



**NEWS:** The race is on for the number one as **BOYZONE** look to close the gap on Cher's Believe  
Polydor marketing 3



**A&R:** The last big-name release of the year, **BUSTA RHYMES** is set to take hip hop that one step further  
Talent 7



**A&R:** They're back, but for **BLONDIE** this is not simply a case of living off past glories. There's a new LP, too  
Talent 7



**LIVE MUSIC TAKES TO THE ROAD - P20**

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# musicweek

## PolyGram staff out as MCA cleans up

by Robert Ashton

MCA executives look set to score a clean sweep of the top positions in the merged PolyGram-Universal publishing operations after the shock news that PolyGram Music Publishing worldwide chief David Hockman and his UK managing director Richard Manners are both to leave the company.

The news has left staff at PolyGram reeling. And there is growing anger at the UK-based company that its new US bosses are basing staffing decisions on "cronyism" and favouritism.

"It's the most ridiculous decision I have ever heard," says one. "If they can do this to Hockman, what chance have the rest of us?"

A formal announcement is expected on December 8 or 9, around the time the UniGram merger is expected to be completed. It is understood that MCA's Paul Connelly, whose successes include a three-album publishing deal with All Saints struck earlier this year, will be promoted to run combined operations in the UK and Europe, with his boss David Renzer running the worldwide



**Connelly: top job beckons**

company from Los Angeles. None of those involved was available to comment.

In his 23 years at the company – the most 12 as worldwide chief – Hockman has built from scratch one of the world's most formidable publishing companies, ranked number three behind EMI and Warner Chappell and with 440,000 copyrights. The company is understood to be three times as profitable as MCA's publishing division.

Hockman has been a leading figure in the publishing industry, playing a key role in the historic Cannes agreement in which

European collection societies agreed to cut their commissions.

Manners has been managing director of PolyGram Island Music since 1994, during which time the company has become a credible competitor to EMI and Warner Chappell, and has developed a strong creative reputation with artists such as Massive Attack, The Cranberries, Pulp and The Lighthouse Family.

There is increasing concern among remaining PolyGram executives about how the process of "integration" of Universal and PolyGram is being conducted. Hockman apparently discovered his fate almost by accident when shown an organisation chart which did not include his name. Manners was told only after the strongest representations that he should not be kept in the dark.

"From Day One we were given an undertaking that when it came to making choices between people it would be based on merit and achievement. That's complete bullshit. It seems to be based purely on power and cronyism," says one insider.



TIMOTHY HAZZARD

PolyGram's senior VP of International Bernadette Coyle accepts her special achievement award at last Wednesday's Women Of The Year event from Texas singer Sharaeene Spiteri. Coyle was one of four women honoured at the glittering ceremony at the Intercontinental Hotel in London's West End. WOTY organiser Karen Millard says this year's event – the fourth annual WOTY – attracted a capacity crowd of 600 and raised more than £80,000 for charity. "It was an absolutely fantastic evening. There was a really good feeling in the room," she says.

## Our Price buyout on course

The Virgin group claims the management buyout of Our Price is still firmly on course, despite the deal being delayed until next year.

Potential venture capital participants in the deal are waiting to see how the 229-store chain performs in the vital pre-Christmas market before proceeding with any agreement, while the process has also been delayed by a number of issues regarding the separation of the Virgin and Our Price brands.

Among the companies involved in the talks is Prudential's venture capital arm PPM Ventures which has been in advanced negotiations since October.

The delay will put on hold plans by the brand to roll out its new store concept which was introduced at Our Price's new store in the Cameron Toll Shopping



Centre in Edinburgh on November 19 by the chain's managing director Mike McGinley (pictured above centre with store managers Cameron Andrews (left) and Sarah Neil).

Our Price's first new store in five years. It replaces a smaller branch in the same shopping centre with the design boasting a new "two-speed" concept comprising new and chart-based material near the front and back catalogue at the rear.

## US chart changes hit UK pop artists

The revamp of *Billboard's* Hot 100 singles chart has penalised pop acts to give the UK its worst showing in the US for 25 years.

The new chart includes an unprecedented 61 new entries this week, the majority of which arrive on the back of rule changes altering the ratio of airplay and sales data from 60:40 to 80:20 and allowing non-commercially-released tracks in for the first time.

UK singles by All Saints (last week 22), Sive (34), Cleopatra (61), Depeche Mode (85) and Fatboy Slim (98) have dropped out of the chart while Sive's It's The Things You Do, which previously climbed to 53, just hangs on at 99. Just two UK-signed acts, Natalie Imbruglia and U2, have new entries, both with radio-only singles.

● See US chartwatch, p12

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# BT makes music a priority in interactive media trials

by Tracey Sney  
Music is to play a key role in interactive media trials to be launched by BT next month which could provide a model for the way the industry delivers audio and video via the internet in the future.

Top Of The Pops and Virgin Radio are among those taking part in the trial, while Virgin Records and Sony are in negotiations with BT about how they might get involved.

The trial aims to deliver interactive audio and video services of a quality far superior to that currently available on home PCs and to test users' reactions to them. It will use a high-speed internet access service called BT Interactive, offering the potential for near CD quality sound and TV quality pictures.

Top Of The Pops will feature in a section of the trial called On Air,



Ousby: 'people will be blown away' alongside Ginger Media Group's Virgin Radio and TR Friday. John Ousby, GMG's director of

online, says, "We want to see what people do when they have higher bandwidth. I think people will be blown away by this."

GMG has yet to decide on the services it will provide but confirms there will be content optimised for the technology.

The company has a licence with MCFPS-PRS for the use of 30 second clips. All trial participants will require clearances from rights holders for use of their content.

Rosie Bartlett, producer of www.totp.bee.com, from where the Top Of The Pops service will become available, says, "You've got to look forward, experiment and embrace new media. The web is an ideal medium for re-packaging parts of the [TOTP] programme."

The TOTP web site does not currently offer audio or video clips.

Marek Fymaszewski, business development manager at BT Internet and Multimedia Services, says the trial aims to test customer reaction, price perceptions and the viability of interactive services.

"We want people to use our networks and to forge strategic alliances with content providers," he adds.

The six-month trial will involve 900 BT Interactive subscribers in north and west London, probably beginning early next year, and will be restricted to streamed audio and video.

BT had originally hoped to offer direct distribution of music but the major record companies remain wary of such services, not only because of the potential piracy risks but also for fear of upsetting retailers.

## news file

### V2 MUSIC SHOWS LOSS

V2 Music's accounts for the year ended June show a pretax loss of £35.7m on turnover of £14.2m. In his director's report ceeo Jeremy Pearce says a £69.6m refinancing plan in May 1998 enabled the group to repay bridging loans from Virgin Management and other investors' loans.

### CECILLON LANDS SEGA ROLE

Jean-Francois Cecillon has been appointed ceo of computer game maker Sega Europe, nearly seven months after he left his post as EMI Records' president/ceo. Cecillon, who spent eight years with EMI in the UK, started work last Monday (November 23) in a London-based role which sees him taking responsibility for its European operations, including its wholly-owned subsidiaries in the UK, France, Germany and Spain. His priority will be to launch next year of Dreamcast, Sega's 128-bit games console.

### CAPITAL NAMES PARTY VENUES

Capital Radio Group has announced the date of its London Party in the Park concert and the venues for the four regional shows taking place next year. The London show will be held on July 4, again in Hyde Park, while the Birmingham, Brighton, Southampton and Cardiff gigs will be staged at Cannon Hill Park, Preston Park, Southampton Common and Cathays Park Civic Centre respectively.

### LAMBERT TAKES OVER AT AM-PM

Dave Lambert, former A&R head at Positiva, has been confirmed as head of dance label AM-PM, which moved under the wing of Island earlier this year following the closure of A&M. Lambert says, "My goal will be to focus on developing key artists into real album acts."

Boyzone's I Love The Way You Love Me was yesterday (Sunday) challenging to end Cher's five-week reign at number one with Believe following what is believed to be an unprecedented marketing move by Polydor. The company has lowered the dealer price of their previous single, No Matter What, to £1.78, a penny lower than the minimum allowed for chart qualification, in a bid to "maximise the potential" of the new single, according to Polydor and Wild Card marketing manager Jason Ley. The move marks a new direction for record companies to try to remove a long-running single from the chart in order to develop the potential of a new track. Until now, the usual practice has been to delete.



## Blue Note threatens Power with new legal challenge

In the rapidly-escalating war between former partners Mean Fiddler Organisation and Blue Note Enterprises, Mean Fiddler chief Vince Power faces a contempt of court action this week.

The two companies fell out at the end of October after disagreements over Blue Note director Dave Robinson's operation of three Mean Fiddler venues. Robinson, with his team of six staff were barred from entering any of the premises.

Earlier this month High Court judge Justice Lloyd ruled that Robinson should be allowed back to run the Stuff Club (formerly known as the Powerhaus) in Finsbury Park, north London after the Blue Note director issued an injunction.

The judge also decided the Blue Note and Blue Bar should be returned to the full control of Mean Fiddler. A final ruling is scheduled for January 14.

However, Robinson, the former managing director of Stuff and

Island Records, claims that when he regained entry to the Stuff Club last Monday all furniture, drinks, fridges and other equipment had been removed. "They even took the dustbins and needles from the record decks," says Robinson.

"Our lawyers will now make an application to the courts to show that Vince Power and Mean Fiddler are in contempt of court by seeking not to comply with the court order."

Power declined to comment as Music Week went to press. Mean Fiddler struck a deal with Blue Note Enterprises this summer after licensing problems forced it out of premises in Hoxton Square, east London.

Robinson agreed to take over the running of the Powerhaus as well as the Crossbar (renamed the Blue Bar), and the Complex, which became the Blue Note, although Mean Fiddler retained control of its most popular night, Camouflage on Saturdays.

## Tring's hopes dashed as receivers move in

Budget specialist Tring's hopes to transform itself into a promotions powerhouse ended last week after the company went into administrative receivership.

Receivers Smith & Williamson were appointed on Wednesday morning, a day after Harvey Goldsmith Entertainments pulled out of an £8.3m proposed reverse takeover deal with Tring.

"At this stage we are looking at the business and trying to find a buyer for it," says receiver Peter Mills, who adds that he has received a number of enquiries. "We are making payments to employees so we can keep the business going while we look for a buyer."

The move comes two weeks after classical and opera promoter Raymond Gubby pulled out of a £6.25m reverse takeover with Tring. That deal was part of a strategy to create a new company that would act as an umbrella for a range of concert promotion and management companies including Harvey Goldsmith Entertainments.

Neither Tring nor Harvey Goldsmith would comment last week.

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## THE TRUE COST OF UNIGRAM?

"I can't believe it. I just can't believe it." It's Thursday lunchtime. Barely an hour after a clearly emotional Richard Manners has addressed his staff to tell them the news that UniGram will not be requiring his services. On the phone is a PolyGram Island staffer, no less emotional, no less shocked. "I just can't believe it."

It's a measure of the team that Manners put around him that the unbelievable truth was not imminent unemployment or problems paying the bills.

"I just can't believe that I won't be able to work with my bands."

The PolyGram-Universal merger is predicated on hundreds of millions of dollars worth of cost savings. But the true cost is likely to be much, much higher. It's a cost that will be paid not just in cash money, but in the careers, hopes and aspirations of staff and the artists in whom they believed.

No one is in any doubt that the music industry is big business these days. Much of the industry's own PR has been devoted to portraying us as an economic powerhouse.

But the odd thing is that no amount of statistics, or financial projections or spreadsheet analysis will ever express the central truth about the music business: It is built on belief, obsession, blind faith and love of music itself.

To succeed in any meaningful way in the business you need in some way to share that madness. We have no reason to question Edgar Bronfman Jr's love of music. Certainly many of those who have met him in recent months have heard at length of the joy he experiences in writing songs. For the sake of the hundreds of artists and employees whose careers are now at stake, we hope that love of music is genuine. If it is not, his shareholders may forgive him.

There are many others who will not.

Steve Redmond

## TILLY

## HAILING THE YEAR OF POP

Well here we are, moving into December and time once again to embroil ourselves in the Jingle Bell market. Over the years the UK has broken some great new acts, particularly in the kids/pop market, such as B\*witched and Billie. Robbie Williams has emerged as a real talent, although it took him until the fantastic Angels to get there. Both of his albums have some excellent songs on them. However, he seems to have a problem. His MTV acceptance speech and his remarks about previous management on Jools Holland's Later, were very childish. I know they're an aspect of your personality, but one best kept to yourself, Robbie, if you want to be around for years to come - I'm sure even your fans don't want to see you being a smartarse in public. Together with Robbie, All Saints, Boyzone and the Spices have just become bigger and bigger and the new boys on the block. Five, have really established themselves and even had a Top 10 single in the US.

That's no mean feat in the current climate, where UK acts such as Cleopatra, are finding it very difficult to maintain success in US, and even George Michael's Ladies & Gentlemen collection entered at only 24.

Back in UK though, I'm sure all the acts mentioned will be vying for chart positions in the run up to the Christmas chart. As you know, every year there seem to be some surprises - number one could be Jane McDonald, maybe Jason Vaughn & Kylie Van Outen, or even one of those Yo-Yo records.

It's no surprise to me to hear that my chum Kylie has been dumped by her record company. With two dreadful albums and some even worse singles and videos, I think she has at last learned that the general public vote with their ears and aren't interested in self-indulgent rubbish. Kylie, get back to your old style and you will be massive. You only have to look at Cher or Madonna for proof that you too could have success again with the right songs and production. If you want to write your own, sing them in the bath.

Tilly Rutherford's column is a personal view

## Radio up, but music down in Chrysalis results

Chrysalis Group's radio division was the star performer in its year-end results after its music operation experienced mixed fortunes.

As forecast by the group a year earlier, Chrysalis's radio interests broke even for the first time with turnover increasing by 72% to £18.4m for the 12 months to August 31, 1998.

In contrast, the music division's turnover was down on the year by £1m to £29m, while operating losses rose 29.4% to £1.7m following what the group describes as "greater than first anticipated" losses at the Echo label. The



Lascelles: publishing success

music publishing arm, however, put in a much stronger performance in the year, claiming at one time writing credits on 13 albums

in the Top 75.

Chrysalis Music managing director Jeremy Lascelles, who took on the combined role of running both publishing and Echo in September, says, "The publishing company has been having a lot of success over the past two or three years, particularly with international sales with acts like Portishead, Skunk Anansie and Leftfield, most of which haven't had a major impact in the UK single market. But what's been a feature at the end of the past year has been an incredible run of success with singles."

## Tough six months as profits slump at EMI

by Paul Williams

Profits at EMI and Virgin's UK operations in the first six months of its financial year were less than half those in the same period last year according to figures released last week amid renewed takeover speculation.

Domestic profits slid from £16.9m to £3.2m in the half year to September 30 on the back of a notably weak release schedule.

Despite being responsible for the UK's two biggest-selling albums of the year so far - Robbie Williams' Life Thru A Lens and The Verve's Urban Hymns - EMI was unable to match its performance in the first half of 1997 when its successes included Radiohead's OK Computer and The Chemical Brothers' Dig Your Own Hole.

EMI's decline in the UK was part of a general deterioration in the company's fortunes across Europe with results announced last Tuesday (24) showing European profits dropping from £74.8m in the first half of 1997 to £42.7m for the same period a year later.

Overall, worldwide sales fell 3.4% to £994m with operating profit down 19.9% to £91.2m during what chairman Sir Colin Southgate describes as a "challenging six months. The company faced particularly tough conditions in Asia

## EMI

1998	1997	change	
(restated)	(restated)	%	
Sales	£994.0m	£1,029.5m	-3.4
Operating profit	£91.2m	£113.8m	-19.9

Figures for the six months to September 30 1998. 1997 figures are restated to take into account sale of HMV. Source: EMI Group

Pacific and Latin America.

However, Southgate points to more encouraging performances in music publishing where sales rose by nearly 10% and in North America where turnover rose by 30.2% and operating profit by 71.9%. Successes there included Capitol's Sheryl Crow. "The US market is showing vigorous growth, which is particularly encouraging as it shows there is good potential in mature markets," he says. "The challenge facing EMI is to ensure that the artist roster is strong enough to take advantage of a recovery in the music market when it occurs."

EMI's results announcement came a day after it issued a statement confirming an informal meeting took place a month ago between senior EMI and Bertelsmann executives to discuss possible opportunities for cooperation between the



Brooks: strong seller

two businesses. Three days earlier a statement denied a Los Angeles Times story asserting similar meetings or discussions had been held with News Corporation.

Panmure Gordon analyst Paul Richards predicts that anti-trust worries make a takeover or merger between EMI and another music company less likely than joint ventures in areas such as distribution and manufacturing which would cut costs.

"If you had a combined Bertelsmann and EMI they would have 35% plus market share in three of the five biggest markets in the world which would be considered a severe overlap by the regulatory bodies," he says.

He adds that the expected appointment of a chief executive at EMI in the spring will make a big difference to the company's standing in the City.

## Record label executives targeted for DVD event

Record companies are being offered the opportunity to see for themselves the new generation of DVD applications at the UK's first definitive conference on the technology in London next May.

DVD Production Europe is a two day conference, staged by Music Week's sister division Miller Freeman Entertainment Technology (MFT) and the International Recording Media Association. It will cover the technical side of DVD, which can be used as a video, games and audio medium.

"The specification for DVD Audio has still to be developed, which makes the timing of this conference so important for video, film and record label executives," says MFT division group publishing editor Joe Hosken.

Costs are £900 or £1,350 for the event information on the latter which takes place on May 24-25.

## It's a Spice Christmas on TV

The Spice Girls are to take centre stage in the TV music schedules for the second successive Christmas when ITV screens one of their Wembley concerts.

Twelve months after broadcasting the Virgin act's first full live performance from Istanbul, the network will be broadcasting highlights of one of their Wembley shows in an hour-long special expected to go out early evening on Christmas Day.

That same afternoon BBC1 will screen its traditional Christmas special which will focus on the 20 biggest-selling singles of the year, while a fly-on-the-wall Robbie Williams documentary is due to go out on the same channel on December 23.

Denise Van Outen will front the Record Of The Year, the show divided by Jonathan King, which will go out on December 19 following a 90-minute preview show on December 12.



Spice Girls: festive stars

Painted From Memory, covering the album collaboration between Elvis Costello and Burt Bacharach, is one of the musical highlights of Channel 4's Christmas line up.

Channel 5's music coverage will include Dr Fox fronting The Best Of Pop! on December 23 and a Phil Collins special at 6pm on Christmas Day.

# Gram's Coyle scoops Woman Of The Year glory

by Tracey Snell

PolyGram senior vp of International Bernadette Coyle was presented with the special achievement award at last Wednesday's Women Of The Year ceremony which attracted its biggest audience yet.

Coyle, whose achievements during her more than 20 years with the major include guiding the press work for the Bang Aid single and Live Aid concert, says she was thrilled just to be nominated.

Speaking at the event at the Intercontinental Hotel in London, Coyle, who is in her present post overseas the international operations of PolyGram's four UK labels worldwide, said, "It is a privilege to be working in an industry that I love."

Coyle paid tribute to her boss UK chairman John Kennedy, Elton John's manager and former London Records boss Colin Ball, as well as "Ode" (Maurice Oberstein, former PolyGram



Women of the year: Jill Furmanovsky (left) and Bernadette Coyle

UK chairman) and PolyGram International's senior vp pop marketing David Murns.

The Woman Of The Year award went to photographer Jill Furmanovsky, who over the past 25 years has photographed some of the biggest names in rock including mem-

bers of The Beatles, Oasis, The Sex Pistols and UB2.

"If the British have one export to be proud of it is music," Furmanovsky said as she was presented with her award by Sinead O'Connor. During her speech, she said that visual artists were becoming increasingly

undervalued and swamped in legal paperwork which was threatening to take away their copyrights. "On behalf of the true visual artists I accept this award," Furmanovsky said.

Stella Walsler, who founded industry recruitment agency Handle 20 years ago, won the accolade award in recognition of support to working women, while Annie Nightingale took the lifetime achievement honour.

Said Nightingale, "Thanks to the BBC for being, I really can't imagine any other organisation in the world which would have helped me along, encouraged me and made me strive for excellence."

Among the women executives Walker's agency has placed in jobs is Katie Conroy, currently EMI's vp of international promotions/artist development and who presented Walker with her award. "Katie is an inspiration to all of you," said Walker, who also thanked her clients and team.

EMI/Chrysalis managing

director Mark Collen is focusing on Canadian teenage brothers The Moffatts as one of his company's biggest priorities for the first quarter of next year when their debut single Crazy will be released. The four-piece - triplets aged 14 and a brother aged 15 - have already sold more than 1m albums worldwide and completed a schools tour of the UK in September. Last Tuesday (24) they opened an UK regional dinner at EMI's Brook Green headquarters in west London, where Robbie Williams also played, and they will be performing at a showcase in central London's Savoy Republic this Thursday (3). Crazy, which goes to The Box this week and radio this month, comes out on February 1 with its first album Chapter 1: A New Beginning following on February 15. "The most amazing thing about watching them is you forget they're 14 and 15," says Collen. "They're fearless."



## Mandy goes to Midem as Brits head out for Cannes

Trade and industry secretary Peter Mandelson has accepted an invitation from the BPI to the forthcoming Midem convention in Cannes.

Mandelson will visit the British at Midem stand to get a firsthand account of the efforts of UK music companies to sell their products abroad. The British traditionally comprise the strongest international presence at the annual event which takes place this year from January 24 to 28.

Meanwhile, Squeeze's Chris Difford and Glenn Tilbrook are to host and play at an expanded Best Of British showcase at the event.

The third Best Of British kicks off at the Saion Estere! at the Hotel

Martinez on Monday January 25 with a two-hour acoustic session. The Squeeze pair will present sets from Nick Harper, Eizo and Harriet Roberts before moving on to the Martinez Ballroom for the second half of the Best Of British evening where they will join the rest of Squeeze to headline.

Best of British producer Allan McGowan says he plans to feature four other new bands including Moom and Headbound in this section of the event after receiving around 60 entries from up-and-coming acts. "We've had a phenomenal interest this year which shows the Best Of British is becoming a focus for new talent," says McGowan.

