

CASH BOX™

THE ENTERTAINMENT TRADE MAGAZINE

Inside:

Shake-ups! Warner Music, MCA Music
Disney's *Toy Story*—

Innovative Computer Animation,
The Cash Box Retail Guide



André Harrell

Picks Up The Reins At Motown





THE ENTERTAINMENT TRADE MAGAZINE

NUMBER ONES

POP SINGLE

Fantasy
Mariah Carey
(Columbia)

URBAN SINGLE

Exhale (Shoop Shoop)
Whitney Houston
(Arista)

RAP SINGLE

Hey Lover
LL Cool J.
(Def Jam)

COUNTRY SINGLE

Who Needs You Baby
Clay Walker
(Giant)

POP ALBUM

R. Kelly
R. Kelly
(Jive)

R&B ALBUM

Liquid Swords
Genius/GZA
(Geffen)

JAZZ ALBUM

Breathless
Kenny G
(Arista)

COUNTRY ALBUM

The Greatest Hits...
Alan Jackson
(MCA)

POSITIVE COUNTRY

Go Rest High On That...
Vince Gill
(MCA)

Cover Story

Motown On A Fresh Tip

Motown has history, and even though people have been singing the company's impending death knell in recent years, with André Harrell's appointment to the post of president/CEO of the PolyGram Music-owned label, Motown may carve out a fresh presence in the marketplace and be poised to recapture its prominence on the contemporary tip. *Cash Box* urban editor Gil L. Robertson IV sat down with Harrell to talk about his plans for the venerable label.

—see page 5

Seasonal Glut—Of Films and Video, That Is

Disney's *Toy Story* is a finely-crafted *entrée* laced with innovative computer animation textures; *Casino* released by Universal is a hasty blood pudding with a strong, rehashed base; Paramount's *Nick Of Time*, a suspenseful mystery meat?; Columbia's *Money Train* is frothy emptiness; and the Geffen Records video *Amazing Grace* is tried and true food for the soul. *Cash Box* cinema cuisine critic John Goff reviews these holiday menu items.

—see pages 16-18

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Lead Story

Fuchs Out at Warner; Teller and Palmese Leave MCA

Morris To Top MMEG

TOP BRASS AT TWO of the music industry's most high-profile companies have been part of some major corporate re-shuffling. **Michael Fuchs**, chairman of **Warner Music Group** and **Time-Warner, Inc.**'s **HBO**, and who had rearranged the executive landscape at WMG, was left out in the cold in anticipation of the planned merger between Time-Warner and **Turner Broadcasting Systems, Inc.**

And at the **MCA Music Entertainment Group**, longtime chairman/CEO **Al Teller** resigned citing philosophical differences. His departure was closely followed by the resignation of MCA Records president **Richard Palmese**, who said he was leaving to pursue other interests. In a move that exudes irony, **Doug Morris**, the former Warner Music U.S. chief ousted earlier this year by Fuchs, has been named to take over MMEG's top spot.

In a terse statement released last week, Fuchs said, "I'm proud of my record and for what we built first at HBO and the efforts and accomplishments we have made at Warner Music Group in the last six months. I'm particularly disappointed not to have been able to finish my tasks at Warner Music Group, and I am deeply saddened to leave Time Warner."

According to longtime Fuchs spokesman **Richard Plepler**, recently appointed exec. vp of WMG, the ouster was a shock, and the first news of the move came Wednesday night, Nov. 15. On Friday, Nov. 17, Plepler was also let go at WMG, although at press time he was slated to continue as sr. vp of corporate affairs at HBO.

The departure of Fuchs is said to have been hastened by the pending merger between Time Warner and Turner (a move he vigorously opposed), and also by the signing of long-term contracts by Warner Bros. co-chairmen and CEOs **Robert Daly** and **Terry Semel**, which include expansion of their supervisory duties over WMG and continued oversight of all other Time Warner entertainment divisions except HBO. **Jeffrey Bewkes**, who took over as president/CEO of HBO when Fuchs was upped, will continue to run the cable channel.

At MMEG, Teller said his decision to leave was predicated on a dispute over the direction MMEG was headed. "There is a philosophical difference between myself and senior corporate members in the way to move the division forward," Teller commented.

"I have great respect for all that Al Teller has accomplished with the MCA Music Entertainment Group, both in the United States and the expansion into international markets," said **Ron Meyer**, president/COO of **MCA, Inc.** During his seven-year reign at the company, Teller is credited with engineering the acquisition of **Geffen Records** and expanding the international operation to 23 companies worldwide. He made MCA Nashville the top presence in country and **Uni Distribution** claimed the number two market position.

The president post held at the MCA label by Palmese, a 12-year veteran at the company, will not be filled immediately, and Morris, named chairman/CEO of MMEG, will handle daily operations until such an appointment is made.

MCA, Inc.'s Meyer, appointed to his post after 80% of the company was purchased by Canadian distiller **Seagram Co.** for a deal valued at \$5.7 billion, said that he expects Morris to build on the momentum created by Teller and "focus even more aggressively on developing talent across all areas of our music business."

Ironically, Teller helped bring Morris into a joint label venture with MMEG, establishing the latter's New York-based, full service **Rising Tide Entertainment** label, and he also created an association with former Warner Music top executives **Bob Krasnow**, **David Geffen**, **Mo Ostin**, **Lenny Waronker** and **Michael Ostin**.

M.R. Martinez

ON THE MOVE



Tews



Blume



Aiello

■ **Virgin Records** has announced a trio of appointments. **Kate Tews** has been promoted to sr. director of advertising & marketing and now will be responsible for overseeing merchandising activities. She also will be responsible for planning and executing national advertising campaigns in print, broadcast, and interactive media. She most recently served as director of marketing & advertising, a position she has held since 1993. **Todd Waxler** has been named director of business affairs. He will now be responsible for administering artists' agreements, overseeing mechanical licensing, preparing monthly status reports, tracking options, and clearing master/video use requests. Waxler previously served as contract administrator, business & legal affairs in the New York offices of RCA Records.

He began his career in 1991 with Virgin's Charisma Records subsidiary. And **B.J. Lobermann** has been promoted to director of national sales, where he will now be responsible for planning and implementation of national sales campaigns from the company's New York office. ■ **Phil Blume** has been named sr. director of sales & field marketing for **Arista Records**, where he will now be responsible for Soundscan analysis, field marketing campaigns and the BMG branch marketing programs. A 20-year veteran of the music industry, Blume most recently was vp of sales and distribution for the Alliance Entertainment Group and also served as sr. director of sales for EMI from 1988 to 1994. The New York-based executive started his career as sales manager for JEM Records in 1975. ■ **Barbara Aiello** has been promoted to director of product administration for the **Columbia House Company**. Aiello will be responsible for managing procurement of component parts on all new music club titles, in addition to maintaining close relationships with the company's manufacturing plants, printers and external label product administration. She most recently served as manager of product administration for Columbia House, which she joined in 1988.

New Virgin Megastore

THE VIRGIN RETAIL GROUP (USA, Canada, South America) recently opened its fifth U.S. **Virgin Megastore**, located at Media City Center in Burbank (the third in the Los Angeles area). Encompassing 25,000 square feet and incorporating innovative architectural design, the new retail venue is professed to have the largest selection of music and entertainment in the L.A.-area's San Fernando Valley.

Among the new features will be a separate classical music room offering 10,000 titles; more than 200 CD listening posts; 20 video/laser disc viewing stations; and several interactive multimedia stations.

The Virgin Megastore in the Media City Center will host a Grand Opening Dec. 9, which includes an outdoor block party, featuring live performances by MCA artists **Immature**, BMG recording act **Take That** and **Def Jam** act **LL Cool J**. The acts will perform atop the **KHIS-FM Mega Cruiser**, with air personality **Rick Dees** serving as host. The **B Sharp Jazz Quartet** and **The Blue Hawaiians** are also slated to perform.

The Virgin Retail Group also announced that in 1996 it will open Virgin Megastores in Seattle, Vancouver, Las Vegas, Boston and Los Angeles (on the westside).

By J. S. Gaer

EAST COAST

SOUND SCULPTING: In our nation's capitol comes the scrapings of a band that has moved closer to its past and present Atlantic cousins: **Chisel**. This power trio have shifted from their more D.C. stirrings into a full power trio a la **The Jam**, but without leaving the household of fellow metromates completely. The group's current release, the *Nothing New* EP, on the **Gern Blandstein** label out of Paramus, NJ, is a signpost along the way to the present destination. With true English panache, the members of Chisel find the footlights as a medium not only for playing music, but also for fashion and funny patter. Coming on stage, they present the image of lads just out of Oxford for the holidays, and with some witty repartee they are off for another hook-filled, harmony-humming caper, which they soon will be with the January release of *8 A.M. All Day*. An LP that could be a bigger wake up call than that ticking thing next to your bed.

DOES THE EGG SHOW: The landscape is now being dotted with monuments to previous musical glories, but one that should be paid close attention to is the obelisk *Heyday 1979-1983* for the Wichita quartet **The Embarrassment** on **Bar None**. This is one of those touchstone bands whose influence is still felt by bands that never heard of them. The Embarrassment played in the lo-fi wilderness of those years bucking the predominant trend toward New Wave; the group recorded a fistful of gems without a synth in sight. Not many groups could (or would want to) get away with a song entitled "Hip And Well Read," but thankfully these homesteaders had an intelligence that saw both humor and insight in odd places. With all of this material close to impossible to find, this double CD set is like a gift from that guy with the Harvey Wallbanger chuckle and loud suit.



Elektra/Sire recording group Spacehog recently celebrated release of its debut album *Resident Alien*. Apacked house watched the group perform a blistering set of songs, including the group's first single "In The Meantime." Pictured after the show are (l-r): Matt Levy, director of secondary promotion; Mark Snider, Northeast regional promotion director; Jonny Cragg and Mark Langdon, artists; Greg Thompson, sr. vp of promotion; Matt Pollack, vp of alternative promotion; Andre Ferro, music director, WDRE; and Laslow, WDRE.



Hard rocking Sammy Hagar (right), lead singer for Van Halen, was recently recognized by Baja California, Mexico Gov. Guillermo Mercado Romero (left) for promoting tourism in Mexico's Los Cabos region. Hagar has been drawing in tourists to his Cabo Wabo Cantina in Cabo San Lucas for the last five years. The venue is also the site of concerts held by some of the world's most respected rockers. Hagar is planning to perform at the Cantina with special guests during the New Year's eve weekend.

By Steve Baltin

WEST COAST



Kinks' lead singer and Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Famer Ray Davies recently took a break from the legendary British band to play a few acoustic dates, one of which was at the Henry Fonda Theatre. Pictured (l-r): Davies; Mike Garcia, gm of Nederlander Concerts and Fred Meyer, Nederlander Concerts.

CONTINUING TO FURTHER THE TRADITION it established with the 1992 Presidential election, MTV News recently announced the premiere of *The MTV Interview*, a new interview show to debut December 5. The show, to be hosted by **Tabitha Soren**, kicks off with an impressive trio of guests; **Tupac Shakur**, in his first interview since his release from prison; notorious press recluse **Sean Penn**, who talks about his new film, *The Crossing Guard*; and PLO leader **Yassir Arafat**, who discusses why peace in the Middle East is important to young Americans.

In light of recent events in the Middle East, the controversial Arafat's appearance takes on added significance, providing the young rock 'n' roll network with a major news coup.

Kudos to MTV for staying away from fluff with this new series and using its obvious influence to show its audience there's more to the world than *Beavis & Butt-Head*, *Coolio* and *Green Day*. If the new show lives up to the promise these three guests offer, it could turn out to be a very informative tool.

NEW YORK MAY HAVE ICE-SKATING at Rockefeller Center for Christmas, but L.A. has **The Ringling Sisters' Annual Fundraiser**, to be held this year December 18 at **The Palace** in Hollywood. The 10th year the show has taken place, it is, in the Ringling Sisters' (**Iris Berry, Pleasant Gehman** and **Annette Zilinskas**) words, "Our favorite thing to do every year. We get to do something for the community." This year's concert will benefit **Rock For Choice, My Friend's Place** and the **Hollygrove Children's Orphanage**.

Besides being for worthy causes, the show features a hell of a line-up every year, with this year being no exception. Among those confirmed are **Henry Rollins, Mike Watt, Gun Club, Phranc, Possum Dixon, The Muffs, Extra Fancy, Davey Allen** and **The Arrows** and the Ringling Sisters. As much a party as it is a concert, the Ringling Sisters' Fundraiser is a chance to celebrate L.A.'s rich musical scene of the post X-era, with many of the biggest names in L.A. music appearing.

BRUCE WATCH: Bruce Springsteen will kick off his solo acoustic tour in L.A. with two shows at the **Wiltern Theatre**, November 26 and 27. Now there's really something to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.



Capitol Records' Everclear celebrated a year's worth of touring this month by playing a free show at Santa Monica Beach before an estimated crowd of 2,000. Do you think it's just coincidence that the trio's current single, from its *Sparkle And Fade* is called "Santa Monica." Pictured in the front (l-r): Greg Seis, Capitol Records, director of promotion and marketing for Los Angeles; Linda Ryan, Next and Brian MacDonald, Capitol Records, senior national director of alternative promotion. Pictured in the back (l-r): Craig Montoya, Greg Eklund and Art Alexakis, Everclear; Marco Collins, KNDD; Lisa Worden, KROQ and Aaron Axelson, KITS—Live 106.



Cover Story

Old And New Schools Collide: André Harrell At Motown

By Gil L. Robertson IV

FOR MILLIONS AROUND THE WORLD, the name Motown is virtually synonymous with the beats and rhythms of soul music. With a roster that has included Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross, Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson, Lionel Richie, The Four Tops, The Temptations, The Supremes, Martha Reeves, The Marvelettes, Rick James, Teena Marie, The Commodores, Boyz II Men, Zhané, Queen Latifah, the label has enjoyed a glorious past and is today a true institution in the history of American popular culture.

Times haven't been good for the venerable label which, with the exception of its hugely successful catalogue division and the chart-topping success of pop/soul group Boyz II Men, has failed to capture a sizeable share of the music marketplace. The industry rumor mill has been rife with stories regarding Motown's impending demise, coupled with a widespread perception the label was out of touch, behind the times and on its way to being fully absorbed by its owner, the giant conglomerate, Polygram Music.

Well, save the obituaries, according to André Harrell, the label's recently-named president/CEO. The 35-year old industry veteran says Motown is very far from being out of the loop and is, in fact, at the beginning of a new and enriching period of productivity that will re-establish it as the music industry dynamo it once was.

"The music industry today is filled with record labels that play to niche markets. You've got LaFace appealing to their crowd, Perspective to theirs and Def Jam to still another market of consumers. Motown is the daddy of them all, and under my leadership the label will release music that appeals to all of the markets and once again capture the heart and soul of the urban music marketplace," Harrell says.

It would seem that Harrell is awfully young to chart such an ambitious goal—Motown, after all, was already established before he even knew where Detroit was. This is not however, the first time that Harrell has taken on what others perceived as a monumental challenge. Talk about hip-hop culture and you have to mention Harrell, whose Uptown Records is responsible for the careers of some of the industry's most successful purveyors of the New Jack, Hip-Hop Swing/Hip-Hop-Soul phenomena. Established in 1986 the label, with the former rapper's business acumen, has helped launch Mary J. Blige, Heavy D., Jodeci, Guy, Al B. Sure, to name a few. Those acts have registered worldwide record sales of more than 13 million units, and Harrell consequently has become the prime architect for an entire generation calling themselves "the hip-hop nation."

A native of New York City's Bronx, Harrell began his career in the entertainment industry at the age of 15. In 1977, he paired with his high school friend Alonzo Brown to form the successful rap duo Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, best known for their hits "Genius Rap," and "Fast Life." A communications and business management major at Lehman College, Harrell's work resumé includes stints spent in ad sales for WINS radio and as the vice president/gm for Rush Communications. While at Rush, Harrell played a key role in launching the careers of RUN-DMC, LL Cool J., Whodini and numerous other pioneer groups. "I've been at the forefront of

the hip-hop music scene since its beginnings. Since back from my days with Jekyll and Hyde I've had an organic sense about the shifts and trends changing in popular music. Because of my background and experience I've been pretty successful in knowing when a trend will end and what new one will follow."

Although Harrell anticipates some changes at Motown, they are not as drastic as many have speculated. First of all it's important to note that Harrell is a Motown fan, who grew up listening to all the label's veteran acts. He has the highest regard for perennial Motown favorites like the Temptations, Diana Ross and Stevie Wonder. Secondly, Harrell is not one to fix what is not broken, and though he plans to operate the company primarily from his East Coast base, he does plan to keep the label's complete West Coast film and TV division in addition to its publishing, publicity and A&R departments in operation.

He says, "Motown is a big label with lots of very talented and creative employees. I want to find as many ways possible to utilize the enormous array of talent available. Over the next 24 months I'm looking to develop a strong team that's capable of positioning the company to do business in the next century. As for the music, well, I've concentrated on New Jack Swing with Guy, and Hip-Hop Soul with Mary J. Blige and Jodeci, now I'm ready to combine elements of both and create Soul music with a new youth appeal that will play a strong role in the marketplace. What I want to do is to bring back the glamour to black artistry, and I will do that with a cross section of artists that will appeal to every segment of the (music) game.

"Expect us to have our Big E. Small, Whitney Houstons and our Mary J. Bliges," Harrell continued. "Also look for us to place major emphasis on artist development."

As for the naysayers out there who predict that Harrell is not up to the task of turning Motown around—Stop wasting your time. Brother man is used to people's derisive perceptions, and says that he has conditioned himself to operate with blinders on in order to get the job done. "Controversy and skepticism have surrounded me since I entered this business, and believe me, I know that it's certainly not going to stop now. I have no

problem with operating in an environment of organized confusion because no one is going to stop me from doing what I need to do.

"Leaving Uptown was very hard for me to do," Harrell continued. "But I did because I recognized my potential to do more. My making the move to Motown is a good one for me and will be for the legacy of the label as a whole. When I got this gig I felt that I had arrived at the place where I was meant to be. God willing, I will turn this thing around, but even after that's done there will still be those who will question what I've done. They'll say, 'Oh well, he's turned the music division around, but what about the TV and film? What about the restaurants?'"

"With my accomplishments, I already feel, (that) at 35, I've already lived what for an average person would be a great career and life. I'm now entering into a rarified environment that few blacks have known, and what I plan to do is to open that door of opportunity to others."



"I'm now entering a rarified environment that few blacks have known..."

— André Harrell, newly-appointed Motown President/CEO

CASH BOX

TOP 100 URBAN SINGLES

DECEMBER 2, 1995



This Week's #1:
Whitney Houston



High Debut:
Jason Weaver

1 EXHALE (SHOOP SHOOP)(FROM "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Arista 2885) Whitney Houston	3	3	46 AIN'T NUTHIN' BUT A SHE THING (Next Plateau/London 50347) Salt-N-Pepa	48	6
2 YOU REMIND ME OF SOMETHING (Jive 01241) R. Kelly	1	5	47 HOW HIGH (FROM THE "SHOW!") (Def Jam/RAL 9924) Redman/Method Man	58	15
3 BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE/LIKE THIS AND LIKE THAT (Arista 5052) Monica	2	10	48 ICE CREAM (Loud 64426) Chef Raekwon	59	5
4 HEY LOVER (Def Jam 7065) LL Cool J	10	4	49 I GOT 5 ON IT (Yab Yum/Noo Trybe 38474) Luniz	49	22
5 WHO CAN I RUN TO (So So Def/Columbia 78056) Xscape	4	8	50 TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT (Interscope 95740) Blackstreet	52	16
6 DIGGIN' ON YOU (La Face/Arista 4419) TLC	6	2	51 I'M YOUR MAN (Atlantic 87097) All-4-One	51	3
7 ONE SWEET DAY (Columbia 66700) Mariah Carey	8	2	52 SORRY, I (Mercury 2410) Will Downing	67	3
8 CRUISIN' (EMI 32629) D'Angelo	9	8	53 I REMEMBER (Motown 860480) Boyz II Men	63	2
9 ALREADY MISSING YOU (Elektra) Gerald & Eddie Levert, Sr.	5	10	54 O'L SKOOL (Mercury 2294) Isaac 2 Isaac	66	6
10 WHERE EVER YOU ARE (EastWest 9353) Terry Ellis	11	9	55 I CAN'T STAND THE PAIN (Motown 0348) Jason Weaver	60	5
11 HOOKED ON YOU (Elektra 61849) Silk	12	6	56 Y'ALL AIN'T READY YET (Big Boy 42331) Mystikal	DEBUT	
12 LOVE U 4 LIFE (UpTown/MCA 11258) Jodeci	18	6	57 ONE MORE CHANCE/STAY WITH ME (Bad Boy/Arista 79032) The Notorious B.I.G.	57	23
13 TELL ME (Epic 77961) Groove Theory	7	18	58 THE RIDDLER (FROM "BATMAN FOREVER") (Atlantic 87100) Method Man	50	2
14 PRETTY GIRL (Yab Yum/550 Music 77813) Jon B.	13	12	59 ARE YOU READY (MCA 55074) Pebbles	53	14
15 COME WITH ME (Gasoline Alley 55081) Shai	15	11	60 TAKE A LOOK (Hollywood 64003) J'Son	70	2
16 FANTASY (Columbia 7321) Mariah Carey	14	12	61 PLAYER'S ANTHEM (Big Beat/Atlantic 98149) Junior M.A.F.I.A.	54	18
17 SENTIMENTAL (Arista 12852) Deborah Cox	16	13	62 WINGS OF THE MORNING (African Star/RAL/Island 7199) Capleton	62	5
18 HEAVEN (Perspective 7498) Solo	17	17	63 THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 7699) L.V.	DEBUT	
19 RUNAWAY (A&M 581 194) Janet Jackson	19	12	64 DANGER (Mercury 7049) Blahzay Blahzay	64	4
20 YOU ARE NOT ALONE (MJJ/Epic 78002) Michael Jackson	20	19	65 (YOU MAKE ME FEEL) LIKE A NATURAL WOMAN (FROM "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown/MCA 55139) Mary J. Blige	55	8
21 SOON AS I GET HOME (Bad Boy/Arista 9041) Faith Evans	DEBUT		66 BOMDIGI (Def Jam/RAL 7196) Erick Sermon	56	3
22 ANYTHING (MJJ/550 7063) 3T	24	8	67 SURRENDER (Elektra 64350) Kut Kloze	DEBUT	
23 CELL THERAPY (LaFace/Arista 4113) Goodie Mob	23	6	68 NO ONE ELSE (Arista 79043) Total	DEBUT	
24 I MISS YOU (COME BACK HOME) (FROM "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown 55107) Monifah	26	3	69 PLAYA HATA (Noo Trybe 11025) Luniz	76	6
25 YOU PUT A MOVE ON MY HEART (Qwest 7844) Quincy Jones Feat. Tamia	30	6	70 WE GOT IT (MCA 55148) Immature	DEBUT	
26 BROKENHEARTED (Atlantic 6175) Brandy	22	15	71 LOVE TRIANGLE (Worik 78025) Diana King	73	6
27 GANGSTA'S PARADISE (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55104) Coolio Feat. L.V.	27	14	72 DADDY'S HOME (PMP/RAL/Def Jam 74312) Montell Jordan	72	4
28 I HATE U (Warner Bros. 43592) A.F.K.A.P.	21	12	73 LOVE T.K.O. (Columbia 77965) Regina Belle	32	14
29 FEEL THE FUNK (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55130) Immature	28	11	74 VIBIN' (Motown 42286) Boyz II Men	39	14
30 FUNNY HOW TIME FLIES (Atlantic 87093) Intro	35	6	75 LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 19390) Genius/GZA	61	5
31 LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE (Columbia 77908) Asante	36	9	76 I'LL ALWAYS BE AROUND (MCA 55146) C+C Music Factory Feat. A.S.K. M.E. & Vic Black	81	3
32 I WANT YOU BACK (Interscope 92638) Pure Soul	42	25	77 SEX IN THE RAIN (Outburst/RAL 7194) Moxenstef	78	3
33 ON THE DOWN LOW (Mercury 2082) Brian McKnight	25	17	78 1ST OF THE MONTH (Ruthless 6331) Bone Thugs N' Harmony	69	14
34 HE'S MINE (Outburst/RAL 1704) MoKenStef	29	28	79 CURIOSITY (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55105) Aaron Hall	71	19
35 YOU USED TO LOVE ME (Bad Boy/Arista 79025) Faith Evans	31	24	80 THE RUN AROUND (Priority 53226) Boyz Of Paradise	74	7
36 SUGAR HILL (EMI 58407) AZ	33	18	81 BE ENCOURAGED (Intersound 9159) William Becton & Friends	75	18
37 RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 58483) The Pharcyde	65	4	82 TEMPTATIONS (Interscope 95724) 2Pac	79	9
38 'TIL YOU DO ME RIGHT (Virgin 38494) After 7	38	23	83 TOO HOT (Tommy Boy 713) Coolio	DEBUT	
39 DAMN THING CALLED LOVE (Virgin 40547) After 7	41	8	84 HURRICANE (Jive 42335) The Click	84	2
40 STILL IN LOVE (Mercury 56896) Brian McKnight	46	3	85 YOU WANT THIS PARTY STARTED (Warner Bros. 17753) Somethin' For The People	DEBUT	
41 IN GOD'S HANDS NOW (Epic 7317) Anointed	47	7	86 I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (Zoo 14238) Phyllis Hyman	DEBUT	
42 BROWN SUGAR (EMI 58360) D'Angelo	34	28	87 WHAT ABOUT YOUR LOVE (GRP 3065) Maysa Leaks	80	10
43 BOOMBASTIC/IN THE SUMMERTIME (Virgin 38482) Shaggy	37	27	88 MC'S ACT LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW (Jive 42319) KRS-One	88	11
44 WE MUST BE IN LOVE (Stepsun 98137) Pure Soul	42	25	89 ALL I CAN DO (Street Life/Scotti Bros. 78044) Tina Moore	77	12
45 WATERFALLS (LaFace/Arista 24108) TLC	44	38	90 RETURN OF THE LIVIN' DEAD (Giant 17796) The D.O.C.	89	2
			91 SUMMERTIME IN THE LBC (FROM "THE SHOW") (G Funk/RAL/Island 9383) Dove Shack	93	17
			92 REAL HIP HOP (Elektra 43872) Das EFX	82	10
			93 MIND BLOWING (IMI 8513) David Josias	96	13
			94 SOMETHIN' 4 DA HONEYZ (PMP/RAL/Def Jam 6962) Montell Jordan	90	18
			95 CAN I TOUCH YOU...THERE? (Columbia 77991) Michael Bolton	87	6
			96 GIRLSTOWN (Columbia 77850) Supercat	95	12
			97 TONITE (LaFace/Arista 4103) A Few Good Men	85	15
			98 FREEK'N YOU (Uptown/MCA 55023) Jodeci	43	25
			99 FEELS SO GOOD (So So Def/Columbia 77921) Xscape	45	25
			100 LOVE AMBITION (CALL ON ME) (Motown 0319) Jason Weaver	68	22

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ANYTHING T. Jackson, T. Jackson, T. Jackson, B. Caldwell, A. Ketter (To The Tee, BMI)	9
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MC'S ACT LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW L. Parker, C. Martin (Zomba/BDP/Gifted Pearl/EMI April, ASCAP)	88
MIND BLOWING D. Josias (Vental City/PMA, BMI)	93
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SENTIMENTAL D. Austin (Nathuse, ASCAP/EMI April/D.A.R.P./Deborah Cox Music, BMI)	17
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TELL ME B. Wilson, A. Latreux, D. Brown (Almo/Bryce Lav, ASCAP/Sony/Jzop/Dream Shaker)	13
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THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE M. Thompson, J. Williams, K. Blue, A. Edwards, A. Criss, L. Sanders, S. Wonder (Josete/Storie/ler/G's Only/Feel'n Blue, ASCAP/T-Girl/Large Variety/Al Jamat 9/Maurice Thompson, BMI)	63
'TIL YOU DO ME RIGHT Babyface, M. Edmunds, K. Edmunds (Sony Songs/ECAF/KMEL, BMI)	38
TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT T. Riley, T. Lucas, C. Hugo, P. Williams, M. Riley (Donal/Zomba/T. Lucas/Smokin' Sound/Tack, ASCAP/WBM)	50
TONITE D. Austin (EMI April/D.A.R.P., ASCAP)	97
TOO HOT N/A (N/A)	83
VIBIN' M. S. McCary, N. Morris, W. Morris, S. Stockman, T. Kelley, B. Robinson (Black Panther/Vanderpool/Aynaw/Shawn Patrick/Eisuga/Bee & Tee/Butter Jinx, BMI)	74
WATERFALLS Organized Noize, M. Eheridge, L. Lopez (Tiz Biz Music/Belt Star Music/Pebbitone, ASCAP/Organized Noize Music/Stuff Shirt Music, BMI)	45
WE GOT IT N/A (N/A)	70
WE MUST BE IN LOVE K. Jordan (Played Like A Stepson/Black Art Of War, ASCAP)	47
WHAT ABOUT OUR LOVE R. Rideout, B. Singley, P. Temple (PolyGram Int'l./EMI Blackwood, BMI)	84
WHERE EVER YOU ARE T. McElroy, D. Foster (Two Tuff-E-Nuff Songs/EMI Blackwood, BMI)	10
WHO CAN I RUN TO H. Hancock (Hancock, BMI)	5
WINGS OF THE MORNING C. Bailey, A. Jones, A. Isabell, O. Redding (Irving, BMI)	62
Y'ALL AIN'T READY YET M. Tyler, L. Edwards (Zomba/Chin Checkin', ASCAP/WBM)	56
YOU ARE NOT ALONE R. Kelly (Zomba Songs/R. Kelly, BMI)	20
YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE A NATURAL WOMAN G. Goffin, C. King, J. Wexler (N/A)	65
YOU PUT A MOVE ON MY HEART Q. Jones, R. Temperant (Almo/Rod Songs, ASCAP)	23
YOU REMIND ME OF SOMETHING R. Kelly (Zomba, BMI)	2
YOU USED TO LOVE ME F. Evans (China Baby/Blackwood/Ninth St. Tunnel, BMI)	35
YOU WANT THIS PARTY STARTED J. Young, R. Holaday, C. Wilson III, A. McCinton, M. Lomax (Maximum Strength, ASCAP/Junkie Funk/Bleu Jobe/Whole Nine Yards, BMI)	85

REVIEWS By Gil L. Robertson IV



■ KIRK FRANKLIN AND THE FAMILY: Christmas (Gospo Centric 72130 2) Producer: Various

In the last year, gospel music has enjoyed renewed interest from mainstream markets, and Kirk Franklin is at the top of this resurgence. On this, his follow-up to his self-titled platinum debut, Franklin, backed by his superior choir, delivers a stirring collection of holiday selections that are sure to become Christmas favorites. The production is first rate throughout with, strong lead and background vocals and a production that's clean and smooth. Given his past success, urban radio should support this project which also has strong crossover possibilities as well. Standout tracks: "Silent Night," "Love Story," "O' Come All Ye Faithful," and "Silver and Gold."

