

ANALYSIS: MWS

by Robert Ashton

The shape of the combined UK operations of PolyGram and Universal will start to be mapped out this week, but will not follow the model emerging in the US, where Seagram plans to merge its labels to create four major groups.

PolyGram UK chairman John Kennedy, who will head the combined UK company, will hold his first session with his three most senior UK label chiefs within the next week to create the structure of the new Universal Music group.

The meeting follows the first detailed report of how the US labels will be consolidated. A well

All Saints added to their growing tally of prizes last Thursday by Colcking up the breakthrough artist award at the MTV Europe Music Awards. The London Records act performed their number one hit, Lady Marmalade, at the event in Milan. deration the group After some consi cided not to find a fourth member de to fill in for the pregnant Melanie Blatt for their performance on the night, appearing instead as a trio. UK and UK-signed artists dominated the awards with Spice Girls picking up two awards and Five, Massive Attack and Natalie Imbruglia winning one aplece. The night ended with Robble Williams, who collected the hest male award performing let Me Entertain You Full story n3

ourced story in the Los Angeles Times last week suggested that Seadram is planning four groups on two coasts. The Interscope group. incorporating Geffen and A&M, will be run by Jimmy lovine from Los Angeles alongside Jay Boberg's MCA. In New York Universal Records will incorporate Def Jam and a scaled-down Motown while Island and Mercury will be combined with the head of PolyGram Canada, John Reid, expected to assume the role of president.

NEWS: All the latest

There had been speculation that the US template would determine the shape of the UK company, but indications are that Kennedy has



Kennedy: not copying US model more room to manoeuvre. "What takes place over here doesn't neo essarily follow over there," says one senior US-based source.

Kennedy confirms he is not going to ape the US model - and

ud not be able to either be one of his most successful labels Polydor, does not figure in the US "I don't think it will follow," he save. "The strengths of different labels in the US are different to their strengths internationally.

A&R: As a snate of

Kennedy says he will conduct group and individual discussions label bosses, including Polydor's Lucian Grainge, Island's Marc Marot and Mercury's Howard Berman. He says he will also include Universal's two label gener al managers Mark Crossingham and Matt Voss in the talks

The senior US executive says "I think Kennedy has now got to look wants in the UK." Well-placed sources suggest this means Kennedy will settle on a scenario which keeps Polydor, Mercury and Island intact, but drastically scales down Universal. Although many models have been mooted for the international streaming of product, this is also still under consideration

Kennedy admits he will be look ing for some overlap between the eventual UK structure, which he expects to finalise by the end of the year, and other European territories. He adds the most likely timing for implementing the new LIK strugture is March 1999



Gina G joins Eurovision judges The Great British Song Contest

organisers are hoping to outstrip last year's record number of entries after persuading former Eurovision entrant Gina G to join a 20-strong team of music industry experts to judge the entries.

GBSC music executive lonathan King is hoping to attract more than 1,000 songs by the December 4 well up on the total of around 840 entries delivered to Basca and MPA last year. However, he says he has been disappointed at the lack of enthusiasm for the GBSC and Eurovision from some record companies so far this year

Gina G, who sang the 1996 entry Ooh Aah... Just A Little Bit, joins judges including Windswept Pacific managing director Bob Grace, Cher producer Brian Rawling, Eternal label head Steve Allen and MW editor Ajax Scott. The jury will meet on January 14 to select 20 songs from the 40 channelled through by the songwriter and publisher organisations These will be passed to the BBC, which will choose eight finalists.

The fees for each entry are £40 plus VAT for members of both organisations and £60 for nonmembers

Promoters queue up to take on Glastonbury

The Glastonbury festival may not end with the expected retirement of organiser Michael Eavis, following news that promoters are expressing keen interest in carrying on the event.

Eavis has indicated that Glastonbury 2000 may be his last festival, but says he has been inundated with approaches from "all the big promoters" to extend the life of the event beyond his involvement

The established Glastonbury brand name has obvious advan tages to concert promoters However, a non-Eavis backed Glastonbury would not be staged on the farmer's 400-acre Worthy Farm in Somerset and at least one concert promoter questions whether it can be successfully staged by new promoters away from the original site.

"I suppose if it was quite near it



Eavis: talking to promoters

could work, but anyone who took it over would need to keep the spe cial spirit of Glastonbury, which will be hard to achieve," says the promoter.

Eavis says potential new back ers would have to work closely

the local community to offer the unique atmosphere of the 30year-old event, "You have to involve all the community and you can't be seen to be making a fortune. This has taken years and years of planning," he says. Next year's event will take

place, as usual, over the fast weekend in June. As a contingency against the mud and rain which have marred the past two festivals, Eavis plans to take on an additional 40 acres of high ground for some of the 100,000 concert goers to pitch their tents. "I hope it's third time lucky because we've only had four wet festivals, two of them in the past two years," he 8898

Eavis adds that three of the headlining bands are already confirmed for 1999, but he will continue the policy of not pre-advertising the festival line-up.



http://www.milia.com

milia⁹⁹

There's this guy who claims that only a couple of years ago, he was just another developer in the middle of nowhere and that, thanks to just one trip he made to the French Riviera where he exhibited at this high profile interactive media trade show in Cannes, his company has gone public and he's now got offices in London, Tokyo, Los Angeles, and Amsterdam. He also goes on and on about the show and how he shoulders rubbed with the digerati elite on the showfloor at the conferences and parties, and the famous Martinez bar. Plus, he says the show was iust overflowing with journalists from all over the world ... You'll probably think he's dreaming.

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And don't forget to ask about your eligibility for a DTI subsidy to help with exhibiting costs at Milla '99, You may very well qualify. Sound Republic, whose partners include entrepreneur Robert Earl, will host this year's Hits Under The Hammer gala auction for the Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy and Norwood Ravenswood charities. Hits Under The Hammer is hoping to raise more than £500,000 with what it claims is the first exclusively International auction of hit song lyrics. Set to take place on March 24 next year, around 40 items will be available at the venue, while another 100 songs will be auctioned via the internet (www.icollector.com). Recent contributions Include Bono's original lyric sheet for U2's The Sweetest Thing and Alanis

Morissette's for Thank U. Hits Under The Hammer has also signed a publishing deal with Sanctuary Publishing for a book titled The Story Behind The Song to be published next autumn featuring songwriters' stories about why they wrote particular hits. Pictured, from left to right, are Hits Under The Hammer committee member Richard Rosenberg, Earl and fellow committee member Steven Howard



TOTP extends brand with CD-Rom series.

The BBC's strategy of extending the Top Of The Pops brand to make it the number one global music name has taken a step forward with the launch of a new CD-Rom.

The TOTP Mix Factory CD-Rom, which joins the magazine, compila-tion CDs, website and radio show as a spin-off from the BBC TV series, was developed by BBC Worldwide's multimedia division in tandem with the programme's production team

Gordon Anderson, head of sales and marketing at BBC Multimedia, says the CD-Rom, which is aimed at 11- to 15-year-olds, is an ideal way to extend the brand. It will be followed by further releases in the

MTV Awards head for Dublin as UK acts celebrate victory

by Martin Talbot

MTV is to take its European Music Awards spectacular to Dublin next autu

MTV Europe president Brent Hansen says he is keen to hold the show in Ireland for the first time, though no final decision has been taken on a venue. The staging in Dublin would come three years after the event was held in London.

Talking the morning after Thursday's 1998 awards, Hansen said. "I've always wanted to take it to Dublin. They haven't had a major MTV show there before. It would be a perfect way of following the massive enthusiasm of last night."

Hansen says the post-mortem of last night's event will begin over the next couple of months, and that discussions will start about the next venue. He says a decision has not been taken whether to stage

MTV EUROPE AWARDS 1998 ns (Cheve

Male – Robble Williams (Chrysalis) Group – Spice Girls (Wirgh) Dance – Prodigy (XL) Song – Tom – Natalle Imbruglia (RCA) Rock – Aerosmith (Columbia) Frankie – Madona (Warner) Pop – Spice Girls (Virgin) Breakthrough – All Saints (London) Rep – Daniel Boys (Grand Royal/

Partophone) Video – Teardrop – Massive Attack (Virgin) Album – Ray Of Light – Madonne (Warne) Select UK – Fire (RCA) Select North – Eagle-Eye Cherry Select Central – Thomas D, Franka Potente

Select Southern - Bimertisto

the event in a purpose-built venue or to create a one-off arena as was built in Berlin at the Brandenburg Gate for the first event in 1993.

show was a triumph for UK and UK-signed acts, which

took seven of the 11 nan-red awards presented. The Spice Girls (best pop act and best group) and Madonna (best female and best album with Ray Of Light) were the evening's only double winners.

The Spice Girls contributed to a successful night for EMI Group. which picked up five awards through Virgin's Spice Girls and Massive Attack, and Chrysalis UK signing Robbie Williams and Capitol US's Beastie Boys

The Free Your Mind Award, presented each year to a humanitarian cause, went to the Serbian radio station B92. The award was presented by REM.

Hansen says he was delighted with the show. "As a TV show I think it was spectacular. I thought the Manics were great, and the show will give them amazing exposure in

The awards spectacular will be broadcast on all of MTV's channels worldwide, including a primetime Friday night US broadcast. The show was also due to be relayed on ITV on Saturday night.

Among the highlights of the evening were the Manic Street Preachers, who performed If You Tolerate This ..., and Robbie Williams, who closed the show with performances of Millennium and Let Me Entertain You, Five also received a warm reception from the young Italian audience for their performance of Everybody Get Up.

The growing status of the event was highlighted by the number senior US executives who flew to Milan for the show. Among those who attended were Elektra's Sylvia Rhone, Warner Bros's Phil Quarteraro, Sony's Jeff Ayeroff and MTV Networks chief Tom Freston

NEWS newsfile

ISLAND DENIES UZ RUMOURS reports that U2 will transfer to Interscope following the Seagram deal. Island managing director Marc Marot says the label is merely considering changing its licensee in North America. "Interscope is an option, but it depends on how the US structure unfolds," says Marot, U2 manager Paul McGuinness says, "U2 have been with Island 20 great years and are looking forward to many more."

HCPS RELAUNCHES WEBSITE MCPS has relaunched its website following a redesign. The site at www.mcps.co.uk com Information for both MCPS members and for professionals who wish to record copyright music. New features include MCPS Anti-Piracy Unit and Dance Copyright Clearance Team pages as well as direct access to the MCPS Online Enquiry Service.

VAN OUTEN TO HOST MUSIC SHOWS

Jonathan King's ITV primetime Christmas music show, The Record Of The Year 1998. The first part of the event will be aired on December 12 to announce 20 nominations. A one-hour special on December 19 will present the final 10 shortlisted acts. Later the same evening another 30-minute show will appounce the winner

BBC TO SCREEN HOLLAND SERIES

Later... presenter Jools Holland travel show, Beat Route, for BBC2 on November 26. The musicians and cities he visits include Van Morrison and The Chleftains in Dublin, and flamenco gultarists in Seville.

IMPRIMINA SET FOR NETCAST

date of Natalie Imbruglia's current UK tour on the internet The gig, which is taking place at London's Forum this Thursday, will be available via the singer's fficial website, www.natalie imbruglia.co.uk.

Asda simplifies pricing in TV-backed initiative

Asda has introduced a two price point policy across its entire range of CDs in a move it is backing with a TV campaign

All single CD albums are now priced at £12.99, while double CDs will cost £14.99. Andy Spofforth, Asda's music buying manager, says, "We are trying to simplify the

message to our customers." With an average price of £12.87, Asda emerged as the cheapest for Top 25 artist chart albums in MW's latest pricing survey, which was carried out in Brighton and Worthing last Monday. HMV's Brighton store was the most expensive among the multiples with an average price of £14.29 for artist chart albums.

The survey reveals that the strong artist release schedule unveiled by most record compa-nies this Christmas has instilled enough confidence in retailers for them to go with full price CDs wherever possible. The price of an average CD increased from £13.47 in a similar survey carried out in June to £13.82. See price survey, p6

McKie promises 'attitude' as new Smash Hits editor

Emap has appointed former nat al newspaper journalist John McKie as editor of Smash Hits to replace Gavin Reeve who left to join RCA two months ago

McKie, 27, who claims to have been a regular reader of Smash Hits since buying his first issue in 1983, describes the move as a dream job. "I think it's a great time at the moment because pop is in such a good state," he says. He adds that Smash Hits has learned the lessons of previous unsuccessful dalliances with non-pop acts.

McKie says he has some fresh ideas for the magazine, but will not rush to introduce radical changes to the content in an effort to chase circulation. During the first six months of the year, Smash Hits' circulation was 303,191, just 0.1% lower than a year earlier

"All the best magazines, s the New Statesman in the Sixties and Vogue in the Eighties, had attitude and Smash Hits has got to reassert its own attitude. It probably needs to shout a bit louder."



McKie has previously written for the Evening Standard, The Independent and the Mail On Sunday. He says he was the first journalist to cover the Oasis versus Blur battle in a national and also led a campaign to have Jarvis Cocker installed in the Rock Circus.

Emap editor-in-chief Mark Ellen says, "McKie has a strong understanding of what the readers want and the kind of issues that have a real impact on their world



NEWS WCOMMENT

TAKING RISKS WITH DEBUT ALBUMS 🧔

Speak to most retailers at the moment - if they a busy to come to the telephone - and chances are that they will be pretty bullish about business in the run up to Christmas

But although 1998 is far from being over as far as sales of the big albums go, there is one area that is causing some of them concern: the perceived failure so far of albums by some of the new names that have been punted out to them during the past nine months on the back of a couple of hit singles.

When it comes to dance acts, no one is surprised that their albums fail to sell in significant numbers. But pop is a different matter. Stand out successes by the likes of Spice Girls, Take That, All Saints and Aqua have underlined that non does sell albums.

Which makes it all disappointing when an album is seen to falter early on. The message is that success is about building a genuine fanbase rather than scoring hits with heavily-promoted £1.99 singles. This often means record companies staving in for the long haul - remember how long it took for Take That to build. The problem is that perception helps shape reality, and if an act is perceived to be performing disappointingly then it may be harder for it to pick up the support it needs, let alone deserves, later on, Christmas is a risky time. All is still to play for this year, but one thing is for sure: early in 1999 labels will be analysing more carefully than ever what hit and what missed - and adding up the costs of singles that failed to deliver album results.

A s you will notice, this week's issue of Music Week contains a few changes to the charts section with some different layouts and some elements moved around. These changes are part of the on-going development of the magazine and will be followed by further moves in the New Year. The aim is to make all parts of Music Week, and especially the central section, easier to follow. As ever, your feedback will be welcomed. Aiay Scott

PAUL'S QUIRKS

EXTRA VALUE EQUALS EXTRA SALES

Among all the new product released over the past few weeks there have been some real gems - albums that will stand the test of time and still be selling in reasonable quantities after the millennium

The U2 hits package springs to mind and the limited-edition extra disc certainly makes it a collectors' item, especially if Island sticks to its guns and ensures that no more of the limited double CDs are made available in the future. Similar double packages from Paul Weller and M People give the fans an incentive to buy the greatest hits packages despite already having some of the artists' previous albums. By the same token, the Oasis B-sides album proved successful because the fans thought that at £10.99 the album was good value and worth collecting.

Consumers these days want value for money and they aren't slow to object if they think they are being ripped off. TV programmes like Watchdog encourage complaints and sometimes the music industry itself is wide open to criticism. Withdrawing albums and reissuing them with an extra track, which has been a hit, may add to sales, but in some cases more than 200,000 copies may already have been sold and that's a lot of unhappy customers Remastering a series of albums is often just an excuse to move mid-price albums back up to full-price in the hope that true fans will buy the new format again. Add to that the picture disc CD, the Digl-pack, the three-inch limited CD and the cardboard slip case and all the fans are getting in most cases is the original tracks on different formats. Surely, with all the new product around, companies shouldn't have to scrape the barrel and milk artists' back catalogue so blatantly.

espite protests from retailers large and small, Ministry Of Sound continues to try to direct our potential customers into other stores. Its latest mail out for the Annual Album offers a free Ministry CD holder worth £14,99 to anyone purchasing the album at Woolworths and sending their receipt to the Ministry. It appears the company doesn't listen to its retail customers. Even worse, it apparently doesn't care.

Paul Quirk's column is a personal view

PWL's Atkins steps up for Millennium Dome role

the Millennium celebrations has n confirmed with the appoint. ent of PWL Production Company general manger Sally Atkins as manager of the Baby Dome.

Atkins, who has worked for Pete Waterman since she joined PWL to n its management operations in 1988, has been poached by the New Millennium Experience Company (NMEC) to programme events in the new venue.

She will be responsible for all the performances in the Baby Dome after it opens to the public on New Year's Eve 1999. These are expected to encompass films



Atkins: switching to Dome role

TV specials and modern and classical music performances within the venue, which will boast two 2 E00 cost auditoriu

"It's a fantastic challenge

Music will be a very important part of what is happening around the Millennium," says Atkins, who has recently managed the production division at PWI.

A spokeswoman for NMEC says Atkins, who starts her new job on November 30, will work closely with the Baby Dome's sponsors, including Sky TV, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Manpower and BT. Prior to joining PWL, Atkins ran

hor own management company Big Time Management for four years and was head of A&R at Rocket Records in the early Eightles where she first met Waterman

Cowell's Alberta tilts at Spice's Christmas crown

hy Paul Williams

The Spice Girls are facing a sec successive battle with BMG A&R naestro Simon Cowell in the race for the coveted Christmas number nne sont

Cowell, who last year secured BMG the distribution deal for the Teletubbles, is behind RCA's highly fancied release The Yo Yo Song by teenager Alberta, a runner up in the 1997 Great British Song Contest.

The A&P concultant whore Teletubbies record Teletubbies Say Eh-Ohl was held at number two in last year's festive chart by the Spice Girls' Too Much, is resigned to the fact that becoming Christmas runner up is becoming something of a habit. "I've given up trying to have a Christmas number one. I've been the bridesmaid so many times now. If we're number two in December it will be fantastic." he says

Virgin is quietly confident that the Spice Girls' Goodbye, currently 4/7 avourite with bookmaker William Hill and released on December 14 alongside the Alberta single, will secure the group a third successive Christmas number one, matching a feat only achieved previously by The feat only achieved previous, Virgin Beatles. Emma Hickey, Virgin personal philosophy is not to get bogged down by the competition because you need to give the record

THE RACE FOR THE FESTIVE FAVOURITE

4/7: Spice Girls (Goodbye, released Dec 14) 3/1: Jane McDonald (Cruising To Christmas, Dec 14)

8/1: B*Witched (To You | Belong.

12/1: Alberta (Yo Yo Song, Dec 14) 12/1: Alberta (10 to Song, Dec 14) 14/1: Alien Voices/Three Degrees (Last Christmas, Dec 14)

16/1: Billie (She Wants Yo - Dec 7); Boyzone () Love The Way You Love Me, Nov 23); Cliff Richard (Vita Mia, Dec 7); Fat Les (Naughty Christmas (Goblin In The Office)), Nov 301

Source: William Hill

you're working on the best possible set un

The single which went to radio last week, had its first TV airing on Channel Five's The Pepsi Chart last Wednesday and will be followed by performances on shows including Des O'Connor, Live And Kicking and TOTP between now and Christmas.

Currently second favourite is Jane McDonald, whose odds have been cut from 33/1 to 3/1, partly on the back of one £1.000 bet for the newly-recorded Christmas medley Cruising To Christmas which is being issued on December 14 by Focus Music International

The single is one of four of the five favourites which a



Alberta: a 12/1 festive shot

unreleased tracks. Although 8/1 shot B*Witched's To You I Belong is taken from their debut Epic album. the Spice Girls, McDonald and Alberta's efforts are all new recordings, while fifth favourite is Alien Voices & The Three Degrees cover of Wham!'s Last Christmas. which is being released by Wildstan on December 14.

Other records being launched in the run up to Christmas in a bid to take a shot at the festive number one slot include Fat Les's Naughty Christmas (Goblin In The Office) Chef's Chocolate Salty Balls (from the South Park soundtrack) and the Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston duet When You Relieve

HMV £3m ad blitz to take in ITV

HMV is turning to ITV for the first time as part of its biggest television push yet for a Christmas cam palgn

Advertising slots for the £3m promotion, which is launched instore today (Monday), will run on the network from now up to Christmas and will support more than 20 music and video releases, the highest number of titles fea tured so far in a festive campaign by the retailer

HMV says it has decided to use ITV this year - along with Channel Channel Four, Channel Five and cable/satellite as in previous years - to reach an even broader mainstream audience for the promotion, which it is billing as its strongest to date.

As part of the campaign the chain is offering every customer who spends £20 or more £50 worth of vouchers to be used after Christo "It is similar to what we did last year, but the entry



HMV: money-off offer

point is lower than before." says HMV promotions manager Duncan Castle. "For example last year we did £2 off any CD album worth £14.99 or more, while this time it is £12.99 or more.

The vouchers, which will be given out in a booklet up until Christmas Eve, also include £1 off any cassette costing £9.99 or e, 50p off any single priced at £3.99 or more and £2 off any video costing £12.99 or more,

Chrysalis aets OK to buy Choice FM

The Radio Authority has given the go-ahead to Chrysalis Group's proposed acquisition of Choice FM Birmingham.

The Radio Authority ruled that the combination of the group's of rent ownership of Heart 100.7FM Birmingham and Choice FM could not be expected to operate against the public interest. The ruling is conditional on Chrysalis only introducing any re-branding of the station on a gradual and phased basis

Chrysalis is also expected to make specific and binding provisions to safeguard the character of the service and to ensure it makes particular provision for Afro-Caribbean listeners in Birmingham.

