A Blistering Pace For Stabbing Westward

Cover Story

Blistering Pace For Stabbing Westward

If early notices are any indication, Columbia recording act Stabbing Westward might expand on the success it experienced in a new band in 1994. A combination of emotionally vivid rock ballads and touring with established acts that broadened its audience base proved to be what the marketing director ordered for this group’s Unn<header>This Cash Box’s Karen Sidlow talked with band vocalist Christopher Hull about the music on and the upcoming club tour in support of Stabbing Westward’s latest album, Wither Blister Burn & Peel.</header>——see page 5

On A Blues Note

Cash Box this week launches what we believe will be a popular section. It’s all about the blues and the people who make and market the music. Each installment will feature notes and news about this oft-neglected segment of the business, reviews of current product, and most importantly a chart listing the top selling blues titles. After next week’s edition, this section will be offered every other week. Cash Box staffer John Rhys is at the helm.<header>This Check Out Cash Box on The Internet at HTTP://CASHBOX.COM. Also featured on CompuServe!</header>

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GRAMMYS ON INTERNET VIA APPLE

APPLE COMPUTER, INC. has announced it will present live, interactive coverage of the 38th Annual Grammy Awards on the Internet.

The annual awards ceremony, which is telecast to an international audience of more than 1 billion viewers in over 170 countries, will now be accessible to millions more via their Apple Macintosh or Windows computer and Apple QuickTime Live!, Apple's new virtual venue for live, interactive, online entertainment.

"Our new relationship with NARAS demonstrates our corporate focus on partnering with entertainment industry leaders," said Sattiva S. Chahil, sr. vp of corporate marketing, whose responsibilities include entertainment, new media and Internet at Apple. "Music is the hottest content area on the Internet and consequently we believe the Grammy webcast will be the largest event in Internet history."

"We are thrilled to expand our previous Internet productions with the terrific resources of Apple and its QuickTime Live!," added Rob Senn, sr. vp and general manager of NARAS. "It was almost inevitable that the huge importance of music on the Internet would bring together industry leaders such as Apple and the Grammys."

The Grammy ceremonies will be held February 28, hosted by the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences and is the biggest music awards event in the world.
By J.S. Guer

MORE TRUTH IN BEAUTY: Even though they were the first band on a three-band gig on the first day of February, Ugly Beauty, had New York's Mercury Lounge pretty close to full when it started to get the night moving. The standard rock four-piece, with two guys and two girls, doesn't do anything out of the ordinary, they just do it well. Using both tunes that seem instantly recognizable as though they are old friends, along with some odd sonic effects (how many bands will strum a note and then shake the amplifier to get that exact sound) insured that the audience's appreciation was not hidden. The group is certainly poised for letting loose its music on listeners, and have just recently put the pen to paper and signed with Tag Records (a label affiliated with Atlantic). Their first release will not doubt have a number of oglers.

With AN ENGINE AND SOME NOISE: One never knows from which burg or area a band will suddenly stride out with a swagger that is deserved. Car come from a state more known as a summer playground of the well-off and for its outlet stores, Maine. From the band's home in Portland it has honed a power trio that has the country soulness that so many acts have been striving for in the last couple of years. But unlike many of those groups, Car loves none of the pure energy of rock. With a catch to a track that is not coy they sang and yodeled its way through an impressive set at Under Acme on January 31st. The band has a single out on its own Empty Pool Records and has just gotten finished recording its debut LP. On the same bill, but with a much larger crankshaft is the Saffirex barrels out of the City of Brotherly Love. While the boys from Viscetonland charmed, the foursome from Philly just ran full force over everything in sight. Though with tongues firmly planted in their cheeks. With a sound that came close to early Hawkwind, the group laid waste to everything that came within their path, but without losing a firm rhythm. The Saffirex have a few singles out, the latest is on Compulsiv, which comes with a limited edition hand-made silk screened 7” kitchen magnet. Sure to make you envy of all your classmates.

Some Slices of the Apple: Though they have never been given the credit for their accomplishments in Rock history The Kinks have started to make something of a comeback. Frontman Ray Davies has already sold-out a week of solo shows earlier in this month, and is game for more as he spends February 21-25 at the Westbeth Theatre Center. His previous nights have been memorable for rarely performed songs he took out of his voluminous bag of tunes. Whether he is Mr. New Year’s Eve or The King of Latin Jazz, Tito Puente is sure to get people to Samba in their seats. Catch him at the Blue Note from 13th to the 18th.

By Steve Balian

Tom Waits Live: It may not have had the same national impact as Magic Johnson's celebrated return to the L.A. Lakers, but it was apparent from the instant I drove into Oakland, CA for Tom Waits’ first Bay Area appearance in over five years, and first concert anywhere in over three years, that this was more of an event than a concert. Both the S.F. Bay Guardian and the S.F. Weekly ran full page features last week relating to the sold-out show.

With no new album since 1993's The Black Rider, the Island recording artist returned to the stage for a one-off benefit performance. The object of the gig, which Waits consistently reminded fans of, was to raise funds for the legal defense of Don Hyde, a Bay Area promoter facing Federal charges of conspiracy to distribute LSD. Many in the loop on this DEA-inspired case feel Hyde is being wrongly accused, or in the words of Grateful Dead publicist Dennis McNally, who handled the publicity chores for this event, Hyde is being "railroaded."

While the fans were receptive to Waits’ every word, including his comments about the case, they were there to hear one of popular music’s most respected performers, and sometime Bay Area native, return to the stage. And what a return it was.

Backed by Joe Gore on guitar (yes, the same Joe Gore who works at Guitar Player and toured last year with PJ Harvey), Ralph Carney on horns, percussionist Kenny Wollesen and bassist Greg Cohen, who served as musical director on The Black Rider. Waits led the quintet through a two-hour and 45-minute journey through his 24-year career.

Opening with a stripped down version of Bone Machine’s “I Don’t Wanna Grow Up,” the gravelly-voiced crooner played the most selections (nine) from 1992’s critically-acclaimed and Grammy-nominated Bone Machine, an album for which he never toured. He also included many surprise selections, among them; “Heartattack And Vine,” “Christmas Card From A Hooker In Minneapolis,” “On The Nickel,” “Back In The Good Old World” and “Lucky Day.”

The crowd, which included every major San Francisco journalist, as well as a few national publications, called Waits back for four encores, with the standing ovations getting louder after each song. Although, no amount of applause in the world was enough to convey the appreciation the fans obviously felt after witnessing a performance that could only be called magical.

In Celebration of Valentine’s Day, RCA has just released a compilation of the all-time greatest love songs (see review page 9). Keeping with the love-is-in-the-air spirit, while filling some space, here are a few of the rock songs I would consider musts on any collection of this nature. Among them; “Tupelo Honey” (Van Morrison), “I’ll Remember You” and “If You See Her, Say Hello” (Bo Dylam), “Love Is Stronger Than Death” (The Thie), “Jealous Guy” (John Lennon), “Can’t Help Falling In Love With You” (Elvis), “I Want You” (The other Elvis), “Missing” (Arcadia), “What Is Love” (Howard Jones), “Thank You” (Led Zeppelin), “Ruby’s Arms” and “Little Trip To Heaven” (Tom Waits), “The Wedding Song” (Cowboy Junkies), “Nobody’s Child” (Maria McKee) and “In My Life” and “I Will” (The Beatles).
Stabbing Westward Expanding

By Karen Sidlow

IN 1994, COLUMBIA RECORDING act Stabbing Westward released Ungod, a bright debut album that received rave reviews from critics and music lovers alike. Two years later, in January of 1996, the band has put forth Wither Blister Burn & Peel, its anticipated follow-up.

"What Do I Have To Do?", the band's first single from Wither... has received plenty of spins on alternative and rock stations nationwide, and the video recently was added to the highly influential MTV. John Fryer (Nine Inch Nails, Love & Rockets, Cocteau Twins) produced the 10 tracks on the new album just like he mixed and produced the 10 tracks on the first record.

In addition to the aforementioned similarities between Stabbing Westward's two collections, the band has taken another great step towards its "mission" and "vision" of communication without losing depth or passion.

Stabbing Westward managed to collect a broader fan base the last two years because of constant touring, more particularly with Depeche Mode and Killing Joke. The band is about to embark on a club tour that should spark steady sales for the new album.

Speaking of the new record, SW vocalist Christopher Hall openly admits that "the songs are much less bitter this time," and that "there's a lot less finger pointing," while his extremely true words remain cutting and soothingly painful throughout this latest accomplishment.

Wither Blister Burn & Peel also houses several differences from Ungod. Bassist Jim Sellers sarcastically remarks, "(The album) artwork is different." But more seriously, the band has undertaken some personal changes since release of Ungod, including the addition of current guitar player Mark Eliopoulos who joined after Wither... was completed. Therefore for touring purposes the group now consists of vocalist Hall, bassist Sellers, drummer Andy Kubicziewski, keyboardist Walter Flukas and the abovementioned Eliopoulos on guitar.

Hall explains who contributed the guitar sounds on Wither... "(Everyone but Mark) played guitar on the record. We (had every intention) to remain a five piece it's just that when we auditioned people to play on the record it got to the point where we were teaching them the guitar parts. All of a sudden Andy goes, 'Why are we teaching these people guitar parts that we can already play? It's a record. We can do it. You can play guitar and not have to play drums at the same time.' So, then we said we'll worry about the guitar (player) after the record. (It) was cool because it was one less person that could somehow dilute or misinterpret the vision. It's difficult to find people who understand what we do. We have a style that we think works really well.'

The songs that make up Wither... came together in all sorts of different ways. Hall explains, "None of them are throw-aways from the first record but some of them were written before the first album and Andy had some demos that he brought in. (The songwriting process) was very natural." Chris then tells why the band's albums only feature original material. "(Andy) thinks, well, rather than taking the effort to learn a cover why not just write a new song."

Hall further comments on the differences in content of Stabbing Westward's two releases. "This record accomplished a lot of things for us. I think the first record was cool for what it was and I was real proud of it at the time that it came out. But I think that we've grown a lot and I like the direction that we've grown. But over all, I think it was a really good first record." Hall elaborates on the evolution of the band's blunt lyrics. "It's a little more cleaned up. I replaced all the "f-ks" with pronouns." He jokingly adds, "But you know that one fourth of f-ks is 'u'..."

Now that the band is pleased with its recorded material, they hope to solve an issue that plagued them while on the road in support of their debut: sharing the bill with band's whose sound and image didn't complement Westward's. While he noted a largely positive experience with Depeche Mode and Killing Joke, Hall expresses the downside of performing with some other band bands. "For the last (record) we really didn't think much about that sort of thing. (Our opinion was) we'll play with anybody who wants us to play with them. But now, we are starting to see that all those sort of decisions are really important. (Because now) a lot of people think we are a weird-alternative-metal band, and we're not. (In some situations) there's this massive mosh pit and it's almost to the point that nobody even paying attention to the band. They're just moshing. We're not that type of band. We write love songs and songs about relationships. I mean sometimes they get really intense and angry, but they are not mosh-pit songs." On the other hand, the band did eventually hook up with music groups whose audio and visual was more suitable. "I thought Killing Joke was pretty accurate. I thought Front 242 was pretty accurate. We're not industrial like they are, but it's still the same sort of amount of intensity."

In the future Stabbing Westward hopes to share stages with new acts like Garbage and the Foo Fighters or more prime groups as the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Smashing Pumpkins. Hall tells of his ideal billing. "I would like to play with The Cure. I would like to play in front of the Cure's audience. They listen. They are into the music, the lyrics, the vibe... They focus on it. They live it. They breathe it. They got into it. You play your music with emotional sincerity and they appreciate it."

