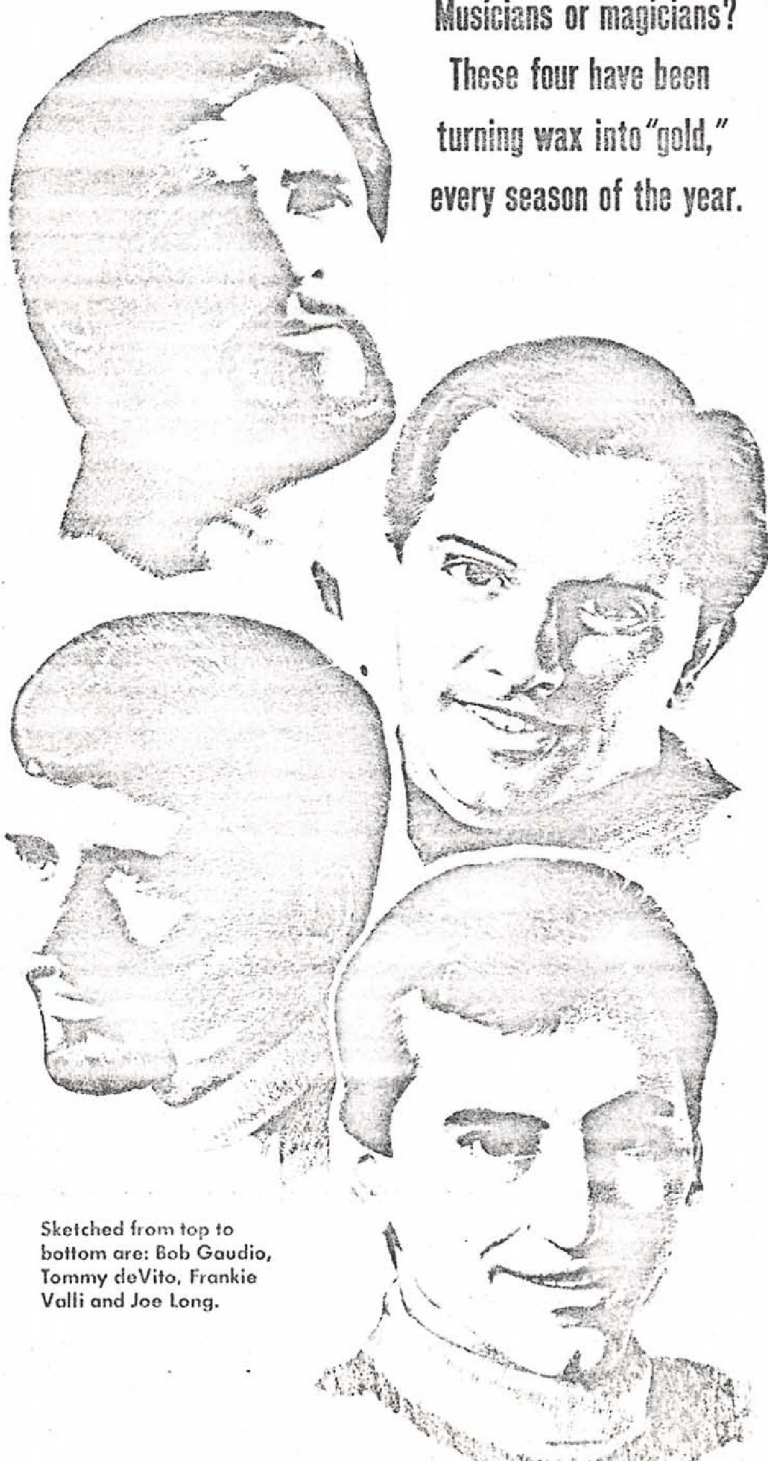


USA Teens Top 10 December 1967

THE 4 SEASONS "GOLDEN" TOUCH

Musicians or magicians?

These four have been
turning wax into "gold,"
every season of the year.



Sketched from top to
bottom are: Bob Gaudio,
Tommy DeVito, Frankie
Valli and Joe Long.

BY NEIL SLOANE

Georgia is known for peaches, Michigan for cars, Texas for oil, and, very soon New Jersey may be known for its singers, or perhaps "swingers." The leading swingers are *The Four Seasons*, a group that has reached permanent star status in a field that is famous for its "Here today, gone tomorrow" stars. Even more amazing . . . the *Seasons* have the 'Midas' touch, having earned seven Gold Records. "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like a Man," "Dawn," "Rag Doll," "Let's Hang On" and "Candy Girl" have each sold over a million discs.

The *Seasons* first pooled their talents to form a musical and vocal group in a small club in New Jersey. They had everything they needed, except a name, so they borrowed that from the club. After performing in local clubs, they came to the attention of independent record producer, Bob Crewe. He first used them to provide background vocals for other recording artists, until 1962 when Bob Gaudio came up with a song that seemed perfect for the *Seasons* first record. As it turns out, it was, and the record, "Sherry" sold over a million and earned them the first in a long string of Gold Records. Hit after hit followed, and the result is that the boys have sold more records than any other group now recording in the U.S.

It has been said by some of their critics that they always sound the same on their records. Not so! While they do have a very unique 'sound' and one that is easily recognized, they also have an amazing range and style of song. For instance, they are best known for their high-soaring hits with a big beat, like, "Sherry" or "Working My Way Back To You." But they are also working their way (very successfully) through other types of songs, such as, "What the World Needs Now" or the humorous hit of a couple of years ago, "Don't Think Twice," which was recorded under the name of *The Wonder Who*. Then there is their recent Cole Porter hit, "I've Got You Under My Skin" and the folk sound of "Born to Wander." A particular sound? Certainly! But with an incredible amount of versatility.

Frankie Valli, the high-voiced lead singer, has a style that is so unique that no one could ever copy it. The 'Valli sound' is the vocal mainstay of the group. He could make it on his