German regulator pays to set up radio ‘task force’

by Ed Meza

DUSSELDORF — In an unprecedented move, North Rhine-Westphalia radio regulator LfR is to fund the research of a “task force” of consultants designed to help local commercial stations in the state win more listeners.

Radio listening in North Rhine-Westphalia continues to be dominated by public broadcaster WDR, whose edgy CHR station Eins Live and AC-formatted WDR2 have successfully cemented an all-conquering listener base.

But LfR official Peter Widlock says that the competition from WDR is just one of many obstacles facing local commercial stations in the state.

“Technically, the stations are just not up to par,” he says. “The frequencies are not optimal. Listeners cannot always pick up the local stations in their area.”

Secondly, local broadcasters here

La Falce gets Universal nod

by Mark Dezzani

MILAN — One of the most difficult pieces in the “UniGram” jigsaw appears to have been fitted.

Piero La Falce has been officially confirmed as president of the newly-merged company in Italy following extended negotiations between himself, Universal’s international division and PolyGram Italy president Stefano Senardi, whose fate was not known at pre-stime.

Universal’s international office in London issued a short statement on January 8, confirming La Falce’s appointment. However, both La Falce and Senardi remain unavailable for comment whilst the new structure of the Italian affiliate is still being decided.

Radio 3, Virgin programmers depart

by Howell Llewellyn

MADRID — Paco Pérez-Bryan, the director of Spain’s alternative public music network RNE Radio 3, has resigned following the shock dismissal of RNE’s deputy director Beatriz Pecker. Pérez-Bryan is also unhappy that new RNE director Diego Armario has reversed a decision taken last October by bringing back educational programmes on Radio 3.

“If Beatriz is of no use to RNE, then I am also of no use,” fumed Pérez-Bryan following his written resignation to Armario on January 7.

LONDON — Virgin Radio has appointed its seventh programme boss in less than six years on the air.

The national U.K. rock station confirmed that head of music Bobby Flain had replaced Geoff Holland as programme director on January 7, although the change was not announced officially.

Holland remains within Virgin’s parent company, the Ginger Media Group, heading up special projects for its radio division which, it is believed, will involve overseas interests.

The senior program-

Inside M&M this week

THIS YEAR’S LOCAL HEROES?

Following last week’s look at international releases for ’98, M&M trawls through the local European release schedules to unearth more albums with pan-European appeal, including new set from Roxette (pictured). Page 8

THE NOMINATIONS ARE IN...

Europe’s music awards season is well and truly upon us, and in this week’s M&M you’ll find details of nominations in this year’s Brits (page 3), Victories (page 4), Echoes (page 20) and Spellemannprisen awards (page 4).

TRADE SECRETS

This week, M&M starts a brand new weekly column entitled Trade Secrets, which aims to give readers a more personal insight into Europe’s leading music and radio executives. First to face the questions is NRK president Jean-Paul Baudecroux. Page 5

M&M chart toppers this week

Eurochart Hot 100 Singles
CHER
Believe (WEA)

European Top 100 Albums
GEORGE MICHAEL
Ladies & Gentlemen... (Epic)

European Radio Top 50
EMILIA
Big, Big World (Rodeo/Universal)
Roxette
The first single from the album "Have A Nice Day"

New single
Wish I Could Fly
**Broadcasters expand Brits brand**

by Mike McGeever

**LONDON** — Brits around the world. That's the aim of broadcasters covering this year's annual Brit Awards to be staged on February 16 at the London Arena complex.

U.K. syndication and production company Wise Buddah, which for the fourth year running holds the exclusive international radio rights, is marketing the programme to 40 countries. The company is particularly keen to bring U.K. broadcasters on board as a stepping stone to developing long-term overseas relationships. The Brits broadcast will be available live, in recorded kit form with scripts, or on CD.

Wise Buddah managing director Stephen Mulholland says he is confident that the number of territories where the Brits will be broadcast comfortably surpass last year's tally of 12. "We share [U.K. labels' body] the BPI's aspiration of expanding the Brits, as the exciting brand that it is, on a greater international level."

London-based company Initial Film & Television will again produce the Brits television coverage, which will be shown the night after the awards on U.K. commercial TV network ITV. Last year's programme pulled in some 10 million viewers.

Initial will also produce TV packages for overseas broadcast through distribution broker Eagle Rock U.K., which is handling the international rights. Networks in several countries have already committed to taking the programme, including key territories such as the U.S., Canada, Japan, France, Germany, Italy and Latin America.

Robbie Williams is odds-on to make several trips to the winner's podium on February 16. The Chrysallis artist has been nominated for six Brit Awards, including best British album, single, and male vocalist. Massive Attack received five nominations, while the Gorillaz, the Music Street Preachers and Fatboy Slim picked up three each.

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**Solo applicant for Norwegian digital?**

by Kai R. Loftus

**OSLO** — Only one application had been received for Norwegian broadcasting authority Statens Medieforvaltning by its January 4 deadline for applications for the country's remaining national digital radio frequency.

The company behind the lone applicant is Radio 2 Digital, whose major shareholders are pan-European broadcasting group SBS and the owner of commercial AC station Radio 1 Norway, Norsk Aller.

However, two other interested groups have been granted an extended deadline of January 15 to deliver completed applications to the authority.

These coalitions are respectively led by Norwegian broadcasting companies and organisations from the Nordic and international radio frequency. One of these plans has already been decided that four of the six available slots will be occupied by public broadcaster NRK, and another frequency will be given to national commercial AC-station P4 Radio Hele Norge.

The selection process for the sixth remaining digital frequency will not be determined by cash bids—instead the applicants will be evaluated on their financial and programming plans.

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**New German dance chart debuts**

by Christian Lorenz

**HAMBURG** — The first official “club play” chart in Germany was set to be published on January 14 by music industry association Bundesverband BMG Entertainment.

The Dance-Trend chart is being compiled by Baden-Baden-based air-play monitoring company Media Control. The chart will rank the 40 most played tracks between the Monday and Saturday every week, based on a sample of 1,000 German club DJs.

Titles which have already qualified for the regular Media Control Top 100 singles chart will be excluded, in order to reflect up-and-coming trends rather than established hit records.

For the time being, the club play chart data will be collected in the form of questionnaires filled out manually by club DJs. But in the longer term, the Bundesverband expects Media Control to switch to electronic data collection with the help of so-called "black box" monitoring devices, which will be connected directly to club mixing consoles in order to detect real-time music output.

“This will be a step-by-step process,” explains Bundesverband spokesman Thorsten Hansen. “The installation of the black boxes represents a considerable investment.” At press time, there were just six German clubs with black boxes installed. The new chart was also still seeking a German media partner.
Brussels To Tackle Radio Congestion

Brussels - The European Commission—the EU's executive body—has unveiled a Green Paper aimed at launching a process of spectrum allocation, and will assess how to tackle questions such as how to ensure that commercial activities of Arista Records' artists. His replacement at Arista is currently based in Athens, Greece, managing director George Zetlitz, who announced the appointment and update on new artists and music genres.