The band would never turn people away from its shows, but Hall says, "It would just be nice to look into the audience and see people who listen and know what the songs are about. It's just that there's different crowds that appreciate different music in a different way. We want a blend of people listening and a blend of people violently participating."

On the band's club tour in support of Wither Blister Burn & Peel, set to hit the road at the end of February, Stabbing Westward has every intention of spending as much time as possible performing its emotionally aggressive songs on a variety of stages. But this time, the band is "determined to tour in a wise and responsible way" and continue on its "quest from a clean toilet and soft, non-abrasive toilet paper," Hall amusingly, yet honestly declares. Not an unreasonable request, just an odd one.
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<th>Song</th>
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<td>Mariah Carey</td>
<td>ONE SWEET DAY</td>
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<td>Everything But The Girl</td>
<td>MISSING (Atlantic 57124)</td>
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<td>Joan Osborne</td>
<td>ONE OF US (Blue Garlitz/Mercury 52380)</td>
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<td>Whitney Houston</td>
<td>WE GOT IT (A&amp;M 5149)</td>
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<td>La Bouche</td>
<td>BE MY LOVER (RCA 56449)</td>
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<td>The Tony Rich Project</td>
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<td>Faith Evans</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Monica</td>
<td>19 BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE/LIKE THIS AND LIKE THAT</td>
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**CASH BOX TOP 100 POP SINGLES**

**FEBRUARY 17, 1996**

This Week's #1:

Mariah Carey

High Debut:

George Michael
PICK OF THE WEEK

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REVIEWS

By Steve Balchin

STING: "Let Your Soul Be Your Pilot" (A&M 00164)

One thing Sting has never been accused of is being down-to-earth. This strangely titled single from his forthcoming Mercury collection won't do anything to damage that reputation. However, it never seems to bother him, many fans. Blending the Adult Contemporary sound he's mastered in recent years with a tinge of jazz and an effective gospel-melting into a Police sounding, Sting has come up with another radio hit. His new album, View, will likely be a hit and offers a lot of support for this single.

MENTHOL: "Stress Is Best" (Capitol 76938)

The new single from the Illinois trio's Brad Wood-produced debut finds the band surrounding a guitar-heavy chorus with quietly thumping verses. Far from one of the best tracks on this underrated album, "Stress Is Best" still has a lot going for it, but may not win in the air. Jones' attention-stopping�能够 lead the crowd to the table. At least fans will be inclined to seek out the songs that better represent this band's talent.

HOWARD JONES: "New Song" (Plump 6902)

A highly infectious reading of Jones' first big American hit, this live version from Jones' new Live America CD is not only a strong romp down memory lane, but breathes a new air. Jones' on-key performances lead the crowd through a delightful sing-along of the chorus. A winning song in every fashion, "New Song" is one of the best uses of the acoustic format I've heard yet. Great for Triple A, CHR and every fan that considers Jones a part of adolescence.

SEAWEED: "Magic Mountain" (Hollywood 10548-2)

The second single from the Washington quintet's spacious album should quickly follow its predecessor on the airwaves. A melodic hard rock song, "Magic Mountain" has a spacey vibe that reflects its title. Kind of like a really hard 60s rock song, the peculiarities even give the song a flavor that stands out. Look for revitalized rock stations to pounce on this energetic rocker.

CHRIS ISAAK: "Graduation Day" (Reprise/Warner Bros. 7963)

With Valentine's Day upon us, who better to single out than 1995's champion of lonely hearts. The third single from Isak's Grammy-nominated Forever Blue should get a big boost at CHR. Top 40 and Adult Contemporary from placement on the soundtrack of Miramax's Beautiful Girls. A haunting song about learning life's lessons, good and bad, "Graduation Day" finds Isak's to demand deep voice sounding perfect. When Isak sings, "Thought you loved me, I was wrong" Life goes on" against the backdrop of the acoustic guitar, 'it's a moment of heartbreaking honesty. One of the album's best numbers, this should finally be the single that breaks this superb disc.
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<td>FRESH HORSES</td>
<td>Garth Brooks</td>
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<td>(Ruthless/Compton 67441)</td>
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<td>SOMETHING TO REMEMBER</td>
<td>Madonna</td>
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<td>MISS THANG (Rowdy/Rasta 37006)</td>
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<td>DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996</td>
<td>Seal</td>
<td>(Warner Bros. 54155)</td>
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**This Week's #1:**

**Waiting To Exhale** (Arista 18796)

**To Watch:**

**The Tony Rich Project**
REVIEWS by Steve Baltin

**VARIOUS ARTISTS: Mr. Wrong:** Original Motion Picture Soundtrack (Hollywood Records 62041-2)

Keeping with our Valentine’s Day motif, we have the soundtrack to the new romantic comedy starring Ellen DeGeneres and Bill Pullman, though the real beneficiary of this Valentine is Hollywood Records. Released just as Grammy heats up the soundtrack, made up of almost all-new material, is anchored by Joan Osborne’s stunningly throaty, “Sirens and Acquaintances.” A powerful track, it almost makes the soundtrack worthwhile in its own right.

But Osborne has some help from two young bands, Wild Colonials and Ben Folds Five, who nearly steal the album from more renowned singers like Chris Isaak, Shawn Colvin, Amy Grant and Sophie B. Hawkins. The Colonials check in with an inspired cover of Tom Jones’ “It’s Not Unusual” that shows off the unique arrangements of this gifted young act. Fans who’ve seen Ben Folds Five live are already familiar with the group’s broken-hearted anthem, “Song For The Dumped.” A song that demonstrates both their strong sense of humor and Squeezy-ish melodies, “Song For The Dumped” should help get this wonderful band the attention they deserve.

**VARIOUS ARTISTS: Beautiful Girls:** Original Soundtrack (Elektra 61888-2)

Comprised of classics from the ’70s, including Neil Diamond’s “Sweet Caroline,” “The Spinners’ “Could It Be I’m Falling In Love” and Billy Paul’s forever cool “Me And Mrs. Jones,” as well as current hits from Chris Isaak (“Graduation Day”) and Sisqol (“Suffering”) and a few stellar new songs, including two selections from the Afghan Whigs. The Whigs provide the brightest of the album’s many highlights, particularly with the band’s soulful cover of Barry White’s “Can’t Get Enough Of Your Love, Babe.” A fantastic collection that works both as a memory triggering device and a strong musical record.

**MARION: This World And Body** (London 826695-2)

The debut album from this Manchester-based quartet, who recently graced the cover of *Melody Maker*, rocks with a guitar intensity seldom found in pop music. Led by the strong hooks of vocalist Jaime Harding and guitarist Phil Cunningham and Anthony Grantham, who write all the band’s songs, Marion has a sound that certainly qualifies as distinct. Beneath the pop-rock melodies one finds a slight art rock tendency in tracks like “Let’s All Go Together.” A file that takes multiple listens to sort out, Marion has at least made a record worthy of giving it that thought.

**VARIOUS ARTISTS: Do You Love Me? (All-Time Best Love Songs)** (RCA 66812-2)

Producer Paul Williams hopefully has his tongue firmly in cheek with this collection of some of the cheesiest songs ever written. If you take it with an ocean of salt, this 17-song compilation, which includes such ’70s tear-jerkers as MacGregor’s “Torn Between Two Lovers” (the song that inspired a TV movie), Nilsson’s “Without You,” Art Supply’s “All Of Love,” as well as the more up-tempo “My Angel Baby,” from Tony Bennett and the soulful “Sara Smile” from Hall & Oates. There are some other selections that seem completely out of place, from Mr. Mister and Boy Meets Girl, that give this album an eclectic feel. Might be fun if you’re drunk at three in the morning.

**FRANK SINATRA: Everything Happens To Me** (Reprise/Warner Bros. 46116-2)

Though not quite the elaborate productions that the Reprise box set or the Capitol collections were, this 19-song collection, sung and selected by the master himself, is a much more reasonably priced investment for the average fan. Featuring such standards as “Summer Wind,” “Come Rain Or Come Shine,” “All My Tomorrows” and “If You Go Away,” this beautiful compilation that when it comes to amo, there’s still no one who does it with the class of Ol’ Blue Eyes. An album for Valentine’s Day and every other day of the year.

**PICK OF THE WEEK**

**GAVIN FRIDAY: Shag Tobacco** (Island 314 524 126)

Outside of his native Ireland, the former Virgin Prunes frontman is still best known for his close friendship with U2’s Bono, which resulted in a collaboration on the In The Name Of The Father soundtrack. However, any one who saw 1993’s cabaret-like club tour in support of the underrated Adam And Eve album knows that Friday’s hypnotic soul stands out on its own. On his third solo record the multi-talented Friday exudes a cool sensuality that gives his Peter Gabriel-meets-Leonard Cohen type vocals a uniquely entrancing sound. Among the standout selections on the 12-song disc are the playful “Mr. Pussy,” “Little Black Dress” and the title track, and but the record’s real highlight is the powerful “My Twentieth Century.” Fiercely hypnotic in its mature cynicism, “My Twentieth Century” is both a brilliant statement and song. For fans who want to think, Shag Tobacco is a compelling work.
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Song Name</th>
<th>Artist</th>
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<tr>
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<td>CASH BOX TOP 100 URBAN SINGLES</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 17, 1996</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>This Week's #1:</td>
<td>High Debut: Pure Soul</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>NOT GOIN' CRY (FROM &quot;WAITING TO EXHALE&quot;)</td>
<td>Mary J. Blige</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>SITTIN' UP IN MY ROOM</td>
<td>Brandy</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>BEFORE YOU WALK OUT OF MY LIFE/ LIKE THIS AND LIKE THAT</td>
<td>Monica</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>ONE SWEET DAY (Atlantic 66700)</td>
<td>Mariah Carey &amp; Boyz II Men</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO PUT IT</td>
<td>Solo</td>
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<td>TONITE'S THE NIGHT (Ruffhouse/Columbia 75092)</td>
<td>Kris Kross</td>
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<td>NO ONE ELSE (Atlantic 79041)</td>
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<td>WE GOT IT (MCA 55148)</td>
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<td>ALL THE THINGS (YOUR MAN WON'T DO)</td>
<td>Joe DEBUT</td>
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<td>DO YOU WANT TO (So So Def/Columbia 70022)</td>
<td>Xscape</td>
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<td>SOON AS I GET HOME (Bad Boy/Atlantic 9431)</td>
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<td>LOVE U 4 LIFE (UpTown/MCA 11258)</td>
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THE WANTED: "Down" — a track to watch.
OUTBURST