■ WILL DOWNING: Moods (Mercury 528-755-2) Producer: Will Downing

With his latest collection, Will Downing delivers another tight set of mellow celestial soul that leaves little doubt about his position as the best urban contemporary singer of his generation. Brother man really knows how to deliver the low down. His deep, caressing vocal style is like a rich spectrum of earth tones which Downing makes good use of on this release. As the album title implies, this is a collection that explores the sentiments and nuances behind moods, which Downing along with a team of producers—including Ronnie Foster, Rex Rideout and Onaje Allan Grumbs (with musical assists from Jonathan Butler and Gerald Albright), deliver abundantly. The production here is crisp and the song selection is right on the money. Urban and A/C formats are going to love this one. Standout tracks: "That Good Morning Love," "I Can't Make You Love Me," "Where Is the Love," and "Moods."



■ RANDY CRAWFORD: Naked And True (Blue Mood 92662 -2) Producer: Ralf Droeemeyer

On her latest release, Crawford continues to deliver her special brand of quite storm soul that has made her a favorite among music tastemakers the world over. Crawford's raspy vocals are in great form throughout this disc, as she adds her own distinctive flavor to the many covers found on this album. The expanse of the material touches on various genres, which should do well commercially. The production here is sharp and simple, which works great for an artist with Randy's vocal abilities. Expect A/C and, selected soul and R&B formats to get behind this release. It's been a long time since Crawford's last release, and it's good to have her back. Standout tracks: "Cajun Night," "Give Me The Night," "All The Kings Horses," "I'll Be Around."



PICK OF THE WEEK

■ SILK (Elektra 61849-2) Producers: Various

After breaking out big with their debut album, the members of Silk are back with a new release that should put to rest any notion that they're a flash in the pan. This album does a good job of showcasing Silk's growth musically; both lead and background vocals are clear and strong and the acts selection of material accentuates their abilities. Musically, these guys take on a lot of challenges which should really appeal to variety of listeners. Urban, Pop and A/C formats will love this album which has the potential to be a blow out for the group. Standout tracks: "Hooked On You," "Don't Rush," "Now That I've Lost You," and "What Kind Of Love Is This."



URBAN

TOP 75 R&B ALBUMS

CASH BOX • DECEMBER 2, 1995

1	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 24813)	Genius/GZA	23	2
2	DOGG FOOD (Death Row/Interscope/Priority 50546)	The Dogg Pound	1	3
3	GAME RELATED (Sick Wid' It/Jive 41562)	The Click	40	2
4	ON TOP OF THE WORLD (Relativity 1521)	EightBall & MJG	5	3
5	DOUBLE OR NOTHING (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529286)	Erick Sermon	58	2
6	Q'S JOOK JOINT (Qwest 45875)	Quincy Jones	14	2
7	BEST OF C-BO (Awol 7199)	C-Bo	DEBUT	
8	R. KELLY (Jive 41579)	R. Kelly	DEBUT	
9	DEAD PRESIDENTS (Capitol 32438)	Soundtrack	2	15
10	FATHER & SON (Elektra 61859)	Eddie & Gerald Levert	4	8
11	WAITING TO EXHALE (Arista 18796)	Soundtrack	DEBUT	
12	OFF THE HOOK (So So Def/Columbia 67022)	Xscape	3	18
13	FAITH (Arista 73003)	Faith Evans	7	12
14	DAY DREAM (Columbia 66700)	Mariah Carey	6	7
15	SOUL FOOD (La Face/Arista 26018)	Goodie Mob	17	2
16	CYPRESS HILL III (TEMPLE OF BOOM) (Ruffhouse/Columbia 669911)	Cypress Hill	21	3
17	BROWN SUGAR (EMI 232629)	D'Angelo	9	20
18	SOLO (Perspective 49017)	Solo	8	10
19	KRS-ONE (Jive 41570)	KRS-One	11	6
20	E. 1999 ETERNAL (Ruthless/Relativity 5539)	Bone Thugs N Harmony	12	17
21	DOE OR DIE (EMI 32631)	AZ	16	6
22	MISS THANG (Rowdy/Arista 37006)	Monica	22	17
23	DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996 (A&M 540399)	Janet Jackson	13	5
24	THE SHOW, THE AFTER PARTY, THE HOTEL (Uptown 11258)	Jodeci	10	18
25	REFLECTIONS (Virgin 40547)	After 7	19	18
26	THE SHOW (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529021)	Soundtrack	27	13
27	MYSTIKAL (Big Boy 12)	Mystikal	29	9
28	BLACKFACE (Gasoline Alley/MCA 11176)	Shai	28	5
29	ALL WE GOT IZ US (JMJ/RAL/Island 529265)	Onyx	24	3
30	JEALOUS ONE'S ENVY (Relativity 1239)	Fat Joe	15	4
31	DANGEROUS MINDS (MCA 11228)	Soundtrack	18	16
32	GROOVE THEORY (Epic 57421)	Groove Theory	25	4
33	CRAZYSEXCOOL (LaFace/Arista 26009)	TLC	33	50
34	4 5 6 (Epic 57808)	Kool G Rap	20	9
35	CONSPIRACY (Undeas/Big Beat/AG 92614)	Junior M.A.F.I.A.	32	12
36	THE GOLD EXPERIENCE (Warner Bros. 45999)	A.F.K.A.P.	26	8
37	I REMEMBER YOU (Polydor/A&M 528280)	Brian McKnight	31	15
38	ONLY BUILT 4 CUBAN LINX (Loud 666673)	Raekwon	34	17
39	MOODS (Mercury 528755)	Will Downing	DEBUT	
40	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 1141)	Coolio	DEBUT	
41	RATED G (Trak 72668)	Top Authority	DEBUT	
42	DEBORAH COX (Arista 18781)	Deborah Cox	36	5
43	OPERATION STAKOLA (C-Note/Noo Trybe 52324)	Luniz	35	20
44	PURE SOUL (Step Sun/Interscope 92638)	Pure Soul	30	5
45	THE REMIX COLLECTION (Motown 530584)	Boyz II Men	DEBUT	
46	HOLD IT DOWN (EastWest 61829)	Das EFX	37	8
47	BROKEN (Intersound 9145)	William Becton & Friends	41	21
48	MY LIFE (MCA/Uptown 11156)	Mary J. Blige	46	50
49	NEW LIFE (Atlantic 82662)	Intro	50	3
50	LAST CHANCE, NO BREAKS (Rowdy/Arista 37008)	Jamal	DEBUT	
51	ME AGAINST THE WORLD (Interscope 92399)	2Pac	39	36
52	CURB SERVIN (Pay Day 828650)	WC & The Maad Circle	38	6
53	FUNKMASTER FLEX: 60 MINUTES OF FUNK (Loud/RCA 66805)	Various Artists	DEBUT	
54	THE BEST OF S.O.S. BAND (Tabu/Motown 530594)	S.O.S. Band	53	4
55	TRUE (Priority 52983)	Tru	43	16
56	REACHIN' BACK (Columbia 66813)	Regina Belle	42	11
57	BOOMBASTIC (Virgin 40158)	Shaggy	49	17
58	GREATEST HITS (Right Stuff/Capitol 30800)	Al Green	59	15
59	KIRK FRANKLIN & FAMILY (Gospo-Centric 72119)	Kirk Franklin & Family	51	48
60	I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (PIR/Zoo 11040)	Phyllis Hymn	DEBUT	
61	NEW YORK UNDERCOVER (Uptown 11342)	Soundtrack	44	8
62	READY TO DIE (Bad Boy/Arista 73000)	The Notorious B.I.G.	54	59
63	BRANDY (Atlantic 82610)	Brandy	45	56
64	HISTORY: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE-BOOK 1 (Epic 59000)	Michael Jackson	48	22
65	II (Motown 530323)	Boyz II Men	52	61
66	MACK 10 (Priority 53938)	Mack 10	56	21
67	TALES FROM THE CRYPT (Awol 7197)	C-Bo	66	23
68	SOUTH CENTRAL LOS SKANLESS (Lench Mob 2002)	Kausion	47	4
69	DO OR DIE (Jive 41575)	Ant Banks	55	3
70	BONAFIDE (Yab Yum/550 Music/Epic 66436)	Jon B.	63	23
71	FRIDAY (Priority 53959)	Soundtrack	68	33
72	'TIL SHILOH (Loose Cannon/Island 524119)	Buju Banton	64	15
73	THE INFAMOUS (Loud/RCA 66480)	Mobb Deep	65	30
74	ANOTHA DAY ANOTHA BALLA (Suave 1518)	South Circle	69	20
75	CREEPIN ON AH COME UP (Ruthless/Relativity 5526)	Bone Thugs N Harmony	71	69

THE RHYTHM

By Gil L. Robertson IV



Tevin Campbell took a break in the studio where he's cutting a Stevie Wonder remake "Knock Me Off My Feet" produced by Dwayne Wiggins (of Tony! Toni! Tone!). The song is for the soundtrack to Martin Lawrence's upcoming film *A Thin Line Between Love and Hate*. Pictured (l-r): Doug McHenry, Jackson-McHenry Productions; Denise Brown, sr. vp black music at Warner Bros.; Tevin Campbell, Alison Ball-Gabriel, vp of a&r black music Warner Bros. Records; and Dwayne Wiggins.

KIRK FRANKLIN KICKS OFF U.S. TOUR: GospoCentric's musical sensation Kirk Franklin, recently announced plans for a national concert tour which kicks off November 16 in Dayton, OH. Special guest on the tour will include The Canton Spirituals, the Full Gospel Baptist Church Choir and Fred Hammond & Radical for Christ. Franklin really gives it up in concert, so make sure to check him and his choir out when they come through your town. The tour dates are as follows: November 26, Los Angeles, CA; December 1, St. Louis, Mo; December 2, Louisville, KY; December 7, Wichita, KS; December 8, Houston, TX; December 10, Atlanta, GA; December 28, Cleveland, OH; December 29, Detroit, MI; December 30, New York, NY; December 31, Upper Marlboro, MD.

ARISTA & GENERAL CINEMA TO JOIN FORCES FOR EXHALE: In a first time ever arrangement between a recording label and a theater chain, Arista Records and General Cinema have joined forces to present Whitney Houston's "Exhale (Shoop, Shoop)" music video and the *Waiting to Exhale* original soundtrack album in movie theaters. The promotion is designed to sell the Arista soundtrack in General Cinema movie theaters via a combination of on-screen time, merchandising, and intermission music and to create anticipation for the upcoming film. During a one month period the Houston single will be shown prior to each feature on 450 screens in major media markets. In addition, at the chain's 1,200 screens in over 195 locations, the entire soundtrack will be played during intermission in all theatres and lobby/concession areas or at managed kiosks. Signage in the form of posters, light boxes, and counter cards will be displayed in lobby and concession areas highlighting the powerhouse line-up of talent on the soundtrack. Released on November 14, the soundtrack features a who's who of R&B female vocalists. Besides Houston, other artists featured on the album includes: Toni Braxton, Aretha Franklin, Brandy, TLC, Mary J. Blige, Chaka Khan, and Patti LaBelle. All new songs were written and produced by Kenny Edmonds. The "Shoop," single is currently rising on both the *Cash Box's* urban and pop charts, number three and four, respectively.

DIS N' DAT: Kenny Blank star of the hit Warner network show *The Parenthood*, is also a gifted songwriter with musical credits that includes: The Montell Williams Show theme, the score for the recent independent film *One Red Rose* and numerous commercial jingles. Presently a freshman attending USC, Kenny is a talented asset that we can all look forward to seeing and hearing more from in the years to come. Congratulations go out to KPFK (90.7 FM) for its recent celebrity reading of Ralph Ellison's novel *The Invisible Man*, conducted over the Thanksgiving holiday. Produced by Roy Hurst the complete recording ran about 24-hours in length with the music of Duke Ellington setting the tone and carrying the narrative forward. Among the readers were Lawrence Fishburne, William Marshall, Levar Burton, Robert Guillaume, Alfre Woodard, Jonelle Allen and Hurst himself. The National Academy of Songwriters (NAS) will present the 10th Anniversary Gala Celebration of *The Salute To The American Songwriter* on November 29th, at the Beverly Regent Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA. At this year's gala Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff and Randy Newman will be honored.

THE RHYME

by Gil L. Robertson IV



New York's African-American community took to the streets during the 27th Annual African-American Day Parade, held in Harlem USA. Even stormy weather could not keep over 900,000 people from lining the parade route as 550 Music artist and funk icon George Clinton rode the Sony Music Entertainment Inc. sponsored float and waved to enthusiastic crowds. Clinton classics like "Flashlight," "Atomic Dog," and "One Nation Under A Groove" had the crowd, young and old, dancing in the streets. Clinton is currently recording a new album which will be released in '96. Above, George Clinton (R) admires Vivian Scott, vp urban music for 550 Music.

92.3 THE BEAT ANNOUNCES 3RD ANNUAL HOLIDAY COOL-DOWN: KKBT (92.3 The Beat) radio's third annual **Holiday Cool-down** takes place Sunday, December 10, 1995 at the Wiltern Theater in Los Angeles. The concert begins at 7pm and features live performances from recording artists **Deborah Cox, Faith Evans, Terry Ellis** and others to be announced. Proceeds from the concert will again benefit **My Friend's Place**, a resource center for homeless youths. As with the last two shows, 92.3 The Beat anticipates this concert to sell out quickly and to be extremely successful. Tickets for the show went on sale, November 18 at **Ticketmaster** locations.

BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR 8-BALL & MJG: Watch for **8-Ball** and **MJG**, who are creating a sensation with their new album **On Top Of The World**. With first week sales of over 82,000 units the duo is the one to watch in the year end rap/hip-hop sweepstakes. Natives of Memphis, **8-Ball** and **MJG** have been friends since the seventh grade. Active on the underground scene since 1993, the duo has a sound that they describe as a Southwestern twist on both West and East Coast funkafied styles. Signed to Houston-based **Suave Records**, their first two albums have collectively sold over 500,000 units. Now as a result of Suave's new association with **Relativity Records**, they are gaining more visibility, and as the act sales indicated, many new fans. Suave's new single "Break 'Em Off" is being added on urban formats nationwide, while the video to the single is ranked number two in requests on the video channel **The Box**. Expect more to follow.



Priority Records has signed another artist to beef-up next year's rooster. **RAS Kass** has been described as "Mindblowing, Legendary, Dazzling and Phenomenal" by the industry's top critics. Formally signed only to **Patchwerk Recordings**, Ras Kass released the underground hit "Won't Catch Me Runnin" b/w "Remain Anonymous," which gained him national attention in the hip-hop industry. Now signed to **Priority Records**, Ras Kass will release his debut album to be released in the first quarter. Pictured (l-r): **B.J.** of **Patchwerk**, **Tyronne White**, dir. of a&r, **Priority**, **Ras Kass**, **Bryan Turner**, president/CEO **Priority**; **Mark Cerami**, CEO **Priority**, standing; **Tim Reid** mgr. artist dev. **Priority**; **J.T.** co-manager at **Crowbar Mgmt.**, **Coolio**, manager; **Andrew Shack**, head of business & legal affairs.

TOP 25 RAP SINGLES

CASH BOX • DECEMBER 2, 1995

1	HEY LOVER (RAL/Def Jam/Island 77494)	L.L. Cool J	3	2
2	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (MCA 55104)	Coolio Feat. L.V.	2	26
3	CELL THERAPY (Laface/Arista 4113)	Goodie Mob	1	7
4	HURRICANE (Sick Wid' It/Jive 42335)	The Click	4	3
5	THE RIDDLER (Atlantic 87100)	Method Man	6	3
6	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen19390)	Genius/GZA	5	4
7	I GOT 5 ON IT (Noo Trybe 38474)	Luniz	7	25
8	RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 58438)	The Pharcyde	11	7
9	WINGS OF THE MORNING (African Star/Island 7198)	Capleton	10	5
10	ICE CREAM (Loud 64426)	Chef Raekwon	9	7
11	SUGAR HILL (EMI 58407)	AZ	8	20
12	DANGER (Fader 7049)	Blahzay Blahzay	13	8
13	LAST DAYZ (JMJ/RAL/Island 7195)	Onyx	12	4
14	HOW HIGH (Def Jam/RAL/Island 9925)	Redman/Method Man	14	14
15	PLAYA HATA (Noo Trybe 38517)	Luniz Feat. Teddy	DEBUT	
16	1990-SICK (KILL EM' ALL) (Jive 42350)	Spice 1 Feat. MC Eih	DEBUT	
17	Y'ALL AIN'T READY YET (Big Boy 42331)	Mystikal	24	9
18	FADES EM ALL (Rowdy 3-5042)	Jamal	18	10
19	AIN'T NOTHIN BUT A SHE THING (Next Plateau/London 50347)	Salt-N-Pepa	15	6
20	BOMDIGI (Ral/Def Jam/Island 7196)	Erick Sermon	16	6
21	RETURN OF DA LIVN' DEAD (Giant/Warner Bros. 17796)	The D.O.C.	20	3
22	THROW YOUR SET IN THE AIR (Ruffhouse/Columbia 78042)	Cypress Hill	17	7
23	ONE MORE CHANCE (Bad Boy/Arista 79032)	The Notorious B.I.G.	21	4
24	1ST OF THE MONTH (Ruthless/Relativity 6331)	Bone Thugs-N-Harmony	23	14
25	JEEPS, LEX COUPS, BIMAZ & BENZ (Uptown 55062)	Lost Boyz	22	8

by Gil L. Robertson IV

■ RAW STILO: "Cutie" (A&M Records 31458 1213 2)

This female duo is comin' at you strong with this highly accessible, funky-edged single. The vocals are strong and the production is sharp and riddled with steep shifts and grooves that will leave folks on the dance floor all night long.

■ JESSE POWELL: "All I Need" (Silas 3554)

The smooth edge on this mid-tempo track will keep the party going and establish this artist as a major find in hip-hop/R&B. Jesse's vocals are strong, and the production allows him great space to showcase his talents.

■ JASON DAVIS: "Are You Ready" (BSE)

Slow grooves are obviously on for the fall and winter as this R&B ballad demonstrates. The vocals here are low key but effective in generating a quite storm excitement with in a hip-hop environment. Expect urban formats across the board to come after this one.

CASH BOX

TOP 100 POP SINGLES

DECEMBER 2, 1995



This Week's #1:
Mariah Carey



To Watch:
Smashing Pumpkins

1	FANTASY (Columbia 7321)	1	11	Mariah Carey
2	EXHALE (SHOOP SHOOP) (FROM "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Arista 2885)	4	3	Whitney Houston
3	DIGGIN' ON YOU (La Face/Arista 4419)	5	2	TLC
4	YOU REMIND ME OF SOMETHING (Jive 01241)	11	6	R. Kelly
5	TELL ME (Epic 77961)	3	15	Groove Theory
6	ONE SWEET DAY (Columbia 66700)	6	6	Mariah Carey
7	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55104)	7	16	Coolio Feat. L.V.
8	HEY LOVER (Def Jam 7065)	17	4	LL Cool J
9	NAME (Warner Bros. 17758)	10	9	Goo Goo Dolls
10	BACK FOR GOOD (Arista 1-2848)	9	16	Take That
11	RUNAWAY (A&M 581 194)	2	13	Janet Jackson
12	BEAUTIFUL LIFE (Arista 2889)	13	4	Ace Of Base
13	BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE/LIKE THIS LIKE THAT (Arista 5052)	15	6	Monica
14	YOU'LL SEE (Mavencik 7900)	14	4	Madonna
15	BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S (Rainmaker/Interscope 98138)	16	15	Deep Blue Something
16	WHO CAN I RUN TO (So So Def/Columbia 78056)	8	9	Xscape
17	KISS FROM A ROSE (FROM "BATMAN FOREVER") (ZTT/Sire/Warner Bros. 17896)	12	23	Seal
18	I'D LIE FOR YOU (AND THAT'S THE TRUTH) (MCA 11341)	18	7	Meat Loaf
19	AS I LAY ME DOWN (Columbia 77801)	19	21	Sophie B. Hawkins
20	DREAMING OF YOU (EMI Latin 58490)	23	5	Selena
21	ANYTHING (MJJ/550 7063)	22	9	3T
22	DO YOU SLEEP? (Geffen 4768)	21	12	Lisa Loeb & Nine Stories
23	PRETTY GIRL (Yab Yum/550 Music 77813)	20	13	Jon B.
24	SENTIMENTAL (Arista 12852)	24	12	Deborah Cox
25	ROLL TO ME (A&M 1114)	25	22	Del Amitri
26	LOVE U 4 LIFE (UpTown/MCA 11258)	36	4	Jodeci
27	ONLY WANNA BE WITH YOU (Atlantic 87132)	27	21	Hootie & The Blowfish
28	MISSING (Atlantic 87124)	39	8	Everything But The Girl
29	DANGER (Mercury 7049)	37	8	Blahzay Blahzay
30	BULLET WITH BUTTERFLY WINGS (Virgin 40929)	34	3	Smashing Pumpkins
31	CARNIVAL (Elektra 64413)	28	17	Natalie Merchant
32	BROKENHEARTED (Atlantic 6175)	29	16	Brandy
33	WATERFALLS (LaFace/Arista 24108)	33	27	TLC
34	YOU ARE NOT ALONE (MJJ/Epic 78002)	32	18	Michael Jackson
35	LET ME BE THE ONE (EMI 58443)	26	17	Blessid Union Of Souls
36	COMEDOWN (Trauma 98134)	30	13	Bush
37	I CAN LOVE YOU LIKE THAT (Blitz/Arista 87134)	38	28	All-4-One
38	CELL THERAPY (LaFace/Arista 4113)	40	6	Goodie Mob
39	SET U FREE (Strictly Rhythm 12362)	49	4	Planet Soul
40	HOOKED ON YOU (Elektra 61849)	43	6	Silk
41	A GIRL LIKE YOU (FROM "EMPIRE RECORDS") (A&M 17758)	35	9	Edwyn Collins
42	RUN-AROUND (A&M 0982)	42	37	Blues Traveler
43	TIME (Atlantic 87095)	44	3	Hootie & The Blowfish
44	DECEMBER (Atlantic 87157)	45	32	Collective Soul

45	RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 58483)	48	5	The Pharcyde
46	BE MY LOVER (RCA 64446)	54	3	La Bouche
47	HOOK (A&M 1176)	50	6	Blues Traveler
48	I GOT 5 ON IT (Yab Yum/Noo Trybe 38474)	47	25	Luniz
49	I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU/THIS HOUSE IS NOT A HOME (EastWest 64384)	46	9	The Rembrandts
50	ONE OF US (Blue Gorilla/Mercury 52368)	52	5	Joan Osborne
51	COME WITH ME (Gasoline Alley 55081)	53	11	Shai
52	WHERE EVER YOU ARE (EastWest 9353)	59	3	Terry Ellis
53	ROCK STEADY (Capitol 10284)	55	2	Bonnie Raitt & Bryan Adams
54	GOLD (NPG/Warner Bros. 45999)	57	3	A.F.K.A.P.
55	BLESSED (Rocket/Island 2394)	58	2	Elton John
56	MAGIC CARPET RIDE (SM)E 9014)	DEBUT		The Mighty Dub Kats
57	ICE CREAM (Loud 64426)	31	7	Chef Raekwon
58	AIN'T NUTHIN' BUT A SHE THING (Next Plateau/London 50347)	41	7	Salt-N-Pepa
59	BOOMBASTIC/IN THE SUMMERTIME (Virgin 38482)	56	27	Shaggy
60	'TIL YOU DO ME RIGHT (Virgin 38494)	60	21	After 7
61	SOLITUDE (Atlantic 98141)	64	8	Edwin McCain
62	CRUISIN' (EMI 32629)	68	4	D'Angelo
63	RUNAWAY (Atlantic 98133)	62	9	The Corrs
64	AUTOMATIC LOVER (CALL FOR LOVE) (Arista 18778)	51	7	Real McCoy
65	ALREADY MISSING YOU (Elektra)	63	6	Gerald & Eddie Levert, Sr.
66	FEEL THE FUNK (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55130)	67	12	Immature
67	SEXUAL HEALING (S.O.S./Zoo 14248)	72	4	Max-A-Million
68	THE WORLD I KNOW (Atlantic 87088)	71	2	Collective Soul
69	WALK THIS WORLD (Vbrk 7222)	69	4	Heather Nova
70	I MISS YOU (COME BACK HOME) (FROM "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown 55107)	70	4	Monifah
71	WE'VE GOT IT GOING ON (Jive 42329)	73	5	Backstreet Boys
72	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 19390)	61	5	Genius/GZA
73	SUGAR HILL (EMI 58407)	74	19	AZ
74	I WANNA BE WITH U (Curb-Edel 76963)	76	19	Fun Factory
75	WINGS OF THE MORNING (African Star/RAL/Island 7199)	75	5	Capleton
76	A MOVER LA COLITA (Scotti Bros. 78048)	88	8	Artie The 1 Man Party
77	COLORS OF THE WIND (FROM "POCAHONTAS") (Hollywood 64001)	79	24	Vanessa Williams
78	BOOM BOOM BOOM (Aureus 1100)	83	7	Outhere Brothers
79	THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 7699)	84	2	L.V.
80	RIDIN' LOW (Hollywood 64004)	85	2	L.A.D. Feat. Darvy Traylor
81	1ST OF THA MONTH (Ruthless 6331)	80	15	Bone Thugs N' Harmony
82	HEAVEN (Perspective 7498)	82	16	Solo
83	SUMMERTIME IN THE LBC (FROM "THE SHOW!") (G Funk/RAL/Island 9383)	77	18	Dove Shack
84	BOMDIGI (Def Jam/RAL 7196)	78	4	Erick Sermon
85	I WISH YOU WELL (Capitol 10247)	81	6	Tom Cochrane
86	MACARENA (BAYSIDE BOYS MIX) (RCA 64407)	86	13	Los Del Rio
87	HOW HIGH (FROM THE "SHOW!") (Def Jam/RAL 9924)	87	15	Redman/Method Man
88	ROSEALIA (Elektra 64352)	DEBUT		Better Than Ezra
89	THROW YOUR SET IN THE AIR (Ruffhouse 78042)	89	7	Cypress Hill
90	FUNNY HOW TIME FLIES (Atlantic 87093)	DEBUT		Intro
91	EAST SIDE RENDEZVOUS (Ruthless/Relativity 1534)	90	5	Frost
92	PLAYER'S ANTHEM (Big Beat/Atlantic 98149)	91	20	Junior M.A.F.I.A.
93	VIBIN' (Motown 42286)	93	13	Boyz II Men
94	I HATE U (Warner Bros. 43592)	92	12	A.F.K.A.P.
95	CAN I TOUCH YOU...THERE? (Columbia 77991)	94	13	Michael Bolton
96	REAL HIP HOP (Elektra 43872)	95	11	Das EFX
97	MC'S ACT LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW (Jive 42319)	96	12	KRS-One
98	JEEPS, LEX COUPS, BEEMAZ & BENZ (MCA 55062)	98	12	Lost Boyz
99	HE'S MINE (Outburst/RAL 1704)	66	25	MoKenStef
100	BROWN SUGAR (EMI 58360)	99	18	D'Angelo



POP SINGLES

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THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE M Thompson, J Williams, K Bue, A Edwards, A Cris, L Sanders, S Wosker (Joste/Storyteller/G's Only/Feel'n Bhe, ASCAP/T-Girl/Large Variety/AI Janist 9/Maurice Thompson, BMD)	79
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WE'VE GOT IT GOIN' ON D Pop, M Martin, H Cnelow (Cherrom/Mega, ASCAP)	71
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WINGS OF THE MORNING C Bailey, A Jones, A Isabella, O Redding (Irving, BMD)	75
THE WORLD I KNOW E Roland (Roland Leutz/Warner Chappell, BMD)	68
YOU ARE NOT ALONE R Kelly (Zomba Song/R Kelly, BMD)	14
YOU'LL SEE Madonna, D Foster (WB/Webo Girl, ASCAP/One Four Three/Leeds/Peer, BMD)	34
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REVIEWS By Steve Baltin



QUEEN: "Too Much Love Will Kill You" (Hollywood 10546-2)

One of the last remnants of the late, great Freddie Mercury, the first single from the band's new *Made In Heaven* album is vintage Mercury. After the wimpy opening that could've come from Styx or Chicago, Mercury's grandiose vocals kick in, eclipsing the lame melody. Hearing Mercury again, especially in such fine form vocally, is a surprisingly touching experience.

