

SINGLES

NEW & NOTEWORTHY Highlights new and developing acts worthy of attention and other releases of special interest

PICKS Records with the greatest chart potential

RECOMMENDED Records with potential for significant chart action

Singles appropriate for more than one format are reviewed in the category with the broadest audience

All singles commercially available in the U.S. are eligible for review

Send singles for review to:
Nancy Erlich, Billboard
1515 Broadway
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Country singles should be sent to:
Billboard
14 Music Circle E.
Nashville, Tenn. 37203

POP

HUEY LEWIS & THE NEWS
Jacob's Ladder (3:28)
PRODUCER: Huey Lewis & the News
WRITERS: B. Hornsby, J. Hornsby
PUBLISHERS: Zappo/Bob-A-Lew/
Basically Gato, ASCAP
Chrysalis VS4-43097 (c/o CBS)

Insightful, Hornsby-penned rock song wrestles with spiritual issues and makes an interesting companion piece to conventional Christmas records.

TOTO **Without Your Love** (4:33)
PRODUCER: Toto
WRITER: D. Paich
PUBLISHER: not listed
Columbia 38-06570

Slow, rhythmic rock ballad with big, spacious sound; produced with a rumbling resonance that recalls 1982's smash "Africa."

RECOMMENDED

BEASTIE BOYS (You Gotta) **Fight For Your Right (To Party)** (3:28)
PRODUCERS: Rick Rubin, Beastie Boys
WRITERS: Beastie Boys, R. Rubin
PUBLISHERS: Def Jam/Brooklyn Dust, ASCAP
Def Jam 38-06595 (c/o CBS)

Adolescent metal-rap thrash brings N.Y.C.'s bad boys their first pop chart action.

POLICE **Walking On The Moon** (5:01)
PRODUCERS: Police, Nigel Gray
WRITER: Sting
PUBLISHER: Virgin, ASCAP
A&M AM-2908

One of the high points of their early "Regatta De Blanc" album, reissued from the current "Singles" collection.

BLACK

STACY LATTISAW **Jump Into My Life** (4:17)
PRODUCER: Kashif
WRITERS: P. Gurwitz, Kashif
PUBLISHERS: Rare Blue, ASCAP/Kashif/
Music Corp. Of America, BMI
Motown 1874MF (1 1/2-inch version also available,
Motown 4574MD)

Attitude counts; courtship has a feline ferocity in the hands of a singer who's grown up but good in recent releases.

MILLIE JACKSON
Love Is A Dangerous Game (4:29)
PRODUCERS: Bryan "Chuck" New, Joylon Skinner,
Jonathan Butler
WRITERS: W. Brathwaite, J. Butler, B. Ocean,
J. Skinner

PUBLISHERS: Zomba, ASCAP/Willesden, BMI
Jive 1009-7-J (c/o RCA) (1 1/2-inch version also
available, **Jive 1022-1-JD**)

Forceful reading on Billy Ocean-style pop/r&b material; label's fine-tuning has moved the singer from the margins to the mainstream.

RECOMMENDED

SANDRA FEVA **Here Now** (5:20)
PRODUCERS: Tony Camillo, Bob Blank
WRITER: Tony Camillo
PUBLISHERS: Etude/Fanny Mac, BMI
Catabwa/Macola MRC-0961 (1 1/2-inch single)

Big-voiced chanteuse tears into splashy, dramatic ballad. Contact: 213-469-5821.

O.C. SMITH **Brenda** (3:49)
PRODUCER: Charles Wallert
WRITER: Charles Wallert
PUBLISHER: Larchris, BMI
Rendezvous REN 103

All the tried-and-true rhymes cheerfully assembled. Label based in Brooklyn, N.Y.

STEADY B **Cheatin' Girl** (5:55)
PRODUCER: Lawrence Goodman
WRITER: W. McGlone
PUBLISHER: Zomba, ASCAP
Jive 1023-1-JD (c/o RCA) (1 1/2-inch single)

Down-tempo rap song with melancholy chords and painful story line; emotionally potent stuff.

