After 17 years with Phonogram Int'l. in international A&R, Cees Wessels joined RCA as Managing Director of the Dutch company. In 1981 Cees left to establish Roadrunner Records in Amsterdam. The label began by specializing in UK-Punk Music and then heavy metal. One of the company's first signings was a group called Merciful Fate, which later became King Diamond. Gradually, through licensing UK heavy metal product, Roadrunner became one of the premiere distributors of that type of music throughout Europe.

In 1986 the company opened offices in the U.S. and a year later in the U.K.. They are currently in the process of opening an office in Cologne, W.Germany as we go to print. In the U.S., Roadrunner has established four different labels:

ROADRACER - specilizing in Metal and distributed through MCA, the company is presently 'New On The Charts' with the King Diamond LP "Them".

EMERGO - a Progressive Rock label distributed by MCA. HAWKER - Hard Core Rock independently distributed. RC RECORDS - Heavy Metal independently distributed.

ROADRUNNER RECORDS - U.S. Staff:

DOUGLAS KEOGH - General Manager



Douglas began work in the music business at jazz-R&B station WYBC-FM as DJ and Music Director. After promoting jazz concerts in New Haven, he moved to New York in 1979 to work as a booking agent with Rasa Artists. He then cofounded Outward Visions, a booking-management service company for new music in the jazz tradition. After designing and administering a music education program for incarcerated youth in NYC and organizing free neighborhood concerts as part of the outreach program he accepted his first record company position at Europa Records as General Manager. Owned by Jean-Pierre Weiller, the label was recently revived by Antilles-New Directions with Island Records. In 1984 Keogh joined Celluloid Records as General Manager before joining Roadrunner in 1987.

MONTE CONNER - Roadracer US Label Manager



In December 1986 Monte graduated Summa Cum Laude from Baruch College with a degree in mathematics. Although he was class valedictorian he was more interested in the school radio station WBMB than mathematics. From 1983 to '86 he hosted "The Witching Hour", an underground heavy metal show exposing unsigned metal talent. The show became internationally known. After graduation, he began freelance writing for Metal Mania and other metal magazines. In March '87 he began radio promotion work for Shatter Records, distributed by Profile. After nine months there he moved to Roadracer Records in December '87 as head of radio promotion. Monte is now U.S. Label Manager and Director of A&R.

JOHN BELLO - Hawker/Roadrunner Label Manager



While in college John worked at Tower Records in Greenwich Village. After three years at Tower, he took a part time position at Rock Hotel Records. Following three months there he accepted an part time internship at Roadrunner, which eventually led to a full time promotion gig. While working promotion for Roadrunner, John also worked as a DJ on WBAI hosting a hardcore/punk music show called "Rude Awakening". Recently Bello has been given the go ahead by Roadrunner to establish a hardcore label called Hawker Records.

JONAS R.NACHSIN - U.S. National Marketing Director



As a student at the State University of New York at Albany, Jonas was a staff music writer and eventually Music Editor, for the college paper, as well as manager for the college record store. He also spent a semester in London. Upon graduating Magna Cum Laude, Nachsin began work as a record salesman for Win Records & Video, a one-stop distributor. He then joined Roadrunner in March of 1988.

LYDIA SHERWOOD - National Director of Publicity & Promotions



Lydia began as a writer for the <u>College Media Journal</u> and then became editorial assistant for <u>Goldmine Magazine</u>. When that publication was sold three years later she established an independent publicity firm. Her freelance clients included the Smithereens, Girlschool, Voivod, Bad Brains, etc. Other freelance clients included A&M Records, Capitol, Warner Communications, Rockpool and the New Music Seminar. This year she began as a freelance tour publicist for Gang Green, and is now a full-time staff member.

BONNIE PARK - Radio Promotion

A recent graduate of Boston College, Bonnie has worked as a booking agent for Silver Fox Prod'ns., a college rep for Celluloid, a disc jockey for Dee Jay, an inventory and salesperson for Strawberries Records & Tapes, and a band representative for Quick Fever. Bonnie also interned for PolyGram Records, WAAF Radio and Collins Mgm't.