



**INTERNATIONAL:** The big push is on as **UNIVERSAL** acts such as Honeyseeker to make US inroads International 8



**A&R:** Focus groups helped **TEDDY RILEY** to choose the tracks for Blackstreet's new album Talent 11



**DOOLEY:** Back stage at **THE BRITS**, Dooley was there to witness the action and pick up all the gossip Dooley 30

**BRIT AWARDS NEWS IN FULL**

FOR EVERYONE IN THE BUSINESS OF MUSIC 27 FEBRUARY 1999 £3.50

# music WEEK

## Acts row clouds Summer Brits

by Stephen Jones & Tracey Snel  
Organisers of the government-backed Summer Brits are facing a race against time to secure a line-up of suitable acts after becoming embroiled in a "political" battle with promoters of big arena tours. The two-day Summer Brits event is planned to take place at Maine Road, football ground in Manchester on the weekend of June 19-20. Despite a newspaper report last week that the Blackstreet Boys, Five, B'Witched and Fatlip will all be playing at the event — which the paper reported would take place in May — no acts have yet been confirmed. Sources suggest that some managers and agents are preventing acts from confirming their

appearances until they have sold all the tickets for their own summer arena shows. Unless a line-up is confirmed by the end of March, there are concerns that there may not be enough time to sell tickets for the two-day charity event. Pop impresario Peter Waterman, who has been brought on board to handle the Saturday pop day, says, "Politics are being played in the bookings side of tours which is preventing acts from being able to confirm. We have gone out of our way to ensure the event does not clash with anything else." He adds, "It's a one-off charity gig embracing every musical genre which will raise money for a good cause. If we can't put ourselves



**Waterman: blames politics**  
out for this then we shouldn't be in the business."  
The idea for the Summer Brits was first put forward by BPI chairman Rob Dickens last year. Money raised will go towards the government's Youth Music Trust scheme, which has already been promised £10m of Lottery funding for music

education and instruments in schools.  
As well as the pop day, the festival is set to include a rock event on the Sunday and a Cream of Manchester rock night at the G-Mex centre. "Unless some acts are signed in the next two weeks there will be real problems," predicts another source.  
Rob Hallett, an agent at Marshall Arts, which is handling the Blackstreet Boys' UK tour starting in June, says, "The boys certainly aren't confirmed for the Summer Brits. But I wish I had time to play political games. I'm too busy selling tickets."  
Brits executive producer Lisa Anderson was unavailable for comment.

● Pete Waterman has written to BPI chairman Rob Dickens requesting an investigation into the voting for the best British newcomer at last week's Brit Awards after Jeepest's Belle & Sebastian pipped Ebu/Jee's Steps — whom Waterman produces — for the award by the narrow margin of 9,109 votes to 9,038.  
"I'm not questioning the winners. But a lot has come to light in the past 48 hours. We need to know how the voting was done and that it was fair," said Waterman last Friday. Radio One, which handles the category's voting, says most votes came through e-mail rather than telephone, adding that safeguards had been in place to prevent duplicate voting.

Robbie Williams' I've Been Expecting You album was yesterday (Sunday) in a race to catch up with Blondie's No Exit which had enjoyed an early week sales superiority. However, the EMI/Chrysalis artist experienced a surge in sales on the back of his triple Brits win. Williams, winner of the best male, single and video categories at last Tuesday's ceremony at the London Arena, also looked set for a second successive week with two albums in the Top 10. With wins in five categories, Sony Music was the main corporate winner at this year's Brits, which attracted a host of politicians, including Northern Ireland secretary Mo Mowlam. See Brits news, p4 & p5



Britney storms chart with instant success  
Jive's 17-year-old signing Britney Spears was set to debut at number one yesterday (Sunday) after selling nearly 125,000 units of Baby One More Time on the single's first day of release alone. The record is the fastest selling debut since Babyjohn Zoo's Spaceman in January 1996.  
According to Jive, some retailers had reported selling their stock within hours of the record going on sale. "We can't manufacture them quickly enough to keep up with demand," says a Jive spokesman.  
In this week's new-look A&R section, Swedish songwriter Max Martin tells MW how the track was originally written and rejected by TLC.  
● See A&R, p10

Now targets Goody stores  
Rapidly expanding entertainment retailer Now is in negotiations to take over up to 13 of the Sam Goody stores which Musicland plans to close during the next few weeks.  
Now, which already has 57 standalone stores nationwide plus a series of concessions, is understood already to have secured two of the sites at Haversford West and Barking. It is in discussions with Sam Goody's US owner Musicland and the landlords about securing some of the other 11 sites.  
The chain's decision to pursue the Sam Goody stores, whose closure was confirmed earlier this month following Musicland's decision to move out of the UK, comes as part of an ongoing programme of expansion. Set up with nine stores in 1994 by Brad



**Now: looking at Goody sites**  
Aspens, this year it is planning to add at least three more branches to its current five Alders concessions and two more to its single Beattins concession.  
Both Now and Sam Goody's UK managing director Ken Onstad decline to comment on the matter, but Onstad says his main priority of finding places for his staff is going well.

New sections extend MW coverage  
This week's issue of Music Week sees the introduction of three new sections to its news pages as well as a reorganisation of the data content of the magazine.  
Pages covering marketing, International and A&R have been added to the general news section to enable Music Week to extend its coverage of these key areas of the business.  
Meanwhile, the charts section has been reorganised to reflect the division between his-

torical data — in particular the sales charts relating to the previous week's retail activity — and information related to future sales activity including radio and TV playlists, the upfront club charts, reviews and future release listings.  
MW Editor Ajax Scott says, "The changes introduced with this week's issue reflect our desire to provide the information that best reflects our readers' needs. As the business changes so MW must adapt with it."

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**BRIT** AWARDS '99

with **MasterCard**



It was quite a night

# Fewer singles enter chart as labels sharpen focus

by Paul Williams

The unprecedented tamarind in chart-topping singles this year is masking a dramatic fall in the number of new entries to the entire Top 75.

By last week just 94 records had debuted inside the 75 this year, 26.6% down on the same period a year ago and the lowest number of new entries at this 335th in the year since 1987. At the same time the number of singles released is also dropping - by last week the figure was down 12.5% on 1998's levels.

In sharp contrast, however, more records are entering the Top 10 than ever before - reversing a falling trend of Top 10 entries at this stage last year. Up to last week, there had been 29 Top 10 debuts, while yesterday (Sunday) Britney Spears' Baby One More Time became the seventh single in seven weeks to debut at the top of the chart.

BMG music division president Jeremy Marsh, whose company

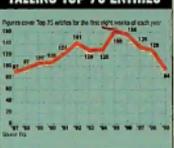
## RIISING TOP 10 ENTRIES



scored a number one entry earlier this month with Maria by Blondie, points to financial reasons for the fall in single releases. "Record companies are now releasing fewer singles and putting more into the ones they do release. That is because the cost of entry of a single is so high and the competition so fierce. There are only so many records you can get on a playlist or into Woolworths," he says.

The lengthening chart residencies of some tracks during the past

## FALLING TOP 75 ENTRIES



year has also been highlighted again this month by singles such as Steps' Heartbeat and Tragedy who was yesterday (Sunday) challenging to spend its 15th straight week in the Top 10. Another long-stayer, When You're Gone by Bryan Adams featuring Mel C, dropped out of the Top 10 last week after 10 weeks. Polygram managing director Lucian Grainge says every one of his releases now is a priority. "There's no crying wolf in this company. Everything we're releasing between now and

June is aim and fire," he says.

Despite the continuing high levels of singles discounting taking place, Grainge believes the singles market can still be profitable. "You have to have the right records at the right prices and make one people want to buy," he says.

At London Records the company's focus on fewer single releases is being backed with a decision, taken at the beginning of the year, to release most of its singles at £2.99 during their first week. This has included Armand Van Helden's You Don't Know Me, which charted at one at the end of January, although not Gay Dad's debut single To Earth With Love or those by some other development acts.

Managing director Laurie Collet says all London's releases so far this year have made the Top 40. "It's all down to focus," he says. "There's no room for throwing everything at the wall and seeing what sticks."

## newsfile

### NW AWARDS NEARS SELL-OUT

Only a few seats remain for this year's Music Week Awards, which take place at London's Grosvenor House Hotel on March 4. Contact Anne Jones on 0171-940 8570. Details will follow next week about after-show tickets for the event.

### MUSIC RADIO CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

MAG 105.4 and Kiss 100 managing director Mark Story and Talk Radio chief executive Kelvin Mackenzie are among the latest speakers to be added to the bill at this year's Music Radio Conference. The keynote speakers at the Radio Academy-organised event, which takes place at the British Academy (Baffa) in London's Piccadilly on April 13, are Radio One controller Andy Parfitt and Virgin Records president Paul Conway. For registration details ring 0171-255 2010.

### ACTS BACK UNION BENEFIT gig

ASH, The Divine Comedy and Space are among the acts confirmed to play a Union-organised event at Newcastle's Telewest Arena on April 20. The show is supported by the IOC, 25 national trade unions and the Mean Fiddler Organisation to raise awareness of Union's Campaign for a Living Wage.

### MUSIC CHOICE SUBSCRIBERS RISE

MUSIC Choice, the digital audio cable and satellite service backed by BSkyB, Sony, Warner and EMI, claims to have doubled its subscriber base during the last five months, says 1m customers across Europe now tune in to the service, which offers 50 genre-specific music channels ranging from pop to classic baroque.

### CLAPTON SPLITS WITH MANAGER

Eric Clapton and his manager of more than 30 years standing, Roger Forrester, are parting company. A spokesperson for the guitarist's label WEA says the split is a mutual decision and entirely amicable. Clapton is expected to manage his own affairs in future.

### BROWN BACKS JUBILEE 2000

Chancellor Gordon Brown has responded to the Brit Awards' support for Jubilee 2000 by last Friday (February 19), announcing a new target to reduce total Third World debts by \$50bn before the end of 2000. This amounts to a round double the level of relief currently expected, though total debts of the 52 countries targeted by Jubilee 2000 is \$37.1bn.

### OLYMPIC STUDIOS

The Pro Tools system pictured in last week's Pro Audio supplement is installed in Olympic Studios and is not as stated.

### ROBBIE SCORSE'S NEW SALES AWARD

Robbie Williams' I've Been Expecting You **33.5** marked the singer's triple **33.5** win last week by going five times platinum in the compilation album What's I Got? Music 43, also reached the same BPI status, while platinum awards went to Lauryn Hill's The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill, the compilation Music On The Night and the single Baby One More Time by Britney Spears. Compilations Kiss Smooth Grooves 1999 and Love Songs went gold.

Miles Copeland's Ark 21 label has signed a five-year distribution and licensing deal with Universal Music following the end of its three-year agreement with EMI. Universal company Polydor will now market and distribute the label's material in the world outside of the US, where Universal will act as its distributor. Ark 21 managing director Steve Tannett, who founded the label with Copeland in 1996, says it's his first record to benefit from the new arrangement is likely to be Aswad's Roots Revival released in May. He adds that Ark 21's sister label Pagan, whose roster includes Presence, will continue to be distributed by Vital in the UK, although Universal will handle the label's International business. Pictured from left are: UMI director of business affairs Ciro Romano; Tannett; UMI chairman and ceo Jürgen Larsen; Copeland; and UMI executive vice president Tim Bowen.



## MTV launches new music show as scheduling changes continue

MTV UK & Ireland is launching its first all-new music show as part of a move to bring greater focus to its programming output.

Brand-new, which launches on March 1 and will be hosted by MTV presenter Zane Lowe, will mix new videos by both established and developing acts and be broadcast twice daily on weeknights (at 11pm and 7pm) and once on Saturdays (12am) and Sundays (11pm).

The programme's launch follows the introduction on January 31 of a new playlist policy in which mainstream musical programmes from daytime output and make it more mainstream.

Programming and production VP Christine Boar says MTV research found the policy of running mainstream side by side was not satisfying viewers. "With the

Introduction of more digital channels all trying to secure viewers we could end up with lots of fractionalised audiences," she says. "We have to balance having a big audience with a commitment to helping record labels to break new talent."

Record companies have been briefed on the new programme, which will include videos initially exclusive to MTV and will be launched with a week dedicated to new music. Early reaction to the recent changes is mixed. Parlophone director of promotions Matcolm Hill says, "It's disappointing they've decided to ghettoise certain types of music."

East West head of TV Iain Funnell says the new show could work very well if it supports certain bands, but adds many people will be competing for very few slots.

## All Saints in switch to new legal team

Following their split from manager John Benson, All Saints have confirmed that they have also switched their legal representation from Searle's to Russells.

"It's all part of covering the links with the past," says a London Records insider.

The act announced the decision to part with Benson at a press conference at the Café de Paris in London earlier this month but said that they would not be appointing a replacement for the time being.

The quartet, who are currently preparing for a three-month UK tour starting in April, are understood to be in talks with a number of parties. It is thought an announcement on new management team could be made in the summer.

## Telstar joins Jazz FM for new label venture

Telstar and Jazz FM are aiming to bring jazz to a wider audience following the launch last week of joint venture label Orion Records.

Based out of Telstar's premises in Barnes, west London, Orion will seek to exploit Telstar's marketing, distribution and sales expertise while drawing on Jazz FM's A&R skills. It is Telstar's second joint venture label with a radio station following its tie-up with Capital Radio in 1996 to form Wildstar.

The label has signed its first two acts, acid jazz pioneer Chris Bangs and rare groove outfit Heavy Shift. New albums by both artists are due for release on April 5, with an £8.95 dealer price.



Palmer: widening jazz market of starting Orion is to try and bring jazz to a broader audience.

Palmer says he hopes the label's repertoire will be sold through multiple retailers as well as independents and specialists. The label plans to sign a further two or three acts during the next 12 months.

Telstar TV is moving to new premises today (Monday). The label's new address is: Prospect Studios, Barnes High Street, London SW18 3LE. The phone number remains 0181-878 7888.

## BRITS: AT THE CROSSROADS

That one of the main talking points to emerge from the Brits was the absence of a talking point – no Danbert Nobacon or Jarvis – underlines how the show has come of age. And how it is now reaching a crossroads.

The TV rating was clearly a vindication for the Brits Committee. But now that the committee has shown once again that it can deliver a smooth and professional show, it is worth asking precisely what the prime aim of that show is. If it is to provide a great night out for the music industry then this year's Brits was not an unqualified success. The level of table hopping and talking throughout the performance detracted from an event that was slick but lacked a certain sizzle.

And once the initial shooing was over, many of those present headed straight out of Docklands to one of the increasing number of parties that seem to be held each year. If, on the other hand, the key aim is to focus interest on UK music and create a TV vehicle that not only gains the highest ratings possible at home but also overseas, then it was a definite success. And one that could be pushed even further. Perhaps it is time to consider maximising the TV-friendliness of the show by making it sit-down theatre-style event – no need for rubber chicken – and allowing even more companies to then throw their own pre- or post-show parties as happens after the Grammys and MTV Awards in the US. The show itself might not raise as much money for charity, but this would be more than offset by increased overseas TV sales income.

As promised last week, this issue of MW contains a number of A changes on its editorial pages, to be followed by more additions in the coming months. The purpose is to serve our readers better. As ever, your feedback is welcome. Ajax Scott

## PAUL'S QUIRKS

## TIME TO REPAIR THE EROS ERROR

The demise of Eros, the electronic catalogue and ordering system used by many specialist record retailers, is a body-blow to the independent sector of the retailing community. If a replacement isn't developed and in place before July 31 this year, dealers will have to revert to using pen and paper and fax or telephone to place their stock orders with distributors. It will be a massive backward step and one that the key distributors in our industry shouldn't have allowed to happen. One of the major problems facing Eros, besides the fact that it wasn't a year 2000-compliant, was the reluctance of Warner to join the system. Hopefully now that Warner has joined with Sony to form a new distribution company, it may think again and support a new Eros system.

It may also provide an opportunity for all the record companies to forget the politics and work together to produce a comprehensive pan-industry database, something retailers have been crying out for for years.

The subscription costs may well be more than the current Eros system, but with most retailers already paying more than £300 per year for printed catalogues, it might be a price worth paying.

To push things along, maybe all retailers should talk to their suppliers. The record companies could then talk to their distributors and then hopefully the distributors might actually talk to each other.

Despite claims that letters sent to record stores from the PPL were sent in error, they herald the start of a campaign to force all music shops to purchase yet another licence for playing music. Most copies will already have found their way into the nearest bin, but if you're thinking that maybe you should purchase a licence to play and promote music in store or on a record company listening post, then think again. The whole exercise takes on a completely new twist when you realise that the owners of the PPL are in fact the record companies themselves.

Paul Quirk's column is a personal view

## Belle &amp; Sebastian sales take off at retail after Brits

Despite not performing on the night, Belle & Sebastian appear to have benefited most from their Brits glory with many retailers reporting a strong surge in sales of *The Boy With The Arab Strap*.

The Scottish group, who were separately named during the televised show by Brit award presenters Charlene Spiller of Texas and actress Helen Baxendale, saw album sales pick up five fold in some stores on Thursday – just hours after the TV programme aired.

Simon Collins, retail manager at Christchurch's Trax, says many of his customers had not heard the album by the best reviewer's win. "Sales were taking a punt. "Sales were remarkably better on Thursday than previously," he says.

Jason Legge, marketing officer at HMV, estimates sales of the album were up five times on Thursday. "It has done phenomenally well, better than any of the other winners or performers. I suppose people have seen some of the end of year polls with it in the water when it was recommended again," he says. "It's interesting because they were the only ones to do so well out of the event who didn't perform."

Legge reports that sales of albums by most of the acts who performed at the event doubled after the TV transmission. Early sales patterns indicate that Manic Street Preacher's *This Is My Truth*, and Robbie Williams's *Life Through A Lens* are likely to move up the albums charts on the back of their awards, despite having together already been on the charts for more than 80 weeks. Michael Whittaker, manager of HMV Plymouth, was also expecting sales of Eurythmics' *Greatest Hits* album to surge after the duo picked up the lifetime achievement award. But if they do not measure up to the sales gains achieved by Fleetwood Mac last year he says he will lay the blame on a tame performance. "It will undoubtedly help like it did for Fleetwood Mac, but I thought they probably would have done a better set," he says.

by Paul Williams  
Brits committee chairman Paul Brits is adopting a cautious view as to how to live TV coverage next year, despite last week's ceremony running smoothly on the night.

Exactly 10 years on from the Mick Teague and Samantha Fox fiasco, the Brits enjoyed one of its most trouble-free runs in years, most notably free from any interruptions during recording with no obvious hitches.

However, Conroy, presiding over the event for a second successive year, is adopting a cautious approach to going back live on TV. "We've got a lot of questions to ask for next year. People want the audience figures and we can only do that by giving something away in the advance," he says, pointing to the unprecedented amount of pre-event coverage this year – including the front page of *The Sun* on the morning of the show carrying some leaked results. "The feeding frenzy among the papers is immense," he adds.

Last Wednesday's show, which was broadcast from 8pm-10pm across the ITV network, attracted a peak pre-view audience of 3.7m and an average 9.2m viewers – up on last year and equivalent to 35% of the viewing audience.

Initial Film & TV executive producer Malcolm Gerrie, who has worked on the past seven Brits,

Sales of Whitney Houston's pre-Christmas release *My Love Is Your Love* found new legs last week after the Arista singer's triumphant return to the big arena at the Brits publicly underlined her superstar status. HMV marketing officer Jason Legge says sales of her album picked up immediately after the London Arena, Docklands event and were more than double pre-Brits show levels by the end of last week. "She was certainly one of the stars of the show. She hasn't performed for a long time and disappeared from the scene, but that really served to show how good she looks and sounds," says Legge.

## Conroy stays calm

ROBBIE WILLIAMS (pictured right): Let Me Entertain You. A man at his peak – and clearly knowing it.

BOYZONE – When The Going Gets Tough, The Tough Get Going. Following Robbie's performance with 84 dancers, the Irish band were joined here by dancers in boxing gear for the first live performance of their forthcoming *Comic Relief* single.

B\*WITCHED/BILLIE/CLEOPATRA /TINA COUSINS/STEPS: Take A Chance On Me/Dancing Queen/Mamma Mia/Thank You

For The Music. The Brits temporarily became The Swedes for the evening's most postapocalyptic moment as, decked out in coloured wigs, glitter and flares, some of pop's current leading lights saluted the mighty Abba.

THE CORRS: Runaway. With their best international group trophy already in the bag, the night's third Irish act in a row showcased their traditional musical influences in an airing of their remixed new single.

WHITNEY HOUSTON: It's Not Right, But It's OK. In the space of

says there was a real effort made this year to try to make the show as seamless as possible on the night. "We've got it down to a fine art now," he says. "It would be easier

## Sun leak leads newspaper coverage of Robbie

The biggest controversy to strike the Brits this year occurred several hours before the event had even taken place when *The Sun*'s front page on Tuesday morning revealed that Robbie Williams had scooped three awards.

