



STEVIE WONDER—*Ribbon In The Sky* (3:43); producer: Stevie Wonder; writer: Stevie Wonder; publisher: Jobete/Black Bull(TM), ASCAP; Motown 1639. Wonder follows the rhythmic verve of "That Girl" and "Do I Do" with this gentle ballad, but the slower pace and the singer's romantic imagery will hardly hurt his chances for a multi-format sweep.

SOFT CELL—*What!* (2:52); producer: Mike Thorne; writer: H.B. Barnum; publisher: Hidle, BMI; Sire 7-29976. The British duo strikes a somewhat lighter note on this sequel to their hit coupling of "Tainted Love" and "Where Did Our Love Go." In place of those songs' darker spirit is a synthesizer feel closer to Fun House than the nightmarish environs evoked before.

recommended

HAIRCUT ONE HUNDRED—*Favourite Shirts* (3:01); producer: Bob Sargeant; writer: Nick Heyward; publisher: Bryan Morrison, ASCAP; Arista 0708.

ELVIS COSTELLO AND THE ATTRACTIONS—*Man Out Of Time* (4:30); producer: Geoff Emerick; writer: Elvis Costello; publisher: Plangent Visions; Columbia 18-03202.

TED NUGENT—*No, No, No* (3:38); producer: Ted Nugent; writer: Ted; publisher: Broadhead, ASCAP; Atlantic 7-89978.

STEPHEN BISHOP—*If Love Takes You Away* (3:38); producer: Russ Titelman; writer: Stephen Bishop; publisher: Stephen Bishop/Dijon, BMI; Warner Bros. 7-29924.

MICHAEL STANLEY BAND—*When I'm Holding You Tight* (3:33); producer: Michael Stanley Band, Don Gehman; writer: Kevin Raleigh; publisher: Bema/Kejra, ASCAP; EMI 8130.

TIERRA—*Hidden Tears* (3:56); producer: Freddie Perren; writer: Keni St. Lewis; publisher: Bull Pen, BMI; Boardwalk 11-152-7.

PHIL SEYMOUR—*Talk To Me* (3:30); producer: Richard Podolor; writers: J. Alkes, C. Fradkin, G. Robertson; publisher: Alkes Fradkin, BMI; Boardwalk 11-154-7.

OINGO BOINGO—*Private Life* (3:16); producer: Oingo Boingo, David Kershenbaum; writer: Danny Elfman; publisher: Little Maestro, BMI; A&M 2439.

DAVE GRUSIN—*She Could Be Mine* (3:46); producer: Dave Grusin, Larry Rosen; writer: Don Grusin; publisher: Bad Dog, BMI; Arista 2522.

ROLAND HANNA—*Theme From "Cats" (Memory)* (4:18); producer: Creed Taylor; writers: A. Webber, T.S. Elliot, T. Nunn; publisher: Koppelman-Bandier, BMI; CTI 58.

RICHARD JON SMITH—*Don't Go Walkin' Out That Door* (3:29); producer: John Kongos; writers: R.J. Smith, J. Weinstein, J. Bithorn; publisher: not listed, Jive 105 (Arista).

DONNIE WEAVER—*I've Just Gotta Talk To You* (3:30); producer: Jimmy Nalls, Donnie Weaver; writers: D. Weaver, L. Weaver, P. Weaver; publisher: Minds Eye, BMI; 14 Karat 004.



EVELYN KING—*Love Come Down* (3:43); producer: Morrie Brown; writer: Kashif; publisher: MCA/Kashif, BMI; RCA 13273. This up-to-date fusion of dancefloor instrumentation with King's lissome, impassioned vocal strengths is already stringing fresh radio adds, helped by an infectious choral hook given currency by its electronic phasing.

CHERYL LYNN—*If This World Were Mine* (3:57); producer: Luther Vandross; writer: M. Gaye; publisher: Jobete, BMI; Columbia 18-03204. Luther Vandross' love affair with great female voices yields a classy new ballad for Lynn, performed as a duet with Vandross. Lyric, performance and a delicately subdued string backing give a timeless feel that could translate into a pop crossover.

