

'Bad' Earns Jackson Six Times Platinum Certs Pay Tribute To Marley & Son

BY PAUL GREIN

LOS ANGELES Two generations of Marleys were cited in the gold and platinum certifications awarded in June by the Recording Industry Assn. of America.

Ziggy Marley & the Melody Makers' "Conscious Party," which has been listed in the top 30 on the Top Pop Albums chart for the past eight weeks, went gold, and Bob Marley & the Wailers' 1984 compilation, "Legend," went gold and platinum simultaneously. The latter album consists of tracks recorded by the elder Marley from 1972 until his death in 1981.

Also in June, Michael Jackson topped the 6 million mark in U.S. sales with both his current album, "Bad," and his 1979 release, "Off The Wall." Jackson's intervening album, "Thriller," has sold more than 20 million copies in the U.S. Jackson is the first artist to top the 6-million-sales plateau with three different albums.

The U.S. sales total of 32 million for Jackson's three CBS solo albums is by far the record for three successive releases by one artist. Fleetwood Mac's trilogy of "Fleetwood Mac," "Rumours," and "Tusk" sold a combined total of 19 million copies in the U.S.; Lionel Richie's three solo albums have sold 18 million; and Boston's three albums have sold 17 mil-

lion. Madonna, Billy Joel, and Bruce Springsteen are next in line, each having sold a combined total of 16 million albums domestically with three successive releases.

Def Leppard's "Hysteria" reached the 4-million-certification plateau in June; the album is two-thirds of the way to matching the 6-million-sales mark of its smash predecessor, "Pyromania."

Two albums by metal bands were certified gold and platinum simultaneously in June: the Scorpions' "Savage Amusement" and Poison's "Open Up And Say... Ahh!" This is the fourth straight platinum album for the Scorpions; it's the second in a row for Poison.

George Strait's "Greatest Hits Vol. II" was certified platinum, a year after his first "Greatest Hits" set reached that plateau. The Texan has also landed a platinum studio album, "Ocean Front Property."

Bob Marley's "Legend" wasn't the only career overview to be certified in June. Eric Clapton's six-record retrospective, "Crossroads," was also certified gold.

And the Fabulous Thunderbirds' 1986 album, "Tuff Enuff," finally reached platinum, two years after the title track became the group's first top 10 single.

Here's the complete list of June

certifications:

MULTIPLATINUM ALBUMS

Michael Jackson, "Bad," Epic, 6 million.

Michael Jackson, "Off The Wall," Epic, 6 million.

Def Leppard, "Hysteria," Mercury/PolyGram, 4 million.

PLATINUM ALBUMS

The Scorpions, "Savage Amusement," Mercury/PolyGram, their fourth.

George Strait, "Greatest Hits, Vol. II," MCA, his third.

Poison, "Open Up And Say...Ahh!," Enigma/Capitol, its second.

"California Raisins," Priority, their first.

Fabulous Thunderbirds, "Tuff Enuff," CBS Associated, their first.

Bob Marley & the Wailers, "Legend," Island, their first.

White Lion, "Pride," Atlantic, its first.

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All-Star Game. Barbara Mandrell, shown seated, hosts the celebrity softball tournament that bears her name to raise funds for the Vanderbilt Medical Center's organ-donor program. Shown standing, from left, are Bob Hope; Frances Preston, president and chief executive officer, BMI; Paul Shaffer; and Oprah Winfrey.

Wein: JVC Jazz Festival Has Best Showing In Years

BY PETER KEEPNEWS

NEW YORK This year's edition of the JVC Jazz Festival in New York—the oldest, biggest, and most prestigious event of its kind—was "the most successful festival we've had in years," according to promoter George Wein.

"We were looking for an 85% ticket sale to break even," Wein says, "and we did about 83% of capacity, which is incredible. No concert died completely. We lost a little money, but our sponsor [JVC, the Japanese audio and video company, which has underwritten the festival since 1986] makes up the difference."

Nevertheless, Wein acknowledges that he faces certain problems in continuing to present a festival that is both artistically and financially successful.

"It gets more difficult every year," he says, "because we're trying to appeal to a more diverse audience. When we present the older jazz, which is so much a part of our hearts, we're not reaching a young audience. When we present the more contemporary, commercial musicians, we get criticized for it. And when we present the little amount of avant-garde jazz we do present—and there are always those critics who say we should

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Eddie Vinson Dead At 70

LOS ANGELES Saxophonist and singer Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson, who distinguished himself in swing-era big bands and postwar blues and R&B combos during his 50-year musical career, died here July 2 at the age of 70.

Vinson succumbed to a heart attack at California Medical Center, where he had been hospitalized since mid-June for treatment of cancer of the esophagus.

The saxophonist, whose bald pate inspired his nickname and a number of comic self-referential tunes, was noted among blues aficionados for

his raw tenor tone and his ebullient, rough-voiced singing.

He was born Dec. 18, 1917, in Houston, Texas; his father, "Piano" Sam Vinson, and mother, Arnella Session, were both pianists. Vinson began playing professionally while still in his teens; he toured the South and Midwest with the Chester Boone and Milton Larkins bands and with Bill Broonzy in a Lil Green show band.

