



NEWS: Radio Two celebrates at the **SONY RADIO AWARDS** as it takes the top station award
Sony Awards 4



A&R: As producer Peta Waterman puts the final touches to the new **STEPS** album, the new single is set for July
A&R 8



A&R: Having set the big beat blueprint **CHEMICAL BROTHERS** are now moving on to break new ground
A&R 23

QUARTER MARKET SHARE RESULTS - P10
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MUSICWEEK

UK climbs into global top three

by Robert Ashton

The UK has leapfrogged Germany to become the third largest music market in the IFPI's world ranking for the first time since reliable records began.
After 1997's 3% slump in units sold, the UK music industry bounced back strongly in 1998 to report a 4% increase in both units and the retail value of those sales, which rose to the equivalent of \$2.85bn, according to new data released by the international record company trade body. The improvement meant that the UK accounted for an estimated 7.4% of world sales last year behind the US and Japan.

Germany, historically the third largest global market, slipped to fourth place after its sales declined by 2% in units and 1% in value terms to \$2.83bn during 1998. It now commands 7.3% of the world market compared with 7.5% in 1997.

Overall the value of global music sales rose 3% to \$38.7bn - although units slipped 1% to 4.1bn - thanks largely to the revived performance by the US.

The latest IFPI world sales figures confirm the UK, which has been fourth in the global ranking since accurate and comparable figures began to be collated in 1990, as one of the strongest

THE WORLD'S TOP FIVE MUSIC MARKETS IN 1998

	Retail Value '98	% change '97	% of world total
US	\$13.2bn	+11%	34.1%
Japan	\$6.5bn	+4%	16.9%
UK	\$2.9bn	+4%	7.4%
Germany	\$2.8bn	-1%	7.3%
France	\$2.1bn	+4%	5.5%

Source: IFPI. % change calculated in local currency

performers in the European Union. This region grew by 2% in units and 3% in value to account for 33.2% of the global total.

IFPI director general John Deacon says, "These figures underline the UK's position as a leading music market and a major creative source."

Richard Griffiths, chairman of

BMG UK and Ireland and VP central Europe, credits the UK's showing to the strength of its pop market. But he warns that the UK industry should exercise "cautious optimism" because the problems currently affecting European neighbours could cross the Channel. "Germany's economy is in trouble, CD-R is emerging

as a major problem and these things could come here," he says.
IFPI Germany managing director Peter Zombik disputes the UK's new world ranking because he says only 94% of German companies report their figures to the trade body. However, he accepts the German market has been hit hard by a decline in TV compilations and the PC boom.

"People have been spending a lot of money on PCs and software (at the expense of music)," he says, adding that sales have been further hit because a large share of the 75m-80m CD-Rs sold in Germany have been used to clone music CDs.

Breakfast show host Zoe Ball crowned a memorable night for Radio One at this year's Sony Radio Awards after winning the event's most prestigious individual honour, the Sony Radio Gold Award. Collecting the prize last Wednesday seven months to the day after taking over the flagship programme on her own, Ball (pictured with fiancée Norman Cook) praised the station's former breakfast presenter Chris Evans for "setting the standards" as well as BBC chief executive of production Matthew Bannister, station controller Andy Parfitt and her predecessors Mark And Lard. Radio One's other winners at the event at London's Grosvenor House Hotel were Mark And Lard for the daytime music award, Pete Tong for the evening music award and the We Got The Funk special which took the music feature prize. See story p4



Staff leave as China closes London HQ

China Records closed its London office on Friday with the loss of five staff, three months after Warner Music UK acquired the 50% of China it did not already own.

Chairman Derek Green and his PA Rachel Spears have moved to the East West building in Kensington from where Green will continue to oversee the China operation during a transition period.

The company's remaining staff - international director of artist development Adrian Sar, head of press Ken Lower, press officer Pam Ribbeck, head of marketing Jon Ward and UK and international promotions assistant Nic Shanks -

have been made redundant. The move follows the departure from the label of eight staff in January, including managing director John Benedetto.
"The closure would not have come as a surprise to staff as we knew we were going to be integrated into Warner in some way or other," says Green.

It is not clear which label in the Warner group will be responsible for marketing China's roster of four acts - Morcheeba, The Lovelliers, The Egg and Riialto.

That decision is being made by Warner chairman Nick Phillips, who was unavailable for comment last week.

IMF to discuss new net contract fears

The International Managers Forum will this week discuss the implications of Sony's controversial move to introduce a clause into its recording contracts giving it ownership and control of its artists' websites.

The IMF has added the major's initiative to the agenda at its monthly council meeting due to take place in London on Thursday. Meanwhile, news of Sony's move has raised concern elsewhere.

Malcolm Garrett, design director at multimedia company AMX Studios says it is ominous. "You go on tour, the agent gets a cut. Sell merchandise, the merchandiser gets a cut. Write songs, the publisher gets a cut. Sell records, the record label gets a cut. And now Sony wants to get control of everything."

Sony declines to comment.

See analysis, p9

Oddbins offers first taste of Texas album

Off licence chain Oddbins is to offer customers a sneak preview of the new Texas album a week before its retail release after striking an unusual partnership with Mercury Records.

Mercury has provided each of Oddbins' 240 UK outlets with a copy of the album, The Hush, which they will preview in-store all this week until its release next Monday (May 10). They will further promote the album in-store using PoS material.

The move is the first in a series of initiatives being undertaken by Mercury as part of a strategy to increase exposure of new releases through non-traditional music retail channels.

The company, which trialed a similar initiative four years ago with playbacks of the Lion King album through McDonalds restaurants, has also struck an online



Texas: Oddbins tie-in

marketing initiative for the Texas album with Dixons-owned Free Internet service provider Freeerve.

Mercury marketing manager Matt Thomas, who devised the promotion, says, "These initiatives allow us to get across the richness and variety of an album that you can't always do through radio and television."

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their
own
words...

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"I have got the CD. I think it's a good idea, anything to get new music out there is a good thing. I love getting compilations like this. They're great for programmers because you can put them on in the car and listen as you drive home and flick through to catch up on new tracks." - Colm Hays, head of music, FM 104, Dublin, Ireland

"I think fono is very interesting, it's interesting to see what other stations in Europe are doing. We use it for the chart show and we played the Brooke Russell track, So Sweet, from your second CD on the station." - Carsten Hoyer, music director, Radio NRW, Oberhausen, Germany

"Fono is really useful to us. Every week we have a European chart show - the Euro Hot 30 which goes out on all the Energy stations in Europe - and it is very interesting to see what's big in other countries. I enjoy reading it." - Edu Salas, music co-ordinator, Los 40 Principales, Spain

"I find fono very useful, especially the Dutch part which is obviously most interesting for me. The UK and German parts are also very useful. The information in the magazine is superb, you can't get it anywhere else. What is very interesting is to see sometimes a Dutch release coming out in Spain, for example, before Holland. It makes you wonder why. Also something will finally get released in Holland and you'll realise you read about it a couple of months before in the magazine and it's good to have that information up front." - Stefan Camps, buyer, Virgin Megastores, Amsterdam, Netherlands

"We love fono. It's great having all the charts in there now. I visit other cities in Austria and now I just have to take one magazine with me, now all the charts are there and all the Austrian charts are together which is very useful. Last time I tipped (Austrian act) C-Bra and they and the record company were delighted when they saw it and wrote me a nice letter to thank me!" - Christian Boston, head of music, Melody FM, Austria.

"Fono's charts are very good, they represent what's really played. I really like that. I really enjoy your magazine. I find it useful and the analysis is good and very helpful." - Nick Schulz, programme director, Radio Basilik, Basel, Switzerland.

Impact of new retail players looms over High Street stores

by Paul Williams

The High Street's traditional music players are set to face an increasing threat to their businesses on two fronts – the proposed Kingfisher-Asda merger and the fast-expanding US chain Borders – according to a new report due to be published this week.

The in-depth survey by retail consultancy Retail Intelligence, titled Music Retailers in the UK, suggests Borders' plan to roll out its extensive music range to a reported 70 UK stores by 2005 will hit the specialist music chains particularly hard.

Borders is possibly the first real competitor to Virgin and HMV, claims the report's compiler, retail analyst Ben Perkins, who points to the 50,000-plus music titles and 150

listening posts in the retailer's flagship Oxford Street store as a key attraction for the serious music buyer. "They can do music really well and seem to be doing well," says Perkins. "There are certain question marks over the foothold on their music floor (in the Oxford Street store), but for the customers it's fantastic to have that many listening posts."

Kingfisher and Asda's merger plans are closely examined in the report, with Retail Intelligence calculating the partnership would pose a serious threat to the combined Virgin and Our Price as the UK's biggest music retailer. It estimates that Kingfisher's annual music sales, taking in Woolworths and MCV, currently total £360m, with Asda turning over £76m, and



Borders: planning UK expansion
Virgin and Our Price combined more than £400m.

If the planned Kingfisher-Asda merger – which last week prompted US chain Wal-Mart to announce it had no plans to enter the UK market in the near future – does go ahead, the report suggests the specialists would be least affected. Instead, it predicts general players such as

WH Smith are likely to lose out to an even more powerful rival with increased buying power and more opportunities to cut its prices. Already the WH Smith Group, which also owns the John Menzies chain, has seen its music sales being cut back with figures issued last week revealing a 2% drop in music and video sales for the six months to the end of February.

"We've taken their eye off the ball recently with their music offer and concentrated on books and newspapers," says Perkins.

Despite its rapid growth, the internet is not seen by the report as a serious problem to the big High Street players in the near future because music fans still enjoy shopping for music in bricks-and-mortar stores.

newsfile

KEMP WINS ROYALTIES CASE

Spandau Ballet songwriter Gary Kemp last Friday (April 30) won his High Court case against former band colleagues Tony Hadley, John Keeble and Steve Norman, who claims he had agreed to share his songwriting royalties with them. David Wineman Solicitors, acting for the three, says they are considering an appeal.

BMG ACTS PLAY CANNES FESTIVAL

BMG artists Lisa Stansfield and Jennifer Brown are to play at this month's Cannes Film Festival in a first for the event. Stansfield will perform songs from the movie *Swing*, in which she makes her acting debut, at the American Pavilion in Cannes on May 19.

BECK FACES LEGAL BATTLE

Beck is being sued by his record company Geffen and Bong Load Records, with whom he signed a production deal in January 1993. In separate suits filed with the Los Angeles Superior Court last Monday, the labels are understood to be suing Beck for breach of written contract, declaratory relief, breach of production agreement and damages for non-delivery of albums. Beck is understood to have four albums left to deliver under the contracts in question.

GRAMOPHONES SET FOR OCTOBER

The Gramophone Awards are returning to London's South Bank Centre this year with new categories to reflect the new millennium. The awards, which are due to take place on October 15, comprise 15 categories arranged chronologically for the first time as well as the regular special awards including record of the year and artist of the year.

MTV NETWORKS' EARNINGS RISE

Strong advertising sales at MTV and VH1 helped boost MTV Networks' global earnings by 34% from \$150.2m to \$202m in the first quarter of the year. Parent group Viacom's revenue rose by 10% from \$2.7bn to \$3bn.

EMI is anticipating huge retail demand for film director Baz Luhrmann's *Everybody's Free (To Wear Sunscreen)* after attracting virtually unheard-of media attention for an act's debut release. *The Sun* ran a half-page article on the track, which is based on a mock

production address penned by the Chicago Tribune's Mary Schelch, last Wednesday, while a day later both Radio One and Capital FM carried special announcements in their programming that a specially-edited version of the track would be issued as a single through EMI Commercial Marketing on May 31. The division's marketing and promotions manager Mike McNally says 42 radio plays were monitored for the track by Music Control last Thursday, the day before it was serviced to radio. Radio One, Capital FM and BRMB had been among its main supporters. "This is not just about a record. It's more about taking the lyrics to heart," he says.



Ten expands operation with new Warner deal

Almost 3m extra music and video titles will be distributed by The Entertainment Network (Ten) from today (Tuesday) as the company begins shipping Warner product for the first time.

The joint Sony and Warner distribution business launched on April 6 but until now has only supplied product from Sony and its third-party labels.

This week Ten's Aylesbury site will handle more than 2m Warner Music titles, around 600,000 Warner Home Video releases and approximately 100,000 units from Warner Vision International. The total volume being handled by Ten in May will be more than 6.5m units, a figure that will swell to almost 12m each month during the peak autumn period.

ITC chooses Liverpool as new biennial venue

In The City is travelling to Liverpool this year in a move that kicks-starts a four-year cycle of alternating the event between Manchester and its Merseyside neighbour.

This will be only the third time Manchester has not hosted ITC since its inception in 1992 and marks an effort on the part of the organisers to bridge the musical divide between Manchester and Mersey Beat.

"They're great music cities and although there has always been a big divide between Manchester and Liverpool there is a new rapprochement," says ITC founder Tony Wilson. "We want to be part of the creative corridor between them."

The event will move back to Manchester in 2000 before switching back to Liverpool, followed by Manchester in 2002.

The eighth ITC will be staged at Liverpool's newly-built Holiday Inn Crown Plaza between September 18 and 22. This year the conference programme will examine the impact of technology, including the internet, on the song.

Net Aid plans 1bn hits for live global netcast

Live performance over the internet will face its biggest challenge later this year when the first worldwide internet relief effort, Net Aid, launches a global netcast.

The joint venture between internet networking specialists Cisco and the United Nations Development Programme will feature live concerts from three countries, which will be broadcast simultaneously on TV, radio and the internet. Live Aid producer Harvey Goldsmith is linking with three other producers, including Hands Across America creator Ken Krager, to organise the October 9 event, which will be staged at Wembley, the Geneva Opera House and New York's Giants Stadium. They are hoping the Cisco-produced internet site, which will also contain live interviews and provide a forum for people to communicate with each other about world poverty, will attract 1bn hits.

Launching the event in New York last week, Goldsmith said, "Music is the only international language that

MUSIC BACKS KOSOVO

The music industry is continuing to help Kosovan refugees with a Dance For Kosovo event, featuring some of the UK's biggest DJs, planned for May 26 at south London's Mass club. Meanwhile, the April 15 benefit for Kosovan refugees at the Scala raised more than £10,000, and a fundraising staff concert held last week by Sound Republic and PR agency Hill & Knowlton raised more than £8,000.

crosses all barriers, this time to help eradicate extreme poverty. Utilising the latest form of communication, our aim is to create 1b hits on the web as a call to action."

No acts have yet been confirmed for the event and media reports that Sting is playing are being downplayed by his manager Miles Copeland. Copeland confirms Sting has been approached, but says it is "highly unlikely" he will take part due to prior commitments.

NO.1 US BILLBOARD DANCE CHART TOP 5 UK CLUB HIT

CHARLOTTE SKIN

OUT MAY 10 ON CD, CD2 AND 12"
INCLUDES JUNIOR VAGUEZ, KLM AND CLUB 83 MIXES

THE REAL GLOBAL PICTURE

It is heartening that the UK has edged narrowly upwards in the official world sales rankings produced by the IFPI to take third place behind the US and Japan. If only that were to translate into other territories taking UK repertoire all the more seriously. Unfortunately the inescapable fact is that they don't – and are unlikely to in the foreseeable future. While some mainstream pop acts such as Spice Girls and Five seem to travel well, others including Billie and even Robbie Williams have so far lacked the same universal appeal (although that could hopefully still change in the US). And the picture is all the more bleak when it comes to rock, let alone music dance.

In part this reflects the continuing growth of local repertoire all over the world. After all, it was this rather than a strong international release sheet that drove most of the sales gains noted in the IFPI's new figures. But we are also to blame. As an industry we are sometimes as biased against much of what comes out of Europe (not to mention the US) as our overseas colleagues are towards our repertoire. If we don't take their acts seriously, why should they behave differently?

The fault certainly does not lie in the quality of much of that foreign repertoire. Since the launch of our sister magazine *fano* we have been opened up to some great records out of Europe that we otherwise would have heard (watch out for *Narcotic* by Liquid from Germany, Lene Marlin's *Unforgivable Sinner* from Norway and fellow Norwegians *Velvet Bely*). And when it comes to selling records abroad, there is also the wider question of the level of commitment on the part of UK artists, managers – and sometimes even labels.

The strength of the UK's domestic sales compared with the rest of the world is worth celebrating. But, more than ever, it is far from being the whole picture. Today, there can be no excuse for not adopting a truly global focus. *Ajax Scott*



Radio One is preparing to stage the biggest event in its history to mark the arrival of the new millennium at different locations around the world.

The station has lined up some of dance music's biggest DJ names, including Fatboy Slim, Paul Oakenfold, Junior Vasquez, Judge Jules and Pete Tong, who will be broadcasting from the event globe on December 31 as part of a full-day's programming dedicated to the millennium.

"Radio One will celebrate like it's never done before," says station controller Andy Parfitt. "One World will chase midnight around



Oakenfold: coming live from London the globe from Sydney to Cape Town to Glasgow to New York and on to Honolulu and beam it back to Radio One's audience partying in the UK."

Tong, who unveiled details of the event during his Essential Selection show from London's The

Planetarium last Friday (April 30), will be broadcasting for three hours from Liverpool Docks from 6pm on December 31. Other DJs set to feature include Danny Rampling (broadcasting from Cape Town), Dave Pearce (Glasgow), Fatboy Slim (Stoke on Trent), Junior Vasquez (New York), Paul Oakenfold (London) and Carl Cox (Honolulu).

Meanwhile, Capital FM has revealed the first 11 acts to be confirmed for Party in The Park in London's Hyde Park on Sunday, July 4. They include Boyzone, The Cears, Culture Club, Texas, Martine McCutcheon and Shania Twain.

Radio Two rallies with top Sony Radio Award

by Paul Williams

Radio Two has emerged from one of the most difficult weeks in its 32-year history by triumphing at this year's Sony Radio Awards.

The BBC station, whose presenter Johnnie Walker was suspended last week over newspaper allegations about supplying drugs and prostitutes, was named national station of the year at the event, being praised by the judges for its broad and distinctive programming.

Radio Two controller Jim Mair did not refer to the Walker incident when he collected the prize at London's Grosvenor House Hotel last Wednesday, but instead saluted his entire team of broadcasters. "I would like to offer my warmest congratulations and thanks to all the great stars and celebrities who from the microphones of Radio Two and the brilliant writers and producers of Radio Two who have made '99 such a memorable year," he said.

During his three years as controller, Mair has introduced a number of new presenters to the line-up, including Bob Harris, awards co-host Paul Gambaccini and Walker, who is currently the subject

MUSIC CATEGORY WINNERS

Breakfast: Adam Cole (Glasgow 102)
Daytime: Mark Radcliffe Show (Radio One)

Drivetime: Simon James (96.3 Air FM)
Evening/late night: Pete Tong's Essential Selection (Radio One)

Weekend music: Alan Mann's Affairs (Classic FM)
Features: We Got The Funk (Radio One)

Special Interest: Mark Lamarr's Shake, Rattle and Roll (Radio Two)
Music broadcaster: Mark Lamarr

of an investigation by BBC reporter Mark Lamarr – both the special interest music and music broadcaster awards for Shake, Rattle and Roll, while Radio One's tally comprised Zoe Ball winning the Sony Radio Two Award, Mark And Lard the daytime music award, Pete Tong the evening music award and We Got The Funk the music feature prize.

However, Radio One lost out in the breakfast music category which went to commercial radio for the sixth year in a row, this time to Adam Cole of Chrissy-owned Glasgow 102 in Manchester. GWR's Classic FM collected two prizes – the weekend music award for Alan Mann's Affairs and the station branding award where it topped Radio Two and Brighton's Sipp 107.

Emap picked up the drivetime music award through Andy James of Leeds' 96.3 Air FM, but there were no prizes for Capital Radio, despite music nominations for Capital FM's Steve Nick and for Bob Geldof's Xfm drivetime show



Mair: paid tribute to his team

BPI's new legal head to carry on the piracy fight

The BPI is poaching Channel Four's corporation secretary and head of rights Andrew Yeates to fill the position of director of legal affairs.

Yeates, who will join the record company trade body in July, says one of his prime tasks will be to continue the fight against traditional piracy and also ensure its protection of rights in the digital age.

"The vibrance and excitement of the record industry underpins its phenomenal commercial success. If the success and the excitement are to continue, the rights of everyone involved need to be protected," says Yeates, who joined Channel Four 11 years ago as a programme acquisition executive before rising to his current position five years ago. BPI director general John Deacon says, "Andrew will act as a determined fighter for the rights of all our members both now and into the future."

Yeates replaces former BPI legal affairs director Sara Join, who left nearly two years ago.

Virgin posts record profits

The UK's Virgin Megastores were one of the star performers helping the Virgin Entertainment Group (VE) to post record profits of £33m last year.

Virgin Megastores increased worldwide sales by 13% to £561.1m in the year to January 31, 1999, while earnings before interest tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) jumped 77% from £13.6m to £24m.

VE chief executive Simon Burke declines to break out the UK's figures, but says profitability increases were posted in every territory. He adds that because the UK is the largest market for the retail group its improved performance was critical to boosting profits.

"These figures show we are on an upward track and our direction of opening 'flagship-type stores is the right one," says Burke, adding that the new 25,000 sq ft store due to open in Glasgow in the autumn will set the pattern for the rest of the chain. "We want to follow the lead from overseas where there is more



Burke: upward track

space and stronger displays. We've been using the same design since the early Nineties and retail has to keep up with fashion."