Chrysalis Radio chief executive Richard Huntingford says, •The addition of Choice and Galaxy North East makes us the largest dance brand in the country with five stations and 13m adult listeners

THE goes 'back to basics' as Smith returns to helm

THE's newly-appointed managing director Norman Smith has yowed to take the business "back to basics" in a bid to recapture lost ground in the audio distribution

Smith, who returns to the role five years after quitting the company, says he will put good service at the centre of his plans following a year in which the distributor lost a lucrative deal with Boots and still faces uncer tainty over its relationship with its parent John Menzies chain

The business under me will be focused back on the route L came SRVS Smith, whose predecessor Dick Francis has returned to THE Games

'I will be looking at giving a service to the smaller retailer - the old

Virgin Records is hoping 911's forthcoming covers album will not only be one of the first big new albums of 1999, but will also be the one that furthers the band's appeal beyond their current teen fanbase. Due for release on January 18, There It Is was prompted by the band and manager Neil Ferris following their recording of The Bee Gees' More Than A Woman, their most ccessful single to date. The album will be preceded by a version of Dr Hook's A Little Bit More, due for release as a single on January 4, and will also include recordings of Judy Clay and William Bell's Private Number, The Style Council's You're The Best Thing and **Rick Astley's Never** Gonna Give You Up

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business took its eye off, offering our service and looking to use mod ero technology to enhance that business," he says,

It was criticisms of the company's decision to move into new areas such as publishing and games soft ware which led to Smith quitting the company in September 1993 Ha believes that the request for him to return shows that the company, whose total annual turnover around £300m, has come round to his way of thinking.

"John Menzies is a small player and will always be a small player compared with the likes of Sony. Warner and Fox, but they believed from a base like THE they could " says operate in the same waters. Smith, who was formerly distribution



business director for video distribu Among his priorities in his new role, which he will assume full-time

entertainment in a big way," he 8948 However, he says his first priority is hanging onto the existing bus

ness. He is also hopeful that the company might be able to win back the contract it lost in the summer with Boots, which decided to source its product directly from record com-

contracts. He says he is already

involved in discussions, although he

is unwilling to reveal names. "There

are certain people we're looking at who at the moment are not in home

He is not confident the retailer's new strategy will succeed. 'What worries me about Boots is that if they make a right mess of it, they might get out of audio altogether, he save

Aegean's Georgiou launches new lahel Andreas Georgiou, president of Aegean Net and record label Hardback & Sons, has set up a new label with All Saints collaborator Karl 'K Gee' Gordon.

Greenback, which will be run out of the north London offices of Georgiou's parent company Hardback, has already signed its first act, Joanne Bryant, who sang the Forget Me Nots section on George Michael's number one sin gle FastLove.

Georgiou says the R&B label is currently looking for a distribution deal with the first release from Bryant expected next February.

The launch of Greenback follows reorganisation of Hardback's music interests with Aegean ceasing as a record label. All its acts have left the company with the

exception of Trigger. Hardback's first single, Right Here Right Now by R&B trio Fierce, has been licensed to Wildstar and will be released on November 30.

NEWS newsfile

SALES UP 5% AT WH SMITH WH Smith increased its High Street sales by 5% in its first set Street sales by 5% in its first set of annual figures since changing its accounting year-end and refocusing the group following the sale of its music retailing operations. For the 12 months to operations. For the 12 months : August 31 its 400 stores achieved sales of £840m, compared with £796m in the same period in 1997. The sales same period in 1997. The sales were also slightly up on the £837m achieved in the 12 months to the previous financial year end of May 31. Operating profits for the period were also up, rising by 19% from £42m to £51m

EPIC DENIES, DION TO BETIRE' TALK

has c reports that Celine Dion is planning to give up her recording and live performance career at the end of next year. Though a spokeswoman says the singer will take a break at the end of her world tour, she will not be retiring

DMG GETS GO-AHEAD TO BUY KEM

DMG Radio has been given permission by the Radio Authority to complete its acquisition of Kent and Sussex Radio, which broadcasts as KFM in the Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks

DEADLINE FOR PIRACY PAPER

The music industry has bee given until December 31 to comment on the European ission's newly-published Green Paper on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy in the Single Market. The Green Paper has studied the economic impact of counterfeiting and piracy, the effectiveness of current legislation and proposals to reduce the illegal trade. The EU is expected to draft proposals following a hearing in Munich on March 2 and 3

SUCCESS FOR WESTSIDE TRIAL Westside Records says it has received a number of approaches from other radio stations following the broadcast of show on Maidstone FM and Medway FM featuring Westside material FM featuring Westside material and paid for by the Music Collection International division. Westside general manager Tony Rounce says, "It's as cheap for us to buy airtime on these radio stations as taking out adverts."

NET STHEV DREDICTS MARKET SHIFTS

The author of a new study, which predicts the growth of sales on the internet will shave 14% off the current 79% US market share of the big five groups in the next decade, says a similar shift will emerge in the significantly adding to their estimated 15% share, internet Underground Music Archive's Andy Atherton says he expects on-line sales to change the dramatically

DOUBLE PLATINUM FOR GEORGE

George Michael's Ladies & Gentlemen The Best Of George Michael was certified double platinum in its week of release by the BPI last week. The Master Plan by Oasls received its first platinum award.

dotmusic http://www.dotmusic.com

Profits up at bullish Capital

Canital Radio Group chief exe David Mansfield says next year's impending economic downturn i benefit his group's acquisition strategy if financially weaker media groups are forced to sell off some of their stations

Mansfield was talking at last week's presentation of the Capital Radio Group's results for the 12 months to September 30, 1998. Turnover climbed 9.8% to £117.2m while operating profit moved up 8% to £37.8m.

We are in a very strong financial position and we will take advantage of the added opportunities that m arise," he says.

Success for the group has included Wildstar, its record company ven ture with Telstar. Capital group programming director Richard Park says the label turned in a profit in its first year largely thanks to the international success of Connor Reeves. He adds that the media group will be looking to build on the success of its Party In The Park event during the next 12 months.

RADIO RESULTS

Capital Radio Results for the ye to September 30 1998 1997 cha

1998 Turnover£106.8m £117.2m+9.8% Pre-tax £32.5m £39.7m +8.0% profit Source: Capital Radio Group

GWR Group Results for six months to September 30 1998 1998

1997 Turnover£35.2m £41.2m+17.0% Pre-tax £4.6m £8.3m +81.0% profit an GWD

Meanwhile, Classic FM's parent company GWR posted an 81% Increase in pre-tax profits to £8.3m for the six months to September 30 on turnover up 17.0% to £41.2m

The company accompanied its results announcement with another request to the Government that it change limiting legislation national commercial radio owner ship to 7.5% of the radio audience.

CIN in apology to Creation following Oasis chart hitch CIN has issued an apology to

Creation after a computer break down at Asda resulted in around 7,000 sales of Oasis's The Masterplan going unrecorded in its first week of release.

Around 20 other titles including Meat Loaf's The Very Best Of were also affected by the problem, which followed a fault in the supe ket's computer link with chart com-piler Millward Brown. This meant only those releases' Saturday sales at Asda were included in last week's chart. However, even with those sales, U2 would still have en around 15,000 units ahead of Onele

Millward Brown charts director Bob Barnes says the chart compiler noticed problems with Asda's sales data for new releases on the Tuesday of that week, but the supermarket was confident it would be sorted out in time, "This problem happens nearly every week, but is normally resolved in a day or two," he says.

By the Friday Asda had fixed the link, allowing Saturday data to be recorded. However, sales from the previous days could not be retrieved in time. CIN chart director Omar Maskatiya says that only at the end of business on Saturday could it be confirmed which titles were affected, but by then it was too late to estimate sales from ear. lier in the week. Roger Quail, label development

anager at 3mv which distributes Creation, says it would have been fairer if Asda's entire sales for the week had been removed, rather than running with the data it had. "Of all the options open to CIN, both 3mv and Creation are at a loss to understand why they chose this one which clearly discriminates against Oasis," he says.



tor Technicolour

WHAT PRICE MUSIC IN THE HIGH STREET?

TOP 10 DOUBLE CD COMPILATIONS

	HMV	Virgin	Our Price	Smiths	Woolies	Asda	Borders	Rounder	s MVC	
TOP 25 ARTIST ALBUMS										
THE BEST OF 1980 - 1990: U2**	14.49	14.49								
THE MASTERPLAN: Oasis		10.99		10.99		10.99	9.99	10.99	9.99	
SUPPOSED: Alanis Monissette			13.49				13.99	13.99		
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING: R WIIIlams						12.99		12.99		
THE BEST OF: M People			14,49				13.99	14.99		
QUENCH: The Beautiful South			14.49			12.99		14.99		
HITS: Phil Collins			14.49			12.99		14.99		
TALK ON CORNERS: The Corrs			13.99			12.99		12.99		
B*WITCHED: B*Witched			12.99			12.99		14.99		
BEST OF: Ladysmith Black Mambazo						12.99		12.99		
UP: R.E.M.			14.49			12.99		12.99		
SONGS FROM: Vonda Shepard			14.49			12.99		15.99		
BELIEVE: Cher			13.99			12.99		14.49		
THE VERY BEST OF: Meat Loaf					14.99			16.99		
STEP ONE: Steps					12.99			14.99		
WHERE WE BELONG: Boyzone					13.99			14.99		
YOU'VE COME A: Fatboy Silm					11.99			12.99		
SULTANS OF SWING: Dire Straits					13.99			14.99		
THE MOVIES: Michael Ball					13.99			14.99		
HONEY TO THE B: Billie					13.99			14.99		
SAVAGE GARDEN: Savage Garden					13.99			14.99		
MY LIFE - HITS: Julio Iglesias					16.99			19.99		
THIS IS MY TRUTH: Manles					13.99			12.99		
MUTATIONS: Beck		14.49			13.99			14.99		
ONE WAY OF LIFE: The Levellers					13.99			13.99		
AVERAGE PRICE				13.78	13.87	12.87	14.27	14.57		
AVERAGE OVERALL PRICE FOR A	CHART	ARTIST	CD						13.82	

THE ANNUAL IV			15.99					16.99	
HUGE HITS 1998			16.99					17.99	
ALL TIME GREATEST MOVIE SONGS			15.99					16.99	
VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM			15.99					16.99	
NOW DANCE 98			15.99					16.99	
BEST CHART ALBUM EVERI			15.99					16.99	
GREATEST HITS OF 1998			15.99					16.99	
THE FEMALE TOUCH			15.99					16.99	
SOUL			15.99			14.99		16.99	
FANTASTIC '805 - 3			15.99					16.99	
AVERAGE PRICE					15.79	14.99	16.39	17.09	
AVERAGE OVERALL PRICE FOR A	DOUBLE	COMP	LATION	CD					15.90
CATALOGUE									
FAT OF THE LAND: Prodigy			15.99					n/a	14.49
FAITH: George Michael	16.49	15.99	15.99	15.99	15.99	10.99	15.99	n/a	14.49
DEFINITELY MAYBE: Oasis			15.99			14.99		n/a	14.49
DEFINITELY MAYBE: Oasis RATTLE & HUM: U2	15.99	15.99	15.99	14.99	9.99	10.99	15.99	n/a	14.49
	15.99 16.49	15.99 15.99	15.99 15.99	14.99 15.99	9.99 13.99	10.99	15.99 15.99	n/a n/a	14,49 13.99
RATTLE & HUM: U2	15.99 16.49	15.99 15.99	15.99	14.99 15.99	9.99 13.99	10.99 10.99 n/a	15.99 15.99 15.99	n/a	14,49 13.99 14,49
RATTLE & HUM: U2 BAT OUT OF HELL: Meat Loaf HITS: Jon! Mitchell GREATEST HITS VOL 1: Queen	15.99 16.49 15.99 16.99	15.99 15.99 15.49 15.99	15.99 15.99 15.49 15.99	14.99 15.99 14.99 15.99	9.99 13.99 n/a 13.99	10.99 10.99 n/a 10.99	15.99 15.99 15.99 16.99	n/a n/a n/a n/a	14,49 13.99 14,49 13.99
RATTLE & HUM: U2 BAT OUT OF HELL: Meat Loaf HITS: Joal Mitchell GREATEST HITS VOL 1: Queen THRILLER: Michael Jackson	15.99 16.49 15.99 16.99 16.49	15.99 15.99 15.49 15.99 15.99	15.99 15.99 15.49 15.99 15.99	14.99 15.99 14.99 15.99 15.99	9.99 13.99 n/a 13.99 15.99	10.99 10.99 n/a 10.99 10.99	15.99 15.99 15.99 16.99 15.99	n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a	14.49 13.99 14.49 13.99 13.79
RATTLE & HUM: U2 BAT OUT OF HELL: Meat Loaf HITS: Jon! Mitchell GREATEST HITS VOL 1: Queen	15.99 16.49 15.99 16.99 16.49 16.49	15.99 15.99 15.99 15.99 15.99 15.99	15.99 15.99 15.99 15.99 15.99 15.99	14.99 15.99 14.99 15.99 15.99 15.99	9.99 13.99 n/a 13.99 15.99 15.99	10.99° 10.99° n/a 10.99° 10.99°	15.99 15.99 15.99 16.99 15.99 15.99	n/a n/a n/a n/a	14,49 13.99 14,49 13.99

HMV Virtin

16.44 15.89 15.89 15.39 14.66 11.43 16.09 n/s 14.27 AVERAGE PRICE AVERAGE PRICE FOR A CATALOGUE CD

*Asda not included in average due to on going sale **U2 figures refer to the single CD album



Our Smiths Woolies Asda Borders Rounders MVC Price

trying to find its feet in the UK market according to head of music buying Bob Reamer. "You could say we inherited the price points we met in this market, but we'll be looking at more focused discounting next year," he says. He notes that Borders' focus on an older demographic means that it does not always feel the need to make offers on chart oop product, helping to lift its average price for a chart artist album to £14.27 second highest of the chains

"We are at the stage we were in the US about five years ago before younger people and kids started discovering us so teen pop is not such an issue now," says Reamer.

Rounders, the one independent store included in the survey, does not compete with the chains on price and has the higher average price for a chart artist CD at £14.57. Manager Graham Gilbert says that the store's location in Brighton Square, which is away from the town's main shopping area, makes it easier to maintain reasonable margins, but it is still difficult. "We have no on but to go abroad for some of the chart stuff, particularly after the first week of release, if we want to compete with the chains," he says.

Back catalogue re mains a highly competitive area. HMV again leads the way on price with an average of £16.44 while MVC is by far the cheapest with an average members' price of £14.27. While artist album prices slowly move upwards, singles discounting is far from over with most new release singles on sale at £1.99.

Meanwhile, to back up the strong Christmas schedule, retailers are preparing specific seasonal promotions to try to boost sales further. HMV's Rees is one of those tooking forward to a strong performance. "it's a very commercial Christmas. Everyone knows who U2, George Michael or Mariah Carey are. It's not like introducing new acts

Like Embrace," he says. With such strong titles coming through the industry as a whole should benefit from some of the best Christmas seasons of recent years, hopefully making customers think of B-sides and Steps rather than bedside stoper

as no coincidence that HMV launched its "biggest ever sale" last month during what has been largely an uninspiring year for big-name releases. The campaign was just one of many undertaken by music retailers during 1998 in a bid to make up for a general release full and give potential customers another reason to pass through their doors

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AVERAGE PRICES OF TOP 75

ARTIST ALBUM CDS

But, several weeks into the all-important nre-Christmas market, record companies have been more than making up lost ground by producing what has turned into one of the trongest festive release schedules in years So good are the releases, in fact, that heavy discounting now seems the last thing on most retailers' minds.

As HMV chart rock and pop manager onathan Rees says, "We're not in the usiness of cannibalising chart product and we won't be cutting our margins when there is so much quality product out there." A survey of retailers in Brighton and

Worthing last Monday (November 9) suggests the upward trend has already begun with the price of a CD in last week's Top 25 artist albums averaging £13.82 compared with £13.47 in Music Week's last survey carried out in Swindon on June 22. Moreover, several factors should be noted when comparing last ek's Top 25 price with those of June

First is the fact that the more recent chart contains two lower-price CDs which significantly affect the results: Oasis's The Masterplan is in all stores at between £9.99 and £10.99, while Fatboy Slim's You've Come A Long Way, Baby costs £11.99 or £12.99. Without these two titles the avera price of a current Top 25 CD rises to £14.04.

Secondly, as in June, the average cost of a CD is also affected by the presence of a double CD title, this time Julio Igleslas' My Life set, which has an average cost of £17.43. Excluding this title and the two lo price CDs the average cost drops to £13.91 - still significantly higher than June's adjusted figure of £13.69.

Besides the onset of Christmas business the competition in one of our survey towns of Brighton has further warmed up with the opening of two music stores during the past two months - a new Virgin Megastore and

MAINTAINING

AVERAGE PRICES OF TOP 10

DOUBLE CD COMPILATIONS

Now that a feast of big name acts has arrived, price cutting is the last thing on retailers' minds. Yinka Adegoke reports



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Borders' second UK store, which were launched within three days of each other in September. But the new competition has not significantly tipped the balance in terms of CD pricing

Relative chart album prices continue to stabilise as rivals seem to be watching each others' price points closer than ever. For example, 14 of the Top 25 CDs cost the sar at HMV and Virgin, while Woolworths and WH Smith have the same price points on 16.

This price stability becomes especially clear with double compilation CDs, These ost an average of £16.09 at HMV, Virgin and Our Price, which have the same price on every one of the Top 10 double CDs, while at WH Smith and Wooly orths they cost the same average of £15.79, though there are



Fatboy Slim

slight variations on price points

It is only in double compilations that any of the retailers can beat Asda on average price MVC's average £14.82 tag is just slightly below Asda's consistent £14.99 tag for a double CD compilation. Asda in fact only operates two price points now: £14,99 for suble chart CDs and back catalogue and £12.99 for chart CDs.

"We wanted to remove any inconsistency on pricing because it is just confusing to customers," says Asda music and buying manager Andy Spofforth. Following the previous week's successful VAT-free campaign, which caused its music and video sales to quadruple, Asda is now promoting the new policy with in-store marketing

New kid on the block, Borders, is still

Christmas Service

EMI Distribution

Two new services added to our improved seasonal offerings are:

Extended Ordering

All orders received by 6pm (Mondays 3pm) - delivery pre-noon next day from 30th Nov - 31st Dec

"Customer Care" Phoneline (from Monday 30th November)

Dedicated point of contact for delivery, collection, returns and general enquiries

Deliveries

Saturday am 7th Nov - 26th Dec FOC

Weekday Pre-Noon 30th Nov - 31st Dec FOC







Opening Hours and Telephone Arrangements

Commencing Monday 2nd No londays Tuesdays - Fridays

Weekende-

Commencing Sunday 29th November Sunday 29th Nov Saturdays, 5, 12, 19, Dec Sundays, 6, 13, 20, Dec

Christmas & New Year: Monday 21st December Tuesday 22nd December

11.00am - 5.00pm 12.00 noon - 6.00pm 11.00am - 4.00pm

8.30am - 6.00pm

9.00am - 6.00pm

8.30am - 6.00om 9.00am + 6.00om

AL COLLINS ... HITS

Christman & New Year: contin

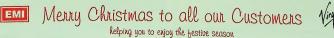
Vednesday 23rd December	9.00am	
hursday 24th December	9.00am	
uesday 29th December	8.30am	
Vednesday 30th December	9.00am	1
hursday 31st December	9.00am	•

Friday 25th December Saturday 26th December Sunday 27th December Monday 28th December Friday 1st January 1999 6.0000 3.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 3.0000

Distribution Centre will be closed on:

Note: Outside of the published hours a full 24 hour voicemail service is available

Normal service will resume on Monday 4th January 1999



REVIEWS - FOR RECORDS OUT ON 30 NOVEMBER 1998

SINGLE of the week

ROBBIE WILLIAMS: No Regrets/Antmusic (Chrysalis CDCHS 55100). The inclusion of the two Neils - Tennant and Hannon

makes this I've Been Expecting You's most-talked-about track. In fact, the cast list is only a distraction from what stands in its own right as a magnificent

1-00 its predecessor Millennium's success - two months in the Top 40 although only one week at number one in sales after perhaps being serviced to radio too early – this is likely to peak at number one. Antmusic, recorded with the increasingly popular Stereophonics, can only add further crossover appeal.



