



# Ronnie McDowell



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Record Digest welcomes your story or feature on any subject within our area of coverage. Material deemed worthwhile will be placed in the earliest available issue. Please advise us if you send photos, or other enclosures, that you would like to have returned.

International Correspondents are still needed in those areas you do not see listed above. If you can send us the music news from your corner of the world, get in touch with our office.

Staff Discographer: Ken Clee

# Take a minute

...and see if you can help us!

We are in need of several of the standard Elvis picture sleeves in near-mint (or close to it) for both the 47 and the 447 series. Also needed are promotional copies of any singles. Of course any oddities, SPD's, or special releases are always wanted.

If you have anything on Elvis that you think we might be interested in, contact us by mail or phone (602) 445-7015.

These items needed soon! We will purchase for cash or trade in any way possible for the records and sleeves we need (for our follow-up book to *The Complete Elvis*.

-Record Digest

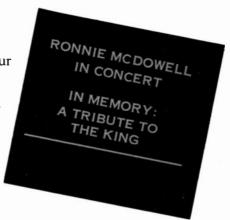
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### IN MEMORY— A TRIBUTE TO THE KING

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- Look at this low price on this great LP: Only \$6.00 !! (see below for postage rates)



\*Still Available: Ronnie's second Elvis tribute single, "I Just Wanted You to Know." Only \$1.50



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THE FABULOUS "DUETS" LP
WITH 11 ROCKIN' TRACKS FROM
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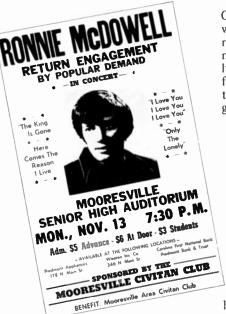


**RECORD DIGEST/6** 

### "AND I'D PRACTICE EVERYDAY...TIL I FINALLY GOT IT RIGHT"

-Ronnie Mc Dowell

Ronnie Mc Dowell was born on March 26, 1950, in Highland Hospital in Portland, Tennessee. Six years later he heard Elvis sing for the first time. A good many of the months that followed found Ronnie in front of a mirror going through some of the on-stage maneuvers used by Elvis. As Ronnie recalls, "I'd practice everyday...'til I finally got it right."



On a cloudy August 16, 1977, Ronnie was driving his car, listening to the car radio, when he heard the world-shaking news that Elvis had been found dead in his home in Memphis. Ronnie's sincere feelings and past rememberences began to fall into words, and words into music, giving the nation its biggest selling Elvis

tribute recording, "The King is Gone." As fate would have it, the saddest day of Ronnie's life would also become the first day of a successful singing career for him; his lifetime dream come true.

Then on February 11, 1979 the Dick Clark made-for-TV movie "Elvis," played to 10-million American homes. Although the film starred Kurt Russell in the role of Elvis, it was Ronnie Mc Dowell who was selected from

hundreds of applicants to handle the singing of Elvis' songs in the film. All Russell had to do was lip sync the lines (the tremendous performance by Russell could be the subject of another complete story).

Ronnie has indicated that he actually recorded more songs for the movie than were used, among them "If I Can Dream." Most viewers felt that Ronnie did a marvelous job on the Elvis tunes, particular his ability to handle everything from "Blue Moon of Kentucky" to "Are You Lonesome Tonight." Ronnie recorded a total of 36 songs for the film.

Now, a couple of hit albums and half-a-dozen smash singles later, it is clear that Ronnie Mc Dowell has finally gotten it right. And, quite frankly, the fact that he is a talented and terrific singer hasn't hurt him a bit.

\*Thanks to Carolyn High for photos and assistance in preparing this story.

### ....Digest Shorts....

Disco fever struck at the 21st annual Grammy (recording) awards, with "Saturday Night Fever" being voted album of the year and the Bee Gees taking home another three awards. The one singer preventing a disco-sweep of the awards was Billy Joel, who had a mini-sweep of his own. Joel took song of the year ("Just the Way You Are") and record of the year. Some other winners were: best new artist; A Taste Of Honey ("Boogie Oogie Oogie"), best female; Donna Summer, best male; Barry Manilow (for "Copacabana"), best pop female performance; Anne Murray (for "You Needed Me"), best country male; Willie Nelson, best country group; Waylon & Willie, best country female; Dolly Parton, best comedy album; "A Wild and Crazy Guy" by Steve Martin.

Collectors of Kiss, Crystal Gayle, Bay City Rollers, Elvis Presley, Dave & Sugar, Rod Stewart, Jefferson Starship, or the Captain & Tennille will want to take advantage of the new box sets available on these artists from the RCA record club. All are four LP sets except for the Dave & Sugar and Jefferson Starship, which are three LP sets. The prices are right too: \$11.98 for three LP sets, \$15.96 for four disc sets. Each set contains previously issued LPs. (The Elvis set contains "A Legendary Performer" Vol's I & II, "Elvis for Everyone" and "Elvis Country.")

\*\*\*\*\*

Dallas mayor Robert Folsom has proclaimed the week of February 3 - 10 as "Buddy Holly Week" in Dallas. Many special programs and events are set to be tied in with the annual festivities.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

A non-credit course in "The History of Rock & Roll" is now being offered by the C. W. Post center of Long Island University. A number of special guests from the rock era (such as Johnny Maestro and the Del-Satins) as well as films ("Rock Rock Rock") will highlight the course, which will be taught by Fred Tobias and Joe Ruggiero. More info can be obtained by calling (516) 299-2332

\*\*\*\*\*\*

CBS Records Group has acquired Paul McCartney & Wings, and will now have the ex-Beatle, his wife, Linda, and band, on Columbia Records in the U.S. and Canada. The group will remain on EMI (Capitol's parent Co.) in the remainder of the world.

Former Sex Pistols member Sid Vicious was found dead (Feb 2) of an apparent overdose of heroin, at the Manhattan home of a friend. He was 21.

