Giant's Hammer Nails
Headhunter

Houston, Braxton Take Train To Glory
Robbins & Newman's Sucker Punch
Giant's Hammer Nails Headhunter

Hammer is back, and Giant's got him. His sound, on new album The Funky Headhunter, is harder than before, which means the Oakland rapper will not only sell his usual millions of albums but is garnering critical kudos as well. Cash Box's Mike Martinez talked to the star.

Houston, Braxton Take Train To Glory

In a story that seems to repeat itself every few weeks, pop/R&B divas Whitney Houston and Toni Braxton took home a few more awards for their trophy rooms when both won two Soul Train awards. R&B legend Barry White received the Heritage Award.

Robbins & Newman's Sucker Punch

BABS ADDS 4TH FOR CHUCK'S CHARITIES: Barbra Streisand, whose immediate sellout of tickets for two London concerts prompted a third date (which also sold out in less than an hour) has now added a fourth concert to benefit The Prince's Trust and which will be attended by HRH Charles, The Prince Of Wales.

The charity affair is scheduled for April 25, joining the previously slated April 20, 27 and 29 dates, with proceeds benefiting the Trust's program of helping young people (14-25) by giving them a start in life. The Streisand London appearances, which kick off her limited first tour, already have a charity aspect, with one million pounds having been raised by the retailer chain Boots which Streisand has designated for the Variety Club Of Great Britain to purchase 32 specially equipped buses to transport disabled children.

The four performances will be at Wembley Arena, the first concerts by Ms. Streisand outside the United States.

ROD ADDS ONE FOR QUAKE FUND: Superstar Rod Stewart has announced that he has added a second and positively final concert to the Arrowhead Pond of Anaheim engagement, which climaxes his nine-month, SRO world tour. The concert, at 8 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, was added to benefit both the American Red Cross Earthquake Relief Fund and the American Red Cross Orange County Disaster Services Fund as well as to answer the overwhelming demand for tickets.

"As the emergency relief centers close, we can't forget the people who suffered the most," said recent Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Stewart. "My family and I have lived in this community for 22 years and I, like everybody else, wanted to do my part. Let's hope the only rockin' and rollin' that's gonna take place that night is going to be done by this humble vocalist," he added.

Tickets for the concert, priced from $25 to $60, are on sale at the Arrowhead Pond Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets, including Robinsons-May, Music Plus and Tower Records. Tickets also may be charged by phone at (714) 740-2000 and (213) 480-3222. The concert is a Nederlander Event.

MILWAUKEE POP'S CALLS THE DOC: Doc Severinsen, best known as the Tonight Show's flamboyant, Grammy Award-winning former music director, has accepted the post of Principal Pops Conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. The position will become effective in September, 1994.

Known and loved for his outstanding musicianship, affable stage presence and colorful outfits, the director of the Tonight Show orchestra will conduct three programs next season in Milwaukee.

"I've had the pleasure of visiting and performing with the Milwaukee Symphony for a number of years," said Severinsen. "It is a great feeling to be able to be a more permanent part of such an outstanding organization."

Michael Schnapp has been appointed to the position of vice president, rock music at EMI Records Group. He has been directly responsible for Epic Records since 1988. I.R.S. Records has promoted Ira Derfler to vice president, sales. He joined the company in 1992 as national sales manager.

Columbia Records has made some changes in its A&R department. Benjie Gordon has been upped to director, A&R, West Coast. He was manager. Two A&R managers have also been named: Kim Burse and Pablo Mathiason will work out of New York. Burse was Southeast and Midwest regional A&R manager, Sony Music, working out of Atlanta. Mathiason joins the department after three years on the Columbia promotion staff. Atlantic Records has announced the restructuring of the rock division of its national promotion department. Lea Pisacane is still director of national album promotion; Mark Fischer becomes associate director of national album promotion; Bonnie Siltkin, national manager of progressive/rock promotion; and Jon Nardachone, national manager of hard rock promotion. Fischer was the label's local promotion rep in Dallas; Siltkin was national album promotion coordinator; Nardachone was national metal manager.

Tasha Mack has been elevated to national director of rock promotion at Capitol Records. She was a local promotion manager for the company's Dallas branch. Warner Bros. Records has named Liz Goodman to the post of international marketing manager. She was a product management coordinator for the label. Michael Scherdtman has been tapped as vice president and controller for Sony Music. He comes to the company from Price Waterhouse, where he was senior manager.

Arista Records has appointed Yvonne Lang as director, human resources. She was program manager, salary plans at BMG. Catrin Walz was named director, office services. She was manager, U.S. facilities at BMG.

Dorian Cummings is now in the promotion department at S.S.T. Records. He was with Zoo Entertainment in a similar capacity. Also at the company, Belva Pierce is the new publicist. She was an independent publicist.

MCA Records has promoted Tom Rowland to the post of director, film and television licensing, special markets and products. He was previously associate director. Meanwhile, Robin Kaye has been named manager of the department. She comes to the company from Bob-A-Lew Music.

Vaughn Thomas has been tapped as senior director, product development/Black music at UNI Distribution Corp. Prior to joining UNI, he ran his own music consulting and marketing company, Sharp Marketing. PLA Media has expanded its operations with the promotion of Amy Kastens to president. She is based in Los Angeles. Gary Baker has been brought on board as vice president. He was vp/publicity at Morgan Creek Records. Brenda Golden has been elevated to head the newly created sponsorship division.

Denise McIver has been appointed R&B/hip-hop publicist at Levine/Schneider Public Relations. She was a freelance journalist. Sony Tree has named Don Cook senior vice president. Since 1990, he has been a writer/producer for Brooks and Dunn.

Susan Dodes has been appointed senior director, talent acquisition for Famous Music Publishing. She joins the publishing from MCA Records, where she held the post of director, A&R. BMI has hired Kenneth West to be assistant vice president, application systems. He was most recently branch manager of CG Computer Services Corp.

The State of Tennessee recently proclaimed March 3 as "Rhythm, Country & Blues Day" in celebration of the newly released MCA Records album, Rhythm, Country & Blues. The album features 11 duets, pairing stars of country and R&B music on classic songs from both genres. Pictured at the Governor's office at the Tennessee State Capitol are (l-r): Tony Brown, president, MCA Records/Nashville; Al Teller, chairman, MCA Music Entertainment Group; Ned McWherter, governor of Tennessee; and Bruce Hinton, chairman, MCA Records/Nashville.
Cash Box
EAST COAST

By Ted Williams

Members of Us3 and Candlebox are pictured backstage at NYC’s Webster Hall during 2100’s “Landerpalooza.” Tickets for the benefit show featuring the two groups and Gin Blossoms sold out within 22 minutes and raised over $10,000 for the NYC Police Foundation’s “Goods For Guns” program. Pictured (l-r) are: Rahsaan (Us3), Kobie Powell (Us3), Peter Klett (Candlebox), Scott Mercado (Candlebox), Tukka Yool (Us3), Bardi Martin (Candlebox), Ed Jones (Us3), and Kevin Martin (Candlebox).

IT WAS EASY BEING GREEN on St. Patrick’s Day in New York. Those seen and heard around town on Erin’s holiday were festively included the Betty’s at Carnegie Hall on the 13th, followed by James Galway on the 16th and The Chieftains on the 17th; traditional band Altar were at Town Hall on the 12th, folk singer Sharon Shannon played the Bottom Line on the 16th; The Cancy Bros. were at Westbury Music Fair on the 17th; and St. Paddy’s Day Parade marched up Fifth Avenue.

JELLYBEAN BENITEZ, record producer extraordinare, is delving deep into film music. Benitez has just completed a deal to serve as music supervisor for two upcoming Home Box Office television productions.

The HBO pact calls for the veteran producer to write the theme song and score to Loco Slam, a new half-hour comedy series they hope will be a Latino counterpart to the cable outlet’s popular Def Comedy Jam series. Benitez will also write the music for House Of Baggins, a comedy variety series that will star hot actor John Leguizamo.

The producer/composer’s growing list of screen credits already includes the theme music for the Ricki Lake TV talk show. On the big screen he produced the soundtrack recording of the score from Carlito’s Way, and the soon-to-be-released Mi Vida Loca and The Shadow, which stars Alec Baldwin and Penelope Ann Miller.

MIRIAM MAKEBA AND HUGH MASEKELA appeared in concert together for the first time in some 25 years when they took the stage at NYC’s Manhattan Center on the 12th. Masekela and Ms. Makeba performed together and separately through a strong, sometimes emotional, set of South African as well as international music.

Known worldwide for their early hits, like “Pata Pata” from Ms. Makeba and “Grazin’ In The Grass” from Masekela, the two expatriates (they were granted the right to return to their homeland in 1990) performed an emotionally full-bodied set of over two hours. Masekela’s township-jazz inspired trumpet and vocals were highlighted with a stirring version of “Stimela (Coal Train),” while Ms. Makeba’s many lifting moments included the haunting reverie “Soweto Blues.”

Debunking the myth that Hollywood Records staffers aren’t allowed to leave the Disney lot until after dark are three label promo execs, as well as S1K (San Diego) p.d. Mike Halloran (second from left) and former General Public man, now avid Greenpeace supporter, Dave Wakeling (middle). Folks are gathered in front of Cyrus, the Greenpeace solar-powered recording studio used to create the Alternative NRG album.

LOS ANGELES PUBLICITY GROUP Levine/Schneider has been retained by San Francisco-based Bill Graham Management, as the newly 20-year-old handlers make their first venture into the Southland. The company, which began overseeing artist careers in 1975 with Carlos Santana, has moved into facilities in the Wildfire Theater in Hollywood. The company, which currently oversees the careers of, among others, the Gin Blossoms, Joe Satriani, Aaron Neville and Sub Pop buzz band Love Battery, has also announced the formation of a new, as yet unnamed, boutique record label, to be distributed by A&M. First release, expected this summer, is from Native American group the Songcatchers. BGM’s L.A. office is being helmed by Kathy Cook.

THIS WRITER IS STILL blown away by the scene last week at the Revolution 94 event at the Universal Amphitheatre. We’ve never, in the five years that we’ve been covering music in Los Angeles, seen a crowd reaction like the one that erupted when 6,000 people appeared to collectively lose their minds at the appearance of Malinda Vecinad (sort of a Mexican Fishbone) and Califanes (an Hispanic Pink Floyd-mets-Rush group). All in attendance seemed to know every word to every song by both bands, completely overshadowing the brief by Redd Kross, ed. Live, the American bands on the bill. Both Latin acts record for BMG International. More shows like Revolution 94, we say.

ANOTHER BAND WORTH DRIVING to see is Aboriginal rock crew Yothu Yindi. Following two well-received shows at the Palace and the Roxy in LA in 1992, the band returns with a new album (Freedom, on Hollywood Records) and a new live show. They’ll be appearing in California in Berkeley, Davis and San Luis Obispo, all at Cal State campuses, during the month of April. This show, which features the group performing in traditional tribal garb and playing a host of unusual, traditional instruments, is very much worth seeing.

LAST TUESDAY’S EDITION OF THE New York Post referred to former Mudley Crue singer Vince Neil, now a solo artist on Warner Bros., as the late Vince Neil, noting that the flamboyant frontman had died in an auto accident. They obviously got their facts just a little off. If you remember, Vince was involved in a traffic accident some five or six years ago when the sports car that he was driving crashed, killing his passenger, Razzle, then the drummer for glam rockers Hanoi Rocks. Neil (real name: Vincent Wharton) did his time and is in fact alive and relatively well.

CASH BOX WEST COAST

By Troy J. Augusto

Vince Neil. Rumors of his death, though understandable, are greatly over-exaggerated.

Crash Test Dummies

By Troy J. Augusto

PALACE, HOLLYWOOD, CA—The surprise success story of early 1994 has to be Canada’s Crash Test Dummies. The band’s second album, God Shuffled His Feet (Arista), has unexpectedly crashed the top 30, propelled by the radio popularity of similarly charted first single “Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm,” an unlikely yet quite hummable pop tune. And no one seems more surprised than the band itself.

Playing to a packed house at the Palace on Friday, the Dummies offered a crafty, humorously morbid 75-minute show that was entertaining both in its awesome breadth of subject matter and theme (particularly from a rock group and in the genuine likability of a folk band that mixes philosophic musings on mortality and ducks (among other things) into such a listenable sound.

The band is fronted by 30-year-old Brad Roberts, a self-effacing, mellow baritone whose unique voice (which he attributes to Scotch whiskey) bears the bass depth of Iggy Pop and the richness of Paul McCartney. An odd vocal style for a contemporary singer, certainly, but one of the Dummies’ most attractive assets.

The sextet’s smoothly arranged blend of rock, country and alternative sounds, often seen as a male-fronted spin on the Cowboy Junkies’ sound, worked well in the live setting. The lyrically odd, REM-ish “When I Go Out With Artists,” the rich, erotic symbolism of “Swimming In Your Ocean” and the self-destructive musings of “Afternoons & Coffeespoons,” all songs lifted from the new album, were infectious highlights of the concert.

A folk cover of the Replacements’ “Androgynous,” silly “Superman’s Song” and show closer “At My Funeral,” each from the band’s 1991 debut, The Ghosts That Haunt Me, were also strong moments.

Assuming that creativity and originality still have a place in contemporary music, the Crash Test Dummies appear poised for a jump to “the next level,” a promotion this exciting and most unique band more than deserves.

