI	6	14.	WARNER BROTHERS, ASCAP	6	23.	UNART, ASCAP	10
7.	UNICHAPPELL, BMI	10	15.	BLUE ECHO, ASCAP	6	24.	SCREEN GEMS-COLUMBIA, BMI	8
8.	CHAPPELL, ASCAP	10	16.	CHERRY LANE, ASCAP	7	25.	BLUE MOON, ASCAP	5
			17.	OWEPAR, BMI	7			

LONDON / Hi RECORDS

congratulate



BILL BLACK'S COMBO featuring *Bob Tucker*

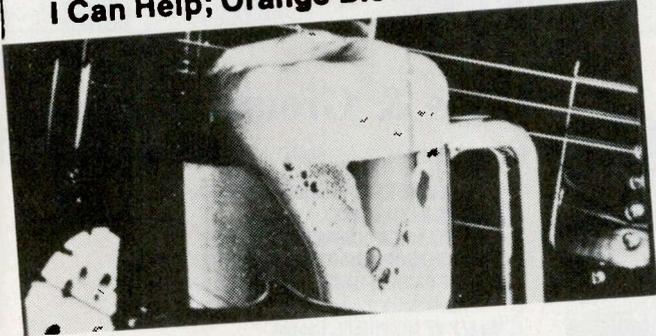
on their 1976 awards

Hi LONDON SHL 32093

BILL BLACK COMBO
Featuring **Bob Tucker**

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Back Up And Push; Jump Back Joe Joe; I Can Help; Orange Blossom Special.



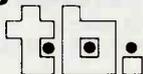
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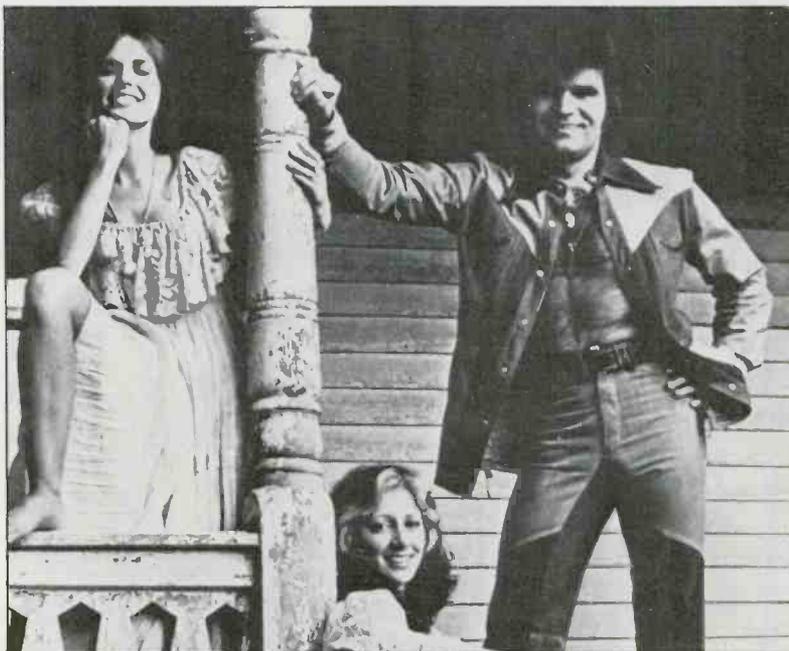


TOP Country

Groups, Labels

Duos & Groups Singles

Pos.	ARTIST, Label (Dist. Label)	No. of Singles on Chart
1.	DAVE & SUGAR, RCA	2
2.	ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL, Capitol	4
3.	BILL ANDERSON & MARY LOU TURNER, MCA	2
4.	STATLER BROTHERS, Mercury (Phonogram)	3
5.	WAYLON JENNINGS & WILLIE NELSON, RCA	1
6.	AMAZING RHYTHM ACES, ABC	3
7.	LORETTA LYNN & CONWAY TWITTY, MCA	2
8.	CHARLIE DANIELS BAND, Epic (Columbia) Kama Sutra (Buddah)	1
9.	GEORGE JONES & TAMMY WYNETTE, Epic (Columbia)	1
10.	WAYLON JENNINGS & JESSI COLTER, RCA	1
11.	PORTER WAGONER & DOLLY PARTON, RCA	1
12.	EAGLES, Asylum	1
13.	BILLY THUNDERKLOUD & THE CHIEFTONES, Polydor 20th Century	2
14.	DR. HOOK, Capitol	1
15.	BILL BLACK'S COMBO, Hi (London)	2
16.	LINDA RONSTADT & EMMYLOU HARRIS, Asylum	3
17.	DEL REEVES & BILLIE JO SPEARS, United Artists	1
18.	BELLAMY BROTHERS, Warner Brothers/Curb	2
19.	GEORGE BAKER SELECTION, Warner Brothers	1
20.	SHIRLEY & SQUIRRELY, GRT	1
21.	JIM ED BROWN & HELEN CORNELIUS, RCA	1
22.	MICKEY GILLEY & BARBI BENTON, Playboy	1
23.	DON GIBSON & SUE THOMPSON, Hickory (MGM)	2
24.	BUCK OWNES & SUSAN RAYE, Capitol	1
25.	JACK BLANCHARD & MISTY MORGAN, Epic (Columbia)	2



Duos & Groups Albums

Pos.	ARTIST, Label (Dist. Label)	No. Of LP's on Chart
1.	STATLER BROTHERS, Mercury (Phonogram)	4
2.	AMAZING RHYTHM ACES, ABC	2
3.	LORETTA LYNN & CONWAY TWITTY, MCA	2
4.	BILL ANDERSON & MARY LOU TURNER, MCA	1
5.	CHARLIE DANIELS BAND, Epic (Columbia) Kama Sutra (Buddah)	1
6.	ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL, Capitol	2
7.	CHET ATKINS & LES PAUL, RCA	1
8.	PORTER WAGONER & DOLLY PARTON, RCA	1
9.	MARSHALL TUCKER BAND, Capricorn (Warner Brothers)	2
10.	ERAL SCRUGGS REVUE, Columbia	2
11.	DANNY DAVIS & THE NASHVILLE BRASS, RCA	3
12.	DR. HOOK, Capitol	1
13.	BOB WILLS & HIS TEXAS PLAYBOYS, Columbia MCA	1
14.	BILLY THUNDERKLOUD & THE CHIEFTONES, 20th Century	2
15.	ATKINS STRING BAND, RCA	1
16.	DON GIBSON & SUE THOMPSON, Hickory (MGM)	1
17.	GUY & RALNA, Ranwood	1
18.	CALICO, United Artists	1
19.	BILL BLACK'S COMBO, Hi (London)	1
20.	LOGGINS & MESSINA, Columbia	1



Labels Singles

Pos.	LABEL (Dist. Label)	No. of Singles on Chart	Pos.	LABEL (Dist. Label)	No. of Singles on Chart
1.	RCA	82	11.	ELEKTRA	14
2.	ABC/Dot	61	12.	GRT	16
3.	MCA	56	13.	PLAYBOY	14
4.	CAPITOL	57	14.	HITSVILLE (Motown)	11
5.	COLUMBIA	50	15.	MONUMENT (Epic/Columbia)	9
6.	EPIC (Columbia)	42	16.	REPRISE (Warner Brothers)	5
7.	MERCURY (Phonogram)	33	17.	20th CENTURY	10
8.	UNITED ARTISTS	28	18.	ABC	8
9.	MGM	16	19.	POLYDOR	10
10.	WARNER BROTHERS	22	20.	HICKORY (MGM)	11

Labels Albums

Pos.	LABEL (Dist. Label)	No. of LP's on Chart	Pos.	LABEL (Dist. Label)	No. of LP's on Chart
1.	RCA	50	11.	PLAYBOY	4
2.	COLUMBIA	29	12.	ABC	3
3.	MCA	26	13.	ASYLUM	2
4.	ABC/Dot	27	14.	MONUMENT (Epic/Columbia)	6
5.	CAPITOL	23	15.	GRT	4
6.	MERCURY (Phonogram)	12	16.	WARNER BROTHERS	7
7.	MGM	8	17.	ELEKTRA	4
8.	UNITED ARTISTS	14	18.	CAPRICORN	2
9.	EPIC (Columbia)	12	19.	MEGA (PIP)	1
10.	REPRISE (Warner Brothers)	3	20.	STARDAY (Gusto)	1

THE STATLER BROS.



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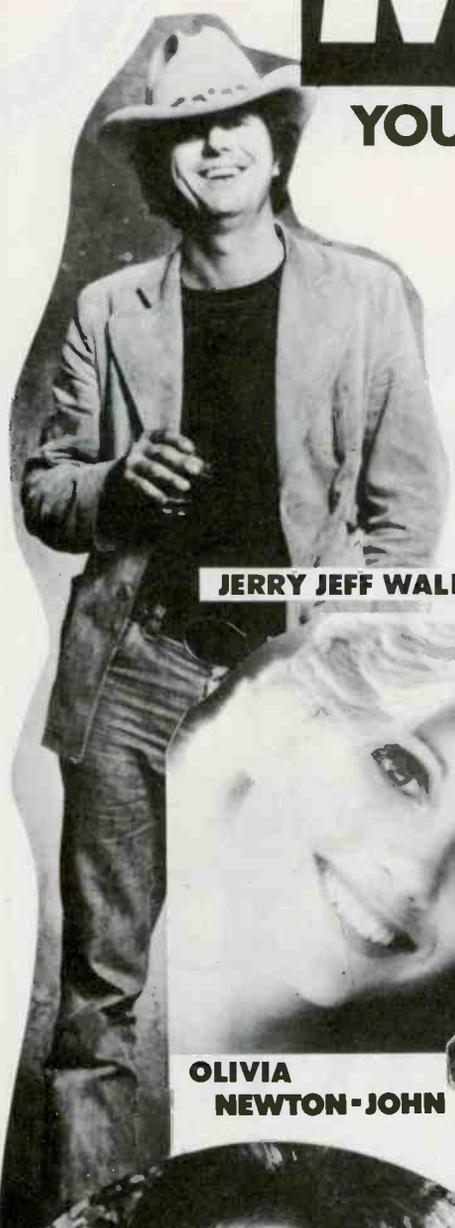


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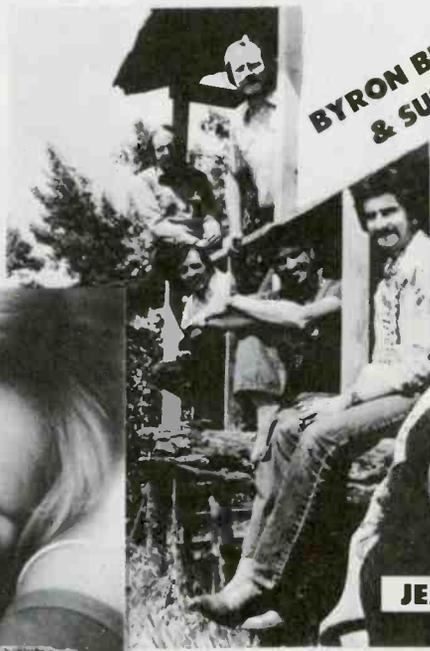
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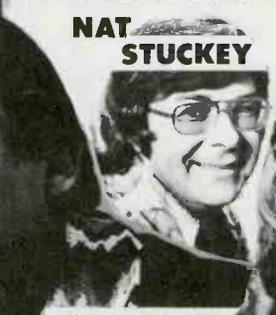
BYRON BERLINE
& SUNDANCE



OLIVIA
NEWTON-JOHN



CONWAY
TWITTY



NAT
STUCKEY

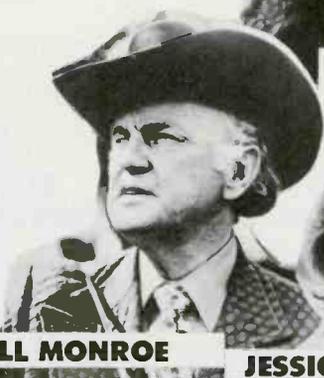
CAL SMITH



MARY
LOU
TURNER



LORETTA
LYNN



BILL MONROE



JESSICA JAMES

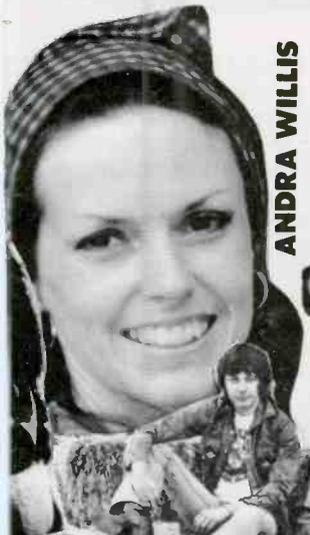


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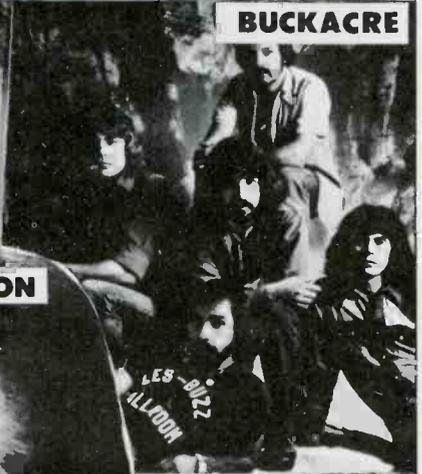
LEONA WILLIAMS

TANYA TUCKER



KENNY STARR

BUCKACRE

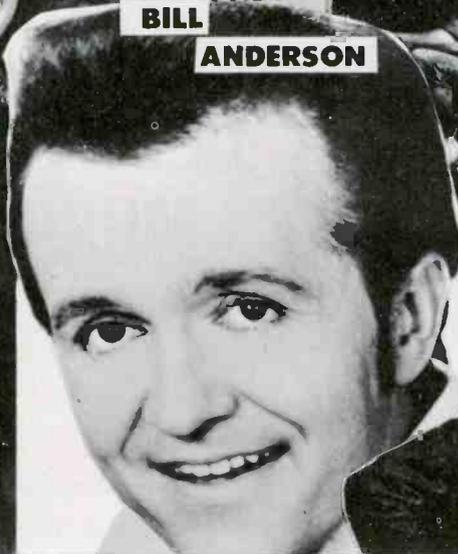


BRENDA LEE

LITTLE DAVID WILKINS



BILL ANDERSON



ONNIE LEE SESSIONS



RONNIE RENO



JONI LEE



MEL TILLIS

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Publisher Catalogs Bulging

By STACY HARRIS



Singer T.G. Sheppard has a reunion with ASCAP's Merlin Littlefield (center left photo) and songwriter Elroy Kahane (right) on the set of "Pop Goes The Country." The jovial three worked together as RCA promotion men. Hal David gets some hillbilly lessons at Tree International from (left to right) Red Lane, Curley Putman and Buddy Killen, Tree president.