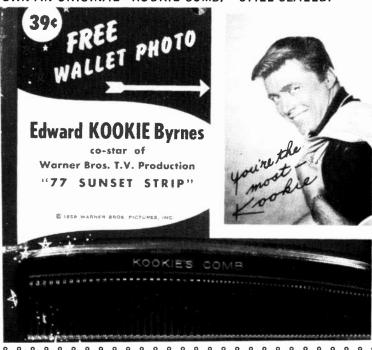
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### BLASTS FROM THE PAST

Ьy

### Ed Engel

### GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS

SONGS CONTAINING GIRLS NAMES
(Continued from RD number 34)

RAMONA (Blue Diamonds)
ROBERTA (Barry & Tamerlanes)
Romeo & JULIET (Henry Mancini)
RONNIE (Four Seasons)
ROSALIE (Sam Neely)
ROSANNA (Classics Four)
ROSE, ROSE I LOVE YOU (Frankie Laine)
ROSIE LEE (Mello-Tones)
REBECCA (Terry Melcher & Bruce Johnson)
Lovely RITA (Beatles)
Song for ROCHELLE (Sal Valentino)
Love Grows Where My ROSEMARY Goes
(Edison Lighthouse)
ROSELLE (Four Coins)
RUTH-LESS (Statler Bros.)
RUBY (Ray Charles)
RUBY (Ray Charles)

SADIE (Spinners)
St. THERESE of the Roses (Dominoes)
SALLY (Grand Funk Railroad)
SANDY (Larry Hall)
SARA SMILE (Hall & Oates)
SCARLET O'HARA (Lawrence Welk)
SHEENA IS A PUNK ROCKER (Ramones)
SHEILA (Tommy Roe)
SHEILA (Tommy Roe)
SHERRY (Four Seasons)
SHIRL GIRL (Wayne Newton)
SHIRLEY (Schoolboys)
Silly MILLY (Blue Swede)
SUGAREE (Rusty York)
SUNNY (Neil Sedaka)
SUSAN (Buckinghams)
SANDI (Cufflinks)
SHELLY (Velons)
SANDRA (Volumes)
SAPPHIRE (Danny Zella)
SHARON (Paul Revere & Raiders)
SHIRLEY ANN (Chances)
SUZIE BABY (Bobby Vee)
SUSIE DARLIN' (Robin Luke)
SUZANNE (Neel Harrison)
Sweet CAROLINE (Neil Diamond)
Sweet MAXINE (Doobie Bros.)
SWEET PEA (Tommy Roe)
SYLVIA (Elvis Presley)

TAMMY (Debbie Reynolds) TINA (Easy Riders) TINA MARIE (Perry Como) TRACY (Cuff Links) TRUDY (Lonnie & Carollons)
TERRY (Leigh Bell & Chimes)
TERESA (Treblechords)

VALERIE (Cymarron)
VALLERI (Monkees)
VENUS (Frankie Avalon)
VICTORIA (Kinks)
VICKI (Uptowners)
VICKIE (5 Shades)
VIRGINIA (Bill Amesbury)
VIOLET (Elvis Presley)

WENDY (Beach Boys)
WINDY (Association)
WILHEMINA (Thunderclap Newman)
WANDA (Heartbreakers)

And there you have it! Our listing of a good many of the songs containing a girl's name, which we begun back in RD 30/31.

D & G COLLECTORS RECORDS 3580 E. Hastings St. Vancouver, B. C., Canada V5K 2A7

### PICTURE DISCS SPECIAL

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HERE IS THE RECORD THAT ELVIS AND LINDA RONSTADT FANS HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR!

NOW AVAILABLE FOR ONLY \$3.00

HEAR THE MAGIC OF THE KING AND THE QUEEN.....TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME!



Pres. ley. ana (pres. le an' a) n. Recorded or nonrecorded memorabilia, of or having to do with the personal, public, singing or acting career of Elvis Presley. Usually used in connection with those who untiringly seek to collect said memorabilia, past and present.

With regard to this often discussed subject, I believe we have three types of readers of the *Record Digest*: a) those who are interested only in collecting and reading about Elvis; b) those who are not the least bit interested in Elvis; and c) those who are interested in Elvis and other artists to an equal extent. Hopefully this new feature, *Presleyana*, will effectively serve all three groups well.

For the same reason that Elvis collectors will benefit by being able to flip right to the section on Presley, which will include news, special features, and record spotlight articles on his many odd and interesting discs, the non-Elvis collector will be able to bypass the Presley news, concentrating on the remainder of the magazine. Much like an index, it will also make it eaiser to find items of interest in the months and years ahead, when this issue becomes an ancient one itself.

As before, reader contribution, feedback and suggestions for this section is heartily encouraged. And now: this issue's debut edition of *Presleyana*.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

The huge convention center at the Safari hotel was the scene of "Arizona's tribute to Elvis," a three day gathering of fans and dealers from all over the U.S., on Feb 2, 3 & 4, at the plush Scottsdale resort.

The event was sponsored by Tony and Pat Sands, dba T.P.S. LTD, from Dayton, Ohio. Special guest of honor was Charlie Hodge. Also on hand was KOOL-FM's Bill Kelly, whose newly initiated Elvis hour (9-10pm Wednesday nights) was instrumental in promoting the convention. (Fans within the KOOL-FM service area will be interested to know that he regularly programs select unreleased [boot] tracks. He recently played the "Blue Hawaii" side of Beach to the Bayou).

### FOR SALE: ONE AUTHENTIC "ELVIS **BUILDING PERSONNEL"** STICKER:

These peal-off stickers were used by Elvis' touring group on their luggage and attaché cases, that the individuals with them would be freely admitted backstage, etc.

I was lucky enough to obtain two of these stickers; one for my collection and one I am selling. This is the first time that one of these has ever been offered for sale!

I will sell this mint, un-used, Elvis sticker for \$75.00 -or best offer-First offer of \$75.00 takes it, but

feel free to make a lower offer if vou feel it's worth less. You may get lucky! All replies to:

Ken Alper - Box 3203 Lynchburg, VA 24503

## IN CONCERT



PETER JENSEN - 31 203 DELAIRE LANDING RD. - PHILADELPHIA, PA 19144 Postage: \$1.00 (U.S.) \$2.00 (Canada) Overseas: write first. Insurance 50-cents if desired. I have lists available on Elvis and others...write! All records mint! Money Orders perfered.

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THE FIRST YEARS - Elvis	(Limited Pressing) only \$10
GOLD SUITE - Elvis	(Brand New) \$12.50
CADILLAC ELVIS – Elvis	(10 unreleased alternate takes & more) \$15
HAVING FUN WITH ELVIS	ON STAGE - Elvis (Boxcar label: Rare) \$39.50
ELVIS VS. THE BEATLES	(One side by each artist)\$10
THE LAST FAREWELL	(Original Black Cover Issue) \$14.95
THE BURBANK SESSIONS	(Vol II - A 2-record set)\$12
<b>DUETS</b>	(Jerry Lee Lewis & Friends) Gold viny/ \$7
THE ORIGINAL JERRY LEE	LEWIS (Sun 1005)Gold vinyl \$7
SUN'S ROCKABILL YS	(New - Gold vinyl)

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**RECORD DIGEST/13** 

### PRESLEYANA: A PHOTO GLIMPSE OF THE SCOTTSDALE CONVENTION



Charlie Hodge and Tony Sands awarding door prizes - Sam Theaker and Len Eisenstein barter.