COLLECTIVE SOUL: "The World I Know" (Atlantic 6479)

A lingering, slowed down track from the band's eponymous album, the single almost sounds like Oasis at the opening and Jeff Buckley in the middle. A complete change of pace for the Georgia group, with a string sound in the chorus, "The World I Know" shows a depth previously hidden in the band's other singles. A winner at Modern Rock and AOR.

GLORIA ESTEFAN: "Mas Alla" (Epic 7508)



Sung completely in Spanish, the new single from Estefan's *Abriendo Puertas* CD, has the feel, at times, of a slickly produced Mexican folk song. At other times, it just has the vibe of a traditional folk tune. On those occasions, "Mas Alla" makes for a lovely, and different, listening experience for pop fans.

SHIRO: "Tell Me (Would You)" (Scotti Bros. 78053-2)

A sort-of funky, sultry, do me number, this single has a strong, catchy groove going on. Slightly repetitious in its vibe, the single works nevertheless, thanks largely to a couple of nicely placed vocal interludes. Fans might also be interested in the two accompanying remixes.

PICK OF THE WEEK



SMASHING PUMPKINS: "Bullet With Butterfly Wings" (Virgin 40929)

Over and over throughout this scathing single from the band's new two-CD set, *Melon Collie & The Infinite Sadness*, lead singer Billy Corgan snarls "Despite all my rage I am still just a rat in a cage." Sung with fiery intensity, the line has become a staple on radio, as Modern Rock and AOR have been playing the hell out of this rocker for over a month now. With the success of the album, don't expect the Pumpkins' bandwagon to slow down at all. In other words, you can expect to hear this magnificent anthem on radio quite a bit more before it takes its place in music history.

CASH BOX

TOP 100 POP ALBUMS

DECEMBER 2, 1995



This Week's #1:
R. Kelly



High Debut:
Waiting To Exhale

1	R. KELLY (Jive 41579)	R. Kelly	DEBUT
2	WAITING TO EXHALE (Arista 18796)	Soundtrack	DEBUT
3	DAYDREAM (Columbia 6670)	Mariah Carey	2 13
4	JAGGED LITTLE PILL (Maverick/Reprise/Warner Bros. 45901)	Alanis Morissette	3 22
5	DOGG FOOD (Death Row/Interscope/Priority 50546)	The Dogg Pound	5 3
6	MELLON COLLIE AND THE INFINITE SADNESS (Virgin 40861)	Smashing Pumpkins	6 4
7	STRIPPED (Virgin 41040)	The Rolling Stones	DEBUT
8	THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION (Arista 18801)	Alan Jackson	8 3
9	SOMETHING TO REMEMBER (Maverick 61600)	Madonna	4 2
10	YOUR LITTLE SECRET (Island 24154)	Melissa Etheridge	DEBUT
11	CRACKED REAR VIEW (Atlantic 82613)	Hootie & The Blowfish	7 61
12	CRAZYSEXYCOOL (LaFace/Arista 26009)	TLC	9 53
13	CHRISTMAS IN THE AIRE (American Gramophone 1995)	Mannheim Steamroller	18 4
14	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 1141)	Coolio	10 2
15	ALICE IN CHAINS (Columbia 67248)	Alice In Chains	1 2
16	DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996 (A&M 0399)	Janet Jackson	11 6
17	THE COLLECTION (Motown 30884)	Boyz II Men	25 2
18	CYPRESS HILL III (TEMPLE OF BOOM) (Ruffhouse/Columbia 669911)	Cypress Hill	13 3
19	ALL I WANT (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	19 9
20	DANGEROUS MINDS (MCA 11228)	Soundtrack	14 16
21	BRIDGE (Arista 18806)	Ace Of Base	DEBUT
22	WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD (MCA 11341)	Meat Loaf	DEBUT
23	STARTING OVER (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	22 7
24	Q'S JOOK JOINT (Owest 45875)	Quincy Jones	26 2
25	THE WOMAN IN ME (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	12 31
26	GREATEST HITS 1985-1995 (Columbia 67300)	Michael Bolton	16 9
27	INSOMNIAC (Reprise/Warner Bros. 46046)	Green Day	15 6
28	PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES (Sony 67291)	Presidents Of The United States	28 15
29	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 24813)	Genius/GZA	17 2
30	E. 1999 ETERNAL (Ruthless/Relativity 5539)	Bone Thugs N Harmony	20 54
31	ONE HOT MINUTE (Warner Bros. 45733)	Red Hot Chili Peppers	27 10
32	OZZMOSIS (Epic 67091)	Ozzy Osbourne	1 4
33	TIGERLILLY (Elektra 61745)	Natalie Merchant	23 23
34	VAULT (Mercury 528718)	Def Leppard	33 3
35	FOUR (A&M 540265)	Blues Traveler	24 45
36	DREAMING OF YOU (EMI 34123)	Selena	30 18
37	SIXTEEN STONE (Trauma/Interscope 92531)	Bush	31 40
38	SILK (Elektra 61849)	Silk	DEBUT
39	GONE (Reprise/Warner Bros. 46051)	Dwight Yoakum	34 3
40	DEAD PRESIDENTS (Capitol 32438)	Soundtrack	35 8
41	A BOY NAMED GOO (Warner Bros. 45750)	Goo Goo Dolls	37 10
42	PULP FICTION (MCA 11103)	Soundtrack	36 56

43	BALLBREAKER (Elektra 61780)	AC/DC	38 8
44	GAME RELATED (Sick Wid' It/Jive 41562)	The Click	32 2
45	GAMES REDNECKS PLAY (Warner Bros. 45856)	Jeff Foxworthy	39 27
46	LABCABIN CALIFORNIA (Delicious Vinyl 35102)	Pharcyde	DEBUT
47	ON TOP OF THE WORLD (Relativity 1521)	Eight Ball & MJG	40 3
48	FRIENDS (Warner Bros. 46008)	Soundtrack	48 8
49	RELISH (Blue Gorilla/Mercury 526699)	Joan Osborne	54 5
50	NEW BEGINNINGS (Elektra 61850)	Tracy Chapman	DEBUT
51	OFF THE HOOK (So So Def/Columbia 67022)	Xscape	43 16
52	FROGSTOMP (Epic 67247)	Silverchair	42 19
53	UNDER THE TABLE AND DREAMING (RCA 66449)	Dave Matthews Band	44 49
54	THE HITS (Liberty 29689)	Garth Brooks	47 50
55	SEAL (ZTT/Sire/Warner Bros. 45415)	Seal	49 59
56	IT'S A MYSTERY (Capitol 99774)	Bob Seger	45 4
57	ROAD TESTED (Capitol 33705)	Bonnie Raitt	1 2
58	FATHER & SON (Elektra 61859)	Eddie & Gerald Levert	52 8
59	JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY (Atlantic 82728)	John Michael Montgomery	51 33
60	DOUBLE OR NOTHING (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529286)	Erick Sermon	29 2
61	TAILS (Geffen 24734)	Lisa Loeb & Nine Stories	46 8
62	MTV PARTY TO GO VOL. 7 (Tommy Boy 1138)	Various Artists	53 3
63	THROWING COPPER (Radioactive/MCA 10997)	Live	58 82
64	GREATEST HITS (Warner Bros. 46001)	Travis Tritt	55 10
65	SOUL FOOD (La Face/Arista 26018)	Goodie Mob	50 2
66	FAITH (Arista 73003)	Faith Evans	56 12
67	RUBBERNECK (Interscope/AG 922402)	Toadies	60 11
68	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	64 10
69	MORTAL KOMBAT (TVT 6110)	Soundtrack	59 13
70	JOCK JAMS VOL. I (Tommy Boy 1137)	Various Artists	1 14
71	MISS THANG (Rowdy/Arista 37006)	Monica	62 17
72	STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX (MCA 11263)	George Strait	71 7
73	POCAHONTAS (Walt Disney 60874)	Soundtrack	75 25
74	II (Motown 530323)	Boyz II Men	63 63
75	IT MATTERS TO ME (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	88 12
76	GREATEST HITS (Epic 66217)	Stevie Ray Vaughan & Double Trouble	57 3
77	MADE IN HEAVEN (Hollywood 62017)	Queen	66 2
78	THE SHOW, THE AFTER PARTY, THE HOTEL (Uptown/MCA 11258)	Jodeci	67 18
79	BROWN SUGAR (EMI 33629)	D'Angelo	76 18
80	FOO FIGHTERS (Capitol 34027)	Foo Fighters	77 20
81	NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU (Rounder 325)	Alison Krauss	68 38
82	ALL YOU CAN EAT (Warner Bros. 46034)	K.D. Lang	72 6
83	ASTRO-CREEP 2000 (Geffen 24806)	White Zombie	73 32
84	I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (Zoo 11040)	Phyllis Hyman	65 2
85	HISTORY: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE-BOOK 1 (Epic 59000)	Michael Jackson	74 22
86	WHALER (Columbia 53300)	Sophie B. Hawkins	80 10
87	STRONG ENOUGH (Arista 18792)	Blackhawk	79 10
88	BATMAN FOREVER (Atlantic 82759)	Soundtrack	84 24
89	WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU (MCA 11407)	Vince Gill	85 7
90	HELL FREEZES OVER (Geffen 24725)	The Eagles	86 54
91	COLLECTIVE SOUL (Atlantic/AG 82745)	Collective Soul	87 36
92	IN LIGHT SYRUP (Columbia 67394)	Toad The Wet Sprocket	78 4
93	THE SHOW (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529021)	Soundtrack	82 14
94	LUCY (Maverick 45962)	Candlebox	91 7
95	R.I.O.T. (Sparrow/Chordant 1439)	Carman	70 2
96	BOOMBASTIC (Virgin 40158)	Shaggy	93 17
97	THE PASSENGERS (Island 524166)	Soundtrack	69 2
98	TOOL BOX (RCA 66740)	Aaron Tippin	1 4
99	NOBODY ELSE (Arista 18800)	Take That	90 3
100	ALL WE GOT IZ US (RAL/Def Jam 9265)	Onyx	83 4



REVIEWS by Steve Baltin

MELISSA ETHERIDGE: *Your Little Secret* (Island 4154-2)

Since her stunning debut collection in 1988, still her best complete album, Etheridge has experimented with a variety of styles, most notably on the techno "2001." But when going with her straight-ahead blues rock, she has developed into one of the most dependable performers in popular music. On this, her fifth album, Etheridge continues to demonstrate the consistency that has made her a superstar. The disc kicks in with the grinding rocker/title track, then settles into a groove of anthem-like rockers, such as "I Really Like You," "This War Is Over" and the record's best track, the engaging "An Unusual Kiss." Her ballad skills are underrated, but as "Nowhere To Go" and the opening half of "Shriner's Park" prove, she is just as talented in that medium. The bottom line is Etheridge is a great singer with good songs, making every album a project worth embracing. Rock on.



DON HENLEY: *Actual Miles - Henley's Greatest Hits* (Geffen 24834)

While this 13-song collection contains two new songs, as well as Henley's cover of Leonard Cohen's "Everybody Knows," the best moments on the disc are from Henley's three solo albums. The record kicks off with the rockin' "Dirty Laundry," his first solo hit and the only track from 1984's *I Can't Stand Still*. However, the retrospective excels with Henley's quieter moments, particularly the lovely "The Heart Of The Matter," "New York Minute" and the brilliant mid-tempo "The Boys Of Summer." The catchy "The End Of The Innocence" or "All She Wants To Do Is Dance" may bring fans in, but what *Actual Miles...* shows is not a pop star as much as a great songwriter whose best moments mirror the world he sees with crystal clarity.

THE ROLLING STONES: *Stripped* (Virgin 41040)

Not as much a souvenir of the Stones' Voodoo Lounge tour as of what happened afterwards, this 14-song acoustic live album was recorded at clubs in Tokyo, Lisbon, Paris and Amsterdam. It seems as if every Stones tour comes with another new live album, raising the issue of trying to cash in. However, the new arrangements used on classic Stones tracks like "Street Fighting Man," "Let It Bleed" and "Not Fade Away" indicates that was not the case, and the band had something new to offer. In addition, the inclusion of such rarities as "The Spider And The Fly," "Love In Vain" and "Slipping Away" gives the record the feel of something special as opposed to just another greatest hits package. Adding to that vibe is the band's inspired cover of Bob Dylan's "Like A Rolling Stone," done here with just the right amount of vigor to avoid being campy. None of those, however, are the highlights. Those honors go to the stripped-down versions of the beautiful "Wild Horses" and "Angie," the Stones two best ballads.



VARIOUS ARTISTS: *Leaving Las Vegas: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack* (Pangea/I.R.S. 6071-2)

Director Mike Figgis deserves a special Oscar this year for "Best Handling Of Seemingly Used-Up Talent." In the context of Figgis' deeply disturbing and brooding film, the old jazz standards performed by Sting and Don Henley that comprise the crux of this soundtrack give both performers their best moments in some time. Sting particularly benefits, showing a near return to *Dream Of The Blue Turtles*-era form on the haunting "Angel Eyes" and the lush "My One And Only Love." Henley, who had less of a fall, scores with the sultry "Come Rain Or Come Shine." Besides a vocal performance each by Nicolas Cage and The Palladinos, the rest of the album is filled up by Figgis' impressive array of traditionally-based jazz stylings.

TRACY CHAPMAN: *New Beginning* (Elektra 2-61850)

A recent article in the *L.A. Times* about retiring "Calvin & Hobbes" creator Bill Watterson referred to him as "the J.D. Salinger of comic strip creators." Some may say the same can be said about Chapman in relation to music. Since taking the music world by storm with her classic debut album in 1988 she has been largely M.I.A. On her appropriately, if not very subtly, titled new record, Chapman touchingly reminds listeners of why they were initially captivated by her. Throughout the 11-song record Chapman blends her honesty as a songwriter with a new found maturity and vocals brimming with confidence. Standout tracks on this welcome return include the lead single, "Smoke And Ashes," the beautiful "Heaven's Here On Earth," the piano-introduced "The Rape Of The World" and the stark and somber "Remember The Tin Man."

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PICK OF THE WEEK



AZTEC CAMERA: *Frestonia* (Reprise/Warner Bros. 46089-2)

Rain has always been a useful and inspirational muse for the artist, witness the end of Steven Soderbergh's brilliant debut film, *Sex, Lies & Videotape*. Like Soderbergh, Aztec Camera's vocalist/guitarist/songwriter Roddy Frame draws upon the cleansing power of the rain on the band's new 10-song disc. Opening with the beautiful "Rainy Season," Frame, and the rest of the quartet, fill the album with emotion previously unseen in the group's long and accomplished career. On the upbeat "Sun," the quartet showcase a gift for friendly pop hooks, while maintaining the aspects of nature motif. Despite the success of "Sun," the band is as its best on *Frestonia* when the music is slowed down. The band keeps the record from getting dull by showing great variety in the ballads or near-ballads. "Crazy" features a troubadour feel, while the lovely "On The Avenue" begins with a simple acoustic riff. The record's highlight is the alternately majestic and subdued crooning of "Debutante," one of the most inspired performances Frame has recorded in his 15-year tenure in music.

News From The United Kingdom, Ireland & Europe

By Hal Levy

GOING SINGLE: Single sales are up more than 15% over last year in the UK. But the industry still isn't too happy as companies face the problem of sustaining sales on new entries. In the past a record could come onto the charts at the lower end and slowly work its way up to the top ten and then onto Numero Uno. However, in today's market a new record must make its way immediately into the top ten and even better, into the number one or two spot in order to become a financial success. A recent week saw 20 newcomers hit the list in the top 40. Given a shelf life of one week or two at the most, those not in the top ten, which accounted for most of the 20 newcomers, would be history within two weeks. The way to guarantee a top spot is, of course, to have fans waiting at the door on release date, and this requires lots of PR, publicity, marketing and advertising to whip up the excitement. And, given the fickle market, one record that doesn't make it to the top at once can cause the tide to quickly turn and sweep the king or queen from the top of the mountain.

PLAYING THE PALACE: American soul singer **Curtis Stiger** flew into Copenhagen to perform at the **Amalienberg Palace**, along with Danish rock musicians, at the wedding of **Prince Joachim** of Denmark to **Alexandra Manley**, a Hong Kong native.

HANDS ON JON BON JOVI who was one of the co-presenters at the **MTV Music Awards** show at **Le Zenith** in Paris. Show was hosted by fashion designer **Jean Paul Gaultier** and feature **The Cranberries** and **East 17**. Next big European awards show coming up is **The Smash Hits** on December 3. Sponsored by teen favorite **Smash Hit** magazine, winners are voted on by its readers. Last year's tickets sold out within three hours. **Pulp**, **Robson & Jerome** and **Boyzone** are listed with other groups already signed on.

WORKING TITLE FOR THORN-EMI'S rental division to be de-merged is **Thorn Group**. Up for sale, the division is being looked at by the U.S. Rent-A-Center and UK's Radio Rentals. EMI will be holding onto the EMI and **Virgin** labels, **HMV** record shops and **Dillons** bookstores. Analysts expect pre-tax profits for year up to end of August to hit £182 million, up from last year's £126 million. And with Christmas sales of the **Beatles**, **Queen** and **Garth Brooks**, they expect last quarter to reach another record high.

DON'T SNEEZE BECAUSE IT'S DUSTY, a new musical to open in London next April. **Dusty** is the story of a girl whose life changes when she hears **Dusty Springfield** and her music.

PASS THE HAT as **IBEC**, the Irish business organization asked the government to have more input into the music industry. According to **Tommy McCabe**, director of **IBEC's** Music Industry Group, a report just issued by them reports annual income for the industry at £160 million a year and with government and industry working together they expect it to reach as high as £450 million within ten years. The report recommends establishment of an Irish Music Board with state agencies playing a bigger role in regards to support as well as money to help talented musicians and more air and TV time for Irish music. Also, there should be an effort made, as in the film business, to attract international companies to Ireland with tax incentives and special allowances for recording costs. And musicians should be treated as other artists are as far as residence and income taxes are concerned if these steps are taken, **IBEC** says employment in the industry could grow from its current 10,000 to more than 25,000 jobs.

REPRODUCING: **Rank Video Services America** is building its second video duplicating complex in Arkansas. **RVSA**, part of the UK's **Rank Organization** says this will bring its investment in the area to some \$70 million and some 1,000 employees.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: The European union's broadcasting rules currently in effect will continue, with minor revisions, for the next five years depending on approval by the European Parliament next month. The channels will have to devote 51% of their time to European-made programming. The French had wanted a higher quota, but the British and Germans wanted the quotas scrapped entirely. This gives a breathing space to the mainly American non-European programs that are on the screen. Under the rules, however, is the wording "where practicable," which has allowed broadcasters to circumvent the 51% rule. Also cleared up in the revisions was a three part test to establish exactly which country had jurisdiction over the contents of a broadcast. Under the new rules, first is where the company's headquarters are located; second, where the main decisions on programming are made; and third, to be taken in consideration is where the majority of employees of the company work. Shopping channels are exempt but other channels will be restricted to three hours a day of telesales.

WHAT DID THEY SAY? **Avalancha**, EMI's Spanish language album by **Heroes Del Silencio** hit the top of the Spanish charts in its first week. Now on a European tour, **Heroes** joins the ranks of other European groups who are making rock music in their native language and, more important, are selling big as well as attracting audiences who do not speak their language. Leading names in Europe today are **Madredeus** from Portugal, France offers **MC Solaar** and Germany has its **Big Toten Hosen** with Italy's **Litfiba** another big name.

VIRGIN ALL OVER THE PLACE: **Richard Branson** opened his £4 million **Virgin Cinema** 9-screen cineplex in Dublin where he also opened the second **Virgin Megastore** earlier in the week. He's also taking a minority share in radio

station **FM 104** and reportedly looking to set up a record company in Ireland and opening more cineplexes and, although its sales are disappointing in the UK, his **Virgin Cola** is going down nicely in Ireland.

UK SINGLES: Moving on up to first place is **Robson & Jerome's** "I Believe" and dropping to second is **Coolio's** "Gangsta's Paradise." Hanging onto third is **Oasis's** "Wonderwall," while creeping up to fourth is **Everything But The Girl's** "Missing." Jumping up from 11 is **Madonna's** "You'll See," while still making "Thunder" on six is **East 17**. **Queen's** "Heaven For Everyone" moves down to seven and **Meat Loaf's** "I'd Lie For You" is at eight. **Simply Red's** "Fairground" is nine and rounding out the chart at ten is **Def Leppard's** "When Love & Hate Collide." Top single this week in Europe is **Coolio's** "Gangsta's Paradise."

News From Japan And The Orient

By Sachio Saito

MORIYUKI KADO, former vice-director of the cultural agency of the Ministry of Education, has been selected president of **JASRAC** (**Japanese Association of Rights of Authors, Composers and Publishers**) for a three year term which commenced October 1, succeeding **Rei Nakanishi**. Mr. Kado is well known as the planner and highest authority of the present copyright law in force since 1970 when the old copyright law here was drastically amended.

"**LOVE LOVE LOVE**" (**Dreams Come True**, **Epic Sony**) reached 2 million in the singles certification of **RIAJ** (**Record Industries Association of Japan**) for October while **Triple Platinum** went to "Love Phantom" (**B'z**, **Room Records**), "Hello, Again" (**My Little Lover**, **Toys Factory**) and "Robinson" (**Spits**, **Polydor**). Four reached **Platinum** status: "Message" (**Masaharu Fukuyama**, **BMG Victor**), "Shiroi Kite" (**My Little Lover**, **Toys Factory**), "Thrill" (**Torayasu Futai**, **Toshiba EMI**) and "Joy To The Love" (**Globe**, **Avex**).

In **Albums** **Double Platinum** went to **Hachimitsu** (**Spits**, **Polydor**) while **Platinum** went to **Dance Track Vol. 1** (**Namie Yasumuro**, **Toshiba EMI**) and **Field Of View** (**Field Of View**, **Zain Records**). Four reached **Gold**: **Martini II** (**Masayuki Suzuki**, **Epic Sony**), **10 Wings** (**Miyuki Nakajima**, **Pony Canyon**), **Go To The Top** (**Hitomi**, **Avex**) and **Graffiti** (**Keizo**, **Nakanishi**, **Pioneer LDC**). Reaching **Platinum** were **Shampoo Or Nothing** (**Shampoo**, **Toshiba EMI**), **Disney Super Best** (**Omnibus**, **Pony Canyon**) and **Seventh Sign** (**Ingway Mulmsteen**, **Pony Canyon**). **Scatman's World** (**Scatman John**, **BMG Victor**) reached **Triple Platinum**.

THE TOTAL REVENUES OF NIPPON COLUMBIA for the first six months of Fiscal 1996 (April to September 1995) were \$363.81 million, down 4.1% from the comparable months of 1994 while the net income after tax was \$1.35 million. Breaking down the total revenues: Music Entertainment section showed \$176.99 million, 49% of the total and a drop of 5% while AV and Media-oriented hardware was \$186.82 million, 51% of the total, down 3%. Of the total revenues, exportations were \$92.25 million, down 18.8%. In Music Entertainment; Audios were \$107.85 Million, 61% of the total, down 10% while Videos were \$30.94 million, 18%, down 22%; CD-complex (CD-Graphics, CD-I, CD-ROM) reached \$25.62 million, 14% of the total, up 55%. Miscellaneous was \$12.5 Million, 7% of the total, up 25%. As to Audios, CDs were 49% of the total, down 9% while MCs were 12% of the total, down 2%.