## BSC backs K-Tel over Mott album

The Broadcasting Standards Commission has partly upheld a complaint of unfairness lodged by K-Tel Entertainment (UK) concerning a Watchdog programme featuring the label.

An investigation into the re-recordings market by the BBC consumer programme, broadcast on April 24, had warned viewers that many albums may not be made by the original artists.

The BSC ruled the BBC was justified in upholding K-Tel "given K-Tel's leading role in the release of the CDs". However, it upheld K-Tel's complaint that it had been unfairly represented by the company's Best Of Mott: The Hoopie CD.

K-Tel managing director Pat Broderick says, "They tried to condemn the nature of the re-record business as being a rip off. Artists have always been back in to new versions of old hits."

A BBC spokesman says, "We note this complaint has been partially upheld. But the commission found Watchdog was justified and not unfair to single out K-Tel."

## U2 to star in classic album TV series

U2's The Joshua Tree, Meat Loaf's Bat Out of Hell and The Wallers' Catch A Fire are to feature in a second series of Classic Albums to be broadcast on ITV next year.

The programmes, which are expected to be shown next spring, follow the highly-acclaimed first series which was broadcast by the BBC last summer and helped boost sales of the six albums it featured including Jimi Hendrix's Electric Ladyland, Paul Simon's Graceland and Fleetwood Mac's Rumours.

Nick de Gunwald, executive producer of the show at production company Isis, who came up with the idea for the first series while producing The Making Of Sgt Pepper, says, "The BBC were talking a long time coming back to me. ITV came in and really loved the whole thing."



U2: Joshua Tree gets TV treatment

The new series will again set out to dissect six classic albums to find out how they captured the spirit of their age so effectively. "We've again gone back to the original multi-track recordings and isolated different musical components like the vocal," says Gunwald, who adds that the remaining three albums to feature in the series will be announced shortly.

## news file

**BROOKS MAKES US SALES HISTORY**  
Capitol Records' Garth Brooks Double Live has this week achieved the best one-week sales in the US of any album yet after selling 1,065,372 units in its first week, according to SoundScan. Another Brooks album, The Hits, was certified 10x times platinum in the US this month, making him the first solo artist to have three albums reach that landmark.

**BOOSER & HANNAFORTH PROFIT WARNING**  
Booser & Hannaford has warned that 1998 pre-tax profits will be lower than expected, citing the economic downturn in Asia and worsening trade in other regions. The classical publisher and instrument maker estimates that profit before tax for 1998 will be in the region of £7m, compared with profit of £8.1m in 1997.

**KESSLER MOVES TO NINE: PR**  
Former One Little Indian head of press Joe Kessler has joined Nine: PR taking over the company's act Björk with her. Kessler is also overseeing press for US band Sebadoh, who are signed to Domino and video director Chris Cunningham whose credits include Madonna, Aphex Twin and Leftfield.

**HANSON ADDED TO NME BILL**  
Marsian and The Bluetones are among the acts set to appear at the NME Premier Astoria shows taking place at the London venue between January 18 and 24 next year. Linkin Park, Kidwell and Delakota have already been announced for the closing date.

**SMASH HITS PARTY HOSTS NAMED**  
Boyzone's Stephen Gately and The Big Breakfast's Melanie Sykes have been named as presenters of this year's Smash Hits Poll Winners Party which is being staged at the London Arena, Docklands, on December 13.

**MAXWELL IN NET-ONLY RELEASE**  
Columbia is releasing a limited boxed set of mixes of Maxwell's Luxury/Coocure, which can only be bought via the internet. The 2000 numbered copies of Syndrome will be available from December 1. The Syndrome can be purchased on a special web page at [www.sony-music.co.uk/maxwell](http://www.sony-music.co.uk/maxwell)

**BATTERY STUDIOS/RAY HEDGES**  
Further to last week's studio supplement, Robbie Williams' I've Been Expecting You album was mixed at Battery Studios and Ray Hedges produced three of the tracks on Boyzone's Where We Belong at Mothership Studios.

**BOYZONE HIT TRIPLE PLATINUM**  
Boyzone's Where We Belong won its third platinum award from the BPI last week, matching the span also achieved by George Michael's Ladies & Gentlemen - The Best Of. A double platinum award went to Phil Collins' Hits, while reaching platinum status was The Spice Girls' One Night Only. Mariah Carey's No. 1's, Charlotte Church's Voice Of An Angel, M People's The Best Of M People and Vonda Shepard's Songs From My Mcbeal.

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# Music sales hold up well despite loss of Diana Factor

The headline figure may show sales are down, but demand for music is still higher than in 1996. By Steve Hemsley

Very now and again an extraordinary event occurs that makes the BPI's research and information team's job of comparing sales data frustratingly difficult.

At first glance the third quarter trade delivery figures for 1998 look decidedly poor when compared with 12 months ago but, when the dust is blown off the record books from previous years, it is clear that the industry actually performed well in the face of difficult trading conditions.

The music business faced an almost impossible task to achieve a year-on-year gain in 1998. During the third quarter of last year PolyGram shipped 5.3m units of Elton John's *Candle In The Wind '97*, accounting for a fifth of all singles deliveries between July and September.

The top titles this time were Boyzone's *No Matter What* (Polydor), which went on to sell 962,000 units according to CIN, and the Spice Girls' *Viva Forever* (SOL00).

Meanwhile, album sales a year ago were boosted by the massive demand for Oasis' *Be Here Now*, which sold 1.9m, and Prodigy's *Fat Of The Land* (740,000). The top album this time around was Now! 40, which sold 491,000 units.

Sales suffer unfairly from last year's direct comparison with 1997 but, year after year, singles deliveries were actually higher than for any comparative period since 1979 and album sales maintained a high level for a third quarter," says the BPI research manager Chris Green.

Overall, the trend was for most formats to be down on their level in the third quarter of last year, but up on the same period in 1996.

Total music shipments from UK distributors during the third quarter were worth £227.2m - 6.6% down on last year but around 1.0% more than in 1996. Green says this performance is encouraging considering the continued presence of parallel imports - senior executives suggest that they can currently still lose up to 25% of the sales of big releases to such imports - and strong evidence that consumers are losing confidence in the economy.

The value of the singles market fell by a third to £30m in the three months compared with last year, but this was up 14.9% on two years ago. In unit terms, sales for the period dropped 28.7% year-on-year to almost 20m, although this was still 13.7% up on 1996.

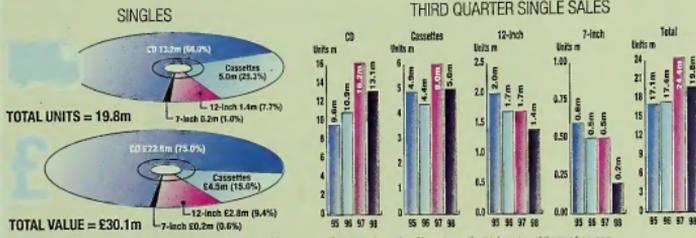
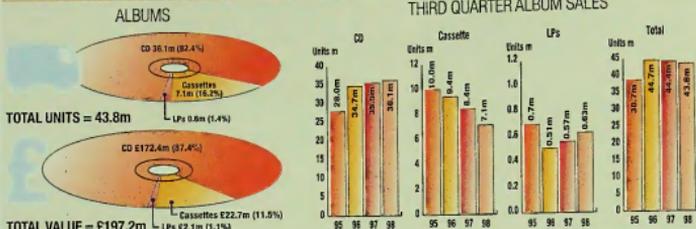
CD singles continue their long-term growth with 13.2m units shipped in the three months, down 18.7% for the year but 21.5% up on 1996. The value of CD single shipments fell by a steeper 35% over the 12 months to £22.5m due to the fact that the Elton John single was not sold at a discount price, although this was still up 2.9% on 1996.

Cassette singles fell 16.0% in volume and 31.3% in value against last year but rose 1.4% and 9.5% respectively on the previous year.

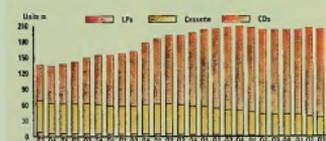
Fast stepper was the decline in vinyl, with just 212,000 seven-inch singles shipped, the lowest quarterly total recorded to date by the BPI and down 57.3% on last year and 66.6% on 1996.

Sales for 12-inch singles fared slightly better with shipments down 16.0% to 1.4m units worth £2.8m.

## HOW THE TRADE DELIVERIES SHAPE UP



### ALBUMS: QUARTERLY SHIPMENT BREAKDOWN SINCE 1992



Tables show shipments for the 12 months to the end of each quarter since the third quarter of 1992. Source: BPI

For the second quarter running Catatonia had the biggest selling seven-inch release. In the second quarter it was *Road Rage*, while between July and September it was *Strange Glue*, even though this shipped just 4,000 units. Hole's *Celebrity Skin* (Jefferson) was second with sales of 3,500.

According to the BPI figures, the average dealer price of CD singles (taking into account free goods, deals and such like) was £1.71 during the period. This is 6p less than in the second quarter of the year and 8p less than the first, almost certainly reflecting the level of discounting activity between July and September.

The £1.71 average was just 2p more than in the third quarter of 1996 but 42p less than in the same period last year. The reason for the massive hike in the average price last year was the high volume of Elton John singles shipped with no discounts or deals.

In comparison, the average third quarter trade price for cassette singles was £0.90,

4p lower than the second quarter and 6p less than the first and 20p less than the same time last year.

In 1997 five of the third quarter's Top 10 selling albums were compilations, but this time only two compilations made the list due to the strong performance by artist albums.

The TV-advertised Now! 40 was joined by *Fresh Hits 98* (Warner/Globa/Sony) at number three with 350,000 sales in the quarter. Sandwiched between these two was the third biggest album of the year so far, *The Corrs Talk On Corners* (East West), which sold another 420,000 copies during the three months.

The overall value of album shipments fell 0.6% to £197.2m on volume down 1.4% to 43.8m units. The number of CDs and LPs shipped rose 1.7% to 36.1m and 11.0% to 626,000 respectively, but the future for the cassette album continues to look bleak. The format recorded yet another fall, this time 15% down on the year to 7.1m, a level

which was itself more than 2.3m units lower than for the same period in 1996.

The wholesale value of full-price albums slipped 1% to £164.1m while mid-price was down 6% to £20.0m. In contrast the value of budget sales rose 25% to £13.1m on the back of a series of strong promotions including a Woolworths three-CDs-for-£15 campaign.

One area of slight disappointment was the classical sector, where sales dipped after three successive quarters of double-digit growth driven by the Titanic soundtrack.

Even Titanic - which was the biggest selling album for the third quarter - running - and Back To Titanic failed to prevent a 3.8% year-on-year fall in volume to 3m units and a 3.7% dip in value to £13m. Nonetheless overall sales remain fairly strong, with the 12-month rolling classical total to the end of September standing at 16.1m units, a level not achieved since 1991.

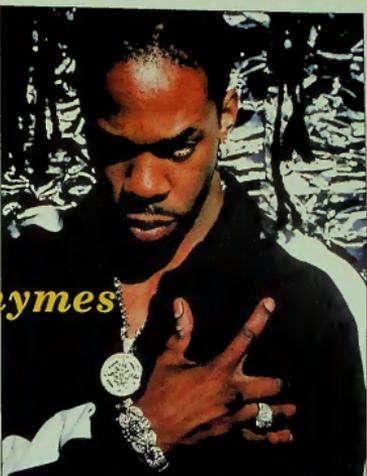
**G**iven the breakthrough achieved by much black music in the charts this year, it is perhaps fitting that it is a rap artist who is releasing the last big name album of the year — Busta Rhymes.

Rhymes' third solo project, *Extinction Level Event (The Final World Front)*, is released on Elektra Records on December 14, only months after the issue of his collective, Rime Squad's album.

The hip hop mega star, who reached number two in the UK singles chart with *Turn It Up* in April, says, "It was ready to go. The juices were flowing. I didn't want to stop."

This is Rhymes' third solo album in as many years, following in the wake of his US platinum-plus *The Coming and When Disaster*

Warner Music UK's head of dance music, Joan Branch, who handles club promotions for the record which goes through East West in UK, says that despite those collaborations "there's no way he's sold out." Branch admits December 14 is not a choice date to release such an



Strikes, the latter of which sold more than 50,000 units in the UK. With 19 cuts including slots and featured guests such as Janet Jackson and heavy metal legend Ozzy Osbourne, it is by far the most diverse album the Brooklyn-born rapper, who was initially signed to Elektra as part of the influential group Leaders of The New School, has made. In the credibility crazed world of hip hop, to call it "commercial", however, could be blasphemous.

"Every album is gonna be different because I'm always growing," says Rhymes. "I can't just limit myself to one group of people. I have to appeal to the universe. That means dipping into other genres and areas of music. Having said that, I can't compromise the essence of hardcore hip hop just to get into these other areas."

important record — the date is chosen to avoid mass imports — but adds, "I really think 1999 is Busta's year. The enthusiasm and expectation is so high and there's a larger audience for Busta out there. *Fire It Up* was his shot at the commercial world, but it's records like that that get people interested in his other work." The first single, *Gimme Some More* (released January 18), has already been playlisted by Kiss FM.

Possibly the world's most instantly recognizable and charismatic rap star and certainly one of the most successful, Rhymes has now reached that precarious point in his

career where he can make the kind of album that could either be embraced by the masses or rejected by the hardcore hip hop fraternity and thus ultimately rejected by the mainstream. Rhymes' A&R representative from Elektra Records, Rick Pasada, is better on the former. "This album will be promoted like no other hip hop album," he says. "We have a lot of events planned. Busta is a huge star and we're treating this album as if, say, it was a

new Metallica record. It's going to be huge." While the album does attempt to broaden Rhymes' sound, not least with its choice of featured artists, it is also careful not to ignore the musical blueprint that made previous singles such as *Whish (Go All In Check)* and *Put Your Hands Where My Eyes Can See* such huge hits.

"We searched all of New York for the best tracks for this album," says Pasada. "It wasn't a case of working with the biggest producers out there. We just wanted to work with people who brought us the best music, regardless of who they are. We listened to literally hundreds of tracks."

Rhymes says that the apparently odd coupling of himself and Osbourne on the remake of the Black Sabbath star's Iron Man, retitled *This Means War*, was his own idea. The experience proved fortuitous.

"The only insecurity I had about working with him was that I was afraid he wouldn't understand what I had in mind but he did," says Rhymes. "I really learned what a professional he is and how hard working he is. He didn't want to waste time, he wanted to work, knock it out, make it a smash and leave. I'm the same way, so I could appreciate that."

Aside from his own releases, the entrepreneurial Rhymes plans to expand his company, Rime Squad Entertainment, with solo album releases from the artists featured on the label's recent compilation. His immediate energies, however, remain focused on the new album. "I want to be defining my own tour this time round," says Rhymes.

"The great thing about hip hop is that there really is no limit on how far it can go. I am sure to take it as far as I possibly can." Jeff Lorez

**Act:** Busta Rhymes Project album/single **Label:** Elektra/East West **Producers:** Rashad Smith/DJ Scratch/Diamond/D/Devic **Angleplate Publisher:** Warner Chappell **Music Released:** December 14/January 18

**H**itting the comeback trail is an uncertain business for bands reliving past glories — for their reputation if nothing else. But so far, this has not been much of a problem for Blondie, who have been gathering mostly awe-struck reviews on their current UK tour.

And not because they have been simply cranking out the old hits. As Deborah Harry, the punk-pop pinup of a generation, who has been stunning fans old and new in the recent shows, says, "This is about now."

In fact, Blondie have also been showcasing songs from their first studio album since 1982, the 14-track *No Exit* (released February 15). It is a powerful and eclectic collection of songs which regales the spirit of the band while, as Harry emphasises, moving into the present.

"We've all had a lot of time to do other things," she says, "but personally it feels like having come full circle." Drummer Clemmys now, as ever, the crucial beating heart of Blondie's infectious sound, agrees. "I think of it as a continuation," he says. "Maybe musicians live in dog years or something, but even though it's taken 16 years to make it, and we've spent the last three years putting this together, it feels like the next Blondie record."

With the commitment of the four original members — Harry, Burke, Chris Stein and Jimmy Destri — to making this album, a new chapter in their careers is demonstrated by the fact that *No Exit* features 100% new material and not covers, reworkings or remixes of old hits. The band last year signed to US independent Beyond Records, who have licensed the project to BMG International.

"If you see their shows, you'd know it made all the sense in the world for us to be involved," says Beyond A&R man Randy Nicklaus, who has overseen an album that was mostly conceived and at least partly recorded in Stein's home basement studio in New York. "Everyone had a few songs in their arsenal to begin with," says Nicklaus. "But once they started in earnest late last year, the output was amazing."

## BLONDIE



MUSIC WEEK 5 DECEMBER 1998

Producer Craig Leon was added to the team, after a prolonged search. "We did try to work with people from the past, who we knew from experience were good, and Craig worked on our very first record," says Burke, who met up again with Leon in very different circumstances a couple of years ago, while making the Mark Owen album.

The resulting sound on *No Exit* is in no way a slavish recreation of early material. It covers an ambitious range of musical styles, from the opening ska-based *Screaming Skin* and the old school rap in the title track to the swing feel of *Boom Boom In The Zoom Zoom Room*, a number which Burke says he was inspired to write with Harry after her collaboration with The Jazz Passengers a couple of years ago.

Harry says this is what the band are all about. "Blondie records have always included a variety of styles," she says. "Whether it's *Rapture* or *The Tide Is High*, we've always experimented."

Perhaps more key to future single success are songs with a hard-edged pop feel, such as *Forgive And Forget*, *Nothing Is Real* But *The Girl* and, first and foremost, *Maria*, which is released as a single on January 25.

Beyond has signed a worldwide licensing deal with BMG International for the album, which is coming out on RCA in the UK, and Nick Stewart, marketing VP at BMG International, says there are three potential singles on the album after *Maria*. "He says that the depth of affection for the band in the UK is such that, 'far from like other bands who've come back, they've never been away'."

RCA has already handed out more than 20,000 "snippet cassettes" of the album to Blondie concertgoers, with response cards included to help build a fan database. In addition, Stewart says the interest of the main music TV shows has been overwhelming, while all the live reviews have mentioned the new material.

There will also be a limited-edition live CD with the album on its release, featuring classic Blondie material. "It's the best record we've ever done. Our Exit easily stands on its own merits. It's the best record we've ever done," she says.

David Knight

**Artist:** Blondie **Label:** RCA **Project:** single/album **Songwriters:** Blondie **Studio:** Red Night Recording, Electric Lucy Studios, Chung King House of Metal, NYC **Producer:** Craig Leon **Publicist:** copyright control **Released:** January 25/February 15



- Travis — Writing To Read You (Independent)** Soulful guitar ballad should kick this band into contention in 1999 (single, January 1999)
- Belle & Sebastian — This Is Just A Modern Rock Song (Jeepster)** So calm, it should be on prescription (single, December 7)
- TQ — Wasteful (Epic/Clockwork)** Stylish, but not as obvious as his (single, January 4)
- The Bitter Sisters — Five Die Filming This Lazy Lark (Vespertine)** Articulate, brittle, caustic, hilarious and compelling (album, December 7)
- Kula Shaker — album promo (Columbia)** Moody Blues for the Nineties (promo, tbc)
- Deft — album sampler (London)** Her surprise Relax hit looks set to be followed by some class pop tunes (sampler, tbc)
- Presence — All Systems Gone (Pagan)** Egotistical album from the UK's leading death-house project (album, February 18)
- Swing — Tim-bio: Life From Da Basement** Superstar producer takes the left road for his debut solo album on Virgin (album, November 23)
- Fat Lip — The Sound Of Love (Blanton)** In the City 1997 runners-up return with a dizzy four-track CD (promo, tbc)
- Three Colours Red — Beautiful Day (Creation)** Deliciously calm, unusually radio-friendly track (single, January 11)
- Somatic — sampler (Universal)** Quality. Samples they are set to be at the forefront of any British revival (sampler)
- Witness — Quarantine (Valiant)** Engaging songwriting prevails on this limited-edition seven-inch (single, November 23)
- KRS-One & 5 Boroughs (Live)** Energetic new track with the funkiest bass line (single, January 18)

# SINGLE of the week

**ALBERTA:** Yo Yo Boy (RCA 74321640602). By far the best yo-yo song of the month showcases 17-year-old north Londoner Alberta Sheriff, whose talents should not be dismissed by this novelty affair. The runner-up to Inman in the Great British Song Contest has made what could have easily been a dull record, written and produced by manager Mike Connaris, sound like a refreshed My Boy Lollipop. This is Simon Cowell's latest effort in the battle with the Spice Girls for the Christmas number one spot — but surely the Teletubbies had more fans than even the over-hyped and overrated yo-yo? **14-1**



obsessed angel, but its big selling point is its connection to the cult cartoon hit South Park. With the show's merchandise flying out of the shops, this single will have a ready and willing market and could well have a shot at the Christmas number one. **12-1**

**ALIEN VOICES FEAT. THE THREE DEGREES:** Last Christmas '98 (Wildstar/Hardback CDW11DL15). The South Park release has somewhat stolen the thunder for this record, but it's a dead cert floor-filler for Christmas parties. Unfortunately while many would welcome the return of one of Prince Charles' favourite acts, even with the production efforts of George Michael's cousin Andreas Georgiou they unfortunately fail to lift the classic song to its potential. **14-1**

**TRUBLE:** Dancing Baby (Yum Yum Boogie Food VYDCX1). A fun record sounding somewhat like a slower version of Deee-Lite's Groove Is in the Heart comes complete with funky horns and is spiced up with the

top-charting from the Ally McBeal TV series (itself swiped from Hooked On A Feeling). While Cheraz's rap adds little to the track, Vonda Shepard's surprise success implies anything could happen with this record. **10-1**

**ROB ZOMBIE:** Dragula (MCA/Geffen GFSTD22367). Already outselling Hole and Marilyn Manson in their native US, Rob Zombie thoroughly deserves to do the same in the UK. Dragula has all the elements of a storming rock song and pays a healthy tribute to Eighties new beat with keyboards beeping up the power chords. Excellent.