Charlie Hodge obliging an autograph request — Pat Smith (seated right) and friends from Calif.



Morgan Press displaying their new Elvis book - A stage view of the crowded convention floor



Arizona Elvis portrait artist, Marge Nichols - Bob Heis' dazzling Elvis display (from Ohio)

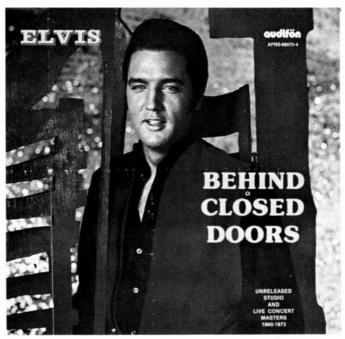
### **RECORD DIGEST/14**



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ALTERNATE TAKES. THERE ARE
EVEN SOME FALSE STARTS.

AND, IN THE TRADITION YOU'VE COME TO EXPECT FROM THE PEOPLE WHO GAVE YOU "THE BURBANK SESSIONS" AND "VIVA LAS VEGAS," THIS SET COMES PACKAGED IN A FULL-COLOR BOX. SOUND QUALITY IS ALSO TOPS!



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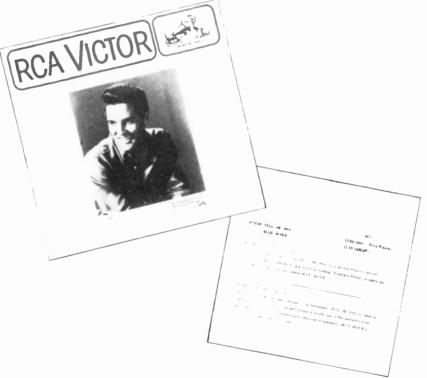
#### SPECIAL JUKE SLEEVES:

by: Kal Raudoja

While awaiting the follow-up book to *The Complete Elvis*, the *Digest* has been providing an excellent source of discovering some of the many rare and previously unknown and unpublished Elvis oddities.

I would like to add two unusual Elvis picture sleeves to the never ending list of Elvis collectibles. The sleeves, issued for "Tell Me Why" and "If Every Day Was Like Christmas," were used to promote the discs to jukebox operators. The second will be photographed in a future article.

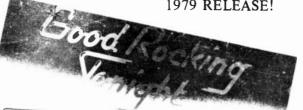
Here you see the special RCA sleeve for "Tell Me Why"/"Blue River." Note the liner notes are in both English and French. It's also interesting that a 1961 photo was used for the sleeve ("Wild in the Country").



\*Editor's note: The revised, updated, Complete Elvis book is scheduled for release this summer. Now is the time to come forward with photos, info., etc.!

**RECORD DIGEST/16** 

### TWO OF THE FANS FAVORITE ELVIS ALBUMS, REVIVED FOR 1979 RELEASE!









### "GOOD ROCKIN" TONIGHT"

Contains the famous Sun studio out-takes, by Elvis and others. A great LP to add to your collection now!

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WITH: ELVIS PRESLEY, JERRY LEE LEWIS. BILLY LEE RILEY,
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### "PLEASE RELEASE ME"

One of the very first private recordings to appear by Elvis.

Contains 12 previously unissued tracks that needed to be released.

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### RICHARD MINOR

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### Digest Calendar

This is your DIGEST EVENTS CALENDAR! Keep it current by sending announcements of any record or nostalgia conventions, meets or celebrations. We'll publish the news on this page at NO CHARGE. Please advise us well in advance of your event!

### **Coming Events**

EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT - Sat. March 17

Record Convention

Held at Holiday Inn - Roberts St.

General admission \$1.25 - Dealers tables \$13 Contact: Gary King (203) 229-7921

SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS - Sun. March 4

Record Collectors Convention & Flea Market

Held at Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St.

General admission \$1.50

Contact: (617) 986-4538 for more info.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Bi-monthly record swap meets, beginning March 10, then: May 12, July 14,

September 15, and November 10. Held at 106 W. Nora - 10am - 4pm

Contact: (509) 487-9603 or 535-7276

HAMPTON, VIRGINIA - Sat & Sun, March 24 & 25

Record & Elvis Conventions

Held at Holiday Inn, 1815 W. Mercury Blvd.

For complete information contact: Craig Canady, 1818 Bancroft Dr., Hampton, VA 23663 or call (804) 851-4715 (General record convention on Sat; Elvis con. on Sun.)

ALBANY, NEW YORK - Sat. & Sun. March 31 & April 1 Record Collector's Show, Convention & Auction Held at Empire State Plaza

For more info: Box 541, Latham, NY 12110

COLONIE, NEW YORK - Sat. & Sun. April 28 & 29 Record Collector's Show, Convention & Auction

Held at Holiday Inn, Central Ave. For more info: Box 541, Latham, NY 12110

NEW YORK, NEW YORK - Sat. & Sun., March 31 & April 1

Sixth Original Rock & Roll Flea Market, Record Meet & Film Festival

Held at The Hotel Diplomat - 43rd St. & Ave. of Americas

Contact: Rockages Relics Inc., Box 69, Bayside, NY 11361

Phone: (212) 631-5057

MONTREAL, QUEBEC CANADA - Sat. & Sun. March 3 & 4

Elvis Exposition & Convention

Held at The Sheraton Mount Royal - 1455 rue Peel

Contact: John Baxter, 1242 Victoria St., London, Ontario, Canada

Phone: (519) 451-6782

DON'T THROW AWAY THOSE OLD ISSUES OF RECORD DIGEST! WE HAVE MANY COLLECTORS WHO ARE WILLING TO PAY DOUBLE OR TRIPLE (OR MORE) FOR CERTAIN NUMBERS. GET IN TOUCH WITH OUR OFFICE IF YOU'VE GOT ANY EXTRA COPIES.

**RECORD DIGEST /18** 

### LA MUSICA MISTICA

BY: JAMES PAUL BERLOWIT

"He buys that many batteries every 6 months or so,"
the aging Mexican clerk exclaimed in broken English.