TOP 75 R&B ALBUMS

CASH BOX • FEBRUARY 17, 1996

1. WAITING TO EXHALE (Atlantic 18796) Soundtrack 1 9
2. R. KELLY (Jive 41579) ... R. Kelly 2 9
3. Q'S JOCK JOINT (Crest 45766) Quincy Jones 3 10
4. YOUNG, RICH AND DANGEROUS (Ruffhouse/Columbia 67441) Kris Kross 4 4
5. DON'T BE A MENACE TO SOUTH CENTRAL... Solo 6 10
6. (Ruffhouse/Columbia 52414) Soundtrack 7 4
7. BROWN SUGAR (EMI 238239) D'Angelo 8 38
8. MR. SMITH (REAL Def Jam 532845) LL Cool J 9 8
9. MISS THANG (Rawly/RCA 37069) Monica 9 26
10. HOSPITAL (Columbia 24247) The D.O.C. 10 11
11. DAY DREAM (Columbia 66701) Mariah Carey 10 14
12. FAITH (Atlantic 72003) Faith Evans 11 20
13. DOGG FOOD (Death Row/Interscope/Priority 50546) Da Tha Dogg Pound 13 10
14. FABRICATION FORMULA (EMI 364309) Gerald Levert 14 32
15. OFF THE HOOK (So So Def/Columbia 67022) Xscape 15 27
16. FUNKMASTER FLEX: 60 MINUTES OF FUNK (LoL 256061) Various Artists 14 10
17. ON TOP OF THE WORLD (Relativity 1512) EightBall & MJG 19 12
18. GAME RELATED (Scoo V/EMI 41852) The Click 17 11
19. SOUL FOOD (La Face/Atlantic 30186) Goodie Mob 16 11
20. THE BEST (Motown 11356) Immature 18 7
21. CONSPIRACY (Unidisc/Big Bag/EML 92614) Junior M.A.F.I.A. 25 21
22. MIND OF MYSTIKAL (Big Boy/Fletcher 14581) Mystikal 22 18
23. STRIPED BLOOD STREET 7 OF TANAPAHU'N IN COMPTON (Ruffhouse/Relativity 5506) Easy E DEBUT
25. SILK (EMI 238239) Silk 21 9
26. E. 1999 ETERNAL (Ruffhouse/Relativity 5506) Bone Thugs N Harmony 27 26
27. LIQUID SWORDS (Cetten 24415) Genius/GZA 23 12
28. LOW (Columbia 51911) Boyz II Men 25 12
29. CRAYZEE SKY (La Face/Atlantic 26609) TLC 30 59
30. GROOVE THEORY (Epic 57241) Groove Theory 33 13
31. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (EMI 81737) Telly Ellis 31 9
32. DESIGN OF A DECADE 1986/1996 (Jive 43395) Janet Jackson 32 14
33. I REFUSE TO BE LONELY (PIR/Zoo 11540) Phyllis Hyman 34 10
34. B.L.C.K. (EMI 238239) Spice 1 20 7
35. CYPRESS HILL (THERAPY OF BOOM) Cypress Hill 36 12
36. DOUBLE OR NOTHING (Def Jam/Atlantic 52286) Eggert Svensson 37 3
37. BRIAN MC KENT (EMI 35398) Brian McKnight 38 24
38. ONLY BUILT 4 LUCAN LINK (Jive 66973) Chef Raekwon 45 26
39. RATED G (Trai 72846) Top Boy Authority 41 10
40. THE REMIX COLLECTION (Motown 359364) Boyz II Men 39 10
41. MOODS (Jive 43279) Will Downing 40 10
42. WORDS (La Face/Atlantic 26223) The Tony Rich Project 46 3
43. DOWN SOUTH HUSTLERS Various Artists 47 5
44. SMOOTH GROOVES: A SENSATIONAL COLLECTION. VOL. 5 (Rhino/G/S 27016) Various Artists DEBUT
45. CAFÉ SOUL (EMI 17163) Easy E 29 7
46. JEALOUS ONE'S ENVY (Relativity 1239) Fat Joe 42 13
47. ALL WE GOT (Jive/Atlantic 52952) Onyx 43 12
48. SODA AROUND THE GRP (EMI 8299) Jadoncroy 57 4
49. DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME (BMG 35102) Dangerous Crew 58 8
50. LARABEY (EMI 82795) The Pharcyde 50 9
51. BRANDY (Atlantic 82610) Brandy 53 66
52. GREATEST HITS (Ruff Stuff/Capitol 30600) Al Green 56 24
53. 4 5 6 (EMI 70806) Kool G Rap 49 16
54. RATED E (Rap-A-Lot 47058) 5th Ward Boyz 51 3
55. NEW LIFE (A&M 63062) Webster 60 12
56. MARSHALL EH S.O.S. BAND (EMI 5504) S.O.S. Band 68 13
57. DEAD PRESIDENTS (Capitol 32438) Soundtrack 28 24
58. HISTORY: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE BOOK (EMI 35999) Michael Jackson 55 31
59. THE SHOW (Def Jam/RCA Island 52091) Soundtrack 44 22
60. OPERATION STAKOLA (C-Note/Noo Trybe 52324) Luniz 52 29
61. ME AGAINST THE WORLD (Interscope 52399) 2Pac 67 45
62. KIRK FRANKLIN & FAMILY (Gospel/Centric 72119) Kirk Franklin & Family 68 57
63. MY LIFE (Motown 11156) Mary J. Blige 68 59
64. LIVING PROOF (Phaddy/RFR Island 52532) Group Hug 69 8
65. DO OR DIE (EMI 36351) AZ 62 15
66. II (Motown 530523) Boyz II Men 61 70
67. ANTHOLOGY (The Right Stuff/Capitol 35805) Maze Feat. Frankie Beverly 67 5
68. BEST OF C-BO (Jive 7199) C-Bo 63 10
69. BROKEN (Intersound 91945) William Benton & Friends 70 30
70. DEBUT CD (EMI 238239) Deborah Cox 71 24
71. TRUE (Priority 52939) Tru 75 28
72. FRIDAY (Priority 35983) Soundtrack 74 42
73. PURE SOUL (Stephan/Interscope 92638) Pure Soul 72 14
74. BOOMBASTIC (Rhino 40518) Shaggy 71 26
75. DANGEROUS MINDS (EMI 11228) Soundtrack 48 25

By Gil L. Robertson IV

Hot on the heels of their auspicious debut, Outburst's sizzlin' trio MokenStef have completed a new video in conjunction with their soon-to-be released single, "Baby Come Close." Here they take a break during the video shoot. From [l-r]: Ant Lewis, president/CEO, Outburst Records; Lisa Seilers, 167 Management; MokenStef, Stephanie, Kenya and Mona; Jeff Dyson, vice president, 617 Management. Rear: director Cameron Casey, Greg Jessie, vice president, Outburst Records; and Brook Payne, president/CEO 617 Management.

QUINCY JONES, MUSICIAN PERSON OF THE YEAR. Brandy, Coolio, Brian McKnight, James Moody, Shaquille O'Neal, Tale, Tone Loc, Charlie Wilson, Warren Wiebe, Stevie Wonder and Yo Majesty will rotate in song to twenty-six-time Grammy winner Quincy Jones. Jones' is the sixth MusiCares Personnel of the Year since the organization first began giving the dinners in 1991. Past inductees include David Crosby, Bonnie Raitt, Natalie Cole, Gloria Estefan and Tony Bennett. Established in 1989 by NARAS to assist music people in need, MusiCares provides a wide range of critical health and human services for everyone who pursues a career in the music industry. For information on purchasing tickets, tables or recognition in the souvenirs program for the event, contact Dana Tomarken at 310 392 3777.

DIS N' DAT: Gospel music hits the information highway with the creation of Inside Gospel, an internet site that allows its viewers to hear and review, from their favorite gospel performers. Call 1-800-364-9141 for more details. In celebration of Black History Month, BMG Entertainment North America will launch Peep's Republic, an interactive celebration of black music and culture. The new Web site is the first genre-based music site from one of the six major music companies and it provides comprehensive biographical information, audio and video clips about artists on the BMG Entertainment label list, as well as editorial content on current issues and trends in African American culture. Nine different artists will be featured initially: February artists are TLC, The Notorious B.I.G., R-Kelly, Monica, Omar, Mackwson, Deborah Cox, Eta James and Questionmark Asylum. New artists will be added monthly. Perspective Records also celebrated Black History Month on the internet with a series of online chat-line featuring their artist's lineup.
MUSICAL REVOLUTION HITS SOUTH AFRICA: Long suffering South Africans have finally risen to celebrate their new found freedom and voice. Combining township music (Magenta), contemporary pop and electronic instrumentation, several groups from the country have become supergroups almost overnight, selling millions of albums. The most popular of these new bands are three young women known as The Dalom Kids and four young men known as Splash. Both are almost entirely the creation of 32-year-old Dan Ndlovu Tshanda. Playfully referred to in his home country as "the Quincy Jones of South Africa," Tshanda is an internationally respected producer singer-songwriter and musician whose credits include eight Gold and Platinum recordings by Splash, The Dalom Kids and Patricia Majalis. His music, which has helped redefine popular music in South Africa is now available in the United States through Putumayo World Music. Do yourself a favor and check it out.

DIS 'N' DAT: Performer KRS-One, Joe "The Butcher" Nicolai of Ruffhouse Records, Danny Goldberg, president and CEO of Mercury Records along with other creative and business professionals are in a video about the music business, entitled Make It Happen! In Hip-Hop and Rap. The forty-minute video, produced by RMD and Associates, is designed to give up-and-coming artists firsthand information about getting heard; A&R, putting out your own record; sampling and music publishing; and attorneys and managers. The video also includes interviews with Afrika Islam, Ed Eckstein, Jon Baker, Jeff Sedge, Cat Stevens, Patrick Moxey, Alan Siegel, Evan Lamberg and Kim Jackson. For more information call 1-800-220-3385...Make sure to check out Cypress Hill's new single "Illusions," from their Platinium III: Temples of Boom disc. The group is currently on the first leg of a US tour with 311 and the Pharcyde... Ziggy Marley and The Melody Makers have been busy lately making some very serious power moves. The first family of reggae was recently nominated for a Grammy for their Free Like We Want 2 album, and they will also be performing the first single, "Love Power," from the soundtrack to the Walt Disney film Muppet Treasure Island. Always committed to human rights and environmental causes, Ziggy and the Melody Makers recently performed at the Redbook Human Rights Awards. The group is currently gearing up to begin a national tour, so make sure to check them out. Speaking of the Marley clan, Universal Studios in Florida and Marley mom, Rita, recently announced plans to create the Bob Marley - Tribute To Freedom entertainment complex. The complex, which is a part of Universal's further expansion into a world class destination resort, will celebrate the music and culture made famous by the late reggae superstar.

By Michael Hill

- RAPPM 4-TAY: " Ain't No Playa" (4PRO 10459)

4-Tay is at it early this year. He is putting out his version of pimp playa style Bay area funk for the masses. This single delivers in classic 4-Tay style, and offers music that is cool to cruise the streets to. This sampler also has snippets of other songs to be released on his forthcoming album Off Parole. Be ready to hear a little somethin' from 4-Tay, and don't be surprised if you find yourself grooving to it.

- NONCHALANT: "5 O' Clock" (MCACS 55075)

She calls herself Nonchalant, but her first single says she definitely has care and worries. This east coast-influenced track has an hypnotic effect that is sure to get a party started. The rapper's lyrics tell of how the young black male kills off his own people. It is a message that she delivers loud and descriptively clear. This single is a real winner and should do well for this highly talented rapper.

- MIC GERONIMO: "The Natural" (TVT 4819-2P)

Somebody at Blunt Records was on his P's and Q's when they had Clark Kent do some Superman shit to this single. This single is nice. Well actually there are two remixes and only one of them really sets me off. That mix is the Ghetto Mix which is an instrumental that makes you want to move to Mic's lyrics bounce off your eardrums. This should be a great club tune, and I expect good BDS from the Mix Show formats.

- BIG U: "You Don't Have To Take It" (Street Pride 09973)

With the high volume of rap singles being introduced into the marketplace every week, its often hard for the tiny independents to put out quality singles which can compete with the majors. Big U has the stuff to be a contender. This single has a quick moving soul/funk track and Big U's rap style is in pocket. The track conveys a message about domestic violence, and the fact that women don't have to accept it. This could be a good single for Street Pride Records. Good Luck!
Jazz Reviews
By M.R. Martinez

**THELONIOUS MONK: The Complete London Collection (Black Lion BLCD 7601-2), Producer:**

The legend of Monk is prodigious, and this three-disc collection of recordings never before released in the United States embodies his last commercial sessions. Although Monk left this corporeal plane on Feb. 17, 1982, this recording, made in one sitting on Nov. 15, 1971 at London's Chappell Studios, does provide a broad spectral analysis of the pianist/composer's eccentricities. Featuring Monk in solo settings and with a trio—including bassist Al McKibbon and drummer Art Blakey—the music provides a sampling of Monk's sense of colorful melody, angular rhythms and beguiling sense of interplay and harmony. His own songbook is marvelously represented in the guise of "'Trine Twinkle," "Misterioso," "Crepuscule With Nellie," little-known gems like "Blue Sphere" and "Jackieing" and "Little Rootie Tooie." But he weaves his most alluring attractions around George Gershwin's "Nice Work If You Can Get It," making this standard his own creative terrain. For musical character study, this collection will be hard to beat as a primer and pleasing collector's setpiece.

