Katey Sagal: “Married...With Children” Or A Virgin Debut?

Pink Floyd's *The Division Bell* Tolls At The Rose Bowl

FANFEST '94: California Country
INSIDE THE BOX

COVER STORY

Katey Sagal: “Married...With Children” Or A Virgin Debut?

Katey Sagal may be best known for her acting work in the role of Peg Bundy on TV’s “Married...With Children,” but the 37-year-old actress is also an accomplished singer. As evidence of that singing talent, her Virgin Records debut Week... is being released this week, and expectations are high for both this quite-pregnant lady and her new album.

—see page 5

Pink Floyd's The Division Bell Tolls At The Rose Bowl

Pink Floyd, the psychedelic musical saviors to the tens of thousands in attendance for the first of two shows at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, delivered much the same in support of their latest release—the chart-topping The Division Bell—as they have on previous post-Roger Waters tours...but who’s complaining (besides our Troy Augustine)?

—see page 17

FANFEST ’94: California Country

FANFEST ’94 takes place May 4-7 at the Los Angeles County Fair and Exposition Complex in Pomona, California, offering country music fans heaven on earth with its line-up of rising and established stars set to perform and/or sign autographs.

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(NPG/Belmark)

R&B SINGLES
I’m Ready Tevin Campbell
(Quad/WB)

POP ALBUM
The Division Bell Pink Floyd
(Columbia)

COUNTRY SINGLES
Rock Bottom Wymonna
(MCA)

CONT. CHRISTIAN
The One I’ve Been Waiting For
Out Of The Grey (Sparrow)

R&B ALBUM
12 Play R. Kelly
(Jive)

COUNTRY ALBUM
No A Moment Too Soon Tim McGraw
(Curb)

RAP SINGLE
Players Ball Outkast
(Lafayette/Arista)

POSITIVE CNTRY.
Dying To Live Paula McCulla
(Cheryenne)

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WOODSTOCK REDUX—AND MORE! The Woodstock Music and Art
Fair '94 will take place on an 840-acre farm in Saugerties, New York
on Saturday and Sunday, August 13 and 14, and is expected
to bring together 250,000 people in celebration of music and art. Three of
the original Woodstock producers, John Roberts, Joel Rosenman and Michael Lang,
along with John Scher, president of official worldwide all-media right holder
PolyGram Diversified Ventures, will be producers of the mega-concert.

The Dove and Guitar logo, symbol of the original Woodstock concert in
1969 and a trademark owned by Woodstock Ventures since then, will remain
the key image for Woodstock '94. A soundtrack album of the event will be
released by A&M Records, and a documentary on the event from concept to
completion by Barbara Kopple for PolyGram's Propaganda Films as well as
a live, 14-hour-per-day Pay-Per-View television hook-up is reportedly
in the works.

The floor plan for Woodstock '94 calls for two main concert stages,
plus smaller performance areas, campgrounds and an Environmental Awareness
arena with booths and information on new energy sources, healthy lifestyles,
natural food and community involvement. There will also be food markets
and arts and crafts representing the world's diverse cultures, video theaters
and the 'greatest array of Port-A-Johns in the history of Western civilization.'

Rumored acts for the event are Pearl Jam, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Aerosmith, Nine Inch Nails, Alice In Chains and Metallica among many
others.

ATLANTIC HAS HISTORIC 1ST QUARTER: Spurred by a combination
of internal expansion and concentrated new artist development, the Atlantic
Group recently completed its first quarter in its 46-year history,
announced chairman/CEO Doug Morris. The success is seen as a validation
of the company's visionary, long-term genre-crossing approach to the '90s.

In recent weeks Atlantic's companies—including Atlantic Records, East
West Records America, Interscope, Atlantic Nashville, A Vision Entertain-
ment and a variety of distributed labels—have topped the charts with an
array of breaking artists and new titles representing a remarkable spectrum
of genres, from rap and country to metal and R&B. Such hitmaking artists
include Snoop Doggy Dogg, John Michael Montgomery, Pantera, Nine
Inch Nails, All-4-One and Tori Amos.

Morris commented, "The changes that we have been implementing over
the past three years are bearing fruit on an extraordinary diversity of fronts.
The cornerstone of all our efforts has been a focus on aggressive artist
development. Within the umbrella of the Atlantic Group, the cultivation of a
true entrepreneurial spirit at each of our varied labels and ventures has been
actively encouraged. As our current success amply demonstrates, when artists
and executives alike are given the freedom to take risks, the results can be
stunning."

NARAS "COUNTRY" SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULED: The Los Angeles chapter
of NARAS (National Academy of Recording, Arts & Sciences) will present
"The Changing Face Of Country" Symposium, Monday, May 2, 7 p.m. at
A&M Records on the Chapman Sound Stage. The panel of country artists and
industry professionals will include singer/songwriter Ray Benson of Asleep
At The Wheel, NASI Songwriter of the Year Steve Dorff, singer Kelly

The panel will discuss the future of country music including airplay,
audience demographics, record sales and an open Q & A session with the
audience. The evening is a part of a continuing series of informative
symposiums addressing pertinent issues in the recording industry. For
information regarding membership in LA/NARAS call (818) 843-8253.
UP FROM THE UNDERGROUND: Zane Massey and The Underground is the name. They are a group of street musicians who may be on the verge of pop/jazz success. Massey and group have, for the last five years, performed in one of the world's busiest thoroughfares—New York's Grand Central Station!

It was while performing in Grand Central that the group was heard by Phillip Chu, president of Bart Records. Chu liked what he heard and quickly signed them to a recording contract. The group consists of Massey on tenor sax, Yoshiki Miura on guitar, Hideji Taninaka on bass, and Sadiq M. Abdushahid on drums. Next to become interested in the group was well-known arranger/producer Teo Macero, who went on to produce their debut Bart album titled, appropriately enough, The Soul Of Grand Central. The album has a strong jazz influence laced with a sweet, heavy reggae beat. There are even some rap references with vocals by Charlene Fitzpatrick. An interesting aside is that Massey helped organize the much touted MUNY (Music Under New York) program, comprised of musicians who, with the city's approval, work within the mass transit system as street performers.

Macero, one of the most respected producers in the business, having produced Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk and Robert Palmer, said, "From the first time I heard them, I felt this group had something new in the way of sound and feeling. They have a unique style, which I think is rare in the music business. I'm happy to have worked with them."

If you have trouble finding the album, Bart even has an 800 number: 1 (800) 700-BART.

THE GOOD DOCTOR, Dr. John, is in fine form on his latest release, Television, his first for MCA/GRP Records. The set, co-produced by Dr. John and guitarist Hugh McCracken, is filled with the singer/pianist's trademark New Orleans gumbo-funk. There are also examples of his inherent humor on tracks like "U Lie 2 Much," and urban attitude on the rap duet with Anthony Kiedis, " Shut D. Funk Up."

The Doctor's autobiography, Under A Hoodoo Moon (St. Martin's Press), has just been released, and he also composed and recorded the music for the "People Magazine 20th Anniversary Special," which aired on ABC-TV last month.

RAP amazing presence was felt in the recent performance (15th & 16th) by a poet, poet and political activist Amiri Baraka, "Words & Music," performed at the Cooler club in NYC, joined the words of Baraka with the music of jazz stalwarts bassist Reggie Workman, saxist David Murray, trombonist Grachan Moneur III and drummer Rashied Ali. Sections of the performance were dedicated to the memory of jazz giants John Coltrane and Thelonious Monk.

CARNEGIE HALL continued its Celebration of Jazz series last week (21st) with a concert called "The New Legacy." The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, under music director John Faddis, featured guest artists Joe Cheadham, T.S. Monk, James Moody, Nicholas Payton and Joshua Redman.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE SIXX FAMILY. Motley Crue bassist/songwriter Nikki Sixx and beautiful wife Brandi Brandt have announced the birth of a second child. Storm Brieann Sixx, April 14 near the couple's home in Tarzana. The 7 lb. 2 oz. girl joins 3-year-old brother Gunner. Speaking of Motley We ran into the band's drummer, Tommy Lee, in the bathroom of the Hard Rock the other night, where he reported that the band's U.S. tour will kick off in Texas in early June.

AND SPEAKING OF THE HARD ROCK: The Beverly Center eatery was the site for the kick-off party for Eddie Van Halen's first annual golf classic to benefit the UCLA School of Medicine Pediatric Kidney Research Center. A huge success, the exclusive get-together raised over $66,000 via a collectibles auction (which featured, among other things, a guitar signed by the Rolling Stones that went for $13,000) and the $1,000 ticket price. Once the proceeds from the golf portion were thrown in, the take was over $275,000 for this very worthy cause. Entertainment was provided at the party by none other than the band Van Halen, who cranked out a loud and spirited set for the gathering. Nice goatee, Sammy! Thanks to Hard Rock marketing folk Jeff Wagner and Dianna Friedman for the hospitality.

BAY-AREA RADIO STATION KFOG, in conjunction with the Golden State Warriors, have just released a benefit CD to raise cash for a host of music programs in the Bay Area public school system. Artists on the disc include the Grateful Dead, Squeeze, Toad the Wet Sprocket, Melissa Etheridge, Lenny Kravitz and Cracker.

DATES FOR THE FIRST LEG OF Soundgarden's U.S. tour have been announced, with the band coming no closer to L.A. than a June 3 appearance at San Jose's Events Center (a six-hour drive). SoCal dates are expected, though, in late July.

LONG-TIME L.A. FAVES B.B. and The Screaming Buddha Heads will be the headliners April 26 at the Roxy when Japan's Edoya Records celebrates its fifth anniversary. The label, which recently entered into a worldwide deal with the BMG Group, is also musical home to renowned Japanese guitar master Char who, under his given name of Hisuto Takenaka, also owns Edoya KLOS vet Jock Bob Coburn will be on hand to emcee the event, with $10 tix available at the door. By the way—B.B. and The Screaming Buddha Heads' U.S. debut will be released by RCA in June.

B.B. and The Screaming Buddha Heads
Katey Sagal: “Married...With Children”
Or A Virgin Debut?

“KEEP YOUR DAY JOB” might be the haughty outcry by many singers after hearing Katey Sagal’s debut Virgin Records album Well... , which is shaping up as a maternal torch record with a serious soul vibe to it. The outcry won’t be a disparaging invocation, though. It reflects the fact that there’s a new kid on the block that will combine talent, wide exposure and attitude with some fine songs that people want to hear. The 37-year-old Sagal, however, is not a novice on stage in front of the mike. She has combined a sense of self-realization with some pretty songs and hopes to broaden the experience first gained as a member of Bette Midler’s Harlettes and later parlayed into performance and recording gigs with the likes of Bob Dylan, Etta James, Tanya Tucker and others.

She’s worked the stage as a musical theatre artist, straight-up singer and has probably made most people forget those credits with her acerbic, sexually revved-up and bubbleheaded character Peg Bundy on the longest-running Fox-TV hit “Married...With Children.” That TV comedy has paid the bills since the late ’80s, but it has also been the spawning ground for the desire to sing and write the songs that resulted in Well... The eclectic album features a number of stylistic and emotionally insightful musical tomes that have been culled from her life and professional experiences. She can bring the noise on a soul tip, something evidenced by lead track “Thunderhead” and “Some Things Are Better Left Unsaid,” which she co-penned with Robbie Nevil and David Frank. Sagal says the song reflects the early R&B, ’60s pop and soul music: “It reminded me of the music I grew up listening to.”

The album’s music also mirrors her growth as a performer, and more importantly, as a human being. From the song “Can’t Hurry The Harvest,” the album’s first single: “Change comes when it does/We all grow when we do/’Can’t hurry the harvest”—the lyrics show that she believes the time is right for her to re-invent her musical career. “I happened to make this album at a time when I realized that life isn’t what I thought it would be—the startling reality of the difference between how you thought things were going to be and how they ended up actually being,” Sagal says. “I think that’s pretty much everyone’s experience; we make plans, then ‘God laughs at them’—that’s one of my favorite phrases.”

But as this project worked its way through the Virgin Records marketing and promotion brain trust, Virgin’s vp of A&R Aaron Jacoves believed Sagal would serve up the proper material, work that would separate her from her Peg Bundy character. “When Katey and I sat down to start making this record,” says Jacoves, “we realized we had some hurdles, as well as some major things we were going to take advantage of.” That Sagal has become an important image in the pantheon of TV as Peg Bundy represented its particular problem. Virgin endeavored to strike a delicate sway between Sagal’s high visibility as Peg Bundy, while resisting the urge to have her sing any of the album’s songs on the show. But FOX-TV and VH-1 might play the video to her “Can’t Hurry The Harvest,” with various tie-ins supporting the airplay. Television may become an important avenue for exposure, given that Sagal is expecting a child before the end of the summer which would curtail her live performance opportunities.

“We haven’t said where we’re going to spend the dollars yet,” Jacoves says, “but in my opinion, I think we’d be wise to take out time on television. I’m not sure the audience that watched ‘Married...With Children’ is the demographic that will rush out and buy this record.” But Jacoves does believe that “Melrose Place” and “NYPD Blue” are shows that might draw demographics attracted to Well....

On the live front, Sagal recently did a series of one-nighters at The Troubadour nightclub in Los Angeles. In all her pregnant splendor, Sagal stood on stage singing the songs that she had tightly sculpted for her album. The vocal energy was there. But any woman who has been in the same professional predicament, or at least carried a child, might have understood why she stood still while she let the music and her song do the talking. Sagal won’t be doing a plethora of live performances. It’s not practical, even though this record could benefit from such a tour. No, it’s just not practical... or maybe it’s just God laughing.
REVIEWS By Troy J. Augusto

MEAT LOAF: "Objects In The Rear View Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear" (MCA 3016)
This strong ballad power, uplifted from the big man's latest hit, But Out Of Hell II, looks to be primed for across-the-board radio and sales success. Shortened considerably from the album version (which checks in at a very radio-friendly 10 minutes), Meat hits all the right buttons here, crafting a touching, though quite formulaic, single that will win over top-40 stations first, with adult and older-skewing album rockers also getting in on the fun. Sold-out tour rolls on.

