INJUSTICE BREEDS FURTHER INJUSTICE

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A Non-Profit Organization
Ray Charles told BRE: "I've heard that people were saying, 'Ray Charles could see that Rodney King was being beaten.' Then I heard the jury had to ask the judge for a definition of 'beating.' I knew there was trouble. Because if I knew I went out to Simi Valley and told anybody on the street or in any jury room that I got the hell beat out of me last night, nobody would have any trouble knowing EXACTLY what I meant."

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A rare and powerful glimpse of Mariah Carey in concert before a live MTV audience performing her version of the Jackson 5 classic. I'll Be There, the first single from 'MTV Unplugged EP,' the new release that also includes 6 stunning live acoustic renditions of songs from her first two albums.

Look for the SMV home video - coming soon.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this recording will be donated by Mariah Carey and Columbia Records to April A.R.T., The United Negro College Fund, Hale House and the T.J. Martell Foundation.

Produced and arranged by Walter Afanasieff and Mariah Carey.

Watch Mariah Live On MTV Unplugged: May 20 (10pm) Repeat Performances: May 23 (8:30pm); May 24 (9pm)
Now is the time to come together. The recent turmoil in Los Angeles, as well as the on-going problems around the nation, serve as a call-to-arms (in the political sense). We only have ourselves to carry the responsibility of moving out from under the weight of economic and social poverty.

If we leave that task to anyone other than ourselves (as a race), we are in for continued disappointment and despair. History has shown that. The Watts Riots were different from the latest wave of rebellion only in that the perpetrators of today’s violence are the children of the Watts rioters. But the two groups were sounding off because of the exact same problem.

We are the oppressed and they are the oppressors. The government has its own agenda when it comes to the poor. As everyone knows, you have to pay for justice in this country. If you have money or own property, justice is dealt out differently than if you’re like most blacks in South Central L.A. and have an annual per capita income that is 52 percent lower than the rest of Los Angeles County.

The latest tabulation of the destruction in Los Angeles includes 58 dead (41 percent black); 2,383 injured; 5,383 buildings torched; and $785 million in actual damage ($1 billion, as the New York Times estimates, if you include jobs lost, tourism, trade and new investments lost).

The system is designed so that it is easy for people to fail. To look outside ourselves for the bulk of assistance is to commit racial genocide. Any real help from the oppressor means he is not doing his job. Get the picture?

It’s time for every single person in this country to think about what he or she can do—and then do it. The clock is running and there ain’t a lot of time left.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1992

8 a.m.  Celebrity Golf Tournament
3 p.m.-7 p.m.  Registration & Exhibits
7 p.m.-10 p.m.  MCA Records/City of New Orleans/Miller Brewing
Welcome Reception
11 p.m.-2 a.m.  BRE “Live” Rhythms Jam

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

9 a.m.-6 p.m.  Registration & Exhibit
10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  Black Radio Revival
11:30 a.m.-12 noon  Keynote Address
Presented by Benny Medina,
Warner Bros. Records
12 noon-1:30 p.m.  Luncheon
Sponsored by
Quality Records/Benson Music/
Tyscot Records/Fixit Records
Performances by Club Nouveau and others
2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  State of Gospel Music
2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  State of International Music
2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  State of Black College Radio
3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.  State of Rap Video
8 p.m.-11 p.m.  BRE “Colors” Rhythms Jam
Featuring fashions by Cross Colours
11 p.m.-2 a.m.  LaFace Records Jam
FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1992

Registration & Exhibits
State of Radio & Retail
Luncheon sponsored by Motown Records
Performances by Milira and M.C. Brains
Parade & Riverboat Cruise sponsored by WEA
Special Movie Premiere
"Mo' Money," starring Damon Wayans, featuring the original soundtrack from Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis
Sponsored by Perspective/A&M Records and Columbia Pictures
TavDash Live Jam featuring the Bar-Kays

SATINGAY, MAY 23, 1992

Registration & Exhibits
Marketing Seminar
Presented by Coca-Cola
State of Sound: Money, Money, Money
Luncheon Sponsored by Columbia/Epic Records
Performances by Kathy Sledge and others
State of Business: The Young Guns
Cocktail Reception
Sponsored by Arista/BMG/RCA/Jive
Industry Awards Dinner/Show
Sponsored by Coca-Cola and Miller Brewing
Awards Show After Party
Sponsored by RAL/Def Jam
BRE Rhythms Club Jam
Jam and Lewis Win ASCAP Honors

Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis were named ASCAP Songwriters of the Year at the Ninth Annual ASCAP Awards Dinner last week at the Beverly Hills Hotel. The black-tie event honored the writers and publishers of the most performed songs in the ASCAP repertoire during the 1991 survey year.

Luther Vandross, Ralph Tresvant, Johnny Gill and Diane Warren (last year's Songwriter of the Year) presented the award to Jam and Lewis. Their award-winning songs were "Love Will Never Do (Without You)," recorded by Janet Jackson; "Rub You The Right Way," recorded by Johnny Gill; and "Sensitivity," recorded by Ralph Tresvant. Jam and Lewis won the ASCAP award previously in 1988.

Miller London To A&M
By Ruth A. Robinson

A&M has created a black music division and appointed industry veteran Miller London as its sr. vp/general manager.

London told BRE, "A&M has deepened its commitment to black music." His areas of responsibility encompass all facets of the division, including marketing, promotion and A&R.

London opined that "A&M had always been in the black music business with important artists such as Quincy Jones, Janet Jackson, Vesta and the Brothers Johnson, among others. But with the partnership of Perspective and Tabu, naturally everything expanded."

London, who had most recently served as vp of marketing at RCA, will report directly to Al Cafaro, pres/CEO of A&M, and be based in Hollywood at the label's headquarters.

Hammer Rolls On

Hammer and his two prize race horses, Dance Floor and Lite Light, have been on a roll lately. As Hammer makes his way across country with his "Too Legit" world tour, the thoroughbreds have been cleaning up on the race track. Dance Floor placed second in the Florida Derby and is set to challenge the second leg of horse racing's triple crown, The Preakness, in Maryland, this week. Of course, Hammer will be in attendance.

Lite Light won the 1991 honors at thoroughbred racing's top race for female horses, the Kentucky Oaks.

UC Boasts Strong Sales

Urban contemporary music maintained a strong second place showing in overall music sales this year, according to the RIAA's annual consumer profile, released this week. While rock still leads the nation in sales, urban has had a 6.6 percent sales increase over the past five years.

The survey, conducted by Chilton Research Services, indicates that CD sales overtook cassettes, with 49.6 percent of overall sales compared to cassettes at 43.3 percent. Vinyl sales accounted for less than three percent of sales.
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SINGLE OF THE WEEK
LUTHER VANDROSS/JANET JACKSON f/BBD AND RALPH TREVANT
THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE
A&M

This is the first single release from the movie soundtrack for the new Damon Wayans movie "Mo' Money." This song features two of today's hottest singers, Vandross and Jackson, who both do themselves proud on this track. They sound pretty good together and play off each other's vocals nicely. Watch out for this smokin', slammin' jammie, 'cause it's coming to your favorite radio station sooner than you know. This is the most added single at radio this week.
Demos: All.

ALBUM OF THE WEEK
SPYRO GYRA
THREE WISHES
GRP

Here's the latest LP from those very talented jazz musicians, Spyro Gyra. On this album you will experience some wonderful rhythms and feel some nice vibes. Fourteen tracks in all, each one takes on its own sound and expression, bringing you a little closer to the artists. Special cuts: "Breathless"; "Real Time"; "Jennifer's Lullaby," written in memory of Stan Getz; "Inside Your Love"; "Nothing To Lose"; "Three Wishes"; "Gliding"; "Cabana Carooca"; and "Rollercoaster." This is their best work to date and if you are a fan, this is one album you must have. Produced by Jay Beckenstein. Demos: All.
SINGLES

AL JARREAU—IT'S NOT HARD TO LOVE YOU—REPRISE—This latest single is classic Al Jarreau. His voice has never sounded so good or powerful. The music is nice and easy, perfect for AC and Quiet Storm formats. Radio should enjoy many requests from Jarreau fans after they hear this new record. The outstanding production was done by Narada Michael Walden for Perfection Light Productions. Demos: All.

B ANGIE B—A CLASS ACT I—GIANT—Taken from the motion picture "A Class Act," this song is the first release from that sista B Angie B. This is a great club jam and also a perfect record for the jump, jump fans. Angie displays a strong vocal performance throughout the track. The music production on this is great and should have the request lines ringing off the hook. Produced by Vassal Benford and Cassandra Mills. Demos: All.

ATLANTIC STARR—UNCONDITIONAL LOVE—REPRISE—This is the perfect record for those quiet evenings alone with the one you love. Atlantic Starr has never sounded sweeter than on this track. Radio should enjoy playing this one over and over again. Produced by David E. Lewis and Wayne I. Lewis. Demos: All.

TEVIN CAMPBELL—STRAWBERRY LETTER 23—QWEST—WARNER BROS.—The Brothers Johnson will get a kick off of hearing their hit song being covered by "90s sensation Tevin "the man" Campell. There are two different mixes, one with a rap and one without. The rap version is done by Campell himself, and he doesn't do a bad job either. This one is perfect for Hip-Hop formats. This is a great song for the young club scene as well. This should be another hit for Campell, whose star is steadily on the rise. Produced by Quincy Jones. Demos: All.

SHANICE—SILENT PRAYER—MOTOWN—Shanice's voice just keeps getting better with time. Each track seems to be stronger vocally. This one is a special track that was written with love in mind. Narada Michael Walden does a fine production job on this one as well. Perfect for AC and Quiet Storm formats. Background vocals by Johnny Gill and Silent Soldier. Demos: All.

JOE PUBLIC—I MISS YOU—COLUMBIA—This is the second release off their self-titled debut LP, and it's a nice slow jam. These broths sound real good as they sing about missing that certain someone. The music is relaxing and mellow. Check out the 12-inch remix version for some sweet variety. Produced by Lionel Job and Joe Public for Lionel Job Inc. Demos: All.

LARRY SRINGFIELD—ALL THE WAY LOVE—TABU/A&M—The latest discovery on the Tabu/A&M label is this refreshing male vocalist, Larry Springfield. His voice is strong and that same line that he doesn't sound like any other singer. He has his own style, which is a nice mix between new jack and R&B. Radio should enjoy a long run with this one. Produced by Arnold Hennings. Demos: All.

ALBUMS

SERGIO MENDES—BRASILEIRO—ELEKTRA—This album has been one year and two continents in the making and it shows in the quality of music. The album displays the unique rhythms, percussion, melodies and chants of Brazilian musicians. The power in each song can be felt throughout the entire project and truly brings out the culture of the Brazilian people. Don't miss this wonderful collection of songs. Produced by Sergio Mendes. Demos: All.

DEGREES OF MOTION—DEGREES OF MOTION—ESQUIRE/BMG—Here's the debut LP from this new vocal group. Degrees Of Motion. Eleven tracks are featured here, including a pure dance flavored tracks that ravens will love. Each track has that club feel to it. So put on your dancing shoes and get ready to party down with the new jacks in town. Produced by Richie Jones for Wake/Make It Rock Productions. Demos: All.

