COVER STORY

Wreckx-N-Effect: Boomin’ & Zoomin’ Up The Charts

MCA/FUTURE RECORDS DUO Wreckx-N-Effect has caused a butt-bumpin’ stir with the success of their sophomore album, Hard or Smooth, which features the dance anthem “Rump Shaker.” The album sits poised to enter the Top 10, having debuted at #11 this week on the Cash Box pop albums chart, while the single continues to boom and zoom at #2 with a bullet on the pop singles chart.

What distinguishes this collection (aside from a guest appearance by pop star Bobby Brown), is the inimitable production of New Jack Swing King Teddy Riley, whose mix of groove and hip-hop sensibilities make Hard or Smooth easy on the ears. Riley, in fact, was the Svengali who put together this act in 1989, when he recruited his brother Markell Riley, Aquil Davidson and the late Brandon Mitchell to advance the sound he made famous as a member of the group Guy. The first album featured the anthemic single “New Jack Swing,” and spawned a style that others could only try to imitate. Other singles such as “Juicy” and “Club Head” also earned some favorable notice.

After Mitchell’s death by gunfire, the group took a breath to come to terms with the loss of their compatriot, before re-entering the studio to begin work on Hard or Smooth. In addition to “Rump Shaker,” other key tracks include the album’s next single “Knock-N-Boots,” the collection’s title track and “Straight Out the Projects,” which features Bobby Brown.

NUMBER ONES

POP SINGLE
I Will Always Love You
Whitney Houston
(ARISTA)

R&B SINGLE
I Will Always Love You
Whitney Houston
(ARISTA)

COUNTRY SINGLE
Don’t Let Our Love Start Slippin Away
Vince Gill
(MCA)

RAP SINGLE
Wicked
Ice Cube
(PRIORITY)

POP ALBUM
The Bodyguard
Soundtrack
(ARISTA)

R&B ALBUM
The Bodyguard
Soundtrack
(ARISTA)

COUNTRY ALBUM
The Chase
Garth Brooks
(LIBERTY)

GOSPEL ALBUM
When The Music Stops
Daryl Coley
(SPARROW)

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Koppelman Named Head Of EMI Records Group, N.A.


Koppelman will be responsible for all of the EMI Music labels in North America with the exception of Virgin Records. He is currently in charge of the SBR, Chrysalis and EMI Records labels. In his new position, he will also be responsible for Capitol Records, Liberty Records, Capitol-EMI Canada, Angel Records, Blue Note, Capitol-EMI Latin, as well as CEMA and manufacturing with North America. He will remain based in New York.

The reorganization follows Joe Smith’s decision to leave the company at the end of March when his current contract expires.

About his new position, Koppelman stated, “I am excited about the new responsibility of running EMI in North America and feel fortunate to be working with the talented group of executives already in place...I intend to provide strong leadership in North America and to put an emphasis on creativity while at the same time focusing on our business goals.”

DIZZY DIES: Jazz legend Dizzy Gillespie died Wednesday (6). He was 75 years old. No further details were known at press time.

NARM NEWS: NARM has announced that Mercury artists Bon Jovi and Kathy Mattea will perform at the Awards Banquet which concludes the Association’s 35th Annual Convention, scheduled to take place March 6-9, 1993 at Marriott’s Orlando World Center in Orlando, FL.

Also slated to perform at the Convention is Epic’s Luther Vandross who will entertain at the Scholarship Foundation Dinner on Sunday evening, March 7.

NARAS NEWS: NARAS, on the eve of its Grammy nominations, has announced the six inductees in the Academy’s 20th annual Hall of Fame. The winners include: “Celeste Aida,” a 1908 Victor recording by Enrico Caruso; Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band, the 1967 Capitol album by the Beatles; “Georgia On My Mind,” Ray Charles’ 1960 ABC-Paramount single; “Round About Midnight,” by the Thelonious Monk Quintet (Blue Note, 1948); “St. Louis Blues,” by Bessie Smith with Louis Armstrong on cornet (Columbia, 1925); and Igor Stravinsky’s Le Sacre Du Printemps (The Rite of Spring) by Pierre Monteux conducting the Boston Symphony (RCA Victor, 1951).

BUT WILL HELEN ATTEND?: Personal manager Ken Kragen, currently managing Travis Tritt, Trisha Yearwood and Kenny Rogers, and who recently made headlines when his battles with Tonight Show producer Helen Kushnick forced NBC to oust her, will be serving as instructor of a UCLA Extension course for people who want to learn about a career in entertainment management.

Kragen’s course, entitled “The Stardom Strategy: The Art of Career Management in the Entertainment Field,” takes place on Tuesdays, Jan. 26-March 2, 7-10 p.m., at UCLA, 39 Haines Hall. Fee is $195 and students can earn two units of credit in Music.

For more info, call (310) 825-9064.

ON THE MOVE

- Elektra Entertainment has named three music industry veterans to its marketing department. Ellen Darst has been appointed senior vice president of marketing and product development. Prior to joining the company, she was director at Principle Management Inc. James Henke comes to Elektra from the editorial staff of Rolling Stone where he has been since 1977, most recently as vice president and editorial director of the magazine’s Music Projects Division. His title at Elektra is vice president of product development. Jeff Jones has been named vice president of marketing. He joins Elektra from PolyGram, where he held a similar slot.
- Jim Neil has been appointed national director of promotion for Rhino Records. He most recently held a similar post at Rykodisc. MCA Records has announced a couple of appointments. Vinnie Freda has been promoted to vice president, administration. He has been with the company since 1989 and recently served as associate director of administration. Karen Goodman has been slotted as director of press & promotion, MCA Records International. She was previously director of international promotion and artists relations for Capitol Records.
- Sony Music Entertainment has named two to its finance department. Kevin Kelleher has been appointed senior vice president and controller. He was most recently a partner in the Media/Entertainment and Mergers & Acquisitions Groups at Price Waterhouse, which he joined in 1981. Paul J. Vitale has been appointed to vice president, business development. Since joining the company in 1974, he has served in various positions, most recently as vice president and controller.
- Sara Melendez has joined Silas Records as vice president, marketing/artist development. She was formerly senior vice president, Black music, Columbia Records. Capitol-EMI Music has appointed Morris Vitale senior vice president, divisional responsibility. He joined EMI in London in 1980 as finance manager. He will now be based in L.A.
- Retta Harvey has been appointed manager of video coordination at Mercury Records in Nashville. Harvey comes to Mercury from Atlantic Records, where she served as coordinator of music video production.
- Tara Griggs has been promoted to director of A&R/marketing of the Black gospel division at Benson Music Group in Nashville. Griggs formerly served as professional manager for Benson’s publishing division.
- Karen Heller has been named attorney, business and legal affairs at Arista Records. Prior to joining Arista, she worked as a corporate associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, a New York law firm.
- CEMA Distribution has promoted Brenda Tamayo to the position of manager, national advertising. She has been senior advertising coordinator for the last two years.
- Peermusic has made a couple of staff changes. Luis Calvo has been named managing director of Peer’s Spanish companies. He had held a similar post at EMI Music Publishing in Spain. Meanwhile, Ramon Arias has joined Peer’s New York office as Latin professional manager.
# Single: Whitney Houston

**Top 100 Pop Singles**

**January 16, 1993**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Peak Position</th>
<th>Weeks on Chart</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>I Will Always Love You</em></td>
<td>Whitney Houston</td>
<td>#1</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Bodyguard (Title Song)</em></td>
<td>Whitney Houston</td>
<td>#2</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Baby I'm for Real (Natural High)</em></td>
<td>Bobby Brown</td>
<td>#3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>I'm Every Woman (From &quot;The Bodyguard&quot;)</em></td>
<td>Whitney Houston</td>
<td>#4</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>I Love You Period</em></td>
<td>Dan Baird</td>
<td>#5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ditty</em></td>
<td>Paperboy</td>
<td>#6</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Don't Walk Away</em></td>
<td>Giant</td>
<td>#7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>I Don't Care (London 864 946/FLG)</em></td>
<td>Shakespeare's Sister</td>
<td>#8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>I Got a Man (Island 864 305/PLG)</em></td>
<td>Positive K</td>
<td>#9</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Heal the World (Epic 74700)</em></td>
<td>Michael Jackson</td>
<td>#10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Journey (Virgin 1202)</em></td>
<td>After 7</td>
<td>#11</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Reminisce (UPont 54586/MCA)</em></td>
<td>Mary J. Blige</td>
<td>#12</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Chains Around My Heart (Capitol 70958)</em></td>
<td>Richard Marx</td>
<td>#13</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Wicked (Priority 53915)</em></td>
<td>Ice Cube</td>
<td>#14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Top 30**

**#1 Single:** Whitney Houston

**High Debut:** Whitney Houston #1

**To Watch:** Jade #53
**SINGLES**

- **Bobby Brown**: "Get Away" (MCA MCAS5-2545)
  - Another dance single from his latest album, Bobby Brown offers no less than a dozen (7mm) mixes of this high-paced groove. The track is seriously more... 

- **Dolly Parton**: "I Will Always Love You" (RCA 10362-1)
  - Sound familiar? Well, why not... It's the hottest single in the country and Dolly wrote it, so get the original version out now and be a hit on the dance charts. Talk about a difference in style, Dolly's version is equally as touching in its own way and probably more so considering that she's the one who came up with the songs first place. The song was composed for the feature film *Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*, and is produced and arranged by Gregg Perry.

- **Acosta Russell**: "Deep In My Soul" (JRS JPS2 822-2)
  - Here's a little acoustic love ballad from north of the border. Canadian duo Acosta/Russell is making a slight departure from their usual dance-oriented material and stretching for Adult Contemporary action. Running along the lines of Mr. Big's "To Be With You," list of last year, it has been common for rock acts to try the acoustic route, but who's to say dance music couldn't give it a try? Taken from the album *A Little Direction* (Acosta), the track is produced by Byron Wong & Michael Sak.

- **Marky Mark & The Funky Bunch**: "Gonna Have A Good Time" (Interscope PRCD 4918)
  - As the title track from his latest LP You Gotta Believe drops off the singles chart, the breezy Calvin Klein underwear model releases yet another funk-laden rap jam. The Funky Bunch's Darelle Wilson is in the foreground on more than one of the six edits on the CD single, with the Euro Mix being primarily a sped-up, hyper version of the same thing. Do they dance faster than it's in Europe? I wouldn't know. Producer and arranger is Donnie Wahlberg.

- **The B-52's**: "Revolution Earth" (Reprise PRO-CD-5677)
  - Strange as it may seem, this track from Good Stuff has a bit of a U2 feeling to it, more in production and guitar work than vocally, naturally Kate Pierson's voice remains overtly distinguishable on this pop anthem. Two additional edits accompany the slightly lesser album version on this single which should get a little more AC airplay than previously released cuts from this eclectic group. Nile Rodgers producers.

- **Robert Downey, Jr.**: "Smile" (Epic ESK 74736)
  - Yup. Stop rubbing your eyes, this is indeed Charlie star, Robert Downey Jr. singing the classic tune written by the Little Tramp himself. Although the updated production of this standard does appear on the soundtrack album of the hit pic, this single is not featured in the film itself. Talented as Downey is in the movie, as a singer... well, let's just say it's no surprise this cut didn't make it to the theaters. Airplay? Hardly. Vanity release? You bet. Producers are Jonathan Elias, Alexander Lasarenko and Fritz Dody.

