PERSONAL PICKS

SINGLES by Dave Sholin

KEITH SWEAT - Make You Sweat (Elektra)
Towel time! They'll need 'em to dry off when the temperature on the dance floor starts rising thanks to an irresistible groove designed to make us sweat all summer. One amazing production from an amazing all-around talent.

BAD ENGLISH - Possession (Epic)
Seems to be no end to Bad English tracks destined to become singles off this first album. So far, their biggest successes on that debut outing have been ballads, and this one's got the goods to be the biggest yet.

SWEET SENSATION - If Wishes Came True (Atco)
Emerging as one of the female trios radio can count on to deliver consistent quality in every release. All kinds of sweetness and sensitivity come pouring out of this heart-stirring plea for love's return. No way to keep from getting swept up by the chorus of what deserves to be a summer sensation.

REBEL MC - Street Tuff (Desire/PolyGram)
Londoner Rebel MC hasn't had any trouble getting the world to shake their stuff and now it's time for the U.S.A. to start kickin'. Fresh, exciting and cooler than cool, here's an alert to be sure and check out what listeners in eleven countries discovered and eventually took to top three. On at a handful of stations including WIOQ, FM102, KITY, KHTK, KROY, HOF 97.7 and KMEL—where it sounds incredible.

A'ME LORAIN - Follow My Heartbeat (RCA)
Paula Abdul collaborator Elliot Wolff is credited as writer, producer and arranger for young A'me's tasty follow-up to "Whole Wide World." Now armed with an album (on the way shortly) her career should bust wide open if other tracks sound this strong. I'm told a Dance Mix will arrive in about a week.

CROSBY, STILLS & NASH - Live It Up (Atlantic)
Give the audience that o'l' taste test and dare 'em to identify the threesome singing this song. Surprise of the week, and a pleasant one from David, Stephen and Graham who sure give the impression they're into livin' it up nineties' style. Though they didn't write it, CSN give the lyrics their one-of-a-kind treatment.

ALBUMS by Ron Fell

MADONNA - I'm Breathless (Sire/Warner Bros.)
The movie Ishtar comes immediately to mind as Madonna cashes in her FREESPIN card for another turn of the wheel. She's earned the right to split from the formula once. After a string of trendsetting, hit-laden volumes, the vamping vixen of popular music walks the thin line between chanteuse and caricature. Supposedly inspired by themes written into the over-hyped Dick Tracy film, the tracks wander through the artificial backlots of cinematic exaggeration. Much of the arrangements are either Big Band, Be-bop or at least pre-Pop. This album is just part of the Dick Tracy hype. And we can now include in the hype, Madonna's bit with Arsenio Hall a few weeks back when she drifted into a conversation about spanking. The proof is track three, HANKY PANKY with its recurrent theme of corporal punishment for the thrill of it all. Wanna bet what the next single will be? H.L. Mencken said something to the effect that no one ever went broke underestimating the intelligence of the American public. We'll have a vivid living example of the same should it sell as many copies as I expect. The current number one smash single, VOGUE, is oddly out of place within the context of this set, but it remains the most valid track of the set. Madonna will always get credit for her sense of adventure and risk, but this album might just as well have been titled "It's Only A Movie."