But despite the press leak, most senior industry executive dismissed the notion that it had undermined what was otherwise an "incident-free" show. Epic managing director Rob Stringer, whose company scooped two awards, says: "Manic Street Preachers – who were up against Williams for best single and best album – says, 'It was about Robbie. He's the superstar we've needed in the UK. It doesn't seem to us or the band remotely.'"

Brits committee chairman Paul Conroy says it is impossible to pre-



vent such stories from appearing. "It happened to the Spice Girls a few years ago. But what the industry wants is exposure and what I see is an artist on the front page," he says.

Although pre-Brits event coverage was more extensive this year, *The Sun*'s splash was possibly one of the reasons why coverage of the show the next morning was slightly down on last year, although it still

# Caution on return to live TV Brits

## HOW THEY PERFORMED ON THE NIGHT



four minutes the US superstar appeared to turn her album from being a Christmas turkey into a release poised to explode. PLACEBO & DAVID BOWIE: 20th Century B&WB. Having previously entertained the Pet Shop Boys in stilettoes, Bowie joined forces this time with Placebo for another one-

to go live now than ever before because it is so smooth and slick." But he adds that the downside of turning the show back into a live TV broadcast is that it could hit the

musical performances. "You run the risk that if David Bowie's amp goes down or Steve Wonder's mike disappears there's nothing you can do about it," he says. "The other

risks with awards shows is you have people on the podium who thank the world and their mother and you can't edit that out."



CHER: Believe. Performing her mega hit, the 52-year-old was joined by a stage full of look-alikes with the result somewhere between West Side Story and Michael Jackson's Thriller video. EURYTHMICS (above): Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)/There Must Be An Angel (Playing

My Heart)/Here Comes The Rain Again/You Have Placed A Chill In My Heart/There In My Side/Right By My Side/It's Alright (Baby's Coming Back)/I Need A Man. Steve Wonder joined the duo on stage for this celebratory outstanding contribution reunion.

now to take the show forward is to secure a prime-time TV slot in the US. This year it is being networked for the first time in a late-night slot on ABC on March 6.

"If the roof had fallen in I still would have had a smile on my face" EMI/Chrysalis managing director Mark Collen demonstrating what having a triple award-winner can do for your evening.

"It went without a hitch. Clearly after last year that was of great importance" BPI director general John Deacon, relieved after last year's incident when Chumbawamba's Nigel Hunter threw a bucket of ice over deputy prime minister John Prescott.

"It was a better TV show than a live event because the layout didn't allow people to see clearly from their seats. Everyone got up after Robbie and didn't down" BMG music division president Jeremy Marsh

"Good night, great music. Robbie and the Manic Street Preachers was good. I had Björn Ulvæus sitting with me and he was absolutely knocked out about it" Polygram managing director Lucian Grainge

"I thought the Abba performance was good. I had Björn Ulvæus sitting with me and he was absolutely knocked out about it" Polygram managing director Lucian Grainge

"I thought it was good having people like Muhammad Ali there rather than just musos. But Mark Morrison being there was scraping the bottom of the barrel. He went down like a lead balloon coming on stage smoking a cigar and making comments about women" Key 103 programme director Dave Shearer

"I was very much a Brits virgin. Clearly it's a highly visual experience and it was everything I was led to believe it would be. The highlight for me had to be Bowie and Placebo" Stephen Mulholland, managing director of Wise Broadcast, which handles the international radio syndication for the Brits

"At the end of the day it's the results that matter. The TV audience figures were never 3m up on last year. The main thing now is to see the results at retail" Brits committee chairman Paul Conroy

"I was not well yesterday, it was great" Virgin Records general manager Hugh Hutton explaining how you tell whether the Brits was any good or not

"Last year we went for a very British line up because it was a very strong year for British pop. This year, having Cher, Whitney Houston and David Bowie on there were so many mega names which certainly helped the ratings" Initial Film & TV executive producer Malcolm Gerrie

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the insider's guide to music  
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## Sony tops the corporate rankings as Manics' double sees history repeated

History repeated itself at this year's Brits as the Manic Street Preachers triumphed again in a highly-successful night for Sony Music.

Two years after picking up Brit awards for best British album and best band, the Epic signings returned to the podium last Tuesday to collect the same key prizes. It was half of a five-pronged assault by Sony which headed the corporate rankings for the evening by also picking up the best British female song for Sony S2's Des'ree and the best soundtrack prize for the Sony Classical-issued Titanic. Meanwhile, Fatboy Slim, signed to Skint in which Sony's Sine division holds a stake, was named best British dance act.

Epic managing director Rob Stringer contrasts the Manics' wins this year and in 1997. "Two years ago was on the back of the first album without Richey which was quite emotional. Two years later they've won the same awards," he says. "Getting the best album was terrific considering no one has previously won that twice."

Sony's Brits joy was shared by EMI, which more than made up for the disappointment of last year when none of its 16 nominations turned into awards.

This time it scooped three prizes – all by EMI/Chrysalis's Robbie Williams who won best British male, best single for Angels and best video for Millennium. Following Spice Girls and All Saints, it was the third year in a row the same act was the public-voted single and video categories.



Best British group: Manic Street Preachers (Epic)

Best British album: This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours by Manic Street Preachers (Epic)

Best British solo male: Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)

Best British solo female: Des'ree (Sony S2)

Best British single: Angels by Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)

Best British video: Millennium by Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)

Best British newcomer: Belle & Sebastian (Jepster)

Best British dance act: Fatboy Slim

EMI/Chrysalis managing director Mark Collen, says, "It's a triumph for Robbie and recognition of what we've been doing for the past three years. I was very proud of the fact he seemed to become the emblem and flagship of this year's awards."

RCA's Natalie Imbruglia was the other multi-winner of the night, giving BMG two wins as she was named best international solo female artist and best international newcomer.

Best soundtrack: Titanic Original Soundtrack by James Horner (Sony Classical)

Best international solo male: Beck (Geffen)

Best international solo female: Natalie Imbruglia (RCA)

Best international group: The Corrs (Atlantic)

Best international newcomer: Natalie Imbruglia (RCA)

Outstanding contribution: Eurythmics (RCA)

Freddie Mercury Award: Jubilee 2000

The Corrs, Warner's only winner of the night, followed the success of 1998's biggest album Talk On Corners with the best international group award. Jeepster's Belle & Sebastian pulled off the surprise of the evening by being voted best British newcomer by Radio One listeners. They polled 9,109 telephone and internet votes, just 71 votes more than Steps, prompting calls by the latter's label, Jive, for an investigation by the BPI.



## 's clean sweep

secured the front pages of *The Mirror* and *The Sun*, with further features inside.

Williams dominated the headlines, which ranged from "Robbie Williams has last laugh at Brit awards" (*Daily Telegraph*), through "Robbie Williams is angel of Brits" (*The Independent*) to "Thanks a lot, mum!" (*Daily Mail*).

LD Publicity coo Bernard Doherty, whose company has handled the Brits press coverage for the past eight years, says, "I know [Kevin] Keegan would be the lead story. It was also an incident-free Brits, so that tends to mean less coverage. But if I had to choose between this year's coverage and last, I'd say this was better because of the emphasis on turnout and celebrities."

news file

**UNDERWORLD SPLASH OUT ON 'FISH Junior Boy's Own/V2 are embarking on what they claim will be the biggest record playback campaign yet undertaken in the UK for the release of the forthcoming Underworld album, Beauscup Fish.** Dubbed Underworld Day, the playbacks will take place on Thursday at 150 colleges, bars and indie retail stores at major towns and cities across the country, giving the public a chance to hear the full album four days before its release on March 1. Among the towns and cities where playbacks will be taking place are Aberdeen, Sunderland, York, Warwick and Cambridge.

**STUDENT RADIO HITS NEW TARGET** Student radio has a 23% weekly reach in the student market, according to a new report. The Student Target Audience Report, commissioned by the Student Broadcast Network and compiled by independent market research agency Continental Research, also shows that 5% of students only tune into student radio, listening to an average seven hours and 20 minutes each week.

**PROMO ONE-STOP SHOP LAUNCHES** A new company has been set up to offer the industry a one-stop shop for promotional merchandise. Purple M Promotional Merchandise, based in Cheshire and part of the Millar Group of companies, lists among its services embroidery, screenprinting, lithoprinting, bagging and relabelling.

**METAL HAMMER NAILS NEW ABC RISE** Metal Hammer's circulation rose 2.5% year-on-year to 39,443 for the period July to December 1998, according to the latest figures from the Audit Bureau of Circulations. During the same period The Face's readership dropped from 100,744 to 71,381. Among the unsold music magazines, Blues & Soul prints 38,850 copies per issue, Dazed And Confused 50,000, Echos 27,100, ID 34,000, M8 21,000, Touch 35,000, Trace 35,000 and Update 15,000.

**GRIFFITHS TO OVERSEE BBC RADIO** BBC Radio 4's marketing manager Vanessa Griffiths has been appointed marketing manager for BBC Network Radio with responsibility for the marketing teams for Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4, 5 Live and digital radio.

**CWNN shores up loyalty with card**

The Chain With No Name is planning to introduce a loyalty card for customers at its 225 participating independent retail stores as part of its ongoing relaunch.

The card is likely to be covered in an issue of the magazine on Empor's Select magazine later this summer and will entitle holders to 10% off any and five selected album titles in CWNN stores.

Vital marketing manager Patrick Bingley, who has been behind recent initiatives to feature the CWNN charts in the NME and on Steve Lamacq's Radio One Evening Session, says the loyalty card move is a further attempt to raise the profile of the CWNN brand. "It has become an established and credible name within independent retail and this should help develop it," he says.



Radio One's Simon Mayo show has secured the exclusive first play of the forthcoming Cranberries single, Promises. The track, due for release on Island US/Mercury Records on March 28, will be premiered on Mayo's 9am-12pm show today (Monday) and subsequently serviced to radio. The Cranberries will also be announcing on air a one-off London show, their first UK date more than two years. Tickets to the event will initially be available only from the band's website ([www.cranberries.ie](http://www.cranberries.ie)). The single will be followed on April 19 by the long-awaited new album, *Bury The Hatchet*. Lewis Kocac, the band's manager, says, "The campaign will be awareness-led because The Cranberries have been away so long. It's been three years since their last release."

**Posters prove popular as music ad spend rises across the board**

by Robert Ashton

Outdoor media was the fastest emerging advertising medium used by record companies in the second half of last year, outperforming the average increase total music industry spend more than five fold.

According to new figures from Media Monitoring Services (MMS), the music industry's spend on above-the-line media - TV, press, radio, cinema and posters - rose 15.7% year-on-year to total £64.1m for the six months to the end of December. However, this increase was put in the shade by the massive 84.6% rise in outdoor advertising from £3.9m in the second half of 1997 to £7.2m last year.

Although there is some room for error - poster spend is calculated by MMS at ratecard and does not take into account discounts negotiated by record labels' media departments or companies - Virgin head of marketing Mark Terry acknowledges the increasing importance of outdoor in the media mix. "There's no question it is becoming more important. The way posters are being used is a lot more creative. Posters are also a very good way to back up a TV campaign," he says.

Lucy Barclay from Independent media buying specialist Target Media, which counts Island, Polydor, Mercury

**TOP MUSIC INDUSTRY ADVERTISERS**

	July-Dec '97	July-Dec '98	% change
Virgin Records	£9.1m	£10.5m	+15.4
PolyGram UK	£7.0m	£8.4m	+20.0
Sony Music	£3.7m	£7.0m	+89.2
EMI	£7.5m	£5.8m	-22.6
Telstar Records	£5.1m	£5.5m	+7.8
Global TV	£3.3m	£4.2m	+27.3
Warner Music	£2.4m	£3.3m	+37.5
EMG	£1.3m	£1.7m	+30.8
Others	£14.5m	£13.9m	-4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>£55.4m</b>	<b>£64.1m</b>	<b>+15.7</b>

source: MMS

and V2 among its clients, also believes outdoor media is gaining popularity in record companies' marketing departments. "It's a great medium for bands with a good street image, such as the Manic Street Preachers, and it can be a great way of catching attention, which record companies relate to," she says, citing the banner towed behind a plane for Ian Brown's album and the U2 image projected on to the Houses of Parliament as examples of more creative use of the medium.

Barclay adds that the recent introduction of expensive but high-profile and illuminated super-size sites - used extensively by EMI to promote Robbie Williams - has caught the attention of the music business. "There aren't very many of them - only 4,930

nationally - but you can cherrypick in London and 150 [sites] will give the campaign a good cover," she says.

Television spending by the industry was also up 24.3% year-on-year to £38.4m. Virgin and PolyGram were the highest TV spenders at £5.2m each and, with the exception of EMI - which made a point of not advertising Robbie Williams on TV at Christmas - every company increased its TV expenditure.

David Collins, managing director of Mediatrix, which handles media buying for Telstar and a number of leading independents, says the increased TV spend is expected because the increasing fragmentation of the medium means more money is being spent to reach the same audiences. "It is becoming

**1998 SPEND BREAKDOWN**

Media	Spend	% 1997	% 1998	change	total
TV	£38.4m	+24.3	59.9		
Radio	£9.5m	-9.5	14.8		
Press	£8.7m	-11.2	13.6		
Outdoor	£7.1m	+84.6	11.1		
Cinema	£2m	+0.2	0.6		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£64.1m</b>	<b>+15.7</b>	<b>100</b>		

source: MMS

increasingly difficult to deliver the right audiences so planning is getting harder," he says.

Virgin tops the list of the biggest advertising spenders at £10.5m, up from £9.1m in 1997. Terry attributes this to albums by the Spice Girls, George Michael and The Verve selling 2m copies each. "When you've got product like that you increase profile in the street and on TV," he says.

PolyGram, which saw Polydor's and Island's ad spend rise by 126.6% and 178.2% respectively on the back of marketing efforts behind U2 and Boyzone, was ranked second on £8.4m.

Sony's ad spend increased by 89.2% to £7.0m, which vice president strategic marketing Tony Clark attributes to the strong autumn schedule. "Companies are going to support the album releases and there were a lot of years," he says.

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**Virgin Retail's new music campaign extends its new artist sales share**

Virgin Retail claims to have tripled its share of the market for new artist albums, following the launch of its new music campaign last month.

The campaign, offering two CDs for £20 or one for £10.99 on 75 new or recently-brokered artist CDs, ended last week. Backed by record company co-op support, it encompassed latest releases by acts including The Divine Comedy, Gomez Mercury Rev and Kruder & Dorfmeister

Citing Bard and CN figures, Virgin says during the first week of the campaign its stores accounted for 51% of the sales of The Divine Comedy's *Fun Da Sloth*, 47% of Air's *Moon Safari*, 45% of Mercury Rev's



Deserter's Songs and 43% of Gomez's *Bring It On* (pictured). Its share of featured artist albums is normally between 12%-20%.

"The campaign has tripled our market share," says Virgin campaign product manager Paul Milner. "While cash generation was important, the primary aim of the campaign was to underline our support and investment in new music."

Though Milner says it is impossible to assess any additional business resulting from the campaign, by last Saturday it had generated sales of 130,000 units, worth £1.3m.

Virgin is planning to repeat its new music campaign in the second half of the year.



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Mogwai/Sound 5/Wu Chronicles/XTC

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## chartfile

# Universal artists line up for Stateside assault on charts

● It's Cher and Cher alike at the moment in the top three of Europe's radio's most popular UK-signed material (see airplay chart below). The WEA artist had to make way at the top for the Bryan Adams & Mel C collaboration when you're gone a couple of weeks ago, but she is poised at number two with Strong Enough, while its predecessor, Believe, is at three. Meanwhile the veteran singer is also the leading UK-signed act on key international sales charts. On the European sales charts it is still Cher all the way, remaining at one in the albums chart in the Netherlands with Believe and this week climbing to the same spot in Germany. In Denmark she has once been the number one album with Believe and is at two with a Universal-Issued Greatest Hits.

● Like Cher, Sony's Des'ree has two of Europe's biggest UK hits with her What's Your Sign? slipping two to 13 and the one-time Fono Hit 100 chart-topping Life holding at 17. What's Your Sign? also retained its Top 10 of Spain's sales chart with the parent album Supernatural at eight in the country's albums listings.

● Universal has the lion's share of the biggest UK hits on European radio this week. Its seven representatives compare with five for Sony (including Skint), three for EMI, two for Warner and one for Virgin. There are two indie releases.

● UK-sourced material might be conspicuous by its absence in the US charts at present, but across the border in Canada it is dominating the top of the singles chart. Last week the top three remained the same for the third successive week with Spice Girls' Goodbye at one, Cher's Believe at two and the overcast Candle in the Wind 1997/Something About the Way You Look Tonight by Elton John at three. The Canadian Top 20 also currently houses Parlophone with Gloryfiers.

● Back at home Joe Cocker had to settle for a new entry at 24 with his latest Greatest Hits collection last week, but it is a different story altogether on the continent, where it was released ahead of the UK. It is in the Top 10 in Austria and Belgium, while in Germany, where Cocker is signed to the local EMI company, it is still a Top 40 fixture having debuted in the Top 10 there back in November.

● Joe Cocker isn't the only UK act enjoying better success overseas with a hits collection. Duran Duran, who had to make do with a UK number 15 peak with Greatest, are the highest climber this week on the Danish album chart, making a 17-place hike to five with the same album.

● One Night Only is proving to be a very long evening for the Bee Gees. The Polydor album is clocking up huge figures for a live package, having sold 2.2m units so far outside of the UK. That number is still increasing at a healthy pace with the album climbing four places to two in the Netherlands and still in Australia's top 10 despite slipping two places last week to five. Among those overtaking them there is Fatboy Slim whose You're Come A Long Way, Baby holds at four.

Boyzone's No Matter What is preparing to lead a US assault over the next few weeks by some of Universal's key UK-signed acts.

The track, which has already become the Polydor band's biggest international hit to date, will be serviced to US radio in mid-March and will be followed soon after by pushes on several other big Universal acts including Mercury signings Texas and Honeyz.

No Matter What's launch in the States comes hot on the heels of Mercury Island US president Reid highlighting Boyzone, alongside Honeyz and the Lighthouse Family, as UK-signed acts designated to get a stronger push in the States under the new Universal setup.

As part of that process Alastair Farquhar, Polydor's head of international, was in New York last week to



Honeyz: US visit in April

talk with the US label chief, Bert De Ruiter, director of international for Mercury in the UK, believes attempts to break UK acts there will be taken much more seriously than previously. "Every project will be given a lot

more thought than has happened over the past couple of years. Basically what Mercury did in the past two years was take a record to radio and when it got a reaction there the label would take it further, but if it didn't Mercury would just move on to the next thing," he says.

One of De Ruiter's priority acts is Honeyz, who have so far enjoyed Top 10 success in Europe and Australia and will be making their first visit to the US in April to meet record company staff.

Another of his acts, Texas, signed to Mercury in the UK but handled by their new album released in North America on May 18.

Polydor's biggest hopes of a US breakthrough rest on Boyzone and the Lighthouse Family. The Irish band's album Where We

Belong was specially adapted for the US market with three additional tracks, one written by Diane Warren and another by Desmond Child. Like Boyzone, the Lighthouse Family have so far sold 2.5m copies of their latest album outside the UK and are presently at US pop radio with High.

Meanwhile, Universal-Island's director of international Steve Matthews was last week due to meet with MCA North America president Jay Botger, who was in the UK to attend the Brits. Matthews is already encouraged by what he is hearing.

"Certainly from my conversations with Universal people here it looks like we will have very enthusiastic labels in America to work with who will be very open to UK repertoire," he says.

Parlophone Rhythm Series signing Charlotte has become a darling of the US dance scene after landing the nation's most popular dance club hit. Her single Skin, issued on New York-based indie Nervous Records in the States, has just pushed aside Bette Midler's I'm Beautiful to climb to number one on Billboard's Club Play Top 50 in its seventh week on the chart. The success of the single, which will be released in the UK on April 26, follows a promotional visit by Charlotte earlier this year to New York where she played three shows in one night. Her performances concluded with a Tam show with DJ Junior Vasquez, who has supplied one of the mixes for the single's UK release. Charlotte will be returning to the States next month to perform at Miami's Winter Music Conference.