SPELLEMMANPRISEN NOMINATIONS REVEALED

Oslo — Nominations for Norway's 1999 Spelemannprisen awards have been announced, with the only multi-nominees being Arpad bottles, the Vegeterian and Porsadona, who have picked up two nominations each. Zetlitz, signed to Parlophone/EMI, competes for Pop Artist of the Year and Newcomer of the Year, while Porsadona is also nominated for the latter category. The Victoires has to be a huge TV audience (according to Médiametrie its average audience share last year was 35.4 percent) to help promote new talent and music genres. Last year, all the main artists were here to help the Victoires revival and I thank them for that, but this year we want also to emphasise new talents in every genre."

Topping the nominations for this year's awards are Alain Bashling (Barclay) and the east of Notre Dame De Paris (Pomme Musique), who are both nominated in four categories. Receivng three nods each are Zebda (Barclay), Manau (Polydor), Storyt Bugay (Columbia) and Supreme NTM (Epic). In label terms, this year's nominations reflect the current state of the French industry: market-leader PolyGram has received 20 out of a possible 55, while Virgin has 15 and Sony 11. The remaining nominations are shared between EMG (1), East West (2), BMG (1) and independents (5).
BÉR LIN — Although Berlin-based JAM FM has become one of Germany's most influential outlets for urban dance and R&B in recent years, the station had been forced to rely on cable and satellite distribution. But that is all about to change from next month, when JAM will launch its first terrestrial FM service in the city of Saarbrücken, in Saarland. It follows a decision by Saarland state radio regulator LAR last November to grant the dance broadcaster a terrestrial frequency in the city. According to an LAR spokesperson, JAM FM was given the frequency because both its R&B format and its target audience of 20-39 year-olds were "under-represented" in Saarland. "JAM FM is a friend of black music—jazz, soul, funk and hip-hop—none of which were represented in the state," says Radio Donna's Kerstin Lamb, who promotes urban dance and R&B music for Epic Germany, is delighted by the decision. "Hip-hop and R&B is really under-represented in Germany as a whole. Unfortunately there aren't enough stations which play that kind of music. Any move to promote the music and increase its overall exposure is great news for both listeners and artists."

Radio 2 charting a new course in Flanders

by Marc Moes

BRUSSELS — The traditional Saturday morning Top 30 chart countdown broadcast by VRT's AC network Radio 2 is to be replaced by a three-part chart survey of Flemish singles, international singles and albums. The new chart show Top 30 is one of our top programmes," says the show's producer Johan Van Achte, "but it really didn't fit our [audience] profile any more. We don't play many of the songs you find in the charts today, and youngsters who tune in for the chart show don't normally listen to Radio 2." The revamped chart show, which debuted on January 2, features a slimmed-down version of the Flemish Ultratop Top 30 countdown, a 30-minute selection of current Flemish-language singles and a 45-minute survey of the Ultratop Flemish album chart. "From the singles charts, we will only play the records that fit our family-oriented format—about 15 to 20 songs out of the 30," says Van Achte. "But we certainly don't want to alienate our listeners, and we will always play the number one song." In addition to the changes to the Radio 2 chart show, the VRT has decided to expand the Top 40 show broadcast on its CHR station Radio Donna to a five hour Top 50 Saturday show, starting next month. "In doing so, I expect that the chart audience will turn to Radio Donna in future," says Sam Jaspers, co-ordinator at the Ultratop chart controllers Prommusic. "I personally think that the audience will now tune in to Radio Donna for the chart," agrees Sam Hellenmans, radio promotion manager with EMI Belgium. "This makes sense and gives Warner Music Benelux, who is responsible for Warner Music International's European operations, the opportunity to promote the music and the possibility of exporting artists." Dominioni says that creating a regional structure which oversees several territories within Warner Music International's European operations is the company's response to the reality of the new Europe, with its single market and currency. "The regionalisation within Europe has been very important, with a few regions being more capable of organising to confront the challenges that the EU is creating," he adds, hinting at deeper structural changes within Warner Music Europe's national companies, following generalising the Flemish regionalisation. Dominioni comments: "One of the challenges will be to redefine communications and distribution structures over the medium-term. We need to prepare now to meet these challenges for the future, and modernisation is the way to get our business fighting fit for the hotter business climate of the new millennium."
Charles Talar and Loulling Système present

NOTRE DAME DE PARIS

adapted from Victor Hugo's famous novel
a musical by

Luc Plamondon
Director Gilles Maheu

Richard Cocciante
 Choreographer Martino Muller

The phenomenal musical
Notre Dame de Paris

Album
2,5 million albums sold (France/Belgium/Switzerland).
N° 1 on the charts since October 3, 1998.
35 weeks in the charts.
450,000 albums sold in Canada.
N° 1 on the charts during 20 weeks in Quebec.

Complete set
(2 CD full live version)
600,000 albums sold.
N° 2 on the charts since December 12, 1998.

CD Single “Belle”
2,2 million singles sold.
N° 1 on the charts since September 12, 1998.
29 weeks in the charts.

The Musical in Paris,
Palais des Congrès, 1998
450,000 spectators.

France, Switzerland and Belgium tour
February 1999: 27 shows
100,000 spectators.
Lille, Metz, Strasbourg, Orléans, Caen, Bruxelles.

Starting in September 1999:
100 shows. Lille, Strasbourg, Nancy, Orléans, Caen, Pau, Le Mans, Angers, Bordeaux, Marseille, Grenoble, Bruxelles.


Canada tour
Starting in March 1999 (4 months):
Ottawa, Quebec, Montreal,
Toronto (opening January 1999).

Back to Paris
February 2000, Palais des Congrès:
100,000 tickets already sold.

PUBLISHING: Wela B.V., Boventoon B.V., Nico Music, Onze Music
CONTACT: Pomme Music, NDP Project,
TEL. (33) 1 43 59 15 78 / Fax (33) 1 43 59 66 77
Dance grooves

by Gary Smith

NOT DEAD

The latest artist to come out of French production house Yellow is Bang Bang. His debut album Je Taime Je Taime features vocal contributions from Garry Christian, Finnish house chanteur Jay-Jay Johanson plus Mary Gallagher and Margeaux Lampley. The result is an album every bit as sublime as previous Yellow releases—by Kid Loco and Dimitri from Paris—in that it combines a certain jazz feel with a strong, intelligent pop sensibility and a pleasant retro feel. Unless there is a serious and unwarranted backlash against French artists, Je Taime Je Taime looks set to be considered as one of the classier long players of 1999.

UNDEFINABLE

The five tracks on the unsigned and untitled EP by Azucar Letal (Freback/Germany) are an unusual but highly effective hybrid of junglist/reggae grooves married to Cuban female voices. Combining a street-wise, melodic rapping style with some classic latino tunes, the singers inject a sense of fun and mischief into their work while the backing tracks, put together by German musician Holger Hiller, have a low-key industrial edge. From the exuberance of Somos Lo Maximo to the more reggae-inflected Asi Na Ma, this is an excellent mixture of Cuban vocal work and sensitive application of the delights of modern technology.