**REGULAR FRIES:** Cyanide (JBO JNR5004813). The Fries most cohesive-sounding release to date demonstrates just how well they are coming on in the studio. With specialist Radio One play and an Xfm

Blasting, this tripped-out, dubbed-up single may not be as hot as some think.

## ALBUM reviews

**BUSTA RHYMES:** Extinction Level Event (East West 7559622112). While certainly old school, Busta Rhymes' Extinction Level Event (see Talent p7) displays a wide range of styles including soul, funk and reggae which is best exemplified by collaborations with both Janet Jackson and Ozzy Osbourne. **14-1**

**REDMAN:** Doc's Da Name 2000 (Def Jam 5589422). Redman's latest eagerly-awaited album features his trademark cartoon-violence lyrics in an amusing collection of cynical tales. Method Man, Busta Rhymes and Roni Size contribute a more contemporary sound to the standard hip hop output.

**VARIOUS:** Maximum House And Garage (Virgin VYDCD 230). Roger Sanchez is in full effect on this double-CD package, mixing up 34 of 1998's top disco tunes in his inimitable style. One CD features a Peak Hour Mix and the other an After Hours Mix and both focus on the deeper end of things. **14-1**

## Christmas number one

Releases marked **o** show the odds for the Christmas number one spot quoted by William Hill at the time of going to press on November 27.

## Hear new releases

Audio clips from the releases marked with this icon can be heard on dotmusic at [www.dotmusic.com/reviews](http://www.dotmusic.com/reviews)

This week's reviewers: Michael Byrne, Tom FitzGerald, Olaf Furniss, Stephen Jones and Paul Williams.

## SINGLE reviews



**SPICE GIRLS:** Goodbye (Virgin VSCDT1721). While The Beatles uttered Hello Goodbye for their fourth and final Christmas number one, it's a simple Goodbye from the Spice Girls as they look to equal the Fab Four's run of three consecutive festive chart toppers. Far from being some kind of parting shot from the girls themselves, this is a sugar-coated farewell to a "friend", it's another ballad in which the girls take turns at the lead before coming together on the chorus. The fact that it's a brand new song, comes in two CD formats with previously-unissued tracks and its release date, makes Goodbye seem a certainty for Christmas number one. **4-0**

**JANE MCDONALD:** Cruise Into Christmas (Focus Music International CDFM2). This medley, the Cruise star's first single, trends

a familiar Yuletide path combining White Christmas, Winter Wonderland and Santa Claus Is Coming To Town, although it's a bit more singalong Max than Phil Spector. The raft of TV appearances already booked could turn this into a big hit. **4-1**

**SLADE VS. FLUSH:** Merry Xmas Everybody (Polydor 563 353-2). Flush are Stefan Rundquist and Sven Olsson, founder members of the Swedish Slade Fan Club, and enter into the Christmas spirit with this reworking of Noddy Holder's festive favourite. While the house backing is not the most engaging nor lively, it's still got that rousing chorus breaking through.



**RECORDED:** CHEF: Chocolate Salty Balls (Columbia 6687984). South Park's Chef (the voice of Isaac Hayes) skirts the double entendre's opting instead for single ones on this song from the Chef Aid album. Musically, Rick Rubin's production is smooth and funky, and Hayes still has the voice of a sex

I

**BBC**

Read by **Des Lynam**

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# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



After trailing behind Believe all week, Cher staged a magnificent rearguard action, and clawed her way back to the top of the chart with Believe. Number one for six weeks – equalling the 1998 record set by Run-DMC Vs. Jason Nevins! It's Like That – Believe has shown remarkable consistency, with sales of more than 100,000 every week.

After opening with a sale of 168,000, Believe has sold 205,000, 187,000, 165,000, 139,000 and 126,000 in subsequent weeks, and would have topped a million sales yesterday (Sunday, 29 November), becoming the fourth record to reach that figure this year – the others being Céline Dion's My Heart Will Go On, Run-DMC Vs Jason Nevins' It's Like That and No Matter What by Boyzone.

Boyzone's failure to record their third consecutive number one is surprising, but All Saints split an even better sequence, with War Of Nerves debuting at number

seven despite being widely fancied to give them their fourth chart topper in a row. Putting it in perspective, however, the

After running ahead of Believe all week, Boyzone's I Love The Way You Love Me arrived out of steam on Saturday, and lost the battle for number one by about 7,000.

I Love The Way You Love Me would have given Boyzone a third number one in a row, and its sales (119,000) were well up on the first – All That I Need, which sold 80,000 to grab the title in May – but well down on the second, No

Matter What, which sold a massive 277,500 on its debut week in August, the highest sale of any number one in any week in 1998.

Since starting their chart career with Love Me For A Reason four years ago next week, Boyzone have assembled a run of 13 consecutive Top 5 hits, beating the old record of 11 set by Kylie Minogue, who sadly lost her recording contract last week.

SPR

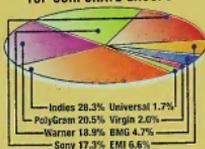
## MARKET REPORT

### TOP 10 COMPANIES



Notes: Show %10 compared to %10 of last week's chart. Top 10 and company group share % of total sales of the Top 10.

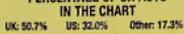
### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### SALES UPDATE



### PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART



54,000 sale of War Of Nerves last week is marginally more than either Never Ever Under The Bridge/Lady Marmalade sold on

their first weeks at number one. With rather more reason to be pleased, Madonna checks in with her fourth consecutive Top 10 hit of the year with The Power of Good-Bye/Little Star debuting at number six. She previously charted with Frozen (number one), Ray Of Light (number two) and Drowned World (Substitute For Love) (number 10). All four tracks are taken from the Ray Of Light album, which has sold more than 720,000 copies so far. The only other act to have four Top 10 hits thus far this year is Five, who reached their target last week.

Madonna's success stretches her run to 47, of which a remarkable 43 have reached the Top 10. 1998 is the first year in which Madonna has had four Top 10 hits since 1989.

The two previous occasions on which there have been seven new entries to the Top 10 were of course in 1997 and not 1977, as stated last week.

## THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

1 MY HEART WILL GO ON	CELINE DION	EPIC
2 IT'S LIKE THAT	RUN-DMC VS JASON NEVINS	SAMS COMMUNICATIONS
3 NO MATTER WHAT	BOYZONE	POLYGRAM
4 BELIEVE	CHER	WEA
5 C'EST LA VIE	B'WITCHED	WEA
6 HOW DO I LIVE	LEANN RIMES	GURTTHE HIT LABEL
7 CHESTnut SUPASTAR (THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE)	PRAS MICHEL feat. ODB & MVA	INTERSCOPE
8 TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	SAVAGE GARDEN	COLUMBIA
9 WVA FOREVER	SPOKE GIRLS	VIRGIN
10 I LIONS '98	BADDELSKINER/LIGHTNING SEED	EPIC
11 MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	STARJUST	VIRGIN
12 DOCTOR JONES	AQUA	UNIVERSAL
13 NEVER EVER	ALL SAINTS	LONDON
14 THE BOY IS MINE	BRANDY & MONICA	ATLANTIC
15 FEEL IT	KAJAPERK FEAT MAYA	PEPPER
16 BRIMFUL OF ASHA	CONNSHIP	WILMA
17 FROZEN	MADONNA	MAVERICK
18 I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING	AEROSMITH	COLUMBIA
19 ROLLERCOASTER	B'WITCHED	EPIC
20 BORN	MOUSSE TV'S HOTN'JUICY	AMPM

PEPSI Chart					
#	Title/Artist	Label	#	Title/Artist	Label
1	BELIEVE Cher	WEA	21	WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryan Adams/Wyke Minkley	CBS
2	I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME Boyzone	Polygram	22	I JUST WANNA BE LOVED Culture Club	Virgin
3	MIAMI Milli Vanilli	Polystar	23	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU Starburst	Virgin
4	UP AND DOWN Nergal	Capitol	24	MY FAVOURITE GAME The Cardigans	Skabbin
5	UNTIL THE TIME IS THROUGH S	RCA	25	THIS KISS Paul Hill	Warner Bros
6	HEARTY RATT/ROBEY	Jan	26	MOVE MANIA South West	Al-Jolly
7	THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE/LITTLE STAR Madonna	Mercury	27	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN' Kevie La Roc	Polygram
8	WAR OF NERVES All Saints	London	28	WOULD YOU...? Touch & Go	East
9	I'M YOUR ANGEL Culture Club & Baby D	EPIC	29	CRUSH Jennifer Paige	Global
10	SEARCHIN' MY SOUL Shavae Street	Capitol	30	FROM THIS MOMENT ON Shavae Street	Mercury
11	SO YOUNG The Roots	A&M	31	WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE Boyz II Men	Capitol
12	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING Aerosmith	Capitol	32	IF YOU TOLEKATE THIS... Marc Dorsey/Producers	EPIC
13	IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD... Tempest feat. Mike Papp	Capitol	33	THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD Sheryl Crow	ARM
14	THANK U ALICE IN CHAIN	Mercury	34	GOODBYE Spice Girls	Virgin
15	SWEETEST THING U2	Island	35	MILLENNIUM Patsy Williams	Chryslis
16	FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN Eagle Eye Cherry	Polygram	36	SENSUALITY Lovestonix	Fresh
17	OUTSIDE George Michael	EPIC	37	IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND Stars 54	Mercury
18	CASH TIME La La	Virgin	38	BEAT IT/BEAT YOUR HEART/BEAT YOUR MIND	Mercury
19	NO RIGHTS/NO BUBLES Williams	Dorland	39	END OF THE LINE Horace	Nonesuch
20	PERFECT 10 The Beautiful South	Capitol	40	SIT DOWN James	Kelton

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24-28 January 99

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## MTV

#	You Said	Label
1	<b>BELIEVE</b> Char	WEA
2	<b>ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST</b> Green/Wyclef DreamWorks	
3	<b>THE POWER OF GOOD BYE</b> Madonna	Maverick
4	<b>THANK U 4 A MILE</b> Morissette	Maverick/Reprise
5	<b>UNTIL THE TIME IS TRUE</b> Live	RCA
6	<b>OUTSIDE</b> George Michael	RCA
7	<b>SWEETEST THING</b> U2	Island
8	<b>MOVE MANIA</b> Stereophonics	Multiply
9	<b>THE BARTENDER AND THE THIEF</b> Stereophonics	Y2
10	<b>WHEN YOU'RE GONE</b> Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C	A&M/Maverick

Most played videos on MTV UK/Video Research Ltd w/e 27/11/98  
Source: MTV UK

## THE BOX

#	You Said	Label
1	<b>BELIEVE</b> Char	WEA
2	<b>TRAGEDY</b> Steps	WEA
3	<b>ONE FOR SORROW</b> Steps	WEA
4	<b>MEGAMIX</b> Live	WEA
5	<b>MY HEART WILL GO ON</b> Celine Dion	Sony
6	<b>UP AND DOWN</b> Vengaboons	Sony
7	<b>UNTIL THE TIME IS THROUGH</b> Live	RCA
8	<b>IF YOU LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME</b> Boyzone	WEA
9	<b>HARD KNOCK LIFE</b> Jay-Z	WEA
10	<b>MIAMI</b> Will Smith	WEA

Most played videos on The Box w/e 27/11/98  
Source: The Box

## BOX BREAKERS

#	You Said	Label
1	<b>GOODYBE</b> Spice Girls	Virgin
2	<b>TAKE ME THERE</b> Blackstreet & Mya	Interscope
3	<b>I WANT YOU '98</b> Savage Garden	Sony
4	<b>TO YOU I BELONG</b> 'Bitched	Glow/Wormy/Epic
5	<b>THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE</b> Madonna	Maverick
6	<b>BUILD ME UP</b> BUTTERCUP The Foundations	Castle Communications
7	<b>WILDSTYLE</b> Poni Kings Vs. DJ Supreme	All Around The World
8	<b>BIG BIG WORLD</b> Emilia	Universal
9	<b>HAVE YOU EVER</b> Brandy	Atlantic
10	<b>GET ON THE BUS</b> Destiny's Child feat. Timbaland	East West

Biggest charting videos on The Box in advance of single releases w/e 27/11/98  
Source: The Box

## TOP OF THE POPS

1 **I Love The Way You Love Me** Bryan Adams  
2 **Take Me Long Way Home** Faithless  
3 **Searchin'** My Soul Vonda Sheppard  
4 **Power Of Goodbye** Madonna  
5 **Love The Way You Love Me** Bryan Adams  
6 **Down Vengaboons** Miamin Will Smith  
7 **Sexuality** Lonestar

Draft live-up 4/12/98

## RADIO ONE PLAYLISTS

**A-LIST** Until The Time Is Through Live; When You're Gone Bryan Adams; You're Mine Caroline C; War Of Nerves All Saints; I Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams; Believe Char; So Young (K'Naan) The Corrs; There Goes The Neighborhood Sheryl Crow; Big Big World Emilia; Take The Long Way Home Faithless; The End Of The Line Herbie Hancock; Sit Down '98 James; Hard Knock Life Jay-Z; Sexuality Lonestar; The Power Of Goodbye Madonna; The Escapades Miami Street Fresh; Dreaming 'Ril' Christy; Presents Alanis; I Want '98 Savage Garden; Miami Will Smith; Goodbye Spice Girls; The Bartender And The Thief Stereophonics; Up And Down Vengaboons; No Regrets Robbie Williams

**B-LIST** I Wish I Were Your Alisia's Arie; Wild Surf Arie; To You I Belong 'Bitched; Daria The Beautiful South; Troopika Black; She Wants You Brita; Alarm Call Boyz; Take Me There Blackstreet feat. Mya; Have You Ever Brandy; My Favourite Gene Carigans; Falling In Love Again Eagle Eye; Each Time E\*17; The Good Will Out

**C-LIST** As Featured: Always Have, Always Will Ace Of Base; I Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams; Walk Like A Panther 4; Singin' U Good Morning Sunshine Alanis; When You Believe Mariah Carey & Whitney Houston; Chocolate Sally Batts; Celine; I'm Your Angel Celine Dion & Kelly; Cancer For The Cure Girls; I Promise You Fatboy Slim; Can't Take My Eyes Off You Luigi; Live Everywhere Janet Jackson; It's All Yours MC Lyte; Alan's Not Stopping Us New MOBO Artists; Doin' Our Thing Phobos One & The Man Street Crew

RL playlists for week beginning 2/11/98  
\* Denotes additions

## MTV UK PLAYLISTS

**Heavy** Falling In Love Again Eagle Eye; Cherry; The Power Of Goodbye Madonna; Until The Time Is Through Live; Believe Char; So Young The Corrs; War Of Nerves All Saints; Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams

**Hot** Sexuality; I Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams; Take Me There Blackstreet; Mya; Savage Garden; Big Big World Emilia; No Regrets Robbie Williams; There Goes The Neighborhood Sheryl Crow; Heartbreak; Tragedy Steps; Goodbye Spice Girls

**Buzz Bin** Hard Knock Life Jay-Z; The Thief Stereophonics; Take The Long Way Home Faithless; The Escapades Miami Street Fresh; When You're Gone Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C

## CD:UK

Stella Performance: We've Got; Get Out Of This Place; Sexuality; Lovestation; Take The Long Way Home Faithless; Forever Is Here You Are; War Of Nerves All Saints; Whatever You Want Another Level; Videos: When You're Gone Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C; Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams; Miami Will Smith; People's Choice Videos: Naughty Christmas Fat Lz; The Escapades Miami Street Fresh; I Want You '98 Savage Garden; Archive Playlist: Rebel Yell Big City

## RADIO TWO PLAYLISTS

**A-LIST** Goodbye Spice Girls; Dumb The Beautiful South; End Of The Line Herbie Hancock; Faith Hill; So Young (K'Naan) The Corrs; Believe Char; Heartbreak Steps; I Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams; The Power Of Goodbye Madonna; Always Have, Always Will Ace Of Base; From This Moment On Shania Twain; I'm Your Angel Celine Dion & Kelly

**B-LIST** Troopika Black; Ghetto Girl Simply Red; Everyday Janet Jackson; Sad Eyes Bruce Springsteen; Big Big World Emilia; Each Time E\*17; Little Belief To Be Believable Shown Gabe; Superstar Rod Stewart; The Greatest Love You'll Never Know Luvuca Mohell; I Wish I Were Your Alisia's Arie; When You Believe Mariah Carey & Whitney Houston; Searchin' My Soul Vonda Sheppard

## INTERNATIONAL PROFILE: GEORGE MICHAEL

by ALAN JONES

**Breakers** I Don't Want to Miss A Thing; The Power Of Goodbye; My Favourite Gene Carigans; Another One Bites The Dust Queen/Wyclef; Each Time E\*17; Would You Touch & Go; Blue Angels; If You Buy This Record (Your Will Be Better); The Escapades Miami Street Fresh; The Works Billy; We Getta Get Out Of This Place Spice; End Of The Line Herbie Hancock; Take Me There Blackstreet feat. Mya; I Want You '98 Savage Garden; To You I Belong 'Bitched; Up And Down Vengaboons; Down Vengaboons; Searchin' My Soul; When You Believe Mariah Carey & Whitney Houston

## THE PEPSI CHART

Performances: We Getta Get Out Of This Place Spice; War Of Nerves All Saints; Love The Way You Love Me Bryan Adams

Waviest: There Goes The Neighborhood Sheryl Crow; The Power Of Goodbye Madonna; Miami Will Smith; Intarsense; Spice

Draft live-up 2/12/98

## AMERICAN CHART WATCH

by ALAN JONES

Changes in the methodology used to compile Billboard's Hot 100 chart came into effect this week, and caused major upheaval. The Hot 100 was previously open only to commercially released singles, but with more and more popular tracks being promoted to radio without ever being released as singles, Billboard has decided that it will no longer be necessary to release a single to make the chart. It helps, of course, with sales counting for up to 25% of a track's points, but the backbone of the chart is simply from a panel of 75 radio stations, covering R&B, rock, pop and country. The first 100 under the new system includes a debut at number one (Celine Dion & R Kelly's 'I'm Your Angel') and 60 other newcomers, with 52 of the tracks included available only as **album cuts**.

Last week, there were six singles on the chart by British acts – nothing to write home about but a great deal better than this week. Although UK-based Natalie Imbruglia is charted for the first time with Torn and UK-singled U2 are listed with Sweetest Thing, the only British act in the chart now is Live – and they are way down in 99th position with 'It's

The Things You Do. The last time there was only one British act on the chart was exactly 35 years ago, on December 7 1963, the Caravelles, who were already charting with 'You Don't Have To Be A Baby To Cry Yourself Sick'. The new number one, 'Dessise Live In The Game', these two hung on until the Beatles arrived on January 18 1964.

The much-anticipated Super Tuesday really did unleash massive album sales in America last week, with 21 new entries to the Top 200 album chart and a 27% increase in sales week-on-week. The entire top four are new entries, as are six of the top seven – both unprecedented – with the former number one, Alanis Morissette's 'Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie' slumping to eighth place. The new number one, 'Dessise Live by Garth Brooks which, as expected, established a new sales record by selling 1,085,373 copies, beating the previous top tally of 950,378 established by Pearl Jam's 'Vs.' in 1993. Among British acts, 'The Highest' topped the chart and 'Where I Deserve Being' added just 85,000 copies – but with 16 albums selling more than 100,000 that's only enough for a number 22 debut.

## INTERNATIONAL PROFILE: GEORGE MICHAEL

by ALAN JONES

George Michael and U2's chart fortunes have been linked from the very first time the two acts broke into the UK Top 10. It was in the same week almost 16 years ago as George Michael's first Top 10 hit as part of Wham!, Young Guns (Go for It), disappeared from the Top 40, U2's own first big hit, New Year's Day, arrived in the Top 10. The pair share 1987 as their golden year for album releases when, between them, they reached up more than 30m worldwide sales for Faith and The Joshua Tree.

Come the close of 1998 and their fates are linked again as they head the bulging list of greatest hits packages with their releases Ladies & Gentlemen ... The Best Of and The Best Of 1980-1990, outselling other retrospective across the world's charts.

The U2 album has reached number one in more than 20 territories so far. It is a tally unmatched yet by the double George Michael album, though its success is reconfirming his position as a global superstar by going top 10 in most countries, including sitting at one in Denmark, two in Australia and Sweden, three in Germany and Italy and 10 in Canada. On this evidence, it seems, the singer's well-

documented arrest on April 7 this year is not affecting sales, though Epic/Sony S2's director of international marketing Jon Fowler suggests, 'It has no relevance to the album. The important thing is nobody is surprised by the sales we're enjoying. It's an extremely strong body of work spanning more than a decade.'

The one blot on the landscape is the US, where the album debuted at 24 a week ago, some way off the 12-week chart-topping run of his first solo album Faith in 1988.

However, his sales there were already in decline with Older, his biggest-selling album in the UK to date, which peaked at six and disappeared from the Top 10 after two weeks in May 1996. The lack of radio support for the single Outside is a likely factor, too, for the album's current ranking.

Elsewhere Outside has been a huge radio record, neatly setting up the release of the album whose promotion has come with the support of the artist himself. Despite its release being part of his departure settlement from Sony, he has agreed to appear in a series of one-on-one TV interviews in each of the world's leading music territories.