THE REDDINGS—*Steamin' Hot* (3:43); producer: Russel Timmons Jr.; writers: D. Redding, M. Lockett, O. Redding III; publisher: Dexotis/Band of Angels, BMI; Believe In A Dream 5-03161 (CBS). The group's latest is a bright pop funk piece punctuated by horns and drums. Cleanly produced, the record could generate crossover play.

recommended

SUPERIOR MOVEMENT—*The Key To Your Heart* (3:31); producer: Donald (Dee Dee) Burnside; writer: D. Burnside; publisher: We Are Starbound/Burnt Out, BMI; CIM 03183 (CBS).

THE SALSOU ORCHESTRA featuring LOLEATTA HOLLOWAY—*Seconds* (3:50); producer: Patrick Adams; writers: Ron Kersey, Sam Dees; publisher: Irving, BMI; Salsoul 7034.

EDDIE MURPHY—*Boogie In Your Butt* (3:59); producer: David Wolfert; writers: D. Wolfert, E. Murphy; publisher: Songs Of Manhattan Island, BMI/Eddie Murphy, ASCAP; Columbia 18-03209.

DONALD BYRD & 125th STREET, N.Y.C.—*Sexy Dancer* (3:59); producer: Isaac Hayes; writers: Donald Byrd, Isaac Hayes; publisher: D.B., ASCAP/East Indies, BMI; Elektra 7-69972.

COLUMBUS CIRCLE—*If You Read My Mind* (3:58); producer: Scott Yahney; writer: Scott Yahney; publisher: Scott Yahney/SIL-ES, BMI; Elektra 7-69967.

ALFIE SILAS—*A Puppet To You* (3:58); producer: John Lewis Parker, Brian Potter; writers: Parker, Potter, Washington; publisher: ATV/Freddie Dee, BMI; RCA 13204.

JEREMIAH BURDEN—*Give It Your All* (3:31); producer: Jeremiah Burden; writer: J. Burden; publisher: Jeremiah Burden, BMI; Miracle.



T.G. SHEPPARD—*War Is Hell (On The Homefront Too)* (3:22); producer: Buddy Killen; writers: Curly Putman/Dan Wilson/Bucky Jones; publishers: Tree, Cross Keys, BMI/ASCAP, Warner Bros. 29934. Sheppard reaffirms his strength in country with a solid pack of woman-alone lyrics and a big

bass beat. His vocal, rhythm guitars and drums sound similar to Kenny Rogers' "The Gambler."

BARBARA MANDRELL—*Operator, Long Distance Please* (3:30); producer: Tom Collins; writers: Kye Fleming/Dennis Morgan; publisher: Hall-Clement, (Welk), BMI, MCA 52111. This treatment revolves on a similar theme to Jim Croce's "Operator (That's Not The Way It Feels), with Mandrell delivering a solid performance amidst a wall of string.

LACY J. DALTON—*16th Avenue* (3:08); producer: Billy Sherrill; writer: T. Schuyler; publisher: Deb/Dave/Briarpatch, BMI, Columbia 1803184. Possibly Dalton's best since her "Crazy Blue Eyes" debut. It's the saga of every songwriter who ever trekked the streets of Nashville's Music Row, and Dalton goes for clean, simple dynamics here.

LARRY GATLIN & THE GATLIN BROTHERS BAND—*Sure Feels Like Love* (3:22); producer: Jerry Crutchfield; writer: L. Gatlin; publisher: Larry Gatlin, BMI, Columbia 1803159. Few harmonies are as inspiring—or as impressive—as the Gatlins'. Using a new producer, the trio comes up with an entry that should merit considerable crossover attention.

RONNIE McDOWELL—*Step Back* (2:52); producer: Buddy Killen; writer: C. Morris; publisher: Tree, EMI, Epic 03203. Swing up the tempo from "I Just Cut Myself," McDowell delivers a rhythmic piece about a woman stepping out of marriage ruins. The guitar-drum-vocal mix works well until near the end, when Letterman-style vocals repeat the weakest lines of the song—"she's an '80s modern girl... taking on the world." But the melody should appeal widely.

TOM JONES—*A Woman's Touch* (3:28); producers: Gordon Mills & Steve Popovich; writer: Jerry Fuller; publishers: Blackwood, Fullness, BMI, Mercury 76172. A typically forthright vocal marks Jones' tribute to sensual love. The track is led by guitar and piano notes that anchor the tune into country, even though the singer attracts A/C listeners as well.

recommended

DEAN DILLON—*You To Come Home To* (2:22); producer: Eddie Kilroy; writer: Clyde Phillips; publisher: Char-Nela, ASCAP, RCA 13295.

