

ForTheRecord

EAST COASTINGS — SOUVENIR OF THE WEEK — Peter Frampton's drumsticks. Ironically, the very week Peter Frampton made his first headlining appearance at Madison Square Garden, his album "Frampton Comes Alive" was edged from a nine-week stay at the #1 position on **Cash Box's** top 100 albums by Stevie Wonder's "Songs In The Key Of Life." In a truly chivalrous spirit, the Wonder album was played over the p.a. system before and between sets at the Frampton concert, which is really not surprising, considering that Wonder praised Frampton's songwriting and performing talents as he presented him the "rock personality of the year" award at this year's "Rock Music Awards." But the mutual admiration didn't stop there: Frampton reiterated his love for Motown music on the Garden stage and performed a Stevie Wonder song himself. And the topper came as Frampton took the drum chair at a musical peak and showed some of his stuff at the traps, a dramatic touch that Stevie Wonder has made famous in concert. (He promises to be on the road shortly after Jan. 1.) Can we look forward to a live drum duet?

TREND OF THE WEEK — Striptease. While Peter Frampton at the Garden, Peter Allen at the Bottom Line and Jonathan Richman at Town Hall all took off their shirts on stage, Allen's moves were the best choreographed and his black sequined tank top revealed a flair for fashion.

TOY OF THE WEEK — The award goes to Pye Records' Walter O'Brien, for the classy and practical disk cleaners issued to promote **Limousine**. "To keep your limousine running smooth and clean," he quipped.

HERE OR NEAR — The aforementioned items may have been a clue that the New York market supported an extraordinary quantity and range of live music the weekend beginning Friday, Oct. 8. That evening, Frampton opened three soldout nights at the Garden, Jeff Beck/Jan Hammer sold out the Palladium, while the Beacon wasn't quite full with headliners **Pure Prairie League**. On Saturday, Jonathan Richman filled Town Hall, while Norman Connors led a triple jazz/pop bill at the Beacon. On Sunday, the Cobham/Duke Band sold out the Palladium, while Dr. Hook topped the Beacon's bill. All three nights Peter Allen continued a Bottom Line stint begun on Wednesday, selling out all early performances though not all the lates. The weekend stands out on the basis of pure volume . . . It wasn't Mrs. O'Leary's cow: A fire of "suspicious origin" badly damaged a barn located on a farm which is also the site of a house reportedly rented to rock personality Bruce Springsteen, according to the Sunday Register of Shrewsbury, N.J. No one was present on the estate in the late evening of Oct. 9 when the fire was reported, and there were no injuries, not even to the barn's usual residents: horses which were out to pasture at the time . . . Barry Manilow to play 12 dates at Broadway's Uris Theater beginning Tuesday, Dec. 21 . . . Dr. Pepper is launching a \$10 million ad campaign centered around new radio spots featuring an all-star cast singing the jingle: Chuck Berry, Lynn Anderson, Mills Bros., B.B. King, Hank Snow and Teresa Brewer. The "Sugar Free" jingle will be handled by Dana Valery, Gladys Knight & The Pips and KC & The Sunshine Band . . . Apologies to John Curtin, who was mistakenly first-named Roy in the recent item about the John McLaughlin music folio.

NO LAUGHING MATTER — "Comedy can't be promoted like music, because even very good comedians can't get airplay," commented Little David's Franklin Ajaye, who seriously doubted the value of radio to comedians. "People have to see them and people have to like a comedian, while they really don't have to like an artist just to appreciate his music on the radio." Questioned on the value of television to a comedian of his style, Ajaye, who has taped Rock Concert as well as the Midnight Special and one episode of "Barney Miller," answered, "We need TV," although he felt censorship was a problem. "You never know how much they'll leave in after you've taped the show," he continued, adding that late-night television afforded the greatest freedom available on the tube. "The medium is still limiting, however," Ajaye added, "none of the comedians I like come off as well on TV as they do in a club." Jazz fanatic Ajaye appeared at the Bottom Line last week with Rashaan Roland Kirk . . . Visiting **Cash Box** last week were MCA's Buckacre, anticipating their first New York gig. Two of the group's members, Dick Verucchi and Les Lockridge, have been playing together around Illinois for the last 11 years, though the group as such has existed only for about three years. While Lockridge's early musical influences are mainly country, Verucchi could recall the big band greats as well as rock's beginning performers, all heard at his dad Buzz's concert hall, which he completely designed and built in 1947. The Ballroom had scheduled Buddy Holly's **Crickets** to perform just three days before their fatal airplane crash; booked on the same bill was Dion, who headlined over Buckacre for part of their Bottom Line engagement last week.

