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THE INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY ON MUSIC, VIDEO AND DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT • 110TH YEAR • APRIL 24, 2004

HOT SPOTS



5 Euro Trip

Anastacia's new album tops the charts in Europe, and the U.S.-born artist hopes she can bring that success closer to home.



11 Rock'n'Country

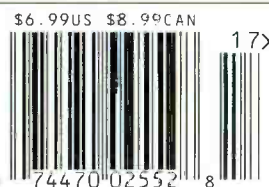
Genre lines continue to fade, with such rock artists as Bret Michaels and Kid Rock tuning up for country fans.



26 Plugging In

Diego Torres aims for a wider audience as the first non-rock Argentine act to record "MTV Unplugged."

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FuseTV network president Marc Juris is marking one year on the air.

Lighting TV's Fuse

BY JILL KIPNIS

Marc Juris thinks he can light a fuse under MTV, but he'll need more than music videos to incinerate the network's dominance of music television, according to industry experts.

Juris is president of cable music network Fuse TV, which launched one year ago this month into the teeth of five other established music

(Continued on page 72)

Labels Peer At Pirates For Insights

Firms Tracking Downloads Say Industry Likes To Spot Trends

BY SCOTT BANERJEE

Say what you will about Internet pirates, their downloads speak volumes about what's hot in music.

That fact hasn't been lost on record labels, which are increasingly subscribing—albeit discreetly—to companies that monitor illegal download traffic on peer-to-peer services.

"If we weren't looking at the [P2P] data, we'd be pretty foolish," says Jeremy Welt, head of new media at Maverick Records.

Maverick is one of the few labels that admits to subscribing to services that track illegal downloads.

But John Fagot, a consultant for Webspins, a company that monitors P2P services, says its data is being used at every major label.

BigChampagne, the other major player, acknowledges that Warner Bros., Interscope, Elektra, DreamWorks, Atlantic and Disney's Hollywood label



(Continued on page 73)

Blue Note Fitted To A Tee

Famed Jazz Label, Ropeadope Link For New Clothing Line

BY MICHAEL PAOLETTA

Blue Note Records knows a thing or two about music. Ropeadope Industries knows a thing or two about fashion.

Now, the two companies are joining forces to launch a line of clothing. A New Perspective.

The collection, consisting primarily of T-shirts,

draws inspiration from classic Blue Note artwork. Specifically, the clothes feature reinterpretations of album covers, images and text/design treatments.

For this partnership, Blue Note is licensing all the designs to Ropeadope (an offshoot of Ropeadope Records), which will pay royalties based on sales.

The 100% cotton jersey knit T-shirts are supplied

(Continued on page 73)



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Top Albums

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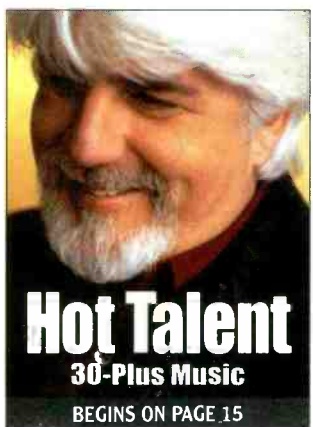
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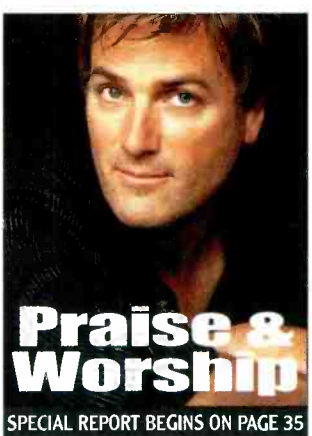
8 Emepe3.com launches the world's first all-Spanish-language digital music store.
8 The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum starts its own syndicated radio show, "Moonlight Groove Highway—Rock and Roll Through the Night."

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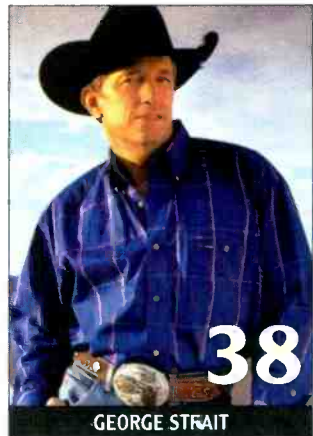
11 **The Beat:** Carlos Santana writes songs with Black Eyed Peas' Will.i.am for his next studio album.
12 **Classical Score:** News of Anonymous 4's retirement has its "American Angels" flying to the top of the classical music chart.
13 **In The Spirit:** The Gospel Music Assn.'s 35th annual Music Awards will be the first live awards show to be simulcast in movie theaters nationwide.
14 **Movies & Music:** The third annual Tribeca Film Festival will screen such music-themed films as the Joe Strummer documentary "Let's Rock Again!"
20 **Touring:** High demand for praise and worship acts fuels sales of Christian tours and records.



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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“We’re buying a bunch of stuff. But we want to wait and let the smoke clear on this one first.”

IRVING AZOFF
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CLAY AIKEN

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Evan Lamberger's E.V.L.A. label aims to build careers—slowly



Upfront



Andy Kleinman launches first all Spanish-language digital music store

P OF THE NEWS

Europe Embraces 'Anastacia'

BY MICHAEL PAOLETTA
and EMMANUEL LEGRAND

Anastacia has America to thank for her upbringing. But she has Europe to thank for her success. Born in Chicago and raised in New York, Anastacia has seen her self-titled third album for Daylight/Epic debut at No. 1 throughout much of Europe, where it was released March 29.

Time will tell if she receives a similar reaction in the United States. The album is due to arrive this summer.

Overseas, "Anastacia" entered the *Billboard* European Top 100 Albums chart at No. 1. By comparison, Janet
(Continued on page 72)

Anastacia: 'If a country wants me, I am there'

EU Merger Delay Signals Big Probe

BY LEO CENDROWICZ
and WOLFGANG SPAHR

BRUSSELS—The European Commission's decision to temporarily stop the clock on its investigation into the planned merger of Sony Corp. and Bertelsmann's music divisions is an indication of the expanding depth and breadth of its probe.

The Commission, the executive authority of the European Union (EU), has sought an unprecedented volume of information from the principals to the deal, as well as their competitors and other players in the market.

The delay—probably for two weeks—will allow

the EC to demand even more input.

"This additional request concerns information on a variety of markets," says Tilman Lüder, spokesman for EU competition commissioner Mario Monti.

Lüder says a new deadline will be set after the EC receives answers to a marketplace questionnaire it has distributed to numerous companies in and out of the industry.

The EC's original deadline for its probe was June 22. Any formal statements objecting to the merger were due at the end of April. That deadline has also been suspended.

While the investigation is mainly focusing
(Continued on page 71)



KREILE: CONCERNED ABOUT AUTHCRS' RIGHTS

Azoff Opens Wallet

Other Purchases Could Follow TBA Deal

BY RAY WADDELL

For Irving Azoff and his new partners, the proposed acquisition of TBA Entertainment could be just the beginning.

"We're buying a bunch of stuff," Azoff says. "But we want to wait and let the smoke clear on this one first."

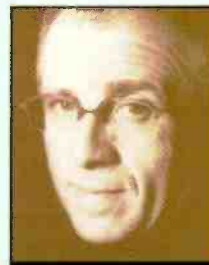
Azoff is purchasing the event production and management firm in partnership with veteran entertainment executive Robert Geddes and investment firm JHW Greentree Capital, an affiliate of Whitney & Co. of Stamford, Conn.

The deal, first reported Feb. 9 by *billboard.biz*, is expected to close during the second quarter, subject to shareholder approval.

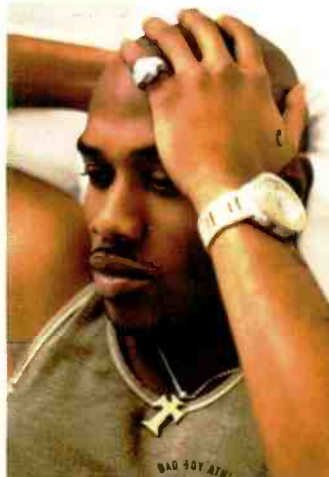
The transaction, described as a "definitive merger agreement," would take the publicly traded TBA private. It has been unanimously approved by the TBA board.

Under the deal, Azoff and his partners will acquire TBA's stock for cash considerations totaling \$6.15 million, or 67 cents per share of common stock and 70 cents per share of preferred stock, after transaction expenses.

(Continued on page 69)



AZOFF: TBA NAME WILL BE DROPPED



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Trial To Probe CCC Biz Practices

BY RAY WADDELL

In a case fraught with huge implications for the concert industry, the antitrust suit pitting Denver independent promoter Nobody in Particular Presents (NIPP) against Clear Channel Communications is set for an Aug. 2 trial.

A federal judge in Denver is allowing NIPP to proceed with its suit against CCC, finding that the latter had attempted to create a monopoly.

NIPP originally filed the suit in August 2001 (*Billboard*, Aug. 18, 2001). CCC unsuccessfully filed a motion to dismiss in October of the same year (*Billboard*, Oct. 9, 2001).

On April 2 this year, Judge Edward

Nottingham of the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado ruled that CCC's cluster of eight radio stations in the Denver area was not a monopoly.

However, the judge also stated he believed CCC had intended to create a monopoly position when it rejected paid advertising by NIPP.

NIPP alleged that the Denver radio stations in question played songs by artists whose concerts were promoted by Clear Channel Entertainment in the market but did not play songs by bands that NIPP promoted.

CCE is the live entertainment arm of CCC and is the largest concert promoter and venue operator in the world.

Nottingham's 125-page decision reads, in part, "NIPP provides suffi-

cient evidence that Clear Channel intends its manipulation of airplay to interfere with NIPP and other promoters' prospective business relations with artists."

Numerous bands, booking agencies, agents, managers and record-label personnel are mentioned in the court papers.

"This is a pretty amazing ruling," NIPP's Jesse Morreale tells *Billboard*. "I would imagine for those on the other side [of the case] this would be a pretty sobering read."

Morreale, who resigned from his day-to-day duties at NIPP in January, remains a partner in the company and has been a point man for NIPP in the lawsuit.

In many ways, the Denver case has been portrayed as a David vs. Goliath conflict, and the industry continues to closely monitor it.

"We've always believed we had a strong case, and this is a partial vindication of that belief," NIPP president Doug Kauffman tells *Billboard*. "[CCE's] tactics have impacted our business; that's why we filed suit in the first place."

Andrew Levin, CCC's chief legal officer, tells *Billboard*, "We are pleased the judge threw out several claims and narrowed the case significantly. We're confident that when both sides of the story are heard at trial, the remaining allegations will be dismissed as well."

Levin says the judge dismissed radio

station monopoly and consumer protection claims. He adds that a high standard is required to dismiss claims prior to trial, and the judge views all facts in the light most favorable to the plaintiff, then applies the law.

A pretrial conference is set for April 30. Levin says there are material facts in dispute on the remaining NIPP claims.

For his part, NIPP's Kauffman says the case has cost his company a lot of time, energy and money. "We're looking forward to the trial starting on Aug. 2," he says.

Lead attorneys representing NIPP in the case are John Francis and Dale Harris of Davis, Graham & Stubbs in Denver.

Atlantic, EMI Pub's Lamberg Bow Label



LAMBERG: 'CREATIVITY FIRST'

BY MELINDA NEWMAN

In creating a label with Atlantic Records, Evan Lamberg is hoping to cultivate a "philosophy of patience in an impatient world."

To that end, E.V.L.A. Records Entertainment, a joint venture between Atlantic and Lamberg, will be dedicated to slowly building artists' careers.

"The days of extravagant spending are over," Lamberg says. "This record label is about creativity first and then about being financially responsible. If my artists don't blow up and sell a million albums, they can still make record two, three or four."

In an unusual arrangement, Lamberg will continue as executive VP of creative for North America at EMI Music Publishing.

All acts signed to the new label must also be EMI writers. EMI Music Publishing, while not an investor in E.V.L.A., will share in the label's earnings.

E.V.L.A.'s first release will be "Take It All Away," the debut album from singer/songwriter Ryan Cabrera. Due June 29, the album was produced by the Goo Goo Dolls' Johnny

Rzeznik. First single "On the Way Down" goes to radio May 17.

The idea for the label came out of a discussion two years ago between Lamberg and Roger Ames, who at the time was chairman of Atlantic parent Warner Music Group.

Although Lamberg works with all the labels in his role at EMI, some of his biggest successes have been with Atlantic acts such as

Matchbox Twenty, Hootie & the Blowfish, Jewel,

Sean Paul and Stone Temple Pilots.

"Roger said, 'You have a great rapport with Atlantic. Can't we formulate something a little more structured?'" Lamberg recalls.

Even though Ames and a number of Atlantic executives with whom Lamberg initially planned the label have left the company during its recent restructuring, Lamberg says that such remaining heavyweights as Atlantic Recording Group CEO Jason Flom and co-chairman/COO Craig Kallman were supportive from the beginning.

"Evan is an extraordinary executive who has proved over many

(Continued on page 69)

SSL Targets DAW User Console Maker Enters Digital Recording Market

BY CHRISTOPHER WALSH

In a clear sign that the digital audio workstation (DAW) has permanently and profoundly altered the audio recording industry, Solid State Logic (SSL) is throwing its hat into the ring.

The leading producer of large-format recording and mixing consoles for music production will unveil the AWS 900 Analogue Workstation System at the National Assn. of Broadcasters spring convention April 19-22 in Las Vegas.

The AWS 900 combines SSL's "SuperAnalogue" signal path and processing with digital control, creating an integrated hybrid of analog console and DAW interface.

It allows direct control of DAW recording, editing and mixing functions and operates independent of the DAW platform, making it compatible with Pro Tools, Nuendo and Logic Audio, among others.

The AWS 900 will begin shipping in June and will be priced at \$85,000, substantially less than the cost of SSL's large-format consoles.

SSL's 4000 G and 9000 J Series analog consoles have been hugely successful. The Oxford, England-based manufacturer claims more than 3,000 SSL-equipped recording, post-production and broadcast facilities around the world.

The company's XL 9000 K Series analog console, introduced in 2002, recognized the DAW's growing presence in audio recording with the integration of a flat-screen display on the center section, allowing DAW display.

SSL took a significant step toward DAW integration with the 2003 introduction of the XLogic product line, which features rack-mounted signal processing units developed from the K Series console.

XLogic products afford DAW-based recording environments individual SSL components that are virtually identical to the large-format console from which they are derived, at a fraction of the latter's cost and physical size.

SSL managing director Colin Pringle says that his company hit its stride years ago, when its 4000 series became the centerpiece of the recording studio of the day, with its tape machines and signal processing.

"There have been changes in the way that people work," Pringle notes. "A lot of production work goes on outside of a conventional studio environment. That's been largely enabled by the widespread use of DAWs. People are looking for extended control of [DAWs] through a tactile control surface, because there's a limited amount you can do with a mouse."

A variety of DAW controllers currently exist. For example, Digidesign, manufacturer of the Pro Tools platform, offers a range of console surfaces, from the eight-fader

Digi 002 and Command 8 to the Control 24 and ProControl.

ProControl is expandable to 48 channels. The 24-channel AWS 900, however, is a complete SSL console within the compact footprint of a DAW interface.

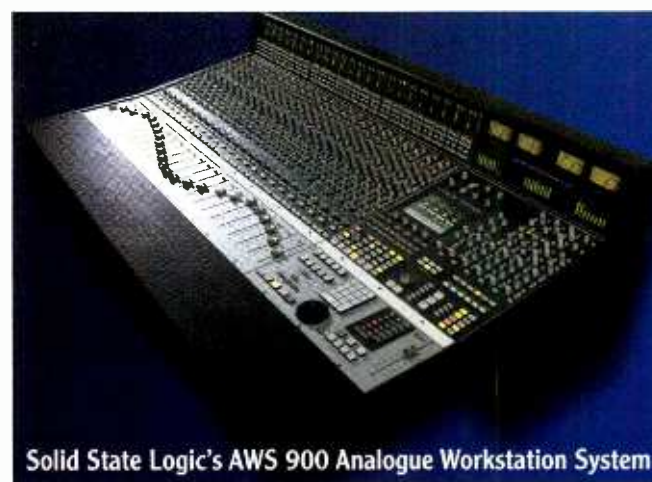
As DAWs have come to dominate recording in and outside of traditional studios, audio professionals have attached greater emphasis on the front end of the signal chain to provide analog warmth to digital recording. Vintage

preamplifiers and compressors, as well as new models designed in response to the DAW's proliferation, have become very popular.

"A lot of people don't want to overlook analog," Pringle says. "The quality of what you capture and how you process that is of paramount importance before it gets as far as storage and subsequent manipulation."

Just as the AWS 900 is aimed at DAW users, its introduction may signal acknowledgement of the diminishing market for the large-format consoles that for decades served as a commercial recording studio's centerpiece.

New York-based engineer/producer Pat Dilleat says, "They certainly realize that selling 96 channels of hardware to people is not going to happen at the pace it used to."



Solid State Logic's AWS 900 Analogue Workstation System



KIM WATERS

IN THE NAME OF LOVE

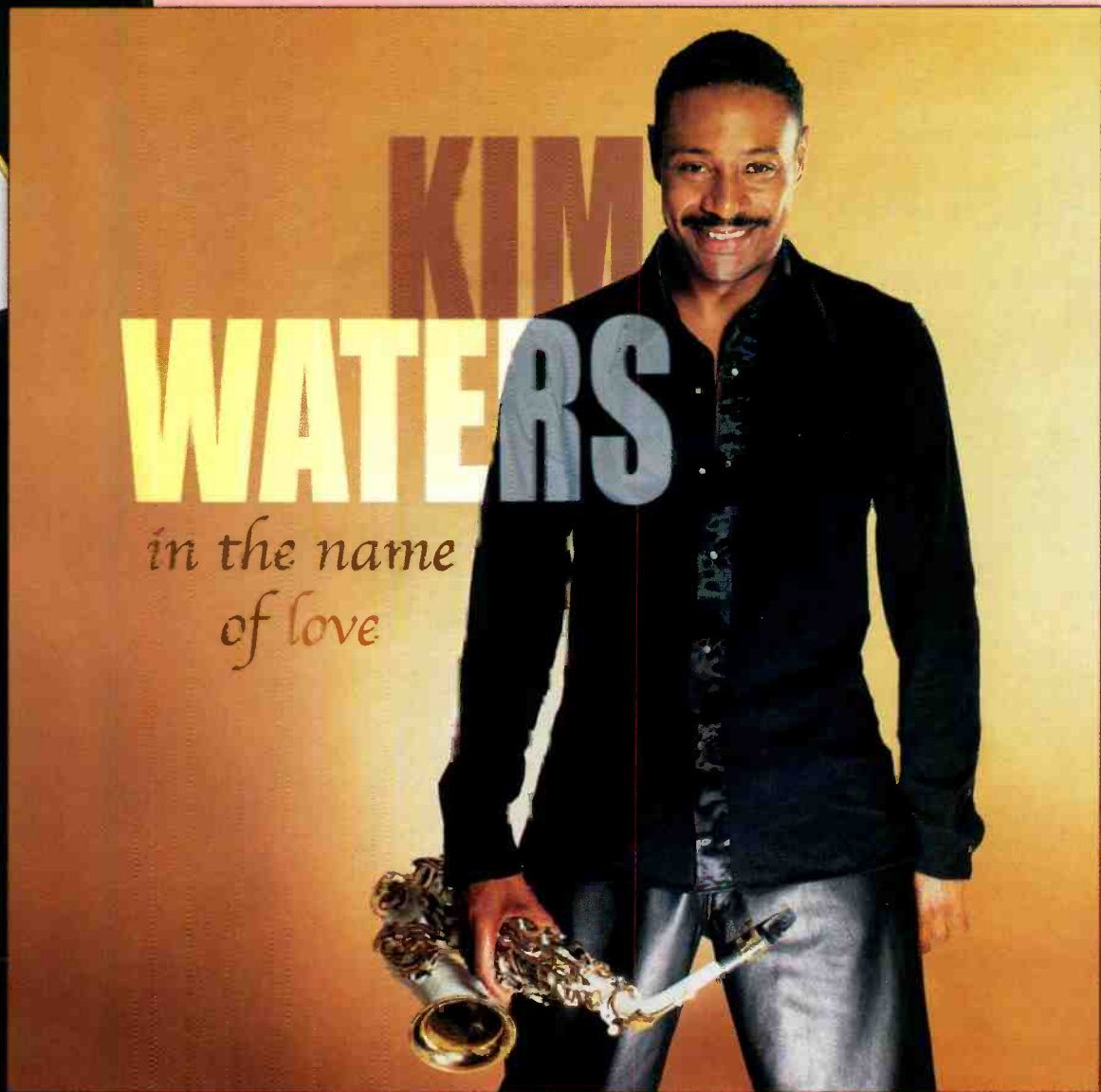
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— JAZZIZ

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COMING 4/27/04



New Download Site Targets Latin Market

BY LEILA COBO

MIAMI—A new all-Spanish download site is betting that Hispanics represent a burgeoning market for buying music online.

Emepe3.com, which launched last week, is billed as “the world’s first all-Spanish-language digital music store.” The site has a catalog of approximately 250,000 indie tracks, 100,000 of which are currently available for purchase at the equivalent of 99 cents each.

Perhaps most important, Emepe3 is available to consumers around the world.

“We are oriented to the Hispanic market worldwide, and we have no restrictions by country,” founder and CEO Andy Kleinman says.

Currently, consumers in Latin America cannot legally download from any of the other sites available in the United States, including Apple’s iTunes.

Emepe3, which developed its own technology and software, allows non-U.S. customers to access tracks and pay for them in local currency.

However, Kleinman stresses, his initial focus will be the U.S. Latin market, which is already accustomed to the legal downloading process but will benefit from a Spanish-language service.

Emepe3 does not have repertoire from any of the major labels. Kleinman says he has initiated conversations with the majors, but the issues of licensing and pricing from country to country have complicated the talks.

“When we first spoke with them, the Apple store wasn’t up, and they really had no idea,” Kleinman says. “Now, I think they’ll see us up and running, and we’re a Spanish site, so they’ll feel left out [if their product is not included].”

Kleinman, 23, founded Emepe3 as a music news site in 1999. His revamped company, which is financed by a German investment group, has offices in Miami and Buenos Aires.



Because Latin music piracy has reached crisis proportions in the United States and Latin America, Kleinman hopes to partner with the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry and the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences to create anti-piracy campaigns.

Although Latin music is increasingly being offered at download stores, its presence and promotion on such sites have been minor.

However, a study released last month found that Hispanics use the Internet more frequently than the general online population to listen to music and download files, among other activities.

The second annual America Online/RoperASW U.S. Hispanic Cyberstudy interviewed 615 Hispanic Internet users and 300 general-population users.

According to the study, 54% of online Hispanics regularly or occasionally listen to music via the Internet, compared with 30% of the general online population. And 39% of online Hispanics said they regularly or occasionally download music files, compared with 27% of the general population.

NEWSLINE

THE WEEK IN BRIEF

RealNetworks is lobbying Apple Computer to join forces against Microsoft in the digital-music market, according to a report in The New York Times. RealNetworks chairman/CEO Rob Glaser reportedly sent an e-mail to Steve Jobs last week imploring the Apple CEO to make the iPod compatible with Real’s RealPlayer Music Store. Real wants to license Apple’s FairPlay digital rights management technology in exchange for making the iPod the default device for Real’s software, the report says. Glaser reportedly hinted to Jobs that if Apple did not license its DRM, Real would explore opportunities with rival Microsoft. “We have been committed that consumers who use our services can use a market-leading device,” a Real spokesperson tells *Billboard*. “We’re committed to universal use, interoperability and consumer convenience.” Apple could not be reached for comment by press time. **BRIAN GARRITY**

Five major entertainment trade bodies have teamed to form the Coalition of Entertainment Retail Trade Assns. (CERTA). The group—which consists of the Digital Media Assn., the Interactive Entertainment Merchants Assn., the National Assn. of Recording Merchandisers, the National Assn. of Theatre Owners and the Video Software Dealers Assn.—plans to publicly address common concerns. CERTA members will hold their first joint activity April 20 on Capitol Hill, when they will meet with lawmakers to discuss how congressional support can help combat entertainment piracy. **JILL KIPNIS**

A San Diego clothing manufacturer is suing Britney Spears for \$10 million, claiming her use of the phrase “in the zone” infringes its trademarks. In court documents obtained by *Billboard*, Lite Breeze and its founder Rodd Garner contend that the use of “in the zone” on Spears’ multi-platinum Jive album of the same name, as well as on DVDs and T-shirts, is unauthorized. Lite Breeze also filed a cease-and-desist order to ban Spears from using the trademark in her concert recordings and promotional campaigns. Clear Channel Entertainment Television, Jive Records and Signature Network are also named as defendants. The name of Spears’ recent tour, which opened in San Diego last month, was changed to the Onyx Hotel tour from the In the Zone tour after the suit was filed Feb. 17 in the U.S. District Court for Southern California. Lite Breeze has owned the trademark since 1992. Peter Anderson, who represents Spears in the case, could not be reached for comment. **SAMANTHA CHANG**

Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians has reached an agreement with the Variety Arts Theater, a New York off-Broadway theater, under which the Sinfonia virtual orchestra will be used in its presentation of “The Joys of Sex.” The deal states that the theater will use Sinfonia only with the consent of the union. This is the latest development in a long-running dispute between the musicians’ union and New York-based Realtime Music Solutions (RMS), which manufacturers Sinfonia. In March, RMS filed an unfair labor practice charge against Local 802 after the latter’s February agreement with the Opera Company of Brooklyn banned its use of Sinfonia. The National Labor Relations Board dismissed the complaint. **CHRISTOPHER WALSH**

Canadian broadcaster CHUM Limited has signed an agreement to purchase all the shares of Calgary, Alberta-based Craig Media. This includes the digital specialty TV channels MTV, MTV2 and TV Land as well as conventional TV stations in Calgary; Edmonton, Alberta; and Winnipeg, Manitoba; CKX, a CBC affiliate station in Brandon, Manitoba; and the recently launched Toronto1 station in Toronto. CHUM will purchase Craig Media for \$265 million (Canadian) in cash. It will finance the purchase with bank debt. The transaction is subject to approval by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, among others. CHUM owns and operates 30 radio and eight TV stations and 18 specialty channels, including MuchMusic. **LARRY LeBLANC**

Nielsen Entertainment and videogame maker Activision have released a study on the effectiveness of advertising in videogames. Nielsen is developing a system that aims to track gaming habits as a tool for advertisers. The study, “Video Game Habits: A Comprehensive Examination of Gamer Demographics and Behavior in U.S. Television Households,” surveyed more than 1,000 males ages 8-34 from a sample of Nielsen TV households. Three-quarters of the surveyed population said they own a videogame system. One-quarter of active gamers could recall in-game advertisements from the last game they played, and one-third said in-game ads help them decide which products to buy. Upon releasing the study, Nielsen announced that it was developing a system that will allow Activision and other videogame companies to supply advertisers with audience measurement data. Nielsen aims to provide tools for advertisers to effectively measure ad exposure, demographics and audience recall as it pertains to videogame use. **SCOTT BANERJEE**

For the latest breaking news, go to billboard.biz.

Rock Hall Plans Nightly Radio Show

BY MELINDA NEWMAN

It’s only rock’n’roll, but Crystal Mountain Productions hopes you like it.

The Cleveland-based company has linked with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum to produce a nightly syndicated radio program running from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m.

“Moonlight Groove Highway—Rock and Roll Through the Night” is a music-driven show that will also feature interviews, call-ins and reports from a team of correspondents. It will broadcast from the Alan Freed radio studio in the Rock Hall.

Cleveland-based Envision will syndicate the show, which will bow this fall. The primary target will be rock and classic rock stations. But Envision and Crystal Mountain say they will even target triple-A and talk stations because of the show’s diverse elements.

“On overnights, you can hear sports, you can hear people talk about crop circles, but no one’s thought to create a show like this for rock music fans,” says Christopher Dieck, president/CEO of Crystal Mountain.

The rock format has a number of syndicated programs, including the long-running “Rockline,” and such newer entries as “Little Steven’s Underground Garage,” “Hard Drive” and “Nights With Alice Cooper.” However, the format does

not have an overnight offering like “Moonlight Groove Highway.”

ECONOMICAL MODEL

The show can bring big names to stations’ overnights. But more important, it can save them money, says Sean Ross, VP of music and programming for Somerville, N.J.-based Edison Media Research.



“The selling point of syndicated shows has always been getting big names,” Ross says, “but for a lot of stations, it’s not that lofty; the advantage is more-than-adequate talent without the salary.”

Although affiliates will share ad revenue with the show—which, like most syndicated programming, is available

on a barter basis—Envision president Danno Wolkoff believes the stations can more than make up the money.

“Most stations are using that time for make-goods and bonus spots,” he says. “We’re coming to them where they can tap into a new kind of national and local dollar.”

For the Rock Hall, the show means a tremendous amount of free exposure.

“The museum was built with a radio studio in it for one major reason: to have stations do remotes from across the world and to remind people that we’re in Cleveland,” says Terry Stewart, CEO/president of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

“We don’t use the studio very often from midnight to 6 a.m., so the opportunity to have someone broadcast from our studio [then] is great PR and promotion for us.”

Crystal Mountain is paying the Rock Hall a licensing fee and paying for the use of the studio. The Rock Hall does not have a say in the programming, but Stewart says Crystal Mountain will have access to the museum’s archival material.

Wolkoff hopes to debut the show with at least 24 affiliates. Stations will receive the program live via satellite. Dieck says the big pitch will come during the Conclave radio convention in Minneapolis in July.

Billboard

Information Group

Editor-in-Chief: KEITH GIRARD

Executive Editor: KEN SCHLAGER

BUREAUS

Los Angeles: Melinda Newman (Bureau Chief) 5055 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036; Phone: 323-525-2300; Fax: 323-525-2394/2395

San Francisco: Scott Banerjee (Bureau Chief) 300 Montgomery Street, Suite 201, San Francisco, CA 94104; Phone: 415-291-9999; Fax: 415-398-4156

Washington, D.C.: Bill Holland (Bureau Chief) 910 17th St. N.W., Suite 215, Washington, D.C. 20006; Phone: 202-833-8692; Fax: 202-833-8672

Nashville: Phyllis Stark (Bureau Chief) 49 Music Square W, Nashville, TN, 37203; Phone: 615-321-4290; Fax: 615-320-0454

Miami: Leila Cobo (Bureau Chief/Latin) 101 Crandon Blvd., Suite 466, Key Biscayne, FL 33149; Phone: 305-361-5279; Fax: 305-361-5299

London: Emmanuel Legrand (Bureau Chief) Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Ave., London WC2H 8TJ; Phone: +44 (0) 207-420-6003; Fax: +44 (0) 207-420-6014

New York: 770 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003; Phone: 646-654-4400; Edit Fax: 646-654-4681; Advertising Fax: 646-654-4799

EDITORIAL

Managing Editors: Carolyn Horwitz (Billboard.BIZ) 646-654-4680; Barry Jeckell (Billboard.com) 646-654-5581; Thom Duffy (Special Publications) 646-654-4716

Senior Editors: Samantha Chang (Business/Legal) 646-654-4659; Melina Newman (Music) 323-525-2287; Marc Schiffman (News) 646-654-4708; Phyllis Stark (Country) 615-321-4284

Senior Writers: Scott Banerjee (Technology) 415-291-9999; Jim Besmaier (Publishing) 212-246-0795; Ed Christman (Retail) 646-654-4723; Leila Cobo (Latin) 305-361-5279;

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Staff Writers: Susanne Ault (Touring) 323-525-2288; Jill Kipnis (Home Video) 323-525-2293

News/Reviews Editor: Jonathan Cohen (Billboard.com) 646-654-5582

Associate Editors: Troy Carpenter (Billboard.BIZ) 646-654-4904; Katy Kroll (Special Publications) 646-654-4709; Todd Martens (Billboard.BIZ) 323-525-2292

Copy Chief: Emma Warby **Copy Editors:** Chris Woods, Jackie McCarthy

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GLOBAL

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Bureau Chiefs: Christie Eliezer (Australasia), Lamy LeBlanc (Canada), Steve McClure (Asia), Wolfgang Spahr (Germany) **Contributing Editors:** Sam Andrews, Juliana Koranteng, Paul Sexton, Nigel Williamson

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Chart Production Manager: Michael Cusson

Associate Chart Production Manager: Alex Vitouls

Archive Research: 646-654-4633

INTEGRATED SALES, EVENTS & BRAND MARKETING

Vice President, Integrated Sales: JOSEPH GUERRIERO

Associate Publisher/International: GENE SMITH

Advertising Directors Europe/U.K.: Frederic Fenucc +44 (0) 207-420 6075

Asia-Pacific/Australia: Linda Matich 612-9440-7777, Fax: 612-9440-7788

Japan: Aki Kaneko 323-525-2299 **Latin America/Miami:** Marcia Olival 305-864-7578, Fax: 305-864-3227 **Mexico/West Coast Latin:** Daisy Ducret 323-782-625C

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Subscriptions: 800-562-2706 (U.S.) 818-487-4582 (Outside U.S.)

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Piracy Endgame In Sight

The contentious fight between the music industry and peer-to-peer file-sharing services is drawing closer to the endgame.

The beginning of the end was signaled earlier this month, when Congress finally stepped up with legislation that would clear the way for the federal government—finally—to take responsibility for enforcing U.S. copyright laws.

A Senate bill would authorize the Justice Department to go after online copyright infringers in civil, as opposed to criminal, court. Pursuing civil claims is a much easier process and requires a lower standard of proof to obtain a conviction.

The House bill is stronger; it gives prosecutors the authority to go after file sharers as felons, which could put perpetrators in jail for up to 10 years. The bill is overkill in the fight against prolific individual downloaders, who largely have been the target of Recording Industry Assn. of America lawsuits.

But it could provide an important weapon in the fight against organized rings of illegal downloaders and those who pirate physical CDs.

Organizations that represent P2P

services are obviously unhappy with the legislation. If the measures pass, it will put services such as Grokster and Blubster in a difficult position.

But clearly this legislation is needed, and not for the obvious reason. It's certainly the federal government's job to enforce its own laws, and it's about time that Congress gave prosecutors the proper tools to do the job.

Our best hope is that congressional action will force both sides to negotiate in good faith.

But our best hope is that congressional action will finally force both sides to negotiate in good faith to end what Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., aptly called an "intolerable predicament."

Let's start with something everyone can agree on. Sharing copyrighted works over the Internet is flat wrong. It robs everyone who creates music, from the big labels to artists.

By the same token, P2P services rep-

resent promising new technologies and should be allowed to flourish—legally.

When emerging technologies clash with existing law, P2P proponents argue that the law should be changed. Frankly, that argument has merit, but not when such changes threaten to undermine an entire industry.

Rather, we need to find a middle ground that would allow for the continued development of P2P services without illegal file sharing. But so far, neither side seems interested in a reasonable solution.

Negotiations have been more like the old Abbott & Costello routine: "Who's on First? What's on Second? and I Don't Know is on Third."

You know the drill:

"Who's on first?"

"I don't know."

"No, he's on third."

"Who?"

"No, he's on first . . ."

And on it goes.

Congress has done the right thing by putting this legislation on the table; now it needs to bring the two sides to the table.

Does something make you jump and shout? Write a letter to the Editor! Mail to Keith Girard, Editor-in-Chief, Billboard, 770 Broadway, 6th Floor, New York, N.Y., 10003, or e-mail to letters@billboard.com. Include name, title, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be concise and may be edited. Names can be withheld, if requested, at the discretion of the editor. All submissions published shall become the sole property of Billboard, which shall own the copyright in whole or part, for publication.

Combinations Of Entertainment And Advertising Can Be Win-Win Situations

In Defense Of Advertising

You might remember the old commercials for Reese's Peanut Butter Cups: A guy is walking along, blissfully enjoying a chocolate bar, while another guy is joyfully consuming a jar of peanut butter.

Then, someone stumbles, and whammo! A profound combination of chocolate and peanut butter occurs, and candy is never the same.

The guy with the chocolate bar is the entertainment business. The guy with the jar of peanut butter is the corporation that advertises. Both are stumbling, but as the two worlds collide, something good is happening.

Nothing is new about the combination of advertising and entertainment; these areas have a natural symbiosis.

Music has been used in TV and radio commercials for decades. Corporations have long provided backing to TV and radio programming and have sponsored live concerts.

But the new era of "advertainment" represents a dramatic change in the ways that these two areas can support one another. Indeed, the line between entertainment and advertisement is increasingly blurring, and some of the most creative works are those created under corporate auspices.

With the advent of TiVo and similar devices, TV audiences can ignore commercials. Consumers have more ways to spend their free time, and corporations are searching for methods to reach consumers that are not unduly intrusive but still secure their attention.

At the same time, sales of CDs are diminishing, the major record companies are consolidating and recording artists and songwriters are seeing their traditional streams of income decreasing.

Similar changes are occurring in the world of TV, with the proliferation of channels and competitive devices for distributing TV content.

Even the movie business, while still vibrant, is bracing itself for the onset of widespread piracy against the background of increasing budgets.

As these changes cause us to abandon many of the traditional models, we are seeing win-win combinations of entertainment and advertising. They range from corporate advertisers' sponsorship of, and product placement in, reality TV programs to the boosting of the careers of artists like Michael McDonald, Sting and James Taylor.

Creative commercials use their music respectfully and in related tie-ins. There has been a virtual tidal wave of TV programs, print promotions, Internet promotions and videogames involving artists and their music.

As many artists now recognize, there is nothing evil about having their music associated with a particular product. At the same time, many advertisers are striving to create promotions that are "artist-friendly" and to set up deals that provide the artists

with the promotional push they need in their own careers.

As record companies are hesitant to sign new acts, new artists are achieving initial buzz by appearing in ads or other promotions.

And with labels reluctant to invest substantial marketing funds in their signed acts and as radio becomes less diverse, the availability of advertising tie-ins helps provide the artists and their music with the exposure it needs.

Similar changes are occurring in the world of live events. Tours have remained strong as an independent profit center, even for artists that don't have a new record to promote.

Corporate sponsors are playing roles well beyond putting up a bit of money in exchange for having a sign on the wall of a venue.

They are looking for ways to have their brands more substantively associated with live events and, in return, artists are

receiving bigger payouts and more promotional tie-ins that in turn boost the artists' profiles.

The success of Celine Dion's multi-faceted relationship with Chrysler (including Chrysler's support of Celine's long-running show at Caesars Palace Coliseum in Las Vegas) is a good example of how this can work well.

Advertisers are in search of artists whose music is compatible with the advertisers' image and desired customer base.

Of course, some artists will never allow their music to be used in the promotion of a product, and many will limit their associations to advertisers they consider politically acceptable or at least benign.

In some cases, artists can benefit from the demographic associations with a company considered to be hip.

Where there is an advertiser/artist match, the joint marketing possibilities are virtually endless, and they can result in the creation of, and support for, great art.

Artists and their representatives will work to ensure that any promotions treat the art and the artist appropriately and provide the artist with the cash or cash equivalents that are needed.

Corporations will work to ensure that their brands are receiving the push they need and that costs are limited to the extent possible.

In many cases, artists and advertisers fail to recognize how much they actually can help one another. In some cases, the deals between them can be structured so that relatively little cash changes hands, but promotional benefits are instead exchanged.

In the best cases, the consumer learns more about, and develops better associations with, an advertiser, and the artist is entertaining the consumer and strengthening the artists' own profile.

When it works, advertainment can be a very good thing.

Laurie Soriano is a partner and co-chair of the entertainment law group with Manatt Phelps & Phillips in Los Angeles.

**Taking
Issue**
By Laurie Soriano



Letters

Report Deters Sensible Debate On Crowd Safety

We would be interested to know how you reached the conclusion that "a paucity of crowd-management skills threatens the U.K. touring business" ("Study: Events Unsafe," *Billboard*, March 27).

It certainly wasn't in the preliminary report on crowd dynamics by Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College. Neither did the report, which was presented at the ILMC Safety Focus Group session this year, conclude that events were unsafe.

Indeed, your reporter even failed to get the name of the study right. Its correct title is "A Comparative Report on Crowd Dynamics, Behaviour and Management at the Eminem and Robbie Williams Concerts at the National Bowl and Knebworth, Respectively, in the Summer of 2003."

The title you used referred to an entirely different publication.

What the report actually

describes are the preliminary findings of research at these two "super-scale" events and the factors that need to be taken into account when planning a crowd management strategy for events of this kind.

These are hardly typical concerts, even in the U.K., so the report could scarcely be a comment on the entire U.K. touring industry. Furthermore, your reporter, Juliana Koranteng, ignored the fact that there were representatives from Germany, Ireland and Holland on the Safety Focus Group panel, reflecting the fact that this is a fully international issue.

She also failed to report the very positive contributions from both Padraic Boran of MCD Productions in Ireland (who offered suggestions on venue location, the strength of supporting bills and effective signage) and Sabine

Funk of the 200,000-capacity Rheinkultur festival.

The fact that a photograph of Feargal Sharkey appeared alongside the article added to the confusion you created, as he was not an SFG panelist and, to the best of our knowledge, was not even present at our session.

Nonetheless, we would be delighted to discuss the subject with Mr. Sharkey, should the opportunity arise.

The issue of crowd safety is one which affects the entire live music industry. We hope that studies such as ours will throw light on a complex and occasionally controversial subject.

By contrast, the uncharacteristically sensationalist and inaccurate reporting you provided last month only serves to hold back sensible debate on the topic.

The ILMC Safety Focus Group
Montlaur, France.

Anti-Piracy Call Lacks Logic

Hugh Prestwood's concluding threat in his contribution to the Billboard Anti-Piracy Campaign is that if peer-to-peer downloading doesn't cease, our society "will soon see the creation and production of that commodity [songs] cease."

Balderdash. Recent science shows that humans have made music longer than we have used fire. "Barbara Allen," "Go Tell It on the Mountain," "Whiskey in the Jar" and literally thousands of other folk songs and spirituals that form the basis of virtually all American music composed today—including Prestwood's—were made before a song became a "commodity."

In his magnanimity, Prestwood offers, "Let us come together." Then he proposes that

file sharers do a variety of things that meet *his* interests without offering downloaders anything at all: not the singles that used to be for sale, not albums with greater content at more affordable prices, not even a guarantee that some of the money will go to recording artists.

All we're offered is that hollow claim that there won't be any music unless the status quo is preserved. Chicken Little used better logic.

There are very real reasons why we need to concern ourselves with how songwriters and artists get paid and, indeed, whether they get paid at all. I hope that the next part of the Billboard Anti-Piracy Campaign addresses some of them.

Dave Marsh
Editor
Rock & Rap Confidential
Los Angeles

News of Anonymous 4's upcoming retirement lifts 'American Angels' to No. 1



MUSIC



Popularity of praise and worship genre extends CeCe Winans' 'Throne Room' tour

POP / ROCK / COUNTRY / R&B / HIP-HOP / LATIN / DANCE / TOURING

Santana, Will.i.am Collaborating

Black Eyed Peas leader Will.i.am and Carlos Santana have been writing together for Santana's next studio album.

"He was like, 'Wow, I've never seen anyone so focused,'" Will.i.am says of Santana's reaction to his work ethic.

"I got to his studio at 10 a.m., and we finished a song [that day]. It's called 'I Am Somebody.'"

In addition to working on his new studio album, Santana, who will join Eric Clapton June 6 at Clapton's Crossroads Guitar Festival in Dallas, has been working on a

Hawkins won by default after the defendant failed to appear. The judge, Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner Roberta H. Kyman, also put a judgment against the vendor for \$324—the total amount the CDs were sold for—plus Hawkins' court costs.

In her original filing in December, Hawkins alleged that the vendor illegally obtained a promotional copy of her April 20 release, "Wilderness," and sold one copy online for \$300 on Dec. 5 and two subsequent copies for \$12 each on Dec. 23.

Hawkins purchased the CDs back from the fans who bought them from the vendor, who could not be reached for comment.

"She's not doing this for the money. That's why she made the small claims suit for \$324, not [the small claims limit of] \$5,000," says Gigi Gaston, Hawkins' manager. "It's about sending a message."

ALVIN ON THE MOVE: After 13 years of recording for HighTone Records, Dave Alvin has inked a licensing deal with Yep Roc Records.

The Graham, N.C.-based label will release Alvin's next two albums worldwide. Yep Roc is a wholly owned subsidiary of Red-eye Distribution.

"I would be flipping burgers if it were not for [HighTone], and I

(Continued on page 12)

Country Rocks!

More Pop Artists Crossing Boundaries Between Genres

DEBORAH EVANS PRICE

NASHVILLE—During a recent Kenny Chesney concert in Albany, N.Y., Poison frontman Bret Michaels joined Chesney onstage. Much to his surprise, when he and Chesney launched into Poison's '80s power ballad "Every Rose Has Its Thorn," the crowd sang along with every word.

In looking at the country charts during the past year, perhaps Michaels shouldn't have been so shocked.

The lines between country and rock fans are definitely fading. And barriers that once existed at radio are crumbling.

Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow had a massive radio/video hit with "Picture." Rock's version of the song with country chanteuse Allison Moorer became the top-selling commercial country single last year. Crow recently graced the *Billboard* Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart with "The First Cut Is the Deepest."

Uncle Kracker's duet with Chesney, "When the Sun Goes Down" (the title cut of Chesney's multi-platinum album) reigned

(Continued on page 38)

Bret Michaels is one of many rock artists whose music strikes a chord with country fans.



The Beat™

By Melinda Newman
mnewman@billboard.com



benefit record for Milagro Foundation—the charity started by Santana and his wife, Deborah, that aids disadvantaged youth. No word yet on a release date for either album.

ONE DISC AT A TIME: Singer/songwriter Sophie B. Hawkins has won her case against an online vendor whom she alleged sold advance copies of her album five months before its release.

In an April 13 decision in Santa Monica, Calif., small claims court,

THERE WILL BE A TELEPHONIC AUCTION ON MAY 10TH OF CLASSIC MASTERS BY GENRE INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING MAJOR ARTISTS:

ALTERNATIVE ROCK

POP ROCK

R&B

ROCK

BETTER THAN EZRA — FACE TO FACE — VIOLENT FEMMES

BLONDIE — GO-GO'S

LUCY PEARL

SAMMY HAGAR — YES

THE AUCTION WILL INCLUDE MASTERS IN THE SAME GENRES BY 12 OTHER ARTISTS PLUS VARIOUS SOUNDTRACKS. TO BID YOU MUST PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION BY APRIL 21ST SO WE CAN SEND YOU AUCTION DETAILS BY APRIL 28TH. REACH US BY E-MAIL USING billboard@equitabletransitions.com.

Radio, Retirement Lift 'Angels' To No. 1

Despite a stellar reputation and solid sales, **Harmonia Mundi USA** has never put a CD atop the *Billboard* classical music chart during its 22-

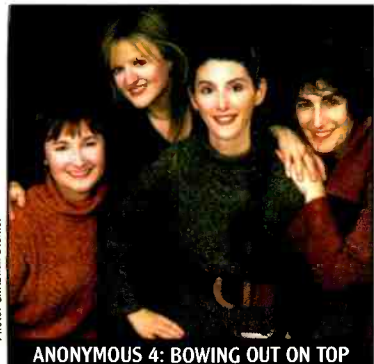


Photo: Christian Steiner

ANONYMOUS 4: BOWING OUT ON TOP

year history.

But that changed April 10, when **Anonymus 4** and its album "American Angels" shot to the top spot.

Why this album, and why now? Nearly all of Anonymus 4's previous albums have reached the top 10, so it's not surprising that one has finally reached the pinnacle.

But other elements are at play as well: For starters, Anonymus 4 is retiring this season as a full-time ensemble. "American Angels" has elicited the interest of longtime fans revisiting a beloved group before it retreats from the scene.

Second, a feature on NPR's "Week-end Edition Saturday" program

helped spike interest. During the first few days following the program's air-date, "American Angels" sold more than 6,000 copies.

A change in repertoire probably also played an important part in the album's success.

In stark contrast to the medieval and new music that has been Anonymus 4's signature repertoire, the current album

features Americana favorites and rarities: 18th-century psalm settings,

Classical Score™
By Anastasia Tsioulcas
atsioulcas@billboard.com



"This fall will include the release of the second 'Baltic Voices' title, featuring the **Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir** and **Paul Hillier**," she notes. "The violinist **Andrew Manze** will release an album of **Vivaldi** concertos to coincide with a U.S. tour."

And "the girls," as Young fondly refers to Anonymus 4, will release another album in spring 2005—"The Origin of Fire," featuring music by the great medieval mystic **Hildegard of Bingen**.

PULITZER 'FANTASY': This year's Pulitzer Prize in music was awarded to **Paul Moravec**. A graduate of Harvard and Columbia universities, he currently chairs the music department at Adelphi University on Long Island, N.Y.

The winning piece is his "Tempest Fantasy," scored for clarinet, violin, cello and piano, which was performed last May by **David Krakauer** and **Trio Solisti**. His publisher is **Subito Music**.

19th-century shape-note songs, camp-revival hymns and famous gospel tunes. The album creates a bridge to listeners outside of the ensemble's regular base and taps into a deep current of interest in Americana.

Harmonia Mundi USA VP/artistic director **Robina Young** is planning an impressive lineup of new releases and artist tours.

The Beat

Continued from page 11

will be forever grateful," Alvin tells *Billboard*.

However, Alvin says he was attracted to Yep Roc's "energy and vision. They are a very artist-friendly label, open to new ideas, and are embracing with enthusiasm

the way the business is headed, and that is what I need for the next step of my career."

Alvin's first release, "Ashgrove," comes out June 15.

TWILIGHT TIME: **Mark Lanegan**, formerly with **Queens of the Stone Age** and **Screaming Trees**, has joined **Greg Dulli's Twilight Singers** for the current leg of the group's U.S. tour. The outing concludes April 20 in Seattle.

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GMA Awards To Air On Screens Big And Small

CBS sportscaster **Deion Sanders** and **Yolanda Adams** will co-host the **Gospel Music Assn.'s** 35th annual Music Awards April 28 at Nashville's Municipal Auditorium. The show will be broadcast on **UPN**, marking the first time the network has aired the event, formerly known as the Dove Awards. The show is slated to air from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. ET/PT May 28.

GMA is partnering with **Regal Entertainment Group** for a big-screen premiere of the show. The awards will be shown live in 50 cities at Regal Cinemas, United Artists Theatres and Edwards Theatres.

The event marks the first time a live awards show has been simulcast in movie theaters nationwide.

ForeFront artist **Rebecca St. James** will serve as host for the Regal event, reporting live from the awards. Tickets for the theater showings cost \$10 and are available at regalcm.com.

Prior to the broadcast show, **Curb** artist **Natalie Grant** and **Word Records'** **Mark Schultz** will host the opening ceremonies, during which the prebroadcast awards will be presented.

HEDGES SOARS SOLO: After four albums with **Blessid Union of Souls**,

singer/songwriter **Eddie Hedges** is charting a new course with the release of his solo debut, "Something to Believe In," just released on **Madacy Entertainment**.

"I finally had the opportunity to do the music I wanted to do, and fortunately, Madacy was interested in allowing me to do that. So it was a blessing all the way around," he says.

A preacher's kid from Cincinnati, Hedges' career began when he moved to the West Coast and became a "hired gun," touring and playing with **Sheila E.**, **Johnny Gill**, **Bell Biv DeVoe** and others.

"I was a drummer/percussionist/



vocalist," he says. "I was the go-to guy for shows like 'Arsenio Hall,' 'Jay Leno,' the American Music Awards and that kind of thing. Then when the guys at home in Cincinnati told me they wanted to put a band together, I moved back and we started Blessid Union."

That was in 1994. What followed was a string of hits including "I Believe," "Let Me Be the One" and "Leonardo (She Likes Me for Me)." Hedges says, "After seven years with Blessid Union, it was time to do something else."

He describes his new CD as "basically indicative of my life over the last few years. When I decided I was going to leave the band, it was because I was going through something spiritually. I was raised in the church, but as you get older you kind of step off the path. Every track on the record is about my life or someone involved in my life."

"I didn't start out to write a Christian record. I just started writing the

music that was in me, and what I was talking about was spiritual," he continues. "A couple of the songs are the prayers I prayed while I was on the road. I just put them to music."

In The Spirit

By **Deborah Evans Price**
dprice@billboard.com



Madacy plans to promote the project through an extensive Internet campaign. It will also alert the 200,000-plus members of Blessid Union's fan club that Hedges has a solo album out. The singer/songwriter plans a summer tour.

NEWS NOTES: **Managing Dreams Entertainment & Consulting** is partnering with gospel promotional company **GZ Underground** for a new venture targeting the needs of independent gospel artists, labels and ministries.

Managing Dreams CEO **Evelyn Miller-Mack** and **GZ Underground** CEO **Curtis Jermay** also head the **Urban Gospel Alliance (UGA)**, a collective of independent gospel artists.

The 15-member contemporary gospel group **Derrick Hall & Company** is the first act to be managed under the new joint venture.

In other UGA news, a three-disc compilation is in the works that will showcase the depth and variety of independent music in the urban gospel genre.

"The Gospel Zone Presents the Underground Volume II" will include one holy hip-hop CD, one spoken-word CD and one CD featuring urban gospel styles.



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Tribeca Film Festival Resonates With Music Themes

The Tribeca Film Festival continues to offer an eclectic mix of films with a music theme. The event is on par with the Sundance Film Festival as an independent movie showcase that attracts the music industry.

The third annual Tribeca Film Festival—which takes place May 1-9 throughout New York's Tribeca neighborhood—will screen films that showcase rock, jazz, opera, classical and hip-hop.

On the rock front, the late **Clash** frontman **Joe Strummer** is the subject of the documentary "Let's Rock Again!" which will premiere at the festival. Directed by **Dick Rude**, the

film documents the final tour of Strummer and his band **the Mescaleros** before his death in 2002.

Another world premiere is "Kill Your Idols," a documentary directed by **Scott Crary** about New York's art-punk scene. **Sonic Youth** and the **Yeah Yeah Yeahs** are featured in the movie.

Composers and conductors are the subjects of three of the foreign entries in the festival:

From Germany, "Rhythm Is It!" follows the journey of conductor **Sir Simon Rattle** as he works with the **Berlin Philharmonic** on **Igor Stravinsky's** "The Rite of Spring."

From the Netherlands, "The Master and His Pupil" focuses on conductor **Valery Gergiev** as he mentors three students in Rotterdam, Holland; and "A Labyrinth of Time" is a documentary about composer **Elliott Carter**.

Short films "On the D.L." and "Of Mexican Descent" are among those that represent hip-hop.

"On the D.L." follows hip-hoppers **Questlove of the Roots** and former **Digable Planets** member **King Britt** as they attempt to get a driver license. "Of Mexican Descent" is about the group of the same name from the Los

Angeles underground hip-hop scene. Also in that genre is "Mix," a documentary about two South African female DJs.

Musical theater and traditional dance are showcased in the documentaries "Elaine Stritch at Liberty" and "The Dance Challenge."

films focusing on characters chatting over coffee and cigarettes. **Iggy Pop**, **Tom Waits**, **the White Stripes** and **Wu-Tang Clan** members **RZA** and **GZA** are among the film's stars.

MTV has presented a concert at the festival for the past two years featuring such acts as **Norah Jones**, the

Roots, **Robbie Williams**, **Sheryl Crow**, **Wyclef Jean** and **Counting Crows**. Although it has not yet been announced, this year's film fest is expected to include such a concert.

For more information, visit tribecafilmfestival.org.

PINK AS JANIS: Pink will reportedly star as **Janis Joplin** in the feature film "The Gospel According to Janis." Directed and co-written by **Penelope Spheeris**, the biopic will be produced in part by **Spheeris Films**.

It will be a separate production from **Paramount Pictures'** Joplin biopic "Piece of My Heart," which will

reportedly star Academy Award winner **Renée Zellweger** (*Movies & Music*, *Billboard*, Feb. 28). "The Gospel According to Janis" does not yet have a major film studio attached.

Meanwhile, a spokeswoman for **BMG North America** chairman/CEO **Clive Davis** denies published reports that Davis will oversee the film's soundtrack and says that it is too early to know who will produce the soundtrack. Pink has segued to BMG's **Jive Records**, following the restructuring of her previous label, **Arista Records**. Representatives for Pink had no comment at deadline.

OTHER CASTING NEWS: Will Smith is starring in the romantic comedy "The Last First Kiss" for **Columbia Pictures**. Smith's **Overbrook Entertainment** is producing the film... **Aerosmith** frontman **Steven Tyler** has a supporting role in the **MGM** comedy "Be Cool," the sequel to "Get Shorty"... **Hilary Duff** will star in the romantic comedy "The Perfect Man" for **Universal Pictures**... **Ja Rule** has a supporting role in the horror flick "Assault on Precinct 13." **Rogue Pictures**, **Liaisons Films** and **Outlaw Films** are behind the independent film.

Movies & Music
By Carla Hay
chay@billboard.com



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MUSIC FOR 30-PLUS

The Bottom Line Grows Up

Adult Music Fans Emerge As Market Force, Offering Hope For The Future

BY MIKE LEVIN

Every day in the United States, about 10,000 people become "grownups." The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that's how many people mark their 30th birthday each day.

For the music business, that means some 3.5 million customers per year presumably are shucking off the tribal, image-driven music of their youth and moving into the individualistic, melody-driven repertoire of maturity.

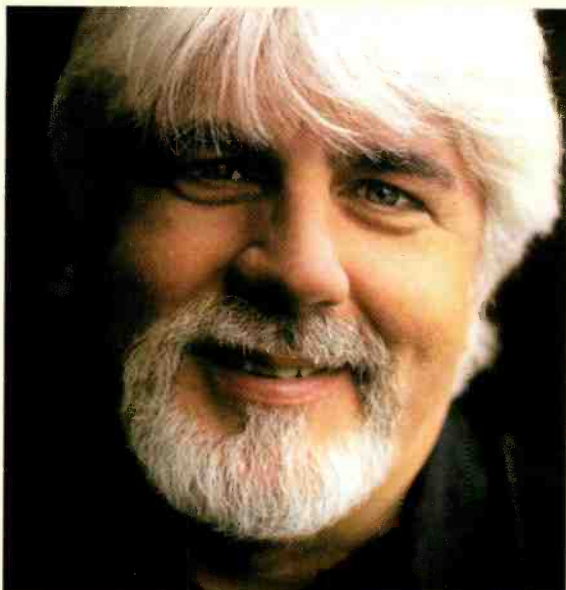
It's a theory supported by numbers. Figures from the Recording Industry Assn. of America, NPD Group and some of the country's leading retailers show that during the past decade, sales of music for grownups are booming at a time when overall industry figures have slid drastically.

Of course, younger fans also purchase adult-oriented repertoire. But for the third consecutive year, over-30s are the only group to buy more albums than they did the year before.

Today, the 35- to 44-year-old consumer buys as many records as teenagers, according to the NPD Group. In 2003, over-30s bought 417 million albums; 15-24s purchased 246 million. Adults now purchase 56% of all records, and analysts believe that could hit 60% by 2005.

"Adult music continues to be among our top two or three segments, and it's growing in a down market because it's recapturing what made contemporary music good in the first place," says Kevin Cassidy, executive VP of sales, operations and product at Tower Records. "I guess it's cool to be a singer/songwriter again."

Young, melody-oriented stars like Norah Jones and Josh Groban appeal across the demographic spectrum.



But the success of new albums and catalog product from legacy artists—Harry Connick Jr., Jackson Browne, Hall & Oates, Rod Stewart, Bette Midler, Michael McDonald and others—testifies to the strength of music for grownups. So do the trends toward crossover success within the pop, rock, country, jazz and roots genres.

"The adult buyers never went away, they just got bored for a while," says John Rollins, publisher of Tracks, the first music magazine to target exclusively the over-30 music market. "Now the baby boomers are re-engaging, and they're the first generation that, as they get older, wants to stay contemporary with pop culture."

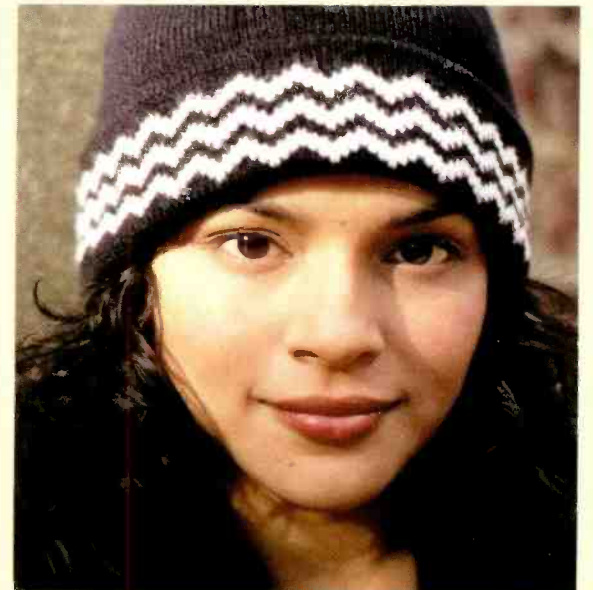
Record companies and distributors are catching on. When Tracks launched last fall with Sting on the cover, Rollins says, the magazine sold twice as much advertising as expected.

"There aren't many [media] serving this market, which is a bit of a surprise considering the numbers I've been looking at for five years," he adds. "It's pretty obvious the adult consumer is demanding attention."

During the past year, The Billboard 200 has confirmed the sales strength of the adult-oriented artists cited above and others, including John Mayer, Santana and Luther Vandross. The trend is also promising for the bottom line of the music business. Marketing executives see an adult demographic willing to spend \$18.99 on a CD by a recognizable artist because they believe it will

(Continued on page 18)

Artists who appeal to fans age 30-plus include, from left, Michael McDonald, Bette Midler and Norah Jones.



Majors Find Ways To Reach Adult Audience

BY MIKE LEVIN

The year was 1998. It brought the *Billboard* chart debuts of Britney Spears, Creed and 'N Sync, among others. But it also saw a pivotal shift in music-buying trends, one that resonates through the industry today.



MCKAY: PROGRESSION OF SMALL GAINS

In 1998, for the first time since the 1960s, adult music fans—those over 30 years of age—bought more than half of the music sold in the United States.

Sales of music for grown-ups show no sign of slowing down, and record companies are discovering that their best customers are once again discriminating and driven by music rather than pop fads.

Yet unlike younger fans, adult record buyers don't have music television and teen magazines to tell them what to buy. This makes reaching the over-30s a whole new challenge.

"The change has been huge, because this demographic knows what it wants and is willing to pay for it," says Tim Prescott, executive VP and chief marketing officer for BMG. "They're concentrating on artists for their songwriting abilities, not fashion, and the key is to not over-hype anything."

"I think we understand the music well enough," Prescott adds, "so it's a matter of hunting out where the customers are going to find this music. We have to reach into what they're watching, what they're reading."

For the record business, that means marketing via the "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and CNN

instead of MTV; *The New Yorker* instead of *Rolling Stone*.

While radio outlets such as NPR and adult-alternative formats support music for grown-ups, book-and-music retailers such as Borders and Barnes & Noble create the best environment to reach this market. Adult buyers may hear new music from the likes of Fleetwood Mac or Harry Connick Jr. as they drink

their coffee and read their books and newspapers.

Adult marketing works better when consumers can lean into the product in the retail environment, not get blasted away by it.

"The majors are returning to a consistent, intelligent relationship with retail, one that's not contrived to create an image or brand. That [kind of branding] doesn't

work with adult consumers, especially among females who are buying a lot of the records," says Kevin Cassidy, executive VP for sales, operations and product at Tower Records. "This merchandising [mentality] is changing how everyone does business."

For Sony Classical president Peter Gelb, the shift to NPR-style
(Continued on page 19)

NPR Becomes Adult Tastemaker

National Public Radio has become a holy grail of exposure for record-company executives seeking to market music for grown-ups.

NPR shows such as "All Things Considered" and "World Café" reflect perfectly the over-30s' desire to find music that fits their sensibilities.

"When we sit down and put together a plan for an [adult] artist, NPR is right at the top of the list," says Marc Johnston, VP/GM of Universal Classics Group.

"I am continually amazed by what a taste-driver it is. If an artist is featured on a weekend show, the album is bound to turn up on Amazon's top 10 on Monday. I think it shows that once you can motivate

this market, it lasts for a long time."

Bob Boilen, the director of "All Things Considered," developed the multimedia online music program "All Songs Considered" to give further exposure to the music played between stories on NPR's evening news show.

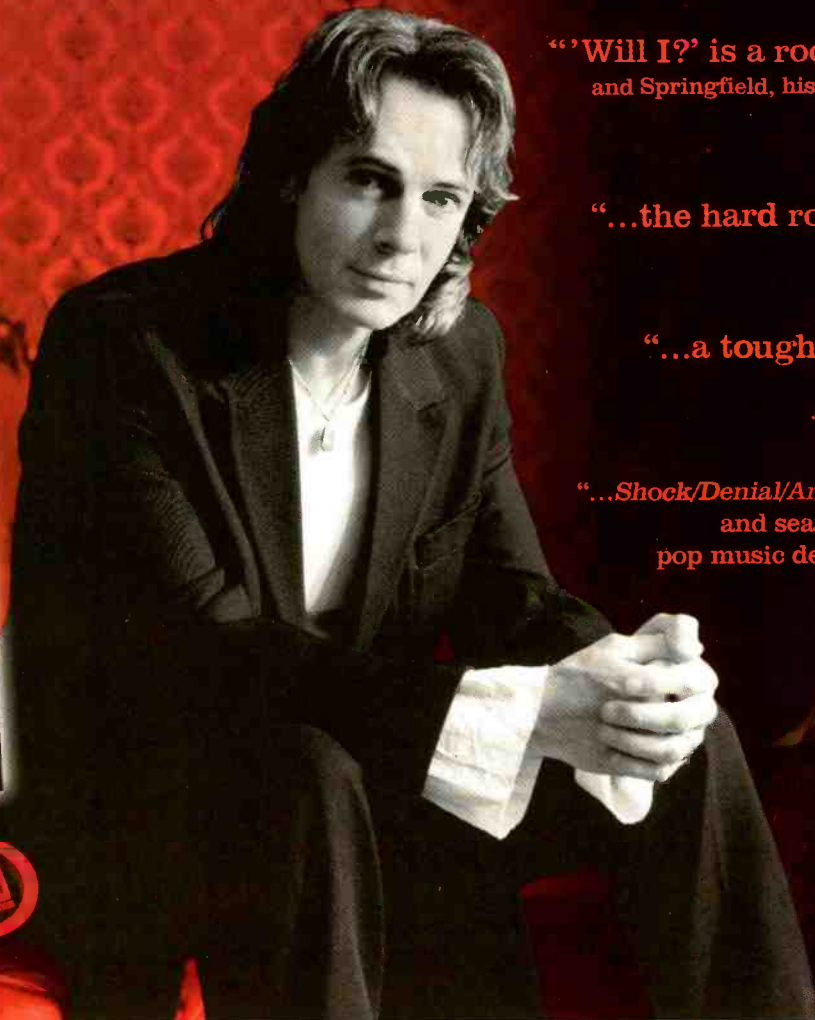
"All Songs Considered," which can be accessed at npr.org, has evolved to offer in-depth profiles of artists performing music for grown-ups. The stylistic breadth of this market is reflected in the artists featured recently on the show: Bob Dylan, Radiohead guitarist Jonny Greenwood, gospel/blues singer Ollabelle, Wynton Marsalis and others.

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Indies: Adult Focus Is Nothing New

BY MIKE LEVIN

The buying power of the adult music consumer is pushing America's record companies to rethink their marketing strategies.

For independent labels, that means it's business as usual.

Music fans over 30 buy more than half the CDs sold in the United States. They're highly partisan and tough to reach, so it's no surprise the major record companies are still tentative about changing their focus from youth marketing. Not so the indies.

"Adults are the key niche we've always gravitated toward, because the majors have never really been interested in it," says Bob Frank, president of Koch Records, a division of Koch Entertainment.

"I think indies know realistically that targeting sales of 100,000 [units] can be a big success," Frank says. "It's a luxury that we don't have to spend three or four dollars a unit on marketing, but this means you really have to know who your audience is and the easiest way to reach them."

Koch focuses on established acts like Lucinda Williams, Carole King and the Bob James Trio, and Frank explains that activating an artist's fan base is the key to adult-repertoire sales.

"We use whatever promotional tools work best for the artist—I think TV is the most effective right now—and make sure there is a very high degree of credibility, because these consumers want to reconnect with the emo-

tional link they had at one time."

Former major-label artists with an adult audience often set up their own independent labels to reach those fans. That's the path Rick Springfield has taken with his new album "shock/denial/anger/acceptance" released through RED Distri-



SPRINGFIELD: GONE INDIE

bution. Springfield, has partnered with VH1 Classic and Borders and is touring through the end of the year to promote the album.

"As an independent label, I'm up against the big boys," Springfield acknowledges. "But if a song is undeniable, it will get through."

For Artemis Records, the quest for artists with that emotional link to their audience has led the

company to sign Steve Earle and the Pretenders, among others. Both veteran acts lost deals with major labels that were more focused on mainstream youth repertoire.

Artemis CEO Danny Goldberg says the music industry has always had the ability to "touch the sleeping giant" of adult consumers, most recently in the late 1980s with artists such as Bonnie Raitt (whom Goldberg previously managed).

But keeping the momentum going today requires a better understanding of how the over-30s access music.

"It may mean TV, radio, touring—whatever gets the word-of-mouth going," Goldberg says. "The PR hook is vital to create an artistic rationale. I don't think the [Warren] Zevon record would have had half the sales it did without the VH1 special," Goldberg says, referring to "The Wind," an adult-oriented folk album that won Zevon a posthumous Grammy Award.

Retail chains such as Tower Records, Target and Wal-Mart, as well as Amazon, sell most adult-oriented repertoire for the majors, and it's difficult for indie labels to break product into those aisles.

Combination-retail outlets like Borders and Barnes & Noble come up time and time again in small-company plans, and indies are willing to supply most alternative stores that cater to over-30s and their desire for musical discovery.

Adult music consumers "are tired of being

(Continued on page 18)

How Radio Fits In

The key to reaching adult consumers is in the "old-fashioned marketing sweet spot," where A&R exposure must be crafted like a great melody, says Kevin Gore, executive VP for marketing and sales at Warner Strategic Marketing/Rhino Records.