MANIC STREET PREACHERS: The Everlasting (Epic 6666862), Fresh from receiving the best band in the world prize at the G

Awards, Epic releases one of the Manics' best ever singles, A heartfelt, slow-building epic complete with string section, this sees the band at their most poissant but composed and although it may not quite scale the heights of their last chart-topper, it should cause sales of their album to spiral. A UK arena tour with the release

LEANN RIMES: Blue (Curb/The Hit Label CUBCX 39). One notable characteristic or country's best year in the UK in decades has been the more mainstream edge suplied by its most successful export Rimes scored a massive hit with the MOR pop ballad How Do I Live, but the UK public is likely to give a much wider berth to this more traditional country number which was



originally written for Patsy Cline. Waltz #2 (XO) (DreamWorks DRMCD 22347) Just one of the searingly beautiful tracks from Smith's XO album.

this is a memorable song with its insistent chorus and melody where Smith shows the dedicated grace of his songwriting. A compact package of Simon & Garfunkel, Neil Young and Big Star, Smith is one of the foremost talents to come out of

BRANDY: Have You Ever? (Atlantic AT0058). Brandy's career has gone into orbit this past year, with her Monica duet spending 13 weeks at number one in the US and the singer achieving two UK Top 10 hits. She is set to remain there with this highlight from Never Say Never which was written by Diane Warren, and produced and arranged by David Foster.



iss is only a distraction from what stands in its own right as a maguincent single, with Tennant on backing vocals, the song's overthy Pet Shop Boys setting is only further emphasised, making it clear Williams' sharply-written lyrics would not look out of place on a PSB album. Given

SINGLEreviews



JAY-Z: Hard Knock Life (Ghetto Anthem) (Northwestside LC2276). This potentia ingle of the week is the latest single to emerge

from Jay-Z's forthcoming alhum, which has held the number one spot on the US album charts for five weeks. Featuring a love-it-or-hate-it sample from nie, the track is currently on Radio One's As Featured list as well as lists on Kiss FM and Choice. It should be an enormous bit h earns the ranner crossover anneal EELS: Cancer For The Cure (DreamWorks DRMCD 22373), Despite its title, Cancer For The Cure is one of the few songs that breaks out of the unending gloom of Eels' Electro Shock Blues album. Their last single Last Stop: This Town reached 23, and while this

release will not match its fortunes by a mile. CUBA FEAT. MAU: Havana (4AD BAD8019CD). Fresh from some blazing

performances with the Chemical Brothers and Fatboy Slim. Cuba's debut limited edition release is reissued by 44D with added raps from ex-Earthling Mau and a brushed-up production. All hammering bass and deep beats with a perfect uplift brass crescendo, Havana marks the Cuba e out as definite ones to watch

BJORK: Alarm Call (One Little Indian 2321P7CD). Biork indulges her love of collaboration on this cut from her Homogenic album with a plethora of all-star remixers including Beck. Her voice is at its most exuberant, and a few extra bells and whistles can't conceal her trademark vocals Her last release. Hunter, stalled at number

SIMPLY RED: Ghetto Girl (East West EW191CD). Proudly reaching double latinum in the UK. Blue has lived up to Mick Hucknall's previous album sales, But while the number six single The Air That I Breathe helped the album to reclimb the chart, this pedestrian cover of an old Dennis Brown number is unlikely to pro much more interest in Blue.

BLACKSTREET & MYA feat. MASE & BLINKY BLINK: Take Me There (IND95620). This first single to be taken

from the forthcoming Rugrats mo heavily based on the Live & Kicking cartoon's theme tune. For that reason Take Me There could be an extremely catchy R&B number (boosted by the number of stars features) if it wasn't challenging Jay-Z for most annoying release of t



Time (Virgin VSCDT 1720). From the R&B groove of Got 'Til It's Gone to the cut-and-out non of Together Again Virgin has covered all the

bases so far in mining singles from The Velvet Rope. This sixth single in a little more than a year adds to that diversity; written by Jackson, Jam, Lewis and Rene Elizondo Every Time finds the singer at her most relaxed with a delicate delivery around a plano hook, Radio, though, is already spoilt for choice for ballads and many may feel this is a release top far.

NICOLE RENÉE: Strawberry (Atlantic 7567841862), Written, performed and produced by the 19-year-old Renée, this delightful two-step R&B track offering a bittersweet take on love has spent seven weeks in RM's Urban Chart. Based around a sample from Grover Washington's Paradise, it has a slightly retro feel, but is all the more charming for it, IAN POOLEY: What's Your Number (V2 VVR5003313), Lifted from Pooley's xcellent album Meridian, What's Your Number is a typically funky house track which is bolstered by mixes from Bob Sinclar and Jazzanova, both of which are alist air

ALISHA'S ATTIC: | Wish | Were You (Mercury 5667172). The Poole sisters nce again demonstrate their ability to write an unassuming, radio-friendly song that reveals its hidden qualities with each listen Already on Radio One's As Featured playlist and Radio Two's C-list, | Wish | Were You deserves to repeat the top 15 success of The Incidentals and album Illumin



London female trio make their debut with this pop R&B track. Mixed for radio by El Jeffe, it's marked by slick production and SWV-style vocal harmonies xers include All Saints producer K Gee EMMA: I'll Never Fall In Love Again (EMI CDEM528). The Lakesiders starlet's si titled album of covers looked unlikely Sunday to deliver her chart success, but this debut single could well turn her fortunes around. A cover of Bobby Gentry's

number one from 1969, it makes the best of Emma's vocal talents. Upcoming appearances on the National Lottery



ack and then

EMILIA: Bid Bid World (Universal UMD87185), The insistent. nursery rhymelike quality to Emilia's UK debut has all the hallmarks of a big pop hit. Like it or loathe it, this one will be ringing round your head for days after only a single listen. Already a number one smash in her

ative Sweden, Big Big World was Simon Mayo's record of the week at Radio One nd has already been A-listed at Capital. Deserves to run and run.

Children In Need and a possible Lakesiders Christmas special could help. Course TEN BENSON: United Colors Of Bernson

(Deceptive BLUFF066CD). Sounding more like a US Midwestern barn band than a lo-fi British outfit. Ten Benson's fourth single is an intriguing mix of beats, country dra wis and innovative scoring, reminiscent of Granddaddy or a less fey Belle & Sebastian, As a four-track EP it won't chart, but it should call in respectable quantities

FAT LES: Naughty Christmas (Goblin In The Office) (Turtleneck NECKCD001). Keith Allen, Alex James and chums with yet another novelty comedy record which newhat handicapped by being neither novel nor funny. The irritating sub-Blur/pub rock isn't anywhere as near as catchy as Vindaloo, and they're up against much bigger



THE FOUNDATIONS Build Me Up Buttercup (Sequel NEEX1001). This slice of Sixties soul receives a re-release due to its presence on the soundtrack of the movie

There's Something About Mary. Despite its Motown stylings. The Foundations are actually a UK act whose best-known hit, the 1967 number one Baby Now That I've Found in step included in the single parkage

ALBUMreviews

ALL SAINTS: All Saints Christmas Box Set (London/PolyGram 0441050).

London is wasting no opportunity in exploiting All Saints' presently slim catalogue to the full. Having taken six tracks off the album for singles so far, it now brings that album, its remixed version and the group's video together in this boxed set. However, given that most potential buyers already have at least one of these items, it is difficult to see who this will appeal to. **ROCKERS HI-FI: Overproof (Different** Drummer/Warners 3984 24352-1). Blissed-out dub, Horace Andy-esque vocals and drum & bass all collide on this album to create a glorious mix of styles and sounds Not marked by frantic activity, its soothing atmosphere still draws the listener in. MAJOR FORCE WEST: Major Force West

(Mo Wax MW105CD). This Mo Wax release ction of experimental songs from 1993 by Tokyo's ground-breaking Major Force crew. The boundaries of hip hop are stretched with varying degrees of success. but with Money Mark and UNKLE founder member Tim Goldsworthy on board for a handful of tracks, this will be of interest to more than just the Mo Wax faithful.

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EDITED BY STEPHEN JONES - TALENT

A&R SCOUTS: A CHANGING ROLE IN A VOLATILE MARKET

ften unfairly maligned A&R ften unfairly maligned, A&R scouts have a reputation as undernaid underworked ancers who follow each other like sheep but rarely venture further than Muswell Hill, While there have been bad A&R scouts. overall the stereotype bears little relation to the truth. Yet there is little doubt that their role is going through an upheaval as nies rethink how they go about finding the Next Big Thing.

Among those who have left their labels in recent weeks include Ian Abraham from Virgin Josh Joseph from Elemental, Luke Cunningham from Polydor, Will Kinsman from Echo and Valerie Vickers from One Little Indian

The survivors have knuckled down and the "hunting in packs" mentality appears to be on the wane, RCA's Louis Bloom, who achieved the relatively rare feat of actually bringing in an act which got signed - Made In London. discovered from an unsolicited tape - says, "When I first started just more than a year ago, we were all chums and shared info but now you're by yourself. It's more competitive out there, but that's the way it should be Before we were picking and choosing, but we all want to be A&R managers and are learning there's more to it than that." Universal scout Debs Wild.

who claims she was first on the likes of Lucid, Annie Christian and Badly Drawn Boy (although they were not taken up by the labels she was working for at the time), adds, "The sheep mentality is there to a degree, but people are looking after

number one; we're not going out to gigs together and are only telling others a things when we've out-and-out passed on them

Apart from the regular turnover of those unsuited to the job, there are various explanations for the change. The first is musical: guitar bands have given way in the charts for pop and R&B acts who are rarely discovered playing the backroom of the Dog & Duck. Meanwhile, there is a perceived lack of acts out there at the moment with originality and flair. Most scouts could take just an hour each morning to sort their 30 or so unsolicited tapes into three piles: one for Beck soundalikes, one for Radiohead soundalikes and a third for what's left which will always be the smallest heap

Creation scout Alan Wright - who blames the job losses on bosses who have screwed up" shooting the messenger - rarely leaves London unless

he has received a tape his b osses all like (as happened with One Lady Owner) and then he prefers to set up showcases rather than attend gigs. "There's still that [sheep] mentality, but that's because people thought there were a few scouts who knew what was going on before, when the truth is

no one is sure," he says. But there is a broader shift under way, with labels more likely to sign acts that have already been developed by someone else. So managers are taking acts they





Nine Yards: discovered from an old demo



One Lady Owner: picked up after Creation scout heard a tape

have developed straight to managing directors and senior A&R people over the A&R scouts' heads.

Some even suggest that scouts have become a victim of their own success: as soon as the word is out on an act everyone picks up on it. "People are a lot more professional about developing their networks now," says Chris Briggs, who is Robbie Williams' A&R man at Chrysalis and was a scout there around the punk era. You only have to bump into a scout at the back of the Bull & Gate for 10 minutes and they can bring you up to speed about everything that's going on."

Those scouts that remain suggest they are having to approach their work differently. Historically they have always

'People talk and will always find out what you're on to, but the skill of a scout is to see it through and go against what other people may feel' - Nigel Wildman, Virgin

kept in touch with venue promoters - or specialist record shops in the case of dance scouts - but now they are as likely to be in contact with studios, rehearsal rooms and music instrument outlets; even managers are starting to notice that they are being chased by A&R scouts rather than vice versa

Virgin/Hut urban A&R scout Nigel Wildman brought in Nine Yards just three weeks into the job, after doggedy tracking down the band to a rehearsal studio after

simultaneously trying to keep it puiet. "People talk and will always find out what you're on to, but the skill of a scout is to see it through and go against what other people may feel, not feeling justified by whether others like it," he says.

Independiente senior A&R director Dave Gilmour, who as a scout at Island in the early Nineties discovered acts such as PJ Harvey through a publisher and Tricky through a record handed to him by Portishead as he was trying to sign them, argues that there is nothing wrong with the scout network per se But, he says, changes in technology mean that scouts have to be as intouch with what is going on in people's bedrooms as in backroom

You go to see four or five bands in a bar and they are all of a similar level, but some outfits taking that time over stuff in their own studios might have a slightly different take on music," he says

It is a philosophy that appears to be working for one of the few regional scouts still active. After 10 years working in a Manchester instrument shop serving the likes of Shaun Ryder and Noel Gallagher, Gut's Matt Hallwell left to develop a network that stretches out from Manchester to cover an area from Birmingham to Scotland, "I don't see why there aren't more regional scouts. What's happening now is a lot of studi bands and bedroom stuff, and by earning respect from being here and understanding sounds from my work in retail, my name gets around. I feel we have the pick of the crop." he

Polydor/Wildcard is looking to develop a new approach to scouting in response to what A&R manager Colin Barlow -- who was just 16 and running a fanzine when Muff Winwood took him on as an A&R scout at CBS in the mid-Eightles laments the excessively one-dimensional approach of most of today's scouts. "They seem to be into just one scene, rather than rock non and R&B. When I started out we had regional scouts but I spent two years living in a car, travelling around and that's the best way. So we've asked record shops to put forward boys and girls for interviews, because it seems to be that it's always the same old people doing it, which is where that sheep mentality comes in. We want the people who know what's setting and who's buying - it's the way forward."

This may be one solution. Another, as group A&R executive Briggs suggests. is for labels to get their scouts to ask themselves from the off, "who's going to buy this and why?

That such questions are being posed reflects the more fundamental questions being asked across the business. But concern remains, "Scouts losing their lobs is not just worrying for them, but it raises the question of where the new music is going to be found," says WEA scout Daniel Moore. "Managers will find things but who's going to the obscure places?"

It is a valid question. Whoever holds the answer will no doubt be at the forefront of the next talent wave. Stephen Jones



FURSLIDE For the first-signing to Nellee Hooper's new label Meanwhile... – which goes through Virgin – Furslide will surprise many by being

an American guitar band. The influential Relatelles producer (Massive Attack Biörk, Madoona) entired the trio to leave New York to record their mix of prog rock, breakbeats and samples at London studios Metropolis. Olympic and Abbey Road. There had been much

American label interest in the act befo deal, but Hooper clinched it after he flew them from New York to Los Angeles to perform for him.

Their debut single is Love Song (to be ased in February) followed by an album Adventure, in April, and there's a showcase launch for act and label at improv in London's Tottenham Court Road on Nevember 22

GRAND MAT

ion's confidence in trying to break new US signing Grand Mal in the UK before the States is gradually appearing justified.

Their New York Dolls/Suicide influences evident on their debut album Maledictions (released early next year), which was produced by Dave Fridmann (Flaming Lips, Mercury Rev,



Jane's Addiction) - shope through at their first London date at Camden's Monarch last Tuesday during a fleeting visit.

And their Radio One Evening Session play/Xfm playlisting was last week compounded by daytime play for their debut limited edition single, the Dinosaur Jr-sounding Whole Lotta Nothing (released November 23) by Radio One's Jo Whiley,



D'Angelo - Devil's Pie (Virgin) Mr Brown this Sugar goes deep underground on collaboration with Gangstarr's DJ Premier. (US promo, the) Somatic - sampler (Universal) Quality.

Suggests they are set to be at the forefront of any British revival The Clint Boon Experience - White No Sugar (Rabid Badger) As the record says "Definitely A New Revolution" (single, the (single, tbc) Whitney Houston - My Love Is Your Love (Arista) First studio album in eight years is arguably her best m, November 23)

Gay Dad - To Earth With Love (London) So this is what 1999 will sound like? (tbc) Celine Dion & R Kelly - I'm Your

Angel (Epic) Will hopefully boost interest in Kelly's lengthy but classic album (single, November 16)

Radiator - Generator (Chrysalis) Rackedup track setting them up for a breakthrough in 1999 (promo, tbc)

Spice Girls - Goodbye (Virgin) The Music Week jury remains out on whether this is worthy of a Christmas number one (single, December 14)

The Mighty Wah! - Heart As Big As Liverpool (Columbia) A limited-edition EP from the man behind Nah! Poo! The Art Of (November 23) MC Lyte feat. Gina Thompson - It's

Yours (Elektra) Sweet and light R&B - but definitely not R&B-lite (single, November 30) THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS SINGLES 21 NOVEMBER 1998

CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

elieve sold a further 165,000 copies Blast week to remain at number one for the fourth straight week, while raising its overall sales to 700,000. It is now the fifth biggest-seller of 1998 but it will have to sell platinum all over again to top the 1.3m sales of Celine Dion's My Heart Will Go On. Although It has spent a week less at number one to date than Cher's 1991 chart-topper The Shoop Shoop Song (It's In His Kiss), it has comfortably eclipsed the 515,000 sale that record achieved. Indie Jahels have their best week over

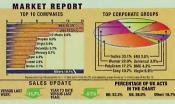
occupying five of the top six positions in the chart. Only Cher's persistence at the top prevented them from shutting the majors out altogether. The historic line-up includes E-17's debut for Telstar after 16 hits with PolyGram, a pair of hits from Richard Branson's V2 and a couple of singles from Zomba, The latter company, established in 1981, is enjoying its best year ever, and for the first time has five singles in the Top 40



SINGLE FACTFILE

• When they made their chart debut a year ago this week with their annoying line dancing hit 5-6-7-8, it seemed Steps would be a short-lived novelty act but they have gone from strength to strength in 1998, eventually peaking at 14 with that record at the beginning of the year, then reaching number six with Last Thing On My Mind and number two with One For Sorrow. They return to runners-up spot this week with their

double A-sided hit Heartbeat/Tragedy. which sold more than 66,000 copies last week. If it repeats that feat next week, Steps will have sold 1m singles in 1998 - a significant achievement, although it



this week, the line-up including Steps (two), The Tamperer (four), Sham Rock (17), Tina Cousins (20) and R. Kelly featuring Keith

Murray (26). A sixth Zomba single - Solid Harmonie's To Love Once Again - debuts at 55, something of a disappointment as the



group's three previous singles this year all reached the Top 20.

Altogether, Zomba has had 31 Top 75 hits in 1998 - more than many bigger companies, and easily the highest tally for an indie Aside from its flagship Jive label. Zomba's hits have come from the Peach, Eastern Bloc and Pepper Imprints and include one number one (The Tamperer) and three number twos (two from Steps, one from the Backstreet Boys). Other acts it has scored with include 2Pac, Joe, Kaleef, Will Mellor, Jazzy Jeff & The Fresh Prince and Sparkle.

It has spearheaded an indie revival, which has also seen a stunning performance by Edel, with significant support from China, V2, Mushroom, Profile, Telstar, All Around The World, Skint, Logic and several others Incidentally, it's not just in Britain that Jive is hot - the label has the highest new entry in Billboard's US Hot 100 this week, with 16year-old newcomer Britney Spears making her debut at 17 with ... Baby. One More Time.

THE	YEAR	SO FAR
	TOP 20	SINGLES

	MY HEART WILL GO ON	CELINE DION	EPIC
	IT'S LIKE THAT	BUN-D.M.C VS JASON NEVINS 3	SM (E COMMUNICATIONS
	NO MATTER WHAT	BOYZONE	POLYDOR
	C'EST LA VIE	B*WITCHED	EPIC
	BELIEVE	CHER	WEA
	HOW DO I LIVE	LEANN RIMES	CURB/THE HIT LABEL
	GHETTO SUPASTAR [THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE]	PRAS MICHEL FEAT ODB & MYA	INTERSCOPE
	TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	SAWAGE GARDEN	COLUMBIA
	WVA FOREVER	SPICE GIRLS	VIRGIN
0	3 LIONS '98	BADDIEL/SKINNER/LIGHTNING SE	ED EPIC
1	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	STARDUST	VIRGIN
2	DOCTOR JONES	ADUA	UNIVERSAL
3	NEVER EVER	ALL SAINTS	LONDON
4	THE BOY IS MINE	BRANDY & MONICA	ATLANTIC
5	FEELIT	TAMPERER FEAT MAYA	PEPPER
6	BRIMFUL OF ASHA	CORNERSHOP	WIILIA
7	FROZEN	MADONNA	MAVERICK
8	HORNY	MOUSSET VS HOTINUUCY	AMPM
9	VINDALOO	FAT LES	TELSTAR
9	ROLLERCOASTER	BWITCHED	EPIC
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	6		WOULD YOU? Jauch & Ga	Drol	26	10	GUESS I WAS A FOOL Another Level	Northwestaide
	7	1014	SIT DOWN James	fortiges	27	100	NO REGRETS Robble Williams	Chanzia
	8		I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING Array	nita Columbia	28	P	WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryan Adams Web 1	Arban C. ASIA
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	14	12	THANK U Mania Merissette	Manick	34	1214	SO YOUNG The Cerrs	Marte
	15	16	LIUST WANNA BE LOVED Convertable	Vore	35	HEM	IF WE TRY Known Ramines	Manifeste
	16	10	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN' Kele La Rec	Pehrite	36		LOOKING FOR LOVE Know Burling	Marifeste
	17		THIS KISS From the	Warner Boon	37	22	WHAT'S YOUR SIGN Decise	Dusted Sound
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Chart

PEPS

To hear the chart hol-off-the-press on Monday



24-28 January 99

The Premier International Music Market - Palais des Festivals - Cannes - Franc



The official uk singles chart TOP 75

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ALL THE CHARTS FXPOSURE

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Most played videos on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd w/e 13/11, Source: MTV UK	/98	Most played videos on The Box, w/e 8/11/ Source: The Box	38	Highest climbing videos Source: The Box	on The Box in advance of single release w/e 8/11/98
Constraints of the second	Relation Used in the Nay box (1966) in Charge So Ballers (1966) in Charge So Nang (K) Charge So Nang (K) Heightsondo Sharge (K) Heightsondo Shar	Neutre Gene Bryan Adams feat. 6 (): baydreamin' Tayana Mil; Gues I Levite To You I Belling BrWitchci; te Me There Blackateet 6 Mys feat. 9 mg Big World Emilia; Toke The ADJOO TWOO PPL, war of Geod Bys Madonni; Each Time Mad Jesot; Tim Yaur Angul Celline	The Way Men Finghtens, The End G Reg Way Men Finghtens, The End G Reg Way Men Finghtens, The End G Reg Way Men Fangel Sealer (e.g., Reine Reg Carlow Men Anale Sealer (e.g., Reine Reg Carlow Men Anale Sealer (e.g., Reine Constantion of Sealer), and and the Sealer Constantion of Sealer (Constantion of Sealer Constantion of Sealer), and and and the Men Men Anale Sealer Constantion of Sealer Const	Biothers; Latis on; I Want Yan Yab adays Sciec Cirit: story "Prepicalita Bick; effere Match Carey & a Don A R. Rely Castor Y. Cancel; Y. Castors For Don & A. R. Rely Castor Cancel; Y. Taff Yan and K. Washington, "I'll Yab and Yab Science Start Photo Science: H. Taff Yab and K. Start Photo Science: A Castor Photo Science: A Castor Science: Castor	HART PARTY CARACTERISTICS AND
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AMERICA CHARTWA			INTERNAT	IONAL Cher	PROFILE:
by ALAN JON				JL WILLIA	MS
With more than 16m copies of Jaggad title Pill sold in America, the industry prognosis for Almis Moressette's followup was skyhigh, with the more optimalist forecasters suggesting it could soll 800,000 or even a million in its first week. Well, the figures are in, and though it doly debuts at number one, it fell far short of appetation. Its introductory taily of <u>640</u> ,000	charted live a Two other albu Top 100 debu bows at numb Anthology cree number 99. Ti while the Lenn though, as a f	burn, it sold 38,000 copies. Ims by UK artists made their ts - The Masterplan by Oasis er 51 and John Lennon's pis in under the wire at te Oasis album sold 31,000, ion set found 17,000 takers - our-CD set selling for about a t 572.98) traised more	It is difficult to imagine how could have come up with a gift to Warner than helping back into a fully-fielded, top- Dickins, who leaves his po- chairman at the end of the ye was executive producer of the act's Believe album, which he spawned one of the UK's big	Rob Dickins better parting to turn Cher selling star. st as Warner ar, initiated and a UK-signed is not only	the single sitting at one in Denmark, two in both Austria and Germany and three in Switzeriand. The Biburn, meanwhile, last week climbed to one in Austria, entered the German chart at nine and moved up to 16 in Spain to put it well on course to surpassing the 800,000 global sales of Cher's last alburn. Her awards tally to date on the new aburn

is, however, the highest first-week score for an allour by a woman since SoundScan started compiling accurate sales data in 1991, beating the 422,000 mark set by than \$1m at retail 1991, beating the 422,000 mark set by Lauryn Hill aarlier this year. U2's The Best Of 1890-1990 & The B-Sides was a worthy but distant runnerup to Morissette, selling 237,000 copies. With Celine Dion's seesonal album These Are Special Times new at four, the urban Belly soundtrack in at five and hardcore rapistress Mid & Surfacing at number seven with Mama Drama, half of the Ton 101 s rew.

the Top 10 is new.