**ALBUMS**

- **Patti LaBelle**: *Live!* (MCA MCD10691)
  - Even though her career spans 32 years, this is the Grammy-winning vocalist's first live album, although appropriately recorded at New York City's famed Apollo Theater in Harlem. The cut-up live captures the electrifying essence of the soulful songstress as she performs songs from many of her stage musical career as well as two new studio-recorded tracks written especially for this project. Live production by James R. "Budd" Ellison.

- **Helmet**: *Strap It On* (Interscope 7 92235-2)
  - Okay, so this album was released over two years ago. This re-release of their debut album is a clever way to give those new fans who are currently enjoying last summer's *Monotone* album a shot at seeing where this band came from musically, not that they've changed direction or anything. Or they could just be trying to scrape up a few extra bucks now that they have a name... I don't know. The nine-track LP is self-produced and engineered by Wraton Tiers.

- **Andrew Logan**: *Show Me Your Heart* (Motown 37643-63372)
  - The latest from the new Motown are the power dance grooves and soulful R&B interpretations from this surprisingly light-skinned singer/songwriter and producer. First single from the soon-to-be-released, 13-track debut LP is a Stevie Wonder/similar track called "Love Can Be Enough." Andrew's voice and production is slightly reminiscent of Sylvia Robinson and early George Michael (and others of pop/dance ilk).

- **Paul Brady**: *Songs & Crazy Dreams* (Fontana 512397-2)
  - Touted as "Ireland's best kept secret," Paul Brady has put together a compilation album consisting of 12 heartfelt, folk-ish tracks from a selection of his previously released albums. Having his songs covered by an impressive list of American acts (Bonnie Raitt, Tina Turner, Santana) has brought Brady's work to the forefront of Stateside attention, and this album would well be the personal introduction needed. Brady co-produces along with several others.

- **Max Lasser's Ark**: *A Different Kind Of Blue* (Real Music RM 5036)
  - Zurich-born guitarist and instrumentalist/composer Max Lasser's latest album—although here may be pigeonholed as strictly New Age—is described by the man himself more as traditional Swiss folk-influenced music. The extensive use of acoustic instruments (guitar, vibraphone, mandolin, marimba, accordion) and the aural mix of language and music of the Swiss/German/Austrian/American with his own unique style makes this album a breath of fresh air.

- **Symon Asher**: *Three Color Sun* (Miramar MPCD 8001)
  - Who is Symon Asher? And what is a rock act from Seattle doing on a predominantly New Age label? Well, they're not your typical, quirky Sub-Pop trio for one... and the name happens to be legendary Cream bassist, Jack Bruce's middle name. Still, that wouldn't be enough to explain the sound of the 11 tracks on this debut album. There's plenty of late '60s-influenced electric rock mixed in with a refreshingly melodic acoustic tracks. Produced by Conrad Uno and Symon Asher.

**POP SINGLES LOOKING AHEAD**

**CASH BOX** JANUARY 16, 1993

1. **Love Is* (Stax)*
   - Vanessa Williams & Brian McKnight
2. **Our Love Will Never Die* (RCA)*
   - Mitch Malloy
3. **Days Gone* (Chrysalis)*
   - Slaughter
4. **Little Bird* (Atlantic)*
   - Annie Lennox
5. **Welcome To The Club* (Atco)*
   - The Rembrandts
6. **Come In Out Of The Rain* (EMI)*
   - Wendy Moten
7. **Step It Up And Go* (Columbia)*
   - Bob Dylan
8. **Flipper Twist* (Columbia)*
   - Flipper
9. **Child Of The City* (Triumph)*
10. **It's You* (EMI)*
    - EMF
11. **Freedom Got An A.K.* (Eastwest)*
    - Da Lench Mob
12. **Only If You Want It* (PolyGram)*
    - Easy-E
13. **Love U More* (Coolum)*
    - Uncanny Alliance
14. **I Got My Education* (Columbia)*
    - SunScream
15. **Listen Closer* (MCA)*
    - Tom Rock & E.Q.

**PICK OF THE WEEK:**

- **Chris Kowanko**: "Kowanko" (Morgan Creek 2999-20010-2)
  - Who? What's this? Both are good questions. Obviously, Chris is a new recording artist (painting has been his passion medium until late), and his debut album is an unusual, but surprisingly pleasant effort. Although there's a slight hint of David Byrne in his voice, there is certainly a more introspective approach to the musical workings and unique lyrical/political elements of Mr. Kowanko. The 12 self-penned tracks have a sporadic yet comfortable melodic feel (10,000 Maniacs, Cowboy Junkies) to them with the added help of musician/producers Larry Kaye and Randy Smith contributing a healthy dose of electric rock which add to this very listener-friendly new act.
By Neil Alumkal

**EAST COAST**

**BETTER LATE THAN NEVER**—Columbia recording artist Harry Connick, Jr. was recently presented with a gold plaque for his eponymous debut LP released in 1987. Seen at the presentation are (l-r): Ann Marie Wilkins, Connick's manager; Connick; and Don Jenner, president of Columbia Records.

**HOLD ON TO YOUR "X" CAPS**, RCA has released the perfect complement to Spike Lee's admittedly fictionalized account of Malcolm X's life, with the real thing: Words From The Frontline: Excerpts From The Great Speeches Of Malcolm X. The Malcolm X estate has released their archives for RCA's digitally remastered and speed-corrected compilation, which claims the speeches are otherwise unavailable (though there are some obscure collectibles out there on vinyl like the defunct indie Douglas Records' release in the '60s called Malcolm X Speaks). RCA is contributing a portion of the sales to the charitable discretion of Malcolm X's widow, Dr. Betty Shabazz. Each speech is annotated with its historical context and provided liner notes by noted historian James Cone. The 70-minute collection is not affiliated with the Lee film. And in a related story...

**KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY** (and RCA label) is 27-year-old Malcolm X daughter, Gamilah Shabazz, sampling Daddy X's speeches on hip hop's answer to the Harlem Renaissance, America's Living In A War Zone. Five days on the heels (or rather cattails) of the Spike Lee joint, Gamilah makes her RCA debut with the astounding support group of Ice Cube, Me Phi Me, Grand Puba, Mr. Biggs and producer Johnny Marrs. With a different brand of eloquence than her father, Gamilah demands respect with lines like "If ya vision is blurry, go get some Visions." Gamilah debuted in 1990 with her Big Daddy Kane track "Who Am I?" and later her MMG track "2 Black 2 Strong." Gamilah plans to complete an album with working title Rated X, which will also delve into her Cherokee Indian heritage.

**BOOK REPORTS** Ten books have been nominated for the fourth annual Ralph J. Gleason Music Book Awards. The three sponsors for the awards are BMI, New York University and Rolling Stone magazine. The three award-winning books will be announced in March.


First prize will be $2,500; the second, $1,500; and the third, $1,000. The selections committee reviewed more than 50 titles submitted.

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By Randy Clark

**WEST COAST**

**WELCOME 1993!** With the ringing out of another year, a new one takes its place, opening up the doors for the slew of awards that need to be handed out on an annual basis. First of the major awards shows of 1993 will be the 20th Annual American Music Awards presentation to be aired Monday, January 25 on ABC-TV with hosts Bobby Brown, Gloria Estefan and Wynonna Judd. A list of the nominees is as follows:

In the Pop/Rock category: Favorite Male Artist—Bryan Adams, Michael Bolton, Eric Clapton and Michael Jackson. Favorite Female Artist—Mariah Carey, Amy Grant, Bonnie Raitt and Vanessa Williams. Favorite Band (Duo or Group)—Genesis, Kris Kross and U2. Favorite Single—"End Of The Road" (Boyz II Men), "I'll Be There" (Mariah Carey), and "Under The Bridge" (Red Hot Chili Peppers). Favorite Album—Dangerous (Michael Jackson), Totally Krossed Out (Kris Kross), and Achtung Baby (U2). Favorite New Artist—Arrested Development, Pearl Jam and TLC.

In the Heavy Metal/ Hard Rock category: Favorite Artist—Def Leppard, Metallica and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Favorite New Artist—Mr. Big, Pearl Jam and Ugly Kid Joe.

In the Soul/R&B category: Favorite Male Artist—Bobby Brown, Tevin Campbell, Michael Jackson and Gerald Levert. Favorite Female Artist—Mary J. Blige, Mariah

Carey, Patti LaBelle and Vanessa Williams. Favorite Band (Duo or Group)—Boyz II Men, En Vogue and Jodeci. Favorite Single—"Remember The Time" (Michael Jackson), "Honey Love" (R. Kelly & Public Announcement) and "Somebody Loves You Baby" (Patti LaBelle). Favorite Album—Unplugged (Mariah Carey). We Can't Dance (Genesis) and The Comfort Zone (Vanessa Williams).

In Country: Favorite Male Artist—Garth Brooks, Billy Ray Cyrus, Vince Gill and Alan Jackson. Favorite Female Artist—Reba McEntire, Lorrie Morgan, Tanya Tucker and Wynonna Judd. Favorite Band (Duo or Group)—Alabama, Brooks & Dunn and Sawyer Brown. Favorite Single—"The River" (Garth Brooks), "Achy Breaky Heart" (Billy Ray Cyrus), "I Believe In You" (Vince Gill). Favorite Album—The Chase (Garth Brooks), Some Gave All (Billy Ray Cyrus), and For My Broken Heart (Reba McEntire). Favorite New Artist—Brooks & Dunn, Billy Ray Cyrus and Wynonna Judd.

In the Rap/ Hip Hop category: Favorite Artist—Kris Kross, Sir Mix-A-Lot and TLC. Favorite New Artist—Arrested Development, Kris Kross and TLC.

The prestigious Award of Merit this year will go to the legendary late rock promoter, Bill Graham who will be honored in a special star-studded tribute. Happy New Year 2 All. Next week...
What Goes Around

By John Carmen

OUT WITH THE OLD—ring in the new for the New Year, right?

Not in this column, bucko. The first news of ’93 is of the grand Rhino re-issue set, D.I.Y.

Standing for “Do It Yourself?” (but you knew that), the nine-CD Rhino set encompasses the best (questionably) of the early punk and power-pop eras, from 1975 to 1983. Focusing in on England’s nascent scene with discs One and Two, “Anarchy In The U.K.” and “This Is The Modern World” respectively and “The Blank Generation, The New York Scene” from Manhattan, it’s hard to believe that the majority of these tracks are over 15 years old at this point.

Also included in the set are three discs devoted to power-pop, and two devoted to the punk scenes of L.A. and Boston. Of the latter, Rhino head Gary Stewart had a few caustic comments: “If I knew the Boston set was going to be such a pain in the ass, I’d have never started doing it.” Apparently, most of the original tracks were tough to locate. “Most of those bands still exist, and yet they didn’t know where their masters were—,” says Stewart, incredulously. “In fact, the whole project was thought up over two years ago.”