**GEORGE DUKE: Muir Woods Suite (Warner Bros. 46132-2), Producer: George Duke.**

Duke acquits himself ably on this album as he pays homage to the majesty of the forest in a live setting. The San Francisco Bay area native shows up as a masterful composer and orchestrator and pianist, able to turn introspective tonal and harmonic coloring into expressive dimensions of musculature. Duke has capable companions on this project. Usual suspect Stanley Clarke on bass and accomplished sidemen such as Chester Thompson (drums) and irrepressible percussionist Paulinho Da Costa form a core around which the L' Orchestre National de Lille, under the direction of Eliore Strata, provide textures for an array of hop, post-hop and Afro-Carb sounds. The panoramic sound vista on this record can be listened to intently, or embraced to paint the emotional ambiance of a room. Progressive college and even some expansive minded classical and new music stations should explore this forest.

**WESSELAND ANDERSON: The Ways of Warmaddy (Atlantic Jazz 82860-2), Producer: Billy Banks.**

Anderson keeps things in a mellow and accessible tone through most of this collection, which is a marvelous showcase for his rich, warmly hued tones. The most expansive settings here are the many tempo items on the menu. The heavy and fun-filled helping of warm work on "Sundays Soulful Supper," gives way to the "Change of Heart Blues," a meal best consumed on the run. On both tracks, jazz statesman Ellis Marsalis helps spice the plate. On a pair of tunes made famous by Duke Ellington—"Rockin' In Rhythm" and "Mood Indigo"—Anderson demonstrates that he can take an existing recipe and leave his signature sauce in the mix. The rhythm section of bassist Taurus Mateen and Donald Edwards on drums provide the right garnish to this bouquet of rich, savory sonic aroma.

**TOP 25 JAZZ ALBUMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Album Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Q's Jook Joint</td>
<td>Quincy Jones</td>
<td>Warner Bros. 45975</td>
<td>1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Breathless</td>
<td>Kenny G</td>
<td>High Note</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Thinking About You</td>
<td>Gerald Albright</td>
<td>Blue Note</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Moons</td>
<td>JVC</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Elijah</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Naked and True</td>
<td>Randy Crawford</td>
<td>Warner Bros. 45922</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Najee Plays Songs From the Key of Life</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
<td>JVC</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tribute to Stevie Wonder</td>
<td>Najee</td>
<td>Warner Bros. 45911</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Get Shorty</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
<td>Blue Note</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Joe Cool's Blues</td>
<td>Wynton &amp; Ellis Marsalis</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Giving Myself to You</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
<td>Blue Note</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>A Wonderful Life, Sax at the Movies</td>
<td>Various Artists</td>
<td>Warner Bros. 45914</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE WALLACE RONEY QUINTET: The Wall Street Roney Quintet (Warner Bros. 45914-2), Producer: Teo Macero.**

Since sitting in for the late Miles during a date in Montreux with Quincy Jones, and later on a tribute album that featured many of the musicians with whom the trumpet icon was associated, Roney has been closely watched as he has developed an increasingly singular identity. To his credit, like Miles, he can employ an economy of notes in a bluesy lop that encourages his collaborators to embellish the sonic palette. This is most evident on "Spyra," a song that is flowing despite angular rhythmic and tonal excursions. Polyphrases and multi-layered space are abundant on "Astral Radium," as supplied by brother Antoine Roney on tenor sax, pianist Carlos McKinney, drummer Eric Allen and bassist Clarence Searcy. Roney's trumpet work couched in bright arrangements on the classic "Night And Day" provide an articulate reading that is the real barometer of how much an individual this man has become, and also how fortunate he was to imitate the Miles Davis experience. The tribute to contemporary star pianist Geri Allen, "Geri," is a "cool" aid for those jazz purists with a taste for the current.
Riffs & Reviews
By John Rhyys

A BIG "Welcome Back" to Jim Cantale of Entertainment Services International. Cantale has recently returned from an extensive tour of Mayan country in Mexico where, I understand, he climbed more pyramids than he wanted to count.

A great way to stay in shape, Jim... Due to recent layoffs at Capitol Records, Don Schmimmerle is now looking for work. If anyone needs an excellent man, give Don a call at 615-269-5053. You'll be glad you did.

Pauline Lewis, wife of Mr. Stan Lewis of Jewel/Paula Records, is recovering at home from a rather serious operation and Cash Box sends her our best wishes for a speedy recovery... Welcome to Sandy Josephson of Las Vegas. Sandy will be reporting to Cash Box on events happening in and around the sandbox playground of the world... We are sad to hear of the demise of the semi-famous cult figure, The Young Marqués. Once a highly rated radio talent on world famous KROQ in Los Angeles, he last was believed to have been working as a towel boy in a well known Manila brothel. He died with the words "I'm dead, he's on his thick, stubbly lips. LA will miss you Marqués..."

Bob Peterson and Wendyl Phillips of Shattered Music recently returned from Cannes and the MIDEM convention where they were working the floor pretty hard. They should have no problems, though.

Also, they have for sale. Check CompuServe for the upcoming live chat with the incredible band Blue By Nature, released exclusively by Shattered Music in Hollywood... Cash Box welcomes to L.A., Eddie "Hit Me With Your Best Shot" Schwartz. One of the most prolific writers in Canada, sales of records that contain Eddie's works now total over 20 million units. You've come a long way from Hollywood Central, eh Eddie? Also look for Eddie and Cash Box on CompuServe having a little chat in the next two weeks. Hi to the boys from Pollstar. In town this weekend for the Pollstar Awards were Gary Bongiovanni, editor and chief. Gary D. Smith, director of development and marketing and Bradley J. Smith, box office editor. Accompanying the boys of Pollstar was H. Stuart Barret of Barrettone Music of Fresno. Hope everything went well for everyone.

Rene Grace from Waldox Records in Jackson, MI reports to Cash Box that artists Keri Leigh and James Petersen are picking up lots of attention from all over the country. She also reports that three out of four members of the Washington, D.C. Blues Society have picked Ernie Johnson's "In The Mood" as one of their top ten picks for 1995. Reno, your faith will be rewarded. This writer has come up with the real story on that fight that broke out at the Pointer Sisters Christmas party. It seems that Jeffery, (Bonnie Pointers' husband), got a little tilted and started a fight with Bonnie. June Pointer, the hero of this story, stepped in to stop the fight and wound up getting her nose broken in the process. Undaunted, June picked up an ice bucket and whacked Jeffery on the head, knocking him cold. The whole thing's gonna wind up in court. I'm supporting June, bless her heart. Thanks for all the E Mail. Please keep it coming. CBOX@IX.NETCOM.COM

Reviews

VARIOUS ARTISTS: The King R&B Box Set (King-KBSCD-7002).

ATTENTION! One of the finer collections of original blues product of which this reviewer has had the pleasure to hear. An absolute "must have" for any collector, this four CD set contains not only recorded product from 1945 to 1965 but also a printed history of world famous King Records, complete with never before seen photos plus actual recordings of founder Syd Nathan conducting a meeting of his A&R staff and also a sales meeting where Nathan states his philosophy of dealing with the music industry. Many of his methods still hold up today. As far as Blues and Rythum and Blue are concerned, this set steps to the forefront with the Atlantic releases of the early years. The King set encompasses 85 cuts, all reproduced in their original form, with bio and a history of all the acts involved including B.B. King, B.B. King, Wynonie Harris, Lonnie Johnson, Roy Brown, Earl Bostic, Ivory Joe Hunter, The Pines, The Boogie Cats, James Brown and many more. Researchers for television, film and education will have a field day with this treasury from King.

ROLAND STONE: Remember Me (Orleans-OR1111).

Want to take a trip to New Orleans? Here's how. It won't cost much either. Just go down to your local CD dealer and purchase a copy of a remarkable release on the Orleans label titled "The Original Roland Stone, Remember Me." Producer Carlo Ditta has crafted a marvelous record recreating the absolute feel of the real New Orleans sound. Roland Stone, an original member of the Ace Records family and lead vocalist of The Skyliners (a band headed by Mac Rebennack aka Dr. John of "Night Tripper" fame) sings today with the grace and style he did in the early '60s. Roland's interpretation of "Lovely Dovey" and "You Can Make It If You Try" defy gravity. The performances of the imitable Dr. John and the rest of the boys capture the city of New Orleans in a way that makes you want to dance along the French Quarter. So, grab this record, stop by the grocery store and pick up some Zatarains and crawfish, invite a bunch of friends over and ball the night away.

KING FLOYD: Choice Cuts (Waldox WCD 2804).

Looks like Waldox might have another winner with King Floyd. Tastefully produced by Tommy Couch, Wolf Stephenson, James Stroud and Elbridge Walker, this compilation CD is reflective of the great R&B heyday of the '60s when Otis Redding was killin' 'em at the Jungle Club in Miami and Sam and Dave were packing three shows a night at the Twenty Grand in Detroit. A true singer in the real R&B vein, King Floyd adds vocal prowess to tunes, which are well arranged by Wardell Quezergue and comes up with a CD that should do very well at soul and blues outlets across the USA. Standout tracks are: "Groove Me" (Floyd's original hit), the reggae-tinged "I Really Love You" and the Otis Redding penned, "Hard To Handle."
Miramax's Beautiful Girls
Beautifully Acted

By Steve Baltin

ANCHORED BY A QUARTET OF STRONG PERFORMANCES, and a fine supporting ensemble cast, Ted Demme directs (from a Scott Rosenberg script) a twentysomething film about commitment-phobic men and the women in their lives. Transcending its occasional foray into St. Elmo’s Fire meets Thirtysomething land, the movie becomes a touching and intelligent look at the neverending war between the sexes.

The film’s plot revolves around a high school reunion in the fictitious town of Knight’s Ridge, Massachusetts. ‘‘Birdman” (Matt Dillon), splitting time between the married Darian (a very bitchy Lauren Holly) and his loving girlfriend Sharon (recent Golden Globe winner Mira Sorvino in another winning performance), Kev (the consistently endearing Max Perlich, also currently seen in Georgia), the moronic Paul Kirkwood (Michael Rappaport is excellent in creating one of the most annoying characters in recent screen history), in the midst of a long relationship with Jan (the underused Martha Plimpton) and Michael “‘Mo’” Morris (Noah Emmerich), married to high school sweetheart Sarah (Anne Bobby) play a group of buddies who have stayed in the town all these years. A superb Timothy Hutton plays the fifth musketeer, Willie Conway, a talented piano player on the New York bar circuit living with attorney Tracy Stover (Annabeth Gish). The only one to really progress, Conway comes home to figure out if he’s ready to take the plunge into the big M. The guys gather regularly at Stinky’s (Pruitt Taylor Vance) bar to bemoan the lack of supermodels in their respective lives.

Enter Uma Thurman as Andera. Stinky’s cousin. Beautiful, sexy, intelligent and compelling, Andera is every bit their equal. While they try to order her ‘‘kamikazes” she’s downing shots of whiskey. She’s completely at ease talking baseball. In short, she’s the perfect woman. Only she’s not what they expected the perfect woman to be.

