



RECORD REVIEWS

• best bet B+ very good B good C+ fair C mediocre

only those records best suited for commercial use are reviewed by Cash Box

THE UNIVERSITY FOUR (Chairman 4406)

(B+) "THERE'S A BOY WHO'S CRYING" (2:00) [Screen Gems—Columbia BMI—Rubin, Koppelman] Tune with an appealing folksy quality is done with a haunting, emotional blend by the warblers. Deck packs a good drama-ballad punch to teen audiences. London distributes the label.

(B) "BUENA SUERTE" (2:08) [Screen Gems—Columbia BMI—Rubin, Koppelman] A sea-chanty is presented with a jaunty sound.

DONNA LOREN (Challenge 59222)

(B+) "I CAN'T MAKE MY HEART SAY GOODBYE" (2:33) [Taj ASCAP—Dinning] Backed by a big-sounding ork-chorus stint of Nashville origins, the lark offers a fine warble and sing-a-narrative on a dramatic teen item. Effective vocal & instrumental doings.

(B) "DANNY" (2:00) [Moreno ASCAP—Van Horn, Raye] A case of unrequited love is appealingly stated.

THE GLEAMS (Kapp 565)

(B+) "MR. MAGIC MOON" (2:29) [January BMI—Greenwich, Powers] The vocal rocksters supply a teen ditty with a multitude of happy gimmicks, and the combo men follow along with lots of bright doings. Although it harks back to earlier rock-novelty sounds, the deck will be welcomed by the kids.

(B) "PILE DRIVER" (2:08) [Sealark Ent. BMI—Tranum] An all-instrumental showing, topped by a tricky guitar sound, on the tune to "When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

ROBERTA DAY (Astra 7100)

(B+) "FAIRYTALES" (2:03) [Silvanoff BMI—Day] Thrush delivers the persuasive romantic with much feeling, and she's supported by an attractive full ork setup. While it leans toward good-music programming, the side can get general market exposure. London Records handles the diskery.

(B) "WHAT IS LOVE" (2:15) [Silvanoff BMI—Day, Catalano] Cute tick-tock gimmick in this re-write of the tune to "Frere Jacques."

THE LASHONS (Vended 105)

(B+) "MONKEY AGE" (2:28) [Vendo-Welton BMI—Jones, Simpson, Wallen, Gresham] The Monkey sound is well-represented in this colorful cut from the gals and their combo support. Vocal portion of the deck involves singing and the gabbing of a femme. Could get somewhere for the Hollywood-based label.

(B) "LITTLE SISTER BEWARE" (2:20) [Vendo & Welton BMI—Pullian, McGlothlin] Gals are in The Shirelles groove with this Latinish romantic.

JEWELL & THE RUBIES & THE PRECIOUS STONES (La Louisianne 8045)

(B+) "OUR LOVE IS HERE" (2:30) [La Lou BMI—Douglas] The blues market receives a persuasive expression from the male songteam. Tune is a good one.

(B) "CANDY ANN" (2:20) [La Lou BMI—Douglas] A gal named Candy Ann is paid tribute to with an exciting blues-rock sound. Musicians are Jewell & The Rubies, vocalists are The Precious Stones.

LONDIE & THE CAMEOS (ABC-Paramount 10508)

(B+) "FOOLIN' ME" (2:12) [Nubia BMI—Ryals] Gals are hip to today's femme blends, doing a dynamic job on the drama opus. Deck's sound is a natural for programming that caters to the Top 40 crowd.

(B) "STRAIGHT FROM THE GRAPEVINE" (2:00) [Nubia BMI—Ryals] The team turns to a speedy-beat novelty affair.

MORGAN WOODWARD (CRC Charter 15)

(B+) "HEARTACHE CITY" (2:03) [Westgate BMI—Knight] There's a solid, pulsating Nashville flavor to this outing by the warbler, who tells of a place that collects people with broken hearts. Could move.

(B) "AN ENCOURAGING WORD" (2:15) [Westgate BMI—Knight] Snappy stuff with a Nashville feel.