Due on January 19 is the first of the British sets, “Anarchy.” Features are demo versions of the Sex Pistols first two singles, as well as the Damned, the Adverts, the Vibrators, the Stranglers and the other better known punk combos. What is particularly strange about these songs is how poppy they sound today. One music industry wag suggested that “these records should be used as a crash course in melody for today’s thrash bands, so they can see that good tunes can be fast and loud, and not a total wimp-out, and to see where Nirvana came from.” How true.

Even odder is how the punker material holds up more than the power-pop stuff, considering that the power-pop tunes are right out of Beatle-somehow. Brum bands like Tchaikovsky and the Records sound pale and lame compared to the timeless Ramones and Blondie cuts, and much less tuneful also. A worthy purchase, and some of the numbers will either crack you up, or bring a tear to your eyes, depending I guess, on your generational standpoint. Both for me.

UK
By Mick Green

CASH BOX...UK! THIS FIRST REPORT from me on the state of the UK recording market might seem slightly biased in that it heavily involves country music, but towards the end of 1992 country music has started to make waves in Britain.

DANIEL O’DONNELL: IN THE UK the one country chart that is considered to really reflect what the record buying public is actually purchasing is the bi-weekly Gallup Poll Country Album Charts compiled by Geoff Donnell and this is headed by an Irishman from Donegal called Daniel O’Donnell—what makes it particularly outstanding is that he has been at that position with various albums, for the past three years and at the end of 1992 had FOUR other albums also in the Top 20 and a Best Of... (not eligible for charts) also selling well.

It would have been remarkable enough that a good-looking Irishman could continually outsell the likes of Garth Brooks, George Strait, Billy Ray Cyrus, etc., but he also is in the Top 20 of the British pop charts (something virtually unheard of for any country act over the past two decades, although Billy Ray managed it earlier this year), and he also was # ONE in the video music charts and at #5 in the Top 30 all video charts—which includes major movies like Batman and Terminator.

Are you not impressed? Then how about a Top 20 entry in the Singles pop charts with “I Just Wanna Dance With You” and the fact that he is also in the Book best sellers with “Follow Your Dream,” his autobiography that has the same name as the album and video...and the guy is only just over 30, and is not on a major label—he records for the independent Ritz label in Britain.

In the States he has no record deal at all yet when he last played at Carnegie Hall he sold out, and 1993 sees him playing selected dates in America, Australia and Canada as part of a world tour that will focus on Irish communities.

In Ireland he has his own network TV show and he is the biggest grosser for live shows at civic theatres throughout Britain.

CMT: CMT means Country Music Television and the Nashville-based company, which is part of Gaylord Entertainment Co., launched in Britain on November 1 with a schedule that involves nothing but country music videos 24 hours a day...actually the programs repeat about every five hours.

They have set up a special division called CMT Europe and within six weeks of the initial launch they had 150,000 homes signed up for their cable service. However, cable is still in its infancy in the UK and only has 500,000 homes that could possibly take this new country service, so the progress is remarkable.

With the success of Daniel O’Donnell and Billy Ray Cyrus in Britain their timing seems superb, and so was the day they chose for their presentation lunch at Cafe Royal, Regent Street, London—the following day saw terrorists exploding two bombs in the immediate area and would have ruined the whole launch!

As it was, the launch was well supported by the media, and country stars Holly Dunn and Ricky Skaggs also added their weight to the campaign. General manager, TN (The Nashville Network) and president of CMT, David Hall, said that they were very optimistic about the European launch...cable, although new to Britain at present, was expected to explode and CMT would be poised to take advantage of this. In addition, it was already agreed to expand the service to Scandinavia, Germany and Holland at the start of 1993 so, hopefully, the service would help raise the profile of country music in Europe. Both Dunn and Skaggs agreed that it would encourage country music acts to tour and promote themselves in Europe...potentially the biggest market in the world.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Have Mercy

By Fred L. Goodman

MERCY, THE LATE ’60S/EARLY ’70S BAND, has reunited in Tampa, Florida. The group’s leader/writer, Jack Sigler, has brought together old and new members alike and recorded a new album, Influences, which is being released on independent label, Big River Records. The LP consists entirely of Sigler’s original songs.

Mercy’s biggest hit, “Love Can Make You Happy,” went to the top of the charts in 1969 and became an instant classic. In 1984, Sigler was awarded the BMI Million-Air Award for the tune, which is now approaching two million airplays. The follow-up, “Forever,” also hit the charts in ’69. A new version of “Love Can Make You Happy” appears on the current album.

In conjunction with the Influences LP, Mercy is planning a spring concert tour.

Billy Ray Cyrus—B-I-G in the UK
Talent Review

Loudon Wainwright III/Laura Zambo
By Robert Adels

TROUBADOUR, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA—Comedic songs that burn out after a few listeners are called novelty tunes. Comic songs that improve with age are called Loudon Wainwright III classics.

As the David Letterman of the recording business, Loudon’s been cooking up the kind of late-night fun that has always seemed destined for prime-time exposure. His one Top 20 hit, “Dead Skunk,” came too early for his career’s own good. Loudon has grown up a lot since then, but “the little boy inside the man” is still very much in evidence. From the child-like, his comic sense has evolved into the child-like, balanced by a joyously jaded adult appreciation of the absurd.

Writing songs with tongue-in-cheek, then performing them with tongue-sticking-out, has long been Loudon’s trademark. But for his latest concert tour and his new Charisma/Virgin album History, he’s offering audiences an up-close look at his serious side as well.

His surprise a cappella “Between” conjures up images of poet Robert Burns and singer Ian Matthews alongside the theological and geological mysteries of life—and all in under two minutes. It provides an archetypal for a “serious” Loudon Wainwright song—one as achingly emotional as his comic songs are side-splittingly funny.

At his Troubadour show we got to see the best of both Wainwright worlds. Alongside the humor of a carouser’s past-due visit to “The Doctor” and the inevitable foolishness of “People In Love,” we also felt the guilt of unintentional child-bearing (“Fitting You”) and the reality of a rocky relationship between “A Father And A Son.”

Loudon’s arrangement of a song by his Life magazine editor Dad, “A Handful Of Dust,” works as well on stage as it does on the new album. The fact that it languished undiscovered for years in some dusty piano bench only adds to its poignancy.

Wainwright delivered punchline-filled tributes to the ultimate folk singer (“Talking Ned Bob Dylan”) and the ultimate rock singer, “Happy Birthday Elvis.” His sobering look at the death of John Lennon (“Not John”) is a definitive crowd-pleaser of a different sort. And though he didn’t actually want to do them in his set (“4X10” and “Men”) with the recently come-to-light exploits of Senator Bob Packwood in mind, they provide running commentary to the scandal.

British guitarist extraordinaire Richard Thompson who’s played on several of Loudon’s earlier and extraordinary albums for Rounder Records, joined him on stage at The Troubadour show for several numbers—including the zoologically witty “Animal Song” (from I’m Alright).

Poetic music. Loudon Wainwright is now performing both kinds—like no two other performers on our planet. His Charisma/Virgin album History is one of last year’s best and should lead to renewed interest in his excellent Rounder catalog in ’93.

Either Loudon’s fans are overly polite to opening acts or Laura Zambo is a performer who instantly connects with every audience she meets. Looking like a young Jamie Lee Curtis with longer hair, this fledgling acoustic guitarist and singer frequently comes across like a stage-smart veteran.

Her “mouth trumpet” effects on “Till I Get You In My Arms” inspired both awe and joy. Her strong originals confidently careen from blues to rock and country. She’s a gifted interpreter too, making “Put A Little Love In Your Heart” sound new again. So where’s the album?

Talent Review

Ministry/Helmet/Seputura
By Hilarey Grey

THE UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATRE, UNIVERSAL CITY, CA—Just one day after Christmas, a bill featuring the year’s most talked about angry alternative/metal bands arrived in town to blow out the season in a blast of sonic fury. Ministry (Sire), Helmet (Interscope/Atlantic) and opening act Sepultura (Roadrunner) offered a complete neutralization of holiday cheer which was also a dramatic exorcism of the demons of 1992.

Ministry, by far the most innovative band on the summer’s Lollapalooza tour, opened their set with ominous samples of sirens, gunfire and George Bush, building into the thundering single, “N.W.O. (New World Order),” from their latest release, Psalm 69: The Way To Succeed And The Way To Suck Eggs. This first song displayed all of the band’s key elements: teeth-clattering, often strangely danceable rhythms anchoring the hoarse whisper-to-shriek vocals of Al Jourgenson, a wall of squealing guitars, and a unique smattering of samples and effects.

The fury and relentless, ear-battering beat of songs like “Just One Fix,” which began with a scream transforming into an inhuman growling, and “Thieves,” with its unrestrained angry rallying cry: “Thieves! Thieves!” seemed to be a cathartic release for the noisy audience. Ministry’s set was also infused with dark humor, displayed in the big melodramatic gothic opening of “Psalm 69,” and Jourgenson’s introduction to the industrial-sounding “Stigmata,” which he dubbed “a nice Christmas song.” The band also made use of the stage’s video screens to project images ranging from graphically disturbing and grotesque to hilarious (a “melting” Macaulay Culkin Pepsi ad was a crowd favorite)—a well-matched visual counterpart to their visceral music.

Ministry’s brash menace was preceded by an impressive set from New York quartet Helmet, a college radio favorite which has been gaining critical respect for their major label debut, Meantime. The growling metal guitar anger was augmented by the unusual rhythms of drummer Jon Stanier, and precise, carefully crafted timing of tunes like “Better” and “You Borrowed,” which featured a dramatic guitar solo by singer Page Hamilton.

Far from the stereotypical shapeless thrash-and-screech heavy metal band, Helmet gave ragged and melody eqi embellishments and experimented with atypical grooves. While “In The Meantime” and “Rude” were hard-core blast furnaces, bringing Hamilton’s voice to a full-throated scream, “Give It” had a distinct blues feel to its laid-back pace and low-down growling guitar, giving Hamilton a chance to really sing.

Opening band Sepultura, a Brazilian speed-metal quartet, offered yet another take on hard-rock irreverence, opting for a “big brother” gothic sound of clanging guitars and effects-shrouded, mouth-full-of-gravel vocals. This approach more than satisfied the early crowd at this triple bill of Christmas grinch

Talent Review

Natasha’s Ghost
By Ray Ballard

JOSE MURPHY’S, PACIFIC BEACH, CA—Up and coming San Diego-based quartet, Natasha’s Ghost (Cargo Records), are playing a few shows to warm up before the release of their second album. The new material, a flavorful combination of pop and alternative, has a good chance of finding its audience at CHR and Alternative radio.

Natasha’s Ghost’s live show is very energetic and diverse, keeping your attention from start to finish. Lead singer Kelly Neill possesses a seductive mid-to-low range voice perfect for this genre of music. Robert Westland and Danny De La Isla show versatility by trading bass and guitar duties halfway through the show, giving you a variety of styles and sounds. Drummer Tom Essa keeps a solid beat regardless of who’s on bass.

