

Billboard

THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSWEEK OF MUSIC, VIDEO AND HOME ENTERTAINMENT • www.billboard.com • DECEMBER 27, 2003



Spotlight Begins on Page 34

Gimme Shelter

Another Tough Year For The Biz

BY BRIAN GARRITY

For the global recorded music business, 2003 was a year like no other—and one the industry hopes never to see again.

In the past 12 months, record companies went to war with their consumers, gave in to pressure on CD pricing, turned to DVD and videogame features to sell albums, laid off thousands of employees, proposed mergers, sold manufacturing divisions and other

(Continued on page YE-10)

Artists Find Refuge On Road

BY RAY WADDELL

While the rest of the music business is hurting, the concert industry continues to break records.

Still, some unsettling trends are casting a cloud over the touring business.

With \$2.2 billion in North American concert grosses (\$2.5 billion worldwide) from more than 13,000 shows reported to Billboard Boxscore in 2003, the industry not only cracks the \$2 billion mark for the first time, it

(Continued on page 29)

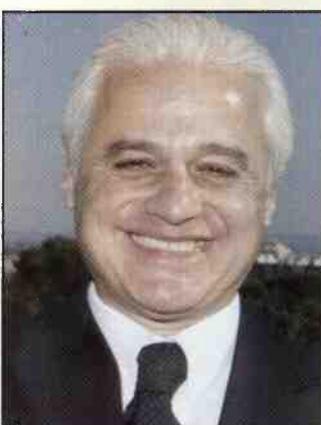
MICK AND THE BOYS HAD A GREAT YEAR ON THE ROAD BUT STONES' SONG 'GIMME SHELTER' COULD SERVE AS AN ANTHEM FOR THE INDUSTRY IN 2003

HOT SPOTS



9 Taking Soul Action

Such soul artists as Anthony Hamilton rely on marketing campaigns to make their mark in the hip-hop-heavy world.



10 Lisbon Rocks

Roberto Medina's Rock in Rio, the world's largest rock event, moves to Lisbon; it will feature such global acts as Metallica.



88 A Virgin Tale

Sir Richard Branson tells *Billboard* what he has in mind for the future of his Virgin Group.

Photo: Mike Clarke/APP/Getty Images

Brands To Use 'Free' Music To Lure Teens

BY BRIAN GARRITY

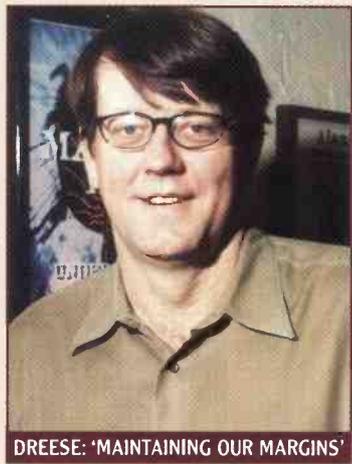
NEW YORK—The great digital music giveaway is about to begin.

In the new year, some of the world's biggest brands will promote their products and services by doling out millions of free

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LACEY: 'A TON OF OPPORTUNITY'



DREEZE: 'MAINTAINING OUR MARGINS'

Retail Finds Cheer In Sales Over Holidays

BY ED CHRISTMAN

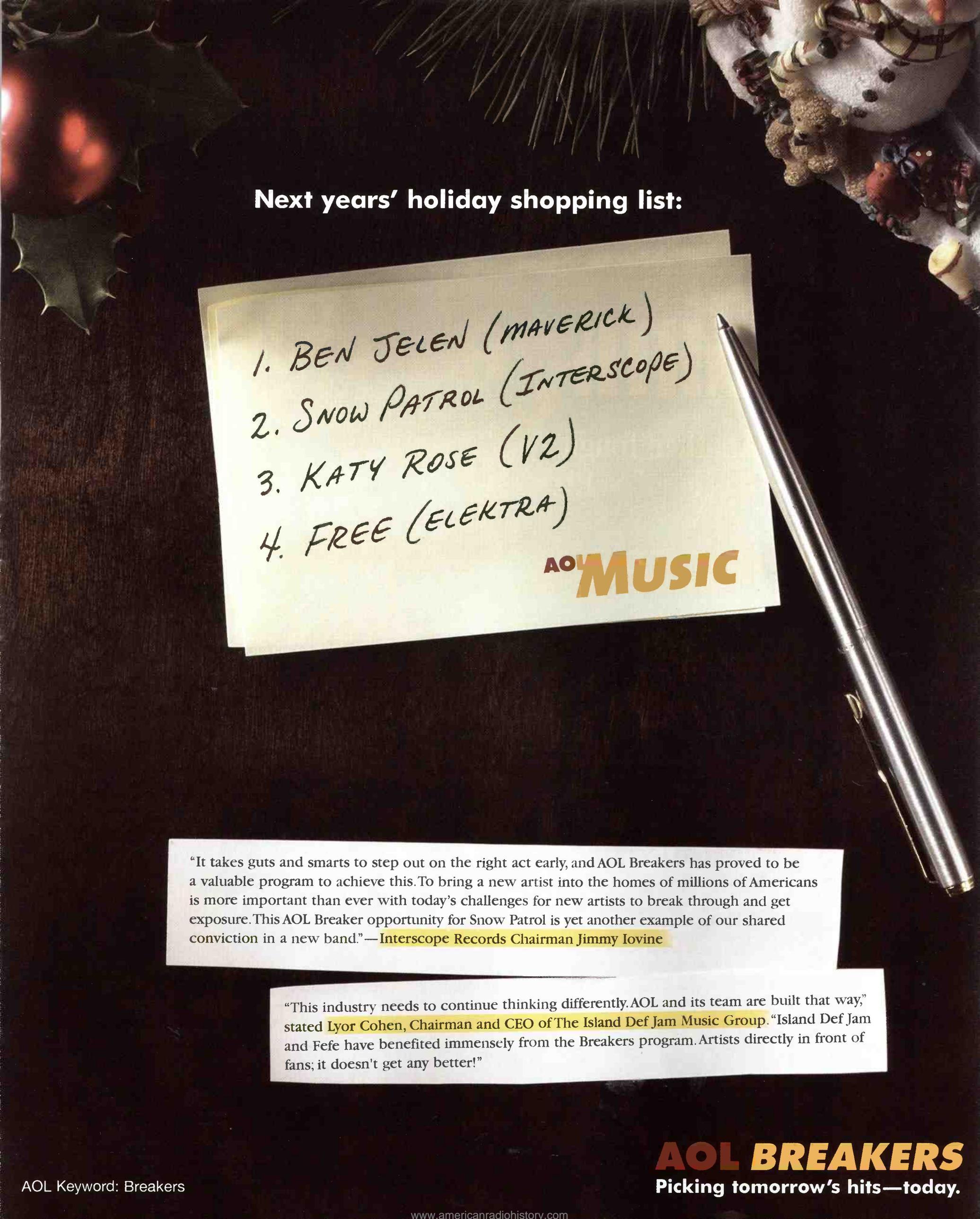
NEW YORK—While hard winter weather in the Northeast has slowed sales during the past two weeks, merchants say they are still on track to have a pretty good Christmas.

Successive weekend snowstorms

(Continued on page 85)

Travel the World with Putumayo

Look for lower prices, a new world music DVD series and the launch of Putumayo World Culture featuring travel journals and notecards in early 2004



Next years' holiday shopping list:

1. BEN JELEN (MAVERICK)
2. SNOW PATROL (INTERSCOPE)
3. KATY ROSE (V2)
4. FREE (ELEKTRA)

AOL MUSIC

"It takes guts and smarts to step out on the right act early, and AOL Breakers has proved to be a valuable program to achieve this. To bring a new artist into the homes of millions of Americans is more important than ever with today's challenges for new artists to break through and get exposure. This AOL Breaker opportunity for Snow Patrol is yet another example of our shared conviction in a new band."—**Interscope Records Chairman Jimmy Iovine**

"This industry needs to continue thinking differently. AOL and its team are built that way," stated **Lyor Cohen, Chairman and CEO of The Island Def Jam Music Group**. "Island Def Jam and Fefe have benefited immensely from the Breakers program. Artists directly in front of fans; it doesn't get any better!"

Top Albums

ARTIST	ALBUM	PAGE
THE BILLBOARD 200		
RUBEN STUDDARD	Soulful	74
BLUEGRASS		
VARIOUS ARTISTS	A Very Special Acoustic Christmas	55
CLASSICAL		
ANDREA BOCELLI	Sacred Arias: Special Edition	78
CLASSICAL CROSSOVER		
JOSH GROBAN	Closer	78
COUNTRY		
TOBY KEITH	Shock'n Y'all	54
ELECTRONIC		
MARIAH CAREY	The Remixes	22
HEATSEEKERS		
FEFE DOBSON	Fefe Dobson	77
INDEPENDENT		
LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ	Kings Of Crunk	77
INTERNET		
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HOLIDAY		
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JAZZ		
HARRY CONNICK, JR.	Harry For The Holidays	78
JAZZ/CONTEMPORARY		
NORAH JONES	Come Away With Me	78
KID AUDIO		
SOUNDTRACK	The Cheetah Girls (EP)	78
LATIN		
LOS TEMERARIOS	Tributo Al Amor	44
NEW AGE		
JIM BRICKMAN	Peace	78
R&B/HIP-HOP		
ALICIA KEYS	The Diary Of Alicia Keys	51
SOUNDTRACKS		
	Tupac: Resurrection	71

Top Singles

ARTIST	TITLE	PAGE
HOT 100		
OUTKAST	Hey Ya!	54
ADULT TOP 40		
3 DOORS DOWN	Here Without You	80
ADULT CONTEMPORARY		
MATCHBOX TWENTY	Unwell	80
COUNTRY		
KENNY CHESNEY	There Goes My Life	78
DANCE/CLUB PLAY		
BRITNEY SPEARS FEATURING MADONNA	Me Against The Music	82
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LINKIN PARK	Numb	81
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OUTKAST FEATURING SLEEPY BROWN	The Way You Move	79
RHYTHMIC TOP 40		
KELIS	Milkshake	80

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PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL	62
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BRUCE ALMIGHTY	62
DVD RENTALS	
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL	62

Unpublished

No. 1 on this week's unpublished charts

ARTIST	ALBUM
BLUES	
SOUNDTRACK	Martin Scorsese Presents The Best Of The Blues
CHRISTIAN	
VARIOUS ARTISTS	WOW Hits 2004
GOSPEL	
THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA	Go Tell It On The Mountain
REGGAE	
SEAN PAUL	Dutty Rock
WORLD MUSIC	
IRISH TENORS	We Three Kings
MUSIC VIDEO	
LINKIN PARK	Live In Texas
KID VIDEO	
THE LAND BEFORE TIME X: THE GREAT LONGNECK MIGRATION	
HEALTH & FITNESS VIDEO	
THE METHOD PILATES: TARGET SPECIFICS	
RECREATIONAL SPORTS VIDEO	
PUMPING IRON - 25TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION	

Top of the News

9 The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry is ready to take action against illegal downloaders in Europe.

10 The auction for Tower Records lingers, as a few interested parties reconsider their bids.

Music

17 **The Beat:** 50 Cent's "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" had the longest run at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 this year, at six weeks.

22 **Higher Ground:** Such Christian acts as Stacie Orrico and MercyMe have a successful year in the general market.

24 **In The Spirit:** Several small labels team to form a distribution company.

26 **Classical Score:** Labels struggled to keep afloat in 2003's shrinking market, to varying degrees of success.

27 **Legal Matters:** Copyright

To Our Readers

Welcome to the Special Double Holiday Issue of *Billboard*. Throughout this expanded issue you'll find comprehensive wrap-ups and expert analyses of the year's key events in music and home entertainment.

In our special Year in Music section (following page 46), you'll find a world of chart recaps summing up the year's retail, radio and concert activity. (If that's not enough for you, there are more year-end charts on billboard.com.)

Having completed this massive undertaking, the *Billboard* staff is taking a short holiday break. Our next issue will be dated Jan. 10. Due to our holiday production schedule, it will circulate one day later than usual.

and contract cases made headlines in 2003.

28 **Jazz Notes:** The year in jazz was marked by expansion and exploration.

30 **Touring:** Rock's worst club fire tragedy overshadows all other events.

34 **Billboard** spotlights KBUE (La Que Buena) Los Angeles and its innovative PD, Pepe Garza.

43 **Latin Notas:** Leila Cobo looks at some of the forward steps the Latin industry took during the year.

47 **Beats & Rhymes:** R&B and hip-hop enjoyed much success, proving the growing mainstream appeal of the genre.

51 **Beat Box:** Major players

used 2003 to re-evaluate and open themselves up to new opportunities.

53 **Country:** The death of Johnny Cash and the controversy over the Dixie Chicks kept country in the headlines.

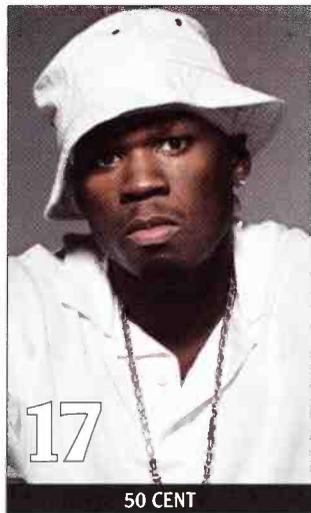
56 **Words & Music:** Legal battles regarding copyright dominated the publishing sector.

72 **Studio Monitor:** Technological developments continued to open doors for audio professionals throughout the year.

Retail

57 Bankruptcy filings and store closings reigned.

58 **The Indies:** Though the independent universe dwindled,



17

50 CENT

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
 "Rock for us is not just a kind of music. It's a flag. It's an integrated movement."

ROBERTO MEDINA, ROCK IN RIO FOUNDER
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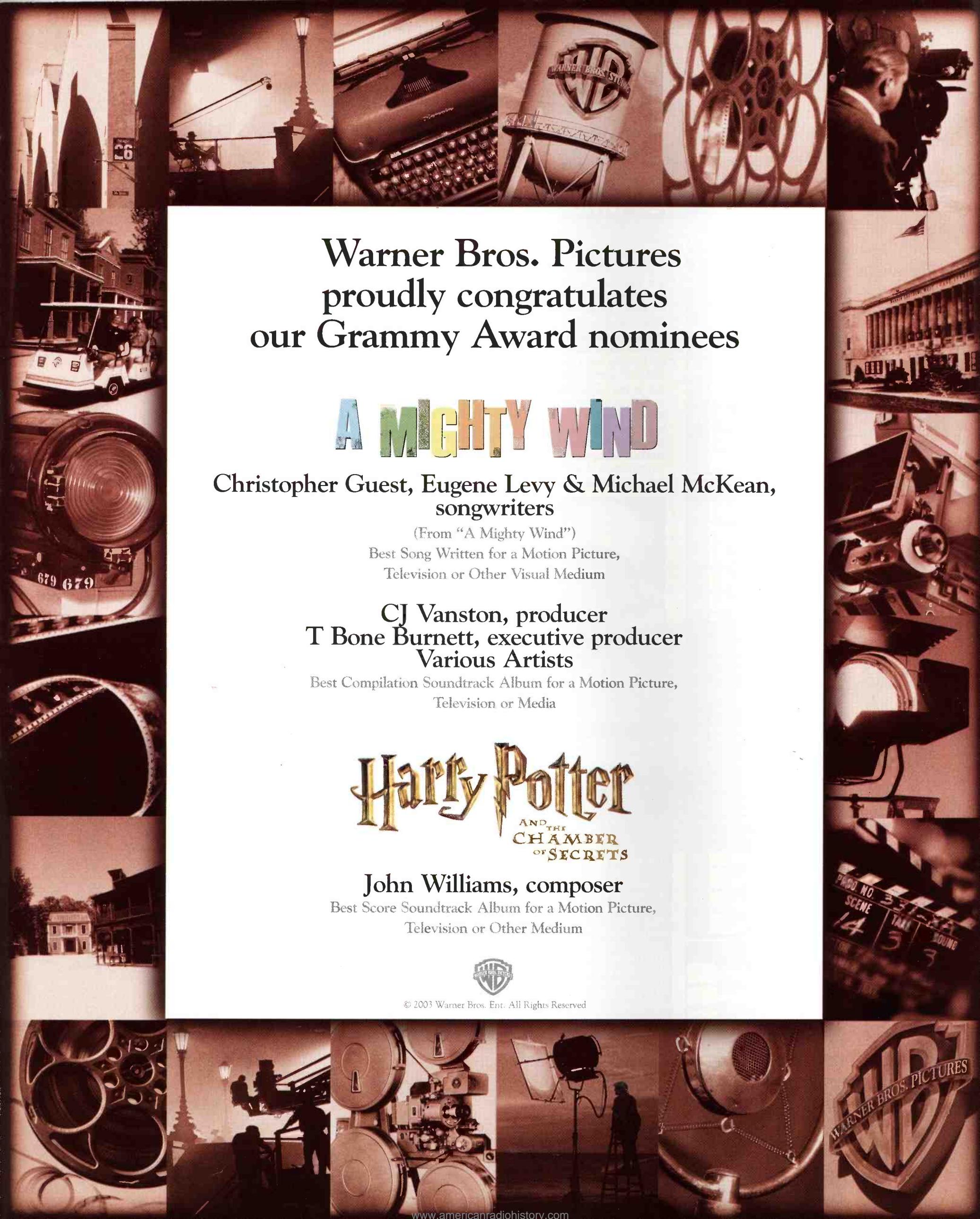


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STACIE ORRICO

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Warner Bros. Pictures
proudly congratulates
our Grammy Award nominees

A MIGHTY WIND

Christopher Guest, Eugene Levy & Michael McKean,
songwriters

(From "A Mighty Wind")

Best Song Written for a Motion Picture,
Television or Other Visual Medium

CJ Vanston, producer
T Bone Burnett, executive producer
Various Artists

Best Compilation Soundtrack Album for a Motion Picture,
Television or Media

Harry Potter AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

John Williams, composer

Best Score Soundtrack Album for a Motion Picture,
Television or Other Medium



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TOP OF THE NEWS

New Soul Artists Look Beyond Radio

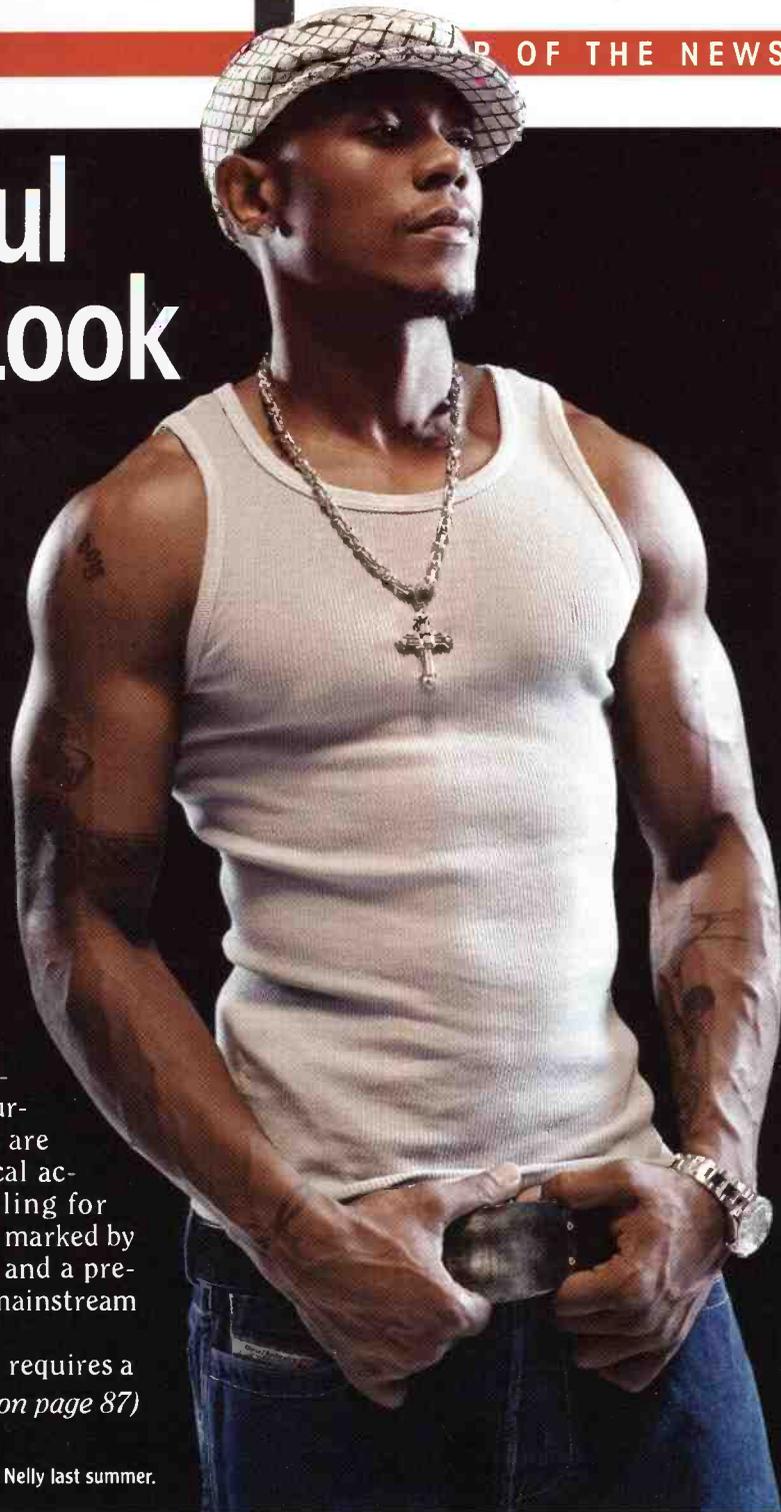
BY GAIL MITCHELL

Slowly, quietly, a new soul movement is taking shape.

It is being led by a fresh generation of soul artists, such as Anthony Hamilton and Calvin Richardson, who find themselves swimming against a powerful hip-hop tide.

Throwbacks to soul icons like Bobby Womack, Otis Redding, Donny Hathaway and Curtis Mayfield, the newcomers are drawing their share of critical acclaim. But they are struggling for exposure in a radio landscape marked by consolidation, tight playlists and a preoccupation with hip-hop at mainstream urban stations.

That means this movement requires a
(Continued on page 87)



Calvin Richardson landed a spot opening for Nelly last summer.

German Export Office Opens

BY WOLFGANG SPAHR

BERLIN—Germany has become the latest European country to create a music export office to promote its domestic repertoire abroad.

The new Berlin-based operation is called GermanSounds AG—The German Music Export Office. It is a joint venture between a coalition of individual German music industry organizations and the German Music Council, a government-backed pan-industry body.

“By taking this step, Germany is closing the gap with its European neighbors which already have such institutions aimed at promoting music exports,” says Peter

James, president of the Assn. of Independent Record Companies (VUT).

Other music export offices exist in other European territories, notably France and the Scandinavian region.

GermanSounds’ four-strong supervisory board appointed James managing director. The new body will not have a full-time dedicated staff, and James will work out of his existing offices; he retains his position at VUT.

GermanSounds’ founding members are VUT, the German Federal Assn. of the Phonographic Industry (BPW), the German Music Publishers’ Assn., the German Federal Event Sector Assn., the Music Managers Assn., the Music
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IFPI: We’ll Use Legal Action To Fight P2P

BY LARS BRANDLE and EMMANUEL LEGRAND

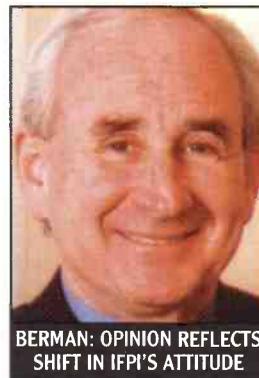
LONDON—The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry is sending signals to consumers who exchange unauthorized music through illicit peer-to-peer networks in Europe that it is now prepared to take legal action.

“Lawsuits on a large scale have so far been restricted to the U.S.; this ‘fight back’ will almost inevitably have to take place internationally as well,” IFPI chairman/CEO Jay Berman stated in the recently published IFPI Network newsletter.

“Making available copyrighted music without permission on the Internet—that means the bulk of all file sharing—is illegal in practically every country of the world,” Berman

wrote. “Those who ignore this legal reality may have to face the consequences. Whether there is a profit motive or not is totally irrelevant.”

Berman’s statement reflects a shift in the organization’s thinking about the issue of litigation against P2P users.



BERMAN: OPINION REFLECTS SHIFT IN IFPI'S ATTITUDE

In January at trade show Midem, Berman stated that legal action was one option considered by the industry outside the U.S. but was not yet on the European agenda.

A source familiar with the issue suggests that Berman’s views, as expressed in the newsletter—which is sent to

industry professionals and the media—reflects “a hardening of the line.”

The source adds, “What is clear from that statement is that legal action will inevitably happen in
(Continued on page 86)

Grammy Noms Flush With Hip-Hop Titles

BY CHUCK TAYLOR and MARC SCHIFFMAN

In its continuing effort to be hip, Grammy’s gone hip-hop.

Reflecting the massive popularity of the genre and its sales strength in 2003, four of the five record of the year nominees for the upcoming Grammy Awards are hip-hop tunes—and all are from artists whose career spans are in the single-digits.

Three of those contenders were No. 1 hits on The Billboard Hot 100: “Crazy in Love” from Beyoncé Featuring Jay-Z, “Hey Ya!” from OutKast and “Lose Yourself” from Eminem.

Rap-pop nominee “Where Is the Love?” by Black Eyed Peas and Justin Timberlake peaked at No. 8.

The only non-R&B nominee, the

rock ballad “Clocks,” from Coldplay, hit No. 29 on the Hot 100. The British group is also the only non-U.S. act in the running.

DIVERSE NOMINEES

The nominees for song of the year—which honors songwriters—reflect a greater diversity within the field of popular music, and the category only shares one nominee for the record of the year. That is Eminem’s “8 Mile” anchor, “Lose Yourself,” written by J. Bass, L. Resto and Eminem (listed under his real name, M. Mathers).

Christina Aguilera’s self-affirming “Beautiful,” written by Linda Perry, scored a song of the year nomination. So did “I’m With You,” recorded by Avril La-
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Rock In Rio Lands In Lisbon

Impresario's Project Gets More Ambitious Every Time

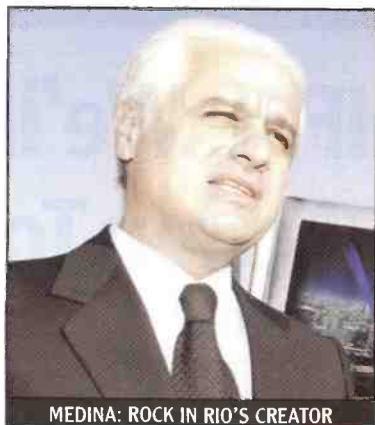
BY LEILA COBO

Rock in Rio, the largest rock event in the world, will become an international project with the staging of its fourth edition in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2004. Organizers are hoping that Rock in Rio Lisbon will set the groundwork for an even more massive, transcontinental show in 2007.

"My dream is to have strong repercussions in Europe and the rest of the world and plant the seed to stage Rock in Rio in 2007 as a simultaneous project in three continents," Brazilian impresario Roberto Medina says.

Medina created Rock in Rio in 1985. He has helmed the monumental project since its inception and has seen it through its successive incarnations in 1991 and 2001. Each previous edition was staged in Rio de Janeiro and featured such global stars as Queen, AC/DC, Sheryl Crow, Britney Spears and James Taylor.

Rock in Rio Lisbon marks the first time the event is being held in another locale. It will feature approximately 70 acts performing 120 hours of music May 29-30 and June



MEDINA: ROCK IN RIO'S CREATOR

4-6. An average of 100,000 people per day are expected to attend, with performances by Sting, Metallica, Guns N' Roses and Alejandro Sanz, among others, already confirmed.

Various stages, including a World Stage, Roots Tent and Electro Tent, will be set up to present different styles of music. The concerts will be broadcast live to more than 70 countries. Miami-based promoter Phil Rodriguez of Water Brother Productions is booking the acts.

Medina calculates the cost of put-

ting together Rock in Rio Lisbon to be \$25 million euros (\$31 million), but he expects the revenue for the host city to be many times that. The last Rock in Rio, in 2001, brought in more than \$400 million for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

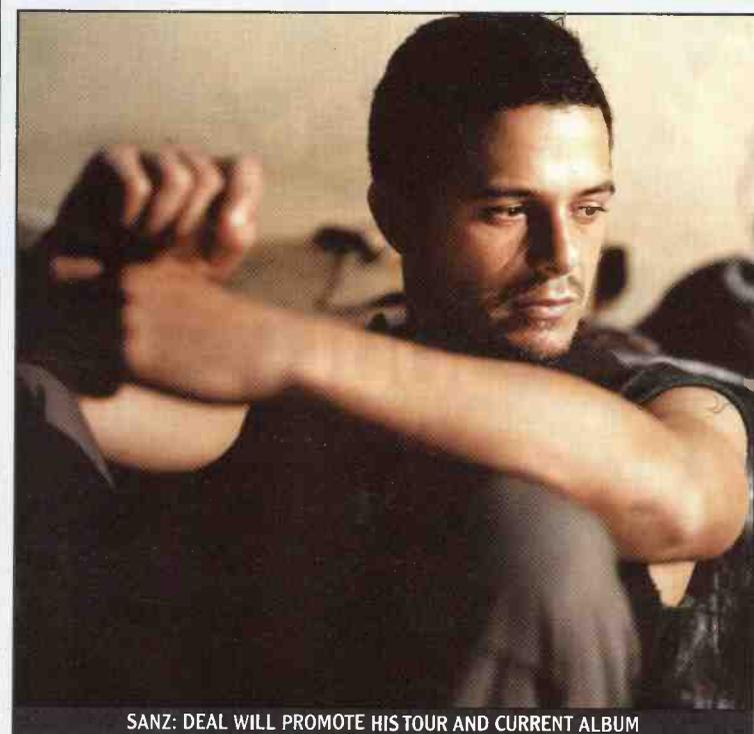
As with past incarnations, the event is not merely a music festival but also a mix of marketing and social activism in which attendees take part in three minutes of silence "for a better world."

In 2001, Rock in Rio donated nearly \$2 million to youth programs in Rio de Janeiro. This year, 5% of all proceeds will go to Childreach, an international organization that helps children in 45 countries. Already, Medina has donated \$250,000 in "seed money" to Childreach and recently filmed a documentary with Childreach beneficiaries in Kenya. He calculates that the total donation from Rock in Rio Lisbon will be more than \$1 million euros (\$1.24 million).

SMALLER SCALE

For all its gargantuan proportions, Rock in Rio Lisbon pales in comparison to its predecessors, which were

(Continued on page 86)



SANZ: DEAL WILL PROMOTE HIS TOUR AND CURRENT ALBUM

Verizon Courts Latins With Sanz

BY LEILA COBO

MIAMI—Verizon Wireless will sponsor Alejandro Sanz's 2004 U.S. tour as part of what the company says is its most comprehensive artist sponsorship deal ever.

"It's not just another straight tour sponsorship or an endorsement deal," says Allison Winkler of Creative Artists Agency, which represents Sanz in the U.S. "It represents Alejandro Sanz across all platforms."

The deal, which sources say runs in the millions of dollars, is a combination of advertising and cash that includes TV, radio, Internet and print advertising that also promotes Sanz's current album, "No Es Lo Mismo."

In addition, Verizon Wireless is offering Sanz's music for customers to download as ring tones. Five Sanz tracks are being offered exclusively to Verizon Wireless customers.

ADDING TECHNO APPEAL

Verizon Wireless spokesperson Brenda Raney says the company had targeted Latin consumers in the U.S. at a local level before, "but this is the first time we've done it on a national basis, and the timing is right."

Verizon had previously sponsored tours by 'N Sync and Lollapalooza, but Raney says those sponsorships were not nearly as comprehensive.

Among other things, Raney says, the technology that allows for downloadable ring tones and wallpaper was not previously available.

That availability today allowed Sanz's label in the U.S., Warner Music Latina, to be involved in the deal as

the administrator of Sanz's content.

"Verizon Wireless has helped us with the release of the album, which is rare, and also, the wireless content is being negotiated between Verizon and the label," says Gabriela Martínez, VP of marketing for Warner Music Latina America.

"It's part of our aim to develop new areas within the music business and not limit ourselves to only the album," Martínez continues.

Although Verizon Wireless has yet to officially announce the Sanz deal, it actually went into place in October with a series of TV and Internet ads promoting Sanz's album with his first single, which is the title track.

A second phase of the campaign kicks off this month featuring his second single, "Regálame la Silla."

Starting in second-quarter 2004, the campaign will tag the tour, which begins here in late April.

Although dates have not been finalized, Sanz is expected to play between 15 and 20 cities, in what will be his most extensive U.S. tour to date.

Throughout, Verizon will support the shows in all platforms, including Internet, radio, print, billboards and outdoor campaigns. The deal runs for the term of the album marketing campaign, approximately one year.

At this point, Raney says, it's premature to say if the Sanz deal will pave the way for more Verizon Wireless deals with Latin acts.

"We just don't do a lot of them [in general]," she says. "We are looking for ways to reach different market segments, and tour concerts help us reach a younger segment of the population."

Tower Bidding Lingers

BY ED CHRISTMAN

NEW YORK—After three rounds of bidding, the auction process for Tower Records may come down to interested parties revisiting their bids after the holiday selling season is completed.

Although the auction process so far has failed to yield a clear-cut winner, at least three or four bidders are still interested in acquiring the troubled chain. One of the bids is said to include a pre-packaged Chapter 11 filing, in which all creditors would agree on terms before it is brought into a courtroom.

Among the companies believed to be interested in Tower are Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst, a financial firm based in Dallas; Pamlico & Co. in Los Angeles; and Sun Capital Partners, the Boca Raton, Fla.-based owner of the Musicland Group. A source says that still other bidders are actively engaged in the process.

Sources suggest that bids ranged from \$110 million to about \$150 million and that the lower bids had a larger cash component, while the higher bids included substantial use of debt to finance the deal. But some sources suggest none of the current bids would enable Tower to satisfy all of its creditors and still leave a financially strong chain.

Tower Records and its investment banker, Grief & Co., are believed to be trying to put together a deal without having to succumb to a Chapter 11 fil-

ing. In particular, Tower management is said to be working hard to avoid having its trade creditors take a hit on what they are owed.

During the past two years, Tower has undergone major restructuring and made strong improvements in its operations. Tower says these improvements should be reflected in the fourth-quarter results.

Tower's most recent 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission was for the quarter ended April 30—it no longer files to that agency. Based on that 10-Q, *Billboard* estimates that Tower's debt load is about \$65 million drawn down from its \$100 million revolving credit facility with the CIT Group/Business Credit; \$25 million in the form of a term loan from the company's former revolver supplier, Chase Capital Partners; about \$130 million in account payables; and \$110 million in bonds.

Tower defaulted on an interest payment on the debentures last spring and has been engaged in discussions with bondholders to agree to a debt-to-equity swap. The bondholders are said to have agreed to such a swap contingent on a sale, but because of the stalled bidding process, it is believed they are now facing new, less attractive options.

For example, bondholders may have to consider taking an ownership position without cashing out at this time.

Initially, Sun Capital Partners only

went as far as the first round of bidding and never returned with a higher offer, sources say. But after the sale process lingered, value expectations have come back down and Sun Capital has come back into the picture.

Pamlico also has music industry retail connections, as its officers include Ralph King and Devandra Mishra. King is a former COO of the Record Bar and former executive with the now-defunct Enigma Records. He and Mishra were execs at LIVE Entertainment—a vertically integrated video label that owned the Lieberman Enterprises rack operation and the Strawberries chain.

Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst is one of the best-known investment firms in the U.S., having put together deals totaling more than \$20 billion, according to press reports.

But if Tower and Grief cannot put together a deal without a Chapter 11 component, some of the earlier bidders might reappear.

One of those is said to have been the Yucaipa Cos., which owns Alliance Entertainment. Trans World Entertainment is believed to have looked at Tower Records in 1999 but decided to not pursue Tower in the current auction process. But it is known to have an appetite for buying music chains out of Chapter 11 proceedings.

All parties cited either declined to comment or did not return calls for comment.

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New Management Firm Eyes Music, Sports Connection

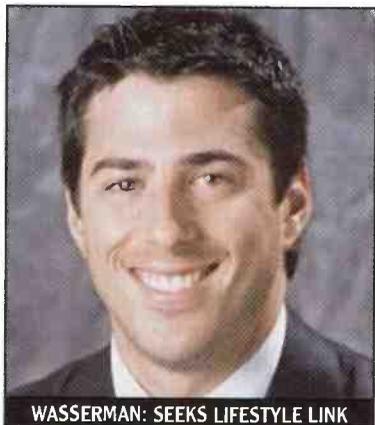
BY CHRIS MORRIS

LOS ANGELES—Seeking a synergistic link between sports and music, L.A.-based Wasserman Media Group has formed a management division, DC Music, with Dave Holmes of Nettwerk Management as president.

Headed by chairman/CEO Casey Wasserman—grandson of late MCA Inc. chairman Lew Wasserman—Wasserman Media operates Envision, a rights and consulting company, and the Familie, an action-sports management and youth marketing division.

Wasserman also owns the Los Angeles Avengers franchise of the Arena Football League.

Wasserman, whose company repre-



WASSERMAN: SEEKS LIFESTYLE LINK

sents athletes in surfing, skating, motocross and other action fields, says that sports and music “all appeal to the

same core demographic. They speak to a lifestyle theme. Sports and music get put together often.”

Holmes says, “There’s potential for some great opportunities with sports, if we can widen it into the music world.”

Holmes, who reports to Wasserman, is bringing his Nettwerk clients Coldplay, Rancid and Eisley with him to DC. Initially, the management company’s staff will include fellow Nettwerk manager Darin Harmon and London-based Estelle Wilkinson, who co-manages Coldplay with Holmes.

Wasserman suggests that DC could expand beyond management into other music endeavors: “If there are other opportunities around that core discipline, we’re going to pursue them.”

FIMI Awards Air—Finally Last-Minute Broadcast Deal Saves Italian Show

BY MARK WORDEN

MILAN—Music awards are often taken for granted, but for the Italian music industry, that the fourth edition of the official FIMI Italian Music Awards even occurred was a victory unto itself.

The show took place Dec. 15 but was initially to have been held at Milan’s Filaforum venue and aired live Nov. 28 on state-owned RAI TV.

The date was canceled when RAI dropped its broadcast plans as part of its continuing dispute with FIMI over the latter’s nonparticipation at next year’s Sanremo Festival (*Billboard* Bulletin, Nov. 4).

At one point, the future of the show was in jeopardy until a last-minute agreement was reached with the Mediaset-owned Italia Uno commercial network.

As a result, the event was rescheduled and took place live from Milan’s Mazda Palace. Mediaset is the media conglomerate owned by Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi.

A sense of relief that the event had gone ahead without incident seems to have been the main reaction to the awards.

“After RAI pulled out,” FIMI director general Enzo Mazza says, “we effectively had two weeks to put together

the show, and I think we did pretty well under the circumstances.”

Warner Music Italy president Massimo Giuliano says, “Considering where we were a month ago, we’re happy that there was a show after all.”

More striking than the winners list was the failure of several artists to collect their prizes. Event coordinator/Edel Italy president Paolo Franchini says this “was largely due to time-tabling problems. Many big international names had declared their availability for Nov. 28 but had prior engagements for Dec. 15.”

As it was, Scottish band Simple
(Continued on page 86)

Gary Stewart Dies At 59

BY WADE JESSEN

Gary Stewart, the vibrato-soaked honky-tonk stylist who once rivaled RCA labelmate Waylon Jennings in terms of bulldozing stylistic boundaries in conservative Nashville during the 1970s, died Dec. 16.

Stewart was found dead in his Fort Pierce, Fla., home with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He was 59.

Although a restless Jennings nabbed most of the headlines and ultimately the credit for ushering in country music’s outlaw era of the 1970s, Stewart raised his share of eyebrows as a hard-partying honky-tonker who played rock’n’roll and traditional country with equal fervor and flair during the period.

He was one of the first Nashville



GARY STEWART

country artists to use slide guitar on his recordings, reportedly improvising with a pencil under the strings and playing the licks himself when a suitable session musician couldn’t

be found in Nashville.

Stewart wasn’t a formidable chart force, but his stylistic influence and unbridled talent made him a cult favorite with country and rock audiences. His final project, “Live at Billy Bob’s Texas,” was issued in March.

Born Gary Ronnie Stewart on May 28, 1944, in Letcher County, Ky., Stewart was a multifaceted entertainer whose roots were planted firmly in early-’60s rock’n’roll. His family moved to Florida when Stewart was 12. He fronted his first band, the Tomcats, while still in high school, and played bass for another group, the Amps.

Fellow Floridian Mel Tillis caught Stewart’s act at an Okeechobee, Fla., nightclub and encouraged him to move to Nashville and write songs.

(Continued on page 86)

NEWSLINE

THE WEEK IN BRIEF

Label executives fear that a notice from the Harry Fox Agency that says labels must obtain a mechanical license for each session on a hybrid or dual disc could hurt the development of the new formats. The notice states, “A licensee that is manufacturing and distributing a ‘hybrid’ disc containing two sessions of a particular sound recording of the same song must obtain a license that covers both sessions on that disc.” The notice covers the various multi-session products, including CDs paired with DVD or Super Audio CD content. Some label executives see the move as a way to extract twice the mechanical rate for each disc. But Carey Ramos, outside counsel for HFA at the firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York, says the rate is subject to negotiation between publishers and labels. HFA has been discussing the issue with publishers and labels for months. The Recording Industry Assn. of America had no comment. **ED CHRISTMAN**

Aaron Carter’s mother/former co-manager, Jane Carter, has issued a statement denying allegations that she mishandled the pop star’s funds. On Dec. 12, the singer announced that he had severed personal and professional ties with his mother, who says she has managed his career since he was 7. Aaron alleges that his mother withdrew more than \$100,000 from his bank account without his permission. Aaron’s parents, Jane and Bob Carter, co-managed his career, but the couple is divorcing and battling over child custody issues. Bob is now managing Aaron, who says he wants legal emancipation from his mother. **CARLA HAY**

Kaye Zuzmann exits CMT, where she had been VP of program development and production. She will continue to consult the network. **PHYLLIS STARK**

Lions Gate Entertainment has completed its acquisition of Artisan Home Entertainment in a deal valued at approximately \$210 million. As expected, Artisan CEO Amir Malin will leave his post (*Billboard*, Nov. 8). The new company has a video catalog of more than 8,000 titles. **JILL KIPNIS**

Six employees lost their jobs in a restructuring of Universal Music Group Nashville’s promotion and marketing departments. UMG Nashville VP of international marketing Sarah Brosmer, who had been with MCA for 17 years, has exited. So has Mercury/MCA VP of marketing Derek Simon, Mercury senior director of Southwest promotion Chad Schultz, MCA director of Midwest regional promotion Charlie Dean, MCA tour coordinator Anne Howard and Lost Highway promotion coordinator Brian Thiele. **DEBORAH EVANS PRICE**

David Fritz resigned Dec. 12 as president of Innovative Distribution Network, wholesaler Alliance Entertainment’s indie distribution arm. Fritz joined IDN as head of business affairs this spring, following the departure of founding president Todd Van Gorp for a regional post at WEA; he later assumed the title of president. With Fritz’s departure, IDN VP of sales and marketing Lou DeBiase, one of the company’s founding executives, was elevated to GM of the New York-based distributor. **CHRIS MORRIS**

The St. Louis County Police Department, working with Recording Industry Assn. of America investigators, arrested three market vendors Dec. 13 at Frison’s Flea Market. The three are charged with copyright infringement for selling nearly 30,000 bogus CDs. The department is investigating 16 other vendors. This is the second criminal incident at the market in three years. According to the RIAA, Market owner Jack Frison has consistently refused its offers to train him and his staff on how to detect pirates and refuse them space. Most of the vendors had more than 2,000 pieces of product each and are expected to be charged with a felony under Missouri’s True Name and Address statute. **BILL HOLLAND**

Nashville executives Frank Liddell and Travis Hill are expanding their 5-year-old publishing company, Carnival Music, into a new label, Carnival Records, and a new management company, Carnival Group Management. Hill will head the management company. The publishing venture is responsible for such songs as the Dixie Chicks’ hit “Travelin’ Soldier” and Tim McGraw’s “Angry All the Time,” both penned by Bruce Robison. He is one of a dozen writers signed to the company. Sony’s Red Distribution will distribute Carnival Records through a deal with Nashville-based Emergent Marketing. Carnival’s Courtney Clay will head the new label. The first two acts signed are Craig Dillingham and Mondo Saenz. **DEBORAH EVANS PRICE**

The New York Times is hosting its third annual Arts & Leisure Weekend Jan. 9-11. The paper partners with cultural institutions around the world for the event. In New York the Times hosts a series of TimesTalks live interviews. This year’s sessions include Plácido Domingo; Dave Matthews; Caushun, David Daniels, Lea Delaria and Anthony Rapp; Barbara Cook and Stephen Sondheim; and Marilyn Horne. **MARC SCHIFFMAN**

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Time To Switch Gears

Could this be the year that the music industry turns the corner? Judging strictly by the numbers, the point is surely debatable.

The music industry endured its third consecutive down year. As senior business writer Brian Garrity noted in his year-end analysis in this issue, full-year sales were expected to be down 4% to 6%. While that's less than the 10% decline last year, it could have been a lot worse. At its low point in early February, sales volume trailed the previous year by 13.6%.

But then something remarkable happened. The economy started making real gains, and by the end of the summer the sales deficit had dwindled to 8.5%.

As Garrity noted, late in the year, weekly album sales totals began to improve over the same period in 2002. CD sales exceeded their totals from a year ago for 12 of the 14 weeks leading into Christmas.

So looking back, the picture hasn't changed that much. But looking forward, there are strong signs that the late-year uptick could continue.

A recent survey of top corporate executives uncovered a decidedly opti-

mistic slant to their outlook. The majority said they expected higher sales, more investment and growing payrolls compared with just a few months ago, according to the survey of 120 CEOs by the Business Roundtable.

The consensus is that the economy will grow at a 3.6% rate in the first six months of next year.

The survey also discovered that as

'Now is the time for the music industry to stop playing defense and start playing offense.'

many CEOs are expecting to add workers in the next six months as those who are expected to cut jobs. That's the first time that's happened, according to the survey, in almost three years.

The Dow Jones industrial average broke 10,000 last week for the first time in 18 months. The market is riding a surge in business profits and continued brisk spending by consumers. The Federal Reserve also did its part by sig-

naling that it would keep interest rates at 45-year lows well into next year.

The Dow continued to climb this week, and economists believe the gain is sustainable because of rising corporate profits. The index is now up 20% on the year, and the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index, considered the broadest barometer of U.S. firms, is up 22%.

At this point, there should be little doubt about the soundness of the recovery. But whether the music industry is positioned to capitalize on it is another question.

For the past three years, it has been retrenching and is still in a hunker-down mode. But now is the time to stop playing defense and start playing offense. It needs to start spending again on marketing, promotion and new talent to catch the burgeoning economic wave.

The major record labels traditionally have been slow to react to economic and technological trends. And those that continue to manage defensively will pay a price again in 2004.

Let's hope they don't repeat the same mistakes now that the recovery is real and gaining speed.

Billboard

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to take away the pain
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Performed by **PHIL COLLINS**

"Great Spirits"

Music and Lyrics by **PHIL COLLINS**

Performed by **TINA TURNER**

BEST ORIGINAL SCORE

Score Composed by **MARK MANCINA** and **PHIL COLLINS**

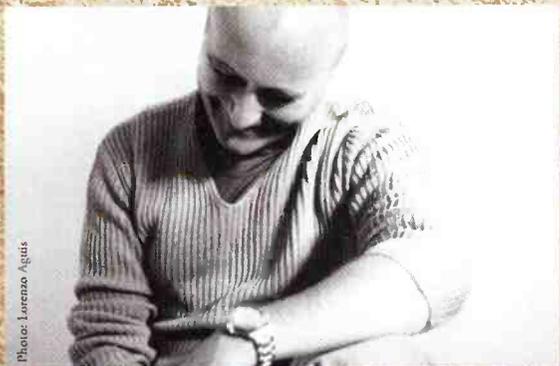


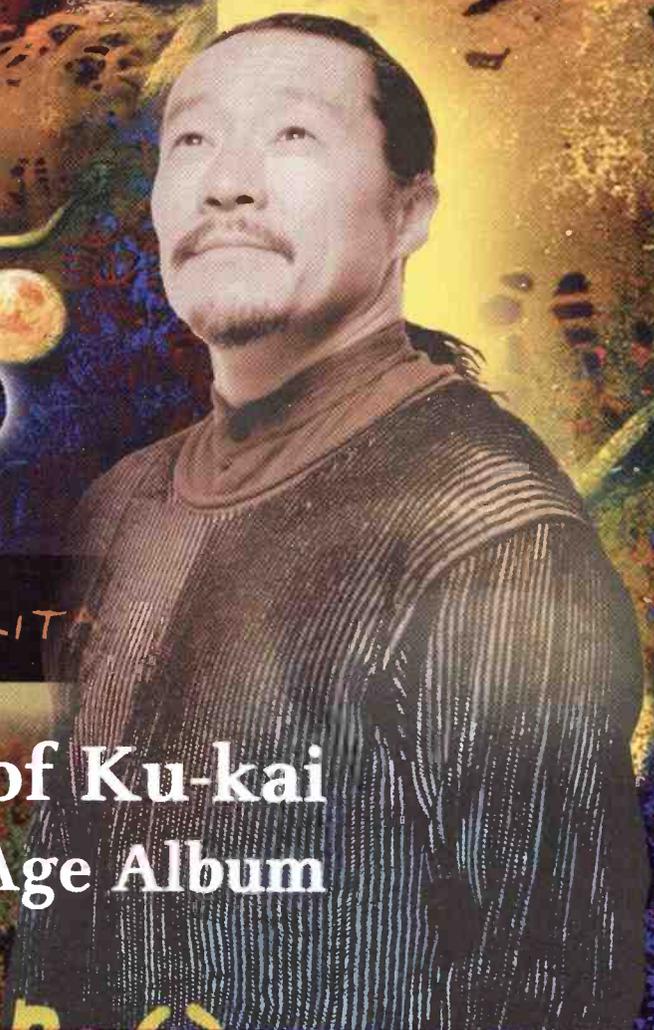
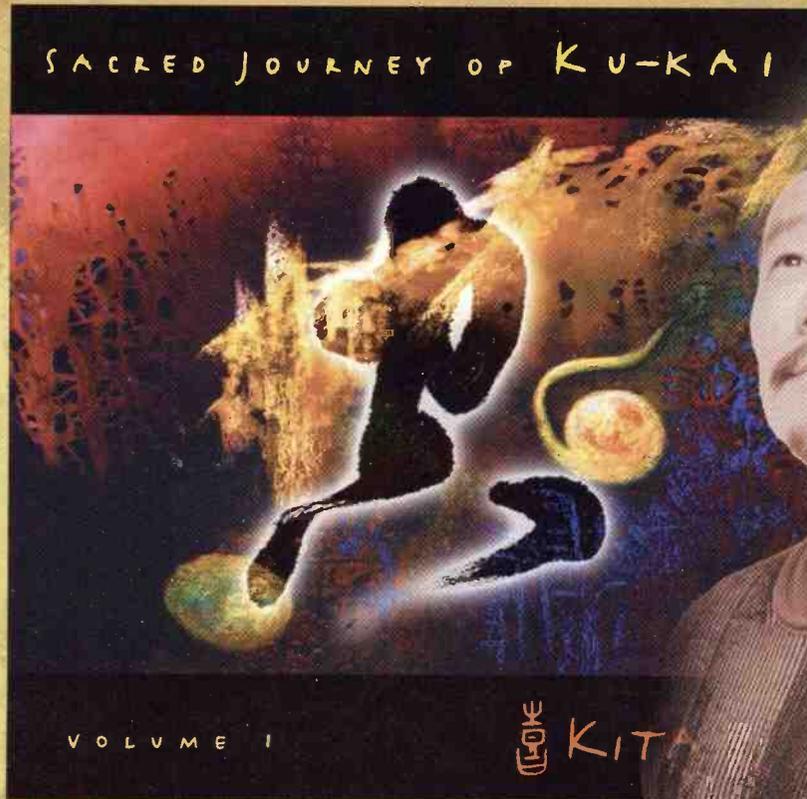
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EVANESCENCE: ONE OF THE YEAR'S BIGGEST BREAKTHROUGHS

Out Of Stormy 2003, Bright Spots Emerged

In many ways, it's hard to find good things to say about a year in music during which more than 1,000 people lost their label jobs, more than 800 retail stores closed and **Johnny Cash**, **Barry White** and **Warren Zevon** died.

Phil Spector, **Michael Jackson**, **Wynonna**, **Glen Campbell** and **George Clinton** all added mug shots to their photo gallery. It was seemingly a year when everything could and did happen.

SPREAD THE WEALTH:

In 2003, a staggering 34 titles logged time at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 (see The Chart-Toppers, page 18). That compares with 25 in 2002, 24 in 2001 and 19 in 2000. It's lovely that so many artists got to grab that brass ring, but it also shows nothing is resonating with the American pop public, or at least not capturing their eyes (or ears) for more than a millisecond before they're on to the next shiny thing. **50 Cent's** "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" had the longest run at No. 1 at six weeks.

AND NOW FOR THE NOT-SO-BAD NEWS:

The combined sales tally of the top 10 selling albums of 2003 is 29.8 million units, according to Nielsen SoundScan. That means the sales slide continues even among the top titles, but the drop-off isn't nearly as severe as it was the past two years. In 2002, the top 10 selling titles moved 33.6 million units; in 2001, the total was 40.3 million; and in 2000—the

last year many executives saw any kind of bonus—it was 60.5 million.

If you really want to feel nostalgic, in 2000, five titles topped the 1 million mark in first-week sales, including 'N Sync's "No Strings Attached," which sold a now-unimaginable 2.4 million in its first week.

This year, not a single title hit that watermark. The biggest debut week this year belonged to **50 Cent's** "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" sold 872,000 units.

MUSICAL CHAIRS:

There were many executives who weren't sitting in the same offices at year's end as they

The Beat™

By Melinda Newman
mnewman@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

were Jan. 1. The biggest surprise was Sony Music Entertainment chairman/CEO **Tommy Mottola**, who left the company he had helmed for 14 years in early 2003. He revived **Neil Bogart's** Casablanca label under Universal Music Group, and we're sure to hear much more from him in 2004.

Same with **Polly Anthony**, who left her post as Epic Records president in September. Although it's still not official, in January she's expected to be named head of DreamWorks Records, which UMG bought in October. She will report to Interscope Geffen A&M chairman **Jimmy Iovine**, who will now oversee DreamWorks as well. That means **Mo Ostin** and **Lenny Waronker**, who had been running DreamWorks, are out of their current posts. Also out but sure to resurface

(Continued on page 18)

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The Beat

Continued from page 18

more than that, for trying something different. All the other label groups are watching and waiting before making such a move themselves, but we predict that UMG is on its own on this one.

WHITE MEN CAN'T JUMP: At least not onto the top 10 of The Billboard Hot 100. For much of the year, the first 10 slots on the chart that registers the most popular tunes at radio and retail were overwhelmed with R&B, rap and hip-hop songs. Every now and then a **Matchbox Twenty**, **3 Doors Down** or **Clay Aiken** would break through, but if anyone doubted that R&B/hip-hop is synonymous with pop music these days, all they had to do was look at our chart.

We predict the domination will continue into 2004, since much of what's coming out of the R&B/hip-hop community is the best music currently being produced. However, we think that by mid-year, the rock and pop acts will have greater representation on the chart.

THE REVOLUTION WILL BE DIGITIZED:

With the launch of the iTunes Music Store in April, Apple Computer singlehandedly catapulted the digital revolution into the mainstream. While digital piracy remains a potentially catastrophic problem, consumers can no longer say they don't have a cheap, legal alternative. There are a few artist holdouts who don't allow their music to be downloaded in some fashion: **the Beatles**, **Garth Brooks** and **Radiohead**, most notably. But we predict that by the end of 2004, they'll be available. You can't hold back progress.

YOU BETTER SHOP AROUND: The revolving story of who was merging, getting bought out or buying someone changed on an almost daily basis.

First, EMI was buying Warner Music Group (the company it had tried to merge with in 2000—before the AOL merger), then Apple Computer was making a bid for WMG (which Apple later denied). By the end of the year, BMG and Sony decided to merge, and a consortium including **Edgar Bronfman Jr.** beat out EMI to buy WMG.

What does this mean? It means that 2004 is going to be bloody, with more jobs lost as a result of

mergers and cost-cutting. We also predict that EMI will not be standing alone by the end of 2004.

GREAT WHITE TRAGEDY: It remained incomprehensible no matter how many times the sickening footage ran across the TV screen: One hundred people perished when the Station nightclub in West Warwick, R.I., went up in flames during a **Great White** concert. Among those killed was the band's guitarist **Ty Longley**.

By year's end, criminal indictments were issued against the band's tour manager and the club's owners, in addition to a number of fire-related suits already filed. In October, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration fined the club owners and the band \$100,000 for workplace violations.

It's hard to imagine any good coming out of something so horrific, but maybe all club owners will now pay a little more attention to their venues and ensure they are up to code before another tragedy happens.

WAR, WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR? Absolutely nothing, and certainly not for political debate by recording artists. Only pro-**George W. Bush**-ites were invit-

ed to this party. **Darryl Worley** scored the biggest hit of his career with the truly dreadful "Have You Forgotten?," which basically accused anyone who did not support the war in Iraq of having forgotten the cataclysmic events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Protest songs were seldom heard more than once on radio and were primarily relegated to artists' Web sites. While such rockers as **John Mellencamp** and **Lenny Kravitz** didn't have any success at radio with their war-questioning anthems, at least they were allowed to express their dissent without tremendous fallout.

Not so for the **Dixie Chicks**. After lead singer **Natalie Maines** declared in March that she was ashamed to be from the same state as Bush, the group found itself basically drawn and quartered. The Chicks' airplay at country radio dropped drastically, and Cumulus Broadcasting banned the group.

Nine months later, people showed they definitely had not forgotten and booed loudly when the Chicks were mentioned at the Billboard Music Awards.

The long-term effect on the band remains to be seen—"God Speed (Sweet Dreams)," the only *(Continued on page 21)*

THE TOP STORIES

- Merger mania continues as Sony and BMG get the urge to merge, a consortium led by Edgar Bronfman Jr. buys Warner Music Group and Universal Music Group buys DreamWorks for \$100 million.
- Digital music turns legit in a big way through the Apple iTunes Store.
- Universal Music Group lowers CD prices from \$18.98 to \$12.98.
- R&B, rap and hip-hop dominate the popular music charts, as 50 Cent's "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" tops the pop charts for six weeks and sells 6.4 million copies by year's end.
- Other new acts including Evanescence, Kelly Clarkson and Clay Aiken score strong debuts.
- Newcomer Norah Jones sweeps the Grammy Awards.
- One hundred fans perish in a Feb. 20 fire at a Great White concert in West Warwick, R.I.
- The music world loses Johnny Cash, Barry White and Warren Zevon.

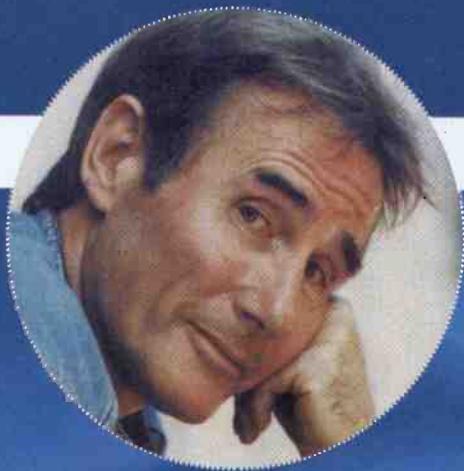
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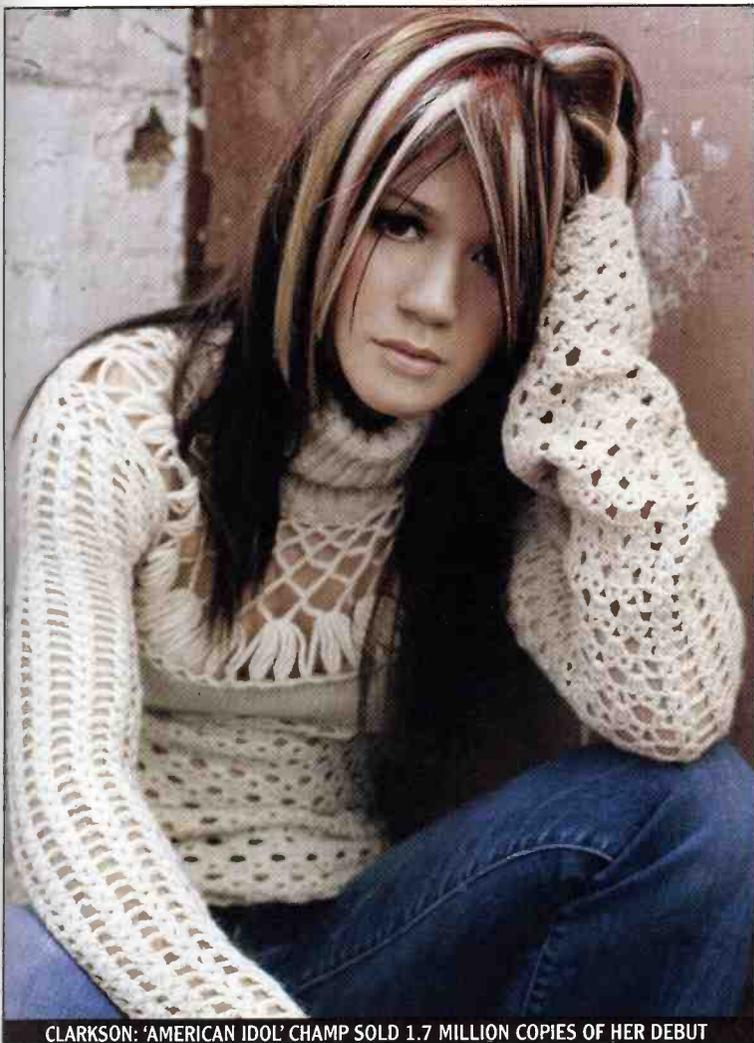
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CLARKSON: 'AMERICAN IDOL' CHAMP SOLD 1.7 MILLION COPIES OF HER DEBUT

The Beat

Continued from previous page

single worked to country radio after Maines' comments, peaked at a dismal No. 48, but the group's tour was a sold-out smash.

Now that **Saddam Hussein** has been caught, we predict a new wave of patriotic fervor that will once again squash like a bug any artists' views that differ from those of the administration.

Clint Black gets the award for worst war song title: "Iraq, I Roll."

REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL: We know all the analysts who get paid a lot of money predict the music sales slump could last until 2007. We beg to differ. As we said, we see more layoffs taking place in 2004, but we predict that album sales will continue their upswing that started this fall and, going out on a limb, that we've already hit rock bottom.

It will be a while before we reach any new sales plateaus, but the people we talk to—even the ones who are between jobs—feel an excitement for music that simply has to be harnessed. We think we'll come a few steps closer next year.

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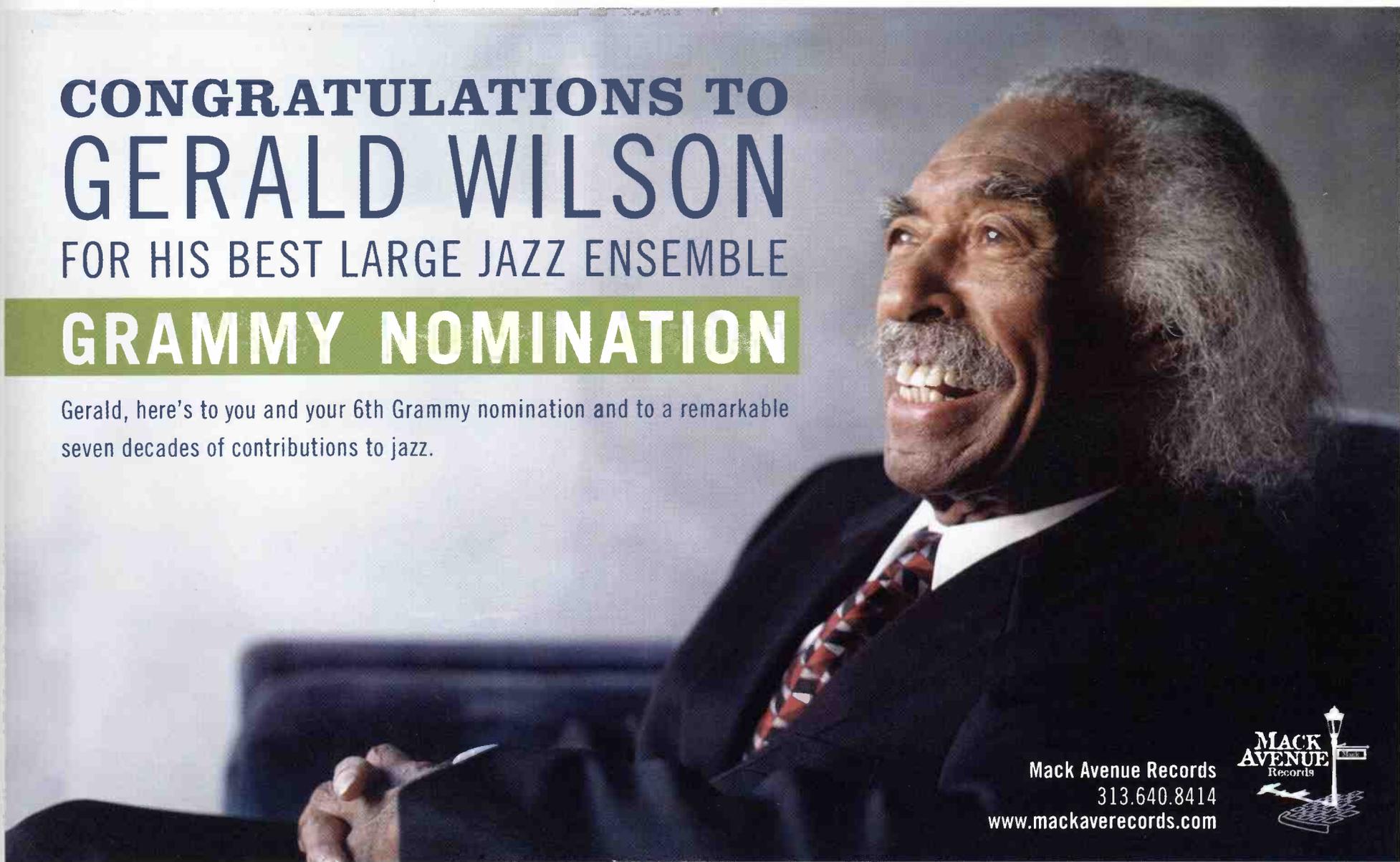
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Christian Music Crossed Boundaries In 2003

2003 will likely be remembered for the blurring of lines that occurred between the Christian music industry and the general market.

Stacie Orrico's self-titled sophomore effort on ForeFront got an additional push from Virgin Records, and the 17-year-old pop artist scored a major hit with "Stuck." As the year came to a close, her latest single, "(There's Gotta Be) More to Life," was in the top five on the Mainstream Top 40 chart and Orrico's career was taking off internationally.

MercyMe's "I Can Only Imagine" became a hit on mainstream AC stations and landed atop the *Billboard* Singles Sales chart.

With an overtly Christian lyric, the song became an unlikely success story that demonstrated the power of a great song to transcend boundaries. Other acts such as **Pillar**, **Relient K**, **Natalie Grant** and **Steven Curtis Chapman** also released singles that attracted mainstream radio play.

This year also saw the borders dis-

solve between mainstream country and Christian music as a reverse crossover took place, with country artists **George Jones**, **Billy Ray Cyrus** and **Randy Travis** placing titles on Top Contemporary Christian Albums.

For Travis, the November release "Worship & Faith" was his third album of country gospel material. Its predecessor, "Rise and Shine," spawned the hit, "Three Wooden Crosses," which was honored as the Country Music Assn. and Christian Country Music Assn.'s song of the year.

One band made headlines with its desire to withdraw from the Christian market. Provident Music Distribution was distributing Wind-up's **Evanesence** to the Christian market when band members gave an inflammatory interview to *Entertainment Weekly* stating in no uncertain terms that they did not want to be in Christian retail. The goth-rock group got its wish, and its product was pulled.

SLIP-SLIDING: After several years of steady growth, Christian music industry sales dipped at the mid-year point. At the end of the first six months of 2003, Nielsen SoundScan sales of Christian and gospel music reached slightly more than 21 million units, compared with 23.4 million units during the same period in 2002, a 10.23% decline. With Christian/gospel music representing 7.14% of all music sales, the industry still remained ahead of the Latin, jazz, classical and sound-track markets.

REVOLVING

DOORS: In January, Gospel Music Assn. president **Frank Breeden** announced his exit. CCM Communications founder **John Styll** took over the reins at GMA. By year's end, Breeden had launched Frank Breeden Consulting, LLC. His first client is the 2004 Republican National Convention . . . Maranatha opened a Nashville office with publishing veteran **Steve Rice** as VP . . . **Charlie**

Lico joined Inpop Records and co-founded 1-2-3 Entertainment with partners **Wes Campbell** and **Newsboys** frontman **Peter Furler**.

In March, former Reunion president/CEO **Terry Hemmings** returned to the Christian music community as president/CEO of Provident Music

Vest joined Flicker Records as GM after 10 years with EMI Christian Music Group . . . **Bob Carlisle** resigned as a general partner in the Butterfly Group, a company he launched in 2002 with partners **George King** and **Mike Rinaldi**. In October, Fusion Entertainment purchased the Butterfly Group and Butterfly International Distribution . . . **Point of Grace** member **Terry Jones** announced this month she was leaving the female foursome; **Leigh Cappillino** will replace her.

NEW VENTURES: **Scott Hughes**, formerly senior VP of strategic marketing, development and new media at EMI Christian Music Group, launched the Next Agency . . . Veteran manager **Mike Smith** launched Perpetual Entertainment Group . . . **Mark Miller**, lead singer for veteran country outfit **Sawyer Brown**, teamed with Provident Music Group to launch Beach Street Records. The label's first act, **Casting Crowns**, was one of the breakout acts in 2003 . . . In September, Flicker Records launched Big House Kids, a children's label headed by Flicker Records GM **Troy Vest**.

This fall, Southern gospel patri-

(Continued on page 24)



MERCYME: UNLIKELY SUCCESS STORY

Higher Ground™

By Deborah Evans Price
dprice@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

Group. Provident founder and chairman **Jim Van Hook** exited the company and by year's end resurfaced as the first dean of Belmont University's Mike Curb College of Entertainment and Music Business.

In April, Integrity Media purchased Sarepta Music, a leading Christian music distributor and record label in South Africa . . . **Troy**

*Happy Holidays from Women in Music!
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Tracy McKnight, WIM Board members **Lisa Brigantino** and **Carole Kaye**, **Mary Wood**, and **Karen Langjahr**



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Retail Deals Among Year's Top Stories

In a deal just made public, Tyscot Records has joined forces with several other labels, including Crystal Rose and Aleho, to form Taseis Distribution.

The deal, effective Jan. 1, 2004, is the brainchild of Tyscot president **Bryant Scott**.

"The only way to compete with the larger companies is to combine our resources," Scott says. "Ryko Distribution is our partner, and they bring WEA to the table for our fulfillment and collections."

"What Taseis offers in addition to traditional distribution services are manufacturing and marketing," Scott says. "The distribution is great, but we'll also be able to be

more effective in our marketing, which could potentially mean double-digit growth."

Taseis will get its test run with the February release of "Gospel Radio Hits," a compilation featuring **Fred Hammond, Israel Houghton, Donald Lawrence, Donnie McClurkin** and **Deitrick Haddon**. Other upcoming major projects include new titles from **Ricky Dillard & New G** and the **Voices of Unity** featuring Haddon.

ROUNDUP: Also among the year's big stories was MCG Records president **James Bullard** signing an exclusive distribution deal merging his recently restructured Atlanta-based label into the Malaco Music Group.

Former Verity GM **Tara Griggs-Magee** was named executive VP of gospel at the Sony Urban Music division in the label's effort to expand its presence in the gospel arena, while also identifying, signing and developing new artists in the genre.

In The Spirit
By Lisa Collins
eye4gospel@aol.com



2003 IN REVIEW

THE TOP STORIES

- Tyscot joins with other labels to form Taseis Distribution.
- Sony beefs up its gospel profile.
- Virtually unknown artist Eartha nabs major Grammy Award in gospel category.

With the industry focused on piracy, profitable retail trends also took center stage. Compilations remained in high demand, as Integrity Gospel and Gospo Centric scored with their joint-venture release of "Gotta Have Gospel!" The three-disc compilation fea-

tured eight platinum and gold artists, 28 songs and five music videos, all for \$18.98.

Kmart inked **Kirk Franklin** for the release of an exclusive CD, "Kirk Franklin—A Season of Remixes." The exclusive-album deal could signify the latest retail trend for top-selling gospel artists.

The big winners on the charts included **Deitrick Haddon, Donnie McClurkin, Vickie Winans** and **Mary Mary**. McClurkin scored upward of 45,000 scans his first week out with his album "... Again."

One of the year's biggest controversies was the Grammy Award win for best contemporary soul gospel album by **Eartha**. The virtually unknown Los Angeles-based singer nabbed the trophy thanks to her album "Sidebars," which she produced with **Glaury**s and **Helsa Ariass**.

All in all, gospel sales may have been down slightly in 2003, but that did little to curtail the growth—and excitement—the music continues to foster, particularly among a growing cadre of independent and church-based labels, whose presence in the industry has increased dramatically during the past several years.

Inspired by such success stories as **Shekinah Glory Ministry** and **Smokie Norful**, industry insiders believe that the best might be yet to come, and the slate of already confirmed 2004 releases tends to bear them out.

Among the projects on tap for next year are all of gospel's heavy hitters: Franklin, McClurkin, Hammond, **Yolanda Adams, Kurt Carr, BeBe** and **CeCe Winans**. And the beat goes on...

Higher Ground

Continued from page 22

arch **Bill Gaither** launched the Gaither Music Group label... In October, producer **Tedd T** signed a deal with Word Label Group to launch a new imprint.

This month, Christian music veterans **Dan Harrell** and **Mike Blanton** partnered with artist manager **Steve Thomas** to launch BHT Entertainment.

Here's wishing everyone a blessed holiday and all the best in the coming year.



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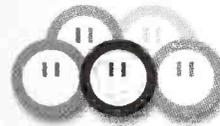
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Amid Financial Struggles, Labels Strive To Keep Afloat

Continuing financial struggles, particularly at regional orchestras, were the constant backdrop to other classical music goings-on in 2003.

The labels also tried to devise ways to stay afloat in a shrinking market, to varying degrees of financial and artistic success.

Deutsche Grammophon took the lead this year with a flurry of prominent signings, including pianists **Lang Lang** and **Hélène Grimaud**, conductor **Esa-Pekka Salonen**, violinist **Hilary Hahn**, soprano **Anna Netrebko** and mezzo-soprano **Magdalena Kozená**.

There were also notable deals at other labels. Soprano **Deborah Voigt**

recently came onboard at EMI Classics, and mezzo **Susan Graham** returned to Warner Classics after being dropped in 2001. BMG Classics (now back to its former moniker after several name changes) signed conductor **Nikolaus Harnoncourt** as part of a bid to restart its engine. And in March, the **Seattle Symphony** and conductor **Gerald Schwartz** inked a deal with Naxos to release a 10-CD series of American music. The recordings had originally been made in the 1990s for Delos, but some were never released.

Other labels took a different survival tack, often by curtailing their release schedule, producing inexpen-



VOIGT: SIGNS WITH EMI CLASSICS

sive yet profitable reissues and compilations or focusing much of their efforts on nonclassical titles (such as at Harmonia Mundi's successful

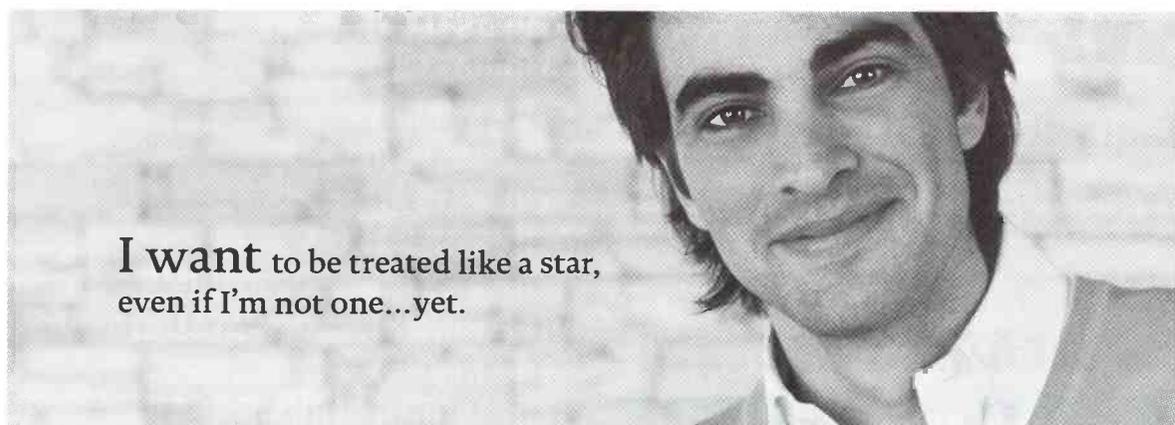
world-music imprint, World Village).

AWAY FROM THE MAJORS: Without the pressures of huge overheads or even larger expectations, small independents quietly went about doing superb work. Although the classical music world mourned the loss of Composers Recordings early in the year, other indies found critical success and tremendous listener loyalty in 2003.

The trend for orchestras to release their own titles continues unabated. The **San Francisco Symphony** and the **Philadelphia Orchestra** earned Grammy Award nominations for self-issued discs. This year, two more notable ensembles decided to chart their own courses: the **Louisville Orchestra** began its First Edition reissue series, and New York's **Orchestra of St. Luke's** launched its own label.

market, entered the fray with his pop-focused "Ti Adoro." However, it was Reprise/143 (which isn't even a classical label) that won big with the seemingly unstoppable **Josh Groban**.

PASSINGS: On a sad note, the classical world lost several notable figures this year. Among them were composer **Luciano Berio**, pianist **John Browning**, tenor **Franco Corelli**, composer **Lou Harrison**, pianist **Eugene Istomen**, film composer **Michael Kamen**, Hyperion label founder **Ted Perry**, critic **Harold C. Schonberg** and pianist **Rosalyn Tureck**.



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Classical Score
By Anastasia Tsioulcas
atsioulcas@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

CROSSOVER STAYS OVER: As in years past, crossover was king at the majors. The grab for a mainstream market—particularly with projects featuring tenors young and old—was the name of the game. **Andrea Bocelli's** popularity held fast in 2003. Even **Luciano Pavarotti**, who created the modern era's crossover tenor

There are more changes on the horizon. Popular vocal quartet **Anonymous 4** declared its departure from the scene next year. Also announced this year were two prominent pending retirements, set for 2005: British string quartet **the Lindseys**, after 40 years of performing, and tenor **Luciano Pavarotti**, who debuted in 1961.

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Contract, Copyright Issues Took Center Stage In '03

While the digital music future was being hammered out in numerous court battles, other copyright and contract issues also made headlines in 2003.

Here's a look at three landmark cases that rocked the music landscape this year and have yet to be resolved.

TVT V. ISLAND DEF JAM: TVT Records sued Island Def Jam Music Group and its chairman **Lyor Cohen** over music created by **Ja Rule** and produced by **Irv Gotti**.

IDJ had contracts entitling it to Ja Rule's exclusive services as a recording artist and Gotti's exclusive services as a record producer.

Gotti, Murder Inc. and Ja Rule made a deal with TVT to record an album featuring **Cash Money Click**, which comprised Ja Rule and two former rap partners, **Christopher Bristole** and **Otha Miller**.

Because of its exclusive contracts, TVT needed to get IDJ's permission to make and sell the CMC album.

Cohen allegedly agreed, but IDJ repeatedly delayed signing an agreement, then told TVT it wouldn't consent. Meanwhile, IDJ had actually signed the agreement but kept the signed copy and never sent it to TVT.

Once IDJ told TVT it wasn't consenting, the point person at IDJ who signed the agreement crossed out his

signature on the contract.

While IDJ was allegedly stringing TVT along, IDJ was secretly negotiating renewals of its exclusive deals with Gotti and Ja Rule. During this time, IDJ also requested, and received from TVT, permission to use two TVT songs.

TVT argued that (1) there was a contract, which IDJ breached, and (2) IDJ and Cohen never really intended to let Ja Rule and Gotti make the CMC album but concealed that intention in order to keep Ja Rule and Gotti happy, so they would renew their deals with IDJ.

A New York federal court jury ruled in March that IDJ breached its

contract and held IDJ and Cohen liable for fraud, willful copyright infringement and tortious interference with contractual relations.

Two months later, the same jury ordered IDJ and Cohen to pay \$24 million in compensatory damages and \$108 million in punitive damages.

The trial judge reduced punitive damages to \$29 million (slashing total damages to \$53 million). The case is on appeal to the Second Circuit.

The enormity of the jury award sends a warning that music companies and executives shouldn't balk when playing hardball. Juries aren't afraid to sock it to corporations that they think engage in shady deals.

GROKSTER AND AIMSTER: In April 2003, a Los Angeles district judge ruled in *MGM Studios v. Grokster* that StreamCast Networks and Grokster weren't liable for contributory or vicarious copyright infringement, even though their peer-to-peer file-sharing programs Kazaa, Morpheus and Gnutella were substantially used to infringe copyrights.

The court held that the seller or distributor of a product that is used in an infringing manner is not responsible for copyright infringement if the product can be used for noninfringing purposes. The L.A. court cited the Supreme Court's 1984 decision in *Sony Corp. of America v. Universal City Studios* (the *Betamax* case).

Interestingly, the district court acknowledged that the defendants provided services that supported the overwhelming infringing use of the

ROSA PARKS V. LAFACE: The U.S. Supreme Court is allowing civil rights icon **Rosa Parks** to sue **OutKast** over the rap duo's hit song with her name as the title.

The justices let stand an appeals court ruling that reinstated Parks' claims against OutKast, LaFace Records, Arista Records and BMG.

The decision expands the rights of celebrities to protect their names and puts recording artists at risk of courts' not discerning "artistic relevance" in musical genres of which the judges' understanding is limited. In September 1998, OutKast released the album "Aquemini." The first single was "Rosa Parks." While the song didn't concern Parks, it repeated the line "Everybody move to the back of the bus" throughout the track. The song peaked at No. 19 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks in 1999.

Parks, represented by attorney **Johnnie Cochran**, sued in Michigan for false advertising under the federal trademark statute and for violating her right of publicity. The trial court granted the defendants' summary judgment, and Parks appealed.

In May, the Sixth Circuit reversed. The court held that it was a disputed issue of fact whether OutKast's use of Parks' name as a title had any artistic relevance to the song.

Because the song was about OutKast proclaiming its superiority and telling its inferiors to "move to the back of the bus," the court felt that a jury could conclude that the title was artistically irrelevant to the song.

If the title has no artistic bearing on the song, the title constitutes false advertising and infringes Parks' right of publicity. If the title is artistically relevant, then Parks' claims fail and the defendants win.

Legal Matters™

By Samantha Chang
schang@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

programs by file-sharers.

The decision has been appealed to the Ninth Circuit, and argument of the appeal is set for February 2004.

In a dramatic turn of events, the Seventh Circuit in June ruled the opposite way in the Aimster case.

There, an Illinois court shut Aimster down, a decision appealed by the software's creator, **John Deep**.

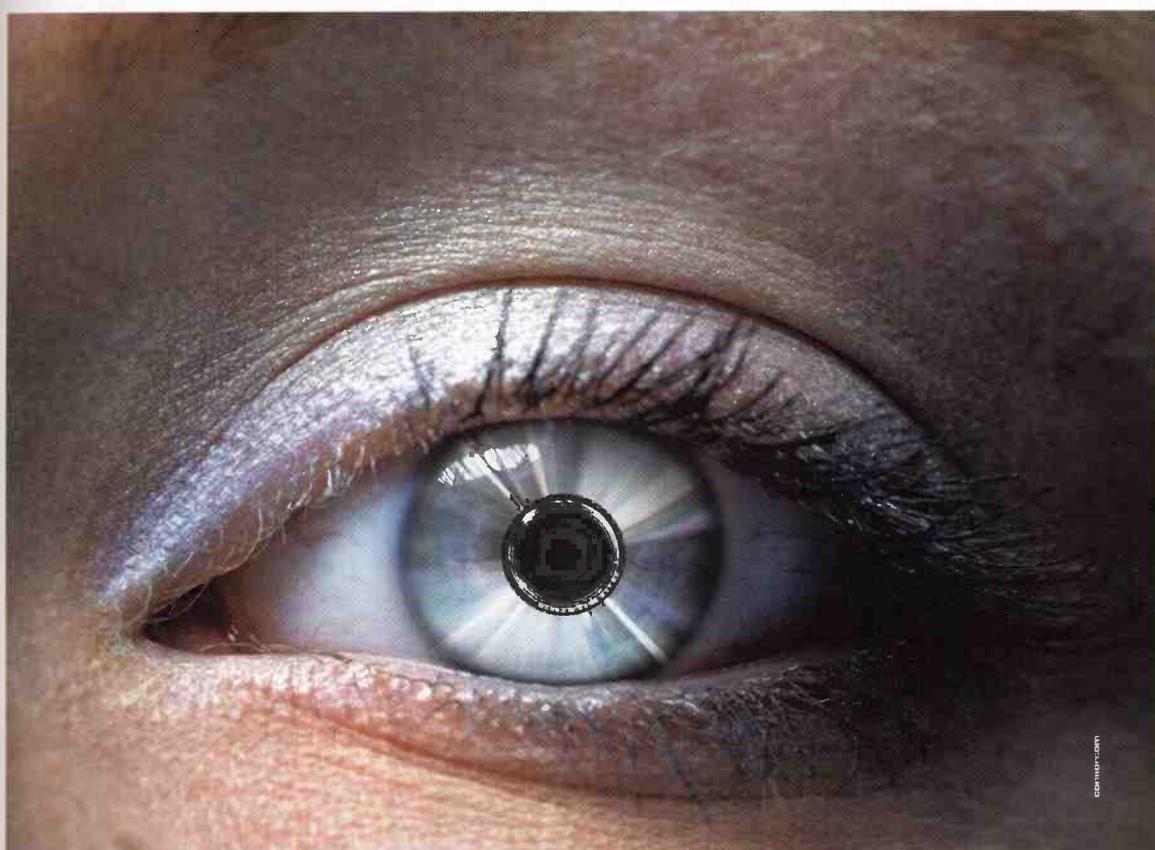
The Seventh Circuit affirmed, after it found that Deep and the corporations he controlled were likely to be liable for contributory infringement in connection with file-sharing uses of the Aimster/Madster services.

The Seventh Circuit interpreted the *Betamax* decision as requiring an "estimate of the respective magnitudes" of the infringing vs. noninfringing uses made of a product. "Aimster has failed to produce any evidence that its service has ever been used for a noninfringing use, let alone evidence concerning the frequency of such uses," according to the opinion.

The Seventh Circuit also pointed out that Aimster's own tutorial on how to use its service described only infringing uses—which the court called an "invitation to infringement."

To date, no federal appeals court has sided with the file-sharing services.

Jay Handlin, a partner with Howrey Simon Arnold & White in Los Angeles, contributed to this column.



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The jazz evolution continued in 2003 with several talents expanding the scope of the music by embarking upon personal paths of exploration. These acts—power trio **Bad Plus**, saxophonist **Greg Osby**, violinist **Regina Carter**, vocalist **Cassandra Wilson** and trumpeters **Roy Hargrove** and **Dave Douglas**—all delivered strong recorded showings, melding traditional sensibility with modern music based in pop and classical.

The continuing exploration of country/jazz connections also was intriguing. Case in point: The big star of Jazz at Lincoln Center's Blowin' the Blues Away blues-meets-jazz gala at the Apollo Theater in June was country crooner **Willie Nelson**. He received the biggest applause of the evening by singing into the heart of "The Night Life" and spinning out a spunky take on "Milk Cow Blues."

At a time of increased global tensions, jazz continued to be that rare American export that transcends greed and power. I'm in total agreement with **Pat Metheny**, who told me earlier this year: "One of the best

things [of 2003] was the incredible emergence of international talent around the world. There are excellent players in almost every country who are using the jazz language to develop their personal dialects."

I witnessed that personally in March in South Africa when I attended the North Sea Jazz Festival in Cape Town. Thanks to a 50-50 ratio of imported and indigenous acts, I discovered a wealth of South African musicians who are marrying African musical traditions with jazz. My personal favorites, virtually unknown in the U.S., were guitarist **Philip Tabane** (originator of the percussive *malombo* sound), female vocalist **Busi Mhlongo** (who fuels her music with traditional Zulu rhythms) and tenor saxophonist **Zim Ngqawana** (who shared the stage with his American mentor, multi-reed player **Yusef Lateef**).

Perhaps the biggest jazz achieve-

saxophonist **Ravi Coltrane's** sleeper "Mad 6" (Eighty-Eight's/Columbia).

COMING ATTRACTIONS: In 2004, two top-drawer jazz artists will release small-ensemble studio recordings

Jazz
Notes™
By Dan Ouellette
douellette@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

for the first time in five years.

Surprisingly, on-the-go jazz statesman **Wynton Marsalis** has not recorded a small-group date since 1999's superb "Marciac Suite" (Columbia). Even though last year he delivered the big-band/symphony orchestra CD "All Rise" (Sony Classical), Marsalis returns to a more intimate quartet setting for his Blue Note Records debut "The Magic Hour," an eight-song collection of originals that is the strongest outing of his career.

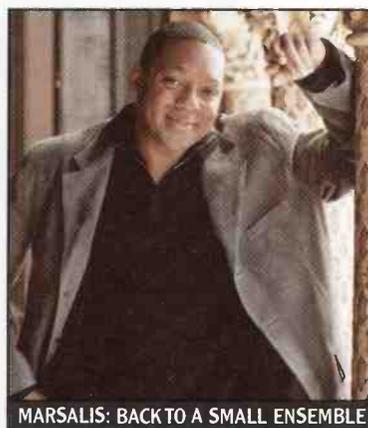
The trumpeter says his last album "was such a huge piece involving more than 200 people that I wanted my next recording to be with a smaller group. I wanted to state my basic program about jazz music with the quartet."

The new CD streets March 9. In addition, pianist **Gerri Allen** returns to the recording front as a leader later this year. She was recently signed by Telarc and will record a trio date with bassist **Dave Holland** and drummer **Jack DeJohnette**.

NEA BOOST: One of the most significant jazz undercurrents for the coming year promises to be the National Endowment for the Arts' recharged interest in the genre. Chairman **Dana Gioia** has announced a major expansion in the NEA's recognition and support of the music. It elevates the status of its Jazz Masters Awards, hosted annually by the International Assn. for Jazz Educators conference (Jan. 21-24, 2004, in New York), as the highest U.S. honor in the jazz field.

The 2004 recipients—**Jim Hall**, **Chico Hamilton**, **Herbie Hancock**, the late **Luther Henderson**, **Nancy Wilson** and **Nat Hentoff**—will be honored Jan. 23. Each will receive a one-time fellowship award of \$25,000.

In addition, the NEA has partnered with the Verve Music Group to release on Jan. 13 the two-CD "NEA Jazz Masters," featuring 28 tunes by past and present awardees.



MARSALIS: BACK TO A SMALL ENSEMBLE

ment of 2003 was the increase in musicians being called upon to curate as artistic directors of festivals and cultural organizations. Joining such pioneers as Dr. **Billy Taylor**, **Wynton Marsalis** and **Joshua Redman**, **Dianne Reeves**, **Danilo Perez** and **Joe Lovano** were chosen to oversee jazz programming at the **Los Angeles Philharmonic**, the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia and the Caramoor Festival in Katonah, N.Y., respectively.

UNDER THE RADAR: It's worth noting a sampling of 2003's best CDs that slipped under most radar screens: guitarist **Joel Harrison's** country-meets-jazz gem "Free Country" (ACT), pianist **Jason Moran's** fifth stylistically diverse disc "The Bandwagon" (Blue Note), vocalist **Ann Dyer's** deep and moving "When I Close My Eyes" (Sunnyside), brilliant guitarist **Elliott Sharp's** provocative acoustic solo album "The Velocity of Hue" (released on U.K. label Emanem) and

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The Year In Touring

Continued from page 5

also jumps an impressive 25% over 2002's numbers.

As has been the trend for the past several years, dollars again outpaced "butts in seats," with attendance up by half as much, at 12%. And while the average gross per show increased a modest 2% at \$173,638, the average attendance per show—at 3,895—was down 8.6% in 2003.

Most see ticket pricing as the major contributor to the drop in average attendance.

"The continued drop in average paid attendance is disturbing," says Alex Hodges, executive VP at House of Blues Concerts (HOB). He notes that in some cases, the numbers may reflect increased reporting at the club level and of less-successful shows.

"But in some cases it may indicate continued price issues with the fans," Hodges says. "[People] are going to the must-see shows, and some people are simply cutting back to fewer shows and being more selective, and that will show up in average paid attendance."

Clear Channel Entertainment CEO Brian Becker told *Billboard* in a recent interview that his company is addressing that concern through various programs, adding that he believes that ticket prices in general are too high.

"The \$10 ticket and the whole Summer of Live promotion, the GetAccess programs, are examples of things that we did to try to create opportunities for people to come to the building who might not have been able to afford to otherwise," Becker said.

And while average attendance is down more than 32% from the average of four years ago, the tide may be turning. This year marked the first time in the four-year period that the decline in attendance was below 10%.

\$2 BILLION AND COUNTING

The \$2 billion ceiling for Billboard Boxscore was shattered in 2003, after breaking \$1 billion only six years ago. That alone, most agree, is cause for cautious celebration.

"The business is better from a year ago, maybe two years ago, but not back to being strong," Hodges says. "I think we are going to see continued improvement."

Still, Hodges believes the problems that plague the record industry are everybody's problems.

"The record company doldrums do not bode well for developing new artists. But new artists are still being discovered by the fans anyway—just not enough of them," he says. "And there is a tendency to take a strongly developing new artist to the so-called 'next level' by jumping two or three levels and ensuring some red ink."

That may be one reason why touring activity has never been higher.

Artists in many ways control their own destiny by touring. The money is better than ever, and touring traffic has increased as a result: a record 13,437 worldwide concerts were reported to Billboard Boxscore this year, up more than 25% from last year.

Some of that increase is attributed to more international representation and more diligent reporting overall, but the fact that more artists are playing more dates also surely plays into the equation.

More traffic is obviously good news for venues. "We're right on our concert budget," says Peter Luukko, president of Comcast-Spectacor Ventures and chairman of Global Spectrum, which operates such arenas as the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia.

"We didn't have some of the five- or six-night runs we've had in the past, but more acts came through," Luukko says. "And the ones that come through are selling well."

Others agree that next year could be another record-setter. "At this juncture, the 2004 season for shows is much stronger than [this time] last year," says Alex Hodges, executive VP for HOB Concerts. "We see January and February and March as being much stronger than a year ago, and the outdoor venues have more holds, more offers and more confirmations this early than we had a year ago."

Philadelphia is a good example of a market that will capitalize on winter bookings in early 2004. On the books already at the city's Wachovia complex are Bette Midler (Jan. 15), Linkin Park with POD (Jan. 20), Sarah Brightman (Jan. 21), Rod Stewart (Feb. 17), Barenaked Ladies (Feb. 18),

THE TOP STORIES

- On Feb. 20, a fire ignited by a pyrotechnics display at the Station nightclub in West Warwick, R.I., during a performance by Great White killed 100 people and injured about 200 others. Club owners Michael and Jeffrey Derderian and Great White tour manager Dan Biechele were charged with manslaughter, and an estimated \$1 billion in civil suits is yet to be settled.
- Bruce Springsteen set a world-concert-gross record for a single engagement with his 10-night, sold-out stand July 15-Aug. 31 at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. The stand grossed \$38,684,050 and drew 566,560 people.
- The Molson Canadian Rocks for Toronto event, held July 30 at Toronto's Downsview Parc, grossed \$7.6 million and drew 489,176 people, the latter a record for a ticketed event. The bill featured the Rolling Stones, AC/DC, Rush, the Guess Who, Justin Timberlake and others.
- The Blackout of 2003 gave new meaning to the term "dark nights" for venues in eight states and parts of Canada, resulting in millions of dollars in lost concert revenue.
- The Dixie Chicks' March 1 national on-sale, a first for country music, moved 790,000 tickets, valued at about \$47 million.

Alan Jackson (Feb. 27) and Britney Spears (March 31).

This slate is pretty representative of what the rest of North America will see in the early going of 2004. "It's shaping up to be a great winter," says Comcast-Spectacor senior VP John Page, GM of the Wachovia Complex.

WORLD DOMINATION

The increase in touring traffic can in many ways be traced directly to CCE, still far and away the dominant global player in the touring industry. In 2003, CCE was involved at some level in nearly 60% of all dollars reported to Billboard Boxscore.

But that's down from a 65.6% share the previous year, and CCE's reported box-office gross was off by 5% despite

the concert giant reporting 155 more shows than it did in 2002.

CCE Music co-CEO Don Law says increases seen by other promoters have not necessarily been at CCE's expense. "I can't comment on anyone else's performance," he says. "But our performance is up 20% over the last two years. We'd always love to have more events, but I think we've bought more intelligently, and we're clearly going in the right direction."

While CCE's slight drop may not necessarily reflect competitor AEG Live's abrupt gain, the latter's jump up the promoter ladder in 2003 is nothing short of remarkable. AEG Live reported \$341,858,998 in concert grosses this year, up a staggering 134% from '02. That's enough to move AEG

Live to second among all promoters, passing HOB Concerts.

"All I can say is 'whew,'" says Randy Phillips, president/CEO of AEG Live, a subsidiary of sports and entertainment company Anschutz Entertainment Group. "We're in there fighting the good fight."

Exclusives on tours by Fleetwood Mac, Eagles and Justin Timberlake/Christina Aguilera, along with Celine Dion's \$71 million at the Colosseum at Caesars Palace, have helped fuel AEG Live's growth.

NO BLUES

HOB Concerts, though dropping in the pecking order, still increased its dollars reported by 34% and more than doubled the number of shows reported.

"If this trend continues, we would hope to grow our business in terms of doing more shows and being aggressive," says Hodges, adding that his company has become more diligent about reporting shows.

Technology has also impacted ticket sales for HOB, Hodges says. "Our Internet selling and marketing capabilities have really paid off, and we are now seeing the changes in fans' actions," he says. "The fans are buying close to 60% of the concert tickets on the Internet and printing at home in unbelievable numbers."

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

All but two of the top 10 U.S. promoters racked up increases in box-office for the year over 2002, according to Billboard Boxscore. Along with CCE, the other exception is the

(Continued on page YE83)

2003 IN REVIEW

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Club Fire Saddest Incident Of 2003

Bruce Springsteen may have shattered the world box-office record, Toronto may have accommodated 500,000 people for one show and the Stones may have pushed the envelope all over the globe. But in the end, an aborted performance by a past-prime rock band at a New England club will be the concert of 2003 that no one will ever forget.

One could question the corners that may have been cut when putting flammable foam around a tiny stage. One may puzzle over the practice of lighting pyro in such a small venue, or how this place ever passed fire code inspections in the first place. And many may wonder how Great White drew more than 400 people to the Station on a cold-ass Thursday night.

While it is easy to sympathize with the families of victims and those injured—who understandably want somebody to pay dearly—placing blame in this situation is difficult.

Great White was just a once-famous rock band trying to eke out a living from a tough club circuit, trying to make the show as exciting as it could on a tight production budget.

As the tour manager for Great White, Dan Biechele did not exactly

have the most glamorous job in rock-'n'-roll, and one could reasonably assume he thought the pyro was safe to use. Likewise, club owners the Derderian brothers surely cared about the safety of their patrons.

Everyone has an opinion about this tragedy, and these are strictly my own:

On The Road

By Ray Waddell
rwaddell@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

Great White is a lunch-pail rock band trying to work—period.

Dan Biechele certainly could have used better professional judgment when setting up the pyro. It is now obvious that the Station should never have passed local inspections. But somebody with authority in that club should have stood up and said, "Hell no, you can't light that in here."

The bottom line is, 100 people who cared enough about live rock-'n'-roll to head out on a work night to see Great

(Continued on page 32)

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ARTIST(S)	VENUE/ DATE	GROSS/ TICKET PRICE(S)	ATTENDANCE/ CAPACITY	PROMOTER
SIMON & GARFUNKEL, THE EVERLY BROTHERS	Madison Square Garden, New York Dec. 2-4	\$6,023,220 \$250/\$50	54,482 three sellouts	Clear Channel Entertainment
SIMON & GARFUNKEL, THE EVERLY BROTHERS	Continental Airlines Arena, East Rutherford, N.J. Dec. 7-8	\$4,427,726 \$252/\$52	37,978 two sellouts	Metropolitan Talent Presents
NIGHT OF THE PROMS: TOTO, ILSE DE LANGE, INXS, JOHN MILES BAND	The Ahoy, Rotterdam, The Netherlands Nov. 18-Dec. 1	\$3,886,919 (€3,181,306) \$48.87/\$42.76/\$36.65/\$27.49	147,945 149,044 fourteen shows	PSE Holland
CELINE DION	The Colosseum at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas Dec. 10-14	\$2,757,746 \$225/\$175/\$127.50/\$87.50	19,928 five sellouts	Concerts West
SIMON & GARFUNKEL, THE EVERLY BROTHERS	Wachovia Center, Philadelphia Dec. 9	\$2,045,222 \$227/\$127/\$87/\$52	18,300 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
SIMON & GARFUNKEL, THE EVERLY BROTHERS	Air Canada Centre, Toronto Nov. 30	\$1,954,089 (\$2,535,638 Canadian) \$192.66/\$134.86/\$68.97/\$38.15	18,262 sellout	House of Blues Canada
SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE	ARCO Arena, Sacramento, Calif. Dec. 13	\$1,172,328 \$80.50/\$20.50	16,519 sellout	Another Planet Entertainment
SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE	HP Pavilion, San Jose, Calif. Dec. 14	\$1,111,660 \$80.50/\$20.50	16,199 sellout	Another Planet Entertainment
AEROSMITH & KISS, PORCH GHOULS	Jacksonville Arena, Jacksonville, Fla. Dec. 5	\$1,091,880 \$125/\$50	11,145 12,875	Clear Channel Entertainment
KIIS JINGLE BALL: BEYONCÉ, SEAN PAUL, BRITNEY SPEARS, KELLY CLARKSON, SIMPLE PLAN & OTHERS	Staples Center, Los Angeles Dec. 5	\$1,038,850 \$175/\$35	14,272 15,735	Clear Channel Entertainment
DAVE MATTHEWS, TIM REYNOLDS, TREY ANASTASIO, EMMYLOU HARRIS	Wachovia Center, Philadelphia Dec. 15	\$1,001,858 \$52.50	19,236 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
AEROSMITH & KISS, PORCH GHOULS	St. Pete Times Forum, Tampa, Fla. Dec. 3	\$920,775 \$125/\$45	10,633 15,174	Clear Channel Entertainment, in-house
PLACEBO, CAFÉ TACUBA, GUSTAVO CERATI, KINKY, LA MALA RODRIGUEZ	Foro Sol, Mexico City Nov. 29	\$845,553 (9,639,300 pesos) \$26.32	32,131 47,243	OCESA Presents
SHANIA TWAIN, EMERSON DRIVE	Ford Center, Oklahoma City Nov. 25	\$729,100 \$65/\$45/\$35	12,068 16,000	Beaver Productions
AEROSMITH & KISS, PORCH GHOULS	Thompson-Boling Arena, Knoxville, Tenn. Dec. 10	\$692,560 \$125/\$42.50	9,481 15,000	Jack Utsick Presents
PHISH	FleetCenter, Boston Dec. 2	\$676,360 \$40	17,569 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
DAVID BOWIE, MACY GRAY	Bell Centre, Montreal Dec. 13	\$613,650 (\$807,998 Canadian) \$61.14/\$45.95/\$35.32	11,315 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment, Gillett Entertainment Group
TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA	Wachovia Arena, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Dec. 13	\$578,900 \$45/\$35	14,364 two sellouts	Clear Channel Entertainment
PHISH	Pepsi Arena, Albany, N.Y. Dec. 1	\$576,189 \$36.50	15,786 sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
PHIL LESH & FRIENDS	Beacon Theatre, New York Dec. 2-5	\$574,402 \$46	12,621 four sellouts	Clear Channel Entertainment
DAVID BOWIE, DANDY WARHOLS	Galaxie, Amneville, France Nov. 8	\$462,161 (€400,625) \$51.91/\$40.38	10,690 11,200	Clear Channel Entertainment, Canal Productions
JOAN SEBASTIAN	Arrowhead Pond, Anaheim, Calif. Nov. 29	\$455,175 \$135/\$35	6,657 8,715	Nederlander Organization, Hauser-CIE Events
DAVID BOWIE, DANDY WARHOLS	Nikaia, Nice, France Nov. 10	\$426,823 (€370,635) \$69.10/\$51.82	7,620 8,000	Clear Channel Entertainment, Canal Productions
AMY GRANT & VINCE GILL	Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, N.H. Dec. 9	\$404,500 \$75/\$24.50	7,300 7,900	Elite Entertainment
TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA	SBC Center, San Antonio Dec. 12	\$376,444 \$56/\$36	8,990 sellout	Stone City Productions/Jack Utsick Presents
AMY GRANT & VINCE GILL	Worcester's Centrum Centre, Worcester, Mass. Dec. 10	\$355,400 \$75/\$24.50	6,400 9,900	Elite Entertainment
PHIL LESH & FRIENDS	Tower Theatre, Upper Darby, Pa. Nov. 28-30	\$355,145 \$39.50	9,129 three sellouts	Clear Channel Entertainment
EVANESCENCE, SEETHER	Sports Palace, Mexico City Nov. 19	\$321,278 (3,561,280 pesos) \$36.10/\$14.44	13,325 17,100	OCESA Presents
ENRIQUE IGLESIAS	Bell Centre, Montreal Dec. 2	\$315,616 (\$411,344 Canadian) \$53.33/\$37.98	6,753 7,451	Clear Channel Entertainment
CHICAGO	Westbury Music Fair, Westbury, N.Y. Nov. 26, Dec. 3	\$311,217 \$63.50	4,516 5,484 two shows one sellout	Clear Channel Entertainment
THE WHITE STRIPES	Roseland Ballroom, New York Nov. 18-20	\$290,478 \$34/\$30	10,349 three sellouts	Clear Channel Entertainment
AMY GRANT & VINCE GILL	1st Mariner Arena, Baltimore Dec. 5	\$289,303 \$75/\$50/\$40/\$24.50	5,550 8,028	Jam Productions, SMG
AMY GRANT & VINCE GILL	Sovereign Center, Reading, Pa. Dec. 7	\$288,916 \$75/\$60/\$40/\$25	4,942 5,766	Jam Productions, SMG
GAITHER HOMECOMING	Gaylord Entertainment Center, Nashville Dec. 5	\$286,620 \$35/\$22	9,927 17,269	Clear Channel Entertainment
AMY GRANT & VINCE GILL	Wachovia Arena, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Dec. 15	\$283,197 \$76/\$25.50	5,393 6,549	Jam Productions, SMG

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On The Road

Continued from page 30

White never made it home. Two hundred more were injured. And in the end, we can only hope that rock's worst tragedy has made things safer for all of us that love live music, whether it's at a stadium or a club. In 2004 and beyond, let's all do our part to make sure something like this never happens again.