5  
december  
1998

# singles



1 **BELIEVE**  
Cher

- |    |                                   |                        |          |
|----|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| 2  | I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME        | Boyzone                | Polydor  |
| 3  | MIAMI WILLI SMITH                 | Will Smith             | Columbia |
| 4  | UP AND DOWN                       | Vengaboys              | Positiva |
| 5  | HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY                 | Steps                  | Jive     |
| 6  | THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE/LITTLE STAR | Madonna                | Maverick |
| 7  | WAR OF NERVES                     | All Saints             | London   |
| 8  | I'M YOUR ANGEL                    | Deline Dion & R. Kelly | Epic     |
| 9  | UNTIL THE TIME IS THROUGH         | Five                   | RCA      |
| 10 | SEARCHIN' MY SOUL                 | Vonda Shepard          | Epic     |



- |    |                                             |                         |          |
|----|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 11 | IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD YOU LIFE WILL BE THE | Tempete feat. Maya      | Popper   |
| 12 | MOVE MANIA                                  | Sash! featuring Shannon | Multiply |
| 13 | SO YOUNG                                    | The Corrs               | Atlantic |
| 14 | I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING                | Aerosmith               | Columbia |
| 15 | TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME                      | Faithless               | Cheeky   |
| 16 | SENSUALITY                                  | Lovestation             | Fresh    |
| 9  | FROM THIS MOMENT ON                         | Shania Twain            | Mercury  |
| 10 | DREAMING Ruff Driverz                       | Presents Arrola         | Informo  |
| 18 | THERE GOES THE NEIGHBOURHOOD                | Sheryl Crow             | Atlantic |

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# albums



1 **LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF**  
George Michael  
Epic

- |    |                         |                  |                |
|----|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 2  | I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU | Robbie Williams  | Chrysalis      |
| 3  | TALK ON CORNERS         | The Corrs        | Atlantic       |
| 4  | THE BEST OF 1980-1990   | U2               | Island         |
| 7  | ONE NIGHT ONLY          | Bee Gees         | Polydor        |
| 6  | THE BEST OF M           | M People/BMG     | M People/BMG   |
| 8  | STEP ONE                | Steps            | Jive/Blut      |
| 4  | VOICE OF AN ANGEL       | Charlotte Church | Sony Classical |
| 5  | HITS                    | Phil Collins     | Virgin         |
| 18 | WHERE WE BELONG         | Boyzone          | Polydor        |



- |    |                                     |                           |                   |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 13 | THE BEST OF - THE STAR AND WISEMAN  | Black Mamba               | PolyGram TV       |
| 11 | QUENCH                              | The Beautiful South       | GoldDiscs/Mercury |
| 10 | NO 15                               | Mariah Carey              | Columbia          |
| 16 | B*WITCHED B*                        | Witched                   | Epic              |
| 17 | SUPPOSED FORMER INFATUATION         | JUNCKIE Alanis Morissette | Maverick          |
| 19 | THE MOVIES                          | Michael Ball              | PolyGram TV       |
| 14 | MODERN CLASSICS - THE GREATEST HITS | Paul Weller               | Island            |
| 20 | BELIEVE                             | Cher                      | WEA               |
| 19 | THE MASTERPLAN                      | 100%                      | Capitol           |

# RM

5 DECEMBER 1998

## inside:

[2] SEVEN DAYS IN DANCE: MARK JONES of WALL OF SOUND reveals what he got up to last week

[3] RADIO: The Top 40 Dance Airplay countdown; PETE TONG's playlist

[4-6] HOT VINYL: all the tunes of the week, the latest reviews and DJ Tips

[7] JOCK ON HIS BOX: DJ SWING



**buzz  
chart  
number  
ones**

CLUB:	'THE BEST OF M PEOPLE REMIXES: M People (M People) p5
URBAN:	'HARD KNOCK LIFE': Jay-Z (Northwestside) p6
POP:	'YOU SHOULD BE...': Blackstar (Sound Of Ministry) p6
COOL CUTS:	'RED ALERT': Basement Jaxx (XL) p8



Ian Brown will be the featured lead singer on the next single by James Lavelle and DJ Shadow's UNKLE project. The ex-Stone Roses singer will vocal a new version of the instrumental 'Unreal' from the 'Psyence Fiction' album. The track will be renamed and released in February with a package that will include an already completed remix by Noel Gallagher on Oasis. The Underdog will also be remaking the track following his acclaimed mix of the last UNKLE single, 'Rabbit In Your Headlights'. UNKLE will also be taking to the road in the new year as part of the *NME* Premier tour. Minus DJ Shadow, James Lavelle will be mixing and scratching cuts from the album live with The Scratch Perverts. The dates of the tour are: OMI, Glasgow (January 10); Lomax 2, Liverpool (11); Manchester University (12); Metro University, Leeds (14); Sheffield University (15); Warwick University (16); Cardiff University (18); Bristol University (19); Brookes University, Oxford (20); De Montford University, Leicester (22); UEA, Norwich (23); and The Astoria, London (24).

## dunne boosts dance's profile at atlantic 252

This week saw the launch of a new dance-heavy programme schedule on Atlantic 252 featuring a host of names from the club and dance scene.

The shows are the initiative of the station's new programme director David Dunne (pictured), who was previously head of music at MTV and also ex-head of music at Kiss 102.

The shows will go under the BPM banner which Dunne devised for his own weekend dance shows. It was the success of these that prompted the addition of more dance programmes to the schedule.

Dunne says, "When we got the first figures through for my Saturday dance show, we saw an almost 500% increase in listening at that time slot. I thought, 'Right we'll have some more of that'."

Among those who have been confirmed for shows are Rob Tissera (Friday 10pm-12am); Ben Davis and Elliot Eastwick (Friday midnight-2am); DJ Lottie and Caroline from MissDemeanours (Saturday 9pm-11pm); Katharine Orman Clubber's Breakfast (Sunday noon-3pm); and Theo (aka DJ Touche)

from The Wise Guys (Thursday 10pm-12am). Dunne has the double task of not only having to lure listeners away from existing dance stations but also from FM to the long wave on which Atlantic broadcasts.

Dunne points out that there are areas in the UK which still aren't served by commercial dance stations and also that, while not stereo, long wave can still deliver the necessary bass end for dance. Dunne says, "If it's a choice of listening to two hours of drivel or two hours of decent music, people won't mind that we're on long wave. What we have to make sure is that what we offer is different."

Dunne says he has chosen his presenters for their knowledge and enthusiasm for radio rather than going for big club names. Humour will also form an important role in the shows. "For example, Ben and Elliot's show will almost be like a Mark & Lard for the dance industry with their 'offbeat humour'."

The changes at Atlantic will fit in with a more general overhaul at the station which will be backed by a marketing drive which will include an MTV ad campaign.



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13 22 WOULD YOU

12 23 EACH TIME!

11 24 IT FEELS SO

10 25 THE BARTEN

9 26 SIT DOWN!

8 27 THIS KISS F

7 28 BLAME IT O

6 29 BLUE ANGE

5 30 I JUST WAN

4 31 WILD SURF

3 32 FALLING IN

2 33 MY FAVOUR

1 34 TELL ME M

27 35 OUTSIDE G

28 36 PERFECT 10

29 37 ANOTHER ONE BIT

30 38 SWEETEST

31 39 GIRLFRIEND

32 40 THANK U A

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**wonderboy wins bidding war for cevin fisher**

PolyGram dance imprint Wonderboy has won the chase to sign Cevin Fisher's 'You Got Me Burnin' Up' from Subversive Records. The track, which samples the

famous by Black Box's 'Ride On Time', topped various buzz charts including RMI Cool Cuts and was on Pete Tong's Essential Selection on Radio One.

A bidding war saw virtually every major dance imprint put in an offer. Wonderboy boss Nigel Godsfiff says, "I think we were lucky because we were possibly the first people on to the record and developed a good relationship with Subversive."

Wonderboy, which used to be part of AM-PM at A&M, has now been relocated to PolyGram TV where it runs in tandem with the company's various dance compilation interests. The label has enjoyed two recent Top 40 hits with 'Klubheads' 'Kickin' Herd' and ATGO's 'Repeated Love'. However, Godsfiff is confident Fisher's 'You Got Me Burnin' Up' will provide a more sizeable hit. "This is a major one and has the potential to be a Top 10 record," he says.

The track will be released in early 1999.



**[TODAYS IN DANCE]**

**mark jones md. wall of sound**



"Thursday: arrived in Tokyo with **TOUCHE** from The Wise Guys and **JACQUES LE COMTE** from Les Rhythm Digital. Then off for a Japanese meal with **SHIN YAMADA** from VJ/Virgin and **TOKISHI** the promoter, which was like something from a Pink Panther movie. Followed this with **KARAOKE**.

Friday: hungover on the bullet train to **OSAKA** which is very neon and futuristic. Met at **CLUB DAWN** for our gig by **Wall Of Sound GROUPIES** both male and female. Very bizarre, but good. Saturday: back to **TOKYO** for a day of press and promotion. In the evening we went to see **NORMAN COOK** and witnessed the most incredible scenes ever at a DJ gig. He played in a huge sports hall with 2,000 people imitating him and going mad every time he changed a record. Hung out with Norman. Sunday: more **INTERVIEWS**. They wanted to know everything because we hadn't been to Japan before.

Had a meeting about making **Jacques Le Comte**. The stage got invaded and a fan made us a cake. Monday: a surprise guest - **Norman Cook**. The stage got invaded and a fan made us a cake. Monday: left Tokyo at midday and arrived in London at 4pm. The other two slept on the flight but I couldn't. Luckily **IRON MAIDEN** were on our flight, so I actually managed to bore them to sleep. Went to the office and then dinner at the **WILLIAM IV**. Still no sleep. Tuesday: went to **VITAL** for the meeting of **ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT MUSIC** which was really good.

Had a drink with **ROB** from **WARP**. Finally managed to sleep. Wednesday: went to the **DENTIST!** for the first time in seven years. Went to **LORD COLLYN** who was **HENDRIX'S DENTIST!**. Then had an A&R meeting with **DEREK DELARGE** which took about five minutes.



Positiva has ended the year with a bang with the Vengaboys' 'Up And Down' looking set to hold or even better its number four position in last week's single chart.

The label has also confirmed that A&R manager Kevin Robinson will be taking over the position of head of A&R at Positiva following the departure of Dave Lambert to AM-PM.

Like many other labels, Positiva has had to reassess its operation over the past year with club records proving hard to turn into hits. Positiva label head Nick Haikes says, "I don't think it's been an easy year for anybody across-the-board, not just in dance. The Vengaboys signing is, in some extent, representative of where dance is heading at the moment. It's an act with a lot of pop accessibility, which is quite a helpful thing to have just now."

The Vengaboys (pictured with Haikes [centre] and Robinson [centre left] plus Violent Music's Peter Schoots [centre right]) will follow the current hit with another single on February 22 called 'We Like To Party (The Vengabus)' and will have their debut album, 'The Party', released on March 8. Haikes says, "The next record has already been a top five single in Germany and I think it could be an even bigger hit here than 'Up And Down'." Having already picked up a number of hits for the label, Haikes says that A&R manager Kevin Robinson will neatly dovetail into the post of head of A&R. He adds, "This will be the first change we've had at the label for quite a while but we're pleased for Dave and confident that it won't affect us in any negative way."

Aside from The Vengaboys, Positiva will be focusing a lot of attention on the second album by drum & bass artist Adam F, which will feature a collaboration with Beanie Man.

**SHOPFLOOR sound of the universe. London**

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Sound Of The Universe was known as Soul Jazz Records until a year ago, when the name was changed to reflect the music available. "We broadened the musical policy, which used to be Seventies jazz and soul," says buyer Christine Indigo. "Now we have a much more comprehensive policy and stock lots of new music, whether it's techno, drum & bass or deep house."

This has resulted in the shop being busier, as well as a more interesting and varied customer base, according to Indigo. "We get much younger people through the door now, maybe to find a Detroit track, but ending up buying some old jazz instead."

The shop runs two labels - Soul Jazz, its Seventies reissues imprint, and Satellia, which releases new electronic-based music. Not surprisingly, one of the records doing well for Sound Of The Universe is its Soul Jazz compilation '100% Dynamite', which continues to fly out the door. Also selling well are Funky Low Lives' 'Funky Construction' on Ascension Music, The Lyricist Lounge All Stars' 'CIA' on Rawkus and Delia's 'Pramamba' on Island.

**[LABEL]**



**KICKIN MUSIC**  
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 10 Acklam Road,  
 London W10 5DZ.  
 Tel: 0181-964 3300; fax: 0181-964  
 4400; e-mail info@kickin.co.uk;  
 website www.kickin.co.uk

**HISTORY**

Kickin Music is about to celebrate its 10th anniversary, having been set up in 1989 by the inimitable Peter Harris. Its first signing was Shut Up And Dance's '5678' which set the tone for the first raft of releases, the next one being The Scientist's 'The Exorcist', which claimed to be the first record above 130bpm.

Kickin prides itself on working with people long before they hit the big time, and a good example is DJ Hypo, who joined in 1989 as A&R manager.

Over the years, Kickin has launched a series of innovative compilations. Recent examples include the 'French Fried Funk' series, which licensed

tracks from artists such as Air and Dimitri From Paris before they were snapped up by majors. The label is also proud of its 'Nu Skool Breaks' series, which builds on its work with breakout artists.

In 1995 Kickin launched a subsidiary house and garage label, Slip 'N' Slide, whose first signing was Deep Dish.

The label has high hopes for new signing Davidson Ospina, whose Latin-influenced album is due next spring.

Of the label's future, Harris says, "Kickin's objective for the millennium is to keep being a cutting-edge company."

**SPECIALIST AREAS**  
 Upfront underground house and breakbeat

**KEY ARTISTS**

Blaze, Charles Dickens, Davidson Ospina, Decoder, Klub Family feat. Sybil

**LAST THREE RELEASES**

'The Lift' Chris Domingo; 'Dissection' (album) Decoder; 'French Fried Funk 2' Various Artists

'COOL UP' Nu Skool Breaks Vol 2; Techno Nations Vol 8 feat Brenda Russell; Beats By Dope Demand Vol 5

**RETAILER'S VIEW**

"All Kickin and Slip 'N' Slide releases sell really well here. I expect their forthcoming compilations to be big sellers for us." - Paul Ferris, Uptown Records

**51**



- 1 **BELIEVE** Cher
- 2 I LOVE THEY
- 3 MIAMI VILLS
- 4 UP AND DOV
- 5 HEARTBEAT
- 6 THE POWERO
- 7 WAR OF NER
- 8 I'M YOUR AN
- 9 UNTIL THE T
- 10 SEARCHIN' N



- 11 IF YOU BUY THIS R
- 12 MOVE MANN
- 13 SO YOUNG T
- 14 I DON'T WAN
- 15 TAKE THE LO
- 16 SENSUALITY
- 17 FROM THIS M
- 18 DREAMING F
- 19 THERE GOES T



WWW

hot vinyl

on the decks: andy beavers, chris linan, ronnie herel, james hyman, tim jeffery, danny mcmillan, ziad (pure groove)

TUNE OF THE WEEK



BUSTA RHYMES 'GIMME SOME MORE' (WEA) (R&B)

Arguably the most consistent rap artist of the past decade, BR has created a smash yet again with another hip hop anthem – and just in time for the festive season (mid-December release). The track kicks off with a deep and eerie string-sampled loop taken from the remake of the classic horror movie *Cape Fear*. The Timbaland-style half-step beats then drop with immense impact but it's Busta's strongly distinctive rap style – as in his previous classics 'Woo Ha' and 'Put Ya Hands' – that makes the track so explosive. His rhythmic rap delivery is so quick that you will have to wake up extremely early in the morning to catch exactly what it is he is talking about or indeed catch every word, but Busta cleverly uses that old chestnut, yes, it's that hooky as phuck rap-long chorus again and the main man is the number one expert in feeding us the catchy chorus line. Already being championed by all good radio shows in its current promo format, the track is a guaranteed monster hit. Also check out the flipside track, 'Tear The Roof Off', which is strictly for the underground heads. Watch out, Busta's comin' hardcore for Christmas! ●●●●● RH

MIRROBALL 'GIVEN UP' (MULTIPLY) (HOUSE)

Disco and house blend together yet again in what seems to be a continuing trend over the past year. With many of the old disco classics being featured or sampled in one way or another, it won't be too long before the archives have been exhausted. 'Given Up' samples the Three Degrees and comes in an Original and Hugster mix. Both mixes have the same idea, producing a full-blooded bad beat and running the very strong sample hook over the top. Not an original idea but one that will work a lot better than many of its contemporaries. ●●●●● CF

808 STATE 'BOMBADIN' (ZTT) (HOUSE)

Fire Island provide the new 'Bombadin' update, backed up on this promo by the ZTT/Universal import favourite Cubik mix by Victor Calderone that has been previously mentioned in these pages. 'Bombadin' comes across in a deep pulsating and an overall distinctive electro influence. Two very select 808 pieces. ●●●●● CF

SKYNET UK 'LOVE THING/OPEN THE FLOODGATE' (WHOOPI!) (HOUSE)

Following the excellent 'Lost Without You' by Dominion, Whoopi seems to have

BEST OF THE ALBUMS

VARIOUS 'FANTAZIA BRITISH ANTHEMS 2000' (FANTAZIA)

Another compilation vying for that Christmas stocking. This time, Jeremy Healy and Allister Whitehead are both responsible for a mixed set, with Healy providing top tunes such as Greece 2000, Blue Adonis, Golden Girls and the mighty Aroia. Whitehead, meanwhile, presents Gavin Fisher, Eddie Amador and Les Rhythim Digital's in his song featured compilation. With all of the good club releases that came around this year, it's difficult to see anybody putting together a bad compilation. ●●●●● CF

gone up a division and it has consolidated that position with this release. 'Love Thing' is a Euro-tinged hard house drive, featuring a minimal lead vocal at its summit. 'Open The Floodgate' is much the stronger track, charging a fierce bass roll linked in with a brutal rasping electro build, with a huge synth breakdown midway through that really takes off. ●●●●● CF

TRINA & TAMERA 'WHAT D'YOU COME HERE FOR' (COLUMBIA) (R&B)  
You heard them first on Something For The People's 'My Love Is The Shhh!', now they have the opportunity to shine through in their own right. T&T's debut single starts off as if we have to prepare ourselves for a rendition of Rose Royce's classic 'Carwash' (handclaps and all that), then transforms into a cool little midtempo swayer consisting of a two-chord pattern groove and a delightful vocal from the two ladies in the spotlight. Minimal musical content but effective nevertheless. ●●●●● RH

MARK B & BLADE 'NOBODY RELATES' (JAZZ FUDGE) (HIP HOP)  
Two key players on the British hip hop scene come forward to deliver two cracking joint joints. 'Nobody Relates' kicks off proceedings with the ever reliable Mark B fine-tuning the beats and the man called the Blade waxing the lyrics. Deep strings round the arrangement, which is backed by subtle stabs and smooth atmospherics. Also check out 'We'll Survive' on the B-side on which Scratch Pervert Mr Thing does his bit of quest acrobatics. ●●●●● DM

THE DARK AGE 'ANCIENT QUEEN' (CODED) (HOUSE)  
The second release for Quad's sub label sees the boys take a tip from Nick Warren, who featured this track in its original format on his *Global Underground* compilation 'Luv In Prague'. The original starts on a deep US groove that gives way to a frenzy of powerful beats and driving synths that are a guaranteed winner. Coming with two slamming mixes from the guys behind the Majestic label – Pako and Frekerik – the first is a nice percussive number driven along by deep groovy basslines and soothing synth washes, while the second is more of a selection of bonus beats. The final mix comes from Digital Monkeys who add their own twisted interpretation, finishing this package off in style. ●●●●● CF

PORN KINGS VS DJ SUPREME 'UP TO THE WILDSIDE' (HOUSE) (A&TW)

Another 'thump and pound' hit house tune is boosted by the 'DJ Supreme, the inventor of wildside' shouts. Josh Wink/Higher State 303 drops, trademark whoops and DeLay Kid Rock's ridiculously tight cuts, scratches and quick joints. With a slick b-boys on the roof veebo to complement the track, this is another winning formula and subsequent club/crossover hit. ●●●●● JH



808 STATE

DJ QUIK 'HAND IN HAND' (PROFILE) (R&B)

The man with a proven funky feel for his music has taken a breather from hitmaking for the likes of JD and the Tonys to concentrate on his own sound. Co-produced by 2nd id Mone and El De Barge, this is a total retro style party mix. Lifted from his long player 'Rhythm-A-Lism', this cut is extremely reminiscent of early Arrested Development with the srirooth and sweet musical delivery and dexterity but cool toned in cheek rhymes. There is also that almost obligatory whoop female chorus to brighten the voice even more. So lock in to this and throw away the key! Wicked touch. ●●●●● RH



- 1 BELIEVE Cher
- 2 I LOVE THE WAY YOU MOVE
- 3 MIAMI WOLFS
- 4 UP AND DOWN
- 5 HEARTBEAT
- 6 THE POWER OF LOVE
- 7 WAR OF NERVS
- 8 I'M YOUR ANCHOR
- 9 UNTIL THE NEXT TIME
- 10 SEARCHING FOR MY LOVE
- 11 IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD
- 12 MOVE MAMA
- 13 SO YOUNG
- 14 I DON'T WANNA DANCE WITH YOU
- 15 TAKE THE LOVE
- 16 SENSUALITY
- 17 FROM THIS MOMENT
- 18 DREAMING
- 19 THERE GOES MY HEART



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- 28 SENSUALITY
- 29 FROM THIS MOMENT
- 30 DREAMING
- 31 THERE GOES MY HEART

# the CHART

(upfront house)

[commentary]

by alan jones



**M PEOPLE** top the Club Chart for only the second time in their lengthy and hit-laden career this week, moving decisively into pole position with their 'Best Of M People' sampler, which includes exclusive remixes of 'One Night In Heaven', 'How Can I Love You More', 'Colour My Life' and 'Moving On Up' – the latter track also providing their previous number one experience when it topped the chart on September 18, 1993. Mixes then were provided by M People themselves and Roger Sanchez. On the new promo, Moving On Up is mixed by MARK PICCHITTL. Although M People received slightly less support than BLOCKSTAR had when they were third number one last week, they have the third highest tally of support registered by any number one in 1998. With ROBBIE RIVERA's 'Ultimate Disco Groove' and Blockster's 'You Should Be...' taking runners-up and third place with more DJ support than most number ones, the total support garnered by the top three is higher than it has ever been before... The Robbie Rivera and Blockster singles are prime examples of disco house, which is rapidly becoming the dominant force in clubland. The genre also surrenders the week's highest debut, in the form of MIRROR BALLS' 'Given Up', which crashes in at number eight. Potentially sampling the Old Three Degrees hit 'Giving Up, Giving In' – as its bastardised title acknowledges – it is the latest monster to emerge from Telstar's Multiplac label. With heavy support from Radio One and Kiss and its club base, it seems certain to become a major hit when it gets a commercial release next January... Meanwhile, a record which is untashed commercially as a doubleback this week, and which will therefore not be eligible for the singles chart is ARMIAND VAN HELDEN's superb '2 On The 4 U EP'. It climbs 14-10 on this chart this week but would very likely have topped the chart if it hadn't been issued as a severely limited promo. It gains its Top 10 place because those who have it are sharing it very high indeed – the record registers a higher points-per-DJ ratio than any other record in the chart. The outstanding track among the five on the EP is 'You Don't Know Me', which is due as a fully featured single next year.