ON THE GREEN — Guests at the Tavern On The Green dinner in honor of Peter Frampton included Herb Alpert, Dee Anthony, Brooks Arthur, Bill Aucoin, Frank Barsalona, Clive Davis, Ron Delsener, Mr. & Mrs. Frampton, Leslie Gore, Henry Gross, Richie Havens, Jerry Moss, members of Piper, Bob Rolontz, Howard Stein, Robert Stigwood and Walter Yetnikoff . . . Tom Schlesinger of Arc-Jay Kay, UA's Detroit distributor, had arranged for Paul Anka to drop the puck at a Red Wings home game against the Montreal Canadiens. Anka, no stranger to the ice or hockey, donned his skates, entered the rink like a pro, carousing with the players on the ice and delighting the fans to no end. Later, reporters accosted Anka, who talked to the press about his latest recording activities. Just to prove radio is far from the only avenue for promotion . . . Clive Davis and Arista execs out in force to see the label's newly signed **Volunteers** at the Beacon . . . The new James Gang lineup includes Phil Giallombardo on keyboards and Bob Webb on guitars, both of whom sing and write. Interestingly, the James Gang has been preserved for nine years by drummer Jimmy Fox and bassist Dale Peters, neither of whom writes very much, or handles the frontman's duties. Instead, they choose the people who do things the way they want, thereby preserving the group's aural identity. With a new Atco album, "Jesse Come Home," the James Gang has a tour lined up for late in the year . . . Bay City Rollers to tape the Merv Griffin Show, the Tony Orlando & Dawn Show and the Midnight Special. Members Stuart Wood and Ian Mitchell have just ended minor sur-

gery, while Les McKeown was recently acquitted of charges relating to the firing upon of a young girl on his estate. His former road manager Hilary Tipping said he himself did it . . . "Cherchez La Femme" will be the new RCA single from Dr. Buzzard's Original Savannah Band . . . Jean-Luc Ponty's next Atlantic album, "Imaginary Voyage," ships Nov. 2. The jazz violinist begins a coast-to-coast tour of the US and Canada Oct. 13-Dec. 5 . . . Le Grand Salon, a new rock venue, has opened in Montreal . . . The Fraternity of Record Executives is holding an Oct. 22 affair in the penthouse suite of the New York Hilton to raise money for the charity scholarship fund, the Pace Awards . . . A new National Committee of Advocates for the Arts will meet in D.C. . . . Keyboard stars Al Kooper and Brian Auger to play the Beacon Theater Nov. 12 . . . Edward R. Bosken, president of QCA Records, formerly known as Queen City Albums of Cincinnati, has contributed \$5000 to the building fund of the gospel music hall of fame being constructed in Nashville at a cost of \$1,600,000 . . . Watch for the Little River Band from Australia. The Capitol act will back AWB on their upcoming tour . . . Bob Porter makes his first official outside appearance as **Cash Box** jazz album reviewer writing the liner notes on the recent Betty Carter reissue on Impulse, "What A Little Moonlight Can Do" . . . Airing Oct. 23, Don Kirshner's New Rock Concert features the first television appearance of Led Zeppelin, in the form of selections from their first feature-length film, "The Song Remains The Same." The selections will be the full performance of "Black Dog," along with part of "Dazed And Confused" and Jimmy Paige's fantasy sequence. The show airs days after the film premieres in cities all over the nation. In addition, the show features Mother's Finest, Starz, and comedy with Billy Crystal and Natural Gas.

