

R&B INGREDIENTS

Around the country the weather is gettin' hot and so is the R&B scene. Great new records are coming out every day. Right now there is a bonanza of great product on the charts and records trying to claw onto the charts. Besides that, the concert scene for the summer is shaping up to be the best ever. All the top groups are going to be all across the country doin' their thing. Hottest news to happen this week is the announcement that **Louis Grey Productions** will be bringing **Earth, Wind & Fire** into the **Rose Bowl** in Pasadena, California. The show is scheduled for sometime in July. The **Rose Bowl** holds 100,000 people, and with another couple hot groups, this could be the concert to end all concerts. Also **Earth, Wind & Fire** will be releasing a new single within seven days, the title of which is "Get Away." The group's LP will be shipped sometime in August.

The **Crusaders** are off to Europe the end of this month for a tour of the entire continent. Rapped with the group's drummer **Stix Hooper** and he said this is the group's biggest tour over there. Their latest LP "Those Southern Knights," is one of the hottest out. Check out "Spiral" written by **Joe Sample** on side A... It's a killer... Also learned that the **Nippon Rubber Company** of Japan was so knocked out by **Leon Haywood's** tune "Strokin'" that they have asked him to endorse their line of shoes. **Big Ben**, by writing new lyrics to "Strokin'" to be used in a big ad campaign in that country. Just goes to show that R&B is an international commodity.

Dorothy Moore so totally knocked out the producers of the **Midnight Special** that they asked her to return to do a special guest spot with **Glen Campbell** when he hosts the show in the next few weeks. While **Dorothy** was in town to tape the **Midnight Special** she also found time to do the **Dinah Shore Show**... The **Ritchie Family** are now signed with **T.K.** and they are going to have a new LP shipped this week. Also learned that **T.K.** has signed a group called **Cracker**. Product from them should be coming shortly. **Cracker** toured with the **Rolling Stones** in Europe in 1973... Also look for a new LP by **Ralph "Mr. Magic" MacDonald** on **T.K.** soon. **Ralph** is the fellow who penned this classic tune.

Quincy Jones is coming with a new LP entitled "I Heard That," July 8. It is a two record set which with sides 1 & 2 being new material, and sides 3 & 4, Quincy's greatest hits. Also included on the new LP will be a new group that Quincy has been working with. They are 4 guys and a girl. The group doesn't have a name yet, so the folks at Quincy Jones Productions decided to have a contest to name the group. All entries should be sent to Quincy Jones Productions, 1416 North La Brea, Hollywood, California 90028. Winners will receive the entire Quincy, **Brothers Johnson** catalogue plus tickets to their concerts, etc... **Bumps Doogan** called in last week to say that "Jack In The Box," by **David Morris, Jr.** is the hottest thing happening in good ole L.A.

Was fortunate to get tickets for "The Wiz" out here in L.A. All that can be said is that the show is truly magnificent. It is probably the finest show to ever grace the stages in L.A. Among the celebrities at the **Ahmanson Theatre** that night catching the show were **Johnny Carson** and **Jack Nicholson**.

"Wake-Up Susan" by the **Spinners** is shaping up to be one heck of a monster... It is one of the most added and requested records in the entire country... The "Mighty Mighty" **Spinners** will be headlining the **Greek Theatre** the end of this month along with the sexy **Donna Summer**.

Leon Haywood is expanding his production activities. Leon has recently opened up a production firm at 6363 Sunset Blvd. Suite 714, Hollywood, California (213) 461-8553. He is looking for new acts to produce. Leon is now being managed by **Pete Peterson**.

Phil Strassberg has moved from New York and opened up new offices in Los Angeles. His new office is located at 5151 Woodman Avenue, Sherman Oaks, (213) 789-4182.