B-BOY'S REVENGE

With its lush strings and juddering breakbeats, Breaker's Revenge by legendary electro producer Arthur Benjamin (Freskanova/UT) is a perfect antidote to the plethora of limp disco grooves currently vying for chart placings. An unapologetically in-yer-face track with excellent remixes by the Freestylers (pictured), Cut La Pluma DJs, this is the right mix of sheer force and a top tune to put Freskanova back in the charts.

ENTRANCED

While the attention of the world has been held by the emergence of speed garage, nu disco etc, the real underground/crossover phenomenon has arrived quietly but undeniably. Trance has made a comeback as strong as it is unexpected. Having worn out its welcome in 1992/3 on the majority of dancefloors (apart from those in Goa and Ibiza) this rhythmically linear style has, in the last year, resulted in a spate of remixes by house producer Todd Terry will be available in the U.K.

Other Swedish releases with international potential include alternative act Dipper's debut (Vibrafon/UT), due in the first quarter; Lynette Kayana's Hugs And Tags (Vibrafon/UT, 2nd quarter)—on which the singer is gently tweaked towards the international market by Cardigans' producer Tore Johansson; and a new album by techno act Antilocapra Americana released in March. Also look out for new releases by Stakka Bo and '80s revival act Vacuum, both on Stockholm and both due in April.

In Germany, one of the key releases of the first half of 1999 will be the new, as yet untitled, studio album by R&B singer Sabrina Setlur (3P/Epic) which is due out on June 1. As on her previous two albums, Setlur's sound is defined by the 3P production teams working with U.S. vocalists to get that authentic R&B feel. 2-4 Family (Epic) in March.

A new trend in Germany sees local production teams working with U.S. vocalists to get that authentic R&B feel. 2-4 Family (Epic) also expects her debut album, also still lacking a title, out in March, on Edel. It features fat R&B beats by a German production team around DJ Thomilla, and guests local luminaries such as rapper Mr. Gentleman and DJ Plattennenpap. Joak.

Alternative rock celebrates a comeback this year. Alternative pop outfit Blumfeld, which spearheaded the Hamburger Schule in the mid-'90s, will release their third album, Old Nobody (Zick Zack/Big Cat) on January 25. Fellow pupils of the "Hamburg School" are Die Sterne, whose new album is due out on Epic in May, and the more experimental Kinderzimmer Productions, whose set Die Hohe Kunst Der Tiefen Schlangen (L'Age D'Or/Epic) will be released on March 1.

Traditional pop has a comparatively slow start in the GSA region. Look out for the March 1 debut album by Austrian singer Sandra Pires (Gig/BMG).

The French release calendar is dominated by pop over the past few months. Likely top sellers include Liane Foly's Acoutique (Virgin) on January 26, Lara Fabian's live album on Polydor in February, and Toujours Moi by Belgian artist Axelle Red—who sang on the official World Cup theme song together with Youssou N'Dour—on Virgin on March 16. The album will be released in her native Belgium one month earlier.

Apart from Red, the most likely pop export is the live album by 2 Be 3, Live In Bercy, due out on EMI by the end of February.

Other releases by popular artists include former Mano Negra member P B's Urban Cuban (Virgin) in March, Mylene Farmer's new album on Polydor in March and model and TV presenter Helena Noguerra's Projekt Bikini on WEA, which is due out in February. Pop sets the tone in Italy as well, with The Party (Sony/Dancepool) by border-breaking dance/pop artist Alexia in May and the charming bilingual hit trio Lo Stesso Effetto (WEA) in late January. The traditional, romantic pop song is well represented on albums by Paolo Martella (Epic, February), Claudio Baglioni (Columbia, 1st Quarter) and Ivan Fossati (Columbia, 1st quarter).

A new generation of Italian pop will arrive on the scene with SuperB (V2, January), Zoo (Epic, January) and Eletrotejoice (Epic, February).

Finally, the Latin success story of 1998 looks set to continue this year with albums by Los Del Rio (HMG, 1st half 1999) and Monica Naranjo (Epic, September). Other likely border breakers are the new solo album by Buena Vista Social Club member Compa'y Segundo on DRO East West in May, and a new studio album by folk punk outfit Celtas Cortos (DRO East West) in October.

Other key releases in Spain include new material by popular acts such as Javier Alvarez Tres (Chrysalis) in January, Pedro Guerra's Ruido (BMG Ariola) in February and Rosario's Duga (La Locura) in March.
### Eurochart Hot 100® Singles

**Week 04/99**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Country of Origin (Publisher)</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Week of Entry</th>
<th>Peak Position</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Top 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>#2</strong> Big World</td>
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<td><strong>#4</strong> Goodbye</td>
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<td><strong>#5</strong> Bella</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td><strong>#6</strong> Plus</td>
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<td>B</td>
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</tbody>
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**SALES BREAKER**

- **#7** Hard Knock Life (Ghetto Anthem) (Sony Music / Sony BMG)
- **#8** Praise You (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#9** Hiyo De La Luna (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#10** The Power Of Goodbye (A & M / Sony BMG)
- **#11** No Matter What (Sony BMG)
- **#12** Miami (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#13** Chanter Pour Cours Qui Sont Loi De Chez Eux (Polygram / Sony BMG)
- **#14** When You're Gone (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#15** If You Believe (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#16** Chocolate Salty Balls (Atlantic / Sony BMG)
- **#17** You Should Be... (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#18** Narcotic (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#19** Mais Qui Est La Belette (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#20** I'm Your Angel (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#21** We Like To Party (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#22** Le Temps Des Cathedrales (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#23** Flugzeug Im Bauch (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#24** Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#25** S'il Suffisait D'Alimer (Virgin / Sony BMG)

**Full List**

- **#26** Crush (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#27** Jennifer Paige - Eddy (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#28** I Want To Spend My Lifetime Loving You (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#29** Outside (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#30** Thank U (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#31** Elle Donne (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#32** Barbara Staff - Polydor (Not Listed)
- **#33** I Don't Want To Miss A Thing (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#34** Would You...? (Virgin / Sony BMG)

**SPECIAL»**

- **#35** Up And Down (Epic / Sony BMG)
- **#36** Kool Savas/Bruno Mars - Perfect (Epic / Sony BMG)
- **#37** Babyface - Music Makes Me Feel Good (Epic / Sony BMG)
- **#38** Bobby Brown - One More Time (Epic / Sony BMG)
- **#39** Boyz II Men - End Of The Road (Epic / Sony BMG)

**MEDIA**

- **#40** Russell Howard - The Big Obon (Epic / Sony BMG)
- **#41** Jimmy Cliff - The Best Of (Epic / Sony BMG)
- **#42** Saga - The Last Word (Epic / Sony BMG)

