Mike Muir Has Lost His Brain...Again!
Cover Story

Mad Man Walking

To be or not to be—crazy is that. And if you ask Mike Muir, he might tell you he doesn't give a hot... Well, anyway, the leader of classic and eclectic bands Suicidal Tendencies and Infectious Grooves has launched a new group, Cyco Miko, which is releasing its aptly titled debut album for Epic Records Lost My Brain... Once Again. Cash Box pop pundit Steve Baltin talks with the matchless Muir about the new record, public perception of his work and touring plans.

—see page 5

Directed Marketing

Comprehensively sculpted marketing and promotion campaigns are playing a larger role in the launching of records and an artists' careers, and the Red Bank, NJ-based independent company Music Marketing Network is playing a larger role as the advisor to record companies seeking more effective niche marketing.

—see page 15

CONTENTS

COLUMNS

East/West .................................................. 4
The Rhythm & The Rhyme .............................. 12 & 13
Latin Lowdown ........................................... 19

CHARTS

Top 100 Pop Singles ........................................ 6
Top 100 Pop Albums ....................................... 8
Top 100 Urban Single .................................... 10
Top 75 R&B Albums ...................................... 12
Top 25 Rap Singles ...................................... 13
Top 25 Jazz Albums ...................................... 14
Top 15 Weekly Film Grosses ............................ 16
Top 100 Country Singles ............................... 20
Top 75 Country Albums .................................. 23
CMT Top 12 Video Countdown ........................ 24
Top 40 Positive Country Singles ...................... 25

DEPARTMENTS

Industry News ............................................. 3
Pop Reviews ................................................. 6, 8
Urban Reviews .......................................... 11, 13
Book Reviews ............................................ 16, 17
UK .............................................................. 18
Latin Reviews ............................................ 19
Country/Positive Country .............................. 20-25
Coin Machine ............................................ 26
Lead Story

RIAA Bows New Tech Division

A NEW TECHNOLOGY division with aims to focus on evaluating all aspects of existing and emerging technologies has been formed by the Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA), and scientist David Stebbing has been named to head the new division for the trade group. This new RIAA appendage will focus on several projects, including creation of Copyright Management Systems to help protect copyright owners when music is electronically distributed or played and to increase the RIAA's ability to monitor technology issues facing the U.S. sound recording industry, and keep Congress and administration officials abreast of the industry's key concerns about emerging technologies.

"This is an important move for us, and we're confident that this new division will be of great service to our membership, as well as to the industry overall," commented Hilary Rosen, the RIAA's president/COO. "We've been monitoring technological advances for years, but decided that the time had come to put a name on the division, and to significantly expand its scope."

It was also time to name someone to head the division. Stebbing comes to the post of RIAA's sr. vp of technology from Sony Music Entertainment, Inc., where he worked as a scientist for 14 years. He also spent time working at the K. M. Laboratories, the U.S. division of Electronic Martin S.A. Belgium.

"We're very excited and fortunate to have David Stebbing join us," Rosen commented. "He is a renowned visionary, as well as an experienced, business-oriented engineer. As our association positions itself for the future, I feel sure that David will take us there with confidence."

NARM Weaves WEB

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RECORDING MERCHANDISERS (NARM) will launch its NARM On-Line World Wide Web site for the organization's membership in February. The Netscape 2.0-enhanced site will be accessed at http://www.narm.com. Members will receive passwords that offer them exclusive use of the key features of the site. "NARM has been re-engineering its strategy to serve its members in the rapidly expanding information age," said NARM exec vp Pamela Horovitz. "The World Wide Web site provides a fully interactive link to our membership and offers them a range of services." The new site does not affect NARM's direct dial industry database.

Under a multi-year contract with NARM, Trade Service Corporation, publisher of the recorded music reference guide Phonolog, will develop and operate the fully interactive Internet site, featuring full-color graphics and links to other member sites, including record labels and distributors.

(Continued on page 17)
A TALE OF TWO SECRET SHOWS: A problem that so many bands have experienced is the lack of audience contact when they begin to play bigger shows in larger venues. In order to get back to their roots, performers will do more and more shows without announcing their presence or under a pseudonym. It was the latter idea that was used when the Dayton, Ohio band Guided By Voices played a one-off night at the Khyber Pass in Philadelphia on Saturday under the name The Burning Assholes. The ensuing show was every bit as good as one would expect. Opening up was the side project of Strapping Field Hands vocalist Bob Malloy, Arshabula. The four-song set of psychedelic pop was very well-received. From the Buckeye’s capitol came The Vips, a guitar and drums duo that made many wonder where the other members of the band were hiding with their rich punk and folk sound. The band is expected to release its debut on Siltbreeze in the Spring.

Tommy LiPuma (left) head of GRP Records and president of its affiliate label Impulse! Records, was recently in the studio working with legendary pianist and newly-signed Impulse! artist Horace Silver. Hard Bop Grand Piano, the first album under the deal, is set for release in June.

AS VALENTINE’S DAY APPROACHES, towers have two decidedly different music-related options from which to choose. The more conventional choice is a live concert by Columbia Records’ Tony Bennett, to air on cable’s A&E network. The show, to be titled “Tony Bennett Live By Request: A Valentine’s Special,” will feature a unique format that allows viewers to call in during the performance to request their favorite song by the veteran crooner.

In addition to airing on A&E, the concert will be broadcast simultaneously throughout the SW Network in 80 markets across the country. To gear up for the interactive portion of the concert, Bennett will host an online chat on Prodigy on February 13. Impatient fans can start getting their song requests in during the online conversation.

If that doesn’t get your blood racing, the WARP Magazine and Airwalk sponsored BoardAdd 3 will certainly give you a jump start. The annual event raises money for LIFEBEAT’s “Jocelyn DiPaolo Fund,” which supports grants to teen-oriented AIDS service and education programs. This year’s show will be held at Bear Mountain Ski Resort in Big Bear, CA. Among the acts already signed on to perform are Bad Religion, 7 Year itch and Unwritten Law. More names will be added to the bill.

THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15 saw two members of legendary L.A. band X team up with other performers for two unique performances. John Doe, and guest Smokey Hormel, best known for his work with the Blasters, performed two shows at the intimate McCabe’s Guitar Shop in Santa Monica. All that needs to be said about this performance is, Doe encored with the Replacements’ “Here Comes The Regular.” Wow.

Meanwhile, kudos must go to The Troubadour for hosting a spoken-word evening headlined by Edene Cervenka and Lydia Lunch. Opening the show was author Hubert Selby, Jr., best known for the acclaimed Last Exit To Brooklyn. Selby showed everyone there a thing or two about readings, as he did a masterful job of keeping the audience’s attention and respect. It was a joy to behold.
Cyco Miko’s Mike Muir: Going Crazy

By Steve Baltin

“Well I’m a certified nut and my thoughts are in a rut, but I gave it all then I gave it again.”

(From “Lost My Brain Once Again” Cyco Miko, 1996)

IS FORMER SUICIDAL TENDENCIES lead vocalist Mike Muir crazy? Consider the following evidence: Suicidal’s biggest hit was the alienated youth classic, “Institutionalized,” made famous by its refrain of “I want a Pepsi.” Muir’s new band is called Cyco Miko. The group’s energetic and droll debut album, on Epic Records, is entitled Lost My Brain Once Again. Among the 11 songs on the disc, which Muir co-produced with Michael Vail Blum, are the catchy opening track, “I Love Destruction,” the hook-driven “All Kinda Crazy,” “Cyco Miko Wants You,” a furiously paced anthem, and the rebellious “Ain’t Gonna Get Me.”

But the most damaging piece of evidence comes when Muir arrives at our appointed meeting place. Upon arrival, his publicist sits me down in the conference room and says, “Mike is on his way here from Camarillo (home to one of the biggest mental hospitals in California).” It’s gotta be a joke, right? Either that or he’s on medication and they let him out on a day pass to talk about the new album, as well as his work with Infectious Grooves, a band still very much in existence.

Muir, who enters the room wearing a baseball cap, a Cyco Miko sports t-shirt that reads “XXX Loco” and sunglasses (which never come off during our chat) sits down directly across from me and answers questions freely, at times, struts down a “rambling” verbal highway. After sitting with the outspoken and experienced Muir for a much too brief 40-minute conversation, I’m convinced it’s entirely possible Muir is wacko.

Combine his personality traits with his comments, and one can’t help but wonder: Just look at the following:

1) The point he emphasizes the most is that he’s making these records for himself and doesn’t give a damn what anybody else thinks about them. He is even so bold as to say, “I’m not gonna sell a hell of a lot of records.” However, Muir may be wrong in this assessment. Throughout his career, Muir has always been a pace setter, with everyone else a couple of steps behind. He recounted an anecdote about one punk ‘zine that hated Suicidal’s first album upon its release. When the band was about to put out its second album, that same ‘zine hated it, though the group’s first album was bumped up to ‘classic’ status. That’s why Muir believes, “You make records for all time. Not for now.”

2) He has an opinion and isn’t afraid to voice it. When asked if he listens to anything on the current music scene he responds, “I wish I could say there was something out there. But it’s been a really long time since anything grabbed me.”

3) Despite Suicidal’s success, the band never reached the multi-platinum plateau. Something Muir is thankful for. Why? “Because then people would’ve expected something from me.” The way Muir sees it is that Suicidal had enough impact for him to be able to keep making records. However, since the band never found a guaranteed formula for commercial success, no one at the label is gonna bother telling him what to do.

4) He believes that people spend way too much time worrying about what other people think, a habit that comes partly from the categorizations of music. In Muir’s demented way of thinking, “If a record is good, it’s good. I don’t know why you need that word punk in front of it. To me, the Sex Pistols was a good rock record.”

5) He’s proud of the work he’s done in every musical incarnation he’s been involved in and likes to listen to it. His reasoning behind this: “I wouldn’t do something if I didn’t think it was good.”

6) In punk, an artist’s integrity is often called into question when they achieve some level of success. But don’t waste your time accusing Muir of selling out. He doesn’t care. In his words, “I learned a long time ago not to like someone who doesn’t like me.”

7) Muir was recently in Europe renting both Cyco Miko and Infectious Grooves on the same bill the same double bill will be hitting the States very shortly. While there, he says “Every other article there referred to me as the legendary Mike Muir.” Although that would be a hard job to do for most, Muir had reservations about the term. He says, “I thought, I don’t know if that’s a compliment or not. To me a legend is somebody you have a statue of in the park and who’s dead.”

8) Although “Institutionalized” was once voted one of the top five songs of all time by KROQ listeners, Muir still retains his humility when it comes to his heroes. He says about working with former Sex Pistols’ guitarist Steve Jones, who appears on seven songs on the album, “I took me about two or three months to be able to call him because I’d never done that before. He (Jones) said, ‘I’m kinda busy, but send me a tape.’ I sent him the tape, he listened to it and said, ‘I get what you’re trying to do. I can play this.’”

9) In the wonderfully wacky Robert Trujillo directed video for the album’s title track, Muir goes on a wild goose chase through his hood for his lost brain. After just missing it for the duration of the video, Muir resigns himself to his brainless status, sits himself down and says, “I never use it anyway.”

10) Not only does Muir appear to have schizophrenia tendencies, he makes the illness contagious. When Muir fronts Cyco Miko and Infectious Grooves on the two bands’ upcoming tour of the states, the groups will have the exact same touring line-ups (As new work from Infectious, Muir says the band has recorded 14 songs and is in the midst of sorting through them in hopes of determining what they want to release).