During her time with the various guys, she forces all of them to reevaluate what they already have and have been looking for. One of the film’s two best scenes comes when Thurman and Hutton go ice fishing in the middle of the night. The conversation sparkles, the chemistry is in abundance and the dialogue is laced with just the right blend of humor and sadness that lingers over all of the guys.

Hutton is also involved in the film’s other pivotal scene, a touching conversation with his 13-year-old neighbor, Marty (Natalie Portman in a scene stealing turn). A dangerously precocious kid with a crush on Willie, Marty helps, along with Andera, him find the insight that he always had.

Hutton, Thurman and Portman are all brilliant. Rounding out the superb foursome is Rosie O’Donnell as beauty shop owner Gina. A w s e-cracking, cantankerous and supportive ear to the women who come into the shop, Gina provides some of the film’s most hilarious one-liners.

Cary Woods produced, while Bob Weinstein, Harvey Weinstein and Cathy Konrad served as executive producers. Also take note of the excellent soundtrack and a live performance by Elektra’s Afghan Whigs as a bar band.

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Top 15 Weekly Film Grosses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>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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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Black Sheep</td>
<td>Paramount</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,045</td>
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<td>$5,180</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>The Juror</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,205</td>
<td>$8,411,178</td>
<td>$3,815</td>
<td>$8,411,178</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Mr. Holland’s Opus</td>
<td>Buena Vista</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,655</td>
<td>$8,136,597</td>
<td>$4,916</td>
<td>$11,549,223</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>White Squall</td>
<td>Buena Vista</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,524</td>
<td>$3,908,514</td>
<td>$2,565</td>
<td>$5,490,514</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>6. Dead Man Walking</td>
<td>Gramercy</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>$3,571,559</td>
<td>$5,002</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>7. 12 Monkeys</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,612</td>
<td>$2,925,795</td>
<td>$1,815</td>
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<td>From Dusk Till Dawn</td>
<td>Miramax</td>
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<td>$2,478,318</td>
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<td>Jumanji</td>
<td>TriStar</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Sense And Sensibility</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>$2,226,508</td>
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<td>11. Eye For An Eye</td>
<td>Paramount</td>
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<td>$1,551</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>12. Grumpier Old Men</td>
<td>Warner Bros.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1,667</td>
<td>$2,103,497</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Leaving Las Vegas</td>
<td>MGM/UA</td>
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<td>340</td>
<td>$1,614,681</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Toy Story</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>15. Screemers</td>
<td>Triumph</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,560</td>
<td>$1,236,612</td>
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Domestic box-office, which includes USA and Canada for the weekend of February 2-4, totaled $57,185,777, breaking down to a $2,701 per-screen average off a total of 21,170 screens, giving a combined total of $541,069,934. (Courtesy Entertainment Data, Inc.)
VIDEO

Blythe At BVHV Publicity

MARTIN BLYTHER, formerly with Buena Vista International, has joined Buena Vista Home Video as a director of publicity. He will report to Tania Moloney, the company’s v.p. of publicity, public relations and event marketing, and is responsible for publicity on titles being launched into the rental market, including those from Touchstone Pictures Home Video, Hollywood Pictures Home Video, Miramax Home Entertainment and Dimension Home Video.

Blythe spent six years at BV, most recently as sr. marketing manager. He developed and implemented marketing programs for major Disney product including Aladdin and The Lion King as well as Touchstone and Hollywood Pictures releases Sister Act 2, Cool Runnings, The Three Musketeers and also worked on Miramax’s Pulp Fiction in selected territories.

Vid Biz
By John Goff

FEBRUARY, THE SWEETHEART MONTH—Isn’t it sweet? Did you give your sweetheart candy? Or did you forget? Well, you can make it up to her. Over at Buena Vista Home Video Aladdin and Jasmine made some Moonlight Magic and Disney also noted the month of love with a release of Disney Sweetheart Stories. Disney also adds its latest Read-Along...to that popular series in late February...MCA Universal Home Video added The Deanna Durbin Collection—Deanna was Universal Pictures’ answer to MGM’s Judy Garland. Actually, according to some film lore, Garland, then Frances Gumm, was let go at Universal in favor of Durbin. Garland wound up at MGM, fell in with some people who had an idea how to market her and...History!

The actress with the operatically trained voice gave Universal one of its most popular series and includes in this collection Three Smart Girls, Three Smart Girls Grow Up, Mad About Music, 100 Men And A Girl, It Started With Eve, His Butler’s Sister, Lady On A Train, and First Love, from which the above picture is taken with Deanna and her kissable leading man Robert Stack, who’s gone on to solve other mysteries as the popular host of TV’s Unsolved Mysteries...

MARCH COMING ATTRACTIONS: Talking of Hollywood History—the Deanna Durbin Collection reminded me of it, not something I noticed out the window; that’s the destruction of history out there—MCA UHV in association with American Movie Classics cable channel is presenting what promises to be some fun history in The Universal Story. AMC will run it on the cabler and MCA Universal will market it. Universal has one of the most successful histories of Hollywood and has secured its place as more than just a footnote to the forging of H’wood as the major film town in the world. More on this project next month...MCA UHV’s also releasing their delightful Golden Globe winning Best Picture Babe...20th Century Fox HV struts out Alfonso Arau’s warming love story A Walk In The Clouds...BV HV drops an elephant with Operation Dumbo Drop and backs Martel’s Wedding with a national consumer Caribbean Trip Sweepstakes game...And certain to blow up the outhouse and any other house this is booked in, spreading green wherever he goes5, Warner Home Video calls on Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls in the guise of Mr. B.O. Morph (he morphs Box Offices wherever he goes) Jim Carrey. Limping along in Carrey’s wake is Cindy Crawford’s action-thriller debut Fair Game—which was pretty much critically fair game, on the game-y side, in release—aided by William Baldwin...Until then enjoy...

Roger Allers, the director of the Disney hit movie and soundtrack The Lion King is pictured above with his prize for winning the Favorite Soundtrack honors at the 23rd annual American Music Awards held in Los Angeles.
Profile

Brooke Payne and 617 Management

By Gil L. Robertson IV

WITH A ROS-TER OF ARTISTS that includes MoKenStef, Subway, Usher, Wes-tyle, and various members of New Edition, 617 Man-agement guides the careers of some of urban music’s most talented and fast-rising artists. In fact, the com-
pany is one of the few artist management firms with a talent roster that covers the complete spectrum of urban music. The brainchild of music veteran Brooke Payne, 617 is charting impressive directions in the way that business is done in the urban arena. Formed three years ago by Payne, the company offers full range of services designed to develop, position and promote the artists that it serves. “One of the key ingredients to maintaining an artist’s career is development. With today’s marketplace being so competitive and transitory, it is essential that artists be prepared and receive the support necessary for career longevity,” says Payne from his company’s North Hollywood offices.

A Boston native, Brooke has been a music lover all his life and in his early life was active in that city’s music scene. When in 1977 his nephew Ronnie became a member of the five-man R&B quintet called New Edition, it was Brooke who first served as the group’s manager. Recalling the early days of the group he had this to say, “When the guys first got together I was their manager and creative advisor. Back then, we laid the foundation which is still in place today. From the beginning the guys were clear about their focus and direction, which is one of the reasons why they’ve lasted for so long.

“What’s happening with New Edition is a prime example of what we need to see from more urban-based groups. Too often with urban acts a poor foundation is established from the start, which means that you have groups who are ill-equipped to handle and maneuver the pressures that success brings. One of the first rules of artist management is to take care of your base, meaning establish from the beginning what is the direction and focus of the group. At 617 we are committed to putting in the time and effort necessary to ensure correct handling of the careers that we manage.

“Now, that may involve a lot of things—from interfacing with the labels to dealing with creative concerns, ranging from the recording process, artist imaging and performance presentation.”

Brooke is quick to credit his small and highly-competent staff of six with helping him provide the excellent support he gives his talent roster. The staff at 617 likes to think of themselves as a family operation and, in fact, four of the six employees are related. In product management there is Brooke’s wife Tonya Payne; the office manager is his sister, Florence Devoe, and the vice president is his nephew Ronnie Devoe. Being able to work with his family is important for Brooke, who hopes that his operation provides an example for other African American entrepreneurs to follow.

He says, “It’s about taking responsibility for ourselves and as families, being more self-contained. As a businessman, I want to have a team of people around me who I can trust and rely on. Fortunately, in my case, I was able to pull from the ranks of my very own family to fill those jobs.”

As for the future Brooke foresees a very busy year. New Edition is expected to drop its reunion album, Usher Raymond is currently in the studio recording his second album, and the new group Wes-tyle, is breaking out big across the country. It’s a busy and demanding life, but Brooke would have it no other way, saying, “Man, I have been able to make a good living doing the thing that I love. I recognize that I’ve been blessed and my hope is to be able to continue to develop and break new acts that provide entertainment to the world.”
News From The United Kingdom, Ireland & Europe

By Hal Levy

UPS AND DOWNS: Thorn EMI at £16.68 is up 2.8%. Rank Organization selling for £4.56, up 1.8%. PolyGram goes for N-94.00, up 4.2%.

FACE IT: Number One rental video in the UK in 1995 was Jim Carrey's The Mask. Carrey had three of the Top 20 rental titles. Keena Reeves' Speed drove up at two and Forrest Gump, True Lies and Pulp Fiction trailed.

UP BRIT TWINIA: The British Phonographic Industry Association said that last year's sales were up some 15% over 1994, reaching over £1.6 billion. And on the international front, sales, which in 1989 were 25% of the world market, fell by 1994 to only 18%. However, in 1995 this trend was reversed as foreign sales increased. This increase was reflected by Thorn EMI's 44% increase in pre-tax profits, £188 million. However, in spite of the big numbers, many in the industry feel it will never again become the cutting edge it was when The Beatles and The Rolling Stones topped the world's charts. Album sales in the U.S. are now running at 16%, a drop for its peak of 20%. On the bright side is the fact that UK sales are growing in Europe, where retail sales of £6 billion, equal to total U.S. market. But as the song goes, if you can't make it there (the U.S.) you can't make it anywhere.

UP BRIT TWO: Or so hope the organizers of this year's Brit Awards, February 19. They're going all out under the banner, "The Brits Are Coming." The 90-minute awards show will be televised in some 125 countries, more they boast, than the U.S. Grammys. With the top nominated groups, Blur, Oasis, Pulp and Radiohead on their books, Sony, PolyGram and Thorn EMI together with Warner Music command more than 70% of UK sales and even a higher percentage of UK overseas sales.

BINGO: The Bingo Association of Great Britain hopes to yell as the Labour Party is backing a bill to cut the tax on bingo from 10% to 8.75%, which would match tax concessions in the last budget granted to betting parlors and pools companies. BAGB said last year's profits dropped 35% because of the British Lottery. Bingo giants including Rank Organization, Bass, First Leisure and Vardon also want the government to relax rules on bingo parlors which prohibit advertising of jackpots, bigger prizes and enforce 24-hour membership requirement to play. They also want to be allowed to have pinball machines on their premises.

BLURRED VISION: Blur's Damon Albarn said the group was going to repeat last August's winning over Oasis when both groups again release their singles on the same day. As far as being grouped with Oasis as the leading lights of Britpop, Albarn said the only thing the two had in common was their flopping on the U.S. market. However, while Blur's American entry was very disappointing, Oasis has a single in the top 20 and an album in the top five.

WHO SAW WARSAW?: Bob Geldof did, and he, together with PolyGram are going to launch the first local music television channel in Poland.