**SALES**

- **#43** Johnnie & Denise - Man Up (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#44** Vengaboys - The House Of The Rising Sun (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#45** E-Type - XX Lando (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#46** Rabbit - Ticket To Ride (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#47** Prince - The Power Of LOVE (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#48** Lil'Flip - Let Me Love You (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#49** Monique - No More Tears (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#50** Maxi Priest - Dreaming (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#51** J.D. & Friends - Interlude (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#52** The Offspring - Conspiracy Of One (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#53** The Verve - Bitter Sweet Symphony (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#54** Mariah Carey - Honey (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#55** Marie De Ville - La Vie En Rose (Virgin / Sony BMG)

**WEEKLY TRENDS**

- **#56** The Weeknd - Blinding Lights (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#57** J. Cole - Love Yourself (Virgin / Sony BMG)
- **#58** Bruno Mars - 24K Magic (Virgin / Sony BMG)

**MUSIC & MEDIA**

- **#59** American Radio History

©BPI Communications Inc
UNITED KINGDOM

1. Fatboy Slim - Praise You (Sintec)
2. Steps - Heartbeat/Trauudy (Sintec)
3. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
4. 4 Non Blondes - Another Back街 (A&M)
5. 4 Non Blondes - Laid Back (A&M)
6. Steptoe - Should I Stay... (A&M)
7. Narada Michael Walden - Where We Belong (PolyGram)
8. Celine Dion - These Are Special Times (Columbia)
9. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)

GERMANY

1. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
2. Sabine - Where You Belong (Warner)
3. Laila - Laid Back (PolyGram)
4. Boyzone - Got To Move (PolyGram)
5. Laila - To You I Belong (PolyGram)
6. Vengaboys - We Like To Party (PolyGram)
7. Phil Collins - Hits (EMI)

BELGIUM

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Mariah Carey & Whitney Houston - When You Believe (Sire)
3. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
4. George Michael - Laid Back (PolyGram)
5. Michael - #1's (PolyGram)
6. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
7. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

NETHERLANDS

1. Dr. Bombay - Rice & Curry (Komet)
2. Boyzone - Where We Belong (PolyGram)
3. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
4. Eternal - Come Unבל (EMI)
5. Emilia - These Are Special Times (Columbia)

SWITZERLAND

1. Fatboy Slim - Praise You (Sintec)
2. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
3. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)
4. 4 Non Blondes - Laid Back (A&M)
5. Steptoe - Should I Stay... (A&M)
6. Narada Michael Walden - Where We Belong (PolyGram)
7. Celine Dion - These Are Special Times (Columbia)
8. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)

DENMARK

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Mariah Carey & Whitney Houston - When You Believe (Sire)
3. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
4. George Michael - Laid Back (PolyGram)
5. Michael - #1's (PolyGram)
6. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
7. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

IRELAND

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
3. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
4. Eternal - Come UnBel (EMI)
5. Emilia - These Are Special Times (Columbia)
6. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)

FINLAND

1. Nightwish - Swans Of Gemini (Epica)
2. Techaschollin - Hikki Rukka Pata (Erdut)
3. Apulanta - Toiminta Kausiin (Erdut)
4. Taikukuntat - Eletta (EMI)
5. Michael - #1's (PolyGram)
6. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
7. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

SWEDEN

1. Nightwish - Swans Of Gemini (Epica)
2. Techaschollin - Hikki Rukka Pata (Erdut)
3. Apulanta - Toiminta Kausiin (Erdut)
4. Taikukuntat - Eletta (EMI)
5. Michael - #1's (PolyGram)
6. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
7. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

HUNGARY

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
3. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
4. Eternal - Come UnBel (EMI)
5. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
6. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

POLAND

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
3. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
4. Eternal - Come UnBel (EMI)
5. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
6. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

ITALY

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
3. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
4. Eternal - Come UnBel (EMI)
5. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
6. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)

FRANCE

1. Cheri - Believe (Warner)
2. Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin)
3. Emilia - Big Big World (Warner)
4. Eternal - Come UnBel (EMI)
5. Madonna - Ray Of Light (Warner)
6. 4 Non Blondes - Another Backstreet (A&M)
SALES

Album

spotlight

by Christian Lorenz & Emmanuel Lepadatur

BLONDIE
No Exit
Beyond/BMG

International release date: February 8

Blondie's reunion tour towards the end of last year drew fans in its 30s revelling in new wave nostalgia. No Exit cannot deny its roots in the band's musical past. Tracks such as Nothing Is Real But The International release date: February 23, 1999.

Few can match the foursome for sheer audacity: rebel-coolness, Out In The Streets. There are some occasional overtones of ska and reggae, and the opener, Screaming Skin, could give No Doubt a run for their money. Toying with their street corner image of old, Blondie even launch into a punchy image of old, Blondie even launch into a punchy rock song.

"Good Rhymes"

"Storm"

"Carry On"

"Power Of Goodbye"

"How Do I Live"

"I Don't Want To Miss A Thing"

"Shake You Up"

"Anything You Want"

"Ready Again"

"50 Ways You're Wrong"

"I Wanna Be..."

"We Like To Party"

"We Like To Party"

"Until The Time Is Through"

"Tu M'Oublieras"

"Sweetest Thing"

"Vor Die Welt"

"No But Da Jett"

"I'll Be There"

"Leave You"

"Let's Go"
Most added are those songs which received the highest number of additions during the week. In the case of a tie, songs are listed alphabetically by artist.

Station Reports include all new additions to the playlist. Some reports will also include "Power Play" songs, which receive special emphasis during the week. All Power Play songs are printed, whether they are reported for the first time or not. Some lists include featured new albums, as indicated by the abbreviation "AL." Within each report, stations are grouped by ranking and listed alphabetically. Rankings include platinum (P), gold (G), silver (S) and bronze (B). All playlists must be received by Monday of 13.00 h CET.

GERMANY

ANTOINE BARTHOLOMMEW P
CHR
Real Radio - Programme Director
Playlist Additions:
Mark Flanagan - Prog Dir

CHR
Radio Stuttgart 1 - Programme Director
Playlist Unchanged

ACCB
Joey Authors - Programme Director
Playlist Additions:
Mark Flanagan - Prog Dir

CHR
Radio Stuttgart 1 - Programme Director
Playlist Unchanged

BBC RADIO WORCESTER P
PlayList Additions:

Roxette

Most Added are those songs which received the highest number of additions during the week. In the case of a tie, songs are listed alphabetically by artist.