While all of those points should be heeded, and certainly beg the question of how sane, if at all, Muir is, one only needs to bring into focus the point that 40-year-old Muir is happy, content and self-assured playing solitaire with only half a deck!! He lives in L.A. In the year 1996, is a signed musician and he says, “I realize that, hey, I’m Mike Muir. I actually like being Mike Muir...and nobody does Mike Muir better than me.” What the hell would Newt & Dole say to this? Like Muir cares.
CASH BOX
TOP 100 POP SINGLES
FEBRUARY 3, 1996

This Week's #1: Mariah Carey

1. ONE SWEET DAY (Columbia 66700) Mariah Carey 1 13
2. MISSING (Atlantic 67124) Everything But The Girl 6 15
3. EXHALE (SHOOP SHOOP) (From "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Arista 2885) Whitney Houston 2 10
4. HEY LOVER (Def Jam 7065) LL Cool J 4 11
5. NAME (Warner Bros. 17758) Goo Goo Dolls 5 16
6. NOBODY KNOWS (LaFace/Arista 24115) The Tony Rich Project 19 6
7. ONE OF US (Blue Oyster/Mercury 52366) Joan Osborne 7 12
8. BE MY LOVER (RCA 6446) La Bouche 16 10
9. BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S (Rammstein/Interscope 89518) Deep Blue Something 3 22
10. TONITE'S THE NIGHT (Ruffhouse/Columbia 78092) Kris Kross 12 7
11. ANYTHING (MJJ50 7063) Mariah Carey 13 18
12. DIGGIN' ON YOU (LaFace/Arista 44119) TLC 8 8
13. TIME (Atlantic 87090) Hootie & The Blowfish 14 10
14. BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE LIKE THIS AND LIKE THAT (Arista 5062) Monica 9 14
15. SITTIN' UP IN MY ROOM (From "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Atlantic 78752) Brandy 21 3
16. YOU'LL SEE (Maverick 7069) Madonna 17 11
17. FANTASY (Columbia 7321) Mariah Carey 13 18
18. GANGSTA'S PARADISE (From "DANGEROUS MINDS") (MCA 55104) Coolio Feat. L.V. 10 23
19. SOON AS I GET HOME (Bad Boy/Arista 9041) Faith Evans 11 14
20. TELL ME (Epic 77901) Groove Theory 20 22
21. SET U FREE (Stir It Up/12362) Planet Soul 22 12
22. GLYCERINE (Trauma/90864) Bush 65 3
23. NO ONE ELSE (Bad Boy/Arista 9042) Total 28 13
24. NOT GON' CRY (From "WAITING TO EXHALE") (Arista 12957) Mary J. Blige 45 2
25. THE WORLD I KNOW (Atlantic 67088) Collective Soul 30 9
26. WONDER (ATLANTIC 61749) Natalie Merchant 37 7
27. RUNAWAY (ASIA 51 194) Janet Jackson 25 20
28. BACK FOR GOOD (Arista 12348) Take That 28 23
29. HOOD (A&M 1176) Blues Traveler 39 13
30. BEAUTIFUL LIFE (Arista 2889) Ace Of Base 26 11
31. GET YOURSELF IN MY ROOM (Jive 01241) R. Kelly 29 13
32. GET TOGETHER (Giant 17750) Big Mountain 33 5
33. NATURAL ONE (From "KIDS") (London Island 0430) Folk Implosion 32 6
34. WONDERWALL (Epic 67351) Oasis 68 2
35. AS I LAY ME DOWN (Columbia 77801) Sophie B. Hawkins 34 28
36. LOVE U 4 LIFE (UpTown/MCA 11258) Jodeci 18 11
37. RIDIN' LOW (Hollywood 64004) L.A.D. feat. Darvy Taylor 41 9
38. ONLY WANNA BE WITH YOU (Atlantic 81732) Hootie & The Blowfish 31 9
39. KISS FROM A ROSE (From "BATMAN FOREVER") (ZTT/Geffen Bros. 17896) Seal 35 30
40. DREAMING OF YOU (EMI Latin 58469) Selena 36 12
41. NATIVE (Bellwood/ATLANTIC 54118) Natalie Merchant 38 24
42. ROLL TO ME (Arista 1114) Del Amitri 44 29
43. TOO HOT (Tommy Boy 715) Coolio 23 6
44. FREE AS A BIRD (Apple/ Capitol 5849) The Beatles 37 5

46. BULLET WITH BUTTERFLY WINGS (Virgin 40929) Smashing Pumpkins 46 10
47. I GOT ID/LONG ROAD (Epic 78199) Pearl Jam 48 4
48. LET'S PLAY HOUSE (Death Row/Interscope 52320) Tha Dogg Pound Feat. Michell'e 50 3
49. F-U-GEE-LA (Ruffhouse/Columbia 78184) Fugees 67 3
50. RUN-AROUND (ASIA 0982) Blues Traveler 51 44
51. WHO CAN I RUN TO (So Deaf/Columbia 78596) Escape 47 16
52. CUMBERMERS (Maverick/Atlantic 96111) Seven Mary Three 63 2
53. VISIONS OF A SUNSET (From "MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS") (Polygram/AS 58092) Shawn Stockman 54 3
54. DON'T CRY (ZTT/Geffen Bros. 7939) TLC 82 6
55. JUST TAH LET U KNOW (Ruthless 5532) Eazy-E 40 4
56. WATERFALLS (LaFace/Arista 24108) TLC 56 34
57. DANGER (Mercury 7049) Blahzay Blahzay 52 15
58. I MISS YOU (COME BACK HOME) (From "NEW YORK UNDERCOVER") (Uptown 55107) Monifah 61 11
59. DECEMBER (Atlantic 67157) Collective Soul 59 39
60. JUST A GIRL (Trauma 95116) No Doubt 62 3
61. FEELS SO GOOD (SHOW ME YOUR LOVE) (Universal 55004) Lina Santiago DEBUT
62. I'D LIKE FOR YOU (AND THAT'S THE TRUTH) (EMI 7321) Meat Loaf 45 14
63. CELL THERAPY (LaFace/4rlina 4131) Goodie Mob 58 13
64. COME WITH ME (Gasoline Alley 55081) Shai 61 18
65. WHEN LOVE & HATE COLLIDE (Mercury 24249) Def Leppard 64 7
66. I WILL REMEMBER YOU (From "THE BIRD (HERS MCMULLEN)" (Arista 12993) Sarah McLachlan 66 7
67. SEXUAL HEALING (G.O.S./Zoo 14248) Max-A-Million 53 11
68. BLESSED (Kool & The Gang 2394) Elton John 69 9
69. WHERE EVER YOU ARE (EastWest 9353) Terry Ellis 55 10
70. 1979 (Virgin 23534) Smashing Pumpkins 74 2
71. ENERGY (ZTT/Strictly 12362) The Mighty Dub Kats 77 8
72. STAYIN' ALIVE (From: "Rocky"") (Arista 15562) N-Trance 95 2
73. ICE CREAM/CINNACERATED SCARFACES (Loud 64426) Chef Raekwon 78 14
74. SOLITUDE (Atlantic 38141) Edwin McCain 83 15
75. DO YOU SLEEP? (Genen 4786) Lisa Loeb & Nine Stories 79 19
76. BOOM BOOM BOOM (Amero 1100) Outhere Brothers 80 14
77. ALL CRIED OUT (Jive 0200)Denine With Collage's Adam Marano DEBUT
78. THROW YOUR HANDS UP/GANGSTA'S PARADISE (Tommy Boy 7699) L.V. 84 9
79. HURRICANE (Jive 42335) The Click 81 6
80. AUTOMATIC LOVER (CALL FOR LOVE) (Atlantic 58778) The Real McCoy 86 14
81. AIN'T NUTHIN' BUT A THING (Next Plateau/London 52347) Salt-N-Pepa 87 14
82. FAST LIFE (Cold Chillin'/Epic 78081) Kool G Rap 88 7
83. BROKENHEARTED (Atlantic 6175) Brandy 76 23
84. WHO DO U LOVE (Arista 0722) Deborah Cox DEBUT
85. WE'VE GOT IT GOING ON (Jive 42329) Backstreet Boys 92 12
86. RUNNIN' (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 54834) The Pharcyde 92 12
87. A MOVER LA COLITA (Stott Bros. 79049) Artie The 1 Man Party 93 15
88. SENTIMENTAL (Arista 12625) Deborah Cox 90 19
89. I CAN LOVE YOU LIKE THAT (Bliss/Atlantic 57134) All-4-One 70 35
90. THROW YOUR SET IN THE AIR (Ruffhouse 78042) Cypress Hill 96 14
91. COMEDOWN (Trauma 98134) Bush 92 20
92. EAST SIDE RENDEZVOUS (Ruthless/Relativity 6332) Bone Thugs-N-Harmony 42 6
93. PRETTY GIRL (Yab Yum/Sony Music 78173) Jon B. 97 20
94. MACARENA (Bayside Boys Mix) (RCA 64407) Los Del Rio 95 20

To Watch: Oasis
REVIEWS
By Steve Baltin

GIN BLOSSOMS: “Follow You Down” (A&M 00148)

The lead single from the Arizona band’s forthcoming Congratulations I’m Sorry CD, due next month, immediately grabs listeners with a jangly, vaguely Byrds-type hook. Starting with “Hey Jealousy,” the group has had a remarkable run of singles that have consistently been multi-format hits. With its straight-ahead, mid-America pop approach, “Follow You Down” will keep that streak alive with ease.

MARTINE PAGE: “Light In Your Heart” (Mercury 1146)

In math circles, the following equation gives one of the simplest solutions that you’ll ever find. What better way to introduce you to this Sunday’s main course, “Light In Your Heart,” than to let its creator recount her own story? In the up-and-coming class of 2001, the Group’s Heart has taken its place in the pantheon of the financial gods. For all those involved, this band’s eclectic integrity has kept them from zonking on a target market. But the band is simply too good to stay underground for long.

SKUNK ANANSIE: “I Can Dream” (One Little Indian/Epic 76739)

Lead vocalist Skin is in full effect on this angry rock anthem. One of the more charismatic singers to emerge last year, she teeters between cattierowing and emotive. But thanks to strong riffs and thought-provoking lyrics, the band stays in the parents’ side of the fence. Unfortunately for all involved, this band’s eclectic integrity has kept them from zonking on a target market. But the band is simply too good to stay underground for long.

AIMEE MANN: “Choice In The Matter” (DGC 4845)

Christmas is here a month late for the patient, and loyal, fans of former Ted lead singer Aimee Mann. After her much publicized breakup with former label Imago, Mann’s superb new album, I’m With Stupid, is about to hit store shelves. Kicking off the release is this wonderful pop tune, “Choice In The Matter” combines Lil Phat type hooks with ’60s pop grooves for a track thatingers in the long hair along the fence. At a sure hit at Triple A, the song should easily cross over to CHR and could hit at Top 40, giving Mann her biggest hit since “Voices Carry.” If there’s such a thing as karma, this winning selection can’t miss.
## CASH BOX
### TOP 100 POP ALBUMS
#### FEBRUARY 3, 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Album Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Waiting To Exhale</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Day Dream</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jagged Little Pill</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>(What's The Story) Morning Glory?</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Closest Rear View</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>The Woman in Me</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Melon Collie and The Infinite Sadness</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
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<td>Shoshanna</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>The Greatest Hits Collection</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>R. Kelly</td>
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<td>President's of the United States</td>
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<td>Fresh Horses</td>
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<td>Something to Remember</td>
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<td>Young, Rich and Dangerous</td>
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<td>Under the Table and Dreaming</td>
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<td>Insomniac</td>
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<td>The Hits Chart</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
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**This Week's #1: Waiting To Exhale**

**To Watch:**

- Solo
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Recommended Artists:**

- Cypress Hill
- Reba McEntire
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Artists:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Albums:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Titles:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Numbers:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Facts:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
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- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Observations:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists

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**Other Notes:**

- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
- Various Artists
POP ALBUMS

REVIEWS by Steve Ballin

■ TORI AMOS: Boys For Pele (Atlantic 82862-2)

Take a Gardner at the top of the national sales charts and you'll consistently see names like Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey. But, scan the net and you'll see the name of British songstress Tori Amos at least 10 times for every time you see those names once. Like the early days of U2 and R.E.M., Amos spurs a loyalty in her followers that comes close to fanaticism. And just as both of those bands eventually went on to do, Amos seems ready to turn a large cult fan base into mainstream success. With her third album, Boys For Pele, written and produced by Amos, the redhead dramatically makes her push for superstar status on her terms. Amos mixes up the arrangements on the album on occasion, using everything from Delany church organ to strings from the the Simponia of London on "Mariniae". However, the stark piano music of the moving medley "Queen Of The Night" and "Horses" is the norm on the 18-song disc. Like all her works, Boys For Pele is not an easily digestable album. It takes thought, concentration, and repeated listenings. But if you put the work in, you'll find all the nuances of this charming record.

■ VARIOUS ARTISTS: Punk You (Music For The Discerning Slacker Punk Vol. 1) (EMI 35737 2)

Tested and approved by four of out five punk rock aficionados, this 17-song anthology covers it all. The record's commercial appeal comes from the inclusion of early selections from Adam & The Ants, Blondie, Siouxi & The Banshees and The Stranglers. However, the nostalgia accessibility is in selections from many of the greatest punk acts of all time, including the Damned, the Buzzcocks, the Clash, and the Sex Pistols. The only absence is the Ramones, and this is a shame.

■ LIMBLIFTER: Limblifter (Mercury 528 946-2)

If the replacements ever channeled their rock energy into pop songs, it might sound something like Limblifter's full-length debut. The trio rocks with the same energy as bands like the Gin Blossoms, but the group's songs don't have a rock band's fangs. The result is an album long on hooks, though a bit short on substance. Nevertheless, it's hard not to get caught up in the deft guitar groove of "Tinfoil" and the repetitious beat of "Do I Feel Interested?". Don't be surprised to hear this on both Modern Rock and AOR.

■ BIG MOUNTAIN: Resistance (Giant 24633-2)

Hallelujah. After spending repeated hours with the despair of Tori Amos and the cold reality of Therapy, the light-hearted reggae of this San Diego band is a strawberry smoothie standing in the middle of hell. Remember, this is the group that took a reggae cover of Peter Frampton's "Baby, I Love Your Way" to the top ten. Covers play a small, but important, part on this 16-song record, with Cat Stevens' "Where Do The Children Play?" and Jesse Colin Young's classic, "Get Together" getting the Big Mountain treatment. The other 14 songs were written by the band, though the way the group's melodies harmoniously blend together, almost like a techno record, it's sometimes difficult to tell 'em apart. However you look at it, it all tastes like ice cream.