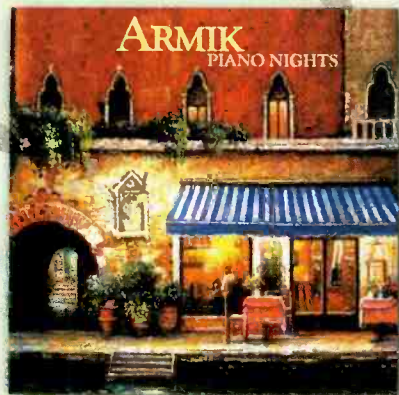
"It's funny, adults are the ones with this huge emotional connection to the music they love, but they're also the [music] consumers who are hardest to reach because they have so many other things to do," Gore says. "For us, the goal is to find the most creative ways to get the music back into their brains and remind them why they love it."

But with fewer singles-driven artists, adult repertoire faces more of a challenge fitting into commercial radio formats.

Blue Note Records' remarkable success with Norah Jones was driven in part by the power of the adult music market. Tom Evered, GM/senior VP for Angel Records and Blue Note, believes broadcasters have been slow to understand the repertoire shift happening around them.

"It's difficult when a particular [type of] music doesn't fit a particular format, but they don't seem to understand that the adult audience is always out there discovering," Evered says. "They're outgrowing adolescence and looking for something new. It's all about finding the right access now."

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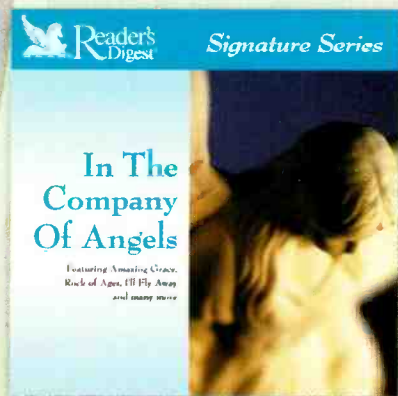


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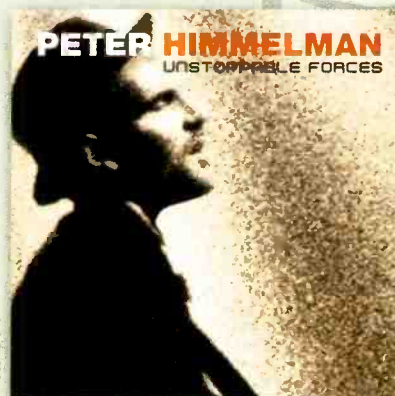


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Indies

Continued from page 17

force-fed and want to experiment," says Helaine Harris, VP of Daedalus Books & Music, which does most of its business through direct mail and the Web. "There is a real connection between books and music among adults, and once they find we're here, they learn to trust our taste. We also offer that long-forgotten thing called customer service."

If there were an archetypal adult-oriented compilation, it would be a collection by Time-Life. To sell music aimed at those 40 and older, the company produces stand-alone TV programming, such as the recent 30-minute segment "Lifetime Romance," featuring Bobby Vinton.

"We're also strong in the mass merchants," says Freddi Szilagi, Time-Life's VP of retail and special markets. "The explosion of this genre has happened for only one reason I can see, and that is adults are starving for entertainment material, especially visual material, directed toward them." He adds that Time-Life's retail sales have grown 30% annually since adults reclaimed more than 50% of the music market.

These figures are mirrored at world-music label Putumayo, another

beneficiary of the adult demographic's desire for discovery and low-volume marketing.

"The over-30s are traveling more, trying new things," says Dan Storper, president of Putumayo. "They may not be browsing record stores as much, but they are hearing good music on soundtracks and in commercials. It becomes sort of a self-fulfilling prophecy when they're out in an environment, hear something great and say, 'My God, that's wonderful.' Then they'll make a beeline right for the stores."

Like most niche labels, Putumayo relies heavily on word-of-mouth marketing. While media placement is important, marketers of world music, jazz, blues, roots, classical crossover and other alternative genres know there usually isn't room for their product on commercial radio or TV, unless they buy advertising time on those outlets, as Time-Life does.

"It looks tough for indies, but there really isn't a secret," Storper says. "It's all about developing an audience that trusts your tastes, and then growing organically. This can happen in so many ways, although it does take patience."

Organic growth is most evident in the narrowest niches, such as instrument and ethnic genres. Latin music, for example, is the fastest-growing repertoire within the over-30 demographic in the United States, outpacing

others by almost two to one, according to the Recording Industry Assn. of America. Much of it comes through independent Latin labels, which have little or no budget for promotion. Yet sales are booming—a perfect example of demand driving supply.

The same thing is happening in the guitar niche. "The adult guitar fan is a dedicated fan, not icon-obsessed. This music sells because it has a passion [these fans] can feel inside," says Dale Rabiner, president of guitar-oriented Latin, roots, blues and jazz label J Curve. "Concerts capture people, and at-concert sales are huge for these artists. The thing is, much of this music is very old-style, stuff today's fans grew up with and have remained loyal to, something you'll never see on a big label."

Because independent labels develop fewer new acts than the majors, they can focus more on legacy artists and repertoire, which resonate for adult fans. They can also experiment with new retail and marketing styles, hoping to make that all-important emotional connection that adults demand. "It is a period of intense change in the industry," says David Neidhart, VP of sales and marketing at contemporary jazz and country label Narada. "I'm not sure where it's going, but I have to say that for the first time in a long time, I'm very optimistic about the future."

Bottom Line

Continued from page 15

deliver high value for money.

The key to marketing music for grownups is all about helping adult consumers discover songs and artists that resonate in their lives, Tower's Cassidy says.

"They want to tell a story of discovery to their friends, about finding some great new stuff Bette Midler has put out or a newcomer named Norah Jones who sounds fantastic and they'd never heard of before," he explains. "As the current industry consolidation continues, there is room for majors and indies to boutique artists like these, where sales of 100,000 rather than 5 million means success."

Even though fans older than 30 are three times less likely than younger music buyers to accept music recommendations, according to NPD research, they still seek that advice from sources they trust, including friends and alternative media channels.

These fans have been called the "NPR demo" for their responsiveness to music exposed through alternative channels like National Public Radio.

Russ Crupnick, VP of the NPD

Group, thinks the renaissance of adult consumers is the best thing that could happen to the music business after three straight years of declining sales.

"This is turning out to be a much larger segment than [record companies] ever believed," he says. "Adults show less price sensitivity, and they're more disposed to browsing the shelves."

So an adult music buyer won't quibble about a price tag if the music is worthwhile. That's also clear on the concert scene. According to *Billboard's* year-end Boxscore charts, the Rolling Stones staged the top tour of 2003, with a top ticket price of \$200.

A willingness to pay for perceived value is also evident online.

As legitimate online music services such as Apple Computer's iTunes have emerged (and as the Recording Industry Assn. of America takes legal action to stem unauthorized music downloading), fewer music fans over 30 have engaged in illegal file sharing, according to the NPD Group. Adult music buyers represent 31% of the illegal downloading population, down from 42% 12 months ago. With those adult fans purchasing music instead, either offline or on, the music business has reason to celebrate for the first time in many years.

A Musical Medley from Time-Life



America Will Always Stand: Josh Turner, Blake Shelton, Lee Ann Womak, Darryl Worley and Randy Travis
Street Date: June 22



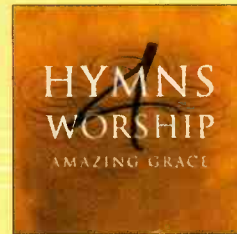
Pure World: Buena Vista Social Club, Gipsy Kings, Ottmar Liebert, Tito Puente
Street Date: June 29



Hee Haw: America's Country Comedy Classic: It's Buck, Roy, Junior, Grandpa and the whole Hee Haw gang! First time to the Home Video Market!
Street Date: May 18



God, Country, Family: George Strait, Vince Gill, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Raybon Brothers
Street Date: August 31



Hymns 4 Worship: Michael W. Smith, MercyMe, Amy Grant, 4Him
Street Date: May 4



Body + Soul: Wedding Songs: Boyz II Men, Luther Vandross, Toni Braxton, Brian McKnight, Chaka Khan
Street Date: March 30

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Majors

Continued from page 16

tastemaking is a natural step along the path back to music creation as an artistic process.

"Classical labels these days are being less and less true to their origins," Gelb says. "We're now encouraging classical and pop crossover where the best marketing plan is born out of excellent music and genuine artistic success stories."

Gelb points to cellist Yo Yo Ma, whose fans eagerly followed his crossover to world pop on "Obrigado Brazil" and along the way helped Sony discover Brazilian vocalist Rosa Passos.

"The adult market is so huge, with so many interests and desires, that when you can get them to listen, they will want to own the music, assuming it's high quality," Gelb says.

Columbia Records president Will Botwin says his label's Essential Series of releases has done well because "it lets the artist and music do the talking. Norah Jones has had success because she isn't over-fueled, in your face. We're seeing the same thing with [singer/song-

writer] Nellie McKay, where patience and persistence bring a long progression of small gains."

Still in her teens, McKay has been profiled on NPR's "All Songs Considered" as a songwriter of uncommon talent. "Because these artists resonate deeper," Botwin says, "you have to start from the fringes and rely a lot on word-of-mouth."

Organic marketing isn't easy when record companies need to plan campaigns lasting as long as two years and then have to hit moving consumer targets. Nontraditional marketing channels are key.

Film soundtracks, which returned to vogue a decade ago, are becoming more important. Labels are also seeking exposure in restaurants, commuter transportation hubs and even hair salons.

Marketers are also finding value online. "If you can use the right portals, like Apple's iTunes, and let people hear what they're buying, adult consumers have shown they'll respond positively," Columbia's Botwin says.

If adult music fans feel they are receiving value for money, their purchases will not be limited by genre. And if they don't have time to research the newest trends, they also don't want to be told

what to buy.

"There is a much higher level of scrutiny today because adults are more culturally involved, and they know they've been ignored for a long time," says Piero Giramonti, Epic Records senior VP of worldwide marketing. "They read, they watch news, so you have to take advantage of the distinctiveness of the artist."

That's why Epic created niche TV programming for Cyndi Lauper and has her back performing small-club concerts. "She's at a stage in life where her music is very emotional to her, and it's important to use this as a catalyst to make a connection with adult fans," Giramonti says. Epic has also leveraged its use of television, co-creating "Pop Star Challenge" with Oprah Winfrey. Similar to the "American Idol" format, "Pop Star" presents older contestants singing older music.

As every label tries to sign the next Norah Jones, the strong market in music for grown-ups holds great promise for record companies. Quality adult-oriented music is a product that people can't seem to buy enough of. Getting that music to adult consumers is one of the biggest challenges faced by the music business and certainly a key to its future.

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Praise And Worship Tours On The Rise

BY DEBRA AKINS

With praise and worship titles commanding a healthy share of the *Billboard* Top Christian Albums chart, the genre clearly has become a driving force in Christian music.

Record sales and box-office success at worship-themed conferences and concerts seem to go hand in hand. Attendance at such events around the world has skyrocketed during the past several years.

Once dominated by less familiar worship leaders, these events now attract big crowds drawn to their own circuit of praise and worship superstars.

The songs have become well-known from their use in church services, and more mainstream Christian artists are assembling tour packages to support worship-themed albums.

One of the most successful tours this year has been Adoration: The Tour, featuring co-headliners the Newsboys and Rebecca St. James with opener Jeremy Camp. The tour averages 4,000 fans at each performance.

At press time, the tour's first 15 dates had sold out, and organizers were booking additional concerts and discussing a fall run.

The Newsboys' "Adoration: The Worship Album," released last April, has become the group's fastest-selling set to date, with more than 332,000 units sold, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

"This is the biggest momentum I've ever seen with the Newsboys," longtime manager Wes Campbell says. "Record sales are doing better than

we've ever seen, and that's translating into what we're seeing at these shows.

"This tour is giving the record a longer life and lengthening the sales cycle," Campbell continues. "We thought we would put a new album out in the spring, but the momentum of this one was so great that we pushed the new record back to the fall."

Albums from two of the tour's artists—St. James' "Live Worship" and Camp's "Carried Me: The Worship Project"—arrived at retail in February. "Carried Me" has sold 90,000 copies and "Live Worship" has moved 25,000 units, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

DEMAND FOR MORE ROOM

Gospel artist CeCe Winans launched what was originally planned as a 25-city church tour Feb. 6 in support of her worship project, "Throne Room."

Promoters have now extended the tour to 38 cities because of the strong response.

"We started getting calls from churches everywhere," says Demetrus Stewart, president of Winans' PureSprings Gospel label. "We've got enough requests right now that we could do this tour for three more months."

Stewart attributes the continued strong sales of "Throne Room" to the tour.



WINANS: TOUR REQUESTS GALORE

"There has been no drop in our [overall] sales in weeks, and I'm sure it's because the tour is out there," he says. "We've seen scans begin to increase in tour markets as soon as radio ads start announcing CeCe's upcoming concert."

"Throne Room" has sold more than 256,000 units since its September 2003 release, according to Nielsen SoundScan. Stewart says that on-site CD sales have averaged 300 to 500 per show. Product sales at church venues are not typically reported to SoundScan.

CONFABS CATCHING ON

In addition to touring, many worship leaders and artists benefit from appearances at arena-size worship conferences that draw large audiences to multiple dates.

"When these artists come to our events, they'll usually play to a much bigger crowd than if they played their own concert," says Ron Luce, president and founder of Teen Mania Ministries, which produces Acquire the Fire youth worship events in 33 cities across North America each year.

Luce estimates 225,000 people will attend this year's Acquire the Fire events, which feature worship band Delirious. The group released its latest CD, "World Service," Feb. 10.

"Without a doubt, it translates into more sales

at retail outlets in those markets," Luce says. "But the added benefit is that youth pastors trust us. It's almost like we are the Good Housekeeping seal of approval for these bands."

"We chose to do the Acquire the Fire events because we believe in Ron Luce and what [he and the company] are trying to achieve," says Tony Patoto, manager of Delirious and CEO of Furious Records. "Acquire the Fire will expose us to a crowd that may not have heard of us."

These types of opportunities are popping up all over the country.

With the help of worship acts and Sixsteps Records labelmates Chris Tomlin, the David Crowder Band and Charlie Hall, the Passion Conferences launched by director and founder Louie Giglio have been responsible for successful One-Day gatherings in 2000 and 2003.

Last Memorial Day weekend, more than 20,000 students attended OneDay03 at a 400-acre ranch in Sherman, Texas.

The event set up a 35-city Passion Experience tour, which featured the same artists as the OneDay event. The tour logged 15 sellout performances, and total attendance surpassed 80,000 people.

"After a OneDay event or a Passion tour goes through town, you see it spill over into retail," says Denise George, director of artist development for EMI Christian Music Group, which distributes Sixsteps Records.

"Most of our sales the first couple of years came from event sales," George says. "Now we're seeing really healthy support for the Passion brand from retailers."

Creative Strategies Keep Venues Viable

BY SUSANNE AULT

SEATTLE—Faced with competition from a barrage of new buildings, venue managers are increasingly looking for ways to protect their turf.

During the past several years, scores of new venues have opened to rival veterans in their cities and in nearby regions (*Billboard*, Feb. 14). Last year alone more than 30 major buildings opened up around the country.

Attendees at the International Assn. of Assembly Managers (IAAM) District 4, 6 and 7 meeting, which took place April 2-5 in Seattle, addressed this elbow bumping at a number of sessions.

"Newer doesn't necessarily mean better," said Jeff Trisler, senior VP of House of Blues Concerts and a panelist on "How to Better Prepare Your Facility to Get Our Business." "There are some problems associated with newer, bigger and more expensive buildings. [Older buildings] can certainly beat them on cost."

Trisler noted that for state-of-the-art arenas to recoup their millions of dollars' worth of construction costs, facility fees are often tacked onto event tickets.

Promoters and artists sometimes have to lower their gross expectations to account for these fees, which go primarily into venue accounts.

IAAM attendees—from venues in

such areas as Canada and the U.S. Pacific Northwest and Southwest—can spiff up bookings at aging venues if they are careful about providing enough space between on-sale dates.

A venue is unlikely to win repeat business with Eric Cole, VP of booking at Clear Channel Entertainment's (CCE) motor sports division, "if they put something like Metallica on sale on the same day they put our show on sale. That will really hurt our show."

Cole acknowledged that "lots of cities have more than one arena," but he told Mason Ellenberger, director of events and facilities at Barton Coliseum in Little Rock, Ark., that the flashier nearby Alltel Arena "won't be able to fit everything. That's where you want to be [in the events business]. Make your own niche."

Unique events launched at venues specifically to battle a newcomer's arrival include a 1,500-seat cabaret series at the Sport Mart Place in Kamloops, British Columbia.

"About five years ago, another building opened up and started to take away the bigger shows," Sport Mart manager Steve Schaffrick said at the session "Creating Events in Your Facility." "We have found a niche in cabarets."

Schaffrick said Sport Mart buys local singing talent for the events. While ticket sales typically break even, Sport Mart usually turns a modest

profit through alcohol sales.

Besides simply generating revenue, such neighborhood-tailored events

"can spread goodwill in the community. That goes a long way and supports other events that we're doing in the

building," said Jane Cada-Sharp, GM for the Crystal Centre in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

IEG/BILLBOARD TOUR SPONSORSHIP ROUNDUP

Sponsor	Tour	Estimated Fee	Leverage	Dealmakers
Coors Coors Brewing Co.	Coors Amphitheatre, Englewood, Colo., multiyear	\$900,000-plus annually	Naming-rights deal with 6,800-seat shed formerly known as Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre builds on existing partnership with venue operator House of Blues that includes title of Chula Vista, Calif.'s Coors Amphitheatre and presenting status of concerts at Universal City, Calif.'s Universal Amphitheatre. Deal adds to other naming-rights deals around Coors' Golden, Colo., headquarters, including the Coors Event Center at the University of Colorado and Coors Field.	Jennifer Vernon, VP of corporate sponsorship, House of Blues; Steve Saunders, event marketing director for Coors
Midori Allied Domecq	Queer as Folk Future Babylon tour, May-July, 18 stops	\$200,000	Using club tour based on the hit Showtime series as part of its first gay marketing initiative. On-site presence includes sampling, Midori Men go-go dancers and branded visuals. Will distribute tickets to a handful of clubs in each market to generate additional hype. Other sponsors include 2(x)ist, Interactive Male and Orbitz.	Adam Gill, president of Embrace Productions; Megan Link, Midori brand manager and Chris Monaco, director of entertainment marketing for Allied Domecq.
Myspace.com Myspace.com	Blossoming Media tour, March-May, 57 stops Vans Warped tour, June-August, 25-plus stops	\$25,000 \$25,000	Social networking site aligned with tours to build visibility among musicians and music fans; bands use the site to post music, tour dates and to communicate with fans. Offsetting rights fees through banner ads and tour e-mail blasts to its 1.5 million users. Will also run promotions allowing its members to nominate and vote on bands to open the tours; will solicit new members at the gigs.	Melissa Garten, Static Management; Beth Ann Lerch, president of the B Co.; Chris DeWolfe, president of Myspace.com.
Whirlpool Whirlpool Corp.	Reba McEntire tour, June-November, 24-plus stops	\$5 million	Using tour as cause-marketing platform around Whirlpool's 5-year-old relationship with Habitat for Humanity. Whirlpool, which donates a refrigerator and range to every Habitat for Humanity home built in North America, will create an on-site exhibit that it will use to solicit donations and recruit volunteers. McEntire will appear in a TV ad for Whirlpool and Habitat; Whirlpool will run an employee sweeps dangling a trip to attend the commercial shoot in Los Angeles. It also will offer employees pre-sale tickets for concerts located near its manufacturing facilities.	Narvel Blackstock, manager; Aaron Walton, president of Aaron Walton Entertainment; Jeff Davidoff, director of marketing for Whirlpool brand; John Alexander, VP/GM of Whirlpool North America.



Compiled by William Chipps, senior editor, IEG Sponsorship Report
sponsorship.com

ARTIST(S)	VENUE/ DATE	GROSS/ TICKET PRICE(S)	ATTENDANCE/ CAPACITY	PROMOTER
THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND	Beacon Theatre, New York March 18-20, 22-23, 25-28	\$1,878,822 \$74.99/\$54.99/\$49.99/\$45	28,394 nine sellouts	Clear Channel Entertainment
GEORGE STRAIT, DIERKS BENTLEY, KELLIE COFFEY	Alltel Arena, North Little Rock, Ark. Feb. 28	\$1,039,000 \$60.50/\$50.50	17,299 sellout	Varnell Enterprises
BRITNEY SPEARS, KELIS, SKYE SWEETNAM	Wachovia Center, Philadelphia March 31	\$1,002,316 \$76/\$60.50/\$40.50	15,400 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
BEYONCÉ, ALICIA KEYS, MISSY ELLIOTT, TAMIA	Philips Arena, Atlanta March 28	\$845,693 \$77.50/\$62.50	12,310 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
GEORGE STRAIT, KELLIE COFFEY	Nationwide Arena, Columbus, Ohio March 27	\$831,959 \$59.50/\$49.50	14,101 17,000	Varnell Enterprises
BRITNEY SPEARS, KELIS, SKYE SWEETNAM	AmericanAirlines Arena, Miami March 28	\$826,543 \$501.50/\$39.50	12,880 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
ROD STEWART	ARCO Arena, Sacramento, Calif. April 5	\$818,761 \$95/\$75/\$49.50	9,857 sellout	AEG Live, Another Planet Entertainment
DAVID BOWIE	Air Canada Centre, Toronto April 1	\$771,136 (\$1,010,570 Canadian) \$64.67/\$49.41/\$34.15	13,893 14,114	Clear Channel Entertainment
METALLICA, GODSMACK	KeyArena, Seattle March 28	\$750,800 \$75/\$55/\$44	13,222 sellout	House of Blues Concerts
KENNY CHESNEY, KEITH URBAN, DIERKS BENTLEY	Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul, Minn. April 3	\$734,310 \$51/\$41	15,652 sellout	G.A.M.E. Inc., Frank Productions, The Messina Group
BEYONCÉ, ALICIA KEYS, MISSY ELLIOTT, TAMIA	Allstate Arena, Rosemont, Ill. April 2	\$723,885 \$77.50/\$40.50	11,585 14,391	Clear Channel Entertainment
BRITNEY SPEARS, KELIS, SKYE SWEETNAM	TD Waterhouse Centre, Orlando, Fla. March 29	\$658,295 \$500/\$39.50	10,189 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
DAVID BOWIE	Wachovia Center, Philadelphia March 29	\$645,380 \$78/\$58/\$24.50	10,761 12,000	Clear Channel Entertainment
BEYONCÉ, ALICIA KEYS, MISSY ELLIOTT, TAMIA	Charlotte Coliseum, Charlotte, N.C. March 27	\$632,375 \$74.50/\$49.50	10,145 17,549	Clear Channel Entertainment
KENNY CHESNEY, KEITH URBAN, DIERKS BENTLEY	Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Mich. April 1	\$586,871 \$52.50/\$39.50	12,074 sellout	Mischell Productions, The Messina Group
ROD STEWART	NOKIA Live, Grand Prairie, Texas April 10	\$566,340 \$95/\$49.50	6,137 sellout	AEG Live
AEROSMITH, CHEAP TRICK	Mississippi Coast Coliseum, Biloxi, Miss. March 27	\$561,091 \$83/\$47.50	9,023 10,109	Clear Channel Entertainment
KENNY CHESNEY, KEITH URBAN, DIERKS BENTLEY	UI Assembly Hall, Champaign, Ill. March 28	\$552,303 \$52.50/\$39.50	10,902 sellout	Mischell Productions
KENNY CHESNEY, KEITH URBAN, DIERKS BENTLEY	The Mark of the Quad Cities, Moline, Ill. April 2	\$546,866 \$54.50/\$41.50	10,832 sellout	TBA Entertainment, The Messina Group
AEROSMITH, CHEAP TRICK	Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center, Tallahassee, Fla. April 1	\$498,935 \$79.50/\$40	7,679 8,613	Clear Channel Entertainment
HILARY DUFF	Copps Coliseum, Hamilton, Ontario March 14	\$497,116 (\$663,051 Canadian) \$37.11	13,001 sellout	House of Blues Canada
AEROSMITH, CHEAP TRICK	Pensacola Civic Center, Pensacola, Fla. March 29	\$469,031 \$79.50/\$40	6,688 8,428	Clear Channel Entertainment, in-house
VAN MORRISON	The Theatre at Madison Square Garden, New York March 31	\$460,996 \$104/\$50	5,451 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
KENNY CHESNEY, KEITH URBAN, DIERKS BENTLEY	Tyson Events Center, Sioux City, Iowa April 4	\$437,886 \$54.50/\$44.50	8,469 sellout	Police Productions, The Messina Group
TOM JONES	Hummingbird Centre, Toronto March 9-10	\$393,309 (\$519,363 Canadian) \$94.66/\$67.78/\$52.63/\$37.49	6,155 two sellouts	House of Blues Canada, Crown Concerts
SARAH BRIGHTMAN	Save Mart Center, Fresno, Calif. March 15	\$374,165 \$750/\$37.50	5,919 7,396	Clear Channel Entertainment
BEYONCÉ, ALICIA KEYS, MISSY ELLIOTT, TAMIA	Target Center, Minneapolis April 1	\$369,287 \$75.75/\$49.75	8,123 12,363	Clear Channel Entertainment
BEYONCÉ, ALICIA KEYS, MISSY ELLIOTT, TAMIA	Conseco Fieldhouse, Indianapolis March 30	\$369,175 \$69.50/\$42.50	6,883 14,123	Clear Channel Entertainment
KID ROCK, FUEL	Ford Center, Oklahoma City April 3	\$368,665 \$35/\$25	10,555 12,500	Beaver Productions
VAN MORRISON	Northrop Memorial Auditorium, Minneapolis April 1	\$367,670 \$90/\$70	4,790 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
BEYONCÉ, ALICIA KEYS, MISSY ELLIOTT, TAMIA	Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, N.C. March 21	\$366,003 \$74.50/\$49.50	6,520 10,564	Clear Channel Entertainment
A PERFECT CIRCLE, THE MARS VOLTA	Long Beach Arena, Long Beach, Calif. April 7	\$359,959 \$29.50	12,202 sellout	Goldenvoice, Nederlander Organization
VICTOR MANUELLE, AVENTURA, HECTOR & TITO, YOSCAR ZARANTE, JOE VERAS, DON OMAR	The Theatre at Madison Square Garden, New York March 20	\$350,737 \$89.50/\$69.50/\$59.50	5,455 sellout	Spanish Broadcasting System
SARAH BRIGHTMAN	America West Arena, Phoenix March 9	\$347,095 \$250/\$37.50	6,110 8,008	Clear Channel Entertainment
NICKELBACK	Pengrowth Saddledome, Calgary, Alberta March 17	\$344,549 (\$458,940 Canadian) \$31.91/\$24.40	11,024 sellout	House of Blues Canada

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Van Halen Shows Off To Strong Start

There are a number of solid arena tours out this spring and summer, including those by Eric Clapton, Britney Spears, Rod Stewart, Eagles, Prince, Madonna, Metallica and Van Halen.

The last of these launched with impressive on-sales last week, surely easing the minds of some promoters who ponied up artist guarantees of \$750,000 to \$1 million, according to sources.

RED HOT AND BLUE: Coming off one of the buzz performances at the South by Southwest Music Conference last month in Austin, young U.K. soul singer Joss Stone will tour the United States this spring, beginning April 21 at the Chicago House of Blues and wrapping May 2 at SunFest in West Palm Beach, Fla.

In addition to the run of eight spring shows, Stone has scheduled a series of high-profile TV specials and festival appearances.

She performs alongside Patti LaBelle, Jessica Simpson, Ashanti, Eve and others April 18 on the live VH1 "Divas" telecast. She duets with Smokey Robinson on a performance of his classic "I Second That

Emotion" for the Motown 45th anniversary special, scheduled to air May 3 on ABC.

Stone will film a performance for "Austin City Limits" in April, which will air during the show's next season. When her brief U.S. tour wraps up, Stone will open for Sting at London's Royal Albert Hall from May 14 through May 20. Ron Kaplan at Monterey Peninsula Artists books Stone.

On The Road™
By Ray Waddell
rwaddell@billboard.com



Band manager Irving Azoff would not confirm the figures.

An on-again, off-again rumor for much of the first part of this year, the Van Halen reunion with Sammy Hagar on vocals is now shaping up as a solid top 25 tour for 2004. The tour opens June 11 in Greensboro, N.C., at the Greensboro Coliseum.

"I knew it would blow out," Azoff says. "Van Halen is rocking."

Barbara Skydel and Keith Sarkesian at William Morris Agency and Jonny Podell at Evolution Talent booked the tour by cutting promoter deals on a market-by-market basis. Azoff says the tour will ultimately consist of four legs of 22 shows each.

GOD ON TOUR: As expected, Eric Clapton will follow up his Crossroads Guitar Festival appearance in Dallas with a North American arena tour, beginning June 11 at Alltel Arena in Little Rock, Ark.

The route is a nice mix of primary and secondary markets and stops at only two outdoor venues.

Clapton will play a double July 3-4 at Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts in Mansfield, Mass., as the Democratic National Convention will occupy the FleetCenter in Boston.

Tweeter Center's 14,000 reserved seats, well beyond what most amphitheatres offer, likely helped it clinch the deal. The venue, booked by Clear Channel Entertainment/Boston VP Dave Marsden, finished first among all sheds in grosses in 2003.

Clapton also will play outdoors Aug. 2 at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles to wrap the tour. Rick Roskin at Creative Artists Agency books Clapton.



STONE: SPRING U.S. TOUR

THE OTHER NELLY: Nelly Furtado will launch her Come As You Are tour of U.S. theaters April 30 at the Vic in Chicago. The tour supports Furtado's gold-certified second DreamWorks album, "Folklore."

The theater tour concludes May 19 at the Wiltern Theatre in Los Angeles. Furtado begins a European run June 10 with an appearance at the Super Bock Super Rock festival in Lisbon. The Europe trek wraps July 1 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Marty Diamond at Little Big Man books Furtado.

Crushing Has Blueprint For Ad Biz

BY GAIL MITCHELL

Crushing Music is striving to bring genuine hip-hop music to the advertising market.

The New York-based full-service music house recently opened bicoastal offshoot Crushing Blueprint. The new company boasts a creative roster including high-profile hip-hop songwriter/producers



CLIP FROM CRUSHING'S AD FOR PEPSI VANILLA

Mike Elizondo (50 Cent's "In Da Club") and Kanye West (Twista's "Slow Jamz").

The division already has one hip-hop-themed commercial tucked under its belt: Pepsi Vanilla's "Trucks." The spot features two trucks in a hydraulic lift contest,

geared to hot hip-hop beats that Elizondo produced.

"Advertising is always trying to be a mirror of what's happening in culture," Crushing Music partner Mary Wood says. "Although hip-hop music has become mainstream, we felt there was a real void in the advertising world for authentic hip-hop."

"We" refers to Crushing Music founder Joey Levine. The duo is responsible for such 30-second pop-culture ditties as

Coca-Cola's "Can't Beat the Feeling" and 7-Up's "It's an Up Thing." "The one field being ignored in the advertising world was hip-hop music," Levine says. "I don't know if it was because of fear or lack of knowledge of where to get [the music]. But what I was hearing on the air seemed homogenized."

To effectively tap the lucrative hip-hop advertising market, the duo partnered with West Coast producers Steve Lindsey of Blotter Music Publishing and Matt Kahane of GoodVibe Recordings. Both possess strong ties to the hip-hop world. Lindsey's company publishes Elizondo's music. Kahane has worked with such hip-hop acts as Slum Village and Mystic.

MAJOR DISCIPLINE

A member of late-'60s group Ohio Express, Levine wrote and produced songs for that band and other acts before segueing into commercials.

Adjusting to advertising's 30-second world takes major discipline, he says. "Getting a star personality is one thing; creating the music is another. You have to be fresh and original—and deal with demanding clients, deadlines and budgets."

Those constraints concerned Elizondo when Blueprint first approached him. The Dr. Dre protégé had already done a couple of commercials, including one for Jack in the Box.

"It's easier not having to deal with a three- to four-minute

track," he says of the 30-second limit. "But communicating with advertising people, [it] takes time to getting used to their language. They have certain objectives, and musically you have to figure out how to bridge that gap."

Blueprint's team of producer/composers is also involved in various record and movie ventures. To help facilitate Blueprint projects, Lindsey or another finishing producer will step in after the initial music is written.

"Agencies continuously want changes," Lindsey says. "So we've made it a little easier on the producers. Myself or another finishing producer will come in and then we'll deal with the agency and talk to directors. That way we're not bombarding these talented people with a bunch of changes."

Blueprint recently wrapped an AT&T spot that sports a remix by T-Ray. His production credits range from Cypress Hill to the Fat Boys. Besides Elizondo, West and T-Ray, the Blueprint bullpen houses DJ Hi-Tek, Snoop Dogg and Sean Combs' Bad Boy Entertainment, among others. Additional client irons in the fire include Pizza Hut and a new Pepsi spot.

Elizondo is excited that other opportunities are opening up for musicians willing to take chances. "There's a strong hip-hop collective that can translate what they do in different arenas. It's a seamless transition between commercials [and] TV shows onward to film composition."

Bootsy's Back In The Bins

Legendary Bassist Offers New CD, Produces Protégé

Funk legend William "Bootsy" Collins is the latest addition to **Thump Records'** new classic R&B division (*Billboard*, Rhythm & Blues, March 6).

"Play With Bootsy," his first studio album in six years, drops June 8. Guests on the project range from **Snoop Dogg** and **Macy Gray** to **Bobby Womack** and **George Clinton**.

Anyone well-versed in funk knows Collins' bass licks pumped intense energy into songs by **James Brown** and Clinton's **Parliament/Funkadelic** collective. And let's not forget Collins' own **Rubber Band**. The sextet had a stretch of R&B chart success in the late '70s with "The Pinocchio Theory" and "Bootzilla."

"Play With Bootsy" doubles as Thump's inaugural classic R&B release. Under the direction of **Jay King**, the label will issue two CDs each month from a roster that includes **Lakeside**, **Midnight Star** and **Michael Cooper**.

FREEKIN' THE FUNK: Speaking of **Bootsy Collins**, he has executive-produced a second album by fellow Cincinnati bassist **Freekbass**. "The Air Is Fresher Underground" (**Gemini Records/Bootzilla Productions**) features Collins, **Catfish Collins**, **Buckethead** and **Bernie Worrell**. Among the ear-worthy tracks are "Burnt Cat" and "Always Here."

"Funk is having a resurgence

Rhythm & Blues
By Gail Mitchell
gmitchell@billboard.com



that freak thing when you're playing."

The other members of **Freekbass'** outfit are drummer/MC **Swift**, sax player/keyboardist **J** and guitarist **Sean McGary**. The group's first album was the 2001 project "Body Over Mind," also executive-produced by **Bootsy Collins**.

Freekbass has claimed Cincinnati's **Cammy Award** for best urban/hip-hop band for three years running.

"The Air Is Fresher Underground" is distributed by **the Orchard** in New York.

MUSICAL NOTES: R&B/pop newcomer **Auggie** inks with Los Angeles-based independent label **Midas Records**. The 18-year-old singer/songwriter (aka **Austin Brown**) is no stranger to the music industry. He's a nephew of **Michael, Janet** and their **Jackson 5** siblings. Mom is older sister **Rebbie**, who scored a top five R&B single in 1984 with "Centipede."

His album debut, "Slick & Polished," is due in summer 2005. **Midas** is headed by president/CEO **Ron Clapper**.

Las Vegas-based **Dynasty Records** is prepping the June debut of 11-year-old R&B singer **Mishon**. "Still Mishon" will be released in association with **Bungalo/Universal**... **Liquid 8** artist **Jesse Powell** signs with the **Oliver & Chesser Consultant & Entertainment Management Group**.



COLLINS: NEW SET IN JUNE

APRIL 24 2004		Billboard HOT RAP TRACKS™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	Artist
1	1	TIPSY SD SD DEF/ZOMBA	J-Kwon
2	2	DIRT OFF YOUR SHOULDER RDC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Jay-Z
3	5	ALL FALLS DOWN RDC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Kanye West Featuring Syleena Johnson
4	6	FREEK-A-LEEK JIVE/ZOMBA	Petey Pablo
5	8	OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY ATLANTIC	Twista
6	3	ONE CALL AWAY DISTURBING THA PEACE/CAPITOL	Chingy Featuring J. Weav
7	4	SPLASH WATERFALLS DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG	Ludacris
8	9	GAME OVER (FLIP) SUCKA FREE/COLUMBIA/SUM	Lil' Flip
9	7	WANNA GET TO KNOW YOU G-UNIT/INTERSCOPE	G-Unit Featuring Joe
10	10	HOTEL FULL SURFACE/JRMG	Cassidy Featuring R. Kelly
11	11	I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU VP/ATLANTIC	Sean Paul Featuring Sasha
12	15	MY BAND SHADY/INTERSCOPE	D12
13	13	SALT SHAKER COLLIPARK/TVT	Ying Yang Twins Featuring Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz
14	14	RUBBER BAND MAN GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC	T.I.
15	12	SLOW JAMZ ATLANTIC	Twista Featuring Kanye West & Jamie Foxx
16	16	DUDE SHOCKING VIBES/VIRGIN	Beenie Man Featuring Ms. Thing
17	18	THE WAY YOU MOVE LAFACE/ZOMBA	OutKast Featuring Sleepy Brown
18	17	THROUGH THE WIRE RDC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Kanye West
19	20	ROSES LAFACE/ZOMBA	OutKast
20	19	NO BETTER LOVE RDC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Young Gunz Featuring Rell
21	21	SLOW MOTION CASH MONEY/UMRG	Juvenile Featuring Soulja Slim
22	23	CULO TVT	Pitbull Featuring Lil Jon
23	25	JESUS WALKS RDC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Kanye West
24		ENCORE RDC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Jay-Z
25		THIS WAY ABB/CAPITOL	Dilated Peoples Featuring Kanye West

Records with the greatest increase in audience impressions. The rap tracks audience is compiled from 96 R&B/Hip-Hop and 59 rhythmic top 40 stations which are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of audience, computed by cross-referencing exact times of airplay with Arbitron listener data. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24
2004

Billboard® TOP R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	4	USHER LAFACE 52141/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	NUMBER 1 Confessions	1	49	42	41	61	R. KELLY ▲ ² JIVE 41812/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Chocolate Factory	1
2	2	72	3	JANET JACKSON VIRGIN 84404* (12.98/18.98)	Damita Jo	2	50	38	29	18	WESTSIDE CONNECTION ● HDO-BANGIN' 24030*/CAPITOL (17.98/18.98)	Terrorist Threats	3
3	3	69	3	LIL' FLIP SUCKA FREE/COLUMBIA 89143*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	U Gotta Feel Me	3	51	51	—	2	ANDRE WARD AWARD 90934/ORPHEUS (14.98 CD)	Steppin' Up	51
4	NEW	1	1	TAMIA ELEKTRA 62847/AG (18.98 CD)	HOT SHOT DEBUT More	4	52	58	34	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS NOTHIN' II LOSE 1601/NUMILLENNIUM (17.98 CD)	Nothin' II Lose Everything II Gain: Stage II	25
5	6	4	9	KANYE WEST ▲ ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 002030*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	The College Dropout	1	53	52	54	17	MICHAEL MCDONALD ▲ MOTOWN 000651/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Motown	17
6	4	—	2	J-KWON SO SD DEF 57613*/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Hood Hop	4	54	50	50	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● WORD/EMICMG/VERITY 57494/ZOMBA (19.98 CD)	WOW Gospel 2004	19
7	7	8	11	TWISTA ▲ ATLANTIC 83598*/AG (10.98/13.98)	Kamikaze	1	55	NEW	1	1	SOUNDTRACK DEF SOUL/FOX 002238/DJMG (12.98 CD)	Johnson Family Vacation	55
8	11	9	20	ALICIA KEYS ▲ ² J 55712*/RMG (15.98/18.98)	The Diary Of Alicia Keys	1	56	41	52	30	VICKIE WINANS VERITY 43214/ZOMBA (11.98/18.98) [M]	Bringing It All Together	38
9	5	2	3	CARL THOMAS BAD BOY 001168*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Let's Talk About It	2	57	46	47	23	SOUNDTRACK MUSIC WORLD/COLUMBIA 90286/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Fighting Temptations	14
10	20	19	30	OUTKAST ▲ ⁹ LAFACE 50133*/ZOMBA (22.98 CD)	GREATEST GAINER Speakerboxxx/The Love Below	1	58	59	57	18	BIG TYMERS ● CASH MONEY 000815*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Big Money Heavyweight	6
11	9	3	3	MASTER P NEW NO LIMIT 5717*/KOCH (18.98 CD)	Good Side Bad Side	3	59	60	48	7	VAN HUNT CAPITOL 35233 (12.98 CD) [M]	Van Hunt	38
12	12	6	5	CASSIDY FULL SURFACE/J 57018*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Split Personality	1	60	48	45	26	JAGGED EDGE ● COLUMBIA 87017/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Hard	1
13	8	5	3	N*E*R*D* STAR TRAK 91457*/VIRGIN (18.98 CD)	Fly Or Die	5	61	57	43	7	Z-RO J PRINCE 42035/RAP-A-LOT 4 LIFE (17.98 CD) [M]	The Life Of Joseph W. McVey	27
14	17	10	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS BAD BOY 002112*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Bad Boy's 10th Anniversary... The Hits	1	62	NEW	1	1	NB RIDAZ NASTYBOY 1020/UPSTAIRS (13.98 CD) [M]	nbridaz.com	62
15	19	18	43	BEYONCE ▲ ³ COLUMBIA 86386*/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Dangerously In Love	1	63	49	39	17	MEMPHIS BLEEK ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 003220*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	M.A.D.E.	5
16	NEW	1	1	DILATED PEOPLES ABB 40889*/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	Neighborhood Watch	16	64	56	44	16	DAVID BANNER SRC/UNIVERSAL 001720*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	MTA2: Baptized In Dirty Water	16
17	16	14	22	G-UNIT ▲ ² G-UNIT 001593*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Beg For Mercy	2	65	65	60	99	EMINEM ▲ ⁸ WEB/AFTERMATH 493290*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	The Eminem Show	1
18	15	11	22	JAY-Z ▲ ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 001528*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	The Black Album	1	66	73	71	20	NELLY ▲ FO: REEL/UNIVERSAL 001665*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Da Derry Versions - The Reinvention	6
19	22	16	27	LUDACRIS ▲ DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH 000930*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	Chicken*N*Beer	1	67	NEW	1	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS BIG Tyme 42037/RAP-A-LOT 4 LIFE (15.98 CD)	Rap-A-Lot 4 Life & Big Tyme Presents: The Day After Hell Broke Loose	67
20	10	—	2	DJ KAYSLAY COLUMBIA 90700*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Streetsweeper Vol. 2: The Pain From The Game	10	68	66	58	20	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ BME 2378/TVT (11.98 CD/DVD)	Part II	7
21	18	12	18	AVANT ● MAGIC JOHNSON/GEFFEN 001567*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Private Room	4	69	77	63	30	DMX ▲ RUFF RYDERS/DEF JAM 063369*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	Grand Champ	1
22	13	7	3	PASTOR TROY KHOTIC GENERATION/UNIVERSAL 002297*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	By Any Means Necessary	7	70	69	—	2	THEODIS EALEY IFGAM 74023 (17.98 CD)	Stand Up In It	69
23	25	25	16	JUVENILE ● CASH MONEY 001718*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Juve The Great	4	71	54	51	26	WILL DOWNING GRP 000579/VG (12.98 CD)	Emotions	9
24	21	22	34	T.I. ● GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC 83650*/AG (9.98/14.98)	Trap Muzik	2	72	67	56	5	SUGA FREE LANEWAY 970058/BUNGALO (18.98 CD)	The New Testament: The Truth	23
25	23	21	8	EAMON ● JIVE 58370/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	I Don't Want You Back	3	73	70	77	17	GOAPELE SKYBLAZE/COLUMBIA 72795/HIERO IMPERIUM (13.98 EQ CD) [M]	Even Closer	63
26	29	26	29	ANTHONY HAMILTON SO SD DEF 52107/ZOMBA (12.98 CD)	Comin' From Where I'm From	6	74	71	68	18	KELIS ● STAR TRAK 52132*/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	Tasty	7
27	27	20	18	RUBEN STUDDARD ▲ J 54639*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Soulful	1	75	74	73	23	TOO SHORT SHORT/JIVE 53722/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Married To The Game	7
28	26	24	7	TRILLVILLE/LIL SCRAPPY BME/REPRISE 48556*/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	The King Of Crunk & BME Recordings Present	3	76	82	49	9	DRAG-ON RUFF RYDERS 83583*/VIRGIN (12.98/18.98)	Hell And Back	5
29	24	13	6	CEE-LO LAFACE 52111*/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	Cee-Lo Green... Is The Soul Machine	2	77	63	66	24	GERALD LEVERT ELEKTRA 62903/AG (11.98/18.98)	Stroke Of Genius	1
30	14	—	2	DEAD PREZ COLUMBIA 89050*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	RBG: Revolutionary But Gangsta	14	78	79	85	84	ANITA BAKER ATLANTIC 78209/RHINO (17.98 CD)	The Best Of Anita Baker	29
31	28	15	7	YOUNG GUNZ ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 001937*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	Tough Luv	1	79	55	42	10	SOUNDTRACK INTERSCOPE 001945* (8.98/12.98)	Barbershop 2: Back In Business	8
32	32	28	18	MUSIQ ● DEF SOUL 001616*/DJJMG (8.98/12.98)	soulstar	3	80	62	64	55	KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL HIDDEN BEACH/EPIC 86491/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD) [M]	Surrender To Love	29
33	30	33	45	LUTHER VANDROSS ▲ ² J 51885*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Dance With My Father	1	81	93	93	31	CECE WINANS PURESPRING/S GOSPEL/INO 90361/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/18.98)	Throne Room	21
34	31	27	39	CHINGY ▲ ² DISTURBING THA PEACE 82976*/CAPITOL (11.98/18.98)	Jackpot	2	82	72	65	23	SOUNDTRACK ▲ AMARU 001533*/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Tupac: Resurrection	3
35	36	38	42	BLACK EYED PEAS ▲ A&M 000699/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Elephunk	23	83	78	78	75	JAHEIM ▲ DIVINE MILL 48214/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Still Ghetto	3
36	NEW	1	1	THE O'JAYS PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL/THE RIGHT STUFF 97237/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	Together We Are One	36	84	61	62	20	MISSY ELLIOTT ▲ THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA 62905*/AG (12.98/18.98)	This Is Not A Test!	3
37	40	31	17	JOE JIVE 53707/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	And Then...	4	85	91	100	41	MONICA ● J 20031*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	After The Storm	2
38	80	—	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS EPIC 82330/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	PACESETTER Oprah's Popstar Challenge-2004 Cast Album: Dreams Really Do Come True	38	86	NEW	1	1	ADINA HOWARD RUFFDOWN 1953 (17.98 CD)	The Second Coming	86
39	35	30	13	KEITH SWEAT ELEKTRA 73954/RHINO (18.98 CD)	The Best Of Keith Sweat: Make You Sweat	15	87	68	55	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS RAZOR & TIE 89067 (18.98 CD)	Tha Down Low	22
40	43	37	74	SEAN PAUL ▲ ² VP/ATLANTIC 83620*/AG (12.98/18.98)	Dutty Rock	4	88	76	59	29	MURPHY LEE ● FO: REEL/UNIVERSAL 001132/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Da Skool Boy Presents Murphy's Law	5
41	39	32	30	YING YANG TWINS ● COLLIPARK 2480*/TVT (17.98 CD)	Me & My Brother	4	89	87	94	4	PAUL WALL PAID IN FULL 0033 (15.98 CD)	Chick Magnet	54
42	33	17	3	KNOC-TURN'AL L.A. CONFIDENTIAL/ELEKTRA 62928*/AG (16.98 CD)	The Way I Am	17	90	NEW	1	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS RED STAR/DEF JAMAICA 001195*/DJJMG (14.98 CD)	Red Star Sounds Presents Def Jamaica	30
43	47	40	77	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ ▲ BME 2377/TVT (13.98/17.98)	Kings Of Crunk	2	91	64	67	7	VARIOUS ARTISTS SWISHAHOUSE 005 (17.98 CD)	The Day Hell Broke Loose 2	74
44	53	53	27	JOSS STONE ● S-CURVE 42234 (9.98 CD) [M]	The Soul Sessions (EP)	44	92	64	67	7	FREDDIE JACKSON MARTLAND 7158 (13.98 CD)	It's Your Move	45
45	37	36	30	R. KELLY ▲ JIVE 55077/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	The R. In R&B Collection: Volume One	2	93	75	70	34	MARY J. BLIGE ▲ GEFFEN 000956*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Love & Life	1
46	44	35	59	KEM MOTOWN 067516/UMRG (8.98/12.98) [M]	Kemistry	14	94	96	61	7	MR. POOKIE/MR. LUCCI CRAWL 2 BAWL 24359 (18.98 CD)	My Life	59
47	34	23	3	CYPRESS HILL SOUL ASSASSIN/COLUMBIA 90781*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Till Death Do Us Part	23	95	81	—	41	CAM'RON PRESENTS THE DIPLOMATS ● ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 063211*/DJJMG (12.98 CD)	Diplomatic Immunity	1
48	45	46	62	50 CENT ▲ SHADY/AFTERMATH 493544*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	1	96	85	83	5	HIL ST SOUL SHANACHIE 5752 (18.98 CD)	Copasetik & Cool	82
							97	90	—	3	BIG TYMERS CASH MONEY 002166/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Big Money Heavyweight: Screwed & Chopped	68
							98	BE-ENTRY	30	30	CALVIN RICHARDSON HOLLYWOOD 162351 (18.98 CD)	2:35 PM	8
							99	98	89	14	ELEPHANT MAN VP/ATLANTIC 83681*/AG (14.98 CD)	Good 2 Go	14
							100	97	91	37	SMOKIE NORFUL EMI GOSPEL 20374 (9.98/16.98) [M]	I Need You Now	26

APRIL 24
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Billboard® TOP R&B/HIP-HOP CATALOG ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	TOTAL CHART WKS	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	TOTAL CHART WKS
1	1	NAS ▲ ILL WILL/COLUMBIA 92072*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	NUMBER 1 Illmatic: 10 Year Anniversary Platinum Series	91	18	18	KIRK FRANKLIN ▲ GOSPEL CENTRIC 70037/ZOMBA (11.98/17.98)	The Rebirth Of Kirk Franklin	6
2	2	PRINCE ● WARNER BROS. 74272 (18.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Prince	20	19	19	SADE ▲ EPIC 85287/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	The Best Of Sade	414
3	3	THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G. ◆ ¹⁰ BAD BOY 273011*/UMRG (19.98/24.98)	Life After Death	321	15	15	DR. DRE ▲ ⁸ AFTERMATH 490486*/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Dr. Dre—2001	197
4	4	2PAC ▲ ² DEATH ROW 53008*/KOCH (12.98/24.98)	All Eyez On Me	418	12	12	EMINEM ▲ ⁹ WEB/AFTERMATH 490629*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	The Marshall Mathers LP	164
5	6	BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS ◆ ¹⁰ TUFF GONG/ISLAND 548904/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	Legend	388	17	17	BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY ▲ ⁴ RUTHLESS/EPIC 69443*/SONY MUSIC (10.98 EQ/15.98)	E. 1999 Eternal	318
6	8	2PAC ▲ ⁹ AMARU/DEATH ROW 490301*/INTERSCOPE (19.98/24.98)	Greatest Hits	277	13	13	JUVENILE ▲ ⁴ CASH MONEY 153162/UMRG (12.98/18.98)	400 Degreez	208
7	5	THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G. ▲ ³ BAD BOY 273000*/UMRG (11.98/18.98)	Ready To Die	438	18	18	DR. DRE ▲ ³ DEATH ROW 63000*/KOCH (11.98/17.98)	The Chronic	335
8	7	JAY-Z ▲ FREEZE/RDC-A-FELLA 50040*/CAPITOL (8.98/12.98)	Reasonable Doubt	325	20	20	JAY-Z ▲ ² ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 586396*/DJJMG (12.98/19.98)	The Black Album	74
9	24	ALICIA KEYS ▲ ⁸ J 20002/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Songs In A Minor	81	21	21	PRINCE AND THE NEW POWER GENERATION ◆ ¹³ WARNER BROS. 25110 (17.98/11.98)	Purple Rain	126
10	9	LAURYN HILL ▲ ³ RUFFHOUSE/COLUMBIA 69035*/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/17.98)	The Miseducation Of Lauryn Hill	159	11	11	2PAC ▲ AMARU/JIVE 41636/ZOMBA (11.98/17.98)	Me Against The World	390
11	—	LUDACRIS ▲ ³ DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH 586446*/DJJMG (12.98/19.98)	Word Of Muf	1	23	23	JAHEIM ▲ DIVINE MILL 47452*/WARNER BROS. (11.98/17.98)	(Ghetto Love)	156
12	14	MAKAVELI ▲ ³ DEATH ROW 63012*/KOCH (12.98/17.98)	The Don Killuminati: The 7 Day Theory	301	20	20	AL GREEN ▲ HU/THE RIGHT STUFF 30800/CAPITOL (10.98/17.98)	Greatest Hits	463
					25	10	MICHAEL JACKSON ◆ ¹⁹ EPIC 6603/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Thriller	293

■ Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. Catalog albums are 2-year-old titles that have fallen below No. 100 on The Billboard 200 or reissues of older albums. Total Chart Weeks column reflects combined weeks title has appeared on the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums and Top R&B/Hip-Hop Catalog Albums. ● Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerals following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100

APRIL 24
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Billboard® HOT R&B/HIP-HOP AIRPLAY™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	17	Yeah!	USHER (LAFACE/ZOMBA) ☆	26	21	24	Slow Jamz	TWISTA (ATLANTIC)	51	48	20	In My Life	JUVENILE FEAT. MANNIE FRESH (CASH MONEY/UMRG)
2	2	13	If I Ain't Got You	ALICIA KEYS (J/RMG)	27	26	33	The Way You Move	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (LAFACE/ZOMBA)	52	51	5	Got It Twisted	MOBB DEEP (INFAMOUS/VIOLATOR/ZOMBA)
3	3	11	I Don't Wanna Know	MARIO WINANS (BAD BOY/UMRG) ☆	28	29	13	Whoknows	MUSIQ (DEF SOUL/IDJMG)	53	71	3	Friday Night	YOUNG GUNZ (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG) ☆
4	5	7	Burn	USHER (LAFACE/ZOMBA) ☆	29	37	15	Ride Wit U	JOE FEAT. G-UNIT (LIVE/ZOMBA)	54	54	12	The Loneliness	BABYFACE (ARISTA/RMG) ☆
5	7	10	All Falls Down	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG) ☆	30	31	38	Read Your Mind	AVANT (MAGIC JOHNSON/GEFFEN/INTERSCOPE)	55	61	5	This Way	DILATED PEOPLES (ABB/CAPITOL)
6	4	16	Tipsy	J-KWON (SO SO DEF/ZOMBA) ☆	31	39	9	Slow Motion	JUVENILE (CASH MONEY/UMRG)	56	58	9	Make It Up With Love	ATI (NOONTIME/EPIC/SUM)
7	6	20	Dirt Off Your Shoulder	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	32	35	7	Roses	OUTKAST (LAFACE/ZOMBA) ☆	57	63	2	Jook Gal (Wine Wine)	ELEPHANT MAN (VP/ATLANTIC) ☆
8	9	19	Freek-A-Leek	PETEY PABLO (LIVE/ZOMBA)	33	28	17	No Better Love	YOUNG GUNZ (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	58	62	2	Tear It Up	YOUNG WUN (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)
9	12	8	Overnight Celebrity	TWISTA (ATLANTIC) ☆	34	32	26	You Don't Know My Name	ALICIA KEYS (J/RMG) ☆	59	—	1	What If	RUBEN STUDDARD (J/RMG) ☆
10	14	12	Game Over (Flip)	LIL FLIP (SUCCA FREE/COLUMBIA/SUM)	35	30	23	Through The Wire	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	60	73	4	U Should've Known Better	MONICA (J/RMG) ☆
11	8	21	Splash Waterfalls	LUDACRIS (DISTURBING THE PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG) ☆	36	33	6	Make It Alright	CARL THOMAS (BAD BOY/UMRG)	61	55	4	Push	GHOSTFACE FEAT. MISSY ELLIOTT (DEF JAM/IDJMG) ☆
12	11	19	Sorry 2004	RUBEN STUDDARD (J/RMG) ☆	37	34	11	What's It Like	JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA/SUM) ☆	62	69	3	New Day	PATTI LABELLE (DEF SOUL CLASSICS/IDJMG)
13	15	8	Naughty Girl	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA/SUM) ☆	38	38	55	Step In The Name Of Love	R. KELLY (LIVE/ZOMBA)	63	59	2	Time's Up!	JADAKISS FEAT. NATE DOGG (RUFF RYDERS/INTERSCOPE)
14	13	21	Wanna Get To Know You	G-UNIT FEAT. JOE (G-UNIT/INTERSCOPE) ☆	39	36	21	Think About You	LUTHER VANDROSS (J/RMG)	64	68	3	You Don't Want Drama	BBALL & M.J.G. FEAT. P. DIDDY (BAD BOY/UMRG)
15	10	16	One Call Away	CHINGY FEAT. J. WEAV (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)	40	41	10	Questions	TAMIA (ELEKTRA/ATLANTIC) ☆	65	72	5	Not Your Average Joe	DJ KAYSLAY (COLUMBIA/SUM)
16	17	12	Don't Take Your Love Away	AVANT (MAGIC JOHNSON/GEFFEN/INTERSCOPE)	41	52	3	Confessions Part II	USHER (LAFACE/ZOMBA) ☆	66	—	13	Diamond In Da Ruf	JAEHIM (DIVINE MILL/WARNER BROS.)
17	16	27	Hotel	CASSIY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)	42	40	44	Damn!	YOUNGBLOODZ FEAT. LIL JON (SO SO DEF/ZOMBA)	67	49	13	Gal Yuh Ah Lead	T.O.K. (VP)
18	18	23	Rubber Band Man	T.I. (GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC)	43	42	8	Still In Love	TEENA MARIE (CASH MONEY CLASSICS/UMRG)	68	66	9	One Day At A Time	TUPAC WITH EMINEM (AMARI/INTERSCOPE)
19	27	7	Happy People	R. KELLY (LIVE/ZOMBA)	44	44	10	Jesus Walks	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	69	57	2	Hold On	DWELE (VIRGIN)
20	19	25	Me, Myself And I	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA/SUM)	45	47	6	My Band	D12 FEAT. EMINEM (SHADY/INTERSCOPE) ☆	70	70	—	So Sexy	TWISTA FEAT. R. KELLY (ATLANTIC)
21	20	18	I'm Still In Love With You	SEAN PAUL FEAT. SASHA (VP/ATLANTIC)	46	45	17	Encore	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	71	—	—	E.I. (Reinvention)	NELLY (G. REEL/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)
22	25	8	I Want You	JANET JACKSON (VIRGIN) ☆	47	53	4	Move Ya Body	NINA SKY FEAT. JAGGA (INXT PLATEAU/UNIVERSAL/UMRG) ☆	72	64	—	Vitamin S	CHIAM (MADHOUSE/VP/ATLANTIC)
23	23	16	Dude	BEENIE MAN (SHOCKING VIBES/VIRGIN)	48	50	55	Get Low	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (BME/TVT)	73	—	—	Selfish	SLUM VILLAGE (BARAK/CAPITOL)
24	22	30	Salt Shaker	YING YANG TWINS (COLLIPARK/TVT)	49	43	37	Walked Outta Heaven	JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA/SUM) ☆	74	—	—	Dip It Low	CHRISTINA MILIAN (ISLAND/IDJMG)
25	24	14	I Can't Wait	SLEEPY BROWN FEAT. OUTKAST (DREAMWORKS/INTERSCOPE)	50	56	3	Musicology	PRINCE (NPG/COLUMBIA/SUM)	75	—	—	Act A Fool	MASTER P (NEW NO LIMIT/KOCH)

Records with the greatest impressions increase. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved. Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' Radio Track service. 141 stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Songs ranked by gross impressions, computed by cross-referencing exact times of airplay with Arbitron listener data. This data is used to compile the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart. ☆ indicates title earned HitPredictor status in research data provided by Promosquad.

Music R&B/Hip-Hop

Today's Rap Pales Compared With '94

With Columbia Records celebrating the 10th anniversary of Nas' "Illmatic" with the release of "10 Year Anniversary Illmatic Platinum Series" (Sony Urban Music/Columbia), I started thinking about 1994.

Long before the nation was entranced by "Hey Ya!" and "The Way You Move," André 3000 and Big Boi had hip-hoppers grooving to their sounds.

The album, produced by Organized Noize, proved that Southern

I was a junior at an all-boys prep school in suburban New Jersey. Like most kids that age, I was more interested in hip-hop than history.

Fortunately for me, 1994 turned out to be a banner year for hip-hop. It's hard to see that happen-

ing this year. In addition to influential albums by Gang Starr ("Hard to Earn"), Common Sense ("Resurrection") and Beastie Boys ("Ill Communication"), '94 had an outstanding class of hip-hop rookies.

That year the world was introduced to M.O.P., Warren G., Fugees and Method Man, among others.

While these acts made lasting imprints on the genre, "Illmatic" and two other debut albums released

MCs could do more than bass music. Cuts like "Player's Ball," "Git Up, Git Out" and the title track made OutKast instant fan favorites.

1994 was also the year that former Uptown Records A&R executive Sean "P. Diddy" Combs launched his Bad Boy label. Craig Mack and The Notorious B.I.G., aka Biggie Smalls, kicked things off there.

Biggie's "Ready to Die" (Bad Boy)

Beats & Rhymes™

By Rashaun Hall
rhall@airplaymonitor.com



APRIL 24 2004 R&B/HIP-HOP Billboard® SINGLES SALES™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	4	F.U.R.B. (F U Right Back)	FRANKIE (MARRO/LANDSLIDE/WARLOCK)
2	2	25	Stand Up In It	THEODIS EALEY (IFGAM)
3	7	1	Yeah!	USHER (LAFACE/ZOMBA)
4	3	13	Tipsy	J-KWON (SO SO DEF/ZOMBA)
5	5	6	Game Over (Flip)	LIL FLIP (SUCCA FREE/COLUMBIA/SUM)
6	9	33	Milkshake	KELIS (STAR TRAK/ZOMBA)
7	12	16	Dude	BEENIE MAN (SHOCKING VIBES/VIRGIN)
8	6	16	Freek-A-Leek	PETEY PABLO (LIVE/ZOMBA)
9	10	5	All Falls Down	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)
10	8	3	Bang Bang	SURVIVALIST (ISLAVE)
11	4	4	Happy People	R. KELLY (LIVE/ZOMBA)
12	19	25	I'm Still In Love With You	SEAN PAUL FEAT. SASHA (VP/ATLANTIC)
13	18	5	Overnight Celebrity	TWISTA (ATLANTIC)
14	21	8	Jook Gal (Wine Wine)	ELEPHANT MAN (VP/ATLANTIC)
15	24	8	Ride Wit U	JOE FEAT. G-UNIT (LIVE/ZOMBA)
16	14	24	Me, Myself And I	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA/SUM)
17	22	2	Got It Twisted	MOBB DEEP (INFAMOUS/VIOLATOR/ZOMBA)
18	23	14	Dirt Off Your Shoulder/Encore	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)
19	13	3	One Call Away	CHINGY FEAT. J. WEAV (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)
20	11	6	Hey Lady/Get 'Em Girls	CAM RON (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)
21	30	22	Splash Waterfalls	LUDACRIS (DISTURBING THE PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG)
22	20	5	Push	GHOSTFACE FEAT. MISSY ELLIOTT (DEF JAM/IDJMG)
23	31	3	Get No Better	CASSIY FEATURING MASHONDA (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)
24	—	1	99 Problems	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)
25	17	13	Rubber Band Man	T.I. (GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC)

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APRIL 24 2004 RHYTHMIC AIRPLAY™

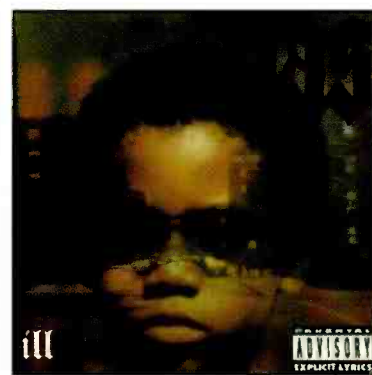
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	16	Yeah!	USHER (LAFACE/ZOMBA) ☆
2	3	19	I Don't Wanna Know	MARIO WINANS (BAD BOY/UMRG)
3	2	14	Tipsy	J-KWON (SO SO DEF/ZOMBA) ☆
4	5	6	My Band	D12 (SHADY/INTERSCOPE) ☆
5	6	7	Burn	USHER (LAFACE/ZOMBA) ☆
6	4	15	One Call Away	CHINGY FEAT. J. WEAV (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)
7	8	5	Naughty Girl	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA/SUM) ☆
8	7	14	Dirt Off Your Shoulder	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)
9	9	17	Freek-A-Leek	PETEY PABLO (LIVE/ZOMBA)
10	13	6	Overnight Celebrity	TWISTA (ATLANTIC) ☆
11	15	7	I'm Still In Love With You	SEAN PAUL FEAT. SASHA (VP/ATLANTIC) ☆
12	17	5	All Falls Down	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG) ☆
13	10	13	Wanna Get To Know You	G-UNIT FEAT. JOE (G-UNIT/INTERSCOPE) ☆
14	14	21	Salt Shaker	YING YANG TWINS (COLLIPARK/TVT)
15	19	7	Game Over (Flip)	LIL FLIP (SUCCA FREE/COLUMBIA/SUM)
16	11	16	Splash Waterfalls	LUDACRIS (DISTURBING THE PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG)
17	12	20	F**k It (I Don't Want You Back)	EAMON (LIVE/ZOMBA)
18	16	24	Hotel	CASSIY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)
19	23	3	Culo	PITBULL FEAT. LIL JON (TVT)
20	18	20	Slow Jamz	TWISTA FEAT. KANYE WEST & JAMIE FOXX (ATLANTIC)

Compiled from a national sample of data supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. 59 rhythmic airplay stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. ☆ Songs showing an increase in detections over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. A song which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in detections. The rhythmic airplay chart runs at a deeper length in Airplay Monitor, Billboard Information Network, and billboard.com. ☆ indicates title earned HitPredictor status in research data provided by Promosquad. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

HitPredictor™ DATA PROVIDED BY AIRPLAY MONITOR PROMOSQUAD™

NEW RELEASES WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL	
★	YOUNG WUN Tear It Up RMG 97.8
★	USHER Confessions Part II ZOMBA 97.5
★	CEE LO The One ZOMBA 77.0
★	NINA SKY Move Ya Body UMRG 72.3
RECENTLY TESTED SONGS WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL	
1	JAGGED EDGE What's It Like COLUMBIA 97.2
2	RUBEN STUDDARD What If RMG 89.9
3	CASE Shoulda Known Better IDJMG 84.7
4	OUTKAST Roses ZOMBA 84.4
5	BEYONCE Naughty Girl COLUMBIA 82.0
6	ELEPHANT MAN Jook Gal (Wine Wine) ATLANTIC 75.7
7	WYCLEF JEAN Take Me As I Am RMG 73.5
RHYTHMIC	
NEW RELEASES WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL	
★	USHER Confessions Part II RMG 94.3
RECENTLY TESTED SONGS WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL	
1	ALICIA KEYS If I Ain't Got You RMG 82.8
2	JOJO Leave (Get Out) UMRG 81.3
3	YOUNG WUN Tear It Up RMG 76.4
4	AMANDA PEREZ I Pray VIRGIN 76.3
5	KANYE WEST All Falls Down IDJMG 72.3
6	CHRISTINA MILIAN Dip It Low IDJMG 70.7
7	MURPHY LEE Luv Me Baby UMRG 69.5

Other radio formats and hitpredictor legend located in chart section.



that year left their indelible marks on the broader music scene—and a certain 17-year-old.

"Illmatic" was like a lightning bolt for many. While its subject matter wasn't particularly unique, Nas' lyrical abilities were on par with some of the best in the game. That, combined with hard-hitting tracks from A-list producers DJ Premier, Pete Rock and Large Professor, made for an unbeatable combination.

While Nas was heating up the East Coast with his tales of street life, there was a new sound coming out of the South: OutKast's "Southernplayalisticadillacmuzik" (LaFace/Arista).

The Atlanta-based duo's debut set ushered in a new era for hip-hop.

was an epic masterpiece. The late Brooklyn, N.Y., native had a narrative flow that remains unmatched.

Whether he was sharing autobiographical tales ("Juicy"), waxing poetic about the gangster lifestyle ("Warning") or serenading the ladies ("One More Chance"), Biggie was flawless.

Flash forward 10 years to 2004. What happened? Granted, there have been some impressive debuts, but none have had that all-encompassing effect on the genre.

Where are those artists who grab the game by the throat and force it to change? Where's the album that's going to make some 17-year-old kid want to be in this business? Do you know?