Overall, VE, which also comprises Virgin Classics, announced EBITDA up 34% to £33m. The figures do not include Our Price, whose spin-off is still under discussion. Burke adds that although the management buy-out option is taking longer than he would have liked, it remains the preferred strategy.

● Bill Scott has announced that its music and video sales fell by 2% for the six months ended February 28, 1999.

WEBBO

BBC MUST STAND BY ITS MAN

If you were not aware, last week's *News Of The World* "exposed" Johnnie Walker, one of the best DJs this country has ever produced. He was reportedly filmed snorting cocaine and recorded offering to obtain drugs and prostitutes for prospective business partners whom he thought wanted to set up a radio station but were in fact undercover reporters.

Now I hold no torch for cocaine use, believing it to be an insidious drug that is far too prevalent in any walk of life where people earn lots of money. But if Walker wants to take cocaine then that's his affair.

As for the allegations of supplying drugs and procuring prostitutes that led *The News Of The World* to describe Walker as "evil", I believe you can put them down to over-enthusiasm – bragging really – of someone trying to invent a potential client.

If you really wanted to find a prostitute in London it's not exactly difficult – just walk into any phone box and be visually assaulted by the calling cards. And I'd guess it's pretty easy to get any sort of drug if you want it. This is not the first time that Walker has activated his mouth before his brain kicked in – he has been in trouble with the BBC hierarchy before. But I hope that the BBC stands by its man, not giving in to sanctimonious pressure from the media and instead giving him the chance to rehabilitate himself. After all, when footballer Paul Merson comes out as an alcoholic and cocaine abuser the support is overwhelming. Let's hope Walker's act of stupidity is not the end of a glittering but flawed career.

Update on my recent column about A&R people not going to gigs. Another friend recently organised a gig for their band and this is a band attracting genuine interest already. On the band of the show four A&R people rang to be put on the guest lists. None turned up. Maybe they can't work out their lives more than a few minutes ahead.

Jon Webster's column is a personal view

Parlophone revamps website to embrace life-style features

by Tracey Snell

Parlophone is seeking to establish a new brand identity on the internet with the launch later this year of an interactive-based lifestyle website.

In what will be the biggest overhaul of its web strategy in three years, Parlophone is creating a new site on the internet which will attempt to get away from the look and feel of most UK record company websites. Called www.lookon.net, it will adopt an interactive magazine-style format and offer a mix of music and non-music content.

The site, which is being designed by design agency Sonitox, will be divided into sections such as news (general and music), bands

(Parlophone's roster), media (videos and audio clips), an interactive section, a chat forum plus articles on topics ranging from snowboarding to computer games.

It will also host banner advertising. Although initially reserved solely for promoting Parlophone artists such as Radiohead, Supergrass and Mansun, in theory this feature could be extended to advertise third-party products.

Anthony Cauchi, Parlophone's new media manager, says, "There is only a certain number of people on the web who want to hear music. By offering other content as well, we believe the site will appeal to a wider audience."



Lookon.net: the new net identity

The non-music features will initially represent 10% of the site's content.

The move follows Universal and Virgin establishing separate brand identities on the internet – the for-

mer www.frequency.co.uk and the latter c3.vmg.co.uk and the-raft.com. Sony and Virgin have also started selling advertising space on their sites.

Lookon.net will be launched in the next few months, replacing Parlophone's existing www.parlophone.co.uk site which attracts up to 15,000 unique visitors per week. To ensure content on the new site is kept fresh, Parlophone has developed a secure database which will allow the company's marketing staff and artist managers to post their own updates. "It's going to be an online brand that staff here will be able to use as a marketing tool," says Cauchi.



Polydor is stepping up its marketing campaign for Abba's *Greatest Hits* – Greatest Hits to coincide with the first television documentary to feature all four members since the group split up. The *Abba Story – The Winner Takes It All* will be broadcast between 9pm and 10.15pm across the ITV network on May 15 and will be followed the next day by national newspaper advertising for the album together with TV and radio support. "It's a golden opportunity to re-promote the album because we're going to reach a massive TV audience," says George McManus, the Polydor marketing executive who helped to put together the album, which was originally released in 1992 but has made its way back to number one twice this year. McManus is hoping the documentary will have a similar impact on the album's sales as last autumn's ITV programme *An Audience With The Bee Gees* did on that group's Polydor-issued *One Night Only* album, which returned to the Top 10.

New Kiss promotion unites Garage brands

Kiss 100 FM has teamed with sunglasses manufacturer Bausch & Lomb for a month-long promotion which ties together the Emp station's various Garage City brands.

Bausch & Lomb's Killer Loop sunglasses is sponsoring the Garage City club night, which takes place each Saturday at Bar Rumba in London, through a series of on-air ads broadcasting across prime time Kiss 100 shows in May.

It is also supporting the release on May 10 of the first Garage City album, mixed by the club's resident DJs Bobbi and Steve, with a series of ads featuring in consumer youth press titles including *Mixmag*, *Touch*, *Ministry and Muzik*.

Kiss 100 account executive Adam Bullock says the station may pursue similar initiatives for its other brands including House Nation. "The promotion ties together the major elements of our off-air (Garage City) products – the album and the club night. It's the way we want to take things forward," he says.

Megastores go big on new Suede LP

Nude Records has embarked on its biggest marketing campaign to date to support the release yesterday (Monday) of the new Suede album, *Head Music*.

As part of the initiative, Virgin Megastores is re-branding its entire chain of 92 UK stores 'Head Music' from today and for the rest of the week. The unprecedented move sees the retailer replacing the distinctive black and white Virgin Megastores sign on the external fascia of all its stores with the words 'Head Music'.

Nude is also running a special *Head Music* album preview promotion in conjunction with 15 clubs throughout the country until May 4.

The clubs, which are located in cities including Exeter, Cardiff and Brighton, will open an hour early to play the entire album.

Gare Britz, who runs promotions company Wild and was hired by Nude to work as a marketing consultant on the campaign, says the band had given the label an ideal



Dorman: the right album for Virgin title to base a marketing campaign around.

"We had originally looked at the possibility of getting vacant premises and opening them up as shops. But during the course of our meetings with retailers, this idea came up with Virgin. Within 24 hours they got back to us with a Photoshop mock-up of what the store would look like. They were

very pro-active," she says.

Virgin, which is understood to have spent around £10,000 on the new store facias, is also re-naming its in-store radio station 'Head Music' for the week and erecting special five-foot High Head Music listening posts.

Simon Dorman, the retailer's events and PR manager, says, "It had to be an album that was right for Virgin and one in which we have real faith."

Dorman adds that the retailer accounted for 14% of sales of *Coming Up*, the band's previous album, and says it would be content with a similar share of *Head Music*.

Meanwhile, Virgin is planning to give away 15 of the *Head Music* store banners signed by the band through competitions running in NME and on selected radio stations.

Each of Virgin's participating stores will also be running local competitions to win one of the banners.

Spice Girls take action over T-shirt copyrights

Spice Girls are suing PolyGram Merchandising for allegedly selling T-shirts featuring the band without their permission.

The company is named in a writ along with Trevo Inc, a Michigan-based company which distributes band merchandise produced by Polygram to US retailers. Together they are accused of copyright infringement, unfair competition and other violations.

According to the suit, US sales of *Spice Girls* merchandise generated around \$150m last year. The band are seeking more than \$100,000 in damages.

Jim George, Trevo's president, says he has not been served with the writ and denies any responsibility for licensing arrangements. "I'm only act as a distributor for PolyGram – they license the rights. If I am served with anything then I will hand it over to them," he says.

Universal, which owns PolyGram Merchandising, was unavailable for comment.

VIRGIN MEGASTORES IN PR SWITCH

Virgin Megastores is dropping Creative Taylor and appointing the Cake Group to handle its PR activities. The switch will come into effect from July 1. Virgin says the Cake Group's portfolio of clients, which includes Atlantic 252, Xfm and the V Festivals, better reflects its market. Meanwhile, Virgin has appointed advertising agency BWA to handle its strategic marketing planning.

DANCE BETS ONE-STOP SERVICE

Dance music promotions company Whitehouse, which covers clubs and regional radio, has teamed up with independent plugger Craig Madley to provide a one-stop promotions service. Madley, whose national roster includes the Beta Band and the Mo Wax and Concrete labels, will be based in Whitehouse's west London offices from this week. Whitehouse carries out club promotion for labels including Wolf Of Sound and Skint.

BORDERS STORE FOR SOUTH COAST

Retailer Borders is planning to open a £2,500 sq m music cafe store in Bournemouth in early 2000. The store will be part of the town's new The Square development comprising four shops. Borders currently operates three stores in the UK with a fourth branch opening in Leeds on May 29.

SIBELIUS WINS INNOVATION GOING

Sibelius Software, developer of music notation software used by the Royal Academy of Music and composer Michael Kamen among others, has been awarded a Millennium Product award by the Design Council. The awards recognise companies and products that demonstrate British innovation at its best.

WILD'S MARLOW IDOLS PPR

PPR, the London-based PR firm whose clients include Sony Music Catalogue Marketing and Warner's, has appointed Emma Marlow from Marlow Promotions to handle national and regional press.

LAURYN'S DOUBLE PLATINUM

Laurnyn Hill's *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* picked up its second platinum award last week as the compilation *The Female Touch 2* picked up a silver award from the BPI.

HOW TV SHOWS' RATINGS COMPARE

Programme	audience (000s)	% change
Top of the Pops*	5,291	+20%
Live & Kicking	2,365	+20.4%
TV Friday*	2,302	-10.5%
The Top of the Pops 2	1,331	n/a
SMTV	1,276	n/a
The O Zone	722	-22.1%
The Pepsi Chart*	710	-16.6%
CDUK	703	n/a
Top Pop**	560	n/a
Videochat	230	-56.8%

*nominated weekly show figures
** figure based on an average three of its weekly shows
Source: Mediacom/BBM/Barb/w5 April 12

dotmusic
the insider's guide to music
www.dotmusic.com

charfile

● Sony Classical's Charlotte Church had good reason to be smiling at the end of last week as she prepares for her fourth promotional trip to the States. Her album *Voice of An Angel* last week returned to the Japanese Top 20 at 12 following a week-long visit which included a showcase in Tokyo before 300 journalists and 15 camera crews. Her two-week trip to the US will include appearances on both Jay Leno, and *Donny and Marie Osmond's* TV shows.

● The Cranberries are compensated for their lowest album chart peak so far in the UK — *Bury The Hatchet* debuted at seven a week ago — with the same album entering at 18 in Japan. The group's fourth album is new at one in Spain, two in France, four in Italy, Norway, Sweden and Finland, enters at 18 in Belgium and climbs 23 places to 10 in the Netherlands.

● Finally someone other than Cher or George Michael & Mary J Blige has topped the UK Top 20 most popular UK-sourced hits on European radio (see table below). Texas move up one place to two this week with *In Our Lifetime*, though they are unable to beat Cher, whose *Strong Enough* spends its sixth week at one in two chart-topping runs.

● Geri Halliwell has very good reason to demand that people look at *Me*. Her debut single is the highest arrival on a fono's chart of the most popular UK-sourced repertoire on European radio this week. The EMI/Chrysalis single enters at seven, giving EMI three of the chart's 20 tracks overall. Sony heads the list with six (including *Nude and Skint*) followed by Universal on five, Warner on three, Indies two and Virgin one.

● It is still the best of times for Supertramp in continental Europe. The veteran UK group's *It Was The Best Of Times* has added to its previous high debuts in territories including France (number three) and Portugal (10) with new entries at 15 in Switzerland and 29 in Germany, while in Spain it climbs nine places to 21.

● Reprise's Wilco have now moved on to their new album *Summerteeth*, but in Australia the attention remains with *Mermaland Avenue*, last year's collaboration with Ben Bragg. It entered the Top 20 there last week in anchor position.

● Some of UK and Irish pop's finest have managed to sell some Swedish tunes back to the Swedes. The Thank You For The Music medley, which features Steps, Boney M and B*Witched, climbs 10 places to 18 in Sweden this week, the only UK-sourced track in the whole Top 20.

● Fifteen months after *Abba* made their singles chart debut in the UK, *Smiles Arrived on the scene* their top two hit *If You Think You Know How To Love Me*, their *Alice How* to the UK group have not really bothered the charts here so far 1989, but their popularity in Denmark has led to the thoughtfully titled *Our Danish Collection* entering the chart there this week at eight.

EMO focuses on Europe and UK acts for international drive

by Alex Scott
A strong line-up of UK-sourced acts from around the broad range of acts presented at the managing directors conference held by BMG International in Boston last month. Companies from all around the world presented key international artists during the two-day gathering, which was attended by 80 of the company's most senior executives. Among those present were Bertelsmann worldwide chief Thomas Middelhof, BMG Entertainment boss Strauss Zelnick, BMG Entertainment International president Rudi Gassner and the president of its US labels RCA and Arista.

The meeting identified as key international priorities a number of

established acts including TLC, Puff Daddy, N Sync, Whitney Houston, Sweetbox, Kenny G and Gary Barlow.

Among the UK names to be presented were RCA chart toppers Westlife (pictured left to right with BMG UK chairman Richard Griffiths, BMG Ireland managing director Freddie Middleton, RCA UK managing director Harry Magée and Gassner), Beth Orton, Barlow, Simon Cowell's latest boy band *McFly* and The Eurythmics.

Elsewhere the conference programme underlined the diversity of acts that the company will be working internationally during the rest of the year, ranging from BMG Franca's Cassia Evaria — a world music singer who has sold 1.5M albums to date — to an extensive



Boney M remix project out of Germany and the new album from Swedish pop/R&B singer Robyn. Releases due from America include a new Steely Dan studio album entitled *Two Against Nature* due in October and a Whitney Houston greatest hits package.

Another theme of the session highlighted by Gassner was the re-emergence of RCA US as an impor-

tant source of repertoire — and in particular alternative rock — with forthcoming material due from artists ranging from R&B newcomer Cherokee to young pop female vocalist Christina Aguilera and in particular a raft of alternative rock acts led by Lit, Vertical Horizon and Verve Pipe.

The gathering reflected Gassner's new policy of holding highly focused "workshop" meetings, attended by his managing directors twice a year instead of the larger international meetings held in the past. Gassner says that overall BMG International, like some of its competitors, is releasing fewer records this year but concentrating more on each. "It's not so much about money spent as artist focus," he says.

Foot/Parlophone development act Liz Horne's international career took a first step forward last Tuesday when she played a showcase at London's 606 Club in front of around 60 EMI executives from around the world, including EMI Recorded Music president Ken Berry and EMI Records UK president/CEO Tony Wadsworth. Her seven-song performance came as part of a three-day EMI International meeting which also included the Pet Shop Boys at a playback of their forthcoming new album — due out at the end of September — and an appearance by Geri Halliwell. Horne's album *Heavy High* is being released on May 8 in Japan, where she undertook a three-day promotional trip last month, while other territories will follow around June.



UK TOP 20 AIRPLAY HITS IN EUROPE

RW	UK	Title	Artist	UK company
1	1	Strong Enough	Cher	WEA
2	3	In Our Lifetime	Texas	Mercury
3	2	As	George Michael & Mary J Blige	Sony
4	4	Strong	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis
5	8	Carved Heart	Jamiroquai	S2
6	5	You Don't Know Me	Ariana Grande	ffrr
7	7	Look At Me	Geri Halliwell	EMI/Chrysalis
8	10	Cloud #9	Brandy Adams	ABM/Mercury
9	7	When You're Gone	Bryan Adams & Mel C	ABM/Mercury
10	9	Tender	Cher	Food/Parlophone
11	12	Believe	Super D	WEA
12	14	Exclusivity	Blanca	Wade
13	11	Dead From The Waist Down	Calafuria	Bianco Y Negro
14	20	Turn Around	Phats & Small	Multity
15	17	Right Here, Right Now	Fatboy Slim	Sirgin
16	27	Secretly	Skunk Anansie	Virgin
17	15	Written In The Stars	Elton John & LeAnn Rimes	Rickit
18	13	You Stole The Sun...	Manic Street Preachers	Glow/Mercury
19	16	Blame It On The Weatherman	B*Witched	Rickit/Warm/Epic
20	22	Can't Get Enough	Shaloma	Defected

Chart based on 20 most aired UK-sourced tracks on BBC's *Radio 1* and *Radio 2* over a 100 station period. © 1999 EMI Music Publishing. All rights reserved. See www.EMI.com for details.

TOP UK-SIGNED SALES CHART PERFORMERS ABOARD

Country	Title/Artist	Label	chart position	10
AUSTRALIA	single album	Until The Times... Five One Night Only Bee Gees	BMG Polydor	9 11
CANADA	single	Goodbye Spide Girls	Virgin	2
FRANCE	album	Believe Cher	WEA	6
FRANCE	single	Strong Enough Cher	WEA	8
FRANCE	album	Believe Cher	WEA	13
GERMANY	single	Strong Enough Cher	WEA	18
GERMANY	album	Believe Cher	WEA	3
GERMANY	single	Electric Slide	Mud	15
ITALY	album	Hot Oppos: Oil Sunk Inside	Virgin	5
NETHERLANDS	single	Strong Enough Cher	WEA	11
NETHERLANDS	album	Ladies & Gentlemen & Michael	Epic	7
SPAIN	single	In Our Lifetime Texas	Mercury	4
SPAIN	album	Believe Cher	WEA	7
US	single	Believe Cher	WEA	6
US	album	Believe Cher	WEA	4

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AMERICAN CHARTWATCH

by ALAN JONES

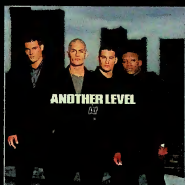
It's a mixed week for TLC, who lose their singles chart throne to Latin heart-throb Ricky Martin while returning to the top of the album chart. Despite giddy sales in the region of 200,000 a week, their *No Scrubs* single is comprehensively beaten this week by Puerto Rican star Ricky, whose *Livin' La Vida Loca* storms B-1 with 280,000 copies sold last week alone. Meanwhile, TLC's album *FanMail*'s 180,000 copies last week are enough to put it back on top of the stack, ahead of Nas, and raise its overall sales across the past nine weeks to 1.5M.

With Disney still repeating their concert on cable at regular intervals, both B*Witched and Five's albums rebound smartly and are within an ace of their former chart peaks. B*Witched climb 16-13 and Five (pictured above) bounce 42-30, their respective anonymous albums having previously peaked at number 12 and number 27. B*Witched's *C'est La Vie* single is still on a downward, slipping 20-24, while Five's *Slam Dunk* (Da Funk) has disappeared from the singles chart altogether, having peaked in its debut position of 86. Fatboy Slim has a mixed week too, with the single *Praise You* jumping 48-41 while his album *You've Come A Long Way, Baby* declines 34-39.

Sarah Brightman bounces back on to the chart with her new album Eden debuting at number 65, only two months after her last LP *Time To Say Goodbye* made its final chart appearance. Eden has already beaten the peak of that album, which reached number 74, and sold 18,000 copies last week. That's three times as many as its debut at number 89, a full year after *Operate With A Blow Mind*, which debuts at number 15 in the UK. Fatboy Slim, they've shed a couple of members since the album was completed, and have had a long wait for the album to make the chart — it was released back in January. Other Brits on the album chart include Van Morrison (53-54), Charlotte Church (55-57), Elton John (58-102), Underworld (93-106), Bee Gees (125-141), Phil Collins (145-154), Beth Orton (170-164) and Blur (174-159).

Finally, in the wake of the Littleton high school sayings, defunct industrial rock band KMFDM's final album *Adios* debuts at number 189. The band were big favourites of alleged killers Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, and the album's notoriety generated sales of more than 6,000 last week.

ANOTHER LEVEL



- Album certified Platinum (25 consecutive weeks on the official CIN album chart)
- Sold out UK tour (36,000 tickets sold)
- Capital Radio Award: Best Newcomer
- Mobo Award: Best Single "Freak Me"
- Brits Nomination: Best Newcomer



- The forthcoming Another Level single is taken from the film "Notting Hill" (from the creators of "Four Weddings and a Funeral").
- Entitled "From The Heart" it is written by Diane Warren, the queen of the crossover film hits, including Aerosmith's "I Don't Want To Miss A Thing" and Leanne Rimes "How Do I Love".
- Released to coincide with the launch of the film, "From The Heart" it is set to provide Another Level with their biggest crossover airplay hit to date.



newsfile

HUT SIGNS CORNERSHOP OFFSHOOT CLINTON
Hut managing director Dave Boyd last week signed Clinton — Tjinder Singh and Ben Ayres' 'Cornershop offshoot' — to an albums deal. A Willie spokesman confirms Cornershop continue to be signed to the Beggars label and are writing the follow-up to 1997's *When I Was Born For The Seventh Time*.

DURAN TRIBUTE ALBUM FOR AUSSIE RELEASE
EMI Australia managing director Tony Harlow is putting together a Duran Duran tribute album — currently planned for release in just Australia and New Zealand — to coincide with the issue of their greatest hits package, *Kylie Minogue* is to duet with Ben Lee on the Reflex while other artists so far lined up include The Living End, Jebadiah, Kiss Me Kate and Powderfinger.

SINE'S HIPPO TRANSFORMS INTO RIVER HORSE
Hippo Records, the pop label set up with Sony Music Independent Network Europe, has changed its name to River Horse. Managing director Robin Godfrey-Cass said the switch to the alternative name for a Hippo was forced after objections from Universal's US catalogue imprint, Hip-O.

