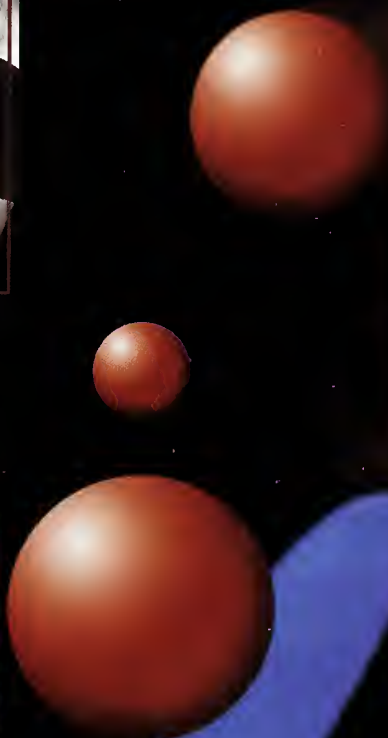
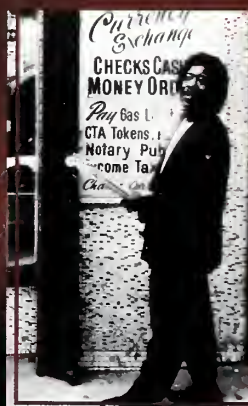


CASH BOX

THE ENTERTAINMENT TRADE MAGAZINE



red blooded blues



Inside:
Springsteen & Son Volt:
Two Faces Of Americana





THE ENTERTAINMENT TRADE MAGAZINE

NUMBER ONES

POP SINGLE

One Sweet Day
Mariah Carey
(Columbia)

URBAN SINGLE

Exhale (Shoop Shoop)
Whitney Houston
(Arista)

RAP SINGLE

Hey Lover
LL Cool J.
(Def Jam)

COUNTRY SINGLE

Tall, Tall Trees
Alan Jackson
(Arista)

POP ALBUM

Anthology I
The Beatles
(Apple/Capitol)

R&B ALBUM

R. Kelly
R. Kelly
(Jive)

JAZZ ALBUM

Breathless
Kenny G
(Arista)

COUNTRY ALBUM

Fresh Horses
Garth Brooks
(Capitol Nashville)

POSITIVE COUNTRY

Drawing Pictures
Brent Lamb
(Genesis)

Cover Story

Blood And The Blues

Blues artists since the inception of this unique American art form have sweat blood telling stories of the pain and suffering, and also the good times, that accompany one down the path of life. It is fitting then, that the PolyGram Group Distribution labels Hammer & Lace and Arsenal Records release *Red Blooded Blues*, a compilation album featuring some soulful music by a fine array of soulful artists—with the intent of raising consciousness about the debilitating disease hepatitis. Partnering with groups that deal in research and education about the disease, PolyGram hopes to raise money to benefit further exploration of treatments and ways to make people "Get Hip To Hepatitis." *Cash Box* contributor Susan Yannetti reports.

—see page 5

Twice The Americana

Bruce Springsteen is considered an icon in heartland rock 'n' roll. There's no doubt that he has epitomized the mainstream while honing a keen edge of public perception about important issues. He continues to establish that with his new Columbia Records album, *The Ghost Of Tom Joad*. Son Volt is relatively new to the arena of roots rock 'n' roll, but is also being hailed as purveyors of *Americana* rock with its Warner Bros. Records debut *Trace*. *Cash Box* pop writer Steve Baltin reviews the Springsteen album and his recent opening performance in Los Angeles of his solo tour, and also interviews Son Volt's Mike Heidorn.

—see pages 15 & 19

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CONTENTS

COLUMNS

East/West	4
The Rhythm & The Rhyme	11 & 12
Jazz Notes	14
Latin Lowdown	20

CHARTS

Top 100 Pop Singles	6
Top 100 Pop Albums	8
Top 100 Urban Single	10
Top 75 R&B Albums	11
Top 25 Rap Singles	12
Top 25 Jazz Albums	14
Top 15 Weekly Film Grosses	16
Top 100 Country Singles	23
Top 75 Country Albums	26
CMT Top 12 Video Countdown	27
Top 40 Positive Country Singles	29

DEPARTMENTS

Industry News	3
Pop Reviews	7, 9
Urban Album Reviews	11
Film & Books	16-18
Latin Reviews	20
UK	21
Country/Positive Country	23-29
Coin Machine	30

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Lead Story

New Exec Team named at MMEG; Boberg named Prexy at MCA Label

MEL LEWINTER AND ZACH HOROWITZ have been named the top lieutenants in the MCA Music Entertainment Group regime being established by newly-appointed chairman/CEO Doug Morris. Wasting little time establishing his

own braintrust, Morris has named Lewinter vice chairman and Horowitz president at MMEG. The MMEG chairman/CEO also has named Jay Boberg president of the MCA Records label.

The appointments come in the wake of the sudden resignation by Al Teller as MMEG chairman/CEO and the departure of Richard Palmese as president of the MCA label.

Commenting on the MMEG appointments, Morris said: "I am extremely pleased that I will be joined by Mel and Zach, who, I feel, are among the top executives in the music industry. I have worked closely with Mel for 17 years and have a deep respect for his ability to balance business acumen with artistic vision."



Mel Lewinter

Morris and Lewinter worked closely together at both the Atlantic Records Group and later at Warner Music U.S., where Lewinter worked for 25-years (most recently as president/COO) and where Morris was named chairman before being ousted by the now-departed Warner Music Group chairman Michael Fuchs. Lewinter joined Atlantic Records in 1970 as comptroller and in 1974 was promoted to vp/comptroller, later becoming sr. vp of the company. In 1990, Lewinter was named CFO/sr. vp of Atlantic and, a year later, was promoted to vice chairman of the Atlantic Group. He assumed the duties of exec vp of Warner Music U.S. in 1994 before his last appointment there.

"Over the years, Doug and I have formed a unique working relationship that is quite instinctive for both of us. I look forward to the challenge ahead and am delighted that I will be working with Zach and continuing my association with Doug at MCA."

About Horowitz, Morris said: "Zach has been instrumental in MCA's impressive growth and international success over the past 12 years. He has continually proven his prowess as a world class music executive, and I am delighted that he will assume a more comprehensive role in guiding the future of MCA."



Zach Horowitz

Horowitz joined MCA 12 years ago as head of business affairs/general counsel for the record label. He was appointed exec vp of MMEG in 1989 and promoted to COO in 1994. He is credited with playing a prominent role in the long-term strategic planning of the music group while overseeing the company's major commercial transactions, the development of new businesses, and MCA's international expansion program.

Horowitz commented: "I have had the great fortune of being involved with the MCA Music Entertainment Group as it evolved into an international music company. As we enter this new phase of MCA's growth, I am particularly energized by the prospects of working with Doug and Mel to take the company to new levels of success in the future."

About Boberg, who in 1979 co-founded I.R.S. Records with Miles Copeland and began serving as its president at age 25, Morris said, "Over the years, Jay has demonstrated his unique talents as an executive and entrepreneur, and a creative force, having discovered some of the most popular and influential bands of the last decade."

Calling Boberg a truly gifted "music man," Morris said that he looked forward to the new MCA label president to guide the company's progress and success "in to the next century."

Boberg most recently served as president of MCA Music Publishing since 1994. MCA Music Publishing scored recently with songwriters like Alanis

ON THE MOVE



Pfordresher



Bailey



Yeruski

■ Bill Pfordresher has been appointed vp of promotion for the Elektra Entertainment Group. He was previously vp of promotion at Zoo Records, and in 1991 was vp of pop promotion for Curb Records. Pfordresher started his career in 1972 as a local promotion assistant for Record Merchandising. Also at EEG, Jeff Nimerofsky has been named director of finance. He was previously director of royalties for Sony Music. He began his career as a financial analyst for Sony. ■ Elizabeth Bailey has been appointed vp of video production for Arista Records, where she will now oversee production of all music videos and long-form videos for the label. Prior to Arista, Bailey had her own film production company, she b., inc., and also served as vp at Elektra Entertainment from 1990 to 1994. ■ Hollywood Records has announced four new appointments. Susan Yeruski has been named vp

of international for the label, where she will be responsible for marketing Hollywood's artists worldwide. Before Hollywood, Yeruski held the position of international marketing director at A&M Records. Peter Shaev and Frank Murray have been named national directors of promotion for Hollywood and will work out of the label's newly-opened New York offices. Shaev will be responsible for securing airplay at all radio formats, and getting videos played on national, regional and local levels. He has held promotion positions at Arista Records and at the Imago label. Murray will work to get airplay at all radio formats for Hollywood, and comes to the company from Capitol Records, where he spent eight years as national director for club and crossover promotion. And Cathleen Murphy has been named director of A&R and will be based in the New York offices. Murphy will be responsible for acquiring new talent for the label. She most recently was East Coast director of creative services for MCA Music Publishing in New York. ■ Fred "Fredwreck" Nassar has been named manager of A&R, Black Music Collective, for MCA Records. Nassar will administer A&R for the label's black artists and will also seek out and develop new talent. Prior to his new job, he was a successful hip-hop producer and DJ, and since 1994 was a DJ/power mixer at L.A.'s KKBT—The Beat.

Morrisette, Glen Ballard and ASCAP songwriter of the year Gary Burr. At press time it was not known who would replace Boberg at MCA's publishing arm. While at I.R.S., Boberg is credited with discovering and nurturing the careers of R.E.M., the Go-Go's, Fine Young Cannibals, Oingo Boingo and the English Beat, among others. Boberg and Copeland also successfully launched I.R.S. Music Publishing in the international marketplace and formed I.R.S. Media, a film production company, which produced the critically acclaimed Carl Franklin-directed film *One False Move* and *Gas, Food And Lodging*.



Jay Boberg

Commenting on the opportunity to work with Morris, Boberg said: "I have always had a great respect for Doug for his continued emphasis on maintaining an artist-driven company which stressed creativity. I am dedicated to building a label with the same spirit, and I thank Doug for this exciting opportunity to help write the next chapter in the history of MCA Records."

Industry insiders have speculated that Boberg's appointment reflects Morris' desire to attract more high-caliber pop and rock acts to the label, which has successfully sustained itself with country and urban music in recent years.

INDUSTRY BUZZ

By J.S. Gaer

EAST COAST



Capitol recording act the Butthole Surfers is currently working in New York City at Green Street Recording doing overdubs on recently completed sessions for the band's second album. Those sessions were held at Bearsville Studios in Woodstock, NY with producer Steve Thompson of Metallica, Guns 'N' Roses fame. Pictured are (l-r, back row): King Coffey, Butthole Surfers; guest artist Andrew Weiss of the band Ween; Paul Leary and Gibby Haynes, Butthole Surfers; and (front row) engineer Chris Shaw and producer Thompson.

NOT JUST FOR CONVENIENCE: A few years ago the four members of the band Cornershop came on like punks, with loads of anger and an armful of books. The group's first few releases were little preparation for the current collection, *Woman's Gotta Have It* on Luaka Bop-WB. The band has decided to explore the ground between its ethnic subcontinent heritage and its homeland of England. What comes out is a low-key droning music that catches your attention without the need of sonic pyrotechnics. While harking back to *The Beatles* when that band came out with such songs as "Within You And Without You" the group's sound is meant to appeal to today's youth. Considering the group's reception, it may have come time for more musical crosshatching pop.

THE VIKING'S OFFSPRING: For such a small island in the middle of the North Atlantic to constantly be sending over its forays in music is remarkable considering that the isle barely has the population for a Superbowl wiener roast. But once again we find ourselves dealing with those pesky Icelanders with two new releases from *Bad Taste Ltd.*, the company owned by the original *Sugarcubes*. In fact, within the confines of *Unun* is one of those sweet players in the form of *Thor Eldon*. The group's debut album in the U.S., *Super Shiny Dreams*, is a melange of different themes on the same sound, ranging in between neo-psychedelia, syrupy pop and techno surges all balancing around singer *Heida's* voice, which is reminiscent of another owner of her label. *Bellatrix* is a five-piece originated out of the village of Keflavik. Winners of the 1992 "Battle Of The Bands" in Reykjavik, it sounds more like the types who would be putting flowers in the barrels of rifles than duking it out in the streets. *Bellatrix* could easily fit into an adult-oriented hole with its album *Stranger Tales* if the band didn't throw in these weird flights of fancy with strings and singing. We may well have to keep a sharp lookout off our shores for more Norse adventurers.

PREEMPTIVE CORK POPPING: Thanks to global warming we may start dreaming of auburn Christmases, but it is never too early to plan for your New Year's Eve bash. At Maxwell's 1996 will be rung in with some moonshine as *Southern Culture on the Skids* stomp away. The group will be joined by those highway riding types *The Muffs* and *Cub*. At *The Bottom Line* you will be able to swing in with *Mr. Buster Poindexter & His Banshees Of Blue*, a sure-fire suave evening. Or, one can decide to laugh in the face of aging with *They Might Be Giants*, who will have a barrelfull of shtuck, and guests *The Martinis* which features a couple of ex-members of *The Pixies*. For those who enjoy an improvisation or two while toasting in the New Year the *Roy Hargrove Quintet* will be taking in the champagne at the *Iridium*.

By Steve Ballin

WEST COAST



You can add three more reasons to the list of why everyone wants to be in Malibu, CA. 143/Lava/Atlantic act The Corrs put in a visit there to producer David Foster's studio. The Grammy-winning Foster, who produced the Irish band's *Forgiven, Not Forgotten* album, is serving as CEO of 143 Records. So far, he's off to a flying start, as The Corrs' debut single, "Runaway," is doing just that on the charts. In addition, the quartet recently taped an episode of *Beverly Hills, 90210*, to air at the beginning of January. Don't be surprised if the show wins the Nielsens that week. Pictured (l-r): Caroline and Andrea Corr; Foster; Sharon and Jim Corr.

OFF WITH THEIR HEADS: The one drawback to Columbia Records recording artist *Bruce Springsteen* opening his solo acoustic tour in Los Angeles was in ugly evidence the night of the show, as money grubbing scalpers walked up and down the blocks of Wilshire and Western surrounding the relatively tiny *Wiltern Theatre* trying to cash in on the demand for tickets to this twice-in-a-lifetime (he played two nights there) event.

Desperate to see their hero in such a small setting, some fans paid upwards of \$300 per ticket, 10 times the face value of the tickets. Word is that some people who bought their tickets through legalized ticket brokers prior to the night of the show paid nearly \$500 per ticket. What's up with that?

In addition, another problem with the high demand for admission to the concert was the use of counterfeit tickets. One couple paid \$350 for a pair, only to be turned away at the door because their tickets weren't legit. These scalpers have no shame whatsoever. One particularly brazen scalper waved \$100 bills on the corner of the busy intersection, with a sign on his back that said top dollar paid for tickets. It's unfortunate that he didn't, as one fan suggested he should, fall into traffic. Another "fan," went into the venue, claiming he had tix waiting at will call, then came back out and sold 'em. Ticket scalping on the premises of a venue the day of an event is illegal in L.A. It's too bad the cops missed this bonanza of potential arrests.

THE SEX PISTOLS MAY HAVE believed that punk was about anarchy, but apparently a lot of today's new punk bands do give a shit about something, specifically *Rock For Choice*. *Epitaph's Rancid* and *Offspring* will be just part of the bill on Friday, December 8 at the *Hollywood Palladium*. Also appearing will be *Virgin Records' Iggy Pop*, a veteran of every punk movement since the late '60s, and L.A. band *Woodpussy*. Though the show is a benefit for the *Rock For Choice*, there's a more exact agenda involved with this concert.

The show is a tribute to *Shannon Lowney* and *Leanne Nichols*, the two clinic workers killed last December by a fanatical gunman in Brookline, MA. The L.A. gig comes on the heels of a December 2 show in New York. Past *Rock For Choice* gigs have featured *Nirvana*, *Hole*, *Pearl Jam* and *David Byrne*. Tix are available at *Ticketmaster*.



When *David Bowie* ended his current U.S. tour at the *Hollywood Palladium* on Halloween night, the celebs, including *Seal*, *Ann Magnuson* and the *Stone Temple Pilots' Scott Weiland*, were out in force. Do you think it was Bowie who brought them out though, or opening act *Dogstar*, who recently signed to *Zoo Entertainment*. Pictured (l-r) *Keanu Reeves*; *Bowie*.

Red Blooded Blues: Great Music And A Message For Health

By Susan Yannetti

HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED TO THINK that the recent pop-culture trends in body piercing and tattooing might result in an even newer trend—hepatitis for twenty-somethings?

Some medical experts believe this may be the case, with the young and the hip paying little or no attention to the state of needles used on their bodies during the application and insertion of the objects and decorations with which they choose to join the trendy movement. Non-sterile needles may be used by home body piercers or inexperienced tattoo artists with the result being blood-on-blood contact at the time of application. In these cases, the risk of hepatitis infection is great.

There is a clear connection between youth tattooing and body piercing trends and music, as evidenced by a trip into any record store these days. From behind the counter to the last customer in line, one look around reveals the trendy piercing and ink popularity. That's why PolyGram Group Distribution, in cooperation with Willie Dixon's Blues Heaven Foundation, the American Liver Foundation, Schering Laboratories, and its own Hammer & Lace Records and Arsenal Records labels, have teamed up to produce *Red Blooded Blues*, a music album to help raise hepatitis awareness.

Red Blooded Blues is a unique compilation of contemporary blues songs performed by well-known artists, with special album packaging that includes educational messages about hepatitis, and its prevention and treatment. The album also features an original track by Joe Louis Walker in addition to recordings by 16 other blues artists, illustrating the diversity of the genre, from blues master B.B. King ("I'm Moving On") through the popular Robert Cray ("I Wonder") to newcomer Joan Osborne ("Help Me").

In addition to these contributions, *Red Blooded Blues* includes: Otis Rush ("Don't Burn Down The Bridge"); John Lee Hooker ("Chill Out"); Etta James ("Whatever Gets You Through The Night"); Aaron Neville ("Down Into Muddy Water"); John Mayall ("Sensitive Kind"); Paul Rodgers ("I Just Want To Make Love To You"); John Hammond ("I've Got Love If You Want It"); The Jeff Healey Band ("See The Light"); Buddy Guy ("Cities Need Help"); Joe Cocker ("Black-Eyed Blues"); Pops Staples ("Hope In A Hopeless World"); Lucky Peterson ("Up From The Skies"); and Willie Dixon ("It Don't Make Sense").

Released on October 3, more than 37,000 copies of *Red Blooded Blues* have been sold through retail outlets and institutional marketing to date. Available in major music retail stores across the country, *Red Blooded Blues* is enjoying good reviews from both customers and record retailers alike.

"I think it is very appropriate that the music industry take on the cause of raising hepatitis awareness," said Lynn Stinnett, owner of Blues Depot, a Knoxville, TN-based blues record store. "The music industry has seen more than its fair share of alcohol and drug abuse, two things that damage the liver. I've also seen lots of pierced noses, navels, and cheeks running around here lately. Tattooing is rampant, at an all-time high. And Knoxville is only a sleepy little town nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. I can only imagine what it is like everywhere else."

"Retail record outlets are a point of contact for reaching the nation's youth. In this position, they have a responsibility to help their customers by offering advice and information on how to avoid the pitfalls of hepatitis. By responding to the educational needs in this area for the community, record stores have the opportunity to develop a loyal customer base. They may also sell some more records in the process. *Red Blooded Blues* is a collection of good blues music helping a good cause. Our customers like supporting a good cause—I believe that's helped me sell as many copies as I have," added Stinnett.

The album's title, *Red Blooded Blues*, is a clever twist on words. Playing off the fact that hepatitis is a blood-borne disease the words "red blooded" also conjure up images of traditional Americana. The choice of blues music underscores this notion as well, as the blues are a uniquely American invention.

In addition to being an awareness-raising project, *Red Blooded Blues* is also a fundraising project for the two support/awareness organizations partnered in this effort. A percentage of the proceeds from sales—approximately one dollar per copy sold—benefits the Blues Heaven Foundation, a non-profit blues artists' organization founded by the late legendary bluesman Willie Dixon, and the American Liver Foundation. Dixon himself was infected with hepatitis from a blood transfusion during a heart bypass operation in 1987, and the foundation's mission is to perpetuate the blues, a cornerstone of American music. The American Liver Foundation is the only national voluntary health organization dedicated to preventing, treating and curing liver disease through research and education. Country music artist Naomi Judd, forced to retire two years ago after

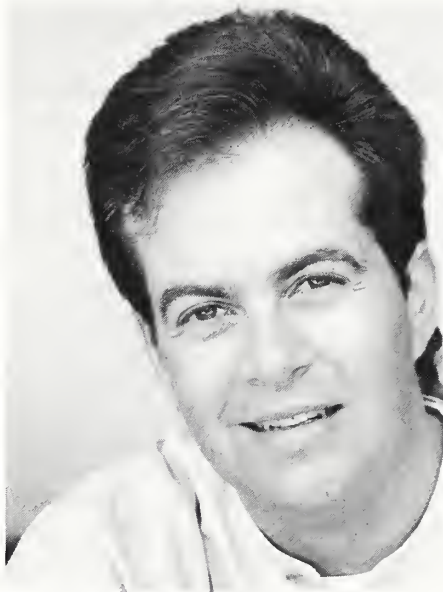
being diagnosed with hepatitis C, has become the national honorary spokesperson for the American Liver Foundation and is a major supporter of *Red Blooded Blues*.

Hammer & Lace Records, a special imprint on PolyGram charged with developing cause-related music projects, initiated the project, supervised the recording of the original track and coordinated the licensing of the existing master tracks. Mercury Nashville's new imprint, Arsenal Records, is handling marketing and sales responsibilities under the direction of Robert Frank.

Hammer & Lace Records was founded by Mark J. Fine, sr. vp of the PolyGram Group Distribution.

It is estimated that nearly 5 million people are currently living with chronic hepatitis B, and chronic hepatitis C. Hepatitis is the leading reason for liver transplantation in the United States, as many patients eventually develop cirrhosis or liver cancer. Fortunately, medical treatment is available for individuals with chronic hepatitis B and C, although every patient may not be a candidate.