PICK OF THE WEEK

■ THERAPY?: Infernal Love (A&M 0379-2)

Therapy? is a mad scientist's vision of a rock band. On Infernal Love, the band's third album to be released in the states, the Irish trio blends the hard rock riffs of Metallica with the angst of NIN. From the intense opening of "Epilepsy" to the frantic conclusion of "30 Seconds," lead vocalist and songwriter Andrew Cairns takes listeners on a brutal rampage that kicks the nervousness out from underneath love and then repeatedly batters Cupid over the head with a lead pipe. During the tragic ballad "The Bowels Of Love," where Cairns sings, "Yeah, you took me, naive and ugly/Into your festering heart/And you poured Eros maggots down my throat/Until I clicked/There's nothing darker than love gone sour," and the macabre "Me Vs. You," with the line, "And f***ing you got boring when it didn't feel so wrong," Cairns makes the Afghan Whigs' Greg Dulli look like a hopeless romantic. With a burgeoning underground reputation, Therapy? have been building to this point for some time. Well, alert the media. Frankenstein's monster has arrived and is loose in the village. Lovers everywhere, beware.
**CASH BOX TOP 100 URBAN SINGLES**  
**FEBRUARY 3, 1996**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Peak Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monica</td>
<td>Before You Walk Out Of My Life/Like This And Like That (Arista 5052)</td>
<td>Monica</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Mary J. Blige</td>
<td>I'm Not Goin' Cry (From &quot;Waiting To Exhale&quot;) (Arista 12957)</td>
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<td>Brandi</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Mariah Carey &amp; Boyz II Men</td>
<td>One Sweet Day (Columbia 96700)</td>
<td>Mariah Carey &amp; Boyz II Men</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Faith Evans</td>
<td>Soon As I Get Home (Bad Boy/Arista 9041)</td>
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<td>Whitney Houston</td>
<td>Exhale (Shoop Shoop) (From &quot;Waiting To Exhale&quot;) (Arista 2885)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Solo</td>
<td>Where Do U Want Me To Put It (Perspective/A&amp;M)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Kris Kross &amp; Total</td>
<td>Tonite's The Night (Ruffhouse/Columbia 70092)</td>
<td>Kris Kross &amp; Total</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Imagination</td>
<td>No One Else (Arista 79041)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>M-1 &amp; Big Jay</td>
<td>I Got It (MCA 55148)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Jodeci</td>
<td>Love U 4 Life (Uptown/MCA 11256)</td>
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<td>Terry Ellis</td>
<td>Where Ever You Are (EastWest 9353)</td>
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<td>Xscape</td>
<td>Do You Want To (So So Def/Columbia 7022)</td>
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<td>LL Cool J</td>
<td>Hey Lover (Def Jam 7005)</td>
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<td>R. Kelly</td>
<td>You Remind Me Of Something (Jive 01241)</td>
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<td>D'Angelo</td>
<td>Cruisin' (EMI 3209)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Monifah</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Brian McKnight</td>
<td>Still In Love (Mercury 56596)</td>
<td>Brian McKnight</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Shawn Stockman</td>
<td>Visions Of A Sunset (From &quot;Mr. Holland's Opus&quot;) (Polydor/A&amp;M 509092)</td>
<td>Shawn Stockman</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>The Tony Rich Project</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Tha Play House</td>
<td>Let's Play House (Death Row/Interscope 52330)</td>
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<td>Silk</td>
<td>Hooked On You (Elektra 61849)</td>
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<td>Quincy Jones &amp; Tamia</td>
<td>You Put A Move On My Heart (Qwest 7044)</td>
<td>Quincy Jones &amp; Tamia</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>Who Can I Run To (So So Def/Columbia 70096)</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Groove Theory</td>
<td>Tell Me (Epic 77961)</td>
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<td>Fantasy (Columbia 7321)</td>
<td>Mariah Carey</td>
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<td>Cell Therapy (LaFace/Arista 4113)</td>
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<td>Already Missing You (Elasta) (Arista 2852)</td>
<td>Gerald &amp; Eddie Levert, Sr.</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Deborah Cox</td>
<td>Sentimental (Arista 2852)</td>
<td>Deborah Cox</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>The Fugees &amp; Lauryn Hill</td>
<td>Fu-Gee-La (Ruffhouse/Columbia 78194)</td>
<td>The Fugees</td>
<td>51</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>The Tony Rich Project</td>
<td>Anything (Maj50 7003)</td>
<td>The Tony Rich Project</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Blahzay Blahzay</td>
<td>Danger (Mercury 7049)</td>
<td>Blahzay Blahzay</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>The Click</td>
<td>Hurricane (Jive 42335)</td>
<td>The Click</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Island Inspirational All Stars</td>
<td>Don't Give Up (Island 854478)</td>
<td>Island Inspirational All Stars</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**This Week's #1:** Monica  
**High Debuts:** Groove Theory
REVIEWS

KAUSION: South Central Los Skalesan (Len 200-2) Producer: Various

What the hell is this? A street sign of a drive-by shooting. Ice Cube has pulled another rabbit out of his hat. First came Yo-Yo, then The Lynch Mob, Mack 10, and now Kausion. This West Coast rap cap has come up with an impressive debut album fueled by the single “What You Wanna Do.” This CD is packed full of Ice Cube-laced tracks and will definitely make a splash with his loyal West Coast followers. The tracks “U/G’s Trippin’, “Land Of Skalesans,” “Bounce Rock Stack,” and “Click Clock,” are the best tracks on the album. Expect this project to blaze throughout the winter and spring months. M.H.

KRS KROSS: Young, Rich & Dangerous (Columbia 67441) Producer: Various

The trend setters are back again with their first CD in four years. Although the duo is no longer sporting the backwards cap that made them famous, they are still coming with that Atlanta gangsta-flavored sound that made their music the talk of the town. Jermaine Dupri fuels this album with more of his unique blend of southern fried soul列车 which should generate big noise for these boys. Already the first single “Tonight The Night is,” followed closely by the Cash Box charts. The other standout tracks include “Some Cut Up,” “Mackin’ Ain’t Easy,” and “Live and Die For Hip Hop,” which features Da Brat. Also look out for the Atlanta-based poet Big Rube who is smokin’. Congratulations, guys, on a great comeback effort. M.H.

VARIOUS ARTISTS: Sounds of the Spirit (isentrel 9167) Producers: Various

This collection of gospel features a stellar cast of top gospel music talents. For all those looking for a Christian good time this CD fits the bill. After one listen you’ll know that the Holy Ghost is alive and well. The artistic execution is first rate throughout this CD from artist interpretation, song selection and production merit. Although gospel has long had a strong “quiet” influence on mainstream formats, the music as of late is beginning to stand on its own in terms of popularity. With more releases like this one the gospel music art form may finally become fully absorbed into the popular music mainstream. Standout tracks: “Power Of The Holy Ghost,” “Mama,” “Be Encouraged,” and “We Shall Behold Him.”

MAZE: Anthology (Right Stuff 35885) Producers: Maze

Talk about your pick of the week, this collection of greatest hits from the group that personifies food, rhyme and quiet storm defines what this band is all about. I am so glad for someone to have made an effort for me of the band. Now I can watch a boat sail through the music. Talk about your pick of the week, this collection of greatest hits from the group that personifies food, rhyme and quiet storm defines what this band is all about. I am so glad for someone to have made an effort for me of the band.
### CASH BOX • FEBRUARY 3, 1996

#### THE RHYTHM

The International House of Blues Foundation recently celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Spirit Of The Dream event on Monday, January 15 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The program highlighted the accomplishments of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with an emphasis on individual and collective responsibilities toward establishing racial equality, a harmonious humanity and peace. Pictured at the event (L-R): Skeo-lo, Lou Rawls, Speech, Rev. Rosie Grier and Shari Belafonte.

#### SONY MUSIC LAUNCHES BENEFIT CONCERT TOUR

Of historically black colleges featuring George Clinton, The Fuggs, Groove Theory, Maxwell and UBU. Continuing its support of education and the arts, Sony Music Entertainment Inc. will launch its first annual Sony Music Black College Tour in celebration of Black History Month. The exciting pilot project brings top-name musical entertainers to the campuses of selected historically Black institutions. Proceeds will benefit student union scholarship programs at each of the participating institutions. Sony Music Artists The Fuggs, Groove Theory, Maxwell, and UBU are all scheduled to perform while funk icon, George Clinton serves as MC.

In addition to his MC duties, George Clinton will encourage students to register to vote through his One Nation Under A Groove Voter Education Project and Sony Music's Sign Up, Don't Give Up voter registration campaign. Sony expects to reach each student in attendance at ten 10,000-15,000 in attendance and thousands more through their promotional efforts. Participating schools include: Moorhouse College, Hampton University, Howard University, and Morgan State University. Performances will be held at each institution between January 31 and February 3. The tour will promote the tour and underwrite all related costs. Each benefit concert will be co-sponsored with a local student organization or student union. Sony Music College marketing representatives and local promotion managers will help coordinate marketing and promotional efforts in their respective areas.

#### ELEKTRA/FLAVOR UNIT UNITS THE BEST IN BLACK MUSIC SUNSET PARK: THE Elektra Entertainment Group, along with Flavor Unit Records, is gearing up to release the soundtrack to the upcoming Columbia/Tristar film, Sunset Park. The film, which is produced by Danny DeVito and stars Rachel Perlman and Onyx's Fredro Starr, amongst others, tells the story of an inner city basketball coach. The film's director, Steve Gordon, is the 1994 recipient of the Sundance Film Festival's Filmmakers Award. An all-star tune-up of hip-hop and R&B artists, representing all major acts in black music, has been assembled to create one of the most exciting and anticipated movie soundtracks of the year. The artists featured on the soundtrack include Bobi Boys, Alfa, My Life, Blackstreet, Al Green, and 2Pac. The soundtrack will be released on February 15.

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#### URBAN TOP 75 R&B ALBUMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>WAITING TO EXHALE</td>
<td>Arista 10790</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>R. KELLY</td>
<td>Live 411792</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>YOUNG, RICH AND DANGEROUS (Ruthless/Columbia 97441)</td>
<td>Kris Kross</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>D'SOUL JOINT</td>
<td>Quincy Jones</td>
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<td>M.R. SMITH (RLD/Def Jam 523645)</td>
<td>LL Cool J</td>
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<td>SOLO (Perspective 49017)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>2 P.M. FLOOD</td>
<td>The Dogg Pound</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>DON'T BE A MENACE TO SOUTH CENTRAL...</td>
<td>(Island 52148)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>65 DAY DREAM (Columbia 66700)</td>
<td>Mariah Carey</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>7TH AVENUE (Warner Bros 79003)</td>
<td>Faith Evans</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>MISS THANG (Rectory/Arista 73006)</td>
<td>Monica</td>
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<td>FATHER &amp; SON (Belka 61859)</td>
<td>Eddie &amp; Gerald Levert</td>
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<td>G.O. TO THE TOP (Def Jam/Def Jam 7022)</td>
<td>D'Angelo</td>
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<td>ON TOP OF THE WORLD (Relativity 1521)</td>
<td>Eightball &amp; MJG</td>
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<td>SOUL FOOD (LaFace/Arista 26018)</td>
<td>Goodie Mob</td>
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<td>GAMBIA THE FACTORY (Def Jam/Def Jam 1141)</td>
<td>Cooolo</td>
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<td>KANDI FRAZIER FLEX: 60 MINUTES OF FUN</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
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<td>CYPRESS HILL (Temple of Boom) (Ruffhouse/Columbia 96911)</td>
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<td>CRAZY SEXY COOL (LaFace/Arista 26009)</td>
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<td>RED CHELLI (Mctown/Mctown 50254)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (P/R Zoo 61040)</td>
<td>Phyllis Hyman</td>
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<td>DOUBLE OR NOTHING (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529268)</td>
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<td>GROOVE THEORY (Epic 57421)</td>
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<td>GABE MEYER (Tyrone/MAM 528265)</td>
<td>Brian Moe</td>
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<td>ALL WE GOT IZ US (JAM/Island 529262)</td>
<td>Onyx</td>
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<td>MOODS (Mercury 528750)</td>
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<td>THE SHOW (Def Jam/RAL/Island 529261)</td>
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<td>ONLY BUILT 4 CUBAN LINX (Loud 66673)</td>
<td>Chile Raekwon</td>
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<td>LAMO PRO (Planet/Capitol 524709)</td>
<td>Group Home</td>
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<td>SOUTHERN GALS (Eastwest/EGG 61657)</td>
<td>Terry Ellis</td>
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<td>DESIGN OF A DECADE (1986/1996) (Ruthe 4)</td>
<td>Janet Jackson</td>
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<td>CRIBS &amp; JANET (Sonics/Island 56599)</td>
<td>Kool G Rap</td>
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<td>DEADLY GUNFIGHTS (Delicious Vinyl/Capitol 251002)</td>
<td>The Pharcyde</td>
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<td>KRS-ONE (Live 41570)</td>
<td>KRS-One</td>
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<td>RATED G (Rap-A-Lot 70220)</td>
<td>The Click</td>
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<td>OPERATION STAKOLA (C-Note/No Trybe 52324)</td>
<td>Sonzy</td>
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<td>BRANDY (Atlantic 52690)</td>
<td>Brandy</td>
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<td>BLACKFACE (Gasline Alley/MCA 11170)</td>
<td>Shai</td>
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<td>GREATEST HITS (Fright Stuff/Capitol 30090)</td>
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<td>REFLECTIONS (Virgin 60547)</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME</td>
<td>Dangerously Crew</td>
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<td>HISTORIC, (Capitol 41779)</td>
<td>Michael Jackson</td>
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<td>THINKING ABOUT YOU (Warner Bros 6500)</td>
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<td>NEW LIFE (Atlantic 62602)</td>
<td>Jerald Daemyon</td>
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<td>THE BEST OF S.O.S. BAND (Tabu/Motown 50394)</td>
<td>S.O.S Band</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>DO OR DIE (Ruffhouse 1239)</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>B.B. (Motown 520323)</td>
<td>Boyz II Men</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>BEST OF C-BO (Atlantic 7199)</td>
<td>C-Bo</td>
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<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>MY LIFE (MCA/Upone 11150)</td>
<td>Mary J. Blige</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>GREATEST HITS (Fright Stuff/Capitol 30090)</td>
<td>Jamal</td>
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<td>53</td>
<td>TRUE (Priority 50953)</td>
<td>Tru</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>BOOM BASTIC (Virgin 46158)</td>
<td>Shaggy</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>ME AGAINST THE WORLD (Isontique 92399)</td>
<td>2Pac</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>ORBIT (Priority 50953)</td>
<td>Soundtrack</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>FUNK FRANKLIN &amp; FAMILY (Centric 72119)</td>
<td>Kirk Franklin &amp; Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>GUIDED BY CRIMINALS (Big Boy 70)</td>
<td>Ghetto Twiniz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>WILLIAM BECON &amp; FRIENDS (Isontique 92383)</td>
<td>Pure Soul</td>
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By Gil L. Robertson IV
Snoop Doggy Dogg held court at the video shoot of "Beware of My Crew" by the L.B.C. Crew, a group he discovered and produced. The single is the first release from the Warner Bros. soundtrack on the New Line film, A Thin Line Between Love And Hate, starring Martin Lawrence, Bobby Brown, and Lynn Whitfield. Shown in photo (clockwise from upper left), Technic, L.B.C. Crew, Fuzzy, rap promotion manager, Warner Bros.; Steve Prudhomme, A&R director, black music, Warner Bros., and Tray D of L.B.C. Crew.