## UK TOP 20 AIRPLAY HITS IN EUROPE

FW	LU	Title	Artist	UK company
1	1	When You're Gone	Bryan Adams/Mel C	ADM/Mercury
2	5	Strong Enough	Cher	WEA
3	2	Believe	Cher	WEA
4	3	No Regrets	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis
5	8	As	George Michael/Mary J Blige	EPIC
6	4	Praise You	Fatboy Slim	Virgin
7	9	You Don't Know Me	Armand Van Helden	Shine
8	6	Something Thing	U2	Island
9	7	Goodbye	Spice Girls	Virgin
10	20	Tender	Blur	Food/Parlophone
11	10	Outside	George Michael	Epic
12	12	No Matter What	Boyzone	Polydor
13	11	What's Your Sign?	Des'ree	S2
14	14	End Of The Line	Honeyz	First Avenue/Mercury
15	15	Written In The Stars	Elton John/LAnnRimes	Rocket/Mercury
16	13	Would You...?	Toots & The Shells	V2
17	17	Life	Des'ree	S2
18	18	Troquela	Teronfeleon	EMI
19	19	I Love The Way You Love Me	Boyzone	Polydor
20	16	When I Grow Up	Garbage	Mushroom

Chart shows the 20 most played airplay songs based on tracks from 48,320 stations at 100 stations in 10 UK cities. See [www.bbc.co.uk/1/yourmusic/chart](http://www.bbc.co.uk/1/yourmusic/chart) for details. © 1998 Virgin Music.

## TOP UK-SIGNED CHART PERFORMERS ABROAD

Country	Title/Artist	Label	chart position	LU
AUSTRALIA	single Believe Cher	WEA	3	1
	album Best Of 1980-1992 U2	Islands	3	2
CANADA	album Believe Cher	Virgin	1	1
	album Believe Cher	WEA	2	2
FRANCE	album Believe Cher	WEA	22	29
GERMANY	album Believe Cher	WEA	1	2
	album Believe Cher	WEA	5	6
ITALY	single Believe Cher	WEA	2	1
	album Five Five	RCA	16	14
NETHERLANDS	single Believe Cher	WEA	6	5
	album One Night Only Bee Gees	Polydor	2	6
SPAIN	album Believe Cher	WEA	2	1
US	album Believe Cher	WEA	2	3
UK	album Believe Cher	WEA	7	12

© Source: ASC, SoundScan, Nielsen, GfK, etc. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/1/yourmusic/chart> for details. © 1998 Virgin Music.

## AMERICAN CHARTWATCH

by ALAN JONES

Irish acts outnumbered British acts on Billboard's Hot 100 chart for the first time over last week and retain their 21 lead this week, with B'witched's C'est La Vie single againing 85-68, while U2's Sweetest Thing slips 85-87 and the Spice Girls' Goodbye falls 87-95. B'witched and U2 are, of course, UK-signed acts as is Cher, who closes in on the chart summit with Believe jumping 3-2. A US act with a UK song making their debut this week are Ork, whose cover of New Order's Blue Monday, the debut release on metal band Korn's label, enters at 90.

On the album charts, Britney Spears' Baby One More Time is the runaway chart leader with more than 229,000 sales last week — 100,030 more than runners-up The Offspring's Americana — bringing its overall tally to just more than 800,000 in five weeks. Spears' album has increased its sales every week since it came out, and dealers clearly anticipate selling many more — it has shipped 2.3m copies already. The album has a slight British connection, as Britney's cover of the old Sonny & Cher track The Best Goes On is identical to the All Seeing I version that was B'Witch's, with the substitution of 12-year-old Britney's vocals for the (sampled) 13-year-old daughter of jazz drummer Buddy Rich. Though They Randed over their track, All Seeing I was not involved in recording Britney's vocal.

The recent good progress of Fatboy Slim (pictured) — precipitated by college and rock radio support for Rockafeller Skank and Praise You — comes to an end with You've Come A Long Way, Baby sliding 73-75. That's still enough for it to remain the top-ranked British album, however, with Phil Collins, George Michael and the Spice Girls, All Saints, the Bee Gees, Fleetwood Mac and Seal also heading south. The only upwards movement in the entire chart for a UK act that comes from Five's self-titled debut, which climbs 20-19B.

New statistics from the RIAA show that US singles sales slumped to \$7.8m in 1998, while BPI figures issued last week showed UK sales static at \$8m. British sales so far this year are off a little more than 5% while US sales have plunged 24.2%. If the trend continues the rest of the year, more singles will be sold here than in America for the first time. The US decline is being hastened by the recent revamp of the Hot 100, which made it possible for the first time to have visibility on the chart without the need to release a single. The highest placed song not to be available as a single is the Go Go Dolls' Slide, which is number 10. Altogether, exactly half of the chart is available as singles.



# Teen press loses its fizz with latest ABCs

(Bucks)

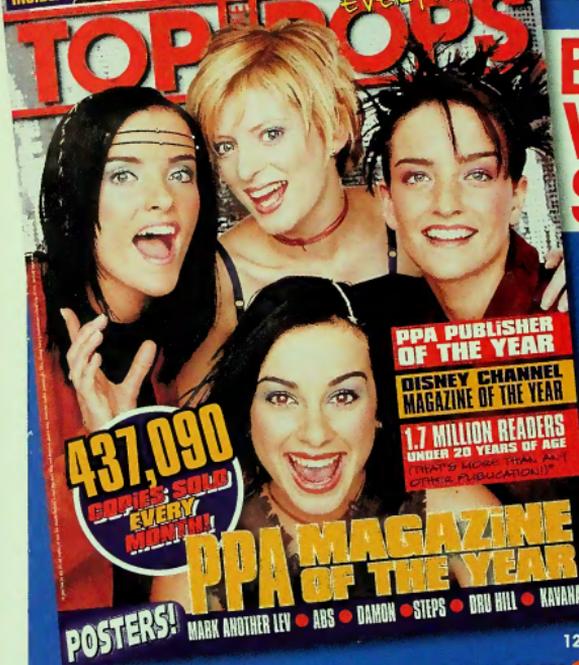
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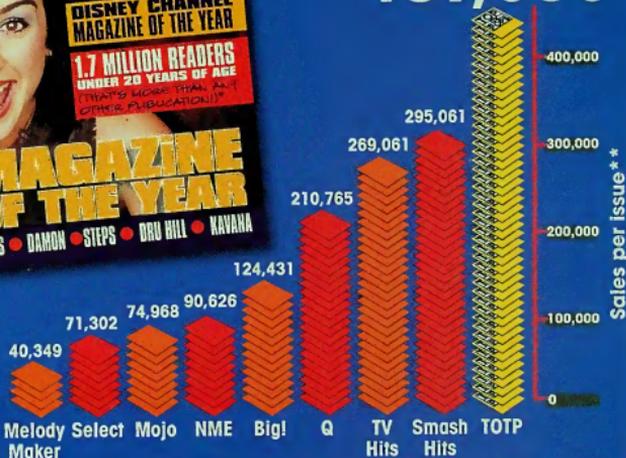
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## newsfile

**LONDON IN TALKS OVER MONDAYS SINGLE**  
London Records is close to striking a deal with US label Radioactive so it can re-issue its new Happy Mondays track. The untitled track will be recorded with producer Paul Oakenfold next month and is due for release in April – around the same time as their reunion tour – and a month before a greatest hits package. The move comes on the back of strong demand for their live dates, which includes selling out three nights at London's Brixton Academy next month for four hours. The Happy Mondays split six years ago this month after which Sean Ryder went on to form Black Grape, who signed to Radioactive. London managing director Laurie Cokell, who is A&Ring the project, says, "It's early days – the rough demos have only been finished. They are going to show how it all goes, and if it goes well it may all go forward beyond this." He declines to comment on a rumour that the band are working on an idea based around a sample of Thin Lizzy's The Boys Are Back In Town, stressing it is an original track.

**ELECTRACY TQ UNIVERSAL**

Electracy have become one of the first UK signings to leave Universal. It follows its merger with PolyGram. It is understood that the former MCA/Geffen signed act were unhappy at how they perceived their career had stalled while the reorganisation was up in the air last year, and declined to remain with the label until their future could be decided. Moreover, Jon Walsh, the former MCA head of A&R who was one of the original team who signed the band, does not have a role in the new music group. The band – who backed Puff Daddy on his only UK-date last year and have also recently parted with Captain Courageous Management – are understood to be seeking another label with new material. Their solicitor Andrew Myers, of Clintons, declined to comment on either split.

**PICKEN TAKES ON BASEMENT JAZZ**

Massive Attack manager Marc Picken last week took on co-management of hotly-tipped dance outfit Basement Jaxx. The move is part of a joint venture formed with former tour manager Andrew Mansi under the West banner. The XL-signed act's album *Remedy* is released in May with single *Red Alert* likely to be released in the middle of April. Picken says, "I'm not a careerist manager but I love the record, it's a disco banger and I think you hear a record as dynamic and interesting you've got to get involved. It's the best British dance album for years, but not dance with a capital D. It's a good thing."

**YOUNGER YOUNGER 28s IN STUDIO**

Stephen Harris, who last year co-mixed U2's *The Sweetest Thing* with Steve Lillywhite, is co-producing *Younger Younger 28s*. The V2/Major Minor act are currently recording their debut album in Bank, Junk and Genius studios in south west London. Their first single, *We're Going Out*, is released on May 17. Harris, who is best known for co-producing Kula Shaker's *K*, has recently completed producing Subicrus' second album and tracks for the Carlos Santana & Dave Matthews project.

**LECKIE PRODUCES MUSIC ALBUM**

Producer John Leckie (Stone Roses, Big Mania) is producing Moby's new album at Rak Studios as details for individual territories continue to be agreed. Guy Osarey signed the band to Mavrick for the US as Christmas and they are expected to complete separate tours of the UK, Europe and rest of the world in coming weeks.

# Keating sings solo for Notting Hill OST

Boyzone frontman Ronan Keating's solo career begins with a solo track this summer for the follow-up *Four Weddings And A Funeral*, The Notting Hill Project.

Meanwhile US superstar songwriter Diane Warren – who penned last year's LeAnn Rimes smash *How Do I Love and Aerobics* I Don't Want To Miss A Thing – has given the band three tracks to record as Polydor seeks to keep the Boyzone brand alive while their solo projects develop.

Keating has covered *When You Say Nothing At All* by US country artist Alison Krauss for the Hugh Grant film. The track has been produced by Steve Lipson, who recorded Boyzone's *Baby Can I Hold You Tonight*.

A release date for the single is yet to be confirmed, as is that of the Notting Hill Project OST which is being A&R'd by Universal-Island managing director Marc Maro.

Although solo albums are expected from Keating and fellow Boyzone member Stephen Gately in the next 12 months, when *You Say Nothing* is expected to be stripped onto the Boyzone greatest hits album which is due for release at the end of May.

Wild Card director and Polydor A&R manager Colin Barlow says, "Rather than what happens with boy bands, where they split up and you lose the fanbase you've built, we want to continue that with their solo projects. Ronan's track is a really good idea of the direction of how we want to go with him on his solo career in the future. It's very Celtic, very artistic. It sounds very live and very heartfelt – one of the best things he's ever done."

The track was originally sent to Barlow by the film's director Richard Curtis, "wondering



if Ronan would be up for it".

Boyzone's next single is due on May 3 and, although to be confirmed, it is likely to be a cover of Sixties singer/songwriter Ann Murray's *You Needed Me*, unearthened by Keating.

Barlow says, "It's great for me to have an artist that can find tracks like that. Barlow is continuing to seek songs for Gately and Keating, who has meanwhile also recorded a duet with mainstream Irish singer Brian Kennedy for the latter's next album.

Boyzone's version of Warren's *Never Not Need You* will appear on the greatest hits package – it is currently only available on the US version of their most recent album *Where We Belong* – while her other two tracks will be recorded this summer for their next studio album, which is due after the two solo projects.

Barlow adds, "Because of their availability, whenever we get a window we record as much with them as possible."

## Ex-Cocteau Fraser signs to Blanco Y Negro/WEA

Former Cocteau Twins frontwoman and Massive Attack vocalist/co-writer Liz Fraser (pictured below) has signed to Blanco Y Negro/WEA for the world excluding North America.

Fraser, who now intends to record under her full name Elizabeth Fraser, had previously been thought to be heading for a deal with Massive's Melanchole label. The Melanchole deal is understood to have been stalled by Fraser's outstanding deal with Capitol in the US.

BYN managing director Geoff Travis, whose relationship with the Cocteau Twins dates back to Rough Trade distributing their early releases, says, "I was keen to sign her about a year ago and got quite upset about [her going elsewhere]. Then a couple of months ago I found out it hadn't happened and got excited again."

The first release under the deal is expected to be the fruits of her co-writing with Spiritualized drummer Damon Reece at home in Bristol.

Blair McDonald, managing director of her publisher Sony ATV Music, says, "Lots of labels were into signing her. The recording's not going to be rushed but what I've heard already is absolutely stunning."



*Production notes*  
Swedish composer Max Martin believes songwriters should hang on to what little power they have got. "The day I can't decide who's going to do this is the day I quit," he says. So it should come as little surprise that when Arista in the US rejected a track he submitted for the new TLC album, he insisted on taking it back. Martin says he is not quite sure why it was rejected – he appears suspicious about the "contractual reasons" explanation offered after the label had heard the demo it originally requested from him – but he certainly does not regret it.

Performed by Brinley Spears (pictured), that song, *Baby One More Time*, not only took the US live newcomer straight to the top of the US singles chart, but also performed the same feat here on Sunday, selling a

staggering 125,000 copies on its first day of release in the UK last week – more than most records have needed to sell all week to be number one this year.

When told of its runaway success over here Martin, the former frontman in Swedish heavy metal band It's Alive, says simply, "That's great."

Like many of his songs, Martin composed the track on his Dictaphone. It was exactly a year ago this month and he was on a 10-hour flight en route to a holiday in Florida after Arista had asked for a track for TLC.

"When you listen to the song you can hear a little of TLC in it, even though it's poppier now," he says. "People were calling me from Arista wanting me to write a song for TLC – some A&R person, I can't remember – but then there was a contractual problem and they said they wanted to use my track for

The soundtrack from the Lewi's *Sto-Prez* jeans advert – *Mr. Oizo's Flat Beat* – will be released in the UK on March 22 on French dance label F Comm through PIAS Recordings. Oizo, who is the alter-ego of underground French film producer Quentin Dupieux, wrote the music to the wacky advert featuring puppet film *Eric* which he also directed. An album, *Analog Worms*, is due in June. F Comm previously released Oizo's M-Seq and #1 EP after label co-owner Laurent Garner discovered him through the film-maker's father while trying to buy a car from him. Lewi's offered Dupieux an advert after discovering his acclaimed M-Seq video – featuring a dancing scab/beer – through UK agency Partizan which had his showreel. The track is currently being licensed to individual labels throughout Europe.

someone else. I didn't want to know. I was sure it was a hit song." It is understood that BMG wanted the track for Five, though Martin declines to comment.

By then Martin, whose Cheron Productions was a joint venture with Zomba, had already met Spears in a "new Zombasing" fashion in New York on the way back from Florida. He subsequently invited her over to Stockholm to record it along with other album tracks at his Cheron studios. *Baby One More Time* became the first track he co-produced with Lutricia McNeal producer Dami after needing a partner when the late Dennis Pop fell ill last year.

Once he completes the new Backstreet Boys album this week he plans a holiday – although that sounds like it could just as well mean some more songwriting.

While some artists have expressed concerns about the Universal/PolyGram merger, industry veteran Teddy Riley, the R&B producer extraordinaire behind Blackstreet, has no such doubts. "To be with the label that has 27% of the world market is incredible," he says. "What could be a better incentive for us than having the biggest international promotion set-up in the world?"

Making that set-up work is more complicated, however, given the speed at which everything is having to be consolidated. The worldwide release of Finally, the act's new album for Interscope, has long been set for a March release but work setting it up could only begin in earnest once the future of the label was established a month ago. While Interscope in the US has become the focus of a label group incorporating Geffen and A&M, in the UK it has shifted from Universal to Polydor Associated Labels — who only received copies last Thursday.

PAL general manager Greg Castoll says, "We didn't know we were getting Blackstreet until we knew we were getting Interscope. Then I phoned international in the US and Mark Crossingham (the former Universal/Interscope UK general manager) to see what was on the schedule. It's been very quick."

With question marks having hung over several key US executives heads, Riley took matters into his own hands months ago. Recognising that much was riding on the



# BLACKSTREET

record — its predecessor, 1996's *Another Level*, sold 6m units worldwide including 130,000 in the UK — and that it was important to achieve a majority consensus, he decided to adopt a "focus group" strategy. This involved asking numerous journalists — including *MW* — plus students from two major southern Universities to New York's SIR studios to hear a rough cut of Finally back in December. He then asked for honest responses to the best and worst tracks and took his own notes.

"I got the idea for the focus groups from the old Berry Gordy/Quincy Jones school of A&R," says Riley, speaking nearly two months later during final mastering at the Hit Factory in New York. "I'd recorded so many songs for this album but I could only include 14, so I

had to narrow it down and this seemed the best way to pick the most popular songs."

It is fitting that Riley draws inspiration from Quincy Jones, who masterminded arguably Michael Jackson's best albums, *Off The Wall*, *Thriller* and *Bad*. Riley cites Jones' example with regards to his own staying power in such a fast-moving genre.

"Quincy always wants to try something new. He wants to stay current and be innovative. It's great to go back and listen to all his old stuff and see how he's changed and progressed. I've stuck around because I study music. It's like a scientist. Get the facts, get the formula and test it."

"I've never been one to repeat myself musically. Whitney (Houston) asked me to do a song for her album but when she told me she wanted something like *No Diggity* I declined. Other producers may be fine with copying the last hit they've done, but not me."

Finally's first single, *Girlfriend/Boyfriend*, features Janet Jackson (the band also toured with her last year and featured on Riley's remix of her single *I Get So Lonely*). Rather than rushing the record, PAL has opted to wait until the video arrives at the end of the month to start promoting its April 5 UK release — coincidentally, the same date Elektra releases her track with Busta Rhymes, *What's It Gonna Be*.

Other guest artists on the album include R&B singer Mya and rapper Mase on the former UK Top 10 single *Take Me There* (from the *Rug Rats* soundtrack), Stevie Wonder (who adds harmonica to *In A Rush*), Mary J Blige, Riley's in-house female R&B group, *Bth Avenue* and rapper Queen Pen (on the summertime party jam *On The Floor*), and Jay-Z (on the funky *What You Want*).

Finally also features a hip-hop based remake of the 1980s Jacksons hit, *Can You Feel It*. "Michael's heard it and loves the concept," says Riley, who famously used a sample from Jackson's *Human Nature* on his remix of *SWV's Right Here* and worked on Jackson's *Dangerous* album.

## 'Michael Jackson's heard the version of Can You Feel It and loves the concept' — Teddy Riley

Riley, who has a state-of-the-art recording studio (complete with vocal booth) built into his tour bus, plans to take Blackstreet on the road later this year. "I think the songs on this album are better performance songs than on the last album," he says. "I wanted what I was doing to translate well to the stage. We plan to go everywhere behind this and put on our best live show yet."

As PAL digests old market research on Blackstreet fans commissioned by Universal, it already has an excellent base on which to build a wider campaign. And given Riley's attachment to the UK — he recorded here early in his career and specially developed a jungle version of *No Diggity* to perform at UK shows — chances are this record will be even bigger than its predecessors.

Jeff Lorez

**Artist:** Blackstreet Project: single/album  
**Songwriters:** Riley/Hannibal & various  
**Producers:** Donni/Zomba **Producer:** Lil Man & various **Studio:** Virginia Beach  
**Released:** April 5/March 22

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27 FEBRUARY 1999

# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



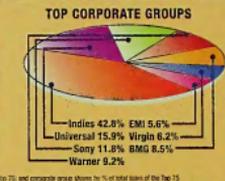
*...see page 1*  
**SINGLE FACTFILE**  
 Jive comes of age this year, celebrating the 18th anniversary of a launch which saw it hit the ground running with a number four hit from Tight Fit with only its second release. This week is the most successful in its history. After 45 consecutive weeks in the Top 10, the Steps single has sold over 984,000 copies, and should have eased past the million mark by Wednesday. Meanwhile, the 464,000 sales achieved by Britney

Spears' single ...Baby One More Time make it the biggest-selling single of the year to date, ahead of Offspring's Pretty Fly (407,000) and Heartbeat/Tragedy (386,000 this year, 618,000 last year), and suggest that Jive will have to wait rather less than 18 years for its second million seller. The Britney and Steps singles also hold down the top two places in the indie chart, where 2Pac's Changes completes an all Jive top three.

**B**ritney Spears makes UK chart history, after selling nearly 464,000 copies of her debut single ...Baby One More Time last week to debut at number one. That's the highest first week sale by any new artist, beating the introductory tally of nearly 420,000 set by Babylon Zoo's Spaceman just over three years ago. Outselling the number two record by a margin of five to one, and taking 26.6% of the market's singlehandedly (Babylon Zoo sold less but took 28%).