SUPERHOT SUPERACTIVE

Taking a look at the radio add action around the country, we see the much talked about duet featuring Luther Vandross and Janet Jackson leading all comers with 58 stations on it. "The Best Things In Life Are Free" is the name of the first single released from the upcoming "Mo Money" motion picture soundtrack. Stations on it include KBCE-FM, KBMS-AM, KCEP-FM, KDKO-AM, KMOJ-FM, KKDA-FM, KKBT-FM, KRIZ-AM, KSOL-FM and WAMO-FM. Next up is "We Didn't Know," another duet. This one's by the power-packed twosome of Whitney Houston and Stevie Wonder. This Arist-generated single is sure to make waves. This week it gains 35 adds. Some of the stations on it include WYFX-AM, WXYY-FM, WWDM-FM, WVOE-AM, WUFO-AM, WQHH-FM, WPEG-FM, WOIC-AM and WDAS-FM.

Glenn Jones is next. His latest is titled "I've Been Searching." But nobody's searching for this Atlantic artist's music. All you have to do is turn on the radio to one of 24 stations around the U.S. Some of them are KCAT-AM, KJLH-FM, KTAA-FM, WABD-AM, WILD-AM, WJLB-FM, WNoo-AM and WYLD-AM.

Rounding out the top four add-getters for this week is everyone's favorite R&B group, Atlantic Starr. Their newest single is called "Unconditional Love." Reprise knows a good act when it has one. And with 23 adds, they're really pushing this one. Stations playing it include WEUP-AM, WGOK-AM, WGCI-FM, WLOU-AM, WPLZ-FM, WRNB-AM, WTUG-FM and XHRM-FM.

—JRR
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In what will probably go down as his best work in terms of creative flair, Sergio Mendes presents percussion as it has never been presented before. *Brasileiro* is the title of Mendes' debut album for Elektra Records and he joins the label with a passion that'll set your ears on fire.

"On this album, I wanted to explore a wide variety of the incredible spectrum of rhythms and percussion, melodies and chants in Brazilian music," comments Mendes. And indeed, this album is what music is all about.

Mendes offers creative splendor, sending listeners to South America and providing a backdrop of tunes which is more than simply a departure from his more familiar mainstream sound of late. Capturing the Carnival spirit, the native Brazilian kicks off *Brasileiro* with the monumental sounds of 100 drummers on the cut "Fanfarra."

The making of "Fanfarra" was a lesson in logistical improvisation. In order to get the sound Mendes had in mind for this cut, he gathered the 100 best percussionists from the local schools of samba, then recorded them in a large parking lot. With mics strung around the entire group, the song was recorded. Luckily for the production, the lot was adjacent to the recording studio and thus 24-track equipment was used to capture the sound. Then the vocals were recorded on top, along with a Bahian samba de roda (circle samba) to round out the orchestraing.

"I've always wanted to do an album that captured the true feel of Carnival and Elektra supported me in that dream," he says. "The album is about the music in the streets and I try to bring that to light for the listener."

With a career that has spanned more than four decades and five gold albums, Mendes looks set to make *Brasileiro* a turning point in his music philosophy. "I had always..." continued on page 44.
**SINGLES**

**LISA ONO**
O'SAMBA
RCA

This artist, a household name in her native Brazil, has a soothing release off her *Menina* album. As can be expected, there are plenty of horns and lively drums on this song, which is sure to attract Latin-based demos. Besides recording this song, Ono also wrote the music to this mid-tempo winner. This one is definitely for those who love Latin jazz. Demos: Jazz Fans.

**DANNII**
SUCCESS
SAVAGE

This Texas duo returns with an uptempo dance groove that really shows the progress they've made. There's a strong new jack beat that should help the song's chances of breaking into Urban formats. A pumped up new jack rap also adds to the song's qualities. Produced by T. Bonds and R. Boyd. Demos: All.

**STEVE LYNN**
MOMENTS
SAHARA

This midtempo song has a very heavy across-the-board feel to it, which may enhance its chances of success. The song features a real butt-shaker-of-a-beat that should make it a popular party record for any age group. Edward De Miles produced this along with Lynn. Demos: All.

**AJA**
SHINE
EXPANSION

This uptempo groove has all the right elements that Urban radio likes when adding a record. Good vocals and a catchy beat are just two of those elements that give this song a real chance of doing well. AJA produced this song, with assistance from Brian Jackson. Demos: Adults.

**M-DOC**
WHATEVER YOU NEED
SMASH

Hot and heavy is a good way to describe this club oriented tune. The silky smooth mixing skills of house producer Steve "Silk" Hurley are evident and really jack up the beat. The song appears on M-Doc's *Universal Poet* album. It's another song with a multi-format sound. Demos: Young Adults.

**ALBUMS**

**VARIOUS**
TAKE CONTROL OF THE PARTY
EPIC

House lovers, this compilation is too hot to pass up. All the songs featured are rave favorites that have jacked up many a night on the dance floor. A couple of the album's winners are "Call Of The Wild" by Call Of The Wild, and "Love At First Sight" by Spagna, a song that has already made its mark on AC formats. Also worth noting is "Got To Get Away" by Off-Shore and Jocelyn Brown, a song that is already bubbling on underground charts. With Soul Family Sensation's "Other Stuff" also standing out, this is a must have for the ravers. Demos: House Fans.
It was a wonderful sight to see as people of all colors were dancing and swaying to the great riddems of reggae music that was being played by a group of talented brothas and one sista. They call themselves The Ruff and Ready Crew, and that is exactly what they were, rough and ready. They had to be, they were playing for one of Jamaica's best MCs. They call him "The Granddaddy of Toasting," the one man who truly started it all, Daddy U-Roy.

What a performance he gave! Doing about a two and a half-hour show, he proved age and time don't matter when you have true, stone to the bone talent. The Music Machine has never had a better show stopper than with this night. There is no competition that can stand up to this man's talent. When it comes to today's younger toaster, the only thing they can do is sit back and listen, because Daddy U-Roy is still the best at what he does.

He can take a song and turn the lyrics inside out. He can take one syllable and play with it until there's nothing left but pure sound. He has a unique way of moving right into the rhythm so that you think his voice is a musical instrument. If you have had the pleasure of hearing and seeing him in concert, you would know this man definitely brings the music to life.

He performed some really nice things from the past and present. His latest LP, True Born African, has been out a little over three months and is getting rave reviews. He did the title track off the album, which got a nice response from the many fans that crowded the front of the stage. That was a great number, complete with some wicked beats to back up the powerful way he sings.

U-Roy started the show off with "Reggae Party," which was real rub-a-dub stylee. Other tasty treats he performed were "Wear You To The Ball," which the crowd really loved as they shouted with appreciation; "Money Honey," off this latest album; "Natty Rebel"; "Music Addict"; "Jah Jah Call You," and two top favorites, "Chalice In The Palace" and "Rule The Nation."

The last two songs were huge hits for Daddy U-Roy. The audience showed their love and support for this man who has been entertaining fans across the waters and over the many mountains and valleys for over 30 years, without missing a beat. Not only was he in top notch condition but he truly looked happy to be on that stage doing what he does best, entertaining.

The band was wonderful. Wadie, the drummer, is one of the hottest beat keepers around today. He played those drums like they were a part of him. At one point, his drumming was so intense that he played his rasta hat right off his head! The lead and rhythm guitar was delivered nicely by the only female of the group, Kip, who also plays with Pato Banton. This beautiful sista played with fire and precise timing. She was great. The back bone of the group seemed to be the bass player, Fully Fullwood. His bass playing thumped through the receivers and made the speakers really boom with bass. The keyboard player, Tahaka, made everything sound better, and with his lively smile he brightened up the entire stage. He seemed to truly enjoy playing with such a huge talent as Daddy U-Roy. The saxophone player, Cedric, balanced everything out and made the band sound complete. The musicians fed off of one another. Every now and then, a band member could be caught looking at the other to see that everything was going the right way, sometimes even laughing with delight.

During the middle of the show, Daddy brought out two background singers, a mother and daughter duo named Gina & GiGi. Their vocal performance was real sweet. Their harmonies blended quite well and brought out the sweet melodies that reggae music is known for.

What made this event even more exciting was the fact that this night was only the second time this group of musicians and singers ever played together. You would never be able to tell though. Judging from the way they sounded, it seemed like they had been playing together for years.

There was a kind of vibe on that stage that was magnetic. The fans could feel it, the photographers could...
feel it, and the band, most importantly, could feel it. It was their feelings and emotions that were put into those wonderful songs. And it’s those songs and the performance of a reggae legend, Daddy U-Roy, that will leave a positive lasting impression on the minds of the many different racial backgrounds that were in the place to be. All through the show he kept saying, “No matter what color you are, either black, white, brown, yellow, green or purple, my music is for you. I have nothing but good and positive vibrations for all God’s children. One love.”

For lovers of reggae music, this is one man you should not miss when he comes to your hometown. Not only will you get your money’s worth, but you will leave with something that money can’t buy, love. Because U-Roy loves what he does so much, it comes through in his performance, which in turn spreads like wildfire to those who listen and feel the riddims. After all, reggae music is just that, a love vibe.

**Cooler Heads Prevail**

On the let’s squash this tip, KRS-One and X-Clan have proclaimed that they have spiritually joined forces. There have been numerous rumors in the hip-hop community that the two groups were fighting or dissing each other on and off record (meaning on recorded songs and in printed interviews). Many times small, unimportant things get out of hand simply because people blow them up, making something that’s nothing bigger than life, creating a scandal. That’s how news gets out of proportion and the truth gets distorted.

Well, let us here at BRE, your magazine of record, go on the books to state that KRS-One and X-Clan are not feuding anymore. All the hull has been put to rest. It all started with a conflict between the philosophy of KRS-

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The Rapture of Blackwatch member, The Grand Architect Traxtioner Paradise, Afrika Bambaata, Baba Professor X, the Overseer; KRS-One, The Grand Verbalizer Funkinlesson Brother J. and Zulu Nation member.
SINGLES

THE POETESS
MAKING SOME CHANGE
POETIC GROOVE
The second single release from this fresh new female rapper, the Poetess, is another fresh rhyme. This time around she displays her quick lyrical skills while the Baker Boyz drop some wicked production. Radio should get behind this one, 'cause it'll not only bring in higher ratings but it also make some more fans for your station. Play it and say it and don't forget to pump it up. Demos: All.

SHANTE
BIG MAMA
LIVIN' LARGE
Well, well, where do we begin? For those of you in the hip-hop community who haven't heard this record, get ready for some serious dizz! to be thrown down on this one. Shante comes out smokin' Latifah, Lyte and Yo-Yo. Maybe it's because she comes from the 'old' school that's just her style. Whatever the reason might be, this kind of rap song gives rap music a bad name. This kind of song is negative. We have enough negative things going on in the communities we live in. The lyrics aren't worth checkin' unless you want a good laugh, but the production on this cut is all that. Produced and mixed by Grand Daddy I U. Demos: Hard Core Rap Fans.

2 TOO MANY
WHERE'S THE PARTY?
JIVE
The latest discovery from that talented rapper Fresh Prince is his new rap group, 2 Too Many, with their debut single, 'Where's The Party?' This is a solid party cut that should do well in the clubs too. This group is a mix between hard-core and bubblegum rap. So somewhere, in that mix you'll find them. Radio ready and waiting. Produced and mixed by Hula & K. Fingers of Da' Posse Productions for Zomba Recording. Executive producer: Will Smith (The Fresh Prince) and James "J.", Lasster for Wijam Productions. Demos: All.

P.M. DAWN
REALITY USED TO BE A FRIEND OF MINE
GEE STREET/ISLAND
The latest release from those mystic rappers, P.M. Dawn, is a nice and melodic tune, perfect for relaxing or driving down the highway, which ever you prefer. Radio should play this jam. Tell someone you know about the surreal rhythms found on this cut. Produced by P.M. Dawn. Demos: All.

