

WLS decided to play a song from Styx II, "Lady". The year-and-one-half of requests for the song at the FM stations in Chicago had begun crossing over on an increasing basis to WLS, causing music director Jim Smith to investigate further. Smith saw the potential, and exploited it by adding "Lady".

The unexpected addition of "Lady" at WLS sparked an immediate change in plans which included the official re-release of the single. Finally given the "big chance", "Lady" swiftly blossomed into a national hit, racking up 800,000 sales and thrusting Styx II into certified gold status.

At this point the band decided that their career with Wooden Nickel had gone as far as it could go and they went "label shopping". Several major companies expressed interest, especially when they saw the dynamic live performance. Two visits to Los Angeles later Styx had joined the A&M family.

Directly after completion of the pact, Styx went into Paragon studio in Chicago to begin recording. With their energy devoted to the music only, a refreshingly positive attitude towards the future, and the skillful production assistance of Barry Mraz, Styx produced their finest album to date, Equinox.

Equinox was greeted warmly by the music community.