LOCAL 45s TOP 10

TW	LW		
1	-	"Motto Aishiamashou" (TMC)	Lindberg
2	-	"Sweet Pain" (Avex)	Globe
3	-	"Romance" (Epic Sony)	Dreams Come True
4	-	"Music For The People" (Avex)	V 6
5	1	"Tamashio Daitekure" (Polydor)	Kyosuke Himuro
6	2	"Love Phantom" (RR)	B'z
7	3	"Body Feels Exit" (Avex)	Namie Yasumuro
8	6	"Thrill" (Toshiba EMI)	Torayasu Futai
9	8	"Message" (BMG Victor)	Masaharu Fukuyama
10	4	"Brand New Tomorrow" (Avex)	Trf

LOCAL CDs TOP 10

1	1	Martini II (Epic Sony)	Masayuki Suzuki
2	-	Four Seasons (Nippon Columbia)	The Yellow Monkey
3	-	69 (Polystar)	Cornelius
4	3	Daydream (Sony)	Mariah Carey
5	2	Dance Tracks Vol. 1 (Toshiba EMI)	Namie Yasumuro
6	-	Blue To Blue (Epic Sony)	Ruriko Kubo
7	-	Love Stories Special Edition (Epic Sony)	Serinu Deon
8	8	Hachimitsu (Polydor)	Spits
9	9	Scatman's World (BMG Victor)	Scatman John
10	7	The High Lows (Kitty)	The High Lows

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INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTORS TOP

ORD. Action Music Sales Inc. ph: 216.243.0300

1. GANGSTA'S PARADISE	Coolio	Tommy Boy 1141
2. BEST OF C-BO	C-BO	Awol 7199
3. MEOWY CHRISTMAS	Jingle Cats	Jingle Cats 41226
4. JOCK ROCK - VOL. 2	Various Artists	Tommy Boy 1136
5. JOCK JAMS - VOL. 1	Various Artists	Tommy Boy 1137
6. MTV - PARTY TO GO - VOL. 7	Various Artists	Tommy Boy 1138
7. TRIBUTE TO CINDERELLA	Various Artists	Disney 60886
8. BEST OF - VOL. 1	Stylistics	AMH 60886
9. HERE COMES SANTA CLAWS	Jingle Cats	Jingle Cats 41229
10. MTV - PARTY TO GO - VOL. 8	Various Artists	Tommy Boy 1139
11. CHRISTMAS IN DETROIT	Various Detroit Artists	AEM 25731
12. CHRISTMAS IN THE AIR	Mannheim Steamroller	AG 1995
13. MORE THAN A MELODY	Yolanda Adams	Tnb 31359
14. STYLISTICS	Stylistics	AMH 748
15. CLASSIC DISNEY (60 YRS/MUSIC) - VOL. 1	Various Artists	Disney 60845
16. OUT LOUD	Various Artists	Knitting Factory 169
17. ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS	Vince Vance/Valiants	Waldo 9289
18. JOCK ROCK/SPORT ANTHEM	Various Artists	Tommy Boy 1100
19. TALES FROM THE CRYPT	C-BO	Awol 7197
20. RHYTHM OF THE MOUNTAINS (4-CD'S)	Various Artists	CMH 1778

Allegro Corporation ph: 800.288.2007

1. QUARTETTO GELATO	Quartetto Gelato	Marquis 600
2. CARVED IN STONE	DMP Big Band	Digital Music Prod. 512
3. RAFAEL MENDEZ - VOL. 1	Rafael Mendez	Summit 177
4. THE PARLOUR GRAND	Robert Silverman	Marquis 161
5. SUITE FROM PRINCE IGOR	Simon Philharmonia	Cala 1011
6. ZBRA	S. Pasero/C. Bock	Sugo 9565
7. PRIME MERIDIAN	Meridian Arts Ens.	Channel Classics 8195
8. COME PLAY WITH ME	Charles McPherson	Arabesque 117
9. BALTIMORE CONSORT COLL.	Baltimore Consort	Dorian 98101
10. SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL	Hampton String Quartet	Dolphin 702
11. STOMPIN WITH SAVOY	Marc Copland Quintet	Savoy 75853
12. THE MEANING OF ART	Art Farmer	Arabesque 118
13. SAVOY JAZZ XMAS BLUES	Various Artists	Savoy 241
14. ALBENIZ/BACH/BERLIN/COPLAND	Sonos Handbell Ens.	Well Tempered 5170
15. VIOLIN CONCERTO IN D MAJOR	Litton/Dallas	Dorian 90216
16. ON THE BANKS OF HELICON	Baltimore Consort	Dorian 90139
17. SONATA FOR VIOLIN & PIANO	Chee-Yun/Eguchi	Denon 78954
18. CHARLIE PARKER MEMORIAL - VOL. 1	C. Parker/M. Davis	Savoy 78982
19. CIRCLE OF FIRE	Voice Of The Turtle	Titanic 159
20. ROMANTIC PIANO	Nina Postolovskaya	Sugo 9310

Alternative Distribution Alliance ph: 800.239.3232

1. BLEACH	Nirvana	Sub Pop 70034
2. DELUXE	Better Than Ezra	Elektra 61784
3. STONEY'S EXTRA STOUT	The D'ead Milkmen	Restless 72798
4. LP2	Sunny Day Real Estate	Sub Pop 70316
5. MUSIC/JILTED GENERATION	The Prodigy	Mute 69003
6. LIVE LIGHTS	Ride	Elektra 80002
7. THE WONDEROUS WORLD OF...	Damon & Naomi	Sub Pop 70322
8. INTOXICATED MAN	Mick Harvey	Mute 69012
9. RED, HOT & BOTHERED #3	Various Artists	Repnise 45983
10. SACRILICIOUS	Supersuckers	Sub Pop 70303
11. BUNNY GETS PAID	Red Red Meat	Sub Pop 70318
12. HIT & RUN HOLIDAY	...Thnll Kill Kult	Interscope 92591
13. HAG SEED	Thirty Ought Six	Mute 69008
14. IT'S HEAVY IN HERE	Eric Matthews	Sub Pop 70312
15. DIRTY WAYS	The Delilahs	October 89301
16. CRIMES OF THE MIND	Dude/Life & Phish	Elektra 61715
17. ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE	Beck	K Records 61028
18. 13 ABOVE THE NIGHT	...Thnll Kill Kult	Interscope 92258
19. I SWINGER	Combustible Edison	Sub Pop 70244
20. MISCELLANEOUS T	They Might Be Giants	Restless 72646

Bayside Distribution ph: 916.373.2548

1. NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU	Alison Krauss	Rounder 0325
2. TURN IT ON, TURN IT UP	Roomful Of Blues	Bullseye Blues 271
3. UP ON THE SUN	Meat Puppets	SST 39
4. MRS. PINOCCI'S GUITAR	Cheryl Wheeler	Philo 1192
5. TORN AGAIN	Peter Case	Vanguard 79481
6. ELDORADO CADILLAC	Billy Boy Arnold	Alligator 4836
7. GOOD COMPANY	Nat Adderley	Challenge 70009
8. ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Various Artists	Collectables 2511
9. BLUE INCANTATION	Garcia/Grisman	Raindog 45
10. DEEP BLUE: 25 YRS/BLUES	Various Artists	Rounder 20
11. 39/SMOOTH	Green Day	Lookout 22
12. SONGS OF OUR FATHERS	Statman/Grisman	Acoustic Disc 14
13. JUVENILIA	Liz Phair	Matador 129
14. BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND DAY	Corey Harris	Alligator 4937
15. KERPLUNK!	Green Day	Lookout 46
16. ENRIQUE IGLESIAS	Enrique Iglesias	Fonovisa 506
17. BLUE STREAK	Luther Allison	Alligator 4834
18. DEEPER WATER	Paul Kelly	Vanguard 79485
19. GREATEST HITS - VOL. 1	Chicago	Chicago Records 3009
20. LKF THE DUST	Haunted By Waters	X-Dot 1003

Big Daddy Music Distribution ph: 201.761.7000

1. I LAUGHED, I CRIED...	Red Peters	Ugly Sisters 3002
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2. I NEED A ROOF	Mighty Diamonds	Channel One 022
3. IT MEANS ESCAPE	Cowboy Mouth	Monkey Hill 6128
4. CAN O'WORMS	Dan Stuart	Monkey Hill 8131
5. TO ALL MY FRIENDS...	Dave Van Ronk	Gazell 2011/12
6. TRAVEL AGENT	Adam Chester	Mars 4201
7. THE NEVER KNOW	Don Carlos & Gold	Channel One 084
8. HIGH ENERGY	Various Artists	Awesome 8000
9. DANCEHALL MASSIVE 4	Various Artists	November 1120
10. STRANGER THINGS...	Peter Turk	Beachwood 2522
11. HUMMIN' TO MYSELF	Dave Van Ronk	Gazell 2004
12. DA SHIT	Various Artists	Umm 001
13. ULTIMATE IN DANCEHALL	Stone Love Movement	November 1118
14. CONTINENTAL DRIFTERS	Continental Drifters	Monkey Hill 6123
15. HAMSTER BREAKS - VOL. 1	...Scratch Hamsters	Break 001
16. D.J. CONNECTION	Various Artists	November 1121
17. BAD GIRLS UPSET BY THE TRUTH	Jo Carol Pierce	Monkey Hill 8132
18. COMMUNION	Roy Campbell Pyramid	Silheart 139
19. PARIS AVENUE	db's	Monkey Hill 6122
20. SEXTET	Spider Saloff	Kopaesthetics 103

Cargo Music ph: 619.483.9292

1. AMY ARMEGEDDON	Carlos	Headhunter 056
2. KNOCKING THE SKILL LEVEL	Garden Variety	Headhunter 049
3. ALT.MUSIC.HARDCORE	7 Seconds	Headhunter 053
4. THE CLASSIC YEARS	fluf	Headhunter 050
5. CHESHIRE CAT	blink-182	Grilled Cheese 001
6. NINE WAYS TO SUNDAY	Chune	Headhunter 045
7. FRISBIE	Heavy Vegetable	Headhunter 047
8. THUGS & KISSES	Various Artists	Re-Construction 016
9. SKIN	16 Volt	Re-Construction 012
10. SCREAM, DRACULA, SCREAM (LP only)	Rocket From/Crypt	Headhunter 054
11. OUT THE SHIZZY	7 Seconds	Headhunter 028
12. ELECTRA 2000	Hum	12 Inch 007
13. THE IRON ICON	Clay People	Re-Construction 015
14. THE ROAD YOU TRAVEL	People Who Must	Creativeman 032
15. HOME IMPROVEMENTS	fluf	Headhunter 032
16. PAINT AS A FRAGRANCE	Rocket From/Crypt	Headhunter 036
17. MAQUEE	Smile	Headhunter 036
18. STICKLER/DUEL RECTUM	Garden Variety/Chune	Headhunter 709
19. EARLY DEMOS	Uniform Choice	Headhunter 038
20. AQUAKITTY	Heavy Vegetable	Headhunter 027

Caroline Records Distribution ph: 212.989.2929

1. OFFSPRING	Offspring	Nitro/Epitaph 86460
2. SMASH	Offspring	Epitaph 86432
3. COLLECTIONS 2	Misfits	Caroline 7515
4. STEP RIGHT UP: TRIB/TOM WAITS	Various Artists	Planet 3 41101
5. EXIT PLANET DUST	Chemical Bros.	Astralwerks 6157
6. BEN FOLDS FIVE	Ben Folds Five	Passenger 9501
7. CORRODED DISORDER	Frontline Assembly	Cleopatra 9656
8. SPINNER	Brian Eno/Jah Wobble	Gyroscope 6614
9. GRAYFOLDED	Grateful Dead/Oswald	Swell Artifact 1996
10. STEREOPATHIC SOUL MANURE	Beck	Flipside 60
11. IN PINE EFFECT	U-ZIQ	Astralwerks 6155
12. ASK FOR IT	Hole	Caroline 1470
13. HOSS	Lagwagon	Fat Wreck Chords 532
14. FRIZZLE FRY	Primus	Caroline 1619
15. SONGS OF SANCTUARY	Adiemus	Caroline 7524
16. PUNK IN DRUBLIC	NOFX	Epitaph 86435
17. AFTER HOURS 2: LAST CALL	Various Artists	Instinct 318
18. KERPLUNK!	Green Day	Lookout 46
19. TRANCE EUROPE EXPRESS 4	Various Artists	Volume 9235
20. WILD CARD/WORD FROM THE WISE	Pennywise	Theologian 3

City Hall Records ph: 415.457.9080

1. THE BEST OF C-BO	C-BO	Awol 7199
2. A BETTER WAY	Big Mack	Fatt Sak 0001
3. MEOWY CHRISTMAS	Jingle Cats	Jingle Cats 41226
4. HERE COMES SANTA CLAWS	Jingle Cats	Jingle Cats 41229
5. GAME RELATED	J-Dubb	Relentless 530
6. TALES FROM THE CRYPT	C-BO	Awol 7197
7. SOLO CREEP	RBL Posse's Hitman	Right Way Prod. 9500
8. UNDER DA INFLUENCE	U.D.I.	Dogday Records 3100
9. PULP SURFIN'	Various Artists	Donna 70022
10. KEEP IT REAL	T-Lowe	Black Power 1232
11. CHRISTMAS UNLEASHED	Jingle Dogs	Jingle Cats 1231
12. WHEN I FALL IN LOVE	Joni James	Taragon 3002
13. WELCOME TO HELL	Cool E	Tact Out 345
14. HEATERMAN	Pizzo	Strong Island 1000
15. CRAZY HAS STRUCK AGAIN	5150	Arrogant 3004
16. MIRAGE	B Sharp Jazz Quartet	Mama Foundation 1012
17. THE VERY BEST OF	Spiral Staircase	Taragon 1007
18. NO MORE PATIENCE	Prophets Of Rage	Buck Fifty 1415
19. FLOSS MODE	The Governor	Handlebar 9501
20. KEEP IT COMIN'	FunxSoulJaz	Crack Or Jack 1122

Distribution North America ph: 617.354.0700

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2. HEAT OF THE SUN	Strunz & Farah	Selva 1001
3. DEEP BLUES - 25 YEARS	Various Artists	Rounder AN20
4. EVERY TIME YOU SAY GOODBYE	Alison Krauss	Rounder 0285

20 ALBUMS SALES RANKINGS

INV. ORD.

- HAND PICKED- 25 YEARS BLUEGRASS
- LIFE DOWN HERE ON EARTH
- TURN IT ON, TURN IT UP
- TONE POEMS 2
- MRS. PINOCCHI'S GUITAR
- PARTY OF ONE
- 75 YEARS LATER
- I KNOW WHO HOLDS TOMORROW
- HALL OF FAME
- J. GARCIA/D. GRISMAN
- LOUISIANA SPICE - 25 YEARS
- RASTA BUSINESS
- I'VE GOT THAT OLD FEELING
- PEACE PIECES
- SONGS OF OUR FATHERS
- RITMO Y CANDELA

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| Various Artists | Rounder AN22 |
| Kevin Welch | Dead Reckoning 3 |
| Roomful Of Blues | Bulseye Blues 9566 |
| Grisman/Taylor | Acoustic Disc 18 |
| Cheryl Wheeler | Philo 1192 |
| Nick Lowe | Upstart 29 |
| Septeto Habenero | Corason 126 |
| A. Krauss/Cox Family | Rounder 0307 |
| Bunny Wailer | Ras 3502 |
| Garcia/Grisman | Acoustic Disc 2 |
| Various Artists | Rounder AN18 |
| Burning Spear | Heartbeat 179 |
| Alison Krauss | Rounder 0275 |
| Herbie Mann | Kokopelli 1306 |
| Statman/Grisman | Acoustic Disc 14 |
| Patato/Changuito/Orestes | Redwood 9503 |

Dutch East India Trading Co. ph: 212.675.0922

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- DROPPIN'
- GRAND PAW
- NEXT
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- CRUPTOLOGY
- ORGY OF THE DEAD (Soundtrack)
- I DON'T CARE
- BLACK STAR
- CHAMBER
- GLYPH
- INSPRING
- REMIXED
- GUN SMOKE
- BARDSTOWN
- LIVE
- ELECTIC
- SYSTEMS OVERLOAD

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| Stratotanker | Homestead 226 |
| Soul Junk | Homestead 227 |
| Social Unrest | New Red Archive 59 |
| Madball | Wreckage 10 |
| Ben Lee | Grand Royal 15 |
| Renegade Soundwave | Mute 90 |
| John Coltraine | Impulse 71984 |
| David S. Ware | Homestead 220 |
| Various Artists | Strange Love 1 |
| Buck Owens | Sundazed 6046 |
| Paul Bowles | Sub Rosa 14 |
| Martin Bates | Sub Rosa 91 |
| H. Budd/H. Zazou | Made To Measure 37 |
| Phosphorus | Language 12003 |
| Aural Expansion | Sheep 159 |
| Kramer & Dogbowll | Shimmy Disc 83 |
| Guilt | Victory 29 |
| Scanner | Touch ash 1.1cd |
| Bloodlet | Victory 31 |
| Integrity | Victory 23 |

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- LIVE AT SANTA MONICA
- KERPLUNK!
- 39/SMOOTH
- REFRIED ECTOPLASM
- ANON
- PIANO GOES POP
- WORLD OF MONSTERS
- DOVETAIL JOINT
- RED MEDICINE
- BBC LIVE
- INCIDENTAL MUSIC
- BARRY BLACK
- TREBLE CHARGER
- THE HOLE TRUTH
- KILL MICE ELF
- INDEPENDENT DAYS - VOL. 1 & 2
- HAPPY?
- MIGHTY HAWKWIND CLASSICS
- THE ROCK SURVIVOR

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Drovers | Thermometer 41962 |
| David Bowie | Griffin 392 |
| Green Day | Lookout 46 |
| Green Day | Lookout 22 |
| Stereolab | Drag City 82 |
| Various Artists | Castle Von Buhler 4 |
| R. Dwight (Elton John) | RPM 142 |
| Drovers | Thermometer 41955 |
| Dovetail Joint | Buckshot Records 9048 |
| Fugazi | Dischord 90 |
| Michael Schenker | Griffin 335 |
| Superchunk | Merge 85 |
| Barry Black | Alias 85 |
| Treble Charger | Sonic Unyon 020 |
| Butthole Surfers | Trance Syndicate 35 |
| Drovers | Thermometer 41956 |
| Hawkwind | Griffin 497 |
| P.I.L. | Griffin 353 |
| Hawkwind | Griffin 496 |
| Denny Laine | Griffin 520 |

Great Bay Music Dist., Inc. ph: 800.743.1035

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- DOGG FOOD
- HIGHER
- GREATEST FREESTYLE HITS V
- ICELAND
- LIVE HE SHEPHERDS ME
- GOOD GIRL GONE BAD
- ALL I WANT FOR XMAS
- LIVE IN MEMPHIS
- DA RESURRECTION
- ON TIME G-D
- A NEW CREATION
- STRIAN BLOCCSTYLE
- BROKEN
- KING OF GLORY
- IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN
- LIVE FROM LONDON
- G-D GET'S THE GLORY
- COMING HOME
- LEGAL DOPE

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| Miss. Mass. Choir | Malaco 6021 |
| Tha Dogg Pound | Death Row 50546 |
| J. Eddie/Phoenix Mass. | FWR 001 |
| Various Artists | Warlock 2757 |
| Cold World Hustlers | Priority 53990 |
| Chester Wilmington Mass. | Air Records 10213 |
| Mia K | Priority 53988 |
| Vince Vance | Waldo 9289 |
| Canton Spirituals | Blackberry 1600 |
| Al Kapone | Priority 50528 |
| Dottie Peoples &... | Air Records 10200 |
| Miss. Children's Choir | Malaco 4469 |
| Mr. Doctor | Priority 53975 |
| William Becton/Friends | Intersound 9145 |
| James Hall &... | Intersound 9163 |
| Miss. Mass. Choir | Malaco 6013 |
| Timothy Wright | Savoy 14826 |
| Miss. Mass. Choir | Malaco 6008 |
| Hezekiah Walker &... | Benson 4168 |
| Various Artists | Priority 50922 |

Koch International ph: 516.484.1000

- GORGEOUS GEORGE
- NOT A PRETTY GIRL
- MUSIC NEVER.../ROOTS OF GRATEFUL DEAD
- POMEGRANATE
- TESTIMONIAL DINNER/SONGS OF XTC
- AMERICAN BABYLON
- TALES

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Edwyn Collins | Bar/None 058 |
| Ani Difranco | Righteous Babe 7 |
| Various Artists | Shanachie 6014 |
| Poi Dog Pondering | Bar/None 067 |
| Various Artists | Thirsty Ear 57019 |
| Joe Grushecky | Razor & Tie 2820 |
| Marcus Miller | PRA 60501 |

INV. ORD.

- I LOVE YOU PERFECT
- GREATEST SONGS
- INSTINCT
- LIVE ONE
- HEART OF MIDNIGHT
- FAX IT! CHANGE IT! DON'T ASK...
- OUT OF RANGE
- GRINGO HONEYMOON
- SPACE AGE BACHELOR PAD MUSIC
- HEY FOLKS IT'S...
- LOVE SONGS
- UNKNOWN TERRITORY
- THE POET

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Yanni | Silva 1015 |
| Andrew Lloyd Webber | Silva 1044 |
| Tom Grant | Shanachie 5015 |
| Greg Brown | Red House 78 |
| Yanni | Silva 1050 |
| Four Bitchin' Babes | Shanachie 8018 |
| Ani Difranco | Righteous Babe 6 |
| Robert Earl Keen | Sugar Hill 1044 |
| Esquivel | Bar/None 043 |
| Cledus T. Judd | Razor & Tie 2819 |
| Andrew Lloyd Weber | Silva 1022 |
| Dick Dale | Hightone 8055 |
| Bobby Womack | Razor & Tie 2029 |

MCS Distributing ph: 810.583.4678

- DOGG FOOD
- DOWN SOUTH HUSTLAZ
- RAG NA ROCK
- GHETTO STORIES
- CARNIVAL
- TRUE
- IT'S OVER
- KILL FETUS
- LIFE AFTER DEATH
- FRIDAY (Soundtrack)
- SEASON
- SAILIN' DA SOUTH
- BOOMIN' WORDS
- BLAST-4-ME
- BEVERLY KILLS
- MAGGOT BRAIN
- RINGMASTER
- BEST OF...
- MACK 10
- NEW BREED

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Tha Dogg Pound | Death Row 50546 |
| Various Artists | Priority 53993 |
| Gwar | Priority 50527 |
| Tre-8 | Priority 50537 |
| I.C.P. | Psychopathic 1004 |
| Tru | Priority 53983 |
| Millie Jackson | Ichiban 1502 |
| Esham | Reel Life 1013 |
| Natas | Reel Life 1009 |
| Various Artists | Priority 53959 |
| Brotha Lynch Hung | Priority 53967 |
| E.S.G. | Priority 53973 |
| Esham | Reel Life 1001 |
| Natas | Reel Life 1016 |
| I.C.P. | Psychopathic 1005 |
| Esham | Reel Life 1019 |
| I.C.P. | Psychopathic 1006 |
| M.C. Breed | Wrap 8150 |
| Mack 10 | Priority 53938 |
| M.C. Breed | Wrap 8120 |

M.S. Distributing Company ph: 800.688.3383

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- CHRONICLES
- STRAIT ZOOISM
- MTV PARTY TO GO - VOL. 8
- UPSTROKE FOR THE DOWNFOLK
- DMA DANCE - VOL. 1/EURODANCE
- HOLIDAY HEROES
- CHARLIE BROWN X MAS
- CELESTIAL WINDS XMAS MORNING
- IAN HUNTER'S DIRTY LAUNDRY
- DA TURDY POINT BUCK
- OCCUPATION HAZARDOUS
- GANGSTA'S PARADISE
- QUAD MAXIMUS
- CHRISTMAS
- ULTIMATE XMAS ALBUM - VOL. 1
- SUPERFLY
- DEEPER WATER
- BLUE STREAK
- DR. TALK

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vince Vance/Valiants | Wxy 9289 |
| CCR | Fantasy CCR2 |
| Poison Clan | Warlock 2763 |
| Various Artists | Tommy Boy 1139 |
| Paul Cedar/Mihwaukeean | Don't Records 16 |
| Various Artists | Interhit 20151 |
| Various Artists | SFR 7213 |
| Vince Guaraldi | Priority 8431 |
| Celestial Winds | Umc 6789 |
| I. Hunter/Dirty Laundry | Cleveland Int'l 11001 |
| Bananas At Large | Impact 3030 |
| Boo-Yaa Tribe | First Kut 7001 |
| Coolio | Tommy Boy 1141 |
| Hekanik Bass | Pad 8848 |
| Richard Clayderman | Quality 15187 |
| Various Artists | Collectables 1511 |
| Curtis Mayfield | Custom 9503 |
| Paul Kelly | Vanguard 79485 |
| Luther Allison | Alligator 4884 |
| Jerry Springer | Springer Yankee 1111 |

Mordam ph: 415.642.6800

- KERPLUNK!
- THE WORLDHOOD OF THE...
- 39/SMOOTH
- CARRY THE BANNER
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY BABY JESUS
- ENERGY
- RIVERDALES
- STEREOPATHETIC
- MILLENNIA MADNESS
- CHEFBOY
- KILL THE MUSICIANS
- CONVENIENCE
- SMASH HITS
- WHO IS, THIS IS
- FULL LENGTH
- HELLO BASTARDS
- FRANKENCHRIST
- BOOGADA
- THE LOST EPISODES
- SPITBOY

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Green Day | Lookout 46 |
| NoMeansNo | Virus 171 |
| Green Day | Lookout 22 |
| Pinhead Gunpowder | Lookout 132 |
| Various Artists | Sympathy 396 |
| Operation Ivy | Lookout 10 |
| Riverdales | Lookout 120 |
| Beck | Flipside 60 |
| Citizen Fish | Lookout 123 |
| Sicko | eMPTY 315 |
| Screaming Weasel | Lookout 95 |
| Dead Kennedys | Virus 57 |
| Teengenerate | Estrus 1222 |
| Voodoo Glow Skulls | Doctor Strange 18 |
| Guttermouth | Doctor Strange 9 |
| Lifetime | Jade Tree 1021 |
| Dead Kennedys | Virus 45 |
| Screaming Weasel | Lookout 62 |
| Les Baxter | Bacchus Archives 07 |
| Spitboy | Allied 55 |

Music Distributors Inc. ph: 817.831.2982

- BEST OF...
- CHRISTMAS ALBUM
- MEOWY CHRISTMAS
- METROPOLITAN SUPERMIX - VOL. 1
- STRICTLY FREESTYLE - VOL. 1
- 1ST THE MONEY, THE THE POWER
- CLUB MIX '95 - VOL. 2
- TAZMANIA 6: DANCE USA
- TIAMO FREESTYLE COLL. VOL. 2
- DICKIES & HOUSE SHOES

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| C-BO | Awol 7199 |
| Jingle Bellies | RJB Music 1001 |
| Jingle Cats | Jingle Cats 41226 |
| Various Artists | Metropolitan 1234 |
| Various Artists | Summit 5913 |
| EZSD'S Skip Dog | Bodybag 7079 |
| Various Artists | K-tel 6186 |
| Various Artists | Metropolitan 1233 |
| Various Artists | Metropolitan 1235 |
| Pimpsta | Rush 72653 |

INDIE INFO

By Karen Sidlow



Idle Wilds



2 Minutes Hate

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE-BASED ARDENT RECORDS has just delivered two more great releases. *Dumb, Gifted And Beautiful*, the debut from Philadelphia band **Idle Wilds** and **2 Minute Hate's** second effort, *Let It Eat* are in store now. At no extra charge to consumers, the *Let It Eat* disc features the 2 Minute Hate's video for "Cauliflower" and other hidden enhanced CD bonuses for those music lovers who have a computer with CD-ROM drive. For the majority of music listeners who simply have the almost old-fashioned CD playing only equipment, *Dumb, Gifted And Beautiful* is a wonderful collection of tunes with production by **John Hampton** who previously worked with the amazing, now disbanded, **Replacements**. **Damian Music** has just put out *The Dance Box*. This two-CD set is made up of 30 hot dance tracks and features such artists as **69 Boyz**, **Expose**, **Taylor Dayne**, **Stevie B** and **95 South**. *The Dance Box*, along with all of **Damian Music's** product is distributed exclusively through the **Navarre Corporation**...

FRONT LINE RECORDS, a subsidiary of **Caroline Records** has just commercially presented *Mr. Love*, a new collection from **Gregory Isaacs**. This 21 track release was recorded in the late '70s and features such tunes as "John Public," "Soon Forward" and "Universal Tribulation." In other **Front Line** news, *Original DJ*, a 25 tune disc, from **U Roy** is also available. **U Roy**, a well-known reggae artist, is said to have set the stage for artists like **Shabba Ranks** and **Ini Kamoze**. **Monad Records** has just released *It's A Blues Thing* from **Ray Charles**. This disc was recorded live in Chicago and contains previously unreleased songs, re-mixed, re-mastered and re-sequenced material. On the heavier side of music comes **Black Mark Production**. Such acts as **Lake Of Tears**, **Morgana Lefay**, **Bathory** and **Gomorrhah** are just a few featured on the **Black Mark** roster. All of these artists' current releases, along with all product from **Black Mark** can be obtained through **Caroline Distribution**...