ALBUMS

PETE ROCK & CL SMOOTH
MECCA AND THE SOUL BROTHER
ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT
Well, hip-hop fans, here's the album of the year (so 'lar)! This is 18 tracks of pure, soulful hip-hop music. There are dope rhyme styles backed up by some of the hardest beats heard in '92. Pete Rock & CL Smooth drop serious science throughout this LP with cuts like 'Anger In The Nation,' one of the thought-provoking tracks featured here that's complete with some crazy hyped up scratchin'. Check out "Ghetto Of The Mind," "Straighten It Out" and "Return To Mecca." For a slower groove, check "Lots Of Lovin'," this one is real sweet and will put you in the right mood. The single out now, 'They Reminisce Over You (T.R.O.Y.),' is a heart felt groove and one of the dopest tracks on the album. This LP is worth checking out and playing over and over again. 'cause you'll hear something different each and every time. Slammin' production. Demos: Hip-Hoppers.

DR. EASE AND THE EASETOWN POSSE
EASE DROPPIN': PROPER & RUGGED
STARTRAK
Brothas and sistas, get ready 'cause there's a new posse in town and their name is The Easetown Posse. This is their debut LP that is a refreshing surprise for a first time out. There is outstanding production throughout the entire 10 tracks. beats that bring out the lyric content smoothly. The rappers featured on these tracks can flow with ease, guess that's why they call themselves the Easetown Posse. This posse is made up of Dr. Ease, Bumble Bee, Magnum, Capitol-P, The Coldest, M.C. Kay, Raa K and D-Master-D. Check out cuts like "Eaze Droppin'," "Ex-Chill Thang," "Flowin' Smooth," this one is super phat on the smoothed out tip. "Gangster Touch," "So Ruff" and "Ease With The Funk." The samples that are used were done with class and taste, they aren't overly used or exploited. For your listening pleasure, make sure you don't miss this new group of talented rappers and producers. Produced by Dr. Ease and Ex-Chill for Easetown Productions. Demos: Most Formats.

MAESTRO FRESH WES
MAESTRO ZONE
POLYGRAM
The phat and funkie rhyme bomb dropper is back in effect with this diggity, diggity dope album. Fresher than fresh is what he should call himself because his rhyme skills display that of a lyrical wizard. Wes raps the rhyme around his tongue and spits it out across the beats (beats that will make your body move) to make his rhyme complete. Excellent production done by some of hip-hop's finest, K-Cut of Main Source. Ebony Mozart and First Offence. What also makes this a stand-out album is the live instruments used throughout. Check out cuts like "On The Jazz Tip," "Conductin' Thangs," "Watchin' Zeros Grow," "Hit'n' The Girl schools," "The Maestro Zone," "Ebony Mozart," "Poetry Is Black," "Bring It On" and "Nothin' At All." This album stands out on the production end and on the rhyme style as well. Nuff respect. Demos: All.
EARLY ONE MORNING, I RAN out and hollered. My voice echoed down through the swamps and I thought, "Uh-oh, this is it," recalled Wilson Pickett. Born in Prattville, AL, on March 19, 1941, Pickett picked cotton in the fields with his family three days a week and went to school, too. When the cotton bowls ripened, opened and dried, sharp pricks on the edges of the bowls easily punctured and bloodied their hands. Pickett said, "I didn't get much of an education but I learned about hard times. I'd ask, 'Grandma, what are you moaning about?' And she'd say, 'When you moan, the devil don't know what you're talking about.'" Well, Pickett learned this lesson well because his gift to the music world comes straight from his divine soul.

Young Pickett sang with a great gospel group called The Violinaires U.S.A. along with The Soul Stirrers, The Swan Silvertones and The Davis Sisters. He would sing during jam sessions with Sam Cooke of the Soul Stirrers, Little Archie Brownlee of the Five Blind Boys, Big Ruth of the Davis Sisters, and Rev. Julius Cheeks of the Sensational Nightengales, who was his hero. Rev. Cheeks voice had the growl of ominous authority and Pickett took the best from Cheeks and others to complete his great voice and vocal style.

When Cooke and Aretha Franklin began singing secular music, Pickett followed soon after because of the promise of more money. He joined the Falcons and recorded "I Found A Love," a powerfully thrilling gospel-like, slow-drag ballad with the guitarist picking beautiful fills with vibrato on his amplifier (something unique then) behind Pickett's lead vocals and the Falcons background vocals, making the song a national hit in '62. His first solo hit, a slow and soulful "If You Need Me," had all the ingredients of true gospel, with the exception of a few lyrics. The background singers are female and Pickett harmonizes with himself by overdubbing, and even preaches his love in the middle of the tune.

Pickett's vocal advantage is a superior voice with range to spare in his natural and falsetto voices. He has developed the ability to project his life's experiences through his voice in song with inexhaustible power and energy. Through the years his voice has remained rich and strong.

Pickett's next hit was in '65 with "In The Midnight Hour," a rocker with a strong back-beat, tight horn section, and the guitar chinking on two and four to accent the beat that made it to No. 1 on the R&B charts and No. 21 on the pop charts. Recording in Stax Studios in Memphis, Pickett turned hit after hit, including "Don't Fight It," another rocker that will make you get up and get in the groove. From the melodious horn section intro to the tight rhythm section and the female background singers, and even Pickett's masterful singing, this is a perfectly soulful track which became an anthem for bands around the world.

His next No. 1 hit, "634-5789" (Soulsville, U.S.A.) has a catchy horn intro and a moderate marching beat with background vocals that build into a joyful celebration. As usual, Pickett is superb. "Ninety-Nine And A Half (Won't Do)" begins with the guitar playing a simple, funky lick to bring the bass in, and the two combine for one of the most clever intros in the business. When Pickett and the drums join in, the funk is thick and proper. A song that has one of Pickett's quickest tempos, "Land Of A Thousand Dances," originally recorded by Chris Kenner and written by Kenner and Antoine "Fats" Domino, takes off with wild abandon and an air-tight arrangement and develops into a pure house party dance tune. "Mustang Sally" became another anthem for Pickett's No. 1 hit collection, rocking into America's homes and nightlife.

His next chart-topper, "Funky Broadway," begins with a funky guitar intro, powerful bass line, solid back-beat, a crawling tenor solo, and a tight horn section playing in unison—the tune is truly funky. Bobby Womack, a great guitarist, vocalist and songwriter in the gospel tradition, wrote, arranged and played the enchanting guitars on "I'm In Love," on which Pickett reaches your heart and makes you feel the joy of his very soul. No pretense from Pickett, just pure feeling. This is a true masterpiece, as usual. The combination of Pickett and Womack is truly unbeatable.

Rhino Records releases the first of the acclaimed Atlantic & ATCO Re-Masters: Wilson Pickett: A Man And A Half includes 44 great songs, an excellent booklet with photos, sessionography and discography.

BY TONY MATHEWS
THE TERM COMEBACK carries an icy irony—though the return of a renowned personality is usually met with high anticipation and even celebration, the truth is that most artists would choose to hang, rather than having to come back, no matter how short the duration.

Kathy Sledge has a new album on Epic. Heart is her debut for the label, and her first solo outing since leaving her sisters and the world famous group they shared, Sister Sledge. And while she admits that she has been, for a time, just one step shy of the hot spot, she has never been far away from the heat.

"It really was a smooth transition," says Sledge. "I left the group to embark on a solo career. I talked to Hank Caldwell at Epic and they were what I wanted. They believed in me as a writer and they were willing to make this a team effort."

Sledge operates her own production company along with her husband, Philip Lightfoot. She says she wasn't in a great hurry to just release a record. Along with Lightfoot and the Epic staff, Sledge took a year and a half perusing material in search of songs that would be just right for her debut.

"The five of us (Caldwell, Cheryl Dickerson and Vivian Scott, along with Sledge and Lightfoot) screened all the material, searching for some really good, strong songs," she says. "We knew it would take extra time but we knew they were out there. It's been a long process, but well worth the wait."

Sledge has come up with a 12-song compilation that she is more than happy with. She co-wrote three of the songs for Heart and, as expected, she is in fine voice. The album's first single, the house-tinged "Take Me Back To Love Again," is dance floor friendly, but Quiet Storm has been picking up on the "Romance" re-mix.

"Listen to 'Win Some Lose Some' and 'Careful,'" says Sledge, claiming these two cuts as her personal favorites. She also adds that she's been told the LP reminds some folks of What's Going On. If it revolves around one central theme, it's love pure and simple, says Sledge. "It's about how we're running on empty and we need to put love back into our hearts."

She also reveals that hers is not the only project perking inside one of R&B's most well known families. Sister Sledge is also in the process of shopping a new deal, says Sledge. And while it was a well kept secret, the sister group's last LP, When the Boys Meet the Girls, went gold overseas and spawned a top four record in Italy.

"Most people think We Are Family was our last album," says Sledge. "But we were going through record company changes—they wouldn't release the album domestically and when we toured internationally, they kept it a secret in the States."

"If we learned one thing from the old school," she continues, "it is to depend on your live show, not the product." Sledge says that adage kept the group's energy level high during the transitional years and also helped motivate her to become fully involved in an activity she calls her "sanity"—aerobic/cardiovascular training.

What started out as a work-out to prep...
Putting Bermuda On The Musical Map

Note. In striving to fulfill our goal of bringing you an ever-widening spectrum of the world of black music, BRE this week introduces a new international column, Caribbean Beat. Having remained on the pulse of black music in Canada, Great Britain and Japan, BRE is proud to now be able to give you the beat from Bermuda, courtesy of Lorin Smith.

Smith is a leading entertainment writer in Bermuda, with a weekly column appearing in the weekend edition of the island’s daily newspaper, The Royal Gazette. He’s also had articles published in Essence, Black Beat, Excel and The New York Trend magazines. BRE welcomes Smith to the fold of black radio.

When one thinks of Bermuda, what immediately comes to mind are images of beautiful pink sandy beaches, crystal blue waters, pastel colored houses, and warm, friendly people. These are all accurate descriptions of this semi-tropical, mid-Atlantic island that has been referred to as “a little bit of heaven right here on earth.” However, if local musician Stefan Hinds has his way, the name Bermuda will soon become known for producing great music; music that combines the subtle nuances of island rhythms, with R&B, pop and dance, to create the unique musical stylings of the urban contemporary band, Bermuda.

Known in local entertainment circles as The Electronic Symphony, Bermuda is the brainchild of brothers Stefan and Rupert Hinds, a talented twin combination of songwriters and producers, respected and admired for their creativity, excellent musicianship and technical wizardry. Along with the Hinds brothers, rounding out the band are vocalists Laurreta Augustus and Damio McLuen, as well as drummer/percussionist Vernon Tucker.

Driven by an insatiable desire to expose their music to a wider international audience, Stefan and Rupert, together with co-producer Sean Caisey, have formed S.R.S. Productions to act as a creative vehicle for the development of a distinctive Bermudian sound. “The band is attempting to pioneer a sound that is distinctively Bermudian,” says Stefan. “Of course, should we be successful in securing a record deal, we will be looking to bring our music to a broader international audience.”

Clearly, the island’s close proximity to the United States mainland, together with the numerous musical influences which grace its shores, from pop to reggae, provides the band with a unique creative opportunity. And it’s a reality that hasn’t gone unnoticed by Hinds. Bermuda’s unique location, relative to the United States, coupled with its traditional British influence and strong ancestral ties to the Caribbean, manifests into a wealth of musical influences. We intend to take full advantage of this rich potpourri of music by developing a strong musical identity based upon the diversity of these influences,” Hinds states emphatically.