CECE PENISTON: "I'm Not Over You" (A&M 9277)
Nice follow-up here to Peniston's last, semi-successful "In The Mood" release will more than likely top that tune chart-wise. Cece's powerful, accomplished vocal style and the song's undeniable groove should go a long way in further establishing Ms. Peniston's urban/R&B credentials. From her fine new alb, Though You Knew, this single also includes a handful of tasty remixes that clubs and djs are sure to enjoy. A star in the making, for sure.

KENNY G WAARON NEVILLE: "Even If My Heart Breaks" (Arista 2674)
Everybody's a winner with this sure-to-be hit lifted from Kenny G's latest sculpted platinum release Breathless. Mr. Neville proves that his voice can make any musical partner sound appealing, while Mr. G adds a bit of much-needed credibility to his resume by dyeing with the awesome Mr. Neville. Nifty ballad, featuring the always reliable production of David Foster (with Walter Afanasieff), should dominate adult-contemporary charts for months to come.

INDIGO GIRLS: "Touch Me Fall" ( Epic 6029)
Old pals the Indigo Girls return with a fiery new entry, pulled from the duo's forthcoming album, Swingin' Ophelia. This girls will be the hit of the heat here, shooting for a little respect with this guitar-powered, eerie rock number that promises to add a whole new audience to the act's growing followings. Quite dramatic and delivery, particularly Amy Ray's roughed-up voice, will raise a few eyebrows, with the unexpecting asking, "Indigo Who?" A surprise hit.

PICK OF THE WEEK

MEAT LOAF: "Objects In The Rear View Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear" (MCA 3016)

INDIGO GIRLS: "Touch Me Fall" ( Epic 6029)

MEAT LOAF: "Objects In The Rear View Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear" (MCA 3016)

INDIGO GIRLS: "Touch Me Fall" ( Epic 6029)
1 DIVISION BELLS (Columbia 64200) .................. Pink Floyd 2 1
2 ABOVE THE RIM (Death Row/Interscope/AG 92359) .... Soundtrack 2 4
3 AUGUST & EVERYTHING AFTER (DG/Geffen 24528) ...... Counting Crows 4 14
4 LONGING IN THEIR HEARTS (Capitol 61427) ........... Bonnie Raitt 3 4
5 IN UTERO (DG/Geffen 24697) ........................ Nirvana 21 18
6 FAR BEYOND DRIVEN (EastWest/AG 92302) ........... Pantera 8 4
7 GOD SHUFFLED HIS FEET (Arista 16531) .............. Crash Test Dummies 12 12
8 12 Play (Jive 41527) ................................ R. Kelly 11 7
9 MELLOW GOLD (DG/Geffen 24534) .................. Beck 11 7
10 REALITY BITES (RCA 66364) .......................... Soundtrack 14 9
11 TONI BRAXTON (LaFace/Arista 20007) .............. Toni Braxton 13 26
12 DOGGY STYLE (DeathRow/Interscope/AG 92729) .... Snoop Doggy Dogg 15 13
13 SIAMESE DREAM (Virgin 82878) .................. Smashing Pumpkins 18 24
14 MUSIC BOX (Columbia 53205) .......................... Mariah Carey 20 22
15 THE DOWNWARD SPIRAL (Nothing/TVT/Interscope/AG 92345) ........ Nine Inch Nails 17 6
16 PHILADELPHIA (Epic Soundtrack/Epic 57624) .... Soundtrack 17 18
17 THE COLOUR OF MY LOVE (550 Music/Epic 57555) .... Celine Dion 23 15
18 RHYTHM COUNTRY & BLUES (MCA 10955) ........ Various Artists 24 17
19 WEIGHT (Image 21034) .................................. Rollins Band 6 6
20 LIVE AT THE APOLLO (Private Music 81216) .... Yanni 20 6
21 GREATEST HITS (MCA 10193) ......................... Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers 25 13
22 NOT A MOMENT TO SOON (Curb 77659) ............. Tim McGraw 32 4
23 JAR OF FLIES (Columbia 76528) ...................... Alice In Chains 19 12
24 UNDER THE PINK (A2BIG/AG 82547) .................. Tori Amos 22 24
25 VAUGHALL & I (Sugar/Reprise/Warner Bros. 45181) ... Morrissey 26 4
26 HAND ON THE TORCH (Blue Note/Capitol 80583) ... US 27 14
27 I'M READY (Cress/Warner Bros. 45388) .................. Tevin Campbell 29 16
28 VERY NECESSARY (Next Plateau/London/PLG 828392) .... Salt-N-Pepa 29 17
29 LIVE THROUGH THIS... (DG/Geffen 24651) .......... Hole DEBUT
30 THE CROWN (Atlantic/AG 82519) ...................... Soundtrack 34 3
31 DIARY OF A MAD MAN (Uptown/MCA 10195) ....... Jodeci 33 18
32 THE PIANO (Virgin 88274) ............................. Soundtrack 36 16
33 jamel (Virgin 89782) .................................. Boney James 37 33
34 A FUNKY HEAD HUNTER (Grand Reprise/Warner Bros. 24545) ... Hammer 40 7
35 HOIST (Elektra 61628) .................................. Phish 31 3
36 MOTLEY CRUE (Elektra 61534) ........................ Motley Crue 35 5
37 VS. (Epic 53136) ........................................ Pearl Jam 39 17
38 NEVERMIND (DG/Geffen 24425) ...................... Nirvana 84 127
39 THE BODY GUARD (Arista 10699) ...................... Soundtrack 41 58
40 DOOKIE (Reprise/Warner Bros. 45529) ................. Green Day 42 2
41 EVERYBODY ELSE IS DOING IT, SO WHY CAN'T WE? (Island Records/Priority 541156) ......................... The Cranberries 44 21
42 GET A GRIP (Geffen 24495) ............................ Aerosmith 47 16
43 BAT OUT OF HELL II: BACK INTO HELL (MCA 10599) ............................... Meat Loaf 48 31
44 KICKIN' IT UP (Atlantic/AG 82559) ................... John Michael Montgomery 50 11
45 SO FAR SO GOOD (A&M 0157) ......................... Bryan Adams 49 14
46 TALK (Victoria/PLG 480033) ............................ Yes 38 4
47 BRUTAL YOUTH (Warner Bros. 45535) ............... Elvis Costello 43 6

52 BROTHER SISTER (Delicious Vinyl/AG 92319) ........... Brand New Heavies 51 4
53 FUMBING TOWARDS ECTASY (Atlantic 18725) ........ Sarah McLachlan 52 9
54 LETHAL INJECTION (Priority 53780) .................. Ice Cube 56 12
55 LUSTY GRAZING/Chrysalis/EPIC 92207) .............. Gang Starr 76 7
56 CANDLEBOX (Maverick/Silvertone Bros. 45138) .... Candlebox 54 12
57 THE ONE THING (Columbia 55567) .................. Michael Bolton 58 13
58 UNBOXED (Geffen 24702) ............................... Sam Harris 60 5
59 DOMINO (JustMusicChaos/Columbia 57701) ........... Domino 59 15
60 PRONOUNCED JAH-NAH (Ittown/Motown 6369) ....... Zane 53 10
61 DEEP FOREST (550 Music/Epic 57540) .............. Deep Forest 61 12
62 CORE (A&M/AG 62418) ................................. Stone Temple Pilots 55 51
63 NEW MISERABLE EXPERIENCE (A&M 54039) ......... Gin Blossoms 62 25
64 ANTENNA (RCA 66317) ................................. ZZ Top 65 14
65 TEN (Epic 47857) ........................................... Neal Young 70 17
66 KEROSENE HAT (Virgin 39012) .......................... Cracker 67 22
67 BREATHLESS (Arista 18686) ............................. Kenny G 68 72
68 A TRIBUTE TO CURTIS MAYFIELD .... (Warner Bros. 45509) ............... Various Artists 63 7
69 RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE (Epic 52959) ....... Rage Against The Machine 64 18
70 CROOKED RAIN (Matador 92343) .................. Pavement 71 9
71 HUMNMIN' COMMIN' AT CHA (So So Def/Columbia 57107) .... Xscape .... 72 17
72 RIVER OF DREAMS (Columbia 53003) ................. Billy Joel 73 26
73 ALL-4-ONE/Atlantic/AG 82588) .................. All-4-One 74 12
74 ENTER THE WU-TANG (36 CHAMBERS) .............. Wu-Tang Clan 86 8
75 SCHINOLES LIST (MCA 10959) .......... Soundtrack (Williams/Pearlman) 46 4
76 MTV UNPLUGGED (Elektra 61509) ..................... 10,000 Maniacs 46 12
77 LAID (Mercury 51494) ................................. James 66 12
78 NOTORIOUS/A&M/AG 62509) ......................... Confederate Railroad 88 3
79 THREATSOME (Epic Soundtrack/Epic 57831) .......... Soundtrack 84 2
80 TEN SUMMONER'S TALES (A&M 0070) .............. Sting 69 43
81 TUESDAY NIGHT MUSIC CLUB (A&M 0126) ......... Sheryl Crow 79 12
82 MCMX A.D. (Charisma/Virgin 60024) .................. Enigma 83 166
83 UNDERWATER (Zoo 11052) ............................. Tool 75 22
84 FOR THE COOL IN YOU (Epic 53588) ............... Babyface 81 24
85 TOO HIGH TO DIE(London/PLG 82848) ............... Meat Puppets 87 3
86 STRANGE PLEASURE (Columbia 57202) ............... Everlast 91 2
87 SOME CHANGE (Virgin 39492) .......................... Boz Scaggs 91 2
88 THINGS IN THA HOOD (Asst/Big Beat/AG 92320) ........ DFC 90 4
89 LAST SPLASH (4AD/Big Film 61500) ................. The Breeders 82 22
90 THRALL-DEMONSWEATLIVE .................. (American/Atlantic Bros. 45286) .... Danzig 80 11
91 BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA (Hollywood/Elektra 61565) ........ Brian Setzer Orchestra 77 4
92 PAID VACATION (Capitol 61232) .................. Richard Marx 94 10
93 DUETS (Capitol 59611) .................................. Frank Sinatra 93 14
94 SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE (Epic Soundtrack/Epic 53784) .......... Soundtrack 96 9
95 UNPLUGGED... AND SEATED (Warner Bros. 45259) ... Rod Stewart 97 32
96 INCESCIDE(DG/Geffen 24594) ........................... Nirvana RE-ENTRY
97 BLACK REIGN (Motor 63760) ......................... Queen Latifah 98 9
98 SHAQ DIESEL (Jive 41529) .............................. Shaquille O'Neal 99 16
99 IT'S ON (DR. DRE 187UM KILLA)(Ruthless/Relativity 5503) ........................... Eazy-E 100 18
100 THE MASK AND MIRROR ...................................... (Warner Bros. 45420) .... Loreena McKennit 95 3
REVIEWS by Troy J. Augusto

THE CHARLATANS: Up To Our Hips (Beggars Banquet 92352)

Atlantic's recent deal with U.K. label Beggars Banquet is now paying dividends with the release of this fine new Charlatans album, the innovative groovy rave rockers' third full-length. More organic in nature than the Manchester quintet's previous output, this release spotlights the band's ever-improving songwriting as well as its blossoming interest in tight musicianship...not the case when these guys were leading the trend-filled Manchester scene of the early '90s.

MICHAEL BEEN: On The Verge Of A Nervous Breakdown (Quest 45557)

Former singer for cool '80s alt rockers The Call (best known for semi-hit "The Walls Came Down") turns in his first solo alb and picks up right where his underrated former group left off. Still heavy with the weight of the world's pain and angst on his shoulders, Been actually opens the alb with one of his most optimistic songs ever, the light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel charmer "Us." Also check out The Yardbirds' "For Your Love" and soaring "Know I Know High."

THE MISS ALANS: Blusher (Zoo 11073)
The current pride of Fresno is The Miss Alans, four boys with little better to do than craft great pop-rock sounds out of the most unlikely of inspirations. Take snorting junk "Worms," four minutes of back-handed support that the actress would probably pass on: "Johnny said he'd feed you your whole life long! But, bastard dies deep and your love falls like an avalanche"...not exactly Dear Abby, eh? Also check out smooth, U2-y "Supercharged" and closer "Solid Gold."

PRIMAL SCREAM: Give Out But Don't Give Up (Sire 45538)

Anyone who's listened to this experimental Glaswegian rock 'n' roll band knows to expect the unexpected from each and every release. So, no big surprise then that this, the Scottish quintet's third full album (second U.S. issue), takes leaps from '92's brilliantly dramatic "Screamadelica." The psychedelic Stones-punk-dance core vibe is still in full effect, augmented this time by the soulburning, George Clinton-led title track and a newfound appreciation for R&B rhythms.

STANFORD PRISON EXPERIMENT: Stanford Prison Experiment (World Domination 014)

Second album from L.A.'s Stanford Prison Experiment (named for a '60s braintrust at Stanford U. whereby some nutty professor had the idea to turn groups of students into real-life prisoners and guards to gauge their reactions—it was, to say the least, a disaster) keeps to the same tightly-wound, edgy punk sound that made the band's debut such fun. Few smiles here, but loads of college radio anger that Mom and Dad are safe to hate. Worth a weekend pass.

THREESOME: Music From The Motion Picture (Epic Soundtrax 57881)

Likable sex comedy Threesome is complemented by this well thought-out soundtrack that nicely captures the humorously complex interpersonal issues addressed in the film. Don't miss the long version of U2's take on Patti Smith's "Dancing Barefoot," previously only available on a promotional band sampler; Bryan Ferry's gem "Is Your Love Strong Enough?"; "Buttercup," from Pearl Jam's spin-off Brad; and reformed General Public's hit "I'll Take You There."

UNCLE JOE'S BIG OL' DRIVER: Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver (Cargo/Deadhunter 029)

Despite being lumped in with the rest of what's becoming a tired scene in San Diego (gee, that didn't take long...A&R men, please go home), Uncle Joe's is a hard-rockin', whiskey 'n' smokes guitar band that mixes plenty of Stones/Who-inspired shag-rock, lots of nifty, Chuck Berry-inspired roots flavorings and a driving urgency that lifts them out of any current American comparison, similar to outfits gone by like The Replacements and early Urge Overkill. Test-drive highly recommended.