SONY PUSHES STAR WARS RADIO TRACK
Sony Classical is this week promoting a radio-only single *Duel of The Fates* to coincide with the release of John Williams' *Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace*. A video for the track, recorded with a choir and the London Symphony Orchestra in London's Abbey Road, is also understood to be set for MTV promo.

ROCK TALENT TEAMS UP FOR JAM ALBUM
The *Beastie Boys* are the latest artists to record a track for *The Jam Tribute* album which has so far been at least two years in the making. Ocean Colour Scene's Steve Cradock is understood to be heading the project for an American label within Universal Island. It is known to feature contributions by Liam and Noel Gallagher, while Reef and Stereophonics are also announced contributors.

NOTOWN ANNOUNCES GAYE ALIUM PLAINS
Motown is set to release *Marvin's 50*, a Marvin Gaye tribute album, this summer, as the label prepares to switch from Polydor to Universal Island in the UK. On the album Gerald Levert performs *Let's Get It On*, while Erykah Badu and D'Angelo cover *Your Precious Love*, Brian McKnight does *Distant Lover*, Jon B sings *Mercy* and Meco and Profyie do *What's Going On*.

WARNER/CHAPPELL SNAPS UP CHRIS NEIL
Sony/writer/producer Christopher Neil — responsible for such hits as *Walking In Memphis* and *For Your Eyes Only* — has signed a worldwide publishing deal with Warner/Chappell. Neil is to co-write on Mike And The Mechanics new album, was signed by executive director creative and international, Annette Barrett.

MUSIC WEEK PLAYLIST

Coleco — This Is It (Twisted) Danny Tenaglia's Chicago vocalist further proves her abilities (album, June 28); **Jordan Knight — sampler (Intercept)** Surprisingly broad-ranging and clever R&B-based tracks (sampler, tbc); **Suede — Head Music (Nude)** An fantastic listen (album, May 17); **Shanks Bigfoot — Sweet Like Chocolate (Video)** Live *Video* (single, May 14); **Big On Time** (single, May 17); **Sneaker Pimps — Low 5 (Clean Up)** The new male vocals work fine (single, tbc); **Shack — sampler (London)** One of the best singles received this year (tbc); **Lit — My Own Worst Enemy (RCA)** A rock smash — the next offspring? (single, tbc).

Steps move from Abba to Kylie for forthcoming new single

by Stephen Jones

Producer Peter Waterman is close to finishing the second *Steps* album for live — making the band's July single will now be their first brand new solo material since the release of *Step One* rather than another track from that four-times platinum album.

Love's Got A Hold On My Heart is understood to be the release set for July 6 — with lead vocals by Claire Richards — and, as expected, moves the band on from their Abba tag. Waterman is understood to have co-penned the track with Andrew Frampton, who worked on *Step One*. One source says: "It sounds like Kylie. It's really the best they've ever recorded — it has about four of five hooks."

Waterman, *Steps*: A&R at EMI, says: "It sounds a bit like Kylie? It's probably more like 'if you get what I mean, it's where's where [Byrne-Blood co-manager] Tim Byrne, who's got a picture in his head, wants to get and



Steps: releases brought forward

I just try and get him there."

In tandem with the new release — which until now had been expected to be a further track from *Step One* — the release date of the album has been brought forward to September, ahead of their record-breaking arena tour *The Next Step*.

To date, seven tracks are understood to

have been completed at the PWL studio in South London, with mixing yet to commence. A potential Christmas number one single, believed to be *When I Said Goodbye*, is a duet between Richards and H and is understood to be more Carpenters-sounding. The band are currently on a break before promotion trips in South Africa and the US. Byrne declines to comment beyond confirming that the release dates have been brought forward to meet demand.

Meanwhile, Waterman's latest project, London Records chairman Tracy Bennett's signing *Toxtes Les Filles*, have a reworked *Stock Aitken and Waterman* hit as their first single. That's *What Love Can Do*, released in July was originally a US number one airplay hit for Boy Krizz in 1991, although they never broke in the UK. Waterman says: "It just happened that it's actually an old Roger Ames song. It sounds nothing like *Steps*."



Parlophone last week beat off stiff competition to sign one of the most sought-after acts in past six months, *Coldplay*, in Trafalgar Square. The UK band are the first act to be signed by A&R manager Dan Keeling (pictured center rear), who joined 11 months ago from A&M where he was its A&R scout. They are also one of the first signings since Miles Leonard (pictured left) took over as A&R director last year. Keeling says: "I signed them for a multitude of reasons — all the things that make for a band and the fact that they are going to make classic records." The four-piece last year released the self-promoted *Safety EP* themselves and a fortnight ago saw their limited-edition *Brothers & Sisters EP* released on Fierce Panda.

Ashcroft concentrates on solo material after The Verve split

Ex-Verve frontman Richard Ashcroft is working on debut solo material with producer Chris Potter, who worked on their Urban Hymns album.

The Wigan band last week confirmed their much-predicted "mutual decision" to split — expected since guitarist Nick McCabe walked out on the band last summer.

One source close to the band says: "Chris to Richard is like Owen Morris was to Noel Gallagher or Stephen Street to Blur. They found out after the mess of producers on the last album that they can completely communicate with each other." Drummer Pete Salisbury is known to have decided to continue working with Ashcroft while unconfirmed rumours suggest Ashcroft is also working with sometime Spiritualized keyboardist Kate Radley. Hut managing director David Boyd declines to comment.

In a statement, Ashcroft said: "The decision to split the band did not come without a great deal of distress to me personally. I have always given everything to the band and would have continued to do so if circumstances had not made it impossible. I feel more positive now a decision has been made — being in limbo isn't good for the soul. I can now move forward and put my energies into new songs for a new album."

Other members have not ruled out working together again on further collaborations.

Sister act tempts Echo into making first moves to pop

Echo last week snapped up the first year out and pop act in its five-and-a-half year history — female duo Fred'n'Roxy who are signed to a worldwide deal through Shark Records.

The London-based sister duo will be co-A&R by Echo managing director Jeremy Lascelles and A&R manager Ingrid Brandstatter.

Shark Records is a production company run by writers and producers John Holliday and Trevor Steel, best known for having written and produced *Louise's Top Five* singles *Naked* and *Arms Around The World*, and who produced 911's *A Little Bit More*.

Lascelles says: "Echo has never been anti-pop. There's a slight difference now with me arriving, but Echo's not going to divert from finding and developing long-term artists."

"Basically Fred'n'Roxy are sassy, have got the attitude, are vixen and good looking — I'd be foolish not to sign them."

RUG launches It Records with My Life Story single

Really Useful Group is on the verge of launching It Records, an independent record label largely run by former EMI staff, just weeks after buying out Universal's stake in the Andrew Lloyd Webber-founded company.

It Records will be headed by Really Useful Records managing director and former EMI A&R director Tiz Penna, with former EMI UK marketing director Tracy Connolly as general manager. Former China Drum manager Phil Barton will be the label's A&R manager, while St Etienne member Bob Stanley, who used to run emcees, is A&R consultant. Recordings manager is former Red Hat A&R coordinator Zoe Lewis. Webber's involvement is described as "purely beneficiary".

The label is understood to be close to confirming a permanent independent distribution partner to handle its roster. One exception is Marianne Faithfull, who is on the verge of being licensed to a major label and whose first mainstream album in four years, *Vagabond Ways*, is set for an international release on June 14.

"It's first release will be the single *It's A Girl Thing* by My Life Story's on June 7. The catchy Queensrÿche-sounding track reflects the sound the self-revamped band have developed after "much soul searching" since they were dropped by Parlophone in November 1997. They were picked up by Penna last summer.



My Life Story: in the studio

Being dropped, they say, forced them to address criticism of their work and ditch the trademark "staring eyeballs on every track". Frontman Jake Shillingford says: "We haven't given in to our influences. We realised there's no point sounding like bands such as Embrace."

Recording has taken place at Parkgate in Hastings and London's Stanley House Studios — and inside "staring eyeballs on holiday in Lanzarote where they set up a vocal booth: Yes To Everything even finishes with the sound of Shillingford opening the door and walking across the room to switch off the equipment."

The potential closing album track 2 Stars could cross to the My Life Story of its lead with its Marc Almond-style strings and piano under guitars. Another stand-out track is *Walk Don't Walk* with its Drifters-sounding backing vocals.

Website ownership is the new battleground

Sony's controversial bid to gain control of artists' websites throws the spotlight on a key issue, writes Stephen Jones

Confirmation that Sony has now started to insert a clause into its standard contracts seeking to give it ownership and control over the websites of its artists provoked mixed reactions last week.

Such was the concern at the International Managers' Forum that the trade body immediately put it on the agenda for discussion at its next council meeting this Thursday, while some senior executives at rival labels expressed a mixture of admiration and envy at Sony's nerve.

At this stage there is still little indication how widespread the practice will become among Sony-signed artists, let alone whether any other company will attempt to mirror its move, but there is no doubting the importance of the issues it raises.

Certainly Marc Geiger, the former American Recordings executive who is now co-CEO of Artistdirect, the mushrooming US-based internet site that sells merchandise for artists including the Rolling Stones and the Beastie Boys, is in no doubt about the importance of ownership and control of artists' websites.

"We believe this is the single most important issue today. It's not digital distribution. There are new revenue streams, new information streams and new media

channels opening up. The issue is who owns and controls those channels," he says.

It is perhaps not surprising that he is so animated about the subject. His company expects to turn over \$15m-\$20m in e-commerce this year, with 90% of that derived from selling merchandising via the sites it operates on behalf of all its artist partners. "The artist is the network and we're operating on their behalf. We build their media channels and take care of all the back end stuff, taking about 25-30% of the gross margin. We can triple their

margins or more," he claims.

'This is the age when artists can control their own media channels' — Marc Geiger

Companies such as Geiger's, let alone sites set up and operated purely by artists themselves, are threatening to change the economics of the record business.

One application of the net is clearly in the area of selling music, either through mail-order or, ultimately, direct distribution. But while the sale of music recordings is now covered in recording contracts, the sale of most other products on the net is not. And it is this aspect of Sony's move that is causing most concern among managers, lawyers and internet experts.

"What Sony is saying is that it wants a percentage of every ticket sold through the

Artistdirect: believes "website ownership is the single most important issue today"

website, which takes away money from the artist," says one leading manager.

Other observers highlight related issues, such as who retains the fanbase data and website control if an artist leaves the major that owns rights to its site? And who approves the advertising the record label can sell through the site?

Although other majors such as EMI are understood to register website names for artists when they sign them, none appears to have moved as far or as fast as Sony in seeking to write ownership of websites into its contracts.

Ultimately all contracts are negotiable. What remains to be seen is how insistent Sony — which declines to comment on its contracts — is on the new clause (one company source describes it as "a deal breaker") and how much both parties are prepared to negotiate (new signing A1 are rumoured to have agreed a 50:50

split on future merchandising income).

It also remains to be seen how far the major intends to push it with its established artists. IMF council member Nick Moore, who is also a member of its new technology sub-committee, says, "I don't see the big artists like Jamiroquai and Manic Street Signers [website ownership] away. Sony is the first and if the other majors move on it, it'll be a huge issue. But to be honest, I don't think a lot of them have the expertise. A lot of labels won't even let their staff use the internet or have them connected."

Artistdirect's Geiger concludes, "Sony is being smart and making a proactive move. To the extent that Sony has all the leverage and the artist has zero, I admire it for asking for these rights. But our logic in business is that this is the age when artists can control their own media channels and access the consumer directly."

This one looks set to run and run.



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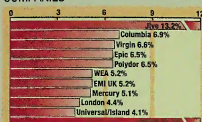
- by calling the Performer Registration Centre (a division of PPL) 0171 534 1234
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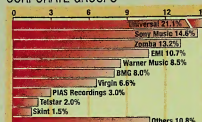
Phonographic Performance Limited 1 Upper James Street, London W1R 3HG
Tel 0171 534 1000 Fax 0171 534 1111

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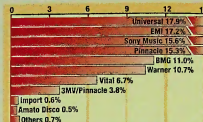
COMPANIES



CORPORATE GROUPS

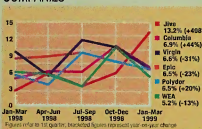


DISTRIBUTORS

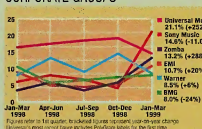


SINGLES: 12-MONTH TREND

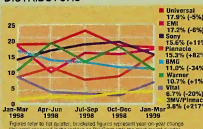
COMPANIES



CORPORATE GROUPS



DISTRIBUTORS



TOP 10 SINGLES

- BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears
- WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH BOYZONE (PolyDor)
- HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY Steps (Ebu/Live)
- FLAT BEAT Mr Oizo (Epic)
- WE LIKE TO PARTY! (THE VENGABOS) Vengaboys (Positiva)
- TENDER BLUR (Fool/Parlophone)
- YOU DON'T KNOW Me Armand Van Helden/Duane Harden (fr)

TOP 10 ARTISTS

- BRITNEY SPEARS
- STEPS
- BOYZONE
- MR OIZO
- THE OFFSPRING
- BLONDIE
- WHITNEY HOUSTON
- VENGABOYS
- BLUR
- CHER
- CLUB

TOP 10 PRODUCERS

- MARTIN YACOBUB
- MAC
- FRAMPTON/WATERMAN: TOPHAM/WINGO/WATERMAN
- DUPIEUX
- JERDEN
- LEON
- JERKINS
- DANSKI/DJ DELMUNDO
- ORBIT
- VAN HELDEN

DATA SOURCE

Compiled by Era from Millward Brown figures. Survey based on a weekly sample of singles sales and full-price and mid-price album sales through 4,000 UK outlets from January to March 1999 inclusive. Minimum prices for LP and cassette albums £2.70; £4.25 for CDs

Jive jumps up as it's

The Britney Spears phenomenon powered Jive to the singles summit - with a little help from Steps

SINGLES

Jive enjoyed its first number one single as far back as 1982 when Tight Fit's The Lion Sleeps Tonight climbed to the top, but that success and many others since then paled into insignificance when it came to 1999's opening quarter.

The Zomba-owned operation did not just top the singles market share table for companies in the period, it totally dominated it by almost doubling the showing of its nearest rival and handing two of the quarter's three biggest-selling singles.

Britney Spears' debut hit Baby One More Time alone clocked up more than 1.2m sales in the quarter, however, the US teenager was not the only Jive signing to enter the exclusive million-selling singles club. Steps recorded their highest sales peak so far in the period with Heartbeat/Tragedy finishing as the period's number three and passing the 1m mark, something neither Tragedy or the Bee Gees nor Abba managed to achieve with any of their numerous UK hit singles.

Even the period's second biggest-selling single, the Polydor-released When The Going Gets Tough by Boyzone, had a strong Jive connection since Billy Ocean's original had been issued on the label in 1985. The Comic Relief single's success helped Jive experience from seventh to joint fourth in the quarter with 6.5%, up just 0.4 percentage points behind runner-up Columbia.

Having topped the singles listings in 1998's closing quarter with 10.7%, Columbia's drop to two this time was a comparative disappointment. However, with the last quarter excepted, it was the Sony company's best singles showing since the third quarter of 1996, its biggest success was The Offspring, who topped the chart during the three months with Pretty Fly For A White Guy, finishing fourth overall, while Cher's Chocolate Salty Balls chart topped was the quarter's 28th biggest single.

By its own very high standards, Virgin had a less successful time than usual on singles, but even so still managed to finish in third



Britney Spears: Jive's biggest seller

place with 6.6%. That was a 31% drop on the same time 12 months before and one of its lowest showings of the past 18 months but still the envy of most companies. Among its successes, Lenky Kravitz had by far his biggest hit to date with the chart-topping Fly Away (11th), while 911's first number one A Little Bit More was 21 overall for the quarter. Epic, consistently strong on singles, found itself in a situation very similar to Virgin during the quarter. Its market share slipped to its lowest level since the third period of 1997 but was still good enough to finish in joint fourth place with 6.5%. In line with all five of the most successful singles companies, Epic shared in the quickest turnaround of number one singles a quarter had ever experienced with 11 different releases reaching the grade. However, the Sony company's chart topper, Blame It On The Weatherman by B*Witched, was not its most successful single of the period. Finishing 24th overall, it was outperformed by TQ's Westside (20th) and George Michael & Mary J Blige's As (23rd).

In fact, several chart toppers were put in the shade by singles failing to reach number one when the final tallies for the quarter were calculated. Whitney Houston's It's Not Right But It's Okay finished seventh of the quarter, despite only peaking at three, while Vengaboys' We Like To Party! (The Vengabos) came in at eighth overall against a weekly chart peak of three. It just eclipsed Blur's Tender as EMI's biggest hit of the quarter, helping to give the EMI UK division a 5.2%

share and joint seventh place. With its Chrysalis partner combined, that rises to 6.6% and joint third.

In the corporate listings, Universal Music on the face of it pulled off a remarkable improvement in fortunes by increasing its share over the previous quarter by more than five times. The reality, however, is rather less impressive because Universal's figures for this year onwards are officially being compared with the company's past showing without PolyGram. That means it officially jumped quarter-on-quarter from a 4.1% share to 21.1%, although a like-for-like comparison would be 21.1% now against 21.6% in quarter four (17.5% attributable to PolyGram, 4.1% to Universal before the merger).

However it is calculated, what is clear is that Sony dropped from first to second place in the corporate rankings for the quarter and Zomba leapt from sixth to third on the back of Jive's remarkable run. EMI more than doubled its share from the previous quarter to 10.7% to take fourth place and give it its best singles showing since the last quarter of 1997. A new name in the rankings was PIAS Recordings, arriving in eighth place with 3.0% thanks to Mr Oizo's Flat Beat (fourth biggest single of the quarter).

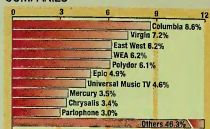
For EMI there was good news on distribution as it moved up into third to second place with 17.2%, although Universal stood in its way with a superior 17.9%. Pinnacle, riding high thanks to Jive, increased its showing by 75.9% on the previous quarter to 15.3% to take fourth place and push Warner Music out of the top five. Pinnacle's Indie Alive, the Mr Oizodistributing vital, also had a healthy quarter on singles, more than doubling its slice of the cake over the previous quarter to finish seventh with a 6.7% share.

During the quarter in question, the Mr Oizo hit was something of a long-running number one by reason of the fact it spent all two weeks at number one. Only two other singles in the period spent more than a week at the top, ensuring if nothing else that more companies than usual had a stab at the number one spot.

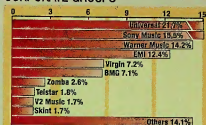
Paul Williams

QUARTERLY SNAPSHOT

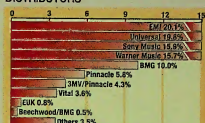
COMPANIES



CORPORATE GROUPS

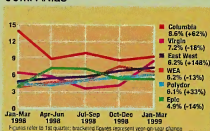


DISTRIBUTORS

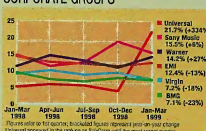


ALBUMS: 12-MONTH TRENDS

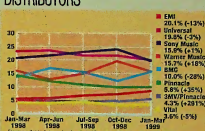
COMPANIES



CORPORATE GROUPS



DISTRIBUTORS



a change at the top

... while Columbia stole Virgin's albums crown after a staggering run of four years at the top

ALBUMS

Like Richard Manners with PolyGram/Island Music two months earlier, Columbia managing director Ged Doherty did not stay in his job quite long enough to see his company remove a seemingly unbeatable rival from the top of the market shares.

Former PolyGram/Island chief Manners had already left that company when, in February this year, it was revealed that it had ended EMI Music's two-year reign at number one to be confirmed as 1998's fourth quarter's most successful publisher.

In a similar vein, Doherty's departure from Columbia to become managing director of Arista occurred just four weeks before new figures emerged to show the Sony label had managed to do what no one else had managed in four staggering years — topple Virgin from the summit of the company market share table for albums. So long had Virgin's run at the top lasted that it covered Doherty's entire period as Columbia boss plus another year on top of that.

Virgin's decline in the opening quarter — its 7.2% share was its lowest since the start of 1996 — was illustrated by it failing to place a single artist release in the period's top 30 biggest sellers list, although there were several titles just outside — P!nce's *Without You I'm Nothing* (31st), *Bring It On* by Gomez (37th) and *Air's Moon Safari* (38th).

By contrast, Columbia's unbeatable 8.6% included international releases *The Misadventure Of Lauryn Hill* (four) and *Will Smith's Big Willie Style* at 18, although including the company's highest-ranked domestic album — *Kula Shaker's Peasants, Figs & Astronauts* (51st) — was only its sixth most successful overall. Columbia also registered highly on the compilation listings with the 1999 Brit Awards album (11th) and the *Chet And Soundtrack* (15th) with parent company Sony in part contributing to three more of the quarter's 20 biggest compilations.

East West, pulling off a 148% year-on-year increase to move up to joint third place with sister company WEA, was highly reliant on



The Corrs: powering East West

just one act during the quarter. However, it rather helps when that act in question are The Corrs, whose *Talk On Corners* matched its feat of last year's third quarter by finishing as the period's biggest album and whose revised first album *Forgotten, Not Forgotten* peaked as high as two in the chart to become the same quarter's sixth most successful artist album.

Similarities between the two Warner companies were very much confined to market share size because WEA enjoyed a far wider spread of successful albums than East West managed during the three months. *Char's Believe* album reached a new chart peak of seven during the quarter, finishing 15th overall, while other successes included Madonna's *Ray Of Light* (10th) and *Catania's International Velvet* (34th).