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Atwork Flora Sala_Anastasia - foto Paolo Zambaldi della DVAG

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2004

Billboard HOT LATIN TRACKS

Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE	Artist	PEAK POSITION
				PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	
				NUMBER 1	2 Weeks At Number 1	
1	1	4	12	TENGO GANAS E. ESTEFAN JR., A. GAITAN, R. GAITAN (V.M. RUIZ, E. ESTEFAN JR.)	Victor Manuelle	1
2	3	2	29	MAS QUE TU AMIGO M.A. SOLIS, H. PATRON, R. PEREZ (M.A. SOLIS)	Marco Antonio Solis	2
3	2	1	12	TE QUISE TANTO E. ESTEFAN JR., A. PENIA (C. SORDO, K. ANDAHU)	Paulina Rubio	1
4	4	6	23	CUIDARTE EL ALMA L. FOCHOA (M. DURANDEAU, C. ZALLES)	Chayanne	1
				GREATEST GAINER		
5	8	7	7	CREO EN EL AMOR J.L. PILOTO (J.L. PILOTO, R. DEL SOL)	Rey Ruiz	5
6	6	3	18	Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA ESTEFANO (ESTEFANO, J. REYES)	Ricky Martin	1
7	11	15	11	QUE LLORO A. BAQUEIRO (SIN BANDERA (L. GARCIA))	Sin Bandera	5
8	5	5	12	AUNQUE NO TE PUEDA VER J.N. GOMEZ (A. UBAGO)	Alex Ubago	4
9	7	10	11	BARAJA DE ORO PALOMO (R. AYALA)	Palomo	7
10	9	8	13	HAZME OLVIDARLA J. GUILLEN (A. TORRES)	Conjunto Primavera	8
11	12	11	6	ABRAZAR LA VIDA R. PEREZ (D. RICH, J. MARR, J. C. PEREZ SOTO)	Luis Fonsi	11
12	13	13	11	COMO PUDE ENAMORARME DE TI A. RAMIREZ (CORRAL (R. LIGO))	Patrulla 81	8
13	10	7	10	TU FOTOGRAFIA G. ESTEFAN, E. ESTEFAN JR., S. KRYS (G. MARCO, E. ESTEFAN JR.)	Gloria Estefan	7
14	15	19	5	TARDES NEGRAS A. SALERNO, M. MAJDNICH (T. FERRO)	Tiziano Ferro	14
				HOT SHOT DEBUT		
15	NEW	1	1	NADIE ES ETERNO A.A. DE LUVA (D. GOMEZ)	Adan Chalino Sanchez	15
16	21	39	4	CRUZ DE OLVIDO PAGUILAR (J. ZAIZARI)	Pepe Aguilar	16
17	18	27	3	A DONDE ESTABAS? R. MUNOZ, R. MARTINEZ (R. MARTINEZ)	Intocable	17
18	19	21	7	ME EQUIVOQUE A.A. ALBA (COPYRIGHT CONTROL)	Mariana	18
19	17	17	17	CERCA DE TI S. MORALES (T. SODI, S. MORALES, D. SIEGEL, G. DI MARCO)	Thalia	1
20	22	24	6	PARA TODA LA VIDA A. LIZARRAGA, J. LIZARRAGA (J. J. LEYVA)	Banda El Recodo	20
21	24	40	4	DESEOS DE COSAS IMPOSIBLES N. WALKER (A. OREJA DE VAN GOGH (X. SAN MARTIN))	La Oreja De Van Gogh	21
22	14	14	10	BULERIA K. SANTANDER (D. BETANCOURT (K. SANTANDER, G. SANTANDER))	David Bisbal	11
23	26	31	7	TE QUISE OLVIDAR J.L. TERRAZAS (J. GABRIEL)	Grupo Montez De Durango	23
24	36	29	5	DOS LOCOS LOS HOROSCOPOS DE DURANGO (A. MARTINEZ)	Los Horoscopus De Durango	24
25	NEW	1	1	4:30 AM S. KRYS, J. SOMEILLAN (D. BERMUDEZ, S. KRYS)	Obie Bermudez	25
26	16	12	22	TE LLAME R. PEREZ, R. LIVI (R. LIVI, R. PEREZ)	Cristian	3
27	23	25	4	LUCHARE POR TU AMOR A. BAQUEIRO (R. FOLGUERA, F. MONTY, M. ENTRAIGUES)	Alejandro Fernandez	23
28	31	—	2	AMAR COMO TE AME J. SEBASTIAN (J. SEBASTIAN)	Joan Sebastian	28
29	28	30	8	JOSE PEREZ LEON LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE (J. CANTORAL)	Los Tigres Del Norte	23
30	NEW	1	1	TANTO LA QUERIA A. STIVEL (L. GONZALEZ, GOMEZ)	Andy & Lucas	30
31	35	33	10	A QUE NO TE VAS T. TORRES, M. PORTMANN (AMERIKA, C. BRANT, M. PORTMANN)	Ednita Nazario	25
32	32	38	12	DALO POR HECHO BRONCO (N. URUQUIZAN, C. ONCHAI)	Bronco: El Gigante De America	25
33	40	43	3	LA SOSPECHA J. AGUIRRE, W. GARCIA (W. GARCIA)	Son De Cali	33
34	29	28	5	Y QUE I. RODRIGUEZ, F. EHRlich (A. VEZZANI)	Los Angeles De Charly	28
35	27	23	23	ME CANSE DE TI S. KRYS, J. SOMEILLAN (D. BERMUDEZ, G. MARCO)	Obie Bermudez	1
36	34	36	3	HAY QUE CAMBIAR R. PEREZ (R. PEREZ)	Area 305	34
37	NEW	1	1	NO TENGAS MIEDO ENAMORARTE EL PODER DEL NORTE (L. PADILLA)	El Poder Del Norte	37
38	44	34	5	LA MAS DESEADA V. ELIZALDE (R. E. MORAN)	Valentin Elizalde	27
39	NEW	1	1	NO ES AMOR M. TAYLOR, C. PAUCAR, E. IGLESIAS, F. GARI BAY (E. IGLESIAS, P. BARRY, M. TAYLOR, F. GARI BAY, C. GARCIA ALONSO)	Enrique Iglesias	39
40	30	26	6	POR QUE NO M. BLASCO, L. RUSTICI (T. GONZALEZ)	Tisuby & Georgina	26
41	NEW	1	1	NAVEGANDOTE A. TORRES (R. LOPEZ)	N'Klabe	41
42	49	—	2	LA NEGRA TOMASA C. FLORES (G. RODRIGUEZ, P. FIFE)	DJ Kane	42
43	39	37	9	JAMBALAYA K. PAZ DE LA SIERRA (H. WILLIAMS)	K-Paz De La Sierra	30
44	45	—	6	HERMANITA L. SANTOS (A. SANTOS)	Aventura	33
45	RE-ENTRY	3	3	SE ME HIZO TARDE LA VIDA P. RAMIREZ (I. RAMIREZ)	Vicente Fernandez	45
46	25	—	2	Y DICEN M. SANCHEZ (J. JARAMILLO)	Adan Chalino Sanchez	25
47	41	46	3	CAMARON PELA'O E. RODRIGUEZ (J. MORALES)	Voces Del Rancho	41
48	RE-ENTRY	6	6	ECHALE LENA R. PEREZ, R. LIVI (R. LIVI, R. PEREZ)	Victoria	31
49	37	41	11	QUITEMONOS LA ROPA R. SANCHEZ (ESTEFANO, J. REYES)	NG2	35
50	—	—	—	ESO A. SANZ, L. PEREZ (A. SANZ)	Alejandro Sanz	50

Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' Radio Track service. A panel of 101 stations (40 Latin Pop, 16 Tropical, 53 Regional Mexican) are electronically monitored 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by Audience Impressions. Records showing an increase in audience over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. A record which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in audience. Greatest Gainer indicates song with largest audience growth. If two records are tied in audience size, the record being played on more stations is placed first. Records below the top 20 are removed from the chart after 26 weeks. Videoclip availability. ©2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

LATIN POP AIRPLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST
		IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL				IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	
1	2	TE QUISE TANTO UNIVERSAL LATIN	PAULINA RUBIO	21	24	CREO EN EL AMOR SONY DISCOS	REY RUIZ
2	4	Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA SONY DISCOS	RICKY MARTIN	22	32	4:30 AM EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ
3	5	QUE LLORO SONY DISCOS	SIN BANDERA	23	25	CRUZ DE OLVIDO UNIVISION	PEPE AGUILAR
4	3	CUIDARTE EL ALMA SONY DISCOS	CHAYANNE	24	19	POR QUE NO LIDERES	TISUBY & GEORGINA
5	1	AUNQUE NO TE PUEDA VER WARNER LATINA	ALEX UBAGO	25	21	ME CANSE DE TI EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ
6	6	ABRAZAR LA VIDA UNIVERSAL LATIN	LUIS FONSI	26	29	ESO WARNER LATINA	ALEJANDRO SANZ
7	7	TARDES NEGRAS EMI LATIN	TIZIANO FERRO	27	31	NO ES AMOR UNIVERSAL LATIN	ENRIQUE IGLESIAS
8	11	LA PAGA SURCO/UNIVERSAL LATIN	JUANES	28	23	COMO FUI A ENAMORARME DE TI PRISMA/SONY DISCOS	LDS TRIO
9	10	CERCA DE TI VIRGIN/EMI LATIN	THALIA	29	38	NO ME QUIERO ENAMORAR SONY DISCOS	KALIMBA
10	13	MAS QUE TU AMIGO FONOVISA	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS	30	30	DULE VERTE SONY DISCOS	RICARDO ARJONA
11	18	DESEOS DE COSAS IMPOSIBLES SONY DISCOS	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH	31	26	HAY QUE CAMBIAR RPE/UNIVISION	AREA 305
12	9	BULERIA VALE/UNIVERSAL LATIN	DAVID BISBAL	32	—	TU DE QUE VAS SONY DISCOS	FRANCO DE VITA
13	8	TE LLAME ARIOLA/BMG LATIN	CRISTIAN	33	33	ECHALE LENA MEGAMUSIC/UNIVERSAL LATIN	VICTORIA
14	14	ANTES EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ	34	28	SABANAS FRIAS WARNER LATINA	MANA & RUBEN BLADES
15	16	TU FOTOGRAFIA EPIC/SONY DISCOS	GLORIA ESTEFAN	35	35	ME EQUIVOQUE UNIVISION	MARIANA
16	15	LUCHARE POR TU AMOR SONY DISCOS	ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ	36	22	AGUANTA AHI ARIOLA/BMG LATIN	ROSARIO
17	17	TENGO GANAS SONY DISCOS	VICTOR MANUELLE	37	37	DONDE CORRE LA SANGRE CRESCENT MOON/SONY DISCOS	SHALIM
18	12	ROSAS SONY DISCOS	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH	38	39	CORAZON DE PAPEL SONY DISCOS	JULIO IGLESIAS
19	27	TANTO LA QUERIA ARIOLA/BMG LATIN	ANDY & LUCAS	39	34	UN DIA NORMAL SURCO/UNIVERSAL LATIN	JUANES
20	20	A QUE NO TE VAS SONY DISCOS	EDNITA NAZARIO	40	—	AMAR COMO TE AME MUSART/BALBOA	JOAN SEBASTIAN

TROPICAL AIRPLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST
		IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL				IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	
1	1	TENGO GANAS SONY DISCOS	VICTOR MANUELLE	21	24	DAME LA DROGA CUTTING	SON CALLEJERO
2	2	CREO EN EL AMOR SONY DISCOS	REY RUIZ	22	28	TE QUISE TANTO UNIVERSAL LATIN	PAULINA RUBIO
3	4	LA SOSPECHA UNIVISION	SON DE CALI	23	19	Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA SONY DISCOS	RICKY MARTIN
4	8	NAVEGANDOTE NU	N'KLABE	24	17	EL GALLO NO OLVIDA M.P.	TITO ROJAS
5	3	QUITEMONOS LA ROPA SONY DISCOS	NG2	25	16	POR QUE TE AMO SONY DISCOS	EL BIZCOCHITO
6	18	SI TU ESTUVIERAS UNIVERSAL LATIN	LOS TOROS BANDO	26	20	POR QUE NO LIDERES	TISUBY & GEORGINA
7	6	HERMANITA PREMIUM LATIN	AVENTURA	27	—	NECESITO UN AMOR SONY DISCOS	ANDY ANDY
8	7	PUERTO RICO ARIOLA/BMG LATIN	JERRY RIVERA	28	26	ME ACORDARE EMI LATIN	LIMI-T 21
9	10	TELEFONO UNIVERSAL LATIN	GRUPO MANIA	29	13	SUENA M.P.	JOSE PENA SUAZO Y LA BANDA GORDA
10	9	LOCA CONMIGO UNIVERSAL LATIN	LOS TOROS BANDO	30	—	AMIGO MIO WEACARIBE/WARNER LATINA	TONO ROSARIO WITH TEGO CALDERON
11	5	TU FOTOGRAFIA EPIC/SONY DISCOS	GLORIA ESTEFAN	31	21	SABANAS FRIAS WARNER LATINA	MANA & RUBEN BLADES
12	23	DULE VI	DON OMAR	32	33	CURAME WEACARIBE/WARNER LATINA	CHARLIE CRUZ
13	11	ELLA TIENE FUEGO SONY DISCOS	CELIA CRUZ	33	—	JUANA PENA RUMBA JAMS	LOS SONEROS DEL BARRIO
14	15	NADA DE NADA J&N	FRANK REYES	34	40	AMANECE (BOMBA) EMI LATIN	LIMI-T 21
15	12	PEQUENAS COSAS SB4	SON BY FOUR	35	22	CUIDARTE EL ALMA SONY DISCOS	CHAYANNE
16	14	HAY QUE CAMBIAR RPE/UNIVISION	AREA 305	36	—	DAMELO LATIN FLAVA	MOSA
17	29	PA' LA RUMBA VOY EMI LATIN	ZAFRA NEGRA	37	32	ME CANSE DE TI EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ
18	—	4:30 AM EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ	38	—	PERSONA IDEAL SONY DISCOS	ADOLESCENT'S ORQUESTA
19	31	ME EQUIVOQUE UNIVISION	MARIANA	39	—	PRISIONERA GOLDEN/TRIGGERFISH	PILAR MONTENEGRO
20	27	LA PAGA KAREY/UNIVERSAL LATIN	TONNY TUN TUN	40	37	TARDES NEGRAS EMI LATIN	TIZIANO FERRO

REGIONAL MEXICAN AIRPLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST
		IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL				IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	
1	1	BARAJA DE ORO DISA	PALOMO	21	13	SOY UN NOVATO EMI LATIN	INTOCABLE
2	2	HAZME OLVIDARLA FONOVISA	CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA	22	22	LA MILPA RCA/BMG LATIN	LOS ASTROS DE DURANGO
3	3	COMO PUDE ENAMORARME DE TI DISA	PATRULLA 81	23	23	PARA QUE ME HACES LLORAR PLATINO/FONOVISA	BRISEYDA Y LOS MUCHACHOS
4	33	NADIE ES ETERNO MOON/COSTAROLA/SONY DISCOS	ADAN CHALINO SANCHEZ	24	20	PERO TU NO ESTAS DISA	GRUPO BRYNOIS
5	4	A DONDE ESTABAS? EMI LATIN	INTOCABLE	25	—	PERO QUE TAL SI TE COMPRO UNIVISION	LUPILLO RIVERA
6	6	MAS QUE TU AMIGO FONOVISA	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS	26	32	LA NEGRA TOMASA DISA	DJ KANE
7	7	PARA TODA LA VIDA DISA	BANDA EL RECODO	27	19	EL PALOMITO RCA/BMG LATIN	JULIO PRECIAZO Y SU BANDA PERLA DEL PACIFICO
8	9	TE QUISE OLVIDAR DISA	GRUPO MONTAZ DE DURANGO	28	—	MAS TERCO QUE UNA MULA DISA	GERMAN LIZARRAGA
9	15	DOS LOCOS PROCAN/DISA	LOS HOROSCOPOS DE DURANGO	29	38	AMAR COMO TE AME MUSART/BALBOA	JOAN SEBASTIAN
10	5	ME CANSE DE MORIR POR TU AMOR UNIVISION	ADAN CHALINO SANCHEZ	30	37	CRUZ DE OLVIDO UNIVISION	PEPE AGUILAR
11	11	JOSE PEREZ LEON FONOVISA	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE	31	—	LA BOTELLA LA SIERRA	LOS MORROS DEL NORTE
12	21	NO TENGAS MIEDO ENAMORARTE DISA	EL PODER DEL NORTE	32	35	YO TE ENSENE MUSICEX/UNIVERSAL LATIN	CONJUNTO ATARDECER
13	18	LA MAS DESEADA UNIVERSAL LATIN	VALENTIN ELIZALDE	33	31	A PIERNA SUELTA UNIVISION	PEPE AGUILAR
14	12	Y QUE FONOVISA	LOS ANGELES DE CHARLY	34	27	NO, OH, OH (LA SUEGRA) UNIVERSAL LATIN	ALICIA VILLARREAL
15	14	DALO POR HECHO FONOVISA	BRONCO: EL GIGANTE DE AMERICA	35	30	MI NAJAVITA EMI LATIN	CONTROL
16	16	JAMBALAYA PROCAN/DISA	K-PAZ DE LA SIERRA	36	—	A UN PASO DE OLVIDARTE FONOVISA	JUAN TAVARES
17	10	LAGRIMAS DE CRISTAL DISA	GRUPO MONTAZ DE DURANGO	37	—	DALE SU BENDICION UNIVISION	LOS HURACANES DEL NORTE
18	8	Y DICEN UNIVISION	ADAN CHALINO SANCHEZ	38	34	A QUE TE PONGO OLE	K1
19	17	CAMARON PELA'O EMI LATIN	VOCES DEL RANCHO	39	39	POR UN RATO FONOVISA	AROMA
20	24	SE ME HIZO TARDE LA VIDA SONY DISCOS	VICENTE FERNANDEZ	40	36	ESTOY ENAMORADA FONOVISA	YOLANDA PEREZ WITH DON CHETO

APRIL 24
2004

Billboard® TOP LATIN ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	Title	PEAK POSITION
				NUMBER 1							2 Weeks At Number 1		
1	1	—	2	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE	Pacto De Sangre	1	49	33	—	64	SELENA	Ones	4
2	2	1	3	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO	En Vivo Desde Chicago	1	50	44	32	3	JOAN SEBASTIAN	Que Amarren A Cupido	32
3	4	3	4	GIPSY KINGS	Roots	3	51	42	49	11	YOLANDA PEREZ	Dejenme Llorar	29
4	3	2	9	PAULINA RUBIO	Pau-Latina	1	52	45	33	6	LOS HURACANES DEL NORTE	20 Narco-Corridos	23
				GREATEST GAINER									
5	6	—	2	VICENTE FERNANDEZ	Se Me Hizo Tarde La Vida	5	53	49	45	18	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Historia Musical Del Pasito Duranguense	11
				HOT SHOT DEBUT									
6	NEW	1	1	LOS HOROSCOPOS DE DURANGO	Locos De Amor	6	54	56	50	3	MARCOS WITT	Recordando Otra Vez	50
7	8	6	7	LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE	20 Anos De Fuerza Nortena	5	55	58	55	11	IVY QUEEN	Diva Platinum Edition	24
8	7	4	7	INTOCABLE	Intimamente: En Vivo Live	1	56	47	40	3	K-PAZ DE LA SIERRA	Arrasando Con Fuego	40
9	12	11	10	BRONCO/LOS BUKIS	Cronica De Dos Grandes	1	57	54	51	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	24 Kilates De Amor	46
10	9	5	9	THALIA	Greatest Hits	2	58	38	53	4	LITO Y POLACO	Fuera De Serie	28
11	5	—	5	ADAN CHALINO SANCHEZ	Un Sonador	5	59	52	39	41	RICKY MARTIN	Almas Del Silencio	1
12	10	7	6	VICTOR MANUELLE	Travesia	1	60	59	56	23	JULIO IGLESIAS	Divorcio	9
13	16	12	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS	100% Duranguense	7	61	61	57	36	LOS BUKIS	25 Joyas Musicales	3
14	14	9	42	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH	Lo Que Te Conte Mientras Te Hacias La Dormida	9	62	63	67	37	DON OMAR	The Last Don	2
15	NEW	1	1	LOS ORIGINALES DE SAN JUAN	Corridos De Este Tamano	15	63	57	42	9	GRUPO EXTERMINADOR	Narco Corridos De Parranda Con El Diablo Vol. 3	22
16	13	15	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Arcoiris Musical Mexicano 2004	2	64	50	30	33	OBIE BERMUDEZ	Confesiones	29
17	19	16	9	DAVID BISBAL	Buleria	5	65	60	47	9	K1	Nuestro Turno	19
18	15	10	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Historia Musical Nortena	10	66	RE-ENTRY	2	2	AVENTURA	Love & Hate	66
19	20	14	4	EL PODER DEL NORTE	La Decada	11	67	68	—	5	CHALINO SANCHEZ	Coleccion De Oro	63
20	17	13	24	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS	La Historia Continua...	1	68	69	60	86	MANA	Revolucion De Amor	1
21	21	17	25	SIN BANDERA	De Viaje	6	69	74	65	75	PANCHO BARRAZA	Las Romanticas De Pancho Barraza	12
22	NEW	1	1	A.B. QUINTANILLA III PRESENTS KUMBIA KINGS	Los Remixes 2.0	22	70	RE-ENTRY	4	4	PEPE AGUILAR	Coleccion De Oro Vol. 2	51
23	11	25	3	SELENA	Momentos Intimos	11	71	67	69	5	LOS REHENES	Las Rancheras De Los Rehenes	50
24	22	20	7	ALEX UBAGO	Fantasia O Realidad	14	72	75	63	11	PEPE AGUILAR	Con Orgullo Por Herencia	7
25	24	21	79	JUANES	Un Dia Normal	1	73	72	73	58	RICARDO ARJONA	Santo Pecado	3
26	18	8	3	DJ KANE	DJ Kane	8	74	RE-ENTRY	48	48	CUISILLOS	Las Romanticas De Cuisillos	16
27	27	22	51	JOAN SEBASTIAN	Coleccion De Oro	9	75	RE-ENTRY	27	27	LUIS MIGUEL		33
28	23	24	28	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO	De Durango A Chicago	2							
29	NEW	1	1	LOS TEMERARIOS	15 Super Exitos En Vivo Vol. 1	29							
30	30	18	9	GRUPO MOJADO	20 Greatest Hits	9							
31	25	23	20	LOS TEMERARIOS	Tributo Al Amor	1							
32	28	31	5	EZEQUIEL PENA	20 Herraduras De Oro	25							
33	26	19	7	K-PAZ DE LA SIERRA	20 Exitos Con La Fuerza Duranguense	15							
34	NEW	1	1	BETO QUINTANILLA	Mi Historia Musical: 20 Exitos	34							
35	31	27	21	MANA	Eclipse	2							
36	29	26	7	PATRULLA 81	Como Pude Enamorarme De Ti	22							
37	40	48	3	LOS ACOSTA	20 Inolvidables	37							
38	41	44	11	EL COYOTE Y SU BANDA TIERRA SANTA	La Historia	19							
39	32	28	4	ALICIA VILLARREAL	Cuando El Corazon Se Cruza	28							
40	35	34	25	A.B. QUINTANILLA III & KUMBIA KINGS	La Historia	1							
				PACESETTER									
41	53	52	44	AKWID	Proyecto Akwid	7							
42	37	—	2	GRUPO PEGASSO	30 Exitos	37							
43	36	29	41	INTOCABLE	La Historia	3							
44	46	37	5	CARDENALES DE NUEVO LEON	Historia Musical	27							
45	39	35	13	TEGO CALDERON	El Enemy De Los Guasibiri	5							
46	48	43	26	VICENTE Y ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ	En Vivo: Juntos Por Ultima Vez	4							
47	43	38	48	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS	Tu Amor O Tu Desprecio	1							
48	51	46	33	CHAYANNE	Sincero	1							

LATIN POP ALBUMS	TROPICAL ALBUMS	REGIONAL MEXICAN ALBUMS
1 GIPSY KINGS ROOTS (INDUS/CH/AG)	1 VICTOR MANUELLE TRAVESIA (SONY DISCOS)	1 LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE PACTO DE SANGRE (FONOVISA/UG)
2 PAULINA RUBIO PAU-LATINA (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	2 IVY QUEEN DIVA PLATINUM EDITION (REAL/UNIVERSAL LATINO)	2 GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO EN VIVO DESDE CHICAGO (DISA)
3 THALIA GREATEST HITS (EMI SPECIAL MARKETS/EMI LATIN)	3 LITO Y POLACO FUERA DE SERIE (PINA/UNIVERSAL LATINO)	3 VICENTE FERNANDEZ SE ME HIZO TARDE LA VIDA (SONY DISCOS)
4 LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH LO QUE TE CONTE MIENTRAS TE HACIAS LA DORMIDA (SONY DISCOS)	4 AVENTURA LOVE & HATE (PREMIUM LATIN)	4 LOS HOROSCOPOS DE DURANGO LOCOS DE AMOR (DISA)
5 DAVID BISBAL BULERIA (VALE/UNIVERSAL LATINO)	5 CELIA CRUZ HITS MIX (SONY DISCOS)	5 LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE 20 ANOS DE FUERZA NORTENA (FONOVISA/UG)
6 MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS LA HISTORIA CONTINUA... (FONOVISA/UG)	6 LUNYUNES & NORIEGA MIAS FLOW (VI)	6 INTOCABLE INTIMAMENTE: EN VIVO LIVE (EMI LATIN)
7 SIN BANDERA DE VIAJE (SONY DISCOS)	7 VARIOUS ARTISTS REGGAETON HITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	7 BRONCO/LOS BUKIS CRONICA DE DOS GRANDES (FONOVISA/UG)
8 A.B. QUINTANILLA III PRESENTS KUMBIA KINGS LOS REMIXES 2.0 (EMI LATIN)	8 CELIA CRUZ EXITOS ETERNOS (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	8 ADAN CHALINO SANCHEZ UN SONADOR (UNIVISION/UG)
9 ALEX UBAGO FANTASIA O REALIDAD (WARNER LATINA)	9 VARIOUS ARTISTS BACHATAHITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	9 VARIOUS ARTISTS 100% DURANGUENSE (DISA)
10 JUANES UN DIA NORMAL (ISURCO/UNIVERSAL LATINO)	10 VARIOUS ARTISTS 12 DISCIPULOS (DIAMOND)	10 LOS ORIGINALES DE SAN JUAN CORRIDOS DE ESTE TAMANO (EMI LATIN)
11 DJ KANE DJ KANE (EMI LATIN)	11 VARIOUS ARTISTS 2004 AND DE EXITOS: REGGAETON (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	11 VARIOUS ARTISTS ARCOIRIS MUSICAL MEXICANO 2004 (UNIVISION/UG)
12 MANA ECLIPSE (WARNER LATINA)	12 CELIA CRUZ REGALO DEL ALMA (SONY DISCOS)	12 VARIOUS ARTISTS HISTORIA MUSICAL NORTENA (UNIVISION/UG)
13 A.B. QUINTANILLA III & KUMBIA KINGS LA HISTORIA (EMI LATIN)	13 VARIOUS ARTISTS 30 BACHATAS PEGADITAS (MOCK & ROLL/SONY DISCOS)	13 EL PODER DEL NORTE LA DECADE (DISA)
14 TEGO CALDERON EL ENEMY DE LOS GUASIBIRI (WHITE LION/BMG LATIN)	14 TONY VEGA CUESTION DE FE (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	14 SELENA MOMENTOS INTIMOS (EMI LATIN)
15 CHAYANNE SINCERO (SONY DISCOS)	15 CELIA CRUZ/INDIA SALSA DIVAS (SONY DISCOS)	15 JOAN SEBASTIAN COLECCION DE ORO (MUSART/BALBOA)
16 SELENA ONES (EMI LATIN)	16 VARIOUS ARTISTS SALSAS HITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	16 GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO DE DURANGO A CHICAGO (DISA)
17 MARCOS WITT RECORDANDO OTRA VEZ (SONY DISCOS)	17 VARIOUS ARTISTS BACHATAHITS 2003 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	17 LOS TEMERARIOS 15 SUPER EXITOS EN VIVO VOL. 1 (DISA)
18 RICKY MARTIN ALMAS DEL SILENCIO (SONY DISCOS)	18 ELVIS CRESPO GREATEST HITS (SONY DISCOS)	18 GRUPO MOJADO 20 GREATEST HITS (UNIVISION/UG)
19 JULIO IGLESIAS DIVORCIO (SONY DISCOS)	19 VARIOUS ARTISTS REGGAETON GOLD COLLECTION VOL. 1 (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	19 LOS TEMERARIOS TRIBUTO AL AMOR (FONOVISA/UG)
20 DON OMAR THE LAST DON (VI)	20 INDIA LATIN SONGBIRD: MI ALMA Y CORAZON (SONY DISCOS)	20 EZEQUIEL PENA 20 HERRADURAS DE ORO (FONOVISA/UG)

Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, double album with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: C Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Dor). Certification of 200,000 units (Platin). Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platin). *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Pacesetter indicates biggest percentage growth. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2004, VNU Business Med. a, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

América Latina...

NEWS FROM SOUTH OF THE BORDER

In Mexico: Intocable continues to establish itself as a key *grupero* act in Mexico. Its studio album "Nuestro Destino Estaba Escrito" has been certified triple-platinum (150,000 units) by Mexican recording industry chamber Amprofon. Similarly, its live CD/DVD combo, "Intimamente," was certified gold for sales of 50,000 copies after only two weeks in stores. The group's Mexican tour kick-off March 27 drew 45,000 fans to Ecatepec, a Mexico City suburb. Intocable will also play Mexico City's prestigious Auditorio Nacional for the first time June 11 and 12.

TERESA AGUILERA

In Panama: Eight bands have been selected as semifinalists in Panama's first national contest for new bands. A total of 23 unsigned bands competed in two events earlier this month, and five finalists will ultimately be chosen. All five finalists will record two tracks at Panama City's Contraxeñas Studio for a compilation album to be released by Sony Music later this year. The winner will also get a professional video directed by Kathy Simonovic, a Web site designed by BTS Multimedia, a management deal with Republica Entertainment and Home Music Management Mexico and a three-month supply of clothing from Ecko Ultd. The event was organized by veteran event-promoter República Entertainment in conjunction with Web site

panamarock.com and Soberana Beer. For more information, visit panamarock.com.

ANASTACIO PUERTAS CAICEDO

In Spain: Argentina's Charly García, legendary Cuban bolero composer/singer César Portillo de la Luz and Brazilian newcomer Adriana Calcanhotto took the three Latin awards at Spain's eighth Premios de la Música April 15 in Madrid. García, 53, considered one of the fathers of rock en español, received the Honorary Latin Award. Portillo de la Luz, 81, a founder of Cuba's *filin* music genre in the 1940s, collected the Lifetime Latin Award, while minimalist singer Calcanhotto took the new Latin artist prize. The Latin awards had been announced in advance after a vote by 5,000 members of the Music Arts and Sciences Academy (AACM). The academy is formed by authors society SGAE, artists association AIE and a team of music industry professionals. AACM had already announced that opera star Montserrat Caballé would receive an honorary award for lifetime achievement. Indie label Nuevos Medios took home best record label. The remaining 30 awards were to be announced April 15 at the gala ceremony. Alejandro Sanz is likely to be among the winners, with seven nods. Las Niñas and Alex Ubago had five nominations, and Andy & Lucas had four.

HOWELL LLEWELLYN

Latin Notas

Continued from page 26

Specifics were not disclosed, but the group estimates the deal to be worth 10 million euros in cash, publicity and tour support.

Café Quijano will launch its own massive Spanish tour following the "Por Nuestra Música" stint. By late fall, the group plans to come to the States and begin promoting its music.

But how serious are they? Well, the brothers are buying a pad in Miami. And they're not alone. Recent arrivals to the city include singer/songwriter **Amaury Gutiérrez**, who moved his entire family from Mexico.

Also making his home in South Florida is producer **Sergio George**, formerly stationed in New York.

THALÍA EXPLOSION: While we're talking about branding, no Latin act comes close to Mexican diva **Thalía**.

First came sunglasses. Then her own **Kmart** clothing line. Now comes her own lifestyle magazine, "Thalía," launched April 13 and billed as "the first celebrity-inspired magazine for young Hispanic women."

The monthly publication is put out by American Media's Latino Magazine Group, which includes "Mira" and "Shape en Español,"

among other titles.

Could it get any better?

Yup. Next fall, Thalía will launch her own candy line in partnership with **Hershey**. The deal is part of a broader, multi-year partnership announced earlier this month. It includes sponsorship of Thalía's upcoming tour, a Spanish-language advertising campaign and consumer and retail promotions. The kicker is the new, co-branded line of Thalía Hershey products specifically targeting the Latin market.

The "Latin-inspired" candies will be variations on standard Hershey themes. You may find, for example, dulce de leche fillings in your Hershey's Kisses.

Thalía's Hershey partnership is managed by hubby **Thomas D. Mottola**.

MUSIC AND FILM: The Billboard Latin Music Conference is about, well, Latin music.

But what happens when Latin music and film come together? And not just music videos. On April 29, as part of the conference, three filmmakers and composers will discuss the marriage of music and film in a unique panel titled "The Music We See."

Franc Reyes (director of feature film "Empire," starring **John Leguizamo**, and composer of many of the film's tracks), **Gustavo Santaolalla** (who scored "21 Grams" and "Amores Perros") and

Jessy Terrero (music video Grammy Award winner and director of the upcoming feature film "Soul Plane" starring **Tom Arnold**, **Method Man** and **Snoop Dogg**) will discuss the expanding role and treatment of Latin/Latin-themed music in film.

The discussion will be moderated by **Suzi Civita**, VP of music at **Warner Bros. Pictures Music**.

For a complete list of Billboard Latin Music Conference events and panels, visit billboardevents.com.

IN BRIEF: **Luis Silva**, previously marketing director at **Freddie Records**, has launched an independent marketing and promotion firm. **One Man Show** is based in San Antonio, Texas, and its clients include **Los Astros de Durango**, **Julieta Venegas**, **Marcos Orozco** (former singer for **David Lee Garza**) and newcomer **Mario Delgado "El Cachorro."** Silva can be contacted at silvia@msn.com. . . . Concert series "La Máquina Musical Miller Lite 2004" returns for its third consecutive year, with 10 stops beginning May 2 in Dallas.

Sponsored by **Miller** and produced by **Miranda & Associates**, La Máquina features four semi-trucks that travel from city to city and unfold to become stages.

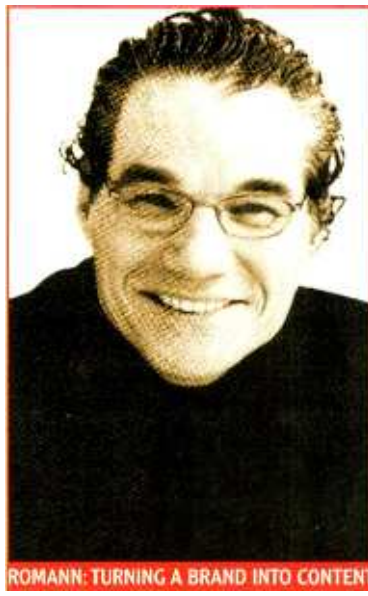
Each stop will feature different acts. Dates are booked through Sept. 12. The May 2 concert bill includes **Los Tigres del Norte**, **Ana Bárbara** and **Intocable**.

Romann Heats Up Haru Brand

While walking to an appointment the other day, we couldn't help but notice several posters emblazoned with "You've danced Haru." Over several New York blocks, a smart sniping campaign was apparently under way.

Confused? Don't be. Consider it a savvy marketing move for **Haru**, the New York-based Japanese restaurant chain, and "Haru," the dance track, which recently peaked at No. 5 on the *Billboard* Hot Dance Club Play chart.

The campaign is the brainchild of **Gad Romann**, who runs the **Romann Group** media/ad agency and its offshoot music label, Romann Music. **Derrick Garrett** is the music director for both.



ROMANN: TURNING A BRAND INTO CONTENT

"We like to utilize nontraditional marketing strategies to market a product," Romann says. "For me, it's about branding, content and culture."

Initially, Haru founder **Barbara Matsumura** approached Romann to discuss the creation of an ad that would run in various magazines. "I told her that we needed to do something different," Romann recalls.

"We had to develop a Haru brand, because brands have leverage for content," he explains. In essence, "we would turn a brand into content." In this case, the content is music.

"Because music communicates faster than any other medium," Romann says he began discussing potential ideas for a "Haru track" with Garrett.

According to Romann, he and

Garrett wondered if they could create a song that, initially, would have no connection or relationship to the restaurant.

Beat
Box™

By Michael Paoletta
mpaoletta@billboard.com



"We wanted to get through to the emotion by way of legitimate content," Romann notes.

"Every brand has a subculture," he adds. "But for a brand to be strong, you must have a powerful subculture. So, we wondered if we could sneak our way into culture as content—by presenting an authentic experience. And it worked."

Indeed, a number of compilations have already licensed the **Blaze Billyons**-produced "Haru" by Haru (aka **Romann and Garrett**)—with remixes by **Wide Life**, **Junior Vasquez**, **B.B.C.** and **Demarko! & Deep Influence**. They include "Divas to the Dancefloor" (**Star 69 Records**) and "Winter Party Vol. 7" (**Centaur Entertainment**).

Of course, whether the track is wholly accepted as a legitimate song—and not perceived as an advertisement with an ulterior motive—remains to be seen.

In the end, it will come down to where you first heard the song, Romann offers. "If that first experience was authentic, positive and legitimate, 'Haru' will be accepted as a song. Then, when you find out that it's also the name of a restaurant, you won't feel cheated."

In the coming weeks, Romann Music will send a new track, "Automatic Lover," to about 60 radio stations. Romann says this track has absolutely nothing to do with a client.

"We want to establish complete legitimacy as a content provider. We are not building artists' careers; we are building content." Along the way, though, Romann will be branding Romann Music.

"We don't realize the impact that brands have in our lives," Romann says. "We are human beings crafted by marketing, society and media."

Haru is primarily owned by the **Benihana Restaurant Group**.

APRIL 24 2004				Billboard®		HOT DANCE SINGLES SALES™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist		
1	1	1	4	NUMBER 1 LOVE PROFUSION MAYERICK 42703/WARNER BROS.	Madonna ♀		
2	2	—	2	8TH WORLD WONDER (THE REMIXES) CURB 77103	Kimberley Locke		
3	3	2	23	ME AGAINST THE MUSIC JIVE 5757/ZOMBA	Britney Spears Featuring Madonna ♀		
4	NEW	1	1	JUST A LITTLE WHILE VIRGIN 38958	Janet Jackson ♀		
5	20	25	3	CRUSH MUTE 5240	Paul Van Dyk		
6	8	5	40	THE DISTRICT SLEEPS ALONE TONIGHT SUB POP 70614	The Postal Service ♀		
7	6	6	10	LOVE'S DIVINE (DEEPSKY, MURK, & PASSENGERZ MIXES) WARNER BROS. 42685	Seal ♀		
8	5	4	22	YOU PROMISED ME (TU ES FOUTU) BENZ STREET/WAAKO 75434/ZYX	In-Grid		
9	7	—	2	AERODYNAMIK ASTRALWERKS 48204	Kraftwerk		
10	4	3	18	NOTHING FAILS/NOBODY KNOWS ME MAYERICK 42682/WARNER BROS.	Madonna ♀		
11	9	9	20	BREATHE (REMIXES) MAYERICK 42689/WARNER BROS.	Michelle Branch ♀		
12	15	10	5	SAVE MY SOUL TOMMY BOY SILVER LABEL 2438/TOMMY BOY	Kristine W		
13	12	14	32	(THERE'S GOTTA BE) MORE TO LIFE FOREFRONT 52925/VIRGIN	Stacie Orrico ♀		
14	10	11	30	SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL (REMIXES) ABKCO 719666	The Rolling Stones ♀		
15	11	8	31	RUBBERNECKIN' (PAUL OAKENFOLD REMIX) BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING/RCA 54218/RMG	Elvis Presley		
16	NEW	1	1	DESTINATION UNKNOWN ROBBINS 72102	Gaudino Featuring Crystal Waters		
17	RE-ENTRY	11	11	ROCK YOUR BODY, ROCK MOONSHINE 88492	Ferry Corsten ♀		
18	17	12	9	TOXIC (REMIXES) JIVE 59214/ZOMBA	Britney Spears ♀		
19	22	15	17	BORN TOO SLOW V2 27804	The Crystal Method ♀		
20	14	13	5	CHERRY BLOSSOM GIRL SOURCE 47768/ASTRALWERKS	Air		
21	18	16	23	HAREM (CANCAO DO MAR) (M. LEHMAN, R. RIVERA & H. HECTOR REMIXES) NEMO STUDIO 53240/ANGEL	Sarah Brightman		
22	25	—	2	THE AIR THAT I BREATHE ROBBINS 72109	Judy Torres Featuring Collage		
23	16	18	9	TRULY NETTWERK 33221	Delerium Featuring Nerina Pallot		
24	19	20	62	THROUGH THE RAIN (HEX HECTOR/MAC QUAYLE REMIX) MONARCH/ISLAND 063793/DJMG	Mariah Carey ♀		
25	21	17	40	HOLLYWOOD (REMIXES) MAYERICK 42638/WARNER BROS.	Madonna ♀		

APRIL 24 2004				Billboard®		HOT DANCE RADIO AIRPLAY™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON	TITLE	Artist			
1	1	11	NUMBER 1 LOVE ME RIGHT (OH SHEILA) ULTRA	Angel City Featuring Lara McAllen			
2	3	11	TOXIC JIVE/ZOMBA	Britney Spears			
3	2	19	AS THE RUSH COMES ULTRA	Motorcycle			
4	4	6	RED BLOODED WOMAN CAPITOL	Kylie Minogue			
5	6	9	DEJA VU (IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE) TOMMY BOY SILVER LABEL/TOMMY BOY	The Roc Project Featuring Tina Novak			
6	8	3	BURNED WITH DESIRE ULTRA	Armin Van Buuren Featuring Justine Suissa			
7	19	4	STRAIGHT AHEAD KING BRAIN/ARTEMIS	Tube & Berger Featuring Chrissie Hynde			
8	5	20	IT'S MY LIFE INTERSCOPE	No Doubt			
9	16	4	DIP IT LOW ISLAND/DJMG	Christina Milian			
10	20	9	LOVE'S DIVINE WARNER BROS.	Seal			
11	14	4	BEAUTIFUL THINGS ROBBINS	Andain			
12	13	12	THE WAY YOU MOVE LAFACE/ZOMBA	OutKast Featuring Sleepy Brown			
13	12	11	ROCK YOUR BODY, ROCK MOONSHINE	Ferry Corsten			
14	9	5	DON'T WANNA LOSE THIS FEELING ULTRA	Dannii Minogue			
15	7	4	I LIKE LOVE (I LOVE LOVE) ROBBINS	Solitaire			
16	RE-ENTRY	11	TAKE ME TO THE CLOUDS ABOVE ULTRA	LMC Vs. U2			
17	18	23	HEY YA! LAFACE/ZOMBA	OutKast			
18	10	19	WHEREVER YOU ARE (I FEEL LOVE) ROBBINS	Laava			
19	RE-ENTRY	11	IF I WERE YOU ROBBINS	Candee Jay			
20	11	5	YEAH! LAFACE/ZOMBA	Usher Featuring Lil Jon & Ludacris			
21	22	10	I FEEL LOVE BLUE MAN GROUP/LAVA	Blue Man Group Featuring Venus Hum			
22	17	6	WHITE FLAG ARISTA/RMG	Dido			
23	NEW	1	THIS LOVE OCTONE/JRMG	Maroon5			
24	24	15	NOTHING BUT YOU MUTE	Paul Van Dyk Featuring Hemstock & Jennings			
25	25	8	CRUISING ULTRA	N&K Vs. Denis The Menace Feat. Alex Prince			

APRIL 24 2004				Billboard®		TOP ELECTRONIC ALBUMS™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON	ARTIST	Title			
1	1	15	NUMBER 1 VARIOUS ARTISTS RAZOR & TIE 89077	Fired Up!			
2	2	53	THE POSTAL SERVICE SUB POP 595 [M]	Give Up			
3	NEW	1	JUMPS SPARROW 94175	Mix It Up: Remixed			
4	3	6	ZERO 7 ULTIMATE DILEMMA/ELEKTRA 61558*JAG [M]	When It Falls			
5	6	10	SOUNDTRACK CAPITOL 95912	Queer Eye For The Straight Guy			
6	4	13	THE CRYSTAL METHOD V2 27176*	Legion Of Boom			
7	5	11	AIR SOURCE 96632*/ASTRALWERKS	Talkie Walkie			
8	NEW	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS VIRGIN 97306	Pink Panther's Penthouse Party			
9	NEW	1	A.B. QUINTANILLA III PRESENTS KUMBIA KINGS EMI LATIN 72055	Los Remixes 2.0			
10	7	3	THE RIDDLER TOMMY BOY 1580 [M]	Dance Mix 5			
11	8	6	LOUIE DEVITO DEE VEE 0008/MUSICRAMA	Dance Divas II			
12	9	11	JOHNNY VICIOUS ULTRA 1180 [M]	Ultra Trance:3			
13	10	17	SARAH MCLACHLAN NETTWERK/ARISTA 58763/RMG	Remixed			
14	11	8	RAVIN GEORGE V 71050 [M]	Buddha Bar VI			
15	NEW	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS HIP-O 001778/UME	Pure 80's Dance			
16	16	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS WATER 960407	Pure Trance 3			
17	15	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS ROBBINS 75043	Best Of Trance Volume Four			
18	12	28	ENIGMA VIRGIN 91929	Voyageur			
19	13	26	MARIAH CAREY COLUMBIA 67154/SONY MUSIC	The Remixes			
20	14	5	SQUAREPUSHER WARP 117*	Ultravisitor			
21	NEW	1	GREYBOY UBIQUITY 11144*	Soul Mosaic			
22	23	49	VARIOUS ARTISTS MADACY 4981	30th Anniversary Collection: Ultimate Disco			
23	17	7	THE HAPPY BOYS ROBBINS 75044	Techno Party (Volume Two)			
24	RE-ENTRY	11	BOND MBO/OCCA 001117/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Bond: Remixed			
25	19	21	LOUIE DEVITO DEE VEE 0008/MUSICRAMA	N.Y.C. Underground Party 6			

• Dance Airplay titles showing an increase in detections over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' radio track service. 5 dance stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. A title which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in detections. Titles below the top 15 are removed from the chart after 26 weeks. ©2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved. • Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). • RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). • RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. * Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. ©2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24 2004 Billboard® HOT DANCE CLUB PLAY™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist
1	3	6	7	NUMBER 1 AMAZING (FULL INTENTION AND JACK 'N' RORY MIXES) EPIC PROMO	George Michael
2	6	9	7	HOLE IN THE HEAD (REMIXES) ISLAND PROMO/INTERSCOPE	Sugababes ♀
3	1	5	6	SAVE MY SOUL TOMMY BOY SILVER LABEL 2438/TOMMY BOY	Kristine W
4	8	14	6	NEVER LET ME DOWN SYSTEM 1027	Richard "Humpty" Vission ♀
5	4	1	10	NOT IN LOVE (D. AUDE, MINGE BINGE, & R.H. VISSION MIXES) INTERSCOPE PROMO	Enrique Iglesias Featuring Kelis ♀
6	13	26	4	JUST A LITTLE WHILE (P. RAUHOFFER & M. JOSHUA MIXES) VIRGIN 38958	Janet Jackson ♀
7	5	2	10	LOVE PROFUSION (R. ROSARIO, CRAIG J., PASSENGERZ, & BLOW-UP MIXES) MAYERICK 42703/WARNER BROS.	Madonna ♀
8	2	4	10	TRULY NETTWERK 33221	Delerium Featuring Nerina Pallot
9	11	13	8	STRAIGHT AHEAD KING BRAIN 51501/ARTEMIS	Tube & Berger Featuring Chrissie Hynde ♀
10	12	12	8	ELECTRIFY AVEX/NITEGRDDVES 203/KING STREET	GTS Featuring Heigo Tani
11	14	19	7	SEX BOMB (THE REMIXES) OCCA PROMO/UTV	Tom Jones
12	16	23	6	BROKEN WINGS LIZA PROMO	Thea Austin
13	7	3	11	FREE (S.A.F. & NEMO MIXES) NEMO STUDIO PROMO/ANGEL	Sarah Brightman
14	18	27	5	YOU MAKE ME FEEL BRAND NEW (REMIXES) SIMPLYRED.COM PROMO/RED INK	Simply Red ♀
15	10	11	9	FRIDAY MARSHMALLOW VINYL SOUL 126/MUSIC PLANT	Samba La Casa
16	9	8	9	TOXIC (REMIXES) JIVE 59214/ZOMBA	Britney Spears ♀
17	24	38	3	HOW DID YOU KNOW DEE VEE 003	Kurtis Mantronik Presents Chamonix
18	20	32	4	SAVING MY LOVE (ROSABEL & JOSH HARRIS MIXES) FRIXION 9002	Pat Hodges
19	23	30	5	I LIKE LOVE (I LOVE LOVE) ROBBINS 72096	Solitaire
20	27	41	3	DIP IT LOW (FULL INTENTION, JJ FLORES, TYAS & LAWRENCE MIXES) ISLAND 002447/DJMG	Christina Milian ♀
21	15	7	11	GOOD BOYS (REMIXES) SANCTUARY 85595	Blondie ♀
22	25	33	4	MY LIFE JVM PROMO	Junior Vasquez Presents Jason
23	17	10	9	MAKE ME DANCE ALL NIGHT PAS PROMO	3 Speaker High
24	29	42	3	LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE (REMIXES) DAYLIGHT PROMO/EPIC	Anastacia
25	31	40	4	NAUGHTY GIRL (CALDERONE & QUAYLE REMIX) COLUMBIA PROMO	Beyonce ♀

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist
26	30	39	—	DREAM-A-LOT'S THEME (I WILL LIVE FOR LOVE) MERCURY PROMO/UTV	Donna Summer
27	28	35	5	GET BETTER ROBBINS 72098	K.M.C. Featuring Sandy
28	21	16	12	SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED CENTAUR 30029	Colton Ford And Pepper Mashay
29	37	45	3	JAM SESSIONS FOREVER SOUL 001/ESNTION	Mr. Ali Vs. E-Smoove
30	41	—	2	POWER PICK ILLUSION BENZ STREET/WAAKO PROMO/ZYX	Benassi Bros. Featuring Sandy
31	26	20	21	I TRY (RAUHOFFER, PILAVIN & ZIMBARDO MIXES) STAR 69 1265	Made By Monkeys Featuring Maria Matto
32	32	31	9	FIND MYSELF STAR 69 1272	Presta + Stakey
33	19	17	13	WHERE LOVE IS COMMISION PROMO	Trinity Featuring Revi
34	44	—	2	THIS LOVE (JUNIOR VASQUEZ MIXES) OCTONE/J PROMO/RMG	Maroon5 ♀
35	42	—	2	LET IT GO DEFINITIVE/FOREVER SOUL 002/ESNTION	Norty Cotto
36	46	—	2	A DAY IN THE LIFE (2004 REMIX) VINYL SOUL 127/MUSIC PLANT	Frischia & Lamboy Vs. Todd Terry
37	45	—	2	COME INTO MY LIFE (REMIXES) FUNK LA PLANET PROMO	Joyce Sims
38	33	21	11	IT'S MY LIFE (REMIXES) INTERSCOPE PROMO	No Doubt ♀
39	43	—	2	DON'T LOOK BACK (REMIXES) EMI LATIN PROMO/VIRGIN	Thalia
40	NEW	1	1	HOT SHOT DEBUT THE FORCE OF GRAVITY NETTWERK PROMO	BT Featuring JC Chasez
41	22	15	14	BORN TOO SLOW (E. MORILLO, DEEPSKY, & NUBREED MIXES) V2/SUBISA 27804/SUBMINIMAL	The Crystal Method ♀
42	47	50	3	YOU HAVE A WAY MIRRA 046/MUSIC PLANT	Anthony Cole
43	49	43	6	U LIKE THIS (MEGAMIX) COLUMBIA PROMO	Mariah Carey
44	NEW	1	1	YA NO ERES EL MISMO (NORTY COTTO MIXES) FONOVISA PROMO	Noelia ♀
45	35	22	13	ALL THINGS (JUST KEEP GETTING BETTER) CAPITOL 53832	Widelife With Simone Denny ♀
46	39	29	14	POWERLESS (SAY WHAT YOU WANT) [WIDELIFE, JUNIOR, & CHAB MIXES] DREAMWORKS PROMO	Nelly Furtado ♀
47	38	24	13	WHERE DID LOVE GO RM PROMO	Sun
48	50	44	5	CHANGES (FELIX DA HOUSECAT REMIX) SANCTUARY PROMO	Kelly Osbourne & Ozzy Osbourne ♀
49	34	18	15	FACE TO FACE VIRGIN PROMO	Daft Punk ♀
50	40	28	15	SLIPPIN' AWAY NOSTALGIC 20001	Sweet Rains

• Titles with the greatest sales or club play increases this week. Power Pick on Club Play is awarded for the largest point increase among singles below the top 20. The Club Play chart is compiled from a national sample of reports from club DJs. ♀ Videoclip availability. Catalog number is for vinyl maxi-single, or CD maxi-single, or CD single respectively, based upon availability. On Dance Singles Sales chart: • CD Single available. • CD Maxi-Single available. • Vinyl Maxi-Single available. • Cassette Maxi-Single available. ©2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.



Announcing **James Grear**
as it's newly appointed Vice President of Gospel.

SMOKEY ROBINSON

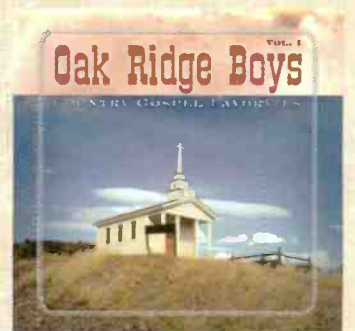
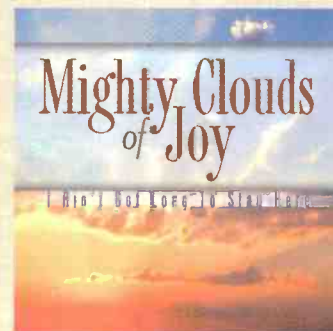
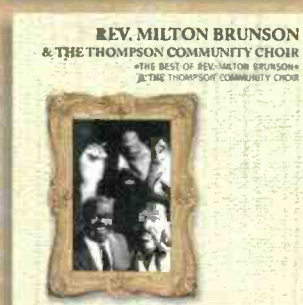
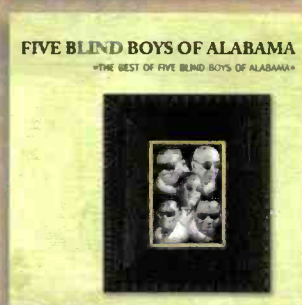
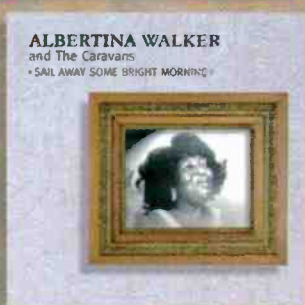
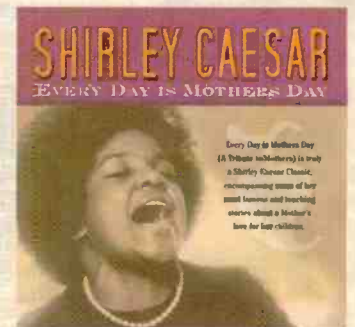
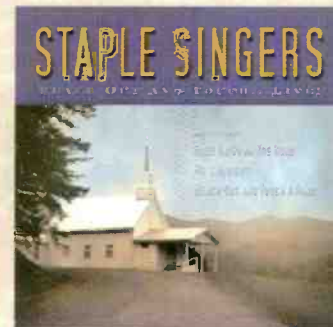
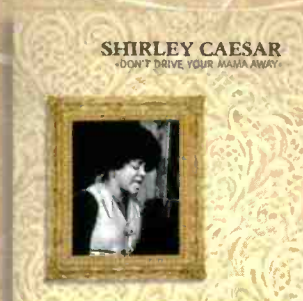
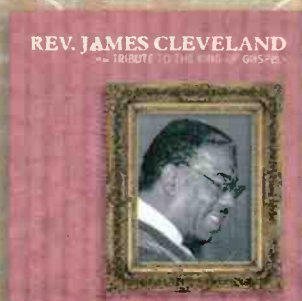
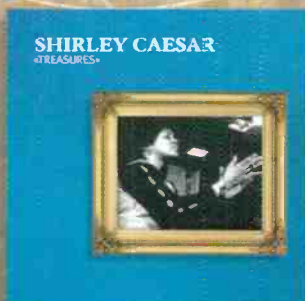


SMOKEY ROBINSON
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Praise & Worship

Thank Heavens For The Music!

Praise & Worship Genre Thrives

BY DEBORAH EVANS PRICE

At a time when the music industry as a whole is struggling, praise and worship music continues to thrive.

During the past several years, the genre has expanded beyond church pews to dominate Christian radio, has sold briskly at retail and has launched several popular series, including "Songs 4 Worship," "Worship Together" and "WOW Worship."

Such labels as Vineyard, Maranatha and Integrity have long been the backbone of the praise and worship community. But in recent years, major Christian companies, including EMI Christian Music Group and Provident Music Group, have made successful forays into the market, employing direct-to-consumer sales and utilizing the Internet to spread the word.

As the Christian music community gathers for the 35th annual Dove Awards April 28 in Nashville, praise and worship artists will be prominent among the nominees.

"The genre has grown more than 60% in the last six years, despite negative industry trends like [illegal] downloading, price devaluation and competing formats," says Danny McGuffey, chief marketing officer for Integrity Media. "Praise and worship is the language of the church and always will be.

"We have seen fast growth in new praise and worship brands like iWorship," which [has] now [sold] more than 1 million units

since its introduction less than two years ago," McGuffey says.

Direct-response TV marketing "has also been instrumental in the growth of the genre," he adds. "Plus, we've seen some extremely successful campaigns by Time-Life and Sony Music that have really driven growth at retail."

McGuffey estimates that 40 million to 60 million people sing praise and worship songs every Sunday in church.

"Our genre is really defined by the songs and the impact they have on people, [as opposed to] the artist [-driven] side, which demands touring, videos and radio for exposure. We say the church is our radio station or broadcast vehicle," he says.

For many years, the majority of praise and worship albums were live recordings of church services led by a worship leader. Consumers bought these projects based on the featured songs and largely on the reputation of labels that specialized in worship music.

Integrity, Maranatha and Vineyard have long been the trusted names for praise and worship music. The approach of executives at these labels was not just to record a live album but to "harvest" the experience at the service.

Prominent worship leaders include Don Moen, Paul Baloche and Darlene Zschech. In recent years, however,

(Continued on page 36)



As a praise and worship artist, Michael W. Smith has been extremely successful.

Praise & Worship Personalities

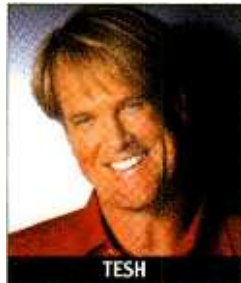
As a praise and worship artist, Michael W. Smith has been extremely successful. His "Worship" album has sold 1.5 million units, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

Its successor, "Worship Again," has sold 651,000 copies.

Smith says he felt a need to record his worship albums, even though they were a departure from his contemporary Christian pop/rock efforts.

"I did it strictly out of obedience," says Smith, who won a Grammy Award for best pop/contemporary gospel album for "Worship Again."

"I thought, 'This is what God has called me to do.' I thought it would sell 100,000 records or whatever, but I didn't care, because this is what I had to do. It didn't matter what it sold, and those ended up being the



TESH

biggest records in my career."

Former TV personality John Tesh entered the Christian music arena a few years ago and has released three worship projects.

"Worship music has the power to change lives. I have played every type of music; I have never felt more fulfilled [than while performing praise and worship]," Tesh says.

"Praise and worship music allows me to use whatever venues were created for me in the secular world to have an encouraging voice—in arenas, in casinos, on 'Larry King Live,'" Tesh says. "It would be easy to just play piano solos, do a PBS special and move on. As Mel Gibson said of his movie ['The Passion of the Christ'], 'It is something I have to do.'"

DEBORAH EVANS PRICE

Thank Heavens!

Continued from page 35

numerous contemporary Christian acts, such as Third Day, Michael W. Smith, the Newsboys, CeCe Winans, John Tesh and Phillips, Craig and Dean have recorded praise and worship albums. In February, Rebecca St. James released "Live Worship: Blessed Be Your Name."

"Praise and worship has always been a collection of songs," says Dean Diehl, senior VP of marketing for the Provident Music Group, of artist-driven worship albums. Previously, he says, "there haven't been personalities to attach to it. You can argue that that's good or bad, but we attached names to it. Now it's not only the great songs that you know, but it's also the artists that you love. That's the case with Michael W. Smith."

These days, most people see artist-driven releases as expanding the genre and the opportunities for worship leaders.

"When high-profile artists like [Smith] begin recording popular or emerging worship songs, it only gives greater awareness to the genre," McGuffey says.

Others in the industry agree. "The worship leaders that I have had an opportunity to work with are thrilled when their songs are recorded," says Denise George, director of artist development for EMI Christian Music Group. "They know Michael W. Smith and the Newsboys have a platform that maybe they don't."

Because of all this overlapping, praise and worship music seems to know no boundaries.

Audiences also span multiple generations, and younger consumers are becoming fans.

And retail is acknowledging that broad-based appeal. "Worship music is

now among the best-selling genres of Christian music in the general marketplace," McGuffey notes.

"On some collections, we're seeing more than 60% of the sales coming from mainstream retail," he says. "I think that's because the Wal-Marts, Best Buys and Targets of the world now realize that their customers are a 'match made in heaven'—no pun intended—with our demographics: the 32- to 52-year-old soccer moms who do most of their shopping in these outlets."

Another key factor driving sales is the diversity of releases. There are youth-oriented modern worship albums, more traditional concept-driven projects and Native American worship music. SOAR Corp., founded by Tom Bee, released "Reveal His Glory" last year on its Red Sea label. The album earned a Grammy Award nod.

Some, however, feel the praise and worship phenomenon is starting to wane, especially when it comes to artist-driven releases.

Diehl says successful series like "Songs 4 Worship" and "WOW Worship" combined with strong selling albums by acts like Smith and Third Day provided "a convergence of four or five really big things happening at the same time, and there's no way you can sustain that. I think it will level out, but, if anything, there will be more listeners than there were before we had this rush of albums."

However, Demetrus Stewart, president of Winans' PureSprings label, thinks the praise and worship genre continues to grow.

"It is one of the only styles of music that touches people across the board," says Stewart, who has seen Winans' current worship album, "Throne Room," cross boundaries. "It doesn't matter if someone is black or white, [from a] big church [or] small church—it is still [making an impact], because it's not about anything but God."

Compilations On The Rise

BY DEBORAH EVANS PRICE

The popularity of the praise and worship genre has given rise in recent years to several top-selling compilation brands.

Despite the view that similar series devoted to the same genre might overwhelm the market, industry insiders feel they haven't hit saturation point.

"If you look at the top [Nielsen] SoundScan charts, you'll see a plethora of different brands out there," says Danny McGuffey, chief marketing officer for Integrity Media. "All are defined by big and emerging worship songs on the [Christian Copyright Licensing] chart. Whether they are worship-leader-driven or artist-driven, they all serve their place in this growing movement."

It's not uncommon in the praise and worship arena for several companies to work together on a series. Integrity is involved in several brands, including "Hosanna! Music," "Songs 4 Worship" (in partnership with Time-Life) and "iWorship," along with Maranatha and INO.

"WOW Worship" debuted in 1999 as a partnership between Integrity, Maranatha and Vineyard when those labels licensed the WOW brand name from Christian music's big three companies—Word, EMI Christian Music Group (EMI CMG) and Provident Music Group—which had been releasing the WOW series of Christian pop CDs. Word, EMI and Provident now market and promote the WOW Worship brand.

EMI CMG has partnered with Time-Life to promote the popular Worship Together series. The Worship Together brand also is used on a Web site offering music resources for churches. EMI CMG also is the parent company of Sixstepsrecords, whose roster includes the David Crowder Band, Matt Redman and a series of live recordings of worship gatherings known as the Passion series.

Despite all these releases, McGuffey does not feel that praise and worship consumers are confused by the abundance of product available.

"I don't think you can say they are confusing the consumer any more than the 35,000 different pop releases that come out every year," he says. "Companies that are focused and understand their audience can always find customers."

Those deeply involved in the praise and worship community see the rise of strong brands as a major plus in the genre's growth. McGuffey points to the success of Time-Life's "Songs 4 Worship."

"The advantage is that, with more than 8 million units sold to date, we have developed an extremely strong brand for the church consumer," he says, adding that the series has "the distinction of being the fastest [-selling] and biggest

music product ever launched by Time-Life and Integrity."

"We now have [collections for] everything, from kids, Spanish-language, devotional, modern and the soon-to-be-released Southern gospel," McGuffey continues. "A new line extension brand, 'Hymns 4 Worship,' will be launched on TV and direct mail [this month]. It includes new versions of the most popular hymns ever written, performed by MercyMe, Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith and Darlene Zschech."

The latest installment in the WOW series, "WOW Worship: Red," was released March 9 through Word Records. The collection includes a companion DVD with 16 performances.

Word worked with Warner Strategic Marketing to initiate a direct-response TV campaign with spots airing on several cable networks, including Hallmark, Lifetime, ABC Family, Home & Garden Television, Great American Country and Oxygen.

hosanna!music®

A portion of the proceeds from sales of the album benefit Compassion International, DATA, Habitat for Humanity, International Justice Mission and World Vision.

Denise George, director of artist development for EMI Christian Music Group, says one of the goals of "Worship Together" is "to get modern worship songs into the church." It has helped to accomplish that by producing eight "Worship Together" compilations for the U.S. market and 10 volumes internationally.

She describes worshiptogether.com as "an online community devoted to worship resources. It's almost business-to-business—meaning half of our members are professional leaders on the church staff and the other half is just consumers interested in worshipping."

George says she's surprised that even though there are so many brands in the marketplace, they are all selling well. She sees songs as the key to keeping the genre growing.

"We don't want to repackage the same songs and sell them to the same people," George says. "There's a new crop of songs and young artist worshippers out there that the churches will quickly embrace. It has spurred not only professional writers but those at churches to write about what is happening in their own church community."

"That's where the great songs come from, and that's when they are authentic," George continues. "I think that's going to afford a way for publishing to discover new writers and new songs for the church."

Praise & Worship: A Primer

Christian music today encompasses a variety of styles—country, rap, modern rock, hip-hop, pop. Aficionados of any musical style can find a counterpart in Christian music.

What makes praise and worship so different is that it's the only type of Christian music that is unique to the Christian marketplace. It is music that is sung directly to God, and there's no counterpart in mainstream music.

"There's something about praise and worship that cannot be copied or imitated," Australian worship leader Darlene Zschech says. "When it's real, it's real, and it does have the presence of God in it. It is a song that is inclusive—in the days of old, people would call them 'hymns.' What we are doing

are 21st century hymns. It's prayers put to music."

Praise and worship songs are generally easy for a congregation to sing, and most artists that lead services see themselves as worship leaders, not famous recording artists.

It is music that is sung directly to God.

"Worship music is Christian music," Waterfront Entertainment president Hugh Robertson says. "I don't see it as a trend that is going to peak. The industry finally identified what the market wanted and started bringing that in a stronger way.

[Labels are] giving these worship artists a larger platform and more resources. This is what people wanted. They wanted more vertically oriented music."

Vertical music, a phrase heard often in the Christian music industry, refers to praise and worship music because it is music that's directed to God.

Songs are the coins of the realm in the praise and worship genre. When a potent song surfaces—like "Above All," "Open the Eyes of My Heart," "Here I Am to Worship"—it is routinely covered by numerous artists/worship leaders. These songs then become ingrained in the minds of the church-going public through repetition. DEBORAH EVANS PRICE

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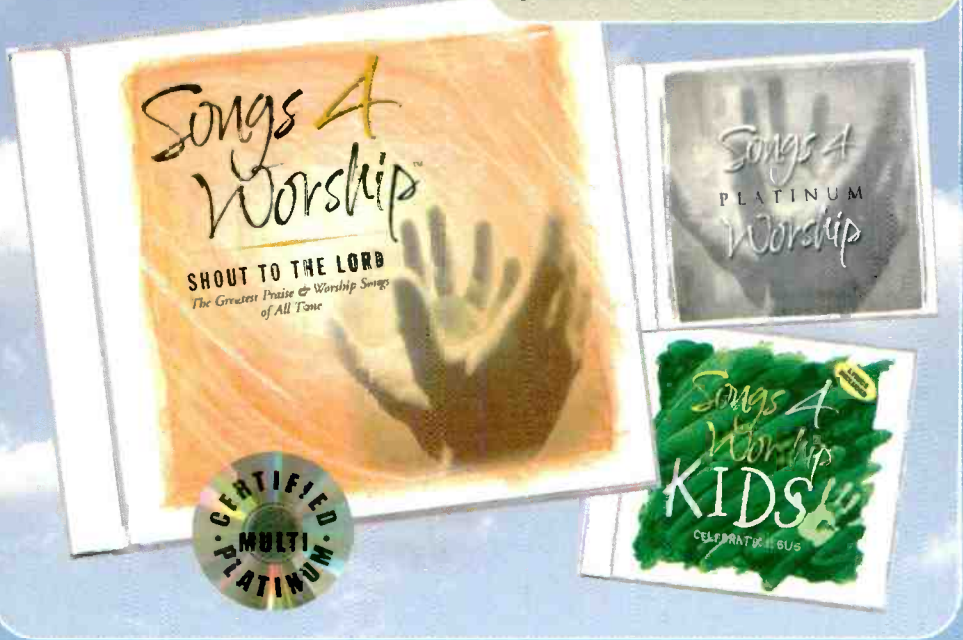
OVER 1 MILLION SOLD



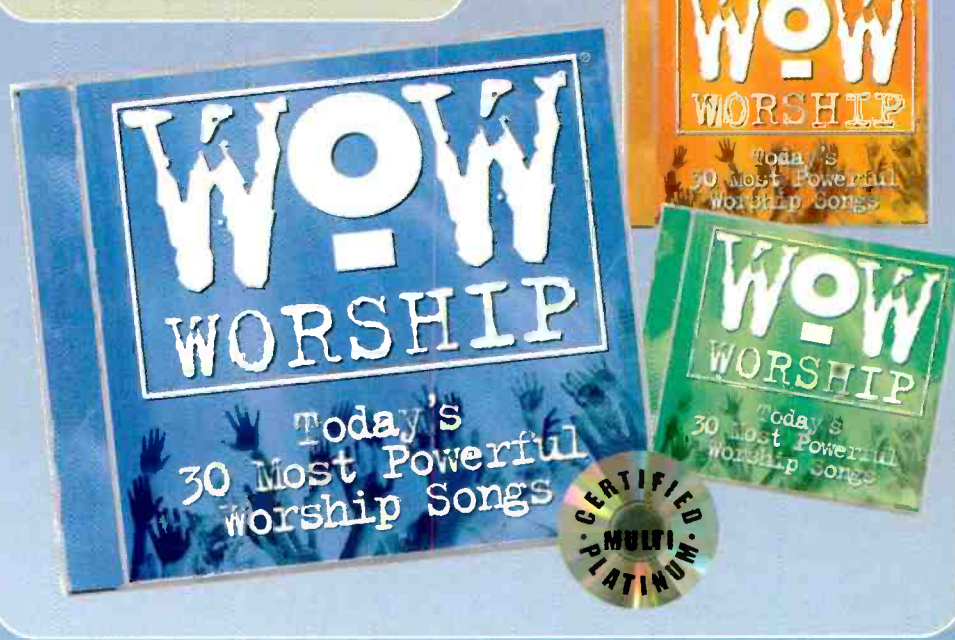
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Wardens Cook Up Publishing Success

A tiny music publishing company run from a kitchen breakfast nook in Austin has suddenly found itself in the midst of some big-time success.

