



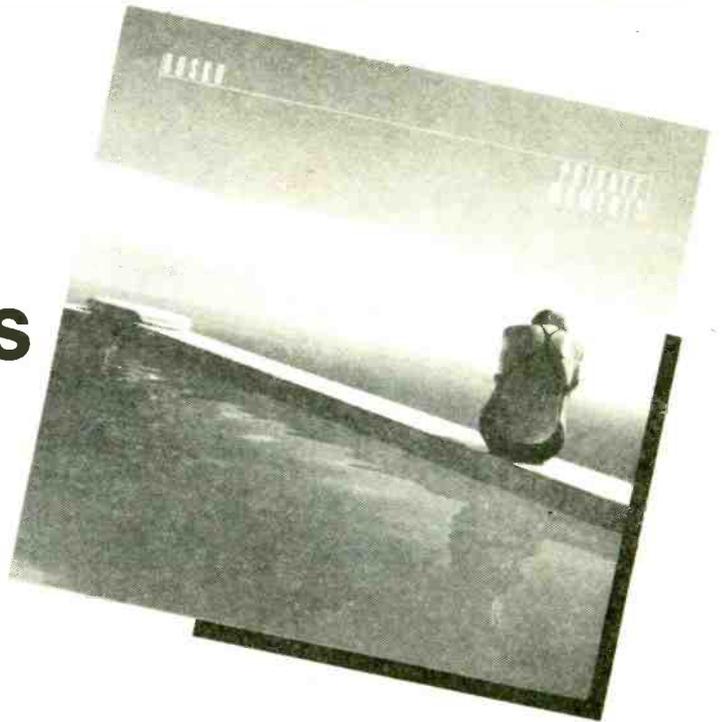
KEN BARNES

# ON THE RECORDS

## A Gallery Of Records By DJs

Everybody warned me. They said never write about records made by disc jockeys, because you'll never be able to mention them all and you'll be forced to publish additions and corrections from now till doomsday. And they might be right.

Actually, I cited several examples of DJs on record a few years back and never provoked a tidal wave of response. But this year's a different story. They've been flooding in — and I'm drenched but happy. It's a great and under-celebrated chunk of radio/records history, and I'm pleased to present the following pictorial gallery of DJ records (or disques du jacques, as the French put it).



Just as I was putting this column together, out comes an album on Columbia by longtime New York (and L.A.) personality Rosko. Rosko is no stranger to recordings, with several previous singles to his credit, but a new album in 1987 is quite an addition to the DJ catalog.



WCIL-FM/Carbondale, IL PD Tony Waitekus is a collector of serious scope (he also collects records), and one of his specialties is DJs' discs. Five of the records pictured here are from Xeroxes he sent me: Larry Lujack, Dick Biondi, Jonathon Brandmeier, Jerry G, and the Big Ron (O'Brian) waxing above.

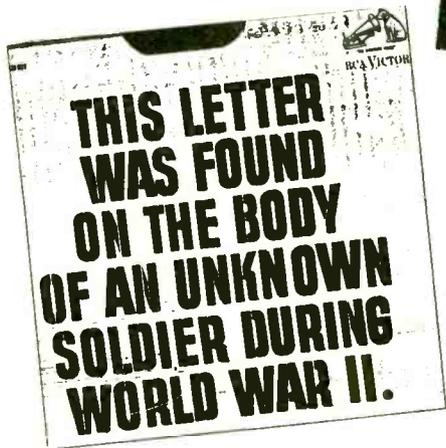


Good to see Jonathon Brandmeier has continued his illustrious recording career since he moved from Phoenix to WLUP/Chicago. His concerts with his band the Leisure Suits are legendary, and as we can see, he's putting out records as well (he had an album or two with the Suits while in Phoenix).