PolyGram and its partners believe the possibility of a "hepatitis trend" among the young and hip is very real. To help counteract



Mark J. Fine

this possibility, the partners also devised a major national hepatitis awareness campaign, "Get Hep To Hepatitis," in support of the health issue in addition to the album. Led by the American Liver Foundation and sponsored by Schering Laboratories, this media campaign is complete with billboards, print advertising, radio announcements, radio airplay, listening posts in music stores in New York City and Chicago, and public relations efforts directed at both consumer and medical trade press.

The objective of the campaign is to reach young Americans with facts about the disease and to encourage those at risk to talk with their doctors about proper preventive measures. "Get Hep To Hepatitis" was launched at a medical conference on digestive diseases in San Diego last May. A two-song CD sampler targeting the medical community was specially produced for the occasion bearing the campaign's name.

"We believe that if Americans were more informed about hepatitis, they could do more to prevent it," said Alan Brownstein, president and chief executive officer of the American Liver Foundation.

Hepatitis B and C may be contracted when the infected blood of one person comes in contact with the blood of another. The current trends of body piercing and tattooing, if done carelessly and without regard to the sterility of instruments used, can result in hepatitis. This sometimes fatal disease may also be contracted through intravenous drug use or blood transfusions. Beginning in May 1990, all donated blood is screened for the presence of the hepatitis B and C viruses using antibody tests, so the risk of contracting the disease through blood transfusions is now less than 1%. In addition, hepatitis B may be transmitted through exchange of other body fluids, including saliva.

"Part of the problem with hepatitis," explains Fine, "is that many of the cases are not diagnosed in time because the symptoms are suggestive of the flu. We have created *Red Blooded Blues* in hopes that the folks who buy copies will not only enjoy the great music, but will think twice before they write off their serious illness as a common cold. If we can, as an industry, provide our customers with high-quality, entertaining products that also improve their health and well-being, and at the same time turn a fair profit, then shouldn't we?"

CASH BOX TOP 100 POP SINGLES

DECEMBER 9, 1995



This Week's #1:
Mariah Carey



To Watch:
Def Leppard

1 ONE SWEET DAY (Columbia 66700)	Mariah Carey	6	7
2 EXHALE (SHOOP SHOOP) (FROM "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Arista 2885)	Whitney Houston	2	4
3 DIGGIN' ON YOU (La Face/Arista 4419)	TLC	3	3
4 FANTASY (Columbia 7321)	Mariah Carey	1	12
5 HEY LOVER (Def Jam 7065)	LL Cool J	8	5
6 NAME (Warner Bros. 17758)	Goo Goo Dolls	9	10
7 YOU REMIND ME OF SOMETHING (Jive 01241)	R. Kelly	4	7
8 GANGSTA'S PARADISE (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55104)	Coolio Feat. L.V.	7	17
9 TELL ME (Epic 77961)	Groove Theory	5	16
10 BACK FOR GOOD (Arista 1-2848)	Take That	10	17
11 BEAUTIFUL LIFE (Arista 2889)	Ace Of Base	12	5
12 BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE/LIKE THIS AND LIKE THAT (Arista 5052)	Monica	13	7
13 YOU'LL SEE (Maverick 7900)	Madonna	14	5
14 RUNAWAY (A&M 581 194)	Janet Jackson	11	14
15 BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S (Rainmaker/Interscope 98138)	Deep Blue Something	15	16
16 AS I LAY ME DOWN (Columbia 77801)	Sophie B. Hawkins	19	22
17 MISSING (Atlantic 87124)	Everything But The Girl	28	9
18 I'D LIE FOR YOU (AND THAT'S THE TRUTH) (MCA 11341)	Meat Loaf	18	8
19 DREAMING OF YOU (EMI Latin 58490)	Selena	20	6
20 ANYTHING (MJJ/550 7063)	3T	21	10
21 LOVE U 4 LIFE (UpTown/MCA 11258)	Jodeci	26	5
22 KISS FROM A ROSE (FROM "BATMAN FOREVER") (ZTT/Sire/Warner Bros. 17896)	Seal	17	24
23 WHO CAN I RUN TO (So So Def/Columbia 78056)	Xscape	16	10
24 TIME (Atlantic 87095)	Hootie & The Blowfish	43	4
25 ROLL TO ME (A&M 1114)	Del Amitri	25	23
26 DANGER (Mercury 7049)	Blahzay Blahzay	29	9
27 BULLET WITH BUTTERFLY WINGS (Virgin 40929)	Smashing Pumpkins	30	4
28 ONLY WANNA BE WITH YOU (Atlantic 87132)	Hootie & The Blowfish	27	22
29 DO YOU SLEEP? (Geffen 4768)	Lisa Loeb & Nine Stories	22	13
30 SENTIMENTAL (Arista 12852)	Deborah Cox	24	13
31 CARNIVAL (Elektra 64413)	Natalie Merchant	31	18
32 PRETTY GIRL (Yab Yun/550 Music 77813)	Jon B.	23	14
33 SET U FREE (Strictly Rhythm 12362)	Planet Soul	39	5
34 WATERFALLS (LaFace/Arista 24108)	TLC	33	28
35 CELL THERAPY (LaFace/Arista 4113)	Goodie Mob	38	7
36 COMEDOWN (Trauma 98134)	Bush	36	14
37 I CAN LOVE YOU LIKE THAT (Blitz/American 87134)	All-4-One	37	29
38 YOU ARE NOT ALONE (MJJ/Epic 78002)	Michael Jackson	34	19
39 HOOKED ON YOU (Elektra 61849)	Silk	40	7
40 BROKENHEARTED (Atlantic 6175)	Brandy	32	17
41 BE MY LOVER (RCA 64446)	La Bouche	46	4
42 RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 58483)	The Pharcyde	45	6
43 HOOK (A&M 1176)	Blues Traveler	47	7
44 COME WITH ME (Gasoline Alley 55081)	Shai	51	12
45 RUN-AROUND (A&M 0982)	Blues Traveler	42	38

46 DECEMBER (Atlantic 87157)	Collective Soul	44	33
47 ONE OF US (Blue Gorilla/Mercury 52368)	Joan Osborne	50	6
48 THE WORLD I KNOW (Atlantic 87088)	Collective Soul	68	3
49 I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU/THIS HOUSE IS NOT A HOME (EastWest 64384)	The Rembrandts	49	10
50 ROCK STEADY (Capitol 10284)	Bonnie Raitt & Bryan Adams	53	3
51 LET ME BE THE ONE (EMI 58443)	Blessid Union Of Souls	35	18
52 WHERE EVER YOU ARE (EastWest 9353)	Terry Ellis	52	4
53 BLESSED (Rocke/Island 2394)	Elton John	55	3
54 GOLD (NPG/Warner Bros. 45999)	A.F.K.A.P.	54	4
55 A GIRL LIKE YOU (FROM "EMPIRE RECORDS") (A&M 17758)	Edwyn Collins	41	10
56 MAGIC CARPET RIDE (SM:)E 9014)	The Mighty Dub Kats	56	2
57 ICE CREAM (Loud 64426)	Chef Raekwon	57	8
58 SOLITUDE (Atlantic 98141)	Edwin McCain	61	9
59 CRUISIN' (EMI 32629)	D'Angelo	62	5
60 SEXUAL HEALING (S.O.S./Zoo 14248)	Max-A-Million	67	5
61 'TIL YOU DO ME RIGHT (Virgin 38494)	After 7	60	22
62 RUNAWAY (Atlantic 98133)	The Corrs	63	10
63 WE'VE GOT IT GOING ON (Jive 42329)	Backstreet Boys	71	6
64 BOOMBASTIC/IN THE SUMMERTIME (Virgin 38482)	Shaggy	59	28
65 AUTOMATIC LOVER (CALL FOR LOVE) (Arista 18778)	Real McCoy	64	8
66 I MISS YOU (COME BACK HOME) (FROM "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown 55107)	Monifah	70	5
67 WHEN LOVE & HATE COLLIDE (Mercury 2424)	Def Leppard	DEBUT	
68 I WILL REMEMBER YOU (FROM "THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN") (Arista 12893)	Sarah McLachlan	DEBUT	
69 WALK THIS WORLD (Vbrk 7222)	Heather Nova	69	5
70 SOON AS I GET HOME (Bad Boy/Arista 9041)	Faith Evans	DEBUT	
71 WONDER (Elektra 61745)	Natalie Merchant	DEBUT	
72 BOOM BOOM BOOM (Aureus 1100)	Outhere Brothers	78	8
73 I WANNA BE WITH U (Curb-Edel 76963)	Fun Factory	74	20
74 RIDIN' LOW (Hollywood 64004)	L.A.D. Feat. Darvy Traylor	80	3
75 THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 7699)	L.V.	79	3
76 A MOVER LA COLITA (Scotti Bros. 78048)	Artie The 1 Man Party	76	9
77 AIN'T NUTHIN' BUT A SHE THING (Next Plateau/London 50347)	Salt-N-Pepa	58	8
78 FEEL THE FUNK (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55130)	Immature	66	13
79 LIE TO ME/SOMETHING FOR THE PAIN (Mercury 2996)	Bon Jovi	RE-ENTRY	
80 MACARENA (BAYSIDE BOYS MIX) (RCA 64407)	Los Del Rio	86	14
81 HEAVEN (Perspective 7498)	Solo	82	17
82 ROSEALIA (Elektra 64352)	Better Than Ezra	88	2
83 WE GOT IT (MCA 55148)	Immature	DEBUT	
84 1ST OF THA MONTH (Ruthless 6331)	Bone Thugs N' Harmony	81	16
85 FUNNY HOW TIME FLIES (Atlantic 87093)	Intro	90	2
86 WINGS OF THE MORNING (African Star/RAL/Island 7199)	Capleton	75	6
87 FAST LIFE (Cold Chillin'/Epic 78081)	Kool G Rap	DEBUT	
88 LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 19390)	Genius/GZA	72	6
89 SOMETIMES I MISS YOU (Island 7099)	PM Dawn	DEBUT	
90 THROW YOUR SET IN THE AIR (Ruffhouse 78042)	Cypress Hill	89	8
91 SUMMERTIME IN THE LBC (FROM "THE SHOW!") (G Funk/RAL/Island 9383)	Dove Shack	83	19
92 ALREADY MISSING YOU (Elektra)	Gerald & Eddie Levert, Sr.	65	7
93 EAST SIDE RENDEZVOUS (Ruthless/Relativity 1534)	Frost	91	6
94 VIBIN' (Motown 42286)	Boyz II Men	93	14
95 BOMDIGI (Def Jam/RAL 7196)	Erick Sermon	84	5
96 PLAYER'S ANTHEM (Big Beat/Atlantic 98149)	Junior M.A.F.I.A.	92	21
97 CAN I TOUCH YOU...THERE? (Columbia 77991)	Michael Bolton	95	14
98 I WISH YOU WELL (Capitol 10247)	Tom Cochrane	85	7
99 SUGAR HILL (EMI 58407)	AZ	73	20
100 REAL HIP HOP (Elektra 43872)	Das EFX	96	12

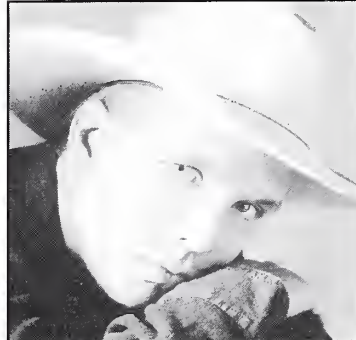
CASH BOX

TOP 100 POP ALBUMS

DECEMBER 9, 1995



This Week's #1:
The Beatles



High Debut:
Garth Brooks

1	ANTHOLOGY 1 (Apple/Capitol 34445)	The Beatles	DEBUT
2	FRESH HORSES (Capitol Nashville 32080)	Garth Brooks	DEBUT
3	DAYDREAM (Columbia 6670)	Mariah Carey	3 14
4	JAGGED LITTLE PILL (Maverick/Reprise/Warner Bros. 45901)	Alanis Morissette	4 23
5	WAITING TO EXHALE (Arista 18796)	Soundtrack	2 2
6	CHRISTMAS IN THE AIRE (American Gramophone 1995)	Mannheim Steamroller	13 5
7	GHOST OF TOM JOAD (Columbia 67484)	Bruce Springsteen	DEBUT
8	R. KELLY (Jive 41579)	R. Kelly	1 2
9	MELLON COLLIE AND THE INFINITE SADNESS (Virgin 40861)	Smashing Pumpkins	6 5
10	CRACKED REAR VIEW (Atlantic 82613)	Hootie & The Blowfish	11 62
11	DOGG FOOD (Death Row/Interscope/Priority 50546)	The Dogg Pound	5 4
12	CRAZYSEXYCOOL (LaFace/Arista 26009)	TLC	12 54
13	SOMETHING TO REMEMBER (Maverick 61600)	Madonna	9 3
14	THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION (Arista 18801)	Alan Jackson	8 4
15	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 1141)	Coolio	14 3
16	SOUVENIRS: GREATEST HITS (MCA 11394)	Vince Gill	DEBUT
17	MR. SMITH (RAL/Def Jam/Island 523845)	LL Cool J	DEBUT
18	JESUS FREAK (Forefront/Chordant 25140)	DC Talk	DEBUT
19	YOUR LITTLE SECRET (Island 24154)	Melissa Etheridge	10 2
20	STRIPPED (Virgin 41040)	The Rolling Stones	7 2
21	BRIDGE (Arista 18806)	Ace Of Base	21 2
22	THE REMIX COLLECTION (Motown 30884)	Boyz II Men	17 3
23	ALICE IN CHAINS (Columbia 67248)	Alice In Chains	15 3
24	DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996 (A&M O399)	Janet Jackson	16 7
25	THE WOMAN IN ME (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	25 32
26	ALL I WANT (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	19 10
27	STARTING OVER (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	23 8
28	DANGEROUS MINDS (MCA 11228)	Soundtrack	20 17
29	CYPRESS HILL III(TEMPLE OF BOOM) (Ruffhouse/Columbia 669911)	Cypress Hill	18 4
30	INSOMNIAC (Reprise/Warner Bros. 46046)	Green Day	27 7
31	WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD (MCA 11341)	Meat Loaf	22 2
32	GREATEST HITS 1985-1995 (Columbia 67300)	Michael Bolton	26 10
33	PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES (Sony 67291)	Presidents Of The United States	28 16
34	SIXTEEN STONE (Trauma/Interscope 92531)	Bush	37 41
35	FOUR (A&M 540265)	Blues Traveler	35 46
36	Q'S JOOK JOINT (Qwest 45875)	Quincy Jones	24 3
37	TIGERLILLY (Elektra 61745)	Natalie Merchant	33 24
38	E. 1999 ETERNAL (Ruthless/Relativity 5539)	Bone Thugs N Harmony	30 55
39	ONE HOT MINUTE (Warner Bros. 45733)	Red Hot Chili Peppers	31 11
40	VAULT (Mercury 528718)	Def Leppard	34 4
41	A BOY NAMED GOO (Warner Bros. 45750)	Goo Goo Dolls	41 11
42	OZZMOSIS (Epic 67091)	Ozzy Osbourne	32 5

43	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 24813)	Genius/GZA	29 3
44	DREAMING OF YOU (EMI 34123)	Selena	36 19
45	PULP FICTION (MCA 11103)	Soundtrack	42 57
46	UNDER THE TABLE AND DREAMING (RCA 66449)	Dave Matthews Band	53 50
47	THE HITS (Liberty 29689)	Garth Brooks	54 51
48	GAMES REDNECKS PLAY (Warner Bros. 45856)	Jeff Foxworthy	45 28
49	BALLBREAKER (Elektra 61780)	AC/DC	43 9
50	FRIENDS (Warner Bros. 46008)	Soundtrack	48 9
51	RELISH (Blue Gorilla/Mercury 526699)	Joan Osborne	49 6
52	THE MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS (Sparrow 1489)	Steven Curtis Chapman	DEBUT
53	FROGSTOMP (Epic 67247)	Silverchair	52 20
54	DEAD PRESIDENTS (Capitol 32438)	Soundtrack	40 9
55	ACTUAL MILES: HENLEY'S GREATEST HITS (Geffen 24834)	Don Henley	DEBUT
56	THIS IS CHRISTMAS (Epic 75595)	Luther Vandross	DEBUT
57	SEAL (ZTT/Sire/Warner Bros. 45415)	Seal	55 60
58	JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY (Atlantic 82728)	John Michael Montgomery	59 35
59	IT MATTERS TO ME (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	75 13
60	THROWING COPPER (Radioactive/MCA 10997)	Live	63 83
61	MTV PARTY TO GO VOLUME 8 (Tommy Boy 1139)	Various Artists	DEBUT
62	OFF THE HOOK (So So Def/Columbia 67022)	Xscape	51 17
63	IT'S A MYSTERY (Capitol 99774)	Bob Seger	56 5
64	ON TOP OF THE WORLD (Relativity 1521)	Eight Ball & MJG	47 4
65	II (Motown 530323)	Boyz II Men	74 64
66	STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX (MCA 11263)	George Strait	72 8
67	TAILS (Geffen 24734)	Lisa Loeb & Nine Stories	61 9
68	RUBBERNECK (Interscope/AG 922402)	Toadies	67 12
69	HISTORY: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE-BOOK 1 (Epic 59000)	Michael Jackson	85 23
70	POCAHONTAS (Walt Disney 60874)	Soundtrack	73 26
71	MTV PARTY TO GO VOL. 7 (Tommy Boy 1138)	Various Artists	62 4
72	SILK (Elektra 61849)	Silk	38 2
73	ROAD TESTED (Capitol 33705)	Bonnie Raitt	57 3
74	FATHER & SON (Elektra 61859)	Eddie & Gerald Levert	58 10
75	GAME RELATED (Sick Vm'd' It/Jive 41562)	The Click	44 3
76	JOCK JAMS VOL. I (Tommy Boy 1137)	Various Artists	70 15
77	FOO FIGHTERS(Capitol 34027)	Foo Fighters	80 21
78	NEW BEGINNINGS (Elektra 61850)	Tracy Chapman	50 2
79	MISS THANG (Rowdy/Arista 37006)	Monica	71 18
80	WHALER (Columbia 53300)	Sophie B. Hawkins	86 11
81	FAITH (Arista 73003)	Faith Evans	66 13
82	GREATEST HITS (Warner Bros. 46001)	Travis Tritt	64 11
83	GREATEST HITS (Epic 66217)	Stevie Ray Vaughan & Double Trouble	76 4
84	MORTAL KOMBAT (TVT 6110)	Soundtrack	69 14
85	GONE (Reprise/Warner Bros. 46051)	Dwight Yoakum	39 4
86	NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU (Rounder 325)	Alison Krauss	81 39
87	BROWN SUGAR (EMI 33629)	D'Angelo	79 19
88	BATMAN FOREVER (Atlantic 82759)	Soundtrack	88 25
89	WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU (MCA 11407)	Vince Gill	89 8
90	I'LL LEAD YOU HOME (Reunion/Arista 0106)	Michael W. Smith	RE-ENTRY
91	R.I.O.T. (Sparrow/Chordant 1439)	Carman	95 3
92	HELL FREEZES OVER (Geffen 24725)	The Eagles	90 55
93	COLLECTIVE SOUL (Atlantic/AG 82745)	Collective Soul	91 37
94	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	68 11
95	LABCABINCALIFORNIA (Delicious Vinyl 35102)	Pharcyde	46 2
96	THE SHOW, THE AFTER PARTY, THE HOTEL (Uptown/MCA 11258)	Jodeci	78 19
97	SOUL FOOD (LaFace/Arista 26018)	Goodie Mob	65 3
98	AN ALL-4-ONE CHRISTMAS (Blitz/Atlantic 82846)	All-4-One	DEBUT
99	ASTRO-CREEP 2000 (Geffen 24806)	White Zombie	83 33
100	STRONG ENOUGH (Arista 18792)	Blackhawk	87 11

REVIEWS by Steve Baltin

VARIOUS ARTISTS: *White Man's Burden: Original Soundtrack* (Tag/Atlantic 92628-2)

1995 has been an off year commercially for soundtracks. Nothing has broken out like a *Crow* or *Lion King*. Thus, it's hard to gauge the audience response to this 10-song album, whereas a year or two ago a disc accompanying a new John Travolta film, and featuring Hootie & The Blowfish, Blues Traveler, Bush and Dave Matthews Band, among others, would have been a guaranteed top 10 hit. Regardless of what the disc's sales will be, and a lot of that depends on the success of the film, *White Man's Burden* is a fairly impressive gathering of many of '94 and '95's most well-known success stories. The strongest track is Blues Traveler's lovely pop number, "Regarding Steven." The remainder of the record comes across well, though nothing comes off as strong as the Blues Traveler song.

LIQUORICE: *Listening Cap* (4AD 50082)

There are few labels that have reached the level where the label's name is as important, if not more so, than the name on the front of the CD. 4AD is definitely one of those labels. The reason is fairly simple: when you pick up a 4AD disc just because you're curious, you usually hear something as wonderful as this trio. Led by the sweet vocals of Jenny Toomey, Liquorice is very skilled at lush pop, but the trio takes it to another level by often distorting it, giving the songs a grotesquely beautiful feel. Standouts on the 10-song record include "Keeping The Weekend Free," "Jill Of All Trades" and "Breaking The Ice." Liquorice take the Mazzy Star/Pale Saints feel and runs with it, not only to the end zone, but out of the stadium.



QUEEN: *Made In Heaven* (Hollywood Records 62017-2)

At its peak, Queen was one of the biggest bands in the world, and many of the group's songs have made their way to classic status, including "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "We Will Rock You/We Are The Champions." While there's a tendency to think of the group as cheesy or pretentious, Queen also created some very sweet songs, including "Spread Your Wings." When the band stays on the simple route on this album, the results are surprisingly strong, thanks to some sterling vocals by the late Freddie Mercury. Of course, there's a great deal of sentiment attached to this collection, particularly when Mercury sings, "I long for peace before I die" during the lovely "Mother Love." Inconsistent, lovely, arty—*Made In Heaven* is a fitting legacy to the flamboyant Mercury and all he and his band achieved during their career.