Brandi Warden runs **Moonkiss Music** out of the home she shares with her songwriter husband, **Monte**. But size doesn't matter to Moonkiss, which has had six major-label artists cut its songs in the two years the company has been in existence.

The Wardens are currently enjoying their first hit, "Desperately," recorded

by **George Strait**. It is No. 10 on the Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart. Monte wrote the song with his best friend, artist/writer **Bruce Robison**, who previously recorded it himself.

Warden says his divorce from his previous wife inspired the song. "Brandi says if it goes to No. 1, she's sending my ex-wife flowers," he notes.

The Wardens started Moonkiss after **Warner/Chappell Music** dropped Monte from his publishing deal. But proving that success breeds more success, Monte says "Desperately" has "led to other requests and action on songs of mine."

As an artist, Monte was signed to several label deals. However, he says, "I've spent most of my career very well representing the bottom half of the chart."

He was on **A&M** as a member of **the Wagoneers** in the late '80s, then had solo deals on **Watermelon Records** and **Asylum Records**.

But after 18 years as a songwriter, "Desperately" is his first bona fide hit. Brandi is the third generation of her

family to work in the music business but the first to be on the publishing side. Her grandparents, **Don** and **Gladys Scaife**, uncle **Ronny Scaife** and father **Phil Thomas** were all songwriters. And they're

not all happy about her chosen line of work. As songwriters, she says, her family members think of the publisher as "the man."

She learned a lot about publishing when she served as A&R coordinator for producer **Mark Wright** at **Decca Records** in Nashville. She recently told Wright, "All those years of getting your coffee paid off."

While her husband is the sole permanent writer signed to Moonkiss, Brandi is now working with some other writers on a song-by-song basis and has a potential cut on hold with

Terri Clark for one of them. Her agreement with those writers is straightforward: "My deal is if I get the cut, I get the publishing. If I don't, I get nothing."

Nashville Scene

By **Phyllis Stark**
pstark@billboard.com



Other Club Connection services will include distribution of music, posters and other print material, as well as spin solicitation and marketing. The initial panel will consist of 100 nightclubs. Marco's **Jon Gunter** will head the new division.

AWARDS & HONORS: The Library of Congress gave **Dolly Parton** a Living Legend Award in Washington, D.C., April 14. Parton performed at the ceremony, which was taped for a May special on the **Great American Country** TV network.

Meanwhile, **Reba McEntire** will be honored with the Johnny Cash Visionary Award during the CMT 2004 Flame Worthy Video Music Awards in Nashville April 21. Past recipients are the **Dixie Chicks** and Cash. The award, previously called the Visionary Award, was renamed this year in Cash's honor. It recognizes an artist's "musical vision, innovative and groundbreaking music videos and pioneering initiatives in entertainment," according to CMT.

But she wants to keep the company small. "I don't ever want to be **EMI** and have a bunch of writers on a draw."

ON THE ROW: **Marco Promotions** has launched a new division, **Club Connection**, that will develop and coordinate promotions for country dance clubs and venues and dance instructors.



MONTE AND BRANDI WARDEN: DOING PUBLISHING THEIR OWN WAY

Country Rocks

Continued from page 11

at No. 1 on the Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart for four weeks.

Though he's no stranger to Nashville, **Jimmy Buffett** scored his first No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top Country Singles & Tracks chart last fall with "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere." The duet with **Alan Jackson** spent eight weeks at the summit.

And there's more coming. **Kracker** will tour with **Chesney** this summer, and **Kracker's** label, **Lava Records**, plans to work a single from his next album to country radio.

There are also plans to work **Antigone Rising**, a new female band on **Lava**, to the country market.

Michaels is even prepping his launch in that genre.

At press time, he was close to signing a deal for a solo album on **Music Row** indie **Lofton Creek Records**, headed by Nashville veteran **Mike Borchetta**.

For artists who have never cared about genres or barriers, it's just an opportunity to work with admired acts.

For example, **Michaels** and **Three Doors Down's Brad Arnold** will be in **Tracy Lawrence's** next video for "It's All How You Look at It." **Jack White** of the **White Stripes** produced **Loretta Lynn's** new album, "Van Lear Rose." **Phil Vassar** plays piano and sings on **Kracker's** new project.

But for the industry, all this activity raises many questions. One of them is, Are these primarily pop artists watering

down the country radio format? And are they taking slots away from new country artists?

NASHVILLE SKYLINE

Label executives from Nashville to New York primarily see the crossover as a good thing.

"There's a whole world of people out there who will go to a **Hank Jr.** show one night and go to a **Mötley Crüe** show the next night. Then they'll go to **Aerosmith** the night after that and go to **Alabama** the night after that," observes **Mike Dungan**, president of **Capitol Records** in Nashville.

"These kids don't care if you call it 'country' or 'rock' or whatever it is. If they like it, they like it. God bless 'em for it."

For pop labels, it's a way to mine a new audience.

"Country fans love great songs, and that's something that thankfully **Uncle Kracker** has a real knack for," says **Jason Flom**, CEO of **Lava** parent the **Atlantic Group**. "The songs on the new album have a little bit of country feel to them, so I'm very optimistic that Nashville may embrace the new album."

Flom says his artists' attitude plays a key role in their acceptance.

"People sense that with **Kracker** and **Kid Rock** there is a real love of country music and a real respect for the fans and the whole institution of country," he says. "It's not something that just occurred to them one day and they went after the country market."

Kracker says, "We've always dabbled and kind of played around with [country music]. Even on my first album there was a lot of rap stuff, but there was steel guitar. It's not necessarily a matter of crossover but incorporating the music that I love

with the music that I do."

Michaels' interest also stems from a longstanding appreciation of country music. "I grew up listening to traditional country," he says. "I'm not here to change anything. I just want to add to it."

Not surprisingly, country programmers greet this wave of crossover artists with ambivalence.

"Good music is good music, and it's our job to get people to listen to our



CHESNEY, LEFT, AND KRACKER: PAIRING GOT PLAY ON COUNTRY RADIO

radio stations," country **KEEY (K102)** Minneapolis VP of programming **Gregg Swedberg** says. "If they like a song by a rock artist better than a song by a core country artist, we're really under [an] obligation to get the most listeners. So we should play the songs that get us the most listeners."

Swedberg says **Crow's** "The First Cut Is the Deepest" wasn't "country enough," but "Picture" researched "better than almost [anything] else we had in the country format. It would have been stupid for us not to play that song."

Some programmers would rather devote the limited space on their playlists to country's core artists.

"[We] want to focus on artists who are going to be there for us as a station and a format," **KMPS** Seattle music director **Tony Thomas** says. "Our audience knows where on the radio they can hear pop artists. When listeners turn to us, I'd rather be meeting their expectations with a uniquely country-branded artist like **Toby Keith** or **Alan Jackson**." **Thomas** admits there are times when stretching the boundaries works. "The pairing of **Kenny Chesney** and **Uncle Kracker** on 'When the Sun Goes Down' seemed like an ideal way to introduce a non-country artist to our air," he says. "But we don't take that to mean that listeners need to hear [Kracker's pop hits] 'Follow Me' and 'Drift Away' as gold on our air."

However, **Thomas** says he'll give **Kracker's** next release a test spin. "But we're not out looking for pop product to play just to see if we can make it fit," he says.

"The refrain I've heard from Nashville label folks for years is, 'We want to build careers.' We do too, and we'd rather play the heck out of **Gretchen Wilson's** 'Redneck Woman' or go early on **Josh Turner's** 'Long Black Train,' knowing that these are going to be 'our' artists, than go fishing for country-tinged tracks by artists who aren't out there saying, 'I'm country.'"

COUNTRY CROSSROADS

Though country radio's reaction to crossover artists may be mixed, country video outlets have embraced **Crow**, **Kracker** and **Rock**.

Country Music Television routinely plays clips with those artists, and the successful series "CMT Crossroads" showcases major pop/rock acts performing with country artists. Pairings have included **James Taylor** and the **Dixie**

Chicks, **Travis Tritt** and **Ray Charles** and **Martina McBride** and **Pat Benatar**.

"The premise of CMT is that country music is bigger than you think it is," says **Brian Philips**, CMT senior VP/GM. "It can go places you didn't imagine."

Labels outside Nashville have also learned to solicit CMT's help and are anxious to expose their acts early. When **Dixie Chicks** manager **Simon Renshaw** told **Flom** his new girl group **Antigone Rising** sounded like it would fit the country format, **Lava** flew the act down to meet **Philips** and his staff, who report they were duly impressed.

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

Most country label executives aren't too bothered by the crossover acts invading the country charts.

"We are always open to great music that will work," **DreamWorks Records** senior executive for promotion and artist development **Scott Borchetta** says. "It's always going to be survival of the fittest, so what's going to fit best today, I'm not going to categorize. If any of our artists feel threatened by it, then they need to make sure they are making the best music possible."

RCA Label Group chairman **Joe Galante** is quick to point out this isn't a new phenomenon.

"Over the last 20 years, we've had this conversation probably every couple of years," he says, citing **Lionel Richie**, **Julio Iglesias** and **'N Sync's** brief forays into country.

"As long as the music is interesting, I don't have any problem," **Galante** says. "But when people are desperate in other formats and try servicing rock acts to country formats just to see if they can't get something, and the act really doesn't have an interest in the format, I think that's bull."

APRIL 24
2004

Billboard® TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST		Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST		Title	PEAK POSITION	
				IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL											
				NUMBER 1 / GREATEST GAINER 10 Weeks At Number 1												
1	1	1	10	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ²	BNA 58801/RLG (12.98/19.98)	When The Sun Goes Down	1	37	34	35	21	REBA MCENTIRE ●	MCA NASHVILLE 000451/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Room To Breathe	4	
2	4	2	23	TOBY KEITH ▲ ¹	DREAMWORKS 450435/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Shack 'n Y'All	1	38	35	37	22	RANDY TRAVIS	WORD CURB 86273/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Worship & Faith	9	
3	3	4	79	KEITH URBAN ▲	CAPITOL 32936 (10.98/18.98)	Golden Road	3	39	33	27	5	CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEED	UNIVERSAL SOUTH 001888 (12.98 CD)	Soul Gravy	5	
4	5	3	26	JOSH TURNER ●	MCA NASHVILLE 000974/UMGN (4.98/9.98) [H]	Long Black Train	3	40	39	38	40	TRACE ADKINS ●	CAPITOL 81512 (10.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits Collection, Volume I	1	
5	2	—	2	TRACY LAWRENCE	DREAMWORKS 001032/INTERSCOPE (18.98 CD)	Strong	2	41	41	39	34	CHRIS CAGLE ●	CAPITOL 40516 (11.98/18.98)	Chris Cagle	1	
6	6	5	17	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ³	ARISTA NASHVILLE 54890/RLG (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits Volume II	2	42	42	42	46	CLAY WALKER	RCA 67068/RLG (11.98/18.98)	A Few Questions	3	
				HOT SHOT DEBUT												
7	NEW		1	VARIOUS ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL SOUTH 002320 (12.98 CD)	Songs Inspired By The Passion Of The Christ	7	43	37	33	10	JOE NICHOLS ●	UNIVERSAL SOUTH 170285 (8.98/12.98) [H]	Man With A Memory	9	
8	10	9	28	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲	RCA 54207/RLG (11.98/18.98)	Martina	1	44	36	16	3	WAYLON JENNINGS	RCA 57267/BMG HERITAGE (18.98 CD)	Ultimate Waylon Jennings	16	
9	7	6	103	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³	BNA 67038/RLG (12.98/18.98)	No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems	1	45	38	36	7	RODNEY CARRINGTON	CAPITOL 94164 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	11	
10	9	8	76	RASCAL FLATTS ▲ ²	LYRIC STREET 165031/HOLLYWOOD (12.98/18.98)	Melt	1	46	49	49	49	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER BROS./BMG/CURB/SONY MUSIC 73955/WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING (18.98 CD)	Totally Country Vol. 3	2	
11	12	15	39	BROOKS & DUNN ●	ARISTA NASHVILLE 67070/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Red Dirt Road	1	47	44	48	9	KEITH URBAN	CAPITOL 97847 (8.98/17.98)	Keith Urban In The Ranch	34	
12	8	7	28	GARY ALLAN ●	MCA NASHVILLE 000117/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	See If I Care	2	48	45	44	47	JO DEE MESSINA	CURB 78730 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	1	
13	11	11	73	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ²⁰	MERCURY 170314/UMGN (12.98 CD)	Up!	1	49	43	41	41	TRACY BYRD	RCA 67073/RLG (11.98/18.98)	The Truth About Men	5	
				PACESETTER												
14	29	26	36	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ³	ARISTA NASHVILLE 53097/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits Volume II And Some Other Stuff	1	50	46	43	52	TOBY KEITH	MERCURY 170351/UMGN (12.98 CD)	The Best Of Toby Keith: 20th Century Masters The Millennium Collection	5	
15	14	12	34	DIERKS BENTLEY ●	CAPITOL 39814 (12.98/18.98)	Dierks Bentley	4	51	47	47	58	GEORGE STRAIT ●	MCA NASHVILLE 170319/UMGN (12.98/18.98)	For The Last Time: Live From The Astrodome	2	
16	13	10	41	DIXIE CHICKS ●	MONUMENT/COLUMBIA 30794/SONY MUSIC (13.98 EQ CD)	Top Of The World Tour Live	3	52	50	51	78	RANDY TRAVIS ●	WORD-CURB 86236/WARNER BROS. (11.98/18.98)	Rise And Shine	8	
17	18	18	72	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ²	CURB 78746 (12.98/18.98)	Tim McGraw And The Dancehall Doctors	2	53	48	50	36	WYNONNA	CURB 78811 (12.98/18.98)	What The World Needs Now Is Love	1	
18	17	14	6	CLINT BLACK	EQUITY 3001 (18.98 CD)	Spend My Time	3	54	51	45	39	PAT GREEN ●	REPUBLIC 000552/UNIVERSAL SOUTH (8.98/12.98)	Wave On Wave	2	
19	15	13	90	TOBY KEITH ▲ ⁴	DREAMWORKS 450254/INTERSCOPE (11.98/18.98)	Unleashed	1	55	58	58	32	JEFF FOXWORTHY	WARNER BROS. 73903/RHINO (18.98 CD/DVD)	The Best Of Jeff Foxworthy: Double Wide, Single Minded	10	
20	16	17	38	BRAD PAISLEY ●	ARISTA NASHVILLE 50605/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Mud On The Tires	1	56	53	53	27	ALABAMA	RCA 54371/RLG (14.98 CD)	The American Farewell Tour	6	
21	19	19	41	BUDDY JEWELL ●	COLUMBIA 90131/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Buddy Jewell	1	57	52	52	12	CLINT BLACK	RCA 52551/BMG HERITAGE (18.98 CD)	Ultimate Clint Black	39	
22	20	23	44	GEORGE STRAIT ●	MCA NASHVILLE 000114/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Honkytonkville	1	58	57	56	32	JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY	WARNER BROS. 73918/WARN (18.98 CD)	The Very Best Of John Michael Montgomery	11	
23	24	22	32	SOUNDTRACK	WARNER BROS. 48424/WARN (18.98 CD)	Blue Collar Comedy Tour: The Movie	16	59	55	55	34	DOLLY PARTON	RCA 52008/BMG HERITAGE (18.98 CD)	Ultimate Dolly Parton	20	
24	26	25	17	RON WHITE	PARALLEL/HIP-O 001582/UMG (12.98 CD) [H]	Drunk In Public	21	60	60	67	3	MERLE HAGGARD	CAPITOL 95627 (25.98 CD)	40 #1 Hits	60	
25	21	20	61	ELVIS PRESLEY ▲ ³	RCA 68079/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Elvis: 30 #1 Hits	1	61	61	59	35	DIXIE CHICKS ▲ ⁶	MONUMENT/COLUMBIA 86840/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Home	1	
26	22	21	19	TRACE ADKINS ●	CAPITOL 40517 (12.98/18.98)	Comin' On Strong	3	62	64	64	23	BILLY CURRINGTON	MERCURY 000164/UMGN (4.98/9.98) [H]	Billy Currington	17	
27	40	40	34	SARA EVANS	RCA 67074/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Restless	3	63	71	63	22	BILL ENGVALL	WARNER BROS. 48534/WARN (18.98 CD)	Here's Your Sign: Reloaded	37	
28	NEW		1	JOHNNY CASH	AMERICAN 002362/OST HIGHWAY (18.98 CD)	My Mother's Hymn Book	28	64	69	65	33	TERRI CLARK	MERCURY 170325/UMGN (11.98/18.98)	Pain To Kill	5	
29	25	24	23	LEANN RIMES ●	CURB 78829 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	3	65	75	72	28	VARIOUS ARTISTS	CAPITOL 93166 (18.98 CD)	CMT Presents: Most Wanted, Volume 1	11	
30	23	28	45	MONTGOMERY GENTRY ▲	COLUMBIA 86520/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/17.98)	My Town	3	66	54	54	20	VARIOUS ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL SOUTH 000458* (18.98 CD)	Livin' Lovin' Losin': Songs Of The Louvin Brothers	44	
31	30	30	3	ELVIS PRESLEY	RCA 57868/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP (18.98 CD)	Elvis: Ultimate Gospel	30	67	66	60	87	NICKEL CREEK ●	SUGAR HILL 3941 (18.98 CD)	This Side	2	
32	NEW		1	BLUE COUNTY	CURB 78833 (18.98 CD) [H]	Blue County	32	68	56	46	1	DAVID LEE MURPHY	KOCH 8189 (18.98 CD)	Tryin' To Get There	46	
33	27	31	75	JOHNNY CASH ▲	AMERICAN 063339*/LOST HIGHWAY (12.98 CD)	American IV: The Man Comes Around	2	69	72	66	23	BILLY RAY CYRUS	WORD-CURB 86274/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	The Other Side	18	
34	28	29	45	LONESTAR ▲	BNA 67076/RLG (12.98/18.98)	From There To Here: Greatest Hits	1	70	65	62	28	LYLE LOVETT	CURB 00162*/LOST HIGHWAY (12.98 CD)	My Baby Don't Tolerate	7	
35	32	34	75	ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION ▲	ROUNDER 610515 (19.98 CD)	Live	9	71	62	61	26	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SUGAR HILL 3980 (17.98 CD)	Just Because I'm A Woman: Songs Of Dolly Parton	6	
36	31	32	42	JIMMY WAYNE	DREAMWORKS 350355/INTERSCOPE (17.98 CD)	Jimmy Wayne	7	72	68	70	34	LINDA RONSTADT	ELEKTRA 76109/RHINO (17.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Linda Ronstadt	19	
								73	63	69	34	ALABAMA	RCA 67052/RLG (18.98 CD)	In The Mood: The Love Songs	4	
								74	59	57	23	VARIOUS ARTISTS	GAITHER MUSIC GROUP 42459 (18.98 CD)	Bill Gaither Presents: A Gospel Bluegrass Homecoming Volume One	37	
								75				BRIAN MCCOMAS	LYRIC STREET 165025/HOLLYWOOD (11.98/18.98) [H]	Brian McComas	21	

● Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 2 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Doro). △ Certification for 200,000 units (Platino). ▲ Certification for 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Pacesetter indicates biggest percent-age growth. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [H] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24
2004

Billboard® TOP COUNTRY CATALOG ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	TOTAL CHART WKS	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	TOTAL CHART WKS
1	1	SOUNDTRACK ▲ ⁷	LOST HIGHWAY/MERCURY 170069/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	0 Brother, Where Art Thou?	175	13	13	WILLIE NELSON ▲	LEGACY/COLUMBIA 69322/SONY MUSIC (7.98 EQ/11.98)	16 Biggest Hits	291
2	2	LARRY THE CABLE GUY	PARALLEL/HIP-O 001423/UMG (18.98 CD)	Lord, I Apologize	43	14	14	DIXIE CHICKS ◆ ¹²	MONUMENT 68195/SONY MUSIC (10.98 EQ/17.98) [H]	Wide Open Spaces	323
3	3	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ¹⁹	MERCURY 53603/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Come On Over	336	15	15	JOHN DENVER ▲	MADACY 4750 (5.98/9.98)	The Best Of John Denver	289
4	4	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³	BNA 67976/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits	185	16	16	HANK WILLIAMS JR. ▲ ³	CURB 77638 (5.98/9.98)	Greatest Hits, Vol. 1	501
5	5	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲ ³	RCA 67012/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits	134	17	17	RASCAL FLATTS ▲	LYRIC STREET 165011/HOLLYWOOD (8.98/12.98) [H]	Rascal Flatts	201
6	6	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ⁴	CURB 77978 (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits	177	18	18	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ²	CURB 78711 (12.98/18.98)	Set This Circus Down	134
7	7	JOHNNY CASH ▲	LEGACY/COLUMBIA 69739/SONY MUSIC (7.98 EQ/11.98)	16 Biggest Hits	262	19	19	GARTH BROOKS ◆ ¹⁵	CAPITOL 97424 (19.98/26.98)	Double Live	233
8	8	GEORGE STRAIT ●	MCA NASHVILLE 170280/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	The Best Of George Strait: 20th Century Masters The Millennium Collection	107	20	20	TOBY KEITH ▲ ²	DREAMWORKS 450297/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Pull My Chain	137
9	9	BROOKS & DUNN ●	ARISTA NASHVILLE 18852/RLG (12.98/18.98)	The Greatest Hits Collection	343	21	21	JOHNNY CASH ▲	LEGACY/COLUMBIA 66772/SONY MUSIC (5.98 EQ/9.98)	Super Hits	169
10	10	KEITH URBAN ▲	CAPITOL 97591 (10.98/16.98) [H]	Keith Urban	114	22	22	SOUNDTRACK ▲ ³	CURB 78703 (11.98/17.98)	Coyote Ugly	186
11	11	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ³	ARISTA NASHVILLE 18801/RLG (12.98/18.98)	The Greatest Hits Collection	442	23	23	ANNE MURRAY	SBK 31158/CAPITOL (10.98/16.98)	The Best... So Far	34
12	12	TOBY KEITH ▲ ²	MERCURY 558962/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Greatest Hits Volume One	280	24	24	DIXIE CHICKS ◆ ¹⁰	MONUMENT 69678/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Fly	230
						25	25	ROY ORBISON	LEGACY/MONUMENT 69738/SONY MUSIC (7.98 EQ/11.98)	16 Biggest Hits	82

● Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. Catalog albums are 2-year-old titles that have fallen below No. 100 on The Billboard 200 or reissues of older albums. Total Chart Weeks column reflects combined weeks title has appeared on Top Country Albums and Top Country Catalog. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 2 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. [H] indicates past Heatseeker title. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24, 2004

Billboard® HOT COUNTRY™ SINGLES & TRACKS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems		PEAK POSITION	TITLE	Artist	IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems		TITLE	Artist	IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POSITION
				PRODUCTION	PERFORMANCE										PRODUCTION	PERFORMANCE				
1	1	1	12	NUMBER 1		4 Weeks At Number 1	WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN	Kenny Chesney & Uncle Kracker	BNA ALBUM CUT	1	31	31	10	31	THE WRONG GIRL		Lee Ann Womack	MCA NASHVILLE 002359	31	
2	2	2	21				YOU'LL THINK OF ME	Keith Urban	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	2	32	32	14	32	I WANNA MAKE YOU CRY		Jeff Bates	RCA ALBUM CUT	32	
3	3	3	25				SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT	Buddy Jewell	COLUMBIA ALBUM CUT	3	33	35	6	33	SHE THINKS SHE NEEDS ME		Andy Griggs	RCA ALBUM CUT	33	
4	5	5	17				MAYBERRY	Rascal Flatts	LYRIC STREET ALBUM CUT	4	34	48	3	42	WHISKEY LULLABY		Brad Paisley Featuring Alison Krauss	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	34	
5	6	8	13				LETTERS FROM HOME	John Michael Montgomery	WARNER BROS. ALBUM CUT/WARN	5	35	33	14	35	FLIES ON THE BUTTER (YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN)		Wynonna With Naomi Judd	ASYLUM-CURB ALBUM CUT	33	
6	4	4	31				PERFECT	Sara Evans	RCA ALBUM CUT	2	36	36	11	36	MEN DON'T CHANGE		Amy Dalley	CURB ALBUM CUT	36	
7	8	12	26				PAINT ME A BIRMINGHAM	Tracy Lawrence	DREAMWORKS ALBUM CUT	7	37	42	7	38	ME AND EMILY		Rachel Proctor	BNA ALBUM CUT	37	
8	14	20	7				REDNECK WOMAN	Gretchen Wilson	EPIC ALBUM CUT/EMIN	8	38	41	5	39	IF NOBODY BELIEVED IN YOU		Joe Nichols	UNIVERSAL SOUTH ALBUM CUT	38	
9	7	6	22				AMERICAN SOLDIER	Toby Keith	DREAMWORKS 002046	1	39	41	10	41	BREAK DOWN HERE		Julie Roberts	MERCURY 002162	39	
10	9	10	15				DESPERATELY	George Strait	MCA NASHVILLE 001982	9	40	38	8	40	THANK GOD I'M A COUNTRY BOY		Billy Dean	VIEW 2 ALBUM CUT/CURB	38	
11	13	14	28				GOOD LITTLE GIRLS	Blue County	ASYLUM-CURB ALBUM CUT	11	41	40	10	40	BEER MAN		Trent Willmon	COLUMBIA ALBUM CUT	41	
12	17	19	8				LET'S BE US AGAIN	Lonestar	BNA ALBUM CUT	12	42	44	7	45	WHY CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET A LONG NECK?		Hank Williams Jr.	ASYLUM-CURB ALBUM CUT	42	
13	11	11	25				REMEMBER WHEN	Alan Jackson	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	1	43	37	10	37	GUY LIKE ME		Pat Green	REPUBLIC ALBUM CUT/UNIVERSAL SOUTH	31	
14	12	13	23				SONGS ABOUT RAIN	Gary Allan	MCA NASHVILLE 002358	12	44	45	5	44	WHEN SOMEBODY KNOWS YOU THAT WELL		Blake Shelton	WARNER BROS. ALBUM CUT/WARN	44	
15	15	16	11				THAT'S WHAT SHE GETS FOR LOVING ME	Brooks & Dunn	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	15	45	47	5	47	BLAME IT ON MAMA		The Jenkins	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	45	
16	18	18	12				IF YOU EVER STOP LOVING ME	Montgomery Gentry	COLUMBIA ALBUM CUT	16	46	49	5	49	LET'S KILL SATURDAY NIGHT		Pinmonkey	BNA ALBUM CUT	45	
17	16	15	21				SIMPLE LIFE	Carolyn Dawn Johnson	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	15	47	48	5	48	BACK OF THE BOTTOM DRAWER		Chely Wright	VIVATON! ALBUM CUT	46	
18	19	17	27				MY LAST NAME	Dierks Bentley	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	17	48	43	12	43	I'D BE LYING		Chris Cagle	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	39	
19	20	21	12				PASSENGER SEAT	SheDaisy	LYRIC STREET ALBUM CUT	19	49	58	3	54	SOMEONE TO SHARE IT WITH		Rodney Atkins	CURB ALBUM CUT	49	
20	23	25	15	AIRPOWER			LOCO	David Lee Murphy	AUDIUM ALBUM CUT/ROCK	20	50	54	2	54	HOW FAR		Martina McBride	RCA ALBUM CUT	50	
21	22	23	30				YOU'RE IN MY HEAD	Brian McComas	LYRIC STREET ALBUM CUT	21	51	50	8	50	SICK AND TIRED		Cross Canadian Ragweed	UNIVERSAL SOUTH ALBUM CUT	46	
22	24	24	20				I CAN'T SLEEP	Clay Walker	RCA ALBUM CUT	22	52	59	3	59	YOU ARE		Jimmy Wayne	DREAMWORKS ALBUM CUT	52	
23	21	22	17				WILD WEST SHOW	Big & Rich	WARNER BROS. 16515/WARN	21	53	NEW	1	53	GIRLS LIE TOO		Terri Clark	MERCURY ALBUM CUT	53	
24	25	26	15				SOMEBODY	Reba McEntire	MCA NASHVILLE 001981	24	54	51	7	51	IN THESE LAST FEW DAYS		Vince Gill	MCA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	51	
25	27	43	6				WHISKEY GIRL	Toby Keith	DREAMWORKS ALBUM CUT	25	55	55	8	55	HOW'D I WIND UP IN JAMAICA		Tracy Byrd	RCA ALBUM CUT	54	
26	26	27	10				IT ONLY HURTS WHEN I'M BREATHING	Shania Twain	MERCURY 002357	26	56	60	2	60	WHAT IT AIN'T		Josh Turner	MCA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	56	
27	28	28	14				LAST ONE STANDING	Emerson Drive	DREAMWORKS 001894	27	57	56	2	56	ROUGH & READY		Trace Adkins	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	56	
28	30	30	15				I GOT A FEELIN'	Billy Currington	MERCURY 001983	28	58	NEW	1	58	SAVE A HORSE (RIDE A COWBOY)		Big & Rich	WARNER BROS. ALBUM CUT/WARN	58	
29	29	29	14				TOUGHER THAN NAILS	Joe Diffie	BROKEN BOW ALBUM CUT	29	59	52	5	52	DRIVIN' INTO THE SUN		Sherrie Austin	BROKEN BOW ALBUM CUT	50	
30	34	37	7				I WANT TO LIVE	Josh Gracin	LYRIC STREET ALBUM CUT	30	60	53	5	53	SMOKIN' GRASS		Shannon Lawson	EQUITY ALBUM CUT	53	

Records showing an increase in detections over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' radio track service. 128 Country Stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. Airplay awarded to songs appearing in the top 20 on both the BDS Airplay and Audience charts for the first time with increases in both detections and audience. Titles below the top 15 are removed from the chart after 20 weeks. ♫ Videoclip availability. Catalog number is for CD Single, or Vinyl Single if CD Single is unavailable. Ⓢ CD Single available. Ⓣ DVD Single available. Ⓜ CD Maxi-Single available. Ⓝ Cassette Single available. Ⓟ Vinyl Maxi-Single available. Ⓠ Vinyl Single available. Ⓡ Cassette Maxi-Single available. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24 2004 Billboard® TOP BLUEGRASS ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan		Title
			ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	
1	1	75	NUMBER 1		72 Weeks At Number 1
2	3	87			ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION
3	2	23			NICKEL CREEK
4	6	53			VARIOUS ARTISTS
5	4	23			VARIOUS ARTISTS
6	5	2			VARIOUS ARTISTS
7	NEW	NEW			VARIOUS ARTISTS
8	8	8			VARIOUS ARTISTS
9	11	50			RHONDA VINCENT
10	7	9			OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW
11	10	39			EARL SCRUGGS/DOC WATSON/RICKY SKAGGS
12	12	3			VARIOUS ARTISTS
13	9	25			THE DEL MCCOURY BAND
14	13	6			STEVE IVEY
15	NEW	NEW			VARIOUS ARTISTS

Records with the greatest sales gains this week. Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units or 25,000 DVD single units (Gold). RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units or 50,000 DVD single units (Platinum), with multimillion titles indicated by a numeral following the symbol. [H] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24 2004 Billboard® HOT COUNTRY SINGLES SALES™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan		Artist
			TITLE	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	
1	1	2	NUMBER 1		2 Weeks At Number 1
2	2	9			BREAK DOWN HERE
3	3	21			WILD WEST SHOW
4	4	24			HURT
5	5	74			I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANYWHERE
6	8	12			PICTURE
7	6	11			IF HEARTACHES HAD WINGS
8	10	48			LAST ONE STANDING
9	7	68			STAY GONE
10	9	42			THE IMPOSSIBLE
					BROKENHEARTSVILLE

ALBUMS

Edited by Michael Paoletta

POP

► **HANSON**
Underneath
PRODUCERS: Danny Kortchmar, Hanson
3CG Records 8186104022
RELEASE DATE: April 20
Four years since its last studio album, Hanson returns with the self-released "Underneath." Before proceeding any further, if you're looking for the next "Mmmbop," you will have to search elsewhere. "Underneath" spotlights a more mature, melodic pop-rock Hanson. It's a musical field the three brothers—Taylor, Isaac and Zach—have been traveling in for some time. But this newest effort is the group's most endearing, because it shows the trio confidently shaping its own style with such catchy songs as "Strong Enough to Break," "Crazy Beautiful" and lead single "Penny & Me." With any luck, this charming set won't stay "underneath" the radar for too long. Perhaps it will help shake the boy-band moniker the Hansons picked up early in their career.—**KK**

► **BEN KWELLER**
On My Way
PRODUCER: Ethan Johns
ATO/RCA 82876 59174
RELEASE DATE: April 6
Sure, it seems like there are too many musical Bens. All three—Ben Folds, Ben Lee and Ben Kweller—even had fun with the coincidence and together released "The Bens EP" (Sony) earlier this year. Yet on his second major-label release, "On My Way," Kweller shines apart from his identically named buddies and proves his songwriting chops. The disc roars right into form with lead track "I Need You Back." Its jubilant, relaxed pop-rock tone, sitting adjacent to Kweller's puppy-in-the-rain voice, could melt away any lovers' quarrel. First single "The Rules" showcases an artist ripping it up with garage-band intensity; along the way, Kweller breaks apart the "rule" that says young male singer/songwriters must be sensitive and vulnerable. Yet Kweller does not leave his sweet side totally behind. For the title track, he offers up a touching, stripped-down campfire song about growing pains. With "On My Way," Kweller firmly establishes that he has lots more going on than just a cool name.—**LA**

★ **AMBULANCE LTD.**
LP
PRODUCER: Jim Abbiss, Ambulance Ltd.
TVT 2630
RELEASE DATE: April 6
Ambulance Ltd.'s debut long-player is a dreamy gem steeped in the tradition of '90s shoegazer rock. Influence-wise, the New York four-piece most commonly gets My Bloody Valentine name-checks (the reasons why are evident on such tracks as "Heavy Lifting"), but the group is just as indebted to Dean Wareham's work with Galaxie 500 and Luna. Ambulance Ltd. spends much of the back half of "LP" floating through

ESSENTIAL REVIEWS



MARIO WINANS
Hurt No More
PRODUCERS: Mario "Yellow Man" Winans, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs
Bad Boy/Universal B0002392
RELEASE DATE: April 20
Mario Winans, a member of the musically ubiquitous Winans family, has already proved himself as a songwriter and producer. His résumé includes stints with Mary J. Blige and R. Kelly. Like his Bad Boy boss P. Diddy, Winans is on his way to making the rare successful transition from behind to in front of the boards. His Bad Boy debut as a solo artist (he also writes and plays) was prefaced by the infidelity-themed single "I Don't Wanna Know." Featuring P. Diddy and Enya, the song samples the latter's "Boadicea" (also used on the Fugees' "Ready or Not"); it is in the top three on the R&B and pop charts. The remainder of the album is a smooth R&B/pop confection that samples El DeBarge ("You Knew") and the Commodores ("How I Made It"). Winans uses his pleasant tenor to full effect on original songs like "Three Days Ago," "What's Wrong With Me" and "So Fine."—**GM**

space rock numbers like the sun-drenched "Stay Where You Are" and the nocturnal "Michigan"; both are in the vein of Luna's masterful "Penthouse." Elements of the Beatles, the Kinks and the Velvet Underground are all slyly evident on the album, too. (A cover of the Velvets' "Ocean" is a hidden bonus track.) "LP" ultimately succeeds because of Ambulance Ltd.'s ability to synthesize these recognizable sounds into something fresh and uniquely their own.—**BG**

★ **THE DAMNWELLS**
Bastards of the Beat
PRODUCERS: Tim Hatfield, Wes Kidd, the Damnells
Red Ink/Epic WK 92069
RELEASE DATE: April 6
There couldn't be anything pretentious about a band that recorded part of its major-label debut in a Manhattan Mini Storage. Nor do the Damnells rely on a contrived image or studio gimmickry. Instead, this Brooklyn quartet, featuring ex-Whiskeytown member Steven Terry, serves up earthy, straight-ahead rock-'n'-roll. Along with a wealth of warm tube amplifiers and Stones-inflected roots-rock riffs, the group's solid songwriting is also represented on four

PATTY GRIFFIN
Impossible Dream
PRODUCER: Craig Ross
ATO/BMG 88088-21520
RELEASE DATE: April 20
Austin-based singer/songwriter Patty Griffin has been waiting for a commercial break for some time. Her latest for Dave Matthews' ATO label could do the trick. "Impossible Dream" boasts attractive new tunes, strong atmosphere and Griffin's most engrossing performances to date. The album is uniformly engaging, but the gospel-hued "Love Throw a Line" and "Standing" and



the lilting "Useless Desire" are immediately entrancing numbers. The seven-minute "Mother of God" may be Griffin's most ambitious writing yet. She receives formidable support from Emmylou Harris, Buddy and Julie Miller, Lisa Germano and an Austin-based band that includes producer Craig Ross, bassist J.D. Foster and keyboardist Ian McLagan. Griffin's music is as pretty, sweet and emotionally engaging as ever; now it's time for a larger audience to pay attention.—**CM**

tracks recorded in frontman Alex Dezen's home. Adroitly alternating between the large-size rock of "What You Get" and "The Lost Complaint" and the moody, midtempo style of "Sleep-singing," "Bastards of the Beat" is vaguely reminiscent of "All Things Must Pass"-era George Harrison (minus Phil Spector's wall of reverb). Also included is a video for "Sleep-singing."—**CW**

TORTOISE
It's All Around You
PRODUCER: Tortoise
Thrill Jockey 70115
RELEASE DATE: April 13
After releasing two groundbreaking, mostly unclassifiable records in the mid-'90s, Tortoise settled into a reliable formula of bass-heavy instrumental rock, experimental electronica and jazzy detours. Some of each category is present in "It's All Around You." And although the album doesn't knock the ball out of the park on first listen, ultimately it reveals just enough cool ideas to keep things interesting. On such cuts as "Crest" and "Stretch (You Are All Right)," the group finds a happy medium between a live-recording feel ("Five Too Many," the off-kilter closer "Salt the Skies") and studio-heavy cre-



PRINCE
Musicology
PRODUCER: Prince
NPG/Columbia 92560
RELEASE DATE: April 20
"Listen to the groove and let it unwind your mind." That's what the recent Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee intones listeners to do on the old-school title cut that opens Prince's latest album. It could also double as the slogan for the artist's current Musicology tour. Steeped in the R&B/funk that flavored his earlier output, "Musicology" is more accessible than Prince's recent sound experiments like "N.E.W.S." and "The Rainbow Children." Prince resurrects "back in the day" feelings through such songs as the love ditty "Call My Name," party jam "Life 'O the Party" (which recalls Vanity 6's "Nasty Girl") and the erotic, tongue-in-cheek bluesy number "On the Couch." He even rides the politically conscious route in "Dear Mr. Man." While this album does not break new ground, it focuses on a fun and playful Prince whose turn of phrase and instrumental dexterity call to mind why we embraced him in the first place—and still do.—**GM**

ations ("By Dawn," "The Lithium Stiffs"). The latter, featuring vocals from Kelly Hogan, is the quintet's first cut with singing in a decade. Tortoise isn't pushing the envelope as far as it has on albums past, but "It's All Around You" can still please the adventurous ear.—**JC**

PAT MCGEE BAND
Save Me
PRODUCER: Mart Frederiksen
Warner Bros. 48517
RELEASE DATE: April 6
Like musical peanut butter and jelly or macaroni and cheese, the Pat McGee Band offers comfort and goes down easy. The band plays its brand of Americana heartland rock skillfully, relying on sunny guitar strokes and the warm vocals of frontman McGee. But there are few fireworks to distinguish the tunes on its major-label debut from those of more established acts in the genre like Train or Five for Fighting. That said, because it sounds like fellow bands, lead single "Beautiful Ways" should be a no-brainer at adult top 40 radio. Throughout the album, the songwriting remains upbeat. Failed relationships are boiled down to "Whatever it was/It came much too

late" ("Must Have Been Love"). For all its sweetness, however, "Save Me" may leave some craving a bit more zip.—**SA**

DANCE/ELECTRONIC

► **VIC LATINO & DAVID WAXMAN**
Ultra.Dance 05
PRODUCERS: various
Ultra UTA 1190
RELEASE DATE: April 20
WKTU New York radio show host Vic Latino and Ultra A&R director David Waxman co-helm the latest volume in the label's successful Ultra.Dance series. As with previous installations, volume five favors current club (Martin Solveig's "Rocking Music") and crossover hits (Angel City Featuring Lara McAllen's "Love Me Right [Oh Sheila]"). High points are many, and include "Take Me to the Clouds Above" (LMC Vs. U2), "Loves Come Again" (Tiësto Featuring BT) and Kelis' "Trick Me." Racked by Caroline.—**MP**

COUNTRY

★ **ALLISON MOORER**
The Duel
PRODUCER: R.S. Field
Sugar Hill 3984
RELEASE DATE: April 13
Allison Moorer's follow-up to last year's much-loved live release is the kind of record from which careers are made. From the ominous, Neil Young-styled opening chords of "I Ain't Giving Up on You," it is obvious that Moorer means business. She co-wrote all 11 cuts with Doyle Lee Primm—and it's all strong stuff. "Louise Is in the Blue Moon" and "Melancholy Polly" are superbly drawn, while "One on the House" is world-weary. R.S. Field's production is dead-on, perfectly balancing wailing guitars against Moorer's passionate vocals. For immediate proof, check out the powerful "Believe You Me" and the loose, sleepy tone of "Baby Dreamer." Additional choice cuts include the biting, sarcastic "All Aboard," the slow-building, powerful "Once Upon a Time She Said" and the stark, supremely sad title cut. Though much of the subject matter here is not upbeat, Moorer's art is nothing short of inspirational.—**RW**

LATIN

► **GISSELLE**
Contra La Marea
PRODUCERS: Jaime Querol, Juan Vicente Zambrano, Gustavo Celis, Jose Luis Arroyave
Universal Music Latino B0002242
RELEASE DATE: March 30
Get past the almost show-all back cover of Gisselle's latest and you'll be rewarded with music that is high on substance and style. It is also unapologetically merengue. The operative word being "unapologetically," because today merengue is widely regarded as a losing proposition. Is this why Gisselle has titled her album "Contra La Marea" (Against the Tide)? Perhaps. But one thing is certain: When Gisselle sings merengue, she has guts and swing. She also has fun, most notably in "Dolor de Amor," a cha cha cha where she is aided
(Continued on page 42)

CONTRIBUTORS: Susanne Ault, Jim Bessman, Leila Cobo, Jonathan Cohen, Deborah Evans Price, Brian Garrity, Rashaun Hall, Katy Kroll, Gail Mitchell, Chris Morris, Michael Paoletta, Philip van Vleck, Ray Waddell, Christopher Walsh.
ESSENTIALS: Releases deemed by the review editors to deserve special attention on the basis of musical merit and/or *Billboard* chart potential. VITAL REISSUES: Rereleased albums of special artistic, archival and commercial interest and outstanding collections of works by one or more artists. PICKS (►): New releases predicted to hit the top half of the chart in the corresponding format. CRITICS' CHOICES (★): New releases, regardless of chart potential, highly recommended because of their musical merit. All albums commercially available in the United States are eligible. Send album review copies and singles review copies to Michael Paoletta (*Billboard*, 770 Broadway, 6th floor, New York, N.Y. 10003) or to the writers in the appropriate bureaus.

(Continued from page 41)

by Fabio Zambrana (of Azul Azul). Additionally, Gisselle includes some pop, which appears on many of her most recent albums. She's a strong enough singer to carry the genre but far superior in fast-clipped merengues like "Porque Te Quiero" and more soulful ones like "Atrevete." This is dance music with style.—**LC**

ALICIA MACHADO

Alicia Machado
PRODUCERS: Alicia Machado, Jose Miguel Velasquez
Jaleo Records/Universal Music Latino
0249861590
RELEASE DATE: April 13

The recording debut of former Miss Universe Alicia Machado has been a long time coming. Now that it's finally here, it is impossible to dismiss Machado as just another celebrity with musical aspirations. Judging from this self-titled album, she has a voice, which she uses with ample expression. This is a solid production, boasting several radio-ready hits, notably the first single, "Cómo Decirte Que No." At the same time, it is also lyrically old-fashioned ("You're the man who made me a woman") and too similar to what other like-minded Latin female acts are doing. Machado writes and produces, however, which is noteworthy and unusual in this genre. If she leaps beyond convention and shows some real daring, she could stand out as a beauty queen whose ambitions are much more than "world peace."—**LC**

WORLD

▶ CAETANO VELOSO

A Foreign Sound
PRODUCERS: various
Nonesuch 79823
RELEASE DATE: April 6
 "A Foreign Sound" is Caetano Veloso's first album sung entirely in English, and it finds the Brazilian artist revisiting 22 moments in America's songwriting history. But this is not simply a collection of stage and screen standards. It goes much further than that. Sure, Lorenz Hart and Richard Rodgers ("Manhattan"), Cole Porter ("So in Love") and Irving Berlin ("Always"), among others, are very present here. So, too, are Kurt Cobain ("Come As You Are"), David Byrne ("[Nothing But] Flowers") and Stevie Wonder ("If It's Magic"). Depending on the track, Veloso is either backed by a 28-piece orchestra, accompanied by an acoustic guitar or simply singing a cappella. In a timely yet daring move, Veloso does not change the gender in George & Ira Gershwin's "The Man I Love." As for the album's title, which references Bob Dylan's "It's Alright, Ma (I'm Only Bleeding)," there is absolutely nothing foreign about this wonderfully rich, subtle and adventurous disc.—**MP**

JAZZ

★ GARY BURTON

Generations
PRODUCER: Gary Burton
Concord 2217
RELEASE DATE: April 13
 Acclaimed vibes player Gary Burton continues a remarkably productive career with "Generations," introducing a guitar prodigy in the bargain. Sixteen-year-old Justin Lage is not only a tasty

player with a bright future but also a composer who contributed three songs to the album. Burton and Lage cut the disc with Makoto Ozone (piano), Clarence Penn (drums) and James Genus (bass). Lage's tune "Early," a classical/tango hybrid, is one of the coolest tracks on the album. Lage's solo is wonderfully fluid, and Burton's response is nicely melodic, all of which is underwritten by fine brushwork from Penn. Also note the very hip reading of Carla Bley's "Syndrome," propelled by fiery, breakneck solos from Ozone, Lage and Burton. "Generations" also includes songs by Ozone, Pat Matheny, Mitchel Forman and Oscar Peterson. Burton remains one of the top post-bop jazz artists still cutting tracks.—**PVV**

VITAL REISSUES

WASIS DIOP

Everything Is Never Quite Enough
PRODUCERS: various
Triloka/Artemis TRI-CD-82035
RELEASE DATE: March 23
 Senegalese native Wasis Diop has been residing in France and making music since the 1980s. Primarily a retrospective, "Everything Is Never Quite Enough" collects songs from Diop's first three albums, one of which ("No Sant") is no longer available. This is a collection of extraordinary music. Drawing inspiration from reggae, rock, pop and Senegalese roots music, Diop sings in French, English and Wolof. Diop is a world-class singer/songwriter who always finds the most alluring groove. At 19 tracks, this album has much to admire, beginning with the only new tune, "Le Passeur." Diop's laid-back vibe is perfectly embodied by "African Dream" and "No Sant." Both songs feature Diop sharing vocals with Lena Fiagbe. For something more upbeat and intense, listen to "Soweto Daal" and "DePaal Lu Wor."—**PVV**

DVD

Fever: The Music of Peggy Lee

Capitol 72435-99365-9-8
RELEASE DATE: April 6
 Peggy Lee's luminous star shines brightly in this splendid one-hour documentary, which first aired on PBS. The DVD includes such bonus material as a shampoo commercial and a greeting from Paul McCartney. Using her reflective late-career hit "Is That All There Is?" as a matrix, the program mines the late Lee's immortal mystique through vintage performances and interviews with kin and contemporaries, including Quincy Jones, Cy Coleman and Nancy Sinatra. Highlights include a lost TV performance of signature hit "Fever" from 1958, a 1963 TV duet with Judy Garland and home movie footage of Lee and her first husband/frequent songwriting collaborator Dave Barbour. Protégé k.d. lang sums it up best when she calls Lee "the whole thermometer." Lee was surely the coolest and the hottest.—**JB**

Billboard.com

- Lloyd Cole, "Music in a Foreign Language" (One Little Indian)
- Tha Fruitbat, "Tha Fruitbat" (ArtistDirect)
- Slicker, "We All Have a Plan" (Hefty)

SINGLES

Edited by Michael Paoletta

MODERN ROCK

▶ JET Cold Hard Bitch (4:03)

PRODUCER: D. Sardy
WRITERS: N. Cester, C. Cester, C. Muncey
PUBLISHER: Get-Jet Music
Elektra PRCD 1962 (CD promo)
 If ridiculously puffy hair was what kept you from embracing '80s metal, you are in luck with Jet. The band's new single, "Cold Hard Bitch," perfectly encapsulates the best parts of the genre, such as political incorrectness and unabashed machismo. But the Australian band is as stripped-down as your favorite garage act, underlined by the straightforward growl of lead singer Cameron Muncey. The song's grinding guitar melody is literally one big hook. It conjures up fond memories of the simple accessibility of rock music from days gone by. Muncey yells that he wants his "latest attraction" to "hang around" solely because he just "wants to get a reaction" from his friends. It feels good to approve, albeit with a tinge of guilt.—**SA**

★ MORRISSEY Irish Blood, English Heart (2:36)

PRODUCER: Jerry Finn
WRITERS: Morrissey, Whyte
PUBLISHER: not listed
Sanctuary ATMDJ-85613-2 (CD promo)
 The ever melancholy Morrissey found his musical niche years ago and stayed there. But "Irish Blood, English Heart" should be a feast for sore ears, as it has been years since the former Smiths singer has released such an upbeat and spirited song. Rabid fans and casual listeners alike will enjoy this refreshing return to form, which features Moz's pervasive sociopolitical angst. Set against a backdrop of crashing guitars and brooding vocals—with lyrics denouncing contemporary English doctrine—"Heart" works itself into a frenzied crescendo that abruptly ends. Produced by Jerry Finn (Blink-182, AFI, Green Day), this morsel from the artist's forthcoming new album, "You Are the Quarry," will leave anxious fans swooning.—**KK**

R&B/HIP-HOP

▶ MOBB DEEP Got It Twisted (3:42)

PRODUCER: the Alchemist
WRITERS: various
PUBLISHERS: various
Infamous/Violator/Jive JDJ-60521-2R (CD promo)
 While Jive isn't necessarily known for hardcore hip-hop, that's about to change—thanks to Mobb Deep. The Queens, N.Y., duo makes its Jive debut with "Got It Twisted." Prodigy and Havoc are up to their old lyrical tricks, delivering fierce verses over a haunting synth-driven track, courtesy of the Alchemist. Havoc even addresses his new label home with this lyrical gem: "We gon' crash, probably/Peel snowflake out of that Abercrombie/Trying to rip Britney/So I made Jive sign me." Already, "Got It Twisted" is receiving props at mix-show radio. With a little help, it will make it into regular rotation at R&B formats. This serves as an apt

ESSENTIAL REVIEWS



LENNY KRAVITZ Where Are We Runnin'? (2:37)

PRODUCER: Lenny Kravitz
WRITERS: L. Kravitz, C. Ross
PUBLISHER: Miss Bessie Music, Wiggid Music
Virgin 7087 6 18510 2 1 (CD promo)
 Lenny Kravitz's journey from the retro-rocking "Let Love Rule" and "Always on the Run" to the electronica-leaning "Fly Away" and "American Woman" comes full circle with "Where Are We Runnin'?" Fifteen years after "Let Love Rule" proved that his vintage/analog ensemble wasn't just a fashion statement, Kravitz returns with big, straight-up rock. Here, with longtime collaborators Craig Ross and Henry Hirsch, he pleads for calm while the driving 4/4 rocker surges ahead. "Where are we runnin'/?We need some time to clear our heads," Kravitz sings. "Where are we runnin'/?Keep on working till we're dead." Though it doesn't rise to the level of Kravitz's best work—his first three albums are a sincere and exceptional homage to '60s and '70s rock—"Where Are We Runnin'?" will sate fans until his new full-length arrives next month.—**CW**



NINA SKY FEATURING JABBA Move Ya Body (3:30)

PRODUCERS: Elijah Wells, Lionel Bermingham, DJ Cipa Sounds
WRITERS: various
PUBLISHERS: various
Next Plateau/Universal B0002570-32 (CD promo)
 Reggae riddims are becoming standard fare in R&B and hip-hop music. So it only makes sense for sisterly act Nina Sky to put its own touch on the *Coolie* riddim, which is fast becoming to 2004 what the *Dubwise* rhythm explosion was to 2003. For "Move Ya Body," twins Natalie and Nicole blend sweet and sexy harmonies over pulsating reggae rhythms. The duo even references Lisa Lisa & Cult Jam's "Can You Feel the Beat" during the song's bridge. The result is an uptempo track tailor-made for the dancefloor. The single's catchy hook and use of the *Coolie* riddim should make this an easy sell at mainstream R&B radio. Fans of Lumidee's slightly off-kilter "Never Leave You—Uh Ooh, Uh Oooh!" will find much to admire here. For this infectious track, the only way is up.—**RH**

introduction to Mobb Deep's forthcoming "Amerikaz Nightmare" set.—**RH**

★ 8BALL AND MJG FEATURING P. DIDDY You Don't Want Drama (4:35)

PRODUCER: Shondrae
WRITERS: S. Crawford, P. Smith, M. Goodwin
PUBLISHERS: Le Vegas Publishing, ASCAP; All My Publishing; All My Own Publishing, BMI
Bad Boy/Universal UNIR2110 (CD promo)
 8Ball and MJG bring their Southern flavor to their new label home, Bad Boy. The amped-up, Shondrae'-produced "You Don't Want Drama" is the kind of crunk anthem that is perfect for the clubs. Mainstream R&B radio outlets, particularly in the South, have picked up on this single from the Memphis-based duo. With the support of Bad Boy principal Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, 8Ball and MJG may see their longstanding critical praise finally translate into commercial success.—**RH**

AC

LIONEL RICHIE Just for You (3:38)

PRODUCER: Mark Taylor
WRITERS: L. Richie, P. Barry, M. Taylor
PUBLISHER: ASCAP/PRS
Island ISLR 16011-2 (CD single)
 This title track preview to the artist's new album (due next month) is as pleasant as can be. And while there's nothing wrong with that, there's nothing quite right with it either—particu-

larly when it's stuck in a time warp. Producer/co-writer Mark Taylor—who has worked with Cher, Enrique Iglesias and others—seems to be resting on his laurels here. The rhythm track he has concocted sounds all too familiar. Still, Richie, with that unmistakable voice, manages to make do. But ultimately, he is unable to save lyrics like "God was God/Dreams were dreams/Life was all cake and ice cream." Also included is a Metro remix, which, too, sounds like it has long since expired.—**MP**

COUNTRY

▶ JIMMY WAYNE You Are (4:15)

PRODUCERS: Chris Lindsey, James Stroud
WRITERS: J. Wayne, C. Lindsey, A. Mayo, M. Green
PUBLISHERS: various
DreamWorks 0044-50355-2 (CD promo)
 "You Are" is the third single from Jimmy Wayne's stellar debut disc. It is a gorgeous power ballad, replete with soaring strings that underscore the emotional punch in Wayne's vocals. The young singer/songwriter turns in a fine performance that infuses each romantic line with warmth and sincerity. Penned by Aimee Mayo, Chris Lindsey, Marv Green and the artist, "You Are" houses a beautiful story that pays homage to the joys of true love. Poised to be Wayne's third hit single, it could easily become the most popular wedding song of summer 2004.—**DEP**

Runt Distribution's Russ Tolman finds vinyl selling well as a niche product



Retail



VEG CEO Simon Wright says the company has re-examined its operations

MERCHANTS / MARKETING / HOME VIDEO / E-COMMERCE / DISTRIBUTION



MRNORTH: FRONTMAN COLIN SMITH WAS A GUEST MODEL AT A VALENTINO FASHION SHOW

Music, Fashion, Retail Merge In Deal

BY COLE STERNBERG

As such established artists as Michael McDonald and Justin Timberlake benefit from corporate partnerships, the blended world of "advertainment" has expanded to include relationships between emerging artists and established brands (*Entertainment Law Weekly*, March 29).

"Brands are realizing that music is the way to go, and advertisers are incorporating music into their marketing plans. It is lifestyle marketing, and music is part of everyone's lives," says Bruce Starr, marketing associate

at BMF Media in New York.

BMF has engineered a cross-marketing campaign that brings together rock act Mrnorth with designer Valentino and retailer Bergdorf Goodman. Under the multifaceted partnership, Mrnorth performed at the April 15 launch of Valentino's men's summer 2004 R.E.D. clothing line at Bergdorf Goodman in Manhattan.

Dublin-based Mrnorth comprises singer Colin Smith, guitarist Emmett C'Malley, bassist Oisín O'Malley and drummer Adrian Mordaunt. Valentino's R.E.D. collection, which stands for

(Continued on page 45)

DVD-A, SACD Get Awareness Push

BY STEVE TRAIMAN

With more titles available from more artists in more genres, proponents of DVD-Audio and Super Audio CD are ramping up on the hardware side for home and auto models.

Integral to their success will be the arrival of long-promised education programs for retailers and consumers and promotional campaigns involving multiple manufacturers.

The DVD-Audio Council, an industry group of record companies and hardware manufacturers, says that more than 35 manufacturers are marketing about 160 different DVD-A player models.

Some 14 million DVD-A players exist in homes worldwide, with half of those in the United States. This includes an estimated 2 million computer-based DVD-A players shipped from such companies as Creative Labs and InterVideo.

David Kawakami, director of Sony Corp. of America's Super Audio Project, points to a key statistic released at the January Consumer Electronics Show of 118 SACD models available from 26 manufacturers and more than

1,800 titles available worldwide.

Until last year, the Consumer Electronics Assn. did not break out separately the figures it received from its member manufacturers for U.S. unit shipments of DVD-A and SACD players.

But the latest figures show sales to dealers in 2003 of 808,000 DVD-A players and 629,000 SACD units, with some overlap of "universal" combo models, according to CEA analyst Sean Wargo. These are all home entertainment units. The CEA may separately report models for automotive use in 2004.



KAWAKAMI: COMPREHENSIVE MARKETING CAMPAIGN NEEDED

CREATING AWARENESS

The DVD-Audio Council is preparing two retail initiatives, according to Craig Eggers, consumer technology marketing director for Dolby Labs and a council leader. The first targets the buying offices of retail chains and sales staff; the second will involve a major consumer electronics company as a partner. The council's efforts are focused on consumer electronics dealers, rather than music retailers.

"We must create more awareness for DVD-A

(Continued on page 44)



The DVD Audio Council has created a Web site to offer such information as available DVD-A titles and players and to answer frequently asked questions.

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Retail

Runt Distribution's Vinyl Biz Continues To Grow

Selling LPs, of all things, has become a growing concern for Berkeley, Calif.-based **Runt Distribution**. "Our meat and potatoes seems to be vinyl," says **Russ Tolman**, head of sales for Runt.

Owned by **Filippo Salvadori** and several Italian partners, Runt's business has evolved since it was founded in 1996. "We started off strictly with imports and doing in-house labels for reissues," Tolman says.

The company continues to operate its in-house labels, **Water Records** (CD reissues) and **4 Men With Beards** (vinyl reissues). But it has branched out into manufacturing and distributing LPs for other indies.

Runt is fabricating the lavish, clear-vinyl LP versions of **Revenant Records'** roots-music collections. It also distributes titles from **Plain Recordings** and **DBK Works**, which

Vinyl has become an indie concern since the LP was abandoned as the main music format during the '90s, in favor of the CD.

Tolman maintains that while the numbers on vinyl "aren't huge," it sells well as a niche product. And it's a no-muss, no-fuss proposition for distributors, since LPs have long been one-way sales.

Several titles have been successful for Runt, Tolman says. Plain's **My Bloody Valentine** LPs have both sold more than 5,000 units; 4 Men With Beards' vinyl re-issue of **Television's** "Marquee Moon" has moved close to 5,000, and its **Aretha Franklin** titles have sold 2,000-3,000 copies apiece.

"Even jazz titles do 2,000 to 3,000," Tolman says.

He adds that bulking up on vinyl has lifted Runt's year-to-year sales. The company was up 40% in 2002 and 2003, and this year sales have increased 30% to date. "We're in a nice little niche," Tolman says.

TEAMWORK: **Conor Oberst**, frontman of Omaha, Neb., band **Bright Eyes**, has launched a custom label, **Team Love**.

The imprint will be distributed by Bright Eyes' label, Omaha-based **Saddle Creek Records**, which is handled by **Alternative Distribution Alliance**.

Oberst will head A&R for Team Love. Former **Sony Music Publishing** VP **Nate Krenkel** will handle day-to-day operations.

The first release from the label, due June 22, will be "Wild Like Children," an album by Omaha folk-pop group **Tilly & the Wall**. A set by 19-year-old singer/songwriter **Willy Mason** is scheduled for fall.

Team Love plans to make its music available in free download form on

the label's Web site the same day albums are in stores.

SPOTLIGHTING AUSTIN: The **Austin Music Foundation** (AMF), Texas' non-profit, indie-oriented education and support group, is mounting a one-day showcase for local acts.

Styled as a kind of mini-South

The
Indies™
By Chris Morris
cmorris@billboard.com



by Southwest Music Conference, the AMF's Spotlight Series is set for May 8.

Five clubs in the Red River district in downtown Austin—Stubbs's, Emo's, Red Eyed Fly, the Caucus Club and Headhunters—will host 34 bands.

Scheduled showcasing acts include indie-label and unsigned talent like **I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness**, **Knife in the Water**, **Young Heart Attack**, **Dynamite Boy**, **Wideawake** and **DJ Casanova**.

DECIDING ON VICTORY: **Victory Records** in Chicago has sealed an exclusive distribution deal with Boca Raton, Fla.-based **Undecided Records and Films**. Undecided previously was handled by boutique rock distributors.

The relationship commences this summer with the release of new titles by **Every Time I Die**, **the Big Screen**, **Further Seems Forever**, **Shindig**, **Things in Herds** and **Burn the Mountain Down** and the reissue of **Poison the Well's** debut. **RED** distributes Victory.



TOLMAN: BULKING UP ON VINYL

release CD and LP titles.

Runt is currently in talks to manufacture and distribute the vinyl offerings of a couple of prominent labels—one of which also operates a distribution company.

Runt is also the exclusive U.S. distributor of European vinyl labels **Earmark**, **Get Back**, **Akarma** and **Universe**.

DVD-A

Continued from page 43

with the buyer, get the message across [to sales staff] that it's important to 'sell' audio again to step up sales with better margins," Eggers says. "We need to get them prepared to deliver an effective demo to consumers when they come into stores."

A new Web site, dvdaudioinfo.com, has been created to offer information on available DVD-A titles and players, record labels and manufacturers and to answer fre-

quently asked questions.

Kawakami points to an important difference in the entertainment approach of SACD and DVD-A.

"While the SACD format can support video, it is first and foremost a music carrier and is optimized for audio playback," he says. "Our feedback from music consumers and audio enthusiasts indicates that this is more important to them."

Looking at the efforts of the DVD-Audio Council, Kawakami acknowledges that Sony and Philips, the two major SACD proponents, cannot drive the marketing alone.

"We've concentrated on having third-party companies do the job

but are working on a very comprehensive retail and consumer education campaign with a collective promotion involving a number of manufacturers later this year."

One effective campaign is the Sony SACD Fall in Love with Music Again in-store display at Circuit City and other major electronics chains. It features a Sony five-disc DVD/CD/SACD changer, digital receiver and surround-sound speaker system.

The display includes eight racks with 22 SACD titles from Sony artists, priced from \$14.99 to \$21.99. Consumers can select a variety of tracks with playback switchable from stereo to SACD to "hear the difference."

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Renewed Virgin Predicts Smooth Landing

Virgin Entertainment Group North America may have had a bumpy takeoff this year, but the company appears to have recovered nicely. According to suppliers large and small, the chain is once again current with payments.

"We should have most of our problems cleared up by the end of April," VEGNA president **Glen Ward** says. Rest assured, the remaining problems are being addressed.

Take real estate, for example. VEGNA will close two of its 23 stores. It will shutter its Westbury, N.Y., store May 9 and its Columbus,

Ohio, location May 31. In both instances, the landlord found replacement tenants.

VEGNA has been reviewing its real-estate portfolio, looking for opportunities to renegotiate, terminate or transfer to other retailers the leases of unproductive stores. After the Chapter 11 filings by **Tower** and **Wherehouse**, the landlords are "more willing" to discuss existing leases, Ward says.

Once VEGNA has the opportunity to convert its remaining unproductive stores into profitable ones—or, failing that, to shutter them—the chain will be able to generate funds and "get back into growth mode," Ward says.

One major-label credit executive applauds Virgin's actions, especially the move to close unproductive stores—something it had never done in its 11 years of trading in the United States. "If you have a capital drain, you stop it," the executive says.

In the first quarter, credit managers watched VEGNA closely as it got caught in a cash-flow crunch and had to use returns to pay down bills. But by early April, even small music suppliers were caught up. "Virgin did everything they said they were going to do," one small independent distributor says.

ing bands to designers. Valentino is plugging Mrnorth into its marketing plans for the R.E.D. fashion line. In fact, frontman Smith was a guest model at a recent Valentino fashion show.

The relationship is a win-win for all parties. For Valentino, Bergdorf has dedicated window space to his new clothing line, which, according to Starr, has never been done. And Valentino benefits

from being associated with a rock act that exemplifies the image it wants to portray with its R.E.D. line.

Smith originally found it "a little unorthodox and a little strange for the band to be striking up active allegiances outside the music world" and admits he was not thinking of marketing partnerships when writing and performing with Mrnorth.

However, he sees the added value in such deals. "This is really the way we have to be thinking. You can't be limiting your audience and allegiances to what is considered the standard."

Irrespective of the sponsor or forum, Smith says that "what people have in their memory walking away from Bergdorf is the memory of a striking performance, with striking music from a striking band."

In addition to cleaning out overstocked stores, the chain's parent, **Virgin Entertainment Group**, came to VEGNA's aid by providing a loan. In addition to giving the North American operation much-needed liquidity, the move also showed suppliers that Virgin stands behind VEGNA. That gesture helped convert suppliers' anxiety into confidence, although some are now applying tighter-than-usual credit limits.

Virgin Megastores U.S. is not the only chain being placed under these limits. VEG CEO **Simon Wright** notes. "All suppliers are getting tighter with credit limits. It's not just happening here [in the United States], but it's happening around the world.

"The suppliers have to watch out that [these limits] don't become a self-fulfilling prophecy," he warns.

Meanwhile, "the Virgin brand is getting stronger with [Virgin] Mobile going into phase two and with Virgin being launched as a domestic airline

next year," Wright says.

At the Megastore, "we are going to get back to what we do," he says.

And in case you have forgotten what VEG does, Ward will remind

"We are looking at our whole business model from top to bottom."

HOT SPOT: **Concord Jazz** executive VP/GM **Gene Rumsey** discovered on April 8 what it's like to be in the eye of the storm.

That day, the New York Post and other newspapers reported that, in the past, **EMI** had tried to manipulate music charts. Rumsey, who two years ago was executive VP at what was then **EMI Music Distribution**, says the stories quoted him out of context.

Rumsey had given testimony under subpoena in an action where **EMI** sued **Avatar** for breach of contract last April, claiming the indie owes \$1 million.

Rumsey says the press reports unfairly make him out to be a stool pigeon, when in fact he merely acknowledged during his deposition that the disreputable practice of hyping charts still exists.

In that same testimony, he says he argued against using such a tactic and added, "EMI was not in support of it, either." That practice, by the way, is usually detected by safeguards put in place by **Nielsen SoundScan**.

Retail Track™

By Ed Christman
echristman@billboard.com



WRIGHT: 'VIRGIN IS GETTING STRONGER'

Mrnorth

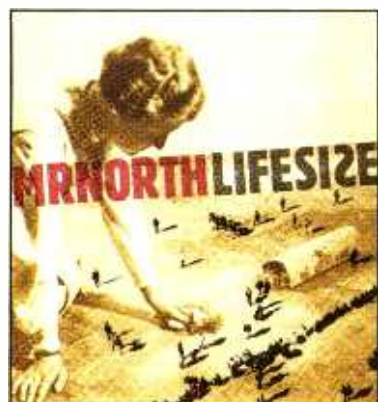
Continued from page 43

"reinvention, evolution and deconstruction," features vintage patterns, surfer chic and denim.

The cross-marketing deal involves a promotional giveaway of Mrnorth's "Lifesize" debut CD (Uninhibited Records) with any purchase from Valentino boutiques nationwide. The band and the designer also share window space at Bergdorf.