Polygram's consistency on albums has been demonstrated by having a presence among the Top 10 companies since 1997's fourth quarter. That continued into the new year when it finished fifth with a market share just 0.5 percentage points down on the previous quarter with the company's biggest success again Boyzone's *Where We Belong* (11th).

With very few big new albums released in the period, the market was almost totally reliant on the previous Christmas's biggest successes and a number of back catalogue titles reappearing in the chart on the back of High Street campaigns.

The lack of new releases in the quarter was further emphasised by the fact that only one of the Top 10 companies had a 1999 album in

the period's Top 20. Parlophone, finishing 10th overall with 3.0%, saw its chart-topping new Blue album make it to 14th of the quarter. Meanwhile, had the totals for Parlophone's sister operation, EMI UK and Chrysalis, been combined the latter would have finished seventh with 4.7%.

It was all change on the corporate listings or business as usual depending how you read it. The name PolyGram was confined to the history books with Universal Music taking PolyGram's regular place at the top of the corporate rankings. It pulled in 21.7% overall against an equivalent PolyGram/Universal share of 27.3% for the previous quarter (PolyGram with 23.5%, Universal on 3.8%) Sony was second again with 15.5% and Warner finished third with 24.2%. Among the biggest gainers were eighth-placed Telesat which enjoyed a 157% year-on-year rise party on the back of the highly-succesful compilation *Euphoria* (the quarter's third biggest), while joint ninth-ranked V2 Music and Skint both had their first number one and most successful quarters so far. The main contributors to V2's 1.7% share were the chart-topping *Stereophonics' Performance And Cocktails* (8th) and *Underworld's Beautiful Youth* (35th) with *Skint's* runaway success *You've Come A Long Way*, baby by *Fatboy Slim* finishing as the quarter's third biggest artist album.

Despite its own market share declining from the previous quarter, EMI returned to the top of the distribution chart for the first time since 1998's second period. Universal Music (formerly known as PolyGram) took second place with 19.8% while the Top 10's biggest gainer was a *Fatboy Slim* assisted *3MV/Pinnacle*. The partnership more than tripled its presence from last year's closing quarter to secure seventh place with 4.3%.

Overall, it was a time of headline change but not much else during quarter one. Virgin's four-year run on top finally came to an end and the PolyGram name officially disappeared from the market shares, but otherwise it was mostly the same albums selling in the High Street and the same companies reaping the most rewards.

Paul Williams

TOP 10 ARTIST ALBUMS

- 1 TALK ON CORNERS The Corrs (Atlantic)
- 2 I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU R Williams (Chrysalis)
- 3 YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY Fatboy Slim (Skint)
- 4 THE MISADVENTURE OF Lauryn Hill (Columbia)
- 5 STEP ONE Steps (Jive)
- 6 FORGOTTEN, NOT FORGOTTEN The Corrs (Atlantic)
- 7 LADES & GENTLEMEN... George Michael (Epic)
- 8 PERFORMANCE AND COCKTAILS Stereophonics (V2)
- 9 THIS IS MY TRUTH... Manics (Epic)
- 10 RAY OF LIGHT Madonna (Maverick)

TOP 10 ARTISTS

- 1 THE CORRS
- 2 ROBBIE WILLIAMS
- 3 FATBOY SLIM
- 4 LAURYN HILL
- 5 STEPS
- 6 MANIC STREET PREACHERS
- 7 STEREPHONICS
- 8 GEORGE MICHAEL
- 9 BOYZONE
- 10 MADONNA

TOP 10 PRODUCERS

- 1 LIEBER/FOSTER/CORR/PEARSON/KNOWLES/STEINBERG/BALLARD
- 2 CHAMBERS/POWER
- 3 FATBOY SLIM
- 4 HILLY/GUEVARA
- 5 TOPHAM/TWIGG/WANDERS/WARM/FRAMPTON/SANDELS/WORKMAN IN PROGRESS
- 6 FOSTER/CORR
- 7 MICHAEL/DOUGLAS/WALDEN
- 8 BIRD & BUSH
- 9 HERGES/ERINGA
- 10 MADONNA/ORBIT/DE VRIES/LEONARD

TOP 10 COMPILATIONS

- 1 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 42 (EMI/Virgin/Universal)
- 2 LOVE SONGS (warner.esp/Universal TV)
- 3 EUPHORIA (Telstar TV)
- 4 THE BEST CUL ANTHEMS 99... EVER! (Virgin/EMI)
- 5 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 41 (EMI/Virgin/Universal)
- 6 CLUBBERS GUIDE... NINETY NINE (MoS)
- 7 KISS HOUSE NATION (Universal Music TV)
- 8 NEW HITS 99 (Warner/Global/Sony TV)
- 9 HITS 99 Warner/Global/Sony TV)
- 10 KISS SMOOTH GROOVES 99 (Universal Music TV)

8 MAY 1999

CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

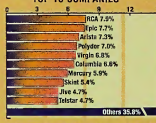


The first band ever to enter at number one with their debut single, Westlife retain pole position this week with Swear It Again, closely followed by The Offspring's Why Don't You Get A Job? and Martine McCutcheon's former chart-topper Perfect Moment. McCutcheon's single is the only one of the past 10 number ones by a British act, and has now sold 500,000 copies – enough for it to slide into fifth place on the year-to-date chart. The dearth of number one records by British acts is also reflected in the bestsellers of the year – the only other Brits in the Top 10 are Steps, whose Heartbeat/Tragedy single is a notch ahead at number four.

Eighteen months after their last single, Cast return with Boat Mama, the introductory single from their third album Magic Hour. They lifted five top 20 singles from their debut album All Change, and a further four from their second, Mother Nature Calls. Flying was the last single from

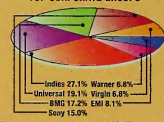
MARKET REPORT

TOP 10 COMPANIES



Figures show the 10 companies by % of last week's Top 75, and corporate group sales by % of last week's Top 10.

TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



SALES UPDATE
VERSUS LAST WEEK: **+17.8%**
YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: **+2.9%**

The All Change album, and is their biggest hit to date, peaking at number four. Beat Mama debuts this week at number two.

PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART
UK: 60.0% US: 33.3% Other: 16.0%

When it dropped to number 74 a fortnight ago, Spice Girls' Goodyee did indeed seem about to wave a fond farewell to the chart.

SINGLE FACTFILE

Given their previous chart history – four small hits, none of which reached the Top 30 or spent more than three weeks in the chart – The Offspring have done extremely well to become the first act to have two top three hits in 1999. They debut at number two this week with Why Don't You Get A Job?, the follow-up to their January chart-topper Pretty Fly (For A White Guy). Their Americana album, which contains both singles, has been

picking up very nicely too, especially since Why Don't You Get A Job? started getting airplay. Having originally peaked at number 10, the album has moved 58-34-17 in the past fortnight, and has now sold more than 130,000 copies. In the US, where the album has sold more than 3m copies, Why Don't You Get A Job? debuted at number 86 on the Hot 100 five weeks ago, and has only progressed to number 76 so far.

Since then it has reviled in dramatic fashion, jumped 25 places to number 49 last week, and climbs again to number 34. Its revival seems to be almost entirely due to Woolies' decision to slash its price to 99p at selected stores. It may also be that the publicity given to Gen Hottel's upcoming single has assisted her former bandmates.

Still on pricing, there are only two singles in the Top 10 with CDs priced at £1.99 – a rare event, which suggests that more realistic pricing is becoming more common. It's a complete reversal of the situation last November, when we had eight singles in the Top 10 priced at £1.99.

Finally, after the Abba revival, is the world ready yet for a Boney M resurgence? It's hard to say on the strength of the number 22 debut of the newly-revived Ma Baker, here re-narrated by Sash! and paired with Horny Little's Somebody Screamed, which uses large chunks of Ma Baker.

INDEPENDENT SINGLES

This Week	Title	Artist	Label	Chart Position
1	RED ALERT	Basement Jaxx	XL Recordings	15
2	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	Fabrizio Stini	Skint	46
3	INVISIBLE	Tit	Noj	40
4	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Brinley Spears	Jive	22
5	FLAT BEAT	Mr Oad	F Communications/PIAS	10
6	IF EVERYBODY LOOKED THE SAME	Groove Armada	Receptacles	7
7	RUN ON	Moby	Mute	1
8	ELECTRICITY	Suzie Nicks	Nude	10
9	WALK THIS LAND	E-Z Rollers	Moving Shadow	13
10	BETTER BE FORGOTTEN	Steps	EastWest	12
11	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	Steps	EastWest	11
12	CHANGES	2 Pac	Jive	13
13	ERABDER BADDER SCHWING	Freddie Fresh	Eye-Q	17
14	CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE	DJ Taucher	Positive	12
15	COMET THEME NO 1	Climo	Rabbit Badger	18
16	66 METERS	Indian Romanoff feat. Shushin Dador	Skint	18
17	BULGARIAN	Travel	Free For All	17
18	DON'T STOP	ATO	Trax	17
19	VOLUME 6	Unity/Dubs	Unity Trax	17
20	GET UP	Sleazy-Kinney	Melodrec	17

All charts © CW

This Week	Title	Artist	Label	Chart Position
1	SWEAR IT AGAIN	Swear It	Worship	1
2	WHY DON'T YOU GET A JOB?	The Offspring	Columbia	2
3	NO SCRUBS TIL		LaFace	3
4	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	Fabrizio Stini	Skint	4
5	PERFECT MOMENT	Martine McCutcheon	Impact	5
6	RED ALERT	Basement Jaxx	XL	6
7	TURN AROUND	Phobias & Small	Musique	7
8	IN OUR LIFETIME	Travis	Mercury	8
9	BEAT MAMA	Cast	Polygram	9
10	WHAT'S IT GONNA BE	Busta Rhymes	Interscope	10
11	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE	New Radicals	SACA	11
12	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Brinley Spears	Jive	12
13	STRONG	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	13
14	LOVE OF A LIFETIME	Boyz II Men	Mercury	14
15	AS	George Michael	Virgin	15
16	RUNAWAY	The Carrots	Alamo	16
17	CLUB	98 Degrees	Alamo	17
18	DEAD FROM THE WAIST DOWN	Compton	Brain's Biopsy	18
19	BYE BYE BABY	10	Cap	19
20	IT'S NOT RIGHT...	Whitney Houston	Arca	20

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8 MAY 1999

CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Abba's *Gold - Greatest Hits* enjoys an easy victory at the top of the album chart to register its fourth week at number one. While all but three of the group's nine number one albums spent even longer at number one, its 23rd chart career is easily the longest of any Abba album. *Gold* has sold nearly 230,000 copies so far this year, enough to guarantee that it will occupy a place in the year-end **Top 100** for the eighth time

In a row, Britain isn't the only country wallowing in Abba nostalgia at the moment - in Portugal, the *Love Stories* compilation has just completed a six-week run at number one, while in the Netherlands the new compilation *25 Years No Waterfall* has just edged into the top five. Surprisingly, the Swedes themselves aren't over-excited about it. *Gold* left the album chart there in 1993, and only returns this week, at number 44.

Now Sorbus has been a major hit single for TLC, selling more than 260,000 copies in the past six weeks, while focusing growing attention on their latest album *FanMail*, which, having sold initially by their fanbase alone, has been growing in stature week by week. It finally arrives in the **Top 10** this week, having moved 33-20-23-15-7 in the past month. It has now sold more than 75,000 copies in the 10 weeks since it was released, though it has some way to go to match its platinum predecessor *CrazySexyCool*, which peaked at number four in 1995.

Even though the introductory single *Vivid* peaked at a disappointing number 17, *Electronic's* *Twisted Tenderness* is the highest debutant on the album chart, entering at number nine. The Mancunian duo - former *New Order* vocalist Bernard Sumner and Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr - have reached the **Top 10** with all three of their albums to date, reaching number two with

MARKET REPORT

TOP 10 COMPANIES



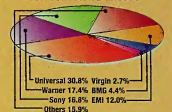
Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales, and percentage group share by % of total sales of the Top 75 albums

SALES UPDATE



their self-titled 1981 debut and number eight with 1996's *Raise The Pressure*. By the end of next week, *The Corrs* will

TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



have sold more than a million albums in 1999 alone. *Talk On Corners* is easily the biggest-selling album of the year to date,

with upwards of 600,000 copies sold while the 1996 release *Forgiven Not Forgotten* is the year's fifth biggest seller, with more than 350,000 buyers so far. *Forgiven Not Forgotten* also crossed the 600,000 cumulative sales tally last Thursday (April 29), and both albums continue to sell in copious quantities.

A fortnight after landing their fifth hit single with *Army*, *Ben Folds Five* (there are, of course, only three of them) return to the album chart with the oddly-titled *The Unauthorized Biography Of Reinhold Messner*. If the latter name sounds familiar that's because he is a German mountaineer whose main claim to fame is that he was the first person to scale all 14 of the world's 8,000-metre peaks. The album named after him also scales new peaks for the *Ben Folds Five*. By debuting this week at number 22 it beats the number 30 success of their 1997 chart debut *Whatever And Ever Amen*.

COMPILATIONS

Now *That's What I Call Music!* 42 breezed past the 500,000 sales mark on Tuesday, and registers its fifth straight week at the top of the compilation chart, enjoying a surprisingly comfortable victory over the latest in the burgeoning series of *Kiss/Universal* collaborations, *Kiss Clublife*, which debuts at number two. Though *Now 42* has a long way to go to match *Now 41* - the Christmas release has sold more than 1,150,000 copies to date - it should more fairly be compared with the spring 1998 release *Now That's What I Call Music!* 39, which sold a more modest 600,000 last year. It's on schedule to beat it handily at the moment, having taken 29 days to reach the 500,000 mark, while *Now 39* took 47 days to get that far. The 1997 spring collection, *Now 36*, didn't reach the figure for 55 days.

Kiss Clublife is the follow-up to *Kiss House Nation*, which has sold 130,000 copies since its release nine weeks ago, and includes both crossover hits like *More Than This* by Emille, Faith & Small's *Turn Around* and Fatboy Slim's *Right Here Right Now* as well as club favourites like *For An Angel* by Paul Van Dyk and *Rise Of Tonight* by Blend. It is also the fourth top three compilation so far to include Shanks & Bigfoot's eagerly-awaited single *Sweet Like Chocolate*, which, after many scheduling changes, Jive has now set for a May 17 release date. Like the other albums, however, *Kiss House Nation* includes one of the more hassle mixes, rather than the more of the radio edit or original garage mix, which are the ones that are likely to make *Sweet Like Chocolate* a top five single.

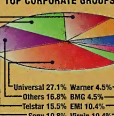
MARKET REPORT

TOP 10 COMPANIES



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales, and percentage group share by % of total sales of the Top 75

TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



SALES UPDATE



COMPILATIONS' SHARE OF TOTAL SALES

Artist albums: 72.4%
Compilations: 27.6%

INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (last time)
1	2	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim	Skim BRASSIC 1020 (SMV/P)
2	3	PERFORMANCE AND COCKTAILS	Stereophonics	V2 VVR 100402 (SMV/P)
3	1	MULE VARIATIONS	Tom Waits	Epiphany 05472 (P)
4	4	STEP ONE	Steps	Ebu/Jive 0519112 (P)
5	7	WHAT'S THE STORY MORNING GLORY?	Oasis	Creation CRECD 105 (SMV/V)
6	6	DEFINITELY MAYBE	Oasis	Creation CRECD 103 (SMV/V)
7	8	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive 0522172 (P)
8	9	GREATEST HITS	2Pac	Jive 0520662 (P)
9	11	WORD GETS AROUND	Stereophonics	V2 VVR 100438 (SMV/P)
10	16	CAR BOOT SOUL	Nightmares On Wax	WEA WARPED 01 (V)
11	13	BEAUCOUP PISH	Underworld	JIB JIB 100542 (SMV/P)
12	5	EVERYTHING FUTURE	Underworld	Nude NUDE 1202X (SMV/P)
13	15	GARBAGE	Garbage	Mushroom D 21450 (SMV/P)
14	10	THIS IS NORMAL	Gus G	4AD CAD 9086CD (V)
15	10	TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF	Robert Cray	Rykodisc RCD 10478 (V)
16	14	VERSION 2.0	Garbage	Mushroom MUSH 2900 (SMV/P)
17	17	BIG CALM	Morcheeba	Intouch ZEN 01700X (P)
18	12	MEZZAMORPHIS	Delirious?	Fulfulco? FURCD 210 (V)
19	18	THE SON OF CHEEP THRILLS	Frank Zappa	Rykodisc RCD 10561 (V)
20	20	DESERTER'S SONNS	Mercury/Riv	V2 VVR 1003792 (SMV/P)

THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	TALK ON CORNERS	THE CORRS	ATLANTIC
2	2	I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSALIS
3	3	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	FATBOY SLIM	SKANT
4	6	FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN	THE CORRS	ATLANTIC
5	5	STEP ONE	STEPS	EBL/UNIVERSAL
6	4	THE MISQUETEQUAN - THE BEST OF	LAURIN HILL	COLUMBIA
7	7	LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF	GEORGE MICHAEL	EPIC
8	8	PERFORMANCE AND COCKTAILS	STEREOPHONICS	V2
9	10	GOLD - GREATEST HITS	ABBA	POLYDOR
10	9	THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS	MANIC STREET PREACHERS	EPIC
11	11	RAY OF LIGHT	MAGNOLIA	MAVERICK
12	13	GRAN TORISMO	THE CARIBBEANS	STOCKHOLM
13	11	WHERE WE BELONG	BOYZONE	POLYDOR
14	12	LIFE THRU A LENS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSALIS
15	14	13	BLUR	FOOD
16	15	BELIEVE	CHER	WEA
17	17	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE	WHITNEY HOUSTON	ARISTA
18	16	BABY ONE MORE TIME	BRITNEY SPEARS	JIVE
19	20	THE BEST OF 1980-1990	U2	ISLAND
20	18	BIG WIGVILLE STYLE	WILL SMITH	COLUMBIA

© N M Last figures represent the chart placing from the last published *Now* So Far album chart

To hear the charts hot-off-the-press on Monday morning, call 0891 505291 (artist albums)/0891 505289 (compilations). Calls cost 50p/min

THE OFFICIAL CHARTS

music week
AS USED BY



singles



- 1 **1 SWEAR IT AGAIN**
Wheatlefs RCA
- 2 WHY DON'T YOU GET A JOB? The Offspring Columbia
- 3 NO SCRUBS TLC LaFace/Arista
- 4 RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW Faiboy Slim Skint
- 5 PERFECT MOMENT Marianne McCutcheon Innocent
- 6 RED ALERT Basement Jaxx XL Recordings
- 7 TURN AROUND Phats & Small Multiply
- 8 IN OUR LIFETIME Texas Mercury
- 9 BEAT MAMA Cast Polydor
- 10 WHAT'S IT GONNA BE? Busta Rhymes feat. Janet Elakra Elektra



- 7 11 BYE BYE BABY TO Epic
- 10 12 WITCH DOCTOR Cartoons Fax/EMI
- 13 13 YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE New Radicals MCA
- 12 14 THANK ABBA FOR THE MUSIC Various Artists Epic
- 15 15 KOREAN BODEGA Fun Lovin' Criminals Chrysalis
- 11 16 MY NAME IS Eminem Interscope/Polydor
- 15 17 BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears Jive
- 16 18 LOVE OF A LIFETIME Honeyz 1st Avenue/Mercury
- 17 19 FLAT BEAT Mr. Oizo F Communications/PIAS Recordings

albums



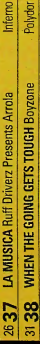
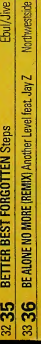
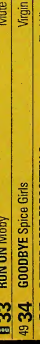
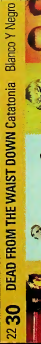
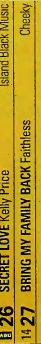
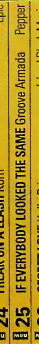
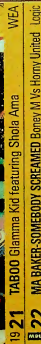
- 1 **1 GOLD - GREATEST HITS**
Abba Polydor
- 5 2 YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY Faiboy Slim Skint
- 2 3 EQUALLY CURSED AND BLESSED Catarotia Blanco Y Negro
- 8 4 PERFORMANCE AND COCKTAILS Stereophonics V2 Atlantic
- 4 5 TALK ON CORNERS The Corrs Atlantic
- 6 6 FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN The Corrs Atlantic
- 13 7 FANMAIL TLC LaFace/Arista
- 10 8 I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU Robbie Williams Chrysalis
- 9 9 TWISTED TENDERNESS Electronic Parlophone
- 3 10 RIDES Reef Sony SZ



- 11 11 GRAN TURISMO The Cardigans Stockholm/Polydor
- 12 12 STEP ONE Steps Jive/Ebu
- 14 13 MAYBE YOU'VE BEEN BRAINWASHED TOO New Radicals MCA
- 15 14 LADIES & GENTLEMEN... THE BEST OF George Michael Epic
- 16 15 THE MISEEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL Lauryn Hill Columbia
- 7 16 BURY THE HATCHET The Cranberries Island US/Mercury
- 34 17 AMERICANA The Offspring Columbia
- 27 18 RAY OF LIGHT Madonna Maverick
- 19 19 BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears Jive