RAPPERS CASE THEIR HANDS ON GRAMMY AWARD HISTORY: The Wu-Tang Clan, the rap group that brought such hits from their Platinum album, Enter The Wu-Tang: 36 Chambers, as C.R.E.A.M. (Cash Rules Everything Around Me) and Protect Ya Neck is currently making Grammy Award history. Two members of this nine-component group, Method Man and Ol' Dirty Bastard, are currently up for Grammys this year. This marks the first time in Grammy history that two members of a current group were nominated for Grammy Awards for solo projects during the same year. Two other members of the Wu-Tang Clan, Raekwon and Genius have also released solo projects in 1996, Raekwon's album Only Built For Cuban Linq on Loud/RCA has been certified Gold. The Wu-Tang Clan is currently readying a new album due to be released in June of this year. More to follow!

DIS N' DAT: Hip-hop innovators A Tribe Called Quest are currently in studios putting the final lyrical touches on their 4th album, Beats, Rhymes and Life, set for release in April 1996. Congratulations to Burning Spear, who recently received a Grammy nomination for his album Rasta Business. The Grammy nod is his sixth. Check out the single "Money Maid" from the Slow Pain's debut album The Baby Og from Thump Records. Hip-hop veteran Fab 5 Freddy and Roy Cormier (aka The Black Prince) have recently been appointed as "Over Lord" and "Prime Minister," respectively of an independent record label Pallas Records. Having developed a strong track record through their involvement in international concert promotion and print film/television media, Cormier and Fab will now apply their talents at the helm of Pallas Records. The new heads have completely revamped the infrastructure at Pallas, giving it a brand new flavor. Changes have been made in both the artist roster and office staff as Fab and Cormier begin to rebuild the company. In fact, the two are already poised to release the first group under their direction, Crucial Conflict.

By Michael Hill

PUDGEE: "On The Regular" (Perspective 31458-4)

Perspective must be out to get hip-hop label of the year. If Young Zee wasn't enough of a beginning for them, they have come back with Mecca Don signed artist Pudgee. This boy has stardom written all over this track. The mix single contains four mixes of the single. The best two are the Dirty LP version and the Radio Edit. These two remixes should do well with mainstream urban radio. There is just something about a Gamble and Huff sample that is magic. Pudgee's rap flow over this track is so tight and should get party people moving off the first beat.

2 PAC, NOTORIOUS B.I.G., DRAMACYDAL, RADIO & STRETCH: "Running" (Mergela 70113-2)

"Running" could be a surprise sleeper for Mergela Records, Million Max March album. The track hosts a variety of rappers, including two of the nation's biggest thugs rappers of the past year, Notorious B.I.G. and Tu Pac. These two bad boys and the crew, along with a smooth R&B-based track is destined for BDS spins in all regions. Club play could possibly be the right vehicle to push this single along. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that the next single will be either from the Alkaholiks or Channel Love.

MANNISH: "Jive Uu Tha Mann" (Correct 9909)

This CD single has two songs with three versions of each on it. These versions are the album, radio and instrumental of each. The title track has a vibe that screams New York, New York. The lyrics speak of that east coast lifestyle that these boys seem to be a part of. This super smooth track could be a quick seller with club/DJ and radio mix show support.
REVIEWS

**DON PULLEN:** Sacred Common Ground (Blue Note 32800). Producers: Michael Cuscuna & D. Pullen.

Pianist/composer Don Pullen has always come from a place of ethnomusicality. Whether it be the bluesy depths explored while a sideman with Charlie Mingus or his solo excursions through the emotional geography of African-based grooves, he sings it all back to a some language most people can understand. From the opening track of this album, which features rhythms, textures and attitude culled from the Native American experience, Pullen and company launch an attack that fuses the aforementioned energies with some solid blues, honky-tonk and post-bop sensibilities. This collaboration with the Chief Cliff Singers, which began in 1993, is a celebratory (“The Eagle Staff Is First” and the aptly titled “Reservation Blues”) and reverent (“Common Ground,” “River Song”) cultural blend of engaging music and emotions. Saxist Carlos Ward and trombone player Joseph Bowie provide colorful support.

**DOLDINGER IN NEW YORK:** Street of Dreams (Bluemoon 92677-2). Producer: Klaus Doldinger.

Surrounding himself with a cross-section of veteran and younger players in the tradition, German saxophonist Klaus Doldinger eschews the fusionist character with his group, Passport, and plays some cheeky straight-ahead jazz. While penning five of the 12 compositions here, Doldinger and his band of merry men try on some Miles, Monk, Ellington and Cornichaud/Mercer tunes for size. The sax player’s “Yellow Cab” nicely kicks off the album, with bassist Caron GottMofflet and drummer Victor Lewis providing some solid pocket work, and vibist Ray Ayers supplying some dreamy textures. Pianist Tommy Flanagan, Lewis and GottMofflet get in a mellow mood on the Ellington gem “I Got It Bad” and also on Cornichaud/Mercer tune “Skylark.” Mofflet and Doldinger serve up some nice moments on Monk’s “Well You Needn’t.”

**RON CARTER:** Mr. Bow-tie (Blue Note 35407). Producer: R. Carter.

“Remarkable” can be an overused description of a lot of music that moves within the parameters of jazz. Sometimes, even though most remarkable musicians seem laidback and nonplussed as they bring you some quality sounds, they are cookin’. Bassist Ron Carter, and his assembled crew do that on this 10-song collection featuring six originals by Carter. Rising star Gonzalo Rubalcaba on piano is a steady influence more than a centerpiec on any one track, while Jayson Jackson’s tenor sax work is largely soulful and to the point. Lewis Nash keeps things on point for Carter, who alternates between pacing the proceedings and providing some polysyllabic solo dialogue. Rhythmically moody, yet unassuming, this record can go on the turntable and, like a chameleon, adapt the ambiance of the room. The bassist’s “Nearly’ is an example of the ensemble’s remarkably unassuming flow.

**LISA POLLARD:** I See Your Face Before Me (Concord Jazz CCD-4681). Producer: Ray Brown.

You are often measured by the company you keep. Unjustly or not, associations help define worth and character. With this notion in tow and after listening to her album, it is evident why saxophonist Lisa Pollard can boast a guest list of players like bassist Ray Brown, pianist Benny Green, drummer Grady Tate and fellow saxist Red Holloway. Pollard plays with confidence and a solid tone, which is exhibited in abundance with her tenor work on “A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square.” Her best soprano work here is on Miles Davis’ “All Blues.” Green provides some tasteful guidance throughout the album, and Tate’s drum kit serves as the connective tissue on each composition.
Notes

RIM SHOTS: Rarely anything called “new” has not been visited in some form or another in the past. And on occasion, the past revisited in present times provides fresh perspective. That’s what most music pundits are saying about Legacy, the latest album by North Indian musician and music scholar Ali Akbar Khan. Released on the musician’s family-owned ANMM label in conjunction with Talloka Records, Khan is featured on the exotic sarod, while Indian film and pop sensation Srinu Asha Bhose plays sitar and provides vocals. Music writers in the consumer and trade press, as well as world music and progressive radio programmers, have already hailed the record as a unique fusion of 16th and 18th century folk songs that had endured in the verbal telling through generations until Khan was taught these cultural gems by his father. The record is due out Feb. 23, but Khan has already grabbed some attention from the music literati for his album Then And Now, which earned him a Grammy Award nomination in this Traditional Folk Album category. With Legacy, he might revisit this hallowed terrain again next year... The International Assn. of Jazz Educators (IAJE) was the beneficiary of the worldwide launch of Jazz Central Station, the “Global Network for Jazz” developed by 2Nk, Inc., the company co-created by the chief at GRP Records. Offering a website on the World Wide Web, IAJE, along with JazzTimes magazine and Music Boulevard, contributes to the expansive menu offered by JCS, which debuted amid IAJE’s recent conference in Miami, FL... Billions of dollars have later iajex, the first jazz group to record in stereo on the Audio Fidelity label 35 years ago, the The Dukes of Dixieland are attempting to break new ground once again with release of a jazz video CD and DVD disc. Titled The Dukes of Dixieland and Friends, the enhanced formats debuted at the winter Consumer Electronics show held in Las Vegas. The six-man band’s new offering is being released by Digital Disc Entertainment of the Kurtz Entertainment Group. The Dukes’ video CD and DVD superdisc videos will be used to demonstrate new hardware that will soon be available in the marketplace... GTS Records, the John Tesh-owned NAC/jazz label that recently partnered with PolyGram Classics & Jazz, has hired Mary Mueller as general manager and named Josie DiChiaro label manager. Mueller will oversee daily operation for GTS, including budgetary matters and will be searching new business. She will also continue as president of John Tesh Prods., and work to expand alternative record distribution through PBS affiliates, QVC, and other television. DiChiaro will handle sales, oversee marketing and promotion and serve as the liaison between GTS and PolyGram.

The Niche Is The Thing

M.R. Martinez

THE TRADITIONAL HYPE employed to launch a record has steadily given way to more inventive and focused campaigns aimed at the consumer. A company that has seemed to distill the myriad of niche marketing tools that have developed in recent years into a versatile and effective formula for reaching an act’s potential core audience is Music Marketing Network (MMN). The nearly five-year-old independent, Red Bank, NJ-based firm uses an ever-expanding repertoire of techniques to launch new artists and to broaden the fortunes of established acts in the marketplace.

“There’s no central place that all music fans go to hear about music that will excite them and that they might want to buy,” says MMN co-president/COO Paul Chachko. “We believe that by building a comprehensive database the puts a face on the potential consumer for a particular music project, we can help companies devise marketing and promotion plans that more directly target a sales base that will launch a record.

“Companies can get a foothold on record sales, develop broader interest before they embark on more mass marketing approaches,” he points out. “That way (labels) spend their marketing and promotional dollars more effectively.

Apparently several companies agree, as MMN’s client list emboldies an eclectic blend of artists and companies. Some of the artists that have benefited from MMN’s services include the Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Alanis Morrisette, Cypress Hill, Public Enemy, Rusted Roots and even the Beatles (on the legendary act’s hot selling anthology). Labels from Capitol and Maverick/Reprise to Island and Delicious Vinyl have utilized MMN to develop strategies to promote an artist’s merchandise, tour dates and recordings, using everything from CD inserts, fan newsletters and direct mailings to target certain consumers.

