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General News
Indie Switch
For Tomato

NEW YORK—In a small reversal
of the trend, a custom label has gone
independent. Kevin Eggers, form-
erly associated with Giorgio
Gomelsky in the RCA-distributed
Utopia label, has formed The To-
mato Music Co. Ltd.

Eggers is president of the new la-
bel, with former Utopia associates
Ken Greengrass named executive
vice president and graphic artist
Milton Glaser. Phil Lawrence is sec-
retary-treasurer.

Gomelsky is now doing independ-
ent production. Both he and Eggers
report that the worldwide manufactur-
ing-distribution agreement with
RCA for Utopia and their
Gomelsky/Eggers Music & Infor-
mation Co. was terminated by mutu-
al consent.

Herb Goldfarb Associates will set
up independent distribution and
coordinate all sales and marketing,
with ERE handling album produc-
tion, says Eggers. He looks forward
to controlling the product directly in
all areas.

Former Utopia artists Albert King
and Magma, the French contempo-
rary band, are on the Tomato roster.

Initial release of five albums this
month includes a two-LP set by
country blues artist Townes Van
Zandt, a Magma LP, blues artist
Clifton Chenier recorded live at the
Montreux Jazz Festival, avant-garde
pianist John Cage, and "A Tribute
To Leadbelly," recorded live at New
York's Hunter College in 1975 with
Arlo Guthrie and Pete Seeger,
among others.

Temporary offices are at 595
Madison Ave., Suite 903, New York
10022, phone (212) 759-3794.

RCA Teeing Its
Pablo Live Push

NEW YORK—RCA Records will
launch a two-month merchandising
campaign on behalf of its new cus-
tom label, Pablo Live. The sales
push will focus on the label's first
three releases which include historic
performances by John Coltrane,
Milt Jackson and the Jazz at the
Philharmonic All Stars. Also tied in
will be seven upcoming albums on
the Pablo line.

The May-June drive features a
display kit for dealers and RCA
sales branches. Included are dealer
order forms, posters, easel-back LP
covers of 20 Pablo artists, an up-
dated Pablo catalog and new LP
jackets for the year-long Pablo dis-
play piece introduced by RCA last
year.

Additional support will come
from nationwide radio time buys
and print advertising in the jazz
press and local consumer press.

Scheduled for May release on
Pablo is an album reuniting Lalo
Schiffrin and Dizzy Gillespie. Slated
for June are LPs by Count Basie, Joe
Turner, Jo Jones, Ray Bryant, Ray
Pizzi and Oscar Peterson-Joe Pass-
Ray Brown.

2 Firms In Merger

LOS ANGELES—Almar Man-
agement and International Business
Management have merged.

Awards To Arista

NEW YORK—Arista has won
three American Institute of Graphic
Arts awards for use of portrait art on
"The Red Norvo Trio" and Milt
Jackson's "Second Nature" album
covers, and for a graphic illustration
on the cover of Ted Curson's "Tears
For Dolphy" on Freedom Records.
Norvo and Jackson are on the Savoy
label.

Rock Singles Best Sellers

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As Of 5/9/77
Compiled from selected rackjobbers by the Record Market Research Dept. of Billboard.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 SOUTHERN NIGHTS—Glen Campbell—Capitol 4376 | 21 CALLING DR. LOVE—Kiss—Casablanca 880 |
| 2 WHEN I NEED YOU—Leo Sayer, Warner Bros. 8332 | 22 HELLO STRANGER—Yvonne Elliman—RSO 871 |
| 3 HOTEL CALIFORNIA—Eagles—Asylum 45386 | 23 LONELY BOY—Andrew Gold—Asylum 45384 |
| 4 RIGHT TIME OF THE NIGHT—Jennifer Warnes—Arista 0223 | 24 ARIEL—Dean Friedman—Lifesong 45022 |
| 5 RICH GIRL—Daryl Hall & John Oates—RCA 10860 | 25 CAN'T STOP DANCING—Captain & Tennille—A&M 1912 |
| 6 DON'T GIVE UP ON US—David Soul—Private Stock 45129 | 26 ANGEL IN YOUR ARMS—Hot—Big Tree 16085 |
| 7 SIR DUKE—Stevie Wonder—Tamla 54281 | 27 HEARD IT IN A LOVE SONG—Marshall Tucker Band—Capricorn 0270 |
| 8 LIDO SHUFFLE—Boyz Scaggs—Columbia 3-10491 | 28 DANCING QUEEN—Abba—Atlantic 3372 |
| 9 LUCILLE—Kenny Rogers—United Artists 929 | 29 DO YOU WANNA MAKE LOVE—Peter McCann—20th Century 2335 |
| 10 THE THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE—10cc—Mercury 73875 | 30 YOUR LOVE—Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr.—ABC 12262 |
| 11 I'M YOUR BOOGIE MAN—K.C. & The Sunshine Band—TK 1022 | 31 UNDERCOVER ANGEL—Alan O'Day—Pacific 001 |
| 12 I'VE GOT LOVE ON MY MIND—Natalie Cole—Capitol 4360 | 32 MARGARITAVILLE—Jimmy Buffett—ABC 12254 |
| 13 I WANNA GET NEXT TO YOU—Rose Royce—MCA 40662 | 33 CARRY ON WAYWARD SON—Kansas—Kirshner 4267 |
| 14 GONNA FLY NOW (Theme From "Rocky")—Bill Conti—United Artists 940 | 34 DANCING MAN—Q—Epic/Sweet City 8-50335 |
| 15 DREAMS—Fleetwood Mac—Warner Bros. 8371 | 35 LONG TIME—Boston—Epic 8-50329 |
| 16 SO IN TO YOU—Atlanta Rhythm Section, Polydor 14373 | 36 GOT TO GIVE IT UP, Pt. 1—Marvin Gaye—Tamla 54280 |
| 17 FEELS LIKE THE FIRST TIME—Foreigner—Atlantic 3384 | 37 MAINSTREET—Bob Seger—Capitol 4422 |
| 18 DON'T LEAVE ME THIS WAY—Thelma Houston—Tamla 54278 | 38 CRACKERBOX PALACE—George Harrison—Dark Horse 3313 |
| 19 LOVE THEME FROM "A STAR IS BORN" (Evergreen)—Barbra Streisand—Columbia 3-10450 | 39 CHERRY BABY—Starz—Capitol 4399 |
| 20 COULDN'T GET IT RIGHT—Climax Blues Band—Sire 736 | 40 THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST—Rod Stewart—Warner Bros. 8321 |