MONKEY BUSINESS: Monkee's singer Davy Jones came in first at the English racetrack, Lingfield Park. Or rather, his daughter's horse did, with Jones on top. A stable groom in his early teens, this was Jones' first winning race as a jockey.

WE GOT OUR OWN PROBLEMS: Michael Jackson's video, "They Don't Care About Us" will not focus on poverty in its shoot in Rio de Janeiro. Director Spike Lee told Brazilian authorities that they didn't have to leave the States to film poor people, as the U.S. had plenty of pockets of poverty in its slums.

TAKE YOUR REVENGE: or is it 'Avenge' as Oasis' single video "Don't Look Back In Anger" features cult TV's Patrick MacNee of The Avengers as the group's cab driver in Los Angeles. Not only does MacNee drive a London taxi cab around Beverly Hills, but he also sports his trusty John Steed umbrella.

I AM A BOTTLE: The British Entertainement and Discotheque Association is fighting attempts by some local city governments to ban beer bottles in pubs and clubs. The claim is that the bottles lead to more violence as they are often used as weapons in fights as well as dangerous when shattered on the ground. BEDA says there is minimum danger from the bottles and business will be hurt as these days designer bottles have become a very important part of the club scene. A beer bottle tells all who the drinker is, what he believes in and what he is all about.

ADIOS MEANS GOODBYE: So say the punk Ramones who are disappointed by the sales of their latest album, Adios, Amigos. The group has just finished their last gig and are splitting up.

ADIOS ADVERTISING: As the Advertising Association says advertising dollars grew 3.5% in 1995 and the AA projects a growth this year of some 4%. Helping this year's revenues will be advertising associated with the Olympics as well as the U.S. elections.

FAITH AND: We hit the charts. The Irish music industry is celebrating a major leap forward as The Saw Doctor's World Of Good album - sme in at 15 in the U.K. charts. Most Irish groups fail to make the charts unless they've "made it" in the U.S. first.

WHY $85 MILLION? BECAUSE: According to industry pundits, Virgin who is paying out the money to Janet Jackson, is part of EMI Music, which is part of Thorn EMI which is planning to demerge this year. Now, While EMI Music is the world's fourth largest music company, its weak point is U.S. sales. Now Janet, who was with PolyGram before signing with Virgin, is very big in the U.S.; so to lose her before the demerger might bring down the selling price. Business, as well as artistic reasons made Virgin decide to re-sign Jackson.

PRETTY POLY-GRAM is buying PDO, a UK compact disk manufacturing company who produce some 60 million units a year. PolyGram currently import most of their CDs from existing plants in Germany and France.

TOP 10 SINGLES IN THE UK: Hanging on to eden is Babylon Zoo's "Spaceman" with George Michael's "Jesus To A Child" still at two. Climbing from very low on the charts is St's "Anything" at three and also doing the slow climb is Goldbug's "Whole Lotta Love" landing on cetiri followed by newcomer The Bluetones' "Slight Return" at pet while Cher has moved up to seat with "One By One" and Michael Jackson's "Earth Song" drops down to sedum followed by Boyzone's "Father & Son" at ovo and from way down the charts comes Upside Down with "Change Your Mind" at devet and Everything But The Girl's "Missing" rounds out the list with deset.

The UK's top album is Oasis' What's The Story Morning Glory, top video is Sleeping Beauty and at the movies it's Entertainment Distribution's Seven.

Coolslo's 'Gangsta Party" tops the singles charts in Switzerland, Austria, France and Croatia, while Babylon Zoo's "Spaceman" leads in Denmark, Norway and Ireland. George Michael's "Jesus To A Child" shines in Spain and Finland and East 17's "Thunder" resounds in Iceland and Lithuania. Madonna's Something To Remember leads the Finnish album charts while Gloria Estefan does it in Spain with Abriendo Puertas. Germany is singing with Queen's Made In Heaven and Ireland claims Oasis' What's The Story Morning Glory?

(Macedonian numbers courtesy of Lonely Planet Guidebooks.)
REVIEWS

By Héctor Reséndez

**YVONNE**: *El Poder De Las Mujeres* (MP, 6172) Producer: Radly Vasquez. **TROPICAL/MERENGUE**.

From an early age, Puerto Rican singer, Yvonne, yearned to be an artist. Her diverse background includes theatre, dance, rock, jazz, and now, merengue. The multi-talented vocalist joined two merengue groups prior to going solo. *El Poder De Las Mujeres* (The Power of Women) is her second effort since her debut album, *Sigueme (Follow Me)*. The title track really jumps out, which has made it an instant hit with dancers. Yvonne's strength and diversity as a performer is more evident with this project.

**PETE ESCOVEDO**: *Flying South* (Concord Picante, 4684) Producers: Pete Escovedo, Peter Michael Escovedo. **LATIN JAZZ/FUSION**.

*Flying South* is the third Concord Picante album by percussionist Pete Escovedo. (His first, *Mister Pete* was nominated for a Grammy in 1989). This is also his first album in eight years. For that reason perhaps, Escovedo enlisted a few “special” friends like Francisco Aguabilla, Gerald Albright, George Duke, Sheila E, Lalah Hathaway, Najee, Andy Narell, Ray Obiedo, and Pastuche. The album is definitely hip, suave, and swings when and where it should. The classic ballads, “Temblazo” and “Como Rien” were particularly delightful. Mister E should certainly entertain the idea of an all-vintage bolero album (hint, hint).

**CAL TJADER**: *Sentimental Mood* (Fantasy, 24742) Producer: Cal Tjader. **LATIN JAZZ**.

For Cal Tjader fans, *Sentimental Mood* offers a fantastic compilation of Tjader’s group with a string section. The album contains compositions from the Latin For Lovers and San Francisco Mood albums which were recorded in the late 1950s. Tjader’s classic quintet—Vince Guaraldi on piano, Al McKibbon on bass, and Mongo Santamaria and Willie Bobo on percussion—is joined by four strings and Paul Horn on reeds. Tjader’s vibraphone echoes so deliciously.

**STRUNZ & FARAH**: *Heat of the Sun* (Selva, 1001) Producers: Jorge Strunz, Ardsheir Farah, & Kathryn Powell. **LATIN JAZZ/FUSION/WORLD-BEAT**.

There has never been a more appropriate use of a quote than the one found on the Strunz and Farah album, *Heat of the Sun*. It is a quote by Frederic Chopin: “Nothing is more beautiful than a guitar, save perhaps two.” And they have been collaborating as a dynamic duo for over a decade. Strunz and Farah not only play acoustic guitars, but they are gifted composers and spectacular performers. Or, as Guitar Player was quoted: “For guitar lovers, the experience can be downright apocalyptic.” We’ll second that notion.

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**THE LATIN LOWDOWN**

1996 RADIO & MUSICA CONVENTION HELD IN L.A.: Convenção R&M convened this past week at the Marriott Hotel near Los Angeles International Airport. Believed to be the largest of its kind, the annual Latin music and radio convention played host to hundreds of representatives from around the U.S., Mexico and Latin America.

The four day event included talent showcases by major and independent labels alike. There were seven presentations with the first being indie AFG Sigma with their artist line-up of Grupo Yaven, Lobo Blanco, Los Yumas, Banda Arkangel, and Conjunto Primavera. On Thursday, EMI Latin presented their sample roster of Gary Hobbs, Millie, Zafra Negra, Los Tucanes de Tijuana. That evening, Musical Productions dazzled its audience with an eclectic lineup consisting of Los Silver Stars, Marko Barnett, Manuel Ascacio accompanied by mariachi, two merengue groups, La Banda Gorda and Los Sabrosos del Merengue, and culminating with the tropic Salsa icon, Roberto Roena y su Apollo Sound with a cameo appearance by Puerto Rican singer Deddie Romero. A “Come Together” party was hosted later that evening by K-MMM and UNI. The artists and industry: Yari Moré, Marc Anthony, Jesús Enriquez, Manny Manuel, Celine’s, Domingo Quiliones, Humberto Ramirez, and 2-Get Funky, Marc Anthony with his Triple Platinum album *Todo A Su Tiempo* on the solo Latin label was the obvious main attraction. The immensely popular artist was recently nominated for a Grammy in the “Best Tropical Latin Performance” category of ’95. The Grammy Awards will be taking place at the Shrine Auditorium in L.A. on February 29th.

Day two offered the early afternoon PolyGram Latino showcase with the Mexican regional group, Grupo Limité, merengue artist Rubby Pérez, the Salsa Kids, and the pop group, Mestizoo. The Sony Music showcase later that evening presented Sandra Torres, La Mafia, Shakira, D.L.G., featuring Hucy, Aurora, and Fey. The Saturday afternoon showcase opened with BMG Records followed by the Radio & Música All-Star lineup of showcases. The evening’s premiere and closing event highlighted the “best of the best.” Featured were artists from various of the record labels: Los Sabrosos del Merengue, Micositis, Pochy y su Cocomband, Gabriela, Jailene, Grupo Recuerdo, and Banda Arkangel.

There were also numerous panels with subjects ranging from an outlook of Hispanic radio in the next millenium to radio’s expansion in the deregulation era. Present for these two exciting discussions were such leaders in the Latin music industry as Gene Bryan of the Spanish Broadcasting System, Jeff Hodge of Katz Hispanic Media, George Hyde of the Radio Advertising Bureau, David Lykes of Tichenor Media System, Chris Marks of EXCL Broadcasting, Julio Omana of Hefel Broadcasting, and Ramon Pineda of Cahallero Spanish Network. The role of the FCC, technological networking was explored as were other pertinent topics like the role of ad agencies, and record pools as a new research pool. The last order of business was a day-long national reunion of program directors.

ON OTHER FRONTS: The Latin jazz quartet, Yobosó, was recently named as best instrumental group by the Black Entertainment Television Jazz Competition. The New Mexican group performed two: songs from their album, Yobosó - *Ya Llegó!* (Triatlog MR 343), for a BET special that aired on Jan. 19th...Lara & Reyes featured music from their album, *Pu Guitars, One Passion* (Higher Octave Music) on the Tele mundo show, *La Hora Lunatica*, on Feb. 2nd...Rolando Infante has been appointed regional manager, broadcast licensing, of SESAC Latina in Miami...The Mexican pop group, Maná, had a sold-out debut concert performance at New York’s Radio City Music Hall (a first for a Latin rock artist). They are also the first Latin rock group to receive a Gold album in the U.S. without any crossover. Maná was recently nominated for a Grammy in the Latin Pop category.