KULA SHAKER
SHOWER YOUR LOVE
2 CD'S & CASSETTE
3RD MAY 1999
COLUMBIA

19 COMMUNICATIONS/PAS Recordings
20 HOJO CHOIRS
21 WEA
22 LOGIC
23 POSITIVA
24 PEPPA
25 PEPPA
26 ISLAND BLACK MUSIC
27 CHESKY
28 FIR
29 ARISTA
30 BLANCO Y NEGRO
31 NUDGE
32 INnerscope/Polydor
33 MUTE
34 VIRGIN
35 EBU/JIVE
36 NORTHWESTSIDE
37 INFERNO
38 POLYDOR
39 INDEPENDENT
40 PUFF DADDY/ARISTA



compilations

1 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 42 7 11 GATECRASHER RED
EMI/Virgin/Universal
IN:Debbis

2 KISS CLUB LIFE
Universal TV
12 12 HEART FULL OF SOUL - 2
warrner.esg/Global TV

3 QUEER AS FOLK
Ariangly
10 13 BUNKERS 6
React

4 NEW HITS 99
warrner.esg/Global TV/Sony TV
14 SEB FONTAINE - PROTOTYPE
Global Underground

5 THE BEST HOUSE ANTHEMS...EVER!
Virgin/EMI
11 15 THE FEMALE TOUCH 2
warrner.esg/Global TV

6 ESSENTIAL SOUNDTRACKS
Telstar TV
16 GUIDE - INCREDIBLE SOUND OF DREAMTASS
IN:Debbis

7 THE CHILLOUT ALBUM
Telstar TV
14 17 EUPHORIA
Telstar TV

8 LOCK, STOCK & TWO SMOKING BARRELS (OST)
Island
9 18 FUNKY HOUSE
Telstar TV

9 THE NEW SOUL ALBUM
Columbia
13 19 BEST DANCE 99
Telstar TV

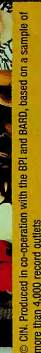
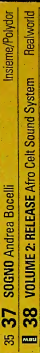
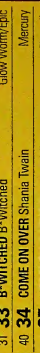
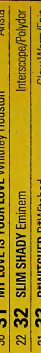
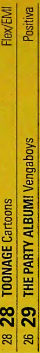
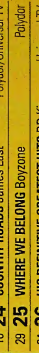
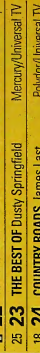
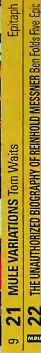
10 DANCE NATION SIX - TALL PAUL & BLOCK
Ministry @ Sound
12 20 101 SPEED GARAGE ANTHEMS
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28 FOX/EMI
29 POSITIVA
30 BLUR
31 WHITNEY HOUSTON
32 EMINEM
33 GLOW WORM
34 MERCUY
35 ROBBIE WILLIAMS
36 CHER
37 ANDREA BOCELLI
38 AFRO CELT SOUND SYSTEM
39 HONEYZ
40 FIR



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CLASSICAL SPECIALIST

This Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	VOICE OF AN ANGEL	Charlotte Church	Sony Classical SK 60957 (TEN)
2	MEMORISTE	Jan Garbarek/Hilfand Ensemble	Ecm New Series 45212Z (P)
3	HEROES	Andrea Scholl	Decca 46919Z (D)
4	VIAGIO IN ITALIANO	Andrea Bocelli	Decca 46796Z (D)
5	THE SWEET SOUND OF	Emma Kirkby	Decca 46322Z (D)
6	TAVENER: ELETYNNY'S SUNRISE	Riccardo Chailly/Göteborg	Hemmen Mundi HMU 90221 (DMG)
7	WALO	Julian Lloyd Webber	Decca 46258Z (D)
8	CECILIO: SINFONIA CONCERTANTE	Danajon/ENP/Daniel	Naxos 85283Z (S)
9	BETHOVEN'S 5 PIANO CONCERTOS	VP/Berinda/Battle	Decca 46782Z (D)
10	CECILIA & BRYAN - DUETS	DuAccademia DR/Chang	Decca 46992Z (D)
11	RACHMANINOFF: VESPERAS	Chang Of King College/Theatrical	EMI Classics CDC 56732Z (D)
12	ELGAR: CELLO CONCERTO+PICTURES	Bela Kofas/Barbrolli	EMI Classics CDC26912Z (D)
13	THE PURE VOICE OF	Emke Du, Park/SD/Barbrolli	Decca 46952Z (D)
14	SIMPLY BAROQUE	MA/Amsterdam BRO DR/Kosman	Sony Classical SK 60600 (TEN)
15	ARIA - THE OPERA ALBUM	Andrea Bocelli	Philips 46232Z (U)
16	WORLD'S BLYSSE	Vanessa Andras	Venture COVE 94 (E)
17	HANDEL: OMIBTA MAI FU	School	Hemmen Mundi HMU 90185 (DMG)
18	OFFICUM	Jan Garbarek/Hilfand Ensemble	Ecm 45302Z (P)
19	PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ	Grappelli/Mannuh	HMV HMV 5222Z (E)
20	GROFEMISSISSIPPI SUITE	Shannon/Bournemouth SD	Naxos 85300Z (S)

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JAZZ & BLUES

This Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	HIS DEFINITIVE GREATEST HITS	BB King	Universal TV 50479Z (U)
2	TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF	Robert Gray	Rykodisc INC 1042Z (V)
3	KIND OF BLUE	Miles Davis	Columbia CC 64025 (TEN)
4	THE BEST OF LAIN JAZZ	Various	Global Television BACD 2 (BMG)
5	PADLOCK ON THE BLUES	John Mayall And Bluesbreakers	Eagle EAGG 077 (DMG)
6	TRAVELING MILES	Cassandra Wilson	Blue Note 85122Z (E)
7	JAZZ ESSENTIALS	Various	Beechwood EST CD1 (BMG/RMG)
8	BLUE FOR YOU - THE VERY BEST OF	Nina Simone	Global Television RADCD 4 (BMG)
9	THE DIRTY BOOGIE	Rena Sater Orchestra	Interscope INC00182 (BMG)
10	EADUIZM	Enyah Solo	MCA UD 530Z (BMG)

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R&B SINGLES

This Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (distributor)
1	NO SCRIBS	Burtica	LaFace 742316025Z (BMG)
2	WHAT'S IT GONNA BE?	Tyla	Elektra E 37620Z (TEN)
3	8YE EYE BABY	1Q	Epic 66722Z (TEN)
4	TABOO	Gloria Kid feat. Shola Ama	WEA USA 2000Z (TEN)
5	MY NAME IS	Enimem	Interscope/PolyGram (IND) 9528Z (U)
6	SECRET LOVE	Kelly Price	Island Black Music DC 309 (U)
7	LOVE OF A LIFETIME	Whitney	21 Avenue/Mercury HX203 3 (U)
8	IT'S NOT RIGHT BUT IT'S OKAY	Honey Houston	Arista 742315540Z (BMG)
9	ALL NIGHT LONG	Faith Evans feat. Full Daddy	Puff Daddy/Arista 742318583Z (BMG)
10	GIRLFRIEND/BYFRIEND	Blackstreet with Janet	Interscope/PolyGram (IND) 9566Z (U)
11	GEORGY PORGY	Eric Benoit feat. Faith Evans	Warner Bros W 48T (TEN)
12	RAW	Melky Sedick	MCA MCST0 4820Z (U)
13	BE ALONE NO MORE (REMIX)	Another Level feat. Jay-Z	Northwestside 742318584Z (BMG)
14	CHANGES	Zhané	Jive 02282Z (P)
15	AS	George Michael & Mary J Blige	Epic 66707Z (TEN)
16	EL PARASO RICO	Dewash	HR 702 280 (U)
17	MADE IT BACK 99	Perthshire Rhythms COM97178 (U)	
18	I STILL BELIEVE	Mariah Carey	Columbia 66735Z (TEN)
19	YOU GOTTA BE	Davee	Dusted Sound/Sony SD 666835Z (TEN)
20	MY LOVE	Kyle R Brown	1st Avenue/Wild Card/PolyGram 50381Z (U)
21	FUNK ON AN ROLL	Jones Brown	Interscope/EAG 12 073 (DMG)/BMG
22	EX-FACTOR	Ruffhouse/Columbia 66694Z (TEN)	
23	DR GREENHUMB	Layrann Hill	Columbia 667120Z (TEN)
24	BOUNCE, ROCK, SKATE, ROLL	Baby DC feat. Lattin	Jive 02234Z (P)
25	ENOJOY YOURSELF	AS	Universal/UD 56230 (BMG)
26	WESTSIDE	TLC	Epic 666610Z (TEN)
27	WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT?	Ginuwine	DJ Jive 506447Z (U)
28	CAN I GET A...	Jay-Z feat. Amil & Ju Rule	MJJ/Inte 666537Z (TEN)
29	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT	Tanyara A.J. feat. Will Smith	Incognito
30	NIGHTS OVER EGYPT	Incognito	Tokid Tok TD30 40 (U)

© CN. Compiled from data from a panel of independents and specialist multiples.

CLASSICAL CROSSOVER

This Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	THE BEYONDENESS OF THINGS	English DDO/Barry	London 46002Z (F)
2	TITANIC (OST)	James Horner	Sony Classical SK 6231Z (TEN)
3	MOST EXHAUSTING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER II	Various	Virgin/EMI VDCD 207 (E)
4	BEST CHORAL ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER	Various	Virgin/EMI VDCD208Z (E)
5	ADVERTS: HALL OF FAME	Various	Classic FM CD162 16 (BMG)
6	MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER I	Various	Virgin/EMI VDCD 15Z (E)
7	BRAVEHEART (OST)	LSO/Homer	Decca 44825Z (U)
8	THE ONLY CLASSICAL ALBUM YOU'LL EVER NEED	Various	Center Classics 756059133Z (BMG)
9	BACK TO TITANIC	James Horner	Sony Classical SK 60691 (TEN)
10	BEST ISLAND DISCO/FOLK FOR CASTAWAYS	Various	BBC Music WMNF 0041Z (P)
11	MIZZART ARIAS	Various	Euro 3906738Z (D)
12	SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (OST)	Stephen Warbeck	Sony Classical SK 6330Z (TEN)
13	REQUIEM - SPIRITUAL MUSIC TO UPLIFT...	Various	Decca 46613Z (U)
14	WITH A SONG IN MY HEART	Mario Lanza	Carden 742314056Z (BMG)
15	LIE BACK & THINK OF ENGLAND	Various	BBC Music WMNF 0041Z (P)
16	LESLEY GARRETT	Lesley Garrett	BBC/BMG Cantata 756059133Z (BMG)
17	CLASSICAL FAVOURITES	Various Artists	BBC Communications 0202232Z (D)
18	THE CLASSIC SELECTION	Various	Philips 010700Z (U)
19	100 POPULAR CLASSICS	Various	Castle Communication MBSCD 57 (BMG)
20	DESERT ISLAND DISCS	Various	BBC Worldwide Music WMNF 0025Z (P)

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ROCK

This Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	RIDES	Peef	Sony SZ 48282Z (TEN)
2	AMERICANA	The Offspring	Columbia 49160Z (TEN)
3	PRIC ORCA-SMITH CHILL	Shirley Ann	Virgin VQ4 2881 (E)
4	GARBAGE	Garbage	Mushroom 3 1450 (DMG)
5	NEVERMIND	Nirvana	Capric DCDD 2445Z (U)
6	BLOOD SUGAR SEX MAGIK	Rod/Hot Chili Peppers	Warner Bros 95926612Z (U)
7	TIMES OF GLACE	Noronas	Musica For Nations COMFN 248 (P)
8	NEON BALLROOM	Silverchair	Columbia 483309Z (TEN)
9	DOOR	Green Day	Reprise 38045795Z (TEN)
10	SO FAR SO GOOD	Bryan Adams	AS/Mercury 548152Z (U)

© CN

DANCE SINGLES

This Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (distributor)
1	RED ALERT	Besement Jaxx	XL Recordings XL 100 (V)
2	INVISIBLE	Hoty Thons HOOJ 738 (V)	
3	CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE	DJ Tech	Positive 120 02Z (D)
4	TABOO	Glamma Kid feat. Shola Ama	WEA WEA 235T (TEN)
5	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	Fatboy Slim	Stones SKANT 44 (SMP)/V
6	BREAKEADRE (IS BACK)	Wynne G Spis Twisted	It's Fabulous! ITSA 1201 (SMP)
7	BULGARIAN	Travel	Trity Tax TDY121 72 (ADD)
8	TURN AROUND	Philly & Small	Multiply TM1174 69 (TEN)
9	THE SOUND	DJ Lotie	Duty Free DF 08 (U)
10	IF EVERYBODY LOOKED THE SAME	Groove Armada	Various 052320Z (P)
11	FLOWERZ	Armand Van Helden feat. Roland Clark	Trif 74 361 (U)
12	BRING MY FAMILY BACK	Faithless	Cherry CHEK12 805 (DMG)/BMG
13	THE FEELIN	Rhythmic Junkies	Ride RIDE 3 (DMG)/V
14	MEDICINE/LAIVE CRISIS	Elye Chi & Optical	Various VBS 01189 (VINYL)
15	SECRET LOVE	Kelly Price	Island Black Music 1215 738 (U)
16	TRY ME OUT	Sunshy feat. Anita Kelsey/RJ	Filter F107 03Z (P)
17	QUARTZ/METRIC	Kraft	Frontline FRONT 036 (SMP)
18	FUN ON AN ROLL	James Brown	Interscope/EAG 12 073 (DMG)/BMG
19	CHECK IT OUT (EVERYBODY)	BM8 feat. Felicia	BM8 feat. Felicia
20	MA BAKER - SOMEBODY SCREAMED	Bonny M & Horny United	Logic 7423185301 (BMG)

© CN

DANCE ALBUMS

This Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (distributor)
1	THE BEGINNING - EP	Moving Fusion	Rem RAMM 251 (SRD)
2	THE HARDWAY - EP	Various	Renegade Hardway RH 016 (SRD)
3	AGZ EP	Blackisoul	Mo Wax MWX 049 (U)
4	I AM...	NAS	Columbia 4891491/49194Z (TEN)
5	GOLDIE - INCREDIBLE SOUND OF DRUM WASS	Various	Incredible (VIN) CMC (TEN)
6	KISS CLUFLIFE	Various	Universal/TV 547484Z (U)
7	DANABAL	TLC	Faithful 7300620354 (BMG)
8	CARROTT SQUAD	Rhythmatics On Wax	Various WAP 0718Z (U)
9	SMIL SHADY	Enimem	Interscope/PolyGram (IND) 9528Z (U)
10	VERY MERCENARY	Herbie Love	Ninja Tune ZEN 411 (V)

© CN

MUSIC VIDEO

This Last	Title	Label Cat. No.
1	STEPS: The Video	Blue/Inte 05191Z (S)
2	MARSH CREEK: Around The World	SMV Columbia 5034Z
3	U2: The Best Of - 1980-1990	VVL 05193Z
4	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Cats	PolyGram Video 47949
5	GEORGE MICHAEL: Ladies & Gentlemen - Best Of	SMN Epic 20092Z (U)
6	THE CORRS: Live At The Royal Albert Hall	VirginEMI 600770Z
7	VARIOUS ARTISTS: Body Brains II	VirginEMI 600770Z
8	VARIOUS ARTISTS: Drilling Another Hole	VirginEMI 600770Z
9	ABBA: Forever Gold	Roadrunner 799794Z
10	FUGAZI: Instrument	PolyGram Video 47949
		Dischord DC98

11	VARIOUS ARTISTS: Hey Me Product	Video Collection V0454E
12	APRIL TWIN: Windmiller	Wag WAP 0718Z
13	VARIOUS ARTISTS: Andrew Lloyd Webber - Celebration	PolyGram Video 467263
14	ROBBIE WILLIAMS: Live In Your Living Room	Chrysalis 420146Z
15	MICHAEL FATELEY: Land Of The Drives	VVL 43138Z
16	MICHAEL FATELEY: Fall Of Flowers	VVL 03855Z
17	BOYZONE: Live - Where We Belong	VVL 03860Z
18	THE CARPENTERS: Close To You - Remembering	Second Sign 240110Z
19	LIVE CAST RECORDING: Les Miserables In Concert	Video Collection V0358
20	BILLY BRAGG & WILCO: Man In The Sand	Union Productions UP1

© CN

8 MAY 1999

COOL CUTS CHART

as featured on Pele Tong's Essential Selection on Radio One

Rank	Track	Artist	Label
1	REMEDY Basement Jaxx	XL Recordings	
2	(Already a candidate for album of the year)		
1	HEY BOY HEY GIRL Chemical Brothers	Virgin	
3	(Shouting return from the Chemicals' ahead of their new album)		
6	HISTORY OF DISCO (Love) Tattoo	Essential	
4	(Bonus cut to justify disco groove)		
5	DISCO TO DISCO Les Rythmes Digitales	Wall Of Sound	
7	(Three-track EP ahead of his new album Darkerzone)		
4	MIRACLE MAKER Loop De Loop	Manifesto	
8	(Big, busy and bawky with a mix from Johan S)		
6	SALT WATER Chicane	Xtravaganza	
9	(Pop-rance reworking of the Theme From Harry's Game)		
7	ALL GOOD Da Mob feat. Jocelyn Brown	Sony	
10	(With mixes from Pina & Small and Future Shock)		
10	THE MOOD LOU Lou	Independiente	
9	(Echoes of Wade In The Water on this retro party tune)		
9	DIMENSION Salt Tank	Hoel Chocous	
10	(Melodic trance with mixes from Hybrid and Voice of Reason)		
10	FROM RUSSHOLME WITH LOVE Mini Royale Faith & Hopes	Capitol	
11	(Tray Blackwood's debut with an ethnic flavour)		
11	99 THE LITE Madcat Kewship	fltr	
12	(Mallorca house grooves from the album I Can't Electricity)		
12	JOY M.A.S. Collective feat. Sa Su Bobbin Slip 'N' Slidez	White Label	
13	(Uplifting disco gospel tune with mixes from T&F and Mendocino)		
13	YOU ARE MY EVERYTHING Astorax	White Label	
14	(Solid and stuffy London garage)		
14	7 ANOTHER SLEEPLESS NIGHT Jina Wiedayew	Crossrath	
15	(London-style cover of the Shawn Christopher club classic)		
15	WESTWORLD Chipzet	Yoshitachi	
16	(Tough, minimal American house groove)		
16	NEVER KNEW LOUIE Nightcrawlers	River Horse	
17	(With mixes from Colour System line and Matt Darty)		
17	SEASIDE ATMOSPHERE Stat, Pako & Frederick	Coded	
18	(Dutch trance with new mixes from Evolution)		
18	I BELIEVE Lango	Additive	
19	(Melodic Euro raverance)		
19	HIGH SPIRITS Freaks	Music For Freaks	
20	(Jackin' house groove from Luke Solomon and Justin Harter)		
20	BE THERE Tall Paul	Duty Free	
	(Simple but effective jumping janzbizz)		

Compiled by DJ Bushdick and data collected from the following stores: City Sounds (Plymouth), Pevs (Baker Market, Top Ten, London), Eastern Blue Underground (Manchester), Three Degrees (Papa, Glasgow), 3 Beat (Liverpool), Pulp (Worcester), Global Beat (Bristol), Issue (Oxford), Acute (Bristol), Rhythm Syndicate (Cambridge).