Venerable big band leader/composer/arranger Gerald Wilson (far left) directed some bright young talent from the Los Angeles Unified School District during the National Anthem on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King’s birthday holiday just before the Los Angeles Lakers took on the Miami Heat at the Great Western Forum. Wilson and the students performed as part of a Jazz Sports LA presentation, which also featured a special program in conjunction with a student-generated big band under the direction of Wilson. Jazz Sports LA is an educational outreach program sponsored by the Lakers, the National Endowment of The Arts, the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz and chaired by basketball legend and jazz buff Kareem Abdul Jabbar. Several jazz luminaries are scheduled to join the students during subsequently scheduled Anthem performances before Laker games.

Music Marketing Network is gearing up for growth by building a strong executive team. Recently joining MMN co-president/COO Paul Chachko (second, left) at the company was some top executive talent. Pictured are (left) Ravi Yadav, chief financial officer; John Mazzuco, co-president/CEO; and Marcus Peterzell, sr. vp of new media development.

Already eyeing expansion into other areas, late last year, MMN bolstered its executive star power by hiring three respected industry execs, including former Mercury Records marketing vp John Mazzuco, MMN’s co-president/CEO; former Fiction Records president Marcus Peterzell, now MMN’s sr. vp of new media development; and Ravi Yadav, the company’s chief financial officer.

Chachko says the appointments were imperative because of MMN’s growing interest in related fields such as film, television and publishing. Aside from the Red Bank headquarters, MMN has offices in Los Angeles and New York and has a staff that numbers close to 60, with many being in the telemarketing operation based in Red Bank.
The Films of Al Pacino
By William Schoell

ONE OF OUR PREMIERE ACTORS, both stage and screen, fills the pages of this, complete with pictures, color and b/w.

Author William Schoell, who’s no stranger to dealing with film territory between book covers—Three other nonfiction ers, dealing with “Shocker” films; the Nightmare on Elm Street series and Comic Book Heroes of the Screen—takes on Pacino here.

Opening with a short biographical rundown encapsulating the actor’s early life, studies, struggles and break-through, Schoell demonstrates his expertise with word management. The result is that readers feel they’re fully familiar with the subject by the time they reach the filmography without having waded through a lot of waste. With the knowledge fresh in their minds, going into the film listings they’re ready to weave the background knowledge into the characters Pacino has brought to life on screen.

The Filmography offers producers, directors, writers, editors, composers, art directors and casts, beginning with Pacino’s screen debut in 1969’s National General Pictures release Me, Natalie—the last time the actor’s name appeared at the bottom of a cast list. With his second, 20th Century Fox’s The Panic In Needle Park, Pacino went to starring status and hasn’t been out of it since.

Schoell sets himself up as critic within the bodies of the texts relating to the films, passing sometimes intrusive judgement on everything from performances to photography, sets and hair styles. He even goes as far as to punctuate his opinion of Marlon Brando’s winning an Oscar for The Godfather with an!—apparently the author didn’t completely agree with the Academy’s voters...So what’s new!?—Seems kind of Oliver Stone-ish, doesn’t it?

Still, for Pacino fans, this is a terrific book. It’s filled with pictures, scenes from films in both B&W and color, on screen and off.

Part Three consists of a nod to “His Plays,” six pages with a couple of shots tossed in and a chronological order of the theatricals. The author does however, attribute this area of his subject’s efforts with firm roots and an arena to which Pacino continually returns to keep his tools in line working order. A strong and enjoyable effort. (Citadel Press; Carol Publishing Group. 223 pages. $17.95)

J. Goff

JAZZ, The Rough Guide
by Ian Carr, Digby Fairweather and Brian Priestley

EVERYONE YOU EVER WANTED to know in jazz, and then some; and almost everything you wanted to know about the same subject. This is a terrific guide to jazz musicians, listed alphabetically with pertinent info re: instruments, birthplace, birth, death (if applicable), and a to-the-point bio which, through some neat wordsmithing, imparts feelings and attitudes toward the artist’s position within the jazz pantheon.

The writers, Ian Carr, Digby Fairweather and Brian Priestley, are all jazz musicians themselves and are listed herein. So it’s no wonder they write with authority. For the layman they’ve included a glossary of terms defining such colorful descriptions as “Axe,” “Licks,” “Bebop,” “Energy” and others. In each instance, be it the bio or the glossary terms, the authors manage to divulge information and history while each person takes on their own character. The reader never has the feeling he’s simply “reading” a hand-out bio. Each is personal and cared for. And neither do readers ever get the feeling they’re being pandered to; the writers seem genuine in their care that their audience be informed and enjoy the journey at the same time.

Jazz, being only as old as the century, rooted itself early and has played conduit to some of the greatest musical talents the century has seen. That talent’s impact on music, not only jazz but all forms, is felt in most areas of music and life. Some of these talents were also extremely colorful as well as studious and tragic, such as legendary cornetist Bix Beiderbecke, only 28 when he died of alcoholism.

The artists come to life on the pages as the authors relate a story such as with Jelly Roll Morton, infuriated by a Robert Ripley radio introduction of W.C. Handy as “the originator of jazz and the blues;” they note that “Morton

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Top 15 Weekly Film Grosses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK/TITLE</th>
<th>DISTRIBUTOR</th>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>SCREENS</th>
<th>WKND TOTAL</th>
<th>AVG</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. From Dusk Till Dawn</td>
<td>Miramax</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,004</td>
<td>$10,240,805</td>
<td>$5,110</td>
<td>$10,240,805</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Mr. Holland’s Opus</td>
<td>Buena Vista</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,409</td>
<td>$9,257,334</td>
<td>$6,570</td>
<td>$9,280,066</td>
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<td>3. 12 Monkeys</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,610</td>
<td>$6,190,470</td>
<td>$3,845</td>
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<td>4. Eye For An Eye</td>
<td>Paramount</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5,443,243</td>
<td>$3,240</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,780,164</td>
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<td>5. Grumpier Old Men</td>
<td>TriStar</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,901</td>
<td>$5,071,169</td>
<td>$2,668</td>
<td>$58,245,736</td>
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<td>6. Jumanji</td>
<td>Warner Bros.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,941</td>
<td>$4,252,065</td>
<td>$2,191</td>
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<td>7. Heat</td>
<td>Warner Bros.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,506</td>
<td>$3,715,994</td>
<td>$2,467</td>
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<td>8. Toy Story</td>
<td>Buena Vista</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1,722</td>
<td>$3,671,487</td>
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<td>$174,243,923</td>
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<td>9. Don’t Be A Menace</td>
<td>Miramax</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,010</td>
<td>$3,609,663</td>
<td>$3,574</td>
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<td>10. Sense And Sensibility</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>$3,305,275</td>
<td>$5,555</td>
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<td>11. Waiting To Exhale</td>
<td>20th Century Fox</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,358</td>
<td>$3,127,418</td>
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<td>12. Bio-Dome</td>
<td>MGM/UA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,510</td>
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<td>13. Father Of The Bride 2</td>
<td>Buena Vista</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1,519</td>
<td>$2,578,576</td>
<td>$1,698</td>
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<td>14. Two If By Sea</td>
<td>Warner Bros.</td>
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<td>1,796</td>
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<td>15. Sabrina</td>
<td>Paramount</td>
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<td>986</td>
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Domestic box-office, which includes USA and Canada for the weekend of January 19-21, totaled $68,165,941, breaking down to a $3,023 per-screen average off a total of 22,547 screens, giving a combined total of $666,688,238. (Courtesy Entertainment Data, Inc.)
The Music Business (Explained In Plain English) by David Naggar, Esq. & Jeffrey D. Brandsetter, Esq.

HARSH REALITIES greet readers who pick up this to-the-point primer for people who are considering a creative career in the music business. The introduction notes: "Music is art. This book is not about art!... People (not counting loved ones) will help you if they think your art will make them money. They will not help you if they do not think your art will make you money." And once you get past this hackneyed truism, which is presented in the spirit of the entire book, you will find that there's an effort to open the eyes of the novice and the professional. Many of the latter, who stumble into music careers, might have retrospective epiphanies. Some novices may decide to continue writing songs for themselves or performing at Bar Mitzvahs.

The paperback volume condenses an overview of various technical aspects of the music business and simplifies the framework that any aspiring artist would need to grasp. This feat is all the more remarkable because it is authored by a pair of Bay Area attorneys who have experienced the rigorous music industry wars. "We've used a lot of footnotes because we are lawyers, and lawyers do that sort of thing," the barristers quip. But the outline of the book effectively presents a picture in broad strokes and then gets into specifics where an example will illuminate a concept.

The introduction begins with the book's intent and offers an overview of the sources of music industry profits. From there the book outlines basic information for artists, songwriters, for those aspiring to provide music for television and film and provides a section covering ancillary considerations (like issues between band members, touring, selling merchandise and a smidgen on music videos).

One of the most valuable features in this book is the "Big Picture" royalty chart, which breaks down the various ways income can be derived from use of a song. This covers everything from record sales and film/TV sync licensing fees to performing royalties and sheet music. Another valuable, and more detailed, feature of the book is a section on recording contracts which explains the formulas for artists' payments on record company sales.

Naggar and Brandsetter inject levity where appropriate, but do not discount the gravity of the business and the need to be aware of the basics as you venture into the biz's often treacherous waters. Also included is a syllabus of reading that might provide in depth a greater nuance to the information contained in the book.

Anticipating, or perhaps to encourage use by both beginners and those already in the industry, two levels of distribution for the book have been established. National distribution for the book to consumer outlets is being handled by Gardenia, CA-based SCB Distributors, while distribution to the trade is being handled by Mix Bookshelf, a division of Cardinal Business Media, Inc. of Emeryville, CA.

M.R. Martinez

NEWS (Continued from page 3)

Members will also be able to access NARM's Sounding Board newsletter, browse the complete Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide, and e-mail Congressional representatives on legislative initiatives.

Nettwerk, EMI Canada
& CEMA Join Forces

NETTWERK RECORDS has entered into an exclusive distribution deal in the U.S. with CEMA Distribution, effective the first of this year. Within the new structure, Nettwerk Records and EMI Music Canada have established a joint venture for promoting music in the U.S.

Nettwerk, which functions as a full-service label, will market and develop its own roster. It will also market and develop a number of EMI Music Canada releases, with the direction of EMI MC's international dept. in Toronto. Nettwerk, which specializes in Modern Rock repertoire and focuses on niche marketing to initiate success, will market those EMI MC artists it feels it can best serve.

Nettwerk Productions has opened an office in New York, which houses the U.S. division of Nettwerk Records and Netmedia, which was formed in 1995 to consolidate Nettwerk's pioneering efforts in the development of enhanced CD's.

News in Brief

MCA, INTERTSCOPE JOIN: Ending weeks of industry speculation, MCA, Inc. has won the bidding war for the coveted Interscope Records, acquiring a 50% stake in the controversial label for $200 million, with an option for buyout after three to five years. MCA won the contest for Interscope over PolyGram, Inc. even though PolyGram is part owner of Interscope Films.

Interscope last year left a distribution arrangement with Warner Music Group when it involved in gangsta rap with Tupac Shakur and, through a deal with Death Row Records, brought shareholder and public pressure from political and social activists, caused WMG to seek divestiture of its 50% of the company. Death Row is the home of acts like Dr. Dre and Snoop Doggy Dogg.

RICHARD C. MARQUARDT, SR., is exiting his post as president/CEO of WEA Manufacturing, effective June 30, 1996, after a 37-year career in the then-manufacturing business that started with Speciality Records Corp. Marquardt will become a senior advisor to WEA Corp. and the Warner Music Group.

In a related move, Ellis Kern, president and co-CEO of WEA's packaging and printing firm, Ivy Hill Corp., will assume added responsibility for all the company's manufacturing and replication operations. Kern joined Ivy Hill in 1985 as a sales rep.

KARG AT IDSA: Douglas Lowenstein, president of the Interactive Digital Software Association (IDSA), the trade association for interactive entertainment software publishers, announced that the IDSA has hired Kathlene M. Karg to fill the newly-created position of director, Intellectual Property and Public Policy.

Previously, Karg represented the Association of American Publishers, Inc. in the areas of Copyright and New Technology, including extensive experience in eradicating piracy in overseas and domestic markets. She will be based in the Washington, D.C. office.

JULIO GETS CHINA GOLD: Sony Music artist Julio Iglesias became the first foreign recipient in China's history to receive China's prestigious "Golden Record Award." Presented with the award by China Record Corporation at the Great Hall of People, Iglesias was granted their only official music award given every three years, in recognition of outstanding contribution in both sales and reputation achieved by artists in China.

CRC published and released two of Iglesias' albums, Hey and Crazy. The total sales of Iglesias' records in China have made him the biggest selling foreign artist in the country.
News From The United Kingdom, Ireland & Europe

By Hal Levy

AT THE MARKETPLACE we find Thorn EMI at £16.37 up 2.2%. Rank Organization is £14.44, down 0.9% and PolyGram at £91.00 (£36) is down 1.8%.

