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Judge Decries 'Aid' To Piracy By Labels

Judge Warren J. Ferguson Thursday (25) found Janos L. Novotni guilty of one count of conspiracy and seven counts of wilfully and for profit infringing upon copyrighted recorded performances after a three-day trial. Novotni's fellow defendant Raymond A. Jennings was found not guilty on all counts.

By JOHN SIPPEL

LOS ANGELES—Record labels whose subsidiaries sell raw products to tape pirates are aiding and abetting violation of the federal law

which they themselves lobbied in favor of. Federal District Judge Warren J. Ferguson so blasted the double standards of some entities in the industry at the trial of Raymond A. Jennings, 35, and Janos Laszlo Novotni, 47, both of whom are accused of conspiring to violate copyrighted recorded performances.

Their trial results from a prior indictment by a Federal Grand Jury, which also cited Arpad Loecsey, 1300 Glenoakes, Pasadena, Calif., who Tuesday (23) pled guilty before Judge Ferguson. Sentencing was set for Sept. 26.

Loecsey, also known as Art Goldman, was previously convicted of tape piracy before Judge Ferguson in late 1973.

William E. Starling Jr., former Capitol Magnetics salesman, testi-

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Production Of Disks Tailing Off In Japan

By ALEX ABRAMOFF

TOKYO—Japanese production of records in the first six months of the current year dipped both in units and dollars over the comparable period a year ago, according to statistics released by the Japan Phonograph Record Assn.

The association reports that the total production of records in the period was 88,224,000 units, a decrease of 11% under the corresponding pe-

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RCA 'Pressing' To Satisfy Unabated Presley Demand

By ROMAN KOZAK & STEPHEN TRAIMAN

NEW YORK—More than a week after the death of Elvis Presley, neither love for the fallen idol nor demand for his product had abated. According to some wholesaler accounts, demand for Elvis product is running 30 times ahead of supply, with rackjobbers, one-stops and re-

tailers waiting impatiently for orders.

The run on all Presley product already has had a dramatic effect on both his recently released LP, "Moody Blue," and single, "Way Down." After two weeks stalled at No. 24 on Billboard's Top LPs &

Tapes, the album is No. 5 with a star this week, its 11th on the chart. And the single, which had dropped to 53 from 47 the week Elvis died, is No. 35 with a star on this week's Hot 100, its seventh on that chart.

RCA is finding itself literally hard-pressed to keep up with unabating demand for LPs, tapes and singles. Its vertically integrated Indianapolis operation has been running seven days, 24 hours, pressing all 50 LPs in the catalog, as well as producing tapes and singles.

While no detailed figures on either shipments or sales of exact titles will be available from the label until next week at the earliest—with all available outside pressing facilities used, reliable industry sources indicate about 20 million units being shipped weekly on all Presley product in the U.S. for RCA.

An RCA spokesman re-emphasized that the label was trying to fill every order with a minimum of de-

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Conference Call Hooks Up Chelsea With Nation's PDs

By CLAUDE HALL

LOS ANGELES—Chelsea Records has launched a series of conference phone calls weekly—and a unique weekly record tipsheet—with 50 of the nation's leading Top 40 program directors and Barry Fiedel, vice president of promotion, says the "rapport" calls about music will be expanded soon to include 100 program directors.

In addition, Richard Sargent, na-

tional promotion executive at the label, is launching similar phone conference calls with album rock (progressive) radio stations. John Antoon, who has joined the label in national promotion, will be introducing the same type of conference calls with adult contemporary program directors.

Among those involved in the

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Billboard's Top Single

Billboard SPECIAL SURVEY For Week Ending 9/3/77

Number of singles reviewed
this week **96** Last week **82**

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SMOKIE—Needles and Pins (2:44); producer: Mike Chapman; writers: S. Bono, J. Nitzsche; publisher: Metric, BMI. RSO RS881 (Polydor). The group that scored big with "Living Next Door To Alice," has come up with a supercharged multi-hook ladden perfect AM radio record. The Soho Bono-Jack Nitzsche penned tune is strong from the outset and maintains a devastatingly infectious beat throughout.

LINDA RONSTADT—Blue Bayou (3:57); producer: Peter Asher; writers: Roy Orbison, Joe Melson; publisher: Acuff-Rose, BMI. Asylum E45431A (Elektra/Asylum). The queen of torchy rock slows the pace down here somewhat with a moody, laid back sort of ballad with Southern flavoring. The sensuous vocal and basic instrumentation peaks and valleys in catchy fashion.

PABLO CRUISE—A Place In The Sun (3:40); producer: Bill Schnee; writers: Cockrell, Lerios; publishers: Irving/Pablo Cruise, BMI. A&M 1976S. This is another release from the group's successful LP of the same name which also yielded the smash hit "Watcha Gonna Do." The group here combines a hard-driving rhythm with a prominent, wailing lead guitarist. The strong lead vocal is raw-edged and blues-based contrasting with a rather smooth, harmonized background vocal chorus.