URBAN TOP 20

1	6 GEORGE PORGY Eric Beal feat. Faith Evans	Warner Bros
2	13 ALL NIGHT LONG Faith Evans feat. Puff Daddy	Bad Boy
3	8 IT'S OVER Rimes	Universal
4	5 HATE ME NOW U2	Columbia
5	4 BREAK UPS 2 MAKE UPS Methodman feat. D'Angelo	Def Jam
6	5 DAYZ LIKE THAT Fiance	Wildstar
7	15 2 IF YOU REALLY WANNA KNOW Marc Dorsey	Jive
8	6 GIRLFRIEND/FFRIEND Blackout & Janet Jackson	Interscope
9	9 WHAT TO YOU COME HERE FOR? Trina & Tamara	Arista
10	10 NO SCRUBS TLC	Epic
11	7 5 ANOTHER WAY Twin Campbell	Qwest
12	10 WHAT'S IT GONNA BE Neasha	Def Jam
13	10 DA GOODNESS Rides	Gold Mine Inc
14	4 SHE'S A BITCH Missy Elliott	Epic
15	4 EYE BYE BABY 2	Meca
16	5 GET ON IT Phaeo 10	Interscope
17	9 MY NAME IS... Eminem	Capitol
18	3 SO HIGH Janelle	Hollywood
19	7 2 GET INVOLVED Raphael Saadiq	So So Def
20	12 6 I REALLY LIKE U Mike Posner	Harlem World

CLUB CHART TOP 40

Rank	Track	Artist	Label
1	SALT WATER Chicane (with Maire Brennan)	Xtravaganza	
2	JUMBO Underworld	JBO	
3	TIDY GIRLS EP Various	Tidy Taz	
4	HOLD ON JOSÉ Nuñez feat. Octavia	Sound Of Ministry	
5	NOMANSLAND (DAVID'S SONG) DJ Sackin & Friends	Positiva	
6	BE THERE Tall Paul	Duty Free	
7	MIRACLE MAKER Loop De Loop feat. MC Duke	Manifesto	
8	LIZARD Mauro Picotto	Nukleuz/VC Recordings	
9	CAPTURE ME Lynsey Moore	Concept	
10	WHAT YOU NEED Powerhouse feat. Duane Harden	Deleted	
11	JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH Harry 'Choc Choc' Romero feat. Inaya Day	AMPN	
12	COME DOWN Pauline Taylor	Chusky	
13	FREEDOM '98 Homelands	Undiscovered	
14	JUST ROUND A Very Good Friend Of Mine feat. Jay	Positiva	
15	FUNK 'N' DRIVE Sonic Avengers	London	
16	SKIN Charlotte	US Nervous	
17	WHERE'S JACK THE RIPPER Grooverider	Higher Ground	
18	TURN IT TO THE HOUSE Minimal Funk	Cleveland City	
19	CARTE BLANCHE Veracocha	Positiva	
20	WE ARE DA CLICK Da Click	fltr	
21	NOTHING IS REAL BUT THE GIRL Blondie	Beyond	
22	DO YOU WANT ME? Leilani	ZTT	
23	READY TO ROCK Dirty Habit	Europa	
24	GIVE ME THE NIGHT J.J. Brathwaite	Caus-N'-fi-ct	
25	TIME, NOW Woody Van Eyden	Edel	
26	LOUIE LOUIE The Three Amigos	Inferno	
27	5 FOOLING FOR YOU Cassias	Virgin	
28	HEAR YOU CALLING Aurora	Addive	
29	4 ON MY WAY Mike Koglin	Multiply	
30	BLUE MONDAY Orsy	F-117/Reprise	
31	4 EL PARADISO Rico Deatch	Gal	
32	LAY DOWN Jimmy Somerville	Netwerk	
33	4 SALLENC Deleum feat. Sarah McLachlan	Sound Of Ministry	
34	5 HAPPINESS HAPPENING (WAV) Lost Witness	White Label	
35	DROP THE BASK Bob Mabin Boys	Amato	
36	ROCK WITH ME T.R. Junior	Twisted UK	
37	2 KEEP IT UP Funky Derrick feat. Nick Daniels III	Kosmo/Logic	
38	21 6 THE FINAL PH Palsner	Higher Ground	
39	TRY Johnson	Moneypenny's	
40	27 2 PHUNK COMMUNICATION DJ Shahrbakh		

CLUB CHART BREAKERS

1	CREAM Blank O Jones	Deviant
2	THE THEME O-Base	White Label
3	BEST REGARDS Marmion	MFS
4	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell	EMC/Chrysalis
5	THE MUSIC Phunkie Souls	US Strictly Rhythm
6	VIVA LA RADIO Lolly	Polydor
7	I KNOW IT RITMO Lowpass	Twisted UK
8	GETTY STYLES DJ'S EP Rhythm Masters	Dis-Funktional
9	THINK OF U Raylex	Universal
10	YOU NEEDED ME Boyzone	Polydor

Breakers are the 10 records outside the Top 40 which have registered the most improved DJ reactions. The Club Chart Top 40 (including releases, Urban, Pop and Dance) is compiled by DJ Ken Beach. The Club Chart Top 40 (including releases, Urban, Pop and Dance) is compiled by DJ Ken Beach. The Club Chart Top 40 (including releases, Urban, Pop and Dance) is compiled by DJ Ken Beach.



CHART COMMENTARY

BY ALAN JONES

Chicane retain pole position on the Club chart this week, while also taking over at the top of the Pop chart. Their Saltwater single improved its upfront support by 1.5% last week, enough for it to hold off the threat of Underworld's Jumbo, though the latter title should prove too strong for it next week. On the Pop chart, Chicane's victory is less clear-cut, and they are very lucky to ouster former incumbent DJ Sackin & Friends, whose Nomansland single actually increased its support by 9% even as it lost its crown by a tiny margin. These two will have to be on top form next week if they are to fight off an unprecedented avalanche of new titles that enter the Pop chart this week, with positions three to 10 all filled by newcomers. Leading the way, Boyzone's upcoming single You Needed Me has been revamped for the dancefloor by Jewels & Stone and is coupled with a megamix of several of their previous singles assembled (rather cheekily) by Love To Infinity. Boyzone's forte is ballads – You Needed Me is one in its original form – and DJs are taking this rare opportunity to expose them on the dancefloor. Checking in just behind Boyzone, and topping the debut's list on the upfront chart, is just Round by A Very Good Friend Of Mine featuring Jay. This is another surefire pop smash from Positiva, which is licensed by Time Records, based in the Italian city of Brescia. Time also brought us recent hits with Supercar and the Tamperer and the surprisingly small hit by DJ Dado. The sudden and savage influx pushes last week's number two, three and four singles by New Atlantic, Lulu and Mike Koglin down in corvey to 11, 12 and 13. With Leilani, Lolly and Lulu all in the leading group, we only need the Teletubbies' La La to release a single before it all sounds very silly indeed... The Urban chart is even more closely fought than the Pop chart, with a single point separating Faith Evans' two whistles, George Porgy again comes out ahead of All Night Long but UK newcomer Rimes reaches a new high, an 8-3 jump being driven by new ignoramus mixes. Meanwhile, TLC hold for a 10th week in the Top 10 with No Scrubs, even though a new track from Fannal has been serviced to DJs and is beginning to pick up support. The track in question is I'm Good At Being Bad, which debuts at number 28, but which won't be released as a single.

POP TOP 20

1	5 SALT WATER Chicane (with Maire Brennan)	Xtravaganza
2	1 NOMANSLAND (DAVID'S SONG) DJ Sackin & Friends	Positiva
3	YOU NEEDED ME BOYZONE MEGAMIX Boyzone	Polydor
4	AUST ROUND A Very Good Friend Of Mine feat. Jay	Positiva
5	DO YOU WANT ME? Leilani	ZTT
6	VIVA LA RADIO Lolly	Polydor
7	JUMBO Underworld	JBO
8	LAY DOWN Jimmy Somerville	Dot
9	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell	Chrysalis
10	NOTHING IS REAL BUT THE GIRL Blondie	Beyond
11	2 4 I KNOW '99 New Atlantic	3 Beat
12	3 5 HURT ME SO BAD Lulu	Rocket
13	4 ON MY WAY Mike Koglin	Multiply
14	6 HERE I GO AGAIN E-Type	Stockholm
15	2 MIRACLE MAKER Loop De Loop feat. MC Duke	Manifesto
16	14 2 24 HOURS A DAY Barbara Pennington	Almighty
17	17 9 TURN AROUND Phats & Small	Multiply
18	4 PUT YOUR ARMS IN THE AIR Supermotorkin	EMI
19	7 4 YOU GOT A WAY TO GO	EMI
20	LOUIE LOUIE The Three Amigos	Inferno

CASUALTY

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CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

Having established themselves at the top of the album chart, Texas surge further ahead with In Our Lifetime still making significant gains at important stations, particularly Radio One, where it was played 27 times last week. It has already matched the two weeks they spent at number one with Halo and Black Eye Boy in 1997, and doesn't look like vocalising the throne anytime soon, which suggests it may enjoy the five-week reign of both its predecessor at number one - Robbie Williams' Strong - and Texas' own biggest airplay hit, Say What You Want. The only possible fly in the ointment would appear to be Bryan Adams' Cloud #9, which continues its remarkable rise, jumping 10.4 this week. Adams seems to be reaping the rewards for his success with his last single, the When You're Gone duet with Melanie C, which spent three weeks at the

top of the airplay listing. After being a regular part of the programming of specialist dance stations since December, Shanks & Bigfoot's Sweet Like Chocolate has at last been serviced to mainstream UK radio stations ahead of its commercial release - and it has made an immediate impression. When Dave Pearce introduced it to Radio One's daytime schedule last week, he was heard to be accompanied with calls he had to play it a second time.

Mr Oz's Flat Beat topped the sales chart and has proved its popularity by selling more than 600,000 copies, but radio programmers were both reluctant and late to add it. It peaked at number 27 on the airplay chart as it was knocked off the top of the sales chart. Many programmers saw the fact it was no longer number one as reason

enough to desert it, and it has had a sudden and savage decline, disappearing from the Top 100 altogether just three weeks after it peaked. Meanwhile, the next hit commercial is waiting in the wings - namely The WiseGuys' big debut extravaganza Ooh La La, which is the funny soundtrack to the current Budweiser advert. The track was previously a single last June, when it peaked at number 55 on the CN chart, and fell well short of the airplay chart. It is set for a much improved career in both charts, and jumps 119-55 on the airplay chart, ahead of its reissue later this month.

The first singles from Stereophonics' current album Performance And Cocktails were major sales chart successes. The Bardenter And The Thief peaked at number three last November, while Just Looking reached number four in March. Despite this,

both attracted rather less airplay than they should have, with the Bardenter And The Thief reaching number 27, and Just Looking reaching number 22, both records failing to reach the Top 50 of the airplay chart until they had proved themselves at retail. Their new single Pick A Part That's New - out today - has had a much better reception, however, and climbs 31-23 this week, with further upward prospects a certainty.

Westlife's Sweet It Again perks up considerably this week, jumping 18-9, thanks primarily to Radio One finally being won over to the Irish boys' charm. It is interesting to note that the group are doing better than co-manager Ronan Keating, whose own band Boyzone have been making uncharacteristically slow progress with their latest. You Needed Me, moving 35-34 in the past fortnight.

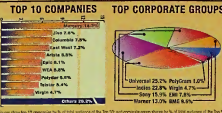
AIRPLAY FACTSHEET

● **Wishy Houston** has had a long and impressive chart stay with her current hit **'Not Right But It's Okay**, which debuted at number three on the sales chart and has since meandered up and down in a fairly random manner. It has had a more conventional and impressively building airplay career - though it has now passed its peak - moving 63-48-

37-28-24-16-15-14-8-10-8-13-14-14-13-19.

● **Britney Spears' Baby One More Time** entered the Top 10 in a hurry 13 weeks ago, and is still there. It stays at eight this week, while retaining pole position on the Euro Hit 100 in **BMW's** sister publication **Funo**, where it equals the 10-week number one reigns of Des'ree's **Life and Cher's Believe**.

AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES



Percentages for 10 companies in % of all airplay. For Top 20, not available; please refer to 100 chart above. For Top 25, not available.

MTV UK THE BOX

#	Title	Artist
1	NO SCRUBS TLC	LaFace/Arista
2	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW Fabray Slim	Skinet
3	TURN AROUND Phats & Small	Multiple
4	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE New Radicals	MCA
10	SWEAR IT AGAIN Westlife	Epic
7	AS George Michael & Mary J Blige	Chrysalis
6	IN OUR LIFETIME Texas	Interscope/Polydor
2	STRONG Robbie Williams	EMI/Chrysalis
1	MY NAME IS Eminem	Interscope/Polydor
10	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell	EMI/Chrysalis

Most played videos on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd w/e 30/4/99. Source: MTV UK.

THE BOX

#	Title	Artist
1	NO SCRUBS TLC	LaFace/Arista
2	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears	Jive
3	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell	EMI/Chrysalis
2	WATCH DOCTOR Cartoons	Flex/EMI
5	YOU NEEDED ME Boyzone	Polydor
6	THAT DON'T IMPRESS ME MUCH Shania Twain	Mercury
7	THANK A LOT FOR THE MUSIC Various	Epic
8	TRAGEDY Steps	EMI/UK
9	PERFECT MOMENT Marlene McCutcheon	Innocent
10	CHANGES 2 Pac	Jive

Most played videos on the Box, w/e 29/5/99. Source: The Box.

BOX BREAKERS

#	Title	Artist	Creation
1	YOU YEAH YOU LOVE THE MISHKA	Logic	Creation
2	CAN'T HAVE YOU LOU feat. KO	Logic	Logic
3	WHY DON'T YOU GET A JOB? The Offspring	Columbia	Columbia
4	VIVA LA RADIO! Lolly	Polydor	Polydor
5	TEARIN UP MY HEART 'N' Sync	Arista	Arista
6	SIMULTANEOUS CH	Columbia	Columbia
7	PRIVATE NUMBER 911	Virgin	Virgin
8	LEAN ON Me 2 4 Group	Epic	Epic
9	COULD BE Bryan Adams	ASB/Mercury	ASB/Mercury
10	PICK A PART THAT'S NEW Stereophonics	V2	V2

Highest climbing videos on the Box in advance of single release w/e 25/4/99. Source: The Box.

TOP OF THE POPS

#	Title	Artist
1	NO SCRUBS TLC	LaFace/Arista
2	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW Fabray Slim	Skinet
3	TURN AROUND Phats & Small	Multiple
4	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE New Radicals	MCA
10	SWEAR IT AGAIN Westlife	Epic
7	AS George Michael & Mary J Blige	Chrysalis
6	IN OUR LIFETIME Texas	Interscope/Polydor
2	STRONG Robbie Williams	EMI/Chrysalis
1	MY NAME IS Eminem	Interscope/Polydor
10	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell	EMI/Chrysalis

Look At Me Gert Halliwell; Sweet It Again Westlife

Drift line-up 7/10/99

cd:uk

Whole programme occupied by a special documentary on Another Level

THE PEPSI CHART

#	Title	Artist
1	NO SCRUBS TLC	LaFace/Arista
2	RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW Fabray Slim	Skinet
3	TURN AROUND Phats & Small	Multiple
4	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE New Radicals	MCA
10	SWEAR IT AGAIN Westlife	Epic
7	AS George Michael & Mary J Blige	Chrysalis
6	IN OUR LIFETIME Texas	Interscope/Polydor
2	STRONG Robbie Williams	EMI/Chrysalis
1	MY NAME IS Eminem	Interscope/Polydor
10	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell	EMI/Chrysalis

Drift line-up 6/5/99

RADIO ONE PLAYLISTS

Artist	Title
Blackstreet #9 Bryan Adams; I Want It That Way	Blackstreet's Best; Real At Last; Jamnata Jay; Sweet Home Miss; Right Here; Show Your Funny Side; Taboo; Gimmies Girl feat. Shola Amos; Look At Me Gert Halliwell; Big Love Pete Heller; Righter You Love Aaisha; You Get What You Give New Radicals; Why Don't You Get A Job The Offspring; No Scrubs TLC; Korea; Bodegas Fun Lovin' Criminals; Beat Mama Cast; Look At Me Gert Halliwell; Sweet It Again Westlife
1	NO SCRUBS TLC
2	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears
3	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell
4	WATCH DOCTOR Cartoons
5	YOU NEEDED ME Boyzone
6	THAT DON'T IMPRESS ME MUCH Shania Twain
7	THANK A LOT FOR THE MUSIC Various
8	TRAGEDY Steps
9	PERFECT MOMENT Marlene McCutcheon
10	CHANGES 2 Pac

B1 playlist for week beginning 3/5/99

© Discogs additions

RADIO TWO PLAYLISTS

Artist	Title
Perfect Moment Marlene McCutcheon; Break Your Heart Natalie Merchant; Kiss Me	Number 211; From The Heart Another; Hey Boy Hey Girl Chantal Kreviazuk; Reckably Bob Columbus; Slipin' DMX; Jeyl Gay Dad; My Love Is Love Whitney Houston; Censored Heat (anonymous); Happiness Happening; Love Witness; Give You All The Love Matika; Hate Me New Kids; Get On It Phobos One; Disco
1	NO SCRUBS TLC
2	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears
3	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell
4	WATCH DOCTOR Cartoons
5	YOU NEEDED ME Boyzone
6	THAT DON'T IMPRESS ME MUCH Shania Twain
7	THANK A LOT FOR THE MUSIC Various
8	TRAGEDY Steps
9	PERFECT MOMENT Marlene McCutcheon
10	CHANGES 2 Pac

R1 playlist for week beginning 3/5/99

© Discogs additions

MTV UK PLAYLISTS

Artist	Title
Strong Robbie Williams; As George Michael & Mary J Blige; You Get What You Give New Radicals; Perfect Moment Marlene McCutcheon; Turn Around Phats & Small; My Name Is Eminem; In Our Lifetime Texas; Right Here Right Now Fabray Slim	
1	NO SCRUBS TLC
2	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears
3	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell
4	WATCH DOCTOR Cartoons
5	YOU NEEDED ME Boyzone
6	THAT DON'T IMPRESS ME MUCH Shania Twain
7	THANK A LOT FOR THE MUSIC Various
8	TRAGEDY Steps
9	PERFECT MOMENT Marlene McCutcheon
10	CHANGES 2 Pac

B1 playlist for week beginning 3/5/99

© Discogs additions

MTV UK PLAYLISTS

Artist	Title
Remate Control Robbie Bros; Jamba Underwood; Show Your Love Boyz; Shabaz; Why Don't You Get A Job The Offspring; Bad Asserty Jay Jay; Driffted Tows; New No Doubt; Secretly Sauria Annies; Feeling For You Cassius; Korea; Bodegas Fun Lovin' Criminals; Get A Move On Me Sheryl Crow; I'm Gonna Get That Money Back On You Janet Jackson; Nex Is Like Nex; Up Here For Now Modz; Run On Moty; My Own Worst Enemy Lit	
1	NO SCRUBS TLC
2	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears
3	LOOK AT ME Gert Halliwell
4	WATCH DOCTOR Cartoons
5	YOU NEEDED ME Boyzone
6	THAT DON'T IMPRESS ME MUCH Shania Twain
7	THANK A LOT FOR THE MUSIC Various
8	TRAGEDY Steps
9	PERFECT MOMENT Marlene McCutcheon
10	CHANGES 2 Pac

R1 playlist for week beginning 3/5/99

© Discogs additions

8 MAY 1999

Live
New
Change
Re-entry
Re-release

music control UK

New
Re-entry
Re-release
Re-entry
Re-release

1 IN OUR LIFETIME Texas Mercury 2111 +13 83.64 +11

2	4	10	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE	New Radicals	MCA	1675	-5	63.11	-1
3	2	7	TURN AROUND	Phats & Small	Multiply	1805	-4	62.88	-3
4	18	5	CLOUD #9	Bryan Adams	ABM/Mercury	1341	+15	55.30	+24
5	3	11	STRONG	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	1617	-11	54.46	-19
6	7	3	NO SCRUBS	TLC	LaFace/Arista	1476	+2	51.31	+4
7	8	1	PERFECT MOMENT	Martina McTutcheon	Innocent	1625	-6	49.51	-17
8	19	1	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive	1483	+15	44.99	-7
9	16	4	SWEAR IT AGAIN	Westlife	RCA	1125	+84	44.55	+61
10	3	1	KISS ME	Simplicity: Nova The Richer	Squint Entertainment/Elektra	749	+101	44.34	+42
11	13	10	AS AP	George Michael & Mary J. Blige	Epic	1712	n/c	42.78	-9
12	4	1	RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW	Fatboy Slim	Skit	1085	+33	41.39	+33
13	8	11	LOVE OF A LIFETIME	Honeyz	1st Avenue/Mercury	1343	n/c	40.87	-24
14	15	8	RED ALERT	Basement Jaxx	XI Recordings	1073	+31	40.51	+33
15	2	9	CANNED HEAT	Jamiroquai	Sony SZ	859	+20	32.71	+23
16	15	6	EVERY MORNING	Sugar Ray	Lava/Atlantic	855	+14	32.31	+37
17	12	8	RUNAWAY	The Corrs	143/Lava/Atlantic	1357	-11	31.60	-17
18	2	9	BEAT MAMA	Cast	Polydor	756	+28	30.25	+12
19	15	10	IT'S NOT RIGHT BUT IT'S OKAY	Whitney Houston	Arista	1085	-14	29.33	-18

MOST ADDED

20	2	2	THAT DON'T IMPRESS ME MUCH	Shania Twain	Mercury	832	+51	28.08	+27
21	10	30	DEAD FROM THE WAIST DOWN	Catatonia	Blanco Y Negro	1120	-16	27.71	-43
22	4	4	WHAT'S IT GONNA BE!	Busta Rhymes feat. Janet	Elektra	426	+58	27.69	+33
23	4	6	PICK A PART THAT'S NEW	Stereophonics	V2	406	+41	26.03	+22

HIGHEST CLIMBER

24	3	1	WHY DON'T YOU GET A JOB?	The Offspring	Columbia	577	+53	25.19	+51
25	4	2	TABOO	Glamma Kid feat. Shola Ama	WEA	423	+9	24.55	-8
26	14	10	LULLABY	Shawn Mullins	Columbia	827	-17	23.76	-25
27	18	10	TENDER	Blur	Foed/Parlophone	768	-14	22.16	-10
28	3	4	LOOK AT ME	Ger Halliwell	EMC/Chrysalis	548	+97	21.70	-7
29	3	3	YOU NEEDED ME	Boyzone	Polydor	697	-6	21.46	+22
30	13	6	FLY AWAY	Lenny Kravitz	Virgin	719	-6	19.30	-27
31	2	1	WHAT YOU NEED	Powerhouse feat. Duane Harden	Defected	473	+40	19.21	+6
32	3	1	HUMAN	Prattenders	WEA	534	+39	18.51	+7
33	18	40	YOU STOLE THE SUN...	Manic Street Preachers	Epic	570	-40	18.28	-39