Rock LP Best Sellers

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As Of 5/10/77
Compiled from selected rackjobbers by the Record Market Research Dept. of Billboard.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 HOTEL CALIFORNIA—Eagles—Asylum 7E-1084 | 21 ANIMALS—Pink Floyd—Columbia JC 34474 |
| 2 A STAR IS BORN/ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK RECORDING—Barbra Streisand & Kris Kristofferson—Columbia JS 34403 | 22 SONGS FROM THE WOOD—Jethro Tull—Chrysalis CHR 1132 |
| 3 RUMOURS—Fleetwood Mac—Warner Bros. BSK 3010 | 23 FLEETWOOD MAC—Reprise MS2225 |
| 4 BOSTON—Epic PE 34188 | 24 DREAMBOAT ANNIE—Heart—Mushroom MRS 5005 |
| 5 THIS ONE'S FOR YOU—Barry Manilow—Arista AL 4090 | 25 ENDLESS FLIGHT—Leo Sayer—Warner Bros. BS 2962 |
| 6 SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE—Stevie Wonder—Tamla T13-340C2 | 26 LOVE AT THE GREEK—Neil Diamond, Columbia KC2 34404 |
| 7 LEFTOVERTURE—Kansas—Kirshner PZ 34334 | 27 COME IN FROM THE RAIN—Captain & Tennille—A&M SP 4700 |
| 8 THEIR GREATEST HITS 1971-1975—Eagles—Asylum 7E-1052 | 28 GO FOR YOUR GUNS—Isley Brothers—T-Neck PZ 34432 |
| 9 ROCKY/ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK—United Artists UA-LA693-G | 29 UNPREDICTABLE—Natalie Cole, Capitol SO 11600 |
| 10 SILK DEGREES—Boyz Scaggs—Columbia PC 33920 | 30 MARVIN GAYE LIVE AT THE LONDON PALLADIUM—Tamla T7-352R2 |
| 11 DESTROYER—Kiss—Casablanca NBLP 7025 | 31 ENDLESS SUMMER—Beach Boys—Capitol SBVO 11307 |
| 12 TRYIN' TO GET THE FEELING—Barry Manilow—Arista 4060 | 32 TOYS IN THE ATTIC—Aerosmith—Columbia PC 33479 |
| 13 GREATEST HITS—Linda Ronstadt—Asylum 7E-1092 | 33 DAVID SOUL—David Soul—Private Stock PS 2109 |
| 14 THE BEST OF THE DOOBIES—Doobie Brothers—Warner Bros. BS 2978 | 34 A NEW WORLD RECORD—Electric Light Orchestra—United Artists UA-LA679-G |
| 15 FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE—Peter Frampton—A&M SP 3703 | 35 K.C. & THE SUNSHINE BAND, Part 3—TK 605 |
| 16 NIGHT MOVES—Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band—Capitol ST 1157 | 36 WINGS OVER AMERICA—Capitol SWGO 11593 |
| 17 ROCK AND ROLL OVER—Kiss—Casablanca NBLP 7037 | 37 COMMODORES—Motown M7-884R1 |
| 18 FLY LIKE AN EAGLE—Steve Miller Band—Capitol 11516 | 38 ANYWAY YOU LIKE IT—Thelma Houston—Tamla T6-345S1 |
| 19 ALIVE!—Kiss—Casablanca NBLP 7020 | 39 JOHN DENVER'S GREATEST HITS VOL. 2—RCA CPL1 2195 |
| 20 A ROCK AND ROLL ALTERNATIVE—Atlanta Rhythm Section—Polydor PD-1-6080 | 40 SONG OF JOY—Captain & Tennille—A&M SP 4570 |

Ad Jingle Writers Ask ASCAP Pay Hike

NEW YORK—The Society of Advertising Music Producers, Arrangers and Composers, a trade association consisting of 106 members in the commercial music field, has formally requested ASCAP to increase by tenfold the remuneration given to commercial composers for radio and television jingles.

The request grew out of the association's first anniversary gathering, held in New York May 3. Meeting at the Summit Hotel, the SAMPAC members agreed to follow up previously informal negotiations by petitioning the licensing organization for the 1000% increase.

A spokesman for ASCAP confirms that the request has been received and reports that it will be considered at a meeting of the organization scheduled for June.