CIRCUS BOY has just released its self-titled debut release through New York based **Synapse Recordings**. The record is made up of 13 tunes with all of them clocking in at under five minutes. **Mesa/Bluemoon Recordings** has several selections set for release before year end. Discs from **Randy Crawford**, **King Sunny Ade**, **David Broza** and **Zion Train** will be in store

INDIE EXECS ON THE MOVE



Clark Du Val



David Bishoff

Priority Records has announced the appointment of **Paul Bishow** to the newly created post of vp, artist and product development. Bishow previously worked as the sr. director of artist development at **Capitol Records**. **Ticketmaster** has named **Clark Du Val** to the position of vp, merchandising for **Entertainment To Go**, the company's merchandising entity. Prior to Du Val's work at **ETG**, he held the title vp, marketing at **Secret Identitee Merchandise**. **Earl Sellars** has been appointed vp of marketing and promotion for **Music Entertainment Group** in New York. **M.E.G.** consists of **Benson Music Group**, **Diadem Music Group**, **Tribute Records** and **REV RUN Records**. **Nat Rew** has been named gm of **Pandisc/Streetbeat Records** in Miami. Rew previously worked as a marketing consultant. **Del-Fi Records** in Los Angeles, California has named **Gary Tanenbaum** vice president operations. Before his recent appointment, Tanenbaum worked as a senior buyer at the first **Virgin Megastore** in the U.S. **Bill Graham Presents** in San Francisco, California has named **Lovester Law** vp of marketing. Law previously held the same title at the **San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau**. **Blunt Recordings**, the hip-hop subsidiary of **TVT Records**, has announced several new appointments. Former **Big Kidz Entertainment** founder **Bryan Leach** has been named director of artist development for **Blunt**. Add to that, the appointment of **Terry Ferguson** to national director of rap promotion and **Al Lindstrom** as manager of rap promotion. **Ferguson** previously held the title of manager of national rap promotions at **RCA Records**. Former account executive at **The Harvey Group**, **Wanda Snell** has been tagged director of rap publicity, while **George Scott** now holds the title of urban college radio representative. **Relativity Records** has upped **John Trumbour** to the position of director, advertising and A&R administration. Trumbour will continue to work out of **Relativity's** New York office where he formerly worked as the national director of consumer advertising and promotions. **Eye Q Music USA**, located in West Hollywood, California, has announced several executive appointments. **Richard Henderson** has been tagged label manager for the Germany-based company. Former **Relativity Records** employee, **Van Riker** has been named national sales director. The title of promotions director is held by **Gabriel Sanchez** and **Robert Shea** will work as the media relations director and A&R representative. **Larry Pareigis** has been appointed to head the promotion department at **Almo Sounds/Nashville**. Pareigis previously worked as the program director for **KYCY** radio station in San Francisco. **Lava Records** has named **Bobbi Hach** national promotion director. Hach will continue to be based in Los Angeles where she previously worked as the director of mainstream/top 40 music at **Hitmakers** magazine. **David Bishoff** has been named creative manager of film and television music for **Bug Music** in Los Angeles. Before Bishoff's position at **Bug Music** he worked at **All Nations Music Publishing** and **Arista Records**. **Magnatone Records** in Nashville, Tennessee has promoted **Cindy Crutchfield** to marketing coordinator. Prior to her upping, Crutchfield worked as an A&R administration coordinator.



Fear

before 1995 comes to a close. Early next year look for **Klaus Doldinger's** *In New York*, **Willie And Lobo's** *Vallarta Squeeze*, **Avenue Blue's** *Naked City* and **Chevelle's** *Nice And Naughty*... **Sector 2** and **Fear Records** are pleased to announce the long-awaited return of **Fear**. The new record, entitled *Have Another Beer With Fear*, features 16 tunes, with song titles such as "I Believe I'll Have Another Beer," "Drink Some Beer" and "Free Beer." What's not to love...?

(Continued on page 10)

DISTRIBUTOR SALES RANKINGS (CONTINUED)

- INV. ORO.
11. TALES FROM THE CRYPT
 12. SOULFUL CHRISTMAS
 13. BEST OF THE CHOIRS II
 14. WHITE CHRISTMAS
 15. DANCE BEAT '95
 16. CLUB MIX '95
 17. ULTIMATE MEXICAN PARTY MUSIC
 18. FIRST FLIGHT
 19. PHAT RAP PHLAVA '95
 20. A MOMENT OF SILENCE

- C-BO
Various Artists
Various Artists
Bing Crosby
Various Artists
Various Artists
Brazada
Palomino Duck
Various Artists
Rodney D
Awol 7197
Eclipse 64900
K-tel 3374
Eclipse 64913
K-tel 3498
K-tel 6147
Red Hot 1003
Planet Earth 2404
K-tel 6146
Blackjack 2002

Music People, Inc. ph: 800.336.8742

1. SILENT CRIES FROM THE GHETTO
2. NEVER TRUST THEM...
3. GAME RELATED
4. ANIMOSITY
5. PURE PRESSURE
6. NO MORE PATIENCE
7. CHAPTER 1...
8. BACKSTREET LIFE
9. CRAZY HAS STRUCK AGAIN
10. ONE MILL-YON
11. THE REALA RIDE
12. 1ST THE MONEY, THEN...
13. KEEP IT REAL
14. STRICTLY SICKLY
15. RUTHLESS BY LAW
16. I HATE U WITH A PASSION
17. OAKLAND SOLDIERS
18. I'LL RATHER LOUNGE
19. TALES FROM THE CRYPT
20. STILL TRYIN' TO SURVIVE...

- Various Artists
Tha Mobb
J. Oubb
Various Artists
Guce
Prophets Of Rage
O.C. Dre
Totally Insane
5150
Mac Mill
B.O.M.
Skip Oog
T Lowe
Ghetto Soldiers
RBL Posse
Ore Oog
Oa Folks
Oush Tray
C-BO
Herm
Trigger Happy 9615
Bounce 22
Relentless 530
Su-side 33265
Riot 2020
Buckfifty 1415
Sly 4150
In-A-Minute 8900
Arrogant 3004
In-A-Minute 9100
Major Bound 6223
Body Bag (# not furnished)
Black Power 2132
Butt Naked 0005
In-A-Minute 8700
In-A-Minute 8800
Basement Flavor 187
Night Time 4415
Awol 7197
Black Power 68021

Navarre Corporation ph: 612.535.8333

1. SOUTH CENTRAL LOS SKANLESS
2. CRUZIN' TO MOTOWN
3. CELTIC TWILIGHT 2
4. AN ENCHANTEO EVENING (Enhanced CD)
5. LOVE UNCHAINED
6. ELECTRIC MISTRESS
7. FEEDING OFF THE MOJO
8. OLD SCHOOL - VOL. 1
9. TRIP HOT TEST - VOL. 2
10. THE INDIVIDUALIST (Enhanced CD)
11. OLD SCHOOL RAP
12. JAZZ MASTERS 2
13. THREE WISHES (Soundtrack)
14. OLD SCHOOL LOVE SONGS - VOL. 2
15. BOOY LANGUAGE
16. OLD SCHOOL RAP - VOL. 2
17. THIS IS MY HOUSE
18. RIOIN' HARO - THE LOWRIER SOUND
19. THE BABY OG
20. THE DANCE BOX

- Kausion
Various Artists
Various Artists
Kitaro
Engelbert Humperdinck
Zen Cowboys
Night Ranger
Various Artists
Various Artists
Todd Rundgren
Various Artists
Paul Hardcastle
Various Artists
Various Artists
Special EFX
Various Artists
R. "Humpty" Vission
Various Artists
Slow Pain
Various Artists
Lench Mob 2002
Thump 9947
Hearts Of Space 11106
Domo 71005
Core 9457
Moonshine 80033
Orive Ent. 46001
Thump 4010
Moonshine 80039
Oigital Ent. 6000
Thump 4510
JVC 2049
Magnatone 107
Thump 4720
JVC 2050
Thump 4520
VRG 37014
Thump 7501
Thump 9942
Oamian 5003

Passport Music Dist., Inc. ph: 800.334.3394

1. POLTS & ANGEL
2. VELVET & BRASS
3. BASCARA FALLS
4. INTERVIEW
5. REMEMBER 2 THINGS
6. CRONICLES - VOL. 1
7. CHORAL CHRISTMAS
8. SOUL SAUCE
9. ANGELS EMBRACE
10. INTERVIEW
11. INTERVIEW - VOL. 2
12. FESTIVAL OF THE...
13. INTERVIEW
14. PIANO WITH...
15. CELTIC TWILIGHT 2
16. NOUVEAU FLAME
17. HEART & SOUL
18. ACOUSTIC PLAN
19. A WOMAN'S HEART
20. CONCORD CHRISTMAS

- Ottmar Liebert
Mel Torme
Heather Lathan
Nine Inch Nails
Oave Matthews Band
CCR
Cusco
Poncho Sanchez
Jon Anderson
Hootie & The Blowfish
Bush
John Boswell
Bryan Adams
Jonathan Cain
Various Artists
Ottmar Liebert
Lorie Line
Craig Chaquico
Various Artists
Various Artists
Higher Octave 7030
Concord 4667
Oh Boy 14
Baktabak 4069
Bama Rags 7202
Fantasy CCR2
Higher Octave 7001
Concord 4662
Higher Octave 7080
Baktabak 4065
Baktabak 4064
Hearts Of Space 11031
Baktabak 4066
Higher Octave 7079
Hearts Of Space 11106
Higher Octave 7026
Timeline 9
Higher Octave 7070
Blex Street 10011
Concord 4613

Paulstarr Distributing ph: 612.559.8276

1. OOGG F000
2. BEST OF...
3. MEOWY CHRISTMAS
4. SANTA CLAWS
5. FRIQAY (Soundtrack)
6. MACK 10
7. SOLD OUT
8. EUROPA
9. DOWN SOUTH HUSTLAZ
10. PULP SURFIN'
11. BETTER WAY
12. GHETTO STORIES
13. RAG NA ROCK
14. FORGOTTEN
15. BEST OF...

- Tha Oogg Pound
C-BO
Jingle Cats
Jingle Cats
Various Artists
Mack 10
Jeff Foxworthy
Spheeris-Voudouris
Various Artists
Various Artists
Big Mack
Tre-8
Gwar
I.C.P.
Jeff Foxworthy
Oeath Row 50546
Awol 7199
Jingle Cats 41226
Jingle Cats 41229
Priority 53959
Priority 53938
Laughing Hyena 2080
Epiphany 1295
Priority 53993
Donna 70022
Fatt Sak 0001
Priority 50537
Priority 50537
Psychopathic 1012
Laughing Hyena 2079

- INV. ORO.
16. RAGGAE GOLO '95
 17. ORIGINAL
 18. BOSS BALLIN' COMP.
 19. LEGAL DOPE
 20. ALL THE HITS

- Various Artists
Jeff Foxworthy
Various Artists
Various Artists
Bob Marley

- VP 1429
Laughing Hyena 2079
Shot 7000
Priority 50922
Rohit 7757

RED Distribution ph: 212.337.5207

1. ON TOP OF THE WORLO
2. E. 1999 ETERNAL
3. JEALOUS ONE'S ENVY
4. ALL AGES
5. OFFSPRING
6. JOE SATRIANI
7. SMASH
8. SMILE NOW, OIE LATER
9. YOU MAKE ME WANNA DANCE
10. ...ANO OUT COME THE WOLVES
11. ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE
12. HE'LL BRING YOU OUT
13. NEW DAWNING
14. OEMANUFACTURE
15. CREEPIN ON AH UP
16. BIRTH OF A GHETTO CHILO
17. BLOODY KISSES
18. 311
19. UGLY
20. IT'S ON DR. ORE

- 8 Ball & MJG
Bone Thugs-N-Harmony
Fat Joe
Bad Religion
Offspring
Joe Satriani
Offspring
Frost
Rance Allen
Rancid
Edwin Hawkins
Church/G-d & Christ
Hawkins Family
Fear Factory
Bone Thugs-N-Harmony
Main One
Type O Negative
311
Life Of Agony
Eazy E

- Suave 1521
Ruthless 5539
Relativity 1239
Epitaph 86443
Nitro/Epitaph 86460
Relativity 1500
Offspring 86432
Relativity 1504
Bellmark 70008
Epitaph 86444
Bellmark 70009
Bellmark 70007
Bellmark 70006
Roadrunner 8956
Ruthless 5526
Select 21651
Roadrunner 9100
Capricorn 42041
Roadrunner 8924
Ruthless 5503

Rock Bottom Dist., Inc. ph: 770.448.8439

1. DOGG F000
2. DOWN SOUTH HUSTLAZ
3. BEST OF
4. MEOWY CHRISTMAS
5. HERE COMES SANTA CLAWS
6. TALES FROM THE CRYPT
7. HOUSE OF LOVE
8. CIGAR STORE INDIANS
9. SAILIN' DA SDUTH
10. FRIDAY (Soundtrack)
11. VWHERE I WANNA BE
12. GAME RELATED EP
13. BEST OF NEW AGE
14. 11TH SONG
15. SING THE HOLLIES IN REVERSE
16. WELCOME TO HELL
17. TRUE
18. ANDTHER REASON TO FAST
19. FAT JAZZY GROOVES VOL. 11/12
20. PULP SURFIN'

- Tha Dogg Pound
Various Artists
C-BO
Jingle Cats
Jingle Cats
C-BO
Carla Sims
Cigar Store Indians
E.S.G.
Various Artists
Cravin' Melon
J. Oubb
Various Artists
Deep Blue Something
Various Artists
Cool-E
Tru
Smoke
Various Artists
Various Artists

- Oeath Row 50546
Priority 53993
Awol 7199
Jingle Cats 41226
Jingle Cats 41229
Awol 7197
Paula 9005
Landslide 1018
Priority 53973
Priority 53959
Seedless 20001
Relentless 530
Priority 53056
Crystal Clear 3278
Eggbert 80018
Tact Out 345
Priority 53983
Long Play 35
New Breed 0042
Onna 70022

Select O Hits ph: 901.388.1190

1. OOGG F000
2. GANGSTA'S PARAOISE
3. BOUNCIN' & SWINGIN'
4. GHETTO STDRIES
5. TRAPPEO INSIDE A BOMB
6. ONE MONKEY DDN'T STOP NO SHDW
7. NATIONWIDE RIP RIOAZ
8. SAO STREET
9. SHAKE THE DEVIL OFF
10. OAMU RIOAS
11. BROKEN
12. JOCK JAMS - VOL. 1
13. MYSTIC STYLEZ
14. ANOTHER MISSISSIPPI MUROER
15. BEST OF ELECTRIC SLIDE
16. CHRONICLES
17. LIVE IN MEMPHIS 2
18. TRIBUTE TO CINOERELLA
19. LIVE FROM LONNOON
20. IN THE MIND

- Tha Oogg Pound
Coolio
Various Artists
Tre-8
Organized Crime
Bobby Rush
Crips
Bobby Bland
Dorothy Norwood
Bloods
William Bection & Friends
Various Artists
Three-6-Mafia
Mississippi Mafia
Various Artists
CCR
Canton Spirituals
Various Artists
Timothy Wright
Emie Johnson

- Oeath Row 50546
Tommy Boy 1141
Pnorty 53993
Pnorty 50537
Rugged 9001
Waldoxy 2813
Quality 6739
Malaco 7478
Malaco 4476
Quality 6738
Intersound 9145
Tommy Boy 1137
Prophet 4401
Sir Captain 2505
SOH 7010
Fantasy CCR2
Blackberry 1610
Osney 60886
Savoy 14826
Waldoxy 2812

Twinbrook Music Inc. ph: 212.947.0440

1. MEOWY CHRISTMAS
2. HERE COMES SANTA CLAWS
3. BEST OF...
4. LEGENDARY
5. MERRY CHRISTMAS
6. THE BLACK FAMILY
7. HEARTSONGS
8. 11TH SONG
9. HOPES FOR THE HOLIDAYS
10. HOUSEWORK
11. STRANGE VOICES
12. HIT MIX '96
13. TIME FOR TOUCHING HOME
14. MY REVERIE
15. FAT JAZZY GROOVES - VOL. 11/12
16. NOMAO
17. WAVE
18. LIVE AT THE 14.BELOW
19. HOWLIDAY CLASSICS IN OOG
20. REAL TIME

- Jingle Cats
Jingle Cats
C-BD
Joni James
Joni James
The Black Family
Zach Davids
Deep Blue Something
Bob & Oolores Hope
Will Calhoun
Col. Bruce Hampton
Various Artists
The Black Family/ZGift Horse 10020
Ryo Kawasaki
Various Artists
Nomad
Camila Benson
Mick Taylor
Top Oog
Richard Tee

- Jingle Cats 1226
Jingle Cats 1229
Awol 7199
Taragon 3005
Taragon 3004
Gift Horse 10019
Ivory Moon 6800
Crystal Clear 3278
Hope 30005
WC 333
Landslide 1017
K-tel 6207
Satellites 1005
New Breed 43
Aust. Music 4004
Satellites 1007
Shattered 7
Slingshot 80060
Satellites 1004

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA-BASED LOOKOUT RECORDS are kicking some of its artists out! Look for groups like **The Queers**, **Cub**, **The Potatomen** and **Mr. T Experience** to be on the road throughout the month of November. The Queers will start in Berkeley, California and make their way to Houston, Texas while Cub will begin in Salt Lake City, Utah then pick the Potatomen up in Sacramento around mid-month, with the final date for both bands ending in Seattle, Washington. The Mr. T Experience will travel from Albuquerque, NM and celebrate the last day of November in beautiful Fullerton, CA... **Putumayo World Music** is pleased to announce the release of *Women Of The World - Celtic* and *Women Of The World - International*. Making up the *Celtic* album are folk songs from Ireland and Scotland sung by artists from their respective lands. For the *International* disc, select songs were chosen to represent the global melting pot of musical influences from the past, as well as the present. Vocalists from such diverse areas as West Africa, Brazil, Greece and Israel make contributions to the release...

IF YOU ARE A REGGAE FAN, most likely you own some product from the more than 10-year old label **Roir**. Recent Roir releases include *Lost Chance* by **James Chance And The Contortions**, **Alpha & Omega's Sound System Dub** and *The Way To Mt. Zion* from **Glen Brown**... **Endangered Records** and **Unity Label Group** have come to terms on a national distribution deal. The first Endangered Records release, *Ouch* from Los Angeles quintet the **Extinct** is in-store now... *The Brighter Side*, the debut album from **The Joel Spencer/Kelly Sill Quartet** has just been issued through **The Jazz Alliance, Inc.** This compact disc-only release is a contemporary jazz record that accurately captures the band's melodies and energy... **Capricorn Records** band **311** have been chosen as the opening act for **Lenny Kravitz's** U.S. tour. 311's current self-titled release has sold over 100,000 copies and their two previous albums are still selling strong. The dates with Kravitz start in late December and go through January of next year...

EPITAPH AND BAD RELIGION worked together to release *All Ages*, an album that documents the years that shaped **Bad Religion**. *All Ages*, the band's ninth full-length album, features 22 songs, including some unreleased live tracks... **Watermelon** recording artist **Monte Warden** is currently on the road to support his current release *Here I Am*. Warden, best known as a founding member of the **Wagoneers**, has also made a name for himself as a producer. *Here I Am* is Warden's second solo album and follows 2 years after his 1993 self-titled debut on Watermelon. In other Watermelon news, the label has released *Austin Country Nights: Rising Stars From The Heart*. This 13-track release is made up of newly-recorded songs from some of the leading artists on Austin's new country scene... This past Halloween, **Rounder Records** made several discs available. In-store now are such releases as *Their Complete Recordings - VOL. 3* and *Their Complete Recordings - VOL. 4*, both from **The Carter Family**, **Bill Evans' Native And Fine**, **Ramblin' Jack Elliott's Me And Bobby McGee**, and a blues collection entitled *Black Top Blues Vocal Dynamite*...



The Delilahs

IT'S THE TIME OF YEAR FOR HOLIDAY MUSIC. **Vanguard Records'** holiday releases include **Joan Baez's Noel**, **Jan Peerce's The Art Of The Cantor**, **Odetta's Christmas Spirituals** and a festive folk compilation called *A Folksinger's Christmas*. In addition, **Ranwood Records** has put out *22 Merry Christmas Favorites* and *Merry Christmas From Our House To Your House* from **Lawrence Welk And His Orchestra And Chorus**. Look for *Freshmas* from **The Four Freshmen** and *A Jimmy Sturr Christmas* also on

Ranwood... *Dying To Build A Bridge*, the new album from **October Records** act **The Delilahs** is now ready to be heard. *Dying To...* is made up of 11 tunes and was produced by **John Strawberry Fields** and **John Munson**. The band, consisting of **Aaron Seymour**, **Doug Youland**, **Wally Marx**, **Tom Henderson** and **Thomas Case**, recently celebrated their second **October Records** effort by holding a 2-day release party at Minneapolis' **Cabooze Bar**...

WAX TRAX/TVT RECORDING ARTISTS, **Sister Machine Gun** are on the road in support of *Burn*, their third record for the label. Concert dates for this leg of the tour began in the middle of November in Champaign, IL and will conclude in Des Moines, IA before Christmas Day. Look for the band to pack their gear up again in early 1996... Congratulations to *Cash Box Retail Guide* panel member **Repeat The Beat** for opening their fifth retail store in downtown Kalamazoo, MI on November 15, 1995. The new store is 6,000 square feet in size and will continuously stock more than 20,000 titles. Like all of Repeat The Beat's consumer outlets, this store will have an extensive import section, tons of old and new audio releases and even used CD's... Just in case you haven't heard enough about the **Beatles** recently, there's another product featuring the **Fab Four's** tunes. **Kid Rhino**, a division of **Rhino Records**, has just put out *Bugs & Friends - Sing The Beatles*, an album of 11 tracks brought to life by none other than **Bugs Bunny**, **Daffy Duck**, **Elmer Fudd** and the **Tazmanian Devil**. Songs featured on the fun disc include "Yesterday," "She Loves You," and "With A Little Help From My Friends." This **Furry Four's** record is certainly a perfect gift for kids of all ages...

K-TEL INTERNATIONAL, INC. has released several wonderful collections covering a diverse range of genres for a variety of music lovers. If artists like **James Taylor** and **Joan Baez** are up your alley, look for *70's Folk Rock*, a disc of 10 tunes that sum up the decade in sound. Then, for those admirers who appreciate the moving audio of Disco, K-tel has compiled a selection of discs: *Get Up And Disco*, *Disco Mania*, *Disco Fever* and *Hot Nights*, *Disco Lights*, each consisting of two hands full of songs, with the guarantee to crowd any dance floor. Of course there are a few compilations featuring Country music: *Ultimate Country '96*, *Today's Country Gospel*, *Dance Club Country*, *Today's Top 10 Country*, just a few titles that any avid squaredancer would call an asset. Despite the fact we are merely halfway through the 90's, K-tel has looked back a few years with the recent launch of **The Ultimate 80's Collections**. In this series, discs such as *The 80's: New Wave*, *The 80's: Urban Countdown*, *The 80's: Video Stars*, *The 80's: Pop Explosion*, *The 80's: Rock On*, *The 80's: Love Jams* and *The 80's: Hot Dance Trax*, attempt to spark memories of the near past...



The Dandy Warhols

CHICAGO-BASED LABEL, HEFTY RECORDS has just put out *Jackersville*, the debut release from **Turtletoes**. In addition to *Jackersville* being the band's first effort, it's also the premiere disc from this new label. Hefty Records is currently distributed through **Cross Talk**, a company headed by the mastermind of **Cargo**... **Coolidge**, a power trio from New York City, has just released their full-length self-titled debut. This threesome, made up of **Denny Blake** (guitar/lead vocals), **Malcolm Gold** (bass/vocals) and **Tony Warwick** (drums/vocals), are currently on an East Village tour of elite dive bars. Their first effort is available through **Muck Productions** in NYC... **Homestead Records** has released a few splendid discs recently. Look for *Communist Love Songs* by **Sleepyhead**, *Baby*, *Test The Sky* from **Stratotanker** and **Soul Junk's 1952**... **Tim Kerr Records**, a Portland-based label and former home to hip trio **Everclear**, has presented a few worthwhile releases to the public in recent days. *Dandys Rule OK*, the debut from eclectic quartet **The Dandy Warhols**, *Famous* by Seattle power pop foursome **Super Deluxe**, and **Pere Ubu** has put forth *Ray Gun Suitcase*, their first album in three years. All are currently eager to be heard...

Album Reviews *(Continued from page 9)*

include: "Sad Street," "God Bless The Child That's Got His Own" and "My Heart's Been Broken Into Again." Give yourself a treat. You'll Be glad you did. (J.R.)

■ LEEWAY: *Open Mouth Kiss* (Fierce Recordings/Futurist Label Group 11079)

Open Mouth Kiss, the new album from New York City's Leeway, is powerful and ambitious. This 11-track release, produced by the band, jumps right in with the loaded energy of "Foot The Bill," eventually traveling to the disc's closer, "Novena." Leeway's previous releases include 1989's *Born To Expire* and 1991's *Desperate Measures*. Both aforementioned titles were put out through Profile, while last year's *Adult Crash* marked the band's Fierce/Futurist debut. The foursome's live performance has been polished after several treks through Europe and a tour "in the early days" through the States with the highly influential Bad Brains. This intense quartet plans to invade the U.S. right after it eats a hearty holiday meal. In the meantime, everybody can enjoy the moist and meaty mix of *Open Mouth Kiss*. (K.S.)

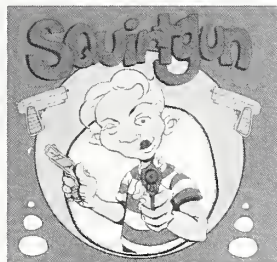


■ ROB BEN FORD AND THE THIN BLUE LINE: *Handful Of Blues* (Stretch/Blue Thumb LTD 7004)

If security, confidence and strength are what you're looking for in a guitar player, then search no more. He's here, and what's more, he's been here for a while in the guise of Robben Ford. He's been haunting clubs, bistros and auditoriums since the late '70s, and

first came to a wide audience with the jazz fusion band Yellowjackets. But he has always displayed his true proclivity for blues, something evident on his new CD. He shows that less is more as he plays lead guitar and sings while drummer Tom Breichlin and bassist Roscoe Beck provide serious rhythm flavor underneath. The ancillary players (too numerous to mention here provide textures that have to be heard to be believed). Remarkable production and playing by Danny Kortchmar tie a neat bow on this visceral package. Play "Rugged Road," "The Miller's Son" and "Tired Of Talkin'" and you'll see what I'm talkin' about. (J.R.)

■ SQUIRTGUN: *Squirtgun* (Lookout 128)



If pop-punk music is to your liking, here's a record for you. The full-length, self-titled debut from Squirtgun packs 12 punchy tunes into less than 30 minutes, making songs like "Allergic To You," "Less Than Nothing" and "Social" definite stand outs. In addition to the energy the act captures through recordings, it has been tearing up the nation—sharing stages with such acts as the Queens and Screaching Weasel. Keep in mind the extremely popular pop punk band Green Day once called Lookout home, therefore making possible anything this label supports worthy and welcomed in the marketplace. If you have a half-hour to spare, turn off that re-run of *Diff'rent Strokes* and slip *Squirtgun* into your player. Don't be the last to get soaked! (K.S.)



■ B SHARP JAZZ QUARTET: *Mirage* (MAMA MMF 1012)

This Los Angeles- cultivated aggregation has built a groundswell of support among some of the most influential musicians, industry insiders and media. They expertly embody a dichotomy: being thoroughly modern boppers—in the tradition of the past. Although Randall Willis on tenor and soprano sax,

along with the flurries by pianist/organist Rodney Lee, are the primary front-and-center pieces over most of this rhythmically and stylistically eclectic collection, it wouldn't mean a thing without the sonorous swing of bassist Reggie Carson and the tempo undertow of drummer Herb Graham Jr. In a mellow tone, the track "Nate's Bedtime" displays how so much soft, caressing sound can exude so much emotional power. The group is more polysyllabic and sonically full on the lengthy "Intrepid Fox," and the quartet shows its ability to incorporate voice on its "The Velvet Touch" (featuring Carmen Bradford), and later on the introductory African chorus of "C.R.S.," the latter of which explores thoroughly modern sensibilities—of course, in the context of tradition. (M.R.M.)

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LATIN

REVIEWS *By Héctor Reséndez*

■ **RENATO MARES:** *Una Mañana Gris* (Fonovisa, 9324) Producer: K.C. Porter. POP.