...Baby One More Time achieved the fourth highest one week sale of ANY single, being beaten only by the opening numbers posted by Band Aid's Do They Know It's Christmas, Wham!'s Last Christmas and Elton John's Candle In The Wind 97/Something About The Way You Look Tonight.

Those singles were all sold at full price and had only one CD edition, while Britney's single has two CDs – one with a free poster



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 75, and corporate groups share by % of total sales of the Top 15.

– and sells for £1.99. It is very likely it would have topped the chart even at a £3.99 price point, however, and the buy one

get one free inducement to dealers to stock it – and which allows them to sell it at £1.99 – is far from unusual with developing new

acts, or even established ones in trouble. The new **Whitney Houston** single, for example, was pre-sold on a buy one, get two free offer for dealers.

...Baby One More Time was written by Swedish songwriter Max Martin – real name **Martin Karl Sandberg** – who also co-wrote the new N-Sync hit I Want You Back, which debuts this week at number five. Martin has a number of major British hits under his belt, including a brace of number twos – the Backstreet Boys' Quit Playing Games (With My Heart) from 1997 and Until The Time Is Through, a number two for Five last November.

A week after The Moffatts debuted with a song called Crazy, Lucid do likewise, making it the number one title choice of hitmakers. Others to have scored Top 75 successes with Crazy are Mud, the Manhattan, Icehouse, Seal, Boys, Patsy Cline, Julio Iglesias, Seal, Bob Geldof, Aerechim, Etienne, Mark Morrison, Nut and Awesome.

## INDEPENDENT SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	NEW	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive 0522752 (P)
2	NEW	CHANGES	2 Pac	Jive 0522832 (P)
3	3	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	Steps	Jive 0519742 (P)
4	2	BE THERE	UNKLE feat. Ian Brown	Mc Wax MW 19021 (V)
5	NEW	BACK TOGETHER	Babybird	Echo E503X 72 (P)
6	NEW	SUNBURN	Michele Collins	BBC Music WMSS 00082 (P)
7	NEW	WHAT IT'S LIKE	Everlast	Tommy Boy WJSD 7470 (P)
8	8	PRaise YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skin! SKINT 42CD (DMVP)
9	4	NATIONAL EXPRESS	The Divine Comedy	Semino SETCD8 069 (V)
10	NEW	BOOY	Funky Green Dogs	Twisted UK TWCD 11004 (V)
11	NEW	TONITE	Supercar	Pepper 936202 (P)
12	NEW	ACTION AND DRAMA	Bis	Wijija JVI 9502X (V)
13	10	GOOD LIFE (BUENA VISTA)	Inner City	Pies Recordings PIASX 3002D (V)
14	NEW	THE LIVING DREAM	Sundance	Repet DIREACTX 134 (V)
15	11	WHEN I GROW UP	Garbage	Mushroom MUSH 8003X (DMVP)
16	12	MADNESS THING	Lil'Feni	ZTT ZTT 20021 (DMVP)
17	5	I WANT YOUR LOVE	Roger Sanchez presents Twilight	Perpetual PERPDCS 001 (P)
18	NEW	IT'S A PARTY	Bounty Killer	Edel 0066135 (BLA (P))
19	7	FREAK IT!	Studio 45	Azuli AZULXCDX 090 (V)
20	9	NO DOUBT	Imajin	Jive 0521772 (P)

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

	Title	Artist	Label
1	BABY ONE MORE TIME	BRITNEY SPEARS	JIVE
2	PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY)	OFFSPRING	COLUMBIA
3	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	STEPS	EBU/LIVE
4	MARIA	BLOOMIE	IRCA/BYRON
5	YOU DON'T KNOW ME	ARMAND VAN HELDEN FEAT. OJANE HAZDEN	FFRR
6	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	BROWN ADAMS FEAT. MEL C	MERCURY/VAM
7	PRaise YOU	FATBOY SLIM	SONIT
8	FLY AWAY	LENNY KRAVITZ	VIRGIN
9	A LITTLE BIT MORE	911	VIRGIN
10	WESTSIDE	TO	EPIC
11	TEQUILA	TERRORVISION	TOTAL VEGAS
12	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	ANOTHER LEVEL/GHOSTFACE KILLAH	NORTHWESTSIDE
13	CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (P.S. I LOVE YOU)	CHEF	COLUMBIA
14	ENJOY YOURSELF	ANOTHER LEVEL/GHOSTFACE KILLAH	UNIVERSAL
15	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT	TAYANNA ALI FEAT. WIL SMITH	EPIC
16	CHANGES	2PAC	JIVE
17	PROTECT YOUR MIND...	DJ SAKIN & FRIENDS	POSTIVA
18	YOU SHOULD BE...	BLOCKSTER	SOUND OF MYSTRY
19	ONE WEEK	BARNEKAND LADIES	REPRISE
20	MORE THAN THIS	EMMIE	MANIFESTO

All charts © CMI

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27 FEBRUARY 1999

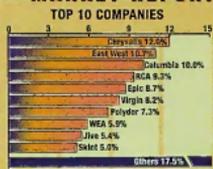
# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

Valentine's Day is now a more potent sales motivator than the Brits and school half term combined – that seems to be the conclusion to be drawn from the fact that while the market expanded by 23% a fortnight ago, it contracted by 13% last week. The Brits factor has stimulated major sales activity in recent years, with a 24% increase in the week of the awards last year proving fairly typical. It clearly didn't have the same effect this year, though many who won awards or performed were richly rewarded. Surprisingly, **Robbie Williams**' triple triumph and his humility had less effect on audiences than the single win (in the only category for which they qualify) of **The Corrs**, and their Talk On Corners album (see pages 6-7). Robbie's I've Been Expecting You to take up residency at number one for the fifth time. But it was a close call. Talk On Corners sold 42,041 copies last week, a mere 187 more than I've Been Expecting You. Both artists continue to have two albums in the



## MARKET REPORT



### SALES UPDATE

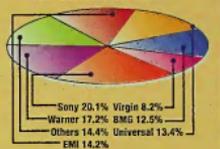
**VERUS LAST WEEK:** -7.0% **YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR:** -0.9%

Top 10 – and in the second race the Corrs are the winners too, taking seventh place with Forgiven, Not Forgotten, which sold 605

Outselling Robbie Williams and the Corrs by a margin of nearly two to one in the early part of the week, **Blondie's** comeback album **No Exit** was on course for a sensational number one debut until their rivals' Brits triumphs blew them out of the way. Nevertheless, they nearly hung on – with a highly respectable sale of more than 39,000 for **No Exit** last week being less than 6% short of the number one. The last album

of new **Blondie** material to chart this high was **Autoamerican** in 1980. Initial quantities of **No Exit** included a bonus CD with live versions of their hits **Call Me**, **Rapture**, **Dreaming and Heart of Glass**, recorded last November. Meanwhile, the **Atomic/Atomic** compilation, which re-entered the chart last week at number 14 managed to make upwards progress, climbing to number 12.

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



**PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART**  
UK 54.7% US 34.7% Other: 10.7%

copies more than Robbie's Life Thru A Lens in eighth position. The Brits obviously triggered major

improvements for the Manic Street Preachers' This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours (20-9), Eurythmics' Greatest Hits (64-11), Abba's Gold (44-13), Whitney Houston's My Love Is Your Love (55-37). Natalie Imbruglia's Left Of The Middle (78-39), Des'ree's Supernatural (161-58) and Belle & Sebastian's The Boy With The Arab Strap (148-83). Several other nominees, performers and winners achieved more minor improvements. The only winner to suffer a decline is Fatboy Slim, whose You Come A Long Way, Baby slides 2-5, with sales of 11% despite his win in the Best Dance Act category. Despite Imbruglia's triumph in the Best International Female Soloist category, Lauryn Hill continues to prosper as her single Ex-Factor returns her to the spotlight. Her Misadventure Of Lauryn Hill album holds at number four but sold over 33,000 copies last week, the highest figure it has achieved since being released 21 weeks ago.

# COMPILATIONS

After a Valentine's Day fuelled boom, sales of compilations – particularly love albums – slumped last week. Overall, the sector was down 29%, with the biggest loser proving to be PolyGram TV's Love Songs which – having turned in an astonishing sale of 89,000 the previous week to top the chart – slumped 1-4 with sales of 21,000, a decline of 76% in the week. It allowed Telstar's Euphoria album to regain pole position, with a solid 29,000 sales taking its cumulative total to just short of 100,000 in four weeks. Euphoria was nearly overtaken by Kiss House Nation, which strengthened through the week to debut at number two. The latest in the rapidly expanding range of Kiss-branded albums released by PolyGram TV, it includes a highly commercial selection of

tracks, among them Armand Van Helden's chart-topping 'You Don't Know Me', Supercar's Tonite, Inner City's Good Life and if You Buy This Record by the Temperer. Jazz FM is another radio station that is stepping up its activities in the compilation market, and its latest release – Turn On Tune In! – in association with Beethoven Music, is its most successful yet. Subtitled 'The Very Best Soul & Jazz From The Coolest TV Commercials', it is precisely that, including among its 32 tracks spread over two CDs such gems as Mad About The Boy (Dinah Washington), I Just Want To Make Love To You (Etta James), Move On Up (Curtis Mayfield) and Let There Be Love (Nat King Cole). Jazz FM's previous releases have accumulated sales of more than 80,000 copies in three years.

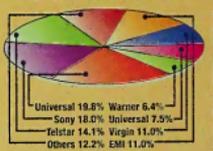
## MARKET REPORT



### SALES UPDATE

**VERUS LAST WEEK:** -28.5% **YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR:** -8.6%

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### COMPILATIONS' SHARE OF TOTAL SALES

Artist albums: 78.4%  
Compilations: 23.6%

# INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distribution)
1	1	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fabry Sim	Skin BRASSIC 1102 (3M/P)
2	2	STEP ONE	Sheps	Jive 691912 (1P)
3	4	EXTENDED PLAY EP	Pogge/Heads	Wall Of Sound WALL20046 (1P)
4	6	GREATEST HITS	2Pac	Jive 622962 (1P)
5	4	VERSION 2.0	Garbage	Mastrom MUSH 2100 (3M/P)
6	5	FIM DE SIECLE	The Divine Comedy	Selena SET CD 857 (1P)
7	2	REVOLT	3 Colours Red	Creation CRECO 227X (3M/W)
8	7	THE COMPLETE	The Stone Roses	Silverman CRECO 535 (1P)
9	10	WORD GETS AROUND	Sherephatics	V2 VVR 1000X (3M/P)
10	9	BIG CALM	Marchesa	Indochina ZEN 017CDX (1P)
11	8	DESSERTER'S SOUND	Mercury Rev	V2 VVR 1007X2 (3M/P)
12	12	THE BOY WITH THE ARAB STRAP	Belle & Sebastian	Jagjagjagu JPRCD 003 (3M/P)
13	12	PSYCHIC FICTION	UNKLE	Mo Wax MW 085CDX (1P)
14	11	ANIMA ANIMUS	The Creatures	Sixou SIXOU 4CD (3M/P)
15	11	ANIMA	Garbage	Murbaeun D 31460 (3M/P)
16	13	MELTING POT	The Charlatans	Beggars Banquet BBGCD 198 (1P)
17	15	SCREAMADELICA	Primal Scream	Creation CRECO 019 (3M/P)
18	14	THE MASTERPLAN	Osiris	One Little Indian OLP 01CD (1P)
19	18	POST/TELEGRAM	Black	Indochina ZEN 092CD (1P)
20	17	WHO CAN YOU TRUST?	Marchesa	

# THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

TW	LOVE SONGS	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/ESP/100 TV
2	THE BEST CLUB ANTHEMS...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
3	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC I	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMIRVIRGIN/POLYGRAM
4	CLUBBER'S GUIDE TO... NINETY NINE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
5	EUPHONIA	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY/TV
6	HITS '98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
7	KISS SMOOTH GROOVES '98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
8	CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
9	THE VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
10	THE BEST SIXTIES LOVE ALBUM...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
11	THE ANNUAL 'IN - JUDGE JULES & BOY GEORGE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TELSTAR TV
12	THE BOX RAR HITS ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
13	ALL THE GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
14	THE 1989 BRIT AWARDS	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONY/TV
15	STREET VIBES 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
16	MUSIC OF THE NIGHT	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
17	WOMAN	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY TRIPOLYGRAM TV
18	THE GREATEST ROCK 'N' ROLL LOVE SONGS	VARIOUS ARTISTS	GLOBAL TELEVISION
19	KISS HOUSE NATION	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
20	MASSIVE DANCE '99	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/POLY/GLOBAL

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# Singles



## 1 BABY ONE MORE TIME

- 1** **BABY ONE MORE TIME**  
Brinley Spears *Jive*
- 2** **RUNAWAY (REMIX)** The Corrs *Atlantic*
- 3** **FLY AWAY** Lenny Kravitz *Virgin*
- 4** **EX-FACTOR** Lauryn Hill *Columbia*
- 5** **I WANT YOU BACK N-Sync** Transcontinental/Northwestside *Columbia*
- 6** **MARIA** Blondie *Beyond/RCA*
- 7** **PROTECT YOUR MIND (FOR THE LOVE OF A PRINCESS)** DJ Sade & Friends *Positiva*
- 8** **CHANGES 2** Pac *Ebu/Jive*
- 9** **PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY)** The Offspring *Columbia*
- 10** **HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY** Steps *Jive*



- 11** **ONE WEEK** Barenaked Ladies *Reprise*
- 12** **ENJOY YOURSELF A+** Universal
- 13** **YOU DON'T KNOW ME** Armand Van Helden feat. Duane Harden *fr*
- 14** **CRAZY** Lucid *Indirect/Delirious/fr*
- 15** **WHEN YOU'RE GONE** Bryan Adams feat. Melanie C *A&M/Mercury*
- 16** **BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT** Tatyana Ali feat. Will Smith *MCA/Epic*
- 17** **24 HOURS FROM YOU** Next Of Kin *Universal*
- 18** **BORN TO BE WILD** Steppenwolf *MCA*
- 19** **WESTSIDE TO** Epic

# THE OFFICIAL CHARTS

100% **music week**

AS USED BY



# albums



## 1 TALK ON CORNERS

- 1** **TALK ON CORNERS**  
The Corrs *Atlantic*
- 2** **I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU** Robbie Williams *Chrysalis*
- 3** **NO EXIT** Blondie *Beyond/RCA*
- 4** **THE MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL** Lauryn Hill *Columbia*
- 5** **YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY** Fatboy Slim *Skin*
- 6** **STEP ONE** Steps *Jive/Ebu*
- 7** **FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN** The Corrs *Atlantic*
- 8** **LIFE THRU A LENS** Robbie Williams *Chrysalis*
- 9** **THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS** Manic Street Preachers *Epic*
- 10** **LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST OF George Michael** George Michael *Capitol*



- 11** **GREATEST HITS** Eurythmics *RCA*
- 12** **ATOMIC/ATOMIX - THE VERY BEST OF Blondie** Blondie *Epic*
- 13** **GOLD - GREATEST HITS** Abba *Polygram*
- 14** **BIG WILLIE STYLE** Will Smith *Columbia*
- 15** **RAY OF LIGHT** Madonna *Sire*
- 16** **GRAN TURISMO** The Cardigans *Stochelo*
- 17** **WITHOUT YOU I'M NOTHING** Placebo *Hut/Wir*
- 18** **WHERE WE BELONG** Boyzone *Polygram*
- 19** **VERSION 2.0** Garbage *Mushroom*

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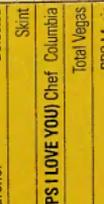
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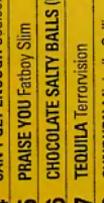
8 **20** BE THERE UNKLE featuring Ian Brown  
  
 Mo Wax

16 **21** CRAZY TIME Moffatts  
  
 Crystallis

17 **22** BACK TOGETHER Babybird  
  
 Echo

18 **23** AS GOOD AS IT GETS Gene  
  
 Polydor

19 **24** CAN'T GET ENOUGH Souleusean cher  
  
 Detached

20 **25** PRAISE YOU Fatboy Slim  
  
 Skint

21 **26** CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (PS I LOVE YOU) Chef  
  
 Columbia

22 **27** TEQUILA Terrorvision  
  
 Total Vegas

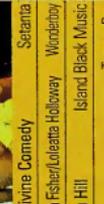
23 **28** SUNBURN Michelle Collins  
  
 BBC Music

24 **29** WHISKEY IN THE JAR Metallica  
  
 Vertigo

25 **30** BELIEVE Cher  
  
 WEA

26 **31** NATIONAL EXPRESS The Divine Comedy  
  
 Setanta

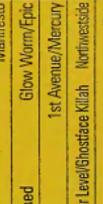
27 **32** YOU GOT ME BURNING UP Cevin Fisher/Lolavita Holloway  
  
 Wembley

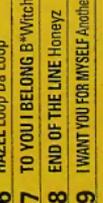
28 **33** THESE ARE THE TIMES Dru Hill  
  
 Island Black Music

29 **34** WHAT IT'S LIKE Everlast  
  
 Tommy Boy

30 **35** TONITE Supercar  
  
 Pepper

31 **36** HAZEL Loop Da Loop  
  
 Manifesto

32 **37** TO YOU I BELONG B\*Witched  
  
 Glow Worm/Epic

33 **38** END OF THE LINE Honeyz  
  
 1st Avenue/Mercury

34 **39** I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF Another Level/Intrugilla  
  
 Northwestside

35 **40** RUSH Kleshtay  
  
 Epic

36 **41** THE BEST OF M People/BMG  
  
 Virgin

37 **42** GREATEST HITS 2 Pac  
  
 Live

38 **43** LOVE SONGS Dr Hook  
  
 EMI

39 **44** BRING IT ON Gomez  
  
 Hollywood

40 **45** AMERICANA The Offspring  
  
 Columbia

41 **46** THE BEST OF THE STAR AND WISEMAN Ladyhawth Black Mamba  
  
 PolyGram TV

42 **47** ANOTHER LEVEL Another Level  
  
 Northwestside

43 **48** B\*WITCHED B\*Witched  
  
 Glow Worm/Epic

44 **49** MOON SAFARI Air  
  
 Virgin

45 **50** BELIEVE Cher  
  
 WEA

# compilations

1 **11** EUPHORIA  
 Hits 99  
 Warner/esp Global TV/Sony TV

2 **12** THE GREATEST ROCK 'N' ROLL LOVE SONGS  
 Global Television

3 **13** THE 1999 BRIT AWARDS  
 Virgin/EMI

4 **14** CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM  
 Columbia

5 **15** THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III  
 Columbia

6 **16** DANNY TENAGLIA LIVE IN ATHENS  
 Global Underground

7 **17** THIS IS NOIZE  
 Columbia

8 **18** HARDCORE HEAVEN - VOLUME 5  
 Heavenly Music

9 **19** MUSIC OF THE NIGHT  
 PolyGram TV

10 **20** WOMAN  
 PolyGram TV/Sony TV

11 **21** HITS 99  
 Warner/esp Global TV/Sony TV

12 **22** THE GREATEST ROCK 'N' ROLL LOVE SONGS  
 Global Television

13 **23** THE 1999 BRIT AWARDS  
 Virgin/EMI

14 **24** CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM  
 Columbia

15 **25** THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III  
 Columbia

16 **26** DANNY TENAGLIA LIVE IN ATHENS  
 Global Underground

17 **27** THIS IS NOIZE  
 Columbia

18 **28** HARDCORE HEAVEN - VOLUME 5  
 Heavenly Music

19 **29** MUSIC OF THE NIGHT  
 PolyGram TV

20 **30** WOMAN  
 PolyGram TV/Sony TV

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 the insider's guide to music

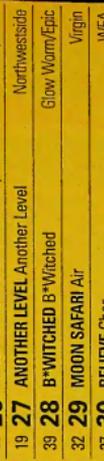
At dotmusic we know what the hits are to be a big hit with music lovers. Every week our list of 50,000 new releases is the only one you need to know. And our special dotmusic lists by new music banners that are aimed at the business side. Artists like Madonna, Eminem, and Jay-Z. They know they're getting the biggest single-market music. So if you can't find the music you want, we'll find it for you. Visit us online at [www.dotmusic.com](http://www.dotmusic.com).  
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11 **20** THE BEST OF M People/BMG  
  
 Virgin

12 **21** GREATEST HITS 2 Pac  
  
 Live

13 **22** LOVE SONGS Dr Hook  
  
 EMI

14 **23** BRING IT ON Gomez  
  
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15 **24** AMERICANA The Offspring  
  