ECHOBELLY: *On* (550 Music/Epic 788063)

A British quintet, Echobelly has worked its way into the hearts of American anglophiles with ease. This endearing 12-song collection shows why fans have embraced the infectious pop of Sonya Auroramadan and her bandmates. The opening "Car Fiction," with its racing melody and delightful vocals, sums up the feel of the disc, though most of the other tracks move at a slightly slower pace. The record's lead single, "King Of The Kerb," is finding an audience with several key Modern Rock formats. With the band's strong visual presence, a great live show and proven British pop, look for Echobelly to continue to convert fans. In addition, on the closing couplet of the ethereal "Dark Therapy" and the melodic "Worms And Angels" the band proves this is not a one-note trick.



POP ALBUM INDEX

Ace Of Base /49	Green Day /30	Red Hot Chili Peppers /39
AC/DC /43	Hawkins, Sophie /80	The Rolling Stones /20
Alice In Chains /23	Henley, Don /55	Seal /57
All-4-One /98	Hill, Faith /59	Seger, Bob /63
Beatles, The /1	Hootie & The Blowfish /10	Selena /44
Blackhawk /100	Jackson, Alan /14	Silk /72
Blues Traveler /35	Jackson, Janet /24	Silverchair /53
Bolton, Michael /32	Jackson, Michael /69	Smashing Pumpkins /9
Bone Thugs N Harmony /38	Jodeci /96	Smith, Michael W. /90
Bowie, David /89	Jones, Quincy /36	SOUNDTRACKS:
Boyz II Men /65,22	Kelly, R. /8	Batman Forever /88
Brandy /100	Kool G Rap /84	Dangerous Minds /28
Brooks, Garth /47,2	Krauss, Alison /86	Dead Presidents /54
Buffett, Jimmy /91	Kravitz, Lenny /92	Friends /50
Bush /34	Lever, Eddie & Gerald /74	Mortal Kombat /84
Carey, Mariah /3	Lennox, Annie /94	Pocahontas /70
Carman /91	Little Texas /96	Pulp Fiction /45
Chapman, Tracy /78	Live /60	Waiting To Exhale /5
Chapman, Steven Curtis /52	LL Cool J /17	Springsteen, Bruce /7
The Click /75	Loeb, Lisa /67	Strait, George /66
Collective Soul /93	Madonna /13	Tears For Fears /74
Coolio /15	Mannheim Steamroller /6	TLC /12
Cypress Hill /29	McBride, Martina /95	Toadies /68
Das EFX /65	McEntire, Reba /27	Tritt, Travis /82
Dave Matthews Band /46	McGraw, Tim /26	Twain, Shania /25
D'Angelo /87	Meat Loaf /31	Various Artists:
DC Talk /18	Merchant, Natalie /37	Jock Jams
Def Leppard /40	Monica /79	Vol. 1 /76
The Dogg Pound /11	Montgomery, John Michael /58	MTV Party To Go Vol. 7 /71
Eagles /92	Morgan, Lorrie /98	MTV Party To Go Vol. 8 /61
Eight Ball & MJG /64	Morrisette, Alanis /4	Vandross, Luther /56
Etheridge, Melissa /19	Murphy, David Lee /94	Vaughan, Stevie Ray /83
Evans, Faith /81	Osbourne, Joan /51	Weezer /99
Foo Fighters /77	Osbourne, Ozzy /42	White Zombie /99
Foxworthy, Jeff /48	Pharcyde /95	Xscape /52
Genius/GZA /43	Pres. Of U.S. /33	Yoakum, Dwight /85
Gill, Vince /89,16	Raitt, Bonnie /73	
Goodie Mob /97	Raye, Collin /90	
Goo Goo Dolls /41		

REPLICANTS: *Replicants* (Zoo 11117-2)

Comprised of members of Tool and Failure, the Replicants has released one of the most enjoyable and satisfying collections of covers to come down the rock pike in some time. The pleasure comes from the odd, but endearing selections covered, ranging from the Cars' hit, "Just What I Needed" to Gary Numan's "Are 'Friends' Electric?" to "Cinnamon Girl" from Neil Young. The satisfaction stems from the band's wildly different takes on such songs as Paul McCartney's "Silly Love Songs" and John Lennon's fierce "How Do You Sleep" (an interesting choice for a disc with a McCartney cover). Unlike many cover records, the Replicants' eponymous debut isn't afraid to tamper with the originals, transforming McCartney's upbeat and poppy "Silly Love Songs" into a dark and macabre nightmare and Missing Persons' "Destination Unknown" into a vortex of heavy keyboards and sci-fi vocals. Everyone will be able to find songs they identify with on this CD, making it a blast for anyone who gives it a spin.

PICK OF THE WEEK



THE BEATLES: *Anthology 1* (Capitol/Apple 34445 2)

Following the hype of ABC comes the music that accompanied the six-hour documentary on the band. The obvious selling point of the two-CD set is "Free As A Bird," the first "new" Beatles' song in 25 years. Being treated as the second coming by all radio formats, the Jeff Lynne-produced track (with help from the disbanded Liverpool lads) has the three remaining Beatles accompanying an old tape of John Lennon. Sounding like later Beatles material, the song is a gift for all Beatles' fans. Then again, that should be the real motto of this 60-piece collection. Featuring rough demos of many of the early hits, including "She Loves You," "Love Me Do," "I Saw Her Standing There" and "Eight Days A Week," as well as numerous covers, the hep "Three Cool Cats," a pretty "You Really Got A Hold On Me" and a humorous "Moonlight Bay," among them. *Anthology 1* is an early Christmas gift for those millions of fanatics who still can't get their fill of the most beloved band in rock. Though, it's an insightful foray into the early days of the group that changed history, *Anthology 1* doesn't really offer anything you haven't heard after last year's comprehensive *Live At The BBC*. But for most, that doesn't matter. It's the Beatles.

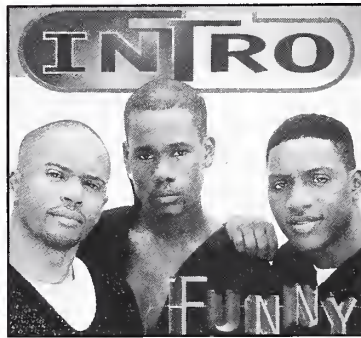
CASH BOX

TOP 100 URBAN SINGLES

DECEMBER 9, 1995



This Week's #1:
Whitney Houston



High Debut:
Intro

1	EXHALE (SHOOP SHOOP)(FROM "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Arista 2885)	Whitney Houston	1	4
2	ONE SWEET DAY (Columbia 66700)	Mariah Carey	7	3
3	YOU REMIND ME OF SOMETHING (Jive 01241)	R. Kelly	2	6
4	HEY LOVER (Def Jam 7065)	LL Cool J	4	5
5	BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE/LIKE THIS AND LIKE THAT (Arista 5052)	Monica	3	11
6	DIGGIN' ON YOU (La Face/Arista 4419)	TLC	6	3
7	WHO CAN I RUN TO (So So Def/Columbia 78056)	Xscape	5	9
8	CRUISIN' (EMI 32629)	D'Angelo	8	9
9	WHERE EVER YOU ARE (EastWest 9353)	Terry Ellis	10	10
10	HOOKED ON YOU (Elektra 61849)	Silk	11	7
11	LOVE U 4 LIFE (Uptown/MCA 11258)	Jodeci	12	7
12	ALREADY MISSING YOU (Elektra)	Gerald & Eddie Levert, Sr.	9	11
13	TELL ME (Epic 77961)	Groove Theory	13	19
14	FANTASY (Columbia 7321)	Mariah Carey	16	13
15	COME WITH ME (Gasoline Alley 55081)	Shai	15	12
16	PRETTY GIRL (Yab Yum/550 Music 77813)	Jon B.	14	13
17	CELL THERAPY (LaFace/Arista 4113)	Goodie Mob	23	7
18	SOON AS I GET HOME (Bad Boy/Arista 9041)	Faith Evans	21	2
19	SENTIMENTAL (Arista 12852)	Deborah Cox	17	14
20	YOU PUT A MOVE ON MY HEART (Qwest 7844)	Quincy Jones Feat. Tamia	25	7
21	HEAVEN (Perspective 7498)	Solo	18	18
22	ANYTHING (MJJ/550 7063)	3T	22	9
23	BROKENHEARTED (Atlantic 6175)	Brandy	26	16
24	I MISS YOU (COME BACK HOME) (FROM "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown 55107)	Monifah	24	4
25	FUNNY HOW TIME FLIES (Atlantic 87093)	Intro	30	7
26	RUNAWAY (A&M 581 194)	Janet Jackson	19	13
27	YOU ARE NOT ALONE (MJJ/Epic 78002)	Michael Jackson	20	20
28	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55104)	Coolio Feat. L.V.	27	15
29	I HATE U (Warner Bros 43592)	A.F.K.A.P.	28	13
30	I WANT YOU BACK (Interscope 92638)	Pure Soul	32	26
31	DANGER (Mercury 7049)	Blahzay Blahzay	64	5
32	LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE (Columbia 77908)	Asante	31	10
33	FEEL THE FUNK (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55130)	Immature	29	12
34	STILL IN LOVE (Mercury 56896)	Brian McKnight	40	4
35	RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 58483)	The Pharcyde	37	5
36	ON THE DOWN LOW (Mercury 2082)	Brian McKnight	33	18
37	'TIL YOU DO ME RIGHT (Virgin 38494)	After 7	38	24
38	WHERE IS THE LOVE (FROM "DEAD PRESIDENTS") (Underworld/Capitol 58604)	Jesse & Trina RE-ENTRY		
39	YOU USED TO LOVE ME (Bad Boy/Arista 79025)	Faith Evans	35	25
40	DAMN THING CALLED LOVE (Virgin 40547)	After 7	39	9
41	SUGAR HILL (EMI 58407)	AZ	36	19
42	IN GOD'S HANDS NOW (Epic 7317)	Anointed	41	8
43	DOWN SUGAR (EMI 58360)	D'Angelo	42	29
44	WE MUST BE IN LOVE (Stepsun 98137)	Pure Soul	44	26

45	SORRY, I (Mercury 2410)	Will Downing	52	4
46	WATERFALLS (LaFace/Arista 24108)	TLC	45	39
47	I GOT 5 ON IT (Yab Yum/Noo Trybe 38474)	Luniz	49	23
48	I NEED YOU TONIGHT (Big Beat/Atlantic 98097)	Junior M.A.F.I.A. Feat. Aaliyah RE-ENTRY		
49	I CAN'T STAND THE PAIN (Motown 0348)	Jason Weaver	55	6
50	I REMEMBER (Motown 860480)	Boyz II Men	53	3
51	I'M YOUR MAN (Atlantic 87097)	All-4-One	51	4
52	ICE CREAM (Loud 64426)	Chef Raekwon	48	6
53	Y'ALL AIN'T READY YET (Big Boy 42331)	Mystikal	56	2
54	HOW HIGH (FROM THE "SHOW!") (Def Jam/RAL 9924)	Redman/Method Man	47	16
55	TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT (Interscope 95740)	Blackstreet	50	17
56	ONE MORE CHANCE/STAY WITH ME (Bad Boy/Arista 79032)	The Notorious B.I.G.	57	24
57	THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 7699)	L.V.	63	2
58	TAKE A LOOK (Hollywood 64003)	J'Son	60	3
59	THE RIDDLER (FROM "BATMAN FOREVER") (Atlantic 87100)	Method Man	58	3
60	O'L SKOOL (Mercury 2294)	Isaac 2 Isaac	54	7
61	WINGS OF THE MORNING (African Star/RAL/Island 7199)	Capleton	62	6
62	SURRENDER (Elektra 64350)	Kut Klose	67	2
63	NO ONE ELSE (Arista 79043)	Total	68	2
64	PLAYA HATA (Noo Trybe 11025)	Luniz	69	7
65	WE GOT IT (MCA 55148)	Immature	70	2
66	SEX IN THE RAIN (Outburst/RAL 7194)	Mokenstef	77	4
67	FAST LIFE (Cold Chillin'/Epic Street/Epic 78081)	Kool G Rap	DEBUT	
68	PLAYER'S ANTHEM (Big Beat/Atlantic 98149)	Junior M.A.F.I.A.	61	19
69	BOMDIGI (Def Jam/RAL 7196)	Erick Sermon	66	4
70	(YOU MAKE ME FEEL) LIKE A NATURAL WOMAN (FROM "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown/MCA 55139)	Mary J. Blige	65	9
71	DADDY'S HOME (PMP/RAL/Def Jam 74312)	Montell Jordan	72	5
72	1ST OF THA MONTH (Ruthless 6331)	Bone Thugs N' Harmony	78	15
73	VIBIN' (Motown 42286)	Boyz II Men	74	15
74	LOVE T.K.O. (Columbia 77965)	Regina Belle	73	15
75	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 19390)	Genius/GZA	75	6
76	I'LL ALWAYS BE AROUND (MCA 55146)	C+C Music Factory Feat. A.S.K. M.E. & Vic Black	76	4
77	AIN'T NUTHIN' BUT A SHE THING (Next Plateau/London 50347)	Salt-N-Pepa	46	7
79	TOO HOT (Tommy Boy 713)	Coolio	83	2
79	I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (Zoo 14238)	Phyllis Hyman	86	2
80	YOU WANT THIS PARTY STARTED (Warner Bros. 17753)	Somethin' For The People	85	2
81	BE ENCOURAGED (Intersound 9159)	William Becton & Friends	81	19
82	CURIOSITY (FROM "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55105)	Aaron Hall	79	20
83	THE RUN AROUND (Priority 53226)	Boyz Of Paradize	80	8
84	TEMPTATIONS (Interscope 95724)	2Pac	82	10
85	WHAT'S UP STAR? (FROM "THE SHOW") (MJJ/RAL/Island 7432)	Suga	DEBUT	
86	HURRICANE (Jive 42335)	The Click	84	3
87	SUMMERTIME IN THE LBC (FROM "THE SHOW") (G Funk/RAL/Island 9383)	Dove Shack	91	18
88	WHAT ABOUT YOUR LOVE (GRP 3065)	Maysa Leaks	87	11
89	MC'S ACT LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW (Jive 42319)	KRS-One	88	12
90	ALL I CAN DO (Street Life/Scotti Bros. 78044)	Tina Moore	89	13
91	RETURN OF THE LIVIN' DEAD (Giant 17796)	The D.O.C.	90	3
92	CAN I TOUCH YOU...THERE? (Columbia 77991)	Michael Bolton	95	7
93	REAL HIP HOP (Elektra 43872)	Das EFX	92	11
94	MIND BLOWING (IMI 8513)	David Josias	93	14
95	SOMETHIN' 4 DA HONEYZ (PMP/RAL/Def Jam 6962)	Montell Jordan	94	19
96	LOVE TRIANGLE (Wbrk 78025)	Diana King	71	7
97	ARE YOU READY (MCA 55074)	Pebbles	59	15
98	BOOMBASTIC/IN THE SUMMERTIME (Virgin 38482)	Shaggy	43	28
99	HE'S MINE (Outburst/RAL 1704)	MoKenStef	34	29
100	GIRLSTOWN (Columbia 77850)	Supercat	96	13

URBAN

TOP 75 R&B ALBUMS

CASH BOX • DECEMBER 9, 1995

1	R. KELLY (Jive 41579)	R. Kelly	8	2
2	WAITING TO EXHALE (Arista 18796)	Soundtrack	11	2
3	DOGG FOOD (Death Row/Interscope/Priority 50546)	The Dogg Pound	2	4
4	FATHER & SON (Elektra 61859)	Eddie & Gerald Levert	10	9
5	ON TOP OF THE WORLD (Relativity 1521)	EightBall & MJG	4	4
6	Q'S JOOK JOINT (Qwest 45875)	Quincy Jones	6	3
7	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen 24813)	Genius/GZA	1	3
8	GAME RELATED (Sick Wid' It/Jive 41562)	The Click	3	3
9	DEAD PRESIDENTS (Capitol 32438)	Soundtrack	9	16
10	OFF THE HOOK (So So Def/Columbia 67022)	Xscape	12	19
11	FAITH (Arista 73003)	Faith Evans	13	13
12	DOUBLE OR NOTHING (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529286)	Erick Sermon	5	3
13	DAY DREAM (Columbia 66700)	Mariah Carey	14	8
14	SOUL FOOD (La Face/Arista 26018)	Goodie Mob	15	3
15	CYPRESS HILL III (TEMPLE OF BOOM) (Ruffhouse/Columbia 669911)	Cypress Hill	16	4
16	BROWN SUGAR (EMI 232629)	D'Angelo	17	21
17	SOLO (Perspective 49017)	Solo	18	11
18	SILK (Elektra 61849)	Silk	DEBUT	DEBUT
19	MR. SMITH (RAL/Def Jam 523845)	LL Cool J	DEBUT	DEBUT
20	E. 1999 ETERNAL (Ruthless/Relativity 5539)	Bone Thugs N Harmony	20	18
21	MISS THANG (Rowdy/Arista 37006)	Monica	22	18
22	LABCABIN CALIFORNIA (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 35102)	The Pharcyde	DEBUT	DEBUT
23	THE SHOW, THE AFTER PARTY, THE HOTEL (Uptown 11258)	Jodeci	24	19
24	DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996 (A&M 540399)	Janet Jackson	23	6
25	REFLECTIONS (Virgin 40547)	After 7	25	19
26	THE SHOW (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529021)	Soundtrack	26	14
27	MYSTIKAL (Big Boy 12)	Mystikal	27	10
28	KRS-ONE (Jive 41570)	KRS-One	19	7
29	DOE OR DIE (EMI 32631)	AZ	21	7
30	ALL WE GOT IZ US (JMJ/RAL/Island 529265)	Onyx	29	4
31	SOUTHERN GAL (EastWest/EEG 61857)	Terry Ellis	DEBUT	DEBUT
32	JEALOUS ONE'S ENVY (Relativity 1239)	Fat Joe	30	5
33	CRAZYSEXYCOOL (LaFace/Arista 26009)	TLC	33	51
34	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 1141)	Coolio	40	2
35	4 5 6 (Epic 57808)	Kool G Rap	34	10
36	GROOVE THEORY (Epic 57421)	Groove Theory	32	5
37	MOODS (Mercury 528755)	Will Downing	39	2
38	I REMEMBER YOU (Polydor/A&M 528280)	Brian McKnight	37	16
39	RATED G (Trak 72668)	Top Authority	41	2
40	FUNKMASTER FLEX: 60 MINUTES OF FUNK (Loud/RCA 66805)	Various Artists	53	2
41	THE REMIX COLLECTION (Motown 530584)	Boyz II Men	45	2
42	DEBORAH COX (Arista 18781)	Deborah Cox	42	6
43	ONLY BUILT 4 CUBAN LINX (Loud 666673)	Chef Raekwon	38	18
44	I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (PIR/Zoo 11040)	Phyllis Hyman	60	2
45	DANGEROUS MINDS (MCA 11228)	Soundtrack	31	17
46	CONSPIRACY (Undeas/Big Beat/AG 92614)	Junior M.A.F.I.A.	35	13
47	BLACKFACE (Gasoline Alley/MCA 11176)	Shai	28	6
48	OPERATION STAKOLA (C-Note/Noo Trybe 52324)	Luniz	43	21
49	NEW LIFE (Atlantic 82662)	Intro	49	4
50	LAST CHANCE, NO BREAKS (Rowdy/Arista 37008)	Jamal	50	2
51	BROKEN (Intersound 9145)	William Becton & Friends	47	22
52	BEST OF C-BO (Awol 7199)	C-Bo	7	2
53	THE BEST OF S.O.S. BAND (Tabu/Motown 530594)	S.O.S. Band	54	5
54	GREATEST HITS (Right Stuff/Capitol 30800)	Al Green	58	16
55	MY LIFE (MCA/Uptown 11156)	Mary J. Blige	48	51
56	PURE SOUL (Step Sun/Interscope 92638)	Pure Soul	44	6
57	THE GOLD EXPERIENCE (Warner Bros. 45999)	A.F.K.A.P.	36	9
58	KIRK FRANKLIN & FAMILY (Gospo-Centric 72119)	Kirk Franklin & Family	59	49
59	ME AGAINST THE WORLD (Interscope 92399)	2Pac	51	37
60	TRU (Priority 52983)	Tru	55	17
61	CURB SERVIN (Pay Day 828650)	WC & The Maad Circle	52	7
62	HOLD IT DOWN (EastWest 61829)	Das EFX	46	9
63	REACHIN' BACK (Columbia 66813)	Regina Belle	56	12
64	BRANDY (Atlantic 82610)	Brandy	63	57
65	BOOMBASTIC (Virgin 40158)	Shaggy	57	18
66	READY TO DIE (Bad Boy/Arista 73000)	The Notorious B.I.G.	62	60
67	HISTORY: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE-BOOK 1 (Epic 59000)	Michael Jackson	64	23
68	NEW YORK UNDERCOVER (Uptown 11342)	Soundtrack	61	9
69	II (Motown 530323)	Boyz II Men	65	62
70	MACK 10 (Priority 53938)	Mack 10	66	22
71	BONAFIDE (Yab Yum/550 Music/Epic 66436)	Jon B.	70	24
72	FRIDAY (Priority 53959)	Soundtrack	71	34
73	'TIL SHILOH (Loose Cannon/Island 524119)	Buju Banton	72	16
74	SOUTH CENTRAL LOS SKANLESS (Lench Mob 2002)	Kausion	68	5
75	CREEPIN ON AH COME UP (Ruthless/Relativity 5526)	Bone Thugs N Harmony	75	70

THE RHYTHM

By Gil L. Robertson IV



Allen Hughes, Darryl Porter and Albert Hughes are co-founders and co-partners of Underworld Entertainment, Inc., a Los Angeles-based entertainment company founded in 1993. In two short years, Underworld Entertainment has made major inroads in the entertainment business with the recent success of the *Dead Presidents* movie and soundtrack. The joint venture label with Capitol Records includes recording artists Jesse and Hami. The third project from Underworld Records is the Gold soundtrack to *Dead Presidents*, which recently held the number one position on *Cash Box's* Top R&B Albums Chart. Pictured (l-r): Allen Hughes, Darryl Porter, Albert Hughes.