By tapping into this rich tapestry of musical influences, the band has developed a repertoire that is unparalleled on the island. In actual fact, the band’s ability to survive and continue working has been as a direct result of broadening its musical base. “In Bermuda, a musician has to develop a certain diversity with his music in order to survive.” Hinds maintains. “When you live in a resort environment which caters to tourists, you must be able to appeal to a wide variety of musical tastes. If you don’t, it is virtually impossible to survive.”

For the Bermudian musician—who has a limited number of places where he can work, there are simply not enough venues for ‘live’ music—the matter of survival is a serious one. The hotels provide the most lucrative form of steady employment for local musicians by hiring them to perform for convention groups and for other selective functions. Additional employment opportunities are available as supporting acts for international recording artists who perform on the island from time to time.

Still, in the absence of a thriving music industry and first-class recording facilities, the Bermudian musician finds himself at a disadvantage. And oftentimes must find alternative means of employment. Subsequently, most musicians on the island work on only a part-time basis, unable to earn a living doing what they enjoy. It is a fact of life on the island that the Hinds brothers know all too well. “We have definitely paid our dues,” says Rupert.

“Ever since we returned home from California a number of years ago, we have been determined to work as full-time, professional musicians. Fortunately, we are now one of the few groups on the island that makes its living as full-time musicians,” remarks continued on page 44...
THE ART OF SINGING IS enjoying a banner year in pop/R&B, what with the influx of doo-woppers currently making their mark. Thus, it is quite appropriate that Brian McKnight throw his hat into the ring.

However, the self-titled debut Mercury album from the singer/songwriter/producer/multi-instrumentalist, featuring the first single, “The Way Love Goes,” is anything but a crap shoot. Indeed, McKnight is about to make his mark. Just as vocal groups such as Boyz II Men and Jodeci helped re-introduce doo-wop to young audiences, McKnight, just 22, is about to become that generation’s flagship solo vocalist. And McKnight comes armed with more than a healthy pelvis thrust and videogenic looks. He wrote or co-wrote all but one of the songs on his collection, and handled much of the instrumentation.

“I tried to do it my way,” says the lean, affable McKnight of the project. “That way, if it’s a success, I can keep doing it my way.”

With any luck, newcomer McKnight’s success will be the second swing in PolyGram president Ed Eckstine’s one-two punch combination that included Wing/PolyGram’s Vanessa Williams’ recent domination of the national music charts with a No. 1 single, “Save The Best For Last.” Perhaps Williams was singing about McKnight, who co-wrote and co-produced his duet with Williams for her album—”You Gotta Go”—and serves as Williams’ onstage musical director. Since Eckstine signed both Williams and McKnight before his label presidency, both acts have been pet projects.

The sibling of Take 6 vocalist Claude McKnight II, Brian, who labored on the album off and on for about three years since his ’89 signing, says he ended up at Mercury because of the indecisiveness that is typical of this business—and because Eckstine cared. “We sent tapes to everyone,” says McKnight. “Ed was the only one who said, ‘I like it,’ and moved on it immediately. He had me out here the next day. He listened to what I wanted to do, and let me do my thing.”

Musically, McKnight delivers a tasty hybrid of pop, R&B, jazz and gospel. His voice and style has, rather unfairly, on occasion been compared to that of Donny Hathaway and Nat “King” Cole, though tracks like “Never Felt This Way,” “After The Love Is Gone” and “Is The Feeling Gone” do exude a smoky, melodic elegance.

To launch his single, due early May, McKnight has embarked on a three-week promotional tour that calls for him to sing and play piano. An accompanying publicity tie-in is designed to stress McKnight as a serious multi-talent. “We want people to recognize the depth of his work,” says manager Herb Trawick, who is also president of Black Tie Entertainment, the Whispers’ new multi-interest concern and Capitol-distributed label. The label’s first release, a duo album by the group’s lead singing twins, Walter and Scotty, is currently in production. “It’s easy to see that Brian is not simply a gimmick, and considering his youth, that is a very unique factor. We’ll utilize that in presenting him to the public.”

McKnight could be out performing in concert as early as this summer, as a special guest on Vanessa Williams’ summer tour.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE RANCH: Considering the state of the nation, looks like the Isley Brothers were right on time with selections from their new Tracks Of Life Warner Brothers LP like “Get My Licks In” and “Turn On The Demon.” Generally, the LP, produced by Ronald Isley and Angela Winbush, in stance, energy and melody, harks back to the group’s “3+3” days, which served to influence everyone from Jam and Lewis to the Gap Band and Guy. Guess En Vogue’s “Free Your Mind,” from their current Funky Divas LP, is in order as well. The group is in the running to open Michael Jackson’s European “Heal The World” tour, to kick off June in Munich, Germany. Speaking of MJ, while the consensus is that the mystery voice on “In The Closet” belongs to Madonna, qualified word has it that’s it’s actually Princess Stephanie... Another qualified source has Stevie Wonder taking on a particularly special project sometime this summer: marriage in the meantime, Wonder and band—including The Lindsays—are rehearsing for a national tour. It’s tough to cover an Al Green tune and make it work, but we’d say Missy Morgan did it with her version of his classic “Still In Love With You.”
INT. NIGHT CLUB ENTRANCE—NIGHT

ROB and CLIFF stand in front of the sexy CASHIER as she hands them their change. Both are bopping their heads to the heavy beat of funky RAP MUSIC being played.

CASHIER

Here's your change boys, enjoy.

The two take their money and walk towards the crowded dance floor, eyeballing scantily dressed women as they move through the crowd. The place is charged with energy.

CLIFF

See, I told you this place would be live.

ROB

Yeah, but I wonder what happened to Deric?

ROB and CLIFF walk towards the dance floor.

INT. APARTMENT—SAME TIME

DERIC and PATRICIA are swaying to the MUSIC of a soft romantic ballad. As the music slowly rocks them, Patricia raises her hand to look at her engagement ring.

PATRICIA

I hope your friends won't be too mad, Deric.

DERIC

Patricia, baby, tonight no one matters but you.

The two embrace in a steamy kiss as the music takes them into another world.

DISSOLVE TO REALITY

THE LINES ABOVE WERE FROM A TYPICAL MOVIE script, and if the music is just right, it will create unforgettable moods. It will also super-charge the careers of the musicians who recorded the music.

"Mo' Money" is the title of the upcoming film that stars Damon Wayans. Producing the soundtrack for the movie was one of music's most prolific production teams, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. Together they form Flyte Tyme Tunes and own Perspective Records.

Performing on movie soundtracks are en vogue for black music makers. It is a band wagon that everyone is scrambling to climb aboard. The payoff is two fold. First, it is a source of additional revenue, sometimes worth a fortune. Secondly, it is an incredible source of publicity for recording artists,
Mint Condition

and is especially beneficial to baby acts that are usually hard-pressed for a captive audience.

Jam explains that the movie is about two scam artists who try to take the straight and narrow, but are sidetracked by Wayons’ attraction to a love interest. “I look at the film as having several elements of interest,” said Jam. “Because Damon is starring, there’s very good comedy. But it is also spiced with romance and packed with sensational action scenes. It’s a good film.”

Chock-full of established recording stars, as well as up-and-coming acts, the soundtrack Jam and Lewis produced has all the makings of a commercial success. One of the much talked about songs in the film features the vocals of Luther Vandross, accompanied by Janet Jackson—a unique combination to say the least.

“The Best Things In Life Are Free” originally began as a song especially for Vandross. But according to Jam and Lewis, after the lyrics were completed, it was decided that a female voice would enhance the song.

“That’s when we brought in Janet,” explained Lewis. “Luther said he wanted to put something different together—a departure from his trademark sound. That’s why we were teamed for this song. It may sound like an unlikely pair, but for the type of song it is, we think you’ll agree they were both perfect for the job.”

“Cur task as producers was to get the artists to play to their strengths,” said Jam. “The way the song is produced, the two end up complementing each other very well. This was a special song and it worked great for the scenes it supports in the movie.”

In addition to Vandross and Jackson on the cut, Jam and Lewis add more spice by dropping in the rap talents of Bell Biv DeVoe, along with the “edition” of Ralph Tresvant.

Other recording acts featured on the soundtrack include numbers by Public Enemy, Johnny Gill, KRUSH, Color Me Badd, Big Daddy Kane, Mint Condition, MC Lyte, Caron Wheeler, Sounds of Blackness, Lo-Key, Harlem Yacht Club and the Mo’ Money All Stars.

Discussing how these artists were selected for the project, Lewis says that it was a multi-layered process. “In the beginning, we discussed which artists we liked. We wanted to use people we were familiar with, plus could be counted on to deliver. In addition to that, it was important for the music to fit the film, so making sure we had the right sound was key to the selection process.”

With regard to the business aspects of the project, Jam says that producing a soundtrack for a film was more involved than when they produce an album project for regular sale. Logistically speaking, they say the process was more difficult because there were more considerations than usual, including the director of the film. The music had to fit the visuals as opposed to music videos, where the reverse is true.

“Another problem was that we had to fine-tune songs at the same time the film was being final edited,” said Jam. “That meant that songs we had completed had to be altered when scenes from the film were changed.

“In the last two weeks before the project was due, we realized we had to go to the artists to get the job done. That meant traveling to New York and Los Angeles. Pulling all that together on such a tight deadline was tough. But it was also very rewarding. The real beauty of this project is the incredible cooperation we received from all sides. The artists, their managers, the lawyers and the labels all came through.”

continued on page 42
JACKSON LIMOUSINE

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Totally Independent

2001 Records: Planning For The Future

The 90s have definitely seen the re-emergence of the dance independent. With underground parties becoming a more common sight in U.S. cities every weekend, independent dance labels are having one of their most prosperous periods ever. As these underground functions, or raves as they’re called, take off, the independents that supply the music for these events benefit. By servicing the DJs that spin the discs at these raves, independents hope that with little expense they can get word of their product on the street. Many of these indie labels that supply this music to the warehouse parties were originally of the R&B format, but changed after seeing the effect house music was having on young adults across the U.S.

One independent label that changed from a traditional urban format to a house orientated one is 2001 Records out of Hawthorne, CA. Formed in 1989, the label is headed by Erich Dorrer, and currently features a roster of three acts. States Dorrer, “I never went out to form a label, it just happened after I was trying to get a distribution deal for an artist I managed, and kept on being turned down by the majors. You see, if you don’t have a contact at a major label, then you’re wasting your time.”

Instead of waiting for a deal to come to him, Dorrer decided to form his own label. “I realized that you’ve got to have a record that’s already doing well if you are to attract any response from the majors,” states Dorrer.

Among the first things Dorrer did upon forming 2001 was solidify his relationship with Saxxy, the artist he had been trying to shop to the majors. Mentions Dorrer, “I knew that Saxxy had the talent and was committed to going all the way.” Since the label was formed, two new rap acts, STR8-G and B.Y.B. (Bad Young Brothers), have joined Saxxy, and should have their product on the streets soon. “Rap is so much harder to break than dance music because you are not airplay on black radio. A house cut can break at the club level and attain a heavy response before radio knows about it. To break rap, you have to break it at a street level.”

One method 2001 Records used to attract the youth is by doing showcases at local high schools in the Los Angeles area. Says Saxxy, “I really love doing these showcases. The kids really speak their mind and leave you knowing exactly where you stand.” Saxxy continues by saying, “We want to stay close to our community, that’s why we didn’t move to Hollywood or Beverly Hills. I can’t stand businesses that move out of their community once they’ve made it.”

Without an assist from a major label, 2001 Records had its product distributed by Landmark Records, a company that distributes product for over a hundred independent labels. “Originally, we had tremendous problems getting a distribution deal because we only had one act on our roster, and had no available product to show,” states Dorrer. “We were in a Catch-22 because we were a small label that wanted to go places, but we didn’t have any airplay on black radio, or any positives for a distributor to go on.” Dorrer claims. It was the now defunct KDAY radio station that gave 2001 the first radio success that eventually led them landing a deal with Landmark.