Epic Records’ October Project opened the show with an ambient, involving sound, highlighted by the breathtaking vocals of singer Mary Fahl. Music from the New York act’s self-titled debut album, which leans towards the New Age arena, comes alive on stage and glows with a mystical, warm vibe that’s tailor-made for the adult/alternative audience that has embraced the likes of Enya, Kate Bush, etc.
NEW YORK TOP 25

MARCH 26, 1994

1  MI BUEN AMOR (Epic) ..................................................  GLORIA ESTEFAN  8
2  HASTA EL FIN (WEA Latina) ...........................................  LUIS MIGUEL  5
3  DONDE QUIERA... (EMI Latin) ........................................  BARRIO BOYZ & SELENA  3
4  LUNA (Sony Discos) ..........................................................  ANA GABRIEL  4
5  MUYER PEQUEÑA (Sony Discos) ....................................  ROBERTO CARLOS  5
6  DETRAS MI VENTANA (Sony Discos) .................................  YURI  5
7  CARA DE NINO (Sony Tropical) ........................................  JERRY RIVERA  7
8  BASTO UNA MIRADA (Vidioscar) ....................................  LOS TITANES  4
9  EL ULTIMO BESO (Sony) ..................................................  MARC ANTHONY  9
10  EL MENEGITA (THBG) .....................................................  J. ESTEBAN-PATRULLA  4
11  EL NEGRO... (Rodven) .....................................................  VICTOR ROQUE-GRAN MANZAN  11
12  BABY QUIERO (Prime-MBG) ..........................................  VICO-C  12
13  Y TODAVIA ME AMAS (Rodven) .....................................  ALEX D'CASTRO  13
14  LA SEXY (Elektra) ..........................................................  COCOBAND  14
15  NO VIVIRE (Elektra) ........................................................  GYPSY KINGS  15
16  NIEVA, NIEVA (EMI Latin) ..............................................  PAULINA RUBIO  16
17  OTRA COMO TU (BMG) ....................................................  EROS RAMAZZOTTI  17
18  BANDOLERO... (Rodven) ..................................................  FANTASMAS DEL CARIBE  18
19  TE COMPRO TU NOVIA (Karen-MBG) .............................  RAMON ORLANDO  18
20  MI MEDIA MITAD (Sony Tropical) ....................................  REY RUZ  20
21  LLEGO TU MARIDO (A.N.) ..............................................  TOROS BAND  21
22  DESPERADA (Polygram Latin) .........................................  MARTA SANCHEZ  22
23  ENTRE EL AMOR (Sony Discos) .......................................  RICKY MARTIN  23
24  BUSCAME (Sony Discos) ..................................................  GILBERTO SANTA ROSA  24
25  EL DESDICHADO (Kawen) ...............................................  HERMANOS ROSARIO  25

PUERTO RICO TOP 25

MARCH 26, 1994

1  EN HORABUENA (Rodven) ..................................................  ALEX D'CASTRO  8
2  ENAMORAME (MP) ............................................................  TITO ROJAS  2
3  PAIRENTES POBRE (Melody-Fonovisa) .............................  LUCERO  3
4  ANGEL CALIDO (EMI Latin) ..............................................  ALVARO TORREZ  4
5  HASTA EL FIN (WEA Latina) ............................................  LUIS MIGUEL  5
6  POR AMOR A TI (Melody-Fonovisa) .................................  CRISTIAN  6
7  LUNA (Sony) .................................................................  ANA GABRIEL  7
8  DONDE QUIERA (SBK-EMI) .............................................  BARRIO BOYYZ-SELENA  8
9  MI DOBLE TU (Rodven) ....................................................  MAGGIE CARLES  9
10  CARA DE NINO (Sony) .....................................................  JERRY RIVERA  10
11  VOY A CONQUISTARTE (Sonoro) ....................................  JOHNNY RIVERA  11
12  CALIDO Y FRIO (Sony Discos) .........................................  FRANCO DE VITA  12
13  DETRAS DE MI VENTANA (Sony Discos) ...........................  JURI  13
14  VENDRAS LLORANDO (WEA Latina) ...............................  OLGA TANON  14
15  LAS LLAVES DE MI (EMI Latin) ......................................  LAS TRIPLETES  15
16  TODAVIA ME AMA (Rodven) .............................................  ALEX D'CASTRO  16
17  BANDOLERO (Rodven) ......................................................  FANTASMAS DEL CARIBE  17
18  A DONDE VOY (Elektra) ..................................................  LINDA RONSTADT  18
19  GUE MANERA DE (Sony) ...................................................  MARTA SANCHEZ  19
20  MI FRACASO (EMI Latin) .................................................  PANDORA  20
21  LO AMO (Sony Discos) ....................................................  LOURDES ROBLES  21
22  SI NO ESTAS CONMIGO (EMI Latin) .................................  PROYECTO M.  22
23  Y TE VAS (EMI Latin) .....................................................  EDINITA NAZARIO  23
24  DESDICHADO (Karen-BMG) ..............................................  HERMANOS ROSARIO  24
25  GUE LASTIMA (EMI Latin) ...............................................  ALVARO TORRES  25

REVIEWS BY Rafael A. Charres

Single

- JESUS ENRIQUEZ: "De Que Manera Te Olvido" (Sonero-81181)

Debut single release off his brand new album, Motivos Para Serar. This single quickly catapults this baritone salsero into the Latin music mainstream. RMM/Sonero releases what may possibly be another bonafide hit. Another vocal arrangement sets you up for the main knockout punch, by starting off with a classical styled Ranchero ballad intro. Then, they hit you with an up-tempo tropical arrangement full of contagious energy. Jesus Enriquez nicely blends his artistic vocal qualities, homogenizing Mexican Regional with Salsa Tropical. His exposure to legendary singers of Mexico such as Pedro Infante, Javier Solis, Trio Los Panchos, and Jose José is evident throughout. This Mexican-American brings a distinctive quality to the production, as well as the MRM/Sony. This guy is going to be very big. It was obvious and clear to me when I witnessed this young vocalist's performance at the Warsaw Club, New York City. I'm convinced, that if properly promoted, this one can go all the way.

Albums

- VARIOUS ARTISTS: Voces De Mexico (Global/Sony CDZ281225)

A compilation album of the best artists to come out of Mexico today. A collective effort by Sony to demonstrate their profound variety of talent within the Latin American market. This is a magnificent 16-cut production that showcases such south-of-the-border phenomenons as Ana Gabriel, Alejandro Fernandez, Vikki Carr, Javi Solis, Yuri, Vicente Fernandez and Cuco Sanchez, just to name a few (16 artists total). Each one performing their own unique interpretation of Mexican classics such as: "Hasta Que Te Conoci," "Necesito Olvidarla," "La Zauduga," "Soy Dios Me Quis Quia La Vida," "El Cascabel," "Que De Raro Tien" and "Hay Que Saber Perder." Love and romance ala Rancheras, Mariachi & Mexican Regional style music. A fabulous addition to anyone's prized collection. A permanent seller.

PICK OF THE WEEK

- MARTA SANCHEZ: Mujer (Mercury 314514456-2)

Does Annie Lennox have a twin sister? Coulda fooled me!! Anyway, it's pretty evident that there's always room for a new, fresh and innovative-sounding singer. Marta Sanchez fills that void. Sanchez's album, (Woman), has the musical elements of Pop, Rock and Reggae. Ms. Sanchez has a fluid and effortless style, which lends a lot to this sensational production (produced and arranged by Christian de Walden & Ralf Stenzmann). This album has everything you could possibly want from ballads to dance. It's very mainstream and will also appeal to the dance community with no problem at all. It can conceivably do well in major markets like New York, Miam, Puerto Rico and Los Angeles. My heavy favorites are: "Yo No Se," "Eso Es El Soul," "Nube De Verano," "Olvidate De Mi," "Tal Vez," "El Ultimo Rock," "Desesperada"—English Extended Version and a flawless and fabulous ballad, "Los De Aqueña Noche" (far From That Night). I really feel that this is the product and artist that will give Polygram/Mercury Latinos their first bonafide and credible multi-market, multi-million seller. Either way, Marta Sanchez is here to stay. She has a true and natural cornucopia of musical styles, which she utilizes to the max. A true sign of talent; a true sign of longevity. This Lady is Bad!!! And, she's good looking too!!!
FANIA ALL STARS: Bring back the good old days!!! June dates are set to celebrate their 30th Anniversary with an exclusive three-set concert series. The Miller Brewing Company, RMM International and Jerry Masucci, team up for a special concert production that will showcase and commemorate 30 years of magical music of the Fabulous Fania All-Stars. Puerto Rico, New York City and Miami are the host sites for this musical extravaganza. Concert dates are as follows: Sat. June 11, Hiram Bithorn Stadium (Puerto Rico); Sat. June 18, Madison Square Garden (NYC); and Sat. June 25, Miami Arena (Miami).

Artists slated to perform at all three concerts are: Celia Cruz, Johnny Pacheco, Ray Barreto, Cheo Feliciano, Pete "El Conde" Rodriguez, Pacho Lucca, Larry Harlow, Reinaldo Jorge, Ismael Miranda, Bobby Valentín, Adalberto Santiago, Nicky Marrero, Israel Quintaní, Roberto Roena, Santos Colon, Yomo Toro, Van Lester, Juanquito Torres, Luis "Perico" Ortiz, Luis Can, Hector "Bomboíto" Zarruda and additional surprise guests. This is going to be one of the hottest tickets in town (a scalper's delight), so I suggest that you put in for your tickets early. For further information contact the first lady of RMM, Debbie Mercado. (212) 925-2828. I wouldn't miss this one for the world!!!

TITO PUENTE, the "KING OF MAMBO," slams them black and blue at the Blue Note Jazz Club, NYC. I was able to catch Tito on one of the six-night, 14-show engagement at the Blue Note. The "King," performing with an all-star supporting cast, mesmerized a jam-packed SRO crowd with his flamboyant percussive rudiments. Some of the most important names in Latin Jazz were at hand to add to the party atmosphere. This ensemble is aptly named Tito Puente's Golden Latin Jazz All-Stars, consisting of individuals distinguished in their own right; Mario Rivera (piccolo, tenor/soprano sax), Dave Valentín (flute), Paquito D'Rivera (sax), Charlie Sepúlveda (trombone/horn/trumpet). The rhythm section consists of pianist Hilton Ruiz, bassist Andy Gonzalez, drummer Ignacio Berroa and the super combination of Mongo Santamaria and Giovanni Hidalgo slaming the congas.

This phenom all-star ensemble played with such a cohesive temperament, reminding me of the '61 N.Y. Yankees or the Boston Celtics during their dynasty years. A relentless proficient machine, hitting on all cylinders. A tour-de-force of music so impeccably rich in flavor, but smooth like an expensive bottle of fine vintage wine. The "notorious nine," executed a ravenous repertoire with cuts "New Arrival," "Teach Me Tonight," "Flight To Jordan," "Afro," "Milestone," "Tigro," and "Obsesión," which was their encore piece. This slaming music is also available on cassette or CD, on the Tropi-Jazz/Sony label. Thanks to Dan Forté and Debbie Mercado for the opportunity and accommodation.

LATINS OF THE YEAR: BMI named "Otro Día Mas Sin Verte" ("Just Another Day Without You"), co-written by Jon Seceda, Gloria Estefan and Miguel Morejon Latin Song Of The Year, Alvaro Torres Latin Songwriter Of The Year, and Peer International Corporation Latin Music Publisher Of The Year at the performing rights organization's first annual Latin Music Awards.

The ceremony honored top Latin songwriters and music publishers at a 300-person gala dinner at the Tropicana Club in Miami Beach's Hotel Fontainebleau.

BMI president and CEO Francois W. Preston hosted the ceremonies at which Citations of Achievement went to the writers and publishers of the 50 songs most performed on American radio and television during the past year. A Certificate of Excellence was also presented to Gloria and Emilio Estefan for their contributions to "the culture of The Americas."
Andie MacDowell and Hugh Grant do an international turn on the language of love in Gramercy's Weddings.

Weddings and Funerals are the backdrops for this delightful tale of a diverse group of friends who gather together at these functions during a season of them in merry old England and, with the proper handling, could convey a solid audience. Word-of-mouth is going to be Weddings' best friend, although let's note that a special push is being done on the film's leading man, Hugh Grant and he's all over the place right now. Maybe that'll do some good but he doesn't appear in this project at least, to be the type of leading man the American female audience is currently gleaning onto. Otherwise the film's main draw at the moment is Andie MacDowell.

Co-producer/writer Richard Curtis does some interesting things with his group of friends, managing to send at least one per wedding off onto another matrimonial branch by meeting a relative spouse at each vow-at—coping at a coupling, as it were. He seems both frightened of and enamored of the venerable institution at the same time. He also sees pathos and extreme humor in it. He has a nervous novice vicar (Rowan Atkinson) pull off one of the most delightful word-play sequences in memory. He manages to inject a homosexual couple (one of which is the Funeral portion) with no fanfare, no calling attention to it, simply weaving it into the fabric of the story with a naturalness so that when it does become known audiences react with a "oh... o.k." This is a wonderfully crafted screenplay.