THE HONEYS (Capitol 5093)

(B+) "FROM JIMMY WITH TEARS" (2:35) [R.F.D. ASCAP—Kaye, Glover] Gals effective essay the solid teen plaintive, receiving a generally original-sounding combo backdrop. Overall sound can add-up to a successful session.

(B) "THE ONE YOU CAN'T HAVE" (1:58) [Ocean BMI—Wilson] Tuneful ditty receives a good-sounding bouncy-beat format.

CUARTETO HERMANOS MERCADO (Davis 600)

(B) "DOMINIQUE" [General ASCAP—Soeur Sourire] Here's an off-beat Latin reading of the current smash by The Singing Nun. Could appeal to Spanish-speaking audiences, especially in juke boxes. Date is from an LP by the group.

(B) "SERE TU SOMBRA" [Joe Davis ASCAP—Mercado] Latin softie.

RONNIE DIO (Swan 4165)

(B+) "MR. MISERY" (2:43) [Percom & Palmina BMI—Padavona] The deep echo-chambered voice of the songster warmly renders a tune that's somewhat like the big hit by The Tymes, "So Much in Love." Backing includes a chanting falsetto chorus. Inviting teen date.

(B) "OUR YEAR" (2:37) [Bae ASCAP—Goodis] Another softie display by the artist.

BIG JAY MCNEELY (Warner Bros. 5401)

(B+) "BIG JAYS COUNT" [Big Jay BMI—McNeely] McNeely comes up with a fast-moving teen-angled blueser with a contagious high-powered danceable beat. Deck could take-off.

(B) "YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO" (3:00) [Conrad BMI—Reed] On this end McNeely offers a tradition-styled low-key blues instrumental with a first-rate harmonica backing.

THE ARVETTES (Ideal)

(B+) "STOLEN HOURS" (2:24) [United Artists—Lindsey] Pretty ballad, named after the recent UA flick, is nicely handled by the team's lead voice. A trumpet & organ top a somewhat off-beat softie combo backdrop. Label is handled by World Artists Records.

(B) "PLEDGE OF LOVE" (1:34) [Pera BMI—Simms] Larks move deeper into teen-market territory with this bright stand.

TOM DOOLEY (Saxony 1006)

(B) "PRINTER'S ALLEY (Before Midnight)" (2:31) [By—Nash BMI—Dooley] This is a colorful on-the-spot instrumental sound. A honky-tonk keyboard tops the showing, with a good shuffle-beat rhythm trailing along. Label is located in Cincinnati.

(B) "PRINTER'S ALLEY (Before Midnight)" (2:31) [By—Nash BMI—Dooley] Sound is continued.

CHRISTMAS

SASCHA BURLAND & THE SKIP-JACK CHOIR (RCA Victor 8277)

(B+) "THE CHICKENS ARE IN THE CHIMES!" (2:59) [C/Chear BMI—Burland] The lyrics of "Twelve Days of Christmas" get humorous Stan Freberg-like examination in this novelty dialog & singing novelty. Perhaps a little far-out for general acceptance.

(B) "HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY CHRISTMAS" (2:11) [Leo Feist ASCAP—Blaine, Martin] The wonderful Holiday item is warmly portrayed by the jazz-leaning Skip-jack Choir.

ARETHA FRANKLIN (Columbia 42933)

(B+) "KISSIN' BY THE MISTLETOE" (2:21) [Omell ASCAP—McFarland] A very likable romantic with a Holiday Season tie-in receives a breezy swing reading from the talented thrush and her ork-chorus backing. Sound makes for engaging pop-slanted Yule listening.

(B+) "JOHNNY" (3:00) [Jenny ASCAP—Scott, Scott] This tune has a beautiful folksy make-up, and the compelling vocal by the performer makes the most of it, as does the lovely ork arrangement.

JESSE MARTIN (Impala 101)

(B+) "XMAS THIEF" (1:55) [Tornado-BMI—Weathers] This Yule entry is served up in rhythmic r&b style. The chanter in essence asks Santa to return his love to him. The side could get airplay in both pop and r&b markets.

(C+) "LOVE CAN'T BE BAD" (1:59) [Tornado-BMI—Weathers] Martin wails this r&b romancer effectively but the tune has little to offer.