The executives at 2001 know that they have to expand if the label is to be recognized as a premier dance indie, so they are currently working on just that problem by really pushing their top performer, Saxxy. “We want to try our luck in the European house market because it’s a lot easier to break a new act over there than it is here. In the U.S. you have to grow rapidly by getting your artist exposure, whether it be on video or through showcases. And if you don’t have a successful track record, it’s near enough impossible getting your video shown on television,” states Dorrer.

With dance music’s popularity currently reaching a peak, 2001 Records is definitely on the inside track of the underground scene by having an artist that’s starting to garner respect. As Dorrer states, “We know in some ways we’ve been very lucky as a label, but as an independent we are still going to pursue a distribution deal with a major label.”

You never know, if Saxxy continues to grow at the rate she currently is, 2001 Records will be the leaders of the sound of the future. 

By Terry Muggleton
TONY WRIGHT always looking to get better

Tony Wright is one who truly grew up on radio. He is one of the few radio jocks who was an on-the-air announcer at the tender age of 14. He recounted the story of his start in radio.

"I played basketball for my high school’s basketball team. Our coach had a weekly talk show at WDAX in McRae, GA. He would often take some of his players when he went. I was chosen and when I saw the station’s equipment, I became very interested. I had a lot of questions for the station pd, Ken Howard, who liked my voice and enthusiasm. He invited me back to the station and I went on to become a station intern."

One of the station’s regular jocks became sick and this gave Wright his first opportunity to get on the air. He feels that his first time on the air was a disaster, but the station personnel thought he did well. His performance was good enough to earn him a regular slot as a station DJ. Wright started off doing weekends, did well and went on to work a full-time evening slot. This radio prodigy was a full time radio DJ before reaching the age of 16.

The four years that Wright spent at WDAX under Howard were very influential. He also had other interests that he pursued during his years at Fort Valley State College.

While in college Wright majored in health and physical education and worked at two radio stations (WXKO and WPGA). At the stations he held various announcer positions. Going to school and working was tough but Wright feels that these were good years for him.

Wright moved to Indiana and settled in Fort Wayne after graduating in ’82. He worked at a cable station for a few months and then moved on to a short-lived position at a CHR station. He says, “I jumped into these two situations without really checking them out beforehand. Things went wrong and the positions didn’t work out.”

At the end of ’82, Wright went back to his native Georgia and settled in Albany. He didn’t let the past discourage him, and found an announcer’s position at Urban-formatted WQDE. At WQDE things worked out well. He was a morning announcer and md. He would have stayed at the station but his performance set him up for bigger and better things.

Wright recalls, "I was at WQDE for a little over a year, then I ran into Doc Suttles, who is a legend in the Albany area. He offered me a position at WUJZ in 1983 and I took it. I came in as an announcer doing mornings and had the highest numbers ever. My hard work got me moved up to md and in 1987 I was promoted to pd."

"In 1991, the owners wanted to change things, even though we had the highest numbers in the market. I felt that it was best for me to move on."

Wright’s perseverance paid off and he was offered...
SNARED BY GIANT RECORDS is Lisa Taylor, the attractive, high-spirited dynamo whose debut single, "Secrets Of The Heart," has sparked a rage at retail and radio. Ranked at No. 34 last week on BRC's Singles Chart, the song has the same ingredients that have made Taylor a promising new act in the recording business.

"I'm a very emotional person," says Taylor. "I think that reflects in my music. Romance is also a big part of who I am, as well as being spiritual."

Together, these guiding forces have created a recording artist who knew early in her life that she had a special gift that she wanted to share with the world. "Music has been in my blood since I was a child. Sometimes I think I was born with it."

Raised in Youngstown, OH, Taylor drew on her enlightening musical experiences as a child to bring together her budding career. From her earliest days, Taylor's family was a source of inspiration. Her entire family sang in the church, so acquiring a knack for gospel was almost a given, and she took to the music style very early.

After finishing school, Taylor was discovered through her work with a band called Vegas when the group opened for the Temptations in Youngstown. Through introductions, she met producer Norman Whitfield. Moving to Los Angeles, Taylor began paying her dues by recording demos and singing back-up vocals for such artists as Karyn White, Chris

With Taylor, the music itself is only the beginning. And despite her increasing demand for appearances, Taylor says she still has time for the little things in life which help aid her creativity. "I draw on all the things happening in my life to make my music come alive," she says. "It's what keeps me in touch with myself and brings a satisfaction that translates into the passion I try to bring to my craft."
Radio News Update

WALR And Cherrelle

Maxx Myrick, pd for Love 104.7 (f), is hangin' with Cherrelle and A&M's Doug Craig during a recent promo visit to Atlanta.

Winter Arbs

The following information represents the latest ARB's rates (fall '91) for average quarter hour shares, metro survey area. Monday through Sunday, 6 a.m. - midnight, for the Winter '91 rating period. The Fall '90 rating period is also shown as a point of comparison.

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BY J.R. REYNOLDS
Number 1

Jammin' Jay Michaels, pd of top-rated O-93/New Orleans, stands proud with rapper Ice-T.

Dayton, OH
WROU 12 7.2
WDAO 37 2.1
Louisville
WGZB 59 5.9
WLOU 2.5 2.8
Akron, OH
WZAK 3.0 2.4
Syracuse, NY
WOLF 1.4 2.1

Overall Radio Revs
Flat; Local Ad Sales Up

Local and spot radio turned in a flat performance during the first quarter of 1992, according to the Radio Advertising Bureau (RAB). Local revenue posted three straight months of increases, and ended the quarter up three percent. This contrasted the national numbers which were down 13 percent through the end of March. Figures for radio network revenue were down seven percent for the first quarter.

Local radio revenue advanced 4.6 percent in March. It was the third month in a row in which an increase was demonstrated. National ad dollars were down, with spot revenue declining 14.6 percent and network sales off 9.2 percent for the month. These percentages reflect the change in revenue figures during the same month in 1991.

Gary Fries, pres of RAB, indicated that the performance could mark an end to the recent slide radio has been experiencing. "The third straight month of local revenue increases (equates) to a return in consumer confidence and spending on the local level," said Fries. "We understand from our industry's rep firms that the amount of national business they are handling is also up over the same period in '91, but softer spot rates are bringing the total dollar figure down."

According to RAB's findings, local revenue was up around the country in the first quarter. The Southwest and West saw the greatest growth at the local level, both up nearly five percent. The Midwest also experienced gains, but only moderately in January and February, then shooting up nine percent in March.

The national revenue numbers in the Eastern and Western regions continue to suffer the most, dropping 12 percent and 22 percent, respectively, in the first quarter. The Southwest was down a depressing 14 percent, but RAB notes that that region's share of national spot revenue is only a fraction of any other region's.

WKTT Launches "One Nation, One Station" Campaign

WKTT/Chattanooga has launched a new campaign called "One Nation, One Station," which is designed to unify the community with its inspiring messages of hope and courage. WKTT has taken this campaign to the streets in an effort to boost the morale of the entire country.

"There's been so much turmoil in recent years and especially recent months that we felt we needed to uplift our community's spirit," said Keith Landecker, pd for WKTT.

Combining radio spots featuring slick public service production with infectious music mixes, the station is tying in the 'One Nation, One Station' promo into all the station's promotions. "We're out on the streets letting the people speak out in support of unity," says Landecker. "The response has been incredible."

RAB Launches Radio Revenue Growth Index By Market

The Radio Advertising Bureau (RAB), through a special arrangement with the accounting firm of Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co., will release on a regular basis a radio revenue growth index grouped by market size. "In today's economy, it's especially important that the radio industry has a reliable source of revenue data available to them which takes into account not only geographic areas, but market size as well," said Gary Fries, pres, RAB.

"We all know from experience that the economic factors shaping the radio market in LaCrosse, WI, and Los Angeles are very different. This new revenue index...will provide a much needed service to the radio industry."

The following chart, which compares revenue for the first quarter of 1992 to first quarter '91 figures for seven market-size categories including 100 markets, also highlights the differences in revenue behavior among various market-size groupings. According to the report, local revenue was up across all categories, with the exception of the country's smallest markets. National revenue declines appear most severe in larger markets which attract the bulk of national business, though markets 31-50 fared best with only a 2.5 percent decrease in national billings vs. first quarter 1991.

1st Quarter 1992 VS. 1st Quarter 1991

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<tr>
<td>126 &amp; Under</td>
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<td>2.6%</td>
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*Markets ranked by Arbitron 12+ population

Send your quality black and white photos for this column with typed or neatly printed captions to: J.R. Reynolds, BRE, 6922 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 110, Hollywood, CA 90028.
This is a strong ballad that's appealing to our listeners and lighting up the phones. These three ladies out of Miami look good and sound great. Demos: All.

Kris Kross
“Jump”

These young entertainers have come out with one of the most influential songs in a long time. The blending of hip-hop beats and R&B elements is the wave to come. These two youngsters get constant requests. Demos: Teens, Young Adults.

The College Boyz
“Victim of the Ghetto”
The College Boyz have come out with a style that’s winning listeners over. They have a reggae background singer on the melody and a rap by the group members. The song is strong and should become a Top 10 record. Demos: Teens, Young Adults.

Steve Ross
Wyld/New Orleans, LA

En Vogue
“Giving Him Something That He Can Feel”

What a great blast from the past. This is a remake of a classic Aretha Franklin song. It’s made fresh for ‘92 with some great harmonization and instrumentation. This song will become a regular part of playlists everywhere. Demos: All.

Luther Vandross/Janet Jackson/BB&
Ralph Tresvant
“The Best Things in Life Are Free”
The line-up on this record is one of the best that I have ever heard. Luther and Janet come on real strong, and right when you think it can’t get better, BBB and Ralph come in on the breaks. This song is going to do well in any format and at all stations. Demos: All.

Tori Bailey
Wizza/Tuscumbla, AL

By All Means
“The Feeling I Get”

This is a terrific and soulful ballad that deserves all the airplay it can get. It’s the kind of song that stops you in your tracks, and the harmony near the end can give you shivers. Add this one and watch your phones light up. Demos: Adults.

Queen Latifah
“Do I Love Thee”

This is definitely not your typical rap song. The inimitable queen blends sultry vocals with an island sound and comes up with something unique. Drop the needle on this slamming midtempo groove. Demos: Young Adults.

Glover Washington Jr.
1/Lalah Hathaway
“Love Like This”

It’s about time that we heard from Glover! This is a wonderful cut from a premiere saxophonist. His awesome sound will fit any format. The vocals by Lalah Hathaway are the perfect complement to Glover’s sax. This song was added to our playlist straight out of the box. Demos: All.

Leon Toller
Wila/Danville, GA

Lionel Richie
“Do It To Me”

Vintage Lionel Richie. This is sure to score with all demos and become a big hit for him. Richie’s excellent vocals are as strong as ever and the lyrics on this ballad are classic. I am looking for this to go No. 1. Demos: All.

Soul II Soul
“Joy”
The groove on this is fantastic. There’s some great production on this, making it a contender to go No. 1. Be sure to check it out because the song is catchy. Demos: All.

Vanessa Williams
“Just For Tonight”

A typical Vanessa Williams ballad. Her voice has become a pleasure to listen to and on this it sizzles. It’s a ballad that you can play at any time of the day or as a Quiet Storm record. Demos: All.

Ron Atkins
KMLQ/Houston, TX

U.J.K.
“Tell Me Something Good”

This uses the hook that was made famous by Rufus. Rappers are very innovative in their use of old music and this is one example. It’s generating a lot of phones and is very popular. Demos: Teens, Young Adults.