Monday Additions:

NDR 2./Hainburg P
P
Playlist Unchanged

MUSIC & MEDIA
1 JANUARY 1993
Each week, M&M brings you the latest airplay additions from market leaders and taste-makers at radio across Europe—the Power Players
(figures in brackets are the predicted number of plays for the current week)

### UK: Galaxy 105
**Format:** Dance  
**Service Area:** Yorkshire  
**Playlist Meeting:** Wednesday AM  
**Group/Owner:** Chrysalis Radio

**Playlist Additions**
- Cypress Hill/When The Sh*t Goes Down (30-35)  
- Whitney Houston/It’s Not Right But It's OK (15)  
- A+ Enjoy Yourself (45)  

### Spain: Cadena 40 Principales
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Friday AM  
**Group/Owner:** Cadena 40 Principales

**Playlist Additions**
- Juan Luis Gimenez/El Juego Del Amor (n/a)  
- Australian Blonde/Drew & Cheri (n/a)  
- Tina Cousins/Pray (n/a)  
- Love Inc./You’re Superstar (n/a)

### Denmark: Radio P3
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Wednesday AM  
**Group/Owner:** Public

**Playlist Additions**
- Martin Hall/Burning Sugar (23)  
- All Seeing I/Walk Like A Panther (7)  
- Lynden David Hall/Sexy Cinderella (7)  
- Roxette/Wish I Could Fly (7)  
- Stereo Nation/Oh Carol (7)  
- Cartoons/Yoko (7)  
- Cassius/Cassius 1999 (2-3)  
- Cruise Control/Wanna Dance (2-3)  
- David Loop/Ultimately High (2-3)  
- Kele Le Roc/Little Bit Of Lovin’ (2-3)  
- Mercury Rev/Godless On A Whim (2-3)  
- Saybia/Just A Dream (2-3)  
- Trubble/Dancing Baby (2-3)

### Italy: RTL 102.5
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** varies  
**Group/Owner:** RTL

**Playlist Additions**
- Enrico Ruggeri/Acquaviva (18)  
- Rod Stewart/Path Of The Heart (18)  
- Ella/Dillo Che Mi Ami (12)

### UK: BBC Radio 1
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Thursday 11:30  
**Group/Owner:** Public Broadcaster

**Playlist Additions**
- Barenaked Ladies/One Week (15-18)  
- Britney Spears/Baby One More Time (15-18)  
- Idlewild/When I Argue (15-18)  
- Lauryn Hill/Ex-Factor (15-18)  
- Loop Da Loop/Hazel (15-18)  
- Via /Can’t Get Enough (15-18)  
- Mercury Rev/Delta Sun (15-18)  
- Hole/Malibu (15-18)  
- Lucid/Crazy (15-18)  

### France: Skyrock
**Format:** CHR/Urban  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** no meeting  
**Group/Owner:** Hachette Fillipacchi Media

**Playlist Additions**
- Kool Shen/Touche Pas A Ma Musique (30)  
- Oxo Puccino/L’Enfant Seul (20)  
- Jay-Z/Hard Knock Life (20)  
- Passur/97 A 97 (10)

---

**Inner City**

Good Life (Buena Vida)  
(PIAS)

"An incredible radio record! The mix of Spanish and English vocals works well. It is it a brilliant remix which certainly brings back memories."

Simon Sadler,  
head of music  
Kiss 100 FM/UK
## UK: Atlantic 252
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Monday 10:30  
**Group/Owner:** CLT-UFA

**Playlist Additions**  
- Terrorvision/Tequila (30-35)  
- Leilani/Madness Thing (20-25)  
- Mansun/Six (20-25)  
- Tyrese/Nobody Else (20-25)  
- Divine Comedy/National Express (5)

## UK: Virgin Radio
**Format:** Rock  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Wednesday 10:00  
**Group/Owner:** Ginger Media Group

**Playlist Additions**  
- Carson/Up (n/a)  
- Sheryl Crow/Anything But Dance (n/a)

## Germany: Radio FFH
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** Region of Hessen  
**Playlist Meeting:** Wednesday PM  
**Group/Owner:** Hessen Newspaper Publishers

**Playlist Additions**  
- Cotts/So Young (n/a)  
- E-17/Each Time (n/a)  
- Roxette/Wish I Could Fly (n/a)

## Norway: Radio 102
**Format:** Hot AC  
**Service Area:** Haugesund  
**Playlist Meeting:** Wednesday 10:30  
**Group/Owner:** Radio 102

**Playlist Additions**  
- LeAnn Rimes/Looking Through Your Eyes (10-12)  
- Cardigans/Erase/Rewind (10-12)  
- Jessica Folcker/How Will I Know (10-12)  
- R.E.M./Lotus (10-12)

## Germany: Radio Contact F
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** Brussels  
**Playlist Meeting:** varies  
**Group/Owner:** CLT-UFA

**Playlist Additions**  
- Ricky Martin/Perdidos Sin Ti (21)  
- Robbie Williams/No Regrets (21)  
- Adam Cohen/Cry Ophelia (21)  
- Les Enfoires/Bienvenue Chez Nous (6-7)  
- No Mercy/To Amor (6-7)

## Norway: NRK P3
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Tuesday AM  
**Group/Owner:** Public

**Playlist Additions**  
- Alanis Morissette/Joining You (15)  
- Lauryn Hill/Ex-Factor (15)  
- S-J/Shiver (15)  
- Cypress Hill/Dre Green thumb (8-10)

## Norway: Radio 102
**Format:** Hot AC  
**Service Area:** Haugesund  
**Playlist Meeting:** Wednesday 10:30  
**Group/Owner:** Radio 102

**Playlist Additions**  
- LeAnn Rimes/Looking Through Your Eyes (10-12)  
- Cardigans/Erase/Rewind (10-12)  
- Jessica Folcker/How Will I Know (10-12)  
- R.E.M./Lotus (10-12)

## Ireland: FM104
**Format:** Hot AC  
**Service Area:** Dublin City and County  
**Playlist Meeting:** Thursday/Friday  
**Group/Owner:** Consortium of business entrepreneurs

**Playlist Additions**  
- Metallica/Whiskey In The Jar (n/a)  
- Steps/Tragedy (n/a)  
- Ultra/Rescue Me (n/a)

## Italy: Radio Dimensione Suono
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** National  
**Playlist Meeting:** Friday AM  
**Group/Owner:** WDR

**Playlist Additions**  
- Dru Hill/These Are The Times (14)  
- All Seeing I/Walk Like A Panther (7)  
- Brook Russell/So Sweet (7)  
- Mantronix vs. EPM/D/Strictly Business (7)  
- Miss Jane/It's A Fine Day (7)

## Germany: Eins Live
**Format:** CHR  
**Service Area:** Regional  
**Playlist Meeting:** Friday AM  
**Group/Owner:** WDR

**Playlist Additions**  
- Dru Hill/These Are The Times (14)  
- All Seeing I/Walk Like A Panther (7)  
- Brook Russell/So Sweet (7)  
- Mantronix vs. EPM/D/Strictly Business (7)  
- Miss Jane/It's A Fine Day (7)
AIRPLAY

Sverre Vedal
Programme director
NRJ (Norway)

With no aspirations to please record companies or impress his colleagues, NRJ Norway’s Sverre Vedal, trusts his own commercial music taste. “I didn’t used to be as commercial as I am now, but I think that isn’t cool and I am really proud of it!” he comments.

Vedal was headhunted from CHR station Radio Oslo, where he was head of music. Since its launch last February, after acquiring Radio Oslofjord, NRJ Norway has built a good reputation among radio labels which had previously feared that the Norwegian affiliate of the French CHR network would not give Norwegian music a high priority. They were wrong about NRJ’s attitude towards domestic music, according to Vedal, although they were right, he says, to anticipate a strong emphasis on commercially-oriented programming.

