

Newcomer Picks

FREDDIE WILLIAMS (Hollywood 1129)

Sea Of Love (3:10) [Kamar BMI-Baptiste, Khoury]

Old sounds and new wrappings make for an excellent entry from the Hollywood label. Freddie Williams uncorks some powerful tonsil work on "Sea Of Love," lacing it generously enough with soul to compete with the original Phil Phillips version. Flip: "Things Are Looking Better" (2:41) [Metric BMI-Holiday, Lewis]

BUENA VISTAS (Marquee 443)

Here Come Da Judge (2:17) [Tincal/Chetkay, BMI-Sherae, Ameno]

Already making noise in some areas, this funky instrumental (with occasional vocal comments) could break wide open. It's a spirited, blues toned effort, making good use of organ, guitar, and brass. Flip: "Big Red" (2:40) [Tincal/Chetkay, BMI-Ameno, Koppen, Fazzolari]

MAX FROST & TROOPERS (Tower 419)

Shape Of Things To Come (1:57) [Screen Gems-Columbia, BMI-Mann, Weil]

From the American International "Wild In The Streets" flick, this deck about the changing times and the youth rebellion is a likely contender for spins aplenty and a position at the upper reaches of the chart. The lid is characterized by a strong lead vocal backed by a steady thumping rhythm that's carried primarily by bass, drum, and organ. Flip: "Free Lovin'" (2:04) [Dijon, BMI-Wibier, Hemric]

STEPPENWOLF (Dunhill 4138)

Everybody's Next One (2:50) [Trousdale, BMI-Kay, Mekler]

Selling well on the album level, Steppenwolf might well secure a big slice of the singles market with this driving, frenetic offering. It might well be marketed through capitalization on the group's LP popularity. The lid is marked by outstanding guitar and vocal treatment. Flip: "Born To Be Wild" (2:55) [Duchess, BMI-Bonfire]

GUILD LIGHT GAUGE (We Make Rock 'n Roll 1600)

14th Annual Fun & Pleasure Fair (2:33) [Luvlin BMI-Duboff, Kornfeld]

The Guild Light Gauge greets the forthcoming summer season with a light, wispy sound that evolves into a well-woven web of musical patterns, crossing and recrossing with a wild beach party flavor. Strong suggestion of open-top convertibles and transistor radios in these grooves. Flip: "Cloudy" (2:35) [Charing Cross BMI-Simon, Woodley]

TOWNES VAN ZANDT (Poppy 506)

Talking Karate Blues (2:01)

[Silver Dollar ASCAP-Van Zandt]

Waitin' Around To Die (2:22)

[Silver Dollar BMI-Van Zandt]

A pair of excellent sides from Van Zandt. Should the deck by-pass needless censorship, either or both sides could roar. "Talking Karate Blues" is a gas, as is usual in the case of good talking blues, and represents some good fun. On the other hand, "Waitin' Around To Die" is a gutsy, throbbing blues side with a hard-hitting lyric that could bust it wide open.

BUNKY & JAKE (Mercury 72813)

Taxicab (2:38) [Longhair ASCAP-Sinner, Jacobs]

Boasting both a mono side and a stereo side for the benefit of programmers, Bunky & Jake's initial Mercury single may find both sides being worn to a frazzle. Infectious rock rhythms, with soaring string overtones, are the high points of "Taxicab," to say nothing of the slick, appealing vocal. Must be heard. No flap info available at this time.

Best Bets

RONNIE SELF (Amy 11009)

High On Life (3:32) [Cedarwood BMI-Self] Strong Self-penned material by the artist. Wistful flower theme and a simple, uncluttered arrangement make it a first-rate choice for programmers who still have some pioneering spirit. Flip: "The Road Keeps Winding" (2:40) [Earl Barton BMI-Thompson]

SANDPIPERS (A&M 939)

Quando M'Innamoro (3:11) [Leeds ASCAP-Livraghi, Pace, Panzeri] With the same tune that they presented at this year's San Remo Festival, the Sandpipers make for some smooth middle-of-the-road listening. Charming session from the boys. No flip info available at this time.

CASHMAN, PISTILLI & West (ABC 11079)

Spring Has A Tear In Her Eye (2:46) [Pamco BMI-Cashman, Pistilli, West] Pretty and seasonal, this big-building deck has an excellent chance to soar for the trio. A load of melodic appeal and some fine harmonic interplay on this one. Flip: "Little Girl" (2:47) [Blendingwell ASCAP-Warnick, Hardy, Coveny]

TRASHMEN (Metrobeat 7927)

Green, Green Backs Of Home (2:50) [Tree BMI-Putman, LaPole] A good novelty disk is always a nice change of pace and this Trashmen side fits the bill. The recent smash, done a la Walter Brennan should see some good action. Flip: "Address Enclosed" (2:53) [Portage BMI-LaPole]

Best Bets

GROOVIN' STRINGS & THINGS (Cub 9159)

You (2:23) [Jobete, BMI-Hunter, Gor-ga, Strong] Souped up Detroit-imitation on this high-powered instrumental return to the recent Marvin Gaye breakout side. Plenty of dance impact could bring teen spotlights for the outing. Flip: "The Fool on the Hill" (2:40) [Maclen, BMI-Lennon, McCartney]

BUBBLE GUM MACHINE (Senate 2107)

You Make Everything Right (2:46) [Pocket Full of Tunes, Jerry Goldstein, Pamco, BMI-Farrell, Goldstein] Attractive easy-rock effort with a pleasant melodic line and some fine vocals to put the material across. Beat picks up and could attract teen attention. Flip: "I Wouldn't Be Lonely Anymore" (3:18) [Pocket Full, Pamco, BMI-Farrell, Romeo] Beat ballad that merits attention.