M.C. Brains
“Brainstorming”

“Brainstorming” is our most heavily requested song. It’s a rap ballad that could even get some interest from the older demos. M.C. Brains is going to be one of the top new rappers. Demos: Teens, Young Adults.

Luther Vandross/Janet Jackson/BB&
Ralph Tresvant
“The Best Things in Life Are Free”

This is an out-the-box smash from the movie soundtrack of “Mo’ Money.” As the first single to hit the street, this cut is coming hard with an uptempo groove. Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis have produced a solid hit once again. Demos: All.
**WJLD-AM**
Glen Jones, I've
Phil Upchurch, 516
Shirley Brown, Share

**WZZA-AM**
Daisy Dee, It's
Helen Bruner, Missin'/
KCM, Get
Stomatos, S. You
Vickie Winans, Just

**KPOO-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's
Gregory C. Royal, Hold
Houston/Wonder, We
MC Breed, Ain't
Mud Squad, Ward
Rubys Springer, Makin'
Sue Ann Carroll, 7 Days

**WTQX-AM**
Brotherhood C, Helluva
Cameo, That
Houston/Wonder, We
Atlantic Starr, Overview

**KCAT-AM**
Billy S Bonds, Good
Cameo, That
G Washington, Love
Glen Jones, I've
Isley Bros, Sensitive
Lionel Richie, Do It
M. Jackson, In The
Patti LaBelle, When
R. Crawford, Who's
Sunny Rhodes, Living

**KCLT-AM**
Atlantic Starr, Unicon
KJLH-FM
Cameo, That
G Washington, Love
Patti LaBelle, When
Tevin Campbell, Strawberry

**KVCR-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's Not
Isley Bros, Sensitive
R. Crawford, Who's
Universe, A Giver
V Williams, Just

**KGFJ-AM**
G Washington, Love
Patti LaBelle, When
Tevin Campbell, Strawberry

**WVAS-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's Not
Isley Bros, Sensitive
R. Crawford, Who's
Universe, A Giver
V Williams, Just

**SACRAMENTO**

**KJJL-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's Not
Atlantic Starr, Unicon
Shabba Ranks, Makin'
Glen Jones, I've
Houston/Wonder, We
Isley Bros, Sensitive
R. Crawford, Who's
Shabba Ranks, Mr. Lover
Truth Inc, Can I
V Williams, Just

**KVCR-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's Not
Isley Bros, Sensitive
R. Crawford, Who's
Universe, A Giver
V Williams, Just

**WZMG-AM**
By All Means, Fearing
Drshey, Funky
Lidell Townsell, No Nu
Mike Davis, When

**KKBT-AM**
Isley Bros, Sensitive
Shabba Ranks, Mr. Lover
Vandross /Jackson, The Best

**KIDJ-AM**
CoC Peacock, Keep
El DeBarge, You
Grant/Bryant, I Wanna
Houston/Wonder, We
Mass Order, I Wanna
Neville Bros, Fly
Robyn Springer, Makin'
S. Robinson, Wendin'
Travis, Whatever
Vandross /Jackson, The Best

**KCOO-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's
Gregory C. Royal, Hold
Houston/Wonder, We
MC Breed, Ain't
Mud Squad, Ward
Rubys Springer, Makin'
Sue Ann Carroll, 7 Days
**CONNECTICUT**

**WYBC-FM**
B&C Winans, Depend
Brotherhood C, Helmet
Ceo Peniston, Keep
Color Me Bad, Slow
Glenn Jones, It's
Joe Public, I Miss
Smooth, Al
PC: Studio One
HD: 20 Main Street
160 Em St
New Heaven
CT 06520
203-432-4127

**WSNW-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's
Atlantic Starr, Uncondi
B Angie B, A Class
George Pettus, Don't
Shame
Shanice, Silent
S. Robinson, Reward
PC: Joe Fisher
MD: Dean Just
PO: Box 100
Tel: 203-432-4127

**WFXE-AM**
B&C Winans, Depend
Everette Harp, Let's
Fam-Lee, You're
Joe Public, I Miss
Pete Rock/C/L.T., They
Phyllis Hyman, I Found
Shakka Banks, Mr. Love
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: Don Steven
MD: John Just
PO: Box 1005
Tel: 404-856-2065

**WQVE-AM**
R. Crawford, Who's
Tracie Spencer, Love
PC: Joe Shannon
MD: Spike Davis
PO: Box 100
Tel: 912-439-4190

**DIST. OF COLUMBIA**

**WHUR-FM**
B&C Winans, Depend
Ceo Peniston, Keep
El DeBarge, You
Glenn Jones, It's
Good 2 Go, Never
Poezla Blyson, Shower
V Williams, Just
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: B.K. Kirkland
MD: Pamela Hall
159 Shawnt St, N. W
Washington
DC 20059
202-686-0605

**WTMP-AM**
Daisy Dee, It's
G Washington, Love
Gloria Jones, I've
MC Lyte, Eyes
Mellor Man Alive, You
PM Dawn, Reality
Queen Latifah, How
S. Robinson, Reward
PC: Chris Turner
MD: Chris Turner
PO: Box 1101
Tampa
FL 33601
813-228-0255

**WGOV-AM**
DAS EFX, They
Daisy Dee, It's
Eugene Wilde, How
G Washington, Love
Gloria Jones, I've
MC Lyte, Eyes
Po Book & L. Funky
PC: Harvey Maurice
MD: Mike Mill
PO: Box 120
Tel: 912-244-9000

**WSKX-AM**
Jadeci, Come
Ment Condition, Forever
Naughty By N, Upfront
PC: Judge Owens
MD: Spike Davis
PO: Box 120
Tel: 912-439-4190

**FLORIDA**

**WEDR-FM**
Chris Bender, Who
Dr. Dee, Sleepy
Fam-Lee, You're
S. Robinson, Reward
Tribe Called O, Sonana
V Williams, Just
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: James Thomas
MD: James Thomas
270 W 136th St
Miami
FL 33106
305-623-7711

**WWKO-AM**
Cameo, Thur
Eugene Wilde, How
S. Robinson, Reward
PC: Steve Carr
MD: Steve Carr
200 S Second St
Coca Cola
FL 32440
850-482-3046

**WJBT-FM**
Cameo, Thur
Daisy Dee, It's
Glenn Jones, I've
Houston/Wonder, We
Men With Charm, Never
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: Kelly Karan
MD: Paul Queenen
2111 WERD Radio Dr
Jacksonville
FL 32205
904-388-1111

**WYFX-AM**
George Pettus, Don't
MC Lyte, Eyes
Mellor Man Alive, You
Shanice, Silent
S. Robinson, Reward
PC: Mike Johnson
MD: Mike Johnson
400 Georgia Blvd
Defoe Town
FL 33444
813-737-1040

**WMXY-AM**
Eugene Wilde, How
MC Lyte, Eyes
Shonarri, If You
Third Ave, I've Gotta
PC: Wy Faison
MD: Dee Faison
PO: Box 1114
Tel: 404-892-6348

**WFUE-AM**
B&C Winans, Depend
Everette Harp, Let's
Fam-Lee, You're
Joe Public, I Miss
Pete Rock/C/L.T., They
Phyllis Hyman, I Found
Shakka Banks, Mr. Love
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: Don Steven
MD: John Just
PO: Box 1005
Tel: 404-856-2065

**WBML-AM**
Frozen
PC: Rob Bold
MD: Steve Petersen
708 S. Mathews
Urbana
IL 61802
217-332-2092

**IOWA**

**KBBG-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's
B Angie B, A Class
George Howard, Cross
Houston/Wonder, We
Joe Public, I Miss
Kris Kross, Jump
Smoky Robinson, Reward
Three Times Love, Interest
V Williams, Just
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: Al Jarreau
MD: Al Jarreau
PO Box
Tel: 912-742-2505

**KBBG-AM**
Al Jarreau, It's
B Angie B, A Class
George Howard, Cross
Houston/Wonder, We
Joe Public, I Miss
Kris Kross, Jump
Smoky Robinson, Reward
Three Times Love, Interest
V Williams, Just
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: Al Jarreau
MD: Al Jarreau
PO Box
Tel: 912-742-2505

**GEORGIA**

**WEAS-AM**
Eugene Wilde, How
Everette Harp, Let's
George Howard, Cross
Houston/Wonder, We
Joe Public, I Miss
MC Lyte, Eyes
Shakka Banks, Mr. Love
PC: Fred Stroddard
MD: Marie Kelly
2510 Alexan Dr
Savannah
GA 31401
912-232-7288

**WPG-A-AM**
Atlantic Starr, Uncondi
Dr. Dee, Sleep
George Pettus, Don't
Houston/Wonder, We
Joe Public, I Miss
Kris Kross, Jump
Smoky Robinson, Reward
Three Times Love, Interest
V Williams, Just
Vandross/Jackson, The Best
PC: Brian Kelly
MD: Dee Faison
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Tel: 404-892-6348
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<td>VERVE FORECAST/PG</td>
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<td>Radio Edits</td>
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Bob Marley Day In Toronto

Toronto's New Mayor, June Rowlands, officially declared May 11, 1992, Bob Marley Day. Mayor Rowlands is following in the footsteps of the former Mayor of the City of Toronto, Art Eggleton, who proclaimed May 11, 1991, the first Bob Marley Day in this city.

Mayor Rowland's official statement reads: "Through the international language of music, Bob Marley created his own distinctive sound and left the world a timeless melody for world peace. "Bob Marley's inspirational message for harmony and understanding between all people made a difference. The words and music he wrote and performed gave and continue to give inspiration and strength to all who dream and work towards a world free of violence. His stand on non-violence helped relieve political strife and bloodshed in his native Jamaica, and for his efforts in promoting world peace he was honored with a gold medal from the United Nations."

"May 11, 1992, marks the 11th anniversary of the death of music legend Bob Marley. On behalf of the City Council and the people of Toronto, I am pleased to proclaim May 11, 1992, Bob Marley Day in the City of Toronto—a tribute to the legacy of Bob Marley and his message for hope."

The proclamation by the Mayor of Toronto is proof of the strength of Marley's message. Whether the establishment likes him or not, they are forced to recognize him and his work. It further reinforces the belief held that Robert Nesta Marley, who died at the age of 36, will long be remembered internationally not only for his music, but, more importantly, for his philosophy.

Marley started singing professionally at the tender age of 15, since then his music has captured the hearts of people throughout the globe.

While Malcolm X delivered his "Message to the Grassroots," and John Coltrane performed pieces about "Africa" and "Alabama," Walter Rodney, a revolutionary historian, wrote "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa," and Marley was singing songs like "Africa Unite" and "Slave Driver." It is true that what Malcolm talked about, Coltrane incorporated in his music, and equally true that what Rodney wrote about, Marley sang of.

In many ways Marley is not unlike Marcus Garvey, W.E.B. DuBois, Maurice Bishop, Amy Garvey, Angela Davis, Kwame Nkrumah, Amilcar Cabral, Amina Shakur, George Jackson and others who believed or believe in the liberation of African and all oppressed peoples. To make this point Marley always sang the song "War," which said: "We Africans will fight, if necessary/And we know we shall win/As we are confident in the victory of good over evil." This song was taken from a speech delivered by Emperor Haile Selassie in California on February 28, 1968.

On Marley's many tours of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, the United States, Belgium, Gabon, Zimbabwe, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and other places, the respect and love for him was unparalleled. What Marley was able to do was truly express what could not be expressed in so many of his songs besides "War." Songs like "Rat Race," "Rebel Music," "Catch A Fire" and "Johnny Was" are still timely. His lyrics were truly born out of a sensitivity to oppression.