BRITISH BLUES: The English city of Leeds plans to open a £7 million complex to house Europe's first Museum of the Blues. Target date for the complex is 1998 and it will house not only a museum, but a recording studio, concert hall, archives and a restaurant. In addition to American materials British blues greats Alexis Korner, John Mayall, Eric Clapton and Rod Stewart and others will be honored. One British contribution to the American section will be artifacts from British concerts given by bluesmen like B.B. King, Howling Wolf and John Lee Hooker. Also, in line with current thinking, the museum will be an interactive venue.

SHE AIN'T NO SAINT, she's Madonna, and she faces a lot of opposition in Argentina.EDITA, where Edita Peron is considered by many to be a saint. But many, including the upper classes, consider Madonna a sinner, and while the film itself may hit high peaks, it won't hit the high notes as Madonna, who doesn't have the vocal range of the stage versions, has had the score taken down a key.

OUT OF AFRICA: Leading black British musicians are launching the MOBO Awards in London. The MOBO (Music Of Black Origin) Awards will be given to "black" genre music, including soul, reggae, jungle, house, jazz, hip-hop, dance and rap. And MOBO sponsors pointed out that the Brit Awards nominations include very few black performers. However, the Brit Awards said that there were no 'white' awards for folk, heavy metal and other music, so they couldn't include "black" awards. The major thing controlling the types of music up for awards is time. So TV companies that want to be seen on network, 90 minutes and limited categories to 14.

DON'T HOOK ME UP: UK cable companies reached new lows in the stock market amid fears that digital satellite systems could further undercut their growth. Reports from the U.S. say that the American DirectV has scored 40% of its customers from cable subscribers. The new technology permits delivery of more than 100 channels on a 2-channel output. UK cable companies are continuing to expand their wired networks, but by the time they have all their territories wired, it is expected the competition will be in full bloom. Adding to their woes, cable is only hitting a penetration of less than 35% of eligible homes.

ORIENT EXPRESS: We all know about the big bucks Janet and Michael are getting. Well, they may have to move over for Jackie Cheung of Hong Kong, Harlem Yu of Taiwan and Yumi Matsutaya of Japan. Cheung is the first Asian to hit PolyGram's Top 10 roster, and his 1993 album Kiss And Goodbye sold more than 4 million worldwide. 25% of PolyGram's sales now come from Asia and the other major labels are also seeking to explore that market. While Western singers are still sitting on top of the heap, more and more Asian buyers want records sung in their own language and reflect their lives.

THE GOOD NEWS AND THE BAD NEWS: In 1995 the number of cinema screens in Ireland reached 195, an all-time high. But ticket sales, which reached 10.4 million in 1994 fell back to 9.7 million in 1995, the first drop in admissions in ten years. Industry sources said that although the average attendance per capita in Europe, they blame the drop on the quality of films issued in 1995. The boxoffice winner for the year was Batman Forever.

PLACE YOUR BET BUT DON'T BET ON IT: U.S.-based Showboat has plans in the works to build a 50,000 sq ft casino and games center together with a 1,000 room hotel just outside Dublin. However, members of the three parties in the Irish government have expressed opposition to the plan, urging a convention center in its place. Industry sources said the government plan, with limited revenue-producing satellites, would end up a white elephant and are backing the Showboat plans.

WELCOME COMRADES: Pop stars are carefully reading their contracts to play gigs in Russia. During last year's election, several top UK musicians, like Glenn Hughes, ex-bass guitarist for Deep Purple, went to Moscow for concerts. What they didn't realize was the concerts were being sponsored by political parties aiming at the young voters. Hughes' gig was sponsored by Our Home Is Russia, headed by prime minister Chornomyrdin and supported by Boris Yeltsin and everywhere Hughes went he was surrounded by photos of the two. With the upcoming presidential elections in Russia, more offers are expected to be pouring in but the managers will be looking them over with a fine toothed comb.

AND WELCOME AGAIN as Rock The Vote come to the UK. In the last election some 45% of the under 35's didn't vote, which was double the overall rate. The Rock The Vote board of directors is evenly divided between Conservatives and Labor backers and is backed by major labels, retailers and clubs. However, the campaign is not looked at too favorably by some since most associate musicians with the Liberals and the left.

STILL IN COURT: Channel 5 Broadcasting's lawyer told the High Court that the Independent Television Commission was within its statutory rights when it permitted CSB to enhance its bid by £100 million after the closing date. He said it was not "new money." Virgin TV's lawyer, who is contesting the ITC's awarding of the license to CSB, disagreed.

BY-BYE VIRGIN: The Sheridan Group of Belfast is selling the new Virgin cinema complex in Dublin for £4.1 million. Buyer of the two-month old cineplex is an undisclosed property investor.

THEY'VE GOT THE BALL: Video and audio group, VCI inked a 10-year, £2.5 million deal with soccer's Manchester United to be the exclusive publisher of all new magazines, books and videos licensed under the football club's trademark.

The end of the 10-year VCI deal will be a bit too late for the new club created, but will have to continue paying royalties on future sales. VCI will handle multi-media formats like video disks and CD-ROMS and sub-license Man United's magazines.

STRIKING WHILE THE IRON'S HOT: Bjork has recorded a new song for a Jermaine Jackson starter Sealing Beauty.

THE CATS MEOW: On January 29, Cats will become the longest ever running musical on New York's Broadway, beating out Chorus Line. It became London's longest running musical in May 1989. There are currently nine productions around the world.

THE BATTLE IS OVER: Granada, the television and leisure company had 80.89% of the shares in the final race to control the Forte Group hotel and restaurant chain. The battle raged for months in the newspapers and boardrooms.

DON'T YOU SAY DJ?: Well, someone did at the Brit Performing Arts & Technology School so the only state supported school in the UK that specializes in the performing arts started a class. Now in its second year, the DJ Workshop has 30 students.

TOP 10 SINGLES IN THE UK: Coming on the charts in e-n (Greek phonetic numbers) is George Michael's "Jesus To A Child" followed by Michael Jackson's "Earth Song" in Thi-e. Boyzone's "Father & Son" drops down to tri-a while Baby D is "So Pure" at se-xe. Everything But The Girl's "Missing" drops out of the top ten, and is 18 in e-w ninja. "The Shining" by Happy Mondays comes on to the charts with "One By One" at e-t-pa followed by another newcomer Cast's "Sandstorm" at e-b-e and another newcomer Coolio's "Too Hot" is e-e-a. Rounding out the chart is TLC's "Creep 96" at THe-ka.

(Greek numbers in phonetics courtesy of Lonely Planet Guidebooks.)

BLUES NEWS

By John Rhyas

BARBARA SHAW AT CODE BLUE is tremendously excited about the signing of the band Storyville. The group is composed of Tommy Shannon (bassist) and Chris Layton (drummer), formerly of the Stevie Ray Vaughn band (Double Trouble), Malford Milligan (Stick People) serving up lead vocals and J.C. Mellencamp's Dave Grissom and Dave Holt (Carlene Carter's Mavericks) on guitars. Storyville damn near made a clean sweep of the Austin Music Awards last year. Get down Code Blue!...JEREMY MICH at Capricorn Records is enthusiastic that some of his Fat Possum will surely pick up the Spill honors at the Billboard Chart Council's. However, it's other hip labels have put together several classes, all-time formats, and Hessiah the 1998 Art of Music Awards. In addition to the seven major awards, the winners have accumulated seven nominations in various categories. Nominated are: R.L. Burnside (Blues Entertainer of the Year); R.L. Burnside and Jr. Kinbrough (Traditional Blues-Male Artist of the Year); Dave Thompson and Paul "Wine" Jones (Best New Blues Artists; Thompson and Little Dave with Big Love (Contemporary Blues Album of the Year); and Jones and Mule for (Traditional Blues Album of the Year). Winners will be announced at the W.C. Handy Awards in Memphis on May 2nd. Good Luck y'all...The long awaited (at least by me) History of King Records is finally coming on February 15th, reports Stephen Hawkins at Highland Music, Inc. from Dearborn, MI. Actually the title of the four CD set is the King R&B Box Set, which includes 85 hot R&B songs, a 36-page color booklet, and one special volume featuring previously unreleased conversations and songs. Alligator Records' Marc Lipkin tells Cash Box that Alligator artists have been nominated for 20 Handy Awards (too numerous to mention here). Marc also mentioned that someone at Alligator got married. WHAT? Why, it's Marc himself to the beautiful Cindy Wells Marieau, Marc and Cindy. Also there was a little "gator" born to Rick and Kris Septo. Her name is Sydney Elizabeth. Cash Box congratulates the new Lipkins and the proud parents....Great News for you blues aficionados. Bob Santelli of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland has just announced a series of programs to celebrate the "Black Roots of Rock and Roll" during Black History Month this February. The blues series will feature films, lectures, and an acoustic concert series called "Back Porch Blues." For more info on this event contact TIm Moore, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, 716-515-1234. R&B Box would like to extend a Happy Birthday to Rick Emmet at Electric Fetus in Duluth, MN. Also Happy Birthday to A.J. at Phantom Dist. in Costa Mesa, CA. Many happy returns (maybe I shouldn't say that).
REVIEWS

By Héctor Reséndez

EL GENERAL: Club 555 (BMG U.S. Latin, 31522) Producer: Edgar Franco. RAP/REGGAEO/WORLD.

Club 555 is his fifth recording in five years for the five-star reggae-rap artist, Edgar Franco aka El General. Franco has been steadily building a successful career as a singer, composer, and producer. His latest album exemplifies the unbridled creativity which has made El General a popular icon worldwide. He demonstrates his versatility from the Christmas theme “Jingle Bells” to the salsa-tinted “Hasta Cuando.” The current promo single is the high danceable “Funkete.”

LIZZA: Yo Quiero Soñar (BMG U.S. Latin, 27064) Producer: Alex Montez. TEJANO/POP.

From the southern heart of Texas, comes singer Lizza Lamb. Several years ago, she opened for established acts like La Mafia, Ram Herrera, Elsa Garcia, and Mazz. Possessing a dynamic voice and appealing style, Lizza joined with veteran composer and Tejano producer, Luis Silva, and Alex Montez to produce her debut album. Giving this project simply a Tejano label would certainly be unfair. Lizza is definitely a versatile vocalist. Listen to the dynamic ballad, “Las Hijas de Tomeo Amor,” or the steaming jazz-flavored number, “Don’t Turn Away.” We’re definitely looking forward to Lizza’s coast to coast tour this year!

LA FIERA: Para Poder Olvidar (BMG U.S. Latin/Ariola, 28216) Producer: Luis Silva, TEJANO.

La Fiera is an eight-piece Texas band headed by its leader/vocalist, C. “Shorty” Segovia. The group formed in 1991 and hasn’t stopped playing since. They were discovered by Alex Montez who was impressed by the group’s youthful and energized vitality. The group possesses a very solid sound as it backs the able voice of Segovia. Look for the smokin’ “La Mujer Del Año,” with a dynamic interplay between Segovia and Montez.

ILEGALES: Ilegal (BMG U.S. Latin/Ariola, 32416) Producer: Valdimir Dotel, Pavel de Jesus, Cholo Brunes. TROPICAL/POP.

The four-man group, Ilegal, has principle origins in the Dominican Republic. Their techno and house style combines quite favorably with Afro-Caribbean elements (merengue) to form the dance tunes of today’s youth. It’s party time with the first tune on the album, “La Morena,” and its remix. The merengue “Las Mujeres” is another example of this group’s inner strength. The only criticism of the group is with their lackluster name, “Son Ilegal” has a better ring to it, doesn’t it?

PICK OF THE WEEK

JOSE JOSÉ: Mujerigio (BMG U.S. Latin/Ariola, 30422) Producer: Roberto Livi. POP/CONTEMPORARY.

Jose Jose is known worldwide as “El Principe De La Cancion” (the Prince of Music). His extensive career includes nine consecutive Grammy Award nominations in the “Best Latin Pop Performance” category as well as various other accolades. The album was produced by the renowned Roberto Livi with arrangements by Rafael Ferro. From tender ballads to more up-tempo numbers, Jose Jose easily maintains his princely title.

SELENA’S LAST SONG ON BMG CLASSICS/RCA VICTOR ALBUM

What has been described as the late singer’s last recorded song can be found on the album, The Songs of Western Story. Released by RCA Victor, Selena’s “A Boy Like That” is but one of 16 selections of the musical masterpiece by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim. More than 30 performers are featured including Aretha Franklin, James Ingram, Phil Collins, Chuck Corea, and Natalie Cole to mention just a few.

Michael Greene, executive producer of the album, ran into problems with his desire to include Selena in his ambitious project. Greene had met the singer at a pre-Grammy program six months prior to his casting for the album. He was pleasantly impressed by the then relatively unknown-to-the-masses Tejano star, Selena’s recording session proved to be her last. She slain in cold blood by her former employee, Yolanda Saldivar, two weeks later in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Proceeds from the album, which is being distributed by RCA Victor and slated for release at the end of this month, will be divided between the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Foundation and the Leonard Bernstein Education Through the Arts Fund. Sources at Selena’s label, EM Latín, report that a Kenny Ortega directed video for “A Boy Like That” was shipped to VH1 and the usual Spanish outlets this past Monday (2/24). BMG Latin began working the song on Spanish radio earlier this month, particularly on Texas stations, where unapologetic acceptance of anything new by Selena, no matter in what fashion or form, is given. Club and radio-edit remixes by Tony Moran, of recent Michael Jackson notoriety, as a commercial dance single were released a few weeks ago. The album is an incredibly innovative tribute to the great Bernstein Ge, even Officer Krupe would agree.