"I don't know what he does with them. I have no idea."

The clerk and I had just watched the old Indian peasant, Fernando, a man who wove blankets for trade, buy 300 Eveready "D" size batteries in 6 boxes, and carry them out to his burro.

"He lives right over that mountain," the clerk pointed,
"in a village of 40 or 50. None of the others has ever come
to town but him-probably because he is the only one who can
speak any Spanish. In fact, no one here has ever seen any of
the others. The mountain path to their valley is so treacherous only a crazy man would try it. He has probably never
worn shoes his whole life and his feet are like hard black
hooves on the soles; thus, he can scamper over those rocks
like a mountain goat. Anyone else with shoes might not make it.
Now you can see why none of us here in the town go down there,
even though we'd love to know what he does with those batteries,"
the clerk continued. "We even stock them special for him from
Mexico City; he's been buying them for about 20 years."

Twenty years! I thought, that was unbelievable! I had to find out what a 70 year old Indian peasant from the jungles of southern Mexico in Oaxaca state would want with all those batteries!! But first let me account for the events that led up to me being in that store in Mexico that fateful day.

It all began back in 1978 when my record-collecting adventures led me to Oaxaca, Mexico, a tourist resort in the

### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

mountains, in search of some Mexican Elvis records supposedly on a jukebox in an abandoned warehouse. I remember the incident well:

The warehouse turned out to be a cantina and house of ill-repute long closed and very musty and dusty. The kindly old Mexican lady that led me to the room took care that I watch my step as we climbed over the mountains of trash and junk that littered the path to our goal. And our goal was beautiful indeed!! An old 50's Seeburg in real nice shape. I wet my hankerchief and wiped the glass plate with a frenzy. I had to know what was on that thing. Would I find the Mexican King Creole? I wondered. Were the pressings even foreign at all? I worried. Wouldn't you know it, after a one hour battle to find tools to open the thing, and finally getting it opened, there they were, common American pressings - no big deal! The disappointment covered the dust in my teeth with a frown. The Senora was sorry I was misled. But as I was struggling back out the door I spotted it, over on a table in the corner. Fir st I thought it was a 78 or could have easily been a book. My weariness and frustration almost made me neglect it. But, I thought, what the heck, and meandered over to the wall to check it out.

When I saw it I couldn't believe it!! First I thought it was a bootleg! No, it couldn't be: A Chilean RCA CML3009 10 inch Elvis LP!!! With Cover!! What a find!! I tried to hide my emotion.

"Where did you get this"? I asked the Senora, suavely, in broken Spanish.

"Eet was too beeg for our juke box, so we left it off.

I forgot about it. That record"s been around here probably

20 years." She replied in broken English.



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- The very finest articles, features, photographs, discographies, and stories to have ever appeared in Record Digest magazine. Many from issues long since sold out!
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  3) Photo expanded stories on the ever-popular Jackie Wilson and the late Frankie Lymon.
  4) A freshly updated version of our "1977-78 Elvis Checklist." 5) A clear, full-page, reproduction of both the "Million Dollar Quartet" and "1955 Sun Days" LP covers, neither of which ever reached the point of release. 5) A recently added photo/article on rock sheet music.
  6) A newly discovered copy of "Poor Boy," on 20th Fox, shown for the first time anywhere!
- This top quality 272 page book is being offered exclusively to Record Digest readers. Printed in a small limited edition of only 500 copies, each one signed and numbered, its future value is insured.
- Order a copy of "Our Best to You" today. Both it and the bonus novelty break-in will become a valued part of your music collection. (In fact, some collectors are ordering two. One to put away for later trades)

#### **HERE'S HOW TO ORDER:**

Send just \$14.95 for each copy of "Our Best to You" desired, to: RECORD DIGEST, GROOM CREEK ROUTE, PRESCOTT, AZ 86301.

Price includes postage and handling in the United States. Please add \$3.00 per copy if you would like it shipped by first class. Canadian orders: add \$1.00 to U.S. rate. Overseas: add sufficient postage for one (1) pound to be shipped to you as you desire. Prompt refunds made when supplies are gone.

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#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

"How much do you want for it"? I asked, trying to be cool.

She looked at me and tried to judge how bad I wanted it.

I knew this was going to be a real game of wits.

"Could you geeve me maybe feefty pesos for it"? She asked sheepishly, checking my reaction to see if I thought that price a bit too greedy.

"Well, I don't know" - I realized if I slapped the lousy \$2.20 on the counter and walked away, that would ruin her fun, so I played along. I examined carefully the disc, - in good-rlus looking shape but probably would play VG. I pretended to frown at a few scuffs I saw, obviously degrading her price. Finally I looked at her sternly, trying almost in vain to cover up my joy at this find.

"I'll give you 30 pesos (\$1.40) for this record," I said.

She looked at me and bowed her head. Then in the clearest English she'd spoken yet she told me of her mother and 12 kids who live in the house together in 2 rooms. I felt like giving this lady 500 pesos for the record but I knew her pride must be preserved at all costs.

"Forty," I said, "that's my last offer."

"Forty-five," she came down.

I pretended to turn and walk out.

"Forty-four," she said, smiling.

"Forty-two or adios," I replied. It was a joke between us by now. She waited till I got to the door.

"Forty-three"

"OK, forty-three," I said and embraced her.

I counted out the money but I was 20 centavos short or I would have to break a U.S. \$100.00 bill. The fun wasn't over yet!!

Our apologies...

...to those who ordered the nine Canadian singles we had advertised in Dec/Jan.

As you know, eight of the nine were held back by RCA, but now there is GOOD NEWS!

RCA will be releasing these singles in March!

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Thank You!

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**RECORD DIGEST/25** 

#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

Sheepishly I begged a 20¢ piece off her by showing her all I had was \$42.80 and I would have to go and break a big bill which always meant the chance of not coming back. She accepted and scoulded me playfully. As I walked out the door of her shop with the record in hand, I couldn't help thinking that even the Great Jerry Osborne would be proud of me for this find!!

Sitting in an open-air cantina, sipping a beer, celebrating my find, in downtown Oaxaca the next day, I was approached by the usual street hustlers(young men peddling this and that). Most of the guys weren't robbers but probably had been known to steal before. There was one likable young fellow named Hidalgo who came by that day, and we struck up a conversation. He told me of Oaxaca and of the isolated Indian villages in the mountains, where few white men ever venture. Our conversation turned to records and he sought a friend by phone, a few minutes later, that might have some information.