Representatives of leading Nashville publishing houses report a sustained or increased interest in their country oriented material in 1976.

Tom Williams, general professional manager of Peer-Southern, notes that "We've had a tremendous amount of success with catalog things this year, via people like Willie Nelson, with Charlie McCoy. We just got a new Billy Swan record." Williams adds that the number of Peer-Southern songs being recorded and the percentage of charted material is "at least the same and probably better" than at this time last year.

Bill Denney, president of Cedarwood Publishing Co., indicates similar interest in his firm's country catalog. "There are constant recordings of 'Long Black Veil,' 'Detroit City,'

'Ruby, Don't Take Your Love to Town'..." he points out, adding "It's very difficult to get new songs out nowadays. Your market's highly competitive. You have to have super product, so I don't know that there's as many new songs being cut. . . . The old ones certainly hold their own."

Buddy Killen, president of Tree International, likewise attributes the continuing value of the Tree catalog to "standard" writers like Hank Cochran, and to the resurgence of interest this year in veteran writers like Bobby Braddock, who wrote recent sin-

gles for George Jones-Tammy Wynette and Bill Anderson. "Hot" new writers such as Sterling Whipple have also generated interest which has spilled over into the pop field.

Still, according to Killen, "I don't think there are as many country records crossing over into the pop field as there used to be." He speculates that the popularity of disco music this year has created further obstacles to country records which might otherwise go pop.

But, as Bill Denney points out, "superlative country material continues to have a market in other fields. A classic example this year has been the country song 'Teddy Bear,' which was recorded by Red Sovine, out on Starday Records—a country oriented label, a country artist involved. The writers are accustomed to writing country product, and

(Continued on page 66)



"I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO MARRY YOU" by Jim Ed Brown and Helen Cornelius RCA RECORDS



"FIRE AND RAIN" by Willie Nelson RCA RECORDS

APRIL BLACKWOOD BELIEVES IN COUNTRY MUSIC



"KISS AND SAY GOODBYE" by Billy Larkin CASINO (GRT) RECORDS

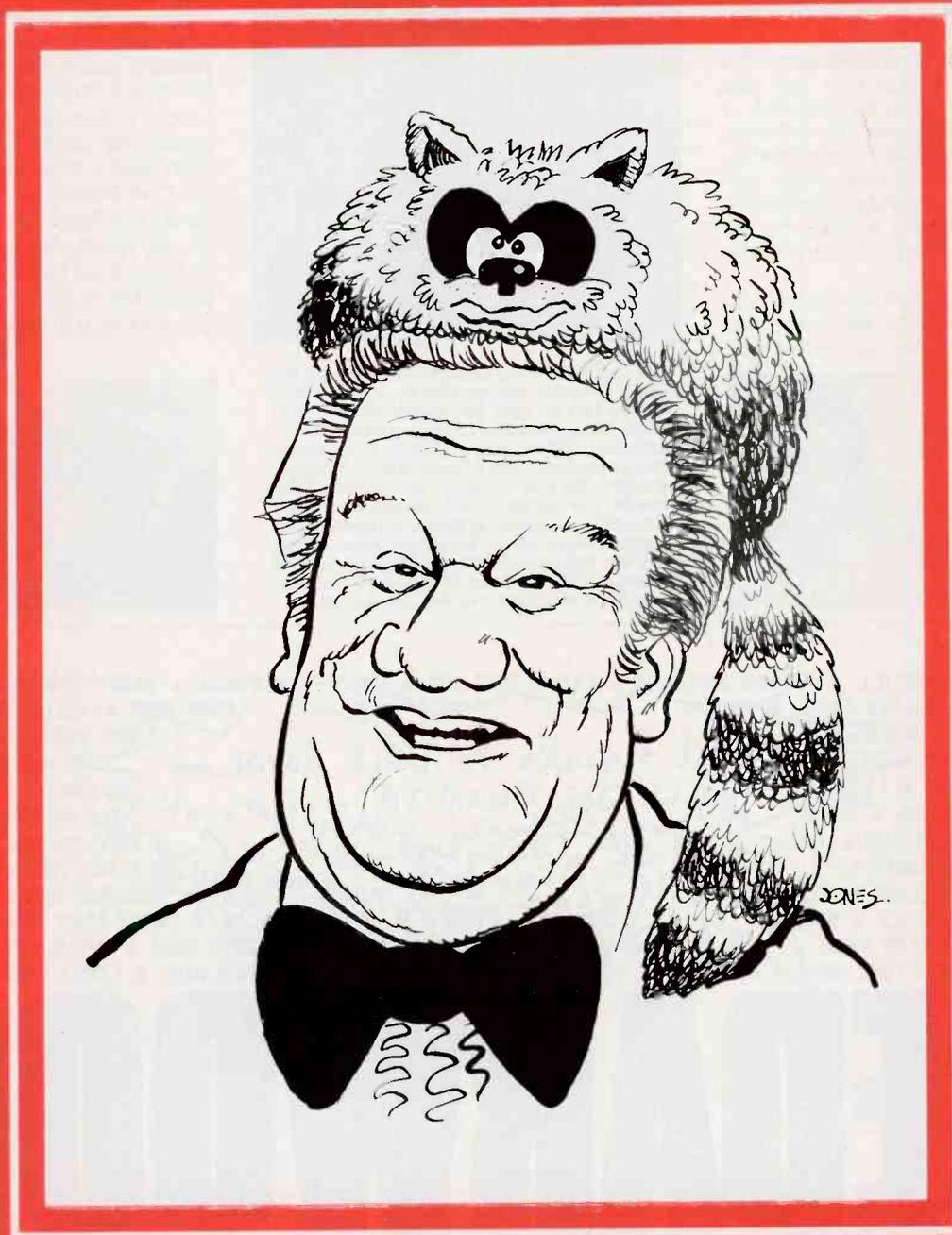


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MCA RECORDS



Celebrating Eddy Arnold's return to RCA backstage after Arnold's opening at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas are (from left above) Jerry Bradley, division vice president, Nashville operations, RCA; Eddy; Mel Ilberman, division vice president, commercial operations, RCA, and Don Burkheimer, division vice president, West Coast, RCA. Jerry Kennedy, vice president/a&r in Nashville, celebrates 15 years of service to Phonogram, Inc./Mercury Records; Irwin H. Steinberg (left below), president of PolyGram record group, presents gold watch.



and some that are trying to keep the wolves and IRS away from their doors. Many are worth a look in determining some of the outstanding record company success stories of this record "buy-centennial" year of 1976.

RCA, a Nashville pioneer, scored as Billboard's top single and LP label based on chart points. When you have vice presidents like Chet Atkins and Jerry Bradley and producers like Roy Dea and Bob Ferguson, you can see why the label has a lot to talk about. RCA points to the town's top singles artist, Ronnie Milsap, and the best group—the new and exciting trio, Dave & Sugar.

(Continued on page 62)

If you had to label the labels in Nashville this year, the label would be "Optimistic."

While record companies across the country are having their ups and downs, the Nashville situation is mainly on the up side, thanks to bright management, creative producers, new marketing efforts, better liaison with other music centers such as New York and Los Angeles and, most important, talented artists who are showing country music beyond its traditional boundaries.

There are more labels in Nashville than you can shake a gold record at. Big ones, small ones, old ones, new ones, successful ones

Country Labels Enjoy Boom



ABC/Dot artist Doug Sahn of Sir Doug and the Texas Tornados relaxes (above) at Nashville's Exit/In. Left to right: Don Cohen (WCAS, Cambridge, Mass.); Moe Shore, kneeling (WCAS); Kenny Greenblatt (WBCN, Boston); Doug, Huey Meaux (Doug's producer); Bob Pittman (WMAQ, Chicago), and ABC/Dot vice president Larry Baunach. Billy Sherrill, vice president CBS Records, at a cocktail-buffet party hosted by Elektra-Asylum Records, country division. Shown, left to right: Jerry Sherrill, E/A vice president of A&R; Joe Smith, E/A board chairman; Sherrill; David Malloy, CBS producer, and Steve Wax, executive vice president of E/A.



EMOTIONS • B.J. THE D.J. • BURNING MEMORIES • CRYING OVER YOU • CRAZY WILD DESIRE • DADDY SANG BASS • DETROIT CI
 DETROIT CITY • FALLEN ANGEL • GRIN AND BEAR IT • HEART BE CAREFUL • HEART OVER MIND • HELLO OUT THERE • HON
 ARE YOU SINCERE • ACCORDING TO MY HEART • A LITTLE BOY SAD • I AIN'T NEVER • I DON'T CARE
 BEFORE I MET YOU • I THANK MY LUCKY STARS • I'M A ONE WOMAN MAN • I'M TIRED • IT'S BEEN SO LONG • I'VE GOT A NEW HEA/

Special thanks to DALE ROYAL and BILLY JOE BURNETTE, writers of:
 TEDDY BEAR'S LAST RIDE • THE PREACHER MAN • WHY, WHY • YES I KNOW WHY
 THE LONG BLACK VEIL • KISSES DON'T LIE • LEAVIN' ON YOUR MIND • LET FORGIVENESS IN • LITTLE BOY SAD • LITTLE ROSA
 A THOUSAND MILES AGO • RUBY, DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE FROM ME • DADDY SANG BASS • DETROIT CITY
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 TONK MAN • HONKY TONK SONG • HOPING THAT YOU'RE HOPING • HOW DO YOU TALK TO A BABY • I AIN'T NEVER • I DON'T CARE

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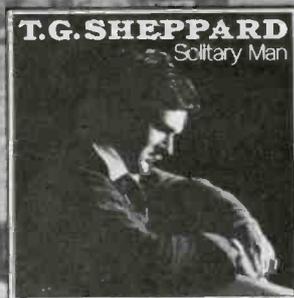
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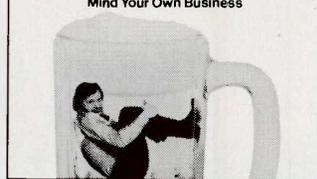
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KC 34285

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Way Out There/Trail Dreamin'
She's Just A Drifter



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Near You/Cryin' Time/Did You Ever?
If You Don't, Somebody Else Will



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Ask Any Old Cheater Who Knows/Celia Brown
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KC 34244

WILLIE NELSON
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including:
Uncloudy Day/When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder
Will The Circle Be Unbroken/In The Garden
Precious Memories



KC 34112

Barbara Fairchild
MISSISSIPPI
including:
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Under Your Spell Again/You Are Always There
Cheatin' Is/The Music Of Love



KC 34307

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including:
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I Won't Mention It Again/Night Life
You're The Best Thing That
Ever Happened To Me



KC 34160

Austin to Fernwood

TAMMY WYNETTE
YOU AND ME
including:
Every Now And Then
The Hawaiian Wedding Song (Ke Kali Nei Au)
Jesus Send A Song/One Of These Days
Dixieland (You Will Never Die)



KC 34289

SONNY JAMES
When Something Is Wrong With My Baby
including:
Come On In/A Little Bit Of Heaven/Big Silver Bird
I've Been Loving You Too Long/Poor Boy



KC 34309

John Austin Paycheck
11 Months And 29 Days
including:
Gone At Last
Closer Than I've Ever Been Before
The Woman Who Put Me Here
I've Seen Better Days
That's What The Outlaws In Texas Want To Hear



KE 33943

Joe Stampley
TEN SONGS ABOUT HER
including:
There She Goes Again
Apt. #4, Sixth Street And Cincinnati
Take Me Back/She's Long Legged
Funny How Time Slips Away



KE 34356

RUSTY WIER
BLACK HAT SALOON
including:
I Think It's Time (I Learned How To Let Her Go)
The Devil Lives In Dallas/Coast Of Colorado
High Road-Low Road/Tell Me Truly Julie



PC 34319

The Carter Family
Country's First Family
including:
Papa's Sugar/My Father's Fiddle
Mountain Lady/My Ship Will Sail
In The Pines (The Longest Train I Ever Saw)



KC 34266

George Jones
Alone Again
including:
A Drunk Can't Be A Man
Ain't Nobody Gonna Miss Me
Stand On My Own Two Knees/Her Name Is...
Right Now I'd Come Back And Melt In Her Arms



KE 34290

CHIP TAYLOR
WITH GHOST TRAIN
SOMEBODY SHOOT OUT THE JUKEBOX
including:
Still My Son/Peter Walker's Circus/Hello Atlanta
Nothin' Like You Girl/Dad's Club Sizzlers



PC 34345

CHARLIE RICH
GREATEST HITS
including:
America, The Beautiful (1976)
Behind Closed Doors
The Most Beautiful Girl/All Over Me
Life Has Its Little Ups And Downs



PE 34240

SHYLO
FLOWER OF THE SOUTH
including:
Livin' On Love Street/Heartbeat
Fine Lovin' Woman/Didn't Get No Lovin'
O' Man River (I've Come To Talk Again)
Dog Tired Of Cattin' Around



KC 34161

JOHNNY GIMBLE'S
TEXAS DANCE PARTY
including:
Lone Star Rag/Texas Fiddle Man
Under The "X" In Texas/Slow 'N' Easy
End Of The Line



KC 34284

TROY SEALS
including:
Tall Texas Woman/Sweet Dreams/Easy
Easy Come, Easy Go
We're Much Too Close (To Be So Far Apart)



KC 34271

Connie Smith
I don't wanna talk it over anymore
including:
So Sad (To Watch Good Love Go Bad)
Love Don't Care (Where It Grows)
Storms Never Last/The Latest Shade Of Blue
You Crossed My Mind A Thousand Times Today



KC 34270

The Best Of
JOHNNY DUNCAN
including:
Stranger/Sweet Co. ntry Woman/Scarlet Water
Talkin' With My Lady/Jo And The Cowboy



KC 34243

JOHNNY CASH
AND THE TENNESSEE THREE
ONE PIECE AT A TIME
including:
Let There Be Country
Michigan City
Howdy Do
Sold Out
Of Fiddlepoles
Love Has Lost Again
Go On Blues



KC 34193

HARLAN SANDERS
Off & Running
including:
Honky Tonker/My Magnolia Memory
Housewife's Hall Of Fame
We're Much Too Close To Be This Far Apart
Highway Woman



KE 34305

Country Artists

A

ACUFF, ROY (Vocalist/Instrumentalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), Hickory, BA. Acuff-Rose: PM: Howard Forrester.