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 PolyGram TV

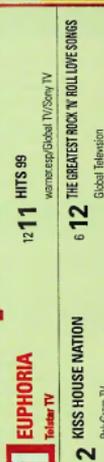
17 **26** ANOTHER LEVEL Another Level  
  
 Northwestside

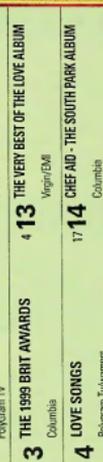
18 **27** B\*WITCHED B\*Witched  
  
 Glow Worm/Epic

19 **28** MOON SAFARI Air  
  
 Virgin

20 **29** BELIEVE Cher  
  
 WEA

21 **30** INTERNATIONAL VELVET Caratoma  
  
 Blanco Y Negro

22 **31** THE BEST OF 1980-1990 U2  
  
 Island

23 **32** FIN DE SIECLE The Divine Comedy  
  
 Selentia

24 **33** SAVAGE GARDEN Savage Garden  
  
 Columbia

25 **34** MEZZANINE Massive Attack  
  
 Virgin

26 **35** ONE NIGHT ONLY Bee Gees  
  
 Polydor

27 **36** MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE Whitney Houston  
  
 Arista

28 **37** QUENCH The Beautiful South  
  
 Go Discs/Mercury

29 **38** LEFT OF THE MIDDLE Natalie Imbruglia  
  
 RCA

30 **39** THE MOVIES Michael Ball  
  
 PolyGram TV

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### CLASSICAL SPECIALIST

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	NEW	VIAGGIO ITALIANO	Andrea Bocelli	Philips 456792 (F)
2	1	CECILIA & BRYAN - DUETS	DuPre/Accademia Obi/Chung	Decca 459823 (F)
3	2	ELGAR:CELINCO CONCERTO-SEA PICTURES	DuPre/Baker,LSO/Banfield	EMI Classics CDC556793 (F)
4	3	VOICE OF AN ANGEL	Christophe Duchet	Naxos 855430 (S)
5	16	TAVENER:THE PICTURING VELVET	Klanghaus,Clair,Dir,Flyssa	Naxos 855411 (S)
6	11	RAVINTAS:MICHAEL ANTONIUS	Royal Scottish,Nax ORF/Lms	Venture CDV1 94 (E)
7	4	WORLDS BYLISE	Frankfurt RSO/Inbal	Teldec 33842182 (W)
8	5	BRUCKNER:RAGONY AND ECSTASY	Venema,RSD/Orfeo	Teldec 06071742 (W)
9	NEW	BRAMMS:VIOLIN CONCERTO,VIOLIN SON NO.3	Emilia Kirkby	Naxos 456792 (F)
10	7	THE PURE VOICE OF...	Emilia Kirkby	Naxos AudioBooks 855460 (S)
11	5	SANT SAENES:CARNAVAL OF ANIMALS	Plana/Northern Sinfonia	Naxos 855566 (S)
12	12	TSCHAIKOVSKY:CONCERTO	Andrea Bocelli	Philips 452032 (F)
13	10	ARIA - THE OPERA ALBUM	LSO/Ashkenazy/Previn	Penguin/Decca 456602 (F)
14	13	BACH:MANUSCRIPTO CONCERTOS 3 & 4	Gabrieli Consort/McCreesh	Archiv Produktion 459302 (F)
15	NEW	HANDEL:SULLOMINO	Caracas/Domingo/Pavlov/Lovino	Decca 456562 (F)
16	12	THE 3 TENORS IN PARIS	Concerto/Mas	EMI Classics CDC 556602 (E)
17	18	RUTTER:REGIUM	Venema/Maa	Penguin/Decca 456602 (F)
18	15	THE ORIGINAL FOUR SEASONS	Kyung Wha Chung	Sony Classical SK 60681 (S)
19	18	BRUCH:VIOLIN CONCERTO NO.1	MA/Amsterdam BRO,Or/Kogman	
20	14	SIMPLY BAROQUE		

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### JAZZ & BLUES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	TALKING VERVE (SOUNDWAVES) - SAMPLER	Various	Nones 594192 (F)
2	2	KING OF BLUE	Miles Davis	Columbia UK 6033 (SM)
3	4	THE BEST OF JAZZ	Various	Global Television RADCC11 (BMG)
4	5	VERY BEST OF JAZZ AFTER DARK	Various	Global Television RADCC11 (BMG)
5	3	EXTREMELY COOL	Chuck E Weiss	Stellar Wave SR901 94 (V)
6	NEW	TAKE MY HEART	Clare Martin	Lms AKD 083 (BMG/PI)
7	NEW	THE UTMOST COLLECTION	Janis Joplin	Columbia SONYNY 32CD (SM)
8	5	LONG SONGS	Miles Davis	Columbia 456386 (SM)
9	8	BLUE FOR YOU - THE VERY BEST OF	Nina Simone	Global Television RADCC 18 (BMG)
10	7	GREATEST HITS	Jeris Joplin	Columbia RCD 32190 (SM)

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### R&B SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. ( distributors )
1	NEW	EX-FACTOR	Lauryn Hill	Columbia 666943 (SM)
2	1	CHANGES	2 Pac	Jive 072230 (P)
3	3	ENJOY YOURSELF	Jay-Z	Universal/UD 56230 (BMG)
4	2	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT	Tayana Ali,Will Smith	M.J.P./Epic 666375 (SM)
5	4	WESTSIDE	DJ Tru	Epic 666810 (SM)
6	6	THESE ARE THE TIMES	Dr.Hill	Island Black Music CD 733 (F)
7	5	RUSH	Keshay	Epic KLE2CD (SM)
8	8	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	Another Level/Gloveshe Kifah	Northwestside 7482134833 (BMG)
9	10	END OF THE LINE	Honeyz	1st Avenue/Mercury HW202 2 (F)
10	7	NO DOUBT	Imajin	Jive 052172 (F)
11	9	GIMME SOME MORE	Busta Rhymes	Elektra E 37802 (W)
12	11	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia 666872 (SM)
13	12	GET ON THE BUS	Destiny's Child/fe. Timbaland	East West E 37802 (W)
14	NEW	HOLD IT DOWN/JUNJUT PURE	Dr.Daddy Kane	Jammy B/JAMMY 212 (F)
15	14	HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE	Dr.Hill	Island Black Music 12S 725 (F)
16	13	HARD KNOCK LIFE (CHETTO ANTHEM)	Jay-Z	Northwestside 748133231 (BMG)
17	17	HEARTBREAK HOTEL	Whitney Houston/Faith Evans	Arista 0022138102 (IMPACT)
18	17	THE BOY IS MINE	Brandy/Mevius	Atlantic AT 0032T (V)
19	18	WAR OF NERVES	All Saints	London/LNCC 421 (F)
20	15	TOUCH IT	Monifah	Universal/UT 56218 (BMG)
21	NEW	BUFFALO SOLDIER	Big Cat,AB50094746 (BMV/PI)	
22	18	TAK ME THERE	Blackstreet & Michel,Mass & Betty Child	Intercepto ND 56626 (BMG)
23	22	CHETTO SUPASTAR...	Pras,Micheal,CCB & Baby	Intercepto IN 55033 (BMG)
24	16	HAVE YOU EVERY?	Brandy	Atlantic AT 0032C (V)
25	23	ARE YOU THAT SOMEBODY?	Aaliyah	Atlantic AT 0402C (W)
26	23	GUESS I WAS A POOL	Another Level	Northwestside 7482138102 (IMPACT)
27	30	GOOD WOOD	Lauryn Hill	Columbia 666943 (SM)
28	19	THE GREATEST LOVE YOU'LL NEVER...	Lionel Richie/Me'Head	Windsor CWVLD 11 (IMPACT)
29	19	PARTY LIKE A B-E-L-E-E	Boscoy Collins	VEA WEA 2002C (W)
30	25	MY FRIEND (SO LONG)	Dr.Tek	Virgin VJSCD1410 (E)

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

### CLASSICAL CROSSOVER

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	2	TITANIC (OST)	James Horner	Sony Classical SK 62313 (SM)
2	3	REQUIEM - SPIRITUAL MUSIC TO UPLIFT...	Various	Decca 456732 (F)
3	4	MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER!	Virgin/EM VTCDD 201 (E)	
4	3	BACK TO TITANIC	James Horner	Sony Classical SK 60681 (SM)
5	5	THE ONLY CLASSICAL ALBUM YOU'LL EVER NEED	Conifer Classics 7505051322 (BMG)	
6	6	SHAKEPEARE IN LOVE (OST)	Stephen Warlock	Sony Classical SK 6337 (SM)
7	14	HILARY AND JACKIE	Original Soundtrack	Decca 482562 (F)
8	8	BRAVEHEART (OST)	Various	Virgin/EM VTCDD 153 (E)
9	13	MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER!	Various	Silver Screen SILTVCD 153 (E)
10	12	SOPRANO IN LOVE	Lesley Garrett	BBG Worldwide Music WMF6 40057 (P)
11	15	DESSERT ISLAND DISCS	Lesley Garrett	BBG/BBG Music 7506591330 (BMG)
12	19	LESLEY GARRETT	Lesley Garrett	winner esp 398425942 (W)
13	17	SIMPLY THE BEST CLASSICAL ANTHEMS	Larry Adler	Decca 456732 (F)
14	12	THE GENIUS OF MONEY IN THE 20TH CENTURY	Larry Adler	Decca 456732 (F)
15	16	THE ROMANTIC MODOS	Larry Adler	Classic FM CFMC 25 (BMG)
16	10	ESSENTIAL PIANO	EMI Classics CDC 556602 (E)	
17	NEW	MORE MUSIC FROM BRAVEHEART - OST	Virgin/Horner	Decca 450272 (F)
18	18	SHINE (OST)	David Hirschfelder	Philips 454710 (F)
19	20	100 ROMANTIC CLASSICS	Various	Castle Music PRXCD 156 (P)

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### ROCK

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label ( distributors )
1	1	AMERICANANA	The Offspring	Columbia 491652 (SM)
2	2	GARBAGE	Garbage	Warner Bros 21436 (JMW/PI)
3	3	BLOOD SUGAR SEX MAGIK	Red Hot Chili Peppers	Master Disc 759256812 (F)
4	4	DOOKIE	Green Day	Reprise 338245792 (W)
5	6	GARAGE INC.	Metallica	Verlgo 539312 (F)
6	8	NEVERMIND	Nirvana	Geffen GDC 2462 (BMG)
7	7	APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION	Nirvana	Geffen GED 2616 (BMG)
8	5	SMASH	The Offspring	Epic/EM 48432 (F)
9	9	INSOMNIAC	Green Day	Reprise 338246942 (W)
10	NEW	INCESTICIDE	Nirvana	Geffen GED 2616 (BMG)

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### DANCE SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. ( distributors )
1	NEW	WHAT U DO	Christina Aguilera	Interno TFRN 12 (IMPACT)
2	1	PROTECT YOUR MIND...	DJ Sakan & Friends	Positiva 12TV 101 (E)
3	3	SEE LINE WOMAN '99	Songstress	London 12TV 101 (E)
4	4	CONTRAK	Decorum	Linea Spirit Adman 22 (SRD)
5	3	(YOU GOT ME) BURNING UP	Foxy Brown/Loletta Holloway	Wonderful WB09Y 013 (F)
6	6	BODY	Funkyr Green Deez	Twisted UK TW412 1004 (V)
7	5	FREAK IT!	Studio 45	Azul AZNY 90 (V)
8	2	RAISE YOUR HANDS	Big Room Dr	VC Recordings VCR4 44 (F)
9	7	HAZEL	Roop Da Loop	ManillaBox FESK 33 (F)
10	6	I WANT YOUR LOVE	Roger Sanchez presents Twilight	Parasound PEP12 001 (P)
11	4	BE THERE	UNLEFE feat. In Brown	Mo Wax Wax 108 (W)
12	14	TRINITY	Technical Rock	Moving Shadow SHADOW 128 (SRD)
13	8	YOU DON'T KNOW ME	Armand Van Helden feat. Duane Harden	Mr FX 357 (F)
14	14	LAID BACK	Space Raiders	SKIT SKINT 40 (JMW/PI)
15	20	OUT OF THE BLUE	System F	Tsunami TSU 6008 (IMPACT)
16	18	FOR AN ANGEL	Paul Van Dyk	Deviant DNT 24X (F)
17	27	WE ARE LOVE	DJ Eric	Distinctive DISNT 49 (P)
18	24	GOODSPEED	BT	Renaissance Music REN12 002 (LADD)
19	15	CROW MAGNON	Intercepto	Subliminal SUB2 (IMPACT)
20	20	COME RAY AND COME CHARLES (G FUNK)	Shawell feat. Legrand/Orchestra	FSUK FSUK 7 (JMW/SM)

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### DANCE ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. ( distributors )
1	NEW	EXTENDED PLAY	Prophet Heads	Wax Of Sound WALLGOLD 1 (W)
2	2	THE MISDEEDICATION OF LAURYN HILL	Lauryn Hill	Columbia 498434/498434 (SM)
3	4	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE	Arista - 07822130314 (BMG)	
4	4	EUPHORIA	Various	Teatar TV - (TYMAG 302) (W)
5	NEW	KISS HOUSE NATION	Various	PolyGram TV - 541718 (F)
6	NEW	DANNY TENAGLIA LIVE IN ATHENS	Various	Global Underground - (GU 0107) (SRD)
7	NEW	GREATEST HITS	2Pac	Jive 052865/052864 (F)
8	NEW	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim	Skin BRASSIC 111P/BRASSIC 111C (JMW/PI)
9	NEW	FOURIE	Digital Underground	Digital Underground 01 (SRD)
10	NEW	THEY NEVER SAW ME COMING	TQ	Epic - 4814034 (SM)

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### MUSIC VIDEO

This	Last	Title	Label Cat. No. ( distributors )
1	1	STEPS:THE Videos	Jive 2015075 (S)
2	3	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING:ONE	PolyGram Video 47959 (S)
3	4	ROBBIE WILLIAMS:Live In Your Living Room	Dynasty 490463 (S)
4	2	GEORGE MICHAEL:Judas & Gentlemen-Best Of	SMI Epic 206352 (S)
5	5	THE CORBES:Live At The Royal Albert Hall	Warner Music Vision 767802713 (S)
6	NEW	TOR AMOS:THE Complete Videos - 1985-1998	Warner Music Video (W)
7	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS:Hey My Producer!	Video Collection VC418 (S)
8	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS:Andrew Lloyd Webber-Collection	PolyGram Video 357393 (S)
9	8	BOYZONLINE - Where We Belong	VL 346663 (S)
10	7	RONAN HARDINMAN:Michael Flatley's Feet Of Fire	VL 359522 (S)
11	11	LIVE CAST RECORDING:Les Miserables In Concert	Video Collection VC529 (S)
12	16	METALLICA:Concert Stubs	PolyGram Video VDS750 (S)
13	10	CLIFF BRIDGES:40th Anniversary Concert	Video Collection VC418 (S)
14	20	VARIOUS ARTISTS:Best Awards 99 - Video Of The Year	SMY 203490 (S)
15	20	FIVEIVE Inside	BMG Video 7412162533 (S)
16	15	SPICE GIRLS:Live At Wembley Stadium	Virgin VE274 (S)
17	13	OCEAN COLOUR SCENE:Swallowers	SMI Epic 203482 (S)
18	17	CELINE DION:Live In Memphis 1993	VL 31843 (S)
19	14	MICHAEL FLATLEY:Lord Of The Dance	VL 31842 (S)
20	19	RADIOHEAD:Meeting People Is Easy	Liberty 4501423 (S)

27 FEBRUARY 1999

COOL CUTS CHART

as featured on Pete Tong's Essential Selection on Radio 1

- 1 2 PUSH UPSTAIRS Underworld J&O  
(Mixes from Roger Sanchez, Adam Beyer and Darren Ego)
- 2 1 NIGHTS OVER EGYPT Incognito Talkin' Loud  
(Famful cover of the Jones Girls classic with MAW on the mix)
- 3 5 UNDER THE WATER Beatles/Brews white label  
(Excellent unusual house cover from Denmark)
- 4 8 BRING MY FAMILY BACK Faithless Cheeky  
(With mixes from Robbie Rivera, Paul Van Dyk and Jan Driver)
- 5 6 HOLD ON Romantico Realid  
(Choice outing on Realid for one of America's unsung talents)
- 6 8 MOVIN' THROUGH YOUR SYSTEM Jack Proimo Hoj Clauses  
(Big techno track with UK release with mixes from Dave Clarke and Slicker)
- 7 THE WORLD '99 Pulp Victim Neo  
(Euro dance with mixes from Moonman and Larpge)
- 8 LADYSHAVE Gas Gus 4AD  
(With mixes from Tim 'Love' Lee and Roy Davis, Jr)
- 9 11 BLACKOUT Todd Terry Innocent  
(The darker side of Todd from his forthcoming album Realisation)
- 10 16 LOVE ON LOVE Candy Star React  
(Candy covers the Eazy Posse club hit from a few years back)
- 11 WINDOW LICKER Aphex Twin Warp  
(Shoegaze but dancefloor-friendly grooves from Richard James)
- 12 10 SAY YOU LOVE ME Johnson Higher Ground  
(With mixes from Frankie Knuckles and Artix Bales)
- 13 STELLA Jam & Byron Superty  
(Nitin & Kone remix this club classic)
- 14 MY LOVE KELE Le Roc Wildcard  
(R&B cut pumped up by Mark Piccolotto and the Rhythm Masters)
- 15 FASHION Phunky Data Pagan  
(Filtered house groove with mix from Ian Peel)
- 16 GIVE A LITTLE LOVE Invariable Man white label  
(Housey house tune going the round on white label)
- 17 JUVENILE DELINQUENT Beber Marine Parade  
(Breakbeat soundtrack from Kevin Beber)
- 18 B.LINE Lamb Fontana  
(First single of the new album with mixes from Andy Votel and Hebble)
- 19 EVERYDAY GIRL DJ Rap Higher Ground  
(DJ Sash and Jay & Christian on the mix)
- 20 WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT Ginwinwe Sony  
(R&B cut given the London garage treatment from Club Asylum)

Compiled by DJ Feedback and data collected from the following sites: City Search/Parade, Pure Drive/Who's Making?/Topix (London), Eastern Blue/Who's Making?/Parade, 2nd Floor/Dance (Chicago), iDance (Washington), Pop (the weekly), iDance Beat (Atlanta), Massize (London), Accus (Washington), Rhythim Syndicate (Cambridge)

URBAN TOP 20

- 1 4 3 SECRET LOVE Kelly Price T-Neck/Island  
Columbia
- 2 4 8 NAS IS LINE Nas 1st Avenue/Wildcard
- 3 1 8 MY LOVE KELE Le Roc Higher Ground/Columbia
- 4 2 8 EX-FACTOR/LOST ONES Lauryn Hill Ruffhouse/Columbia
- 5 4 4 MATRIMONY Maxwell Columbia
- 6 10 3 ALL NIGHT LONG Faith Evans Bad Boy
- 7 3 3 FACED PICTURES Cass & Joe/CAN I GET A... Jay-Z Def Jam
- 8 4 JUST SAY Bitch Virginia
- 9 12 4 WHAT'S IT GONNA BE Busta Rhymes Elektra
- 10 5 5 YOU GOT ME Rockville Faithful Cryshk Badu Universal
- 11 AS George Michael/Mary J Blige Epic
- 12 WHAT'S IT GONNA BE Nene Praps
- 13 2 2 HERE WE COME Timbaland Virgin
- 14 BET YA MAN CAN'T F\*ck Joe feat. Big Punisher East West
- 15 1 7 BETCHA CAN'T WAIT E-101 Talarstar
- 16 COME 2 MY HOUSE LP Chaka Khan Interscope
- 17 MCWIV DJ Rap Arista
- 18 MADE 4 BACKSLASH DJ, Bessley Knight Parlophone/Rhymes Series
- 19 FUNK ON AH ROLL James Brown Eagle/Interno
- 20 1 5 HOLD UP ON YOUR LOVE (REMIX) THESE ARE THE TIMES DJ Rap Def Jam