The **Originals**, managed by **Kessler-Grass Management** are set to perform at **B.B. King's Wonder Gardens Club** in Atlantic City, New Jersey over the 4th of July weekend. This group will definitely set off some fireworks there... **Jeannie Reynolds**, whose brother **L.J. Reynolds** is a member of the **Dramatics**, has just released an exciting new LP on **Casablanca**. "Cherries, Bananas & Other Fine Things." Jeannie's last hit single was "The Phone's Been Jumpin'." The cover is great... When you're hot, you're hot. **Jeff Lane** has been retained by **Fantasy Records** to record their group, **Spider's Web**, for the label. Jeff's presence is very evident on the charts these days as he produced **B.T. Express** and **Brass Construction**. His most recent project for **U.A.** is another monster. The artist's name is **Mark Radice** and this youngster has got loads of talent... Check it out.

Fantasy Films is doing another film after the huge success they had with "Cuckoo's Nest." **Saul Zaentz** and **Fantasy Films** will produce "The Warriors."... Gary Gotham broke away from the disco scene one night last week and caught **Diana Ross's** opening at the **Palace Theatre**. He said it was the hottest thing he ever saw. "There were so many celebrities on hand to catch the show that it was like watching the Academy Awards show." Also Gary was fortunate to get backstage. He said it took **Diana** over an hour to get out of the theatre with a police escort because people were lined up for blocks to get a glimpse at her... Late flash. Also learned that the **Spinners** will be honored by the City of Los Angeles June 30, with their own day. Festivities are being planned plus the fellows will have their own star placed on Hollywood Boulevard in their honor by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce... **Barbara Ingram** is well-known in the music business for her great work in backing up such groups as the **Blue Magic**, **Trammps**, **Major Harris**, **Stylistics**, **Spinners**, **O'Jays** etc, etc. Now she and her brothers are together recording for **Nashboro**. They have a dynamite new single on **Excello** distributed by **Nashboro** entitled "The Funk Lies In Our Music." This one is in the groove... **Bloodstone's** new LP will be shipped this week by **London**... **Blackbyrds** new single is "Rock Creek Park." This one will be their biggest to date. It's too cold... Also learned that **Mary Wells** has signed with **Philly International**. Look forward to some great new product from her in the near future. It's nice to have **Mary** back on the scene... **Nat Adderley**, **Cannonball's** brother, has also signed a new deal with **Little David Records**... Another outstanding new group to be on the look-out for this summer is a group called **Caldera**... They are a jazz-rock-funk group and have signed with **Capitol Records**... that's soul.

