

## POP PICKS

**BOB DYLAN**



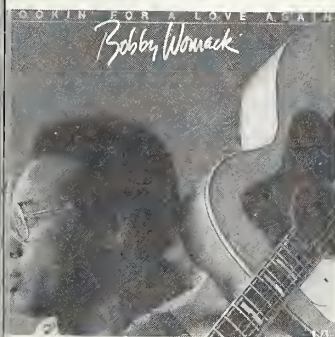
**PLANET WAVES**—Bob Dylan—Asylum 7E-1003-A

It seems that each of Bob's albums is awaited with baited breath, and one listen to this LP will give you a good idea why he is indeed one of the superstars of pop music. His first release for Asylum, Bob's LP is not that different stylistically from his work on "New Morning" and "Self Portrait", but it is fresh material, loaded with typical Dylan insight and good will ("Forever Young"). "On a Night Like This", "Going Going Gone", "Tough Mama", "Hazel", "Something There Is About You", "You Angel You", "Dirge", "Never Say Goodbye", and "Wedding Song" all incorporate the inimitable Dylan style of music and philosophy. A thoroughly enjoyable album on many levels, the LP will reach the top within a month.



**COURT AND SPARK**—Joni Mitchell—Asylum 7E-1001

Love is the key to Joni's fantastic new LP, but don't believe that money and love don't go hand in hand. This will be her biggest seller to date. The music Joni has written for this LP includes some of her finest work and the highlight of the package, her new single, "Raised on Robbery", is headed for the top. The title track is one of her most provocative tunes, musically as well as lyrically. David Crosby and Graham Nash lend their vocal talents and the accompanying musicianship Joni has rounded up on this LP is impeccable. "Down To You", "People's Parties", "Free Man In Paris", and "Just Like This Train" are our particular favorites.



**LOOKIN' FOR A LOVE**—Bobby Womack—United Artists UA-LA199-G

Highlighted by the fantastic soul struttin' title track single, Bobby's new venture is an enticing collection from the artist they call "Mr. Soul" at all the clubs from Macon, Ga. to Memphis. "Doing It My Way", "There's One Thing That Beats Failing", "You're Messing Up A Good Thing", "You're Welcome, Stop On By", and "Point of No Return" are unequivocally excellent in every sense of the word, featuring Bobby's unique vocals in a perfect frame of musical reference. Always a great live performer, Bobby brings you into the studio with him on this LP, especially on "Let It Hang Out". Get this LP and bring yourself up.



**DIFFERENT DRUM**—Linda Ronstadt—Capitol—ST11269

The Linda Ronstadt Express has finally shifted into high gear with the success of her latest "Don't Cry Now" LP and her "Love Has No Pride" single, so this collection of "Greatest Hits" could not have come at a better time. The package is an exceptional one as it not only includes Linda's great early material, but photos of the lady throughout her performing years. Musically, the highlights here are "Different Drum", her classic with the Stone Poneys, her tremendous cover of Jackson Browne's great "Rock Me On The Water", the tenderly brilliant "Long, Long Time", and even her mesmerizing treatment of Dylan's "I'll Be Your Baby Tonight". No denying the power of the material or the appeal of the lovely Linda as the most dynamic female performer of our times. This collection is a must for pop, country or just Linda Ronstadt fanatics.



**WINDFALL**—Rick Nelson and the Stone Canyon Band—MCA-383

Rick Nelson, a nostalgic name for some, is an inspiration for a whole new audience of music fans. This superior LP is a bit of a departure from the country style he and the Stone Canyon Band have set over the course of the last few years, yet it's probably his best with the band, incorporating as it does some good straight rock ("Someone To Love") and a haunting jazz tune, "How Many Times". Rick has collaborated with Dennis Larden (formerly with Every Mother's Son) in writing most of the material, and it's excellent, ranging from introspection to funky, bold statements like "Evil Woman Child". Solid LP.



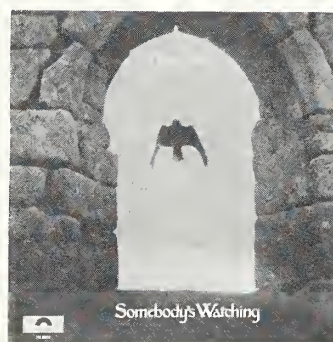
**THE BEST OF JOHN MAYALL**—John Mayall—Polydor—PD 2-3006

The man who gave so many of Britain's pop stars their first shot at a decent gig has been captured at his best in this great two record sets which incorporates material recorded over the space of nearly a decade into a cohesive unit that puts the artists many incredible achievements into a neat perspective that highlights his intensity and drive. "Play the Harp", "Boogie Albert", "Good Looking Stranger", "Room To Move", "Mess Around", "Do It", "California Campground", "Red Sky", and "Things Go Wrong" are all here and so are Eric Clapton, Keef Hartley, and Mick Taylor. A must for all Mayall fans.