Mike Newell directs with a fine knowledge of character, time and place, allowing the moments to come about in their own time which gives the piece a relaxed pace and quality. Also, take special note of John Gregory's editing, especially in the bumbling priest word sequence, laughter stems from the exquisite reactionary editing as from the words and performance.

Grant is fine as the confirmed bachelor, conquered by the MacDowell beauty. He convinces us that he could bumble his way into bed with the various women he does. MacDowell looks wonderful, as always, but... Oh well, she's got her SAG learner's permit and she is gorgeous. Simon Callow turns in a lively performance and John Hannah makes a solid film debut. Corin Redgrave offers a solid piece of work as MacDowell's first husband while Charlotte Coleman is a delight as a gal of the guys and Anna Chancellor enchants as a wistful former lover of Grant's who's ultimately left at the altar. David Bower, a dear actor, portrays Grant's deaf brother and the sign language situation sets up a couple of fun moments with sub-titles. Bower manages to convey concern and emotion without dialogue.

Executive producers are Tim Bevan and Eric Fellner. Duncan Kenworthy produced.

TIM ROBBINS and Paul Newman, the sacrifice and the shark, both ends of the corporate spectrum at Huducker Industries.

WITH THE COEN BROTHERS IN CONTROL, you know going in it's not going to be conventional. Ethan produced, Joel directed and they both teamed with Sam Raimi on the script, which is a look at greedy corporate big business machinations with a touch of Riskin/Capra tossed in.

Actually, there's a lot of memory evocations mixed into The Huducker Proxy: Production designer Dennis Gassner gives us some Orson Welles Citizen Kane (spatial) and Charlie Chaplin Modern Times (giant cogs) with his stylized sets; the Coens and Raimi dip into The Front Page and Frontenac Jason Leigh spreads some delicious Katharine Hepburn in a couple instances, vocally and attitude-wise. There's even a fantasy element to some of the high-diving to save the Tim Robbins decency character. It's fun but it's not a barrel of belly laughs, and as such, it'll do solid at the boxoffice but not blockbuster. The Coen's haven't yet found the ultimate formula for total commercial acceptance and being able to satisfy their own quirky selves, but it's fun watching them search for it.

It's slick and it's entertaining with a couple of toe-tingling dives from the 45th floor of the Huducker building that are both entertaining and exciting—first one is metaphorical, fate and irony-laced with Charles Durning (Huducker himself) diving toward the pavement as his naive proxy, Robbins, enters the front door of the building. Why Huducker/Durning dives when he's literally sitting on top of the world is left to viewer interpretation. Mine is: that as he, the great corporate mind, sits listening to the wonderful report of his ever-burgeoning business doing so well he's suddenly struck by a decent thought and, while decency at his level is not acceptable, he had to run the length of that table and dive.

Anyway, it's that dive that sets the following action in motion with greed the ruling emotion from all except Robbins who's installed as head of the company to run it down for others' profit. He instead, through his innocence and decency, runs it upward with his invention of the hula hoop. Get the idea? Course y'do.

Director Joel carries his action and characters right to the brink but never lets them go over. What's interesting is to see just how far he can take them. He's slick. The story he, Ethan and Raimi fashioned is there for all to see, but there are subtexts open to anyone's mind's eye so you can pretty much come away with whatever you want to: nonsense, parable, love or hate. There's something there for everybody.

Tim Robbins is the proxy president of the Huducker company and he shows a distinct flair for farcical comedy with serio underpinnings. He invests a sincere belief in his character's actions which is engaging and perfect for the role. Paul Newman is the board manipulator, the kind of corporate sleaze you love to hate and he draws a believable caricature of the type. Leigh neatly sends up the '40s era woman-in-the-men's world with fine results. Durning doesn't speak until he returns as an angel—catching up with Robbins on his way down—and he loads the character with attitude. John Mahoney and Bruce Campbell are the fast-talking newsmen.

The Warner Bros. presentation, in association with PolyGram Film Entertainment, Silver Pictures production in association with Working Title Films was executive produced by Eric Fellner and Tim Bevan and co-produced by Graham Place.
VIDEO REVIEWS

The Joy Luck Club
By John Goff

ASIAN GENERATIONAL FILM and what would and could definitely be called “a woman’s film” is a beautifully mounted Oliver Stone Production with Wayne Wang directing the sprawling Amy Tan tale and doing an admirable job of keeping virtually eight different stories going at once. It was a bit long in theatres because of the material which had to be covered but should prove popular in the more relaxed confines of home. Some lovely performances with France Nuyen standing out particularly. Hollywood Pictures Home Video.

A Home Of Our Own
By J.G.

A WOMAN’S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM from sexual harassment and freedom for her family with Kathy Bates in a fine performance at the center make this a terrific entry. Determination to have a home in the face of seemingly overwhelming odds, give her children a hero to look up to, learn from and respect. Some fine, moving moments with a strong story, not Pollyanna-ish. Patrick Duncan’s script doesn’t sidestep the rougher side of characters and life. Tony Bill directed with a sensitive hand. PolyGram Video.

Léolo
By J.G.

MOODY, BIZARRE, STRANGE. You could probably stick this entry with any label you want to come up with. Out of Canada, it picked up some attention for its writer/director Jean-Claude Lauzon, and is well-mounted and highly interesting visually. Fully requires dual viewing, unless you’re fluent in French, to adjust to the subtitles, some translations of which are clumsy and go by too fast. Strong language in subtitles also. Interesting contrasts with violent while comedic visuals. Underneath the obvious there is a story of a family madness streak which is both compelling and saddening. New Line & Columbia TriStar Home Video.

Lone Justice
By J.G.

THIS WESTERN HAS THE CLASSY look and feel of another made-for-TV western, Lonesome Dove. And why shouldn’t it? It has the same screenwriter, Bill Witliff and musician Basil Poledouris. It just doesn’t have, however, the other’s Larry McMurtry heart at the core. But it is worth a good look for the moments it does touch upon the strengths, courage and desires it must have taken to settle the Old West. Daniel Baldwin holds central focus nicely with a solid performance of Old West lawman Ned Blessing. Academy Entertainment.

TOP 25 VIDEO RENTALS

CASH BOX • MARCH 26, 1994

1. IN THE LINE OF FIRE (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 52215)
2. BORN YESTERDAY (Hollywood Home Video 1744)
3. LAST ACTION HERO (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 27903)
4. HARD TARGET (MCA/Universal Home Video 81570)
5. DENNIS THE MENACE (Warner Home Video 17000)
6. INDECENT PROPOSAL (Paramount Home Video 32453)
7. POSSE (PolyGram Home Video 440081153)
8. KALIFORNIA (Polygram Video 44008)
9. ROOKIE OF THE YEAR (FoxVideo 8521)
10. CONEHEADS (Paramount Home Video 32874)
11. SCENT OF A WOMAN (MCA Universal home video 81283)
12. THE DARK HALF (Orion Home Video 10225)
13. ROBIN HOOD: MEN IN TIGHTS (FoxVideo 8529)
14. POETIC JUSTICE (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 52929)
15. SLIVER (Paramount Home Video 32722)
16. MENACE II SOCIETY (New Line Home Video/Columbia/TriStar Home Video 72550)
17. THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE (Warner Home Video 12987)
18. THE SECRET GARDEN (Warner Home Video 19000)
19. GROUNDHOG DAY (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 52929-5)
20. LOST IN YONKERS (Columbia TriStar Home Video 53663)
21. FALLING DOWN (Warner Home Video 12548)
22. FREE WILLY (Warner Home Video 18000)
23. THE SANDLOT (Fox Video 8500)
24. THREE OF HEARTS (New Line/Columbia Tri Star Home Video 76043)
25. CLIFFHANGER (Columbia TriStar Home Video 52233)

VID BIZ

BY JOHN GOFF

WARNER HOME VIDEO is hitting the market this spring and summer with 11 (nine vides and two laserdiscs) priced for the sell-through market, $19.98 for the VHS version and $34.98 lasers. Notable because of added footage will be Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord Of The Apes, making its videute with six minutes of never-before-seen material. Interesting juxtaposition of talents also is Andie MacDowell in her first major film role as the ape man’s main squeeze Jane—entering—and one of the classiest performers to ever grace the silver screen, Sir Ralph Richardson in his final film performance as Greystoke’s grandfather—existing. Ridley Scott’s Blade Runner: The Director’s Cut is the second notable. Recently recognized as a modern cinematic classic by the Library of Congress, this Runner features a previously cut dream sequence and eliminates the original release’s voiceover narration and “happy ending.” New to laserdisc will be Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdrome and The Road Warrior. Other priced-downs include: Boiling Point, Falling Down, Fifty-Fifty, Kung Fu: The Movie, Point Of No Return, Street Knight and Sommersby.... Out of Buena Vista Home Video is the undisputed “King” of late-night, in spite of what the other pretenders want to fantasize about, Johnny Carson, in a four-volume collection titled Johnny Carson: His Favorite Moments From The Tonight Show. These are his own royal selections of his favorite moments from his 30 year reign. Look for that in May...
1994 NARM CONVENTION EVENTS SCHEDULE
As of February 21, 1994

FRIDAY, MARCH 18
11 AM-5 PM Early Bird Registration
1-3 PM Independent Distributors/Manufacturers Meeting
1:30-5:30 PM NARM/RIAA Merchandising Committee Meeting
3:30-5:30 PM One Stops Meeting
5:30-6:30 PM Reception: One Stops Welcome Indie Retailers
(Open to One Stops and Indie Retailers Only)

SATURDAY, MARCH 19
9 AM-NOON Retailers Meeting
9 AM-5 PM Registration
NOON-6 PM Exhibit Area Open
12:30-2:30 PM Rack Jobbers Meeting
3-5 PM Manufacturers Advisory Committee Meeting
7-8:30 PM Opening Reception
“Flower Power Flashback to Haight-Ashbury”
Hosted by Navarre Corp.
10 PM-Midnight PGD Zone: A Nightclub Showcase at the Marriott
hosted by PGD

SUNDAY, MARCH 20
7:30-8:15 AM Breakfast
8:30-11 AM General Session
Special Performance
KRONOS QUARTET
courtesy of Elektra Nonesuch
Convention Chairman’s Welcome
Garry Wall, Wall Media
Keynote Address
Michael P. Schulhof
Sony Corp. of America/Sony Music Entertainment
State of the Association Message
Steve Strome, Handleman Company
Featured Speaker
Watts Wacker, Yankelovich Partners
11:15 AM-12:30 PM Independent Product Presentation
12:45-1:15 PM Express Lunch
1:30-2:45 PM BMG Distribution Product Presentation
3-6 PM Exhibit Area Open
7-8 PM Scholarship Foundation Reception
(Invitation Only)
8 PM Scholarship Foundation Dinner
Annual Best Seller Awards Presentations
REGIS PHILBIN
courtesy of PPI Entertainment Group
Superstar Entertainment
TONY BENNETT & TERENCE BLANCHARD
courtesy of Columbia
11:30 PM-1 AM PGD Zone: A Nightclub Showcase at the Marriott
hosted by PGD

MONDAY, MARCH 21
8-9 AM Breakfast & Annual Members Meeting
9:15-10:30 AM CEMA Product Presentation
10:45 AM-NOON PGD Product Presentation
12:15-12:45 PM Express Lunch
1-2:15 PM WEA Product Presentation
2:30-5:30 PM Exhibit Area Open
6-7 PM Reception for International Attendees
(Invitation Only)
6:30-9 PM Store Managers Bash
“Truckin’ In The City”
hosted by Tower Records
9 PM-1 AM Showtime At The Warfield Theatre
hosted by CEMA Distribution & The Album Network
10 PM-1 AM PGD Zone: A Nightclub Showcase at the Marriott
hosted by PGD

TUESDAY, MARCH 22
9-10 AM Breakfast
10:15-11:30 AM UNI Distribution Product Presentation
11:45 AM-1 PM Sony Music Distribution Product Presentation
1:15-2:45 PM Advertising Awards Luncheon
Performance & Presentations by
DR. ELMO
courtesy of Laughing Stock Records
3-6 PM Closing Session
Special Performance
D’CUCKOO
courtesy of RGB Records & Navarre Corporation
Moderator
Garry Wall, Wall Media
Featured Speakers
Paco Underhill, Envirosell
Antonio Romero, NewLeaf Entertainment
Greg Riker, Microsoft Corporation
Awards Banquet
Presidential Award & Special Performance
LENA HORNE
courtesy of Blue Note Records
Annual Best Seller Awards Presentations
SHARI LEWIS
courtesy of A&M Records
Superstar Entertainment
JACKSON BROWNE
courtesy of Elektra Entertainment
Label, Distributor, Merchandiser of the Year Awards
11:30 PM-1 AM PGD Zone: A Nightclub Showcase at the Marriott
hosted by PGD
Houston, Braxton Take Train To Glory

It was Deja Vu all over again as R&B pop divas Whitney Houston and Toni Braxton, both big winners at the Grammys and American Music Awards, took home two awards each at the eighth annual Soul Train Music Awards Tuesday night (15).

The show, which was broadcast over the Tribune syndication network, took place at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. Gladys Knight, Patti LaBelle and Johnny Gill were the hosts for the event, which featured performances by Houston, her husband Bobby Brown, Braxton, Babyface and several rap acts, including hotter-than-hot Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre. Snoop and Dre, however, went home empty-handed.

