

country roundup

top country LP's

1	WHEN THE TINGLE BECOMES A CHILL Loretta Lynn (MCA 2179)	26	LOVE PUT A SONG IN MY HEART Johnny Rodriguez (Mercury SRM 1-1057)
2	IT'S ALL IN THE MOVIES Merle Haggard (Capitol ST 11483)	27	PEOPLE PUT TO MUSIC Freddie Hart & The Heartbeats (Capitol ST 11504)
3	THE WHITE KNIGHT Cledus Maggard & The Citizen's Band (Mercury SRM 1-1072)	28	TEXAS COUNTRY Various Artists (U.A. LA 574 H2)
4	ROCK 'N' COUNTRY Freddie Fender (ABC/Dot DOSD 2050)	29	PRISONER IN DISGUISE Linda Ronstadt (Asylum 7E 1045)
5	SOMETIMES Bill Anderson & Mary Lou Turner (MCA 2182)	30	MACKINTOSH & T.J. Waylon Jennings (RCA APL 1-1520)
6	THE OUTLAWS Waylon Jennings/Willie Nelson/Jessi Colter/Tompall Glaser (RCA APL 1-1321)	31	WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ME NOW Willie Nelson (RCA APL 1-1234)
7	THE GREAT TOMPALL AND HIS OUTLAW BAND (MGM M3G-5014)	32	SONGS WE FELL IN LOVE TO Connie Smith (Columbia X598)
8	NARVEL THE MARVEL Narvel Felts (ABC/Dot DOSD 2033)	33	RAY GRIFF (Capitol ST 11486)
9	ELITE HOTEL Emmylou Harris (Reprise MS 2236)	34	ALL THE KING'S HORSES Lynn Anderson (Columbia KC 34089)
10	THE SOUND IN YOUR MIND Willie Nelson (Lone Star/Columbia KC 34092)	35	THE SHEIK OF CHICAGO Joe Stampley (Epic KE 34036)
11	EASY AS PIE Billy "Crash" Craddock (ABC/Dot DOSD 2040)	36	THE HAPPINESS OF HAVING YOU Charley Pride (RCA APL 1-1241)
12	COME ON OVER Olivia Newton-John (MCA 2186)	37	GILLEY'S GREATEST HITS Mickey Gilley (Playboy PB 409)
13	CHESTER AND LESTER Chet Atkins & Les Paul (RCA APL 1-1167)	38	INDEPENDENCE Nat Stuckey (MCA 2184)
14	LOVIN' AND LEARNIN' Tanya Tucker (MCA 2167)	39	LARRY GATLIN WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS (Monument KZ 34042)
15	LONGHAIRD REDNECK David Allan Coe (Columbia KC 33916)	40	COUNTRY WILLIE Willie Nelson (United Artists LA 510-G)
16	200 YEARS OF COUNTRY MUSIC Sonny James (Columbia KC 34035)	41	FASTER HORSES Tom T. Hall (Mercury SRM 1-1076)
17	JESSI Jessi Colter (Capitol ST 11477)	42	FLOYD CRAMER COUNTRY (RCA APL 1-1541)
18	'TIL I CAN MAKE IT ON MY OWN Tammy Wynette (Epic KE 34075)	43	HANK WILLIAMS, YOU WROTE MY LIFE Moe Bandy (Columbia KC 34091)
19	OVERNIGHT SENSATION Mickey Gilley (Playboy PB 408)	44	THE SUN SESSIONS Elvis Presley (RCA APM1 1675)
20	TWITTY Conway Twitty (MCA 2176)	45	RONNIE MILSAP/NIGHT THINGS (RCA APL 1-1223)
21	JASON'S FARM Cal Smith (MCA 2172)	46	REDHEADED STRANGER Willie Nelson (Columbia PC 33482)
22	STEPPIN' OUT Gary Stewart (RCA APL 1-1225)	47	THE GREATEST HITS OF JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ (Mercury SRM 1-1078)
23	BLACK BEAR ROAD C.W. McCall (MGM 5008)	48	STRAWBERRY CAKE Johnny Cash (Columbia KC 34088)
24	THE SWEETEST THING Dottie (RCA APL 1-1358)	49	HAROLD, LEW, PHIL & DON STATLER BROTHERS (Mercury SRM1 1077)
25	THE BLIND MAN IN THE BLEACHERS Kenny Starr (MCA 2177)	50	MOTELS AND MEMORIES T.G. Sheppard (Melodyland ME 6 40351)