PICK OF THE WEEK


A major accomplishment for Henry and band, this pile-driver of a record called Weight Where on previous releases it was the Henry Rollins show, it's now truly the Rollins Band show. Credit the boys, and particularly vicious new bassist Melvin Gibbs (formerly of N.Y. legends Defunkt and The Decoding Society), for going toe-to-toe with the mighty Rollins, pushing this tattooed monster singer to unexpected levels of sonic fury and riotous glee. From the lovelorn tribulations of "Fool" to the rock-god trashing of "Icarus" to the evil soul of "Li'l," it's clear the Rollins Band is in a heavy league all its own.
REVIEWs by M.R. Martinez


Live, acoustic sounds that are funky yet emanate a jazz sensibility are becoming all the rage. You might credit the success of The Brand New Heavies for the debut of this foot-tapping pop soul, but each of the acts brings its own personal flavor to the party. This act uses the traditional live horn and drum sound and spices it with uptight bass, violin, unique percussion and aapt vocals by producer Shawn Lee and singer Karine Kendra. Outstanding tracks include “Disappearance Of The Man,” “No Brain,” and “Higher To Heaven.”


Instrumental urban music is primarily jazz-oriented, something Meadows seems to understand on this crafty collection of saxophone-driven tomes. Meadows hails from the lineage of Grover Washington, Jr., George Howard and Gerald Albury and Kenny G, all of whom have found a niche in this formula like the aforementioned. Meadows’ sax is fluid and carrieres and engages the listener in a sonic buffet. Labelmates SWV join him on backing vocals on “You’re Always On My Mind,” and the diaspora of ethnic sounds come together on the track, “Forbidden Fruit.”

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ALL-4-ONE: All-4-One [Bilt/Atlantic 25682-2]. Producer: Gary St. Clair, Tim O’Brien & David Foster.

Of the many groups that were birthed in the success of acts like Boyz II Men, Shai, etc., All-4-One seems to have found a successful formula. Witness the rise of the first single, “I Swear,” complete with shimmering vocals, swooning pop arrangements, and throttled (yet soulful) vocals, it’s easy to understand how the album has become a steady chart climb. This act could mosey some of the same territory that New Kids On The Block vacated as youths but that group’s shadow tracks leading down this shady lane include: “Down To The Last Drop,” the funker “Without You” and “She’s Got It.”
KICKED TO THE CURB: Urban music publicity and marketing departments will lose a viable vehicle when "The Arsenio Hall Show" signs off the air May 27. R. Kelly, Jodeci, Hammer, and a plethora of other urban and hip-hop acts got major national exposure on Hall's late-night program. The program's producer and syndicator, Paramount Pictures, decided to pull the plug because of low ratings and the flight of some network affiliates to "Late Show With David Letterman" on CBS-TV. Ironically, Hall's show has had difficulty booking top-line guests. Now who will book Ice-T on late-night broadcast programs? "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno"? With musical director Brand福德 Marsalis, it's a crap shoot. I don't see the South Central Cartel making noise on that show. Could it be Letterman? Maybe an alternative urban act will make the musical guest-list, but there has been little evidence to suggest that show will be an arena for this music. And what of African-American community leaders? Who now will provide an arena for their agendas, soft interviews and a "woody" and friendly atmosphere? And what about President Clinton? Will Brannford or Letterman's music man Paul Shaffer let the saxman blow his aural dirges on national TV during the next campaign? America, nor the entertainment industry, seemed to know what Arsenio really meant to the success of so many people.

SAMPLES: Andre Fischer, who is slated to receive a 1994 Diamond Award for Excellence as part of the International Assn. of African Music's celebration of the 15th anniversary of African Music Month, has been busy as producer. The next project of note from the MCA A&R executive will be a Columbia Records album by ageless songbird Nancy Wilson, "Love, Nancy," which contains a cover of the single "Love Won't Let Me Wait." And while on the subject of IAM's Diamond Awards, Quest/ Warner Records artist, contemporary gospel architect and upcoming Diamond Award winner András Crouch's "Mercy" album will be featured on "Inside Gospel," syndicated on more than 125 U.S. market/ stations by Bailey Broadcasting Services. The segment is scheduled for April 25-May 8 and will be called "Mercy: A May Revival... Ashford & Simpson, The Four Tops, The Pointer Sisters and Deja Reese are among those that will be honored during the fourth annual "Celebrate the Soul of American Music" television special set for syndicated airing June 4-26 during African-American Music Month. The Central City Prods., Inc. program will also extend special honors to Herb Alpert, Don Cornelius, the artist formerly known as Prince, and a special tribute to the late great Jimi Hendrix, Chaka Khan, Patti Labelle, CeCe Peniston. For Real, Barry White and Coming Of Age are among those confirmed to perform.
By M.R. Martinez

Higher Learning: In an effort to acquaint more young African-Americans with the business side of the music industry, Stupm Music Entertainment CEO Bill Stepney recently announced a joint venture with the newly-formed University Records. The company will be based in Washington, D.C. and will culi its staff from the student body of Howard University. Students from the schools of business, fine arts and communications will work under the direction of former Philadelphia International Records executive A. Haq Islam, who commented, "One of the primary missions of University Records is to increase the number of African-Americans who are part of the support system. Black artists should be able to have African-American accountants, lawyers and publicists if they choose to do so." The first undertaking of the Stepn/University venture will be the "University Records Home Jams Talent Competition," set for May 26 at the Lincoln Theatre in the nation's capital. MD Throh, assistant GM at WPGC-FM, will host the event, which is expected to draw budding talent from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, Baltimore and Richmond, VA. More than 500 entries have been received at press time. The five finalists in the contest will receive recording contracts from University/Sturpn and will be featured on a compilation album distributed by Stupm scheduled for release in late summer. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the album will go toward scholarships and future projects.

In O.G. HE TRUSS: Public Enemy's Chuck D has been in the studio with Long Island homey G-Wiz a young DJ-turned-producer who has put together four of the tracks from the Enemy's upcoming Def Jam/Columbia album Muse Sick N Hour Mess Age, including the first single, "Give It Up," due out in May. G-Wiz recently told Cash Box that since connecting with Chuck D during his days as a Long Island DJ, he has considered the outspoken rap artist a mentor. In addition to the tracks for the P.E. album, he remixed the music on the song "Bullet The Blue Sky" at the request of U2, although he claimed not to know what plans the Irish ban had for the track.

Rap Single Reviews
By Dr. Bayan

Fugees (T Ranzlator Crew): "Nappy Heads" (Ruffhouse/Columbia CSK 5993).
Afrocentricity illuminates brightly from this group. But the greatest feature is that this hip-hop trio is not bound to a certain label or style. They possess so many variations. The LP version of "Nappy Heads" creates a chaotic atmosphere while the remix uses catchy phrases and biblical influences over the joyful noise of a bumpin' baseline.

Melt-Low: "Return Of The Player" (RJ West/Rafac/Oak 77346).
This is a tale of a brother from the CPT who goes through all of the highs and lows of being a hustler. This story is interpreted with the help of a slow, sensable, funkified basline. Melt-Low is just doing what all true hip-hop artists must do at one time or another, which is to claim their identity. A station like Power 106 in Los Angeles might play this track.

Kinsuli: "Hubba Bubba Baby" (Blunt TVT4412-4).
This song possesses no thought-provoking weight, but it is a catchy tune. The group utilizes the skill of using any word that rhymes with the previous one, regardless of whether it makes sense. The additional track, "Dat All I Got Tyme 4," is very amusing. It sounds like a mixture of Handy Man and Ultramagnetic MC's.
**NEW YORK TOP 25**

**APRIL 30, 1994**

1. DONDE QUIERA... (EMI-Latin)  - Barrio Boyzz Y Selena
2. BOCA, DULCE BOCA (Sony Latin)  - J.L. Rodriguez
3. CARA DE NINO (Sony Tropical)  - Jerry Rivera
4. ENAMORAME (MPI)  - Tito Rojas
5. MI MEDIA MíTAD (Sony Tropical)  - Rey Ruiz
6. DUELE MAS (Sony Tropical)  - Grupo Niche
7. MI BUEN AMOR (Epic)  - Gloria Estefan
8. DESESPERADo (Polygram Latin)  - Martha Sanchez
9. DEJAME PARTICIPAR (EMI)  - Toros Band
10. HABLAme (Rodven-UN)  - Frankie Ruiz
11. Y TODAVíA ME AMAS (Rodven)  - Alex D' Castro
12. COMO SERA (Rodven-UN)  - Edgar Joel
13. NO PODRAs (Canaro)  - Fernando Villalona
14. LA SEXy (Kuban)  - Cocoband
15. A PESAR DEL TIEMPO (WEA Latin)  - Yolandita Monge DEBUT
16. LA CHULA (WEA Latin)  - Mana DEBUT
17. NO VIVIR (Electra)  - Gypsy Kings
18. HASTA EL FIN (WEA Latin)  - Luis Miguel
19. LUNA (Sony Discos)  - Ana Gabriél
20. PARESE MENTIRA (Solo)  - Marc Anthony
21. AY QUE MUJER (Karen)  - Hemanos Rosario DEBUT
22. MUJER PEQUEíNA (Sony Discos)  - Roberto Carlos
23. ANGEL CAIDO (EMI Latin)  - Alvaro Torres
24. BANDOLERo... (Rodven)  - Fantasmas Del Caribe
25. BASTO UNA MIRADA (Vediscos)  - Los Titanes

**PUERTO RICO TOP 25**

**APRIL 30, 1994**

1. POR AMOR A Ti (Melody Fonovissa)  - Cristian
2. DONDE QUIERA (EMI Latin)  - Barrio Boyzz-Selena
3. A PESAR DEL TIEMPO (WEA)  - Yolandita Monge
4. ENAMORAME (MPI)  - Tito Rojas
5. ANGEL CAIDO (EMI Latin)  - Alvaro Torres
6. TODAVíA ME AMAS (Rodven)  - Alex D' Castro
7. MI MEDI MíTAD (Sony Tropical)  - Rey Ruiz
8. QUE MANERA DE (Sony)  - Gilberto Santa Rosa
9. MI BUEN AMOR (Epic)  - Gloria Estefan
10. MI FRACASO (EMI Latin)  - Pandora
11. PENSANDO SIEMPRE (EMI Latin)  - Ednita Nazario
12. LAS LLAVES DE MI (EMI Latin)  - Las Triplets
13. SI NO ESTAS CONMIGO (EMI Latin)  - Proyecto M.
14. CARA DE NINO (Sony)  - Jerry Rivera
15. LO AMO (Sony Discos)  - Lourdes Robles
16. LA CHULA (WEA Latin)  - Grupo Mana
17. HASTA EL FIN (WEA Latin)  - Luis Miguel
18. NO TE OLVIDARE (MPI)  - Liniti T-21
19. LAS QUENTAS CLARAS (Rodven)  - Eduardo Palomo
20. CERCA DE TI (Melody)  - Lucero
21. SOLO PARA TI (Polagram Latin)  - Sergio Daina DEBUT
22. MI DOBLE TU (Rodven)  - Maggie Carles
23. DESESPERADo (Polagram Latin)  - Marta Sanchez DEBUT
24. VOY A CONQUISTARTE (Gomero)  - Johnny Rivera
25. BANDOLERo (Rodven)  - Fantasmas Del Caribe

**REVIEWS By Rafael A. Charres**

**ALBUMS**

- **UNIK-KO: Razones** (Sony Latin CD-81257/2-469650)

Sony Latin’s answer to the Barrio Boyzz? Not really! UNIK-Ko’s style and sound is distinctly different. Their album is a hit-for-hit production, which is designed to take full advantage of the growing bilingual market. Rather than recording a totally separate album for each of the markets, UNIK-Ko strategically incorporated both idioms on one album. Why not? Hispanics and Anglos alike will enjoy this album immensely. There are 15 cuts to choose from, among them: “Enamorando,” a medium tempo, House-style dirty with a finger-snapping R&B rhythm...I love the Spanish-lyrical twist, “Razones” (“Reasons”), a standard Earth, Wind & Fire hit, nicely covered, with an impressive vocal arrangement (stunning harmony)...should do very well as a lead-off single; and “Juntos,” a charming duel with Sony stablemate Yuri...the type of tune you can’t stop humming, this will be a monster hit for both UNIK-Ko and Yuri. Again, the beauty of this album is the tasteful marriage of Spanish and English lyrics. Ready for Radio!!! Ready for Retail!!!

- **DIVIDIDOS: Divididos** (PolyGram Latin 314 521 020-2)

Rock & Roll, Blues & Heavy Metal a la Espanol via Argentina, S.A., Divididos is a hard-hitting rock band from South America with a superb sound. With a reckless and rowdy nature to their compositions/arrangements, you need to hear this album to believe it. Check out What I mean...“Salir Asustar,” a tune that’s a combination of Butterfield Blues Band, The Allman Brothers and Santana all rolled into one; “El Arterro,” a dabble of Jimi Hendrix and B. King, switching subtleties with every stroke of the guitars; “Salir A Comprar,” a “can’t lose” Carlos Santana sound bite with a mixture of the Doobie Brothers and a solid rhythm track; or take me away to Marleytown with the reggae roots of “Que Vas?” This is just a sample of Divididos’ versatility and creative imagination. They demonstrate the fine art of having fun, which many bands today have forgotten. Just throw this bad-boy into your CD player and let her go!

**PICK OF THE WEEK**

- **NANDO LAURIA: Points Of View** (Narada Equinox ND-63026)

Brazilian Jazz has been surging to the forefront as of late, with Americans developing quite an appetite for this genre. Surging in with the title of talent from Brazil is a masterful guitarist/composer, Nando Lauria. Lauria brings a foundation of styles, which are blended into unique musical patterns. His music is very reminiscent of the Pat Metheny Group...or, we could say that Metheny sounds a lot like Lauria. Because of previous joint collaborations, there exists a mutual and complementing style that is unmistakable. Vocals, acoustic guitar, percussion and keyboards join forces to give you a magnificent montage of polyrhythmic pictures. This production has 10 pictorial masterpieces to choose from, but let’s showcase a couple: “Back Home,” an allegro composition with explicit percussive rudiments combined with a celebrating vocal; “Take Two” has a soothing intro that zaps into a funtive Brazilian rhythm called Isaias, which is played in 2/4 time: “If I Fell,” a Lauria and Lyle Mays (of Pat Metheny fame) cover of the Beatles’ hit...simply superb; and “Que Xote” (“What A Rhythm”), a catchy piece which incorporates another unique rhythm from the northeast of Brazil called Xote, a 4/4 pattern with accents on beats 3 and 4. This is the rhythmic rhyme and reason of Brazilian folkloric jazz. This album can do very well in both Latin and Jazz radio formats if promoted properly.
POOLING YOUR RESOURCES...