Marley's sensitivities gained him the respect of other oppressed people. When Marley toured New Zealand, the Maori people gave him a special honor. In Zimbabwe, a special request was made by the government by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to have Marley perform at their Independence Day celebration on April 18, 1980. It is significant that Rodney was also at this event.

In celebration of Bob Marley Day, his original band, The Wailers, will be performing at the Opera House on May 10. Marley's mother, Cedella Booker, will also make a special appearance. Also performing at Toronto's Official Second Annual Tribute to a King of Reggae are Errol Blackwood, Revelation, Jimmy Reid and Gerry Thompson. The event's MC is Master "T" from Much Music's X-Tenda-Mix.

A Bob Marley Award has been created to go along with this event. This year's recipients are Ras Rico I, P.V. Smith, Lionel Gayle, David Kingston, Leroy Sibbles, Milton Blake, Winston "Wire" Clarke, Colin Verne Hodgson, Victor Tipper Henry, Dr. Isaac Akande, Sylvester Walters and this columnist.

Marcia Griffiths, who was a member of Bob Marley and The Wailers' touring group, continued on page 44.
PENDULUM RECORDS artist Mel'is Morgan's appearance at BRE Night was a huge success. Morgan, who shunned the spotlight usually given to visiting artists, opted to stay low key. She worked the room like a well seasoned politician, greeting her guests one on one. Hosts Carter Russell, Stanley Winslow and the WEA sales staff provided Morgan with all the necessary key people in the market. Attending the affair were Merri Green, V103, Sandi Cooper, Magical Records, Kenny Lott, Fletcher's One Stop, George Daniels, George's One Stop, Elroy Smith, WGCI, and the Chicago Poste, consisting of Wayne Lewis, Sandra Smith Sullivan, Cynthia Johnson, Dina Davis, Eddie Holland, Kirkland Burke, Cheryl Winston, Wayne Williams and John Hall Jr.

Morgan's remake of Al Green's "Still In Love With You" is catching on like wildfire here in Chicago. Her video, which was viewed for most of the night, became a topic of discussion. As Morgan put it, "The video represents the past, the present and the future, the past being the portrayal of Billie Holiday, Janis Joplin and Josephine Baker I represent the present, and my niece and cousins, who danced in the video, represent the future."

This album should carry Morgan well into 1993 with the vast array of material captured on the disc. The audience consensus was that "I'm Going To Be Your Lover Tonight" and "Release Me" are the hottest tracks.

KRASHING THE MARKET

Elektra CEO Bob Krasnow, gm David Bither, sr. vp Ruben Rodriguez and vp Joe Morrow were in town applying their magic formula for success. At a private gathering, Krasnow introduced new Elektra recording artist Ephraim Lewis to the Chicago Urban and Pop market. This is the same method that launched Anita Baker, Tracy Chapman, Natalie Cole and other Elektra acts. The affair consisted of a cocktail reception with public relations whizzes shuffling Lewis into the right photo with the right people. After cocktails, everyone was invited into another room with theatre-style seating to hear Krasnow's presentation and view Lewis' video.

Krasnow was quite at ease as many of his old friends were seated in the audience.
KATHY SLEDGE continued from page 21

her sisters for their grueling hour and 40-minute live show has become a life force for Sledge. She is now a certified training instructor and teaches a class of 70 every other day.

"I started teaching my sisters and before long I had the band and the crew joining in," she says. "When we came off the road, my neighborhood spa asked me to teach a class there and I've been teaching ever since."

Sledge says the technique of upping the heart rate to the point where the body begins to burn fat tissue for fuel is one she has researched and is sold on. "I have one student who lost 40 pounds and another that was featured in Shape magazine, before and after," she adds.

Kathy Sledge is poised and ready to step back into the spotlight. She's got the heart, soul and songs to gain a whole new following of fans and friends, but she'll always be like family to the rest of us.

LEBO M. continued from page 45

Vernon Molefe soon found out that there were just as many empty promises in America as there were dreams in South Africa.

After years of networking in music circles as well as academic ones, Lebo has finally started to see the results of his hard work. His name was being dropped quite often amongst musicians, which eventually resulted in his contributing background vocals to Jones Block project in 1989, even an original Zulu rap that was featured in the producer's motion picture documentary, "Listen Up."

On the strength of music production he did for the Academy Award-nominated foreign film "Senzeni Na!" Lebo was recommended to contribute original African songs to "Power of One." Although he worked extensively scoring the film with Hans Zimmer ("Mother Africa," "Rainmaker," "The Penny Whistle Song," eventually co-writing 80 percent of the score), it seems that the studio chose to instead promote the contributions of another artist—white South African Johnny Clegg—as a major factor of the music score.

"This is crazy," Lebo explains. "The studio didn't deem it necessary to credit a black South African for original South African music. It's not Johnny's fault." He clarifies, "It's just the kind of thing that's typical of the treatment of blacks in South Africa. total disregard."

RAP, ROOTS & REGGAE continued from page 18

During a recent press conference in New York City at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, they agreed to work together and stop dissing each other. Baba Professor X had this to say: "It's just two different ways of getting to the same goal. Problems facing African-Americans today are far more serious than our ideologies. We cannot let squabbles get in the way of a positive and conscious message."

The founding father of the Zulu Nation, Afrika Bambaata, reinforced the message during the conference by stating, "With communication and unity there is strength. We can't let anything come between these two positive black groups."

Maybe now many of the troubled young people across America will come together and make peace after seeing these two very visible rap groups strive for a positive way to spread their individual ideas. Much respect. 

Shanachie Records has just released the latest slammin' reggae album on their label. One of the original and last living members of the famous Wailers band, Bunny Wailer, has another hit LP on his hands. Dance Massive is a wonderful collection of uptempo dancehall style recordings that will have you shaking your groove thing in no time. The first song to be released in Jamaica was "Don Dadda." The entire album is great, it has that true and unique sound that is Jamaican reggae music.

The Hip Hop Producers Alliance (HHPA), in conjunction with Senator Diane Watson, join forces to raise $100 million for the devastated Los Angeles African-American community. People who will participate include Sir Jinx, Sir Jinx Productions (Ice Cube, Yo-Yo), Charlie B. Just EZ Productions (Def Jef, Marly Marl & The Good N Plenty Cru), Def Jeff, World Productions (The Poetess), Dwayne Simmons, L.A. Posse (L.L. Cool J, Ralph Tresvant), Jonathan Moseley, Bust It Records, Andre Fuller, Repsne Records, and Darrel Lockhart, Cardiac Records.

The HHPA is a non-profit organization which was developed by Max Moore (Just EZ Management), Stephanie Ardrey, (Ardrey Associates International) and attorney Kyle Fischer in order to raise funds through the "Coma To Consciousness" music project. The aim of this project is to assist families and businesses that were ravaged by the looting and burning that occurred right after the not guilty verdict was delivered in the Rodney King beating trial.

The "Coma To Consciousness" music project brings together some of the most famous producers of rap and hip-hop music to create a major record album. Such a creation will provide a vehicle through which rap and hip-hop enthusiasts across America can take part in the healing process by purchasing the album. The funds generated through the sale of the album will go directly to the grassroots organizations that will aid in the rebuilding of the ravaged Los Angeles communities.

Let us hope for the best. Hats off to the Hip Hop Producers Alliance and Senator Watson for caring enough to do something about it, instead of just talking about this terrible situation.

DIVINE BLESSINGS
Maintaining A Back-Up Studio (Part One)

DO YOU HAVE a back-up studio at the transmitter or some other location? If you do not, then you should seriously consider doing so. You may say, "We can hardly afford to maintain our main studio, where will the money come from to build a back-up studio?" The answer to that question is, it's less costly than you think, and you will thank your lucky stars in the event of an emergency.

Let's first address cost. Obviously, purchasing all new equipment for the project would be ideal, but that is not practical for most stations in these difficult times. But, most stations do have a stockpile of gear in the storeroom. In most cases, when a main air studio or production studio goes re-built, the old equipment goes into a storeroom somewhere. If you do not have a stockpile of equipment, then another station in your market will, and usually this equipment can be purchased for next to nothing. All engineering trade papers have a used equipment section where you will find older equipment for sale. Most of this gear is obsolete and of little value to the station that owns it.

A BASIC SET-UP

The idea here is to build a functional studio that can keep you on the air. In the basic set-up, you should have an eight-channel console, at least two CD machines, two cart machines, one reel-to-reel machine, two microphones, and the capability to access a phone coupler, and also access any network news services that you subscribe to.

First of all, consider the console. Older style round-pot mixers can be purchased for about $300, and in some cases for less. An old Broadcast Electronics, LPB, or even an old Gates console with eight channels will do. Usually, two of the channels are microphone inputs and the other six channels have A/B inputs, giving you a total of 12 channels for the other gear.

Starting with the microphone inputs, it is advisable that you have two microphones set up. In an emergency situation, such as an earthquake, hurricane, blizzard or civil disturbance, you may have a city official on the air live. This is especially true in smaller markets. In this case, two or more microphones will be necessary.

Moving on down the line, you will need cart machines. Used triple deck machines are commonly found in used equipment ads. You should not have any trouble finding used cart machines because many major market stations are constantly updating their equipment and the old gear just goes into the store room for eternity.

The same holds true for CD players. There have been several generations of broadcast CD machines over the last 10 years. You have probably updated your CD players in the past, and the old machines are more than likely in the storeroom. In a pinch, you could use a couple of inexpensive home machines.

Next on the list is a reel-to-reel machine. Older Teac 10½-inch reel two-track machines go for $100 to about $300. A consumer cassette machine will also be helpful.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now that you have all the gear that you need, let's set up the studio. The most obvious place is at the transmitter site. If that is not possible then you can consider a space in the back of a store, or even in the owner's garage. A real good location is in your town hall or community center. In an emergency in a smaller market, the town officials will be glad to have the local radio station on hand. Also, if it is in the town hall or a school, you can use it for teaching young people the art of broadcasting.

If you use a site other than the transmitter, you will need broadcast phone lines to the transmitter site. The ideal is to have two 8K lines. To keep the expense down, one line will do. Being in stereo is not of a high priority during an emergency, but if you have to move the operation to the alternate site while your main studios are being rebuilt, then you will have time to order another line to maintain your stereo signal.

Some other things that should be on hand are at least three phone lines, one with a coupler connected to the console for taking news bites. Also, local and national EBS systems should be accessible. An inexpensive communications scanner is also recommended, such a scanner can be purchased for about $130 at Radio Shack.

One thing that should be mentioned is that if you do use your transmitter site for your emergency studio, the room has to be shielded because radio frequency energy can bleed into the equipment.

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BY BILLY PAUL
CARIBBEAN BEAT continued from page 22

Stefan. "In the beginning, it was a struggle, but we were determined to remain true to our vision."

It is indeed a testament to their resilience, that total dedication to their craft and their boundless talent that has enabled them to survive when so many others have failed.

Certainly, no other band on the island can boast of, or match, Bermuda's repertoire or sheer brilliance and artistic on stage. One need only see them in action to understand the island's love affair with this talented group of musicians.

Bermuda is not only widely recognized as the island's premiere dance and show band, but the group has also won the respect and admiration of some of the biggest names in the entertainment business. When noted international acts like Luther Vandross, Karyn White, Regina Belle, Gerald Albright, Najee and Surface perform on the island, Bermuda is always the number one choice of local promoters. They also opened the shows of Keith Washington, Peabo Bryson and Patti LaBelle during their local engagements.

