

COUNTRY MUSIC

INDIE PICK OF THE WEEK

■ PETRELLA (Playback)

Producer: Jack Gale

Album: *Petrella*

Country-soul is what they're calling her,



and Petrella's self-titled Playback album leaves little doubt as to how much room there is for such a sound in modern music. The current single, "I Found Somebody," which is a remake of the old Glenn Frey hit is currently at #71 on the *Cash Box* Top 100 Country Singles chart. Also included are the selections "Blues Stay Away From Me" and "This Isn't Goodbye," which were actually a two-sided hit last year. The lp was produced in Nashville by noted producer Jack Gale and also features two selections which were written by Petrella, "Patience" and "Living On A Shoestring."

INDIE CHART ACTION—Once again, Marion Hammers leads the independents with her latest single, "Get Me Just As Close To Her As You Can," on the Interstate 40 label. Hammers moves up one chart spot to #44. Kevin Charles on Stargem moves up four to #54 this week with "The Tears In Mama's Eyes." Stop Hunger's Jack Hollingsworth slides up two to rest at #55, and Doc Randolph climbs forward three spots with his latest Stargem single, "Fantasies Of You," up this week to #56.

INDIE NEWS BRIEFS—Toy Caldwell, former leader and one of the founders of the legendary southern rock group The Marshall Tucker Band, died in his sleep the morning of February 25 at his home in Spartanburg, South Carolina. A formal announcement of the cause of death has not been issued, but Toy was known to have had a chronic bronchial condition, and of late, that condition had worsened severely. Toy is survived by his wife of 23 years, Abbie, and two daughters. He was 45 years old. From 1970 to 1985, Toy Caldwell stretched musical boundaries with The Marshall Tucker Band. As lead singer and principal songwriter for the group, Toy composed such anthems as "Can't You See," "Heard It In A Love Song," "This Ol' Cowboy" and many more. His recognizable vocals and fiery guitar work were trademarks for the group's 18 albums—five of which reached gold sales status and two were certified platinum.

INDIE FEATURE PICKS

■ Bill Wilkerson, Jr. "You're My One And Only You" (Stargem)

Writer: William E. Wilkerson, Jr.

Bill Wilkerson, Jr. lends a heartfelt country croon to this nostalgic look at love called "You're My One And Only You." Lively guitars blend with a tasteful piano and well-structured harmonies add spice to the cut.

■ J.R. RANDOLPH "Somebody's Stealin'" (Playback)

Writers: Meeker/Phillips/Canup

Album: *Goin' Strong*

"Somebody's stealin' me out of your mind" is the light-hearted complaint filed by Playback's J.R. Randolph. There's some good musicianship here, with a lively fiddle strengthening the song's integrity.



PAYCHECK, ETC.—Johnny Paycheck took a break from recording recently to hang out with some of his musical friends. He will release a new album soon on Playback Records. (Correction: In last week's indie column, Paycheck was credited incorrectly to the Stargem label.) Paycheck's Playback album will include Paycheck standards like "Take This Job And Shove It," and "The Old Violin," plus new material. Pictured (l-r) are: Playback's Len Jinks and Jack Gale, Paycheck, and *Cash Box*/Nashville director of operations Mark Wagner and *Cash Box*/Nashville editor Brad Hogue.

Cash Box INDIE INSIGHT



ANOTHER NUMBER ONE—BMI hosted a lunch for Vince Gill honoring his current hit, "Don't Let Our Love Start Slippin' Away." Gill also celebrated his first-ever golfing hole-in-one! Pictured on stage after the presentation at the Bluebird Cafe (l-r) are: BMI vice president Roger Sovine, Foreshadow Songs' Terrell Ketchum, Vince Gill, Pete Wasner, MCA chairman Bruce Hinton, and BMI senior director Jody Williams. (Photo Credit: Alan Mayor)



CELEBRATING CYRUS—Mercury/Nashville's Billy Ray Cyrus and label executives have lots to celebrate these days. They all gathered at Le Dome Restaurant in Hollywood after the recent American Music Awards where Cyrus was honored with "Favorite New Artist, Country" and "Favorite Single" trophies. Pictured (l-r) are: Mercury/New York president Ed Eckstine, Mercury/Nashville senior vice president/creative Harold Shedd, vice president/communications Sandy Neese, BRC, and Mercury/Nashville president Luke Lewis.



CANADIAN MILLIONS—Paul Church; Capitol-EMI Canada, presents Liberty Records with an award commemorating Garth Brooks' record-breaking sales in Canada. Pictured (l-r) are: Cindy Wilson; vice president of international, Liberty Records, Paul Church; Capitol-EMI Canada, Jimmy Bowen; president of Liberty Records, and Marty Craghead; International manager, Liberty Records. (Photo Credit: John Lee Montgomery)