© CIN. Produced in co-operation with the BPI and BIRD, based on a sample of more than 4,000 record outlets

Pos	Week	Artist	Label
1	5	THE BEST OF M PEOPLE: THE ULTIMATE DISCO GROOVE (TALL PAUL/FUNK MIXES) Robbie Rivera	Duty Free
2	1	YOU SHOULD BE... (BLOCKSTAR/ELISA MARIE EXPERIENCE MIX) Blockster	Sound Of Ministry
3	1	DA-FORCE (ALAN THOMPSON/SARAH/SKINNY PINK MIXES) Bedlam	Playola
4	3	BAD GIRLS (LUKE FORDE MIXES) LINE (POWER) MIXES Juliet Roberts	Delirious
5	3	SHE WANTS YOU (ERICK MORILLO/DEVIN FISHER/SARP MIXES) Billie	Innocent
6	2	TO THE LEFT (JONES MIXES) Blake Williams	Cleveland City
7	10	GIVEN UP (ORIGINAL/HUGSTAR/OLAV BASOCCO/FORTRHIG MIXES) Mirror Ball	Multiply
8	6	MONTEMAX (MAXXUS FULL MONKEY) (SCORPIO/CDDP MIXES) Pink	Activ
9	8	2 FUTURE 4 U (EP) Armand Van Helden	Trr
10	14	BETTING ANK WIT (TROLL MIXES) The Egg	Industria
11	4	END OF THE LINE (CAS ACCORDIANTS MIXES) Honeyz	1st Avenue/Mercury
12	3	POWER WOMAN (VENGA BOYS/KUBIEBASS MIXES) Mark Van Dale with Erica	Club Tools
13	4	SENSE OF DANGER (FLURRY PHREK/ATTABOY/STEPHEN MANDRAXPE/BRADDOCK MIXES) Presence feat. Shara Nelson	Pagan
14	5	GOT A MESSAGE (DAVE KENDALL & TONY PATTON/NEO LOCK & SM PROJECT MIXES) 4-Kon featuring Angie Brown	Heart
15	16	SWEETHEART (MIXES) DJ featuring Mariah Carey	So So Del/Columbia
16	7	CLAP YOUR HANDS (BULLET/PROG/KADOC MIXES) Kadee	Neo
17	24	NEVER LOST HIS HARDCORE (SHARPEX/BOZ/DON/KUCKLE/HEADZ/FLOORPLAY MIXES) NRG	Banana
18	12	PLEASURE '98 (ANDREW ANDROS/DAVID-BOP MIXES) Marc Andre	Fluff
19	4	FUNKY LOVE (MATT DAREY/TROUSER ENTHUSIASTS/SPREADLOVE MIXES) Kavana	Virgin
20	15	GONNA LOSE MY LOVE (SOUND MIXES) Overground Fun	Siann/Pioneer
21	30	WHAT'S YOUR NAME (BOB SINCLAIR/ARIZONA/DAV'S/WING FM MIXES) Ian Pooley	V2
22	18	PUT YOUR HANDS UP (DJ DISCO/ERIGUAL/CALVIN & PHILIP/SWIFT W/IN EVIDENCE/TONKA MIXES) Black & White Brothers	Club Tools
23	2	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOUR FOOTSTEPS (Standst Vs. Womack & Womack)	
24	5	INSANITY (OCEANIC/CHASE/WAYNE GUSBY/S/PHONIC MIXES) Oceanic	Oceanic Prods. (0517 709 8811)
25	35	INSANITY (UNTYDJ DUB/PAL KING/210 STAGE/PHONIC WAYNE MIXES) Triple J	Southeast
26	21	I GOT THE FEELING (FRANK O'MORAGH/PIFF PROJECT MIXES) DJ Jam	M/5's Music Machine
27	20	DOWN ON THE STREET (TOM THUMB MIXES) D'Sound	Polytor
28	24	THE REAL THING (JON MANDINO/FR MIXES) Naturale	Reality
29	17	UP AND DOWN (ORIGINAL/TIN TIN OUT/JOHAN SANDRIS MIXES) Vengaboys	Positive
30	17	THE WORLD Dope Smeagolz	Perfecto
31	6	THE HOOK (RADICAL PLAZA/TORABCO BOYS/DAVE AUJER/FLUFF DRIVER MIXES) Radical Playaz	Duty Free
32	25	CRITIQUE '98 (YOU WORKING MIXES) Yojo featuring Alexander O'Neal	One World Entertainment/Positive
33	10	SHARE THE TEARS Aura	Neo
34	2	THE 2'S 'MONEY' MEDLEY/DON'T LET THIS MOMENT END (HEX HECTOR/MOUSSET T MIXES) Gloria Estefan	Epic
35	45	SAY SOMETHING (ROSEHARVEY/TOTAL CONTRAST & DOUBLE G/DUB & LEVIN MIXES) Mia Chaves	Inventive
36	21	ADDRESS TRING (ROSEHARVEY/TOTAL CONTRAST & DOUBLE G/DUB & LEVIN MIXES) Lailani	ZTT
37	38	THE LATIN THEME Car Cox	Edel
38	34	TOU EST BLEU (FRANCISKE REVOIR/KIAN/ATTOBY/OMD NORUZDEH MIXES) Ame Strong	Airtight
39	34	HARDCORE POWER (R/R/FIERCE/GOLO MIXES) Pleasure	DP Recordings
40	26	DISCO BAGS FROM OUTER SPACE (LANGCHOU CHOU VS. PUNCHHEAD/BURGER QUEEN/ORIGINAL MIXES) Babe Instruct	Positive
41	32	TO YOU I BELONG (AEN K MIXES) B'Whitcd	Epic
42	32	JAM BECAUSE I NEED THAT (MIXES) Truff	Armi
43	19	FUNKY GROOVE (RHYTHM MASTERS/JUDGE JULES MIXES) Untidy D.J.'s	Manifesto
44	3	HIGHER LOVE Brian Chambers	Klub Zoo
45	12	12S Mariah Carey	Columbia
46	32	MIAMI (JASON NEVINIS MIXES) Will Smith	Chuncky
47	25	TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME (ROLLO & SISTER BLISS/IG-CARTRON NELSON MIXES) Fallthies	Airtight
48	40	MUSHROOMS (SALT CITY ORCHESTRA/TIM WRITER MIXES) Marshall Jefferson Vs. Nozza Heads	US Strictly Rhythm
49	10	PRESSURE Ultra Nite	Subversive
50	51	BURNIN' UP Kevin Fisher	Reprise
51	26	LOVE SHACK (DJ TONKA MIXES) BS2's	Sidewalk Music
52	37	LET ME LOVE YOU FOR TONIGHT (JUNIOR VASQUEZ MIXES) Kariya	Rede/Universal
53	37	A BIG BIG WORLD Emilia	Kosmo/Lugic
54	29	FULLERTURN (ORIGINAL/LOU TOMCARP MIXES) Niels Van Cogh	Interscope
55	28	TAKE ME THERE (BIG YAM & VINO MIX) Blockstar2 & Wya featuring Max & Blinky Blink	Logic/Low Spirit
56	59	THE ROOF IS ON FIRE (STRETCH & VERMULOV SPRIT/WESTBAM/UNTYDJ DUBS MIXES) Westbam	Azuli
57	43	PLAYIN' WITH MY MIND House Of Glass	NEA
58	49	JOY IS FREE (NYLON/TROUSER ENTHUSIASTS MIXES) Dive	Thump!1
59	20	MONTEMAX (MAXXUS FULL MONKEY)	

**JULYRELL**  
ALREADY WISCONSIN YOU!

Produced by Lloyd Charmers  
Remixed by:  
Jel Star Phonographics  
Tel: 0181 961 5818

**TEVIN CAMPBELL 'ANOTHER WAY' (QUEST RECORDS) (R&B)**  
Campbell's vocals are always reliably on point and this is no exception as he delivers a great song for our listening pleasure. His silky smooth reign continues with a honey sweet piece of laid-back soul and although this gem has been designed primarily for his pop/R&B fanbase, the beautifully-argued acoustic production is alright and will, no doubt, draw the connoisseur's ears like a magnet. However, the youngster signed by Quincy Jones's Warner subsidiary Quest is, I feel, still gravely underestimated by the UK soulsters so, peeps, take this in and enjoy.

**DECODER & SUBSTANCE 'SOMETHING ELSE' (BREAKBEAT CULTURE) (BREAKBEAT)**  
Bristol-based Breakbeat Culture continue their mission to bring us the future sounds of drum & bass music. This time it is up to the home-grown talents of Marky Substance and man-of-the-moment Decoder. The lead cut is a dual double bass-powered roller with all the precise programming and special effects. Meanwhile, 'Continuum' on the flipside keeps the faith with the use of the double bass again but this time the boys chuck in some low-end pulses to guarantee full dancefloor respect.

**ROBBIE RIVERA 'THE ULTIMATE DISCO GROOVE' (DUTY FREE) (HOUSE)**  
Puerto Rican-born Robbie Rivera provides Duty Free's forthcoming offering, which is a slight diversion from the label's previous releases. 'The Ultimate Disco Groove' sums this up pretty well, with the two versions featuring her combining hard tribal beats and classy filtered disco repeats. Matthew Roberts produces a real Funk Force moment, while Tall Paul spices up his mix and gives it a bit of a twist.

**KLUTE 'SILENT WEAPONS' (CERTIFICATE 18)**  
Fresh from his well-deserved acclaim for his forward-thinking 'Casual Doctors' long player, Tom 'Klute' Withers 'Silent Weapons' piece gets the retouch from another pioneering talent that goes by the name of Photok. As you would expect from Photok, he maintains a minimal approach to his productions, technically powerful and to the point with an abstract flavour thrown in for good measure. Also check out 'Blitz' on side two, again taken from the recent album.

19 THERE GOES!

20 THE BAD DA

21 BIG PANTY

22 WOULD YOU

23 EACH TIME I

24 IT FEELS SO

25 THE BARTEN

26 SIT DOWN I

27 THIS KISS F

28 BLAME IT O

29 BLUE ANGE

30 I JUST WAN

31 WILD SURF

32 FALLING IN

33 MY FAVOUR

34 TELL ME MA

35 OUTSIDE G

36 PERFECT 10

37 ANOTHER ONE BIT

38 SWEETEST

39 GIRLFRIEND

40 THANK U A

the **TOP BANCHER** 05.12.98

TW	Wks	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	HARD KNOCK LIFE	Jay-Z	Northwestside
2	5	TAKE ME THERE	Blackstreet	Universal
3	26	GIMME SOME MORE/FEAR DO ROOF	Busta Rhymes	Elektra
4	4	SPELLBOUND	Rae & Christian	Grand Central
5	18	END OF THE LINE	Honeyz	1st Avenue/Mercury
6	9	TOUCH IT	Moonbath	Universal
7	6	LOVE ME	112 featuring Mase	Arista
8	7	IT'S ALL YOURS	Mo'Nique featuring Gina Thompson	East West
9	25	LEAN ON ME	Kirk Franklin	Universal
10	2	HOME ALONE/SPINNY MONEY/HEY THE LOOT CAN MAKE ME HAPPY	R. Kelly	Jive LP sampler
11	20	HAPPY HOME	2 Pac	Eagle
12	3	LOVE LIFE THIS	Faith Evans	Bad Boy
13	37	SAY SOMETHING	Mia Chevali	Inventive
14	NEW	BOBBY DIGITAL IN STEREO (LP)	RZA	Gea Street
15	NEW	WHO LOVES YOU EP	Kashif	Expansion
16	8	TOUCH ME	Solis	Perspective
17	13	THINKING ABOUT IT	Gerald Levert	East West
18	NEW	AIN'T NO STOPPIN' US NOW	Mobo All-Stars	Polygram TV
19	29	THE RECIPE	Wish 19	Virgin
20	10	DOIN' OUR THING	Phonema One	Columbia
21	NEW	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE (LP)	Whitney Houston	Arista
22	21	LOVELINESS IS GONE	Nine Years	Virgin
23	16	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia
24	NEW	PASSION	Elton John	VC Recordings
25	10	STRAWBERRY	Nicole Renee	Atlantic
26	11	TIME TO MOVE ON	Spankie	Jive
27	NEW	DO YOU FEEL ME	Wen Di Vizion	MJ&EPic
28	NEW	GOOD LOVE	Shyne featuring Lord Tariq	Nao Nao/VP/Noon
29	12	BLUE ANGELS	Pras	Ruffhouse
30	23	FRIEND OF MINE	Kelly Price	Island
31	17	SWEETHEART	JD featuring Mariah Carey	So So Def/Columbia
32	33	SECRETS	Jenny	Fancy Footworks
33	NEW	MY LITTLE SECRET	Keshae T	Columbia
34	NEW	WESTSIDE	TO	Clockwork Entertainment/Epic
35	14	TRIPPIN'	Total featuring Missy Misdemeanor Eltit	Capitol
36	30	WAR & PEACE (VOLUME 1)	Ice Cube	Puff Daddy
37	38	BULLSHIT!!!	W Dea Davenport	Priority/Virgin
38	NEW	12S	Mariah Carey	V2
39	NEW	10TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE (LP)	NWA	Columbia
40	17	HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE	Dre Hill featuring Padman	Priority/Virgin

**[commentary]**  
by Tony Iorfidas

JAY-Z remains at number one and at the time of writing looks set to battle for the top slot in the national charts with Robbie Williams. BUSTA RHYMES is the highest climber of the week with "Gimme Some More"/"Fear Do Roof" jumping 23 places. THE HONEYZ are also high fliers this week with another strong Ignoramus mix taking them to number five. KIRK FRANKLIN'S "Lean On Me" enters the 10 at number nine and must be the slowest ever record to make it into our chart. The highest new entry this week is Wu Tang mastermind RZA with his "Bobby Dig" album at 14. Proving the Eighties revival can even affect R&B, that old electro soul Jeri Curli stalwart KASHIF is fresh in at 15 with new material on UK indie Expansion. WHITNEY HOUSTON'S low-key entry into our chart with her album matches a similarly low-key entry into the national album chart. However, expect plenty of singles and mixes to come. Teddy Riley provides BREAT OF VIZION enter at 27 with "Do You Feel Me", definitely a prospective Top 10 hit. On the subject of Riley, details have emerged about the new Blackstreet LP. Entitled "Get Higher", the group's third album will be released on February 22 and will be a mixture of ballads and street tracks. Guests include Stevie Wonder and Mary J. Blige. Another hot LP due out early in the new year is Slum Village's "Slum Village" on Polydor. Produced by Ummah and JD, the group is very much son of Tribe Called Quest.



the **TOP CHART** 05.12.98

TW	Wks	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	YOU SHOULD BE...	Gladiator	Sound Of Ministry
2	7	THE 70'S MOMENT MEDLEY/DON'T LET THIS MOMENT END	Blossie Estelan	Epic
3	11	POWER WOMAN	Mark Van Dale with Enrico	Epic Club Totals
4	22	THE BEST OF 70 PEOPLE REMIXED	M People	M People
5	2	SHE WANTS 'S	Billie	Interscan
6	15	BIG BIG WORLD	Emilia	Rodden/Universal
7	5	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia
8	NEW	TO YOU I BELONG	B'Witched	Columbia
9	8	BAD GIRLS LIKE	Juliet Roberts	Delirious
10	30	END OF THE LINE	Honeyz	1st Avenue/Mercury
11	15	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING	Deja Vu featuring Tashmi	Almighty
12	NEW	GIVEN UP	Minor Ball	Multiply
13	9	INSANITY	Oceanic	Oceanic Productions
14	3	TRAGEDY	Sheep	Jive
15	3	UP AND DOWN	Yenghobys	Positiva
16	10	TOM'S PARTY	T-Spoon	Control/Epic
17	NEW	I WANT YOU	Savage Garden	Columbia
18	13	A TOUCH OF ROODOOGIE	Carano	Quality
19	12	FUNKY LOVE	Kawana	Virgin
20	23	SPACE INVADERS	Hill N' Hide	All Around The World
21	NEW	SWEETHEART	JD featuring Mariah Carey	So So Def/Columbia
22	6	IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD YOUR LIFE WILL BE BETTER	The Bameroos featuring Maya	Pepper
23	NEW	WALK (THE DOG) LIKE AN EGYPTIAN	Wolk	Wolk
24	21	OUTSIDE	George Michael	Heartback/Wildstar
25	35	LAST CHRISTMAS	Allan Vozes featuring The Three Degrees	AReal
26	NEW	LICKY LICKY TASTY	Rhythm Trip featuring Zena Guinar	TP
27	NEW	GOT A MESSAGE	I-Kon featuring Angie Brown	Duty Free
28	NEW	THE ULTIMATE DISCO GROOVE	Robbie Rivera	Playola
29	14	DA-FORCE	Da-Force featuring Owen Dickey	Riversal
30	NEW	LAST CHRISTMAS	Mia Chevali	Inventive
31	NEW	SAY SOMETHING	Pash 'N' Plunkie featuring Rozalla	Riversal
32	27	FRIDAY NIGHT	Saxi featuring Shannon	Multiply
33	17	MOVE MANIA	Ruff Drive presents Amala	Infano
34	38	DREAMING	Pink	Activ
35	20	GONNA MAKE YA MOVE (DON'T STOP)	Cher	WEA
36	26	BELIEVE	Party Poppers	Branded
37	NEW	MOTOWN PARTY/DAMN PARTY/JINGLE ALL THE WAY/OOH SANTAS!	Party Poppers	ZTT
38	15	MADNESS THING	E-17	Topstar
39	28	EACH TIME	Ghost	Charm/Jet Star
40	24	BODYGUARD (YOU CAN CALL ME AL)	Ghost	Charm/Jet Star

**[commentary]**  
by Alan Jones

A 28th update in its already massive level of support is now for BLOCKSTAR'S "You Should Be..." narrowly to head off a challenge from GLORIA ESTEFAN, who soars 7-2 with "The 70s Moment Medley" and "Don't Let This Moment End". Estefan is gaining fast, however, and may not be denied next week, with a second 12-inch of the latter title feeding through to DIs over the next few days. Last Christmas, Sony gave DIs a present of exclusive mixes of Wham!'s "Everything She Wants", which duly went to the top of the Club Chart and stayed there for four weeks, helping to spur on sales of their "Wham! Best Of" compilation, though some DIs grumbled that they would have preferred the seasonally more appropriate "Last Christmas". This Christmas they get it, but not from Sony and not by Wham!. In fact, there are two different versions of "Last Christmas" in the charts, with ALLEN VOICES lead. THREE DEGREES moving 35-25 while LEAD GROOVE debut at 30. The Allen Voices record was an early favourite in the race for the Christmas number one and clearly has some sort of unofficial backing from George, as it appears on his cousin's Heartback label and includes mixes by his own favourite mixers Fortnight - but it doesn't include the most readily recognised member of the Three Degrees, Stella Ferguson, who is no longer a member of the group. The Le Groove version featuring Owen Dickey is perhaps better, though neither sounds particularly essential to these ears.



**1 BELIEVE** **2 I LOVE THE V** **3 MIAMI WILL** **4 UP AND DOWN** **5 HEARTBEAT** **6 THE POWER O** **7 WAR OF NEF** **8 I'M YOUR AN** **9 UNTIL THE T** **10 SEARCHIN'**

**11 IF YOU BUY THIS R** **12 MOVE MANIA** **13 SO YOUNG T** **14 I DON'T WAN** **15 TAKE THE LO** **16 SENSUALITY** **17 FROM THIS** **18 DREAMING I** **19 THERE GOES**

DJ Swing scooped the Mobo award for best Club DJ this year for his skills in spinning, scratching and MCing over the best in R&B, rap, hip hop, soul and funk. A member of the Live To Breakdance crew and The Boogie Bunch, Swing has had residencies at The Fridge, Maximus and Soul Kitchen. He plays at all the top clubs in the UK and abroad, including New York's Sound Factory, and he was special guest DJ at Puff Daddy's Mobos party at the Sound Republic.

# JOCK

## dj swing

### ON HIS BOX

PH: GP

## top[10]

### 'JOYOUS' PLEASURE (FANTASY)

"This came out in the Seventies and it was a big anthem for The Boogie Bunch. There's this mad freestyle sax and guitar intro then all of a sudden the music changes into one of the funkiest, happiest songs ever made. This record doesn't need to be scratched, it just needs to be dropped from the edge. I voice it out - I talk and dedicate it to the original old school funksters - and then I drop it."

### 'HUMPTY DUMP' THE VIBRETTES (LUDLOW)

"A big 'up' to the Shake And Fingerpop and Family Function crews for turning me on to this one. It came out in 1976 and it's one of the funkiest but shortest tunes ever made, only two minutes and 29 seconds. This track would be played at least three times a night and brings back very strong memories of people sliding and bopping like James Brown. Even today when I play it, it still has that same effect."