JOE O'BRIEN (United Artist 680)

(B+) "SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN" (2:18) [Leo Feist-ASCAP—Coots] Deejay Joe O'Brien and the voice of his pal Benny make their wax debut with this holiday oldie delightfully and happily performed by Benny and a kid group. The younger set will surely go for it and it is sure to get maximum air-time.

(B+) "RUDOLPH THE REDNOSE REINDEER" (2:35) [St. Nicholas-ASCAP—Marks] Another seasonal oldie geared to charm the kids.

TUCSON ARIZONA BOYS CHORUS (United Artists 682) (XMAS)

(B+) "SING NOEL" (1:55) [Plymouth—Lewis] The 25-year-old chorus starts its UA catalog off with a distinctive offering for the Yule Season. Basis is harmony on the title, with a striking, almost Latinish percussion-led sound in the backdrop. Could get important Seasonal exposure.

(B) "SLEEP LITTLE TINY KING" (2:42) [Pro Art—Besig] Attractive Holiday blend by the boys.

THE SHOWMEN (Airecords 897)

(B+) "VALLEY OF LOVE" (1:59) [JARB BMI—Johnson] Fellas and their organ-led combo support relay the romantic with good gospel-styled spirit. Exciting date that could send the artists back to chart territory.

(B) "LET HER FEEL YOUR KISS" (2:25) [JARB BMI—Johnson] Warm blues-ballad blend.

CHET ATKINS (RCA Victor 7971)

(B+) "JINGLE-BELL ROCK" (1:47) [Cornell ASCAP—Beal, Boothe] The catchy item, something of an Xmas standard, is agreeably done by the guitarist and a singing and chanting chorus. Tasteful novelty sound for the Holiday Season. It's from an LP, "Christmas with Chet Atkins."

(B) "JINGLE BELLS" (1:47) [P.D.—Traditional] The old non-rock "Jingle Bells" is another jaunty excerpt from the album.

THE NOBODYS (MGM 13183)

(B+) "ALL TOGETHER NOW" (2:20) [Iza BMI—Peeden] Following a sing-a-narrative call to take to the dance-floor, the mixed vocal group pours it on with impressive rock-attack authority. Theme is Monkey Time, and its solidly represented here. Could move.

(B) "VACATION'S DONE" (2:12) [Hill & Range BMI—Blackwell, Scott] Further excitement with something of a hootenanny sound in support of the crew.

CHRISTOPHER BELL (Bett Coe 107)

(C+) "HOT JUNGLE BELLS (It's Christmas)" (2:26) [Bett—Coe BMI—Coe] Vocalist and vocal-instrumental companions offer OK merry-making for Holiday listening. Label's home is Chicago.

(C+) "IT'S GETTING MIGHTY CLOSE TO CHRISTMAS" (2:09) [Bett—Coe BMI—Coe] More Yuletide-theme fun with kiddie appeal.

REX WHIPPLE (Romax 100)

(B) "THE LITTLE ORPHAN BOY" (2:06) [Rue Buck BMI—Roach] A tasteful chorus and string-included ork help kiddie singer Whipple offer this warm item for Xmas sales. It's about an orphan who is adopted, thus receiving the happiest Xmas present of all.

(C+) "THE NIGHT THAT SANTA CRIED" (2:06) [Rue Buck BMI—Maxwell] One might question the taste of the storyline about a visit by a St. Nick, who is the father of a boy whose mother has evidently divorced him.

JACK SCOTT (Groove 0027)

(B+) "JINGLE BELLS SLIDE" (2:08) [Hazel Park BMI—Arr. James] Scott, a big chart artist awhile-back, heads-up a bright rock view of the old favorite. His vocal is in the Presley manner. Strictly teen offering for the Xmas season.

(B) "THERE'S TROUBLE BREWIN'" (2:20) [Hazel Park BMI—Veronica] Snappy rock-a-billy doings.

CHRISTMAS RE-ISSUE

"CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM SPACE"/"THE NIGHT BEFORE NEW YEAR'S"
ROB TOWNSEND (Minaret 106)