ADAMS, RUSTY (Vocalist/Comedian), Plantation, BA. Larry Wilt.

ADKINS, WENDEL (Vocalist), Hitville.

ALAN, BUDDY (Vocalist), Capitol, BA. Omac Artist.

ALBERT, UREL (Vocalist), Column-One, BA. Buddy Lee.

ALICE ANN (Vocalist), Scorpion, BA. Bill Goodwin.

ALLEN, MELODY (Vocalist), PM: Jim Anderson/L.R. Sharp.

ALLEN, REX, JR. (Vocalist), Warner Bros., BA. William Morris.

AMAZING RHYTHM ACES (Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), ABC, BA. Variety Artists; PM: Katz-Gallin-Cleary.

AMPLIFIED VERSION (Group—9), Newpax, BA. Top Billing; PM: Happy Shahan—Alamo Village.

ANDERSON, BILL (Vocalist w/Group—8), MCA. BA. Bill Goodwin; PM: Bobby Brenner.

ANDERSON, LYNN (Vocalist), Columbia; BA. ICM, PM: Glen Sutton.

ANITA, DAWN (Vocalist), West Wind, PM: Happy Shahan—Alamo Village.

APPLEKNOCKER, CLEM, see Hal Parsons.

ARMSTRONG, BILLY (Vocalist/Fiddler), Hillside, BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp., Bette Kaye.

ARNOLD, EDDY (Vocalist), RCA; PM: Gerard W. Purcell.

ASH, GLENN (Vocalist/Instrumentalist/Comedian), United Artists.

ASHLEY, LEON (Vocalist), Ashley, BA. Country Music Spectacular; PM: Linda Denny—Country Music Spectacular.

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL (Vocal & Instrumental Group—10), Capitol, BA. William Morris; PM: Laura Dupuy.

ATKINS, CHET (Guitarist), RCA, BA. Sutton Artists, PM: X. Cosse.

ATKINS, RON (Vocalist), GRT; PM: Nelson Larkin.

ATTWOOD, BOBBY (Guitarist), GRT; BA. Lavender-Blake; PM: Jim Prater.

AUTRY, GENE (Vocalist), Republic.

AVERY, JACK (Vocalist), Brite-Star, BA. Smokey Warren.

AXTON, HOYT (Vocalist/Guitarist), A&M, PM: Judy Elliott.

B

B, LARRY (Vocalist/Guitarist), Soundwaves; BA. Larry B.

BAILLES, DON, & TONY STARR SHOW (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Capitol Star Artist, BA. Country Talent, PM: Don Redanz—Country Talent.

BAILLES, EDDIE (Vocalist), Cin-Kay, PM: Hal Freeman.

BAILEY, LYNN (Vocalist), BA. Beaverwood Talent.

BAILEY SINGERS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—8), BA. Century II.

BAKER, GEORGE, SELECTION (Vocal & Instrumental Group), Warner Bros.

BAKERSFIELD RHYTHM BOYS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.

BALIER, ALMA (Vocalist), BA. Barbara Barber.

BALIN, TRACEY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, PM: Huey Meaux.

BALLARD, LARRY (Vocalist), Capitol; PM: Travis Rivers.

BANDY, MOE (Vocalist), Columbia, BA. Top Billing; PM: Ray Baker.

BARBER, AVA (Vocalist), Ranwood, BA. Omac Artist, PM: Roger Sullivan.

BARBER, GLENN (Vocalist), Casino, BA. Bill Goodwin.

BARBERIO, DENNY (Vocalist/Pianist), BA/PM: Ken Keene—Sea Cruise.

BARE, BOBBY (Vocalist w/Group—5), RCA; BA. William Morris; PM: Charlie Williams.

BAREFOOT JERRY (Group), Monument.

BARLOW, JACK (Vocalist), Antique; BA. Buddy Lee.

BARLOW, RANDY (Vocalist), Gazelle, BA. Joe Taylor, PM: Fred Kelly—Low Key.

BARNES, KATHY (Vocalist), Republic.

BAUER! POWER (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), BA. Country Talent, PM: Don Redanz—Country Talent.

BEAVERS, CLYDE (Vocalist), BA. Beaverwood Talent.

BEE, MOLLY (Vocalist), Granite; BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp., PM: Cliffie Stone.

BELLAMY BROTHERS (Vocal & Instrumental Duo), Warner/Curb, PM: Stan Morris—Scotti Brothers.

BELLOTTI, CHRIS (Vocalist), BA: Roger Talent; PM: Roger Jaudon—Roger Talent.

BENTON, BARBI (Vocalist), Playboy, BA. William Morris.

BEVERLY ANN (Vocalist), Chisholm; PM: Jim Anderson/L.R. Sharp.

C

BLACK'S, BILL, COMBO (Instrumental Group—5), Hi, BA. Top Billing, PM: Bob Tucker/Entertainment Directions.

BLACK DIAMOND STRINGERS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Yale, BA. Smokey Warren; PM: Tony Allen.

BLACKWOOD, R.W., & THE BLACKWOOD BAND (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—7), Capitol, BA/PM: Ron Blackwood.

BLANCHARD, JACK, / MISTY MORGAN (Vocal & Instrumental Duo), Epic, BA: Buddy Lee.

BLANTON, HARRY, & FOOTSTEPS (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Starcrest, BA. Buddy Lee; PM: Chuck Honey.

BLUEGRASS GENERATION (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Alteram, BA. Joe Taylor.

BODIE MOUNTAIN EXPRESS (Group—4), RCA; BA. Brumley Artist.

BOLT, AL (Vocalist), Cin-Kay, PM: Hal Freeman.

BOND, JOHNNY (Vocalist), Republic, BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.

BONNIE & CLYDE (Vocal & Instrumental Duo), Hillside; BA. Art Frew; PM: William Earl.

BOONE, PAT (Vocalist), Hitville, BA. ICM; PM: Jack Spina.

BOOTH, TONY (Vocalist), United Artists, BA: Omac Artist.

BORCHERS, BOBBY (Vocalist), Playboy, BA: Buddy Lee.

BOWEN, GARY, & THE FUGITIVES (Vocalist w/Group—3), BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Group.

BOWMAN, DE WAYNE (Vocalist), JIN, BA. Stinsonic Talent, PM: G. D. Stinson.

BOYD, MIKE (Vocalist), Claridge.

BRADDOCK, BOBBY (Vocalist), Mercury.

BRADSHAW, TERRY (Vocalist), BA. Lavender-Blake.

BRESH, TOM (Vocalist), Farr, BA. Trenda Artists.

BRIGHAM, RED (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), Forest, Brite-Star; BA. Redwood Promos., Smokey Warren, PM: Marianne Burquiere.

BROCK, JOE (Vocalist), Ronnie.

BROWN, JIM ED (Vocalist), RCA; BA. Top Billing, PM: Tandy C. Rice Jr.

BROWN, MARTI (Vocalist), BA: Buddy Lee.

BRUCE, ED (Vocalist), United Artists, BA/PM: Patsy Bruce—Bruce Ents.

BRUSH ARBOR (Group—5), Monument, BA. Wayne Coombs; PM: Dan McKinnon.

BRYANT, ANITA (Vocalist), Myrrh, BA. APA, PM: Bob Green.

BRYCE, SHERRY (Vocalist), MGM.

BUFFETT, JIMMY (Vocalist w/Group—4), ABC; BA. Magna Artists, PM: Don Light.

BURGESS, WILMA (Vocalist), Shannon; BA. Buddy Lee.

BURKE, FIDDLIN' FRENCHIE (Vocalist/Fiddler), Music Creek; BA. Stinsonic Talent, PM: G. D. Stinson.

BURNETTE, DORSEY (Vocalist), Melodyland, BA. Trenda Artists.

BUSH, JOHNNY (Vocalist), BA. Bobby DeHay—Johnny Bush Attractions.

BUTLER, CARL & PEARL (Vocal Duo), BA. Buddy Lee.

D

CALE, J.J. (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Group—5), Shelter; BA: Ford Agency, PM: Audie Ashworth—Audigram.

CALLERY, BILL (Vocalist), Lone Star/Columbia, PM: Neil C. Reshen—Media Consulting.

CAMBELL, ARCHIE (Vocalist/Comedian), Elektra, BA. Joe Taylor, Century II.

CAMPBELL, GLEN (Vocalist/Guitarist) Capitol, BA. ReGENCY Artists.

CAMPBELL, SONNY (Vocalist), RCA; BA: Smokey Warren.

CAMERON, JOHN ALLAN (Vocalist), CBS, PM: Balmur Ltd.

CARLISLE, BILL (Vocalist w/Group), Hickory, BA. All Star.

CARROLL COUNTY RAMBLERS (Group—5), Zap, BA. Larry Wilt.

CARROLL, MILTON (Vocalist), Lone Star/Columbia, PM: Neil C. Reshen—Media Consulting.

CARSON, WAYNE (Vocalist), Elektra, BA: Top Talent, PM: Si Simon.

CARTER, MANSON (Vocalist), Edge, BA. Buddy Lee, PM: Gene Kennedy.

CARVER, JOHNNY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, BA. Top Billing.

CASE, ROBERT MAXWELL (Vocalist/Guitarist), RMC, BA: R. M. Case.

CASH, JOHNNY (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group), Columbia, BA. Marty Klein—APA, PM: Lou Robin—Artist Consultants.

CASH, TOMMY, & THE TOMCATS (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), United Artists, BA/PM: Buddy Lee.

CASSADY, LINDA (Vocalist), Cin-Kay, PM: Gene Kennedy.

CATES SISTERS (Group), Caprice.

CATO, CONNIE (Vocalist), Capitol, BA: Top Billing.

CHARLES, DANA, & LEIGH ROGERS (Vocal Duo), PM: Dick Baxter.

CHERRY CREEK (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Dallas; BA. Richard Lutz.

CLARK, GUY (Vocalist w/Group—5), RCA, BA. Athena Artists; PM: Michael Brovsky—Shadrack Artists.

CLARK, MICHAEL (Vocalist), Capitol; Contact: Ron Hafkine.

CLARK, ROY (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), ABC-Dot, BA/PM: Jim Halsey.

CLEMENTS, VASSAR, BAND (Group—6), Mercury, BA: Athena Artists, PM: Millie Clements.

CLOWER, JERRY (Comedian), MCA; BA. Top Billing, PM: Tandy C. Rice Jr.

COE, DAVID ALLAN (Vocalist), Columbia, PM: Neil C. Reshen—Media Consulting.

COLDER, BEN (Vocalist/Comedian), Cinnamon; BA. Entertainment Exclusive, Omac Artist. (Also known as Sheb Wooley).

COLLINS, BRIAN (Vocalist w/Group—3), ABC-Dot, BA: Roger Talent, Joe Taylor, PM: Roger Jaudon—Roger Talent.

COLLINS SISTERS (Vocal Duo), Cuca, BA: King Ents.; PM: Gene King—King Ents.

COLTER, JESSI (Vocalist), Capitol, BA. Utopia Prod'ns, PM: Waylon Jennings Ltd., Neil C. Reshen—Media Consulting.

COMO, PERRY (Vocalist), RCA. PM: Dick Levine.

CONFEDERATES (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Garden, BA: Smokey Warren; PM: Tony Allen.

CONLEY, EARL (Vocalist), GRT, PM: Nelson Larkin.

COOLIDGE, RITA, see Kris Kristofferson.

COOPER, STONEY, see Wilma Lee.

CORNELIUS, HELEN (Vocalist), RCA, BA: Top Billing, PM: Jerry Crutchfield.

CORNOR, RANDY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, BA. Stinsonic Talent; PM: G. D. Stinson.

COTTONWOOD (Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), Magic; BA. Richard Lutz.

COUNTRY CAVALEERS (Vocal Duo), CSA.

COUNTRY DEPUTIES (Group—5), BA/PM: Billy Deaton.

COUNTRY HERITAGE (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), BA. Beaverwood Talent.

CRADDOCK, BILLY "CRASH" (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, BA. United Talent, PM: Dale Morris.

CRAFT, PAUL (Vocalist/Guitarist/Banjoist), BA. Ford Agency, PM: Audie Ashworth—Audigram.

CRAMER, FLOYD (Pianist), RCA, BA. Sutton Artists; PM: X. Cosse.

CURTIS, SONNY (Vocalist), Capitol.

CUZZIN SIPE (Vocalist/Comedian), Johnny Dollar, BA. Cruz de Oro, PM: Marve Hoerner. (Also known as Glen Hurley).

DANA, VIC (Vocalist), Casino, PM: Carl Friend.

DANCY (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), R&L, BA. Richard Lutz.

DANIELS, BENNY (Vocalist w/Group), BA. All Star.

DANIELS, CHARLIE, BAND (Vocal & Instrumental Group), Epic, BA. Paragon Agency.

DANT, BOB (Vocalist), BA. Beaverwood Talent.

DAVE & SUGAR (Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), RCA, BA: Chardon Inc.

DAVIS, DANNY, & THE NASHVILLE BRASS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—9), RCA, BA/PM: Buddy Lee.

DAVIS, MAC (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), Columbia; BA. ICM, PM: Katz-Gallin-Cleary.

DAVIS, SKEETER (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), Mercury, BA. Buddy Lee.

DAY, PATTY (Vocalist), Spade, BA. Showway Talent; PM: Bennie Hess—Showway Prod'ns.

DAY, PHYLLIS (Vocalist), MCM; BA/PM: Billy Deaton.

DEAN, JIMMY (Vocalist), Casino, BA/PM: Jim Halsey.

DE HAVEN, PENNY (Vocalist), Starcrest; BA: Al Embry.

DELICATO, PAUL (Vocalist), Artists of America.