### DJ SWING'S STEAMIN' 10

- 1 'LKWIT CONNECTION' Defari (Tommy Boy Black)
- 2 'ALL NIGHT LONG' Faith Evans feat Puff Daddy (Bad Boy)
- 3 'MY WORLD' Slim Village (PolyGram)
- 4 'CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES (DJ SWING REMIX)' Bounty Killer feat. Lauryn Hill (Dulzine)
- 5 'H.E.C. ROOM' Inexplicable Beat (Loud)
- 6 'THUGGED OUT' DJ Clue (Roc-A-Fella)
- 7 'ALWAYS BE MY BABY' Beanie Man (GreenStevens)
- 8 'COME CORRECT' B'lore Dark (RCA)
- 9 'SPEND MY MONEY' R Kelly (Jive)
- 10 'WE JUST WANNA (MAKE IT HOT)' Party Busters (Buds International)

### 'IT'S JUST BEGUN' JIMMY CASTOR (RCA)

"This track was the biggest b-boy anthem, the biggest anthem for breakdancers and graffiti artists. It came out in 1977 and it starts off with funky, funky horns on their own and then breaks down. At the b-boy clubs everyone would rush on to the floor to find space to breakdance as soon as it came on. I still drop it today."

### 'COME ON LET'S MOVE IT' SPECIAL ED (PROFILE)

"A massive record in 1991 during Friday nights at the Fridge with the Soul II Soul crew. As soon as the needle hit the groove the high top phades, polka dot shirts and the 'running man' massive did their thing on the dancefloor. Special Ed at his ultimate best."

### 'APPARENTLY NOTHING' YOUNG DISCIPLES (TALKIN' LLOUD)

"A limited edition collectors' item. Everything about this track is wicked. Carleen Anderson's vocals still send shivers down my back every time I play it. The bassline sounds as fresh today as it did back in '91. And it's from the UK - homegrown! It also crossed over, it wasn't just a black record, it had a cosmopolitan audience. It's another record you don't need to mix. You play it straight from the top and it gets hands in the air."



### 'BLUE CHEESE' UMCs (WILD PITCH)

"This track is just like Special Ed, more hip hop and very infectious. It came out in 1991 and it stood out. A lot of people didn't know who the rappers were at the time. In fact UMC stands for Unknown MCs. The track has a sample of kids in the middle and a rolling bass. At the time, a lot of people were doing dances called Running Man, Cabbage Patch, Peeves Herman and Freddie Kruger, and they used to do the Freddie Kruger to it. I played it a month ago and all the old school guys came up and said: 'Oh my God, I haven't heard it in ages.'"

### 'NEW JACK CITY' GUY (MCA)

"There were a lot of new jacking tracks around at the time and a lot were overplayed but this one was overlooked. It was not available on vinyl, only on CD. It was from the film but they didn't include this song on the album. The reaction from the crowd when it drops - oh my god! For me it's the best new jacking swing track ever recorded. Aaron Hall is on vocals and it has a massive fanfare at the end with drums and a guy doing opera stuff, then it stops dead. The crowd always wants it to be played to the end."

### 'SUCKER MCS' RUN DMC (PROFILE)

"This came out in 1980 and changed the face of rap music because at that time nearly everything was electro. It is a very simple drum pattern with no bassline or strings I have two copies and play the instrumental and then double up the snares and the vocals drop in under."

### 'DREAMIN' GREG HENDERSON (WHITE LABEL)

"This came out in 1980 and it puts me in mind of Steve Walsh at the Lyceum on Friday nights. He played it at the end of every night, it was a massive, massive record. It also reminds me of Sunday afternoons roller skating in Battersea Park. People used to bring beatboxes and pump that tune out."

(COMPILED BY SARAH DAVIS. TEL: 0181-948 2320)

### 'FLIPJACK' HUSTLERS OF CULTURE (UK WHITE LABEL)

"A strong contender for the Boogie Bunch anthem of the decade from The Soul Kitchen at Maximus. It has all the elements that sum up the sound, the vibe and energy of the early Bunch raves. This always got the dancefloor shaking and grooving. It's got everything in there: jazzy flutes, drums for the hip hop influence and the bassline is the funk influence. There are no vocals but it's cool. You can play it in the mix or straight from the top when the bassline comes in. Every DJ should own a copy of this tune."

BORN: south London, January 18, 1967 LIFE BEFORE DJING: Sales assistant at Heath housing officer for Lambeth council FIRST DJ GIG: The Confidential Winbar in Wandsworth Road, 1989. "This was on Boogie Bunch's first break." MOST MEMORABLE GIG: Best - "Said to be at the 1997 world snowboarding Winter in Wandsworth above sea level and a cool party. I was on the piste doing call and response and they understood every word I was saying. They put on 15-20 small items - and by the time I came on everything had been played so I put on a bit of rare groove and the room emptied. I cleared the floor. They said, 'Swing, what are you doing?' and I said 'I'm on the piste'." FAVOURITE CLUBS: Fresh 'N' Funky, Hanover Grand, Ozark, Colben Club, Kanal Rise NEXT THREE GIGS: Movement, Meaz, London December 5; Baked, Birmingham (10); Fresh 'N' Funky, Hanover Grand (23) DJ TRADEMARK: "I incorporate skills in my set, I cut in bits from things like Street Fighter, classic TV programmes and old school cartoons. I'm cutting in South Park at the moment. People call me the hype master." LIFE OUTSIDE DJING: "People know me for remixes and dub plates: product manager for Tommy Bay; presenting a Mastermix Show on Choice, part-time father of two boys; collecting old breakdancing-memorabilia, martial-arts films and playing Playstation."

## [cv]



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J J TYRELL  
ALREADY WISE AS YOUNG  
Produced by Lloyd Charmers  
Distributed by Jet Star Phonographics  
Tel: 0181 961 5818



20	THE BAD DAYS EP Space	Gut
21	BIG PANTY WOMAN The Barfoot Man	Plaza
22	WOULD YOU...? Touch And Go	Oval/VZ
23	EACH TIME E-17	Telstar
24	IT FEELS SO GOOD Sonique	Serious
25	THE BARTENDER AND THE THIEF Stereophonics	VZ
26	SIT DOWN (REMIX) James	Fontana
27	THIS KISS Faith Hill	Warner/Brothers
28	BLAME IT ON THE BOOGIE Clock	Media
29	BLUE ANGELS Pras	Puffhouse
30	I JUST WANNA BE LOVED Culture Club	Virgin
31	WILD SURF Ash	Infectious
32	FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN Eagle-Eye Cherry	Polydor
33	MY FAVOURITE GAME The Cardigans	Stockholm
34	TELL ME MA Sham Rock	Jive
35	OUTSIDE George Michael	Epic
36	PERFECT 10 The Beautiful South	Gold/Discs/Mercury
37	ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST Queen with Vivid/Jean-Luc, Patsy/Michael/Free, Dreamatics	
38	SWEETEST THING U2	Island
39	GIRLFRIEND Billie	Innocent
40	THANK U Atlantis Morrisette	Maverick

# compilations

- 1** NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 41  
EMI/Virgin/PolyGram
- 2** CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM 20  
Columbia
- 3** THE ANNUAL W - JUDGE JULES & BOY GEORGE 12  
Ministry Of Sound
- 4** HUGE HITS 1998  
wamersage/Global TV/Sony TV
- 5** WOMAN  
PolyGram TV/Sony TV
- 6** THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III 18  
Columbia
- 7** THE VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM  
Virgin/EMI
- 8** HEARTBEAT - THE 80'S GOLD COLLECTION  
RCA/Global TV
- 9** THE GREATEST HITS OF 1998  
Telstar TV
- 10** KISS ANTHEMS 98  
PolyGram TV
- 11** ESSENTIAL SELECTION 98 - TONGUEKICKERD  
Ifri
- 12** THE DISNEY EXPERIENCE  
Walt Disney
- 13** THE BEST '80S ALBUM IN THE WORLD... EVER II  
Virgin/EMI
- 14** THE ALL TIME GREATEST MOVIE SONGS 9  
Sony TV/PolyGram TV
- 15** MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM... EVER II 16  
Virgin/EMI
- 16** BIGGEST '80'S HITS IN THE WORLD... EVER!  
Virgin/EMI
- 17** CHRIS CRAMPTON PETS ULTIMATE PARTY MEGAMIX  
Telstar TV
- 18** TOP OF THE POPS - BEST OF 1998  
BBC/PolyGram TV
- 19** NOW DANCE 98  
Virgin/EMI
- 20** FUNKY DIVAS 2  
Global Television

**OUT NOW**

XXV  
BARBARA GURD  
PRESENTS

**ALREADY MISSING YOU**

Produced by Lloyd Charmers  
Distributed by:  
Jet Star Phonographics  
Tel: 0181 961 5818

**J. TYRELL**

**ALREADY MISSING YOU**

21	HONEY TO THE B Billie	Innocent
22	GREATEST MOMENTS Culture Club	Virgin
23	THE VERY BEST OF MEAT LOAF	Virgin/Sony TV
24	SONGS FROM 'ALLY MCDEAL' Vonda Shepard	EMI
25	GREATEST Duran Duran	FCA
26	ANOTHER LEVEL Another Level	Northwestside
27	SULTANS OF SWING - THE VERY BEST OF Dire Straits	Virgin
28	GARAGE INC. Metallica	Virgin
29	THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS Manic Street Preachers	Epic
30	LIFE THRU A LENS Robbie Williams	Chrysalis
31	SAVAGE GARDEN Savage Garden	Columbia
32	UP REM	Warner Brothers
33	RAY OF LIGHT Madonna	Maverick
34	R R Kelly	Jive
35	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE Whitney Houston	Arista
36	LESLEY GARRETT Lesley Garrett	BBC/BMG Conifer
37	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY BABY Fatboy Slim	Sirius
38	THESE ARE SPECIAL TIMES Celine Dion	Epic
39	ALL SAINTS All Saints	London

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### CHART COMMENTARY

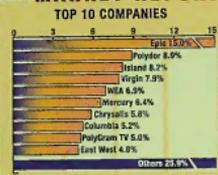
by ALAN JONES



Christmas has arrived. Sales of albums rose sharply last week, to reach their highest level of the year. Week-on-week, they rose by 31% from 2,932,000 to 3,845,000 – this tally including both artist and compilation albums. The increase was felt throughout the chart, and sales of George Michael's Ladies & Gentlemen – rose by 22%. With sales of more than 350,000 in three weeks, Ladies & Gentlemen will easily eclipse the 660,000 sales of last year's Wham! Best Of, and seems certain to have topped a million sales by Christmas. It also seems likely to remain number one for the rest of the year. If it does, it will equal The Verve's Urban Hymns seven week run at number one, the longest of 1998.

Ladies & Gentlemen is, however, unlikely to emerge as the biggest seller of the year. That honour seems likely to fall to The Corrs' Talk On Corners, which sold a best set 76,000 copies last week, and will have

### MARKET REPORT



Figures show 10 companies that had the most and complete group share by % of total sales of the top 25 artist albums

### SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK: **+21.5%** YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: **+9.8%**

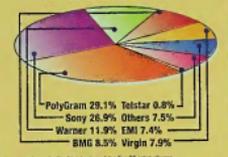
overtaken Robbie Williams' Life Thru A Lens' 1998 tally of 1,094,000 by close of business today (Monday, 30 November) to

### ALBUM FACTFILE

When first released in 1968, The Beatles – aka The White Album – became the ninth number one album for the group of the same name. It was, as so many other Beatles albums were, a landmark, being housed in a sparse, plain white sleeve bearing only the group's name and a serial number, and containing many tracks which were essentially solo efforts rather than group collaborations. It was the first ever double album to

reach number one. The album spent eight weeks there and, with tracks like While My Guitar Gently Weeps, Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da, Back In The USSR, Revolution, Dear Prudence and Sexy Sadie, it remains one of their biggest sellers. To celebrate its 30th birthday it has been repackaged and duly returns to the chart at number 106 this week, after selling about 2,500 copies.

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



Expecting You having sold more than 400,000 copies in the last five weeks, the combined sales of his two albums putting him well clear.

Among the more spectacular improvements of the week, Boyzone's Where We Belong surges 18-10, its sales up 78% in the week. In the six months since it was released, it has sold more than 680,000. Incidentally, if you're confused by No Matter What's departure from the singles chart last week, it's all down to chart regulations. A live version of No Matter What appears on one of the variants of their new single I Love The Way You Love Me, and chart rules state that you can't chitch a hit to a new single unless the hit in question has left the Top 40. No Matter What didn't. So Polydor instantly deleted it and also reduced its notional dealer price below the threshold for the chart, resulting in its disqualification from the chart, and leaving the path clear for I Love The Way You Love Me.

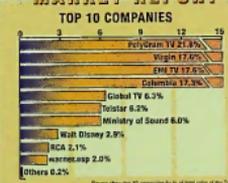
### COMPILATIONS

The compilation market got a much needed shot in the arm last week with the release of Now That's What I Call Music! 41, which, naturally, debuts at number one having triggered a massive 63% expansion in the sector week-on-week. Now! 41 – which includes hits like The Sweetest Thing by U2, No Matter What by Boyzone, Music Sounds Better With You by Stardust and both Millennium and No Regrets by Robbie Williams – sold 191,000 copies last week, the highest sale of any compilation in any week of 1998. It compares very favourably with Now! 38, which was unleashed a week earlier last November, selling 152,000 on its first week, 188,000 on its second week, 921,000 by Christmas and 1,090,000 to date. Now! 41 seems certain to follow it

past the million sales mark, and will eclipse predecessors Now! 39 (sales to date 670,000) and Now! 40 (560,000) which currently hold the top two places among compilations in 1998. These aside, the best-selling compilation of the year is Fresh Hits 98, with 440,000 sales.

Debuting at number two behind Now! 41, Chef Aid – The South Park Album also contributed massively to the sector's growth, selling more than 42,000 copies last week. The album features tracks inspired by and used in the cult cartoon series of the same name, and includes guests like Meat Loaf and Elton John performing wryly pertinent poems to South Park's most celebrated inhabitants, while Isaac Hayes, in his role as the voice of Chef, makes several appearances.

### MARKET REPORT

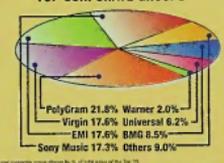


Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the top 25 compilation albums, by % of total sales of the Top 25

### SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK: **+63.1%** YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: **+2.5%**

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### COMPILATIONS' SHARE OF TOTAL SALES

Artist albums: 71.1%  
Compilations: 28.9%

## THE YEAR SO FAR...

### TOP 20 ALBUMS

1	LIFE THRU A LENS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSLIS
2	TALK ON CORNERS	CORRS	ATLANTIC
3	URBAN HYMNS	THE VERVE	HIT
4	LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE	CELINE DION	EPIC
5	TITANIC - OST	JAMES HORNOR	SONY CLASSICAL
6	ALL SAINTS	ALL SAINTS	LONDON
7	RAY OF LIGHT	MADONNA	MAVERICK
8	POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN	LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY	WILD CARD
9	WHERE WE BELONG	BOYZONE	POLYDOR
10	LEFT OF THE MIDDLE	NATALIE IMBRUGLIA	RCA
11	INTERNATIONAL VELVET	CATATONIA	BLUANTO Y NEGRO
12	SAVAGE GARDEN	SAVAGE GARDEN	COLUMBIA
13	BLUE	SPICE GIRLS	EAST WEST
14	SPICED UP	SPICE GIRLS	IRVIN
15	I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSLIS
16	LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF	GEORGE MICHAEL	EPIC
17	THE BEST OF	JAMES	FONITANA
18	WHITE ON BLACK	TEXAS	MERCURY
19	QUENCH	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH	GDI DISCOMERCURY
20	HITS	PAT COLLINS	IRVIN

## THE YEAR SO FAR...

### TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

1	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 39	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
2	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 40	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
3	FRESH HITS 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY/TV
4	THE FULL MONTY	ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK	RCA VICTOR
5	NEW HITS 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY/TV
6	BIG HITS 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY/TV
7	THE IBIZA ANNUAL	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
8	GRASSIE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYDOR
9	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 41	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
10	HUGE HITS 1998	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY/TV
11	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 38	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
12	FANTASTIC '98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
13	CLUBBER'S GUIDE TO...IBIZA - JULES/TONG	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
14	PETE TONG/BOY GEORGE - DANCE NATION 5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
15	THE ANNUAL IV - JUDGE JULES & BOY GEORGE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
16	DIANA PRINCESS OF WALES - TRIBUTE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DIANA MEMORIAL FUND
17	THE BEST...ANTHEMS...EVER! 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGINE/EMI
18	THE BEST SIXTIES SUMMER...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGINE/EMI
19	MIXED EMOTIONS II	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
20	KISS IN IBIZA 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV



# THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS SPECIALIST



8 DECEMBER 1998

## MID-PRICE

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	WELCOME TO THE BOUTLEOUTH SOUTH	The Beautiful South
2	2	TRACY CHAPMAN	Tracy Chapman
3	3	HMMH BABY (THE SEDUCTION SELECTION)	Fa Hany White Feat. Love Limited Orchestra
4	4	SECOND COMING	Sone Rose
5	5	ULTIMATE PARTY MEGAMIX	Various Artists
6	6	BROTHERS IN ARMS	Dino Strati
7	7	RECKLESS	Bryan Adams
8	8	THE COLLECTION	Dominic Monaghan
9	9	DOOKIE	Green Day
10	10	RESERVOIR DOGS	Original Soundtrack
11	11	THE BLUES BROTHERS (OST)	Various Artists
12	12	REPUBLICA	Republica
13	13	THE HOLY BIBLE	Mantic Street Preachers
14	14	HEART & SOUL	Various Artists
15	15	APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION	Guns N' Roses
16	16	TRANSFORMER	Loa Read
17	17	THE DOCK OF THE BAY	Otis Redding
18	18	PARADISE	Bob Sinclair
19	19	GREATEST HITS	Tate Tate
20	20	SCREAMADELICA	Primal Scream

© CIN

## COUNTRY

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	LOVE SONGS	Daniel O'Donnell
2	2	TRAMPOLINE	The Mavericks
3	3	COME ON OVER	Shania Twain
4	4	SITTIN' ON TOP OF THE WORLD	LeAnn Rimes
5	5	WIDE OPEN SPACE	MCA Nashville UMO 8522 (SM)
6	6	HUNGRY AGAIN	Dolly Parton
7	7	WHERE YOUR ROAD LEADS	Tina Turner
8	8	SONGS OF INSPIRATION	Daniel O'Donnell
9	9	MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS	Maverick
10	10	SEVENS	Bath Brooks
11	11	FAITH	Warner Brothers 246792 (Impart)
12	12	STEP INSIDE THIS HOUSE	MCA Nashville UMO 8513 (BMG)
13	13	SPYBOD	Capitol 856292 (E)
14	14	YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE	Warner Brothers 246792 (Impart)
15	15	THE WOMAN IN ME	MCA Nashville UMO 8513 (BMG)
16	16	FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD	Capitol 856292 (E)
17	17	LOVE TO LINE DANCE 4	Stamp DS011 (-)
18	18	EVERYWHERE	Curly Howard 8513 (BMG)
19	19	WITH YOU IN MIND	Stamp DS011 (-)
20	20	UK LINE DANCE TOP TEN	Stamp DS 08 (BMG)

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## BUDGET

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	CHRISTMAS PARTY	Five Bunny & The Mestermasters
2	2	THE WHITE CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Various
3	3	HOLLY'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS & SONGS	Various
4	4	NON-STOP SING-A-LONG CHRISTMAS PARTY	Various
5	5	CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Frank Sinatra
6	6	CHRISTMAS WITH DISNEY	Walt Disney WDW 74062 (E)
7	7	THE CHRISTMAS CAROLS ALBUM	Guildford Cathedral Choir
8	8	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY	Various
9	9	UTIMATE NON-STOP CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS	Various
10	10	CHRISTMAS WITH NAT AND DEAN	Nat King Cole/Dean Martin

© CIN

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	GARAGE INC.	Vertigo 528312 (E)
2	2	ONE - ON TWO LEGS	Meracite
3	3	AMERICANA	Pearl Jam
4	4	WHO CARES A LOTT - THE GREATEST HITS	The Offspring
5	5	DIFFERENT STAGES - LIVE	Colombia 498592 (S&M)
6	6	GREATEST HITS I & II	Slash 565622 (E)
7	7	NEVERMIND	Atlantic 79678922 (E)
8	8	A LITTLE SOUTHWEST OF SANITY	EMI CPC054 161 (E)
9	9	WHO CARES A LOTT - THE GREATEST HITS	Geffen GED 25221 (BMG)
10	10	VERY BEST OF	Slash 565622 (E)

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## XFM

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	WOULD YOU...?	Touch And Go
2	2	THE BARTENDER AND THE THEIF	Stereophonics
3	3	MY FAVOURITE GAME	The Cardigans
4	4	SIT DOWN '88	Jurimags
5	5	SWEETEST THING	LP
6	6	WILD SURF	Ash
7	7	BECAUSE I GOT IT LIKE THAT	Jungle Brothers
8	8	MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL	Eccstasy
9	9	THE BAD DAYS EP	Space
10	10	BATTLEFLAG	The Fidelity Adstars/Pigeonhead
11	11	TRANK U	Atlanta Motownista
12	12	BRAND NEW START	Paul Weller
13	13	BOY MOVIE	Beastie Boys
14	14	THE DOPE SHOW	Marilyn Manson
15	15	GANGSTER TRIPPIN'	Fatboy Slim

© CIN

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
16	16	NEGATIVE	Mansu
17	17	THE CERTAINTY OF CHANCE	The Divine Comedy
18	18	ALL I NEED	Mansu
19	19	GOODSIES ON A HIWAY	Mansu
20	20	PRETTY LIE	The Offspring
21	21	YOU DONT CARE ABOUT US	Placebo
22	22	SLIDE	Go Go Dolls
23	23	HIGHRISE TOWN	Lantana
24	24	FOUR DAY WEEKEND	REM
25	25	CHOCOLATE SILENT BALLS	Chet
26	26	LOTUS	Bluetones
27	27	NEVER THERE	Cake
28	28	MALIBU	Hole
29	29	SHARKS	Silver Sun
30	30	WHIPPIN' PICCADILLY	Gomez

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## INDEPENDENT SINGLES

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	Stags
2	2	IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD YOU WILL BE	The Temperer feat. Maya
3	3	THE BAD DAYS EP	Space
4	4	SENSUALITY	Laveration
5	5	IT FEELS SO GOOD	Senique
6	6	WOULD YOU...?	Touch & Go
7	7	THE BARTENDER AND THE THEIF	Stereophonics
8	8	WILD SURF	Ash
9	9	IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND	Stars On 54
10	10	BECAUSE I GOT IT LIKE THAT	Jungle Brothers
11	11	PRAY	Tina Cousins
12	12	TELL ME MIA	Sham Rock
13	13	INCREDIBLE	Keith Murray feat. LL Cool J
14	14	HOME ALONE	R.Kelly featuring Keith Murray
15	15	BATTLEFLAG	Lo-Fidelity Adstars feat. Pigeonhead
16	16	WORD	Lope Smuggler
17	17	SENSE OF DANGER	Prudence feat. Shara Nelson
18	18	SEX ON THE BEACH	T-Spoon
19	19	GANGSTER TRIPPIN'	Fatboy Slim
20	20	WHITE NO SUGAR	Orin Bono Experience

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## INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	STEP ONE	Live 651913 (E)
2	2	THE MASTERPLAN	Creation CRECD 241 (DMMV)
3	3	OUT SPACED	Super Furry Animals
4	4	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim
5	5	R	Live 651782 (E)
6	6	ONE WAY OF LIFE - BEST OF	ChinaLive 052212 (E)
7	7	VERSION 2.0	Mushroom MUSH 2920 (DMMV)
8	8	BIG CALM	Intochina ZEN 017CX (NV)
9	9	WORD GETS AROUND	V2 VR 100438 (DMMV)
10	10	JANE McDONALD	Focus Music Int FMCO 1 (V)
11	11	THE SINGLES 86-98	Mute COMDULE 5 (V)
12	12	SUNGBIRD	Blax Street G 210465 (HOT)
13	13	BOBBY DIGITAL IN STEREO	RZA
14	14	NU-CLEAR SOUNDS	Ge Street/V2 GEE 106382 (BMG)
15	15	DESERTER'S SONGS	Infectious INFECT 060 (V)
16	16	THE ANGLES 81-95	V2 VR 100278 (DMMV)
17	17	THE COMPLETE	Mute LADNUTEL 1 (V)
18	18	(WHAT'S THE STORY) MORNING GLORY	The Stone Roses
19	19	FABULOUS	Creation CRECD 189 (DMMV)
20	20	PSYENCE FICTION	Pepper 053016 (E)

© CIN

# INDIE REPORT

by ALAN JONES

It's not exactly your identikit indie single but **Steps** double A-sided hit combining the ballad *Heartbeat* with a cover of the Bee Gees' *Tragedy* enjoys its second week at the indie chart this week, increasing its sales both in the indie sector and on the main chart panel for the second week in a row. After selling 66,000 copies on its first week in the shops, when it was beaten to the indie chart throne by the **Stereophonics'** *Bartender And The Thief*, *Steps* single sold 68,000 on its second week and 69,000 last week. And it's not just the indie single throne that *Steps* wear – the group's *Step One* album unseats *Oasis' The Masterplan*



to occupy a similar position on the indie album chart. *Step One* has been in the charts for 11 weeks but has never been number one before, despite selling 298,000 copies to date. Follow *Zomba Recordings* the *Tamperer* retain runners-up spot to *Steps* on the singles chart, but debut at number 19 on the album chart with their debut offering *Falouho*, though its sales – fewer than 1,500 – are insufficient to win it a place in the main album chart and prove yet again that hit singles (their two have sold a combined 700,000) do not guarantee album success.