MCA recording artist, **Tanya Tucker** has been invited to perform at the Fifth Tokyo Music Festival to be held June 27 in Tokyo, Japan. Tanya will be singing "You've Got Me To Hold On To" in the international competition, which will include artists around the world. "You've Got Me To Hold On To" is Tanya's latest MCA single, and was written by **Dave Loggins**. The song appears on Tanya's "Lovin' And Learnin'" album which was released earlier this year. Tanya will be staying in Japan for six days. Her father **Beau** and her producer **Jerry Crutchfield** will accompany the 17 year old singer to Japan. The contest will be held in the Imperial Theatre and Tanya's performance will be broadcast simultaneously live over the Tokyo Broadcasting Systems, radio and television.

Audie Ashworth announced recently that **Gordon Payne**, leadman for the **Waylon Jennings** and **Jessi Colter** shows, has been signed to a publishing and production contract with his company. Payne, an excellent singer and instrumentalist, will be going into the studio to record an album, to be produced by **J.J. Cale** and **Ashworth**, the first of May when **Cale** and **Ashworth** return from **Cale's** first European tour.

Little Richie Johnson has announced that Professional Record Distributors of Nashville will distribute **Little Richie Records**. Artists include **Albert Young Eagle**, **Lloyd Green**, **Frank Lean** and **Tina Howel**, with several new singles and a new album to be released within the next few weeks. **Little Richie Records'** headquarters are in **Belen, New Mexico**. **Mike Shepherd**, executive vice president of **IRDA**, has announced the completion of a major long-range distribution deal between his company and **Stardom Records** in Nashville. **IRDA** is currently handling the distribution of several **Stardom** singles including "Darkness Is A Friend Of Mine" by **Butch Lawson**; "Every Man Must Have A Dream" by **Bobby Helms**; "Sing Me A Song About Texas" by **Jimmy Peppers**; and "Thank You Darlin'" by **Billy Brown**. There are plans in the near future for **IRDA** to distribute another **Stardom** record, "One Eyed Snake In A Turtle Neck Sweater" by **Sonny Hall**.

Loretta Lynn in Los Angeles to promote her new book, "Coal Miner's Daughter," received her big thrill of the year while taping "Dinah." Her idol, **Gregory Peck**, called during the show, and spoke with her. Reports are the usually talkative **Loretta** was close to being tongue-tied. Her one big dream now is to make a motion picture, preferably with **Mr. Peck**.

Due to the overwhelming response at **KVOO** in **Tulsa** and **KLPR** in **Oklahoma City**, **Phonogram, Inc./Mercury Records** is flipping the latest **Melody Allen** single to the side with "Our Piggy Back," according to **Frank Leffel**, national promotion/country.

Mel Tillis will be seen as **Merv Griffin's** opening guest April 23 when the show airs in most major markets. **Tillis** will sing his upcoming MCA single release, "Love Revival."

After working from the west coast area for several years, **ABC** recording artist **Diana Trask** has returned through her manager/husband, **Tom Ewen**, to **Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc.** for booking engagements. **Australian-born Diana** was with **Buddy Lee** shortly after she began her country music career and became an American citizen in 1970.

Even before **Loretta Lynn's** autobiography, "Coal Miner's Daughter," a **Bernard Geis** book published in association with the **Henry Regnery Publishing Company**, hits the book stores it has already gone into its second printing. **Loretta** has given the book tremendous personal support by taping the **Mac Davis** show, **Merv Griffin** show, **Dinah**, **The Tonight Show**, **Hollywood Squares**, the **Phil Donahue** show and also the **Today** show.

Ray Price and his wife **Janie** recently returned home to find that burglars had broken into their home and made off with over \$70,000 worth of jewelry and furs. The story had a happy ending for the **Prices**, however, as the thieves were involved in a car accident while making their escape and the police recovered the stolen items.