DENVER, JOHN (Vocalist/Guitarist), RCA; BA. William Morris, PM: Management Three.

DESTRY, TOM (Vocalist), Phoenix, PM: Reggie M. Churchwell.

DICKENS, LITTLE JIMMY (Vocalist), BA. Top Billing.

DILLARDS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), BA/PM: Keith Case—Stone Country.

DILLINGHAM, CRAIG (Vocalist), Pot O'Gold, BA. Pot O'Gold, PM: Luther Wood.

DIRT BAND (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), United Art-

(Continued on page 28)

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● Continued from page 26

ists; BA Lance P. Smith—Stone County; PM William E. McEuen.

DR. HOOK (Vocal & Instrumental Group), Capitol; BA World Wide Artists.

DONALDSON, CRAIG (Vocalist), Great American Music Machine.

DORRIS, GAYLON (Vocalist); BA Beaverwood Talent.

DOT, JOHNNY (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), Warner Bros.; BA Buddy Lee.

DOTTIE MAY (Vocalist), Yale; BA Smokey Warren.

DOTTSY (Vocalist/Guitarist), RCA; BA Top Billing; PM Happy Shahan—Alamo Village.

DOUGLAS, TONY (Vocalist), 20th Century.

DOVE, RONNIE (Vocalist), Hitsville; BA/PM Billy Smith—One Neters.

DRUSKY, ROY (Vocalist w/Group—5), Scorpion; BA Bill Goodwin.

DUDLEY, DAVE (Vocalist), United Artists; BA Key Talent; PM E. Jimmy Key—Key Talent.

DUKE OF PADUCAH (Vocalist/Comedian), BA Atlas Artist; Buddy Lee.

DUNCAN, JOHNNY (Vocalist), Columbia; BA/PM Jim Duneagan.

DUNLAP, ERNIE (Vocalist), Cin-Kay; PM Hal Freeman

E

EAGLES (Vocal & Instrumental Group), Asylum; PM Irv Azoff—Front Line.

EARWOOD, MUNDO (Vocalist); PM Jay Collier.

EATON, MEGAN (Vocalist), Mercury.

EDWARDS, JONATHAN (Vocalist), Warner Bros.; BA Athena Artists; PM Peter Casperson—Castle Music.

EDWARDS, STONEY (Vocalist), Capitol; BA Nova Agency.

ELWOOD, RUSTY (Vocalist), BA Beaverwood Talent.

ESQUIRE III (Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), Camaro; BA Operation Music; PM Nada C. Jones.

EUBANKS, PHIL (Vocalist); PM Depot Music.

EVANS, DALE (Vocalist), Word; BA Art Rush.

EVANS, DAVE (Vocalist w/Group—5), Starday; BA Larry Wilt.

EVERLY, DON (Vocalist/Guitarist), Hickory; BA Acuff-Rose.

F

FAIRCHILD, BARBARA (Vocalist w/Group—5), Columbia; BA/PM Jim Halsey.

FALLS, RUBY (Vocalist), 50 States; BA Joe Taylor; PM Choo-Choo Ents.

FARGO, DONNA (Vocalist w/Group—11), Warner Bros.; BA Lavender-Blake; PM Stan Silver—Prima-Donna Entertainment.

FARR, CANDY, & COUNTRY CARAVAN (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), R&L; BA Richard Lutz.

FELLER, DICK (Vocalist), BA/PM Don Light.

FELTS, NARVEL (Vocalist), ABC-Dot; BA Music Park; Joe Taylor.

FENDER, FREDDY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot; BA Jim Halsey; PM Huey Meaux.

FENSTER, ZOOT (Vocalist), Antique.

FINNEY, MAURY (Vocalist), Soundwaves.

FLACK, MIKE (Vocalist), Candy; BA Operation Music; PM Nada C. Jones.

FLATT, LESTER, & NASHVILLE GRASS (Vocalist/Instrumentalist w/Group), CMH; BA/PM Allied Entertainers.

FLETCHER, VICKY (Vocalist), Columbia; BA Buddy Lee.

FLYNN, SALLY, see Clay Hart.

FORD, FRANKIE (Vocalist), BA/PM Ken Keene—Sea Cruise.

FORD, TENNESSEE ERNIE (Vocalist), Capitol; BA/PM Jim Loakes—Bedford Corp.

FOSTER, JERRY (Vocalist), Hitsville.

FOUR GUYS (Vocal Quartet w/Group—8), Woodsmoke; BA Lavender-Blake.

FRIEDMAN, KINKY (Vocalist), PM Management Three.

FRIZZELL, DAVID (Vocalist), RSO; BA Brumley Artist.

FROMHOLZ, STEVEN (Vocalist), Capitol; BA/PM Moon-Hill.

FUDPUCKER, ELMER (Vocalist/Comedian), Vista Int'l; BA Billy Deaton; PM Bob Evans.

G

GAIL, CHERI (Vocalist), KA Country; BA Operation Music; PM Nada C. Jones.

GALBRAITH, ROB (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), RCA; BA Bob Beckham.

GANTRY, CHRIS (Vocalist), ABC-Dot.

GATELEY, JIMMY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot.

GATLIN, LARRY (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Group—8), Monument; BA APA; Lavender-Blake.

GAYLE, CRYSTAL (Vocalist), United Artists; BA United Talent.

GENESIS IV (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), R&L; BA Richard Lutz.

GIBBS, TEDDY (Vocalist), Waytone; PM Wayne Henderson.

GIBSON, DON (Vocalist), Hickory; BA Top Billing.

GILLEY, MICKEY (Vocalist), Playboy; BA United Talent; PM Sherwood Cryer.

GILLION, CARL (Vocalist w/Group—5), Show-Land; BA Showay Talent; PM Bennie Hess—Showay Prod'ns.

GLASER, JIM (Vocalist); BA Lavender-Blake.

GLASER, TOMPALL, see listing under "T."

GOLDSBORO, BOBBY (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Instrumental Group—5), United Artists; BA ICM; PM Jan Kurtis—Bobby Goldsboro Ents.

GOODMAN, HAPPY, FAMILY (Vocal Group—10), Canaan; BA Top Billing.

GOODSON, C.L. (Vocalist), Island.

GOVE (Vocalist), BA/PM Don Light.

GRANT, JOE, see Eddie Seals.

GRAY, CLAUDE (Vocalist), Granny White; BA Jim Duneagan.

GREEN, BILL (Vocalist), Phono.

GREENE, JACK (Vocalist w/Group—6), BA Top Billing.

GRIFF, RAY (Vocalist), Capitol; BA American Mgmt.; PM Jim Wagner.

GROCE, LARRY (Vocalist/Guitarist), Warner/Curb; BA William Morris; PM C. Randolph Nauert.

GROSSMAN, STEFAN (Vocalist/Guitarist), Kicking Mule; BA Folklore Prod'ns; PM Manuel Greenhill.

GUNN, STAN (Vocalist w/Group—5), Scorpion; BA Bill Goodwin.

GUY & RALNA (Vocal Duo w/Vocal & Instrumental Group), Ranwood; BA Bette Kaye; PM Sam J. Lutz.

H

HAGGARD, MERLE (Vocalist/Guitarist), Capitol; BA/PM Charles "Fuzzy" Owen.

HALL, MARTHA (Vocalist), Sign Me; BA Buddy Lee.

HALL, SAMMY (Vocalist), Newpax; BA New Direction Artists Guild.

HALL, TOM T. (Vocalist w/Group—8), Mercury; BA William Morris.

HAMBLÉN, STUART (Vocalist), Lamb & Lion; PM Dick Baxter.

HAMBLÉN, SUZY (Vocalist), Voss; PM Dick Baxter.

HAMMOND, NORMA, SHOW (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), R&L; BA Richard Lutz.

HANDY, DON (Vocalist), BA Beaverwood Talent.

HARGROVE, LINDA (Vocalist w/Group—5), Capitol; BA William Morris.

HARRIS, EMMYLOU (Vocalist), Reprise; BA Monterey Peninsula; PM Getz-Tickner.

HARRIS, STEWART (Vocalist), Mercury.

HART, CLAY, & SALLY FLYNN (Vocal Duo w/Group—7), Ranwood; PM Sam J. Lutz.

HART FAMILY (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), IRDA; BA William Morris.

HARTFORD, JOHN (Vocalist/Fiddler/Banjoist/Guitarist), Flying Fish; BA/PM Keith Case—Stone County.

HART, FREDDIE (Vocalist/Guitarist), Capitol; BA Jim Wagner—American Mgmt.; PM Peter S. Brown—Brown & Karno.

HARVELL, NATE (Vocalist), Republic; BA Century II.

HARVEY, ALEXANDER (Vocalist w/Group—6), Buddah; BA William Morris; PM Don Light.

HATTON, JERRY (Vocalist), Rodeo; BA Smokey Warren; PM Tony Allen.

HAWKINS, DEBBI (Vocalist), Warner Bros.

HEAD, ROY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot; BA Lavender-Blake; PM Lee Savaggio.

HECKELS (Vocal Group—3 w/Instrumentalist), RCA; BA Lavender-Blake.

HELMS, BOBBY (Vocalist w/Instrumental Group—5), Stardom; BA Atlas Artist.

HESS, BENNIE (Vocalist), Spade; BA Showay Talent; PM D. L. Collins.

HESS, TROY (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—8), Show-Land; BA Showay Talent; PM Bennie Hess—Showay Prod'ns.

HI CHAPARELL (Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), KA Country; BA Operation Music; PM Nada C. Jones.

HICKORY WIND (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Flying Fish; BA Keith Case—Stone County; PM Bobby Baker.

HITCHCOCK, STAN (Vocalist), Music Mill; BA Music Park.

HOBBS, BOBBY (Vocalist), Tatoo; BA Lon Harriman—Republic Artists; PM Rebecca Segal—BNB.

HOLLY, DOYLE, & VANISHING BREED (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), 50 States; BA Joe Taylor.

HOMER & JETHRO, see New Homer & Jethro.

HOOPER, JIMMY (Vocalist), Beau-Jim; BA Beau-Jim Agency.

HORNE, ROGER, TRIO (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), Calvary; BA Century II.

HOUSTON, ALEX, & ELMER (Comedy Duo), BA Lavender-Blake.

HOUSTON, DAVID, & THE PERSUADERS (Vocalist w/Group—5), Epic; BA Billy Deaton; PM Tilman Franks.

HOWARD, JAN (Vocalist), BA/PM Billy Deaton.

HUDSON, LARRY G. (Vocalist), Aquarian.

HURLEY, GLEN, see Cuzzin Sipe.

HUSKY, FERLIN (Vocalist), ABC-Dot; BA/PM Jim Halsey.

HUTTON, GUNILLA (Vocalist), BA William Morris.

HYDRICK, JIMMY (Vocalist), Black Jack; BA Domino Theatrical Agency; PM Jo Ann Davis.

I

IMPERIALS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—8), Impact; BA New Direction Artists Guild.

J

JACKSON, MADELINE MANNING (Vocalist), Newpax; BA New Direction Artists Guild.

JACKSON, STONEWALL, & THE MINUTEMEN (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), BA Buddy Lee.

JACKSON, WANDA (Vocalist), Word; BA Wanda Jackson Ents.; PM Wendell Goodman—Wanda Jackson Ents.

JAMES, GLENDA KAY (Vocalist), Bakphil; PM Gene Kennedy.

JAMES, SONNY (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Columbia; BA United Talent; PM Luther Wood.

JANA LOU (Vocal/Fiddler), Cobra; BA Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.; Bette Kay; PM Bill Chaudet.

JAYE, JERRY (Vocalist), Hi; BA Music Park; PM Bob Tucker/Entertainment Directions.

JENNINGS, TOMMY (Vocalist), BA Entertainment Exclusive.

JENNINGS, WAYLON (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), RCA; BA Utopia Prod'ns; PM Waylon Jennings Ltd.; Neil C. Reshen—Media Consulting.

JIM & JESSE & THE VIRGINIA BOYS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Opryland; BA Joe Taylor; PM Jim McReynolds.

JOHNSON, LOIS, / DON SILVERS SHOW (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), Lois—Polydor; Don—Chart; BA Buddy Lee.

JOHNS, SARAH (Vocalist), RCA; PM Jack D. Johnson.

JONES, GARY (Vocalist), BA Beaverwood Talent.

JONES, GEORGE (Vocalist w/Group—8), Epic; BA William Morris; PM Shug Baggott.

JONES, GRANDPA, SHOW (Vocalist/Banjoist w/Group—6), CMH; BA/PM Eloise Jones Hawkins—Grandpa Jones Ents.

JONES, REESA KAY (Vocalist), KA Country; BA Operation Music; PM Nada C. Jones.

JORDAN, DIANNE (Vocalist), BA Entertainment Exclusive.

JORDAN, JERRY (Vocalist/Comedian), MCA; BA/PM Bud Andrews—LSI Mgmt.

JORDANS (Vocal Group—4), MCA; BA/PM Bud Andrews—LSI Mgmt.

JOURNEYMEN (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Ashley; BA Country Music Spectacular; PM Linda Denny—Country Music Spectacular.

JR., STAN (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), NEC; BA New England Country.

K

KALSON FAMILY (Vocal Group—6), BA Lavender-Blake.

KAPPEL, JACK (Vocalist), Black Jack; PM Keith Webb.

KARTMAN, RONNIE (Vocalist), Kansas City; BA All Star.

KAY, DEBBIE (Vocalist), Beau-Jim; BA Beau-Jim Agency.

KAYE, BARRY (Vocalist), Beau-Jim; BA Beau-Jim Agency.

KAY, JAE JUDY (Vocalist), Film; BA Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.

KELLUM, MURRY (Vocalist), Music Mill; Ranwood; BA Atlas Artist; Music Park.

KELLY, JERRI (Vocalist), GRT; BA Lavender-Blake; PM Jim Prater.

KEMP, WAYNE (Vocalist), United Artists.

KENDALLS (Vocal Duo), United Artists; BA Buddy Lee.

KENT, GEORGE (Vocalist), Shannon; BA Larry Wilt.

KERR, ANITA (Vocalist), RCA.

KERSHAW, DOUG (Vocalist/Fiddler), Warner Bros.; PM Mike Barnett.

KEYSTONE (Group—5), BA Larry Wilt.

KILGORE, MERLE (Vocalist), Warner Bros.; BA Larry Wilt.