EL GENERAL ON THE FUNKETE FRONT: BMG U.S. Latin recently released the first maxi-single of this year, “El Funkete,” by the Panamanian soldier of rap, El General. Taken from his fifth album, Club 555, the five-star general of the Tropical genre, El General began his official tour of duty five years ago. His offensive move was launched with 1990 hits like “Tu Pum Pum” and “Te Vas Bemita.” He followed with the mega-hit, “Huelvo,” voted by MTV as the Best Latin Video of 1992. The album, his first for BMG, reached Platinum status in several countries. He was invited to perform at the celebrated Viña Del Mar Festival in Chile and was hailed as a hero in Panama when he returned for the first time since emigrating to the U.S.

The 1993 release of El Poder De El General included the highly successful “Caramelo.” His following album, Es Mundial, has sold over 1 and half million units in the U.S. alone. Plans to tour Europe and the U.S. this year, El General has plans to write, record and produce an album in English in his state-of-the-art recording studio in New York.

In a recent interview with the singer, there was an overwhelming sense of confidence, but earnest humility from Edgardo Franco known to millions as the General of Tropical-Rap. His beginnings as a poor soda peddler in his native Panama, after all, is truly a rags-to-riches story. Today, El General acknowledges his roots whenever he performs. The singer started a charitable foundation (Para Los Ninos Sin Fronteras) to aid homeless children throughout Latin America. Look for the singer’s first Salsa-rap tune, “Hasta Cuando,” on his latest album to do equally well.

News From U.S. & Latin America

By Héctor Reséndez

THE LATIN LOWDOWN

SELena’s Last Song on BMG Classics/RCA Victor Album

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Single Reviews by Wendy Newcomer

**STEPHANIE BENTLEY:** "Who's That Girl" (Epic ESK 78234)

From her debut album, Hopechest, Stephanie Bentley proves that she can carry a song all on her own. Ty Herndon's duet partner has the vocal clarity of early Nicolette Larson and an astute songwriting talent to match. Bentley's spunky, girl-next-door tale of triumph should connect well with female listeners.

**CURTIS DAY:** "The Truth Is Hard To Swallow" (Asylum APCD-9443)

"The Truth Is Hard To Swallow" is a respectable-yet-predictable second offering from Day's first project. He definitely has the chops to perform a tear jerker like "The Truth..." but only time will tell if Day has staying power among the lion's den of hat acts.
CMT To Sponsor Starfest '96

By Wendy Newcomer

AS THE WEST COAST HOLDS its mini-version of Fan Fair for the third year, Country Music Television announced that it will sponsor the four-day Starfest '96. The event will be held at the Fairplex (Los Angeles County Fairgrounds) May 9-12 and will be sanctioned by the Academy of Country Music.

Similar to Music City’s most popular country event, Country Music Television’s Starfest ’96 will include performances at both an expanded grandstand area and on the New Faces Stage. Many top artists as well as newcomers will meet fans and sign autographs.

“Country Music Television, which reaches over 32 million homes in the United States, has signed on as our title sponsor and will have a booth during the festival and sponsor hospitality tents which will feature closed circuit feeds of the concert performances,” said Bob Alexander, president of Starfest, Inc. “CMT will also promote Country Music Television’s Starfest ’96 via on-air spots.”

Paul Hastaba, vp/gm at CMT, commented, “We at CMT are very happy to be involved in promoting country music and country music stars at Starfest ’96, just as we promote the music and stars 24-hours a day on CMT.”

A number of artists are already scheduled to perform at this year’s event. They include: Joe Diffie, Tracy Lawrence, Bryan White, Martina McBride, Toby Keith, Faith Hill and Jeff Carson.

Other features of Starfest ’96 are: a series of “New Country Showcases,” which presents over 100 of the country’s best unsigned artists; the Rodeo Drive Collection, which highlights the latest in Western fashion and furnishings from America’s designers; a custom auto show; and the finals of the Ultimate Line Dance Contest.

Chevrolet Picks Up George Strait

CHEVROLET ANNONCED ITS ASSOCIATION WITH country music’s consummate pickup truck man, George Strait. Chevy Truck will sponsor Strait’s 1996 “Out Of The Box” tour. The 50-city tour began Jan. 18 and will continue into November.

“As country music is the proper medium for Chevy Truck, George Strait is the ideal messenger,” said Chevrolet general manager Jim Perkins. “It can be easily said that George Strait is the embodiment of the Chevy Truck’s most dependable, longest lasting brand positioning.”

Strait has long had the reputation of country music’s keeper of the flame for the traditional sound. Sales of 45 million albums and a long list of awards have followed his country debut in 1981.

The laid-back Texan joins baseball great Cal Ripken, Jr., golf notable Greg Norman, and the men and women of the U.S. Ski Team as Chevy spokespersons. “It’s important for me to be associated with a quality organization like Chevrolet,” said Strait. “I have come to depend on my Chevy truck for many years, and I know Chevrolet is a company that I can trust and that I want to do business with. These are really genuine people who I know will always be there for me and my fans,” Strait added. “I look forward to a long-lasting and mutually rewarding relationship.”

As part of the sponsorship, Chevy Truck will coordinate vehicle displays at each concert venue; coordinate local promotions with Chevrolet dealers; and develop a special “Chevy Truck presents George Strait” concert logo to display on banners and on Strait’s tour trucks.

LITTLE TEXAS’ TIM RUSHLOW and wife Mary Jane recently welcomed their first child, daughter Bailey Nicole. Little Texas is currently working on new material for its next album due out this fall.

FIRST STEPS, INC. ANNOUNCED the fourth annual “Country Steps for First Steps” concert on Feb. 11 at the Grand Ole Opry House. The event will again be hosted by Epic artist Joe Diffie. Joining Diffie will be Mark Collie, Ty Herndon, Lee Roy Parnell and Collin Raye.

THE STATER BROS. SHOW WILL CELEBRATE its 100th episode on TNN by recapping highlights from past shows, including clips from Alan Jackson, Barbara Mandrell and late country legends Conway Twitty and Roger Miller. The show will air Feb. 17.

STEPHEN MCCORD WAS PROMOTED to sr. director of A&R/artist development for MCA Records/Nashville. McCord will focus on product management and artist development from within the A&R dept.

MERCURY NASHVILLE ARTIST KIM RICHIE will kick off a 20-city club tour Feb. 12 at The Continental Club in Austin, TX. Richie is touring in support of her critically-acclaimed, self-titled debut album.

RAZOR & TIE RECORDS WILL RELEASE several reissues in ’96 including Together Again by George Jones and Tammy Wynette; Double Trouble by Jones and Johnny Paycheck, and Jones’ Bartender’s Blues.

DIANE ZANDSTRA HAS JOINED the Nashville office of River North Records as product manager. Zandstra will be involved in production, promotion, marketing and all advertising for the label.

ARISTA NASHVILLE’S STEVE WILLIAMS was promoted to director of A&R. Williams was previously manager of A&R.

PATTY LOVELESS BEGAN A 40-CITY TOUR with Vince Gill on Jan. 16 in Albuquerque, NM. The two are touring together again due to incredible response to last year’s teaming. The Gill/Loveless duet was the #7 growing concert package of any musical genre in 1995.

CAPITOL NASHVILLE’S EMILIO joined Alan Jackson and will be the opening act as the tour continues through the U.S. and Canada. The tejano/country artist will also sing the national anthem at the NBA All-Stars Game on Feb. 11.

THE 1996 DOVE AWARDS WILL BE HOSTED by Reunion Records artist Michael W. Smith. The Awards Show will take place April 25 at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville. The Family Channel, Faith and Values Network and Family Net will simulcast the Dove Awards.

GREG BECKER WAS PROMOTED to director of music publishing for the writer’s group of Copperfield Music Group.

GRETCHEN PETERS, AWARD-WINNING singer/songwriter, has signed with Veritas Music Entertainment and will make her recording debut in March. Peters is a current nominee for the Best Country Song Grammy for her song “You Don’t Even Know Who I Am,” a hit for Patty Loveless. She also has a song on Bonnie Raitt’s album Road Tested.

WAYNE BICKERTON WAS SELECTED to direct the international affairs activities of SESAC. Bickerton will be based in London and will direct an aggressive overseas expansion program for SESAC.
## Country Music

### Top 75 Country Albums

**February 3, 1996**

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Album Name</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Peak Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Very Best Of John Denver</td>
<td>John Denver</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>The Best Of George Jones</td>
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**Last Week's Total Weeks**

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<td>Shania Twain</td>
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<td>Alan Jackson</td>
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<td>Garth Brooks</td>
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<td>John Michael</td>
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<td>Jeff Foxworthy</td>
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### Album Reviews

**By Wendy Newcomer**

- **VARIOUS ARTISTS: The Essential Series (RCA 07863-66818-2)**
  Opening with the genteel Jim Reeves, RCA proudly beckons "Welcome To My World." And so begins a walk down memory lane that includes Skeeter Davis' "The End Of The World," "Any Day Now" by Ronnie Milsap, and the song with nine lives—"I Will Always Love You" by Dolly Parton. Along the way, listeners will also find Vince Gill ("Everybody's Sweetheart") before he found his pot of gold; Willie Nelson's "Night Life" and Jim Ed Brown's "Pop A Top;" and the blueprint for country piano, Floyd Cramer's "Last Date." *The Essential Series* is more than just a collection of hit songs; it is a valuable history lesson from a label that can lay claim to many of the forefathers (and mothers) of country music.

- **VARIOUS ARTISTS: Hats Off! A Tribute To Garth Brooks (By Country Music's Hottest Pickers) (CMH CD-6277)**
  As the album's subtitle says, the hottest players in Nashville are saluting the modern day Elvis of the country airwaves. And lest you think this is only a rehashing of the tracks to Brooks' hits, just one look at the musicians will dissuade that notion. Among the greats on this disc are Randy Howard on fiddle; Roy Huskey, Jr. on bass; Robby Turner on steel guitar; Pat McGrath on rhythm and acoustic guitar; and Richard Bailey on five-string banjo. Each song on the album, from "The Thunder Rolls" to "The River" to "If Tomorrow Never Comes" is taken to a level beyond the over-the-top feel of Brooks' original versions. Not strictly bluegrass and not quite country, the instrumental Hats Off!...should indeed flatter the humble Garth Man.

- **FRAZIER RIVER: Frazier River (Decca DRN3P-3493)**
  None of the guys in Frazier River are brother, but you'd swear they were by the sibling-sounding harmonies coming from this self-titled debut album. Led by Danny Frazier's tightly-wound soulful voice, the group shows promise in its first single, "She What She Deserves," gains attention from radio. The cuts "Heaven Is Smiling," "Last Request" "Everything About You" and "It Won't Bring Her Back" are the best examples of why this band is worth a listen.

### Pick Of The Week

**VARIOUS ARTISTS: Not Fade Away (Remembering Buddy Holly) (Decca DRN1-11260)**

Do we really need another tribute album? If it pays homage to Buddy Holly then the answer is a resounding "Yes!" *Not Fade Away* pairs some unlikely artists to sing classics that are likely to produce new fans of the bejeweled one. Holly music was a hybrid of rockabilly, blues, gospel, R&B and many other styles—not unlike today's country music. So it is fitting to hear Marty Stuart and Steve Earle moaning "Crying, Waiting, Hoping." Or The Mavericks crooning "True Love Ways." Fellow Texans Nancy Griffith (with the Crickets) and Joe Ely (with Todd Snider) sing "Well...All Right" and "Oh Boy!" respectively. *Not Fade Away* is a classy compilation of the work of a classic, timeless performer.
COUNTRY MUSIC

Did you know that "Cowboy Love" by John Michael Montgomery is currently the #1 song on the country charts? And what about "It Matters To Me" by Patty Loveless and "To Be Loved By You" by Wynonna? They just hit #1 on the same chart.