A complete list of winners follows:

R&B SINGLE, FEMALE: "Lately," Jodeci
R&B ALBUM OF THE YEAR, FEMALE: Toni Braxton, Toni Braxton
R&B ALBUM OF THE YEAR, MALE: For The Cool In You, Babyface
R&B ALBUM OF THE YEAR, GROUP, BAND OR DUO: Lose Control, Silk.
BEST RAP ALBUM: Bacdafucup, Onyx.
BEST JAZZ ALBUM: Breathless, Kenny G.
BEST GOSPEL ALBUM: It Remains To Be Seen, Mississippi Mass Choir.
BEST R&B MUSIC VIDEO: "If," Janet Jackson.
HERITAGE AWARD—CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: Barry White.

COVER STORY

Giant's Hammer Nails Headhunter

By M.R. Martinez

OAKTOWN RAPPER HAMMER is nothing if not resilient. When he and his Bust It Productions camp broke from Capitol Records in 1992, his detractors sounded a death knell, saying that the dynamic performer's filaments had burned out, that his oft-questioned mic skills had finally run false, that his star was falling from the sky. But Hammer is now showing that he is indeed too legit to quit.

This Renaissance comes in the form of his The Funky Headhunter album, his debut for Giant Records. Powered by some fresh, funky and hard tracks, produced by some of the industry's best, backed by an aggressive marketing and promotion program rooted in video presentation and a new image, Hammer is poised to hit again. The trail back started last year with an appearance on the Arsenio Hall Show and continues with the single and video to "It's All Good." The march continues with the single "Pumps And A Bump." On deck is the Teddy Riley-produced track "Don't Stop."

Hammer told Cash Box during a recent interview that he and his management team, led by his brother Louis Burell, decided to sign with Giant because of a concerted effort by the top executives there including label head Ivan Azoff, Cassandra Mills, head of black music for the company, and John Brody, senior vp of promotion and sales. "When we left Capitol it was because it was mutually agreed," Hammer recalls. "It was a joint venture that was jointly ended. So, we put our feelers and got tremendous response." Sources close to the bidding contest say that it came down to Giant and Interscope Records. Hammer would not confirm who the contenders were, but said that Giant ultimately got the nod because of the "enthusiasm, commitment and the promotion and marketing game plan" they were prepared to launch.

Giant's Brody agrees, noting that, "It was a good deal for everyone involved. There were extensive discussions back and forth and once we agreed on a focus, it was on." Brody added that the decision was helped by Hammer's track record, his past accomplishments, including the sale of 25 million units worldwide. Those sales were accrued through the Capitol albums Let's Get Started ("Pump It Up" and "Turn This Mutha Out"), Please Hammer, Don't Hurt 'Em ("U Can't Touch This" "Pray") and Too Legit To Quit.

Brody noted that Hammer has had to "overcome some obstacles, and we're here to help continue moving forward. Hammer is a tremendous entertainer, and we know that consumers still want him and retail still wants him. And radio still wants him. And frankly, that's all we really care about." Brody added that at a time when many labels are carefully considering how they plan to move on with rap music, Hammer was an attractive opportunity."

For Hammer, who recently taped a Spring Break special for MTV, his return to the airwaves and record bins is sweet retribution. "A lot of those people who were callin' me wacked, dead or whatever were gettin' publicity at my expense," he says. "They were tryin' to get paid, because they probably weren't sellin' records like I was. I mean, I employed somethin' like 400 African-Americans when I had my tours goin' on." But the most articulate rebuttal to his detractors probably comes in the lyrics to the track "Break 'Em Off Somethin' Proper," where Hammer names the most vocal opponents and tells them he'll "put 'em on a hoe stroll."
### Cash Box Charts

#### Top 100 Pop Singles

**March 26, 1994**

**#1 Single: Ace of Base**

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Artist/Title</th>
<th>Chart Peak</th>
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**Top Weeks ▼**

**Last Week ▼**

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<td>Streets Of Philadelphia (From “Philadelphia”)</td>
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**To Watch: Enigma**

**High Debut: Janet**

1. Ace Of Base
2. Without You
3. The Power Of Love
4. So Much In Love
5. Bump’n’Grind
6. AOL FOREVER
7. Gin And Juice
8. Whatta Man
9. Cantaloop (Flip Fantasia)
10. Streets Of Philadelphia (From “Philadelphia”)
REVIEWS

By Troy J. Augusto

Morrissey: "The More You Ignore Me, the Closer I Get" (Sire 6624)

From the soon-to-be released new Mo album, Vauchall and I, we get the first of what will probably be a string of alternative radio hits. And if all goes according to plan, the first of many crossover top-40 hits as well. Hard to say how Morrissey's core fan base will react to him being pigeonholed as a pop star, though their intense loyalty will likely remain as strong as ever once they hear the new album. As sweetly smooth as any of his best, a winner.

Lissette Melendez: "Will You Ever Save Me?" (Feur/CHAOS 77089)

From Lissette's debut album, True To Life, comes this (early) Madonna-esque slow jam, the follow-up to the surprise hit, "Goody Goody." This solidly written (courtesy of Tony Moran) and produced (Tony again) cut sports sultry lines and whispered words of love, perfect for springtime radio play and prom night slow dances. It's still too early to tell whether Melendez can back up her considerable hype, though tracks like this reveal much potential.

Panda: "I'm Broken" (WestEast 5511)

It's starting to look like a good year for Panda. Advance word has it that the new Far Beyond Driven album is its best record so far, the Texas quartet recently stolen the show at the 7th annual R.M. party (blowing Prong and the re-formed S.O.D. off the stage) and tix for the band's upcoming U.S. tour are flying out the door as fast as they can print them. An obvious metal radio hit, the band should also give a spin.

Elevens: "Reach Out" (Third Rail/Hollywood 10413)

It's never easy to watch a deserving band with an equally deserving album go more or less by the wayside, but that's exactly the case with cool L.A. rockers Elevens. With the trio's excellent self-titled current record. Despite a calendar's worth of touring and a slew of single releases, the band still remains a relative unknown outside of Cali., a shame given the talent on hand. This anthemic, infectious tune keeps the hope alive, though. Smart add for alt radio.

PICK OF THE WEEK

Toni Braxton: "You Mean The World To Me" (LaFace 4064)

Ms. Braxton is going to start being known as the girl that TV awards shows made, if she's not already. After her dual trophy wins at the Grammys and the American Music Awards, reaction from viewers at the record stores pushed her self-titled debut album to the No. 1 position where it still sits after her repeat performance at the Soul Train Awards. This latest single release from the album will only add fuel to the fire. A down-tempo soul burner, this track actually brings Toni closer to the style of Whitney Houston, her closest R&B competitor. Already in heavy rotation at many urban stations, a sure-bet hit.
REVIEWS by Troy J. Augusto

ELVIS COSTELLO: Brutal Youth (Warner Bros. 45535)
The idea of Costello re-assembling the Attractions (with Nick Lowe) for his new album, with recording taking place at Studio two, home of his classic early material, sure sounded too good to be true. And, sadly, it is. While this raw, loose record certainly has its moments (dramatic "London's Brilliant Parade," ascetic "13 Steps Lead Down"), Elvis trips himself up far too many times, indulging in lyrical and topical overkill. U.S. tour starts in May.

THE GRAYS: Ro Shambo (Epic 53773)
Bouncy, if slightly predictable, songs mark the debut effort from this pop quartet featuring former members of Jellyfish, Boston's late, great Buddy System and Aimee Mann's band. Not surprising, given that gene pool, that The Grays wear lots of Beatles influences on both sides. Aside from the overt Badfinger/Beatles' "Rain" rip-off that is "Everybody's World," this alt manages to keep its hero worship in check, its keen songwriting sense up front.

SAM PHILLIPS: Martinis & Bikinis (Virgin 39438)
All she ever wanted to do was write songs, but never convinced that anyone other than herself could properly vocalize her music. Sam has done head-first into what's become a most intriguing and rewarding singing career. With the spirits of John Lennon (whose "Gimme Some Truth!" is included here) and Dylan Thomas seemingly ever present, Sam is both moved and quite moving on heartfelt "When I Fall," spookily "Black Sky" and Native American-inspired "Strawberry Road."

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NRBQ: Message For The Mess Age (Forward/Rhino 71427)
What is this, NRBQ's 100th album? And, believe it or not, this latest set of the originators of that musical gembo known as omni-pop have rarely sounded as urgent and appealing from start to finish as they do on this spirited, free-flowing collection. Longtime fans looking for that renowned Q wit will enjoy "Big Dumb Jukebox" and "Girl Scout Cookies" while followers of tightly wound pop gems will take to "A Little Bit Of Bad" and smooth "Ramona."

CELL: Living Room (DGC 24633)
The subtle power of leader Jerry DiRienzo's lyrics and the band's penchant for simple yet memorable melodies are this quartet's hooks. With bold production from John Agnello (Redd Kross, Tad, Screaming Trees), Living Room is a blueprint to the overactive mind of DiRienzo, its winding pathways touching on the bonds of friendship, the built-in criticisms of the music industry and the frightening power of real love. A fresh breath from a unique band.

EUGENIUS: Mary Queen Of Scots (Atlantic 82562)
Eugene Kelly, leader of dreamy Scottish pop band Eugenius, never wanted to be a rock star, even going so far as to leave the music biz after his first real band, the Vaselines, broke up. But the interest of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain (who recorded two Vaselines' covers) pushed him back into the fray, and, don't look now—he's frontlineing one of the most enjoyable guitar bands this side of Prague. Soaring "Let's Hibernate" and twisted "Friendly High" are key cuts.

HOUSE OF LARGE SIZES: My Ass-Kicking Life (Columbia 57811)
If you could combine the force of Robin Zander's (of Cheap Trick) vocals, the raw, groove-oriented guitar of Jimmy Page, the mindbending song arrangement skill of Lennon/McCartney and the dynamic control of early Replacements, well, you'd get a band a hell of a lot better than Iowa's House Of Large Sizes. But they're on the right path. The songs burn with a warm, slow glow, the playing is thoughtful and restrained and the name is clever. What more could you want?

PICK OF THE WEEK

SOUNDGARDEN: Superunplugged (A&M 540 198) Producers: Michael Beinhorn & Soundgarden

Soundgarden have made the album of 1994. From the first thick 'n' nasty chord of "Let Me Down" to the haunted, shimmering guitar strums that end "Like Suicide," Soundgarden have, as they say, hit the nail squarely on the head. The most obvious difference between the band's earlier material and this new gem is the awesome maturation of singer Chris Cornell's voice. Where he used to scream and howl, Chris now delivers spine-chilling, from-the-diaphragm belts that surely rate with the most pompous div's. Lead single 'Spoonman' is but the first of what promises to be a string of awesome releases from this groundbreaking effort.
U SEND ME SWINGIN' (Perspective/A&M 7439) Mint Condition 1 8
BUMP 'N' GRIND (Jive 42207) R. Kelly 2 4
I'M READY (Owst/Warner Bros. 18294) Tevin Campbell 2 7
I'M IN THE MOOD (A&M 0469) CeCe Peniston 5 7
BECAUSE OF LOVE (Virgin 30422) Janet Jackson 6 5
GROOVE THANG (Motown 2228) Zhane 4 7
WHATTA MAN (Next Plateau/London/LP 657350) Salt-N-Pepa/En Vogue 3 6
CRY FOR YOU (Uptown/MCA 54723) Jodeci 9 9
I'M OUTSTANDING (Uptown/MCA 54726) Jodeci 9 15
PEEPIN' (Uptown/MCA 54854) Jodeci 15 9
STAY (EMERG 58065) Eternal 11 6
NEVER FORGET YOU (Columbia 77258) Mariah Carey 12 7
UNDERSTANDING (So So Def/Columbia 77335) Xscape 7 7
GIN AND JUICE (Death Row/interscope/Atlantic 98318) Snoop Doggy Dogg 14 3
CAN WE TALK (Owst/Warner Bros. 18346) Tevin Campbell 9 13
LAV YOUR HEAD ON ME (TNT/Wildheart/RCA 18038) Tony! Toni! Toné! 10 7
TREAT U RITE (Elibra 64562) Angola Winbush 25 4
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN THE WORLD (Mega/Brav.. 856 260) Prince 19 3
SO MUCH IN LOVE (Blitz/Atlantic 87271) All-4-One 18 3
WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN (MCA 54790) Jody Watley 13 7
AND OUR FEELINGS (Elibra 64562) Babyface 24 4
BELIEVE IN LOVE (Elibra 64574) Teddy Pendegrass 16 4
A DEEPER LOVE (From "Blaster Act II") Aneha Franklin 23 16
CANTALOPE (FLIP FANTASIA) (Blue Note/ Capitol 44945) USA 17 4
IF THAT'S YOUR BOYFRIEND (Maverick/Sire/Reprise 18328) Me'Shell Ndegcello 21 4
NEVER KEEPING SECRETS (Epic 77217) Babyface 26 11
YOU KNOW HOW WE DO IT (Priority 58384) Ice Cube 29 4
IT'S ALL GOOD (Giant/Reprise 16277) Hammer 28 5
JUST ANOTHER DAY (Motown 22232) Queen Latifah 21 6
YOU ALWAYS ON MY MIND (RCA 62738) SW 30 8
GETTO JAM (Outkast/Cash 77529) Dome 27 10
GONNA LOVE YOU RIGHT (Beacon/Fox 10006) Outkast 42 5
PLAYER'S BALL (Laf ace/Arista 24060) Gang Starr 35 3
MISAPPEAL (Chrysalis/EMR 58111) Mary J. Blige 32 8
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY (Uptown/MCA 54701) Dione Lister 12 11
DUNKIE BUTT (Street Life/ScoSi Bros. 75.737) 12 44 8
KRAZY (Kaper/RCA 62665) Blackgirl 40 3
RELAX ELECTRON RELAX YOURSELF GIRL! (Jive 42187) A Tribe Called Quest 43 2
COMIN' ON STRONG (EastWest 96349) Sudden Change 47 3
I'M OUTSTANDING (Uptown/MCA 54729) Shaquilla O'Neal 10 13
TELL ME WHERE IT HURTS (Warner Bros. 18309) Guess 46 4
BELIEVE THAT (Owst/WB 18252) Keith Washington 34 7
MY LOVE (Uptown/MCA 54789) Mary J. Blige DEBUT
SOMETHIN' TO RIDE TO (PONY EXPOSITION) (1Star/Prime 53851) Conscias Daughters 21 4
GOT ME WAITING (Uptown/MCA 54613) Heavy D. & The Boyz DEBUT
YOU DON'T LOVE ME (NO NO NO) (Big Beat/Atlantic 98311) Dawn Penn 50 3
C.R.E.A.M. (CASH RULES EVERYTHING AROUND ME) ( Loud/RCA 2678) Wu Tang Clan 52 3
DIESESE ON DREAMER (DeLocious Vinyl/EastWest 98322) Brand New Heavies 65 3