MAKING A MOVE IN '04: I hereby predict that two acts—one country, one rock—will make a big jump from a touring standpoint in 2004. And I think both will do it by following a touring blueprint that has worked very well in the past.

First, **Rascal Flatts** has made great strides in the past two years and headlined quite successfully in 2003, and it will again in early 2004. But next summer, the country group will get a big boost on some sure-to-be-strong shed dates

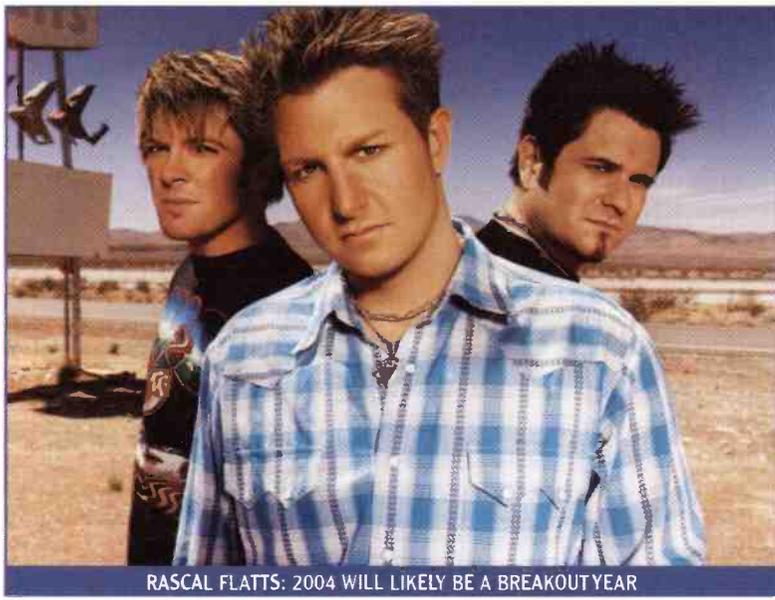
in support of **Kenny Chesney**.

This strategy works. Just ask Chesney, who did it on **Tim McGraw's** tour, and McGraw, who did it on **George Strait's** Country Music Festival stadium tours.

It's about getting in front of people and winning fans, and Chesney played to more people than any artist in country music in 2003. **Rob Beckham** at the William Morris

Agency books Rascal Flatts.

In rock, things are obviously a little different, but it's still about playing as much as possible—and only if you're good. In 2004, watch out for **Story of the Year**, which will follow the hard-touring, no-stone-unturned strategy of **3 Doors Down** and **Creed**. All three acts are booked by **Ken Fermaglich** at the Agency Group.



RASCAL FLATTS: 2004 WILL LIKELY BE A BREAKOUT YEAR

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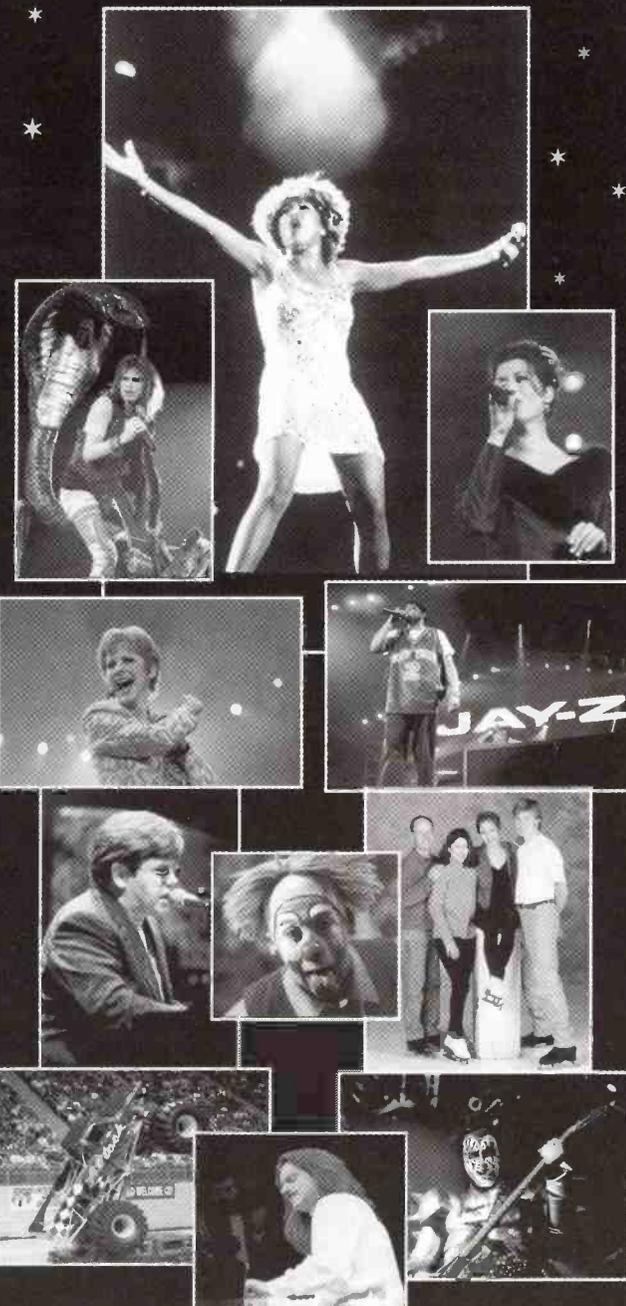
GOOD START: Writers & Artists Group International has some big tours working for early 2004. **Metallica** will go on sale Dec. 20 with West Coast arena dates for a 2004 run that starts March 2 at **America West Arena** in Phoenix and could include as many as 80 dates.

Rush will begin an extensive North American amphitheater tour next June, with Clear Channel Entertainment promoting the majority of more than 30 dates. Rush also returns to Europe for

the first time in more than a decade, beginning in September. The band is managed by **Ray Daniels** at SRO/Anthem and is booked in the U.S. by **Adam Kornfeld** at WAGI. In 2002, Rush grossed \$27.1 million and played to 601,525 people at 63 shows.

RESOLUTION: I will not say "absolutely" in 2004. Nothing is "amazing," tours will not "kick off" and nothing occurs "at the end of the day." Please hold me to this.

Reach for the Stars!



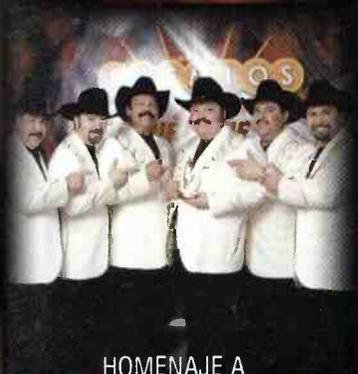
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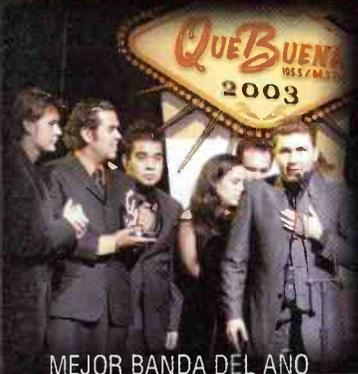
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2003



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MEJOR INTERPRETACION
FEMENINA
JENNI RIVERA



SUCESO DISCOGRAFICO DEL AÑO
MONTEZ DE DURANGO



MEJOR CANCION CON BANDA
EL COYOTE



PD Garza Credited With KBUE's Success

Singer/Songwriter/Producer Helped Bring Sub-Genres To Mainstream Attention

BY ERNESTO LECHNER

LOS ANGELES—Calling Pepe Garza a visionary might be a bit of an understatement.

As PD of KBUE (La Que Buena) Los Angeles, the Monterrey-born Garza has been responsible for bringing such powerful underground genres as the *narcocorrido* (corridos that deal with drug trafficking) and the hip-hop flavored "urban regional" into the mainstream.

A successful songwriter/producer, Garza is the kind of radio executive who will go beyond discovering a new trend.

He will actually help guide the development of recording projects, then premiere the new material on his radio station and let the listeners judge the sounds for themselves.

"Generally speaking, it takes a long time for a new musical movement to reach the mainstream media," the 38-year old executive explains, sitting in the plush conference room of the Que Buena offices in Burbank, Calif.

"But we're the kind of people who like to take risks. When we feel that

a style of music is about to explode, we try to accelerate the process."

GUTSY MOVES

Que Buena is owned by Burbank-based Liberman Broadcasting, an independent operator of Spanish-language radio and TV stations nationwide, including five radio outlets here. Among them, the best-known is Que Buena.

The station has even instituted its own awards ceremony, the Premios Que Buena. The fourth edition took place Dec. 10 at the 6,000-seat Universal Amphitheatre here and included performances by Conjunto Primavera and Tucanes de Tijuana.

"Que Buena is the one radio station that is having more impact in the regional Mexican market in L.A. right now," says Jesus Naranjo, regional Latin sales specialist with Universal Music & Video Distribution. "It's quite simple, really—what they play is what we sell."

Liberman VP of programming Eduardo León hired Garza in October 1998. At the time, the station's playlist leaned heavily on what



QUE BUENA DJs WITH CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA AT THE AWARDS SHOW

Garza calls "música bonita" (pretty music), the lush sounds of such ranchera idols as Vicente and Alejandro Fernández and Ana Gabriel.

"There was too much competition out there, and our signal lacked the power of other stations," Garza says. "We quickly realized that there was nothing to be gained by playing what everybody else was playing. We needed to find our own niche."

León recalls, "Pepe and I went out to the streets of Huntington Park and East L.A., and we started asking anyone who had a radio on what kind of music they liked. Most of them mentioned corrido artists who were not on the radio. They loved stuff like Los Razos and El As de La Sierra, but there was nobody playing them."

León decided to give the growing movement a push. He hired a composer and gave him bits of lyrics and the melody for a narcocorrido song. The tune, "El Clavo," was recorded by Los Originales de San Juan and became an instant hit.

"It was then that narcocorridos became these elaborate, first-person narratives with sound effects and

everything," Garza says. "Young people took notice, because there was a parallel between this kind of material and gangsta rap."

Garza quickly became known for his desire to give unknown recording artists a chance.

"They would call me 'Chucho el Roto' [Chucho the Broke]," Garza says with a laugh. "I was always helping out the poor."

The gutsy strategy paid off.

"Our biggest feat was bringing artists like Lupillo Rivera and Rogelio Martínez into the mainstream," Garza says. "And rescuing a legend like Chalino Sánchez, who was hugely popular but never got any airplay until we started playing him."

León adds, "Our listeners identify with these artists because they share the same cultural background. They were born in the United States of Mexican descent and spent their entire lives listening to Latin music. Suddenly, there's somebody on the radio who's just like them."

Garza points out, "You are not likely to find Snoop Dogg in your neighborhood. But you will find Lupillo Rivera in your local Walmart. Or Adán Sánchez. Or Las Voces del Rancho. That creates a feeling of closeness between the artist and the fans."

DELVING INTO LATIN HIP-HOP

Once the narcocorridos became a

fixture in the Latin music scene, Garza and León set their sights on an altogether different market with enormous, untapped potential: Latin hip-hop.

"Hip-hop is the rock'n'roll of the new millennium," Garza offers. "And it's become an intrinsic part of Mexican culture here in L.A., since a large number of Hispanics share their neighborhoods with African-Americans. As a result, young Mexican Americans carry hip-hop in their bloodstream."

The pair got in touch with Francisco and Sergio Gomez, two brothers from South Central L.A. who were planning an album that would fuse traditional hip-hop beats with banda stylings and Spanish rhymes. Garza became an unofficial consultant on the project.

"I emphasized that this brand of hip-hop needed to have a beat that would be instantly recognizable to our people," Garza says. "And the rhymes had to be so good that those unfamiliar with rap could, up to a certain degree, ignore the musical side of it and focus on the storytelling."

Que Buena began playing cuts from the Gomez brothers' album three months before Univision released it. Titled "Proyecto Akwid," the CD debuted at No. 12 on the *Billboard* Top Latin Albums chart. It has since been nominated for a Grammy Award in the Latin rock/alternative category, alongside such rock luminaries as Gustavo Cerati and Café Tacuba.

"Those people are always willing to take risks," Naranjo says. "They were the first ones to play Akwid on the radio."

Risk-taking aside, the station's success is clearly rooted in Garza's ability to identify emerging trends and stay in touch with the streets of Los Angeles and their idiosyncratic beat.

"I get bored really easily with music," he says. "I'm always on the lookout for new sounds, and I haven't lost my sense of curiosity."

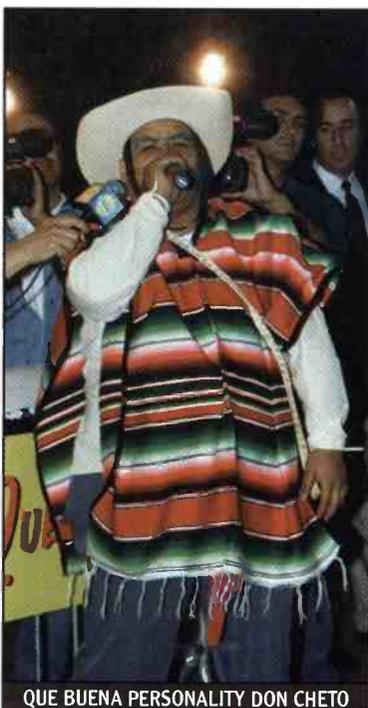
Felicidades Adan Cuen



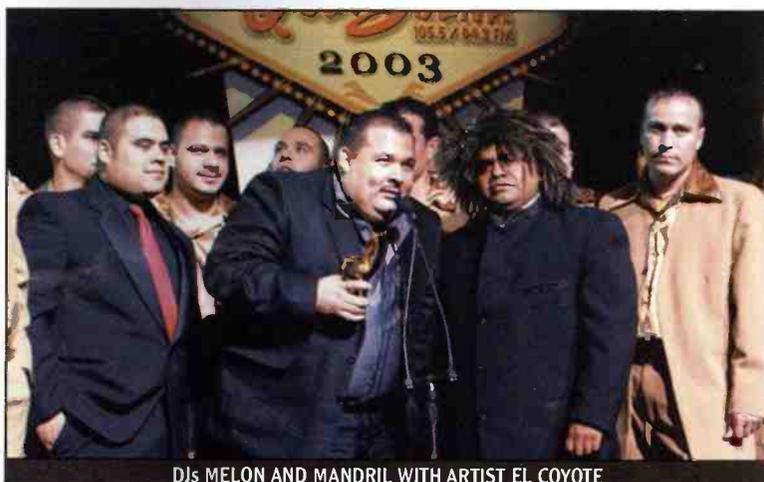
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A los Premios Que Buena
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Conjunto Primavera

- Artist Of The Year
- Best Grupo Norteño Song for "Una Vez Mas"
- Best Grupo Norteño



Banda El Recodo

"Best Banda of The Year"



Jenni Rivera

"Best Female Artist"



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KBUE PD Pepe Garza: A Billboard Q&A

BY LEILA COBO

José Francisco Durón Garza, better-known as Pepe Garza, took over as PD of KBUE ("La Que Buena") Los Angeles five years ago. Since then, Que Buena, a David among Goliaths in the vast Los Angeles marketplace, has become a trendsetting station and a champion of new regional Mexican music.

In addition to his programming duties, Garza—who sports a shaved head reminiscent of the artists he spins—is a songwriter/producer who has won ASCAP and BMI awards for his compositions.

He spoke with *Billboard* a few days before Premios Que Buena 2003, the station's regional Mexican music awards show, which was held Dec. 10.

Q: Yours is a regional Mexican music awards show, and yet you hold it at the Universal Amphitheatre. It's a venue more associated with sit-down concerts than massive regional dances. Why do you use the amphitheatre?

A: It's part of the magic of the event. At some point, they told us we should hold it at an open venue, like a rodeo. But [Liberman Broadcasting VP] Eduardo León and I insisted on keeping it [at Universal], so the artists would feel they were playing in a different sort of place. Not a dance. And to give it

credibility with the media. It was a challenge, and we did well. Now we're in our fourth year there, and tickets are sold out weeks in advance.

Q: Que Buena has quite a name now. What were the expectations when you took

over the station?

A: There was a possibility to invent. Because if you go to a station that's very well-established, everything you do is tentative. If you move something, the audience will leave. And here, the audience existed

but there was a possibility to change.

Eddie told me, "Do whatever you want." And I realized that the music that played on the radio wasn't what was being heard in the street. In the street you heard Chino Sánchez, then Lupillo Rivera. And in the beginning we tried to get interviews with [artists like] Vicente Fernández, Alejandro Fernández and Pepe Aguilar. And they wouldn't pay attention to us. They had a good relationship with other, stronger stations.

I said, "Since they don't pay attention to us, we'll pay attention to others." And we started to play other kinds of music on the radio, like Los Razos, and the station got ratings.

If you analyze other playlists in the past two, three years, you'll see that more and more, they've added artists who were first played on Que Buena. Fortunately, we had the strength or the vision to give people a movement they wanted. Less refined, more authentic. And it worked. Suddenly, the artists started to come up through the station. And that's where the awards come from as well.

Q: You program a lot of new music. That's risky, isn't it?

A: We're not afraid of new music. There's
(Continued on page 38)



GARZA: 'WE TAKE RISKS, AND THANKS TO THOSE RISKS, WE'VE HAD SUCCESS'



ALBERTO Y ROBERTO • BETO Y SUS CANARIOS • GRUPO BRYNDIS • CARDENALES DE NUEVO

Felicita a Directivos, Directores de Programación y Locutores de la QUE BUENA

QUE BUENA
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Gracias por su apoyo

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- ARTISTA DEL AÑO MUSICA REGIONAL URBANA
- MEJOR CANCION MUSICA REGIONAL URBANA

UNIVISION RECORDS Y HEADLINERS AGRADECEN A LA QBUENA Y A SU PUBLICO POR TODO EL APOYO BRINDADO A AKWID.



INFO @HEADLINERSMG.COM

Garza

Continued from page 36

this myth that new music detracts from ratings. We don't believe that. I'm a hit seeker. If they tell me, "There's this great song in such and such place in Mexico," I go look for it. I'm not waiting for my competition to play it.

We take risks, and thanks to

those risks, we've had the success we've had. And thanks to those risks, we have an awards show for regional Mexican music that's attended by every artist. And it's a humble awards show from one station. So I'm very happy, but sad because the space that other awards shows give to regional Mexican music is very, very small.

Q: Who is in your audience?

A: We have a lot of younger listen-

ers, a lot of teenagers. But we perfectly cover the 18-43 demographic. In the 25-54 demographic we exist, but we're not the leaders.

Q: People tend to think this is music for an older audience. What has changed?

A: In Los Angeles, for some reason, people weren't taking into account the Mexican music young kids were listening to. After [1980s dance craze] "La Quebradita,"

which was a teenage trend, stations stopped playing the music kids listened to at their parties. There was a big void.

The wonderful thing is, this movement is authentic, and people like the music. Thank God that in this movement, even if you're over 30 years old and even if you don't look like Ricky Martin, you can be successful. It's something I love about this music. It's not based on image. Although it helps some people to

have the image.

Q: You were one of the first stations to play hardcore corridos. Was this criticized at the time?

A: Yes. But I thought, "People have access to it. They sell it in stores. It's fashionable. Well, let's play it." And yes, there was criticism initially, but like every movement, it evolved. I always thought *narcocorridos* were a trend. And that trend has passed. It's still respected, it's still a musical tradition, but it's no longer the trend of the moment.

Q: What is the trend of the moment?

A: There are two or three interesting movements. The Duranguense movement, like Montez de Durango, is causing quite a stir. And we've introduced the regional urban movement, headed by Akwid. Rap and regional Mexican have always existed [separately], but the combination has been great, and we've played it from the outset.

Q: Has your station fostered the existence of this new regional Mexican music, or was it always there, waiting to be discovered?

A: We think the music existed, but the station gave it certain stature and motivated many young people who hadn't wanted to venture into the music before. It definitely helped younger audiences listen to Mexican stations. Many who listened to hip-hop and rap began to listen to us.

Q: Aside from programming Que Buena, you've created many on-air personalities that have gone on to record songs and albums, like El Morro. And you're also a songwriter. How important is that to you?

A: I have my own publishing company, Arpa Publishing. I write the songs and my brother places them for me, and fortunately, I have a line of people who ask me for songs. But I'm also a singer/songwriter, and one of the things I'll do next year is record my own album. I sing in a coffeehouse here in Los Angeles, Espresso Mi Cultura. And I go there with my guitar and sing my songs. I'm a troubadour. I listen to Joaquín Sabina, and Donato Poveda is going to produce my album. I don't have a label yet. But I believe in word-of-mouth success.

Q: And, if you record your album, will you retire from radio?

A: I might do that.

Q: So tell us, who shaved his head first, you or Lupillo Rivera?

A: Well, I used to have hair on the sides, but I dyed it very, very blond. And Lupillo had hair, but it was black. And one day, he arrived with a shaved head, and I had shaved as well.

Premios Que Buena Toast Top Regional Mexican Acts

BY JUSTINO AGUILA

LOS ANGELES—It's a small awards show, from a relatively small station that covers only the Los Angeles market.

But Premios Que Buena have become the definitive awards for regional Mexican music, the biggest-selling Latin genre in the U.S.

The sold-out fourth edition of the awards show, which took place Dec. 10 at the Universal Amphitheatre, featured live performances, tributes and surprises in a Las Vegas-style show that brought out some of the biggest names in Mexican music.

TOP WINNER TAKES THREE AWARDS

The big winner was Conjunto Primavera. The veteran Fonovisa act took home three awards for artist of the year, best norteño group and best norteño song for the hit "Una Vez Más."

Following with two awards each were Adán Sánchez, who won soloist of the year and best-looking artist of the year, and Akwid, which was named artist of the year and won the best song award in the urban regional category.

Akwid, the duo of brothers Sergio and Francisco Gomez, has been credited in recent months with bringing prominence to the musical phenomenon known as urban regional, which combines hip-hop and *banda*.

"We were moved by the nomination," Sergio Gomez said at the show. "We grew up with this kind of music, and for them to give us an opportunity like this is the

greatest thing in the world."

Others who received a golden musical-note trophy included Tucanes de Tijuana, Jenni Rivera, Grupo Montez de Durango, Valentín Elizalde, El Coyote, Banda el Reco-

do and Voces del Rancho.

Premios Que Buena has quickly become a staple for Mexican recording artists who for many years have wanted a leading awards show
(Continued on page 40)



GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO: THUMBS UPTO AWARDS

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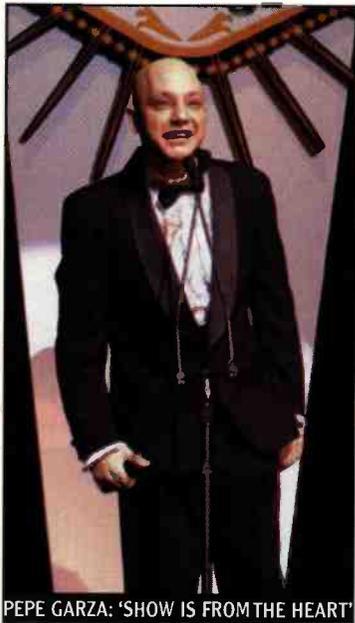
LOS RAZOS
de
SACRAMENTO Y REYNALDO

Nico Flores
y su Banda Puro Mazatlán

BMG
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AKWID ACCEPTS ONE OF TWO AWARDS



PEPE GARZA: 'SHOW IS FROM THE HEART'



CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA: ARTIST OF THE YEAR



RAMON AYALA: AWARDS PERFORMER

Awards

Continued from page 39

that recognizes their genre.

More than half of Latin record sales in the U.S. are attributed to the regional Mexican genre, according to Nielsen SoundScan and the Recording Industry Assn. of America. But the music has traditionally been sorely under-represented in mainstream shows, including the Latin Grammy Awards.

Premios Que Buena is put together by KBUE ("La Que Buena") Los Angeles, which is credited for helping launch new regional Mexican talent.

"They're the first ones who took a chance on me," Sánchez said. "They made people get excited about me. I'm extremely thankful."

A name that came up repeatedly at the awards show was that of the station's PD, Pepe Garza, who has been influential in playing new music.

"This really is the people's radio station and awards show," Garza said. "Premios Que Buena came from the heart because it was something that we needed in the music industry to give regional Mexican music the respect it deserves. This is a positive way of acknowledging our music."

Roberto Arciniega, marketing VP of Fonovisa—whose roster is largely regional Mexican—agrees. "It's very

important for us," he says. "It's our musical genre."

Winners of the Que Buena Awards were determined by station listeners who voted on the Internet and filled out ballots at participating businesses, including Southern California nightclubs.

BIG-NAME SUPPORT

Although Que Buena is a local radio station, big names in Latin music attended its event to support the nominees. Some of the nominees

performed, including Akwid's two members, who rapped against a backdrop of smoke machines as go-go dancers glided across the stage.

Fans at the awards show gave standing ovations to actress/comedian/presenter Angelica Vale, whose famous father, Raul, died of lung cancer this month. They also gave one to Lupillo Rivera, who was involved in a car accident

a few weeks before the show but still managed to make a quick appearance.

For fans of regional Mexican music—and for the younger fans of Que Buena in particular—the evening presented a rare opportunity to give their music the due they feel it deserves.

"This is my first time attending, and it makes me feel proud," said Vanessa Flores, 24, a Los Angeles resident and one of several thousand fans who purchased show tickets.

"Our music is great, and I hope it gets more attention."

'This really is the people's radio station and awards show. Premios Que Buena came from the heart because it was something that we needed in the music industry.'

—PEPE GARZA, KBUE

GRUPO

MONTÉZ

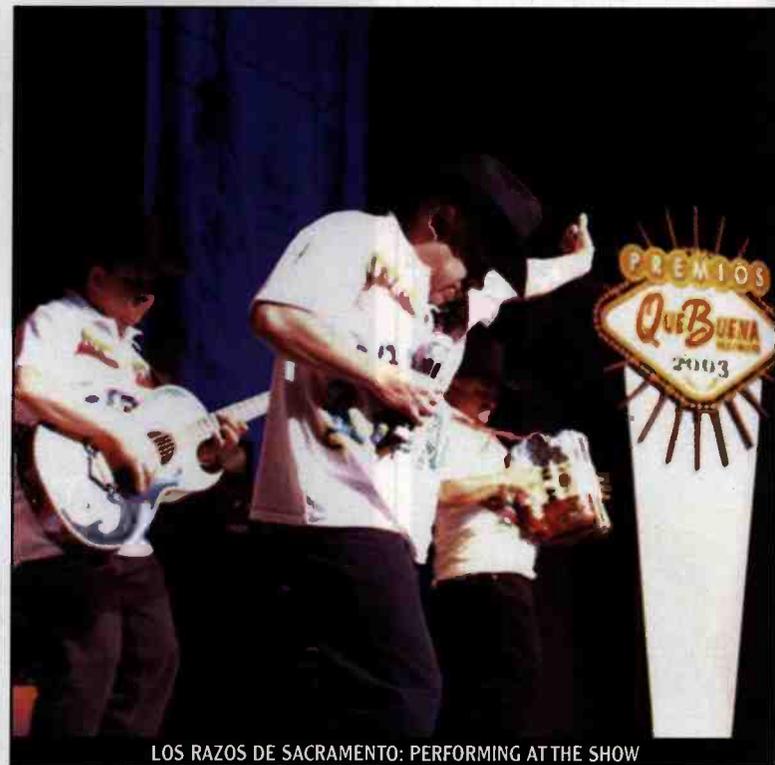
De Durango

Agradece a la programación de la

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Por apoyar la música de nuestra gente y felicitarlos por sus logros en el evento los PREMIOS QUE BUENA

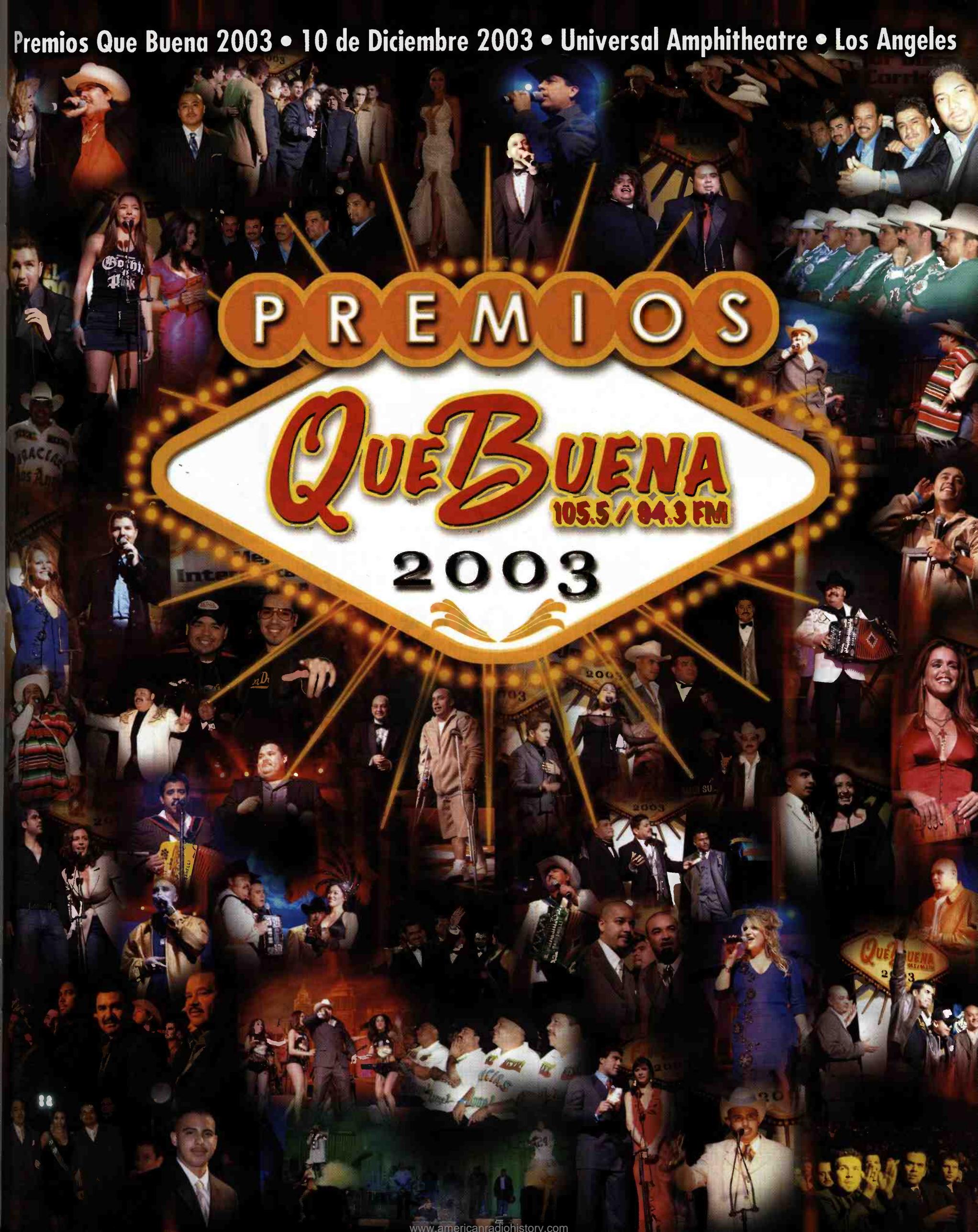


LOS RAZOS DE SACRAMENTO: PERFORMING AT THE SHOW

Premios Que Buena 2003 • 10 de Diciembre 2003 • Universal Amphitheatre • Los Angeles

PREMIOS

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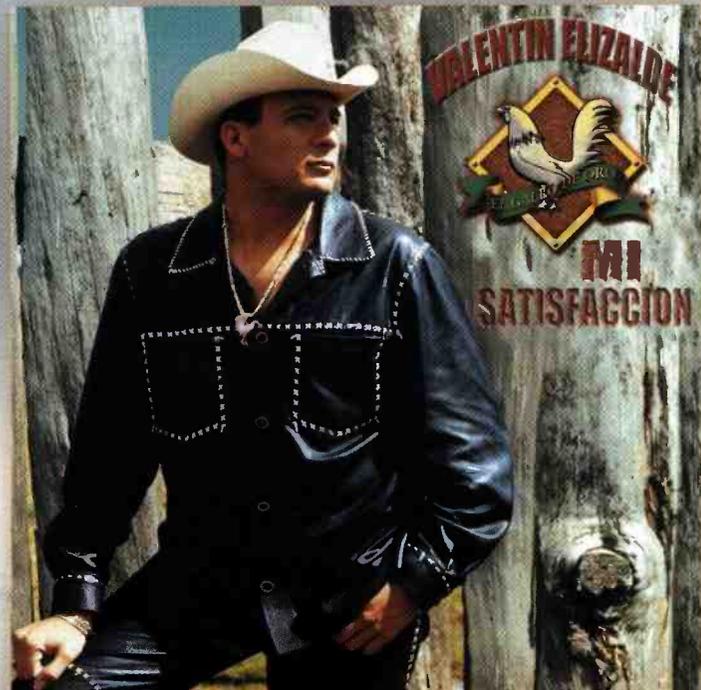
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A Look At Opportunities Seized In 2003

One of the longstanding maxims of Latin music is that new acts cannot be broken in the U.S.

Instead, they need to first prove their worth elsewhere, traditionally in Puerto Rico or Mexico, hoping that the ripple effect from those territories will propel them in the U.S.



AKWID: LOCAL SUCCESS STORY

That iron-clad rule seems to be cracking at the seams, as a handful of acts made stateside breakthroughs this year.

Admittedly, it's not a spectacular track record. But it's an encouraging sign of change in an industry that has resisted the evolution around it.

If you speak to almost any record executive, he will tell you that 2003 was a bad year—that it was tough to sell music, that piracy was rampant and that profits were down.

But there's opportunity in crisis,

and labels saw that, too. As Latin Notas is fond of accentuating the positive in our year-end recaps, here are the highlights of the forward steps taken in 2003. (A Latin region recap will be published in the first issue of 2004.)



2003 IN REVIEW

A SERIOUS EFFORT TO FIGHT PIRACY:

By serious, we mean serious money. U.S. labels provided \$2.5 million in additional funds exclusively to fight Latin music piracy. The final results remain to be seen. But by the end of October, 1.7 million pieces of illegal Latin music had been seized compared with 1 million the year before—a 60% increase.

More important, while shipments of Latin music were down 14% in value and 16% in units in 2002, by third-quarter 2003, the downward spiral had tapered to a 3% dip in value and a 5% dip in units sold from the prior year. Yes, it is still dropping, but the brakes are decidedly on.

A SERIOUS EFFORT TO CUT COSTS:

Once in a blue moon you still hear about seven- and eight-figure artist deals. Just why that is remains unclear, since it is impossible to recoup that kind of investment with the sales being generated today.

This is why most labels are signing acts to more realistic deals, or they are renegotiating contracts. And if artists aren't amenable to the

new reality, they're being released from their contracts. Go further down the chain, and you'll see more restricted production costs for albums and videos. If this is what the market can bear, it's healthy, as long as quality doesn't suffer. The next step is cutting back on the entourages and first-class tickets.

A SERIOUS EFFORT TO RESTRUCTURE:

The reorganization bred from cost-cutting is not necessarily good. But it is necessary. In Latin America, Universal and Sony have organized clusters of countries that fall under one management structure. This is cost-efficient, even if local signings suffer. 2004 should be a determining year.

A SERIOUS EFFORT TO MARKET AND PROMOTE:

In light of the difficulty in getting radio airplay for new music in the U.S., labels are increasingly relying on street teams, the Internet, TV and good, old-fashioned live playing to market and promote their albums.

TV campaigns are regional and highly focused (look what it did for

Intocable), and direct marketing is involved, in some cases. CD/DVD packs are a resounding success (witness the No. 1 chart positions of such packs by EMI and Fonovisa acts). More and more, artists who sell are those who seriously promote their music. Mega stars who shun this practice have seen sales suffer. It's time for a reality check.

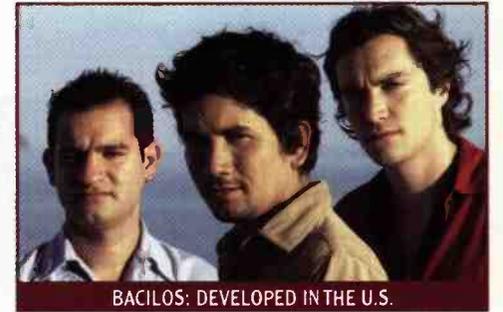
A SERIOUS EFFORT TO FIND NEW REVENUE STREAMS:

With a decline in record sales has come a renewed push in publishing and synchronization as income generators. Never has Latin music been as present in film and advertising as it is today. Along the way, this has spurred record sales (the success of the "Frida" and "Once Upon a Time in Mexico" soundtracks) and launched careers—Kinky's sophomore album debuted at No. 18 on the Top Latin Albums chart with no airplay.

A SERIOUS EFFORT TO DEVELOP LOCAL ACTS:

So, it turns out, it can be done. Not by investing huge

amounts of money but by investing time in developing promotion and marketing plans that look outside of the box and into the new realities of this market. The success stories include Akwid, Jae-P, Jennifer Peña, Bacilos, Kinky (signed in Mexico but developed here), Obie Bermúdez (with a sophomore album, no less), Grupo Montez de Durango and Voces del Rancho. There is a precedent with Lupillo Rivera and Ozomatli.



BACILOS: DEVELOPED IN THE U.S.

A recent spate of new signings by all labels should continue to accelerate this process. For better or for worse, the U.S. has become the biggest Latin music market in the world. And in the coming years, it is bound to become a leading developer of talent, as well.

THE TOP STORIES

- "Salsa Queen" Celia Cruz dies and is mourned in royal fashion, as sales of her albums soar.
- Producer Bebu Silvetti, known for his elegant arrangements and trademark sound, dies and is awarded a Latin Grammy Award for producer of the year.
- A new era begins at Sony, with the creation of Sony Music Norte. The new Latin division encompasses U.S., Mexican and Central American operations and is headed by president Kevin Lawrie, who drastically revamps his artist roster.
- Universal Music Video & Distribution confirms its position as the leading distributor of Latin music in the U.S.
- Regional Mexican music continues to grow, with the genre accounting for more than 60% of all Latin music sales in the U.S., according to Nielsen SoundScan and Recording Industry Assn. of America figures.
- Univision Music Group emerges as the *Billboard* Top Latin Albums Label of the year, displacing longtime leader Sony.
- Hispanic Broadcasting Corp. becomes Univision Radio, following its acquisition by Univision Communications.

THE CHART-TOPPERS

Following is a chronological list of albums that reached No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top Latin Albums chart for the 2003 calendar year. The number of weeks each title spent at No. 1 is in parentheses. Titles that debuted at No. 1 are indicated by stars.

- "Las Ketchup," Las Ketchup, Sony Discos (4).
- "30 Inolvidables," Los Bukis, Fonovisa/UG (2).
- "Mambo Sinuendo," Ry Cooder/Manuel Galbán, Nonesuch/AG (2). ★
- "La Historia," Intocable, EMI Latin (3). ★
- "4," A.B. Quintanilla III Presents Kumbia Kings, EMI Latin (4). ★
- "Y Tenerte Otra Vez," Pepe Aguilar, UG (1).
- "20 Inolvidables," Los Temerarios/Los Bukis, Fonovisa/UG (5).
- "Tu Amor o Tu Desprecio," Marco Antonio Solís, Fonovisa/UG (1).
- "Almas del Silencio," Ricky Martin, Sony Discos (6). ★
- "Herencia Musical: 20 Corridos Inolvidables," Los Tigres del Norte, Fonovisa/UG (3). ★
- "Siempre Arriba," Bronco: El Gigante de América, Fonovisa/UG (1). ★
- "Regalo del Alma," Celia Cruz, Sony Discos (3).
- "Nuestro Destino Estaba Escrito," Intocable, EMI Latin (1). ★
- "Sincero," Chayanne, Sony Discos (1). ★
- "Un Día Normal," Juanes, Universal Latino (4).
- "33," Luis Miguel, Warner Latina (3). ★
- "La Historia," A.B. Quintanilla III & Kumbia Kings, EMI Latin (2). ★
- "La Historia Continúa . . .," Marco Antonio Solís, Fonovisa/UG (2).
- "Por Ti," Ednita Nazario, Sony Discos (1). ★
- "Tributo al Amor," Los Temerarios, Fonovisa/UG (3). ★

2004 AÑO DE EXITOS

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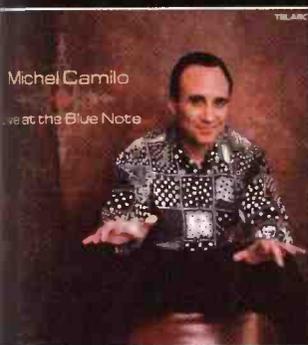
Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	ARTIST			Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	ARTIST			Title	PEAK POSITION
				IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL									IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL				
				NUMBER 1			3 Weeks At Number 1		50	51	46	27	PEPE AGUILAR			Coleccion De Oro	30
1	1	1	3	LOS TEMERARIOS			Tributo Al Amor	1					PACESETTER				
2	2	2	8	A.B. QUINTANILLA III & KUMBIA KINGS			La Historia	1	51	71	69	23	ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ			Nina Amada Mia	22
3	3	3	7	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS			La Historia Continua...	1	52	45	45	8	JERRY RIVERA			Canto A Mi Idolo...Frankie Ruiz	33
4	4	4	4	MANA			Eclipse	2	53	19	—	2	KINKY			Atlas	19
				GREATEST GAINER					54	60	—	35	SOUNDTRACK			Frida	4
5	6	6	82	JUANES			Un Dia Normal	1	55	49	53	5	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO/CONJUNTO ATARDECER			El Pasito De Durango	44
6	5	7	9	VICENTE Y ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ			En Vivo: Juntos Por Ultima Vez	4	56	53	49	17	LOS ACOSTA			En Vivo Vol. 1	13
7	10	9	11	LUIS MIGUEL				33	57	54	48	11	FITO OLIVARES			30 Exitos Inolvidables	20
8	8	8	11	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO			De Durango A Chicago	2	58	41	28	4	LOS ANGELES AZULES/LOS ANGELES DE CHARLY			Encuentros De Angeles Vol. 2	28
9	7	5	4	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE			Herencia Musical: 20 Boleros Romanticos	5	59	56	51	33	CUISILLOS			Las Romanticas De Cuisillos	16
10	11	12	8	SIN BANDERA			De Viaje	6	60	18	32	10	LOS ORIGINALES DE SAN JUAN			La Historia	12
				HOT SHOT DEBUT					61	39	41	17	INTOCABLE			Nuestro Destino Estaba Escrito	1
11	NEW	1		GARGOLAS			The Return	11	62	72	67	12	OZOMATLI			Coming Up (EP)	14
12	12	10	4	EDNITA NAZARIO			Por Ti	1	63	57	61	31	LOS PLAYER'S			Ranchero De	26
13	13	14	6	PEPE AGUILAR			Con Orgullo Por Herencia	7	64	74	—	23	GILBERTO SANTA ROSA			Solo Bolero	40
14	9	11	3	MANNY MANUEL			Serenata	9	65	55	73	11	EL CHICHICUILOTE			Yo Soy La Banda	21
15	14	13	16	CHAYANNE			Sincero	1	66	65	64	58	SHAKIRA			Grandes Exitos	1
16	NEW	1		VARIOUS ARTISTS			Historia Musical Del Pasito Duranguense	16	67	63	74	25	DON OMAR			The Last Don	2
17	15	35	6	VICO C			En Honor A La Verdad	5	68	NEW	1		DIVINO			Todo A Su Tiempo	68
18	16	29	6	JULIO IGLESIAS			Divorcio	16	69	NEW	1		VARIOUS ARTISTS			2004 Ano De Exitos: Reggaeton	69
19	25	21	15	ALEJANDRO SANZ			No Es Lo Mismo	2	70	64	58	17	CONTROL			La Historia	9
20	32	30	31	DAVID BISBAL			Corazon Latino	17	71	NEW	1		LOS PALOMINOS			Canciones De La Rockola	71
21	17	17	34	JOAN SEBASTIAN			Coleccion De Oro	14	72	68	57	86	CHAYANNE			Grandes Exitos	1
22	22	23	20	CELIA CRUZ			Exitos Eternos	2	73	59	52	9	LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE			Abriendo Caminos	7
23	31	36	7	LUIS FONSI			Abrazar La Vida	3	74	61	56	7	CARDENALES DE NUEVO LEON			Paso A La Reina	36
24	26	16	4	MANA			Sol	16	75	66	68	38	ALEXANDRE PIRES			Estrella Guia	12
25	20	15	4	MANA			Luna	13									
26	23	26	11	CRISTIAN			Amar Es	4									
27	21	19	27	AKWID			Proyecto Akwid	7									
28	24	20	19	LOS BUKIS			25 Joyas Musicales	3									
29	28	22	58	PANCHE BARRAZA			Las Romanticas De Pancho Barraza	12									
30	29	33	25	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH			Lo Que Te Conte Mientras Te Hacias La Dormida	29									
31	42	34	21	CELIA CRUZ			Regalo Del Alma	1									
32	33	24	51	CELIA CRUZ			Hits Mix	2									
33	47	39	69	MANA			Revolucion De Amor	1									
34	30	18	17	CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA			Decide Tu	3									
35	27	25	24	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE			Herencia Musical: 20 Corridos Inolvidables	1									
36	NEW	1		GRUPO MANIA			Hombres De Honor	36									
37	46	—	16	OBIE BERMUDEZ			Confesiones	29									
38	36	40	7	CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA/PESADO			Dos Romanticos De Corazon	16									
39	40	55	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Bachatahits 2004	39									
40	38	38	5	LUPILLO RIVERA			Live	26									
41	34	50	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Parranda Borincana	34									
42	50	47	26	LOS CADETES DE LINARES			30 Inolvidables	5									
43	35	37	42	A.B. QUINTANILLA III PRESENTS KUMBIA KINGS				4									
44	48	44	8	BANDA EL RECODO			Por Ti	7									
45	58	—	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Navidad Caribena	45									
46	52	42	8	JUAN GABRIEL			Inocente De Ti	21									
47	43	43	13	JAE-P			Ni De Aqui Ni De Alla	25									
48	37	31	4	ANA GABRIEL			Dulce Y Salado	27									
49	44	27	30	RICKY MARTIN			Almas Del Silencio	1									

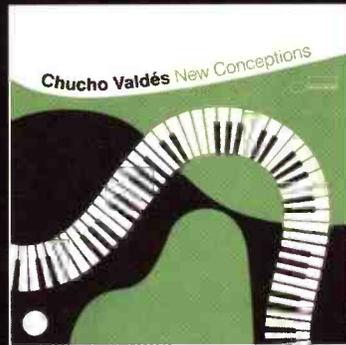
LATIN POP ALBUMS	TROPICAL ALBUMS	REGIONAL MEXICAN ALBUMS
1 A.B. QUINTANILLA III & KUMBIA KINGS LA HISTORIA (EMI LATIN)	1 CELIA CRUZ EXITOS ETERNOS (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	1 LOS TEMERARIOS TRIBUTO AL AMOR (FONOVISA/UG)
2 MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS LA HISTORIA CONTINUA... (FONOVISA/UG)	2 CELIA CRUZ REGALO DEL ALMA (SONY DISCOS)	2 VICENTE Y ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ EN VIVO: JUNTOS POR ULTIMA VEZ (SONY DISCOS)
3 MANA ECLIPSE (WARNER LATINA)	3 CELIA CRUZ HITS MIX (SONY DISCOS)	3 GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO DE DURANGO A CHICAGO (DISA)
4 JUANES UN DIA NORMAL (SURCO/UNIVERSAL LATINO)	4 GRUPO MANIA HOMBRES DE HONOR (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	4 LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE HERENCIA MUSICAL: 20 BOLEROS ROMANTICOS (FONOVISA/UG)
5 LUIS MIGUEL 33 (WARNER LATINA)	5 VARIOUS ARTISTS BACHATAHITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	5 PEPE AGUILAR CON ORGULLO POR HERENCIA (UNIVISION/UG)
6 SIN BANDERA DE VIAJE (SONY DISCOS)	6 VARIOUS ARTISTS NAVIDAD CARIBENA (SONY DISCOS)	6 VARIOUS ARTISTS HISTORIA MUSICAL DEL PASITO DURANGUENSE (DISA)
7 GARGOLAS THE RETURN (SELLOS ASOCIADOS/VI)	7 JERRY RIVERA CANTO A MI IDOLO...FRANKIE RUIZ (ARIOLA/BMG LATIN)	7 JOAN SEBASTIAN COLECCION DE ORO (MUSART/BALBOA)
8 EDNITA NAZARIO POR TI (SONY DISCOS)	8 DIVINO TODO A SU TIEMPO (LUAR)	8 AKWID PROYECTO AKWID (UNIVISION/UG)
9 MANNY MANUEL SERENATA (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	9 VARIOUS ARTISTS 25 JOYAS MUSICALES (FONOVISA/UG)	9 LOS BUKIS 25 JOYAS MUSICALES (FONOVISA/UG)
10 CHAYANNE SINCERO (SONY DISCOS)	10 VARIOUS ARTISTS REGGAETON/HITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	10 PANCHE BARRAZA LAS ROMANTICAS DE PANCHE BARRAZA (MUSART/BALBOA)
11 VICO C EN HONOR A LA VERDAD (EMI LATIN)	11 VARIOUS ARTISTS SALSAHITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	11 CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA DECIDE TU (FONOVISA/UG)
12 JULIO IGLESIAS DIVORCIO (SONY DISCOS)	12 LUNY TUNES & NORIEGA MAS FLOW (VI)	12 LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE HERENCIA MUSICAL: 20 CORRIDOS INOLVIDABLES (FONOVISA/UG)
13 ALEJANDRO SANZ NO ES LO MISMO (WARNER LATINA)	13 VARIOUS ARTISTS MERENHITS 2004 (J&N/SONY DISCOS)	13 CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA/PESADO DOS ROMANTICOS DE CORAZON (UNIVISION/UG)
14 DAVID BISBAL CORAZON LATINO (VALE/UNIVERSAL LATINO)	14 CELIA CRUZ LA MAS GRANDE HISTORIA JAMAS CANTADA (LIDERES)	14 LUPILLO RIVERA LIVE (UNIVISION/UG)
15 LUIS FONSI ABRAZAR LA VIDA (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	15 CELIA CRUZ EL CARNAVAL DE LA VIDA (LIDERES)	15 LOS CADETES DE LINARES 30 INOLVIDABLES (UNIVISION/UG)
16 MANA SOL (WARNER LATINA)	16 OLGA TANON A PURO FUEGO (WEACARIBE/WARNER LATINA)	16 BANDA EL RECODO POR TI (FONOVISA/UG)
17 MANA LUNA (WARNER LATINA)	17 RANKING STONE CENSURADO (VI)	17 JAE-P NI DE AQUI NI DE ALLA (UNIVISION/UG)
18 CRISTIAN AMAR ES (ARIOLA/BMG LATIN)	18 VARIOUS ARTISTS BOMBAZO NAVIDAD 2003 (ARIOLA/BMG LATIN)	18 ANA GABRIEL OULCE Y SALADO (SONY DISCOS)
19 LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH LO QUE TE CONTE MIENTRAS TE HACIAS LA DORMIDA (SONY DISCOS)	19 IBRAHIM FERRER BUENOS HERMANOS (WORLD CIRCUIT/SONESUCH/AG)	19 PEPE AGUILAR COLECCION DE ORO (MUSART/BALBOA)
20 MANA REVOLUCION DE AMOR (WARNER LATINA)	20 VARIOUS ARTISTS 2004 ANO DE EXITOS: BACHATAS Y MERENGUES (UNIVERSAL LATINO)	20 ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ NINA AMADA MIA (SONY DISCOS)

Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. Recording Industry Assn. of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: C Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (C). Certification of 200,000 units (Platinum). * Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platinum). * Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested list prices. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Pacesetter indicates biggest percentage growth. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

46th GRAMMY® Awards SGAE Nominees



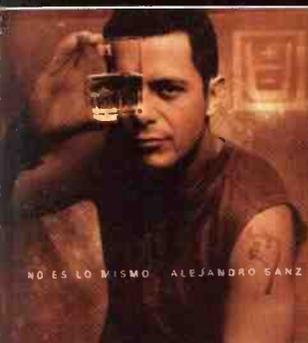
MICHEL CAMILO
Live at the Blue Note
Best Latin Jazz Album



CHUCHO VALDÉS
New Conceptions
Best Latin Jazz Album



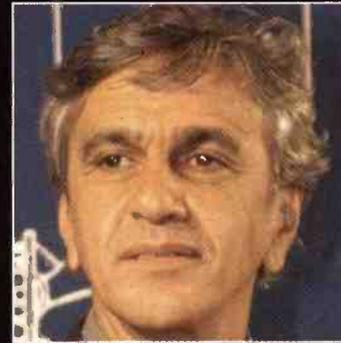
LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH
Lo que te conté mientras te hacías la dormida
Best Latin Pop Album



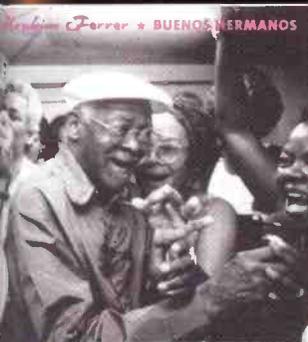
ALEJANDRO SANZ
No es lo mismo
Best Latin Pop Album



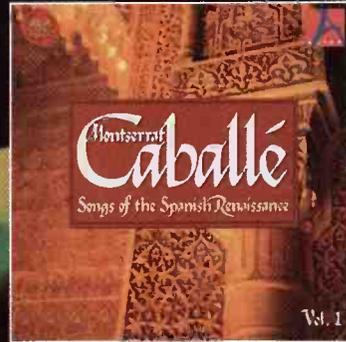
MOLOTOV
Dance and Dense Denso
Best Latin Rock/Alternative Album



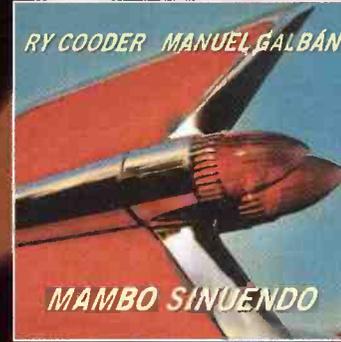
CAETANO VELOSO
Live in Bahia
Best Contemporary World Music Album



IBRAHIM FERRER
Buenos Hermanos
Best Traditional Tropical Album



MONTSERRAT CABALLÉ
MANUEL CUBEDO
Songs of the Spanish Renaissance, Vol. 1
[Sello Autor]
Best Classical Vocal Performance



MANUEL GALBÁN
Mambo Sinuendo
Best Pop Instrumental Album
Patricia
Best Pop Instrumental Performance

Congratulations and best wishes
for the future to all our members

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** **HOT LATIN TRACKS**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	13	MIENTES TAN BIEN A. BAQUERO, SIN BANDERA (L. GARCIA)	Sin Bandera SONY DISCOS	1
NUMBER 1						
2	10	11	6	ME CANSE DE TI S. KRYS, J. SOMEILLAN (O. BERMUDEZ, G. MARCO)	Obie Bermudez EMI LATIN	2
GREATEST GAINER						
3	11	10	11	QUIEN TE DIJO ES? R. PEREZ (L. FONSI, C. BRANT)	Luis Fonsi UNIVERSAL LATINO	3
4	2	2	17	NOMAS POR TU CULPA LOS HURACANES DEL NORTE (S. SERNA DEL RIO)	Los Huracanes Del Norte UNIVISION	2
5	7	9	12	LA PAGA G. SANTAOLALLA, JUANES (JUANES)	Juanes SURCO / UNIVERSAL LATINO	5
6	3	3	25	ANTES S. KRYS, J. SOMEILLAN (O. BERMUDEZ)	Obie Bermudez EMI LATIN	1
7	17	15	10	TE LLEVARE AL CIELO PHER, A. GONZALEZ (PHER)	Mana WARNER LATINA	7
8	6	5	16	AVE CAUTIVA J. GUILLEN (R. GONZALEZ MORA)	Conjunto Primavera FONOVISA	5
9	5	4	15	TE NECESITO L. MIGUEL (J. L. GUERRA)	Luis Miguel WARNER LATINA	1
10	18	20	12	MAS QUE TU AMIGO M. A. SOLIS, H. PATRON, R. PEREZ (M. A. SOLIS)	Marco Antonio Solis FONOVISA	10
11	13	7	22	UN SIGLO SIN TI R. L. TOLEDO (F. DE VITA)	Chayanne SONY DISCOS	1
12	16	12	14	QUIERO PERDERME EN TU CUERPO K. SANTANDER, B. OSSA (K. SANTANDER)	David Bisbal VALE / UNIVERSAL LATINO	6
13	14	18	5	TE LLAME R. PEREZ, R. LIVI (R. LIVI, R. PEREZ)	Cristian ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	13
14	8	8	11	LAGRIMAS DE CRISTAL J. L. TERRAZAS (HARRIS)	Grupo Montez De Durango DISA	8
15	19	16	10	INOCENTE DE TI G. FARIAS (J. GABRIEL)	Juan Gabriel ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	11
16	12	14	12	QUE TE RUEGUE QUIEN TE QUIERA A. LIZARRAGA, J. LIZARRAGA (O. ALVAREZ)	Banda El Recodo FONOVISA	12
17	23	26	6	CUIDARTE EL ALMA L. FOCHOA (M. DURANDEAU, CZALLES)	Chayanne SONY DISCOS	17
18	15	22	8	SI NO ME AMAS D. WARNER, L. LEVIN (L. FONSI, C. BRANT)	Ednita Nazario SONY DISCOS	15
19	4	6	19	HOY G. ESTEFAN, E. ESTEFAN JR., S. KRYS (G. MARCO)	Gloria Estefan EPIC / SONY DISCOS	1
20	9	13	11	ROSAS N. WALKER, LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH (A. MONTERO, X. SAN MARTIN, P. BENEGAS, A. FUENTES, H. GARDE)	La Oreja De Van Gogh SONY DISCOS	9
21	21	27	5	A FUEGO LENTO K. SANTANDER, J. L. ARROYAVE (G. SANTANDER, J. L. ARROYAVE)	Jennifer Pena UNIVISION	21
22	22	17	10	YA NO ME DUELE R. PEREZ, R. LIVI (R. LIVI, R. PEREZ)	Victoria MEGAMUSIC / UNIVERSAL LATINO	17
23	25	23	5	SOY UN NOVATO R. MUNOZ, R. MARTINEZ (L. PADILLA)	Intocable EMI LATIN	23
24	28	25	6	ADICTO E. IGLESIAS, C. SORRINKIN (E. IGLESIAS, P. BARRY, M. TAYLOR)	Enrique Iglesias INTERSCOPE / UNIVERSAL LATINO	24
25	24	21	10	MI LIBERTAD R. SANCHEZ (PAZEALE, CARRIZO)	Jerry Rivera ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	20
26	45	—	2	REGALAME LA SILLA DONDE TE ESPERE A. SANZ, L. PEREZ (A. SANZ)	Alejandro Sanz WARNER LATINA	26
27	26	24	18	NO HACE FALTA E. ESTEFAN JR., R. BARLOW (E. ESTEFAN JR., R. BARLOW, N. TOVAR)	Cristian ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	6
28	32	38	9	MI GENTE A. B. QUINTANILLA III (A. B. QUINTANILLA III, A. SIERRA, J. YAMAGUCHI, R. PACHECO, J. POREL, L. GIRALDO, N. SEROUSSI)	A.B. Quintanilla III & Kumbia Kings Feat. Ozomatli EMI LATIN	28
29	30	34	12	EN REALIDAD P. CABRERA (M. R. DIAZ)	Jorge Luis Cabrera DISA	25
30	27	28	7	EN EL SILENCIO NEGRO DE LA NOCHE J. REYES (ESTEFANO)	Alexandre Pires ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	24
31	33	31	6	ME VOY A IR J. A. LEDEZMA (LENRIQUE)	El Coyote Y Su Banda Tierra Santa EMI LATIN	31
HOT SHOT DEBUT						
32	NEW	1	1	EL AÑO VIEJO B. SILVETTI (C. SALCEDO)	Celia Cruz SONY DISCOS	32
33	29	30	6	AQUI EN CORTITO LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE (R. VILLARREAL)	Los Rieleros Del Norte FONOVISA	29
34	31	33	14	UN AMOR PARA LA HISTORIA A. JAIN (Y. HENRIQUEZ)	Gilberto Santa Rosa SONY DISCOS	24
35	NEW	1	1	MAS TERCO QUE UNA MULA G. LIZARRAGA (I. CABRERA)	German Lizarraga DISA	35
36	50	—	2	AMOR DESCARADO M. QUINTERO LARA, G. FELIX (M. QUINTERO LARA, A. SLESYNGER, A. PENIA)	Los Tucanes De Tijuana UNIVERSAL LATINO	36
37	NEW	1	1	Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA ESTEFANO (ESTEFANO, J. REYES)	Ricky Martin SONY DISCOS	37
38	35	47	3	CORAZON DE PAPEL J. IGLESIAS, R. PEREZ, R. LIVI (R. LIVI, R. FERRO GARCIA, J. IGLESIAS)	Julio Iglesias SONY DISCOS	35
39	40	46	3	ENAMORADA J. GAVIRIA, B. OSSA, F. TOBON (J. GAVIRIA, B. OSSA, F. TOBON)	Noelia FONOVISA	39
40	34	29	14	CAUSAME LA MUERTE LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE (J. MEZA)	Los Tigres Del Norte FONOVISA	16
41	RE-ENTRY	12	12	TE RETO A QUE ME OLVIDES J. PRECIADO (C. RAZO)	Julio Preciado Y Su Banda Perla Del Pacifico RCA / BMG LATIN	30
42	—	—	—	QUITEMONOS LA ROPA R. SANCHEZ (ESTEFANO, J. REYES)	NG2 SONY DISCOS	42
43	NEW	1	1	HERMANITA L. SANTOS, J. SANCHEZ (L. SANTOS)	Aventura PREMIUM LATIN	43
44	NEW	1	1	MI FUNERAL G. GIL (L. C. MENDOZA, R. ORNELAS, J. FLORES)	Victor Garcia SONY DISCOS	44
45	NEW	1	1	AMIGO MIO N. NORIEGA (T. CALDERON, N. NORIEGA)	Tono Rosario With Tego Calderon WEACARIBE / WARNER LATINA	45
46	RE-ENTRY	3	3	A PIERNA SUELTA PAGUIAR (M. URIETA)	Pepe Aguilar UNIVISION	42
47	41	35	16	ME CANSE DE MORIR POR TU AMOR L. E. PAPAN, M. SANCHEZ (M. MASS)	Adan Chalino Sanchez UNIVISION	18
48	37	37	24	ESTOY A PUNTO BRONCO (G. VILLARREAL)	Bronco: El Gigante De America FONOVISA	7
49	NEW	1	1	A DONDE IRE S. GEORGE (M. FLORES)	Huey Dunbar SONY DISCOS	49
50	NEW	1	1	UN TE AMO L. MIGUEL (A. MANZANERO)	Luis Miguel WARNER LATINA	50

Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' Radio Track service. A panel of 100 stations (39 Latin Pop, 16 Tropical, 53 Regional Mexican) are electronically monitored 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by Audience Impressions. Records showing an increase in audience over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. A record which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in audience. Greatest Gainer indicates song with largest audience growth. If two records are tied in audience size, the record being played on more stations is placed first. Records below the top 20 are removed from the chart after 26 weeks. Videoclip availability. ©2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

LATIN POP AIRPLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	ARTIST
1	1	MIENTES TAN BIEN SONY DISCOS	SIN BANDERA	21	18	NO HACE FALTA ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	CRISTIAN
2	5	QUIEN TE DIJO ES? UNIVERSAL LATINO	LUIS FONSI	22	17	EN EL SILENCIO NEGRO DE LA NOCHE ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	ALEXANDRE PIRES
3	3	LA PAGA SURCO / UNIVERSAL LATINO	JUANES	23	22	UN AMOR PARA LA HISTORIA SONY DISCOS	GILBERTO SANTA ROSA
4	11	TE LLEVARE AL CIELO WARNER LATINA	MANA	24	30	Y TODO QUEDA EN NADA SONY DISCOS	RICKY MARTIN
5	7	UN SIGLO SIN TI SONY DISCOS	CHAYANNE	25	23	CORAZON DE PAPEL SONY DISCOS	JULIO IGLESIAS
6	2	TE NECESITO WARNER LATINA	LUIS MIGUEL	26	24	YA NO ME DUELE MEGAMUSIC / UNIVERSAL LATINO	VICTORIA
7	14	ME CANSE DE TI EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ	27	25	ENAMORADA FONOVISA	NOELIA
8	9	QUIERO PERDERME EN TU CUERPO VALE / UNIVERSAL LATINO	DAVID BISBAL	28	28	UN TE AMO WARNER LATINA	LUIS MIGUEL
9	10	TE LLAME ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	CRISTIAN	29	33	QUITEMONOS LA ROPA ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	ALEXANDRE PIRES
10	6	ANTES EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ	30	29	MI LIBERTAD ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	JERRY RIVERA
11	16	CUIDARTE EL ALMA SONY DISCOS	CHAYANNE	31	38	CERCA DE TI VIRGIN / EMI LATIN	THALIA
12	8	SI NO ME AMAS SONY DISCOS	EONITA NAZARIO	32	—	DONDE CORRE LA SANGRE CRESCENT MOON / SONY DISCOS	SHALIM
13	4	ROSAS SONY DISCOS	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH	33	32	YO LA AMO UNIVISION	PEPE AGUILAR
14	19	MAS QUE TU AMIGO FONOVISA	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS	34	37	LA REINA SONY DISCOS	ANA GABRIEL
15	15	INOCENTE DE TI ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	JUAN GABRIEL	35	35	NO ES LO MISMO WARNER LATINA	ALEJANDRO SANZ
16	13	FOTOGRAFIA SURCO / UNIVERSAL LATINO	JUANES WITH NELLY FURTAO	36	26	SOLO POR TI EMI LATIN	SORAYA
17	20	ADICTO INTERSCOPE / UNIVERSAL LATINO	ENRIQUE IGLESIAS	37	—	EL AÑO VIEJO SONY DISCOS	CELIA CRUZ
18	21	A FUEGO LENTO UNIVISION	JENNIFER PENA	38	36	TODAVIA VIVA / UNIVERSAL LATINO	LA FACTORIA
19	27	REGALAME LA SILLA DONDE TE ESPERE WARNER LATINA	ALEJANDRO SANZ	39	34	Y TE VOY A OLVIDAR MEGAMUSIC / UNIVERSAL LATINO	MARCO FLORES
20	12	HOY EPIC / SONY DISCOS	GLORIA ESTEFAN	40	39	HASTA QUE ME OLVIDE DE TI RPE / UNIVISION	AREA 305

TROPICAL AIRPLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	ARTIST
1	4	ME CANSE DE TI EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ	21	18	SOY MUJER SONY DISCOS	INDIA
2	1	MI LIBERTAD ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	JERRY RIVERA	22	—	EL GALLO NO DIVIDA M.P.	TITO ROJAS
3	10	QUITEMONOS LA ROPA SONY DISCOS	NG2	23	25	PEQUENO DETALLE EJR	COSTA BRAVA
4	6	HERMANITA PREMIUM LATIN	AVENTURA	24	23	LA PAGA SURCO / UNIVERSAL LATINO	JUANES
5	8	A DONDE IRE SONY DISCOS	HUEY DUNBAR	25	22	DALE DON DALE VI	DON OMAR
6	2	HOY EPIC / SONY DISCOS	GLORIA ESTEFAN	26	20	ASI TE AMO PREMIUM LATIN	ELVIS MARTINEZ
7	3	LOCA CONMIGO UNIVERSAL LATINO	LOS TOROS BAND	27	34	TE LLEVARE AL CIELO WARNER LATINA	MANA
8	9	AMIGO MIO WEACARIBE / WARNER LATINA	TONO ROSARIO WITH TEGO CALDERON	28	24	VEGONITA WEACARIBE / WARNER LATINA	TITO NIEVES
9	15	EL AÑO VIEJO SONY DISCOS	CELIA CRUZ	29	16	RIE Y LLORA SONY DISCOS	CELIA CRUZ
10	12	DOCTOR J&N	PUERTO RICAN POWER	30	38	EL CUERPO ME PIDE SONY DISCOS	ELVIS CRESPO & VICTOR MANUELLE
11	5	AY AMOR HECTOR & TITO FEATURING VICTOR MANUELLE VI	HECTOR & TITO FEATURING VICTOR MANUELLE VI	31	—	VEN M.P.	ANTHONY CRUZ
12	11	INTENTALO TU J&N	JOE VERAS	32	—	CUIDARTE EL ALMA SONY DISCOS	CHAYANNE
13	14	VOY A TENER QUE OLVIDARTE SONY DISCOS	ANDY ANDY	33	33	ROSAS SONY DISCOS	LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH
14	29	LA CURA RCC	PENA SUAZO Y SU BANDA GORDA	34	—	ELLA TIENE FUEGO SONY DISCOS	CELIA CRUZ
15	7	ENAMORAME M.P.	PAPI SANCHEZ	35	40	TE EXITARE CUTTING	KAKOTE MIX FEATURING DJ NELSON & VALERIE
16	39	QUIEN TE DIJO ES? UNIVERSAL LATINO	LUIS FONSI	36	—	LA PAGA KAREN / UNIVERSAL LATINO	TONY TUN TUN
17	35	SUENA M.P.	LA BANDA GORDA	37	—	A FUEGO LENTO UNIVISION	JENNIFER PENA
18	13	ANTES EMI LATIN	OBIE BERMUDEZ	38	37	YO QUIERO BAILAR DIAMOND	IVY QUEEN
19	17	MIENTES TAN BIEN SONY DISCOS	SIN BANDERA	39	—	CERCA DE TI VIRGIN / EMI LATIN	THALIA
20	19	YA NO ME DUELE MEGAMUSIC / UNIVERSAL LATINO	VICTORIA	40	—	CANTEMOS TODOS CANTEMOS M.P.	TITO ROJAS

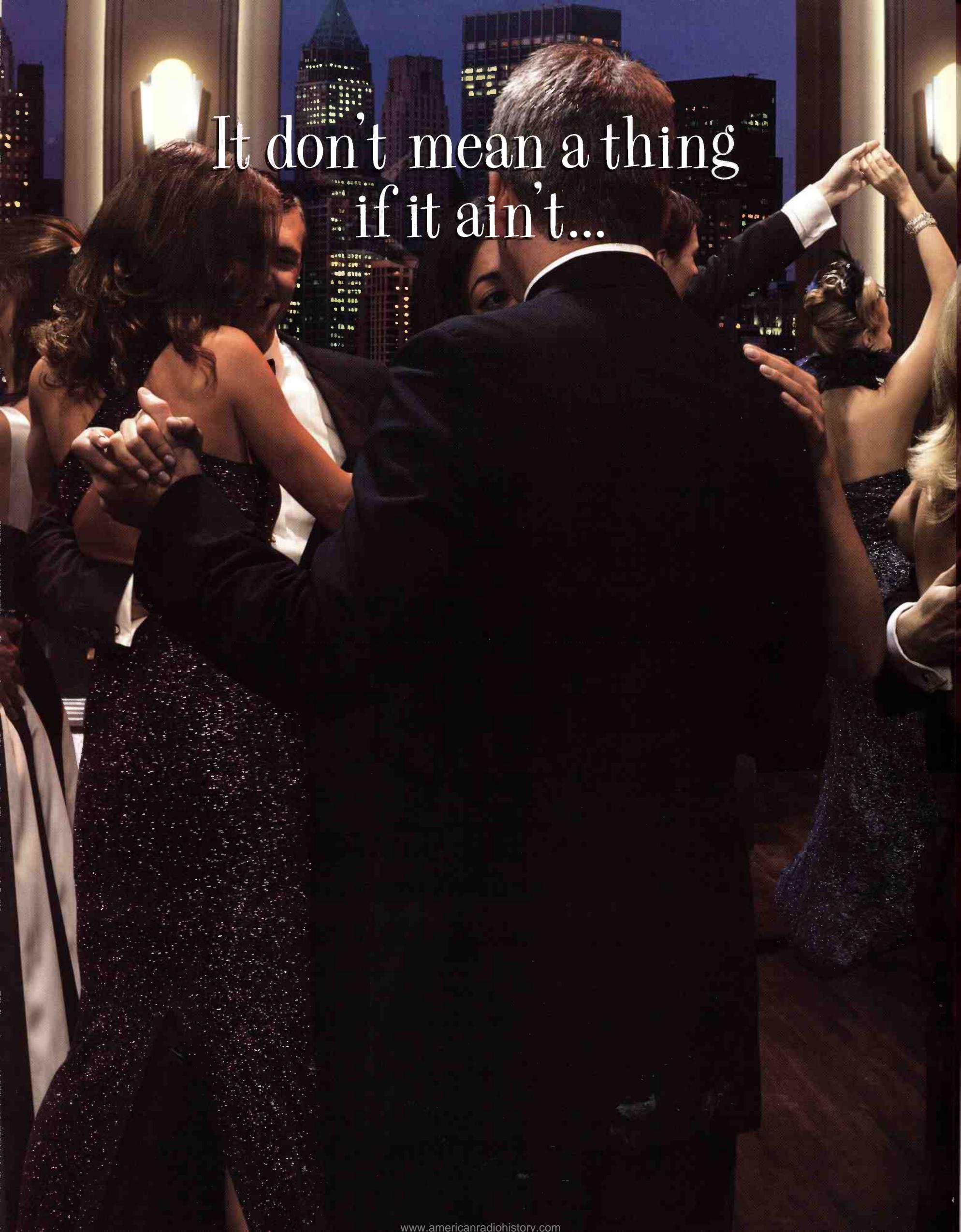
REGIONAL MEXICAN AIRPLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	ARTIST
1	1	NOMAS POR TU CULPA FONOVISA	LOS HURACANES DEL NORTE	2	16	DALO POR HECHO BRONCO: EL GIGANTE DE AMERICA	BRONCO: EL GIGANTE DE AMERICA
2	2	AVE CAUTIVA FONOVISA	CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA	22	23	PORQUE ME HACES LLORAR PLATINO / FONOVISA	BRISSEDA
3	3	LAGRIMAS DE CRISTAL DISA	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO	23	27	QUIEN LAS QUIERE ARIOLA / BMG LATIN	LOS RAZOS
4	4	QUE TE RUEGUE QUIEN TE QUIERA FONOVISA	BANDA EL RECODO	24	18	SENTIMENTAL MUSART / BALBOA	JOAN SEBASTIAN
5	5	SOY UN NOVATO EMI LATIN	INTOCABLE	25	29	DAME POR MUERTO UNIVISION	LUPILLO RIVERA
6	7	EN REALIDAD DISA	JORGE LUIS CABRERA	26	28	JUMBALAYA PROCAN / DISA	K-PAZ DE LA SIERRA
7	13	MI GENTE EMI LATIN	A. B. QUINTANILLA III & KUMBIA KINGS FEAT. OZOMATLI	27	30	BANDIDO FONOVISA	ANA BARBARA
8	8	ME VOY A IR EMI LATIN	EL COYOTE Y SU BANDA TIERRA SANTA	28	21	TE METISTE EN MI CAMA DISA	ADAN CUEN
9	6	AQUI EN CORTITO FONOVISA	LOS RIELEROS DEL NORTE	29	33	LAS MULAS DE MORENO MUSART / BALBOA	ADAN CUEN
10	25	MAS TERCO QUE UNA MULA DISA	GERMAN LIZARRAGA	30	15	PARA MORIR IGUALES RCA / BMG LATIN	NICO FLORES Y SU BANDA PURO MAZATLAN
11	17	AMOR DESCARADO UNIVERSAL LATINO	LOS TUCANES DE TIJUANA	31	37	SOLO LOS TONTOS LA SIERRA	EL CHALNILLO
12	9	CAUSAME LA MUERTE FONOVISA	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE	32	40	NO PODRAS DISA	CHON ARAUZA Y LA FLORIA COLOMBIANA
13	19	TE RETO A QUE ME OLVIDES RCA / BMG LATIN	JULIO PRECIADO Y SU BANDA PERLA DEL PACIFICO	33	32	MATAME WEACARIBE / WARNER LATINA	PESADO
14	14	MAS QUE TU AMIGO FONOVISA	MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS	34	—	ESTOY ENAMORADA FONOVISA	YOLANDA PEREZ
15	35	MI FUNERAL SONY DISCOS	VICTOR GARCIA	35	22	AMOR DE LOS DOS SONY DISCOS	VICENTE FERNANDEZ WITH ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ
16	12	ME CANSE DE MORIR POR TU AMOR UNIVISION	ADAN CHALINO SANCHEZ	36	—	CALLADO UNIVERSAL LATINO	NINEL CONDE
17	10	HOY EMPIEZA MI TRISTEZA UNIVISION	GRUPO MONTEZ DE DURANGO	37	31	DEJEME SI ESTOY LLORANDO FONOVISA	LOS ANGELES DE CHARLY
18	20						

Billboard

THE YEAR IN MUSIC





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50 CENT: IN DA CHART WINNERS' CLUB

50 Cent Proves His Worth, With 2003's Top Album, Single

BY FRED BRONSON

Across the pop, R&B and rap genres, among top singles and albums, 50 Cent dominates the 2003 Year In Music charts.

The rapper from Queens, N.Y. has the No. 1 song of the year for 2003 with "In Da Club" (Shady/Aftermath/Interscope), which spent nine weeks atop the Hot 100. The song also ranks

THE YEAR IN POP

at No. 1 on the Top R&B/Hip Hop Singles & Tracks and the Hot Rap Tracks charts.

His album "Get Rich Or Die Tryin'" is the No. 1 title of the year on The Billboard 200. It also closes the year at No. 1 on the Top R&B/Hip Hop Albums chart. That showing earns 50 Cent honors as the ranking Top Pop Artist, Top R&B/Hip Hop Artist and Hot Rap Artist of the year.

Thanks to 50 Cent, hip-hop has its first song of the year on the recap of The Billboard Hot 100 since 1995.

Even though rap has dominated this chart for the past few years, the top songs of 1996 through 2002 have come from other genres: Europop ("Macarena" by Los Del Rio in 1996); British pop/AC ("Candle in the Wind 1997" by Elton John in 1997); R&B ("Too Close" by Next in 1998); pop/dance ("Believe" by Cher in 1999); country crossover ("Breathe" by Faith Hill in 2000) and rock ("Hangin' by a Moment" by Lifehouse in 2001 and "How You Remind Me" by Nickelback in 2002).

The last hip-hop song to take top honors for an annual survey was "Gangsta's Rap" by Coolio Featuring L.V., eight years ago.

50 Cent is one of eight acts to register in the year-end top 10 for the first time.

Sean Paul ranked No. 74 last year with his debut single, "Gimme the Light." This year, he has the No. 3 song with the

(Continued on page YE-61)

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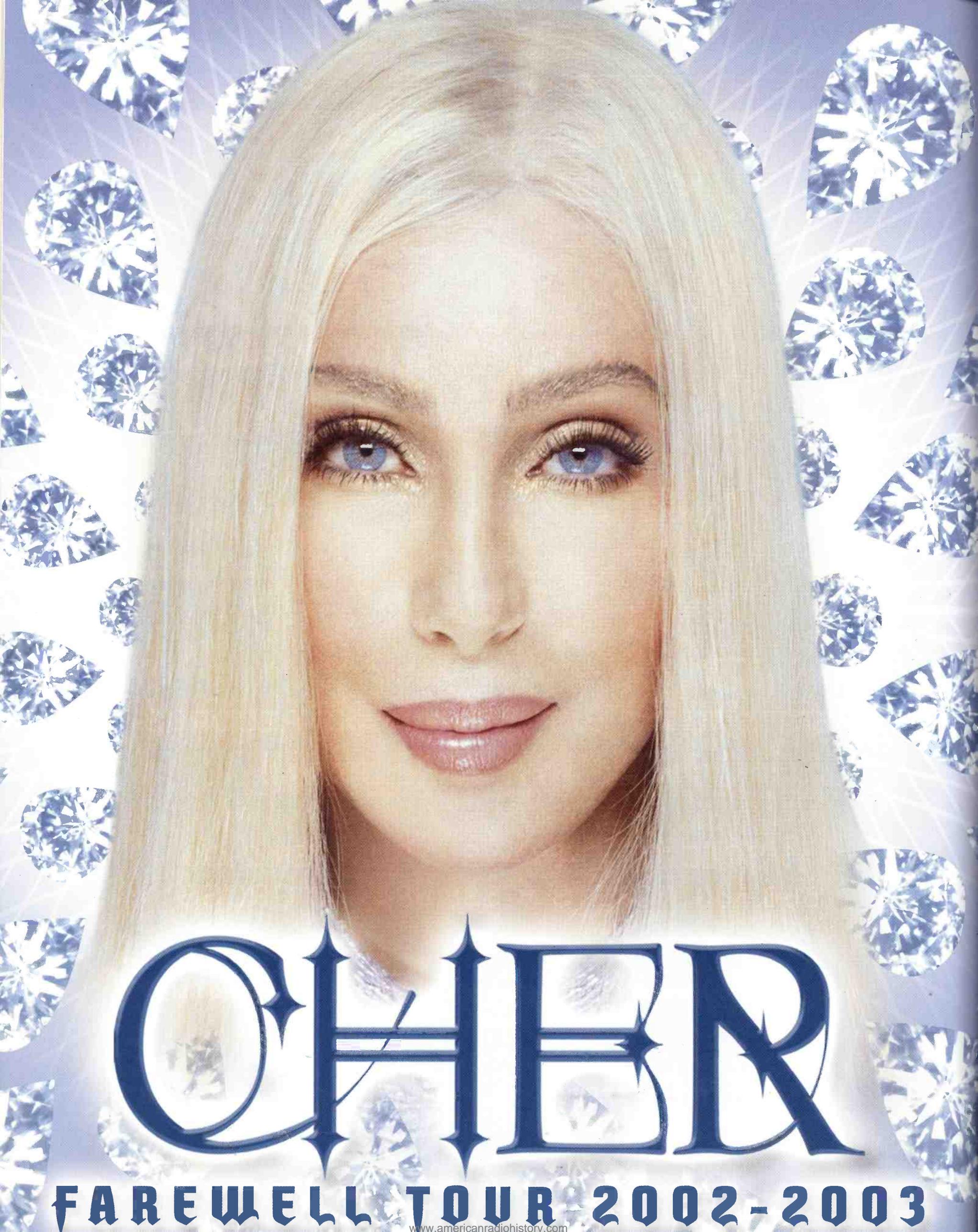
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Directed & Choreographed by Doriana Sanchez

Management:
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 Roger Davies
 Camilla de Crespigny
 Irene Taylor

LS Management, Inc.
 Lindsay Scott
 Zana Benson
 Steven Manzano

Band:
 Paul Mirkovich - Musical Director/Keyboards/Vocals
 David Barry - Guitars/Vocals
 Stacy Campbell - Vocals
 Patti Darby Jones - Vocals
 Ollie Marland - Keyboards/Vocals
 Mark Schulman - Drums
 Bill Sharpe - Bass/Vocals

Dancers:
 Bruce Carr - Co-Choreographer/Dance Captain
 Shannon Beach
 Suzanne Easter
 Jamal Story
 Sal Vassallo
 Drea Weber
 Kevin Wilson
 Adele Yungmee

Tour Personnel:
 Bill Comstock Burtain - Tour Coordinator/Accountant
 Malcolm Waldon - Production Manager
 Kurt Wagner - Production Manager
 Nick Cota - Tour Manager
 Ed Barrylak - Head of Logistics
 Paul Iwamoto - Head of Security
 Jennifer Ruiz - Personal Asst. to Cher
 Deb Paul - Personal Asst. to Cher
 Georgina Barrylak - Chief of Affairs
 Dr. Stacey Bone Crusher Smith - Personal Wellness
 Frank Carr - Stage Manager
 Dana Jaeger - Production Assistant
 Dave Kobl - FOH Engineer
 Brian Piggles - FOH Sound Engineer
 George Barnes - Monitor Engineer
 Kile Kuchel - Lighting Director
 Jeff Pavay - Lighting Director
 Christine Strand - Video Designer
 Deb Collins - Video Director
 David Neugebauer - Video Director
 Rose Polanski - Personal Wardrobe
 Bonnie Flesland - Head Wardrobe
 Tony Villanueva - Wardrobe
 Grace Lee - Wardrobe
 Bart Cennault - Wardrobe
 Marc Littlejohn - Wardrobe
 Morgane Benhard - Hair/Wigs
 Steve "CB" Oram - Head Rigger
 Michael Gomez - Rigger
 James Stratton - Rigger
 Courtney Jones - Head Carpenter
 Rick Stucker - Carpenter
 Greg Bogart - Carpenter
 Russell Glen - Carpenter
 Mark Ellis - Carpenter
 Michael Garrigan - Props/Elephant Puppets/12-String/Guitar
 Cary Grimm - Drum Tech
 Terry Lawless - Keyboard Tech/Saxophone
 John Ciaffulli - Guitar Tech

Cliff Downey - Sound Crew Chief
 Hank Fury - Sound Crew
 David Hood - Sound Crew
 Marty Strayer - Sound Crew
 Ian Tucker - Lighting Crew Chief
 Jeremy Schilling - Lighting Crew
 John Ramsey - Lighting Crew
 John Amorelli - Lighting Crew
 Robert Simonsaux - Lighting Crew
 Yasmine Koib - Lighting Crew
 Gregg Brooks - Lighting Crew
 Jason Gangi - Lighting Crew
 Jason Harvey - Video Engineer
 Richard Davis - Video Crew Chief
 Kurt Verhelle - Video Crew
 Rick Williams - Video Crew
 Jay Streaser - Camera Operator
 Tommy Simonson - Camera Operator
 Eugene McAuliffe - Camera Operator
 Dennis Thomas - Vocal Assistant
 Les Midgley - Merchandise
 Andy Clark - Bus Driver
 Timmy Ford - Bus Driver
 Jimmy Grubbs - Bus Driver
 Phil Horton - Bus Driver
 Dwayne Harper - Bus Driver
 Mark Bramblett - Bus Driver
 Robert Cashdollar - Bus Driver
 Dana Weaver - Bus Driver
 Ty Saunders - Bus Driver
 Layne Scott - Bus Truck Driver
 Buddy Gabriel - Truck Driver
 Marco Mendicous - Truck Driver
 Brian Harter - Truck Driver
 Louis Corry - Truck Driver
 Mike O'Donoghue - Truck Driver
 John Ruiz - Truck Driver
 Richard Baker - Truck Driver
 John Barmes - Truck Driver
 Sam Bledsoe - Truck Driver
 Joseph Clark - Truck Driver
 Chuck Target - Truck Driver

Set Design:
 Jeremy Railton Entertainment Design Group,
 Marina Del Rey, CA
 Jeremy Railton
 Jocelyn Railton

Lighting Design:
 Abbey Holmes

Video Montage Concept & Production:
 Dan-O-Rama Productions, Los Angeles, CA
 Dan Rucks
 Sam Radloff

Aerial Choreography:
 Drea Weber
 Bubba Carr
 Doriana Sanchez

Cher's costumes designed by:
 Bob Mackie

Hair Design:
 Serena Radaelli

Wigs:
 Renate Leuschner

Dancers' costumes designed by:
 Hugh Durrant

Dancers' Wig Design:
 Shutchai "Tym" Buararem

Tour Promoters:
 Clear Channel Touring, Los Angeles, CA
 Brad Wavra
 Vicky Labbe
 John Riccardi
 Tom Huppa
 Tommy Gmeza

CCE Tour Design:
 Debra "Fergy" Ferguson
 Kerry Farrell
 Mark Searles
 Michelle Abbott
 Larry Semelaw
 John Shults
 Jim Jakala
 Nina Schnorr
 Jeff Schroeder
 Anthony Imprago
 Ariene Owseichik
 Rex Ray

CCE Tour Representatives:
 Chris Covin
 Donna Parise
 Dori Verna

Business Management:
 Grant, Tani, Barash & Altman, Beverly Hills, CA
 Warren Grant
 Corey Barash
 Gayle Lillie

Tour Legal Representation:
 Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, Los Angeles, CA
 Larry Blake
 Aaron Harrison

Agency:
 Rock Steady Management Agency, Inc., Bradenton, FL
 Rusty Hooker

Publicity:
 Liz Rosenberg, Warner Bros. Records, New York, NY

Insurance:
 Near North Entertainment Insurance Services, LLC,
 Los Angeles, CA
 Lisa Wright
 Robertson Taylor Insurance Brokers, Ltd., London, UK
 Bob Taylor
 Paul Wrenney

Sound:
 Clair Brothers, Little, PA
 Troy Clair
 Greg Hall

Lighting:
 USD Fourth Phase, Newberry Park, CA
 John Lobel
 Vanette Sunvale, CA
 Curry Grant

Video:
 Nocturne Productions, San Francisco, CA
 Bob Bringham

Set Construction:
 Tait Towe S. Little, PA
 Michael Tait
 James "Winky" Faircloth
 Global Entertainment Industries, Burbank, CA
 Chris Hyde
 Light Emitting Design, Marina Del Rey, CA
 Trevor Guss

Inflatables:
 Aerocology, Moscow, Russia
 Vladimir Perelman

Elephant:
 Michael Curry Design, Inc., St. Helens, OR
 Michael Curry

Bungee Rigging:
 Branam Enterprises, Los Angeles, CA
 Randy Beckman

Travel Agency:
 CIS Travel, Los Angeles, CA
 Ken Bruce
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Merchandise:
 Giant Merchandising, Inc., Los Angeles, CA
 Peter Lubin
 Tom Donnell
 Monica Kelly

Video Coordination:
 Paul Brownstein Productions, Sherman Oaks, CA
 Paul Brownstein

Coaches:
 Hemphill Entertainment Services, Nashville, TN
 Trent Hemphill
 Four Seasons Coach Leasing, Lebanon, TN
 Mike Slary

Trucking:
 Roadshow, San Francisco, CA
 Sean O'Rourke
 David Kelly

Freight:
 Rock II Cargo, Los Angeles, CA
 Kevin Roach

Graphic Design:
 SMOG Design, Inc., Los Angeles, CA
 Jen Herdan
 John Heston
 Joanne Jaworowski
 Barrie Goshko

Record Company:
 Warner Bros., Burbank, CA

With Very Special Thanks to:
 Cyndi Lauper
 Tommy Drake
 Dom Tran

In memory of:
 KEVIN AUGOIN, KEN KINARD & LEE MATTHAEUS



Year In Business

Continued from page 5

assets and watched thousands more music retailers close their doors.

Of course, not all the news was bad. After a prolonged labor, the business saw the birth of a new format—the paid digital download.

The drivers of all this activity were eroding album sales and continuing unlicensed, peer-to-peer file sharing and CD burning.

A TUMULTUOUS 12 MONTHS

“It was a difficult year,” says Doug Morris, chairman/CEO of Universal Music Group. “But when you look back in history, this will be the big transitional year.” He notes that many of the developments in 2003 came as the industry confronted the impact of piracy and digital distribution.

“It was another tumultuous 12 months for the record business, from Internet issues to new business models and mergers,” Sony Music Entertainment chairman/CEO Andrew Lack agrees.

The music industry endured its third consecutive down year. For the full year, sales were expected to be down 4%-6% from 2002. That's not as severe as the more than 10% sales dip in 2002. But it is more substantial than the 2.8% decline in 2001.

As bad as a year-over-year drop is, the general sentiment within the industry is that it could have been worse.

That sales deficit stood at a more daunting 8.5% at the end of the summer. At its lowest ebb, the current year's album volume trailed the previous year by 13.6%, in the week ended Feb. 2.

The industry also saw other signs of hope—small though they may be—that the worst of its sales funk is over.

Late in the year, weekly album sales totals began to improve over the same period in 2002. Going into Christmas week, 12 times in 14 weeks, CD sales beat those of the same weeks in 2002.

Meanwhile, for the first time consumers began buying digital music en masse with the debut of new services like iTunes from Apple Computer in April and Napster from Roxio in November. Other music and computer companies were quick to announce plans to enter the digital fray in 2004.

By late summer, digital tracks began outselling physical singles by a growing margin—a sign that consumers are increasingly embracing the brave new world of for-pay downloading.

But the estimated figure of more than 30 million downloads sold does not a comeback make.

In addition to piracy, the industry also continued to face stiff competition for media and entertainment dollars from DVDs, games and cell phones, amid a shaky economic climate.

In response to poor sales, the major labels attempted to slash costs by eliminating thousands of staffers, selling assets and consolidating wherever possible.

In November, Sony and BMG announced plans, pending regulatory approval, to merge their recorded music businesses in a new 50-50 joint venture called Sony BMG. Two weeks after the Sony BMG news, Time Warner agreed to sell the Warner Music Group for \$2.6 billion to an investment group fronted by Edgar Bronfman Jr. The move meant the rejection of an offer from EMI Recorded Music, which also sought a merger with WMG.

SONY'S SHIFTING SANDS

The year's most dramatic corporate changes came at Sony Music Entertainment, which experienced seismic shifts in its leadership and structure and the elimination of some 1,000 jobs worldwide.

SME's year began with the resignation of longtime chairman/CEO Tommy Mottola in January and the arrival of his successor, former NBC TV executive Andrew Lack. After the dust settled, Columbia Records Group chairman Don Ienner rose to the position of president of Sony Music U.S. in April.

Ienner also took over day-to-day control of Epic Records following the September departure of Epic president Polly Anthony. Further changes will likely follow the Sony BMG merger.

The proposed Sony BMG joint venture does not include the

companies' music publishing, physical distribution and manufacturing businesses.

Under the agreement, BMG chairman/CEO Rolf Schmidt-Holtz is to become chairman of Sony BMG; SME chairman/CEO Lack will be CEO. In addition, Schmidt-Holtz will head the joint venture's integration, audit and compensation committees.

The new company's board would be evenly split between Sony and Bertelsmann representatives.

Sony BMG would generate estimated annual revenue of \$5.73 billion at current values. Cost savings from the combination would exceed \$300 million annually.

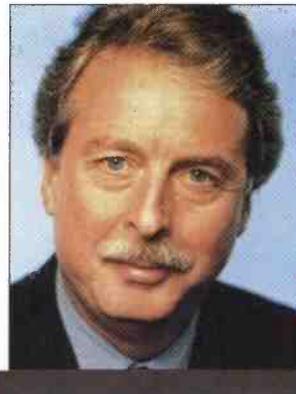
Even before word of a deal with BMG came, SME was already pursuing serious cost-cutting initiatives.

Prior to the merger, Sony was in the midst of reducing its head count in an effort realize \$100 million in annual cost savings.

The cuts, according to sources, comprised more than 300 employees from Sony's corporate, label and distribution divisions in the U.S.; an additional 300 from Sony manufacturing in the U.S.; and another 350 staffers outside the U.S.

The cuts began in March and came at all levels, with many veterans departing. Worldwide, the most senior employee let go was Paul Burger, president of Sony Music Europe. Sony Music Distribution chairman Danny Yarbrough also exited the company.

Also as part of its restructuring efforts, Sony merged the Epic and Columbia R&B departments to form a new shared-services department in May. An undisclosed number of R&B employees lost their jobs as part of the restructuring. David McPherson was named executive VP of the group.



DEALMAKERS, FROM LEFT: BRONFMAN, PARSONS, LACK, SCHMIDT-HOLTZ

Sony was not alone in extensive cost-cutting. In October, UMG announced that it would trim its ranks by 800. The company anticipates savings of more than \$200 million as a result of the manpower reductions.

The layoffs, which commenced Oct. 16 and will continue through early 2004, will affect 190 UMG staffers in North America and 610 internationally.

At the end of the current round of layoffs, UMG's worldwide head count will stand at 10,850—reflecting an 11% reduction in a work force that numbered 12,200 at the beginning of 2003.

UMG also laid off 75 MCA staffers in June as part of a merger between MCA and Geffen Records. Geffen president Jordan Schur was tapped to head the combined entity.

MCA president Jay Boberg left the label in mid-January.

The combined operation was made part of the Interscope Geffen A&M family—under the purview of IGA chairman Jimmy Iovine—with its own A&R, marketing and promotion operations.

As for the other majors, EMI has eliminated nearly 1,900 positions since the end of 2001.

In January, BMG eliminated 50 staffers as part of the integration of RCA and J Records.

WMG also laid off 40 staffers from WEA Corp. in shifting the distribution company's headquarters from Burbank, Calif., to New York.

The desire to cut costs did not just result in head-count reductions. It also fueled consolidation moves amid the major labels and caused some parent media companies to rethink their desire to remain in the music business.

DreamWorks SKG bailed out of the music business in November, selling DreamWorks Records—home to Toby Keith and Nelly Furtado—to UMG for \$100 million.

Time Warner's plan to sell WMG to Bronfman's investment group comes three years after AOL and Time Warner's mega-merger. Similarly, three years after the Vivendi and Universal merger, executives at that company are exploring a future spinoff of UMG, among other assets.

In September, Vivendi Universal sold its non-music entertain-

ment assets to NBC parent General Electric in a cash and stock deal valued at \$3.8 billion. Sources suggest that even though the French conglomerate opted to hang on to its music business for now, it may look to ultimately unload UMG when the recording industry rebounds.

Vivendi Universal decided to bail out of the entertainment business since it failed to achieve synergies between its media and telecom businesses, while racking up massive debt in the process.

Time Warner also began looking to pare assets when increased profits failed to result from its merger with AOL.

Time Warner CEO Richard Parsons (the company purged “AOL” from the name late in 2003) ordered a reduction in the company's \$26 billion in debt to \$20 billion by the end of 2004.

As part of that effort, during the summer the company unloaded WMG's disc-manufacturing unit for \$1 billion in a deal with Canada-based Cinram International.

Time Warner's decision to hitch the future of WMG to Bronfman's investment group rather than EMI reflected, in part, concerns about antitrust issues.

Since 2000, European Union regulators have scuttled deals between EMI and WMG and EMI and BMG. On a combined basis, the proposed Sony BMG would have a 25% global market share and a 28% market share in the U.S. A merged EMI-WMG would have had an estimated 24% market share globally and in the U.S.

CONSOLIDATION CONCERNS

Music executives maintain that the current consolidation push comes in the context of a market in a pronounced state of decline—something regulators did not have to consider in previous merger proposals.

Amelia Torres, spokeswoman for the EU Commission, told *Billboard* that once the commission received the application for the Sony BMG merger, it would look at the facts to see how the music market has changed since the last rejection in 2000.

In the U.S., Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, chairman of the Senate Antitrust Subcommittee, announced plans to hold an oversight hearing on the proposed Sony BMG merger.

“While we recognize that the music industry currently faces numerous problems, greater consolidation may not be the answer to those problems,” said DeWine and Sen. Herbert Kohl, D-Wis., the leading Democrat on the subcommittee, in a joint statement following the announcement of the Sony BMG deal.

While the major labels and their parent companies pursued cost-cutting moves, the music retail sector saw severe contraction.

At least 600 chain stores, 300 Kmart locations and an undetermined number of independent stores closed their doors in 2003. *Billboard* estimates that shuttered stores accounted for 5% of album sales the prior year.

The store closings came amid a wave of bankruptcy filings and asset sales involving some of the country's biggest specialty chains. In June, Best Buy sold the struggling 1,100-unit Musicland chain to Sun Capital, a Boca Raton, Fla.-based leveraged buyout firm.

In the deal, Best Buy—which acquired Musicland in early 2001 for \$425 million in cash plus the assumption of \$260 million in Musicland debt—gave an affiliate of Sun Capital all of Musicland's stock. In return, Sun Capital assumed all of Musicland's liabilities, including lease obligations. No cash changed hands.

Musicland posted a net loss of \$441 million on sales of \$1.7 billion in its fiscal year ended March 1. Sun tapped Alliance Entertainment boss Eric Weisman to head the company.

Meanwhile, Trans World Entertainment acquired the 148-store Warehouse Entertainment chain for about \$41 million. Warehouse filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy earlier in the year.

Trans World also scooped up the assets of another bankrupt retailer—South Plainfield, N.J.-based CD World. Trans World acquired CD World's 13 stores in New Jersey and Missouri for \$1.8 million in cash.

Tower Records also went up for sale as the chain faced the looming threat of bankruptcy. In May, Tower hired Jefferies & Co. to negotiate with its bondholders and Greif & Co. to shop the chain. The company was entertaining bids as the year closed.

Charlotte, N.C.-based Baker & Taylor—one of the largest multimedia wholesalers in the U.S.—was sold by parent owner the Car-

(Continued on page YE-83)

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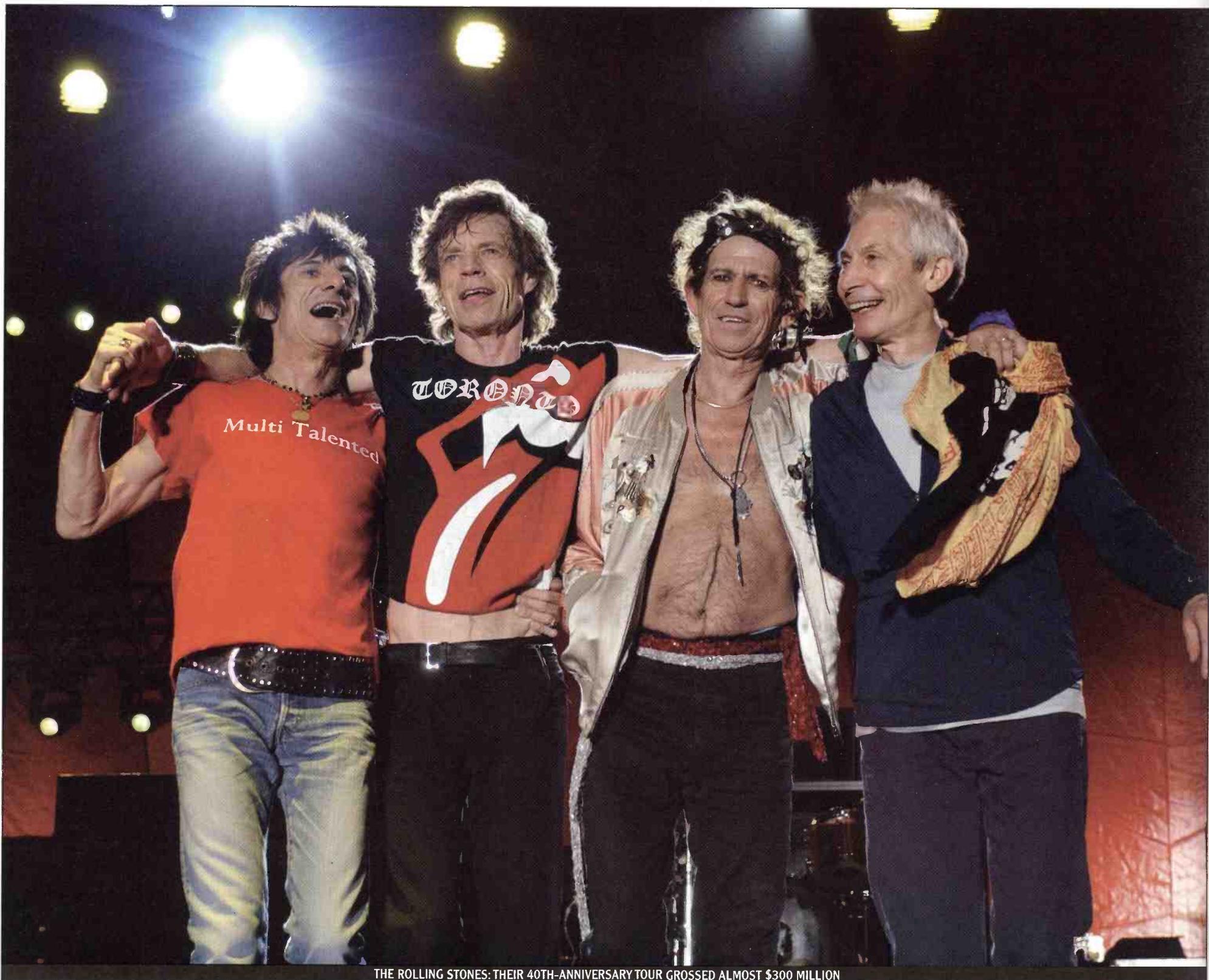
WALT DISNEY RECORDS



Lizzie McGuire Movie Soundtrack (nearing DOUBLE PLATINUM)	Lizzie McGuire TV Soundtrack (PLATINUM Certified)	Lilo & Stitch Soundtrack (PLATINUM Certified)	Cheetah Girls Soundtrack (nearing PLATINUM)	Disneymania (GOLD Certified)	Disney's Greatest Volume 1 (GOLD Certified)	Disney's Greatest Volume 2 (nearing GOLD)	Brother Bear Soundtrack (nearing GOLD)
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THE ROLLING STONES: THEIR 40TH-ANNIVERSARY TOUR GROSSED ALMOST \$300 MILLION

Old Favorites Top 2003 Touring Chart

The Rolling Stones, Springsteen, Cher Prove The Value Of Touring To Career Longevity

BY RAY WADDELL

Seasoned veterans once again dominated the touring landscape in 2003, with nine of the top 10 grossing tours headlined by acts with 20-plus-year careers. Fifteen of the top 25 tours boast headliners older than 40.

