



WLS Music Survey Vol 4, 1976-1979 Chicagoland Hit Parade from the Rich Gardner Archives

The **WLS Music Surveys Vol 4, 1976-1979**, is the fourth installment in a series of books providing full-size facsimiles of the surveys sent to record stores and collected by record buyers weekly. These WLS Musicradio Surveys feature Chicago's most popular songs and albums, upcoming concert events, and radio station details.

The WLS Music Survey from 1976 to 1979 experienced significant changes compared to the first three-quarters of the decade, highlighting shifts in popular genres, emerging artists, and evolving musical tastes. These trends illustrate the diverse and dynamic nature of the music scene in the late 1970s, with various genres and styles coexisting and influencing each other.

The WLS Musicradio Surveys of the 1970s were more than mere lists of popular songs; they were tangible artifacts of a vibrant musical era, reflecting the power of radio, the impact of record sales, and the preferences of a generation. They served as a cultural touchstone for Chicago music fans, providing a shared experience and a connection to the local music scene.

Looking back on the 1970s, the WLS Musicradio Surveys present a valuable view into the past. They remind us of the enduring influence of music and radio in shaping our cultural landscape, serving as a testament to WLS's lasting legacy and impact on the Chicago music scene.

About the author



Rich Gardner is a passionate music enthusiast who has been deeply connected to radio and music since the 1960s. His love for music began in childhood when he listened to WLS-AM 890 and WCFL, often accompanying his father in the family car. This early exposure sparked a lifelong hobby of collecting phonographs, records, music surveys, and memorabilia. Rich actively pursued his passion by collecting WLS Surveys from the 1970s through the 1980s, compiling his own lists from countdown shows, and placing ads in the Chicago Reader during the 1980s to locate older surveys. He went to great lengths to preserve and recreate missing surveys using modern technology, demonstrating his dedication to documenting and sharing the history of Chicago radio and music for others to enjoy.



Next in the series:

WLS Music Survey Vol 5, 1973-1975: The Rock of Chicago
From the Rich Gardner Archives

The WLS Music Surveys Vol. 4, 1976-1979

MUSICRADIO 89

Rich Gardner



WLS Music Survey Vol 4, 1976-1979 Chicagoland Hit Parade from the Rich Gardner Archives

Jock of the Week



**BRANT MILLER
PLAYS
THE BEST MUSIC
IN CHICAGO
1PM - 6PM SUNDAY**

Thirty-threes

| | | | |
|----|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Saturday Night Fever | Soundtrack |
| 2 | 2 | Rumours | Fleetwood Mac |
| 3 | 3 | News Of The World | Queen |
| 4 | 4 | Grand Illusion | Styx |
| 5 | 5 | Foot Loose And Fancy Free | Rod Stewart |
| 7 | 9 | Aja | Steely Dan |
| 8 | 7 | Point Of No Return | Kansas |
| 6 | 8 | Born Late | Shaun Cassidy |
| 14 | 9 | Slow Hand | Eric Clapton |
| 12 | 10 | Street Survivors | Lynyrd Skynyrd |
| 10 | 11 | Out Of The Blue | Electric Light Orchestra |
| 11 | 12 | Alive II | Kiss |
| 9 | 13 | Simple Dreams | Linda Ronstadt |
| xx | 14 | Double Live Gonzo | Ted Nugent |
| 13 | 15 | Strangers | Billy Joel |
| 20 | 16 | Running On Empty | Jackson Browne |
| 17 | 17 | French Kiss | Bob Welch |
| 18 | 18 | Foreigner | Foreigner |
| 16 | 19 | Sham Cassidy | Sham Cassidy |
| 24 | 20 | Little Criminals | Randy Newman |
| 15 | 21 | I'm Glad You're Here With Me Tonight | Neil Diamond |
| 22 | 22 | Greatest Hits Etc. | Paul Simon |
| 28 | 23 | Close Encounters Of The Third Kind | Soundtrack |
| 27 | 24 | All 'n All | Earth, Wind & Fire |
| 25 | 25 | Ton Hot Ta Handle | Heatwave |
| 23 | 26 | Leif Garrett | Leif Garrett |
| 30 | 27 | Live | Foghat |
| 21 | 28 | Live | Barry Manilow |
| 29 | 29 | Book Of Dreams | Steve Miller Band |
| 26 | 30 | Here You Come Again | Dolly Parton |
| 32 | 31 | Down Two Then Left | Box Car Scang |
| 18 | 32 | Draw The Line | Aerosmith |
| 33 | 33 | Star Wars | Soundtrack |

WLS played selected music from these lists.