Mexican pop singer, Renato Mares, has a definite strong quality in his country-tinged style of pop rock. Yes, there are tinges of Bob Dylan and Neil Young in that young voice yet the guitar riffs and melancholy wailings are somehow unique to this artist's character. Better yet, let's attribute the appealing sound to international producer K.C. Porter. It's Renato's voice, no question, but it's vintage Porter. He's produced hits for María Conchita Alonso and Mijares. Look for Mares to follow suit with his current single "Este Corazon" as a follow-up to his first single "Tu No Sabes Nada." Besides, isn't an artist as good as his/her producer?

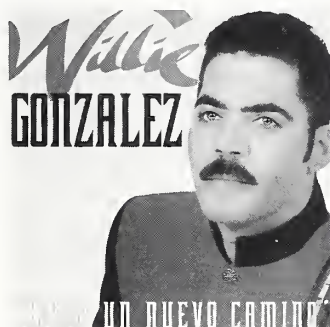


■ **HEROES DEL SILENCIO:** *Avalancha* (I.R.S./El Dorado Records, 35530) Producers: Andrew Jackson and Bob Ezrin. ROCK.

Bordering on a mix of metal-folk-rock elements, Heroes del Silencio's greatest asset is its incredible vocalist, Enrique Bunbury. He's what Jim Morrison was to the Doors. The Spanish rock group is definitely appealing in their particular type of rock. How about reaction by the rest of the world? That's to be seen in spite of the two million records sold worldwide. Doesn't hurt to get help from Bob Ezrin (Pink Floyd, Peter Gabriel, Alice Cooper, Kiss, etc.) to produce. One key will be the ultimate U.S. response to the Spanish Sultans of Rock.

■ **WILLIE GONZALEZ:** *Hacia Un Nuevo Camino*. (MP, 8168) Producer: Julio Gunda Merced. TROPICAL/SALSA.

Salsa singing artist-composer Willie Gonzalez presents his latest recording entitled *Hacia Un Nuevo Camino*. Gonzalez' reputation is that of being one of the early pioneers of "erotic Salsa." One wouldn't want to lay too much credit in that direction. That particular movement led heavily to the popularizing of Salsa, a fact not that prestigious to lend heavy credibility to in the late generation. Overall, the Salsa sounds positive and is very danceable. With previous tours in San Francisco, New York, Miami, Chicago, Venezuela, Perú, México, Colombia, and Panama, Gonzalez seems as a good prospect as any other at this time.



PICK OF THE WEEK

■ **JON SECADA:** *Amor* (EMI Latin, 35468) Producers: Emilio Estefan, Jr., Jon Secada, & Jorge Casas. POP.

Few albums are simply entitled *Love* and really mean it. Jon Secada's is truly an exception. The word "amor" is a powerful word. One that Latinos especially don't toss around too lightly. Secada's latest album captures that unique feeling. One of emotional highs and lows which evades all description. From the beginning selection "Como Un Milagro" to the humbling "Es Por Ti," contemporary romance songs have known no equal. Secada takes his amorous sentimentality to new altruistic heights. Secada's ever-evolving maturity is strongly evident with this production. A sure-fire classic in this artist's discography. Keep plenty on hand for the holiday rush!



THE LATIN LOWDOWN

News From U.S. & Latin America

By Héctor Reséndez

TROPICAL CONCERT EVENT TRIUMPHS AT DISNEYLAND VENUE:

The sixth international tropical music concert-dance, "Bailazo 95," was held again at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. The all-star lineup included such top acts as Colombia's cumbia star Sonora Dinamita with renowned bandleader Fruko, fellow countrymen Grupo Niche, Puerto Rican salsa favorite Tito Rojas, and Panamanian reggae-hip-hop artist El General. At near capacity, the annual event gave living proof that Latinos are eager consumers of a top quality act. Geographical boundaries did not seem to obstruct these concert-goers. Many came to dance and to watch some of their all-time favorite recording artists. Sponsored by American Airlines and Presidente Brandy, the evening turned into something of a "battle of the bands" as fans pressed closer to the main stage. Cheers became more heightened as the bands proudly professed their cultural origins. It was clearly obvious, however, that everyone had a great time.

EL GENERAL MARCHES INTO TOWN: Earlier in the week, we caught up with the amiable El General, one of the featured artists, at the Universal Sheraton Hotel. Otherwise known as Edgardo Franco, the young twenty-something singer/composer spoke candidly about his heretofore short career which has skyrocketed to international acclaim. In 1991, Franco signed with BMG and recorded *Muevelo con El General*. The title track, "Muevelo," immediately catapulted him to star status. He reached platinum status in several markets and became the recipient of many industry accolades for his rap act.

In 1992, Franco returned to his home country of Panama for the first time after having migrated to the States. He was received as if he were a foreign dignitary. El General has since been invited to participate in one of Latin America's most celebrated festivals, *Viña del Mar*, in Chile. He was the first Panamanian entertainer ever to attend this world-renowned event.

The next milestone came with the album *El Poder de El General* which included his biggest international underground hit "Caramelo." In 1994, he released *Es Mundial* taking El General to worldwide platinum-selling status. His latest and his fifth album is appropriately entitled *Clubb 555* which also signifies his 5 years as an artist and the 5 star status of a General. Most notably, this album fuses elements of reggae, salsa, rap, merengue, house, jazz, R&B, and calypso. The first promotional single is Franco's holiday themed composition, "Jingle Bebele." The album has a street release date of November 21st.

WEA LATINA'S MAN ROCKS ON SUNSET: It was early November when the Mexican rock quartet, Maná, made history on Hollywood's Sunset Strip. More than a thousand fans gathered at the Tower Records outlet there to catch a glimpse of their favorite band of rockers. The group showed up to promote their latest album, *Cuando Los Angeles Lloran*, and their latest promo single, "Hundido Em Un Rincón."



Maná at Tower Records on Sunset Blvd.

Aside from the expected gawkers were unexpected camera crews from CNN and *Good Morning America*. Their Spanish-language counterparts, *Telemundo*, *Univisión*, and *ECO de Televisa* were there, of course. In addition, Spanish-language radio stations (more than ten) were present, along with independent photographers, and two helicopters (of unknown origin). Such was the welcome of this band of Mexican rockers. A welcome readily reserved for their North American counterparts.

OTHER WEA INTERNATIONAL NEWS: Spanish composer-author, Alejandro Sanz, has recorded his third international album in Venecia, Italy, entitled *Alejandro Sanz III*. The second promo single, "Mi Soledad y Yo," can be found at the 13th place in the Nielsen ratings in México. Meanwhile, another single, "La Fuerza Del Corazón," is hitting the top of the charts in Holland. Sanz will be visiting the States soon to continue promoting the album.

FILM REVIEWS

By John Goff

Disney's *Toy Story*, Animation For The Cyber Generation



Heroes, Sheriff Woody and space ranger Buzz Lightyear go for a horrifying computer ride in Disney's latest adventure.

"TO INFINITY AND BEYOND," is the recognitive phrase of Buzz Lightyear, a lead character in Walt Disney Pictures and Pixar Production's *Toy Story*. It can also be used as speculation as to how far imaginative artists can take computer generation in the world of entertainment. It seems fitting that Disney, considering what pioneering founder Walt did with animation and cel development in the past, be the first to bring to the feature-length screen a full-on assault with totally computer-generated animation.

Yes, this is a major milestone in film making, and not *just* animation. Yes, we will be seeing more and more, bigger and better because right now some 10-year old computer wizard is in love with this and is at home working

on his own computer to make it do the same, or at the least bugging mom and dad to upgrade his hardware. Yes, we're going to Infinity and beyond, if not in the next decade then certainly within the next two. It's *all* picking up speed, folks.

Toy Story is story-driven, like all Disney animation, with appeal to kids of all ages. On the surface a buddy film, with the voices of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen wonderfully bringing the rival-buddy souls to life for the younger set, and underneath there's a darker lesson related to destruction and the fuller appeal for friendship. Credit the story to director John Lasseter, Pete Docter, Andrew Stanton and Joe Ranft, with screenplay credits going to Joss Whedon, Andrew Stanton, Joel Cohen and Alec Sokolow.

Director John Lasseter is a former Disney employee who was the second student accepted into Disney's start-up animation program at CalArts and spent his apprenticeship at the studio, before going on to become vice president of creative development at Pixar and winning an Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film, *Tin Toy*, of 1989. O.k., no stranger to this field. His guiding of *Toy Story* is complete in displaying action, touching moments, suspense and darker elements.

Briefly: Sheriff Woody, a pull-string talking toy is seemingly replaced in his human pal Andy's affections by new state-of-the-art space ranger toy Buzz Lightyear. Jealousy takes over and in getting rid of Buzz, Woody loses the respect of the other toys in Andy's room. He works to get Buzz back, and as the two of them go through their adventure together, they close ranks and gain equal respect among the other toys.

The state of computer-generated images, top to bottom, characters to the settings and locales, indoor and outdoor, often compels the viewer to forget this is animation of any kind. The possibilities of being able to generate totally real appearing trees, houses, automobiles, *anything* is astounding and utilized fully here. The action sequence during which Buzz and Woody fly down the street attempting to catch up to a moving van is *real*. You'll walk out asking yourself where animation leaves off and reality begins.

Top 15 Weekly Film Grosses

RANK/TITLE	DISTRIBUTOR	WEEK	SCREENS	WKND TOTAL	AVG	TOTAL
1. <i>Goldeneye</i>	MGM/UA	1	2,667	\$26,205,007	\$9,826	\$26,205,007
2. <i>Ace Ventura: Nature...</i>	Warner Bros.	2	2,652	\$19,510,643	\$7,357	\$65,020,821
3. <i>The American President</i>	Columbia	1	1,508	\$10,014,558	\$6,641	\$11,130,366
4. <i>It Takes Two</i>	Warner Bros.	1	1,581	\$5,564,147	\$3,519	\$5,564,147
5. <i>Get Shorty</i>	MGM/UA	5	2,103	\$4,334,185	\$2,061	\$56,855,436
6. <i>Copycat</i>	Warner Bros.	5	2,103	\$4,334,185	\$2,061	\$56,855,436
7. <i>Powder</i>	Buena Vista	4	1,591	\$2,412,073	\$1,516	\$24,880,701
8. <i>Home For The Holidays</i>	Paramount	3	1,000	\$1,961,239	\$1,961	\$11,274,294
9. <i>Seven</i>	New Line	9	1,463	\$1,641,769	\$1,122	\$84,225,310
10. <i>Now And Then</i>	New Line	5	1,662	\$1,510,371	\$909	\$23,868,750
11. <i>Vampire In Brooklyn</i>	Paramount	4	1,213	\$1,008,941	\$832	\$18,239,390
12. <i>Fair Game</i>	Warner Bros.	3	1,114	\$698,209	\$627	\$10,423,555
13. <i>Mortal Kombat</i>	New Line	14	605	\$576,651	\$953	\$68,429,876
14. <i>Mighty Aphrodite</i>	Miramax	4	278	\$555,618	\$1,999	\$3,365,014
15. <i>Babe</i>	Universal	16	831	\$548,460	\$660	\$54,887,950

Domestic box-office, which includes USA and Canada for the weekend of November 17-19, totaled \$79,548,895, breaking down to a \$3,630 per-screen average off a total of 21,911 screens, giving a combined total of \$488,101,607. (Courtesy *Entertainment Data, Inc.*)

Tom Hanks, voicing Woody, captures the spirit, fun and down-to-earth character, and vice versa; it's a wonderful blending of voice and image. Same with Tim Allen as the space ranger.

The other toys are classics, to be universally recognizable and, therefore, easily identifiable and are vocally embodied by: Don Rickles as Mr. Potato Head; Jim Varney as Slinky Dog; Wallace Shawn, Rex the paranoid T-Rex; John Ratzenberger, Hamm the nosy piggy bank; Annie Potts as Bo Peep with a yen for Woody.

Add to this music by Randy Newman, including three original songs written and performed by him—one on which he's joined by Lyle Lovett—and you've got an across-the-screen-and-eras winner. Newman's "I Will Go Sailing No More" is a plaintive and stirring moment of recognition marvelously utilized within the story, which will go to the heart of anyone over the age of ten via recognition factor.

Ralph Guggenheim and Bonnie Arnold produced. Edwin Catmull and Steven Jobs executive produced.

Universal's *Casino* Like Vegas: Glittery, Violent, & Empty

By J.G.



Robert De Niro heads an impressive cast in a Las Vegas casino.

YOU SALIVATE OUTSIDE THE THEATRE and over two hours into *Casino*, waiting for the elements to come together. Never happens. The front of your shirt's wet for nothing.

Well, not *nothing*. There are some fine performances and a laundry list of some of the most era-evocative tunes assembled—and that's all the music here, no original additions, all tunes of the past—but director and co-screenwriter Martin Scorsese doesn't seem able to focus on where he wants to go in the casino. He's like a degenerate gambler with a calling for several games—God, where to spend this money! He and co-writer Nicholas Pileggi want to recall their former *GoodFellas* days then want it to be a two level love story—man-woman, man-casino—or a remembered look back on a Las Vegas with more class than the present crass. I, personally, would rather have seen the focus on the latter; the era when men gambled in suit and tie, women in dress outfits rather than baggy shorts and sneakers; when you used to have the feeling you were in a castle (a decadent one perhaps) rather than on the sawdust midway of a quick-buck-ripoff carnival.

Scorsese, however, wants it *all* and, in attempting that feat, misses on all of them. The preponderance of vision lays on brutality, that of a doomed-from-the-start male/female relationship and the visual brutality of battering deaths. There's simply no call for the extent of the brutality displayed here: baseball bats, ball point pens jammed in throats, eyes popping out from a vise squeezing a head. Maybe it happened that way but, for Christ's sake, *imply* it, don't show it. If it *truly* calls for a display, *one* swing of the Louisville Slugger gets the point across. Hey, all you film makers, *and* so-called film makers, out there, give us a break!

The stories revolve around Robert De Niro as an almost infallible bookie set up by "The Mob" as a casino head in the Vegas heyday of the '60s and '70s, before it all begins to fall apart in the '80s; his neighborhood buddy Joe Pesci—practically reprising his role from *GoodFellas*—as the gangster-for-gangsterism's sake strongarm; and Sharon Stone as a hooker hooked on

penny-ante pimp James Woods even after De Niro gets the (unexplained) hots for her and elevates her to queen/wife status. That love affair, while more the center than other aspect, is the most implausible. If the De Niro character hadn't wiped her out early on, "The Mob" heads would have.

The car explosion bookending the film—giving the impression De Niro is wiped out and is narrating (endlessly, it seems) this from the great Casino in the sky—feels like a cheat has been run on the audience when, at film's end, it's explained that he was saved because of "that particular model" car and how it was constructed...Whaaaa?

And the endless narration, divided by De Niro and Pesci, looking at situations from their particular vantage points, while colorful at moments is deadening more often than not. If we want to *hear* a story we'll call Dove Books.

De Niro is always interesting to watch, even when the situations get repetitive. Sharon Stone as the hooker with the dope and boozed up ten-cent heart proves there's more to her talent than her well-crossed legs. She's very convincing in her chemically induced mood swings and more than holds her own with the big boys. Pesci has that no-fear attitude down better than he did in his previous outing as a muscle guy, but make-up and hair have drawn his face so far back he's given an almost Oriental appearance. He looks uncomfortable and makes the audience feel the same. Don Rickles and Alan King add some authentic former Vegas flavor to their roles, while L.Q. Jones adds a truth-like patina of local political pressure to his role.

Costume designers Rita Ryack and John Dunn have contributed mightily to the period feel *and* to De Niro's character with the coordination of his wardrobe while DP Robert Richardson's photography captures an historical flavor.

The big seller however, is liable to be the soundtrack album. Producer is Barbara De Fina.

Paramount's *Nick Of Time*, A Close Call

By J.G.

THE FACE OF THE CLOCK LOOKS GREAT, gears are all there, but there are a few cogs missing in the interior of this "actual time" piece from John Badham for Paramount. Hitchcockesque in concept and spotty application, it's not a total miss and it's interesting to note that when a filmmaker *has* to fill each moment on screen instead of being able to conveniently time-cut sequences for dramatic effect, just how much time of a person's life can be considered inconsequential, no matter how tense the situation he's surrounded by or leading to.

The main trouble here is *Why* would obviously seasoned politico/crime plotters choose to have the most important gear, the trigger-man, an unproven man-off-the-street with pressure (the kidnap and threat of death against his daughter) put upon him with 90-minutes to pull off the assassination of California's governor? Now, if you can get past that, you're thoroughly going to enjoy *Nick Of Time*—even when it strays to fill dead time—because it's been well cast; the performers obviously have realized the pressure's on them to keep their internal clocks ticking in real time with real pressure; Arthur B. Rubinstein's score literally reminds you a clock is ticking within its own taut contribution, and Roy H. Wagner's Bonaventure Hotel location photography is inventive.

If only Patrick Sheane Duncan's script were more quirky in its situations, its central character more inventive—which we are led to believe he'll be during his opening put down of the roller bladers at Union Station which, indeed, was a major cause which led to his being chosen for this assassination. The script, as it is, is serviceable but not terrifically inventive, and with



Father Johnny Depp and daughter Courtney Chase, when *Nick Of Time* looks promising.

FILM

something like this you need to hang it out there, pal. This is no place to play it safe.

Briefly: A man is picked out of a crowd to assassinate California's governor because she's not delivered on campaign promises to controlling money interests. When the man foils the plot all high profile baddies are either dead or captured but—in a sublime moment of truth, presented visually and without vocal comment—the power behind it all, the behind-the-scenes money controller simply rides away in his limo, unnoticed, unknown, and unconcerned. What a wonderful commentary on true politics and the ways of the present world.

Director John Badham works mightily to keep things tense, even, at one point in an almost Hitchcock-like homage, using a slowly swinging toilet stall door to build suspense. But by that time Christopher Walken's bad guy has lost all credibility, and the time appears to be spent waiting for the clock to catch up to the moment the characters have to leave. Another neat sequence, utilizing humor, character interplay, timing and tension, involves Depp, Charles S. Dutton in a terrific characterization, and Edith Diaz, delightful as a helpful, flirty maid.

Depp as the man fighting to save daughter Courtney Chase is convincing after a slow start with character indecision, foisted upon him largely by the script. Walken offers up his course in *Bad Guy 101*; direct, hard, assured, but the assurance and confidence is undercut, and if a real criminal of his standing had made that many mistakes *he'd* have been dumped off the roof before Depp. Young Courtney Chase was the perfect choice because you do *not* want to see harm come to this child—which makes that threat viable. Marsha Mason is the Governor targeted for assassination and Peter Strauss is her conniving husband. Both are pretty straight-forward. Roma Maffia is solid as the gunwoman/hench-person to Walken. Dutton is absolutely solid as a one-legged former vet and brings humor, outrage, strength and believability to his role. G.D. Spradlin as the mystery money man adds that perfect air of cynicism and disdain to the role.

Badham doubled as producer. D.J. Caruso executive produced.

Columbia's *Money Train* Goes Down The Drain

By J.G.



Pull the triggers, guys! please-Please-PLEASE!!

THE PICTURE ABOVE neatly illustrates the mentality of *Money Train* and those connected with it, Wesley Snipes and Woody Harrelson as a couple of loose cannons in the subways of New York during holiday season just havin' fun. After they see this destruction-for-destruction's sake piece of twisted garbage, every dimwit with a pipe bomb or the desire to derail a train will converge on the Apple. Just wait'll the politicians get their vote-hooks into *this* one. Looks like Columbia Pictures and Peters Entertainment wants to keep the cesspool stirring.

Action's fine, folks, if there's *some* thought behind it. I love a good caper film too, but the caper has to be properly set up, not just talked about as an idea and then suddenly, it's there! *Money Train* is simply stupid, and stupidity to this extent on screen is nothing more than a blatant and irresponsible grab for a dollar by halfwits playing with the surprises in their pampers. "Writing"

is credited to Doug Richardson and David Loughery. "Story" is on Richardson's diaper table. I suppose, though, if this pair can get this load on screen then the dodos they write *about* deserve to get away with the caper, as they do here.

It's just an attempt to cash in on the re-teaming of Snipes and Harrelson, as brothers—well, *foster* brothers—and they love each other like "bros," do the requisite hand jiving, insult humor and overlapping babbling at each other to show their love is true and what it all amounts to is a pair of overpaid actors going through the paces for a quick payday while the stunt team sets up another gag. Director Joseph Ruben has about as much story sense as his writers.

Subway crash is technically impressive and totally preposterous.

Jon Peters and Neil Canton produced.

VIDEO REVIEW

Ted Hawkins: Amazing Grace

SOMEDAY SOMEONE WILL wake up and realize that Ted Hawkins' life is an amazing and inspiring journey from which to make a moving feature film. Everything's there: born into the late 1930s in rural Mississippi, doing a stretch in that state's Parchman prison (which *truly* is not a Federal country club); learning music in New Orleans from Professor Longhair; riding the rails; busking on Venice Beach in California; success in Europe and eventually success here in his '50s and, just when it was all coming together, death from a stroke.



The story is full of true heroism, because true heroism in Ted Hawkins' chosen field—music—is to be far superior to those making millions and to keep on doing what one has to do simply for the love of *making* music.

Geffen Home Video is releasing *Ted Hawkins: Amazing Grace* as a tribute to the musician who would not pigeon-hole himself into a specific area. He did blues, rock and roll, a form of gospel and pop. He did it all. His voice, as one interviewee during the 63-minute video notes, "seemed to come from the center of the earth." It was earthy. When he sings you can hear almost every field, every dirt road, every gravel stretch of road or land Ted moved over. He invested his tunes with the feeling of every inch he traveled, every fear he felt and every joy he experienced. There was no lip service to what Ted Hawkins invested in the music he served up. He called his instrument "a channel of God." He knew what he was and what he was about, and you can see it on this video. It's all written in his face as he talks and sings through this presentation, made in 1994 just prior to his death January 1, 1995.

Harry Belafonte hosts the video, sprinkled with interviews, which include Pete Seeger, Mavis Staples, Micheal Penn and producer Tony Berg among others.

But the highlights are those moments when Hawkins sits with his guitar, picking with an acrylic thumbnail and fretting with a gloved hand, keeping time with a tap shoe on a block of wood and doing what he did on the streets of downtown L.A., Venice Beach and before audiences in Europe—he makes music that comes from the guts of the soul and from the earth.

Ted Hawkins: Amazing Grace, is a collector's item, one you want if you ever need your spirit uplifted. At least, it'll do until somebody wakes up and makes the story, completely. (Geffen Home Video)

— John Goff

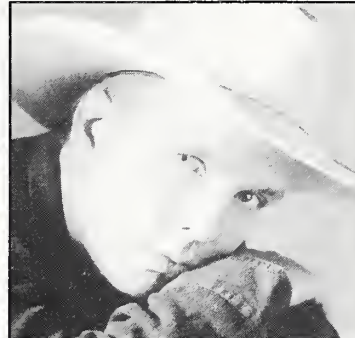
CASH BOX

TOP 100 COUNTRY SINGLES

DECEMBER 2, 1995



This Week's #1:
Clay Walker



Highest Debut:
Garth Brooks

1	WHO NEEDS YOU BABY (Giant 17771)	Clay Walker	2	11
2	TALL, TALL TREES (Arista)	Alan Jackson	7	6
3	BACK IN YOUR ARMS AGAIN (BNA 66508)	Lorrie Morgan	6	13
4	WHISKEY UNDER THE BRIDGE (Arista 2770)	Brooks & Dunn	4	11
5	LIFE GOES ON (Warner Bros. 17770)	Little Texas	8	13
6	IN PICTURES (RCA 66525)	Alabama	9	9
7	CHECK YES OR NO (MCA 11263)	George Strait	1	9
8	THAT'S AS CLOSE AS I'LL GET TO LOVING YOU (RCA)	Aaron Tippin	10	13
9	TEQUILA TALKIN' (BNA 66642)	Lonestar	11	15
10	GO REST ON THAT HIGH MOUNTAIN (MCA 11047)	Vince Gill	15	13
11	SOMETIMES SHE FORGETS (Warner Bros.)	Travis Tritt	5	15
12	I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU (Columbia 67140)	Dolly Parton & Vince Gill	13	11
13	LIFE GETS AWAY (RCA 66419)	Clint Black	14	7
14	CAN'T BE REALLY GONE (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	19	5
15	DEEP DOWN (Arista)	Pam Tillis	16	8
16	LOVE LESSONS (MCA 3428)	Tracy Byrd	17	12
17	HERE COMES THE RAIN (MCA 11257)	The Mavericks	20	15
18	THE CAR (Curb 77744)	Jeff Carson	22	8
19	I LET HER LIE (Giant 24606)	Daryle Singletary	3	17
20	REBECCA LYNN (Asylum 9344)	Bryan White	26	8
21	TROUBLE (Decca 11261)	Mark Chestnutt	21	10
22	BORN IN THE DARK (Columbia 64330)	Doug Stone	24	9
23	WHEN A WOMAN LOVES A MAN (Career 187902)	Lee Roy Parnell	25	12
24	NOTHING (Reprise 17734)	Dwight Yoakam	28	7
25	IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD (Capitol Nashville)	Emilio	27	13
26	IF I HAD ANY PRIDE LEFT AT ALL (Capitol Nashville)	John Berry	29	6
27	WHEN BOY MEETS GIRL (Mercury 526991)	Terri Clark	30	4
28	COWBOY LOVE (Atlantic)	John Michael Montgomery	40	2
29	THE FEVER (Capitol Nashville 32080)	Garth Brooks	DEBUT	
30	RING ON HER FINGER, TIME ON HER HANDS (MCA 12642)	Reba McEntire	33	3
31	IT MATTERS TO ME (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	37	3
32	NOT ENOUGH HOURS IN THE NIGHT (Giant 17764)	Doug Supernaw	32	7
33	IF I WAS A DRINKIN' MAN (Atlantic)	Neal McCoy	12	16
34	HEART HALF EMPTY (Epic 66397)	Ty Herndon & Stephanie Bentley	35	6
35	RUB-A-DUBBIN' (Epic 66965)	Ken Mellons	36	8
36	WHAT I MEANT TO SAY (Columbia 66412)	Wade Hayes	38	5
37	LIKE THERE AIN'T NO YESTERDAY (Arista)	Blackhawk	43	3
38	(IF YOU'RE NOT IN IT FOR LOVE) I'M OUTTA HERE! (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	DEBUT	
39	SHE SAID YES (Decca 11098)	Rhett Akins	39	6
40	NOT THAT DIFFERENT (Epic 78189)	Collin Raye	44	2
41	SMOKE IN HER EYES (RCA 64405)	Ty England	42	4
42	ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL (Capitol Nashville 10302)	Shenandoah	45	3
43	NO MAN'S LAND (Atlantic)	John Michael Montgomery	18	14

44	GRANDPA TOLD ME SO (BNA 66562)	Kenny Chesney	50	2
45	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 55153)	David Lee Murphy	DEBUT	
46	THOSE WORDS WE SAID (Mercury 526812)	Kim Richey	47	8
47	VEIL OF TEARS (Curb 76965)	Hal Ketchum	48	2
48	'ROUND HERE (Curb 77785)	Sawyer Brown	DEBUT	
49	I JUST CAN'T STAND TO BE UNHAPPY (MCA)	Bobbie Cryner	49	7
50	I WANNA GO TOO FAR (MCA 11201)	Trisha Yearwood	31	17
51	THE WOMAN IN ME (NEEDS THE MAN IN YOU) (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	34	15
52	I'M A STRANGER HERE MYSELF (Curb)	Perfect Stranger	41	9
53	WHEN HE WAS MY AGE (Atlantic)	Confederate Railroad	53	4
54	LISTENIN' TO THE RADIO (Polydor)	Chely Wright	55	5
55	SAFE IN THE ARMS OF LOVE (RCA 66509)	Martina McBride	43	19
56	ALL I NEED TO KNOW (BNA 66562)	Kenny Chesney	46	18
57	IF I COULD SEE LOVE (Career 18789)	Brett James	57	5
58	DOG ON A TOOLBOX (Epic 67069)	James Bonamy	59	4
59	DUST ON THE BOTTLE (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	51	15
60	STEADY AS SHE GOES (Giant 24620)	Mark Collie	DEBUT	
61	SOLID GROUND (Atlantic)	Ricky Skaggs	64	2
62	NO YESTERDAY (Magnatone)	Billy Montana	62	5
63	HIS MEMORY (Step One 0085)	Western Flyer	65	3
64	FIELD OF DREAMS (Curb)	Boy Howdy	63	5
65	KNOCK, KNOCK (Atlantic)	The Hutchens	52	9
66	I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO SAY NO (Arista)	Blackhawk	56	17
67	I HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET (Decca 11259)	Helen Darling	69	3
68	WHEREVER YOU ARE TONIGHT (BNA 66764)	Keith Whitley	68	4
69	SHE'S EVERY WOMAN (Capitol Nashville 10301)	Garth Brooks	60	12
70	SAVE THIS ONE FOR ME (Columbia 66771)	Rick Trevino	58	12
71	THE TROUBLE WITH LOVE (River North 51416)	Rob Crosby	61	8
72	SHE CAN'T SAVE HIM (Capitol Nashville)	Lisa Brokop	75	2
73	BETTER THINGS TO DO (Mercury)	Terri Clark	72	19
74	ON MY OWN (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	66	10
75	ANYTHING FOR LOVE (Epic)	James House	54	10
76	HONKY TONK HEALIN' (Warner Bros. 17785)	David Ball	70	9
77	HALFWAY DOWN (Epic 64188)	Patty Loveless	71	21
78	IT'S NOT ABOUT BLAME (River North 4549)	Holly Dunn	80	2
79	LET'S GO TO VEGAS (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	67	17
80	(THIS THING CALLED) WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb)	Sawyer Brown	73	20
81	IF THE WORLD HAD A FRONT PORCH (Atlantic)	Tracy Lawrence	74	18
82	HEAVEN BOUND (I'M READY) (Capitol Nashville)	Shenandoah	76	17
83	I LIKE IT, I LOVE IT (Curb)	Tim McGraw	79	16
84	ONE BOY, ONE GIRL (Epic 67033)	Collin Raye	78	19
85	DON'T STOP (DKC/Columbia 66412)	Wade Hayes	81	21
86	I THINK ABOUT IT ALL THE TIME (Capitol Nashville)	John Berry	77	21
87	SHOULD'VE ASKED HER FASTER (RCA 66522)	Ty England	82	25
88	THAT AIN'T MY TRUCK (Decca 11098)	Rhett Akins	84	28
89	LEAD ON (MCA 11092)	George Strait	85	22
90	WHO'S COUNTING (Mercury 526582)	Wesley Dennis	83	9
91	BIG OL' TRUCK (Polydor 314523)	Toby Keith	87	19
92	THREE WORDS, TWO HEARTS, ONE NIGHT (Giant 24620)	Mark Collie	86	24
93	SOMEONE ELSE'S STAR (Asylum)	Bryan White	89	28
94	I'M NOT THE ONE (Magnatone)	Shelby Lynne	88	8
95	ONE EMOTION (RCA 66419)	Clint Black	90	21
96	SHE AIN'T YOUR ORDINARY GIRL (RCA 66525)	Alabama	93	23
97	NOT ON YOUR LOVE (MCG/Curb)	Jeff Carson	94	26
98	YOU'RE GONNA MISS ME WHEN I'M GONE (Arista)	Brooks & Dunn	95	24
99	THESE ARMS (MCG/Curb)	Baker & Myers	91	8
100	HOME ALONE (Polydor)	4 Runner	92	7

Warner Bros.' Sharp Retires

By Wendy Newcomer

MARTHA SHARP, ONE OF THE MUSIC INDUSTRY'S most respected A&R executives, recently announced her retirement after three decades in the business. Sharp spent the past 12 years of her career at Warner/Reprise Nashville and leaves the company as senior vice president of A&R. Before her current position, Sharp was director of A&R for Elektra Records prior to the merger of Elektra and Warner's country divisions. In her A&R capacity at Warner Bros., she was responsible for signing country superstars **Randy Travis** and **Faith Hill**.