CLUB CHART TOP 40

- 1 6 2 PUSH UPSTAIRS Underworld Junior Boy's Own  
1st Avenue/Wildcard
- 2 16 2 MY LOVE KELE Le Roc Arista
- 3 9 2 TURN ME ON Danny Tenaglia feat. Liz Torres Kosmo/Logic
- 4 11 2 IT'S NOT RIGHT BUT IT'S OKAY Whitney Houston Multiply
- 5 6 2 PULVERTURM Niels Van Oghy Eagle/Interno
- 6 2 3 GOTTA HAVE HOPE Blackout Interno
- 7 7 2 YOU BETTER MOUNT Rushmore presents... The Knack L'Orfeo
- 8 LA MUSICA Ruff Drivers presents Arralo Champian
- 9 LOVE ON LOVE Candy Star Universal
- 10 3 3 JUST DWIN' WHAT WE LOVE Carole Sylvan Creation
- 11 4 YOU BETTER MOUNT Rushmore presents... The Knack Logic
- 12 4 3 SUN IS SHINING Technique Higher Ground
- 13 SOMEBODY SCREAM Horny United VJ Recordings
- 14 5 3 SAY YOU LOVE ME Johnson Higher Ground
- 15 POPPED FOLY Boona Phoenix Uprising
- 16 22 DEEPER '99 Barnes & OOI white label
- 17 32 PUMP IT UP Lisa Pin-Up & London Fiesta Arista
- 18 3 3 INSIDE Monica Multiply
- 19 20 2 COLOUR THE WORLD Sash! Vinyl Classics
- 20 21 5 PLAYING WITH KNIVES Bizarre Inc. Jive
- 21 14 5 KILLIN' TIME Tina Cousins Maad/Coalition
- 22 28 2 COME INTO MY LIFE Beatbox feat. Raai 3 Beat
- 23 1 1 I KNOW '99 New Atlantic vs Quake Paralelo
- 24 25 1 CLUB LOVELY Sam Ellis Paralelo
- 25 14 8 SING IT BACK Moloko London
- 26 7 YOU CAN FLY The Other Two Ediel
- 27 4 1 BELIEVE Jamestown feat. Jocelyn Brown US Subliminal
- 28 24 6 HAD ENOUGH C2R feat. Daryl Pandey Data Recordings
- 29 30 9PM TILL I COME ATB Distinctive
- 30 26 4 RIDE THE PONY Popalab Junior Boy's Own/VC Recordings
- 31 2 8 RAISE YOUR HANDS Big Room Girl Downboy/Columbia
- 32 8 THIS PARTY SUCKS! Favelle Maverick
- 33 4 4 NOTHING REALLY MATTERS Madonna East West Dance
- 34 3 3 LET'S GET DOWN Spacetrax Distance
- 35 30 3 COMMUNITY OF THE SPIRIT Danny Rampling Interscope
- 36 27 3 MOVIN' ON Mya Columbia
- 37 31 2 I STILL BELIEVE Mariah Carey East West
- 38 1 1 MY ONLY LOVE Bob Sinclair Azuli
- 39 25 9 FREAK IT! Studio 45

CLUB CHART BREAKERS

- 1 BROKEN BONES Love Inc Logic
- 2 HOOKED Donna Deo Mescia
- 3 TURN AROUND Phats & Small Boo/Multiply
- 4 WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT? Ginwinwe 550 Music
- 5 BEST FRIEND, God, The Bad & The Lovely Rockville
- 6 WISH I COULD FLY Rozetta EMI
- 7 GET ON UP Capriccio Defected
- 8 INSTANT MOMENTS R.O.S.O. Slip
- 9 FREE The Messengers feat. Lisa Milllett Undiscovered
- 10 LOOPERICATION EP T-Total 99 Degrees

Breakers are the 10 records outside the Top 40 which have registered the most increased DJ movements. The Club Chart Top 40 (including mixes), Urban, Pop and Cool Cuts charts can be obtained from Hiwy website at [www.djmusic.com](http://www.djmusic.com). To receive the Club, Urban and Pop charts in full by fax call Kim Reach on 0171-9401809.

CHART COMMENTARY

BY ALAN JONES

Underworld jump to the top of the chart this week with Push Upstairs, which also moves to number one on the Cool Cuts chart. Records which top both charts are few and far between, accounting for just 1.3% of club chart number ones in the past couple of years. Simultaneous number ones are rarer still. Underworld scored the double once before - with their 1996 monster Born Slippy, which went on to storm the sales chart, peaking at number two... If Underworld are to remain top next week they must shake off Kele Le Roc, who, across our three DJ return club charts, has easily the strongest record of the week with her upcoming (second) single My Love. This moves 16-2 on the Club Chart, 9-2 on the Pop and 18-3 on the Urban with a multiplicity of mixes from the Igloors, the Rhythm Masters, Paul Masterson, Phat 'n' Phunky and Mark Piccolotto. Le Roc trails by 14% on the upfront chart, 4% on the Pop Top chart and 21% on the Urban chart. The last of these will prove her most difficult obstacle, as she is actually losing ground to Isley Brothers' superb Kelly Price, who surges 14-1... The Arrola single Dreaming was a major club hit last October, climbing as high as number three on the upfront chart, before conquering the pop market. Their new single La Musica is off to a fast track, becoming this week's highest Club Chart debut at number eight. It's only number one in about 3% of all chart returns thus far, however, and will need to improve if it is to give the group its first number one... An unexpectedly high new entry on the upfront chart - at number 13 - and, more expectedly, on the Pop Top chart is Horny United's Somebody Scream, which cheerily samples the old Boney M hit Ma Baker. There are many more mixes due, including some by Sash! - all of which suggests that, when the scrambling is over, this will turn out to be the single which is actually credited to Ma Baker by Sash! vs Boney M in Germany, where it currently holds down 34th place in the singles chart... Finally, Sash! take their usual position on top of the Pop Top chart, with their Dr Alban collaboration Colour The World. It's only their number one on the chart from seven releases. Sash!'s introductory smash Encore Une Fois - which was promoted more to upfront venues - failed to top the list.

POP TOP 20

- 1 2 2 COLOUR THE WORLD Sash! Multiply
- 2 9 2 MY LOVE KELE Le Roc 1st Avenue/Wildcard
- 3 4 3 KILLIN' TIME Tina Cousins Jive
- 4 10 8 THIS PARTY SUCKS! Favelle Downboy/Columbia
- 5 7 3 BROTHER BONES Love Inc Logic
- 6 5 1 SOMEBODY SCREAM Horny United Logic
- 7 4 4 YOU BETTER HAVET Rushmore presents... The Knack Universal
- 8 1 5 WE LIKE TO PARTY Vengaboy Postiva
- 9 WISH I COULD FLY Rozetta EMI
- 10 LA MUSICA Ruff Drivers presents Arralo Interno
- 11 I STILL BELIEVE Mariah Carey Columbia
- 12 12 5 ...BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears Jive
- 13 5 5 PUSH UPSTAIRS Underworld Junior Boy's Own
- 14 LOVE ON LOVE Candy Star React
- 15 CLUB LOVELY Sam Ellis Paralelo
- 16 8 2 GOTTA HAVE HOPE Blackout Multiply
- 17 19 2 SAY YOU LOVE ME Johnson Higher Ground
- 18 5 3 COME INTO MY LIFE Beatbox feat. Raai Maad/Coalition
- 19 WIGNY YOU SAY Christian Fry Mushroom
- 20 14 3 THE POWER OF SOXIEE LADY THE GULLS READ BY JHO Dede Kij Stars Buzi 21

PRESS : TV : RADIO RP SINCE 1996 PRESS : TV : RADIO RP SINCE 1996 PRESS : TV : RADIO

WHITE GREAT

OGC FORTNIGHTLY SNAPSHOT - VANESSA : RADIO 2 GOLD ALBUM OF THE WEEK : 35 REGIONAL RADIO INTERVIEWS : YOU MAG : SATURDAY EXPRESS MAG : SUNDAY MAG : NME : MIX MAG : SELECT. ALBUM REVIEWS - THE DAILY EXPRESS : THE MAIL : THE TELEGRAPH : THE INDEPENDENT.

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27 FEBRUARY 1999

## CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

She may be Queen of the sales chart but Britney Spears can't yet lay claim to the airplay apex. Her...Baby One More Time single advances 4-2, and has a higher audience than over 72% of the airplay chart toppers of the last year but it still over 3m listeners short of wild oldie Debbie Harry and the rest of Blondie, who take pole position for the second week with a similar hearing, never sleeping computers. Spear's biggest supporters were Viking, who played her single 58 times last week, while London dance station KISS FM deserves a mention for airing the track 37 times - most, if not all of their plays being given to the regular mix and not the dance remixes. Some dozy stations didn't play Spears at all and they are...not going to be listed here to spare their blushes. The airplay chart is all about consensus but it's still unusual to find that not one of the country's five biggest stations placed either Blondie or Spears at the top of their most-played lists. Radio One's top choice as Tatyana Ali's Boy You Knock Me Out (33 plays), Radio Two went with Van Morrison's Precious Time (31 plays), Atlantic 252 opted for All I Ask by Rae & Christian (47 plays), Capital for Whitney Houston's It's Not Right But It's Okay and Bryan

Adams feat. Mel C's When You're Gone (49 plays apiece) and Virgin 1215 for the Barenaked Ladies' One Week and Fatboy Slim's Praise You (44 plays each). Virgin's support of Fatboy Slim is unexpected, partly because it rarely goes behind dance records and partly because Virgin's majority shareholder Chris Evans is up against Fatboy Slim's fiancée Zoe Ball in the morning ratings battle.

Cheer's Strong Enough isn't strong enough to make the Top 10 this week, climbing 13-11 (Believe was number one by the time it was released) but Robbie Williams is strong, with Strong Jumping 7-22 to become the highest new entry to the Top 50, continuing the love affair he had with radio in 1998 when he became the first artist in the six year history of the chart to place three records in the year-end Top 20, with Let Me

## AIRPLAY FACTSHEET

is getting so little radio support it fails to make the airplay chart, while Martine McCutcheon's forthcoming single Perfect Moment is a new entry at number 90 on the latter chart, and is widely expected to beat Collins' sales chart placing.

● The C's Corrs register their fourth consecutive Top 10 airplay hit with Runaway climbing 12-6.

entertain You at number 24, Millennium at number 12 and Angels at number one - a major achievement. Strong even got two airings from Radio 2 last week, though it was beaten there by its album track She's The One, which was played three times.

The Beautiful South have had 20 hit singles to date, and 16 of them have had higher airplay peaks than sales peaks. They have inherited the mantle of Simply Red and M People, both of whom also have a history of achieving more on the Music Monitor rankings than on the C.IN lists. Their upcoming single How Long's A Tear Take To Dry looks like following their usual pattern, and is already enjoying major airplay support, moving 97-25 this week, which is based on a very broad take-up, with Radio Two - fairly new converts to the South's cause - again amongst them.

## AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES

TOP 10 COMPANIES TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



Figures are by stations in % of total audience in the UK, and represent major groups in % of total audience in the UK.

## MTV

- | Rank | Title Artist                               |
|------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1    | 4 BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears        |
| 2    | WESTSIDE TO                                |
| 3    | BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT Tatyana Ali           |
| 4    | PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY) The Offspring |
| 5    | MIAMI VIX Smith                            |
| 6    | WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryan Adams & Mel C       |
| 7    | PRASEISE YOU Fatboy Slim                   |
| 8    | I WANT YOU BACK 'N' Sinc                   |
| 9    | EX-FACTOR Lauryn Hill                      |
| 10   | 7 ENJOY YOURSELF A+                        |

Most played videos on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd. w/e 19/2/99. Source: MTV UK.

## THE BOX

- | Rank | Title Artist                                 |
|------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1    | 1 BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears          |
| 2    | 2 CHANGES 2 Pac                              |
| 3    | 3 TRAGEDY STAFF                              |
| 4    | 3 PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY) The Offspring |
| 5    | 6 WE LIKE TO PARTY Gaysbye                   |
| 6    | 8 I WANT YOU BACK 'N' Sinc                   |
| 7    | 5 BETTER BEST FORGOTTEN Steps                |
| 8    | 7 BIXIARIA Blondie                           |
| 9    | 9 MORTALK Britney Spears                     |
| 10   | 9 CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS Chef                 |

Most played videos on The Box, w/e 14/2/99. Source: The Box.

## BOX BREAKERS

- | Rank | Title Artist                                    | Label                |
|------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1    | 1 JUMP BOY Step                                 | All Around The World |
| 2    | 1 DR. GREENHUM Cypress Hill                     | Def Jam              |
| 3    | 3 CAN I GET A... Jay-Z                          | Colombia             |
| 4    | 2 JUST LOOKING Stereophonics                    | V2                   |
| 5    | 7 BECAUSE OF YOU 96*                            | Motown               |
| 6    | 6 HOT SPOT Foy Brown                            | Def Jam/Mercury      |
| 7    | 10 EX-FACTOR Lauryn Hill                        | Columbia/RuffHouse   |
| 8    | 9 SAY YOU'LL BE MINE CFX                        | Atlantic             |
| 9    | 9 RUNAWAY THE CORRS                             | Quality              |
| 10   | 8 THE NEW STYLE AVENGE 2X Freestyle Fly. MC Det | Times Two            |

Highest climbing videos on the Box in advance of single release w/e 14/2/99. Source: The Box.

## TOP OF THE POPPS

- | Rank | Title Artist                                 |
|------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1    | 1 BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears          |
| 2    | 2 WESTSIDE TO                                |
| 3    | 3 BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT Tatyana Ali           |
| 4    | 4 PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY) The Offspring |
| 5    | 5 MIAMI VIX Smith                            |
| 6    | 6 WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryan Adams & Mel C       |
| 7    | 7 PRASEISE YOU Fatboy Slim                   |
| 8    | 8 I WANT YOU BACK 'N' Sinc                   |
| 9    | 9 EX-FACTOR Lauryn Hill                      |
| 10   | 10 ENJOY YOURSELF A+                         |

It's Okay Whitney Houston; So Strange Alberts (Great Britain Song Contest)

Draft line-up 26/2/99

## CD:UK

Performances: We Like To Party Gaysbye; I Want You Back 'N' Sinc; Boy You Knock Me Out; Baby One More Time Britney Spears; Video: Nothing Really Matters Madonna

Draft line-up 20/2/99

## THE PEPSI CHART

Performances: Better Best Forgotten Steps; Runaway The Corrs; Anything But Down Cheryl C; Baby One More Time Britney Spears; Ex-Factor Lauryn Hill

Draft line-up 25/2/99

## RADIO ONE PLAYLISTS

- A-LIST** Changes 2Pac; Boy You Knock Me Out; Tropical Hit One Week Barenaked Ladies; How Long's A Tear Take To Dry? The Beautiful South; Tender Luv; Erase/Rewind The Cardigans; Runaway The Corrs; National Express The Divine Comedy; Pretzel Your Mind DJ Sava; Islands; Praise You Fatboy Slim; Ex-Factor Lauryn Hill; It's Not Right But It's Okay Whitney Houston; Crazy Loud; Nothing Really Matters Madonna; You Stole The Sun From My Heart Nicole Scherzinger; Fresh; George Michael & Sade; I've Got That Feelin'; Anything But Down Cheryl C; Baby One More Time Britney Spears; Just Looking Stereophonics; You Don't Know Me Armand Van Helden

- B-LIST** Blame It On The Weatherman D'Wicked; I Wanna Be Like You The Supremes; When The Going Gets Tough Toughest; Dead From The Waist Down; Coltrane; Permanent Tents Eagle Eye Cherry; Anything But Down Cheryl C; Betcha Can't Wait E17; My Name

## RADIO TWO PLAYLISTS

- A-LIST** Blame It On The Weatherman D'Wicked; When The Going Gets Tough Toughest; Baby One More Time Britney Spears; Precious Time Van Morrison; Lullaby Shawn Mills; Runaway The Corrs; As George Michael & Sade; I've Got That Feelin'; Anything But Down Cheryl C; Eagle Eye Cherry; Lullaby & Lullaby Rimes

- B-LIST** Permanent Tents Eagle Eye Cherry; Dead End Of The Street Eve Cassidy; Rust Echo & The Bunnymen; Bun Tina Arant; Will You Wait For Me Kwanza; Maria Blonkie; At My Most Beautiful R.E.M.; One Little

- is... Eminem; What's So Different? Ginestra; Fly Away Lenny Kravitz; Mystikal Moshes Gun Kuba Skaler; My Love Hale Le Rock; Jolene You Ain't Maricosta; Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) The Offspring; Sabir Jennifer Paik; At My Most Beautiful R.E.M.; Charlie Big Potato Sunk; Arantae; No Surrend To Love; Welcome To Reach You Travis; Strong Robbie Williams

- As Featured** Maria Blonkie; Strong Enough Cheryl C; A Touch Of Love Cleopatra; Rust Echo & The Bunnymen; Can I Get A... Jay-Z; Perfect Moment Martine McCutcheon; I Want You Back 'N' Sinc; Style Orbital; Status Quo Bath Orin; "Hamm-road Phats & Sins"; Crank! Propaganda; "Walk I Could Fly Rooster; Rain Showers; Sine; Better Best Forgotten Steps; "Out Of The Blue System F"; Push Updates Underworld

15 playlists for week beginning 22/2/99  
\* denotes additions

## PLAYLISTS

- A-LIST** Regz! Let Me Entertain You/Angels/Millennium Robbie Williams; Boy You Knock Me Out Tatyana Ali; Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) The Offspring; Praise You Fatboy Slim; Baby One More Time Britney Spears; Westside To Enjoy Yourself A+

- B-LIST** You Stole The Sun From My Heart Nicole Scherzinger; National Express The Divine Comedy; Ex-Factor Lauryn Hill; Betcha Can't Wait E17; (You Get Me) Burning Up Gavin Frasier; Better Best Forgotten Steps; I Want You Back 'N' Sinc; Toughest Toughest; You Don't Know Me Armand Van Helden; Runaway The Corrs; When You're Gone Bryan Adams & Mel C; Mystikal Machine Gun Kuba Skaler; Nothing Really Matters Madonna; You Get What You Give And Red Cards

- C-LIST** Can't Get Enough Soul Searcher; At My Most Beautiful R.E.M.; Lullaby Shawn Mills; Be There UNKLE live; In Love; Can I Get A... Jay-Z; Erase/Rewind The Cardigans; Charlie Big Potato Shawn Arantae; Just Looking Stereophonics; Crank! Propaganda; Push Updates Underworld; Feeling For You Cassius; 747 Kant; Wishing To Reach You Travis; Stars Witness; Style Orbital; Dr Greenhum Cypress Hill

## WORD MAGGIE RELLY

- Word Maggie Relly, With I Could Fly Roxette; Sweet Lies Eric Campbell

- C-LIST** Because Of You 96\* Jay-Z; Jennifer Paige; Tears Of Stone (Lullaby) The Chieftans; How Long's A Tear Take To Dry? The Beautiful South; Say You Love Me Johnson; Shakespeare On Love Layla Khalil; The Way It Goes Status Quo; My Love Hale Le Rock; Anything But Down Cheryl C; Bixiaria Blondie; Ruff House; The Message Runagame Secret Agent (Let's Go) Juice; How Will I Know (Who Are You) Jessica; I Still Believe Manah Corey; Tender Luv

27 FEBRUARY 1999

The Official UK Airplay Chart  
 Radio One  
 67-79%

RADIO ONE

BBC RADIO 1  
 67-79%

	Artist/Label	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Radio One	BBC Radio 1		
1	MARIA						
2	Blondie						
3	RCA/Beyond	2062	+18	74.18	+4		
4	1 BABY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive	1827	+17	70.82	+27
5	2 PRAISE YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skint	1681	-2	58.08	-11
6	3 ONE WEEK	Barnekand Ladies	Reprise/WEA	1428	+6	54.78	+18
7	4 WHEN YOU'RE GONE	Bryan Adams feat. Mel C.	A&M/Mercury	1827	-4	51.89	-11
8	5 RUNAWAY	The Corrs	143/Lava/Atlantic	1428	+28	51.73	+43
9	6 TENDER	Blur	Food/Parlophone	971	+39	47.53	+43
10	7 AS	George Michael/Mary J. Blige	Epic	1147	+36	46.10	+8
11	8 BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT	Tatiana Li	M&J/Epic	1151	+1	44.37	-7
12	9 YOU DON'T KNOW ME	Armand Van Helden	Rfr/London	1166	-14	43.98	-11
13	10 STRONG ENOUGH	Cher	WEA	1194	+64	43.13	+19
14	11 FLY AWAY	Lenny Kravitz	Virgin	1232	+47	41.45	+41
15	12 LULLABY	Shawn Mullins	Columbia	1050	+19	40.88	+58
16	13 CAN'T GET ENOUGH	Soulsearcher	Defected	653	-9	36.61	-11
17	14 ANYTHING BUT DOWN	Sheryl Crow	A&M/Polydor	938	+27	32.09	+8
18	15 IT'S NOT RIGHT BUT IT'S OKAY	Whitney Houston	Arista	605	+11	30.13	+5
19	16 DREAMING	M People	M People/MCA	1148	+17	29.48	+38
20	17 SWEETEST THING	U2	Island	808	-14	29.24	-11
21	18 NATIONAL EXPRESS	The Divine Comedy	Sanatone	760	-10	29.21	-9
22	19 ERASE/REWIND	The Cardigans	Stockholm/Polydor	507	+24	26.01	+37
23	20 PRETTY FLY FOR A WHITE GUY	The Offspring	Columbia	573	-22	26.00	-33