While the year's list of Billboard Boxscore's Top Tours is great testimony to the value of touring to career longevity, it also highlights the lack of breakthrough artists for the concert business.

Tours by the Rolling Stones, Bruce Springsteen and Cher are the top three tours of 2003, respectively, according to Billboard Boxscore data for the 12-month period ended Nov. 18,

2003. Rounding out the top 10 are tours by Fleetwood Mac, Dixie Chicks, Eagles, Dave Matthews Band, Aerosmith & Kiss, Metallica's Summer Sanitarium and the double bill of Billy Joel & Elton John.

TOP TOURS OF THE YEAR

The lone exception on the year-end list of tours by pop veterans is the Justin Timberlake/Christina Aguilera outing, which ranks 16th. Both artists are past the breakthrough stage, however, with Aguilera having her solo success and Timberlake having already experienced blockbuster albums and tours with 'N Sync.

Still, of the war horses of yore, none are

more road-tested than the Rolling Stones. As they do virtually every time they go out, the Stones staked their claim as the top touring act on the planet.

The band's ambitious Licks world tour, produced by Michael Cohl's TGA Entertainment, grossed slightly less than \$300 million and played to more than 3.4 million people.

During the tour, the Stones played stadiums, arenas and theaters—sometimes all three in the same market—and filled venues to 99% capacity during 116 dates. The final tally is \$299,520,230.

"I got a good check," Cohl quips, quickly adding that the tour's success exceeds even his and the band's expectations.

"We're never that aggressive in our projections," he says. The tour's logistical challenges made its success even more rewarding, he says.

"It's always nice when you come up with an idea, go through rehearsals, go up with the first dates on sale, then start playing the shows, and maybe it works."

The tour was expensive to produce, Cohl notes. "It didn't have the same overly dramatic impact [of past tours], but it was a much more expensive show than the last one," he says. "All because of the video and the moving parts, like the world's most complicated Meccano set. All those moving parts work so the

(Continued on page YE-53)

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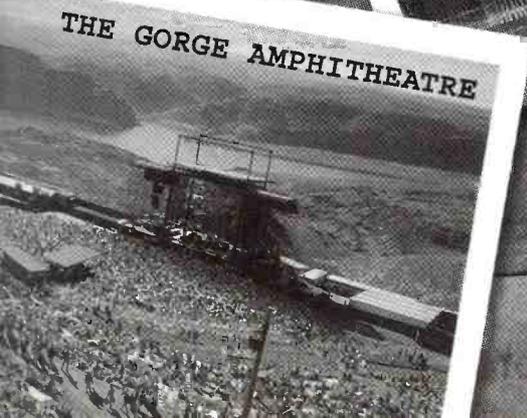
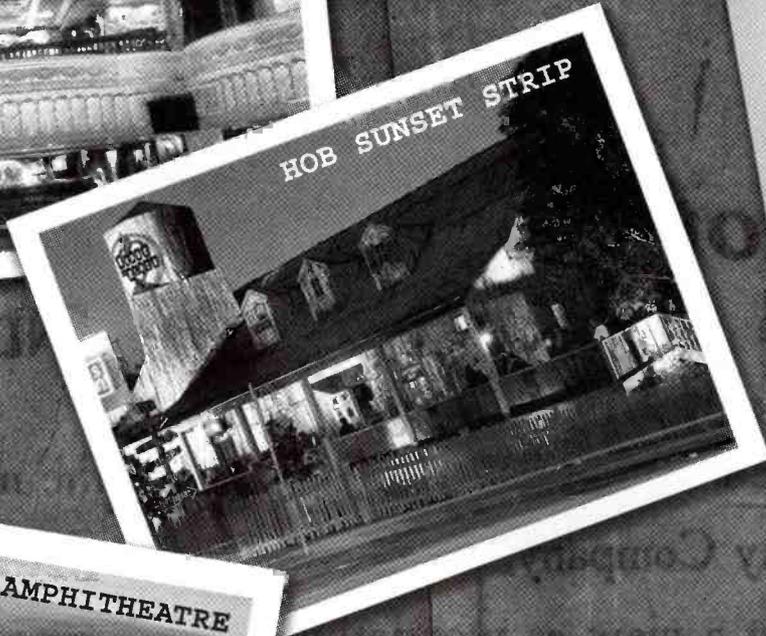
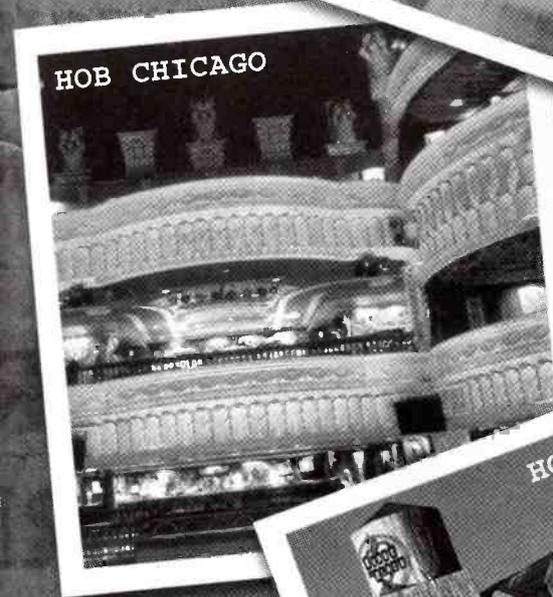
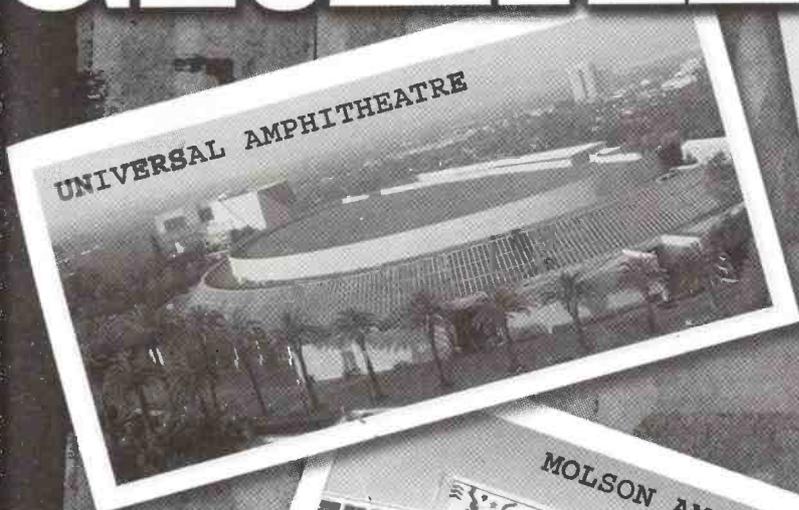
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COMING TO MORE VENUES AND MARKETS IN 2004



European Acts Finding Success Close To Home

Focus On Continent As U.S. Market Shrinks

This story was prepared by Gordon Masson in London, Wolfgang Spahr in Hamburg, James Martin in Paris, Jeffrey DeHart in Stockholm, Marc Worden in Milan, Mark Andress in Prague and Aleksey Kruzin in Moscow.

LONDON—European record companies in 2003 focused on breaking their artists closer to home, as the U.S. all but closed its ears to international artists.

By one estimate, international artists now account for only 7% of music sales in the U.S., with homegrown acts garnering 93% of the market.

But Europe, as a whole, has also now eclipsed North America in sales volume, according to the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, accounting for 395 million units sold in 2002 compared with 353 million units in North America.

THE YEAR IN EUROPE

So European artists are more likely to exploit opportunities on their own continent than risk expensive forays into the U.S.

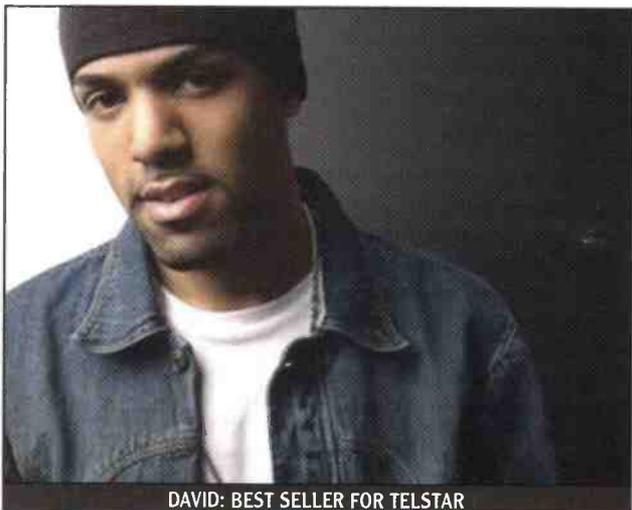
The IFPI Platinum Awards, recognizing album sales of 1 million units within Europe, went in 2003 to many of Europe's top sellers. Among them were Robbie Williams, Coldplay and Herbert Gronemeyer on EMI; Andrea Bocelli, Daniel Bedingfield, Texas and T.a.t.u. on Universal; Jean-Jacques Goldman on Sony; and Craig David on Telstar. Notably, former Warner Music act Simply Red earned an IFPI Platinum Award for its album "Home," which was self-released on simplyred.com.

BREAK-OUT STORIES

But the continental success of superstars doesn't tell the whole story of European artist development. This year brought numerous examples of European acts finding new audiences in neighboring markets.

Germany's latest pop sensation, Jeanette, has consistently scaled the top 10 of the country's singles and albums charts this year while selling out major concert venues. She has performed to more than 130,000 fans in 2003 and will extend her current tour into next year.

Jeanette got her break appearing on daily TV soap opera "Gute Zeiten—Schlechte Zeiten." She then received the 2001 Echo Award, Germany's equivalent of the Grammy Award, for best female artist, rock/pop, as well as the 2002 Top of the Pops European Award.



DAVID: BEST SELLER FOR TELSTAR

"In spite of her tender years, she has not only racked up many gold records but performs fabulous live music with her band onstage," says Tom Bohne, managing director of the Polydor/Island Group. "She is proof that Germany has a major shooting star of international proportions."

Jeanette's latest single, "Rock My Life," has been released in France, the U.K., Germany, Switzerland and Austria. She has recently released her fourth studio album, "Break on Through," and plans a DVD release this month.

French folk-rock trio Mickey 3D has gone from indie recognition to mainstream stardom with minimal marketing help from its label, Virgin France.

As Virgin France CEO Laurent Chapeau puts it, "In the space of just three albums, Mickey 3D has successfully made the transition from the independent to the major music scene, largely thanks to extensive touring."

Indeed, Mickey 3D is best-known throughout France as a compelling live act. Its presence on the road has kept the band's third album, "Tu Vas Pas Mourir de Rire," firmly within the top 50 on the French album chart in recent months.

To date, the album achieved international sales of 200,000 units. Outside France, the album has sold well in other Francophone territories but has also achieved four-figure sales in more unlikely countries, such as Germany.

Inventive videos also have been important to the band's success. The clip for "Respire," the first single from the latest album, uses cartoon-style graphics to depict a young girl in a virtual paradise. The video gained extensive music-TV airplay, propelling sales of the single to 150,000 units.

"Jalil," the album's second single, depicts the girl's continued adventures in the same cartoon style and is benefiting from



COLDPLAY: PLATINUM PLAYERS

singer/pianist Paolo Conte, who records for CGD East West Italy and has built an impressive following in Europe and the U.S. through the years.

Concerts, word-of-mouth and strategic product placement have been the main strategies in promoting an artist who has, according to CGD East West GM Luciano Linzi, achieved worldwide career sales of 12 million units, bolstered by regular touring and strategic marketing.

Conte's career outside Italy developed largely after he left RCA and signed with CGD East West in 1984, at a time when CGD remained part of Sugarmusic, one of Italy's leading independent music companies. Conte, a former small-town lawyer, wrote hits for singer Caterina Caselli, who later became a Sugarmusic executive. CGD promoted Conte in France and, after the label's acquisition by Warner Music, in Spain, Germany, the U.K., Belgium and Holland.

An exposure coup for Conte came when "Via Con Me," a song considered his personal anthem, appeared in a TV campaign for ITB Insurance. "It's become a real favorite for ads and soundtracks," Linzi says. "Paolo has given concerts in London every year since 1992. Now he sells out venues like the Barbican and the Royal Festival Hall."

Earlier this year, Conte rerecorded some of his classics for "Reveries," a project that was shared by Nonesuch and CGD East. He is now working on a new album for CGD, which should appear in late 2004.

CZECH CLASSICAL FOLK

In Eastern Europe, one of the notable artist-development stories comes from the Czech Republic, where folk act Cechomor is still

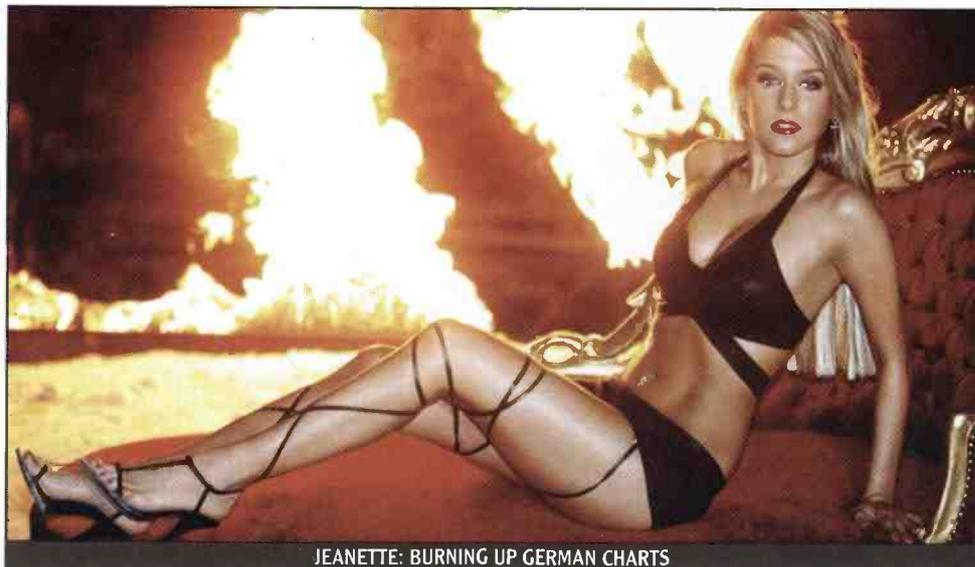
enjoying the fruits of a past collaboration with Jaz Coleman, the flamboyant composer and frontman of U.K. post-punk band Killing Joke.

For an album released in May 2001 titled "Promeny," Coleman arranged Cechomor's folk songs to a classical score. The album has sold more than 80,000 units in the Czech Republic since its release on the Venkow label, a division of the Czech affiliate of Universal Music. Universal since has released the disc in the U.K., Germany, the Netherlands and Japan.

Karel Holas, the band's singer/violinist, says the group plans to boost sales of "Transformations" in new countries by supporting Killing Joke on a three-month tour of Europe and the U.S. next spring. In the past year, the band also released a two-hour DVD of its April 2003 concert in Prague's T-Mobile Arena, which Holas hopes will be released alongside the "Transformations" CD in international markets.

Further east, Sony Music Russia has a border-crossing hit with female trio V.I.A., which follows in the path of recent Russian success stories T.a.t.u. on Universal and PPK on Perfecto.

"Stop! Stop! Stop!," the debut album from the trio of Nadya, Vera and Anya, sold 29,000 units within the first week of its release in Japan. "We are proud the album has already crossed its first sea with such a promising debut in Japan," says Andrei Sumin, managing director of Sony Music Russia, who adds that "Gra" has garnered interest from markets as diverse as Austria, Australia, Thailand, Turkey, Israel and Italy. As a result, Sony Music International plans a full-scale, multi-market release for the album in the coming year.



JEANETTE: BURNING UP GERMAN CHARTS

a similar level of TV exposure.

Hailing from Sweden, Anders Widmark is a musical virtuoso who has released nine albums since 1991. Pianist/popular music composer Widmark is steadily finding success beyond his home base thanks to his jazz recordings with the Anders Widmark Trio and a variety of vocalists.

His most recent two efforts appear on the Bergman Widmark label—founded by Widmark and partner Ingemar Bergman, former managing director of PolyGram Sweden—as part of a seven-album licensing deal with Universal Sweden.

The first set was an English-language, jazz-flavored pop album, "Anders Widmark featuring Sara Isaksson," released in Sweden in December 2002, backed by an extensive TV marketing campaign.

"I never have written jazz compositions; I had always written 'songs,'" Widmark says. "Even if I am a jazz player and improviser, my compositions don't sound like jazz tunes."

The album came out in 12 European and four Asian territories this year, finding success in Germany and Denmark. Worldwide sales to date have reached 24,000 units.

Widmark's latest album, "Genom Varje Andetag," with Helen Sjöholm, sold 25,000 units in Sweden in two weeks and benefits from heavy TV advertising and further concert dates and TV appearances.

Concentrating on the international market, the Anders Widmark Trio next March will release "Live at Fasching" through London-based Universal International—an album recorded at Stockholm's most famous jazz club.

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Despite Challenges, Asia Biz Thrives

Territory Spawns Rich Cache Of New Acts

This story was prepared by Steve McClure in Tokyo; Mark Russell in Seoul, South Korea; Scott Murphy in Hong Kong; and Christie Leo in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The music business in Asia in 2003—coping with the global challenges of physical piracy, file sharing and competition from mobile phones and videogames—continued to develop exciting and often brilliant new artists. Here are a few examples from around the region.

Japan, which has long set the standard for Asian pop, pointed the way forward for the Asian music scene again with the success of HY. This category-defying band emerged from Japan's active indie scene to achieve chart-topping status in the world's second-largest music market.

THE YEAR IN ASIA

HY hails from Okinawa, Japan's southernmost prefecture, which has become one of the country's hottest sources of new music talent, following the success of another indie band, Mongol 800, from the same area.

HY fuses elements of reggae, hip-hop and rock. The act offers a refreshing alternative to the prepackaged idol pop of such groups as ubiquitous female ensemble Morning Musume.

The five-member band's first album, "Departure," arrived in September 2001 on independent label Climax. As it happened



F4: TV SHOW 'METEOR GARDEN' HELPED LAUNCH GROUP

with Mongol 800, HY gained a following through word-of-mouth and independent media. The band rereleased "Departure" in April 2002, and so far it has sold close to 350,000 copies.

HY leans toward a bright, poppy sound, with catchy tunes and a lot of energy. But there's also a hard-core edge to its music, with a strong dose of rap added for good measure.

Such bands as Mongol 800 and HY explain why the indie scene is the healthiest part of the Japanese music industry today.

BIG MAMA BUSTS OUT

As in Japan, the Korean pop charts have traditionally showcased pretty boys and long-legged, long-lashed girls, slick dance moves and flashy videos. Then in early 2003, along came Big Mama, a group of four soulful women who belt out great R&B tunes. They also happen to be full-figured and thus offer a decided contrast to such litesome idol stars as BoA and Lee Hyolee that usually dominate the Korean pop scene.

When Big Mama's label, M-Boat, launched the group, executives decided that they would not use the singers' images in press material and videos, preferring to let the music speak for itself.



CRAZY KEN BAND: MIXES PARODY AND MUSICIANSHIP

And the music spoke volumes. Big Mama's first album, "Like the Bible," has sold nearly 300,000 copies since its February release, making it 2003's No. 5 album in sales and the year's biggest-selling debut.

The singers range in age from 22 to 32 (another unusual feature in South Korea's youth-crazed pop scene), and some of them have worked as backing vocalists for local pop stars. But because of their physique, no one thought they were likely candidates to move to center stage.

Yet within weeks of its release, "Like the Bible" received enough positive press that M-Boat decided to boost the group's profile, first with a TV appearance and then a music video featuring the four members. Since then, Big Mama has become one of South Korea's biggest pop acts. M-Boat now plans to promote Big Mama outside of South Korea, starting with Japan.

Equally unconventional is Japan's Crazy Ken Band. This year the group transcended cult-band status and became an act to watch on the Japanese music scene, thanks to its clever fusion of parody and brilliant musicianship.

RICH MIXTURE

Imagine a Japanese version of the Bonzo Dog Band or the Tubes, and you'll get an idea of where the CKB is coming from.

Frontman Ken Yokoyama and his fellow band members specialize in surreal deconstructions-cum-homages of '60s Japanese pop music. To Japan's retro pop-culture enthusiasts, that was a golden age when saccharine, *kayokyoku*, middle-of-the-road pop music collided head-on with various foreign pop styles to create a rich musical *mélange*. Standard subject matter for Yokoyama's songs includes fast American cars, seedy nightclubs, intrigue on the docks of his hometown of Yokohama and shadowy characters on the fringes of society.

Word about the CKB's superlative live performances has steadily spread since Yokoyama formed the band in 1997. In the past year or so, the band has started to break into the mainstream, thanks to increasing media exposure. For example, its song "Tiger & Dragon" appeared last year as the closing theme of TBS TV network program "Count Down TV."

This year brought the release of the band's sixth album, "777," on Tokyo-based independent label Substance. While CKB will not bump such mega-sellers as Ayumi Hamasaki or Morning Musume off the top of the charts, the band's popularity proves there are Japanese music fans over the age of 25 who like music that says something to them, be it serious or tongue-in-cheek.

In Taiwan, 2003 has been a very good year indeed for a more conventional idol-style group: male quartet F4.

The group might have achieved no more than any other good-looking Taiwanese boy band if not for the TV drama series "Meteor Garden." That program, based on a Japanese manga comic book, debuted in 2001 and showcased the band. The show appeared on TV in other Asian countries, most notably the Philippines, China and Indonesia. Now, the members of F4 are major regional superstars.

The band's popularity enabled it to go on a 10-city Asian tour early in 2003. That, in turn, helped propel regional sales of its debut album, "Meteor Rain," past the 2 million mark, while a late-2002 follow-up release, "4 Ever," has already sold more than 1.5 million copies. Such success led F4 to record songs for the Asian film "Love Storm," an Asian release of Disney's animated "Lilo and Stitch" and duets with such Western artists as Beyoncé.

F4 has struck sponsorship deals with, among others, Pepsi, Yamaha and Siemens mobile phones, and band members have

recorded solo albums. One of them, Vaness, has a major role in the new joint Hong Kong/Korean film "Star Runner."

With promotional plans for South Korea and Japan in 2004, F4 expects to record a new album and launch another regional tour next year.

SAVING THE DAY

In piracy-plagued Malaysia, 2003 has not been a good year for the local music business. But one veteran artist, Jamal Abdillah, provided the local industry with the year's most unexpected surprise with "Raja Pop," a career-defining retrospective compilation that continues to sell briskly nine months after its launch.

"Raja Pop" has so far sold more than 120,000 units, making it not only Jamal's best-selling album ever but this year's front-runner in domestic album sales.

The album captures the charm and talent of one of Malaysia's most gifted singers as Jamal approaches the quarter-century mark as a recording artist, with 14 studio albums to his credit.

Although the album is a greatest-hits collection, with two rerecorded songs, "Raja Pop" stands out as Jamal's most satisfying release yet. The sequencing of the songs reflects the soul-searching of a man at a reflective point in his life. His songs address disappointments, triumphs, personal problems and, ultimately, redemption.

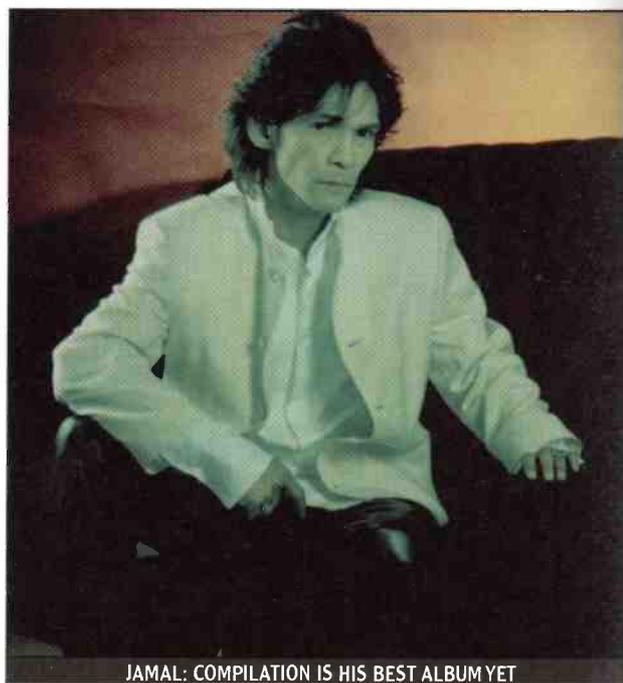
During his sometimes reckless and brash heyday, Jamal's songs and image personified the impulsive energy and vibrant yearning of youth. Now, at 44, this Malay pop icon is clearly thinking ahead, artistically and spiritually. For the "Raja Pop" compilation, Jamal rerecorded two songs: "Sandarkan Pada Kenangan," a duet with newcomer Siti Sarah, and "Azura," the title track from a movie Abdillah appeared in at the beginning of his career.

"We organized a listening party to launch the album, and when the media reacted positively to 'Sandarkan Pada Kenangan,' we extended our TV advertising campaign to reach a younger profile," says Liza Ilias, head of A&R for Warner Music Malaysia. "The strategy paid off handsomely, with younger music fans hopping on the Jamal bandwagon."

The original version of "Sandarkan Pada Kenangan," a hit 18 years ago, found a new audience with the rerecorded version, and the song topped the radio charts and the Recording Industry of Malaysia charts. It continues to enjoy heavy airplay.

"Jamal's fan base has stayed loyal for over two decades, and in that time, he has also managed to attract a new generation of fans," Ilias says. "He's a low-profile artist who rarely tours or gives interviews—which makes the success of 'Raja Pop' a true testament of his staying power."

Jamal is one of five Malaysian artists nominated for the Asian MTV Awards 2004. He plans to start work on his new studio album early next year.



JAMAL: COMPILATION IS HIS BEST ALBUM YET

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50, Kelly, Beyoncé Rule R&B/Hip-Hop

BY GAIL MITCHELL

This time last year, Ashanti, Nelly and Eminem ruled the *Billboard* year-end R&B/hip-hop charts. This year, it comes as no surprise that one artist dominates the proceedings: rapper 50 Cent.

Parlaying a fervent underground following into record-breaking mainstream success, the Eminem protégé claims a host of pop, R&B and rap chart accolades for his recordings, released on Shady/Aftermath/Interscope.

His R&B chart achievements

THE YEAR IN R&B

include the No. 1 position on the year-end recaps for Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists—Male, Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Artists and Top R&B/Hip-Hop Album.

50 Cent is currently promoting the album “Beg for Mercy” from his new act, G-Unit, as well as his Ecko-affiliated fashion line. But he isn’t the only major R&B story of 2003. Several other artists are enjoying year-end chart prominence. Chief among them are R. Kelly, Beyoncé and Aaliyah.

Running second to 50 Cent on several recaps—including Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists—Male, Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Artists and Top R&B/Hip-Hop

Albums—Kelly outpaces the rapper and other chart rivals thanks to his songwriting and production prowess.

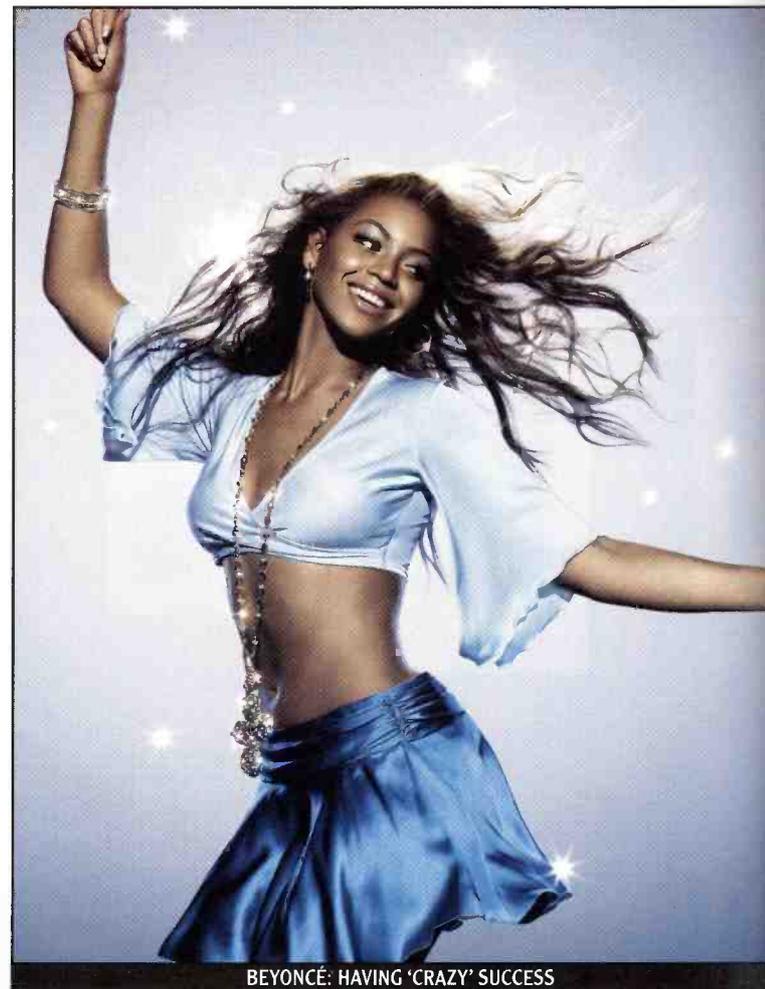
The Chicago native supplants 2002 honoree the Neptunes atop the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Producer recap; Kelly was *the* go-to guy in 2003. Charting no less than 29 titles on the R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart between Dec. 2, 2002, and Nov. 29, 2003, Kelly produced a diverse lineup of acts from Syleena Johnson to B2K, Michael Jackson and the Big Tymers.

As an in-demand songwriter (with 30 charting titles), Kelly is the leader of a top 10 pack of producers that includes the Neptunes’ Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo, Missy Elliott and Curtis Jackson (aka 50 Cent).

Having wrapped a U.S. tour this summer, Kelly is a constant studio presence who currently has enough material for four albums, he says, beyond his recently released “The R. in R&B Collection: Volume One.”

Beyoncé emerges as this year’s No. 1 Top New R&B/Hip-Hop Artist, despite her career as frontwoman of Destiny’s Child. Her achievement results from the home run she scored as a first-time solo artist on her “Dangerously in Love” album, released through Music World/Columbia/Sony Urban Music.

(Continued on page YE-59)



BEYONCÉ: HAVING ‘CRAZY’ SUCCESS

Shania Twain Tops Country Lists

BY DEBORAH EVANS PRICE

If there was ever any doubt about Shania Twain’s career prospects after the Canadian songbird took time off to start a family, the success of her album “Up!” and current tour have put those concerns to rest.

Twain finishes 2003 as the top country artist of the year and the top female country artist. She also

THE YEAR IN COUNTRY

comes in at No. 3 on the year-end *Billboard* 200 chart.

“Up!” debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top Country Albums chart in the Dec. 7, 2002, issue and remained there for six weeks. The project places Twain at No. 1 on the list of Top Country Albums titles for 2003.

Twain is the only female solo artist to place among the top 10 country acts. She and Faith Hill are the only two solo female artists on the Top Country Albums list.

Toby Keith is the top male country artist this year, moving up from second place last year when he trailed Alan Jackson. Keith had a banner year. He scored six hit singles, including his popular duet

with Willie Nelson, “Beer for My Horses,” which comes in at No. 2 on Top Country Singles for the year.

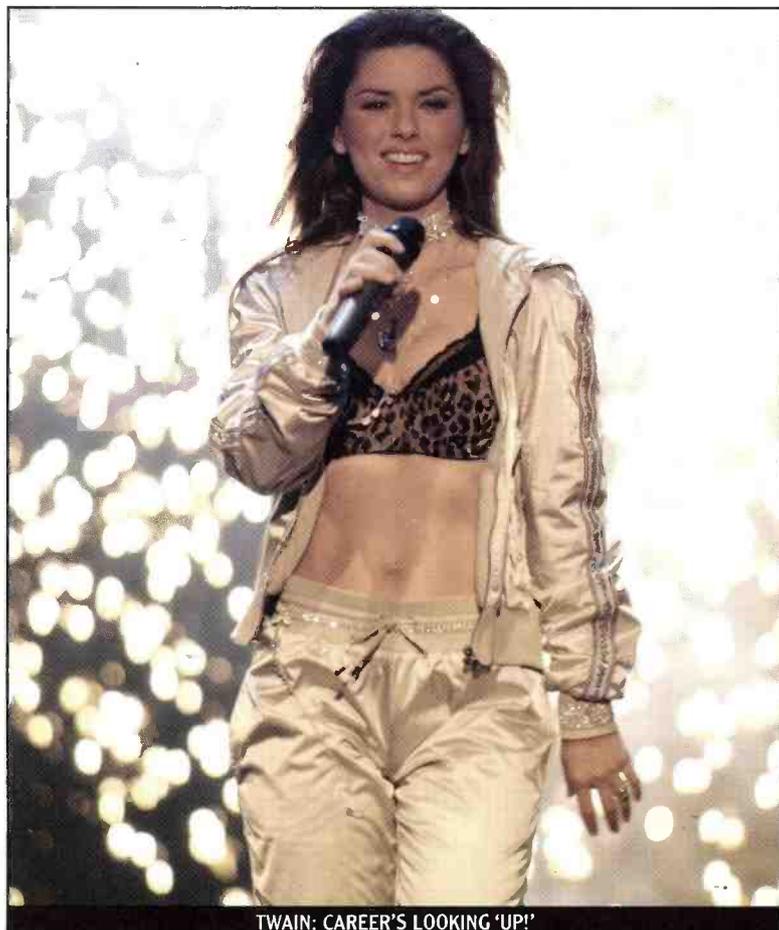
“Beer for My Horses” spent six weeks at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart. Keith has had three previous hits (“How Do You Like Me Now!”, “I Wanna Talk About Me” and “My List”) each spend five weeks at the summit. But with six weeks at the top, “Beer for My Horses” becomes his most successful single yet.

Although he was shut out at the Country Music Assn. Awards in November, earlier in the year the Academy of Country Music named Keith entertainer of the year. He missed the opportunity to pick up his trophy because his representatives said he was busy writing a song with Nelson.

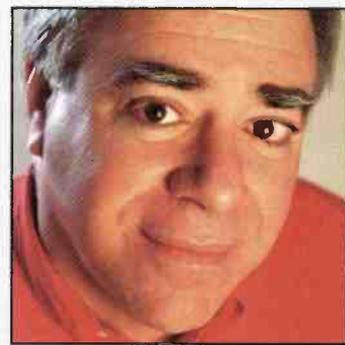
Such dedication to songwriting paid off: Keith also reigns as this year’s top country songwriter, moving up from his No. 4 position in last year’s rankings.

Despite the controversy that surrounded the Dixie Chicks and the political views of vocalist Natalie Maines, the trio remained at the top of the *Billboard* Top Country Duo/Group recap.

(Continued on page YE-43)



TWAIN: CAREER’S LOOKING ‘UP!’



Many Acts Return In '03 Recap

Billboard Chart Beat columnist Fred Bronson offers his unique, trivia-rich and history-drenched look at the Year in Music charts.

On five occasions since the introduction of the Top Classical Crossover chart, the annual recaps have featured the same artist holding down two of the top three albums of the year. But no artist has ever locked down the top three until now.

Josh Groban is win, place and show, and more amazingly, he pulled this trifecta off with his first three releases.

His self-titled debut CD is No. 1, the live “Josh Groban in Concert” is No. 2 and his new “Closer” is No. 3, giving his label, 143/Reprise, a lock on the top Classical Crossover label of the year.

The acts who previously held down two of the top three albums on this recap are Charlotte Church in 2000; the London Symphony Orchestra in 1999, 1998 and 1997; and Kiri Te Kanawa in 1986.

While Groban is a first-timer on the Classical Crossover recap, a familiar name sits atop the Top Classical Albums list. The No. 1 album is “Sentimento” (Philips/Universal Classics Group) by Andrea Bocelli. The same album was No. 1 in 2002, and Bocelli has topped this recap for six years running, with “Verdi” in 2001, “Sacred Arias” in 2000 and “Aria—The Opera Album” in 1999 and 1998.

Far from the classical charts, Madonna is the No. 1 artist on the Hot Dance Singles Sales recap for the second year in a row, following second-place finishes in 2000 and 2001.

Demonstrating her strength in this category 20 years after making her chart debut, Madonna has only been No. 1 on this recap twice before her two-year streak, in 1985 and 1987.

(Continued on page YE-57)

THANK YOU FOR PUTTING US ON A HIT LIST.

Here's a hit list we're quite happy to be on. We'd like to thank all of the artists, agents and promoters who helped place HP Pavilion at San Jose in the Top 10 grossing venues in the United States. It is because of your loyal support and patronage that we've maintained our status as Northern California's

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How We Chart The Year

BY GEOFF MAYFIELD

The same ingredients that stir *Billboard's* weekly charts cook up our Year in Music charts. We just use a bigger pot.

The chart department uses the same specific data that constructs each of our weekly lists—primarily sales measured by Nielsen SoundScan and radio information culled by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems (BDS)—to determine this issue's recaps.

Surprises can happen when you add up all those weekly numbers.

In 2001, for example, "Hanging by a Moment" by Lifehouse compiled enough radio and sales points during the December-November

tracking period to rank as the No. 1 song on The Billboard Hot 100 that year, even though it was not No. 1 for even a single week.

The 2003 chart year began with the Dec. 7, 2002, issue and concluded with the issue dated Nov. 29, 2003. The rankings for BDS- and SoundScan-based charts only reflect airplay or sales during the weeks a title appeared on a relevant chart. That detail, and the December-November time period, account for some of the differences between these lists and annual recaps that are compiled independently by either of those chart sources.

Artist, imprint, label and distributor categories for all genres reflect accumulated chart performance for all titles on the pertinent chart. The umbrella "label" categories refer to the "distributing labels" and/or "promotion labels" that are listed on our weekly and bi-weekly charts. If only one label appears on a chart listing, that company will be tallied as both an "imprint" and a "label" for that title.

NEW IN 2003

You'll find the following changes from the 2002 recaps in the 2003 Year in Music charts:

- Top Bluegrass Albums, which joined *Billboard's* pages in 2002, are added to the lineup, as are the Mainstream Top 40 and Rhythmic Top 40 lists. The last two mentioned were added to *Billboard* in the Aug. 2 issue but appeared in sister magazine *Airplay Monitor* throughout the entire chart year.

- As Mainstream Rock and Top 40 Tracks

have moved from the magazine to our Web site, recaps for both charts are exclusive to billboard.com, where both charts are refreshed each week.

The charts reflect the reorganization of Sony Music's labels, with a common distribution label entity (Sony Music Labels) and a unified promotion staff for R&B and hip-hop (Sony Urban Music). Those new units replace Columbia and Epic in the appropriate distributing-label and promotion-label categories (although the old Columbia promotion staff

gets R&B/hip-hop credit through the charts of the April 12 issue).

- Similarly, RCA Music Group has become the distribut-

ing label for RCA and J, while Universal Music Group Nashville is now the distributing label for Mercury, MCA Nashville and Nashville-based acts on Lost Horizon.

- Arista Associated Labels is the distributing label for non-classical fare from what was known last year as RCA Victor Group. BMG Classics is the sales agent for classical titles from the group's labels.

- The recap rankings reflect that Geffen absorbed the MCA roster effective with the issue dated July 5.

FAMILIAR WORKINGS

Aside from the above-mentioned changes, the mechanics behind our Year in Music charts will be familiar to regular readers.

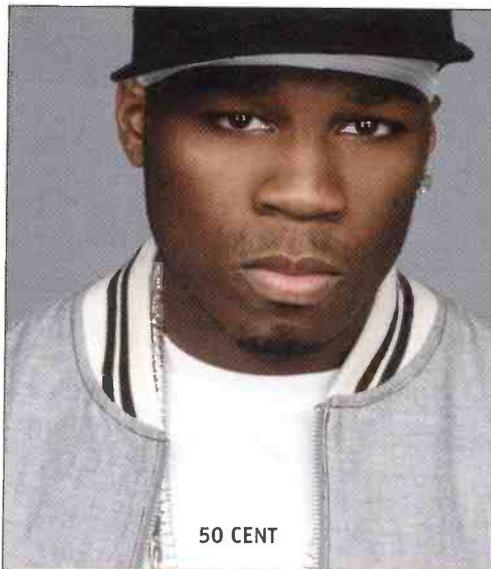
Rankings for Hot Country Singles & Tracks, modern rock, mainstream rock, adult contemporary and adult top 40 categories are based on accumulated BDS-monitored plays for each week a title appeared on the chart.

Similarly, the Hot 100 Airplay, Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Airplay, Top 40 Tracks and Hot Latin Tracks (and the three related Latin-format airplay charts) are determined by adding up the total gross impressions, as determined by BDS, for each week a track charted.

In The Billboard Hot 100 and Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks categories, accumulated radio and sales points—based specifically on BDS and SoundScan, respectively—are

(Continued on page YE-34)

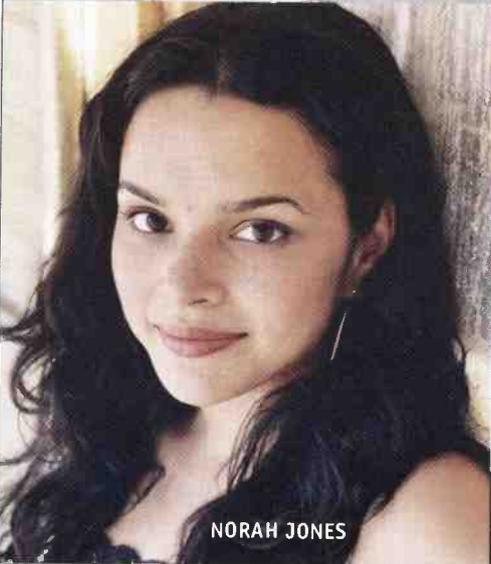
Surprises can happen when you add up those weekly numbers



50 CENT



CHRISTINA AGUILERA



NORAH JONES



SEAN PAUL

Top Pop Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (6) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Full Clip
- 2 **R. KELLY** (5) Jive
(3) Jive/Zomba
(1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG
(1) Nick/Jive
- 3 **SEAN PAUL** (3) VP/Atlantic
(1) VP/Atlantic/AG
(1) Columbia
(1) RedZone/Arista
- 4 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (4) Jive
(1) Jive/Zomba
- 5 **CHRISTINA AGUILERA** (6) RCA/RMG
- 6 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) Columbia
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 7 **NORAH JONES** (1) Blue Note
(1) Blue Note/Virgin
(1) Koch
- 8 **3 DOORS DOWN** (4) Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 9 **AVRIL LAVIGNE** (5) Arista
- 10 **SHANIA TWAIN** (2) Mercury/UMGN
(2) Mercury/IDJMG
(1) Mercury
- 11 **JAY-Z** (7) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Columbia
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Sequence
- 12 **EMINEM** (4) Web/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) Shady/Interscope

- 13 **MATCHBOX TWENTY** (3) Atlantic
(2) Melissa/Atlantic/AG
- 14 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (3) Epic
(2) Epic/Sony Music
- 15 **ASHANTI** (6) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) Murder Inc./AJM/IDJMG
- 16 **DIXIE CHICKS** (1) Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Monument/EMN/Columbia
(1) Monument/EMN
- 17 **AALIYAH** (3) Background/Universal/UMRG
(1) Background
- 18 **JOHN MAYER** (4) Aware/Columbia/Sony Music
(2) Aware/Columbia
- 19 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (5) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Yclef/J/RMG
(1) Background/Universal/UMRG
- 20 **CHINGY** (3) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 21 **LINKIN PARK** (5) Warner Bros.
- 22 **EVANESCENCE** (2) Wind-up
- 23 **TOBY KEITH** (5) DreamWorks (Nashville)
(3) DreamWorks (Nashville)/Interscope
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 24 **TIM MCGRAW** (5) Curb
- 25 **FABOLOUS** (4) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Epic
- 26 **NELLY** (4) Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG
- 27 **KID ROCK** (1) Lava/AG
(1) Lava/Universal South/Atlantic/WRN
(1) Top Dog/Atlantic/AG
- 28 **SANTANA** (3) Arista
- 29 **KELLY CLARKSON** (4) RCA/RMG

(Continued on page YE-22)

Critics' Poll Online

Which are the best albums of the year? *Billboard's* worldwide team of writers and editors offer their top 10 lists in the annual Critics' Choice poll, available exclusively on billboard.com.

That's just one highlight of the bonus Year in Music content available on the site. This magazine contains more than 260 charts analyzing achievements in every key music genre. Want more?

In its premium-services area, billboard.com provides deeper year-end recaps of more than 40 charts in 18 different categories, including Top 200 Albums, Top Independent Albums and Hot 100 Singles, among others.

Genres and formats in which deeper

charts appear online include R&B, dance, country, songwriters and publishers, Latin, regional Mexican, tropical, classical, catalog, modern rock, adult contemporary, Christian and gospel.

In addition, billboard.com offers exclusive charts in the areas of country, catalog, modern rock and top 40.

For the touring industry, this issue provides in-depth analysis and charts summarizing the past 12 months. But there's more online. Exclusive to billboard.com are charts covering the top 25 Boxscores for non-concert events, top venue grosses and the top five tours in the genres of rock and pop, country, R&B/rap and Latin music.

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(Continued from page YE-20)

- 30 **ALAN JACKSON** (3) Arista Nashville/RLG
(3) Arista Nashville
- 31 **GOOD CHARLOTTE** (3) Daylight/Epic
(1) Daylight/Epic/Sony Music
- 32 **LIL' KIM** (2) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic/AG
(1) RCA/RMG
- 33 **KENNY CHESNEY** (4) BNA
(2) BNA/RLG
- 34 **AUDIOSLAVE** (3) Interscope/Epic
(1) Interscope/Epic/Sony Music
- 35 **JA RULE** (5) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 36 **LUDACRIS** (4) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam
South/IDJMG
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
(1) Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic
(1) Bad Boy/Def Soul/IDJMG
- 37 **COLDPLAY** (3) Capitol
- 38 **MICHELLE BRANCH** (5) Maverick/Warner
Bros.
(1) Arista
- 39 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (2) BME/TVT
(1) ColliPark/TVT
(1) Short/Jive
(1) Mirror Image/Ichiban
- 40 **2PAC** (3) Amaru/Death Row/Interscope
(1) Amaru/Interscope
(1) Death Row/Koch
- 41 **TYRESE** (3) J/RMG
- 42 **RASCAL FLATTS** (3) Lyric Street
(1) Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 43 **GINUWINE** (4) Epic
(1) Epic/Sony Music
- 44 **NAS** (2) Ill Will/Columbia
(1) Ill Will/Columbia/Sony Music
- 45 **B2K** (4) T.U.G./Epic/Sony Music
(2) T.U.G./Epic
(1) Nick/Jive
- 46 **OUTKAST** (3) Arista
- 47 **CLAY AIKEN** (4) RCA/RMG
- 48 **JOSH GROBAN** (3) 143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 49 **BLACK EYED PEAS** (2) A&M/Interscope
- 50 **LUTHER VANDROSS** (4) J/RMG
(1) Legacy/Epic/Sony Music



MATCHBOX TWENTY

Top Pop Artists - Duo/Group

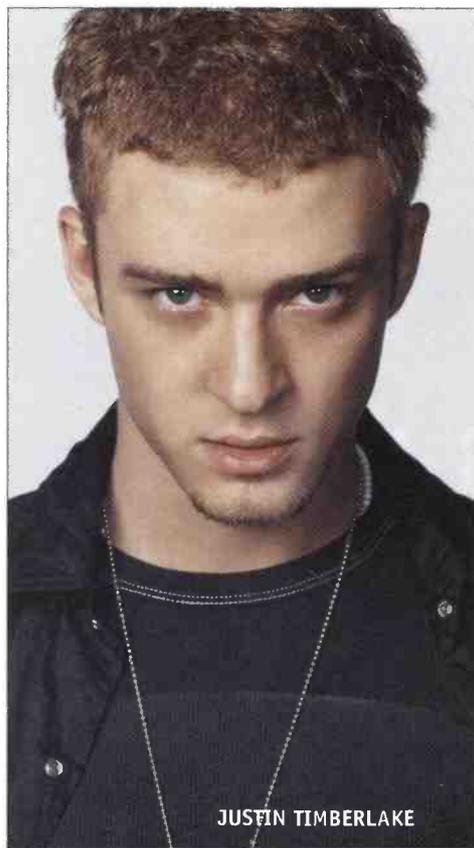
Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **3 DOORS DOWN** (4)
Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 2 **MATCHBOX TWENTY** (3) Atlantic
(2) Melisma/Atlantic/AG
- 3 **DIXIE CHICKS** (1) Monument/Columbia/
Sony Music
(1) Monument/EMN/Columbia
(1) Monument/EMN
- 4 **LINKIN PARK** (5) Warner Bros.
- 5 **EVANESCENCE** (2) Wind-up
- 6 **SANTANA** (3) Arista
- 7 **GOOD CHARLOTTE** (3) Daylight/Epic
(1) Daylight/Epic/Sony Music
- 8 **AUDIOSLAVE** (3) Interscope/Epic
(1) Interscope/Epic/Sony Music
- 9 **COLDPLAY** (3) Capitol
- 10 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (2)
BME/TVT
(1) ColliPark/TVT
(1) Short/Jive
(1) Mirror Image/Ichiban

Top Pop Artists - Female

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **CHRISTINA AGUILERA** (6) RCA/RMG
- 2 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) Columbia
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 3 **NORAH JONES** (1) Blue Note
(1) Blue Note/Virgin
(1) Koch
- 4 **AVRIL LAVIGNE** (5) Arista
- 5 **SHANIA TWAIN** (2) Mercury/UMGN
(1) Mercury/IDJMG
(1) Mercury/IDJMG
(1) Mercury
- 6 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (3) Epic
(2) Epic/Sony Music
- 7 **ASHANTI** (6) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) Murder Inc./AJM/IDJMG
- 8 **AALIYAH** (3) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
(1) Blackground
- 9 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (5)
The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Yclef/J/RMG
(1) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 10 **KELLY CLARKSON** (4) RCA/RMG

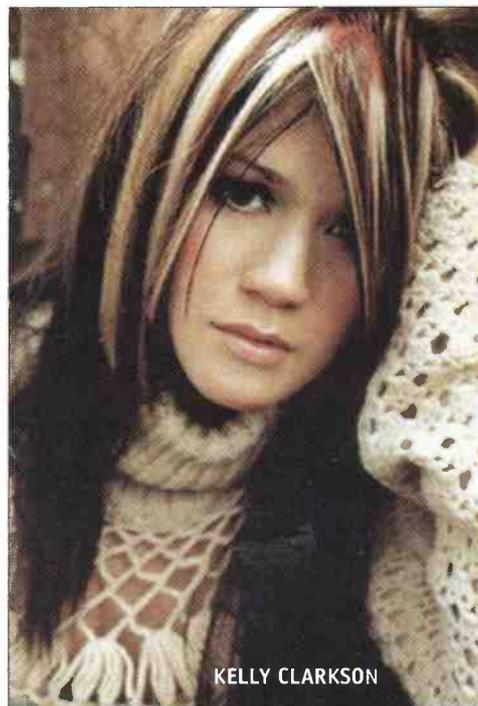


JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

Top Pop Artists - Male

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (6) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Full Clip
- 2 **R. KELLY** (5) Jive
(3) Jive/Zomba
(1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG
(1) Nick/Jive
- 3 **SEAN PAUL** (3) VP/Atlantic
(1) VP/Atlantic/AG
(1) Columbia
(1) RedZone/Arista
- 4 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (4) Jive
(1) Jive/Zomba
- 5 **JAY-Z** (7) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Columbia
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Sequence
- 6 **EMINEM** (4) Web/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) Shady/Interscope
- 7 **JOHN MAYER** (4) Aware/Columbia/Sony Music
(2) Aware/Columbia
- 8 **CHINGY** (3) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 9 **TOBY KEITH** (5) DreamWorks (Nashville)
(3) DreamWorks (Nashville)/Interscope
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 10 **TIM MCGRAW** (5) Curb

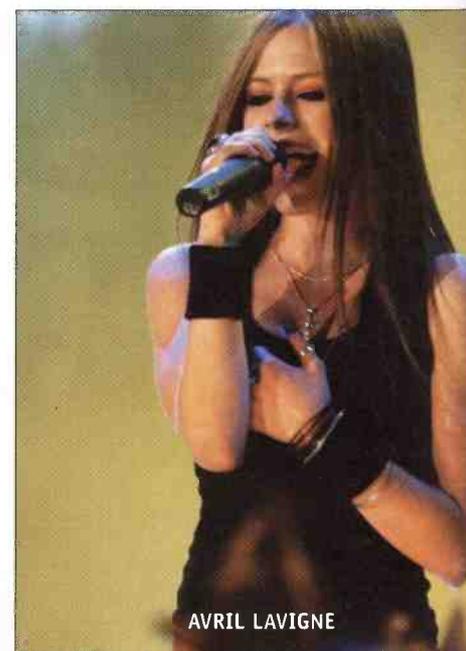


KELLY CLARKSON

Top New Pop Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (4) Jive
(1) Jive/Zomba
- 2 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) Columbia
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 3 **CHINGY** (3) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 4 **EVANESCENCE** (2) Wind-up
- 5 **KELLY CLARKSON** (4) RCA/RMG
- 6 **AUDIOSLAVE** (3) Interscope/Epic
(1) Interscope/Epic/Sony Music
- 7 **CLAY AIKEN** (4) RCA/RMG
- 8 **TRAPT** (3) Warner Bros.
- 9 **SIMPLE PLAN** (3) Lava
(1) Lava/AG
- 10 **WAYNE WONDER** (1) Greensleeves/VP/Atlantic
(1) VP/Atlantic/AG



AVRIL LAVIGNE

Top Pop Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **COLUMBIA** (75)
- 2 **ARISTA** (36)
- 3 **EPIC** (60)
- 4 **RCA** (41)
- 5 **JIVE** (33)
- 6 **J** (31)
- 7 **UNIVERSAL** (55)
- 8 **SHADY** (14)
- 9 **ELEKTRA** (40)
- 10 **DEF JAM** (42)
- 11 **ATLANTIC** (43)
- 12 **WARNER BROS.** (34)
- 13 **AFTERMATH** (10)
- 14 **ARISTA NASHVILLE** (19)
- 15 **LAVA** (13)

Top Pop Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **SONY MUSIC** (177)
- 2 **INTERSCOPE** (125)
- 3 **RCA MUSIC GROUP** (72)
- 4 **ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP** (98)
- 5 **ATLANTIC GROUP** (70)

Congratulations!

NORAH JONES

Top Billboard 200 Album Artist (female)

Top Internet Album Sales Artist

Top Internet Album ("Come Away With Me")

Top Contemporary Jazz Artist

Top Contemporary Jazz Album ("Come Away With Me")

DIANA KRALL

Top Jazz Artist

SUSAN TEDESCHI

Top Blues Artist

Top Blues Album ("Wait For Me")

THE CHIEFTAINS

Top World Music Artists

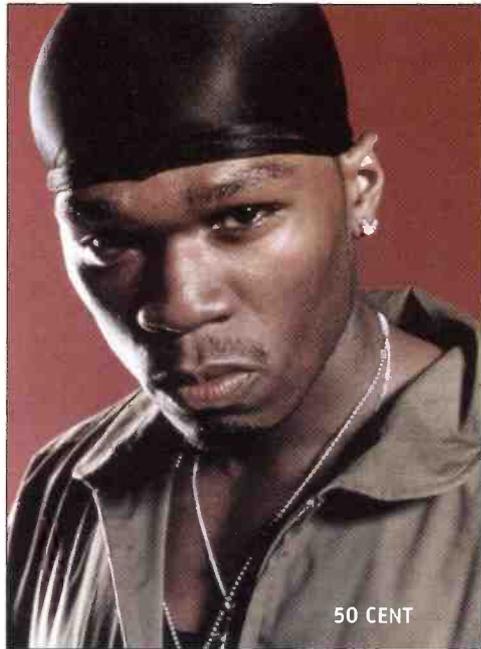
MACKLAM / FELDMAN
m a n a g e m e n t i n c .

Top Billboard 200 Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (2) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) Full Clip
- 2 **NORAH JONES** (1) Blue Note
(1) Koch
- 3 **SHANIA TWAIN** (2) Mercury/UMGN
- 4 **DIXIE CHICKS** (1) Monument/Columbia/
Sony Music
- 5 **LINKIN PARK** (2) Warner Bros.
- 6 **AVRIL LAVIGNE** (1) Arista
- 7 **JOHN MAYER** (4) Aware/Columbia/
Sony Music
- 8 **R. KELLY** (3) Jive/Zomba
- 9 **TOBY KEITH** (3) DreamWorks
(Nashville)/Interscope
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 10 **EVANESCENCE** (1) Wind-up
- 11 **JOSH GROBAN** (3) 143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 12 **TIM MCGRAW** (2) Curb
- 13 **CHRISTINA AGUILERA** (1) RCA/RMG
- 14 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (1) Jive/Zomba
- 15 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (2) Epic/Sony Music
- 16 **ALAN JACKSON** (3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 17 **KID ROCK** (1) Lava/AG
(1) Top Dog/Atlantic/AG
- 18 **ROD STEWART** (2) J/RMG
(2) Warner Bros.
- 19 **EMINEM** (1) Web/Aftermath/Interscope
- 20 **COLDPLAY** (2) Capitol
- 21 **GOOD CHARLOTTE** (1) Daylight/Epic/
Sony Music
- 22 **CELINE DION** (2) Epic/Sony Music
- 23 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (1) Columbia/
Sony Music
- 24 **SEAN PAUL** (1) VP/Atlantic/AG
- 25 **3 DOORS DOWN** (2)
Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 26 **ELVIS PRESLEY** (1) RCA/RMG
(1) BMG Strategic Marketing/RCA/RMG
- 27 **AUDIOSLAVE** (1) Interscope/Epic/Sony Music
- 28 **JAY-Z** (3) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 29 **NELLY** (1) Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
- 30 **CHER** (2) Geffen/MCA/Warner Bros./Warner
Strategic Marketing
(1) Warner Bros./Warner Strategic Marketing
- 31 **MATCHBOX TWENTY** (2) Melisma/Atlantic/AG
- 32 **OUTKAST** (1) Arista
- 33 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (1)
The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 34 **KELLY CLARKSON** (1) RCA/RMG
- 35 **ASHANTI** (3) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 36 **JA RULE** (2) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 37 **2PAC** (1) Amaru/Death Row/Interscope
(1) Death Row/Koch
- 38 **LUTHER VANDROSS** (2) J/RMG
(1) Legacy/Epic/Sony Music
- 39 **FAITH HILL** (1) Warner Bros.
(Nashville)/WRN
- 40 **METALLICA** (1) Elektra/EEG
- 41 **SANTANA** (1) Arista
- 42 **AALIYAH** (1) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 43 **KENNY CHESNEY** (2) BNA/RLG
- 44 **KIDZ BOP KIDS** (5) Razor & Tie
- 45 **THE WHITE STRIPES** (2) Third Man/V2
- 46 **FLEETWOOD MAC** (2) Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 47 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (1)
BME/TVT
(1) Mirror Image/Ichiban
- 48 **CHINGY** (1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 49 **HILARY DUFF** (1) Buena Vista/Hollywood
(1) Buena Vista/Walt Disney
- 50 **FABOLOUS** (2) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG

A deeper version of this chart appears
on billboard.com



50 CENT

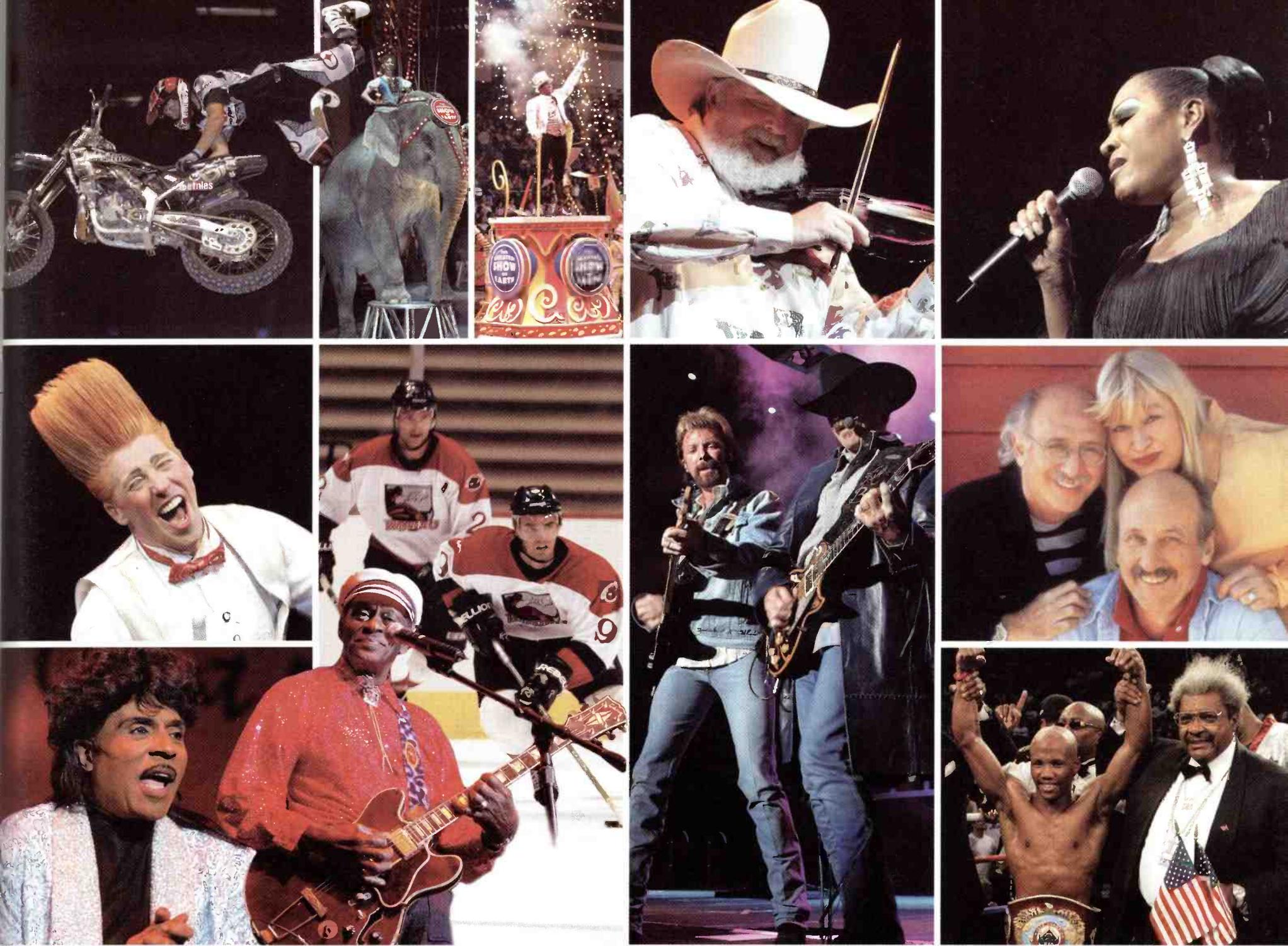
Top Billboard 200 Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN'**—50 Cent—Shady/
Aftermath/Interscope
- 2 **COME AWAY WITH ME**—Norah Jones—
Blue Note
- 3 **UP!**—Shania Twain—Mercury/UMGN
- 4 **HOME**—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Columbia/
Sony Music
- 5 **LET GO**—Avril Lavigne—Arista
- 6 **METEORA**—Linkin Park—Warner Bros.
- 7 **8 MILE**—Soundtrack—Shady/Interscope
- 8 **FALLEN**—Evanescence—Wind-up
- 9 **TIM MCGRAW AND THE DANCEHALL
DOCTORS**—Tim McGraw—Curb
- 10 **STRIPPED**—Christina Aguilera—RCA/RMG
- 11 **JUSTIFIED**—Justin Timberlake—Jive/Zomba
- 12 **THIS IS ME...THEN**—Jennifer Lopez—
Epic/Sony Music
- 13 **CHOCOLATE FACTORY**—R. Kelly—Jive/Zomba
- 14 **THE EMINEM SHOW**—Eminem—Web/
Aftermath/Interscope
- 15 **NOW 11**—Various Artists—
Universal/EMI/Zomba/Sony Music/UME
- 16 **COCKY**—Kid Rock—Lava/AG
- 17 **A RUSH OF BLOOD TO THE HEAD**—Coldplay
—Capitol
- 18 **THE YOUNG AND THE HOPELESS**—Good
Charlotte—Daylight/Epic/Sony Music
- 19 **DANGEROUSLY IN LOVE**—Beyoncé—
Columbia/Sony Music
- 20 **UNLEASHED**—Toby Keith—DreamWorks
(Nashville)/Interscope
- 21 **DUTY ROCK**—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic/AG
- 22 **AWAY FROM THE SUN**—3 Doors Down—
Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 23 **AUDIOSLAVE**—Audioslave—Interscope/Epic/
Sony Music
- 24 **NELLYVILLE**—Nelly—Fo' Reel/Universal/
UMRG
- 25 **CHICAGO**—Soundtrack—Epic/Sony Music
- 26 **JOSH GROBAN**—Josh Groban—
143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 27 **MORE THAN YOU THINK YOU ARE**—
matchbox twenty—Melisma/Atlantic/AG
- 28 **THE VERY BEST OF CHER**—Cher
Geffen/MCA/Warner Bros./Warner Strategic
Marketing
- 29 **SPEAKERBOXXX/THE LOVE BELOW**—
OutKast—Arista
- 30 **UNDER CONSTRUCTION**—Missy "Misde-
meanor" Elliott—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 31 **THANKFUL**—Kelly Clarkson—RCA/RMG
- 32 **ROOM FOR SQUARES**—John Mayer—
Aware/Columbia/Sony Music
- 33 **ONE HEART**—Celine Dion—Epic/Sony Music
- 34 **IT HAD TO BE YOU...THE GREAT AMERICAN
SONGBOOK**—Rod Stewart—J/RMG
- 35 **ELV1S: 30 #1 HITS**—Elvis Presley—RCA/RMG
- 36 **CRY**—Faith Hill—Warner Bros.
(Nashville)/WRN
- 37 **DANCE WITH MY FATHER**—Luther Vandross
—J/RMG
- 38 **ST. ANGER**—Metallica—Elektra/EEG
- 39 **SHAMAN**—Santana—Arista
- 40 **THE LAST TEMPTATION**—Ja Rule—
Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 41 **BETTER DAYZ**—2Pac—Amaru/Death Row/
Interscope
- 42 **BAD BOYS II**—Soundtrack—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 43 **NOW 12**—Various Artists—EMI/Universal/
Sony Music/Zomba/Capitol
- 44 **THE LIZZIE MCGUIRE MOVIE**—Soundtrack—
Walt Disney
- 45 **I CARE 4 U**—Aaliyah—Blackground/
Universal/UMRG
- 46 **GREATEST HITS VOLUME II AND SOME
OTHER STUFF**—Alan Jackson—Arista
Nashville/RLG
- 47 **NO SHOES, NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEMS**—
Kenny Chesney—BNA/RLG
- 48 **JACKPOT**—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/
Capitol
- 49 **KINGS OF CRUNK**—Lil Jon & The East Side
Boyz—BME/TVT
- 50 **THE BLUEPRINT 2: THE GIFT AND THE
CURSE**—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 51 **METAMORPHOSIS**—Hilary Duff—Buena
Vista/Hollywood
- 52 **MELT**—Rascal Flatts—Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 53 **MEASURE OF A MAN**—Clay Aiken—RCA/RMG
- 54 **CHAPTER II**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/
IDJMG
- 55 **STREET DREAMS**—Fabolous—Desert
Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 56 **FORTY LICKS**—The Rolling Stones—ABKCO/
Virgin
- 57 **ELEPHANT**—The White Stripes—Third Man/
V2
- 58 **GOD'S SON**—Nas—Ill Will/Columbia/
Sony Music
- 59 **PANDEMONIUM!**—B2K—T.U.G./Epic/
Sony Music
- 60 **PAID THA COST TO BE DA BO\$\$**—Snoop
Dogg—Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- 61 **CHARMBRACELET**—Mariah Carey—
Monarc/Island/IDJMG
- 62 **GREATEST HITS 1970-2002**—Elton John—
Rocket/UTV/UME
- 63 **CHICKEN*N*BEER**—Ludacris—Disturbing Tha
Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 64 **14 SHADES OF GREY**—Staind—Flip/Elektra/
EEG
- 65 **SOME DEVIL**—Dave Matthews—RCA/RMG
- 66 **M!SSUNDAZTOOD**—Pink—Arista
- 67 **HEAVIER THINGS**—John Mayer—Aware/
Columbia/Sony Music
- 68 **LA BELLA MAFIA**—Lil' Kim—Queen Bee/
Atlantic/AG
- 69 **FACELESS**—Godsmack—Republic/Universal/
UMRG
- 70 **NO PADS, NO HELMETS...JUST BALLS**—
Simple Plan—Lava/AG
- 71 **BACK IN THE U.S. LIVE 2002**—
Paul McCartney—MPL/Capitol
- 72 **SHOCK'N'Y'ALL**—Toby Keith—DreamWorks
(Nashville)/Interscope
- 73 **STILL GHETTO**—Jaheim—Divine Mill/
Warner Bros.
- 74 **STEAL THIS ALBUM!**—System Of A Down—
American/Columbia/Sony Music

- 75 **THE ALL-AMERICAN REJECTS**—
The All-American Rejects—Doghouse/
DreamWorks/Interscope
- 76 **GRAND CHAMP**—DMX—Ruff Ryders/Def Jam/
IDJMG
- 77 **MEET ME IN MARGARITAVILLE: JIMMY
BUFFETT THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION**—
Jimmy Buffett—Mailboat/MCA/UME
- 78 **WONDER WHAT'S NEXT**—Chevelle—
Epic/Sony Music
- 79 **NOW 13**—Various Artists—
Universal/EMI/Zomba/Sony Music/UME
- 80 **TRAPT**—Trapt—Warner Bros.
- 81 **I WANNA GO THERE**—Tyrese—J/RMG
- 82 **RESULTS MAY VARY**—Limp Bizkit—Flip/
Interscope
- 83 **HAIL TO THE THIEF**—Radiohead—Capitol
- 84 **SAY YOU WILL**—Fleetwood Mac—
Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 85 **ON AND ON**—Jack Johnson—Jack Johnson/
Universal/UMRG
- 86 **HOTEL PAPER**—Michelle Branch—Maverick/
Warner Bros.
- 87 **THE SENIOR**—Ginuwine—Epic/Sony Music
- 88 **NIRVANA**—Nirvana—DGC/Geffen/Interscope
- 89 **BY THE WAY**—Red Hot Chili Peppers—
Warner Bros.
- 90 **THE NEPTUNES PRESENT... CLONES**—Various
Artists—Star Trak/Arista
- 91 **THE R. IN R&B COLLECTION: VOLUME
ONE**—R. Kelly—Jive/Zomba
- 92 **LIFE FOR RENT**—Dido—Arista
- 93 **LOVE & LIFE**—Mary J. Blige—Geffen/
Interscope
- 94 **AMERICAN IV: THE MAN COMES AROUND**—
Johnny Cash—American/Lost Highway
- 95 **ONE BY ONE**—Foo Fighters—Roswell/RCA/
RMG
- 96 **WORSHIP TOGETHER: I COULD SING OF
YOUR LOVE FOREVER**—Various Artists—
EMI Special Markets/Time Life
- 97 **GOLDEN ROAD**—Keith Urban—Capitol
(Nashville)
- 98 **2 FAST 2 FURIOUS**—Soundtrack—Disturbing
Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 99 **FROM THERE TO HERE: GREATEST HITS**—
Lonestar—BNA/RLG
- 100 **THE LONG ROAD**—Nickelback—
Roadrunner/IDJMG
- 101 **JUST WHITNEY...**—Whitney Houston—Arista
- 102 **BODY KISS**—The Isley Brothers Featuring
Ronald Isley—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 103 **BARE**—Annie Lennox—J/RMG
- 104 **AFTER THE STORM**—Monica—J/RMG
- 105 **LIZZIE MCGUIRE**—Soundtrack—
Buena Vista/Walt Disney
- 106 **GREATEST HITS**—Martina McBride—
RCA (Nashville)/RLG
- 107 **SING THE SORROW**—AFI—Nitro/
DreamWorks/Interscope
- 108 **SENTIMENTO**—Andrea Bocelli—Philips/
Universal Classics Group
- 109 **200 KM/H IN THE WRONG LANE**—t.A.T.u.—
Interscope
- 110 **0304**—Jewel—Atlantic/AG
- 111 **DRIVE**—Alan Jackson—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 112 **IT AIN'T SAFE NO MORE...**—Busta Rhymes—
J/RMG
- 113 **HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?**—Darryl Worley—
DreamWorks (Nashville)/Interscope
- 114 **COME CLEAN**—Puddle Of Mudd—
Flawless/Geffen/Interscope
- 115 **BELIEVE**—Disturbed—Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 116 **AS TIME GOES BY ... THE GREAT AMERICAN
SONGBOOK VOL. II**—Rod Stewart—J/RMG
- 117 **PHRENOLOGY**—The Roots—MCA
- 118 **THE NEW BREED**—50 Cent—Shady/
Aftermath/Interscope

(Continued on page YE-26)



For booking information contact Steve Stallworth at (702) 365-7469 or email: ssallworth@coastcasinos.net or orleansarena.com

(Continued from page YE-24)

- 119 **MY PRIVATE NATION**—Train—Columbia/Sony Music
- 120 **SONGS FOR THE DEAF**—Queens Of The Stone Age—Interscope
- 121 **AMERICAN IDOL SEASON 2: ALL-TIME CLASSIC AMERICAN LOVE SONGS**—Soundtrack—RCA/RMG
- 122 **SACRED LOVE**—Sting—A&M/Interscope
- 123 **CHEERS**—Obie Trice—Shady/Interscope
- 124 **AFTERGLOW**—Sarah McLachlan—Arista
- 125 **AMERICAN LIFE**—Madonna—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 126 **DAREDEVIL: THE ALBUM**—Soundtrack—Wind-up
- 127 **ELEPHUNK**—Black Eyed Peas—A&M/Interscope
- 128 **ALMOST THERE**—MercyMe—INO/Curb
- 129 **TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**—Lisa Marie Presley—Capitol
- 130 **10—LL Cool J**—Def Jam/IDJMG
- 131 **DRU WORLD ORDER**—Dru Hill—Def Soul/IDJMG
- 132 **THE MATRIX RELOADED: THE ALBUM**—Soundtrack—Warner Sunset/Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 133 **BIRDMAN**—Baby—Cash Money/Universal/UMRG
- 134 **NOW 14**—Various Artists—Columbia/Universal/EMI/Zomba/Sony Music
- 135 **THE VERY BEST OF FLEETWOOD MAC**—Fleetwood Mac—Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 136 **KIDZ BOP 3**—Kidz Bop Kids—Razor & Tie
- 137 **THE VERY BEST OF THE BEACH BOYS: SOUNDS OF SUMMER**—The Beach Boys—Capitol
- 138 **SO LONG, ASTORIA**—The Ataris—Columbia/Sony Music
- 139 **DOES THIS LOOK INFECTED?**—Sum 41—Island/IDJMG
- 140 **HOW THE WEST WAS WON**—Led Zeppelin—Atlantic/AG
- 141 **THIRTEENTH STEP**—A Perfect Circle—Virgin
- 142 **GRAMMY NOMINEES 2003**—Various Artists—Grammy/Warner Strategic Marketing
- 143 **THE END OF ALL THINGS TO COME**—Mudvayne—Epic/Sony Music
- 144 **3D**—TLC—Arista
- 145 **THE BLACK ALBUM**—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 146 **LIVE**—Alison Krauss + Union Station—Rounder
- 147 **HONKYTONKVILLE**—George Strait—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 148 **CRADLE 2 THE GRAVE**—Soundtrack—Bloodline/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 149 **RED DIRT ROAD**—Brooks & Dunn—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 150 **WAITING FOR MY ROCKET TO COME**—Jason Mraz—Elektra/EEG
- 151 **ROCK STEADY**—No Doubt—Interscope
- 152 **JOSH GROBAN IN CONCERT**—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 153 **ANY GIVEN THURSDAY**—John Mayer—Aware/Columbia/Sony Music
- 154 **THE BEST OF JAMES TAYLOR**—James Taylor—Warner Bros./Warner Strategic Marketing
- 155 **THE DEFINITIVE COLLECTION**—Lionel Richie—Motown/UTV/UME
- 156 **MISSISSIPPI: THE ALBUM**—David Banner—SRC/Universal/UMRG
- 157 **MOODRING**—Mya—A&M/Interscope
- 158 **TOO HOT FOR T.V.**—Bad Boy's Da Band—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 159 **BACK INTO YOUR SYSTEM**—Saliva—Island/IDJMG
- 160 **ASHANTI**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG

- 161 **TUPAC: RESURRECTION**—Soundtrack—Amaru/Interscope
- 162 **FLOETIC**—Floetry—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 163 **THIS IS WHO I AM**—Heather Headley—RCA/RMG
- 164 **DRANKIN' PATNAZ**—YoungBloodZ—So So Def/Arista
- 165 **WISHES**—Kenny G—Arista
- 166 **THE RISING**—Bruce Springsteen—Columbia/Sony Music
- 167 **DISNEYMANIA: SUPERSTAR ARTISTS SING DISNEY ...THEIR WAY!**—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 168 **A NEW DAY HAS COME**—Celine Dion—Epic/Sony Music
- 169 **ELVIS: 2ND TO NONE**—Elvis Presley—BMG Strategic Marketing/RCA/RMG
- 170 **WOW HITS 2003**—Various Artists—EMI CMG/Provident/Word-Curb/Sparrow
- 171 **WORSHIP AGAIN**—Michael W. Smith—Reunion
- 172 **ATTENCHUN!**—Bone Crusher—Break 'Em Off/So So Def/Arista
- 173 **BOW WOW: UNLEASHED**—Bow Wow—Columbia/Sony Music
- 174 **DEFTONES**—Deftones—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 175 **HARD**—Jagged Edge—Columbia/Sony Music
- 176 **DUETS**—Barbra Streisand—Columbia/Sony Music
- 177 **C'MON, C'MON**—Sheryl Crow—A&M/Interscope
- 178 **LET IT BE CHRISTMAS**—Alan Jackson—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 179 **THE VERY BEST OF SHERYL CROW**—Sheryl Crow—A&M/Interscope
- 180 **YEAR OF THE SPIDER**—Cold—Flip/Geffen/Interscope
- 181 **FOR THE LAST TIME: LIVE FROM THE ASTRODOME**—George Strait—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 182 **WEATHERED**—Creed—Wind-up
- 183 **A MARK, A MISSION, A BRAND, A SCAR**—Dashboard Confessional—Vagrant
- 184 **THE SPIRIT ROOM**—Michelle Branch—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 185 **BEG FOR MERCY**—G-Unit—G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
- 186 **SEAL IV**—Seal—Warner Bros.
- 187 **CLOSER**—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 188 **BE NOT NOBODY**—Vanessa Carlton—A&M/Interscope
- 189 **VOYAGE TO INDIA**—India.Arie—Motown/UMRG
- 190 **STACIE ORRICO**—Stacie Orrico—Forefront/Virgin
- 191 **WORLD WIDE UNDERGROUND (EP)**—Erykah Badu—Motown/UMRG
- 192 **PHILADELPHIA FREEWAY**—Freeway—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 193 **A WONDERFUL WORLD**—Tony Bennett & k.d. Lang—RPM/Columbia/Sony Music
- 194 **MORE THAN A WOMAN**—Toni Braxton—Arista
- 195 **TRAP MUZIK**—T.I.—Grand Hustle/Atlantic/AG
- 196 **DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY**—Cam'ron Presents The Diplomats—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 197 **MAN WITH A MEMORY**—Joe Nichols—Universal South
- 198 **DA UNBREAKABLES**—Three 6 Mafia—Hypnotize Minds/Columbia/Sony Music
- 199 **THE VERY BEST OF**—Eagles—Warner Strategic Marketing
- 200 **LOVE STORY**—Vivian Green—Columbia/Sony Music

Top Billboard 200 Artists - Duo/Group

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **DIXIE CHICKS** (1) Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- 2 **LINKIN PARK** (2) Warner Bros.
- 3 **EVANESCENCE** (1) Wind-up
- 4 **COLDPLAY** (2) Capitol
- 5 **GOOD CHARLOTTE** (1) Daylight/Epic/Sony Music
- 6 **3 DOORS DOWN** (2) Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 7 **AUDIOSLAVE** (1) Interscope/Epic/Sony Music
- 8 **MATCHBOX TWENTY** (2) Melisma/Atlantic/AG
- 9 **OUTKAST** (1) Arista
- 10 **METALLICA** (1) Elektra/EEG

Top Billboard 200 Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **COLUMBIA** (63)
- 2 **EPIC** (49)
- 3 **ARISTA** (17)
- 4 **RCA** (25)
- 5 **SHADY** (6)
- 6 **J** (17)
- 7 **WARNER BROS.** (25)
- 8 **UNIVERSAL** (38)
- 9 **JIVE** (19)
- 10 **ATLANTIC** (36)
- 11 **BLUE NOTE** (2)
- 12 **CAPITOL** (22)
- 13 **ELEKTRA** (25)
- 14 **DEF JAM** (22)
- 15 **MERCURY** (11)

Top Billboard 200 Labels

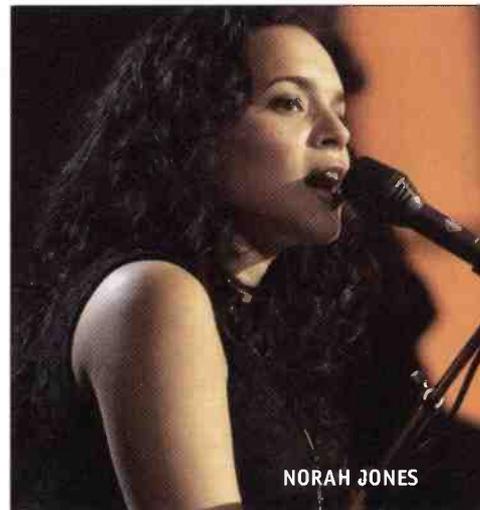
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **SONY MUSIC** (128)
- 2 **INTERSCOPE** (73)
- 3 **RCA MUSIC GROUP** (42)
- 4 **WARNER BROS.** (64)
- 5 **ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP** (58)

Top Billboard 200 Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **UNIVERSAL** (307)
- 2 **BMG** (181)
- 3 **WEA** (172)
- 4 **SONY** (135)
- 5 **EMM** (113)
- 6 **INDEPENDENTS** (123)



NORAH JONES

Top Billboard 200 Artists - Female

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **NORAH JONES** (1) Blue Note (1) Koch
- 2 **SHANIA TWAIN** (2) Mercury/UMGN
- 3 **AVRIL LAVIGNE** (1) Arista
- 4 **CHRISTINA AGUILERA** (1) RCA/RMG
- 5 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (2) Epic/Sony Music
- 6 **CELINE DION** (2) Epic/Sony Music
- 7 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 8 **CHER** (2) Geffen/MCA/Warner Bros./Warner Strategic Marketing (1) Warner Bros./Warner Strategic Marketing
- 9 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 10 **KELLY CLARKSON** (1) RCA/RMG

Top Billboard 200 Artists - Male

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (2) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope (1) Full Clip
- 2 **JOHN MAYER** (4) Aware/Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 **R. KELLY** (3) Jive/Zomba
- 4 **TOBY KEITH** (3) DreamWorks (Nashville)/Interscope (1) Mercury/UMGN
- 5 **JOSH GROBAN** (3) 143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 6 **TIM MCGRAW** (2) Curb
- 7 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (1) Jive/Zomba
- 8 **ALAN JACKSON** (3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 9 **KID ROCK** (1) Lava/AG (1) Top Dog/Atlantic/AG
- 10 **ROD STEWART** (2) J/RMG (2) Warner Bros.



Top Billboard 200 HeatSeekers Imprints

- 1 **COLUMBIA** (9)
- 2 **EPIC** (6)
- 3 **DRIVE-THRU** (6)
- 4 **MATADOR** (6)
- 5 **ATLANTIC** (5)

Top Billboard 200 HeatSeekers Labels

- 1 **SONY MUSIC** (17)
- 2 **WARNER BROS.** (10)
- 3 **INTERSCOPE** (7)
- 4 **ATLANTIC GROUP** (7)
- 5 **ZOMBA** (7)

COLUMBIA

Sony Music
GROUP

**ATTENTION,
NUMBERS PEOPLE...**

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IN AMERICA (X2!)**

+

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Top Independent Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (2) BME/TVT
(1) Mirror Image/Ichiban
- DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL (3) Vagrant
- LOUIE DEVITO (3) Dee Vee/Musicrama
(1) Ultra
- YING YANG TWINS (1) ColliPark/TVT
(1) ColliPark/In The Paint/Koch
- WARREN ZEVON (1) Artemis
- 50 CENT (1) Full Clip
- NICKEL CREEK (1) Sugar Hill
- MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER (3) American
Gramophone
- B.G. (1) Choppa City/In The Paint/Koch
- JIM JOHNSTON (1) Smack Down!/Koch

A deeper version of this chart appears
on billboard.com

Top Independent Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- FREE AGENTS: THE MURDA MIX TAPE—
Mobb Deep—Landspeed/Koch
- MAKE UP THE BREAKDOWN—Hot Hot Heat—
Sub Pop
- NEW YORK CITY—The Peter Malick Group
Featuring Norah Jones—Koch
- GOOD MOURNING—Alkaline Trio—Vagrant
- SEASONS—Sevendust—TVT
- N.Y.C. UNDERGROUND PARTY 5—Louie
DeVito—Dee Vee/Musicrama
- TRANSPLANTS—Transplants—Hellcat/Epitaph
- MTV UNPLUGGED V 2.0—Dashboard
Confessional—Vagrant
- DO IT FOR LOVE—Daryl Hall John Oates—
U-Watch
- EVOLVE—Ani DiFranco—Righteous Babe
- THE WRAITH: SHANGRI-LA—Insane Clown
Posse—Psychopathic/D3/Riviera

A deeper version of this chart appears
on billboard.com

Top Internet Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- NORAH JONES (1) Blue Note
- DAVE MATTHEWS (1) RCA/RMG
- JOSH GROBAN (3) 143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- ROD STEWART (2) J/RMG
- DIXIE CHICKS (1) Monument/Columbia/
Sony Music
- PEARL JAM (22) Epic/Sony Music
- JOHN MAYER (3) Aware/Columbia/Sony Music
- SENSES FAIL (1) Drive-thru/MCA
- COLDPLAY (2) Capitol
- SHANIA TWAIN (1) Mercury/UMGN

Top Internet Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- BLUE NOTE (2)
- RCA (13)
- COLUMBIA (26)
- EPIC (34)
- REPRISE (19)



Top Internet Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- SONY MUSIC (65)
- RCA MUSIC GROUP (18)
- WARNER BROS. (31)
- BLUE NOTE (2)
- CAPITOL (13)

Top Internet Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- COME AWAY WITH ME—Norah Jones—
Blue Note
- SOME DEVIL—Dave Matthews—RCA/RMG
- HOME—Dixie Chicks—
Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- FROM THE DEPTHS OF DREAMS (EP)—
Senses Fail—Drive-thru/MCA
- CHICAGO—Soundtrack—Epic/Sony Music
- A RUSH OF BLOOD TO THE HEAD—Coldplay
—Capitol
- UP!—Shania Twain—Mercury/UMGN
- THE VERY BEST OF CHER—Cher—
Geffen/MCA/Warner Bros./Warner Strategic
Marketing
- SKIDADDLE!—Buck Howdy—Prairie Dog
- JOSH GROBAN—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/
Warner Bros.
- IT HAD TO BE YOU...THE GREAT AMERICAN
SONGBOOK—Rod Stewart—J/RMG
- FALLEN—Evanescence—Wind-up
- BACK IN THE U.S. LIVE 2002—Paul
McCartney—MPL/Capitol
- MEASURE OF A MAN—Clay Aiken—RCA/RMG
- HEAVIER THINGS—John Mayer—Aware/
Columbia/Sony Music
- WORSHIP TOGETHER: I COULD SING OF
YOUR LOVE FOREVER—Various Artists—EMI
Special Markets/Time Life
- AS TIME GOES BY...THE GREAT AMERICAN
SONGBOOK VOL. II—Rod Stewart—J/RMG
- FORTY LICKS—The Rolling Stones—ABKCO/
Virgin
- FOR ALL OF THIS (EP)—The Early November
—Drive-thru/MCA
- LET GO—Avril Lavigne—Arista
- THE WIND—Warren Zevon—Artemis
- BARE—Annie Lennox—J/RMG
- ELVIS: 30 #1 HITS—Elvis Presley—RCA/RMG
- CLOSER—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/
Warner Bros.
- LIFE FOR RENT—Dido—Arista



LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ

Top Independent Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- KINGS OF CRUNK—Lil Jon & The East Side
Boyz—BME/TVT
- A MARK, A MISSION, A BRAND, A SCAR—
Dashboard Confessional—Vagrant
- THE WIND—Warren Zevon—Artemis
- ME & MY BROTHER—Ying Yang Twins—
ColliPark/TVT
- GUESS WHO'S BACK?—50 Cent—Full Clip
- THIS SIDE—Nickel Creek—Sugar Hill
- VANS WARPED TOUR 2003 COMPILATION—
Various Artists—Side One Dummy
- LIVIN' LEGEND—B.G.—Choppa City/In The
Paint/Koch
- WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT PRE-
SENTS: WWE ANTHOLOGY (SOUNDTRACK)—
Jim Johnston—Smack Down!/Koch
- TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS—Taking Back
Sunday—Victory
- WAIT FOR ME—Susan Tedeschi—Tone-Cool/
Artemis
- NU-MIXX KLAZZICS—2Pac—Death Row/Koch
- I LOVE IT—Craig Morgan—Broken Bow
- TURN ON THE BRIGHT LIGHTS—Interpol—
Matador

Top Independent Imprints

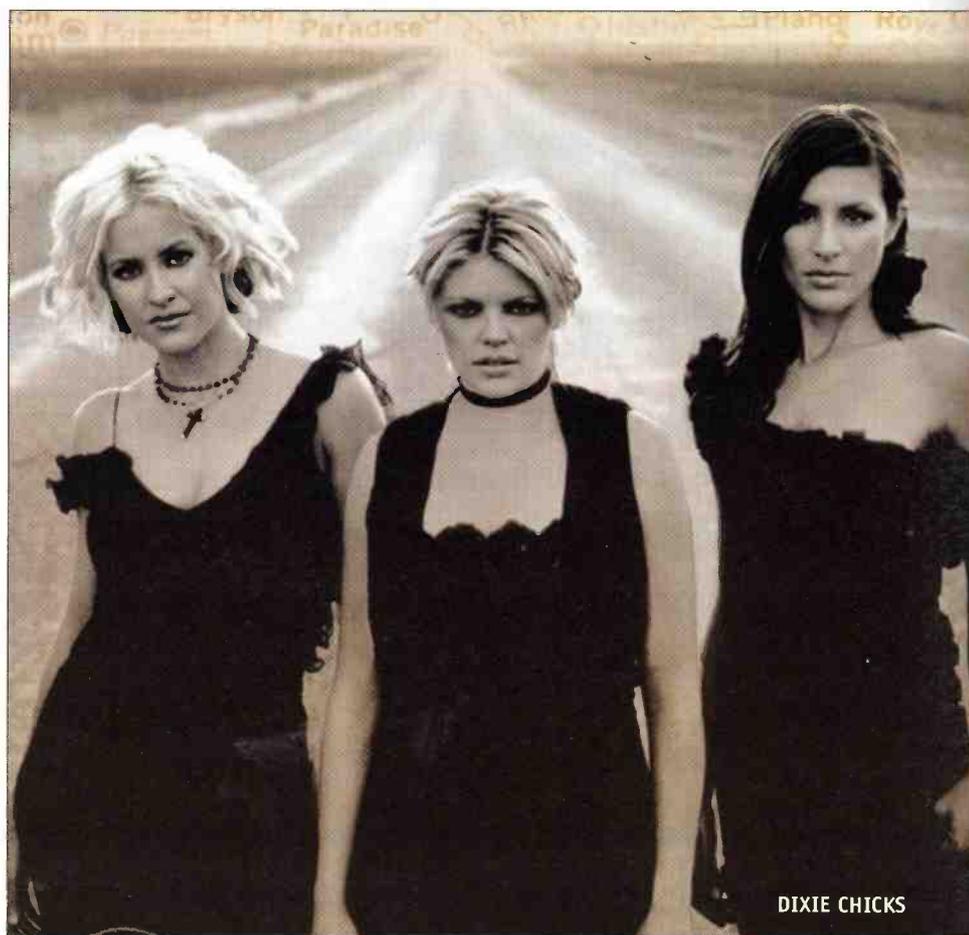
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- BME (2)
- VAGRANT (10)
- MATADOR (11)
- ARTEMIS (6)
- SIDE ONE DUMMY (4)
- SUGAR HILL (3)
- SUB POP (5)
- FULL CLIP (3)
- AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE (3)
- COLLIPARK (2)

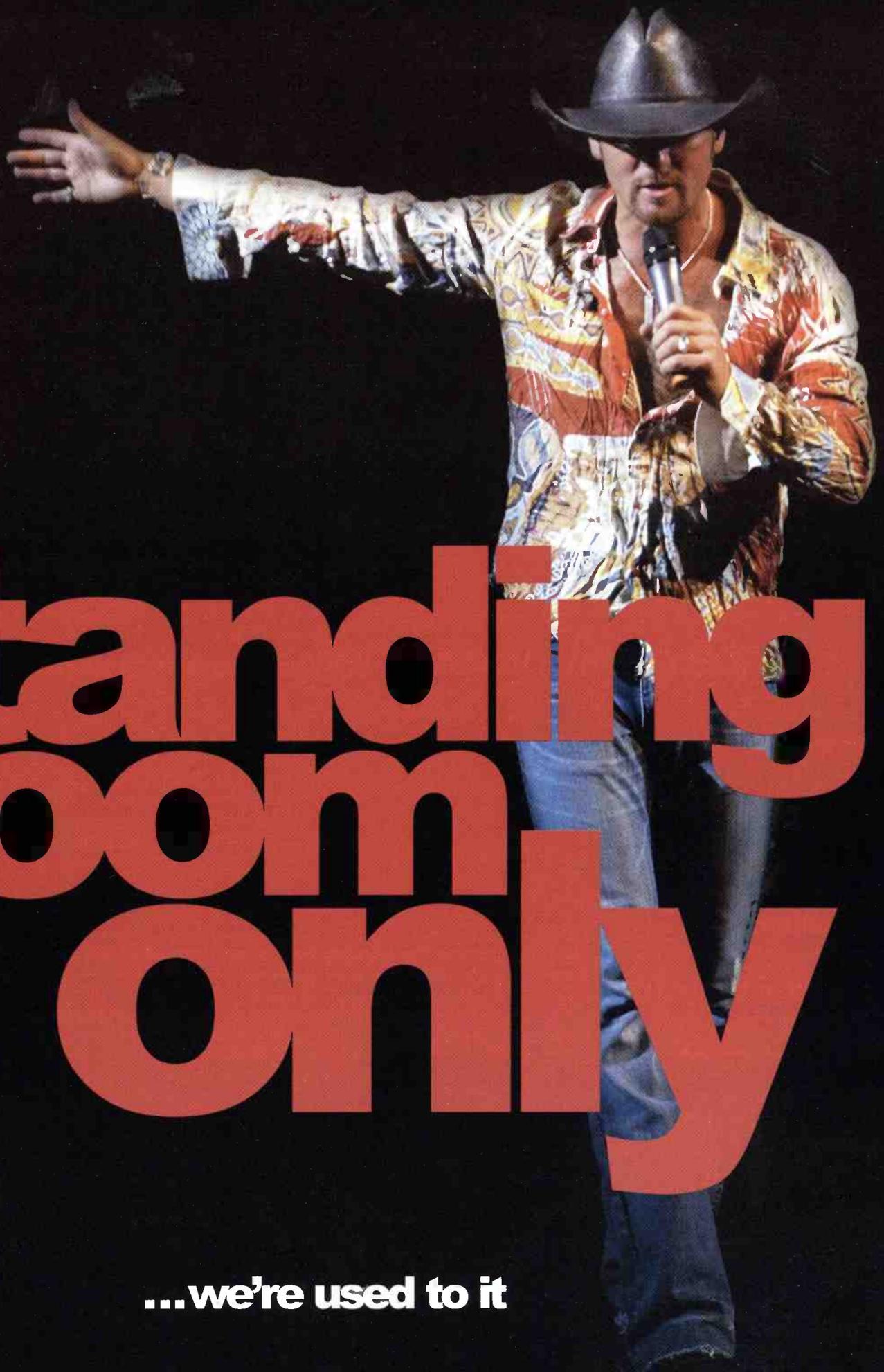
Top Independent Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- TVT (8)
- KOCH (28)
- VAGRANT (9)
- ARTEMIS (12)
- EPITAPH (17)



DIXIE CHICKS



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Hot 100 Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (4) *Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
(1) *G-Unit/Shady/Interscope*
(1) *Queen Bee/Atlantic*
- 2 **R. KELLY** (5) *Jive*
(1) *T.U.G./Elektra/EEG*
(1) *Nick/Jive*
- 3 **SEAN PAUL** (3) *VP/Atlantic*
(1) *Columbia*
(1) *RedZone/Arista*
- 4 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (4) *Jive*
- 5 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) *Columbia*
(1) *Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 6 **3 DOORS DOWN** (2)
Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 7 **CHRISTINA AGUILERA** (5) *RCA/RMG*
- 8 **JAY-Z** (4) *Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
(1) *Columbia*
(1) *Star Trak/Arista*
(1) *Sequence*
- 9 **MATCHBOX TWENTY** (3) *Atlantic*
- 10 **ASHANTI** (3) *Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG*
(1) *Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
(1) *Murder Inc./AJM/IDJMG*
- 11 **AALIYAH** (2) *Blackground/Universal/UMRG*
(1) *Blackground*
- 12 **EMINEM** (3) *Web/Aftermath/Interscope*
(1) *Shady/Interscope*
- 13 **CHINGY** (2) *Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
- 14 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (4)
The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) *Yclef/J/RMG*
(1) *Blackground/Universal/UMRG*
- 15 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (3) *Epic*
- 16 **FABOLOUS** (2) *Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
(1) *The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
(1) *Epic*
- 17 **AVRIL LAVIGNE** (4) *Arista*
- 18 **LIL' KIM** (2) *Queen Bee/Atlantic*
(1) *RCA/RMG*
- 19 **NELLY** (3) *Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG*
(1) *Bad Boy/UMRG*
- 20 **SANTANA** (2) *Arista*
- 21 **TYRESE** (2) *J/RMG*
- 22 **GINUWINE** (4) *Epic*
- 23 **KENNY CHESNEY** (4) *BNA*
- 24 **DIXIE CHICKS** (1) *Monument/EMN/Columbia*
(1) *Monument/EMN*
- 25 **LUDACRIS** (2) *Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG*
(1) *The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
(1) *Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
(1) *Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic*
(1) *Bad Boy/Def Soul/IDJMG*
- 26 **P. DIDDY** (1) *T.U.G./Epic*
(1) *Bad Boy/UMRG*
(1) *Cash Money/Universal/UMRG*
(1) *Epic*
- 27 **KELLY CLARKSON** (3) *RCA/RMG*
- 28 **MICHELLE BRANCH** (3) *Maverick/Warner Bros.*
(1) *Arista*
- 29 **UNCLE KRACKER** (2) *Lava*
- 30 **JOHN MAYER** (2) *Aware/Columbia*
- 31 **TIM MCGRAW** (3) *Curb*
- 32 **BLACK EYED PEAS** (1) *A&M/Interscope*
- 33 **KID ROCK** (1) *Lava/Universal South/Atlantic/WRN*
- 34 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (1) *BME/TVT*
(1) *ColliPark/TVT*
(1) *Short/Jive*
- 35 **EVANESCENCE** (1) *Wind-up*
- 36 **WAYNE WONDER** (1)
Greensleeves/VP/Atlantic
- 37 **RASCAL FLATTS** (3) *Lyric Street*
- 38 **MONICA** (2) *J/RMG*

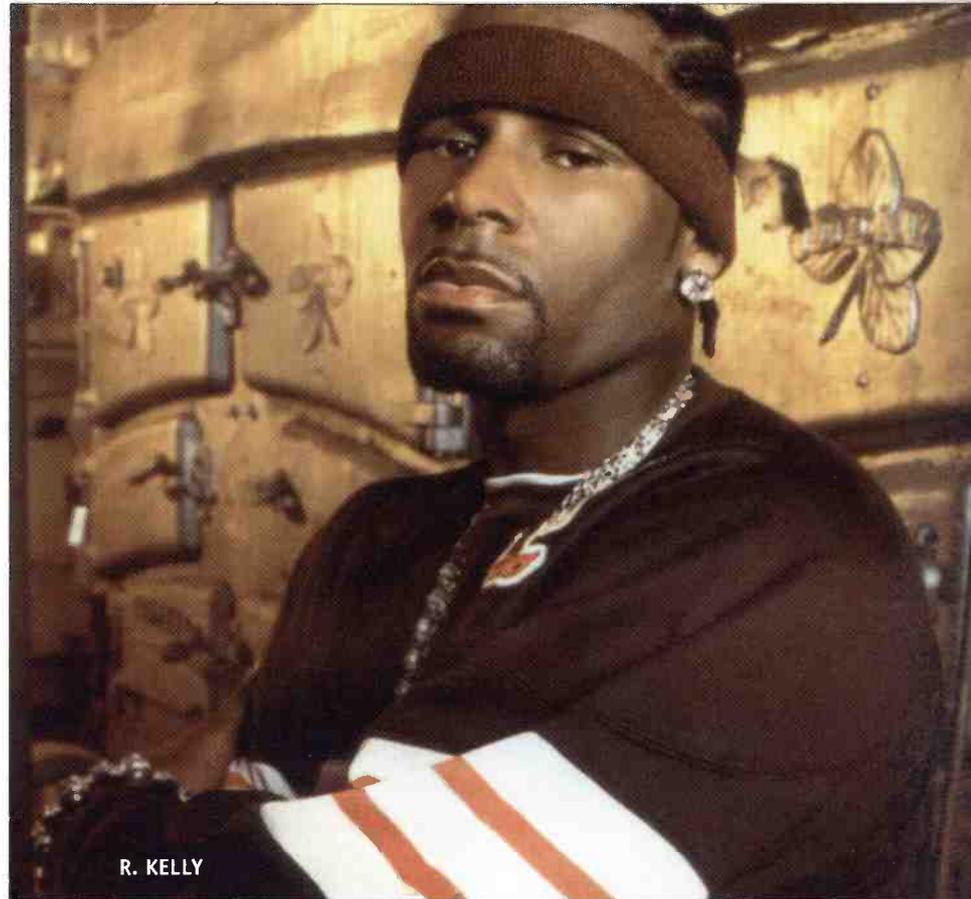
- 39 **JA RULE** (3) *Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 40 **SHANIA TWAIN** (2) *Mercury/IDJMG*
(1) *Mercury*
- 41 **TOBY KEITH** (5) *DreamWorks (Nashville)*
- 42 **NAS** (2) *Ill Will/Columbia*
- 43 **GOOD CHARLOTTE** (3) *Daylight/Epic*
- 44 **LL COOL J** (2) *Def Jam/IDJMG*
(1) *Epic*
- 45 **AUDIOSLAVE** (3) *Interscope/Epic*
- 46 **LUMIDEE** (1) *Universal/UMRG*
- 47 **LINKIN PARK** (3) *Warner Bros.*
- 48 **B2K** (2) *T.U.G./Epic*
(1) *Nick/Jive*
- 49 **CLAY AIKEN** (3) *RCA/RMG*
- 50 **KEITH URBAN** (3) *Capitol (Nashville)*

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot 100 Singles & Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—*Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 2 **IGNITION**—R. Kelly—*Jive*
- 3 **GET BUSY**—Sean Paul—*VP/Atlantic*
- 4 **CRAZY IN LOVE**—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—*Columbia*
- 5 **WHEN I'M GONE**—3 Doors Down—*Republic/Universal/UMRG*
- 6 **UNWELL**—matchbox twenty—*Atlantic*
- 7 **RIGHT THURR**—Chingy—*Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
- 8 **MISS YOU**—Aaliyah—*Blackground/Universal/UMRG*
- 9 **PICTURE**—Kid Rock Featuring Sheryl Crow Or Allison Moorer—*Lava/Universal South/Atlantic/WRN*
- 10 **BRING ME TO LIFE**—Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—*Wind-up*
- 11 **GET LOW**—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—*BME/TVT*
- 12 **BABY BOY**—Beyonce Featuring Sean Paul—*Columbia*
- 13 **SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER**—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—*Bad Boy/UMRG*
- 14 **21 QUESTIONS**—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—*Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 15 **ALL I HAVE**—Jennifer Lopez Featuring LL Cool J—*Epic*
- 16 **BEAUTIFUL**—Christina Aguilera—*RCA/RMG*
- 17 **I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT**—Busta Rhymes & Mariah Carey Featuring The Flipmode Squad—*J/Monarc/RMG/IDJMG*
- 18 **I'M WITH YOU**—Avril Lavigne—*Arista*
- 19 **DRIFT AWAY**—Uncle Kracker Featuring Dobie Gray—*Lava*
- 20 **MAGIC STICK**—Lil' Kim Featuring 50 Cent—*Queen Bee/Atlantic*
- 21 **P.I.M.P.**—50 Cent—*Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 22 **BUMP, BUMP, BUMP**—B2K & P. Diddy—*T.U.G./Epic*
- 23 **INTO YOU**—Fabolous Featuring Tamia Or Ashanti—*Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
- 24 **CAN'T LET YOU GO**—Fabolous Featuring Mike Shorey & Lil' Mo—*Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
- 25 **MESMERIZE**—Ja Rule Featuring Ashanti—*Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 26 **WHERE IS THE LOVE?**—Black Eyed Peas—*A&M/Interscope*
- 27 **THE GAME OF LOVE**—Santana Featuring Michelle Branch—*Arista*
- 28 **LOSE YOURSELF**—Eminem—*Shady/Interscope*
- 29 **ROCK WIT U (AWWW BABY)**—Ashanti—*Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 30 **CRY ME A RIVER**—Justin Timberlake—*Jive*
- 31 **HOW YOU GONNA ACT LIKE THAT**—Tyrese—*J/RMG*
- 32 **ROCK YOUR BODY**—Justin Timberlake—*Jive*
- 33 **NO LETTING GO**—Wayne Wonder—*Greensleeves/VP/Atlantic*
- 34 **FRONTIN'**—Pharrell Featuring Jay-Z—*Star Trak/Arista*
- 35 **LANDSLIDE**—Dixie Chicks—*Monument/EMN/Columbia*
- 36 **WORK IT**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott—*The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
- 37 **'03 BONNIE & CLYDE**—Jay-Z Featuring Beyonce Knowles—*Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 38 **DON'T MESS WITH MY MAN**—Nivea Featuring Brian & Brandon Casey—*Jive*
- 39 **SO GONE**—Monica—*J/RMG*
- 40 **AIR FORCE ONES**—Nelly Featuring Kyjuan, Ali & Murphy Lee—*Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG*
- 41 **NEVER LEAVE YOU - UH OOH, UH OOOH!**—Lumidee—*Universal/UMRG*
- 42 **BEAUTIFUL**—Snoop Dogg Featuring Pharrell & Uncle Charlie Wilson—*Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol*
- 43 **GOSSIP FOLKS**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott Featuring Ludacris—*The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
- 44 **MISS INDEPENDENT**—Kelly Clarkson—*RCA/RMG*
- 45 **CALLING ALL ANGELS**—Train—*Columbia*
- 46 **DAMN!**—YoungBloodZ Featuring Lil Jon—*So So Def/Arista*
- 47 **THIS IS THE NIGHT**—Clay Aiken—*RCA/RMG*
- 48 **YOUR BODY IS A WONDERLAND**—John Mayer—*Aware/Columbia*
- 49 **HEADSTRONG**—Trapt—*Warner Bros.*
- 50 **IN THOSE JEANS**—Ginuwine—*Epic*
- 51 **STAND UP**—Ludacris Featuring Shawna—*Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG*
- 52 **THE REMEDY (I WON'T WORRY)**—Jason Mraz—*Elektra/EEG*
- 53 **WHY DON'T YOU & I**—Santana Featuring Alex Band Or Chad Kroeger—*Arista*
- 54 **EXCUSE ME MISS**—Jay-Z—*Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 55 **JENNY FROM THE BLOCK**—Jennifer Lopez Featuring Styles & Jadakiss—*Epic*
- 56 **ARE YOU HAPPY NOW?**—Michelle Branch—*Maverick/Warner Bros.*
- 57 **FOREVER AND FOR ALWAYS**—Shania Twain—*Mercury/IDJMG*
- 58 **I CAN**—Nas—*Ill Will/Columbia*
- 59 **UNDERNEATH IT ALL**—No Doubt Featuring Lady Saw—*Interscope*
- 60 **IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE**—Daniel Bedingfield—*Island/IDJMG*
- 61 **THOIA THING**—R. Kelly—*Jive*
- 62 **HERE WITHOUT YOU**—3 Doors Down—*Republic/Universal/UMRG*
- 63 **WANKSTA**—50 Cent—*G-Unit/Shady/Interscope*
- 64 **MY LOVE IS LIKE... WO**—Mya—*A&M/Interscope*
- 65 **IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE**—Alan Jackson & Jimmy Buffett—*Arista Nashville*
- 66 **LIKE GLUE**—Sean Paul—*VP/Atlantic*
- 67 **CAN'T HOLD US DOWN**—Christina Aguilera Featuring Lil' Kim—*RCA/RMG*
- 68 **MY FRONT PORCH LOOKING IN**—Lonestar—*BNA*
- 69 **ANGEL**—Amanda Perez—*Powerhouse/Virgin*
- 70 **SHE HATES ME**—Puddle Of Mudd—*Flawless/Geffen/Interscope*
- 71 **DON'T WANNA TRY**—Frankie J—*Columbia*
- 72 **THE JUMP OFF**—Lil' Kim Featuring Mr. Cheeks—*Queen Bee/Atlantic*
- 73 **INTUITION**—Jewel—*Atlantic*
- 74 **HELL YEAH**—Ginuwine Featuring Baby—*Epic*
- 75 **BEER FOR MY HORSES**—Toby Keith Duet With Willie Nelson—*DreamWorks (Nashville)*
- 76 **HOLIDAE IN**—Chingy Featuring Ludacris & Snoop Dogg—*Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
- 77 **SUGA SUGA**—Baby Bash Featuring Frankie J—*Universal/UMRG*
- 78 **LOVE OF MY LIFE (AN ODE TO HIP HOP)**—Erykah Badu Featuring Common—*Fox/MCA*
- 79 **FIGHTER**—Christina Aguilera—*RCA/RMG*
- 80 **THUGZ MANSION**—2Pac—*Amaru/Death Row/Interscope*
- 81 **CLOCKS**—Coldplay—*Capitol*



R. KELLY

(Continued on page YE-32)

ASCAP

AWARDS

Looking back at another outstanding year

2003

75% Hot 100 Airplay

76% MTV VMA's

88% Hot Rap Singles

73% Country Music Awards

72% Hot Country Singles & Tracks

58% Mainstream Rock Tracks

68% Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songwriters

68% Hot Latin Tracks Songwriters

81% Hot R&B Airplay

69% Vibe Awards

70% Soundtrack Singles

74% Hot Latin Tracks

80% Soul Train Awards

70% Adult Contemporary

The
ADVANTAGE of
ASCAP

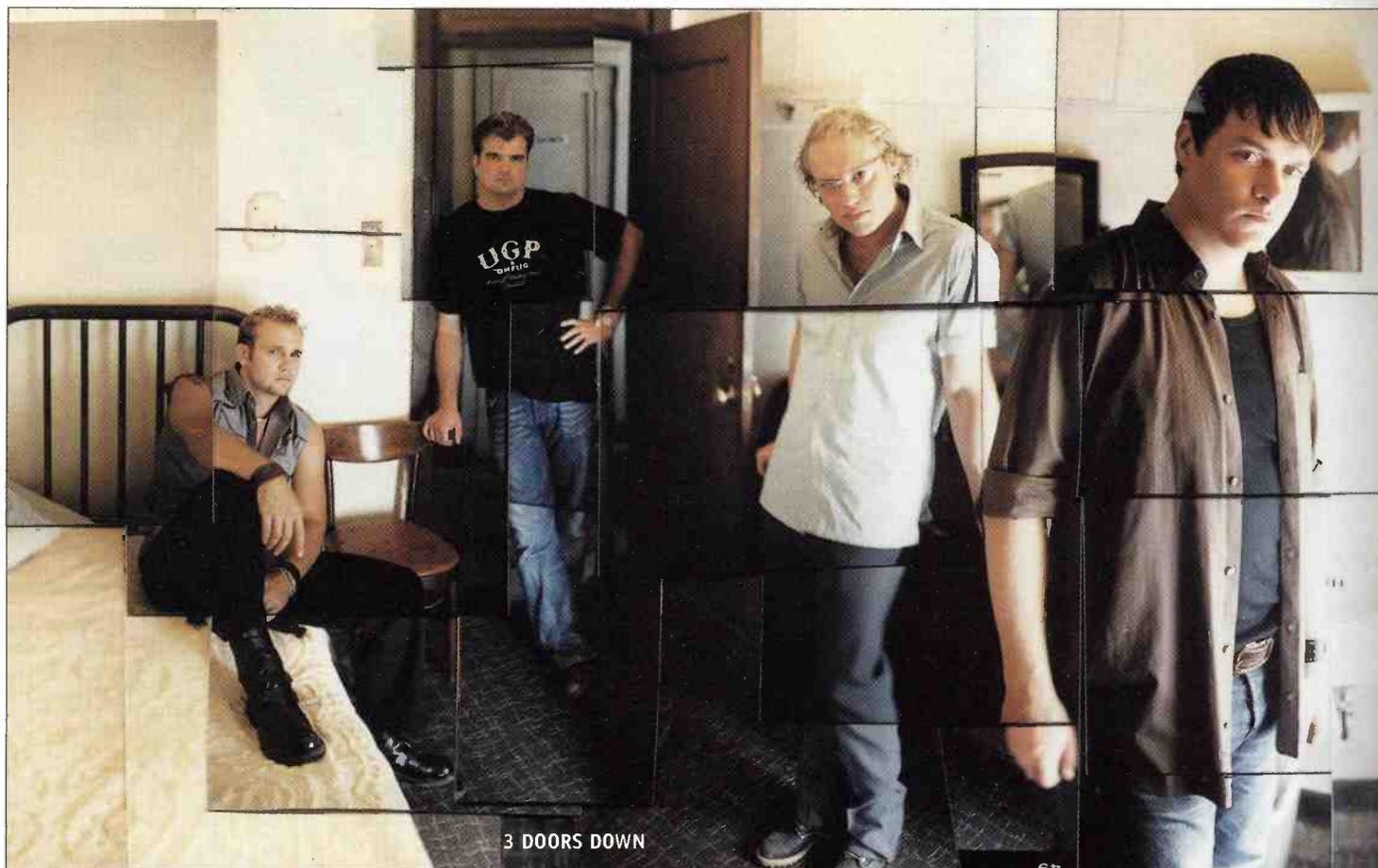


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MARILYN BERGMAN - PRESIDENT
& CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

(Continued from page YE-30)

- 82 **PUT THAT WOMAN FIRST**—Jaheim—*Divine Mill/Warner Bros.*
- 83 **RAIN ON ME**—Ashanti—*Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 84 **19 SOMETHIN'**—Mark Wills—*Mercury*
- 85 **CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP**—Young Gunz—*Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 86 **RED DIRT ROAD**—Brooks & Dunn—*Arista Nashville*
- 87 **WHAT WAS I THINKIN'**—Dierks Bentley—*Capitol (Nashville)*
- 88 **FLYING WITHOUT WINGS**—Ruben Studdard—*J/RMG*
- 89 **SING FOR THE MOMENT**—Eminem—*Web/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 90 **HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?**—Darryl Worley—*DreamWorks (Nashville)*
- 91 **NO SHOES, NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEMS**—Kenny Chesney—*BNA*
- 92 **COME OVER**—Aaliyah—*Blackground/Universal/UMRG*
- 93 **SICK OF BEING LONELY**—Field Mob—*MCA*
- 94 **STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE**—R. Kelly—*Jive*
- 95 **I WANT YOU**—Thalia Featuring Fat Joe—*EMI Latin/Virgin*
- 96 **LIKE A STONE**—Audioslave—*Interscope/Epic*
- 97 **DON'T KNOW WHY**—Norah Jones—*Blue Note/Virgin*
- 98 **SUPERMAN**—Eminem—*Web/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 99 **REAL GOOD MAN**—Tim McGraw—*Curb*
- 100 **SAY YES**—Floetry—*Soljaz/DreamWorks*



Hot 100 Artists - Duo/Group

Pos.	ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles)	Imprint/Label
1	3 DOORS DOWN (2)	Republic/Universal/UMRG
2	MATCHBOX TWENTY (3)	Atlantic
3	SANTANA (2)	Arista
4	DIXIE CHICKS (1)	Monument/EMN/Columbia
5	BLACK EYED PEAS (1)	A&M/Interscope
6	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (1)	BME/TVT
7	EVANESCENCE (1)	Wind-up
8	RASCAL FLATTS (3)	Lyric Street
9	GOOD CHARLOTTE (3)	Daylight/Epic
10	AUDIOSLAVE (3)	Interscope/Epic

Hot 100 Artists - Female

Pos.	ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles)	Imprint/Label
1	BEYONCE KNOWLES (3)	Columbia
2	CHRISTINA AGUILERA (5)	RCA/RMG
3	ASHANTI (3)	Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
4	AALIYAH (2)	Blackground/Universal/UMRG
5	MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT (4)	The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
6	JENNIFER LOPEZ (3)	Epic
7	AVRIL LAVIGNE (4)	Arista
8	LIL' KIM (2)	Queen Bee/Atlantic
9	KELLY CLARKSON (3)	RCA/RMG
10	MICHELLE BRANCH (3)	Maverick/Warner Bros.

