

# RECORD WORLD SINGLE PICKS

**THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND—**  
Capricorn 0300



**DREAM LOVER** (prod. by Stewart Levine) (writers: Eubanks-McCorkle) (Marshall Tucker/No Exit, BMI) (3:12)

Comparisons with ARS's "Imaginary Lover" are inevitable—where that song is mellow and a bit spooky, this MTB single rocks out from the start with the band's usual, crisp guitar and flute work. It's an original tune, not the Bobby Darin hit.

## SONG OF THE WEEK

### AUTOMATIC LOVER

(writers: Gary & Patty Unwin) (Martin-Coulter, ASCAP)

**DEE D. JACKSON—**AVI 211 (prod. by Patty & Gary Unwin) (3:55)

**SYLVIA—**Vibration 576 (prod. by Sylvia Robinson, Vinnie Cass & Ralph DeLiz) (3:42)

The subject is a love duet between a woman and a computer, with the "computer" handling half the vocals and much of the lyrical interest. Jackson's version is already a top five hit in the U.K., and Sylvia's interpretation is similar, with perhaps a bit more of the humorous and theatrical to it.

**HELEN REDDY—**  
Capitol 4582



**READY OR NOT** (prod. by Nick DeCaro) (writers: Keller-Dilena) (United Artists, ASCAP) (3:35)

In what may be her most r&b-oriented single to date, Reddy sings an appealing, mid-tempo love song that could get disco and r&b radio play as well as her accustomed pop attention. It has a smooth, "adult soul" sound of the sort associated with Diana Ross.

**KISS—**Casablanca 928

**STRUTTER '78** (prod. by group & Sean Delaney) (writers: Stanley-Simmons) (Kiss/Cafe Americana/Gladwyne, ASCAP) (3:19)

Kiss remade this song from their first album for the new "Double Platinum" set; it still rocks with authority, with Ace Frehley's guitar standing out.

**GAP MANGIONE—**A&M 2053

**MELLOW OUT!** (prod. by Larry Carlton) (writer: Mathieson) (LMNOP/Pal Dog, ASCAP) (3:21)

Despite the title, Gap Mangione's single is anything but mellow—it's a hot, quick instrumental with impressive guitar and keyboard solos.

**JOHNNY CASH & WAYLON JENNINGS—**

Columbia 3-10742

**THERE AIN'T NO GOOD CHAIN GANG** (prod. not listed) (writers: Bynum-Kirby) (Tree, BMI) (3:15)

This collaboration seems bound to produce a country hit with this uptempo prison song—the tune, and the celebrity of the singers, merit pop play.

**JACKIE DE SHANNON—**

Amherst 733

**YOU'RE THE ONLY DANCER** (prod. by Jim Ed Norman) (writer: De Shannon) (Halwill/Plain and Simple, ASCAP) (2:43)

De Shannon's last single flirted with the top 100, and this follow-up, the title track from her latest album, should do well with pop and a/c stations.

**VICKI SUE ROBINSON—**

RCA 11280

**FREEWAY SONG** (prod. by Warren Schatz) (writers: Robinson-Melotti) (WPN, ASCAP) (3:31)

Robinson slows the pace here, although an interesting rhythm still underpins this ballad. Her singing has never been better, and the message is a good one.

**ASTRUD GILBERTO—**Image 3051

**THE GIRL FROM IPANEMA** (prod. by Vincent Montana Jr. & Astrud Gilberto) (writers: Jobim-Moraes-Gimbel) (Dutchess, BMI) (3:16)

The song that highlighted the Brazilian dance craze of the early sixties could repeat as a hit in Gilberto's disco version. The new tempo works well.

**THE DRAMATICS—**ABC 12372

**STOP YOUR WEEPING** (prod. by Larry J. Reynolds) (writer: Reynolds) (Groovesville, BMI) (3:56)

The addition of a track of a woman crying provides an unusual touch to this well-crafted r&b and pop stations.

**THE MIKE CURB CONGREGATION—**

Warner-Curb 735

**WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW** (prod. by Michael Lloyd) (writers: King-Goffin) (Screen Gems-Columbia, BMI) (3:05)

With a Dave Mason version also just released, this Shirelles-Gerry Goffin-Carole King standard is hot again. A female lead vocal dominates this one.