KING, CLAUDE (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Cinnamon; BA Buddy Lee.

KING, DON (Vocalist), Con-Brio; Contact Jeff Walker.

KING, DONNY (Vocalist), Warner Bros.; PM Huey Meaux.

KING, PEE WEE (Vocalist/Accordionist/Cordovox), RCA; Starday; BA King Ents.; PM Gene King—King Ents.

KINGSTON, LARRY (Vocalist), Warner Bros.; Contact Lee Allen Reynolds.

KNAULLS, LILLIE (Vocalist), Paragon; BA New Direction Artists Guild.

KNIGHT, CARL (Vocalist), RCA.

KOENER, "SPIDER" JOHN (Vocalist/Guitarist), Elektra; BA Folklore Prod'ns; PM Manuel Greenhill.

KRISTOFFERSON, KRIS, & RITA COOLIDGE (Vocal Duo), Monument; A&M; BA Magna Artists; PM Bert Block.

L

LA COSTA (Vocalist), Capital; BA American Mgmt.; ICM.

LANE, JERRY "MAX" (Vocalist), ABC-Dot.

LARKIN, BILLY (Vocalist), Casino; BA Joe Taylor; PM Nelson Larkin.

LEE, BRENDA (Vocalist), MCA; BA/PM Billy Smith—One Neters.

LEE, DICKEY (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Group—5), RCA; BA Lavender-Blake; PM Juan Contreras.

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All These Things/Joe Stampley #12
Till The Rivers All Run Dry/Don Williams #15
Secret Love/Freddy Fender #19
You'll Lose A Good Thing/Freddy Fender #22
Easy As Pie/Billy 'Crash' Craddock #23

Top Country Albums

Are You Ready For Freddy/Freddy Fender #8
Before The Next Teardrop Falls/Freddy Fender #11
Harmony/Don Williams #15

Top Country Artists (Singles)

Freddy Fender #2
Joe Stampley #5
Don Williams #8
Narvel Felts #9
Billy 'Crash' Craddock #17

Top Male Vocalists (Singles)

Freddy Fender #2
Joe Stampley #5
Don Williams #7
Narvel Felts #8
Billy 'Crash' Craddock #14

Top Female Vocalists (Singles)

Barbara Mandrell #15
Sue Richards #17

Top Duos and Groups (Singles)

Amazing Rhythm Aces #6

Top Country Artists (Albums)

Freddy Fender #3
Don Williams #9
Narvel Felts #22

Top Male Vocalists (Albums)

Freddy Fender #3
Don Williams #3
Narvel Felts #16

Top Female Vocalists (Albums)

Barbara Mandrell #17

Top Duos and Groups (Albums)

Amazing Rhythm Aces #2

Top Country Singles Label

ABC/DOT #2

Top Country Album Label

ABC/DOT #4

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RICHARDS, SUE (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, BA. Lavender-Blake.
RICH, CHARLIE (Vocalist), Epic, BA. William Morris; PM: Charlie Rich Ents.
RILEY, JEANNIE C. (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), Warner Bros.; BA. William Morris.
RINGER, JIM (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), Philo; BA. Folklore Prod'ns; PM: Manuel Greenhill.
ROBBINS, MARTY (Vocalist/Guitarist), Columbia; BA. Entertainment Exclusive.
ROBBINS, RONNY (Vocalist); BA. Entertainment Exclusive.
ROBENS, ROBBY (Vocalist), Dominator; BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.
ROBERTS, PAT (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), ABC-Dot, BA. William Morris; PM: Jack Roberts.
ROBINSON, BETTY JEAN (Vocalist w/Group—4), Four Star; BA. Century II.
RODRIGUEZ, JOHNNY (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—7), Mercury; BA. William Morris.
ROGERS, DAVID (Vocalist), Republic; BA. Buddy Lee.
ROGERS, GAMBLE (Vocalist/Guitarist/Comedian); BA/PM: Blade Agency.
ROGERS, KENNY (Vocalist), United Artists; BA. ICM.
ROGERS, LEIGH, see Dana Charles.
ROGERS, RONNIE (Vocalist), BA. Key Talent; PM: E. Jimmy Key—Key Talent.
ROGERS, ROY (Vocalist), 20th Century; BA. Art Rush.
RONSTADT, LINDA (Vocalist), Asylum; BA. ICM; PM: Peter Asher.
ROSE, JUDY (Vocalist), Cobra, BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.
ROSS, CHARLIE (Vocalist), Big Tree.
ROSS, JERIS (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, BA. Joe Taylor.
RUSSELL BROTHERS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Jewel; BA. Atlas Artist.
RUSSELL, JOHNNY (Vocalist w/Group—7), RCA, BA. Lavender-Blake.
RUTH, JACK (Vocalist), RCA; Contact House of Cash.
RYLES, JOHN WESLEY (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, BA. Music Park.

S

SADLER, BARRY (Vocalist), Green Beret, BA. Larry Wilt.
SAHM, DOUG (Vocalist), ABC-Dot, PM. Huey Meaux.
SAMI JO (Vocalist), Polydor; BA. Buddy Lee, PM. Tony Catherine.
SANDERS, BOB (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Sweet Fortune, BA. Buddy Lee.
SCHOONMAKER, LLOYD (Vocalist), Hitsville.
SCRIVENOR, GOVE, see Gove.
SCRUGGS, EARL REVUE (Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), Columbia, BA. Athena Artists; PM: Louise Scruggs—Scruggs Talent.
SEALS, DICK (Vocalist), Camaro, BA. Operation Music; PM. Nada C. Jones.
SEALS, EDDIE, & JOE GRANT SHOW (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4); BA. Key Talent; PM. E. Jimmy Key—Key Talent.
SEALS, TROY (Vocalist), Columbia.
SECOND HAND ROSE (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), BA. Beaverwood Talent.
SEELY, JEANNIE (Vocalist w/Group—6), BA. Top Billing.
SEGO BROTHERS & NAOMI (Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), Heartwarming, BA. Century II.
SELLARS, MARILYN (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), Zodiac; BA. William Morris.
SERRATT, KENNY (Vocalist), Hitsville, BA. Smiley Wilson.
SESSIONS, RONNIE (Vocalist), MCA; BA. Music Park.
SHANNON, GUY (Vocalist), Polydor; BA. Al Embry, Music Park; PM. Al Embry.
SHARPE, SUNDAY (Vocalist), Playboy, BA. Buddy Lee; PM: Lamar Fike.
SHAW, TOM (Vocalist); BA/PM. Jim Dunegan.
SHENANDOAH CUT-UPS (Vocal Group—5), Revonah; BA. Midstream Promos.
SHEPARD, JEAN (Vocalist w/Group—7), United Artists; BA. Bill Goodwin.
SHEPPARD, T.G. (Vocalist w/Group—5), Hitsville, BA. Lavender-Blake; PM. Jack D. Johnson.
SHIRLEY & SQUIRRELY (Duo), GRT.
SHYLO (Vocal & Instrumental Group), Columbia; PM. Larry Rogers.
SIDE OF THE ROAD GANG (Group), Capitol.
SILVERS, DON, see Lois Johnson.
SINGLETON, MARGIE (Vocalist), Ashley, BA. Country Music Spectacular; PM. Linda Denny—Country Music Spectacular.
SLEDD, PATSY (Vocalist), Mega.
SMALLWOODS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), BA. Beaverwood Talent.
SMATHERS, BEN, REVUE featuring THE STONEY MOUNTAIN CLOGGERS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—9); BA. Larry Wilt.
SMITH, CAL (Vocalist), MCA; BA. United Talent.
SMITH, CARL (Vocalist), Columbia; BA. Buddy Lee.
SMITH, CONNIE (Vocalist), Columbia; BA/PM. Billy Deaton.

SMITH, GARY (Vocalist), Camaro; BA. Operation Music; PM. Nada C. Jones.
SMITH, GLADYS (Vocalist/Guitarist), People; BA. Country Talent; PM. Don Redanz—Country Talent.
SMITH, MARGO (Vocalist); BA. Lavender-Blake.
SMITH, RICK (Vocalist), Cin-Kay; PM. Gene Kennedy.
SMITH, SAMMI (Vocalist), Zodiac.
SNOW, HANK, & THE RAINBOW RANCH BOYS (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Group—5), RCA, BA. Moeller Talent.
SONNIER, JOEL (Vocalist), Mercury; BA. Buddy Lee.
SONS OF THE PIONEERS (Group), Granite; BA. Art Rush.
SOVINE, RED (Vocalist), Starday; BA. Top Billing.
SPEARS, BILLIE JO (Vocalist), United Artists; BA. Top Billing.
SPEARS, BILLY, BAND (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5); BA. Steve Dahl—Stone County.
SPICHER'S, BUDDY, WESTERN SWING BAND (Fiddler w/Group); BA/PM: Allied Entertainers.
SPOON RIVER BAND, see Kenny Little.
STAFFORD, JIM (Vocalist/Instrumentalist); PM. George Bullets Durgom.
STAFFORD, TERRY (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5); BA. New England Country.
STAMPLEY, JOE (Vocalist w/Group—6), Epic; BA. Lavender-Blake; PM. Al Gallico.
STAN JR., see listing under "J."
STANLEY, RALPH, & THE CLINCH MOUNTAIN BOYS (Vocalist w/Group—5), Rebel; BA. Midstream Promos.
STARLAND VOCAL BAND (Group—4), Windsong; PM: Management Three.
STARLING, JOHN (Vocalist/Guitarist); BA. Ford Agency; PM. Audie Ashworth—Audigram.
STARR, KENNY (Vocalist), MCA, BA. United Talent.
STARR, TONY, see Don Bailes.
STARWOOD (Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), Windsong; BA. Lance P. Smith—Stone County; PM. William E. McEuen.
STATLER BROTHERS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4), Mercury; BA. Lavender-Blake; PM. Saul Holiff—Volatile Attractions.
STEAGALL, RED (Vocalist w/Group—7), ABC-Dot; BA. Jim Halsey; PM. Williams Artist Mgmt.
STEELE, ROCHELLE (Vocalist), Cobra; BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.
STEVENS, EVEN (Vocalist), Elektra; Contact. Jim Malloy.
STEVENSON, B.W. (Vocalist), Warner Bros.; BA/PM: Moon-Hill.
STEVENS, RAY (Vocalist), Warner Bros.; BA. ICM; PM. Williams Artist Mgmt.
STEWART, GARY (Vocalist), RCA; BA. Chardon Inc.
STEWART, REDD (Vocalist/Guitarist/Violinist), Hickory; BA. King Ents.; PM. Gene King—King Ents.
STEWART, WYNN (Vocalist), Playboy; BA/PM: Jim Dunegan.
STONE COUNTY (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5); BA. Beaverwood Talent.
STONEMAN, RONI (Vocalist/Banjoist/Comedian), MGM; BA. Omac Artist.
STONEMANS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), CMH; BA. Joe Taylor; PM. Bob Bean.
STONEY MOUNTAIN CLOGGERS, see Ben Smathers.
STREET, MEL (Vocalist w/Group—5), GRT; BA. Lavender-Blake; PM. Jim Prater.
STRUNK, JUD (Vocalist), Melodyland; BA. Buddy Lee.
STUCKEY, NAT (Vocalist), MCA; BA. Lavender-Blake.
SUNS OF THE WEST (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Safari; BA. Richard Lutz.
SWAN, BILLY (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), Monument; BA. William Morris; PM. Bert Block.
SWATZELL, TOM (Instrumentalist w/Group—6), Spade; BA. Showway Talent; PM. D. C. Lee.
SWEET, RACHEL (Vocalist), Derrick.
SWIFT, LARRY (Vocalist); BA/PM: Ken Keene—Sea Cruise.

T

TALLEY, JAMES (Vocalist), Capitol; BA. Apogee Mgmt.
TAYLOR, CARMOL (Vocalist), Elektra; BA. Joe Taylor.
TAYLOR, CHIP (Vocalist), Columbia; PM. Management Three.
TEEGARDEN, DAVID (Vocalist w/Group—5), BA. Ford Agency; PM. Audie Ashworth—Audigram.
TELESTIALS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—7), Calvary, BA. Century II.
TERRY, GORDON (Instrumentalist), Plantation, BA. Joe Taylor.
THOMAS, B.J. (Vocalist), ABC.
THOMPSON, HANK (Vocalist w/Group—5), ABC-Dot; BA/PM: Jim Halsey.
THOMPSON, JERRY, SHOW (Group—5); BA. Larry Wilt.
THOMPSON, SUE (Vocalist), Hickory; BA. Acuff-Rose, Barbara Barber.
THRASHER BROTHERS (Vocal Group), Canaan; BA. Century II.
THROCKMORTON, SONNY (Vocalist), Starcrest.
THUNDERKLOUD, BILLY, & THE CHIEFTONES (Vocal & Instrumental Group—9), Polydor; BA/PM: Buddy Lee.
TIBOR BROTHERS (Group), Ariola America.
TILLIS, MEL (Vocalist w/Group—8), MCA; BA/PM: Jim Halsey.

TILLOTSON, JOHNNY (Vocalist), United Artists.
TILTIN, SHEILA (Vocalist), Con Bro. Contact: Jeff Walker.
TIM & MONICA (Vocal Duo w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—6); BA. Century II.
TOMPALL (Vocalist), ABC-Dunhill; PM. Neil C. Reshen—Media Consulting.
TRASK, DIANA (Vocalist), ABC-Dot; BA. Buddy Lee.
TRAVIS, MERLE (Vocalist), Capitol; BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.
TRAZ-COUNTRY (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5); BA. New England Country.
TRENT, BUCK (Vocalist/Instrumentalist); ABC-Dot; BA/PM: Jim Halsey.
TUBB, ERNEST (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—6); BA. Atlas Artist.
TUBB, JUSTIN (Vocalist), Hilltop; BA. Atlas Artist.
TUCKER, MARSHALL, BAND (Vocal & Instrumental Group), Capricorn; BA. Paragon Agency.
TUCKER, RICK (Vocalist), Hitsville.
TUCKER, TANYA (Vocalist), MCA; BA. ICM; PM. J.M. "Beau" Tucker—Tanya Inc.
TURNER, MARY LOU (Vocalist), MCA; BA. Bill Goodwin.
TWITTY, CONWAY (Vocalist), MCA; BA. United Talent.
TWITTY, MICHAEL (Vocalist); BA. United Talent.
TYKE & STAGE COACH WEST (Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), Vones; BA. Richard Lutz.
TYLER, CHET (Vocalist), Garden; BA. Smokey Warren; PM. Tony Allen.