Hot 100 Artists - Male

Pos.	ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles)	Imprint/Label
1	50 CENT (4)	Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
2	R. KELLY (5)	Jive
3	SEAN PAUL (3)	VP/Atlantic
4	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE (4)	Jive
5	JAY-Z (4)	Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
6	EMINEM (3)	Web/Aftermath/Interscope
7	CHINGY (2)	Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
8	FABOLOUS (2)	Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
9	NELLY (3)	Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
10	TYRESE (2)	J/RMG

Hot 100 Imprints

Pos.	IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)
1	JIVE (14)
2	COLUMBIA (12)
3	ARISTA (19)
4	RCA (16)
5	UNIVERSAL (17)
6	J (14)
7	EPIC (11)
8	SHADY (8)
9	ELEKTRA (15)
10	DEF JAM (20)

Hot 100 Labels

Pos.	LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)
1	INTERSCOPE (33)
2	ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (40)
3	RCA MUSIC GROUP (30)
4	UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (25)
5	ATLANTIC (19)
6	COLUMBIA (22)
7	ARISTA (27)
8	JIVE (19)
9	EPIC (20)
10	ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (15)



Hot 100 Producers

Pos.	PRODUCER (No. of Charted Titles)
1	ROBERT KELLY (14)
2	THE NEPTUNES (17)
3	TIMBALAND (8)
4	STEVEN "LENKY" MARSDEN (2)
5	RICK PARASHAR (2)
6	MATT SERLETIC (4)
7	JONATHAN "LIL JON" SMITH (4)
8	TRAK STARZ (2)
9	EMINEM (6)
10	THE MATRIX (5)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot 100 Singles Sales

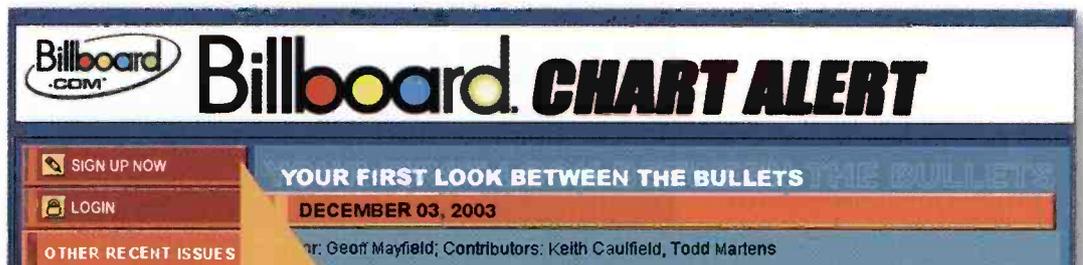
Pos.	TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label
1	THIS IS THE NIGHT/BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER —Clay Aiken—RCA/RMG
2	FLYING WITHOUT WINGS/SUPERSTAR —Ruben Studdard—J/RMG
3	PICTURE —Kid Rock Featuring Allison Moorer—Universal South
4	GOD BLESS THE U.S.A. —American Idol Finalists—RCA/RMG
5	SO YESTERDAY —Hilary Duff—Buena Vista/Hollywood
6	DID MY TIME —Korn—Immortal/Epic
7	THROUGH THE RAIN —Mariah Carey—MonarC/Island/IDJMG
8	DIE ANOTHER DAY —Madonna—Warner Bros.
9	INTUITION —Jewel—Atlantic
10	MISS YOU —Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
11	HOLE IN THE WORLD —Eagles—ERC/33rd Street
12	AMERICAN LIFE —Madonna—Maverick/Warner Bros.
13	LET'S GET DOWN —Bow Wow Featuring Baby—Columbia
14	RIGHT THURR —Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
15	DIRTY —Christina Aguilera Featuring Redman—RCA/RMG
16	HELP POUR OUT THE RAIN (LACEY'S SONG) —Buddy Jewell—Columbia (Nashville)
17	WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN —Jagged Edge—Columbia
18	IGNITION —R. Kelly—Jive
19	LANDSLIDE —Dixie Chicks—Monument/EMN/Columbia
20	IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE —Daniel Bedingfield—Island/IDJMG
21	A MOMENT LIKE THIS —Kelly Clarkson—RCA/RMG
22	CRY ME A RIVER —Justin Timberlake—Jive
23	WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW IS LOVE —American Idol Finalists—RCA/RMG

(Continued on page YE-34)

Get the first look between the bullets!

Find out Wednesday what everyone
else finds out Thursday.

NEW!



Billboard CHART ALERT

Get a jump on the competition
with Chart Alert, Billboard's new
early chart notification system.

Every Wednesday morning, you'll get the
freshest chart data including debuts,
weekly sales, chart news, industry
trends, and progress reports as well as
early chart data for the Billboard 200,
Country, R&B/Hip-Hop, Digital Tracks,
Heatseekers and more.

The Billboard 200 - Sales data provided and compiled from Nielsen SoundScan

1	4	JAY-Z The Black Album (Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam /DJMG)	11	4	BLINK-182 Blink-182 (Geffen /Interscope)
*2	New	NO DOUBT The Singles 1992-2003 (Interscope)	*12	New	NELLY Da Derry Versions - The Reinvention (Fo' Reel/Universal /UMRG)
3	1	BRITNEY SPEARS In The Zone (Jive /Zomba)	*13	1	MISSY ELLIOTT This Is Not A Test! (The Gold Mind/Elektra /EEG)
*4	18	HILARY DUFF Metamorphosis (Buena Vista /Hollywood)	*14	18	CLAY AIKEN Measure Of A Man (RCA /RMG)
*5	8	VARIOUS ARTISTS Now 14 (Columbia/Universal/EMI/Zomba /Sony Music)	15	8	SHERYL CROW The Very Best Of Sheryl Crow (A&M /Interscope)
*6	9	TOBY KEITH Shock'n Y'all (DreamWorks (Nashville) /Interscope)	16	9	SOUNDTRACK Tupac: Resurrection (Amaru /Interscope)
7	6	JOSH GROBAN Closer (143/ Reprise /Warner Bros.)	17	6	THE BEATLES Let It Be... Naked (Apple /Capitol)
8	2	G-UNIT Beg For Mercy (G-Unit/ Shady /Interscope)	18	2	SARAH MCLACHLAN Afterglow (Arista)
*9	19	KORN Take A Look In The Mirror (Immortal/Epic /Sony Music)	*19	19	ROD STEWART As Time Goes By... The Great American Songbook Vol. II (J /RMG)
*10	10	OUTKAST Speakerboxxx/The Love Below (Arista)	*20	10	PUDDLE OF MUDD Life On Display (Geffen /Interscope)

* indicates titles with greatest sales gains this week

Go to billboard.com/chartalert for registration and more information.

(Continued from page YE-32)

- 24 **I CAN ONLY IMAGINE**—MercyMe—INO/Curb
- 25 **ANGEL**—Amanda Perez—Powerhouse/Virgin
- 26 **WHAT WAS I THINKIN'**—Dierks Bentley—Capitol (Nashville)
- 27 **MY LOVE IS LIKE... WO**—Mya—A&M/Interscope
- 28 **EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER**—Vivian Green—Columbia
- 29 **RUBBERNECKIN'**—Elvis Presley—BMG Strategic Marketing/RCA/RMG
- 30 **DON'T WANNA TRY**—Frankie J—Columbia
- 31 **LOVE AT 1ST SIGHT**—Mary J. Blige Featuring Method Man—Geffen
- 32 **THIS IS MY PARTY**—Fabolous—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 33 **JIMMY MATHIS**—Bubba Sparxxx—Beat Club/Interscope
- 34 **BREATHE**—Blu Cantrell Featuring Sean Paul—RedZone/Arista
- 35 **STUCK**—Stacie Orrico—Forefront/Virgin
- 36 **CLOCKS**—Coldplay—Capitol
- 37 **BEWARE OF THE BOYS (MUNDIAN TO BACH KE)**—Panjabi MC Featuring Jay-Z—Sequence
- 38 **DON'T MESS WITH MY MAN**—Nivea Featuring Brian & Brandon Casey—Jive
- 39 **IN LOVE WIT CHU**—Da Brat Featuring Cherish—So So Def/Arista
- 40 **GANGSTA LOVIN'**—Eve Featuring Alicia Keys—Ruff Ryders/Interscope
- 41 **ALL THE THINGS SHE SAID**—t.A.T.u.—Interscope
- 42 **I'M GLAD**—Jennifer Lopez—Epic
- 43 **SUGA SUGA**—Baby Bash Featuring Frankie J—Universal/UMRG
- 44 **AULD LANG SYNE (FREEDOM MIX)**—Kenny G—Arista
- 45 **HOLLYWOOD**—Madonna—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 46 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 47 **CRAZY IN LOVE**—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—Columbia
- 48 **ONE STEP CLOSER**—American Juniors—19/Jive
- 49 **SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL (REMIXES)**—The Rolling Stones—ABKCO
- 50 **WHEN I GET YOU ALONE**—Thicke—Nu America/Interscope

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot 100 Airplay

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 2 **IGNITION**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 3 **GET BUSY**—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic
- 4 **CRAZY IN LOVE**—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—Columbia
- 5 **WHEN I'M GONE**—3 Doors Down—Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 6 **UNWELL**—matchbox twenty—Atlantic
- 7 **MISS YOU**—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 8 **RIGHT THURR**—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 9 **BABY BOY**—Beyonce Featuring Sean Paul—Columbia
- 10 **BRING ME TO LIFE**—Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—Wind-up
- 11 **21 QUESTIONS**—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope



CLAY AIKEN

- 12 **SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER**—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 13 **GET LOW**—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—BME/TVT
- 14 **ALL I HAVE**—Jennifer Lopez Featuring LL Cool J—Epic
- 15 **I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT**—Busta Rhymes & Mariah Carey Featuring The Flipmode Squad—J/Monarc/RMG/IDJMG
- 16 **BEAUTIFUL**—Christina Aguilera—RCA/RMG
- 17 **DRIFT AWAY**—Uncle Kracker Featuring Dobie Gray—Lava
- 18 **MAGIC STICK**—Lil' Kim Featuring 50 Cent—Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 19 **I'M WITH YOU**—Avril Lavigne—Arista
- 20 **PICTURE**—Kid Rock Featuring Sheryl Crow or Allison Moorer—Lava/Atlantic/Universal South/WRN
- 21 **P.I.M.P.**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 22 **BUMP, BUMP, BUMP**—B2K & P. Diddy—T.U.G./Epic
- 23 **CAN'T LET YOU GO**—Fabolous Featuring Mike Shorey & Lil' Mo—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 24 **INTO YOU**—Fabolous Featuring Tamia Or Ashanti—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 25 **MESMERIZE**—Ja Rule Featuring Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 26 **THE GAME OF LOVE**—Santana Featuring Michelle Branch—Arista
- 27 **WHERE IS THE LOVE?**—Black Eyed Peas—A&M/Interscope
- 28 **LOSE YOURSELF**—Eminem—Shady/Interscope
- 29 **HOW YOU GONNA ACT LIKE THAT**—Tyrese—J/RMG
- 30 **ROCK WIT U (AWWW BABY)**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 31 **ROCK YOUR BODY**—Justin Timberlake—Jive
- 32 **NO LETTING GO**—Wayne Wonder—Greensleeves/VP/Atlantic
- 33 **CRY ME A RIVER**—Justin Timberlake—Jive
- 34 **FRONTIN'**—Pharrell Featuring Jay-Z—Star Trak/Arista
- 35 **LANDSLIDE**—Dixie Chicks—Monument/EMN/Columbia
- 36 **WORK IT**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 37 **'03 BONNIE & CLYDE**—Jay-Z Featuring Beyonce Knowles—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 38 **SO GONE**—Monica—J/RMG
- 39 **AIR FORCE ONES**—Nelly Featuring Kyjuan, Ali & Murphy Lee—Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
- 40 **NEVER LEAVE YOU - UH OOH, UH OOOH!**—Lumidee—Universal/UMRG
- 41 **BEAUTIFUL**—Snoop Dogg Featuring Pharrell & Uncle Charlie Wilson—Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- 42 **GOSSIP FOLKS**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott Featuring Ludacris—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 43 **DON'T MESS WITH MY MAN**—Nivea Featuring Brian & Brandon Casey—Jive
- 44 **MISS INDEPENDENT**—Kelly Clarkson—RCA/RMG
- 45 **CALLING ALL ANGELS**—Train—Columbia
- 46 **DAMN!**—YoungBloodZ Featuring Lil Jon—So So Def/Arista
- 47 **IN THOSE JEANS**—Ginuwine—Epic
- 48 **HEADSTRONG**—Trapt—Warner Bros.
- 49 **YOUR BODY IS A WONDERLAND**—John Mayer—Aware/Columbia
- 50 **STAND UP**—Ludacris Featuring Shawna—Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG

How We Chart

Continued from page YE-20

combined with accumulated small-market radio-playlist points.

Hot Soundtrack Singles are the top-ranked Hot 100 songs that appeared in films and TV shows.

Year-end rankings for The Billboard 200, Top Pop Catalog Albums, all singles-sales charts and album lists for country, R&B/hip-hop, Latin, jazz, classical, gospel, contemporary Christian, reggae, world, blues, new age, Internet, independent, kid audio and soundtracks are determined by accumulating the SoundScan units for each week titles appeared on the appropriate charts. With respect to charts that are published bi-weekly, units from the unpublished weeks are included.

Catalog albums are titles that are at least 2 years old and have fallen below the top half of The Billboard 200. Since a title can move from current to catalog status during the chart year, there may be cases in our Year in Music recaps where an album appears on both title lists.

The Heatseekers imprint and label rankings reflect the number of titles that reached Heatseekers Impact status by rising into the top half of The Billboard 200 during the chart year. Ties are broken according to accumulated Billboard 200 sales that Heatseekers titles have compiled, including sales that occurred after a title moved above the Heatseekers chart.

For the pop, country and R&B/hip-hop categories on those recaps that combine data from album charts and singles charts, formulas have been weighted so that the sales units tallied on The Billboard 200, Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums and Top Country Singles & Tracks, respectively, have parity with the specific chart points that construct each week's Billboard Hot 100, Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks and Hot Country Singles & Tracks.

The new-artist categories in pop, country and R&B/hip-hop contain acts that did not have an album on the market prior to October 2002. Charting a single, prior to October 2002, does not disqualify an artist, unless that act received enough chart points to show up on a new-artist list in a previous Year in Music issue.

Solo artists from groups that have previously charted are also considered new artists, as long as that artist's name was not credited in that earlier act's billing.

The overall imprint, label and distributor rankings in classical categories reflect weekly performance on The Billboard Classical 50, an in-house chart that combines titles from the magazine's Top Classical Albums, Top Classical Crossover, Top Midline Classical and Top Budget Classical lists.

Similarly, the standings in jazz combine results from both the Top Jazz Albums and Top Contemporary Jazz Albums charts.

The Dance Club Play rankings are based on an inverse point system, with titles collecting points based on rank for each week they were on the chart.

The publishing categories show accumulated points for all charted songs on the applicable weekly charts; if a song is held by more than one publisher, points are divided equally between those companies.

In the Publishing Corporation category, parent companies receive 100% of the points from publishers in which they own at least 50% equity and 25% of the points compiled by publishers that they administer but do not own.

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Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (8) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Full Clip
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG
(1) No Label
- 2 **R. KELLY** (10) Jive
(3) Jive/Zomba
(1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG
(1) Nick/Jive
(1) Full Surface/J/RMG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
(1) Cash Money/Universal/UMRG
- 3 **JAY-Z** (11) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG
(1) Sequence
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 4 **AALIYAH** (3) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
(2) Blackground
- 5 **SEAN PAUL** (4) VP/Atlantic
(1) VP/Atlantic/AG
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) RedZone/Arista
- 6 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Music World/Columbia/SUM
(1) No Label
- 7 **ASHANTI** (8) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 8 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (6) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Yclef/J/RMG
(1) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 9 **JAHEIM** (5) Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 10 **TYRESE** (3) J/RMG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 11 **CHINGY** (3) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 12 **FABOLOUS** (7) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 13 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (4) BME/TVT
(1) Short/Jive
(1) ColliPark/TVT
(1) Mirror Image/Ichiban
(1) Body Head
- 14 **2PAC** (3) Amaru/Death Row/Interscope
(1) Amaru/Interscope
(1) Death Row/Koch
- 15 **NAS** (4) Ill Will/Columbia/SUM
(2) Ill Will/Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia
- 16 **MONICA** (3) J/RMG
- 17 **GINUWINE** (4) Epic/SUM
(1) Epic/Sony Music
(1) Terror Squad/Atlantic
- 18 **LIL' KIM** (3) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic/AG
- 19 **LUDACRIS** (7) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
(1) Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic
(1) Bad Boy/Def Soul/IDJMG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/UMRG
- 20 **JA RULE** (6) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 21 **NELLY** (5) Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG

- 22 **SNOOP DOGG** (3) Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 23 **B2K** (4) T.U.G./Epic/Sony Music
(4) T.U.G./Epic/SUM
(1) Nick/Jive
- 24 **BUSTA RHYMES** (2) J/RMG
(1) J/Monarc/RMG/IDJMG
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) No Label
(1) Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Violator/Jive
(1) Jive
- 25 **LUTHER VANDROSS** (4) J/RMG
(1) Legacy/Epic/Sony Music

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top New R&B/Hip-Hop Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Music World/Columbia/SUM
(1) No Label
- 2 **CHINGY** (3) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 3 **FLOETRY** (2) Soljaz/DreamWorks
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
(1) Soljaz/DreamWorks/Interscope
- 4 **HEATHER HEADLEY** (3) RCA/RMG
- 5 **BABY** (3) Cash Money/Universal/UMRG
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) Epic/SUM
(1) Columbia
(1) Ruff Ryders/Virgin
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope

- 6 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (4) Jive
(1) Jive/Zomba
- 7 **VIVIAN GREEN** (3) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 8 **PHARRELL WILLIAMS** (2) MCA
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
(1) Columbia/SUM
- 9 **DAVID BANNER** (4) SRC/Universal/UMRG
- 10 **JOE BUDDEN** (4) Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists - Duo/Group

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (4) BME/TVT
(1) Short/Jive
(1) ColliPark/TVT
(1) Mirror Image/Ichiban
(1) Body Head
- 2 **B2K** (4) T.U.G./Epic/Sony Music
(4) T.U.G./Epic/SUM
(1) Nick/Jive
- 3 **FLOETRY** (2) Soljaz/DreamWorks
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
(1) Soljaz/DreamWorks/Interscope
- 4 **DRU HILL** (3) Def Soul/IDJMG
- 5 **THE ISLEY BROTHERS** (2) DreamWorks
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 6 **OUTKAST** (4) Arista
- 7 **YOUNGBLOODZ** (3) So So Def/Arista
(1) Arista
- 8 **JAGGED EDGE** (2) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 9 **YING YANG TWINS** (3) ColliPark/TVT
(2) ColliPark/In The Paint/Koch
(1) BME/TVT
- 10 **FIELD MOB** (3) MCA

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists - Female

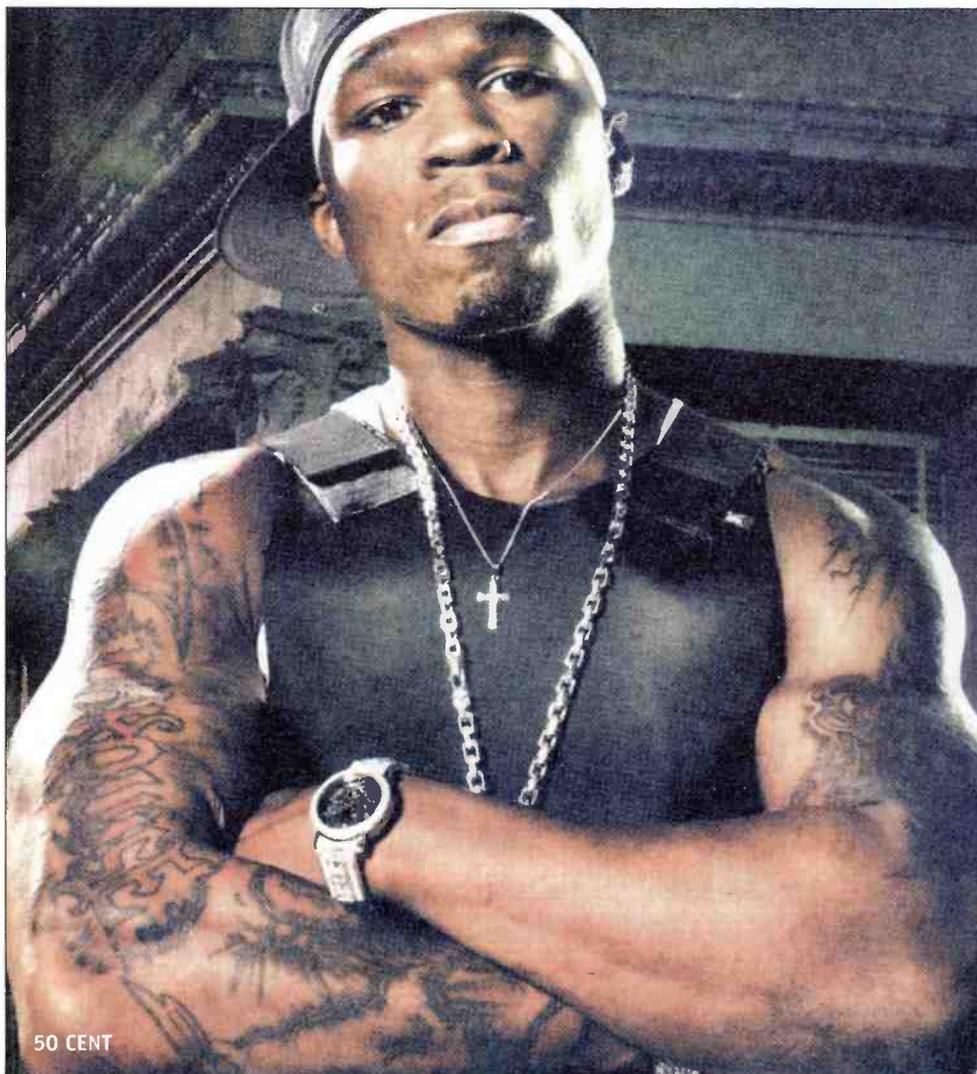
Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **AALIYAH** (3) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
(2) Blackground
- 2 **BEYONCE KNOWLES** (3) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Music World/Columbia/SUM
(1) No Label
- 3 **ASHANTI** (8) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 4 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (6) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Yclef/J/RMG
(1) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 5 **MONICA** (3) J/RMG
- 6 **LIL' KIM** (3) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic/AG
- 7 **HEATHER HEADLEY** (3) RCA/RMG
- 8 **MARY J. BLIGE** (3) MCA
(2) Geffen
(2) Geffen/Interscope
- 9 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (2) Epic/SUM
(1) Epic/Sony Music
- 10 **VIVIAN GREEN** (3) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/Sony Music

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists - Male

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (8) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) Full Clip
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG
(1) No Label
- 2 **R. KELLY** (10) Jive
(3) Jive/Zomba
(1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG
(1) Nick/Jive
(1) Full Surface/J/RMG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
(1) Cash Money/Universal/UMRG
- 3 **JAY-Z** (11) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG
(1) Sequence
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 4 **SEAN PAUL** (4) VP/Atlantic
(1) VP/Atlantic/AG
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) RedZone/Arista
- 5 **JAHEIM** (5) Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 6 **TYRESE** (3) J/RMG
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 7 **CHINGY** (3) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 8 **FABOLOUS** (7) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 9 **2PAC** (3) Amaru/Death Row/Interscope
(1) Amaru/Interscope
(1) Death Row/Koch
- 10 **NAS** (4) Ill Will/Columbia/SUM
(2) Ill Will/Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia



50 CENT

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 JIVE (35)
- 2 J (35)
- 3 DEF JAM (65)
- 4 COLUMBIA (42)
- 5 SHADY (18)
- 6 UNIVERSAL (53)
- 7 EPIC (33)
- 8 ELEKTRA (36)
- 9 AFTERMATH (11)
- 10 ARISTA (27)
- 11 DISTURBING THA PEACE (13)
- 12 VP (12)
- 13 ROC-A-FELLA (27)
- 14 DEF SOUL (12)
- 15 DREAMWORKS (15)



Top R&B/Hip-Hop Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INTERSCOPE (67)
- 2 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (96)
- 3 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (88)
- 4 SONY MUSIC (79)
- 5 ZOMBA (52)

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Album Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

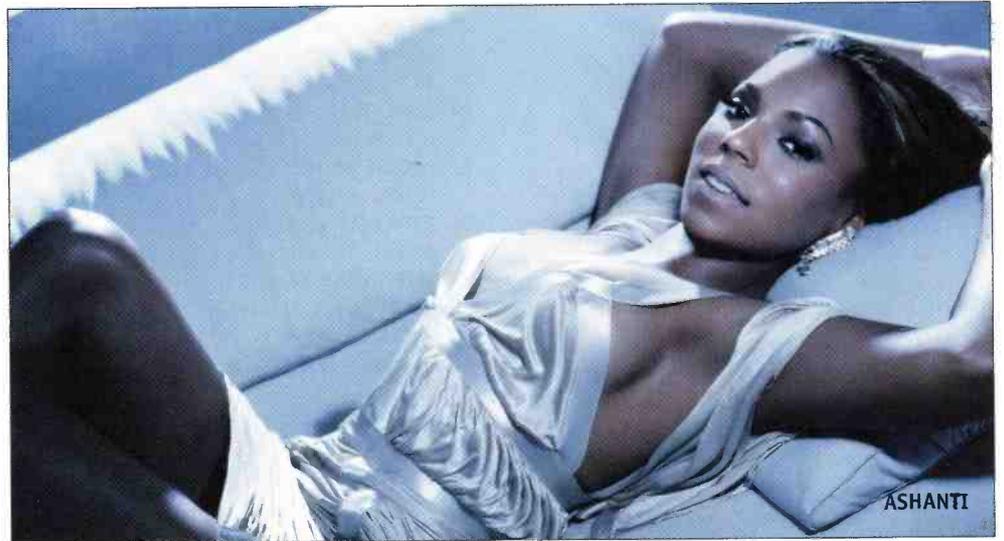
- 1 50 CENT (2) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope (1) Full Clip
- 2 R. KELLY (3) Jive/Zomba
- 3 JAY-Z (4) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 4 2PAC (1) Amaru/Death Row/Interscope (1) Death Row/Koch
- 5 LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (1) BME/TVT (1) Mirror Image/Ichiban
- 6 LUTHER VANDROSS (3) J/RMG (1) Legacy/Epic/Sony Music
- 7 AALIYAH (1) Blackground/Universal/UMRG (1) Blackground
- 8 JA RULE (2) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 9 SEAN PAUL (1) VP/Atlantic/AG
- 10 MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT (1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 11 JAHEIM (2) Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 12 NAS (2) Ill Will/Columbia/Sony Music
- 13 BEYONCE KNOWLES (1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 14 OUTKAST (1) Arista
- 15 B2K (4) T.U.G./Epic/Sony Music
- 16 ASHANTI (3) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 17 EMINEM (1) Web/Aftermath/Interscope
- 18 FABOLOUS (2) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 19 CHINGY (1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 20 TYRESE (1) J/RMG
- 21 SNOOP DOGG (1) Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- 22 JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE (1) Jive/Zomba
- 23 THE ISLEY BROTHERS (1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 24 LIL' KIM (1) Queen Bee/Atlantic/AG
- 25 JENNIFER LOPEZ (1) Epic/Sony Music

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN'—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 2 CHOCOLATE FACTORY—R. Kelly—Jive/Zomba
- 3 BETTER DAYZ—2Pac—Amaru/Death Row/Interscope
- 4 KINGS OF CRUNK—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz—BME/TVT
- 5 I CARE 4 U—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 6 DUTTY ROCK—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic/AG
- 7 UNDER CONSTRUCTION—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 8 DANCE WITH MY FATHER—Luther Vandross—J/RMG
- 9 STILL GHETTO—Jaheim—Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 10 GOD'S SON—Nas—Ill Will/Columbia/Sony Music
- 11 THE BLUEPRINT 2: THE GIFT AND THE CURSE—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 12 DANGEROUSLY IN LOVE—Beyonce—Columbia/Sony Music
- 13 8 MILE—Soundtrack—Shady/Interscope
- 14 THE LAST TEMPTATION—Ja Rule—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 15 SPEAKERBOXXX/THE LOVE BELOW—OutKast—Arista
- 16 THE EMINEM SHOW—Eminem—Web/Aftermath/Interscope
- 17 JACKPOT—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 18 I WANNA GO THERE—Tyrese—J/RMG
- 19 PANDEMONIUM!—B2K—T.U.G./Epic/Sony Music
- 20 PAID THA COST TO BE DA BO\$\$—Snoop Dogg—Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- 21 STREET DREAMS—Fabolous—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 22 JUSTIFIED—Justin Timberlake—Jive/Zomba
- 23 BODY KISS—The Isley Brothers Featuring Ronald Isley—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 24 LA BELLA MAFIA—Lil' Kim—Queen Bee/Atlantic/AG
- 25 BAD BOYS II—Soundtrack—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 26 THIS IS ME...THEN—Jennifer Lopez—Epic/Sony Music
- 27 CHAPTER II—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 28 NELLYVILLE—Nelly—Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
- 29 IT AIN'T SAFE NO MORE...—Busta Rhymes—J/RMG
- 30 JUST WHITNEY...—Whitney Houston—Arista
- 31 DRU WORLD ORDER—Dru Hill—Def Soul/IDJMG
- 32 CHICKEN*N*BEER—Ludacris—Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 33 FLOETIC—Floetry—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 34 THE R. IN R&B COLLECTION: VOLUME ONE—R. Kelly—Jive/Zomba
- 35 BIRDMAN—Baby—Cash Money/Universal/UMRG
- 36 AFTER THE STORM—Monica—J/RMG
- 37 THE SENIOR—Ginuwine—Epic/Sony Music
- 38 PHILADELPHIA FREEWAY—Freeway—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 39 GRAND CHAMP—DMX—Ruff Ryders/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 40 CHARMBRACELET—Mariah Carey—MonarC/Island/IDJMG
- 41 THE NEPTUNES PRESENT...CLONES—Various Artists—Star Trak/Arista
- 42 LOVE STORY—Vivian Green—Columbia/Sony Music



ASHANTI

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 50 CENT (6) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope (1) G-Unit/Shady/Interscope (1) Queen Bee/Atlantic (1) Bad Boy/UMRG (1) No Label
- 2 R. KELLY (10) Jive (1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG (1) Nick/Jive (1) Full Surface/J/RMG (1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG (1) Cash Money/Universal/UMRG
- 3 AALIYAH (2) Blackground/Universal/UMRG (1) Blackground
- 4 SEAN PAUL (4) VP/Atlantic (1) Columbia/SUM (1) RedZone/Arista
- 5 JAY-Z (7) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG (1) Star Trak/Arista (1) Columbia/SUM (1) Bad Boy/UMRG (1) Sequence (1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 6 ASHANTI (5) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG (1) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 7 BEYONCE KNOWLES (3) Columbia/SUM (1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG (1) Music World/Columbia/SUM (1) No Label
- 8 TYRESE (2) J/RMG (1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 9 CHINGY (2) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 10 MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT (5) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG (1) Yclef/J/RMG (1) Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 11 FABOLOUS (5) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG (1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 12 JAHEIM (3) Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 13 MONICA (2) J/RMG
- 14 GINUWINE (4) Epic/SUM (1) Terror Squad/Atlantic
- 15 LUDACRIS (5) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG (1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG (1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol (1) Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic (1) Bad Boy/Def Soul/IDJMG (1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/UMRG

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Album Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 JIVE (14)
- 2 DEF JAM (24)
- 3 J (14)
- 4 SHADY (6)
- 5 COLUMBIA (23)
- 6 ARISTA (12)
- 7 AFTERMATH (3)
- 8 UNIVERSAL (26)
- 9 EPIC (16)
- 10 ELEKTRA (13)
- 11 ATLANTIC (12)
- 12 DREAMWORKS (8)
- 13 MOTOWN (17)
- 14 ROC-A-FELLA (10)
- 15 DISTURBING THA PEACE (5)

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Album Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INTERSCOPE (25)
- 2 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (37)
- 3 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (42)
- 4 SONY MUSIC (43)
- 5 ARISTA (21)

Top R&B/Hip-Hop Album Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVERSAL (133)
- 2 BMG (74)
- 3 SONY (43)
- 4 WEA (38)
- 5 INDEPENDENTS (107)
- 6 EMM (28)

(Continued on page YE-38)

(Continued from page YE-37)

- 16 **LIL' KIM** (3) Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 17 **NAS** (4) Ill Will/Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia/SUM
(1) Columbia
- 18 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (3) BME/TVT
(1) Short/Jive
(1) ColliPark/TVT
(1) Body Head
- 19 **NELLY** (4) Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
(1) Bad Boy/UMRG
- 20 **BUSTA RHYMES** (1) J/MonarC/RMG/IDJMG
(1) J/RMG
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) No Label
(1) Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Violator/Jive
(1) Jive
- 21 **PHARRELL WILLIAMS** (2) MCA
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
(1) Columbia/SUM
- 22 **FLOETRY** (2) Soljaz/DreamWorks
(1) Soljaz/DreamWorks/Interscope
- 23 **SNOOP DOGG** (2) Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
(1) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 24 **HEATHER HEADLEY** (2) RCA/RMG
- 25 **2PAC** (2) Amaru/Death Row/Interscope
(1) Amaru/Interscope

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 2 **IGNITION**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 3 **MISS YOU**—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 4 **SO GONE**—Monica—J/RMG
- 5 **GET LOW**—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—BME/TVT
- 6 **RIGHT THURR**—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 7 **21 QUESTIONS**—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 8 **GET BUSY**—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic
- 9 **HOW YOU GONNA ACT LIKE THAT**—Tyrese—J/RMG
- 10 **FRONTIN'**—Pharrell Featuring Jay-Z—Star Trak/Arista
- 11 **CAN'T LET YOU GO**—Fabolous Featuring Mike Shorey & Lil' Mo—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 12 **P.I.M.P.**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 13 **I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT**—Busta Rhymes & Mariah Carey Featuring The Flipmode Squad—J/MonarC/RMG/IDJMG
- 14 **CRAZY IN LOVE**—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—Columbia/SUM
- 15 **BEAUTIFUL**—Snoop Dogg Featuring Pharrell & Uncle Charlie Wilson—Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- 16 **BABY BOY**—Beyonce Featuring Sean Paul—Columbia/SUM
- 17 **PUT THAT WOMAN FIRST**—Jaheim—Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 18 **MAGIC STICK**—Lil' Kim Featuring 50 Cent—Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 19 **LOVE OF MY LIFE (AN ODE TO HIP HOP)**—Erykah Badu Featuring Common—Fox/MCA

- 20 **DAMN!**—YoungBloodZ Featuring Lil Jon—So So Def/Arista
- 21 **IN THOSE JEANS**—Ginuwine—Epic/SUM
- 22 **COME OVER**—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 23 **EXCUSE ME MISS**—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 24 **INTO YOU**—Fabolous Featuring Tamia Or Ashanti—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 25 **STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 26 **STAND UP**—Ludacris Featuring Shawna—Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 27 **SAY YES**—Floetry—Soljaz/DreamWorks
- 28 **SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER**—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 29 **THOIA THOING**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 30 **DONTCHANGE**—Musiq—Def Soul/IDJMG
- 31 **I WISH I WASN'T**—Heather Headley—RCA/RMG
- 32 **RAIN ON ME**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 33 **FABULOUS**—Jaheim Featuring Tha Rayne—Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 34 **WANKSTA**—50 Cent—G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
- 35 **ROCK WIT U (AWWW BABY)**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 36 **THE JUMP OFF**—Lil' Kim Featuring Mr. Cheeks—Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 37 **WORK IT**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 38 **I CAN**—Nas—Ill Will/Columbia/SUM
- 39 **AIR FORCE ONES**—Nelly Featuring Kyjuan, Ali & Murphy Lee—Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
- 40 **NO LETTING GO**—Wayne Wonder—Greensleeves/VP/Atlantic
- 41 **BUMP, BUMP, BUMP**—B2K & P. Diddy—T.U.G./Epic/SUM
- 42 **ALL I HAVE**—Jennifer Lopez Featuring LL Cool J—Epic/SUM
- 43 **NEVER SCARED**—Bone Crusher Featuring Killer Mike & T.I.—Break 'Em Off/So So Def/Arista
- 44 **GOSSIP FOLKS**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott Featuring Ludacris—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 45 **CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP**—Young Gunz—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 46 **EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER**—Vivian Green—Columbia/SUM
- 47 **NEVER LEAVE YOU - UH OOH, UH OOH!**—Lumidee—Universal/UMRG
- 48 **WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN**—Jagged Edge—Columbia/SUM
- 49 **MESMERIZE**—Ja Rule Featuring Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 50 **WHAT WOULD YOU DO?**—The Isley Brothers Featuring Ronald Isley—DreamWorks

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **JIVE** (21)
- 2 **J** (21)
- 3 **DEF JAM** (41)
- 4 **COLUMBIA** (19)
- 5 **UNIVERSAL** (27)
- 6 **SHADY** (12)
- 7 **EPIC** (17)
- 8 **ELEKTRA** (23)
- 9 **VP** (7)
- 10 **DISTURBING THA PEACE** (8)

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP** (59)
- 2 **UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP** (46)
- 3 **INTERSCOPE** (31)
- 4 **SONY URBAN MUSIC** (36)
- 5 **RCA MUSIC GROUP** (23)
- 6 **JIVE** (29)
- 7 **ATLANTIC** (20)
- 8 **ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP** (23)
- 9 **ARISTA** (28)
- 10 **CAPITOL** (10)

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks Producers

Pos. PRODUCER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ROBERT KELLY** (29)
- 2 **THE NEPTUNES** (24)
- 3 **TIMBALAND** (14)
- 4 **JONATHAN "LIL JON" SMITH** (9)
- 5 **JUST BLAZE** (13)
- 6 **STEVEN "LENKY" MARSDEN** (2)
- 7 **TRAK STARZ** (2)
- 8 **THE UNDERDOGS** (4)
- 9 **PHALON "JAZZE PHA" ALEXANDER** (5)
- 10 **RICK ROCK** (4)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles Sales

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **SUPERSTAR/FLYING WITHOUT WINGS**—Ruben Studdard—J/RMG
- 2 **IGNITION**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 3 **WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN**—Jagged Edge—Columbia/SUM
- 4 **LET'S GET DOWN**—Bow Wow Featuring Baby—Columbia/SUM
- 5 **RIGHT THURR**—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 6 **EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER**—Vivian Green—Columbia/SUM
- 7 **THROUGH THE RAIN**—Mariah Carey—MonarC/Island/IDJMG
- 8 **CRY ME A RIVER**—Justin Timberlake—Jive
- 9 **MISS YOU**—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 10 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 11 **THIS IS MY PARTY**—Fabolous—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 12 **DANCE WITH ME**—Jaimie Lee Featuring AJ And Young Blaze—Ripe
- 13 **LOVE AT 1ST SIGHT**—Mary J. Blige Featuring Method Man—Geffen
- 14 **NEVER SCARED**—Bone Crusher Featuring Killer Mike & T.I.—Break 'Em Off/So So Def/Arista
- 15 **STARTING WITH ME**—Brandy Moss-Scott—Heavenly Tunes
- 16 **IF YOU LET ME**—Lou Mosley—Jenstar
- 17 **BEWARE OF THE BOYS (MUNDIAN TO BACH KE)**—Panjabi MC Featuring Jay-Z—Sequence
- 18 **GET BUSY**—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic
- 19 **NO MEANS NO**—Nee-Nee Gwynn Featuring Baby Diva—Base Hit
- 20 **MY LOVE IS LIKE... 'WO**—Mya—A&M/Interscope
- 21 **GANGSTA LOVIN'**—Eve Featuring Alicia Keys—Ruff Ryders/Interscope
- 22 **DON'T WANNA TRY**—Frankie J—Columbia/SUM

- 23 **THE JUMP OFF**—Lil' Kim Featuring Mr. Cheeks—Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 24 **IN LOVE WIT CHU**—Da Brat Featuring Cherish—So So Def/Arista
- 25 **FRONTIN'**—Pharrell Featuring Jay-Z—Star Trak/Arista
- 26 **MAKE IT CLAP**—Busta Rhymes Featuring Spliff Star—J/RMG
- T27 **BEAUTIFUL**—Snoop Dogg Featuring Pharrell & Uncle Charlie Wilson—Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- T27 **EVERYBODY**—Hahz The Ripppa—Body Head
- 29 **BREATHE**—Blu Cantrell Featuring Sean Paul—RedZone/Arista
- 30 **THROW UP**—Racket City—.447/Landspeed
- 31 **PUMP IT UP**—Joe Budden—Def Jam/IDJMG
- 32 **NA NA NA**—112 Featuring Super Cat—Bad Boy/Def Soul/IDJMG
- 33 **ALL NIGHT LONG**—Seduction With Saddler—Jenstar
- 34 **DON'T MESS WITH MY MAN**—Nivea Featuring Brian & Brandon Casey—Jive
- 35 **THOIA THOING**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 35 **CALLING ALL GIRLS**—ATL—Noontime/Epic/SUM
- 37 **GET LOW**—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—BME/TVT
- 38 **NEVER LEAVE YOU - UH OOH, UH OOH!**—Lumidee—Universal/UMRG
- 39 **STAR**—702 Featuring Clipse—Motown/UMRG
- 40 **UP IN DA CLUB 2NITE**—Revenue—Stack A Grip
- 41 **EXCUSE ME MISS**—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 42 **WHO RUN THIS**—Roy Jones, Jr. Featuring Pastor Troy & Lil' Jon & The East Side Boyz—Body Head
- 43 **JIMMY MATHIS**—Bubba Sparxxx—Beat Club/Interscope
- 44 **VIRGINITY**—TG4—T.U.G./A&M/Interscope
- 45 **21 QUESTIONS**—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 46 **BUMP, BUMP, BUMP**—B2K & P. Diddy—T.U.G./Epic/SUM
- 47 **JUST LIKE YOU**—G-Wiz—Compound/Orpheus
- 48 **JAH IS MY ROCK**—Caribbean Pulse Featuring Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley—Irie
- 49 **OFFICIALLY MISSING YOU**—Tamia—Elektra/EEG
- 50 **STOP/EXCUSE ME MISS AGAIN**—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Airplay

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 2 **MISS YOU**—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 3 **IGNITION**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 4 **SO GONE**—Monica—J/RMG
- 5 **GET LOW**—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—BME/TVT
- 6 **RIGHT THURR**—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 7 **21 QUESTIONS**—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 8 **GET BUSY**—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic
- 9 **HOW YOU GONNA ACT LIKE THAT**—Tyrese—J/RMG
- 10 **FRONTIN'**—Pharrell Featuring Jay-Z—Star Trak/Arista
- 11 **CAN'T LET YOU GO**—Fabolous Featuring Mike Shorey & Lil' Mo—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG

- 12 **P.I.M.P.**—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 13 **I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT**—Busta Rhymes & Mariah Carey Featuring The Flipmode Squad—J/Monarc/RMG/IDJMG
- 14 **CRAZY IN LOVE**—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—Columbia/SUM
- 15 **BABY BOY**—Beyonce Featuring Sean Paul—Columbia/SUM
- 16 **BEAUTIFUL**—Snoop Dogg Featuring Pharrell & Uncle Charlie Wilson Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol
- 17 **PUT THAT WOMAN FIRST**—Jaheim—Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 18 **MAGIC STICK**—Lil' Kim Featuring 50 Cent—Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 19 **LOVE OF MY LIFE (AN ODE TO HIP HOP)**—Erykah Badu Featuring Common—Fox/MCA
- 20 **IN THOSE JEANS**—Ginuwine—Epic/SUM
- 21 **COME OVER**—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG
- 22 **DAMN!**—YoungBloodZ Featuring Lil Jon—So So Def/Arista
- 23 **EXCUSE ME MISS**—Jay-Z—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 24 **INTO YOU**—Fabolous Featuring Tamia Or Ashanti—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
- 25 **STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 26 **SAY YES**—Floetry—Soljaz/DreamWorks
- 27 **STAND UP**—Ludacris Featuring Shawna—Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 28 **SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER**—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 29 **THOIA THOING**—R. Kelly—Jive
- 30 **DONTCHANGE**—Musiq—Def Soul/IDJMG
- 31 **I WISH I WASN'T**—Heather Headley—RCA/RMG
- 32 **FABULOUS**—Jaheim Featuring Tha Rayne—Divine Mill/Warner Bros.
- 33 **RAIN ON ME**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 34 **WANKSTA**—50 Cent—G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
- 35 **ROCK WIT U (AWWW BABY)**—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 36 **THE JUMP OFF**—Lil' Kim Featuring Mr. Cheeks—Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 37 **AIR FORCE ONES**—Nelly Featuring Kyjuan, Ali & Murphy Lee—Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG
- 38 **WORK IT**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 39 **I CAN**—Nas—Ill Will/Columbia/SUM
- 40 **NO LETTING GO**—Wayne Wonder—Greensleeves/VP/Atlantic
- 41 **BUMP, BUMP, BUMP**—B2K & P. Diddy—T.U.G./Epic/SUM
- 42 **ALL I HAVE**—Jennifer Lopez Featuring LL Cool J—Epic/SUM
- 43 **CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP**—Young Gunz—Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 44 **GOSSIP FOLKS**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott Featuring Ludacris—The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
- 45 **EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER**—Vivian Green—Columbia/SUM
- 46 **WHAT WOULD YOU DO?**—The Isley Brothers Featuring Ronald Isley—DreamWorks
- 47 **NEVER SCARED**—Bone Crusher Featuring Killer Mike & T.I.—Break 'Em Off/So So Def/Arista
- 48 **MESMERIZE**—Ja Rule Featuring Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
- 49 **NEVER LEAVE YOU - UH OOH, UH OOOH!**—Lumidee—Universal/UMRG
- 50 **I SHOULD BE...**—Dru Hill—Def Soul/IDJMG

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Country Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **SHANIA TWAIN** (5) Mercury
(2) Mercury/UMGN
- 2 **TOBY KEITH** (6) DreamWorks
(3) DreamWorks/Interscope
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 3 **TIM MCGRAW** (7) Curb
- 4 **DIXIE CHICKS** (3) Monument/EMN
(1) Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- 5 **ALAN JACKSON** (6) Arista Nashville
(3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 6 **KENNY CHESNEY** (4) BNA
(2) BNA/RLG
- 7 **RASCAL FLATTS** (3) Lyric Street
(1) Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 8 **GEORGE STRAIT** (5) MCA Nashville/UMGN
(4) MCA Nashville
- 9 **KEITH URBAN** (4) Capitol
- 10 **LONESTAR** (3) BNA
(2) BNA/RLG
- 11 **MARTINA MCBRIDE** (4) RCA
(2) RCA/RLG
- 12 **FAITH HILL** (4) Warner Bros./WRN
- 13 **BROOKS & DUNN** (7) Arista Nashville
(3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 14 **DARRYL WORLEY** (4) DreamWorks
(2) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 15 **BRAD PAISLEY** (3) Arista Nashville
(2) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 16 **GARY ALLAN** (3) MCA Nashville
(2) MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 17 **ELVIS PRESLEY** (2) RCA/BMG Heritage
(1) RCA/BMG Strategic Marketing Group
- 18 **DIAMOND RIO** (3) Arista Nashville
(2) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 19 **JOE NICHOLS** (4) Universal South
- 20 **MONTGOMERY GENTRY** (3) Columbia
(2) Columbia/Sony Music
- 21 **MARK WILLS** (4) Mercury
(2) Mercury/UMGN
- 22 **TRACE ADKINS** (5) Capitol
- 23 **BLAKE SHELTON** (5) Warner Bros./WRN
- 24 **CHRIS CAGLE** (3) Capitol
- 25 **RANDY TRAVIS** (2) Word-Curb/Warner Bros.
(1) Word-Curb/Warner Bros. Christian/WRN
(1) Word-Curb/Warner Bros. Christian

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top New Country Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **DIERKS BENTLEY** (3) Capitol
- 2 **BUDDY JEWELL** (2) Columbia
(1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 **JIMMY WAYNE** (2) DreamWorks
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 4 **CRAIG MORGAN** (3) Broken Bow
- 5 **JEFF BATES** (2) RCA
(1) RCA/RLG
- 6 **AARON LINES** (2) RCA
(1) RCA/RLG
- 7 **BRIAN MCCOMAS** (2) Lyric Street
(1) Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 8 **BILLY CURRINGTON** (1) Mercury
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 9 **JENNIFER HANSON** (4) Capitol
- 10 **RUSHLOW** (1) Lyric Street



SHANIA TWAIN

Top Country Artists - Duo/Group

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **DIXIE CHICKS** (3) Monument/EMN
(1) Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- 2 **RASCAL FLATTS** (3) Lyric Street
(1) Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 3 **LONESTAR** (3) BNA
(2) BNA/RLG
- 4 **BROOKS & DUNN** (7) Arista Nashville
(3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 5 **DIAMOND RIO** (3) Arista Nashville
(2) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 6 **MONTGOMERY GENTRY** (3) Columbia
(2) Columbia/Sony Music
- 7 **EMERSON DRIVE** (2) DreamWorks
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 8 **ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION** (3) Rounder
- 9 **RUSHLOW** (1) Lyric Street
- 10 **TRICK PONY** (4) Warner Bros./WRN

Top Country Artists - Female

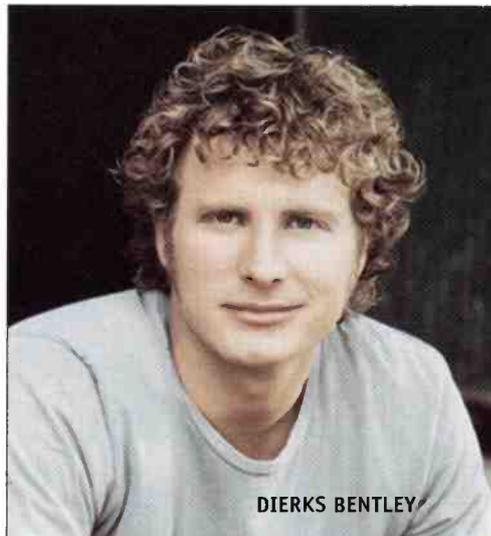
Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **SHANIA TWAIN** (5) Mercury
(2) Mercury/UMGN
- 2 **MARTINA MCBRIDE** (4) RCA
(2) RCA/RLG
- 3 **FAITH HILL** (4) Warner Bros./WRN
- 4 **TERRI CLARK** (3) Mercury
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 5 **JO DEE MESSINA** (4) Curb
- 6 **SARA EVANS** (2) RCA
(1) RCA/RLG
- 7 **WYNONNA** (2) Asylum-Curb
(1) Curb
- 8 **JESSICA ANDREWS** (2) DreamWorks
(1) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 9 **DEANA CARTER** (2) Arista Nashville
(1) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 10 **PATTY LOVELESS** (3) Epic/Sony Music
(2) Epic/EMN

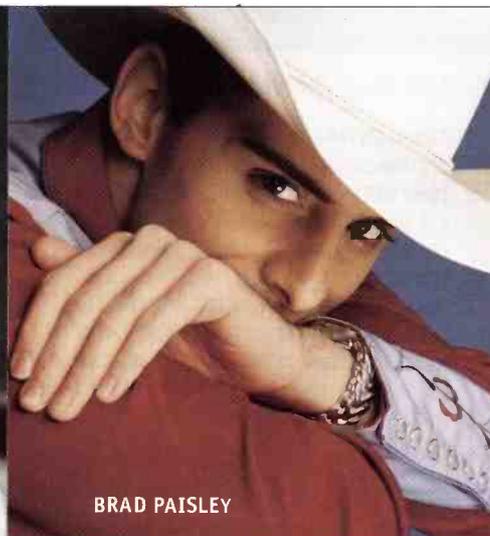
Top Country Artists - Male

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

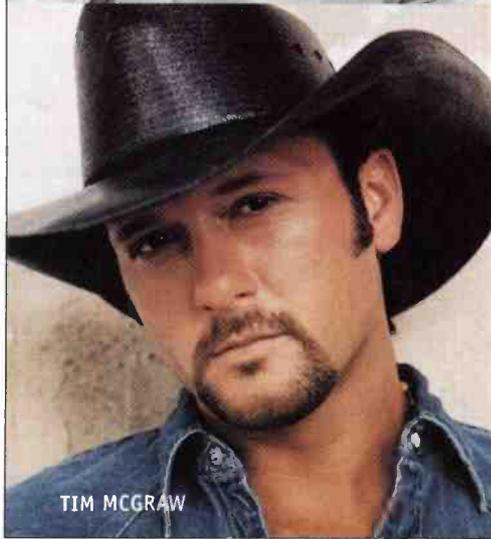
- 1 **TOBY KEITH** (6) DreamWorks
(3) DreamWorks/Interscope
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 2 **TIM MCGRAW** (7) Curb
- 3 **ALAN JACKSON** (6) Arista Nashville
(3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 4 **KENNY CHESNEY** (4) BNA
(2) BNA/RLG
- 5 **GEORGE STRAIT** (5) MCA Nashville/UMGN
(4) MCA Nashville
- 6 **KEITH URBAN** (4) Capitol
- 7 **DARRYL WORLEY** (4) DreamWorks
(2) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 8 **BRAD PAISLEY** (3) Arista Nashville
(2) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 9 **GARY ALLAN** (3) MCA Nashville
(2) MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 10 **ELVIS PRESLEY** (2) RCA/BMG Heritage
(1) RCA/RMG
(1) RCA/BMG Strategic Marketing Group



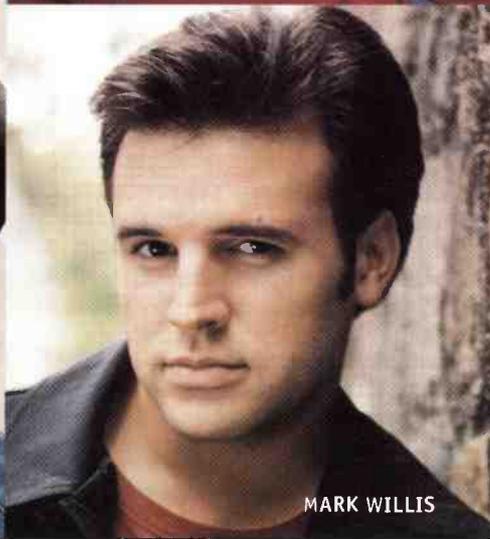
DIERKS BENTLEY



BRAD PAISLEY



TIM MCGRAW



MARK WILLIS

Top Country Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ARISTA NASHVILLE** (40)
- 2 **MERCURY** (31)
- 3 **DREAMWORKS** (27)
- 4 **RCA** (38)
- 5 **CAPITOL** (33)
- 6 **CURB** (27)
- 7 **BNA** (24)
- 8 **MCA NASHVILLE** (29)
- 9 **COLUMBIA** (24)
- 10 **WARNER BROS.** (34)
- 11 **LYRIC STREET** (18)
- 12 **MONUMENT** (7)
- 13 **UNIVERSAL SOUTH** (12)
- 14 **BROKEN BOW** (6)
- 15 **WORD-CURB** (5)

Top Country Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **RCA LABEL GROUP** (98)
- 2 **UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP NASHVILLE** (67)
- 3 **DREAMWORKS** (27)
- 4 **SONY MUSIC** (44)
- 5 **CAPITOL** (34)



RCA RECORDS LABEL

Top Country Album Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **SHANIA TWAIN** (2) Mercury/UMGN
- 2 **DIXIE CHICKS** (1) Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 **TOBY KEITH** (3) DreamWorks/Interscope
(1) Mercury/UMGN
- 4 **TIM MCGRAW** (2) Curb
- 5 **ALAN JACKSON** (3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 6 **FAITH HILL** (1) Warner Bros./WRN
- 7 **ELVIS PRESLEY** (2) RCA/BMG Heritage
(1) RCA/RMG
(1) RCA/BMG Strategic Marketing Group

- 8 **GEORGE STRAIT** (5) MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 9 **KENNY CHESNEY** (2) BNA/RLG
- 10 **RASCAL FLATTS** (1) Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 11 **MARTINA MCBRIDE** (2) RCA/RLG
- 12 **JOHNNY CASH** (2) Legacy/Columbia/Sony Music
(1) American/Lost Highway
(1) Mercury/Chronicles/UMGN
(1) Madacy
(1) K-Tel
(1) Teevee/IMG
- 13 **LONESTAR** (2) BNA/RLG
- 14 **DARRYL WORLEY** (2) DreamWorks/Interscope
- 15 **BROOKS & DUNN** (3) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 16 **KEITH URBAN** (1) Capitol
- 17 **ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION** (2) Rounder
- 18 **TRACE ADKINS** (2) Capitol
- 19 **JOE NICHOLS** (1) Universal South
- 20 **WILLIE NELSON** (4) Lost Highway/UMGN
(1) Legacy/Columbia/Sony Music
(1) Sugar Hill
- 21 **BRAD PAISLEY** (2) Arista Nashville/RLG
- 22 **BLAKE SHELTON** (2) Warner Bros./WRN
- 23 **MONTGOMERY GENTRY** (2) Columbia/Sony Music
- 24 **GARY ALLAN** (2) MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 25 **RANDY TRAVIS** (2) Word-Curb/Warner Bros.

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Country Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **UP!**—Shania Twain—Mercury/UMGN
- 2 **HOME**—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 **TIM MCGRAW AND THE DANCEHALL DOCTORS**—Tim McGraw—Curb
- 4 **UNLEASHED**—Toby Keith—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 5 **CRY**—Faith Hill—Warner Bros./WRN
- 6 **ELV15: 30 #1 HITS**—Elvis Presley—RCA/RMG
- 7 **GREATEST HITS VOLUME II AND SOME OTHER STUFF**—Alan Jackson—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 8 **NO SHOES, NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEMS**—Kenny Chesney—BNA/RLG
- 9 **MELT**—Rascal Flatts—Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 10 **SHOCK'N' Y'ALL**—Toby Keith—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 11 **AMERICAN IV: THE MAN COMES AROUND**—Johnny Cash—American/Lost Highway
- 12 **DRIVE**—Alan Jackson—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 13 **GOLDEN ROAD**—Keith Urban—Capitol
- 14 **FROM THERE TO HERE: GREATEST HITS**—Lonestar—BNA/RLG
- 15 **GREATEST HITS**—Martina McBride—RCA/RLG
- 16 **HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?**—Darryl Worley—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 17 **LIVE**—Alison Krauss + Union Station—Rounder
- 18 **HONKYTONKVILLE**—George Strait—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 19 **RED DIRT ROAD**—Brooks & Dunn—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 20 **MAN WITH A MEMORY**—Joe Nichols—Universal South

- 21 **FOR THE LAST TIME: LIVE FROM THE ASTRODOME**—George Strait—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 22 **MY TOWN**—Montgomery Gentry—Columbia/Sony Music
- 23 **LET IT BE CHRISTMAS**—Alan Jackson—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 24 **TOTALLY COUNTRY VOL. 2**—Various Artists—Epic/WEA/Universal/RLG/Sony Music
- 25 **RISE AND SHINE**—Randy Travis—Word-Curb/Warner Bros.
- 26 **COMPLETELY**—Diamond Rio—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 27 **THE DREAMER**—Blake Shelton—Warner Bros./WRN
- 28 **MARTINA**—Martina McBride—RCA/RLG
- 29 **MUD ON THE TIRES**—Brad Paisley—Arista Nashville/RLG
- 30 **CHRIS CAGLE**—Chris Cagle—Capitol
- 31 **GREATEST HITS**—Jo Dee Messina—Curb
- 32 **WAVE ON WAVE**—Pat Green—Republic/Universal South
- 33 **GREATEST HITS COLLECTION, VOLUME I**—Trace Adkins—Capitol
- 34 **BUDDY JEWELL**—Buddy Jewell—Columbia/Sony Music
- 35 **THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED**—George Strait—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 36 **THE BEST OF GEORGE STRAIT: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS THE MILLENNIUM COLLECTION**—George Strait—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 37 **THIS SIDE**—Nickel Creek—Sugar Hill
- 38 **ALRIGHT GUY**—Gary Allan—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 39 **NEXT BIG THING**—Vince Gill—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 40 **IN THE MOOD: THE LOVE SONGS**—Alabama—RCA/RLG
- 41 **GREATEST HITS**—Mark Wills—Mercury/UMGN
- 42 **PAIN TO KILL**—Terri Clark—Mercury/UMGN
- 43 **CHROME**—Trace Adkins—Capitol
- 44 **TWISTED ANGEL**—LeAnn Rimes—Curb
- 45 **PULL MY CHAIN**—Toby Keith—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 46 **I LOVE IT**—Craig Morgan—Broken Bow
- 47 **DIERKS BENTLEY**—Dierks Bentley—Capitol
- 48 **WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW IS LOVE**—Wynonna—Curb
- 49 **THE BEST OF TOBY KEITH: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS THE MILLENNIUM COLLECTION**—Toby Keith—Mercury/UMGN
- 50 **NOW**—Jessica Andrews—DreamWorks/Interscope

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Country Album Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **MERCURY** (13)
- 2 **DREAMWORKS** (8)
- 3 **ARISTA NASHVILLE** (13)
- 4 **CURB** (13)
- 5 **RCA** (22)
- 6 **COLUMBIA** (13)
- 7 **WARNER BROS.** (16)
- 8 **MCA NASHVILLE** (14)
- 9 **BNA** (8)
- 10 **CAPITOL** (17)
- 11 **MONUMENT** (4)
- 12 **LYRIC STREET** (5)
- 13 **AMERICAN** (1)
- 14 **ROUNDER** (5)
- 15 **UNIVERSAL SOUTH** (5)

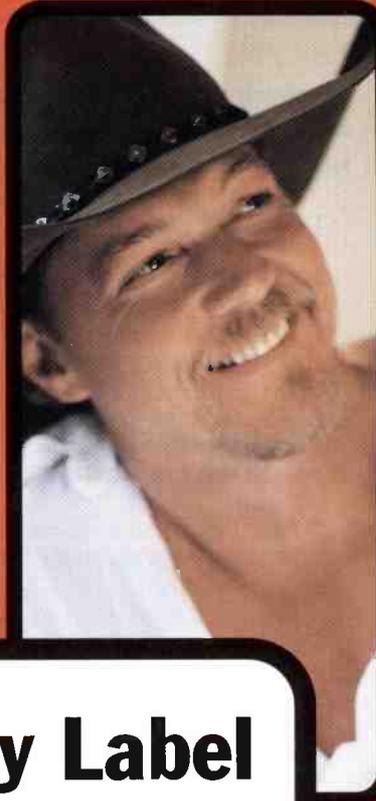
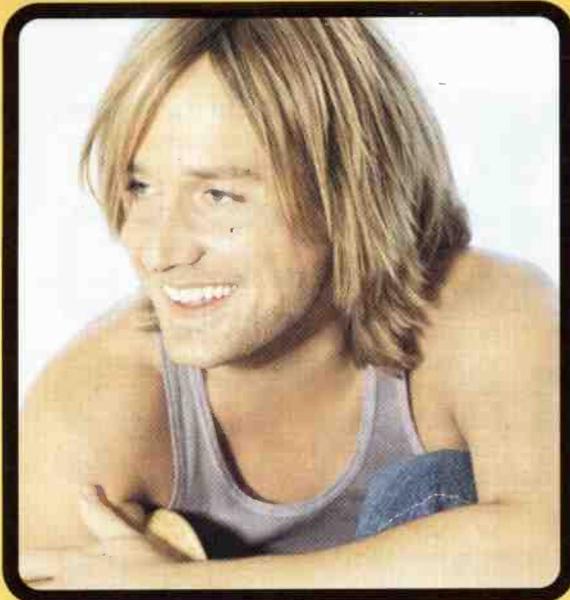
Keith Urban

#1

**Hot Country
Singles &
Tracks Artist**

Top 10

Country Artist
(combined sales & airplay)



Trace Adkins

Top 25

Country Artist
(combined sales & airplay)

#2 Top Country Label
(Singles & Tracks)

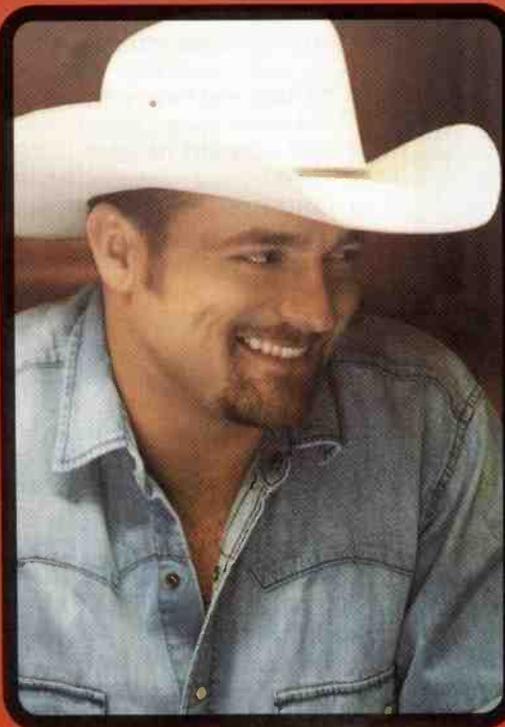


C'mon, get happy!

Chris Cagle

Top 25

Country Artist
(combined sales & airplay)



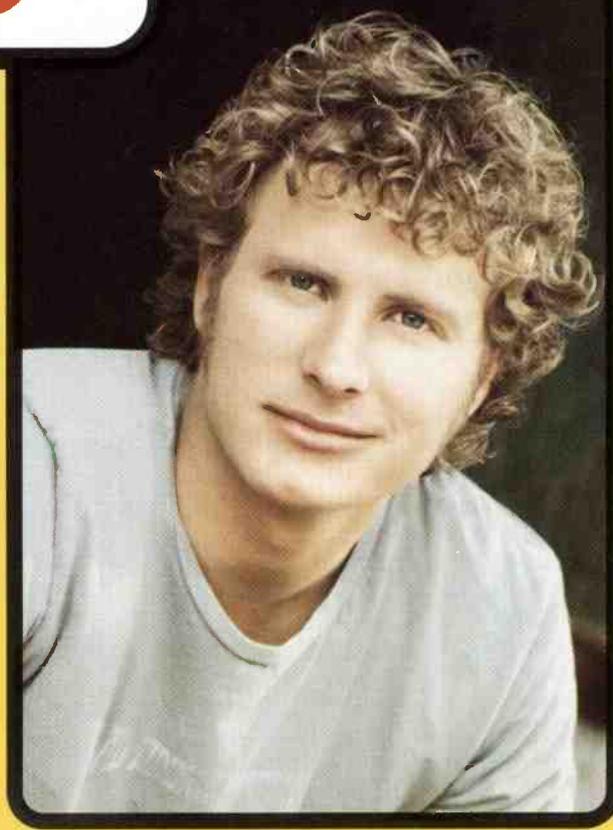
Dierks Bentley

**#1 Top New
Country Artist**



Jennifer Hanson

**The ONLY female
Top New Country Artist**





MARTINA MCBRIDE

Hot Country Singles & Tracks Titles

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 MY FRONT PORCH LOOKING IN—Lonestar—BNA
- 2 BEER FOR MY HORSES—Toby Keith Duet With Willie Nelson—DreamWorks
- 3 19 SOMETHIN'—Mark Wills—Mercury
- 4 IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE—Alan Jackson & Jimmy Buffett—Arista Nashville
- 5 RED DIRT ROAD—Brooks & Dunn—Arista Nashville
- 6 WHAT WAS I THINKIN'—Dierks Bentley—Capitol
- 7 I BELIEVE—Diamond Rio—Arista Nashville
- 8 BROKENHEARTSVILLE—Joe Nichols—Universal South
- 9 REAL GOOD MAN—Tim McGraw—Curb
- 10 CELEBRITY—Brad Paisley—Arista Nashville
- 11 NO SHOES, NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEMS—Kenny Chesney—BNA
- 12 HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?—Darryl Worley—DreamWorks
- 13 RAINING ON SUNDAY—Keith Urban—Capitol
- 14 FOREVER AND FOR ALWAYS—Shania Twain—Mercury
- 15 MAN TO MAN—Gary Allan—MCA Nashville
- 16 BIG STAR—Kenny Chesney—BNA
- 17 THREE WOODEN CROSSES—Randy Travis—Word-Curb/Warner Bros. Christian/WRN
- 18 I JUST WANNA BE MAD—Terri Clark—Mercury
- 19 THE BABY—Blake Shelton—Warner Bros./WRN
- 20 WHO WOULDN'T WANNA BE ME—Keith Urban—Capitol
- 21 STAY GONE—Jimmy Wayne—DreamWorks
- 22 THAT'D BE ALRIGHT—Alan Jackson—Arista Nashville
- 23 SHE'S MY KIND OF RAIN—Tim McGraw—Curb
- 24 SPEED—Montgomery Gentry—Columbia
- 25 HELP POUR OUT THE RAIN (LACEY'S SONG)—Buddy Jewell—Columbia
- 26 WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY—Chris Cagle—Capitol
- 27 LOVE YOU OUT LOUD—Rascal Flatts—Lyric Street
- 28 THIS ONE'S FOR THE GIRLS—Martina McBride—RCA
- 29 THE LOVE SONG—Jeff Bates—RCA
- 30 TOUGH LITTLE BOYS—Gary Allan—MCA Nashville
- 31 SHE'LL LEAVE YOU WITH A SMILE—George Strait—MCA Nashville
- 32 I MELT—Rascal Flatts—Lyric Street
- 33 CONCRETE ANGEL—Martina McBride—RCA
- 34 SOMEBODY LIKE YOU—Keith Urban—Capitol
- 35 A FEW QUESTIONS—Clay Walker—RCA
- 36 FALL INTO ME—Emerson Drive—DreamWorks
- 37 THEN THEY DO—Trace Adkins—Capitol
- 38 YOU CAN'T HIDE BEAUTIFUL—Aaron Lines—RCA
- 39 WAVE ON WAVE—Pat Green—Republic/Universal South
- 40 99.9% SURE (I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE)—Brian McComas—Lyric Street
- 41 WHO'S YOUR DADDY?—Toby Keith—DreamWorks
- 42 ALMOST HOME—Craig Morgan—Broken Bow
- 43 THESE DAYS—Rascal Flatts—Lyric Street
- 44 I LOVE THIS BAR—Toby Keith—DreamWorks
- 45 WALK A LITTLE STRAIGHTER—Billy Currington—Mercury
- 46 THE TRUTH ABOUT MEN—Tracy Byrd—RCA
- 47 I WISH YOU'D STAY—Brad Paisley—Arista Nashville
- 48 TRAVELIN' SOLDIER—Dixie Chicks—Monument/EMN
- 49 TELL ME SOMETHING BAD ABOUT TULSA—George Strait—MCA Nashville
- 50 CHICKS DIG IT—Chris Cagle—Capitol

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Country Singles & Tracks Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ARISTA NASHVILLE (27)
- 2 CAPITOL (16)
- 3 DREAMWORKS (19)
- 4 RCA (16)
- 5 MERCURY (18)
- 6 BNA (16)
- 7 MCA NASHVILLE (15)
- 8 CURB (14)
- 9 LYRIC STREET (13)
- 10 COLUMBIA (11)

Hot Country Singles & Tracks Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ARISTA NASHVILLE (27)
- 2 CAPITOL (16)
- 3 DREAMWORKS (19)
- 4 MERCURY (19)
- 5 RCA (16)
- 6 BNA (16)
- 7 MCA NASHVILLE (16)
- 8 CURB (14)
- 9 LYRIC STREET (13)
- 10 WRN (20)

Hot Country Singles & Tracks Producers

Pos. PRODUCER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 DANN HUFF (20)
- 2 BYRON GALLIMORE (18)
- 3 JAMES STROUD (16)
- 4 FRANK ROGERS (8)
- 5 KEITH STEGALL (7)
- 6 CHRIS LINDSEY (7)
- 7 KEITH URBAN (3)
- 8 ROBERT JOHN "MUTT" LANGE (5)
- 9 TONY BROWN (6)
- 10 MARK WRIGHT (9)

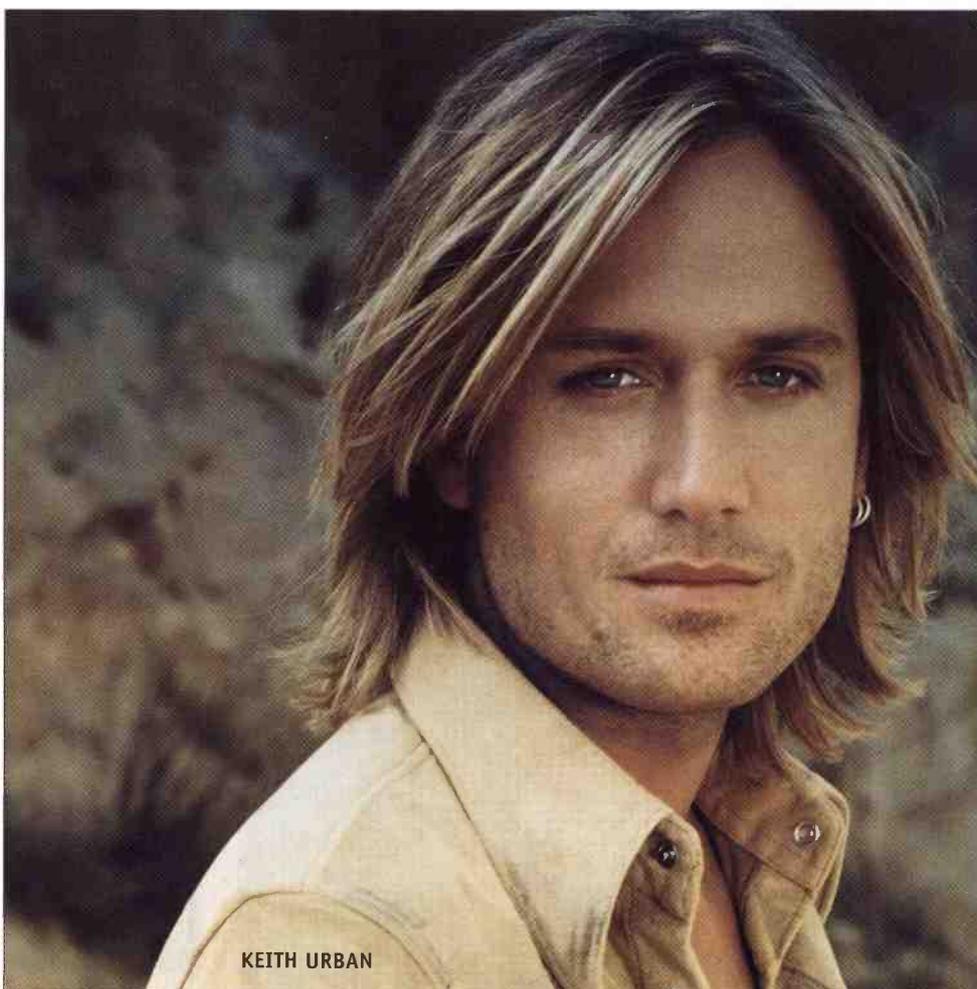
A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Country Singles & Tracks Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 KEITH URBAN (3) Capitol
- 2 KENNY CHESNEY (4) BNA
- 3 TIM MCGRAW (5) Curb
- 4 TOBY KEITH (6) DreamWorks
- 5 RASCAL FLATTS (3) Lyric Street
- 6 LONESTAR (3) BNA
- 7 GEORGE STRAIT (4) MCA Nashville
- 8 GARY ALLAN (3) MCA Nashville
- 9 SHANIA TWAIN (5) Mercury
- 10 DIAMOND RIO (3) Arista Nashville
- 11 BRAD PAISLEY (3) Arista Nashville
- 12 ALAN JACKSON (6) Arista Nashville
- 13 BROOKS & DUNN (7) Arista Nashville
- 14 MARK WILLS (4) Mercury
- 15 MARTINA MCBRIDE (4) RCA
- 16 JOE NICHOLS (3) Universal South
- 17 MONTGOMERY GENTRY (3) Columbia
- 18 CHRIS CAGLE (2) Capitol
- 19 DARRYL WORLEY (4) DreamWorks
- 20 BLAKE SHELTON (3) Warner Bros./WRN
- 21 TRACE ADKINS (3) Capitol
- 22 TERRI CLARK (3) Mercury
- 23 DIERKS BENTLEY (2) Capitol
- 24 JIMMY WAYNE (2) DreamWorks
- 25 RANDY TRAVIS (1) Word-Curb/Warner Bros. Christian/WRN (1) Word-Curb/Warner Bros. Christian

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com



KEITH URBAN

Additional country charts available exclusively on billboard.com

Top Country Singles Sales

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 PICTURE—Kid Rock Featuring Allison Moorer—Universal South
- 2 HELP POUR OUT THE RAIN (LACEY'S SONG)—Buddy Jewell—Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 LANDSLIDE—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Columbia/Sony Music
- 4 WHAT WAS I THINKIN'—Dierks Bentley—Capitol
- 5 STAY GONE—Jimmy Wayne—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 6 SPEED—Montgomery Gentry—Columbia/Sony Music
- 7 LONG BLACK TRAIN—Josh Turner—MCA Nashville/UMGN
- 8 CAN YOU HEAR ME WHEN I TALK TO YOU?—Ashley Gearing—Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 9 WALK A LITTLE STRAIGHTER—Billy Currington—Mercury/UMGN
- 10 BROKENHEARTSVILLE—Joe Nichols—Universal South

Country Charts

Continued from page YE-18

The Chicks' "Home" album comes in at No. 2 on this year's list of top country albums, with sales buoyed by the group's successful Top of the World tour.

Lonestar finishes the year with the top song on Hot Country Singles & Tracks. "My Front Porch Looking In" spent one week at the summit of that chart and received enough airplay at country radio to linger on the list for 32 weeks. Lonestar is the No. 3 Top Country Duo/Group, behind the Dixie Chicks and Rascal Flatts.

Australian import Keith Urban takes the No. 1 slot as the top artist on the Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart. His hit "Somebody Like You" spent six weeks as the No. 1 country single in late 2002. This year, he peaked at No. 3 with the ballad "Raining on Sunday," then topped the chart again with the rollicking "Who Wouldn't Wanna Be Me?" Urban's second solo disc on Capitol, "Golden Road," has been certified platinum.

TOP LABELS, IMPRINTS

For the third consecutive year, Arista Nashville is the leading country imprint. Parent company RCA Label Group claims the top position on the country labels list. Buoyed by the continuing success of flagship acts Alan Jackson and Brooks & Dunn, Arista holds the No. 1 label spot on the Hot Country Singles & Tracks listing.

Country fan Kid Rock scored a hit this year with "Picture," a duet he recorded with both Allison Moorer and Sheryl Crow. The song and video with Crow received much airplay. But because no commercial single was issued with Crow, Kid Rock and Moorer's version tops the Hot Country Singles Sales chart. Kid Rock is also country's top singles sales artist.

Also in the country singles sales categories, Universal South is top label and imprint, fueled by "Picture."

Dann Huff repeats last year's win as country's top producer, placing 20 titles on Hot Country Singles & Tracks. He's followed by Byron Galimore in second place and DreamWorks principal executive James Stroud in third.

Sony/ATV Music is the top country publisher.

Several new male acts broke through in the country format this year. The top five new country artists are Dierks Bentley, Buddy Jewell, Jimmy Wayne, Craig Morgan and Jeff Bates. Jennifer Hanson, at No. 9, is the only new female act in the top 10.

ONE BIG SHOW AFTER ANOTHER



TOYOTA CENTER

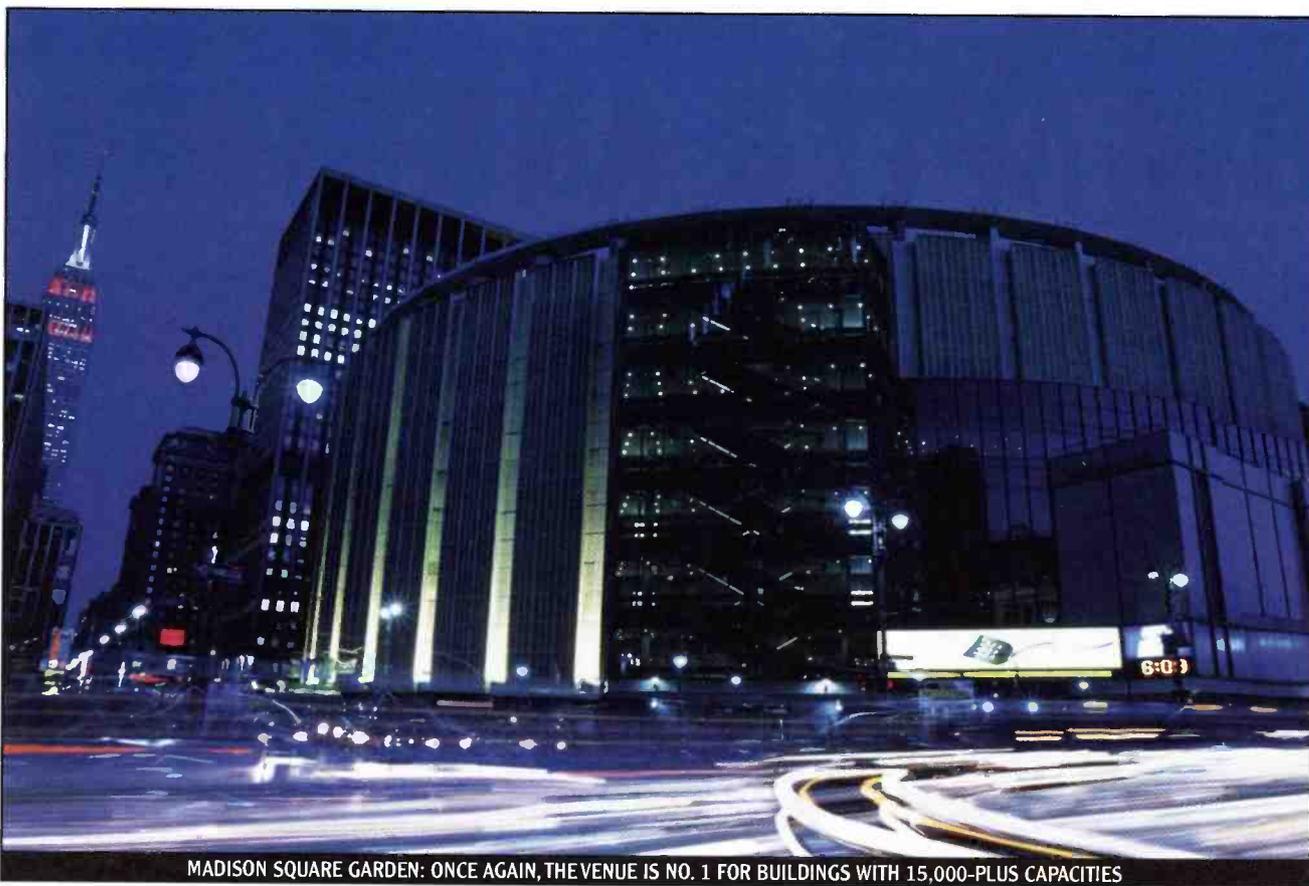
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Talent Drives The Numbers Good Grossing All Around For Arenas



MADISON SQUARE GARDEN: ONCE AGAIN, THE VENUE IS NO. 1 FOR BUILDINGS WITH 15,000-PLUS CAPACITIES

BY RAY WADDELL

The concert business has changed drastically during the past few years, but one thing has remained constant: Playing Madison Square Garden is a career milestone for any act.

Such cachet has helped this New York landmark remain atop the year-end standings for top-grossing arenas. For 2003, the Garden once again ranks No. 1 on the recap of top venues of 15,000-plus capacity. The arena reported grosses to Billboard Boxscore of \$57.8 million, up from \$52 million in 2002.

Joel Peresman, executive VP of entertainment for Madison Square Garden, credits the diversity of the New York metropolitan market and the status of the building as contributors to the Garden's continuing success.

"There is definitely an aura to the venue," Peresman says.

TOP VENUES OF THE YEAR

"I also think the adaptability of the building and the staff is a big factor, with all the big events and tight turnarounds. The spotlight's always on here, and our people always rise to make these events happen."

Among the big events in 2003 at the Garden were a performance by the Rolling Stones (which ended up live on HBO and on the band's "Four Flicks" DVD); a sixth appearance by Cher on her farewell tour; double dates from the Dixie Chicks, Pearl Jam and Radiohead; a sellout from Coldplay; and a strong Latin and ethnic music schedule.

The Garden finishes 2003 strong, with three nights of Simon & Garfunkel, David Bowie and Dave Matthews & Friends and a New Year's Eve show from Jane's Addiction and Marilyn Manson.

Radio City Music Hall, under the same corporate umbrella as the Garden and also programmed by Peresman, again finishes top in its category of venues with a capacity of 5,001 to 10,000. It scored \$81 million in grosses, powered by the annual blockbuster Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular.

Peresman calls it a "privilege" to work with two such world-famous venues. Among the winners at Radio City in 2003 were Aretha Franklin, a salute to the blues, Mariah Carey, Guster, Sheryl Crow, Wheel of Fortune, the Tony Awards, the Day-

time Emmy Awards and MTV's Video Music Awards.

"We appreciate the support of the agents, managers and acts," Peresman says, "and hopefully we give them the best services in the country, because we know how important these shows are to them. We want to make it right."

The Palace of Auburn Hills (Mich.) moves seven slots up the list of arenas of 15,000-plus capacity to No. 2, reporting \$31 million in concert grosses, up from \$23 million last year.

Marilyn Hauser, senior VP of booking/marketing for Palace Sports & Entertainment, says the building hosted a lot of double dates in 2003, including shows by Tim McGraw, Shania Twain, Dixie Chicks, Billy Joel/Elton John and Simon & Garfunkel.

"Last year we only had one double and this year we had five, so that's a big difference," Hauser says. "We also had a lot of sellouts on single dates, like Avril Lavigne, Dave Matthews, Fleetwood Mac and Bon Jovi."

The 20,654-capacity Palace reported 96 concerts and events to Boxscore, 20 sellouts among them.

Las Vegas is home to some of the glitziest shows in the world each year, and many of the biggest played the MGM Grand Garden Arena in 2003. The Grand Garden Arena reported \$28.8 million in grosses, but there's more to that number than just the higher ticket prices that Vegas often allows. It ranks No. 3 on the recap of top venues of 15,000-plus capacity.

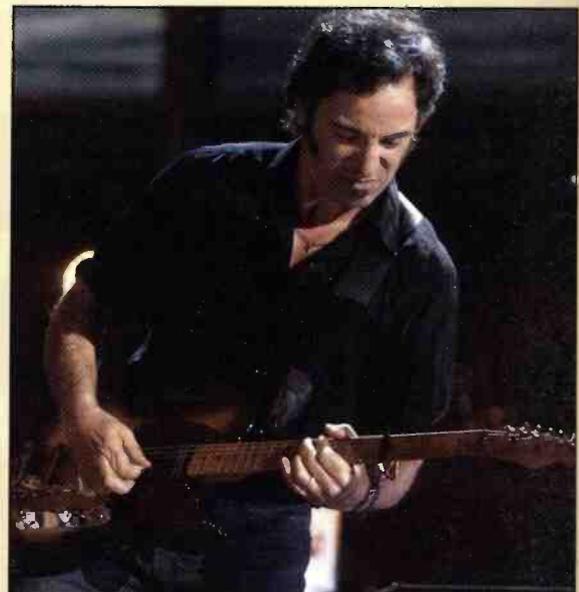
"It's all about balancing the higher prices you see in this market with supply and demand, but that's the same in any marketplace," Mark Prows, director of the MGM Grand Garden Arena, told *Billboard* earlier this year. "It's all relative to what the market can drive."

CASINOS COUNT

Prows says he has three main criteria he goes by when programming the Grand Garden Arena, in no particular order: "Does it have television or [media] exposure elements outside the four walls of the Grand Garden? Does it have a casino marketing objective and does it play into our player development?"

"And the third criteria is the strength of the financial deal. I have a mandate to be a profit center for the hotel. We will take a risk, but we're not a loss leader."

(Continued on page YE-49)



SPRINGSTEEN: GROSSED MORE THAN \$38 MILLION IN EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

Springsteen, Stones Tours Rock Box Office

BY RAY WADDELL

Bruce Springsteen's summer homecoming at Giants Stadium in New Jersey broke the first record. A multi-star bill headlined by the Rolling Stones in Toronto in the wake of the SARS outbreak cracked the second.

Springsteen achieved a remarkable box-office feat with his 10-night, sold-out run at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. With a ticket gross of \$38,684,050 and attendance of 566,560, the July 15-Aug. 31 shows rank as the top Billboard Boxscore of the year, or any other year.

TOP BOXSCORES OF THE YEAR

The previous one-act Boxscore gross record resulted from seven Rolling Stones sellouts at the Tokyo Dome in 1995 that drew 285,294 people and 2.5 billion yen (\$27.6 million). The multi-act Woodstock '99 bill grossed \$28.8 million.

Springsteen's Jersey run was part of the Boss' career-reaffirming Rising tour. "I don't know if [setting a record] means that much to [Springsteen], but I like it," Jon Landau, Springsteen's longtime manager, told *Billboard* at the tour's conclusion. "I think Bruce is very proud of this tour, as he should be. But as far as statistics, management gets to fuss over that a little more. What he did at Giants Stadium is a fabulous thing."

THE STATE HELPED

The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority (NJSEA) promoted the Giants Stadium shows in-house.

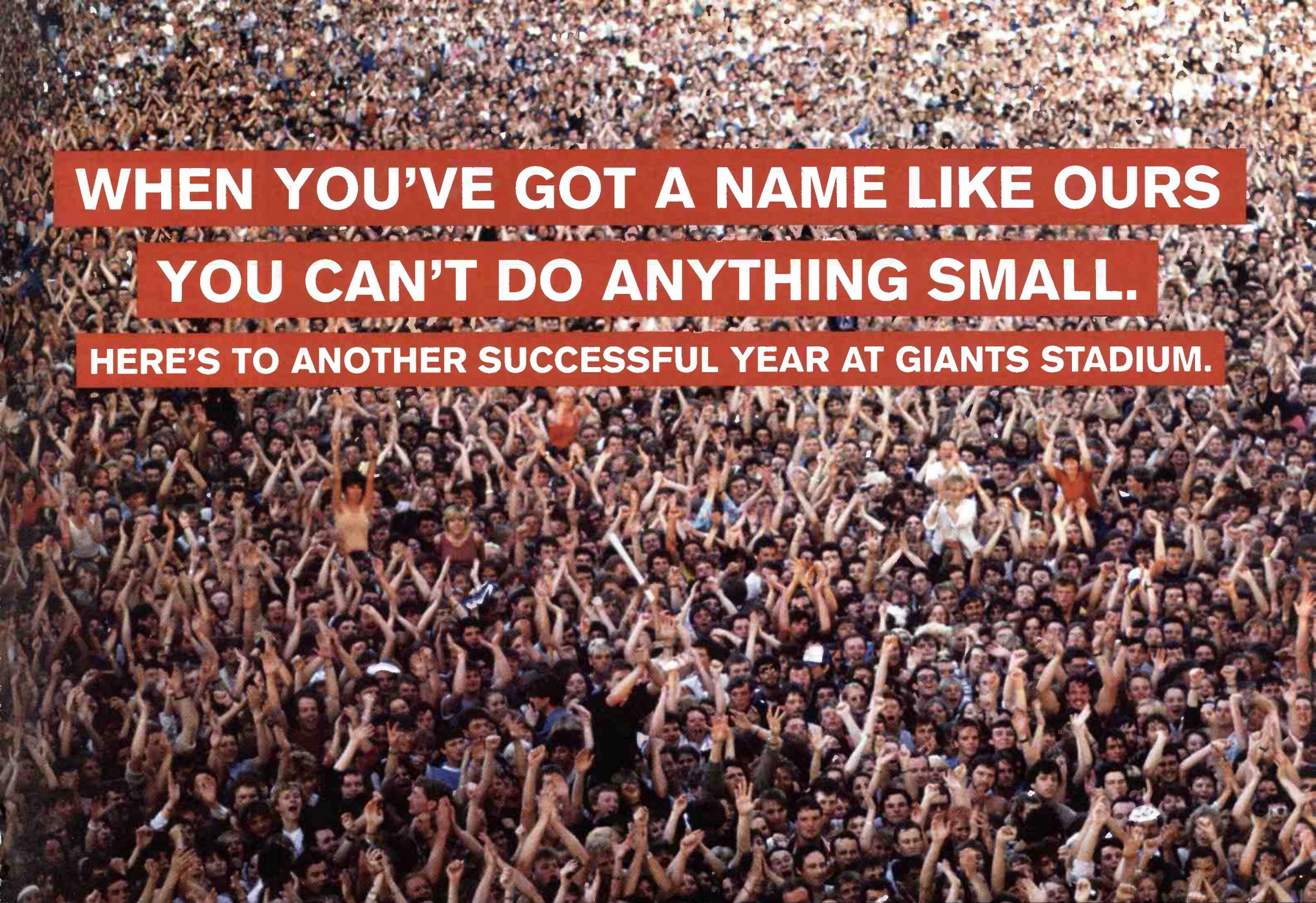
"It was incredible," says Ron VanDeVeen, VP of event booking for the Meadowlands complex, site of Giants Stadium and the Continental Airlines Arena. "Seeing Bruce in New Jersey is the ultimate experience. We sold tickets in every state, and we had visitors from all over the world."