LAFACE TO KICK BUTT IN '96. Expect the Atlanta-based label to get busy in '96 with a release schedule that includes **Tony Rich**, **Usher** (**Raymond**), **Outkast** and **Toni Braxton**. The highly-anticipated Braxton project finds the super-diva teamed with such music heavyweights as **Gordon Chambers**, **R. Kelly**, **Kenny Edmonds** and **Keith Crouch**. Currently featured on the *Waiting To Exhale* soundtrack, Braxton recently shot a hot new **Herb Ritt**-directed video for her single from that project. On the rap front, both Usher Raymond and Outkast are currently in the studio recording follow-up's to their gold debut projects. Outkast is once again teaming up with the hit producers **Organized Noize (ONP)**, while Raymond is back in the studio with super-producer **Dallas Austin**. Radio and retailers can expect both projects during Spring of '96.

LUTHER VANDROSS TO HOST CHRISTMAS SPECIAL: Automatic Productions will usher in the 1995 holiday season with *This Is Christmas*, a one-hour special starring **Epic Records** superstar **Luther Vandross** in his first network television special. *This Is Christmas*, directed by Automatic's award-winning **Jeb Brien**, began broadcasting on Thanksgiving, and will air through Christmas in different markets. Ninety-percent of the U.S. is cleared to run the syndicated special, which will be distributed by **BKS/Bates Entertainment**. Luther Vandross will perform three tracks live from his new album, *This Is Christmas*. The special will also feature a selection of Luther's favorite Christmas music by such noted artists as **Mariah Carey**, **Boyz II Men**, **Gloria Estefan**, **Melissa Etheridge**, **U2**, and **Jon Bon Jovi**. Based in New York, Automatic has numerous projects, both series and specials, in production and development including a **Mariah Carey** television special, directed by **Larry Jordan**, which recently aired on **Fox Network**, and a just completed **Bruce Springsteen** documentary, *Blood Brothers*, directed by **Ernie Fritz**.



Pictured (l-r) at the Motown Legends Luncheon are: Candace Bond, v.p. of catalog development; Ed Townsend, producer; Martha Reeves, Vandellas; Sidney Justin, Miracles; Claudette Robinson, Miracles; Ali Ollie Woodson, Temptations; Lois Reeves, Vandellas; Theo Peoples, Temptations; Delphine Reeves, Vandellas; Otis Williams, Temptations; Ron Tyson, Temptations; and O.J. Simpson defense attorney Carl Douglas.

THE RHYME

By Gil L. Robertson IV



Priority recording artist Homicide just finished his debut single video "Get What You Come Fo," from the *Legal Dope* compilation, released in November. The video was shot in L.A. by Mr. Antonio Fugua. Filmed like a mini-movie, the video is action-packed, with car chases and explosions (all sound effects included). Expect a great response from all video outlets. Look for *Legal Dope* and Homicide's album *Killafornia* coming in May '96.

MERGELA PRESENTS ONE MILLION STRONG: A hot new CD celebrating the recent historic Million Man March on Washington. John Atterberry and Jimmy Thomas, co-CEO's of the newly-established Mergela Records, have compiled 17 rap/hip-hop tracks that includes some of the industry's biggest names to demonstrate that hip-hop is as equally unified and politically aware as it is controversial. Snoop Doggy Dogg, Dr. Dre, Bone-Thugs-n-Harmony, The Alkaholiks, Smooth B, Sunz of Man and Chuck D are just a few of the featured artists. Mergela Records, in collaboration with its Solar/Hines distributor, selectively donated a percentage of residual profits from the *One Million Strong* project to several progressive organizations including, but not limited to, *The Million Man March Fund* as well as the ongoing campaign to free Philadelphia's longtime political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal.

UNDERGROUND HIP-HOP EXPLOSION AT THE HOUSE OF BLUES: After a long hiatus from performing, Pharcyde headlined a West Coast Underground hip-hop explosion before an SRO crowd at the House Of Blues in L.A. The evening began with a rousing performance by King Tee who was later joined on stage by rapper Ice T. That set was followed by The Alkaholiks, who really got the crowd moving with hits from the groups albums. Pharcyde hit the stage, and although they were slow to get things going, the group picked up steam as they performed selections from its debut album *Bizarre Ride*. As the hits kept coming, the audience's response grew. After the first half of the show, Fat Lip further ignited the crowd and the group seemed to be in its cipher from that point on. The group really went over the edge and the show took on a whole new animation when Fat Lip stripped down to a pair of Speedos, tossing the rest of his attire into the crowd. The songs from Pharcyde's new album, *Lacabincalifornia*, were received well by the audience. According to Jessie Collins, a DJ with The Beat, King Tee and Ice-T put on a great show, the Alkaholiks wrecked shop and the Pharcyde ripped it up. *Show reported on by Michael Hill.*

DIS N'DAT: Major kudos go out to Deathrow Records and rap stars Tupac Shakur and The Dogg Pound who provided 2,000 Thanksgiving turkeys to needy families at the Brotherhood Crusade Headquarters. Kudos also to Sean "Puffy" Combs, Bad Boy Entertainment president and Daddy's House Special Programs Inc., who hosted a free Thanksgiving dinner for the needy at The Minisink Townhouse in Harlem. Meals were served by Puff Daddy, Sister Souljah, Doug E. Fresh and a host of other celebrities. The event, which also featured music and entertainment, was filled with holiday fun.

TOP 25 RAP SINGLES

CASH BOX • DECEMBER 9, 1995

1	HEY LOVER (RAL/Def Jam/Island 77494)	LL Cool J	1	3
2	CELL THERAPY (Laface/Arista 4113)	Goodie Mob	3	8
3	GANGSTA'S PARADISE (MCA 55104)	Coolio Feat. L.V.	2	27
4	THE RIDDLER (Atlantic 87100)	Method Man	5	4
5	DANGER (Fader 7049)	Blahzay Blahzay	12	9
6	LIQUID SWORDS (Geffen19390)	Genius/GZA	6	5
7	I GOT 5 ON IT (Noo Trybe 38474)	Luniz	7	26
8	RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 58438)	The Pharcyde	8	8
9	HURRICANE (Sick Wid' It/Jive 42335)	The Click	4	4
10	WINGS OF THE MORNING (African Star/Island 7198)	Capleton	9	6
11	ICE CREAM (Loud 64426)	Chef Raekwon	10	8
12	SUGAR HILL (EMI 58407)	AZ	11	21
13	FAST LIFE (Cold Chillin'/Epic Street/Epic 7808)	Kool G Rap	DEBUT	
14	LAST DAYZ (JMJ/RAL/Island 7195)	Onyx	13	5
15	PLAYA HATA (Noo Trybe 38517)	Luniz Feat. Teddy	15	2
16	JEEPS, LEX COUPS, BIMAZ & BENZ (Uptown 55062)	Lost Boyz	25	9
17	Y'ALL AIN'T READY YET (Big Boy 42331)	Mystikal	17	10
18	RETURN OF DA LIVIN' DEAD (Giant/Warner Bros. 17796)	The D.O.C.	21	4
19	FADES EM ALL (Rowdy 3-5042)	Jamal	18	12
20	1990-SICK (KILL EM' ALL) (Jive 42350)	Spice 1 Feat. MC Eiht	16	2
21	I NEED YOU TONIGHT (Undeas/Big Beat 98097)	Junior M.A.F.I.A. Feat. Aaliyah	DEBUT	
22	BOMDIGI (Ral/Def Jam/Island 7196)	Erick Sermon	20	8
23	ONE MORE CHANCE (Bad Boy/Arista 79032)	The Notorious B.I.G.	23	5
24	AIN'T NOTHIN BUT A SHE THING (Next Plateau/London 50347)	Salt-N-Pepa	19	8
25	HOW HIGH (Def Jam/RAL/Island 9925)	Redman/Method Man	14	15

Rap Single Reviews

By Gil L. Robertson IV

■ SKEE-LO: "Top Of The Stairs" (Scotti Bros. 78057)

With the lack of across-the-board, on-air support for his "I Wish," single, Skee-lo returns with a new single full of remixes sure to appeal to all regions of the country. The Street Radio Mix screams East Coast with its swift lyrical flow and smooth breaks, while the Hood Mix (track 5) is so funky and laid back that I could see Superfly strutting down the palm-lined streets here in L.A. The single also appears on the *Money Train* soundtrack which should add to its commercial appeal.

■ PIZO: "Weekend In Summer" (DTE 035722)

This track blends the Oaktown style alongside an easy, laid-back west coast feel. Pizo's lyrics are drenched with influences of the Bay area rap culture. The samples of Parliament's "Flashlight," and Run-DMC's "Dumb Girl" helps bring the track along. It should be great for Mix Shows and Record Pool DJ's.

■ LL COOL J: "Hey Lover" (Def Jam 77494)

What can I say? It's a definite number one single. After a short hiatus from the music industry to embark upon a promising film and television career, LL is back with an R&B based track which teams him with super-quartet Boyz II Men. Can you remember what "I Need Love," did for the rap culture as a whole? Prior to that single's success a slow jam rap single was unheard of, yet LL pulled it off with a smooth style that was undeniable. This track brings to mind long days of hanging out at the malls, chasing girls. Thanks, LL, for the smooth reminiscence.

Jazz Notes

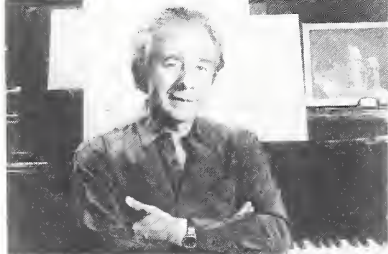


The House of Blues hosted a dinner and concert in support of MusiCares and Berklee College of Music. MusiCares is the charitable foundation established through the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) that focuses resources of the music industry on human services issues which directly impact the health and welfare of the community. Pictured at the event, attended by many jazz artists, are (l-r): Michael Greene, president/CEO of NARAS; pianist Horace Silver; Grammy-winning vibraphonist Gary Burton; singer/actor Bill Henderson; jazz band leader Buddy Collette; and Issac Tigrett, CEO of the House of Blues.

RIM SHOTS: You might not think of Iowa being a hotbed of jazz. But one of the genre's most respected pioneers, **Bix Beiderbecke**, hails from the heartland state and there is a long-time jazz festival held annually in his name. Davenport, IA-native Biederbecke is credited with the early fusion of the classical styles of Ravel, Debussy and Stravinsky with the improvisational flurries of jazz in the 1920's. As part of Iowa's "150 Days of Celebration" of its Sesquicentennial, the **Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society** has commissioned "A Rhapsody For Bix," a new work that will be unveiled by internationally known composer, conductor and jazz musician **Lalo Schifrin**.

The idea for the commissioned piece was hatched during the 1994 Cannes Film Festival, when Schifrin served as a juror with **Clint Eastwood**, a well-known avid jazz fan. A group at the Fest got together to discuss jazz, including producer **Doug Miller**, an advisory board member of the Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society. Miller approached Schifrin about the composition. The rest is becoming history.

The four-time Grammy Award-winning Schifrin will conduct the **Quad City Symphony Orchestra** (featuring Australian cornetist **James Morrison** as guest soloist) on Oct. 12, 1996 during the "Sound Of Bix" concert at the Mark of the Quad cities on the shores of the Mississippi River, where Beiderbecke first heard his future colleague **Louis Armstrong** in **Fat Marable's** band on a riverboat that steamed into Davenport. The Iowa city was a major point of departure for many jazz musicians headed for Chicago.



Lalo Schifrin

Schifrin called his involvement in the project "an obsession.

"It's more than a labor of love, it's a labor of passion. From the old 78 (rpm) records, Bix opened the doors of jazz for me. I was 14 years old, living in a distant land (Argentina), but his unique tone and inventive phrasing compelled me like a magnet. Interwoven into his artistry was a paradox: strong ideas with a feeling of vulnerability, clear lines, fragile overtones..."

Former Iowa governor **Robert D. Ray**, chairman of the Iowa Sesquicentennial Commission, commented, "Iowans can be proud that the great contemporary jazz artist Lalo Schifrin has chosen the occasion of our Sesquicentennial to create a masterpiece to honor our native son."

"For the Society this is a dream come true," commented **Frank Cincola**, president of the Memorial Society.

MORE RIM SHOTS: *JazzTimes* magazine has entered into an agreement to become the exclusive domestic jazz magazine content provider for the newly-bowed on-line **Jazz Central Station (JCS)**, the **Global Network for Jazz**. The magazine and JCS will launch the first phase on the **Microsoft Network (MSN)** later in December. Phase two of the alliance will appear in January with the JCS launch on the **World Wide Web**.

TOP 25 JAZZ ALBUMS

CASH BOX • DECEMBER 9, 1995

1	BREATHLESS (Arista 18646)	Kenny G	1	122
2	GET SHORTY (Antilles/Verve 9310)	Soundtrack	2	5
3	MOODS (Mercury 528755)	Will Downing	DEBUT	
4	ELIXER (Warner Bros. 45922)	Fourplay	3	13
5	JAZZ TO THE WORLD (Capitol 32127)	Various Artists	7	3
6	PEARLS (Elektra 61759)	David Sanborn	6	29
7	GIVING MYSELF TO YOU (Atlantic Jazz 82829)	Gerald Albright	5	11
8	SEDUCTION (Warner Bros. 45913)	Boney James	4	5
9	JAZZ MASTERS II (JVC 2049)	The Jazz Masters	9	17
10	JOE COOL'S BLUES (Sony 66680)	Wynton & Ellis Marsalis	11	23
11	NAKED AND TRUE (Bluemoon 92662)	Randy Crawford	DEBUT	
12	SOUL SURVIVOR (Sin-Drome 8910)	Bobby Caldwell	8	3
13	FIRST INSTRUMENT (Blue Note/Capitol 27820)	Rachell Ferrelle	12	25
14	100 DEGREES & RISING (Forecast/Verve 80000)	Incognito	13	22
15	NAJEE PLAYS SONGS FROM THE KEY OF LIFE-A TRIBUTE TO STEVIE WONDER (EMI 35704)	Najee	DEBUT	
16	POWER FORWARD (Mojazz/Motown 0552)	Wayman Tisdale	10	15
17	SAX ON THE BEACH (GTS 4578)	John Tesh Project	14	32
18	TALES FROM THE BRIGHT SIDE (RCA 66665)	Alex Bugnon	19	3
19	THE BEST OF DAVID BENOIT 1987-1995 (GRP 9831)	David Benoit	20	3
20	URBAN GYPSY (Nyc 6020)	Mark Antoine	17	7
21	BLUE MOON (Mojazz/Motown 0551)	J. Spencer	15	13
22	MAYSA (Blue-Thamb/GRP 7001)	Maysa	18	3
23	PURE PLEASURE (GRP 4026)	Phil Perry	16	48
24	SAPPHIRE (White Cat 77727)	Keiko Matsui	23	9
25	HIGH LIFE (Verve 9224)	Wayne Shorter	24	5



Third Street Music Settlement recently honored the entire Marsalis clan, including father Ellis and his progeny Branford, Wynton, Delfeayo and Jason, along with Van Cliburn with its Distinguished Achievement in the Service to the Arts Award at its 101st Anniversary Luncheon at the Plaza Hotel in New York. Pictured during the affair are (l-r): Van Cliburn; Guenter Hensler, president of BMG Classics, who co-chaired the event; Ellis Marsalis; Wynton Marsalis; and Don Ienner, president of Columbia Records, who also co-chaired the event.



Album Review

Bruce Springsteen: No Retreat, No Surrender

By Steve Baltin

ROCK 'N' ROLL WAS INVENTED FOR ARTISTS like Bruce Springsteen. In the forty years of the rock era, the best rock has always conveyed a sense of empathy through passion, from Eric Clapton's pleas in "Layla" to Patti Smith's brutal "Horses," from U2's fiery "Pride (in The Name Of Love)" to Neil Young's angry "Tonight's The Night."

Whether it's with the youthful wanderlust of the protagonists in *Born To Run*'s title track and "Thunder Road," the stark realism and desperation of the main characters in *Nebraska*'s "Atlantic City" and "Johnny 99," or the tender insecurities expressed in *Tunnel Of Love*'s "Brilliant Disguise,"



Bruce Springsteen

Springsteen has accomplished this feat more than any other artist in the history of rock. On his 11th album of all new material (13th overall), *The Ghost Of Tom Joad* (Columbia Records), Springsteen once again shows why he is the master, returning to the acoustic format of *Nebraska* to starkly articulate the plight of immigrants who risk life, and sometimes more, to become a part of the "American."

The tribulations of immigration have

been part of American lore since stories were first documented. Understanding that, Springsteen incorporates both classic works and more obscure documents into his album to tell a moving series of sagas. The album's title refers to the hero of John Steinbeck's classic *The Grapes Of Wrath*. Springsteen uses Joad as a sort of guardian angel to the downtrodden in 1990's America. In the haunting title track he sings, "Now Tom said, 'Mom, wherever there's a cop beatin' a guy/Wherever a hungry newborn baby cries/Where there's a fight 'gainst the blood and hatred in the air/Look for me Mom, I'll be there.'"

While "The Ghost Of Tom Joad," and to a lesser extent, "The New Timer," are rooted in classic traditions, the tales at the core of the album, those that deal with the Mexican/American border, are firmly rooted in contemporary society. For the tracks, "Balboa Park," "The Line," "Sinaloa Cowboys" and "Across The Border," Springsteen used two recent *L.A. Times* articles, as well as a pair of books for inspiration. The results on all four tracks, particularly on "Balboa Park" and "Sinaloa Cowboys," are shattering human stories of tragedy. In "Sinaloa Cowboys" Springsteen tells of Louis and Miguel, two brothers who get involved in cooking methamphetamine. During the middle of the song Springsteen warns, "But if you slipped, the hydriodic acid/Could burn right through your skin/They'd leave you spittin' up blood in the desert/If you breathed those fumes in." After the inevitable happens at the end, Springsteen sings, "Miguel lifted Louis' body into his truck and then he drove/To where the morning sunlight fell on a eucalyptus grove/There in the dirt he dug up ten thousand dollars, all that they'd saved/Kissed his brother's lips and placed him in his grave."

Springsteen shows great restraint in his vocals, staying away from the emotive yells of "Backstreets" and "Hard To Be A Saint In The City" to showcase a singing that is consistently sweeter than on any of his previous albums. In fact, *The Ghost Of Tom Joad* may be his best vocal album to date. Regardless of the song and subject matter, be it on the dark "Highway 29," about coming to grips with one's own evil, the rocking "Youngstown," one of five tracks to feature additional musicians, or the lovely relationship song

"Dry Lightning," Springsteen conveys just the right amount of feeling to touch listeners.

Like all of his previous works, that is the real triumph of *The Ghost Of Tom Joad*. Though the ad line for the album reads "American Music For The '90s," *The Ghost...* is a masterpiece for all time and all people.

Live Review

THE WILTERN THEATRE, LOS ANGELES, CA—In front of an L.A. audience that includes Tom Hanks, Lyle Lovett and Dustin Hoffman there are precious few shows that would qualify as an event. However, when the lights went down, signaling the beginning of Bruce Springsteen's sold-out solo acoustic tour, the ensuing ovation inspired chills among those very fortunate fans lucky enough to get into the 2,200-seat Wiltern.

Opening night of Springsteen's first ever solo acoustic tour was very much a Bruce love fest, as die-hard fans reveled in seeing their hero so close, and the surprisingly humble Springsteen, who played harmonica and guitar throughout, seemed genuinely touched by the outpouring of admiration. Prior to the second encore, the new album's "Galveston Bay," the always articulate Springsteen said, "This music means a lot to me and you've shown me a lot of love tonight. I really appreciate it."

Few, if any performers, could get away with the one hour and forty-five minute set delivered by Springsteen. But then, no performer has accumulated the track record Springsteen can boast. He opened the set with the poignant title track to the new *The Ghost Of Tom Joad*, then confidently moved through a set comprised almost exclusively of new material (he did 11 of 12 songs from the new record, the only exclusion being "The New Timer") and rarities (going as far back as his 1972 debut album for "Does This Bus Stop At 82nd Street?"). The only real hit was "Born In The U.S.A.," which was almost unrecognizable in the revamped format. Done in a killer slide guitar/blues version, the former anthem was reflective of the changes Springsteen brought to the older selections he performed.

Following "The Ghost Of Tom Joad," Springsteen did a fiery take of "Adam Raised A Cain," one of two selections from the *Darkness On The Edge Of Town* album (the other being a stunning rocking version of the album's desperate title track).

Throughout the captivating performance, Springsteen reminded the audience that acoustic is not synonymous with quiet, as he brought passion and energy to all of the older songs. The new songs were done predominantly in the same quiet manner that they appear on on the record (the only exception was "Youngstown"). Springsteen sat down on a stool for the closing quartet of songs, all of which came from the new record and deal with immigrants on the Mexican/American border. Starting with "Sinaloa Cowboys" and closing with the beautiful "Across The Border," the quartet was a forceful block of music that rang out with as much power as fifty bomb blasts. Utterly beautiful in their heartbreaking truthfulness, the songs were a moving reminder of the gifts Springsteen possesses as a narrator.

After leaving the stage to a roaring standing ovation and repeated cries of BRUUUCE, Springsteen came back and went straight into the festive version of "Does This Bus Stop At 82nd Street?" He jumped right back into more recent material with one of the evening's many highlights, an anthem-like read of "This Hard Land," a song available on this year's *Bruce Springsteen's Greatest Hits*. What came next was vintage Springsteen—"Dead Man Walking," an as yet unavailable song from the upcoming Tim Robbins film of the same name.

It's not uncommon for artists to perform new songs the audience would not yet have heard, but to spotlight it as an encore, particularly when you've done almost none of your hits (he did nothing from *Born To Run*) is a bold statement. The statement on this night was loud and clear: no compromise. Of course, that's exactly what Bruce fans have come to expect. And that's why many, myself included, feel he is the greatest live performer in the history of rock—a belief only fueled by the splendor of this very special night.

FILM REVIEWS

United Artists' *Wild Bill*, In For The Long Haul

By John Goff



Jeff Bridges stands up to and delivers lots of lead as Hickok.