BOBBY BLAND **Angel** (4:15)
PRODUCERS: Tommy Couch, Wolf Stephenson
WRITER: Larry Addison
PUBLISHER: Malaco, BMI
Malaco MAL 2133

Quiet, bluesy ballad. Label based in Jackson, Miss.

MARVIN SEASE **Ghetto Man** (4:25)
PRODUCER: Marvin Sease
WRITER: Marvin Sease
PUBLISHERS: Dat-Ton/PolyGram, SESAC
London 888 250-1 (1 1/2-inch single;
7-inch reviewed Dec. 20)

RONNIE LAWS **Midnight Side** (5:20)
PRODUCER: Ronnie Laws
WRITER: R. Laws
PUBLISHER: Sweetbeat, ASCAP
Columbia 38-06574

Swaying tune based on '50s-style triplets.

WHAT'S HAPPENING
What's Happening Now: Peace (6:04)
PRODUCER: Norman Whitfield
WRITERS: E. Thomas, W.A. Ali, A.H. Salaam, R. Riser
PUBLISHERS: UnderSiege/Bilalian, BMI
MCA 23695 (1 1/2-inch single)

Trio of TV actors does a creditable job on positive-thinking party funk.

KOOL MO DEE **Go See The Doctor** (3:57)
PRODUCERS: M. DeWese, LaVaba, Teddy Riley
WRITER: M. DeWese
PUBLISHER: Willesden, BMI
Jive 1024-1-JD (c/o RCA) (1 1/2-inch single)

Original release on Rooftop Records reviewed Oct. 18.

GEORGIO ALLENTINI **Sexappeal** (4:30)
PRODUCER: Giorgio Allentini
WRITER: Giorgio Allentini
PUBLISHER: Giorgio's, BMI
Picture Perfect PPR-3563 (1 1/2-inch single)

Bouncy pop/r&b, good-natured but fairly explicit (especially the all-moon backing vocals). Contact: 213-469-5821.

BLISS FEATURING KRYSSTAL DAVIS
No Turning Back (5:26)
PRODUCER: Ray Arlen
WRITER: Ray Arlen
PUBLISHERS: Ray Arlen, BMI/P-Factor, ASCAP
Urban Rock UR 924 (1 1/2-inch single)

Close-harmony r&b group with high, piping lead. Label based in New York.

RUBY TURNER **I'm In Love** (4:43)
PRODUCER: Bryan "Chuck" New
WRITER: J. Butler, S. May
PUBLISHERS: Zomba, ASCAP
Jive 1019-1-JD (c/o RCA) (1 1/2-inch single;
7-inch reviewed Nov. 29)

BETTY ROCKER (FEATURING YOLANDA)
Love You Boy (4:28)
PRODUCER: Spitzzy Sparacino, Tal Pearsall
WRITERS: Barber, Tolbert
PUBLISHER: Street Stuff, BMI
Salurn SR-2114

Light, lilting vocal in the Mary Wells school. Contact: 412-366-4881.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

BRUCE WILLIS **Respect Yourself** (3:51)
PRODUCER: Robert Kraft
WRITERS: M. Rice, L. Ingram
PUBLISHERS: East/Memphis/Irving/Klondike, BMI
Motown 1876MF

Another television personality makes the vinyl scene; Willis, of "Moonlighting" fame, takes a low-key approach and gets plenty of fine, funky support in this faithful remake of the Staple Singers' 1971 hit.

MICHAEL ANTHONY
My Heart Is An Open Book (4:05)
PRODUCER: Harry King
WRITERS: Hal David, Lee Pockriss
PUBLISHER: CBS U Catalog, ASCAP
RCI R 2402

A venerable pop chestnut (top five for Carl Dobkins Jr. in 1959) gets a sweet, swinging r&b treatment. Contact: 914-592-7983.

CAMPFIRE **This Merry Go Round** (6:05)
PRODUCER: Paul Richmond
WRITERS: P. Richmond, R. Mayfield
PUBLISHERS: Narski/Music Gallery/
Siegal Redmond, BMI
Nuance NU-1256 (1 1/2-inch single)

R&B vocal ensemble; pretty midtempo tune. Contact: 312-664-6949.