BIGGEST INCREASE IN PLAYS								
▲ 22	18	STRONG	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	691	+337	25.94	+168
▲ 23	3	WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH	Boyzone	Polydor	416	+197	25.56	+33

HIGHEST CLIMBER								
▲ 24	2	CHANGES	2Pac	Jive	431	+38	25.52	+56
▲ 25	8	WRITTEN IN THE STARS	Elton John & LeAnn Rimes	Mercury	759	+3	25.35	-7
▲ 26	2	PROTECT YOUR MIND...	DJ S&K & Friends	Positiva/EMI	499	+61	25.11	+15
▲ 27	6	ENJOY YOURSELF	A+	Kedar/Universal	688	+3	24.92	-33
▲ 28	7	WESTSIDE	TQ	Epic/Clockwork Entertainment	940	-12	23.61	-22

BIGGEST INCREASE IN AUDIENCE - MOST ADDED								
▲ 39	1	BLAME IT ON THE WEATHERMAN	B*Witched	Epic	219	+208	18.79	+509
▲ 40	13	MIAMI	Will Smith	Columbia	684	-35	18.48	-48
▲ 41	35	TORN	Natalie Imbruglia	RCA	419	+5	17.94	-48
▲ 42	7	TEQUILA	Terrorvision	Total Vegas/EMI	597	-34	17.62	-91
▲ 43	3	PREVIOUS TIME	Van Morrison	Exile/Virgin	190	+27	17.25	-8
▲ 44	2	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE	New Radicals	MCA	320	+42	16.77	-8
▲ 45	3	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	Stardust	Virgin	439	-25	16.65	-1
▲ 46	4	MY FAVOURITE GAY	The Cardigans	Stockholm/Polydor	361	+23	16.25	-42
▲ 47	3	WISH I COULD FLY	Roxette	Roxette Recordings/EMI	438	+26	16.19	-24
▲ 48	4	SO YOUNG	The Corrs	Atlantic	451	-22	15.67	-3
▲ 49	3	IF YOU TOLERATE THIS...	Manic Street Preachers	Epic	323	+2	15.01	-31
▲ 50	3	WHAT CAN I DO	The Corrs	143/Lava/Atlantic	438	-7	14.20	-14

TOP 10 GROWERS					
Pos.	Title/Artist	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Radio One	BBC Radio 1
1	STRONG Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	691	533		
2	STRONG ENOUGH Cher (WEA)	466	116		
3	FLY AWAY Lenny Kravitz (Virgin)	1232	359		
4	HOW LONG'S A TEAR THE BEAUTIFUL THING Go!Discs/Mercury	562	318		
5	MARIA Blondie (RCA/Beyond)	2062	318		
7	RUNAWAY The Corrs (143/Lava/Atlantic)	1428	311		
8	AS George Michael/Mary J. Blige (Epic)	1147	303		
9	WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH Boyzone (Polydor)	416	276		
10	TENDER Blur (Food/Parlophone)	971	274		
11	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears (Jive)	1827	260		

TOP 10 MOST ADDED					
Pos.	Title/Artist/Label	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Radio One	BBC Radio 1
1	WEATHERMAN B*Witched (Glow Worm/Epic)	45	27		
2	HEAVY HIGH LIZ Horsemouth (Food/EMI)	23	14		
3	PROTECT YOUR MIND... DJ S&K & Friends (Positiva/EMI)	56	32		
4	HOW LONG'S A TEAR... The Beautiful Soul (Go!Discs/Mercury)	48	41		
5	WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH Boyzone (Polydor)	49	41		
6	DEAD FROM THE WAIST... Catalonia (Blanco Y Negro/EMI)	19	8		
7	STRONG ENOUGH Cher (WEA)	65	26		
8	YOU STOLE THE SUN... Manic Street Preachers (Epic)	53	23		
9	YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE New Radicals (MCA)	40	17		
10	SORRY Jennifer Paige (Epic)	4	5		

TOP 10 PRE-RELEASE					
Pos.	Title/Artist/Label	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Radio One	BBC Radio 1
1	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT Tatiana Li (M&J/Epic)	1828	28		
2	YOU DON'T KNOW ME Armand Van Helden (R/London)	2187	31		
3	CAN'T GET ENOUGH Soulsearcher (Defected)	2265	28		
4	PRAISE YOU Fatboy Slim (Skint)	1923	20		
5	CHANGES 2Pac (Jive)	2203	29		
6	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears (Jive)	1831	26		
7	ONE WEEK Barnekand Ladies (Reprise/WEA)	1934	20		
8	TENDER Blur (Food/Parlophone)	1621	26		
9	PROTECT YOUR MIND... DJ S&K & Friends (Positiva/EMI)	1676	25		
10	ERASE/REWIND The Cardigans (Stockholm/Polydor)	1675	12		
11	ENJOY YOURSELF A+ (Kedar/Universal)	1133	22		
12	NATIONAL EXPRESS The Divine Comedy (Sanatone)	1427	21		
13	EX-FACTOR Lauryn Hill (Ruffhouse/Columbia)	1109	21		
14	TONITE Supercat (Pagan)	1322	22		
15	NOTHING REALLY MATTERS Madonna (Maverick/Warner Bros.)	1200	9		
16	YOU STOLE THE SUN... Whitney Houston (Arista)	822	12		
17	IT'S NOT RIGHT BUT IT'S OKAY Whitney Houston (Arista)	851	15		
18	PRETTY FLY... The Offspring (Columbia)	1348	27		
19	GRAZY Lulu (Indecent/Dimitrios)	1262	18		
20	JUST LOOKING Stefflon (V2)	784	16		
21	WHEN YOU'RE GONE... Bryan Adams feat. Mel C. (A&M/Mercury)	2062	13		
22	MILLENNIUM Robby Williams (Chrysalis)	615	8		
23	MARIA Blondie (RCA/Beyond)	1288	12		
24	WESTSIDE TQ (Epic/Clockwork Entertainment)	759	12		
25	GOOD LIFE Inner City (IPAS Recordings)	648	12		
26	FLY AWAY Lenny Kravitz (Virgin)	1643	7		
27	WRITING TO REACH YOU... The Verve (Polygram)	847	12		
28	BURNING UP... Dave Navarro Ltd. (Hellfire/Underdog)	737	8		
29	THESE ARE THE TIMES... The Beautiful Soul (Go!Discs/Mercury)	1032	11		
30	WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH Boyzone (Polydor)	686	9		
31	YOU SHOULD BE... Blockstar (Sound 2 Music)	624	15		
32	SWEETEST THING U2 (Island)	548	13		
33	WRITING TO REACH YOU... The Verve (Polygram)	847	12		
34	DREAMING M People (M People/MCA)	382	4		

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TOP 10 PRE-RELEASE					
Pos.	Title/Artist/Label	Weeks on Chart	Peak	Radio One	BBC Radio 1
1	MARIA Blondie (RCA/Beyond)	4206	161		
2	WHEN YOU'RE GONE... Bryan Adams feat. Mel C. (A&M/Mercury)	3801	140		
3	BABY ONE MORE TIME Britney Spears (Jive)	3586	141		
4	PRAISE YOU Fatboy Slim (Skint)	3281	148		
5	ONE WEEK Barnekand Ladies (Reprise/WEA)	2968	130		
6	RUNAWAY The Corrs (143/Lava/Atlantic)	2782	139		
7	STRONG ENOUGH Cher (WEA)	2702	116		
8	FLY AWAY Lenny Kravitz (Virgin)	2102	63		
9	DREAMING M People (M People/MCA)	2017	87		
10	AS George Michael/Mary J. Blige (Epic)	2164	87		
11	LULLABY Shawn Mullins (Columbia)	2161	83		
12	YOU DON'T KNOW ME Armand Van Helden (R/London)	1862	105		
13	END OF THE LINE Hazeig (The Weatherman)	1491	56		
14	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT Tatiana Li (M&J/Epic)	1833	85		
15	A LITTLE BIT MORE... DJ (Virgin)	1019	118		
16	TENDER Blur (Food/Parlophone)	2364	57		
17	ANYTHING BUT DOWN... Sheryl Crow (A&M/Polydor)	1894	67		
18	SWEETEST THING U2 (Island)	1824	87		
19	WESTSIDE TQ (Epic/Clockwork Entertainment)	1821	65		
20	THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE Madonna (Maverick)	1289	84		
21	MORE THAN THIS... Emma (Indecent/Maverick)	917	74		
22	WRITTEN IN THE STARS... Elton John & LeAnn Rimes (Mercury)	1343	67		
23	NO REGRETS Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	1148	59		
24	NATIONAL EXPRESS The Divine Comedy (Sanatone)	2263	72		
25	STRONG Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	2018	149		
26	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF... Lauryn Hill (Ruffhouse/Columbia)	891	85		
27	OUTSIDE George Michael (Epic)	1644	56		
28	I DON'T WANT TO... Aswad (Columbia)	914	59		
29	BELIEVE Cher (WEA)	2679	55		
30	TEQUILA Terrorvision (Total Vegas/EMI)	1613	70		

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© Music Control UK. Chart shows tracks backed greatest number of stations since 1995.

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# SINGLE of the week



**STEPS: Better Best Forgotten (Ebu/Jive 0519212).** The debate over whether Belle & Sebastian or Steps most deserved the Brits best newcomer award is likely to run for weeks – or at least until the bona-fide newcomers (B&S are recording their

fourth album) make their expected number one debut with this record. This predictably Abba-sounding track builds energetically to reach its adrenaline-filled peak in a hook-laden, singalong chorus. The group really cannot put a foot wrong at present, as evidenced by *Heartbeat/Tragedy*, having not only sold every Abba single in the UK. Those who have other favourite tracks from the Step One album should note that this is the fans' live favourite.

## SINGLE reviews

**MANIC STREET  
PREACHERS: You Steal The Sun From My Heart (Epic 6669532).** Having won *AMC Premier Awards* and two Brit Awards, the success of the double platinum *This Is My Truth*, Tell Me Yours continues. This, its third single, was performed live at the Brit Awards last week and portrays all the essential Manics traits: rousing chorus, rancorous guitar and the all-consuming voice of James Dean Bradfield. With an *Anthology* on Radio One, it's likely to be another Top 10 hit, even if it is no classic.

**NAOMI: Be My Lover (Gut CXCUG20).** Despite her slender 20 years, a catchy shorthand moniker, and a likely Top 30 entry on this second single, Naomi is no frothy pop wannabe. Her limited-edition debut, *Personal Touch*, set her firmly in the alternative singer-songwriter mould and this follow-up develops the same fiery vocal style. While Alanis Morissette comparisons are inevitable, they are inaccurate – Naomi is a less contrived phenomenon by far.

**REAGAN: R.E.M. At My Most Beautiful (Warner Bros 04776CD).** Put simply, this track is to Up what *Everybody Hurts* was to Automatic For The People. Frontman Michael Stipe delivers one of the most sensitive performances of his career on this gorgeously romantic recording. Many records with great harmonies get a Beach Boys namecheck, but this really deserves it with Stipe singing the vocals in a Pat Sajak setting while the band roared off the track with chimes and backing vocals. The track joined Radio One's *As Featured* list last week, and three singles in, Up looks finally set for the sales of *Reserve*.

**EAGLE-YE CHERY: Permanent Tears (Polydor 5636 752/772).** This single reveals a more reflective, downtempo side to the Grammy-nominated Swede. A Spanish-style guitar solo picked out over a lush vocal creates a melancholic atmosphere that is bound to appeal to fans but might not be ideal for radio. Nonetheless, it has been B-listed by Radio One and Two and with appearances on *Top Of The Pops*, *TR Friday* and the *Pepsi Chart Show*, this is bound to hit the Top 20.



The saucy video has been directed by Jonas Åkerlund who made *My Body* for My Bitch Up. Roxette's album *Have A Nice Day* is released here on March 29.

**JESSICA: How Will I Know (Who You Are) (Jive 0524422).** Patchy pop balladeers from the latest protégé of prolific Swedish hitmaker Max Martin and friends at Stockholm's Cheiron studios. Unfortunately it's no Britney Spear.

**PULP VICTIM: The World 99 (Neo 2010).** With both his remains and his own work finding itself in many Di's sets, Ferry Corsten delivers another massive club favourite. The Moonman mix stands out, with its energetic intro building into the Clannad-sounding break before a huge synth sequence winds itself up for the kick-in. It has already been licensed to the next Essential Mix and *Graceland* compilations.

**ECHO AND THE BUNNYMEN: Rust (London LONCD424570395-2).** The first noises from the Bunnymen since 1997 pick up pretty much where the band left off. Rust carries echoes of Nothing Lasts Forever and is a grower, if not the most forceful trailer for their *Are You Going To Do With Your Life?* album. It is currently on Radio Two's *Clist*.

**KELE LE ROG: My Love (Polydor 5636092).** Polydor has promoted this follow-up to the underrated Top 10 single *Little Bit Of Lovin'* in four different packages with 10 mixes in all. These vary from the house and garage feel of Mark Pritchard's *Phat Funky* and Paul Masterson to an R&B mix from the Ignorants. The more downtempo radio mix is currently on Radio One's *As Featured* list.

**FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE: Denise (Atlantic AT0053CD).** The new single from the New York-based power pop revivalists is rather heavier than previous material, although no less smart-arsed in lyrical terms. They haven't lost their way with a tune, however, and the reception given to the first album suggested a big bet in the making.

**STROKE: Moments (Gut CXCUG2).** With an album recorded in London's Strongroom studios, a deal with XL and a licensing deal with Interscope in the US rumored to be of lottery jackpot proportions, Stroke have already been causing a healthy buzz. Momentary's ability to straddle disco and indie genres in the style of early Jesus Jones or atmospheric U2 songs of the past few years suggests that the excitement is increasingly justified.

**THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH: How Long's A Tear Take To Dry? (Gut Discs/Mercury**



**8709221).** Jaxx's Björk and Paul Heston trade vocals on a bitter-sweet tale of romance for this poppy third release from the South's million-selling Quench album. While its upbeat sound resulted in a Radio One B-listing last week, it may struggle to match the Top 20 performance of *Dumb and Perfect 10*. An arena tour in mid-April may come too late to boost its sales.

**ASTRID: It's True (Fantastic Plastic FPO13).** Not to be confused with the singer-songwriter of the same name, Astrid come across as a pumped-up, more frantic Teenage Fanclub. It's True has a killer chorus and warm Hammond organ that intrigue their way into your head. If they can come up with more songs like this they're a major talent in the offing.

**JON SPENCER BLUES EXPLOSION: Talk About the Blues (Mute CDMU2E2).** On this second single from the Explosion's 2nd live force *Acme album*, Spencer plays rock'n'roll over funky licks and a booming rhythm track. Also featuring a gospel-inspired David Holmes remix and Evan Basner's Winona Ryder-starting video, this excellent package should give them their highest chart placing yet.

**SASH: Colour The World (Multiply MULEY748).** Momentum has slowed for the produced German act – their last release, *Move Wania*, reached a relatively low number eight. This upbeat track seems unlikely to reverse those fortunes and give them their first number one. Despite a rap from Dr Alban joining African beats and chants, its Euro-pop stylings are perhaps too insular and dated to make an impact. That said, the act's fanbase should be enough to deliver a Top 40 chart placing.

**JIMI TENOR: Year Of The Apocalypse (Warp WAP116CD).** The Finn funks out on this offering from his latest album *Organism* (released today), with George Clinton-esque vocal's stop-skip-uptempo beats. Sounding quite unlike anything else yet with a commercial edge, this could well sneak on to radio playlists and enjoy modest success.

**BELLATRIX: Silverlight (Global Warning WARMCD3).** For a sparsely-populated island in the middle of the Atlantic, Iceland manages to produce an enviable amount of musical talent. And now in the footsteps of Björk and Gus Gus come Bellatrix, whose mix of guitars and dance is enlivened by finely-tuned tunes and a canny grasp of melody. Although the vocal gymnastics

**KAVANA: Will You Wait For Me (Virgin V50CX1726).** Kavana returns after his two Top 40 releases last year with his best vocal performance yet, on this track lifted from his forthcoming second album *Instruct*, released a week later. Sweeping strings add to the epic feel to the radio mix, which programmers should take time to listen to. Meanwhile, remixes by New York house producer Eric Kupper and underground garage duo Dootally will deliver club plays.

perhaps come too close to Björk, this track is endearing and none too challenging and should find a ready audience.

**RODDY FRAME: Sister Shadow (Independiente IS0222).** The second release from the former Act Cinema frontman's debut solo album is an appealingly-rendered slice of guitar pop, but the first single peaked at number 45, and this will be lucky to outperform it. A Sheryl Crow support slot could help.

**WHALE: Delta Tau Juice (Hut HUTCD110).** The lure of diminishing returns appears to be affecting Whale this time around. The third single to come from their All Disco Dance *Stand In Broken Bones* is a pleasant enough affair but without any real spark or liveliness. With their previous singles just barely clearing the charts, this is unlikely to break that pattern.

## ALBUM reviews

**MORRISON: VAN (Pointblank/Virgin VPBCD50).** Not only is this back on top but Morrison, this decade's best album of the past decade, sees him re-embracing rhythm and blues on opening track *Going Down Geneva* and lead-off single *Precious Time*, and finds him at his most soulful on the *Stand By Me* feat of *New Biography*. Both down to earth and authoritative, this comfortably sits among his best albums of the past decade.

**KULA SHAKER: Peasants, Pigs And Astronauts (Columbia SHAKERC2CD).** This second album finds the band in full-on retro mode – like it was 1969 all over again. Certainly they sound a lot more cohesive and confident than on their million-selling debut *K*. Standout tracks are the hard- and Hammond-driven *108 Batts* and *Shower Your Love* (a current Radio One favourite). But this is not necessarily the second album that fans have been waiting for, and with stiff competition on this release date, it may find the going tougher than might be expected.

**BRITNEY SPEARS: Baby One More Time (Jive 0522172).** This set from the 17-year-old former Disney Clubber has already taken the US chart by storm and should happily yield any number of hits in



while the quieter songs are just that – the record's only shortcoming is that lyrically it's not as strong, and the competition among releases could hinder its initial showing.

**STEREOPHONICS: Performance And Cocktails (V2 VRL004498).** Rock did not sway back into vogue on January 1 – arguably the revival began with Stereophonics going *Top Three* with *The Bardener And The Thief* in November. The many fans of the duo's first album are unlikely to feel betrayed by this second offering. Kelly Jones' authoritative gravelly voice charms the heavier numbers, but that lyrically it's not as strong, and the competition among releases could hinder its initial showing.

the wake of the chart-busting title track. Nothing else here has quite the same R&B edge, but the teen pop is an almighty thing, so expect Britneymania to continue.

**SHAWN MULLINS: Soul's Core** (Columbia 049637). Early but expensively-produced US rock, awash with references to fallin' rain, booze and lives spent travelling soulfully between authentic-sounding US destinations. Mullins is a big growler, and on the more lowkey, observational material he pulls off a neat Tom Waits-meets-Eels trick. But on the whole this is too slick for all country fans and too US-specific to be a real mainstream contender over here.

**EMMYLOU HARRIS, LINDA RONSTADT, DOLLY PARTON: Trio II** (Asylum 02275-2/4). The follow-up to the mega-smash Trio sees another superstar vocal harmony workout of songs by a selection of writers including Neil Young, Harley Allen and Donagh Long. The playing and production are impeccable, the repertoire eclectic and the vocals exquisite. Another hit.

**VARIOUS: Pete Tong Essential Selection - Spring 1999** (After 5560844). After the launch of its Essential Recordings imprint, Tfr returns to the series which built the Essential brand as a retail force. Pete Tong provides a selection of the essential tunes from his Friday night show on Radio One, including Top 20 releases from Friends 2000, Humate, DJ Sakin & Greene, Soulsearcher, Cevin Fisher and Lucid. Upfront tracks include Armand Van Helden's forthcoming single Flower.

**VARIOUS: The Chillout Album (Telstar MULTI 48)**. It's battle of the mellow beats as this Telstar offering goes head to head with Columbia's recent similarly-titled compilation, The Chillout Room. It's hard to separate the two in terms of quality, as The Chillout Album includes a cool selection of both classics by acts such as St Etienne, Air

and Sneaker Pimps and more upfront tracks by Rae & Christian and Dimitri From Paris. Not as chilled out as the title suggests, but a worthwhile release nonetheless.

**VARIOUS: It's A Shifty Disco Thing Volume 2 (Shifty Disco SHIFTY9902)**. The latest collection from the prolific Oxford-based independent singles club which unearthed acts such as The Unbelievable Truth. All the essential Beehaft meets Buzzcocks influences are on show but tracks from Howitz, The Sect and Creeper Lagoon stand out. You can be sure that John Peel will be playing them.