NEIL YOUNG—Like A Hurricane (5:24); producers: Neil Young, David Briggs, Tim Mulligan; writer: Neil Young; publisher: Silver Fiddle, BMI. Reprise RPS1391 (Warner Bros.). Young's blistering guitar showcase highlights this love dirge. And he is singing with the conviction that has made him one of rock's most distinctive vocalists. While the nifty guitar licks only reinforce his presence as a stylistic guitarist. Culled from his "American Stars & Bars" LP, it is already an FM standard.

LENNY LE BLANC—Hound Dog Man (Play It Again) (2:29); producer: Pete Carr; writer: Tommy Stuart; publisher: Fancy That, ASCAP. Big Tree BT16062 (Atlantic). This is a timely and tasteful tribute to the late Elvis Presley evoking not only nostalgic references to Presley but to the 50s and the rock era he helped define. Musically, it is gently acoustic dominated by guitar and piano and sweetened with strings. LeBlanc is produced here by his sometime partner, Pete Carr.

recommended

ADDRISI BROTHERS—Does She Do It Like She Dances (2:50); producer: Norbert Putnam; writers: S. Duboff/G. Roberson; publishers: American Broadcasting, ASCAP. Buddah BDAS579.

LITTLE FEAT—Time Loves A Hero (3:47); producer: Ted Templeman; writers: Bill Payne, Paul Barrere, Ken Gradney; publishers: Streetlights/Barrere/Naked Snake/Kgin, BMI. Warner Bros. WBS8420.

BERT SOMMER—When You Feel It (3:21); producer: Ron Dante; writers: B. Sommer, M. Lembeck; publishers: Somersongs/Ripparthur, BMI/ASCAP. Capitol P4480.

SECTION—Bad Shoes (2:49); producer: The Section; writers: C. Doerge, J. Henske; publishers: May Fly/Mouse Tower, ASCAP. Capitol P4482.

SHERBET—Midsummer Madness (3:26); producers: Sherbet, Richard Lush; writers: H. James, G. Porter, T. Mitchell; publisher: Razzle, BMI. MCA, MCA40785.

DAVID CASTLE—Ten To Eight (3:37); producer: Joe Porter; writer: David Castle; publisher: Unart, BMI. Parachute RR501 (Casablanca).

TIM MOORE—Strengthen My Love (3:39); producer: Michael J. Jackson; writer: Tim More; publishers: Ackee/Andustin, ASCAP. Asylum E45427A (Elektra/Asylum).

BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS—Waiting In Vain (3:29); producers: Bob Marley and the Wailers; writer: Bob Marley; publishers: Bob Marley/Almo, ASCAP. Island IS092A.

RUSSY WIER—Good Good Lovin' (3:27); producer: Glen

tive on this super rhythmic number. Heavy bottom is carried throughout. This single maintains a constant midtempo beat while building.

ROSE ROYCE—Do Your Dance—Part 1 (3:29); producer: Norman Whitfield; writers: Norman Whitfield, D. Turner; publishers: May Twelfth/Warner-Tamerlane, BMI. Whitfield WH18440 (Warner Bros.). Hand clapping and chanting lead to a mellow female vocalist whose efforts are surrounded by large funky instruments. Other group members are spotlighted both vocally and instrumentally. Interesting musical changes are well worked on this saucy uptempo number.

recommended

FANTASTIC FOUR—I Got To Have Your Love (3:28); producers: Dennis Coffey, James Epps; writers: Lawrence Perry, James Epps, Dennis Coffey; publisher: Bridgeport, BMI. Westbound WB55403 (Atlantic).

ATTITUDES—In A Stranger's Arms (3:58); producers: Attitudes, Jay Lewis; writer: D. Kortchmar; publishers: Ganga, BMI/Kortchmar, ASCAP. Dark Horse DRC8452 (Warner Bros.).

LOCKSMITH—Summer Song (2:59); producer: Grover Washington Jr.; writers: John Blake, Tyrone Brown; publisher: G.W. Jr., ASCAP. KUDU Ku941.

RON HENDERSON & CHOICE OF COLOUR—Don't Take Her For Granted (3:48); producers: Duke Hall, Wayne Jernigan; writers: Ron Henderson; publisher: People Pleaser, BMI. Chelsea CH3067.

CHECKMATES LTD.—Take All The Time You Need (3:20); producer: Richie Rome; writers: Rome, Hurtt; publishers: Veleria, BMI/Cookie, BMI/Richie Rome, ASCAP. Fantasy F800AM.

MYSTIQUE—It Took A Woman Like You (3:35); producers: Jesse Boyce, Ralph Johnson; writer: J. Boyce; publisher: Song Tailors, BMI. Curtom CMS0130 (Warner Bros.).

PHILLY U.S.A.—Speak Well (3:08); producer: Peter De Angelis; writers: GiGilio, Grimes, Troccoli; publishers: Cheren-Kushins/Piedmont, ASCAP. West End WES1206.

