CASH BOX

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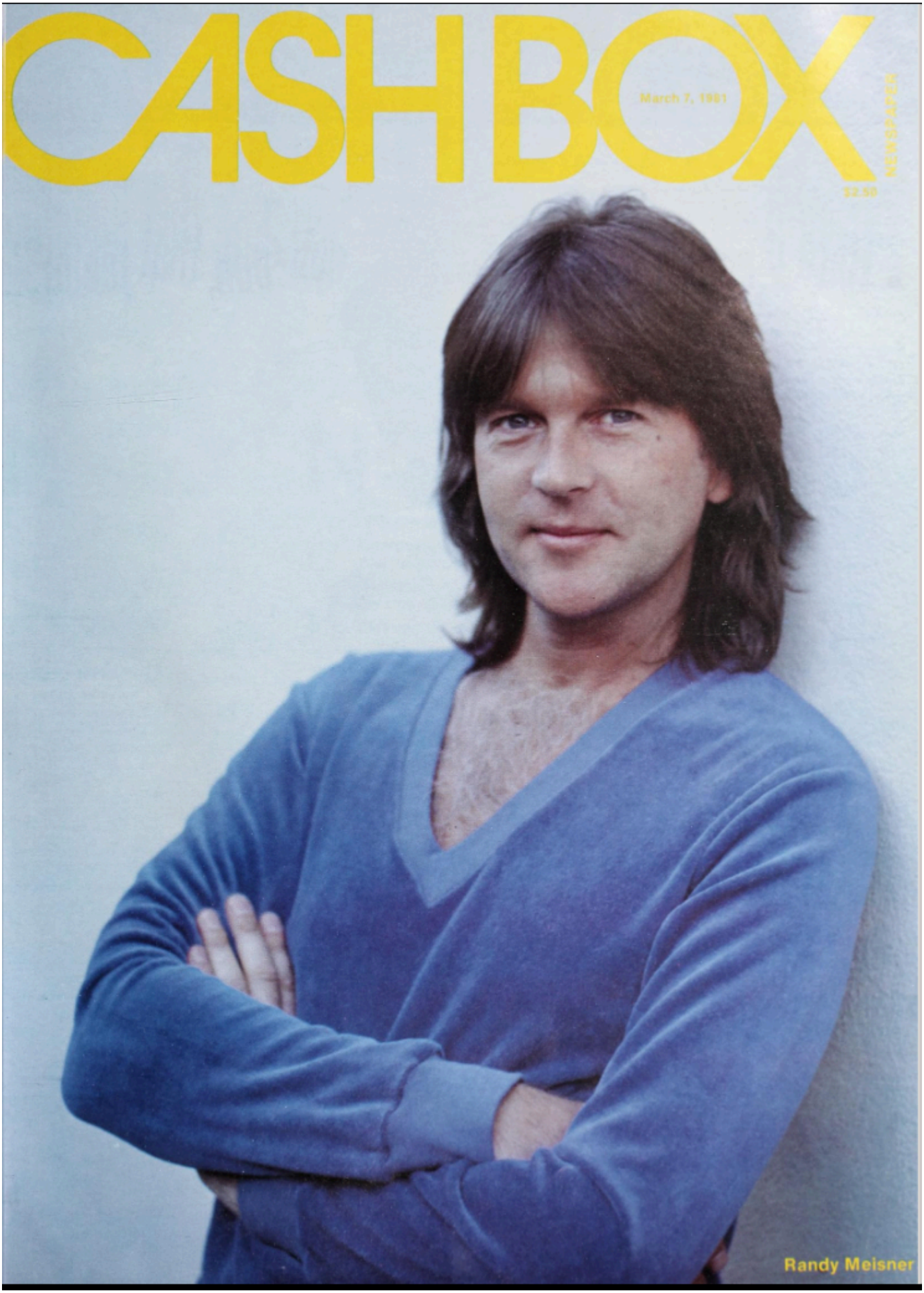

Randy Meisner

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"One More Song" is an appropriate title for Epic recording artist Randy Meisner's new solo album. Industry insiders knew the high-voiced singer/songwriter had more in him than the songs of his Eagles days gone by like "Take It To The Limit" and "Is It True," and he has certainly lived up to their expectations.

Meisner, who helped pioneer the Southern California sound as a principal member of Poco, Rick Nelson's Stone Canyon Band and the Eagles, is in top form this time around as the LP's first single, "Hearts On Fire," has already jumped to the #19 bullet position on the **Cash Box** Pop Singles chart.

The soft spoken, Scottsbluff, Neb. native became a semi-recluse after 1978's poorly received self-titled solo album on Elektra/Asylum; but a new label (Epic); producer (Val Garay) and songwriting partner (Eric Kaz) have gotten his creative juices flowing again.

Meisner also assembled a fine working group for the album, The Silverados. The band consists of Don Francisco (percussion), Bryan Garofalo (bass), Craig Hull (guitars and pedal steel), Craig Krampf (drums) and Sterling Smith (keyboards). In addition, friends Kim Carnes (vocal on "Deep Inside My Heart") and Wendy Waldman (co-songwriter and harmonies) also came along for the ride.

And while the Meisner/Kaz tunes dominate the LP, the former Eagles member has not forsaken the close knit fraternity of Southern California rockers. Meisner includes Poco-cohort Richie Furay's "Anyway, Bye, Bye" and Jack Tempchin's humorous "White Shoes" on the new collection.

The LP is proof positive that Meisner's choice to leave the Eagles and go it alone was the right one, and his growing audience should take comfort in the fact that "One More Song" won't be his last.

"I had to take a hard look at myself and my strengths and weaknesses as a singer, songwriter and musician," said Meisner. "I decided I wanted to make another record and I decided where I wanted to go with it, and I was fortunate that things clicked with people like Val Garay and Eric Kaz."