NEWS & REVIEWS

SINGLES

FRIDA (Atlantic 7-98834)
Here We'll Stay (4:05) (ATV Music Corp., BMI) (T. Colton, J. Rousseau) (Producer: F. Safran)
Frida shifts in theme and format in the follow-up to “I Know There's Something Going On.” No doubt about the lover in this bright, straight pop outing. Producer Collins provides the appropriate sparkle with a horn section that emphasizes Frida’s commitment.

FEATURING

KENNY ROGERS (Liberty P-14455)
Rogers’ first solo release from his “We’ve Got Tonight” album opens with an orchestral pop combination of piano and thickly textured strings before breaking into the singer’s raspy, vibrato style. Sangam offers up a complex rhythm with cymbal crashes and soaring lead guitar complete the ingredients to this sure-fire hit confection.

DOLLY PARTON (RCA, JC 13514)
Dolly Parton offers an uncharacteristic slick R&B-flavored number, complete with strings and a disco-like thud. It’s a fascinating glimpse of Fletch-and-Raellettes-style backing vocals. Underpinned by a hypnotic rhythm fill in the verses and a more typical crossover sound in the chorus, it’s one of the strongest dance tunes yet from Parton.

PAT BENATAR (Chrysalis VS4 26888)
This entry from Benatar finds a poor woman bored, itching to be let loose. While the multi-keyboards and boogie guitars are an expected part of a producer’s toolbox, she’s looking for, her impassioned vocal surely will find plenty of takers.

GADOHAD (A&M & AM-2538)
Long plagued by an inability to translate to radio, the recording of music, Joan Armatrading still awaits the airplay to lift her beyond a large and devoted following. “Drop The Pilot,” off her new “The Key” LP, provides a forceful rock statement that should do the trick. Like the artist, the tune is “right on target” and spells out who she is in no uncertain terms.

RITA COOLIDGE (A&M & AM-2541)
Rita Coolidge claims to be a different type of woman than the other “wolves at bay” ignored by the subject of her latest single. What’s certain is that she is a different type of vocalist indeed. A standout production and contains a superb arrangement and guitar and Southern rock guitars sounds firmly backs her confident self.

ULTIMATE (Casablanca, J.7400)
Hammer In My Heart (4:10) (Unearthly Music, Inc./Fiction Music, Inc. — BMI. Territorial administered in the U.S. and Canada by Chrysalis Music, Inc. — ASCAP) (Utopia) (Producers: T. Rundgren, Utopia)
Those guys got a problem, what with a non-stop audible pounding in the chest causing insomnia and a host of other mental and physical ills. Let’s hope it’s all psychosomatic, since the tick in this pop/rock mover with a Beattle-ish break sounds perfectly fine.

BLACK CONTemporarY

CARL CARLTON (RCA JH-13496)
Feeling that he’s “just another friend,” Carlton spends this song wondering why. The sorrowful soul crooner lets his singing work with his message. A song of feeling, it’s a real感触 love song.

BISHOP BRIDGE (Cotillion 7-98885)
Kathie Sledge is combative and good with it, especially as she realizes that it’s “Baby,” not “Beer” requested at her B.Y.O.B. party. An amusing guitar riff backs up her scoldings, but the other