Prior to taking up his post in Norway, Vedal was “tutored” in NRJ’s overall music policy at the company’s Stockholm operation, where he says he learned some valuable lessons.

“It taught me how very different Swedish and Norwegian are, even though they share common borders. There are some vast differences in the cultures of music,” he explains, adding, “Therefore, I am determined to put a lot of effort into playing more Norwegian repertoire. By applying NRJ’s positive and energetic programming style, the station is perceived as one of the most progressive stations in the city. The tight formatting has also taught the record companies a few lessons.”

Vedal estimates that he receives an average of 20-40 new domestic and international singles every week. He says: “The labels have started to become more selective about which songs we add.”

He says: “The labels have started to become more selective about which songs we add.”

NRJ (Norway) Sample hour
January 8 11:30-12:30

Interviewed by Kai Lofthus
On the air

M&M's weekly airplay analysis column

Beware of the Swedish invasion in the European Radio Top 50 this week. There's not only the triumph for Emilia, who claims the summit with Big Big World (Universal) after Cher's seven weeks' reign with Believe (WEA), but also the fact that the two highest new entries this week hail from Sweden.

At 35 Erase/Rewind (Trampolene/Stockholm), the second single from The Cardigans album Gran Turismo, is not only already successful on radio in Scandinavia, but also in Italy, Spain and Switzerland. Meanwhile their former single, My Favourite Game, is still at number 30 after a respectable 18 weeks' stay. But the conquering comeback of Swedish pop duo Roxette, at 32 with the highest new entry this week, makes the biggest impact. Their Wish I Could Fly (EMI) also flies into the Border Breakers chart at number 6, making no less than five out of the top six in that listing Swedish-signed!

Alain Simons, the recently appointed head of music at ACCHR/station Bel-RTL, in the French part of Brussels, was quick to add Wish I Could Fly to his playlist. "This new song sounds a little bit more popular than their former materials, so it fits our format perfectly. At the moment, we play it in the evenings, but when it turns out to be a genuine hit, we will play it during the day as well."

Simons started his career at various Top 40 stations across Belgium, but has been known as a TV presenter for the past 12 years. Returning to radio, he has discovered that the medium in Belgium has become more automated and far more formatted. "Each station in every town has its own format now, and you don't eat from each other's plate." Also, escaping the limelight of TV makes the artist side for Simons. "It's better for my family, you know..."

Back to the listings, in the lower regions we find three non-Swedish new entries. At 45, former new wave queen Deborah Harry's Blondie makes a comeback with Marla (B рем.). She receives support from rock-oriented radio in the U.K. and rock-loving Poland. One place lower, the techno of Liquido reaches the European Radio Top 50 on their strength in the G/S/A countries only. Narcotic (Virgin) is already number 10 in the regional listing, as the Major Market Airplay section indicates. The next position down is occupied by the laidback rap of TQ with Westside (Clockwork/Epic), due to support from the U.K. and Holland, with the video getting strong coverage on music television.

The only re-entry this week (and again Sweden-signed!), is Lutricia McNeal's version of Someone Loves You Honey (Stijepark/CNR/Wildstar), which comes back at 42, after a 12 week chart run before Christmas, due to interest in France and Switzerland.

Finally, bubbling under this week are Bad Girls by Juliet Roberts (Delirious), End Of The Line by The B ehind The Line by The B ehind The Line (1st Avenue/Mercury), More Than This by Emmsi (Manifesto), When I Grow Up by Garbage (Mushroom), and, predictably, 1999 by Prince (Warner Brothers).

Menno Visser

w e e k 0 4 / 9 9

European Radio Top 50

The European Radio Top 50 chart is based on a weighted-scoring system. Stations were picked by introducing credits on all of BPI's reporting stations with independently monitored minutes live or during specific airspans. Stations are weighted by market size and by the number of hours per week.

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AIRPLAY

M U S I C & MEDIA 19 JANUARY 23, 1999

AmericanRadioHistory.com
Stars come out for Germany's Echo awards

by Wolfgang Spahr
German bureau chief, Billboard

HAMBURG — A clutch of international superstar acts including Alanis Morissette, The Lighthouse Family, Xavier Naidoo and Die Fantastischen Vier in performing live at the eighth Echo awards on March 4.

The line-up was announced at a press conference in Hamburg on January 14, at which the nominations were also made public. Gerd Gebhardt, chairman of Echo organisers the German Phonographic Academy, says that more than a dozen stars will be performing live at the Congress Centre Hamburg, watched by a live audience of over 3,000 plus an estimated five million TV viewers.

Managing director of the Phonographic Academy, Professor Werner Hay, appealed at the press conference to Michael Naumann, Germany's federal minister for culture, to provide a substantial sum from his billion-DM budget to promote up-and-coming young pop and rock talent, saying that "the Academy can no longer do this alone and is dependent on the assistance of the German federal government." He added that this also applied to renting practice rooms, providing funding for musical education and purchasing instruments.

A new presenter for this year's Echos was also named: Kim Fisher from Berlin will host the TV broadcast of the event, which will be shown on German public national network ARD at 20:15 on Friday March 5. Regional public broadcaster MDR will produce the show, which is being held in Hamburg for the fourth successive year.

Gebhardt expressed his gratitude for the assistance provided by the Hamburg city government in preparations for the Echo awards, noting that the Echos are now the third most prestigious commercial music awards in the world, alongside the U.K.'s Brits and the U.S. Grammy awards.

As the world's third largest music market with annual sales of over DM6 billion (euro 3.06 billion), "Germany will be the focus of the global record industry on March 4," predicts Gebhardt, noting that the German Phonographic Academy will be donating a six-figure DM sum towards the music therapy work of the Nordoff-Robbins Foundation.

There will be two generic compilation albums produced by the Echo organisers to coincide with the event: one for rock, pop, dance, and the other for schlager and volksmusik.

Retailers are set to receive a substantial boost from the awards show this year. Last year, music buyer Jörg Janke of the Hamburg Karstadt department store noted increased demand for the artists who had performed at the Echos following the broadcast of the TV show a few days later. Wolfgang Prause, of Hamburg retailer Schallplatten am Moenchberg, agrees. "In individual cases we recorded heightened demand for these artists, especially a few days after," he says.

Lumbroso on his way to EMI?

by Emmanuel Legrand

PARIS — Former Polydor U.K. managing director Marc Lumbroso is in talks to assume the presidency of EMI France, Music & Media has learned.

According to a source close to the deal, "negotiations [between the two parties] are going on but nothing has been signed yet." Lumbroso, who will report to EMI Music president Europe Rupert Perry if he takes the job, would replace Gilbert Ohayon, who announced six months ago that he will be departing when his current contact with EMI ends in March.

However, it is understood that Ohayon, who was still in his post at pretime, might depart the company sooner. Sources say that EMI would be keen to see Lumbroso start working for the company as soon as January 18. Ohayon and Perry were not available for comment at pretime, while Lumbroso refused to comment on the matter.