The Meadowlands rose to the occasion by building a 270-foot boardwalk, complete with a Ferris wheel, carnival games, concessions and performances by local Jersey Shore bands. The NJSEA invested \$300,000 in creating the area and just about broke even from its share of concessions sales.

"This was a history-making event, and we wanted to make it bigger and better," VanDeVeen says.

Springsteen had four other stadium dates among the year's top 25 Boxscores, including the tour-closing stand at Shea

(Continued on page YE-46)



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10 sold-out shows * 566,560 tickets * \$38,684,050 gross

★ **BON JOVI** ★
2 sold-out shows

★ **Z100's ZOOTOPIA** ★
Aerosmith, Ja Rule, Ashanti, Ginuwine, Simple Plan, Wayne Wonder, JC Chasez, Daniel Bedingfield, Tanto Metro & Devonte, Bowling For Soup, TLC, Jewel, Mariah Carey, Third Eye Blind, Kelly Clarkson, Clay Aiken, Ruben Studdard; Special Hosts: Britney Spears, Lisa Marie Presley

★ **HOT 97 SUMMER JAM X** ★
Eminem, 50 Cent, Nas, Busta Rhymes, Sean Paul, Nelly, Lil' Kim, Clipse, Fabolous

★ **FIELD DAY MUSIC FESTIVAL** ★
Radiohead, Beastie Boys, Blur, Underworld, Spiritualized, Liz Phair, Elliott Smith, Beth Orton, Bright Eyes, Thursday, My Morning Jacket, Gemma Hayes, 22-20s, Ours, Particle

★ **K-ROCK/D.F.P. SUMMER SANITARIUM** ★
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ARENA
NETWORK

Boxscores

Continued from page YE-44

Stadium (\$10.8 million), Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field (\$10.3 million), Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Mass. (\$7.1 million), and a brace of sellouts at historic Fenway Park in Boston (\$5.2 million).

"In a tour of high points, I don't know if anything could be any higher than Fenway," said Landau, who took the stage with a guitar during "Dancing in the Dark" at the first Boston show.

Promoter Don Law, chairman/co-CEO of Clear Channel Entertainment Music and a veteran of numerous Springsteen shows, said when he was interviewed at the conclusion of the tour that the first Fenway concert "was one of the hottest Springsteen shows I've ever seen. Bruce was inspirational, and the setting was magical; it's great when those two things come together."

LENDING A MUSICAL HAND

The Molson Canadian Rocks for Toronto, a July 30 throwdown that grossed \$7.6 million and drew 489,176 people, was a record for a ticketed event.

Held at Toronto's Downsview Parc, the bill featured the Rolling Stones, AC/DC, Rush, the Guess Who, Justin Timberlake, Blue Rodeo, the Isley Brothers, Sass Jordan and others.

"It was fantastic," said Michael Cohl, international promoter/producer for the Rolling Stones' current Licks tour, at the time. "This may have been the only festival that ran on time. When the Rolling Stones took the stage, we were five minutes ahead of schedule."

Produced by House of Blues Concerts Canada, along with Clear Channel Entertainment Canada, Molson Breweries and the Toronto-based Cohl's team, the concert boosted Toronto's tourism business and general economy after the SARS outbreak.

Attendance is believed to be second only to the 600,000 fans who showed up 30 years ago at the concert by the Band, the Grateful Dead and the Allman Brothers Band at Watkins Glen (N.Y.) Raceway. But organizers only sold some 200,000 tickets for that event.

When the Rolling Stones tour, the band inevitably dominates the top Boxscores for the year, and its Licks tour was no exception. Including the Toronto show, the Stones have 13 entries in the top 25 of the Top Boxscores chart, led by \$11.3 million at London's Twickenham Stadium.

The Stones were particularly strong in European stadiums, including Amsterdam Arena (\$7.8 million); Feyenoord Stadium in Rotterdam, the Netherlands (\$6.6 million); Stade de France in Paris (\$6.4 million); Olympia Stadium in Munich (\$6 million); Olympic Stadium in Berlin (\$5.3 million); Letzigrund Stadium in Zurich (\$4.9 million); and Ring in Hockenheim.

(Continued on page YE-47)

Boxscores

Continued from page YE-46

heim, Germany (\$4.7 million).

The second annual Bonnaroo Festival (June 13-15) in rural Manchester, Tenn., was the second-highest-grossing event of the year, taking in \$11.5 million and drawing 80,576. The lineup for the popular jam-band fest included the Dead, Neil Young, Widespread Panic, moe., Allman Brothers Band, Flaming Lips, the Roots, Emmylou Harris, Ben Harper and the Polyphonic Spree.

Superfly Productions and A.C. Entertainment produce Bonnaroo. Superfly president Jonathan Mayers is pleasantly surprised to find his event sandwiched between Springsteen and the Stones.

"It's like, 'What's wrong with this picture?'" Mayers says with a laugh, adding that plans are already under way for Bonnaroo III. "I thought this year's Bonnaroo was amazing. We brought things a step up across the board, from logistics to programming."

IT WAS THE PLACE TO BE

Phish resurrected its own fest, known as It, this year. Held again at Loring Air Force Base in Limestone, Maine, It grossed \$8.25 million and sold out at 60,000.

Produced as usual by Phish with Dave Werlin of Great Northeast Productions, the festival came off smoothly, despite rain. It grossed twice the amount of previous Phish fests, including Clifford Ball in 1996 (\$3.3 million), the Great Went in 1997 (\$4.2 million) and Lemonwheel in 1998 (\$4 million) but cost much more to produce, according to Phish manager John Paluska.

After a few years of arena tours ruling the roost, outdoor venues, primarily stadiums (and two domes), dominated the top 25 Boxscores for 2003, with 21 entries.

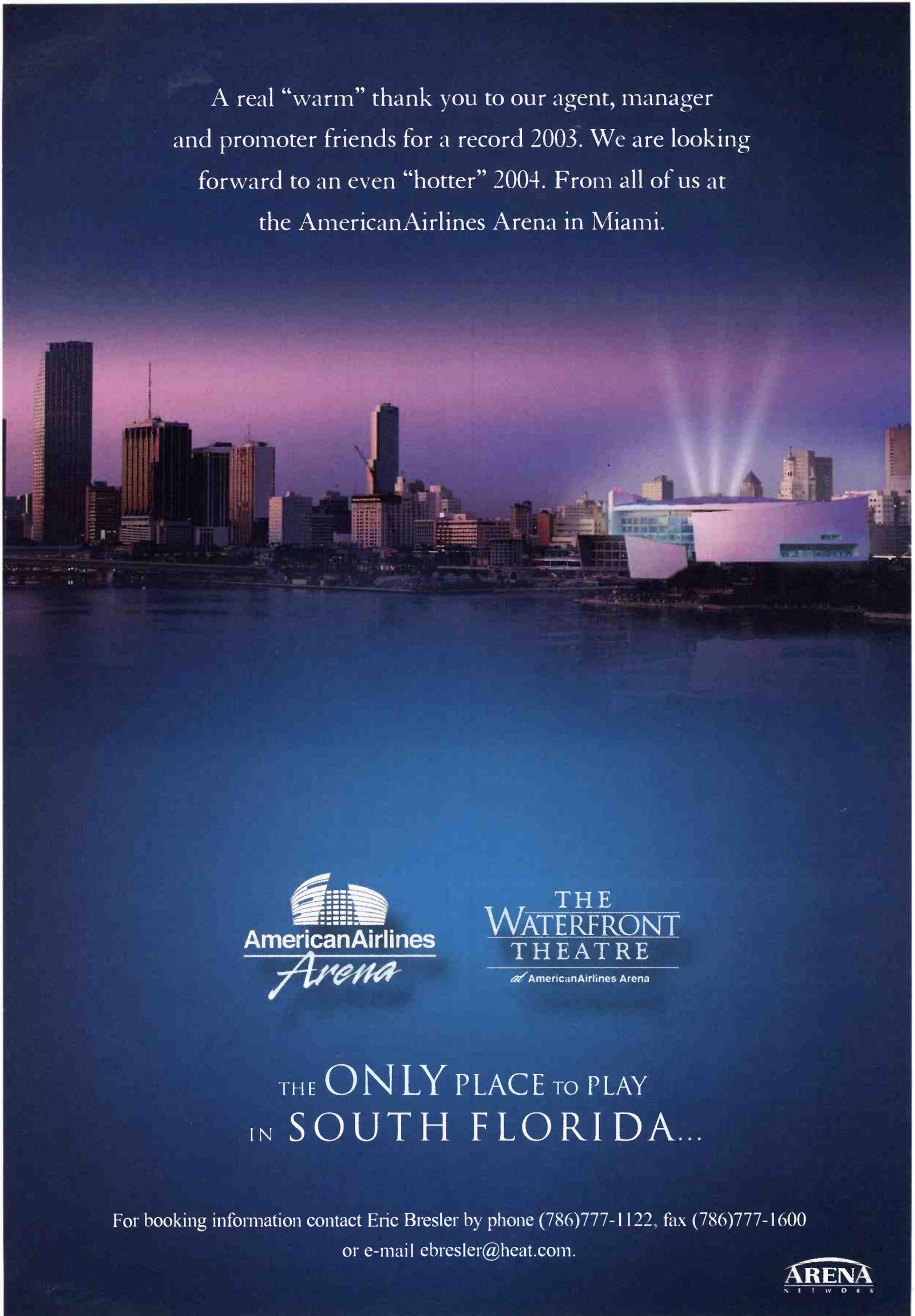
The only four arena entries are the Stones at Madison Square Garden in New York (\$6.2 million, two shows) and Chicago's United Center (\$5.2 million, two shows); Night of the Proms at the Sportpaleis in Antwerp, Belgium (\$8.5 million, 22 shows); and Eagles at FleetCenter in Boston (\$4.7 million, three shows).

Eminem played only one engagement in 2003, but it was a big one. The rapper's July 12-13 shows at Ford Field in his hometown of Detroit grossed \$5.2 million. Also on the bill for the sellouts were 50 Cent and Missy Elliott.

Noticeably absent from the top 25 Boxscore was the season's other major North American stadium outing, Metallica's Summer Sanitarium tour featuring Limp Bizkit, Linkin Park, Deftones and Mudvayne. That tour's top date was \$4.1 million from 57,773 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

The big dates were bigger in 2003 than last year. Thus, the cut-off point for the top 25 Boxscore was \$4.7 million. Last year that number was \$3.3 million.

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Top 25 Tours

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No. Act	Total Gross	Total Attendance	Total Capacity	No. of Shows	No. of Sellouts
1. The Rolling Stones \$299,520,230	3,470,945	3,521,217	115	69	
2. Bruce Springsteen \$181,742,369	2,804,169	2,884,810	82	47	
3. Cher \$76,269,364	1,147,920	1,277,951	113	47	
4. Fleetwood Mac \$69,198,224	809,464	869,791	71	40	
5. Dixie Chicks \$62,224,732	1,050,516	1,082,202	73	52	
6. Eagles \$53,699,915	510,968	569,849	42	10	
7. Dave Matthews Band \$52,572,061	1,201,011	1,271,860	61	29	
8. Aerosmith & Kiss \$49,975,045	696,693	846,349	43	2	
9. Metallica \$48,548,126	692,563	977,073	20	2	
10. Billy Joel & Elton John \$45,858,457	422,367	422,367	24	24	
11. Bon Jovi \$42,445,388	788,607	810,156	34	22	
12. Toby Keith \$41,228,003	1,103,747	1,242,385	97	56	
13. Kenny Chesney \$39,678,021	1,154,893	1,335,723	88	36	
14. Tim McGraw \$32,959,547	677,831	775,164	53	16	
15. Phish \$31,923,973	675,331	747,955	36	17	
16. Justin Timberlake & Christina Aguilera \$30,261,670	546,483	592,360	45	23	
17. Pearl Jam \$28,568,561	743,772	897,024	55	15	
18. James Taylor \$27,033,641	684,452	885,818	65	22	
19. Jimmy Buffett \$26,747,291	504,734	511,768	25	19	
20. Red Hot Chili Peppers \$26,581,544	665,274	828,149	57	14	
21. Shania Twain \$25,334,520	406,038	430,522	23	12	
22. Yanni \$24,907,462	438,786	543,312	61	7	
23. Ozzfest \$24,392,596	502,286	628,448	30	3	
24. 50 Cent \$22,926,684	684,070	832,407	64	26	
25. Simon & Garfunkel \$22,447,005	209,679	209,822	14	12	



DIXIE CHICKS: NO. 5 TOUR OF THE YEAR

How Billboard Compiles The Boxscore Charts

BY BOB ALLEN

The *Billboard* Boxscore charts paint a picture of what's happening in the concert industry by tracking box-office ticket sales throughout the world and ranking the year's hottest tours and concert venues.

A variety of sources report box-office totals, but most reports come from concert promoters. The venues often report their own box-office results. If reports come from more than one source, the promoter's report takes precedence.

There are time restrictions for when a reported concert can be included on our published weekly Boxscore chart. A Boxscore report is eligible to appear on the weekly chart if the show date is no more than seven weeks prior to the issue date. All concert totals are accepted for the annual recaps, but to appear on the weekly chart they must be current.

Older totals are added to the database to be included in year-end rankings and on billboard.com but will not appear on the published weekly chart.

Throughout the year, the deadline for reporting box-office data is at 5 p.m. CT Tuesday. The totals that are reported by the weekly deadline are included in the following week's issue.

The 2003 chart year began Nov. 26, 2002, and the final deadline was Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2003. The year-end charts are based on totals reported during that time period.

Boxscores typically include totals from a single performance by a headliner in one location. Multiple shows are still counted as one Boxscore if the shows are on consecutive days or come as part of a single setup at the same venue. Even if there are dark days during the run, it is still considered one Boxscore if the show setup remains the same throughout the run.

When a headliner strikes the set, plays another venue

and then returns to the first venue for a second show, the two performances are only counted together if the shows occurred during the same general time period and the tickets for each show were sold at the same time. They are not combined as one Boxscore if the artist plays the same venue at different times during the year with different on-sale dates.

All Boxscore charts in the Year in Music spotlight are ranked by total reported gross. On the Top 25 Tours chart, the only totals that count toward individual totals are dates as a headliner. A supporting act does not get credit for the event. Totals from such multiple-artist festival tours as Ozzfest are credited to the tour itself, not for any individual act on the bill.

The Top 25 Boxscores chart contains the 25 highest-grossing individual concert Boxscores of the year—just the single Boxscores, not totals from the entire tour—so this chart often reflects individual show reports by a handful of the top-grossing tours.

The chart ranking the Top 25 Concert Promoters includes overall gross totals for the year presented in two different ways. The first figure is the promoter's total gross derived from all concert involvement, whether promoted alone or co-promoted with another promoter. The next figure on the chart represents the gross amount for sole promotions—when only a single promoter is credited.

The Top 10 Venues charts are grouped according to the venues' seating capacities. There are four size categories: venues with capacities of 5,000 seats or less, 5,001-10,000 seats, 10,001-15,000 seats and 15,001 or more. Not included in these four categories are amphitheaters and stadiums, each of which has its own chart.

In addition to the Boxscores charts printed in this special issue, more recaps—including non-music events presented in concert venues—appear in billboard.com's Year in Music coverage.

Talent Drives The Numbers

Continued from page YE-48

In Philadelphia, the Wachovia Center (formerly First Union Center) is a perennial top 10 arena and comes in fourth this year with \$27.4 million in concert revenue. The adjacent Wachovia Spectrum, like the Center also run by Global Spectrum, helps open up availabilities, and together the two arenas grossed \$38 million.

"At the end of the day, we operate these two arenas as one venue," says John Page, senior VP of Comcast-Spectacor, which operates the two buildings. "We have one staff and one box office, and we really need two buildings to accomplish what we do."

A big difference between this year and last was a dearth of multiple-night engagements like the \$13 million, six-night Billy Joel/Elton John run that highlighted 2002 for the building. "The only multiples we had were two Eagles and two Dixie Chicks," Page says. "Everything else was a single play."

STRONG SINGLE DATES

Still, the single dates were strong and diverse, including George Strait, Fleetwood Mac (which played the Center twice, though not back to back), Def Leppard, American Idols, Journey/Styx/REO, Tim McGraw and others. "The city of Philadelphia continues to perform," Page says. "This is a real responsive market."

The Wachovia Center closes 2003 strong, with Simon & Garfunkel, Dave Matthews and David Bowie to round out the year.

After missing the cut in the 2002 venue recaps, the United Center in Chicago returns to the top 10 arenas list this year at No. 5, reporting \$26.6 million in grosses.

The MCI Center in Washington, D.C., moves up a notch to No. 6 on the arena venue recap, reporting \$25.8 million in concert grosses, up from \$24.6 million last year.

"Between March and August of this year alone, we grossed over \$19 million as a direct result of hosting the 2003 World Figure Skating Championships, as well as the top-grossing tours from the entertainment industry," says Susan O'Malley, president of Washington Sports & Entertainment. "This is what [arena owner] Abe Pollin had in mind when he built MCI Center: The world's greatest performers providing entertainment to a sold-out arena in downtown Washington, D.C."

The only Canadian arena among the top 10 is Montreal's Bell Centre (formerly Molson Centre), which made its debut on the list by reporting \$25.7 million in grosses.

(Continued on page YE-52)



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Top 25 Boxscores

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No.	Gross Ticket Sales	Headliner, Support Act(s)	Total Attendance	Total Capacity, No. of Shows/Sellouts	Ticket Scale	Promoter(s)	Venue, City, Date(s)
1.	\$38,684,050	Bruce Springsteen	566,560	ten sellouts	\$75, \$55	New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority/ Meadowlands Sports Complex	Giants Stadium, East Rutherford, N.J., July 15-Aug. 31
2.	\$11,503,877	Bonnaroo Music Festival: The Dead, Neil Young, Widespread Panic, moe., Flaming Lips, The Roots	80,576	three sellouts	\$149.50, \$119.50	A.C. Entertainment/Superfly Prods.	Bonnaroo Music Festival Site, Manchester, Tenn., June 13-15
3.	\$11,283,466 (£7,165,001)	The Rolling Stones	97,991	100,306 two shows	\$200, \$50	TGA Entertainment	Twickenham Stadium, London, England, Aug. 23-24
4.	\$10,858,610	Bruce Springsteen	147,892	161,000 three shows	\$75, \$55	New York Mets/Radio City Entertainment	Shea Stadium, Flushing, N.Y., Oct. 1-4
5.	\$10,342,060	Bruce Springsteen	139,318	147,763 three shows two sellouts	\$78, \$58	Clear Channel Entertainment	Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 8-11
6.	\$10,090,424 (1,194,100,776 yen)	The Rolling Stones	91,057	two sellouts	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Tokyo Dome, Tokyo, Japan, March 15-16
7.	\$8,530,875 (7,357,374 euros)	Night of the Proms: Toto, INXS, En Vogue, il Novecento	330,953	333,079 22 shows	\$38.26, \$34.79, \$25.51, \$18.55	PSE Belgium	Sportpaleis, Antwerp, Belgium, Oct. 17-Nov. 16
8.	\$8,250,000	Phish	60,000	two sellouts	\$150, \$137.50	Great Northeast Prods.	Loring Air Force Base, Limestone, Maine, Aug. 2-3
9.	\$7,842,940 (7,037,784 euros)	The Rolling Stones	104,007	104,314 two shows	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Amsterdam Arena, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Aug. 19-20
10.	\$7,107,215	Bruce Springsteen	96,108	98,559 two shows	\$77, \$57	Clear Channel Entertainment	Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, Mass., Aug. 1-2
11.	\$6,689,414 (\$9,278,217 Canadian)	Molson Canadian Rocks for Toronto: The Rolling Stones, AC/DC, Rush, The Guess Who, Justin Timberlake	490,952	500,000	\$15.52	TGA Entertainment/House of Blues Canada/ Clear Channel Entertainment	Downsview Parc, Toronto, Ont., July 30
12.	\$6,626,879 (5,864,987 euros)	The Rolling Stones	92,201	92,304 two shows	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Feyenoord Stadium, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, Aug. 11-13
13.	\$6,409,958 (5,664,031 euros)	The Rolling Stones	75,517	sellout	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Stade De France, Paris, France, July 9
14.	\$6,305,614 (759,700,375 yen)	The Rolling Stones	62,501	63,240 two shows	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Osaka Dome, Osaka, Japan, March 20-21
15.	\$6,245,174	The Rolling Stones	31,028	two sellouts	\$350, \$50	TGA Entertainment	Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y., Jan. 16-18
16.	\$5,970,787 (5,046,330 euros)	The Rolling Stones	62,385	63,210	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Olympic Stadium, Munich, Germany, June 6
17.	\$5,259,552 (4,431,699 euros)	The Rolling Stones	54,401	55,138	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	Olympic Stadium, Berlin, Germany, June 15
18.	\$5,257,000	Eminem, 50 Cent, Missy Elliott	95,709	96,707 two shows	\$56	Clear Channel Entertainment	Ford Field, Detroit, Mich., July 12-13
19.	\$5,222,625	Bruce Springsteen	70,827	two sellouts	\$75	Clear Channel Entertainment	Fenway Park, Boston, Mass., Sept. 6-7
20.	\$5,197,769	The Rolling Stones	31,316	two sellouts	\$350, \$50	TGA Entertainment	United Center, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 21-22
21.	\$5,070,385 (£3,098,500)	Download Festival: Iron Maiden, Audioslave, Marilyn Manson, Zwan, Deftones, Flint	63,000	two sellouts	\$114.55, \$64.64	Clear Channel Entertainment-U.K.	Donington Park, Castle Donington, England, May 31-June 1
22.	\$5,050,530 (£3,060,000)	Bon Jovi, Live	85,000	sellout	\$74.27, \$57.77	Clear Channel Entertainment-U.K.	Hyde Park, London, England, June 28
23.	\$4,896,026 (6,429,461 francs)	The Rolling Stones	42,828	sellout	\$150, \$50	TGA Entertainment	Letzigrund Stadium, Zurich, Switzerland, Oct. 2
24.	\$4,702,240	Eagles	40,150	42,000 three shows	\$175, \$85, \$45	Concerts West/in-house	FleetCenter, Boston, Mass., July 15-18
25.	\$4,695,925 (4,044,741 euros)	The Rolling Stones	56,244	57,000	\$100, \$25	TGA Entertainment	The Ring, Hockenheim, Germany, June 22

Old Favorites

Continued from page YE-12

video screen can come, go out, go up, go down. Simple things that we take for granted in this new technology worked, but frankly for a stage it was revolutionary—and beyond expensive.”

Still, Licks generated big bucks. The tour achieved particularly potent box-office results in European stadiums, although the profit margin is somewhat slimmer abroad. Cohl says he was prepared for such things as Europe's value-added tax (VAT) on tour receipts.

“The first time you get involved in a European tour, which for us was the early '80s, you learn about those things,” he says. “It has not changed that dramatically. The first time you walk into a 17% VAT you go, ‘Holy smokes, what is this all about?’ and then you work through it. It's just different, that's all.”

Billed as the band's 40th-anniversary tour, Licks began Sept. 3, 2002, in Boston and ended Oct. 2, 2003, in Zurich. The final gross is second only to the Stones' marathon 1994-1995 Voodoo Lounge tour, which grossed \$320 million.

STILL THE BOSS

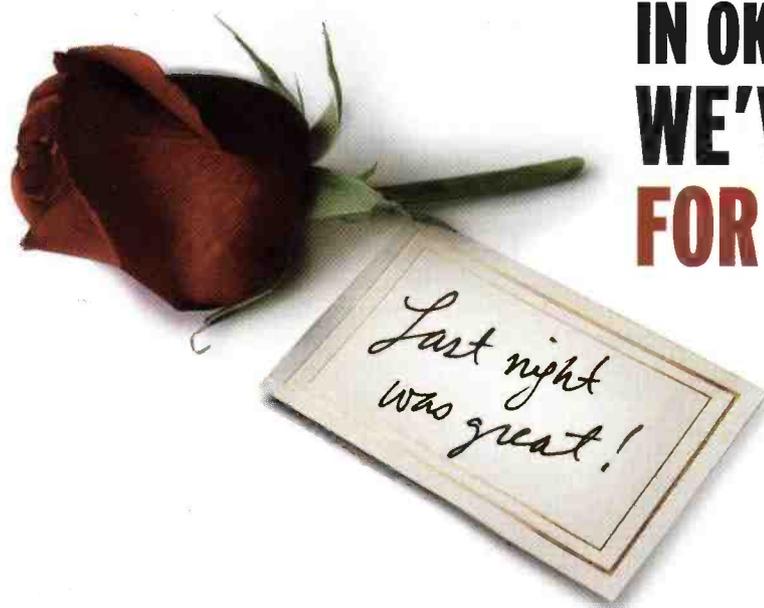
The Stones notwithstanding, Bruce Springsteen's touring results in 2003 are nothing short of remarkable. After a barnstorming run of arena dates in 2002, Springsteen waged a triumphant stadium campaign in Europe. Then he returned to the U.S. for a powerful run of sports stadiums that included the record-setting 10-night stand at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

For the year, Springsteen's Rising tour gross is \$181.7 million. With last year's arena tour added to the mix, the total tour gross comes to \$221.5 million from 121 shows, enough to distinguish it as Springsteen's top-grossing trek in his 30 years of national touring.

“There are only a handful of people who have been around as long as Bruce has who can still tour and be at the top of their game,” Jon Landau, Springsteen's longtime manager, told *Billboard* in an earlier interview.

“What we like, and what I think keeps Bruce going, is that these shows, even though they included lots of classic Bruce songs, revolved around his current creativity,” Landau added. “The sets included nine or 10 songs from [recent album] ‘The Rising,’ and the audience knew them and reacted just as intensely to them as the classics. This was not a look back.”

Cher ended her lengthy Farewell tour on Halloween in Toronto, marking the most successful tour ever by a female artist. She reports \$76.3 million. (Continued on page YE-54)



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Top 10 Venues

CAPACITIES 5,000 OR LESS

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No.	Facility, City, State	Venue Capacity/Total Gross/Total Attendance/Total Capacity/No. of Shows/No. of Sellouts
1.	The Colosseum at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, Nev.	4,000 \$76,899,587 573,285 575,846 142 134
2.	Fox Theatre, Atlanta, Ga.	4,600 \$22,892,445 572,129 1,205,069 268 5
3.	Temple Hoyne Buell Theatre, Denver, Colo.	2,830 \$20,701,210 421,828 589,097 208 14
4.	Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Morsani Hall, Tampa, Fla.	2,600 \$18,219,092 350,963 440,738 188 47
5.	Fox Theatre, Detroit, Mich.	4,800 \$16,356,755 455,478 717,245 156 13
6.	Murat Theatre, Indianapolis, Ind.	2,476 \$11,879,736 305,573 466,478 193 2
7.	careerbuilder.com Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, Conn.	4,800 \$9,904,865 243,656 322,527 86 14
8.	Detroit Opera House, Detroit, Mich.	2,828 \$9,729,573 239,811 389,000 138 14
9.	Westbury Music Fair, Westbury, N.Y.	2,742 \$9,718,337 276,491 362,708 146 30
10.	Dodge Theatre, Phoenix, Ariz.	5,000 \$9,454,209 221,504 317,394 85 4

Top 10 Venues

CAPACITIES 5,001 - 10,000

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No.	Facility, City, State	Venue Capacity/Total Gross/Total Attendance/Total Capacity/No. of Shows/No. of Sellouts
1.	Radio City Music Hall, New York, N.Y.	5,901 \$81,005,625 1,441,949 1,701,432 288 45
2.	Universal Amphitheatre, Universal City, Calif.	6,089 \$27,927,900 508,656 565,917 108 30
3.	Auditorio Nacional, Mexico City, Mexico	9,683 \$22,807,744 1,119,613 1,653,958 169 8
4.	The Theatre at Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y.	5,610 \$18,072,924 462,725 628,968 120 20
5.	NextStage, Grand Prairie, Texas	6,333 \$12,290,844 299,534 397,799 91 7
6.	Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre, Glasgow, Scotland	9,600 \$5,453,311 93,223 96,512 13 2
7.	Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs, Iowa	8,500 \$4,144,912 134,584 238,156 39 1
8.	Pensacola Civic Center, Pensacola, Fla.	9,450 \$3,356,451 109,590 165,765 24 4
9.	World Arena, Colorado Springs, Colo.	9,300 \$3,344,152 118,975 194,438 34 3
10.	Kiefer UNO Lakefront Arena, New Orleans, La.	10,000 \$2,965,609 118,017 187,098 40 4

Talent Drives The Numbers

Continued from page YE-49

Another debut, and the lone West Coast arena in the top 10, is the HP Pavilion in San Jose, Calif., at \$25.1 million. A highlight for the 20,000-capacity home of the San Jose Sharks was a Nov. 4-5 stand by Simon & Garfunkel that grossed \$4.2 million.

In addition to the Grand Garden, Vegas is represented in the top 10 arena recap at No. 9 by Thomas & Mack Center, on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, at slightly more than \$25 million. T&M has the rare distinction of being a college arena in a casino/resort market.

"We're in an incredibly unique situation as a university facility that competes like a private facility when it makes good business sense," Daren Libonati, director of Thomas & Mack, told *Billboard* earlier this year. In other words, Thomas & Mack must work to stay in the loop.

According to Libonati, "We don't sit around and wait for the phone to ring. If we can get 10 concerts a year, we'll be happy. But the beautiful thing is, we don't have to live and die by concerts. We're fortunate to be in an environment that has Las Vegas as a backdrop for events we host, like National Finals Rodeo."

Boston's FleetCenter rang up \$23 million in concert grosses and ranks No. 10 on the arena recap, down from the third-best with \$40.4 million in grosses in 2002. The arena also dropped in shows reported, from 36 to 27.

Another Boston venue, the Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts in nearby Mansfield, Mass., repeats as North

America's top-grossing amphitheater, with \$25.4 million in grosses from 38 shows. An increase in reserved seating at the Tweeter Center has helped the Clear Channel Entertainment venue improve its gross potential.

"We knew we were having a good year because we were getting the shows we wanted and selling tickets," says Dave Marsden, senior VP for CCE-Music Boston, who books the Tweeter Center.

"Actually, we were down a few shows from the year before, so we didn't know how it would shake out."

Even with three fewer concerts, a 12% increase in average sales per show helped the amphitheater top last year's total gross. Leading the way this summer at Tweeter Center was "the mother of all shows, the Aerosmith/Kiss two-nighter, which ended up as our first- and second-grossing shows of all time," Marsden says.

Other doubles included Dave Matthews Band, James Taylor and Jimmy Buffett. "Maybe the most surprising show for us was Kenny Chesney for the WKLB [listener-appreciation] concert, which drew over 18,000," Marsden says. "That's unprecedented for us with a country show in this market."

Marsden says the amphitheater's longtime sponsors have also contributed to the venue's success. "When we have a show in this market, people know about it," he says.

STRONG IN NEW JERSEY

The Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, N.J., is making a name for itself in the Garden State, finishing first among buildings of 10,001-15,000 capacity at \$15.8 million after first cracking the top 10 last year.

Bob McClintock, GM of the Hall for SMG, credits a strong relationship with area casinos, plus a healthy local market, for spearheading the venue's successful return following a \$90 million restoration project completed 2½ years ago.

"This year really fulfilled all of the

promises we envisioned when we restored this historic building," McClintock says. "The casino industry, in particular Park Place Entertainment, early on really saw this as an opportunity to expand their business plan to incorporate headline entertainment."

Seven shows at the Boardwalk Hall in 2003 were presented by Park Place, McClintock says, including Simon & Garfunkel, Elton John and the Eagles. "They have really been instrumental in those cream-type concerts coming into this venue," McClintock says. "Through that relationship we've been able to bring in acts probably above what this market and venue size would normally bear."

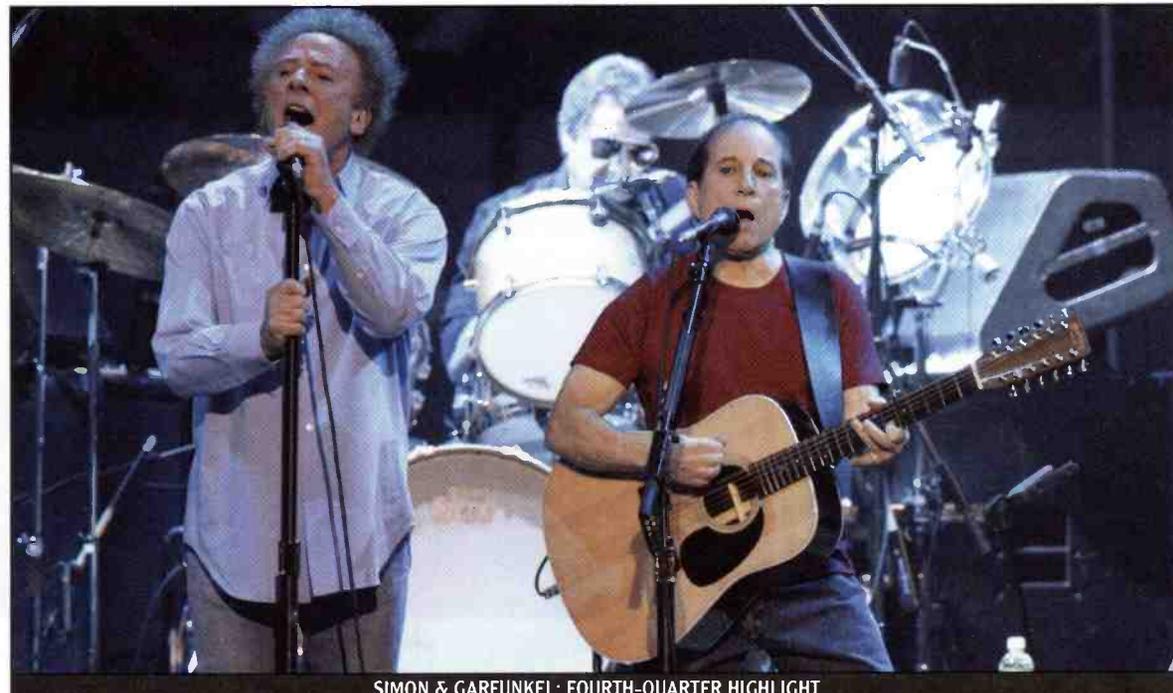
Alan Jackson, Bon Jovi and Bruce Springsteen have also done sellout business, McClintock notes. He says SMG's partnership with Jam Productions has had very positive impact, and promoters like CCE and Jack Utsick Presents have also been active in the venue.

Fueled by the unprecedented run by Celine Dion in the venue built just for her, the Colosseum at Caesars Palace was easily the top-grossing facility among venues with a capacity of less than 5,000. It reported nearly \$77 million in ticket sales.

The Colosseum is a \$95 million, 4,100-capacity showplace opened this year as a state-of-the-art room designed for a three-year run by Dion. Other artists, including Tim McGraw, Mariah Carey, Jerry Seinfeld and Gloria Estefan, have also played the Colosseum. Elton John begins his own three-year run there next year.

But the Colosseum remains the house that Dion built. From March through November, the Canadian songstress grossed a staggering \$71 million and drew 523,909 people to 129 sellouts.

"Celine Dion at the Colosseum is one of the most successful live-event endeavors ever undertaken," says Randy Phillips, president/CEO of AEG Live, promoter of Dion at the Colosseum. "It's running at 102% capacity, sold out months in advance."



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Top 10 Venues

CAPACITIES 10,001 - 15,000

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No.	Facility, City, State	Venue Capacity	Total Gross	Total Attendance	Total Capacity	No. of Shows	No. of Sellouts
1.	Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, N.J.	13,800	\$17,183,115	209,466	257,940	28	10
2.	Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Mich.	12,864	\$13,625,274	360,178	574,738	72	6
3.	Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, N.H.	11,000	\$11,208,098	342,664	455,102	64	10
4.	Worcester's Centrum Centre, Worcester, Mass.	15,000	\$10,643,131	311,880	616,223	68	8
5.	San Diego Sports Arena, San Diego, Calif.	15,000	\$8,965,306	305,844	503,976	57	2
6.	Wembley Arena, London, England	12,000	\$8,291,154	97,451	99,648	10	3
7.	Bi-Lo Center, Greenville, S.C.	15,000	\$8,076,669	295,250	349,919	42	7
8.	Sovereign Bank Arena, Trenton, N.J.	10,500	\$7,647,679	350,533	644,068	104	6
9.	Giant Center, Hershey, Pa.	12,500	\$7,466,102	290,557	486,332	70	5
10.	Spokane Arena, Spokane, Wash.	12,500	\$7,182,337	257,672	416,179	50	3

Top 10 Venues

CAPACITIES 15,001 OR MORE

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No.	Facility, City, State	Venue Capacity	Total Gross	Total Attendance	Total Capacity	No. of Shows	No. of Sellouts
1.	Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y.	20,697	\$57,846,046	1,265,870	1,769,022	106	19
2.	Palace of Auburn Hills, Auburn Hills, Mich.	20,654	\$31,074,973	864,997	1,352,182	96	20
3.	MGM Grand Garden, Las Vegas, Nev.	15,200	\$28,851,097	238,333	251,850	21	13
4.	Wachovia Center, Philadelphia, Pa.	21,000	\$27,430,863	684,316	946,535	68	26
5.	United Center, Chicago, Ill.	25,000	\$26,637,850	327,825	354,265	24	13
6.	MCI Center, Washington, D.C.	20,000	\$25,780,474	550,291	808,052	64	9
7.	Bell Centre, Montreal, Que.	21,242	\$25,700,355	789,782	890,127	104	29
8.	HP Pavilion, San Jose, Calif.	20,000	\$25,183,161	626,794	917,189	88	8
9.	Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas, Nev.	19,354	\$25,016,908	457,607	633,612	45	13
10.	FleetCenter, Boston, Mass.	19,600	\$23,070,707	333,601	382,301	27	11

Old Favorites

Continued from page YE-51

million in grosses for 2003, from 113 shows that drew 1.1 million fans. Her nightly take averaged \$674,950.

In total, Cher played 200 concerts on her Farewell tour, grossing \$145 million and drawing 2.2 million people.

"This is the biggest tour in history by a female artist," says Brad Wavra, VP of touring for Clear Channel Entertainment, producer of the tour. "She crushed any other female [touring] artist."

The numbers back the claim, a

testament to Cher's stamina and box-office clout. Such top female touring artists as Tina Turner (\$108 million in 2000), Madonna (\$74 million, 2001), Janet Jackson (\$41 million, 2001) and Britney Spears (\$43.7 million, 2002) do not scale such financial heights.

Cher's tour may be best-remembered for its equal-opportunity approach to routing. It is one thing to play four times in South Florida, five times in Chicago and six times in Boston. But Cher also put up big numbers in secondary and even tertiary markets.

"Every place we could possibly put this show, we've played it," Wavra says. "We did two shows in Council Bluffs, Iowa. We played Billings, Mont., twice in three months."

Despite what seemed like a never-ending stream of controversy, the Dixie Chicks were bulletproof at the box office in 2003, ringing up \$62.2 million in grosses and selling more than 1 million tickets.

That's easily enough to make Dixie Chicks tops among country acts.

The trio averaged a healthy \$852,393 at the box office. "The bottom line is, for all the so-called controversy this tour has shown, it's far more of a media storm than a storm with their audience," band manager Simon Renshaw told *Billboard* as the tour wound down.

The Chicks may have benefited from good timing. All tickets for their nationwide tour went on sale at one time—a first for a country act

(Continued on page YE-55)

Top 25 Promoters

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No.	Promoter(s)	Total Gross—All Promotions	Total Gross—Sole Promotions	Total Attendance	No. of Shows	No. of Sellouts
1.	Clear Channel Entertainment	\$1,051,338,295	\$870,657,875	27,074,611	6,272	1,448
2.	AEG Live	\$341,858,998	\$222,109,422	4,798,068	694	305
3.	TGA Entertainment	\$299,520,230	\$292,830,816	3,470,945	115	69
4.	House of Blues	\$220,720,614	\$175,492,586	5,857,968	2,989	701
5.	The Messina Group	\$73,299,527	\$8,418,510	1,649,817	124	50
6.	Jam Productions	\$73,130,276	\$59,802,521	1,562,298	490	213
7.	Jack Utsick Presents	\$54,945,986	\$13,229,910	1,173,823	351	71
8.	OCESA Presents	\$51,776,005	\$15,307,240	1,137,749	78	32
9.	Niederlander Organization	\$36,149,497	\$14,975,355	688,237	127	48
10.	Frank Productions	\$35,293,664	\$3,589,582	543,961	28	9
11.	TBA Entertainment	\$28,611,551	\$2,682,410	541,838	45	34
12.	Gillett Entertainment Group	\$25,682,555	\$4,505,108	717,989	156	47
13.	Beaver Productions	\$20,461,363	\$19,273,674	495,037	81	37
14.	TalentWorks	\$19,721,091	\$19,721,091	393,731	80	0
15.	CIE Events	\$18,618,504	0	386,585	43	18
16.	Michael Chugg Entertainment	\$17,350,035	0	\$395,548	133	32
17.	Fantasma Productions	\$16,718,028	\$7,280,251	359,237	91	30
18.	Hauser-CIE Events	\$16,180,008	0	221,692	38	6
19.	A.C. Entertainment	\$12,918,048	\$175,973	21,383	23	12
20.	Superfly Productions	\$11,586,971	0	83,312	4	4
21.	Varnell Enterprises	\$9,374,248	\$7,777,601	186,654	16	11
22.	Goldenvoice	\$9,214,994	\$3,071,157	240,082	37	17
23.	Atlanta Worldwide Touring	\$8,679,596	\$3,077,417	218,088	24	9
24.	Great Northeast Productions	\$8,250,000	\$8,250,000	60,000	2	2
25.	Outback Concerts	\$8,060,627	\$1,640,159	201,836	82	22

Old Favorites

Continued from page YE-54

—grossing about \$47 million out of the gate. The bulk of tickets sold before Chicks singer Natalie Maines offered onstage criticism of President Bush during a London concert, igniting an uproar.

"In retrospect it was a great idea, one that really did work," Renshaw said of the ticket-sale strategy. "We were really lucky we were able to create a schedule for them—not only with the [national on-sale] but with how much media exposure they had leading up to the on-sale."

This is only the Chicks' second tour as a headliner. On their Fly tour in 2000, the group averaged \$524,211 per show and 12,687 in attendance, according to Billboard Boxscore. That tour grossed \$46.1 million.

DMB DOES IT AGAIN

Although Dave Matthews Band seems to have ranked among touring elite for much longer, the group first appeared in the year-end Boxscore top 10 in 1998. The band has never left that elite circle since.

For 2003, DMB grosses \$52.6 million, selling 1.2 million tickets. That's almost identical to the \$52.7 million the band reported in 2002, showcasing an impressive consistency that explains why the group is a favorite among promoters.

"I can't think of another artist out there as consistent creatively as the Dave Matthews Band, and when that happens you consistently do great business," says Chip Hooper, DMB's agent with Monterey Peninsula Artists. "There's no secret recipe. This is just a great band, managed well and booked intelligently."

Meanwhile, Phish, also booked by Hooper, returned to the touring scene in 2003, generating solid business on its first outdoor run since ending a two-year hiatus in 2002.

Longtime Phish manager John Paluska says the 2003 summer tour went well. "Musically, it went exceptionally well; they're really in a great place right now in that regard," he told *Billboard* in an earlier interview.

"Attendance did very well but not extraordinary. We still did great business. Promoters were telling us we should be happy, but it was not up to our own high expectations."

Even so, the downturn is minimal. According to Boxscore, Phish has played to 90.8% capacity this year; in 2000, the band played to 95.5% capacity.

The Kiss/Aerosmith tour, a head-banger's fantasy, did strong business outdoors in a competitive summer for hard music, reporting slightly less than \$50 million in grosses from just 43 shows. That is an average of

(Continued on page YE-56)

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Old Favorites

Continued from page YE-55

\$1,162,210 per night.

"This is like two 800-pound gorillas out here together," says Doc McGhee, manager of Kiss, calling from the road as Kiss/Aerosmith wrapped up the year with some arena shows. "This is the best show out here this year, but of course I'm biased."

McGhee says he and Kiss "loved the co-headlining situation with Aerosmith. In this day and age, you have to have a package."

Even more powerful than Kiss/Aerosmith on a show-by-show basis is Metallica's Summer Sanitarium North American stadium tour, with Limp Bizkit, Linkin Park, Deftones and Mudvayne. Including a solo arena headlining date, Metallica rang up \$48.5 million, averaging \$2.4 million per show. Metallica played in front of 977,073 fans in 2003.

"We had some very big dates and some very big grosses, and I think this tour certainly confirmed that Metallica is still the king of their genre," says Dennis Arfa, president of Writers & Artists Group International, booking agency for the band.

The third big hard rock tour of the

top 25 is Ozzfest, which brought in \$24.4 million from 30 dates. Since the inaugural run in 1996, Ozzfest has grossed a staggering \$146.5 million from 236 shows that have drawn 3.8 million headbangers, primarily to outdoor amphitheaters.

Conspicuously absent from the top tours is the return of Lollapalooza which, at \$13.7 million from 25 reported shows, did not gross enough to make the top 25.

OTHER HONORABLE MENTIONS

Pearl Jam and Red Hot Chili Peppers, two mainstream rock acts that broke in the 1990s, rang up strong sales on the road this summer. Pearl Jam grossed \$28.5 million from 55 shows, and the Chili Peppers grossed \$26.6 million from 57 shows.

Fans of acts that dominated the airwaves in the 1970s had plenty of choices in 2003, led by Fleetwood Mac, which at \$69.2 million quietly mounted one of the most successful tours of the year.

"The Fleetwood Mac tour was spectacular," says Randy Phillips, president/CEO of AEG Live, producers of tours by Fleetwood Mac, Eagles and Christina Aguilera/Justin Timberlake. "We stepped up to the table early on this tour because we believed in it. And we made a shitload of money."

The Eagles Farewell, Part I tour flew high in 2003, with gross ticket sales of \$53.7 million from 42 shows, for an average of \$1.2 million per show. "The Eagles did huge business,

and the tour really continued strong this year," Phillips says. "We were thrilled to do it again."

TOURING'S TOP TWO

The most successful co-headlining duo of all time, Billy Joel & Elton John, put together another big tour in 2003, this time grossing \$45.8 million from only 24 sellouts. That's an average of nearly \$2 million per night.

"We recognize this as the greatest package of two artists of all time," says Arfa, who represents Joel.

Next year will be the 10th anniversary of Joel and John as co-headliners, and Arfa says the duo is considering moving into more international markets.

Two other well-seasoned acts that turned in hefty numbers were Jimmy Buffett (\$26.7 million from just 25 shows) and James Taylor (\$27 million from 65 shows).

Aguilera and Timberlake headlined the sole arena-level tour by younger pop acts this year. The package grossed a healthy \$30.3 million. "This was an exciting package, a case of one plus one equals five," Phillips says.

He says this tour is an example of the promoter being instrumental in putting the tour together. "We felt it was safer to co-headline, and that way they could play in front of more people," Phillips says. "So we stepped up to the table and made sure financially we could combine two individual tours into one major

arena tour."

This is a landmark year for country touring, with five acts among the top 25. In addition to the Chicks, the top country tours are Toby Keith (\$41.2 million), Kenny Chesney (\$39.7 million), Tim McGraw (\$33 million) and Shania Twain (\$25.3 million).

Chesney, with 1,154,893 tickets sold, outdrew every other country act, including the Chicks.

Other country acts—including Alabama (\$20 million), Brooks & Dunn (\$18.8 million), George Strait (\$14.8 million) and Alan Jackson (\$11.5 million)—also put together very successful tours.

Not so for rap. Following a history of retail success not translating into box-office muscle, rap places only one artist among the top 25.

50 Cent rang up nearly \$23 million in ticket sales, much of it co-headlining with Jay-Z on the Roc-the-Mic tour.

The numbers are more promising for Latin music tours. Although no Latin act cracked the top 25, several did well, including Shakira (\$14.5 million), Maná (\$12.4 million), Luis Miguel (\$9 million) and Vicente Fernandez (\$9 million).

Top Tours By Genre

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

Genre	Act/Total Gross/Total Attendance/Total Capacity/No. of Shows/No. of Sellouts
Rock/Pop	
The Rolling Stones	\$299,520,230 3,470,945 3,521,217 115 69
Country	
Dixie Chicks	\$62,224,732 1,050,516 1,082,202 73 52
R&B/Rap	
50 Cent	\$22,926,684 684,070 832,407 64 26
Latin	
Shakira	\$14,598,819 304,252 309,173 18 15

Top 10 Amphitheaters

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No. Facility, City, State	Venue Capacity/Total Gross/Total Attendance/Total Capacity/No. of Shows/No. of Sellouts
1. Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts, Mansfield, Mass.	19,900 \$25,484,366 581,076 751,994 38 6
2. Tweeter Center at the Waterfront, Camden, N.J.	25,000 \$23,610,014 621,869 907,388 51 9
3. Tommy Hilfiger at Jones Beach Theater, Wantagh, N.Y.	14,000 \$19,498,192 407,163 565,298 41 2
4. PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel, N.J.	17,000 \$18,138,494 435,995 719,104 43 0
5. DTE Energy Music Center, Clarkston, Mich.	15,274 \$16,415,912 833,634 1,083,543 72 19
6. Verizon Wireless Music Center, Noblesville, Ind.	18,000 \$15,078,343 462,234 706,450 33 3
7. Wolf Trap National Park, Filene Center, Vienna, Va.	6,986 \$14,438,238 462,012 667,891 94 9
8. Shoreline Amphitheatre, Mountain View, Calif.	22,000 \$14,157,871 445,288 694,269 31 0
9. Nissan Pavilion at Stone Ridge, Bristow, Va.	22,500 \$13,989,304 438,877 650,420 30 2
10. Smirnoff Music Centre, Dallas, Texas	20,177 \$12,956,476 307,462 360,871 31 3

Top 10 Stadiums

Ranked by Gross. Compiled From Boxscores Nov. 26, 2002–Nov. 18, 2003.

No. Facility, City, State	Venue Capacity/Total Gross/Total Attendance/Total Capacity/No. of Shows/No. of Sellouts
1. Giants Stadium, East Rutherford, N.J.	79,646 \$67,283,568 1,163,633 1,354,530 26 12
2. Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, Mass.	60,292 \$15,491,745 192,567 200,720 4 1
3. Twickenham Stadium, London, England	50,200 \$11,283,466 97,991 100,306 2 0
4. Pacific Bell Park, San Francisco, Calif.	41,503 \$10,920,606 116,808 116,808 3 3
5. Shea Stadium, Flushing, N.Y.	56,247 \$10,858,610 147,892 161,000 3 0
6. Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia, Pa.	68,532 \$10,342,060 139,318 147,763 3 2
7. Tokyo Dome, Tokyo, Japan	55,700 \$10,090,424 91,057 91,057 2 2
8. Fedex Field, Landover, Md.	80,116 \$9,567,775 126,154 171,283 3 0
9. Ford Field, Detroit, Mich.	65,000 \$9,473,002 143,548 146,509 3 0
10. Comerica Park, Detroit, Mich.	45,000 \$9,417,577 143,508 183,326 5 1

Chart Beat

Continued from page YE-18

Runner-up to Madonna is Mariah Carey, making 2003 the first year that these two female artists have owned the top two spots. Second place should be good news to Carey, who hasn't been on this recap since 2000, when she ranked 18th. She was last in the top 10 in 1999, when she placed sixth. This year is her best showing since 1998, when she was the No. 1 dance sales artist.

Showing up in the dance top 10 for the first time are Elvis Presley and the Rolling Stones, not frequent visitors to the dance charts. Respective remixes of "Rubberneckin'" and "Sympathy for the Devil" are responsible for Presley and the Stones appearing on the dance recap.

COLLINS NO. 1 AC ARTIST

The No. 1 Adult Contemporary artist is Phil Collins, his best showing since 1990, when he last was No. 1. He was most recently on this recap in 2000, when he placed seventh. Last year's top AC artist, Celine Dion, comes in second, while the top AC artist of 2001, Faith Hill, is third.

Collins has the No. 2 AC song of 2003 with his remake of Leo Sayer's "Can't Stop Loving You" (Atlantic). That's his highest-ranking song since he had the No. 1 AC track of 1994 with "Everyday." The No. 1 AC hit is "The Game of Love" (Arista) by Santana Featuring Michelle Branch. It's the first appearance by Branch on an AC recap and the second by Santana. "Smooth" was No. 12 on the 2000 list.

For the past three years, the Baha Men have been the No. 1 act on the World Music recap, and the group has had the No. 1 album. Their streak is ended, as for the first time in the history of this chart, a soundtrack is the No. 1 album of the year. "Frida" (Deutsche Grammophon/Universal Classics Group) takes top honors and is joined in the top 10 by another soundtrack, "Bend It Like Beckham" (Milan).

Last year, three soundtracks ranked in the top 10: "Amelie" at No. 6, "Monsoon Wedding" at No. 9 and "Black Hawk Down" at No. 10. To find another soundtrack in a World Music recap, one would have to go back to 1996, when "The Brothers McMullen" was No. 12.

In 1995, the No. 1 album of the year wasn't a soundtrack but a close cousin: "The Lion King: Rhythm of the Pride Lands" by Lebo M was inspired by Disney's hit animated feature. And while the Baha Men may not be No. 1, the act has the No. 3 album of 2003, "Greatest Movie Hits" (S-Curve/Capitol).

FEW FEMALES AT COUNTRY

As *Billboard* reported during the year, no female artist has topped Hot Country Singles & Tracks since March 2002, when Martina McBride's "Blessed" spent two weeks in pole
(Continued on page YE-59)

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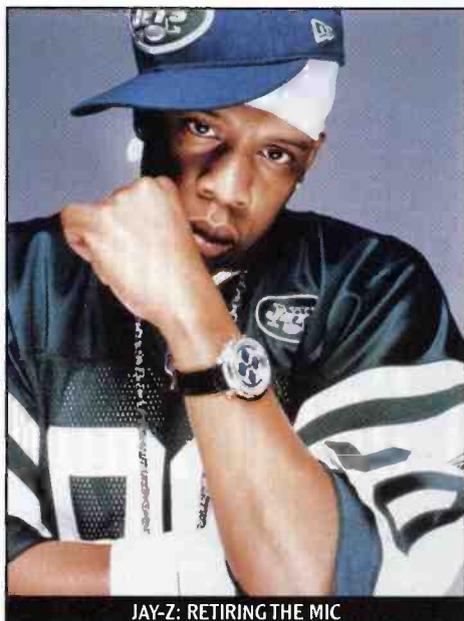


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Rap Recap: Hot Debuts And Jay-Z's Farewell

BY RASHAUN HALL



JAY-Z: RETIRING THE MIC

50 Cent was inescapable in 2003.

The rapper made his major-label debut in February with "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" on Shady/Aftermath/Interscope. He hasn't looked back or left the charts since.

The artist commands the No. 1 spot atop the key pop and R&B year-end charts this year. But if you wonder whether his rap core remains solid, consider this: Four of this year's top 10 Hot Rap Tracks feature 50 Cent. One of them, "In Da Club," also ranks as No. 1 on the Hot 100 and the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks recaps.

His success also helped Shady Records earn top honors for Hot Rap Tracks Imprint, while its parent label, Interscope, was named Hot Rap Tracks Label.

Currently, 50 Cent is promoting the album "Beg for Mercy" by his new act, G-Unit. He is expected to return to the studio to record a second album for Shady, due next fall.

While 50 Cent's career is just beginning, fellow New York MC Jay-Z says he is ending his, at least on the mic.

The Brooklyn native began 2003 with strong chart action for "The Blueprint 2: The Gift & the Curse" (Roc-a-Fella/Def Jam), released in

2002. This year, Jay-Z decided that he was ready to hang it up following the November release of "The Black Album."

The success of "Blueprint 2" singles "Excuse Me Miss" and "'03 Bonnie & Clyde," his collaboration with Beyoncé, landed the rapper atop the charts in 2003. Both singles scaled the top 10 on The Billboard Hot 100 and Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks. At year-end, Jay-Z ranks No. 6 on the Hot Rap Tracks Artists recap.

The South rose again this year, at least in hip-hop. Led by Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz, a number of Southern rap acts had a successful 2003.

Lil Jon's 2003 set, "Kings of Crunk" (BME/TVT), sold more than 1.4 million units, according to Nielsen SoundScan. The album's success was led, in part, by the chart-topping "Get Low."

That single, which featured labelmates the Ying Yang Twins, quickly became one of this

(Continued on page YE-82)

Breakthroughs And Swan Songs

2003 Indies Chart Featured Much Variety

BY CHRIS MORRIS

Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz—the Atlanta-bred rap trio of Lil Jon, Big Sam and Lil Bo—proclaimed themselves the "Kings of Crunk" in the title of their BME/TVT release.

And the group's stomping, keyboard-inflected brand of Dirty South party rap in fact reigned atop the *Billboard* Top Independent Albums chart. At year's end, the collection—which featured guest appearances by such stars as Too Short, Mystikal and Krayzie Bone—had spent a cumulative total of six months perched at No. 1 on the indie albums list.

"A Mark, a Mission, a Brand, a Scar" by emocore star Dashboard Confessional was runner-up to the East Side Boyz's chart-busting entry among the year's top indie albums. Florida singer/songwriter Chris Carrabba's latest release for L.A.-based Vagrant Records struck a resonant chord with listeners drawn to the more sensitive side of punk rock.

"The Wind," Warren Zevon's moving valedictory album, was the saddest success story of the year.

Singer/songwriter Zevon began cutting the

Artemis Records set after he was diagnosed with terminal cancer in August 2002.

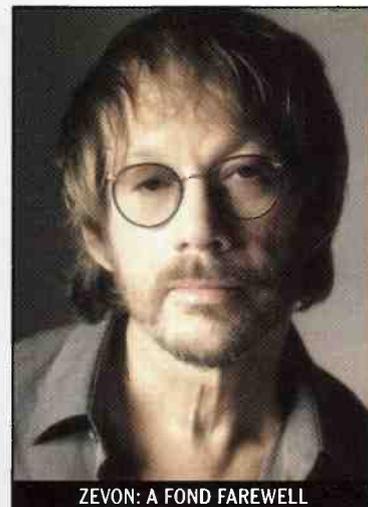
The album—which featured contributions by such talents as Jackson Browne, Bruce Springsteen and Dwight Yoakam—was released Aug. 26 and dislodged the East Side Boyz from No. 1 on Top Independent Albums. Zevon succumbed to his illness Sept. 7 in L.A. "The Wind" ranks as the No. 3 Top Independent Albums chart entry of 2003.

Other Southern rap acts, and one East Coast rapper who saw his big-time breakthrough in 2003, also logged major indie hits this year.

Atlanta's Ying Yang Twins—who also guested on "Kings of Crunk"—scored a hit in their own right with the ColliPark/TVT album "Me & My Brother," the No. 4 indie album of the year.

New Orleans' B.G., a former member of the Cash Money posse, returned to the racks after a three-year absence with the Choppa City/In the Paint/Koch album "Livin' Legend," the No. 8 indie album of the year. It was the latest milestone in a long-running rap career: The onetime "Baby Gangsta" and popularizer of the

(Continued on page YE-82)



ZEVON: A FOND FAREWELL

Madonna, DeVito Rule The Dance Charts

BY MICHAEL PAOLETTA

It's happening all over again. Last year, Madonna was the No. 1 Hot Dance Singles Sales Artist with three charted titles; her single, "Die Another Day," was No. 1 on the Hot Dance Singles Sales chart. Now, 12 months later, "Die Another Day" remains in the pole position of the same chart. The Maverick/Warner Bros. artist also retains the top spot on this year's Hot Dance Singles Sales Artists recap.

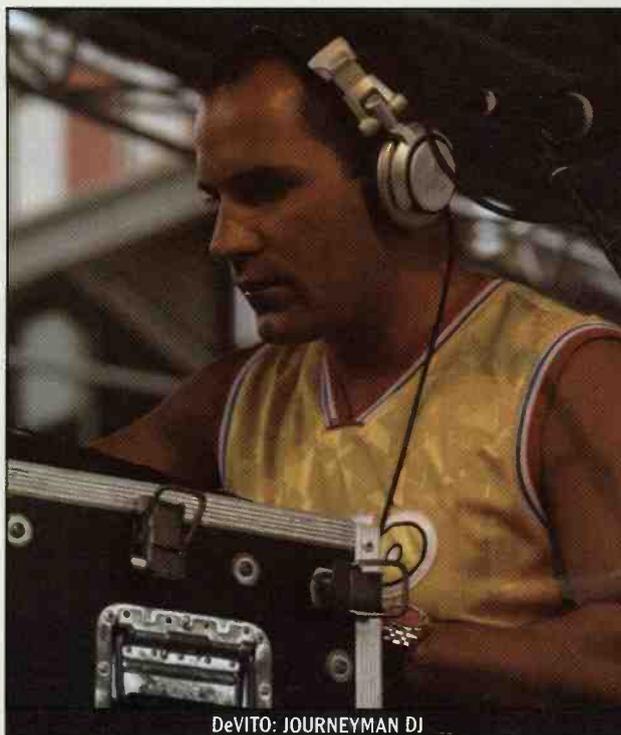
At the end of 2003, Madonna's label released "Remixed & Revisited," a seven-track EP featuring alternative remixes from her album "American Life." Also included were such extras as the MTV live performance of "Like a Virgin/Hollywood Medley," featuring Britney Spears, Missy Elliott and Christina Aguilera.

In the coming year, Madonna will write a series of children's books, following the positive reception she received for two earlier children's books, "The English Roses" and "Mr. Peabody's Apples."

DeVITO BREAKS OUT

During the past 12 months, numerous international DJs have helmed beat-mixed CDs. These are the same DJs that tour the U.S., often performing for sold-out audiences. They are much-admired: Deep Dish, Sander Kleinenberg, Darren Emerson and Danny Howells, among others.

Interestingly, while these DJs did indeed release DJ mixes this



DeVITO: JOURNEYMAN DJ

year, their names do not appear on the year-end Top Electronic Albums chart. But Louie DeVito's name does—four times, including appearances of his "N.Y.C. Underground Party 5" at the No. 1 spot, followed by "Ultra.Dance 04" at No. 9 on that recap.

DeVito is not an international DJ. He is also not a DJ's DJ. He is simply a DJ-resident of New Jersey who plays for club-goers. His musical landscape encompasses progressive house, pop-hued trance and diva wailings. His is a sound aimed squarely at believers on the dance floor. This rhythmic philosophy extends to the track listings on DeVito's CDs.

While DeVito primarily releases his CDs on his own label, DeeVee Music, distributed by Musicrama, during the past year he connected with ultra-hot Ultra Records for "Ultra.Dance 04." This was a smart business move for both parties. The two-disc collection introduced DeVito to many party people outside of his stronghold, the New York metropolitan region; it also aligned DeVito with Ultra's cool, respected brand image. In November, DeeVee released the sixth volume in DeVito's successful "N.Y.C. Underground Party" series.

Justin Timberlake's tour this year with Christina Aguilera and his own select solo dates were some of the year's most difficult-to-come-by tickets. Timberlake caused a similar reaction in clubland, where savvy remixes of his tracks "Like I Love You," "Rock Your Body" and "Cry Me a River" continue to wreak havoc on dance floors. The success of these three

(Continued on page YE-86)

Chart Beat

Continued from page YE-57

position. That drought makes an impact on the annual recap, where female artists are shut out of the top 10 for the first time since 1993.

It's a little worse this year, as the highest-ranking song by a female artist is Shania Twain's "Forever and for Always" (Mercury) at No. 14. In 1993, the top-ranked song by a female was Patty Loveless' "Blame It on Your Heart" at No. 12.

Ironically, women rule the Top Country Albums recap. Twain is in first place with "Up!" (Mercury), and Dixie Chicks are second with "Home" (Monument/Columbia). That is the best showing for females on this recap since 2000, when Dixie Chicks' "Fly" was on top, followed by Faith Hill's "Breathe" and Twain's "Come On Over."

The most senior name in the top 10 of the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums recap is Luther Vandross, whose first chart entry, "Never Too Much," was the No. 8 album of 1982. Vandross equals that ranking in 2003, as "Dance With My Father" (J) is the No. 8 album of the year. That puts "Father" in a tie as the third-highest ranking for Vandross on an annual recap. He had the No. 5 title of 1985 with "The Night I Fell in Love" and the No. 7 album of 1983 with "Forever, for Always, for Love."

For the third time in the past four years, the same song rules the Modern and Mainstream Rock recaps. Former Bay Area band Trapt, based in Los Angeles since February 2001, scored with its first chart entry, "Headstrong" (Warner Bros.). Trapt follows in the footsteps of Puddle of Mudd, which was No. 1 on those recaps of 2002 with "Blurry," and 3 Doors Down, king of both rock hills in 2000 with "Kryptonite."

R&B

Continued from page YE-18

Powered by hypnotic lead single "Crazy in Love," the album has since spun off a second No. 1 R&B/hip-hop hit, "Baby Boy," featuring 2003's dancehall reggae phenomenon, Sean Paul. Beyoncé plans to rejoin Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams for a new Destiny's Child album, due next year.

As happened with Tupac Shakur, Aaliyah's popularity continues to transcend her untimely death. The singer earns 2003 kudos in the No. 1 spot on the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Artists—Female recap. She finished second in that category last year to title-holder Ashanti.

Aaliyah's "I Care 4 U," released in December 2002 on Blackground/Universal/UMRG, combined hits and six new tracks, including "Miss You," co-written by Jhnta Austin.



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Adult Programming Boosts Interest In Pop Veterans

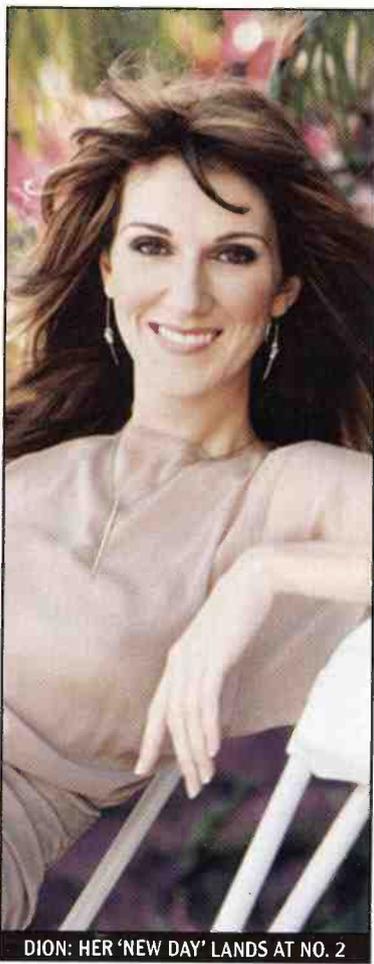
BY CHUCK TAYLOR

The year 2003 marks a time in popular music where many adult artists were banished to the confines of adult contemporary radio. The format gave the primary support to such mainstays as Phil Collins, Celine Dion and Faith Hill, who have all posted huge hits at top 40 in the past.

THE YEAR IN AC

Among adult top 40 artists, meanwhile, Matchbox Twenty may have felt "Unwell" in 2003, but the Atlantic group certainly had a healthy year. Its song "Unwell" is the No. 1 song of 2003 on the year-end Adult Top 40 Titles chart. The song is also one of the year's biggest multi-format hits, scoring at mainstream top 40 and AC.

The song, from the Atlantic album "More Than You Think You Are," also helps make Matchbox Twenty the top adult top 40 act of



DION: HER 'NEW DAY' LANDS AT NO. 2

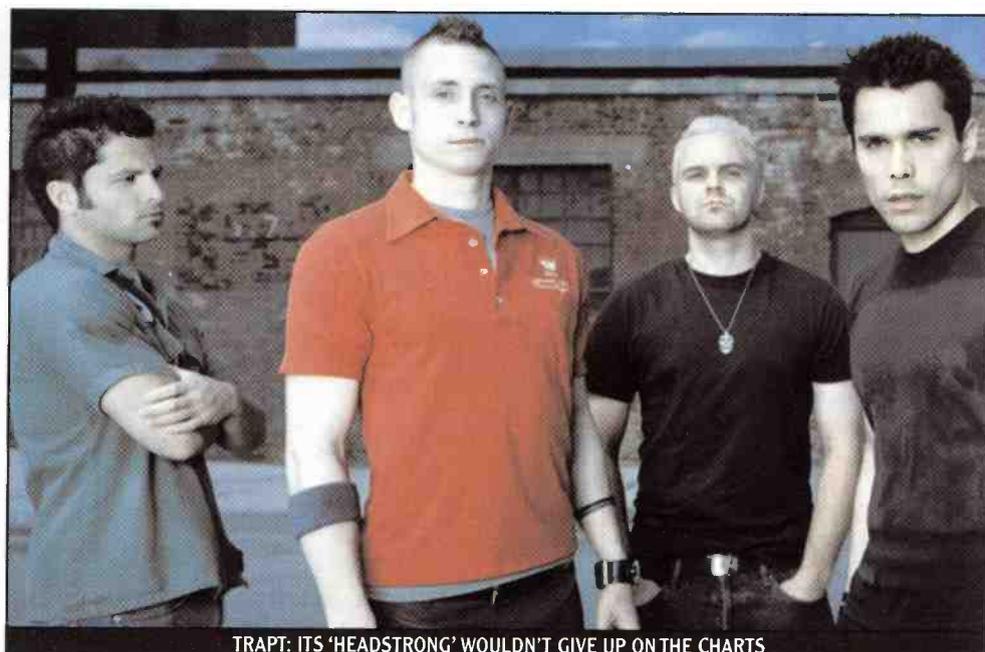
the year. The enduring group, led by singer/songwriter Rob Thomas, is currently on a major U.S. tour.

CAN'T STOP COLLINS

Collins ranks as the top artist of the year in the recap of the Adult Contemporary Artists chart, thanks to three hits, led by "Can't Stop Loving You" from his Atlantic album "Testify." That song runs in the same vein as his Oscar-winning "You'll Be in My Heart" from the movie "Tarzan," which was the No. 1 AC song of the year in 2000.

"Can't Stop," which has been on the weekly chart for more than one year, is the runner-up song on the year's Adult Contemporary Titles chart, behind "The Game of Love" by Santana and Michelle Branch.

Dion is the year's No. 2 AC artist. Her single "A New Day Has Come" was No. 2 on the AC recap in 2002; the past year she charted six AC hits. Of those, one appears on the year-end AC chart: her signature ballad "Have You Ever Been in" (Continued on page YE-82)



TRAPT: ITS 'HEADSTRONG' WOULDN'T GIVE UP ON THE CHARTS

Audioslave, Trapt Lead Modern Rock

Epic Tops Labels With 20 Tracks On Recap

BY WES ORSHOSKI

The self-titled debut from Audioslave—the band comprising former Soundgarden frontman Chris Cornell and three-fourths of Rage

THE YEAR IN MODERN ROCK

Against the Machine—polarized music critics. But what do they know? The disc spawned enough hit singles to propel the act

to the top of the Hot Modern Rock Tracks chart for 2003.

The Epic/Interscope set yielded four charting singles: "Like a Stone," "Show Me How to Live," "Cochise" and "I Am the Highway." The first two led the charge. "Like a Stone" spent 33 weeks on the chart, with two of them at its pinnacle. "Show Me How to Live" peaked at No. 4 and spent 24 weeks on the tally.

All four tracks have helped "Audioslave" sell (Continued on page YE-85)

Youth, Experience Mingle Atop Latin Charts

BY LEILA COBO

A beloved singer who died six months ago, a sophomore album released more than 18 months ago and an upstart label not even 3 years old are the lead players in the *Billboard* 2003 year-end Latin charts.

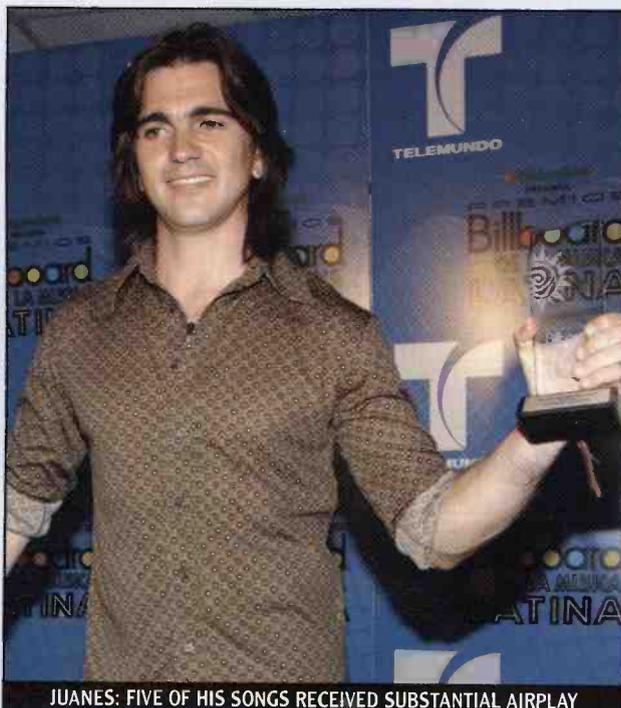
This was the year of the late Celia Cruz, rising new star Juanes and Univision Music Group (UG), with its Univision Records and Fonovisa labels.

THE YEAR IN LATIN

UG dethrones Sony Discos as the leader on the Top Latin Albums Labels chart.

This marks the first time since 1997 that Sony does not own this category, the most important recap as far as Nielsen SoundScan-monitored sales are concerned.

While Sony Discos is still No. 1 on the Top Latin Albums Imprints chart, two UG-owned labels are close behind: Fonovisa at No. 2 and Univision Records at No. 4. The strong showing underscores the increasing dominance of UG as a whole. The label's sales have been instrumental in making Universal Music Video & Distribution the top distributor of Latin albums in the country, a position it attained last year but solidified in 2003 with an even larger share of the Latin market.



JUANES: FIVE OF HIS SONGS RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL AIRPLAY

Juanes ends the year at No. 1 on several Latin charts. The Colombian pop/rocker first made a splash in 2001, not with sales but with six Latin Grammy Award nominations, for his solo debut album, "Fijate Bien" (Surco/Universal).

Last year his sophomore effort, "Un Día Normal," was No. 6 on the *Billboard* 2002 Top Latin Albums chart.

This year, boosted by extensive touring, multiple Latin Grammy Awards and heavy airplay, "Un Día Normal" is No. 1 on the Top Latin Albums chart and the Top Latin Pop Albums chart.

The extent of radio's role in Juanes' success can be measured by the charts. Five singles from "Un Día Normal"—"Fotografía," "Es Por Ti," "Mala Gente," "La Paga" and "A Dios le Pido"—received substantial airplay. This makes Juanes the leading artist on the Hot Latin Tracks Artists, Hot Latin Pop Tracks Artists and Hot Latin Songwriters charts. The last achievement is especially significant, considering that in the past, most Hot Latin Pop Tracks songwriters gain a footing in the charts with songs that other acts perform.

Such is the case with Franco De Vita, who came in second on the Hot Latin Songwriters chart. His song "Tal Vez," performed by Ricky Martin, tops the Hot Latin Tracks chart.

If De Vita's fine songs have made him a fixture on our year-end charts, the same can be said for Rudy Pérez, who is No. (Continued on page YE-83)

Top Pop

Continued from page YE-6

chart-topping "Get Busy" (VP/Atlantic). That makes him the highest-ranking Jamaican on a Hot 100 annual recap. In 2001, Shaggy missed the top 10 even though he had two No. 1 hits, "It Wasn't Me" and "Angel." In 1995, Ini Kamoze ended up at No. 24 with "Here Comes the Hotstepper." In 1975, Carl Douglas had the No. 14 song of the year with "Kung Fu Fighting."

Beyoncé and Jay-Z have the No. 4 song of the year with "Crazy in Love" (Columbia). Both are in the year-end top 10 for the first time. But Destiny's Child—the trio comprising Beyoncé, Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams—has ranked in the top 10 previously.

"When I'm Gone" (Republic/Universal) gets 3 Doors Down its debut in the year-end top 10 at No. 5. Previously, its best showing was the No. 15 placing of "Kryptonite" in 2000.

St. Louis rapper Chingy has the No. 7 song of the year with "Right Thurr" (Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol), one of two debut songs to make the top 10. The other is "Bring Me to Life" (Wind-up) at No. 10. That song is the first chart entry for Evanescence as well as its featured artist, Paul McCoy.

Aaliyah's "Miss You" (Blackground/Universal) is No. 8, giving the late artist her first top 10 placing, two years after her death. In 2000 she had the No. 12 song of the year with "Try Again." At No. 9, "Picture" (Lava) puts Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow in the annual top 10 for the first time.

FEW VETERANS

The only returning veterans in the top 10 are R. Kelly and Matchbox Twenty. Kelly has his highest year-end placing yet, as "Ignition" (Jive) grabs the No. 2 spot. In 1997, Kelly was sixth with "I Believe I Can Fly."

Matchbox Twenty has been in the year-end top 10 three of the past four years. It equaled its highest ranking, as "Unwell" (Atlantic) finishes sixth. That is the same position it held in 2001 with "If You're Gone." The previous year, it was No. 9 with "Bent."

With 50 Cent, Kelly and Paul finishing win, place and show, this is the first time since 1992 there has been an all-male top three at year's end. Boyz II Men, Sir Mix-a-Lot and Kris Kross took the top three spots 11 years ago.

The highest-ranked remake is "Drift Away" (Lava) by Uncle Kracker Featuring Dobie Gray. The original, by Gray, was the No. 17 song of 1973.

The Brits continue to fare poorly in the U.S. The highest-ranked U.K. artist on this year-end recap of the Hot 100 is Daniel Bedingfield, at No. 60 with "If You're Not the One" (Island). Last year, the U.K.'s Craig David was No. 52 with "7 Days," and U.K.-signed Kylie Minogue was No. 45 with "Can't Get You out of My Head."

(Continued on page YE-62)

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Top Pop

Continued from page YE-61

"American Idol" continued to exert its influence on the charts, following Kelly Clarkson's initial success in 2002. Three "Idol" finalists, including the winners of the first and second seasons, occupy slots in 2003's year-end top 100.

Clarkson was No. 39 last year with "A Moment Like This." Now she is No. 44 with that single's follow-up, the more radio-friendly "Miss Independent" (RCA). Clay Aiken claims the No. 47 song with his debut release, "This Is the Night" (RCA). Ruben Studdard ranks at No. 88 with his remake of Westlife's "Flying Without Wings" (J).

On the Hot 100 Singles Sales recap, where Clarkson ruled last year with "A Moment Like This," Aiken dominates with "This Is the Night"/"Bridge Over Troubled Water." Studdard is the runner-up with "Flying Without Wings"/"Superstar." Also, "Superstar" is the best-selling R&B/hip-hop single of the year.

HISTORY REPEATED

50 Cent repeats his Hot 100 triumph on the recap of The Billboard 200, where his album "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" is No. 1. One of his mentors, Eminem, had last year's top album, "The Eminem Show."

This year is the first time since 1994 that the same act has the No. 1 single and album of the year. Nine years ago, Swedish quartet Ace of Base captured both spots with a single and an album titled "The Sign."

The double-teaming of 50 Cent and Eminem marks the first time that a solo male artist has had the top album of the year for two consecutive years since 1988-89, when George Michael's "Faith" and Bobby Brown's "Don't Be Cruel" were the respective champs.

In a sign of the continuing split between what consumers want to buy and what radio wants to play, the recap of The Billboard 200 has a little something for everyone, while hip-hop dominates the Hot 100. That genre claims just two slots in the album review: 50 Cent's No. 1 album and the top soundtrack of 2003, "8 Mile" (Shady/Interscope).

The second-biggest album of the year is a holdover from 2002. Norah Jones' "Come Away With Me" (Blue Note) ranked No. 30 last year, but that was before her Grammy Award triumph and the ascension of her CD to pole position on The Billboard 200. It's the first time a female artist has landed in the top two of the album recap since 1999, when Britney Spears claimed second place with her debut album, "... Baby One More Time."

One would also have to return to 1999 to find the last time Shania Twain placed an album in the top
(Continued on page YE-63)

Top Pop

Continued from page YE-62

three. Her "Come On Over" (Mercury) landed in third place that year, as "Up!" does for 2003. Twain is one of three country acts in the top 10, an improvement on the past three years.

COUNTRY'S BESTSELLERS

The soundtrack to "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" was the only country album in the top 10 of 2002, and there were no country albums in the top 10 in 2000 or 2001. This year, the Dixie Chicks rank No. 4 with "Home" (Monument/Columbia), the trio's second time in the annual top 10. Its "Wide Open Spaces" was the No. 8 album of 1999, while "Fly" ranked No. 11 in 2000. The third country act in this year's top 10 is Tim McGraw, who is No. 9 with "Tim McGraw and the Dancehall Doctors" (Curb). It's the first McGraw album to make the annual top 10.

Avril Lavigne's "Let Go" (Arista) is No. 5, after ranking No. 14 last year. She is the fourth female act in the top five, her gender's best showing since 1997, when the Spice Girls, Celine Dion and Jewel were in the top five alongside No Doubt, featuring lead vocals by Gwen Stefani.

With "Metora" (Warner Bros.) at No. 6, Linkin Park is the only act to repeat from last year's top 10. "Hybrid Theory," the group's debut, placed fifth in 2002. At No. 7, "8 Mile" is the lone soundtrack in the top 10 and ranks one notch lower than the No. 6 ranking of "O Brother" last year.

Evanescence is the third act to rank in the top 10 with a debut chart entry, after Jones and Lavigne. "Fallen" (Wind-up) is the No. 8 album of the year. Completing the top 10 is Christina Aguilera's fifth chart entry, "Stripped" (RCA). It's her second time in the annual top 10; her self-titled debut ranked No. 8 in 2000.

On the list of the top 10 pop artists of 2003, only one name repeats from last year: Avril Lavigne. If one includes the years 2000 and 2001, only one other name would be a repeater: Christina Aguilera.

The gender balance is restored this year, as male and female acts each claim five spots in the top 10. Last year, women owned 30% of the top 10, while it was 50-50 in 2001.

Artists charting with debut releases, including solo acts that charted earlier as members of groups, take up half of the top 10: Sean Paul (No. 3), Justin Timberlake (No. 4), Beyoncé (No. 6), Norah Jones (No. 7) and Lavigne (No. 9).

Returning veterans are R. Kelly (No. 2), Aguilera (No. 5), 3 Doors Down (No. 8) and Shania Twain (No. 10). 50 Cent's "Get Rich" isn't his first chart entry: Five weeks before that album debuted on The Billboard 200, "Guess Who's Back" opened and peaked at No. 165.

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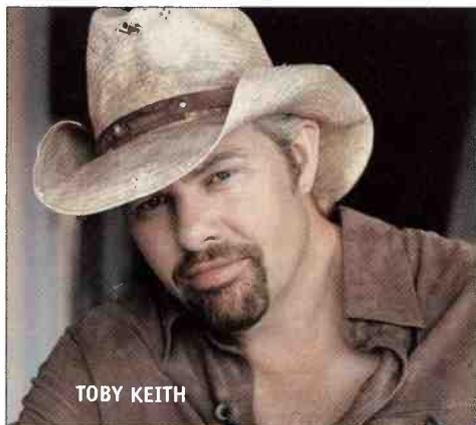
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Hot Country Songwriters

Pos. SONGWRITER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 TOBY KEITH (6)
- 2 CASEY BEATHARD (6)
- 3 BRAD PAISLEY (3)
- 4 JEFFREY STEELE (8)
- 5 SCOTT EMERICK (4)
- 6 ROBERT JOHN LANGE (6)
- 7 CHRIS DUBOIS (5)
- 8 JAMIE O'HARA (1)
- 9 STEPHONY SMITH (1)
- 10 BRETT JAMES (7)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com



TOBY KEITH

Hot Country Publishers

Pos. PUBLISHER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY/ATV TREE, BMI (33)
- 2 EMI APRIL, ASCAP (32)
- 3 SONY/ATV ACUFF ROSE, BMI (14)
- 4 SONY/ATV CROSS KEYS, ASCAP (24)
- 5 WARNER-TAMERLANE, BMI (25)
- 6 SEA GAYLE, ASCAP (12)
- 7 TOKECO TUNES, BMI (6)
- 8 WB, ASCAP (17)
- 9 UNIVERSAL, ASCAP (14)
- 10 ZOMBA, ASCAP (9)
- 11 COBURN, BMI (6)
- 12 UNIVERSAL-SONGS OF POLYGRAM INTERNATIONAL, BMI (13)
- 13 BIG YELLOW DOG, BMI (5)
- 14 EMI BLACKWOOD, BMI (14)
- 15 CAREERS-BMG, BMI (10)
- 16 SONGS OF WINDSWEPT PACIFIC, BMI (10)
- 17 FAMOUS, ASCAP (10)
- 18 ONALY, ASCAP (7)
- 19 NASHVILLE DREAMWORKS SONGS, ASCAP (5)
- 20 CHERRY LANE, ASCAP (5)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Country Publishing Corporations

Pos. PUBLISHING CORPORATION (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY/ATV MUSIC (71)
- 2 EMI MUSIC (53)
- 3 WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC (51)
- 4 UNIVERSAL MUSIC (56)
- 5 ZOMBA MUSIC (15)
- 6 WINDSWEPT HOLDINGS MUSIC (19)
- 7 TOKECO TUNES MUSIC (6)
- 8 BMG MUSIC (19)
- 9 CHERRY LANE MUSIC (9)
- 10 FAMOUS MUSIC (13)

Hot 100 Songwriters

Pos. SONGWRITER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ROBERT KELLY (15)
- 2 ROB THOMAS (3)
- 3 PHARRELL L. WILLIAMS (16)
- 4 CURTIS JACKSON (7)
- 5 STEVEN MARSDEN (3)
- 6 SEAN PAUL HENRIQUES (4)
- 7 SHAWN CARTER (7)
- 8 ROBERT J. RITCHIE (1)
- 9 CHAD HUGO (13)
- 10 SCOTT STORCH (8)

Hot 100 Publishers

Pos. PUBLISHER (No. of Charted Titles)

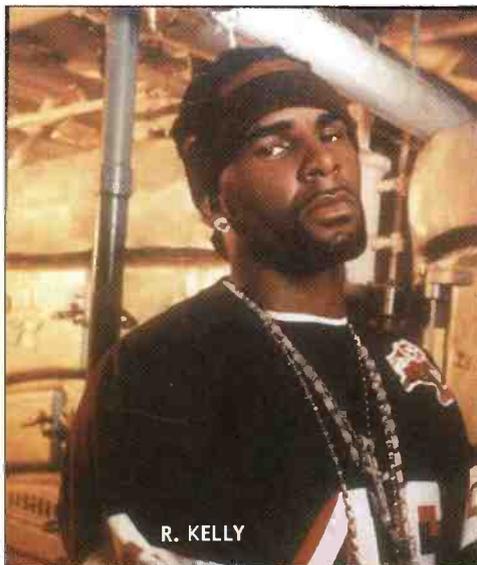
- 1 EMI APRIL, ASCAP (119)
- 2 EMI BLACKWOOD, BMI (67)
- 3 WB, ASCAP (63)
- 4 WARNER-TAMERLANE, BMI (48)
- 5 UNIVERSAL, ASCAP (47)
- 6 ZOMBA SONGS, BMI (24)
- 7 R.KELLY, BMI (15)
- 8 ALMO, ASCAP (15)
- 9 SONY/ATV TREE, BMI (18)
- 10 SONGS OF UNIVERSAL, BMI (17)
- 11 BMG SONGS, ASCAP (21)
- 12 ENSIGN, BMI (17)
- 13 MUSIC OF WINDSWEPT, ASCAP (13)
- 14 FAMOUS, ASCAP (15)
- 15 ZOMBA, ASCAP (21)
- 16 SONY/ATV TUNES, ASCAP (14)
- 17 ESCATAWPA, BMI (2)
- 18 TAFARI, ASCAP (3)
- 19 SONY/ATV ACUFF ROSE, BMI (10)
- 20 THE WATERS OF NAZARETH, BMI (16)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot 100 Publishing Corporations

Pos. PUBLISHING CORPORATION (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EMI MUSIC (175)
- 2 WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC (123)
- 3 UNIVERSAL MUSIC (108)
- 4 SONY/ATV MUSIC (66)
- 5 ZOMBA MUSIC (47)
- 6 BMG MUSIC (36)
- 7 FAMOUS, ASCAP (28)
- 8 WINDSWEPT HOLDINGS MUSIC (29)
- 9 R.KELLY MUSIC (15)
- 10 CHRYSALIS MUSIC (9)



R. KELLY



MISSY ELLIOTT

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songwriters

Pos. SONGWRITER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ROBERT KELLY (30)
- 2 PHARRELL L. WILLIAMS (25)
- 3 CURTIS JACKSON (15)
- 4 SHAWN CARTER (12)
- 5 CHAD HUGO (19)
- 6 MISSY ELLIOTT (11)
- 7 SEAN PAUL HENRIQUES (5)
- 8 STEVEN MARSDEN (3)
- 9 JOHN TA AUSTIN (5)
- 10 TIMOTHY MOSLEY (15)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Publishers

Pos. PUBLISHER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EMI APRIL, ASCAP (165)
- 2 ZOMBA SONGS, BMI (35)
- 3 R.KELLY, BMI (30)
- 4 EMI BLACKWOOD, BMI (80)
- 5 UNIVERSAL, ASCAP (59)
- 6 WB, ASCAP (54)
- 7 WARNER-TAMERLANE, BMI (44)
- 8 THE WATERS OF NAZARETH, BMI (25)
- 9 50 CENT, ASCAP (12)
- 10 MUSIC OF WINDSWEPT, ASCAP (22)
- 11 ENSIGN, BMI (24)
- 12 TAFARI, ASCAP (3)
- 13 CHASE CHAD, ASCAP (21)
- 14 CARTER BOYS, ASCAP (12)
- 15 MASS CONFUSION, ASCAP (11)
- 16 BMG SONGS, ASCAP (18)
- 17 SONGS OF UNIVERSAL, BMI (18)
- 18 HIGH ON LIFE, ASCAP (10)
- 19 VIRGINIA BEACH, ASCAP (15)
- 20 BONECRUSHER, ASCAP (2)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Publishing Corporations

Pos. PUBLISHING CORPORATION (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EMI MUSIC (221)
- 2 UNIVERSAL MUSIC (117)
- 3 ZOMBA MUSIC (68)
- 4 WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC (125)
- 5 R.KELLY MUSIC (30)
- 6 FAMOUS MUSIC (39)
- 7 BMG MUSIC (28)
- 8 WINDSWEPT HOLDINGS MUSIC (36)
- 9 CHRYSALIS MUSIC (13)
- 10 SONY/ATV MUSIC (37)

Hot Latin Songwriters

Pos. SONGWRITER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 JUANES (5)
- 2 FRANCO DE VITA (3)
- 3 RICARDO ARJONA (4)
- 4 JUAN GABRIEL (4)
- 5 MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS (4)
- 6 FHER (4)
- 7 ESTEFANO (7)
- 8 RUDY PEREZ (8)
- 9 LUIS PADILLA (3)
- 10 JOAN SEBASTIAN (6)

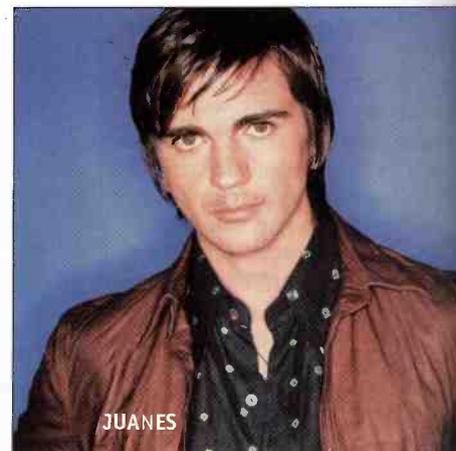
A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Latin Publishers

Pos. PUBLISHER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY/ATV DISCOS, ASCAP (21)
- 2 EMI APRIL, ASCAP (21)
- 3 SER-CA, BMI (11)
- 4 EMI BLACKWOOD, BMI (10)
- 5 WB, ASCAP (14)
- 6 PEERMUSIC III, BMI (9)
- 7 PEER INT'L., BMI (8)
- 8 BMG SONGS, ASCAP (5)
- 9 CRISMA, SESAC (4)
- 10 CAMALEON, BMI (5)
- 11 UNIVERSAL MUSICA, ASCAP (16)
- 12 ESTEFAN, ASCAP (5)
- 13 EDIMUSA, ASCAP (8)
- 14 F.I.P.P., BMI (7)
- 15 ARJONA MUSICAL, ASCAP (4)
- 16 VMR, ASCAP (3)
- 17 SEG SON, BMI (3)
- 18 WARNER-TAMERLANE, BMI (8)
- 19 EDIMONSA, ASCAP (5)
- 20 ELIX, ASCAP (2)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com



JUANES

Hot Latin Publishing Corporations

Pos. PUBLISHING CORPORATION (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EMI MUSIC (49)
- 2 SONY/ATV MUSIC (39)
- 3 WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC (24)
- 4 PEERMUSIC (18)
- 5 UNIVERSAL MUSIC (26)
- 6 FOREIGN IMPORTED PRODUCTIONS PUBLISHING (10)
- 7 FAMOUS MUSIC (11)
- 8 BMG MUSIC (6)
- 9 CRISMA MUSIC (4)
- 10 CAMALEON MUSIC (5)

Hot Rap Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **50 CENT** (5) *Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
(1) *G-Unit/Shady/Interscope*
(1) *Queen Bee/Atlantic*
(1) *Bad Boy/UMRG*
(1) *No Label*
- 2 **SEAN PAUL** (3) *VP/Atlantic*
- 3 **CHINGY** (2) *Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
- 4 **FABOLOUS** (2) *Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
- 5 **MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT** (4)
The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) *Yclef/J/RMG*
- 6 **JAY-Z** (3) *Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
(1) *Bad Boy/UMRG*
(1) *Star Trak/Arista*
- 7 **LIL' KIM** (2) *Queen Bee/Atlantic*
- 8 **LUDACRIS** (3) *Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG*
(1) *The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
(1) *Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
(1) *Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic*
- 9 **NELLY** (4) *Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG*
(1) *Bad Boy/UMRG*
- 10 **LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ** (1)
BME/TVT
(1) *ColliPark/TVT*

Hot Rap Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **IN DA CLUB**—50 Cent—*Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 2 **GET LOW**—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—*BME/TVT*
- 3 **RIGHT THURR**—Chingy—*Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol*
- 4 **GET BUSY**—Sean Paul—*VP/Atlantic*
- 5 **21 QUESTIONS**—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—*Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 6 **CAN'T LET YOU GO**—Fabolous Featuring Mike Shorey & Lil' Mo—*Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
- 7 **P.I.M.P.**—50 Cent—*Shady/Aftermath/Interscope*
- 8 **I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT**—Busta Rhymes & Mariah Carey Featuring The Flipmode Squad—*J/Monarc/RMG/IDJMG*
- 9 **MAGIC STICK**—Lil' Kim Featuring 50 Cent—*Queen Bee/Atlantic*
- 10 **INTO YOU**—Fabolous Featuring Tamia Or Ashanti—*Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG*
- 11 **SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER**—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—*Bad Boy/UMRG*
- 12 **BEAUTIFUL**—Snoop Dogg Featuring Pharrell & Uncle Charlie Wilson—*Doggystyle/Priority/Capitol*
- 13 **DAMN!**—YoungBloodZ Featuring Lil Jon—*So So Def/Arista*
- 14 **STAND UP**—Ludacris Featuring Shawna—*Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG*
- 15 **AIR FORCE ONES**—Nelly Featuring Kyjuan, Ali & Murphy Lee—*Fo' Reel/Universal/UMRG*
- 16 **EXCUSE ME MISS**—Jay-Z—*Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 17 **WANKSTA**—50 Cent—*G-Unit/Shady/Interscope*
- 18 **MESMERIZE**—Ja Rule Featuring Ashanti—*Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 19 **GOSSIP FOLKS**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott Featuring Ludacris—*The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
- 20 **WORK IT**—Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott—*The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG*
- 21 **NO LETTING GO**—Wayne Wonder—*VP/Atlantic*



- 22 **I CAN**—Nas—*Ill Will/Columbia/SUM*
- 23 **THE JUMP OFF**—Lil' Kim Featuring Mr. Cheeks—*Queen Bee/Atlantic*
- 24 **CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP**—Young Gunz—*Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*
- 25 **'03 BONNIE & CLYDE**—Jay-Z Featuring Beyonce Knowles—*Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG*

Hot Rap Imprints

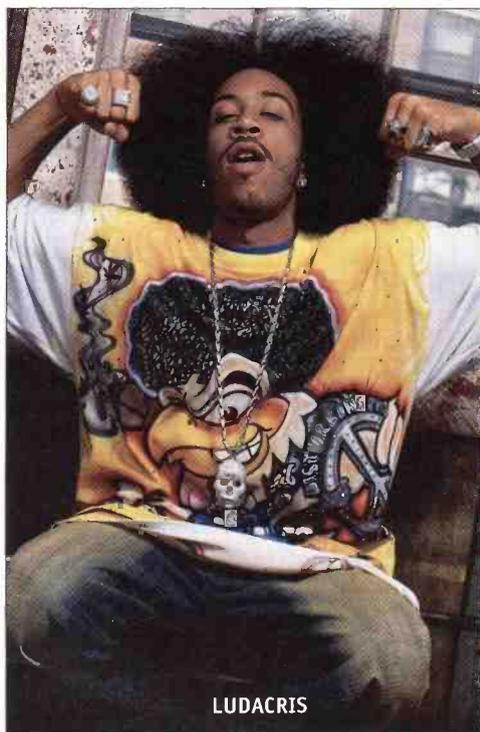
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **SHADY** (9)
- 2 **VP** (5)
- 3 **DEF JAM** (14)
- 4 **DISTURBING THA PEACE** (5)
- 5 **AFTERMATH** (7)

Hot Rap Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **INTERSCOPE** (18)
- 2 **ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP** (18)
- 3 **ATLANTIC** (14)
- 4 **UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP** (17)
- 5 **ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP** (7)
- 6 **CAPITOL** (5)
- 7 **ARISTA** (7)
- 8 **TVT** (3)
- 9 **RCA MUSIC GROUP** (4)
- 10 **SONY URBAN MUSIC** (3)



LUDACRIS

Hot Dance Club Play Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (3) *Jive*
- 2 **MADONNA** (3) *Maverick/Warner Bros.*
(1) *Warner Bros.*
(1) *Jive*
- 3 **WEEKEND PLAYERS** (2) *Multiply/FFRR/Warner Strategic Marketing*
- 4 **LAURA PAUSINI** (2) *Atlantic*
- 5 **BOOMKAT** (2) *DreamWorks*
- 6 **BECKY BAELING** (2) *Universal/UMRG*
- 7 **WHITNEY HOUSTON** (2) *Arista*
- 8 **JEWEL** (3) *Atlantic*
- 9 **DEBORAH COX** (2) *J/RMG*
- 10 **SEAL** (2) *Warner Bros.*

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Dance Club Play Singles

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

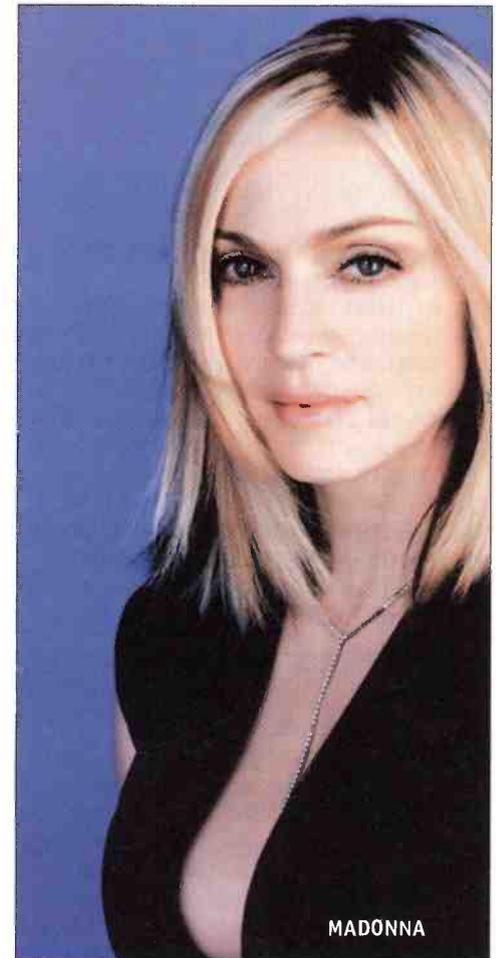
- 1 **INTO THE SUN**—Weekend Players—*Multiply/FFRR/Warner Strategic Marketing*
- 2 **GET IT TOGETHER (RAUHOFFER, HAMEL, SUPERCHUMBO, DAVIS MIXES)**—Seal—*Warner Bros.*
- 3 **SOME LOVIN'**—Murk vs. Kristine W—*Tommy Boy Silver Label/Tommy Boy*
- 4 **DARK BEAT (ADDICTED 2 DRUMS)**—Oscar G & Ralph Falcon—*Twisted/The Right Stuff*
- 5 **HEAD**—Thunderpuss & Barnes—*No Label*
- 6 **THE WRECKONING (THUNDERPUSS & DJ MONK MIXES)**—Boomkat—*DreamWorks*
- 7 **SEND YOUR LOVE (REMIXES)**—Sting—*A&M/Interscope*
- 8 **ROCK YOUR BODY (REMIXES)**—Justin Timberlake—*Jive*
- 9 **SURRENDER (REMIXES)**—Laura Pausini—*Atlantic*
- 10 **CRY ME A RIVER (REMIXES)**—Justin Timberlake—*Jive*
- 11 **SO GONE (SCUMFROG MIXES)**—Monica—*J/RMG*
- 12 **IF YOU LOVE ME**—Becky Baeling—*Universal/UMRG*
- 13 **RISE UP**—Funky Green Dogs—*Star 69*
- 14 **I'LL BE THERE**—Weekend Players—*Multiply/FFRR/Warner Strategic Marketing*
- 15 **ALRIGHT**—Murk (Oscar G. & Ralph Falcon)—*Tommy Boy Silver Label/Tommy Boy*
- 16 **I LOVE I LOVE**—Georgie Porgie—*Vinyl Soul/Music Plant*
- 17 **PAVEMENT CRACKS (REMIXES)**—Annie Lennox—*J/RMG*
- 18 **NOT GONNA GET US (D. AUDE, R. MOREL, & L. TEE MIXES)**—t.A.T.u.—*Interscope*
- 19 **HOLLYWOOD (REMIXES)**—Madonna—*Maverick/Warner Bros.*
- 20 **THE HUM MELODY**—Robbie Rivera—*Juicy*
- 21 **SORROW (ORANGE FACTORY & E-SMOOVE MIXES)**—Dolce—*Tommy Boy Silver Label/Tommy Boy*
- 22 **SEDUCE ME NOW**—India—*Sony Discos/Jellybean*
- 23 **MY TIME**—Dutch Featuring Crystal Waters—*Effin*
- 24 **IF THAT'S LOVE (REMIXES)**—Laura Pausini—*Atlantic*
- 25 **INTUITION (REMIXES)**—Jewel—*Atlantic*

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Dance Club Play Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **TOMMY BOY SILVER LABEL** (14)
- 2 **ATLANTIC** (8)
- 3 **STAR 69** (12)
- 4 **J** (7)
- 5 **WARNER BROS.** (5)
- 6 **COLUMBIA** (7)
- 7 **ARISTA** (6)
- 8 **DREAMWORKS** (4)
- 9 **TWISTED** (5)
- 10 **JIVE** (4)



MADONNA

Hot Dance Club Play Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **TOMMY BOY** (15)
- 2 **RCA MUSIC GROUP** (10)
- 3 **WARNER BROS.** (8)
- 4 **ATLANTIC** (9)
- 5 **STAR 69** (13)

Hot Dance Singles Sales Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **MADONNA** (3) *Maverick/Warner Bros.*
(1) *Warner Bros.*
(1) *Jive/Zomba*
- 2 **MARIAH CAREY** (1) *Monarc/Island/IDJMG*
- 3 **JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** (2) *Jive/Zomba*
- 4 **DANIEL BEDINGFIELD** (1) *Island/IDJMG*
- 5 **STACIE ORRICO** (2) *Forefront/Virgin*
- 6 **ELVIS PRESLEY** (1) *BMG Strategic Marketing/RCA/RMG*
- 7 **JENNIFER LOPEZ** (2) *Epic/Sony Music*
- 8 **THE ROLLING STONES** (1) *ABKCO*
- 9 **TAMIA** (1) *Elektra/EEG*
- 10 **PANJABI MC** (1) *Sequence/Ultra*

Hot Dance Singles Sales

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **DIE ANOTHER DAY (REMIXES)**—Madonna—Warner Bros.
- 2 **THROUGH THE RAIN (HEX HECTOR/MAC QUAYLE REMIX)**—Mariah Carey—Monarc/Island/IDJMG
- 3 **IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE (REMIXES)**—Daniel Bedingfield—Island/IDJMG
- 4 **CRY ME A RIVER (DIRTY VEGAS, J. FIASCO, & B. HAMEL MIXES)**—Justin Timberlake—Jive/Zomba
- 5 **RUBBERNECKIN' (PAUL OAKENFOLD REMIX)**—Elvis Presley—BMG Strategic Marketing/RCA/RMG
- 6 **STUCK (THUNDERPUSS REMIX)**—Stacie Orrico—Forefront/Virgin
- 7 **HOLLYWOOD (REMIXES)**—Madonna—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 8 **AMERICAN LIFE (REMIXES)**—Madonna—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 9 **SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL (REMIXES)**—The Rolling Stones—ABKCO
- 10 **OFFICIALLY MISSING YOU (REMIXES)**—Tamia—Elektra/EEG
- 11 **BEWARE OF THE BOYS (MUNDIAN TO BACH KE)**—Panjabi MC—Sequence/Ultra
- 12 **I'M GLAD (REMIXES)**—Jennifer Lopez—Epic/Sony Music
- 13 **(THERE'S GOTTA BE) MORE TO LIFE**—Stacie Orrico—Forefront/Virgin
- 14 **INTUITION (REMIXES)**—Jewel—Atlantic/AG
- 15 **EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER (REMIXES)**—Vivian Green—Columbia/Sony Music
- 16 **ALL NIGHT LONG**—Seduction With Saddler—Jenstar
- 17 **FEELIN' YOU (M. JOSHUA, V. CALDERONE, & M. QUAYLES MIXES)**—Solange—Music World/Columbia/Sony Music
- 18 **ALIVE (THUNDERPUSS REMIX)**—Jennifer Lopez—Epic/Sony Music
- 19 **WHEN THE MONEY'S GONE (REMIXES)**—Cher—Warner Bros.
- 20 **NEVER (PAST TENSE)**—The Roc Project Featuring Tina Arena—Tommy Boy Silver Label/Tommy Boy
- 21 **SOLSBURY HILL**—Erasure—Mute
- 22 **L'ITALIANO**—The Sicilians Featuring Angelo Venuto—Nervous
- 23 **NOTHING BUT YOU**—Paul Van Dyk Featuring Hemstock & Jennings—Mute
- 24 **THE DISTRICT SLEEPS ALONE TONIGHT**—The Postal Service—Sub Pop
- 25 **PAVEMENT CRACKS (REMIXES)**—Annie Lennox—J/RMG

Hot Dance Singles Sales Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **WARNER BROS.** (6)
- 2 **ISLAND** (2)
- 3 **JIVE** (4)
- 4 **MAVERICK** (3)
- 5 **FOREFRONT** (2)
- 6 **MONARC** (1)
- 7 **ATLANTIC** (8)
- 8 **EPIC** (4)
- 9 **COLUMBIA** (7)
- 10 **MUTE** (10)



RACHEL FOSTER OF WEEKEND PLAYERS

Hot Dance Singles Sales Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **WARNER BROS.** (13)
- 2 **ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP** (2)
- 3 **ZOMBA** (4)
- 4 **SONY MUSIC** (12)
- 5 **RCA MUSIC GROUP** (5)

Top Electronic Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **N.Y.C. UNDERGROUND PARTY 5**—Louie DeVito—Dee Vee/Musicrama
- 2 **100TH WINDOW**—Massive Attack—Virgin
- 3 **ORIGINAL PIRATE MATERIAL**—The Streets—Vice/Atlantic
- 4 **GIVE UP**—The Postal Service—Sub Pop
- 5 **THE REMIXES**—Mariah Carey—Columbia/Sony Music
- 6 **ALL MIXED UP: LOS REMIXES**—Kumbia Kings—EMI Latin
- 7 **HEAVEN**—DJ Sammy—Robbins
- 8 **ULTRA. DANCE 03**—Johnny Vicious—Ultra
- 9 **LOUIE DEVITO PRESENTS: ULTRA.DANCE 04**—Louie DeVito—Ultra
- 10 **30TH ANNIVERSARY COLLECTION: ULTIMATE DISCO**—Various Artists—Madacy
- 11 **THE RICHEST MAN IN BABYLON**—Thievery Corporation—Eighteenth Street Lounge
- 12 **LOUIE DEVITO'S DANCE FACTORY LEVEL 2**—Louie DeVito—Dee Vee/Musicrama
- 13 **VOYAGEUR**—Enigma—Virgin
- 14 **BUNKKA**—Oakenfold—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 15 **GREATEST HITS**—Bjork—Elektra/EEG

Top Electronic Albums Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 16 **THALIA'S HITS REMIXED**—Thalia—EMI Latin
- 17 **MIX OF LIFE**—ZOEgirl—Sparrow
- 18 **VERVE//REMIXED2**—Various Artists—Verve/VG
- 19 **TRANCE PARTY (VOLUME THREE)**—The Happy Boys—Robbins
- 20 **DANCE PARTY (LIKE IT'S 2003)**—The Happy Boys—Robbins
- 21 **DIRTY VEGAS**—Dirty Vegas—Credence/Capitol
- 22 **GENETIC WORLD**—Telepopmusik—Catalogue/Capitol
- 23 **18**—Moby—V2
- 24 **CHIMERA**—Delerium—Nettwerk
- 25 **DANCE DIVAS**—Louie DeVito—Dee Vee/Musicrama

- 1 **ROBBINS** (9)
- 2 **ULTRA** (13)
- 3 **DEE VEE** (3)
- 4 **VIRGIN** (2)
- 5 **EMI LATIN** (2)
- 6 **NETTWERK** (4)
- 7 **VICE** (1)
- 8 **MUTE** (6)
- 9 **SUB POP** (1)
- 10 **COLUMBIA** (2)

Top Electronic Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **LOUIE DEVITO** (3) Dee Vee/Musicrama (1) Ultra
- 2 **THE HAPPY BOYS** (5) Robbins
- 3 **MASSIVE ATTACK** (1) Virgin
- 4 **DJ SAMMY** (1) Robbins (1) Ministry Of Sound/MCA
- 5 **THE STREETS** (1) Vice/Atlantic
- 6 **THE POSTAL SERVICE** (1) Sub Pop
- 7 **MARIAH CAREY** (1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 8 **KUMBIA KINGS** (1) EMI Latin
- 9 **DAVID WAXMAN** (5) Ultra
- 10 **PAUL OAKENFOLD** (1) Maverick/Warner Bros. (1) Sire/Reprise/Warner Bros.