With their second album due out soon, an established fan base and radio airplay at some Midwest stations, Natasha’s Ghost looks ready to take the next step on the road to riches.
By M.R. Martinez

VARIED MUSIC: We must embrace all music in a column titled "The Rhythm," even though we're supposed to be talking about R&B. Today, R&B is a hybrid beast. Take your pick: the classical R&B sounds, blues, jazz, funk, new jack, hip-hop (we have a separate column for its various permutations) and the array of danceable sounds (also covered to some degree in "The Rhytm"). They are all offshoots of the African-American music experience—no matter who is performing the music.

A vivid example of multi-genre, multi-generational melding of R&B and the sounds of its offsprings could be coming soon from the Godfather of Soul himself—James Brown. His Scotti Bros. Records release is aptly titled Universal James, which includes production by UK soundsystem meister Jazzy B of Soul II Soul and pop/dance mavens Clivelles and Coles of C & C Music Factory. Not one to completely give up the reins, Brown has written, arranged and produced three tracks, including "Make It Funky 2000," "Everybody's Got A Thing" and "Georgia-Lina." So for the Godfather's 79th album, those who've paid homage to Brown by co-opting aspects of his style or through samples of his evergreen grooves are given a bow by the master. The re-invention of R&B is constant, its reach imperious and its timeless roots continue their stronghold.

REVIEWS

• SHA: If I Ever Fall In Love (Gasoline Alley/MCA GSAD-10762). Producers: Various.

Undoubtedly inspired by Boyz II Men, Jodeci and Color Me Bad, Shai (pronounced "shay") boldly establishes itself as a credible vocal quartet, complete with polished four-part harmonies, respectable solos and the occasional rap presentation. The 12-song package is sparked by the crossover hit title track, which demonstrates their easygoing interpretation of lyrics. Production by Carl "Groove" Martin is unobtrusive and does not interfere with the pristine harmonies. The group—which includes Gerald A. Bright, Marc Gay, Darnell Van Renssler and Martin (all from Howard University)—likes to sing about love, which is full evidence on the track "Sexual" and the midtempo tune "Baby I'm Yours." But the group shows up on the groove spectrum with "Don't Wanna Play." In an era of hip-hop, funk and pure groove, the success of this record is especially heartening.

• PRESTON REED: Border Towns (Liberty C-98708). Producers: John Penna, Alex Acuna and Preston Reed.

Gentle, sensitive guitar riffs, swooning textures and homage to guitar heroes past—mainly Wes Montgomery and Grant Green—mixed with the sensibilities exhibited by his contemporaries Earl Klugh and Jonathan Butler, distill Preston Reed on this 10-song sound odyssey. Although he is compared by some to Loo Kottoke and Michael Hedges, and although he claims Mike Stern, John Scofield and "especially" Pat Metheny as influences, the ground work for his sound was laid by the clear, bell-like tones of early jazz players. Joined by co-producers Alex Acuna (percussion and bassist John Penna), Border Towns effects a melding of contemporary sounds without forsaking the distinction of its parts. Helping to tie together the ambient textures of this mellifluous work is keyboardist Omorro Ruiz. Cuts to watch include the title track, "Sunrise Drive," "Film Noir" and "Dead Cool."
Delicious Vinyl/Atlantic recording artist Tone Loc recently passed the peace between two rival Los Angeles street gangs—The Crips and The Bloods—during the filming of his video to the song “Funky Westside.” After the shooting, or, lensing, Tone held a “Peace Picnic” which went off without a hitch. Pictured on location in the Cheviot Hills district of Los Angeles are (l-r): Tone Loc; a pair of gang members; and Delicious Vinyl prez Michael Ross.

PROUD LOUD: While many hardcore rappers are getting the cold shoulder from major labels in the aftermath of the “Cop Killer” controversy, RCA Records is embracing one independent rap label in hopes to keep such product in the pipeline sans the socio-political flap. New York-based LOUD Records recently inked a deal under which RCA will handle distribution and sales. The first release under the agreement will be from Los Angeles-based rapper MadKap. The East Coast label also boasts the talents of producers Broadway and E-Swift. LOUD is the outgrowth of the Steve Rifkind Company, which since 1986 has specialized in independent marketing and promotion for rap and hip with national promotion staff of about 30 people. Their clients have included Tone Loc,M and Young MC.

“Our goal is to release quality music aimed at the street level,” said Rifkind, president and founder of the company, which also features Rifkind’s childhood friend Richard Isaccson as a partner. “This is a great marriage because through our national promotion staff, LOUD Records has established a network of people who truly have their ear to the street, and RCA has the national sales and distribution capabilities to bring our music to a broader audience.”

In making the announcement, Skip Miller, senior vp of Black music for RCA, said, “I’ve known, Steven since he first started in the business and have observed his growth with a great deal of satisfaction. I look forward to a very successful business venture with LOUD Records.”

SOUND NIBBLES: [M] Records is smokin’ with “Throw Ya’ Gunz,” the first single from Jamaica, Queens-based crew Onyx... Columbia Records has gotten Kurios, who has released the single “Wax Like a Duck,” produced by the Beatnuts at New York City’s Chung King Studios... Prime Minister Pete Nice and Daddy Rich, late of the group 3rd Bass, recently dropped their debut single for Def Jam Records, “Rat Bastard.” The group’s album, Dust To Dust, is due in March.
### TOP 10 VIDEO RENTALS

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<td>HONEY I BLEW UP THE KIDS</td>
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<td>BATMAN RETURNS</td>
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<td>BEAUTY AND THE BEAST</td>
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<td>FINAL ANALYSIS</td>
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<td>STAY TUNED</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>BLACK ICE</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>A MIDNIGHT CLEAR</td>
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### TO EXTEND YOUR MUSIC EXPERTISE

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### VIDEO REVIEWS

By Milt Petty

#### EDDIE MURPHY AND SOUNDTRACK M

By Milt Petty

**Cool World**

**NOT EVEN KIM BASINGER AND BRAD PITT** were enough to make animated creation Ralph Bakshi's adult-oriented animated fantasy Cool World a box-office hit, but anybody with even half an interest in animation should see it on the little screen. You will have to wait. Street date is February 24. The fantasy adventure combines live action with the animation in story of cartoonist Jack Deboz (Gabriel Byrne), who is trapped in a world created by his drawing pen. Fantasy and reality converge when seductress Holly Woold (Basinger), who represents Jack's innermost desires, invites him to act out said desires. As the only other human to enter Cool World, detective Frank Kar- ris (Pitt) tries to keep them apart, but ultimately finds it easier to have a platonically love for animated doodle than to face his real world. Film shouldn't pass by unseen.

#### A BRIEF LOOK AT THE BEST RELEASES IN DECEMBER AND EARLY JANUARY:

Two cult favorites are now on video: The Sex Pistols' The Great Rock 'N' Roll Swindle and Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Infrequently shown on this side of the Atlantic after its scarce initial screenings circa 1980, but long a big favorite in Great Britain, Swindle was written and directed by Julian Temple and includes performance footage by the Pistols, a solo Sid Vicious and group svengali Malcolm McLaren, and is told through the latter's skewed sensibilities. It is worthwhile as an historical document of the London underground circa 1976. Pistols footage is of notorious concert on the Thames River, and from two of their six American concerts, the one in Tulsa and last one at San Francisco's Winterland. Some other McLaren-conceived foolishness makes amusing viewing. A must rental, and priced for sell-through at $24.98, $34.98 for the laserdisc.

A late-night cultural phenomenon, Picture Show needs no description or recommendation. Now you have the chance to own your own Rocky Horror houseparty.

**A Year And A Half In The Life Of...** Part 1 and 2 (Elektra Entertainment, sold separately or at $34.95 for the pair) gives Metallica fans a complete look at the vicious rock-in-roll cycle that has made them the metal gods. Part 1 takes the viewer into the studio and recording process of multi-platinum, self-titled CD. Part 2 takes viewers on the road for insight on ups and downs of tour life. This well produced rockumentary is Cash Box chart Coordinator Ray Ballard's personal pick of the year.

If you are interested in Guns N' Roses' live shows, then Use Your Illusion Live In Tokyo I and II (Geffen Video, sold separately or at $39.98 the set) has you in mind. Commentary is minimal, performance footage dominant. Axl's countless wardrobe changes and onstage antics are conspicuous. Two additional GN'R vids are expected early next year.
All Aboard for Boardman's Elvis And The Colonel

By Milt Petty

Chris Boardman

"I HAVE A LOT TO DO," says musician Chris Boardman, composer and music supervisor for Elvis And The Colonel: The Untold Story, the Dick Clark film group production starring Beau Bridges as Colonel Tom Parker and Rob Youngblood as The King that is scheduled to air Sunday, January 10 on NBC. "After all," says Boardman, "if Quincy Jones can have a career that spans bountiful genres, why can't I?"

The multi-talented Boardman successfully completed a rare double for Elvis And The Colonel, in that he helped choose the Elvis songs to be included in the telefilm while writing the underscores and supervising all the recordings. It is unusual that one person gets to undertake all these duties. And if his other talents had been needed, multi-instrumentalist (keyboards are his main instruments) Boardman played several parts for the score recording. In fact, he has toured with fusion group Wishful Thinking and now leads his own performing ensemble.

A versatile veteran at 38, Cal State University Northridge Boardman became music director for a network variety show (Mitzi Gaynor) at 22. "I'd never seen a nightclub act, let alone conducted a band," admits a still incredulous Boardman, who got the gig after a recommendation by his mentor, Billy Byers (orchestrator for Show Of Shows, Will Rogers Follies, City Of Angels and a Count Basie band vet). In the ensuing years, Boardman has compiled a resume highlighted by six Emmys (Julie Andrews—The Sound Of Christmas and Disney's American Teacher Awards among them) and an Academy Award nomination for his score for Spielberg's The Color Purple. In addition, Boardman has worked on a score or more of big studio films. He serves as a co-composer who provides additional music or orchestration for such industry names as James Newton-Howard and Michael Kamen.

"I'm one of a handful of guys the other composers or the studios call in to help out when they get overloaded," Boardman suggests. "Maybe they have too many projects going or they get stuck on something and need new input. Picture me straddling a lot of fences, trying to be the resident pop music expert."

Though there have been 33 films about Elvis, few have offered as much insight into Colonel Parker as this one attempts to do. Elvis And The Colonel, as directed by William (Billy) Graham, who also directed Elvis' last feature, Change Of Habit, suggests that the two had a co-dependent relationship, that in order to cement his own financial future the Svenngal, carnival barker Colonel took financial advantage of a weak, trusting Elvis by holding him to an open-ended contract signed before Elvis' career went ballistic, that the Colonel contributed to Elvis' premature death through prescription drug addiction, and that Parker continued his manipulation of the Presley family and estate long after Elvis' death.

Kehli O'Byrne plays Priscilla Presley and LA-based musician James Intveld has a supporting role. Youngblood says he knows he doesn't look much like Elvis, but that he has a handle on Elvis' emotions.

Prior to making selections for the soundtrack, Boardman sorted through hours of material and a hundred titles that had been stored in Dick Clark's warehouses, 24-track master recordings in excellent condition originally made for Clark's 1979 Elvis movie starring Kurt Russell and cut not long after Elvis' death that have skillful sound-alike Ronnie McDowell singing lead while fronting Elvis' longtime backing musicians and supporting vocalists.