V

VALDY & THE HOMETOWN BAND (Guitarist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—6), A&M; BA. Steve Dahl—Stone County; PM. Cliff Jones.
VALEN, TEX (Vocalist), Councillor; BA. Smokey Warren; PM. Frank Amato.
VALLI, JEAN (Vocalist), Country Bell; BA. Buddy Lee.
VAN DYKE, LEROY (Vocalist w/Group—5), ABC-Dot; BA/PM: Jim Halsey.
VAN DYKE, VONDA (Vocalist), Word; BA. APA.
VAUGHN, SHARON (Vocalist), ABC-Dot.

W

WADE, J.J., & THE 20TH CENTURY DRIFTERS (Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Music Mill, BA. Larry Wilt.
WAGONER, PORTER (Vocalist/Guitarist), RCA; BA. Top Billing.
WAKELY, JIMMY, SHOW (Vocalist w/Group—3), Shasta; BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.
WALKER, BILLY (Vocalist w/Group—5), RCA, BA. Bill Goodwin.
WALKER, CHARLIE (Vocalist), Award; BA. Atlas Artist.
WALKER, JERRY JEFF, & THE LOST GONZO BAND (Vocal & Instrumental Group—7), MCA; BA. Athena Artists; PM. Michael Brovsky—Shadrack Artists.
WALLACE, JERRY, SHOW (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), Polydor; BA. Ron Blackwood, Joe Taylor; PM. Ron Blackwood.
WARD, JACKY (Vocalist), Mercury; BA. Joe Taylor.
WARREN, SMOKEY (Vocalist), Yale, Garden; BA. Smokey Warren; PM. Pete Swalik.
WATSON, DOC (Vocalist/Guitarist w/Instrumental Group—3), United Artists; BA. Folklore Prod'ns; PM: Manuel Greenhill.
WATSON, GENE (Vocalist), Capitol; BA. United Talent; PM. Russ Reeder.
WATSON, MERLE (Guitarist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—3), United Artists; BA. Folklore Prod'ns; PM: Manuel Greenhill.
WEATHERLY, JIM (Vocalist/Guitarist), ABC, PM. Larry Gordon—Rip-Keca Music.
WEBB, JAY LEE (Vocalist), Opryland; BA. Atlas Artist.
WEBB, WYATT (Vocalist w/Group—5), Plantation; BA. Bill Goodwin.
WEEDMAN, SAM (Vocalist/Guitarist), BA. Ford Agency; PM. Audie Ashworth—Audigram.
WEISSBERG, ERIC, & DELIVERANCE (Group—5); BA. Buddy Lee; PM. Richard Golub.
WELLER, FREDDY (Vocalist), Columbia; BA. United Talent.
WELLS, KITTY (Vocalist), Capricorn; BA. Top Billing.
WELLS, MIKE (Vocalist), Playboy.
WESTBERRY, KENT (Vocalist); BA. Beaverwood Talent.
WEST, DOTTIE (Vocalist), United Artists; BA. Top Billing.
WHATLEY, GARY D. (Vocalist), Portland; BA. Steve Stebbins & Suzi Hait—Americana Corp.
WHEELER, KAREN (Vocalist), RCA; BA. United Talent.
WHITE, BUCK, & DOWNHOME FOLKS (Vocalist w/Group—3), Insko; BA. Grandpa Jones; PM: Eloise Jones Hawkins—Grandpa Jones.
WHITE, MACK (Vocalist/Instrumentalist), Commercial; BA. Acuff-Rose.
WHITE, TONY JOE (Vocalist/Guitarist), 20th Century.
WHITMAN, SLIM (Vocalist), United Artists.
WIER, RUSTY (Vocalist); BA. Paragon Agency; PM. Moon-Hill.
WIGGINS, ROY, SHOW (Vocal & Instrumental Group—4); BA. Buddy Lee.
WILBURN BROTHERS (Vocal Duo); BA. Atlas Artist, Doyle Wilburn.

(Continued on page 38)



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in my life and I want to express
my heartfelt thanks to everyone
who has helped make it great
through your efforts and support.*



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WYNETTE, TAMMY (Vocalist w/Group—7), Epic: BA: Lavender-Blake; PM: Shory Lavender.
WYNN, WILLIE, AND THE TENNESSEANS (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—7), Heart Warming: BA: Century II.

Y

YARBROUGH, BOB (Vocalist w/Group—5), Cinnamon: BA: Bill Goodwin.
YOUNG, FARON (Vocalist), Mercury: BA/PM: Billy Deaton.
YOUNG, STEVE (Vocalist w/Vocal & Instrumental Group—5), RCA: BA/PM: Steve Dahl—Stone County.

Booking Agents & Contacts

• Continued from page 34

STINSONIC TALENT AGENCY, 417 E. 23 St., Joplin, Mo. 64801. Tel: (417) 781-4522.
STONE COUNTY INC., 2104 Glenarm Pl., Denver, Colo. 80205. Tel: (303) 573-8477.
SUTTON ARTISTS CORP., 505 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel: (212) 832-8302.
RAYMOND SWEENEY, 619-A Buck, Vacaville, Calif. 95688. Tel: (707) 446-1316. (Contact only)

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JOE TAYLOR ARTIST AGENCY, 2401 12 Ave. S., Nashville, Tenn. 37204. Tel: (615) 385-0035.
TOP BILLING INC., PO Box 12514, Nashville, Tenn. 37212. Tel: (615) 383-8883.
TOP TALENT INC., 1121 S. Glenstone, Springfield, Mo. 65804. Tel: (417) 869-6370.
TRENDA ARTISTS, 14755, Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks, Calif. 91403. Tel: (213) 788-4521.

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UNITED TALENT INC., 1907 Division St., Nashville, Tenn. 37203. Tel: (615) 244-6116.
UTOPIA PROD'NS, 1117 17 Ave. S., Nashville, Tenn. 37212. Tel: (615) 256-9914.

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VARIETY ARTISTS INT'L INC., 4120 Excelsior Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55416. Tel: (612) 925-3440.

W

JIM WAGNER, see American Mgmt.
JEFF WALKER, c/o Con Brio Recs., PO Box 196, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. Tel: (615) 329-1944. (Contact Only).
SMOKEY WARREN PROMOS., 116 Princeton Rd., Linden, N.J. 07036. Tel: (201) 486-6496.
DOYLE WILBURN, 25 Music Square E., Nashville, Tenn. 37203. Tel: (615) 244-1403.
SMILEY WILSON, PO Box 50, Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072. Tel: (213) 859-1343.
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WINNERS CIRCLE TALENT, 44 Music Square E., Suite 107, Nashville, Tenn. 37203. Tel: (615) 254-5877.
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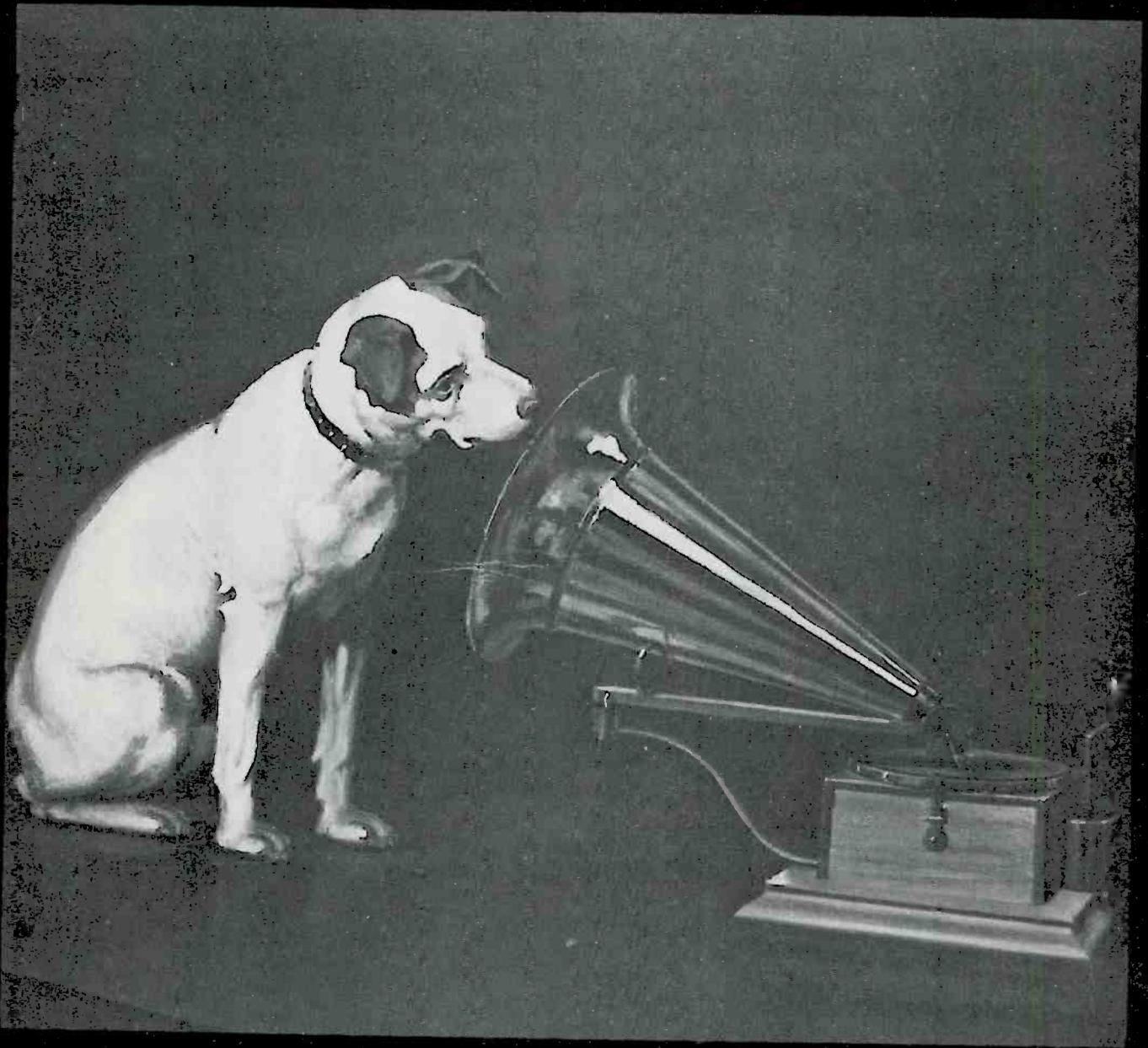


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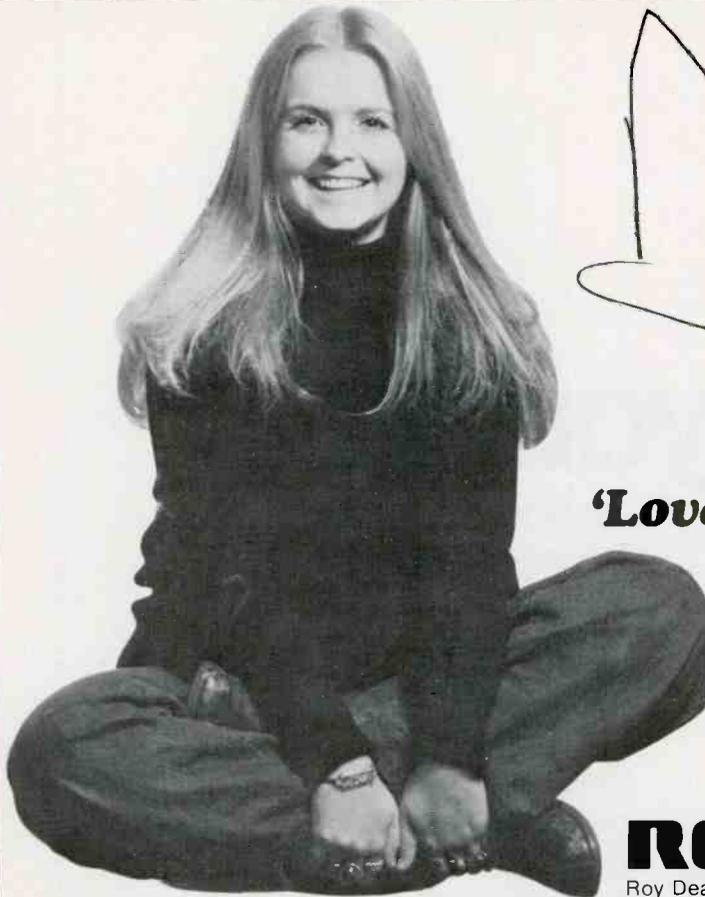