Top Electronic Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ROBBINS** (8)
- 2 **MUSICRAMA** (5)
- 3 **ULTRA** (13)
- 4 **VIRGIN** (3)
- 5 **EMI LATIN** (2)

Top Electronic Albums Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **INDEPENDENTS** (88)
- 2 **EMM** (17)
- 3 **BMG** (20)
- 4 **WEA** (14)
- 5 **UNIVERSAL** (10)
- 6 **SONY** (2)

Top Latin Album Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 CELIA CRUZ (3) Sony Discos
(2) Universal Latino
(1) Vene/EMI Latin
(1) Lideres
- 2 INTOCABLE (5) EMI Latin
- 3 JUANES (1) Surco/Universal Latino
- 4 LOS BUKIS (4) Fonovisa/UG
- 5 LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE (2) Fonovisa/UG
- 6 CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA (3) Fonovisa/UG
(1) Disa
(1) Univision/UG
- 7 RICKY MARTIN (1) Sony Discos
- 8 SHAKIRA (1) Sony Discos
- 9 KUMBIA KINGS (4) EMI Latin
- 10 BRONCO (2) Fonovisa/UG
(1) Ariola/BMG Latin
(1) Disa
- 11 LUIS MIGUEL (2) Warner Latina
- 12 MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS (3) Fonovisa/UG
- 13 MANA (1) Warner Latina
- 14 CHAYANNE (2) Sony Discos
- 15 THALIA (2) EMI Latin
- 16 LAS KETCHUP (1) Shaketown/Columbia/Sony Discos
- 17 RICARDO ARJONA (1) Sony Discos
- 18 PEPE AGUILAR (3) Musart/Balboa
(2) Univision/UG
- 19 PANCHO BARRAZA (2) Musart/Balboa
- 20 SELENA (1) EMI Latin
- 21 LIMITE (2) Universal Latino
- 22 LOS TEMERARIOS (2) Fonovisa/UG
(1) AFG Sigma/Fonovisa/UG
(1) Disa
- 23 JOAN SEBASTIAN (4) Musart/Balboa
- 24 A.B. QUINTANILLA III (3) EMI Latin
- 25 ENRIQUE IGLESIAS (1) Universal Latino

Top Latin Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 UN DIA NORMAL—Juanes—Surco/Universal Latino
- 2 ALMAS DEL SILENCIO—Ricky Martin—Sony Discos
- 3 GRANDES EXITOS—Shakira—Sony Discos
- 4 REVOLUCION DE AMOR—Mana—Warner Latina
- 5 4—A.B. Quintanilla III Presents Kumbia Kings—EMI Latin
- 6 LAS KETCHUP—Las Ketchup—Shaketown/Columbia/Sony Discos
- 7 SANTO PECADO—Ricardo Arjona—Sony Discos
- 8 MAMBO SINUENDO—Ry Cooder Manuel Galban—Perro Verde/Nonesuch/AG
- 9 HITS MIX—Celia Cruz—Sony Discos
- 10 REGALO DEL ALMA—Celia Cruz—Sony Discos
- 11 HERENCIA MUSICAL: 20 CORRIDOS INOLVIDABLES—Los Tigres Del Norte—Fonovisa/UG
- 12 LA HISTORIA—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 13 ONES—Selena—EMI Latin
- 14 LAS ROMANTICAS DE PANCHO BARRAZA—Pancho Barraza—Musart/Balboa
- 15 30 INOLVIDABLES—Los Bukis—Fonovisa/UG
- 16 TU AMOR O TU DESPRECIO—Marco Antonio Solis—Fonovisa/UG
- 17 LA HISTORIA—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 18 LA REINA DEL SUR—Los Tigres Del Norte—Fonovisa/UG
- 19 QUIZAS—Enrique Iglesias—Universal Latino
- 20 EXITOS ETERNOS—Celia Cruz—Universal Latino
- 21 33—Luis Miguel—Warner Latina
- 22 20 INOLVIDABLES—Los Temerarios/Los Bukis—Fonovisa/UG

- 23 ALL MIXED UP: LOS REMIXES—Kumbia Kings—EMI Latin
- 24 NUESTRA HISTORIA—Conjunto Primavera—Fonovisa/UG
- 25 Y TENERTE OTRA VEZ—Pepe Aguilar—Univision/UG
- 26 PROYECTO AKWID—Akwid—Univision/UG
- 27 SOY ASI—Limite—Universal Latino
- 28 FRIDA—Soundtrack—DG/Universal Classics Group
- 29 SINCERO—Chayanne—Sony Discos
- 30 25 JOYAS MUSICALES—Los Bukis—Fonovisa/UG
- 31 30 INOLVIDABLES—Bronco—Fonovisa/UG
- 32 SIEMPRE ARRIBA—Bronco: El Gigante De America—Fonovisa/UG
- 33 THALIA'S HITS REMIXED—Thalia—EMI Latin
- 34 LATIN SONGBIRD: MI ALMA Y CORAZON—India—Sony Discos
- 35 MIS BOLEROS FAVORITOS—Luis Miguel—Warner Latina
- 36 30 INOLVIDABLES—Industria Del Amor—Univision/UG
- 37 THALIA—Thalia—EMI Latin
- 38 NUESTRO DESTINO ESTABA ESCRITO—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 39 DE DURANGO A CHICAGO—Grupo Montez De Durango—Disa
- 40 30 INOLVIDABLES—Los Cadetes De Linares—Univision/UG
- 41 DECIDE TU—Conjunto Primavera—Fonovisa/UG
- 42 GRANDES EXITOS—Chayanne—Sony Discos
- 43 COLECCION DE ORO—Joan Sebastian—Musart/Balboa
- 44 30 GRUPERAS DE COLECCION—Various Artists—Univision/UG
- 45 BUENOS HERMANOS—Ibrahim Ferrer—World Circuit/Nonesuch/AG
- 46 NO ES LO MISMO—Alejandro Sanz—Warner Latina
- 47 ENCUENTRO DE ANGELES VOL. 1—Los Angeles Azules/Los Angeles De Charly—Disa
- 48 ESTRELLA GUIA—Alexandre Pires—Ariola/BMG Latin
- 49 ARCOIRIS MUSICAL MEXICANO VOL. 2—Various Artists—Univision/UG
- 50 BELLAS ARTES EN VIVO: UN CANTO DE MEXICO—Alejandro Fernandez—Sony Discos

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Latin Album Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (41)
- 2 FONOVISA (50)
- 3 EMI LATIN (37)
- 4 UNIVISION (42)
- 5 DISA (42)
- 6 WARNER LATINA (9)
- 7 MUSART (14)

Top Latin Album Labels

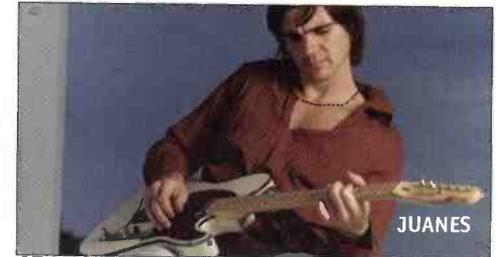
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVISION MUSIC GROUP (92)
- 2 SONY DISCOS (49)
- 3 EMI LATIN (40)
- 4 UNIVERSAL LATINO (24)
- 5 DISA (42)

Top Latin Album Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVERSAL (172)
- 2 SONY (49)
- 3 EMM (41)
- 4 WEA (27)
- 5 INDEPENDENTS (35)
- 6 BMG (28)



JUANES

Hot Latin Tracks Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 JUANES (5) Surco/Universal Latino
- 2 CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA (4) Fonovisa
- 3 INTOCABLE (4) EMI Latin
- 4 RICKY MARTIN (3) Sony Discos
- 5 RICARDO ARJONA (3) Sony Discos
- 6 ALEXANDRE PIRES (3) Ariola/BMG Latin
- 7 MANA (4) Warner Latina
- 8 MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS (3) Fonovisa
- 9 ENRIQUE IGLESIAS (3) Universal Latino
(1) Interscope/Universal Latino
- 10 SIN BANDERA (4) Sony Discos

Hot Latin Tracks

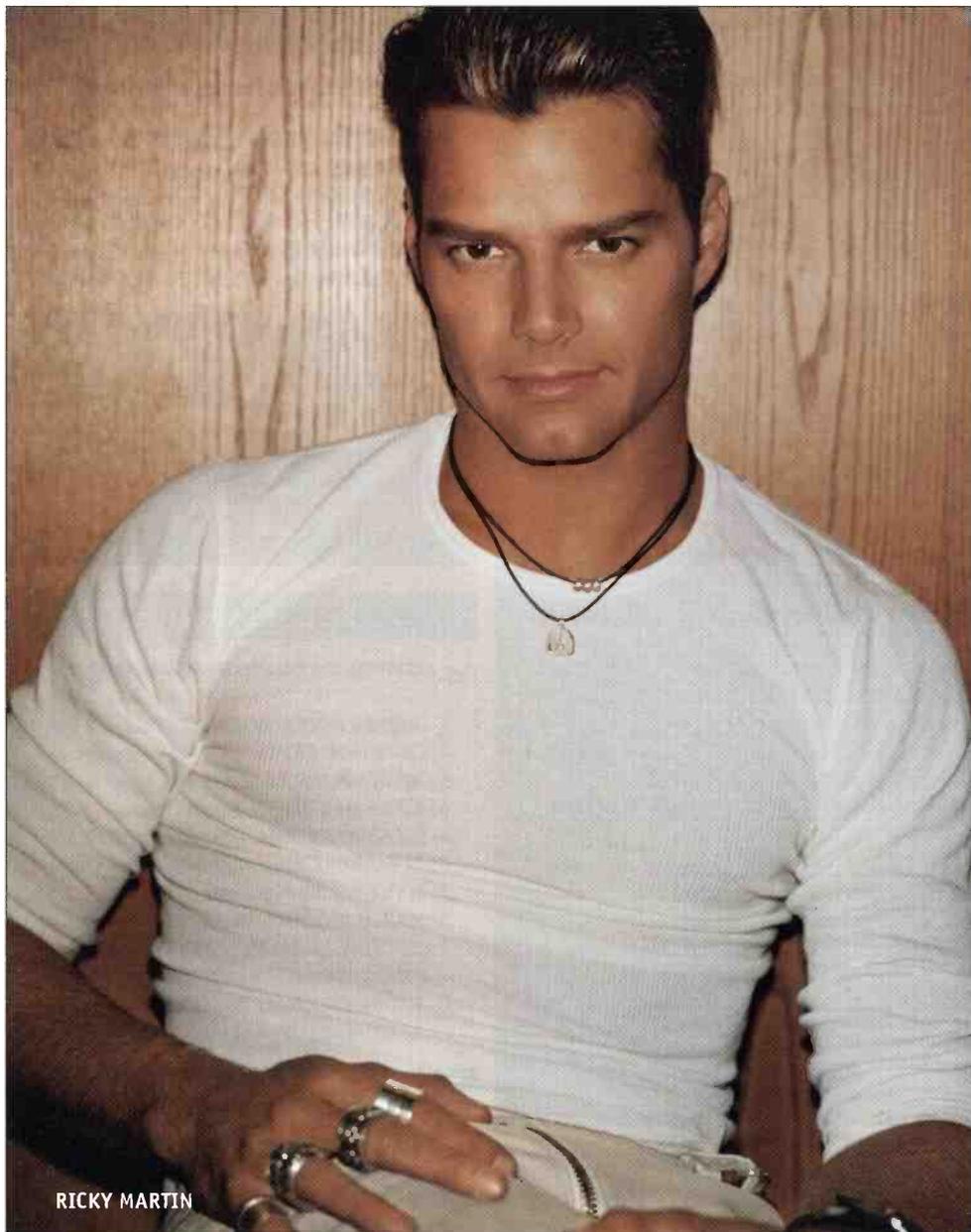
Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 TAL VEZ—Ricky Martin—Sony Discos
- 2 FOTOGRAFIA—Juanes With Nelly Furtado—Surco/Universal Latino
- 3 UNA VEZ MAS—Conjunto Primavera—Fonovisa
- 4 EL PROBLEMA—Ricardo Arjona—Sony Discos
- 5 AMAME—Alexandre Pires—Ariola/BMG Latin
- 6 MARIPOSA TRACIONERA—Mana—Warner Latina
- 7 ASI ES LA VIDA—Olga Tanon—Warner Latina
- 8 QUE ME QUEDES TU—Shakira—Sony Discos
- 9 SEDUCEME—India—Sony Discos
- 10 SUENA—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 11 TU AMOR O TU DESPRECIO—Marco Antonio Solis—Fonovisa
- 12 ANTES—Obie Bermudez—EMI Latin
- 13 DE UNO Y DE TODOS LOS MODOS—Palomo—Disa
- 14 UN SIGLO SIN TI—Chayanne—Sony Discos
- 15 AY! PAPACITO (UY! DADDY)—Limite—Universal Latino
- 16 SI TE DIJERON—Gilberto Santa Rosa—Sony Discos
- 17 QUIZAS—Enrique Iglesias—Universal Latino
- 18 HOY—Gloria Estefan—Epic/Sony Discos
- 19 ME FALTA VALOR—Pepe Aguilar—Univision
- 20 PARA QUE LA VIDA—Enrique Iglesias—Universal Latino
- 21 ES POR TI—Juanes—Surco/Universal Latino
- 22 Y COMO QUIERES QUE TE QUIERA—Fabian Gomez—Sony Discos
- 23 A QUIEN LE IMPORTA?—Thalia—EMI Latin
- 24 ALUCINADO—Tiziano Ferro—EMI Latin
- 25 HERIDA MORTAL—Jery Rivera—Ariola/BMG Latin

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com



CELIA CRUZ



RICKY MARTIN

Hot Latin Tracks Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (44)
- 2 FONOVISIA (27)
- 3 EMI LATIN (26)
- 4 WARNER LATINA (16)
- 5 ARIOLA (16)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Latin Tracks Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (48)
- 2 FONOVISIA (31)
- 3 UNIVERSAL LATINO (31)
- 4 EMI LATIN (26)
- 5 BMG LATIN (23)
- 6 WARNER LATINA (21)
- 7 UNIVISION (14)
- 8 DISA (18)
- 9 BALBOA (9)
- 10 CRESCENT MOON (3)

Hot Latin Tracks Producers

Pos. PRODUCER (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 RUDY PEREZ (10)
- 2 JESUS GUILLEN (4)
- 3 TOMMY TORRES (4)
- 4 RICARDO ARJONA (3)
- 5 JOSE M. LUGO (6)
- T6 GUSTAVO SANTAOLALLA (5)
- T6 JUANES (5)
- 8 KIKE SANTANDER (9)
- 9 MARCO ANTONIO SOLIS (3)
- 10 AUREO BAQUEIRO (4)

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Latin Pop Album Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 JUANES (1) Surco/Universal Latino
- 2 RICKY MARTIN (1) Sony Discos
- 3 SHAKIRA (1) Sony Discos
- 4 KUMBIA KINGS (3) EMI Latin
- 5 LUIS MIGUEL (2) Warner Latina
- 6 MANA (1) Warner Latina
- 7 LAS KETCHUP (1) Shaketown/Columbia/Sony Discos
- 8 THALIA (2) EMI Latin
- 9 RICARDO ARJONA (1) Sony Discos
- 10 CHAYANNE (2) Sony Discos

Top Latin Pop Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 UN DIA NORMAL—Juanes—Surco/Universal Latino
- 2 ALMAS DEL SILENCIO—Ricky Martin—Sony Discos
- 3 GRANDES EXITOS—Shakira—Sony Discos
- 4 REVOLUCION DE AMOR—Mana—Warner Latina
- 5 4—A.B. Quintanilla III Presents Kumbia Kings—EMI Latin
- 6 LAS KETCHUP—Las Ketchup—Shaketown/Columbia/Sony Discos
- 7 SANTO PECADO—Ricardo Arjona—Sony Discos
- 8 MAMBO SINUENDO—Ry Cooder Manuel Galban—Perro Verde/Nonesuch/AG
- 9 ONES—Selena—EMI Latin
- 10 QUIZAS—Enrique Iglesias—Universal Latino

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Latin Pop Album Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (18)
- 2 EMI LATIN (10)
- 3 WARNER LATINA (8)
- 4 SURCO (2)
- 5 ARIOLA (11)

Top Latin Pop Album Labels

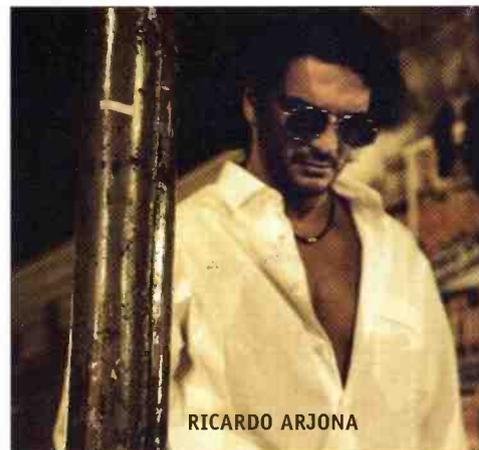
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (18)
- 2 EMI LATIN (11)
- 3 UNIVERSAL LATINO (10)
- 4 WARNER LATINA (10)
- 5 BMG LATIN (13)

Hot Latin Pop Airplay Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 JUANES (5) Surco/Universal Latino
- 2 RICARDO ARJONA (3) Sony Discos
- 3 RICKY MARTIN (3) Sony Discos
- 4 SIN BANDERA (5) Sony Discos
- 5 MANA (4) Warner Latina
- 6 ALEXANDRE PIRES (3) Ariola/BMG Latin
- 7 ENRIQUE IGLESIAS (3) Universal Latino (1) Interscope/Universal Latino
- 8 CHAYANNE (3) Sony Discos
- 9 DAVID BISBAL (4) Vale/Universal Latino
- 10 THALIA (3) EMI Latin



RICARDO ARJONA

Hot Latin Pop Airplay

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 TAL VEZ—Ricky Martin—Sony Discos
- 2 FOTOGRAFIA—Juanes With Nelly Furtado—Surco/Universal Latino
- 3 EL PROBLEMA—Ricardo Arjona—Sony Discos
- 4 MARIPOSA TRACIONERA—Mana—Warner Latina
- 5 QUE ME QUEDES TU—Shakira—Sony Discos
- 6 AMAME—Alexandre Pires—Ariola/BMG Latin
- 7 UN SIGLO SIN TI—Chayanne—Sony Discos
- 8 ES POR TI—Juanes—Surco/Universal Latino
- 9 ANTES—Obie Bermudez—EMI Latin
- 10 QUIZAS—Enrique Iglesias—Universal Latino
- 11 ASI ES LA VIDA—Olga Tanon—Warner Latina
- 12 TU AMOR O TU DESPRECIO—Marco Antonio Solis—Fonovisa
- 13 A DIOS LE PIDO—Juanes—Surco/Universal Latino
- 14 DAME—Ricardo Arjona—Sony Discos
- 15 PARA QUE LA VIDA—Enrique Iglesias—Universal Latino
- 16 A QUIEN LE IMPORTA?—Thalia—EMI Latin
- 17 ALUCINADO—Tiziano Ferro—EMI Latin
- 18 KILOMETROS—Sin Bandera—Sony Discos
- 19 SEDUCEME—India—Sony Discos
- 20 ENTRA EN MI VIDA—Sin Bandera—Sony Discos

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com



SHAKIRA

Hot Latin Pop Airplay Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (41)
- 2 WARNER LATINA (18)
- 3 ARIOLA (18)
- 4 EMI LATIN (16)
- 5 SURCO (5)

Hot Latin Pop Airplay Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (45)
- 2 UNIVERSAL LATINO (24)
- 3 WARNER LATINA (19)
- 4 BMG LATIN (21)
- 5 EMI LATIN (16)

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INTOCABLE

Top Regional Mexican Album Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **INTOCABLE** (4) EMI Latin
- 2 **LOS BUKIS** (4) Fonovisa/UG
- 3 **LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE** (2) Fonovisa/UG
- 4 **CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA** (3) Fonovisa/UG
(1) Disa
(1) Univision/UG
- 5 **BRONCO** (2) Fonovisa/UG
(1) Ariola/BMG Latin
- 6 **PANCHO BARRAZA** (1) Musart/Balboa
- 7 **LIMITE** (2) Universal Latino
- 8 **PEPE AGUILAR** (2) Univision/UG
(2) Musart/Balboa
- 9 **AKWID** (1) Univision/UG
- 10 **LOS TEMERARIOS** (2) Fonovisa/UG
(1) AFG Sigma/Fonovisa/UG

Top Regional Mexican Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **HERENCIA MUSICAL: 20 CORRIDOS INOLVIDABLES**—Los Tigres Del Norte—Fonovisa/UG
- 2 **30 INOLVIDABLES**—Los Bukis—Fonovisa/UG
- 3 **LAS ROMANTICAS DE PANCHO BARRAZA**—Pancho Barraza—Musart/Balboa
- 4 **LA HISTORIA**—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 5 **LA HISTORIA**—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 6 **LA REINA DEL SUR**—Los Tigres Del Norte—Fonovisa/UG
- 7 **PROYECTO AKWID**—Akwid—Univision/UG
- 8 **TU AMOR O TU DESPRECIO**—Marco Antonio Solis—Fonovisa/UG
- 9 **25 JOYAS MUSICALES**—Los Bukis—Fonovisa/UG
- 10 **20 INOLVIDABLES**—Los Temerarios/Los Bukis—Fonovisa/UG

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Regional Mexican Album Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **FONOVISA** (32)
- 2 **UNIVISION** (27)
- 3 **DISA** (24)
- 4 **EMI LATIN** (10)
- 5 **MUSART** (8)

Top Regional Mexican Album Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **UNIVISION MUSIC GROUP** (59)
- 2 **DISA** (24)
- 3 **EMI LATIN** (10)
- 4 **BALBOA** (8)
- 5 **SONY DISCOS** (8)

Hot Regional Mexican Airplay Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA** (4) Fonovisa
- 2 **INTOCABLE** (4) EMI Latin
- 3 **ADOLFO URIAS Y SU LOBO NORTENO** (3) Platino/Fonovisa
- 4 **PALOMO** (2) Disa
- 5 **LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE** (4) Fonovisa
- 6 **BANDA EL RECODO** (4) Fonovisa
- 7 **EL COYOTE Y SU BANDA TIERRA SANTA** (4) EMI Latin
- 8 **LOS TUCANES DE TIJUANA** (5) Universal Latino
- 9 **LIMITE** (3) Universal Latino
- 10 **JORGE LUIS CABRERA** (2) Disa



CONJUNTO PRIMAVERA

Hot Regional Mexican Airplay

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **UNA VEZ MAS**—Conjunto Primavera—Fonovisa
- 2 **SUENA**—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 3 **DE UNO Y DE TODOS LOS MODOS**—Palomo—Disa
- 4 **TE VAS AMOR**—El Coyote Y Su Banda Tierra Santa—EMI Latin
- 5 **ACA ENTRE NOS**—Banda El Recodo—Fonovisa
- 6 **AY! PAPACITO (UY! DADDY)**—Limite—Universal Latino
- 7 **QUEDATE CALLADA**—Jorge Luis Cabrera—Disa
- 8 **Y COMO QUIERES QUE TE QUIERA**—Fabian Gomez—Sony Discos
- 9 **CORAZON CHIQUITO**—Adolfo Urias Y Su Lobo Norteno—Platino/Fonovisa
- 10 **MUY A TU MANERA**—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 11 **PERDONAME MI AMOR**—Conjunto Primavera—Fonovisa
- 12 **HOY EMPIEZA MI TRISTEZA**—Grupo Montez De Durango—Disa
- 13 **SERAN SUS OJOS**—Adolfo Urias Y Su Lobo Norteno—Platino/Fonovisa
- 14 **ESTOY A PUNTO**—Bronco: El Gigante De America—Fonovisa
- 15 **EL SINVERGUENZA**—Los Tucanes De Tijuana—Universal Latino
- 16 **NOMAS POR TU CULPA**—Los Huracanes Del Norte—Univision
- 17 **NO TENGO DINERO**—A.B. Quintanilla III & Kumbia Kings Feat. Juan Gabriel & El Gran Silencio—EMI Latin
- 18 **ESO DUELE**—Intocable—EMI Latin
- 19 **MI SOLDADO**—Los Tigres Del Norte—Fonovisa
- 20 **ACTOS DE UN TONTO**—Conjunto Primavera—Fonovisa

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Regional Mexican Airplay Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **FONOVISA** (38)
- 2 **EMI LATIN** (22)
- 3 **DISA** (29)
- 4 **UNIVERSAL LATINO** (17)
- 5 **UNIVISION** (18)



FONOVISA Records

Hot Regional Mexican Airplay Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **FONOVISA** (49)
- 2 **EMI LATIN** (22)
- 3 **DISA** (30)
- 4 **UNIVERSAL LATINO** (20)
- 5 **UNIVISION** (18)

Top Tropical Album Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 CELIA CRUZ (6) Universal Latino
(3) Sony Discos
(2) Lideres
(1) BCI Eclipse
- 2 INDIA (1) Sony Discos
- 3 IBRAHIM FERRER (1) World Circuit/
Nonesuch/AG
- 4 MONCHY Y ALEXANDRA (2) J&N/Sony Discos
- 5 GILBERTO SANTA ROSA (1) Sony Discos
- 6 ELVIS CRESPO (2) Sony Discos
- 7 MARC ANTHONY (1) Columbia/Sony Discos
- 8 AVENTURA (1) Premium Latin/J&N
- 9 LUNYTUNES & NORIEGA (1) VI
- 10 VICTOR MANUELLE (1) Sony Discos

Top Tropical Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 HITS MIX—Celia Cruz—Sony Discos
- 2 REGALO DEL ALMA—Celia Cruz—Sony Discos
- 3 EXITOS ETERNOS—Celia Cruz—Universal
Latino
- 4 LATIN SONGBIRD: MI ALMA Y CORAZON—
India—Sony Discos
- 5 BUENOS HERMANOS—Ibrahim Ferrer—
World Circuit/Nonesuch/AG
- 6 BACHATAHITS 2003—Various Artists—J&N/
Sony Discos

- 7 LA NEGRA TIENE TUMBAO—Celia Cruz—
Sony Discos
- 8 VICEVERSA—Gilberto Santa Rosa—
Sony Discos
- 9 GREATEST HITS—Elvis Crespo—Sony Discos
- 10 LIBRE—Marc Anthony—Columbia/Sony Discos

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Top Tropical Album Imprints

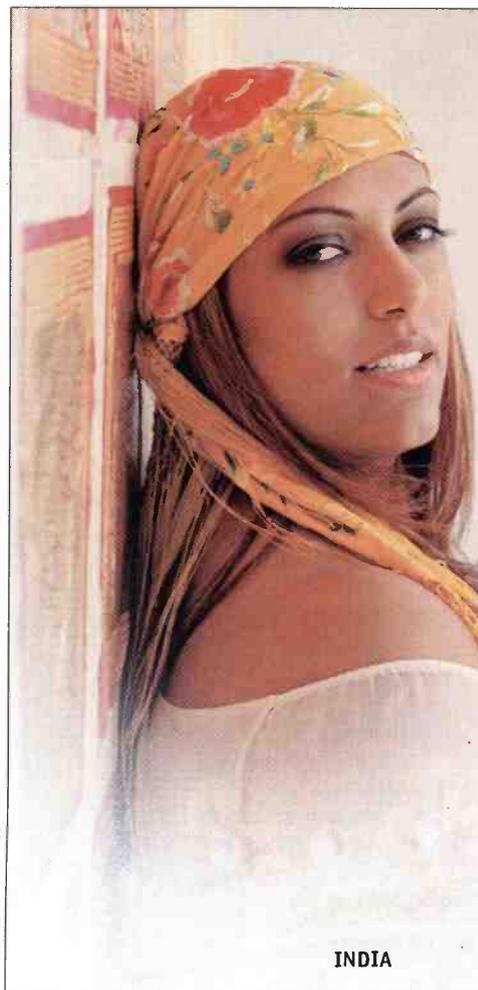
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (11)
- 2 J&N (9)
- 3 UNIVERSAL LATINO (10)
- 4 COLUMBIA (2)
- 5 VI (3)

Top Tropical Album Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (25)
- 2 UNIVERSAL LATINO (16)
- 3 ATLANTIC GROUP (2)
- 4 VI (4)
- 5 J&N (2)



INDIA

- 10 EN NOMBRE DE LOS DOS—Victor Manuelle—
Sony Discos
- 11 RIE Y LLORA—Celia Cruz—Sony Discos
- 12 BARCO A LA DERIVA—Marc Anthony—Sony
Discos
- 13 ANTES—Obie Bermudez—EMI Latin
- 14 TRACION—India—Sony Discos
- 15 LA ULTIMA VEZ—Magic Juan Featuring Eddy
Herrera—J&N
- 16 HOY—Gloria Estefan—Epic/Sony Discos
- 17 POCO HOMBRE—Victor Manuelle—
Sony Discos
- 18 AY AMOR—Hector & Tito Featuring Victor
Manuelle—VI
- 19 NO TENGO SUERTE EN EL AMOR—Yoskar
Sarante—J&N
- 20 AMAME—Alexandre Pires—Ariola/BMG Latin

A deeper version of this chart appears
on billboard.com

Hot Tropical Airplay Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (41)
- 2 ARIOLA (16)
- 3 EMI LATIN (18)
- 4 J&N (13)
- 5 WARNER LATINA (13)

Hot Tropical Airplay Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY DISCOS (45)
- 2 UNIVERSAL LATINO (33)
- 3 BMG LATIN (19)
- 4 WARNER LATINA (22)
- 5 EMI LATIN (18)

Hot Tropical Airplay Artists

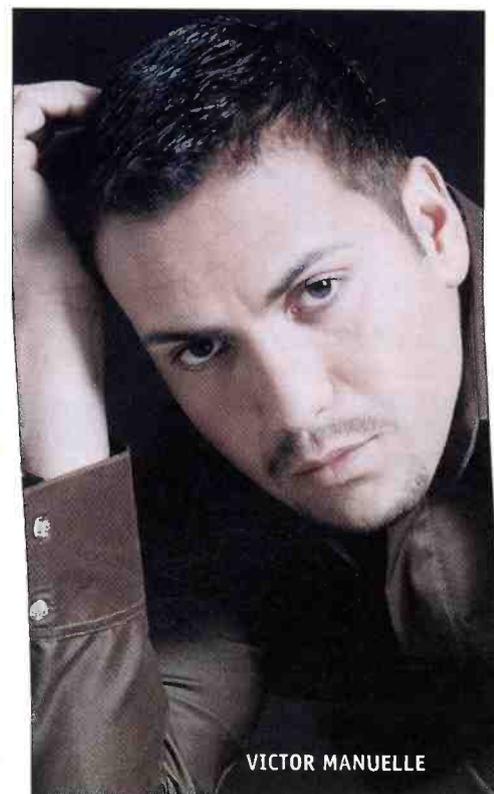
Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 INDIA (3) Sony Discos
- 2 VICTOR MANUELLE (4) Sony Discos
(1) VI
- 3 GILBERTO SANTA ROSA (3) Sony Discos
(1) WEAcaripe/Warner Latina
- 4 JERRY RIVERA (3) Ariola/BMG Latin
- 5 OLGA TANON (3) Warner Latina
- 6 JOSEPH FONSECA (2) Karen/Universal Latino
- 7 SON DE CALI (2) Univision
- 8 EL GRAN COMBO DE PUERTO RICO (3)
Combo
- 9 CELIA CRUZ (2) Sony Discos
(1) WEAcaripe/Warner Latina
(1) Universal Latino
- 10 MARC ANTHONY (1) Sony Discos
(1) Columbia/Sony Discos

Hot Tropical Airplay

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 SEDUCEME—India—Sony Discos
- 2 ASI ES LA VIDA—Olga Tanon—Warner Latina
- 3 SI TE DIJERON—Gilberto Santa Rosa—Sony
Discos
- 4 EL TONTO QUE NO TE OLVIDO—Victor
Manuelle—Sony Discos
- 5 HERIDA MORTAL—Jerry Rivera—Ariola/BMG
Latin
- 6 SE NOS PERDIO EL AMOR—El Gran Combo De
Puerto Rico—Combo
- 7 TAN BUENA—Son De Cali—Univision
- 8 UN MONTON DE ESTRELLAS—Gilberto Santa
Rosa—Sony Discos
- 9 QUE LEVANTE LA MANO—Joseph Fonseca—
Karen/Universal Latino



VICTOR MANUELLE



CELIA CRUZ

Top Classical Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **ANDREA BOCELLI** (2) Philips/Universal Classics Group
(1) Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 2 **JANUSZ OLENJNICZAK** (1) Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 3 **YO-YO MA** (2) Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 4 **GLENN GOULD** (1) Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 5 **RENEE FLEMING** (2) Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 6 **CECILIA BARTOLI** (2) Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 7 **LANG LANG** (1) DG/Universal Classics Group (1) Telarc
- 8 **PLACIDO DOMINGO** (1) Decca/Universal Classics Group
(1) DG/Universal Classics Group
- 9 **CHANTICLEER** (2) Teldec/AG
(1) Warner Classics/AG
- 10 **LUCIANO PAVAROTTI** (1) Decca/Universal Classics Group
(1) Decca/UTV/Universal Classics Group

Top Classical Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **SENTIMENTO**—Andrea Bocelli—Philips/Universal Classics Group
- 2 **THE PIANIST (SOUNDTRACK)**—Janusz Olenjniczak With The Warsaw Philharmonic National Orchestra Of Poland (Strugala)—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 3 **CLASSIC YO-YO**—Yo-Yo Ma—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 4 **STATE OF WONDER**—Glenn Gould—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 5 **THE BEST OF THE 3 TENORS**—Carreras-Domingo-Pavarotti—Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 6 **BEL CANTO**—Renee Fleming—Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 7 **DUETTO**—Marcelo Alvarez/Salvatore Licitra—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 8 **TCHAIKOVSKY/MENDELSSOHN: PIANO CONCERTOS**—Lang Lang—DG/Universal Classics Group
- 9 **THE MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM... EVER! II**—Various Artists—Circa/Virgin
- 10 **SACRED ARIAS: SPECIAL EDITION**—Andrea Bocelli—Philips/Universal Classics Group
- 11 **LA BELLE EPOQUE**—Yo-Yo Ma—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 12 **BY REQUEST**—Renee Fleming—Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 13 **THE ART OF CECILIA BARTOLI**—Cecilia Bartoli—Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 14 **BACH: VIOLIN CONCERTOS**—Hilary Hahn—DG/Universal Classics Group
- 15 **THE BEST OF VANESSA-MAE**—Vanessa-Mae—Angel

Top Classical Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **PHILIPS** (4)
- 2 **SONY CLASSICAL** (15)
- 3 **DECCA** (13)
- 4 **DG** (13)
- 5 **TELDEC** (3)



ANDREA BOCELLI

Top Classical Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP** (32)
- 2 **SONY MUSIC** (16)
- 3 **ANGEL** (14)
- 4 **ATLANTIC GROUP** (10)
- 5 **VIRGIN** (2)

Top Classical Crossover Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **JOSH GROBAN** (3) 143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 2 **CHARLOTTE CHURCH** (2) Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 **SARAH BRIGHTMAN** (2) Nemo Studio/Angel
(1) Really Useful/Decca Broadway/Universal Classics Group
- 4 **YO-YO MA** (2) Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 5 **BOND** (3) MBO/Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 6 **RUSSELL WATSON** (3) Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 7 **ANDREA BOCELLI** (1) Philips/Universal Classics Group
- 8 **MARIO FRANGOULIS** (1) Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 9 **OPERA BABES** (1) Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 10 **LUCIANO PAVAROTTI** (1) Decca/Universal Classics Group

Top Classical Crossover Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **JOSH GROBAN**—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 2 **JOSH GROBAN IN CONCERT**—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 3 **CLOSER**—Josh Groban—143/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 4 **PRELUDE: THE BEST OF CHARLOTTE CHURCH**—Charlotte Church—Columbia/Sony Music
- 5 **HAREM**—Sarah Brightman—Nemo Studio/Angel
- 6 **OBRIGADO BRAZIL**—Yo-Yo Ma—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 7 **SHINE**—Bond—MBO/Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 8 **ENCORE**—Russell Watson—Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 9 **CIELI DI TOSCANA**—Andrea Bocelli—Philips/Universal Classics Group
- 10 **SOMETIMES I DREAM**—Mario Frangoulis—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 11 **BEYOND IMAGINATION**—Opera Babes—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 12 **CLASSICS**—Sarah Brightman—Nemo Studio/Angel
- 13 **ENCHANTMENT**—Charlotte Church—Columbia/Sony Music
- 14 **TI ADORO**—Luciano Pavarotti—Decca/Universal Classics Group
- 15 **SILK ROAD JOURNEYS: WHEN STRANGERS MEET**—Yo-Yo Ma & The Silk Road Ensemble—Sony Classical/Sony Music

Top Classical Crossover Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- T1 **REPRISE** (3)
- T1 **143** (3)
- 3 **SONY CLASSICAL** (12)
- 4 **COLUMBIA** (2)
- 5 **NEMO STUDIO** (2)



Top Classical Crossover Labels

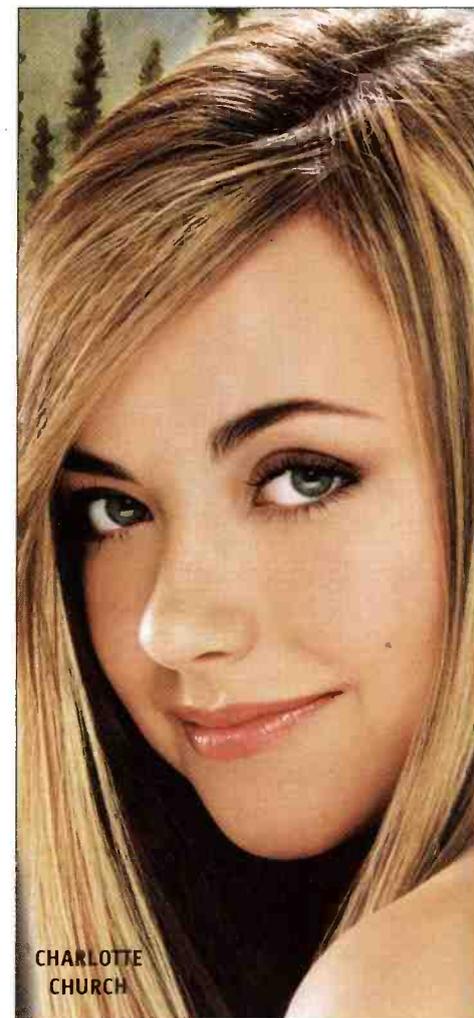
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **WARNER BROS.** (3)
- 2 **SONY MUSIC** (15)
- 3 **UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP** (14)
- 4 **ANGEL** (6)
- 5 **BMG CLASSICS** (5)

Top Combined Classical Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- T1 **143** (3)
- T1 **REPRISE** (3)
- 3 **PHILIPS** (5)
- 4 **SONY CLASSICAL** (33)
- 5 **DECCA** (63)
- 6 **COLUMBIA** (3)
- 7 **NEMO STUDIO** (2)
- 8 **WALT DISNEY** (4)
- 9 **VICTOR** (14)
- 10 **MBO** (3)



CHARLOTTE CHURCH

Top Combined Classical Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WARNER BROS. (3)
- 2 UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP (87)
- 3 SONY MUSIC (37)
- 4 ANGEL (27)
- 5 WALT DISNEY (5)

Top Combined Classical Distributors

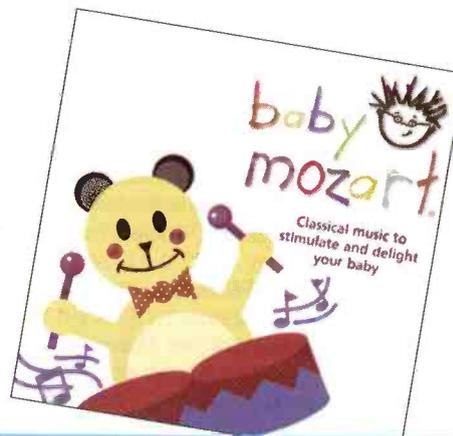
Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WEA (13)
- 2 UNIVERSAL (93)
- 3 SONY (37)
- 4 EMM (31)
- 5 INDEPENDENTS (57)
- 6 BMG (16)

Top Midline Classical Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 ANDRES SEGOVIA (1) DG/Universal Classics Group
(1) Angel
- 2 THE BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA (2)
Victor/BMG Classics
- 3 LEONARD BERNSTEIN (3) Sony
Classical/Sony Music
- 4 ANTAL DORATI (1) Philips/Universal Classics Group
- 5 PLACIDO DOMINGO (2) Sony Classical/
Sony Music
(1) EMI Classics/Angel



Top Midline Classical Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 BABY MOZART—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 2 DISNEY'S BABY BEETHOVEN—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 3 ULTIMATE CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS—Various Artists—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 4 50 GREATEST CLASSICS—Various Artists—St. Clair
- 5 ART OF SEGOVIA—Andres Segovia—DG/Universal Classics Group
- 6 A TENOR'S CHRISTMAS—Carreras-Domingo-Pavarotti—Sony Classical/Sony Music
- 7 VIVALDI'S GREATEST HITS—Various Artists—Victor/BMG Classics
- 8 THE MOST RELAXING PIANO ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER!—Various Artists—EMI Classics/Angel
- 9 BABY EINSTEIN: BABY NEPTUNE—Various Artists—Buena Vista/Walt Disney
- 10 THE #1 OPERA ALBUM—Various Artists—Decca/Universal Classics Group

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Midline Classical Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WALT DISNEY (4)
- 2 DECCA (29)
- 3 SONY CLASSICAL (11)
- 4 VICTOR (13)
- 5 EMI CLASSICS (7)

Top Midline Classical Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WALT DISNEY (5)
- 2 UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP (42)
- 3 SONY MUSIC (12)
- 4 BMG CLASSICS (15)
- 5 ANGEL (10)

Top Budget Classical Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 LUCIANO PAVAROTTI (1) Laserlight
(1) BCI Music
- 2 BERLIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (1)
Laserlight
- 3 AMORARTIS CHAMBER CHOIR (1) Universal
Special Products
- 4 THE BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA (1) RCA
Special Products/BMG Classics
- 5 PETER WOHLERT (1) Laserlight

Top Budget Classical Albums

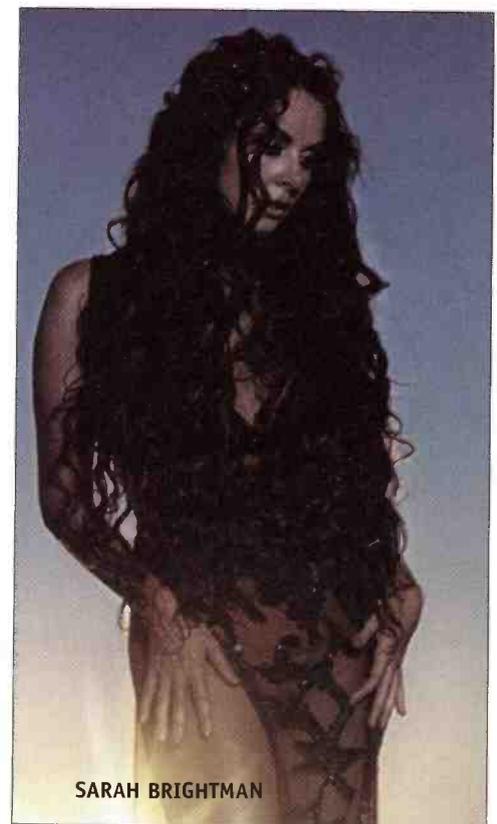
Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 20 CLASSICAL FAVORITES—Various Artists—Madacy
- 2 MOZART: SYMPHONY NOS. 40 & 41—Various Artists—Madacy
- 3 CLASSICAL MASTERPIECES: SPANISH GUITAR—Various Artists—Madacy
- 4 CHRISTMAS WITH PAVAROTTI—Luciano Pavarotti—Laserlight
- 5 CLASSICAL MASTERPIECES—Various Artists—Madacy
- 6 NUTCRACKER HIGHLIGHTS—Peter Wohlert/Berlin Symphony Orchestra—Laserlight
- 7 CLASSICAL MASTERPIECES: CLASSICS FOR RELAXATION—Various Artists—Madacy
- 8 THE MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL MUSIC—Various Artists—Savoy
- 9 GERSHWIN: AN AMERICAN IN PARIS—Various Artists—Madacy
- 10 25 GREATEST HITS—Various Artists—St. Clair

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com



JOSH GROBAN



SARAH BRIGHTMAN

Top Budget Classical Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 MADACY (26)
- 2 ST. CLAIR (26)
- 3 LASERLIGHT (5)
- 4 DECCA (14)
- 5 VOX (5)

Top Budget Classical Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 MADACY (26)
- 2 ST. CLAIR (26)
- 3 LASERLIGHT (5)
- 4 UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP (16)
- 5 SPJ MUSIC (5)

PHOTO: KAVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE.COM

Top Jazz Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 DIANA KRALL (2) Verve/VG
(1) TCB/Allegro
- 2 TONY BENNETT (2) RPM/Columbia/
Sony Music
- 3 K.D. LANG (1) RPM/Columbia/Sony Music
- 4 HARRY CONNICK, JR. (3) Columbia/
Sony Music
(1) Marsalis/Rounder
- 5 PETER CINCOTTI (1) Concord
- 6 NATALIE COLE (1) Verve/VG
- 7 STEVE TYRELL (3) Columbia/Sony Music
- 8 DAVID SANBORN (1) Verve/VG
- 9 PAT METHENY (1) Warner Bros.
- 10 ELVIS COSTELLO (1) Deutsche Grammophon/
Universal Classics Group

Top Jazz Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 A WONDERFUL WORLD—Tony Bennett &
k.d. Lang—RPM/Columbia/Sony Music
- 2 LIVE IN PARIS—Diana Krall—Verve/VG
- 3 THE LOOK OF LOVE—Diana Krall—Verve/VG
- 4 PETER CINCOTTI—Peter Cincotti—Concord
- 5 ASK A WOMAN WHO KNOWS—Natalie Cole
—Verve/VG
- 6 HARRY FOR THE HOLIDAYS—Harry Connick,
Jr.—Columbia/Sony Music
- 7 TIMEAGAIN—David Sanborn—Verve/VG
- 8 ONE QUIET NIGHT—Pat Metheny—Warner
Bros.
- 9 NORTH—Elvis Costello—Deutsche
Grammophon/Universal Classics Group
- 10 BUT BEAUTIFUL: STANDARDS VOLUME 1—
Boyz Scaggs—Gray Cat/Mailboat
- 11 PAGANINI: AFTER A DREAM—Regina Carter
—Verve/VG
- 12 THIS TIME OF THE YEAR—Steve Tyrell—
Columbia/Sony Music
- 13 LADY SINGS THE BLUES—Various Artists—
Capitol
- 14 PLATINUM GLENN MILLER—Glenn Miller—
Victor/AAL

15 NATURE BOY: THE STANDARDS ALBUM—

Aaron Neville—Verve/VG

16 A LOVE SUPREME (DELUXE EDITION)—John

Coltrane—Impulse!/VG

17 OTHER HOURS: CONNICK ON PIANO 1—

Harry Connick, Jr.—Marsalis/Rounder

18 IN FULL SWING—Mark O'Connor's Hot Swing

Trio—Odyssey/Sony Music

19 THESE ARE THE VISTAS—The Bad Plus—

Columbia/Sony Music

20 JAZZ AFTER DARK—Various Artists—Playboy

Jazz/Concord

21 STANDARD TIME—Steve Tyrell—Columbia/

Sony Music

22 LOVE SONGS—Nat King Cole—Capitol

23 IN THE SUN—Jane Monheit—N-Coded/

Warlock

24 A LITTLE MOONLIGHT—Dianne Reeves—

Blue Note

25 GLAMOURED—Cassandra Wilson—Blue Note

Top Jazz Imprints

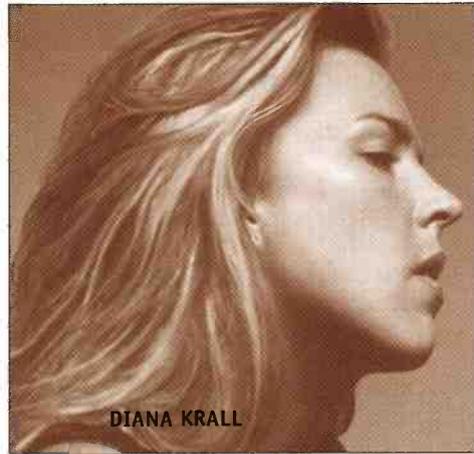
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 VERVE (26)
- 2 COLUMBIA (17)
- 3 RPM (2)
- 4 CONCORD (3)
- 5 BLUE NOTE (10)
- 6 WARNER BROS. (5)
- 7 CAPITOL (4)
- 8 DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON (1)
- 9 GRAY CAT (1)
- 10 MARSALIS (3)

Top Jazz Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 VERVE GROUP (28)
- 2 SONY MUSIC (18)
- 3 CONCORD (10)
- 4 BLUE NOTE (11)
- 5 WARNER BROS. (5)



DIANA KRALL

Top Contemporary Jazz Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 NORAH JONES (2) Blue Note
- 2 KENNY G (2) Arista
(1) BMG Heritage/Arista
- 3 LIZZ WRIGHT (1) Verve/VG
- 4 BERNIE WILLIAMS (1) GRP/VG
- 5 WILL DOWNING (2) GRP/VG
- 6 MINDI ABAIR (1) GRP/VG
- 7 THE CRUSADERS (1) PRA/Verve/VG
- 8 FOURPLAY (1) Bluebird/AAL
- 9 BWB (1) Warner Bros.
- 10 GEORGE BENSON (1) Warner Bros./Rhino

Top Contemporary Jazz Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 COME AWAY WITH ME—Norah Jones—
Blue Note
- 2 WISHES—Kenny G—Arista
- 3 PARADISE—Kenny G—Arista
- 4 ULTIMATE KENNY G—Kenny G—BMG
Heritage/Arista
- 5 HIDDEN BEACH RECORDINGS PRESENTS:
UNWRAPPED VOL. 2—Various Artists—
Hidden Beach/Epic/Sony Music
- 6 SALT—Lizz Wright—Verve/VG
- 7 THE JOURNEY WITHIN—Bernie Williams—
GRP/VG
- 8 IT JUST HAPPENS THAT WAY—Mindi Abair—
GRP/VG
- 9 RURAL RENEWAL—The Crusaders—PRA/
Verve/VG
- 10 HARD GROOVE—Roy Hargrove Presents The
RH Factor—Verve/VG
- 11 VERVE//REMIXED2—Various Artists—Verve/
VG
- 12 EMOTIONS—Will Downing—GRP/VG
- 13 HEARTFELT—Fourplay—Bluebird/AAL
- 14 GROOVIN'—bwb—Warner Bros.
- 15 THE GREATEST HITS OF ALL—George Benson
—Warner Bros./Rhino
- 16 LET IT RIPP—The Rippingtons Featuring Russ
Freeman—Peak/Concord
- 17 COME ON UP—Brian Culbertson—Warner Bros.
- 18 SAXOPHONIC—Dave Koz—Capitol
- 19 ALL I GOT—Al Jarreau—GRP/VG
- 20 STEPPIN' OUT—Paul Taylor—Peak/Concord
- 21 RIDE—Boney James—Warner Bros.
- 22 JUST CHILLIN'—Norman Brown—Warner Bros.
- 23 SOMEONE TO LOVE YOU—Kim Waters—
Shanachie
- 24 RICOCHET—Richard Elliot—GRP/VG
- 25 THE JAZZMASTERS 4—The Jazzmasters—
Trippin' 'N' Rhythm/Hardcastle/V2

Top Contemporary Jazz Imprints

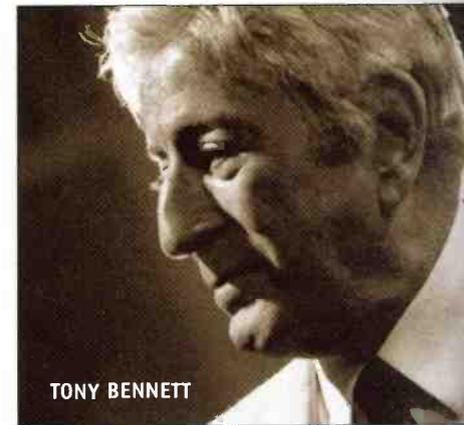
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 BLUE NOTE (5)
- 2 ARISTA (2)
- 3 GRP (11)
- 4 WARNER BROS. (10)
- 5 VERVE (7)
- 6 BMG HERITAGE (1)
- 7 SHANACHIE (11)
- 8 COLUMBIA (7)
- 9 PEAK (5)
- 10 N-CODED (5)

Top Contemporary Jazz Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 BLUE NOTE (5)
- 2 ARISTA (3)
- 3 VERVE GROUP (18)
- 4 WARNER BROS. (11)
- 5 SONY MUSIC (11)



TONY BENNETT

Top Combined Jazz Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 BLUE NOTE (15)
- 2 VERVE (29)
- 3 ARISTA (2)
- 4 COLUMBIA (21)
- 5 WARNER BROS. (16)
- 6 GRP (12)
- 7 RPM (2)
- 8 BMG HERITAGE (2)
- 9 CONCORD (3)
- 10 SHANACHIE (12)

Top Combined Jazz Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 BLUE NOTE (16)
- 2 VERVE GROUP (43)
- 3 SONY MUSIC (26)
- 4 ARISTA (3)
- 5 WARNER BROS. (17)

Top Combined Jazz Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EMM (36)
- 2 UNIVERSAL (56)
- 3 BMG (13)
- 4 SONY (27)
- 5 INDEPENDENTS (76)
- 6 WEA (29)



NORAH JONES



THE BEATLES

Top Pop Catalog Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER (6) American Gramophone
- 2 DIXIE CHICKS (2) Monument/Sony Music
- 3 METALLICA (3) Elektra/EEG (1) Megaforce/Elektra/EEG
- 4 EMINEM (2) Web/Aftermath/Interscope
- 5 THE BEATLES (4) Apple/Capitol
- 6 TIM MCGRAW (1) Curb
- 7 CELINE DION (2) 550 Music/Epic/Sony Music
- 8 LINKIN PARK (1) Warner Bros.
- 9 COLDPLAY (1) Nettwerk/Capitol
- 10 BOB SEGER & THE SILVER BULLET BAND (1) Capitol

Top Pop Catalog Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL CHRISTMAS!—Various Artists—EMI/Zomba/Sony Music/Universal/UMRG
- 2 1—The Beatles—Apple/Capitol
- 3 GREATEST HITS—Tim McGraw—Curb
- 4 CHRISTMAS EXTRAORDINAIRE—Mannheim Steamroller—American Gramophone
- 5 [HYBRID THEORY]—Linkin Park—Warner Bros.
- 6 PARACHUTES—Coldplay—Nettwerk/Capitol
- 7 LEGEND—Bob Marley And The Wailers—Tuff Gong/Island/IDJMG
- 8 GREATEST HITS—Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band—Capitol
- 9 THE MARSHALL MATHERS LP—Eminem—Web/Aftermath/Interscope
- 10 WIDE OPEN SPACES—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Sony Music
- 11 GREATEST HITS—Kenny Chesney—BNA/RLG
- 12 O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?—Soundtrack—Lost Highway/Mercury/IDJMG
- 13 RASCAL FLATTS—Rascal Flatts—Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 14 METALLICA—Metallica—Elektra/EEG
- 15 COME ON OVER—Shania Twain—Mercury/UMGN
- 16 ALL THE WAY...A DECADE OF SONG—Celine Dion—550 Music/Epic/Sony Music
- 17 THE SICKNESS—Disturbed—Giant/Warner Bros.
- 18 FLY—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Sony Music

Additional catalog charts available exclusively on billboard.com

Hot Modern Rock Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 AUDIOSLAVE (4) Interscope/Epic
- 2 LINKIN PARK (3) Warner Bros.
- 3 FOO FIGHTERS (4) Roswell/RCA/RMG
- 4 CHEVELLE (3) Epic
- 5 TRAPT (2) Warner Bros.
- 6 THE WHITE STRIPES (3) Third Man/V2
- 7 QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE (2) Interscope
- 8 RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS (5) Warner Bros.
- 9 STAIN'D (3) Flip/Elektra/EEG
- 10 EVANESCENCE (2) Wind-up

- 14 ALWAYS—Saliva—Island/IDJMG
- 15 THE RED—Chevelle—Epic
- 16 FINE AGAIN—Seether—Wind-up
- 17 SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE—Audioslave—Interscope/Epic
- 18 BOTTOM OF A BOTTLE—Smile Empty Soul—ThroBack/Lava
- 19 STUPID GIRL—Cold—Flip/Geffen/Interscope
- 20 THE BOYS OF SUMMER—The Ataris—Columbia

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Pop Catalog Imprints

- 19 CHRISTMAS EVE AND OTHER STORIES—Trans-Siberian Orchestra—Lava/AG
- 20 DARK SIDE OF THE MOON—Pink Floyd—Capitol
- 21 GREATEST HITS—Queen—Hollywood
- 22 GREATEST HITS—James Taylor—Warner Bros.
- 23 ...HITS—Phil Collins—Face Value/Atlantic/AG
- 24 GOOD CHARLOTTE—Good Charlotte—Daylight/Epic/Sony Music
- 25 16 BIGGEST HITS—Johnny Cash—Legacy/Columbia (Nashville)/Sony Music

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Pop Catalog Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 CAPITOL (11)
- 2 MERCURY (9)
- 3 COLUMBIA (22)
- 4 WARNER BROS. (6)
- 5 MONUMENT (3)
- 6 AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE (6)
- 7 CURB (5)
- 8 ELEKTRA (6)
- 9 EPIC (16)
- 10 UNIVERSAL (14)

Top Pop Catalog Labels

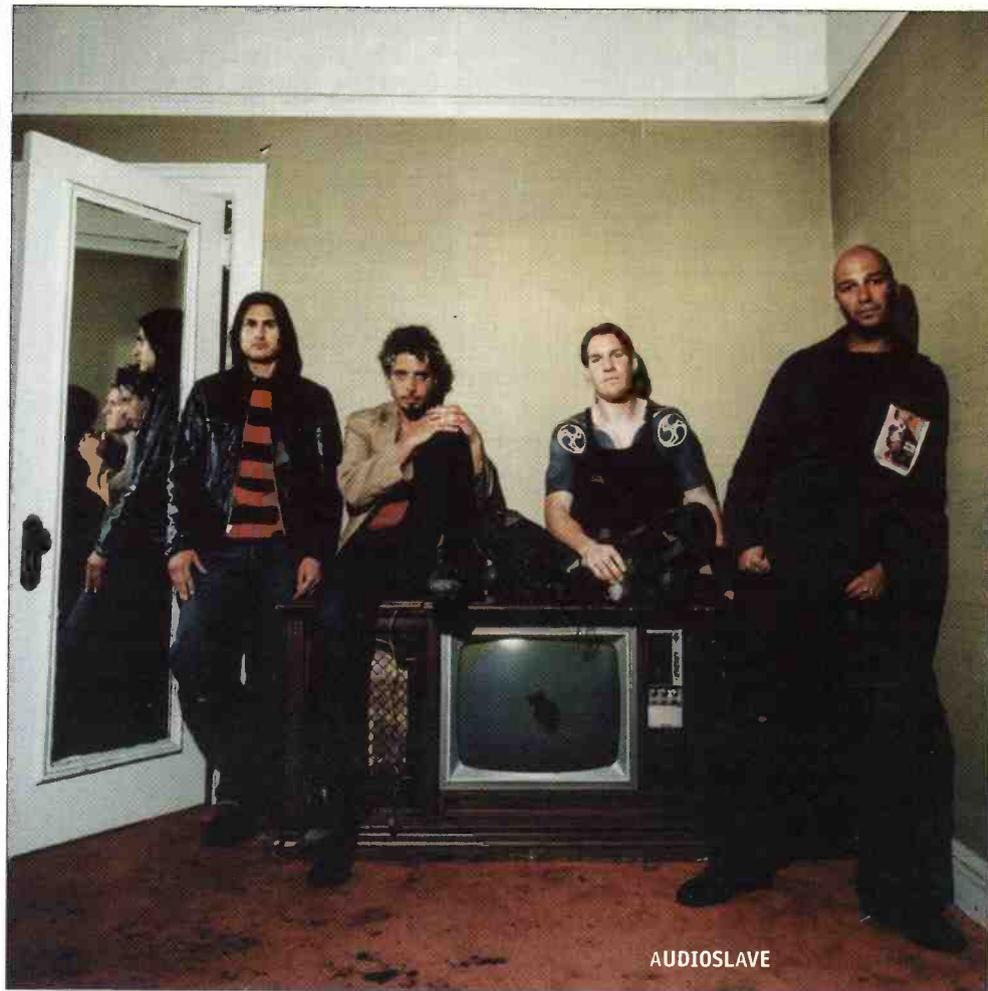
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY MUSIC (48)
- 2 CAPITOL (19)
- 3 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (19)
- 4 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (9)
- 5 WARNER BROS. (18)

Top Pop Catalog Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVERSAL (61)
- 2 WEA (40)
- 3 SONY (48)
- 4 EMM (27)
- 5 BMG (22)
- 6 INDEPENDENTS (15)



AUDIOSLAVE

Hot Modern Rock Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 HEADSTRONG—Trapt—Warner Bros.
- 2 SEVEN NATION ARMY—The White Stripes—Third Man/V2
- 3 LIKE A STONE—Audioslave—Interscope/Epic
- 4 SEND THE PAIN BELOW—Chevelle—Epic
- 5 FAINT—Linkin Park—Warner Bros.
- 6 SOMEWHERE I BELONG—Linkin Park—Warner Bros.
- 7 NO ONE KNOWS—Queens Of The Stone Age—Interscope
- 8 BRING ME TO LIFE—Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—Wind-up
- 9 TIMES LIKE THESE—Foo Fighters—Roswell/RCA/RMG
- 10 CAN'T STOP—Red Hot Chili Peppers—Warner Bros.
- 11 SO FAR AWAY—Stain'd—Flip/Elektra/EEG
- 12 ALL MY LIFE—Foo Fighters—Roswell/RCA/RMG
- 13 WHEN I'M GONE—3 Doors Down—Republic/Universal/UMRG

Hot Modern Rock Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WARNER BROS. (10)
- 2 INTERSCOPE (7)
- 3 EPIC (10)
- 4 WIND-UP (8)
- 5 ISLAND (10)

Hot Modern Rock Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EPIC (20)
- 2 WARNER BROS. (12)
- 3 INTERSCOPE (14)
- 4 REPRISE (13)
- 5 WIND-UP (8)
- 6 RCA MUSIC GROUP (12)
- 7 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (14)
- 8 ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (8)
- 9 CAPITOL (11)
- 10 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (7)

Mainstream rock charts available exclusively on billboard.com

Top World Music Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **THE CHIEFTAINS** (3) *Victor/AAL*
(1) *Legacy/Columbia/Sony Music*
- 2 **BAHA MEN** (2) *S-Curve/Capitol*
- 3 **DANIEL O'DONNELL** (7) *DPTV Media*
- 4 **CIRQUE DU SOLEIL** (1) *Cirque Du Soleil*
- 5 **RY COODER** (1) *Perro Verde/Nonesuch/AG*
- 5 **MANUEL GALBAN** (1) *Perro Verde/Nonesuch/AG*
- 7 **ISRAEL KAMAKAWIWO'OLE** (1) *Big Boy/The Mountain Apple Company*
- 8 **IBRAHIM FERRER** (1) *World Circuit/Nonesuch/AG*
- 9 **SINEAD O'CONNOR** (1) *Hummingbird/Vanguard*
- 10 **CESARIA EVORA** (1) *Bluebird/AAL*
(1) *Bluebird/AAL/BMG Heritage*

Top World Music Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **DG** (1)
- 2 **VICTOR** (3)
- 3 **S-CURVE** (2)
- 4 **NONESUCH** (5)
- 5 **DPTV MEDIA** (7)

Top World Music Labels

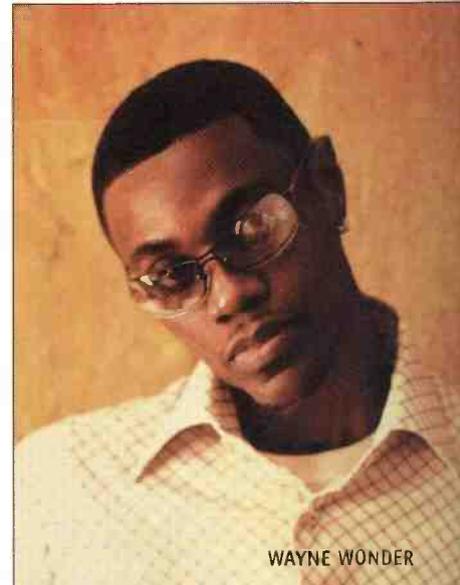
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ATLANTIC GROUP** (6)
- 2 **ARISTA ASSOCIATED LABELS** (6)
- 3 **UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP** (2)
- 4 **CAPITOL** (2)
- 5 **DPTV MEDIA** (7)

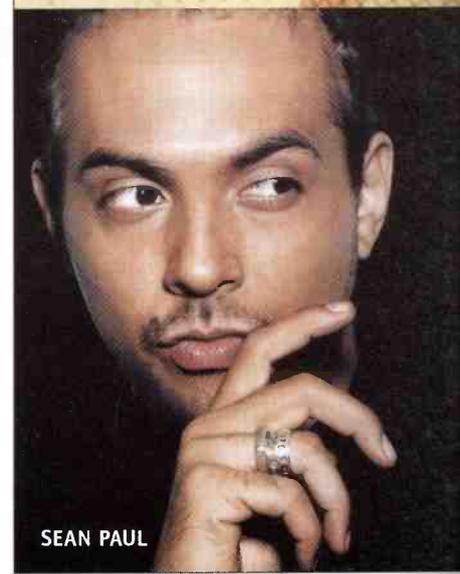
Top Reggae Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **DUTTY ROCK**—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic/AG
- 2 **NO HOLDING BACK**—Wayne Wonder—VP/Atlantic/AG
- 3 **LUCKY DAY**—Shaggy—Big Yard/MCA
- 4 **REGGAE GOLD 2003**—Various Artists—VP
- 5 **DRAGONFLY**—Ziggy Marley—Tuff Gong/Private Music/AAL
- 6 **RASTA JAMZ**—Various Artists—Razor & Tie
- 7 **TROPICAL STORM**—Beenie Man—Shocking Vibes/VP/Virgin
- 8 **FRIENDS FOR LIFE**—Buju Banton—VP
- 9 **REGGAE GOLD 2002**—Various Artists—VP
- 10 **LEGEND (DELUXE EDITION)**—Bob Marley And The Wailers—Tuff Gong/Island/IDJMG
- 11 **BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS LIVE AT THE ROXY**—Bob Marley And The Wailers—Tuff Gong/Island/IDJMG
- 12 **RED STAR SOUNDS PRESENTS DEF JAMAICA**—Various Artists—Red Star/Def Jamaica/IDJMG
- 13 **DUB SIDE OF THE MOON**—Easy Star All-Stars—Easy Star
- 14 **DA REAL THING**—Sizzla—VP
- 15 **ULTIMATE REGGAE**—Various Artists—UTV/UME



WAYNE WONDER



SEAN PAUL

Top Reggae Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **VP** (12)
- 2 **ATLANTIC** (2)
- 3 **BIG YARD** (1)
- 4 **TUFF GONG** (5)
- 5 **RAZOR & TIE** (1)

Top Reggae Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ATLANTIC GROUP** (2)
- 2 **VP** (9)
- 3 **MCA** (1)
- 4 **ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP** (4)
- 5 **ARISTA ASSOCIATED LABELS** (1)

Top Reggae Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **WEA** (6)
- 2 **UNIVERSAL** (8)
- 3 **BMG** (5)
- 4 **INDEPENDENTS** (27)
- 5 **EMM** (3)
- 6 **SONY** (2)



THE CHIEFTAINS

PHOTO: BARRY PHOENIX

Top World Music Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **FRIDA**—Soundtrack—DG/Universal Classics Group
- 2 **MAMBO SINUENDO**—Ry Cooder Manuel Galban—Perro Verde/Nonesuch/AG
- 3 **GREATEST MOVIE HITS**—Baha Men—S-Curve/Capitol
- 4 **DOWN THE OLD PLANK ROAD/THE NASHVILLE SESSIONS**—The Chieftains—Victor/AAL
- 5 **VAREKAI**—Cirque Du Soleil—Cirque Du Soleil
- 6 **ALONE IN IZ WORLD**—Israel Kamakawiwo'ole—Big Boy/The Mountain Apple Company
- 7 **BUENOS HERMANOS**—Ibrahim Ferrer—World Circuit/Nonesuch/AG
- 8 **BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM**—Soundtrack—Milan
- 9 **THE DANIEL O'DONNELL SHOW**—Daniel O'Donnell—DPTV Media
- 10 **SEAN-NOS NUA**—Sinead O'Connor—Hummingbird/Vanguard
- 11 **FURTHER DOWN THE OLD PLANK ROAD**—The Chieftains—Victor/AAL
- 12 **GREATEST HITS**—Daniel O'Donnell—DPTV Media
- 13 **BUDDHA-BAR V**—David Visan—George V
- 14 **AMELIE**—Soundtrack—Virgin
- 15 **CELTIC CIRCLE**—Various Artists—Windham Hill/AAL

Top World Music Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **INDEPENDENTS** (40)
- 2 **WEA** (9)
- 3 **BMG** (11)
- 4 **UNIVERSAL** (10)
- 5 **EMM** (9)
- 6 **SONY** (3)

Top Reggae Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **SEAN PAUL** (1) *VP/Atlantic/AG*
- 2 **WAYNE WONDER** (1) *VP/Atlantic/AG*
- 3 **SHAGGY** (1) *Big Yard/MCA*
(1) *Virgin*
- 4 **ZIGGY MARLEY** (1) *Tuff Gong/Private Music/AAL*
- 5 **BOB MARLEY AND THE WAILERS** (3) *Tuff Gong/Island/IDJMG*
- 6 **BEENIE MAN** (1) *Shocking Vibes/VP/Virgin*
- 7 **BUJU BANTON** (1) *VP*
(1) *Hip-O/Island/UME*
- 8 **EASY STAR ALL-STARS** (1) *Easy Star*
- 9 **SIZZLA** (1) *VP*
(1) *Greensleeves*
(1) *Charm*
- 10 **CARIBBEAN PULSE** (1) *Irie*



SHAGGY

*#1 in Reggae
for 2003
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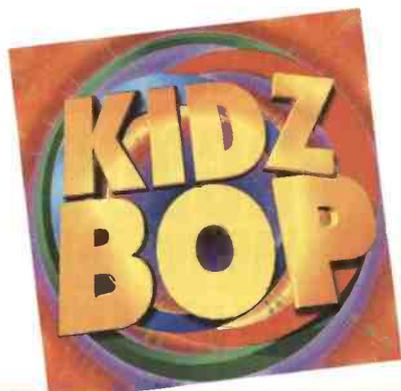
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Top Kid Audio Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 KIDZ BOP KIDS (5) Razor & Tie
- 2 THE WIGGLES (1) Lyric Studios
(1) Koch
- 3 HILARY DUFF (1) Buena Vista/Walt Disney
- 4 CEDARMONT KIDS (3) Benson
- 5 SUPERSTAR KIDZ (1) Walt Disney
- 6 JIM BRICKMAN (1) Windham Hill/Victor/AAL
- 7 THE CHIPMUNKS (1) Capitol
- 8 BUCK HOWDY (1) Prairie Dog
- 9 KIDS PICKS SINGERS (1) StraightWay
- 10 THE HIT CREW (2) Turn Up The Music

Top Kid Audio Series

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 VEGGIETALES (9) Big Idea
- 2 WALT DISNEY READ-ALONG (5) Walt Disney
- 3 SING-ALONG (1) Walt Disney
- 4 WONDER KIDS (1) Madacy
- 5 SONGS KIDS LOVE TO SING (1) StraightWay

Top Kid Audio

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 KIDZ BOP 3—Kidz Bop Kids—Razor & Tie
- 2 DISNEYMANIA: SUPERSTAR ARTISTS SING DISNEY—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 3 KIDZ BOP 2—Kidz Bop Kids—Razor & Tie
- 4 KIDZ BOP 4—Kidz Bop Kids—Razor & Tie
- 5 KIDZ BOP—Kidz Bop Kids—Razor & Tie
- 6 THE CHEETAH GIRLS (EP)—The Cheetah Girls—Walt Disney
- 7 RADIO DISNEY JAMS: VOL. 5—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 8 KIDZ BOP CHRISTMAS—Kidz Bop Kids—Razor & Tie
- 9 TODDLER FAVORITES—Various Artists—Music For Little People/Kid Rhino/Rhino
- 10 BIG IDEA'S VEGGIETALES SING-ALONGS: BOB & LARRY'S SUNDAY MORNING SONGS—VeggieTales—Big Idea
- 11 DISNEY'S GREATEST: VOL. 1—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 12 DISNEY CHILDREN'S FAVORITES VOL. 1—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 13 SANTA CLAUS LANE—Hilary Duff—Buena Vista/Walt Disney
- 14 KID'S DANCE PARTY—Various Artists—BMG Special Products
- 15 YUMMY YUMMY—The Wiggles—Lyric Studios
- 16 FINDING NEMO—Read-Along—Walt Disney
- 17 DISNEY'S GREATEST: VOL. 2—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 18 TODDLER TUNES: 26 CLASSIC SONGS FOR TODDLERS—Cedarmont Kids—Benson
- 19 PRINCESS FAVORITES—Various Artists—Walt Disney

- 20 BIG IDEA'S VEGGIETALES SING-ALONGS: BOB & LARRY'S BACKYARD PARTY—VeggieTales—Big Idea
- 21 SUPERSTAR KIDZ—Superstar Kidz—Walt Disney
- 22 ORIGINAL THEME HIGHLIGHTS—Spongebob Squarepants—Nick/Jive/Zomba
- 23 RADIO DISNEY JAMES VOL. 6—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 24 DISNEY'S PRINCESS COLLECTION—Various Artists—Walt Disney
- 25 SING-ALONG WITH DISNEY'S PRINCESSES—Sing-Along—Walt Disney

Top Kid Audio Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WALT DISNEY (36)
- 2 RAZOR & TIE (5)
- 3 BIG IDEA (9)
- 4 BUENA VISTA (2)
- 5 BMG SPECIAL PRODUCTS (1)

Top Kid Audio Labels

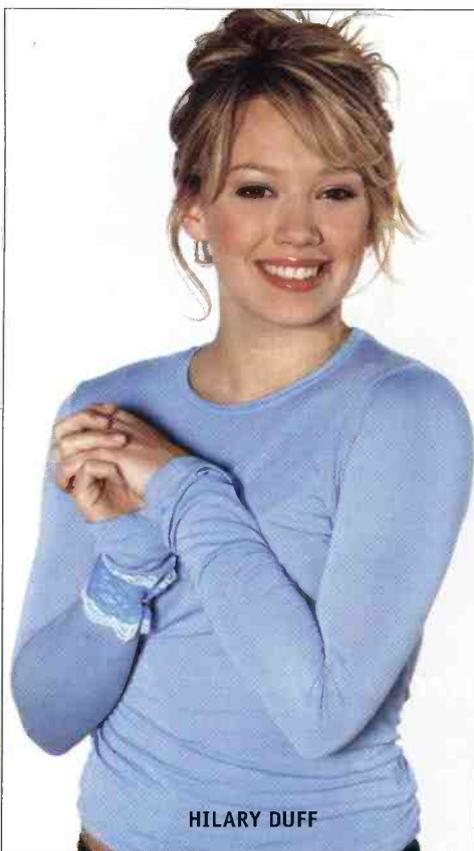
Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WALT DISNEY (38)
- 2 RAZOR & TIE (5)
- 3 BIG IDEA (9)
- 4 RHINO (3)
- 5 ZOMBA (3)

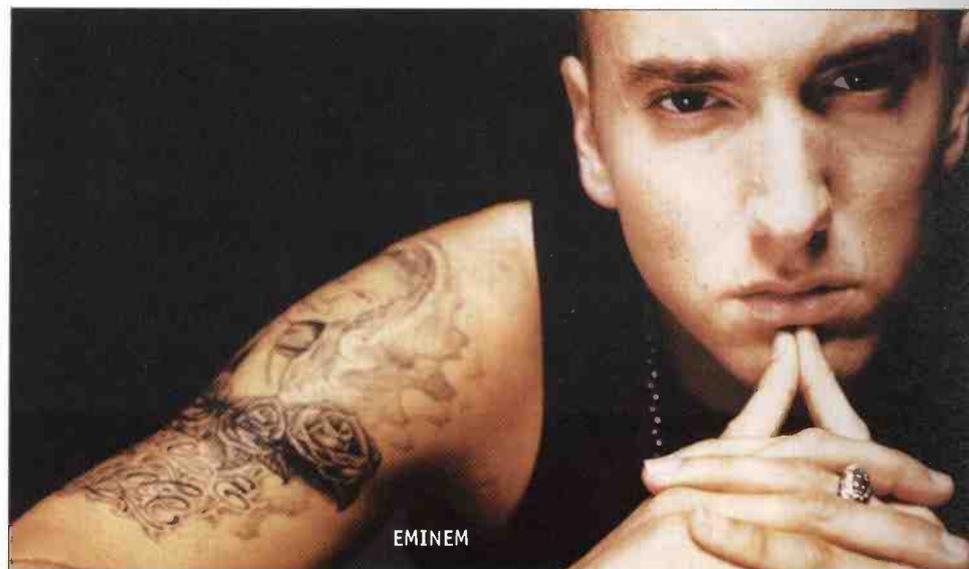
Top Kid Audio Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVERSAL (39)
- 2 BMG (10)
- 3 INDEPENDENTS (12)
- 4 EMM (13)
- 5 WEA (6)
- 6 SONY (3)



HILARY DUFF



EMINEM

Top Soundtrack Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 8 MILE—Shady/Interscope
- 2 CHICAGO—Epic/Sony Music
- 3 BAD BOYS II—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 4 THE LIZZIE MCGUIRE MOVIE—Walt Disney
- 5 LIZZIE MCGUIRE—Buena Vista/Walt Disney
- 6 2 FAST 2 FURIOUS—Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 7 DAREDEVIL: THE ALBUM—Wind-up
- 8 AMERICAN IDOL SEASON 2: ALL-TIME CLASSIC AMERICAN LOVE SONGS—RCA/RMG
- 9 THE MATRIX RELOADED: THE ALBUM—Warner Sunset/Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 10 CRADLE 2 THE GRAVE—Bloodline/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 11 O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?—Lost Highway/Mercury/IDJMG
- 12 TUPAC: RESURRECTION—Amaru/Interscope
- 13 DISNEY'S LILO & STITCH—Walt Disney
- 14 THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS—WMG Soundtracks/Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 15 FREAKY FRIDAY—Hollywood
- 16 A WALK TO REMEMBER—Epic/Sony Music
- 17 SWEET HOME ALABAMA—Hollywood
- 18 CHARLIE'S ANGELS: FULL THROTTLE—Columbia/Sony Music
- 19 SHREK—DreamWorks/Interscope
- 20 MOULIN ROUGE—Interscope
- 21 THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS—Music World/Columbia/Sony Music
- 22 THE CHEETAH GIRLS (EP)—Walt Disney
- 23 SPIRIT: STALLION OF THE CIMARRON—A&M/Interscope
- 24 WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS: WWE ANTHOLOGY (JIM JOHNSTON)—Jim Johnston—Smack Down!/Koch
- 25 HOLES—Walt Disney

Hot Soundtrack Singles

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 BRING ME TO LIFE (FROM "DAREDEVIL")—Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—Wind-up
- 2 SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER (FROM "BAD BOYS II")—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 3 LOSE YOURSELF (FROM "8 MILE")—Eminem—Shady/Interscope
- 4 THIS IS THE NIGHT (FROM "FOX'S AMERICAN IDOL SEASON 2")—Clay Aiken—RCA/RMG

- 5 WANKSTA (FROM "8 MILE")—50 Cent—G-Unit/Shady/Interscope

- 6 LOVE OF MY LIFE (AN ODE TO HIP HOP) (FROM "BROWN SUGAR")—Erykah Badu Featuring Common—Fox/MCA
- 7 FLYING WITHOUT WINGS (FROM "FOX'S AMERICAN IDOL SEASON 2")—Ruben Studdard—J/RMG
- 8 BLOWIN' ME UP (WITH HER LOVE) (FROM "DRUMLINE")—JC Chasez—Fox/Jive
- 9 ACT A FOOL (FROM "2 FAST 2 FURIOUS")—Ludacris—Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG
- 10 DIE ANOTHER DAY (FROM "DIE ANOTHER DAY")—Madonna—Warner Bros.

Top Soundtrack Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SHADY (2)
- 2 WALT DISNEY (11)
- 3 EPIC (4)
- 4 BAD BOY (1)
- 5 HOLLYWOOD (6)
- 6 RCA (2)
- 7 BUENA-VISTA (1)
- 8 WIND-UP (1)
- 9 COLUMBIA (9)
- 10 AMARU (1)

Top Soundtrack Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INTERSCOPE (9)
- 2 WALT DISNEY (12)
- 3 SONY MUSIC (15)
- 4 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (6)
- 5 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (5)

Top Soundtrack Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVERSAL (47)
- 2 SONY (15)
- 3 WEA (19)
- 4 BMG (10)
- 5 INDEPENDENTS (8)
- 6 EMM (5)

Top New Age Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 YANNI (1) Virgin
(1) Windham Hill/BMG Heritage
- 2 MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER (3) American Gramophone
- 3 JIM BRICKMAN (2) Windham Hill/Victor/AAL
(1) Windham Hill/AAL
- 4 GEORGE WINSTON (1) Windham Hill/Victor/AAL
(1) Windham Hill/AAL
- 5 C.W. MCCALL (1) American Gramophone
- 6 DELERIUM (1) Nettwerk
- 7 ENYA (1) Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 8 LORIE LINE (2) Time Line
- 9 ESTEBAN (6) Daystar
- 10 2002 (2) Real Music

Top New Age Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 ETHNICITY—Yanni—Virgin
- 2 ULTIMATE YANNI—Yanni—Windham Hill/BMG Heritage
- 3 ROMANTIC MELODIES—Mannheim Steamroller—American Gramophone
- 4 AMERICAN SPIRIT—Mannheim Steamroller/C.W. McCall—American Gramophone
- 5 HALLOWEEN—Mannheim Steamroller—American Gramophone
- 6 A WINDHAM HILL CHRISTMAS—Various Artists—Windham Hill/AAL
- 7 A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS—Various Artists—Time Life
- 8 LOVE SONGS & LULLABIES—Jim Brickman—Windham Hill/Victor/AAL
- 9 NIGHT DIVIDES THE DAY: THE MUSIC OF THE DOORS—George Winston—Windham Hill/Victor/AAL
- 10 PURE MOODS IV—Various Artists—Virgin
- 11 PEACE—Jim Brickman—Windham Hill/AAL
- 12 CHIMERA—Delerium—Nettwerk
- 13 ONLY TIME—THE COLLECTION—Enya—Reprise/Warner Bros.
- 14 SIMPLE THINGS—Jim Brickman—Windham Hill/Victor/AAL
- 15 SHARING THE SEASON 4—Lorie Line—Time Line

Top New Age Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 WINDHAM HILL (14)
- 2 VIRGIN (3)
- 3 AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE (3)
- 4 VICTOR (4)
- 5 TIME LIFE (1)

Top New Age Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ARISTA ASSOCIATED LABELS (14)
- 2 VIRGIN (7)
- 3 AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE (3)
- 4 BMG HERITAGE (1)
- 5 TIME LIFE (1)

Top New Age Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 BMG (15)
- 2 INDEPENDENTS (32)
- 3 EMM (15)
- 4 WEA (3)
- 5 UNIVERSAL (3)

Top Blues Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 SUSAN TEDESCHI (1) Tone-Cool/Artemis
- 2 JOHN MELLENCAMP (1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN AND DOUBLE TROUBLE (2) Legacy/Epic/Sony Music
- 4 DELBERT MCCLINTON (2) New West
- 5 ETTA JAMES (2) Private Music/AAL
(1) Chess/MCA
- 6 B.B. KING (1) MCA
(1) Hip-O/MCA/UME
- 7 TYRONE DAVIS (1) Future
(1) Malaco
- 8 BUDDY GUY (1) Silvertone/Zomba
- 9 JIMI HENDRIX (1) Experience
Hendrix/MCA/UME
- 10 STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN (1) Legacy/Epic/Sony Music

Top Blues Imprints

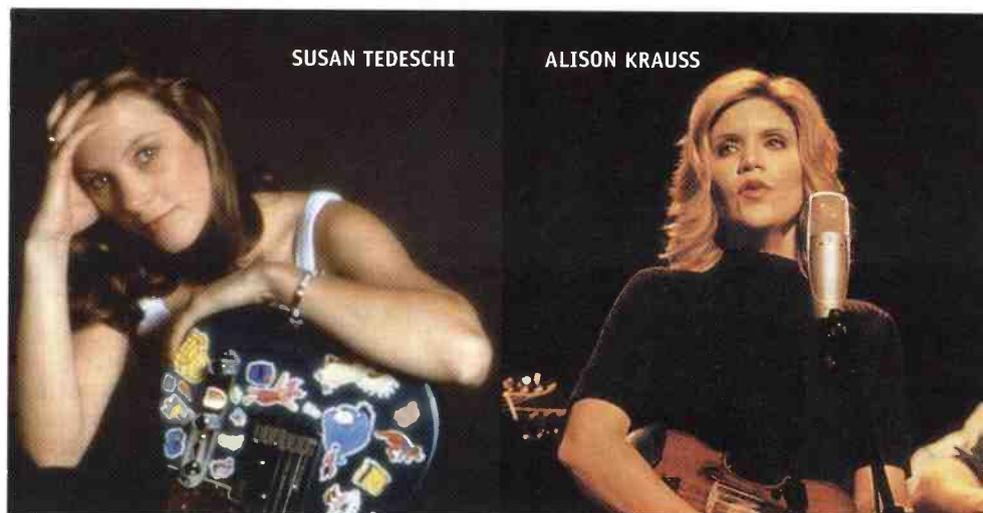
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 TONE-COOL (4)
- 2 COLUMBIA (5)
- 3 UTV (2)
- 4 LEGACY (8)
- 5 EPIC (3)

Top Blues Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SONY MUSIC (8)
- 2 ARTEMIS (3)
- 3 UME (10)
- 4 NEW WEST (2)
- 5 NARM (1)



SUSAN TEDESCHI

ALISON KRAUSS

Top Blues Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 WAIT FOR ME—Susan Tedeschi—Tone-Cool/Artemis
- 2 TROUBLE NO MORE—John Mellencamp—Columbia/Sony Music
- 3 THE ESSENTIAL STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN AND DOUBLE TROUBLE—Stevie Ray Vaughan And Double Trouble—Legacy/Epic/Sony Music
- 4 MARTIN SCORSESE PRESENTS THE BEST OF THE BLUES—Soundtrack—UTV/UME
- 5 ROOM TO BREATHE—Delbert McClinton—New West
- 6 GET THE BLUES VOL. 2—Various Artists—NARM
- 7 LET'S ROLL—Etta James—Private Music/AAL
- 8 REFLECTIONS—B.B. King—MCA
- 9 BLUES SINGER—Buddy Guy—Silvertone/Zomba
- 10 HAVE LOVE WILL TRAVEL—Jim Belushi, Dan Aykroyd—Have Love
- 11 COME TO DADDY—Tyronne Davis—Future
- 12 MARTIN SCORSESE PRESENTS THE BLUES: JIMI HENDRIX—Jimi Hendrix—Experience Hendrix/MCA/UME

Top Blues Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INDEPENDENTS (57)
- 2 SONY (8)
- 3 UNIVERSAL (17)
- 4 BMG (7)
- 5 EMM (3)

Top Bluegrass Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION (2) Rounder
- 2 NICKEL CREEK (1) Sugar Hill
- 3 PATTY LOVELESS (2) Epic/Sony Music
- 4 THE NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND (1) Capitol
- 5 DOLLY PARTON (1) Blue Eye/Sugar Hill

Top Bluegrass Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 LIVE—Alison Krauss + Union Station—Rounder
- 2 THIS SIDE—Nickel Creek—Sugar Hill
- 3 NEW FAVORITE—Alison Krauss + Union Station—Rounder
- 4 WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN, VOLUME III—The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band—Capitol
- 5 HALOS & HORNS—Dolly Parton—Blue Eye/Sugar Hill
- 6 THE THREE PICKERS—Earl Scruggs/Doc Watson/Ricky Skaggs—Rounder
- 7 BLUEGRASS & WHITE SNOW: A MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS—Patty Loveless—Epic/Sony Music
- 8 TIME-LIFE'S TREASURY OF BLUEGRASS—Various Artists—Universal Special Products/Time Life
- 9 LIVE AT THE CHARLESTON MUSIC HALL—Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder—Skaggs Family/Lyric Street/Hollywood
- 10 ONE STEP AHEAD—Rhonda Vincent—Rounder
- 11 MOUNTAIN SOUL—Patty Loveless—Epic/Sony Music
- 12 O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?—Soundtrack—Lost Highway/Mercury/IDJMG
- 13 BLUEGRASS TODAY—Various Artists—Warner Special Products/Time Life
- 14 WILDWOOD FLOWER—June Carter Cash—Dualtone
- 15 DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN—Soundtrack—Lost Highway/UMGN

Top Bluegrass Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ROUNDER (10)
- 2 SUGAR HILL (4)
- 3 EPIC (2)
- 4 CAPITOL (1)
- 5 BLUE EYE (1)

Top Bluegrass Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ROUNDER (10)
- 2 SUGAR HILL (7)
- 3 TIME LIFE (4)
- 4 SONY MUSIC (2)
- 5 CAPITOL (1)

Top Bluegrass Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 UNIVERSAL (18)
- 2 INDEPENDENTS (23)
- 3 WEA (4)
- 4 EMM (3)
- 5 SONY (2)
- 6 BMG (4)

Hot Adult Contemporary Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 PHIL COLLINS (2) Atlantic
(1) Walt Disney/Hollywood
- 2 CELINE DION (6) Epic
- 3 FAITH HILL (2) Warner Bros.
- 4 VANESSA CARLTON (1) A&M/Interscope
(1) Geffen/Interscope
- 5 SANTANA (2) Arista
- 6 SHANIA TWAIN (2) Mercury/IDJMG
- 7 CHRISTINA AGUILERA (1) RCA/RMG
- 8 NORAH JONES (1) Blue Note/Virgin
- 9 DANIEL BEDINGFIELD (1) Island/IDJMG
- 10 UNCLE KRACKER (2) Lava

Hot Adult Contemporary Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 THE GAME OF LOVE—Santana Featuring Michelle Branch—Arista
- 2 CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU—Phil Collins—Atlantic
- 3 DRIFT AWAY—Uncle Kracker Featuring Dobie Gray—Lava
- 4 A THOUSAND MILES—Vanessa Carlton—A&M/Interscope
- 5 BEAUTIFUL—Christina Aguilera—RCA/RMG
- 6 CRY—Faith Hill—Warner Bros.
- 7 DON'T KNOW WHY—Norah Jones—Blue Note/Virgin
- 8 HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN LOVE—Celine Dion—Epic
- 9 IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE—Daniel Bedingfield—Island/IDJMG
- 10 FOREVER AND FOR ALWAYS—Shania Twain—Mercury/IDJMG
- 11 UNWELL—matchbox twenty—Atlantic
- 12 SOAK UP THE SUN—Sheryl Crow—A&M/Interscope
- 13 BIG YELLOW TAXI—Counting Crows Featuring Vanessa Carlton—Geffen/Interscope
- 14 SUPERMAN (IT'S NOT EASY)—Five For Fighting—Aware/Columbia
- 15 HOLE IN THE WORLD—Eagles—ERC/33rd Street
- 16 DANCE WITH MY FATHER—Luther Vandross—J/RMG
- 17 LANDSLIDE—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Columbia

- 18 HERO—Enrique Iglesias—Interscope
- 19 FOREVER FOR YOU—Daryl Hall John Oates—U-Watch
- 20 I CAN ONLY IMAGINE—MercyMe—INO/Curb

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Adult Contemporary Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ARISTA (9)
- 2 ATLANTIC (4)
- 3 A&M (4)
- 4 RCA (7)
- 5 EPIC (7)

Hot Adult Contemporary Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INTERSCOPE (7)
- 2 RCA MUSIC GROUP (11)
- 3 ATLANTIC (5)
- 4 ARISTA (8)
- 5 COLUMBIA (11)
- 6 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (4)
- 7 EPIC (7)
- 8 WARNER BROS. (3)
- 9 REPRIS (10)
- 10 LAVA (2)

Hot Adult Top 40 Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 MATCHBOX TWENTY (3) Atlantic
- 2 JOHN MAYER (4) Aware/Columbia
- 3 3 DOORS DOWN (2) Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 4 AVRIL LAVIGNE (4) Arista
- 5 UNCLE KRACKER (3) Lava
- 6 TRAIN (2) Columbia
- 7 SANTANA (2) Arista
- 8 JASON MRAZ (2) Elektra/EEG
- 9 MICHELLE BRANCH (3) Maverick/Warner Bros. (1) Arista
- 10 COLDPLAY (3) Capitol

Hot Adult Top 40 Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 UNWELL—matchbox twenty—Atlantic
- 2 DRIFT AWAY—Uncle Kracker Featuring Dobie Gray—Lava
- 3 CALLING ALL ANGELS—Train—Columbia
- 4 WHEN I'M GONE—3 Doors Down—Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 5 THE REMEDY (I WON'T WORRY)—Jason Mraz—Elektra/EEG
- 6 I'M WITH YOU—Avril Lavigne—Arista
- 7 YOUR BODY IS A WONDERLAND—John Mayer—Aware/Columbia
- 8 THE GAME OF LOVE—Santana Featuring Michelle Branch—Arista
- 9 BIG YELLOW TAXI—Counting Crows Featuring Vanessa Carlton—Geffen/Interscope
- 10 WHY DON'T YOU & I—Santana Featuring Alex Band Or Chad Kroeger—Arista
- 11 PICTURE—Kid Rock Featuring Sheryl Crow—Lava/Atlantic
- 12 BRING ME TO LIFE—Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—Wind-up
- 13 CLOCKS—Coldplay—Capitol
- 14 ARE YOU HAPPY NOW?—Michelle Branch—Maverick/Warner Bros.
- 15 UNDERNEATH IT ALL—No Doubt Featuring Lady Saw—Interscope
- 16 HEAVEN—Live—Radioactive/Geffen
- 17 AMAZING—Josh Kelley—Hollywood
- 18 INTUITION—Jewel—Atlantic
- 19 LANDSLIDE—Dixie Chicks—Monument/Columbia
- 20 WHY CAN'T I—Liz Phair—Capitol

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Hot Adult Top 40 Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 ARISTA (9)
- 2 ATLANTIC (10)
- 3 LAVA (5)
- 4 AWARE (4)
- 5 COLUMBIA (11)

Hot Adult Top 40 Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 COLUMBIA (16)
- 2 ATLANTIC (11)
- 3 ARISTA (9)
- 4 INTERSCOPE (13)
- 5 RCA MUSIC GROUP (13)
- 6 LAVA (6)
- 7 WARNER BROS. (10)
- 8 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (4)
- 9 CAPITOL (5)
- 10 ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (5)

Hot Mainstream Top 40 Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE (4) Jive
- 2 CHRISTINA AGUILERA (5) RCA/RMG
- 3 50 CENT (3) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope (1) Queen Bee/Atlantic
- 4 EMINEM (2) Web/Aftermath/Interscope (1) Shady/Interscope
- 5 3 DOORS DOWN (2) Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 6 AVRIL LAVIGNE (3) Arista
- 7 JENNIFER LOPEZ (4) Epic
- 8 MATCHBOX TWENTY (3) Atlantic
- 9 KELLY CLARKSON (3) RCA/RMG
- 10 BLACK EYED PEAS (2) A&M/Interscope

Hot Mainstream Top 40 Tracks

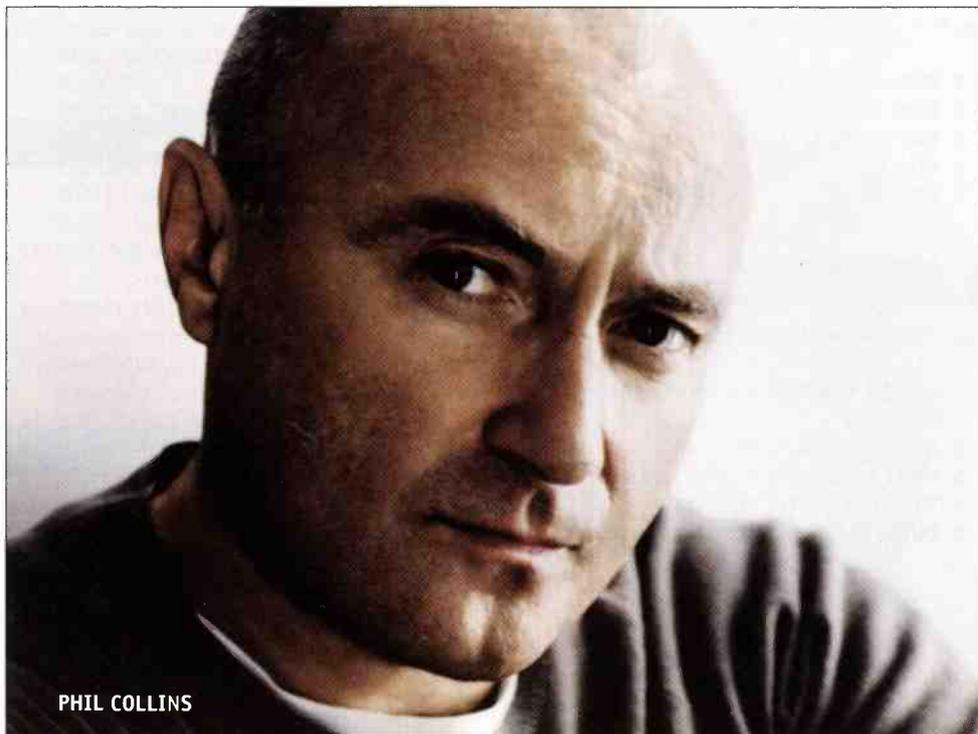
Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 WHERE IS THE LOVE?—Black Eyed Peas—A&M/Interscope
- 2 I'M WITH YOU—Avril Lavigne—Arista
- 3 BRING ME TO LIFE—Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy—Wind-up
- 4 BEAUTIFUL—Christina Aguilera—RCA/RMG
- 5 ROCK YOUR BODY—Justin Timberlake—Jive
- 6 UNWELL—matchbox twenty—Atlantic
- 7 IN DA CLUB—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
- 8 MISS INDEPENDENT—Kelly Clarkson—RCA/RMG
- 9 IGNITION—R. Kelly—Jive
- 10 WHEN I'M GONE—3 Doors Down—Republic/Universal/UMRG
- 11 CRAZY IN LOVE—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—Columbia
- 12 ALL I HAVE—Jennifer Lopez Featuring LL Cool J—Epic
- 13 SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—Bad Boy/UMRG
- 14 PICTURE—Kid Rock Featuring Sheryl Crow—Lava/Atlantic
- 15 GET BUSY—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic
- 16 DON'T MESS WITH MY MAN—Nivea Featuring Brian & Brandon Casey—Jive
- 17 CRY ME A RIVER—Justin Timberlake—Jive
- 18 LOSE YOURSELF—Eminem—Shady/Interscope
- 19 CAN'T HOLD US DOWN—Christina Aguilera Featuring Lil' Kim—RCA/RMG
- 20 ANGEL—Amanda Perez—Powerhowse/Virgin

Hot Mainstream Top 40 Imprints

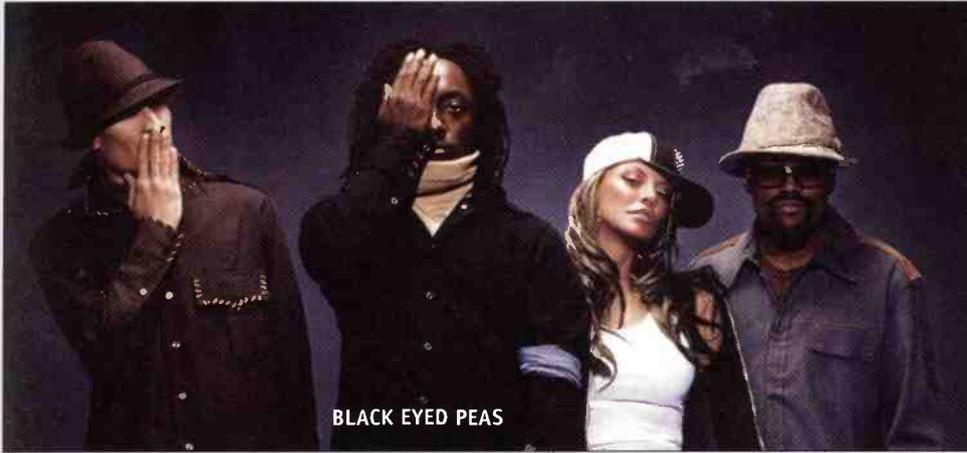
Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 JIVE (7)
- 2 RCA (9)
- 3 ARISTA (12)
- 4 COLUMBIA (8)
- 5 EPIC (8)



PHIL COLLINS

Top 40 Tracks charts available exclusively on billboard.com



BLACK EYED PEAS

Hot Mainstream Top 40 Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INTERSCOPE (22)
- 2 JIVE (9)
- 3 RCA MUSIC GROUP (14)
- 4 ATLANTIC (14)
- 5 EPIC (14)
- 6 COLUMBIA (15)
- 7 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (9)
- 8 ARISTA (16)
- 9 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (13)
- 10 ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (9)

Hot Rhythmic Top 40 Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 50 CENT (4) Shady/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) G-Unit/Shady/Interscope
(1) Queen Bee/Atlantic
(1) No Label
- 2 SEAN PAUL (3) VP/Atlantic
(1) Columbia
(1) RedZone/Arista
(1) Elektra/EEG
- 3 CHINGY (2) Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 4 ASHANTI (3) Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) Murder Inc./AJM/IDJMG
- 5 BEYONCE KNOWLES (3) Columbia
(1) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
- 6 R. KELLY (4) Jive
(1) Full Surface/J/RMG
(1) Nick/Jive
(1) T.U.G./Elektra/EEG
- 7 FABOLOUS (2) Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG
(1) The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Epic
- 8 JAY-Z (3) Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG
(1) Columbia
(1) Star Trak/Arista
(1) Sequence
- 9 EMINEM (2) Web/Aftermath/Interscope
(1) Shady/Interscope
(1) No Label
- 10 MISSY "MISDEMEANOR" ELLIOTT (3)
The Gold Mind/Elektra/EEG
(1) Yclef/J/RMG

Hot Rhythmic Top 40 Tracks

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 RIGHT THURR—Chingy—Disturbing Tha Peace/Capitol
- 2 GET LOW—Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins—BME/TVT

3 IN DA CLUB—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope

4 SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER—Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee—Bad Boy/UMRG

5 INTO YOU—Fabolous Featuring Tamia Or Ashanti—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG

6 MAGIC STICK—Lil' Kim Featuring 50 Cent—Queen Bee/Atlantic

7 21 QUESTIONS—50 Cent Featuring Nate Dogg—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope

8 SUGA SUGA—Baby Bash Featuring Frankie J—Universal/UMRG

9 IGNITION—R. Kelly—Jive

10 P.I.M.P.—50 Cent—Shady/Aftermath/Interscope

11 CRAZY IN LOVE—Beyonce Featuring Jay-Z—Columbia

12 CAN'T LET YOU GO—Fabolous Featuring Mike Shorey & Lil' Mo—Desert Storm/Elektra/EEG

13 BABY BOY—Beyonce Featuring Sean Paul—Columbia

14 GET BUSY—Sean Paul—VP/Atlantic

15 ROCK WIT U (AWWW BABY)—Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG

16 I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT—Busta Rhymes & Mariah Carey Featuring The Flipmode Squad—J/Monarc/RMG/IDJMG

17 ALL I HAVE—Jennifer Lopez Featuring LL Cool J—Epic

18 MESMERIZE—Ja Rule Featuring Ashanti—Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG

19 BUMP, BUMP, BUMP—B2K & P. Diddy—T.U.G./Epic

20 MISS YOU—Aaliyah—Blackground/Universal/UMRG

Hot Rhythmic Top 40 Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 COLUMBIA (8)
- 2 UNIVERSAL (14)
- 3 JIVE (8)
- 4 DEF JAM (17)
- 5 SHADY (8)

Hot Rhythmic Top 40 Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 INTERSCOPE (23)
- 2 ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP (26)
- 3 UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP (23)
- 4 ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (14)
- 5 ATLANTIC (12)
- 6 COLUMBIA (14)
- 7 EPIC (11)
- 8 ARISTA (15)
- 9 JIVE (9)
- 10 CAPITOL (7)

Top Christian Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 MERCYME (2) INO/Word-Curb
- 2 MICHAEL W. SMITH (3) Reunion/Provident
- 3 THIRD DAY (2) Essential/Provident
- 4 RANDY TRAVIS (2) Word-Curb/Warner Bros.
- 5 STACIE ORRICO (1) Forefront/Virgin/Chordant
- 6 P.O.D. (2) Atlantic/Word-Curb
- 7 NEWSBOYS (3) Sparrow/Chordant
- 8 STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN (2) Sparrow/Chordant
- 9 RELIENT K (2) Gotee/Chordant
- 10 SWITCHFOOT (1) Sparrow/Chordant

Top Christian Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 WORSHIP TOGETHER: I COULD SING OF YOUR LOVE FOREVER—Various Artists—EMI Special Markets/Time Life/Chordant
- 2 ALMOST THERE—MercyMe—INO/Word-Curb
- 3 WOW HITS 2003—Various Artists—EMI CMG/Provident/Word-Curb/Sparrow/Chordant
- 4 WORSHIP AGAIN—Michael W. Smith—Reunion/Provident
- 5 IWORSHIP! A TOTAL WORSHIP EXPERIENCE—Various Artists—Integrity/Word-Curb
- 6 OFFERINGS II: ALL I HAVE TO GIVE—Third Day—Essential/Provident
- 7 WOW WORSHIP (YELLOW)—Various Artists—EMI CMG/Word-Curb/Provident
- 8 STACIE ORRICO—Stacie Orrico—Forefront/Virgin/Chordant
- 9 RISE AND SHINE—Randy Travis—Word-Curb/Warner Bros.
- 10 SPOKEN FOR—MercyMe—INO/Word-Curb
- 11 THE BEAUTIFUL LETDOWN—Switchfoot—Sparrow/Chordant
- 12 WORSHIP—Michael W. Smith—Reunion/Provident
- 13 ALL ABOUT LOVE—Steven Curtis Chapman—Sparrow/Chordant
- 14 DONNIE MCCLURKIN... AGAIN—Donnie McClurkin—Verity/Provident
- 15 ADORATION: THE WORSHIP ALBUM—Newsboys—Sparrow/Chordant

16 WOW CHRISTMAS—Various Artists—EMI CMG/Provident/Word-Curb

17 TWO LEFTS DON'T MAKE A RIGHT...BUT THREE DO—Relient K—Gotee/Chordant

18 SATELLITE—P.O.D.—Atlantic/Word-Curb

19 THE REBIRTH OF KIRK FRANKLIN—Kirk Franklin—Gospo Centric/Provident

20 WOVEN & SPUN—Nichole Nordeman—Sparrow/Chordant

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Christian Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 SPARROW (29)
- 2 INO (8)
- 3 REUNION (9)
- 4 WORD-CURB (19)
- 5 ESSENTIAL (12)
- 6 INTEGRITY (16)
- 7 VERITY (8)
- 8 FOREFRONT (11)
- 9 EMI CMG (3)
- 10 WARNER BROS. (13)

Top Christian Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 CHORDANT (84)
- 2 WORD-CURB (59)
- 3 PROVIDENT (45)
- 4 TIME LIFE (2)
- 5 INTEGRITY (3)

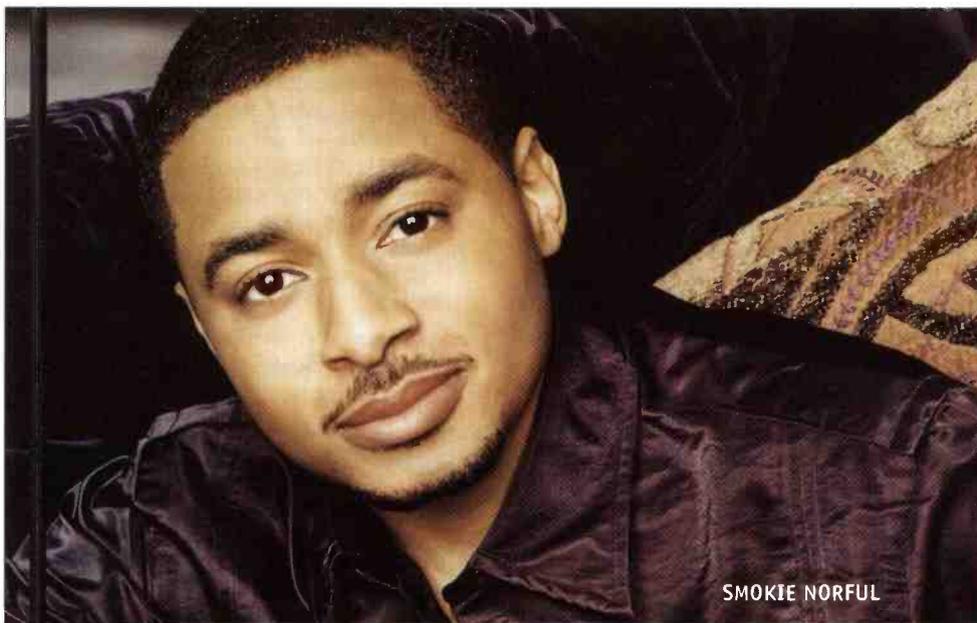
Top Christian Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 EMM (82)
- 2 BMG (47)
- 3 WEA (46)
- 4 SONY (12)
- 5 UNIVERSAL (3)
- 6 INDEPENDENTS (6)



THIRD DAY



SMOKIE NORFUL

Top Gospel Artists

Pos. ARTIST (No. of Charted Titles) Imprint/Label

- 1 **SMOKIE NORFUL** (2) EMI Gospel
- 2 **DONNIE MCCLURKIN** (1) Verity/Zomba
- 3 **KIRK FRANKLIN** (1) Gospo Centric/Zomba
- 4 **MARY MARY** (1) Columbia/Sony Music
- 5 **YOLANDA ADAMS** (2) Elektra/EEG
- 6 **VICKIE WINANS** (1) Verity/Zomba
- 7 **CECE WINANS** (1) PureSprings Gospel/INO/Sony Music
- 8 **HEZEKIAH WALKER & THE LOVE FELLOWSHIP CRUSADE CHOIR** (1) Verity/Zomba
- 9 **FRED HAMMOND** (2) Verity/Zomba
- 10 **JOHN P. KEE** (2) Verity/Zomba

Top Gospel Albums

Pos. TITLE—Artist—Imprint/Label

- 1 **WOW GOSPEL 2003**—Various Artists—EMI Christian/Word/Verity/Zomba
- 2 **DONNIE MCCLURKIN... AGAIN**—Donnie McClurkin—Verity/Zomba
- 3 **I NEED YOU NOW**—Smokie Norful—EMI Gospel
- 4 **THE REBIRTH OF KIRK FRANKLIN**—Kirk Franklin—Gospo Centric/Zomba
- 5 **THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS**—Soundtrack—Music World/Columbia/Sony Music
- 6 **INCREDIBLE**—Mary Mary—Columbia/Sony Music
- 7 **BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER**—Vickie Winans—Verity/Zomba
- 8 **FAMILY AFFAIR II: LIVE AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL**—Hezekiah Walker & The Love Fellowship Crusade Choir—Verity/Zomba
- 9 **THRONE ROOM**—CeCe Winans—PureSprings Gospel/INO/Sony Music
- 10 **SPEAK THOSE THINGS: POL CHAPTER 3**—Fred Hammond—Verity/Zomba
- 11 **BELIEVE**—Yolanda Adams—Elektra/EEG
- 12 **PRaise IS WHAT I DO**—Shekinah Glory Ministry—Kingdom/PGE
- 13 **BLESSED BY ASSOCIATION**—John P. Kee & New Life—Verity/Zomba
- 14 **LOST AND FOUND**—Deitrick Haddon—Tyscot/Verity/Zomba
- 15 **BYRON CAGE**—Byron Cage—Gospo Centric/Zomba

- 16 **BISHOP T.D. JAKES PRESENTS: GOD'S LEADING LADIES**—Various Artists—Dexterity Sounds/EMI Gospel
- 17 **CHURCHIN' WITH DOTTIE**—Dottie Peoples—Atlanta Int'l
- 18 **A WING AND A PRAYER**—Bishop T.D. Jakes And The Potter's House Mass Choir—Dexterity Sounds/EMI Gospel
- 19 **GO GET YOUR LIFE BACK**—Donald Lawrence & The Tri-City Singers—Crystal Rose/EMI Gospel
- 20 **BEHIND THE VEIL: MORNING GLORY 2**—Juanita Bynum—Shekinah International

A deeper version of this chart appears on billboard.com

Top Gospel Imprints

Pos. IMPRINT (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **VERITY** (29)
- 2 **GOSPO CENTRIC** (8)
- 3 **EMI GOSPEL** (9)
- 4 **COLUMBIA** (4)
- 5 **DEXTERITY SOUNDS** (4)
- 6 **ELEKTRA** (4)
- 7 **WORD** (5)
- 8 **ATLANTA INT'L** (4)
- 9 **EMI CHRISTIAN** (2)
- 10 **MUSIC WORLD** (3)

Top Gospel Labels

Pos. LABEL (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **ZOMBA** (36)
- 2 **EMI GOSPEL** (17)
- 3 **SONY MUSIC** (14)
- 4 **MALACO** (7)
- 5 **ATLANTA INT'L** (5)

Top Gospel Distributors

Pos. DISTRIBUTOR (No. of Charted Titles)

- 1 **BMG** (36)
- 2 **INDEPENDENTS** (40)
- 3 **EMM** (20)
- 4 **SONY** (14)
- 5 **WEA** (16)
- 6 **UNIVERSAL** (2)

Adult Contemporary

Continued from page YE-60

Love." It ranks at No. 8 for the year.