Back in the '70s...you know, the polyester/Bee Gees/disco era, when "record pools" nurtured their very existence with every dance release and Studio 54, The Fun House, The Loft and The Gallery were the spots to be spotted...it was so simple then to break a new club act or record. All you had to do was to hit every viable record pool in your area and nine times out of ten you would have covered and serviced every important DEEJAY. Record pools were the center of attention, the eye of the storm, a fountain of feedback. Now, for some unearthly reason record companies no longer articulate their promotional energies towards that venue. Of course, I’m speaking of the Anglo side of the business.

Now on the Latin side of the biz, record pools have become an important and integral part of the promotional mechanism. Because a good percentage of Latin American music is allegro and danceable music (thank God for that), many of the Latin clubs have an in-house DEEJAY. Before, between and after every live set, this music is being pumped, allowing for additional exposure. In addition, the increase of Latin clubs throughout the U.S. is significant enough that Latin labels have also increased their promotional activities to include record pools that have a Latin club roster. The City Sound Record Pool-NYC, RPBC-NYC, Salsa Mania-Houston, Majestic Sounds-Miami...these pools are just a micro-sample of record pools that have dual/bilingual club-jock rosters. Pools such as these allow for an efficient method of club promotion, especially if you have an artist that has a bilingual/crossover single or album. Jon Secada, The Barrio Boyzz, Selena, Marc Anthony, India, Marta Sanchez and Gloria Estefan are just a few of the many Latin American artists taking full advantage of record pools. We at Cash Box plan on introducing a Top 10 Latin Tracks Club Chart indicator for each region. These charts will be a compilation of various playlists from key record pools in each of our reporting regions: New York, Miami, Puerto Rico and Los Angeles.

QUE PASA?: “New York, New York is a wonderful town, the Bronx is up and the Battery’s down.” Talking about the Bronx, as in ‘The Barrio Boyzz, The "B" Boyzz are set to headline an EMI-Latin triple-header concert at the Paramount May 14th. Also slated to perform that evening are: Alvaro Torres (“Angél Cado”) and Pandora (“Mi Fracaso”). Rumor has it that Selena will be making an unannounced guest appearance to slam their duet hit single, “Dondequiera Que Estés.”...New York’s #1 jazz jewel, The Blue Note, announces that Chuck and the Children of Sanchez Mangione, will be performing May 3rd through 9th. In addition, Chuck and The Blue Note will have a special two-set matinee especially for young people. And check this out!!! “All adults will be admitted only if accompanied by a minor,” explained Dan Forté, director of public relations...Marta Sanchez has been basking them left and right with her hit single, “Desesperada.” Remember, we had her album tagged as a “Pick Of The Week” a month ago. Now the girl is crossing over and getting CHR airplay on the English version as well. PolyGram Latin plans on a CHR promo drive. Do we have the ears or what? Jon Secada’s brand-new follow-up album is set for a May 24th release date. Jon’s secondo is titled Heart, Soul & A Voice. We will have an advance copy to review shortly.

DON’T FORGET, IT’S GETTING CLOSER!!! Cash Box set for special tribute to the “Legends Of Latin”...an exclusive issue celebrating the 30th anniversary of the legendary Fania All-Stars has been scheduled to hit the stands in early June. Cash Box magazine feels strongly about acknowledging the musical contribution of the Fania All-Stars to the Latin music genre. Titled “The Legends Of Latin,” it will consist of an expanded and elaborate section that will profile many of the Latin American artists who have participated during Fania’s 30 years of existence. We have received an overwhelming response from the major labels, so we are urging those individuals and companies to secure their advertising space as soon as possible. An advertising deadline has been set for May 23rd. Those interested in taking full advantage of our discounted early-bird special need to submit their ad proposals by no later than April 22nd. For further information contact: Rafael Charres, Latin Editor: (718) 318-3337 or Stan Lewis: (212) 245-4224.
U.K./LONDON CALLING
By David Courtney

Crash Test Dummies have the U.K. humming along to "Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm"

THE NEWS: Nirvana fans in the U.K. rushed for souvenirs of Kurt Cobain. Tickets for the band’s cancelled European tour were selling for $150 each. Sales of all Nirvana albums have rocketed since the singer’s death. However, MCA announced this week that they have put hold on all future releases, including the new single “Pennyroyal Tea.”

A new single featuring the late Mick Ronson entitled “Don’t Look Down” is scheduled for release next month. I had the pleasure of working with Mick many years ago; he was a great guy and I know he will be truly missed.

THE PRICE OF FAME: They say everything has a price. Well, that may well be true, but for the life of me I cannot understand why anybody would pay four times over the odds for a ticket to see Barbra Streisand in concert (no disrespect to Ms. Streisand, who is one of the greats). The tickets were on sale for $240 (pounds) and are now changing hands at 1,000 pounds. This will be Streisand’s first U.K. concert appearance and is described by Columbia as being “The Event Of The Decade.”

BLACK SABBATH S Tony Iommi, Geezer Butler and vocalist Tony Martin reunited for a four-date mini-tour. After consultation with their fans, the band decided to include both old and new material in their set.

UNDER PRESSURE: Apparently Pearl Jam frontman Eddie Vedder is having a tough time coping with the pressures of heading up the outfit. Vedder was one of the guest artists who appeared at Roger Daltrey’s Carnegie Hall concert and was to be included on the soon-to-be-released live album but, according to Daltrey, Pearl Jam’s record company, Epic, refused permission at the 11th hour.

Mark Andrews, son of late Rolling Stones guitarist Brian Jones, is to appear in a film about his father called Who Killed Christopher Robin. Mark is to appear as his grandfather in the movie. Sounds interesting. . . .

LONG TIME NO SEE: It’s good to see Chrissie Hynde back in full swing with the Pretenders. The new single entitled “I’ll Stand By You” is getting heavy radio play and is sure to go Top 10. As a fan I’m really looking forward to hearing the album, due in early May.

GO-AHEAD FOR U2 INTERACTIVE ALBUM: After three months of meetings between the band and Philips Interactive Media, it was finally agreed to proceed with plans to make a fully interactive U2 album. The album and the mates will work with the software company Electronic Sound & Picture. The album is planned to be released before Christmas.

TOP OF THE MONEY CHART: Richard Branson’s position as the music industry’s wealthiest entrepreneur was reaffirmed in the Sunday Times survey of the U.K.’s music industry multi-millionaires. Branson came in #1 with a mere $95 million pounds, and poor old Andrew Lloyd Webber made #2 with $300 million pounds. Robert Digweed had not progressed from last year’s figure of 150 million pounds and was third in line . . . never mind, Bob, “Grease” is still the word.

LONDON CLUB SCENE: I have it on very good authority from a man called Dennis Lewis, pirate radio DJ. and brother of boxing champ Lennox Lewis, that the new music to hit the clubs in the U.K. will be “Jungle Music.” This, I am told, is a cross between Hard Core and Raggga . . . I have to admit that it’s all Greek to me!

ON THE ROAD: Bryan Adams is here in May. Diana Ross will be performing three dates at Wembley in June. Dwight Yoakam is here in June. Chris De Burgh is doing seven dates in September. Meat Loaf is scheduled for a 12-date tour in November.

THE SINGLES CHART: One of the most talented artists in the world has hit #1 again in the U.K. this week with “The Most Beautiful Girl In The World.” Take That, with last week’s #1, is down at #2. Toni Di Bart is at #3 with “The Real Thing,” and Crash Test Dummies are at #5 with “Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm” (catchy title, eh?). Bruce Springsteen’s “Streets Of Philadelphia” is down to #6. A unique reggae version of The Mamas And The Papas’ old hit “Dedicated To The One I Love” by Bitty McLean is up from #12 to #8, and Salt N’ Pepa with En Vogue are down one place from #11 to #12 with their hit “Whatta Man.”

U.K. ALBUM CHART: Pink Floyd’s The Division Bell is the most successful album the band has had in the U.K. since The Wall and has gone Platinum in just two weeks. I foresee this staying at the #1 slot for quite a while. The Very Best Of Marvin Gaye is up from #6 to #4. Ace Of Base are down this week from #3 to #5 with Happy Nation. Straight in at #9 is Haddaway The Album by Haddaway. Country music is beginning to get a foothold here, and to prove it that good ol’ boy Garth Brooks is on his way up the U.K. album charts from #47 to #35 with In Pieces (see more on Brooks on page 20). And last but not least, The Backbeat Band are up from #52 to #39 with Backbeat (OST). If you haven’t seen the movie, rush out now and see it.

NEWS FROM JAPAN
From Rock & Roll Heaven to Armed Forces Radio: (1-) Oldies DJ Jim Pewter and Polyder recording artist Jimmy Angel. The “Jim Pewter Show” airs in 100 countries around the world, and Angel, a ‘60s bopper who lives in Tokyo, was Pewter’s special guest two days back-to-back. Selections from Angel’s album From Rock & Roll Heaven were played, which features the Elvis Presley Band with production by Owen and Harold Bradley.

THE SEVENTH BLUES (B’z, BMG Rooms) and Red Hill (Chage & Aska, Pony Canyon) have been certified Quadruple Platinum each by RIAJ (Record Industries Association of Japan) for March ’94 certification in the album section. Following them, Honeymoe Ena Akihito (Yutaka Ozaki, Sony) acquired million-selling status and Platinum went to Cloudy Heart (Kouji Kikkawa, Toshiba EMI). Five titles were named Gold. They are: Hide Your Face (Hide, MCA Victory); After Tone III (Takako Okamura, Fun House); Cindy Winding (Lindberg, Tokuma Japan); Voice Peaks (Hoshi Nakanishi, Nippon Columbia) and July I (Julia Matsuda, Mycal Humming Bird). All are in Domestic Repertories.

As for International Repertories, Now I (Queen, Toshiba EMI) made Triple Platinum. Platinum went to Vamp Ahead (Mr. Big, EastWest Japan) and Appetite For Destruction (Guns N’ Roses, MCA Victor) while Gold went to True Blue (Madonna, Warner Music Japan). Like A Virgin
ROSE BOWL, PASADENA, CA—Pink Floyd’s return to the Southern California concert stage was greeted with all the enthusiasm and hoopla that we reserve only for the biggest of our superstar acts. It’s too bad, then, that the members of this veteran band didn’t reward us with a little enthusiasm and fire of their own.

At the first of two extravagantly ordinary stadium shows at the Rose Bowl on Saturday, fans of all age groups and walks of life arrived hours early at this iconic, venerable venue (now operating in its seventh decade) and made a day of it.

Engaging in all manner of outdoor activity, from cooking, eating and drinking to Frisbee- and football- tossing, from jewelry- and incense-hawking to even a little pitch-and-putt on the grounds of nearby Brookside Country Club, tens of thousands of Pink Floyd loyalists came together early to await the magical arrival of these psychedelic music saviors.

But once the appointed hour came, at 8:30 p.m., the group’s response to all the excitement was, sadly, quite unenthusiastic. Opening with that old slacker anthem “Astronomy Domine,” from the band’s acid-y 1967 album _The Piper At The Gates Of Dawn_, Floyd, led by low-key guitarist/singer David Gilmour, proceeded to slog through an hour’s worth of some of its least challenging work, mainly culled from its two post-Roger Waters albums.

From the current No. 1 Columbia album, _The Division Bell_, came “What Do You Want From Me?,” a flat, simple tune that attempts to recall 1975’s far superior “Waters-penned” “Have A Cigar,” and “Take It Back,” a song better suited for a Mike + The Mechanics record than a Pink Floyd disc. As Gilmour’s increasingly weak voice became lost in the booming sound mix, thoughts of mid-70s classics were floating about the football stadium. Obviously, Warner’s ability to elevate Pink Floyd’s presentation was lost on the band’s remaining members.

“On The Turning Away,” from 1987’s _A Momentary Lapse Of Reason_, was one of this first set’s winners, though, Gilmour’s ever-trusty, signature guitar power-remade out of his Stratocaster as his backing ensemble, comprised of long-time members Rick Wright and Nick Mason as well as many of the same supporting cast present on the 1987-88 tour, wove an uplifting, heavenly vibe out of the song’s powerful arrangement.

The first set’s closer, the 1971 instrumental “One Of These Days,” was also notable. As Gilmour worked his slide guitar magic, huge inflatable balloons appeared above the giant stage cover while the venue exploded in flames and a rainbow of bright lights. Spinal Tap, you say?...almost.

Musically, the second set was what most came to see. As spontaneous flashbacks of lost ‘70s youth swept the crowd, some of that decade’s most popular rock songs were again recreated. Though lacking much of the spirit or hunger that first inspired these tracks, many lifted from best-sellers _Dark Side Of The Moon_ and _The Wall_, just hearing them seemed enough for the gathering.

There was “Great Gig In The Sky,” featuring strong performances from the group’s trio of female back-up singers; “Hey You,” not played since the two-city “Wall” tour of 1979; a fat, energetic version of “Money,” spotlighting slick bassist Guy Pratt; powerful show closer “Run Like Hell”; and a rarely-heard medley known to hard-core fans as the “Breathe” reprise, with _Dark Side_ gems “Breath In The Air” and “Time” folded into one soaring piece—arguably the 195-minute show’s most rewarding moments.

The concert was pre-billed as containing some of rock history’s most spectacular effects, but it actually came off with fewer tricks than the last tour and probably offered little not seen before by most in the audience.

There are certainly Pink Floyd’s salad days; though the group’s best musical accomplishments are far behind it, there’s this business of getting the show out to the people. Despite little remaining inspiration or visible enthusiasm, Pink Floyd continue to give the people what they want: a return to a simple time when a scratched vinyl copy of _Dark Side Of The Moon_ was enough to live on.
Look...Up In Lights!...It's A Movie!...It's A Broadway Play!...It's Multimedia!—It's Disney!