Earp in dealing with a real western legend. Actually, it more often brings to mind the early '70s John Huston-directed Paul Newman-starring *Life And Times Of Judge Roy Bean* in approach—the mixture of fact with legend and entertainment, with writer/director Walter Hill invoking the lesson he learned from John Ford: when confronted with a choice between fact and legend, always go with the legend.

Wild Bill also is more likely to follow the same route as *Bean* at both boxoffice and in cine-history than the Earps. It'll trudge the trail of years to loving acceptance, picking up a respectful audience along the way, and enough two-bits at the boxoffice to keep it in the game. It certainly doesn't have to hang its head in shame and ride off into the sunset because before it reaches sunset it's likely to be accorded Top Ten Western status, but it will take that time to settle in.

Hill's and production designer Joseph Nemec III's design for the film is alternately attractive and gritty, embracing both entertainment and authenticity on screen. Writer/director Hill's story is augmented by director of photography Lloyd Ahern's Fellini/Kurosawa-esque touches of washed-to-negative black and white uses for historic flashback and opium induced sequences. There are factions which do not care for this mixture which may well influence their feelings about it. Personally, I like it here.

Major focus is on Jeff Bridges as Wild Bill in his last days in Deadwood, South Dakota. He's surrounded by pals John Hurt and James Gammon and

WILD BILL THE MOVIE dips and rises from good to questionable *almost* as much as a drunken gambler's poker luck.

Conventional western? No. It falls somewhere just below last year's Kurt Russell-starring piece of entertainment, *Tombstone*, and head-&-shoulders above Kevin Costner's pretentious flop *Wyatt*

sometime sweetheart/sex partner Ellen Barkin as Calamity Jane. David Arquette is Jack McCall, son of a former sweetheart of Hickok's, in town with a grudge and yen to kill Bill. Hickok is a gambler, boozier, killer with his reputation—told in flashbacks and through friends—preceding him. Hill looks at the character however, as a larger-than-life figure while never elevating him to hero status, mixing the good with the bad and leaving it to individual tastes as to how you ultimately care to view him. It ends historically correct, with McCall killing him as he holds the famous aces-and-eights Dead Man's Hand.

One thing Hill never allows is a film to become too complacent or boring. He may madden you, as he does here having Arquette play McCall as near psychotic. As miserable or as forgiving as you may want to view the complex character of Hickok that Hill presents, it seems there's no way in hell he'd turn his back on the kid whether he thought he was a coward or not. The fluctuations Hill holds the Hickok character to in regards to McCall don't appear valid in the long run under any microscope, which becomes the major flaw in an otherwise fine film—a flaw which will undoubtedly be forgiven in the long run because of the better aspects of the work.

Bridges is completely convincing, making you believe he *is* Hickok even when the script borders on the outrageous. He proves, again, he can get not only under the skin of a character, but also into its heart and soul. A nomination possibility. Barkin, more scrubbed than any of the others, doesn't totally convince with her accent and appears out of her element, even when taking on one of her patented sex scenes, this time on a card table. James Gammon is wonderful as a Hickok pal, making long moments of expositional dialogue palatable with an enthusiastic delivery. John Hurt takes the part of Hickok's apologist pal, basking in the gunfighter's light, defining himself through that friendship and is remindful of Earp's Doc Holliday in appearance. Christina Applegate wipes out any memory of a ditzzy Bundy broad in a terrific introductory scene but her character is never really used within the story. There lurks a feeling something's been cut from that relationship, that character. Diane Lane is touching as Hickok's lost love and mother of McCall. Coming in for cameos are Bruce Dern, Marjoe Gortner and Keith Carradine.

Producers are Richard D. Zanuck and Lili Fini Zanuck.

Top 15 Weekly Film Grosses

RANK/TITLE	DISTRIBUTOR	WEEK	SCREENS	WKND TOTAL	AVG	TOTAL
1. <i>Toy Story</i>	Buena Vista	1	2,457	\$29,140,617	\$11,860	\$39,071,176
2. <i>Goldeneye</i>	MGM/UA	2	2,667	\$18,110,951	\$6,791	\$57,205,442
3. <i>Ace Ventura...</i>	Warner Bros.	3	2,705	\$13,487,173	\$4,986	\$86,272,139
4. <i>Money Train</i>	Columbia	1	2,522	\$10,608,297	\$4,206	\$15,520,335
5. <i>Casino</i>	Universal	1	1,616	\$9,946,480	\$6,155	\$14,524,240
6. <i>The American President</i>	Columbia	2	1,508	\$9,713,222	\$6,441	\$26,038,281
7. <i>It Takes Two</i>	Warner Bros.	2	1,581	\$5,156,182	\$3,261	\$12,586,489
8. <i>Get Shorty</i>	MGM/UA	6	1,522	\$3,387,408	\$2,226	\$62,004,666
9. <i>Nick Of Time</i>	Paramount	1	1,849	\$2,781,601	\$1,504	\$3,889,103
10. <i>Home For The Holidays</i>	Paramount	4	1,000	\$1,989,780	\$1,990	\$14,503,834
11. <i>Copycat</i>	Warner Bros.	5	1,162	\$1,432,941	\$1,233	\$26,271,637
12. <i>Powder</i>	Buena Vista	5	1,063	\$1,156,022	\$1,088	\$26,912,283
13. <i>Seven</i>	New Line	10	812	\$893,351	\$1,100	\$85,570,949
14. <i>Now And Then</i>	New Line	6	839	\$683,462	\$815	\$24,918,475
15. <i>Mortal Kombat</i>	New Line	15	593	\$610,608	\$1,030	\$69,294,731

Domestic box-office, which includes USA and Canada for the weekend of November 24-26, totaled \$109,098,095, breaking down to a \$4,565 per-screen average off a total of 23,896 screens, giving a combined total of \$564,583,780. (Courtesy Entertainment Data, Inc.)

Book Reviews

By John Goff

ALRIGHT, WHETHER ANYBODY LIKES IT OR NOT, it's *that* time of year again. The stuffed turkey's been unstuffed in order to stuff the turkeys around the table who've long since forgotten what the bird's carcass represented in the first place. The one thing *everbody* knows when the last belch resounds thru the dining room window and down the street, fluttering the coloring tree leaves as it rumbles toward the malls is: Thanksgiving's over and silver bells sound the first round for Christmas shopping sales.

The rush is on!

You're at the mall. The last check paying off the hock you went into last year for gifts for people you didn't want to give gifts to in the first place just went out in the mail last week. Time to do it again. Hallelujah! Isn't there something comforting in repetition?

Was it last year you were in this mall?...Probably. But this year they've added another floor, right? Well, maybe it just seems that way...or have they simply extended it another mile down the block?

Look, even if you just *browse* through every store here you'll only be three quarters way toward the exit by this time next year.

Now, considering you *have* to put some thought into gifts for the family—chances are they've given you a list to start with so you're pretty safe there—you still have to waste the money on those you don't want to waste it on, but you *do* want to keep the coming year as possibly peaceful as the peace the holiday season professes to be more concerned with than with money.

A suggestion: Go into two stores this time out. A video store, or *salon*—that distinction is made according to whether you're shopping on Rodeo Drive or over the hill on Riverside Dr.—or a book store. We'll get to the vids in a week or two. Right now we're gonna stroll the aisles of a bookstore.

Understand now, this is assuming the people you're purchasing for made it out of remedial reading. But whether they did or not, here are a few suggestions that can pretty much span the gap or plumb the depths of their individual knowledge. O.K?

Deadheads, by Linda Kelly

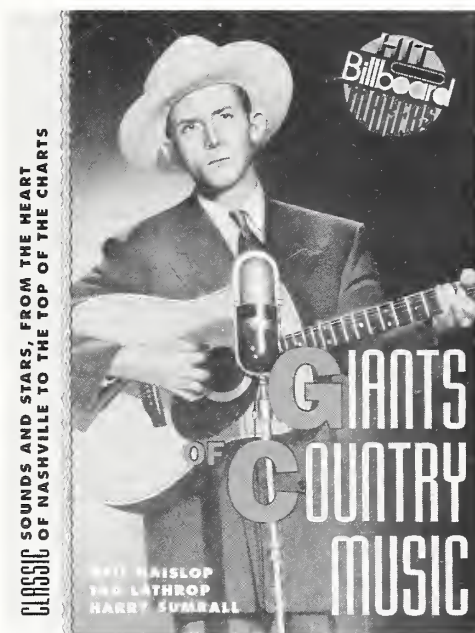
THE SUBHEAD TELLS IT ALL: *Stories From Fellow Artists, Friends, And Followers Of The Grateful Dead.*

In one respect it's *sort of* a history of The Grateful Dead told through sound bites from the well-known, lesser-known and unknown, all of whom have either worked the stages with the Dead or primed themselves with whatever was handy in the parking lot before viewing them, and the true Deadheads who have faithfully followed the band; one shouts the fact he's "seen well over a hundred shows."

Author Linda Kelly has simply recorded all these people and then faithfully set down their thoughts and feelings. No one's ever been able to say about Deadheads, that they're deadheads, in a banal sense of the word. They're definitely *feeling* and they don't mind letting you know. Kelly brings them all together, sometimes in just one line quotes, under 16 chapter titles, each beginning with "Getting" and ranging through "...Turned on...Tickets...In...High...Busted...Off...Hooked...Onstage...Backstage...Silly...Out...Disillusioned...Perspective...Older...Close...It." She breaks the trend with a final segment titled "Afterwards" which is given over to remembrances of Jerry Garcia, who died just a few weeks prior to Kelly's completion of this and wafts out with a quote from Garcia himself from a radio interview: *I'd like to disappear gracefully...* She also spices it up with pictures, past and present, of the Dead so you can see ol' Jerry's hair turn gray, but never lose its flair.

Deadheads isn't anything that will compell anyone to sit and read it completely through in one sitting. Like the Dead, it can be visited and re-visited and enjoyed each time. The giftee can read a page or two, drift away (perhaps on a flashback)—Yes, Timothy Leary "chaos engineer" is quoted here—and then return for another little taste as he/she pleases. Totally enjoyable. Sort of an MTV of the book set. (Citadel Underground; Citadel Press; Carol Publishing Group. \$14.95)

Giants Of Country Music by Neil Haislop, Tad Lathrop, Harry Sumrall



THE CONTENTS OF THIS become rather dicey when considering the title's hook, *Giants*, because some of them are and some of them aren't.

With country music's immortal Hank Williams gracing the cover and that title, one goes into this expecting more than it delivers. Yeah, ol' Hank's here, along with young Hank Jr.; and that's alright because Bocephus has carved a giant place for himself in country music. He's certainly proven himself to be his father's son, living out what he writes about.

And there's no question that the likes of Johnny Cash, George Jones, Roy Acuff, Chet Atkins, Gene Autry, Red Foley, Kitty Wells, Willie Nelson, Lefty Frizzell and Loretta Lynn deserve space and can be accorded "giants" status. Questionable are some who splashed onto the scene in the '80s & early '90s. Granted, they've hit with a couple million sellers and are not without talent but Clay Walker (who debuted in '93) and Steve Wariner (1985 isn't *really* a piece back, y'know), or even Randy Travis (1986), Travis Tritt (1990) or Marty Stuart (although he began as a child prodigy in the '60s and will likely hang in he didn't *hit* singly until 1990). Perhaps the title should have been altered to read—*Giant Sellers*.

The authors have simply compiled thumbnail sketches for the participants here, many of which read pretty much like a mail-out PR bio, a picture and a quick discography of Top Songs and Top Albums. Further, they've chosen not to give any historical direction to the book by beginning at the roots level and allow it to be as politically correct as possible by lining the pickers and singers up alphabetically thereby relieving any pressure as to putting any one performer at the head of the list. Not really worth the \$21.95 price unless your feet *really* hurt at this point and your recipient isn't a dyed-in-the-wool Country fan.

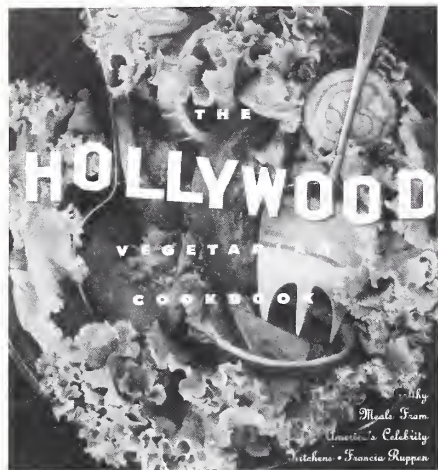
(Billboard Books; Watson-Guptill Publications)

The Hollywood Vegetarian Cookbook, Compiled by Franca Ruppen

THIS IS A GOOD ONE to gift someone you know will eat, perhaps, a tad too much during the holidays. Helps, too, if they're somewhat star-struck, as the sub-title indicates: *Lean, Healthy Meals From America's Celebrity Kitchens.*

It's divided into two parts; the first being prepared with fats—**Captain Kangaroo's** Vegetable Casserole uses 4 tablespoons *butter*—and in Part 2 "Celebrity Redux" Cap hops onto the page substituting two tablespoons Nucoa Heart Beat or low-fat margarine.

Nutritionally, each recipe is analyzed for caloric, fat, cholesterol and sodium content. *Celebs have* to have their nutritional analysis tables and food guide pyramid, don't y'know, dahling.



Each recipe is served up with a picture of the celeb, some with signature, others not, and the dishes range from **Richard Anderson's** Greek Pasta Salad and **Julie Andrews's** Soup Francine for meal openers to **Steve Allen and Jayne Meadows's** Cajun Red Beans and Rice (prepared without the Cajun sausage and/or ham; no fats in Beverly Hills, remember?), **Dom DeLuise's** Stuffed and Rolled Eggplant Marinara and **Phyllis Diller's**

Parmesan Eggplant Casserole.

Desserts, you ask? Well, **Carol Connors** weighs in with her Aunt Carol's Banana Wana Nutty Wuddy Bread while **Anne Jeffreys** checks in with Thomas Jefferson's Chess Pie, which doesn't look like it would make anyone lean and mean with 1/4 cup butter, 1 cup dark brown sugar, 3 eggs, heavy cream, apricot preserves and, hey now, Apricot Brandy. No wonder Jefferson had gout. But it sure looks good on the page, and it doesn't seem to have hurt Ms. Jeffreys' figure.

Other celebs included are **Tim Allen** (Lasagne), **Paul Anka** (Tabouli My Way), **Desi Arnaz, Jr.** (Pasta Delight), **Anne Bancroft and Mel Brooks** (Mango-Black Bean Sauce Over Rice), **Julie Christie** (Vegetable Cottage Pie), **Doris Day** (Sicilian Cheese Casserole), **Bob Hope** (Bob's Favorite Lemon Pie), **k.d. lang** (Indonesian Salad With Spicy Peanut Dressing), **Gregory Peck** (Ratatouille), **Elizabeth Taylor** (Low-Cal Vinaigrette).

You bet, there are others but the list is too long to do completely, and I really want to go try a couple of these.

(Birch Lane Press; Carol Publishing Group \$16.95)

Star Trek Concordance, By Bjo Trimble

EVERYTHING YOU'VE EVER WANTED to know about *Star Trek*, the original series, and then some; the movies and certain aspects of *The Next Generation* and *Deep Space Nine*. The animated series is listed, along with "Parts and Sections of *Star Trek* vessels," Astronomical References, an Actor Cross-Reference and a Production Cross-Reference.

And, boy, this'll make your head blast off into space. Every actor on the original series is listed here, star dates, titles—even titles as they're translated in other languages, which makes for some interesting reading. Try this: "Where No Man Has Gone Before," title taken from the stet introduction of the series translates in German as "The Top Of The Iceberg"; Italian, "Beyond the Galaxy"; Japanese, "Shining Eyes"; and the Spanish is simply wonderful, "Where No One Has Been Able To Arrive."

This is for someone who's got a lot of time on their hands—which, seemingly, most Trekkies have anyway.

Haven't you got someone in your family who does little other than sit around and watch old *Star Trek* re-runs and trek to the nearest reunion? Sure you have. At \$19.95, if each former cast member—not regulars, just those who guested or had a bit part over the three seasons—that is listed bought one to see their name as a part of history bought one it would put this on the best seller list.

It's fun, fact filled, and you'll never have to feel your *Star Trek* education is lacking if you get through this before you're 90.

(Citadel Press; Carol Publishing Group)

The 100 Greatest Athletes of All Time; A Sports Editor's Personal Ranking, By Bert Randolph Sugar

AT FIRST GLANCE this one seems pretty much a good bet for any couch potato in your family who hasn't watched a newscast or read anything out of the newspaper beyond the jocks' statistics. Who else could possibly believe, or accept any sports figure as a heroic icon anymore anyway?

I won't sell it that short if you won't.

Author Bert Randolph Sugar who, according to

the dust jacket's bio sleeve, "has been called 'the Guru of Sports'... a reincarnation of Damon Runyon'... [and] has covered the sports scene for more than three decades..." is a delightful and entertaining writer. Anyone interested in reading (and that seems to be a declining number today, unfortunately) will settle in warm and comfortable with the book after reading Sugar's *Introduction* as he recounts his search for the 100 list through some of the great sports bars in the country and likens this to a bar bet. If you're not hooked after that then you've never really cared for sports, ever, but if you've ever liked one, be it football, baseball, track and field, swimming, tennis, golf, basketball, hockey, etc., they're all here.

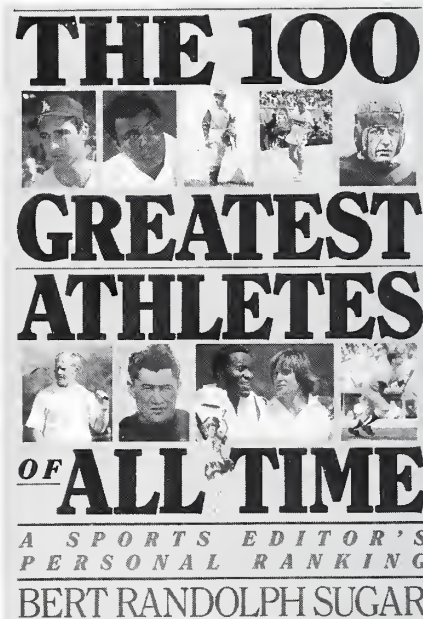
Sugar doesn't whitewash his subjects. He's well aware of separating the legend from the man. He does have a respect for his subjects, but that aspect doesn't cloud his vision, and is accorded the person only insofar as his or her exploits on their particular field, court or pool of play where they made their name.

If you, as reader, contrast these athletes, so many of them coming from the past, to the dollar-chasing prima donnas of today, you'll come to the realization that it may not be long before the criteria for the term "best" will be totally altered, and the criteria for "greatest" will be non-existent except only in the ever escalating race to become the highest paid since none of them seem to give a damn about their games anymore anyway.

Sugar reminds us that selection of "best" athletes is not an objective science and cites several other sources who have produced "best" lists, but he wishes everyone well with the arguments that will undoubtedly ensue over the years as to who's best and who's not.

The writer has put together a fine piece of work here, investing each segment with his own warm, personal style which makes it relaxed reading and enjoyable with a picture of each subject in their individual milieu heading their segment. And once again, it's a piece of work that can be spot read, put away and then returned to at any time.

(Citadel Press; Carol Publishing; \$24.95)



Feature

Son Volt: Tracing The History Of Americana

By Steve Baltin

"If learning is living and the truth is a state of mind, you'll find it's better at the end of the line." (From "Tear Stained Eye," Son Volt, 1995)

WHEN BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN RULED THE POP world in the early to mid-'80s he spearheaded a movement that became known as "heartland rock." Including such acts as John Mellencamp, John Cafferty, Bryan Adams (even though he's Canadian), Tom Petty (at the time of his *Southern Accents* album) and Bob Seger, the movement could be found peppered at the top of the charts. But like everything in music, "heartland rock" proved to be transient, giving way to the glam metal of the late '80s, which eventually surrendered its rule to grunge and punk.

But, in music, everything new is old, and if you listen closely to your radio and the hushed whispers in the clubs you can hear a quiet rumbling beneath the thunder of the punk rock revival. You have to pay attention to catch the strains of the acoustic guitar and the gentle country twangs seeping their way into the American rock scene, but they're there. From the Geraldine Fibbers' violin-infused blend of country/punk/rock to Tarnation's more obvious homages to Americana, bands are taking heartland rock back to its roots, to an era where Hank Williams and Patsy Cline were the king and queen of popular music.

To a lot of insiders, the band responsible for getting the time machine set to the '40s and '50s was college faves Uncle Tupelo, a St. Louis act which never made it big on the charts, but made its impact felt through its large devoted legion of admirers. Thus, it's only fitting that the band being thought of as the leaders in this new movement is Son Volt, a group born from the ashes of Uncle Tupelo.

The band, made up of Jay Farrar on guitar and vocals, Jim Boquist (bass/vocals), Dave Boquist (guitar, banjo, fiddle, lap steel) and Mike Heidorn on drums, has been profiled in *Newsweek* and "Drown," the first single from the band's Warner Bros. debut, *Trace*, has been gaining growing support from radio each week.

During a recent phone interview, Heidorn joked about the revival of Americana music, "It all comes from Hank." He said with more seriousness, "There's no real venue to see it coming from." And it doesn't help that pain-in-the-butt journalists looking for an angle place the group on a pedestal. Like any act put in the awkward position of defining a movement, Son Volt isn't even quite sure what it is it's supposedly defining. Heidorn said, "I don't know what Americana is. The roots thing—I don't know what it is."

"God knows you don't need it too early/You might be the one/Find yourself somewhere else too early in the sun." (From "Too Early," Son Volt, 1995)

Although the group is getting mainstream media attention and radio airplay, and its current tour is selling out constantly (the band's December 4 show at The Troubadour in L.A. was sold out well before the day of the gig), the band is still very much at a grassroots level, something that is very beneficial to the foursome right now. Before Son Volt can go out and lead a musical revolution, the band needs to figure out exactly what it's about. As Heidorn explained about the quick jump from existing band to signed act, "We only had a couple of months of actual playing time, about 30 or 60 days." He went on to say, "We were learning these songs with the record button on."