Tommy Overstreet entertained a group of journalists from the Japanese edition of **Playboy** magazine at one of his recording sessions recently. The journalists were in **Nashville** to do a series of articles on country music for the magazine and were lucky enough to catch **Tommy** in his first session with his new producer **Tom Chancey**.

Chris Gantry went to **Key West** a few weeks ago to write some new songs and is coming back to **Nashville** with a new bride as well, the former **Susan Nadler** from **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**. **Chris** was reading some of his poetry at a place called **Captain Tony's** in **Key West**, and **Susan** was in the audience. After the reading they were introduced and were married **March 15**. **Susan's** latest book, "The Butterfly Convention," has just been published.

ABC/Dot's Roy Clark was wearing a cap on a recent **Johnny Carson** show appearance, and the host had to know why. Reason for cap? **Roy's** undergoing hair transplants. **Roy** has also lost over 45 pounds recently. If he keeps losing weight and growing hair he may rival **Dot** vice president **Larry Baunach** as the label's sex symbol.

GRT Records has announced its spring country LP release of five albums. Included are: "Mel Street's Greatest Hits," "Instant Rice, The Best Of Bobby G.," "Stonewall Jackson's Greatest Hits," "Sincerely," **Jan Howard** and "Mr. Country Soul," **Price Mitchell**.

Webb Pierce, along with **George Jones** and **Faron Young**, will headline a special benefit show for **Ms. Sue Brewer** at **George Jones' Possum Holler Club** in **Nashville** on **April 22**. **Sue**, a well loved friend and member of the music industry, is seriously ill with cancer.

Roy Clark has been voted country guitarist of the year by the annual **Playboy Magazine** poll. He won over 20 other pickers in the nominated category and will receive **Playboy's** 1976 award trophy designed exclusively for the winners by **Tiffany & Company**.

Don Williams will make his debut on "Dinah" **April 19**. He sings his current **ABC/Dot** single, "Till The Rivers All Run Dry," plus "Amanda."

Roy Clark, the proverbial dieter, has become involved in a new weight control food line, "Roy Clark's Dieter's Choice." He is the product's best supporter, having lost several pounds by eating only the planned, packaged dinners. **Roy** says he'll take this good news across the country to share with the people in cities where he performs. A selection of five frozen **Roy Clark's Dieter's Choice** dinners, plus salad dressings and an imitation ketchup, are scheduled to be stocked in grocery outlets in **California, Arizona** and **Nevada** by mid-May. Within six months of the starting date an additional five dinners will be distributed. The product will eventually be sold nationwide. The calorie count per packaged dinner ranges from 120 to 202.

juanita jones

Country Singles — Active Extras

She'll Throw Stones At You
Jacky Ward (Mercury)

Since I Met You Boy
Jeannie Seely (MCA)

Sweet Sorrow
Jeanne Pruett (MCA)

Suspicious Minds
Waylon Jennings & Jessi Colter (RCA)

Ain't No Heartbreak
Dorsey Burnette (Melodyland)

I Love A Beautiful Guy
Connie Cato (Capitol)

50 Ways To Leave Your Lover
Bob Warbrorough (IRDA)

Jasper
Jim Stafford (MGM)

It's So Easy Lovin' You
Tibor Brothers (Jomar)

Ginny
Leon Rausch (Derrick)

Where The Soul Never Dies
Oak Ridge Boys (Columbia)

Colorado Call
Shad O'Shea (Fraternity)

America The Beautiful
Charlie Rich (Epic)

Get Ready Here I Come
Don Gibson & Sue Thompson (Hickory)

Sweet Dreams
Troy Seals (Columbia)

Have I Told You Lately That I Love You
Carmen Moreno (Capitol)

Right Or Wrong
Ronnie Dove (Melodyland)

Walnut Street Wrangler
Debbi Hawkins (Warner Brothers)

West Texas Woman
Mac Curtis (Ranwood)

It's Enough
Ronnie Prophet (RCA)

The Man From Bowling Green
Bob Luman (Epic)

Cadillac Johnson
Chuck Price (Playboy)

Marbles
Charlie Walker (Award)

I Want Some
Ava Aldridge (MGM)

A Morning Made For Lovin'
Helen Cornelius (RCA)