By John Goff

LEAVE IT TO DISNEY to come up with something different. This time it's reversing a long entrenched trend. We've all heard of making a movie from a Broadway musical...well, Walt Disney Records has joined with the company's new arm, Walt Disney Theatrical Productions—for the specific operation of mounting productions for the stage—and its premiere production makes a Broadway musical out of one of their films, Beauty And The Beast. O.K., Andrew Lloyd Webber did it with Sunset Boulevard, but that's with people...here we're looking at candelabras, pots, inanimate objects and half-man-half beast, to the stage from animation.

Mark Jaffe, Walt Disney Records vice president and general manager, spoke with Cash Box recently and reported that Beauty And The Beast: A New Musical's advance ticket sales had broken all records at Broadway's Palace Theatre where it opened April 18. Jaffe, who has seen previews of the show, is extremely enthusiastic about it. "When Disney does something," he says, "it's always first-rate. (and) family-oriented." Look for a lavish mounting.

Jaffe wouldn't venture a guess as to the budget of the stage show, which is directed by Robert Jess Roth and choreographed by Matt West, but reportedly it's in the area of $12 million. Well, it has to be impressive, especially when one considers the characters and the costumes for those characters alone. Take a gander at the drapings of the Lumiere character in the accompanying photo.

Jaffe, who began in the record business with A&M Records, spent ten years there and came to Disney Records in 1990, is also enthusiastic about releasing the Original Broadway Cast Recording of Beauty And The Beast, which will go on sale May 3. It features the original Academy Grammy Award-winning and triple platinum-selling film soundtrack, and also includes six new musical numbers by Alan Menken, the late Howard Ashman and Tim Rice. The show's book is by Linda Woolverton. Asked if he anticipates further jumps from the screen to the stage by Disney, Jaffe doesn't hesitate: "I'm sure."

Among the other areas Walt Disney Records is showing strong in is a new line of audio tape-and-board books for parents and children aged 6 months to 4 years entitled "My First Sing-Along.

"It combines the first children's book with the (child's) first song," Jaffe says, and gives a joy to both parent and child, something to share early on. The initial trio will go on sale at the same time as the Beauty And The Beast recording May 3 and includes "Activity Songs," "Nursery Rhyme Songs" and "Lullaby Songs." The initial response from retailers toward this product, according to Jaffe, "is overwhelming."

Walt Disney Records has also released two more of their popular (27 years) Storyteller Series read-along combinations of audio tape cassette and illustrated book with Aladdin: Iago Returns and the re-release of Fox And The Hound. The Aladdin release is the 30th in this popular line. Two more are being prepared, one for a fall release and another for next spring.

Jaffe has good reason to be enthusiastic with all the product he has coming out of Walt Disney Records. Adding the Beauty And The Beast momentum is the fact that the soundtrack has recently gone Triple Platinum and was a four-time Grammy winner at the 1993 awards. In addition, their live benefit recording, For Our Children: The Concert, an all-star recording to benefit the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, has raised more than $3 million, something they can point to with pride. And everyone should be eagerly anticipating the late May release of Disney's new film The Lion King along with its accompanying soundtrack.

What next?...well, how about a Broadway musical based on...a hockey team!!
VIDEO REVIEWS

All The Mornings Of The World
By John Goff
FRANCE’S MAJOR EXPORT, Gerard Depardieu, is the draw for All The Mornings Of The World, though he is not the central focus. It is a wonderful story; a love story, both in the romantic sense and the sense of love of purpose, of life’s calling, of music as life. Here music for a viol player in 16th century France is more than music and Depardieu’s character has to learn that youth to beyond maturity. Beautifully photographed and realized with some haunting viol music. Worth the effort. Touchstone Home Video.

Red Shoe Diaries 4
By J.G.
LATEST IN THE ZALMAN KING erotic movement series retains the quality of production set before it. Here are presented three segments: Accidents Happen, directed by Alan Smithers, Auto Erotica, helmed by King; and Jake’s Story, directed by Michael Karbelnakoff. They’re all man-woman-sex but with different moods, diverse approaches designed to stir rather than titillate. George S. Clinton’s music adds to the overall mood and feel. Not a great deal of nudity but enough to get the messages across and tastefully done. Ally Sheedy, David Duchovny and Sheryl Lee head the casts. Republic Pictures.

Dying To Remember
By J.G.
A REINCARNATED SPIRIT leads her host body back to the apartment building where she was murdered. It’s always a fascinating hook for a story and this one is a neat mystery with a touch of a love story at the same time. Melissa Gilbert and Ted Shackelford star, but it’s Christopher Stone as the cop/murderer who has the most fun with the shower role. Script is by George Schenck & Frank Cardea and Brian L. Ross with directing chores ably handled by Arthur Allan Seidelman. Paramount Home Video.

The Cover Girl Murders
By J.G.
BEAUTIFUL PARADISE ISLAND SCENERY can’t camouflage the fact that there’s not a lot of thought behind this one. One of the heartiest of plots isn’t improved upon or attempted to be improved. Beautiful model bimbos get knocked off one by one, accusing one another of the dastardly deeds in order to grab the cover of a dying magazine. Zzzzzzz. Lee Majors, Jennifer O’Neill and a group from Cookie Cutter #101 star. Paramount Home Video.

TOP 25 VIDEO RENTALS
CASH BOX • APRIL 30, 1994

1 THE FUGITIVE (Warner Bros./Warner Home Video 21000)
2 WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT (Touchstone 2111)
3 DEMOLITION MAN (Warner Bros. Inc./Warner Home Video 12987)
4 IN THE LINE OF FIRE (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 52315)
5 THE GOOD SON (Fox Video/20th Century Fox 8553)
6 STRIKING DISTANCE (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 53693)
7 CARLITOS WAY (MCA/Universal Home Video 81630)
8 JUDGMENT NIGHT (Largo Entertainment/MCA/Universal Home Video 51593)
9 AGE OF INNOCENCE (Columbia Pictures 52333)
10 THE JOY LUCK CLUB (Hollywood Pictures Home Video 2291)
11 THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE (Warner Home Video 12987)
12 BRONX TAIL (HBO/Gayzy Video)
13 DAZED & CONFUSED (Universal City Studios/MCA/Universal Home Video 81495)
15 BEVERLY HILL BILLIES (Fox Home Video 8561)
16 FEARLESS (Warner Bros./Warner Home Video 12980)
17 M. BUTTERFLY (Geffen Pictures/VH Home Video 12984)
18 KALIFORNIA (Polygram Video 44008)
19 MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 71753)
20 SO I MARRIED AN AXE MURDERER (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 52423)
21 SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE (Columbia/TriStar Home Video 52413)
22 UNDERCOVER BLUES (MGM-UA Home Video 903063)
23 THE PROGRAM (Touchstone Picture, Touchstone Home Video 2312)
24 FOR LOVE OR MONEY (Universal City Studios, MCA/Universal Home Video 81511)
25 MR. WONDERFUL (Warner Bros. Inc./Warner Home Video 12968)

VID BIZ
By John Goff
IT WAS ONE OF THOSE WONDERFUL mornings the California Chamber of Commerce loves; warm, sunny, clear, without old Mother Earth doing her humorous ocean wave impression. MCA Universal Home Video senior marketing and sales vp Andrew Kairsey had this kind of day to announce the pending video release of Universal’s Beethoven’s 2nd outdoors at Universal City’s Animal Stage. But while he was talking of the over $51 million dollars the film already has grossed in theatrical release and the $153 million the first Beethoven picked up in Vid sales and the expectations of even higher revenues from the sequel, he was being upstaged by stars: Beethoven and co-star Missy, Lassie, Benji and from the currently filming production The Little Rascals, Petey who had been pressed into service to help publicize the upcoming August event. Still, Kairsey got his point across: Beethoven’s 2nd is expected to be a huge 1994 item. Impressive is the demographic research used to tell what the “target” audiences for products should be, thus making it as near to an unfailing a proposition as possible. Just a thought but, can’t Anyone come up with a better term than “target”’? When someone says, “We’re targeting the 2- to 11-year old audience.” I have this image of smiling, happy, innocent children caught laughingly unaware in the cross hairs of a giant Bazooka. That’s a disconcerting image for the real “target,” Mom and Pop’s pocketbook.
Westwood One To Broadcast FANFEST '94

By Richard McVey

WESTWOOD ONE, the nation's largest producer and distributor of radio programming, will broadcast exclusively May 6-7 from FANFEST '94. FANFEST '94 takes place May 4-7 at the Los Angeles County Fair and Exposition Complex in Pomona, CA.

Artists set to perform during the event via Westwood One are John Anderson, Boy Howdy, Mark Chesnutt, Toby Keith, Tracy Lawrence, Martina McBride, Doug Stone and Doug Supernaw.

In addition to concert performances, Westwood One will broadcast exclusive artist interviews and reaction from the fans at the scene. Westwood One will also announce an 800 number for listeners to call with quake donations, as profits from ticket sales of FANFEST '94 will benefit earthquake relief in Los Angeles.

Other top country artists scheduled to appear during the event include Glen Campbell, Confederate Railroad, Lacy J. Dalton, Billy Dean, Diamond Rio, Marty Haggard, Ronnie Milsap, John Michael Montgomery, Bonnie Nelson, Johnny Lee, Buck Owens, Carl Perkins, Charley Pride, Collin Raye, Sawyer Brown, Dan Seals, Lisa Stewart, Turner Nichols, Dwight Yoakam and Zaza Creek.

IN OTHER FANFEST NEWS—The "FANFEST '94 Country Music Convoy," a special convoy organized by Feed The Children to bring food to Los Angeles, will depart April 25 and pick up food collected by country radio stations in several cities between Nashville and Los Angeles. The donated food will be distributed to approximately 25 Los Angeles-area feeding centers.

Many of country music's top songwriters will perform their biggest hits during the event. Among those scheduled to appear are Max D. Barnes ("Look At Us," "I've Got It Made"), Tommy Barnes ("My Love," "Indian Outlaw"), Wayne Carson ("The Letter," "Always On My Mind") and several others.

Crown Royal Country Music Series Features Impressive Lineup

NEW YORK—"The Crown Royal Country Music Series '94," being launched by Confederate Railroad, Shenandoah, and Doug Supernaw, is scheduled to begin on April 24, at the Carolina Coliseum in Columbia, SC.

The music series is an integrated program of 44 concerts and more than 160 country music club events. Recognized as the premiere corporate-sponsored country music tour, it showcases nearly two dozen of country's top artists with three to four acts featured at each concert. Artists also scheduled to perform include John Anderson, Little Texas, Chris LeDoux, Shawn Camp, Steve Wariner, Gary Morris, Boy Howdy, Patty Loveless, Neal McCoy, Tracy Lawrence, Tim McGraw, Tracy Byrd and Marty Stuart.

How's Garth Doing Overseas?

IF REACTION from Ireland and England is any indication, Garth Brooks will do quite well overseas. Consider these facts:

—Brooks drew the largest attendance for any event in Dublin since the Pope's visit in 1979.
—One in four families in Ireland now own a Garth Brooks CD or cassette.
—On the U.K. pop charts, Brooks' albums rank as follows: No Fences at #1; In Pieces at #4; Ropin' The Wind at #10; Garth Brooks at #23 and The Chase at #29.
—One in every 50 people in Ireland has now seen Brooks live, following his eight sold-out shows at The Point. Promoter Jim Aiken estimates that Brooks could have sold in excess of 225,000 tickets, enough to sell out the venue for a month.
—Fans in the U.S. can catch Brooks on his NBC special, "This is Garth Brooks, Too!" on May 6 at 8 p.m. EST.

In Other News...

VINCE GILL's latest release "Whenever You Come Around" is the first recording mixed on the AT&T DISQ Digital Mixer Core to reach the public's ears. "We are elated that an artist of the caliber of Vince Gill is the first to release a recording in which our digital mixing technology plays an important part," says Bill Gendron, chief operating officer of AT&T Digital Studio Systems. At the heat of the system is a digital signal processor, a type of supercomputer originally developed by AT&T Bell Laboratories to help the U.S. Navy detect submerged enemy submarines. According to Gendron, the result is a richer sound for performers and preservation of studio owners' investment in existing mixing consoles. The first operational system is in use at Masterfonics in Nashville.

REBA MCENTIRE's new autobiography, Reba: My Story, goes on sale April 20. Also look for Travis Tritt's new autobiography Ten Feet Tall and Bulletproof, set to be released shortly. Tritt will be among those signing their books at FANFEST, including Naomi Judd and Glen Campbell, as well as the many stars who will also provide autographs for the public attendees.

CMT AND CMT EUROPE have chosen Randy Travis as their "May Showcase Artist" to coincide with the release of his first new album in three years, This Is Me.

PHIL WALDEN, president of Capricorn Records, and Sal Licata, president of RED DISTRIBUTION, announced an agreement by which RED will distribute Capricorn product on an exclusive basis, effective April 1.

JOHNNY PAYCHECK is recovering in a Bowling Green, KY hospital after being rushed to the emergency room with a severe case of pneumonia. Paycheck is optimistic he will be released quickly and expects to be monitored over the next four to six weeks while resting at his home.

THE THIRD ANNUAL "Country Music Fan Jam" in Fort Worth, TX on May 21-22 will once again benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The event is a unique concert event designed and developed for the country music fan, giving them the opportunity to "meet and greet" their favorite stars, get autographs, take pictures and collect artist memorabilia. The event will feature the following artists: John Michael Montgomery, Daron Norwood, Neal McCoy, Doug Supernaw, BlackHawk, Jerry Jeff Walker, Shenandoah, Martina McBride, Brother Phelps, John Berry and Pearl River. Last year's event raised more than $35,000 for the charity.

THE SECOND ANNUAL "Celebrity For Kids" golf tournament to benefit the Franklin campus of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. has been set for June 6 at the Woodmont Country Club in Nashville. Last year, Vince Gill, Garth Brooks and Earl Thomas Conley were among the celebrities who hit the green to help TBCH children.