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Chet Atkins
Bobby Bare
Bobby Bare & Family
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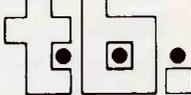
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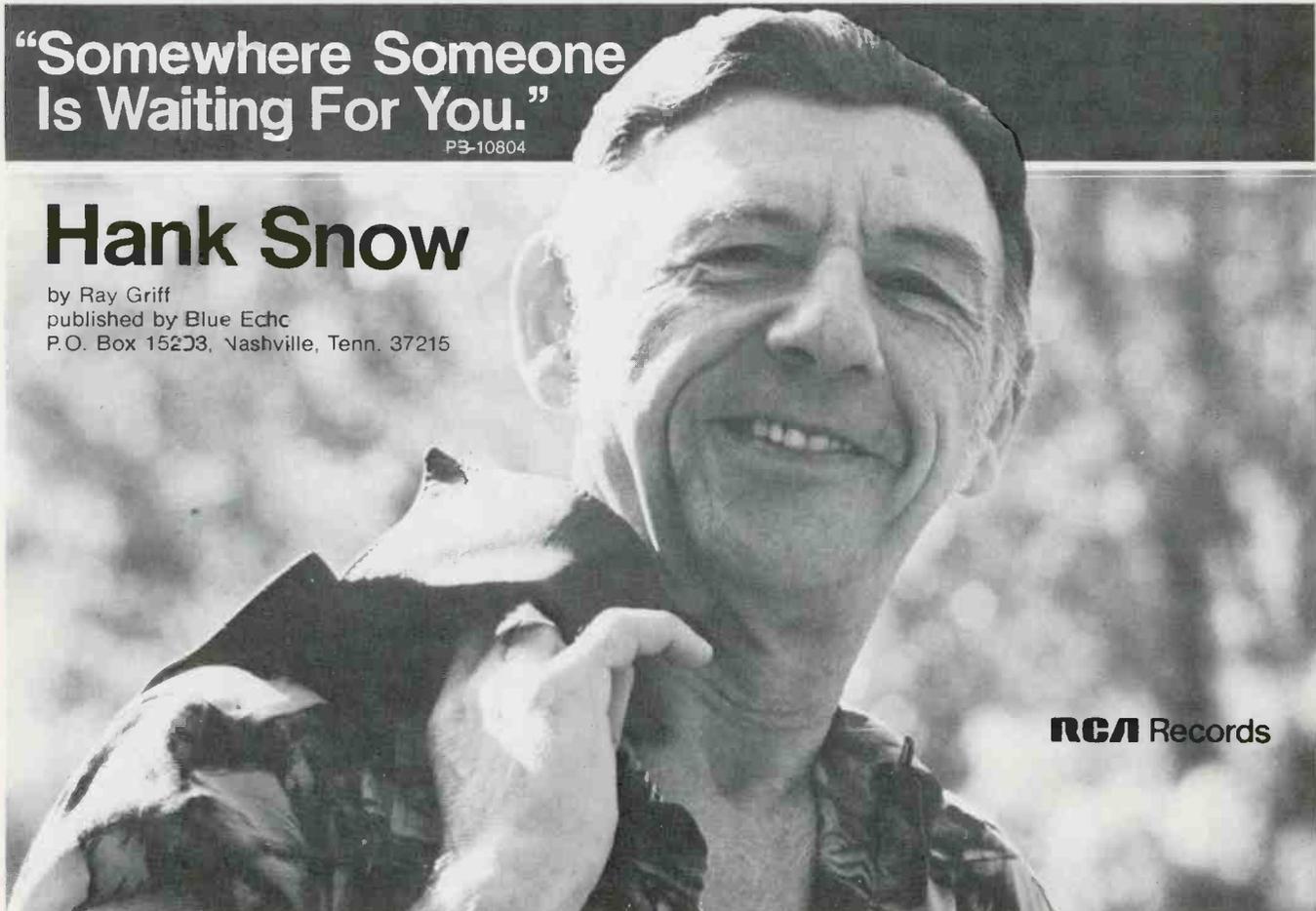
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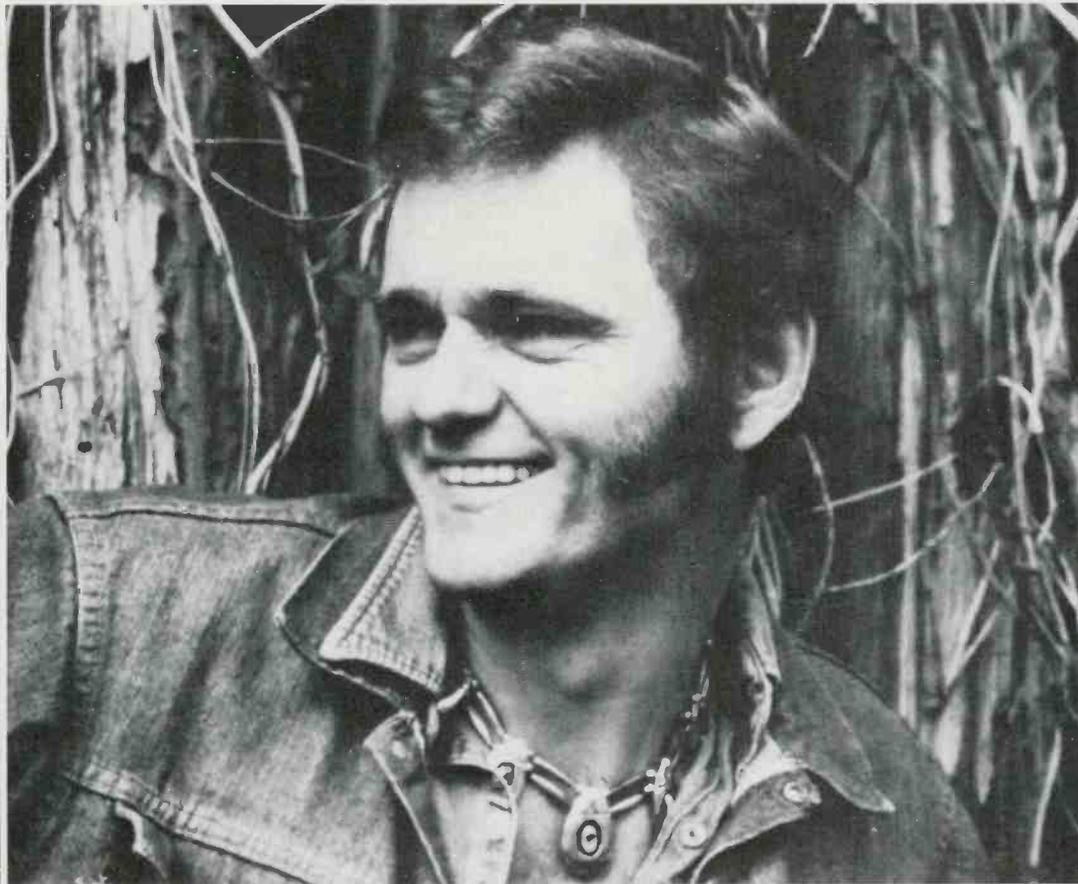
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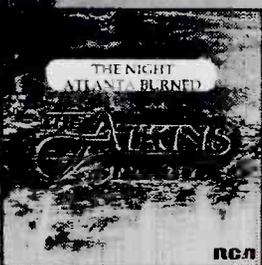
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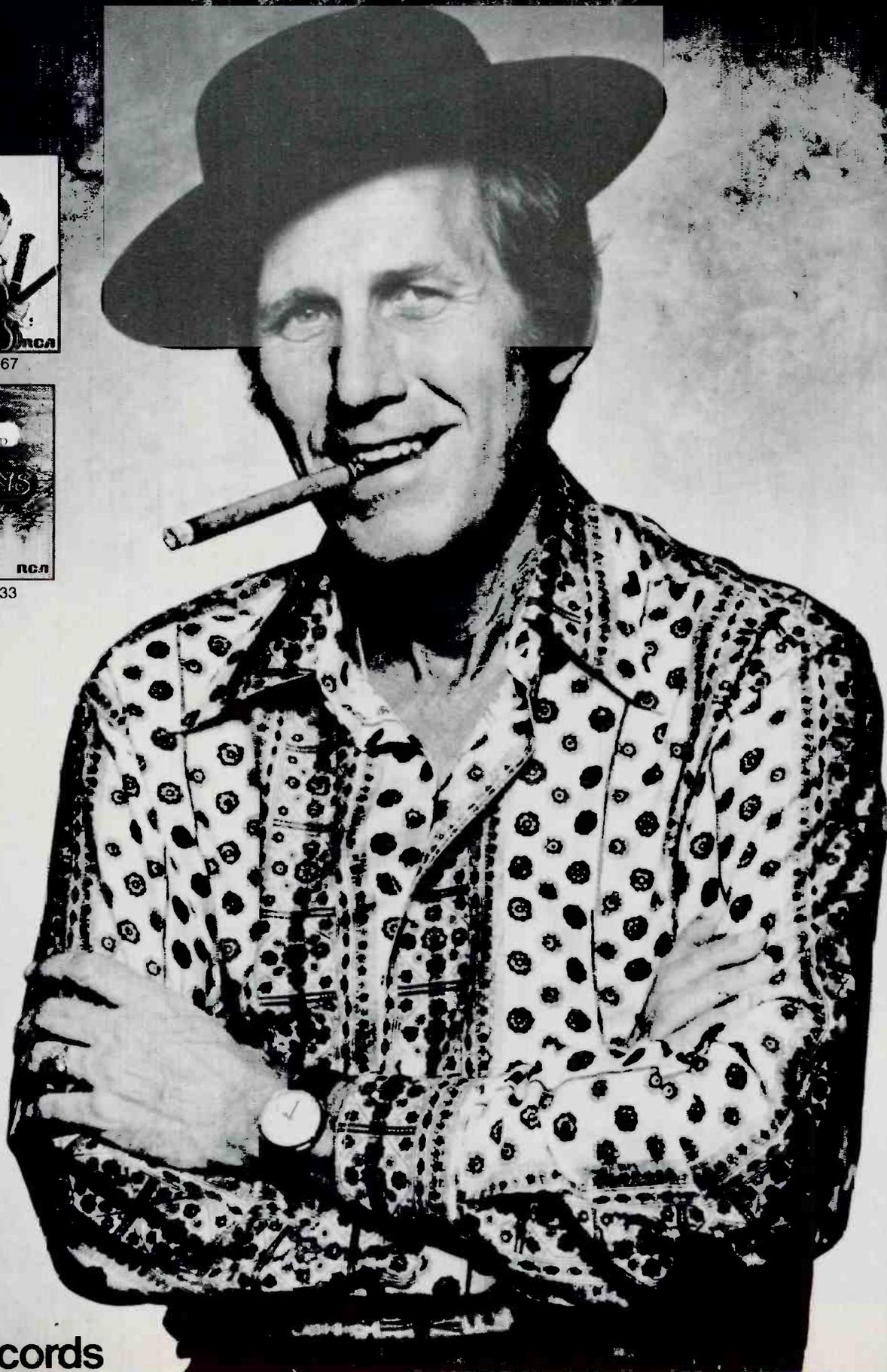
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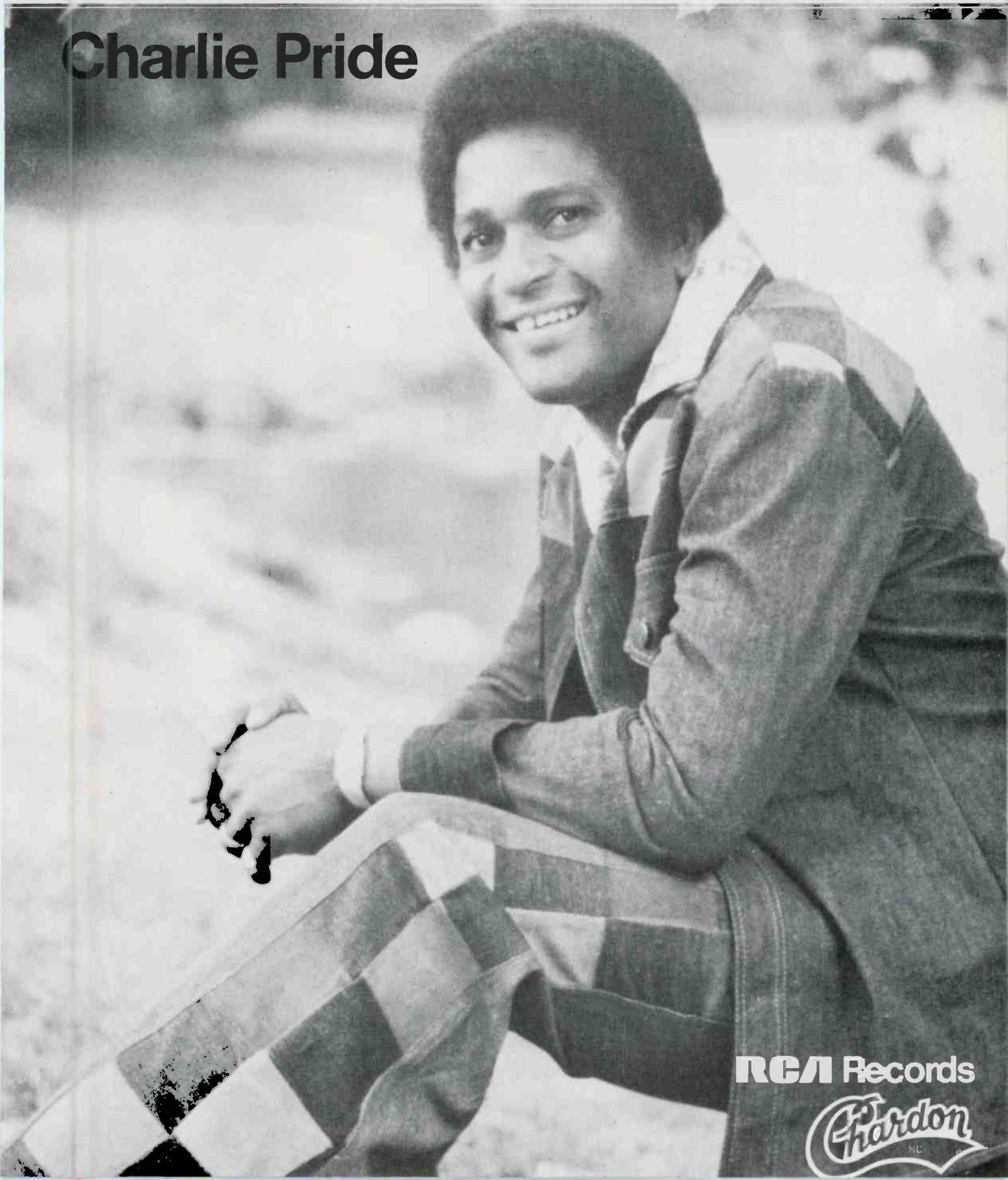
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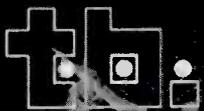
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Country music trends have been changing at such a rapid pace that serious talent buyers planning their lineups at fairs and amusement parks are relying less on their intuitions and paying more attention to an artist's position on the record charts and the amount of airplay a recording receives.

Bill Hollingshead, Celebrity Talent Manager at Knott's Berry Farm, notes that he's heavily influenced by record sales and the Billboard



The same holds true for the progressive country of the Rusty Weir type of talent which Lou Acosta, promotion manager for Six Flags Over Texas refers to as the Austin sound. According to Acosta, the Austin sound, as compared to Nashville country which has been crossing over into pop, was originally played on contemporary and progressive radio and has now crossed over into the hard country stations where it's being accepted by the listeners. In order to avoid a lot of confusion over the major changes in trends, he tries to

Fairs And Amusement Parks Notice Changing Trends In Country Music

By LARRY OPPEN

charts because of obvious changes that have taken place in country over the past few years.