"The film presents a side of the Elvis story that the public hasn't really been exposed to," concludes Boardman. "The psychological relationship. With that dynamic mind, I set out to create a score that follows and enhances the drama in that relationship. The interesting thing is that the Colonel sincerely believed that he was protecting Elvis, even as he watched him disintegrate."

Body Of Evidence may tickle other parts of the anatomy, too.

Gallery owner Madonna stands accused by District Attorney Robert Garrett (Joe Mantegna) of murdering her much older and very wealthy lover, the inheritance of his estate her motive. Joanne Bravos (Anche Archer), the old man's personal secretary is the key witness, pray as she is to Madonna's deviant desires. Dafoe as Dolan is a heroin-smoking, strait-laced family man well equipped for this prurient proposition. Delaney has great powers of persuasion, but his obsessive curiosity about Madonna's kinks colors his evidentiary examinations.

This Dino De Laurentis femme fatale film directed by German-bom Uli Edel (Last Exit To Brooklyn), also stars Julianne Moore (The Hand That Rocks The Cradle) as Mrs. Delaney as well as Jurgen Prochnow (Das Boot) and Frank Langella.

RCA has the Body of Evidence soundtrack set for January 12 release. Soundtrack was composed by Australian Graeme Revell. (The Hand That Rocks The Cradle) and aims for off-attempted but seldom duplicated dark and edgy, Bernard Hermann/Hitchcock effect. Lead track "Passion Theme" features Novus/RCA saxophonist Warren Hill.
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NEWS FROM JAPAN

A BILL TO CREATE a home-taping royalties payment system, a proposal of an amendment of the copyright law, has passed the upper house of The Diet and become law. Announced by the Cultural Agency of Japan’s Government, the home-taping royalties payment system will go into operation June 1 of this year. Takeshi Otsukotsu, president of RIAJ (Record Industries Association of Japan), and Miyuki Ishimoto, president of JASRAC (Japanese Association of Rights of Authors, Composers and Publishers) issued statements expressing deep gratitude for the bill’s quick passing.

TAKEO KASAHARA, managing director of Polydor Records, has been named the company’s president succeeding Terumi Mizuta who was selected chairman at a shareholders meeting. Takeo Gotoo was made a managing director.

A SURVEY BY CASH BOX TOKYO OFFICE showing sales at major record outlets throughout Japan at year’s end indicated a good start for 1993. Dealers reported that the new titles of Dreams Come True, Junyichi Inagaki, Mariya Takeuchi and Yumin showed strong sales while catalogue titles were inactive. Survey results were as follows:

Gykokko-Do (Sapporo): Dreams Come True and Mariya Takeuchi were excellent. Sales in Nov. were up over the comparable month of the prior year.

Yamano-Gakki (Ginza, Tokyo): Excellent with sales over last year. Trackings with new titles of Dreams Come True and other popular artists, video software, Pretty Woman and Fantasy were favorable.

Kikuchi (Yokohama): Total sales were up 10% over the comparable season of the prior year. The top items were new titles of favorite artists.

"MOU KOINANTE SHINAI" ("No More Love"); WEA Music, Takayuki Makihara has been certified triple platinum by RIAJ in the singles section. Double platinum went to "Silent Eve" (Fun House, Miori Karashima), "Itsudamode Kawaruru Aio" (Kikuichi, Tetsuyo Oda) and "Xmas Carol No Koronihai" (On The Season of Xmas Carol, Toshiba EM, Sony Records, Carl Smoky Ishi & Yumi Matsutaya). Seven titles, including "Sekaijuno Dareyori Kitto" ("You Are The Only One For Me In The World," King Records, Miho Nakayama & WANDS), went platinum while "Made In Heaven" (BMG Victor, Toshi) and 11 additional albums acquired Gold. In the album section "RUN," (BMG Rooms, B’z), "Million Kisses," (EPic Sony, Dreams Come True) and "In The Life," (BMG Victor, B’z) went quintuple platinum. Quadruple platinum went to "The Swinging Star," (EPic Sony, Dreams Come True) with double platinum going to "Quiet Life," (MMG, Mariya Takeuchi), "Break Through," (BMG Victor, B’z) and "Present Pleasure" (For Life, Zoo). Two titles, "Natsumo Owariin," (At The End Of Summer, Y-SHIRTS) and "So Bad!", (both Rock It Records, T-Bolan), have been declared platinum. Gold albums went to seven titles which included "Hit Factory," (EPic Sony, Tetsuya Komuro) and "Guide No Inai Yoru," ("A Night Without A Guide," For Life, Yousui Inoue).

THE TOKYO DISTRIBUTION CENTER of Seiko-Do Co., one of Japan’s major record distributors, has been completed in Sakado-shi in Saitama prefecture, a suburb of Tokyo. At the announcement party company president Shigeru Ishara said, "This center has been planned and constructed to meet demands in the age of large scale record outlets. With 3,000 square meters of the site and 5,940 total square meters of the building with four floors, together with the most modern facilities of high technology, this center will achieve the function to meet the demands of smooth distribution with the stock of all titles of all record manufacturers in this country."

ASKING A PROHIBITION BY LAW of illegal musical performances, JASRAC has instituted a suit against 10 shops in Tokyo in Tokyo District Court. According to JASRAC, these shops have continued unlawful business by using music without permission of JASRAC and ignored frequent warnings to pay royalties. The total damages by these shops in 1992 have been estimated at $1.5 million.

ACCORDING TO A SURVEY conducted by RIAJ, the total shipments of audio and video softwares in December 1992 by 27 record manufacturers were $463 million, 14% up over the comparable month of 1991. This was a volume 40.514 million units, 13% up over the same period. Of the total, CDs shared 99% in money up to $462 million.

LOCAL 45s TOP 10 IN 1992

1 KIMIGO IRUĐA KEDJE (Sony Records)...Kome Kome Club
2 NAMIDO NO KISS (Victor)...Southern All Stars
3 KANASHIMIWA YUKINO YOUNI (Sonyu Records)...Syoyo Hamada
4 SOREGA DAIJI (Fun House)...Daijman Brothers Band
5 BLOW'N (BMG Victor)...B’z
6 MOU KOINANTE SHINAI (WEA Music)...Takayuki Makihara
7 ITSUMADODE KAWARU ANO (BMG Victor)...Tetsuro Oda
8 HEYA TO Y-SHIRTS TO WATAKUSHI (Pony Canyon)...Airi Hiramatsu
9 CHOO CHOO TRAIN (For Life)...Zoo
10 GARAGARA HEBIGA YATTEKURU (Pony Canyon)...Tunnels

LOCAL CDs TOP 10 IN 1992

1 SUPER BEST II (Pony Canyon)...Chage & Aska
2 THE SWINGING STAR (Epic Sony)...Dreams Come True
3 OCTAVE (Sony Records)...Kome Kome Club
4 YONI MANYOUNO HANAGA SAKUNARI (Victor)...Southern All Stars
5 KIMIWA BOKUNO TAKAROMANO (WEA Music)...Takayuki Makihara
6 MILLION KISSES (Epic Sony)...Dreams Come True
7 SINGLES 1987-1992 (Sony Records)...Princes Princes
8 FROM YESTERDAY (Victor)...Keisuke Kuwata
9 RUN (BMG Rooms)...B’z
10 AI NO SEDAIDO NO MAENI (Sony Records)...Syoyo Hamada

LOCAL 45s TOP 10

TWLW
1 XMAS CAROL NO KORONIA (Fun House)...Junyichi Inagaki
2 BY FOR NOW (KB-JIN)...B-Bolan
3 SEKAIJUNO NAKANO DAREYORI KITTO (King)...Miho Nakayama
4 PRESENT FOR YOU (Pony Canyon)...Checkers
5 DA KA RA (Toshiba EM)...Maki Daikoku
6 AI NO WAVE (Sony Records)...Carl Smoky Ishi & Yumi Matsutoya
7 YAKUSOKU NO HASHI (Epic Sony)...Motoharu Sano
8 JUN REN KA (Toshiba EM)...Takashi Nagabuchi
9 GOOD LUCK MY LOVE (Toshiba EM)...Kyuusuke Himuro
10 MOTTO TSUYOKU DAKISHIMETANARA (Toshiba EM)...WANDS

LOCAL CDs TOP 10

1 THE SWINGING STAR (Epic Sony)...Dreams Come True
2 FLIGHT RECORDER 1989-1992 LITTLE WING (Tokuma Japan)...Lindberg
3 GUYS (Pony Canyon)...Chage & Aska
4 RUN (BMG ROOMS)...B’z
5 SO BAD (Rock It)...T-Bolan
6 QUIET LIFE (MMG)...Mariya Takeuchi
7 MADE IN HEAVEN (BMG Victor)...Toshi
8 GUIDE NO INAI YORU (For Life)...Yousui Inoue
9 PAPER LAND (Warner Music Japan)...Chiisato Moritaka
10 BEST OF BALLADE EMPATHY (Pony Canyon)...Shizuka Kudo
Artists in Action

ROCK 'N COUNTRY—Country rocker Travis Tritt, platinum blonde Trisha Yearwood, and one of the most visible country bands on the road today, Little Texas, will be headlining what could be one of the hottest tickets of the year, the 110-city 1993 Budweiser Rock 'N Country Tour. The tour will be launched in mid-February and wraps up in late December 1993.

IN ADDITION—Travis Tritt has agreed to serve as national chairman of the 1993 Department of Veterans Affairs National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. The annual program is held at VA's 171 hospitals and state veteran's homes across the country during the week of February 14. Tritt will visit veterans hospitalized in VA medical facilities that week and at other times during the year. Tritt is expected to be a powerful public voice for hospitalized veterans.

ANOTHER HOT TICKET—Managers Ken Stills, Stan Moress, and Bob Shea have announced that superstar entertainers Wynonna and Clint Black plan to join forces for the 1993 touring season. The tour will begin April 15 in Tucson and continue through the end of the year. Concert dates will be booked by Steve Pritchard of Pro Tours and Ron Baird at Creative Artists Agency.

BROOKS LIVE—Garth Brooks, who performed for over a million people in 1992 will be seen on Super Bowl XXVII on January 31, where he will sing the National Anthem.

A COUNTRY CELEBRATION—Starring Reba McEntire, Willie Nelson, Pam Tillis, Little Texas, Vince Gill, Wynonna Judd, Kenny Rogers, John Anderson, Lorrie Morgan, Delbert McClinton, Travis Tritt, and many others will be aired during the first quarter of 1993. The special event was taped at Nashville's Grand Ole Opry House on January 13.

ARISTA ANCHOR—Alan Jackson recently celebrated sales success in excess of five million units on his first three Arista releases. Since Arista opened its doors in 1989, it has sold 10 million units. Jackson contributed to over half of the total sales.

HAVING HIS DAY—Stacy Dean Campbell has put Centertown, TN on the map, and Centertown was appreciative. Campbell was recently presented with a key to his home town by mayor Arthur Lorance. The 25-year-old recording artist is also shooting his new video, "Poor Man's Rose" in Centertown.