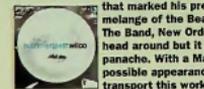
**INcredible VARIOUS: Incredible Sound of Trevor Nelson (Incredible INCC04CD)**. Sony's INcredible imprint launches its compilation series based on top DJs' favourite tracks with selections by Radio One and MTV presenter Trevor Nelson. R&B hits from Lauren Hill, Jay-Z and Black Eyed Peas, plus classics from Brand New Heavies and Masters At Work, help make the album essential listening.

**URBAN SPECIES: Blanket (Talkin' Loud 558776-2)**. It's been five years since this rap act's debut album Listen appeared at the tail end of the acid jazz explosion. This comeback showcases a maturer, more introspective sound, yet one that retains the folky soulfulness of their debut. Terry Callier - sampled on a single from Urban Species' first album - provides his trademark mellow on two tracks, while Imogen Heap's vocals weave among Minto's laidback raps elsewhere. Orchestral touches and folky guitar combine to create a warming listen.

**ROMANOID: LOOPER: Up A Tree (Jeepster JPRCD005)**. Better known as the bassist of last week's Brit Award winners Belle & Sebastian, Stuart Diver and his wife Karn have created an imaginative album that's part mellow beats, part performance art and part genius. Using samples of speech,

## ALBUM of the week

**WILCO: Summerteeth** (Reprise 9362 472822). From the moment the guitars and bells kick in on Summerteeth's opener and first single Can't Stand It (released on April 3), it's obvious that Jeff Tweedy, the man behind Wilco, has hit upon the ingredients for a powerful, classic album. With critical praise showered on Wilco's last album Being There, many pundits are already referring to this as one of the albums of the year. Diluting the country influence that marked his previous work, Summerteeth is a glorious melange of the Beach Boys, The Beatles, Big Star, Neil Young, The Band, New Order and more - almost too many to get your head around but it all manages to come off with unbelievable panache. With a March 27 London date set to sell out, and a possible appearance on TFI Friday, Summerteeth looks set to transport this work of genius to the mainstream.



delicate instrumentation and lots of looping. Up A Tree is firmly in the thoughtful B&S mode, not not as fey. A large B&S fanbase will relish this beautiful album, as will those who like their music on the intelligent side.

**BAREFOOT COUNTRY: Bless For A Honey (Global Warming GLOB0C4)**. This beautiful three-piece continue to plough the country blues ground torched by Mazzy Star, Maria McKee and PJ Harvey, although tracks such as On A High show a more commercial grasp. Helene Dimeon's sultry tones perfectly complement Graham Gargiulo's understated guitar work. If he can leave behind the obvious influences, they're capable of charming a large audience.

**DAVID GRAY: White Ladder (JHT IHT CD001)**. After almost too many years away,



Welsh singer-songwriter Gray returns with a fine collection of songs which highlight his unique and heart-warming voice. With his writing as strong as ever and the tough but intimate nature of his songs ringing through, hopefully this album will bring the talented singer to the attention of a bigger audience. An inclusion on the soundtrack of the latest hit Brit flick This Year's Love and Gray's singing cameo in the movie will help sales.

## Hear new releases

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

This week's reviewers: Simon Abbott, Dugald Baird, James Brown, Michael Byrne, Andrea Daschner, Chris Finan, Tom FitzGerald, Hugo Fluendy, Ofaf Furniss, Stephen Jones, Sophie Moss, Simon Ward, Paul Williams and Adam Woods.

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RECOMMENDED ALBUMS

CATALOGUE NEW RELEASES

ELVIS PRESLEY: Love Songs (Caplan) 7432164(9312)

A well chosen collection of million moments from the king rocker is punctuated with hits like Love Me Tender, Can't Help Falling In Love and Are You Lonesome Tonight...

GLEN CAMPBELL: The Capitol Years 65777 (Capitol) D218342

the perennial king of MOR country, Campbell's name will always be associated with songwriter Jimmy Webb, whose intricate and seemingly effortless melodies were peerless vehicles for his easy vocal style...

VARIOUS: Extended 80s (Caplan) 7432164(9302)

BMG raids its archives - and those of Sony - and unearths 11 Eighties hits in their 12-inch mixes. Some - like Rickie Lee Jones' 'Staying Alive' - are readily available, while others, among them the Beatmasters' 'Rok Da House'...

SPARKS: Sparks/A Twof'er In (Beatson) 7432164(9302)

Essential ESMCD 6773 Sparks didn't make it until 1974, and these albums, originally released in 1971 and 1972 and now remastered and reissued on a single CD, capture their nascent style...

By Alan Jones

FRONTLINE RELEASES

- AC/DC: Back In Black (Atlantic) 7432164(9302)
ALL ABOUT THE LIGHT: The Light (Mercury) 7432164(9302)
ALICE IN CHAIN: Live Through This (Geffen) 7432164(9302)
ALICE IN CHAIN: Live Through This (Geffen) 7432164(9302)
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CATALOGUE & REISSUES

- ADAM & ANTHEM: The Best of Adam & Anthem (Capitol) 7432164(9302)
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DISTRIBUTORS

Table with 4 columns: Distributor Name, Address, Phone, and Fax. Includes companies like Atlantic, Capitol, Geffen, and various regional distributors.



## RETAIL FOCUS: TRACKONE

by Karen Faux

While six years of successful trading has taught Buckinghamshire indie TrackOne how to ride the highs and lows of seasonal business, the past few weeks have put its experience to the test.

"We've recently seen the lowest level of new releases across all our suppliers for a very long time," says David Stidson, owner for the past three years. "I have survived what has been a very difficult trading period by working a lot more specialist product to our customers, maintaining prominent displays for last year's biggest albums and utilising campaigns from major labels wherever possible."

Robbie Williams was one of the store's best sellers last year and the Brit Awards has just provided another boost. "The Brits are hiking sales of Robbie Williams and Fatboy Slim, both of which have been steady sellers for us," says Stidson. "Apart from this, the beneficial effects of the event are limited because we are not really in the business of mainstream product."

Stidson says his 183 sq m shop seeks to

## VINYL AND SPECIALISATION KEEP SALES ON TRACK



Eva Cassidy

offer a specialist service to a wide range of customers. "We like to spend a lot of time talking to people and we try to introduce customers to as many new and unusual releases as possible. Apart from having an EMI listening post, we have vinyl decks and a remote controlled CD player which means customers can bounce around any tracks of their choosing."

TrackOne's vinyl department occupies one whole side of the shop and carries around 3,000-4,000 records. "When I bought the store in 1995 it didn't carry any vinyl," says owner David Stidson. "However, so many customers requested the format that I decided to give it a try and since then the business has built steadily." TrackOne stocks an extensive range of drum & bass, hip hop, swing, garage and jazz. "One of our biggest sellers at the moment is the late Eva Cassidy," says Stidson. "She has recently had a lot of exposure on Radio Two and since we started playing her album Songbird in-store there has been huge demand. She did very well over Christmas and has been selling steadily ever since."

This week highly pre-release interest translated into solid singles sales for Britney Spears and Lauryn Hill, while Blondie's album *No Exit* has been steaming out. "We're also doing well with Dury Tenaglia, Alvaro, Mighty Strinch and Monchy Michu. We gave a lot of in-store play to many copies of Mighty Strinch's *What Is It* and Monday Michu's *Double Image* and this has fuelled sales," says Stidson.

Currently the store's Blue Note campaign is going well. "We now have a permanent Blue Note display since last year's mid-price promotion was so successful," Stidson reports. "It includes around 30 titles and the *Break Beat* compilations are the fastest movers."

Virgin's full-to mid-price deal is also providing a focus point in store with albums from Gomez, The Verve and Arving the most popular artists in the campaign. "Mid-price promotions are an important part of our offer," says Stidson. "They stimulate interest in areas of catalogue where sales are falling from year to year. We are pretty choosy about which offers we run as it is important that they feature strong indie titles."

Like many other indie stores, TrackOne is eagerly anticipating the roll-out of some of this year's big new releases. Customers are regularly asking for new albums from Kula Shaker, Blur and Beth Orton.

"There has also been a great deal of anticipation for Pete Heller's new single on Junior Boys Own, but it has been so long coming that we fear it might have missed the boat," says Stidson.

## IN-STORE THIS WEEK

**Andis Previews** Single - Blur; **Windows** - Kula Shaker, CDs at £7.99 each or three for £20; **In-store and press ads** - The Moffatts, Kula Shaker, Jacqueline du Pre, Blondie, The Chill Out Room, Rod Bernard, Elgar, The Chill Out Room, XTC, Joe Cocker

**ASDA** Singles - Blur, Elton John & LeAnn Rimes, Whitney Houston, Stereophonics, Cher, Cleopatra, Shawn Mullins, Kula Shaker, Sheryl Crow; **Albums** - Disco '99, The Moffatts, Disco House, Barenaked Ladies, The Prodigy, The Christians

**Boots** Album - Whitney Houston; **In-store** - Mother's Day promotion, Warner Century video campaign, Simba's Prize Doctor Doollite

**FARRINGTONS** Windows - Evelyn Glennie, Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorghiu, Andrea Scholl; **In-store** - Vanessa Mae, Charlotte Church, sale

**HMV** Singles - Kula Shaker, Blur, The Caribians, Cher, Cleopatra, Sheryl Crow, Shawn Mullins, Stereophonics, Elton John & LeAnn Rimes; **Windows**

- Northern Exposure, Underworld, Barenaked Ladies, TLC; **In-store** - Three Colours Red, Disco House, UNKLE; **Press ads** - Elton John and LeAnn Rimes, Everlast, Liz Phair

**MENZIES** Single - Cher; **Album** - Manic Street Preachers; **Windows** - Manic Street Preachers, singles promotion offering a single for 99p with purchases of any chart titles, three CDs for 20

**pinacol** Selects **Listening posts** - Outcaste New Records, Talk Talk, Dewey Stewart, Babybird, Prince Paul; **In-store at Mojo recommended retailers** - Steve Hackett

**"NOW"** Singles - Cher, Whitney Houston, Elton John & LeAnn Rimes, Blur; **Albums** - Barenaked Ladies, The Moffatts; **Video** - Baby's On Fire, Lou Reed, Hornblower; **In-store** - Disney book and spoken word promotion

**our price** **In-store** - Britney Spears, Manic Street Preachers, Blondie, Three Colours Red, The Moffatts, Barenaked Ladies, Brit Awards, Nick Warren, Mirror Ball

**TOWER** Singles - Kula Shaker, Van Morrison, Whitney Houston, Stereophonics; **Windows** - Blur, Brit Awards, Lauryn Hill, CDs, two CDs or videos and get one free, specialist sale, Brit Awards, Van Morrison; **Press ads** - buy two CDs or videos get one free, Brit Awards

**MEGASTORES** Windows - two CDs for £22; **In-store** - Hill, new music campaign with two CDs for £20, Brit Awards CDs for £9.99, Double Decca CDs for £7.99, discounts on Riato, Billie, B-Witched, Steps, Lynden David Hall, Another Level, Will Smith, The Moffatts

**WHSmith** Single - Cher; **Album** - Manic Street Preachers; **single promotion** offering a single for 99p with any chart purchase; **In-store** - three CDs for £20; **Listening posts** - The Moffatts, Monet In The 20th Century

**WOOLWORTHS** Singles - Cleopatra, Kula Shaker; **Album** - Lauryn Hill; **In-store** - Brit Awards, E-17, Brit winners CDs for £9.99, mid-price promotion with CDs at £7.99 or four for the price of three, Olmson CDs for £5.99 or four for £20



MARTIN JARVIS, owner, Martin's, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leics

Every year Valentine's Day generates a mad sales opportunity and this time around there was plenty of support from record companies to help to give it a swing. We ran a small promotion featuring TV-advertised love song compilations and this lived up to album sales in what would otherwise have been a very quiet week. This week Blondie's album *No Exit* is doing the business. When it was initially sold in we didn't appreciate how successful the single was going to be and how big the album would be on the back of it. I suspected it would be a case of all or nothing and it has definitely turned out to be a case of all. Apart from this, George Michael and Lauryn Hill are still providing our most bankable albums.

Singles are an important part of our offer as we cater for a lot of students around here. This week Britney Spears has been our biggest seller by far, although there

## BEHIND THE COUNTER

have been plenty of other releases snapping at her heels. The Cows, Lucid, Metallica and Propellerheads have all been in demand, along with Barenaked Ladies and Blondie from last week.

Our customer base is across the board and we try to stock a bit of everything. We do pretty well with dance vinyl and we also carry music videos and spoken word. We stock around 60 different music video titles and we are currently selling a lot of The Cows' *Live At The Royal Albert Hall* and Metallica's *Cunning Stunts*. In our spoken word department releases from the BBC are still the most popular.

It is always expected that business will be comparatively slow after Christmas. However, it seems a shame that new releases are traditionally held back in January and February. There is an argument that it is an ideal time to launch product from new acts because of the lack of competition."



NEIL SCOTT, EMI area account manager, the South West and Wales

This week singles are benefiting from half-term sales across my area with both The Moffatts and DJ Salkin continuing to sell strongly. Next week sees the return of Blur with the release of their stunning single *Tender* which will undoubtedly go Top 10. Presales for this week include new singles from Vengaboys, which is already picking up TV and radio exposure, as well as The Supernaturals and Dark Star. Meanwhile Demand is building for some of our forthcoming dance releases from DJ Dado, Vera Cotcha, Fridge and BBE.

We're selling in quite an eclectic range of albums this week. They span Vengaboys, Liz Phair, Nat King Cole, Kings College Choir, Duran Duran, Richard Lee Johnson and Blur. We are also promoting Blur's back catalogue on the back of the new album. In the forthcoming months dealers will see releases from Radiator, Electronic, Cassandra Wilson, Roxette, Cartoons and Liz Horosan.

We're all overjoyed with Robbie Williams' haul of Brits. It highlights that the whole industry feels he deserves recognition. As a result of the awards, both his albums will remain high in the chart for several months and his forthcoming single *Strong* is featuring on some notable playlists.

During this week we've set up a range of local activities in conjunction with independent retailers. Stores are being featured on Cardiff University's Student Radio as part of its Breakfast Show album of the week, there is a leaflet drop at a Staff Little Fingers date and I'm also working with a local radio station on a Positive back catalogue campaign.

My current position of area account manager is the most diverse and enjoyable I have experienced in my eight years with the company. It has seen a decentralisation of power away from London and given us the tools and training to be in total control of our own areas."



## APPOINTMENTS

## "NOW"

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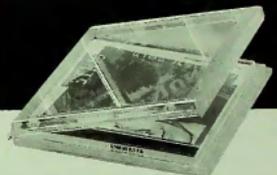
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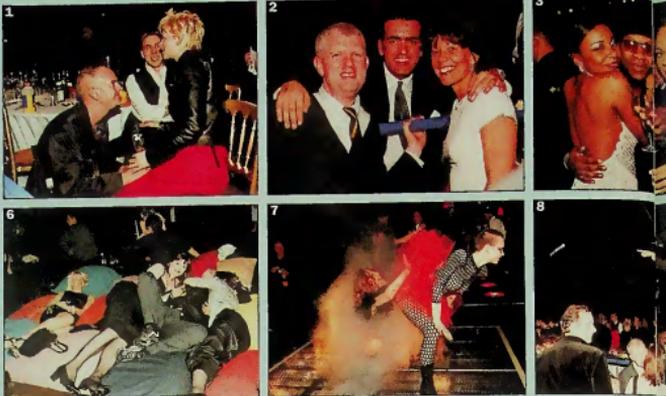
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*not read*

Remember where you heard it: What is it with the Brit Awards and ice? Last year the event run into trouble over a, er, slight disagreement between Chumbawamba's skirt-wearing Nigel Hunter and Fleetwood Mac fan John Prescott. Now this year – with the venue somewhat fittingly turned into an ice rink – it ended up having to use twice as much power as normal to stop the ice under the floor melting...Talking of Mr Hunter, those Brits people are clearly forgiving souls. Just before proceedings began, Chumbawamba's Tubthumping could clearly be heard blasting out over the speakers...Backstage, **Mo Mowlam** was seen asking **Stevie Wonder** for his autograph...So who was the happiest man at the Brits last Tuesday? No, not **Robbie "legless" Williams**. Wandering around with an understandably big grin on his face was **Coalition's Rob Partridge** in the arms of his new turn (management-wise) **Caprice**. The pair were later to be found at the **Eurythmics** aftershow... On the subject of Mr Stewart and Ms Lennox, they have apparently written 14 songs for their forthcoming album, expected in October...Just as happy as Partridge was former **Sun** boss **Kelvin Mackenzie**, who took to his feet loudly to applaud **Norman Cook's** award, before asking to no-one in particular, "Who the \*\*\*\* is **Slimboi Fat?**"...The scourge of Old Labour later made it down to Sony's **Met Bar** bash, where he refused to take off his raincoat (the cloakroom tariff was apparently too steep) but consented to dance with **Boy George**...A few floors up and a few hours later, Sony's grand communicator **Gary Farrow** was rudely awakened in his hotel bed thanks to a **drunken guest** on the floor above who had fallen asleep and left his **bath** running over. Perhaps it was a Sony exec re-enacting his company's **Titanic**



Many took **BOY GEORGE's** advice and left their vegetables alone. But after the cold feast that was the **BRITS** dinner last Tuesday (February 16), the great and the good settled down to be thrilled by everything from **ROBBIE** "I've got three you know" **WILLIAMS** bravely leaping into the arena to **MARK MORRISON** provoking a mixed response from his latest captive audience. (1) "You've come a long way, baby", "Er, Brighton actually luv". The future **MR AND MRS SLIM** demonstrate just what you have to do these days to get yourself on the **Radio One** playlist. When **HARRY** Met **BILLY** (2). Watched on by Capital Radio group programme director **RICHARD PARK's** wife **ANNA**, RCA's top suit **MAGEE** (left) is puzzling why his star turn **NATALIE IMBRUGLIA** has landed two gongs and he's still having to cuddle up with Partnership promotions man **McCLEOD**. As the song goes, Another Level's **WAYNE** (3) clearly doesn't want to be alone no more. **KELE LE ROC** (left) obviously agrees, though **SHOLA AMA** seems less sure. "Not even Rob Dickens has been this close to me before." **CHER** (4), it seems, is rather impressed by what **ROBBIE WILLIAMS** is grasping in his hands. What a Brit! (5)

bash, none other than **Sir Colin Southgate** was seen holding forth. He didn't make it onto the dancefloor (where he would have bumped into an energetic **Helen Baxendale**) but he had, after all, been dancing along to the Eurythmics earlier in the evening...Which label's assorted **hangers on** threatened to get heavy with a certain artist when he made comments about a former manager who now consults for said label. Thankfully it all turned out to be a case of so much **macho posturing**... Lucky old **East West**. The company benefited from some prime TV exposure thanks to the **Gap ads** featuring **Missy Elliott** which ran during the commercial breaks in the Brit Awards TV show. According to ad agency sources, a 30-second ad spot like that would cost a whopping £60,000-£80,000...If you're the holder of **Brit Awards Raffle** ticket number 05963, get in touch with **Karen**

**Millard** at Nordoff-Robbins on 0181-769-3424. You've won a £500 cash prize...**Kevin Costner** could have usefully returned to reprise his Bodyguard role when a massed crowd packed outside **HMV's** Oxford Street store last Wednesday to witness a glimpse of Brits star **Whitney Houston**. The diva gave a performance of new single **It's Not Right**, But It's OK to 500 selected fans inside before undertaking a signing session... Interesting that **Belle & Sebastian** should win a Brit Award in a category voted for by listeners to Radio One, which has never A/B **playlisted** any of their records. And best newcomer on their **third** album. One person who was enjoying all the fuss over their win was their label boss **Mark Jones**: "We're more than happy for any investigation. They have got such a fanbase it's no surprise, only amusing that there's only five of us here at this label and we're such a threat to the industry. So many **sour grapes**, I reckon," he says...Could that really have been **Billie Myers** with a couple of **bagels** stuck down her top at the Brits?...industry movers seen dancing on chairs or tables – **Richard Griffiths** (with RCA artist **Mark**



triumph...  
Meanwhile  
over at EMI's  
Chinawhite

**Shrove Tuesday**, Berkeley Square. Yup, it must be the **NORDOFF-ROBBINS** annual Pancake Race. This year the groovers and movers with the flour, lemon and sugar raised four grand (with a little help from sponsors Barclays Bank) for the charity. **HMV's ZINA GROSSE** (1) walked (or rather ran) off with the best fancy dress prize for her Lara Croft outfit. Race winner **ANDY POSTLETHWAITE** of architects Interdec (2) is congratulated by last year's winner and former China Black member **ERROL REID**, whose participation in this year's event was stymied by the Tube strike. Reid missed the start by five minutes.





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