While the basic feel of the 11 tunes on *Trace*, which fluctuate between the Counting Crows feel of the uptempo "Drown" to the beautiful "Tear Stained Eye" and to the aching loveliness of "Too Early," may lead many to believe Son Volt's music is simple, Heidorn contends that's not the case. He said, "It was not an easy thing to throw these tunes together."

The heart of Son Volt's sound is Farrar's eloquent songwriting. A natural storyteller in the tradition of Woody Guthrie with the wordsmith abilities of a poet, Farrar gives each of the 10 songs he wrote (the one exception is a cover of Ron Wood's "Mystifies Me") a quiet, understated soul that breathes like the river that inspired much of the album. In the uptempo "Live Free," the notoriously shy Farrar sings, "When we're all passed over/the rhythm of the river will remain."

It was Farrar's gift as a songwriter that brought Heidorn into the fold. Heidorn was the original drummer for Uncle Tupelo before splitting in 1992 due to family responsibilities and the toll of life on the road. When asked why he'd return to that life with Son Volt, Heidorn responded, "The timing of it first and foremost. It was just the timing of when Jay's album had to be recorded."

When Heidorn spoke of Farrar there was a mixture of fan and friend in his voice. For instance, he agreed to do the album because he thought, "Anything I can do to help him." And he said of the vocalist's songs, "He doesn't have much fraud. He's sincere and real." That sincerity rings throughout *Trace*, accounting for why the fans who have discovered the band treat the group as friends and heroes, which is rare respect



Son Volt

for a band whose first album has only been out a couple of months. Though Uncle Tupelo had a massive cult following and such a wide influence that it qualifies them as a Replacements or Husker Du for the early '90s, Heidorn said of the reverence Son Volt is being shown, "It is kind of surprising."

After all, Heidorn's reasoning for wanting to work with Farrar again was rather simple. When asked what his favorite thing about the band was, he said, "Just Jay's voice. I've always liked Jay's voice. Secondly, his wording." As for the Boquist brothers (Jim used to be in Joe Henry, touring mates of Uncle Tupelo) Heidorn said of the first encounter between the four, "The chemistry just jelled right upon the first meeting."

Filling in the final piece of the puzzle, at least for *Trace*, was producer Brian Paulson (Beck, Superchunk, Squirrel Nut Zippers). Heidorn had nothing but the highest praise for Paulson, saying, "He did his job quite well...He's a great, great individual. A smart guy and a very patient fellow." Maybe the biggest compliment Heidorn paid Paulson was, "Brian had a quiet vibe."

However, when it comes time for the live show, it's just the quartet on stage. As such, Heidorn said of the live show, "A lot of these songs have been changing live." Another reason for the metamorphosis of the band's music is the short time Son Volt has existed as a unit. Heidorn said of the band's current sound, "It seems to be the edges are coming together."

One of the most quoted lyrics from the album comes from the opening track, "Windfall." In it, Farrar sings, "It sounds like 1963/But for now/It sounds like heaven." If heaven sounds like Hank Williams strumming his acoustic guitar, and I, for one, would like to believe it does, then somewhere down the line, a young writer driving a dark and empty road sometime after midnight will be saying the same thing about "Too Early" and "Tear Stained Eye."

LATIN

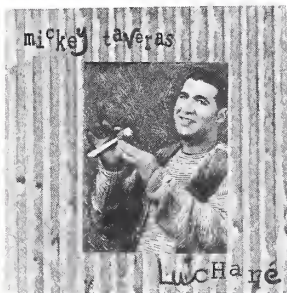
REVIEWS *By Héctor Reséndez*

■ **CELINES:** *Libre* (Mereganzo, 81693) **Producer:** Luisin Marti. **TROPICAL/MERENGUE.**

As former half of the Mayra and Celinés duo of the merengue world, the latter goes solo. And so she should. Her former buddy has done well with her solo project. Celinés now forges ahead with her lively project called *Libre*. Celinés is supported by fellow label-mate, Manny Manuel, on the selection "Amigos." The debut album is a solidly strong presentation of this singer's vocal strength. The album's tasteful packaging should be highly appealing.



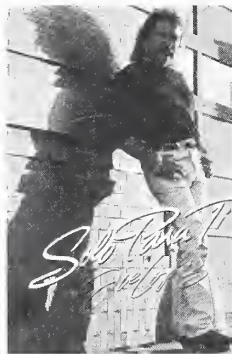
■ **MICKEY TAVERAS:** *Lucharé* (Karen Records, 10793) **Producers:** Mickey Taveras and Bienvenido Rodriguez. **TROPICAL/SALSA.**



A not-so-relative new face on the Salsa scene, Mickey Taveras offers his contemporary interpretation of what a tropical music artist should strive for: versatility. Ranging from straight-ahead salsa numbers to ballads to merengue, Taveras does it all and very well. Younger salsa consumers will find his style particularly palatable. Veteran saleros will yearn for a sharper and consequently more familiar edge (as found on the promo single, "Quiéreme"). Nevertheless, Taveras has, undoubtedly, a strong future ahead in the tropical music arena. A powerful debut album.

■ **MAZZ:** *Solo Para Ti* (EMI Latin, 7243) **Producer:** Jimmy Gonzalez. **TEJANO.**

Mazz is one group that's difficult to categorize. Though most of their cumbia and ranchera music is straight-ahead Tejano, Mazz seems bent on extending itself into other realms. For example, Mazz' singer, Joe Lopez, easily delivers a sweet ballad with "Mas y Mas." He can also handily perform a rock, mariachi or country tune without skipping a beat. The first promo single, "Estúpido Romántico," has been climbing the play-charts throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.



PICK OF THE WEEK



■ **TITO GOMEZ:** *Recogiendo Frutos* (MP, 8166) **Producer:** Julio "Gunda" Merced. **TROPICAL/SALSA.**

Salsa icon, Tito Gomez, returns with his long-awaited album (third for MP) entitled *Recogiendo Frutos*. The selections are definitely characteristic of Gomez' style: high-caliber compositions with an equally driven execution.

The first promo single is "Déjala (Segunda Parte)," with label-mate, Tito Rojas. This is the sequel to the duo's original recording on Gomez's debut album for MP. Gomez will undoubtedly fare well with his latest project. The singer, who began his career with the most popular groups in the Salsa world, has legions of fans throughout Latin America and the U.S.

THE LATIN LOWDOWN

News From U.S. & Latin America

By Héctor Reséndez

PONCHO SANCHEZ HEATS UP HOUSE OF BLUES: Latin jazz artist Poncho Sanchez was hotter than the cajun sauce at the **House of Blues** venue in Hollywood several weeks ago. The **Concord Picante** recording artist celebrated the release of his latest album, *Soul Sauce: Memories of Cal Tjader*, dedicated to his long-time friend and mentor. Another fellow percussionist of Sanchez and Tjader's was **Shiela E.** who was also on hand that evening.

JOEL NAVA'S WHITE CHRISTMAS: Indie label, Arista/Texas, has released an original track by its debut recording artist, **Joel Nava**, and multi-award winning musician **Steve Wariner** of its **Arista/Nashville** division. "Mama's Boy" has been released on the Christmas compilation project, *A Tejano Country Christmas*. The radio single and its corresponding video, gives Tejano and country music fans a new contemporary Christmas classic.

Cameron Randle, the label's vice president and general manager, says, "As Joel's star rapidly rises in the Tejano world and we prepare for the early '96 release of his country single, now is the time to get to know Joel Nava—with a song that provides a fresh perspective on the timeless story that is Christmas." "Mama's Boy" is the only original track on the yuletide compilation. The video was directed by **Robert Gabrielsen** and produced by **Scene Three** in Nashville.

A Tejano Country Christmas spotlights other **Arista/Texas** artists and their unique interpretation of classic and new Christmas songs. In addition to Nava, performers include Tex-Mex star **Freddy Fender**, two-time Grammy winner **Flaco Jimenez**, Tejano debut success **La Diferenzia**, and singer-songwriter **Rick Orozco**.

KAREN'S AMANDA MIGUEL RECORDS IN ITALY: Several months ago, pop singer, **Amanda Miguel**, travelled to Milan, Italy, to start her new recording at **Santanna Recording Studios** under the auspices of **Karen Publishing**. On hand was executive director, **Bienvenido Rodriguez**, and producer-musical director, **Diego Verdaguer**. Italian composer-arranger, **Gianni Salvatori**, was there. He has worked with such artists as **Laura Paussini**, **Gianna Nannini**, **Marco Masine** and **Zuccherò**.



Karen Records' Amanda Miguel.

Miguel plans to return to Italy in early January to complete her recording. It is slated for release by March with a simultaneous album release in the Western Hemisphere and Europe, more specifically in Spain.

The Karen label is also releasing a single by **Hansel & Raul**, the celebrated Salsa duo from the mid- to late-eighties. The first single on the album, *Celebrando*, is the Colombian Vallenato-tinged "Bailala Pe'gaita." Hard-core fans need not worry. The duo will be giving their first live concert performance of the album on New Year's Eve at the **Miami Airport Hilton**. A U.S. tour is currently being set-up for 1996.

MEANWHILE, BACK IN MIAMI: Fellow Cuban singing sensation **Gloria Estefan** recently went to Spain to accept the "Premio Ondas" for Best Latin Artist. Estefan's latest album, *Abriendo Puertas*, was in that country's number one spot for seven consecutive weeks. It has sold over 12 platinum records there. Estefan also travelled to Colombia to accept a similar award. The album has garnished five platinum discs there.



Gloria Estefan.



News From The United Kingdom, Ireland & Europe

By Hal Levy

AND THE WINNERS ARE, at the MTV Music Awards Show '95 in Paris:

- Best Male Single—Michael Jackson
- Best Female Single—Bjork
- Best Group—U2
- Best Song—"Zombie" by The Cranberries
- Best Rock Group—Bon Jovi
- Best Dance Act—East 17
- Best Live Act—Take That
- Best Breakthrough Artist—Dog East Dog
- Best Director—Michael Condry for the Massive Attack video *Protection*
- Free Your Mind Reward—Greenpeace

TO MARKET WE GO and Thorn EMI at £15.20 is up 1.6%. Rank Organization is up 0.3% at £3.99 while PolyGram is down 3.5% at £37.75 (NL 92.50). Granada is up 5.9% at £6.95.

GO AWAY: Thorn EMI announced its demerger plans for separate rental and music divisions is on track and reported pre-tax profits up 28%. Meanwhile Thorn Security, in which Thorn EMI has a 43% interest reported pre-tax profits of £9.17 million up to March 1995. The previous year saw losses of £3.5 million. The security company is planning a stock float later in 1996.

FORTE-ISIMO: The international luxury hotel chain Forte is under attack by Granada, the British TV and leisure group. Granada has bid £3.3 billion and is set to pay some £70 million for bid expenses. Forte, in turn, is set to spend an almost equal amount to defend itself against what it calls an unjustified raid. Granada claims decline in Forte's profits in a five year period of 11%, a 41% drop in earnings and 34% drop in dividends per share plus a loss of £590 million in net assets. Forte pointed out that the period covered was a low point for all hotels worldwide and they actually came out better than most. Plus, hotel revenues are picking up and they expect a record year.

THE NAME'S BOND, THE MISSION, TO SAVE MGM. French bank Credit Lyonnaise, owner of MGM and United Artists, is hoping James Bond will bring in enough money to brighten its chances of getting a good price for the sale of both companies. Troubled Credit Lyonnaise earlier this year was placed under the control of the French Government's Consortium de Realization, which is trying to dispose of as much of the bank's assets as part of bank privatization plans. Success of Goldeneye would, of course, raise the asking price.

THE NAME'S TINA, LIKE IN TURNER, who sings the theme song in *Goldeneye*. She's said to be set for the next 007 film, as a villain!

AFTER VE, VJ COMES MJ DAY when Michael Jackson will speak to his European fans at the 6th Annual MJ Day on December 2 at the London Palais. Those attending the all-day event will vie for free tickets to MJ's New York pre-Christmas gig.

AND THE OTHER JACKSON, LATOYA popped into Dublin to launch Bud Light's new bottle, but couldn't make the press conference because she was down with a cold. LaToya, currently on tour with gigs in the UK, Germany, Spain and Portugal is working on a follow-up to her 1991 autobiography as well as preparing for an upcoming album.

NOT HOME ALONE: Recent statistics show that Ireland sells more cinema tickets per capita than the U.S. or the UK, and the numbers are growing. A year ago, independent Tom O'Connor opened his five-screen Cineplex in Cork using his own money. Today he starts work on an 8-screen multiplex in nearby Limerick and has become the largest independent theater owner in Ireland.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN AN ANGEL and the four Beatle wives are. Part of the royalties for the Beatles' single, "Free As A Bird" will go to the Romanian Angel Appeal which helps AIDS and HIV-positive kids in Romania. The wives, together with Elton John, founded the charity in 1990.

AND ANGELS ARE MADE IN HEAVEN: All royalties from Queen—*Made In Heaven* albums sold on December 1 will go to AIDS charities.

ROCK AND ROLLING ON. Raven Pictures International reported foreign contract negotiations on their feature length comedy *I Crave Rock & Roll*. The musical video, written and directed by Carmen Santa Maria contains an original score and music. The Vista Pacific film will be released in the States early next year.

AND KEEP 'EM ROLLIN': Last week was the Federation Against Copyright Theft's "Fight The Pirates Day" and steamrollers crushed thousands of pirate CDs and videos. Last year the police brought to court some 173 cases and seized almost 160,000 videos. The Federation claims that the industry loses more than £250 million a year from videos alone. Discouraging news however is research which reported that 20% of the population would buy a pirate video.

HAVEN (TAX THAT IS) CAN'T WAIT: The tiny mountain country of Andorra, located between France and Spain has scrapped a proposed tax on foreign residents, but rules for residential status will be tightened in the future. Foreign residents will have to spend eight months a year in the country, have their own

health and pension plan and deposit with the government the sum of \$16,000, money to be refunded when and if the resident moves out of Andorra. Because of uncertainty of what the government would propose, house prices in the country have dropped some 20% in the last two years.

PLACE YOUR BETS: London Clubs International saw pre-tax profits go up 15% to £19.3 million in the six-month period ending September. The company reported that profits from "upmarket and high roller" casinos had dropped from 80% to 69% but were more than made up for by the growth of middle and lower level venues. Experts say it bodes well for the company, the limiting of its dependence of the very volatile high rollers. On the international scene, due to an excellent year, they are expanding their casino at Taba in Egypt and they will soon be opening in Beirut what is described as the largest venue in the Middle East.

MAKING THEMSELVES SCARCE: The Rhode Island group, Scarce had to pull out of the Reading Festival earlier this year because singer Chick Graning was knocked out by a brain aneurysm. Now they've cancelled their UK tour because bassist Joyce Raskin has a cyst on her spine.

INFLATION? HMV upped the price of the *Red And Blue* greatest Beatles hit albums from last year's price of £15 to £29 and the *Sergeant Pepper* CD at £21.

IS THERE A BLOCKBUSTER IN IRELAND'S FUTURE? A new company, Blockbuster Entertainment Ireland has been registered in Dublin this month. However, the U.S. company has made no announcement of coming to Ireland.

UK SINGLES: Hanging onto the *un* spot is Robson & Jerome's "I Believe," followed in *deux* by Coolio's "Gangsta's Paradise" with Everything But The Girl's "Missing" in *trois*. Quatre finds Oasis' "Wonderwall" while newcomer Blur's "The Universal" is *cing*. Madonna's "You'll See" is *six* and moving up on the charts is Enya's "Anywhere Is" is *sept* with newcomers Boyzone's "Father And Son" at *huit*, Bjork's "It's Oh So Quiet" at *neuf* and Bon Jovi's "Lie To Me" at *dix*. (What is unusual about this week's chart is that half the entries are newcomers to the Top Ten.)

Top UK Album is Robson & Jerome's *Robson & Jerome* while the top European album is Queen's *Made In Heaven* and the European top single is Coolio's "Gangsta's Paradise." *Made In Heaven* is also top album in Spain, Germany and Belgium.

China's Anti-Piracy Efforts called 'Insufficient'

CHINA'S EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT the landmark intellectual property rights enforcement struck last February with the United States were called "unacceptably insufficient" last Wednesday by the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) during a hearing with a U.S. Senate subcommittee. The IIPA, which represents U.S. copyright-based industries, is seeking to bolster international protection of copyrighted works, including computer software, films, videos, music, recordings and books.

IIPA vp/general counsel Steven J. Metalitz told the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs that while nine months after the agreement between the countries was signed, there have been some glimmers of progress, "the promise of this agreement has not been fulfilled."

Metalitz told the subcommittee members that Chinese pirate factories continue to produce unauthorized audio and video CDs and "compilation CD-Roms," some containing thousands of dollars worth of illegally copied computer software and databases. He said that China has also failed to carry out its pledges of vigorous enforcement of copyright laws, and of providing more open markets for U.S. export of sound recordings, audio-visual materials, computer software and print publications.

Calling for a closure or conversion to legitimacy of the pirate plants, institution of stiff penalties against offenders and the opening of trade, Metalitz said, "...the next few months will be critical.

"If by early next year, there is concrete evidence that the Chinese are eradicating CD piracy, imposing deterrent penalties on violators and dismantling market access barriers, the positive momentum generated by the agreement can be harnessed for further progress," he continued. Metalitz added that if these issues were not addressed quickly, the agreement will be in jeopardy.

Also testifying before the subcommittee were heads of three of the eight IIPA member associations, including Jason S. Berman, chairman/CEO of the Recording Industry Assn. of America; Jack Valenti, chairman/CEO of the Motion Picture Assn.; and Robert Holleyman, president of the Business Software Alliance.

SCHMOOZE



Smile For Santa Sisters, and Gent. Gai Saber/I.R.S. Records recently released *Mother & Child*, a Christmas album featuring brand new Christmas songs performed by Amy Grant, Vesta, Olivia Newton-John, Belinda Carlisle, Shanice, Martina McBride, CeCe Winans, and many more. An EPK for the album was shot in Nashville and at Devonshire Studios in L.A. where this group got together (l-r): Susan Hale, I.R.S.; Crystal Wilson, mother of Shanice; Shanice; Paul Orescan, I.R.S.; Tena Clark, exec. producer; Olivia Newton-John; Vesta; and Janeane Ardolino, I.R.S.



Mary Gives Glamour Gown To Motown. Mary Wilson recently donated the full-length green, white and gold sequined gown she wore on Diana Ross and The Supremes' *TCB (Takin' Care of Business)* NBC TV show which aired in 1968 to Motown Cafe's growing collection of Motown memorabilia. "I'm proud to offer a very special part of my past to Motown Cafe," Wilson said at the ceremony, "I know they'll take good care of it and share my chapter in The Motown story with a new generation of Supremes fans." Shown at the cafe (l-r): Brian Daneman, Motown Cafe COO; Mary Wilson; and Traci Jordan, Motown Cafe sr. vp./creative director.



The Brits Are Here, Take That! British pop group, y'know? Take That? No, it's not an insult, it's the name of the group, if you haven't heard. Take That's on a promo trip in the States, invading the airwaves with its single "Back For Good" from the Arista debut album, *Nobody Else*, so take that. Pictured in L.A. with KIIS-FM jock Rick Dees are Take That (back row l-r): Gary Barlow, Mark Owen, Dees, Jason Orange. Center: Howard Donald.



A Father And Son Celebration Dinner. Elektra recording duet Gerald and Eddie Levert were in NY to celebrate the release of their duet album *Father And Son* and Elektra execs hosted a dinner for the pair. Pictured at the affair (l-r): Eddie Levert; Richard Nash, Elektra sr. v.p., urban promo; Karen Mason, sr. director of urban marketing; Merlin Bobb, A&R sr. v.p.; Sylvia Rhone, EEG chairman; and Gerald Levert.



Strings Sing Right Through Greek Rites. The Rite Of Strings, featuring Stanley Clarke, Al Di Meola and Jean Luc Ponty, recently played a packed house at L.A.'s Greek Theatre wrapping up the first leg of the group's U.S. tour. Shown backstage celebrating the sold out show as well as a Top 10 Jazz album are (l-r): Bob Zievers, ICM; David Bendett, Firststars Management; Jean Luc Ponty; Stevo Glendinning, I.R.S. Records A&R v.p.; Stanley Clarke; Mike Bone, I.R.S. sr. v.p./IGM; Al Di Meola; Paul Orescan, I.R.S. marketing/creative services v.p.



Q Jooks On Into The Second Fifty. Twenty-six time Grammy Award-winning producer, arranger and composer Quincy Jones was honored by Time Warner, Warner Music Group and Warner Bros. Records for his diverse achievements during his first fifty years in the music industry. The celebration took place at NYC's Roseland Ballroom and pictured are (l-r): Russ Thyret, WBR chairman/CEO; Gerald Levin, TW chairman/CEO; Jones; Michael Fuchs, WMG chairman/CEO; and Richard Parsons, TW president.