"There ees known to be an old juke box in San Jose, a town several miles norte, not totally accessible by road. There are definitely records on it but what they are he doesn't know," Hidalgo said of his friend.

I received a crude map to the address, put my record in a safe-deposit box in the bank, bought a back pack, and was on my way to San Jose!!

The last ten miles of the bumpy jeep ride(taxi) was around very scary mountain curves. The driver was going too fast and had been drinking; but we made it! Then 10 more miles by rented burro to San Jose - a whole days' trip - I hoped it would pay off!!

### FUN....FUN FUN FUN....FUN....

ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S QUESTION: Carl Bonura, Ray Ceroni, Lenny Giambalvo, Pete Kane and John Casey were — The Bell Notes.

THIS ISSUE'S QUESTION: Here are the artists and their albums that represent the top five longest running charted rock LPs (in terms of number of weeks the LP remained charted). Put them in the proper order.

Buddy Holly (The Buddy Holly Story)
Led Zeppelin (Led Zeppelin IV)
2.
Pink Floyd (The Dark Side of the Moon)
Rolling Stones (Hot Rocks 1964-1971)
Carole King (Tapestry)
5.

### Digest Disc-Guise

CABSEEU	<u> </u>	ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S DISC-GUISE: "Yellow Bird," "Spanish Flea," "Soul Serenade," "Watermelon Man." — RAMSEY LEWIS	
GRAFNODWINNA FROM	2 W: N	All titles in this puzzle are hits from the 1964 British Invasion artists. Mystery artist is a British	
FYMTOOMREON	m e T e	superstar.	
TTIIDLLLEHERNO			

To discover mystery artist in Disc-guise: a) unscramble the four titles, and b) take all underlined letters and unscramble them to form the answer.

FOR THE RECORD: Some readers have asked if they will receive the bonus disc, "The Graceland Tour" (an all-Elvis novelty break-in) with their copy of "Our Best to You" if they ordered the book prior to the notice about the bonus disc. Absolutely! Every copy of the book will be shipped with the special recording. If you haven't ordered, do so!

#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

Well, to make a long story short, when I arrived at the house I found an empty juke box and the explanation was that the children had played frisbee with the dogs, with the records, just a couple of weeks' ago. Oh Horrors!! All that way on the burro for nothing.

I went to the plaza cantina and was drowning my sorrows and blisters with tequila when I first saw the old man. It was a shock of culture difference for a Westerner to see this homo sapien whose feet had always been uncovered and whose soles were hard as rock. But the eyes, that stare - into my eyes - that's what did it. That's what told me this old Indian peasant was different - different than us, all of us!! His expression was one of unbelievable suffering, yet with kindness and compassion every turn of the way. I knew from the first instant that this man would do no harm to me and I trusted him - I knew I did!

His full gray beard and long hair bristled in the sun as he made his way across the street to La Tienda(store).

The magnetic attraction was amazing: I rose and followed him in.

And there he was, Fernando, saying goodbye to the store clerk and packing his batteries on his burro when a load of drunken teenagers racing down the road in a horse drawn wagon, approached a collision course with Fernando and the burro. Fernando grabbed the cinch of the load and dropped it to save his donkey. The light load gave the burro enough time to Hee Haw out of the way, but left Fernando in jeopardy. I made a running dive tackle of the old man and got him out of the way in time!! He was very grateful, but saw to his animal first, Then we picked up the batteries together. I figured an appliance running on 300 of these, 4 at a time, would last 60-75 days.

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ELVIS PRESLEY - 40 GREATEST (U.K.) 2LP SET. Pink vinyl. All mono tracks in mono	\$13.00
ELVIS PRESLEY - FOREVER (German or Italian) State with one. Diff covers. 2LP SET.	\$12.50
ELVIS PRESLEY - ROCK N ROLL #2 (U.K.) same as LSP 1382 with diff cover	¢9 75
ELVIS PRESLEY - SUN COLLECTION (U.K.) diff cover to US	#/ FO
TEVIS PRESENT - SON COCCEDITOR (U.K.) UITI COVER EU US	. \$6.2U
ELVIS PRESLEY - '56 SESSIONS VOL 1 (U.K.) 16 tracks from -56 released as they were record	ded
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ELVIS PRESLEY - ELVIS IN DEMAND (U.K.)	¢0 75
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WARREN SMIHT - SUN STORY VOL 7 (Swedish)	
CARL MANN - GONNA ROCK N ROLL TONIGHT (Holland) Recorded 1978 withfine 50's touch	
CONWAY TWITTY - LOOKING BACK (U.K.) MGM masters. I Vibarete-First romance.Little Lucy	¢7 n∩
GENE VINCENT - BLUE JEAN BOP (Swedish) 1st LP.	#n En
GENE VINCENT - GENE VINCENT & THE BLUE CAPS (Swedish)	
GENE VINCENT - ROCKS & BLUE CAPS ROLL (Swedish)	
GENE VINCENT - RECORD DATE (Swedish)	\$8.50
GENE VINCENT - SOUNDS LIKE (Swedish)	
GENE VINCENT - CRAZY TIMES (Swedish)	
GENE VINCENT - CRAZY BEAT OF (Swedish)Gonna catch me a rat-Rip it up	\$8.50
GENE VINCENT - LRAZY BEAT OF (Swedish)Gonna catch me a rat-Rip It up	\$8.50

#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

"Para Que' es?" I asked as I held up a battery.

"Para La Musica Mistica," he replied humbly.

For the mystic music, I thought, now what could that mean? Wait!! It means he's got a record player, or course!! Yes, then he must have records!!! Oh goodness, I shuddered in disbelief at this whole uncanny situation. I was going up on that mountain with this old man and we were going to go to his village and look at his records. If I could convince him to take me.

And it didn't take any convincing at all. My excitement and eagerness were fuel for his graciousness. Luckily I had on good hiking boots for I probably would have never made it without them. The trek was slow at times and very treacherous. A misplaced foot could cause a miniature slide at any time which could snowball us and 100 tons of rock right down the gorge.

The summer sun was hot and the mosquitoes were vicious as we wove around the trail directly above a magnificent rain forest where it was near dark on the jungle floor 24 hours a day due to the thick foliage. I could easily see why no one had followed Fernando home.

"Life is a risk," Fernando exclaimed, as we watched a few dozen rocks give way under my boot and fall 1000 feet to the trees below.