BENEFIT CHANGED—The Vince Gill benefit concert for The Ear Foundation scheduled for March 9 has been changed to March 29, 1993. The event will be held at the Opryland Hotel and tickets will be available through the foundation. For more information call (615) 329-7807.

VANDERBILT VOICE CENTER SEMINARS—The internationally renowned Vanderbilt Voice Center will be conducting free monthly artists seminars for professional voice users beginning January 20, 1993. The seminars will be hosted by artists at the center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN. Each three-hour function will provide an educational forum on voice care and wellness training along with voice disorder diagnosis and treatment. Drs. Robert H. Otosoff, R.E. (Ed) Stone, and Thomas E. Cleveland will explain how their specialties can help performing artists and reply to questions and concerns. Seminar enrollment is limited with registration deadlines three weeks prior to the seminars in January, February and March. Those interested should contact the center at (615) 343-SING.

COUNTRY STARS AT PARAMOUNT—It was a star-studded line-up recently at New York City's Paramount Theatre with Wynonna, Sawyer Brown, and McBride & The Ride in concert, Mark Miller (l) of Sawyer Brown, Wynonna, and the rest of the crew hang out backstage after the show.

VOCAL COACHING—Renee Grant-Williams, one of Nashville's best known vocal coaches, with clients including Randy Travis, Linda Ronstadt, Michelle Wright, and Kim Wilson of the Fabulous Thunderbirds, has found herself in great demand this year, conducting various workshops around the country as well as in Argentina. Grant-Williams' studio is located at 123 Second Avenue North in Nashville, or call at (615) 259-4900.

FOR $45,000—Academy of Country Music president Fred Reiser (l), ACM executive director Bill Boyd (second from left) and ACM chairman of the board Gene Weed (r) hand over a check for $45,000, the proceeds from the 10th annual ACM Celebrity Golf Classic, to David Bubis, executive director, West Coast operations, The T.J. Martell Foundation-Neil Bogart Memorial Laboratory. The check presentation was made during the annual ACM Christmas party held at Castaways restaurant in Burbank. The money, which was raised during this year's tournament, held on October 12 at the De Bell Golf Course in Burbank will be used for cancer, AIDS, and leukemia research for children.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Previous Week Rank</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DON'T LET OUR LOVE START SLIPPIN' AWAY</td>
<td>Vince Gill</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>TULIP TIME (AND I GOT THE BLUES)</td>
<td>Artie Fields</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>LOST AND FOUND</td>
<td>Al Green, Hank Ballard</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN THE NIGHT</td>
<td>Del Shannon</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SURE LOVE</td>
<td>Carl Fisher</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>TRUE LOVE</td>
<td>Joe Stampley</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>SOMEBODY PAINTS THE WALL</td>
<td>Wilbur Sanders</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>WHEN SHE CRIES</td>
<td>George Jones</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>LOVE WITHOUT MERCY</td>
<td>George Jones</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>ANYWHERE BUT HERE</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>BURN ONE DOWN</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>WILD MAN</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>I THINK I'M IN LOVE</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>IN A WEEK OR TWO</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>LET ME HEAR THE MUSIC</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>CAN I TRUST YOU WITH MY HEART</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>LONESOME STANDARD TIME</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>MY STRONGEST WEAKNESS</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>DRIVE SOUTH</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>JUST ONE NIGHT</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>LEAVIN'S BEEN A LONG TIME COMIN'</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>YOU WANT ME AND THAT AIN'T GOOD</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>BOOM! IT'S OVER</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>TRYIN' TO HIDE A FIRE IN THE DARK</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>WHAT PART OF NO</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>BIG HEART</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>NOT TOO MUCH TO ASK</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>HIGH ON A MOUNTAIN TOP</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>ROCK ME IN THE CRADLE OF LOVE</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>62</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>CALL HOME</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>IN THE BLOOD</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>66</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>CHEAP WHISKEY</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>I WILL STAND BY YOU</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>STARTING OVER BLUES</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>72</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>HOUSE HUNTING</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>74</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>I CROSS MY HEART</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>WHEN I CAME LIVE</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>78</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>I WAS BORN WITH A BROKEN HEART</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>LOVE HURT'S</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>82</td>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>SOMETHING MOVING IN ME</td>
<td>Lefty Frizzell</td>
<td>84</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CASH BOX CHARTS**

**TOP 10 COUNTRY SINGLES**

**JANUARY 16, 1983**

**#1 SINGLE:** Vince Gill

**TO WATCH:** Deborah Allen #38

**HIGHEST DEBUT:** Mike Reid #29

**#1 INDIE:** Robin Right #53

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**100 BEFORE THE RIVER RUNS DRY (Sor 447)(CD)-----------------Dawnnett 53 5**

**1999 BEST MISTAKES I EVER MADE (Curb)(CD)------------------Rick Vincent DEBUT**

**2000 I'M SINKING LIKE A ROCK (Interstate 40)(CD)---------Melissa Michaels 52 7**

**2001 I LIKE A MAN TO DRIVE (Playback)(CD)-----------------Robbie Right 55 8**

**2002 DRIVING YOU OUT OF MY MIND (Cabin Fever)(CD)----------Robin Right 55 8**

**2003 TAYLOR SWIFT'S HURRICANE (Liberty 79458)(CD)--------Tanya Tucker 23 14**

**2004 WHO NEEDS IT (Sor 414)(CD)--------------------------Clinton Gregory 26 15**

**2005 ARE YOU SURE? (Kotage 0096)(CD)-----------------------P.J. Hawke 47 7**

**2006 ALL THE LOVE (Kotage 104)(CD)-------------------------Dawn O'Day 59 9**

**2007 BEFORE YOU TURN TO A MEMORY (Playback)(CD)------------Angie Christie 60 8**

**2008 MARIE LAUER (Lion 620923)(CD)------------------------Del Pritchett 65 6**

**2009 THE BAKERSFIELD BLUES (Stars & Guitars 112)(CD)-----Jerri Arnold 61 9**

**2010 TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN (Hickorymen)(CD)--------------Houston Steele 62 2**

**2011 DAYBREAK (Winchop 6979)(CD)-------------------------Sylvia Winters 63**

**2012 TOO MANY HEARTS (Playback)(CD)------------------------Leigh Ann Lewis 64 7**

**2013 SECOND TIME AROUND (Round Robin)(CD)-----------------Harri Craig 66 8**

**2014 BOX OF MEMORIES (Phil Hamps 1958)(CD)---------------Jazzy Strummen 68 7**

**2015 LOVE ME (LIKE I LOVE YOU) (Stargem 007)(CD)---------Bill Wilkerson, Jr. 69**

**2016 GET ME JUST AS CLOSE TO HER AS YOU CAN (Interstate 40)(CD)**

**300 I THINK IT'S TIME WE TALKED ABOUT THE WHETHER (Celt 0003)(CD)**

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**Marion Hammons 73 4**

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**Suspicous Minds (From Honeymoon In Vegas) Epic 74418 (CD)**

**Dwight Yoakam 56 10**

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**The Tears In Mama's Eyes (Stargem) Epic 74416 (CD)**

**Kevin Charles DEBUT**

---

**Country Radio (Drop Hunger) (CD)**

---

**Jack Hollingsworth DEBUT**

---

**I'M IN A HURRY (AN DON'T KNOW WHY) (RCA 62366-7)(VL)**

**Alan Jackson 54 14**
GEORGE STRAIT continues to prove that he’s Pure Country with this one. The upbeat ditty combines a lively fiddle, rockin’ guitars, and country lyrics with Strait’s usual vocal presentation. Though the song is only two minutes in length, it grabs you quickly.

RADNEY FOSTER is an Arista gem, and his intelligent songwriting ability coupled with his heartfelt, interpretive vocal style proves it. Listen closely and you’ll hear Mary-Chapin Carpenter doing fluent backup harmonies.

JOY WHITE ("True Confessions") is some of the most believable in country music, should make the song a hit. Great follow-up to “Little Tears.”

PALOMINO ROAD is Liberty’s hot new act combining four second-generation musicians I’m sure you’ll hear more about later. Leading off with “Why Baby Why” indeed proves that they’re a progressive country act and deserve to be heard.

JACK ROBERTSON ("What’s My World Coming To") is one’s steeps in country tradition with some very tasteful rhythm & blues flavorings including a Charlie Rich-style piano, soulful backup singers, and bluesy guitar work. Robertson’s vocals are in the pocket and believable when he asks “What’s My World Coming To?” Give it a spin.
HIGH DEBUT
1. MIKE REID—"Call Home"—(Columbia)—#39
2. JOE DIFFIE—"Starting Over Blues"—(Epic)—#43
3. RICK VINCEN'T—"Best Mistakes I Ever Made"—(Curb)—#51

MOST ACTIVE
1. DEBORAH ALLEN—"Rock Me"—(Giant)—#38
2. WYNONNA—"My Strongest Weakness"—(Curb/MCA)—#26
3. MARTY STUART—"High On A Mountain Top"—(MCA)—#37
4. RANDY TRAVIS—"Look Heart No Hands"—(Warner Bros.)—#13

POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST—Into the new year we see huge moves on the Top 100 Country Singles chart. Leading the pack is Giant recording artist Deborah Allen, whose debut single "Rock Me" is rocketing skyward at an accelerated rate. This week she moves 19 notches forward to rest at #38.

"My Strongest Weakness" had a soft place in radio's heart as it pushes Wynonna up 17 spots to wait anxiously at #26. Labelmate Marty Stuart's latest revival, "High On A Mountain Top" also covered mass ground, moving 14 further to #37. Rounding out the big movers was Randy Travis, whose latest single, "Look Heart, No Hands" slides up to lucky #13, up 12 runs from last survey.

LOOKING AHEAD—(Listed are major label single releases which have not yet debuted on the Top 100 Country Singles Chart, but are receiving reports.)
1. TWO SHIPS THAT PASSED—C.C. Chapman (Curb)
2. NO WAY JOSE—Ray Kennedy (Atlantic)
3. ONE GOOD LOVE—Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (Liberty)
4. JUNK CARS—Mac McAnally (MCA)
5. BAD NEWS, GOOD NEWS—Dennis Robbins (Giant)

CMT Top Ten Video Countdown
1. Trisha Yearwood — Walkaway Joe (MCA)
2. John Michael Montgomery — Life's A Dance (Atlantic)
3. Randy Travis — Look Heart, No Hands (Warner Bros.)
4. Lee Roy Parnell — Love Without Mercy (Arista)
5. Ricky Van Shelton — Wild Man (Columbia)
6. Sammy Kershaw — Anywhere But Here (Mercury)
7. Reba McEntire — Take It Back (MCA)
8. Travis Tritt — Can I Trust You With My Heart (Warner Bros.)
9. Doug Stone — Too Busy Being In Love (Epic)
10. Diamond Rio — In A Week Or Two (Arista)

INDUSTRY PROFILE
Country Radio Seminar 1993
COUNTRY RADIO PACKED A WALLOP IN 1992 and 1993 promises to be even better. That's right, it's time to start thinking about the Country Radio Seminar, which takes place March 3-4 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville. Presented by Country Radio Broadcasters, Inc., a non-profit, non-membership organization, the Country Radio Seminar is planned and produced by a team of professionals from diverse areas of the country radio and music industries.