Are you ready for some radio playlists? Here’s what’s playing in heavy rotation:

**KHOK-FM** Great Bend, KS
- "Love Lessons"
- "Rebecca Lynn"

**TRACY BYRD**
- "It Matters To Me"

**BRYAN WHITE**
- "When Boy Meets Girl"

**FAITH HILL**
- "Cowboy Love"

**TERRI CLARK**
- "Cowboy Love"

**JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
- "Cowboy Love"

**WVMR** Dunmore, WV
- "I’ll Try"

**TRAVIS TRITT**
- "Sometimes She Forgets"

**JOE DIFFIE**
- "Bigger Than The Beatles"

**LLE ROY PARNELL**
- "When A Woman Loves A Man"

**TIM MCGRAW**
- "Can’t Be Really Gone"

**ALAN JACKSON**
- "I’m Livin’"

**WKVS** Lenoir, NC
- "Like There Ain’t No Yesterday"

**TERRI CLARK**
- "When Boy Meets Girl"

**JOE DIFFIE**
- "Bigger Than The Beatles"

**FAITH HILL**
- "It Matters To Me"

**JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
- "Cowboy Love"

**WELA-FM** East Liverpool, OH
- "Cowboy Love"

**TIM MCGRAW**
- "Can’t Be Really Gone"

**FAITH HILL**
- "It Matters To Me"

**JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
- "Cowboy Love"

**CLINT BLACK**
- "Life Gets Away"

**PAM TILLIS**
- "Deep Down"

**WRPM** Poplarville, MS
- "Outta Here"

**SHANIA TWAIN**
- "I’m Outta Here"

**TIM MCGRAW**
- "Can’t Be Really Gone"

**TERRI CLARK**
- "When Boy Meets Girl"

**JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
- "Cowboy Love"

**KGKL** San Angelo, TX
- "Heart Half Empty"

**RHETT AKINS**
- "She Said Yes"

**WADE HAYES**
- "What I Meant To Say"

**JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
- "Cowboy Love"

**TERRI CLARK**
- "When Boy Meets Girl"

**WSLR** Roanoke, VA
- "I’m Outta Here"

**FAITH HILL**
- "It Matters To Me"

**JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
- "Cowboy Love"

**DOUG SUPERNAW**
- "Not Enough Hours In The Night"

**TERRI CLARK**
- "When Boy Meets Girl"

**KARA MCENTIRE**
- "Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hands"

**High Debuts**
1. **LEE ROY PARNELL**
   - "Heart’s Desire" (Columbia/DKC)
2. **THE MAVERICKS**
   - "All You Ever Do Is Bring Me Down" (Capitol)
3. **MANDY BARNETT**
   - "Now That’s All Right With Me" (Asylum)

**Most Active**
1. **DIAMOND RIO**
   - "Walkin’ Away" (Arista)
2. **GARTH BROOKS**
   - "The Beaches Of Cheyenne" (Capitol)
3. **PATTY LOVELESS**
   - "You Can Feel Bad" (Atlantic)
4. **WYNONNA**
   - "To Be Loved By You" (MCA)
5. **DARYLE SINGLETARY**
   - "Too Much Fun" (Atlantic)
6. **NEAL MCCOY**
   - "You Gotta Love That" (Atlantic)
7. **ALABAMA**
   - "It Works" (RCA)

**POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST**
The Cash Box Top 100 Country Singles chart is led by Faith Hill single "It Matters To Me." This week’s chart displays seven big movers and three debuts breaking into the Top 50. Leading the way in the most-movement category is Diamond Rio’s "Walkin’ Away" and "The Beaches Of Cheyenne" jumps eight spots to #17, while "You Can Feel Bad" by Patty Loveless also bounds eight spots to #21. Additionally, four other songs moved eight places—Wynonna’s "To Be Loved By You"—#22; "Too Much Fun" by Daryle Singletary—#21; Neal McCoy’s "You Gotta Love That"—#32; and "It Works" by Alabama—#34. As for debuts, three artists hit this week’s Top 50. Leading the way for the highest debut position with the single "Heart’s Desire", is Lee Roy Parnell at #41; The Mavericks enter at #46 with "All You Ever Do Is Bring Me Down"; and Mandy Barnett comes in at #47 with "Now That’s All Right With Me."

**Songwriters Of The Week:** Congratulations again go out to Mark D. Sanders and Ed Hill, writers of the Faith Hill #1 hit, "It Matters To Me."

**CMT Top Twelve Video Countdown**
1. **SHANIA TWAIN**
   - "(If You’re Not In It For Love) I’m Outta Here!" (Mercury)
2. **FAITH HILL**
   - "It Matters To Me" (Warner Bros.)
3. **TERRI CLARK**
   - "When Boy Meets Girl" (Mercury)
4. **DOUG SUPERNAW**
   - "Not Enough Hours In The Night" (Giant)
5. **COLLIN RAYE**
   - "Not That Different" (Atlantic)
6. **WADE HAYES**
   - "What I Meant To Say" (Curb)
7. **BRYAN WHITE**
   - "Rebecca Lynn" (Atlantic)
8. **JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY**
   - "Cowboy Love" (Atlantic)
9. **DWIGHT YoAKAM**
   - "Nothing" (Warner Bros.)
10. **JOE DIFFIE**
    - "Bigger Than The Beatles" (Atlantic)
11. **SAWYER BROWN**
    - "Round Here" (Curb)
12. **MARTINA McBRIEDE**
    - "Wild Angels" (RCA)

—Compliments of CMT video countdown, week ending January 24, 1996.
This Week’s Debut

WILCOX & PARDOE—‘‘Til They Know
How Much You Care”—(Light)—32
BRIAN BARRETT—‘‘Goin’ To’”—(Star Song)—35
JIM WILKERSON—‘‘I’ve Got A Beautiful Friend’”—(ALH)—37

Most Active

BRUCE HAYNES—‘‘Church Of The Cherokee’”—(Cheyenne)—18
RANDY COWARD—‘‘Say No”—(Ropeburn)—20
THE FOX BROTHERS—‘‘Squares’”—(Sierra)—17
DEL WAY—‘‘One Of These Days’”—(Gospel Choice)—27

Powerful On The Playlist

Leading the Cash Box Positive Country singles chart for the second week is Rivers & Owens with ‘‘Not Livin’ That Way No More’’ on the Mark Five label. Susie Luchinger holds fast to the #2 spot with ‘‘You’re It’’. ‘‘Let The Little Things Go’’ by Jeff & Sheri Easter jumps a big five spots to #3. The Manuel Family Band with ‘‘Look Who’s Laughing Now’’ moves up one more to #4 and ‘‘Banking On Jesus’’ by Marvell drops back one to #5. Terri Lynn and ‘‘No Stranger To Treason’’ stays at #6. ‘‘Child Support’’ by The Days also holds on to its position at #7. Judy Daramus moves up to #8 with ‘‘How About Your Heart.’’ Breaking into the Top 10 this week at #9 with ‘‘The Gift’’ is Lisa Dagg. David Patillo’s latest, ‘‘When The World Runs Out Of Parties,’’ is right behind at #10.

LOOKING AHEAD

Singles that are still gaining ground at radio this week include: Lee Greenwood with ‘‘One Day At A Time,’’ ‘‘There Is An Answer’’ by Don Richmond, and ‘‘Never Give Up The Faith’’ by W.C. Taylor.

Catching up backstage at the recent CMA Convention are (L-R): Depp and Bill Britt of the Cumberland Boys; James Payne; and Jim Worthing and Steve Goforth of the Cumberland Boys.
Midway And Nintendo Intro **Killer Instinct**

CHICAGO—Midway Manufacturing Company and Nintendo announced the release of the eagerly awaited **Killer Instinct** coin-operated video game. The new piece, scheduled to arrive in Family Entertainment Centers and arcades in February, is being manufactured under a license agreement between Midway, Nintendo and Rare, the same team that produced the mega hit **Killer Instinct**.

**Killer Instinct** hit the arcade scene in December of 1994 and skyrocketed to the top of the popularity charts within a month. To this day, the game remains on the Top Ten list.

**Killer Instinct** 2 gives players more depth of game play, more graphics, new background visuals, more characters and literally millions of combination moves. Through new technological advancements, players can now have game characters interact with objects and backgrounds as part of each compelling fighting match.

"There are so many new elements that have been added to **Killer Instinct** 2," stated Joe Dillon, vice president of sales for Midway. "Besides the new characters and wild new moves players have been anticipating, the ability to interact with the backgrounds adds entirely new dimensions to game play. This game reaches a new level of entertainment, thanks to the latest graphics and storage technology that are implemented in the game."

**Killer Instinct** 2 features a cast of new characters, highlighted by the inclusion of two new female characters—Kim Wu, a martial arts expert who brandishes nunchuks, and Maya, a barefoot jungle fighter whose expertise is in knives. Another new character, Tusk, is a sword-wielding barbarian.

Overwhelming player demand called for original characters T1Combo, Spinal, Glacius, Fulgore, Sabrewulf, B: Orchid and Jago to be included in this game.

In addition to the new characters and moves, **Killer Instinct** 2 also features a Power Up Bar, which rewards the more aggressive player, regardless of the level of the energy bar.

"We wanted to make this the most challenging fighting game yet in terms of moves and endings," explained Joel Hochberg, co-chairman of the Rare Partnership. "In **Killer Instinct** 2, players will really be challenged with the possibility of mastering up to one million combo moves."

As noted by Ken Lobb, Nintendo product manager consulting on game development, "We stunned the world last year when the combo moves in **Killer Instinct** were created. It's those challenging moves that kept players coming back to master literally hundreds of combos per character."

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**AAMA To Test Radio Advertising Program**

CHICAGO—The board of directors of the American Amusement Machine Association unanimously approved plans for a radio advertising campaign to be test marketed in Minneapolis and its surrounding areas this coming March.

"The coin-operated amusement industry is definitely in need of a program to promote itself to the consumer sector," stated AAMA president Rick Kirby. "We are confident that this program will have a great impact on encouraging people to consider coin-operated amusements as an entertainment option."

The Industry Promotion Committee, led by co-chairman Marty Glazman (Williams Bally/Midway) and Dick Shelton (Valley Recreation Products), took to the task of creating a program which would serve as a promotional tool for the industry. Following the committee's decision to pursue this project, the group retained the services of DiMeo/Rosen Partners, a Chicago-based advertising agency, to oversee all aspects of the program.

"We are very excited to be associated with AAMA on this project," said Bernie DiMeo, senior partner at DiMeo/Rosen. "We are confident that through our strong creative team, we will get the message out regarding coin-operated amusements."

With the assistance of many operators in the state of Minnesota, the project will be launched on March 1 and continue through March 31, 1996. In this time frame, radio advertising spots will be heard continuously on a number of different radio stations throughout the state. Additionally, over 1,000 locations in the state will be promoting the "Great Amusement Giveaway," through signs and other visual materials. At the close of the five-week campaign, a winner will be drawn at random from entries received at all locations, with the grand prize being a piece of coin-operated equipment—either a pinball machine, a dart board or a pool table. A small first prize will be awarded in each different region.

Based upon the results of the test, plans call for expanding the program to a national level.

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**Register Now For ACME ’96**

CHICAGO—An unbeatable agenda has been planned for this year’s American Coin Machine Exposition, scheduled for March 7-9 at the Orange County Convention/Civic Center in Orlando, Florida.

The convention’s tenth anniversary will be highlighted at the opening night Operator’s Cocktail Party where a “memory lane display” will recapture “10 Years Of ACME.”

The very latest in equipment, technology and related services will be showcased on the exhibit floor. The all-encompassing educational program will run the gamut in pertinent subject matter, from redemption, to leagues/tournaments, entertainment leasing and market trends, to name just a few of the topics being covered.

On Friday, March 8, Nolan Bushnell, who originated the video game in America back in 1972, will conduct a session on “New Concepts In Entertainment—Future Parks.” This gives you an idea of the content and expertise ACME’s educational program will offer.

Of special significance this year will be the Disney University Professional Development Programs, being presented in three 90-minute segments, conducted by members of the Disney management team. Cost is $60 for all three sessions or $30 per individual session. Advance registration is required.

Special convention rates for housing are available at the Omni Rosen, Clarion Plaza and Quality Inn Plaza. Reservations must be made through the ACME Housing Bureau.

ACME ’96 is sponsored by the American Amusement Machine Association.

Further information regarding the show may be obtained by contacting William T. Glasgow, Inc., 16066 South Park Ave., South Holland, IL 60473-1500 or phoning 708-333-9292. FAX number is 708-333-4086.
WHY RENT?
Buy a concert arena in entertainment-starved area. For sale indoor arena good for concerts, rodeos, swap meets, etc. Concession areas. 55,000 sq.ft. on 10 acres parking. Main highway frontage. 100' from I-40 freeway. Famous building in Arkansas. Pulls from OK., AR., TN., LA. Near the Fort Smith area. Many large acts such as Garth Brooks have appeared here in this building. Moderately priced. You could make your money back with one concert. Just $395,000 or best offer. Terms. Call R. Decker 501-783-7249 or write: Box 710, Van Buren, AR 72956. (All writing will be confidential)

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Count every word including all words in firm name. Numbers in address count as one word. Minimum ad accepted $10.00 CASH or MONEY ORDER. CHECK MUST ACCOMPANY ALL ORDERS FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING. If cash or check is NOT enclosed with your order your classified ad will be held for following issue pending receipt of payment.

NOTICE - Subscribers: add $80.00 to your present subscription price. Non-subscribers: $260.00 per year. You are entitled to a classified ad of 40 words in each week’s issue for a period of one full year, 52 consecutive weeks. You are allowed to change your classified ad once a month. All words over 40 will be billed at a rate of $.35 per word. Please count words carefully. Be sure your Classified Ad is sent to reach the Los Angeles publication office, 6464 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90028 by Tuesday, 12:00 noon, of preceding week to appear in the following week’s issue.

Classified Ads Close TUESDAY
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