50 BETCHA'LL NEVER FIND (RCA 62562) Chantay Savage 36 10
51 FAITHFULL (Jive 42188) Hi-Five 45 4
52 FAMILY AFFAIR (From "Adam's Family Values") (Atlantic/LP 655 222) Shatta Ranks 37 7
53 PUMPS AND A BUMP (Reprised/Giant 18218) Hammer DEBUT
54 PROCESS OF ELIMINATION (Epic 72788) Etc Gable 38 7
55 STIR IT UP (Chae/Columbia 77355) Diana King 2 9
56 ZUNGA ZENG (Tommy Boy 989) 2 5
57 QUIET TIME TO PLAY (Motown 22296) Johnny Gill 41 6
58 WAS IT SOMETHING (RCA 62606) Freddie Jackson 62 3
59 GANGSTA LEAN (Capital 58048) DRS 48 37
60 MONEY IN THE Ghetto (Jive 42195) Too Short DEBUT
61 BABY IT'S YOURS (EMERG 58104) Riff 57 7
62 ROUND AND ROUND (Atlantic 98726) Glenn Jones 79 2
63 YOU MEAN THE WORLD TO ME (Arista/LaFace 2-4046) Toei Braxton DEBUT
64 KEEP TO MY LUI (Pendulum/RCA 62694) Lisa Lisa 40 6
65 LESSONS LEARNED (550 Music/Epic 77366) Funky Poets 70 3
66 ON AND ON (Virgin 98415) Shyheim 51 3
67 BORN TO ROLL (Delicious Vynal/EastWest 98315) Masta Ace Incorporated 67 2
68 HEY D.J. (From "Me Vida Loca") (Mega/Brav.. 856402) Lighter Shade Of Brown 68 3
69 HERE WITH ME (Zoo 14119) Philip Bailey DEBUT
70 SHOOP (West Plateau/London 857314) Salt-N-Pepa 54 14
71 NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET YOU GO (Jive 42727) Hi-Five 54 13
72 THE MORNING AFTER (Warner Bros.18349) Maze 53 10
73 TIME AND CHANCE (Giant/Reprise 18393) Color me bad 63 10
74 FUNK D/DAY/WHAT IS IT? (Max 101) Sagat 64 3
75 WE CAME TO MOVE YA (EastWest 96352) FMQB 77 2
76 LET ME LOVE YOU (Gasoline Alley/MCA 54788) I'D Extreme 58 3
77 WHAT'S MY NAME? (Death Row/interscope 98340) Snoopy Dogg Dogg 66 8
78 YOU DON'T WANNA MISS (A&M/Perspective 0537) For Real 61 2
79 JUSTICE AGAIN (La Face/Arista 24047) Toni Braxton 61 13
80 WHEN I NEED SOMEbody (MCA 54604) Ralph Tresvant DEBUT
81 LET'S MAKE LOVE (Siax/MCA 54763) Aaron Hall 60 5
82 HERO (Columbia 77224) Mariah Carey 69 12
83 BABY I WANNA (Luke 173) H-Town 76 8
84 BABY BE STILL (Zoo 14118) Coming Of Age 71 3
85 IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THE MONEY (RCA/CBS/Columbia 77198) Terminator X 65 6
86 JUST KICKIN' IT (So So Def/Columbia 77199) Xscape 72 17
87 KEEP YA HEAD UP (interscope/Atlantic 85345) 2-Pac 73 11
89 TELL ME WHY (N/A) One Wish 90 2
90 EGO TRIPPIN' (PART TWO) (Tommy Boy 995) De La Soul 75 3
92 CAPS GET PEELED (Assault/Big Beat/A&.M 98331) DGC/EMI 92 3
91 RIGHT HERE (HUMAN NATURE/DOWNTOWN) (RCA 62614) SW 76 21
92 IT Ain'T HARD TO TELL (Columbia 77365) NAS 85 3
93 THE ONE FOR ME (MerryMar 862740) Joe 86 9
94 LOOKING FOR MR. DO RIGHT (Giant/Reprise 18429) Jade 92 14
95 SLOW AND EASY (Reprise 18315) Zepp & Roger 87 9
96 AGAIN (Virgin 38404) Janet Jackson 93 12
97 HEY MR. D.J. (Flavor/EPIC 97211) Zhane 88 17
98 SEX ME (Jive 42161) R. Kelly 89 11
99 COME INSIDE (Atlantic 87317) Intro 84 16
100 COME CLEAN (Pay Day/FIFR 127000) Jeru The Damaja 93 6
Epic recording act "Babyface" Edmonds recently had his For The Cool In You album certified platinum signifying more than one million unit sales. The album features the smooth title track, "And Your Feelings," and "Never Keeping Secrets." Pictured at a presentation of the platinum awards are (l-r): John Mc.L. Doep, senior vp of marketing, Epic; David Glew, chairman, Epic; Hank Caldwell, senior vp, black music, Epic; Edmonds; Richard Grifiths, president, Epic; Tracey Edmonds, the artist's wife; Ramon Hervey, manager; and Edu Doherty, senior vp, Epic.

SAMPLERS: Reel Rhythm Records has opened in Atlanta, GA. It is the brainchild of Napa point guardian Rumeal Robinson, the University of Michigan two-time All American who started his career with the Atlanta Hawks. Currently playing for the Charlotte Hornets, Robinson and company have already signed Atlanta based group Six Feet Deep, a quartet of young men six feet and over who are likened to an ~R&B Beatles. Other acts include Boston-area product Katrina and G&M Stand. The company is currently attempting to put a company with distribution. Currently handling most of the arrangements is New Jersey-based attorney Stephanie M. Kay... Philip Bailey, all set to release his debut solo album on Zoo Entertainment, is among celebrities that participated in the Children's Aid International "Celebrity Amateur Pool Tournament" to benefit South Central Los Angeles. Held at the Hollywood Athletic Club, Bailey and Earth, Wind and Fire bandmate Verdine White were among the 40 celebs tabbed for the event... The Shirelles provided a stellar highlight at the Fifth Annual Rhythm And Blues Foundation Pioneer Awards when they performed "Dedicated To The One I Love," while at the podium. It was the first time in 19 years that the group has put voice to song together... Patrick Rushen, who has been active as a concert, recording and soundtrack artist, will moderate a panel of hefty industry executives and experts put together to discuss, "Music Scoring for Television and Film." A date for the live, interactive teleconference has yet to be set, but Rushen, a University of Southern California graduate, will be busy as of the 21st with tapings of the PBS Peabody Award-winning instructional series Futures for whom she will host a segment "Real Math, Real Careers."
By M.R. Martinez

Since the purge last year of most of its black music staff at the administrative level, Capitol Records has been relatively quiet on this front. But Matt Robinson, vp of A&R at the company, has recently signed the West Coast group The Funky Town Pros, who are currently in the studio completing what they call "mathematically correct" album. God only knows what that means (wink). This will be their second collection, the first being released on 4th & Broadway Records. Reachin' A Level Of Assassination. Pictured are (l-r): Devastatin of the group; Gary Gersh, president and CEO, Capitol; Wundah of the group; and Matt Robinson.

CASUAL INTENSITY: If you've spent time listening to people verbally debaseing each other, then you have had opportunity to learn how to make it an art form. Yes, husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, fathers and daughters and sons and mothers know what buttons to push. And in this era, rappers and chanters take each other to task verbally. Take Jive Records artist Casual for example. His album Fear Itself is an anthem to the MC challenge. "I just feel if an MC has got it, he should be able to put his skills on the line," Casual told Cash Box during a recent phone interview. "There are a lot of weak people with wack ass skills, who don't want to take the challenge."

Casual says he prefers the underground sound, the basement vibe where the old-school mic style of boasting and bragging is making a solid resurgence. He says that during his recent promo junket around the country he has managed to find underground groups in several cities, except New York, where just about everybody he talked to "has some kind of recording deal."

The young Oakland-based rapper is part of the Hieroglyphics collective. Also part of the family is critically acclaimed labelmates Souls of Mischief. The Hieroglyphics also include Del (aka Del The Funky Homosapien) and a guy named Domino (not the Long Beach, CA version). Casual and his two cohorts produced key tracks from this album, including "Me-O-Mi-O-Boo," "That's How It Is," "Get Off It," "I Didn't Mean To," and "Chained Minds." "Chained Minds" is stuff that has happened to me. But when I take experiences I don't necessarily tell the story in the first person, because I don't want people to relate the story directly to me. 'Chained Minds' also demonstrates how you can know about the hardcore on the streets, maintain respect, but show that you don't have to be a punk to like what's going on.'

WU-TANG INCIDENT: The son of Wu-Tang Clan member U-God remains in guarded but stable condition after being caught in gun battle crossfire March 12 outside Stapleton Houses on Staten Island. U-God, out on a promotional tour with the Loud/RCA recording act, returned home to be with his son. The gunfighters, Naheim Chavis, 18, and 20-year-old Silas Park were detained by police in the shooting of two-year-old Dante Hawkins and his babysitter Felicia Cook, who was also wounded in the leg during the exchange.

TOP 25 RAP SINGLES
CASH BOX • MARCH 26, 1994

1. GIN & JUICE (Def Jam/Interscope 96318) ....................... Snoopp Doggy Dogg DEBUT
2. WHATTA MAN (Next Plateau/London/PLG 857 334) ........ Salt-N-Pepa/En Vogue 1 3
3. DUNKIE BUTT (Street Life/Scotti Bros.) ....................... 12 Gauge 3 4
4. IT'S ALL GOOD (Giant/Reprise 29006) ......................... Hammer DEBUT
5. I'M OUTSTANDING (Jive 42201) ................................. Shaquille O'Neal DEBUT
6. CANTALOOP (FLIP FANTASIA) (Blue Note/44945) ........ US3 6 3
7. PLAYER'S BALL (Lalob/Arista 2-40050) ....................... Outkast DEBUT
8. U.N.I.T.Y. (Motown 5225) .............................................. Queen Latifah 4 6
9. GETTO JAM (Outkust/Ral 77297) ................................. Domino 2 6
10. WHOOMP! (THERE IT IS) (Lifebeat/Rock 79001) .... Tag Team 9 3
11. KEEP YA HEAD UP (Interscope 96345) ......................... 2-Pac 7 8
12. YOU KNOW HOW WE DO IT (Priority 53647) .............. Ice Cube DEBUT
13. FAMILY AFFAIR (Atlas/PLG 855 232) ......................... Shabba Ranks 13 3
14. MANS APPEAL (Chrysalis/ERG 5811) ......................... Gang Starr DEBUT
15. CAPS GET PEELED (Assault/Sig Beal 98331) ............... DFC DEBUT
16. ON AND ON (Virgin 38415) ........................................... Shyheim DEBUT
17. AWARD TOUR (Jive 42187) ........................................... A Tribe Called Quest 12 4
18. MONEY IN THE Ghetto (Jive 42195) ......................... Too Short DEBUT
19. HEY D.J. (Mercury 858 402) ................................. Lighter Shade Of Brown DEBUT
20. REALLY DOE (Priority 53676) ....................................... Ice Cube 5 31
21. IT AIN'T HARD TO TELL (Columbia 73985) ............... NAS DEBUT
22. I KNOW I GOT SKILLS (Jive 42177) ........... Shaquille O'Neal 8 6
23. SOUND OF DA POLICE (Jive 42182) ......................... KRS-One 17 3
24. HUMP WITTIT (Wu/Push/Rhyme 187) ....................... 95 South 15 4
25. C.R.E.A.M. (Loud/RCA 62766) .............................. Wu-Tang Clan DEBUT

RAP SINGLE REVIEWS
By Dr. Bayyan


This song mainly deals with the group's version of the perfect laid back day. It can be compared to Dr. Dre's "Let Me Ride" and Ice Cube's "It Was A Good Day." But it doesn't have the classic gangsta smoothness that Dre and Cube are known for. Of course, no song of this ilk would be complete without guns, beer, blunts and females.

