HITS OF THE WEEK

SINGLES

KC AND THE SUNSHINE BAND, "I'M YOUR BOOGIE MAN" (prod. by Casey/Finch) (writers: H.W. Casey & R. Finch) (Sherlyn/Harrick, BMI) (3:58). Part three of the group's singles success story from their latest album should be this grabber. Re-defining their hit formula with a sharp, synthesized beat and sassy vocals, it's poised to go all the way. WB 8332.

LEO SAYER, "WHEN I NEED YOU" (prod. by Richard Perry) (writers: Carole Sage & Albert Hammond) (Unichappell/Begonia/Albert Hammond, ASCAP) (4:11). Sayer's follow-up to the masterful "You Make Me Feel Like Dancing" is a ballad that should find the same level of acceptance. Once again, all of the hit qualities are in abundance. WB 8332.

GARY WRIGHT, "PHANTOM WRITER" (prod. by Gary Wright) (writers: Gary Wright) (High Wave, ASCAP) (3:29). Wright's platinum success story should continue with the first single from the "Light Of Smiles" LP. A deft use of synthesizers and sound effects gives him a unique quality and an appeal that is hard to resist. Warner Bros. 8331.

SEALS & CROFTS, "GOODBYE OLD BUDDIES" (prod. by Louie Stratton) (writer: McGee) (Dawnbreaker, BMI) (2:48). The author of the last couple of England Dan & John Ford Coley hits has penned this number for the duo. A ballad is given a graceful reading and should get strong initial support from the pop and easy listening levels. Warner Bros. 8330.

SLEEPERS

ROSE ROYCE, "I WANNA GET NEXT TO YOU" (prod. by Norman Whitfield) (writers: Norman Whitfield, Joe Jackson) (Duchess, BMI) (3:29). This songstress is embarking on a bright career through the success of the "Car Wash" album. Having already hit the top, she is going for two in a row with another track from the hit soundtrack LP. MCA 40662.

JOHN TRAVOLTA, "ALL STRUNG OUT ON YOU" (prod. by Jeff Barry) (writers: Nino Tempo & Jerry Ragovio) (Daddy Sam, ASCAP) (3:25). The first single from Travolta's Jeff Barry produced "Can't Let You Go" album is an endearing ballad that conveys a sentiment his fans should go wild over. A fine execution of the song. Midland Intl. 10907 (RCA).

QUINCY JONES, "ROOTS MEDLEY" (prod. by Quincy Jones) (writers: Quincy Jones & Gerald Fried) (DLW, ASCAP) (2:39). The success of the recent television series, scoring by Jones, should spark some interest in this record, the "Roots Mural Theme." A lush orchestration along with Bata drums played by Bill summers gives it a unique appeal. A&M 1909.

AMBROSIA, "MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR" (prod. by Lou Reiner) (writers: John Lennon & Paul McCartney) (Comet ASCAP) (3:54). The soundtrack album to "All This and World War II" contains many possible singles. This one is one of the best, as the group's tasteful interpretation remains faithful to the original Beatles reading. 20th Century 3327.

ALBUMS

FLEETWOOD MAC, "RUMOURS." The question as to whether Fleetwood Mac would be able to follow-up its monstrous "Fleetwood Mac" LP has been magnificently answered in the affirmative. A consistently beautiful sounding album that encompasses many songs and emotions, it will stand up to repeated listenings from the first. Warner Bros. 8332.

NEIL DIAMOND, "LOVE AT THE GREEK." As good as Diamond's studio work is, nothing quite matches the excitement of his concert performances. The Greek Theater shows have evidently marked a new career pinnacle. The new and the old repertoires are equally represented with Robbie Robertson production establishing the proper ambience. Col KC2 34404 (1:98).

MANHATTANS, "IT FEELS SO GOOD." "Kiss and Say Goodbye" placed the Manhattans center stage last year and the group's career subsequently ascended to the highest rungs of soul-pop success. Its narrative exhortations on the subject of love have both humor and tenderness. "Let's Start It All Over Again" and "I'll See You Tomorrow" are examples. Col PC 34450 (6:98).

THE KINKS, "SLEEPWALKER." Dave Davies is making more of a contribution vocally, on guitar than he has in the recent past, while the group as a whole stands mightily on its own—few horns, strings or girl singers. Too, there's no "binding concept," just fine songs such as "Sleepwalker," "Juke Box Music" and "Stormy Sky" to reaffirm their status. Arista AL 4106 (6:98).