Phil Collins' Hits album holds at number 28 and leads the Brit pack, closely followed by the Rolling Stones' No Security, which debuts at number 34. The Stones' sixth

The Bee Gees' One Night Only sold slightly fewer and debuted at 109. With a total of 23 new entries – the biggest intake of 1998 – several albums tumbled heavily, with REM's Up sliding 3-16, Phish's Story Of The Ghost slumping 8-65 and Black Sabbath's Reunion freefailing 33-70. All Saints' self-titled debut somehow

managed to swim against the tide, and bounced 44:40, reaching a new high on its 32nd chart appearance. The group's Never Ever dips 17:22 but remains the star performer among singles by UK acts, while Five's it's The Things You Do moves 77-65 and Cleopatra's Life Ain't Easy remains stalled at number 81.

year, but is now building into a huge smash across Europe and beyond.

"He's a very happy man, Mr Dickins," says WEA's head of international Hassan Choudhury who, just over a week ago, completed a 16-day jaunt around Europe with Cher, which saw her appearing on a string of high-rating TV shows.

While TV has played an important part, Choudhury notes it is radio which has turned the album's title track into such a big hit. "The record has been so passionately embraced by radio," he says. "Its success is

plain and simply the old route of radio." Tellingly, the video for the single has only just been completed and will add further strength to a campaign which currently has

includes gold discs in Austria, Denmark and Germany. "We are looking at possibly doing a million albums this side of Christmas," says Choudhury.

Nes N

1 NOVEMBER 1995

Cher's promotional schedule presently has her in the States where she is undertaking a series of high-profile TV appearances, including David Letterman, Jay Leno and Entertainment Tonight, Choudhury says radio there is also beginning strongly to support the single which is released tomorrow (Tuesday), a week after the release of the album

US commitments will take her up to the end of the year with a return to Europe in February when a second single, quite possibly Strong Enough, will be released.

MUSIC WEEK 21 NOVEMBER 1998

OFFICIAL UK AIRPLAY CHARTS THE 20 60 8 TNP 5 21 NOVEMBER 1998

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A 2 4 3 15 SWEETEST THING	U2	island	1766	-1	62.68	+4	3 7 IF YOU BUY_ The Temperer feat, Maya (Zemba) 1000 27 3
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A 21 29 2 0 NO REGRETS	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	857	+45	29.69		=23 CD EACH TIME E-17 (Telstar) 7848 4 1 =23 CD HARD KNOCK LIFE Jay-2 (Northwestside) 6485 8 1
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24 ID IS 43 MILLENNIUM	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	906	-29	28.09	-16	=29 26 CRUSH Jenniter Paige (Edel) 8252 14 1
🙏 25 34 2 0 WHEN YOU'RE GONE	Bryan Adams With Melanie C.	A&M/Mercury	749	+43	27.49	+42	=29 CE TAKE THE LONG WAY HOME Fabrics (Deale) 5035 8 1 #29 CE UP AND DOWN Vengators (PesciverEAII) 2502 9 1
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28 25 11 BLUE ANGELS	Pras	Ruffhouse/Columbia	658	-5	24.71	-3	
29 28 7 22 GANGSTER TRIPPIN'	Fatboy Slim	Skint	303	-26	22.86	-8	TOP 10 COMPANIES TOP CORPORATE GROU
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A 32 34 4 9 I'M YOUR ANGEL	Celine Dion & R.kelly	Epic	316	+7	20.65	+23	
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TOP 10 GROWERS

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3	GOODBYE Spice Girls (Virgin)	292	292	3	WAR OF NERVES AI
4	NO REGRETS Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	857	270	4	GIRLS NIGHT OUT AN
5	WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryon Adams With Malanie C. (A&M/Men	cary) 749	225	5	WHEN YOU'RE SOME BIYES
6	EACH TIME E-17 (Tolstar)	582	224	6	HEARTBEAT Steps (J
7	DAYOREAMIN' Tatyana Ali (MJJ/Epic)	305	208	7	ALWAYS HAVE, ALW
8	WAR OF NERVES All Saints (London)	360	181	8	THE POWER OF GOO
ONE	Cantrol UK, Quart shows leacks beauting president increase in plays			ON	sic Control UK. Chart shows to
MUS	IC WEEK 21 NOVEMBER 1998				

TOP 10 MOST ADDED 58 34 34 s (Virgin) ana Ali (MUU/Epic) 55 30 Saints (London) 45 38 da (Wildstar) 20 9 Adams With Melanie C. (A&M Mercan) 55 43 Jive) MYS WILL Ace Of Base (London)19 Arras (Maverick) 34 49 20 14 26 acks boasting greatest number of station adds

27 m SO YOUNG The Cerrs (Atlantic) 18265 349 646 28 m IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND Stars On \$4 (Feating Boy) 9667 480 625 29 24 LOOKING FOR LOVE Karen Families (Menilestrol Manzary) 18759 626 623 30 21 MORE THAN A WOMAN 311 (Virgin) 12315 687 573 O Music Cantol UK. Titles ranked by total number of plays on 45 mainster from 00.00 on Sun 8 Nev 1996 until 24.00 on Sat 14 Nev 1996

16 22 EACH TIME E-17 (Teletard

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21 17 IF YOU TOLERATE ... Manic Street Preachers (Epic) 17794 802 711 22 mt WHEN YOU'RE GONE byon Adams With Melenie C (AMM Mercury) 18142 493 710 23 14 WHAT'S YOUR SIGN Desires (Dusted Sound/Sony 52) 11520 919 707

24 20 SEARCHIN' MY SOUL Verida Shiepard (Epic) 12524 709 702

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5 H A R POPS, BBC RADIO 1 AS USED BY OFFICIA



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4	9	6 WOULD YOU? Touch And Go	Oval/V2
1000	5	7 SIT DOWN (REMIX) James	Fontana
6	00	8 I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING Aerosmith	Columbia



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10 18	10 18 SWEETEST THING U2	-

GUESS I WAS A FOOL

O O E

Celine Dion ٩

I'm your angel

Polydor

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST Queen with thyolef Jean test Pras Michel/Free Dreamworks 9 FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN Eagle-Eye Cherry

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R. KELLY'S AMERICAN HE T CAN'T SLEEP BABY (IF L.)

Virgin/Sony TV

12 19 SONGS FROM 'ALLY MCBEAL' Vonda Shepard

14 18 THE VERY BEST OF Meat Loaf

CELINE'S MILLION SELLING LOVE THEME FROM "TITANIC" -

THE NEW SINGLE - OUT NOW

Virain EBi Polydor Island PolyGram TV Creation M People/BIMG Atlantic Chrvsalis 7 MODERN CLASSICS - THE GREATEST HITS Paul Weller Island Polydor 10 SUPPOSED FORMER INFATUATION JUNKIE Alanis Morissette Maverick 10 13 THE BEST OF - THE STAR AND WISEMAN Ladysmith Black Mambazo I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU Robbie Williams - THE B 2 THE BEST OF 1980-1990 & B-SIDES U2 CIMEN 16 16 WHERE WE BELONG Boyzone 5 TALK ON CORNERS The Corrs **9** ONE NIGHT ONLY Bee Gees **OUENCH** The Beautiful South 19 17 THE MOVIES Michael Ball THE BEST OF 1980-1990 U2 **3 THE MASTERPLAN** Dasis 9 14 B*WITCHED B*Witched 15 GREATEST Duran Duran THE BEST OF M People 7 12 HITS Phil Collins 4 G 8 9 36 MIL Meu 2 ŝ ~ 4



U2 are backing a label, Kitchen Recordings, which has evolved from their famed club The Kitchen in Dublin. The label was launched last week with a party at the club which was broadcast live on the internet. The label's first release is a 12-inch vinyl-only single, Rob Rowland's 'Ground Zero'. Rowland was nominated as the best live dance act at this year's Hot Press Awards. The label will be managed by Reggie Manuel, who says that U2 will be doing more than just providing finance for Kitchen Recordings, "Bono and The Edge have a direct role in overseeing the running of the label and will be involved in the

below in the says. The formation of the label reflects the growth of the involved in the scene which is now producing a new generation of producers and artists. "We fell we could on longer ignore the quality of dance annuals being produced in reland," as we find annel. "The time has come to make it accessible to the rest of the world." While Roviand's record is techno, the label will on technic tiltself us any come gene. Meanel asyst, "The Kithen data little interformers more the scene of the says." techno to drum & bass to house depending on the night. We feel that we can reflect this variety of styles in the label using the overriging quide of quality dance music." Kitchen Recordings website can be found at www.the-kitchen.com.

(2) SEVEN DAYS IN DANCE: ANDY HORSFIELD & JAMES TODD reveal what caught their attention this week 131 RADIO: the Top 40 Dance Airplay countdown: PETE TONG's playlist 14-61 HOT VINYL: all the tunes of the week, the latest

171 JOCK ON HIS BOX: DJ HARRI

CLUB: 'BAD GIRLS'/I LIKE' Juliet Roberts (Delitious) of URBAN: 'HARD KNOCK LIFE' Jay-Z (Northwestside) SHE WANTS YOU' Billie (Innocent) COOL CUTS: "BURNIN' Cevin Fisher (Subversive) 80

21 NOVEMBER 1998

dave lambert in talks over am:pm role

Dave Lambert, Positiva's head of A&B, looked set to complete negotiations last eek which will see him move to Island to run the former A&M dance imprint AM:PM. It is understood that he will be in place at Island for the first week of

AM:PM moved to Island following the closure of A&M as a standalone label earlier in the year - a move which also led to the departure of AM:PM's then label head imon Dunmore. AM:PM has been one of the most successful major label dance imprints of the past two years, racking up huge hits with acts such as Ultra Nate and Mousse T vs Hot'n'Juicy. When contacted by RM. Lambert (pictured below) confirmed that he was in



negotiations with Island but refused to comment further. Lambert has been with the EMI dance imprint Positiva since its inception in 1994, helping set up the label with Nick Halkes. Positiva has enjoyed a string of dance hits with acts such as Reel II Real. Barbara

Tucker and D.I Quicksilver An insider says, "It's a smart move for both sides. Dave would have always played second fiddle at Positiva and AM:PM needs someone with a track record to step into Dunmore's shoes.

Another factor in the move is understood to have been Lambert's good working relationship with the US indie Strictly Rhythm from whom AM:PM's most successful artist, Ultra Nate, is licensed. While AM: PM's future at

Island is settled, there is no news as yet of what changes if any - will take place at PolyGram's and Universal's other dance imprints following the merger of the









Leading 3 beat ends Leading Liverpool deal with and BMG Northwestside northwestside have ended licensing deal.

The split was amicable and comes after 3 Beat supplied Northwestside with a number of minor chart hits from artists such as Isha D. Powerhouse and CLS. 3 Past first worked with Northwesteide directors Christian Beat first worked with wordswesside directors clinistial Tattersfield and Nick Raphael while they were at ffrr, which licensed Lisa Marie Experience's Top 10 hit 'Keep On Jumpin' from the Liverpool Indie in 1995. However, the deal with Northwestside failed to result in a hit of the eama proportione

Michelle Woolf, 3 Beat's label manager, says, "The split is totally amicable and is a joint decision between ourselves and Northwestside, 3 Beat feels that with the way the music industry is at the moment we'd like to go back to our roots and be an independent company. Meanwhile Northwestside has been concentration

recently on its album artists such as Jay-Z and Another Level

3 Beat's first independent releases will be New Atlantic's 'I Know' and Triple S's 'Whoomp'. The label will also be doing a compilation with Liverpool ILR Radio City and concentrating on its subsidiary label Glow.

[7 DAYS IN DANC

andy horsfield & james todd he

"Tuesday: ANDREW ING from the ZOUK CLUB in SINGAPORE rang up with a update on things in the Far East, Also, talked to DANNY TENAGLIA in NEW to finalise dates for the forthcoming GLOBAL UNDERGROUND CD he's going to do for us which should be out in January. Then spoke to ALEX



who's organising the TONY DE VIT MEMORIAL GIG which we're involved with. Wednesday got the last of the stock of our 'Sasha - San Francisco' CD to JOHN KNIGHT at SRD. Had a conference call with BICARDO from THRIVE RECORDS in LA and MIKE at TWILO in I about a party in late November for the release of JOHN DIGWEED's album in the US. Thursday: travelled to DUNDEE with NICK WARREN for a Global Underground club tour date. Nick played a blinder and we overdid it with the liquid 'Rock Star'. Friday: woke up with a hangover. Drove to NOTTINGHAM and heard PETE TONG play PINK BOMD's 'Altershock' on OUAD, our singles label. Arrived at THE BOMB in NOTTINGHAM for a SASHA tour date. He signed posters while we gave away CDs. Saturday: did some clothes shopping in Nottinoham then we left for LIVERPOOL where Sasha was playing at CREAM. A guy offered us £50 for a Sasha CD but we'd given our supplies away to young ladies by then. Sunday: home to E. Mucked around in the studio and then went to the pub. Monday: Organised competitions with LOUISE DEAN for DANNY RAMPLING's show. Finalised deal to supply music from our Quad label to software house EUTECHNYX for their Playstation game 'Max Power'. Then in the studio to finish the next FORTH single for our CODED label."

pure plastic. worthing

Break, twording skirt Break, twording skirt



Former Grid member Richard Norris (pictured) has joined Creation's dance laver coupling a A&R consultant. The role came about following a meeting several weeks ago with Creation boss Alan McGee, who used to manage The Grid in 1990. "I have been friends with Richard for 10 years," he says. "I want Eruption to take chances and put out challenging leftfield records, and I think Richard can help us do this."

Norris is justifiably excited about his role to raise the profile of the label. "My aim is to sign a lot of good quality dance music, regardless of genre," he says. "I've already got lots of projects in the pipeline ranging from pumping house through to a whole cross-section of styles, and we're hoping to see the first releases by early spring next year." Among these are an American breakbeat DJ -

someone Norris describes as a "young genius" who has been making film soundtracks and some New

has been making lim sounderces and some new York-style four-to-the-floor house music, "Bascially know loads of musicians, both bere and in New York, and I also have a few scouls looking out for things in New York, "says Norris." I do have a strong link with New York, but the music can come from anywhere." Since The Gird disbanded, Norris has been working with numerous bands including Elastica,

doing remixes and working with his new band. Gold Star, who will be releasing material on a major label in the New Year.

Norris, who can be contacted on 0421 590 870 or 0171-460 0059, joins Kris Needs, who will continue as an A&R consultant as well as running the label's club nights. The next Eruption party is on November 27 at 333 Old Street, London, and will feature Barry Astworth, Irvine Wetsh, Agent Dan and DAVE the Drummer.



KONTRABAND

Basement B1, 9 Hoxton Square, London N1 6NU, tel: 0171-739 0068, fax 0171 729 0823, e-mail: tracy@kontraband.co.uk Kontraband has established itself as a credible independent dance label since being set up by Tracy Cunliffe, former A&R manager with Dr Bob Jones' Black On Black label, just over a year ago. Being headquartered in Hoxton Square, epicentre of London's current creative hotbed, certainly helps, as has Cunliffe's commitment to supporting new and established artists with a twist to their repertoire, encouraging them to play live and release albums

Cunliffe's anti-pigeon-holing philosophy has resulted in a roster which defies definition. New acts to be launched by the label include the Aloha Pussycats with their new disco beats, tech-funksters Big Hair

funkadelic outfit The White Rabbit and beat-based El Barrilo, while established artists such as Rocky & Diesel, Crispin J Glover and Ben Chapman have all released or remixed for Kontraband, A milestone release for the label was its fourth offering. Bronx Dogs' 'Tribute To Jazzy Jay' released to dancefloor acclaim in Februar SPECIALIST AREAS: High-grade house with hip hop

ilities and genre busting 'beach KEY ABTISTS: The Aloha Pussycats, The White

Rabbit, Big Hair, El Barrilo, Rocky & Diesel, Ben Chapman (aka Bill, Ben &

Baggio/Hal 9000/Freewheelin' Franklin/Ramshacke), Nikel LAST THREE BELEASES '10 Seconds Silence' The White Rabbit; 'Moore Grooves'/'Out Of Space' Rocky & Diesel; 'Beat-nik d EP' COMING UP:

Kontraband's debut album 'Bea-tnik d' featuring Kontraband's roster; 'The Show' Big Hair with Terry Francis RETAILER'S VIEW:

"Good to see an independent label pushing forward new and established talent in London via a constant string of releases with their own conc and style in mind" - Pete Herbert, Atlas Records, London



Workplace, 105 Ladbronke Grove, London W11 1PG, tel: 0171-616 8410, fax: 0171-616 8411...The full release of CLOCK's version of 'Blame It On The Boogle' will have many DJs turning crimson when they realise just exactly which act is responsible for that white label they've been playing. An anonomous 'bootleg' mix was sent out of the track featuring a dub followed by a full Clock promo featuring that mix and more commercial ones bearing the name Clock. Surprise, surprise the . Clock promo was roundly ignored while the bootleg met praise ...

danceairplayforty

was a regular on the mid-Nineties house scene alongside brother Jerry playing at clubs such as the Velvet Underground, Golden, Miss Moneypenny's, the Lakota and Malibu Stacey, Having moved to New York a short time ago, it appears that 27-year-old Bouthier took his own life. A memorial service will be held in Paris shortly. Messages of condolence can be faxed to the Bouthier family on 00 331 45 46 28 99 R who handle promotion for acts such as Air, Daft Punk, the Freestylers and Massive Attack, have moved and can now be found at The

BEATS&PIECES

60

Remember where you heard it first: A major dance indie is being very proactive in its attempts to lure an established dance A&R person over the River Thames to bolster its staff. The current uncertainty in the majors is seeing a number of high-profile A&Rs weighing up the benefits of a Bakerloo line tube pass...It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of DJ TOM BOUTHIER who

on the airwaves

the caroline mossi

PRAV

Two significant things define this week's Dance Airplay 40. The first is the highest amount of new entries for some weeks; the second is a new number one, PRAS' 'Blue

new number one, PHAS "Blue Angels", which has displaced <u>STARDUST</u> after a record-breaking 11 weeks at the top. Strangely enough, "Music Sounds Better..." was the only tune strong enough to push Pras's Ghetto Supastar' off pole position back in August where it had spent five weeks, previously a very respectable reign at the top before French house started settion new records.

