

# AMERICAN FRONTIER



## LONE JUSTICE

PRODUCED BY JIMMY IOVINE

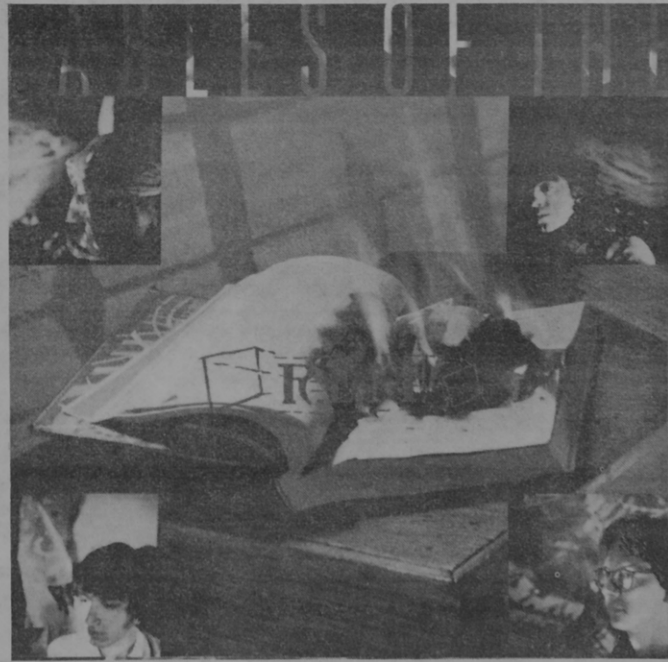
Recognition comes to L.A. band Lone Justice.

In the two years since Lone Justice broke onto the L.A. club circuit playing romping country-influenced rock 'n' roll, McKee, a petite dynamo with a voice the size of Gibraltar, has collected a brace of reviews that would turn even Michael Jackson bright chartreuse. Robert Hilburn of the *Los Angeles Times* compared her to Chrissie Hynde, Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt, and Janis Joplin in a recent five-page cover story in the paper's Sunday entertainment section. Mikal Gilmore of the *Herald-Examiner* cites Bruce Springsteen, Prince,

Mostly though, *Fables* is untouchable R.E.M. in all their rough-cut glory, swinging from contemplative, Byrds-like balladry ("Green Grow the Rushes," "Good Advices") to careening, maniacally driven numbers like "Auctioneer (Another Engine)," which is dense with the mad torque of guitars and drums and Stipe's clenched, tense vocal. It appears to be about the strange motivations and betrayals that underlie a relationship as it comes undone, but who knows?

And so it asks more questions than it answers. Listening to *Fables of the Reconstruction* is like waking up in a menacing yet wonderful world underneath the one we're familiar with. R.E.M. undermines our certitude in reality and deposits us in a new place, filled with both serenity and doubt, where we're forced to think for ourselves.

70 ROLLING STONE, JUNE 20, 1985



## R. E. M.

FABLES OF THE RECONSTRUCTION