BIGGEST INCREASE IN PLAYS

34	3	1	SWEET LIKE CHOCOLATE	Shanks & Bigfoot	Pepper/Chocolate Bay	321	+555	16.82	+953
35	9	9	CHANGES	2Pac	Polydor	568	+29	16.48	+14
37	1	0	SHOWER YOUR LOVE	Kula Shaker	Columbia	258	+22	16.14	+9
38	1	0	I WANT IT THAT WAY	Backstreet Boys	Jive	410	+114	15.58	+56
39	13	1	ELECTRICITY	Suede	Nude	262	-45	15.74	-75
40	2	2	IF EVERYBODY LOOKED THE SAME	Groove Armada	Pepper	201	+31	15.58	-5
41	4	7	DAYZ LIKE THAT	Fierce	Wildstar	485	+26	15.48	+14
42	1	1	PUMPING ON YOUR STEREO	Supersquax	Parlophone	117	+83	15.19	+122
43	8	1	BIG LOVE	Pete Heller	Essential	255	+71	14.87	+33
44	4	0	ALL NIGHT LONG	Faith Evans feat. Puff Daddy	Puff Daddy/Arista	218	-10	14.66	-8
45	11	4	BLAME IT ON THE WEATHERMAN	B'Witched	Glow Warm/Epic	866	-21	14.19	-21
46	2	3	YOU GOTTA BE	Do	Dusted Sound/Sony SZ	534	-15	14.18	-8
47	2	1	BYE BYE BABY	Tes'oro	Epic	310	+12	14.09	-16

BIGGEST INCREASE IN AUDIENCE

48	4	1	BREAK YOUR HEART	Natalie Merchant	Elektra	40	+471	13.73	+330
49	1	1	IT'S ALL BEEN DONE	Barenaked Ladies	Raprice	404	+44	13.34	+23
50	12	0	ERASE/REWIND	The Cardigans	Stockholm/Polydor	378	+49	13.21	+23

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 Music Control UK monitors these stations 24 hours a day, seven days a week. **1** BBC 2. **2** BBC Radio 1. **3** BBC Radio 2. **4** BBC Radio 3. **5** BBC Radio 4. **6** BBC Radio 5. **7** BBC Radio 6. **8** BBC Radio 7. **9** BBC Radio 8. **10** BBC Radio 9. **11** BBC Radio 10. **12** BBC Radio 11. **13** BBC Radio 12. **14** BBC Radio 13. **15** BBC Radio 14. **16** BBC Radio 15. **17** BBC Radio 16. **18** BBC Radio 17. **19** BBC Radio 18. **20** BBC Radio 19. **21** BBC Radio 20. **22** BBC Radio 21. **23** BBC Radio 22. **24** BBC Radio 23. **25** BBC Radio 24. **26** BBC Radio 25. **27** BBC Radio 26. **28** BBC Radio 27. **29** BBC Radio 28. **30** BBC Radio 29. **31** BBC Radio 30. **32** BBC Radio 31. **33** BBC Radio 32. **34** BBC Radio 33. **35** BBC Radio 34. **36** BBC Radio 35. **37** BBC Radio 36. **38** BBC Radio 37. **39** BBC Radio 38. **40** BBC Radio 39. **41** BBC Radio 40. **42** BBC Radio 41. **43** BBC Radio 42. **44** BBC Radio 43. **45** BBC Radio 44. 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INTERACTIVE CITY

27.2.2001 15.30.01

THURSDAY 27.05.01	THURSDAY 27.05.01	FRIDAY 28.05.01	FRIDAY 28.05.01
10:00 AM KEYNOTE SPEECHES TO BE ANNOUNCED ON SITE MAY 1ST	11:01 AM CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING: PENTIUM III, SECURITY AND MARKETING	10:00 AM WHERE'S THE ADVENTUROUS CAPITAL?	10:30 AM SECURE ENCRYPTION - 1984 OR 2001?
11:30 AM HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR USER?	1:00 PM CRYSTAL BALLS: THE FUTURE IN 30 MINUTES, OVER A PINT	11:30 AM INTERNET RADIO - BATTLING THE COLLECTION SOCIETIES	11:45 AM DIGITAL TV: THE END OF THE AD BREAK
2:00 PM WHAT'S A CLICK - THROUGH REALLY WORTH?	2:30 PM CONTENT RULES: BUT EXACTLY IS CONTENT?	2:00 PM ISP LIABILITY: WHO PAYS, WHERE AND HOW MUCH?	1:00 PM THE HYPOTHETICAL: "SCHOOLCLOSING ON MONICA"
3:30 PM THE NAME OF THE GAME IS CONVERGENCE AND IT'S SPLIT DVD	4:00 PM WHEN IS THE PERFECT WEB SITE A PERFECT WASTE OF SPACE?	3:30 PM TO MP3 OR NOT TO MP3?	2:15 PM "DISINTERMEDIATION" - FUCING THE MIDDLEMEN
5:30 PM INTERACTIVE CITY CELEBRITY INTERVIEW	7:00 PM AFTER THE WATERSHED: SEX ONLINE	5:00 PM TONS FOR BOYS: SOFT AND HARD DEMOS	3:45 PM ONLINE GAMING KILLS THE CONSOLE?

STARRING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

JON GAMES (LATERAL)
NEIL GRADFORD (FLETCHER)
MARCUS DICKINELL (CMG)
NICK DAVIES (EIDOS)
DAVID DUNNE (ATI/JANTIC 232)
CAROL BUKES (CARLTON ONLINE)
MALCOLM GARRETT (AMX DIGITAL)
RICK GLANVILLE (VIRGIN NET)
ADAM GOLD (FIRST TUESDAY)
JASON GOODMAN (BMP INTERACTION)
MARK HAF TKE (CARD AND CARD)
STOVIN HAYTER (REVOLUTION)
TIM HUYWARD (HILL)
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INTERACTIVE CITY 27-28 MAY 1999 HILTON GLASGOW

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CHEMICAL BROTHERS

After setting the blueprint that paved the way for success by the likes of Fatboy Slim, The Chemical Brothers continue to break new ground despite bravely ditching the big beat tag.

Moreover, the follow-up to 1997's *Dig Your Own Hole*, *Surrender* (released on June 21), is the closest the duo have come yet to making a classic record.

Recording began in the pair's self-contained Orinoco studio in London, after they had finished touring *Dig Your Own Hole* in December 1997, and lasted until February this year: the most time they have ever spent making an album.

"It was probably the most consistent run we've ever had at a record. In the past we've always put them together piecemeal between DJing and making live appearances," says Tom Rowlands, one half of the producer duo. "We liked the way the last album finished with Beth Orton and the latest *Psychodelic Reel* and it seemed like a good place to pick up on the next one."

The result is a titanic effort that mixes the Chemicals' trademark sonic firepower with sympathetic vocal collaborations from artists including Mazzy Star's Hope

Sandow, both Noel Wasthler and Mercury Rev's Jonathan Donahue once again (they featured on *Dig Your Own Hole*), along with a broader palette of references that takes in early house, techno, hip hop and indie dance.

"The last album was influenced by playing live. It was quite in your face really," says Rowlands. "We wanted to keep the vitality but try some different things. All the bits that were there in the past have been heightened."

"Anybody familiar with the first two albums will definitely recognise the line running through this record," says Science general manager Steve Bro who has A&R'd the band on their Virgin/Freestyle Duo label since the departure of Bob Manley two years ago. "But they'll recognise a breath there that wasn't there before.

There's a whole host of different avenues they've investigated this time and they've done it very successfully. Surrender works in the club limo and at home, it's such a journey."

Of the four vocal collaborations among the album's 11 tracks, the instant standout is *Out Of Control* featuring New Order's Bernard Sumner and Bobby Gillespie of Primal Scream.

"All the vocal tracks were a lot more collaborative this time," says Rowlands. "In the past it's been the case of someone coming in and singing their part and going away again. Bernard came into the studio over a period of several days and even took away hard disks of the work in progress. That track was one of the most exciting sessions I've worked on."

The first single taken from the album is *Hey Boy Hey Girl* (released on May 31), a typical frodriller that lifts its nagging refrain from Rockmaster Scott And The Dynamic Three's classic 1985 rap track *The Roof Is On Fire* and lashes it to a driving bassline. It marked itself out as a single despite the strong vocal collaborations.

"We wanted to kick off with something that was just us and a real party record, too," says Rowlands. "We used to use the original version in our encore, then we cut a different version on acetate to play out and it's grown since then. We thought people would recognise it and that it showed where we are at."

The duo live/recorded the track ahead of their own live dates in May during a handful of



DJ outings, notably the celebratory last night of the Heavenly Social on February 20. The response was suitably enthusiastic, as it was when they let Fatboy Slim play it out. "Ding your own stuff gives you a focus

"Whichever way people take it is fine, we just do what sounds right to us" - Tom Rowlands

and some grassroots response," says Rowlands. "It's so easy to go and shut yourself away in a studio for a year and lose touch with reality. It's the ultimate test really."

The Chemicals already have a strong international track record. Their 1995 debut,

Exit Planet Dust, sold 275,000 units in the UK and 2m worldwide. The follow up *Dig Your Own Hole* may only now be about to go platinum in the UK, but it sold 2m copies worldwide, including 500,000 in the US where they were awarded a Grammy for best rock instrumental. "That was a bit of surprise for us," says Rowlands. "But whichever way people take it is fine, we just do what sounds right to us." Now with their third album the band look set to continue to be one of UK music's best exports. They make uncompromising, leftfield music with mass sales potential and there's been tremendous interest everywhere in this record since the start," says Brown.

The single will be a simultaneous release worldwide, with Virgin already gearing up a hefty campaign, particularly in the US through its Astralwerks subsidiary.

UK managing director Paul Conroy is particularly effusive about the pair's across-the-board appeal. "People talk about the death of UK acts in America but you're going to see the Chemicals fly there again. Surrender is loud and it's rock'n'roll in the purest sense - modern, edgy music that's going to upset the neighbours."

Act: Chemical Brothers **Label:** Freestyle Duo/**Virgin/Project:** single/album **Songwriters:** Simons/Rowlands **Producer:** act **Studio:** own **Publicist:** MCA Music **Released:** May 31/June 21

A producer Nigel Godrich tirelessly coaxes a high backing vocal out of Stephen Malkmus late one January night in London's Mayfair Studios, it is evident that Terror Twilight is more than just another Pavement album.

Malkmus, the band's creative force, consistently mourns "Sorry dude!" from the sound booth as he attempts the umpteenth variations on "Ja Ja Ja" Godrich requests for a track titled *You Are The Light*.

Godrich, who will later force the vocal through a rattling old tape Echoplex for a quite different result, pinpoints the moments where Malkmus gasps for breaths and offers consolation when the singer complains he is being made to "squeeze his voice" like a saxophone.

"It adds something," explains Godrich, who since

"They are trying not to be too precious and fussy" - Laurence Bell

Rodichev's OK Computer has produced Beck and mixed Natalie Imbruglia's *Left Of The Middle* and REM's *Up*. "It's only a small part for the two choruses, but the point is to bring out the keyboards and another dimension to the chorus. It makes it uplifting - after all the vocal is *You Are The Light*."

You certainly can't fault the producer's attention to detail. But choosing to work with him was not perhaps an immediate choice for the oft-named-look-alike alternative rock band. Not only have they always produced themselves on their previous five albums and only ever employed musicians - but they also "hate out" those critically-acclaimed records spending an average of just a fortnight recording each and a similar time on mixing (although they did rehearse before Terror Twilight's predecessor, *Brighten The Corners*, which sold around 85,000 units in the UK).

Laurence Bell, managing director of Domino which releases them in the UK, says, "Generally they've worked pretty quick so this is quite long. They are a little bored of doing things that way. They are trying not to be too precious and fussy. They don't want anything to be tarnished, or

PAVEMENT



anything to be whack. They're now saying 'let's try to do things better'."

The band started working with Godrich last November after their solo efforts in a Portland studio were not selling. Originally they hooked up at Sonic Youth's New York studios, but Godrich soon shifted them to the nearby RPM where he first met RAK and then Mayfair, because it was easier for Godrich who, on his first independent record, took no advance upfront and was only paid expenses throughout recording ("It was a labour of love for him," says Malkmus).

While the tracks are as well recorded and produced as they ever were, they are not too slick or over-produced. Pavement's signature mix of influences, from country and folk-rock to alternative British and American rock, remain, but the tracks sound more epic.

Living in different states on either coast of the US, the band A&R themselves and are signed to their own label, Gold Soundz Inc, licensing themselves to different territories - Domino for Europe, Matorator for the US, Flying Nun for

Australasia and Bantel for Japan.

Bell, who managed to attract Pavement away from Big Cat in the UK before Brighton The Corners thanks to the presence of artists like Sebadoh on his label, says, "They are not A&R'd, but everyone helps out. They take in the advances from each label and then pay it out themselves. We knew Nigel and hooked them up, but they made the call."

Godrich says the band were conscious they needed to work with someone else - rather than him in particular - and, fortunately, he had some time free after an intended collaboration with Ultrasound went sour. Indeed he was such a fan that for the first time Godrich agreed to work with them without hearing any demos or even meeting them.

The collaboration was first mooted to him by Bell after a Sonic Youth gig at Hammersmith. Godrich says, "Laurence said Pavement were looking for someone and Stephen knows Beck and I think Beck said to him Nigel rules in his own way. He put their mind at rest. They phoned me and I said 'I'm sure it sounds good'". During playback of the tracks, Malkmus admits he likes the atmospheres on the delicately intoned *Anne*, while Godrich is barracked for admitting that he is just trying to stop it sounding "like Hendrix". Other highlights include eerie-sounding *The Hex*, while another track, *Bring On The Major League*, is as pop as album gets with its acoustic guitars making it a potential radio smash - although the Radio One *Jo Whalley* record of the week *Carrot Rope* is the first single on May 10. Brown Beefheart, where the band rock out, is as Radiohead as the album gets.

By the end of recording and mixing they had finished about 11 tracks, working into the early hours every day. But as Godrich moved to finish Travis's album and then started the new Radiohead project, "Necessity has been the mother of invention," adds Godrich, as he returns to Malkmus singing variations of "ba ba ba" and "fa fa fa".

Act: Pavement **Label:** Domino **Project:** single/album **Songwriters:** Pavement **Producers:** Treble Kicker **Musicians:** Nigel Godrich **Studios:** RPM in New York, RAK and Mayfair in London **Released:** May 10/June 7

SINGLE of the week

SHANKS & BIGFOOT: Sweet Like Chocolate (Pepper 0530352). This tasty underground garage track has been creating a stir for about 12 months, including its limited release on the Chocolate Boy label. Produced by Shanks & Bigfoot (aka Doolally, who scored a Top 20 hit last November with "Right From The Heart"), it's a sugar-coated groove, topped with bubbling bassline, skittering garage groove, a top-down, strings and a gentle horn line. A pumping house mix from Ruff Driverz beefs up the beats and adds a more commercial edge. Regular plays by dance stations such as Kiss FM were joined last week by a B-listing at Radio One; the witty animated video should also attract plenty of exposure. With demand reaching fever pitch, there is every chance that this could give the UK garage scene its biggest crossover success yet.



SINGLE reviews

SUGAR RAY: Every Morning (Lava/Atlantic ATOG65CD). Combining elements of rock and hip hop somewhat akin to Busta Rhymes, this more radio-friendly hook, the California band have already deservedly landed a top three US hit with this highly-distinctive track. It is looking good here, too, with Radio One's B-list support helping to send it to the Airplay Top 30.

THE UNDERWORLD: Jumbo (JBO/2500193). Underworld are at their most beautiful on this hypnotic second single from *Mellon Collie*. An insistent progressive house-style groove is joined by layers of lush synths and a constant low-key vocal from Karl Hyde. However, despite club support and a Clipping at Radio One, it unfortunately looks unlikely to drive too many more sales of the trio's album...

STEVE MORLEY: Reincarnations (Neo NED2001). Another import from the Netherlands' Jinx label which Eddie Groves' Neo imprint quickly snapped up last year, now receives its deserved UK release. DJ Jan X & De Lun present the new Dumonde remix, forging its way on a powerful build of electro loops. The Original Mix groove edit also included, typical of the strong Euro-trance sound that is currently causing such a buzz.

JOSÉ NUÑEZ FEAT. OCTAVIA: Hold On (5052 Ministry M05CD3130). Licensed from the US Subliminal label, this soulful garage track from Nuñez follows his *In My Life* single, which was a UK Top 75 hit last September. Rolling along with a subtle chorus hook and groovy backing track, it is a definite grower.

VARIOUS: The Tidy Girls EP (Tidy Trax TYD123CD). Four of the UK's top female DJs team up with this growing label to provide four slices of pumping house. Banging beats and synth stabs are the order of the day, and Rachel Auburn, Lisa Lashes, Anna Savage and Joy By Blasted at Radio One and Gay Dad are currently on their second major tour of the UK.

MIKE KOGLIN: On My Way (Multiply CDMLTY51). Following up the excellent *Silence* which reached the Top 20 late last year, Mike Koglin rides another superb club release, with two self-penned mixes and remixes from Ruff Driverz and Quiver. Koglin's Rebirth and Extended Vocal mix offer two different styles, with the Extended Vocal being more commercial, while the Rebirth mix is more reminiscent of his previous releases. Quiver provides an underground progressive

angle, rounding off with a top Ruff Driverz Mix which sounds the strongest for club play.

MIKE & THE MECHANICS: Now That You've Gone (Virgin USCOT1732). Mike Rutherford found a lead off fellow of veteran Cher's book to boost the fortunes of Mike & The Mechanics. Mark Taylor and Brian Revell, who worked on the mega hit *Believe*, have been brought in to produce this Paul Carrack-fronted song to add a similar dance-style edge to the group's usual AOR sound. Lifted by the catchiness of the song itself, this unlikely marriage actually works.

TRAVIS: Driftwood (Independence ISOM27MS). The second single to be taken from Travis's forthcoming *The Man Who* album, *Driftwood* is similar in tone to the great *Writing To Reach You*. Fran Healy's songwriting is marking him out as one of the UK's finest tunesmiths and *Driftwood* only adds to his reputation. With a Clipping on Radio One and MTV, *Driftwood* sets out to emulate *Writing To Reach You*, which peaked at 14.

PRECIOUS: Say It Again (EMI CDME544). Even taking attempts to modernise the competition into consideration, *Say It Again* is something of an unlikely choice as the UK's Eurovision entry. It lacks the instant appeal needed to win over the contest in just one performance, but instead has more subtle, slower-burning charms. That may make it tough in Jerusalem, and a lengthy career is doubtful at this stage.

LEVEL: From The Heart (Northwestside ALCD 0X1). The quartet have been fortunate to secure the lead single from the soundtrack to the massively hyped *Notting Hill* movie and this song is good enough to exploit this golden opportunity. Their fanbase can be relied upon to give any new song a strong chance of becoming their second number one, but this quality ballad will have massive appeal for both pop and R&B fans. It is a track sufficient substance to be a major favourite but in common with the film, a lengthy chart residency seems a certainty.

THE CHIEFTAINS WITH THE CORRS: I Know My Love (RCA Victor 74321670622). Culled from *The Chieftains'* last celebrity collaboration album, *Tears Of*



Youth, The Corrs perform their variety of trad-lite aided and abetted by Ireland's more authentic folk ambassadors. This song falls between the poppy and the folkly while really being neither and so may lack necessary airplay. The Corrs factor notwithstanding.

BENNY ZERO: Grammye (Geffon tba). Dark, intelligent and moody. Not words regularly applied to an American rock outfit but when said band numbers Radiohead and Michael Stipe among its fanbase one knows roughly what to expect. The first two tracks on this four-track EP feature on the band's upcoming debut UK album, *Viva Elaine*, while the others date back to 1996. Grammye sets the kind of song tingling, but sadly the remaining cuts barely rise above the anomaly.

YOUNGER YOUNGER 20'S: Going Out (V2/Major Min VVR 5006943). Having made a sizeable impact at 1998's *In The City*, the quartet were acclaimed as a possible B2be for the 21st century, but this debut single has sharply divided opinion. Their worthy attempt to bring a breathe of fresh air and a dose of glamour to the pop world is more Human League and less Shampoo. Radio should give listeners the chance to decide on this exciting live act.

BLONDIE: Nothing Is Real But The Girl (RCA 74321663802). The second single to be taken from comeback album *No Exit*, this is arguably truer to the band's original style than the number one hit *Maria*, although it is also less memorable. Nonetheless, *Xim* and *Capital* have listed the track, which is receiving spot plays on Heart and Radio Two.

LAPTOP: Nothing To Declare (Island CIDDJ744). The much-derided recyclers of Numan-esque electro-pop return with their first major label release, which is most likely to find an audience among those who missed it all the first time, and there is a slim chance this could be it, with a certain amount of early Radio One support.

TENOR SAW: Ring The Alarm (Soul Jazz SJR41-1). This 1980 dancehall reggae classic sees a re-release after starring on Soul Jazz's excellent 2005 *Dynamite* collection. Tenor Saw's lyrics top producer Winston Riley's interpretation of the classic

SIXPENCE NONE THE RICHER: Kiss Me (Elektra/Squint Entertainment EP750CD). If their quirky name is itself not enough in itself to attract attention this opening gambit will ensure Sixpence None The Richer are perfect start to their careers on this side of the Atlantic. Already a top five future back in their native US,

HEPBURN: I Quit (Columbia 667401-2/5). Comprising four teenage girls and based around the guitar/bass/drum rock set-up, Hepburn display a surprising amount of maturity on their debut single. With an angry chorus reminiscent of Aaliyah Morissette and some inspired hooks, *I Quit* is instantly catchy and hummable. If radio catches on quickly to this huge hit in the making, Hepburn may well succeed where others have failed.

Bam Bam rhythm which manages to sound totally contemporary fresh-sounding backing that has made it a club classic.

3 COLOURS RED: This Is My Time (Creation CRESCD313). The band follow up *Beautiful Day* — by far their biggest hit yet — with another ballad, and one which displays somewhat of a panache. The loud/quiet pattern is fairly effective, but ultimately *This Is My Time* may be a slightly belated slogan. All the same, the song is on Radio One's B-list and *Xim's* Artist, so a moderate hit seems likely.