Since 1970 the annual conference of country radio broadcasters, music industry personnel, record label officials, and related industry executives has met in Nashville to strengthen communication between each other and to enhance the quality of country radio broadcasting. Profits from the seminar are invested in the future of the broadcasting industry through a scholarship fund for college students enrolled in the communications departments of accredited schools. The organization is also building an endowment fund to insure the establishment of a perpetual scholarship program.

Seminar highlights include over 40 hours of educational panels, workshops, roundtables, and keynote speakers relating to the country radio and music industries. The Broadcasting Sessions will cover management, programming, promotions, consulting, sales, engineering, and research. The Music Sessions will relate to record service, video vs. radio, reporting status, chart methodology, making records for radio, and artist development in the '90s.

"We've Got What's Hot" is the theme selected by the Country Radio Broadcasters for the 24th annual seminar, and the long form speakers engaged to speak will prove it. C.W. McRae, Don O'Day, and Ken Kragen are all influential business people who are scheduled to speak to the registrants of CRS - 24.

Not to be forgotten is the New Faces Banquet & Show, which is widely regarded as the country music industry's most prestigious showcase for new talent. Scheduled to appear are: Boy Howdy, Tracy Byrd, Confederate Railroad, Rodney Foster, Matthews, Wright & King, Martina McBride, Ronna Reeves, The Remingtons, Dennis Robbins, and Michael White. The New Faces Banquet & Show will again close the four-day Country Radio Seminar on Saturday, March 6 at 7 p.m.

For further information on seminar registration call CRB at (615) 327-4487.

FIRE BURNS GOLD—Liberty recording artist Billy Dean recently received his first gold record for his self-titled release. Pictured (l-r) are: Wayne Halper, vice-president of business affairs, Liberty Records; Bob Fresse, vice president of sales/marketing; Dean; Sherri Halford, vice president of production; Bill Catino, vice president of promotion; and Cindy Wilson, vice president of international.
**Gospel Music**

**Concert Review**

**Commissioned And Crew Rock The House**

By Tim A. Smith

**Detroit's World Renowned Fisher Theatre** will never be the same. This prestigious theatre, which has played host to such popular, long-running Broadway theatrical productions as Annie and Les Miserables, served as the venue to kick off the U.S. arm of Commissioned's EX Tour.

Darryl Ford, host of WMUZ 103.5 FM's popular Gospel Connection show, serving as the master of ceremonies for the evening, prepared the sold-out house for what would be one of the hottest concerts this city, noted for its musical prowess, has witnessed in some time.

Kicking off the three-plus hours of non-stop gospel rhythms was Commissioned band members and newly signed Benson Records artists, Dawkins & Dawkins. The brother act got the evening off to a nice start, performing R&B-flavored material from their debut album, which the duo announced will be released this month.

The crowd was now primed for one of the treats of the evening. Stepping out to the spotlight, much to the delight of her many well-wishers, was the beautiful, statuesque Yolanda Adams. Adams, whose artistic stock has quickly risen due to the numerous awards she's recently garnered, as well as a number of recent appearances on Jay Leno's Tonight Show, mesmerized the audience during her four-song set. She sang with a delivery that packs the soulful power of a Aretha Franklin, while at the same time displaying the smooth, jazzly grace of an Anita Baker or Sade.

After a 15-minute intermission, the house went completely dark. In the midst of smoke screens, sound effects, and a light show that would rival some in the theatrical pop music arena, emerged the band that many industry followers are labeling as one of the top self-contained bands in all of music, Commissioned.

The crew, Fred Hammond, Mitchell Jones, Karl Reid, Michael Williams, Marvin Sapp, Max Frank, plus Eric and Anson Dawkins, rocked the Fisher Theatre for nearly two hours. The band effectively wove testimonials from individual group members together with material from their latest Benson Records release, Number 7. The highlights of the set, and probably of the entire evening was the band's last song, Hammond started off singing what has become one of the band's most touching songs, "Will You Be Ready?" Midway through the song, another voice from backstage took the song over. To the surprise of many, out stepped former band member Gregory Knight to the stage, the latter's presence, literally brought the house down. The evening ended with a call to discipleship, drawing many new converts to the gospel fold. On that note, the band exited stage left, leaving a packed house on their feet calling for more.

This was definitely an evening packed with excitement. At one point, the excitement level became so intense, Hammond had to warn the balcony dwellers to "cool down" because he didn't want another "Shakin' The House" incident. (Shakin' The House is the title of an album Commissioned recorded live in Nashville with Carman and the Christ Church Choir. The title was derived from the fact that the church structure inside was actually shaking due to the energy level and movement of the crowd.)

This was the beginning of what is scheduled as a 30-city tour. If it hits your town, make sure to check it out. It is worth the price of admission and then some.

**Bebe & CeCe Nominated For Another Award**—Having already won countless honors and awards Christian music's favorite brother and sister duo have once again garnered another award nomination. This time it's for an NAACP Image Award in the category of Outstanding Gospel Artist or Group for their gold record, Different Lifestyles. The 25th annual awards ceremony will be held January 16, at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium in Pasadena, California.

**Acquisition of Word Complete**—Thomas Nelson Publishers and Capital Cities/ABC, Inc. recently reported that the previously announced agreement for Thomas Nelson to acquire Word, Incorporated has been completed. According to Thomas Nelson's president, Sam Moore, "The acquisition of Word is an excellent fit for both organizations. As a result of this transaction, we are now the industry leader in Christian publishing, Bible publishing, Christian music and inspirational book publishing."

Also commenting on the announcement was Phil Meek, president, publishing group and senior vice-president, Capital Cities/ABC, Inc, who stated, "We are saddened to see our association with Word come to an end after many years. Our employees, working with an outstanding group of authors and musical talent, have set a standard in the evangelical community in which we all take great pride. Nevertheless, we believe Word's future will be strengthened by its association with such a fine company as Thomas Nelson. Word represents and produces products by artists such as Amy Grant, Sandi Patti, Petra, Wayne Watson, and Deniece Williams. Thomas Nelson is the world's largest Bible publisher and a leading independent publisher of Christian and inspirational books.

**Hot Videos Hit The Stores**—In an effort to provide retailers with a tool to communicate the value of their product, Star Song has put together a special Turn On The Video campaign featuring 90-minutes of a continual-play video loop. Understanding the short amount of time that consumers spend watching in-store videos, Star Song has inserted album information and a cover photo of the project on each video, in an effort to familiarize the consumer with the product. This hot, new loop includes videos from Twila Paris, White Heart, Mylon LeFevre, Novella, In Reach, and many more.

"The Donut Man" Brings Joy To Nashville's Bethlehem Center—Integrity Music's best-selling children's recording artist Rob Evans, The Donut Man, brought his own brand of Christmas spirit last month to more than 400 children at Nashville's Bethlehem Center. Through a musical and visual presentation of songs, dialogue and animated stories, Evans offered a special Christmas message from his latest audio and video release, The Best Christmas Present Of All, on Integrity's Just For Kids label. The Bethlehem Center is one of Nashville's largest non-profit organizations and is sponsored in part by the United Methodist Church and the United Way of Middle Tennessee.

Integrity Music's Rob Evans recently performed a benefit concert for Nashville's Bethlehem Center. Pictured, surrounded by some of the Bethlehem Center children are (l-r): F.G. Baldwin, vice-president of trade, Integrity Music; Joyce Searcy, executive director, Bethlehem Center; Evans; and Rita Grant, director of public relations, Bethlehem Center. (Photo Credit: Steve Roebuck)
The Cathedrals, who have been busy working on their new a cappella project, were recently caught around the piano with producer Lari Goss (far right). The highly anticipated project entitled, Worship His Glory: In An A Cappella Praise, will be Word, Inc.'s record of the month for January. Included on the album are arrangements of such favorites as "Softly And Tenderly" and "Shall We Gather At The River."

New Releases...

1. THE SHAPE OF GRACE (Sparrow 1344) — Out Of The Grey
2. LOVE IS STRONG [Word 7019357601] — Paul Overstreet
3. FREE AT LAST [Forefront FCC3002] — DC Talk
4. DAWKINS & DAWKINS (Benson 64418-2874-4) — Dawkins & Dawkins
5. STOP FOR A MOMENT [Paradise Records 27005] — Dobbins Mass Choir (Featuring Darius Brooks)

Geoff Moore & The (long) Distance went to the wall to let their fingers do the walking as they stopped in Yellowstone Park to reach out and touch someone on their Friend Like U Tour. Pictured are (l-r): Geoff Barkley, Moore, Dave Shirley, Roscoe Meek, and Gary Mullett.
Safe Haven Ministries Receives Award

By Gregory S. Cooper

Jacki Ruffin

SAFE HAVEN OUTREACH MINISTRIES, INC., was recently presented with an award for “Outstanding Achievement” by the Department of Health & Human Services for its work with the homeless and people living with HIV/AIDS. This tribute was made on December 1, 1992, by the Assistant Secretary of Health in commemoration of Safe Haven’s “unique community contribution.”

Safe Haven Outreach Ministry serves as a vehicle of healing, comforting, positive thinking, and faith building in the lives of those who have been ostracized, abused, neglected, abandoned and/or forgotten by society.

Safe Haven was created in May 1991, by well-known gospel artist Jacki Ruffin (an original member of the famed Richard Smallwood Singers). A seasoned vocalist in the gospel music arena, Ruffin’s musical career spans more than 25 years. Her early musical development includes having hailed her own singing group (The Jacki Ruffin Singers), both as a vocalist and keyboard player while a student at Virginia State College.

In 1969, she made Washington, D.C., her home and became director of the popular group, The Gospellers. In 1977, she became one of the original members (a capacity she still functions in) of the world-renowned Richard Smallwood Singers. With this group her credits include having traveled throughout the United States and Europe; concert, television, and radio appearances worldwide; presentations of the acclaimed selections “I’ve Got Something” and “Psalms 8” from the Grammy-nominated album of the same name; featured lead vocalist with Edwin Hawkins and the National Symphony Orchestra at Washington, D.C.’s Kennedy Center in 1981; stage performances as an actress and vocalist in the critically acclaimed off-Broadway production of Sing Mahalia, Sing, starring Jennifer Holliday (1985); an appearance on the nationally syndicated daytime drama Ryan’s Hope; appearances on Young Artist At The White House Series; performances for President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan; the Bobby Jones Show; the Stellar Music Awards ceremony; as well as performances with Christian and secular music headliners all around the world.

Venturing onto the gospel music horizon as a solo artist, Ruffin recorded her first album titled You Promised on the Messiah Records label in 1987. She is currently in the process of planning her second release which will be available in the near future.

In what is perhaps her most ambitious project to date, Ruffin has created a program to bring God’s message of love and hope closer into the lives of the homeless and to those persons with AIDS. If anybody is supposed to minister to the needs of people, it should certainly be those who carry the GOOD NEWS message in song.