CASH BOX

TOP 100 COUNTRY SINGLES

DECEMBER 9, 1995



This Week's #1:
Alan Jackson



Highest Debut:
Joe Diffie

1	TALL, TALL TREES (Arista)	Alan Jackson	2	7
2	LIFE GOES ON (Warner Bros. 17770)	Little Texas	5	14
3	BACK IN YOUR ARMS AGAIN (BNA 66508)	Lorrie Morgan	3	14
4	IN PICTURES (RCA 66525)	Alabama	6	10
5	WHO NEEDS YOU BABY (Giant 17771)	Clay Walker	1	12
6	THAT'S AS CLOSE AS I'LL GET TO LOVING YOU (RCA)	Aaron Tippin	8	14
7	TEQUILA TALKIN' (BNA 66642)	Lonestar	9	16
8	GO REST HIGH ON THAT MOUNTAIN (MCA 11047)	Vince Gill	10	14
9	LIFE GETS AWAY (RCA 66419)	Clint Black	13	8
10	CAN'T BE REALLY GONE (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	14	6
11	CHECK YES OR NO (MCA 11263)	George Strait	7	10
12	DEEP DOWN (Arista)	Pam Tillis	15	9
13	THE CAR (MCG/Curb 77744)	Jeff Carson	18	9
14	LOVE LESSONS (MCA 3428)	Tracy Byrd	16	13
15	REBECCA LYNN (Asylum 9344)	Bryan White	20	9
16	HERE COMES THE RAIN (MCA 11257)	The Mavericks	17	16
17	TROUBLE (Decca 11261)	Mark Chesnutt	21	11
18	BORN IN THE DARK (Columbia 64330)	Doug Stone	22	10
19	WHEN A WOMAN LOVES A MAN (Career 187902)	Lee Roy Parnell	23	13
20	WHISKEY UNDER THE BRIDGE (Arista 2770)	Brooks & Dunn	4	12
21	NOTHING (Reprise 17734)	Dwight Yoakam	24	8
22	IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD (Capitol Nashville)	Emilio	25	14
23	WHEN BOY MEETS GIRL (Mercury 526991)	Terri Clark	27	5
24	IT MATTERS TO ME (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	31	4
25	COWBOY LOVE (Atlantic)	John Michael Montgomery	28	3
26	IF I HAD ANY PRIDE LEFT AT ALL (Capitol Nashville)	John Berry	26	7
27	THE FEVER (Capitol Nashville 32080)	Garth Brooks	29	2
28	RING ON HER FINGER, TIME ON HER HANDS (MCA 12642)	Reba McEntire	30	4
29	I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU (Columbia 67140)	Dolly Parton & Vince Gill	12	12
30	NOT ENOUGH HOURS IN THE NIGHT (Giant 17764)	Doug Supernaw	32	8
31	(IF YOU'RE NOT IN IT FOR LOVE) I'M OUTTA HERE! (Mercury 522886)	SHANIA TWAIN	38	2
32	WHAT I MEANT TO SAY (Columbia/DKC 66412)	Wade Hayes	36	6
33	LIKE THERE AIN'T NO YESTERDAY (Arista)	BlackHawk	37	4
34	HEART HALF EMPTY (Epic 66397)	Ty Herndon & Stephanie Bentley	34	7
35	RUB-A-DUBBIN' (Epic 66965)	Ken Mellons	35	9
36	NOT THAT DIFFERENT (Epic 78189)	Collin Raye	40	3
37	BIGGER THAN THE BEATLES (Epic 67405)	Joe Diffie	DEBUT	
38	SHE SAID YES (Decca 11098)	Rhett Akins	39	7
39	SMOKE IN HER EYES (RCA 64405)	Ty England	41	5
40	ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL (Capitol Nashville 10302)	Shenandoah	42	4
41	SOMETIMES SHE FORGETS (Warner Bros.)	Travis Tritt	11	16
42	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 55153)	David Lee Murphy	45	2
43	GRANDPA TOLD ME SO (BNA 66562)	Kenny Chesney	44	3
44	'ROUND HERE (Curb 77785)	Sawyer Brown	48	2

45	SOME THINGS ARE MEANT TO BE (Arista)	Linda Davis	DEBUT	
46	THOSE WORDS WE SAID (Mercury 526812)	Kim Richey	46	9
47	VEIL OF TEARS (Curb 76965)	Hal Ketchum	47	3
48	WILD ANGELS (RCA 66509)	Martina McBride	DEBUT	
49	IF I WAS A DRINKIN' MAN (Atlantic)	Neal McCoy	33	17
50	WHEN HE WAS MY AGE (Atlantic)	Confederate Railroad	53	5
51	I LET HER LIE (Giant 24606)	Daryle Singletary	19	18
52	I JUST CAN'T STAND TO BE UNHAPPY (MCA)	Bobbie Cryner	49	8
53	NO MAN'S LAND (Atlantic)	John Michael Montgomery	43	15
54	LISTENIN' TO THE RADIO (Polydor)	Chely Wright	54	6
55	I WANNA GO TOO FAR (MCA 11201)	Trisha Yearwood	50	18
56	SOLID GROUND (Atlantic)	Ricky Skaggs	61	3
57	THE WOMAN IN ME (NEEDS THE MAN IN YOU) (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	51	16
58	DOG ON A TOOLBOX (Epic 67069)	James Bonamy	58	5
59	STEADY AS SHE GOES (Giant 24620)	Mark Collie	60	2
60	NO YESTERDAY (Magnatone)	Billy Montana	62	6
61	SAFE IN THE ARMS OF LOVE (RCA 66509)	Martina McBride	55	20
62	WHAT DO I KNOW (Columbia 67223)	Ricochet	DEBUT	
63	HIS MEMORY (Step One 0085)	Western Flyer	63	4
64	I'M A STRANGER HERE MYSELF (Curb)	Perfect Stranger	52	10
65	I HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET (Decca 11259)	Helen Darling	67	4
66	SHE CAN'T SAVE HIM (Capitol Nashville)	Lisa Brokop	72	3
67	ALL I NEED TO KNOW (BNA 66562)	Kenny Chesney	56	19
68	WHEREVER YOU ARE TONIGHT (BNA 66764)	Keith Whitley	68	5
69	IF I COULD SEE LOVE (Career 18789)	Brett James	57	6
70	DUST ON THE BOTTLE (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	59	16
71	FIELD OF DREAMS (Curb)	Boy Howdy	64	6
72	KNOCK, KNOCK (Atlantic)	The Hutchens	65	10
73	I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO SAY NO (Arista)	BlackHawk	66	18
74	SHE'S EVERY WOMAN (Capitol Nashville 10301)	Garth Brooks	69	13
75	IT'S NOT ABOUT BLAME (River North 4549)	Holly Dunn	78	3
76	SAVE THIS ONE FOR ME (Columbia 66771)	Rick Trevino	70	13
77	THE TROUBLE WITH LOVE (River North 51416)	Rob Crosby	71	9
78	BETTER THINGS TO DO (Mercury)	Terri Clark	73	20
79	ON MY OWN (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	74	11
80	HALFWAY DOWN (Epic 64188)	Patty Loveless	77	22
81	ANYTHING FOR LOVE (Epic)	James House	75	11
82	HONKY TONK HEALIN' (Warner Bros. 17785)	David Ball	76	10
83	LET'S GO TO VEGAS (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	79	18
84	(THIS THING CALLED) WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb)	Sawyer Brown	80	21
85	IF THE WORLD HAD A FRONT PORCH (Atlantic)	Tracy Lawrence	81	19
86	HEAVEN BOUND (I'M READY) (Capitol Nashville)	Shenandoah	82	18
87	I LIKE IT, I LOVE IT (Curb)	Tim McGraw	83	17
88	ONE BOY, ONE GIRL (Epic 67033)	Collin Raye	84	20
89	DON'T STOP (Columbia/DKC 66412)	Wade Hayes	85	22
90	I THINK ABOUT IT ALL THE TIME (Capitol Nashville)	John Berry	86	22
91	THAT AIN'T MY TRUCK (Decca 11098)	Rhett Akins	88	29
92	LEAD ON (MCA 11092)	George Strait	89	23
93	SHOULD'VE ASKED HER FASTER (RCA 66522)	Ty England	87	26
94	WHO'S COUNTING (Mercury 526582)	Wesley Dennis	90	10
95	BIG OL' TRUCK (Polydor 314523)	Toby Keith	91	20
96	SOMEONE ELSE'S STAR (Asylum)	Bryan White	93	29
97	I'M NOT THE ONE (Magnatone)	Shelby Lynne	94	9
98	THREE WORDS, TWO HEARTS, ONE NIGHT (Giant 24620)	Mark Collie	92	25
99	SHE AIN'T YOUR ORDINARY GIRL (RCA 66525)	Alabama	96	24
100	ONE EMOTION (RCA 66419)	Clint Black	95	22



Grand Ole Opry Reaches 70 Years Old

By Wendy Newcomer

THE HOME STAGE OF COUNTRY MUSIC celebrated its anniversary on November 30 with a taping of a CBS television network special. The **Grand Ole Opry**, one of the longest running radio shows, commemorated 70 years in broadcasting with a star-studded event that is scheduled to air in January.

The **Country Music Association (CMA)**'s reigning female vocalist **Alison Krauss**, CMA male vocalist **Vince Gill** and Gill's current duet partner **Dolly Parton** were among the Opry members who performed during the taping at the Grand Ole Opry House. Other Opry cast members who made appearances included **Chet Atkins**, **Clint Black**, **Roy Clark**, **Little Jimmy Dickens**, **Don Gibson**, **Emmylou Harris**, **George Jones**, **Hal Ketchum**, **Patty Loveless**, **Loretta Lynn**, **Bill Monroe**, **Lorrie Morgan**, **Ricky Van Shelton**, **Ricky Skaggs**, **Connie Smith**, **Mike Snider**, **Marty Stuart**, **Pam Tillis** and **Travis Tritt**.

In addition to promoting the country music legends and rising stars who have graced the stage of the Opry for 70 years, the Opry also continued its tradition of inducting another member. **RCA Records'** **Martina McBride** was introduced as its newest inductee during the taping.

"The Grand Ole Opry and CBS Television have worked together previously, most recently to produce specials celebrating the Opry's 60th and 65th anniversaries," said **Hal Durham**, president of the Grand Ole Opry Group. "We look forward to working with CBS again to spotlight the Opry's 70th anniversary."

Nashville Goes To The Olympics

MCA RECORDS/NASHVILLE AND **1996 OLYMPIC GAMES** organizers are teaming up for a unique compilation album featuring many of today's top country artists. Proceeds from the album will help support the U.S. Olympic Team and preparations for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

The joint effort was announced during a Nov. 20 news conference at the headquarters of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG). *One Voice* will be the first in a line of albums that will help maintain ACOG and U.S. Olympic Committee programs.

Live performances by **John Berry** singing the title cut, and **Karla Bonoff** and the **Nitty Gritty Dirt Band**—doing an acoustic version of the first single, "You Believed In Me"—provided a hint of what the project will offer.

"We are excited to be involved in the 1996 Olympic Games," said **Tony Brown**, president, MCA Records/Nashville. "We chose to do an album that represents the diversity of styles that come from Nashville, as opposed to doing an album that represented only country music."

"So, for the millions of music fans throughout the U.S. and around the world who enjoy the Nashville sound, this album offers the opportunity to not only hear great music but also the chance to make the 1996 Olympic Games something we can all be proud of," said **Louis Cunningham**, vp of new market development for **Atlanta Centennial Olympic Properties(ACOP)**, the marketing joint venture between the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).

In addition to the country music album, ACOP also has announced compilation albums of the works of top Latin, jazz, R&B/pop and classical recording artists. **EMI** and **LaFace Records** are in the process of producing albums, and both **Sony-Classical** and **DMX** have reached preliminary agreements with ACOP as well.

One Voice is scheduled for release in March of next year and will also include material from **Trisha Yearwood**, **Vince Gill**, **Alison Krauss**, **Bela Fleck** and **Chet Atkins**, **Amy Grant** and **Patty Loveless**, **Marty Stuart** and **Willie Nelson**, **Nanci Griffith**, **Raul Malo** and **Donna Summer**, **Lorrie Morgan**, **Mac MacAnally** and **Mark O'Connor**. The album is produced by Grammy-winning producer **Michael Omartian**.

In Other News...



ASCAP celebrated the #1 song "Check Yes Or No" written by **Dana Oglesby** and **Danny Wells**, published by **Victoria Kay Music** and **John Juan Music**, recorded by **MCA's George Strait** at the Societies Nashville offices. Pictured (l-r): **MCA's Scott Borchetta**; producer **Tony Brown**; **Victoria Kay** and **John Juan Music's Juan Contreas**; **Oglesby**; **ASCAP's Dan Keen**; **Wells**; and **MCA's Bruce Hinton**.

TAMI DEVITO WAS APPOINTED director of regional promotion/Southwest for **Decca Records**. DeVito takes over the Dallas office of **Mike Severson**, who vacates the position to fill a promotion position with sister label **MCA/Nashville**.

DODGE TRUCK WILL SPONSOR a "Holiday Cash" sweepstakes on **TNN's Club Dance**. "A Dodge Full of Holiday Cash" will award one grand prize consisting of a trip for two to Knoxville, TN. in January to attend a taping of *Club Dance*, where the winner will receive \$5,000 and the keys to a new 1996 Dodge RAM Sport truck during the telecast.

SAM RAMAGE WAS PROMOTED to sr. dir. of A&R at **RCA Label Group RLG/Nashville**.

WESTWOOD ONE ENTERTAINMENT will present multi-platinum artist **Trisha Yearwood** in concert live from the Cerritos Center in California on Sat. Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. Listeners will hear Yearwood's chart-topping hits as well as a special Christmas set from her holiday album, *The Sweetest Gift*.

DAVID HALEY WAS PROMOTED to sr. dir. of national promotion for **MCA Records/Nashville**. Haley was most recently sr. dir. of regional promotion, field specialist, working with radio in the Midsouth/Midwest region.

CONTINUING ITS HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING, **TNN** will air several Christmas specials in the coming week: Supergroup **Alabama** offers *Christmas In Dixie*, which also features **Lari White** and **Tracy Byrd** on Tues. Dec. 12; **Riders In The Sky** presents *Riders Radio Theater: The Christmas Show*, airing Wed. Dec. 13; and country favorites **The Statler Bros.** will present a special on Sat. Dec. 16 featuring **Barbara Mandrell** and **John Berry**.

VERTICAL RECORDS, NASHVILLE'S NEWEST independent label, has just inked a national distribution deal with **Ichiban Records**, announced label president **Brownlee Ferguson**.

WELCH ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC.'s president, **Darrell Welch**, announced the signing of **Asylum** recording artist **Curtis Day** for personnel management.

ROB DALTON WAS PROMOTED to sr. director, national country promotion at **Epic Records Nashville**. Dalton will be responsible for the development and coordination of national country promotion of all Epic Records Nashville artists.

COUNTRY MUSIC

TOP 75 COUNTRY ALBUMS

DECEMBER 9, 1995

Rank	Album	Artist	Label	Chart Weeks	Peak
1	FRESH HORSES (Capitol Nashville 32080)	Garth Brooks	DEBUT		
2	THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION (Arista 18801)	Alan Jackson	1	5	
3	ALL I WANT (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	4	9	
4	STARTING OVER (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	5	6	
5	THE WOMAN IN ME (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	3	39	
6	GONE (Reprise 46051)	Dwight Yoakam	2	3	
7	GAMES REDNECKS PLAY (Warner Bros. 45856)	Jeff Foxworthy	6	17	
8	THE HITS (Capitol Nashville 29689)(P5)	Garth Brooks	8	47	
9	JOHN MICHAEL (Atlantic 82728)	John Michael Montgomery	11	33	
10	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	9	13	
11	GREATEST HITS-FROM THE BEGINNING (Warner Bros. 46001)	Travis Tritt	7	10	
12	IT MATTERS TO ME (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	16	10	
13	STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX (MCA 11263)	George Strait	13	10	
14	NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU - A COLLECTION (Rounder 0325)	Alison Krauss	12	40	
15	TOOLBOX (RCA 66740)	Aaron Tippin	10	5	
16	STRONG ENOUGH (Arista 18792)	Blackhawk	14	9	
17	WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU (MCA 11047)(P)	Vince Gill	17	75	
18	GREATEST HITS (Warner Bros. 46017)	Little Texas	18	6	
19	SOMETHING SPECIAL (Columbia 67140)	Dolly Parton	19	10	
20	MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS (MCA 11257)	The Mavericks	20	6	
21	IN PICTURES (RCA)	Alabama	22	14	
22	GREATEST HITS (BNA 66508)	Lorrie Morgan	21	20	
23	HYPNOTIZE THE MOON (Giant 24640)	Clay Walker	15	5	
24	LOVE LESSONS (MCA 11242)	Tracy Byrd	26	18	
25	WILD ANGELS (RCA 66509)	Martina McBride	23	6	
26	BRYAN WHITE (Asylum 61642)	Bryan White	28	19	
27	NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON (Curb 77659)(P3)	Tim McGraw	24	86	
28	I THINK ABOUT YOU (Epic 67033)	Collin Raye	25	10	
29	ALL OF THIS LOVE (ARISTA 18799)	Pam Tillis	DEBUT		
30	STANDING ON THE EDGE (Capitol Nashville 28495)(G)	John Berry	27	37	
31	YOU MIGHT BE A REDNECK IF... (Warner Bros. 45314)(P)	Jeff Foxworthy	29	64	
32	TERRI CLARK (Mercury Nashville 52699)(F)	Terri Clark	33	13	
33	READ MY MIND (MCA 10994)(P2)	Reba McEntire	32	81	
34	WINGS (Decca 11261)	Mark Chesnut	31	6	
35	WAITIN' ON SUNDOWN (Arista 18765)(P)	Brooks & Dunn	30	58	
36	LIFE IS GOOD (Capitol Nashville 32392)	Emilio	34	6	
37	GREATEST HITS VOL.II (MCA 11201)(P3)	Reba McEntire	36	109	
38	NO ORDINARY MAN (MCA 10991)(G)	Tracy Byrd	39	75	
39	BLACKHAWK (Arista 18703)(P)	BlackHawk	38	90	
40	GREATEST HITS III (RCA 07863)(G)	Alabama	40	57	
41	AMAZING GRACE: A COUNTRY SALUTE TO GOSPEL (Sparrow 1445)	Various Artists	42	8	
42	WHAT A CRYING SHAME (MCA 10961)(P)	The Mavericks	37	92	
43	LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS (RCA 66593)	Clint Black	46	4	
44	THE HITS: CHAPTER 1 (Mercury 528536)	Sammy Kershaw	35	10	
45	HAVE YOURSELF A TRACTORS CHRISTMAS (Arista 18805)	The Tractors	47	3	
46	SUPER HITS (Columbia 64184)	Willie Nelson	43	66	
47	OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER (Columbia)	Wade Hayes	41	46	
48	PURE COUNTRY (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack) (MCA 10651)(P3)	George Strait	48	159	
49	WHEN FALLEN ANGELS FLY (Epic 64188)(G)	Patty Loveless	49	63	
50	THIS THING CALLED WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb 77785)	Sawyer Brown	44	10	
51	YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT (Curb 77799)	Perfect Stranger	45	19	
52	WRECKING BALL (Asylum 61854)	Emmylou Harris	54	5	
53	YOU GOTTA LOVE THAT (Atlantic)	Neal McCoy	51	41	
54	TY ENGLAND (RCA 66522)	Ty England	52	13	
55	WHO I AM (Arista 18759)(P2)	Alan Jackson	50	72	
56	DARYLE SINGLETARY (Giant 24606)	Daryle Singletary	57	10	
57	JEFF CARSON (MCA Curb 77744)	Jeff Carson	58	13	
58	TRACY LAWRENCE LIVE (Atlantic 82847)	Tracy Lawrence	53	8	
59	LEAD ON (MCA 11092)(P)	George Strait	55	53	
60	I SEE IT NOW (Atlantic)(P)	Tracy Lawrence	56	60	
61	THINKIN' ABOUT YOU (MCA 11201)	Trisha Yearwood	60	40	
62	KICKIN' IT UP (Atlantic 82559)(P3)	John Michael Montgomery	59	73	
63	DWIGHT LIVE (Reprise 45907)(P3)	Dwight Yoakam	61	26	
64	ALL I NEED TO KNOW (BNA 66562)(P)	Kenny Chesney	62	19	
65	SUPER HITS (Epic 64184)	Charlie Daniels	66	55	
66	WHAT MATTERED MOST (Epic 66397)(G)	Ty Herndon	68	30	
67	A THOUSAND MEMORIES (Decca 11098)	Rhett Akins	64	37	
68	THE REDNECK TEST VOLUME 43 (Laughing Hyena 2043)	Jeff Foxworthy	63	13	
69	WE ALL GET LUCKY SOMETIMES (Career 18790)	Lee Roy Parnell	70	12	
70	BRAND NEW MAN (Arista 18658)(P4)	Brooks & Dunn	65	219	
71	ONE (MCA 11248)	George Jones & Tammy Wynette	69	20	
72	THE TRACTORS (Arista 18728)(P)	The Tractors	67	67	
73	COME ON COME ON (Columbia 4881)(P3)	Mary Chapin Carpenter	71	169	
74	ONE EMOTION (RCA 66419)(G)	Clint Black	74	57	
75	IN THE VICINITY OF THE HEART (Liberty 31109)	Shenandoah	75	43	

Album Reviews



JOHN BERRY: *O Holy Night* (Capitol Nashville CDP-7243-8-32663-2-6)

Put a truly emotive, dramatic singer with time-honored tunes and the result is like listening to Pavarotti's country cousin. Berry's Christmas album easily crosses musical genres via his vibrato-laden singing style. While many artists veer toward the newer, novelty holiday songs, Berry sticks with traditional carols like "Little Drummer Boy," "The Christmas Song," and "I'll Be Home For Christmas." The remainder of the songs on the album are religious standards, including "Joy To The World," "Away In A Manger," "O Come Emmanuel" and "Silent Night."

CLINT BLACK: *Looking For Christmas* (RCA O-7863-66593-2)

Seldom does an artist produce a Christmas album full of entirely original material. But Clint Black, long known for exclusively recording self-penned songs, makes no exception for the holidays. Unfortunately, Black's dry, twinkle-in-the-eye humor is found only on two songs—"Til Santa's Gone (Milk And Cookies)" and "Slow As Christmas." The rest of the album is comprised of orchestral, sweeping songs that are impressive, yet unmemorable. Those looking for a more progressive, new-age style of Christmas country (and die-hard Clint Black fans) will find *Looking For Christmas* to be the perfect stocking stuffer.



JOE DIFFIE: *Mr. Christmas* (Epic EK-67045)

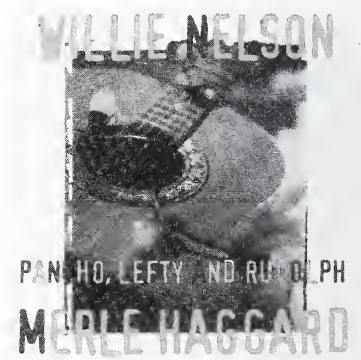


If you hear "Leroy The Redneck Reindeer" on the radio any time soon, you'll know you're listening to a Joe Diffie song. Diffie is a proud card-carrying good ole boy who just happens to possess a rare voice that can pull off a tune like "Leroy..." and the Mel Torme/Robert Wells classic "The Christmas Song" with equal aplomb. Among the standards he covers are "Silent Night," "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas," and "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow." Diffie's album also includes new country ballads "Wrap Me In Your Love" and "Magazine Angels," songs that are tailor-made for a powerful and robust voice such as his.