BRUCE MURRAY—*Mixed Emotion* (3:25); producer: Jim Ed Norman; writer: Holly Dunn; publisher: Blackwood, BMI, Capitol 72885.

MUNDO EARWOOD—*Pyramid Of Cans* (2:50); producers: Buddy Cannon, Jay Collier, Jimmy Darrell; writers: Buddy Cannon, Bob Corbin, Jimmy Darrell; publishers: Saw Grass/Sabal, BMI/ASCAP, Prismo 1009.

DONNA DE RIEUX—*Without You* (2:48); producer: Stan Bronson; writers: P. Ham, T. Evans; publisher: Apple, ASCAP, Proud Earth 4513.

SHAD O'SHEA AND THE MCHAMBERGER HELPERS—*Mc Love Story* (2:58); producer: Shad O'Shea; writers: Shad O'Shea, Ronny Bryant; publishers: Counterpart, Shelby Singleton, BMI, Plantation 711-3291.



STEEL BREEZE—*You Don't Want Me Anymore* (3:23); producer: Kim Fowley; writer: Ken Goorabian; publisher: Tone-

man/Wood Street, ASCAP; RCA 13283. This shrewd blend of techno-pop instrumentation and a more conventionally melodic pop vocal attack is already reaping quick adds at AOR and mainstream pop, and no wonder—with its romantic storyline, infectious choral hook and a big voiced soloist, it bridges trendy and traditional in the same breath.

LISA BADE—*No Way To Treat A Lady* (3:21); producer: David Kershenbaum; writers: Bryan Adams, Jim Vallance; publisher: Irving/Adams/Calypto Toonz, BMI; A&M 2437. The latest lady rocker from Down Under boasts a raspy delivery inviting comparisons to Kim Carnes and the late Janis Joplin, but her first single offers its own charms thanks to yet another strong Bryan Adams song. The backing track and verses beg for AOR play, while the chorus could land her on mainstream playlists.

STEVEN & STERLING—*Can I Be With You Tonight* (3:57); producer: Tito Jackson; writer: Tito Jackson; publisher: Rat Trap, BMI; RCA 13310. The Jacksons' own Tito Jackson is the mentor for this vocal group, and his sure hand shines in the seamless pop/funk of the production and the writing. The sleek interweaving of solo vocal with nimble choruses will prove welcome at black formats while inviting crossover.

BLANKET OF SECRECY—*Say You Will* (4:03); producer: Blanket Of Secrecy; writers: Tinker, Spy; publisher: Intersong, ASCAP; Warner Bros. 7-29922. Their label and manager Jake (Elvis Costello) Riviera are hinting at some new partnership of established new rock performers, but this Blanket wraps its first single with a separate identity as mysterious as its name: actually a love song, its moody vocals, dark synthesizer/guitar accents and edgy percussion are effective modern rock.

THE DUKES—*Mystery Girl* (3:25); producer: Arif Mardin; writers: Bugatti, Musker; publisher: Pendulum/Unichappell, BMI; Atlantic 7-89999. Songwriters Bugatti and Musker are already radio-active with covers by acts headed by Air Supply. Their debut, under the aegis of hitmaker Mardin, offers a slick synthesis of airy, melodic vocal and spry, syncopated pop/funk underpinnings that could reach beyond AC to pop.



BARON LONGFELLOW—*Amour* (3:35); producer: A. Steiner, M. Omartian, B. Longfellow; writer: Baron Longfellow; publisher: Joachim, BMI; Ice 007. Andy Kim returns from a long recording absence with his own indie label, a new name and a new mature slant to his writing and performance. This earnest ballad, distinguished by its interweaving French and English lyric, shows him singing in a new, lower register that could appeal to AC, given its new proximity to Neil Diamond in sound and substance.

Picks—a top 30 chart tune in the opinion of the review panel which voted for the selections released this week; recommended—a tune predicted to land on the Hot 100 between 31 and 100.