Safe Haven sponsors numerous community-oriented projects in order to raise funds for this mammoth effort that Ruffin chooses to champion. The most recent was a gospel music extravaganza recently held in Washington, D.C., guests included Sparrow artist and Grammy nominee Daryl Coley, The Richard Smallwood Singers, Rev. D. Lee Owens & DC Fellowship Mass Choir, Howard University Gospel Choir, and a host of others. Hosted by Dr. Bobby Jones, the Black Entertainment Television Network also taped the event for future airing purposes. This effort specifically raised a little more than $5,000.

Perhaps one of the most monumental accomplishments of Safe Haven Ministries to date is the acquisition of their first transitional housing unit in April last year. This organization has obtained 11 one-bedroom units and seven single-family homes. Led by positive, caring and supportive staff, these homes now provide close to 75 previously displaced individuals with a stable “family like” environment. If there is anyone interested in supporting this cause you may make a tax deductible donation to Safe Haven Outreach Ministry, Inc., P.O. Box 64001, Washington, D.C., 20029. For more information call (202) 581-1848.

AND THE WINNER IS...not these guys. But they did pick the winners of Benson’s Standing Ovation contest, held in conjunction with the Standing Ovation Volumes 1 & 2 releases. The grand prize winner took home a $2,000 Ovation guitar with case and nine others won $500 Ovation guitars. Pictured selecting the 10 winners are (l-r): Dan Lynch, vice-president of Benson marketing; Dennis Disney, director of marketing; and Scott Harvey, international sales executive and telephone sales manager.
News Briefs...

CHICAGO—As previously reported in Cash Box (12/19/92 issue), American Sammy Corporation (formerly Sammy Mfg., California) opened a Chicago office in suburban Elk Grove Village, Illinois. With this move, all operations will be transferred from the California office and will now be handled by the Chicago office. American Sammy Corporation is a division of Tokyo-based Sammy Corporation, which is one of the largest manufacturers of the pachinko slot machine. The firm is now embarking on new challenges for future growth, with emphasis on game development. American Sammy is intent on strengthening its position in both the consumer and coin-op markets and establishing the Chicago office as an overseas commercial center that is active in importing and licensing. The Chicago facility will serve not only the U.S. and Canadian markets, but Mexico, South America and Europe as well. Key members of the American Sammy team in Chicago include: Yoshi Suzuki, president; Rick Rotetti, executive vice president-sales; James Miskell, executive vice president-administration; David Cane, national sales manager; Emilio Cabrera, international sales manager; Natalie Kulig, warehouse manager. American Sammy Corp. is located at 901 Cambridge Drive, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. Phone number is: 708-364-9787; FAX is 708-364-9831...Another honor has been bestowed on one of the trade’s most respected figures—Steve Kordek! At the recently held 34th annual Weber High School dinner in Chicago, Kordek received the 1992 Madonna Award as “Alumnus of the Year” in recognition of his dedication, support and continuing efforts in behalf of Weber and the school’s alumni association which he helped organize in 1946. The alumni group was instrumental in raising $250,000 towards the erection of the present Weber High School buildings. In cheek circles he is referred to as a “patriarch”—a “wizard” of the pinball machine for his creative genius in design and development. His time away from the drawing board is spent as a devoted husband to his wife, Harriet (of 51 years); father to his four children; grandfather to his six grandchildren and great grandfather to his great grandson. A worthy recipient of this latest honor as well as the numerous preceding honors and those yet to come!

Valley World Cup Championships Are Held In England

CHICAGO—Electronic dart players representing 17 nations were present at The Dome in Doncaster, England to participate in the 6th annual World Cup Championships, hosted by Valley/NSM. This prestigious event saw darters in full force and also included foosball and pool competition.

There was an opening ceremony presided over by the Lord Mayor of Doncaster along with guests, Barry Kirby (NSM/UK’s gen. mgr.) and Eric Bristowe (five-time world dart champ); which also drew extensive press coverage including representation from a major European television station.

The Valley/Loewen Cup Championships got underway (following the pool and foosball events) with the defending champions, Team Germany, preparing themselves to take The Cup back to Bingen, despite strong opposition from the teams of U.S.A., Wales and Austria. These teams represented the “cream of dart players.”

From the very start, it was evident that the championships were headed for a dramatic finale. All teams appeared to be evenly matched. Initial results saw Team Germany, U.S.A. and Wales tied for first place with 2-1 records and Austria claiming fourth place. However, match scores were then reviewed to break the tie and in the final outcome Team Germany was pronounced the winner of the Valley/Loewen Cup by a margin of a mere match point. Team U.S.A. and Wales then tied for second place.

Germany has now won The Cup three times. Likewise, the U.S.A. Team has also enjoyed three victories (and was thought of as the “team to beat”).

In 1993, the Championships are expected to head out to Eastern Europe. As noted by James Griffiths, vice president of Valley International Operations, “The sport is spreading throughout Europe and the growth in all countries is very positive.”

Laniel Hosts NSM School

CHICAGO—This past November, Laniel Automatic of Montreal, Quebec, hosted a highly successful NSM service school (its second since taking on the NSM jukebox line) attended by over 50 area operators. As noted by Laniel’s general manager Jean Coutu, “We started receiving calls in the early fall asking when we would be holding the NSM school...and we are still receiving calls inquiring about the next one!” Coutu assured operators that this will be an annual event.

Jean Robillard, Laniel’s manager of technical services, handles most of the details in putting the school together. He had high praise for NSM’s Keith White who conducted “an exceptionally interesting, educational” session, which focused on all aspects of service and technology, “including the ‘goods’ and ‘not-so-goods’, which operators found very refreshing.”

The day-long service session was followed by dinner at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel’s Beaver Club where roast sirloin, with all the trimmings, plus select Cuvee Reine Elizabeth wine were served.

Jean Coutu commented about the “number of non-NSM operators who attended the entire event with the idea of evaluating NSM equipment.”

Pictured in the accompanying photos are: (photo 1) NSM’s national training manager Keith White, conducting the class; (photo 2) the now famous Laniel bus that transported students to the Beaver Club; and (photo 3, l-r) Jean Coutu, Eric Levine (Regent Vending); Rus Strahan (NSM-America proxy); Bruce Ellis (Golden Miles Family Center) and Jim Webber (Regent Vending) enjoying dinner at the Beaver.
AMOA & AAMA Support
"America's Best"

CHICAGO—On November 10, 1992, AMOA president Craig Johnson and AAMA executive vice president Robert Fay traveled to Colorado Springs to present a check to the United States Olympic Committee on behalf of the coin-op amusement industry.

Funds for the donation were generated by the sale of stickers that read "Proudly Supporting America's Best" with the AMOA, AAMA and USOC '92 Olympic logos; and video-game-shaped lapel pins with the USOC logo on the monitor.

AMOA and AAMA have long supported America's young athletes by operating free-play game rooms at the processing centers before the 1988 and 1992 Summer Olympics and during such special events as the 1990 Goodwill Games and the U.S. Olympic Festivals of 1989 and 1990.

As stated by Craig Johnson, "AMOA is proud to be able to support the U.S. Olympic Committee and their efforts on behalf of the fine athletes of the United States."

Bob Fay concurred, adding, "The coin-op amusement industry and AAMA are happy to be able to give some rest and relaxation, as well as funding, to support the young people as they prepare for competition."

Fay continued by expressing gratitude to Richard Kirby (New England Coin Op) and Richard Babich (The Colorado Game Exchange) for their efforts in establishing game rooms at the permanent training facilities in Lake Placid, New York and Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Pictured in the accompanying photo are (center, l-r) AMOA's Craig Johnson and AAMA's Bob Fay presenting the donation to USOC executive director Harvey Schiller (l) and deputy secretary general John Krinsky, Jr. (r) as U.S. Olympians Roger Mar (92 U.S. Shooting Team) and Chryss Watts (88 and 92 U.S. Handball Team) look on.

New Atarian Arrives!

Jackie Sherman, sales/marketing administrator for Atari Games, and her husband, Mark, a long-time member of Atari's field service department, recently welcomed their second child, Andrew, who weighed in at 7 lbs. 8 ounces. As you can see, Andrew's parents and his sister, Caroline, couldn't be happier about his arrival—especially since he was originally predicted to be a girl! Jackie plans to resume her duties at Atari Games on January 10, 1993. Our best wishes to this growing Sherman family!

Tolisano Joins
AMOA-IFPA Board

CHICAGO—Ed Tolisano of TBI Games Unlimited in Loves Park, Illinois, was recently elected to the AMOA-IFPA (International Flipper Pinball Assn.) Board of Directors to complete the unexpired term of Ed Velasquez of Velasquez, Automatic Music in Chicago. Velasquez resigned his IFPA board position in order to devote full time to his company's music promotion effort, which is tied in with his family-owned radio station.

Tolisano comes to the board with great enthusiasm for pinball and the full support of his company. "I'm excited to be on the board," he said. "Pinball is a huge part of this industry, and helping build a brighter future for the game will mean a lot to me. The prospects for operator run leagues for pinball are incredible," he added, "and to be part of the team charged with directing it is so great!"

AMOA-IFPA is a non-profit trade association dedicated to pinball league promotion. Members are supplied with all the materials, information and related data needed to organize and run pinball leagues or tournaments. At present IFPA is offering reduced membership dues and incentives. Interested operators may obtain further information by contacting IFPA headquarters at 141 West Vine Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212 or phoning 414-263-0233.

Mortal Kombat
Comic Book & T-Shirts
Now Available

CHICAGO—One of the year's most successful video games has expanded into yet another realm. Midway Manufacturing announced the availability of a full-color Collector's Edition Mortal Kombat comic book. In addition, authentic limited edition Mortal Kombat T-shirts are also available for fans of this martial arts classic or operators interested in prizes when staging their own Mortal Kombat tournament competitions.

Collector's Edition Mortal Kombat comic books are priced at $3 each and Limited Edition black Mortal Kombat T-shirts are priced at $9.95 plus $2.50 for postage and handling. Sizes include medium, large, extra large along with an additional extra large for an additional $2.

Those interested in purchasing these items may send checks or money orders, payable to Midway Manufacturing Company to: Mortal Kombat, 1340 W. Irving Park Road, Suite 414, Chicago, IL 60613.

With regard to T-shirts, Illinois state residents must add 6% sales tax; and international orders an additional $10. Delivery is made within six to eight weeks and size requirements must be specified on all orders. Further information may be obtained by contacting Roger Sharpe at 312-267-2240.

Diane Fiorina Joins
Sega Marketing Team

CHICAGO—Diane M. Fiorina has been appointed marketing coordinator at Sega Enterprises, Inc. (U.S.A.) and will be based out of the firm's corporate offices in San Jose, California. She will report directly to Ken Anderson, director of sales and marketing for the Coin Operated Game Division. Her responsibilities will include advertising, trade shows, and public relations for both the Coin Operated Video Game and the World Gaming Divisions.

Fiorina comes to Sega from the consumer area of the industry where she spent four years with Electronic Arts. In addition to extensive experience in various aspects of marketing, she holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from the University of Arizona.

In announcing the appointment, Anderson said, "We are proud to have Diane as part of the marketing management team at Sega. I am confident that her broad background and experience will contribute a great deal to our continued success."
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