jess levitt

TOP 50 R&B ALBUMS

		WEEKS ON CHART			WEEKS ON CHART
1	BREEZIN' GEORGE BENSON (WB BS 2919)	1 12	26	FREE AND IN LOVE MILLIE JACKSON (Spring/Polydor SP1-6709)	26 7
2	I WANT YOU MARVIN GAYE (Motown T634251)	2 13	27	A LOVE TRILOGY DONNA SUMMER (Oasis/Casablanca 5004)	29 14
3	HARVEST FOR THE WORLD ISLEY BROTHERS (Epic PZ 33809)	3 5	28	THE REAL McCOY VAN McCOY (H&L 69012)	30 7
4	MANHATTANS (Columbia PC 33820)	5 9	29	FEVER RONNIE LAWS (Blue Note/UA BNLA 628G)	36 4
5	LOOK OUT FOR #1 BROTHERS JOHNSON (A&M SP 4567)	6 16	30	EVERYTHING'S COMING UP LOVE DAVID HUFFIN (Motown M6 86651)	33 3
6	NATALIE NATALIE COLE (Capitol ST 11517)	11 5	31	SKY HIGH TAVARES (Capitol ST 11533)	39 2
7	MOTHERSHIP CONNECTION PARLIAMENT (Casablanca NBLP 7022)	4 22	32	YOU ARE MY STARSHIP NORMAN CONNERS (Buddah BDS 5655)	23 8
8	CONTRADICTION OHIO PLAYERS (Mercury SRM-1-1088)	19 3	33	FABULOUS STYLISTICS (H&L HL 69013)	35 4
9	ENERGY TO BURN B.T. EXPRESS (Columbia PC 34178)	10 5	34	HIGH ENERGY THE SUPREMES (Motown M6-863S1)	38 5
10	THOSE SOUTHERN KNIGHTS CRUSADERS (Blue Thumb/ABC BTSD 6024)	18 5	35	HARD WORK JOHN HANDY (ABC/Impulse ASD 9314)	44 3
11	DIANA ROSS (Motown M6-861S1)	7 18	36	SILVER CONVENTION (Midland Int'l./RCA BKL 1-1369)	21 13
12	RASTAMAN VIBRATION BOB MARLEY (Island ILPS 9383)	15 8	37	MYSTIC VOYAGE ROY AYERS UBIOUITY (Polydor PD 6057)	22 23
13	MISTY BLUE DOROTHY MOORE (Malaco/TK 6351)	14 5	38	LET YOUR MIND BE FREE BROTHER TO BROTHER (All Platinum 7015)	41 5
14	EARGASM JOHNNIE TAYLOR (Columbia PC 33951)	8 16	39	EVERYBODY COME OUT STANLEY TURRENTINE (Fantasy F9508)	43 2
15	SALONGO RAMSEY LEWIS (Columbia PC 34173)	16 7	40	MIRROR GRAHAM CENTRAL STATION (WB BS 2937)	— 1
16	WHERE THE HAPPY PEOPLE GO THE TRAMMPS (Atlantic SD 18172)	13 7	41	AMIGOS SANTANA (Columbia PC 33576)	32 18
17	STRETCHING OUT IN BOOTSY'S RUBBER BAND BOOTSY'S RUBBER BAND (WB BS 2920)	12 15	42	YOUNG HEARTS RUN FREE CANDI STATON (Warner Bros. BS 2948)	— 1
18	ALL THINGS IN TIME LOU RAWLS (Phila. Int'l./Epic PZ 33957)	25 4	43	BORN TO GET DOWN MUSCLE SHOALS HORNS (Bang BLP-403)	45 3
19	BRASS CONSTRUCTION (United Artists UA LA 545G)	9 22	44	IMPACT (Atco/Atlantic SD 36-135)	— 1
20	SPARKLE ARETHA FRANKLIN (Atlantic SD 18176)	37 2	45	MORE, MORE, MORE ANDREA TRUE CONNECTION (Buddah BDS 5670)	46 2
21	LEE OSKAR (United Artists UA LA 594G)	17 13	46	ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES PLEASURE (Fantasy F9506)	47 2
22	CITY LIFE THE BLACKBYRDS (Fantasy F9490)	20 32	47	THREE BOB JAMES (CTI 6063)	— 1
23	THIS MOTHER'S DAUGHTER NANCY WILSON (Capitol ST 11518)	24 6	48	DANCE YOUR ASS OFF HAMILTON BOHANNON (Dakar 76919)	50 8
24	LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING KOOL & THE GANG (DeLite DEP 2018)	27 8	49	THIS IS IT MELBA MOORE (Buddah BDS 5657)	48 8
25	BILL COSBY IS NOT HIMSELF THESE DAYS (Capitol ST 11530)	34 5	50	THE LONELY ONE TERRY HUFF AND SPECIAL DELIVERY (Mainstream 420)	— 1

soul waves: Record Company Reaction To LP-Oriented AM Radio

Record company reaction to **KDAY's** new programming format was mixed. Larger and more LP orientated companies felt the move to play more LPs was quite favorable, however the smaller labels who work with smaller budgets felt the move would hurt them in trying to establish a group into a viable top notch act. Here are some comments from some top executives at various companies.

Miller London, vice president of national singles and albums of promotion at **Motown**, feels that the **KDAY** move is an attempt to kill the single business. Miller remarked that if every black and pop Top 40 station did this, it would kill any chance for new artists to develop themselves. "Our policy towards singles is to use them as a tool to create excitement for an upcoming LP. But in some cases, singles deals are made. How can you build these artists? If a trend like this develops around the country it will kill the development of many new and exciting R&B artists. I think radio stations don't realize that in the near future the Temptations, Isleys and groups of this caliber may retire and where are you going to find acts to replace them. If you can't build and develop artists, you can't create future superstars," London said.

Norman Gardner, vice president of promotion for **London Records** admires the move