As in the regular chart, *Zomba acts* are

enjoying unprecedented success, and occupy six of the top fourteen singles chart places, with the aforementioned *Steps* and *Tamperer* being joined by *Tina Cousins* (number 11), *Sham Rock* (number 12), *Keith Murray* featuring *LL Cool J* (number 13) and *R. Kelly* featuring *Keith Murray* (number 14). *Zomba presents* helps *Pinnacle* – the indie distribution company which it acquired last year – to take distribution honours on 13 of the top 16 singles.

The highest ranked number on the chart this week is *Sonique*, whose latest single it *Feels So Good* debuts at number five.

**Days and The Unluckiest Man in the World.** More importantly the *Bad Days* EP features *Space's* version of *We Gotta Get Out of This Place*, which is used in TV adverts for the Honda Accord. This track was originally a number two hit for the *Animals* in 1965.

*Space* completed a short series of five dates last week, and are to make another three later this month, the last two on home turf, at Liverpool's Royal Court.

## INDIE FACTFILE

## R&B SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	1	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia 666782 (SM)
2	NEW	WAD OF NERVES	All Saints	London 104921 421 (F)
3	1	EACH TIME	E*Pac	Telstar CDSTAS 317 (W)
4	2	HAPPY HOME	127	Eagle SAC 12 026 (J&M/BMG)
5	3	BLUE ANGELS	Pras	RuffHouse 696215 (SM)
6	4	ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	Dreamworks DPM7 2294 (BMG)	
7	5	BECAUSE I GOT IT LIKE THAT	Keith Murray feat. LL Cool J	Gez Street/V2 GEE 950259 (J&M)
8	NEW	INCREDIBLE	R. Kelly	East West 520312 (P)
9	NEW	I CAN'T SEE	Nicole Ray	East West 520311 (P)
10	6	DAYDREAMIN'	Tamara Aki	East West 520312 (P)
11	8	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN'	Kala La Roc	1st Avenue/Wild Card/Polydor 567212 (F)
12	7	GUESS I WAS A FOOL	Another Level	Northwestside 14321612102 (BMG)
13	9	HOME ALONE	R. Kelly featuring Keith Murray	East West 520312 (P)
14	10	LOVE LIKE THIS	Faith Evans	Puff Daddy/Jazsta 142326591 (BMG)
15	12	HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE	Oni Youth	Island Black Music 123 125 (F)
16	NEW	GOT'S LIKE COME ON THRU	Buddha Monk/JD Dirty Bastard	Epic 003230 ERE (P)
17	11	HOLD ON	En Vogue	East West 520312 (P)
18	13	TESTIFY	M People	M People/BMG 7432162142 (BMG)
19	18	TOP OF THE WORLD	Brandy feat. Mase	Atlantic ATOJ 462 (W)
20	14	WHAT'S YOUR SIGN	Des'ree	Sony 52 6665185 (SM)
21	15	SPELLBOUND	Rae & Christian featuring Vibe	Grand Central GO 116 (P)
22	20	THE BOY IS MINE	Brandy & Monica	RuffHouse/Columbia 696152 (SM)
23	17	DOO WOP (THAT THING)	Lauryn Hill	Island Black Music CD 723 (F)
24	19	FRIEND OF MINE	Kelly Price	Roady/Warner 102 85134 (BMG)
25	16	THE FIRST NIGHT	Kelly Price	Interscope NIO 169134 (BMG)
26	NEW	GHEE TO SUPPLANT THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE	Henry	1st Avenue/Mercury N422 (F)
27	25	FINALLY FOUND	Gunnz	WEA/WEA 1792 (W)
28	16	FASHION 'N	Hanna Kaid	Coehoppe CDCCOL3 340 (E)
29	22	SEX Y CINDRELLA	Lyniah David Hall	Atlantic AT 0647 (W)
30	28	ARE YOU THAT SOMEBODY?	Arlyden	Atlantic AT 0647 (W)

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## DANCE SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	2	DREAMING	Ruff Drivers Presents Anrola	Infinite TEERN 11 DMV/SM
2	1	UP AND DOWN	Vengaboys	Positive 127V 100 (E)
3	3	WHAT YA GOT 4 ME	Tiggy Tynon	Tidy Trax T187 (BMG)
4	5	THE SILENCE	Mike Koglin	Multiply TMAUJY 44 317 (W)
5	12	STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART	Dootily	Locked On/Onyxnet 1034 1047 (W)
6	NEW	TRAUMA/TRANSMISSIONS	Don & Roland	Renegade Numb3rs 518 (W)
7	11	UNTIL YOU PRESENTS FLUNKY GROOVE	Untill U	Manhattan FES 51 (F)
8	17	IT FEELS SO GOOD	Senjuka	Serious SEER 004 (F)
9	6	MOTHERSHIP RECONNECTION	Scott Grooves	Soma Recordings S0MA 71 (F)
10	NEW	HIGHER/YOU KNOW	Trauma	Tidy Trax TTY 118 (ADD)
11	7	GOODSPEED	BT	Rennaissance Music RENT 102 (ADD)
12	NEW	DANCING IN OUTER SPACE	Atmosphere	Disorient Recordings DISOR 11 (W)
13	NEW	SENSE OF DANGER	Princess feat. Shara Nelson	Pagan PACAN 024 (W)
14	NEW	INCREDIBLE	Keith Murray feat. LL Cool J	East West 520312 (P)
15	NEW	TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME	Feist	Cheeky CHEK12 031 (BMG)
16	16	REPEATED LOVE	ATCOCC	Wonderboy WOB 012 (F)
17	4	SKYDIVE	Freefall feat. Jan Johnston	Stress 1237R 69 (E)
18	NEW	GOT'S LIKE COME ON THRU	Buddha Monk/JD Dirty Bastard	Epic 003230 ERE (P)
19	10	LA	Marc Et Claude	Pavista 127V 104 (F)
20	NEW	THE WORD	Dope Smuggler	Musroom PERPTS 1 (J&M/P)

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## DANCE ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	1	2000: JUDGEMENT DAY	Method Man	Def Jam 5899201 (F)
2	2	R	R. Kelly	Def Jam 57831 0517834 (F)
3	NEW	ESSENTIAL SELECTION 98 - TONGUEKICKED	Various	HNR 9536621 (F)
4	4	NO 10	Mariah Carey	Columbia 4923914 (SM)
5	5	THE ENTIRE 100 - JUDE JAMES & BOY GEORGE	Whitney Houston	Asista 10762130334 (BMG)
6	7	ENTER THE DRU	Dr. Dre	Ministry Of Sound - ANIMAC 38 (J&M/SM)
7	NEW	THE OTHER DRU	Various	Island 524642 (F)
8	2	BOBBY DIGITAL IN STEREO	RZA	Gez Street/V2 GEE 9603801 (F)
9	6	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fabrizio Slim	Skin: BASSIC 11LP/BASSIC 11MC (J&M/P)
10	NEW	TIMS BID	Timbaland	Virgin CDWR 75 (E)

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## MUSIC VIDEO

This	Last	Artist Title	Label Cat. No.
1	1	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Cats	PolyGram Video 42943
2	2	RONAN PATRICK/Michael Flatley's Feet Of Flames	VCL 95923
3	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS/My Mr Producer!	Video Collection VCI 146
4	4	CLIFF RICHARD/50th Anniversary Concert	Video Collection VCI 147
5	4	BUZZCOCKS Live - Where We Belong	VCL 95963
6	6	SPEKE GIRLS Live - On Wedding Stairs	Virgo VJ2201
7	7	ROBBIE WILLIAMS Live - On Living Room	Virgin VJ2202
8	8	VARIOUS ARTISTS/Various Live/Weho-Gelation	PolyGram Video 429233
9	9	DANIEL O'DONNELL/Mary Duff/Give A Life Love	Rip 70217
10	11	FIVE FIVE LIVE	BMG Video 742768553
11	NEW	CELINE DION/Live in Memphis 1997	SMV EIC 304742
12	NEW	U2/Rattle and Hum	SMV EIC 302621
13	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS/Various Live/Weho-Gelation	Telstar Video 742100
14	14	FOOTER & ALLEN/Greatest Hits & Some That Will Be	Telstar Video 742104
15	13	MICHAEL CRAWFORD/In Concert	Warner Vision Int. 2842 6223
16	18	SIMPLY RED/Live in London	Warner Music Video 01
17	15	BACKSTREET BOYS/Sing Out With Me	VEI 021822
18	19	THE CORRS/Live At The Royal Albert Hall	Warner Music Video 750103713
19	21	THE ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Les Misérables in Concert	Video Collection VCS 28
20	17	STEREOPHONICS/Live At Casbah	Virgin VJ2204
21	23	FRANK SINATRA/My Way	Orion VJ2204
22	28	ALL SAINTS/Saints	Video Collection VCI 27
23	22	DURAN DURAN/Greatest - The Videos	EMI 421143
24	29	BE BE BEES/One - One Night Only	BMG Entertainment 623216
25	25	LESLEY GARNER/Tuesday Carven	Gene Video 4279253
26	24	MICHAEL FLAHERTY/Live In Concert	VCL 91393
27	27	CAROLEE BISHOP/NOVEMBER 7TH/Teatro-Paris 1998	PolyGram Video 656123
28	NEW	PULP/The Pulp in Mine	VCL 06753
29	NEW	CLIFF RICHARD & CAST/Headfirst	Video Collection VCI 25
30	NEW	MICHAEL BALL/The Musician... & More	BMG Video 742162423

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MUSIC VIDEO 5 DECEMBER 1998

## VIDEO

This	Last	Title	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	1	THE LITTLE MERMAID	Walt Disney 501022
2	2	TITANIC	Fox Video 29395
3	3	THE SANTA CLAUSE	Walt Disney 501022
4	4	MUSKETEER	DCI Video VHS 932
5	5	STARSHIP TROOPERS	Touchstone 105103
6	6	MATILDA	Columbia TriStar 07155-2
7	7	AL BUSTOS/10 HELENA DRINKING CAT	Warner Bros. Home 1950
8	8	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Cats	PolyGram Video 42943
9	9	ET/ET: THE EXTRA EARTHLY	DCI Video VHS 932
10	10	CASPER	Columbia TriStar 07155-2
11	12	RODOLFO/10 HELENA DRINKING CAT	Columbia TriStar 07155-2
12	13	BILLY CONNOLLY - ERECT FOR 30 YEARS	Video 105219
13	5	TOMORROW NEVER DIES	MCA/UA 52718
14	16	INDEPENDENT DAY	Fox Video 105219
15	10	ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO	PolyGram Video 42932

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## ELECTRACY

**Number of dates:** 147 (by end of year)  
**Estimated audience:** 137,000  
**Management:** Dave Bone & Harry Eves at Captain Couragous (01752 227492)  
**Agency:** Ben Martin at Marshall Arts (0171-586 3831)

**PA & Lighting:** Fearless Audio (South-west only); house rigs otherwise; carry own lights.

**Tour promoters:** various  
**Label:** MCA

**1998 singles:** Lost In Space, June '98 (highest chart position - 60); Morning Afterglow, August '98 (HCP - 13); Best Friend's Girl, released 18 November '98  
**1998 albums:** Beautiful Insane, September '98 (HCP - 48)



## IDLEWILD

**Number of dates:** 91  
**Estimated audience:** 11,950  
**Management:** Bruce Craigie (0171-620 3009)

**Agency:** Geoff Meall at The Agency (0171-387 5090)

**PA & Lighting:** House rigs

**Tour promoters:** various

**Label:** Food

**1998 singles:** Satan Polaroid (Deceptive Records), February '98 (HCP - 119); Film For The Future (Food Records), April '98 (HCP - 57); Everyone Says You're Fragile, July '98 (HCP - 47); I Am A Message, September '98 (HCP - 41)  
**1998 albums:** Hope Is Important, October '98 (HCP - 52)



## SUPERNATURALS

**Number of dates:** 48  
**Estimated audience:** 177,000

**Management:** Gerry McManus (0802 901731)

**Agency:** Ian Huffam at Heltter Skeltter (0171-376 8501)

**PA & Lighting:** House rigs  
**Tour promoters:** Metropoli/SJM, England; DF Concerts, Scotland  
**Label:** Food

**1998 singles:** I Wasn't Built To Get Up, July 20 (HCP - 25); Sheffield Show, October 12 (HCP - 46)  
**1998 albums:** A Tune A Day, August 10 (HCP - 23)

# BOOKED IN TO TAKE GIANT STEPS

While the ILMC is predicting that 1999 will be a crunch year for the live music sector, bands, both large and small, are finding there is still value in getting out there doing their stuff in front of a paying audience. By Nick Tesco

The general public is now sophisticated enough to recognise that there is no longer any such thing as an overnight sensation in the music business.

Nevertheless, there is still an underlying perception that, when it comes to playing live, some - mostly pop - acts spring from nowhere to the arena on the back of a couple of hit singles while other - notably rock - acts must start in the toilets and claw their way up to the top.

It is a distinction which few agents or promoters care to make since, in what is becoming an ever tighter and tougher market, both types of acts represent ticket sales and money in the bank. Consequently live music professionals have evolved a range of strategies to ensure that, whatever its cultural or creative prowess, the latest hot band not only maximises ticket sales today but can be developed into one which will sell out venues in years to come.

Nevertheless, as Geoff Meall, director at The Agency, points out, the days of putting bands on the road for 200 dates a year have gone.

"A few years ago bands could move from pubs and clubs to the theatres on a smooth curve," he says. "Now that can no longer be taken for granted."

That being said, Meall must be commended for booking Food Records' latest signing Idlewild 91 times in the past 12 months, making them one of the UK's busiest and hardest working bands.

According to research by Music Week's



Touring and its merchandising spin-offs can pay off for bands: The Levellers have been completely self-sufficient in recent years

sister newsletter *Tours Report*, at least 110 shows by pop or rock acts with record deals took place every week in the UK during 1998.

And while tribute bands such as Bjorn Again and The Bootleg Beatles and showbiz stalwarts such as David Essex have re-introduced the concept of family entertainment into the live mix, the market is still built on those hard-grafting rock acts (see boxes) which *Tours Report* has identified were among the UK's busiest over the past 12 months.

But as ILMC founder and managing director Martin Hopewell pointed out in last week's *Music Week*, many in the live sector are worried that their businesses are in danger of bucking under pressure from changes in the music industry at large. One fear is that the possibility that recent moves by leading broadcasters such as the Capital Radio Group and BBC Radio One to expand their live music

events programme next year will further squeeze conventional concert promotion.

"We have to regard this as another challenge to a business which can no longer rely purely on the income from rock acts," says Hopewell.

At the same time, managers of less immediately fashionable bands are becoming increasingly alarmed by what they see as a new reluctance on the part of some record labels to contribute tour support to any act without immediate chart potential.

"The way the major labels are constantly chasing hit singles is slowly destroying the industry," says Peter Jenner, the veteran manager who currently represents the re-emergent Billy Bragg and former Fairground Attraction vocalist Eddi Reader (who has been identified by *Tours Report* as one of the busiest artists of 1998). "Touring may not be cheap, but it can be a surer way of building a

long-term sales base for those kind of artists who don't necessarily make hit single-styled music," he says.

Not that every band needs to know that its record company is prepared to cover any shortfall between costs and fees before it can consider *gigging*. Some, such as London Records' Mercury Music Prize nominees Asian Dub Foundation, whose 41 1998 shows included high-profile festivals such as Glastonbury and Reading, had already built up a staunch grassroots audience before signing a major record deal.

"Thanks to ADP's strong live appeal their gigs virtually pay for themselves," says Clive Underhill-Smith managing director of Millennium Artist Booking. "That's good for the band because it means they can work when they want to and not when the record company says so and it's good for London because it can then support releases more

## ASIAN DUB FOUNDATION

**Number of dates:** 41  
**Estimated audience:** 198,000  
**Management:** Bobby Marshall (01273 749789)

**Agency:** Clive Underhill-Smith at Millennium Artist Booking (0171-354 8000)

**PA & Lighting:** House lights & PA  
**Tour promoters:** None, but Metropoli in London

**Label:** Hrr/London

**1998 singles:** Free Satpal Ram, February '98 (HCP - 56); Buzzin', April '98 (HCP - 31); Black White, June '98 (HCP - 52); Naxalite EP, September '98 (ineligible for chart)  
**1998 albums:** Ruff's Revenge, May '98 (HCP - 20)



## MIDSET

**Number of dates:** 41  
**Estimated audience:** 11,675  
**Management:** Sound Pets (0171-610 6969)

**Agency:** Paul Bolton at Heltter Skeltter (0171-376 8501)

**PA & Lighting:** House lights & PA

**Tour promoters:** various

**Label:** Formerly with Radar, now negotiating new deals  
**1998 singles:** All Fall Down, January '98 (HCP - 54); Invisible Balloon, April '98; Day Of Your Life, June '98

**1998 albums:** Jukebox, June '98

## MANSUN

**Number of dates:** 11  
**Estimated audience:** 154,250  
**Management:** Rick 'n' Roll Management (0151-708 8154)

**Agency:** Charlie Myatt at ITB (0171-379 1313)

**PA & Lighting:** SSE (PA); Art Of Darkness (lights).

**Tour promoters:** SJM, England/Wales; DF Concerts, Scotland  
**Label:** Parlophone

**1998 singles:** Legacy, June '98 (HCP - 7); Being A Girl, August '98 (HCP - 13); Negative, October '98 (HCP - 27)  
**1998 albums:** Six, September '98 (HCP - 6)

**THE LEVELLERS**

Number of dates: 16  
 Estimated audience: 111,000  
 Management: Phil Nelson at First Column (0171-371 6662)  
 Agency: Charlie Myatt at ITB (0171-379 1313)  
 PA & Lighting: Tourtech (PA); Prism Lighting

Tour promoters: SIM, England/Wales; DF Concerts, Scotland

Label: China

1998 singles: 2 Real, March '98 (HCP - 46); Bozos, October '98 (HCP - 44)

1998 albums: One Way Life - The Best Of, October '98 (HCP - 15)

**EDDI READER**

Number of dates: 42  
 Estimated audience: 132,000  
 Management: Peter Jenner at Sincere Management (0181-960 4438)  
 Agency: Emma Banks at Helter Skelter (0171-376 8501)  
 PA & Lighting: House rigs

Tour promoters: Regular, Scotland; MCP, England/Wales

Label: Formerly Blanco Y Negro now Tug Boat

1998 singles: None

1998 albums: Angels & Electricity, May '98



# THE ROAD TO SUCCESS

in other areas."

A similar story is told at ITB, which books out the Levellers. The Brighton-based band played 46 shows in the UK in 1998 appearing before an estimated audience of 111,000 people, over half of whom bought their silver status Best Of album One Way Life - a joint venture release by China and Live Records.

"When we signed the Levellers they already had a sales base of around 10,000," says Adrian Sear, head of international and artistic development at China Records. "This was purely as a result of touring."