In addition to her stint at Warner Bros., Sharp is also an accomplished songwriter who penned three million-selling songs in the late 1960s—"Born A Woman" and "Single Girl," both recorded by Sandy Posey, and "Come Back When You Grow Up," by Bobby Vee. *Cash Box* recently spoke to Sharp about her remarkable career and impending retirement.

Cash Box: What prompted your decision to retire?

Martha Sharp: Well, this isn't an overnight decision. I know a lot of people feel that way. I've been doing A&R, which is a high-stress, high-burn-out kind of job, for a long long time. I had thought about retiring actually three years ago before I signed a new contract. At that time, I had just found Faith Hill. I was also working with Greg Holland, who I was very excited about. So, you know, as long as I was having a good time I was going to keep doing it. So I signed a new contract. The business has changed tremendously in the last three years. And while I think the changes are in a lot of ways exciting, they are also very frustrating too.

CB: How has the business changed?

MS: Well, I think once Garth broke through with the kind of numbers that he did, it raised the stakes very high. The money to be made is infinitely greater. And that's why we now have 23 record labels instead of six, and why we have *so many* artists. Publishers and the writers have more options and are able to call the shots, which is okay with me as long as they're fair about it. You know, it just seems to be that it used to be more about the music. And now it's more about the money.

CB: You said that your A&R job was very high-stress. How did you get involved with A&R?

MS: I had taken what I had thought would be a temporary position with Jimmy Bowen at Elektra Records 16 and a half years ago. He needed an assistant and I thought, 'Well, I'll just help him out for a while.' And he got me really involved back in the business. After about 18 months he just said, 'I'm gonna make you director of A&R.' 'Well, gee, that's kind of scary. But okay, I'll try it.' And I love songs. Of course, I was a songwriter. It just seemed to be a little niche that worked for me.

CB: I'm sure that Mr. Bowen was one of your mentors early in your career. Did you have any others?

MS: Ummm...not really. Jimmy told me—and I was thinking back on it as I was looking forward to this party and wondering if they were going to let me say a few words; actually I only said very few—but Jimmy told me when I went to work for him, he said, "I don't have time to teach you anything. So you're just going to have to sit in here and learn on your own." And it was a great opportunity because...when we started, there were only like six of us that worked there. And it grew fairly rapidly. But I would just go in Jimmy's office and sit. And he'd be on the phone or he'd be talking business. He'd have people in there and he'd just let me sit at the edge of his desk. And I learned quite a lot. Some of it was what *not* to do as well as what to do. But it was a real education. And I guess when he left...I've also learned a lot from Jim Ed (Norman, President, Warner Bros.). Different sorts of things. It's been a fun ride. Not always, but most of the time.

CB: As an executive in the industry, how has the business changed from when you first started?

MS: I can't tell you what a family feeling it was when I first started out. It was a very exciting time. But people were really looking out for each other.



Martha Sharp

They knew that whatever was good for one of us helped the whole business. Writers would come over and they'd say, "Well, so and so's looking for a song. If you've got anything, you'd better get it over there." And their song might get knocked off the session. It was just a more cooperative kind of venture. People worked together more. And now it seems that they're...the stakes are *so* high that it's much more competitive and much less of a family kind of a feeling. It's much more bottom-line oriented than it used to be.

CB: I'm sure you have a lot of career highlights. What has been the best thing about being in the music business?

MS: Well as a writer, of course there's nothing like hearing your song on the radio. It is a great experience. And getting a BMI award is a great experience. As an executive...I guess...I'm not sure anything else would compare with the first time I heard Randy Travis on the radio and knew that I had something *big* happening. It was very very exciting.

CB: Tell me about that. You discovered him and basically are responsible for his career.

MS: I was on a CMA marketing sub-committee and I went to some meeting. It was a long meeting and they were all thrashing about, about younger demographics. "We've got to get more pop and we've got to get more rock to get these younger people, because they're the ones that buy records." And this retailer said this one thing that really stuck in my mind. He said, "You know, my customers don't think what they're hearing on the radio is country." And so I developed the theory that the way to get young consumers was *not* to get more rock or more pop because there was already a business like that. But to give them young, attractive country singers that just wanted to be country. And so I set out to find this kind of an act. And I asked a friend of mine and she said, "Randy Ray (as Travis was known at the time) is out here at the Nashville Palace. You heard a demo tape on him of a song that you liked, and his biggest ambition is to be on the Grand Ole Opry." And that's what I wanted. Because we had a whole roster full of people who wanted to cross over. So I went out to see him and he was just delightful. He was very very shy and very sweet. And I thought he was a great singer. And so I decided I wanted to sign him. I was very scared because everybody kind of went, 'Yeah, well he's too country for country radio.'

CB: Did you have to fight to get him on Warner Bros.?

MS: No. Well, the truth of the matter is I just sort of called up business affairs and said I was going to sign him. And I guess they probably called Jim Ed. My speculation is that they called Jim Ed and said, 'Well, what about this?' And he said, 'Well, it's her shot. Let her have it.' That's my theory,



and I've never really talked to Jim Ed about it. But Jim Ed is a wonderful man and he's allowed all of us to sort of follow our own visions and to have our shot, and it's worked great.

CB: Randy Travis and your other best-known signee, Faith Hill, are completely different. What was your feeling when you signed her?

MS: I first became aware of her at a Gary Burr show. She was singing backup on a writer's night at the Bluebird. I mean, I was just mesmerized. I didn't have a clue who she was. I couldn't really tell whether she could sing or not but I thought she looked like a star. And I asked somebody who she was and they told me. And so I ran into her maybe a month or so later and I asked her if she had ambitions to be a country music artist, a single singer, and she said yes, as a matter of fact, she did. I said, well why don't you get me a tape. She said she was working on something at the time with Gary Burr. And I mean, as soon as I heard her voice, I knew that I wanted to work with her. I've never been so sure of anything. There was never any doubt in my mind. And that had more to do with what she projects onstage and what she... And of course, she looked real different too. She had short hair and she was just a little shy, you know, background singer. But there was something about her that... I just thought she looked like a star. I never wanted to just go sign another Randy Travis. I had a Randy Travis. And I'd been looking for a female artist for a long long time and I'd tried a couple things that hadn't quite worked. But she was the ticket for me. And she's such a dear person. I just love her so much. That's the other criterion that I have for signing an act. I have to go down a road with this person. That this be someone I care about and whose company I enjoy. It's a tough road to go down and if you're going down it with people you don't like it can be grueling. So there has to be that sort of chemistry there between me, for an A&R person and an artist, or a producer and an artist, that makes it all work.

CB: The music business is very fickle and unpredictable. What has kept you in it all these years? Obviously, you love what you do.

MS: Probably just that. I guess what attracted me to the business in the first place was... I went to a recording session and I sat there and I talked to the writer of a song that was being recorded and I thought, "Isn't this fascinating!" You write a song and you hopefully get it recorded. The producer has to like it, the artist has to like it, some A&R person has to like it. And you go in the studio and maybe the musicians got up on the wrong side of the bed that morning and it doesn't come off. Or maybe they just can't sing it. But everybody thinks it's a hit and you put it out. And all of a sudden, the public just gives it a big yawn. You know? 'Nope, sorry, we don't want that.' I was just fascinated with this whole thing. It was like this team effort that still, no matter how... all the factors could be right, or all the factors could be wrong. You put it out there and it's the public that has the final say. And you never know. And I've seen it time and time and time again. I mean, I'll tell you, there were people who wouldn't have given a plugged nickel for Randy Travis' chances. And it just fooled so many people. I remember a song called "Almost Persuaded," which is way way before your time. And I can't even remember the artist. David Houston, I believe. And it was a B-side. They put it out—it was a waltz. They put it out on the B-side, and they said, "This'll never happen. It's a waltz. Radio won't play waltzes. It was a huge record. Radio turned it over and made it a monster hit. And I just think that's fascinating and challenging. You try to figure that out. And I've been trying to figure it out for 15 years—and I've figured it out a couple of times and I'm tired. (laughs) I don't want to try and do it anymore.

CB: Well, that kind of answers my next question: Is it going to be hard for you to give it up?

MS: No.

CB: Not at all?

MS: Well, actually, Jim Ed and I are talking about a consulting kind of arrangement. His idea is, "Well, maybe you'll be out somewhere and you'll see somebody." And I've also committed to work with at least one act for next year. We're talking about that. And I'm not going to say that I won't do that. I don't think I'm gonna miss being here in the thick of it.

CB: So what will you do now?

MS: I'm gonna take probably six months to sort of chill out, clean the cobwebs out. Get my new house in Richmond straightened up. Hang out with friends and learn how to cook, or catch up on my reading—all of that stuff. And then I'd like to write a book. I don't know if I can. I don't know if I've got the patience but I'd like to.

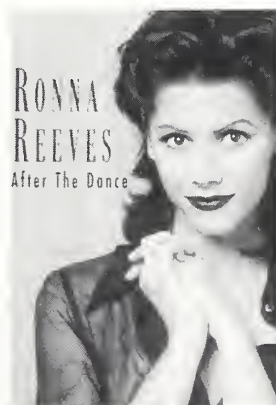


Songwriter Robert Jason was the guest of honor at a BMI-hosted luncheon celebrating the #1 chart achievement of his song "She Ain't Your Ordinary Girl," recorded by Alabama. Joining the party at BMI Nashville are (l-r): Joe Bob Barnhill of co-publisher Suzi Joe Music; Robert Jason, also representing co-publisher My Split Music; attorney Craig Benson; record producer Emory Gordy Jr.; and BMI's Thomas Cain.



Seen recently at the Bluebird Cafe enjoying The Karen Staley Band are (l-r): Gary Burr (ASCAP's Songwriter of the Year); Victoria Shaw ("Forgiveness"); Karen Staley ("Let's Go To Vegas"); and Mark Luna ("When A Woman Loves A Man").

Album Review



RONNA REEVES: *After The Dance* (River North/Nashville 51416 1142 2/4)

After three albums for Mercury Records, country chanteuse Ronna Reeves lends her talents to a debut album on the Chicago-based River North Records. The new project is an opportunity for Reeves to reveal an impressive vocal range that, due to getting lost in the shuffle of a major label, was previously overlooked. (Incidentally, Reeves is currently touring with label mate Peter Cetera, her recent duct partner on the ABBA song, "S.O.S.") To repeat—the best

thing Reeves has going for her is her distinctive voice. She really sounds like no one else but herself. Hopefully, individuality will work to her advantage this time. Among some admittedly weak songs on the album are also some wise choices. The first single, "Collect From Wichita," is one of the best of the bunch. Other prime cuts are "Not Yet But I'm Gettin' There," "My Heart Wasn't In It," the title tune and "Mind Over Matters Of The Heart."

COUNTRY MUSIC

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 IF THE WORLD HAD A FRONT PORCH Tracy Lawrence, Paul Nelson, Keray Beard (TLE Music/Golden Road Music, Inc./ASCAP/Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./BMI) 81
 IN PICTURES Joe Doyle, Bobby E. Boyd (BMG Songs, Inc./ASCAP/Careers-BMG Music Pub., Inc./BMI) 6
 IT MATTERS TO ME Mark D. Sanders, Ed Hill (Starstruck Writers Group, Inc./Mark D. Music, Inc./ASCAP/New Haven Music, Inc./Music Hill Music, BMI) 78
 IT'S NOT ABOUT BLAME Linda Hayers, Dansten Cumberland Music, BMI) 78
 IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD Paul Nelson, Larry Boone, Earl Clark (Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./Terlike Music/O-Tex Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Pub. Co., Inc./ASCAP) 25
 KNOCK KNOCK Jerry Salley, Jeff Stevens (Warner-Tamereine Pub. Corp./Jeff Stevens Music, BMI/W. B. M. Music Corp./Extra Images Music, SESAC) 65
 LEAD ON Dean Dikns, Teddy Green (Acuff-Rose Music, Inc./Maypop Music) 89
 LET'S GO TO VEGAS Karen Staley (All Over Town Music/Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./BMI) 79
 LIFE GETS AWAY Clint Black, Hagsten Nicholas, Thom Schuyler (Blackwood Music/EMI Blackwood Music, Inc./Bethann Music, BMI) 5
 LIFE GOES ON Del Gray, Thom McHugh, Keith Folkse (Howlin' Hits Music/Square West Music, ASCAP/Kicking Bird Music/Thomasok Music/Careers BMG Music Publishing, Inc./Breaker Maker Music, BMI) 37
 LIKE THERE AIN'T NO YESTERDAY Walt Aldridge, Mark Naminore (Rock Hall Music, Inc./Watertown Music, ASCAP/Pine Publishing Co., Inc./BMI) 54
 LISTENIN' TO THE RADIO Sunny Rust, Stephen Smith (Starstruck Angel Music, Inc./EMI Blackwood Music, Inc./BMI) 54
 LOVE LESSONS Jerry Kilgore, Ted Hewitt, Monty Powell, Sarah Mayors (Saklle Tam Music, BMI/Don Music Music/Acufl Rose, ASCAP) 16
 NO MAN'S LAND John Scott Sherrill, Steve Seim (All Over Town Music/Sony Tree Publishing Co., Inc./New Wolf Music, BMI/Love This Town Music/David Aaron Music, ASCAP) 43
 NO YESTERDAY Billy Montana, Joy Swann (Magnasonic Music Publishing/Red Quill Music Street Music, Inc./Little Canyon Music, BMI) 62
 NOT ENOUGH HOURS IN THE NIGHT Aaron Barker, Kim Williams, Ron Harbin (O-Tex Music/Hiz Street Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Pub. Co., Inc./Kim Williams Music, ASCAP) 32
 NOT ON YOUR LOVE Tony Martin, Reese Wilson, Troy Martin (Starstruck Music/Baby Make Music/Warner-Tamereine Pub. Corp./BMI) 97
 NOT THAT DIFFERENT Karen Taylor Good, Joe Scott (W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/K.T. Good Music/Spoofers Music, BMI) 40
 NOTHING Dwight Yoakam, Kositas (Cout Duet Music/Songs Of Polygram Int'l., Inc./Seven Angels Music, BMI) 24
 ON MY OWN Carole Bayer Sager, Buck Baruschak (Carole Bayer Sager Music, BMI/Hadden Valley Music, ASCAP) 74
 ONE BOY, ONE GIRL Mark Alan Springer, Steve Smith (EMI Blackwood Music, Inc./Mark Alan Springer Music, BMI) 84
 ONE EMO ION Clint Black, Hayden Nicholas (Blackwood Music, BMI) 20
 ONE WITH A BANG David Lee Murphy, Kim Trinka (N2D Publishing Company/Brent's Dream Publishing, ASCAP) 45
 REBECCA LYNN Don Sampson, Skip Ewing (MCA Music, ASCAP/Acufl Rose Music, Inc./BMI) 95
 RING ON HER FINGER, TIME ON HER HANDS Don Goodman, Pam Rose, Mary Ann Kennedy (Sony Tree Publishing Co., Inc./Egypt Hollow Music/My Choy Music, BMI) 30
 RIND HERE Marla A. Miller, Scott Emerick, Gregg Hubbard (Travelin' Zoo Music/Myrnt & Chack's Boy Music, ASCAP/Cub Zoo Music, BMI) 8
 RUB-A-DUBBIN' Don Goodman, Sam Paul Davis, Becky Hobbs (Goodman/Walker Music Publishing Co., Inc./Blackstone Music, BMI/Shoot Straight Music, ASCAP) 35
 SAFE IN THE ARMS OF FLYN Dan Rose, Mary Ann Kennedy, Pat Bunch (Irving Music, Inc./Formulate Music/LaRue Two Music/Zaneville Music, BMI) 55
 SAVE THIS ONE FOR ME Verton Thompson, Mark D. Sanders (EMI April Music, Inc./Joes Of March Music/Starstruck Writers Group, Inc./Mark D. Music, ASCAP) 70
 SHE'S A YOUNG ORDINARY GIRL Robert Jaxon (Suzi Joe Music/My Split Music, BMI) 94
 SHE CAN'T SAVE HIM (N/A) 72
 SHE SAID YES Joe Doyle, Rhett Akins (BMG Songs, Inc./Tree Publishing Co., Inc./ASCAP/BMI) 39
 SHE'S EVERY WOMAN Victoria Shaw, Gauth Brooks (BMG Songs, Inc./Major Bob Music Co., Inc./ASCAP) 69
 SHOULD I BE ASKED TO HER FASTER Bob Crosby, Sony LeMaire (MCA Music Co., Inc./Lanike Big Town Music/American Made Music/AI Anderson Music, BMI) 87
 SMOKE IN HER EYES Hugh Prestwood (Careers BMG Music Publishing, Inc./Hugh Prestwood Music, BMI) 41
 STEADY AS SHE GOES Bob DiPiero, John Scott Sherrill, Michael Murgare (Little Big Town/American Made Music/Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./All Over Town Music/New Wolf Music, BMI/M.S.L. Music, ASCAP) 60
 SOLID GROUND (N/A) 61
 SOMEONE ELSE'S STAR Skip Ewing, Jim Weatherly (Acuff-Rose Music, Inc./BMI/Milose Music, Inc./ASCAP) 93
 SOME TIMES SHE FORGIES Steve Earle (Warner Bros. Corp./ASCAP) 94
 TALL TALL TREES George Jones, Roger Miller (Tra Music Co., Inc./For Knox Music, BMI) 2
 TALKIN' TALKIN' Bill LaBounty, Chris Waters (Ensign Music Corp./Hidden Panel Music/Great Cumberland Music, BMI) 9
 THAT AIN'T MY TRUCK Tom Shapiro, Chris Waters, Rhett Akins (Great Cumberland Music/Diamond Struck Music/Tree Publishing Co., Inc./BMI) 8
 THAT'S AS CLOSE AS I'LL GET TO LOVING YOU Sally Dworisky, Paul Jefferson, Jan Leyers (Almo Music Corp. Tiko Mern, ASCAP/R. S. Music, Inc./BMI) 8
 THE CARC Michael Spriggs, Gary Heyck (Diamond Storm Music, Inc./EMI Tower Street Music, Inc./BMI) 18
 THE FEELING TAKES THE LEAD Jerry Bryn Kennedy, Dan Roberts (N/A) 29
 THE TROUBLE WITH LOVE Rob Crosby, Sony LeMaire (MCA Music Co., Inc./Santee River Songs/EMI Blackwood Music, Inc./Tackett To Rck Music, BMI) 18
 THE WOMAN IN ME (NEEDS THE MAN IN YOU) Tawana Lunge (Lows Echo, Inc./BMI/Zomba Enterprises, Inc./ASCAP) 71
 THREE ARMS Gary Baker, Frank J. Myers (Zomba Enterprises Music/Dixie Stars Music, ASCAP) 99
 THOSE WORDS WE SAID Kim Richey, Angela (Mighty Nice Music/Wave No More, BMI/PolyGram Int'l. Pub., Inc./ASCAP) 46
 THREE WORDS, TWO HEARTS, ONE NIGHT Mark Collie, Gerry House (Music Corporation of America, Inc./Mark Collie Music/Housesnots Music, BMI) 92
 TROUBLE Told Snider (B'n'S Music, Inc./Keith Sykes Music, BMI) 21
 VEIL OF TEARS (N/A) 47
 (THIS THING CALLED) WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL Ronnie Samsner, Dave Loggins (WB Music Publishing Company/Song/Anker/Voy Music, ASCAP) 80
 WHAT I MEANT TO SAY Don Cook, Sam Higin, Jim McBride (Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./Don Cook Music/Katy's Rainbow, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Pub. Co., Inc./Mall Village Music, ASCAP) 36
 WHEN BOY MEETS GIRL Tom Shapiro, Ted Clark, Chris Waters (Great Cumberland Music/Diamond Struck Music/Tom Shapiro Music/Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./BMI) 25
 WHEN A WOMAN LOVES A MAN Mark Lema, Rite Van Hoy (Major Bob Music Co., Inc./ASCAP/Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./Tree South Music, BMI) 23
 WHEN HE WAS MY AGE Kenny Chesney, David Lowe, Billy Lawson (Acuff-Rose Music, Inc./Laci Morgan Music, Inc./BMI/Collins Grant Music, Inc./ASCAP) 53
 WHEREVER YOU ARE TONIGHT Keith Whitley, Gary Nicholson, Don Cook (Sony Tree Pub. Co., Inc./Sony Keys Pub. Co., Inc./ASCAP) 68
 WHISKEY UNDER THE BRIDGE Don Cook, Kuz Browder, Ronnie Dunn (Sony Tree Publishing Co., Inc./Don Cook Music/Buffalo Music/Sheep Billy Music, BMI) 4
 WHO NEEDS YOU BABY Clay Walker, Rudy Bouknight, Kim Williams (Lori Jane Music/Linda Cobb Music/That's A Smash Pub., Inc./BMI/Sony Cross Keys Music/Kim Williams Music/D. L. Music, ASCAP) 4
 WHO'S COUNTING Roger Springer, Tony Martin, Reese Wilson (EMI April Music, Inc./ASCAP/Starstruck Music/Baby Make Music, BMI) 90
 YOU'RE GONNA MISS ME WHEN I'M GONE Karla Bonoff, Rozette Durr, Don Cook (Tree Publishing Co., Inc./Buffalo Music/Slowly Music/Don Cook Music, BMI) 98

In Other News...



Alabama and RCA Label Group/RLG execs. pose for the camera after a luncheon held to celebrate the platinum and multi-platinum status of two of the band's best-selling albums, *Greatest Hits* and *Cheap Seats*. Pictured (l-r): Front row: Alabama's publicist Greg Fowler; RCA Records' mktg. mgr. Greg McCarn; RCA Records' vp Tommy Daniel; Teddy Gentry (Alabama); RCA Records' product mgr. Heather McBee. Back row: *Cheap Seats* co-producer Larry Michael Lee; Mark Herndon (Alabama); Alabama's mgr. Dale Morris; RLG sr. vp/gm Randy Good; Mark Herndon (Alabama); RCA Records' natl. promotions dir. Patti Olsen-Garafola; Jeff Cook (Alabama); RCA Records' vp natl. promotions Mike Wilson; and RLG media relations vp. Marilyn Arthur.

POP ARTIST AMY GRANT and her husband, Christian artist Gary Chapman, will serve as Grand Marshals of the 1995 Nashville Gas Christmas Parade on Dec. 3.

TNN WILL AIR SEVERAL Christmas specials in the coming week. *Christmas With Vince Gill* airs Dec. 4 with Gill performing with the Tulsa Philharmonic Orchestra. Also on Dec. 4, *Barbara Mandrell & The Mandrell Sisters Christmas Show* welcomes pop singer Bobby Vinton and gospel performer Andrae Crouch. *A Sam's Place Christmas*, taped at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, will air Dec. 6 and features chart-topping artists Amy Grant and Steven Curtis Chapman.

AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN with Bob Kingsley presents a memorable holiday special, *Christmas In America* (available Dec. 18-25). The six-hour special features country music's most loved Christmas songs and the stories behind them.

RAUL MALO, LEAD SINGER for The Mavericks, became a father on Nov. 14 as his wife Betty gave birth to son Raul Joaquin Martinez Malo, III.

LITTLE TEXAS' PORTER HOWELL was honored for the second time this year for his songwriting. Howell received a Triple Play Award by the CMA for having three number one songs within a 12-month period. Last month, Howell and other Little Texas members were recognized at the ASCAP Country Awards, becoming the first band in country music history to receive five awards in one year.

TONY PHILLIPS, REPRESENTING WQTE in Adrian, Michigan, won the 14th Annual True Value/Jimmy Dean Country Showdown at the National Final produced at The Epcot Center at Florida's Walt Disney World. The show also included performances by the Oak Ridge Boys, Vicki Lawrence, Jimmy Dean and the Charlie McCoy Showdown Band.

THE INTERNATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT BUYERS ASSOC. hired Laurie Stephens as exec. dir. and opened an office in Nashville. In other IEBA news, James M. Cudd of the South Carolina Peach Festival assumed the duties of pres. in June, due to the illness and passing of Sam E. Fulco of the Kansas Coliseum. The assoc. has also retained White Horse Enterprises, Inc. to handle public relations.

DURING A RECENT "TEXAS TOUR" to celebrate the release of their first album, Lonestar sold more than just tickets. At an in-store acoustic performance and CD signing at a Houston Wal-Mart, several ladies who were Lonestar fans offered to buy the stools on which the band sat during their performance. Lonestar obliged by autographing and then selling the stools.