Labels Promise Barrage Of 'Name' Product For Fall

• Continued from page 3

Epic (22)—Michael Jackson's "Thriller," followup to 1979's multi-platinum "Off The Wall," is due in October, as are the latest by two other platinum acts: Dan Fogelberg (greatest hits) and Ozzy Osbourne (a double live LP on Jet). Epic is also said to be "hoping" for Boston's followup to 1978's "Don't Look Back." Epic's black division should be active, with Natalie Cole's label debut and Luther Vandross' second album both set for October and Brick, Lou Rawls and George Duke pegged for September. Merle Haggard will be represented with three LPs: a Christmas album, a studio set and a collaboration with Willie Nelson, "Poncho & Lefty."

Other E/P/A acts with product due before year's end include Ricky Skaggs, Garland Jeffries, Adam Ant, Captain Beefheart & The Magic Band (on Epic/Virgin) and Buck Dharma of Blue Oyster Cult (on Portrait).

Atlantic (18)—Two members of

Genesis will have solo albums in the fall—Michael Rutherford in September and Phil Collins in November. Also on Atlantic's November schedule: Abba, Manhattan Transfer, Bette Midler, Slave and Sister Sledge (on Cotillion).

Set for September: the Spinners, Firefall, Poco, Orleans, Stevie Woods (on Cotillion) and Gary Numan (on Atco). Chic and the Henry Paul Band are set to follow in October, along with Robert Palmer and Grace Jones, both on Island.

A&M (17)—Supertramp's studio followup to 1979's "Breakfast In America" is slated for Oct. 19, along with a new album by Joan Armatrading. Also due that month is Chuck Mangione's last album for the label, featuring new material and a vocal version of "Feels So Good."

Two members of the Police also have album projects due in the quarter. Andy Summers teams with Robert Fripp for "I Advance Masked," due Sept. 28, while Sting is featured

on the "Brimstone" soundtrack, due Oct. 26.

Also set for September: Janet Jackson, sister of the Jacksons, and, on IRS, Magazine and English Beat. Due in October: Chaz Jankel's "Too Dirty" and best of LPs by Billy Preston, Peter Allen and Humble Pie.

Capitol (15)—Most of Capitol's big guns are either already in release or won't be cut until after the new

Assistance in preparing this story provided by Sam Sutherland in L.A. and Laura Foti, Irv Lichtman, Doug Hall, Roman Kozak and Adam White in New York.

year. But coming Sept. 3 is Duran Duran's mini-LP "Carnival," to be followed a month later by a mini-LP by Missing Persons. Also due in October: studio albums by Peabo Bryson and the Plasmatics and repackages of hit material by three acts that have since left the label: Natalie Cole, Sammy Hagar and Pink Floyd.

RCA (14)—Hall & Oates' followup to "Private Eyes" and Diana Ross' followup to "Why Do Fools Fall In Love" are both pegged for September. Also due that month: Jefferson Starship (on Grunt), Dolly Parton's "Greatest Hits" and the Chipmunks, Carl Carlton and Louise Mandrell & R.C. Bannon.

Set for release later this month are a best of LP on Willie Nelson, Vangelis' "To The Unknown Man," Evelyn King's "Get Loose" and an all-star "Country Christmas." Due in October: June Pointer (on Planet), Triumph, Charley Pride, Perry Como and Razyzy Bailey.

Elektra/Asylum (12)—Linda Ronstadt's "Get Closer," her first studio album since 1980's "Mad Love" tops Elektra's fall release schedule, along with the Eagles' second greatest hits set. Also due are most of Solar's top acts: Dynasty and Lakeside in October, Shalamar in late November and the Whispers in December.

The label's country wing is also well represented, with Crystal

Gayle's debut due Oct. 1, along with the latest by Eddie Rabbitt and Johnny Lee. Conway Twitty's "Dream Maker" is due Sept. 3, to be followed two weeks later by best of LPs on Hank Williams Jr., Mel Tillis, Jerry Lee Lewis and Joe Sun. Coming Nov. 5: a new Bellamy Brothers LP and a second volume of Conway Twitty "Classics."

PolyGram (11)—Rush's "Signals," the followup to three consecutive top 10 LPs, is slated for September, topping a corporate schedule that also includes Con Funk Shun, the Bar-Kays, Yarbrough & Peoples, Kiss, Pat Travers, Def Leppard and Mac Davis.

Arista (10)—Gino Vannelli's "Twisted Heart" and new albums by the Kinks and Barry Manilow are expected in November and early December. Manilow will also be represented with a four-song EP, "Oh Julie," due Aug. 25.

Also expected on that date are albums by Tanya Tucker and Gil
(Continued on opposite page)