THE ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS AND RECORDING COMPANIES has named Robin Mitchell Joyce, an attorney with the Music Row office of Wyatt, Tarram & Combs, to the executive panel of its Recording Artists Committee. The executive panel is responsible for nominating recording artist representatives to the Alliance Board and for resolving disputes with featured recording artists who are not represented by the Alliance. The Alliance is a group of 34 music industry representatives appointed to serve the interests of featured and non-featured performing artists and record companies in connection with the Audio Home Recording Act, which added a surcharge to the cost of all digital recording equipment and digital media in order to create a royalty fund so that artists and record companies will benefit from home recordings.
Country Music in Canada
By Richard McVey

The Canadian Country Music Association, an 18-year-old organization based in Toronto with more than 1,500 members, is trying to follow in the footsteps of its counterpart in Nashville, the Country Music Association, to promote country music in its homeland and abroad.

"Our country music is a little different," says CCMA President Chris Hughes. "Canada is a very regional country. You have strong Celtic roots on the East Coast, real cowboys in the Prairies, and different attitudes, interests and approaches come out that you can really see in the quality of the music. It's all Canadian, but it's quite distinctive as you go across the country."

Hughes says selling country music as a product has been difficult in Canada at times: "Where I live in Toronto, which is our largest city, we've only had a country FM station for the past year or so, and that was long overdue. At least now we have a national product to sell. I can try to sell business people in Toronto on the merits of country and actually tell them to listen to it... whereas before it was a virtually impossible sale for quite some time."

Canada certainly appears to be excited about country music. "More radio stations are playing some country or something that can be classified as country," says Hughes. "It's in all the papers and basically you would have to have your head in the sand not to have picked up on the fact."

Hughes, who sings under the name Albert Hall, believes part of the reason for the success of Canadian acts can be attributed to the artists themselves: "I can tell you as an artist, when I was coming up, the newcomers were nowhere near as polished and as professional and able as the people that are coming along now." Two of the Canadian acts presented at this year's "Country Radio Seminar Canadian Showcase" luncheon, Charlie Major and Lisa Brokop, both have American album releases and record deals with Arista and Liberty, respectively.

The success of the organization can be traced, in some part, to the Nashville-based Country Music Association. "As long as I've been in the CCMA, the CMA has always been very supportive and helpful," says Hughes. "We're trying to learn from the CMA and follow the path that they've developed over the years. I think they see us as merging business partners. We're all in this together."

"We helped the CCMA in their formative years," says CMA President Ed Benson. "They're patterned after us, but there aren't any specific financial or operational connections with CMA." While CMA doesn't have a representative in Canada, Benson says that a member of the CCMA board serves on their board, which provides for some liaison between the two.

"Canada is a very strong market for country music...both Canadian and American country artists," adds Benson. "I also know they're in support of a country music video channel and somebody's trying to get licensed up there. There are three or four licensed applications before the CBC."

Hughes says that Canadian artists are looking not only to the U.S., but Europe as well: "Many Canadian acts have toured quite extensively in Europe over the years. There's a lot of European roots in Canada and I really do believe there's a large element of that in Canadian country music. So I look for us to be active in Europe, just as the CMA is trying to develop in that territory."

Last year, the CCMA Awards show, an annual event held in September, was re-broadcast on TNN and CMT Europe. The awards show is the highlight of the CCMA's Country Music Week, where the CCMA conducts various panels, seminars, artist showcases and luncheons during a four-day extravaganza. This year's event will be held September 16-19.
# CASH BOX CHARTS

## TOP 100 COUNTRY SINGLES

**APRIL 30, 1994**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#1 SINGLE: Wynonna</th>
<th>TO WATCH: Reba McEntire #26</th>
<th>HIGH DEBUT: Neal McCoy #41</th>
<th>#1 INDIE: Don Cox #37</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. **ROCK BOTTOM** (MCA) .......................... Wynonna 3 10
2. **I CAN'T REACH HER ANYMORE** (Mercury) .......................... Sammy Kershaw 4 14
3. **PIECE OF MY HEART** (Acuff-Rose) .......................... Faith Hill 5 11
4. **A GOOD RUN OF BAD LUCK** (RCA) .......................... Clint Black 9 8
5. **IF BUDDA CAN DANCE** (RCA) .......................... Shenandoah 8 10
6. **ADDICTED TO A DOLLAR** (Epic) .......................... Doug Stone 10 9
7. **BEFORE YOU KILL US ALL** (Vander Bros 45901) .......................... Randy Travis 11 6
8. **TRY NOT TO LOOK SO PRETTY** .......................... Dwight Yoakam 12 9
9. **YOUR LOVE AMAZES ME** (Liberty) .......................... John Berry 13 11
                                                                 10. **IF THE GOOD DIE YOUNG** (Atlantic) .......................... Tracy Lawrence 12 12
                                                                 11. **WORDS BY HEART** (Mercury 1101) .......................... Billy Ray Cyrus 7 12
                                                                 12. **I'M HOLDING MY OWN** (Atlantic) .......................... Lee Roy Parnell 2 15
                                                                 14. **LOVEBUG** (MCA 54189) .......................... George Strait 18 6
                                                                 15. **BETTER YOUR HEART THAN MINE** (MCA 54786) .......................... Trisha Yearwood 15 12
                                                                 16. **WHERE DO I FIT IN THE PICTURE** (Atlantic 24511) .......................... Clay Walker 19 9
                                                                 17. **RED & THE RIO GRANDE** (BNA 63757-2) .......................... Doug Supernaw 17 12
                                                                 18. **I WISH I HADN'T HEARD NOW** (Mercury 314-514) .......................... Toby Keith 22 6
                                                                 19. **HOW CAN I HELP YOU** (Atlantic) .......................... Patty Loveless 26 5
                                                                 20. **MY OWN BACKYARD** (Epic 77365) .......................... Joe Diffie 24 8
                                                                 21. **KISS ME I'M GONE** (MCA/S-54777) .......................... Marty Stuart 21 13
                                                                 22. **WALKING AWAY A WINNER** (Mercury) .......................... Kathy Mattea 27 5
                                                                 23. **THAT AIN'T NO WAY TO GO** (Atlantic) .......................... Brooks & Dunn 30 3
                                                                 24. **SPIRITED PERFECTION** (Atlantic) .......................... Pam Tillis 28 5
                                                                 25. **WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS** (Liberty 79018) .......................... Tanya Tucker 6 13
                                                                 26. **WHY HAVEN'T I HEARD FROM YOU** (MCA 10994) .......................... Reba McEntire 38 2
                                                                 27. **DOUGIE NEVER WAS THE CADILLAC KIND** (Atlantic 82505) .......................... Confederate Railroad 31 6
                                                                 28. **WOMAN, SENSUOUS WOMAN** (MCA 54222) .......................... Mark Chesnutt 36 4
                                                                 29. **LITTLE ROCK** (Epic S-53925) .......................... Collin Raye 37 3
                                                                 30. **HONKY TONK COUNTRY** (Columbia 77737) .......................... Rick Trevino 32 10
                                                                 31. **STANDING OUTSIDE THE FIRE** (Liberty 79023) .......................... Garth Brooks 20 14
                                                                 32. **WHAT A CRIMP HATIE** (MCA 10961) .......................... The Mavericks 23 12
                                                                 33. **MY NIGHT TO HOWL** (BNA 62767) .......................... Lorrie Morgan 34 6
                                                                 34. **THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THAT** (Curb 1081) .......................... Boy Howdy 38 4
                                                                 35. **WHENEVER YOU COME AROUND** (MCA 54553) .......................... Vince Gill 51 2
                                                                 36. **COMPANY TIME** (Atlantic 2604) .......................... Linda Davis 35 9
                                                                 37. **ALL OVER TOWN** (Song One) .......................... Don Cox 49 5
                                                                 38. **THE CHEAP SEATS** (RCA 62623) .......................... Alabama 47 2
                                                                 39. **JUST ONE** (MCA 54794) .......................... David Lee Murphy 40 4
                                                                 40. **IT WON'T BE OVER YOU** (Atlantic 472) .......................... Stever Warner 43 4
                                                                 41. **WINK** (Atlantic) .......................... Neal McCoy 45 2
                                                                 42. **DON'T TAKE THE GIRL** (Curb 1084) .......................... Tim McGraw 45 2
                                                                 43. **THAT'S MY BABY** (RCA 70693) .......................... Lari White 16 14
                                                                 44. **THE ROOSTER** (Atlantic 26077) .......................... Lil Texas 44 4
                                                                 45. **EAGLE OVER ANGEL** (Asylum) .......................... Brotner Brothers 44 4
                                                                 46. **EVERY ONE IN A WHILE** (Atlantic) .......................... Blackhawk 42 5
                                                                 47. **NEVER HAD A BULLET** (MCA) .......................... George Jones 42 5
                                                                 48. **LIFE ON EARTH** (RCA) .......................... Martina McBride 14 15
                                                                 49. **FOOLISH PRIDE** (Warner Bros 6871) .......................... Travis Tritt 45 2
                                                                 50. **COWBOYS DON'T CRY** (Atlantic) .......................... Daron Norwood 49 2
                                                                 51. **THINKIN' PROBLEM** (Warner Bros 45592) .......................... David Ball 53 2

| 52. **WISH I COULD HAVE BEEN THERE** (BNA 62232) .......................... John Anderson DEBUT |
| 53. **IF YOU'RE TEMPTATION** (Platinum Plus) .......................... Chris Ridge 54 9 |
| 54. **LOOKIN' IN THE SAME DIRECTION** (Epic 53748) .......................... Ken Mellons 57 3 |
| 55. **CERTIFIED MAN** (Song-1) .......................... Todd Pulse 55 10 |
| 56. **TONIGHT WE JUST FALL IN LOVE AGAIN** .......................... Hal Ketchum DEBUT |
| 57. **OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN** (Curb 77261) .......................... Sawyer Brown 29 9 |
| 58. **AIN'T GON'T TIME** (Song-1) .......................... Amy Leigh Presley 59 10 |
| 59. **I'M FALLING AGAIN** (Platinum Plus) .......................... Paul Finger 60 9 |
| 60. **(WHO SAYS) YOU CAN'T HAVE IT ALL** .......................... Alan Jackson 33 14 |

**Artist & Label**


**Last Week**


**Total Weeks**

SINGLE REVIEWS By Richard McVey

TRACY BYRD: "Lifestyles Of The Not So Rich And Famous" (MCA 54478)

Off the upcoming MCA album, No Ordinary Man, the single is a comical but realistic view of those who don't live the lavish lifestyle seen on much of television. Lyrics like "They want to see my Fairlane up on blocks/The holes in all our socks" and the mention of an "Elvis TV tray" conjure up images that most people can relate to. This tune certainly has all the elements of a country song.

KENNY CHESNEY: "The Tin Man" (Capricorn)

Co-written by Chesney, this ballad offers strong lyrics with sincere vocals. The song chronicles the prospects of being like The Wizard Of Oz's Tin Man, who doesn't have a heart, so he might forget his lost love. The single is of the upcoming album, In My Wildest Dreams. All across the newcomers, Chesney stands out.

CHARLIE MAJOR: "Nobody Gets Much Love" (ASCAP)

This already highly-successful Canadian artist tries his hand at the U.S. market and if this upbeat single is any indicator of what Major can do, then I'm sold. While the single leans slightly into pop, it's still enough country for today's listener. It's one of those tunes where the music fastens tightly into your head and has no plans of letting go.

ALABAMA: "Cheap Seats" (RCA 66296)

"Cheap Seats" is a fun, upbeat single about a day at the old ballpark. Alabama proves that not every country song has to have the words "honky-tonk" or "jukebox" in it. You won't find any lost love or heartbreak here, either. What you will find is great harmonies and a true-life, toe-tinging song in genuine Alabama style.

PICK OF THE WEEK

DON'T TAKE THE GIRL (Curb 1084)

It's no wonder McGraw's album is #1...with "Indian Outlaw" already a hit and now this impressive near-erject, expect it to be there a while. This single, which first grabbed attention at the Country Radio Seminar's New Faces show, is evidence enough that McGraw is no one-hit wonder. McGraw brings the lyrics (written by Craig Martin and Larry W. Johnson) to life on a ballad that chronicles a boy's feelings for a girl from his childhood to the birth of their own child years later. The top of the charts better make room because McGraw's got a potential #1 with this single.
FRIENDS GATHER FOR PEARL'S INDUCTION—Minnie Pearl was inducted into the National Comedy Hall of Fame during TNN's "The Nashville Network's Grand Ole Opry." Although Pearl, for health reasons, was not able to attend the event, George "Goobers" Lindsey accepted the award on her behalf. Pictured in Pearl's trademark hat (l-r): George Lindsey; Tony Belmont, director of the National Comedy Hall of Fame; Bob Whittaker, manager of the Grand Ole Opry, Opryland Productions; and Ralph Emery, who emceed the presentation.

A ROW OF SMILES—Rick Trevino gladly breaks for a special photo during his recent special visit at the Country Music Association. Joining Trevino are (l-r): Jeff Green, CMA international director; Joe Sullivan, president/CEO Americana Television Network; Ed Benson, CMA executive director; Trevino; Dan Goodman, Vector Management; and Debi Fleischer, senior director Columbia Nashville promotion.

ALBUM REVIEW

BECKY HOBBS: The Boots I Came To Town In (Intersound 9120)

A delightful surprise, this 12-track album blends upbeat, fun tunes like "Gonna Rock Your Baby," "Mama's Green Eyes," and "Don't Call Me" with beautiful ballads like "Yesterday Tonight," "Pale Moon," and one that's on Alabama's latest album, "Angels Among Us." Her distinctive vocals are only outdone by her ability to write a song. Hobbs wrote seven songs and co-wrote the other five tracks.
**COUNTRY MUSIC**

**High Debuts**
1. NEAL Mccoy—"Wink"—(Atlantic)—#41
2. TIM McGraw—"Don't Take The Girl"—(Curb)—#42
3. TRAVIS TRITT—" Foolish Pride"—(Warner Bros.)—#49
4. Daron Norwood—"Cowboys Don't Cry"—(Giant)—#50

**Most Active**
1. REBA Mcentire—"Why Haven't I Heard From You"—(MCA)—#26
2. JOHN Michael Montgomery—"Rope The Moon"—(Atlantic)—#13
3. DON COX—"All Over Town"—(Cap One)—#37
4. ALABAMA—"Cheap Seats"—(RCA)—#38
5. MARK Chesnutt—"Woman, Sensuous Woman"—(MCA)—#28
6. Collin Raye—"Little Rock"—(Epic)—#29

**POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST—**The Cash Box Top 100 Country Singles chart is topped off this week by Wynonna's single, "Rock Bottom." The chart this week displays some big movers, with four debuts in the Top 50. Reba McEntire leads the way in the most-movement category, moving an incredible 13 spots to #26 with "Why Haven't I Heard From You." Following closely behind is John Michael Montgomery, up to #13 with "Rope The Moon." Don Cox with "All Over Town" moves up 12 spots to #37. Alabama continues to rise, up nine spots to #28 with "Cheap Seats." Mark Chesnutt moves up eight spots to #28 with "Woman, Sensuous Woman." Collin Raye also moves up eight spots to #29 with "Little Rock." Four debuts can be seen in this week's Top 50. Neal McCoy leads the pack for the highest debut with "Wink" at #41. Tim McGraw debuts as #42 with his sure chart-topping ballad "Don't Take The Girl." Travis Tritt comes in at #49 with "Foolish Pride." Finishing out the high debuts this week is Daron Norwood with "Cowboys Don't Cry" at #50.