Highest of the seven new entries is LOVESTATION's 'Sensuality' on Fresh, in at 21 and being championed by Galaxy 101 in Bristol, Galaxy 102 in Manchester, Choice Birmingham and Vibe FM. Also new this week are: BLACKSMITH & MYA's Take Me There' at 28; TATYANA ALI's 'Daydreamin' at 30; EN VOGUE's 'Hold On', back with Tuff Jam remixes, at 31;



BLIEF DRIVERZ VS ARBOLA's 'Dreaming' at 35: SASHI FEAT SHANNON'S 'Move Mania' at 37 and R KELLY FEAT. KEITH MURRAY'S 'Home Alone' at 38. Also back in at 24 is

WYCLEF/QUEEN's 'Another One Bites The Dust'. Kiss FM has launched its third annual Kiss 100 House Challenge to raise money for homeless young people. This year the station and Centrepoint have joined forces with Sainsburys, asking Londoners to donate old clothes by depositing them in transit vans in selected Sainsburys car parks. Last year's House Challenge raised more than £150,000 for Centrepoint's hostels, and this year the aim is to exceed this amount. "Homelessness is a serious issue in London, especially among young people," says Kiss 100 marketing manager Neil Russell. "The last few years of the Kiss 100 House Challenge have proved that our listeners care enough to do something about it." The House Challence runs until after Christmas



SATISTACTION SKANK' Linknown hebite label 'BAD GIRLS' Juliet Roberts (Delirious) . 'PLAYING "BAD GIRLS" Juliet Roberts (Dainfous) @ 'PLAYING WITH MY MIND' House Of Glass (Azuli) @ 'BUENA VIDA' Inner City (white label) @ TT'S NOT RIGHT, BUT IT'S OKAY "Whitney Houston (Aristo) @ WHAT YOU WON'T DO FOR LOVE' Goldie (Metalheadz) @

"WOMAN OF ANGELS' Brutol Bill (Mugpy) @ "BURNING UP' Cevin Fisher (Subversive) @ 'ON & ON' Hurricone (white label) @ 'WONDERFUL Soundscopers (Kingpin) @ 'WALK UKE A PANTHER' All Seeing Eye (white label) @ 'WONDERFUL

CET OUT OF THE BOAT THE AGON (while lobel) III HOT MIX BY ROB TISSERA: VOICES' Desert (Glow) III UNKNOWN' Do Fool (Hrn) III UNKNOWN' Curintssential (white lobel) III NOW' Unknown (white lobel) III WATTRX' Curiosa (Hrn) IIII STIN LOOS' Young MC vs. SW6 (SW6) IIII SCIOC BABES FROM OUTER SARE' Bobs Instinct (Positiva)

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The LW WbC Tde Anne Cable
1 2 9 BLUE ANGELS Pras Ruffhouse/Columbia
2 1 19 MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU Stardust Virgin
3 4 4 BELIEVE Cher WEA
4 6 7 EN TOP OF THE WORLD Diva Surprise feat. Georgia Jones Positics Ethi
5 10 4 LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN' Kele Le Roc 1st Avenue/Polydor
6 5 7 OUTSIDE George Michael Epic
7 8 11 SOMEONE LOVES YOU HONEY Lutricia McNeal Wildstar
8 17 6 IF WE TRY Karen Ramirez Manifesto/Mercury
9 13 4 IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD The Tamperar Feat. Maya Zomba
10 3 13 TOP OF THE WORLD Brandy feat. Mase Atlantic
11 11 4 IF YOU COULD READ MY MIND Stars On 54 Territy Boy
12 9 6 LOVE LIKE THIS Faith Evans Bad Boy/Arista
13 20 2 HARD KNOCK LIFE (GHETTO ANTHEM) Jay-Z Korthwestside
14 12 6 REPUTATIONS (JUST BE GOOD TO ME) Andrea Grant WEA
15 14 3 WOULD YOU? Touch & Go Oval/V2
16 16 14 DOD WOP (THAT THING) Lauryn Hill Rufthouse/Columbia
17 19 6 TALKIN' ALL THAT JAZZ Stetsasonic Tommy Boy
18 7 6 GYM AND TONIC Spacedust East West
19 15 9 GANGSTER TRIPPIN' Fatboy Slim Skint
20 32 4 MIAMI WIII Smith Columbia
2100 - SENSUALITY Lovestation Fresh
22 23 9 STRONG IN LOVE Chicane Xtravaganza/Edel
23 29 25 GHETTO SUPASTAR Pras feat. ODB & Mya Interscope
24 mm 2 ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST WycleUQueen DreamWorks
25 18 17 MYSTERIOUS TIMES Sash! leat. Tina Cousins Multiply
26 24 5 WHAT'S YOUR SIGN Des'ree Sony S2
27 25 2 UP AND DOWN Vengaboys Positiva/EMI
28 cm - TAKE ME THERE Blackstreet & Mya Interscope
29 26 38 IT'S LIKE THAT Run DMC vs Jason Nevins Smile
30 CE - DAYDREAMIN' Tatyana All MJJ/Epic
31 CE + HOLD ON En Vogen East West
32 33 24 LOOKING FOR LOVE Karen Ramirez Manifesto/Mercury
33 27 14 BODTIE CALL All Saints London
34 31 26 THE BOY IS MINE Brandy & Menica Atlantic
35mm - DREAMING Ruff Driverz vs Arrola Inferno
36 39 29 TOGETHER AGAIN Janet Jackson Virgin
37 DE - MOVE MANIA Sash! feat. Shannon Multiply
38 mm - HOME ALONE R Kelly feat. Kelth Murray Zomba
39 30 3 SWEETHEART JD feat. Mariah Carey So So Del/Columbia
40 34 13 NEEDIN' YOU David Marales presents The Face Azuli Mercury
Stations monitored between 00.00 on 05.11.98 and 24.00 on 11.11.98 Kiss 100.
Gatay 102, Gatay 105, Galaxy 101, Dision (London & Birmingham), War FM C Music Control UK, 55 St John St, Landon EC1M 4AN, tel: 0171-336 6996.
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on a sample with the BPI and BARD, nore than 4,000 record outlets





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hot vinyl

fon the decks: brad beainik andy beevers ronnie herei, lanies tivman, danny micmilian, letemy newall (release the groove).

TUNE OF THE WEEK



RAE & CHRISTIAN 'SPELLBOUND' (GRAND CENTRAL) (SOUL) fter the recent spate of magazine front covers and a frenzy of media hype, this standout single from the 'Northern Sulphuric Soul' album clearly shows why the attention is justified: the Mancunian-based production team have written a decent song which actually has melody. Complementing a flowing flute and the subsequent Hubert Laws 'Trying To Get That Feeling Again' sample are Veba's ocals, particularly the plaintive "You got me, you got me...so hooked upon our love". Aim's remix of 'Anything U Want' features samples from the Alkaholiks' 'Next Level' and Cold Blood's 'I Love You More Than You'll Ever Know' and guest raps from Q-Ball and Curt Cazal.

SHIRO FEAT. LORD TARIQ 'GOOD LOVE' (NOO TRYBE US PROMO) (R&B)

The previous single 'I Like' (taken from the 'Caught Up' OST and featuring MC Lyte) never saw an official release, so let's hope this gets the exposure it deserves as it's an awesome piece of wax. Containing chopped-up elements of Kool & The Gang's mellow classic "Summer Madness", the track is as juicy as it gets. Lord Tariq rhymes on a single verse to enhance impact. But ultimately it is Shiro's gorgeous vocal tones that shine through and touch the soul on this super-smooth

BILLIE 'SHE WANTS YOU' (INNOCENT)

In similar commercial vein to the Morales mixes of Mariah Carey, Erick Morillo transforms a blatant pop track into a club cut with his chunky and funky cowbelltinkling mix that comes with a full vocal mix and a 'Subliminal' dub. Meanwhile, Cevin Fisher delivers a darker house sound and Sharp's mix is swooshing synth washing dirty disco. . .

BRENDA DURMANN 'LOVE IS ALL AROUND' (PRELUDE) (GARAGE)

The ninneering dance label of the Seventies and Eighties is double-pack. An extremely catchy song with strong crossover possibilities is given a classy production from ex-Ten City member Byron Burke. Complete with a jazz instrumental, a deeper dub and a rave mix, this is pop dance at its finest. With books that stay with you for days, this is crying out for your attention. JN

D'ANGELO 'DEVIL'S PIE' (VIRGIN US PROMO)

D'Angelo plus DJ Premier equals phatness beyond belief. This is an equation not to be messed with, as featured on the absolutely brilliant 'Belly' OST and also D'Angelo's forthcoming 'Voodoo' album. 'Devil's Pie' is raw as far as musical content goes, consisting of only breakbeats, a cycled bassline, sound effects and mad Primo scratches, but it works like a dream

and D'Angelo's Prince-style, super-chilled vocals ride that groove neatly making the album a more mouthwatering prospect than sucking an Opal Fruit! Rad tune

SOUL HOOLIGAN 'SWEET PEA' (FRESKANOVA) (BEATS)

Following furiously in the footsteps of label-mates Freestylers are Sout Hoolioan who, apart from remixing the former's latest single, deliver the perfect complement to 'Rockafeller Skank' with a similar 'Ready Steady Go' twangy Sixties feel. 'Mohawk'/'Champ' stabs and a sighing 'Sweet Pea' hook punctuate the seven-inch mix whereas the Plump DJ's mix is rawer breakbeat. Bonus track 'Ride The Pony' is another gem with its frantic pace and "The beat kicks then I start rockin" sample. . . .

ADAM F 'BRAND NEW FUNK' (V RECORDINGS) (DRUM & BASS) Moonlighting from his major label deal, Adam F contributes this track to the forthcoming 'Planet V' album - and a stormer it is too. A monstrous bassline. swaying synths and dramatic keyboard stabs are defily blended to create a track worthy of its title. The accompanying DJ Suv mix cleverly cuts up the bass and keyhoards while adding tougher beats.

ATMOSEEAR 'DANCING IN OUTER SPACE' (DISORIENT) (HOUSE)

This latest release in the Atmosfear remixing project brings things full circle, with the London group's 1979 classic getting the treatment from fellow dub disco pioneer François Kervorkian. The end result does not quite live up to the sum of its parts (or last year's MAW remixes for that matter). However, the combination of crisp Nineties disco beats with those familiar horn riffs is still a certified winner, while the flip's 'Spaced Out' dubs things up in homage to the original AB tripny B-side 'Outer Space'. . .

IAN POOLEY 'WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER' (V2)

(HOUSE) In its original mix this is a submerged breakbeat late-night affair, remi Underground Solution's 'Luy Dancin'. Bob Sinclar's Paradise Mix overlays a "And for my next number" hook and a "World of music" sample over a Hamilton Bohannon-ish bouncy disco mood. Jazzanova's mix is choppier, using the female "Things change...call me" sample and Swag FM also offer a take. • • • • JH

THORNETTA 'SHOULD DA BEEN U' (SOMA)

(GARAGE) The debut release from Thornetta is a funky affair produced by Scott Grooves. This cover of Gwen Guthrie's Eighties classic is given enough snap, tickle and pop to send it hurtling onto today's dancefloors. A raw filtered dub mix from man of the moment Eddie Amador, and a deep and smooth rendition from Detroit techno dude Alton Miller, help make this a worthwhile purchase.

INTERFEARANCE 'ALL DAY' (ELECTRONICALLY ENHANCED) (HOUSE)

This is a major leap forward for Interfearance, retaining their inventiveness but considerably increasing their dancefloor appeal. 'All Day' builds strangely, but once it hits its stride after the guitar breakdown there is no stopping its warped disco charge. The flip's 'All Night' is an off-kilter take using the same guitar theme in reverse and a 7/8 time signature that is a nightmare to mix but is worth the effort.

> SI BEGG/A1 PEOPLE 'B BOY OF TOMORROW'/'STRAWHEAD (HYDROGEN DUKEBOX) (BREAKBEAT)

> These two tracks have been lifted from the forthcoming 'Track Further Funk' compilation that is due soon on Hydrogen Dukebox. Si Begg offers a quirky mid-tempo hip hop instrumental with crazy sample licks and tough raw-edged beats Meanwhile, electro masters A1 People weigh in with their freakiest number to date, mixing old skool jazz-funk licks and smooth-flowing rhythms Just what the doctor ordered. . . DM

SCOTT GROOVES 'MOTHERSHIP **RE-CONNECTION' (SOMA)** (HOUSE) Scott Grooves' choice of covers and samples may lack originality, but you cannot deny their

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BARTEN DON'T WAN GUESS I WA THIS WOULD YOU FALLING IN I ANDTHER ONE RITES ANGEL JUST WAN TELL ME MA HEARTBEAT EACH TIME DOWN (DAYDREAM DOPE KISS DUTSIDE F YOU BUY 1 BLUE H Es 000100000 018 1419 0 12 13 15 15 17 ----6 9 -3 \sim --Mett 2



(HOUSE)









ranking of the world's Top 100 DJs by debuting at number three with 'You Should Be.,,' As mentioned last week. Juliet Roberts has had an unprecedented seven number ones - but none of them has registered the level of support that 'Bad Girls'/'I Like' have this week - and she really needed all that support, because Billie and Blocster register greater DJ action than any of this year's previous number two and three hits. Billie would have been number one every week since 20 June with the support she has this week. She is also number one on the Pop Tip chart, and her overall support is higher than for any other record this week. Incidentally, I did Billie a disservice last week when I suggested 'She Wants You' was her first club hit - 'Because We Want To' had an upfront chart peak of 23 in May, thanks to Tall Paul's mixes. And more apologies are due to OCEANIC, whose Insanity' jumps 51-41 upfront and 22-10 Pop Tip this week - I inadvertently credited the record to All Around The World last week. In fact, the track - a remix of their

1991 number three hit - is available for licensing from Oceanic Productions on 0151-709 8811... Aside from the Blocster single – a Bee Gees remake discussed more fully in the Pop Tip commentary – the only other new entry in the Top 10 also revisits the golden era of disco - it's 'Da-Force', BEDLAM's revamp of the Real Thing hit 'Can You Feel The Force', which has been the subject of at least four previous revivals in recent years, though none has fared quite as well as the Bedlam version. As with the Blocster single, it's a DJ who is behind the record, in this case Trade's Alan Thompson If it seems that old retainers are hanging on better than normal this week, it's not just an illusion - this week's chart turnover is down to its second lowest level of the year, with the lead-in regulred for club promotion meaning that most of the new records mailed in the past week or two are scheduled for release at the end of this year, or the start of 1999, which explains their scarcity

K [commentary] by alan jones

challenge from both BILLIE, who mo

5-2 with 'She Wants You', and BLOCSTER,

aka DJ Brandon Block who celebrates his

number 27 position in DJ manazine's

chart, with JULIET ROBERTS fending off a formidable

ones from a sample of more than 500 dj returns - fax: 0171-928 2881 [upfront house] 0 BAD GIRLS (FUNK FORCE MIXES)/I LIKE (POWER II MOVE MIXES) Juliet Roberts SHE WANTS YOU (ERICK MORILLO/CEVIN FISHER/SHARP MIXES) Billio Deliring ō nocent o 3 NU SHOULD BE, (BLOCKTER MK) Blocker Stake Dr DANGER (FLRHY PHEAKSTRACK) STEPHEN MANDRAWPEPE BRADOCK MIXES) Presence featuring Share Ne DAFORDE (FLAH) THOMPOSIVER-RESOLUCIEY (MIXES) Betlam Sound Of Ministry 4 Pagan 5 000 0 DAF-OBEC (FLAM INDURFECTIVATIONS IN TEL MARCE) BEAUNI BETTING ANALY MITH I (FOLLO MARCE) IN TEL GIG FLAMAT LUVE (MATT DAREYTROUGHER INTURSISTISSFREADLOVE MIXES) Kävana GOMM MARCET, ANAL VERVENT STORY (SCIENCIA) MIX MARCES FINA NEVER LOST HIS INSRDORE EINER STORY (SCIENCIA) MIX MARCES IN SCIENCIA NEVER LOST HIS INSRDORE EINER STORY (SCIENCIA) Playola 0 a Viroia 8 10 Activ a 9 5367 Cleveland City 0.10 Banana 0.11 21 DOWN ON THE STREET (TOM THUMB MIXES) D'Sound PUT YOUR HANDS UP (DJ DISOFLEIORISINJ,CA,LIAN & DUFER SWIFTWOODY WILEYDENDJ TOWA MCESI Black & Write Brothers 0 12 Club Tools CRITICIZE '98 (YOJO WORKING MIXES) Yojo Working featuring Alexander O'Weat 0 13 One World Entertain Positivity THE WORD Dope Smugglaz UP AND DOWN (ORIGINAL/TIN TIN OUT/JOHAN S/SANTOS MIXES) Vengaboys 0 14 Perfecto 0 15 0 16 I GOT THE FEELING (FRANK O'MOIRAGH/FPI PROJECT MIXES) II Jam 11 Main Murie Machine 0 17 THE HOOK (RADICAL PLAYAZ/TOBACCO BOYS/DAVE AUDE/RUFF DRIVERZ MIXES) Radical Playar **Duty Free** 0 18 9 GONNA LOSE MY LOVE (SUNDANCE MIXES) Overground Werk m/Pinnes 0 19 0 28 0 21 DURING COLOR INT LOUY CONCERNMENT OF MEDICAL MERIT PLEASURE '39 (AARC ANDRENSIONAD EOP MICES) Mark Andrews DISCO BABES FROM DUREN SPACE (LANGSCHOD CHOD VS PIAKOHEA/ZBUINGER QUEEN/ORIGINAL MIXES) Babe Institud PLAKY GROUPE (HYTTHI MASTESSULDE) LUIES MIXES) Multine Vas 50 Fluff Positiva 0 22 000 CLAP YOUR HANDS (BULLETPROOF/KADDC MIXES) Kadoc Mor 0 23 DREAMING (RUFF DRIVERZ/LANGE MIXES) Ruff Driverz presents Arro Inferno 0 24 14 MADNESS THING (BREAKNECK/SHARK TANK/FUNK FORCE MIXES) Leilant 0 25 36 TOTE TS IT BLL (FRANCISK REVORMANATTARE/YOUTD DUDIEZCEFF MOES) And Storig PORTAR WOMAN (FRANCISK REVORMANATTARE/YOUTD DUDIEZCEFF MOES) And Storig MAMA (LEXA) REVOIS MOES) WILL STORY HERE - Southern (FRANCISK REVORMANATTARE/YOUTDES) Davie HERE - SOUTHERN (FRANCISK REVORMANATARE/YOUTDES) DAVIE HERE - SOUTHERN (FRANCISK REVORMANATAR TOUT EST BLEU (FRANCOIS KEVORKIAN/ATTABOY/OMID NOURIZEDEN MIXES) Ame Stroom Airtight Club Tools 0 26 18 Columbia 0 28 3 Barclay/In 37 0 29 Go.Best 0 31 21 Tommy Boy Kosma/Logic Cheeky 0 31 50 0.32 22 0 33 20 0 34 55 W2 0 35 Charm(Jet Star Telstar 36 10 EACH TIME (FUNK FORCE/SUNSHIP/SOLID GROOVER-GEE MIXES) E-17 0 37 **BIG BIG WORLD Emilia** Allowercal U TOOK MY LOVE (SPIRITUAL MASTERS/EDDY FINGERS/JONESY MIXES) Spiritual Masters 0 38 eal Recordings 0 39 0 46 33 SUNRISE (CEVIN FISHER/RICHIE PHIFER/95 NORTH MIXES) Cevin Fisher presents The Dream featuring Kenard Twisted UK MOVE MANIA (SASH(JOHN B NORMAN MIXES) Sashi featuring Stannon INSANITY (OCEANIC/CHASE/WAYNE G/SUBSYMPHONIC MIXES) Oceanic 23 Multiply 0 41 Oceanic Production I WANT YOUR LOVIN' (A&G/SCOTT B MIXES) Addams & Gee featuring Gwen Dickey 0 42 Rumous 0 43 35 FIRE Man Slamm/Planes 0 44 39 SENSUALITY (LOVESTATION/FLAVA 2 FLAVA/FUTURE FUNK MIXES) Lovestation Fresh 45 56 TRAX ON THE ROCKS VOLUME 2 Thomas Ba ulé (import) 0 45 16 IF YOU BUY THIS RECORD YOUR LIFE WILL BE BETTER (SHARP/DOPE SMUGSLAZ/ORIGINAL MORES) The Tamperer featuring Mava Pepper 0 47 000 THE LATIN THEME Carl Cox 0 48 007 HIGHER LOVE Brian Chamb Klub Zoo 0 49 15 JOY IS FREE (NYI ON/TROUSER ENTHUSIASTS MIDES) Dive WEA 0 50 45 DARN COLD WAY O' LOVING (HARVEY/ORIGINAL MIXES) Super Collider Loaded 0 51 25 **FOREVER Next Generation** n/Pioneer 0.52 5 IT FEELS SO GOOD (SONIQUE/SONIQUE VS. COMMIE MIXES) Sonigu Serious IT FEELS SU GUOU (SUPULIESCUNULE VS. CUMITE MIXES) Songle DEEP HOUSE (SUPUTO VOBPAUL, KARZANO STAGGEBARLO WAVINE MIXES) Triple J RIGHT HERE RIGHT HOW (NOLUSTRY STANDARDICLINICAL RISER-SEEDESANIE B MIXES) Fierce YOU DON'T KNOW (M.A.S.M.DINCON CONVECTION/BELOVED MIXES) Mixes Syndicate featuring Su Su Bobien THE ROOT IS ON THE (STRETCH & VERVILOUS "PRIMITIVES TRANLINTION COLST MIXES) Westtam O 53 Di20 Southeast 0 54 -44 Wildelan 0 55 -54 firr 0 56 38 6 Logic/Low Spirit 57 197 EURODISCO (MICHALE KILKIE/JASON FAMOUS & BOB KRAUSHAAR/PETE GLEADALL MIXES) Bis Wiiiia 0 58 ALRIGHT (HEX HECTOR/CLUB 69/LIQUID GROOVE MIXES) Club 69 featuring Suzanne Palme Twisted UK O 59 DW PLAYIN' WITH MY MIND House Of Glass Azuli

effectiveness. This follow-up to Grooves' Lonnie Liston Smith cover "Expansions" uses chunks of live Funkadelle and Parliament recordings to generate some very funky four-to-the-floor fun. The Daft Punk remix has been rocking the nation with its electro-fled intro, mad breakdowns and bumping

BEST OF THE ALBUMS

VARIOUS "DEEPER SHADES OF HOOJ VOL. 2' (HOOJ CHOONS) (HOUSE) Having released some of the year's best Euro-traneo tracks, such as Greece 2000s "Trice Drives", Energy 52° Ctel Mari and GMS "Dream Universe", this double CD not only contains those fine moments but also tracks by acts such as Merway, Miro, Paragliders and Lustral. Lee Burridge mixes the second CD, which professes to be "deeper tracks" — who and it or gave "● ● ● ● .