Finally, as the sun was beginning to set, we came around a rugged precipice and Fernando pointed:

"There is my valley and my people."

And as we descended he told of his wife, long since dead, and his many children and grandchildren, who mainly lived

### REVIEWS

In this somewhat limited amount of space we'd like to mention a few of the books and records we've recently received:

A Collection of Artist and Label Discographies: Second Edition: Over 400 artist, 200 label discographies (over 10,000 listings). Continuous updating service. Write for price list and information on this valuable service, to: Stak-O-Wax, Box 11412, Philadelphia, PA 19111, attn: Ken Clee (RD staff discographer)

Disco-File - Second Edition: This incredible volume, by F. L. Gonzalez, is now considered top shelf reference for r & b fans. Contains carefully documented discographical information on vocal harmony groups from 1902 to 1976. If groups are your thing, this book is a must! Complete info available from: Disco-File, Box 1812, Flushing, NY 11352

Paperback Writer - The International Beatle & Nostalgia Review: This is Vol 1, No 1 of a new fanzine. Oriented towards Beatle collecting now, but appears to be heading in a more general direction with future issues. Try a sample copy for \$1.25 from: Box 7801, Ft. Worth, TX 76111. Nicely done in a professional format! (see their ad in RD 34, pg 9 for more info.)

Finally, there's a nice new rockabilly disc available from D & G Records (3580 E. Hastings St., Vancouver, B. C. Canada) "Honey Hush," by the Rockabilly Kings. Fine rockabilly version of the Joe Turner classic. Write them for info.

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### BACK ISSUES!

NUMBERS: 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22/23 (DOUBLE), 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30/31 (DOUBLE) ARE STILL AVAILABLE. SINGLE ISSUES: ONE DOLLAR DOUBLE ISSUES: TWO DOLLARS MANY NUMBERS IN VERY SHORT SUPPLY, SO ORDER SOON!

(ANY NUMBERS FROM 32 ON ARE ALSO AVAILABLE)

on fruit, fish, and maize. He had gone away many years before, when he was young, and worked the fields of a farmer in San Jose; that's how he knew a leetle Spanish.

It was just getting dark when I spotted the first of the grass huts. A small child saw us and shouted with joy, running to get the others. They came around and stared at me in amazement - me - a school teacher from Norman, Oklahoma - I was so ordinary yet so weird to them. Then we ate and Fernando gave me his hut to sleep in, saying that tomorrow I would learn of LA MUSICA MISTICA.

Morning came early for me, as I was exhausted from the previous day's journey. The children of the village were playing with the dogs and the adults were milling around my hut when I emerged, yawning into the bright sunlight. Fernando was there with a breakfast of fruits and nuts. There was a look of anticipation on the faces of many of the villagers that made me feel like something very special was going to occur that day.

After breakfast Fernando motioned for me to follow him and together with practically everyone else there we trudged through the thick jungle foliage for about † mile. We reached the base of an almost vertical slope leading up the mountain. Suddenly several of the men began clearing away palm branches and ferns that had kept hidden from view what appeared to be a wreckage of some sort. Yes, it was a wreckage - a small plane crash. I approached cautiously and examined the remains. There were two human skeletons scattered among the debris. I searched further and uncovered the ship's log - in English. The last entry had been January 8, 1961 - almost 18 years ago::



(This Week) (Last Issue Position) 1. DO YOU THINK I'M SEXY (1) #Rod Stewart (W.B. 8724) 2. A LITTLE MORE LOVE (12)
3. FIRE (3)
4. I WILL SURVIVE (5)
5. LOTTA LOVE (6)

Olivia Newton-John (MCA 3067)
Pointer Sisters (Planet 45901)
Gloria Gaynor (Polydor 14508)
Nicolette Larson (W.B. 9664) 6. Y.M.C.A. (2) Village People (Casablanca 945) 7. SOMEWHERE IN THE NIGHT (7) Barry Manilow (Arista 0382) 8. I WAS MADE FOR DANCING (8) Leif Garrett (Atlantic 403) 9. GOT TO BE REAL (10) Cheryl Lynn (Columbia 31080) 10. SHAKE IT (11) Ian Mathews (Mushroom 7039) 11. SOUL MAN (-) Blues Bros. (Atlantic 3534) 12. HEAVEN KNOWS (13) Donna Summer & Brooklyn Dreams (Casablanca 959) 13. NO TELL LOVER (14)
14. EVERY 1'S A WINNER (4) 15. BLUE MORNING, BLUE DAY (17)
16. THE GAMBLER (-)
17. BLUE MORNING, BLUE DAY (17)
18. THE GAMBLER (-) Chicago (Columbia 10879) Kenny Rogers (Artists 1250) 17. LE FREAK (9) Chic (Atlantic 3519) 18. TRAGEDY (-) Bee Gees (RSO 918) 19. DON'T CRY OUT LOUD (19)

20. SHAKE YOUR GROOVE THING (20) Peaches & Herb (Polydor 14514)

1. SPIRITS HAVING FLOWN (-) 2. BLONDES HAVE MORE FUN (1) 3. CRUSIN (5) 4. BRIEF CASE FULL OF BLUES (2) Blues Brothers (Atlantic 19217)

5. DIRE STRAITS (12)

6. TOTALLY HOT (9) Albums 7. 52ND STREET (3)

8. TOTO (8) 9. MIMUTE BY MINUTE (10)

10. LOVE TRACKS (14) 11. C'EST CHIC (11)

12. BACKLESS (7)

13. ARMED FORCES (15)

14. BARBRA STREISAND GREATEST

16. ENERGY (18)

17. NICOLETTE (-)

18. THE BEST OF EARTH, WIND AND FIRE (16)

19. BARRY MANILOW GREATEST HITS (13)

20. PICES OF EIGHT (20)

ABee Gees (RSO 3041) Rod Stewart (W.B. 3261)

Village People (Casablanca 7118)

Melissa Manchester (Arista 0373)

Dire Straits (W.B. 3266)

Olivia Newton-John (MCA 3067) ABilly Joel (Columbia 35609)

Toto (Columbia 35317)

Doobie Brothers (W.B. 3193) Gloria Gaynor (Polydor 6184)

Chic (Atlantic 19209)

Eric Clapton (RSO 3039)

Elvis Costello (Columbia 35709)

HITS VOL. II (6) Barbra Streisand (Columbia 35 15. YOU DON'T BRING ME FLOWERS (4) Neil Diamond (Columbia 35625) Barbra Streisand (Columbia 35677)