**Songwriters Of The Week:** J.R. Cobb and Buddy Buie were Wynonna's #1 hit "Rock Bottom.

**RADIO NEWS—**The Academy of Country Music announced its ACM Award winners for the "Disc Jockeys of the Year," which went to Tim Hattrick/Willy D. Loon at KMLE Radio in Phoenix, AZ, and "Radio Station of the Year," which went to KNIX Radio in, again, Phoenix, AZ. Phoenix must be on fire!

**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. "Man Behind The Wheel"—Charlie Floyd (Liberty)
2. "I Take My Changes"—Mary Chapin Carpenter (Columbia)
3. "Janie's Gone Fishin'"—Kim Hill (BNA)
4. "(Tonight We Just Might) Fall In Love Again"—Hal Ketchum (Curb)

**CMT Top Ten Video Countdown**
1. Faith Hill — "Piece Of My Heart" (Warner Bros.)
2. Shenandoah — "If Bubba Can Dance (I Can Too)" (Arista)
3. Travis Tritt — "Take It Easy" (Giant)
4. Clint Black — "A Good Run Of Bad Luck" (RCA)
5. Tim McGraw — "Indian Outlaw" (Curb)
6. Doug Stone — "Addicted To A Dollar" (Epic)
7. John Berry — "You Love Amazes Me" (Liberty)
8. Billy Ray Cyrus — "Words By Heart" (Mercury)
9. Marty Stuart — "Kiss Me, I'm Gone" (MCA)
10. Randy Travis — "Before You Kill Us All" (Warner Bros.)

**INDIE CHART ACTION—**This was certainly another quiet week for the independents. Twelve independents in all are climbing the Top 100 Cash Box chart. Leading the Cash Box independents for the second week is Don Cox on the Step One label with "All Over Town." The single climbs an amazing 12 spots to #37 on the chart. Chris Ridge with "If You're Temptation" was the second highest indie, still moving up one spot to #53. Rounding out the movers are Amy Leigh Presley to #38, Paul Finger moves to #59, Spring River Wind moves to #64, Frieda Hirsch moves to #66, Desiree Million moves to #68, Dennis Manning moves to #69, Steve Free moves to #71, Larry Hamilton moves to #72 and the last of the movers is Jamie Harper to #79. Only one independent act breaks into this week's chart. Craig Steele with "You Love Came Rainin Down" debuts at #88.

**INDIE SPOTLIGHT**
S. Alan Taylor...the name may not sound familiar but I bet the voice is. Taylor has added his vocals to national radio and television jingles for McDonald's, Miller Beer, Michelob Light, Quaker Products, Sears, Kellogg's Corn Flakes, Gatorade, 7-Up and 7-11. Taylor, who has been in Nashville for 12 years, had his first success in the music business when he was signed as a staff writer for ATV, a music publishing company that owned the Beatles' song catalog. "They hired me as a country writer, then Michael Jackson bought it out...and we were all left jobless," recalls Taylor. He then signed with Ascuff-Rose Publishing (now Opryland Music) and four years later moved to Warner Bros. Music. Artists like Alabama, Reba McEntire, and Lee Greenwood have all recorded his songs. Stewart later quit his staff job at Warner Bros. because he felt stifled. "I wasn't able to write things I wanted to write. It's commercial, it sells, but it's stagnant. Once I left, my writing vastly improved."

Taylor gives Larry Stewart credit for his River North Nashville recording contract. When Chicago-based Ira Antelis wanted Larry Stewart to record a 7-Up commercial and couldn't find him, he called Taylor instead. "Thank God Larry wasn't available," Taylor says jokingly. Although it meant "blowing off" an important showcase that night in Nashville, he flew to Chicago and cut the spot. Antelis recognized Taylor's talent and urged him to talk with River North's Joe Thomas, whose office was just across the hall. "He said, 'Man, you really need to be singing.'" Thomas agreed with his neighbor and immediately signed Taylor to a recording contract.

Taylor admits he was slightly apprehensive about signing with an independent label. "I didn't want to sign with any independents—and I had a lot of offers from independents here in town—because I thought my chances would be nil. But River North is very successful in gospel and pop...I thought I would have a really good chance here. They have a whole lot of money and they're not afraid to spend it. They're putting a lot of push behind the product, and I couldn't ask for more from them.

Taylor says he doesn't have any expectations: "I've been in town so long and really I'm afraid to have expectations." Taylor blames his lack of expectations on the years he spent as a writer and the "mountains and valleys" that go with that job.

The result of Taylor's signing with River North is his first album, a 10-cut project for which he co-wrote every song. The first release off the album is "Forever Dance," a two-step country country song, which just hit radio stations and one which Taylor hopes will bring a big response. Taylor adds that the next release off the album, "Black & White," could be a 'career song' and best captures his style of music.

Taylor is currently on an extensive radio tour and has plans for a possible Wal-Mart tour, similar to country artist Marty Brown's, this summer.
**CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN NEWS**

Word recording artist Cindy Morgan appeared on a recent “700 Club” on the Christian Broadcasting Network. Morgan sang a selection from her most recent Word release *A Reason To Live*. CBN also aired her newest video for the song “I Will Be Free.” Pictured with Morgan is Ben Kinchlow on the set of “The 700 Club.”

Sony/Tree has entered into a joint venture with Randy Cox Music. Cox was one of the founding partners of Meadowgreen Music, which was recently acquired by Sparrow Corporation. His company will independently develop young contemporary Christian writers as well as work with established writers in the field and assist Sony/Tree in acquiring songs and/or catalogues. Sony/Tree will be responsible for worldwide administration of all copyrights. Pictured are (l-r): Randy Cox; Donna Hilley, CEO/president of Sony/Tree; and Jim Scherer, Sony/Tree director.

**CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ALBUM REVIEW**

by Gary Keplinger

**LARRENLE HARRIS: Beyond All Limits (Benson)**

The only one that could out-do Larrenle Harris is Harris himself, and that’s just what he’s done with his new album. Musically and lyrically, the album allows Harris to demonstrate the superb vocals that have already brought him five Grammys and 10 Dove Awards during his 25-year career. The contemporary pop sound is carried to a new dimension as Harris’ delivery of powerful lyrics captures the listener. His talents extend further, as he also wrote or co-wrote eight of the songs. The record was produced by Bill Cuomo and Robert White Johnson for Apple Productions plus Joe Hogue and Michael J. Powell. Executive producer was Ken Pennell.
**POSITIVE COUNTRY**

**Billy Ray Hearn: The Man Who Built Sparrow**

by Gary Keplinger

Billy Ray Hearn, founder, chief executive officer and co-chair of The Sparrow Corporation, is a man who has (and still has) the ability to recognize outstanding talent and market that talent in a way few others have been able to do. He developed the company from its humble beginnings to its status as one of the premiere Christian labels by providing "a platform from which different kinds of artists can fulfill their mission." This approach has allowed Sparrow to drive the market, rather than react. Hearn explains, "We look for an artist that really lives the life the music speaks of—one that is a sincere Christian who also is extremely talented and has charisma and crowd appeal with a unique way of expressing their music. Our main mission is to take the message of the Gospel, couched in a contemporary way—much like a modern translation of the Bible."

Sparrow has artists in all areas of gospel music, including inspirational, jazz, big band, classical, children, traditional gospel and, just recently, country. They have, as mentioned, "provided the platform from which different kinds of artists can fulfill their mission," and the approach has been successful. This past year sales approached the $50 million mark.

Hearn began his career in the '60s as a church music director, catching the attention of Word Records with his writing and producing of innovative youth musicals. He was with Word for eight years, spending time as director of music promotion and director of music publishing. It was also here that he launched the Myrrh label for Word—a label that became Word's largest component and one in which Hearn developed his highly successful style.

Hearn left Word in 1976 when he was offered an opportunity to start a new label. A year and a half later, with a group of investors, he purchased the Sparrow label, and four years later he bought out the group. The original plans had been to work with just a few artists...but success bred success. Sparrow had tremendous growth over the next several years, requiring greater staff and larger facilities. In 1991, the Sparrow Corporation moved from Los Angeles to Nashville (Brentwood). Not only did they move their offices, they moved 47 families with them. That growth has continued, as the corporation has doubled since that time.

There has also been a change in ownership since that move to Nashville. In 1992 Hearn sold Sparrow to music giant EMI. Not only did EMI make a wise purchase, they also retained Hearn as CEO of the Sparrow corporation, signing him to a seven-year management contract. As CEO, Hearn is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the three divisions within the corporation: sales/distribution; finance/administration; and Sparrow Communications Group, which includes recordings, videos and books. The sales/distribution division includes a full line of services from warehousing and shipping to sales throughout the United States and to over 30 foreign countries. Rod Huff, Rick Horne and Bill Hearn, Billy Ray's son, direct the three divisions. Bill Hearn is also president of the corporation.

The Sparrow record label features a roster of more than 20 artists, including such leading performers as Steven Curtis Chapman, Steve Green, Tramaine Hawkins, Michael Card, Margaret Becker, Susan Ashton, Debby Boone and Charlie Daniels. Several of these performers are also songwriters which, along with a producer/writer combination, Hearn feels deliver the best results from a corporate perspective. Even with talented singer-producer-songwriter combinations, Sparrow maintains an in-house staff of outstanding writers.

Hearn resides in Nashville. His family includes his wife, Joan, his daughters Vicki Horne and Holly Hearn, and his son, Bill. He is involved in a broad range of industry and community activities, including serving as past chair of the Gospel Music Association and being president-elect of the Church Music Publishers Association.

When asked if he has any desire to start a new company in light of his entrepreneurial spirit, Hearn replies, "It's like a new company here every week. We're growing, with plans to double in size again." He seems very content to stay where he is—directing the company, one of our country's outstanding success stories.

The years have brought better records, better marketing, an increasing roster of top Christian artists, tremendous corporate growth and a phenomenal record of success for Hearn. And yet he has kept his focus on what makes it all work: "Just being a good record company for artists needing a good record company"...the Sparrow Corporation is definitely that and more.

**Rick Bolles: Leading CDX's Positive Country**

by Gary Keplinger

When Paul Loveless, CDX president, decided to pursue adding Christian Country and Positive Country to the CDX format of providing top songs from various major and independent labels to radio stations, he contacted Rick Bolles. Bolles had moved to Nashville two years ago from Waco, Texas, where he had been in country radio five years and had started playing Positive and Christian Country music on a regular basis, including a special Sunday show. The reaction of his listening audience—irregardless of whether or not they had a religious background—convinced Bolles he was on to something big. In Nashville Bolles worked full-time on a satellite network playing Christian music. When Loveless called, it was a natural for Bolles.

They put together 35-40 songs that had the Positive Country flavor to market to mainstream radio, emphasizing the "positive" country aspect to keep the station managers from getting turned off by the label of "Christian." The plan worked...to date they have two library disks of songs already out and have included a couple of Positive Country songs on several of their other regular country releases.

According to Bolles, they currently mail Positive Country CDX product to about 1,200 stations, with around 1,100 being mainstream country. There are about 75-100 stations that are strictly Positive Country, most in the medium or secondary markets. However, more major markets are hearing about an getting excited about Positive Country. Bolles says, "There has been a tremendous increase since July of 1993. Half of the 1,200 stations are now playing Positive Country every day."

Bolles says that CDX also provides newsletters and other marketing aide to stations to help show them that dollars can be made when using this format. One disk included a generic jingle to assist in advertising. Stations have been able to sell sponsorship of Positive Country format to business owners who had previously shied away from such commitment. Bolles believes the marketing strategies are working because the audience likes the music.

CDX is primarily funded by record label payments to have songs included. But just because a company has the money doesn't ensure inclusion on the next CD. All songs are reviewed to be sure the message is positive and the quality is of the highest caliber. As Bolles states, "It is extremely important that radio knows they will be receiving top quality songs and product."

Positive Country is on the move and is being recognized as a viable format for mainstream radio as well as Christian radio. People such as Rick Bolle and Paul Loveless are a big factor in the early success of this exciting new format.
“JUST DO IT”: Vince Wilcox Does It Big With New Hit Song

by Gary Keplinger

The Artist

Vince Wilcox, shortly after earning a distinguished major in Religious Studies from the University of Virginia in 1978 and after spending a short time at seminary in Kentucky, moved to Nashville in 1979. In his heart he knew he was to be involved in Christian music. After knocking on about 40 doors he landed a job in the warehouse of Benson Music Group. Over the next decade he worked his way up to vice president of marketing. This gave him the opportunity to work with and observe many outstanding Christian artists. But the more he was involved in marketing the less time he had available for crafting and delivering his songs. Finally, as Wilcox says, “the fear of never pursuing the passion of my heart grew bigger than never doing it.” He resigned his vice presidency in 1991 and signed on with Benson as a songwriter. In the spring of 1992, Benson signed him to a recording contract.