PICK OF THE WEEK

WILLIE NELSON & MERLE HAGGARD: *Pancho, Lefty And Rudolph* (Columbia CK 67296)

It has been said that you can't go wrong with the classic—which in this case refers to both performers and song selection. Columbia's compilation of the Red-Headed Stranger and the Hag waxing sentimental is priceless. Nelson covers standards like "Jingle Bells," "Silent Night, Holy Night" and "Frosty The Snowman" as well as his own "Pretty Paper." Haggard tackles "Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer," "Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town" and "Blue Christmas." He also contributes a Christmas original with "If We Make It Through December." *Pancho, Lefty And Rudolph* will leave you wanting more holiday cheer from two of Santa's best-loved outlaws.





RADIO PLAYLISTS

Some of what's playing in heavy rotation:

KYYK-FM\Palestine, TX

- ALABAMA—"In Pictures"
- CLINT BLACK—"Life Gets Away"
- JEFF CARSON—"The Car"
- DOLLY PARTON & VINCE GILL—"I Will Always Love You"
- ALAN JACKSON—"Tall, Tall, Trees"

KHOL\Beulah, ND

- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- ALABAMA—"In Pictures"
- GEORGE STRAIT—"Check Yes Or No"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"

KIXS\Victoria, TX

- EMILIO—"It's Not The End Of The World"
- ALABAMA—"In Pictures"
- MARK CHENUTT—"Trouble"
- LEE ROY PARNELL—"When A Woman Loves A Man"
- THE MAVERICKS—"Here Comes The Rain"

KLMX\Cayton, NM

- SHANIA TWAIN—"The Woman In Me"
- MARTINA MCBRIDE—"Safe In The Arms Of Love"
- NEAL MCCOY—"If I Was A Drinkin' Man"
- TRAVIS TRITT—"Sometimes She Forgets"
- THE MAVERICKS—"Here Comes The Rain"

U.S. COUNTRY\Englewood, CO

- TRAVIS TRITT—"Sometimes She Forgets"
- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- LITTLE TEXAS—"Life Goes On"
- AARON TIPPIN—"That's As Close As I'll Get To Loving You"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"

WCST\Berkley Springs, WV

- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- CLAY WALKER—"Who Needs You Baby"
- GEORGE STRAIT—"Check Yes Or No"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"
- DARYLE SINGLETARY—"I Let Her Lie"

WWIC\Scottsboro, AL

- BROOKS & DUNN—"Whiskey Under The Bridge"
- LITTLE TEXAS—"Life Goes On"
- VINCE GILL—"Go Rest High On That Mountain"
- LORRIE MORGAN—"Back In Your Arms Again"
- THE MAVERICKS—"Here Comes The Rain"

High Debuts

1. JOE DIFFIE—"Bigger Than The Beatles"—(Epic)—#37
2. LINDA DAVIS—"Some Things Are Meant To Be"—(Arista)—#45
3. MARTINA MCBRIDE—"Wild Angels"—(RCA)—#48

Most Active

1. FAITH HILL—"It Matters To Me"—(Warner Bros.)—#24
2. SHANIA TWAIN—"If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here!"—(Mercury)—#31
3. JEFF CARSON—"The Car"—(MCG/Curb)#13
4. BRYAN WHITE—"Rebecca Lynn"—(Asylum)—#15
5. JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY—"Cowboy Love"—(Atlanti:)—#25

POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST—The *Cash Box* Top 100 Country Singles chart is led by the Alan Jackson single "Tall, Tall Trees." This week's chart displays a few big movers with three debuts breaking into the Top 50. Leading the way in the most-movement category is Faith Hill and "It Matters To Me" taking a seven-spot leap to #24. Shania Twain and "(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here!" also jumped seven spots to #31. Three songs moved up five spots—Jeff Carson's "The Car" climbed to #13; Bryan White's "Rebecca Lynn" moved to #15; and "Cowboy Love" by John Michael Montgomery moved to #25. As for debuts, three acts hit this week's Top 50. Leading the way for the highest debut position with the single "Bigger Than The Beatles" is Joe Diffie at #37; and entering at #45 is Linda Davis with "Some Things Are Meant To Be." Martina McBride also debuts at #48 with "Wild Angels."

Songwriters Of The Week: Congratulations go out to George Jones and the late Roger Miller, writers of the Alan Jackson #1 hit, "Tall, Tall Trees."

CMT Top Twelve Video Countdown

1. LITTLE TEXAS "Life Goes On" (Warner Bros.)
2. AARON TIPPIN "That's As Close As I'll Get To Loving You" (RCA)
3. GEORGE STRAIT "Check Yes Or No" (MCA)
4. VINCE GILL "Go Rest High On That Mountain" (MCA)
5. ALAN JACKSON "Tall, Tall Trees" (Arista)
6. PAM TILLIS "Deep Down" (Arista)
7. TRACY BYRD "Love Lessons" (MCA)
8. THE MAVERICKS "Here Comes The Rain" (MCA)
9. REBA MCENTIRE "On My Own" (MCA)
10. JEFF CARSON "The Car" (MCG/Curb)
11. TIM MCGRAW "Can't Be Really Gone" (Curb)
12. LEE ROY PARNELL "When A Woman Loves A Man" (Career)

—Compliments of CMT video countdown, week ending November 22, 1995.

POSITIVE COUNTRY RADIO

This Week's Debuts

MANUEL FAMILY BAND—"Look Who's Laughing Now"—(MFB)—#32

SCOTT BROWN—"Wild Horse"—(Brand Of The Cross Music)—#35

Most Active

CROSS COUNTRY—"My Choice"—(Dove Music)—#20

MARTY RAYBON—"Daddy Talks To Jesus"—(Sparrow)—#4

RIVERS & OWENS—"Not Livin' That Way No More"—(The Mark Five Company)—#26

Powerful On The Playlist

Leading the *Cash Box* Positive Country singles chart this week is "Drawing Pictures" by Brent Lamb on Genesis. "She Stays" by Andy Landis and Ricky Van Shelton moves into the #2 position. Brian Barrett with "Jimmy Got Saved" follows at #3. At #4 this week is Marty Raybon's "Daddy Talks To Jesus." Dropping to #5 is Vince Gill's "Go Rest High On That Mountain." "Matters Of The Heart" by Jeff McKee falls to #6, and Ken Holloway's "Hoedown" jumps to #7. Lisa Daggs is at #8 with "Be Like Noah." Claire Lynch and "We Should Only Have Time For Love" holds at #9, and finally, Paula McCulla stays in the Top 10 with "A Place To Turn Around."

LOOKING AHEAD

Singles that are still gaining ground at radio this week include: The Clarks with "My Faith Will Cradle Me," "Child Support" by The Days, and David Patillo's "When The World Runs Out Of Parties."

POSITIVE COUNTRY

DECEMBER 9, 1995

1	DRAWING PICTURES (Genesis)	Brent Lamb	2	9
2	SHE STAYS (Word Nashville)	Ricky Van Shelton & Andy Landis	3	7
3	JIMMY GOT SAVED (Star Song)	Brian Barrett	5	8
4	DADDY TALKS TO JESUS (Sparrow)	Marty Raybon	10	4
5	GO REST HIGH ON THAT MOUNTAIN (MCA)	Vince Gill	1	11
6	MATTERS OF THE HEART (Gateway)	Jeff McKee	4	14
7	HOEDOWN (Ransom)	Ken Holloway	12	4
8	BE LIKE NOAH (Cheyenne)	Lisa Daggs	6	13
9	WE SHOULD ONLY HAVE TIME FOR LOVE (Rounder)	Claire Lynch	9	8
10	A PLACE TO TURN AROUND (Gateway)	Paula McCulla	7	29
11	IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND (Rounder)	Alison Krauss	11	11
12	TAKE JOY (Amber Lane)	Elaine Anderson	14	8
13	BANKING ON JESUS (Glory Roads)	Marvell	16	6
14	LOVE COMES THROUGH (Warner Alliance)	MidSouth	13	12
15	THERE'S NO CROSS THAT LOVE WON'T BEAR (Capitol Nashville)	John Berry	15	7
16	YOU'RE IT (Integrity)	Susie Luchsinger	21	3
17	THE FACE OF GOD (Gateway)	Buddy Hyatt	17	7
18	I SURRENDER (Gateway)	Thad Christopher	8	10
19	NO STRANGER TO TREASON (Intersound)	Terri Lynn	24	5
20	MY CHOICE (Dove)	Cross Country	27	2
21	(THIS THING CALLED) WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb)	Sawyer Brown	18	7
22	HELP ME (Columbia)	Gatlin Brothers	22	6
23	PIECES OF HIS HEART (Cheyenne)	Bruce Haynes	20	17
24	I'M NOT ASHAMED (Benson)	Brush Arbor	23	17
25	COMFORT CREEK (Chapel)	Barbara Fairchild	28	3
26	NOT LIVIN' THAT WAY NO MORE (Mark Five)	Rivers & Owens	32	3
27	LET THE LITTLE THINGS GO (Chapel)	Jeff & Sheri Easter	31	2
28	GIVE LOVE AWAY (Gateway)	Dinah & The Desert Crusaders	19	14
29	HOW ABOUT YOUR HEART (TIMA)	Judy DeRamus	33	2
30	IS THERE A SONG ON THE JUKE BOX ABOUT JESUS (Circuit Rider)	W. C. Taylor	29	5
31	GROW ME (Homeland)	Dale, Roy, & Dusty Rogers	25	6
32	LOOK WHO'S LAUGHING NOW (Manuel Family)	Manuel Family Band	DEBUT	
33	TWO IN THE SADDLE (Integrity)	Susie Luchsinger	26	18
34	I'LL STAND (Cheyenne)	Ronny McKinley	30	16
35	WILD HORSE (Brand Of The Cross)	Scott Brown	DEBUT	
36	MASTER OF THE WOOD (Sparrow)	Marty Raybon	35	19
37	COMMON GROUND (Star Song)	Sierra	34	10
38	SURE FEELS RIGHT (Ropeburn)	Randy Coward	36	12
39	HELP ME MAKE IT THROUGH TOMORROW (Circuit Rider)	Touching Home	38	15
40	HE WHO MADE THE RAIN (Ransom)	Ken Holloway	37	20

Album Review



■ LISA DAGGS: *Love Is The Bottom Line* (Cheyenne Records 9519)

The CCMA's 1995 New Artist of the Year was not given this honor without just cause. *Love Is The Bottom Line* is a strong collection of positive country/rock songs (many of them co-written by Daggs). Produced by the expert team of John and Dino Elefante, Daggs' second album secures her place in the

Christian country radio waves. "Be Like Noah," the first single from her sophomore effort, is only a tiny representation of Daggs' edgy sound. Other outstanding songs include "Savin' For A Rainy Day," "Hands On The Plow," the title cut, and "You Are The Song."

RADIO PLAYLISTS

Some Of What's Playing In Heavy Rotation:

CHRISTIAN COUNTRY REVIEW\Broken Bow, OK

MARVELL—"Banking ON Jesus"
 JACK GREENE—"Do It For Love"
 CATHY LAKE—"What About Tomorrow"
 GARY S. PAXTON—"Valley Walker"
 JUDY DERAMUS—"How About Your Heart"

WBTX\Broadway, VA

CLAIRE LYNCH—"We Should Only Have Time For Love"
 ALLISON KRAUSS & THE COX FAMILY—"In The Palm Of Your Hand"
 PRIMITIVE QUARTET—"Letter From Home"
 VINCE GILL—"Go Rest High On That Mountain"
 GATLIN BROTHERS—"Help Me"

WNAU\New Albany, MS

TOUCHING HOME—"Help Me Make It Through Tomorrow"
 MARTY RABON—"Master Of The Wood"
 DEL WAY—"Cross Standing In The Way"
 ALLISON KRAUSS & THE COX FAMILY—"In The Palm Of Your Hand"
 KEN HOLLOWAY—"Hoedown"

MORNINGSTAR HIGH COUNTRY\Nashville, TN

PAULA MCCULLA—"A Place To Turn Around"
 LISA DAGGS—"Be Like Noah"
 MARTY RABON—"Daddy Talks To Jesus"
 BRENT LAMB—"Drawing Pictures"
 DINAH & THE DESERT CRUSADERS—"Give Love Away"

WWMS\Sarah, MS

MELODY BIESER—"Oh Why"
 VINCE GILL—"Go Rest High On That Mountain"
 HIGHWAYMEN—"Live Forever"
 JOHN BERRY—"There's No Cross Love Won't Bear"
 ALLISON KRAUSS & THE COX FAMILY—"In The Palm Of Your Hand"

WQSV\Ashland City, TN

VINCE GILL—"Go Rest High On That Mountain"
 JEFF MCKEE—"Matters Of The Heart"
 ALLISON KRAUSS & THE COX FAMILY—"In The Palm Of Your Hand"
 SAWYER BROWN—" (This Thing Called) Wantin' And Havin' It All"
 BRIAN BARRETT—"Jimmy Got Saved"

WKGF\Arcadia, FL

JEFF MCKEE—"Matters Of The Heart"
 PAULA MCCULLA—"A Place To Turn Around"
 BRIAN BARRETT—"Jimmy Got Saved"
 MARVELL—"Banking On Jesus"
 KEN HOLLOWAY—"Hoedown"



Ransom Records/Brentwood Music male vocalist Ken Holloway shared his Christian country style with the CHR listeners of Nashville's WAY-FM morning show on a recent trip to the area. Pictured in the control room are (l-r): Mark Rider, WAY-FM; and Holloway.



At a recent press conference, Word Records and Music pres. Roland Lundy introduced their new country division, Word Nashville; the new label's first project, *Common Ground*, a joint effort with Epic Records; their debut artist Brent Lamb; and their association with Thomas Nelson's new book, "She Stays," a true story about the friendship between Andy Landis and Bettye Shelton and Shelton's marriage to Ricky Van Shelton. Pictured (l-r): Thomas Nelson dir. of publicity Susan Coker; Word Nashville gm/vp of A&R Jeff Teague; Landis; Lundy; Shelton; sr. dir. of A&R for Sony Music Nashville Cliff Audretch; and sr. vp Sony Music Nashville Scott Siman.



Positive country artist Marvell (l) is pictured with Paul Crouch, president and founder of Trinity Broadcast Network. Marvell's latest single, "Banking On Jesus," is currently #13 on the *Cash Box* Positive Country singles chart.

COIN MACHINE

American Laser Games Exits Arcade Business

CHICAGO—American Laser Games of Albuquerque, New Mexico announced it is pulling out of the coin-operated arcade game market to focus its efforts on the home entertainment market. Firm will continue to provide arcade customers support with technical service and parts supplies.

The change in direction became effective immediately. Nine people, eight of whom are based in Albuquerque, were laid off.

"This is a significant and painful change for American Laser Games," stated company president Robert Grebe. "We enjoyed many years of success and prosperity in the arcade business, but the arcade market has been in a downward spiral since March of 1994 and there's no end in sight. We are now directing all of our efforts into creating CD-ROM software for the robust home entertainment market in personal computers and game platforms."

American Laser Games will continue its presence in the arcade market by licensing software programs to other companies. A 3-D virtual reality version of ALG's latest game, *Orbatak*, is being introduced to the amusement industry by Kaiser Electro-Optics, developers of the Virtual Odyssey system. ALG also has an exciting new 3-D graphics engine almost ready for market.

This is the third metamorphosis for American Laser Games, which was founded in 1988 as ICAT, a manufacturer of a live-action video firearms training system for police and the military. The company sold the simulator product line in 1993.

ALG's first game, a western shoot-out adventure called *Mad Dog McCree*, debuted in the fall of 1990 and went on to become one of the top-rated arcade games in the world during 1991. The game revolutionized the arcade industry with the first successful use of motion picture action in a video game. It has been translated into five languages and is distributed worldwide. American Laser Games went on to produce eight other live-action laser disc-based games.

In 1993, the company entered the home entertainment software market. ALG games are now available for PC CD-ROM, Mac CD and 3DO systems. The company is currently developing games for the Sega Saturn and Sony Playstation systems.

In 1994, the company launched Her Interactive, a new division to create interactive products for girls and women. The first of this new CD-ROM product line, *McKenzie & Co*, was scheduled to hit retail shelves this past Thanksgiving.

Two New Pins From Premier

CHICAGO—A redemption game in a pinball cabinet pretty much describes the new *Strikes & Spares* pin from Premier Technology.

It offers three play options. Redemption awards tickets for strikes, with three strikes awarding 50 tickets. Novelty allows players to choose from Regulation, Flash or Strike 90. In Tournament Play, scores are recorded and prizes are awarded according to a set period of time established by the operator and location.

Waterworld is released under license agreement with the big-screen movie of the same title. Players shoot for the wave to confront the revolving Atoll/Deez. The playfield captures all of the thrilling action contained in the movie and the back-glass features a likeness of the film's star, Kevin Costner.

Further information regarding these models may be obtained through factory distributors or by contacting Premier Technology, 759 Industrial Drive, Bensenville, IL 60106.



Strikes & Spares



Waterworld

VNEA Sets 16th Annual Championship Tourney

CHICAGO—Five thousand amateur pool players from the U.S. and overseas are expected to participate in the 16th annual VNEA (Valley National 8-Ball League Association) international championships. The event will be staged at the Riviera Hotel & Casino, in Las Vegas, during the period of May 24-June 1, 1996.

Valley will provide 180 pool tables for the competition. Players will compete in 16 different divisions for a prize purse estimated at \$350,000 for juniors.

VNEA's International Junior Championships have been slated for June 21-23, 1996 at the Sioux City Convention Center in Sioux City, Iowa. This popular event is celebrating its sixth year.

Teams will be composed of young male and female players who will compete in one of three divisions: Youth Division (ages 9-13); Minors Division (ages 14-17) and Majors Division (ages 18-20). Valley will provide 80 tables for this match.

Along with the team divisions will be the 8-Ball Singles competition and the Adult/Junior Scotch Doubles, where juniors will join forces with adult players.

Additional information regarding both events may be obtained by contacting VNEA executive director Gregg Elliott at 800-544-1346.

The accompanying photo will give you an idea of the expansive tournament layout for the Las Vegas competition.



VNEA Tournament



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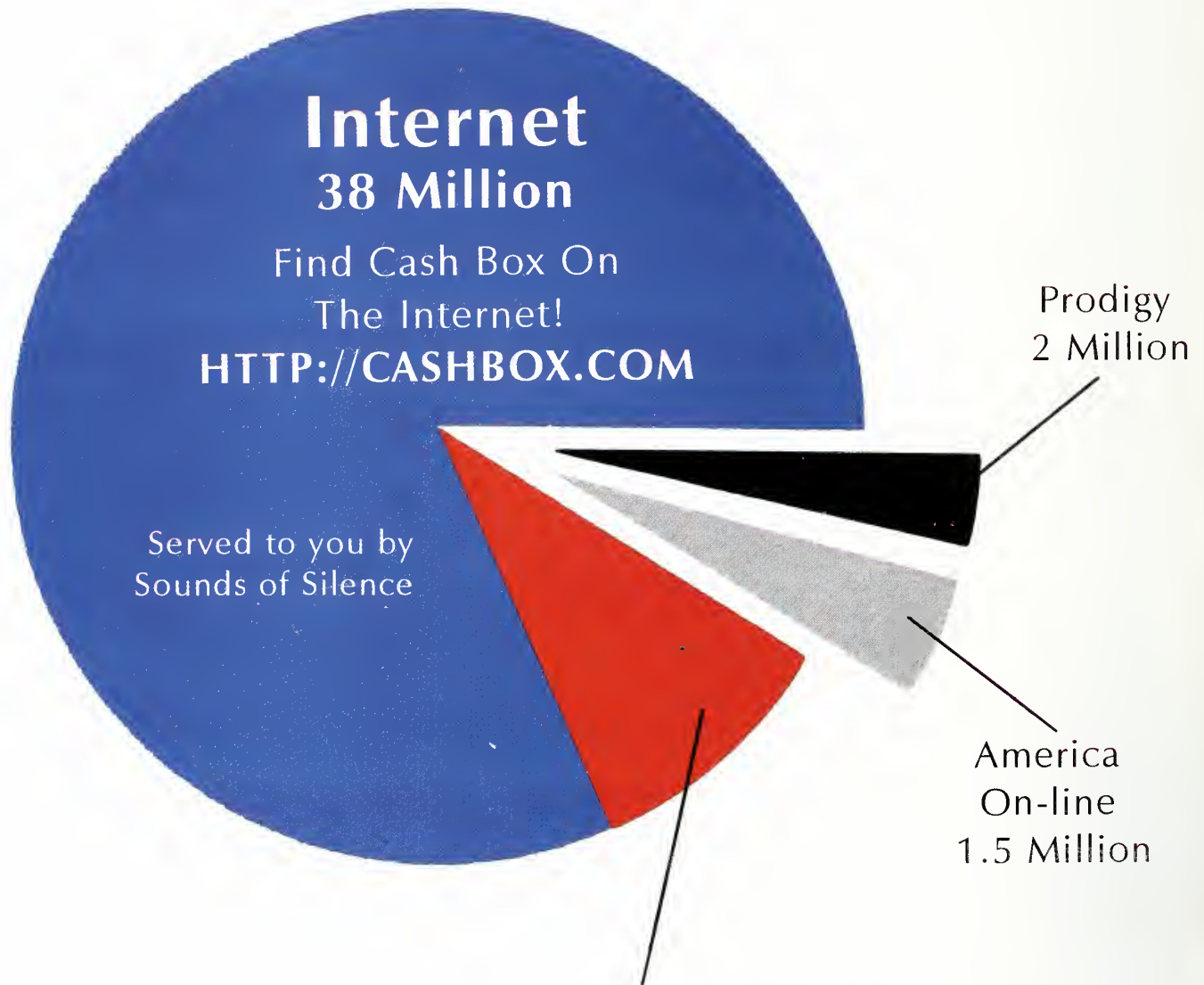
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