Concerts in the Weeks Ahead

Dr. Hook - Ivanhoe - February 21
Eric Clapton/Player - Stadium - February 23
Isaac Hayes - Park West - February 25-26
England Dan & John Ford Coley - Ivanhoe - February 25-26
Dave Mason/Bob Welch - McGaw Hall - February 26

WLS MUSICRADIO 89

Forty-fives

WEEK ENDING FEB. 25, 1978 VOL. 18, NO. 20

| | | | |
|----|----|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 | Stayin' Alive | Bea Gees |
| 4 | 2 | Just The Way You Are | Billy Joel |
| 2 | 3 | We Are The Champions/We Will Rock You | Queen |
| 3 | 4 | Short People | Randy Newman |
| 6 | 5 | (Love Is) Thicker Than Water | Andy Gibb |
| 5 | 6 | Baby Come Back | Player |
| 7 | 7 | Sometimes When We Touch | Dan Hill |
| 10 | 8 | Emotion | Samantha Hill |
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Jock of the Week



**ART WALLIS
PLAYS
THE BEST MUSIC
IN CHICAGO
WEEKENDS**

Thirty-threes

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| 1 | 1 | The Love Train | Eggs |
| 2 | 2 | In Through The Out Door | Led Zeppelin |
| 3 | 3 | Cornerstone | Styx |
| 7 | 4 | Wet | Barbra Streisand |
| 5 | 5 | Evolution | Journey |
| 4 | 6 | Tusk | Fleetwood Mac |
| 6 | 7 | Rise | Herb Alpert |
| 8 | 8 | Dream Police | Chapp Arrick |
| 11 | 9 | Greatest Hits-On The Radio | Donna Summer |
| 9 | 10 | Midnight Magic | Commodores |
| 12 | 11 | Off The Wall | Michael Jackson |
| 10 | 12 | One Voice | Barry Manilow |
| 14 | 13 | Head Games | Foreigner |
| 13 | 14 | Breakfast In America | Neil Young |
| 18 | 15 | Flirtin' With Disaster | Molly Hatchet |
| 16 | 16 | Highway To Hell | AC/DC |
| 15 | 17 | Get The Knack | The Knack |
| 19 | 18 | Kenny | Kenny Rogers |
| 17 | 19 | Candy-O | The Cars |
| 20 | 20 | I Am | Earth, Wind & Fire |
| 25 | 21 | Dionne | Dionne Warwick |
| 22 | 22 | Rust Never Sleeps | Neil Young |
| 21 | 23 | Million Miles Reflections | Charlie Daniels Band |
| 27 | 24 | First Under The Wire | Little River Band |
| 28 | 25 | The Cars | The Cars |
| 26 | 26 | Discovery | Electric Light Orchestra |
| 24 | 27 | Storm Watch | Jethro Tull |
| 30 | 28 | The Gambler | Kenny Rogers |
| 23 | 29 | Slow Train Coming | Bob Dylan |
| 28 | 30 | Love Drive | Scorpions |
| 33 | 31 | Van Halen II | Van Halen |
| 31 | 32 | Nine Lives | R. E. O. Speedwagon |
| 32 | 33 | Bad Girls | Donna Summer |

WLS played selected music from these lists.

Concerts in the Weeks Ahead

Curtis Mayfield - Park West - November 29-30
Jefferson Starship - Auditorium - December 1
Who - Amphitheatre - December 6
Aerosmith - Amphitheatre - December 26

WLS MUSICRADIO 89

Forty-fives

WEEK ENDING NOV. 24, 1979 VOL. 20, NO. 6

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| 1 | 1 | Spirits Having Flown | Bea Gees |
| 2 | 2 | Blondes Have More Fun | Rod Stewart |
| 3 | 3 | Brickcase Full Of Blues | Blues Brothers |
| 9 | 4 | Minute By Minute | Doobie Brothers |
| 6 | 5 | Greatest Hits | Earth, Wind & Fire |
| 5 | 6 | 52nd Street | Billy Joel |
| 4 | 7 | Cruisin' | Village People |
| 7 | 8 | Totally Hot | Olivia Newton-John |
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