GOLD—If You Can Dance (3:24); producer: Avelino Pitts; writer: Rex Krebs; publisher: Pitts Family, ASCAP. MRC MR0100.

LITTLE JOHNNY AND TED TAYLOR—Pretending Love (2:55); producer: not listed; writer: Ted Taylor; publisher: Su-Ma, BMI. Ronn, Ronn89.

MOMENTS—I Don't Wanna Go (3:25); producer: Sylvia Robinson; writers: Bruce Roberts, Carole Sager; publishers: Unichappell/Begonia/Fedora, BMI. Stang ST5073A (Platinum).

CLARENCE CARTER—What Was I Supposed To Do (5:30); producer: Clarence Carter; writer: Clarence Carter; publisher: Future Stars, BMI. Ronn Ronn90 (Jewel).

ANN SEXTON—I Want To Be Loved (3:14); producer: John Richbourg; writer: Frank Johnson; publishers: Song Tailors/Stone Diamond, BMI. Monument 45225.



LARRY GATLIN—Love Is Just A Game (3:30); producer: Fred Foster; writer: Larry Gatlin; publisher: First Generation, BMI. Monument 45226. Gatlin reaches impressive vocal heights in this challenging song he wrote himself. It contains some brilliant lines—"we're not making love, we're keeping score"—and evolves into a lavish production number with a fast building finale.

DONNA FARGO—Shame On Me (2:50); producer: Stan Ver; writers: L. Williams-B. Enis; publishers: Regent/Knox, BMI. Warner Bros. WBS8431. Strong on recitation Fargo uses that device after establishing the opening theme of the song. An on the mark singing job and a good acting on the lyrics help to successfully revive this evergreen number.

SAMMI SMITH—Days That End In "Y" (2:47); producer: Jim Malloy-David Malloy; writers: Even Stevens-Jim Malloy; publisher: DebDave, BMI. Elektra E45429. This craftily produced song is performed in the husky-voiced Smith manner. "I only miss him on the days that end in 'Y,'" sings Smith in this ballad of a love that seems to be dying. Strings and voices sweeten the background.

MEL McDANIEL—Soul Of A Honky Tonk Woman (2:44); producer: Johnny MacRae; writers: B. Morrison-H. Coleman; publisher: Music City, ASCAP. Capitol P4481. McDaniel has been growing stronger on each outing and this should continue the trend. Basic country lyrics and a steady performance from McDaniel are boosted by some excellent guitar work and clean production.

HANK SNOW—I'm Still Movin' On (3:20); producer: Chuck Glaser; writers: Shel Silverstein-Hank Snow-Charles E. Snow; publisher: Belinda, BMI. RCA JH11080. Catchy and cute remake of the old Snow hit performed in the new swinging Snow style. Shel Silverstein had a hand with the new lyrics that have Snow singing the news of his resurgence. Bright brash piano, guitar, bass and fiddle surround Snow in the upbeat number.

recommended

RONNIE McDOWELL—The King Is Gone (3:13); producer: Ronnie McDowell/Lee Morgan; writers: Ronnie McDowell/Lee Morgan; publishers: Midnight & Brim, SESAC. Scorpio GRT135.

DALE McBRIDE—My Girl (2:25); producer: Bill Walker; writer: Dale McBride; publisher: Con Brio, BMI. Con Brio 124.

MACK VICKERY—Here's To The Horses (2:49); producer: Eddie Kilroy; writers: R. Bourke-G. Dobbins-H. Moffatt; publishers: Chappell, ASCAP/Belinda, BMI. Playboy ZS85814.

JODY MILLER—Another Lonely Night (2:01); producer: Larry Butler; writers: J. Crutchfield-L. Butler; publishers: Dixie Jane/Tree, BMI. Epic 850432.

EVEN STEVENS & SHERRY GROOMS—The King Of Country Music Meets The Queen Of Rock & Roll (2:57); producer: Jim & David Malloy with Shel Silverstein; writer: Shel Silverstein; publisher: Evil Eye, BMI. Elektra E45430.

RUBY FALLS—You've Got To Mend This Heartache (2:30); producers: Johnny Howard and Charles Fields; writers: Field/Riis-Falls; publishers: Sandburn/Music Craftshop, ASCAP. 5 States FS56.

EDDIE MIDDLETON—Endlessly (2:46); producers: Sonny Limbo and Mickey Buckins; writers: C. Otis-B. Benton; publisher: Vogue, BMI. Epic/Cleveland International 850431.

RANDY BAIRD—If You Were A Song (3:11); producer: Don Tweedy; writers: D. Hice-R. Hice; publisher: Mandy, ASCAP. Vanguard VSD35199.

BILLY PARKER—If You Got To Have It Your Way (I'll Go Mine) (2:23); producers: The General & Tommy Overstreet; writers: Dale Vest & T. Overstreet; publisher: Tommy Overstreet/SESAC. SCR SC148.

HOWDY GLENN—Touch Me (2:25); producer: Andy Wickham; writer: Willie Nelson; publisher: Tree, BMI. Warner Brothers WBS8447.