TERMINAL HEAD 'LAST ORDERS...START THE REVOLUTION' (PUSH) (BREAKBEAT) The Terminal Head boys release their debut album with a full-on revolution in boogie main theme. On the second half of the double-pack promo, Slam take things deeper with a couple of cool tech-house treatments, while Funk D'Void rounds dif the esential package by layering choice cut-and-paste vocals over some well-filtered funk

Universal

mind, and their sound should appeal to both the big beat and the nu skool camps. Highlights include the album opener 'Cause & Effect', 'Max Fiasco' and the electroid beast 'Submission'. • • • • • DI



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40 4 TOUCH IT Monifah

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I CAN'T SEE DON'T LET IT GO TO YOUR HEAD

RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW BECAUSE I GOT IT LIKE THAT

BECAUSE I GOTI TI LIKE THA GOOD LOVE TOP OF THE WORLD SECRETS BULLSHITTIN' THE RECIPE MY LITTLE SECRET WAR & PEACE (VOLUME 1)

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Shiro featuring Lord Taria

by tony farsides

Surprise, surprise: JAY-Z finds himself at number one with his humungous 'Hard Knock Life'

There's precious little else going on, as things start to wind down for Christmas. STIAN are a welcome entry into the Top 10 as this week's highest climber with 'Spellbound' featuring Veba (not Texas as stated last week). It's a shame not to see LYTE in there with 'It's All Yours' teaturing Gina Thompson, definitely one of my favourite tracks of the moment. Another strong offering from the WEA camp is GERALD LEVERT's 'Thinking About It'. which moves up 11 places to 15 this week A clever track, a good video and - if my memory serves me correctly - some nice house mixes from Blaze ... Other than that, look out for IRIO, new in at 34 but set to rise with 'Good Love' ... Virgin is rush-releasing LANO's first proper solo album in the coming weeks. Titled 'Tim's Bio: Life From

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conting weeks. Titled "Im's bio: Life From Da Bassment", it features numerous guests such as Puly and Jay-Z and is even more leftlield than the stuff he does for everybody else, Particulary good are the tracks called Here We Come', which borrows its melody from the Spiderman theme musie, and "Can't Noboy' featuring Micele Raw.

Kepring with the leftfield, check out the new or ANGLO track 'Devil's Pie' from the 'Bely' soundtrack. Produced by Premier, it bodes well for D'Angelo's upcoming second album. Not in our chart but a must-have record.

by alan jones

Arista

Gee Street/V2

Priority/Virgin Columbia

Priority/Virgin

BILLIE bounces to the top o the chart this week, with 'She Wants You' enjoying a slim ma OYS' 'Up And Down', which holds at two. Both records enjoy support from more than 70% of the panel, an unusually high penetration, and one which augers well for their upcoming release. The Billie single has been serviced on no fewer than three 12inches, though it is doubtful that the commercial release will find room for all the remixers - Frick Morillo, Cevin Fisher, Sharp Almighty, Wayne G and Ian Levine... STER debut side by side this week at three and four with Bee Gees covers. The current fascination with sonos written by the Gibb brothers reflects the similar spate of Abba covers a couple of years ago through the Abba covers were nearly all Nu-NRG, while the Bee Gees remakes cover many different bases. In addition to the Steps and Blocster singles, the two tracks based on 'Grease' --S's 'Blue Angels' "The Word' - are bubbling under the chart - and ESTEFAN, who has the chart's third highest new entry, isn't above a Bee Gees cover either. Her '70's Moment Medley', which also includes tracks like 'This Time Baby' and 'Don't Leave Me This Way', includes a large chunk of 'If I Can't Have You', It's serviced as a separate promo to 'Don't Let This Moment End", with which it debuts at number 13, on the grounds that commercially they will be on the same record.

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DJ Harri is one of Scotland's legendary jocks. He first brought quality music to clubbers in Aberdeen back in 1983 and he's been a resident at the Sub Club, one of the country's most havin' it clubs, for the past 10 years. He's also resident at Plastic People in London. A disco fan at heart, Harri's latest release, 'I Feel Good Things For You', also boasts top mixes from Stardust's Alan Braxe and Ladbroke Grove don Phil Asher

di harri ON HIS BOX



SYNDRUM SYNDROME (SPREAD LOVE EXPANDED MIX)' DOUG WILLIS (Z) It's old disco - it's funny how many of these records of mine are old disco! It always opes down a storm. It can be hard to play all big tunes back to back, so these tunes are good for Christmas and New Year's Eve

'MAGIC FEET' MIKE DUNN (WESTBROOK) "This is an early acid house record. It's got a thing on it like a Fela Kuti riff, only done on keyboards I imagine. It's naggingly good. I just love it, I have two residencies where I like to play new stuff. I try not to play too much classic stuff otherwise I'd get bored. I save these kinds of tunes for birthday party nights and bank holiday weekends."

DODMY' E&B (STRICTLY RHYTHM)

There are umpteen other Strictly Rhythm tracks I could have chosen. I remember at the time I thought this was quite good but not great - this was around 1993 - and then I found it again six months ago and still thought it was all right and started playing it out again and it got a really good response. Sometimes records are ahead of their time. Again, this is kind of disco - oh, it's Erick Morillo! I've only just noticed this!"

HARBI'S STEAMIN' 10

- VARIOUS TRACKS' Blakdektor samplar (Shah COOLYS WAGES (RAINY CITY MIX)" Coolys Holbi Sole Visions Sole Music)
- VARIOUS TRACKS' Daniel Ibbotson (Glasgow
- DUALITY EP' Spencer Kincy & JJ Danaldson (Cyclo)
- UUALITY EP' Spencer Kincy & JU Donaldson (Cyclo) ALL I WANT//WIDOWS PEAK' Plastic Avengers (N.R.L.) LOVE IS ON YOUR SIDE' Andy Roberts (Vinyi Peace) KNOB TWIST' Paul Johnson (Nite Life Collective)
- PIENSO EN TI (REMIXES)' M.A.W. feat, Luis Salinas
- MAWI MAAW.) MOOR LIFE' The Juggernaut Express (Transfusion)
- WORY (EAST WEST) (VISE MIX)' Starchild presi (Chill Funk)

CULTURAL VIRE' MAELIMBE (EASY STREET)

"I've got it on Easy Street which is a US label and I've got the dub which is on a British label. The dub is really good. Tony Humphries produced it. It's a kind of minimal Afrodisco dub. It was a big New York tune. It has a brilliant dirty keyboard sound."

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'BREAKING ROCKS' TRAVIS NELSON HOSTS THE DEVIL'S DISCO (PLANET) This came out a couple of years ago and it's like early disco. It's probably someone really famous doing the vocals, someone I ought to know! it's one of those records. I played it all over Europe and it got a really good reaction. People always ask what it is, I'd rather go for records that are not obvious. At least one person asks what it is each time I play it and when that happens you know you're on to something."

"I NEED YOU" (BASEMENT JAXX BONUS MIX)" NIKITA WARREN (VC RECORDINGS)

"The Basement Jaxx mix is basically Ralphi Rosario's "Instrumental Need" with sound effects. It sounds really good."

'ATMOSPHERE' LEE LEWIS (BCR) "This is on an Italian label. It's a cover version of Lil' Louis' 'French Kiss' with spaced-out jazzy piano. You can change the tempo, say a hip hop tempo, to whatever takes your fancy."

'LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED' DARIO T & SQUIGGLY P AS FUNK MACHINE (ITALIAN FLYING) "This came out in 1992 and was quite a big tune at the

time. It used a Norman Whitfield sample. It's one of those Italian forays into a disco kind of house. It always seems to work '

ROLFRENAS

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LA Marc

WAR' GALAXY (MCA DISCO)

"It's brilliant. I remember working in a club in Spain years ago - it was the first time I saw lasers! This song is seven minutes and 30 seconds long and they had a laser show that worked to the record; i just loved it. I still play it now and the crowd still love it."

'SEVENTIES TRIP' G.U.S. (CAJUAL)

ALL I WANT

39

9

"This is by Glenn Underground and I really like it. You can change the groove with it, you can mix it out of anything and you get out of it into something else easily. If someone is playing a techno record in the set before you, you can change the groove with this tune."

[COMPILED BY SARAH DAVIS. TEL: 0181-948 2520]

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	INCredible	2 Code - 2302
	One Little Indian	2 Code - 2309
	tirr	2 Code - 2316
	6 (6) RING OF SATURN Goldie (Album-sized EP of eclectic tunes)	2 Code - 2327
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	19 TTT PULVERTURM Niels Van Gogh (Big in Europe and set to do the business here) Kosmo	Code - 2336
	20 TRIGGER The Assassin (Top progressive track from Down Under) Vicious Vinyl	Code - 2337
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54 40	LESLEY GARRETT Lesley Garrett BBC	BBC/BMG Conifer
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CIN. Prod	Produced in co-operation with the BPI and BARD, based on a sample of	on a sample of
more than 4	more than 4,000 record outlets	1

THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS ALBUMS AND A CONTRACTOR 1 NOVEMBER

CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

Goorge Michael's number one debut robs double compilation of pole position after ust one week but the group also has the week's eighth biggest-selling aloum courtesy of the single disc Best Of 1980-1990 version of the package, which debuts at eight. Making it a very good week for their record label Island, Paul Weller's Modern Classics - The Greatest Hits debuts at seven. While George Michael is well ahead at the top, the remainder of the Top 10 is very closely packed, with 54,600 sales giving U2 second place but 43,300 only ing Alanis Morissette 10th positio

The Corrs' Talk On Corners registered its onth sale in the week, and sprints 8-5 on the chart, as a result of exposure for their new single So Young and the repackaging of Talk On Corners, which nov includes the remixed versions of their hits and a bonus track culled from their previous album, Meanwhile, The Bee Gees reap a

COMPILATIONS

e Ministry Of Sound's Annual IV holds at the top of the compilation chart this week but it's a fairly hollow victory, as its sales of 37,700 are well down on what a number one compilation ought to be selling at this stage of the year.

I hinted a couple of weeks ago that the compilation market was in trouble, and there is more evidence of this filtering through. The Annual IV only occupies 12th place in a combined artist/compilation chart this week - the first time this year that the number one compilation has not been among the Top 10 overall. And the year-to-date increase in compliation sales of 4.1% is vastly inferior to the 9.0% growth in the artist album sector, with individual compilations actually selling fewer than last year, as the number of

LIFE THRU A LENS

TALK ON CORNERS

LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE

POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN

URRAN HYMNS

TITANIC - OST

RAY OF LIGHT

THE BEST OF

ADUARIUM

BLUE

14 SPICEWORLD

WHERE WE BELONG

LEFT OF THE MIDDLE

INTERNATIONAL VELVET

ALL SAINTS



ALBUM FACTFILE

George Michael registers his fourth number one solo album from as many releases this week, debuting in pole releases this week, debuting in pole position with Ladies & Gentlemen... The Best Of George Michael, which sold more than 144,000 copies to snatch the title away from U2. Michael – who has previously topped the chart with Faith, Listen Without Prejudice...Volume 1 and Older - has also had two number one albums with Wham!. Ladios & Gentlemen



massive reward for the Audience With programme, which was screened by ITV on Saturday 7 November, too late to impact last

releases has increased significantly. Oddly enough, the compilation sector

was extraordinarily buoyant at the start of

in the first 16 weeks. In the 30 weeks since, the figure has slipped every week

the year, with an increase of 14.8% in sales

with a few exceptions, to its current 4.1%.

Sales for last week show the trend is

worsening. Overall album sales last week

were 2.805,220, a massive 21% higher

than the same week last year. But while

dipped by 14%. It's very likely that the

significant number of high profile artist compilations by the likes of U2, George

off the sector, though whether it is a

temporary or permanent shift in the market's shape remains to be seen.

Michael, Oasis et al have taken the shine

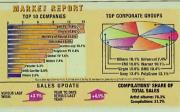
artist albums surged by 38%, compilations

week's chart. Their One Night Only live album catapults 36-9 with an impressive 546% surge in sales, while The Very Best Of is off to a much brighter start than The Best Of Wham!, which debuted at four on 6 December last year with slightly disappointing sales of 58,000, though it has subsequently sold around 660,000 conies. Michael's last album Older sold 285,000 copies when it debuted at number one in May 1996. Both Older and The Best Of Wham! bounce back this week, with Older climbing 145-139 and The Best of Wham! moving 131-113.

The Bee Gees explodes 89-35 with a 309% improvement. One Night Only has sold more than 170,000 copies in the past 10 weeks, while The Very Best Of The Bee Gees has sold nearly 800,000 copies thus far.

After registering a trio of top five hits. Another Level make their album chart. debut at 22, with their introductory, selftitled LP, which sold more than 22,000 copies last week. That's a fair few for a group that was completely unknown at the start of the year, particularly as they are straddling the boy band/credible R&B divide

It compares very well with the 25,000 first week sales attained by the debut albums of Boyzone and Backstreet Boys and easily eclipses the more modest tallies urned in by British R&B breakthroughs like Mark Morrison and Shola Ama. Expect it to reach Christmas with sales closer to platinum (300,000) than gold (100,000).



THE YEAR SO FAR... **TOP 20 COMPILATIONS**

1	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSICI 39	VARIOUS ARTISTS
2	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSICI 40	VARIOUS ARTISTS
3	FRESH HITS IN	VARIOUS ARTISTS
4	THE FULL MONTY	ORIGINAL SOUNDTR
5	NEW HITS 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS
8	BIG HITS 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS
7	THE IBIZA ANNUAL	VARIOUS ARTISTS
8	GREASE	ORIGINAL SOUNDTR
9	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSICI 38	WARIOUS ARTISTS
10	FANTASTIC 80'SI	VARIOUS ARTISTS
11	CLUBBER'S GUIDE TO IBIZA - JULES/TONG	VARIOUS ARTISTS
12	PETE TONG/BOY GEORGE - DANCE NATION 5	VARIOUS ARTISTS
13	DIANA PRINCESS OF WALES - TRIBUTE	VARIOUS ARTISTS
14	THE BEST. ANTHEMS. EVERI 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS
15	THE BEST SIXTIES SUMMER EVERI	VARIOUS ARTISTS
16	MIXED EMOTIONS II	VARIOUS ARTISTS
17	KISS IN IBIZA 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS
18	BEST DANCE ALBUM IN THE WORLD EVERI	B VARIOUS ARTISTS
19	IN THE MIX 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS
20	TOP OF THE POPS 1938 - VOLUME 1	VARIOUS ARTISTS

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FMINIRGIN/POLYGRAM EMINIBUNIPOLYGRAM WARNER/DLOBAL/SONYTY BCA VICTOR WARNER/GLOBAL/SON/TA WARNER/GLOBAU/SONYTV MUNISTRY OF SOUND POLYDOR EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM COLUMBIA MINISTRY OF SOUND MINISTRY OF SOUND DIANA MEMORIAL FUND VIRGIN/EMI MIRGINIEM POLYGRAM TV POLYGRAM TV VIRGINIEM VIRGINEM POLYGRAM TV

TOP	20 ALBUMS
	ROBBIE WILLIAMS
	THE VERVE
	CORRS
	CELINE DION
	JAMES HORNER
	ALL SAINTS
	LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY
	MADONNA

THE YEAR SO FAR...

BOYZONE CATATONIA NATALIE IMBRUGLIA MANIC STREET PREACHERS

SAVACE CARDEN WHITE ON BLONDE MAVERICK A STRIKE THIS IS WY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS MEZZANINE

SIMPLY RED SAVAGE GARDEN SPICE GIRLS IAMES ADUA FINLEY DUAYE MASSIVE ATTACK

To hear the charts not-off-the-press on Monday merning, call 0891 505291 (artist albums)/0891 505289 (compilations), Calls cost 50p/min 🕿

CHRYSALIS

ATI ANTIC

LONDON

WILD CARD

MANFRICK

POLYDOR

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COLUMBIA

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21 NOVEMBER 19

er)	Label/CD (Distributor) Cass/Vinyl

	NEV	2	LAUIES & GENTLEMEN - THE BEST UP * Epistemeter George Michael (Michael/Douglas/Welden) 4917054-
2	1	2	THE BEST OF 1980-1990 & B-SIDES * Island CIDDU 211 (F) U2 (Encit ancis/Lifywhite/Iovine/U2/Xavier) -/-
3	2	2	THE MASTERPLAN ★ Creation CRECD 241 (3MV/V) Oasis (Morris/Gallagher) CCRE 241/CRELP 241
4	5	2	THE BEST OF M People/BMG 74321627582 (BMG) M People (M People) 74321613874(-
5	8	51	TALK ON CORNERS *4 Adamic 7567809172/7567809174- (W) The Corra (Lieber/Foster/Corr/Pearson/Knawlos/Steinberg/Ballard)
6	4		I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU ★ Chrysalis 4978372 (E) Robbie Williams (Chambers/Power) 6978374/-
7	NEV	V	MODERN CLASSICS - THE GREATEST HITS Island COD 8880 (F) Paol Weller (Lynch/Weller) ICT 8080 (LPSD 8080
8	-		THE BEST OF 1980-1990 Island CIDU 211 (F) U2 (Enaltanois/Liftywhite/for/ine/U2/Xavier) UC 211/U 211
9	35		ONE NIGHT ONLY Polydor 5592202 (F) Bee Gess (Bee Gess) 5592204-
0	3	2	SUPPOSED FORMER INFATUATION JUNKIE * Marchite Statistics (Ballard/Morissetto) 5062470544/5082470941
1	6	5	QUENCH * GolDiscs/Mercury 5381792 (F) The Beauful South (Kelty/Heston) 5381664/5381661
12	7		HITS * Virgin CDV 2870 (E) Phil Coline (Various) TCV 2870
-	10	_	THE BEST OF - THE STAR AND WISEMAN * PolyCom TV 5552982(F) Ladyseith Black Mambazo (Shabalala/Sharbol/Abrahams) 5552984/-
-	9		B'Witched (Hedges) 4917044/-
15		_	GREATEST EMI 4952352 (E) Duran Duran (Various) 4552344- WHERE WE BELONG ★ 2 Polydor 5552002/5592004/- (F)
16	-		Seyrore Lipson/Sucker/RepresiblactHodges/MagnassanKireager(Absolver) THE MOVIES PolyGram TV 5592412 (F)
1	19	3	Micheel Ball (Wright) 5552414/-
8	14	2	THE VERY BEST OF Wrgin(Sony TV CDV 2868/TCV 2868/TEV New Lost Rendges/Solonon/New Lost Lincols Nachar/Solonof Schullered SONGS FROM (ALLY MCREAL) Example (2011)202(2011)
9	12	ĩ	Next Let PerdyacSisterio Meet Lot Lincols Next Televis Varian Gatos David SONGS FROM 'ALLY MCBEAL' Epic 4311242 (SM) Vonde Sciepard (Shepard) 4911244-
19 20	12	9	Hankaal Bootges Sarens Visa Last Jacks Hark Televis Virsan Girts Earl SONGS FROM 'ALLY MCBEAL' Epic 4311242 (SM) Vonde Stregard (Shirgard) 4311244 STEP ONE Jave Ebul 0519112(1519114)- (P) Says (Coham Pringey Wateman Virsanpan Stackars Work in Progress)
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26	20	4	HONEY TO THE B Innocent COSIN 1 (E) Billie (Marr/Page) SINMC 1/-	
27	N	w	R Jive 05173320517334/0517931 (P) RXely (Kely/G One/Contost_average/Tone & PokzBaanay/WastStar/e J)	
28	18	4	SULTANS OF SWING - THE VERY BEST OF Variago 5586582 (F) Dire Straits (Kneptle:/Variaus) 5586584/	
29	17	4	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY Skin: BRASSIC 11CD (3M/UP) Fetboy Slim (Fetboy Slim) BRASSIC 11MC/BRASSIC 11UP	
30	21	37	SAVAGE GARDEN *2 Columbia 4871612 (SM) Savage Garden (Fisher) 4871614-	
31	23	9	THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS * Epic 4917039 (SM) Marric Street Preachers (Hedges/Erings) 4917034(4917031	
32	22	3	MY UFE: THE GREATEST HITS Columbia COL 4910902 (SM) Julio Iglesias (Hammond/Arcusa) COL 4910904-	
33	25	2	THESE ARE SPECIAL TIMES C Epic 4927302 (SM) Celine Dion (Foster/Weke/Adams/Kel/y) 4927304-	
34	27	54	LIFE THRU A LENS ★5 Chryselis CDCHR 6127 (E) Robbie Williams (Chambers/Power) TCCHR 6127/-	
35	R	-	VERY BEST OF THE BEE GEES ★3 Polydor 8473392 (F) Bee Gees (Gibb/Gibb/Various) 8473394-	
36	28	43	TITANIC (OST) ★3 Sony Classical SK 63213 (SM) James Horner (Horner/Franglion) ST 63213/-	
37	N	w	WHO CARES A LOT? - THE GREATEST HITS Stach 5500572 (F) Faith No More (WellicesFaith No Mane/Seald/Neoimann/Monto/Borlin/Singel) -/-	
38	45	52	Coline Dise (Martin/Foster/Wake/Alanasie/(Homen/Hart) 4831584/-	
39	37	21	FIVE RCA 74321589762/74321589764- (BMG) Eve (Vanous)	
40	54	2	LESLEY GARRETT BBC/BMG Conifer 75605513382 (BMG) Lesley Garrett (Thomas) 75605513384/-	
41	33	58	POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN *4 Wild Card/Polydor (F) Lighthouse Family (Peden) 5395162/5395164/-	
42	29	51	LEFT OF THE MIDDLE *3 BCA 74321571382 (BMG) Natale Intrugia (Therrally Goldenberg/Wright Branleewce) 74321571384	
43	25		ONE WAY OF LIFE - BEST OF China/Jive 0522152 (P) Levellers (Scott/Kelly/Various) 0521734/-	4
44	49	2	GHETTO SUPASTAR Columbia 4914892 (SM) Pras (Pros/Wyclef) 4914894 4914891	
45	N		GREATEST HITS Global Television RADCD 110 (BMG) Arethe Franklin (Werder/Wirlder/Wirlows) RADMC 110/-	
46	30		LOVE SONGS Riz R2BCD 715 (BMG/F) Daniel O'Donnell (Byan) R2BLC 715/-	
47	38	5	LABOUR OF LOVE III O DEP International DEPCD 18 (E) UB40 (UB40/Amstrong/Canaan) CADEP 18/-	4
48	31	11	BACK TO TITANIC Sorry Classical SK 60691 (SM) James Horner (Harner/Bester/Meter/Meder/Manasief) ST 60/67/-	
49	24	2	MUTATIONS Geffen GED 25184 (BMG) Back (Godrich/Hansen) GEC 25184/-	
50	18	W	TRACKS Columbia 48250521-1- (SM) Brace Springsteen Landaufierment/NortelEnerousToringateen/Ven Zeint ProteinStram	
51	32	4	ON A DAY LIKE TODAY A&M/Mercury 5410162 (F) Bryan Adams (Adams/Thornalley/Rock) 5410164/-	