The past two years have been a whirlwind of activity for this talented artist. Last year he performed and spoke at over 100 concerts nationwide. It is here that his marketing experience has truly helped. During his time in Benson management, Wilcox had observed what worked and didn’t work for artists. He applied this knowledge to his own marketing plan. He established target areas that allowed him to reach a large segment of the U.S. audience while providing ample time to be home with his wife Sharon and their two girls, Lauren, age 5, and Allison, age 3. His strategy was to pick the “best things to do, not what to do.” Wilcox parallels marketing and music: “In marketing we underline the need of the audience and meet that need...in a real sense the same can be said of music.”

Wilcox is excited about the future of Positive/Christian Country music. He feels that, for the format to reach its potential, “the best thing we can do is work on the quality of the songs, crafts and presentation and ministry delivery. We must overwhelm the listener with quality that makes people talk about us.” He doesn’t feel the industry is there yet—but it’s well on its way.

With all the expertise and ability of this young artist, the door to success seems wide open. But it’s his love for people and the message music can bring that will take him through that door. He has the true passion for the message and passion for the audience that he saw in artists such as Carmen, Al Benson and Sandi Patty while in management. He also knows the strength of his music ministry: “I try to keep at the forefront that before I was there for them, Jesus was there for me,” Wilcox says.

The Songwriters

Wilcox and Rob Frazier wrote the words and music to “Just Do It.” Inspired somewhat by the Nike commercial, but more from the Bible and particularly Psalms 37:4-5, the duo wanted a song that was light-hearted and let people know that obedience to God’s will can be fun. They wanted people to understand that it is not always easy to stand up for what’s right and for your faith. Frazier says they wanted a song that tells people it is important to bring “your will in line with beliefs,” and that “sometimes you gotta get in gear and just do it.” Both writers are originally from East Orange, New Jersey and now reside in the Nashville area.

The Song

“Just Do It” is the second release from the album Reconciled on the Benson label. The producer for the project was Rob Frazier. Wilcox co-wrote all 10 songs on the album.
This Week’s Debuts
CROSS COUNTRY—“Nobody To Blame But Me”—(Independent)—#31

Most Active
TERRI LYNN—“He’s The One On The White Horse”—(Brentwood)—#16
LISA DAGGS—“Walls”—(Pakadem)—#20
TANYA GOODMAN SYKES—“Give Me A Faithful Heart”—(Benson)—#28

POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST
Topping the Cash Box Top 40 Positive Country Singles chart for the second straight week is the Paula McCulla song “Dying To Live.” “Runs In The Blood” by Ken Holloway remains at #2. Bruce Haynes with his song, “He Doesn’t Live Here Anymore,” moves up one to #3. Jumping to #4 is Charlie Daniels with “Sunday Morning.” The Days maintain the #5 spot with “New Step” and White River with “The Wrong Spot Lot” remains at #6. Steve Gatlin slips to #7 with “Alive and Well” and Susie Luchsinger/Paul Overstreet’s “I Don’t Love You Like I Used To” drops to #8. Vince Wilcox with “Just Do It” remains at #9 and Claire Lynche maintains the #10 spot with “Your Presence Is My Favorite Gift.”

Top Hits’ Songwriters: Paula McCulla wrote the #1 song “Dying To Live.” The #2 song, “Runs in the Blood,” was written by the team of Jeff Silvey and Jeff Jansen. The #3 song “He Doesn’t Live Here Anymore” was penned by Bruce Haynes. Charlie Daniels wrote the #4 song “Sunday Morning.” The #5 song “The Wrong Spot Lot” was written by the brother team of Greg and Chuck Day.

LOOKING AHEAD
Steve Wood with “He Broke the Law” and Craig Crowder with “Favoriate Song of All” continue to receive considerable play time. Ken Holloway’s “He Loved Us To Death” is on the verge of breaking into the charts.

FEATURED PICK—“Racing For The Lord” by recording artists Scott and Kim Coner is a song with a strong beat and a strong message. It’s the title song from the album dedicated to the late Davey Allison. Race fans and Davey Allison fans should love it because it brings their sport into a fast-paced song for the Lord. Even those not interested in racing should feel the winning message. “Racing For The Lord” was written by Scott Coner. Scott and Kim Coner are on the Dove Song label.

“WHAT’S IT GONNA TAKE”
by Gary Keplinger

THE SONG AND VIDEO
From the night it first aired on TNN’s “Music City Tonight,” “What’s It Gonna Take” made a huge impact on the viewing audience. The lyrics grabbed the audience like few songs do. Old and new fans of Ronnie McDowell have been clamoring for the song, which is soon to be released. The lyrics made such an impact on the owner of a huge trucking firm in Texas that he flew up in his private jet to present McDowell with a $20,000 check to help in getting the message out. The mother of a victim of a shooting at Taco Bell in Clarksville, Tennessee called to tell how comforting the song was to her. It was this shooting that had inspired the song. Other organizations and civic groups are making plans to utilize the song and the video in their efforts to wake this country up.

The Taco Bell killings inspired the song, but each verse was also inspired by other happenings in the country. The first verse is about a killing of a young mother of a three-month-old and a six-year-old in a convenience store robbery for all the money the killer could grab out of the cash register—a total of $28. The second verse was also based on an actual event when a home was broken into and the two children were taken. McDowell added the chorus and two-line bridge and the third verse after a friend mentioned that the element of teenagers messing with drugs should be included.

After completing the song, McDowell took a rough tape to an elementary school in Portland, Tennessee, where he had grown up. One week later the students came into the studio and recorded their vocals in one take. The use of the students is effective in the song and extremely so in the video. It is making, and will continue to make, an impact on America. “What’s It Gonna Take” is on the Curb label and was produced by Bob Cummings Productions.

THE ARTIST
McDowell is a versatile, talented artist who has had many hits both as a singer and as a songwriter. He wanted to be a singer and songwriter all through his youth, and in 1973 had his first song recorded by Roy Drusky. He says he can still remember the feeling while driving down the road, listening to the Grand Ole Opry, and hearing Drusky sing his song “Deep in the Heart of Dixie” for the first time. “I had to pull over to the side of the road,” says McDowell. “It was one of the biggest thrills I ever had.”

That song may have gotten McDowell started as a songwriter, but it was his “The King Is Gone,” that he co-wrote with the late Lee Morgan, just hours after Elvis Presley had passed away, that let the world know he was also a tremendously talented singer. He has recorded such hits as “Older Women” and “It’s Only Make Believe.” He has also written a number of top hits and has numerous top-selling albums. Often compared to Presley, McDowell was the singing voice on the Dick Clark production “Elvis,” the TV movies “Elvis And The Beauty Queen” and “Elvis And Me,” and the ABC TV series “Elvis.” The comparisons don’t bother him; McDowell says he was probably the biggest Elvis fan, and he won’t let anyone destroy wonderful childhood memories...those are my roots, along with Johnny Cash, Jim Reeves and Fats Domino.” In fact, McDowell includes tributes in his shows to some of the singers who have influenced him, including Louis Armstrong.

McDowell is a regular on “Music City Tonight.” On stage he comes across as a talented, sincere individual who loves what he is doing and loves the fans and the people with whom he works. Off stage he is the same. He is a devoted family man to his wife Karan and four children: Kara, Athena, Ronnie Dean and Tyler Dean. Ronnie McDowell is a man who has given our country some great music in the past, and now has given us a music- wrapped message that he hopes will be a wake-up call to America—“What’s It Gonna Take.”
**WMS Industries and Nintendo Sign ‘Project Reality’ Pact**

CHICAGO—Nintendo of America, Inc. and WMS Industries, Inc., parent company of Williams/Bally/Midway, have formed a joint venture company, Williams/Nintendo, Inc., to market 64-bit video games exclusively for Nintendo’s Project Reality home system, as announced by Nintendo chairman Howard Lincoln.

Nintendo has granted WMS Industries a long-term, worldwide license to create and distribute arcade video games utilizing Nintendo’s proprietary 64-bit technology now being developed by Nintendo with Silicon Graphics, Inc. (NYSE: SGI). Project Reality is scheduled to debut in video arcades in the fall of 1994.

WMS Industries will begin development of video games using Nintendo’s Project Reality technology immediately, with games hitting the market in 1995 under the “Midway” trade name. Williams/Nintendo, Inc. will acquire the home market rights to these arcade games from WMS Industries and will market these games exclusively for Nintendo’s 64-bit home system and on other Nintendo platforms. These first pieces will reach the market in the fall of 1995 when Nintendo’s new 64-bit home system is launched.

Referring to the numerous hit games, such as Mortal Kombat and NBA Jam, introduced by WMS under the Midway banner, Lincoln noted, “WMS has the creative talent and technical expertise to develop and market mega-hit arcade games using Nintendo’s Project Reality 64-bit technology. Under our agreements with WMS, these hit arcade games will be available from Williams/Nintendo, Inc. for play exclusively on Nintendo’s 64-bit home video game hardware system. These arrangements will help ensure the successful launch of our new home video game system,” he added. “We are very pleased to be entering this long-term, worldwide business relationship with a great company like WMS Industries.’’

Neil Nicastro, president of WMS Industries, said “Our agreements with Nintendo give WMS immediate access to the best video game technology in the world. We plan to introduce a number of arcade games using the new 64-bit Project Reality technology. Our new joint venture with Nintendo gives WMS the opportunity to enter the home video game market in partnership with Nintendo, the premier marketer of home video games in the world. WMS looks forward to a close, long-term and profitable relationship with Nintendo.”

Later this year, WMS Industries will distribute the arcade version of Killer Instinct, a futuristic 3-D fighting game developed for Nintendo by Rare, Ltd. of Tvycross, Warwickshire, U.K. and the first video game to demonstrate the 64-bit Project Reality technology. This game will be shown on an “invitation only” basis at the Summer Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago on June 23, 1994.

Williams/Nintendo, Inc. plans to market its home video games worldwide for all Nintendo platforms. The new company will be headquartered at Williams’ facilities in Chicago, Illinois. Its games will be sold and distributed by Nintendo Co., Ltd. in Japan, Nintendo of America, Inc. in North America and Latin America as well as by various Nintendo subsidiaries and distributors in Europe and other parts of the world.

**ABOUT 64-BIT**

Nintendo of America Inc. is utilizing a revolutionary mega-memory cartridge format for its new 64-bit state-of-the-art video game system—Project Reality.

As explained by Peter Main, vice president-marketing, “The choice we made is not cartridge versus CD; it’s silicon over optical. The cutting-edge silicon technology, which will be housed in the new Nintendo cartridge, is the fastest technology available. When it comes to speed, no other format approaches the silicon-based cartridge.’’

An outstanding feature of the Project Reality hardware system is its incredible capability to access storage media that will contain a minimum of 100 megabits of data for each game. This will allow for unparalleled graphics, sound and music in video games. This cartridge size will contain five to six times the memory of the current 16-bit Nintendo games.

This enhanced memory will permit developers for Project Reality to create games containing between ten and 15 times more memory than games such as the megahit Super Mario World and five times as much memory as the current largest 16-bit games on the market.

Said Wei Yen, senior vice president at Silicon Graphics, “Nintendo users will be able to realize the full power of Silicon Graphics’ multimedia and graphics technology. Project Reality will combine Silicon Graphics’ leading-edge MIPS/RISC processor and the industry’s best multimedia and graphics technology in one storage medium that will provide a quantum leap for the user.’’

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**Rock-Ola’s ‘Legend’**

CHICAGO—The 100-disc-capacity “Legend” CD jukebox, unveiled by Antique Apparatus/Rock-Ola Manufacturing Corporation at the recent ACM/MAE convention, marked the first full-sized, contemporary-style jukebox introduced under the ownership of Rock-Ola by Antique Apparatus.

“Legend” utilizes the “only four-high title display in the industry to present 16 full-size CD jackets and title cards at one time,” according to company president Glenn Streeter. This is accomplished by maximizing the viewing area and raising the height of the jukebox.

Drawing on its Rock-Ola ancestry, dating back to 1927, this new model also presents its precision-engineered CD mechanism in full view. The Legend’s 100-disc mechanism, developed and engineered for reliability and longevity on the location level, has entertainment appeal via the visual disc selection and cueing operation.

The model’s stunning cosmetics offer sharp color graphics backed by an elegant charcoal-grey and burgundy-based color scheme together with a stately crown sitting atop the unit, projecting a kaleidoscope of colors cascading through the title display and down on the mechanism.

As for the inside, functionalism, durability and ease of operation were the directives Streeter laid down for his engineering staff. “Operators want a jukebox that looks good, encourages use, performs well in the cashbox and requires minimal servicing,” he pointed out. “The ‘Legend’ was designed and engineered to meet these requirements."

The Rock-Ola “Legend” is currently in production and will be available, through authorized distributors, at the beginning of May.

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**AAMA Kicks Off ’94 Child Abuse Prevention Poster Program**

CHICAGO—April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and, as they have done in the past, the members of the American Amusement Machine Association will take an active role in cooperation with the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse to create public awareness and help to eliminate this very serious problem.

This year’s AAMA/NCPA poster, the seventh in an ongoing series, will feature actor Joseph Mazzello, who played the role of Timmy in the megahit film Jurassic Park. It is designed to promote positive parent-child relationships and at the same time raise awareness of child abuse prevention.

The program was launched on April 2 with an AAMA/NCPA-hosted parent-child pinball round-robin for families involved with the New York State chapter of NCPA, held at the noted Broadway Arcade in New York City.

Mazzello, whose other movie roles included Douglas Gresham in the Academy Award-nominated Shadowlands and Meryl Streep’s son in The River Wild, was a special guest at this event, accompanied by his real-life mom.

As stated by Dr. Anne Cohn Donnelly, executive director of NCPA, “Spending quality time together is an important part of a loving family. And, while child abuse is a heartbreaking matter, having fun together is a terrific way to reduce stress and enjoy each other’s company.”

The manufacturers, distributors and part suppliers of coin-operated games have been supportive of child abuse prevention for a number of years,” said AAMA deputy director Elaine Krieger. “We hope that by gathering parents and children together for a day of playing games in a fun environment, we can encourage families to spend time together and help to educate kids and adults about how to prevent child abuse.”

The poster, featuring Mazzello and his mom, is entitled “Let’s Make Child Abuse Extinct!” and is being distributed to schools, libraries, hospitals and family entertainment centers nationwide. To receive a complimentary copy, send your name and address to: AAMA/NCPA Poster, P.O. Box 2560, Chicago, IL 60690.
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