Brian Feit, president of BMF, says "the music speaks for itself" in sell-

R.E.D.
VALENTINO



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APRIL 24 2004 Billboard TOP KID VIDEO					
Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan					
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	YEAR OF RELEASE	PRICE
1	3	6	NUMBER 1 DORA'S EGG HUNT PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 75423	2004	9.98
2	2	8	THE LION KING 1 1/2 WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31203	2004	24.98
3	1	10	WINNIE THE POOH: SPRINGTIME WITH ROO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32060	2004	22.98
4	10	14	HERE COMES PETER COTTONTAIL SONY WONDER/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 54187	1971	9.98
5	6	6	WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO? SAFARI SO GOOD WARNER HOME VIDEO 02290	2004	14.98
6	4	8	BABY EINSTEIN: BABY MACDONALD WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 33114	2004	14.98
7	5	10	DORA THE EXPLORER-DORA'S PIRATE ADVENTURE PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 75583	2004	9.98
8	7	7	SPONGEBOB GOES PREHISTORIC PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 75543	2004	9.98
9	13	11	VEGGIE TALES - EASTER CAROL WARNER HOME VIDEO 07288	2004	12.98
10	8	8	HOME ON THE RANGE - SING ALONG SONGS WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62352	2004	14.98
11	11	11	DORA THE EXPLORER - RHYMES AND RIDDLES PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 75053	2003	9.98
12	12	12	RUGRATS EASTER NICKELODEON VIDEO/PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 871858	2002	9.98
13	9	11	THOMAS & FRIENDS: BEST OF GORDON ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 01325	2004	12.98
14	14	14	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS - THE SEASCAPE CAPERS PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 75553	2004	9.98
15	15	15	CITY OF LOST TOYS PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 875413	2003	9.98
16	22	18	ELMO'S WORLD: SPRINGTIME FUN SONY WONDER/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 54181	2002	9.98
17	NEW	NEW	COLD SPAGHETTI WESTERN HIT ENTERTAINMENT 02518	2004	12.98
18	NEW	NEW	CARE BEARS TO THE RESCUE UNITED AMERICAN VIDEO 60149	2003	9.98
19	19	19	LEAPFROG: LETTER FACTORY VIDEO WARNER HOME VIDEO 34354	2003	8.98
20	16	16	KIM POSSIBLE-STICH IN TIME WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62395	2004	14.98
21	20	20	DORA THE EXPLORER: WISH ON A STAR NICKELODEON VIDEO/PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 874673	2001	9.98
22	25	11	IT'S THE EASTER BEAGLE, CHARLIE BROWN PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 83741	1974	9.98
23	17	21	TOM AND JERRY: WHISKER'S AWAY WARNER FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 518	2003	6.98
24	18	8	BARNEY: MOVIN' AND GROOVIN' HIT ENTERTAINMENT 02091	2004	12.98
25	21	7	EGGS-TRAORDINARY ADVENTURE WARNER FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 37852	2003	14.98

APRIL 24 2004 Billboard RECREATIONAL SPORTS DVD					
Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan					
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE PROGRAM SUPPLIER & NUMBER	PRICE	
1	1	5	NUMBER 1 WWE: THE MONDAY NIGHT WAR SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 56592	24.98	
2	2	2	NFL SUPER BOWL XXXVIII WARNER HOME VIDEO 34320	24.98	
3	3	3	PUMPING IRON - 25TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION WARNER HOME VIDEO 91866	19.98	
4	4	4	WWE: JOHN CENA: WORD LIFE SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 57004	24.98	
5	13	3	WWE: UNDERTAKER: HE BURIES THEM ALIVE SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 55909	9.98	
6	6	6	NBA STREET SERIES: ANKLE BREAKERS WARNER HOME VIDEO 34322	19.98	
7	8	8	WWE: MICK FOLEY: GREATEST HITS AND MISSES SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 56552	29.98	
8	9	9	NBA STREET SERIES: NASTIEST DUNKS WARNER HOME VIDEO 34321	19.98	
9	5	5	WWE: STONE COLD TRUTH SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 57014	24.98	
10	7	7	WWE: NO WAY OUT SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 55876	19.98	
11	12	12	ULTIMATE JORDAN WARNER HOME VIDEO 34270	19.98	
12	11	11	WWE: THE ULTIMATE RIC FLAIR COLLECTION SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 56550	29.98	
13	15	15	ULTIMATE FIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP - ULTIMATE KNOCKOUTS 1 & 2 VENTURA DISTRIBUTION 64427	19.98	
14	10	10	DALE EARNHARDT JR.: ANY GIVEN DAY DREAMWORKS HOME ENTERTAINMENT 50509	19.98	
15	18	18	ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP 44: UNDISPUTED VENTURA DISTRIBUTION 17502	19.98	
16	17	17	BILLABONG ODYSSEY WARNER HOME VIDEO 34319	27.98	
17	16	16	CKY4 VENTURA DISTRIBUTION 14197	19.98	
18	14	14	WWE: ROYAL RUMBLE SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 58264	24.98	
19	NEW	NEW	KING OF THE CAGE - 4 EVENT SET BRENTWOOD HOME VIDEO 44597	9.98	
20	19	19	ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP 43: MELTDOWN VENTURA DISTRIBUTION 68727	19.98	

APRIL 24 2004 Billboard HEALTH & FITNESS					
Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan					
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE PROGRAM SUPPLIER & NUMBER	PRICE	
1	1	13	NUMBER 1 BILLY BLANKS' TAE-BO CARDIO GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 02945	19.98	
2	2	2	THE METHOD PILATES: TARGET SPECIFICS CURRENT WELLNESS 30840	12.98	
3	6	6	PILATES FOR DUMMIES ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 10948	9.98	
4	4	4	CRUNCH - FAT BURNING PILATES ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 12585	9.98	
5	3	3	LESLIE SANSONE: GET UP & GET STARTED GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 330210	9.98	
6	5	5	LESLIE SANSONE: WALK AWAY THE POUNDS GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 02642	19.98	
7	11	11	BASIC YOGA FOR DUMMIES ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 11586	9.98	
8	10	10	THE FIRM - COMPLETE AEROBICS & WEIGHT TRAINING (2003) GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 02903	19.98	
9	8	8	CRUNCH: PICK YOUR SPOT PILATES ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 12273	9.98	
10	12	12	FAT BLASTING YOGA-21 DAYS TO A HEALTHY BODY ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 13166	14.98	
11	9	9	FIRM: BODY SCULPTING SYSTEM 02 GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 02902	39.98	
12	14	14	PILATES - BEGINNING MAT WORKOUT GAIAM VIDEO 63124	14.98	
13	13	13	LEISA HART'S FIT MAMA - PRENATAL WORKOUT GOLDHILL HOME VIDEO 00756	14.98	
14	16	16	PILATES FOR ABS GAIAM VIDEO 369193	9.98	
15	15	15	CRUNCH - CARDIOSALSA ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 12583	14.98	
16	15	15	PILATES YOGA TWO-PACK ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 61294	19.98	
17	19	19	BARON BAPTISTE: POWER YOGA LEVEL 1 GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 76878	14.98	
18	18	18	LESLIE SANSONE: HIGH CALORIE BURN GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 430210	9.98	
19	20	20	TAE-BO FLEX GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 02946	12.98	
20	7	7	WALKING AWAY THE POUND EXPRESS GOODTIMES HOME VIDEO 02835	19.98	

Top Kid Video and Health & Fitness video refers to VHS sales. Recreational Sports refers to DVD sales. ♦ IRMA gold certification for sale of 125,000 units or a dollar volume of \$9 million at retail for theatrically released programs, 25,000 units and \$1 million at suggested retail for non-theatrical titles. ♦ IRMA platinum certification for sale of 250,000 units or a dollar volume of \$18 million at retail for theatrically released programs, or 50,000 units or \$2 million at suggested retail for non-theatrical titles. ©2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen VideoScan Inc. All rights reserved.

HomeVideo

Titles Tap Gay Pride

BY JILL KIPNIS

LOS ANGELES—An underserved market is getting its due this June.

Home video companies are rallying around Gay Pride Month with new releases and a strong commitment to promotion.

"The gay and lesbian population is out in force, and they are definitely purchasing," says Charmaine Klohe, VP of marketing at Ventura Distribution.

She notes that the United States' 22 million gays and lesbians wield purchasing power of \$458 million, according to marketing firm Opus-Comm Group.

Klohe says there is also a "big demand" for video product in the wake of the nationwide debate over gay marriage.

Ventura Distribution is taking advantage of all these factors with its June 1 DVD release "Gay Weddings" (\$26.99), an eight-part series from the Bravo network.

The two-disc set follows the lives of four same-sex couples as they plan their wedding ceremonies. Its extra features include new interviews with the couples and segments about such advocacy groups as Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD).

The set will be advertised in numerous gay and lesbian publications, Klohe says. Ventura will also work with GLAAD's San Francisco Media Awards, set to take place June 5.

New Line Home Entertainment is releasing four new DVDs in honor of Gay Pride Month. "Torch Song Trilogy," "The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love," "Love! Valour! Compassion!" and "Three of Hearts" debut May 4 for \$19.97 each.



The focal title in the group is "Torch Song Trilogy," based on the Tony Award-winning play and starring Harvey Fierstein, who contributes an audio commentary.

New Line will market the titles with a grass-roots campaign during Gay Pride events, according to VP of marketing Justine Brody.

"Retailers who know this population is a part of their client base are now making sure that they are serving it," Brody notes.

Virgin Megastores will present end-caps and displays highlighting Gay Pride Month, says Dave Alder, senior VP of marketing and strategic development.

APRIL 24 2004 Billboard TOP MUSIC VIDEOS					
Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan					
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL / DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	TAPE/DVD PRICE
1	NEW	NEW	NUMBER 1 IN THE ZONE JIVE/ZOMBA VIDEO/BMG VIDEO 55387	Britney Spears	19.98 DVD/CD
2	1	2	LIVE & OFF THE RECORD EPIC HOME VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 91109	Shakira	18.98 DVD
3	2	3	COME FLY WITH ME REPRISE MUSIC VIDEO/WARNER REPRISE VIDEO 48683	Michael Buble	23.98 DVD/CD
4	5	4	LIVE IN TEXAS WARNER MUSIC VIDEO 48563	Linkin Park	21.98 CD/DVD
5	3	5	BARBRA: THE CONCERT LIVE AT THE MGM GRAND COLUMBIA MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 9081	Barbra Streisand	14.98 DVD
6	17	17	ROAD CASE BNA/BMG VIDEO 59782	Kenny Chesney	6.98 DVD
7	10	10	PART II TVT RECORDS 02378	Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz	11.98 CD/DVD
8	13	13	WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN BNA/BMG VIDEO 57200	Kenny Chesney	6.98 DVD
9	9	9	THE REEL ME EPIC MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 90767	Jennifer Lopez	13.98 DVD/CD
10	12	12	PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist. 001041	Rob Zombie	18.98 CD/DVD
11	6	6	VIDEO CAPTURE DEVICE 1991-2001 Geffen Home Video/Universal Music & Video Dist. 27209	Weezer	19.98 DVD
12	11	11	LED ZEPPELIN ATLANTIC VIDEO 970198	Led Zeppelin	29.98 DVD
13	14	14	THE BEST OF PANTERA: FAR BEYOND THE GREAT SOUTHERN COWBOYS' VULGAR HITS ELECTRA HOME VIDEO 7332	Pantera	18.98 CD/DVD
14	24	8	BILL GAITHER'S ALL TIME FAVORITE HOMECOMING SONGS AND PERFORMANCES VOLUME 1 GATHER MUSIC VIDEO 458	Bill Gaither	14.98 DVD
15	7	7	MTV UNPLUGGED COLUMBIA MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 58516	Bob Dylan	14.98 DVD
16	18	8	20TH CENTURY MASTERS: THE DVD COLLECTION ISLAND VIDEO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 98309	KISS	7.98 DVD
17	30	2	MILKSHAKE ARISTA RECORDS INC./BMG VIDEO 54243	Kelis	12.98 DVD
18	19	18	COLDPLAY LIVE 2003 CAPITOL VIDEO 99014	Coldplay	24.98 DVD/CD
19	NEW	NEW	ULTIMATE MANILOW! LIVE FROM THE KODAK THEATER BMG VIDEO 59477	Barry Manilow	19.98 DVD
20	16	16	ONLY YOU CONCERT: LIVE FROM QUEBEC CITY COLUMBIA MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 3815	Harry Connick, Jr.	14.98 DVD
21	23	11	LIVE IN SAN DIEGO COLUMBIA MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 98352	Switchfoot	14.98 DVD
22	8	8	BEST OF SHERYL CROW THE VIDEOS A&M VIDEO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 13809	Sheryl Crow	14.98 DVD
23	35	11	UP! LIVE IN CHICAGO MERCURY NASHVILLE VIDEO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 001595	Shania Twain	19.98 DVD
24	22	11	CONCERT FOR GEORGE RHINO HOME VIDEO 70241	Various Artists	29.98 DVD
25	NEW	NEW	THE COMPLEX ROCK TOUR LIVE LAVA/WARNER MUSIC VIDEO 53138	Blue Man Group	14.98 DVD
26	25	12	LIVE AT DONINGTON EPIC MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 56963	AC/DC	14.98 DVD
27	21	7	G3: LIVE IN DENVER EPIC MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 57319	G3	14.98 DVD
28	NEW	NEW	THE BEST OF JEFF FOXWORTHY: DOUBLE WIDE, SINGLE MINDED RHINO HOME VIDEO 7380	Jeff Foxworthy	18.98 CD/DVD
29	29	11	NUMBER ONES EPIC MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 56999	Michael Jackson	14.98 DVD
30	27	6	CONCERT FROM MADISON SQUARE GARDEN COLUMBIA MUSIC VIDEO 54038	Marc Anthony	14.98 DVD
31	28	10	THE COMPLETE MASTERWORKS EPIC MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 56972	Tenacious D	19.98 DVD
32	NEW	NEW	20TH CENTURY MASTERS: THE DVD COLLECTION MERCURY NASHVILLE VIDEO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 2908	Toby Keith	7.98 DVD
33	26	10	ARCOIRIS MUSICAL MEXICANO 2004 UNIVERSAL LATINO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 712233	Various Artists	16.98 CD/DVD
34	33	10	FIRST U.S. VISIT CAPITOL VIDEO 95348	The Beatles	24.98 DVD
35	NEW	NEW	LIVE AND SWINGIN' REPRISE MUSIC VIDEO/WARNER REPRISE VIDEO 73822	Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin & Sammy Davis, Jr.	25.98 CD/DVD
36	39	10	THIS LEFT FEELS RIGHT LIVE ISLAND VIDEO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 02409	Bon Jovi	16.98 DVD
37	NEW	NEW	LIVE IN CONCERT - A 20 YEAR CELEBRATION REUNION/BMG VIDEO 010014	Michael W. Smith	16.98 DVD
38	15	2	DVD COMPILATION COLUMBIA MUSIC VIDEO/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 58513	Nas	14.98 DVD
39	NEW	NEW	JOSH GROBAN IN CONCERT 143/REPRISE MUSIC VIDEO/WARNER MUSIC VIDEO 48413	Josh Groban	27.98 CD/DVD
40	NEW	NEW	20TH CENTURY MASTERS: THE DVD COLLECTION ISLAND VIDEO/UNIVERSAL MUSIC & VIDEO DIST. 00197	Tears For Fears	7.98 DVD

♦ RIAA gold cert. for sales of 25,000 units for video singles; ♦♦ RIAA gold cert. for sales of 50,000 units for SF or LF videos; ♦♦♦ RIAA platinum cert. for sales of 100,000 units for SF or LF videos; ♦♦♦♦ RIAA platinum cert. for sales of 250,000 units for SF or LF videos certified prior to April 1, 1991; ♦♦♦♦♦ RIAA platinum cert. for 50,000 units for SF or LF videos certified prior to April 1, 1991. ©2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24 2004

Billboard TOP DVD SALES

Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	RATING	PRICE
			NUMBER 1 1 Week At Number 1			
1	NEW		BROTHER BEAR (2 DISC SPECIAL EDITION) WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62242	Animated	G	29.98
2	NEW		SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 01302	Jack Nicholson Diane Keaton	PG-13	28.98
3	NEW		TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE (WIDESCREEN) NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 06834	Jessica Biel Eric Balfour	R	27.98
4	NEW		TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE (2 DISC WIDESCREEN EDITION) NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 07031	Jessica Biel Eric Balfour	R	39.98
5	1	2	THE RUNDOWN (WIDESCREEN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23290	The Rock	PG-13	26.98
6	2	2	THE RUNDOWN (PAN & SCAN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23291	The Rock	PG-13	26.98
7	NEW		TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE (SPECIAL EDITION) PIONEER ENTERTAINMENT 12133	Marilyn Burns Ed Neal	R	19.98
8	4	2	GOTHIKA (PAN & SCAN) WARNER HOME VIDEO 28379	Halle Berry Penelope Cruz	R	27.98
9	RE-ENTRY		AS GOOD AS IT GETS COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 021709	Jack Nicholson Helen Hunt	PG-13	14.98
10	9	5	CHAPPELLE'S SHOW SEASON ONE PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 87951	Dave Chappelle	NR	26.98
11	3	2	GOTHIKA (WIDESCREEN) WARNER HOME VIDEO 28380	Halle Berry Penelope Cruz	R	27.98
12	NEW		HOUSE OF SAND AND FOG DREAMWORKS HOME ENTERTAINMENT/UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 90977	Ben Kingsley Jennifer Connelly	R	26.98
13	7	3	DR. SEUSS' CAT IN THE HAT (PAN & SCAN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 24883	Mike Myers	PG	26.98
14	6	2	HONEY (WIDESCREEN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23292	Jessica Alba Mekhi Phifer	PG-13	26.98
15	8	3	DR. SEUSS' CAT IN THE HAT (WIDESCREEN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 21476	Mike Myers	PG	26.98
16	5	2	HONEY (PAN & SCAN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 24487	Jessica Alba Mekhi Phifer	PG-13	26.98
17	13	8	THE LION KING 1 1/2 WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31205	Animated	G	29.98
18	10	4	MONA LISA SMILE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 10075	Julia Roberts	PG-13	28.98
19	NEW		C.S.I. COMPLETE THIRD SEASON PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 79654	William Peterson Marg Helgenberger	NR	89.98
20	11	6	SPY KIDS 3: GAME OVER WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32946	Antonio Banderas Sylvester Stallone	PG	29.98
21	RE-ENTRY		DIRTY DANCING: ULTIMATE EDITION ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 14635	Patrick Swayze Jennifer Grey	PG-13	19.98
22	38	11	OPEN RANGE WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32055	Kevin Costner Robert Duvall	R	29.98
23	14	5	SCHOOL OF ROCK (PAN & SCAN SPECIAL EDITION) PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 56354	Jack Black Joan Cusack	PG-13	29.98
24	NEW		FINAL COUNTDOWN (WIDESCREEN) BLUE UNDERGROUND/BLUE UNDERGROUND 02004	Kirk Douglas Martin Sheen	PG	19.98
25	24	23	FINDING NEMO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62155	Animated	G	29.98
26	12	3	21 GRAMS UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 24166	Sean Penn Naomi Watts	R	26.98
27	RE-ENTRY		ANGER MANAGEMENT (PAN & SCAN) COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 01490	Adam Sandler Jack Nicholson	PG-13	19.98
28	RE-ENTRY		MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING HBO HOME VIDEO/WARNER HOME VIDEO 91993	Nia Vardalos John Corbett	PG	19.98
29	16	5	SCHOOL OF ROCK (WIDESCREEN SPECIAL EDITION) PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 38514	Jack Black Joan Cusack	PG-13	29.98
30	20	5	GOOD BOY (SPECIAL EDITION) MGM HOME ENTERTAINMENT 69028	Liam Aiken Molly Shannon	PG	26.98
31	RE-ENTRY		LEGENDS OF THE FALL COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 78727	Brad Pitt Anthony Hopkins	R	14.98
32	RE-ENTRY		A FEW GOOD MEN COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 05280	Tom Cruise Jack Nicholson	R	14.98
33	RE-ENTRY		MAID IN MANHATTAN (WIDESCREEN) COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 6009748	Jennifer Lopez Ralph Fiennes	PG-13	19.98
34	17	4	SCHINDLER'S LIST (WIDESCREEN SPECIAL EDITION) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23866	Ben Kingsley Ralph Fiennes	R	26.98
35	RE-ENTRY		A KNIGHT'S TALE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 06143	Heath Ledger	PG-13	14.98
36	RE-ENTRY		JERRY MAGUIRE (SPECIAL EDITION) COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 68253	Tom Cruise Cuba Gooding, Jr.	R	14.98
37	RE-ENTRY		THE HOT CHICK TOUCHSTONE HOME VIDEO/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30580	Rob Schneider	PG-13	9.98
38	RE-ENTRY		SIGNS (WIDESCREEN) TOUCHSTONE HOME VIDEO/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 27899	Mel Gibson Joaquin Phoenix	PG-13	19.98
39	RE-ENTRY		A BUG'S LIFE WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30449	Animated	G	29.98
40	RE-ENTRY		BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM (PAN & SCAN) 20TH CENTURY FOX 08435	Parminder Nagra	PG-13	19.98

APRIL 24 2004

Billboard TOP VHS SALES

Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	YEAR OF RELEASE	RATING	PRICE
			NUMBER 1 1 Week At Number 1				
1	NEW		BROTHER BEAR WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62242	Animated	2003	G	24.98
2	1	2	DR. SEUSS' CAT IN THE HAT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 62609	Mike Myers	2003	PG	24.98
3	4	6	DORA'S EGG HUNT PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 75423	Dora The Explorer	2004	NR	9.98
4	3	1	THE LION KING 1 1/2 WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31203	Animated	2004	G	24.98
5	NEW		RUNDOWN UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 61429	The Rock	2003	PG-13	22.98
6	2	4	WINNIE THE POOH: SPRINGTIME WITH ROO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32060	Winnie The Pooh	2004	NR	22.98
7	NEW		TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 06832	Jessica Biel Eric Balfour	2003	R	22.98
8	15	8	HERE COMES PETER COTTONTAIL SONY WONDER/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 54187	Animated	1971	NR	9.98
9	10	4	WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO? SAFARI SO GOOD WARNER HOME VIDEO 02390	Scooby-Doo	2004	NR	14.98
10	NEW		DRAGON BALL GT - CONVERSION VOL. 14 (UNCUT) FUNIMATION 04993	Animated	2004	NR	19.98
11	5	2	HONEY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 61431	Jessica Alba Mekhi Phifer	2003	PG-13	22.98
12	7	6	SPY KIDS 3: GAME OVER WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32977	Antonio Banderas Sylvester Stallone	2003	PG	24.98
13	NEW		DRAGON BALL GT- REALIZATION VOL. 13 (UNCUT) FUNIMATION 04983	Animated	2004	NR	19.98
14	6	3	BABY EINSTEIN: BABY MACDONALD WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 33114	Baby Einstein	2004	NR	14.98
15	13	2	FINDING NEMO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32081	Animated	2003	G	24.98
16	9	10	DORA THE EXPLORER-DORA'S PIRATE ADVENTURE PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 79583	Animated	2004	NR	9.98
17	8	5	GOOD BOY MGM HOME ENTERTAINMENT 69027	Liam Aiken Molly Shannon	2003	PG	24.98
18	11	4	SPONGEBOB GOES PREHISTORIC PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 79543	Spongebob Squarepants	2004	NR	9.98
19	19	3	VEGGIE TALES - EASTER CAROL WARNER HOME VIDEO 07266	VeggieTales	2004	NR	12.98
20	12	2	HOME ON THE RANGE - SING ALONG SONGS WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62352	Animated	2004	NR	14.98
21	NEW		DRAGON BALL GT - CONVERSION VOL. 14 (EDITED) FUNIMATION 04833	Animated	2004	NR	14.98
22	17	10	DORA THE EXPLORER - RHYMES AND RIDDLES PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 79053	Animated	2003	NR	9.98
23	18	13	RUGRATS EASTER NICKELODEON VIDEO/PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 871858	Animated	2002	NR	9.98
24	NEW		DRAGON BALL GT- REALIZATION VOL. 13 (EDITED) FUNIMATION 04823	Animated	2004	NR	14.98
25	14	3	THOMAS & FRIENDS- BEST OF GORDON ANCHOR BAY ENTERTAINMENT 01325	Thomas & Friends	2004	NR	12.98

RIAA gold cert. for sales of 50,000 units or \$1 million in sales at suggested retail. RIAA platinum cert. for sales of 100,000 units or \$2 million in sales at suggested retail. IRMA gold certification for a minimum of 125,000 units or a dollar volume of \$9 million at retail for theatrically released programs, or of at least 25,000 units and \$1 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. IRMA platinum certification for a minimum sale of 250,000 units or a dollar volume of \$18 million at retail for theatrically released programs, and of at least 50,000 units and \$2 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen VideoScan. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24 2004

Billboard TOP VIDEO RENTALS

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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	RATING
			NUMBER 1 1 Week At Number 1		
1	NEW		SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 01302	Jack Nicholson Diane Keaton	PG-13
2	NEW		TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 06834	Jessica Biel Eric Balfour	R
3	1	2	GOTHIKA WARNER HOME VIDEO 28380	Halle Berry Penelope Cruz	R
4	2	2	THE RUNDOWN UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23290	The Rock	PG-13
5	NEW		BROTHER BEAR WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62240	Animated	G
6	3	2	HONEY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23292	Jessica Alba Mekhi Phifer	PG-13
7	4	4	MONA LISA SMILE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 10075	Julia Roberts	PG-13
8	5	5	SCHOOL OF ROCK PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 38514	Jack Black Joan Cusack	PG-13
9	7	6	MISSING COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 02543	Tommy Lee Jones Cate Blanchett	R
10	6	3	DR. SEUSS' CAT IN THE HAT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 24883	Mike Myers	PG

IRMA gold certification for a minimum of 125,000 units or a dollar volume of \$9 million at retail for theatrically released programs, or of at least 25,000 units and \$1 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. IRMA platinum certification for a minimum sale of 250,000 units or a dollar volume of \$18 million at retail for theatrically released programs, and of at least 50,000 units and \$2 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

APRIL 24 2004

Billboard TOP VIDEO GAME RENTALS

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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE	Manufacturer	RATING
			NUMBER 1 1 Week At Number 1		
1	8	2	XBOX-TOM CLANCY'S SPLINTER CELL: PANDORA	Ubs	T
2	1	9	PS2-MAFIA	Take 2 Interactive	M
3	NEW		PS2-JAMES BOND 007: EVERYTHING OR NOTHING	Electronic Arts	T
4	NEW		PS2-TOM CLANCY'S RAINBOW SIX 3: RAVEN SHIELD	Ubs	M
5	2	5	XBOX - NINJA GAIDEN	Tecmo	M
6	4	14	PS2-NEED FOR SPEED: UNDERGROUND	Electronic Arts	E
7	5	11	PS2-NFL STREET	Electronic Arts	E
8	NEW		NGC-POKEMON: COLOSSEUM	Nintendo	E
9	6	2	PS2-TOM CLANCY'S GHOST RECON: JUNGLE STORM	Ubs	M
10	7	14	PS2-TRUE CRIME: STREETS OF LA	Activision	M

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EXECUTIVE TURNTABLE

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



STUDEBAKER



PALO



JOLY



FRANK

RECORD COMPANIES: Sony Classical in New York promotes **Marc Offenbach** to senior VP of marketing and sales. He was senior VP of sales.

EMI Music U.S. Latin in San Antonio names **Jorge Ballesteros** VP/GM of regional Mexican and Tejano. He was national director of A&R and promotions at **Disa**.

Shout Factory in Los Angeles appoints **Stacey Studebaker** senior director of media relations and **Jeffrey Palo** senior director of production. Studebaker was manager of publicity at **MGM Home Entertainment**, and Palo was senior director of production at **Virgin Records America**.

PUBLISHING: SESAC in Nashville promotes **Amy Beth Hale** to director of affiliate services. She was associate director of affiliate services.

PRO AUDIO: **Guitar Center** in Westlake Village, Calif., ups **Gene Joly** to senior VP/technology merchandise manager. He was VP/technology merchandise manager.

Sennheiser Electronic in Old Lyme, Conn., names **Brigitte Frank** marketing communications manager. She was senior marketing manager of creative services at **META Group**.



5 Browns, 1 Label

Classical-pianist siblings the **5 Browns** recently inked a record deal with **BMG Classics**. The musical group's debut album is due in early 2005. Pictured sitting, from left, are group members **Melody Brown**, **Deondra Brown** and **Desirae Brown**. Standing, from left, are group member **Ryan Brown**, 5 Browns co-manager/executive producer **Joel Diamond**, BMG Classics VP/GM **Gilbert Hetherwick**, BMG Classics senior director of A&R **Deborah Surdi**, BMG Classics chairman **Nicholas Firth** and group member **Gregory Brown**.



Rooney Rocks

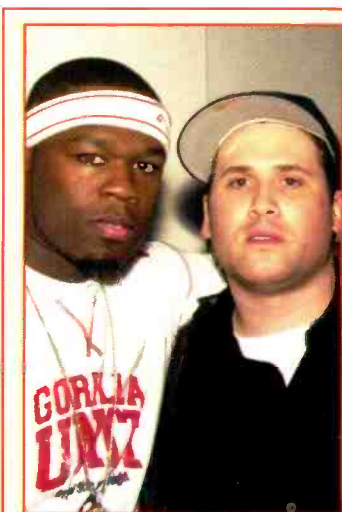
Robert Carmine (pictured at right), lead singer of pop/rock band **Rooney**, entertains the crowd during a free Rooney show sponsored by **Sunglass Hut** March 22 at Irving Plaza in New York. The group performed songs from its self-titled **Geffen Records** debut album, as well as new songs such as "Paralyzed" and "One-Armed Man." The next day, the band stopped by **Billboard's** New York headquarters for a **Billboard Café** meet-and-greet. Pictured, from left, are keyboardist **Louie Stephens**, Carmine, **Billboard** senior writer **Carla Hay**, drummer **Ned Brower**, bassist **Matthew Winter** and lead guitarist **Taylor Locke**. (Photo right: Michael Weintrob/Groovetography.com; photo top: Steven Trachtenbroit)



Now, Hear This ... THE LOST TRAILERS Artists to Watch

Willie Nelson once told the **Lost Trailers** lead singer/songwriter **Stokes Nielson**, "If you build a house of quality in the woods, the world will beat a path to your doorstep." That advice became the inspiration for "Welcome to the Woods," the **Lost Trailers'** major-label debut album, due April 20 on **Republic/Universal Records**. The album draws heavily from the Atlanta-based rock band's Americana, roots and country-music influences. Along with frontman Stokes, the other members of the **Lost Trailers** are his brother, bassist **Andrew Nielson**; guitarist **Manny Medina**; drummer **Jeff Porter**; and keyboardist **Ryder Lee**. Stokes Nielson credits country legend Nelson as being an important force in the **Lost Trailers'** career. When Stokes Nielson was a DJ at **Vanderbilt University** radio station **WRVU** in Nashville, he interviewed Nelson and gave the music veteran a **Lost Trailers** demo. Nelson soon invited the **Lost Trailers** to play at his 4th of July Picnic in 2000. By the time **Republic/Universal** signed the band, the **Lost Trailers** had toured extensively and released two independent albums. The band is currently on a U.S. tour, and **Republic/Universal** has serviced "Longfall," the first single from "Welcome to the Woods," to triple-A radio. Though the **Lost Trailers** are now on a major label, Stokes Nielson says, "Our philosophy hasn't changed: We want to make music that's vital to people."

CARLA HAY



Hot Fashion ... 50 CENT

50 Cent, left, joined fashion mogul **Marc Ecko** at Ecko's Large & In Charge company event March 25 in New York. Ecko is collaborating with 50 Cent on the rapper's **G-Unit Clothing** company.

After a four-year gap, the Corrs return with 'Borrowed Heaven'



Global



English is the 'natural' language for French rock band Phoenix

UNITED KINGDOM / EUROPE / ASIA / JAPAN / AUSTRALIA / AFRICA / CANADA



THE MAGNIFICENTS: ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF SCOTLAND AT SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST

Scotland Breeds New Talent

This is the first in a two-part series examining new music breaking out of Scotland and Ireland. The next installment will run in the May 1 issue.

BY OLAF FURNISS

EDINBURGH, Scotland—The healthy showing by Scottish bands at this year's South by Southwest Music Conference in Austin is testament to the renaissance of this country's music scene.

Buoyed by the response to the 14 Scottish acts on display at SXSW (only one act attended in 2003), industry insiders here are confident that the crop of local talent has a sustainable future.

"For things to grow, you need a solid base, and we now have that," says Geoff Ellis, CEO of Scotland's largest promoter, DF Concerts. "A strong base is not founded on hype."

Vic Galloway, a DJ on state-owned BBC Radio Scotland and U.K. youth station BBC Radio 1, says the Scottish music industry has come of age.

"There is an ever-growing infrastructure consisting of radio, press, labels and managers, who, unlike those in the past, are working closely together," he says.

MORE THAN GLASGOW

Insiders say the domestic music scene benefited from international exposure when Edinburgh hosted the MTV Europe Music Awards last November (*Billboard*, Nov. 22, 2003) and BBC Radio 3's Awards for World Music in March (*Billboard*, Feb. 21).

Glasgow-based art-rock band Franz Ferdinand has led the pack of Scottish acts breaking out to a mass market in the United Kingdom.

The band's self-titled debut album is approaching platinum. (Continued on page 52)

VH1 Debuts Down Under

Labels See Marketing Opportunity

BY CHRISTIE ELIEZER

SYDNEY—Australian labels are hopeful that the launch of VH1 Down Under will give them an additional tool to help break into international markets.

Singapore-based MTV Networks Asia launched VH1 Australia as a wholly owned and operated subsidiary March 14. VH1 Australia shares office space with the MTV Australia channel, which is a licensed operation through Sydney-based pay-TV operator Optus TV.

The two channels share some resources but will continue to operate independently and target different demographics.

"Up to 40% of content on VH1 is local," says Andrew Hoppe, VH1 Australia director of operations and programming.

Locally produced versions of staple VH1 shows "Behind the Music" and "Storytellers" will be offered to overseas affiliates, he adds.

Label executives here suggest that the overseas push could be key to the marketing of local acts seeking international breakthroughs.

"The people at VH1 come with excellent reputations, and we're expecting them to make a splash by offering competitive marketing opportunities," says Denis Handlin, chairman/CEO of Sony Music Entertainment Australia. "We'll certainly be working with them."

Roger Grierson, chairman of leading Australian independent Festival Mushroom Records, is also enthusiastic about the opportunities the launch creates.

Praising the "wealth of material" VH1 brings to the domestic market, Grierson points out that the broadcaster "has a more specific demographic than current [Australian] offerings."

Australia has only four major music channels. Of those, only Channel V's

MusicMax actively targets the 25-44 demographic that VH1 covets.

This age group "has a longer attention span [and] a better idea of what it wants from music," according to VH1 Australia GM Nigel Robbins. "It is a group which is not catered for in this country."

DIGITAL DIRECTION

Robbins heads a staff of 10 at the new channel. Formerly CEO of MTV Group Japan, he has worked for the

broadcaster in Hong Kong, New York, Singapore and Tokyo. He reports to Singapore-based MTV Networks Asia president Frank Brown.

Hoppe, who reports to Robbins, was most recently managing director of digital-rights management company Soundbuzz Australia. He also served as VP of

network programming at MTV Networks Asia 1994-98.

VH1 Australia launched as part of digital pay-TV packages introduced by local operators Foxtel Digital and Austar Digital. Robbins concedes that VH1's success depends on how quickly Australians respond to digital TV.

"In terms of subscribers," he says, "we're taking a long-term approach. We're initially targeting modest numbers, realistically so. But there's plenty of room for growth."

Brown suggests that the time was right for MTV to expand its presence Down Under.

"One in four households in Australia already embrace subscription TV, and access to digital technology [is] set to make it even more attractive to consumers," he says.

Robbins is confident the channel will also attract substantial advertising. However, he admits, "many Australians have never heard of VH1. We've got to market ourselves strongly."



ROBBINS: HEADING STAFF OF 10



HANDLIN: EXPECTING A SPLASH



JAPAN		UNITED KINGDOM		FRANCE		GERMANY	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
(DEMPA PUBLICATIONS INC.) 04/14/04		(THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS CO.) 04/12/04		(SNEP/IFOP/TITE-LIVE) 04/14/04		(MEDIA CONTROL) 04/14/04	
SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
MOMENTS AYUMI NAKAMURA AVEX TRAX		FIVE COLOURS IN HER HAIR MCFLY UNIVERSAL		SI DEMAIN... (TURN AROUND) ANTONN KAREEN & BONNIE TYLER EPIC		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA	
2	3	2	2	2	56	2	2
ARJE BUMP OF CHICKEN TOY'S FACTORY		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA		CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT MAX RARE	
3	NEW	3	NEW	3	5	3	3
SEVEN MIKA NAKASHIMA SONY MUSIC		IN THE SHADOWS THE RASMUS PLAYGROUND/UNIVERSAL		TU SERAS EMMA DAUMUS POLYDOR		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC	
4	2	4	5	4	4	4	4
OH JAPAN OUR TIME IS NOW TMG VERMILLION RECORDS		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC		TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE		JUST ONE LAST DANCE SARAH CONNOR FT. NATURAL X-CELL/SONY	
5	5	5	4	5	3	5	5
YASASHIKISS O SHITE DREAMS COME TRUE UNIVERSAL		CHA CHA SLIDE DJ CASPER ALL AROUND THE WORLD		MODERN TIMES J-FIVE M6 INT.		THIS IS MY LIFE ELI HANSA	
6	9	6	NEW	6	2	6	6
JUPITER AYAKA HIRAHARA DREA MUSIC		COME WITH ME SPECIAL D. ALL AROUND THE WORLD		PARLE-MOI NADIYA COLUMBIA		MAD WORLD MICHAEL ANDREWS FT. GARY JULES ADVENTURE/SANCTUARY	
7	NEW	7	3	7	6	7	7
STARTIN' TOSHIKI KADOMATSU BMG FUNHOUSE		SLOW JAMZ TWISTA ATLANTIC		PUMP IT UP DANZEL PANIC/UM		HEY MAMA BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE	
8	NEW	8	6	8	8	8	10
KISS ME JANNE DA ARC AVEX TRAX		BREATHE EASY BLUE INNOCENT		L'ORPHELIN WILLY DENZEV EPIC		SUGA SUGA BABY BASH UNIVERSAL	
9	7	9	NEW	9	NEW	9	8
SAKURA KYODO KAWAGUCHI WARNER MUSIC JAPAN		I LIKE IT NARCOTIC THRUST FREE 2 AIR		LA POSITIVE ATTITUDE LORIE EPIC		AUGEN AUF DOOMPH! HANSA	
10	4	10	NEW	10	7	10	9
ARIGATO NO UTA VE AVEX TRAX		NAUGHTY GIRL BEYONCE KNOWLES COLUMBIA		SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE		LIEBE IST ALLES ROSENSTOLZ ISLAND	
ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS	
1	NEW	1	1	1	NEW	1	1
MR. CHILDREN SHIFUKU NO OTTO TOY'S FACTORY		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC		VINCENT DELERM KENSINGTON SQUARE TOT OU TARD/WARNER		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC	
2	1	2	2	2	3	2	3
HIKARU UTADA UTADA HIKARU SINGLES COLLECTION VOL.1 TOSHIBA/EMI		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN		SOUNDTRACK LES CHORISTES MARC MUSIC/WEA		NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE	
3	NEW	3	3	3	1	3	4
HITOTOYO HITODOMI COLUMBIA		USHER CONFESSIONS ARISTA		CALOGERO 3 MERCURY		ROSENSTOLZ HERZ POLYDOR	
4	4	4	RE	4	2	4	6
AI OTSUKA LOVE PUNCH AVEX TRAX		ABBA GOLD POLYDOR		LES ENFOIRES LES ENFOIRES DANS L'ESPACE RESTO DU COEUR/BMG		USHER CONFESSIONS ARISTA	
5	3	5	NEW	5	10	5	5
VARIOUS ARTISTS BLUE: A TRIBUTE TO YUTAKA OZAKI SONY MUSIC		ATOMIC KITTEN THE GREATEST HITS INNOCENT/VIRGIN		JANE BIRKIN RENDEZ-VOUS CAPITOL		GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC	
6	2	6	6	6	5	6	7
L'ARC EN CIEL SMILE K/ODN		NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE		NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN	
7	7	7	5	7	4	7	2
QUEEN QUEEN JEWELS—THE VERY BEST OF QUEEN TOSHIBA/EMI		KATIE MELUA CALL OFF THE SEARCH DRAMATIC		PASCAL OBISPO LIVE FANSTUDIO/FAN EPIC		SPORTFREUNDE STILLER BURLI MOTOR	
8	5	8	4	8	NEW	8	8
AEROSMITH HONKIN' ON BOBO COLUMBIA		GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC		DIANA KRALL THE GIRL IN THE OTHER ROOM UNIVERSAL JAZZ		WIR SIND HELDEN DIE REKLAMATION LABELS/VIRGIN	
9	14	9	8	9	11	9	12
AYAKA HIRAHARA ODYSSEY DREA MUSIC		WILL YOUNG FRIDAY'S CHILD S/BMG		KYO LE CHEMIN JIVE		BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK INTERSCOPE	
10	23	10	10	10	7	10	10
SOUNDTRACK WINTER SONATA (JAPAN VERSION) UNITED ASIA ENTERTAINMENT		SCISSOR SISTERS SCISSOR SISTERS POLYDOR		YANNICK NOAH POKHARA SAINT GEORGE/COLUMBIA		NELLY FURTADO FOLKLORE DREAMWORKS	
CANADA		ITALY		SPAIN		AUSTRALIA	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
(SOUNDCAN) 04/24/04		(FIMI/NIELSEN) 04/12/04		(AFYVE/MEDIA CONTROL) 04/05/04		(ARIA) 04/12/04	
SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
SOLITAIRE/THE WAY CLAY AIKEN RCA/BMG		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC		DRAGOSTEA DIN TEI D-ZONE VALE MUSIC		F**K IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK) EAMON JIVE	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON LAFACE/BMG		DRAGOSTEA DIN TEI HAUDUCI UNIVERSO		NO MORE LIES IRON MAIDEN CAPITOL		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA	
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE/BMG		GUARDAMI NEGLI OCCHI PAOLO MENEGUZZI RICORDI		LA MENTE DEL MONSTRUO CHUCHO SINNAMON		SUGA SUGA BABY BASH UNIVERSAL	
4	5	4	4	4	4	4	10
MY IMMORTAL EVANESCENCE WIND-UP/EPIC/SONY MUSIC		TURN ME ON KEVIN LYTTLE ATLANTIC		LOVE PROFUSION MADONNA MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.		BLACK BETTY SPIDERBART POLYDOR	
5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
BA BA/TI KI/DI DO SIGUR ROS FAT CAT/PIAS/GEFFEN/UNIVERSAL		SUPERSTAR JAMELIA PARLOPHONE		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC	
6	6	6	7	6	6	6	4
LOVE PROFUSION MADONNA MAVERICK/WARNER		CUANDO VOLVERAS AVENTURA PLANET		AMAZING GEORGE MICHAEL AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC		TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE	
7	8	7	NEW	7	7	7	6
MEME LES ANGES AU DE MONTIGNY VIK/BMG		COME MI VORRESTI RENATO ZERO EPIC		NI UNA LAGRIMA MAS DAVID BUSTAMANTE VALE MUSIC		SUPERSTAR JAMELIA PARLOPHONE	
8	NEW	8	8	8	8	8	9
NO MORE LIES IRON MAIDEN EMI		MY IMMORTAL EVANESCENCE WIND-UP/EPIC		DAVID ZARPA EL AMOR CAMELA CAPITOL		HEY MAMA BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE	
9	7	9	11	9	9	9	11
JUST A LITTLE WHILE JANET JACKSON VIRGIN/EMI		TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE		FLAMBOYANT PET SHOP BOYS CAPITOL		THE WAY YOU MOVE OUTKAST ARISTA	
10	RE	10	18	10	10	10	13
BABY BOY BEYONCE FT. SEAN PAUL COLUMBIA/SONY MUSIC		PICCOLO AMICO GIGI D'ALESSIO RCA		THE UNNAMED FEELING EP METALLICA MERCURY		SO BEAUTIFUL PETE MURRAY COLUMBIA	
ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS	
1	NEW	1	NEW	1	1	1	1
VARIOUS ARTISTS STAR ACADEMIE 2004 MUSICOR/SELECT		VASCO ROSSI BUONI O CATTIVI CAPITOL		CAMELA DIEZ DE CORAZON CAPITOL		PETE MURRAY FEELER COLUMBIA	
2	1	2	3	2	2	2	NEW
MARIE-ELAINE THIBERT MARIE-ELAINE THIBERT MUSIC BIZZ/SELECT		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC		USHER CONFESSIONS ARISTA	
3	2	3	2	3	3	3	2
USHER CONFESSIONS LAFACE/BMG		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN		ESTOPA LA CALLE ES TUYA? ARIOLA		THE JOHN BUTLER TRIO SUNRISE OVER SEA JARRAH RECORDS	
4	4	4	1	4	4	4	4
GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN/UNIVERSAL		BIAGIO ANTONACCI CONVIVENDO PARTE 1 IRIS		SHAKIRA LIVE AND OFF THE RECORD EPIC		EVANESCENCE FALLEN WIND-UP/EPIC	
5	8	5	7	5	5	5	3
BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK A&M/INTERSCOPE/UNIVERSAL		TIZIANO FERRO 111 CENTO ONCE CAPITOL		DAVID BISBAL BULERIA VALE MUSIC		SHANNON NOLL THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT BMG	
6	6	6	4	6	6	6	6
NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE/EMI		MICHAEL BUBLE MICHAEL BUBLE REPRISE		MAREA 28.000 PUNALADAS DRD		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN	
7	3	7	6	7	7	7	7
ERIC CLAPTON ME & MR. JOHNSON WARNER BROS.		MINA THE PLATINUM COLLECTION EMI		LOS LUNNIS LOS LUNNIS NOS VAMOS A LA CAMA SONY MUSIC		NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE	
8	RE	8	8	8	8	8	5
HILARY DUFF METAMORPHOSIS BUENA VISTA/HOLLYWOOD/UNIVERSAL		NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE		GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC		GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC	
9	9	9	5	9	9	9	10
EVANESCENCE FALLEN WIND-UP/EPIC/SONY MUSIC		GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC		HEROES DEL SILENCIO ANTOLOGIA AUDIOVISUAL CAPITOL		JET GET BORN CAPITOL	
10	10	10	9	10	10	10	9
JOSH GROBAN CLOSER 143/REPRISE/WARNER		FRANCESCO GUCCINI RITRATTI CAPITOL		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN		JACK JOHNSON ON AND ON MOD	
THE NETHERLANDS		SWEDEN		NORWAY		SWITZERLAND	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
(MEGA CHARTS BV) 04/12/04		(GLF) 04/09/04		(VERDENS GANG NORWAY) 04/12/04		(MEDIA CONTROL) 04/13/04	
SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA		DET GOR ONT LENA PHILIPSSON COLUMBIA		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA	
2	3	2	10	2	2	2	2
LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC		BLOW THE SPOT BUBBLES HEART/ATTACK		F**K IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK) EAMON JIVE		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC	
3	2	3	4	3	3	3	1
VOORBIJ MARC BORSATO & DO POLYDOR		MIN KARLEK SHIRLEY CLAMP M&L		LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC		IN LOVE WITH YOU AGAIN CARMEN FENK UNIVERSAL	
4	4	4	6	4	4	4	5
STUCK ON YOU ST DIGIDANCE		YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA		MY IMMORTAL EVANESCENCE WIND-UP/EPIC		CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT MAX RARE	
5	5	5	2	5	6	5	4
SUPERSTAR JAMELIA PARLOPHONE		PARADISE E-TYPE STOCKHOLM		TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE		A KISS GOODBYE MUSIC STARS UNIVERSAL	
ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS	
1	2	1	NEW	1	3	1	NEW
ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC	
2	1	2	3	2	1	2	2
NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE		GYLLEN TIDER GT 25 SAMTIGA HITS PARLOPHONE		ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN	
3	3	3	NEW	3	2	3	1
GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC		IN FLAMES SOUNDTRACK TO YOUR ESCAPE NUCLEAR BLAST		HELLBILLIES NIENDE WARNER BROS.		PLUSCH SIEFFIN COLUMBIA	
4	4	4	5	4	5	4	3
USHER CONFESSIONS ARISTA		GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN		EUROPE ROCK THE NIGHT: THE VERY BEST OF EUROPE EPIC		USHER CONFESSIONS ARISTA	
5	6	5	1	5	6	5	4
GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFKEN		MARIT BERGMAN BABY DRY YOUR EYE RCA		VARIOUS ARTISTS OLSEN BANDEN JR PA ROCKE'R N EMI		NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE	

Corrs Take Years Getting To 'Heaven'

Four years after their last studio album, the Corrs are back. The Irish band came off the road in 2001 after six years of almost continual touring and recording. "We needed to get our lives back," lead singer **Andrea Corr** admits. After a break, the family quartet spent 18 months writing and recording fourth album "Borrowed Heaven" (Atlantic) in Dublin and Los Angeles. "It's our strongest songwriting to date," Sharon Corr says. "We had more time, and all four of us contributed." "Borrowed Heaven" will be released in late May and will be preceded by the single "Summer Sunshine." Tour dates are yet to be announced.

represents something of a departure for the 73-year-old singer. To her customary Cuban rhythms she has added

Global Pulse™
Nigel Williamson, Editor
nwilliamson@billboard.com



South American flavors, with Brazilian musicians joining her Cuban band in the studio in Havana. Production is by World Circuit supremo **Nick Gold** and Brazilian **Ale Siqueira**, who helmed the Latin Grammy Award-winning album by **Os Tribalistas**. "We have some of the best musicians in the world in Cuba [and they are] on this record," Portuondo says. "But it's also interesting to work with other musicians." She undertakes a European tour in May.

CROWN PERFORMANCE: Erann has recorded an official wedding song as a "gift from the people of Denmark" to the country's **Crown Prince Frederik** and his bride, **Mary Donaldson**. The couple will marry May 14. **Sony** will release the song, "When You Hold Me," April 19, with proceeds going to charity. The track, which is expected to debut at No. 1 in Denmark, will appear on the singer's album "Say Something Nice," due for release in European territories in late summer, according to **Eva de Wall**, Sony international exploitation consultant. The album will combine material from Erann's 2001 solo debut, "Still Believing," and follow-up "That's the Way for Me," both of which went platinum in Denmark.

APRIL IN PARIS: What better time or place than April in Paris to kick off the first **Blue Note Festival**? Commemorating the jazz label's 65th anniversary and showcasing the diversity of its Paris/New York rosters, the event was initiated by Blue Note France manager **Nicolas Pflug**, who then enlisted the help of **Bruce Lundvall**, president/CEO of **EMI Jazz & Classics**. Those appearing include **Wynton Marsalis**, who is newly signed to Blue Note, **Jason Moran Bandwagon**, **Patricia Barber Group**, **Erik Truffaz** with French singer **Christophe**, **Flavio Boltro** and **Medeski, Martin & Wood**. Vocalist **Angela McClusky** closes the festival with a tribute to the late French jazz great **Claude Nougaro**. "A lot of people think jazz is dying," Lundvall says. "But every once in a while, someone breaks through like **Norah Jones**, and when you hear a young musician who has that magic, you know this music has a future."

LEADING LADY: The original **Buena Vista Social Club** lost two of its stars last year with the deaths of **Compay Segundo** and **Ruben Gonzalez**. But happily, **Omara Portuondo**, the only female voice on the group's Grammy Award-winning album, is still going strong. "Flor de Amor," her second solo album for **World Circuit/None-such**, is due for a May release, and it

DEVIL WOMAN: Top Polish rock vocalist **Agnieszka Chylinska** has released her first solo album, "Winna" (Guilty), on **Pomaton**. Chylinska became the most controversial female artist in Poland when she fronted heavy metal outfit **ONA**, whose five albums went gold and together sold more than 300,000 units. **ONA** disbanded in 2002, and Chylinska began writing songs for her solo project, including one called "Get the F out of Here." "It's dedicated to those who wrote me off without the band," the 28-year-old says. The album debuted at No. 2 (behind **George Michael**). The title track has been released as the first single.



PORTUONDO: ADDING SOUTH AMERICAN FLAVOR

ROMEK ROGOWIECKI

Billboard EUROCHARTS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	EUROCHARTS SINGLES SALES
1	1	YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA
2	2	LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC
3	3	TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE
4	4	SI DEMAIN... (TURN AROUND) ANTONN KAREEN & BONNIE TYLER EPIC
5	5	FIVE COLOURS IN HER HAIR MCFLY UNIVERSAL
6	62	IN THE SHADOWS THE RASMUS PLAYGROUND/UNIVERSAL
7	7	CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT MAX RARE
8	17	TU SERAS EMMA DAUMUS POLYDOR
9	11	HEY MAMA BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE
10	8	SUPERSTAR JAMELIA PARLOPHONE
11	13	BREATHE EASY BLUE INNOCENT/VIRGIN
12	16	JUST ONE LAST DANCE SARAH CONNOR FT. NATURAL X-CELL/SONY
13	19	SUGA SUGA BABY BASH BARCLAY
14	14	CHA CHA SLIDE DJ CASPER ALL AROUND THE WORLD
15	12	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE
16	15	NOT IN LOVE ENRIQUE IGLESIAS FT. KEJUS INTERSCOPE
17	10	MODERN TIMES J-FIVE M&INT.
18	18	TURN ME ON KEVIN LYTTLE ATLANTIC
19	22	THIS IS MY LIFE ELI HANSA
20	NEW	COME WITH ME SPECIAL D. ALL AROUND THE WORLD
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUM SALES
1	1	ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC
2	4	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFEN
3	2	NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE
4	3	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC
5	5	USHER CONFESSIONS ARISTA
6	8	BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK INTERSCOPE
7	6	ERIC CLAPTON ME AND MR. JOHNSON REPRISE
8	9	EVANESCENCE FALLEN WIND UP/EPIC
9	10	NORAH JONES COME AWAY WITH ME BLUE NOTE
10	14	JOSS STONE THE SOUL SESSIONS RELENTLESS/VIRGIN
11	7	N.E.R.D. FLY OR DIE VIRGIN
12	NEW	ABBA GOLD POLYDOR
13	17	ROSENSTOLZ HERZ POLYDOR
14	12	NELLY FURTADO FOLKLORE DREAMWORKS
15	NEW	ATOMIC KITTEN THE GREATEST HITS INNOCENT/VIRGIN
16	18	DIDO LIFE FOR RENT CHEEKY/ARISTA
17	16	KATIE MELUA CALL OFF THE SEARCH DRAMATICO
18	NEW	VINCENT DELERM KENSINGTON SQUARE TOT OU TARD/WEA
19	38	SHAKIRA LIVE AND OFF THE RECORD EPIC
20	13	LIONEL RICHIE JUST FOR YOU MERCURY
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	RADIO AIRPLAY
1	1	SUPERSTAR JAMELIA PARLOPHONE
2	2	TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE
3	10	LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA COLUMBIA
4	8	YEAH! USHER ARISTA
5	3	IT'S MY LIFE NO DOUBT MCA
6	4	AMAZING GEORGE MICHAEL AEGEAN/SONY
7	6	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE
8	5	TURN ME ON KEVIN LYTTLE ATLANTIC
9	9	RED BLOODED WOMAN KYLE MINOGUE PARLOPHONE
10	15	NOT IN LOVE ENRIQUE IGLESIAS UNIVERSAL
11	7	HEY YA! OUTKAST ARISTA
12	11	IN THE SHADOWS THE RASMUS PLAYGROUND/UNIVERSAL
13	12	TAKE ME TO THE CLOUDS ABOVE L.M.C.'S. US. ALL AROUND THE WORLD
14	14	I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU SEAN PAUL ATLANTIC
15	19	SUGA SUGA BABY BASH UNIVERSAL
16	16	POWERLESS (SAY WHAT YOU WANT) NELLY FURTADO DREAMWORKS
17	20	THE WAY YOU MOVE OUTKAST FT. SLEEPY BROWN ARISTA
18	24	HEY MAMA BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE
19	13	PARCE QU'ON VIENT DE LOIN CORNEILLE WAGRAM
20	18	L'ORPHELIN WILLY DENZEL UP MUSIC

AUSTRIA

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	SINGLES
1	1	LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC
2	2	CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT MAX RARE
3	3	YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA
4	4	AUGEN AUF OOMPFI GUN SUPERS
5	5	HEY MAMA BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC
2	2	NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE
3	3	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS UNIVERSAL
4	4	SPORTFREUNDE STILLER BURLI MOTOR
5	5	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC

BELGIUM/WALLONIA

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	SINGLES
1	1	YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA
2	2	SI DEMAIN... (TURN AROUND) ANTONN KAREEN & BONNIE TYLER EPIC
3	3	OBSESSION AVENTURA WALBOOMERS MUSIC
4	4	TU SERAS EMMA DAUMUS POLYDOR
5	5	COMME DES CONNARDS LES CONNARDS UP MUSIC
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	PASCAL OBISPO LIVE FAN/STUDIO FAN EPIC
2	2	LES ENFOIRES LES ENFOIRES DANS L'ESPACE RESTO DU COEUR/BMG
3	3	CALOGERO 3 MERCURY
4	4	KYO LE CHEMIN JIVE
5	5	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC

DENMARK

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	SINGLES
1	1	YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA
2	2	F**K IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK) EAMON JIVE
3	3	LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE ANASTACIA EPIC
4	4	TURN ME ON KEVIN LYTTLE ATLANTIC
5	5	SHE WANTS TO MOVE N.E.R.D. VIRGIN
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC
2	2	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC
3	3	TV-2 HITS CAPITOL
4	4	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFEN
5	5	RUNRIG 30 YEAR JOURNEY: THE BEST OF RECAAT

PORTUGAL

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	NEW	DIANA KRALL THE GIRL IN THE OTHER ROOM VERVE
2	5	ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC
3	3	EVANESCENCE FALLEN WIND UP/EPIC
4	6	SHAKIRA LIVE AND OFF THE RECORD EPIC
5	2	NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE
6	4	BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK INTERSCOPE
7	1	RUSSELL WATSON THE VOICE FAROL
8	17	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFEN
9	9	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC
10	8	JOSS STONE THE SOUL SESSIONS VIRGIN

IRELAND

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	SINGLES
1	1	YEAH! USHER FT. LUDACRIS & LIL JON ARISTA
2	2	TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE
3	3	CHA CHA SLIDE DJ CASPER ALL AROUND THE WORLD
4	5	BREATHE EASY BLUE INNOCENT
5	NEW	COME WITH ME SPECIAL D. ALL AROUND THE WORLD
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFEN
2	2	CHRISTY MOORE THE BOXSET 1964-2004 COLUMBIA
3	5	PADDY CASEY LIVING COLUMBIA
4	3	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC
5	13	ANASTACIA ANASTACIA EPIC

NEW ZEALAND

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	SINGLES
1	1	F**K IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK) EAMON JIVE
2	2	TOXIC BRITNEY SPEARS JIVE
3	3	SUPERSTAR JAMELIA PARLOPHONE
4	4	HEY MAMA BLACK EYED PEAS INTERSCOPE
5	5	DREAMING SCRIBE FMR
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFEN
2	2	NORAH JONES FEELS LIKE HOME BLUE NOTE
3	3	BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK INTERSCOPE
4	5	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC
5	4	HAYLEY WESTENRA PURE UNIVERSAL

GREECE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	SINGLES
1	6	PARTA—TO FEGGARAKI POLIKSINI LEGEND
2	3	ANAPANTITES KLISIS/TRELI KARDIA ELENA PAPAIZOU HEAVEN
3	7	LOVE PROFUSION MADONNA MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.
4	2	JACUZZI VORIA KIKLIMATA ALPHA
5	4	MY IMMORTAL EVANESCENCE WIND UP/EPIC
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	HIM AND LOVE SAID NO... 1997-2004 MINOS
2	2	EVANESCENCE FALLEN EPIC
3	3	GEORGE MICHAEL PATIENCE AEGEAN/SONY MUSIC
4	4	GUNS N' ROSES GREATEST HITS GEFEN
5	NEW	CYPRESS HILL TILL DEATH DO US PART COLUMBIA

CZECH REPUBLIC

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ALBUMS
1	1	JAROMIR NOHAVICA BABYLON BONTON
2	2	CHINASKI PREMIUM/BEST OF 1993-2003 UNIVERSAL
3	4	LUCIE LUCIE V OPERE BONTON
4	9	MICHAEL DAVID NEJVETSI ITALSKY HITU BONTON
5	6	DANIEL LANDA VLTAVA TOUR EMI
6	13	EVA OLMEROVA BLUES SAMOTARSKY (TO NEJLEPSI 1962-1982) SUPRAPHON
7	7	KABAT DOLE V DOLE EMI
8	111	KAREL SVOBODA 65 ORIGINALNI NAHR VYKY NEJVETSICH HITU SUPRAPHON
9	19	PETR SP LENY OBYCEJNY MUZ (TO NEJLEPSI 1967-2004) SUPRAPHON
10	3	KAREL KRYL BRATRICKO, ZAVIREJ VR TKA BONTON

COMMON CURRENCY

A weekly scorecard of albums simultaneously attaining top 10 chart status in three or more leading world markets.
Repertoire owner: B: BMG, E: EMI, I: Independent, S: Sony, U: Universal, W: Warner

ARTIST	USA	JPN	UK	GER	FRA	CAN	SPN	AUS	ITA	NTH
ANASTACIA Anastacia (S)			1	1			2		2	1
EVANESCENCE Fallen (S)	6					9		4		
GUNS N' ROSES Greatest Hits (U)	9		2	6		4	10	6	3	5
NORAH JONES Feels Like Home (E)	5		6	2	6	6		7	8	2
GEORGE MICHAEL Patience (S)			8	5			8	8	9	3

French Phoenix Rises

Armed With English Lyrics, Band Pursues A Global Audience

BY JAMES MARTIN

PARIS—French acts that sing in English are a rarity. EMI France wants to turn Source/Virgin signing Phoenix into something even rarer: an English-language French band that sells large quantities of classic rock with a Californian accent.

The Paris-based band issued its second album, "Alphabetical," March 29 in continental Europe. U.K. and U.S. releases are set to follow. "We're convinced of their crossover potential," says Laurence Muller, Virgin France international product manager.

FAMOUS FANS

The band has attracted press attention in its home market because of its celebrity fans, including U.S. filmmaker Sofia Coppola. She included Phoenix on the soundtrack to her Academy Award-winning 2003 feature "Lost in Translation."

The band also has links with Virgin France labelmate Daft Punk.

Phoenix guitarist Laurent Brancowitz's first group, Darlin', also featured the duo that makes up Daft Punk, Thomas Bangalter and Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo. Phoenix evolved from Darlin' when Bangalter and de Homem-Christo left to form Daft Punk in 1995.

The plan for Phoenix, Muller says, is "to impose them as an authentic part of the pop rock scene, rather than just as a fashionable trend for glossy magazines."

London-based Vincent Clery-Melin, European director of EMI alternative music division Labels, adds, "We want this album to appeal as much to [leading French top 40 radio network] NRJ as it will to Sofia Coppola." Labels is releasing "Alphabetical" outside of France.

"Because Phoenix follow in the wake of other artists who are also



PHOENIX: FILMMAKER SOFIA COPPOLA IS A FAN

units to date in continental Europe and Japan; 20,000 of those were in France. It has charted in France, Norway, Sweden, Germany and Italy. "Alphabetical" will street in the United Kingdom and elsewhere June 28, with a North American release set for August. Virgin U.K. shipped a "soft" prerelease of 6,000 copies of "Alphabetical" in the United Kingdom March 29, "without pushing for volume or co-ops with retailers," Clery-Melin says.

To build a profile at U.K. radio, two singles will precede the album's release. "Run Run Run" bows April 19, followed by "Everything Is Everything" June 21.

"It's a fitting strategy for the U.K.," Clery-Melin says, "as singles get more attention there, for example in terms of press coverage."

Brancowitz claims Phoenix's choice to sing in English was dictated by the nostalgia-tinted pop rock it plays. "English is the language of popular music," he says, "and rhythmically, it works better with what we want to do. It's more natural than French."

However, the fact that singing in English increases his band's commercial potential outside of France isn't lost on Brancowitz. "Everyone would like their work to connect with as many people as possible," he acknowledges.

Phoenix will play live dates in Europe and Japan throughout the summer. The band's booking agent for those territories is Peter Elliott of Primary Talent International in London.

SINGLES STRATEGY

Phoenix's 2000 debut album, "United," shipped 150,000 units worldwide, according to Virgin France. "Alphabetical" has shipped 65,000

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NEWSLINE

THE INTERNATIONAL WEEK IN BRIEF

London-based Sanctuary Group has ramped up its global merchandising business through the acquisition of World Online Merchandising. The New York-based company counts Elton John, Simon & Garfunkel, N*E*R*D, Mis-teeq and Lisa Marie Presley among its music clients. Sanctuary did not reveal the purchase price. World Online Merchandising has been integrated into Bravado, Sanctuary's existing visual-rights licensing and merchandising company. The purchase "builds on [Sanctuary's] strength in the area of merchandising and visual-rights licensing," the group's executive chairman, Andy Taylor, says. It gives the company "a major presence in the United States, the world's largest market for visual rights, as well as an impressive client base," Taylor adds. World Online Merchandising CEO Tom Bennett becomes CEO of Bravado Merchandising/Sanctuary Merchandising North America, reporting to Bravado Group CEO Barry Drinkwater.



TAYLOR

LARS BRANDLE

Spanish independent label Muxxic laid off its entire staff of 10 on March 31, as talks continued with Universal Music Spain about purchasing the label. Muxxic, which is owned by Madrid-based conglomerate Gran Vía Musical (GVM), was launched in October 1999. Universal Spain president Marcelo Castello Branco confirms that negotiations to acquire Muxxic continue; neither company would comment further. Muxxic director Domingo García, who headed the label, remains at GVM in an as-yet-undefined post. Artists signed to Muxxic include Raúl, Tamara, Marta Sánchez, María Jiménez and Antonio Orozco.

HOWELL LLEWELLYN

Alan McGee, the veteran British label executive who discovered Oasis, is relaunching his Poptones imprint through a marketing and distribution deal with Mercury Records. Poptones' previous distributor, Pinnacle, retains an option to handle singles by Poptones artists on a case-by-case basis. McGee will take an office in the Mercury A&R department, in addition to his current Poptones headquarters in West London. McGee floated Poptones on the London Stock Exchange in 2000. Despite some commercial success with Scottish guitar band Cosmic Rough Riders and Swedish rockers the Hives (now signed to Polydor), Poptones failed to earn a profit and was drastically pared back. McGee bought back the label in June 2003 for a nominal sum of £1 (\$1.80); it has been effectively dormant since then. Prior to founding Poptones, McGee launched Creation Records in 1983; the label's acts included Oasis, Primal Scream and the Jesus & Mary Chain. In November 1999, he closed Creation and sold its remaining assets to Sony Music for £17 million (\$24 million).

LARS BRANDLE

For the latest breaking news, go to billboard.biz.

Scotland

Continued from page 49

inum (300,000 units shipped) in Britain, according to its label, London-based independent Domino. In the United States, the import is No. 9 on the Heatseekers chart and No. 8 on Top Independent Albums. The album is due to be rereleased via U.S. licensee Epic in early May.

Another Glasgow-based act, Irish-Scottish outfit Snow Patrol, was among the hottest tickets at SXSW this year. Already a U.K. breakout, the band played the festival ahead of the March 30 U.S. release of its A&M album "Final Straw."

But the current harvest of quality Scottish acts is not confined to Glasgow.

"It's a Scottish phenomenon, whereas in the past it has always been [just] Glasgow," says Alec Downie, develop-

ment officer for state-funded Nemis, which organizes seminars and showcases and disseminates information about the Scottish music industry.

"At the moment, Edinburgh is really interesting," notes Scott MacDonald, owner of KFM Records, which is based in the city. He cites Edinburgh indie labels Benbecula and SL and such acts as the Beta Band and Boards of Canada as catalysts.

Two of MacDonald's own signings, electro-punks the Magnificents and electronica act David Jack, were part of the Scottish delegation at SXSW.

TALENT FROM ALL OVER

Many other up-and-coming acts hail from the country's rural and island communities. These include electronica artist Mylo (Breastfed Records) from Skye, unsigned rockers Raar from the Black Isle and Half Cousin from the Orkney Islands. Half Cousin has signed to London-based Groenland, owned by leading German

artist Herbert Groenemeyer.

Broadcaster Galloway has championed Scottish bands on-air for the past five years. He says the breadth of music being produced in Scotland is a result of the breakdown of genre barriers.

"These days, people's tastes are much broader, so you get rock people at hip-hop gigs and indie kids at rock gigs," Galloway says.

Other industry veterans here emphasize the increase in the number of small, part-time promoters in both rural areas and cities during the past two years. These promoters, who place local acts in venues with capacities of 150 to 500, are credited with stimulating the newly charged domestic scene.

Attention from the international industry has grown with the launch of two Scottish music trade fairs, Go North (in Aberdeen) and Music Works (Glasgow). Each is in its third year.

Taking place in June and October, respectively, the fairs have attracted international attendees to their daytime panels and evening showcases.

Veterans of the Scottish scene point out that the last time Scotland attracted such strong outside interest was in the 1980s. That decade saw the international success of such acts as Wet Wet Wet, Simple Minds, Big Country and Deacon Blue.

"It's similar now to the mid-'80s, in terms of the vast amount of talent around," says Dougie Souness, managing director of No Half Measures, a Glasgow-based publishing, management and label group. He worked for 12 years for the management company of Mercury Records act Wet Wet Wet. "But back then, companies— independent and major—had budgets to sign and develop acts," Souness notes.

A recent lack of major-label investment bred a "do-it-yourself" culture in Scotland, he suggests. This produced an explosion of independent labels that have allowed Scottish artists to develop their careers "organically."

Souness is considering offers from U.S. majors and independents for

two acts on his management roster—Tippi and the Grim Northern Social—following their SXSW appearances. The latter released its self-titled debut album in the United Kingdom in 2003 on London-based indie One Little Indian.

Glasgow indie label Chemikal Underground is also looking to beef up its U.S. presence. Its drum/guitar duo Sluts of Trust signed a U.S. management deal at SXSW with Management Music Division. The act will release its debut album, "We Are All—Sluts of Trust," in the States May 27 through New York-based Megaforce Records.

Such is the mixture of styles emerging from Scotland that there is no easily definable "Scottish sound." However, observers agree that a new feeling of mutual appreciation and common goals is producing an identifiably Scottish attitude.

"Scottish bands breaking through at the moment will give others confidence," Galloway says.