It's hard to remember what a national sensation streaking was around 1974-75; nowadays it's something you do to spice up your coiffure. Then it spiced up dozens of sporting events, Oscars ceremonies, and public functions of all varieties, and inspired a number of novelty records. WLS titan Larry Lujack's "Superstreaker" appears, ironically enough, on the Chicago-based Curtom label, where "Superfly" by Curtis Mayfield had earlier ruled the airwaves.

Although I don't have a visual to go with it, I did get a long letter from WCFL/Chicago legend Barney Pip, reminding me of his major-label release (on Smash), "You Can't Sit Down"/"You Turn Me On," 1967 covers of the Phil Upchurch/Dovells hit and the Ian Whitcomb classic. I've been looking for that one for years, with no luck, but it certainly should be cited in this context.



Eminent syndicator and Cinema Records cofounder Denny Somach sent me a reproduction of the above Scott Muni sleeve (sadly, everyone is too smart these days to send me actual records; they're all sending xeroxes and hanging on to the discs). Recorded in the midst of Vietnam angst, it's a real tearjerker which I doubt Muni would have revived for any of his subsequent WNEW-FM shows.

Big Ron, who was in Chicago at the time, I believe, long before his move to KIIS/Los Angeles, covered a minor late '60s hit by Duke Baxter on this record, which also exists on a local label. Tony also sent another Big Ron record, on Rampart, covering an Isley Bros. Motown tune called "Take Some Time Out."



KJYY/Houston air personality and frequent contributor Bill Campbell sent me a lengthy list of records he's been involved with in a long career. The most notable, a rather rare Motown single from 1969 pictured here, was a break-in record featuring current label hits and based around a moon landing theme. Bill produced it with fellow WSBA/York jock Dave King (now owner of WOVE & WRIP/Chattanooga).

### The Longest 45 Record



You readers have got it together! A few weeks back, I asked if anyone could possibly find a longer 45 than Bruce Springsteen's new "Incident On 57th Street," which hit the 10:03 mark. Jim Dawson here at R&R found a Steppenwolf B-side called "For Madmen Only" that timed out at 8:46, but I thought Bruce was secure until two readers, KWAV/Monterey PD Michael Reading and WDGY/Minneapolis's John Pratt, sent xeroxes of a 1976 Camel B-side clocking in at 10:27!

I actually had this 45, but only as a double A-side, so it's a relief to know I can count on a couple of Camel collectors to correct the record. OK, can anyone beat 10:27?



Tony Waitekus explains that Jerry G was a big jock in Cleveland (and also WCFL/Chicago), AKA Jerry G. Bishop. He must also be the father of Michael Stanley as related in a much earlier column; on Stanley's first album, with a group called Silk, he's listed as Michael Gee, and a reader pointed out the Jerry G connection.



A recent DJ record (something of a hit in some markets) is "Ronnie's Rap" by Ron & The D.C. Crew, mentioned to me both by Cory Robbins, President of the record's label, Profile, and Robin Bell, Promotion Director at WPOW/Miami, where "Ron" (actually morning man Mark Moseley) works. The idea started out as a bit for the morning show and turned into a successful Reagan rap parody.

Campbell and King also produced a bluegrass/country version of Paul McCartney's "Bip Bop" by Toothpick Tommy & The Truckers, while King produced an early '60s doowop record by the Larks of "It's Unbelievable" fame. Campbell himself, while at WLAN/Lancaster, co-produced a single called "What's The Matter Baby" by the fabulous Czars on the equally fabulous Splash label, based in Lancaster. We are talking truly obscure here!



The well-traveled "Wild Italian," Dick Biondi, was reigning in Chicago when this pasta pastiche came out. I've never had the, um, pleasure of hearing it, but having heard Biondi a whole bunch as a teenager (I was a teenager, not Biondi), I can imagine it's wild. Tony Waitekus, by the way, aside from this and the other four records published here, sent reproductions of Steve Dahl's follow-up to "Do Ya Think I'm Disco," "Ayatollah" (to the tune of "My Sharona"), plus an obscure single by WEBQ-FM/Harrisburg, IL personality Uncle Briggs.