R & B Reviews

A AWARD & SLEEPER **B** VERY GOOD **C** FAIR

B+ EXCELLENT **C+** GOOD **D** MEDIOCRE

"Only those records best suited for commercial use are reviewed by THE CASH BOX"

THE CHESTERS
(Apollo 521)

B+ "THE FIRES BURN NO MORE" (2:18) [Bess BMI — Anthony Gourdine] The Chesters turn in a moving performance of a slow, tender tune that tells the story of a finished love. The group gets a lot of feeling into its reading and could reach the emotional teeners. Getting pretty good action locally. Watch it carefully. It could break out big.

B "LIFT UP YOUR HEAD" (2:18) [Bess BMI—Anthony Gourdine] The Chesters back with a quick beat jumper in complete contrast to the mood of its pairing. Swinger the kids can hop to.

THE BLOSSOMS
(Capitol 3878)

B+ "LITTLE LOUIE" (1:56) [Malabar/Dennis BMI — Nick Therry] The Blossoms, four pretty lasses, combine talents for a zinging quick beat jump reading. The result is a happy, infectious driver that lifts the spirits. A goodie that could step out. Watch it very carefully.

B+ "HAVE FAITH IN ME" (2:01) [Malabar/Fairway BMI — Ed Townsend] The Blossoms offer a slow beat tune in easy fashion. Tuneful, tender and impressive. The group is smooth and good. Another potent wax. A two-sider that bears watching. Either could happen.

LAZY LESTER
(Excello 2129)

B+ "I TOLD MY LITTLE WOMAN" (2:49) [Excellorec BMI — Johnson, West] Lazy Lester wails a slow beat story of the woman who broke his heart when she left him. Lester gets a weird sound to give his excellent vocaling the something extra a deck needs to command attention. Side is strong.

B "TELL ME PRETTY BABY" (2:20) [Excellorec BMI—J. West] Lester sells another slow beat blues with the same commanding approach. West comes on more forcefully here and the side is very saleable. Just a shade under "I Told My Little Woman".

THE CUPIDS
(Aladdin 3404)

B+ "NOW YOU TELL ME" (2:02) [Aladdin BMI—Mesner, Mesner] The Cupids rock out a quick beat humorous novelty that has lots of laughs. This deck should get a good hunk of airplay. A good change of pace. Keep an eye on it.

B+ "LILLIE MAE" (2:20) [Aladdin BMI—Wilhelmina Clayton] The Cupids turn in a good performance, handling the slow beat story of the missing "Lillie Mae" with great effectiveness. Lead is strong and convincing. Two solid decks that deserve your close attention.

LITTLE JULIAN HERRERA
(Starla 6)

B "I REMEMBER LINDA" (2:22) [Drive-In Music/El Dorado BMI —Egnoian, Otis] Little Julian Herrera sings a slow, beaty blues ballad with deep feeling. Appealing fish beat wax that the kids turn to when the evening is in the dim hours.

B "TRUE FINE MAMA" (2:30) [Venice BMI — Penniman] Herrera swings out with a great deal of enthusiasm as he shouts out a wild quick beat accompanied by screams and wails. Driving deck.

The Cash Box Award o' the Week

"FLYING HOME" (2:18) [Regent BMI—Hampton, Goodman]
"HIPPY DIPPY" (2:36) [Lynbeth BMI—Doggett, Scott]
BILL DOGGETT (King 5096)

● Doggett takes that Hampton special "Flying Home", gives it a flute lead, and takes it for a happy and infectious ride. The quick beat rocker has all the excitement and quality the tune requires. Doggett has coupled a great idea with a scintillating reading. Watch this take off. The flip, "Hippy Dippy", is a middle beat jump true to the Doggett tradition of quality play. Enjoyable swinger—but we feel very strong toward "Flying Home".

"BEEN SO LONG" (2:40) [Figure BMI—Pastels]
"MY ONE AND ONLY DREAM" (2:40) [Figure BMI—Pastels]
THE PASTELS (Argo 5287)

● The Pastels turn in a dreamy performance of "Been So Long", a slow, rhythmic ballad that is adorned with a mood backing, chorally and instrumentally. It takes no look into the future to predict the success of this deck. It is already happening in many key areas in the country. Beautiful side that will afford much pleasure and rack up a big sale. The coupling, "My One And Only Dream", is another delectable dish, of middle beat tempo. The Pastels swing lightly through this side making it two goodies for the price of one. However, the waxing that will pick all the action is "Been So Long".

"TALK TO ME, TALK TO ME" (2:39) [Jay & Cee BMI—Joe Seneca]
"SPASMS" (2:40) [Obie BMI—Blackwell, Glover]
LITTLE WILLIE JOHN (King 5108)

● Little Willie John comes off "Person To Person" with another strong waxing that looks like money in the bank. "Talk To Me, Talk To Me", is an overpowering emotional offering, slow beat pretty that lets Willie John sink his teeth right into the material. A side that should bring good reaction. The flip, "Spasms", is a middle beat novelty rocker that Little Willie milks. He swings out with a number of gimmicked phrases and we feel he has a strong two-sided release, with a little more to offer in "Talk To Me, Talk To Me".