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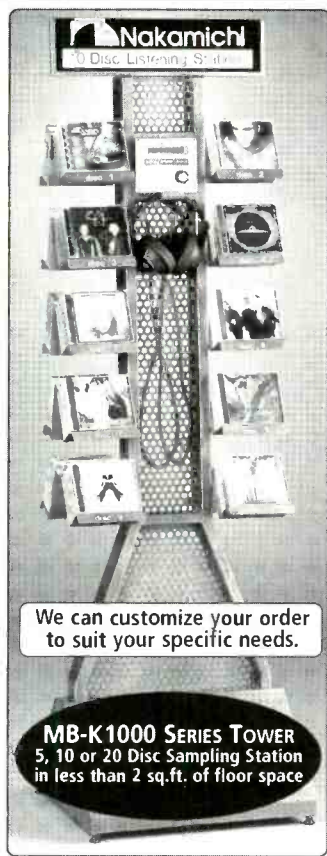
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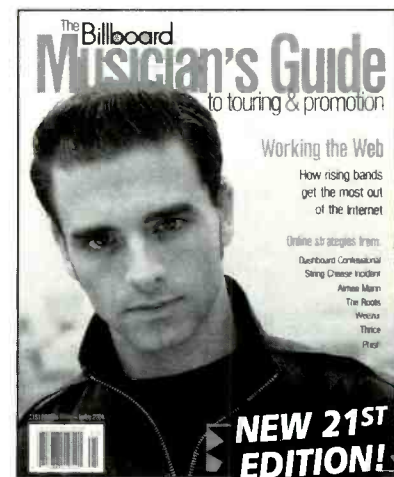
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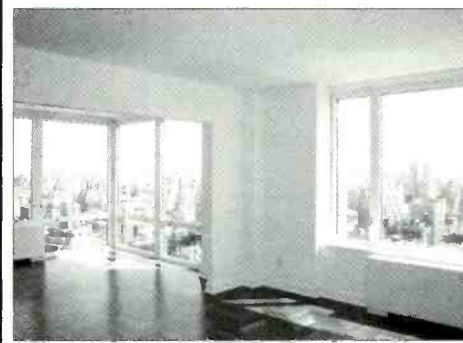
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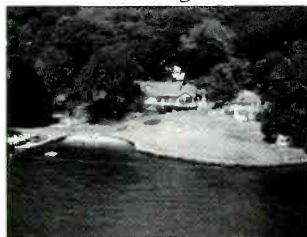
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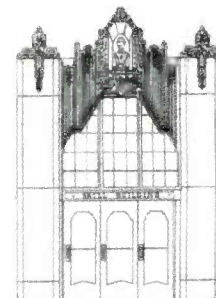
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Hot Homes

LUXURY REAL ESTATE

The Big Money Is Back

Record Number Of Power Deals In Luxury Real Estate

BY CATHERINE APPLEFELD OLSON

The music business is enduring yet another year of anxiety, but you would never know it by looking at the luxury real estate markets in the industry hot spots of New York, Los Angeles, Nashville and Miami.

"The big money is really back in the luxury market," says Pamela Liebman, CEO of New

York real estate firm Corcoran Group. "We're seeing more power deals than we ever have in the past. I think 2004 is going to be a record-setting year for the \$10 million-plus market."

A similar high note is resounding in Los Angeles, where Coldwell Banker moved more \$10 million-plus properties during the first quarter of this year than it did in all of 2003, according to Joyce Rey, executive director of previews.

"It's hard to know whether it's pent-up demand or the economy or what, but things are moving much more quickly now," Rey says.

"Generally today you have to pay well in excess of \$3 million to get a substantial lot size in the most sought-after neighborhoods."

The current cycle of fast-moving inventory and greater demand than supply is a potent formula that generally equals higher prices.

Corcoran Group inventory is down more than 50% from last year, for example, while the percentage of its properties that have sold at or above the asking price is currently at 49.6%, compared with 23% in February 2003, according to Liebman.

And although the lingering low interest

rates don't necessarily affect the typical luxury home buyer in the way they do the general market, they certainly don't hurt.

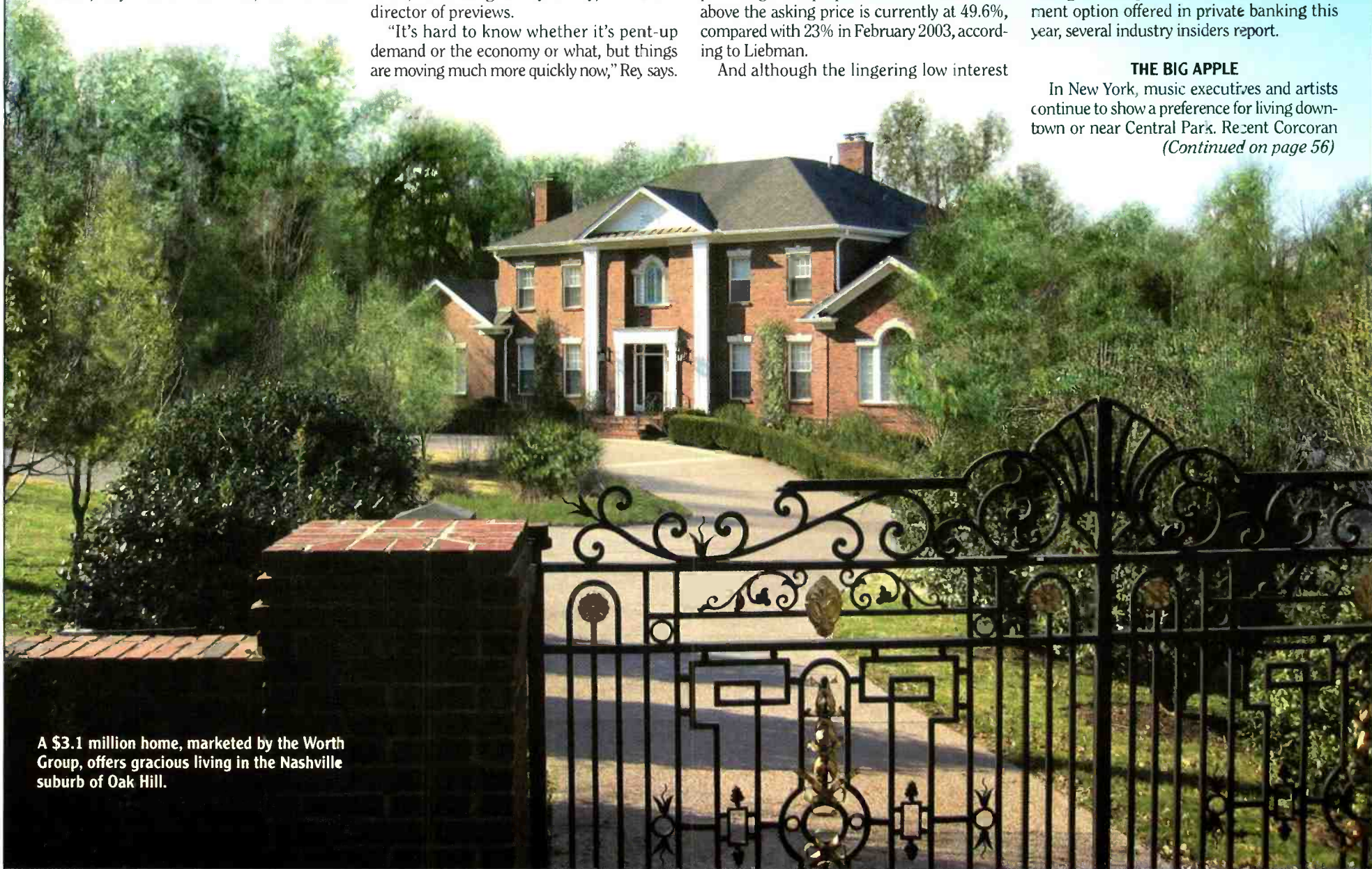
"You could say these big-bucks buyers don't tend to finance anyway, but lower interest rates are always a good thing for real estate," Liebman says. "They energize the whole market."

At the \$1 million-plus level, more buyers are taking advantage of the interest-only repayment option offered in private banking this year, several industry insiders report.

THE BIG APPLE

In New York, music executives and artists continue to show a preference for living downtown or near Central Park. Recent Corcoran

(Continued on page 56)



A \$3.1 million home, marketed by the Worth Group, offers gracious living in the Nashville suburb of Oak Hill.

Big Money

Continued from page 55

clients include violinist Joshua Bell, who moved down the street to a new condo in Chelsea's Flatiron neighborhood; Virgin executive VP of marketing Randy Miller, who purchased a Soho loft; and Blue Man Group music director Chris Dyas, who settled on new digs in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

"Our entertainment clients still tend toward Tribeca, Soho and Central Park West—those three are the big draws," Liebman says. "Celebrities have always found Tribeca appealing because it has a grittiness [along with a] sense of luxury, and many [properties] offer river views because the neighborhood doesn't have a lot of high buildings."

CITY OF ANGELS

The high-end property squeeze in Los Angeles is putting the spotlight on neighborhoods that might have been passed over in a slower cycle.

"As the market becomes more desirable and inventory gets lower, people start looking at alternative areas," says Gary Gold, executive VP of real estate agency Hilton & Hyland in L.A., where luxury homes tend to sell from \$600 to \$1,200 per square foot and can cost upwards of \$2.5 million.

"There's a lot of new developments downtown—mostly apartments but some houses, because of the [lower] price," Gold says.

Perennial favored areas include the Sunset Strip between Doheny and Crescent Heights—where Christina Aguilera recently bought a home—Bel Air, Santa Monica and Venice, which is

an area that is stepping up its profile in the luxury market.

"If you're famous, privacy is often a huge issue," Gold notes. "I've had celebrities look at houses and sit in the bathtub to see if any paparazzi can see them."

In another warm-climate city, Miami, luxury real estate also continues to boom. According to Doug Yount, president of title company Columbia Title, an increasing number of properties in the \$1 million-plus range are being swept up site-unseen online.

International appeal and a reputation as "a huge playground" are bringing entertainment industry folks en masse to Miami, according to Yount, who notes property values in the area have been increasing 15% to 25% for the past several years.

While downtown Miami condos enjoy a high profile, entertainers and industry

executives tend to opt for Miami Beach and neighboring islands. According to brokers, Jennifer Lopez, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, Ricky Martin, Lenny Kravitz and Creed's Scott Stapp have all recently purchased residences in the city.

MUSIC CITY

Nashville is not feeling the property squeeze but is certainly benefiting from the boom in luxury real estate. Com-

munities surrounding Music City offer more wide-open space. You can have a 10-acre estate and still live within a half-hour commute to the centrally located Music Row.

Some 85 homes priced at more than \$1 million were sold in 2003 in Nashville, and 150 luxury homes were on the market at press time, according to Donna Tisdale, a broker at Worth Properties.

(Continued on page 57)



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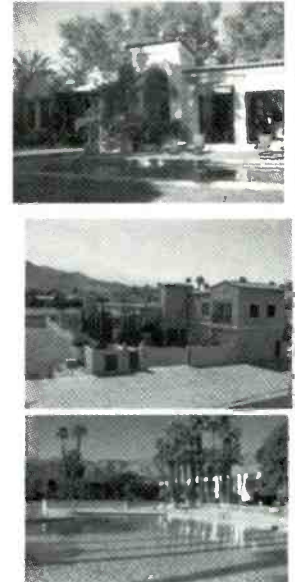
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LENNY KRAVITZ'S MANHATTAN TOWNHOUSE ON THE MARKET THROUGH THE CORCORAN GROUP

Big Money

Continued from page 56

"The big change in the \$1 million-plus market in Nashville over the last few years is the availability of new construction—offering elaborate master retreats, granite-filled chef's kitchens, home theaters, exercise rooms and other features buyers expect in upscale neighborhoods," Tisdale says.

"Another reason Nashville is so hot right now is that it has recently come up in the top five on several lists of places to live in America, and it has been No. 1 on a few," notes Terry Stevens, an affli-

ate broker at Fridrich & Clark Realty and a former music industry executive.

MARKET TRENDS

No matter where they reside, whether it's a sleek condo or a sprawling estate, many luxury home buyers are turning their homes, quite literally, into castles.

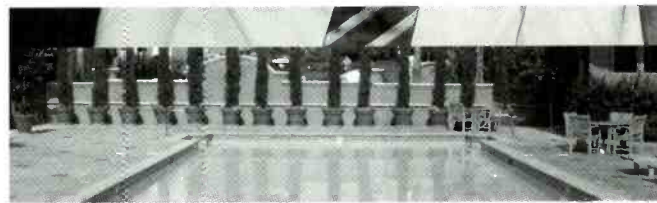
"A lot of these entertainers have more money than time, so they are doing up their homes to the nines so they can really enjoy it when they're there," Gold says. "Home theater is big—media rooms, flat screens, water features. They are wiring their houses like there's no tomorrow."

Because of this luxury real estate boom, Gold has also noticed another trend.

"I've taken a number of big-time, successful music industry people out to lunch through the years who are no longer looking for property and instead are interested in getting into real estate," he says. "Real estate is just very hot right now."



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Artist Turns Investor

Creed frontman Scott Stapp became active on the investment side of the real estate market when he founded Lion's Share Holdings to pursue properties on the Hawaiian island of Maui—where he resided for one year—and other locales.

"We have about \$15 million in properties right now," Stapp says. "We are actively pursuing real estate that we plan to let appreciate and then turn over in three years or so." Other cities that Stapp has his sights on include Orlando, Fla.; New York; and Los Angeles.

But it is South Beach, Fla., where Stapp recently decided to hang a personal shingle. Just before he started working on his upcoming solo CD, he moved into a sprawling estate that blends Mediterranean and Italian Gothic styles.

"I have to be by the water. It brings a calmness to me, which I need as a writer," he says. "The architecture of the house is just so beautiful, and I'm decorating the inside with everything that could inspire me. I want every inch of the house [to be] a place where you can sit and be inspired."

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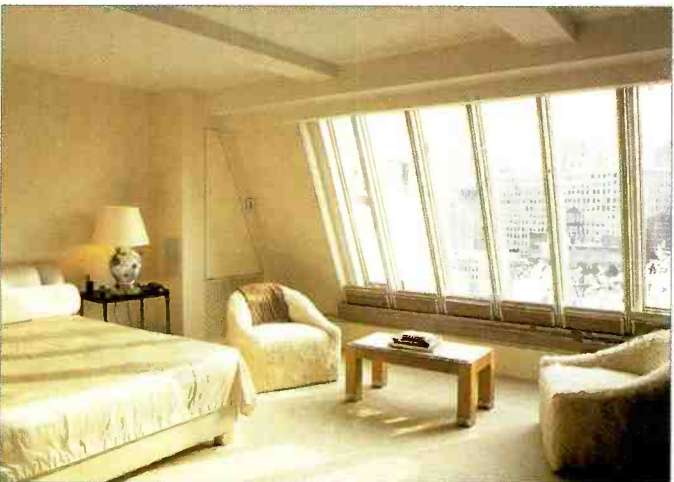
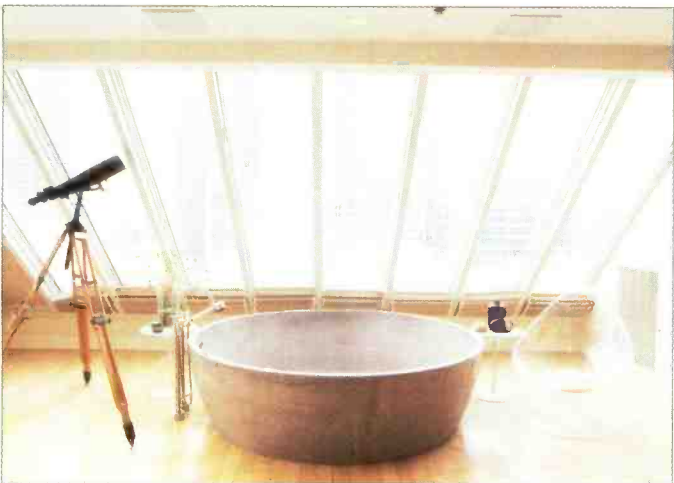


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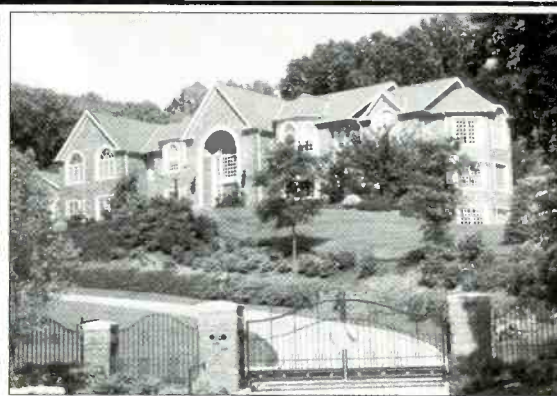
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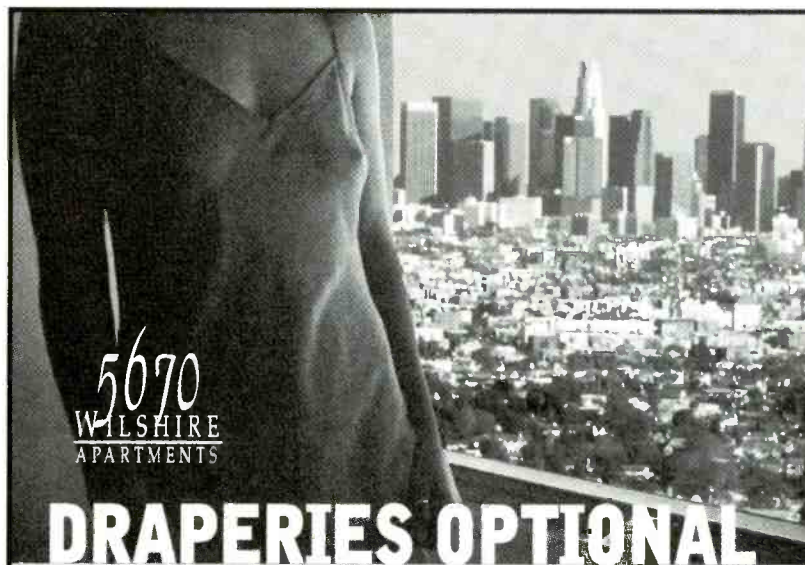


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Aiken Revives Sedaka Fave

The proclivity of "American Idol" for celebrity judges has not only given last year's runner-up **Clay Aiken** the B-side to his current single "The Way," but has given songwriter **Neil Sedaka** a new lease on creative life.

The song, "Solitaire," best-known as the **Carpenters'** No. 17 hit from 1975, is the title track of Sedaka's 1972 album. It was also cut by the likes of **Elvis Presley**, **Shirley Bassey** and **Johnny Mathis**.

It is one of several tracks co-written with lyricist **Phil Cody** after former teen idol Sedaka took a hiatus from collaborating with **Howie Greenfield**, his Brill Building writing partner on such Sedaka-sung classics as "Oh! Carol," "Calendar Girl," "Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen" and "Breaking Up Is Hard to Do."

Sedaka says he's been a big fan of "American Idol" from the start, but he was initially met with skepticism when he called in to volunteer his judicial services.

Convincing the producers that he was for real, Sedaka did in fact appear—and was serenaded by Aiken's stellar performance of "Solitaire."

"It got such a fantastic reaction that he recorded it for [debut album] 'Measure of a Man,' but it didn't get on," Sedaka says. "So he did a marvelous version for the new single. It shows that a good song is a good song, no matter how many years ago it was written—and that you never know when a young artist will pick up your song."

Indeed, Sedaka senses a

"resurgence" of his material, which first gained notice in 1958, when the Sedaka-Greenfield classic "Stupid Cupid" hit for **Connie Francis**. He points to the forthcoming album by 14-year-old newcomer **René Olmstead**,

compiled a demo of some of these lesser-known songs for producers and record companies. "When I go back 30 or 40 years, I find so many hidden treasures," says the senior Sedaka, "and I'm an old song-plugger anyway, from way back."

Here he recalls writing with Greenfield for **Al Nevins** and **Don Kirshner's** Aldon Music. "We were the first Brill Building team, before **Barry Mann** and **Cynthia Weil** and **Jeff Barry** and **Ellie Greenwich** and the whole gang," he says. "We had the room with no windows, and then came 'Stupid Cupid' and [Francis' follow-up hit] 'Where the Boys Are,' and we got a room with windows."

Now an **EMI Music Publishing (BMI)** writer, Brooklyn-born Sedaka has also returned to his heritage with an album of old Yiddish songs: "Brighton Beach Memories—Neil Sedaka Sings Yiddish."

"When I was growing up . . . I heard [Yiddish singing duo] the **Barry Sisters**, and my family would sing along with their records," Sedaka says. "It's not commercial, but I don't care: I get joy out of singing these old songs. It's something I've always wanted to do over the years but never got the chance."

Sedaka is now slated to perform some of these Yiddish songs June 3 at Carnegie Hall, to benefit the Yiddish Theater of New York.

SONG HALL HONOREES: **Charles Fox**, **Al Green**, **Daryl Hall & John Oates**, **Don McLean** and songwriting duo **Barrett Strong** and **Norman Whitfield** will be inducted to the **National Academy of Popular Music/Songwriters Hall of Fame**.

The artists will be recognized at the academy's 35th annual awards dinner.

Special award honorees at the black-tie event, which is slated for June 10 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York, will be announced later.

"The Songwriters Hall of Fame Awards is very special because it's a time when premier songwriters come together to honor their own," Song Hall chairman **Hal David** says. "We're proud of the growing impact of our event, which is now one of the high points of the year. We are looking forward to another terrific and memorable evening, where we spotlight the accomplishments of those who have provided us with the words and music that form the soundtrack of our lives."

Words & Music

By **Jim Bessman**
jbessman@billboard.com



produced by **David Foster**, which includes "Breaking Up Is Hard to Do."

"She sounds like **Patsy Cline**, **Ella Fitzgerald** and **Billie Holiday** all wrapped in one," Sedaka says, "and when David gets behind something, you know what happens."

Sedaka himself knows, as Foster played piano for him in the mid-'70s, when he made a dramatic comeback with his 1974 chart-topper "Laughter in the Rain." He now sees potential for another return to the charts as an artist.

"I have some songs that I feel are as good as 'Breaking Up' and 'Laughter in the Rain' and [the Greenfield-Sedaka 1975 hit for **Captain & Tennille**] 'Love Will Keep Us Together' that have been ignored on various albums that weren't promoted properly," he says. "I think I can happen again as a recording artist if they're produced for today's market."

Whether Sedaka does in fact "happen again" as an artist, his screenwriter son Marc has



AIKEN, LEFT, AND SEDAKA: ENJOYING 'SOLITAIRE' SUCCESS

DVD Drives Deal Between NYC Services

The wave of strategic partnerships by audio and video production/postproduction service providers continues.

New York-based **Manhattan Center Productions (MCP)**, sister company to **Manhattan Center Studios**, has announced an agreement with **NewYorkDVD**, a development and production company.

Under the agreement, NewYorkDVD will become the preferred, in-house provider of authoring and project development for MCP clients. Those include artists recording at Manhattan Center Studios and those performing at Hammerstein Ballroom and Grand Ballroom, the concert and event venues operated by the recording facility.

NewYorkDVD operates from Manhattan Center's Studio 9. MCP's Neve VR96-equipped Studio 7 serves Hammerstein Ballroom and Grand Ballroom, while Studio 4 is a Neve VR72-equipped studio

with adjacent tracking room. Manhattan Center also provides TV production/postproduction services.

NewYorkDVD, MCP director of audio operations **Joe Scheuneman** says, adds value to the facility.

"DVD has potential as a demo format," he says. "Recently, a bigger percentage of what we do is independent stuff, as opposed to big record-label projects. If I was an [indie] artist, I might not think of doing a DVD, because you think of that as being a pretty-high-cost product."

"With the studios having an increasing amount of up-and-coming, independent produc-

tions," Scheuneman adds, "we can say, 'We've got this connection with [NewYorkDVD], and we might be able to make something happen.'"

A SAFE BET? A two-room, 8,000-square-foot recording studio is planned as part of an expansion to the **Palms Casino Resort** in Las Vegas. **Fran Manzella** of Yorktown Heights, N.Y.-based **FM Design**, is designing the facility.

Principals behind the studio, which is not yet under construction, include **George Maloof**, owner of the Palms Casino Resort and Sacramento Kings basketball team, and **Larry Rudolph** of **Reign-Deer Entertainment**, manager of **Britney Spears**.

Studio Monitor
By **Christopher Walsh**
cwalsh@billboard.com



Plans for the studio include an 80-input **Solid State Logic XL 9000 K Series** console for the main tracking room, along with an additional control room with isolation booth.

Plans also call for luxury suites tied to the studio, as well as portable digital audio workstations that can be moved into clients' hotel rooms.

The studio will enjoy certain advantages over its competition. Independent recording facilities have struggled to keep rooms booked, as competition from other commercial and, especially, private studios has made projects more scarce and has put downward pressure on rates.

Further, while urban facilities have suffered in recent years from a downsizing music industry, "destination" studios offering a high level of client services and unique aspects, such as location, have fared better.

Las Vegas, which has long experienced rapid growth, has emerged as such a destination. **Odds On Recording**, a Las Vegas studio scheduled to open in 2005, exemplifies this phenomenon (*Billboard*, Nov. 29, 2003).

"Las Vegas is becoming the new Hollywood," Odds On owner **Tom Parham** told *Billboard* last year.



'Saturday Night Live' helps Toots enter Reggae chart at No. 3



Charts



Hoobastank gives top 40 radio a 'Reason' to rock

SALES / AIRPLAY / TRENDS / ANALYSIS

Easter Parade Delivers Goods

Because the holiday hops around the calendar, Easter week can seem as fickle as Lady Luck at a casino, making music stores look rich one week and poor another. Despite these numeric complexities, the Easter Bunny always delivers.

Stacked next to the same calendar week of last year, this issue's sales charts look mighty. But the 20.8% hike in album sales is a bit of fool's gold, because the corresponding 2003 frame was not a holiday week.

So, enjoy the 10.5% lead we now see in year-to-date album sales over 2003, because that lead will probably be softer next week.

Easter 2003 arrived on April 20, during the tracking week that will compete with next issue's charts. Without any huge titles in the April 13 release schedule to help make up the difference, next issue's comparison to the same week of 2003 is guaranteed to look ugly.

That will be a moment to take a look at the big picture, for which **Chris Muratore**, director of retail relations for **Nielsen Entertainment**, offers a dose of optimism. He points out that while this year's comeback might look shy next to the boom year that was 2000, that shortfall is largely attributed to the consumer's abandonment of the cassette.

Over the Counter

By Geoff Mayfield
gmayfield@billboard.com



Stand album-length CDs sold this year next to the same point of 2000, and you'll see a fairly even race, with 179.3 million sold in each of those spans. In fact, this year's haul is about 8,000 copies ahead of sales to date in 2000, a heady comparison when you realize that 'N Sync moved 4.2 million copies of its "No Strings Attached" album inside that time frame.

BASKETS FULL: Usher is clearly the marshall for this year's Easter parade, which also sports a career-best week for R&B siren **Tamia**.

Aside from the end-of-year holidays, Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day, Easter always marks one of a music store's best sales weeks. That traffic—and two radio hits—slows the erosion on Usher's "Confessions" to a mere 4.8% dip.

That yields him 463,000 copies and a much wider lead over the rest of the chart than he held a week earlier. His album stands 67% ahead of the No. 2 slot, up from 27%.

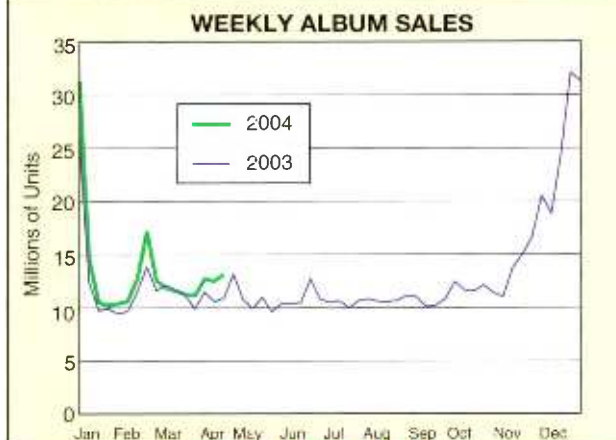
Usher has now sold more than 2 million copies to date. That's the best showing for an album's first three weeks since 50 Cent's "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" scanned 2.2 million in that window early last year. And, contrary to what you read here last week, 50's album was the last to reach 1.6 million in just

(Continued on page 64)



Market Watch

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

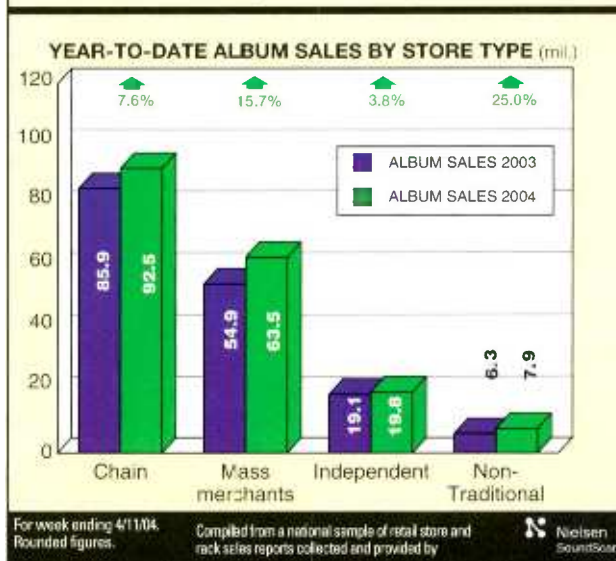


	Albums	Store Singles	Digital Tracks
This Week	13,185,000	159,000	2,027,000
Last Week	12,563,000	168,000	2,121,000
Change	↗ 5.0%	↘ 5.4%	↘ 4.4%
This Week 2003	10,916,000	172,000	—
Change	↗ 20.8%	↘ 7.6%	—



	2003	2004	Change
Total	168,619,000	215,366,000	↗ 27.7%
Albums	166,228,000	183,751,000	↗ 10.5%
Store Singles	2,391,000	2,430,000	↘ 1.6%
Digital Tracks	—	29,185,000	—

	2003	2004	Change
CD	160,113,000	179,346,000	↘ 12.0%
Cassette	5,585,000	3,836,000	↘ 31.3%
Other	524,000	569,000	↘ 8.6%



Toots & Maytals Back With 'Love'

After a break of almost 28 years, Jamaican reggae band **Toots & the Maytals** returns to The Billboard 200. "True Love" (V2), new at No. 190, is only the third album of the group's 42-year career to appear on this chart.

Frederick "Toots" Hibbert was a teenager when he formed the **Vikings** in Kingston back in 1962. The Vikings became the **Maytals** in 1966. Six months after **Bob Marley & the Wailers** appeared on the *Billboard* albums tally for the first time, Toots & the Maytals debuted with "Funky Kingston" in November 1975. That LP peaked at No. 164. In July 1976, "Reggae Got Soul" became Toots & the Maytals' second chart album, ultimately peaking slightly higher at No. 157.

"True Love" recreates the band's biggest hits as collaborations with guest stars like **Willie Nelson**, **Bonnie Raitt**, **Eric Clapton** and **No Doubt**.

ANOTHER FIRST: Six months before he died on Sept. 22, 2003, **Johnny Cash** added another first to his long list of chart achievements, when his remake of **Nine Inch Nails'** "Hurt" put him on the Modern Rock Tracks list for the first time.

This issue, Cash has a posthumous first, as he makes his initial appearance on the Top Christian Albums chart.

"My Mother's Hymn Book" (**American/Lost Highway**) debuts at No. 11 on the Christian tally, while bowing at No. 194 on The Billboard 200 and No. 28 on Top Country Albums.

Chart Beat

By Fred Bronson
fbronson@billboard.com



HE BANGS: I have to admit, I have run out of puns for "American Idol" contestant **William Hung**. Well, Hung has the last laugh, because he debuts at No. 1 on Top Independent Albums.

"Inspiration" (**Koch**) enters The Billboard 200 at No. 34, where Hung becomes the highest-ranking "Idol" entrant this issue. Granted, **Ruben Studdard** and **Clay Aiken** have both spent time at No. 1, but their albums are currently ranked in adjacent spots at Nos. 72 and 73.

STAYING THE 'CURSE': **Blondie** has its first chart album of the 21st century, thanks to the debut at No. 160 of "The Curse of Blondie" (**Sanctuary**). This is the first Blondie album to chart since "No Exit" peaked at No. 18 in March 1999.

"Plastic Letters" was the first Blondie album to chart, on Feb. 25, 1978. That makes "Curse" the first Blondie chart album of the group's second quarter-century.

AFFIRMATIVE: "Yeah!" (**LaFace**) racks up its ninth week atop The Billboard Hot 100, giving **Usher** and featured artists **Lil Jon** and **Ludacris** a chance to have LaFace's longest-running No. 1 song of all time. "Yeah!" would have to hang on for three more weeks to beat the 11-week reign of **Toni Braxton's** "Un-Break My Heart" in 1996.

If "Yeah!" is still in pole position next issue, it will be the first No. 1 song to rule into double-digit weeks since "Lose Yourself" by **Eminem** dominated the list for 12 weeks from November 2002 to January 2003.

Billboard THE BILLBOARD 200

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	3	USHER LAFACE 52141/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	NUMBER 1 Confessions	1	49	37	29	22	G-UNIT ▲ ² G-UNIT 001593*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Beg For Mercy	2
2	3	2	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS EMI/UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/ZOMBA 76990/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	GREATEST GAINER Now 15	2	51	44	39	111	NO DOUBT ▲ INTERSCOPE 001495 (12.98 CD)	The Singles 1992-2003	2
3	2	—	2	JANET JACKSON VIRGIN 84404* (12.98/18.98)	Damita Jo	2	52	49	45	17	NORAH JONES ▲ ⁸ BLUE NOTE 84800* (17.98 CD) [M]	Come Away With Me	1
4	12	9	34	JESSICA SIMPSON ▲ ² COLUMBIA 86560/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	In This Skin	2	53	47	49	17	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ³ ARISTA NASHVILLE 54860/RLG (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits Volume II	19
5	8	5	9	NORAH JONES BLUE NOTE 84800 (18.98 CD)	Feels Like Home	1	54	48	33	3	THE DARKNESS ● ATLANTIC 60817*/AG (12.98 CD) [M]	Permission To Land	36
6	11	7	58	EVANESCENCE ▲ ⁵ WIND-UP 13063 (18.98 CD)	Fallen	3	55	NEW	1	1	SOUNDTRACK WIND-UP 13093 (18.98 CD)	The Punisher: The Album	33
7	13	10	10	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ² BNA 58801/RLG (12.98/18.98)	When The Sun Goes Down	1	56	36	27	8	DILATED PEOPLES ABB 40889*/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	Neighborhood Watch	55
8	4	—	2	LIL' FLIP SUCKA FREE/COLUMBIA 89143*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	U Gotta Feel Me	4	57	106	121	11	EAMON ● JIVE 58370/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	I Don't Want You Back	7
9	9	3	3	GUNS N' ROSES Geffen 001714/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	3	58	73	62	35	VARIOUS ARTISTS WALT DISNEY 891004 (18.98 CD)	PACESETTER Disneymania 2: Music Stars Sing Disney ...Their Way!	29
10	7	—	2	J-KWON SO SO DEF 57613*/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Hood Hop	7	59	NEW	1	1	SOUNDTRACK ▲ WALT DISNEY 860126 (6.98 CD)	The Cheetah Girls (EP)	33
11	5	—	2	AEROSMITH COLUMBIA 87025*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Honkin' On Bobo	5	60	40	14	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS UNIVERSAL SOUTH 002320 (12.98 CD)	Songs Inspired By The Passion Of The Christ	59
12	18	13	22	JOSH GROBAN ▲ ³ 143/REPRISE 48450/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Closer	1	61	62	48	10	CASSIDY FULL SURFACE/J 57018*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Split Personality	2
13	16	17	29	OUTKAST ▲ ⁹ LAFACE 50133*/ZOMBA (22.98 CD)	Speakerboxxx/The Love Below	1	62	69	63	22	FIVE FOR FIGHTING AWARE/COLUMBIA 86186/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	The Battle For Everything	20
14	10	8	9	KANYE WEST ▲ ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 002030*/DJMGM (8.98/12.98)	The College Dropout	2	63	63	46	10	JOSS STONE ● S-CURVE 42234 (9.98 CD) [M]	The Soul Sessions (EP)	56
15	6	—	2	ERIC CLAPTON DUCK/REPRISE 48423/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Me And Mr Johnson	6	64	71	58	23	INCUBUS ▲ IMMORTAL/EPIC 90850*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	A Crow Left Of The Murder...	2
16	15	12	48	MAROONS ▲ OCTONE/J 55001/RMG (11.98 CD) [M]	Songs About Jane	7	65	56	40	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ ³ COLUMBIA/UNIVERSAL/EMI/ZOMBA 90753/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Now 14	3
17	NEW	1	1	TAMIA ELEKTRA 62847/AG (18.98 CD)	HOT SHOT DEBUT More	17	66	74	61	38	HARRY CONNICK, JR. ● COLUMBIA 90551/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Only You	5
18	19	25	18	HOOBASTANK ● ISLAND 001488/IDJMG (12.98 CD)	The Reason	18	67	41	11	3	MICHAEL MCDONALD ▲ MOTOWN 000651/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Motown	14
19	NEW	1	1	MODEST MOUSE EPIC 87125*/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD) [M]	HEATSEEKER IMPACT Good News For People Who Love Bad News	19	68	65	60	74	MASTER P NEW NO LIMIT 5717*/KOCH (18.98 CD)	Good Side Bad Side	11
20	31	35	33	HILARY DUFF ▲ ³ BUENA VISTA 861006/HOLLYWOOD (18.98 CD)	Metamorphosis	1	69	52	—	2	3 DOORS DOWN ▲ ³ REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL 064396/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Away From The Sun	8
21	23	20	19	ALICIA KEYS ▲ ² J 55712*/RMG (15.98/18.98)	The Diary Of Alicia Keys	1	70	128	—	2	SOUNDTRACK WARNER SUNSET 48885/WARNER BROS. (14.98 CD)	The OC: Mix 1	52
22	21	16	23	SHERYL CROW ▲ ² A&M 001521/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Sheryl Crow	2	71	NEW	1	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS EPIC 92330/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Oprah's Popstar Challenge-2004 Cast Album: Dreams Really Do Come True	70
23	25	24	21	BRITNEY SPEARS ▲ ² JIVE 53748/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	In The Zone	1	72	70	51	18	DARK LOTUS PSYCHOPATHIC 4024 (18.98 CD)	Black Rain	71
24	22	18	11	TWISTA ▲ ATLANTIC 83998*/AG (10.98/13.98)	Kamikaze	1	73	76	59	26	RUBEN STUDDARD ▲ J 54639*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Soulful	1
25	29	32	42	BEYONCE ▲ ³ COLUMBIA 86386*/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Dangerously In Love	1	74	27	—	2	CLAY AIKEN ▲ ² RCA 54638/RMG (18.98 CD)	Measure Of A Man	1
26	54	44	7	SOUNDTRACK ● INTEGRITY 92046/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Passion Of The Christ	17	75	NEW	1	1	DJ KAYSLAY COLUMBIA 90700*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Streetsweeper Vol. 2: The Pain From The Game	27
27	NEW	1	1	BARRY MANILOW STILETTO/CONCORD 59478/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP (22.98 CD)	2Nights Live!	27	76	113	111	44	VARIOUS ARTISTS WALT DISNEY 851077 (18.98 CD)	Radio Disney: Ultimate Jams-Greatest Hits From Volumes 1-6	75
28	30	28	29	NICKELBACK ▲ ² ROADRUNNER 618400/IDJMG (12.98/18.98)	The Long Road	6	77	79	80	16	THE BEACH BOYS ● CAPITOL 82710 (18.98 CD)	The Very Best Of The Beach Boys: Sounds Of Summer	16
29	20	6	3	N*E*R*D* STAR TRAK 51457*/VIRGIN (18.98 CD)	Fly Or Die	6	78	88	105	5	CASTING CROWNS BEACH STREET 10723/REUNION (18.98 CD) [M]	Casting Crowns	77
30	38	37	23	TOBY KEITH ▲ ³ DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 450435/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Shock'n Y'All	1	79	66	57	32	VARIOUS ARTISTS EMICOM/PROVIDENT/WORO-CURB 96300/WARNER BROS. (21.98 CD)	WOW Worship (Red)	62
31	33	34	27	JET ● ELEKTRA 62892*/AG (12.98 CD)	Get Born	31	80	77	64	23	T.I. ● GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC 83650*/AG (9.98/14.98)	Trap Muzik	4
32	39	38	24	BLACK EYED PEAS ▲ A&M 000695/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Elephunk	26	81	78	72	14	SARAH MCLACHLAN ▲ ² ARISTA 50150/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Afterglow	2
33	35	26	39	CHINGY ▲ ² DISTURBING THA PEACE 82976*/CAPITOL (11.98/18.98)	Jackpot	2	82	64	23	3	YEAH YEAH YEAHS INTERSCOPE 000349* (9.98 CD)	Fever To Tell	55
34	NEW	1	1	WILLIAM HUNG KOCH 9579 (13.98 CD/DVD)	Inspiration	34	83	NEW	1	1	THE VINES ENGINEER/ROOM 84338*/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	Winning Days	23
35	42	41	21	BLINK-182 ▲ Geffen 001334/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Blink-182	3	84	80	70	18	BEN KWELLER ATD/RCA 59174/RMG (12.98 CD)	On My Way	83
36	34	43	79	KEITH URBAN ▲ CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 32936 (10.98/18.98)	Golden Road	11	85	45	—	2	STORY OF THE YEAR MAVERICK 48438/WARNER BROS. (12.98 CD) [M]	Page Avenue	51
37	14	4	3	CARL THOMAS BAD BOY 001188*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Let's Talk About It	4	86	68	53	18	SHAKIRA EPIC 91109*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD/DVD)	Live & Off The Record	45
38	72	74	7	KIDZ BOP KIDS RAZOR & TIE 89079 (11.98/18.98)	Kidz Bop 5	34	87	110	84	8	AVANT ● MAGIC JOHN/SONY/GEFFEN 001567*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Private Room	18
39	43	31	27	LUDACRIS ▲ DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH 000930*/IDJMG (8.98/12.98)	Chicken*N*Beer	1	88	114	110	28	SOUNDTRACK HOLLYWOOD 162442 (12.98 CD)	Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen	51
40	24	19	22	JAY-Z ▲ ² ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 001528*/IDJMG (8.98/12.98)	The Black Album	1	89	86	71	103	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲ RCA NASHVILLE 54207/RLG (11.98/18.98)	Martina	7
41	50	56	35	YELLOWCARD ● CAPITOL 39844 (12.98 CD)	Ocean Avenue	41	90	89	86	71	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³ BNA 67038/RLG (12.98/18.98)	No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems	1
42	26	15	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS BAD BOY 002112*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Bad Boy's 10th Anniversary... The Hits	2	91	115	104	80	GOOD CHARLOTTE ▲ ³ DAYLIGHT/EPIC 86486/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Young And The Hopeless	7
43	51	47	55	LINKIN PARK ▲ ⁴ WARNER BROS. 48186* (19.98 CD)	Meteora	1	92	105	101	76	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ ▲ BME 2370*/TVT (13.98/17.98)	Kings Of Crunk	14
44	32	22	4	GODSMACK REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL 001539/UMRG (8.98 CD)	The Other Side (EP)	5	93	100	86	22	RASCAL FLATS ▲ ² LYRIC STREET 165031/HOLLYWOOD (12.98/18.98)	Melt	5
45	53	50	10	LOSTPROPHETS COLUMBIA 86554/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	Start Something	33	94	57	—	2	KID ROCK ▲ TOP DOG/ATLANTIC 83685*/AG (18.98 CD)	Kid Rock	8
46	58	54	55	SWITCHFOOT ● COLUMBIA 71083/RED INK (9.98 CD)	The Beautiful Letdown	44	95	84	69	28	THE WHO Geffen 001836/UME (12.98 CD)	The Who Then And Now!: 1964-2004	57
47	46	42	26	JOSH TURNER ● MCA NASHVILLE 000974/UMGN (4.98/9.98) [M]	Long Black Train	29	96	120	135	39	DIDO ▲ ARISTA 50137/RMG (18.98 CD)	Life For Rent	4
48	17	—	2	TRACY LAWRENCE DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 001032/INTERSCOPE (18.98 CD)	Strong	17	97	59	21	3	BROOKS & DUNN ● ARISTA NASHVILLE 67070/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Red Dirt Road	4
							98	85	73	12	CYPRESS HILL SOUL ASSA'S/SONY/COLUMBIA 90781*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Till Death Do Us Part	21
							99	89	81	25	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● GRAMMY 58022/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP (18.98 CD)	2004 Grammy Nominees	4
											ROD STEWART ▲ ² J 55710*/RMG (15.98/18.98)	As Time Goes By ... The Great American Songbook Vol. II	2

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION
100	101	130	7	LOS LONELY BOYS OR/EPIC 92088/SONY MUSIC (13.98 CD) [M]	Los Lonely Boys	100	151	NEW	1	SOUNDTRACK WALT DISNEY 681066 (18.98 CD)	Home On The Range	151	
101	103	94	64	TRAPT ▲ WARNER BROS. 48296 (18.98 CD) [M]	Trapt	42	152	RE-ENTRY	17	FEFE DOBSON ISLAND 001244/DJMG (12.98 CD) [M]	Fefe Dobson	67	
102	28	—	2	BOB DYLAN LEGACY/COLUMBIA 86882/SONY MUSIC (22.98 EQ CD)	The Bootleg Series Vol. 6: Live 1964-The Philharmonic Hall Concert	28	153	141	134	48	AFI ● NITRO/DREAMWORKS 450380/INTERSCOPE (9.98 CD)	Sing The Sorrow	5
103	91	89	85	COLDPLAY ▲ ³ CAPITOL 40504* (12.98/18.98)	A Rush Of Blood To The Head	5	154	118	83	9	SOUNDTRACK MAVERICK 48675/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	50 First Dates	30
104	93	133	40	MICHAEL BUBLE ● 143/REPRISE 48376/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD) [M]	Michael Buble	47	155	139	125	77	ROD STEWART ▲ ² J 20039/RMG (12.98/18.98)	It Had To Be You ... The Great American Songbook	4
105	83	65	30	YING YANG TWINS ● COLLIPARK 2480*/TVT (17.98 CD)	Me & My Brother	11	156	137	114	76	CHRISTINA AGUILERA ▲ ³ RCA 68037*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Stripped	2
106	95	88	64	50 CENT ▲ ⁵ SHADY/AFTERMATH 493544*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	1	157	130	100	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS RAZOR & TIE 89077 (18.98 CD)	Fired Up!	14
107	136	198	3	SOUNDTRACK WARNER SUNSET 48684/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed-The Album	107	158	112	76	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS RAZOR & TIE 89067 (18.98 CD)	Tha Down Low	22
108	102	90	27	THREE DAYS GRACE ● JIVE 53479/ZOMBA (12.98 CD) [M]	Three Days Grace	72	159	RE-ENTRY	2	THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE CHOIR M2.0/WORD-CURB 82502/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Live... This Is Your House	137	
109	104	99	28	GARY ALLAN ● MCA NASHVILLE 000111/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	See If I Care	17	160	NEW	1	BLONDIE SANCTUARY 84666 (18.98 CD)	The Curse Of Blondie	160	
110	94	82	74	SEAN PAUL ▲ ² VP/ATLANTIC 83620*/AG (12.98/18.98)	Dutty Rock	9	161	154	164	21	BUDDY JEWELL ● COLUMBIA (NASHVILLE) 90131/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Buddy Jewell	13
111	92	85	73	AUDIOSLAVE ▲ ² INTERSCOPE/EPIC 86968*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Audioslave	7	162	127	91	3	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO DISA 720358 (12.98 CD)	En Vivo Desde Chicago	91
112	NEW	—	1	SOUNDTRACK HOLLYWOOD 162441 (18.98 CD)	Ella Enchanted	112	163	146	127	54	THE WHITE STRIPES ▲ THIRD MAN 27148*/V2 (18.98 CD)	Elephant	6
113	55	—	2	MICHAEL BUBLE 143/REPRISE 48683/WARNER BROS. (23.98 CD/DVD)	Come Fly With Me	55	164	161	153	20	PUDDLE OF MUDD ● Geffen 001080/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Life On Display	20
114	108	95	25	EAGLES ▲ ² WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING 73971 (25.98 CD)	The Very Best Of	3	165	RE-ENTRY	10	SOUNDTRACK MUSIC WORLD/COLUMBIA 90286/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Fighting Temptations	19	
115	—	—	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS KID RHINO 7803/WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING (18.98 CD)	Barbie Hit Mix	115	166	149	129	19	SOUNDTRACK DEF SQUAD 001816*/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	soulstar	13
116	116	113	71	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ¹⁰ MERCURY 170314/UMGN (12.98 CD)	Up!	1	167	135	106	18	MUSIQ ● REPRISE/WMG SOUNDTRACKS 48521/WARNER BROS. (19.98 CD)	The Lord Of The Rings: The Return Of The King	36
117	—	—	27	NIRVANA ▲ DGC/Geffen 493507/INTERSCOPE (18.98 CD)	Nirvana	3	168	160	136	20	SEAL ● WARNER BROS. 47947 (18.98 CD)	Seal IV	3
118	—	—	12	ELTON JOHN ▲ ² ROCKET/UTV 063478/UME (19.98 CD)	Greatest Hits 1970-2002	12	169	151	140	31	R. KELLY ▲ JIVE 55077/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	The R. In R&B Collection: Volume One	4
119	RE-ENTRY	—	34	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ³ ARISTA NASHVILLE 53097/RMG (12.98/19.98)	Greatest Hits Volume II And Some Other Stuff	1	170	138	109	29	THE OFFSPRING ● COLUMBIA 89026*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Splinter	30
120	109	103	31	JOHN MAYER ▲ AWARE/COLUMBIA 86185*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Heavier Things	1	171	165	149	18	ANTHONY HAMILTON SD SD DEF 52107/ZOMBA (12.98 CD)	Comin' From Where I'm From	33
121	162	178	27	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ PROVIDENT/WORD-CURB/EMI CHRISTIAN 90652/SPARROW (21.98 CD)	WOW Hits 2004	51	172	131	98	28	GEORGE STRAIT ● MCA NASHVILLE 000114/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Honkytonkville	5
122	124	117	54	DIERKS BENTLEY ● CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 39814 (12.98/18.98)	Dierks Bentley	26	173	163	188	35	SOUNDTRACK WARNER BROS. (NASHVILLE) 48424/WRN (18.98 CD)	Blue Collar Comedy Tour: The Movie	132
123	107	79	16	JUVENILE ● CASH MONEY 001718*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Juve The Great	28	174	185	177	14	YO-YO MA WITH THE AMSTERDAM BAROQUE ORCHESTRA & TON KOOPMAN SONY CLASSICAL 90916/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Vivaldi's Cello	175
124	87	52	7	YOUNG GUNZ ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 001937*/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	Tough Luv	3	175	NEW	1	KNOC-TURN'AL L.A. CONFIDENTIAL/ELEKTRA 62928*/AG (16.98 CD)	The Way I Am	36	
125	90	87	44	LUTHER VANDROSS ▲ ² J 51885/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Dance With My Father	1	176	99	36	3	RON WHITE PARALLEL/HIP-O 001582/UME (12.98 CD) [M]	Drunk In Public	163
126	122	112	21	DIXIE CHICKS ● MONUMENT/COLUMBIA 90794/SONY MUSIC (13.98 EQ CD)	Top Of The World Tour Live	27	177	186	194	5	NELLY ▲ FO REEL/UNIVERSAL 001665*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Da Derry Versions - The Reinvention	12
127	75	—	2	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE FONOVISA 351245/UG (14.98 CD)	Pacto De Sangre	75	178	156	131	20	EMINEM ▲ ⁸ WEB/AFTERMATH 493290*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	The Eminem Show	1
128	132	120	21	LINKIN PARK ● WARNER BROS. 48563 (21.98 CD/DVD)	Live In Texas	23	179	155	154	99	CEE-LO LAFACE 52111*/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	Cee-Lo Green... Is The Soul Machine	13
129	RE-ENTRY	—	47	SOUNDTRACK ▲ WALT DISNEY 860080 (18.98 CD)	The Lizzie McGuire Movie	6	180	123	75	6	GODSMACK ▲ REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL 067854/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Faceless	1
130	153	147	72	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ² CURB 78746 (12.98/18.98)	Tim McGraw And The Dancehall Doctors	2	181	164	161	52	THE CARPENTERS A&M/UTV 001777/UME (21.98)	Carpenters Gold: 35th Anniversary Edition	101
131	125	107	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● WORD/EMI/CMG/VERITY 57494/ZOMBA (19.98 CD)	WOW Gospel 2004	27	182	142	123	9	A PERFECT CIRCLE ● VIRGIN 80918* (18.98 CD)	Thirteenth Step	2
132	133	116	9	JEREMY CAMP BEC 39613 (18.98 CD) [M]	Carried Me: The Worship Project	102	183	169	168	30	AVRIL LAVIGNE ▲ ⁶ ARISTA 14740/RMG (17.98 CD)	Let Go	2
133	166	165	37	SOUNDTRACK ● HOLLYWOOD 162404 (18.98 CD)	Freaky Friday	19	184	RE-ENTRY	91	WESTSIDE CONNECTION ● HOG-BANGIN' 24030*/CAPITOL (7.98/18.98)	Terrorist Threats	16	
134	150	124	6	CLINT BLACK EQUITY 3001 (18.98 CD)	Spend My Time	27	185	134	93	18	KELLY CLARKSON ▲ ² RCA 68159/RMG (18.98 CD)	Thankful	1
135	126	118	90	TOBY KEITH ▲ ⁴ DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 450254/INTERSCOPE (11.98/18.98)	Unleashed	1	186	197	—	49	ELVIS PRESLEY ▲ ³ RCA 68079*/RMG (12.98/19.98)	Elvis: 30 #1 Hits	1
136	111	102	29	LIMP BIZKIT ● FLIP 001225*/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Results May Vary	3	187	168	169	76	TRACE ADKINS ● CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 40517 (12.98/18.98)	Comin' On Strong	31
137	67	30	3	PASTOR TROY KHAOTIC GENERATION/UNIVERSAL 002297*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	By Any Means Necessary	30	188	177	176	19	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ EMI/SPECIAL MARKETS 8320*/TIME LIFE (19.98 CD)	Worship Together: I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever	39
138	140	160	41	LED ZEPPELIN ATLANTIC 83619/AG (19.98 CD)	Early Days & Latter Days: The Best Of Led Zeppelin Volume One And Two	116	189	175	—	18	TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS V2 27186 (18.98 CD) [M]	True Love	190
139	98	77	13	KEITH SWEAT ELEKTRA 73954/RHINO (18.98 CD)	The Best Of Keith Sweat: Make You Sweat	31	190	NEW	1	SARA EVANS RCA NASHVILLE 67074/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Restless	20	
140	129	108	21	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS ● WARNER BROS. 48545 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	18	191	196	183	7	AVALON SPARROW 84901 (18.98 CD)	The Creed	104
141	145	145	38	BRAD PAISLEY ● ARISTA NASHVILLE 50605/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Mud On The Tires	8	192	173	152	21	MICHAEL JACKSON ● MJJ/EPIC 88958/SONY MUSIC (12.98/18.98)	Number Ones	13
142	97	67	4	JACKSON BROWNE ELEKTRA 78091/RHINO (26.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Jackson Browne	46	193	RE-ENTRY	1	JOHNNY CASH AMERICAN 002362/LOST HIGHWAY (18.98 CD)	My Mother's Hymn Book	194	
143	96	68	7	TRILLVILLE/LIL SCRAPPY BME/REPRISE 48556*/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	The King Of Crunk & BME Recordings Present	12	194	NEW	1	SOUNDTRACK COLUMBIA 90911/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Something's Gotta Give	132	
144	60	—	2	DEAD PREZ COLUMBIA 89050*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	RBG: Revolutionary But Gangsta	60	195	RE-ENTRY	1	BOB SEGER ● CAPITOL 52772 (17.98 CD)	Greatest Hits 2	23	
145	NEW	—	1	IN FLAMES NUCLEAR BLAST 1231 (16.98 CD) [M]	Soundtrack To Your Escape	145	196	170	141	23	JAMES TAYLOR ● WARNER BROS. 73837/WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING (18.98 CD)	The Best Of James Taylor	11
146	148	128	13	FINGER ELEVEN WIND-UP 13058 (16.98 CD) [M]	Finger Eleven	114	197	152	138	42	HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH ATLANTIC 78083/RHINO (18.98 CD)	The Best Of Hootie & The Blowfish: 1993 Thru 2003	62
147	117	92	21	KORN ▲ IMMORTAL/EPIC 90335*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Take A Look In The Mirror	9	198	157	122	6	ROONEY Geffen 000242/INTERSCOPE (9.98 CD) [M]	Rooney	125
148	144	148	11	SOUNDTRACK WALT DISNEY 861056 (7.98 CD)	Pixel Perfect (EP)	127	199	RE-ENTRY	26	LEANN RIMES ● CURB 78829 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	24	
149	121	96	9	MELISSA ETHERIDGE ISLAND 001822/DJMG (12.98 CD)	Lucky	15							
150	167	159	11	SOUNDTRACK ATLANTIC 83694/AG (18.98 CD)	School Of Rock	95							

● Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Platino). △ Certification for 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Pacesetter indicates biggest percentage growth. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

Billboard TOP INTERNET ALBUM SALES™				
Sales data and internet sales reports compiled by Nielsen SoundScan				
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	BILLBOARD 200 RANK
		NUMBER 1	8 Weeks At Number 1	
1	3	NORAH JONES BLUE NOTE 84800	Feels Like Home	5
2	2	ERIC CLAPTON DUCK/REPRISE 48423/WARNER BROS	Me And Mr Johnson	15
3	4	MODEST MOUSE EPIC 87125/SONY MUSIC [M]	Good News For People Who Love Bad News	19
4	1	AEROSMITH COLUMBIA 87025/SONY MUSIC	Honkin' On Bobo	11
5	18	SOUNDTRACK INTEGRITY 92046/SONY MUSIC	The Passion Of The Christ	26
6		WILLIAM HUNG KOCH 9579	Inspiration	34
7		BEN KWELLER ATO/RCA 59174/RMG	On My Way	83
8		CAEDMON'S CALL ESSENTIAL 10746	Chronicles 1992-2004	-
9	7	USHER LAFACE 52141/ZOMBA	Confessions	1
10		BARRY MANILOW STILETTO/CONCORD 59478/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP	2Nights Live!	27
11	6	JANET JACKSON VIRGIN 84404*	Damita Jo	3
12	9	JOSH GROBAN 143/REPRISE 48450/WARNER BROS	Closer	12
13		MODEST MOUSE EPIC 92089/SONY MUSIC	Baron Von Bullshit Rides Again (EP)	-
14	12	GUNS N' ROSES GEFEN 001714/INTERSCOPE	Greatest Hits	9
15		PAT MCGEE BAND WARNER BROS. 48517 [M]	Save Me	-
16	10	EVANESCENCE WIND-UP 13063	Fallen	6
17	5	BOB DYLAN LEGACY/COLUMBIA 86382/SONY MUSIC	The Bootleg Series Vol. 6: Live 1964-The Philharmonic Hall Concert	102
18		TREY ANASTASIO ELEKTRA 62962/AG	Seis De Mayo	-
19		THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS BARSUK 35	Indestructible Object (EP)	-
20	23	VARIOUS ARTISTS EMI/UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/ZOMBA 76990/CAPITOL	Now 15	2
21		GINNY OWENS ROCKEY TOWN 20009 [M]	Beautiful	-
22	17	NORAH JONES BLUE NOTE 32088* [M]	Come Away With Me	51
23	16	SHERYL CROW A&M 001521/INTERSCOPE	The Very Best Of Sheryl Crow	22
24	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS DECCA 472758/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	The #1 Bach Album	-
25	21	MAROONS OCTONE/J 50001/RMG [M]	Songs About Jane	16

Billboard TOP SOUNDTRACKS™				
Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan				
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	BILLBOARD 200 RANK
		NUMBER 1	5 Weeks At Number 1	
1	3	THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST	INTEGRITY 92046/SONY MUSIC	5
2	1	THE PUNISHER: THE ALBUM	WIND-UP 13093	15
3	4	THE CHEETAH GIRLS (EP)	WALT DISNEY 860126	19
4	2	THE OC: MIX 1	WARNER SUNSET 48685/WARNER BROS.	11
5	5	CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN	HOLLYWOOD 162442	26
6	7	O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?	LOST HIGHWAY/MERCURY 170069/IDJMG	34
7	8	SCOOBY-DOO 2: MONSTERS UNLEASHED-THE ALBUM	WARNER SUNSET 48674/WARNER BROS	83
8		ELLA ENCHANTED	HOLLYWOOD 162411	-
9	18	THE LIZZIE MCGUIRE MOVIE	WALT DISNEY 860080	1
10	12	FREAKY FRIDAY	HOLLYWOOD 162404	27
11	9	PIXEL PERFECT (EP)	WALT DISNEY 861056	3
12	13	SCHOOL OF ROCK	ATLANTIC 83694/AG	12
13	20	HOME ON THE RANGE	WALT DISNEY 681066	-
14	6	50 FIRST DATES	MAVERICK 48675/WARNER BROS	9
15	22	DISNEY PRESENTS: BROTHER BEAR	WALT DISNEY 860127	-
16	10	THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS	MUSIC WORLD/COLUMBIA 90286/SNY MUSIC	6
17	11	THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING	REPRISE/WMG SOUNDTRACKS 48521/WARNER BROS	102
18	16	BLUE COLLAR COMEDY TOUR: THE MOVIE	WARNER BROS. (NASHVILLE) 48424/WRN	-
19	23	SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE	COLUMBIA 90911/SONY MUSIC	-
20		JOHNSON FAMILY VACATION	DEF SOUL/FOX 002238/IDJMG	2
21	14	HONEY	ELEKTRA 62925/AG	-
22	15	TUPAC: RESURRECTION	AMARU 001533*/INTERSCOPE	51
23	17	DIRTY DANCING: HAVANA NIGHTS	J 5758/RMG	22
24		CHICAGO	EPIC 87018/SONY MUSIC	-
25	21	COLD MOUNTAIN	DMZ/COLUMBIA 86843/SONY MUSIC	16

Top Internet Album Sales reflects physical albums ordered through Internet merchants, based on data collected by Nielsen SoundScan. Unlike most Billboard album charts, catalog titles are included on the Internet and Soundtrack charts. ● Albums with the greatest sales gain this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numeral following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Dro). △ Certification of 200,000 units (Platino). △² Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). *Asterisk indicates vinyl available. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

THE BILLBOARD 200 A-Z (LISTED BY ARTISTS)

3 Doors Down 68	Casting Crowns 77	Finger Eleven 146	Alicia Keys 21	Modest Mouse 19	50 First Dates 154	Keith Sweat 139	Now 15 2
50 Cent 106	Cee-Lo 180	Five For Fighting 61	Kid Rock 93	Grupo Montez De Durango 162	Blue Collar Comedy Tour: The Movie 174	Switchfoot 46	Oprah's Popstar Challenge-2004 Cast Album: Dreams Really Do Come True 70
Trace Adkins 188	Kenny Chesney 7, 89	Godsmack 44, 181	Kidz Bop Kids 38	MusiQ 167	The Cheetah Girls (EP) 58	Tania 17	Radio Disney: Ultimate Jams-Greatest Hits From Volumes 1-6 75
Aerosmith 11	Chingy 33	Knoc-Turn'Al 176	Korn 147	Nelly 178	Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen 87	James Taylor 197	Radio Disney: Ultimate Jams-Greatest Hits From Volumes 1-6 75
AFI 153	Eric Clapton 15	Ben Kwelller 83	Nirvana 117	N*E*R*D* 29	Disney Presents: Brother Bear 165	Carl Thomas 37	Songs Inspired By The Passion Of The Christ 59
Christina Aguilera 156	Kelly Clarkson 186	Avril Lavigne 184	No Doubt 50	Nickelback 28	Ella Enchanted 112	Three Days Grace 108	Tha Down Low 158
Clay Aiken 73	Coldplay 103	Tracy Lawrence 48	The Offspring 171	Nirvana 117	The Fighting Temptations 166	T.I. 79	Trapt 101
Gary Allan 109	Harry Connick, Jr. 65	Led Zeppelin 138	OutKast 13	OutKast 13	Freaky Friday 133	Los Tigres Del Norte 127	Trillville/Lil Scrappy 143
Audioslave 111	Sheryl Crow 22	Lil' Flip 8	Brad Paisley 141	Brad Paisley 141	Home On The Range 151	Toots And The Maytals 190	Josh Turner 47
Avalon 192	Cypress Hill 97	Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz 91	Pastor Troy 137	Pastor Troy 137	The Lord Of The Rings: The Return Of The King 168	Shania Twain 116	Shania Twain 116
Avant 86	Dark Lotus 71	Limp Bizkit 136	A Perfect Circle 183	A Perfect Circle 183	The OC: Mix 1 69	Twista 24	Twista 24
The Beach Boys 76	The Darkness 53	Linkin Park 43, 128	Elvis Presley 187	Elvis Presley 187	The Passion Of The Christ 26	Keith Urban 36	Keith Urban 36
Dierks Bentley 122	dead prez 144	Los Lonely Boys 100	Puddle Of Mudd 164	Puddle Of Mudd 164	Pixel Perfect (EP) 148	Usher 1	Usher 1
Beyonce 25	Dido 95	Lostprophets 45	Rascal Flatts 92	Rascal Flatts 92	School Of Rock 150	Luther Vandross 125	Luther Vandross 125
Clint Black 134	Dilated Peoples 55	Ludacris 39	Red Hot Chili Peppers 140	Red Hot Chili Peppers 140	Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed-The Album 107	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VARIOUS ARTISTS
Black Eyed Peas 32	DJ Kayslay 74	Baroque Orchestra & Ton Koopman 175	LeAnn Rimes 200	LeAnn Rimes 200	Something's Gotta Give 195	2004 Grammy Nominees 98	2004 Grammy Nominees 98
Blink-182 35	Fefe Dobson 152	John Mayer 120	Rooney 199	Rooney 199	Seal 169	Bad Boy's 10th Anniversary... The Hits 42	Bad Boy's 10th Anniversary... The Hits 42
Blondie 160	Hilary Duff 20	Yo-Yo Ma With The Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Ton Koopman 175	Seal 169	Seal 169	Sean Paul 110	Barbie Hit Mix 115	Barbie Hit Mix 115
Brooks & Dunn 96	Bob Dylan 102	Martina McBride 88	Sean Paul 110	Sean Paul 110	Bob Seger 196	Disneymania 2: Music Stars Sing Disney...Their Way! 57	Disneymania 2: Music Stars Sing Disney...Their Way! 57
The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir 159	Eagles 114	Michael McDonald 66	Bob Seger 196	Bob Seger 196	Shakira 85	Fired Up! 157	Fired Up! 157
Jackson Browne 142	Eamon 56	Tim McGraw 130	Shakira 85	Shakira 85	Jessica Simpson 4	Now 14 64	Now 14 64
Michael Buble 104, 113	Eminem 179	Sarah McLachlan 80	Jessica Simpson 4	Jessica Simpson 4	SOUNDTRACK		
Jeremy Camp 132	Melissa Etheridge 149		SOUNDTRACK	SOUNDTRACK			
The Carpenters 182	Evanscence 6						
Johnny Cash 194	Sara Evans 191						
Cassidy 60							

Over The Counter

Continued from page 11

two weeks.

Tania's "More" was to have hit stores last August, but it was delayed when the singer was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (*Billboard*, March 27). This becomes a case of absence making fans' hearts grow fonder, as 71,000 copies more than doubles her prior best Nielsen SoundScan week.

She scores Hot Shot Debut honors on Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums (No. 4) and The Billboard 200 (No. 17). Ranks on both charts are her best yet.

This is the fourth straight year that the Valentine's/Presidents Day week outsold the Easter frame. This

year's February blast of 17.1 million albums sold in one week had the additional factor of the Grammy Awards moving to the start of the week, but even so, Valentine's Day reaped more than Easter in six of the previous 10 years.

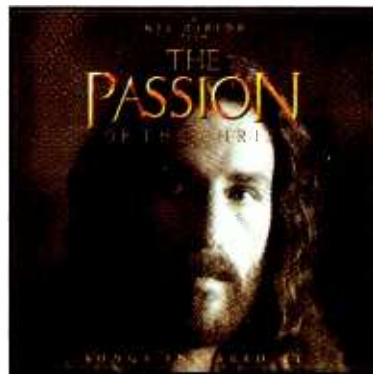
Although album sales are only 5% ahead of the prior week, more than half of the titles on The Billboard 200 show robust gains. A bevy of media events make **Jessica Simpson** and **Hilary Duff** leading ladies among those movers.

With a stop on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," a rerun of "Late Show With David Letterman" that featured she and husband **Nick Lachey**, and extensive promotion for the couple's Easter-night ABC variety show Simpson's "In This Skin" bounces back into the top 10 (12-4, up 45%).

A Favorite Singer win at the April 3 **Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards** and the April 6 video release of "Cheaper by the Dozen" set up

momentum for Duff's 93% drive (31-20). Oh, yeah, she and Simpson are both riding hits at top 40 radio, too.

'PASSION' RENEWED: NBC's "Today" recognized Easter with a medley performance from "The Passion of



the Christ" soundtrack on April 8, featuring score composer **John Debney**, soloist **Lisbeth Scott** and a 30-person choir.

That performance helps stoke a

91% gain for the album, pushing its largest sales sum since its second chart week, at 44,000 copies. It jumps 3-1 on Top Soundtracks and 54-26 on The Billboard 200.

The issue also sees the chart bow of a related album, "Songs Inspired by The Passion of the Christ," an eclectic collection of songs from the likes of **Bob Dylan**, **Elvis Presley**, **Leonard Cohen**, **Leon Russell**, **Ricky Skaggs** and the **Blind Boys of Alabama**.

