What do you do when the record companies send you EPs to review? Wait until you have enough to fill a column's worth of review space. Last week's mailing brought me "EPs to be reviewed" count to five, so here they are:

O Superman, Laurie Anderson on Warner Bros. Records.

Laurie Anderson is a New York-based conceptual artist who is currently enjoying a great deal of popularity with the art school/Soho crowd. Her first recording, You're the Man I Want to Share My Money' (with author William Burroughs and poet John Giorno), displayed her talent for creating catchy melodies and combining disparate instrumental sounds. O Superman is a development of Anderson's pop tendencies that should be a Top 40 hit. The instrumental is rather sparse: a synthesizer, one sax and a tape loop. The resulting sound is restful and calming, but not unpleasant. The title song is structured around a poem that is a half-serious tribute to the American ideals — Mom, Dad, justice and Superman. The words are delivered in a deadpan manner that is not saved by clever wordplay.

Another Day/Another Dollar, the Gang of Four on Warner Bros. Records.

Another month, another exploitation EP. Warner Bros. continues to milk the American public with minimal amounts of new Gang of Four product. The new tunes included are actually sides from import-only singles, and the live cuts are no improvement on the originals. There is always a positive side, however, and in this case it is the band. The "new" tunes show the Gang exploring new territory (actual vocal harmonies instead of shouts, socially pertinent lyrics instead of political jingoism) successfully, leaving me wanting more; but that's also a Warner Bros. plot — they tipped their hand when they titled this record. (Please turn to page 8)