THE OFFICIAL UK ALBUM CHART

	52	35	41	Cacatonia (Tommy D/Catatonia)	inco Y Negro 3984208342 (W) 3984208344/3984268341
•	53	51	17	DESIRELESS Eagle-Eye Charry (Kviman/Eagle-Eye Ch	Polydor 5372252 (F) erry(Ahland) 5372264(-
4	54	57	37	RAY OF LIGHT ★3 M Madawa (Madorma/DrobDe Vites Leonard)	Aavarick \$362468472 (W) 3382468474/5362488471
	55	39	7	THE MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL Lauryn Hill O	Columbia 4858432 (SM) 4858434/4856431
	56	44	51	ALL SAINTS *5 All Saints (Various)	London 5560172 (F) 5560174-
	57	34	4	REAL AS I WANNA BE Cliff Richard (Wolf)	EMI 4979512 (E) 4974064/-
	58	42	27	VERSION 2.0 * Mushro Garbage (Garbage)	om MUSH 29CD (3MV/P) MUSH 29MC/MUSH 29LP
	59	53	37		thrile UMD 80458 (BMG) UMC 80456/-
	60	56	2	VERY BEST OF - THE FIRST 40 YEARS Hank Marvin & The Shadows (Various)	PolyGram TV 5552112 (F) 5552114/-
	61	50	8	THE GLOBE SESSIONS	A&M/Polydor 5409742 (F) 5409744/-
	62	45	55	URBAN HYMNS *7 The Verve (Youth/The Verve/Potter)	Hot/Virgin CDHUT 45 (E) HUTMC 45/HUTLP 45
	63	47	12		Chrysalis 4974830 (E)
	64	41	3	WAN DEAT OF DEAL & WHO & THE OF STREET	
	65	N	w	ON EAGLE'S WINGS	Atlantic 7567830752 (W)
	66	4B	4	GRAN TURISMO The Cardigans (Johansson)	Stockholm 5590812 (F)
	67	69	17		us Music Int FMCD 1 (V)
	68	12	23	NEURO O A VINEURO O	Atlantic 7567830392 (W) 756783094/75638031
4	69	13	41	FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN The Corrs (Foster/Corr)	Atlantic 7567926122 (V/) 7567926124/-
	70	43	2	MEDICINE 4 MY PAIN	Cooltempo 8/231602 (E) 8/231604/1223601
	71	40	2	PNYC Portishead (Portishead)	Go.Beat 5594462 (F)
	72	N	w		rista 07822190332 (BMG) 07822190334-
	73	74	34	THE BEST OF *	Fontana 5581732 (F) 5369384
	74	R	E	GOLD - GREATEST HITS *3 Abba (Andersson) Ukaseus/Anderson)	Polydor 5170072 (F) 51700745170071
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2	2	3	HUGE HITS 1998 warner.exp/Global TV/Sony TV M00000 62/M00000 62/- (SM)	13 12
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18		SASHA - SAN FRANCISCO Global Underground GU (09000x/GU 00917/+ (SRD)
19	11 2	FANTASTIC '80S! - 3 Columbia SONYTV 57CD/SONYTV 57MC/- (SM)
20	17 2	SIMPLY THE BEST RADIO HITS

ARTISTS A-Z

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27/1	5	JUNES	13
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This	Last	Talo	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1	WELCOME TO THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH	The Beautiful South	Gol Discs AGOCD16 (F)
2	4	TRACY CHAPMAN	Tracy Chapman	Elektra EKT44CD (W)
3	2	NU-CLEAR SOUNDS	Ash	Infectious INFECT 060MC (V)
4	6	SECOND COMING	Stone Roses	Getten GED 24563 (BMG)
5	5	APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION	Guns N' Roses	Getten GEF 24148 (BMG)
6	12	BROTHERS IN ARMS	Dire Straits	Vertige 8244992 (F)
7	3	THE THREE E.P.'S	Beta Band, The	Regal 4973852 (V)
â	0300	IT'S MY LIFE	Sash1	Telstar MULTYCD1 (W)
9	1	SCREAMADELICA	Primal Scream	Creation CRECD 075 (3MV/V)
10	000	PARADISE	Bob Sinclarr	East West 3984246862 (W)
11	8	ATTACK OF THE GREY LANTERN	Mansun	Parlophone CDPCS 7387 (E)
12	11	DOOKIE	Green Day	Reprise 5362455292 (W)
13	14	RESERVOIR DOGS	Original Soundtrack	MCA MCD 10793 (BMG)
14	10	REPUBLICA	Republica	Decenstruction 74321410522 (BMG)
15	18	THE HOLY BIBLE	Manic Street Preachers	Epic 4774212 (SM)
16	9	READING, WRITING & ARITHMETIC	The Sundays	Parlophone CDPCS 7378 (E)
17	17	TRANSFORMER	Lou Reed	RCA ND83806 (BMG)
18	19	BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER	Simon And Garfunkel	Columbia 4624682 (SM)
19	1111	RECKLESS	Bryan Adams	A&M 3950132 (F)
20	13	THE DOCK OF THE BAY	Otis Redding	Atlantic 9548317092 (W)
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		D.	JUGEI	
This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)

1	3	CHRISTMAS PARTY	Jive Bonny & The Mastermicce	
2	6	THE WHITE CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Various	Crimson CRIMCD 20 (EUK)
3	12.00	REACT TEST NINE	Various	React REACTCD 145 (V)
4	10	NON-STOP SING-A-LONG CHRISTMAS PARTY	Various	Crimson CRIMCD 06 (EUK)
5	62	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS + SONGS	Various	Crimson CRIMCD09 (EUK)
6	4	\$8.2	Various Moving	Shadow ASHADOW982CD (SRD)
7	14	ULTIMATE NON-STOP CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS.	Various	Crimson CRIMCD16 (EUK)
8		THE CHRISTMAS CAROLS ALBUM	Guildlord Cathedral Choir	Crimson CRIMCD 01 (EUK)
9	7	BEAUTY & THE BEAST - ENCHANTED CHRISTINAS (OST)	Various	Watt Disney WD 609482 (F)
10	NUM	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY	Vancus	Crimson CRIMCD84 (EUK)
0	CIN			

COUNTRY

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Dolly Parton Maugricks Daniel O'Donnell Garth Brooks Lyle Lovett Eaith Hill LoAnn Rimes **Emminu Harris** Don Williams Charlie Landsborough Garth Brooks Shania Twain

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ROCK

Alison Monter

This	Last	Tabe	Artist
1	HOW.	WHO CARES A LOT - GREATEST HITS	Faith No Mo
2	10747	WHO CARES A LOT - GREATEST HITS	Faith No Mo
3	2	GREATEST HITS I & II	Queen
4	1	A LITTLE SOUTH OF SANITY	Aerosmith
5	4	NEVERMIND	Nirvana
6	3	BEUNION	Black Sabbe
7	5	OUT IN THE FIELDS - THE VERY BEST OF	Gary Moore
8	6	VERY BEST OF	Deep Purple
9	9	ADORE	The Smashi
10	10	TRAGIC KINGDOM	No Doubt
01	IN		

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HEY NOW NOW

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INDEPENDENT GLES SIN

ide	Artist	Label (distributor)
HE BARTENDER AND THE THIEF	Stereophonics	V2 VVR 5004653 (3MV/P)
EARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	Steps	Jive (619142 (P)
F YOU BUY THIS RECORD	The Tamperer feat. Maya	Pepper (630132 (P)
VOULD YOU?	Touch & Go	V2 VVR 5003083 (3MV/P)
RAY	Tina Cousins	Jive 0519162 (P)
OME ALONE	B Kelly feat. Keith Murray	Jive 0522392 (P)
ELL ME MA	Sham Rock	Jive 0522352 (P)
ANGSTER TRIPPIN	Fatboy Stim	Skint SKINT 39CD (3MV/P)
ODSPEED	BT Retais	ance Music RENCD 002 (ADD)
EX ON THE BEACH	T-Spoon	Control/Edel 0042395 CON (P)
D LOVE ONCE AGAIN	Solid Harmonie	Jive 0522302 (P)
RUSH	Jenniler Paige	EAR 0039425 ERE (P)
URODISCO	Bis	Winia WIJ SECD (VI
MAGE OF YOU	Red Snasper	Warp WAP 111CD (V)
OU GOT ME	Christian Fry Me	shroom MUSH 33CDS (3MV/P)
ODDESS ON A HIWAY	Mercury Rev	V2 VVR 5003323 (3MV/P)
NE FOR SORROW	Steps	Jive 0519032 (P)
NARNING	Freestylers feat, Navigator	Freskanova FND 14 (3MV/P)
TIME TO MOVE ON	Sperkle	Jive 0522032 (P)
ALRIGHT	Club 89 featuring Suzanne Palmon	
CIM		

REM Fasthal INDEPEND ENT ALBUMS

Swirl 360

Ash

Grandaddy

Semisorio

Rhistones

Hole

Dasis

Electrasy

Tin Star

Fun Lown' Criminals

Bare Naked Ladies

Fuzz Townsend Jeat Michael

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This	Last	Tele
1	1	THE MASTERPLAN
2	MEW	R
3	2	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY
4	5	STEP ONE
5	3	ONE WAY OF LIFE - BEST OF
6	4	VERSION 2.0
7	6	BIG CALM
8	10	WORD GETS AROUND
9	7	THE SINGLES 86>98
10	12	JANE McDONALD
11	11	DESERTER'S SONGS
12	8	NU-CLEAR SOUNDS
13	15	SONGBIRD
14	9	THE SINGLES 81>85
15	13	PSYENCE FICTION
16	19	MELTING POT
17	17	JURASSIC 5
18	NOV	GREATEST WIND UPS
19	R	FIN DE SIECLE
20	16	SONGS FROM SUN STREET
01	CIN	

Artist **BKelly** Fatboy Slim Stens Levelers Garbage Morcheeba Steceophonics Densche Mode Jane McDonald Mercury Rev Ach Eve Cassidy Depeche Mode UNKLE The Charlatans Jurassic 5 Simon Logan The Divine Cornedy

The Sew Doctors

Creation CRECD 241 (3MV/V) Jive 0517932 (P) Skint BRASSIC 11CD (3MV/P) Jissa 0519112 (PI China Llive (622152 (P) Mushroom MUSH 29CD (3MV/P) Indochina ZEN 017CDX (P) V2 VVR 1000/38 (3MV/P) Mute CDMUTEL 5 (V) Focus Music Int FMCD 1 (V) V2 VVR 1003792 (3MV/P) Infectious INFECT GOCD (V) Blix Street G 210045 (HOT) Mute LCDMUTEL 1 (V Mp Wax MW 085CDS (V) Beggars Banquet BBQCD 198 (V) Pan PAN 015COI (V) Radio Aire COAIRE1 () Setanta SETCDL 057 (V) Shamtown SAWDOC 006CD (P)

MUSIC WEEK 21 NOVEMBER 1998

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THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS SPECIALIS . A 21 NOVEMBER 1998

COUNTRY REPORT

by IAN NICOLSON

here'll be no more easy weeks for 1998's summer breakthroughs The Mayericks (MCA), or even autumn's Daniel O'Donnell (Ritz). Next week's figures will be dominated by the release of EMI's Garth Double Live on November 17 (see box), and the 50% slip in O'Donnell's sales this week (from 33 000 to16 300) heralde a strong competitor. These two very different artists' markets overlap in the UK, and Ritz has done well to notch up four week's sales before the Brooks campaign opens. In the meantime, Garth's 1997 Sev album has snuck back into the Top 10 on anticination alone



The chart also highlights three newer

November UK live dates and her Brooks

support role have beloed her summer

album Where Your Road Leads (MCA)

which went playist-fishing in Nashville

country crossover acts

again to find Faith Hill's infectious This

Kiss single - have proved once more that

mainstream radio play is crucial to hopeful

The success of This Kiss - which has

lifted 1998's still import-only Faith album

bounce back to number six (1.000-plus

units sold this week), while Capital Radio -

artists who may yet show up the heavyweights. Trisha Yearwood's

As he flew back to the US from Ireland on Sunday there must have been be a smile of relief as well as delight on Garth Brooks' face. He'd just wound up a massive world tour by making good a promise with a week of record-breaking revival meetings at Belfast's King's Hall. And the shows seamlessly dovetailed with the launch of Garth Double Live on November 17 in the UK and the next day in the US Parlophone MD Keith Wozencroft predicts

> from nowhere to 12 in three weeks (and 3,300 copies), caught label Warner Bros by surprise, but a follow-up single, promotional tour, showcase and subsequent album are now in place for spring 1999.

Hill's roller-cogeter career - marriso early US success in 1993 and 1994 followed by throat problems in 1995, marriage to Tim McGraw in 1997, mr massive success and the arrival of the couple's first baby in mid-1998 undermined her UK debut in 1994 and Warners have decided to start all over again (with LeAnn and Shania in mind

This last Trie 000 1.4 2 00 00058660 TE LEFEL GOOD THINGS FOR YOU STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART REPEATED LOVE 6 CUTS LO OUR SUMMER SUITE 8 TOT ALL INFED WOULD YOU .3 10 5 HOMEALONE

DANCE

COUNTRY FACTFILF

25,000 UK sales by the end of November and more than 50,000 by Christmas. That's a mere skirmish set against the campaign for 7m sales to push Brooks' US total past 100m units, but good enough to stay competitive over here in the best year for country in the UK since the Seventies. Meanwhile, the four hours it took to move 37,000 tickets for the five King's Hall shows mean EMI Ireland's MD Willie Kavanagh can hope for a mainstream number one instead.

Meanwhile, Epic's Dixle Chicks have made the most capital from the success of this year's CMA Awards show - the BBC2 telecast peaked 24% up on 1997's figures - and the associated 20-title retail campaign. The CMA claims more than 80.000 sales for the featured artists (who did not include Shania) over the five-week campaign. The Dixie Chicks peformance at the awards was their most significant exposure to date in the UK, and held them in a comfortable fifth on this week's chart. moving more than 1,000 albums a week and outselling the previously reliable Lyle Lovett (MCA) by 2:1.

SINGLES R&R

Ţ	is	Last	Tida	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1		1	EACH TIME	E-17	Telstar COSTAS 3017 (W)
2		2	ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	Guermith Wyclef Jean feat, Pras Michel/Free	Dreamworks DRMT 22364 (BMG)
3		4	BLUE ANGELS	Pras	Ruffbouse 6666215 (SM)
4		3	DAYDREAMIN	Tatyana Ali	Epic 6665465 (SM)
5		6	GUESS I WAS A FOOL	Another Level Northw	estside 74321621202 (BMG)
6		7	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN'	Kele Le Roc 1st Avenue/W	fild Card/Polydor 5672812 (F)
7		5	HOME ALONE	R Kellyfeat, Keith Morray	Jive (622390 (P)
8		9	HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE	Dru Hill Isla	ind Black Music 12/S 725 (F)
9		8	LOVE LIKE THIS	Faith Evans Putf Dadd	y/Arista 74321825591 (BMG)
1	0 0	ere i	FASHION 98	Glamma Kid	WEA WEA 179CD (W)
1		10	WHAT'S YOUR SIGN	Desirbe	Sony S2 8885185 (SM)
1		11	TESTIFY	M People M Peop	In/BMG 74321621742 (8MG)
1			FRIEND OF MINE		and Black Music CID 723 (F)
	4 6		LONELINESS IS GONE	Nine Yards	Virgin VSCDT 1696 (E)
	5 6		5 MINUTES	Ur Mofeet, Missy Wisdemeanor' Elio	
1		13	TOP OF THE WORLD	Brandy Feat Mase	Atlantic AT00 45CD (W)
1		14	THE FIRST NIGHT		y/Arista 74321519342 (BMG)
1			DOO WOP (THAT THING)		use/Columbia 6965152 (SM)
1			SEXY CINDERELLA		Cooltempa CDC00LS 340 (E)
2			SHE'S GONE	Matthew Marsden feat. Destiny's Child	
2			FINALLY FOUND		enue/Mercary HNZCD 1 (F)
2		18	TIME TO MOVE ON	Sparkle	Jive 0522030 (P)
2			THE BOY IS MINE	Brandy & Monica	Atlantic AT 0036T (W)
12			GHETTO SUPASTAR THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE	Pras Michel feat 008 & introducing MIA	Incerscope IND 95999 (BMIG)
2			WHATCHA GONE DO?	Link	Relativity 6666055 (SM)
2			I WANT YOU BACK	Melanie B Feat, Missy Bliott	Virgin VST1718 (E) firr FCDP 345 (F)
2			BELAX	Deetah	WEA WEA 192T (W)
2			REPUTATIONS (JUST BE GOOD TO ME)	Andrea Grant Mica Paris	Coshempo 12CCOL341 (E)
2			BLACK ANGEL	Mica Paris Jucassic S	Pan PAN 020(V)
з		28	CONCRETE SCHOOLYARD	Jurassic 5	Pan Pww uzu (v)

11 TO SUPRIZE PACKIDGE 1 20 I GOT SON IT 14 005 EVERYTHING IL NEED 20 DEGREES 19 16 14 ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST 17 4 ON THE TOP OF THE WORLD 10 PODY MOURN 20 24 MADAGASGA (D D N

SINGL	ES
Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
Marc Et Claude	Positiva 12TIV 104 (E)
BT	Renaissance Music REN12 002 (ADD)
Daddy's Fevourite	Go.Beat GOBX 12(F)
Doolally	Locked On/Citybeat LOX 104T (W)
ATGOC	Wonderboy/A&M WBOY 012 (F)
Ed Rush Optical Fierce	Prototype PR0 014 (VINYL)
Problem Kids	Paper PAP029 (V)
Air	Virgin VST 1702 (E)
Touch & Go	V2 VVR 5003086 (3MV/P)
R Kelly feat. Keith Murray	Jive 0522390 (P)
Mix Master Mike	Asphodel ASP 011812 (P)
Luriz	Virgin VCRT 41 (E)
NYC Live & Direct	Stip'n'slide SUIP 79 (V)
Jonny L featuring Silvah E	ullet XL Recordings XLT 103 (SRD)
Iseen with Wyclef Jean feat Pres	Michel, Free Dreamworks DEMT 22354 (EMG)
Diva Surprise featuring G	torgis Janes Positiva 12T/V 100 (E)
Boastie Boys	Grand Roya//Capitol 12CL 809 (E)
Art Of Trance	Platipus PLAT 43 (SRD)

DANCE ALBUMS

	AT H	R	B Kelly
		R00M 112	112
	ADR	LTJ BUKEM PRESENTS EARTH - VOLUME 3	Various
	ALM	ANOTHER LEVEL	Another Leve
	REAR	SASHA - SAN FRANCISCO	Various
	8	KEEP THE FAITH	Faith Evans
	1	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim
	5	MEDICINE 4 MY PAIN	Lynden David
	9	THE MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL	Lauryn Hill
	2	MAGNETIC	Janny L
2	IN		

Rob Crart Mideo (1987242

Video Collection VCE528

PatyGram Video 0587683

Universal GEP/38557 BMG Video 74321622533

Video Collection VC4177

Video Collection VC4135

Cinema Club V05713

Warner Brothers SJ61399

V1 431883

WI STORES 10 6

VVI 431843

Virgin VID3842

Game Entertainment GEG216

.... PolyGram Wifeo 0562123

Jive 0517931/0517934 (P Puff Daddy 74321618372 (BMG) Good Looking EARTHLP 003/- (V) Nonthwestside -/74321582414 (BMG) Global Underground -/GU 009T (SRD) Arista -/74321614574 (BMG) Skint BRASSIC 111P/BRASSIC 11MC (3MV/P) Cooltempo 8231601/8231604 (E) Columbia 4898431/4898434 (SM) XL Recordings XLLP 125/- (SRD)

VIDEO

ROROW HARDONIAN Michael Finting's Foot Of Fismes Wit (1995)

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST EXCANITED DURISTINGS Whit Desiry DOTORS

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15 13 FLUBBER

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3 DE BROOKSIDE - Friday 13

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Fox Video 0/545

MISMAUA \$157155

Variet Bone Value STSEP

Fox Video 4119M

Pathe P85295

For Video 2764S

Fax Video 2763S

Walt Disney E610853

PohGram Video 47384

PolyGram Video (0551/263

Columbia Trister CV724512V

PolyGram Video (1576)63

CIN. Compiled from data from a panel of independents and specialist multiples.