With an opener of 25,500 copies, it garners Hot Shot Debut honors on Top Christian Albums at No. 3 and Top Country Albums at No. 7, while creasing the big chart at No. 59.

The cover features the film's logo and a photo of its star, **James Caviezel**, and the album was co-produced by "Passion" producer/director **Mel Gibson**. However, since none of these tracks are heard in the movie, this set is not eligible for Top Soundtracks.

Even so, **Universal South** is hopeful this project will enable the label to plunge into the soundtrack business.

HEARING IS BELIEVING: An April 6 profile on **National Public Radio's** "All Things Considered" helps trumpeter **Dave Douglas** more than double his sales, good for a re-entry on Top Jazz Albums (unpublished this week, but available at Billboard Information Network, billboard.com and billboard.biz).

Reviews aired on that same program a week earlier produced a similar spike for rock/country hybrid **Lambchop** but no gain for Scottish band **Franz Ferdinand** (No. 8 on Top Independent Albums, No. 9 on Top Heatseekers). Curiously, **Lambchop**, which has yet to dent a *Billboard* chart, sees sales drop for its "Aw Cmon," despite an April 9 visit to "Late Night With Conan O'Brien."

APRIL 24 2004
Billboard **TOP POP CATALOG**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	TOTAL WKS.	ARTIST	Title
1	3	5	178	THE BEATLES [▲] APPLE 29325/CAPITOL (12.98/18.98)	1
2	5	—	71	SIMPLE PLAN ▲ No Pads, No Helmets...Just Balls LAVA 83534/AG (7.98/12.98) [M]	
3	2	1	34	PRINCE ● WARNER BROS. 74272 (18.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Prince
4	10	16	136	SOUNDTRACK ▲ ⁷ LOST HIGHWAY/MERCURY 170069/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	O Brother, Where Art Thou?
5	6	4	122	JOSH GROBAN ▲ ⁴ 143/REPRISE 48154/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD) [M]	Josh Groban
6	8	7	107	MERCYME ▲ IND 86133/CURB (16.98 CD)	Almost There
7	7	6	181	LINKIN PARK ▲ ⁸ WARNER BROS. 47755 (12.98/18.98)	[Hybrid Theory]
8	11	8	14	LARRY THE CABLE GUY PARALLEL/HIP-0 001423/UME (18.98 CD)	Lord, I Apologize
9	4	3	492	BOB SEGER & THE SILVER BULLET BAND ▲ ⁶ CAPITOL 30334 (10.98/15.98)	Greatest Hits
10	12	9	758	BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS ◆ ¹⁰ TUFF GONG/ISLAND 548904/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	Legend
11	1	—	21	NAS ▲ Illmatic: 10 Year Anniversary Platinum Series ILL WILL/COLUMBIA 92072/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	
12	9	12	1393	PINK FLOYD ◆ ¹⁵ CAPITOL 48001* (10.98/18.98)	Dark Side Of The Moon
13	14	10	70	ROD STEWART ● WARNER BROS. 78328 (12.98/18.98)	The Very Best Of Rod Stewart
14	27	28	60	FRANK SINATRA ▲ Classic Sinatra: His Great Performances 1953-1960 CAPITOL 23502 (11.98/17.98)	
15	17	15	620	AC/DC ◆ ¹⁹ LEGACY/EPIC 80207/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Back In Black
16	13	11	125	KID ROCK ▲ ⁴ LAVA 83482/AG (12.98/18.98)	Cocky
17	15	13	120	JOHN MAYER ▲ ³ AWARE/COLUMBIA 85283/SONY MUSIC (7.98 EQ/18.98) [M]	Room For Squares
18	16	14	335	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ¹⁹ MERCURY 538003/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Come On Over
19	18	18	185	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³ BNA 67976/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits
20	20	20	134	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲ ³ RCA NASHVILLE 67012/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits
21	22	23	177	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ⁴ CURB 77978 (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits
22	19	19	652	METALLICA ◆ ¹⁴ ELEKTRA 81113/AG (11.98/17.98)	Metallica
23	28	27	184	AC/DC ▲ ³ LEGACY/EPIC 80214/SONY MUSIC (11.98/17.98)	Live
24	23	22	352	ABBA ▲ ⁶ POLYDOR/UNIVERSAL 517007/UMRG (12.98/18.98)	Gold - Greatest Hits
25	21	21	141	KID ROCK ◆ ¹¹ TOP DOG/LAVA 83119/AG (12.98/18.98) [M]	Devil Without A Cause
26	24	26	—	QUEEN ▲ ⁷ HOLLYWOOD 161265 (11.98/17.98)	Greatest Hits
27	—	—	—	ALICIA KEYS ▲ ⁶ J 20002/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Songs In A Minor
28	26	39	75	JIMI HENDRIX ▲ Experience Hendrix: The Best Of Jimi Hendrix EXPERIENCE HENDRIX 111671/UME (12.98/18.98)	
29	—	—	—	NIRVANA ◆ ¹⁰ DGC 424425/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Nevermind
30	25	24	76	JOHNNY CASH ▲ LEGACY/COLUMBIA (NASHVILLE) 89739/SONY MUSIC (7.98 EQ/11.98)	16 Biggest Hits
31	31	32	304	CELINE DION ▲ ⁶ 550 MUSIC/EPIC 63760/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	All The Way...A Decade Of Song
32	36	33	112	SYSTEM OF A DOWN ▲ ³ AMERICAN/COLUMBIA 622407/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Toxicity
33	34	35	147	COLDPLAY ▲ ² NETTWERK 30162/CAPITOL (11.98/17.98) [M]	Parachutes
34	43	47	85	LYNYRD SKYNYRD ▲ The Best Of Lynyrd Skynyrd: 20th Century Masters The Millennium Collection MCA 111941/UME (6.98/11.98)	
35	33	31	187	AL GREEN ▲ HI/THE RIGHT STUFF 30800/CAPITOL (10.98/17.98)	Greatest Hits
36	NEW	—	—	BARRY MANILOW ▲ BMG HERITAGE 10660 (12.98/18.98)	Ultimate Manilow
37	40	45	416	AEROSMITH ◆ ¹⁰ COLUMBIA 57367/SONY MUSIC (7.98 EQ/11.98)	Aerosmith's Greatest Hits
38	37	38	161	EMINEM ▲ ³ WEB/AFTERMATH 430629/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	The Marshall Mathers LP
39	29	29	218	MICHAEL JACKSON ◆ ²⁶ EPIC 88073/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Thriller
40	35	40	464	TOM PETTY AND THE HEARTBREAKERS ◆ ¹⁰ MCA 110813/UME (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits
41	32	36	198	DISTURBED ▲ ³ GIANT 24738/WARNER BROS. (11.98/17.98) [M]	The Sickness
42	49	—	—	PHIL COLLINS ▲ ² FACE VALUE/ATLANTIC 83139/AG (10.98/17.98)	...Hits
43	41	44	395	DEF LEPPARD ▲ ³ MERCURY 52818/DJMG (11.98/18.98)	Vault - Greatest Hits 1980-1995
44	39	49	53	SOUNDTRACK ▲ EPIC 86311/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	A Walk To Remember
45	—	—	—	GOOD CHARLOTTE ● DAYLIGHT/EPIC 85845/SONY MUSIC (13.98 EQ CD) [M]	Good Charlotte
46	38	34	220	SADE ▲ EPIC 85287/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	The Best Of Sade
47	—	—	—	JOHN LENNON ● PARLOPHONE 219547/CAPITOL (10.98/16.98)	Lennon Legend - The Very Best Of John Lennon
48	42	—	—	PEARL JAM ◆ ¹² EPIC 47857/SONY MUSIC (10.98 EQ/17.98) [M]	Ten
49	46	—	—	METALLICA ◆ ⁶ ELEKTRA 60439/AG (11.98/18.98)	Master Of Puppets
50	—	—	—	SUBLIME ▲ GASLINE/GEFFEN 111413/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Sublime

APRIL 24 2004
Billboard **TOP HEATSEEKERS**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WKS. ON CH.	ARTIST	Title
1	3	1	9	JEREMY CAMP BEC 38613 (18.98 CD)	Carried Me: The Worship Project
2	—	—	—	IN FLAMES NUCLEAR BLAST 1231 (16.98 CD)	Soundtrack To Your Escape
3	5	2	10	FINGER ELEVEN WIND-UP 12058 (16.98 CD)	Finger Eleven
4	8	11	18	RON WHITE PARALLEL/HIP-0 001382/UME (12.98 CD)	Drunk In Public
5	NEW	—	—	TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS V2 27186 (18.98 CD)	True Love
6	12	12	34	ROONEY Geffen 000242/INTERSCOPE (9.98 CD)	Rooney
7	NEW	—	—	BLUE COUNTY CURB 78833 (18.98 CD)	Blue County
8	32	29	38	GAVIN DEGRAW J 20058/RMG (11.98 CD)	Chariot
9	6	7	5	FRANZ FERDINAND DOMINO 27* (14.98 CD)	Franz Ferdinand
10	8	40	—	THE POSTAL SERVICE SUB POP 595 (14.98 CD)	Give Up
11	13	16	28	SHINEDOWN ATLANTIC 83566/AG (12.98 CD)	Leave A Whisper
12	NEW	—	—	GINNY OWENS ROCKETOWN 20005 (18.98 CD)	Beautiful
13	NEW	—	—	HAYLEY WESTENRA DECCA 001866/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP (18.98 CD)	Pure
14	27	26	—	JEREMY CAMP BEC 40455 (18.98 CD)	Stay
15	NEW	—	—	DEAD POETIC SOLID STATE 99909/T00TH & NAIL (14.98 CD)	New Medicines
16	NEW	—	—	NB RIDAZ NASTYBOY 1020/UPSTAIRS (13.98 CD)	nbridaz.com
17	22	—	—	SNOW PATROL POLYDOR/A&M 00227/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Final Straw
18	19	—	—	VICENTE FERNANDEZ SONY DISCOS 91025 (14.98 EQ CD)	Se Me Hizo Tarde La Vida
19	10	17	7	PASSION WORSHIP BAND SPARROW 83817 (18.98 CD)	Passion: Hymns Ancient And Modern
20	NEW	—	—	MARK LOWRY GAITHER MUSIC GROUP 42559 (18.98 CD)	The Best Of Mark Lowry Volume One
21	25	25	23	HIM JIMMY FRANKS/UNIVERSAL 001428/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Razorblade Romance
22	14	—	—	TOBY LIGHTMAN LAVA 83823/AG (12.98 CD)	Little Things
23	15	15	3	JEM ATO 21519 (12.98 CD)	Finally Woken
24	11	14	9	KEB' MO' OKEHE/EPIC 88408/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Keep It Simple
25	38	36	14	CHRIS RICE ROCKETOWN 20001/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Run The Earth, Watch The Sky
26	17	20	7	VAN HUNT CAPITOL 35233 (12.98 CD)	Van Hunt
27	9	5	9	GARY JULES UNIVERSAL 002275/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Trading Snakeoil For Wolf tickets
28	20	13	3	MUSE TASTE MEDIA 48733/WARNER BROS. (14.98 CD)	Absolution
29	NEW	—	—	MARK LOWRY GAITHER MUSIC GROUP 42560 (18.98 CD)	The Best Of Mark Lowry Volume Two
30	RE-ENTRY	—	—	BARLOWGIRL FERVENT 30049 (14.98 CD)	Barlowgirl
31	NEW	—	—	TORTOISE THRILL JOCKEY 70155* (16.98 CD)	It's All Around You
32	35	40	5	THOUSANDFOOTKRUTCH T00TH & NAIL 84799 (18.98 CD)	Phenomenon
33	30	31	44	DAMIEN RICE DRM/VECTER 48907/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	O
34	4	—	—	CLUTCH DRT 410 (16.98 CD)	Blast Tyrant
35	NEW	—	—	BUILDING 429 WORD-CURB 86318/WARNER BROS. (7.98 CD)	Glory Defined (EP)
36	RE-ENTRY	18	—	ZOEGLIRL SPARROW 80866 (18.98 CD)	Different Kind Of Free
37	16	6	9	IRON AND WINE SUB POP 70630* (15.98 CD)	Our Endless Numbered Days
38	45	—	—	THE WIGGLES ● KOCH 8626 (11.98 CD)	Yummy Yummy
39	NEW	—	—	PAT MCGEE BAND WARNER BROS. 48517 (18.98 CD)	Save Me
40	29	33	11	MINDY SMITH VANGUARD 79736 (16.98 CD)	One Moment More
41	NEW	—	—	LOS HOROSCOPOS DE DURANGO DISA 720363 (11.98 CD)	Locos De Amor
42	NEW	—	—	THE RASMUS MOTOR/PLAYGROUND 052269/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Dead Letters
43	28	21	5	SARAH CONNOR EPIC 91110/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	Sarah Connor
44	24	24	7	LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE FONOVISA 351233/UG (12.98 CD)	20 Anos De Fuerza Nortena
45	NEW	—	—	DA T.R.U.T.H. CROSS MOVEMENT 30000 (18.98 CD)	Moment Of Truth
46	39	19	9	RJ HELTON B-RITE 70361/ZOMBA (11.98 CD)	Real Life
47	31	18	6	ZERO 7 ULTIMATE DILEMMA/ELEKTRA 81558*AG (18.98 CD)	When It Falls
48	40	38	14	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH SONY DISCOS 75451 (15.98 EQ CD)	Lo Que Te Conte Mientras Te Hacias La Dormida
49	NEW	—	—	THE BEAUTIFUL MISTAKE THE MILITIA GROUP 20 (14.98 CD)	This Is Who You Are
50	33	48	5	AKWID ARIES 44245/EMI LATIN (14.98 CD)	Hoy, Ayer And Forever

APRIL 24 2004
Billboard **TOP INDEPENDENT ALBUMS**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	TOTAL WKS.	ARTIST	Title
1	NEW	—	—	WILLIAM HUNG KOCH 3579 (13.98 CD/DVD)	Inspiration
2	1	1	3	MASTER P NEW NO LIMIT 5717*/KOCH (18.98 CD)	Good Side Bad Side
3	NEW	—	—	DARK LOTUS PSYCHOPATHIC 4024 (18.98 CD)	Black Rain
4	2	3	77	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ ▲ BME 2370*/TVT (13.98/17.98)	Kings Of Crunk
5	3	2	30	YING YANG TWINS ● COLLIPARK 2480*/TVT (17.98 CD)	Me & My Brother
6	5	4	4	CLINT BLACK EQUITY 3001 (16.98 CD)	Spend My Time
7	NEW	—	—	IN FLAMES NUCLEAR BLAST 1231 (16.98 CD) [M]	Soundtrack To Your Escape
8	6	8	5	FRANZ FERDINAND DOMINO 27* (14.98 CD) [M]	Franz Ferdinand
9	7	9	40	THE POSTAL SERVICE SUB POP 595 (14.98 CD) [M]	Give Up
10	NEW	—	—	NB RIDAZ NASTYBOY 1020/UPSTAIRS (13.98 CD) [M]	nbridaz.com
11	8	12	21	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ BME 2378*/TVT (11.98 CD/DVD)	Part II
12	16	17	35	DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL ● VAGRANT 0385 (18.98 CD)	A Mark, A Mission, A Brand, A Scar
13	NEW	—	—	TORTOISE THRILL JOCKEY 70155* (16.98 CD) [M]	It's All Around You
14	17	14	9	PROBOT ROSWELL 30*/SOUTHERN LORD (15.98 CD)	Probot
15	4	—	—	CLUTCH DRT 410 (16.98 CD) [M]	Blast Tyrant
16	9	7	3	IRON AND WINE SUB POP 70630* (15.98 CD) [M]	Our Endless Numbered Days
17	26	39	28	THE WIGGLES ● KOCH 8626 (11.98 CD) [M]	Yummy Yummy
18	12	18	33	SIMPLY RED SIMPLYRED.COM 0001/RED INX (18.98 CD)	Home
19	15	23	11	MINDY SMITH VANGUARD 79736 (16.98 CD) [M]	One Moment More
20	10	13	5	SOUNDTRACK TVT SOUNDTRAX 6700*/TVT (17.98 CD)	Starky & Hutch
21	23	26	27	DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE BARSUK 32* (16.98 CD)	Transatlanticism
22	NEW	—	—	THE BEAUTIFUL MISTAKE THE MILITIA GROUP 20 (14.98 CD) [M]	This Is Who You Are
23	36	—	—	VARIOUS ARTISTS DIC 8654/KOCH (9.98 CD)	Strawberry Shortcake: Strawberry Jams
24	20	19	10	AIR SOURCE 96632*/ASTRALWERKS (19.98 CD)	Talkie Walkie
25	14	10	3	MADVILLAIN STONES THROW 2065* (16.98 CD) [M]	Madvillainy
26	11	6	3	DESCENDENTS FAT WRECK CORDS 672* (14.98 CD) [M]	Cool To Be You
27	19	15	6	THE GET UP KIDS VAGRANT 392* (14.98 CD)	Guilt Show
28	NEW	—	—	THE LIVING LEGENDS LEGENDARY MUSIC 0436 (11.98 CD)	Creative Differences
29	NEW	—	—	LOCAL H STUDIO E 30401 (13.98 CD)	Whatever Happened To P.J. Sole?
30	13	20	3	ANONYMOUS 4 HARMONIA MUNDI 907326 (18.98 CD) [M]	American Angels
31	21	11	3	BLONDE REDHEAD 4AD 72409*/BEGGAR'S GROUP (17.98 CD) [M]	Misery Is A Butterfly
32	31	40	27	COHEED AND CAMBRIA EQUAL VISION 87 (13.98 CD)	In Keeping Secrets Of Silent Earth: 3
33	27	25	25	THE SHINS SUB POP 70625* (15.98 CD)	Chutes Too Narrow
34	34	50	16	MITCH HEDBERG COMEDY CENTRAL 30024 (17.98 CD/DVD) [M]	Mitch All Together
35	NEW	—	—	NON PHIXION UNC	

APRIL 24 2004 **Billboard** TOP BLUES ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
1	1	2	AEROSMITH	COLUMBIA 87025/SONY MUSIC	NUMBER 1 2 Weeks At Number 1 Honkin' On Bobo
2	2	9	ERIC CLAPTON	DUCK/REPRISE 48423/WARNER BROS.	Me And Mr Johnson
3	3	9	KEB' MO'	OKEH/EPIC 86408/SONY MUSIC [M]	Keep It Simple
4	4	80	STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN AND DOUBLE TROUBLE	LEGACY/EPIC 86423/SONY MUSIC	The Essential Stevie Ray Vaughan And Double Trouble
5	NEW	1	CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE	REAL WORLD 97379	Sanctuary
6	6	2	THEODIS EALEY	IFGAM 74023	Stand Up In It
7	5	40	VARIOUS ARTISTS	NARM 50009	Get The Blues Vol. 2
8	8	8	WILLIE CLAYTON	END ZONE 2062	Changing Tha Game
9	7	33	SOUNDTRACK	UTY 00070/UME	Martin Scorsese Presents The Best Of The Blues
10	RE-ENTRY	1	JIMMY THACKERY AND TAB BENOIT	TELARC BLUES 83584/TELARC	Whiskey Store Live!
11	12	70	SUSAN TEDESCHI	ONE COOL 751146/ARTEMIS [M]	Wait For Me
12	10	21	STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN	LEGACY/EPIC 90495/SONY MUSIC	Martin Scorsese Presents The Blues: Stevie Ray Vaughan
13	11	19	ERIC CLAPTON	POLYDOR/CHRONICLES 000796/UME	Martin Scorsese Presents The Blues: Eric Clapton
14	9	12	THE HOLMES BROTHERS	ALLIGATOR 4893	Simple Truths
15	RE-ENTRY	1	BUDDY GUY	SILVERTONE 41843/ZOMBA [M]	Blues Singer

APRIL 24 2004 **Billboard** TOP REGGAE ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
1	1	75	SEAN PAUL	VP/ATLANTIC 83620/AG	NUMBER 1 67 Weeks At Number 1 Dutty Rock
2	2	10	SOUNDTRACK	MAVERICK 48675/WARNER BROS.	50 First Dates
3	NEW	1	TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS	V2 27186 [M]	True Love
4	7	28	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RED STAR/DEF JAMAICA 001135*/DJJMG	Red Star Sounds Presents Def Jamaica
5	3	19	ELEPHANT MAN	VP/ATLANTIC 83681/AG	Good 2 Go
6	4	19	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VP 1699*	Strictly The Best Volume 31
7	5	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SEQUENCE 8021	Power 96 Presents: Dancehall Nice Again 2004 Reggae Y Reggaeton
8	6	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VP 83654*	Reggae Gold 2003
9	11	42	BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS	TUFF GONG/ISLAND 000518/DJMG	Bob Marley & The Wailers Live At The Roxy
10	10	2	TANYA STEPHENS	VP 1691*	Gangsta Blues
11	8	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS	PUTUMAYO 221	Putumayo Presents: World Reggae
12	12	38	WAYNE WONDER	VP/ATLANTIC 83678/AG	No Holding Back
13	9	32	ZIGGY MARLEY	TUFF GONG/PRIVATE MUSIC 11836/AAL	Dragonfly
14	14	47	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RAZOR & TIE 89062	Rasta Jamz
15	RE-ENTRY	1	BUJU BANTON	HIP-O/ISLAND 58853/UME	The Best Of Buju Banton

APRIL 24 2004 **Billboard** TOP WORLD ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
1	1	3	GIPSY KINGS	NONESUCH 79847/AG	NUMBER 1 3 Weeks At Number 1 Roots
2	2	11	SOUNDTRACK	HIGHER OCTAVE SOUNDTRACKS 96811/HIGHER OCTAVE	The Triplets Of Belleville
3	NEW	1	CAETANO VELOSO	NONESUCH 73823/AG	Foreign Sound
4	NEW	1	NA PALAPALAI	KDDPS2 1003	Ke'Ala Beauty
5	3	27	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WINDHAM HILL 54888/SMG	Celtic Circle
6	4	4	THE IRISH TENORS	RAZOR & TIE 82910	Heritage
7	5	5	DANIEL O'DONNELL	DPTV MEDIA 0018	Daniel In Blue Jeans
8	6	6	DANIEL O'DONNELL	DPTV MEDIA 0011	Classic Doubles: Songs Of Inspiration / I Believe
9	9	9	GREAT BIG SEA	ZDE 431049/ROUNDER	Something Beautiful
10	7	39	DANIEL O'DONNELL	DPTV MEDIA 0004	The Daniel O'Donnell Show
11	15	49	CIRQUE DU SOLEIL	CIRQUE DU SOLEIL 93926	Varekai
12	11	53	SOUNDTRACK	MILAN 36010	Bend It Like Beckham
13	13	20	VARIOUS ARTISTS	PUTUMAYO 219	Putumayo Presents: French Cafe
14	10	19	KEALI'I REICHEL	PUNAHOLE 11229 [M]	Ke'alaokamaile
15	12	10	MOYA BRENNAN	DECCA 001915/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Two Horizons

APRIL 24 2004 **Billboard** TOP CHRISTIAN ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
1	1	7	SOUNDTRACK	INTEGRITY 83012/WORD-CURB	NUMBER 1/GREATEST GAINER 7 Weeks At Number 1 The Passion Of The Christ
2	2	19	SWITCHFOOT	COLUMBIA/SPARROW 1976/EMICMG	The Beautiful Letdown
3	NEW	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS	UNIVERSAL SOUTH 002320/EMICMG	HOT SHOT DEBUT Songs Inspired By The Passion Of The Christ
4	3	28	CASTING CROWNS	BEACH STREET/REUNION 10723/PROVIDENT [M]	Casting Crowns
5	4	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMICMG/PROVIDENT 86300/WORD-CURB	WOW Worship (Red)
6	6	17	VARIOUS ARTISTS	PROVIDENT/WORD-CURB/SPARROW/EMI CHRISTIAN 0652/EMICMG	WOW Hits 2004
7	5	9	JEREMY CAMP	BEC 9613/EMICMG [M]	Carried Me: The Worship Project
8	4	4	THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE CHOIR	M2 0/WARNER BROS. 82502/WORD-CURB	Live... This Is Your House
9	7	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI SPECIAL MARKETS/TIME LIFE 2010/EMICMG	Worship Together: I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever
10	8	7	AVALON	SPARROW 4901/EMICMG	The Creed
11	NEW	1	JOHNNY CASH	AMERICAN 002362/LDST HIGHWAY	My Mother's Hymn Book
12	11	12	THIRD DAY	ESSENTIAL 10706/PROVIDENT	Offerings II: All I Have To Give
13	10	9	ELVIS PRESLEY	RCA 57868/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP	Elvis: Ultimate Gospel
14	20	20	STACIE ORRICO	FOREFRONT/VIRGIN 2589/EMICMG [M]	Stacie Orrico
15	NEW	1	GINNY OWENS	ROCKETTOWN 20009/PROVIDENT [M]	Beautiful
16	12	10	KUTLESS	TOOTH & NAIL/BEC 7789/EMICMG	Sea Of Faces
17	15	11	CECE WINANS	PURESPRINGS GOSPEL/INO 82685/WORD-CURB	Throne Room
18	22	25	NEWSBOYS	SPARROW 1763/EMICMG	Adoration: The Worship Album
19	19	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS	FOREFRONT 6642/EMICMG	Veggie Rocks!
20	21	24	JEREMY CAMP	BEC 0456/EMICMG [M]	Stay
21	13	17	RANDY TRAVIS	WORD-CURB/WARNER BROS. 86273/WORD-CURB	Worship & Faith
22	17	23	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WORSHIP TOGETHER 4172/EMICMG	Here I Am To Worship
23	14	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS	FERVENT 30045/PROVIDENT	Absolute Worship
24	23	26	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMICMG/WORD-CURB 80198/PROVIDENT	WOW Worship (Yellow)
25	NEW	1	DEAD POETIC	SOLID STATE/TOOTH & NAIL 5909/EMICMG [M]	New Medicines
26	25	32	VARIOUS ARTISTS	BEC/FOREFRONT 5908/EMICMG	X 2004: 17 Christian Rock Hits!
27	9	13	PASSION WORSHIP BAND	SPARROW 3817/EMICMG [M]	Passion: Hymns Ancient And Modern
28	NEW	1	CAEDMON'S CALL	ESSENTIAL 10746/PROVIDENT	Chronicles 1992-2004
29	26	31	MERCYME	INO 86218/WORD-CURB	Spoken For
30	18	27	MICHAEL W. SMITH	REUNION 10080/PROVIDENT	The Second Decade: 1993-2003
31	NEW	1	MARK LOWRY	GAITHER MUSIC GROUP 2559/EMICMG [M]	The Best Of Mark Lowry Volume One
32	RE-ENTRY	1	GAITHER VOCAL BAND	SPRING HOUSE 2516/EMICMG	A Cappella
33	28	30	CHRIS RICE	ROCKETTOWN 20001/PROVIDENT [M]	Run The Earth, Watch The Sky
34	NEW	1	MARK LOWRY	GAITHER MUSIC GROUP 2560/EMICMG [M]	The Best Of Mark Lowry Volume Two
35	39	4	BARLOWGIRL	FERVENT 30046 [M]	Barlowgirl
36	24	33	THOUSANDFOOTKRUTCH	TOOTH & NAIL 4799/EMICMG [M]	Phenomenon
37	NEW	1	BUILDING 429	WORD-CURB/WARNER BROS. 86318/WORD-CURB [M]	Glory Defined (EP)
38	NEW	1	ZOEGIRL	SPARROW 0666/EMICMG [M]	Different Kind Of Free
39	27	36	JARS OF CLAY	ESSENTIAL 10709/PROVIDENT	Who We Are Instead
40	NEW	1	BILL GAITHER	GAITHER MUSIC GROUP 2523/EMICMG	Bill Gaither's All Time Favorite Homecoming Songs And Performances Volume 1

APRIL 24 2004 **Billboard** TOP GOSPEL ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
1	1	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WORD/EMICMG/VERITY 57494/ZOMBA	NUMBER 1 11 Weeks At Number 1 WOW Gospel 2004
2	20	26	THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE CHOIR	M2 0/WORD-CURB 82502/WARNER BROS.	Live... This Is Your House
3	2	2	SOUNDTRACK	MUSIC WORLD/COLUMBIA 90286/SONY MUSIC	The Fighting Temptations
4	3	3	CECE WINANS	PURESPRINGS GOSPEL/INO 90361/SONY MUSIC	Throne Room
5	4	13	SOUNDTRACK	DMZ/COLUMBIA 90896/SONY MUSIC	The Ladykillers
6	6	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	INTEGRITY GOSPEL/GOSPEL CENTRIC/EPIC 90671/SONY MUSIC	Gotta Have Gospel!
7	5	4	SMOKIE NORFUL	EMI GOSPEL 20374 [M]	I Need You Now
8	7	6	BYRON CAGE	GOSPEL CENTRIC 70047/ZOMBA [M]	Byron Cage
9	9	7	RIZEN	CHEZ MUSIQUE/LIGHT 5517/COMPEN DIA	RiZen
10	12	9	MARTHA MUNIZZI	MARTHA MUNIZZI 0001 [M]	The Best Is Yet To Come
11	10	8	SMOKIE NORFUL	EMI GOSPEL 95086	Smokie Norful: Limited Edition (EP)
12	8	14	VICKIE WINANS	VERITY 43214/ZOMBA [M]	Bringing It All Together
13	14	11	DONNIE MCCLURKIN	VERITY 43199/ZOMBA	Donnie McClurkin... Again
14	15	15	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI CHRISTIAN/WORD/VERITY 43213/ZOMBA	WOW Gospel 2003
15	16	16	RICKY DILLARD & "NEW G" (NEW GENERATION CHORALE)	CRYSTAL ROSE 0974	Unplugged... The Way Church Used To Be
16	17	20	VICKI YOHE	PURESPRINGS GOSPEL 84230/EMI GOSPEL	I Just Want You
17	13	12	MICHELLE WILLIAMS	MUSIC WORLD/COLUMBIA 89081/SONY MUSIC	Do You Know
18	11	7	NEW DIRECTION	GOSPEL CENTRIC 70056/ZOMBA	Rain
19	18	18	BISHOP PAUL S. MORTON & THE FGCFF MASS CHOIR	TEHILLAH/LIGHT 5497/COMPEN DIA [M]	Let It Rain
20	27	17	TONY HIBBERT II	SPIRIT IN MOTION 70852/RUBY ROSE	In His Presence
21	19	22	KAREN CLARK-SHEARD	ELEKTRA 62894/AG	The Heavens Are Telling
22	22	21	MARVIN SAPP	VERITY 43221/ZOMBA [M]	Diary Of A Psalmist
23	24	19	SHARROND KING	DPHIR 4069	Dedicated
24	NEW	1	THE CANTON SPIRITUALS	VERITY 58251/ZOMBA	HOT SHOT DEBUT Nothing But The Hits
25	23	25	EDDIE RUTH BRADFORD	JUANA/KNIGHT 2008/MALACD	Too Close To The Mirror
26	30	29	FRED HAMMOND	VERITY 53712/ZOMBA	Nothing But The Hits
27	28	24	7 SONS OF SOUL	SOUL WORLD/VERITY 58250/ZOMBA	7 Sons Of Soul
28	21	27	DETRICK HADDON	TYSOT/VERITY 43195/ZOMBA [M]	Lost And Found
29	26	23	TACHINA DANIELLE	TRI-UNE 70369	Still Here
30	32	33	MARY MARY	COLUMBIA 85690/SONY MUSIC	Incredible
31	37	30	TURKS & CAICOS MASS CHOIR	MEEK 4021	Behold! Live In Chicago
32	36	34	HEZEKIAH WALKER & THE LOVE FELLOWSHIP CRUSADE CHOIR	VERITY 43176/ZOMBA [M]	Family Affair II: Live At Radio City Music Hall
33	25	37	LEE WILLIAMS AND THE SPIRITUAL QC'S	MCG 7029/MALACD [M]	Right On Time
34	35	35	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DPHIR 8052/PGE	A Taste Of Ophir
35	29	28	RAMIYAH	MUSIC WORLD/INTEGRITY GOSPEL 86952/SONY MUSIC [M]	Ramiyah
36	33	32	SHIRLEY CAESAR	WORD-CURB 73898/RHINO [M]	Greatest Gospel Hits
37	39	31	JOHNNY MO	SIERRA-PEARL 0001	A New Direction
38	31	38	THE WILLIAMS BROTHERS	BLACKBERRY 1643/MALACD	Still Here
39	34	36	SHIRLEY CAESAR	WORD-CURB 86008/WARNER BROS. [M]	Shirley Caesar And Friends
40	38	—	DONALD LAWRENCE & THE TRI-CITY SINGERS	EMI GOSPEL 91802	The Best Of Donald Lawrence & The Tri-City Singers: Restoring The Years

Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numeral following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ◊ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Gold). ▲ Certification of 200,000 units (Platinum). ◆ Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platinum). * Asterisk indicates LP is available. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

Chart Codes: CS (Hot Country Singles); H100 (Hot 100 Singles); LT (Hot Latin Tracks) and RBH (Hot R&B Hip/Hop Singles).

TITLE (Publisher - Licensing Org.) Sheet Music Dist., Chart, Position.

100 YEARS (EMI Blackwood, BMI/Five For Fighting, BMI), HL, H100 35
43RD AM (F.I.P.P., BMI) LT 25
8TH WORLD WONDER (Shanley Songs, ASCAP/Jacobson, ASCAP/BEBop Music, SOCAN/BBC Worldwide, SOCAN), WBM, H100 60
99 PROBLEMS (EMI April, ASCAP/Carter Boys, ASCAP/Copyright Control/Careers-BMG, BMI/BMG Songs, ASCAP/Spirit Two, ASCAP/Songs Of The Knight, BMI/Universal-PolyGram International, ASCAP/Rhyme Syndicate, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Ammo Dump, ASCAP/Caramba, ASCAP), HL/WBM, RBH 91

-A-

ABRAZAR LA VIDA (Denise Rich Songs, BMI/Lazy Jo, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Perez Soto, BMI) LT 11
ACT A FOOL (LP Boyz, BMI/White Rhino, BMI) RBH 77
ALL FALLS DOWN (Sony/ATV Songs, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Gimmie My Publishing, BMI), HL, H100 11; RBH 5
AMAR COMO TE AME (Edimusa, ASCAP/Vander, ASCAP) LT 28
AMERICAN SOLDIER (Tokco Tunes, BMI/Wacissa River, BMI/BPI, BMI), HL, CS 9; H100 55
ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL (Get-Jet, BMI) H100 29
AUNQUE NO TE PUEDA VER (WB, ASCAP) LT 8

-B-

BABY I LOVE U (Sony/ATV Songs, BMI/Nuyorican, BMI/Cori Tiffani, BMI/Dan Shea, BMI/EMI U Catalog, ASCAP/Barvin, ASCAP/Zomba Songs, BMI/R. Kelly, BMI), HL/WBM, H100 98; RBH 97
BACK OF THE BOTTOM DRAWER (Sony/ATV Timber, SESAC/Hillsboro Valley, SESAC/Painted Red, BMI), HL, CS 47
BARAJA DE ORO (Zomba, ASCAP) LT 9
BEER MAN (EMI April, ASCAP/Sea Gayle, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Acuff Rose, BMI), HL, CS 41
BEHIND BLUE EYES (ABKCO, BMI/Careers-BMG, BMI/Suolubaf, BMI/Towser Tunes, BMI), HL, H100 89
BLAME IT ON MAMA (Blame Mama, ASCAP/Hysom Walker, BMI) CS 45
BOUNCE (Songs Of Booya Music GMBH, GEMA/Gemini, GEMA/Hanseatic Musikverlag, GEMA/Standard Musikverlag, GEMA/Edition X-Cellent, GEMA/George Glueck, GEMA/Warner-Tamela, BMI), WBM, H100 82
BREAK DOWN HERE (EMI April, ASCAP/Willow Lake, ASCAP), HL, CS 39
BULERIA (Kike Santander, BMI/Santander Melodies, ASCAP/Famous, ASCAP) LT 22
BURN (Shaniah Cymone, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Babyboy's Little, SESAC/Nootime South, SESAC/WBM, SESAC/U.R. IV, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 4; RBH 4

-C-

CAMARON PELA'O (Colgems-EMI, ASCAP) LT 47
CERCA DE TI (Thaly Songs, BMI/Peermusic III, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Million Dollar Steve, BMI/Gemini Di Marco, BMI/Jumping Bean, BMI/Sony/ATV Latin, BMI), WBM, LT 19
CLOSER TO YOU (Zomba Songs, BMI/R. Kelly, BMI), WBM, RBH 93
COLD HARD BITCH (Get-Jet, BMI) H100 63
COME CLEAN (Kays' Tuff, BMI/WB, ASCAP/Dylan Jackson, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood, BMI), WBM, H100 52
COMO PUDE ENAMORARME DE TI (Universal Musica, ASCAP/Leo Musica, SACM) LT 12
CONFESSIONS PART II (Shaniah Cymone, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Babyboy's Little, SESAC/Nootime South, SESAC/WBM, SESAC/U.R. IV, ASCAP), HL/WBM, RBH 41
CREO EN EL AMOR (Piloto, ASCAP/Universal Musica, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP) LT 5
CRUZ DE OLVIDO (Zomba Golden Sands, ASCAP) LT 16
CUIDARTE EL ALMA (Songs Of Castillo, BMI/WB, ASCAP/Universal-Musica Unica, BMI) LT 4
CULO (Diaz Brothers Music, BMI/Aboud, BMI/Greensleeves, PRS/Kings Of Kings, BMI/Marinbero, BMI) H100 84; RBH 81

-D-

DALO POR HECHO (Designee, BMI) LT 32
DAMNI (Drugstore, ASCAP/Lil Jon 0017 Music, BMI/White Rhino, BMI/Lil' Buddy Dewberry, BMI) RBH 42
DESEOS DE COSAS IMPOSIBLES (Sony/ATV Discos, ASCAP) LT 21
DESPERATELY (Tittawhirl, BMI/Moon Kiss, BMI) CS 10; H100 56
DIAMOND IN DA RUFF (Invisible, BMI/Niahist, BMI/Divine Mill, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/I Want My Daddy's Records, ASCAP/Jahque Joints, SESAC/Universal Tunes, SESAC/Bridgeport, BMI), WBM, RBH 66
DIP IT LOW (Poli Paul, BMI/SpenCow, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI/Havana Brown, BMI) H100 87; RBH 74
DIRT OFF YOUR SHOULDER (EMI April, ASCAP/Carter Boys, ASCAP/Virginia Beach, ASCAP), HL, H100 9; RBH 7
A DONDE ESTABAS (Ser-Ca, BMI) LT 17
DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE AWAY (Tuff Huff, BMI/Zomba Songs, BMI/Grindtime, BMI), WBM, H100 42; RBH 16
DON'T TELL ME (Almo, ASCAP/Avri Lavigne, SOCAN/Evan Taubenfeld, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 54
DOS LOCOS (R.N. ASCAP) LT 24
DRIVIN' INTO THE SUN (Magic Mustang, BMI/Write Em Cowgirl, BMI/Cal IV, ASCAP/JorgaSong, ASCAP) CS 59
DUDE (EMI Blackwood, BMI), HL, H100 58; RBH 23

-E-

ECHALE LENA (Rubet, ASCAP/Universal Musica, ASCAP/2000 Amor, ASCAP) LT 48
E.I. (REINVENTION) (Jackie Frost, ASCAP/BMG Songs, ASCAP/Crump Tight, ASCAP) RBH 71
ENCORE (Carter Boys, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Ye World Music, ASCAP), HL, RBH 46
ESO (WB, ASCAP/Gazul, ASCAP) LT 50

-F-

FALLS ON ME (Universal-Songs Of PolyGram International, BMI/Pener Pig, BMI), WBM, H100 83
FIGURED YOU OUT (Warner-Tamela, BMI/Arm Your Dillo, SOCAN/Zero-G, SOCAN/Black Diesel, SOCAN/Ladekiv, SOCAN), WBM, H100 78
THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST (Mainstay, BMI/Salafia, ASCAP/Universal-MCA, ASCAP), WBM, H100 22
F**K IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK) (Hot Butter Milk, ASCAP/Bat Radar, ASCAP/Top Billini', ASCAP/Zomba, ASCAP), WBM, H100 47; RBH 79
FIRES ON THE BUTTER (YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN) (Wacissa River, BMI/Built On Rock, ASCAP/ICG, BMI/Famous, ASCAP/Song Matters, ASCAP/BPI Administration, ASCAP), HL, CS 35
FREEK-A-LEEK (Zomba, ASCAP/Kumbaya, ASCAP/Watch My Music, ASCAP/Lil Jon 0017 Music, BMI), WBM, H100 13; RBH 8
FRIDAY NIGHT (Young Chris, ASCAP/Young Neef,

ASCAP/E.O.B., ASCAP/Rabasse, ASCAP/Rush Groove, ASCAP/The Robinson Music Group, BMI/WB, ASCAP), WBM, RBH 63
F.U.R.B. (F U RIGHT BACK) (E Controversy, ASCAP/Zomba, ASCAP/Hot Butter Milk, ASCAP/Bat Radar, ASCAP/First Priority, BMI/Ryckmusic, ASCAP/Maniac Music, ASCAP/Top Billini', ASCAP), WBM, H100 81; RBH 76

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GAL YUH AH LEAD (X.C.A.R.R., ASCAP/Massive Sounds, ASCAP/STB, ASCAP) RBH 67
GAME OVER (FLIP) (Neje, SESAC/Lucky, BMI) H100 21; RBH 10
GET LOW (TVT, ASCAP/Swole, ASCAP/Da Crippler, BMI/ColliPark, BMI/EWC, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI), HL, RBH 48
GET NO BETTER (Larsiny, BMI/Swizz Beatz, ASCAP/Uncle Bobby's Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Karima, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Universal, ASCAP), HL/WBM, RBH 75
GIRLS LIE TOO (EMI April, ASCAP/Little Cricket, ASCAP/Didnt Have To Be, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela, BMI), HL/WBM, CS 53
GOOD LITTLE GIRLS (Mike Curb, BMI/Kiss My Cash, BMI/Ensign, BMI/Fuzzy Dice, BMI), HL/WBM, CS 11; H100 65

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GOT IT TWISTED (BMG Songs, ASCAP/Juvenile Hell, ASCAP/Careers-BMG, BMI/P. Noid, BMI/A. Maman Music, ASCAP/Bienstock, ASCAP/Lost Top People Music, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 100; RBH 50
GUERRILLA NASTY (Charles Williamson, BMI/Bubba Gee, BMI/Nootime Tunes, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI), WBM, RBH 87
GUY LIKE ME (Greenhorse, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Cooke's Trust, SESAC/Bug, BMI), HL, CS 43
HAPPY PEOPLE (R. Kelly, BMI/Zomba Songs, BMI), WBM, H100 48; RBH 18
HAY QUE CAMBIAR (Rubet, ASCAP/Universal Musica, ASCAP) LT 36
HAZME OLVIDARLA (Vander, ASCAP) LT 10
HERE WITHOUT YOU (Escatawpa, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI), WBM, H100 34
HERMANITA (Premium Latin, ASCAP) LT 44
HEY MAMA (Will.I.am, BMI/Listmoney, PRS/Greensleeves, PRS/MCP, PRS/Cherry River, BMI), CLM, H100 53
HEY YA! (Gnat Booty, ASCAP/Chrysalis, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 33
HOLD ON (Blackfire, ASCAP/Famous, ASCAP/Blue Ero Soul, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Tehtu, ASCAP/Ye World Music, ASCAP/Modat, ASCAP/Get Ya Frog On, BMI), HL, RBH 69
HOT MAMA (Sony/ATV Acuff Rose, BMI/Wenonga, BMI), HL, H100 97
HOW'D I WIND UP IN JAMAICA (Sony/ATV Acuff Rose, BMI), HL, CS 51
HOW FAR (EMI April, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Shaye Smith, BMI/Careers-BMG, BMI/Sagrabieux Songs, BMI), HL, CS 50

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I AM THE HIGHWAY (Disappearing One, ASCAP/Melee Savvy Music, BMI/Me 3, BMI/LBV Songs, BMI), HL, H100 85
I CAN'T SLEEP (Espiritu de Leon, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI/My Mulligan, BMI), WBM, CS 22
I CAN'T WAIT (Organized Noise, BMI/Big Sexy, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Gnat Booty, ASCAP/Chrysalis, ASCAP), HL, H100 70; RBH 25
I'D BE LYING (Mark Hybner, ASCAP/Cagle Blue, ASCAP/BB3, BMI), WBM, CS 48
I DON'T WANNA KNOW (Marsky, BMI/Janice Combs, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Hot Heat, ASCAP/Justin Combs, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Donceno, ASCAP/337, ASCAP), HL, H100 21; RBH 3
IF I AIN'T GOT YOU (Lellow, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP), HL, H100 8; RBH 2
IF NOBODY BELIEVED IN YOU (Coburn, BMI), WBM, CS 38
IF YOU EVER STOP LOVING ME (Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Love Monkey, BMI/Wenonga, BMI/Universal, ASCAP/Memphisto, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 64
I GOT A FEELIN' (Major Bob, ASCAP/Universal-Songs Of PolyGram International, BMI/Everything I Love, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree, BMI), HL/WBM, CS 28
I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH (Nashville DreamWorks Songs, ASCAP/Paper Angels, ASCAP/Sunchaser, ASCAP/Cherry Lane, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Sea Gayle, ASCAP), CLM/HL, H100 96
I MISS YOU (EMI April, ASCAP/Fun With Goats, ASCAP/Beat Poet, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 50
I'M REALLY HOT (Mass Confusion, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Virginia Beach, ASCAP/Universal-PolyGram International, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP), WBM, RBH 78
I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU (Sparta Florida, PRS/EMI Blackwood, BMI/EMI April, ASCAP), HL, H100 18; RBH 21
IN MY DAUGHTER'S EYES (Songs Of Nashville DreamWorks, BMI/Diversion, BMI/Cherry River, BMI), CLM, H100 90

IN MY LIFE (Money Mack, BMI), WBM, H100 94; RBH 52
IN THESE LAST FEW DAYS (Vinny Mae, BMI), WBM, CS 54
IT ONLY HURTS WHEN I'M BREATHING (Universal-Songs Of PolyGram International, BMI/Loon Echo, BMI/Out Of Pocket, ASCAP/Zomba, ASCAP), WBM, CS 26
IT'S MY LIFE (Universal-Songs Of PolyGram International, BMI/Zomba, ASCAP), WBM, H100 41
I WANNA DO IT ALL (EMI Blackwood, BMI/Ty Land, BMI/1808 Music, BMI/BPI, BMI/Mike Curb, BMI), HL/WBM, H100 95
I WANNA MAKE YOU CRY (Big Red Tractor, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Smith Haven, BMI), WBM, CS 32
I WANT TO LIVE (Memphisto, ASCAP/Onlay, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys, ASCAP), HL/WBM, CS 30
I WANT YOU (Uncle Bobby's Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/New Hidden Valley, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Casa David, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, BMI/Mirimode, BMI), HL/WBM, H100 62; RBH 22

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JAMBALAYA (Sony/ATV Songs, BMI), HL, LT 43
JESUS WALKS (EMI Blackwood, BMI/Gimmie My Publishing, BMI), HL, RBH 44
JOOK GAL (WINE WINE) (Greensleeves, PRS/Livingston, ASCAP/Drugstore, ASCAP/Lil Jon 0017 Music, BMI/Staying High Music, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Bone Crusher, ASCAP/Aboud, BMI), HL, H100 99; RBH 54
JOSE PEREZ LEON (TN Ediciones, BMI/Beechwood, BMI) LT 29

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LA MAS DESEADA (Ser-Ca, BMI) LT 38
LA NEGRA TOMASA (Peer Int'l, BMI) LT 42
LA SOSPECHA (Univision, ASCAP) LT 33
LAST ONE STANDING (Chi-Boy, ASCAP/Feesongs, BMI), WBM, CS 27
LEAVE (GET OUT) (Full of Soul, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Soulang, BMI/Godfry, BMI/Songs Of DreamWorks, BMI/Smooth As Silk, ASCAP/Plaything, ASCAP), HL, H100 86
LET'S BE US AGAIN (Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Criterion, ASCAP/Little Working For The Man, BMI/Tommy Lee James, BMI/ICG, BMI), HL, CS 12; H100 59
LET'S KILL SATURDAY NIGHT (EMI Longitude, BMI/Songs Of DreamWorks, BMI/Cherry River, BMI), CLM/HL, CS 46
LETTERS FROM HOME (Famous, ASCAP/Ed And Lucille Songs, ASCAP/BMG Songs, ASCAP), HL, CS 5; H100 39
LITTLE MOMENTS (EMI April, ASCAP/Sea Gayle, ASCAP), HL, H100 76
LOCKED UP (Noka International, ASCAP/Famous, ASCAP), HL, RBH 95
LOCO (Old Desperados, ASCAP/N.D., ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Scott And Soda, ASCAP/Beechtree, ASCAP), WBM, CS 20
THE LONELINESS (ECAF, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs, BMI), HL, RBH 55
LOVE'S DIVINE (Perfect Songs, BMI/Bat Future, BMI) H100 79
LUCHARE POR TU AMOR (Peermusic III, BMI) LT 17
LUV ME BABY (Young Dude, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP/Bubba Gee, BMI/Nootime Tunes, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI), WBM, RBH 88
LYING FROM YOU (Zomba, ASCAP/Chesterchaz, ASCAP/Big Bad Mr. Hahn, BMI/Nondisclosure Agreement, BMI/Rob Bourdon, BMI/Kenji Kobayashi, BMI/Pancakey Cakes, BMI/Zomba Songs, BMI), WBM, H100 71

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MAKE IT ALRIGHT (Mike City, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI), WBM, RBH 36
MAKE IT UP WITH LOVE (Zomba, ASCAP/Food Stamp Musik, ASCAP/Strange Motel, ASCAP/David McPherson, BMI), WBM, RBH 57
MAPS (Chrysalis, BMI), HL, H100 92
MAS QUE TU AMIGO (Crisma, SESAC) LT 2
MAYBERRY (Good Ol' Delta Boy, SESAC) CS 4; H100 36
ME AND EMILY (Castle Street, ASCAP/Singinrach Songs, ASCAP/Create Real, ASCAP), WBM, CS 7
MEANT TO LIVE (Meadowgreen, ASCAP/Sugar Pete, ASCAP) H100 68
ME CANSE DE TI (F.I.P.P., BMI/EMI April, ASCAP) LT 35
ME EQUIVOCHE (Copyright Control) LT 18
MEGALOMANIAC (EMI April, ASCAP/Hunglikeyora, ASCAP), HL, H100 69
ME, MYSELF AND I (Beyonce, ASCAP/Hitco South, ASCAP/Music Of Windswept, ASCAP/TVT, ASCAP/Scott Storch, ASCAP/Tuff Jew, ASCAP/Black Owned Musik, ASCAP/Notting Dale, ASCAP), WBM, H100 43; RBH 20
MEN DON'T CHANGE (Mosaic Music, BMI/Hold Jack, BMI), HL, CS 36
MOVE YA BODY (Twoenz, ASCAP/Elijah Wells The 3rd Music, ASCAP/Cipha Sounds Music, ASCAP/Lionel Bermingham Music, ASCAP/Aboud, BMI) RBH 47
MUSICOLOGY (Controversy, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP), HL, RBH 51
MY BAND (Derty Tunes, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Swifty McVay, ASCAP/Fullproof, BMI/Runyon Ave, BMI/Idiotic Biz, ASCAP/Eight Mile Style, BMI/Ensign, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Jacef, ASCAP/Resto World, ASCAP) H100 10; RBH 45
MY IMMORTAL (Zombies Ate My Publishing, BMI/FortheFallen, BMI/Dwight Frye, BMI), WBM, H100 12
MY LAST NAME (Coburn, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys, ASCAP), HL/WBM, CS 18

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NADIE ES ETERNO (Edimusa, ASCAP/Vander, ASCAP) LT 15
NAUGHTY GIRL (Beyonce, ASCAP/Hitco South, ASCAP/Music Of Windswept, ASCAP/TVT, ASCAP/Scott Storch, ASCAP/Black Owned Musik, ASCAP/Angela Beyonce, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Summer Night Music, BMI/Kidada, BMI/Shugitieres, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Rubber Band, BMI/Universal-Songs Of PolyGram), WBM, H100 6; RBH 13
NAVIGANDOTE (Peermusic III, BMI) LT 41
NEW DAY (Pattonium, BMI/Tippy's Own Music, BMI/The Loving Company, ASCAP/Karlos Jr., BMI/Say What Say Huh, BMI/Wilkinson Ave., BMI/Peer, BMI/Liesse's First Born Music, BMI), HL, RBH 62
NO BETTER LOVE (EMI April, ASCAP/Uncle Ronnie's, ASCAP/Dillard, BMI/Copyright Control), HL, H100 80; RBH 33
NO ES AMOR (Enrique Iglesias, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Metropolitan, ASCAP) LT 39
NO TENGAS MIEDO ENAMORATE (Ser-Ca, BMI) LT 37
NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE (Little Mahkvas, ASCAP/Missing Link, ASCAP/Jelly's Jams, ASCAP/Joseph Cartagena, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, BMI/Zomba, ASCAP/563, ASCAP/EMI Full Keel, ASCAP), HL/WBM, RBH 65
NUMB (Zomba Songs, BMI/Chesterchaz, ASCAP/Big Bad Mr. Hahn, BMI/Nondisclosure Agreement, BMI/Rob Bourdon, BMI/Kenji Kobayashi, BMI/Pancakey Cakes, BMI), WBM, H100 30

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THE ONE (God Given, BMI/Bubba Gee, BMI/Nootime Tunes, BMI/Ya Majesty's Music, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Reach Global, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI), HL, RBH 96
ONE CALL AWAY (Almo, ASCAP/Trak Starz, ASCAP/Irvyng, BMI/Jackpot, ASCAP/Ching Chong, BMI), HL, H100 7; RBH 15
ONE DAY AT A TIME (Universal, ASCAP/Brothers Street, ASCAP/Malik & Milan's Money, ASCAP/Thug Nation, BMI/Eight Mile Style, BMI/Jacef, ASCAP/Resto World, ASCAP), WBM, RBH 68
OOCHIE POP (Zomba, ASCAP/The Braids, ASCAP/Piscapo, ASCAP/Black Mob, ASCAP/Rock Pop, BMI), WBM, RBH 100
OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY (Stayin High, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Ye World Music, ASCAP/Mirimode, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI/Len-lon, BMI/Stone Diamond, BMI/Almo, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 15; RBH 9

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PAINT ME A BIRMINGHAM (Songs Of DreamWorks, BMI/Princetta, BMI/Mama's House, BMI/Cherry River, BMI), CLM, CS 7; H100 49
PARA TODA LA VIDA (LGA, BMI) LT 20
PASSENGER SEAT (Emerto, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Little Cricket, ASCAP), HL, CS 19
PERFECT (Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Wenonga, BMI/Gold Watch, BMI), HL/WBM, CS 6; H100 57
POR QUE NO (Lideres, ASCAP) LT 40
PROTOTYPE (Gnat Booty, ASCAP/Chrysalis, ASCAP), HL, RBH 94
PULL UP (Mudslide, BMI/Aboud, BMI) RBH 82
PUSH (D. Trotman, BMI/Stars, BMI/Rich Kid, BMI/Pleasure Music, BMI) RBH 59

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QUE LLORO (Sony/ATV Discos, ASCAP) LT 7
A QUE NO TE VAS (Brantunes, ASCAP/Maximo Aguirre, BMI/Mark Portmann, BMI/Universal-Musica Unica, BMI) LT 31
QUESTIONS (Zomba Songs, BMI/R. Kelly, BMI), WBM, RBH 40
QUITEMONOS LA ROPA (Sony/ATV Discos, ASCAP/World Deep, BMI/Sony/ATV Latin, BMI/Blueplat-inum, ASCAP) LT 49

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READ YOUR MIND (Tuff Huff, BMI/Grindtime, BMI/Pay Town, BMI) RBH 30
THE REASON (Spread Your Cheeks And Push Out The Music, ASCAP), WBM, H100 19
REDNECK WOMAN (Sony/ATV Cross Keys, ASCAP/Gracie Girl, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP), HL/WBM, CS 8; H100 45
REMEMBER WHEN (EMI April, ASCAP/Tri-angels, ASCAP), HL, CS 13; H100 51
RIDE WIT U (Universal, ASCAP/Tetragrammaton, ASCAP/Nivrac Tyke, ASCAP/Jesse Jaye, ASCAP/BIG JAMES, ASCAP/Famous, ASCAP/50 Cent, ASCAP/High On Life, ASCAP/Mouth Full O' Gold, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 67; RBH 29
ROSES (Gnat Booty, ASCAP/Chrysalis, ASCAP/Seven Sax, ASCAP), HL, H100 46; RBH 31
ROUGH & READY (BMG Songs, ASCAP/Mrs. Lumpkins Poodelle, ASCAP/BMG, PRS/Multisongs BMG, SESAC) CS 57
ROUND HERE (Val's Child, ASCAP/F.O.B., ASCAP/Domani And Ya Majesty's Music, ASCAP/Copyright Control) RBH 80
RUBBER BAND MAN (Domani And Ya Majesty's Music, ASCAP/Crump Tight, ASCAP) H100 44; RBH 19

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SALT SHAKER (TVT, BMI/ColliPark, BMI/EWC, BMI/Da Crippler, BMI/Camore, BMI/Me & Marq, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood, BMI), HL, H100 38; RBH 24
SAVE A HORSE (RIDE A COWBOY) (Big Love, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP), WBM, CS 58
SAY AY AY AY (Melaza, BMI/Dutty Rock, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP), HL, RBH 84
SELIFISH (Donut Boy, BMI/EMI April, ASCAP/Zhiff, ASCAP/Gimmie My Publishing, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Springtime, BMI), HL, RBH 73
SE ME HIZO TARDE LA VIDA (Musinda, ASCAP) LT 45
SHAKE (Killa Cam, BMI/Tara's Daddys Music, BMI/Copyright Control) RBH 89
SHE THINKS SHE NEEDS ME (Songs Of DreamWorks, BMI/AP Country Music, BMI/E Ticket, BMI/Cherry River, BMI/Still Working For The Woman, ASCAP/MX, ASCAP/ICG, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Shane Minor, BMI), CLM/HL, CS 33
SICK AND TIRED (ShanCan, BMI) CS 51
SIDE SHOW (Ghetto Pop 2000, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP), HL, RBH 83
SIMPLE LIFE (Nashville DreamWorks Songs, ASCAP/Monkey Feet, ASCAP/Cherry Lane, ASCAP/Famous, ASCAP/Animal Fair, ASCAP/Careers-BMG, BMI/Silverkiss, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI/Songs From The Engine Room, BMI), CLM/HL/WBM, CS 17; H100 74
SLOW JAMZ (Stayin High, ASCAP/Konman Entertainment, ASCAP/Roc Da World, ASCAP/Diplomat, ASCAP/Ye World Music, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Almo, ASCAP), HL, H100 37; RBH 26
SLOW MOTION (Money Mack, BMI) RBH 32
SMILE (50 Cent, ASCAP/Lloyd Banks, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP/No I.D., BMI/Jobete, ASCAP), HL, RBH 90
SMOKIN' GRASS (Extreme Writers, ASCAP/Easel, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Green Ivy, BMI), WBM, CS 60
SOLITAIRE (EMI Jemaxal, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/SIL-RSL Song Company, ASCAP/Lastrada, ASCAP/Welbeck, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Tunes, ASCAP), HL, H100 61
SOMEBODY (WB, ASCAP/Gravatron, SESAC), WBM, CS 24
SOMEDAY (Warner-Tamela, BMI/Arm Your Dillo, SOCAN/Zero-G, SOCAN/Black Diesel, SOCAN), WBM, H100 25
SOMEONE TO SHARE IT WITH (Mike Curb, BMI/Curb, ASCAP), WBM, CS 49
SONGS ABOUT RAIN (Sony/ATV Timber, SESAC/Hills-boro Valley, SESAC/Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Cake Taker, BMI/Com Country, BMI), HL, CS 14; H100 72
SORRY 2004 (First Avenue, ASCAP/BMG Songs, ASCAP/Demis Hot Songs, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Ein-or, ASCAP/Antonio Dixon's Muzik, ASCAP/E.D. Duz-It, BMI/Anthony Nance Muzik, ASCAP/E Two, ASCAP), HL, H100 28; RBH 12
SO SEXY (R. Kelly, BMI/Zomba Songs, BMI/Stayin High, ASCAP/Almo, ASCAP), HL/WBM, RBH 70
SPASH WATERFALLS (Ludacris, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Copyright Control/Alrudy, ASCAP/Almo, ASCAP), HL, H100 20; RBH 11
STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE (Zomba Songs, BMI/R. Kelly, BMI), WBM, RBH 38
STILL IN LOVE (Ailarose Music, BMI/Irving, BMI/Al Green, BMI), HL, RBH 43
SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT (Warner-Tamela, BMI/Writers Extreme, BMI/EMI April, ASCAP/Brad To The Bone, ASCAP), HL/WBM, CS 3; H100 40

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TAKE MY BREATH AWAY (Famous, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 31
TAKE YA CLOTHES OFF (Bone Crusher, ASCAP/BMG Songs, ASCAP/Liwelwyn, ASCAP/Southern Crunk, ASCAP/PMH, ASCAP/EWC, BMI/Da Crippler, BMI/Colli-Park, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI), HL, RBH 92
TANTO LA QUERIA (WB, ASCAP) LT 30
TARDES NEGRAS (Curci, ASCAP) LT 14
TEAR IT UP (Dirtiest Thirstiest, ASCAP/Dark Society, ASCAP/L. Matos, ASCAP/Boomer X, ASCAP/Dead Game, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Crump Tight, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Stone Diamond, BMI/Cypton, BMI/Jobete, ASCAP/Zomba, ASCAP/Soundtron Tunes, BMI/Zomba Songs, BMI/TCF, ASCAP/Fox Film, BMI), HL/WBM, H100 93; RBH 58
TE LLAME (Rubet, ASCAP/Universal Musica,

ASCAP/2000 Amor, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Discos, ASCAP) LT 26
TENGO GANAS (VMR, ASCAP/F.I.P.P., BMI) LT 1
TE QUISE OLVIDAR (BMG Songs, ASCAP) LT 23
TE QUISE TANTO (Doble Acuarela Songs, ASCAP) LT 3
THANK GOD I'M A COUNTRY BOY (Cherry Lane, ASCAP/DreamWorks Songs, ASCAP), CLM, CS 40
THAT'S WHAT SHE GETS FOR LOVING ME (Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Showbilly, BMI), HL, CS 15; H100 66
THINK ABOUT YOU (Uncle Ronnie's, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Ghost Manor, BMI), HL, RBH 39
THIS LOVE (Careers-BMG, BMI/February Twenty Second, BMI/Valentine Valentine, ASCAP), HL, H100 5
THIS WAY (Chappell & Co., ASCAP/Double Vinyl, BMI/Triclops Media, BMI/Dilated Junky, ASCAP/Little A Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI/Kanye West, BMI), HL/WBM, RBH 56
THROUGH THE WIRE (Dyad, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI/Nerobup, BMI), HL/WBM, RBH 35
TIME'S UP! (Jae'wons, ASCAP/Justin Combs, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Nate Dogg, BMI/Scott Storch, ASCAP/TVT, ASCAP/Tuff Jew, ASCAP), HL, RBH 63
TIPS'Y (Jerrell Jones, ASCAP/Tarpo, ASCAP/Notting Dale, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP), HL, H100 3; RBH 6
TOUGHER THAN NAILS (Songs Of Daniel Music, BMI/Tanasi Island Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Big Yellow Dog, BMI/Etta Baby Music, BMI/Copyright Solutions, BMI), HL, CS 29

TOXIC (Colgems-EMI, ASCAP/Murlyn, ASCAP/Universal-PolyGram International, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 14
TU FOTOGRAFIA (Estepan, ASCAP/F.I.P.P., BMI) LT 13
TURN ME ON (EMI April, ASCAP/Beane Tribe, ASCAP/Justin Combs, ASCAP/Da 12, ASCAP/C. Silts, ASCAP/EMI, PRS/Spragga Benz, BMI) RBH 98

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U SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER (MonDeenise, ASCAP/Shaniah Cymone, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Uncle Bobby's Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI), HL, RBH 61
VITAMIN 5 (EMI Blackwood, BMI/Mad House, BMI), HL, RBH 72
WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN (WB, SESAC/Babyboy's Little, SESAC/Nootime South, SESAC/EMI April, ASCAP/Black Baby, SESAC/Them Damn Twins, ASCAP/Air Control, ASCAP), HL/WBM, RBH 49
WANNA GET TO KNOW YOU (50 Cent, ASCAP/Lloyd Banks, ASCAP/Mouth Full O' Gold, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP/Webstyle, BMI/Better-half, ASCAP/Leon Ware, ASCAP), WBM, H100 23; RBH 14
WATCH THE WIND BLOW BY (Universal-Songs Of PolyGram International, BMI/Slowborne, BMI/Hope-N-Cal, BMI), HL/WBM, H100 73
THE WAY YOU MOVE (Gnat Booty, ASCAP/Chrysalis, BMI/Carl Mo, BMI/Organized Noise, BMI/Hitco, BMI), HL/WBM, H100 17; RBH 14
WEAR IT OUT (Divided, BMI/Universal, BMI/Ramal, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI), WBM, RBH 85
WHAT IF (First Avenue, ASCAP/BMG Songs, ASCAP/Demis Hot Songs, ASCAP/Edmonds, BMI/EMI April, ASCAP/E.D. Duz-It, BMI/Antonio Dixon's Muzik, ASCAP/Brownsville, BMI/Ez, BMI/EMI Blackwood, BMI), HL, RBH 60
WHAT IT AIN'T (Sony/ATV Cross Keys, ASCAP/Shmenogina, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Wenonga, BMI), WBM, CS 56
WHAT'S HAPPENIN' (Pinky Phat Phat, BMI/BMG, BMI/Ensign, BMI/Tourian Musik, ASCAP/Saregama India), HL, RBH 86
WHAT'S IT LIKE (EMI April, ASCAP/Air Control, ASCAP/Them Damn Twins, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood, BMI/MC Infinity, BMI), HL, RBH 37
WHAT WOULD YOU DO (Baby Ree Toonz, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs, BMI/Rye Songs, BMI/Fox Film, BMI/H Hersh H. Bomb, ASCAP/Dogg Foundation, BMI/With The Words, ASCAP), HL, RBH 99
WHEN I LOOK TO THE SKY (EMI April, ASCAP/Blue Lamp, ASCAP), HL, H100 91
WHEN SOMEBODY KNOWS YOU THAT WELL (Melanie Howard, ASCAP/Coburn, BMI), WBM, CS 44
WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN (Sony/ATV Cross Keys, ASCAP/Onlay, BMI), HL, CS 1; H100 27
WHISKEY GIRL (Tokco Tunes, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Big Yellow Dog, BMI), HL, CS 25
WHISKEY LULLABY (Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Mr. Bubba, BMI/Reynsong, BMI/Wba Ya Say Music, BMI/Wrensong, BMI), HL, CS 34
WHITE FLAG (Warner Chappell, PRS/WB, ASCAP/Future Furniture, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/BMG Songs, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 26
WHOKNOWS (Souchild, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP/Nivrac Tyke, ASCAP/Tetragrammaton, ASCAP/Jesse Jaye, ASCAP) H100 75; RBH 28
WHY CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET A LONG NECK? (Of Music, ASCAP/Song Catchers, ASCAP) CS 42
WILD WEST SHOW (Big Love, ASCAP/WB, ASCAP/Music Of Combustion, BMI/Songs Of Windswept Pacific, BMI), WBM, CS 23; H100 88
WITH YOU (Jess, ASCAP/World Of Andy Music, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Timber, SESAC/Turle Victory, SESAC/EMI April, ASCAP/Jessica Simpson, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 24

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THE WRONG GIRL (Sony/ATV Timber, SESAC/Hills-boro Valley, SESAC/Sony/ATV Tree, BMI/Cake Taker, BMI/Com Country, BMI), HL, CS 31

-W-

Y DICEN (Universal Musica, ASCAP) LT 46
YEAI! (TVT, BMI/Lil Jon 0017 Music, BMI/Christopher Garrett, ASCAP/Hitco South, ASCAP/Music Of Windswept, ASCAP/Christopher Mathew, BMI/Ludacris, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 1; RBH 1
YOU ARE (Nashville DreamWorks Songs, ASCAP/Paper Angels, ASCAP/Sunchaser, ASCAP/Cherry Lane, ASCAP/Monkey Feet, ASCAP/Careers-BMG, BMI/Silverkiss, BMI/Warner-Tamela, BMI), CLM/HL/WBM, CS 52
YOU DON'T WANT DRAMA (The Vegas, ASCAP/All My Publishing, BMI/All My Own Publishing, BMI) BH 64
YOU'LL THINK OF ME (Almo, ASCAP/Original Bliss, ASCAP/EMI April, ASCAP/Ty Me A River, ASCAP/Jeskar, ASCAP), HL, CS 2; H100 32
YOU RAISE ME UP (Peermusic, ASCAP/Universal, ASCAP), HL/WBM, H100 77
YOU'RE IN MY HEAD (EMI Blackwood, BMI/Shane Minor, BMI/Gottahaveable, BMI/Songs Of Windswept Pacific, BMI/Songs Of Bud Dog, ASCAP/Music Of Windswept, ASCAP), HL/WBM, CS 21
Y QUE (SongLibra, ASCAP) LT 34
Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA (World Deep, BMI/Sony/ATV Latin, BMI/Blueplatinum, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Discos, ASCAP) LT 6

R&B Enjoying Rare Dominance Over Rap

Despite hip-hop's undeniable popularity, the top four titles on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart are all of the R&B variety.

While Usher's "Yeah!" maintains its position atop the chart, his "Burn" advances 5-4, sandwiching "If I Ain't Got You" by Alicia Keys and "I Don't Wanna Know" by Mario Winans Featuring Enya & P. Diddy at No. 2 and No. 3, respectively.

The last time the top four titles on this chart did not include a rap track was more than one year ago, in the Jan. 25, 2003, issue, when

Aaliyah led with "Miss You," followed by "Bump, Bump, Bump" by B2K and P. Diddy, "Ignition" by R. Kelly and ironically, "Love of My Life (An Ode to Hip Hop)" by Erykah Badu Featuring Common.