JUDY LA ROSE **Little Bit Of Love** (5:00)
PRODUCERS: Winston Sela, Toby Baker
WRITER: W. Sela
PUBLISHER: Chappell, ASCAP
Profile PRO-7123 (1 1/2-inch single)

Delicate-voiced thrush fronts big, chunky dance track. Contact: 212-529-2600.

COUNTRY

LARRY, STEVE, RUDY: THE GATLIN BROTHERS
Talkin' To The Moon (3:32)
PRODUCER: Chip Young
WRITER: Larry Gatlin
PUBLISHER: Larry Gatlin, BMI
Columbia 38-06592

A fresh, lively banjo intro sets the stage for an enjoyable Gatlin moon walk reflecting country's current traditional renaissance.

RECOMMENDED

K.T. OSLIN **Wall Of Tears** (3:40)
PRODUCER: Harold Shedd
WRITERS: Richard Leigh, Peter McCann
PUBLISHERS: April/Lion-Hearted/
New and Used, ASCAP
RCA 5066-7-R

Haunting song gains strength from Oslin's emotional delivery; she's a forceful new talent.

WAYLON JENNINGS
The Broken Promise Land (3:13)
PRODUCERS: Jerry Bridges, Gary Scruggs
WRITERS: Bill Rice, Sharon M. Rice
PUBLISHERS: April/Swallowfork, ASCAP
RCA 5034-7-R

This leftover from Waylon's RCA years is a slow, soulful description of a cheater's remorse.

DIAMONDS **Just A Little Bit** (3:30)
PRODUCER: Bob Destock
WRITERS: Roger Cook, Bobby Wood
PUBLISHERS: Roger Cook/Chriswood, BMI
Churchhill 94101

Group best known for 1957's "Little Darlin'" returns with a finger-popping sound reminiscent of the Oak Ridge Boys. Contact: 918-663-3883.

ATLANTA **We Always Agree On Love** (2:25)
PRODUCER: Doug Johnson
WRITER: Doug Johnson
PUBLISHER: Brother-Bills, ASCAP
Southern Tracks ST 1074

An old, old theme gets another spin, aided by varied vocals and a spirited production. Contact: 404-325-0832.

LOWES **I Ain't Never** (1:51)
PRODUCER: David Chamberlain
WRITERS: Mel Tillis, Webb Pierce
PUBLISHERS: Cedarwood/Crosskeys, ASCAP/BMI
AP 1002

Remake of Webb Pierce's 1959 classic that the group's strongest chart record yet. Label based in Hendersonville, Tenn.

MARK WHITE **Cold Driving Rain** (2:58)
PRODUCER: Dick Michaels
WRITER: David C. Gilton
PUBLISHER: Songs of the Southland, BMI
High Sky HS-10002

Exquisite lyrics, tasteful sound effects, and strong, concerned vocals blend to make this midtempo lament a winner.

SUE ELLEN **Million Dollar Memory** (2:55)
PRODUCER: Gary Lamb
WRITERS: Marty Yonts, Naomi Martin
PUBLISHER: Tom Collins, BMI
United Network 10-301

Lyrics present an interesting twist early on, as Sue Ellen's sweet, weeping voice croons the melody. Label based in Nashville.

WILLIE MAITER **The Lovesick Moose** (3:17)
PRODUCER: Sara Young
WRITERS: Sara E. Young, Charles Browder,
William Herrick
PUBLISHERS: Noted/Hapoo/Captain Jinx,
ASCAP/BMI
Awesome 115

Topical song capitalizes on news stories about a moose pursuing a cow. Contact: 615-255-7744.

DANCE

COMMUNARDS **So Cold The Night** (9:15)
PRODUCER: Mike Thorne
WRITERS: J. Somerville, R. Coles
PUBLISHERS: Vicarage Road/Rocket, ASCAP
MCA 23715 (1 1/2-inch single)

Imaginative duo goes for an Arabian Nights ambience, all Middle Eastern minor keys, near-oboes, and veiled references; stylized sensuality.