COUNTRY MUSIC

TOP 75 COUNTRY ALBUMS

DECEMBER 2, 1995

The square bullet indicates upward chart movement
(G) = Gold (RIAA) Certified (P) Platinum (RIAA) Certified

Last Week Total Weeks

Rank	Album	Artist	Last Week	Total Weeks
1	THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION (Arista 18801)	Alan Jackson	1	4
2	GONE (Reprise 46051)	Dwight Yoakam	6	2
3	THE WOMAN IN ME (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	2	38
4	ALL I WANT (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	3	8
5	STARTING OVER (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	4	5
6	GAMES REDNECKS PLAY (Vamer Bros. 45856)	Jeff Foxworthy	5	16
7	GREATEST HITS-FROM THE BEGINNING (Vamer Bros. 46001)	Travis Tritt	7	9
8	THE HITS (Capitol Nashville 29689)(P5)	Garth Brooks	8	46
9	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	9	12
10	TOOLBOX (RCA 66740)	Aaron Tippin	13	4
11	JOHN MICHAEL (Atlantic 82728)	John Michael Montgomery	10	32
12	NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU - A COLLECTION (Rounder 0325)	Alison Krauss	11	39
13	STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX (MCA 11263)	George Strait	14	9
14	STRONG ENOUGH (Arista 18792)	Blackhawk	12	8
15	HYPNOTIZE THE MOON (Giant 24640)	Clay Walker	15	4
16	IT MATTERS TO ME (Vamer Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	17	9
17	WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU (MCA 11047)(P)	Vince Gill	16	74
18	GREATEST HITS (Vamer Bros. 46017)	Little Texas	19	5
19	SOMETHING SPECIAL (Columbia 67140)	Dolly Parton	18	9
20	MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS (MCA 11257)	The Mavericks	20	5
21	GREATEST HITS (BNA 66508)	Lorrie Morgan	22	19
22	IN PICTURES (RCA)	Alabama	23	13
23	WILD ANGELS (RCA 66509)	Martina McBride	24	5
24	NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON (Curb 77659)(P3)	Tim McGraw	21	85
25	I THINK ABOUT YOU (Epic 67033)	Collin Raye	25	9
26	LOVE LESSONS (MCA 11242)	Tracy Byrd	28	17
27	STANDING ON THE EDGE (Capitol Nashville 28495)(G)	John Berry	29	36
28	BRYAN WHITE (Asylum 61642)	Bryan White	30	18
29	YOU MIGHT BE A REDNECK IF... (Vamer Bros. 45314)(P)	Jeff Foxworthy	26	63
30	WAITIN' ON SUNDOWN (Arista 18765)(P)	Brooks & Dunn	27	57
31	WINGS (Decca 11261)	Mark Chesnut	31	5
32	READ MY MIND (MCA 10994)(P2)	Reba McEntire	33	80
33	TERRI CLARK (Mercury Nashville 52699)(P)	Terri Clark	32	12
34	LIFE IS GOOD (Capitol Nashville 32392)	Emilio	34	5
35	THE HITS: CHAPTER 1 (Mercury 528536)	Sammy Kershaw	35	9
36	GREATEST HITS VOL. II (MCA 11201)(P3)	Reba McEntire	38	108
37	WHAT A CRYING SHAME (MCA 10961)(P)	The Mavericks	36	91
38	BLACKHAWK (Arista 18708)(P)	Blackhawk	39	89
39	NO ORDINARY MAN (MCA 10991)(G)	Tracy Byrd	37	74
40	GREATEST HITS III (RCA 07863)(G)	Alabama	40	56
41	OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER (Columbia)	Wade Hayes	43	45
42	AMAZING GRACE: A COUNTRY SALUTE TO GOSPEL (Sparrow 1445)	Various Artists	46	7
43	SUPER HITS (Columbia 64184)	Willie Nelson	50	65
44	THIS THING CALLED WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb 77785)	Sawyer Brown	42	9
45	YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT (Curb 77799)	Perfect Stranger	45	18
46	LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS (RCA 66593)	Clint Black	41	3
47	HAVE YOURSELF A TRACTORS CHRISTMAS (Arista 18805)	The Tractors	54	2
48	PURE COUNTRY (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack) (MCA 10651)(P3)	George Strait	47	158
49	WHEN FALLEN ANGELS FLY (Epic 64188)(G)	Patty Loveless	48	62
50	WHO I AM (Arista 18759)(P2)	Alan Jackson	44	71
51	YOU GOTTA LOVE THAT (Atlantic)	Neal McCoy	51	40
52	TY ENGLAND (RCA 66522)	Ty England	52	12
53	TRACY LAWRENCE LIVE (Atlantic 82847)	Tracy Lawrence	49	7
54	WRECKING BALL (Asylum 61854)	Emmylou Harris	56	4
55	LEAD ON (MCA 11092)(P)	George Strait	53	52
56	I SEE IT NOW (Atlantic)(P)	Tracy Lawrence	55	59
57	DARYLE SINGLETARY (Giant 24606)	Daryle Singletary	59	9
58	JEFF CARSON (MCG Curb 77744)	Jeff Carson	58	12
59	KICKIN' IT UP (Atlantic 82559)(P3)	John Michael Montgomery	57	72
60	THINKIN' ABOUT YOU (MCA 11201)	Trisha Yearwood	60	39
61	DWIGHT LIVE (Reprise 45907)(P3)	Dwight Yoakam	62	25
62	ALL I NEED TO KNOW (BNA 66562)(P)	Kenny Chesney	61	18
63	THE REDNECK TEST VOLUME 43 (Laughing Hyena 2043)	Jeff Foxworthy	64	12
64	A THOUSAND MEMORIES (Decca 11098)	Rhett Akins	68	36
65	BRAND NEW MAN (Arista 18658)(P4)	Brooks & Dunn	65	218
66	SUPER HITS (Epic 64184)	Charlie Daniels	RE-ENTRY	
67	THE TRACTORS (Arista 18728)(P)	The Tractors	63	66
68	WHAT MATTERED MOST (Epic 66397)(G)	Ty Herndon	71	29
69	ONE (MCA 11248)	George Jones & Tammy Wynette	67	19
70	WE ALL GET LUCKY SOMETIMES (Career 18790)	Lee Roy Parnell	72	11
71	COME ON COME ON (Columbia 4881)(P3)	Mary Chapin Carpenter	74	168
72	LOOKING FOR THE LIGHT (Columbia)	Rick Trevino	66	36
73	GREATEST HITS 1990-1995 (Curb 77689)	Sawyer Brown	69	42
74	ONE EMOTION (RCA 66419)(G)	Clint Black	73	56
75	IN THE VICINITY OF THE HEART (Liberty 31109)	Shenandoah	70	42

Album Reviews

By Wendy Newcomer

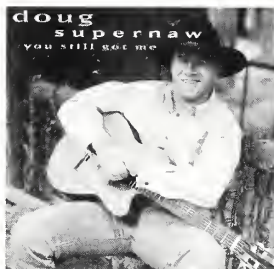


■ KEN MELLONS: *Where Forever Begins* (Epic 66965)

In the "young country" class of 1995, there weren't too many true vocal stylists like the John Andersons and Keith Whitleys of the '80s. So when an artist like Ken Mellons came along, the breath of fresh air "traditionality" he brought with him was a needed distinction. Mellons' second Epic album is a continuation of a noteworthy debut. Besides being an exceptional singer, Mellons also adds to his credibility by co-writing several of the songs on *Where Forever Begins*. Album highlights are the title song, "Memory Remover," "Ever Ready," and the romping "He'll Never Be A Lawyer" (on which John Anderson and George Jones give their stamp of approval by contributing background vocals).

■ ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL: *The Wheel Keeps On Rollin'* (Capitol Nashville 8-31280-2)

Nineteen albums and 25 years later, Asleep At The Wheel is still going strong. Their latest project, *The Wheel Keeps On Rollin'*, is an amazingly fresh batch of new material that keeps jazzy country swing alive. Cuts like "Meanwhile Back At The Ranch," "She Came To Dance" and the title cut are outstanding. "Tell me son, how was the west swing?" asks Ray Benson before the opening notes of "How The West Was Swung"—and no band except AATW could so succinctly answer the question. *The Wheel Keeps On Rollin'* makes you want to find an out-of-the-way Grange Hall and dance the night away.



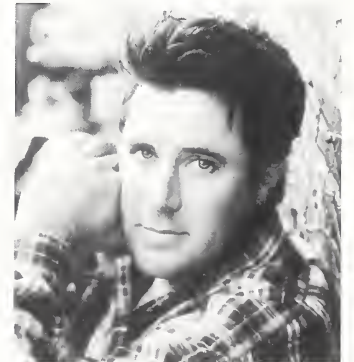
■ DOUG SUPERNAW: *You Still Got Me* (Giant 9-24639-2)

When he was dropped from BNA Records, Doug Supernaw didn't waste a second licking his wounds. Instead, the outspoken Texan just found another forum for his artistry. Supernaw's scruffy, craggy voice fits the rowdy style of most of the songs on his debut album for Giant Records. Most memorable are the hard country songs like "The Note," "Daddy Made The Dollars (Mamma Made The Sense)," and "We're All Here." This time around, what Supernaw lacks in polish he more than makes up for in his performances on *You Still Got Me*.

PICK OF THE WEEK

■ VINCE GILL: *Souvenirs* (MCA D-11394)

The King of Country Ballads calls his most worthy subjects together for *Souvenirs...15 Greatest Hits*, a collection that spans only five years of Vince Gill's career (1990-1995). Complete with liner notes which reveal the inspirations and collaborations that produced each hit, *Souvenirs* begins with "Never Alone," a song Gill co-wrote with Rosanne Cash. From there, the album becomes a barrage of nine number ones and five more equally worthy songs from a man whose journey to success was a long time coming. Gill has found a recipe that works: Take a sad ballad ("When I Call Your Name", "Pocket Full Of Gold," "Tryin' To Get Over You") and apply a soulful, heaven-reaching tenor. Add a couple of dynamic duets ("I Will Always Love You," "The Heart Won't Lie") and wait for the awards to accumulate.



Cash Box COUNTRY RADIO

RADIO PLAYLISTS

Some of what's playing in heavy rotation:

KVOX-FM\Moorhead, MN

- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- TRAVIS TRITT—"Sometimes She Forgets"
- LITTLE TEXAS—"Life Goes On"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"

KWRE\Warrenton, MO

- GEORGE STRAIT—"Check Yes Or No"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- SHANIA TWAIN—"The Woman In Me"
- DARYLE SINGLETARY—"I Let Her Lie"
- TRAVIS TRITT—"Sometimes She Forgets"

KBJM\Lemmon, SD

- DARYLE SINGLETARY—"I Let Her Lie"
- TRAVIS TRITT—"Sometimes She Forgets"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- KENNY CHESNEY—"All I Need To Know"
- AARON TIPPIN—"That's As Close As I'll Get To Loving You"

WSLC\Roanoke, VA

- VINCE GILL—"Go Rest High On That Mountain"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- NEAL MCCOY—"If I Was A Drinkin' Man"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"

WRIX-FM\Anderson, SC

- GEORGE STRAIT—"Check Yes Or No"
- DARYLE SINGLETARY—"I Let Her Lie"
- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- ALAN JACKSON—"Tall, Tall, Trees"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"

WDXC-FM\Pound, VA

- GEORGE STRAIT—"Check Yes Or No"
- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- TRAVIS TRITT—"Sometimes She Forgets"
- ALABAMA—"In Pictures"

WAAC-FM\Valdosta, GA

- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- VINCE GILL—"Go Rest High On That Mountain"
- DOUG STONE—"Born In The Dark"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"

High Debuts

1. GARTH BROOKS—"The Fever"—(Capitol)—#29
2. SHANIA TWAIN—"If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here"—(Mercury)—#38
3. DAVID LEE MURPHY—"Out With A Bang"—(MCA)—#45
4. SAWYER BROWN—"Round Here"—(Curb)—#48

Most Active

1. JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY—"Cowboy Love"—(Atlantic)—#28
2. BRYAN WHITE—"Rebecca Lynn"—(Asylum)—#20
3. FAITH HILL—"It Matters To Me"—(Warner Bros.)—#31
4. BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"—(Arista)#37
5. KENNY CHESNEY—"Grandpa Told Me So"—(BNA)—#44

POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST— The *Cash Box* Top 100 Country Singles chart is led by the Clay Walker single "Who Needs You Baby." This week's chart displays a few big movers with four debuts breaking into the Top 50. Leading the way in the most-movement category is John Michael Montgomery and "Cowboy Love," which takes a 12-spot leap to #28. Bryan White and "Rebecca Lynn" jumped six spots to #20, as did Faith Hill's "It Matters To Me," which moved to #31. Two other songs moved up six spots as well—BlackHawk's "Like There Ain't No Yesterday" climbed to #37, and Kenny Chesney's "Grandpa Told Me So" moved to #44. As for debuts, four acts hit this week's Top 50. Leading the way for the highest debut position with the single "The Fever" is Garth Brooks at #29; entering at #38 is Shania Twain with "(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here;" David Lee Murphy comes in at #45 with "Out With A Bang;" and Sawyer Brown enters at #48 with "Round Here."

Songwriters Of The Week: Congratulations go out to Clay Walker, Randy Boudreaux and Kim Williams, writers of the Clay Walker #1 hit, "Who Needs You Baby."

CMT Top Twelve Video Countdown

1. REBA MCENTIRE "On My Own" (MCA)
2. LITTLE TEXAS "Life Goes On" (Warner Bros.)
3. AARON TIPPIN "That's As Close As I'll Get To Loving You" (RCA)
4. VINCE GILL "Go Rest High On That Mountain" (MCA)
5. GEORGE STRAIT "Check Yes Or No" (MCA)
6. ALAN JACKSON "Tall, Tall Trees" (Arista)
7. PAM TILLIS "Deep Down" (Arista)
8. CLAY WALKER "Who Needs You Baby" (Giant)
9. TRACY BYRD "Love Lessons" (MCA)
10. THE MAVERICKS "Here Comes The Rain" (MCA)
11. NEAL MCCOY "If I Was A Drinkin' Man" (Atlantic)
12. JEFF CARSON "The Car" (MCG/Curb)

—Compliments of CMT video countdown, week ending November 22, 1995.



POSITIVE COUNTRY RADIO

This Week's Debuts

CROSS COUNTRY—"My Choice"—(Dove)—#27

JEFF & SHERI EASTER—"Let The Little Things Go"—(Chapel)—#31

JUDY DERAMUS—"How About Your Heart"—(Tima)—#33

Most Active

KEN HOLLOWAY—"Hoedown"—(Ransom)—#12

JOHN BERRY—"There's No Cross That Love Won't Bear"—(Capitol Nashville)—#15

SUSIE LUCHSINGER—"You're It"—(Integrity)—#21

Powerful On The Playlist

Leading the *Cash Box* Positive Country singles chart this week is "Go Rest High On That Mountain" by **Vince Gill** on MCA. **Brent Lamb** moves into the #2 position with "Drawing Pictures." "She Stays" by **Andy Landis** and **Ricky Van Shelton** follows at #3. Dropping to #4 this week is **Jeff McKee's** "Matters Of The Heart." The latest from **Brian Barrett**, "Jimmy Got Saved," moves up two more to #5. "Be Like Noah" by **Lisa Daggs** falls to #6, and **Paula McCulla's** "A Place To Turn Around" follows at #7. **Thad Christopher** holds at #8 with "I Surrender." **Claire Lynch** and "We Should Only Have Time For Love" moves up one spot to #9, and last but certainly not least, **Marty Raybon** breaks into the Top 10 with "Daddy Talks To Jesus."

LOOKING AHEAD

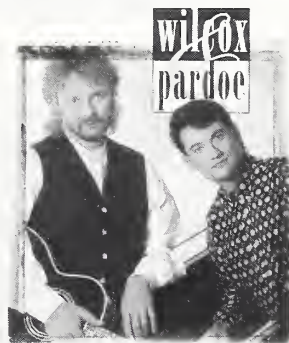
Singles that are getting some attention from radio this week include: The **Clarks** with "My Faith Will Cradle Me," "Child Support" by **The Days**, and **David Patillo's** "When The World Runs Out Of Partics."

POSITIVE COUNTRY

DECEMBER 2, 1995

1	GO REST HIGH ON THAT MOUNTAIN (MCA)	Vince Gill	2	10
2	DRAWING PICTURES (Genesis)	Brent Lamb	3	8
3	SHE STAYS (Vbrd Nashville)	Ricky Van Shelton & Andy Landis	4	6
4	MATTERS OF THE HEART (Gateway)	Jeff McKee	1	13
5	JIMMY GOT SAVED (Star Song)	Brian Barrett	7	7
6	BE LIKE NOAH (Cheyenne)	Lisa Daggs	5	12
7	A PLACE TO TURN AROUND (Gateway)	Paula McCulla	6	28
8	I SURRENDER (Gateway)	Thad Christopher	8	9
9	WE SHOULD ONLY HAVE TIME FOR LOVE (Rounder)	Claire Lynch	10	7
10	DADDY TALKS TO JESUS (Sparrow)	Marty Raybon	13	3
11	IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND (Rounder)	Alison Krauss	9	10
12	HOEDOWN (Ransom)	Ken Holloway	22	3
13	LOVE COMES THROUGH (Warner Alliance)	MidSouth	11	11
14	TAKE JOY (Amber Lane)	Elaine Anderson	16	7
15	THERE'S NO CROSS THAT LOVE WON'T BEAR (Capitol Nashville)	John Berry	20	6
16	BANKING ON JESUS (Glory Roads)	Marvell	18	5
17	THE FACE OF GOD (Gateway)	Buddy Hyatt	19	6
18	(THIS THING CALLED) WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb)	Sawyer Brown	14	6
19	GIVE LOVE AWAY (Gateway)	Dinah & The Desert Crusaders	12	13
20	PIECES OF HIS HEART (Cheyenne)	Bruce Haynes	15	16
21	YOU'RE IT (Integrity)	Susie Luchsinger	26	2
22	HELP ME (Columbia)	Gatlin Brothers	24	5
23	I'M NOT ASHAMED (Benson)	Brush Arbor	21	16
24	NO STRANGER TO TREASON (Intersound)	Terri Lynn	28	4
25	GROW ME (Homeland)	Dale, Roy, & Dusty Rogers	25	5
26	TWO IN THE SADDLE (Integrity)	Susie Luchsinger	17	17
27	MY CHOICE (Dove)	Cross Country	DEBUT	
28	COMFORT CREEK (Chapel)	Barbara Fairchild	30	2
29	IS THERE A SONG ON THE JUKE BOX ABOUT JESUS (Circuit Rider)	W. C. Taylor	29	4
30	I'LL STAND (Cheyenne)	Ronny McKinley	23	15
31	LET THE LITTLE THINGS GO (Chapel)	Jeff & Sheri Easter	DEBUT	
32	NOT LIVIN' THAT WAY NO MORE (Mark Five)	Rivers & Owens	35	2
33	HOW ABOUT YOUR HEART (TIMA)	Judy DeRamus	DEBUT	
34	COMMON GROUND (Star Song)	Sierra	27	9
35	MASTER OF THE WOOD (Sparrow)	Marty Raybon	31	18
36	SURE FEELS RIGHT (Ropeburn)	Randy Coward	32	11
37	HE WHO MADE THE RAIN (Ransom)	Ken Holloway	33	19
38	HELP ME MAKE IT THROUGH TOMORROW (Circuit Rider)	Touching Home	36	14
39	WE HAVE A GOOD THING (Ransom)	Seneca	39	15
40	JESUS NEVER SAID NO (Heartwrite)	David Patillo	38	21

Album Review



■ WILCOX & PARDOE: *Till They Know How Much You Care* (Light Records WPD9509)

This new duo takes a simple but to-the-point approach to music making—Grade A songs and velvety harmonies. Vince Wilcox (who handles co-writing on the majority of the cuts) and Don Pardoe are a force to be reckoned with in the field of positive country music. Their debut album contains plenty of potential hits. Among the bunch, "I Think About You," "In Their Children's Eyes," "The Best Tears Of Our Lives," and the title cut are especially noteworthy. *Till They Know How Much You Care* enables these two promising artists to showcase individual talents that, when combined, ensure repeated listens.

COIN MACHINE

Midway's Open Ice 2 On 2 Challenge



Midway's Open Ice 2 On 2 Challenge

Midway's design team, *Open Ice...* incorporates unprecedented depth and smoothness of on-screen movement while putting players in total control of the biggest stars in the National Hockey League.

With a joystick and three action buttons—one for shooting or blocking; another for passing or stealing and, the last, a special turbo button—players will quickly discover they have the power in their hands to speed down the ice on a breakaway, make the precision pass or hip check and perform acrobatic feats in the net. Each of the more than 100 players featured in the game have skill levels based on their actual NHL stats including skating, shooting, passing and checking ability.

To embellish the total package, *Open Ice...* features vintage film clips and real scoreboard graphics for eye-catching highlights and a bigger puck to make for easy visibility no matter how hot the action gets on ice. There are more than 70 different hidden characters to select and over 20 unique power-ups including "Big Head" mode.

Via Midway's patented Digital Compression Sound System, *Open Ice...* delivers the most detailed, realistic sound design, with the inclusion of legendary NHL announcer Pat Foley calling the play-by-play.

Further information regarding this outstanding new video game may be obtained through factory distributors.

CHICAGO—With over 20 million fans estimated to attend games in 26 different arenas from coast to coast, hockey has rapidly become the sport of the nineties.

In a landmark alliance between NHL Enterprises and the National Hockey League Players' Association, Midway Manufacturing Company proudly presents the only NHL/NHLPA-licensed coin-operated amusement game. *Open Ice 2 On 2 Challenge* captures the high-energy artistry of the major superstars from each of the League's 26 teams, in a one-to-four player video game.

Taking full advantage of the latest advances in revolutionary digitized graphics technology, perfected by

NAMA Show Draws Record Exhibitor Turnout

CHICAGO—The recently held NAMA convention drew a record 294 exhibitors who displayed the latest in new equipment, products and services. The thousands of operators in attendance saw the newest generation of vending machines with built-in computers that keep track of sales, inventory and maintenance data. Food, snack and beverage manufacturers featured higher nutrition products; and refinements in cold and hot beverage machines including additional built-in flexibility.

Among new beverages shown at the show was a sparkling cold coffee packaged in a glass bottle which was being tested in some West Coast markets through vending machines. Several manufacturers of telephone cards and telephone card vending machines also displayed their products.

The 1996 slate of NAMA officers were elected by the association's board of directors during the show. The new officers are: Donald J. Hesch (A.H. Vending & Food Services, Inc.), chairman; Bill M. Burch (Burch Food Services, Inc.), senior vice chairman; Robert J. Muller (Crane Engineered Materials & Crane Merchandising Systems of Crane Corp.), vice chairman and G. Michael Cronk (Business Services Group), secretary-treasurer. New directors were also elected.

Thomas G. Bos, president of A.D. Bos Company in Holland, Michigan, along with Thom A. Chafey, president of Facility Food Service in Phoenix, Arizona and Terry L. Collins, owner of TLC Refreshment Vending in Peoria, Arizona, were given NAMA Chairman's Awards for their efforts in the Michigan and Arizona legislatures, respectively, to recognize vending sales as another retail delivery system.

Guest speakers at the convention were Mrs. Mary Ellen Withrow, treasurer of the United States, who spoke on the recent and future changes in the paper currency; and Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr., well-known Washington insider, who spoke about the political climate in the nation's capital.

Pictured in the accompanying photos are: (Photo 1) U.S. treasurer Mary Ellen Withrow, holding a copy of the newly designed \$100 bill which will be circulated next year as the first step of a multi-year process to re-design all of the U.S. currency; and newly elected NAMA officers (photo 2, l-r) Donald J. Hesch (chairman); Bill M. Burch, senior vice-chairman and G. Michael Cronk, secretary-treasurer.



Photo 1

IMA '96 To Focus On Present And Future Products

CHICAGO—A number of innovations have been incorporated into the format for the 1996 IMA trade convention, scheduled to be held January 24-27 at the Frankfurt/Main Fairgrounds in Frankfurt, Germany.

The Innovation Centre will allow various companies to present a general view of what is already being marketed and what can be expected in the future, in terms of product and technology.

A spacious section of the exhibit area will house a completely furnished and equipped Cybermind-Cafe from Berlin Cyberspace GmbH. On as many as eight virtual reality units curious cybernauts can blast off into the cyberspace cosmos and experience state-of-the-art games in virtual worlds. A further highlight of this presentation will be the ISDN link-up from the IMA Cybermind Cafe to the company's showroom in Berlin.

Fair's management firm, Blenheim Heckmann, anticipates the event will attract record attendance from throughout the world.



Photo 2



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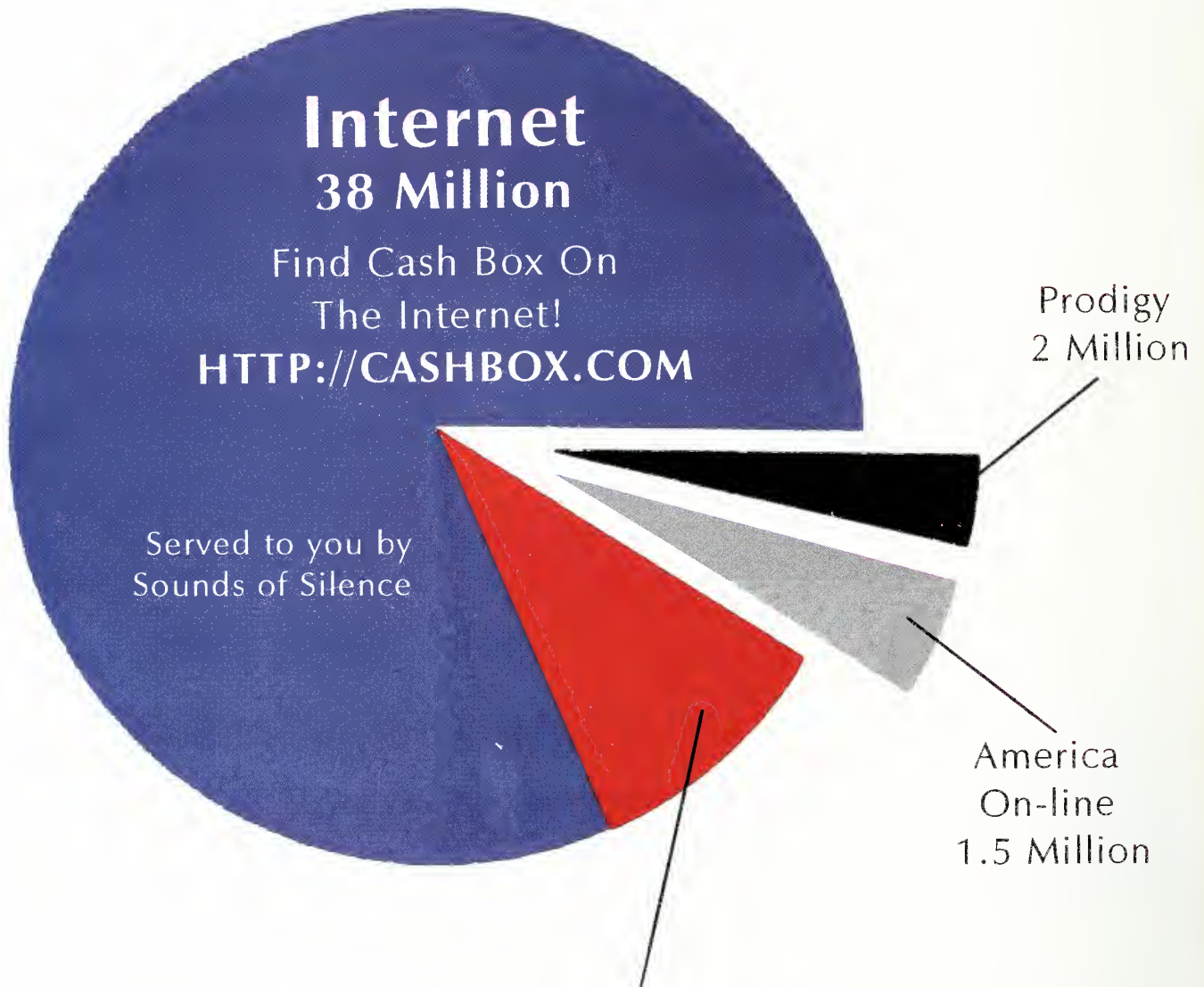
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