Dion will mark the first full year of her three-year gig at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas at the end of March. The flashy performance has been sold out since day one.

Hill, whose success at AC this year surpassed her chart prowess at top 40 and country, is the No. 3 singles artist in the format. The title track from her Warner Bros. disc "Cry" is No. 6 on the AC titles recap.

Newcomer Vanessa Carlton is the year's No. 4 AC artist, thanks to the enduring appeal of "A Thousand Miles," a formidable hit at mainstream and adult top 40 radio. The song finishes for 2003 at No. 4 on the AC title tally.

Carlton also places as a guest artist on Counting Crows' remake of "Big Yellow Taxi," the year's No. 13 AC song and No. 9 adult top 40 track. Carlton's sophomore album on A&M/Interscope is expected in early 2004.

The fifth most popular AC artist is Santana, thanks to "The Game of Love," which has already spent more than one year on the weekly chart, in addition to his success at mainstream and adult top 40 radio. Arista continues to work singles from Santana's

"Shaman" album as the new year begins.

Uncle Kracker Featuring Dobie Gray pulls off the year's most surprising feat on the AC chart. The remake of "Drift Away" set a new record for the most weeks at No. 1—25—squashing Dion's record set in 2002 for "A New Day Has Come" at 21 weeks.

"Drift Away" finishes for the year at No. 3 on the AC recap, garnering Lava artist Kracker the No. 10 AC artist of the year spot.

The song is also the No. 2 hit for the year at adult top 40, earning Uncle Kracker the No. 5 slot among the year's adult top 40 acts.

The biggest AC hit that also scored at top 40 is RCA singer Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful." A No. 1 hit on the Hot 100, the song is the No. 5 AC song of the year.

At adult top 40, the runner-up to Matchbox Twenty as artist of the year is John Mayer. His four charted hits during 2003 included the No. 7 adult top 40 hit for the year, "Your Body Is a Wonderland." Mayer split his hits between his debut album—the Grammy-winning "Room for Squares"—and follow-up "Heavier Things."

3 Doors Down on Republic/Universal mimicked its Hot 100 success in the past year as the third-place adult top 40 artist with "When I'm Gone" ranking at No. 4 on the year's adult top 40 recap. The group ended the year with the release of its live EP, "Another 700 Miles."

Like the other top five artists at adult top 40 radio, Avril Lavigne finishes with more than one song in the year-end recap and parallel success at mainstream top 40. Her biggest, (Continued on page YE-86)

Rap

Continued from page YE-58

year's party anthems, as it peaked at No. 2 on The Billboard Hot 100 and the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart. It ranks as the No. 2 Hot Rap Track of the year.

The group's recently released "Part II" serves as a CD/DVD combo. The project includes two "Get Low" remixes and two previously unreleased cuts. The DVD contains a video diary chronicling the group's rise to fame.

Dancehall reggae also received its due this year, thanks to the crossover led by Sean Paul's major-label debut, "Dutty Rock" (VP/Atlantic).

Following the success of lead single "Gimme the Light," Paul's song "Get Busy" turned more fans on to him and the subgenre. It hit No. 1 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks and is the No. 4 title on the Hot Rap Tracks recap.

Paul ended the year as the No. 2 act on the Hot Rap Tracks Artists chart. His success also opened the door for other dancehall acts, like Wayne Wonder, Vybz Cartel and Elephant Man.

Another group known for stretching the boundaries of hip-hop, OutKast, is closing the year strong with its double album, "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below" (Arista).

Serving as the follow-up to its 2000 set "Stankonia," the album peaked in 2003 at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 and Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums. OutKast ends the year ranked No. 9 on The Billboard 200 Artists recap.

Indies

Continued from page YE-58

term "bling bling" began his career in the early '90s at the age of 11.

Among rappers, Queens, N.Y., superstar 50 Cent dwarfed all comers during 2003. Following the release of his bust-out Shady/Aftermath/Interscope album "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," Full Clip's compilation of earlier, oft-bootlegged mix-tape tracks "Guess Who's Back" roared onto the Top Independent Albums chart and closed the year as the No. 5 disc on the tally.

Two very different bands saw their 2002 releases hang tough in the top 10 indie releases during 2003.

Youthful California bluegrass trio Nickel Creek—guitarist Sean Watkins, fiddler Sara Watkins and mandolinist/banjoist Chris Thile—reaped a Grammy Award for best contemporary folk album in the spring for its Sugar Hill release "This Side." The album continued its lengthy run on the Top Indie Albums chart, coming in at No. 6 overall.

Taking Back Sunday, New York's melodic punk unit, continued to tour hard behind its '02 Victory album, "Tell All Your Friends." The roadwork paid off, and the set held at No. 10 overall this year.

The "Vans Warped Tour 2003" compilation (Smack Down/Koch) and "WWE Anthology" (Smack Down/Koch), Jim Johnston's latest soundtrack for World Wrestling Entertainment, rounded out the list of top 10 indie releases for the year, at Nos. 7 and 9, respectively.

Year In Business

Continued from page YE-10

lyle Group to Willis Stein & Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm, for \$255 million.

Changes also occurred at the trade group level. The top executives at the Recording Industry Assn. of America and the National Assn. of Recording Merchandisers announced their resignations in 2003.

RIAA chairman/CEO Hilary Rosen ended a 17-year run with the trade group July 1. The industry replaced her with Republican policymaker Mitch Bainwol, the former chief of staff to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

NARM president Pam Horowitz stepped down from her post in mid-July. She had held the position since 1989.

As of year's end, NARM was still searching for a replacement.

UMG CUTS PRICES

In the face of industry consolidation and declining sales, UMG, the world's market leader, announced in October plans to drop front-line CD prices in the U.S. to \$12.98 from \$18.98.

The company will also drop catalog list pricing starting Jan. 1, 2004.

In a controversial move, UMG also cut out cooperative-advertising funds to retailers participating in its new pricing program. Instead, the company said it would triple its own advertising of new titles.

The move is designed to enable merchants to sell UMG titles at \$9.99 and still make a profit. But to qualify for the program, retailers must commit a percentage of their shelf space and marketing opportunities to Universal product.

The new pricing, announced Sept. 3, will result in "a dramatic increase in sales," UMG president/COO Zach Horowitz told *Billboard* at the time.

The gambit electrified industry discussion about pricing. The UMG makeover strikes at the heart of the current business model and changes it in profound ways beyond pricing.

For the plan to work for UMG, *Billboard* estimates the company will have to enjoy an album unit sales gain of about 15% to recapture the revenue lost to the lower pricing structure.

UMG executives would not specify what kind of sales increase they need or how the price cuts are expected to affect company revenue. With its broad sweep, the UMG initiative raises an array of concerns among accounts and competitors.

For music merchants, it appears to be the fuel for a heightened price war. That could be a disaster for music specialty retailers, who also fear the

impact of the loss of pricing-and-positioning dollars from cooperative advertising funds.

It is unclear whether the other majors will follow UMG's lead. The labels are watching closely to see whether UMG will be able to promote its developing-artist titles within stores without the advantage of price-and-positioning.

An aggressive pricing strategy wasn't UMG's only proactive move in 2003. The company was also assertive in snapping up attractive assets and executive rainmakers.

In addition to the DreamWorks deal, the company picked up global distribution for Sean "P. Diddy" Combs' Bad Boy Entertainment in February. The three-year pact is valued at \$75 million. Combs retained 100% ownership of the label. UMG is providing marketing and promotional support.

UMG inked a similar joint venture with former SME boss Tommy Mottola to distribute his new Casablanca Records. UMG committed \$15 million to the venture over five years, sources say.

Universal Motown Records Group will provide much of the staff and infrastructure for Casablanca's promotion, marketing, publicity and sales efforts.

"It's so similar to a sports team, it's unbelievable," UMG boss Doug Morris told *Billboard* at the time of the deal. "If you have no one on your team who can get hits, you're out of business."

SHIFT TO THE WEB

Meanwhile, the shift to Internet sales began in earnest in 2003.

As of late in the year, digital tracks were outpacing physical single sales by a 5-to-1 margin.

The first instance of an individual digital track outselling the No. 1 title on Hot 100 Singles Sales chart also occurred this year. That honor went to OutKast's "Hey Ya! (Radio Mix)," which in the week ending Nov. 9 sold 8,500 downloads compared with the 7,500 physical singles scanned of MercyMe's "I Can Only Imagine." The duo also won the inaugural *Billboard* Music Award for digital track of the year.

Nielsen SoundScan began tracking digital download sales during the summer, and in July *Billboard* debuted its newest chart, Hot Digital Tracks.

The chart monitors sales of songs purchased individually or as part of a bundle of songs through digital services including iTunes, Napster, MusicMatch, MusicNet and Rhapsody.

This growth spurt for sales of music in digital form comes at the end of five years of plodding development, frustration and false starts. Fueling that growth was the rise of compelling digital services, most notably the iTunes Music Store from Apple Computer.

It was also the result of a concerted effort by

the major labels to make their content available for sale online at a low price with minimal usage restrictions.

In most new digital music services—which feature more than 200,000 songs from the major labels and another 200,000 songs from independent labels—individual tracks cost 99 cents, and most albums cost less than \$10.

Users can burn tracks as many times as they want but can only burn individual playlists five to 10 times.



Leading the way in taking advantage of these new opportunities was Apple, which was looking for ways to provide consumers of its popular iPod portable music player with content.

Following the bow of its service on the Mac platform in April, Apple sold more than 13 million tracks through iTunes. Meanwhile, in its first week of iTunes' availability to PC users in October, Apple sold more than 1.5 million tracks.

Apple's success in selling digital tracks to Mac users set off a scramble to launch similar offerings on the PC side.

By year's end, MusicMatch, buymusic.com, FullAudio's MusicNow and Roxio's Napster had all bowed digital music stores.

Wal-Mart, MTV Networks, Real Networks' Rhapsody and Microsoft's MSN all also confirmed plans to launch their own services.

The recording industry views the rollout of such digital services as a key component to slowing unauthorized file sharing on P2P networks.

"We are at a tipping point," EMI Group executive VP John Rose told *Billboard*. "This will start a migration into a legitimate world."

The rising popularity of for-pay services came as the industry stepped up litigation efforts against individual consumers using P2P networks.

In September, the RIAA filed copyright infringement lawsuits against more than 250 individual P2P network users for allegedly trading massive amounts of copyrighted music.

Despite resistance from Internet service providers—including Verizon—to disclosing the identities of their users, the industry was able to successfully subpoena the names under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

The focus on pursuing individual consumers followed a court ruling earlier in the year in the RIAA's suit against the Grokster and StreamCast networks that P2P networks cannot necessarily be held accountable for the illegal activities of their users.

The strategy against consumers appears to be working.

"This is going to be remembered as the year that we began to turn the tide on Internet piracy," says Michelle Anthony, executive VP of SME. "By taking a multi-pronged approach that has included

education initiatives, enforcement campaigns and extensive support of legitimate alternatives, we've generated real results."

Studies late in the year by Nielsen NetRatings and Raleigh, N.C.-based Music Forecasting suggested that traffic on P2P services was declining in the face of industry lawsuits against consumers.

Adding to the decline was an apparent growing frustration with the user experience associated with downloading through such sites as Kazaa.

NetRatings reported that between June 29 and Sept. 21, Kazaa's traffic fell 41% from 6.5 million to 3.8 million users.

Industry research also indicated that more consumers are expressing a willingness to buy music if they have user-friendly options.

Industry pressure on colleges and universities to more proactively block P2P use on their networks also yielded results.

In November, Penn State University announced that it had cut a deal with Napster to offer the company's subscription service—which features conditional access to the services catalog of more than 500,000 tracks—to its student body.

Penn State president Graham Spanier announced that the university will make Napster's premium subscription service available for free. Access to the service will be funded as part of the information technology fee that the university already has in place.

The deal is expected to be a model used by other colleges and universities around the country.

The rise of digitally delivered music, UMG's Morris says, "is a process which is evolving. But in the end, this will turn out to be an enormous boon to the entertainment industry."

Year In Latin

Continued from page YE-10

8 on the songwriters chart. But for the second consecutive year and for the third time in the past four years, he is also No. 1 on the Hot Latin Tracks Producers list, thanks to a remarkable nine hits on the charts, including "Quién Te Dijo Eso," performed by Luis Fonsi, and "Si No Estás," performed by Area 305.

And then there's Cruz.

Beloved during her lengthy career, Cruz did not achieve truly significant sales until her death in July. At that point, the marketplace—and the charts—saw a deluge of Cruz albums. As a result, she is the No. 1 Top Latin Albums Artist of the year. Among her best-selling albums are "Hits Mix," a remix album released earlier in the year, and "Regalo del Alma," her last studio recording, both on Sony Discos. They are also No. 1 and No. 2, respectively, on the Top Tropical Albums Titles chart, followed by the compilation "Exitos Eternos" on Universal.

In contrast, the regional Mexican arena was a diverse playing field, reflecting the genre's constant growth and evolution. The biggest winner is EMI act Intocable, which ranks No. 1 on the Top Regional Mexican Albums Artists chart, while perennial favorite Conjunto Primavera (Fonovisa) dominates in radio, topping the Hot Regional Mexican Tracks Artist chart. Its song "Una Vez Más" tops the Hot Regional Mexican Tracks chart as well.

The top-selling title in the genre is a Los Tigres del Norte compilation, "Herencia Musical: 20 Corridos Inolvidables," one in the "Herencia Musical" compilation series released by Fonovisa and the first CD/DVD combo the label brought to market.

Year In Touring

Continued from page 29

Niederlander Organization.

Some operations, like Rolling Stones promoter Michael Cohl's TGA Entertainment and Louis Messina's Messina Group, made the list for the first time (see chart, page YE-54) under their current banners.

For Messina, who left CCE two years ago,

2003 was particularly gratifying. His non-compete with CCE ended in September, and he announced a new partnership with AEG Live shortly thereafter.

The bulk of Messina's work in 2003 concentrated on dates by Dixie Chicks, George Strait, Kenny Chesney and Tim McGraw.

"The last two years were probably the best years I've ever had in this business," Messina says. "I'm very proud of the artists I worked with. And in '04, without a doubt, I'll triple my activity."

Chicago's Jam Productions also notched a

healthy increase, up 52% and reporting grosses of \$73 million.

Similarly, Jack Utsick Presents jumped \$10 million to more than \$54 million in grosses, and international promoter OCESA more than doubled its grosses, to \$51 million.

Midwestern independent Frank Productions reports involvement in \$35.2 million in concert grosses after missing the top 25 in 2002. Dates on Metallica's Summer Sanitarium and Shania Twain helped the Madison, Wis.-based promoter turn in its best numbers ever.

Vocalists Reign Supreme With Jazz Consumers

BY DAN OUELLETTE

All hail the vocalists! Four song stylists are among the victors in this year's jazz chart recaps, on the strength of albums first released in 2002.

The No. 1 album on the Top Jazz Albums recap is "A Wonderful World" on RPM/Columbia/Sony Music, the one-off duo outing of iconic singer Tony Bennett and chanteuse k.d. lang. It's a fine, low-lights, tuneful affair that was produced by T Bone Burnett, who can recognize a perfect commercial fit a mile away.

The year's top jazz artist is Diana Krall, who dominated the charts for more than one year with her "Live in Paris" album. The disc

THE YEAR IN JAZZ

arrived from Verve, which ranks as the year's No. 1 jazz imprint, while the Verve Music Group placed first in the jazz label category.

Krall has become a jazz superstar. She is a hardy vocalist with an alluring delivery that is at turns passionate, wistful, spunky and romantic-with-a-wink. But she's also a superb pianist, which she rarely demonstrated on her studio recordings.

Krall explores the keys in more depth on her next Verve CD, "The Girl in the Other Room," scheduled for release in April 2004. The leader of the "back to standards" movement in the '90s, Krall steers into a new direction with six "new" standards and six originals that she co-wrote with Elvis Costello (the pair married earlier this month). Produced by Krall

and Tommy LiPuma, the strings-less CD features Krall leading two different quartets.

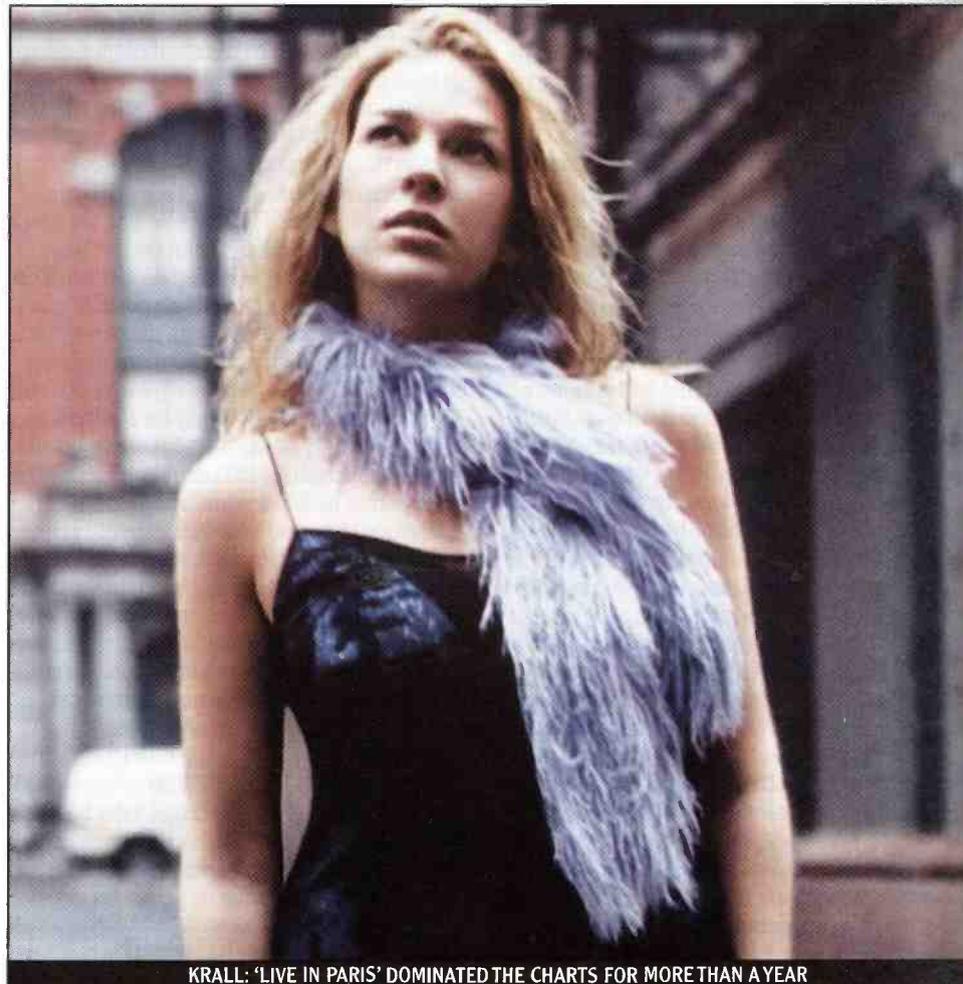
The No. 1 act on the Top Contemporary Jazz Artists recap is Norah Jones, whose Blue Note CD "Come Away With Me" was released in February 2002 and continues to sell strongly.

What's amazing is that even today, months after Jones racked up an incredible eight-for-eight Grammy Awards sweep, listeners continue to discover the beauty of her voice and the power of her hybrid jazz-country-blues-folk songs. Not surprisingly, "Come Away With Me" also ranks at No. 1 on the Top Contemporary Jazz albums recap.

Blue Note, which is the year's No. 1 contemporary jazz imprint and label, as well as combined jazz imprint and label, is expected to release Jones' sophomore, as-yet-untitled CD in February 2004. Arif Mardin again produces, and Jones invites new friends Garth Hudson and Levon Helm from the Band and country queen Dolly Parton, who duets on the new tune "Creepin'."

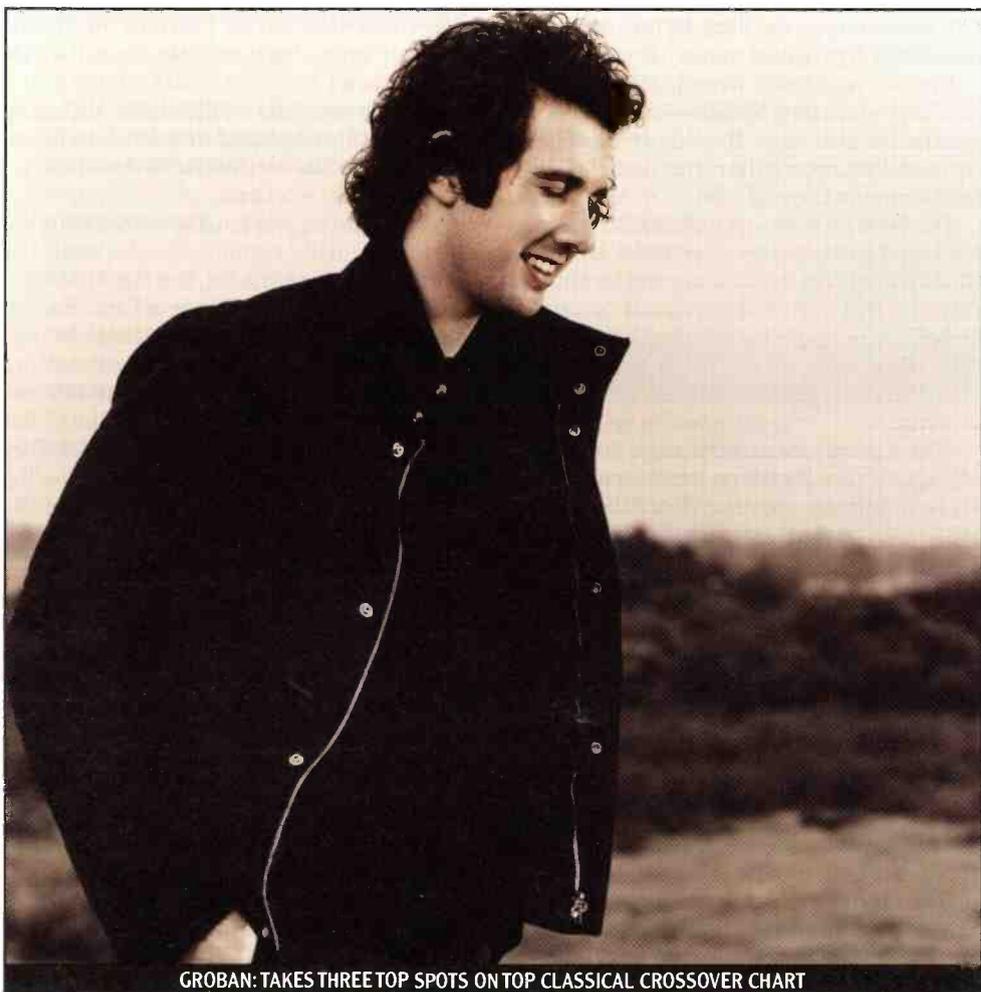
Among the noteworthy jazz and contemporary jazz vocal discs that ranked in the top 10 of the year were albums by Blue Note veterans Cassandra Wilson and Dianne Reeves ("Glamoured" and "A Little Moonlight," respectively), as well as newcomers Lizz Wright and Mindi Abair ("Salt" on Verve and "It Just Happens That Way" on GRP, respectively).

The most significant 2003 jazz vocal story was how pop artists joined the jazz fray. On the Top Jazz Albums Titles recap, Aaron Neville ranks at No. 15 with "Nature Boy: The Stan-
(Continued on page YE-85)



KRALL: 'LIVE IN PARIS' DOMINATED THE CHARTS FOR MORE THAN A YEAR

Household Names Dominate Classical Charts



GROBAN: TAKES THREE TOP SPOTS ON TOP CLASSICAL CROSSOVER CHART

BY ANASTASIA TSIOLCAS

For classical music, this was a year for established hitmakers and a time in which the line between "classical" and "crossover" became blurrier.

Many artists in the upper reaches of the year-end charts are household names, like vocalist Andrea Bocelli, who ranks as No. 1 on the Top Classical Artists recap; or musical omnivore Yo-Yo Ma, who comes in at No. 3 on that tally. Or that kid named Josh Groban, who takes one, two—no, *three*—top spots on the year-end Top Classical Crossover chart.

THE YEAR IN CLASSICAL

As the year ends, Bocelli has the distinction of having two albums in the top 10 of the Top Classical Titles chart, "Sacred Arias: Special Edition" at No. 10 and "Sentimento," which has remained a best seller since its bow in November 2002, at No. 1.

Thanks to Bocelli, Philips wins the No. 1 spot on the Top Classical Imprints recap, while its label group, Universal Classics (which includes Deutsche Grammophon and Decca), takes Top Classical Label honors.

Two singers from Decca's stable, soprano Renée Fleming and mezzo Cecilia Bartoli, rank at No. 5 and No. 6, respectively, on the year-end Top Classical Artists chart. Each had two top sellers apiece in 2003: Fleming's "Bel Canto" and "By Request" and Bartoli's "The Art of Cecilia Bartoli" and "The Salieri Album."

Another big score is DG's first outing with Chinese pianist Lang Lang, in which he performs the Tchaikovsky and Mendelssohn First Piano Concertos. The album hit No. 1 on the classical album chart in August and ranks as No. 8 for the year.

Ma continues his cross-cultural explorations with "Obrigado Brazil," which reached No. 58 on the top 200 chart in September and bowed at No. 1 on the crossover chart in August. It is the No. 6 album of the year on the Top Classical Crossover chart. Ma is following up his "Braziliana" with a live set recorded in October, which arrives Feb. 10, 2004.

Ma's hold on the charts was by no means limited to crossover. "Classic Yo-Yo" spent 104 weeks on the classical chart and ends the year at No. 3 on the Top Classical Albums chart.

Another Sony success is "The Pianist" film soundtrack. It was a huge classical hit throughout 2003, even though it features relatively unknown pianist Janusz Olejniczak. The album is No. 2 on the Top Classical Albums recap. Sony also has the "Duetto" album, with tenors Marcelo Álvarez and Salvatore Licitra, which closes the year at No. 7 among the top classical titles.

Relative newcomer Groban swept the Classical Crossover chart in 2003, as evidenced by the three year-end rankings of his albums "Josh Groban," "John Groban in Concert" and "Closer." The last album has scaled the top 10 on The Billboard 200.

Riding the tide, Groban will kick off the new year with his first headlining tour. Because of his huge success, 143/Reprise swept the cate-
(Continued on page YE-85)

Rock

Continued from page YE-60

almost 2 million copies in the U.S., according to Nielsen SoundScan. In addition, "Like a Stone" and "Show Me How to Live" also played a key role in making Epic the top modern rock label for the year.

Those songs, along with Chevelle's "Send the Pain Below" and "The Red" and Good Charlotte's "The Anthem"—as well as singles from Fuel, Pearl Jam, Vendetta Red, Revis and Mudvayne—helped the label rise to the top. Twenty Epic titles charted on Hot Modern Rock Tracks this year.

'TRAPT' CAPTURES SONG OF THE YEAR

While Audioslave owned the Modern Rock Tracks chart overall, Trapt scored the chart's top song of the year with "Headstrong." Worth noting is that Trapt is largely influenced by Cornell's former band, Soundgarden, as well as the likes of Korn and Metallica. "Headstrong" spent five weeks atop the Modern Rock Tracks chart and 45 weeks on the tally overall.

Coming in at No. 2 on the year-end chart is the White Stripes' "Seven Nation Army," which has helped the duo's V2 set "Elephant" sell more than 1.1 million copies, according to Nielsen SoundScan. Audioslave's "Like a Stone" is No. 3, followed by Chevelle's "Send the Pain Below" and the Linkin Park singles "Paint" and "Somewhere I Belong."

Trapt—whose self-titled debut has sold 800,000 copies thus far in the U.S., according to Nielsen SoundScan—and fellow Warner

Bros. act Linkin Park helped make the label the No. 2 label and the No. 1 imprint on the year-end tally.

While some of the top modern rock artists of 2003 will be lying low in early 2004, others will be very busy.

Epic will continue to promote Audioslave's "I Am the Highway" into the new year, while the band members take time off. Trapt will return to the road for a Canadian trek with Nickelback and Three Days Grace in late January/early February 2004.

White Stripes frontman Jack White and drummer Meg White will take a break too. But Jack will remain in the public eye with his contributions to the "Cold Mountain" soundtrack, due Dec. 16 on DMZ/Columbia. White contributes five tracks to the album (three covers and two originals) and has a small role in the movie, which hits theaters Dec. 25. He is also producing a new album from country star Loretta Lynn.

Chevelle and Linkin Park recently released new product. In October, Epic issued the DVD "Live From the Norva"; the Internet-only live set "Live From the Road" followed in November. With "Wonder What's Next" having sold 1 million copies in the U.S., the band will appear at a handful of radio shows in December and will begin preproduction on its second Epic set in January or February.

Linkin Park's "Numb" single—from the 3-million-selling "Metemora"—was still being spun when its new live CD/DVD, "Live in Texas," was recently issued. As a result, both radio and video programmers have begun to play the live versions of the track available on "Live in Texas." The band begins a North American tour with P.O.D., Hoobastank and Story of the Year in mid-January.

Opera Babes comes in at No. 11. Bond and Opera Babes are the No. 5 and No. 9 acts, respectively, on the Top Classical Crossover Artists recap.

On the midline and budget fronts, thematic compilations continue to reign supreme. Major themes included music for developing minds—such as Disney's "Baby Mozart," the No. 1 Mid-Line Classical Album of the year—compilations to spark romance and collections to help listeners relax, such as Angel's "Most Relaxing Piano Album in the World . . . Ever!," which ranks at No. 8 among midline classical titles of the year. Not to be outdone, Denon released the even more grandiosely titled "More of the Most Relaxing Classical Music in the Universe."

ingness to settle into the subtleties as well as the surprises.

Contemporary jazz saxophonist Kenny G takes the No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 positions on the Top Contemporary Jazz Titles chart, proving his enduring commercial appeal. But another welcomed chart success came from Pat Metheny, who sits at No. 9 on the year-end Top Jazz Albums Artists tally on the strength of his Warner Bros. album "One Quiet Night"—the No. 8 disc on the Top Jazz Albums Titles recap.

Violinist Regina Carter's achievement is also noteworthy. She defied the record industry odds by following her passion: recording the jazz-meets-classical "Paganini: After a Dream" (Verve) and making it into a modest jazz hit. It ranks as the No. 11 disc of the year on the Top Jazz Albums Title recap.

Icons Remembered

Cash, Gibb Among Those We Lost In 2003

BY MICHAEL AMICONE

Music fans in 2003 mourned the loss of a country music icon, a Cuban salsa queen, a pioneering rock'n'roll producer, a deep-voiced master of soul, a unique jazz stylist, a member of one of pop's most successful trios and many others.

The deaths of Johnny Cash, Celia Cruz, Sam Phillips, Barry White, Nina Simone and Maurice Gibb were among the most newsworthy of the year. Following are some of the most notable artists and executives who left us in the past 12 months.

Vocalist/songwriter/instrumentalist **Maurice Gibb**, 53, Jan. 12 in Miami. Along with brothers Barry and Robin, Maurice crafted a harmony-filled, hook-laden sound that netted the Bee Gees 30 top 40 hits on The Billboard Hot 100, beginning with a late-'60s run of Beatles-esque singles and segueing into a string of chart-toppers during the disco era. In all, the Bee Gees scored nine No. 1 singles, including "Stayin' Alive" and "Night Fever," both featured on the 1977 soundtrack album "Saturday Night Fever." The set spent a staggering 24 weeks atop The Billboard 200.

Veteran executive **Jerry Schoenbaum**, 82, Jan. 21 in New York. Schoenbaum began his career with Discount Record Stores before moving to MGM, where he helped create the Verve Forecast label. He was also president of Polydor Records.

Percussionist/band leader **Ramon "Mongo" Santamaria**, reported as 80 or 85, Feb. 1 in Miami. This Havana-born musician was one of the seminal figures in Latin jazz, with a career spanning six decades. Best-known for his cover of Herbie Hancock's "Watermelon Man," he also wrote "Afro Blue," made famous by John Coltrane. He received the Billboard Latin Music Hall of Fame Award in 2001 and garnered six Grammy Award nominations during his prolific career.

Label executive **Marc Benesch**, 50, Feb. 1 in Studio City, Calif. Credited with helping break New Kids on the Block, Nine Inch Nails and Master P, Benesch headed the promotion departments of TVE, Priority, Interscope and Columbia.

Country star **Johnny Paycheck**, 64, Feb. 18 in Nashville. Born Donald Eugene Lytle, he amassed 11 top 10 country singles during his four-decade career. They included "She's All I Got," "Mr. Lovemaker" and his universal anthem for disgruntled workers, "Take This Job and Shove It," a 1977 coun-

try chart-topper. He also wrote hits for Tammy Wynette ("Apartment No. 9") and Ray Price ("Touch My Heart").

Bassist/producer **Howie Epstein**, 47, Feb. 23 in Santa Fe, N.M. Epstein joined Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers in 1982. He also recorded with Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison and Linda Ronstadt and produced albums for John Prine and Carlene Carter.

R&B vocalist/songwriter **Hank Ballard**, reported as 66 or 75, March 2 in Los Angeles. He wrote "The Twist," the song that sparked the dance craze of the same name. The Detroit-born Ballard (real name: John H. Kendricks) joined local act the Royals as the lead singer, landing a No. 1 R&B hit in 1954

with the salacious number "Work With Me Annie." After changing its name to the Midnighters, the group released "The Twist," which Chubby Checker took to No. 1 on The Billboard Hot 100 in 1960.

Soul singer **Edwin Starr**, 61, April 2 in Nottingham, England. Known for the 1970 peace anthem "War," Starr was born Charles Hatcher in Nashville. He began his career with Detroit record company Ric-Tic, enjoying his first hit with "Agent Double-O-Soul," which reached No. 21 on The Billboard Hot 100 in 1965. After Motown acquired the label, Starr continued to have hits for the Detroit combine, including "Twenty-Five Miles," a top 10 single in 1969, and the No. 1 "War."

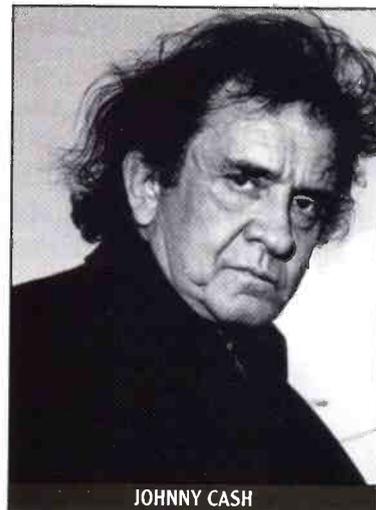
Singer/pianist **Nina Simone**, 70, April 21 in southern France. A multifaceted stylist at home with pop, R&B, blues and jazz, Simone (real name: Eunice Waymon) earned her only top 40 hit in 1959 with "I Loves You, Porgy," which reached No. 18 on The Billboard Hot 100. She recorded prolifically during the

next two decades for Colpix, Philips and RCA. Her signature recordings include a rendition of Screamin' Jay Hawkins' blues standard, "I Put a Spell on You." Her compositions include "To Be Young, Gifted and Black," covered by Aretha Franklin.

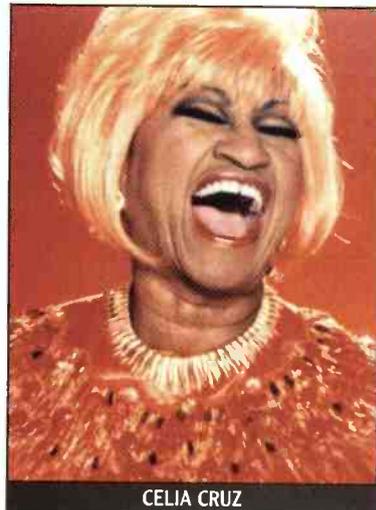
Songwriter **Felice Bryant**, 77, April 22 in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Bryant co-wrote with her late husband, Boudleaux, such early Everly Brothers classics as "Bye Bye Love" and "Wake Up Little Suzie." The duo also wrote "Raining in My Heart," recorded by Buddy Holly. Tony Bennett, Simon & Garfunkel, Elvis Presley and Dolly Parton were among the acts who covered the couple's compositions.

Bassist **Noel Redding**, 57, May 12 in Clonakilty, Ireland. Following a series of journey-

(Continued on page YE-86)



JOHNNY CASH



CELIA CRUZ

Classical

Continued from page YE-84

gories of Top Classical Crossover and Combined Classical Imprints. For the same reason, Warner Bros. wins in the Top Classical Crossover and Combined Classical Label categories, as does WEA as Top Classical Crossover and Combined Classical Distributor.

A crossover trend in early 2003 was a steady procession of glossily packaged women. "Shine" from Decca's Bond ranks as the No. 7 disc on Top Classical Crossover, while the Sony Classical album "Beyond Imagination" from

Jazz

Continued from page YE-84

dards Album" on Verve, Boz Scaggs comes in at No. 10 with "But Beautiful: Standards Volume 1" on Gray Cat and Elvis Costello reaches No. 9 with his all-original collection "North" on Deutsche Grammophon.

MORE VOCALS

But 2003 also prompts this question: What in the world is happening with instrumental jazz? According to the charts, it is overshadowed at retail by vocal projects. Why? Probably because vocals offer instant gratification, while instrumental music requires focus and a will-

Passings

Continued from page YE-85

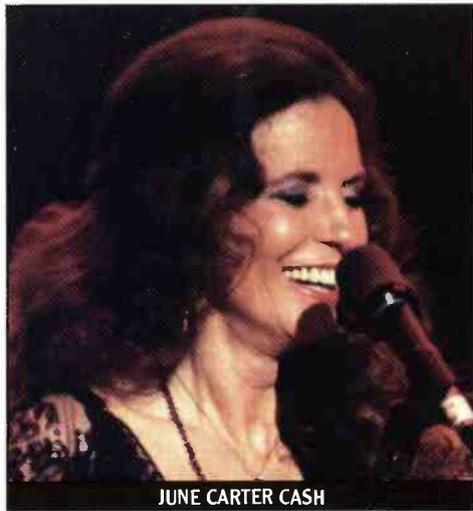
man guitarist positions, this Englishman's career took off when he hooked up with American guitar hero Jimi Hendrix. Along with drummer Mitch Mitchell, Redding anchored the Jimi Hendrix Experience's sound, staying with the group until 1969. He also fronted the side project Fat Mattress, as well as the Noel Redding Band and Road.

Country star **June Carter Cash**, 73, May 15 in Nashville. She got her start as a youngster performing with the family act, seminal country ensemble the Carter Family, which in 1970 became the first group inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. In 1968, she married Johnny Cash, and they became the royal couple of country music. In addition to co-penning her husband's classic "Ring of Fire" (with Merle Kilgore), June and Johnny recorded a series of successful duets, including the Grammy-winning "Jackson" and "If I Were a Carpenter."

Producer **Mickie Most**, 64, May 30 in London. Born Michael Peter Hayes in Aldershot, England, he became one of the most successful independent record producers of the British Invasion, helming projects for the Animals and Herman's Hermits, among others. His biggest success came with Herman's Hermits, which collected 11 top 10 hits on The Billboard Hot 100 in the mid-'60s.

Jazz flutist **Herbie Mann**, 73, July 1 in New Mexico. One of jazz's most recognized flutists, Mann began recording in the mid-'50s, helping usher in the bossa nova craze in the U.S. with such albums as "Do the Bossa Nova With Herbie Mann." During his prolific career, he recorded for Bethlehem, Prestige, Epic, Verve and Atlantic, among others, eventually forming his own label, Kokopelli Music, in 1992.

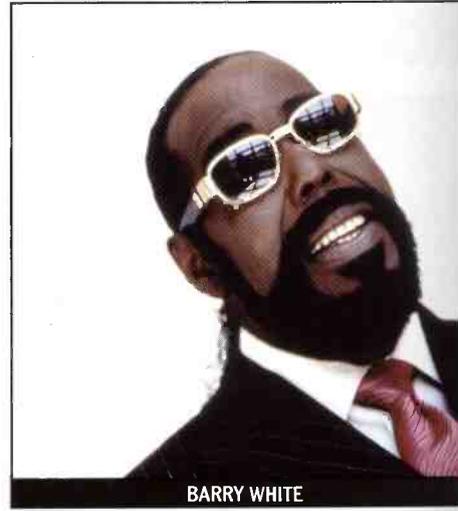
R&B/pop star **Barry White**, 58, July 4 in Los Angeles. Nicknamed "the Maestro," White was born in Galveston, Texas, and raised in South Central Los Angeles. With his



JUNE CARTER CASH



COMPAY SEGUNDO



BARRY WHITE

smooth brand of sexy soul, the singer/songwriter/producer enjoyed a string of '70s crossover hits, including "Can't Get Enough of Your Love, Babe," a No. 1 in 1974, and "You're the First, the Last, My Everything." He also garnered success as producer/songwriter for the girl group Love Unlimited and the studio band Love Unlimited Orchestra.

Saxophonist/arranger/composer **Benny Carter**, 95, July 12 in Los Angeles. Carter was one of the premier jazz artists of the 20th century. Born in the Bronx, N.Y., he was a versatile player, excelling on saxophone and also playing trumpet and piano. He performed in an illustrious array of noted orchestras—including those of Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw and Count Basie—and also fronted his own band. He received two Grammys and a Lifetime Achievement Award in 1987 from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Cuban music icon **Compay Segundo**, 95, July 13 in Havana. Born in Siboney, Cuba, this accomplished multi-instrumentalist performed with many of Cuba's most legendary artists. His biggest fame came late in life when he became part of the Ry Cooder-assembled, all-star ensemble Buena Vista Social Club. He also invented a seven-string hybrid combining the Cuban *tres* and a Spanish guitar, which he dubbed the "armónico."

Cuban vocalist **Celia Cruz**, 77, July 16 in Fort Lee, N.J. Known for her flamboyant outfits and colorful wigs, this Havana-born artist became the lead singer for legendary salsa outfit La Sonora Matancera in 1950. With the group for 15 years, she eventually relocated to New York, where she recorded for Tito Puente's Ticco Records and later Fania Records. In 1987, she received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and won three consecutive Latin Grammys, in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Legendary record producer/label owner **Sam Phillips**, 80, July 30 in Memphis. As founder of seminal rock label Sun Records, Phillips helped usher in the rock'n'roll era, discovering and producing Elvis Presley and mentoring musical legends Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins and Roy Orbison. Formed in 1952, the Sun Records sound became known for its trademark echo and potent mix of country, blues and folk. He is a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, as well as the Country and Blues halls.

Singer/songwriter **Warren Zevon**, 56, Sept. 7 in Los Angeles. The Chicago-born musician made a name for himself on the Southern California music scene with his sharply observed tales of strung-out addicts, prowling werewolves and estranged lovers. Such

artists as Linda Ronstadt mined his rich song canon, covering "Poor Poor Pitiful Me" and "Carmelita." Zevon had his greatest commercial success with the 1978 album "Excitable Boy." It contained the novelty hit "Werewolves of London," which reached No. 21 on The Billboard Hot 100.

Country music icon **Johnny Cash**, 71, Sept. 12 in Nashville. The Kingsland, Ark., native enjoyed his first success with Sun Records, notching four No. 1 country singles, including one of his signature tunes, "I Walk the Line." Signing with Columbia Records, the talented songwriter/interpreter continued honing his trademark style—deep, resonating vocals punctuated by sparse, pulsating rhythmic backing—with such classics as "Ring of Fire." Two late-'60s albums recorded live in front of prison inmates, "Johnny Cash at Folsom Prison" and "Johnny Cash at San Quentin," helped cement his status as country's reigning king. The latter album featuring the hit "A Boy Named Sue."

Singer **Robert Palmer**, 54, Sept. 26 in Paris. Born Alan Palmer in Batley, Yorkshire, this suave, soulful vocalist scored such hits as "Every Kinda People" (1978) and "Bad Case of Loving You (Doctor, Doctor)" (1979). He hit commercial pay dirt with the single "Addicted to Love." It reached the top of The Billboard Hot 100 in 1986, and its video has become iconic on MTV. In 1985, he hooked up with Duran Duran's John and Andy Taylor to front Power Station and enjoyed success with "Some Like It Hot" and a cover of T. Rex's "Get It On (Bang a Gong)."

Singer/songwriter **Elliott Smith**, 34, Oct. 21 in Los Angeles. A favorite of critics and peers, Smith amassed a respected body of work in a relatively short period of time, recording for the Kill Rock Stars and DreamWorks labels. His career got a huge boost in 1997 when several of his tunes were included in the film "Good Will Hunting." He received an Academy Award nomination for the song "Miss Misery."

Singer **Bobby Hatfield**, 63, Nov. 5 in Kalamazoo, Mich. As the Righteous Brothers, Hatfield and partner Bill Medley were among the prime purveyors of blue-eyed soul during the '60s, releasing such classics as "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'," "Just Once in My Life" and "Unchained Melody," which featured Hatfield in a dramatic solo turn. A rerecorded version of "Unchained Melody" became a hit again in 1990 when it was included in the movie "Ghost." The duo was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in March.

Jazz musician **Buddy Arnold**, 77, Nov. 9 in Los Angeles. This noted saxophonist, who performed with Buddy Rich and recorded for

ABC-Paramount and Capitol Records, founded the Musicians' Assistance Program, an organization aiding addicted musicians.

Singer/songwriter **Don Gibson**, 75, Nov. 17 in Nashville. A member of the Country Music Hall of Fame, Gibson wrote such standards as "I Can't Stop Loving You," "Oh Lonesome Me" and "Sweet Dreams." The latter became a top 10 country hit for Gibson, Faron Young and Patsy Cline; Ray Charles took "I Can't Stop Loving You" to the top of The Billboard Hot 100 in 1962. As an artist, Gibson collected 65 top 40 country hits between 1956 and 1979.

Composer/arranger **Michael Kamen**, 55, Nov. 18 in London. Kamen was a top film music composer, with credits including "X-Men" and "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves," which garnered him a Grammy for best pop instrumental performance and included the Oscar-nominated "(Everything I Do) I Do It for You." Kamen also worked with Eric Clapton, Queensrÿche and Metallica. Metallica's "S&M" album earned him a Grammy for best rock instrumental performance. He received another Grammy for his work on the movie "Mr. Holland's Opus."

Drummer **Tony Thompson**, 48, Nov. 19 in Encino, Calif. This backbeat specialist was the drummer for '70s hit-making group Chic. He also worked with Power Station, Madonna, Rod Stewart and the surviving members of Led Zeppelin.

Singer/songwriter/publisher/agent **Teddy Wilburn**, 71, Nov. 24 in Nashville. He placed 30 singles on the Billboard charts as one-half of country duo the Wilburn Brothers, and was also a noted country music executive, including co-helming publishing company Sure-Fire.

Adult Contemporary

Continued from page YE-82

"I'm With You," is the No. 6 adult top 40 song of the year. La-vigne is currently in the studio working on her second album for Arista, again with hit-making production team the Matrix.

Aside from his AC success, Santana finishes 2003 with two songs in the top 10 at adult top 40: "The Game of Love," with Michelle Branch, at No. 8, and "Why Don't You & I," with Alex Band or Chad Kroeger, at No. 10. Branch also charts with the Maverick/Warner Bros. release "Are You Happy Now?," which is No. 14 for the year.

Newcomer Jason Mraz also completes the chart year with a song in the top 10 at adult top 40, with "The Remedy (I Won't Worry)," No. 5, helping earn him a place as the No. 8 artist of the year at the format.

Counting Crows, with its comeback remake of "Big Yellow Taxi" featuring Carlton, round out the top 10, at No. 9 on the adult top 40 artist recap.

Dance

Continued from page YE-58

tracks place Timberlake at the top of the 2003 Hot Dance Club Play Artists recap. Madonna and Weekend Players immediately follow him in the No. 2 and No. 3 spots, respectively.

Speaking of Weekend Players, the act fronted by vocalist Rachel Foster and produced by Andy Cato of Groove Armada fame also appears on the Hot Dance Club Play recap. The act's indefatigable track "Into the Sun," released on Multiply/FFRR/Warner Strategic Marketing, claims the No. 1 position. The melodic track is one of many high points from Weekend Players' debut album, "Pursuit of Happiness." Expect their pursuit to continue in 2004 and beyond.

THE CHART-TOPPERS

Following is a chronological listing of albums that logged time at No. 1 on the Billboard Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart for calendar year 2003. The number of weeks each title spent at No. 1 is in parentheses. Titles that debuted at No. 1 are indicated by stars.

- "God's Son," Nas, Ill Will/Columbia/Sony Music (1).
- "I Care 4 U," Aaliyah, Blackground/Universal/UMRG (7). ★
- "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," 50 Cent, Shady/Aftermath/Interscope (8). ★
- "Chocolate Factory," R. Kelly, Jive/Zomba (1).
- "Diplomatic Immunity," Cam'ron Presents the Diplomats, Roc-a-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG (1). ★
- "The Senior," Ginuwine, Epic/Sony Music (1). ★
- "AttenCHUN!," Bone Crusher, Break 'Em Off/So So Def/Arista (1). ★
- "Body Kiss," the Isley Brothers Featuring Ronald Isley, DreamWorks/Interscope (3). ★
- "Mississippi: The Album," David Banner, SRC/Universal/UMRG (1). ★
- "2 Fast 2 Furious," soundtrack, Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG (1).
- "Dance With My Father," Luther Vandross, J/RMG (2).
- "Dangerously in Love," Beyoncé, Columbia/Sony Music (1).
- "Chapter II," Ashanti, Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG (2).
- "Bad Boys II," soundtrack, Bad Boy/UMRG (4). ★
- "State Property Presents: The Chain Gang Vol. II," various artists, Criminal Background/Roc-a-Fella/IDJMG (1). ★
- "The Neptunes Present Clones," various artists, StarTrak/Arista (1).
- "Love & Life," Mary J. Blige, Geffen/Interscope (2).
- "Drankin' Patnaz," YoungBloodz, So So Def/Arista (1).
- "Grand Champ," DMX, Ruff Ryders/Def Jam/IDJMG (1). ★
- "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below," OutKast, Arista (1). ★
- "Too Hot for T.V.," Bad Boy's Da Band, Bad Boy/UMRG (1). ★
- "Chicken 'N' Beer," Ludacris, Disturbing Tha Peace/Def Jam South/IDJMG (2). ★
- "Hard," Jagged Edge, Columbia/Sony Music (1). ★
- "Stroke of Genius," Gerald Levert, Elektra/EEG (1). ★
- "Blood in My Eye," Ja Rule, Murder Inc./Def Jam/IDJMG (1). ★
- "The Black Album," Jay-Z, Roc-a-Fella/Def Jam/IDJMG (3). ★
- "The Diary of Alicia Keys," Alicia Keys, J/RMG (2).

Plenty To Be Excited About

Amid Turmoil Came Hopeful Signs Of Growth

It would be easy to lament the state of the industry. After all, not much has changed since this time last year.

Sales are still down. More mergers, downsizings and restructurings are pending (Sony/BMG, **Edgar Bronfman's** acquisition of Warner Music, Interscope's DreamWorks buyout). Fewer black

record executives hold key decision-making positions. Illegal downloading remains an uphill battle. Radio playlists are growing ever tighter. And folks are still decrying the industry's decreasing percentage of musical quality.

But there was—and is—plenty to be excited about.

R&B and hip-hop fully came into their own in 2003 (see also The Year in R&B, page YE-18). Each birthed subgenres whose impact was heavily felt this year: crunk (**Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz**), dancehall reggae (**Sean Paul**) and retro soul (**Anthony Hamilton, Calvin Richardson**).

The growing mainstream appeal of R&B and hip-hop was validated

through sales (50 Cent's "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" clocking in at a record 872,000 units in February and **Alicia Keys** recently debuting

UTA Urban Music.

Speaking of deals, several artists signed lucrative endorsement pacts (Continued on page 49)

Rhythm & Blues

By Gail Mitchell
gmitchell@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 with "The Diary of Alicia Keys"). Not to mention recognition from awards shows both new and established (the upcoming Grammy Awards, the Billboard Music Awards, Source Awards, Essence Awards, Vibe Awards, MTV Video Music Awards, BET Awards).

That popularity parlayed into offshoots ranging from movies to fashion. Violator Management and its stable of artists (which includes **Missy Elliott**) secured multimedia representation through Creative Artists Agency. **Nelly's** management company, Team Lunatics, entered a joint venture with the United Talent Agency to establish

THE TOP STORIES

- R&B/hip-hop dominates the charts and sales, led by 50 Cent's first-week debut of 872,000 units.
- The Violator label joins Jive, and principal Chris Lighty becomes Jive senior VP.
- So So Def and its chief, Jermaine Dupri, segue to Arista; Dupri becomes Arista senior VP.
- Ruff Ryders pacts with Virgin.
- Universal Records inks deal with Loud founder Steve Rifkin to create Street Records Corp.
- Bad Boy signs three-year pact with Universal Records.
- Sony merges the Epic and Columbia R&B departments, with David McPherson named executive VP.
- The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences introduces the best rap song award, widening the rap field to six categories.
- Virgin taps Lionel Ridenour as executive VP of its restructured urban department.
- The Sanctuary Group acquires Mathew Knowles' Music World Entertainment in a \$10 million deal.

Kweli, OutKast Top Off Good Year For Hip-Hop

Looking back, it's easy to see that this year has been good to hip-hop. Acts like **50 Cent**, **Jay-Z** and **OutKast** topped the R&B and pop charts, once again proving the growing mainstream appeal of the genre.

Meanwhile, Southern hip-hop and dancehall reggae, a "close cousin" of hip-hop, also came into prominence thanks to the work of **Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz**, **David Banner**, **Bone Crusher**, **Sean Paul**, **Wayne Wonder** and **Elephant Man**, among others.

As much of our year-end issue is dedicated to the chart-toppers of this year, I decided to focus on the best and the brightest in hip-hop in 2003 by highlighting my picks for single and album of the year. I also pored through all the interviews I did this year to cherry-pick my favorite artist quote. It wasn't easy, but I think I found a gem.

So, enjoy!

SINGLE OF THE YEAR: Talib Kweli's "Get By" (Rawkus/Geffen).

In a post-9-11 world, few hip-hop songs have spoken to the everyday struggles we all face. Talib Kweli's "Get By" did just that.

Produced by **Kanye West**, the track, from Kweli's album

Beats & Rhymes

By Rashaun Hall
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2003 IN REVIEW

"Quality," thumped with a soul all its own. Part moving lament and part redemption song, "Get By" is the kind of tune that showcases the true spirit of our genre.

ALBUM OF THE YEAR: OutKast's "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below" (Arista).

Yeah, I know it's not the most original pick, but it's just that good. The Atlanta-based duo of **André 3000** and **Big Boi** prove once again that it's miles ahead of

the competition with this genre-bending double-disc set. From Big Boi's "Ghet-to Musick" to André 3000's "She Lives in My Lap," this album has it all.

QUOTE OF THE YEAR: In this gig, I hear it all. So, someone has

to say something extra-thought-provoking to garner "quote of the year" status.

That's just what **Phonte** of **Little Brother** did when I interviewed the group for my Feb. 8 column. Little Brother's debut set, "The Listening," had critics, including myself, drawing comparisons to **De La Soul** and **A Tribe Called Quest**.

Here's what Phonte had to say about that:

"I love that," he said. "No one

wants to big up their influences anymore. If someone tells a singer he sounds like **Stevie Wonder**, that singer will say, 'Oh well, I'm trying to do my own thing.' What the fuck? Someone just said you sound like Stevie Wonder! Take the compliment and keep it moving. If cats want to compare us to them, that's cool. We welcome that, because that's how people draw you closer to them. If it takes that to understand Little Brother, that's fine."

Well said!

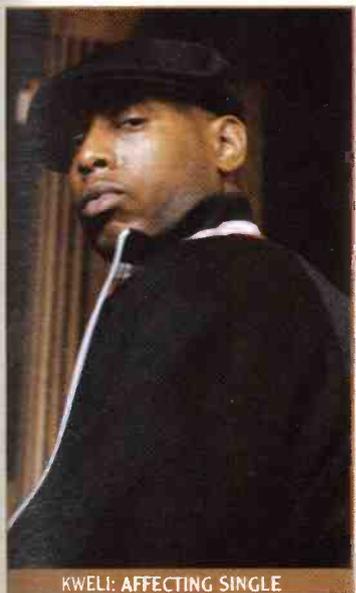
LOOKING AHEAD: Those were just some of the hip-hop highlights of 2003. Now it's time to look forward to 2004.

With a new year comes new challenges.

As **Jay-Z** calls it quits, who's going to step up and fill the Hova's S. Carters?

Who's going to have the breakout year that **50 Cent** had?

Will there be any new feuds? And will the old ones finally end already? Your guess is as good as mine.



KWELI: AFFECTING SINGLE

Main chart table with columns for 'THIS WEEK', 'LAST WEEK', '2 WKS. AGO', 'WEEKS ON CHART', 'TITLE', 'PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)', 'Artist', 'IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL', and 'PEAK POSITION'. Includes sections for 'NUMBER 1', 'GREATEST GAINER/AIRPLAY', and 'HOT SHOT DEBUT'.

Songs with the greatest airplay and/or sales gains recorded this week. Greatest Gainer/Sales and Greatest Gainer/Airplay are awarded, respectively, for the largest sales and airplay increases on the chart. ... Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. The most popular singles and tracks, according to radio audience impressions measured by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems, sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan from a subset panel of core R&B/Hip-Hop stores, and playlists from select non-monitored radio stations.

Rhythm & Blues

Continued from page 47

hawking everything from milk (Nelly) to jeans (Elliott and Madonna) and shoes (Jay-Z's special-edition Reebok).

Queen Latifah became a multimedia darling with her signing of a three-way pact with AEG, Vector and Creative Battery for an album, concert tour and TV special.

Further expanding music's reach, Def Comedy Jam partners Stan Lathan and Russell Simmons launched the Simmons Lathan Media Group. The new entity's first deal was with peer-to-peer network Altnet and its Kazaa Media. Radio's Tom Joyner and David Kantor established Reach Media, a multimedia company targeting African-Americans through radio, TV, event productions and the Internet. And Radio One announced plans to bow a long-anticipated cable network to rival BET.

Getting back to the music, Aretha Franklin; Al Green;

Earth, Wind & Fire; Gerald Levert; and the Isley Brothers recorded new albums that showed they're not down for the count yet. Luther Vandross scored his best chart showing ever with his "Dance With My Father" album. Capitol got back into the game big-time with Chingy and Javier. And Virgin weighed in with Dwele.

Independent labels also bore witness to such creative and exciting new artists as Goapele, Rhian Benson, Yahzarah and Joss Stone.

Jagged Edge undeniably proved it ain't all hip-hop all the time with the hit ballad "Walked Outta Heaven." Sean Combs' "Bad Boys II" soundtrack—his first released under a new pact with Universal Records—spent an impressive four weeks at No. 1 on the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart. And R. Kelly was everywhere, whether he was releasing his own material or collaborating with others.

My fervent hope for 2004 and beyond is that this musical momentum continues and leads to more career-building, catalog-selling artists. And that this, coupled with R&B/hip-hop's entrepreneurial spirit, will further empower the black music industry.

DECEMBER 27 2003 Billboard® HOT RAP TRACKS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist
1	1	14	THE WAY YOU MOVE	ARISTA	OutKast Featuring Sleepy Brown
2	2	18	STAND UP	DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG	Ludacris Featuring Shawna
3	3	22	DAMN!	SO SO DEF/ARISTA	YoungBloodZ Featuring Lil Jon
4	6	7	CHANGE CLOTHES	ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Jay-Z
5	7	11	RUNNIN' (DYING TO LIVE)	AMARU/INTERSCOPE	Tupac Featuring The Notorious B.I.G.
6	5	10	STUNT 101	G-UNIT/SHADY/INTERSCOPE	G-Unit
7	4	18	HOLIDAE IN	DISTURBING THA PEACE/CAPITOL	Chingy Featuring Ludacris & Snoop Dogg
8	10	5	SLOW JAMZ	ATLANTIC	Twista Featuring Kanye West & Jamie Foxx
9	8	14	WAT DA HOOK GON BE	FO REEL/UNIVERSAL/UMRG	Murphy Lee Featuring Jermaine Dupri
10	9	14	GET LOW	BME/TVT	Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz Featuring Ying Yang Twins
11	14	5	SALT SHAKER	COLLI/PARK/TVT	Ying Yang Twins Featuring Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz
12	13	6	GIGOLO	NICK/JIVE	Nick Cannon Featuring R. Kelly
13	12	19	SUGA SUGA	UNIVERSAL/UMRG	Baby Bash Featuring Frankie J
14	15	4	THROUGH THE WIRE	ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG	Kanye West
15	11	12	RIGHT THURR	DISTURBING THA PEACE/CAPITOL	Chingy
16	16	6	MY BABY	COLUMBIA/SUM	Bow Wow Featuring Jagged Edge
17	18	7	GANGSTA NATION	HOD-BANGIN'/CAPITOL	Westside Connection Featuring Nate Dogg
18	17	11	PASS THAT DUTCH	THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA/EEG	Missy Elliott
19	23	4	HOTEL	FULL SURFACE/JRMG	Cassidy Featuring R. Kelly
20	22	9	DOWN FOR ME	BAD BOY/UMRG	Loon Featuring Mario Winans
21	NEW	1	THE SET UP	SHADY/INTERSCOPE	Obie Trice Featuring Nate Dogg
22	19	10	CLAP BACK	MURDER INC./DEF JAM/IDJMG	Ja Rule
23	24	4	SHAKE THAT MONKEY	SHORT/JIVE	Too Short Featuring Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz
24	NEW	1	RUBBER BAND MAN	GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC	T.I.
25	NEW	1	NEVA EVA	BME/REPRISE/WARNER BROS.	Trillville

Records with the greatest increase in audience impressions. The rap tracks audience is compiled from 97 R&B/Hip-Hop and 57 rhythmic top 40 stations which are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of audience, computed by cross-referencing exact times of airplay with Arbitron listener data. Videoclip availability. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER 27 2003 Billboard® HOT R&B/HIP-HOP SINGLES SALES

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL	Artist
1	1	4	One More Chance	MICHAEL JACKSON (EPIC/SUM)	3 Wks At No. 1
2	6	9	F**k It (I Don't Want You Back)	EAMON (JIVE)	
3	2	11	Read Your Mind	AVANT (MAGIC JOHNSON/GEFFEN)	
4	5	14	The Way You Move/Hey Ya!	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (ARISTA)	
5	7	7	Me, Myself And I	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA/SUM)	
6	17	8	Stand Up In It	THEODIS EALEY (IPGAM)	
7	3	18	Walked Outta Heaven	JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA/SUM)	
8	12	14	Get Low	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (BME/TVT)	
9	8	5	Change Clothes	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	
10	10	7	Immaculate	SURVIVALIST (SLAVE)	
11	29	2	Slow Jamz	TWISTA (ATLANTIC)	
12	13	7	Pass That Dutch	MISSY ELLIOTT (THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA/EEG)	
13	11	17	Stand Up	LUDACRIS (DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG)	
14	14	10	Stunt 101	G-UNIT (G-UNIT/SHADY/INTERSCOPE)	
15	9	4	Limbo Rock (Remixes)	CHUBBY C & OD (TREC)	
16	—	1	In My Life	JUVENILE FEAT. MANNIE FRESH (CASH MONEY/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	
17	21	20	Step In The Name Of Love	R. KELLY (JIVE)	
18	38	2	I'll Be Around	CEE-LO FEAT. TIMBALAND (ARISTA)	
19	18	5	Fallen	MAYA (&M/INTERSCOPE)	
20	63	12	Party To Damascus	WYCLEF JEAN FEAT. MISSY ELLIOTT (YCLEF/JRMG)	
21	23	16	Milkshake	KELIS (STAR TRAK/ARISTA)	
22	15	8	Look Ya	POP SHOP (GO GETTA)	
23	22	3	I'm Still In Love With You	SEAN PAUL FEAT. SASHA (VP/ATLANTIC)	
24	31	9	Hotel	CASSIDY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/JRMG)	
25	36	11	Through The Wire	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	
26	26	12	Pass That Dutch	MISSY ELLIOTT (THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA/EEG)	
27	28	11	Gigolo	NICK CANNON FEAT. R. KELLY (NICK/JIVE)	
28	24	16	Right Thurr	CHINGY (DISTURBING THA PEACE/CAPITOL)	
29	25	26	Baby Boy	BEYONCE FEAT. SEAN PAUL (COLUMBIA/SUM)	
30	31	15	U Got That Love (Call It A Night)	GERALD LEVERT (ELEKTRA/EEG)	
31	42	2	Sorry 2004	RUBEN STUDDARD (JRMG)	
32	32	13	Down For Me	LOON FEAT. MARIO WINANS (BAD BOY/UMRG)	
33	33	13	Love You More	GINUJIVE (EPIC/SUM)	
34	38	17	Knock Knock	MONICA (JRMG)	
35	39	11	Gangsta Nation	WESTSIDE CONNECTION (HOD-BANGIN'/CAPITOL)	
36	35	8	Fallen	MAYA (&M/INTERSCOPE)	
37	41	5	Pop That Booty	MARQUES HOUSTON (TU.G./ELEKTRA/EEG)	
38	37	37	Love Calls	KEM (KEMISTRY/MOTOWN/UMRG)	
39	46	4	The Set Up	OBIE TRICE FEAT. NATE DOGG (SHADY/INTERSCOPE)	
40	36	25	Thoa Thong	R. KELLY (JIVE)	
41	50	6	Rubber Band Man	T.I. (GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC)	
42	47	3	Badaboom	B2K FEAT. FABOLOUS (TU.G./EPIC/SUM)	
43	30	37	Come Over	AALIYAH (BLACKGROUND/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	
44	57	10	Hotel	CASSIDY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/JRMG)	
45	55	10	Touched A Dream	R. KELLY (JIVE)	
46	40	33	Frontin'	PHARRELL FEAT. JAY-Z (STAR TRAK/ARISTA)	
47	51	7	Neva Eva	TRILLVILLE (BME/REPRISE/WARNER BROS.)	
48	53	5	Gangsta Girl	BIG TIMERS FEAT. R. KELLY (CASH MONEY/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	
49	34	12	Clap Back	JA RULE (MURDER INC./DEF JAM/IDJMG)	
50	54	3	In My Life	JUVENILE FEAT. MANNIE FRESH (CASH MONEY/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	
51	43	19	Getting Late	FLOETRY (SOULJAZZ/DREAMWORKS)	
52	56	12	Suga Suga	BABY BASH FEAT. FRANKIE J (UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	
53	52	19	I Need You Now	SMOKE NORFUL (EMI GOSPEL)	
54	58	6	Quick To Back Down	BRAVEHEARTS (ILL WILL/COLUMBIA/SUM)	
55	63	4	Splash Waterfalls	LUDACRIS (DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/UMRG)	
56	44	14	Bad Boy This Bad Boy That	BAD BOY'S DA BAND (BAD BOY/UMRG)	
57	48	11	Wonderful	ARETHA FRANKLIN (ARISTA)	
58	59	6	I'll Be Around	CEE-LO FEAT. TIMBALAND (ARISTA)	
59	61	10	One More Chance	MICHAEL JACKSON (EPIC/SUM)	
60	67	3	Dirt Off Your Shoulder	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/IDJMG)	
61	65	4	Them Jeans	MASTER P (NEW NO LIMIT/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	
62	66	4	Think About You	LUTHER VANDROSS (JRMG)	
63	69	3	Back In The Day (Puff)	ERYKAH BADU (MOTOWN/UMRG)	
64	62	15	Backlight	JAHHEIM (DIVINE MILL/WARNER BROS.)	
65	—	1	I'm Still In Love With You	SEAN PAUL FEAT. SASHA (VP/ATLANTIC)	
66	64	9	Love Angel	J.S. (DREAMWORKS)	
67	73	4	Wanna Get 2 Know U	G-UNIT FEAT. JOE (G-UNIT/SHADY/INTERSCOPE)	
68	75	2	Freek-A-Leek	PETEY PABLO (JIVE)	
69	70	2	What Would You Do	SHADE SHEIST, NATE DOGG & MARIAH CAREY (BABY REF)	
70	72	14	Comin' From Where I'm From	ANTHONY HAMILTON (SO SO DEF/ARISTA)	
71	71	2	She Is	CARL THOMAS FEAT. LI COOL J (BAD BOY/UMRG)	
72	74	8	A Million Ways	WILL DOWNING (GRP/VERVE)	
73	68	10	Be Easy	T.I. (GRAND HUSTLE/ATLANTIC)	
74	—	1	Diamond In Da Ruff	JAHHEIM (DIVINE MILL/WARNER BROS.)	
75	—	1	Smile	G-UNIT (G-UNIT/SHADY/INTERSCOPE)	

Records with the greatest sales gains. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved. Compiled by Nielsen SoundScan from a national subset panel of core R&B/Hip-Hop stores. This data is used to compile the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart.

Players Took Bold Steps—And Some Missteps

Sure, 2003 will go down as the year that a gloom-and-doom atmosphere permeated the music industry.



STONE: 'MUSIC IS CYCLICAL'

But it will also go down as the year that a good majority of the major players woke up and re-evaluated what it means to be in the business of music.

STAYING ALIVE: In 2003, the going got tough, and the tough learned the true meaning of survival of the fittest.

At the beginning of the year, the globally revered Global Underground (GU) label was on its last legs. Its last gasps of breath could be heard on this side of the Atlantic.

But to the surprise of many in the international club community, the label kept breathing. In fact, after some restructuring, GU now appears to be as healthy as ever.

In the process, GU launched a new artist imprint, GU Music, with "Atlantic Breakers," an album by Dutch DJs/producers **Pako & Fredrik**. It also debuted a new DJ series (24:7) and signed **Sasha** to helm a brand new series.

Other labels were not so lucky. After 15 years, BMG-distributed Logic Records closed its doors. Ditto for 13-year-old U.K. independent Hooj Choons. Paper Recordings also shuttered.

New York independent Nervous Records closed its doors, too. But label president **Michael Weiss** says Nervous is only without a physical office space.

And after topping the *Billboard* Hot Dance Club Play chart with "Lei Lo Lai" by the Latin Project, Electric Monkey Records dramatically downsized its Los Angeles-based operation.

Ultra Records scored a major coup when it invited America's top-selling DJ, **Louie DeVito**, to compile/mix the fourth volume in its Ultra.Dance series. To date, the two-disc set has sold 76,000 units, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

This compares with 81,000 for

"Ultra.Dance 03," 95,000 for "Ultra.Dance 02" and 101,000 for "Ultra.Dance."

Don't forget: "Ultra.Dance 04" was only released Aug. 26. So, it is well poised to become the best-selling volume in the series.

While "Ultra.Dance 04" was a hit for Ultra, the same cannot be said for **Dannii Minogue's** full-length "Neon Nights" and its lead single, "I Begin to Wonder."

For whatever reason, Minogue—who is not a "faceless" artist and who has a story to tell—has yet to crack the American marketplace. It is not for lack of trying.

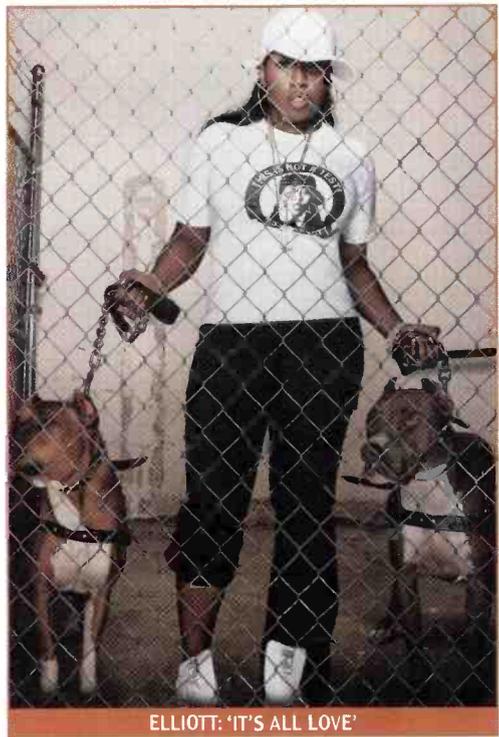
Coinciding with the album's Oct. 7 release, Minogue spent several weeks trekking

across the U.S., visiting radio stations and retailers.

As of this issue, "Neon Nights" has sold 8,000 copies in the U.S., according to SoundScan, while "I Begin to Wonder" has sold 3,000 copies.

Our fingers remain crossed that Minogue will cross over to the American mainstream. It just may take some time, though—just as it did with her older sister, **Kylie**. Perhaps the younger Minogue needs to spend more time in the U.S.

NEVER A WORD: By the way, did anyone even notice that Tommy Boy released the **Roc Project Featuring Tina Novak's** "Never" album



ELLIOTT: 'IT'S ALL LOVE'

in the fall? Without any fanfare whatsoever, this album seemed to arrive out of nowhere.

This boggles the mind, particularly since the lead single, "Never (Past Tense)," has been—and continues to be—embraced by radio stations across the country.

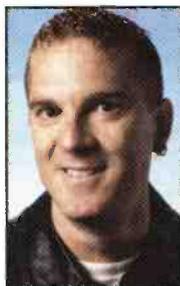
Also getting lost in the shuffle were Tommy Boy's **FannyPack** and **Kristine W.**, as well as Universal's **Becky Baeling**.

"This doesn't surprise me at all," says one artist, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "All labels are guilty of releasing CDs that do not receive proper promotion and marketing. Unfortunately, dance labels seem to excel at this practice. It's as if they don't see us as real artists."

The opposite is true in the world of R&B/hip-hop, where artists are shown ample respect—and not treated as second-class citizens. And in a refreshing change of pace, it

Beat
Box™

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2003 IN REVIEW

was great to see more and more urban artists embracing more up-tempo jams.

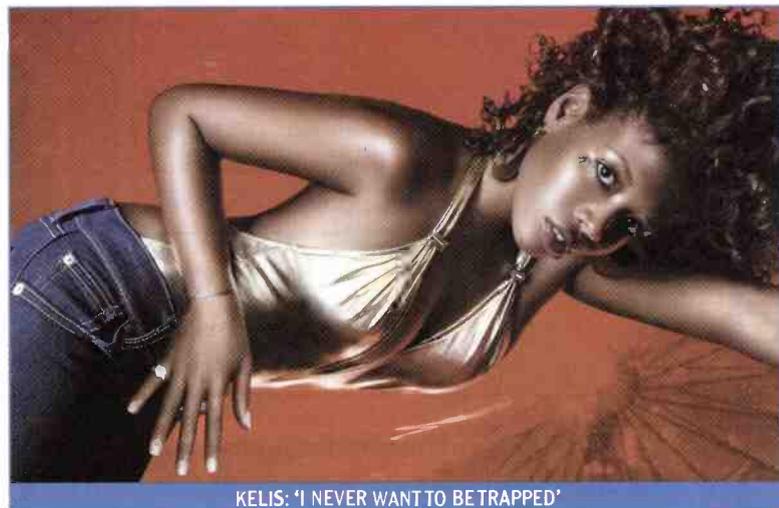
CREATIVE THINKING: We applaud **Missy Elliott, Kelis, Beyoncé, the Neptunes, Angie Stone, Timbaland, Joe Budden, OutKast, Mark Ronson, P. Diddy** and others.

Here, a few of them share their thoughts:

Elliott: "If the shit is hot, then it's hot. When I make music, I'll use whatever moves me—whether it's some Indian beats or an old-school house record. I don't separate the two worlds—it's all love."

Stone: "Music is cyclical; it is always reinventing itself, always changing. Hip-hop and dance must embrace each other. It is now school, not old-school. It's time to stop putting limits on ourselves as to what we can and can't do."

Kelis: "People put boundaries on themselves. By nature, people are afraid of that which they don't understand. Working with guys like



KELIS: 'I NEVER WANT TO BE TRAPPED'

Timo [Maas] and Diddy were incredible experiences. I never want to be trapped or stuck in one musical sound."

Chad Hugo (the Neptunes): "Things are definitely changing. Artists and producers like Missy and Timbaland are taking chances. Which only makes sense, because there is nowhere else to go. Change is necessary."

CHANGE IS EVERYWHERE: Change also continues to be a major force in the way that music is heard—and I am not referring to digital download services. (That said, expect this area to grow by leaps and bounds in the dance/electronic scene in 2004.)

As they did last year, Madison Avenue, Hollywood and technology firms continued to wholly welcome dance/electronic music and artists into their worlds.

Consider the following: **The Crystal Method's** "Born Too Slow" was licensed for use in "Need for Speed Underground," the latest volume in the Need for Speed videogame series from Electronic Arts; and Motorola partnered with **DJ Colette, Felix da Housecat and Paul van Dyk**, each of whom contributed exclusive musical content for mobile ring tones.

Also, **Elton John's** "Are You Ready for Love" was used in a TV ad for Sky Sports in the U.K., **Satoshi Tomiie's** "Virus" was heard in the film "The Matrix," **Jay-Jay Johanson's** "Automatic Lover" was heard in a 2(x)ist TV commercial, **Wide Life** penned/produced the theme song for Bravo/NBC hit "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy"—the list goes on and on.

Let us also not forget the Showtime smash series "Queer as Folk," which never fails to amaze with its smart dance/electronic musical selections.

Perhaps industry veteran **Judy Weinstein**—co-founder of Def Mix Productions, which oversees the careers of **David Morales, Frankie Knuckles** and **Tomiie**, among others—sums it up best: "It's time we

all grew up. Film and TV offer alternative avenues for exposure and sales. And I must confess, movies pay well."

Finally, those wishing to see my top 10 albums of the year should visit billboard.com and view 2003: The Year in Music.

THE TOP STORIES

- Electroclash goes mainstream. Peaches collaborates with Pink and Iggy Pop; Fischerspooner remixes Kylie Minogue, while Felix da Housecat, Mount Sims and Blow-Up do the same for Madonna.

- The Dance Music Hall of Fame forms in New York.

- *Billboard* launches its 25-position Hot Dance Radio Airplay chart. The chart ranks the 25 most-played songs at eight Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems-monitored radio stations that air primarily dance music.

- King Street Sounds celebrates its 10th anniversary.

- Production duo Thunderpuss (Chris Cox & Barry Harris) breaks up.

- Citing difficult market conditions, several labels shut their doors, including Logic and U.K. independent Hooj Choons.

- On the verge of collapse, London-based Global Underground restructures and launches a new artist imprint (GU Music) and a new DJ series (24:7). The label also signs DJ/producer Sasha to helm a new series, debuting in 2004.

- Canadian production duo Wide Life scores big with "All Things (Just Keep Getting Better)," the theme song to Bravo/NBC hit "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy."

- At the 45th Annual Grammy Awards, Dirty Vegas' "Days Go By" wins best dance recording, while Roger Sanchez's remix of No Doubt's "Hella Good" is named best remixed recording, non-classical.

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** HOT DANCE SINGLES SALES

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist
1	NEW	1	NUMBER 1 NOTHING FAILS/NOBODY KNOWS ME	Madonna
2	13	17	ME AGAINST THE MUSIC	Britney Spears Featuring Madonna
3	1	14	RUBBERNECKIN' (PAUL OAKENFOLD REMIX)	Elvis Presley
4	2	3	(THERE'S GOTTA BE) MORE TO LIFE	Stacie Orrico
5	4	2	BREATHE (REMIXES)	Michelle Branch
6	3	5	LIMBO ROCK (REMIXES)	Chubby C & OD Featuring Inner Circle
7	5	4	SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL (REMIXES)	The Rolling Stones
8	7	9	HAREM (REMIXES)	Sarah Brightman
9	RE-ENTRY	2	FLY AGAIN	Kristine W
10	10	8	OFFICIALLY MISSING YOU (REMIXES)	Tamia
11	11	10	I'M GLAD (REMIXES)	Jennifer Lopez
12	8	6	YOU PROMISED ME (TU ES FOUTU)	In-Grid
13	12	11	HOLLYWOOD (REMIXES)	Madonna
14	9	7	STUCK (THUNDERPUSS REMIX)	Stacie Orrico
15	NEW	1	ROCK YOUR BODY, ROCK	Ferry Corsten
16	15	12	A TOAST TO MEN (F**K THE MEN)	Willa Ford Featuring May
17	NEW	1	SLOW	Kylie Minogue
18	20	16	WAITING FOR YOU (REMIXES)	Seal
19	19	15	PAVEMENT CRACKS (REMIXES)	Annie Lennox
20	22	19	TIME OF OUR LIVES/CONNECTED	Paul Van Dyk Featuring Vega 4
21	18	20	THE DISTRICT SLEEPS ALONE TONIGHT	The Postal Service
22	21	18	THOJA THOING (SILK'S HOUSE REMIX)	R. Kelly
23	14	14	THROUGH THE RAIN (HEX HECTOR/MAC QUAYLE REMIX)	Mariah Carey
24	24	16	GET IT TOGETHER (REMIXES)	Seal
25	NEW	1	I TRY	Made By Monkeys Featuring Maria Matto

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** HOT DANCE RADIO AIRPLAY

Airplay compiled by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist
1	1	20	NUMBER 1 SOMETHING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO HEAVEN	Deborah Cox
2	3	20	ALONE	Lasgo
3	2	20	NEVER (PAST TENSE)	The Roc Project Featuring Tina Arena
4	5	12	YOU PROMISED ME (TU ES FOUTU)	In-Grid
5	4	16	I BEGIN TO WONDER	Dannii Minogue
6	6	5	GIA	Despina Vandi
7	9	9	SLOW	Kylie Minogue
8	8	17	BABY BOY	Beyonce Featuring Sean Paul
9	RE-ENTRY	2	HEY YA!	OutKast
10	13	4	DEEPEST BLUE	Deepest Blue
11	7	20	JUST THE WAY YOU ARE	Milky
12	16	4	AS THE RUSH COMES	Motorcycle
13	12	11	SUNRISE	Simply Red
14	19	3	MILKSHAKE	Kelis
15	11	20	IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE	Daniel Bedingfield
16	18	9	ME AGAINST THE MUSIC	Britney Spears Featuring Madonna
17	RE-ENTRY	2	SECRET LOVE	Ian Van Dahl
18	23	3	RIE Y LLORA	Celia Cruz
19	14	12	CLOCKS	Coldplay
20	10	9	APPRECIATE ME	Amuka Featuring Sheila Brody
21	25	2	WHEREVER YOU ARE (I FEEL LOVE)	Laava
22	24	6	SUNLIGHT	DJ Sammy
23	NEW	1	SMOOTH	iiio
24	20	19	AT THE END	iiio
25	NEW	1	YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL	Donna Summer

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP ELECTRONIC ALBUMS

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	ARTIST	Title
1	1	9	NUMBER 1 MARIAH CAREY	The Remixes
2	2	4	LOUIE DEVITO	N.Y.C. Underground Party 6
3	4	36	THE POSTAL SERVICE	Give Up
4	3	11	ENIGMA	Voyageur
5	9	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Christmas Remixed
6	6	6	THE HAPPY BOYS	Dance Party (Like It's 2004)
7	8	8	BASEMENT JAXX	Kish Kash
8	7	11	THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS	Singles '93-'03
9	12	10	PRAFAL	One Day Deep
10	10	4	MOBY	18: B Sides + DVD
11	11	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Verve/Remixed2
12	13	16	LOUIE DEVITO	Louie DeVito Presents: Ultra.Dance 04
13	17	35	VARIOUS ARTISTS	30th Anniversary Collection: Ultimate Disco
14	14	11	PAUL OAKENFOLD	Perfecto Presents... Great Wall
15	5	2	KINKY	Atlas
16	19	13	BOND	Bond: Remixed
17	15	10	PAUL VAN DYK	Reflections
18	21	28	ZOEGIRL	Mix Of Life
19	18	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Ministry Of Sound: The Annual 2004
20	16	4	UNDERWORLD	Underworld 1992-2002
21	23	19	BT	Emotional Technology
22	22	9	STEPHANE POMPOUGNAC	Hotel Costes V.6
23	25	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	The Reindeer Room Vol. 2
24	NEW	1	MIKE RIZZO	Webster Hall's New York Dance CD V.6
25	NEW	1	BJORK	Greatest Hits

● Dance Airplay titles showing an increase in detections over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' radio track service. 7 dance stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. A title which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in detections. Titles below the top 15 are removed from the chart after 26 weeks. ©2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved. ● Electronic Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. [H] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. ©2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** HOT DANCE CLUB PLAY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	Artist
1	2	9	NUMBER 1 ME AGAINST THE MUSIC	Britney Spears Featuring Madonna	26	22	9	GUAJIRA (ROGER SANCHEZ REMIX)	Emmanuel
2	3	5	ARE YOU READY FOR LOVE	Elton John	27	20	17	I FEEL LOVE	Blue Man Group Featuring Venus Hum
3	7	14	A THOUSAND BEAUTIFUL THINGS (RAUHOFFER, G&D, BIMBO JONES)	Annie Lennox	28	32	36	WALK ON BY	Cyndi Lauper
4	6	11	STONED (DEEP DISH REMIX)	Dido	29	35	42	GET IT OFF (THAT KID CHRIS REMIX)	Monica
5	1	2	BELIEVE	Murk (Oscar G. & Ralph Falcon)	30	36	—	GIVE IT UP	Kevin Aviance
6	9	15	LUCKY STAR	Basement Jaxx Featuring Dizzee Rascal	31	42	—	POWER PICK FAKE	Simply Red
7	11	16	YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL	Donna Summer	32	33	37	BEAUTIFUL OUTSIDE (MINGE BINGE & E-SMOOVE MIXES)	Velocity Code
8	5	1	WAITING FOR YOU (THICK DICK, PASSENGERZ, 29 PALMS, D. CARTER)	Seal	33	41	—	SLOW	Kylie Minogue
9	13	19	WONDERFUL (S. KLEINENBERG & D. AUDE MIXES)	Annie Lennox	34	23	13	STAND (REMIXES)	Jewel
10	4	4	NOBODY KNOWS ME (P. RAUHOFFER, ABOVE & BEYOND, MOUNT SIMS MIXES)	Madonna	35	28	25	JUST ABOUT HAD ENOUGH	Beat Hustlerz Featuring Thea Austin
11	8	3	MILKSHAKE (X-PRESS 2 & DJ ZINC MIXES)	Kelis	36	31	21	THIS BEAT IS	Superchumbo
12	14	23	ADDICTED (REMIXES)	Enrique Iglesias	37	NEW	2	HOT SHOT DEBUT JUST A LITTLE MORE LOVE	David Guetta Featuring Chris Willis
13	16	22	RELEASE ME (RAUHOFFER, MORRIS, CRUZ & BAGZ, MIDNIGHT SOCIETY)	Industry	38	44	—	1000 YEARS	Arthur Baker Featuring Astrid Williamson
14	17	20	BABY, I'M IN LOVE (BORIS & BECK, NORTY COTTO MIXES)	Thalia	39	34	32	THIS IS MY HOUSE	Peter Rauhofer
15	10	12	I'M WAITING	Aubrey Vs. Johnny Vicious	40	24	18	JUST SO YOU KNOW (REMIXES)	Holly Palmer
16	12	7	FLY AGAIN (K&S PROJECT, R. ROSARIO, SCUMFROG, J. VASQUEZ MIXES)	Kristine W	41	43	46	RIE Y LLORA (THE REMIXES)	Celia Cruz
17	21	26	DO U GOT FUNK?	Big Bang Theory	42	39	41	YOU GOT ME	Giovanna
18	15	6	BABY BOY (J. VASQUEZ & M. JOSHUA MIXES)	Beyonce	43	38	34	SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL (REMIXES)	The Rolling Stones
19	25	35	FALLEN (REMIXES)	Sarah McLachlan	44	NEW	2	BORN SLIPPY NUXX	Underworld
20	30	—	NOTHING FAILS (REMIXES)	Madonna	45	NEW	2	ROCK YOUR BODY, ROCK	Ferry Corsten
21	27	39	BREATHE (REMIXES)	Michelle Branch	46	45	47	AS THE RUSH COMES	Motorcycle
22	18	8	MY LOVE IS ALWAYS	Saffron Hill	47	NEW	2	KISS MY EYES	Bob Sinclair
23	26	31	THE HURTING	Mac Quayle Featuring Donna Delory	48	NEW	2	ONENESS (FRED JORIO REMIXES)	Damian Featuring Sasha Lazard
24	19	10	ROCK WIT U (AWWWW BABY) [A. VAN HELDEN & POUND BOYS]	Ashanti	49	40	28	YOU PROMISED ME (TU ES FOUTU)	In-Grid
25	29	33	FOREVER	Mia	50	46	40	TIME OF OUR LIVES	Paul Van Dyk Featuring Vega 4

● Titles with the greatest sales or club play increases this week. Power Pick on Club Play is awarded for the largest point increase among singles below the top 20. The Club Play chart is compiled from a national sample of reports from club DJs. ● Videoclip availability. Catalog number is for vinyl maxi-single, or CD maxi-single, or CD single respectively, based upon availability. On Dance Singles Sales chart. ● CD Single available. ● Vinyl Maxi-Single available. ● Cassette Maxi-Single available. ©2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

Cash, Chicks Kept Country In The News

BY DEBORAH EVANS PRICE
and PHYLLIS STARK

NASHVILLE—It's usually considered a good thing when country music and artists make headlines.

But two stories that kept country in the news this year—the death of icon Johnny Cash and the incredible media scrutiny that accompanied a radio and fan backlash against the Dixie Chicks—were events the industry could have done without.

Following his Sept. 12 death, mourners from every facet of the entertainment business attended Cash's funeral. A subsequent tribute concert featuring Hank Williams Jr., Sheryl Crow, Marty Stuart, Kid Rock and numerous others became one of CMT's highest-rated specials.

Cash's death happened just a few months after the May 15 passing of his wife, June Carter Cash. She rose to prominence as a member of the legendary Carter Family and met Cash when the two began touring together in 1961.

The divisive Dixie Chicks controversy started in March on the eve of the war in Iraq, when singer Natalie Maines told a London concert audience she was "ashamed the president of the United States is from Texas," home to all three of the group's members.

When U.S. media outlets picked up the comment, Maines issued an apology. But that didn't stop stations from dropping the group's records and at least one station from hosting an event in which listeners' Chicks CDs were crushed with a steam roller.

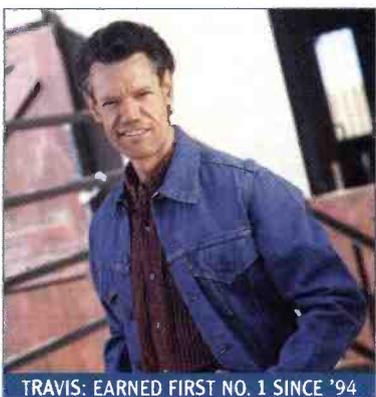
Cumulus Broadcasting issued a ban on Chicks music across its 42 country stations. Cox Broadcasting canceled Jones Radio Networks' syndicated

"Lia" evening show, which aired on six of its stations, because the show's producers were initially unwilling to stop airing Dixie Chicks music. Jones later began offering a Chicks-free version of the show.

Coming on the heels of the top-selling album "Home" and just weeks after the Chicks had nearly sold out their Top of the World tour dates, the controversy threatened to permanently derail the group's sky-high career. While the tour went off without a hitch and sparked virtually no protests, it remains to be seen what the long-term impact of the incident will be on the group's record sales.

For the chart week ending Dec. 7, 40 of *Billboard's* 128 monitored country stations did not play any Chicks songs.

In contrast to that brouhaha, country artists who released patriotic songs during the war in Iraq tended to fare well. The biggest beneficiary of coun-



TRAVIS: EARNED FIRST NO. 1 SINCE '94

try's openness to these songs was Darryl Worley's pro-war anthem "Have You Forgotten?" The tune topped the Hot Country Singles & Tracks chart for multiple weeks and sparked sales

THE TOP STORIES

- Anti-President Bush comments from Dixie Chicks vocalist Natalie Maines spark a radio backlash.
- Country's patriotic lean gives the format added exposure during the war in Iraq.
- Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash die; other legends are also lost.
- John Grady takes the helm of Sony Music Nashville.
- Music of substance makes a comeback.

of his album of the same name to 214,000 units in its first week.

