



# CashBox Record Reviews

## Best Bets

**BARBARA MASON** (Arctic 148)  
**Take It Easy (with My Heart)** (3:27) (Blockbuster, BMI — Mason, Brommer) Singular styling by Barbara Mason is heightened by a hardened rhythmic support on her newest outing. Side could prove strong enough on the r&b front to break pop. Flip: "You Never Loved Me" (1:48) (Blockbuster, BMI — Mason)

**BETTY HARRIS** (SSS Int'l 766)  
**There's a Break in the Road** (2:51) (Marsaint, BMI — Toussaint) Heavy hitting side that packs a whallop in the percussion/rhythm and vocal ends. Track is strong enough to excite r&b action and could easily spread. (No flip info supplied)

**ANN PEEBLES** (Hi 2157)  
**Walk Away** (3:02) (Saico/Chevis, BMI — Sain) Slow soulful side from Ann Peebles has enough charm to ask for a second and third listen. Just this enticement might prove powerful enough to generate solid receptions on the r&b circuit. Flip: "I Can't Let You Go" (2:17) (Saico/Jec, BMI — Sain)

**IKE & TINA TURNER** (Minit 32060)  
**I'm Gonna Do All I Can (to Do Right By My Man)** (2:25) (Earl Barton, BMI — Carson) Heavy ballad outing with outstanding material and a very strong belting vocal make the newest Ike & Tina Turner set a winning turntable sound that could come to life saleswise. Flip: "You've Got Too Many Ties That Bind" (2:31) (Metric/Placid, BMI — Northern, Bailey)

**JOHNNY SOUL** (SSS Int'l 763)  
**I Almost Called Your Name** (2:45) (Shelby Singleton, BMI — Lewis, Smith) Old Otis Redding style charges this slow ballad with an electricity that could add up to high voltage r&b sales. May take off. (Flip info not included.)

**FLOYD MORRIS & CO.** (Philips 40590)  
**Bouncing Around** (2:33) (Jadan/MRC, BMI — Moore, Daniels) Bright soul instrumental with a little "Soulful Strut" and a lot of rhythmic impact to kick off r&b acceptance. Very fine showing with pop appeal to add sales. Flip: "The Grunchen Cowboy" (2:35) (Same pubs, BMI — Marks, Moore, Daniels)

**BILL MOSS** (Bell 771)  
**Sock it to 'Em Soul Brother** (2:23) (Danmo, BMI — Moss) Southern soul sound loads the instrumental power behind Bill Moss' black power with a beat ballad. Strong enough to gather best seller momentum. Flip: Instrumental — same credits.

**ILA VANN** (Roulette 7036)  
**Keep On Laughin' Baby** (2:29) (Big Seven, BMI — Illingworth, Grasso, Finton) Solid vocal and a nicely produced blues effort with a rhythmic impact to kick things into a nifty gear set this side on the right track. Could come from left-field. Flip: "Every Little Living Dream" (3:16) (Big Seven, BMI — Illingworth, Finton)

**KIN VASSY** (Uni 55114)  
**Hello L.A., Bye Bye Birmingham** (2:30) (Metric, BMI — Bramlett, Davis) Some fine material that just keeps coming back. "Hello L.A." takes on a pulsing progressive-folk outlook here which could bring in some strong teen radio play. Flip: "Farewell" (3:28) (Yuma, ASCAP — Meskell)

**BARDEN** (Dot 17208)  
**July, You're a Woman** (2:55) (Great Montana, BMI — Stewart) Underdog in the cover race that has developed for "July," Barden is just likely to show an underdog tenacity that could come from behind to steal a shot on the other versions available. Flip: "Do You Remember" (2:27) (Par-Ed, BMI — Barden, Warren)

**SWEET SMOKE** (Amy 11053)  
**You've Got to Hide Your Love Away** (2:51) (Maclen, BMI — Lennon, McCartney) Heavy adaptation of the Lennon and McCartney oldie which transforms the song into a completely new bit of material with a non-FM progressive kick. Flip: "You Don't Know Him Like I Know" (2:19) (East/Cotillion, BMI — Porter, Hayes)

**JONN BELAND** (Ranwood 835)  
**Sunday Fool** (2:11) (Bresnahan, BMI — Beland) Folky ballad which features a free-wheeling performance that has personal charm and the potential to entice teen and MOR play. Flip: "As If I Needed to Be Reminded" (2:40) (Bresnahan, BMI — Murray)

**KELLY GORDON** (Capitol 2446)  
**He Ain't Heavy He's My Brother** (4:52) (Harrison, ASCAP — Russell, Scott) Noted as a producer (Bobbie Gentry, KaSandra), Kelly Gordon bows artistically with a side featuring a Randy Newman-y soul. Excellent production touches and material are likely to catch top forty notice for this heavy ballad. Flip: "That's Life" (3:09) (4 Star TV, ASCAP — Gordon)

**JACK WALKER** (Nico 108)  
**There's a Boat Leaving Everyday** (2:30) (Flavio, BMI — Childers) Deceivably simple anti-protest song has the kind of lyric that could pull enough attention to the side for it to carry weight with MOR programmers. Flip: "Little Dark Cloud" (2:58) (Flavio, BMI — Walker)

**C & THE SHELLS** (Cotillion 44024)  
**You Are the Circus** (3:03) (Cotillion, BMI — Williams, Jr.) Exciting blues group makes this half teen/half r&b material a powerhouse outing with the impact to attract heavy notice among pop and blues programmers. Could happen. Flip: "I've Fallen in Love" (3:02) (Same pubs, BMI — Williams, Williams, Jr.)

**TWO MILE PIKE** (Boone 1084)  
**The Uninhibited Bicycle Rider** (2:49) (Pamper, BMI — Howard) Strange sounding side that has a peculiar magnetism demanding a listen-harder attentiveness. This power brings emphasis to the lyric strongly enough to make the side a heavy sleeper prospect. Flip: (Instrumental version.)

**THE FALL GUYS** (Argosey 103)  
**Doin' My Own Thing** (2:15) ( —, Ramel) Balladic group and a pretty song could prove the right combination with this easybeat effort. Side has a middle-of-the-road pop approach which may gain enough momentum to come out of left field. Flip: "Shadows" (2:43) (Same credit.) Argosey Records, 888 8th Ave., NYC

**THE YOUNGBLOODS** (RCA 0129)  
**Darkness, Darkness** (3:43) (Pigfoot, ASCAP — Young) Among the earliest of the recent pop acts to apply country influence to their rock material, the Youngbloods have struck a pleasant balance which could create solid enough FM breakouts to start a sales surge here. Flip: "On Sir Francis Drake" (3:00) (Dogfish, ASCAP — Levinger)



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