■ QUINTON: "Quinton's Here" b/w "I'm Not An MC" (Tommy Boy TBCD 619).

Quinton makes a powerful statement by establishing himself as the reliable herb hustler in "Quinton's Here." The second track is self-explanatory. He might not think of himself as a real MC, but he certainly delivers like one. A female group called the Jazzy Fatnastees are featured on the intro to "Quinton," and a brother named Darkskin is featured on the actual song.

■ EVERGREEN: "Tomorrow Never Knows" (Next Plateau 162 350 036-2).

These artists are taking techno music to the next level for sure. They set themselves apart from competitors because their lyrics are spiritually based. They come in the form of shallow chants over thick, culturally enriched grooves. What's really impressive is the song wasn't long and drawn out. There are four versions, and they all slam.
Justice recording artist Rab Benoit, currently on tour with Robert Cray, recently schmoozed with executives and musicians after completion of his next, yet-to-be-titled album for the company. The sessions were held at Pedernales Studios outside Austin in Southco, TX. Pictured are (l-r): Benoit; drummer Kenny Aronoff; bassist Steve Bailey; Randall Jamal, Justice president and producer of the sessions; guitarist Derek O’Brien; and keyboardist Reese Wynans.

RIM SHOTS: Nando Lauria, (pronounced (Nahn-doh la-REE-ah) recently released his debut release, Points Of View for Narada Records. The label is excited about the Brazilian artist’s potential and hopes to capitalize on his work with acts like The Pat Metheny Group and Special Fx. He’s being reunited with other Metheny stalwarts; keyboardist Lyle Mays and drummer Danny Gottlieb for the first time since 1983... Danny Wright, a composer/keyboardist, is out on tour in support of his already commercially successful album A Day In The Life on Moulin D'Or Records. Last year, the Dallas, TX native was nominated by the National Assn. of Recording Merchandisers (NARM) for an “Independent Bestseller Award.” Wright currently has dates set through April 24 in Phoenix, AZ.

EMERG jazz/R&B artist Diane Reeves (l) was joined by Oscar-nominated actress Angela Bassett (What’s Love Got To Do With It?) at a party at the St. James Club in Los Angeles, where the singer performed selections from her recently released album Art And Survival. Reeves is currently on tour in support of the album and expected to do dates in Europe during late April and the beginning of May.

**TOP 30 JAZZ ALBUMS**

**CASH BOX • MARCH 26, 1994**

1. BETWEEN THE SHEETS (Warner Bros. 45340) ................. FOURPLAY 1 6
2. BREATHLESS (Arista 18646) .................................. KENNY G 3 47
3. REED MY LIPS (GRP 9753) ................................... TOM SCOTT DEBUT
4. LUCKY MAN (Capitol 88902) .................................. DAVE KIZZ 5 14
5. EAST RIVER DRIVE (Epic 47869) ............................. STANLEY CLARKE 2 6
6. WHERE IS LOVE (Sin-Drome 89001) ........................ BOBBY CALDWELL DEBUT
7. LOVE MEMORIES (Warner Bros.26685) ..................... GEORGE BENSON 7 16
8. DREAMS BEYOND CONTROL (GRP 9714) ..................... SPRYDYN GYA 6 5
9. SKY ISLANDS (GRP 9742) ....................................... RAMSEY LEWIS 10 5
10. A MAN AND A WOMAN, SAX AT THE MOVIES (Discovery 77008) .......................................................... JAZZ AT THE MOVIES BAND DEBUT

11. THE SUN DON’T LIE (PAR 6201) ............................. MARCUS MILLER 11 4
12. SAX-A-GO-GO (RCA 66248) .................................... CANDY DULFER DEBUT
13. SQUARE ONE (Morning Crew 1015) ............................ GARY TAYLOR DEBUT
14. YES, THEN YES (GRP 9759) ..................................... NELSON RANGELL DEBUT
15. THE QUIET REVOLUTION (4th & Broadway/Island 444506) ...........................RONNY JORDAN PETIT
16. THE ROAD TO YOU (Geffen 24601) ........................... PAT METHENY 8 13
17. WHEN SUMMER COMES (GRP 9724) ........................... GEORGE HAWARD 9 13
18. MAGIC THEATER (Earth Beat/24584) ........................... SHADOWWAX DEBUT
19. DRAGONFLY SUMMER (Reprise 45227) ....................... MICHAEL FRANKS 23 27
20. WES BOUND (GRP 9697) ......................................... LEE RITENOUR 25 33
21. THE JAZZ MASTERS (VJC 2021) ................................. THE JAZZ MASTERS FEATURING PAUL HARDCASTLE 21 26
22. THE VERY BEST OF (Rhino/AG 71500) ....................... THE MANHATTAN TRANSFER DEBUT
23. NO ABSOLUTE TIME (Atlantic 82500) ......................... JEAN LUC-JOHNSTON 22 10
24. DEVOTION (RCA 66321) ........................................... WARREN HILL 15 6
25. THREE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO’S NEST (Warner Bros 45328) .............................. BELA FLECK AND THE FLECKTONES 12 5
26. PAINT THE WORLD (GRP 9731) ............................... CHICK COREA ELECTRIC BAND 14 5
27. PROMENADE (Sin-drome 1807) ................................ PETER WHITE 17 13
28. LET’S SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT (JVC 2025) .................. TOM COSTER 13 5
29. WORTH WAITING FOR (Verve/Forecast 517 998) .................. JEFF LORBER 16 26
30. LIVE IN L.A. (GRP 9718) ......................................... THE RIPPINGONAS 24 15

**Reviews**

- **BOB JAMES: Restless (Warner Bros. 9 46452-2).** Producer: Michael Collina, Max Risenhoevo, Ray Bardani. There’s nothing here that Bob James hasn’t done before. He’s accessible, technically sound, finds the right flourish of passion when necessary and crafts a sonically pleasing collection. But there might be a little more urgency (not frenetic, however) in his playing, something that was not as pronounced on recent releases. Tracks like “Storm Warning,” “Animal Dreams” and “Awake Us To The Blue.” As usual, James is surrounded by a fine group of players and vocalists including Michael Brecker (sax), Nick Moroch (guitar), Luther Vandross (vocals), Nathan East (bass), Harvey Mason (drums) and Hiliary James (vocals) among others.

- **MICHTEL FORMAN: Now And Then—A Tribute To Bill Evans (Novus/RCA Nov 01241 63166-2).** Producers: Takao Ogawa & M. Forman. Forman increasingly has developed into an artistically and instinctive pianist, although he hardly eschews his technical facility. On this 10-composition collection of Bill Evans tunes (he either wrote or co-wrote) he soars along with the solid accompaniment of two of the finest combo players around—the inimitable and rhythmically talkative drummer Jack DeJohnette and the studied care of bassist Eddie Gomez. “Very Early,” “My Foolish Heart,” the title track and “But Beautiful,” not only stir memories of the best of Bill Evans, but demonstrate the skill of those playing tribute.

- **TURTLE ISLAND STRING QUARTET: Who Do We Think We Are? (Windham Hill Jazz 15193 10146-2).** Producer: Darol Anger. This is an artsy quartet, but they have some guts and a great sense of humor when it comes to both selecting material and arranging it in such a way that the music becomes accessible to the everyman—from their perspective. With the addition of a special guest drummer, guitarist and vocalist, the Turtle Island crew brings more dimension to the party. “Seven Steps To Heaven” (Miles Davis and Victor Feldman), “Who Do You Think You Are?” (Tower Of Power), “Moose To Moose” (Charlie Parker) and “Ruby My Dear” (Thelonious Monk) are among the unique offerings provided by this collection.
NSAI Presents 27th Annual Songwriter Achievement Awards
By Richard McVey

NASHVILLE—The Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) presented the 27th annual Songwriter Achievement Awards, which honors songs in Country, Pop, Rock, Adult Contemporary, Urban Contemporay and Gospel, as voted on by the NSAI membership.

Award winners in the Country category are as follows, with 20 songs selected (title/songwriter):

- "Ain't That Lonely Yet"/Kostas and James House
- "Chattahoochee"/Alan Jackson and Jim McBride
- "Cleopatra, Queen of Deception"/Pam Tillis, Bob DiPiero and Jan Buckingham
- "I Don't Call Him Daddy"/Reed Nielsen
- "I Guess You Had To Be There"/Jon Robbins and Barbara Cloyd
- "I Love The Way You Love Me"/Victoria Shaw and Chuck Cannon
- "I Want To Be Loved Like That"/Phil Bannhart, Sam Hogin and Bill LaBounty
- "Is It Over Yet"/Billy Kirsch
- "John Deere Green"/Dennis Linde
- "Learning To Live Again"/Stephanie Davis and Don Schlitz
- "Let That Pony Run"/Gretchen Peters
- "Passionate Kisses"/Lucinda Williams
- "Prop Me Up Beside The Jukebox"/Rick Blaylock, Kenny Kurt Phillips and Howard Perdue
- "She Don't Know She's Beautiful"/Bob McNeill and Paul Harrison
- "Soon"/Casey Kelly and Bob Regan
- "T-R-O-U-B-L-E"/Jerry Chesnut
- "That Was A River"/Susan Longacre and Rick Giles
- "The Song Remembers When"/Hugh Prestwood
- "Trashy Women"/Chris Wall
- "When You Leave That Way You Can Never Go Back"/Steve Clark and Johnny MacRae

Winners in the three major awards are:

Song of the Year: "The Song Remembers When"/Hugh Prestwood
Songwriter/Artist of the Year: Clint Black
Songwriter of the Year: Dennis Linde

Music City News' Song of the Year Awarded

NASHVILLE—All the votes were in at this year's Music City News Country Songwriters Awards as "Chattahoochee" co-writers Alan Jackson and Jim McBride took home top honors as "Song of the Year" award recipients.

"It's just a story about growing up down in Georgia," said Jackson. "I was real surprised at the mass appeal this song had... somehow people connected with it."

Co-hosted by George Jones and Lorrie Morgan, the awards show was telecast live from the Grand Ole Opry House where several of the songwriters joined the performers on stage to perform the year's Top Ten Country Songs of 1993 as chosen by readers of Music City News.

Wyntee's Husband In Altercation With Cameraman

George Richey, husband and manager of country star Tammy Wynette, has been named in a complaint filed by Charleston, SC television station, WSCS, and the station's assistant chief photographer, Christopher Collins. The complaint alleges that Richey assaulted Collins and damaged a camera owned by the station during Wynette's performance on February 26.

According to the complaint filed, Collins, accompanied by WSCS staff reporter Allyson Shea, went to the Alabama Theatre to cover the Tammy Wynette performance as part of a multi-part series on the growth of country music entertainment business in the area. Alabama Theatre, also named as a defendant in the case, allowed the TV crew to enter and film on the premises where Robert Wood, a theatre official, spoke with an individual identifying himself as Wynette's road manager. The individual then gave permission to the TV crew to videotape 30 seconds of Wynette's first song or 15 seconds each of her first two songs and also to shoot some audience footage for a short period of time. Shortly after this discussion, the TV crew was approached by Richey who repeated the same instructions regarding the videotaping.

As the complaint goes on to say, Collins proceeded to film 20 seconds of the first song and then moved toward the front of the stage and then taped the audience for five seconds. Following that, Collins was approached by Richey, and as the complaint says, "in a rude, insolent, angry and contemptuous manner, demanded Collins desist from videotaping, accused him of having exceeded the videotaping time limits, and called him a 'liar' when Collins attempted to assure him to the contrary."

Collins then picked up his gear and began to exit the theatre. When leaving the lobby Collins was again approached by Richey and "suddenly and without warning or any just cause or provocation on the part of Collins, assaulted and battered Collins by grabbing him, scratching him and thrusting him into a table."

Evelyn Shriver, Wynette's publicist in charge of videotaping, said she never gave the TV station permission to shoot footage and that Richey told her the TV station had claimed to already have her permission.

"When they started shooting the second song he asked them to please stop because he only authorized the first song," Shriver told Cash Box. "Then they said they didn't have anything yet, he [Richey] told them he saw the red light on the camera the whole first song and asked them to close it up now. And as the guy was taking down the equipment, he [Collins] called Richey a 'jerk'. And from what I know, all Richey did was kind of hassle him out of the room. He [Richey] said that he didn't hit him or hurt his camera or anything."

Shriver went on to tell Cash Box, "You can't just have crews showing up. To get permission I'm able to respond even at the last minute because I have the bus phone number and if they would have asked us we surely would have accommodated them, but they didn't."

In Other News...

Music City Tonight, the nightly primetime entertainment series hosted by Lorianne Crook and Charlie Chase, will become a live-on-tape program starting on April 4. The show will tape Monday through Friday at 5 p.m., instead of its usual live telecast currently at 9 p.m.

Steve Goetzman, best known as the drummer for the now-disbanded group Exile, has joined with Caryn Warnier to form Renaissance Management as manager for Steve Warnier. "Steve and I have worked many shows together," Goetzman said. "I have always had the utmost respect for him as a person and as an artist."