Vinson joined the big band of former Duke Ellington trumpeter Cootie Williams in 1942. He left Williams to form his own 16-piece group in 1945; the band, which gigged regularly in such nightspots as New York's Club Zanzibar and L.A.'s Club Alabam, notched a hit with "Kidney Stew Blues."

After a period of touring and re-

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Album Chart Has Big 'Appetite' For Metal; 'Dirty Dancing' Marks Another Milestone

GUNS N' ROSES' "Appetite For Destruction" finally cracks the top five in its 47th week on the Top Pop Albums chart. It's the sixth metal-based album to place in the top five so far this year, following "Whitesnake" and Def Leppard's "Hysteria," both of which carried over from last year, the Scorpions' "Savage Amusement," Poison's "Open Up And Say... Ahh!," and Van Halen's "OU812."

This is a better metal record than last year, when five metal-based albums had placed in the top five by mid-July: Bon Jovi's "Slippery When Wet" (a carryover from 1986), Cinderella's "Night Songs," Poison's "Look What The Cat Dragged In," "Whitesnake," and Motley Crue's "Girls, Girls, Girls." The Guns N' Roses album reaches the top five as its first hit single, "Sweet Child O' Mine," jumps 10 notches to No. 46 on the Hot 100.

"Destruction" is the slowest-climbing top five album since the Bangles' "Different Light" took 51 weeks to reach that plateau early last year.

"DIRTY DANCING" logs its 39th week in the top five on the pop albums chart, which is the longest run of any album since Bruce Springsteen's "Born In The U.S.A." ruled for 66 weeks in 1984-85. The smash soundtrack surpasses Bon Jovi's "Slippery When Wet" and Michael Jackson's "Bad," both of which spent 38 weeks in the top five.

Meanwhile, "More Dirty Dancing" holds at No. 10, as its key track—the Contours' "Do You Love Me"—jumps to No. 24 on the Hot 100. The song, a 1962 hit, is the third oldie in the past two years to return to the top 25 after being featured in a hit movie. It follows the Beatles' "Twist And Shout" and Ben E. King's "Stand By Me."

And two "Dirty Dancing" alumni—Eric Carmen and producer Jimmy Ienner—land their first post-"Dirty" hit as "Make Me Lose Control" jumps to No. 9 on the Hot 100. The song is Carmen's follow-up to "Hungry Eyes," which peaked at No. 4 in February. This marks the first time that Carmen has landed back-to-back top 10 hits in a career spanning nearly two decades.

FAST FACTS: Richard Marx lands his fourth top five hit from his self-titled debut album as "Hold On To The Nights" jumps to No. 5 on the Hot 100. Marx's album is

the fourth debut release in the past year to yield four top five hits. It follows Exposé's "Exposure," Debbie Gibson's "Out Of The Blue," and George Michael's "Faith."

Van Halen has the best-charting album of its career as "OU812" holds at No. 1 for the fourth straight week. The group's 1986 album, "5150," spent three weeks at No. 1... Veteran producer Tom Werman (Ted Nugent, Twisted Sister) has never had a No. 1 album, but he keeps coming closer. Werman has produced two No. 2 albums in the past year: Motley Crue's "Girls, Girls, Girls" and Poison's "Open Up And Say... Ahh!"

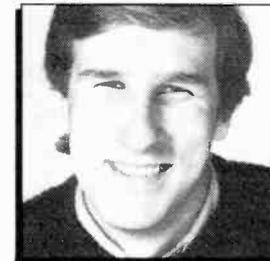
Tiffany's "Feelings Of Forever" loses its bullet at No. 50 on the Hot 100—just five months after she had the No. 1 album and single in the country. "Feelings" is the fourth chart single from the album—but these days, that's not an inhibiting factor. Possible problem: the widely reported stories about legal wrangling over control of Tiffany may have undermined her girl-next-door image.

WE GET LETTERS: Stewart Tick of Bluefield, W.Va., notes that while Debbie Gibson is—at 17—the youngest solo artist to write, produce, and perform a No. 1 hit, Phil Spector was also only 17 when he wrote, produced, performed, and played guitar on the Teddy Bears' No. 1 song, "To Know Him Is To Love Him" in 1958.

Rich Appel of CBS in New York notes that there are two "twist" records in the top 40 for the first time since the twist craze was at its height in 1962. Both the Fat Boys' update of Chubby Checker's "The Twist" (which features Checker) and the Contours' "Do You Love Me" mention the twist.

Ken Breitstein of Woodland Hills, Calif., notes that we forgot about Air Supply when we said that INXS was the first Australian band to land three top 10 hits from one album. Air Supply did it twice, with the albums "Lost In Love" and "The One That You Love."

Finally, Anita Bryant's 1962 album, "In A Velvet Mood," wasn't really an easy listening salute to the Velvet Underground. That lighthearted item in last week's column was a modest joke—which was taken at face value on the copy desk. But if Bryant and Underground leader Lou Reed see this and decide to get together on a project, we want a finder's fee.



by Paul Grein

Executive Turntable appears this week on page 76.