MUSIC VIDEO

-	_				
This	tası		I Cat No		
1	1		584523 16		HANSON Read To Albertane-Tour 1998
2	2	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING:Cats PolyGram Video	479943 17	13	LIVE CAST RECORDING:Les Miserables in Concert
3	101	VARIOUS ARTISTS: Hey Mr Producer! Video Collection	VC41-6 18	100	FAITH NO MORE: Who Cares A Lot-Greatest Hits
	3	CLIFF RICHARDABIN Anniversary Concert Video Collection	VC4147 19	30	BEE GEES:Live - One Night Only
÷	i	U2Postart PolyGram Video (17	MICHAEL FLATLEY:Lord Of The Dance
		VARIOUS ARTISTS Andrew Lloyd Webber-Delebration PolyGrem Video I		11	GUNS N' ROSES:Welcome To The Video
:	100			15	LESLEY GARRETTResley Garrett
			R7V77 23		CARRERAS/DOMINGO/PAVAROTTL3 Terrors-Paris 199
1	5	DAMIEL O DUNNELLIMANT DOTTONE A LINE SATS			FRANK SINATRAMY Way
3	9		240323 24		B0YZ0NESamething Else
10	6	ALANIS MORISSETTELLive Warner Music Vision / Con			BOYZONE Surrenning Else
	101	VARIOUS ARTISTS: Earnonn's Ireland - A Musical Journey Telstar Video TVET	631872 27	28	SPICE GIRLS Girl Prover1 - Live In Istanbul
12	7	BACKSTREET ROYS A Night Out With Jwe L	621822 24		
3	8	COOTED & ALLERIC content Wire & Came That Will Se leister Wileo			CLIFF RICHARD & CAST:Heathcliff
14	12	THE CORPERTING AT THE Pound Albert Hall Warner Masic Vision (36)			LED ZEPPELIN:Song Remains The Same
15	и	ALL SAINTS All Saints PolyGram Video	563783 30	1216	QUEEN.Box Set
		ALL WAITLAND VOID			

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MUSIC WEEK 21 NOVEMBER 1998

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BETTING ON A SCORE DRAW

Blockbuster soundtracks are providing a lucrative new line for the sheet music market. Yinka Adegoke reports

ast month's decision by the 100-year-old classical publisher, Boosey & Howkos, to dravelop its profile in film, advertising and television music by buying media music specialist, Big Picture Music, put the spotight on the increasing relevance of popular media in boosting stagnant printed music sales.

It has been another tough year for publishers of printed music, according to the latest figures from the Music Publishers Association. Sales of printed/sheet music in the calendar year 1997 barely outperformed inflation with a 3% rise to £42.8m from £41.6m.

But the fact that 1998 is already promising better returns is in part due to a shift in focus by those publishers who are beginning to concentrate as much on media music – and in particular music from blockbuster movies – as they are on folios based on albums by hit rock and pop acts based on albums by hit rock and pop acts based on albums by being on the spice faits, which have traditionally been among their best sellers.

Not content with hitting the top of the box office, video, albums and singles charts, Titanic has also spawned the sheet music success of the year. My

success of the year. My Heart Will Go Arcomposed and written for the Titalian soundback by James Homer and seller for publisher MM. While Cellum bloms table recording of the block much draw has provide the block much draw has provide the block much draw any standards bit-hold be regreted as a runaway success. At the same time, the soundtrack, which is also published by MM, soundtrack, which is also published by MM.

The numbers are especially impressive when compared with typical sales figures for the best-selling album folios. Indeed, for anything other than top pop acts or perennial rock era names such as The Beatles or Led Zeppelin, sheet music publishers consider sales in the region of 10,000 units to be the cause for salebration

IMP's head of publishing Mark Mumford says that 1998 has been a bumper year for film soundrasek books. "Titanic has obviously broken a lot of records, especially when you consider it is predominantly a modern classical score," he says. " But The Full Monty has done very well, too. So far we've sold more than 6,000 copies of that one."

¹¹MP has not been the only publisher to benefit from the success of a movie. Classical music specialist Boosey & Hawkes witnessed a tremendous leap in the safes of the Russian composer Rachimanino's printed catalogue thanks to the box office success of Shine, a film about David Helfgott, the gifted but troubled plenist with an overpowering passion for the Russian

'We are always looking for the chance to do film collections and scores. They now account for around 10% of all our sheet music sales' – Chris Butler

composer's work.

Stephen Richards, director of printed sales at Boosey & Hawkes, recalls how the company anticipated a high level of consumer interest since the music itself played such a key role in the movie's plot. Buit also made sure it had specially customised product ready to meet the expected demand

We knew that the original piece is a particularly difficult one for anybody who is not a virtuoso, 'he says.' So we created a simpler score which was still true to the original.' Bocsey & Hawkes' simplified Rachmaninov No.3 Piano & Symphony concerto sold more than 8,000 copies in 1997, and remains one of its best performing titles.

MY HEART WILL GO ON

Music Salos has not been left aut of the provise and Y) benomenon. According to general manager Chris Butter, it is continuing to profit from some of Hollywood's biggest releases. These include some from blockbarts. Jurasis: Park, Saving Private Ryan and Schuldraf's List. Winkin were all composed by John Williams. During the final quarter of 1998, Music Sales is hooging fore sepectally strong sales from the successful British movie, Lock, Stock And Two Shoning Barrefs.

We've found that soundtrack albums which are basically the actual score to the film movie can be as successful as those which are made up of a mixture of brand new and classic pop titles," says Butler, who points to the 10,000 units sold of the Four Weddings and A Funeral soundtrack

"We are always looking for the chance to do film collections and scores," he

says. "They now account for around 10% of all our sheet music sales." All the publishers have

All the publishers have recognised the extent to which music with a high media profile can help buffer stagnant pop-related sales.

"People want to play music that they are familiar with," says Mumford, "They don't worry about where it came from originally." Consequently many sheet music

Decision of the second second

Animals and From Russia With Love.

Of course, in many cases, sales are made to fans and collectors who want sheet music books either as souvenirs or to complete collections which already consist of CDs, videos, posters and other related merchandise. So special efforts are made to include stills and biographies alongside the scores.

Screen tested: Titanic and The Full Monty

sheet m

At the same time Boosey & Hawkes has stepped up its efforts to win film and TV commissions for the living composers on its roster, such as Peter Maxwell Davies and Harrison Birtwistle.

"We have a media division now actively looking for film scores for the composers we represent," says Richards.

The veteran publisher underlined its renewed commitment to media music in October when It snapped up Big Picture Music, the media music specialist which handles fim themes, TV tunes and advertising jingles.

The deal powers Big Picture's studios in London's Wardour St, its stable of a dozen composers and a back catalogue which includes the theme from A Bridge Over The River Kwai and successful TV series Soldier, Soldier.

"Media is likely to be one of the biggest growth areas in the music industry over the next 10 years and we look forward to being a significant player in this field," says Trevo Glover, managing director of Boosey & Hawkos Publishing.

It's not so long ago that sheet music publishers were bemoaning the fact that he V had taken the place of the plano in the family home. Now, it would appear, the plano – or at least the electronic keyboard at least – is striking back.

netting new customers

The announcement last month that sheet music publisher Music Sales had been nominated as finalist for the FT Website Of The Year (alongside the likes of Kodak and British Airways) served to highlight the growing importance of the net to sheet music retailing.

Print, by its very nature, has always lent itself to mail order so it is perhaps no surplise that the net is emerging as a dynamic means of building up a new consumer sales base.

consumer sales base. Yes sheet music companies, the internet can be used in two ways. The simplest is als a more advanced sum of mail order which enables customers to yacc orders via e-mail and through wobsites rather than by post or telepinon. Otherwise a would be purchaser can listen to clips of the music, place the order, pay for it with a credit card in real time and download the sheet music on to his or her own terminal at home before printing it out.

direct.com (pictured), the website jointly run by the UK's Music Sales and its US partner Hai Leonard,

has been one of the most successful outlets for internet sheet music sales. The site currently distributes 2,000 song titles.

According to project managers Andrew Manson and Alistair McLeish, the turnover has trebled since its launch in April this year. It now has on average 750-1,000 hits by fresh visitors everyday.

But despite this rapid growth, the internet still only accounts for 1% of Music Sales' turnover.

"Internet sales are growing but it will be a long time before they threaten, let alone replace, High Street sales," says Manson. IMP's head of publishing Mark Mumford does not believe the internet will affect traditional retail outlet sales either. "At present we regard the net as a great way to keep poople informed about sheet music in general," he says.

Boosey & Hawkes director for printed sales Stephen Richards agrees with this assessment and reports that the company has no immediate plans to use the net for retail.

"The internet is more important to us as a marketing tool," he says. "There is a shortage of classical music shops that sell printed music scores both in the UK and round the world so we prefer to use it to make people aware of what we have in our catalogue, what it costs and how they can order it from us." he says.

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THE FULL MONTY

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME THAT YOU GOT MORE OUT OF PRINTED MUSIC? Contact us now and find out how your printed music business can Really achieve success after success, after success...





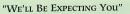














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NEW RELEASES

ALBUMS

RELEASES FOR 23 NOV-29 NOV. 1998: 303 • YEAR TO DATE: 13,068

ALBUMS	RELEASE	5 FUR 23 NUV-29 NUV, 1990. 303 • TEAR TO B	
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MUSIC WEEK 21 NOVEMBER 1998

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RELEASES FOR 23 NOV-29 NOV. 1998: 154 • YEAR TO DATE: 6.985

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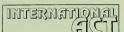
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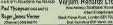
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MUSIC WEEK NOVEMBER 21ST 1998

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FRONTLINE

RETAIL FOCUS: RECKLESS RECORDS RECENTLY SOLD RABITLES

by Karen Fau:

econdhand specialist Reckless Records has long been a landmark in London's 3 Soho and has just added another store a few doors down in bustling Berwick Street. The original store, which has been there since the mid-Eighties, has retained all the soul and dance stock and is primarily trading in viryl, while the new one will concentrate on CDs as well as selling some rock and lazz vinyl," says Angus Funston, assistant manager at Reckless Records' oldest store in Islington. "So far, the new shop has exceeded expectations. Reckless is very well known and it is where all the D is and tourists head for.

The indie chain currently operates seven stores with three in London and four in the US. Stock comprises mainly CDs and vinyl that people bring in off the street to sell. while rarities and collections are often offered by people responding to its advertisements in Record Collector and various dance magazines. "Sometimes good things come to us by word of mouth,' says Funston. 'It is not unusual for records to sell between £60 and £70, although the value



Reckless Records: secondhand range and rarities enhance the chain's reputation

can change very quickly depending on collectibility at any given time." At the store in Upper Street, Islington,

which has been in business since 1982. Function reports that most of the business is in standard, across-the-board releases.

"There is a big demand for new CDs, which are effectively as good as new, and we generally sell these for £9.99," he says. "As far as pricing goes, we grade CDs according to how recently they were released and, as we are fully computerised, it is very easy to keep

The Who - Sell Out (mo

avage Resurrection -

from 1968) £60

from 1967 with poster) £250

Resurrection (psychedelic LP

Bob Marley - Exodus (seven-inch acetate) £60

Nirvana - Love Buzz (first seven-inch from 1988 with numbered

picture sleeve) £450 Other rarities most in demand: Beatles original mono LPs,

James Brown, Tim Buckley, Stereolab, Garbage, original Sixties psychedelic LPs and

reggae LPs and seven inches.

Savada

ave charged for an item is the past and keep our pricing consistent

The 12-inch department provides one of the fastest turnovers of stock, while in the rock area there is huge demand for bands such as Led Zenpelin. Pink Floyd, Nirvana and the Sex Pistols. In the soul and dance department, the most frequently requested tems include Kelly Price's Soul Of A Woman CD, and I Feel Good Things For You by Daddy's Favourite and Doolally's Straight From The Meart on 12 inch

Reckless Records' website currently advertises 7,000 CDs and an equivalent number of rarities and vinyl. While the Islington store's black-and-white sign is a familiar sight in Upper Street, the decor inside is currently undergoing a face-lift "Everything is displayed to make it easy for customers to find what they want," says Funston, "In the past, secondhand stores have often been dark and dingy, and half the fun has been rummaging through higgledy piggledy racks. However, the style of ondhand buying has changed and people don't want that kind of shop any more.

IN-STORE THIS WEEK

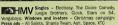
Windows - two CDs for £22, Michael Andys Records Ball, All Time Greatest Movie Songs: Instore and press ads -- Monty Python, Miles Davis, Grand Tour Of Britain, Afghan Whigs, Hard Floor, Dreamscape, Carols From Ampleforth, Roberto Alagna/Angela Georghiu: TV ads Michael Bali (Channel Four North), All Time Great Movie Songs, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Simply The Best Classical Anthems (Anglia), Michael Ball (Tyne Tees)

Singles - Clock, Celine Dion & R Kelly, The Corrs, Arrola, Sashi, Five, Vengaboya, Shania Twain; Albums - Mariah Carey, Elaine Palge, Whitney Houston, Tony Bennett, Seal, E-17 Cream Anthems, Best 90s Album In The World... Ever, Biggest 80s Hits In The World... Ever: Video - Friends, U2



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

FARRINGDONS Windows - autumn sale, Verdi Experience, Angelic Voices, Martha Argerich, Jan Bostridge: In-store - sale, Musique D'Abord, Titanic



Singles - Sashi, Shania Twain; Album MENZIES Mariah Carey; Windows - Mariah Carey, All Time Greatest Love Songs 3

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

*NOW. Singles - Vengaboys, Kavana, Sashi, Celine Dion & R Kelly, The Corra; Albums -Mariah Carey, Scal, TOTP 3, All Time Greatest Love Songs 3. Kiss Anthems 98. Best 90s Album In The World... Ever, E-17. Elaine Paige, Whitney Houston; Video - Brookside Emmerdale, Men Behaving Badly Big Christmas Box, Robbie Williams Live In Your Living Room, Boogle Nights

OUT DICE Windows - Another Level, Mariah. Carey, The Mavericks, George Michael, Cher; Instore - George Michael, Kiss Anthems 98, Des'ree, Paul Weller: TV ads - Another Level, Cher (satellite): Radio ads - Method Man, Lynden David Hall; Press ads - All Time Greatest Love, TOTP 3, Cream Anthems, XTC, One World

Singles - Vengaboys, The Corrs, Lo-Fidelity Allstars, Jungle Brothers: Windows -Whitney Houston, Paul Weller, Jewel, Seal, Paul Van Dvk, We Love You: In-store - We Love You,

Metalheadz, video sale: Press ads - Tony Bennett, Eagle-Eve Cherry, Paul Van Dyk, We Love You, Jewel

Singles - The Corrs, Sashi, Celine Dion & R Kelly, Five, The Divine Comedy, Shania Twain; Windows - Natalle Imbruglia, Tony Bennett, Mariah Carey, E-17, Tomorrow Never Dies; In-store -Metallica, Now! 41, boxed sets for £9.99, three CDs for £22

WHSMITH singles - Shania Twain, Sashi: Album Mariah Carey; Windows - Mariah Carey, All Time Greatest Love Songs 3

WOOLWORTHS Singles - Clock, Sash!: Album - E17; In-store - Mariah Carey, Kiss Anthems 98, George Michael; TV ads - George Michael, Steps, Culture Club; Press ads -South Park, Mariah Carey, Celine Dion & R Kelly, The Corrs



BEHIND THE COUNTER

MALCOLM WHITE, Seedee Jons, St Helier, Jersey

usiness has been great since we re-Blocated last May. Our new premises occupy the whole corner of a street and people can see us from a distance. There are more banks and shops in this part of town, which means that there are always lots of people around.

There was a slight drop in sales after the tourist season ended, but Christmas has started early this year. Compared to this time last year, business is probably up by about 50% and there seems to be better product around.

This week Robble Williams hasn't done quite as well as expected, although it should pick up when the TV advertising kicks in over Christmas. U2 and Oasls are currently running neck-and-neck on album sales, although Oasis are looking as if they will slightly have the edge. Artists such as The Beautiful South, REM and Alanis Morissette all very steady for us at the moment

There are some good deals around on boxed sets and we're expecting to shift quite a few for the Velvet Underground, Style Council and The Who, among others.

We're still doing very well on the dance side. Essential Selection 98 is going to be big for us as is Global Underground: Sasha – San Francisco, A lot of our customers who are into rap have been asking about Method Man's Tical 2000, which came out on November 16. These days we're selling a lot more drum & bass and hard house, with anything on the Shock label doing well.

We've expanded our product line to include some hardware, such as record decks. We're also selling more videos and merchandising. We ordered in five boxes of South Park soft and they sold out in 24 hours.

Although life in the shop will get but sier and busier over the next few weeks, we'll be sticking with our existing staff of five people as they are all extremely fast on their fect."

DAN PRICE, Fullforce rep for the North West

W e're now heading for Christmas mayhem and business has definitely moved up a notch. I'm still seeing all my accounts on the same day and at the same time, but with more stock coming off the car and more to talk about on pre-sales. I'm spending a lot more time with each one. At this time of year, it is all about giving our customers the time and attention they need

The new Trafford Shopping Centre outside Manchester, which is now the biggest in Europe, is already attracting a lot of Christmas shoppers with HMV and Music Zone both phenomenally busy. Today I visited Quirks in Ormskirk and HMV and Virgin in Liverpool, which are all very busy and provide a good barometer of what's happening sales-wise.

Since going into the singles chart at number two, E-17 are still going strong and crossover prospects for their soon-to-bereleased album are looking very strong.

We will be very busy with singles over

Christmas. It is currently a joy to sell in the forthcoming single from Sash! - Move Mania - which should go top five. Lutricia McNeal's Greatest Love You'll Ever Know, which is a double A-side with A Child Is Born, is also looking hot

ON THE ROAD

A lot of the business is with the older end of the market during the autumn, and I'm currently carrying a very wide cross section of releases. Albums from Daniel O'Donnell Foster & Allen and Jane McDonald are all in big demand, while Ash and Paul Van Dyk are also steaming out. With this kind of variety there is no chance to feel stale with the product

Telstar's On the compilations front Greatest Hits 98, Best Of Dance 98 and Chris Tarrant's Party Album will all be strong performers and albums such as Soul Survivors 2 and Ultimate Country are still constant sellers. All in all, this is the strongest range for Christmas that I can remember.

DOOLEY

BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN, no doubt, has many words to sum up his feelings about this affort - plastered across London's West End and beyond last week - but, alas, "Wanted" may not be one of them. In fact, get a felt-tip pen and change two of the letters on the offending article and you could come up with a new word for the retail king to describe the nerpetrator of the dastardly deed. We calculate McLaughlin now has 500 reasons for revenge because that's how many of the offending items went up to mark his 30th anniversary with HMV. So. in case he has any sympathisers out there, pictures of Sony's GARY FARROW promising positions should be In unco sent off immediately to HMV's head office in Wardour Street. This one could run and run

Remember where you heard it:

Is it a sign of things to come that Nick Phillips is emerging from hibernation to get out and about a bit more? Dooley's most recent encounter was at Bertorelli's last week, where the former Universal man was conducting such a confidential lunch that he and his guest moved table when they realised they had been sat near Dooley Which major record company chairman has been heard musing "Do you think Michael Owen can sing?" ... The Met Bar must have been empty on Thursday night as what seemed like half of London decamped to Milan for shopping, drinking and, oh yes, a music awards show, at which UK acts excelled ... The MTV Awards proved good news for RCA MD Harry Magee (with winners Five and Natalie), stupendous news for EMI's Mark Collen (Robbie Williams has truly arrived) and inspiration perhaps for





London's Laurie Cokell (the spectacular performance by Germany's Rammstein) ...With everyone from Rob Dickins to the inscrutable Max Hole there, it was Gossip Central, but discretion (or a sore head) forbids us from revealing what was said ... Friday morning saw a breakneck rush to the airport to try to beat an airline strike scheduled for noon ... Pity those attendees including the Prodigy who had opted for the 11am to Stansted and ended up sitting on the tarmac for two hours... US execs at Universal and PolyGram labels have been kept sweating for two months while LA Times reporter Chuck Philips sniffed out what was in store for the soon-to-be-merged new music group. Although most dodged his calls, Philips' cunning knew no bounds and he recently doorstepped a music industry event to pick off the top brass as they emerged, their guards possibly lowered by a few stiff Martinis... He seems to

have done a good job too, John Kennedy claims he only found out the US structure the day before Philips published... After last year's turn of events, Simon Cowell, in the Christmas number one battle vet again this year. has clearly had enough of risking his shirt on another festive het. As he recalled with the Teletubbies record last year when he had two

and a half grand riding on it. "I had to make up my mind whether I made 10.000 guid or put the track out earlier and sell more records" ... But forget about the Christmas number one. What about 1999's first number one? There's serious talk of Warner releasing Prince's 1999 the Monday after Christmas, but maybe as just a radio promo, Is this because The Artist is also thinking of re-recording the track himself?...Sad to hear talk of winding up orders flying around...Infectious MD Korda Marshall may be close to dotting the i's and crossing the t's on a deal with Murdoch Jnr, but the heavyweight negotiations haven't quashed his appetite for globe trotting. He was off to catch Ash in Amsterdam last week before jetting to Mushroom's 10th birthday party in Oz - for the weekend...Sony Music's Great Marlborough Street HO turned into something akin to an episode of Ally McBeal last Tuesday when Vonda Shepard turned up to wow the crowds with a 25-minute performance...Which act praised by many after In The City is likely to sign with a US label after whipping up greater enthusiasm at CMJ in New York, where music executives are apparently more confident of the future of guitar bands than their UK counterparts?...Congratulations to East West boy band Ultra, who are capping a successful year which has seen three Top 30 hits in the UK with their debut album going gold in Italy and Indonesia ahead of its release over here



Dooley is pleased to see that members of the VIENNA BOYS CHOIR are just a bunch of normal kids after all. Currently calabrating the choir's 500th anniversary with a world tour which

stopped off in the UK last week, three of its members here prove that they are more than happy to sing for their supper. Their record label, PHILIPS CLASSICS, has just unveiled a CD collection called The Best Of The Vienna Boys' Choir especially for Christmas. Tragically it doesn't come with garile bread.



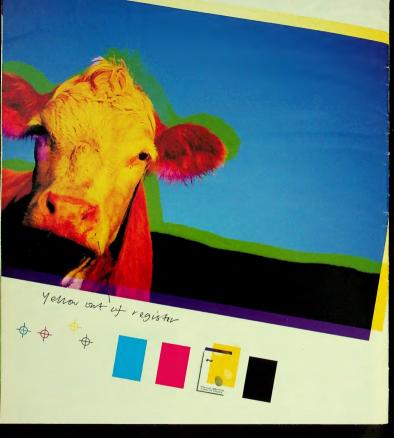
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