Marty Stuart was honored with the prestigious Ampex Golden Reel Award which recognizes the sales and artistic achievement of "This One's Gonna Hurt You," which was recorded, mixed and mastered exclusively on Ampex audio tape.

Step One Records has been nominated for Label Of The Year by the regular members of National Association of Recording Merchandisers (NARM).
KATHY MATTEA Walking Away A Winner (Mercury)
Mattea offers a truly refreshing break from much of today's fast-paced, wild honky-tonk music. The album highlights Mattea's unspeakable vocals with a more traditional sound that blends new and old. Don't expect to hear a cut off this album at the local dance clubs, but if you enjoy listening to good music, "Walking Away A Winner" is a winner. Cuts range from the upbeat title cut, "Walking Away A Winner" to the soulful "Grand Canyon."

BOB WOODRUFF Dreams & Saturday Nights (Asylum 61590)
Woodruff's debut album, Dreams & Saturday Nights kicks off with two hot cuts, "Bayou Girl!" and his current single "Hard Liquor, Cold Women, & Warm Beer." Woodruff has some impressive contributions on this album with Emmylou Harris on background vocals, former Eagle Bernie Leadon on the running banjo, and James Burton on guitar. The album has a fresh honky-tonk sound, but Woodruff's distinctive vocals are lacking on a few slower cuts.

MARTY STUART Love And Luck (MCA 10880)
This former guitarist for Johnny Cash has certainly done well for himself and his success is certain to continue with this album. Produced by Tony Brown and Stuart the album is a well-balanced mixture of upbeat songs and ballads. Stuart is responsible for at least co-writing seven of the album's songs and offers quite a mandolin instrumental on "Marty Stuart Visits The Moon." Love And Luck embodies elements of Country, Gospel and Bluegrass.

PICK OF THE WEEK

RANDY TRAVIS This Is Me (Warner Bros. 45501)
This is the first regular studio album in more than two years for Travis, and worth every minute of the wait. The 10-track album is full of future chart-toppers and easily the best album of this early year. This Is Me' attracts attention immediately with cuts like "Honky Tonk Side Of Town" and the debut single "Before You Kill Us All" and finishes with heartfelt songs like "The Angel" and a surefire hit "The Box."
Songwriting Profiles
By Richard McVey

JIM MCBRIDE will likely go down in songwriting history for his fifth #1 single “Chattahoochee,” which has been the recipient of countless awards including this year’s Music City News Country Songwriters’ Award of the Year.

A Muscle Shoals, Alabama native, McBride wrote songs in his spare time at night before moving to Nashville in 1981 and spent 14 years as a mail carrier, an experience he jokingly said was a motivating factor in his career change because he “got tired of fighting off dogs.”

McBride noted he was lucky enough to have his first hit in early 1980 with Conway Twitty’s “A Bridge That Just Won’t Burn,” which financially gave him a window of opportunity. As he put it, “I knew I had a year to do something.” McBride has done just that, with a list of songs of his credit and more than 50 major label artists who have recorded his songs including Alabama, Reba McEntire, George Jones, Crystal Gayle, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Randy Travis and Travis Tritt.

Of his most recent success with “Chattahoochee” McBride said, “That’s been the fun one. That’s for sure. I went out on the road with [Alan Jackson, the song’s co-writer] and kind of had an idea started and showed it to him and he was very receptive to it. We kind of had a seed and just jumped on it and wrote it. We had no idea about the success of the song. We were just happy to write an upbeat song because we tend to write ballads when we get together.”


KIM CARNES is best known as the singer of the super hit “Bette Davis Eyes,” which won her Grammys for Record and Song of the Year in 1981. Currently, her talents in songwriting are what’s making her name known today. One of this year’s Top Ten Songs of 1993 as performed by Carnes and Vince Gill at the Music City News Country Songwriters’ Award of the Year.

Carnes has 13 albums under her belt with plans for a new one soon. “I’m currently writing like crazy for my new album and I’m spending lots of time writing in Nashville with other people. I expect the new album in late spring, but I’m just writing now. It goes in spurs because I’m not a nine-to-five writer, so when I feel like writing, I write like crazy.”

Carnes has been making music for over 20 years with no plans of letting up. “I want to keep doing what I’m doing,” Carnes said. “Recording and writing and touring is what I love.”

COUNTRY STARS GO TO HOLLYWOOD—Stars of Country music and television gathered to announce the nominations for the 29th annual Academy of Country Music Awards at Universal Studios Hollywood. Pictured (l-r) are: Crystal Bernard, star of NBC’s Wings; Don Sullivan, Finola Hughes, one of the stars of NBC’s Blossom series; Buck Owens and Sawyer Brown’s Mark Miller.

NEW SIGNING—RCA announced the newest addition to its roster. Jon Randall, a member of Emmylou Harris’ Nash Ramblers. Pictured (l-r) are: Sam Bush; Garth Fundis, RCA vice president of A&R; Thom Schuyler, RCA vice president and general manager; and Randall.

HANK FLAMINGO ON LATE NIGHT—Hank Flamingo trades guitar licks with Late Night host Conan O’Brien. Pictured (l-r) are: Trent Summar, lead vocals; Ben Northern, bass; O’Brien; Philip Wallace, guitar; Eddie Grigg, guitar; Stuart E. Stuart, fiddle; and Roy Watts, drums.
High Debuts
1. RANDY TRAVIS—"Before You Kill Us All"—(Warner Bros.)—#33
2. TOBY KEITH—"When I Didn't Know Now"—(Mercury)—#42
3. JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY—"Rope The Moon"—(Atlantic)—#43
4. LORRIE MORGAN—"My Night To Howl"—(BNA)—#45
5. GEORGE STRAIT—"Lovebug"—(MCA)—#47
6. CONFEDERATE RAILROAD—"Daddy Never Was The Cadillac Kind"—(Atlantic)—#50

Most Active
1. CLINT BLACK—"A Good Run Of Bad Luck"—(RCA)—#30
2. JOE DIFFIE—"In My Own BackYard"—(Epic)—#37
3. CLAY WALKER—"Where Do I Fit In The Picture"—(Giant)—#31
4. DWIGHT YoAKAM—"Try Not To Look So Pretty"—(Reprise/Warn Bros.)—#28

POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST—The Cash Box Top 100 Country Singles chart is topped off this week by the fast-paced Alabama song, "T.L.C. A.S.A.P." The chart this week shows little movement, but is full of debuts. Clint Black leads the way in the most movement category, moving an incredible 13 spots to #30 with "A Good Run Of Bad Luck." Following far behind is Joe Diffie to #37 with "In My Own BackYard." Clay Walker continues to rise, up six spots to #31 with "Where Do I Fit In The Picture." Dwight Yoakam moves up five spots to #28 with "Try Not To Look So Pretty." Six debuts can be seen in this week's Top 50. Randy Travis leads the pack for the highest debut with "Before You Kill Us All" at #33. Toby Keith follows at #42 with "I Wish I Didn't Know Now." The rest of the debuts look like this: John Michael Montgomery with "Rope The Moon" at #43; Lorrie Morgan with "My Night To Howl" at #45; George Strait with "Lovebug" at #47; and Confederate Railroad with "Daddy Never Was The Cadillac Kind" at #50.

Songwriters Of The Week: G. Baker and F. Myers penned the number one single "T.L.C. A.S.A.P."

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. Born Ready—Jesse Hunter (BNA)
2. A River For Him—Linda Ronstadt (Asylum)
3. What Else Could I Do—Rhonda Vincent (Giant)
4. Hillbilly Jitters—Mike Henderson (RCA)
5. Hard Liquor, Cold Women, Warm Beer—Bob Woodruff (Asylum)

INDIE CHART ACTION—This was certainly another busy week for the independents. Twenty independents in all are climbing the Top 100 Cash Box chart. Leading the Cash Box independents for the fourth week is Gene Watson on the SOR label with "Glass Hearts." The single climbs four spots to #44 on the chart. Bobby Hood with "Love Me All Over" was again the second-highest indie still moving up two spots to #51. Jeff Allen with "Lonelyville" moves up five spots to #54. Rounding out the movers are The Geezinslaws with "I Wish I Had A Job To Shoe" moves to #57, Tony Haan with "In Like A Lion" moves to #58, Paula Imman with "You Don't Know" moves to #60, Todd Pulse moves to #65, Chris Ridge moves to #67, Amy Leigh Presley moves to #68, Jim Fullen moves to #73, Johnny B moves to #74, Paul Finger moves to #75, Carmen Marie moves to #76, Michael Wampler moves to #77, Dan Du Four moves to #79, Frieda Hirsch moves to #80, Marilyn Allen moves to #84, and Desiree Million moves to #85. A total of two independents debut this week. Spring River Wind with "Flour, Gravy and Biscuits" at #86 and Dennis Manning with "On The Phone Blues" at #88.

INDIE SPOTLIGHT
Paul Finger, whose current single "I'm Fallin' Again" continues to climb up the Cash Box Top 100 Country singles chart, uses his voice and music to cross the lines between Country, Pop, Rock, and R&B. Born in Texas, to musically inclined parents, Finger spent much of his boyhood moving across the country. From 1959-71 his family moved 10 times over to different states. "There are times," Finger said. "When I feel like I've lived a hundred, hundred lives. All those towns growing up, the travelling in bands, the broken hearts and dreams, there were 10,000 stories in every one."

Finger began singing while in high school with classmates and later played full time for nearly five years, six nights a week after leaving school. "It was the human jukebox type of deal," Finger said. "But I learned a lot having to sing all styles of music and came as close as possible to the record." Finger soon realized that the future of the Top-40 lounge, variety, bar band was not for him. He wanted to be the one making the records the bar bands were learning. "Having always had a giant imagination," Finger said, "I began writing and found that I not only enjoyed it but had a little flair for finding memorable tunes." Finger certainly performs his songs with a passion and fervor that fulfill their meaning.

INDIE SINGLE REVIEW

-**PAUL FINGER** "I'm Fallin' Again" (Platinum Plus)
  Paul Finger offers an impressive single with "I'm Fallin' Again." Most noteworthy is Finger's low, scratchy vocals which add to a great melody for a complete package. This guy obviously has what it takes to make a name for himself.

INDIE ALBUM REVIEW

-**STEVE FREE & THE MUDDBLE PUDDING BAND** No Regrets (Fraternity)
  This album has Steve Free's fingerprints all over it. Free wrote, sang, and produced every song and played five- and 12-string acoustic guitar and harmonica on the album. The album offers an interesting blend of basically upbeat songs. Free's album stands out with the strong use of great guitars, highlighted on "Seige At Lucasville" and "We'll Be Back" especially. Refreshingly, instrumentals play as big a role on this album as vocals do.
Positive Country Album Review
By Kathleen A. Ervin

**PICK OF THE WEEK**

**CHARLIE DANIELS The Door (Sparrow)**

The man whose music first coined the phrase "southern rock" may be a bit older and wiser these days but his music sounds just as sweet. While the man is best known for fiddle-sweetened rock 'n roll and his signature tune, "The Devil Went Down To Georgia," is back with a new attitude. Daniels' first contribution to the world of Christian Country music and an amazing 25th album overall is the decidedly religious, *The Door*, produced by Sparrow's old A&R man and one of the best ears in the industry, Ron Griffin. With 10 cuts to choose from Daniels makes no bones about his intentions with songs like "Praying to the Wrong God," "Washed in the Blood" and "Jesus Died For You." As to be expected, there's plenty of middle and marketing dollars invested in this project. It'll be interesting to see how the CBA market die-hard Daniels' fans like this new work.

**Positive Country News Box**

**Ransom Signs Husband/Wife Act, Seneca**

**BOUNCING OFF THE SUCCESS** of its first Christian Country act Ken Holloway, the Brentwood-distributed label Ransom has signed the husband- and-wife team of Seneca to its slowly growing roster. The couple from Louisiana will have their self-titled, self-produced project hitting the stores in April.

*Hee Haw's beloved Grandpa Jones was at New Day Christian Distributors to promote his new audio cassette Poems & Songs and the video story The Christmas Gift. Pictured (l-r): Mike Brashear, New Day sales associate, Grandpa Jones, Harold White, and Lisa West, New Day purchasing director.*
MOBILE, AL—Integrity Music has announced that, effective September 1, 1994, the company will begin selling its products to the CBA and general markets through its own sales force. Warehousing and fulfillment will be handled through Spring Arbor Distributors. Current distribution to the CBA market and general markets through Sparrow Distribution will end August 31, 1994.

With a growth rate that has averaged 25% annually and total sales moving past the $29 million mark in 1993, Integrity has realized its goal of becoming a significant player in the Christian music industry. Michael Coleman, president and CEO of Integrity Music stated the company's position towards self-distribution, "Because of the tremendous growth potential in the retail market for our products, we firmly believe that we must have our own dedicated Integrity Music sales force to best serve our retail customers in the future.

"This is a strategic decision for our company that gives us more direct focus and contact with our customers in the retail markets," continues Coleman. "Our CBA sales have grown dramatically over the last several years and we are projecting retail sales alone in excess of $12 million in 1994."

Benson Marketing Wins ADDY

NASHVILLE—Benson Music Group and Anderson-Thomas Design have been honored with the ADDY award from the Nashville Advertising Federation. First awarded in 1963, the ADDY recognizes the nation’s advertising efforts, encompassing most facets of business from logo and collateral design to magazine and newspapers ads, radio and television spots to billboards, sales presentations and music videos.