phil dimauro

POINTS WEST — WITH YOUR LOVE, RHIANNON — It seems that Paul Kantner (Starship) told Stevie Nicks (Mac) that he would like to co-write a song with her. The two were discussing the project when they left the Starship party together . . . Kinky Friedman's LP has been sold to Epic, and will be released shortly under the euphemistic title "Lasso From El Paso." The close-to-title track will not be included, which is too bad, because it's a live version with The Rolling Thunder Revue . . . Stevie Wonder's new LP is hot on the charts, so hot, in fact, that some of the disks have been found in a warped condition; and the returns, especially from the midwest, have been fairly heavy for that reason . . . **FAMOUS NIGHTSPOTS** — Whenever The Crusaders are playing west coast dates they have their dinner shipped to the gig from Dr. Hogly Wogly's Tyler Texas Barbecue in Van Nuys.

BOSTON SELLS OUT — Well, at least the first show of the upcoming stand at the Santa Monica Civic. All 3500 seats went on a Sunday, when ticket agent offices are not open, which makes this a little more impressive . . . The Band has just finished recording a single called "Georgia On My Mind," which was designed, we're told, for support of that Democratic candidate we've heard so much about. The group is reported set for a gig on NBC's Saturday Night in a couple of weeks, which we believe will be their first television appearance ever (at least of any substance; newsclips don't count). Maybe John Belushi (our fave) will be inspired to imitate a certain lead singer that used to work with The Band.

OH DARA — Neil Sedaka's daughter says she's turned down two record offers because she has to "finish school first." Dara is 13, and we don't know if she'll be able to stay firm in her decision for much longer, especially if she keeps being pitched. Young stardom's in her blood.

READY, SET, GO — We first heard of Stomu Yamashta when director Nicolas Roeg told us that he was using Yamashta's music in "The Man Who Fell To Earth." "It's quite extraordinary," said Roeg at the time, "how the percussion gives one such a strong sense of melody." Yamashta and Michael Shrieve (they worked together on the popular "Go" LP) were in town last week to discuss plans for a worldwide "Go" tour. Yamashta told CB's Paul Simmons that he wants to do a full production, and take the show to some famous cathedrals and outdoor parks. Films are in the future, said the Island artist, but he feels he can only handle one a year; he can fit that in between recording and touring. The preparations for this tour will be complete by December, and it's a safe bet that lasers will be included in an elaborate lighting system.

A MAN'S BEST FRIEND — can also be his photographer. Kenny Rogers is a good friend of Glen Campbell's, and he was the only lensman at Campbell's recent wedding; he's also shooting Glen's new album cover . . . Sweden's Abba is in town, on a promotional tour for their hot single "Fernando" and sampling the best of Los Angeles restaurant life. They're also taping segments on Dinah!, The Midnight Special, and Don Kirshner's Rock Concert. Their "Dancing Queen" single is currently #1 in England . . . Tony Mascia, David Bowie's bodyguard in real life and film ("The Man Who Fell To Earth"), is playing Michael Caine's bodyguard in an upcoming pic called "Silver Bears" . . . **REEL TO REEL** — The Sausalito branch of The Record Plant has Jerry Martini (founder of Sly and The Family Stone), with Rubicon, a new group. George Daly is producing in studio A . . . LA's own Village Recorders is real busy, what with Steely Dan, Santana, Blondie Chaplin, and Daddy Maxfield among the many who are in various stages of album work. Village's Gary Starr has appointed Ken Klinger chief of maintenance for the studio . . . Benjamin Stein, a noted music journalist, is producing singer Alita Davison's first effort at his own North Horn Studios.

BILLBOARD CITY — is what some jaded L.A. residents call their hometown. The thing is, you can get valuable information from billboards. Like the fact that Eric Clapton's going to tour, and one of his stops will be our own L.A. Forum on November 22. Anticipation is running high for special guest stars, as this is the last date of the tour, which will kick off November 5 in St. Petersburg.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK (Overheard on Sunset Blvd.): "That party was terrible, the food was awful, the place was crowded with horrible people, but the thing about L.A. is that it's October 12 and it's seventy-five degrees."

john mankiewicz