DEBBIE GIBSON **Only In My Dreams** (6:34)
PRODUCER: Fred Zarr
WRITER: Deborah Gibson
PUBLISHER: Creative Bloc, ASCAP
Atlantic 0-86744 (1 1/2-inch single)

Newcomer combines the Madonna and Lisa Lisa sounds with a '60s girl-group influence; hook-rich charm makes a natural for pop crossover.

RECOMMENDED

SKINNY PUPPY **Dig It** (7:26)
PRODUCERS: Cevin Key, Dave Ogilvie
WRITER: Skinny Puppy
PUBLISHER: Nettowordboard, PRO
Capitol V-15267 (1 1/2-inch single)

Aggressive Canadian trio brings HM chords and vocal distortion to new heights of abrasiveness.

MIKE MAREEN **Love-Spy** (6:27)
PRODUCER: Mike Mareen
WRITERS: Weiss, Lack, Divine, Kemmier
PUBLISHER: not listed
ZYX ZYX6603 (1 1/2-inch single)

Mannered, campy hi-NRG from the German-based label. Contact: 516-568-3777.

DAVID VAN TIEGHEM
In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida (5:30)
PRODUCER: not listed
WRITER: Doug Ingle
PUBLISHERS: Tom East/Cotillon/Itasca, BMI
Wide Angle TTV 8682 (1 1/2-inch single)

Iron Butterfly's paradigmatic psychedelia viewed in civilized retrospect; for still-hip hippies and Falomino fans. Contact: 612-870-9283.

JOLO **Soul** (6:58)
PRODUCERS: Barry Beam, John Hedges
WRITERS: B. Gaudio, B. Crewe
PUBLISHERS: All Seasons, ASCAP/
Hearts Delight, BMI
Megatone MT-143 (1 1/2-inch single)

Rock-edged hi-NRG at a rolling boil. Contact: 415-621-7475.

MORRIS DAY **Love Sign** (5:26)
PRODUCER: Morris Day
WRITER: Morris Day
PUBLISHER: Ya D Sir, ASCAP
Warner Bros. 0-20607 (1 1/2-inch single)

Quietly persistent dance-funk from "The Color Of Success."

PAUL PARKER
One Look (One Look Was Enough) (6:26)
PRODUCERS: Man Parrish, Paul Parker
WRITER: P. Parker
PUBLISHER: Shot In The Night, BMI
Dice TGR 1011 (1 1/2-inch single)

Euroflavored dance ballad. Contact: 212-582-6900.

HOLLY OAS **Our Day Will Come** (5:48)
PRODUCER: Denny O'Conner
WRITERS: Mort Garson, Bob Hillard
PUBLISHERS: M.C.A./Almo, ASCAP
Dice TGR 1010 (1 1/2-inch single)

No. 1 for Ruby & the Romantics in 1963; good vibes on the bridge. Contact: 212-582-6900.

BOOMERANG
These Boots Are Made For Walkin' (5:30)
PRODUCER: David Kerstenbaum
WRITER: Lee Hazlewood
PUBLISHER: Criterion, ASCAP
Atlantic 0-86749 (1 1/2-inch single)

Coconuts offshoot presents stylish, AC/disco remake of Nancy Sinatra's 1966 chart-topper.

TYRANTS IN THERAPY **Too Tuff To Cry** (6:59)
PRODUCERS: Sabby Rayas, Mike Jaye
WRITERS: M. Jaye, S. Rayas
PUBLISHERS: Phonebook/Desire, ASCAP
JDC JDC 0079 (1 1/2-inch single)

Bright, hi-NRG synth track with Go-Go's-like vocal. Contact: 213-519-7393.

AC

RECOMMENDED

RANDELL & SCHIPPERS **Let's Go For It** (4:10)
PRODUCER: Denny Randell
WRITERS: D. Randell, E. Schippers
PUBLISHERS: Holy Moley/Randell, Schippers, BMI
Scotti Bros. Z54-06594 (c/o CBS)

Original release on Ear Candy Records reviewed Nov. 22.

AUTHORITY **Make Your Move** (4:10)
PRODUCER: Authority
WRITERS: Christopher, Friberg
PUBLISHER: Alisseason's International, BMI
Alisseason's A 5Y6186

Pretty, dreamy pop tune by Maryland quartet. Contact: 301-974-1919.

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