

ARP
country



(Editor's Note: The Arpeggio is proud to introduce you to Mr. Paul Picker, Nashville native and our regular country music correspondent. Picker's column will appear whenever we have room.)

DATELINE NASHVILLE: The music folks in Nashville just can't get enough of those ARP synthesizers! RONNIE MILSAP's newest RCA album features strings created on the ARP Omni. The "live" album was overdubbed with Omni strings and everybody involved was knocked out by the studio string sound! Truly amazing. DOLLY PARTON'S syndicated television show featured BOBBY GOLDSBORO using an ARP String Ensemble. The segment was taped at the Grand Old Opry's WSM studio. Another ARP first! Dolly's regular keyboard player, GREG PERRY, is backing Dolly with an ARP Omni. ARP synthesizer specialist LEE HARGROVE programmed RAY STEVENS' ARP 2600 for his forthcoming Warner Brothers release, recorded at Ahab Studios just off Music Row. Ray is getting pretty far out, what with his latest Chicken record! All-time keyboard great FLOYD CRAMER just picked up an ARP Pro Soloist. The dean of country piano has won the Country Music Association's award for best piano for four consecutive years. BILL ANDERSON, the fine keyboard man known throughout the country music field, has started working with an ARP Omni. Over at SOUNDSTAGE STUDIOS, Mr. MEL TILLIS is getting some melodious support from an ARP String Ensemble and ARP Pro Soloist, to be heard on his next RCA album. So . . . until next time all you patchers and pickers, this is Paul, bye-bye you all!

Kool Jazz Festival Gets Down With ARP

The Kool Jazz Festival, a yearly summer tour of major soul and jazz artists, played to hundreds of thousands of music fans during the summer of '76. Listeners heard the sounds of the ARP 2600, String Ensemble and Pro Soloist backing up Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson, Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes, The Spinners, BB King, and Dizzy Gillespie. Several nights included Donald Byrd & The Blackbyrds with keyboardist Kevin Toney on ARP, and George Duke playing his ARP Odyssey. All in all, a very successful summer tour, and our thanks go out to Bill Cope and George Wein for sending along these photos.



The Staple Singers



The Blackbyrds (Kevin Toney)



Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes

KONG FOOTSTEPS SYNTHESIZED: THE APE IS AN ARP!

If you thought you had seen, read and heard enough about the Dino DeLaurentis production of "King Kong," get this! Clark Spangler, Los Angeles' best known session synthesist and master of the ARP 2500 and 2600, interfaced both units to produce the sound of the big hairy gorilla's footsteps. He carefully mixed the heavy, resonant thud of the foot with the crackle-smash noise of vegetation being crushed, and, in some cases, people being crushed. Keep reading ARpeggio for further earth-shaking news!