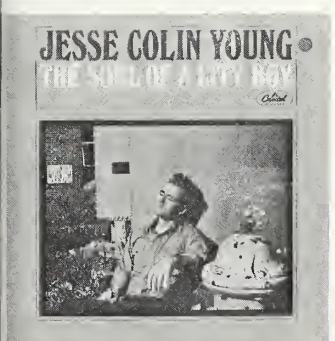
**SOLAR FIRE**—Manfred Mann's Earth Band—Polydor PD 6019

The enigmatic Mr. Mann has another interesting collection of songs in this new LP which further establish him as one of the most respected talents in music today. He's come a long way since "Doo-Wah-Diddy", and though the music's changed radically over the years, the overall feeling's the same—positive. "Father of Day, Father of Night", "Pluto The Dog", and "Saturn, Lord of the Ring, Mercury, The Winged Messenger" are exceptional compositions reflecting the varied textures the group has been exploring of late. As usual, Mann's organ, synthesizer, and vocals give substance to the band's fine material.



**SOMEBODY'S WATCHING**—Rare Bird—Polydor—PD 6502

Highlighted by the stunning title track single, Rare Bird's Polydor LP, is a masterwork of textures and sounds blended into a dynamic, unified whole that sparkles with creativity and promise. An excellent act in person, the band has managed the difficult task of translating their music onto record. "Turn Your Head", "More and More", "Third Time Around", and "Who Is The Hero" aptly demonstrates that the group is totally versatile. Aside from producing the package, Rare Bird has combined good material with careful dynamics—a sure sign of professionalism. "Dollars", with tracts from the Clint Eastwood film, is great.



**THE SOUL OF A CITY BOY**—Jesse Colin Young—Capitol ST-11267

This is a rare opportunity for those who are familiar only with the Jesse Colin Young of the '70's to discover the roots that made up the soul and substance of the talented artist in 1964. Ranging from Jesse's adaptations of traditional songs to his first attempts at writing, the LP is an interesting time trip that reveals the composer/performer in a crucial stage of his development. Included in this package are "Suzanne", "Stranger Love", "Four In The Morning", "Rye Whiskey", "Whoa Baby", and "Talk To Me", each of which sparkles with the energy and enthusiasm.



**16 AND SAVAGED**—Silverhead—MCA-391

In the sterling tradition of hard rock, Silverhead hits home with this blockbusting MCA LP which incorporates the best of basic rhythm patterns with great lead guitar and vocal work. "Hello New York" sounds very much like Rod Stewart and the Faces—overpowering and fiery. The band really cooks on "More Than Your Mouth Can Hold" a (parody) and does a brilliant job on the bluesy "Only You". The title track is an interesting piece in which the group mixes its pace beautifully, weaving and bobbing on a musical joyride. "Rock Out Claudette Rock Out", and "Bright Light" are exceptional.



**IT'S ONLY A MOVIE**—Family—United Artists UA-LA181-F

The family concept in music has always been popular, but this LP puts the picture into a new and exciting dimension. Family's new UA LP is a brilliant collection that demonstrates that the shortest distance between two minds is communication. The title track is an enchanting tune, well-balanced, not fancy, but effective, a trademark of the band which for years has been one of the most popular on the concert circuit. "Banger" is a great slow boogie instrumental that'll have you doing the popular lock immediately while "Sweet Desiree" is one of the funkier songs the group has ever written. Superb job all around.



**FOR SALE**—Casey Kelly—Elektra Elektra 75072

Casey has a lot to be proud of with his new Elektra LP, a package that spotlights his flair for goodtime music and his consummate ability to write bright, happy songs. With his heart in good 'ole rock and roll and his head into descriptive, colorful lyrics, Casey's album is like a patch of blue sky on a cloudy day. "Just Enjoy All You Can Stand", "It's Too Late To Change What's Happened", "And I'm Home", "Honey Wait For Me", and "Bayou Country" are captivating, almost elegant in their tight arrangements and assertive musical phrases. Casey seems to be in touch with what's happening, and the LP reflects this awareness.