Lumbroso, a music man known for his negotiating abilities as well as his A&R skills, left Polydor U.K. in March 1997 after close to three years in the job. Since then, he has been working on several projects. He was tipped to become a partner in former Virgin France chairman Patrick Zelnik's new company Naive, but that deal fell through. He also discussed a joint venture with Sony Music which failed to materialise.

Prior to his U.K. experience, Lumbroso had been chief executive and founder of Remark, a joint venture he set up with PolyGram in 1990 after stepping down from his duties as managing director of Polydor France. The executive started his career in the music industry as a publisher, working with artists such as Jean-Jacques Goldman.

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Part of the Billboard Music Group.
German regulator pays for radio 'task force'

have a very wide target audience. They try to aim their programming at 14 to 49-year-olds. It's very difficult to find music that both 14 and 49-year-olds will listen to. That is why WDR's strategy is: "If you just don't hear that kind of stuff on local commercial stations here."

Continues Widlock: "A third problem is that the stations are not very well financed and cannot afford to hire good on-air personalities. As soon as presenters start getting some experience, they go off to WDR or another big broadcaster which pays better."

State laws in North Rhein-Westphalia make it impossible for experienced radio groups such as NRJ or CLT-UFA to operate in the area—when commercial radio was introduced by the state government in 1990, it deliberately created a more pluralistic and less competitive system than in some other German Länder. Part of this system is a strict separation between radio owners and station operators, with the owners officially unable to influence the programming decisions made by the representatives bodies which manage the stations. All 46 of the state's commercial stations also carry 10 hours a day of AC programming from Radio NRW, North Rhine-Westphalia's only state-wide commercial broadcaster.

Station owners are hoping the LfD-financed task force, which will be conducting studies between January and April, will be able to come up with some solutions, particularly to the programming problems. Radio experts and consultants will also be evaluating each station's immediate market in order to devise individual strategies to improve ratings.

Widlock defends the LJR's decision to spend DM150,000 (euro 77,000) of public money on the project, which will also be financed by monies from the local stations themselves. "It's our job to consult the commercial stations in matters of programming," he says. "The financial support we are providing in this research is consistent with that purpose."

La Falce gets Universal nod

La Falce flew to Los Angeles to meet with Universal Music Group (UMG) chief executives immediately after his confirmation in the post. President of Universal Music Italy prior to completion of the merger, La Falce is expected to announce his top level executive structure on his return. Reliable sources say that Senardi had been holding out in an "all or nothing" attempt to become the new company's chief executive, and it remains to be seen whether La Falce has persuaded Senardi to stay. One PolyGram Italy staffer, who wished to remain anonymous, told Music & Media that the staff were backing Senardi, who is credited with PolyGram Italy's success in finding new presenters and making it impossible for Westphalia's only state-wide commercial broadcaster.

La Falce was fined £10,000 (euro 7,000) by U.K. Authority (RA) for "hound" the photographer until he goes toe to toe. The UNED programmes have been returned to Radio 3 each night during term times between 24:00-02:00 following complaints that students in some areas of Spain, especially the Canary Islands, were unable to receive the programmes on the new AM frequency they were moved to last October. Perez-Bryan's decision to quit comes just as his 10-month spell at the helm of Radio 3 was beginning to bring some of the success the new slot from January 18. The penalty stems from an incident on November 27 when Chuck was fined £7,000 (euro 5,000) by U.K. regulator the Radio Authority (RA) for violating its programming codes. The penalty stems from an incident on November 5 last year when broadcaster and station owner, Chris Evans, repeatedly read out on air the mobile phone number and voicemail access code of photographer Mel Armario, who was allegedly involved in a scuffle with Oasis' Liam Gallagher outside a London pub. Evans encouraged listeners to "hound" the photographer until he goes toe to toe. The photographer subsequently complained to the RA that he had received more than 700 calls, including death threats.

"To broadcast personal details about someone without prior permission, and to urge harassment, is a very serious matter...the broadcast amounted to an abuse of the airwaves," said the RA in a statement. Any further such violations will be dealt with more severely, the RA noted. A short statement from Virgin says the station "accepts the authority's decision."

Dion breaks more records

by Christian Lorenz

LONDON — Let's talk about sales... With Let's Talk About Love (Epic/Columbia), Celine Dion becomes the first artist to break the £7 million sales barrier in Europe since the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) created the Platinum Europe award in 1996. Dion's European certification follows news that the artist sold over 27.8 million albums worldwide in 1998. According to Sony Music, Let's Talk... found 15 million buyers worldwide, her Christmas album These Are Special Times shifted 7.2 million units; her 1998 French studio album S'il Suffisait D'Aimer sold over 2.6 million copies. Her recent hit catalogue album brought in a further three million sales.

The legendary singer is also involved in another major achievement of the year: the success of the Titanic soundtrack. According to Sony Music International headquarters in New York, the soundtrack, which included Dion's duet My Heart Will Go On sold 26.1 million units in 1998, making it the year's biggest selling album. Looking at this month's new addition to the IFPI Platinum Europe roll of honour, compilation albums did the best business over the key Christmas period.

Six out of the 11 new Platinum Europe awards this month are the result of IFPI Secretariat in London's (or sales in excess of one million albums across Europe during December) are compilations. George Michael's Luther Vandross and Shania Twain's Swing are all over the same period, U2's Best Of 1989-90 (Island) chalked up its fourth platinum award, Phil Collins' Hits (Virgin/WEA) went double platinum, while Julio Iglesias, Depeche Mode and Mariah Carey all reached the million mark with their respective compilations.

Robbie Williams scored a double triumph in December, with his current studio album I've Been Expecting You (Chrysalis) attaining double platinum status straight away, at the same time as its 1997 predecessor Life Thru A Lens (Chrysalis) reached the two million mark.

Congratulations are also due to Madonna. With five million records sold, Ray Of Light (Maverick/Warner) is the artist's biggest selling album since the Platinum Europe awards' 1996 inception. Meanwhile, first-time Platinum Europe winners during December included Cher (Believe, WEA) and Massive Attack (Mezzanine, Virgin).
**Euro Conversion Rates**

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Conversion rates correct as of January 6, 1999

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Conversion rates correct as of January 6, 1999

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**Forthcoming Special Supplements in Music & Media**

**Canada Spotlight**

Issue no. 9 - cover date February 17
Street date February 23
Artwork deadline February

**Jazz**

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**Hotline**

Edited by Jonathan Heasman & Christian Lorenz

Island is to merge with Universal in the U.K., to form a new label called Universal/Island, and will move to new offices. Universal Music U.K. chairman/CEO John Kennedy announced at a press conference that his company's new structure will have three separate labels: Mercury, Polydor and Universal/Island. The new structure relocates the U.K. marketing of U.S. product on Interscope, Geffen and DreamWorks from Universal to Polydor.

Howard Berman and Lucian Grainge are expected to stay in the MD seats at Mercury and Polydor respectively. Whether Island MD Marc Marot will be heading the new Universal/Island imprint could not be confirmed at press time.

Meanwhile, Warner Music International has announced its U.K. label Coalition Recordings International. It was not known at press time how many jobs would be lost. Acts currently signed to the label include Jools Holland.