Initially China helped the band with tour support and it was Sear's responsibility to balance possible expenditure against the number of shows and the potential audience numbers. "Thanks to a very successful merchandising operation, the band has been completely self-sufficient for the past seven years," he says.

Polydor's resurgence as the label which has driven PolyGram's UK chart presence over the past two years has in part been down to agreement between its A&R and marketing departments over the value of touring.

"It is very difficult for any band to sustain any kind of long-term career without a live fan base," says Polydor's head of A&R, Paul Adam, who looks after Cast and Eagle-Eyed Cherry. This view is echoed by the label's senior product manager William Higham.

"By missing their profile through being on the road, artists invariably create a future market for themselves as well as helping to sell their current product," he says.

But, when it can cost as much as £20,000 to fund a band playing three weeks of dates, tour support is still regarded as something of a gamble by many other record labels.

The National Association of Arenas, representing all the UK arenas which regularly stage live music events, is in the process of conducting research into the shape and size of its members' business. The period under examination covers 1993 to 1997 and although a final report is not expected until the new year a number of interesting points have already surfaced.

"The capacity of the arena market has grown by 40,000 to 180,000 during the period," says Wembley Arena's sales and marketing manager, John Drury, who has coordinated the research for the Association. "Over the period, event days and attendances have increased," he says. The number of first-time acts playing arenas is also growing and arenas are adapting to this demand, and the possibility that some acts may have difficulties selling out, by offering short room deals.

Such arrangements, whereby the capacity and in turn the rental is reduced, has led to more promoters seeing the

viability of putting medium-sized shows into the big rooms. Not that this was necessary for the recently very successful Spice Girls tour which was seen by more than 350,000 fans over 20 nights in arenas ranging from Glasgow SEC and Birmingham NEC to stadiums at Wembley and Sheffield Don Valley and grossed in the region of £8m.

According to *Tours Report* research, Spice Girls, The Lighthouse Family and Boyzone were the three acts who played to the most people in 1998. But the assumption that ticket sales at this level have a direct link with current chart profile fails to explain the abilities of artists such as Rod Stewart and Culture Club in selling out the arenas.

"There are other factors to take into consideration," says Alex McCrindle, General Manager of the London Arena. "Timing and seasonal demand are important. At the moment, the Culture Club, Human League and ABC package is selling extremely well. This is down to the show being in the run up to Christmas, the

strong TV coverage there has been and the fact that Gary Glitter won't be doing his annual Christmas party tour this year."

According to Phil Mead, events manager at the SECC in Glasgow, any artist prestigious enough to be considered for an arena tour is likely to do well in Scotland because of the limited number of suitable venues.

"But the product itself remains the key ingredient," he adds. "An act such as Rod Stewart will always do well in Scotland." Mead's views are shared by the director of the NEC, Linda Barrow. "Obviously chart success is important at the beginning of an artist's career," she says. "But the shows that regularly fill the arenas are invariably mainstream. It is still a fickle market, but there are many artists who haven't released an album for some time but still retain a loyal fan base. So our real concern is how many of the new artists coming through will maintain demand in the way that Tom Jones, Shirley Bassey or David Essex can."

growth in the size of their audience."

While any shifts in the music industry at large eventually impact on the live sector, one thing remains certain. Whether they grow organically out of youth sub-cultures, or come up through the expanding PA and tear-matinee circuits, whether they can fund touring from the money they take on the door or need to be subsidised by their record companies, today's bands have everything to win and nothing to lose from performing in front of the public. And in 1998 the best of them found no shortage of places to play nor punters to watch them strut their stuff. ■

**Tours Report** is the only weekly newsletter which brings together all rock and pop genres, as well as club, theatre and arena venues, to provide subscribers with a complete UK live music information service.

**'Touring may not be cheap, but it can be a surer way of building a long-term sales base for artists who don't necessarily make hit single-styled music' - Peter Jenner**

in 1997, touring represents an important tool in the marketing arsenal. "TV can reach a huge market," says Ransley. "But when you're trying to build a specific initial audience the band needs to be out there."

However Emma Banks, director of Helter Skelter the agency which books four acts Midgeet, Jimmy Nail, The Supernaturals and Eddi Reader in the *Tours Report* list, believes it is a risk worth taking.

"If you compare tour support to a video budget, it's money well spent," she says. "A video may only be shown once but touring spawns huge amounts of press and other promotional offshoots." For Emma Ransley, who signed Electricity to MCA

Ransley believes a label needs to be ready to make a heavy investment to stimulate initial demand in a new act. As a result MCA/Universal has been prepared to dig deep to create momentum for the West Country five-piece who will have played a staggering 147 live shows in the UK by the end of the year and has been encouraged by a steady improvement in sales.

Electricity's agent, Ben Martin at Marshall Arts, has watched the band's fan base build and praises MCA's promotion department for coordinating radio play and TV appearances which has helped increase the band's audience.

"The label was also particularly good at getting releases to coincide with the tours," says Martin. "On their first Make-Breaker tour, Electricity were pulling crowds of between 60 to 100. But with the release of each single there has been a proportional

**JIMMY NAIL**

Number of dates: 40  
 Estimated audience: 80,000  
 Management: Tarquin Gotch (001 310 827 0800)

Agency: Emma Banks at Helter Skelter (0171-376 8501)

PA & Lighting: Britannia Row

Tour promoters: MCP

Label: East West

1998 singles: None

1998 albums: Nothing as a solo artist but is in the recently-released film *Still Crazy*

**SHEED SEVEN**

Number of dates: 37  
 Estimated audience: 131,000  
 Management: Dave Leaper at Simon Lawlor Management (0181-995 4907/0802 461 824)

Agency: Charlie Myatt at ITB (0171-379 1313)

PA & Lighting: Yorkshire Audio (PA); Prism Lights.

Tour promoters: SIM, England/Wales; DF Concerts, Scotland

Label: Polydor

1998 singles: She Let Me On Friday, April '98 (HCP - 11); The Heroes, May '98 (HCP - 18); Devil In Your Shoes, August '98 (HCP - 37)

1998 albums: Let It Ride, June '98 (HCP - 9)







# CLASSIFIED

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BROADCASTING STANDARDS COMMISSION

#### Complaint by K-TEL ENTERTAINMENT (UK) LIMITED

##### Summary of Adjudication

The Broadcasting Standards Commission has partly upheld a complaint of unfairness by K-tel Entertainment (UK) Limited (K-tel) about an edition of BBC1's *Watchdog*, broadcast on 24 April 1998. The item, which alerted viewers to the risk that re-recorded albums may not feature the original artists, referred to two CDs issued by K-tel.

The Commission considers that the BBC was justified in featuring the K-tel CDs, since, due to doubts about their authenticity, they had been withdrawn from sale and had been the subject of a successful prosecution. Given K-tel's leading role in the release of the CDs, it was not unfair to single out the company. The item was clearly about re-recordings in general and not simply about K-tel products. It did not suggest that, in general, buyers of K-tel albums risked buying recordings not made by the original artists. Nor did the inaccuracies complained of result in any unfairness to K-tel. The Commission finds no unfairness in these respects.

However, the Commission does consider that the effect of the item was to suggest that the problems with the two CDs were separate incidents. This was misleading and resulted in a suggestion that K-tel was being dishonest in asserting that there had only been one problematic incident. In this respect, the item was unfair.

Accordingly, the complaint is upheld in part.

A full copy of the adjudication can be obtained by sending a stamped address envelope to: the Broadcasting Standards Commission, 7 The Sanctuary, London SW1P 3JS. A copy of the summary will be available on the Commission's website at [www.bsc.org.uk](http://www.bsc.org.uk)

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RETAIL FOCUS: **ASDA**

by Karen Faux

When it comes to pricing, Asda believes in keeping things nice and simple for its customers. With all single chart albums currently tagged at £12.99 or less and all double albums at £14.99 or less, the supermarket is underlining its value for money message. "It delivers a consistent price message to customers who inevitably meet with inconsistent pricing on the high street," says Andy Spofforth, music buying manager. "Asda has a commitment to maintaining permanently low prices and this is a way of reinforcing our good value position."

This autumn has delivered what Spofforth describes as an extremely supermarket-friendly range of releases. Asda's top five albums are currently provided by George Michael, Robbie Williams, M People, U2 and The Corrs. Recent singles have been equally suited to Asda customers and it is now eagerly anticipating releases from acts such as the Spice Girls, Savage Garden, Billie and B\*Witched.

"Looking at the entire albums Top 40, there are more mainstream titles than there have



Asda: £3m campaign will back in-store activity for Christmas

been in previous years," says Spofforth. "That's good news for us and we're looking forward to our best Christmas ever."

Asda's new festive posters which emphasize price and the potential of buying music and video as gifts for Christmas are guaranteed to get noticed in all its stores. Meanwhile, its album chart has been extended to feature 100 titles in order to maximise support for a wider range of

releases. All of its in-store activity is backed up by a £3m co-op television and press campaign - its biggest yet - which features M People, Honeyz, Dire Straits, The Corrs and The Beautiful South.

"During December we will also be issuing customers with vouchers worth up to £10, which can be redeemed in January for purchases of £12 or more," says Spofforth. "In addition to our chart activity there is an

## ASDA GOES VAT FREE

On November 2 Asda launched the peak trading season with a one-week VAT-free event. It delivered the chain with its biggest week of music and video sales yet, helping it to account for 21% of sales of Robbie Williams' I've Been Expecting You, 23% of The Beautiful South's Quench and 25% of B\*Witched's B\*Witched. Awareness was maximised by a major press campaign and PoS. "The timing was perfect, as Robbie Williams were released from M People and Robbie Williams were albums," reports Spofforth. "We've run VAT-free events for the past two years and they have proved a highly effective way of kick-starting Christmas sales."

ongoing promotional programme which includes Christmas music, greatest hits CDs at £9.99 and the best of '98 at £10.99."

Asda will not be relaxing its sales assault once Christmas arrives. "Our January sale kicks off on December 27 and runs through February 3," says Spofforth. "It will feature price reductions across all genres and formats with some very strong lead lines. We reckon it will have something to appeal to everyone."

## IN-STORE THIS WEEK

## Anlys Records

**Windows** - Sony Nice Price campaign with three CDs for £22. All Time Greatest Love Songs; **In-store and press ads** - Manic Street Preachers, Natalie Imbruglia, Roberto Alagna and Angela George, Carnival Of The Animals, The Kinks, Nine Below Zero, Bruce Springsteen; **TV ads** - All Time Greatest Love Songs, Funky Divine (Anglia), Sony Nice Price campaign (Channel Four North and Anglia)

## ASDA

**Singles** - Emilia, Robbie Williams, Jay-Z, Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C, Blackstreet feat. Mya, Brandy, Savage Garden, Manic Street Preachers, Kavana; **Albums** - Massive Dances '99 Vol 1, Smash Hits '99, The Music Of The Night, The Christmas Album, LeAnn Rimes, Best Kids Party In The World... Ever;

## Spot

**In-store** - Titanic, George Michael, M People, Boots exclusive CDs at three for the price of two, two classical CDs for £10, two videos for £10 across selected range

## FARRINGTONS

**Windows** - Evelyn Glennie, Roberto Alagna and Angela George, Andreas Scholl; **In-store** - Vanessa Mae, Charlotte Church

## HMV

**Single** - Robbie Williams; **Windows and In-store** - Christmas campaign; **Press ads** - REM, Pete Tong's Essential Selection '98, Rolling Stones, UB40, Culture Club, Lutricia McNeal, Vonda Shepard, Hole, Gomez, Eels, Mansun, Beastie Boys, Super Fly Animals, Massive Attack

## MENZIES

**Single** - Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C, Kavana; **Album** - Ultimate Christmas; **Windows** - South Park, Celine Dion

## SELECTA

**Selecta listening posts** - Entombed, Skinny Puppy, Thea Gilmore, Deep Thoughts, Kustli

## NOW

**Singles** - Nicole Renee, Robbie Williams, Brandy, Lutricia McNeal, Simply Red, Kavana, Manic Street Preachers, Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C, Jay-Z, Savage Garden, Emilia; **Albums** - Smash Hits '99, Greatest Love, Celtic Moods, Best Club Anthems In The World... Ever 4

## ourprice

**Singles** - Boyzone, Madonna, All Saints, Will Smith, Faithless, Vonda Shepard, Space; **Albums** - Ben Folds Five, One World, XTC, Daniel

## O'Donnell

**Windows** - George Michael, U2, Mariah Carey, B\*Witched; **In-store** - Robbie Williams, George Michael, U2, M People; **Press ads** - Ash, Jewel, Five, Culture Club

## TOWER

**Singles** - Manic Street Preachers, Kavana, Robbie Williams; **Windows** - Whitney Houston, Jewel, Seal, Keb'Mo, Paul Van Dyk, Culture Club, Meatloaf, Phil Collins; **In-store** - 100 best titles with two CDs for £22, Mariah Carey, Robbie Williams, Keb'Mo; **Press ads** - Tony Bennett, Ash, REM, Paul Van Dyk

## MEGASTORES

**Windows** - Ministry Of Sound Annual III, Morcheeba, R Kelly, E17, Lutricia McNeal, LeAnn Rimes, Titanic; **In-store** - Metallica, Now 41, Will Smith, Mariah Carey

## WH SMITH

**Singles** - Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C, Kavana; **Albums** - Ultimate Christmas; **Windows** - South Park, Celine Dion

## WOOLWORTHS

**Singles** - Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C, Jay-Z, Album - Robbie Williams; **In-store** - Mariah Carey, Now 41, George Michael, Celine Dion, B\*Witched, CDs at £13.99 or two for £22, Christmas CDs for £5.99 or three for £15.99



ZOE JACK, assistant manager, Anlys Records, Bedford

## BEHIND THE COUNTER

"Business hasn't reached the manic stage yet, although this weekend should see sales starting to rev up."

Back catalogue is a priority in this store and currently our Sony Nice Price three-for-£22 campaign is doing a roaring trade. We have two prominently placed browsers for back catalogue and these are always busy areas.

Of the big album releases, everyone is going mad for George Michael's Ladies And Gentlemen... and it should keep motoring for the rest of the month.

We have been a bit disappointed by the performance of Mariah Carey's greatest hits which has been pretty slow so far. In contrast, Now 41 has been a very strong performer since its release last week and I reckon it is one of the best in the series.

Michael Ball has a lot of fans here in Bedford and his current album has been turning over well with the help of substantial

TV advertising. It is good to have the U2 album on the shelves because that will sell no matter what.

Oasis are also big for us and we're currently doing a special deal on The Masterplan where customers can buy it and Be Here Now for £15.

Char's hit single seems to have broken through all the age barriers as far as its sales here are concerned and it looks like being number one for us again next week. All Saints' War Of Nerves hasn't been a brilliant performer although there could be more interest in it next week if it enters the chart at a high position.

I've been doing this job for the past two-and-a-half years and one of the things I find really satisfying is being able to help people find what they want.

This can be quite demanding at Christmas but by being really friendly to our customers we always get a good response."



STEVE ROPER, BMG rep for Yorkshire, East Midlands and Humberstide

## ON THE ROAD

"After a month of heavyweight releases dealers are experiencing a bit of a lull, although they are confident that there will be another big surge in December. At the moment, I'm busy profiling our big albums in-store and trying to make sure they get the most prominent positions. M People is our biggest and the TV and press advertising will kick it riding high right up until Christmas."

Since its release last week, Whitney Houston's My Love Is Your Love has performed extremely well. A lot of people were expecting an album of sentimental ballads and were pleasantly surprised by its R&B feel. The inclusion of people like Lauryn Hill give it a lot of credibility and it has been selling well in both dance specialists and more mainstream stores.

Another Level's new album has also surprised by reaching an older ten and adult market. It has still got quite a lot of life left in it and, like M People, will benefit

from sustained TV and press throughout December.

Next week we've got the release of The Christmas Album which features hardy perennials like Elvis Presley and Frankie Goes To Hollywood. I've also taken lots of orders for next week's live Bunny double album which will retail at between £10 and £11.

Judging by the pre-sales response to Jay-Z's Hard Knock Life, it is going to be a top three single when it hits the racks next week. Lots of customers have been asking for it and it has had strong support on national radio. His album Hard Knock Life Vol 2 is being re-released to tie in and we're expecting it to do well across the whole region.

A new single and album from Beth Orton should help to get the new year off to a flying start for us and we've also got new albums from Gary Barlow and Blondie. Blondie's current UK tour has been sold out all along the way, so the album should be a winner."

striking a pose with Luciano Pavarotti and the like may be more familiar territory, but PolyGram Classics and Jazz director BILL HOLLAND was only too pleased to be snapped with HIGHEST ACCOLADE, winner of the recent POLYGRAM CLASSICS MAIDEN STAKES at Lingfield Park. Earlier in the day, Holland was entertaining around 40 retailers from chains including HMV, Tower and Virgin Retail who were treated to a day at the races by Decca, Philips and Deutsche Grammophon.



Remember where you heard it: News International to buy Virgin Records (perhaps to be run by Rob Dickins)... EMI to Bertelsmann... It really is difficult to keep up with the rumours these days... It's even difficult sometimes to keep up with the truth - as happened to PolyGram International's press department which sent out a press release last week applauding a new signing by PolyGram/Island Publishing MD Richard Manners several hours after he'd been told he'd lost his job... Its current run of success shows the virtue of stability, but the constant talk of imminent promotion for Messrs Burger, Stringer and McDonald just won't go away... Perhaps it's significant that Ian Brown is part of her company's roster, but Sharleen Spiteri revealed at last Wednesday's (25) Women of the Year awards just what made PolyGram's Bernadette Coyle such a worthy winner of the special achievement award. "She's very good at telling airport staff to fuck off," let on the Texas star. In fact, Bernadette has obviously got something against people working on

public transport as Sharleen further revealed, "She keeps cab drivers waiting with no shame"... Castle Communications, meanwhile, must be wishing someone other than Annie Nightingale had won the lifetime achievement award it was sponsoring. The DJ revealed the last time she came across the company was at Knebworth when she wandered into a food tent. As she recalled, "I picked up a paper plate and joined the queue and this bloke said, 'This is a private party for Castle Communications'. As I wandered out I heard him say, 'You have to get rid of the riffraff'..." It appears poor Annie has had more than her share of insults as she revealed what a lorry driver said recently when he beckoned her over to his vehicle. "Radio does you a favour luv," he charmed... The event's charity auction for Nordoff-Robbins turned into a somewhat noisy affair with the hosts Chrissie Hynde and Gail Coulson struggling to be heard above the raffle. It resulted in an angry Willie Robertson grabbing a mike and politely telling everyone to, "Shut the fuck up"... Boasting the biggest cheque book of the night was EMI's top turn Tony Wadsworth who splashed out 35 grand to guarantee four weeks' heavy promotion for a

video on MTV. Emma Bouncy, your chance may finally have arrived... And, in the raffle, WEA's very own director of press Barbara Charone just missed out on winning a pair of premium tickets to see her own roster's Rod Stewart at Earls Court... Better luck The Simkins Partnership's Jane Clemetson who won seven sets of lingerie and her colleague Victoria Trotton, who won a weekend in the south of France. Clemetson reckons she drew the short straw, however, as "I am notoriously single"... Is Van Morrison looking for a change of scenery?... Congratulations to Outcaste Records which last week won the Time Out live award for most outstanding musical achievement... Parlophone has still to recover the Beastie Boys tin stolen from its 3D ad display at London's Waterloo station though it has had some interesting offers, like the one from John West to sponsor a new tin... At Dingwells for Emap's annual Mojo Inquisition quiz, Music Week was happy to concede last year's crown to Demon Records by a mere seven points but wondered why boss Pete Macklin et al didn't ask their Smash Hits team member to join them on the podium... Meanwhile, Virgin Retail's team would like to point out it was they and not Virgin Records who came second in the previous week's Top Of The Pops magazine quiz.....

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general REG DICKSON have just transferred 7.5k each to help them in their pre-Christmas spot check campaign. The money is part of the £25,000 raised at this year's BARD/BPI/BVA GOLF DAY at the Foxhills course. Organiser LIBBY GRIFFIN says a further £2,500 is going into the coffers of the Anti-Counterfeiting Group (ACG). Low handicappers should polish their wedges because Griffin is organising another golf day next August. Pictured from left are DICKSON, GRIFFIN and MARTIN.

Sheepskin wearing market traders at shady car boot sales had better beware. The BPI's Anti-Piracy Unit boss DAVID MARTIN and Federation Against Copyright Theft (FACT) director

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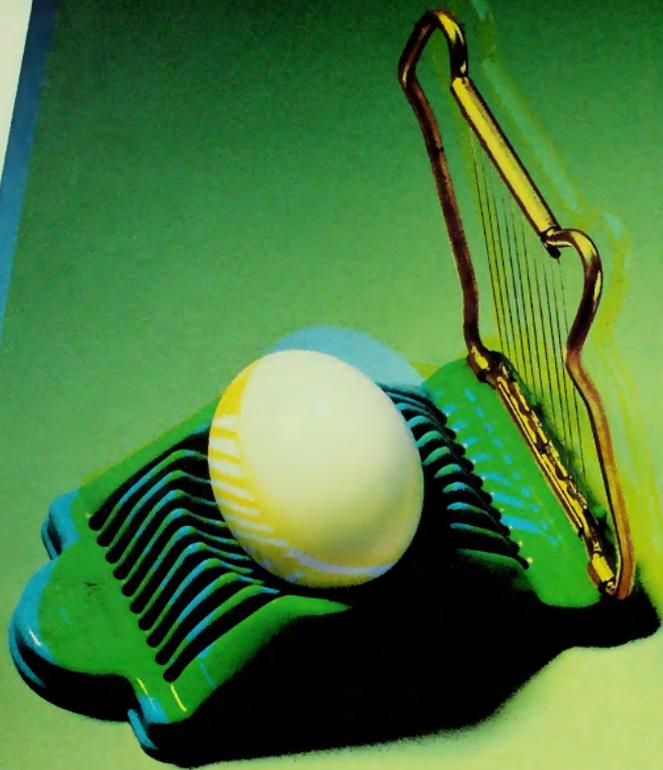
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