Pointer Sisters (Planet)

Nicolette (W.B. 3243)

Earth, Wind and Fire (Columbia 35647)

Barry Manilow (Arista 8609) Styx (A&M 4724)

ARIAA Platinum Award # RIAA Gold Award

#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

A few yards away several of the villagers were clearing away another area of undergrowth. They uncovered what could be conceived to be a crude shrine or altar. Next a man brought to the foot of the altar a box made of bark or bamboo, and out he lifted an object covered with cloth and still another box came, and out came something else covered. The suspense was driving me crazy: Fernando detected my eagerness and, being the leader, approached the altar taking my arm. Slowly he uncovered the 2 objects. There it was:: All the pieces fit together now. The reason for the batteries:: There was a portable Zenith record player and a stack of 45's that had apparently been recovered from the plane!:

I reached casually for the stack of records like I would in any Salvation Army thrift shop. But Fernando stooped me. The records were sacred to these natives(As I write these words, days later, I am beginning to see just how sacred they were).

Fernando motioned for me to sit in front of the altar and several others joined me in a semi-circle. A woman came forward with a tray of food.

"Que' esta' est? (What is it?), I asked Fernando.
"Teonanacatl," he rerlied.

I'd never heard that word and looked ruzzled. But everyone took some and began eating so I joined in. It tasted a lot like mushrooms.

Well, within 30 minutes things were rapidly changing in my brain. I can't explain it; it was just like I was propelled into a whole different world - a different consciousness - awareness. THEN THE MUSIC STARTED:::

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We have many Elvis records with and without sleeves Send wants-

WOW

#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

"LA MUSICA MISTICA" Fernando exclaimed loudly and happily, as he spun the first disc. Things were becoming clearer now. These Indians had adopted the music as a sacrament for what was for me fast becoming a religious experience - apparently for them also. And the first song: "Kilimanjaro" by the Dell Vikings, a fast clip rocker I'd never heard before. I was literally laid flat on my back by the music. If I dared close my eyes I was instantly propelled into a dream-like sequential color series of images and visions from the darkest realms of my past. It was scary - like dreaming without being asleep.

Next was "Queen of the Hop," by Bobby Darin. At this moment my trance was interrupted by a villager who was spontaneously moved to dance - if "dance" is a good word for what he was doing. An epileptic fit of ecstasy would be a better way to put it. I couldn't see how he did it - I couldn't even move.

Then came "I got Stung" by Elvis. What a beat!! I'd certainly never heard it that way before. Many of the villagers were singing along with the music; yet, it was obvious no one knew what the words meant but me.

Yet as I say this, "Moments to Remember," by the Four Lads came on. Everyone's mood changed. It was as if the sad strains of the song could be felt in the hearts of the people even though they didn't know what the words meant.

I was an advanced record collector and music connoisseur. Early 50's R&B was my thing. The songs they played that day had never held much significance for me until then. I learned a lesson I'll never forget - Great art is still available in the thrift stores for \$.10. Chance Red Robin, and Parrot red



### LONDON: by Tony Neale

Eric Stewart, of the group 10cc, who fractured his skull in a car accident last month, is now recovering in a Surrey hospital.....Rod Stewart has issued a writ against WEA, preventing them from raising the price on his "Blondes Have More Fun" LP....On Mar. 9th a record titled "Hey Little Way Out Girl," by the Del Capris, is being issued on Grapevine Records (through RCA). Apparently it's a rare bird, with reportedly only one copy known in the entire country. That copy recently sold to a collector for £270! (Appx. \$400.00).....In the early sixties a record titled "Tribute to Buddy Holly" became a big hit here for Mike Berry. Now, following the 20th anniversary of Holly's death, Berry has a new single out on Lightnin' Records; a tune written by Buddy six months before he died, one that he never recorded, "Stay Close to Me.".....While on tour here, The Jordanaires were interviewed by the New Musical Express. Naturally the entire conversation was about Elvis. Here are some quotes worth repeating: "Elvis was more anxious to come to London than any other place, but the Col. never did think it was a wise move. The main reason was financial. Col. Parker would always say, "we haven't even scratched the surface in the U. S. yet, so why should we go out of the country." And, "Did you see that picture on the front of the National Enquirer? It was syndicated around the world. That was a fake! Elvis hadn't looked like that in 20 years. I think that was the cruelest thing that's been done to him; that they superimposed an older picture of him in his coffin for the front of their newspaper. Everyone who was at the funeral knows that it was a 100% fake photo!" (As far as I know, Record Digest is the first U.S. music magazine to break the story about that photo being a fraud.)

### CANADA: by Wayne Russell

Regarding Jerry Lee Lewis and his claim that Elvis sings on "Am I to be the One," it sounds more like Charlie Rich to me. Just like "Sail Away" (on the same "Duets" LP—see RD 35) which is done with Charlie Rich. By the way, Crash Craddock did the same song, "Am I to be the One," on Columbia 41316.....Elsewhere on the Sun scene, Johnny Cash's old demo for "Rock & Roll Ruby" (which he wrote for Warren Smith—Sun 239) has supposedly surfaced and is being released on Cash 1955. A boot, I presume.....Cash's current hit, "I Will Rock & Roll With You," contains lyrics about Sun artists and the mid-fifties. Mentioned are; Elvis, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis, Charlie Rich and Billy Riley.....Jack Scott has said that he will put out an LP of Elvis' songs later this year. With his fine voice he should do them very well. He's been missed by collectors.....Regarding a couple of items that appeared in the "Mailbox" recently; Troy Shondell's real name was Gary Shelton, and he had records out under his own name prior to "This Time." Notice that "If I Catch Myself Crying," the flip of the Gaye label issue of "This Time," was even written by Shelton. And, "Stay With Me," by the Beau-Marks must have been a different song than was used in "The Cardinal." It came out back in 1962.

#### LA MUSICA MISTICA (Continued)

wax couldn't compare with what I was experiencing. This music was the Indians' holy sacrament.

An eternity later(probably no more than an hour) someone accidently placed the flip side of a record on by mistake, and then quickly rectified the error. I recognized it as the B side of "Step by Step" by the Crests. These ignorant peasants had no way of knowing "Step by Step" was a million-seller and the flip was a loser. They had some kind of natural innate DISCRIMINATION:! How did they know every time? They didn't miss a song. That singular aspect confounds me today. They could just tell:! No DJ on payola had to convince them.