And still in the U.K., London Records chief Roger Ames is understood to have met with EMI Recorded Music president/CEO Ken Berry before Christmas to discuss a possible partnership between EMI and London.

Could it be that Heinz Cambol, who departed his post as Universal Music Germany MD last December, has already found a new home? Hotline hears that Cambol has been courted for a key position by a major company which is not based in Hamburg.

Also possibly on the move is Ivan Sellier, VP of regional marketing for international pop at Universal Music Asia/Pacific, who is said to be returning from Hong Kong to his native France for a new role at Mercury France, a label he worked for prior to his Asian appointment.

More rumours have been coming in concerning the likely destination of PolyGram Italy president Stefano Senardi (see front page story) should he not take up a position at UMG Italy... it has been suggested that Senardi may be interested in buying a stake in the independent Carsello label, with a view to taking the helm and expanding the company.

All NRJ-owned networks in France are to leave radio organisation Vive la Radio. The move follows the departure of the three CLT-UFA networks from the organisation last year. "This organisation has not succeeded in its mission to promote radio," comments NRJ general manager Alan Weil.

In the Netherlands, Hotline understands that CHR station Radio 588 and music TV channel TMF (both of which are owned by Wegener Arcade) are planning to move into publishing this spring, with a new youth orientated magazine called MORE! Targeting the 17-25 demo, the magazine will major on music, films, sport and sex.

Back to the music business: Columbia U.K. MD Ged Doherty is believed to have been offered a similar post at Arista. The BMG label has been without a MD in the U.K. since the departure of Martin Heath in December 1997.

Finally, it has been revealed that Virgin Records U.K. president Paul Conway and BBC Radio 1 controller Andy Parfitt (pictured), are scheduled to be keynote speakers at this year's Radio Academy Music Radio Conference, to be held in London on April 13.
**UNITED KINGDOM**

| #1 | SWAN/Simon Cowell & The Lost Boys | (Parlophone) 22 |
| #2 | NO ONE/Willy Chaz & The Power | (NMC) 12 |
| #3 | NO-ONE/On The Road Again | (Parlophone) 19 |
| #4 | NO-ONE/Backstreet Boys | (BMG) 17 |
| #5 | NO-ONE/Live A Life | (BMG) 15 |

Data supplied by Chartair Limited on the basis of audience size.

**UNITED STATES**

| #1 | WEEKEND/Cher | (Elektra) 23 |
| #2 | WEEKEND/Whitney Houston | (Elektra) 21 |
| #3 | WEEKEND/Tina Turner | (PolyGram) 19 |
| #4 | WEEKEND/Timbaland | (Elektra) 17 |
| #5 | WEEKEND/Ne-Yo | (Columbia) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**UNITED NATIONS**

| #1 | THE BEATLES/Hey Jude | (Parlophone) 23 |
| #2 | THE BEATLES/Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band | (Parlophone) 21 |
| #3 | THE BEATLES/Rubber Soul | (Parlophone) 19 |
| #4 | THE BEATLES/Please Please Me | (Parlophone) 17 |
| #5 | THE BEATLES/A Hard Day's Night | (Parlophone) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**SWEDEN**

| #1 | CHELSEA/What If | (BMG) 23 |
| #2 | CHELSEA/Everybody's Fool | (BMG) 21 |
| #3 | CHELSEA/This Is Love | (BMG) 19 |
| #4 | CHELSEA/Double Dare U | (BMG) 17 |
| #5 | CHELSEA/I'm Gonna Fight For You | (BMG) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**SWITZERLAND**

| #1 | ZOE /The Week | (BMG) 23 |
| #2 | ZOE /River Run | (BMG) 21 |
| #3 | ZOE /Silver | (BMG) 19 |
| #4 | ZOE /Yeah | (BMG) 17 |
| #5 | ZOE /What About Us | (BMG) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**FINLAND**

| #1 | VERSUS /Higher | (BMG) 23 |
| #2 | VERSUS /Take Me Away | (BMG) 21 |
| #3 | VERSUS /Let Me Be There | (BMG) 19 |
| #4 | VERSUS /No Matter What | (BMG) 17 |
| #5 | VERSUS /Don't Touch Me | (BMG) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**DENMARK**

| #1 | NO /What A Feat | (PolyGram) 23 |
| #2 | NO /Can't Help It | (PolyGram) 21 |
| #3 | NO /Don't Stop The Music | (PolyGram) 19 |
| #4 | NO /Run | (PolyGram) 17 |
| #5 | NO /Story Time | (PolyGram) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**GERMANY**

| #1 | THE BEATLES/Help | (Parlophone) 23 |
| #2 | THE BEATLES/Song For Stereo | (Parlophone) 21 |
| #3 | THE BEATLES/All My Loving | (Parlophone) 19 |
| #4 | THE BEATLES/I Me I You I We I You | (Parlophone) 17 |
| #5 | THE BEATLES/From Me To You | (Parlophone) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**FRANCE**

| #1 | SHEENA/Message | (PolyGram) 23 |
| #2 | SHEENA/Me | (PolyGram) 21 |
| #3 | SHEENA/Can't Touch This | (PolyGram) 19 |
| #4 | SHEENA/100 Miles An Hour | (PolyGram) 17 |
| #5 | SHEENA/Say Something | (PolyGram) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**ITALY**

| #1 | CHELLA/Ecce Cor Mea | (Decca) 23 |
| #2 | CHELLA/Ecce Chissà | (Decca) 21 |
| #3 | CHELLA/Ecce Bambina | (Decca) 19 |
| #4 | CHELLA/Ecce Cosa | (Decca) 17 |
| #5 | CHELLA/Ecce Niente | (Decca) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**NORWAY**

| #1 | HENK WESTBROEK/Zelfs Je Naam Is Mooi | (Epic) 23 |
| #2 | HENK WESTBROEK/In My Blood | (Epic) 21 |
| #3 | HENK WESTBROEK/Out Of Your Mind | (Epic) 19 |
| #4 | HENK WESTBROEK/My Heart's On Fire | (Epic) 17 |
| #5 | HENK WESTBROEK/Goodnight | (Epic) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**HUNGARY**

| #1 | HUNGARIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO ASSOCIATION | (Hungarian Commercial Radio Association) 23 |
| #2 | HUNGARIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO ASSOCIATION | (Hungarian Commercial Radio Association) 21 |
| #3 | HUNGARIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO ASSOCIATION | (Hungarian Commercial Radio Association) 19 |
| #4 | HUNGARIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO ASSOCIATION | (Hungarian Commercial Radio Association) 17 |
| #5 | HUNGARIAN COMMERCIAL RADIO ASSOCIATION | (Hungarian Commercial Radio Association) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

**SPAIN**

| #1 | RENIE/No Me Gusta | (BMG) 23 |
| #2 | RENIE/Rasguño | (BMG) 21 |
| #3 | RENIE/El Destino | (BMG) 19 |
| #4 | RENIE/Amor | (BMG) 17 |
| #5 | RENIE/El Amor | (BMG) 15 |

Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.
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