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Estimate about \$3 million lost in 1980

## Recording industry fights home taping

United Press International NASHVILLE, Tenn. —
There's a billion-dollar battle shaping up in Congress pitting a star-studded cast of entertainers and the recording industry

against some of the big corporate names in America. The result will affect every American who listens to music

especially those who own tape recorders or buy blank record-

Entertainers record music and record companies press records to make a profit. But due to increased technology and lower prices, there's been an ex-

plosion of home taping of music. The record industry esti-

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mates this year's loss in record sales amounts to \$1 billion to \$3 billion out of the pockets of performers, songwriters, music publishers, musicians, retailers, wholesalers and all the companies that service the recording

'Home taping is here to stay,' admits Stanley M. Gortikov,

dustry Association of America, a items? trade association for the record

"But you can't go into a store, along with it a can of coffee withbe able to take someone

president of the Recording In- music if you can't take tangible same year showed that 70 per-

'It's a form of shoplifting.' A study by the Roper Organi-

zation in 1979 showed that 22 buy a loaf of bread and take percent of the population engages in home taping, either out paying for it. Why should from the radio or borrowed or bought records. A study by the else's intellectual property and Copyright Royalty Tribunal the

cent of those who taped at home would have bought the album if they were unable to tape it. A CBS study estimates the loss of revenues from home audio taping the same year was \$800-\$900 million, or more than 20 percent of the gross revenues of the recording industry

the loss is even more staggering The International Tape Asso ciation estimates there were 27! million blank 90-minute cassette tapes sold in the United States in 1980. Figuring an album each side, that's about 550 million potential album sales. Subtrac 150 million for "legitimate" uses, and you come up with 400 million albums - or somewhere

reel tapes. "The problem is even worse in other parts of the world than it is in the United States," said Jack Reinstein, senior vice president at Elektra-Asylum Records. "It's probably what's des troying the British record busi-

around \$3 billion. That doesn'

include sale of 8-track or reel-to-

ness at this point.' "When you lose a sale because of home taping, that becomes a cost factor," said Bob Altshuler of CBS Records Group in New York. "We believe there will have to be legislation enacted in

order to curb the activity Recording industry officials believe implications of the "Betamax" decision involving home videotaping of television programs could be the savior of their audio taping dilemma.

In a case brought by Universal City against the Sony Corp., the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that off-the-air taping of copyrighted TV programming constitutes copyright infringe ment. The decision, in effect, made a criminal of every person who uses a videotape player to record off the television set.

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to exempt home videotaping. Sen. Charles Mathias, R-Maryland, offered an amendment that will charge those who sell videotape recording devices and blank videotapes a "compensatory royalty" to be paid to the copyright holder.

The recording industry is trying to expand the amendment to cover audio taping.

Hearings are slated in April in the Judiciary Committees of both Houses.

The National Music Publishers Association says it would be "grossly inequitable" if Congress allows a reasonable royalty for video products but overlooks "the even more serious issue of

Those opposed to the amendment are the makers and importers of blank tape and audio recording devices and consumers who will have to pick up the tab

for any royalty. Bill Baker, vice president of corporate communications for Sony Corp. of America, a major manufacturer of blank tape and recording devices, said any compensatory royalty would amount to a "windfall tax" for the recording industry.

"Whether the public wants to pay a tax for what they've been able to do for years at no additional cost is very debatable," he says. "I think consumers should speak out and let their feelings be known.

Gortikov believes the blank tape industry should be more sympathetic.

## Scanner to indicate diseases

United Press International
A futuristic new antimatter

scanning machine may one day make it possible to spot heart disease, cancer and metabolic disorders up to 10 years before symptoms become visible — and in time for a cure.

Positron emission tomogra-

phy (PET) uses the antimatter equivalent of the electron - the positron — much the same way as conventional scanners now use X-rays to spot illness, according to Science Digest magazine

The PET scanner, the magazine says, is better because it not only shows obvious problem areas such as tumors, but it indicates metabolic dysfunctions that could lead to disease long before the disease becomes

Dr. Lance Gould, head of the University of Texas Medical School PET project said: "We've never before been able to see what PET at last lets us see: the actual metabolic, functional and anatomic characteristics of different diseases and disorders long before they're of emergency proportions.

