



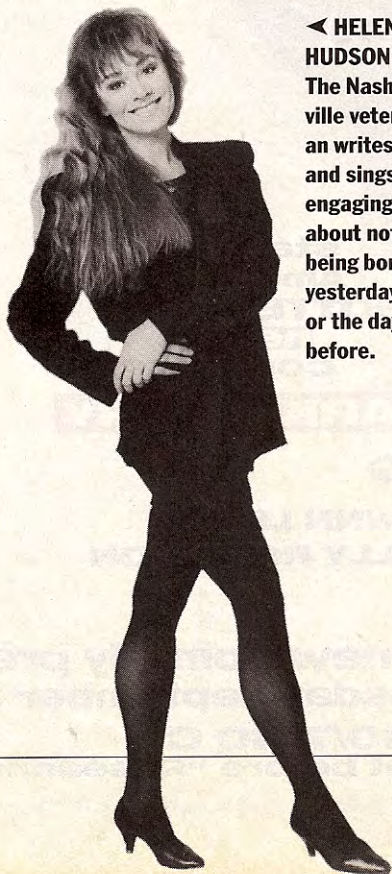
HELEN HUDSON

Helen Hudson

She has to be playing coy on her age—calling herself 30-something—because the creamy-voiced Hudson has been a touring and backup singer for 15 years or so.

Her second solo album has the feel of a mid-career, if not mid-life, crisis. Its 10 splendidly literate songs, all hers, include “I Wanna Die Young (at a Very Old Age),” “Nothing but Time,” “Wild and Crazy” and “Life Without Your Laughter.” On “I’m Not Getting Any Younger (I’m Just Getting Old),” she sings, “I now am growing wrinkles where my face used to be/ And soon there’ll be a landslide/ Just above my knees.”

Despite the similarity in outlook, the songs are appealingly varied, yet consistently attractive melodically. Hudson, who produced the album with several Nashville musicians, keeps her mood lively and engaged. She obviously takes her music very personally, and that makes it all the more entertaining. (One Note Beyond Music, P.O. Box 120037, Nashville, TN 37212) ■ R.N.



◀ **HELEN HUDSON**
The Nashville veteran writes and sings engagingly about not being born yesterday, or the day before.