PACK (Capitol 2174)

Next to Your Fire (2:40) [P.P.X., BMI-Hendrix] Material from Jimi Hendrix, style that combines teen rock with a touch of blues and material reminiscent of the Doors' smash could entice bright pop sales. Flip: "Without a Woman" (2:45) [Beechwood, BMI-Wagner]

EDDIE CARR & THE NAVAJOS (A&M 933)

Evil, Evil Evel Knievel (2:50) [Cannon, ASCAP-Herring] Saga of the famous motorcycle jumper has a solid dance appeal and the prospect of Knievel fans to spark a demand. Flip: "What Have I Got of My Own?" (2:00) [Cannon, BMI-Herring, Sawtell]

BRENDA LEE MELSON (Rust 0804)

Valley of Love (2:42) [Roznique, BMI-Jones] Good blues bouncer with a hefty orchestral drive to pick up dance following and a hearty vocal that might snare plenty of r&b play. Flip: "The Love Game" (2:12) [S&J, ASCAP-Maresca, Schwartz, Greenberg, Neuland]

MYSTIC CRASH (ABC 11069)

The Sun Is Just a Hole in the Sky (2:25) [Pamco, Engagement, BMI-Murphy] Down-keyed view from the Mystic Crash picks up a shine as it moves along and could find a solid response from teen listeners. Danceable rock side with potential. Flip: "Land of Love" (2:01) [Same pubs, BMI-Druck]

HONEY JUG (H.I.P. 1196)

Warm City Baby (2:00) [East, Soundtown, BMI-Jordon] Belting rhythmic rock track from the Stax pop subside features a modern teen-blues sound and some dance appeal that could create breakout demand for the side. Flip: "Honey Say So" (1:20) [Same credits] Distributed through Atco.

WE THE PEOPLE (RCA Victor 9498)

Ain't Gonna Find Nobody (Better than You) (2:24) [Barmour, BMI-Duff] Good beat handling on this blues chant could spark a shower of exposure with blues and many pop outlets. Flip: "When I Arrive" (3:01) [Barmour, BMI-Talton]

EDDY "G" GILES (Murco 1042)

Baby Be Mine (2:05) [Heads Up, Su-Ma-BMI-Giles] Plenty of impact on Eddy "G" Giles' new side could have him back on the upsurge in r&b markets. Strong dance beat and a fine vocal workout here. Flip: "Love with a Feeling" (3:22) [Same credits]

BUNKY GREEN (Met 1403)

Sweet Inspiration (2:50) [Press, BMI-Pennington, Oldham] Bright sax work on this instrumental cover of the Sweet Inspirations' current hit makes for a flavorful rendering that could come in for hot follow-up sales. Flip: "By the Time I Get to Phoenix" (2:48) [Johnny Rivers, BMI-Webb]

JIMMY BREEDLOVE (Roulette 7010)

I Can't Help Lovin' You (2:45) [Al Gallico, BMI-Schroek, Loring] Hot combination of a bold vocal and blazing brass gives Jimmy Breedlove a good shot at breakout in the pop and some blues markets. Excellent discotheque item. Flip: "I Saw You" (1:50) [Big Seven, BMI-Thorne, Thorne]

TOMMY RICCO (Franklin 277)

If I'm To Blame [Blazer, BMI-Maerz, Buair] Nice ballad track with a soft melodic line and pretty arrangement. Adult deejays could find this offering aptly suited to late night listening needs. Flip: "These Things Are Gone" [Same credits] Franklin Records, 123 N. 16th St., Bloomfield, N.J.

PAUL HAMPTON (Dunhill 4133)

You May Be Too Much for Memphis, Baby (2:45) [E. H. Morris, ASCAP-Hampton] Easy lilt in this material and a novel lyric could prove the keys to opening a lot of pop programming doors. Teen track with appeal. Flip: "After the Long Drive Home" (3:05) [Wingate, ASCAP-Hampton]

BUDDY ARDEN (Dot 17091)

With A Song In My Heart (2:12) [Warner Bros.-7 Arts, Harms, ASCAP-Rodgers, Hart] Enthusiastic approach works a good straight vocal with rock orking to come on strong here in a style much like the Jay & the Americans efforts in this vein. Flip: "Would You Mind" (2:16) [Tarran, ASCAP-Granger]

BAGDADS (Double Shot 128)

Livin' in Fear (2:45) [Hot Shot, BMI-Sinclair] Oldie-blues chant in the vein of many "La-La" shots comes across strongly from Bagdads. Team's vocal sound is enhanced by a solid attractive instrumental setup and some fine material. May become a pop-r&b breakout. Flip: "Let's Talk About the Bad Times" (2:35) [Same credits.]

SEVEN SOULS (Venture 614)

Groove In (2:40) [Mikim, BMI-Williams] Snappy pace on this city-name-dropping session could bring home plenty of exposure for the solid dance track. Expect an r&b pick-up to start things cooking for the side. Flip: "Got to Find a Way" (2:38) [Nelchell, BMI-Williams]

DAISY & ARTHUR (Dynovoice 911)

School Days (2:40) [Arc, BMI-Berry] Updated working of the Chuck Berry classic takes on an up-tempo impact and some soulful vocals to entice instant r&b and dance fan popularity. Could become a sizeable seller. Flip: "Let's Ride Again" (2:03) [Saturday, Seasons Four, BMI-Crewe, Gaudio]

TY KARIM (Roach 101)

Only a Fool (2:26) [Soprano, BMI-Chryar, Harrison] Powerful track packing a touch of Latin rhythm under some socking dance antics. Outing has enough strength to catch hold of an r&b response. Flip: "I Aint' Lying" (2:07) [Same credits.]