Meanwhile, Lil Flip makes his first appearance in the top 10 with "Game Over (Flip)." Of the seven other times Flip has been on the chart (all but one were as a featured artist), the closest the Houston native came to the top 10 was as a guest on David Banner's "Like a Pimp," which peaked at No. 15 in July 2003.

MAROONED AT 5: "This Love" by Maroon5 inches up The Billboard Hot 100 from 6-5, becoming the first pop/rock airplay-only song to reach that region of the chart this year.

With ratings, and therefore audience totals, favoring stations that play R&B and hip-hop, it has become increasingly difficult for pop or rock titles to garner enough listener impressions to find the upper regions of the chart.

"This Love," which spent four weeks atop Hot Digital Tracks, seems destined to climb no higher. Beyoncé's "Naughty Girl" is in hot pursuit, moving 9-6 with a 12.7 million listener increase, compared with Maroon5's 3.8 million increase.

It seems that the No. 5 rank has become the ceiling on the Hot 100 for pop/rock titles that don't have a retail-available single. The last three airplay-only titles from this genre to reach the upper echelon of the chart—3 Doors Down's "Here Without You," Matchbox Twenty's "Unwell" and "Bring Me to Life" by Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—all stalled at that position. You would have to go back exactly one year ago this week to find a higher peak, when 3 Doors Down topped out at No. 4

with "When I'm Gone" in the April 26, 2003, issue.

RURAL ROUTE RUCKUS: While a solo female artist has not topped Hot Country Singles & Tracks in more than two years, the most likely candidate to end that drought is not one of the format's veterans but a feisty rookie with momentum to spare.

Epic newcomer Gretchen Wilson takes the checkered flag into country's top 10 faster than any new artist debut in nearly eight years and does so with the chart's biggest increase. Up 608 detections in its seventh week, "Redneck Woman" shoots 14-8, the quickest trip into the top 10 for a new artist's debut single since LeAnn Rimes' "Blue" peaked at No. 10 in the July 6, 1996, issue.

Considering the sluggish speed of the country chart, Wilson's ascent can be characterized as lightning-fast. In the top 10 this issue, the average number of chart weeks is 19.2. Of the five debut singles by new acts in the top 40 this issue, the average chart stay is 13.8 weeks.

Should Wilson impact the top five next issue, "Redneck Woman" will become the fastest top five accomplishment by an artist without any prior chart history since we adopted Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems data for this chart in the Jan. 20, 1990, issue.

Park's "Numb," which matches the total of all of 2003.

On Hot Digital Tracks, "The Reason" moves 3-2 with 11,000 paid downloads, only 1,000

behind chart leader "My Band" from D12.

Additional reporting by Anthony Colombo in New York.

SinglesMinded™

Silvio Pietroluongo
silvio@billboard.com
Minal Patel
mpatel@billboard.com
Wade Jessen
wjessen@billboard.com



NEXT STOP: "Last Train Home" by Lostprophets makes a rare three-spot jump from 4-1 on the Modern Rock chart. It is the biggest climb into the pole position on the chart since "Smooth Criminal" by Alien Ant Farm made an identical leap to No. 1 in the Aug. 17, 2001, issue.

The song that "Home" displaces at the top of the Modern Rock list, "The Reason" by Hoobastank, moves into the top 10 of the Mainstream Top 40 chart with a 14-9 jump. The track is the second Modern Rock No. 1 to make that portion of the Mainstream Top 40 chart this year following Linkin

HitPredictor™		Monitor		DATA PROVIDED BY
MAINSTREAM TOP 40		ADULT CONTEMPORARY		
NEW RELEASES WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL				
★	STAINED	69.9		
★	Zoe Jane ATLANTIC	69.0		
★	311	67.0		
★	Love Song ZOMBA			
RECENTLY TESTED SONGS WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL				
1	Are You Gonna Be My Girl ATLANTIC	88.0		
2	JESSICA SIMPSON	78.5		
3	Take My Breath Away COLUMBIA	76.4		
4	TRAPT	73.2		
5	Echo WARNER BROS.	71.0		
6	BLINK-182	70.6		
7	I Miss You GEFEN	70.4		
ADULT TOP 40				
NEW RELEASES WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL				
★	STAINED	75.4		
★	Zoe Jane ATLANTIC	74.6		
★	JESSICA SIMPSON	74.6		
★	Take My Breath Away COLUMBIA	66.2		
★	LIVE	66.2		
★	Runaway GEFEN	66.1		
★	CHERIE	66.1		
★	I'm Ready LAVA			
RECENTLY TESTED SONGS WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL				
1	SHANIA TWAIN	83.6		
2	It Only Hurts When I'm Breathing IDJMG	81.4		
3	DIDO	77.7		
4	Don't Leave Home RMG	76.4		
5	SARAH MCLACHLAN	76.2		
6	Stupid RMG	76.2		
7	3 DOORS DOWN	73.7		
8	Away From The Sun UMRG			
9	Love Song ZOMBA			
10	PAT MCGEE BAND			
11	Beautiful Ways WARNER BROS.			
ADULT CONTEMPORARY				
NEW RELEASES WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL				
★	SEETHER FEAT. AMY LEE	87.8		
★	Broken WIND-UP	87.8		
★	SHINEDOWN	74.5		
★	45 ATLANTIC			
RECENTLY TESTED SONGS WITH TOP 10 CALLOUT POTENTIAL				
1	EVANESCENCE	85.0		
2	Everybody's Fool WIND-UP	76.6		
3	CROSSFADE	76.6		
4	Cold COLUMBIA	75.6		
5	SWITCHFOOT	70.4		
6	Dare You To Move COLUMBIA	68.8		
7	KORN	68.5		
8	Everything I've Known EPIC	68.5		
9	THREE DAYS GRACE	66.5		
10	Just Like You ZOMBA	66.5		
11	THE OFFSPRING	66.5		
12	(Can't Get My) Head Around You COLUMBIA			
13	INCUBUS			
14	Talk Show On Mute EPIC			

Songs are blind tested online by Promosquad using multiple listens and a nationwide sample of carefully profiled music consumers. Songs are rated on a 1-5 scale; final results are based on weighted positives. Songs with a score of 65 or more are judged to have top 10 callout potential, although that benchmark number can fluctuate based on the strength of available music. New Releases are songs that have been recently serviced to or impacted at their respective formats. Recently Tested Songs are the songs tested during the past month with the highest score. R&B/Hip-Hop and Rhythmic HitPredictor located in R&B/Hip-Hop section. For a complete list of current songs with Top 10 Callout Potential, see HitPredictor.com. © 2004, Promosquad is a trademark of Think Fast LLC.

APRIL 24 2004		Billboard®		MAINSTREAM TOP 40™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems
1	1	12	Yeah!	USHER FEAT. LIL JON & LUDACRIS (LAFACE/ZOMBA)	2 Wks At No. 1
2	2	11	This Love	MAROON5 (OC/TONE/J/RMG)	★
3	3	14	Toxic	BRITNEY SPEARS (JIVE/ZOMBA)	★
4	4	18	My Immortal	EVANESCENCE (WIND-UP)	★
5	5	22	With You	JESSICA SIMPSON (COLUMBIA)	★
6	6	9	One Call Away	CHINGY FEAT. J. WEAV. (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)	★
7	8	5	My Band	D12 (SHADY/INTERSCOPE)	★
8	9	7	Tipsy	J-KWON (SO SO DEF/ZOMBA)	★
9	14	6	The Reason	HOOBASTANK (ISLAND/IDJMG)	★
10	12	8	Hotel	CASSIOY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)	★
11	7	21	The Way You Move	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (LAFACE/ZOMBA)	★
12	22	3	Naughty Girl	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA)	★
13	15	9	Take My Breath Away	JESSICA SIMPSON (COLUMBIA)	★
14	13	20	Someday	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/IDJMG)	★
15	10	21	Numb	LINKIN PARK (WARNER BROS.)	★
16	16	8	Are You Gonna Be My Girl	JET (ELEKTRA/ATLANTIC)	★
17	11	12	Come Clean	HILARY DUFF (BUENA VISTA/HOLLYWOOD)	★
18	20	4	Don't Tell Me	AVRIL LAVIGNE (ARISTA/RMG)	★
19	21	9	Hey Mama	BLACK EYED PEAS (A&M/INTERSCOPE)	★
20	18	20	The First Cut Is The Deepest	SHERYL CROW (A&M/INTERSCOPE)	★

APRIL 24 2004		Billboard®		ADULT TOP 40™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems
1	1	13	This Love	MAROON5 (OC/TONE/J/RMG)	2 Wks At No. 1
2	2	22	My Immortal	EVANESCENCE (WIND-UP)	★
3	3	31	Someday	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/IDJMG)	★
4	5	22	100 Years	FIVE FOR FIGHTING (AWARE/COLUMBIA)	★
5	4	37	Here Without You	3 DOORS DOWN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	★
6	6	22	It's My Life	NO DOUBT (INTERSCOPE)	★
7	7	30	The First Cut Is The Deepest	SHERYL CROW (A&M/INTERSCOPE)	★
8	8	8	Bright Lights	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC)	★
9	13	9	The Reason	HOOBASTANK (ISLAND/IDJMG)	★
10	10	45	Why Don't You & I	SANTANA FEAT. ALEX BAND OR CHAD KRUEGER (ARISTA/RMG)	★
11	9	12	Breathe	MELISSA ETHERIDGE (ISLAND/IDJMG)	★
12	11	40	White Flag	DIDO (ARISTA/RMG)	★
13	12	32	Fallen	SARAH MCLACHLAN (ARISTA/RMG)	★
14	18	3	Everything	ALANIS MORISSETTE (MAVERICK/REPRISE)	★
15	14	20	Hey Ya!	DUTKA (LAFACE/ZOMBA)	★
16	15	18	Extraordinary	LIZ PHAIR (CAPITOL)	★
17	16	26	When I Look To The Sky	TRAIN (COLUMBIA)	★
18	20	13	Devils And Angels	TOBY LIGHTMAN (LAVA)	★
19	19	12	Sunrise	NORAH JONES (BLUE NOTE/EMC)	★
20	21	9	Away From The Sun	3 DOORS DOWN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	★

APRIL 24 2004		Billboard®		ADULT CONTEMPORARY™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems
1	1	26	You Raise Me Up	JOSH GROBAN (437/REPRISE)	6 Wks At No. 1
2	2	23	The First Cut Is The Deepest	SHERYL CROW (A&M/INTERSCOPE)	★
3	4	17	100 Years	FIVE FOR FIGHTING (AWARE/COLUMBIA)	★
4	3	33	White Flag	DIDO (ARISTA/RMG)	★
5	5	31	Forever And For Always	SHANIA TWAIN (IMERCURY/IDJMG)	★
6	6	13	Calling All Angels	TRAIN (COLUMBIA)	★
7	7	25	Ain't No Mountain High Enough	MICHAEL MCDONALD (MOTOWN/UMRG)	★
8	8	19	Unwell	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC)	★
9	9	38	Drift Away	UNCLE KRACKER FEAT. DOBBIE GRAY (LAVA)	★
10	10	13	This One's For The Girls	MARTINA MCBRIDE (RCA NASHVILLE)	★
11	12	11	Love's Divine	SEAL (WARNER BROS.)	★
12	11	13	You Make Me Feel Brand New	SIMPLY RED (SIMPLY RED/COMP/RED INK)	★
13	13	50	Big Yellow Taxi	COUNTING CROWS FEAT. VANESSA CARLTON (GEFFEN/INTERSCOPE)	★
14	15	7	Buy Me A Rose	LUTHER VAN DORSS (J/RMG)	★
15	14	6	Just For You	LIONEL RICHIE (ISLAND/IDJMG)	★
16	16	16	Here Without You	3 DOORS DOWN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	★
17	17	23	Why Don't You & I	SANTANA FEAT. ALEX BAND OR CHAD KRUEGER (ARISTA/RMG)	★
18	19	1	I Miss Us	KENNY LOGGINS (ALL THE BEST!)	★
19	20	8	I Want To Know What Love Is	WYNNONNA (CURB)	★
20	23	3	It Only Hurts When I'm Breathing	SHANIA TWAIN (IMERCURY/IDJMG)	★

APRIL 24 2004		Billboard®		MODERN ROCK™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems
1	4	11	Last Train Home	LOSTPROPHETS (COLUMBIA)	1 Wk At No. 1
2	1	11	The Reason	HOOBASTANK (ISLAND/IDJMG)	★
3	2	11	Love Song	311 (MAVERICK/COLUMBIA/ZOMBA)	★
4	6	10	Cold Hard Bitch	JET (ELEKTRA/ATLANTIC)	★
5	3	15	I Miss You	BLINK-182 (GEFFEN)	★
6	7	17	Lying From You	LINKIN PARK (WARNER BROS.)	★
7	5	17	Megalomaniac	INCUBUS (IMMORTAL/EPIC)	★
8	8	20	The Outsider	A PERFECT CIRCLE (VIRGIN)	★
9	9	21	Silver And Cold	AFI (INTRO/DREAMWORKS/INTERSCOPE)	★
10	13	10	Heel Over Head	Puddle of Mudd (FLAWLESS/GEFFEN)	★
11	14	7	(Can't Get My) Head Around You	THE OFFSPRING (COLUMBIA)	★
12	10	13	Echo	TRAPT (WARNER BROS.)	★
13	15	9	Ride	THE WINES (CAPITOL)	★
14	11	21	Figured You Out	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/IDJMG)	★
15	12	22	One Thing	FINGER ELEVEN (WIND-UP)	★
16	17	7	Maps	YEAH YEAH YEAHS (INTERSCOPE)	★
17	16	41	(I Hate) Everything About You	THREE DAYS GRACE (JIVE/ZOMBA)	★
18	21	6	Running Blind	GODSMACK (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	★
19	18	30	Numb	LINKIN PARK (WARNER BROS.)	★
20	19	12	Reptilia	THE STROKES (RCA/RMG)	★

Compiled from a national sample of data supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. 119 mainstream top 40, 86 adult top 40, 93 adult contemporary and 86 modern rock stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. ★ Songs showing an increase in detections over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. A song which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in detections. Songs below the top 15 on Adult Top 40 and Adult Contemporary are removed from the chart after 26 weeks. All four radio charts run at deeper lengths in Airplay Monitor, Billboard Information Network, and billboard.com. ★ indicates title earned HitPredictor status in research data provided by Promosquad. © 2004, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

EC Probe

Continued from page 5

on the recorded music industry, Lüder says the EC also wants to examine competition concerns in related markets, such as TVs and portable music players.

READING THE TEA LEAVES

Both parties involved in the merger are viewing the suspension of the probe as a technicality that should not affect the outcome of their deal.

Sony Music and BMG acknowledge that the EC has to deal with a massive volume of data in its probe.

"In light of the volume of these submissions, we welcome the Commission's decision to adjust its timetable to allow a greater opportunity for these facts to be assessed and understood," a BMG spokesman says.

In a statement, Sony Music says, "Extensions of this kind have become increasingly common in the EU in recent years and, as of May 1, 2004, changes to the EU Merger Regulation will come into effect that give the staff additional time almost as a matter of course. Because the industry is so complex, we appreciate that the Commission staff need more time to complete their review."

Opponents of the deal have a different view of the delay.

"It's a good sign," says Helen Smith, deputy secretary general for independent labels group Impala. "It shows that the Commission is taking this case very seriously and looking at the full impact across the whole music market—including areas like the Internet and publishing."

In addition to macro-economic data, the EC has asked for information on a wide range of issues relating to business conditions, contractual relationships and competition.

Numerous companies polled by *Billboard*—including labels, music publishers, retailers, e-tailors and collecting societies—confirm they have received an EC questionnaire relating to the probe.

The questionnaire seeks information on the respondents' biggest customers and sales results and asks whether the market has changed significantly since the EC's 2000 probe into the proposed EMI/Warner Music merger.

AN INFO BINGE

Companies large and small are having trouble meeting EC deadlines, *Billboard* has learned.

"[The commissioners] are on an information binge," says an executive from a major not party to the merger. "They've asked for a great deal of data and given a very short deadline. That's part of the problem."

British retailer HMV has replied to its questionnaire. HMV Group COO Brian McLaughlin declines to comment on his company's contributions to the probe. European retail body GERA says it has not received a questionnaire.

European collection societies were also asked to provide comments and data on the impact of the merger and their contractual relationships with their members.

Munich-based GEMA chairman Reinhold Kreile says he is concerned about whether the merger would adversely affect authors' rights.

"GEMA is not saying that this merger encroaches upon such rights but believes it is necessary for the Commission to determine whether there is any risk of such adverse effect," Kreile says.

"This is the basic position that GEMA has taken in such cases. [Aside from that], we do not comment on the economic affairs of our contractual partners."

Kreile says the EC has asked GEMA about the status of European royalty rates. GEMA is embroiled in a conflict with trade body IFPI Germany over the level of mechanical rates paid by the labels to collecting societies.

At the same time, Universal Music has lodged a complaint with the EC on the issue against BIEM, the trade body representing European societies collecting mechanical rights.

Kreile says IFPI's action could be seen as an "arbitrary act of an oligopoly exerting a dominant influence on the market." He says it is natural to ask "whether the merger would serve to additionally strengthen this oligopoly."

THE PUBLISHERS' VIEW

Billboard understands that a number of objections also have been raised by European publishers, which say fewer labels will mean fewer windows to exploit their repertoire.

"Diversity has always been a key principle underlying music publishing," says Hamburg-based Peermusic European president Michael Karnstedt. "Any kind of concentration reduces the opportunities for individual expression. It is not good when only a concentrated number of companies are able to exploit our catalogs."

Sony and Bertelsmann are convinced that they have presented good arguments in favor of the merger. BMG chairman/CEO Rolf Schmidt-Holtz previously told *Billboard*, "We have argued our case well in Brussels."

While presenting the company's financial results for 2003, Bertelsmann chairman Gunter Thielen said last week: "I am confident that the merger will be approved by September, as there are not many alternatives in the record market. I know that the EU Commission will review the application objectively."

In its statement, Sony Music reaffirmed the importance of the merger. "We're excited about the value the Sony BMG joint venture creates for music lovers around the world. It is a pro-competitive response to the challenges faced by the recorded music industry, and we will continue to provide every assistance to the European Commission to help underscore that fact."

Additional reporting by Emmanuel Legrand in London.

Programming

Billboard VIDEO MONITOR

APRIL 24, 2004 For week ending APRIL 11, 2004

THE MOST-PLAYED CLIPS AS MONITORED BY NIELSEN BROADCAST DATA SYSTEMS
New Ones are those clips with six or more plays for the first time in the chart week.

BET	CMT	MUSIC TELEVISION	VH1
1234 W. Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20018	330 Commerce Street, Nashville, TN 37201	1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036	1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036
1 KANYE WEST, ALL FALLS DOWN ALICIA KEYS, IF I AIN'T GOT YOU D12, MY BAND USHER, YEAH JAY-Z, DIRT OFF YOUR SHOULDER CHINGY, ONE CALL AWAY LIL FLIP, GAME OVER BEYONCE, NAUGHTY GIRL DUTKA, ROSES LUDACRIS, BLOW IT OUT G-UNIT, SMILE MONICA, I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER TWISTA, OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY MARIO WINANS, I DON'T WANNA KNOW LUDACRIS, SPOKE WATERFALLS R. KELLY, HAPPY PEOPLE DILATED PEOPLES, THIS WAY G-UNIT, WANNA GET 2 KNOW U SEAN PAUL, I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU WYCLEF JEAN, TAKE ME AS I AM MARY J. BLIGE, IF SA WRAP RUBEN STUDDARD, SORRY 2004 TAMIA, QUESTIONS J-KWON, TIPS JAGGED EDGE, WHAT'S IT LIKE PETEY PABLO, FREEK-A-LEEK JANET JACKSON, I WANT YOU MUSIC, WHO KNOWS T.I., RUBBER BAND MAN JOE, RIDE WITH U AVANT, DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE AWAY PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY BEANIE MAN, RIDE CARL THOMAS, MAKE IT ALRIGHT BIG TYMERS, NO LOVE (BEAUTIFUL LIFE) BABYFACE, THE ONELINESS CASSIDY, HOTEL ELEPHANT MAN, JOOK GAL (WINE WINE) CASSIDY, GET NO BETTER 8BALL & M.J.G., YOU DON'T WANT DRAMA	1 CLAY WALKER, I CAN'T SLEEP BUDDY JEWELL, SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT KEITH URBAN, YOU LL THINK OF ME MONTGOMERY GENTRY, IF YOU EVER STOP LOVING ME JOSH TURNER, LONG BLACK TRAIN DIERKS BENTLEY, MY LAST NAME GARY ALLAN, SONGS ABOUT RAIN KENNY CHESNEY & UNCLE KRACKER, WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN GRETCHEN WILSON, REDNECK WOMAN CLINT BLACK, SPEND MY TIME SHEADY, PASSENGER SEAT CAROLYN DAWN JOHNSON, SIMPLE LIFE Toby Keith, WHISKEY GIRL REBA MCENTIRE, SOMEBODY CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEE, SICK AND TIRED BILLY CURRINGTON, I GOT A FEELIN' Toby Keith, AMERICAN SOLDIER KENNY CHESNEY, LIVE THOSE SONGS MINDY SMITH, JOLENE EMERSON DRIVE, LAST ONE STANDING JULIE ROBERTS, BREAK DOWN HERE BRAD PAISLEY, LITTLE MOMENTS ALAN JACKSON & JIMMY BURET, IT'S THE OLD COUNTRY SONGS KENNY CHESNEY, THERE GOES MY LIFE RHONDA VINCENT, IF HEARTACHES HAD WINGS KEITH URBAN, WHO WOULDN'T WANNA BE ME BRIAN MCCOMAS, YOU'RE IN MY HEAD JIMMY WINE, I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH CHELY WRIGHT, BACK OF THE BOTTOM DRAWER JOE NICHOLS, COOL TO BE A FOOL NORAH JONES, SUNRISE BROCK & DUNN, YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HONKY TONK DIERKS BENTLEY, WHAT WAS I THINKIN' BRAD PAISLEY, CELEBRITY TRACE ADKINS, HOT MAMA SHERYL CROW, THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST SCOTTY EMERICK, THE COAST IS CLEAR KENNY CHESNEY, NO SHOES, NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEMS Toby Keith, BEER FOR MY HORSES RASCAL FLATTS, I MELT	1 BEYONCE, NAUGHTY GIRL DUTKA, ROSES USHER, YEAH D12, MY BAND YELLOWCARD, OCEAN AVENUE JAY-Z, DIRT OFF YOUR SHOULDER J-KWON, TIPS AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME KANYE WEST, ALL FALLS DOWN PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY G-UNIT, WANNA GET 2 KNOW U SIMPLE PLAN, DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT YOU CLAY AIKEN, THE WAY T.I., RUBBER BAND MAN YEAH YEAH YEAHS, MAPS TWISTA, OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY HOODASTANK, THE REASON BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA MARIO WINANS, I DON'T WANNA KNOW LOSTPROPHETS, LAST TRAIN HOME SHAKIRA, POEM TO A HORSE EVANESCENCE, MY IMMORTAL LIL FLIP, GAME OVER MICHAEL ANDREWS, MAD WORLD PETEY PABLO, FREEK-A-LEEK ALICIA KEYS, IF I AIN'T GOT YOU LUDACRIS, BLOW IT OUT MAROONS, THIS LOVE JESSICA SIMPSON, TAKE MY BREATH AWAY SHAKIRA, I WANT YOU A.F.I., SILVER AND COLD ROONEY, I'M SHAKIN' Toby LIGHTMAN, DEVILS AND ANGELS BRITNEY SPEARS, TOXIC TRAPT, ECHO JET, COLD HARD BITCH FINGER ELEVEN, ONE THING THE STROKES, REPTILIA LINKIN PARK, LYING FROM YOU KATY ROSE, OVERDRIVE	1 JOSS STONE, FELL IN LOVE WITH A BODY USHER, YEAH MAROONS, THIS LOVE EVANESCENCE, MY IMMORTAL HOODASTANK, THE REASON DUTKA, ROSES JET, ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL JANET JACKSON, I WANT YOU BRITNEY SPEARS, TOXIC ALICIA KEYS, IF I AIN'T GOT YOU BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY NORAH JONES, SUNRISE BEYONCE, NAUGHTY GIRL AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME SARAH MCCLACHLAN, STUPID FIVE FOR FIGHTING, 100 YEARS GAVIN DEGRAW, I DON'T WANT TO BE 19. SHANAN, PENNY AND ME 20. KID ROCK, COLD AND EMPTY 21. NICKELBACK, SOMEDAY 22. JOHN MAYER, CLARITY 23. LOS LONELY BOYS, HEAVEN 24. SWITCHFOOT, MEANT TO LIVE 25. MICHAEL ANDREWS, MAD WORLD 26. BLINK-182, I MISS YOU 27. NO OUBUT, IT'S MY LIFE 28. 3 DOORS DOWN, HERE WITHOUT YOU 29. SHERYL CROW, THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST 30. NICKELBACK, SOMEDAY JESSICA SIMPSON, WITH YOU JOEY LIGHTMAN, DEVILS AND ANGELS EVANESCENCE, BRING ME TO LIFE EVERLAST, WHITE TRASH BEAUTIFUL POLYPHONIC SPREE, LIGHT & DAY JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE, ROCK YOUR BODY OUTKAST, HEY YA ROBERT RANDOLPH & THE FAMILY BAND, I NEED MORE LOVE MELISSA ETHERIDGE, BREATHE NELLY FURTAO, TRY
NEW ONS TWISTA, OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY R. KELLY, HAPPY PEOPLE PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY	NEW ONS NO NEW ONS THIS WEEK	NEW ONS AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY TWISTA, OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY SHAKIRA, POEM TO A HORSE MICHAEL ANDREWS, MAD WORLD LUDACRIS, BLOW IT OUT	NEW ONS PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME GAVIN DEGRAW, I DON'T WANT TO BE LOS LONELY BOYS, HEAVEN MICHAEL ANDREWS, MAD WORLD

fuse	G-A-C GREAT AMERICAN COUNTRY	MUSIC TELEVISION 2	MUSIC TELEVISION CANADA
200 Jericho Quadrangle, Jericho, NY 11753	9697 E. Mineral Ave., Englewood, CO 80112	1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036	295 Queen St West, Toronto, Ontario M5V2Z5
1 WILLIAM HUNG, SHE BANGS BLINK-182, I MISS YOU A.F.I., SILVER AND COLD HOODASTANK, THE REASON LOSTPROPHETS, LAST TRAIN HOME THE WINES, RICE JET, COLD HARD BITCH INCUBUS, MEGALOMANIAC LINKIN PARK, LYING FROM YOU THE STROKES, REPTILIA TRAPT, ECHO THE OFFSPRING, HIT THAT STORY OF THE YEAR, UNTIL THE DAY I DIE MODEST MOUSE, FLOAT ON MAROONS, TH 3 LOVE YELLOWCARD, OCEAN AVENUE RASMUS, IN THE SHADOWS 311, LOVE SONG SUGARCULT, MEMORY SIMPLE PLAN, DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT YOU D12, MY BAND SWITCHFOOT, MEANT TO LIVE PHANTOM PLANET, BIG BRAT PUDDLE OF MIDD, HEEL OVER HEAD OUTKAST, ROSES CYPRESS HILL, WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER SMILE EMPTY SOUL, SILHOUETTES TWISTA, OVERNIGHT CELEBRITY SIMPLE PLAN, I DO ANYTHING LINKIN PARK, NUMB	1 SARA EVANS, PERFECT SHANIA TWAIN, IT ONLY HURTS WHEN I'M BREATHING TRACY LAWRENCE, PAINT ME A BIRMINGHAM KEITH URBAN, YOU LL THINK OF ME CLINT BLACK, SPEND MY TIME BUDDY JEWELL, SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT GARY ALLAN, SONGS ABOUT RAIN BRAD PAISLEY, LITTLE MOMENTS KENNY CHESNEY & UNCLE KRACKER, WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN ALAN JACKSON, REMEMBER WHEN Toby Keith, WHISKEY GIRL SHERRIE AUSTIN, DRIVEN INTO THE SUN REBA MCENTIRE, SOMEBODY DIERKS BENTLEY, MY LAST NAME BILLY CURRINGTON, I GOT A FEELIN' SHEADY, PASSENGER SEAT BLUE COUNTY, GOOD LITTLE GIRLS MONTGOMERY GENTRY, IF YOU EVER STOP LOVING ME GRETCHEN WILSON, REDNECK WOMAN JULIE ROBERTS, BREAK DOWN HERE CHELY WRIGHT, BACK OF THE BOTTOM DRAWER SCOTTY EMERICK, THE COAST IS CLEAR Toby Keith, AMERICAN SOLDIER EMERSON DRIVE, LAST ONE STANDING JOSH TURNER, LONG BLACK TRAIN CLAY WALKER, I CAN'T SLEEP DOLLY PARTON, WELCOME HOME CAROLYN DAWN JOHNSON, SIMPLE LIFE BRIAN MCCOMAS, YOU'RE IN MY HEAD KELLIE COFFEY, TEXAS PLATES	1 USHER, YEAH JAY-Z, DIRT OFF YOUR SHOULDER LOSTPROPHETS, LAST TRAIN HOME KEITH URBAN, YOU LL THINK OF ME YELLOWCARD, OCEAN AVENUE HOODASTANK, THE REASON MARIO WINANS, I DON'T WANNA KNOW OUTKAST, ROSES J-KWON, TIPS THE WINES, RICE D12, MY BAND 1 KANYE WEST, ALL FALLS DOWN T.I., RUBBER BAND MAN LIL FLIP, GAME OVER LINKIN PARK, LYING FROM YOU ALICIA KEYS, IF I AIN'T GOT YOU A.F.I., SILVER AND COLD JET, COLD HARD BITCH PETEY PABLO, FREEK-A-LEEK SUGARCULT, MEMORY RZA, GRITS SMILE EMPTY SOUL, SILHOUETTES BEYONCE, NAUGHTY GIRL MODEST MOUSE, FLOAT ON NIRVANA, YOU KNOW YOU'RE RIGHT G-UNIT, SMILE PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY CYPRESS HILL, WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER	1 D12, MY BAND OUTKAST, ROSES USHER, YEAH AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME MAROONS, THIS LOVE BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA BILLY TALENT, THE EX TREWS, NOT READY TO GO HIGH HOLY DAYS, ALL MY REAL FRIENDS BRITNEY SPEARS, TOXIC KYPRIOS, THIS IS MY HIT THE DARKNESS, I BELIEVE IN A THING CALLED LOVE LIL FLIP, GAME OVER HILARY DUFF, COME CLEAN JAY-Z, DIRT OFF YOUR SHOULDER JET, COLD HARD BITCH NICKELBACK, FEELIN' WAY TOO DAMN GOOD CHINGY, ONE CALL AWAY SIMPLE PLAN, DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT YOU BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA KANYE WEST, ALL FALLS DOWN BEYONCE, NAUGHTY GIRL FFEE DOBSON, EVERYTHING THE WINES, RICE JANET JACKSON, JUST A LITTLE WHILE BLINK-182, I MISS YOU DILATED PEOPLES, THIS WAY DELAU, TAKING MY LIFE AWAY BRAND NEW, SIC TRANSIT GLORIA, GLORY FADES JERSEY, SATURDAY NIGHT
NEW ONS WILLIAM HUNG, SHE BANGS MODEST MOUSE, FLOAT ON MICHAEL ANDREWS, MAD WORLD THREE DAYS GRACE, JUST LIKE YOU VON BONDIES, C'MON C'MON YEAH YEAH YEAHS, MAPS DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE, THE SOUND OF SETTLING GHOSTFACE, TUSH	NEW ONS CHELY WRIGHT, BACK OF THE BOTTOM DRAWER CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEE, SICK AND TIRED	NEW ONS MODEST MOUSE, FLOAT ON DILATED PEOPLES, THIS WAY G-UNIT, SMILE PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME	NEW ONS NICKELBACK, FEELIN' WAY TOO DAMN GOOD A PERFECT CIRCLE, THE OUTSIDER

THE CLIP LIST

h	MUSIC TELEVISION EUROPE	MUSIC TELEVISION LATIN AMERICA	VIVA
Continuous programming 1550 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Beach, FL 33132	Continuous programming Hawley Crescent, London NW18T	Continuous programming 1111 Lincoln Rd, Miami Beach, FL 33139	VIVA, Continuous programming Im Media Park 2, 50670 Köln, Germany
1 PAULLINA RUBIO, TE QUISE TANTO DAVID BISBAL, BULERIA LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH, ROSAS RICKY MARTIN, Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA CAFE TACUBA, ERES RICARDO ARJONA, QUELLE VERTE SIN BANDEIRA, QUE LLORO JULIETA VENEGAS, ANDAR CONMIGO THALIA, CERCA DE TI TIZIANO FERRI, TARDÉS NEGRAS OBIE BERMUDEZ, AZULES VICTOR MANUEL, TENGO GANAS SIN BANDEIRA, MIENTES TAN BIEN ALEKS SYNTEK, TE SEÑAL LUIS FONSI, QUIEN TE DIO ESO? JUANES, LA PÁGA CHAYANNE, SENTADA AQUÍ EN MI ALMA BLACK EYED PEAS, SHUT UP ANDY Y LUCAS, SON DE AMORES LUIS FONSI, ABRAZAR LA VIDA GLORIA ESTEFAN, TU FOTOGRAFIA	1 BEYONCE, NAUGHTY GIRL USHER, YEAH! BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA BRITNEY SPEARS, TOXIC 3 DOORS DOWN, HERE WITHOUT YOU D12, MY BAND N*E*R*D, SHE WANTS TO MOVE ANASTASIA, LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE DUTKA, THE WAY YOU MOVE ALANIS MORISSETTE, EVERYTHING THE FASHION, RENNER DISCO JIFFERNO MARIO WINANS, I DON'T WANNA KNOW WIR SIND HELDEN, DENKMAL THE CRYSTAL METHOD, BORN TOO SLOW THE STROKES, REPTILIA ELEANOR, F*CK IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK) SUGARBABES, IN THE MIDDLE THE DARKNESS, LOVE IS ONLY A FEELING BABY BASH, SUGA SUGA LINKIN PARK, FROM THE INSIDE	1 BLINK-182, I MISS YOU ALEX UBAGO, AUNQUE NO TE PUEGA VER BRITNEY SPEARS, TOXIC SEAN PAUL, I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU STACIE ORRICO, I PROMISE A.F.I., SILVER AND COLD KELIS, MILKSHAKE INCUBUS, MEGALOMANIAC BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA WESTLIFE, MANDY KYLE MINOQUE, RED BLOODED WOMAN NELLY FURTAO, TRY ALEKS SYNTEK, TE SEÑAL GOOD CHARLOTTE, HOLD ON KORN, I'LL WANT A SINGLE EVANESCENCE, MY IMMORTAL INCUBUS, MEGALOMANIAC USHER, YEAH! Fobia, MAS CALIENTE QUE EL SOL MAROONS, THIS LOVE	1 USHER, YEAH! MAX, CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT ANASTACIA, LEFT OUTSIDE ALONE SARAH CONNOR, JUST ONE LAST DANCE SARAH CONNOR, THIS IS MY LIFE BLACK EYED PEAS, HEY MAMA MICHAEL ANDREWS, MAD WORLD AVRIL LAVIGNE, DON'T TELL ME MELBEATZ, OK PRINCE, MUSICOLOGY

A SAMPLING OF PLAYLISTS SUBMITTED BY NATIONAL VIDEO OUTLETS FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 24, 2004

channels all fighting for a piece of the coveted 12-34 market.

By putting the music back in music television, Juris hopes to convince viewers that Fuse is unique, and preferable to other stations.

"We came to the market as a different kind of music channel that would focus on new music and would be driven by our viewers," Juris says.

Industry observers, however, wonder whether music videos alone can make the difference in a crowded field.

"The irony is, Fuse might be best at putting music back into music television, but the way you get a core audience is to have a series," says professor Robert Thompson, director of the Center for the Study of Popular Television at Syracuse University in New York.

Thompson says that though viewers may complain about the paucity of music videos on MTV, regular programming pulls in a larger audience than videos do.

"I think it's likely that Fuse might do what MTV and MTV2 did and diversify its programming," he says.

TALE OF THE TAPE

Finding the right formula to differentiate Fuse from the other music channels is Juris' biggest challenge.

After a year on the air, the network has made progress, but it still has a long way to go, according to industry data.

Unlike MTV and MTV2, Fuse is available only to digital cable and satellite subscribers. That is a potential U.S. audience of 36 million.

In contrast, MTV, which launched in 1981, has a reach of 402 million cable and satellite subscribers worldwide, according to parent company Viacom, which also owns CBS and

Fuse Vs. MTV2

Compared with MTV2, Fuse rocks—and does it more often than its rival.

According to a 24-hour report from Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems, conducted from 10 p.m. March 10 to 10 p.m. March 11, Fuse plays more videos than MTV2.

Additionally, Fuse's videos are predominantly rock, while MTV2's programming is heavy on hip-hop.

Nielsen BDS reports that Fuse played 201 videos (110 unique songs) from 86 different acts in the monitored period. MTV2 played 176 videos (100 songs) from 80 artists.

Fuse's most popular acts were rock bands Godsmack (10 plays), AFI (six), Good Charlotte (six), Evanescence (five), Korn (five), P.O.D. (five), Story of the Year (five) and Trapt (five). OutKast was Fuse's most-played hip-hop act, with four spins.

MTV2's most-played acts in the period were Guster (11 plays), Nas (10), Kanye West (six), AFI (five) and Lostprophets (five). Guster and Lostprophets are rock groups, and West and Nas are hip-hop artists. Cassidy, Jay-Z, RZA and Usher also got four spins each in the 24-hour period.

JILL KIPNIS

music-oriented channels VH1, BET and CMT, among other holdings.

Of those MTV subscribers, about 88 million are in the United States, while MTV2, which launched in 1996, reaches about 55 million U.S. cable and satellite subscribers.

MTV was the top ad-supported cable network in prime time among adults 18-34 for the week ending March 28.

MTV had six of the top 10 ad-supported cable shows for adults 18-34 in that same week. No Fuse program made the top 10.

In fact, Fuse exceeds MTV in only one category: the number of music videos it airs.

In a recent 24-hour period, Fuse's programming was made up entirely of music videos, compared with 79% at MTV2, 75% at MTV and 38% at VH1, according to Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems, a *Billboard* sister company (see sidebar, this page).

NICHE MARKET

Despite its overwhelming underdog status, Fuse still has the potential to carve a niche for itself, Thompson says.

"Is there room for [Fuse]? Absolutely. We have at least three, maybe four or five cartoon networks [and] three women's channels," he

says. "For young audiences, there is room for more."

MTV cornered the market on hip when it launched in 1981, and Fuse will have to somehow convince its youthful viewers that it speaks to them more directly.

"MTV has been so good at being this definition of young, hip programming that very few have attempted to play for that same audience and in that same style," Thompson notes.

To build Fuse's own brand of cool, Juris likes to take shots at MTV.

A week after this year's MTV-produced Super Bowl halftime fiasco with Janet Jackson, Fuse ran an ad in the New York Post that poked fun by declaring, "MTV, we at Fuse are standing with you!"

Then there was the time Juris leased a billboard located just outside Viacom's Times Square headquarters and distributed 2 million cups with the slogan, "Where's the M in emtee-vee?"

"The way they are presenting themselves in the marketplace is clever and witty," V2 Music marketing director Dan Cohen observes.

Juris says the ads reflect Fuse's personality.

"We have a rebellious, snarky point of view and add a little bit of cynicism

and irony to everything that is happening," he says.

"You do need a signature," Thompson points out.

People have access to many more channels than they are going to watch, he adds, so Fuse needs to become one of the dozen or so channels people flip to first when they are channel surfing.

"[There's a] limited group that you go to regularly," he says. To become one of the channels in that group, "you need an identity."

DAVID AND GOLIATH

Juris' marketing strategy hasn't gone unnoticed at MTV. While Fuse has focused "all their attention and effort on us," MTV spokeswoman Jeannie Kedas says, "we are going to continue to focus on our audience and on breaking new music."

When it comes to new music for Fuse, Juris is trying to target independent labels.

Many artists say exposure on Fuse is beneficial, although some are concerned about aligning themselves with an MTV rival.

"It could take away an opportunity later on MTV," the Crystal Method's Scott Kirkland says, referring to Fuse's sponsorship of the duo's current tour. "But you can't worry about that too

Anastacia

Jackson's "Damita Jo" debuted at No. 20.

In this issue, "Anastacia"—which finds the singer eschewing her dance/pop roots for more rock terrain—remains in the European chart's pole position for a second consecutive week.

And on the Official U.K. Charts Co.'s singles chart, lead single "Left Outside Alone" rises 5-4 this week.

"It is nice to start our fiscal year with a No. 1 album," Sony Music International (SMI) president Rick Dobbis says.

According to the label, in its first three weeks of international release, "Anastacia" has shipped 1.5

million units.

The success of the album is a direct result of the high profile the singer/songwriter has enjoyed in Europe for the past five years.

"We made a strategic decision to release the album in two phases," notes Julie Borchard, New York-based Sony Music U.S. senior VP of international marketing.

The first phase was the European and Australian release. The second phase is the U.S. release.

Indeed, Anastacia is considered a superstar everywhere except her native United States.

Her previous albums, "Not That Kind" (2001) and "Freak of Nature" (2002), have sold 124,000 and 279,000 units in the States, respectively, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

Such figures confirm that Anastacia's name is on the rise in her home territory, says David Massey, executive VP of A&R at Sony Music U.S. and SMI. "And the new one will be her biggest yet."

Last year, Anastacia went public with her battle against breast cancer.

In the months since, the artist—who also suffers from Crohn's disease—has become more of a household name in the States. This fact is not lost on Anastacia or her label.

The artist acknowledges that the media attention over her cancer helped open people's eyes to her. "But I was never given this opportunity in the past—my success never happened here," she explains.

"What most surprised the media was that I was openly talking about breast cancer," she continues. "I was giving it a face and taking the shame out of it."

Indeed, breast cancer is now an official part of Anastacia's story. Still, New York-based Epic senior VP of worldwide marketing Piero Giramonti says, the label would never employ an exploitative agenda to promote Anastacia in the United States.

"People will pull what they want for a story, but we'll be focusing on her music," he notes.

READY TO SPROCK

With the enthralling, emotionally

charged new album, Anastacia seamlessly merged soul, pop and rock. She has dubbed this musical marriage—equal parts Tina Turner and Gwen Stefani—"sprock."

She explains, "I wanted the album to be full of passion, character and desire. So, I went after producers who have given such things to the artists they've worked with."

Enter Glen Ballard, Dallas Austin, Dave Stewart, John Shanks, Ric Wake and Richie Jones.

"For the first time in my career, I felt like I was driving the car," the artist says. "They all allowed themselves to be passengers so that they could help me find me."

In the process, they helped Anastacia unlock her inner rock chick.

Songs like "Rearview," "I Do" (featuring P.O.D. frontman Sonny Sandoval), "Welcome to My Truth" and "Heavy on My Heart" are rugged, muscular and full of confidence.

"Left Outside Alone" was delivered to U.S. mainstream and adult top 40 formats the week of April 12.

And while it's too early to tell

much. You ultimately have to do what is best for your current single."

Fuse plays the video for the Crystal Method's "Born Too Slow," directed by Gore Verbinski; MTV2 doesn't.

"I think MTV2's format is less experimental than Fuse," Kirkland adds.

VOTING FOR VIDEOS

Although digital cable reaches far fewer households, it is more interactive than traditional cable. As a result, Fuse has more opportunities to involve viewers in its programming.

For example, "Next Big Thing" and "Oven Fresh" allow viewers to vote for featured acts.

Fuse programming also incorporates game elements. "IMX" allows viewers to pick hits and misses and gain "IMX dollars" for use on the fuse.tv Web site.

New programs debuting in June include "The Daily Download," which will show the 10 most-downloaded songs in the country and offer free downloads of each, and "Fuse Clues," which will feature music videos with clues that relate to on-line puzzles at fuse.tv.

Like MTV, MTV2 and other networks, Fuse is trying to raise its profile among music fans.

Part of the channel's strategy is tour sponsorship. Aside from the Crystal Method's current outing, Fuse sponsored Deftones and Staind tours (*Billboard*, Nov. 15, 2003) last fall.

Fuse will also be involved in this summer's Vans Warped tour (*Billboard*, Feb. 28).

Though the terms of each Fuse deal are different, most include advertising or programming on the channel in exchange for Fuse advertising on tour programs and signs. Most bands also provide Fuse with diaries and Web chats from the road.

Fuse is what "MTV was in its embryonic stage," Staind manager Michael Papale says. "We think there was definitely an impact on Staind ticket sales because of the Fuse partnership."

whether it will be embraced by radio programmers, its international success may give it a major boost.

"She has found her sound," says Sam Zniber, PD of Clear Channel-owned hot AC network MIX in Sydney. "It's perfect for an AC or hot AC station."

It's also perfect for MTV Europe, MTV Networks Europe senior VP of music Harriett Brand acknowledges. The video for "Left Outside Alone" is airing on all of MTV's European channels.

Internationally, "Left Outside Alone" will be followed by "Sick and Tired" in summer and "Heavy on My Heart" in fall.

In September, Anastacia will commence a three-month headlining European tour. Until then, she will travel between the United States and Europe.

"I'll go where my support is needed," Anastacia says. "But I must have the support before I put myself out there. I've never been one to force-feed a country. But as Europe knows, if a country wants me, I am there."

Pirates

Continued from page 1

have all used its data, as well as MTV and MTV2.

All of which raises the question, Does the industry's use of peer-to-peer data for marketing purposes somehow add legitimacy to the very services that it is trying to stamp out through an aggressive legal campaign?

"Just as it is valuable to understand how pirated CDs are hawked at flea markets, the same applies to the online world. That in no way is any justification for the illegal activity or those who facilitate it," an RIAA spokesperson says.

SEARCHING DATA

BigChampagne, which is based in Beverly Hills, Calif., and opened for business in 2000, tracks the two basic activities that can be monitored on peer-to-peer networks: "queries," or searches, and "acquisitions," or downloads.

Then they match a computer's IP address to its zip code, creating a map of P2P activity.

Eric Garland, CEO of BigChampagne, says searches can isolate the use of any form of copyrighted material, from music, feature films, software and videogames to instruction manuals or TV episodes.

Webspins, which opened in 2001 in Studio City, Calif., employs a similar strategy, except it monitors traffic across "supernodes," or computers acting as file-sharing devices, Fagot says.

At a client's request, it inserts a searchable digital file into a filter to see who is searching for what by zip code, he says.

Maverick has subscribed to BigChampagne reports since 2000.

"Sometimes you're in a vacuum," Welt says, "and having more information on songs that people in your market [prefer] helps you stay

focused on your goal."

For labels, the instantaneous research into a target audience can translate into increased radio spins and more record sales.

A case in point is Maverick act Story of the Year and its single "Until the Day I Die." It recently ranked among BigChampagne's top 20 downloads.

But the single was getting substantially less radio airplay than adjacent top 20 artists like Blink-182 and Audioslave.

With data in hand, Welt took his case to radio stations.

"Week after week, we looked at BigChampagne reports and data on the conference call," Welt says. "We gave them a different picture of what was happening."

Eventually, Welt persuaded stations in certain markets to play Story of the Year during prime-time listening hours, which he believes helped CD sales. Story of the Year's album, "Page Avenue," recently went gold.

Though BigChampagne's "Top-Swaps" chart often mirrors the *Billboard* Mainstream Top 40, "sometimes it lets you see things before they happen," Welt says. "You might not be aware that the buzz has already started."

BILLBOARD CHART?

Nielsen SoundScan is considering the tracking services to create a standardized metric for P2P activity, similar to how it monitors legal downloading for *Billboard* charts.

But the industry has let it be known that it would oppose a chart that specifically tracks illegal music downloads.

Some executives liken it to *Billboard* tracking CDs that have been shoplifted. But the idea isn't without precedent. The news media frequently reports on the most widely stolen cars.

"Whenever you have a new technology, it takes a while to get accepted," Fagot says.

Ted Cohen, senior VP of digital development and distribution for EMI music, is taking a longer-term

Illegal Downloads: The Stats

BigChampagne and Webspins are building their businesses on the premise that illegal downloading is going to be around for some time to come. But is it?

The Recording Industry Assn. of America continues to wage an aggressive legal campaign against prolific downloaders, but the evidence so far is mixed on whether it's curbing illegal activity.

The Pew Internet and American Life Project reported in January that illegal music file sharing was down 50% among file traders age 18 and older.

And Russ Crupnick of NPD Music Watch Digital, a service that tracks online music distribution, recently told *Billboard* that P2P usage had "dropped off significantly."

But executives for BigChampagne and Webspins say illegal downloading has stabilized rather than declined.

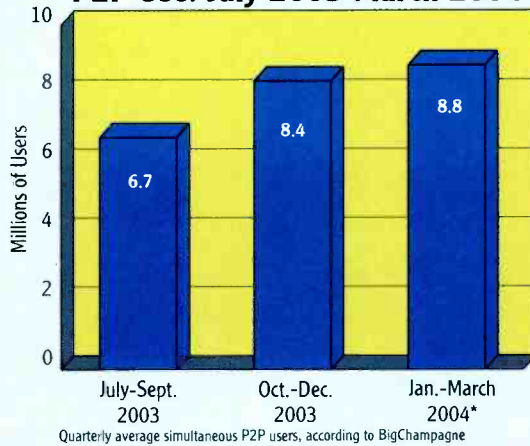
"I think file sharing is very stable. We have not seen a decrease as a result of RIAA's efforts," says John Fagot, a consultant to Webspins.

Eric Garland, CEO of BigChampagne, reports that an average of 8.8 million unique users of popular file-sharing networks were logged on at any given time during the first quarter this year, compared to 6.7 million users in the third quarter of last year.

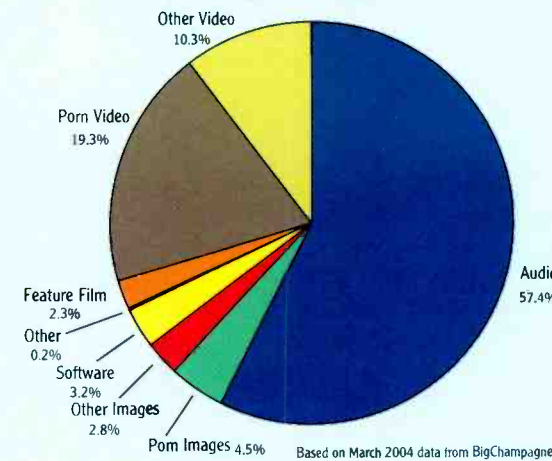
Garland says that 57% of all current peer-to-peer traffic involves music downloads.

"The total number of iTunes users is trivially small next to the number of Kazaa users," says Fred von Lohmann, staff council for Electronic Frontier Foundation, a San Francisco-based cyber liberties group. "In contrast, it's a niche market."

P2P Use: July 2003-March 2004



File Sharing: Slicing The Pie



approach to P2P trends, as well as overall digital consumer behavior.

EMI and NPD Music Watch Digital, a service that tracks online music distribution, have developed a method to chart what consumers do with their music after they download it from either a P2P network or a legitimate site.

"The more we know about usage, qualitatively and quantitatively, the better it's going to help us shape the

next iteration of business model," Cohen says.

"We've had great first starts, but for them to be great long-term businesses, they have to evolve," he adds.

Over the long term, some industry insiders think P2P services will go legitimate.

The industry is already privately discussing how to eventually monetize file traffic.

That eventuality, however, will

hinge on copyright litigation and cooperation among major labels, independent labels, publishers, software manufacturers, artists and Internet service providers.

"It's going to be a difficult transformation, but not impossible," Garland says.

"Our original intent was to treat [the tracking of] downloadable music as a proof of concept," he adds. "This can be done."

Blue Note

Continued from page 1

by American Apparel.

Accompanying the launch of A New Perspective is the April 20 release of "Blue Note Revisited." The 13-track collection features contemporary artists remixing vintage recordings.

The shirts are currently available for \$20 at bluenote.com and ropeadope.com. They are being presented to lifestyle boutiques and independent record stores worldwide, where they will retail for \$26-\$28. The shirts will be distributed in the United States by Zero Traders, which will work with various agents and distributors around the

world.

According to Blue Note VP of marketing Zach Hochkeppel, there is substantial international interest in the collection—particularly in Japan, France and the United Kingdom.

"Blue Note has great brand recognition around the world," Hochkeppel says. "It's known by people in the worlds of jazz, hip-hop, DJ culture and jam bands. A wide variety of people are hip to the Blue Note name."

Indeed, Blue Note has an incredibly rich history. A New Perspective celebrates and recognizes this—but not in an overt, in-your-face way.

"For us, it had to be more subtle," Hochkeppel notes. "You're either hip to the references, or you're not."

Blue Note and Ropeadope began discussing design ideas last year,

Hochkeppel says. At the time, both companies noticed that Madison Avenue was co-opting the design ethic of the old Blue Note covers.

"We began looking for evergreen [Blue Note] images," Hochkeppel explains. "Cool messages and cool graphics were also key. These clothes are for those in the know, as well as for those who simply like the message or design."

The initial wave of the New Perspective line focuses on album covers by Reid Miles, Blue Note's chief designer in the '60s, and Francis Wolff.

Featured music artists include Art Blakey ("Indestructible"), McCoy Tyner ("The Real McCoy"), Larry Young ("Unity") and Ornette Coleman ("Love Call").

"These shirts say a lot about the

times we're living in," says Lainie Copicotto, president of Aurelia Entertainment, a marketing firm. "And some of the messages are as timely as ever."

She continues, "You can protest without saying anything at all. You let the shirt do all the talking. At the same time, you can be listening to 'Blue Note Revisited' on your iPod. Fashion and music have never been more connected."

"Blue Note Revisited" features remixes by DJ/producers Herbert (Michel Petrucciani's "Caravan"), Jazzanova (Eddie Gale's "Song of Will"), Kenny Dope (Bobby Hutcherson's "La Malanga") and others.

The CD and A New Perspective were heavily promoted and marketed at the Blue Note Jazz Fest, held the week of April 5 in Paris.

At press time, Hochkeppel was getting the new fashion line into the hands of such Blue Note artists as Norah Jones, Wynton Marsalis and Medeski, Martin & Wood.

"We'll be giving shirts to the entire Blue Note roster," he says. "And while we would never impose it on our artists, we hope that they might wear the shirts on the street, in fashion shoots or onstage."

Good news. Jones has already been spotted wearing the designs. Ditto for DJ/producer King Britt, jazz guitarist Charlie Hunter, actor/comedian Dave Chappelle and others.

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'We Can't Let What Happened To The Music Industry Happen To Our Industry'

BY JILL KIPNIS

LOS ANGELES—For almost 20 years, Steve Beeks has championed the independent home video business.

Beeks added to his indie stature with his recent appointment as president of Santa Monica, Calif.-based Lions Gate Entertainment.

He joined Lions Gate last December after its \$210 million purchase of Artisan Entertainment, where he had served as president of the home entertainment division (*Billboard*, Nov. 8, 2003). In his new position, he reports to Lions Gate CEO Jon Feltheimer.

The newly merged companies have more than 8,000 home video titles, representing the industry's largest independent library, and claim to be No. 8 in the market, with a 4.35% share. The company's Family Home Entertainment (FHE) arm—formerly part of Artisan—is No. 4 in the family video market, claiming a 6.6% share.

At Artisan, Beeks increased home video revenue to \$300 million from \$115 million in six years. During his tenure, Artisan pioneered high-definition DVD, releasing the titles "Standing in the Shadows of Motown" and "T2—Extreme DVD" in the format, in conjunction with Microsoft's Windows Media 9 player.

Artisan also pursued partnerships with such children's companies as Mattel and Fisher Price to create video series for Barbie and other popular toy franchises.

"Each business that Artisan went into, they owned the category," says Mike Dunn, president of Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment. "I respect what they have done with the children's and exercise business and the way they have managed their theatrical catalog."

Beeks' indie résumé also includes stints at Republic Pictures, where home entertainment revenue grew to \$70 million from \$15 million during his eight-year tenure, and Hallmark Home Entertainment, a company he founded.

Q: What are your new responsibilities at Lions Gate?

A: The interesting thing about this job is that I don't get rid of any of my old responsibilities. I will continue to be responsible for the home entertainment activities of the company. In addition to that, I will have responsibilities for certain operating functions of the company, like business and legal affairs, corporate matters like human resources and the operating functions of the company, as well as some of the Canadian operations.

Q: With the merger complete, what are some of the challenges of being in charge of such a big home video division?

A: The challenges are making sure we continue doing as a combined company what made the two companies so successful up until now, which is aggressively managing libraries and all the brands that the companies represent.

[It also means] taking advantage of the operational advantages to which Artisan had access, primarily the big operating department, the fact that we have vendor management capability with the mass merchants, the fact that we can ship to 10,000 store-fronts direct to store.

At the same time, we are at an interesting point in the company's evolution in that we have a theatrical slate unlike either company has ever encountered at any point in the past. We have 18 motion pictures going out theatrically this year.

Q: Have the two companies been fully integrated?

A: We physically integrated the two operations seven days after the transaction was closed. The transaction was closed Dec. 15. We made all the personnel changes and shifted everybody around over the next few days, and on the 22nd, the companies were physically merged together. Lions Gate personnel moved into what was the old Artisan office.

Literally seven days later, we were operating as one company with one focus. It was a merger that was, in a way, meant to be.



The Last Word



A Q&A With Steve Beeks

Steve Beeks: Career Highlights

- 2004: Named president of Lions Gate Entertainment
- 2003: Lions Gate Entertainment buys Artisan Entertainment
- 1998: Joins Artisan as president of the home entertainment division
- 1994: Founds Hallmark Home Entertainment
- 1986: Named executive VP and president of Republic Pictures' home entertainment group
- 1985: Joins the Walt Disney Co. as director of operations planning
- 1983: Receives master's degree in business administration from Harvard Business School

Q: Lions Gate is involved with video-on-demand through its investment in CinemaNow, and Artisan has worked with Microsoft on high-definition DVD. How important is new technology to Lions Gate's future?

A: What will become clear in the future is that one of the jewels in the company's assets is CinemaNow... We have one of two working models in the industry in terms of delivering true video-on-demand as well as downloads via the Internet. Over the coming years, it's going to end up being an incredibly valuable asset of the company as technology evolves.

Q: Is high-definition technology going to come into play more on Lions Gate video releases?

A: Yes. I don't think anyone believes necessarily that the Microsoft technology is going to end up being "the high-definition technology of the future." It's definitely the best high-definition technology available today. We will definitely continue to support our relationship with Microsoft, and we will most likely release some number of select titles with that technology.

Along with all the other studios, we continue to encourage the advancement of the high-definition technology and the digital-rights management technology that is going to go hand in hand.

Q: The courts have issued two injunctions against 321 Studios, whose products enable users to bypass encryption codes and copy DVDs. How important is that action to the business?

A: For all of the studios, including Lions Gate, our assets are intellectual properties. This is our life blood, so we watch these cases carefully, and it's good to see that the Justice Department is making the right decision in that regard.

We can't let what happened to the music industry happen to our industry. The No. 1 issue facing the industry today is piracy. With everybody pulling forward, hopefully we are going to come up with an answer. We believe that it will not only be a technological answer, but it's obviously going to be an answer within the Justice Department.

Q: What is Lions Gate doing to maintain interest in VHS rentals as the DVD sell-through market takes off?

A: We continue to support any kind of copy-depth program, whether it be through pricing and/or revenue sharing, because we believe that will keep the rental market healthy.

We have a flat pricing initiative with VHS to help keep VHS healthy and to help rental stores stock their product in depth to keep customers coming back and satisfied.

Q: Is VHS still going to be a strong area of business in the coming years?

A: While that business is obviously continuing to shrink, there will come a time when that decay will flatten out and there will always be a core of consumers for the VHS business that will need to be addressed. We're going to have to think long and hard before we duplicate VHS cassettes for certain titles.

Q: Creating "branded" video lines has been important to Artisan, particularly the FHE division. Will Lions Gate pursue a similar strategy?

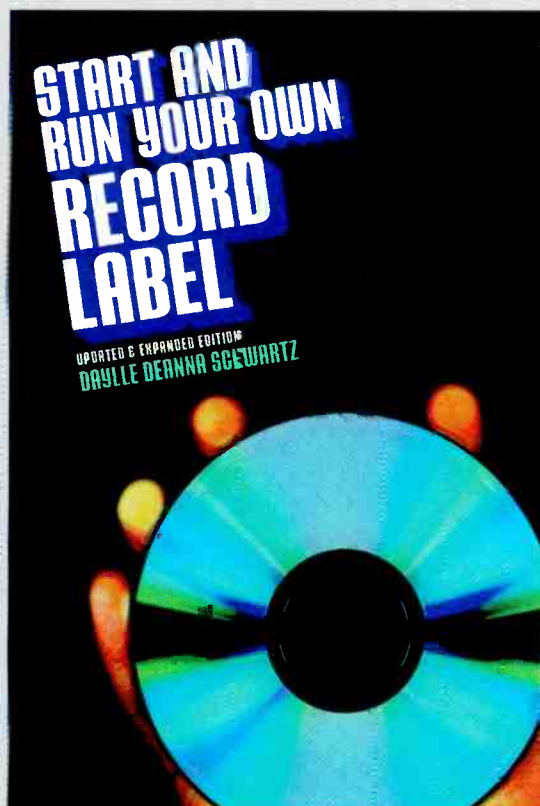
A: Absolutely. We're going to continue to support that and probably be even more aggressive in the new company than Artisan was.

[FHE president] Glenn [Ross] has been given the charter of growing his family business even more rapidly. [Our] family business has a market share that puts us at No. 4 in the industry, and we think we have established a foothold and a reputation. We are currently working on brand ideas that are not family or children.

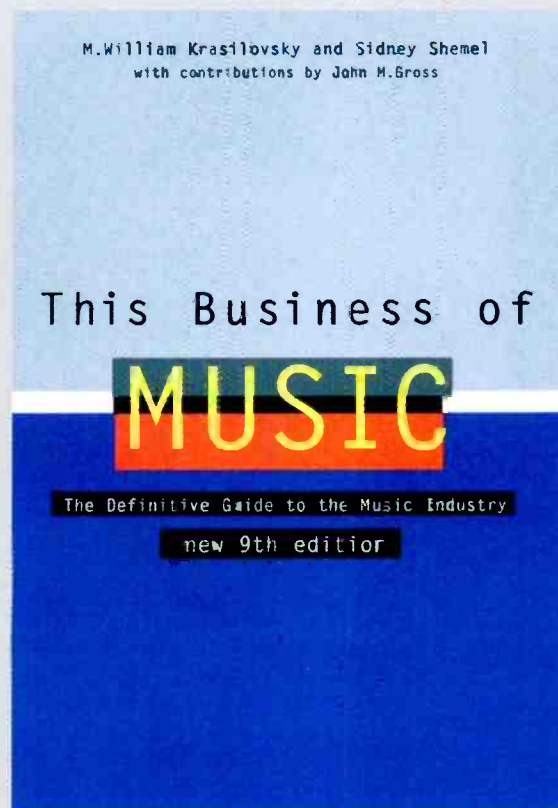
Q: Which video releases are you most excited about this year?

A: Both companies, in their production and acquisition strategy, focus on pictures that perform disproportionately well when released in the ancillary market. Pictures like "Havana Nights," [which,] because of its "Dirty Dancing" pedigree, is definitely going to outperform [its box office]. "The Punisher" will be an even bigger film when it comes to video.

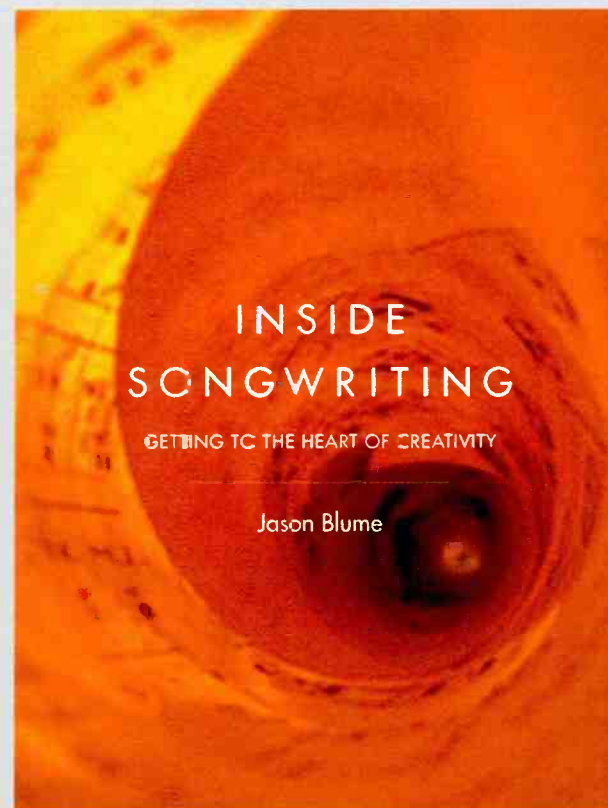
Last year, the combined companies had a market share of approximately 4.5%. With what we've got coming, I see no reason why that number won't be larger this year.



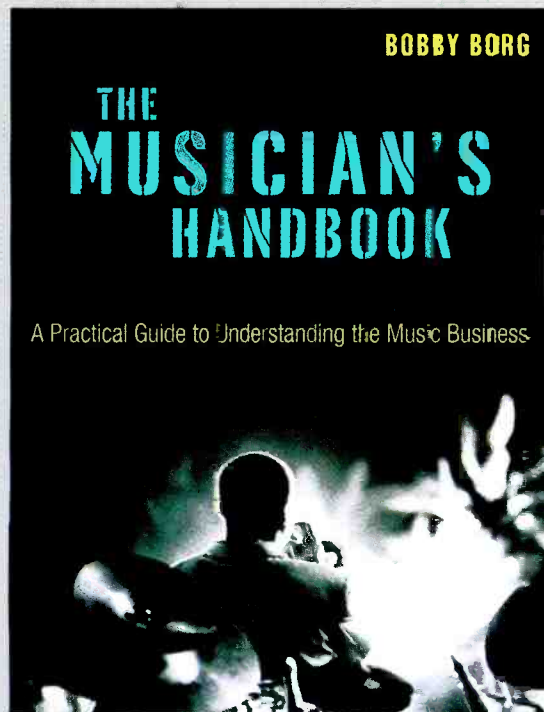
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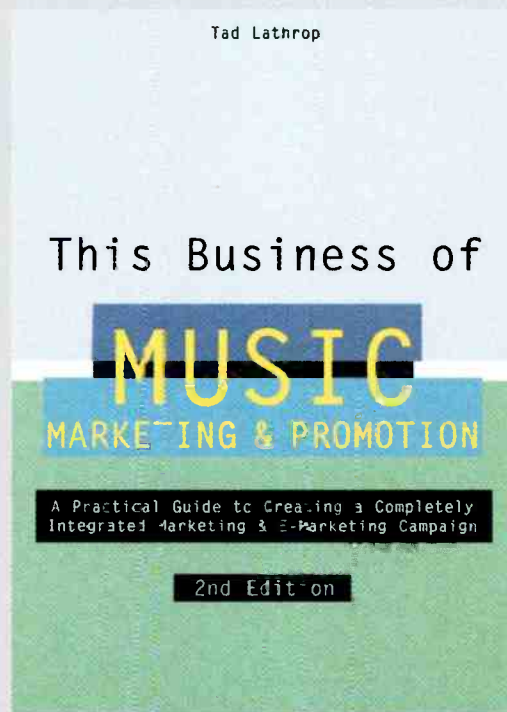
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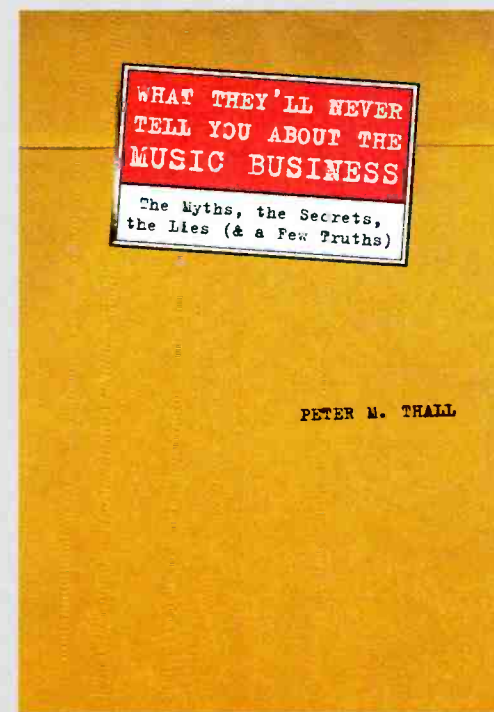
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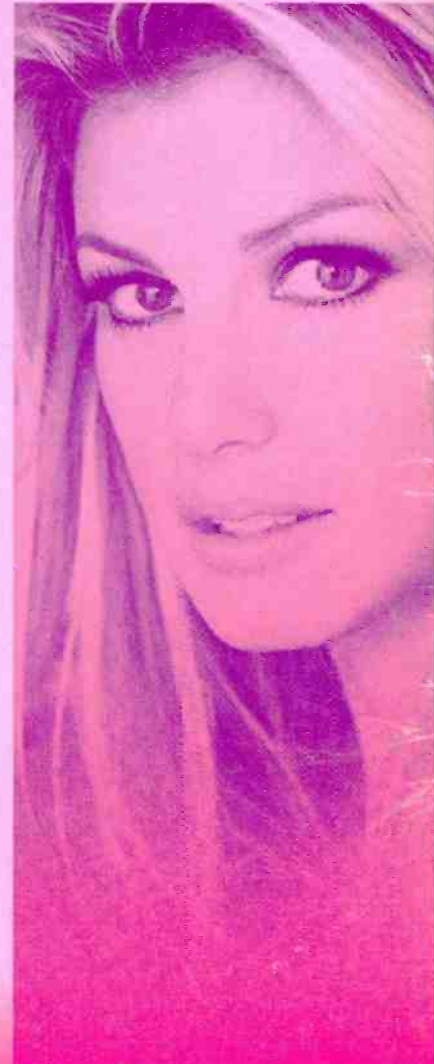


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