**MUSA AT RADIO CITY**: (lr) Sergio Vallin, Fher, Alex Gonzalez, WEA Latina’s GM/w, Sergio Rezonzlait, Juan Galleros.
**CASH BOX**

**TOP 100 COUNTRY SINGLES**

**FEBRUARY 17, 1996**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Peak Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>GONE (THAT’LL BE ME)</td>
<td>Dwight Yoakam</td>
<td>Reprise</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Keith Stegall</td>
<td>Capricorn</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>RIPPLES</td>
<td>4 Runner</td>
<td>PolyGram</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>CAN’T BE REALY GONE</td>
<td>Tim McGraw</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>LADY’S MAN</td>
<td>Rob Crosby</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>REBECCA LYNN</td>
<td>Bryan White</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>SHE CAN’T SAVE HIM</td>
<td>Lisa Brokop</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>LOVE LESSONS</td>
<td>Tracy Byrd</td>
<td>MCA</td>
<td>157</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>HANGIN’ ON</td>
<td>Rich McCready</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>ALWAYS HAVE, ALWAYS WILL</td>
<td>Shenandoah</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>THE CAR</td>
<td>Jeff Carson</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>LIFE GETS AWAY</td>
<td>Clint Black</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>SHE GOT WHAT SHE DESERVES</td>
<td>Frazier River</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>66</td>
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<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>WE’VE GOT TO KEEP ON MEETING LIKE THIS</td>
<td>Paul Overstreet</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>TALL, TALL TREES</td>
<td>Alan Jackson</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
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<td>73</td>
<td>SOLID GROUND</td>
<td>Ricky Skaggs</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>IN PICTURES</td>
<td>The Mavericks</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>A TO B TO ST. CLOUD</td>
<td>Trisha Yearwood</td>
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<td>84</td>
<td>THAT’S AS CLOSE AS I’LL GET TO LOVING YOU</td>
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<td>94</td>
<td>THE FEVER</td>
<td>Garth Brooks</td>
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<td>HERE COMES THE RAIN</td>
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<td>VEIL OF TEARS</td>
<td>Hal Ketchum</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>93</td>
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<td>IT’S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD</td>
<td>The Mavericks</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
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<td>LIFE GOES ON</td>
<td>Little Texas</td>
<td>Capitol Nashville</td>
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<td>BACK IN YOUR ARMS AGAIN</td>
<td>Lorrie Morgan</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
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<td>109</td>
<td>WHO NEEDS YOU BABY</td>
<td>Clay Walker</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>CHECK YES OR NO</td>
<td>George Strait</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>114</td>
<td>TROUBLE</td>
<td>Mark Chesnutt</td>
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<td>RUB-A-DUBBIN’</td>
<td>Ken Mellons</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
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<td>118</td>
<td>I LET HER LIE</td>
<td>Clay Walker</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU</td>
<td>Dolly Parton</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
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<td>IF I WAS A DRINK’N MAN</td>
<td>Neal McCoy</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
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<td>SOMETIMES SHE FORGETS</td>
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<td>THOSE WORDS WE SAID</td>
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<td>WHISKEY UNDER THE BRIDGE</td>
<td>Brooks &amp; Dunn</td>
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<td>THE WOMAN IN ME</td>
<td>Trisha Yearwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>(Mercury 522386)</td>
<td>Shania Twain</td>
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<td>LISTENIN’ TO THE RADIO</td>
<td>Chely Wright</td>
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<td>SAFE IN THE ARMS OF LOVE</td>
<td>Martina McBride</td>
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<td>NO MAN’S LAND</td>
<td>John Michael Montgomery</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>I WANT GO TOO FAR</td>
<td>Trisha Yearwood</td>
<td>Capitol</td>
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</tbody>
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*Notes on Artists and Their Real Names:*
- Shania Twain
- Keith Stegall
- Tim McGraw
- Rob Crosby
- Bryan White
- Lisa Brokop
- Tracy Byrd
- Rich McCready
- Shemandoah
- Jeff Carson
- Clint Black
- Frazier River
- Paul Overstreet
- Alan Jackson
- Ricky Skaggs
- Trisha Yearwood
- Aaron Tippin
- Garth Brooks
- The Mavericks
- Hal Ketchum
- The Mavericks
- The Mavericks
- The Mavericks
- The Mavericks
- Dolly Parton
- Neal McCoy
- Travis Tritt
- Kim Richey
- Brooks & Dunn
- Trisha Yearwood

*Notes on Labels and Their Real Names:*
- Capitol Nashville
- Reprise
- PolyGram
- Capitol
- Capitol Nashville
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
- Capitol
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AMA Award Becomes Travelling Trophy
By Wendy Newcomer

WHEN GARTH BROOKS WON FAVORITE Artist Of The Year at the 23rd annual American Music Awards on January 29 he made headlines by leaving the award at the podium. After the show, Brooks suggested to the producers that the award become a "travelling trophy." Each year's winner would decide where the mobile award would reside for that one-year period and all winners names would be engraved on it.

Under the newly proposed policy, Favorite Artist nominees would have one of three options: retain the trophy for a year, have the American Music Awards keep the award in its archives for one year or place the trophy on display at an appropriate public location. Brooks plans to put the trophy on public display.

"The Favorite Artist Of The Year Award is very special because it encompasses such a diversity of music. Making it a "travelling trophy" makes it even more important," said Dick Clark, executive producer of the American Music Awards. "I wholeheartedly support Garth's suggestion."

Brooks added, "Now we can celebrate this award by sharing it as a music family. It will honor the artists who influenced our music and the fans who supported us, because they brought us to the point of recognition that the American Music Awards call Favorite Artist Of The Year."

ACM Announces Initial Noms

THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC HAS RELEASED the initial nominations for the 31st annual "Hat" awards to be presented at the Universal Amphitheatre in California and broadcast on NBC Television on Wednesday, April 24. Ballots with the initial nominations were mailed to the Academy's voting members on February 8 and will be eventually narrowed down through another mailing on March 11.

Nominations named in this first voting process include: Entertainer Of The Year—Alabama; Garth Brooks; Brooks & Dunn; Mary Chapin Carpenter; Vince Gill; Alan Jackson; Tim McGraw; Reba McEntire; John Michael Montgomery; and George Strait Top Female Vocalist—Mary Chapin Carpenter; Faith Hill; Alison Krauss; Patty Loveless; Martina McBride; Reba McEntire; Lorrie Morgan; Pam Tillis; Shania Twain; and Trisha Yearwood. Top Male Vocalist—John Berry; Clint Black; Garth Brooks; Joe Diffie; Vince Gill; Alan Jackson; Tim McGraw; John Michael Montgomery; Collin Raye; and George Strait.

Other nominees for the following categories will also be voted upon: Top Vocal Duet; Top Vocal Group; Top New Female Vocalist; Top New Male Vocalist; Top New Vocal Duet Or Group; Album Of The Year; Single Record Of The Year; and Song Of The Year.

In Other News...

CRS-27 ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING UPDATES: Curb artist Tim McGraw will kick off the four-day event on Feb. 29 with a performance tailored for the CRS audience; Gerry Tabio, pres. and founder of Creative Resources, will be the longform speaker on Mar. 1; and the New Faces Banquet and Show will welcome comedians Tim Wilson and Bill Engvall as co-hosts.

MAGNATONE RECORDS PRES. BRENT MAHER announced the appointment of Chuck Rhodes as sr. vp of promotion/marketing for the label. Previously with Giant Records, Rhodes will be working directly with vp of promotion Nina Rossman and vp of artist development Dianna Maher.

APPLE COMPUTERS WILL BE the title sponsor for the Nashville Entertainment Assn.'s Extravaganza '96, a four-day showcase of both national acts and Nashville's best unsigned bands. Apple joins other sponsors such as Blockbuster Music, Budweiser and Jack Daniels and Southern Comfort.

FAITH HILL IS FEATURED ON THE SOUNDTRACK for: Mr. Wrong, the latest movie by TV's Ellen Degeneres. Hill sings "Since I Laid Eyes On You" on the album, released Feb. 6 on Hollywood Records. The project also features Amy Grant's remake of "The Things We Do For Love" and Chris Isaak's cover of the Hank Williams classic "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry."

MERCURY ARTIST STEVE STEGALL signed an exclusive contract with the management firm of Morris, Blesener and Kate. Additionally, Stegall signed with Chief Talent. Stegall's album, passages, is scheduled for release on Feb. 27.

WAYLON JENNINGS HAS JOINED FORCES with his son, Terry Jennings, and manager/publicist Schatzl Hageman to form Dreamcatcher Entertainment Inc., a multi-service management firm.

A NATIONAL PEPSI-COLA COMMERCIAL Aired on Super Bowl Sunday featuring Hank Williams singing "Your Cheating Heart" was the second highest rating any spot has ever received, according to USA Today. The classic Williams song is the property of Nashville's Opryland Music Group.

WYONNA WILL BE THE FOCUS of a one-hour CBS prime time special to air on Feb. 23 at 10 p.m. (EST). Wyonna: Revelations is the singer's first TV special since her 1992 debut as a solo artist and will be broadcast shortly after the Feb. 13 release of her third Curb/MCA album, Revelations.

VERITAS MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT, the publicly-traded country music label launched by Roy Wunsch and Bud Schaetzle last year, is changing its name to Imprint Records. The name change came as a result of a problem in legally clearing the name.

GAYLORD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY'S Opryland Music Group announced the completion of a comprehensive music publishing agreement with Contemporary Christian artist Michael W. Smith. The agreement includes purchase of the assets of Smith's two publishing companies, O'Ryan Music and Whitney Katherine Music.

STEVE EARLE IS SET TO RELEASE his Warners/E-Squared debut I Feel Alright on Mar. 5. Earle can be found on Bob Dylan's upcoming tribute album to Jimmie Rodgers; and his song "Ellis Unit One" is included on the soundtrack for the film Dead Man Walking.

LINDA DAVIS WAS A SPECIAL GUEST on the first annual America Online Music Awards Mon. Feb. 5. Davis was online for 30 minutes representing the country portion of the program and discussed her current record, Some Things Are Meant To Be.


VETERAN RECORD BUSINESS EXECUTIVE (COLONEL) JIM WILSON passed away after a brief illness in Hendersonville, TN. Wilson joined King Records in the '50s and in the mid-'60s was made National Sales Manager of Starday King records. More recently Wilson served as vp of sales and marketing for Sun Records. In his long career, Wilson had been associated with the early record sales successes of such artists as Patsy Cline, James Brown, Merle Travis, and many others. He is survived by his wife Suzanne, his son Scott Wilson, and his two step daughters Telesah Bergan, and Jeanette Grand.

Warner Bros. Launches Christian Label

WARNER BROS. ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION of a yet-unnamed new Christian/gospel label housed in the Nashville Warner/Reprise building. Music industry veteran Barry Landis will head the new Warner division as vp/gm. Landis was formerly vp of Warner Alliance.

"Barry's vision for the new company convinced us that there are new approaches, new combinations and formulas to be explored in the genre of Christian/gospel music, and that he is the person to implement these," said Jim Ed Norman, Warner Bros. Nashville president. "Landis is one of those rare music industry veterans who combines marketing, music, ministry knowledge and experience in equal parts."

"Barry is a great friend and colleague and we're excited about his leading this new division. We will be working together as we both seek to maximize the potential of Christian music," said Neal Joseph, president of Warner Alliance.
## Album Reviews

*By Wendy Newcomer*

### KEITH STEGGALL: *passages* (Mercury 314-528-437-2)

In the course of Keith Steggall’s career, he has had a hand in producing two of country music’s most famous traditionalists, Randy Travis and Alan Jackson. After 10 years of writing and producing for other people, Steggall has finally returned to the role of artist, a role which seems to fit him perfectly. Steggall’s obvious strength lies in the descriptive self-penned songs that he saved for himself. The first single, “1969,” escapes the trap of contrived longing into which a “memory lane” song could fall. In fact, passages is true to its title; its contents are divided between songs of reflection (“My Life,” “Baltimore Street,” “Middle-Aged Man”) and songs of a whimsical nature (“Fifty-Fifty,” “Every Time It Rains (Lord Don’t It Pour),” “Roll The Dice”). Steggall calls passages a “grown-up” record. Listeners will be pleased to hear that songwriters only get better with age.

### LARI WHITE: *Don’t Fence Me In* (RCA 07863-86742-2)

Don’t fence Lari White in. Okay, it’s a corny opening, but so true an admonition regarding Lari White’s new album. As a singer, she’s one of the best contemporary voices country claims; as a writer, White is capable of composing in almost any genre her pen inspires. From the cowboy boogie of “Wild At Heart” to the pop flavor of “Next To Love” (and let’s not forget the gritty “Soul Searchin’ Blues”) White’s songwriting prowess cannot be contained in one tiny category. White’s third project (which she co-produced with Josh Leo) finds her letting go vocally and, as a result, effectively capturing her evolution as an artist.