MEDAL UP Here For Hours (Polydor 5638232). Off-duty five-piece Medal's knack of crafting an expansive rock sound with an experimental edge comes to the fore with their third single, which justifies their recent comparisons with Radiohead and Pink Floyd. This and their current UK tour with Supersound should build interest in their forthcoming album, *Drop Your Weapon*.

AC ACOUSTICS: She's With Stars (Yo-Yo YO-YO4). A stalwart of the indie scene, AC Acoustics have created some of the finest moments in British folk, never receiving the recognition they deserve. Coming on like a malevolent Teenage Fanclub, all dark lyrics and subtly swirling guitars, *She's With Stars* is prime of-kilter rock. Supported by John Peel and *Xim*, the band's appearance at the recent Belle & Sebastian fest that was the *Weekender* will add legs to this great single.

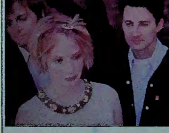
CHARLOTTE: Skin (Parlophone Rhino Series RH20). Charlotte is on something of a high at the moment with topped *Bilbo's* *Chill Play* charting well. This single in February. Junior Vasquez is among those supplying mixes to the dance release which looks set to give the singer a Top 40 breakthrough.

TALL PAUL: Be There (Duty Free DF009). Tall Paul's first release on his label is a package of building epic trance with trademark breakdowns and vocal samples. Currently riding high in the *MW* Club Chart, it is unlikely to make as big an impact in the mainstream chart as on the dancefloor.

LIBERTY 37: Oh River (Beggars Banquet BR3336CD). A re-release of the 1995 Swans-based band consists of three minutes of head-down angular hardcore with a soaring chorus that has proved to be a live favourite of late. One stricty for the fans, but their debut album *The Greatest Gift* due for summer release is one to look out for.

Album reviews

MOBY: Play (Ride CDStumm 172). Quite simply one of the best albums of the year so far. Taking its cue from the first single, *Run On*, it explores inspirational gospel and blues — check out the hair-raising *Why Does Heart Break?* — and *Soul* and *Natural Blues* — rap and rock, as well as taking in Moby's more traditional ethereal soundscapes. Play, with its weave of influences and originality, will delight fans and convince the most hardened sceptic that this New Yorker means business.



this track's beauty is instantly reminiscent of *The Sundays*. Radio has wasted no time in turning this into a Top 20 single hit with Radio One among those *Assisting* it.



RECOMMEND **THE FLAMING LIPS: The Soft Bulletin** (WEA 9362473932).

Having seen their singular sound successfully appropriated by Mercury Rev on the latter's breakthrough Descender's Songs album, the psychedelic three-piece return with their fifth album in as many years. Linking The Band's gothic Americana through Neil Young to Pavement's stream-of-consciousness experimentalism, the album is choked full of unpolished, but melodic, diamonds. An appearance at the Bowle Weekender and an eight-date tour supporting Mercury Rev in May will spark awareness at retail.

VARIOUS: French Sessions Mixed By DJ Deep (Distance DI 1052). The fourth instalment of Distance's French Sessions series is a faultless mix of the grooviest deeper house mixed by former Laurent Garnier collaborator DJ Deep. With artists such as Black Beatniks, Kings Of Tomorrow and Ten City, this is a strong package.



RECOMMEND **BACKSTREET BOYS: Millennium (Jive 0523222).**

The team behind Backstreet Boys know how to select top quality pop, which will ensure that the quintet's third album repeats the multi-platinum success of its predecessor. Very much sticking to the tried and tested formula, this ballad-heavy offering will delight the massive fanbase, but there is little evidence of the sophistication for an adult audience.

WILLARD GRANT CONSPIRACY: Mojave (Slow River SSRCD46). After last year's critically acclaimed Flying Low album, the Chicago-based band's third album looks set to get the critics raving once more. Robert Fisher's rich baritone adds extra feeling to

the tales of loneliness and heartache wrapped up in a country-esque sound. With a tour planned for June, Mojave should win WGO many new fans.

THE REVENANTS: September Nowonder (Black Burst BLACK0001). Stephen Ryan's deliciously jangly guitar band are not exactly the most prolific — this second album comes six years after their debut — but the wait has been worth it. Byronic melodies abound with Ryan's delicate, bittersweet voice adding much emotion to some breathtaking songs.

VARIOUS: Tranceformer (Virgin TV VDDCX256). This TV-backed trance compilation treats a similar path to Telstar TV's recent gold-selling Euphoria release, but is more upfront in its selection of tracks. The double-CD mix features forthcoming smashers from acts such as Veracocha, Blank & Jones and DJ Sakin & Friends, plus proven hits from Binary Finery, Humate and BBE.

RECOMMEND **THE PHETENDERS: Viva El Amor (WEA 93984271522).** Chrissie Hynde makes a welcome return with a settled lineup and a first album of new material in five years. The

ALBUM of the week

CAST: Magic Hour (Polydor 5471762). Cast's third outing finds the band in a jubilant and confident mood — with mainman John Power displaying a much more eclectic approach to his songwriting. Current



single Beat Mama kicks off the proceedings and is very much indicative of their new funkier style. Sounding like classic Led Zeppelin and even The Who in parts, new producer Gil Norton has coaxed some marvellously heavy performances from the band. There are three ballads scored by the enigmatic David Arnold, climaxed with Hideaway, proving, most importantly of all, that this album has avoided the pitfalls of their second.

feel of the record is of classic Pretenders — even if some of the songs sound rather like neat imitations of golden greats. Highlights include the single Human and the vintage angle of Who's Who, although the world could probably have done without the Spanish-language track, Rato Du Nube.

INTERFEARANCE: (Electrically Enhanced 556 059 2). The guys that brought you the theme music to Ant & Dec's CD:UK TV show — Talkin' Loud A&R manager Paul Martin and multi-instrumentalist Tyrrell — prove they have more strings to their collective bow with this eclectic mix of disco, funk and techno. The hard, funkier stuff works best, but overall the album works well on both dance and chillout levels.

IBRAHIM FERREZ: Ibrahim Ferrer (World Circuit WCB055). Best known for his vocals on the Grammy award-winning, million-selling Buena Vista Social Club, 72-year-old Ferrer already had a considerable reputation in his native Cuba. This collection

of evocative and nostalgic songs show why. Although at times over-produced by Ry Cooder, Ferrer's voice shines through and will win fans in the already huge and growing appetite for Cuban music.

Delayed releases

Releases previously reviewed in *Music Week* now set for release on May 17 include: **2-4 FAMILY Lean On Me (Epic) (reviewed in April 24 issue)** • **BEASTIE BOYS Ramones Control/Three MCs And One DJ (Grand Royal) (May 1)**

Hear new releases

Audio clips from the releases marked with this icon can be heard on dotmusic at: www.dotmusic.com/previews

This week's reviewers: Simon Abbott, Dugald Baird, James Brown, Michael Byrne, Hamish Champ, Chris Finan, Tom FitzGerald, Hugo Fluency, Simon Harper, Simon Ward, Paul Williams and Adam Woods.

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NEW RELEASE COUNTDOWN

Key album releases scheduled for the next six weeks

- 17 May 1999**
Backstreet Boys Millennium (Virgin); single: If I Want It That Way - May 3
Cast Mag (Polygram)
Phil Collins The Phil Collins Big Band (East West)
Moby Play (Mute); single: Run On - April 26
The Pretenders Viva El Amor (WEA); single: Human - May 3

- 24 May 1999**
Travis The Man Who (Independiente); single: Driftwood - May 17
The Happy Mondays The Greatest Hits (London); single: The Boys Are Back In Town - May 10
Mike & the Mechanics Mike & the Mechanics (Virgin); single: Now That You're Gone - May 17

- 31 May 1999**
Boyz n the Bay ...By Request (Polygram); single: You Needed Me - May 10
Shed Seven Going For Gold: The Best Of (Polygram); single: Disco Down - May 24
Vonda Shepher By 7:30 (Epic); single: Don't You Break My Heart - June 7
Fountains of Wayne Utopia Parkway (East West); single: Red Dragon Tattoo - May 24

- 7 June 1999**
Ger Halliwell Schizophrenia (EMI); single: Look At Me - May 10
Jonny Lee Lewis Noise (London); single: Jay - May 17
Jamiroquai Synkronized (Sony); single: Cannon Heat - May 24
Pavement Terrorist (Virgin); single: Carrot Rose - May 10
7 Guitars ... (Mercury); single: North Lies - May 10

- 14 June 1999**
The Beta Band The Beta Band (Regal/Parlophone)
Mass Double Up (Bad Boy/Arista)

- 21 June 1999**
Chemical Brothers Surrender (Virgin); single: Hey Boy Hey Girl - May 31
Missy Elliott Da Real World (Elektra/Interscope); single: She's A Bitch - May 31
'N Sync 'N Sync (Northwestside); single: Tearing Up My Heart - June 6

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General Manager

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RETAIL FOCUS: ATOMIC SOUNDS

by Karen Faux

When Channel Four show *Collector's Lot* wanted to find a Blondie fan to interview for its Seventies special, Atomic Sounds owner Tony Grist was the perfect candidate. Grist's store takes its name from the band's hit single Atomic and has long been renowned as a specialist Blondie stockist. Grist reports he has been seen to see Blondie seven times since they reformed last October and is looking forward to attending more gigs later this year.

"The Channel Four crew filmed me in the store racking out the new album, *No Exit*, and at home with my collection of rare editions and memorabilia," says Grist. "It turned out to be great publicity for the shop."

Grist has been trading successfully in Shoreham, Sussex since 1983 and enjoys a strong reputation for pop, indie, rock and mainstream dance. Recently the store's display space has been maximised: "I couldn't squeeze any more product in if I tried," says Grist. "I have been systematically updating all the racking and now have Lift units. The



Atomic Sounds: Blondie's resurgence has helped profile

general appearance is much brighter than I used to be and the chart wall looks particularly good. All of the product is displayed face on which makes it very easy to find things."

NUCLEAR NETWORK

Atomic Sounds' website is designed to allow users to access information as quickly and easily as possible. "All our singles stock is listed and I am in the process of adding an album A-Z," says Tony Grist. As a Mojo Recommended store, the website address (www.atomicsounds.co.uk) has already been advertised and Grist is hoping to publicise it more widely. "Managing the store doesn't leave much time for this kind of project but maintaining the site shouldn't be too difficult a job."

For the past few weeks Basement Jaxx have supplied the shop with its best-selling single while Fatboy Slim, Westlife and Texas have been close competitors. In its albums

section, Reef and Catatonia have been solid earners. "Recently singles business has been healthy but albums have been patchy," says Grist. "At the moment we seem to be lucky if we get one bankable album a week. I've just taken Catatonia out of the window and replaced it with Suede. That should go extremely well - especially as it has had exposure on our Selecta listening post."

While Atomic Sounds doesn't often run special campaigns, it has high hopes for its current EMI Cold promotion. This is offering CDs for £5.99 each or two for £11 and covers a wide sweep of catalogue from Cliff Richard to Whitesnake. "We've only just rolled it out but there are a lot of complaints that should be big sellers," Grist reports.

Meanwhile with Blondie enjoying a comeback, the store's range of the band's back catalogue has become more extensive. Apart from carrying all of the albums on CD Grist seeks out rarities on import from around the world. "After years of little interest there is a now a real surge of demand for them," he

IN-STORE NEXT WEEK (from 29/3/99)

Windows - Bruce Springsteen, Universal campaign with CDs for £7.99 each or two for £21; **In-store** - Basement Jaxx; **Press ads** - William Walton, Byzantine, Steve Hackett, Tom Waits, Bruce Springsteen, Small Faces, Elvis Presley, Freddy Fender

ASDA **Single** - Backstreet Boys; **In-store** - Stereophonics, 911, Bryan Adams, Pete Heller, Pretenders, Kula Shaker, Ferce, Suede, Galaxy, Weezer, Bruce Springsteen, Transcormer, Fatboy Slim, Star Wars, IQ, South Park, Best Blue Note Album, Aida

Booze **In-store** - three videos for £15, Advantage card bonus points on selected music and video titles, three classical CDs for £10, two music cassettes for £5, Antz, Sliding Doors pre-awareness

HMV **Album of the month** - Basement Jaxx; **In-store display boards** - Atari Teenage Riot, Donnell, Penelope, Add N To X, Luna, Lianna Farmers, Jimi Tenor, Pavement

HMV **Singles** - Geri Halliwell, Boyzone, Pavement, Mercury Rev, 1,000 Clowns, Skunk Anansie, Happy Mondays, Powerhouse, Super Furry Animals; **Windows** - Geri Halliwell, Boyzone, Skunk Anansie; **Press ads** - Lost Witness, Tell Paul, Mike Koglin, Camisara, Harry Choo Choo Romero, Shanks & Bigfoot, Triina & Tamara



ON THE SHELF

RICHIE MORELAND,
manager,
Andys Records, Bury

"I've managed this store for six months although I've been with the company for 14 years. I enjoy working for Andys because every day is different. The work is very varied and I like the fact that the store isn't part of a big corporation. It definitely has a good feel to it."

This store is quite big and has the wide range associated with the chain. This includes videos, books, posters and DVD in addition to CD. The retailer looks spacious and a lot of display emphasis is given to chart and product and our own campaigns.

Our biggest album seller this week is **Electronic**, which has been featured on listening posts. **Catatonia** is still moving out and so is **Reef**. On the compilations front we're selling a lot of **Now 42**. Singles are generally very strong in this store and recent weeks have delivered particularly big titles. Current fast movers include the **Fun Lovin' Criminals**, **TQ**,

Marlene McCutcheon and Westlife.

On the special campaigns front, Universal's three-for-£21 deal has been well received. We cater for classical enthusiasts and currently have an EMI Classics promotion running for **Rachmaninov's** Vespers. It is the successor to the **Rutter** requiem, which was a best seller for us. The display is housed in its own free-standing display unit and is very eye-catching. We also feature classical on our listening posts and this week are presenting **Discover The Classics 3**, as part of an in-store promotion with **Naxos**. DVD is selling well here and it is obviously the format of the future. We started stocking it a number of months ago and currently have about 200 titles on offer. In addition to music titles, we are seeing strong sales for feature films. As DVD penetration grows we will keep pace with the market and increase our range."



"At the moment we're busier with albums than we have been for a long while. Teistar has had some real successes recently with the likes of **Europe's** *Essential Soundtracks* and **Funko House**. Other stalwarts such as **Bonkers 6** are still sticking over very well. It means that I am currently carrying around double my usual amount of car stock. The priority is to ensure that none of my stores run out of the product that is flying."

The new album from guitar band **Ruth**, called **Harrison**, is shaping up well this week. They have had a few singles out this year and are currently touring on the back of the album. In a different musical vein, we recently acquired a jazz label, **Orion Records**, and I am doing strong business with **Chris Briggs'** eponymous album and **Heavy Shift's** *Say Hello To Teddy*. **Chris Briggs'** funky acid jazz style is similar to **Galliano** while **Heavy Shift** are very poppy.

pinpoint network

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WOOLWORTHS

Selecta listening posts - Goatsnake, Kevin Donohy, Loat Park, Feeder, Doors; **Mojo Recommended retailers** - Jiving Jamboree, Dave Hilliard, Howard Werth, Small Faces, Steve Marriott's All Stars

Singles - Mercury Rev, Skunk Anansie, Pavement, Super Furry Animals; **Windows** - Basement Jaxx, Geri Halliwell, Suede, four CDs or videos for £20, Texas, Ben Folds Five; **In-store** - Cuban Festival, Fatboy Slim, Geri Halliwell, four CDs for £20, Mercury Rev, Suede, Texas

Singles - Bryzone, Harry Choo Choo Romero, Ozzy Osbourne, Ruby Cruzier, Super Furry Animals, Victoria; **Albums** - Kula Shaker, Top Of The Pops 99, Barenaked Ladies, Cast, Chieftains; **Windows** - Suede, Texas, Basement Jaxx; **Press ads** - 1,000 Clowns, LFO, Powerhouse, Shania Twain, Three Colours Red, Happy Mondays, Top Loader

Albums - Texas, Top Of The Pops 99 Vol 1, Suede; **Listening posts** - John Tavener, Suede, Texas

Singles - Geri Halliwell, Boyzone; **Albums** - Basement Jaxx; **In-store** - Transcormer, Geri Halliwell, Texas

ON THE ROAD

ANDRE ADAMS,
Fullforce rep, West
London & home counties

Jazz FM has been giving the label a lot of support which is helping to drive sales. Most of my stores sell a bit of jazz and I've also got some specialists within my area. In-store play provides a big boost for these kind of releases and once heard, they always sell."

On the singles front, **Phats & Small's** *Turn Around*, on **Multiply**, is still sustaining very good sales. Next week the new single from **Pierce** promises to give them their second Top 20 release.

I have got high hopes for the success of **Mike Koglin's** *On My Way* single, on **Multiply**, which will pick up loads of radio play prior to its release on May 24. Prospects are also looking good for **Double Six's** *Breakdown*, released on the same day.

Most of my stores are pretty upbeat about the moment. Obviously there are good weeks and bad weeks but on the whole things are looking up."

DELIRIOUS? may be a Top 25 album act but it's common knowledge that they struggle for airplay. So when Men Behaving Badly star **NEIL MORRISSEY** met the band in Los Angeles during studio mixing and struck up a friendship, he pledged to help the band any way he could – and his career subsequently shifted into radio plugging. Armed with a copy of their new single, *Gravity* (out on May 31), he met Radio One's head of music **JEFF SMITH** last week and the **Wise Buddah** team. He is pictured (middle) with **Delirious?** manager **TOBY PATOTO** (left) and Radio One DJ **CHRIS MOYLES**. Unfortunately, it seems to have been a case of Radio One behaving badly for the track has still not been playlisted by the station.



Remember where you heard it: Dooley hears that there could be some **Future Flexing** taking place down in Kensington Church Street this week...The **Liver Building**, **Eric's** and **Goodison Park**. Liverpool's holy trinity of legendary attractions may add the **Holiday Inn** this year with **ITC** visiting the city for the first time. ITC founder Anthony H is also promising to rope in what could either turn out to be the **most inspired venue** choice in ITC's history or the **most stomach-churning**. Something **Gerry** and **The Pacemakers** sang about should give you the clue and remember to take your **sealegs**...it famously had John Peel weeping at the side of the road, but Teenage Kicks really is a long, long time ago now for its singer **Feargal Sharkey**. The ex-Undertones man couldn't have got less rock 'n' roll than last Wednesday when he turned up to the **Sony Radio Awards** at London's Grosvenor House

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to present a gong to no less than Radio Four's **Farming Today**. **Johnnie Walker**, who just days before had allegedly been nosing around the same venue, failed to show for the bash, but at least **Mark Radcliffe** managed to give him a namecheck. "We can't stay long," said Radcliffe as he and **Lard** picked up their prize. "We're off out with Johnnie Walker"...Meanwhile, the curse of the Sonys continues. Last year **Steve Jackson** was shown the door by Kiss after winning the breakfast show gong and now Classic FM's **Alan Mann** has been told his Sony award-winning show has been **axed**...Which former **Taxi** that member was seen spending half a day at **EMI Records** recently? Clue: his name is not **Robbie Williams**... Dooley is proud to reveal his representatives at a quiz last Wednesday know **absolutely everything** (or **alternatively nothing**) about music. A **Music Week** team emerged as winners of **Dressed To Kill's Pop The Question** at London's Cy Bar with **dotmusic** strolling in last...The use of London's **Cafe de Paris** for New Year's Eve is

up for bidding at a charity auction next Tuesday (May 11). Ring 0171-468 8382 for details...More than £5,000 is calculated to have been raised for **Plan International UK** at a millennium ball organised by Warner Music's **Clare Wood**...Just when the music industry seemed to be singing from the same hymn sheet as the technology sector through initiatives such as **SDMI**, along comes **RealNetworks**, which this week is widely tipped to become the latest company to unveil software that enables CD tracks to be converted into MP3 files at the push of a button... Showcase not to be missed is **Lolly** at London's Fashion Cafe on Wednesday. There'll be six-foot inflatable **ice-pops**, alcoholic slush puppies and **pick 'n' mix** to remind you of childhood... Elektra boss **Sylvia Rhone** has pulled off the worldwide deal (outside the US) for **Sixpence None The Richer's** likely huge single **Kiss Me**... After being in two minds, **Ger Halliwell** has slightly amended the title of her album to **Schizophonic**...**Backstreet Boys** look set to enter the chart at one on Sunday with the **biggest shipment in Jive's UK history** – and yes, the label released Britney Spears' **Baby One More Time** – of around 465,000 copies.....

Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Janis Joplin, Peter Tosh and Elvis Presley may all be singing from the great stage in the sky. But they – or rather their songs – were brought to life recently at The Twelve Bar Club in the week-long **DYING TO SING FESTIVAL** dedicated to those who "went out explosively". A healthy batch of artists, including **Martin Stephenson, Bobby Valentino and Patsy Wylie**, turned up to strum their favourite **Merle and Lynott** tunes. Not content to let his clients do all the entertaining, **LIONEL MARTIN**, senior partner at accountants **Martin Greene Ravden** and one of the event's organisers, was persuaded on stage (pictured) to perform a few **Lowell George** numbers.



MARTIN, senior partner at accountants **Martin Greene Ravden** and one of the event's organisers, was persuaded on stage (pictured) to perform a few **Lowell George** numbers.

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