**ROUNDTREE—**Omni 5502

(Island)

**GET ON UP (GET ON DOWN)** (prod. by K. Lehman) (writers: Lehman-Boston-Covington) (Terra Firma/Darian, BMI) (3:43)

The second release on Island's r&b-oriented label is a rhythm record designed for dancing. The touch is light, with good female group vocals.

**EXILE—**Warner-Curb 8589

**KISS YOU ALL OVER** (prod. by Mike Chapman) (writers: Chapman-Chinn) (Chinnichap, BMI) (3:20)

This latest Chapman-Chinn production is a mid-tempo pop-rock record with a sort of Foreigner feel; it never rocks too loudly, and could reach several formats.

**WILSON PICKETT—**Big Tree

16121 (Atlantic)

**WHO TURNED YOU ON** (prod. by Rick Hall & Don Daily) (writer: Wilkins) (Fame, BMI) (3:38)

Pickett's Big Tree bow shows him to be in fine vocal form, with a new, rough r&b tune that fits in well with his style. It could put him back on top.

**BILLY SWAN—**A&M 2046

**HELLO! REMEMBER ME** (prod. by Booker T. Jones) (writer: Meaux) (Crazy Cajun, BMI) (2:54)

Swan's rockabilly style adapts well to a New Orleans song, as the artist's A&M debut shows. There's his usual laconic humor present, and some fine horns.

**GLORIA GAYNOR—**

Polydor 14472

**THIS LOVE AFFAIR** (prod. by Tan) (writers: Gaynor-Johnson-Stewart) (Wazuri, BMI/Gloria Gaynor, ASCAP) (2:42)

This single is a bit slower than most of Gaynor's past records, but the dance tempo is still present. Her vocal work here ranks with her best.

**POUSETTE-DART BAND—**

Capitol 4590

**STAND BY ME** (prod. by Hank Medress & Dave Appell) (writers: King-Leiber-Stoller) (Trio/Belinda/ADT, BMI) (3:19)

The Ben E. King standard, on the charts several times since the '61 original, could well be a pop and a/c hit for this Boston band. It's mellow, rather quiet.

**THE SOFTONES—**H&L 4697

**THAT'S WHAT LOVE CAN DO** (prod. by Landy McNeal) (writers: Norman-Nissenson) (Boca/Jenimmy/Raton/Roner, ASCAP/BMI) (3:26)

This male r&b vocal group has a sort of Motown sound, and the crisp production here makes that quality stand out. The song is a strong one.

**RAINBOW—**Polydor 14481

**LONG LIVE ROCK 'N' ROLL** (prod. by Martin Birch) (writers: Blackmore-Dio) (Thames Talent, BMI) (2:58)

The title track from Ritchie Blackmore's band's new album is a high-energy, fast-paced, hard rock song with an anthem-like quality to it. It roars.

**LEN BOONE—**Chrysalis 22227

**LOVE WON'T BE DENIED** (prod. by Roger Watson) (writer: Boone) (Rare Blue, ASCAP) (3:05)

Boone, who is best known for songs he's written for others, could have his own hit with this falsetto, Bee Gees-ish dance tune with a good hook.

**SWEET CREAM—**

Shadybrook 1044

**I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO (IF YOU EVER LEFT ME)** (prod. by the Wizards) (writers: Barnes-Hall) (Bach-To-Rock/Wig Out/Son Mike, BMI) (3:38)

This female vocal group could score an r&b hit with this mid-tempo love song, good for dancing and, because of the vocals, a good listening record.

**EDDIE MCLOYD—**Spring 182

(Polydor)

**BABY, GET DOWN** (prod. by Millie Jackson & Billy Nichols) (writer: Williams) (Bill-Lee/Gaucha, BMI) (2:59)

That's McLoyd, not Floyd, but this artist can handle a mid-tempo soul tune as well as his like-named competitor. An unusual string arrangement helps.

**LEW KIRTON—**Alston 3739 (TK)

**NEW YORK CITY** (prod. by Clarence Reid & Freddy Stonewall) (writers: Reid-Clarke) (Sherlyn, BMI) (3:37)

This is an old-style soul ballad in the best sense of the term. Kirton sings it slowly and with feeling, and the story is one that many should like.