### CHET ATKINS: *Chet Atkins Picks On The Beatles* (RCA 07863-53531-2)

Originally released in 1966, this album carries with it the ultimate stamp of approval—sleeve notes written by George Harrison himself. One of the pioneers of the Nashville sound, Atkins salutes the British invasion with his interpretation of 12 Beatles classics. Veteran harmonica player Charlie McCoy also spikes up cuts such as “Hard Day’s Night,” “I Feel Fine,” “Things We Said Today,” and “Can’t Buy Me Love.” And although the certified Guitar Player’s pickin’ remains timeless, the “Surfin’ 60s” sound of the loose, muffled drums is a nostalgic trip. Harrison summed it up best. “For me, the great thing about Mr. Atkins is that he is capable of playing almost every type of music but the conviction in the way he does it.”

### PICK OF THE WEEK

**MIKE HENDERSON: *Edge Of Night* (Dead Reckoning 00042)**

The opening song of Mike Henderson’s *Edge Of Night* (“I Wouldn’t Lay My Guitar Down”) is as close to a religious experience as one can have by digital (or magnetic) means. It has the basic ingredients— guitar/bass/drums—and that’s all Henderson needs for this snarling roots opener. Henderson chooses material from a wide variety of sources; just check the songwriting credits and listen to what he does with Pops Staples’ “This May Be The Last Time” and “You’re So Square” by Leiber and Stoller. Because *Edge Of Night* was created through “independent” means (Dead Reckoning is the baby of Henderson and a few other artists) it would be easy to take the pretentious way out and say that it is too eccentric for radio and that only true fans of real country music will appreciate it. The fact is that *Edge Of Night*, if given half a chance, could satisfy both honky tonkers and urban cowboys with its raw and innovative sound.
High Debuts

1. TRACY BYRD — "Heaven In My Woman's Eyes" — (MCA) — #45
2. DWIGHT YOAKAM — "Got You That'll Be Me" — (Reprise) — #47

Most Active

1. BILLY DEAN — "It's What I Do" — (Capitol) — #41
2. NEAL MCCOY — "You Gotta Love That" — (Atlantic) — #25
3. PAM TILLIS — "The River And The Highway" — (Arista) — #35

POWERFUL ON THE PLAYLIST — The Cash Box Top 100 Country Singles chart is led for the second week by the Shania Twain single "(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here." This week's chart displays only three big movers and two debuts breaking into the Top 50. Leading the way in the most-movement category is Billy Dean and his single "What I Do," taking a six-spot leap to #4. Two songs jumped four spots this week — Neal McCoy's "You Gotta Love That" and Pam Tillis' "The River And The Highway." As for debuts, two artists hit this week's Top 50. Leading the way for the highest debut position, with the single "Heaven In My Woman's Eyes" is Tracy Byrd at #45; and Dwight Yoakam enters at #47 with "Got You That'll Be Me.

Songwriters Of The Week — Again, congratulations go out to "Mutti" Lange and Shania Twain, writers of Twain's #1 hit, "(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here."
RADIO PLAYLISTS

Some of what's playing in heavy rotation:

U.S. COUNTRY: Englewood, CO
DOUG Supernaw—"Not Enough Hours In The Night"
WADE HAYES—"What I Meant To Say"
REBA McEntire—"Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hands"
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"
COLLIN RAYE—"Not That Different"
WKML-FM: Fayetteville, NC
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"
REBA McEntire—"Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hands"
JOE DIFFIE—"Bigger Than The Beatles"
RHETT AKINS—"She Said Yes"
WADE HAYES—"What I Meant To Say"
WSM-FM: Nashville, TN
REBA McEntire—"Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hands"
GEORGE STRAIT—"I Know She Still Loves Me"
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"
SHANIA TWAIN—"(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here"
WADE HAYES—"What I Meant To Say"
KFTX-FM: Corpus Christi, TX
RHETT AKINS—"She Said Yes"
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"
GARTH BROOKS—"The Beaches Of Cheyenne"
SAWYER BROWN—"Round Here"
LINDA DAVIS—"Some Things Are Meant To Be"
KORI-FM: Keithville, LA
JOE DIFFIE—"Bigger Than The Beatles"
FAITH HILL—"It Matters To Me"
JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY—"Cowboy Love"
SHANIA TWAIN—"(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here"
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"
KVOO: Tulsa, OK
SHANIA TWAIN—"(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here"
JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY—"Cowboy Love"
REBA McEntire—"Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hands"
DOUG Supernaw—"Not Enough Hours In The Night"
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"
KZYY-FM: Devils Lake, ND
SHANIA TWAIN—"(If You're Not In It For Love) I'm Outta Here"
JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY—"Cowboy Love"
REBA McEntire—"Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hands"
DOUG Supernaw—"Not Enough Hours In The Night"
BLACKHAWK—"Like There Ain't No Yesterday"

This Week's Debuts

ELAINE ANDERSON—"Come As You Are"—(Amberlane)—#34
W.C. TAYLOR—"Never Give Up The Faith"—(Circuit Rider)—#35
DON RICHMOND—"There Is An Answer"—(TIMA)—#37

Most Active

BRENT LAMB—"Real Life Love"—(Genesis)—#19
WILCOX & PARDOE—"Til They Know How Much You Care"—(Light)—#6
SCOTT BROWN—"The Right One"—(Brand Of The Cross)—#26
LEE GREENWOOD—"One Day At A Time"—(Arrival)—#22

Powerful On The Playlist

Leading the Cash Box Positive Country singles chart for the second week is the The Manuel Family Band with "Look Who's Laughing Now" on the Manuel label. Susie Luchsinger once again holds the #2 spot with "You're It." Storming its way up the chart is "Long Walk Home" by MidSouth at #3. Up one more to #4 is Ronny McKinley and "Bullet By The Horns." Rivers & Owens drops down to #5 with "Not Livin' That Way No More." "Til They Know How Much You Care" by Wilcox & Pardoe jumps a whopping 11 spots to #6. David Patillo's "When The World Runs Out Of Parties" holds on to the #7 position, and Lisa Daggs with "The Gift" moves up one to #8. "Let The Little Things Go" by Jeff & Sheri Easter falls back to #9, and finally, Judy DeRamus drops to #10 with "How About Your Heart."

LOOKING AHEAD

Singles that are still gaining ground at radio this week include: Lori Loza with "O Me Of Little Faith," "Lake Of Fire" by Jeff McKee, and "Little Bit Of Faith" by Jeff Silvey.
## POSITIVE COUNTRY

**FEBRUARY 17, 1996**

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<td>LOOK WHO'S LAUGHING NOW (Manuel Family)</td>
<td>Manuel Family Band</td>
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<td>YOU'RE IT (Integrity)</td>
<td>Susie Luchsinger</td>
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<td>LONG WALK HOME (Vanneer Alliance)</td>
<td>MidSouth</td>
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<td>BULL BY THE HORNS (Cheyenne)</td>
<td>Ronny McKinley</td>
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<td>NOT LIVIN' THAT WAY NO MORE (Mark Free)</td>
<td>Rivers &amp; Owens</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>'TILL THEY KNOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE (Light)</td>
<td>Wilcox &amp; Pardoe</td>
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<td>WHEN THE WORLD RUNS OUT OF PARTIES (Heartbeet)</td>
<td>David Patillo</td>
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<td>THE GIFT (Cheyenne)</td>
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<td>LET THE LITTLE THINGS GO (Chapel)</td>
<td>Jeff &amp; Sheri Easter</td>
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<td>HOW ABOUT YOUR HEART (TIMA)</td>
<td>Judy DeRamus</td>
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<td>Brian Barrett</td>
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<td>CHURCH OF THE CHEROKEE (Cheyenne)</td>
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<td>EVERY HEART NEEDS A CHANCE TO SHINE (Tall Texan)</td>
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<td>ONE DAY AT A TIME (Arrival)</td>
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<td>Mary Kilroy</td>
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<td>THE RIGHT ONE (Brand Of The Cross)</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND (Rounder)</td>
<td>Alison Krauss</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>DADDY TALKS TO JESUS (Sparrow)</td>
<td>Marty Raybon</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>I'VE GOT A BEAUTIFUL FRIEND (ALH)</td>
<td>Jim Wilkerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>COMFORT CREEK (Chapel)</td>
<td>Barbara Fairchild</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>SHE STAYS (Word Nashville)</td>
<td>Ricky Van Shelton &amp; Andy Landis</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>WILD HORSE (Brand Of The Cross)</td>
<td>Scott Brown</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>JESUS IS IN MY HEART (Curb)</td>
<td>Tom DeVoursney</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>COME AS YOU ARE (Amberlane)</td>
<td>Elaine Anderson</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>NEVER GIVE UP THE FAITH (Circuit Rider)</td>
<td>W. C. Taylor</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>DebUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>THERE'S NO CROSS THAT LOVE WON'T BEAR</td>
<td>(Capitol Nashville)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>THERE IS AN ANSWER (TIMA)</td>
<td>Don Richmond</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>MATTERS OF THE HEART (Gateway)</td>
<td>Jeff McKee</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>TAKE JOY (Amberlane)</td>
<td>Elaine Anderson</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>GO REST HIGH ON THAT MOUNTAIN (MCA)</td>
<td>Vince Gill</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RADIO PLAYLISTS

Some Of What's Playing In Heavy Rotation:

- **WBTX**: Broadway, VA
  - BILLY WALKER—"Every Heart Needs A Chance To Shine"
  - DAVID PATILLO—"When The World Runs Out Of Parties"
  - THE RUPPES—"He's Not Here"
  - DEL WAY—"One Of These Days"
  - MANUAL FAMILY BAND—"Look Who's Laughing Now"
- **WQSV**: Ashland City, TN
  - DON RICHMOND—"There Is An Answer"
  - JUDY DERAMUS—"How About Your Heart"
  - BILLY WALKER—"Every Heart Needs A Chance To Shine"
  - HARVEY PERDUE—"In Hometown U.S.A."
  - JIM WILKERSON—"I've Got A Beautiful Friend"
- **WTSH**: Rome, GA
  - DON RICHMOND—"There Is An Answer"
  - W. C. TAYLOR—"Never Give Up The Faith"
  - JUDY DERAMUS—"How About Your Heart"
  - JIM WILKERSON—"I've Got A Beautiful Friend"
- **MARVELL**: "Banking On Jesus"
- **WEPA**: Eupora, MS
  - ELAINE ANDERSON—"Take Joy"
  - MARVELL—"Banking On Jesus"
  - JUDY DERAMUS—"How About Your Heart"
- **DALE, ROY AND DUSTY ROGERS**—"Grow Me"
  - MARY KILROY—"Bit And Bridle"
- **MORNIGNSTAR HIGH COUNTRY**: Nashville, TN
  - ELAINE ANDERSON—"Take Joy"
- **SUSAN ASHTON**—"Stand"
- **BRIAN BARRETT**—"Goin' To"
- **FOX BROTHERS**—"Squares"
- **MANUAL FAMILY BAND**—"Look Who's Laughing Now"
- **KTTK**: Lebanon, MO
  - RIVERS & OWENS—"Not Livin' That Way No More"
  - JEFF & SHERI EASTER—"Let The Little Things Go"
  - CROSS COUNTRY—"My Choice"
- **MANUAL FAMILY BAND**—"Look Who's Laughing Now"
- **DAVID PATILLO**—"When The World Runs Out Of Parties"
- **WPUV**: Pulaski, VA
  - DAVID PATILLO—"When The World Runs Out Of Parties"
  - DON RICHMOND—"There Is An Answer"
  - MARSHA RENE—"Footsteps"
  - HARVEY PERDUE—"In Hometown U.S.A."
  - LORA LOZA—"O Me Of Little Faith"
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