Benson and Anderson-Thomas were given the award in the Direct Marketing/Business to Business category for their creation of last summer's three-dimensional campaign which was introduced at the Christian Booksellers Association held in Atlanta. Benson's 3-D sales catalog with companion glasses, eight pre-release cassette jackets and their accompanying pre-packaging were entered in that category. The three-dimensional campaign, which used the slogan "Benson... A New Vision For the Future," also included print ads in selected industry magazines.

In Other News...

Aaron and Jeffrey Benward have signed to Star Song Communications as the new father/son duo Aaron * Jeffrey. Their debut project is scheduled for a July release with producer Brian Tankersley at the helm.

Michael Card will perform a benefit concert April 23 to celebrate the Nashville Union Rescue Mission's 40th year of service.

4HIM will be joined by Bruce Carroll and Pam Thum as they wrap up their Back to Basics tour.


LOVE AND GRACE—Point of Grace presents K-Love radio network with a plaque commemorating its back-to-back #1 radio singles, "I'll Be Believing" and "One More Broken Heart." Pictured (l-r): Grant Hubbard, Word Records radio promoter, Terry Lang and Heather Floyd, Point of Grace; Libby and David Pierce, KLVR radio network; Shelly Phillips and Denise Jones, Point of Grace.

TRUTH-FULLY SPEAKING—With mics in hand, Truth takes time for a photo-op before singing the national anthem at the Atlanta Falcons-Phoenix Cardinals football game at the Georgia Dome in January.
CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN

ERIC CHAMPION Vertical Reality (Myrrh)
Mixing programming, synths, and a fantasy-based album theme, Champion's talent often hinted at and glimpsed through three previous Myrrh releases is a full-fledged reality in glorious echo-pop color. Reminiscent of the theatrical Frankie Goes to Hollywood blockbuster, Champion takes the listener through an adventure of sorts. Track 10, "Touch" the anemic show-stopper mixes gospel into an extremely effective message.

LARINELLE HARRIS Beyond All Limits (Benson)
Harris celebrates 25 years in the business with his 16th album, Beyond All Limits, a mixture of pop, R&B and gospel. Unfortunately, four producers contribute to an uneven, unbalanced album. But with the touching "I'll Help You Cry" or the "The Other Woman" you understand why this man has won five Grammys and 10 awards. He masters his voice like a fine instrument unlike few other male performers.

OUT OF THE GREY Diamond Days (Sparrow)
While there's no doubt that Sparrow's marketing this product and this band to the more profitable adult contemporary market, fans of this band will not be disappointed in the fluid vocals of Christine Dente and guitar work of Scott Dente. Even if the album artwork suggests a more middle-of-the-road approach. Producer Charlie Peacock delivers a seamless project filled with thoughtful lyrics, intimate glances at the human condition and Christine's crystal vocals.

RUSS TAFF We Will Stand; Yesterday and Today (Myrrh)
Before Taff takes a stab at the secular country music industry with a Warner Brothers release sometime later this year, Myrrh Records has him for one more greatest hits package. With a year that has been filled with memorable hits packages, this one stacks up well. Mixing music from Taff's earlier days to the cover of Gary Chapman's "Your Love Stays With Me," Taff demonstrates what has made him one of the all-time favorites in Christian music. A great album highlighting the work of a great artist.

STEVE GREEN Where Mercy Begins (Sparrow)
Co-produced by Phil Naith and Brown Bannister, Steve Green turns in one of the best projects of his talented, hit-ridden life. It's hard to believe that the one-time White Heart member can now sings tunes like "The Beauty of the Bride" and "Kings Shall Bow" but he does so with a color and texture that is being fine-tuned and refined with every project. Encouraging, edifying and everything that retail, radio and, more importantly, the consumer will love.

PICK OF THE WEEK

1 REMEMBER NOT (Sparrow) ........................................ 1 7
2 A WING AND A PRAYER (Star Song) .............................. 1 9
3 I SURRENDER ALL (Reunion) ........................................ 3 7
4 GIVIN' IT UP FOR YOU (Benson) .................................. 5 9
5 THAT KIND OF LOVE (Vreo) ........................................... 8 9
6 GLORY TO GOD (Sparrow) ............................................. 14 4
7 HERE IN AMERICA (Reunion) .......................................... 15 4
8 CHORUS OF FAITH (Sparrow) ......................................... 20 6
9 GOD KNOWS (Benson) .................................................. 19 8
10 MARKS OF THE CROSS (DaySpring) ................................. 4 8
11 PRESS ON (Benson) ..................................................... 7 8
12 I KNOW A LOVE (Benson) ............................................ 10 8
13 WITHOUT YOU WITH ME (Intersound) ............................ 15 6
14 EVIDENCE OF LOVE (Myrrh) ......................................... 1 4
15 SAVIOR (Warner Alliance) .............................................. 1 6
16 FROM THIS MOMENT ON (Benson) ................................. 2 9
17 WALK INTO FREEDOM (Star Song) ................................. 2 1
18 THE FLAME PASSES ON (Star Song) ............................... 2 7
19 THE ONE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR (Sparrow) .................. 3 5
20 WHERE DO I GO (Reunion) ............................................. 5 9
21 IN THE HANDS OF GOD (Warner Alliance) ................. 3 4
22 ONE MORE BROKEN HEART (Word) ............................... 3 9
23 GOD IS IN CONTROL (Star Song) .................................... 6 9
24 SAY THE NAME (Sparrow) ............................................. 1 2
25 LIVE TO TELL (ForeFront) .............................................. 1 2
26 MIND, BODY, HEART & SOUL (Warner Alliance) ......... 1 3
27 LOVE WILL NEVER DIE (Warner Alliance) .................... 1 8
28 WRECKING BALL (Benson) ............................................ 4 3
29 WELCOME TO OUR WORLD (Benson) ............................. 2 8
30 NEVER LOOK BACK (Benson) ......................................... 8 8
31 CLOSER TO THE FIRE (Reunion) .................................... 2 5
32 I'LL BE LOVING YOU ( Giant) ..................................... 3 2
33 ONE VOICE (Benson) .................................................. 3 1
34 I'LL NOT FORGET YOU (Myrrh) ................................... 5 7
35 MORE THAN A FRIEND (DaySpring) .............................. 3 3
36 A BEAUTIFUL PLACE (DaySpring) .................................. 2 2
37 MY WORLD VIEW (ForeFront) ....................................... 3 8
38 REST IN ME (Sparrow) ................................................ 3
39 LOVE'S THE KEY (Benson) ......................................... 3 8
40 BE STILL (Word) ....................................................... 3 8
EPA Certification Program Offered To Vending Ops

CHICAGO—Vending personnel who require certification to recover refrigerant from vending machines will now be able to take an inexpensive, self-study, mail-in test to secure their U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) certificate.

After November 14, 1994, no person may open a system for maintenance or repair, or dispose of a system unless he or she has been certified for that type of appliance.

An alliance of the National Automatic Merchandising Association, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers and the North American Retail Dealers Association developed the self-study program for vending personnel. Beginning March 28, 1994, interested parties will be able to call an 800 number to order the test packet, which includes a 50-page study manual, test booklet and forms. The cost of the test is $22.

The manual is designed to provide the mechanic with all of the specifics, regarding refrigeration recovery and the impact of refrigerants on the environment, required to pass the certification exam, which is included in the packet. Mechanics will be able to study the booklet, answer the test questions at their convenience, and mail back the forms for computerized grading.

Those who pass the test with a score of 84 percent or higher will get a certificate and wallet card indicating that they are certified to recover refrigerant from small appliances such as vending machines. Re-tests will be available for those who do not pass.

All vending personnel who service refrigerated vending machines must be certified by November 14, 1994. This certification will also be required for the purchase of refrigerants.

The program is available by calling 1-800-394-8378.

New Software Titles For 3D0 System

CHICAGO—The 3D0 Company of Redwood City, California announced that 16 leading software firms will deliver 23 new interactive multimedia titles for the 3D0 Interactive Multiplayer system, bringing the total to about 43 by the end of May.

Twenty titles are currently available nationwide, including Total Eclipse by Crystal Dynamics, which rocketed to the top of the best seller list at Software Etc. in the first week after its release. Total Eclipse has been hailed, by leading video game magazine Die Hard Game Fan, as “so far beyond what any other game system has been able to show to date that comparisons are not viable.”

The new titles span a range of categories, including family entertainment, sports, education, interactive movies, interactive music, information and reference, action, strategy and cartoons.

“The growing library of 3D0 software titles offers something for everyone, from young children and teenagers to adults and families,” stated Bob Faber, 3D0’s senior vice president of sales and marketing. “These new titles, which benefit from performance increases offered by 3D0 technology, take interactive entertainment to levels unmatched by any other platform on the market today.”

New 3D0 titles expected to appear at retail outlets in the next several weeks include Electronic Arts’ Twisted: The Game Show, the first computer software ever created that looks and feels like a TV show. Twisted is a wacky interactive game show for up to four players, which can be enjoyed by the whole family. Electronic Arts will also be offering a variety of sports-themed titles including John Madden Football and True Golf Classics: Pebble Beach Golf Links from T&E Soft.

EDITORIAL

Start Thinkin’ About AMOA Expo ’94!

CHICAGO—AMOA has already issued a preliminary mailing to prospective exhibitors who plan to display product at the September 22-24 Expo to be held at the San Antonio Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas.

To qualify for priority space assignment, exhibitors must submit their contracts to AMOA by no later than April 29, 1994.

Another deadline to remember is June 30 when the full balance payment for space is due.

Data East’s The Who’s Tommy Pinball Wizard

CHICAGO—Once again the expertise of Data East and the excitement of Broadway have come together to present Data East’s latest pin game The Who’s Tommy Pinball Wizard.

As noted by Gary Stern, executive vice president of Data East Pinball, “Broadway has been very good for Data East Pinball. One of our best runs to date was also a Broadway play, The Phantom Of The Opera. Like Phantom,” he continued, “Tommy is appearing both on Broadway and a national tour. The tour heightens player awareness making conditions right for great collections!”

Data East’s reputation for outstanding “singing pinballs” again manifests itself in Tommy which contains 21 hit songs with vocals by original Broadway cast members Michael Ceveris, Paul Kandel and Anthony Barrile.

In addition to the award-winning music, Tommy comes equipped with dual ramps and spinners, triple-flipper action, a magic mirror and flipper blinders, reportedly a first on a pinball machine. When the blinders are closed players will be faced with the ultimate pinball challenge, playing without seeing what the flippers are doing! “You have to see it to believe it,” said Stern.

The Who’s Tommy Pinball Wizard obviously contains all of the ingredients of a hit product.

Further information may be obtained through factory distributors or by contacting Data East Pinball, 1990 Janice, Melrose Park, IL 60160.
COIN MACHINES

SPECIAL BULLETIN! We have the following beautifully refinished games in stock at the lowest prices ever quoted. If interested, call us (Celia) immediately! ATARI: Knuckle Bash; Tetris 199; World Rally. CAPCOM: Quiz & Dragons 19; Capt. Commando; Slam Master; Knight of the Round; SF II CE Turbo; Warrior of Fate. DYNASTY: New in-box cocktail cabinets ($5 each) — Call for price. IREM: In The Hunt. KONAMI: X-Men; Cowboys of Moo Mesa; Metamorphic Force. LEFRERECHN: Tumble Pop 199; SEGA: Clutch Hitter 199; G.P. Rider R/O; Time Traveler. STRATA: Hard Yard, the only football video game licensed by the NFL. Featuring all of the pro teams and at a special price that will enable game room operators to operate hard yardage the year round and make money. Call for price. STRATA: Time Killer. TAITO: Super Chase. PINBALLS: BALLY: Dr. Who; Creature/Black Lagoon. DATA EAST: Batman; Lethal Weapon 3; Rocky; Bullwinkle. PREMIER: Street Fighter II; Toe’d Off. WILLIAMS: The Getaway; White Water; Dracula; Fish Tales; Hot Shot. USED KITS: Aero Fighters $350; Final Star Force $395; Golden Axe II $495; High Impact $195; In The Hunt $695; Knights of the Round $195; Knuckle Bash $395; Knuckle Head $595; Off The Wall $195; Punisher $595; SF II $195; SF II CE Turbo $695; Shogun Warriors $95; Super High Impact $395; Total Carnage $150; Warriors of Fate $495; Zero Team $595. NEO GEO PAKS Slightly used (cartridges): $10 each; Ninja Combat, Alpha Mission. $25 each; World Heroes. $75 each; 3 Count Bout; Fatal Fury II. $150 each: World Heroes II. $250 each; Fatal Fury Special. $315 each: Samurai Showdown. For all your parts needs, old and used PCB boards — call Darren, Parts Dept. Call Celia for Games and Kits. New Orleans Novelty Co., 3030 N. Arnoil Rd., Metairie, LA 70002. Tel: 504/888-3500. Fax 504/888-3506.

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Professional: Professional Members receive voting privileges in all categories of Christian Country, especially in those categories for the prestigious “CCMA” awards.

Genesis Club: Normally fans of the music rather than professionals. The support of this segment of Christian Country is its backbone — critical, not just for CCMA, but also for Christian Country itself. The Genesis Club entitles you to our international bi-monthly newsletter.

Christian Country Music Association

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