Although the members of the band have been performing together since their teenage years, and have developed a strong working relationship, they maintain a deep sense of respect for each other as performers and individuals. "We recognize and understand the importance and value of our relationships on and off the stage," says Stefan. "Credibility and longevity are serious goals of our group, so in order to achieve these goals, we endeavor to respect each other's individual musical contributions to the band."

With a wealth of experience gained from producing live shows around the island, such as the critically acclaimed "Bermuda Magic Review" (which featured music from Broadway to reggae, with a little country and western thrown in for good measure), Bermuda has developed into a tight musical unit with a fresh contemporary sound. "We are a Renaissance band for the '90s, always evolving, but keeping our urban contemporary musical base fresh and progressive," notes Stefan. "We firmly believe in what we're doing. It's a way of life for us. We wouldn't have it any other way," he says smiling.

Presently in the process of shopping their recently produced demo tape to record companies in the U.S., members of the band are confident that their dreams of international success are not far off. "We believe that we have a significant musical statement to make," says Stefan confidently, "and we intend to put Bermuda on the map."

MIDWEST REPORT continued from page 41

He related the change in the record and retail industry from the good old days to the present with its research, computers and high tech marketing. He said, "The only thing that remains unchanged is the joy of seeing an unknown artist become a superstar and knowing that you were a part of the success."

The video single "It Can't Be Forever" started with the flavor of the "Miami Vice" theme, but quickly switched to what could be the soundtrack for a James Bond film. On this single, Lewis sounds like the Barry White of London. The album is entitled Skin.

Hosting the affair for Elektra were Denny Nowak, Carter Russell and Denny Schone.

CANADIAN REPORT continued from page 40

A legend in the reggae music industry, Griffiths recently scored a crossover hit with Bunny Wailer's song "Electric Boogie." Gardiner is also well known with hits like "Wanna Wake Up With You," "Let's Keep It That Way," and "Someone Loves You Honey."

TECH TALK continued from previous page

Your chief engineer will know how to deal with this.

Some type of program source that can be started by a touch-tone phone should be set up at the site to keep you on the air while the transition is happening. This is a simple device that can be designed by any chief engineer.

All personnel should be trained on how to get the alternate studio on the air, and keys should be issued to all management personnel.

Instructions should be posted in the main and alternate studios, and it's not a bad idea to hold a drill now and then.

The whole thing should not cost more than $1,500, and your chief can use his or her creativity putting it all together. As one station here in LA found out this month, an alternate studio site can and will pay off.

Next week we'll discuss the logistics of operation.

JAZZ NOTES continued from page 15

wanted to do something completely Brazilian, so this project came totally from the heart."

While the album is mostly done in Spanish ("What Is This" is the exception), the 14-cut project comes across with universal appeal. The aforesaid tunes feature some funky percussion lines that simply refuse to quit. According to Mendes, it's a Bahian interpretation of the American rap style mixed with the sounds of the culture—reggae and merengue.

"Senhoras Do Amazonas" supplies the album with a pleasing dose of samba. soft and splendid. "Kalimba" features a catchy hook that also features some sensuous saxophone play blended with a very heavy bass line, a raw groove. This song also features Jeffery Porcaro, Nathan East, Luis Conte and Paul Jackson Jr.

Breezy, with soft and mellow tones, are cuts like "Barabara" and "Esconjurao." The ballads are both warm and pleasing to the ear. "Chorando" spotlights Mendes's synth cello and oboe coupled with a fine vocal soloist, Claudio Nucci.

Truly a creatively-driven collection of tunes, Brasiliero is for music lovers around the world. Its lively blend of South American music, mixed with American and other influences, demonstrates quality music-making at its best.

LEBO M. continued from page 42

But that's not the only thing American life seems to have in common with this former exile's past. Lebo most recently reflected on the community reaction to the not guilty verdicts in the Rodney King beating trial, saying, "You know, those riots in Los Angeles are very sad. It's like Soweto all over again."

Just as the strong-arm of apartheid has begun to relax in South Africa, the tides of change are lapping on American shores. Lebo is currently working on a solo LP Nothing about his music has changed, he's still serving up a mixture of African languages and social text—spicy and traditional one minute, romantic and contemplative the next. You see, Lebo's got the talent to carry on the precedent set by Makeba, Masekela and Mbulu. And there are a lot of people in his corner. Lebo's burgeoning career is proof that success is birthed from the womb of unity.
SOUTH AFRICA. The name conjures the aura of gloomy oppression, a place where whites live and reign supreme while blacks suffer, their heartfelt protests heeded only by those outside the boundaries of their homeland. Sadly enough, few black South Africans are able to flee these stifling conditions, and those who do sometimes find themselves in a place where they are subject to the same kind of disregard from which they fled. No one can tolerate this kind of restraint, especially an artist, whose life revolves around freedom of expression. As a unified front, however, South African exiles (Miriam Makeba and Hugh Masekela, along with Letta Mbulu) have put their foot down, making a print in musical history and making their message heard around the world.

Lebo M. is next in line to carry the torch. He is a South African native who knows all too well the restraints of apartheid, and the emotional effect the system can have on a musical artist. Since fleeing Soweto at age 13, Lebo has made great strides to pull himself up to the ranks of other South African exiles who have achieved international acclaim.

As Lebo speaks of the winding path he's followed from a South African band called The Bachelors to Quincy Jones' Back on the Block, to touring with the South African musical "Sarafina!" and now scoring a motion picture, Warner Bros. "The Power of One," you get the sense that he carries the imprint of these experiences. Those imprints, whether from the heel of a boot, or a tapping toe, have shaped the music and the person.

The experiences and the drama of disrespect still play a central role. "I left South Africa in 1979, illegally," Lebo explains. "As an artist, I found it difficult to explore the music business and develop myself to my full potential. Black artists in South Africa are not looked at as an important business element of society, by the politicians or the society at large, meaning the system. Artists there didn't and still don't have the full, free realm of expression."

Lebo says that because he has always written songs of social relevance, he was considered a political writer, even though he never considered himself such. "I released a single in 1978, 'Under Pressure,' and most of the lyrics were considered subversive. Not only that, but I combine elements of all South African languages in my music. "You see, radio in South Africa is controlled by the state," he continues. "And what they have done is divide the radio stations to appeal to those who speak a particular language—the Zulus, the Xhosas, Sothos, and all that—which limits an artist's ability to express himself fully. At the time, as I still do, I wrote lyrics that incorporated every language. You see, I believe an artist represents a whole people. I represent South African culture as a whole, not as a divided entity."

And because Lebo refused to allow his passions to be smothered, he slipped out of the country. Void of parental permission, political affiliation and legal papers to validate his refugee status, Lebo had to wait nine months before he could even get off the continent. And at 13 he was only able to get work by convincing people he was 15. "The authorities wanted to deport me back to South Africa because I was underage, and also because I was not a part of a political organization. But they couldn't do that because it was against United Nations policy and it posed a political dilemma. "When I decided to get out of South Africa, I didn't know where I was going. I just knew that I eventually wanted to come to the States because I was under the impression that black people here were free," Lebo smiles sarcastically.

Lebo finally made his way to the States in 1980. His first trip to L.A. was supposed to result in a recording deal, but he and friend continued on page 42
Grapevine

Celebrating the Soul—Grape notes the good time everyone had at the “Celebrate the Soul of American Music” show in Los Angeles. This year the event was moved to L.A.’s Pantages Theatre in Hollywood and was a lesson in how to produce a timely and entertaining awards show. Co-hosts for the stellar cast of shining characters on hand were Dionne Warwick, who doubled as co-exec producer (in tandem with Don Jackson), Diahann Carroll and Roc’s Charles Dutton. Honorees for the evening were recently returned Stateside La Vern Baker, who spent the last 23 years abroad, Bobby “Blue” Bland, Cab Calloway, the Dixie Hummingbirds, (who were presented by Shirley Caesar), Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, and The Temptations, who accepted their award via satellite while on the road in Monte Carlo. A special Commemorative Tribute went to Dinah Washington and was curated by Cicely Tyson. The show’s Trailblazer Award went to Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff, who were presented their kudos by last year’s Trailblazer recipient Clarence Avant. Comedian Paul Mooney kept the crowd warm with his ever spicy sense of humor between takes. From all accounts, the event was one to be remembered.

Grape Looks Back at the Pages of BRE: Ten years ago this issue, BRE paid a special tribute to the late Neil Bogart. Joan Scott left KDAY. WGPR presented Teddy Pendergrass with a giant get well card. Johnny Otis was featured on the “Today Show.” KGFC aired from BRE’s conference live. Columbia Records held a radio and retail reception for Herbie Hancock for his latest album “Live Me Up.” REMEMBER, TIME PASSES AND PEOPLE CHANGE BUT WE ARE YOUR MAGAZINE OF RECORD AND YOU WILL READ IT HERE FIRST.

The Last Word

by Ruth A. Robinson

List Time: All That
BRE Conference ’92
Young Power Brokers
Sammy Davis Performing Arts Center
Lionel half naked on the window sill
Every living one of the Winans (and Pop worked, it, don’t he?)
Arrested Development
Reggae Music
B. I. T. C. H. definition Black Woman In Total Control of Herself
Salsa
The Browning of America
Ain’t That
Arson, whether you own the building or not
Finding out you have another album out when you haven’t recorded in over 10 years, and they still call it the Funk
Hoe cake dresses and pumps
Not registering to VOTE
Foul Breath
Answering somebody else’s phone
Excessive Force
Long, painted, silvery, glittery toenails
Drunk Driving
Taking anybody’s musical rights.

Star View

Aries (March 20-April 19) Stop complaining about things and just get out there and back in shape. Summer’s fast approaching and now’s the time to get at it.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Spend less time on those unimportant “social” lunches and spend some time with people who can help you with your career.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Double your efforts to ensure you’re not the last one finished with your office project. Failure to do so will just add to the ammo your rival’s been collecting.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Good things seem to be going your way for a change. Just keep the pressure on and you should wind up ahead this month.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Control that tendency you’ve been displaying to “run” everything. Do your part, but maintain an even keel about things.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you can’t join the party, don’t spoil it for others. Let them have a blast without you for a change. They’ll appreciate it.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Time’s running down. Are you ready for that romantic encounter? Take a hint from Leo’s message and buckle down.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You’re feeling in control these days and it’s a refreshing change from the drudgery you’ve subjected yourself to in recent weeks.

Sagitarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Go ahead with those inner desires that have been nagging you. Get it out of your system and have some fun while you’re at it.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) Could it be that someone near you at work has more than just business on their mind? It’s your call as to the next step.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 18) Impressing your boss in coming days could prove to backfire if you’re not prepared to back up your boasting. Overtime could be involved.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 19) There’s a delightful phone call headed your way. Just make sure your door is closed when it comes in because you’re sure to blush.
Just a fraction of what we spend on entertainment could be music to someone's ears.

If we all shared just a small part of our extra money and time, we could turn up the volume on some of society's problems. Like the homeless. Hunger. Or illiteracy.

Millions of people have helped establish five percent of their incomes and five hours of volunteer time per week as America's standard of giving. If we all reached this standard, we could generate more than $175 billion every year. With a force equivalent to 20 million full-time workers.

This year, make it your goal to give five. And help pick up the tempo in your community.
THEY REMinisce OVER YOU (T.R.O.Y.)

the first single and video from Pete Rock & C.L. Smooth's debut full-length album *Mecca and The Soul Brother*.

Produced by DJ Pete Rock and C.L. Smooth for Untouchables Entertainment
Executive Producers: Edward "DJ Eddie F" Ferrell & Mr. Dante Ross

On Elektra Compact Discs, Cassettes and Albums