Finally Fernando announced to me(like a bandleader) that there would be one more song. It was late afternoon and I was weary from the ordeal. Apparently this disc was always played as the last song of the ritual because it was brought out separately, still covered, and placed near the player.

IA MUSICA MISTICA began one final time. I recognized it immediately: "The Village of St. Bernadette," by Andy Williams, a beautiful stirring ballad.

The sun was setting and there were tears in my eyes as the last strains of Ave Ma-Ri-A left my ears. And now, as I sit on a plane, several days' later, after a gruelin g journey back to town, thinking about that village, I remember the words of that song:

I've traveled far, the land and the sea. Beautiful places I happened to be. But one little town I'll never forget is Lourdes, the village of St. Bernadette.

There like a dream, this wonderful night, I gazed at the grotto aglow in the tight. A feeling devine swept over me there, and I fell to my knees as I whispered this prayer. Ave, Ave Maria, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

Now I am home, I'm happy to be telling of places I've traveled and seen. But one little town I'll never forget is Lourdes, the village of St. Bernadette. Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.....



THE "MAILBOX" IS AN OPEN FORUM FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, OPINIONS, AND COMMENTS. SEND LETTERS TO RECORD DIGEST, PRESCOTT, AZ 86301

#### WANTS TOTO PIC DISC:

Can someone tell me where I can buy a copy of the 45rpm picture disc, "Hold the Line," by Toto?

—Mrs. D. Baldwin. Co. Rte. 6 — RD 1. Phoenix. NY 13135

#### RCA REISSUE VARIATIONS:

On the original issues of Elvis' "Legendary Performer" Vol's I & II, the inner sleeve indicates certain "extras" are included. Extra takes, false starts, etc., most notably on "Such a Night" and "Cane and a High Starched Collar." These out-takes are of course present. But on the currently available copies, although the inner sleeve has not been changed, the out-takes are NOT present on the album. Can anyone tell me why RCA chose to omit these interesting tracks? And how will it affect the originals, the ones with the extra tracks. You guys do a remarkable job considering the monumental tasks you have presented yourselves with. I'll be looking forward to the new books in your series.

—Rich Upton

#### MORE MANILOW AVAILABLE:

In response to Janice Soled's letter (RD 32), I have the Barry Manilow discs she is looking for, as well as many others (including "Could it be Magic" on Bell, the 7-minute version, prior to its Arista release). Get in touch!

—Rick Sneathen, 720 Vallevista Av., Pittsburgh, PA 15234

#### LOVED ELVIS CHECKLIST:

We really loved the 1977-78 Elvis Checklist (RD 30/31). It helped me to review both what I had and what I was still missing. I particularly appreciated the "reviews" you gave each one of the boots and counterfeits. I will try to add the ones you labeled "excellent" and "well worth having" to my collection. We love the Digest and have learned a lot about record collecting.

—Jean Beck

#### **SEASONS DISC QUERY:**

I have a copy of "Little Boy (In Grown Up Clothes)" by the Four Seasons on Vee Jay that I am wondering about. It is a promo copy, but it has a star and the term "Bunky's Pick" printed on the label. Were all promo copies like this...or is this an oddity? Anybody know anything about this disc? (see photo below)

-Kevin Kimbro, Mineral Wells, TX

65-8821 -- VOCAL
Saturday MusicSeasons' Four Music-BMI (Time: 2:30)



BUNKY'S PICK

VJ-713

### MAILBOX (Continued)

#### THIS 'N' THAT:

First of all, I wanted to tell you how pleased I was with the way the Dolly Parton article and discography turned out (RD 33). I would like to mention one small addition. Dolly does some back-up vocals (along with her entire family) on her sister Stella's most recent LP, Stella Parton (Elektra 6E-126), on the track "Down to Earth."

I also really enjoyed the Cadence Records story. They have always been one of my favorite labels. In fact, I cherish my Everly Bros. records on that label above just about anything else in my collection.

I'd like to mention, too, that I was surprised to hear some readers bellowing about there being 
"too much Elvis" in RD. That's a bunch of bull! I might add that I first subscribed to RD in 
order to keep up with new Elvis releases, particularly boots. But it's been the continual flow of 
excellent, accurate and informative articles, stories and discographies that have made RD so enjoyable for me. And though I still benefit from the ads, it's the news and story content that is my 
number one reason now. Your articles on Holly, Ronstadt, Beatles, etc., have all been right up my 
alley. And a final point here, as you have previously stated: If someone has an article worth 
printing, perhaps on an artist they feel has been overlooked, the solution is to prepare something 
and send it in. I can attest to that, Jerry. I felt that something on Dolly Parton was needed in 
RD, so after receiving your go-ahead I began the story. I think all readers benefit from this procedure. Had I simply gotten pissed-off because you hadn't done a Dolly feature and cancelled my 
subscription, that wouldn't have helped anything at all.

One last thing I am really looking forward to "Music World." I truly hope the hobby of records continues to grow, for it's certainly my favorite pastime, and Record Digest has been instrumental in the growth (brought about, in part, by increased knowledge) of the hobby. The only problem seems to be the rip-off artists. Thankfully, most dealers are honest, but I look forward to the day when the crooks are put out of the picture. Along those lines, I praise RD for its stand on the "Tell Me Pretty Baby" release. You were the only publication who outrightly declared the thing a fake from the beginning. Thanks to you I never bought it (although I have a friend who got stung for five copies...when he played it for me I laughed) and I saved a few bucks.

—Steve Estes, Louisville, KY

#### LATEST LIST OF LATEST LISTS:

Once again Record Digest presents a listing of the most recent record sale/auction lists we've received. When you put out a list, send a copy to RD; we'll give you a free plug in our "Latest List" section. If you collect, you may want to send for some of these:

DOWN HOME MUSIC INC., 10341 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 Beautiful 40-page catalog. If you're into blues, contact them soon.

MEMORIES IN SOUND, Box 28556, San Diego, CA 92128

A collection of record and movie memorabilia list is available for 50-cents and an S.A.S.E. Many Presley movie posters, private photos, etc. Very interesting!

AMERICAN MUSIC COMPANY, Box 19143, Sacramento, CA 95819 20-page tabloid containing a little of everything. A recommended list.

VICTOR SEMMEL, 71 W. 47th St., Rm 705, New York, NY 10036
Victor's 48-page Elvis catalog is loaded with domestic, foreign, boots, etc. See
his ad in this issue for costs and more info. It's the largest El catalog we've seen!

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