"DON'T YOU JUST KNOW IT" (2:35) [Ace BMI—Smith, Vincent]
"HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE" (2:40) [Ace BMI—Smith, Vincent]
HUEY (PIANO) SMITH (Ace 545)

● Huey Smith comes up with a really powerful piece of material in "Don't You Just Know It", and this looks like money in the bank. A middle beat bouncer with everything going for it. Novelty material, exciting arrangement, and socko delivery. Infectious item that should drive the kids wild. This one is dynamite. The flip, "High Blood Pressure", is a swinging middle beat bouncer given the usual attention getting delivery of Huey Smith. It is a strong wax in its own right, but we like "Don't You Just Know It" for the real strong action.

"BLAST OFF" (2:40) [Dare BMI—N. Watts]
"RICKEY TICK" (2:13) [Wildcat/Dare BMI—Watts, Spurill, Davis]
NOBLE "THIN MAN" WATTS (Baton 251)

● Noble "Thin Man" Watts follows his current hit, "Hard Times", with a pairing that could be the birth of his second straight hit. The two are top-flight instrumentals, either of which could be the side. "Rickey Tick" is a middle beat bouncer loaded down with exciting listening, both melodic and soundwise. "Blast Off" is a quick beat jump, that drives hard all the way. It stirs the listener and has the same impact that was cut into the grooves of "Rickey Tick". Two sock instrumental sides.

★ "SWEET LITTLE SIXTEEN"/"REELIN' AND ROCKIN'" ..... Chuck Berry ..... (Chess 1683)
★ "YOU'RE DRIVING ME MAD" ..... Jo-Ann Campbell ..... (Gone 5021)
★ "HEY DOLL BABY" ..... Pat Kelly ..... (Jubilee 5315)

Three for the r & b buyer. See pop reviews.

THE IMPALAS
(Corvet 1017)

C+ "WHY?" (2:40) [HMP Music BMI—Byrd, Keels] The Impalas sing a slow cha cha cha lilter in easy fashion and come up with an easy to listen to wax.

B "GOTTA GIRL" (2:25) [HMP Music BMI — Byrd, Keels] The Impalas turn to a quick beat jump on the flip and turn out the better deck. Deck moves with an exciting treatment.

TINY BRADSHAW
(King 5114)

B "BUSHES" (2:31) [Jay & Cee BMI—Henry Glover] Tiny Bradshaw and his orchestra dish up a middle beat instrumental that makes pleasing listening and good teener dance wax.

B "SHORT SHORTS" (2:32) [Admiration BMI — Austin, Gaudio] Bradshaw backs with one of the nations current novelty hits and comes up with a good version. Could pick up a piece of the sales on one of the fastest rising sellers around.

PAUL CLIFTON
(Flash 127)

B "ARE YOU ALRIGHT?" (2:55) [P. Clifton] Paul Clifton shouts a slow beat blues with an effective reading. Deck moves with an undercurrent of excitement. Arrangement emphasizes the beat.

C+ "AIN'T I CRIED ENOUGH" (2:51) [P. Clifton] Clifton wails a slow beat blues on the coupling. Moody effort that comes off ok, but not as effectively as "Are You Alright?"

LORIN DEAN
(Back Beat 504)

B "LONELY AVENUE" (2:44) [Lion BMI—Scott, Robey] Lorin Dean makes his debut with a tormented slow beat ballad blues and dishes it up with deep feeling. Accentuated beat and drifty arrangement helps make it a pleasing wax.

B "FI FO FUM" (2:20) [Lion BMI —Scott, Robey] Lorin Dean switches to a middle beat jump and turns in an exciting treatment of a catchy novelty. Happy ditty.

THE STROLLERS
(Warner 1018)

B+ "CROWDED CLASSROOM" (2:15) [Stanford BMI — Lean, Mann] The Strollers bounce lightly on a slow beat stacatto jump. Deck has an ear-catching quality that stands it in good stead. Vocal projection and the arrangement makes it a strong contender. Keep an eye on it.

B "WE'RE STROLLIN'" (1:57) [Stanford BMI—Tennyson, Kirkland] The Strollers up the tempo to a middle beat and deliver the cute, lighthearted lilter with an infectious delivery. Ok coupler that makes good listening.

LONESOME SUNDOWN
(Excello 2132)

B "I'M A MOJO MAN" (2:23) [Excellorec BMI — J. Miller] Lonesome Sundown vocals a quick beat bouncer with an easy approach and the deck comes off in good style. Swinger that should appeal.

B "LONELY LONELY ME" (3:08) [Excellorec BMI — J. Miller] Lonesome wails a slow beat blues for the down home buyer. Lonesome is down in the mouth 'cause his baby loves someone else. Strong southern offering.