As an example, he points to the crossover of Charlie Rich, Tanya Tucker, Freddy Fender and several others with a contemporary sound who are being accepted by MOR audiences, and the outlaws like Waylon Jennings, Jessi Colter and Willie Nelson, who have become so popular with younger audiences that they play the Hollywood Bowl and Greek Theatre with prices out of the reach of amusement park budgets.

Freddy Fender returns to his Texas hometown for Freddy Fender Day (above). Below, the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum staff in hard hats to help speed along the \$1.2 million expansion scheduled for completion this December.



book only established acts with a recording on the charts or up-and-coming new artists who are getting a lot of airplay.

"We use the trades to determine who has a hit out and we make sure the artist is getting plenty of play before we decide to buy," he said. "This is important to us as we don't like to bring in an act unless it's on the air. We need this kind of exposure before we can do an adequate promotional campaign. Of course this doesn't infer that newcomers should be ignored. We've helped a lot of new

(Continued on page 71)

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• Continued from page 60

the much-needed numbers. After several years with his "Country In New York" (where he went to extremes to bring fans into New York even via special "country music" railroad trains from Long Island), he grew unnerved by the inability of Nashville agents to understand the importance of the New York market.

"Many of these agents ignored my requests and just didn't see the importance of live country music in this major city," he says. "So, I finally decided to cease operation, after bringing into New York City stars like Roy Clark, Merle Haggard, Charley Pride and Buck Owens, among others."

Part of the blame for the scarcity of fans who attended these shows at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum was attributed to the great cost factor of coming into New York for an evening concert.

"By the time you get done buying the ticket, paying the baby sitter, eating dinner, parking the car and having a few drinks, the evening can cost you a great deal of money," says one longtime New York "hillbilly." "I'd rather stay at my home in New Jersey and travel to a nearby town to see the same show at half the cost."

Most of the live country music being brought into New York and the surrounding areas is through clubs—the Bottom Line, My Father's Place and the Other End. During the past few months, a wide variety of acts has played in these venues including Jerry Jeff Walker, Faron Young, Johnny Paycheck, Country Gazette, Asleep At The Wheel, Doug Kershaw, the Flying Burrito Brothers, Byron Berline and Sundance and others.

Even with the scarcity of live nationally-known country talent in the Big Apple, there is still plenty of good country music to be heard. Clubs like O'Lunney's in midtown Manhattan have stuck with country music for many years and this music has found a special home. In fact, this nitery, under the helm of the "Irish Cowboy" Hugh O'Lunney, has brought out a great many "closet country fans" in the New York area.

Many well-known national celebrities have happened onto O'Lunney's and their excitement over the music and atmosphere has turned them into died-in-the-wool country fans.

Besides presenting local talent bluegrass and country (Troy Ferguson and Sue Smith with the Country Gentlemen, Michael Simmons and Slewfoot, Mike Baldwin and Smokehouse, Whiskey Hill, et al.) nationally-known talent like Chip Taylor and an occasional country music discotheque evening, O'Lunney recently even presented a bicentennial country music boat cruise around Manhattan.

Based on the pioneering success of O'Lunney, New York's posh Rainbow Room, atop the RCA Building, also decided to give local country artists a

chance. Many of the abovementioned groups performed at this typically-MOR home base in the experiment that began in early September.

Quite possibly the most important motivating factor in the birth of New York country music was and still is WHN country radio. In the past year, under the guidance of Neil Rockoff, this 50,000-watter has been converting all kinds of people to country music.

In fact, country music in New York can no longer be pushed aside as only belonging to Southerners and "hillbillies," since it is now the "everyone's music."

According to Dale Pon, WHN director of creative services, the station's popularity is totally diverse.

"We appeal to a broad cross-section of New Yorkers, as well as people from Connecticut, New Jersey and Long Island," he says.

About six months ago, the station, based on Pon's advice, decided to wage an all-out promotional campaign termed: "There's a Lot of Country In The City."

Through this massive campaign and similar ones waged at various ethnic groups (Spanish advertisements in Puerto Rican neighborhoods featuring Freddy Fender), WHN arose a winner with some high ratings New York has to give. According to Ed Salamon, station program director, the young audience has finally turned on to country music and proven their interest by attendance at the various club dates by country artists around town.

And, record sales on country product are finally beginning to respond after years of inactivity, he says.

"The major problem with record sales was in inability of shops to stock product on country artists," he says. "But this has all changed and we find a lot of support from both record companies and artists."

According to Salamon, many artists have lent their support to WHN and the New York country music cause via live appearances on the WHN airwaves. These include Bobby Bare, Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, Doug Sahm, the Flying Burrito Brothers, C.W. McCall and many others.

Although Salamon and Pon are reticent to discuss WHN's financial status they do cite a recent New York Times financial section article that told of the station's major gains in the past year, making it more than \$1 million in the red with an anticipated profit of more than \$500,000.

The drawing power connected with WHN and country music's growth in New York was best demonstrated at an August concert by Freddie Hart and Merle Travis that drew huge throngs of people to Lincoln Center's Damrosch Park.

Pon says this huge attendance and the development of country music on a regular basis at Great Adventures Amusement Park (Loretta Lynn, Tanya Tucker, Conway Twitty, etc.) in nearby Jackson, N.J. are encouraging signs.

"People like promoter Al Aronowitz and club owner Hugh O'Lunney were both pioneers in bringing country music to the forefront in New York City and the surrounding areas," he asserts. "Traditional

Nashville country may still take some time to catch on in this city, but everything is definitely on the upswing."

"If the right promoter comes into Manhattan and attempts to carry on, there is a good chance that things might pop and country music will become a dominant musical factor in this city, at long last," says another country music enthusiast.

With the way things are going at WHN, one never knows—country concert promotion could be in its future.

Pop Country

• Continued from page 54

Messina, Marshall Tucker Band, Ozark Mountain Daredevils, Hoyt Axton, Michael Murphey and Pure Prairie League.

Of course this receptivity to pop sounds is largely a continuation of patterns set in the past few years. Pat Boone first made the country chart in 1975 after fully 20 years of success in the pop field. B.J. Thomas' "Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song," No. 1 country and pop, and the Eagles' "Lyn' Eyes," top 10 country and pop, marked the country chart debuts of those long-running pop acts.

The changes in country radio are perhaps best demonstrated in the fact John Denver couldn't push above number 50 on the country chart five years ago with his classic pop smash, "Take Me Home Country Roads." His next big pop hit, "Rocky Mountain High," didn't even make the country chart, while his third Top 40 pop smash, "Sunshine On My Shoulder," peaked on the country chart at number 42. It took until the summer of 1974 and "Annie's Song" to give Denver a Top 40 country record. That was, in fact, the start of a string of five consecutive top 10 country hits for Denver.

It was around that time in '74 that Gordon Lightfoot and Linda Ronstadt, longtime pop favorites, first made the country chart. Both had top 20 country hits: Lightfoot with "Sundown" and Ronstadt with "Silver Threads and Golden Needles."

In 1974 Ray Stevens got his first top 10 record on the country chart in a disk career going back to 1961 with "The Streak," while the year before Brenda Lee went top 10 country for the first time in 16 years of recording, when her label switch to MCA started a string of six straight top 10 country disks.

Other pop acts to go country in '74 were Paul McCartney & Wings ("Sally G"), the Pointer Sisters ("Fairytale"), Jim Croce ("I'll Have To Say I Love You In A Song") and Byron MacGregor ("Americans"). Johnny Rivers also made his country chart debut that year, while in the year or two before that such diverse, but primarily pop entertainers as Eydie Gorme, Wayne Newton and Vicki Lawrence all went country.

PAUL GREIN

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Bluegrass Success

• Continued from page 70

which loses a bundle—because they want to maintain the image as a full-line label, don't they? Well they should do that for bluegrass as well; it's a very important part of country music." McCuen says, more starkly, "We've gotten to be mass market consumers and I think it's dreadful. Every form of music should be represented, but in the face of this increasing mass-market orientation catalog and marginal stuff like bluegrass suffers."

Jim and Jesse McReynolds took another alternative. About four years ago they set up their own label, Old Dominion, and they sell their music directly to the customer at appearances and festivals, and by mail-order. Jesse claims, with wry humor, "It's the only way I've ever made any money out of records. With a major you'd just get a statement of how much you owed them." But he still is quite aware that "We're not getting to the majority of the public. There are thousands of potential buyers out there we never see."

A third and most recent alternative has been the setting up of CMH Records, which has specialized in bluegrass recording but approached it with major label muscle (ads and reviews in the trades, leading to good distribution, "because we have a professional approach.")

The man behind CMH is Martin Haerle, formerly associated with Starday and United Artists in Nashville and on the West Coast, and he has signed an impressive lineup of bluegrass talent, representing nearly every major act: Flatt, Wiseman, the Osborne Brothers, Reno & Harrell, Grandpa Jones, the Country Gentlemen and many others.

His theory is specialization: "I can go out and merchandise a half-dozen at a time, not just an occasional one-shot release as a major has to do. It has to be merchandised differently, for example, not with standard country stations but with college stations and some underground. It's a specialized audience, and my label is like one specializing in spoken word.

"It takes tremendous expertise. I know what my client wants, and I have total involvement in this kind of music. The only way a major could do it is to have a bluegrass division with someone in charge who could be totally involved and extremely knowledgeable in this kind of music."

But Haerle's massive experiment is only about a year old, too early to see whether his approach—a combination of small-label involvement with big label promotion and distribution—will succeed, especially in the awesome face of increasingly tight playlists and the difficulty of obtaining airplay.

Still, it may well be that a semi-large label devoted solely to bluegrass can succeed where the limitations of the majors and the small labels cannot. Time alone will answer that question, but whether it can fully unravel this puzzling paradox remains to be seen.

Catalogs Bulging

• Continued from page 66

At first glance, the effect of instituting the \$8 fee appears negligible. "This, of course, is the general belief," Thompson acknowledges, "but until such time as the Register of Copyrights has some time to deal with the matter, the administrative overhead—which the law provides shall be recouped prior to distribution—is anyone's guess.

"Theoretically, in looking at the amount of the fee, you would say that there will not be a significant amount of money left for distribution to writers and publishers. However, the accented industry estimates that there are approximately 500,000 jukeboxes in America does not by any means indicate that the number of operators will be nearly as large. For instance, in large metropolitan cities there are a relatively small number of operators who own a large number of machines, and in that they're paying a flat fee per machine, the administration required to receive those funds will be very little."

Thompson speculates "where the problem will occur is in working out the distribution to the individual publishers and songwriters of the music involved. That's a tedious process that's been developed by the performing rights societies over the past 45 years."

The publishers surveyed were reluctant to predict trends in the industry but, as

Bill Denney observes, "The business has caused publishers to become better businessmen. There are more and more publishers going into business every day, unfortunately. The competition gets keener every time—but that's all right. That's what makes for more and more good product coming out."

Nashville Scene

• Continued from page 65

flight stereo channels. Country radio stations report their best years ever with WHN gaining major shares of the huge New York marketplace where country product is being stocked in stores that previously shunned it. While country gains in Reno, Vegas and Tahoe, it also climbs halfway across the world in Japan.

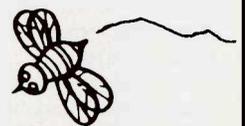
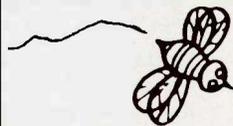
It's not just coming from Nashville. There's some good country music being cut in Muscle Shoals, Atlanta, Memphis, New York, Miami, Houston, L.A. and Austin. The latter city is one of the strongholds and birthplaces of progressive country music, and everyone knows that Texans like their music country and their beer Lone Star.

So the pace quickens, the sound changes and green grow the dollars. The hodge-podge city called Nashville takes its nitty-gritty music to a helter-skelter world.

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The Outlaws



Willie Nelson and Charley Pride get it on vocally during a CMA trip to Austin (above left). Mercury artist Johnny Rodrigues (with mike right) duets with Waylon Jennings during taping of PBS "Soundstage." At left (below) Columbia artist Nelson signs autographs at North Texas State Univ. where proceeds from his sold-out concert went to the school. Below (right) the gold ward party. Shown here are, back row (from left) Tompall Glaser, outlaw; Kenneth Glancy, president, RCA Records; Jerry Bradley, division vice president, Nashville operations, RCA; and Chet Atkins, division vice president, country music, RCA, and (front row) Jennings, leader of the outlaws; Jessi Colter, outlaw, and Nelson, outlaw.



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Recording Industry Studio and Equipment Directory (June) Lists all recording studios in U.S. and the world, manufacturers and importers of recording equipment plus analysis of equipment by category.

Disco Sourcebook (August) The first and only directory covering the expanding Disco field. Includes Disco labels, manufacturers of turntables, speakers, amplifiers, lighting equipment and disco designers. Complete.

International Buyer's Guide (September) Over 400 pages containing virtually every product, supplier and service connected with the music/record/tape industry. Covers over 60 countries, over 30 separate categories.

World of Country Music (October) Complete international listing of managers, agents, artists, clubs, radio stations, etc. in the country music field.

On Tour (November) Provides the touring artist with everything that's needed while making tour arrangements: instrument sales, repairs, photographers, hotels, limo services, halls, stadiums, etc. Covers every major city.

Talent In Action (December) Published the last week of the year; lists thousands of artists in over 30 countries, top duos, groups, over 15 major classifications. The most complete year-end chart re-cap in the music industry.

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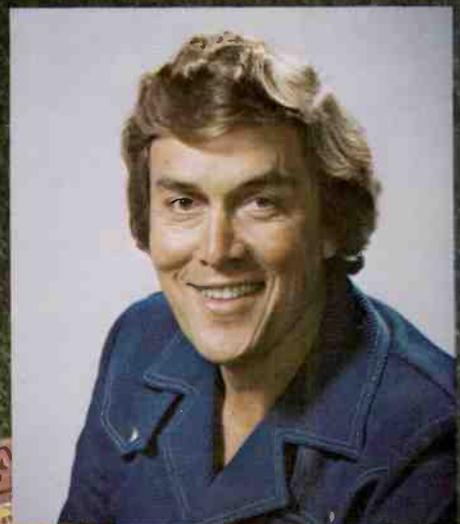
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