FRESHER MATERIAL

It was a year that saw more lyrical variety return to the country airwaves. The politically correct, sanitized country of the '90s gave way to music with more substance that explored a wide range of life experiences and a "neo-traditionalist" sound.

Songs with a spiritual flavor also found a home at country radio. Among them were Josh Turner's "Long Black Train," Sherrie Austin's "Streets of Heaven," Buddy Jewell's "Help Pour Out the Rain (Lacey's Song)" and the most successful, Randy Travis' hit "Three Wooden Crosses."

The Country Music Assn. and the Christian Country Music Assn. named "Crosses"—penned by Doug Johnson and Kim Williams—the song of the year. It gave Travis his first No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top Country Singles & Tracks chart since 1994.

There was also a return to meatier lyrics, with artists who had actually lived such stories doing the singing. DreamWorks' Jimmy Wayne, Mercury's Billy Currington and RCA's Jeff Bates delivered singles that drew from their often painful, true-life experiences that included an alcoholic father (Currington's "Walk a Little Straighter"), dysfunctional families (Wayne's "I Love You This Much") and adoption (Bates' "Rainbow Man").

SLIP SLIDING

In 2002, country music album sales totaled 76.9 million albums, an increase of 12.3% over the 68.4 million sold in 2001. But as 2003 draws to a close, country album sales from January to the week ended Dec. 7 were 58.6 million units compared with 65.1 million in the same period in 2002.

Breaking new acts at country radio remained a perennial challenge in 2003, and female artists became especially tough to break as the format inexplicably moved toward a male-dominated sound.

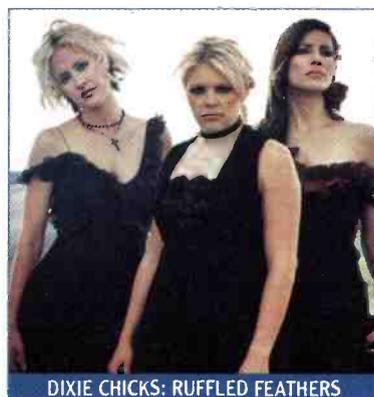
But the breakout success of Columbia newcomer Buddy Jewell demonstrated the power of TV to connect

with country consumers. Jewell won the first "Nashville Star" talent competition in May. The show was televised on USA Network and provided a launching pad for the artist, who had sold 277,000 copies of his album at press time.

ON THE ROW

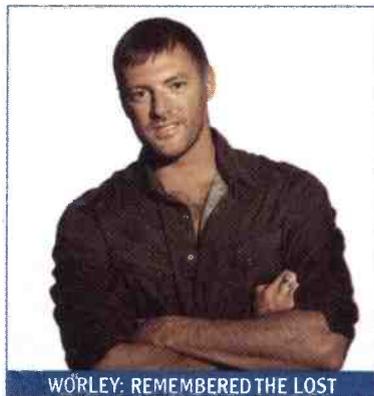
John Grady was named president of Sony Music Nashville in May. He previously headed the Sony-distributed DMZ Records. Among Grady's first moves was to cut Sony's artist roster in half. He replaced former Sony president/CEO Allen Butler, who exited May 2, along with executive VP/GM Mike Kraski and executive VP of A&R Blake Chancey.

Kraski went on to form the privately funded Equity Records with partners Clint Black, manager Jim Morey and business manager Charles Sussman. Black is the label's first artist.



DIXIE CHICKS: RUFFLED FEATHERS

Former Giant Records president Doug Johnson was tapped to run Curb's new Asylum imprint, with former Epic VP of promotion Rob Dalton coming on board to lead the promotion team for the WEA-distributed venture.



WORLEY: REMEMBERED THE LOST

Refugee Management, headed by president/CEO Stuart Dill, launched Refugee Records in February specifically to release Regie Hamm's "American Dreams" album. Universal South distributed the set.

Several other artist-owned labels were also introduced. The Del McCoury Band formed McCoury Music, in association with Sugar Hill Records and Welk Distribution. And Steve Wariner launched SelecTone Records.

Another new Nashville label, Viva-ton Records, is expected to formally launch in January 2004 under the direction of former Decca Records chief Shelia Shipley Biddy.

ALSO IN THE NEWS

Beloved Universal South senior partner Tony Brown had a close call April 11 when he fell down some steps and sustained a near-fatal head injury. After several weeks in a coma, Brown quickly began making a full recovery.

Tim Wiperman lost his job as executive VP/GM of Warner/Chappell Music's Nashville operation, which he headed for 29 years. VP of A&R Dale Bobo replaced him.

Gaylord Entertainment sold two of its Nashville stations, country WSM-FM and news/talk WWTN, to Cumulus Media for \$65 million. Gaylord retained ownership of its flagship station, WSM-AM, but entered an agreement for Cumulus to manage the station's local and national ad sales.

LEGENDS LOST

In addition to the Cashes, the country community lost several more of its most beloved members in 2003.

One of country music's most unique voices was silenced with the Feb. 18 passing of Johnny Paycheck at age 64. Paycheck battled diabetes and emphysema during the last years of his tumultuous life. Although known for such hits as "She's All I Got" and "Mr. Lovemaker," he will be best-remembered for the working-man's anthem "Take This Job and Shove It."

Country music Hall of Famer "Jumpin'" Bill Carlisle died March 17 of complications from a stroke. He was 94. A Grand Ole Opry cast member, Carlisle's career had spanned seven decades.

The bluegrass community lost a legend with the Dec. 31, 2002, death of Jim McReynolds. Performing with his brother in the duo Jim & Jesse, McReynolds was a pioneer in bluegrass music and a Grand Ole Opry staple.

Songwriting legend Felice Bryant, 77, died April 22. Bryant and her husband, Boudleaux, wrote some of the most popular songs in the history of rock'n'roll and country music, including "Wake Up Little Susie" and "Bye Bye Love," both recorded by the Everly Brothers, and the Tennessee state song "Rocky Top."

November marked the passing of Don Gibson and Teddy Wilburn. Gibson, 75, died Nov. 17. He was known for such hits as "I Can't Stop Loving You" and "Oh Lonesome Me." Wilburn, who with his brother Doyle performed as the Wilburn Brothers, died Nov. 24 at age 71 of congestive heart failure.

As the year wound down, country singer Gary Stewart died Dec. 16 of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound (see story, page 12).

THE CHART-TOPPERS

Following is a chronological listing of albums that logged time at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top Country Albums chart this calendar year. The number of weeks each title spent at No. 1 during the year is in parentheses. Titles that debuted at No. 1 in 2003 are indicated by stars. (Shania Twain's "Up!," Dixie Chicks' "Home" and Toby Keith's "Unleashed" debuted on the chart in 2002.)

- "Up!," Shania Twain, Mercury/UMGN (2).
- "Home," Dixie Chicks, Monument/Columbia/Sony Music (14).
- "Chris Cagle," Chris Cagle, Capitol (1). ★
- "Have You Forgotten?," Darryl Worley, DreamWorks/Interscope (4). ★
- "Unleashed," Toby Keith, DreamWorks/Interscope (2).
- "Greatest Hits," Jo Dee Messina, Curb (1). ★
- "From There to Here: Greatest Hits," Lonestar, BNA/RLG (2). ★
- "Honkytonkville," George Strait, MCA Nashville/UMGN (2). ★
- "Buddy Jewell," Buddy Jewell, Columbia/Sony Music (1). ★
- "Greatest Hits Collection, Vol. 1," Trace Adkins, Capitol (1). ★
- "Red Dirt Road," Brooks & Dunn, Arista Nashville/RLG (1). ★
- "Mud on the Tires," Brad Paisley, Arista Nashville/RLG (2). ★
- "What the World Needs Now Is Love," Wynonna, Curb (1). ★
- "Greatest Hits Volume II and Some Other Stuff," Alan Jackson, Arista Nashville/RLG (11). ★
- "Martina," Martina McBride, RCA/RLG (1). ★
- "Shock'n'Y'all," Toby Keith, DreamWorks/Interscope (6). ★

DECEMBER 27
2003

Billboard®

TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan			Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan			Title	PEAK POSITION
				ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	ARTIST							IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL				
				NUMBER 1			6 Weeks At Number 1		38	36	34	15	JEFF FOXWORTH			The Best Of Jeff Foxworthy: Double Wide, Single Minded	10
1	1	1	6	TOBY KEITH ▲ ²			Shock'n Y'all	1	39	43	43	17	SARA EVANS			Restless	3
				GREATEST GAINER					40	39	37	10	ALABAMA			The American Farewell Tour	6
2	2	2	19	ALAN JACKSON ▲			Greatest Hits Volume II And Some Other Stuff	1	41	42	39	73	JOE NICHOLS ●			Man With A Memory	9
3	8	7	56	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ¹⁰			Up!	1	42	40	40	24	TRACY BYRD			The Truth About Men	5
4	4	3	4	DIXIE CHICKS ▲			Top Of The World Tour Live	3	43	44	52	11	LYLE LOVETT			My Baby Don't Tolerate	7
5	6	6	73	TOBY KEITH ▲ ³			Unleashed	1	44	49	33	3	JOHNNY CASH			Cash Unearthed	33
6	5	4	10	KENNY CHESNEY ●			All I Want For Christmas Is A Real Good Tan	4	45	47	31	35	TOBY KEITH			The Best Of Toby Keith: 20th Century Masters The Millennium Collection	5
7	9	8	11	MARTINA MCBRIDE ●			Martina	1	46	41	51	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Bill Gaither Presents: A Gospel Bluegrass Homecoming Volume One	41
8	7	5	4	LEANN RIMES			Greatest Hits	3	47	59	54	35	SOUNDTRACK			Blue Collar Comedy Tour: The Movie	29
9	11	10	59	RASCAL FLATTS ▲			Melt	1	48	48	53	14	RANDY TRAVIS ●			Rise And Shine	8
10	12	11	86	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³			No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems	1	49	46	41	11	VARIOUS ARTISTS			CMT Presents: Most Wanted, Volume 1	11
11	3	—	2	TRACE ADKINS			Comin' On Strong	3	50	53	57	12	EMMYLOU HARRIS			Stumble Into Grace	6
12	10	9	4	REBA MCBENTIRE			Room To Breathe	4	51	52	46	68	DIXIE CHICKS ▲ ⁶			Home	1
13	13	12	58	JOHNNY CASH ▲			American IV: The Man Comes Around	2	52	54	49	30	JO DEE MESSINA			Greatest Hits	1
14	14	13	22	BROOKS & DUNN ●			Red Dirt Road	1	53	55	48	90	GEORGE STRAIT ●			The Best Of George Strait: 20th Century Masters The Millennium Collection	8
15	16	14	55	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ²			Tim McGraw And The Dancehall Doctors	2	54	50	42	5	BILL ENGVALL			Here's Your Sign: Reloaded	37
16	15	20	9	JOSH TURNER			Long Black Train	15	55	57	56	25	JIMMY WAYNE			Jimmy Wayne	7
17	18	15	28	LONESTAR ●			From There To Here: Greatest Hits	1	56	51	59	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Bill Gaither Presents: A Gospel Bluegrass Homecoming Volume Two	51
18	19	16	68	MONTGOMERY GENTRY ●			My Town	3	57	45	50	4	HANK WILLIAMS JR.			I'm One Of You	24
19	17	19	5	RANDY TRAVIS			Worship & Faith	9	58	56	55	7	BILLY RAY CYRUS			The Other Side	18
20	23	24	64	ELVIS PRESLEY ▲ ³			Elvis: 30 #1 Hits	1	59	58	62	3	JOHNNY CASH			Christmas With Johnny Cash	58
21	26	21	21	BRAD PAISLEY ●			Mud On The Tires	1	60	66	65	100	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ⁴			Drive	1
22	22	17	62	KEITH URBAN ▲			Golden Road	3	61	62	58	18	SHERIE AUSTIN			Streets Of Heaven	22
23	25	18	11	GARY ALLAN			See If I Care	2	62	68	—	36	WILLIE NELSON			The Essential Willie Nelson	24
24	29	22	37	CHRIS CAGLE ●			Chris Cagle	1	63	60	66	5	GEORGE STRAIT			20th Century Masters: The Best Of George Strait - The Christmas Collection	60
25	20	30	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Classic Country: Christmas	20	64	65	—	2	BURL IVES			20th Century Masters: The Best Of Burl Ives - The Christmas Collection	64
26	24	45	7	VARIOUS ARTISTS			A Very Special Acoustic Christmas	24	65	71	67	70	NICKEL CREEK ●			This Side	2
				PACESETTER					66	64	61	8	MARK WILLS			And The Crowd Goes Wild	5
27	35	38	58	ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION ▲			Live	9	67	61	69	19	WYNONNA			What The World Needs Now Is Love	1
28	28	23	22	PAT GREEN			Wave On Wave	2	68	63	60	14	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Remembering Patsy Cline	8
29	31	28	27	GEORGE STRAIT ●			Honkytonkville	1					HOT SHOT DEBUT				
30	27	26	17	DIERKS BENTLEY			Dierks Bentley	4	69				KATHY MATTEA			Joy For Christmas Day	69
31	32	25	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Totally Country Vol. 3	2	70	72	72	69	DIAMOND RIO ●			Completely	3
32	30	32	6	ELVIS PRESLEY			Elvis: Christmas Peace	30	71				FAITH HILL ▲ ²			Cry	1
33	33	29	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Just Because I'm A Woman: Songs Of Dolly Parton	6	72	70	63	35	DARRYL WORLEY ●			Have You Forgotten?	1
34	34	27	23	TRACE ADKINS			Greatest Hits Collection, Volume I	1	73	73	—	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS			Livin' Lovin' Losin': Songs Of The Louvin Brothers	61
35	37	44	54	JOHNNY CASH			The Essential Johnny Cash	16	74	67	74	4	REBA MCBENTIRE			20th Century Masters: The Best Of Reba McEntire - The Christmas Collection	67
36	21	35	6	ANDY GRIFFITH			The Christmas Guest: Stories And Songs Of Christmas	21	75				GEORGE STRAIT ●			For The Last Time: Live From The Astrodome	2
37	38	36	24	BUDDY JEWELL			Buddy Jewell	1									

● Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Oro). △ Certification of 200,000 units (Platino). △¹ Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Pacesetter indicates biggest percentage growth. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [H] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER 27
2003

Billboard®

TOP COUNTRY CATALOG ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan			Title	TOTAL CHART WKS	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan			Title	TOTAL CHART WKS
		ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	ARTIST					IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL				
				NUMBER 1									
1	1	ALAN JACKSON ●			3 Weeks At Number 1	16	13	15	TOBY KEITH ▲ ²			Greatest Hits Volume One	263
2	3	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ³			Let It Be Christmas	160	14	23	LARRY THE CABLE GUY			Lord, I Apologize	26
3	2	JOHNNY CASH ▲			Greatest Hits	245	15	11	ALAN JACKSON ▲			Honky Tonk Christmas	71
4	5	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲ ²			Greatest Hits	117	16	19	RASCAL FLATTS ▲			Rascal Flatts	184
5	4	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³			Greatest Hits	168	17	20	TOBY KEITH ▲ ²			Pull My Chain	120
6	7	BURL IVES			Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer	52	18	12	TOBY KEITH			Christmas To Christmas	6
7	8	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ¹⁹			Come On Over	319	19	17	JOHNNY CASH ▲			Super Hits	152
8	6	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲			White Christmas	54	20	21	JOHN DENVER & THE MUPPETS ▲			A Christmas Together	48
9	9	ANNE MURRAY			What A Wonderful Christmas	26	21	22	BROOKS & DUNN			It Won't Be Christmas Without You	15
10	10	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ⁵			The Greatest Hits Collection	425	22	—	PATSY CLINE ●			12 Greatest Hits	809
11	14	BROOKS & DUNN ▲ ³			The Greatest Hits Collection	326	23	—	DIXIE CHICKS ◆ ¹²			Wide Open Spaces	306
12	13	SOUNDTRACK ▲			O Brother, Where Art Thou?	158	24	—	WILLIE NELSON ▲			16 Biggest Hits	274

● Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. Catalog albums are 2-year-old titles that have fallen below No. 100 on The Billboard 200 or reissues of older albums. Total Chart Weeks column reflects combined weeks title has appeared on Top Country Albums and Top Country Catalog. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. [H] indicates past Heatseeker title. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER 27 2003

Billboard® HOT COUNTRY SINGLES & TRACKS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems			PEAK POSITION	TITLE	Artist	IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems			PEAK POSITION	TITLE	Artist	IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL	PEAK POSITION												
				PRODUCTION	PERFORMANCE	SALES										PRODUCTION	PERFORMANCE	SALES																	
				Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				NUMBER 1 2 Weeks At Number 1				31	33	36	6	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				31	33	36	6	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				31	33	36	6				
1	1	4	10					THERE GOES MY LIFE B.CANNON,K.CHESENEY (W.MOBLEY,N.THRASHER)	Kenny Chesney	BNA ALBUM CUT	1	32	32	33	11	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				32	32	33	11	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				32	32	33	11				
2	3	2	21					COWBOYS LIKE US T.BROWN,G.STRAIT (A.SMITH,B.DIPIERD)	George Strait	MCA NASHVILLE 001250	2	33	35	35	10	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				33	35	35	10	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				33	35	35	10				
3	2	1	18					I LOVE THIS BAR J.STROUD,T.KEITH (T.KEITH,S.EMERICK)	Toby Keith	DREAMWORKS 001238	1	34	34	34	12	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				34	34	34	12	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				34	34	34	12				
4	6	8	15					YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HONKY TONK OUT OF THE GIRL K.BROOKS,R.DUNN,M.WRIGHT (B.DIPIERD,B.ALLMAND)	Brooks & Dunn	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	4	35	47	59	4	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				35	47	59	4	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				35	47	59	4				
5	9	13	8					REMEMBER WHEN K.STEGALL (A.JACKSON)	Alan Jackson	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	5	36	36	38	13	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				36	36	38	13	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				36	36	38	13				
6	5	7	27					CHICKS DIG IT C.CAGLE,R.WRIGHT (C.CAGLE,C.CROWE)	Chris Cagle	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	5	37	37	41	5	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				37	37	41	5	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				37	37	41	5				
7	10	10	28					HONESTY (WRITE ME A LIST) T.HEWITT,R.ATKINS (D.KENT,P.CLEMENTS)	Rodney Atkins	CURB 73149	7	38	38	39	13	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				38	38	39	13	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				38	38	39	13				
8	8	9	20					WALKING IN MEMPHIS D.HUFF (M.COHN)	Lonestar	BNA ALBUM CUT	8	39	39	40	9	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				39	39	40	9	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				39	39	40	9				
9	11	11	21					DRINKIN' BONE B.J.WALKER,JR.,T.BYRO (C.BEATHARD,K.K.PHILLIPS)	Tracy Byrd	RCA ALBUM CUT	9	40	41	43	8	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				40	41	43	8	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				40	41	43	8				
10	14	15	19					I WANNA DO IT ALL B.GALLIMORE (T.NICHOLS,R.GILES,G.GODARD)	Terri Clark	MERCURY ALBUM CUT	10	41	40	44	11	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				41	40	44	11	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				41	40	44	11				
11	4	5	23					HELL YEAH B.CHANCEY (J.STEELE,C.WISEMAN)	Montgomery Gentry	COLUMBIA ALBUM CUT	4	42	43	42	9	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				42	43	42	9	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				42	43	42	9				
12	13	14	12					SHE'S NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE R.J.LANGE (R.J.LANGE,S.TWAIN)	Shania Twain	MERCURY ALBUM CUT	12	43	45	53	3	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				43	45	53	3	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				43	45	53	3				
13	16	20	9					WATCH THE WIND BLOW BY B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW,D.SMITH (A.OSBORNE,D.ALTMAN)	Tim McGraw	CURB ALBUM CUT	13	44	49	55	3	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				44	49	55	3	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				44	49	55	3				
14	19	21	17					LITTLE MOMENTS F.RDGERS (C.DUBOIS,B.PAISLEY)	Brad Paisley	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	14	45	46	47	7	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				45	46	47	7	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				45	46	47	7				
15	17	18	23					I WISH B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (T.L.JAMES,E.HILL)	Jo Dee Messina	CURB ALBUM CUT	15	46	44	45	11	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				46	44	45	11	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				46	44	45	11				
16	12	6	31					WAVE ON WAVE D.MORRIS,T.BROWN (P.GREEN,D.NEUHAUSER,J.POLLARD)	Pat Green	REPUBLIC ALBUM CUT/UNIVERSAL SOUTH	3	47	48	48	6	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				47	48	48	6	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				47	48	48	6				
17	7	3	25					I MELT M.BRIGHT,M.WILLIAMS,RASCAL FLATTS (G.LEVOX,N.THRASHER,W.MOBLEY)	Rascal Flatts	LYRIC STREET ALBUM CUT	2	48	42	37	18	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				48	42	37	18	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				48	42	37	18				
18	15	12	30					WHO WOULDN'T WANNA BE ME K.URBAN (M.POWELL,K.URBAN)	Keith Urban	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	1	49	53	58	3	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				49	53	58	3	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				49	53	58	3				
19	18	16	22					WRINKLES M.D.CLUTE,DIAMOND RIO (R.SCAIFE,N.THRASHER)	Diamond Rio	ARISTA NASHVILLE ALBUM CUT	16	50	55	—	2	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				50	55	—	2	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				50	55	—	2				
20	21	23	14					HOT MAMA S.HENDRICKS,T.BRUCE (C.BEATHARD,T.SHAPIRO)	Trace Adkins	CAPITOL ALBUM CUT	20	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems			
21	22	22	19					I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH C.LINDSEY,J.STROUD (J.WAYNE,C.DUBOIS,D.SAMPSON)	Jimmy Wayne	DREAMWORKS 001239	21	51	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				51	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				51	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				51	NEW	1
22	28	32	6					AMERICAN SOLDIER J.STROUD,T.KEITH (T.KEITH,C.CANNON)	Toby Keith	DREAMWORKS ALBUM CUT	22	52	51	49	9	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				52	51	49	9	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				52	51	49	9				
23	25	25	31					LONG BLACK TRAIN M.WRIGHT,F.RDGERS (J.TURNER)	Josh Turner	MCA NASHVILLE 000976	23	53	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				53	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				53	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				53	NEW	1
24	26	26	15					PERFECT S.EVANS,P.WORLEY (S.EVANS,T.SHAPIRO,T.MARTIN)	Sara Evans	RCA ALBUM CUT	24	54	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				54	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				54	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				54	NEW	1
25	23	27	6					IN MY DAUGHTER'S EYES M.MCBRIDE,P.WORLEY (J.T.SLATER)	Martina McBride	RCA ALBUM CUT	23	55	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				55	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				55	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				55	NEW	1
26	24	24	23					I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANYWHERE J.STROUD,T.KEITH (S.EMERICK,T.KEITH)	Scotty Emerick With Toby Keith	DREAMWORKS 001581	24	56	54	60	7	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				56	54	60	7	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				56	54	60	7				
27	27	28	7					SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT C.BLACK (R.CLAWSON,B.CRISLER)	Buddy Jewell	COLUMBIA ALBUM CUT	27	57	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				57	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				57	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				57	NEW	1
28	29	29	9					SPEND MY TIME C.BLACK (C.BLACK,H.NICHOLAS)	Clint Black	EQUITY ALBUM CUT	28	58	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				58	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				58	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				58	NEW	1
29	31	31	14					COOL TO BE A FOOL B.ROWAN (J.NICHOLS,S.OEAN,W.NANCE)	Joe Nichols	UNIVERSAL SOUTH 001371	29	59	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				59	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				59	NEW	1	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				59	NEW	1
30	30	30	20					EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON C.MORGAN,P.O'DONNELL (N.COTY,J.MELTON)	Craig Morgan	BROKEN BOW ALBUM CUT	30	60	52	52	14	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				60	52	52	14	Airplay monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems				60	52	52	14				

Records showing an increase in detections over the previous week, regardless of chart movement. Compiled from a national sample of airplay supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems' radio track service. 128 Country Stations are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. Airplay awarded to songs appearing in the top 20 on both the BDS Airplay and Audience charts for the first time with increases in both detections and audience. Titles below the top 20 are removed from the chart after 20 weeks. Video clip availability. Catalog number is for CD Single, or Vinyl Single if CD Single is unavailable. CD Single available. DVD Single available. CD Maxi-Single available. Cassette Single available. Vinyl Maxi-Single available. Vinyl Single available. Cassette Maxi-Single available. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER 27 2003 Billboard® TOP BLUEGRASS ALBUMS™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan			Title
			ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Weeks At Number 1	
1	1	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS LOST HIGHWAY 001038/UMGN			A Very Special Acoustic Christmas 3 Weeks At Number 1
2	2	58	ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION ▲ ROUNDER 610515			Live
3	3	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS GAITHER MUSIC 42459			Bill Gaither Presents: A Gospel Bluegrass Homecoming Volume One
4	4	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS GAITHER MUSIC 42460			Bill Gaither Presents: A Gospel Bluegrass Homecoming Volume Two
5	5	70	NICKEL CREEK ● SUGAR HILL 3941			This Side
6	6	22	EARL SCRUGGS/DOC WATSON/RICKY SKAGGS ROUNDER 610526			The Three Pickers
7	7	14	JUNE CARTER CASH DUATONE 01142			Wildwood Flower
8	8	27	VARIOUS ARTISTS WARNER SPECIAL PRODUCTS 15828/TIME LIFE			Bluegrass Today
9	9	36	VARIOUS ARTISTS MADACY CHRISTIAN 3241/MADACY			Best Of Bluegrass Gospel
10	10	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS SMC/MG 18940/TIME LIFE			Heaven Bound: The Best Of Bluegrass Gospel
11	11	11	RHONDA VINCENT ROUNDER 610497 [M]			One Step Ahead
12	12	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS UNIVERSAL SPECIAL PRODUCTS 18701/TIME LIFE			Time-Life's Treasury Of Bluegrass
13	13	13	RICKY SKAGGS & KENTUCKY THUNDER SKAGGS FAMILY/LYRIC STREET 901004/HOLLYWOOD [M]			Live At The Charleston Music Hall
14	15	18	THE DEL MCCOURY BAND MCCOURY MUSIC 0001/SUGAR HILL [M]			It's Just The Night
15	RE-ENTRY	15	NATALIE MACMASTER ROUNDER 617056			Blueprint

Records with the greatest sales gains this week. Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album or single units or 25,000 DVD single units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million album or single units or 50,000 DVD single units (Platinum), with multimillion titles indicated by a numeral following the symbol. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER 27 2003 Billboard® HOT COUNTRY SINGLES SALES™

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan			Artist
			TITLE	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Weeks At Number 1	
1	1	5	REDNECK 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS/HERE'S YOUR SIGN CHRISTMAS WARNER BROS. 16507/WRN			Jeff Foxworthy/Bill Engvall
2	2	4	HURT ▲ ² AMERICAN 009770/LOST HIGHWAY			Johnny Cash
3	3	57	PICTURE ● UNIVERSAL SOUTH 172274			Kid Rock Featuring Allison Moorer
4	4	8	I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANYWHERE DREAMWORKS 001581/ANTERSCDPE			Scotty Emerick With Toby Keith
5	5	20	LONG BLACK TRAIN MCA NASHVILLE 000976/UMGN			Josh Turner
6	7	28	HELP POUR OUT THE RAIN (LACEY'S SONG) COLUMBIA 79885/SONY MUSIC			Buddy Jewell
7	6	25	BROKENHEARTSVILLE UNIVERSAL SOUTH 000782			Joe Nichols
8	10	16	YOU'RE STILL HERE WARNER BROS. 16647/WRN			Faith Hill
9	8	13	HONESTY (WRITE ME A LIST) CURB 73149			Rodney Atkins
10	—	21	CAN YOU HEAR ME WHEN I TALK TO YOU? LYRIC STREET 164075/HOLLYWOOD			Ashley Gearing

Legal Issues, Acquisitions Mark Publishing Year

Music publishers had plenty to cheer about at the start of 2003.

In a 7-2 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the 1998 Copyright Term Extension Act (CTEA) Jan. 15 in the case of *Eldred v. Ashcroft*.

"This is a ringing endorsement by the nation's highest court of the important principle that copyright protection supports creativity and free expression," commented National Music Publishers' Assn. (NMPA) president/CEO **Edward P. Murphy**.

"Congress had the foresight in enacting the CTEA to extend that principle into the 21st century, ensuring that the United States would continue its leadership role in the creation and dissemination of musical works," Murphy said. "Now, in upholding that law, the Supreme



MURPHY: SUPPORTING COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

Court has reaffirmed that copyright is 'the engine of free expression,' supplying 'the economic incentive to create and disseminate ideas.' "

The court found that the extension was both within Congress' power under the Copyright Clause of the Constitution and that it did not interfere with the First Amendment. The NMPA, along with ASCAP, the Assn. of Independent Music Publishers, BMI, the Church Music Publishers Assn. and the Music Publishers' Assn. of the United States, had filed a brief in support of the constitutionality of the CTEA as *amicus curiae* (friend of the court).

COPYRIGHT CASES: Copyright issues continued to be the focus of publishers' and songwriters' attention throughout the year, centering largely on unresolved major copyright-infringement cases.

Copyright owners scored a major victory in the ongoing copyright-infringement lawsuit against the combined file-swapping forces of Kazaa, Grokster and MusicCity (the operators of the Grokster and Morpheus services), which was initially filed in October 2001 in Los Angeles

federal court by music publishers, record labels and motion picture studios. The court in January denied the motions of Kazaa's Australian parent company, Sharman Networks, to dismiss the complaints for lack of jurisdiction against a foreign defendant.

But the court later ruled that the Grokster and Morpheus services were not liable for the illegal downloading and uploading of copyrighted works by their millions of users. In August, the NMPA, RIAA and Motion Picture Assn. of America jointly appealed the ruling to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco; all the briefs are in, and the appeal is scheduled to be heard Feb. 3, 2004, in Pasadena.

The Kazaa case, meanwhile, is still in the discovery process in District Court. Still pending, too, are the conclusions to the Napster and Aimster litigations.

In February, a group of songwriters and music publishers (**Jerry Leiber**, **Mike Stoller**, Frank Music Corp. and Peer International Corp.), which had previously teamed in a copyright-infringement suit against Napster contributing to its court-ordered stoppage in 2001,

continued its efforts against Internet piracy. The group filed a class action in a New York federal court on behalf of itself and a proposed class of music publishers represented by the Harry Fox Agency against Bertelsmann. The suit alleged Bertelsmann's "willful participation" in widespread copyright infringement by users of Napster—which Bertelsmann had rescued from certain bankruptcy with emergency funding in 2000.

The suit claimed that Bertelsmann did not then require Napster to halt its infringement practices and sought in excess of \$17 billion in damages. The EMI and Universal record companies have since joined in the action, which Bertelsmann sought to dismiss last summer. The parties now await a federal court decision as to whether the case can proceed.

As for Aimster, last year the file-swapping site appealed a Chicago federal court's preliminary injunction. It also appealed a contempt citation for failing to comply with the injunction.

After the injunction was affirmed in appeals court, Aimster petitioned the Supreme Court; the court is expected to decide by January whether to hear the case. Also awaited is a decision on the contempt appeal.

THE TOP STORIES

- The Supreme Court upholds the copyright-term extension.
- BMI's historic radio licensing deal.
- Warner/Chappell leads pubbery purchases.
- Continuing copyright infringement cases.
- Anti-war protest songs make a comeback.

In a case similar to Kazaa, publishers are now watching a record-company infringement suit in New York district court against iMESH, another peer-to-peer service based in Israel but incorporated in Delaware. But 2003 also brought hope that a corner in the war against digital copyright infringement had been turned.

A study issued in the fall by NPD

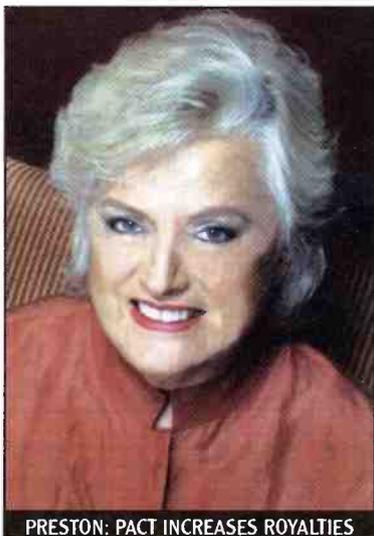
Words & Music
By Jim Bessman
jbessman@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

Group showed a marked decline in file sharing and that more people were deleting illegally obtained music kept on their computers.

Figures in August showed that an estimated 1.4 million households



PRESTON: PACT INCREASES ROYALTIES

had deleted all digital music files they saved on their PCs, up from 606,000 households in May—the first month of NPD tracking.

Additionally, file-sharing activity, as calculated by the number of households downloading digital

music from peer-to-peer services, dropped 11% from August to September, with the total number of files downloaded declining by 9%.

INTERNET ACTION: The RIAA, of course, spent much of the year trying to boost public awareness that downloading of music files without permission is illegal and unethical, actively targeting individuals who do so with lawsuits. Lawmakers helped out, with Sens. **John Cornyn**, R-Texas, and **Dianne Feinstein**, D-Calif., introducing in November the Artists' Rights and Theft Prevention Act, which would facilitate prosecution of pirates who upload prerelease material.

Also that month, Cornyn and Feinstein, together with Sen. **Orrin Hatch**, R-Utah, introduced the Enforce Act, a bill that would enable music publishers and labels to negotiate under the statutory license some royalties for new physical media. These would include, for example, fees for multiple versions of a song that appear on a new software configuration. The measure further modified the Copyright Act to permit civil damages for online infringement of specific tunes, instead of a per-album basis.

The spectacularly successful April launch of Apple Computer's iTunes Music Store enabled easy, legal song downloads and paved the way for numerous competing digital music stores—including Roxio's rejuvenated Napster.

BMI BONANZA: In August, a music licensing deal described as the largest ever involving the radio industry was struck by BMI and the Radio Music License Committee (RMLC), which represents all commercial U.S. radio stations other than those repped by the National Religious Broadcasters Music License Committee.

The agreement, covering the 10-year period from 1997 through 2006, involved commercial radio-station blanket and per-program licenses for BMI repertoire and settled a rate proceeding begun in 1999 by the RMLC in New York federal court.

According to BMI president/CEO **Frances W. Preston**, the new licenses amounted to an increase in BMI royalties and a predictable revenue stream from 2001 through 2006 totaling more than \$1 billion. The historic pact centered on the establishment of set licensing fees for the radio industry rather than fees based on a percentage of a station's revenue, as had been the practice, and averted what would have been a costly court battle.

WHEELING AND DEALING: **Edgar Bronfman Jr.**'s \$2.6 billion November acquisition of Warner Music Group included Time Warner's Warner/Chappell Music Publishing.

This followed reported interest by Viacom in purchasing the publishing treasure trove; in December, **Andrew Lloyd Webber** expressed his urge to buy Warner/Chappell from Bronfman's consortium.

Other key pubbery exchanges included Leiber & Stoller Music Publishing's May sale of its indie catalogs Trio Music Co. and Quartet Music to Windswept Classics and Japanese conglomerate Itochu Corp., for a reported \$60 million; U.K. classical music publisher Boosey & Hawkes' November sale to European private equity investor HgCapital; and Carlin America's July acquisition of CuestaLoeb Music from smooth jazz guitarist/composer **Chuck Loeb** and his singer/songwriter wife, **Carmen Cuesta Loeb**.



MELLENCAMP: LEADING-PROTEST CHARGE

At year's end, DreamWorks was reported to be on the verge of selling its publishing arm to Cherry Lane Music Publishing, with which it already had a catalog partnership.

PROTEST RENAISSANCE: The build-up to the war against Iraq brought about a veritable renaissance in protest songs, with controversial anti-war songs by such major names as **Steve Earle** and **John Mellencamp** offsetting the hawkish fare of **Charlie Daniels** and **Darryl Worley**. The Internet became the key clearinghouse for new protest music: Sonic Youth's **Thurston Moore** developed a new Web site, protest-records.com, expressly to assist in the creation and exposure of the rejuvenated genre.

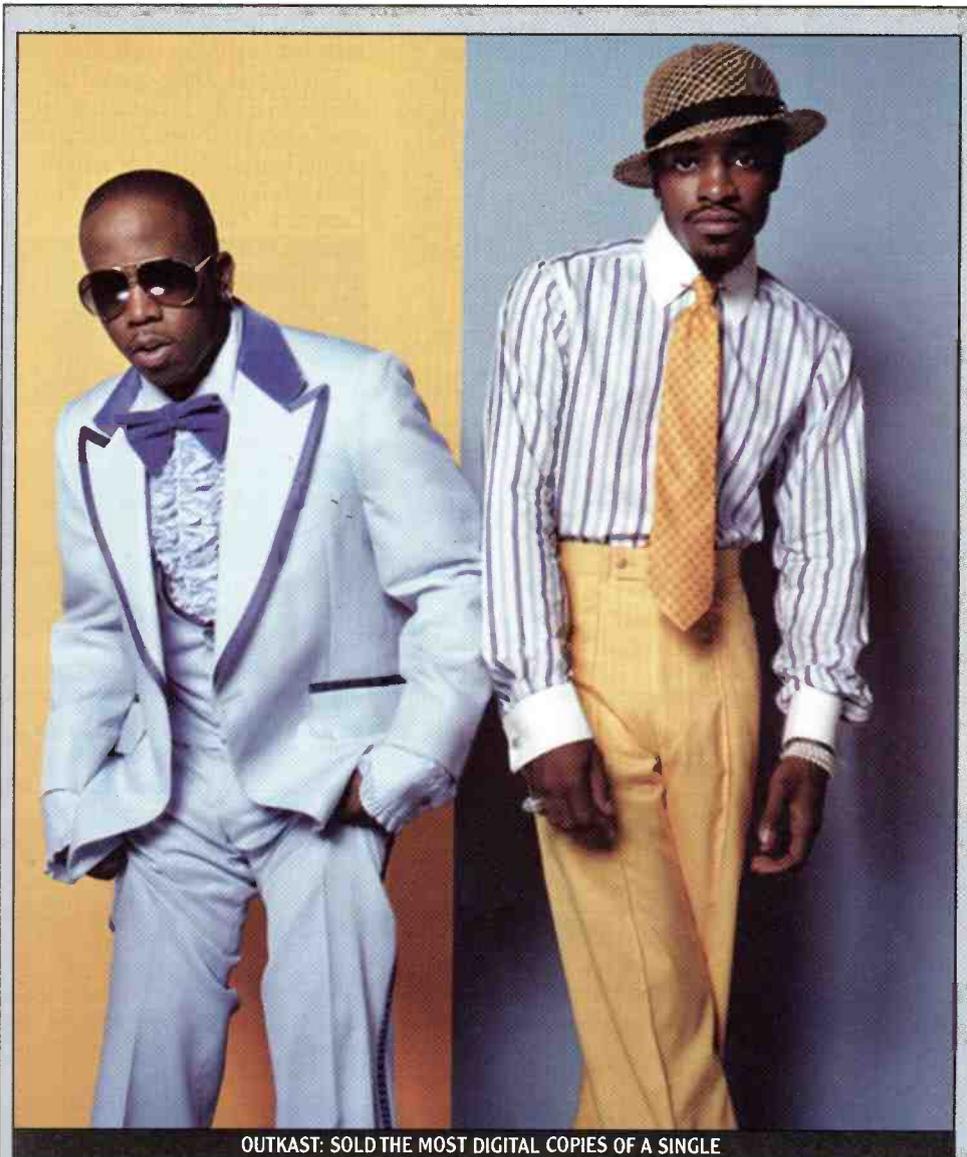
In the same way as it had begun, the year ended on a high note for publishers and songwriters. The mechanical-license royalty rate was increased, with the rate hiking to 8.5 cents for songs lasting less than five minutes, and 1.6 cents per minute for those lasting more than five minutes, effective Jan. 1, 2004, and running through Dec. 31, 2005. Previously, record companies paid 8 cents or 1.5 cents respectively per minute.



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OUTKAST: SOLD THE MOST DIGITAL COPIES OF A SINGLE

Digital Music Dominates In 2003

BY BRIAN GARRITY

NEW YORK—For the digital music business, 2003 was a break-out year.

Pay-per-downloads became a revenue-generating business during the past 12 months, with OutKast leading the pack in sales (see story, page 5) and winning the inaugural Billboard Music Award for digital track of the year, for the single "Hey Ya!" But major strides were also made in everything from portability and promotion to subscriptions and ring tones.

As AOL Music VP/GM Evan Harrison noted, 2003 was "the year to connect the dots" between digital music promotion and sales.

While piracy remained a major factor, operators of online music sales and promo-

tion services focused on developing consumer offerings that could better compete with free peer-to-peer services.

That effort was aided in large part by the labels' moves to clear massive amounts of their content for online distribution. While some top artists remained skittish about unbundling their content for sale through such digital services as iTunes, a growing number of chart-topping acts made their music available online.

Taking advantage of these trends, Apple Computer sold millions of downloads—a first for the digital format—through its much-hyped iTunes Music Store.

In the wake of Apple's success, a host of other leading media and technology brands

(Continued on page 59)

Closings, Ch. 11 Filings Rampant In Retail

BY ED CHRISTMAN

NEW YORK—The fallout from the 10.7% drop in album sales that made 2002 such a tough time for the music industry continued to reverberate throughout 2003, a year that will long be remembered for its Chapter 11 filings and store closings.

For those keeping count of such grim news, four chains and four wholesalers either filed for Chapter 11 protection or were liquidated, and upwards of 1,000 stores are believed to have closed in 2003.

Two major chains—Tower and Musicland—were involved in out-of-court restructurings that included management and/or ownership changes, while nervous product suppliers are keeping their fingers crossed that both will prove successful.

In an attempt to overcome the problems frustrating music sales, most chains remerchandised their stores to diversify product lines, resulting in album inventory being reduced. While that move appears to be paying dividends for stores, it continues to hurt labels.

With thousands of label jobs lost during the year to restructurings at Sony Music Entertainment and Universal Music Group, thousands more are at risk in the new year, as the architects of the Sony Music Group/BMG Entertainment merger and the Edgar Bronfman Jr.-led new owners of Warner Music Group look to achieve an estimated \$500 million in savings between them. Within those efforts, sales and distribution functions, having already undergone radical changes in the past 18 months, are expected to evolve further in 2004 (see Retail Track, page 59).

NOT A GOOD START

2003 began with bad news piling up fast. In January, the 405-unit Wherehouse Entertainment and the 125-unit Value Central Entertainment each filed for Chapter 11 protection, while the 125-unit Music Network, CD World and the Wiz tottered on the brink.

As bad as that news was, the bigger worry for product vendors at the time was the fate of Musicland, then owned by Best Buy. That month it said it would close 110 stores and ushered in a management change, with Musicland president Kevin Freeland exiting the company and being replaced

by executive VP Connie Fuhrman.

On the big-box front, Kmart closed 326 stores, which accounted for about \$45 million in music sales, and Gary Arnold, who started the Redline label for Best Buy, was brought back into the main business and put in charge of the chain's entertainment software department.

MUCH ADO ABOUT MUSICLAND

But of even more importance to the supplier community at the time was what Best Buy would do with Musicland, which it bought in early 2001. Fears that Best Buy would put Musicland in Chapter 11 were unfounded, as the consumer electronics entity forged a deal with Sun Capital to assume ownership of the chain in exchange for taking on its liabilities.

Since assuming Musicland's ownership, Sun Capital has worked quickly to turn the chain around.

Marc Leder, the Sun Capitol managing director overseeing Musicland, has put together a new management team of well-known and highly regarded executives under Eric Weisman, former CEO of Alliance Entertainment Corp., who was named vice chairman. Also on

board are Danny Yarbrough, former chairman of Sony Music Distribution, as vice chairman; Mike Madden, former president of Trans World Entertainment, who has been named Musicland president; and industry veteran Lew Garrett as president of purchasing.

During the year, Musicland moved to shutter about 300 stores. In addition to the 110 Best Buys that closed, the new team negotiated with landlords to get out of 189 more leases.

Musicland even became a factor in the disposition of Wherehouse as it contested Trans World and chairman/CEO Bob Higgins for ownership of that chain. Wherehouse, which began the year with 405 stores, was reduced to 111 by the time Trans World completed its acquisition of the chain.

The other big question mark during the year was Tower Records, although the major vendors are optimistic that Tower will eventually be sold to new owners with the deep pockets necessary to return the chain to a dominant force in music retailing.

(Continued on page 60)



HIGGINS: ACQUIRED WHEREHOUSE



LEDER: TURNING MUSICLAND AROUND

2003 IN REVIEW

THE TOP STORIES

- Chapter 11 filings and store closings pile up.
- Sun Capital assumes ownership of Musicland.
- Trans World Music buys Wherehouse Entertainment out of Chapter 11.
- Universal Music & Video Distribution introduces the controversial JumpStart program.

Indie Sector Has Shrunk—But Could Expand

The independent universe got smaller again this year. But other developments suggest that it may get bigger yet.

A year hasn't gone by recently without the demise of an independent distributor or two, and 2003 was no exception.

The major casualty was Southwest Wholesale, the Houston one-stop and distribution company. Southwest had got more deeply into distribution in 2002 and had

pared back its one-stop activities.

But its regionally focused efforts weren't enough to keep the company afloat during hard times. So in January, after rounds of layoffs, Southwest abruptly shut its doors.

Another ailing regional company, Chicago-area Midwest Artists Distribution, went belly up in April, after its principals filed for bankruptcy protection. Cash-poor MAD had been waiting in vain for a bailout from an outside investor since spring 2002.

Surviving regional indie distributors reported that business was tight in 2003. Most said that they had to seek exclusive agreements with their labels (once a rare practice among the regionals), slash their label rosters or seek more business at nontraditional retail outlets to keep their heads above water.

One of the most surprising developments of the year was the decision by Compendia Music Group in Nashville to fold its indie

distribution side.

Compendia, which primarily distributed its proprietary product,

The Indies
By Chris Morris
cmorris@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

opted to close its Georgia warehouse in October and move its wares—along with those of a handful of distributed labels—to Koch Entertainment Distribution.

On the other hand, some industry veterans sensed fresh opportunities in the contracting landscape and launched distribution operations.

Synergy Distribution, founded in late 2002 with former Electric Kingdom GM **Paul Schulman** as senior VP, kicked into gear. And **John Burns**, the former head of Universal's distribution activities,

ramped up a new Nashville-based firm, CBUJ Distribution.

As music sales continued to dwindle, most large indie distributors turned to handling more DVD product, which has become an increasingly large slice of their sales pie.

In one significant move, New Hope, Minn.-based Navarre Corp. purchased the assets of BCI Eclipse in Los Angeles. While BCI's holdings include a wealth of audio material, it was obviously the company's large catalog of DVD releases that was key to the acquisition.

As the landscape continued to contract on the major-label level, there were indications of a boon for the indies.

An increasing number of veteran acts gravitated to the indie sector after being cut out of the pack at the majors.

And labels the Big Five once handled began to land on the indies' doorstep. In the space of a month, Immortal Records, previously with Virgin, and Dualtone, formerly with BMG, each found a new home at RED Distribution.

In a year of general malaise and universal uncertainty, the magic word signifying a brighter future

among indies was "iTunes."

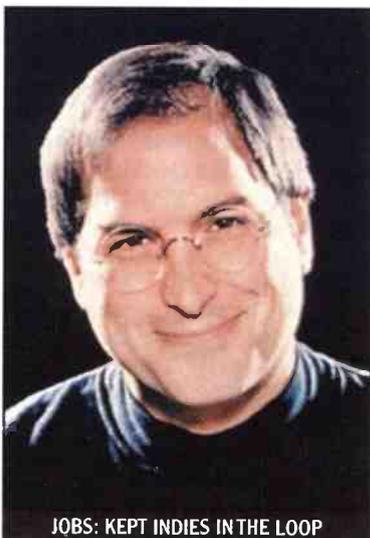
The introduction of Apple's iTunes Music Store—which was almost instantly lauded as the most user-friendly of legal online music distribution services—appeared to many as a portal to restored health for their business.

For its part, Apple opened the door with a June presentation by chief executive **Steve Jobs** and others for representatives of some 80 indie labels at the computer firm's Cupertino, Calif., headquarters. Most attendees walked away enthusiastic about iTunes' vow to make indies a major part of its content offerings.

While such indie-friendly online services as Liquid Audio, Emusic and listen.com have already been a force in the marketplace, the instant popularity of the iTunes store spurred independent distributors to take a more focused look at their online activities.

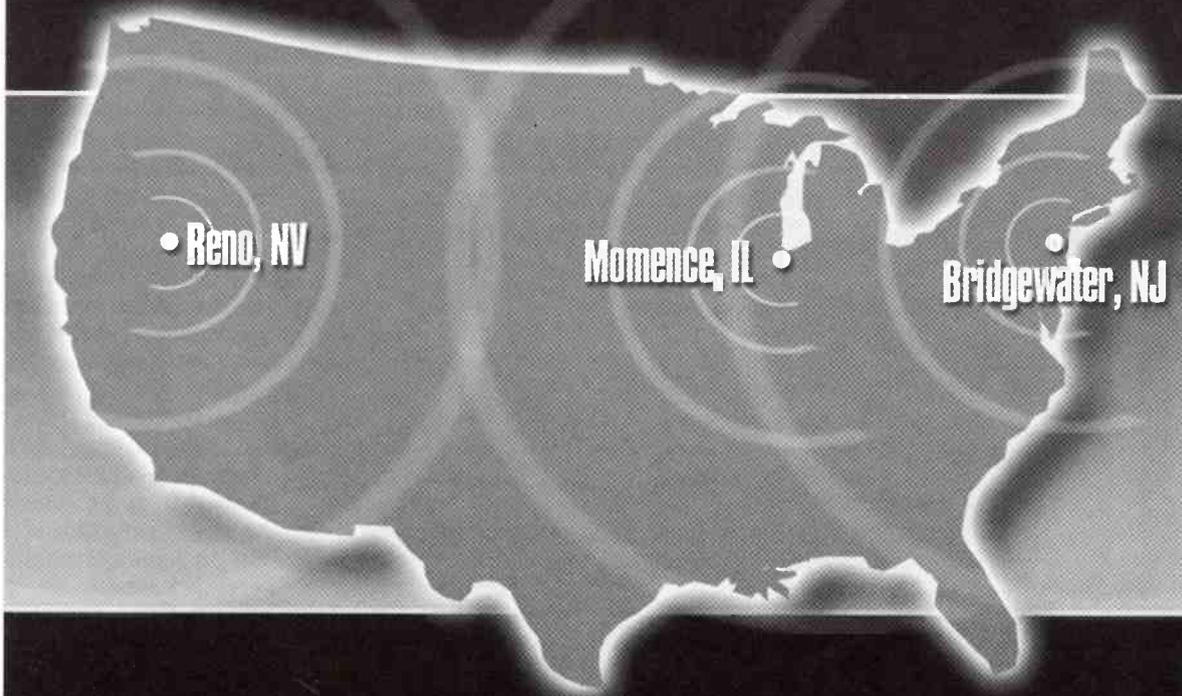
At year's end, companies like Portland, Ore.-based Burnside Distribution were solidifying their strategies for Web sales.

In a shrinking brick-and-mortar world, the Internet loomed in 2003 as a route to renewal and as the indies' next frontier.



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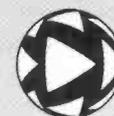
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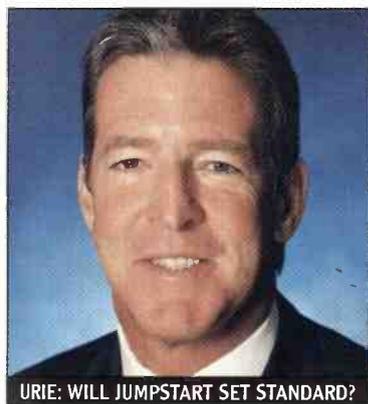


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Information and Entertainment Services

Retail Consolidation Fuels Distribution Restructurings

With retail consolidation changing the face of the account base, the label sales and distribution side of the business have been scrambling to keep pace in a year that saw significant moves, with more expected in the new year.

As it was, four of the five majors, with the exception of BMG Distribution, completed restructurings in 2003 (*Billboard*, Nov. 1), and now it looks like it will be BMG's turn. With the year drawing to a close, **Pete**



URIE: WILL JUMPSTART SET STANDARD?

Jones, who has headed the distribution company since 1987, is expected to become a consultant.

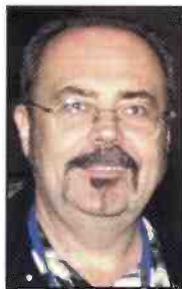
In his place, the senior management staff of BMG—**Bob Morrelli**, senior VP of marketing and branch operations; **Rick Wilcoxon**, senior VP of sales and marketing; and **George Clyne**, senior VP of finance and operations—are expected to oversee it until the BMG Entertainment merger with Sony Music Entertainment is completed. After that, a new entity likely will be shaped from BMG Distribution and Sony Music Distribution.

If that occurs, that will mark the second restructuring for SMD in less than a year, as the company was dismantled in May. The top three executives—**Danny Yarbrough**, **John Murphy** and **Craig Applequist**—all exited. In their place, Sony divided distribution

responsibilities between **Bill Frohlich**, who was named executive VP, overseeing the sales staff; and **Larry Hicks**, SMD senior VP of marketing and operations. The Sony labels' sales staff was combined into

Retail Track™

By Ed Christman
echristman@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

one under **Tom Donnarumma**, and he and Frohlich work closely crafting the company's sales and distribution effort.

WEA completed a restructuring in March by moving the company headquarters from the West Coast to New York, downsizing by 50 employees and tapping a new management team. President **John Esposito** was

already talking in October about making further changes to redefine the company. That move will undoubtedly be pushed along by **Edgar Bronfman Jr.**'s plans to squeeze an estimated \$175 million in savings as part of his acquisition of Warner Music Group.

Along the way, WMG sold its distribution and manufacturing facilities to Cinram for \$1.2 billion. The latter company outbid WEA CEO **Jim Caparro**, who wanted to use the facilities as part of a plan to become the back room for the majors in the U.S. After losing the bid, Caparro decided not to return to WEA.

EMI Music Distribution became EMI Music Marketing, with the company being reshaped as well. With the company getting shut out in the mergers and acquisition sweepstakes this year, industry observers expect it to abandon the manufacturing and distribution fulfillment side of the business and do some kind of a deal with a third party or another major next year.

The big news maker among the majors in 2003 was Universal Music & Video Distribution. Not only did it change its structure from the

branch system to be organized around retail channels, but UMVD also launched its controversial JumpStart program, which has roiled the marketplace like it hasn't been roiled in years.

The initiative, quarterbacked by UMVD president **Jim Urie**, attempted a sweeping remake of the industry's business model, and the jury is still out on its success.

But whether it is successful or not, the issues it addresses—lower in-store pricing and the attempted elimination of price-and-positioning dollars—will likely be the subject of many policy changes and discussions in the new year.

JumpStart's take on pricing was actually the culmination of almost 18 months of discussion, with retailers urging labels to lower prices. Even without JumpStart, during the year all the majors had made moves to repricer their catalogs and issue developing artists' product at lower prices and had become aggressive in offering either large discounts or rebates on superstar artists.

But another issue pushed by merchants—the revival of singles—did not fare as well.

Digital Music

Continued from page 57

also jumped into the pay-per-download business, viewing it as the future of music sales.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ON THE RISE

Harrison and others are quick to point out that downloading is not the only business opportunity for digital music. Consumer adoption and use of subscription services are also on the rise.

RealNetworks says that by the end of the year, users of its Rhapsody subscription service were playing more than 1 million songs per day.

The number of songs played through the services has been growing each month at double-digit rates.

Both Rhapsody and MusicNet on AOL claimed in excess of 100,000 subscribers to their services by the end of the year.

That said, 2003 was not without its share of turbulence for subscription companies.

The popularity surrounding à la carte downloads sparked much soul searching among subscription service operators.

Napster and MusicNow, a Chicago-based subscription operator, both launched download stores to complement their subscription offerings. Similarly, MusicNet and Rhapsody announced that they also plan to launch new download stores.

AOL inked a deal with Apple to dis-

tribute the iTunes Music Store. The deal enables AOL members to link to iTunes through the AOL service and to register for iTunes without re-entering their credit card information.

The subscription sector also weathered a midyear consolidation shakeout that resulted from slow growth.

Sony Music Entertainment and Universal Music Group sold their subscription service, Pressplay, to Roxio, which rebranded it as Napster.

Meanwhile, Real Networks bought listen.com, operator of the Rhapsody subscription service.

As part of that move, Real discontinued its distribution of MusicNet—a joint venture with Warner Music Group, BMG Entertainment and EMI Recorded Music—in favor of Rhapsody.

While such moves have led some to question the long-term commercial viability of subscriptions, Roxio CEO Chris Gorog has indicated that any competitive digital music offering will ultimately offer a mix of radio programming, subscription content and à la carte downloads.

Likewise, MusicNet CEO Alan McGlade has stated that "it's not an either/or proposition" when it comes to questions of subscription and à la carte.

Subscription businesses are also responding to the rise of services like iTunes by tweaking the price of CD burning in their monthly access packages and stressing the cost-effectiveness of their offers.

Listen.com lowered its price for burnable tracks through Rhapsody.

Rhapsody music service subscribers pay 79 cents per track when burning songs to a CD. Previously, CD burns cost 99 cents.

(Continued on page 60)

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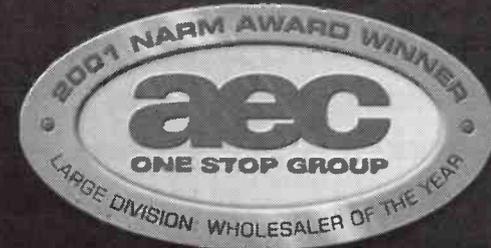
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Retail

Closings

Continued from page 57

As of late November, three rounds of bidding for Tower are said to have been completed. Tower management is presumed to be in negotiations with the winner of that process, which is hoped will result in the chain's sale.

To reach that goal, Tower continued the restructuring begun in early 2001. In 2003, E. Allen Rodriguez, formerly executive VP of Univision Communications, was brought in as president of the chain, which led to the departure of chairman Michael Solomon. Along the way, DeVaughan Seanson, who left Tower in 2001, returned as its CFO in the summer.

Also, Tower began the task of negotiating a debt-to-equity swap with bondholders, after defaulting on a \$5 million interest payment during the summer. Sources say that bondholders agreed to the deal, contingent upon the chain's sale. While all signs point to an imminent sale, if it derails, a Chapter 11 filing could still be the chain's fate.

NO-GO FOR MERGERS

Two mergers that were conceived in 2002 fell apart in 2003.

The 50/50 merger between Value Music and Central South in September 2002 quickly unraveled, and by January 2003, the Value Music owners were controlling the troubled company. According to sources, Central South had undercounted its liabilities by about \$3 million in accounts payable, which meant that many of its stores that looked profitable during the merger were in fact unprofitable. In a settlement, Randy Davidson, the former Central South owner, paid \$1.75 million to the merged company, forfeited his ownership stake and left the company.

But that solution couldn't keep the chain from filing for Chapter 11 protection. It emerged successfully in November, closing 65 stores along the way and cutting back on music to make room for new product lines.

Likewise, the merger between the 10-unit CD World and nine-unit Streetside ended in Chapter 11, with nine stores shuttered and the remaining stores sold to Trans World Entertainment.

Another chain formed through acquisitions, the 125-unit Music Network, was liquidated during the summer after nearly 18 months of trying to accomplish an out-of-court restructuring. In the end, only about five stores survived.

Liquidation also befell the Wiz, the consumer electronics chain that was once the most important R&B merchant in the U.S. Its owner, CableVision, sold the 17-unit chain in March to a liquidator, the Ozer Group, which filed Chapter 7.

On the wholesaling front, the good news of 2002 for Handleman—when it was named a critical vendor after the Chapter 11 filing of Kmart—became the worry for the company in 2003, when the new management of the discount department store chain challenged that ruling. It went to court to try and get Handleman to repay the \$49 million it received as a critical vendor in the early days after the Chapter 11 filing. Handleman is fighting the challenge.

But the Troy, Mich.-based rackjobber was busy on other fronts. It apparently was involved in secret negotiations to acquire Baker & Taylor but pulled out of those talks after shareholders protested the move. It has since sold its Madacy operation and its Anchor Bay video label operation, raising about \$100 million from the two sales.

Baker & Taylor was subsequently sold to financial firm Willis Stein & Partners for \$255 million, and Jim Ulsamer was named president of the company. The wholesaler, already a dominant force in video and books, vows to build its music business, which *Billboard* estimates is about \$75 million.

Meanwhile, in Florida, the biggest rival to Handleman and Baker & Taylor, Alliance Entertainment Corp., replaced Weisman's defection to Musicland by naming Alan Tuchman, who headed the one-stop operation, as president of the entire com-

pany. It also closed its Los Angeles will-call operation.

In the one-stop sector, Universal One-Stop in Philadelphia and Southwest Wholesale in Houston were liquidated, while Impact in Phoenix shuttered. Summit Entertainment, which racked the Meijers chain, filed for Chapter 11 protection and likely will be liquidated. Meanwhile, Arc in Cincinnati was sold to Sandusky Distributing Co. in Streetsboro, Ohio, which closed it.

Elsewhere in the wholesaling sector, Super D bought Phantom Sound & Vision in a deal believed to be valued at about \$10 million. Also going for what is believed to be in the same price range, Anil Narang and Joe Bianco acquired Long Island City, N.Y.-based Musicrama.

On the digital front, a consortium of retailers consisting of Best Buy, Hastings Entertainment, Tower Records, Trans World, Virgin Entertainment Group and Warehouse Entertainment formed Echo, in an attempt to compete with the services set up by the majors. Little has been heard from Echo since its formation. But the big news here was Anderson Merchandisers' acquisition of Liquid Audio. Renamed Liquid Digital Media, the company is expected to take Wal-Mart into the digital distribution age early next year.

On the people side, Pam Horovitz, who headed the National Assn. of Recording Merchandisers since 1988, left the industry for greener pastures, moving to a bed-and-breakfast trade group.

On a sadder note, the industry lost three giants in the deaths of Paul Smith, Henry Droz and Martin Spector.

Smith, who died Dec. 31, 2002, and Droz, who died March 26, shaped the industry business practices when they were rivals as the heads of Sony Music Distribution and WEA, respectively, from the mid-1970s through the mid-1990s. And Spector, who died Sept. 24, was a retail pioneer who founded the Spec's chain in 1948.

While the industry puts a tough year behind it, the closures and consolidations that occurred during the past 12 months leave in their wake at least a relatively healthy account base.

Digital

Continued from page 59

Listen executives are billing the pricing strategy as an advantage of subscription services over à la carte for heavy music consumers.

The ability to untether music from the computer emerged as a key element to the commercial development of the digital music marketplace in the past year.

The growing buzz surrounding the iPod, both in the media and among consumers, led a host of consumer electronics companies and computer makers to develop similar devices and start download services to feed them content. Hewlett-Packard, Dell, Gateway and

Samsung all announced in the second half of 2003 that they would launch digital music devices and affiliate themselves with accompanying music stores.

Driving their interest in the music space was not the 99-cent download business but rather that portable players typically retail for \$250 and higher. Interest in the iPod is growing. Apple says it has sold more than 1.4 million iPods to date.

In its fiscal fourth quarter ended Sept. 27, the company sold 336,000 iPods—up 11% from the preceding third quarter, when 304,000 units were sold—and up 140% from fourth-quarter 2002, when 140,000 units were sold.

MUSIC GOES MOBILE

The cell phone may not replace the iPod or the Walkman anytime soon, but music geared for playback on wireless

handsets was also on the rise in 2003.

Sprint PCS reported sales of more than 10 million ring tones and screen-savers, at a price of \$1.50-\$2.50 each, through its PCS Vision wireless network since its bow in 2002.

During the past 12 months, the company inked deals with Sony for high-quality ring tones and Warner Music Group for a streaming-music service in an effort to grow the ring-tone business.

AT&T Wireless made similar moves with the major labels in support of its new mMode wireless Internet service.

Label executives say they are looking to line up the mobile music experience against the traditional marketing promotion cycle for new albums.

The labels were also increasingly looking to such online services as AOL Music and Yahoo's Launch to promote new music.

U.K. Vid Biz Dealt With Piracy, Pricing Issues

BY SAM ANDREWS

LONDON—Price and piracy dominated debate in the U.K. home video industry in 2003, as retailers fought what seemed to be an increasingly desperate battle for market share in the DVD sector.

A growing range of price promotions on relatively recent releases saw two DVDs for £22 (\$38.60) mutate into three for £20 (\$35.10) and then five for £30 (\$52.62). The ever-present “buy one, get one free” promotions also helped underpin the impression that the industry was intent on fulfilling former Warner Home Video (WHV) president Warren Lieberfarb’s vision of paperback book pricing for movies.

Distributors—all the while protesting that they could not affect pricing in stores—regularly chimed about the dangers inherent in driving the cost of DVDs down so early in the product’s life cycle.

In May, WHV U.K. managing director Neil McEwan was the first to attack the problem, saying it would destroy the catalog DVD business.

“If we continue down the path of offering progressively cheaper price deals, it seems unlikely there will be a catalog business at all in two years’ time,” he said.

Also in the spring, Virgin’s then-

managing director Andy Randall (who is now at Staples) criticized the way that distributors “dictate the promotions that we have available for our customers.”

Randall called on retailers not to accept generic distributor promotions but to tailor their own campaigns to suit their customers. He said, “There is no doubt customers are saying that if we want to be really successful in this market, if all we give them is chart releases priced the same as the supermarkets, then they will go to the supermarket.”

Richard Iazard, commercial director at the U.K.’s biggest entertainment retailer, Woolworth’s, concurred in August. He said that in the days when stores took £2 (\$3.51) off the recommended retail price (RRP) of a VHS tape, they could live with that. But these days, “we are expected to take £7 [\$12.30], £8 [\$14.03] or £9 [\$15.80] off the RRP of a DVD, and that is completely unsustainable for us.”

PRICE-CUTTING PROBLEMS

Bruno Carlson, executive VP/managing director for MGM Home Entertainment Europe, noted analyst Screen Digest’s estimate that across Europe, DVD prices have declined more than 30% since 1998. Carlson said, “I think the prices have

helped enormously to drive the business and get consumer acceptance, but there comes a point where we have to stop . . . we all have to take responsibility for this.”

The problem hasn’t just affected the majors and the big retailers. Screen Digest suggested that independent DVD distributors were also suffering the effects of cut pricing. Its December



IZARD: RETAILERS MUST TAILOR THEIR OWN PRICING CAMPAIGNS

report—“Moving Into Profit: Independent DVD Publishing in Europe”—revealed that “heavy discounting in-store is putting pressure on the financial viability of all but the most efficient producer.”

Reflecting on the discounting of “Titanic,” Alan McQueen, sales director of art-house label World Cinema, asked: “If the biggest box-office-grossing film of all time is only valued at £5.99 [\$10.51], what value do you put on something that has taken nothing? What is the point of devaluing

our own marketplace? It’s like shooting yourself in the foot; it’s crazy.”

TWO-TIMING

WHV’s controversial two-tier pricing strategy also created debate. Under the initiative, retailers and rental dealers are charged different prices for the same product using the provisions under the European Commission’s Rental Right Directive. It gained unanimous acceptance among the major distributors.

Typically charging rental dealers around £30 to £35 (\$52.62 to \$61.42) for the right to rent a title, the pricing policy also eliminated the old six-month rental-to-sell-through window so that greater marketing spend could be concentrated on a release.

The studios argued that the sales and rental figures bore out their argument that it would boost sell-through without harming rental, but rental dealers, especially independents, still bitterly resented the move.

They formed a new association—the Rental Industry Trade Assn.—which has linked with the newly formed European Rental Committee in Brussels. The ERC is charged with contacting dealer representatives worldwide, according to RITA chairman Roger Noel. “At the moment, studios quite happily divide and conquer. Unless there is a liaison between dealers worldwide,

we can never voice an effective opposition to any moves that the studios want to bring against us,” he said.

The pricing argument raged all year, and the piracy debate also became red hot at the beginning of 2003 as counterfeit copies of such Oscar screeners as “The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,” “Chicago” and “Die Another Day” flooded the U.K. market.

Anti-piracy watchdog FACT revealed that counterfeit disc seizures reached a record 1.3 million in 2003. The trade-sponsored body added that it manages to capture around 2% to 3% of the discs imported from such countries as Russia, Malaysia, Pakistan and China into Britain.

Nigel Green, joint head of “LOTR” rights-holder Entertainment Film Distributors, was appointed to lead an anti-piracy task force for the U.K. Film Council to determine how to best defeat the problem.

However, an attempt by distributor trade body the British Video Assn. to get cross-industry support for a comprehensive anti-piracy campaign foundered as retailers failed to respond.

Chairman Marek Antoniak said the BVA would try to reignite the campaign in 2004, and director general Lavinia Carey said the association would concentrate on persuading retailers to join the initiative.

2004 Will Be About Managing The DVD Boom

Cash registers will be full of DVD dollars next year, as the home video industry continues to reap sales profits with a slate of top releases. Look for such final installments of film franchises as “The Matrix Revolutions” (Warner Home Video) and “The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King” (New Line Home Entertainment) to do exceedingly well.

But there are numerous challenges on the horizon. Concerns about how to fight piracy, how to manage the continued shift away from VHS and how to keep DVD such a hot format will be the main discussion points in 2004.

An overview of the news and trends that the industry grappled with in 2003 and year-end charts will appear in the Jan. 10, 2004, issue. Here, several executives tell *Billboard* which issues will be top of mind for them next year and which titles they have kicking off the first quarter.

• Artisan Home Entertainment

president **Steve Beeks**: “The seminal issue in 2004 will be, What is going to happen to the rental market and how we help our rental partners remain successful? It is showing signs of health even in this world of sell-through DVDs. Also, everybody agrees that by the end of



BEES: ‘WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE RENTAL MARKET?’

next year, with the exception of genres like exercise and children’s [product], VHS will be between 5% and 10% of the business. Inventory control will be important.”

First-quarter releases: Fisher Price baby-development line launch with “Musical Baby” and “Baby’s Day” (Jan. 27) and “House of the Dead” (Jan. 27).

• Eagle Vision president **Steve Sterling**: “The pressure of piracy will get worse before it gets better. The studios will be leading the charge next year. They have shown little tolerance for piracy so far. Another point will be if the industry can handle the transition to [high-definition] DVD. Can we manage this so that there isn’t

four years of consumer confusion over the different formats?”

First-quarter releases: “Janet Jackson: The Velvet Rope” (Feb. 24), “Bee Gees: One Night Only” (March 23), “Celebrity Mole: Hawaii” (March 23) and “Jewel: Live From Humphrey’s” (March 23).

• MGM Home Entertainment executive VP of worldwide marketing **Blake Thomas**: “We are thinking about a couple of things that are not really problems, more like things that need to be managed. One is the state of VHS. We are trying to figure out how to manage the decline of that format to make sure our customers that don’t yet have DVD [players] are still able to enjoy our movies. The ongoing question is, Will the power of the DVD technology continue to keep new entrants into the category as avid about purchasing?”

First-quarter releases: “Out of Time” (Jan. 6), “Uptown Girls” (Jan. 6), “Green Acres—The Complete First Season” (Jan. 13), “Rain Man” special edition (Feb. 3), “Pieces of April” (Feb. 24) and

“Good Boy!” (March 2).

• Universal Studios Home Video president **Craig Kornblau**: “Our rerelease of ‘Scarface’ was timed to coincide with a growing surge in the film’s popularity among hip-hop and urban audiences. It’s not always enough to respond to an

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By Jill Kipnis
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2003 IN REVIEW

audience trend. Sometimes you have to look ahead and forecast what will be happening months, even a year, from now.”

First-quarter releases: “American Wedding” (Jan. 2), “Bring It On Again” (Jan. 13), “Johnny English” (Jan. 13) and “Lost in Translation” (Feb. 3).

• Virgin Entertainment senior VP of product and marketing **Dave**

Alder: “I think we are going to see continued discounting of new releases, which will only serve to compress margins for specialists. The ineffectiveness of studios to impose controls around street date is another ongoing issue which we’d like to see resolved. We are also probably going to see the near-elimination of VHS next year. We’re at a point now where there aren’t too many blockbuster catalog titles still sitting in the vaults, with the exception of ‘Star Wars.’ It will be a challenge to the industry to continue to repackage already-released DVD titles.”

First-quarter top sales picks: “Curb Your Enthusiasm—The Complete First Season” (HBO/Warner, Jan. 13), “Once Upon a Time in Mexico” (Columbia TriStar, Jan. 20), “Lost in Translation” (Universal, Feb. 3) and “Under the Tuscan Sun” (Buena Vista, Feb. 3).

Other notable first-quarter releases include “Underworld” (Columbia TriStar, Jan. 6), “Alice in Wonderland—Masterpiece Edition” (Buena Vista, Jan. 27), “Matchstick Men” (Warner, Feb. 24), “School of Rock” (Paramount, March 2) and “House of Sand and Fog” (DreamWorks Home Entertainment, date TBA).

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Billboard TOP DVD SALES

Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	RATING	PRICE
1			NUMBER 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31663	Johnny Depp Orlando Bloom	PG-13	29.98
2	5	6	FINDING NEMO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62155	Animated	G	29.98
3	2	2	BRUCE ALMIGHTY (PAN & SCAN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 022822	Jim Carrey Jennifer Aniston	PG-13	26.98
4	3	2	BRUCE ALMIGHTY (WIDESCREEN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 022823	Jim Carrey Jennifer Aniston	PG-13	26.98
5	1	2	X2: X-MEN UNITED (WIDESCREEN) FOXVIDEO 09197	Hugh Jackman Halle Berry	PG-13	29.98
6	7	3	THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS EXTENDED EDITION (WIDESCREEN) NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 06504	Elijah Wood Ian McKellen	PG-13	39.98
7	8	3	THE SANTA CLAUSE 2 (PAN & SCAN) WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31155	Tim Allen	G	29.98
8	4	2	X2: X-MEN UNITED (PAN & SCAN) FOXVIDEO 09205	Hugh Jackman Halle Berry	PG-13	29.98
9	19	4	NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION WARNER HOME VIDEO 27536	Chevy Chase Beverly D'Angelo	PG-13	19.98
10	NEW		LAND BEFORE TIME X: THE GREAT LONGNECK MIGRATION UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23093	Animated	G	24.98
11	6	9	THE LION KING (PLATINUM EDITION) WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62174	Animated	G	29.98
12	15	4	TERMINATOR 3 - RISE OF THE MACHINES (WIDESCREEN) WARNER HOME VIDEO 27723	Arnold Schwarzenegger	R	29.98
13	23	7	THE ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES (WIDESCREEN) PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 61254	Harrison Ford	PG-13	69.98
14	17	7	THE ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES (PAN & SCAN) PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 56594	Harrison Ford	PG-13	69.98
15	10	3	THE SANTA CLAUSE 2 (WIDESCREEN) WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31156	Tim Allen	G	29.98
16	9	5	LEGALLY BLONDE 2: RED, WHITE AND BLONDE MGM HOME ENTERTAINMENT 05635	Reese Witherspoon Sally Field	PG-13	27.98
17	NEW		ALIAS: COMPLETE SECOND SEASON WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 32407	Jennifer Garner	NR	69.98
18	RE-ENTRY		IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 10013	James Stewart Donna Reed	NR	19.98
19	RE-ENTRY		A CHRISTMAS STORY 20TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION WARNER HOME VIDEO 65764	Peter Billingsley	PG	26.98
20	NEW		ALIEN QUADROLOGY FOXVIDEO 09847	Sigourney Weaver	R	99.98
21	28	4	TERMINATOR 3 - RISE OF THE MACHINES (PAN & SCAN) WARNER HOME VIDEO 27722	Arnold Schwarzenegger	R	29.98
22	16	3	LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE (WIDESCREEN) PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 40724	Angelina Jolie	PG-13	29.98
23	RE-ENTRY		THE MATRIX RELOADED (PAN & SCAN) WARNER HOME VIDEO 21951	Keanu Reeves Laurence Fishburne	R	29.98
24	RE-ENTRY		CHRISTMAS WITH THE SIMPSONS FOXVIDEO 08993	Animated	NR	14.98
25	RE-ENTRY		THE MATRIX RELOADED (WIDESCREEN) WARNER HOME VIDEO 28648	Keanu Reeves Laurence Fishburne	R	29.98
26	18	3	LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE (PAN & SCAN) PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 56834	Angelina Jolie	PG-13	29.98
27	13	2	X-MEN COLLECTION, THE: X2/X-MEN 1.5 (WIDESCREEN) FOXVIDEO 09663	Hugh Jackman Halle Berry	PG-13	39.98
28	RE-ENTRY		BARBIE OF SWAN LAKE ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 14476	Animated	NR	19.98
29	NEW		RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER SONY WONDER 54339	Animated	NR	19.98
30	RE-ENTRY		THE MATRIX WARNER HOME VIDEO 17737	Keanu Reeves Laurence Fishburne	R	19.98
31	24	2	MARY-KATE & ASHLEY OLSEN - THE CHALLENGE WARNER HOME VIDEO 34216	Mary-Kate & Ashley Olsen	NR	19.98
32	RE-ENTRY		SCARFACE (WIDESCREEN) SPECIAL EDITION UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 23157	Al Pacino Michelle Pfeiffer	R	26.98
33	NEW		WHITE CHRISTMAS PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 61047	Bing Crosby Danny Kaye	NR	19.98
34	11	13	CHICAGO (WIDESCREEN) MIRAMAX HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30700	Renee Zellweger Catherine Zeta-Jones	PG-13	29.98
35	RE-ENTRY		FRIENDS - THE COMPLETE FIFTH SEASON WARNER HOME VIDEO 24249	Jennifer Aniston Matthew Perry	NR	44.98
36	RE-ENTRY		HOLES (WIDESCREEN) WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31662	Shia LaBeouf Khelo Thomas	PG-13	29.98
37	RE-ENTRY		SINBAD: LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS (WIDESCREEN) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 090837	Animated	PG	26.98
38	RE-ENTRY		DADDY DAY CARE (SPECIAL EDITION) COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 01713	Eddie Murphy	PG	27.98
39	NEW		HOT WHEELS: WORLD RACE ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 14936	Animated	NR	19.98
40	NEW		SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS - CHRISTMAS PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 79134	Animated	NR	19.98

DECEMBER 27 2003

Billboard TOP VHS SALES

Sales data compiled by Nielsen VideoScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	YEAR OF RELEASE	RATING	PRICE
1			NUMBER 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31660	Johnny Depp Orlando Bloom	2003	PG-13	24.98
2	1	5	FINDING NEMO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30081	Animated	2003	G	24.98
3	2	3	THE SANTA CLAUSE 2 WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31158	Tim Allen	2003	G	22.98
4	3	2	BRUCE ALMIGHTY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 061278	Jim Carrey Jennifer Aniston	2003	PG-13	22.98
5	NEW		THE LAND BEFORE TIME X: THE GREAT LONGNECK MIGRATION UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 61408	Animated	2003	G	19.98
6	4	2	X2: X-MEN UNITED (SPECIAL EDITION) FOXVIDEO 09210	Hugh Jackman Halle Berry	2003	PG-13	22.98
7	8	10	BARBIE OF SWAN LAKE ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 14470	Animated	2003	NR	19.98
8	5	3	SINBAD: LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 090840	Animated	2003	PG	24.98
9	13	28	NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION WARNER HOME VIDEO 11893	Chevy Chase	1989	PG-13	14.98
10	6	2	MARY-KATE & ASHLEY OLSEN - THE CHALLENGE WARNER HOME VIDEO 34215	Mary-Kate & Ashley Olsen	2003	NR	14.98
11	10	18	RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER SONY WONDER/SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 54048	Animated	1964	NR	9.98
12	15	46	A CHRISTMAS STORY WARNER FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 65045	Darren McGavin Peter Billingsley	1983	PG	8.98
13	16	52	IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 20623	James Stewart Donna Reed	1946	NR	14.98
14	19	5	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS - CHRISTMAS PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 79133	Spongebob Squarepants	2003	G	12.98
15	18	10	CHRISTMAS! NICKELODEON VIDEO/PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 876883	Dora The Explorer	2002	NR	12.98
16	9	4	TERMINATOR 3: RISE OF THE MACHINES WARNER HOME VIDEO 23249	Arnold Schwarzenegger	2003	R	22.98
17	7	9	THE LION KING (PLATINUM EDITION) WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30420	Animated	1994	G	24.98
18	21	6	DR. SEUSS: CAT IN THE HAT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 89002	Animated	1985	NR	9.98
19	NEW		DADDY DAY CARE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 10031	Eddie Murphy	2003	PG	14.98
20	17	23	HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 85825	Jim Carrey	2000	PG	14.98
21	NEW		BEETHOVEN'S 5TH UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 62246	John Larroquette Kathy Griffin	2003	G	19.98
22	12	6	THE HULK (SPECIAL EDITION) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 60843	Eric Bana Jennifer Connelly	2003	PG-13	22.98
23	NEW		HOT WHEELS: WORLD RACE ARTISAN HOME ENTERTAINMENT 14933	Animated	2003	NR	14.98
24	RE-ENTRY		BOB THE BUILDER: A CHRISTMAS TO REMEMBER HIT ENTERTAINMENT 24110	Animated	2003	NR	14.98
25	RE-ENTRY		WHITE CHRISTMAS PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 61043	Bing Crosby Danny Kaye	1954	NR	9.98

RIAA gold cert. for sales of 50,000 units or \$1 million in sales at suggested retail. RIAA platinum cert. for sales of 100,000 units or \$2 million in sales at suggested retail. IRMA gold certification for a minimum of 125,000 units or a dollar volume of \$9 million at retail for theatrically released programs, or of at least 25,000 units and \$1 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. IRMA platinum certification for a minimum sale of 250,000 units or a dollar volume of \$18 million at retail for theatrically released programs, and of at least 50,000 units and \$2 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen VideoScan. All rights reserved.

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Billboard TOP DVD RENTALS

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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	RATING
1			NUMBER 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31663	Johnny Depp Orlando Bloom	PG-13
2	1	2	BRUCE ALMIGHTY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 002823	Jim Carrey Jennifer Aniston	PG-13
3	2	2	X2: X-MEN UNITED FOXVIDEO 09197	Hugh Jackman Halle Berry	PG-13
4	5	3	THE SANTA CLAUSE 2 WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31156	Tim Allen	G
5	4	3	LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 40724	Angelina Jolie	PG-13
6	3	4	TERMINATOR 3 - RISE OF THE MACHINES WARNER HOME VIDEO 27723	Arnold Schwarzenegger	R
7	7	4	DUMB AND DUMBERER: WHEN HARRY MET LLOYD NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT/WARNER HOME VIDEO 06732	Derek Richardson Eric Christian Olsen	NR
8	9	9	THE ITALIAN JOB PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30474	Mark Wahlberg Charlize Theron	PG-13
9	8	5	LEGALLY BLONDE 2: RED, WHITE AND BLONDE MGM HOME ENTERTAINMENT 05635	Reese Witherspoon Sally Field	PG-13
10	6	5	FINDING NEMO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 62155	Animated	G

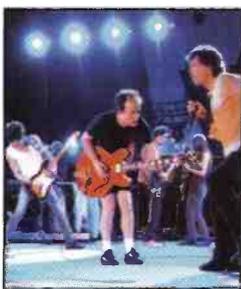
DECEMBER 27 2003

Billboard TOP VHS RENTALS

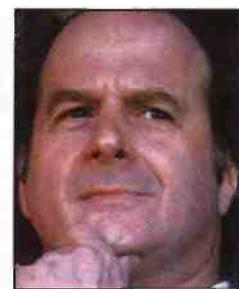
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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE LABEL/DISTRIBUTING LABEL & NUMBER	Principal Performers	RATING
1	1	2	NUMBER 1 BRUCE ALMIGHTY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOME VIDEO 061278	Jim Carrey Jennifer Aniston	PG-13
2	NEW		PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31660	Johnny Depp Orlando Bloom	PG-13
3	3	3	THE SANTA CLAUSE 2 WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 31158	Tim Allen	G
4	2	2	X2: X-MEN UNITED FOXVIDEO 09210	Hugh Jackman Halle Berry	PG-13
5	4	3	LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 40723	Angelina Jolie	PG-13
6	5	4	TERMINATOR 3: RISE OF THE MACHINES WARNER HOME VIDEO 23249	Arnold Schwarzenegger	R
7	6	5	FINDING NEMO WALT DISNEY HOME ENTERTAINMENT/BUENA VISTA HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30081	Animated	G
8	NEW		IN HELL COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 00694	Jean-Claude van Damme	R
9	10	11	DADDY DAY CARE COLUMBIA TRISTAR HOME ENTERTAINMENT 10031	Eddie Murphy	PG
10	9	9	THE ITALIAN JOB PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT 30473	Mark Wahlberg Charlize Theron	PG-13

IRMA gold certification for a minimum of 125,000 units or a dollar volume of \$9 million at retail for theatrically released programs, or of at least 25,000 units and \$1 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. IRMA platinum certification for a minimum sale of 250,000 units or a dollar volume of \$18 million at retail for theatrically released programs, and of at least 50,000 units and \$2 million at suggested retail for nontheatrical titles. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.



Global



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JONES: HELPED EMI HAVE A SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN EUROPE

U.K. Market Holds Up In Tough Year For Europe

BY EMMANUEL LEGRAND

LONDON—The European music industry had a rough 2003.

Conditions continued to deteriorate in most markets. The U.K., maintaining its position as the world's third-largest market, was one of the few bright spots.

2003 IN REVIEW

Increased CD shipments in the U.K. maintained the market's steady revenue throughout the year. However, average retail prices for CD albums fell 2.4% in third-quarter 2003 from the previous year, according to the British Phonographic Industry (BPI).

The U.K.'s traditionally strong retail base and good album per-

EUROPE: THE TOP STORIES

- European governments belatedly begin adopting the EU Copyright Directive.
- Justin Timberlake and Beyoncé are multiple winners at the MTV Europe Awards in Edinburgh, Scotland.
- International music trade fair PopKomm confirms a 2004 move to Berlin.
- European Commission unveils a draft Enforcement Directive aimed at harmonizing protection of intellectual property rights.
- Warner Music International and Sony Music restructure their European operations.

formances from such domestic acts as Robbie Williams, Coldplay, Dido, Radiohead and the Darkness contributed to the market's healthy performance.

The country's singles market, however, posted a 38% drop in unit shipments during the first nine months of 2003 compared with the same period in 2002. Most executives agree that measures are needed to boost singles sales, although not all agree on the remedies.

BPI executive chairman Peter Jamieson recently suggested that legal downloads could help revive U.K. singles. However, at a retail level, there are mixed views.

"I have no problem with legal downloads," HMV Group COO Brian McLaughlin says, "but can" *(Continued on page 65)*

Ill Health Dogged Asia Biz This Year

BY STEVE McCURE

TOKYO—It's an understatement to say that 2003 was a challenging year for the Asian music industry.

While physical piracy continued to ravage markets such as Taiwan and Malaysia, the new scourge of illegal online file sharing gravely affected South Korea and Taiwan.

2003 IN REVIEW

Physical piracy and file sharing had a less serious effect on the region's biggest market, Japan, but music sales continued an inexorable slide there. As a result, recorded music shipments fell throughout the region during the year.

As if all that weren't enough, the region's music industry—along with the rest of society—was hit by the unexpected shock of Southeast Asia's SARS epidemic in the spring.

The SARS crisis was a double-edged sword. In its first phase, fear of infection kept people away from such public places as CD stores, and music sales suffered. But as time passed, more and more people ventured out of the house

ASIA: THE TOP STORIES

- Piracy continues to cut into music shipments regionally.
- SARS outbreak affects Asian business.
- Music sales keep falling in Japan.
- Malaysia government to impose CVD, VCD price controls.
- South Korea announces end to ban on Japanese pop music.

to buy lots of CDs and DVDs to keep the entire household entertained until the epidemic ran its course.

Meanwhile, the more figurative plagues of piracy, file sharing and CD burning posed serious challenges for the industry.

In February, the Recording Industry Assn. of Japan won a landmark legal victory against Tokyo-based company MMO Japan, which had been distributing a Japanese-language version of *(Continued on page 66)*

DVD, Local Repertoire Keep Oz Market Afloat

BY CHRISTIE ELIEZER

MELBOURNE—The rise of DVD and the strength of local repertoire helped insulate Australasian music markets against the chill experienced elsewhere in 2003.

2003 IN REVIEW

Industry insiders expect the Australian market to show overall value growth for 2003, maintaining the trend of the first half. Meanwhile, sources in New Zealand predict a value decline there of about 2%.

According to labels body the Australian Record Industry Assn. (ARIA), the performance of music DVD helped the overall music market grow 5.2% in value terms during the first half, to *(Continued on page 66)*

AUSTRALIA: THE TOP STORIES

- Australian labels initiate criminal charges against online pirates.
- BMG Australia and Festival Mushroom Records shutter their BFM distribution network.
- New Zealand government creates the Music Industry Export Development Group.
- A Sydney court orders three universities to give labels access to their computer networks to seek out illegal file-sharing sites.
- The Australian music biz fears the scrapping of radio quotas and government funding following free-trade talks with the U.S.



JAPAN		UNITED KINGDOM		FRANCE		GERMANY	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
(IDEMPA PUBLICATIONS INC.) 12/16/03		(THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS CO.) 12/15/03		(SNEP/AFOP/TITE-LIVE) 12/06/03		(MEDIA CONTROL) 12/16/03	
SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES	
1	1	1	NEW	1	2	1	4
TENOHIRA/KURUMI MR. CHILDREN TOY'S FACTORY		CHANGES OZZY & KELLY DSBOURNE SANCTUARY		HEY OH TRAGEDIE UP MUSIC		SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS A&M	
2	11	2	1	2	NEW	2	2
YOROKOBI NO UTA MONGOL800 HIGH WAVE		LEAVE RIGHT NOW WILL YOUNG S		L'ORANGE ET WOT STAR ACADEMY 3 MERCURY		FREE LIKE THE WIND ALEXANDER HANSA	
3	2	3	2	3	1	3	5
LACK PORN0 GRAFFITTI SONY		SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS A&M		MON ETOILE LINKUP ULM		DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS? TV ALLSTARS POLYDOR	
4	3	4	3	4	4	4	1
LOVE LOVE MANHATTAN TKDIX UNIVERSAL		I'M YOUR MAN SHANE RICHIE BMG		LA BAMBA STAR ACADEMY 3 MERCURY		MUSIC IS THE KEY SARAH CONNOR FT. NATURALLY 7 COLUMBIA	
5	8	5	NEW	5	5	5	9
YOUR NAME NEVER GONE CHEMISTRY DEFSTAR		SANTA'S LIST CLIFF RICHARD LIBERTY		LOVE'S DIVINE SEAL WEA		BEHIND BLUE EYES LIMP BIZKIT INTERSCOPE	
6	NEW	6	5	6	3	6	7
OUR CHRISTMAS TOSHINOBU KUBOTA SONY		MANDY WESTLIFE S		ON N'OUBLIE JAMAIS RIEN HELENE SEGARA ORLANDO/EAST WEST		LOVE'S DIVINE SEAL WEA	
7	9	7	NEW	7	12	7	3
AI GA YOBUHOUE PORN0 GRAFFITTI SONY		MY IMMORTAL EVANESCENCE EPIC		TOI, TU CERENA & UBERTO TOZZI EAST WEST		SCHICK MIR NEN ENGEL OVERGROUND POLYDOR	
8	12	8	4	8	7	8	6
NO WAY TO SAY AYUMI HAMASAKI AVEX TRAX		SAY IT ISN'T SO GARETH GATES S		MA RIVALE, FIESTA LATINA DIS C'HEURE Z'ZOUK UP MUSIC		EVERYDAY GIRL PRELUDERS POLYDOR	
9	10	9	NEW	9	6	9	13
RINGO NO UTA RINGO SHENA TOY'S FACTORY		THE VOICE WITHIN CHRISTINA AGUILERA RCA		SATURDAY NIGHT'S ALRIGHT FOR FIGHTING STAR ACADEMY 3 MERCURY		IT'S MY LIFE NO DOUBT INTERSCOPE	
10	4	10	NEW	10	9	10	NEW
12 GATSU NO LOVE SONG GACKT NIPPON CROWN		HAVE A CHEEKY CHRISTMAS THE CHEEKY GIRLS MULTIPLY		RONDE DE NUIT GOMEZ ET DUBOIS BMG		JIGGA JIGGA! SCOOTER EDEL	
ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS	
1	NEW	1	2	1	7	1	1
KEN HIRAI KEN'S BAR DEFSTAR		DIDO LIFE FOR RENT CHEEKY/ARISTA		TRAGEDIE TRAGEDIE UP MUSIC		ROBBIE WILLIAMS LIVE AT KNEBWORTH CAPITOL	
2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2
EXILE EXILE ENTERTAINMENT RHYTHM ZONE		WILL YOUNG FRIDAY'S CHILD S		M QUI DE NOUS DIX DELABEL		DIDO LIFE FOR RENT ARIOLA	
3	NEW	3	3	3	4	3	3
VARIOUS ARTISTS THE BEST OF DETECTIVE CONAN 2 B-GRAM		MICHAEL JACKSON NUMBER ONES EPIC		CELINE DION UNE FILLE ET 4 TYPES COLUMBIA		SEAL IV WARNER BROS.	
4	NEW	4	7	4	5	4	10
NAMIE AMURO STYLE AVEX TRAX		R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003 WARNER BROS.		GAROU REVIENS COLUMBIA		HERBERT GROENEMEYER MENSCH LIVE CAPITOL	
5	2	5	8	5	10	5	4
AIKO AKATSUKI NO LOVE LETTER POLYDOR		BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK INTERSCOPE		CALOGERO CALOGERO MERCURY		TV ALLSTARS THE ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS ALBUM POLYDOR	
6	6	6	4	6	17	6	5
MIKA NAKASHIMA LOVE SONY		BUSTED A PRESENT FOR EVERYONE UNIVERSAL		CHARLES AZNAVOUR JE VOYAGE CAPITOL		NO ANGELS BEST OF NO ANGELS POLYDOR	
7	4	7	5	7	2	7	7
TAKAHIRO MATSUMOTO THE HIT PARADE VERMILLION RECORDS		WESTLIFE TURNAROUND S		MC SOLAAR MACH 5 EAST WEST		PRELUDERS GIRLS IN THE HOUSE POLYDOR	
8	NEW	8	6	8	8	8	16
ULFULS EENEN TOSHIBA/EMI		RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS WARNER BROS.		LYNDA LEMAY LES SECRETS DES OISEAUX WEA		BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK INTERSCOPE	
9	7	9	10	9	6	9	8
CRYSTAL KAY 4REAL EPIC		CLIFF RICHARD CLIFF AT CHRISTMAS EMI		STAR ACADEMY 3 FAIT SA BAMBA MERCURY		SARAH CONNOR KEY TO MY SOUL EPIC	
10	9	10	11	10	11	10	11
DO AS INFINITY GATES OF HEAVEN AVEX TRAX		HAYLEY WESTENRA PURE DECCA		DIDO LIFE FOR RENT BMG		ALICIA KEYS THE DIARY OF ALICIA KEYS ARIOLA	
CANADA		ITALY		SPAIN		AUSTRALIA	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
(SOUNDSCAN) 12/27/03		(FIMI/NIELSEN) 12/15/03		(AFYVE/MEDIA CONTROL) 12/16/03		(ARIA) 12/13/03	
SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES	
1	1	1	1	1	NEW	1	1
SOMETHING MORE RYAN MALCOLM VIK/BMG		OBESION AVENTURA PLANET		NOTHING FAILS MADONNA WARNER MUSIC		ANGELS BROUGHT ME HERE GUY SEBASTIAN BMG	
2	3	2	2	2	1	2	2
HEY YA! OUTKAST ARISTA/BMG		REMIXED & REVISITED MADONNA MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.		DEVUELVE ME EL AIRE BUSTAMANTE VALE MUSIC		PREDICTABLE DELTA GOODREM EPIC	
3	4	3	4	3	7	3	3
TROUBLE PINK ARISTA/BMG		WHERE IS THE LOVE? BLACK EYED PEAS FT. JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE A&M/INTERSCOPE		RAINMAKER IRON MAIDEN EMI		SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS A&M	
4	2	4	6	4	5	4	6
2 + 2 = 5 RADIOHEAD PARLOPHONE/EMI		IN THE SHADOWS THE RASMOUS EDEL		UNO MAS UNO SON SIETE FRAN PEREA GLOBOMEDIA		HEY YA! OUTKAST ARISTA	
5	5	5	3	5	3	5	4
ME AGAINST THE MUSIC BRITNEY SPEARS FT. MADONNA JIVE/ZOMBA		WHITE FLAG DIDO CHEEKY/BMG		LATIDO URBANO TONI AGUILAR & AMIGOS TOOL		ME AGAINST THE MUSIC BRITNEY SPEARS FT. MADONNA JIVE	
6	7	6	7	6	4	6	10
MEME LES ANGES AU DE MONTIGNY VIK/BMG		BROKEN ELISA SUGAR		ME AGAINST THE MUSIC BRITNEY SPEARS FT. MADONNA JIVE		BEHIND BLUE EYES LIMP BIZKIT INTERSCOPE	
7	NEW	7	8	7	9	7	5
NOTHING FAILS MADONNA MAVERICK/WEA		NOTHING FAILS MADONNA MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.		ENCONTRARAS NATASHA ST-PIER COLUMBIA		BABY BOY BEYONCE FT. SEAN PAUL COLUMBIA	
8	6	8	5	8	8	8	9
BABY BOY BEYONCE FT. SEAN PAUL COLUMBIA/SONY MUSIC		ME AGAINST THE MUSIC BRITNEY SPEARS FT. MADONNA JIVE		MOTIVOS DE UN SENTIMIENTO JOAQUIN SABINA BMG/ARIOLA		P.I.M.P. 50 CENT INTERSCOPE	
9	8	9	9	9	6	9	14
LOW KELLY CLARKSON RCA/BMG		HEY YA! OUTKAST ARISTA		SLOW KYLIE MINOGUE PARLOPHONE		IT'S MY LIFE NO DOUBT INTERSCOPE	
10	12	10	11	10	16	10	7
RUBBERNECKIN' ELVIS PRESLEY BMG HERITAGE/RCA/BMG		ALMENTO STAVOLTA NEK WEA		ROSAS LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH SONY		INTO YOU FATBOY SLIM EAST WEST	
ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS	
1	1	1	1	1	2	1	NEW
SARAH MCLACHLAN AFTERGLOW NETTWERK/BMG		LIGABUE GIRO D'ITALIA WEA		ALEX UBAGO FANTASIA O REALIDAD DRO		GUY SEBASTIAN JUST AS I AM BMG	
2	3	2	3	2	3	2	1
VARIOUS ARTISTS MUCHDANCE 2004 UNIVERSAL		ZERO RENATO CATTURA EPIC		EUROJUNIOR EUROJUNIOR FESTIVAL VALE MUSIC		DELTA GOODREM INNOCENT EYES EPIC	
3	4	3	2	3	1	3	2
JOSH GROBAN CLOSER 143/REPRISE/WARNER		ELISA LOTUS SUGAR		BUSTAMANTE ASI SOY YO VALE MUSIC		RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS WARNER BROS.	
4	NEW	4	4	4	5	4	3
RYAN MALCOLM HOME VIK/BMG		GIGI D'ALESSIO BUONA VITA RCA		FRAN PEREA LA CHICA DE LA HABITACION DE AL LADO DRO		JOHN FARNHAM ONE VOICE: THE GREATEST HITS GOTHAM	
5	5	5	6	5	7	5	5
SHERYL CROW THE VERY BEST OF SHERYL CROW A&M/INTERSCOPE/UNIVERSAL		TIZIANO FERRO 111 CENTO ONCE CAPITOL		ANDY & LUCAS ANDY & LUCAS BMG/ARIOLA		POWDERFINGER VULTURE STREET UNIVERSAL	
6	6	6	7	6	8	6	4
VARIOUS ARTISTS BIG SHINY TUNES 8 BIG SHINY 8/WARNER		R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003 WARNER BROS.		LA OREJA DE VAN GOGH LO QUE CONTE MIENTRAS... SONY		DIDO LIFE FOR RENT BMG	
7	7	7	5	7	13	7	11
ROD STEWART AS TIME GOES BY... GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK VOL. II J/BMG		RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS WARNER BROS.		JULIO IGLESIAS DIVORCIO SONY		ROBBIE WILLIAMS LIVE AT KNEBWORTH CAPITOL	
8	8	8	10	8	14	8	6
HILARY DUFF METAMORPHOSIS BUENA VISTA/HOLLYWOOD/UNIVERSAL		EROS RAMAZZOTTI S ARIOLA		CHENCA SOY MUJER BMG/VALE MUSIC		MICHAEL JACKSON NUMBER ONES EPIC	
9	9	9	11	9	4	9	7
NICKELBACK THE LONG ROAD ROADRUNNER/EMI		NEK THE BEST OF: L'ANNO ZERO WEA		QUECO TENGO TOOL		R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003 WARNER BROS.	
10	RE	10	13	10	6	10	10
EVANESCENCE FALLEN WIND-UP/EPIC/SONY MUSIC		FRANCESCO DE GREGORI MIX COLUMBIA		ROSA AHORA VALE MUSIC		THE WHITE STRIPES ELEPHANT SHOCK	
THE NETHERLANDS		SWEDEN		NORWAY		SWITZERLAND	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
(MEGA CHARTS BV) 12/14/03		(GLF) 12/11/03		(VERDENS GANG NORWAY) 12/15/03		(MEDIA CONTROL) 12/19/03	
SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES		SINGLES	
1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
EENS SCHIJNT.../HEB JE EVEN... FRANS BAUER S3M		STARKARE SARA LOFGREN MARIANN		HEY YA! OUTKAST ARISTA		SCHICK MIR NEN ENGEL OVERGROUND CHEYENNE	
2	3	2	1	2	2	2	5
AFSCHEID NEMEN BESTAAT NIET MARC0 BORSATO UNIVERSAL		VILSE I SKOGEN MARKOOLIO BONNIER		(THERE'S GOTTA BE) MORE TO LIFE STACIE ORRICO VIRGIN		SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS A&M	
3	2	3	3	3	4	3	2
COWBOY CHIPZ GLAM SLAM		HEY YA! OUTKAST ARISTA		IT'S MY LIFE NO DOUBT INTERSCOPE		MUSIC IS THE KEY SARAH CONNOR FT. NATURALLY 7 COLUMBIA	
4	11	4	NEW	4	3	4	3
SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS A&M		WHEN YOU'RE COMING BACK AGAIN KARL MARTINDAHL MARIANN		HOLE IN THE HEAD SUGABABES ISLAND		WHERE IS THE LOVE? BLACK EYED PEAS FT. JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE A&M	
5	10	5	NEW	5	8	5	9
OBESION AVENTURA WALBOOMERS MUSIC		SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS A&M		WHITE FLAG DIDO BMG		HEY OH TRAGEDIE UP MUSIC	
ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS		ALBUMS	
1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
FRANS BAUER 'N ONS GELUK SONY MUSIC MEDIA		THE REFRESHMENTS ROCK 'N' ROLL XMAS BONNIER		R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003 WARNER BROS.		OVERGROUND IT'S DONE! CHEYENNE	
2	5	2	4	2	3	2	NEW
ALICIA KEYS THE DIARY OF ALICIA KEYS BMG		MARKOOLIO I SKUGGAN AV MIG SJALV BONNIER		SISSEL KYRKJEB0 MY HEART EMARCY		ALICIA KEYS THE DIARY OF ALICIA KEYS BMG	
3	3	3	7	3	2	3	3
DIDO LIFE FOR RENT BMG		PETER JOBACK JAG KOMMER HEM IGEN TILL JUL COLUMBIA		JOSH GROBAN CLOSER WARNER BROS.		PRELUDERS GIRLS IN THE HOUSE POLYDOR	
4	2	4	15	4	5	4	5
DE POEMA'S BEST OF SONY		CAROLA GULD PLATINA & PASSION SDNET		JAN WERNER SINGER OF SONGS POLYDOR		DIDO LIFE FOR RENT BMG	
5	4	5	6	5	4	5	4
RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS WARNER BROS.		WESTLIFE TURNAROUND S/BMG		PETER JOBACK JAG KOMMER HEM IGEN TILL JUL COLUMBIA		RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS WARNER BROS.	

Europe's Top Albums of 2003

1. Norah Jones, "Come Away With Me," Blue Note/EMI.
2. Robbie Williams, "Escapology," Chrysalis/EMI.
3. Evanescence, "Fallen," Wind-up/Epic.
4. Dido, "Life for Rent," Cheeky/Arista.
5. Avril Lavigne, "Let Go," Arista.
6. Linkin Park, "Metemora," Warner Bros.
7. Justin Timberlake, "Justified," Jive.
8. Coldplay, "A Rush of Blood to the Head," Parlophone.
9. Eminem, "The Eminem Show," Interscope.
10. Christina Aguilera, "Stripped," RCA.

Listings are based on the *Billboard European Top 100 Albums* chart for weeks 1-52, compiled from national sales charts in 18 European countries.

Europe's Top Singles of 2003

1. "Lose Yourself," Eminem, Interscope.
2. "Where Is the Love?," Black Eyed Peas Featuring Justin Timberlake, A&M.
3. "All the Things She Said," T.a.t.u., Interscope.
4. "White Flag," Dido, Cheeky/Arista.
5. "Bring Me to Life," Evanescence Featuring Paul McCoy, Wind-up/Epic.
6. "Sorry Seems to Be the Hardest Word," Blue & Elton John, Innocent/Virgin.
7. "In Da Club," 50 Cent, Interscope.
8. "Chihuahua," DJ Bobo, Hansa/DJ Bobo.
9. "Never Leave You (Uh Ooh, Uh Oooh!)," Lumidee, MCA.
10. "Feel," Robbie Williams, Chrysalis/EMI.

Listings are based on the *Billboard Eurochart Hot 100 Singles* for weeks 1-52, compiled from national sales charts in 18 European countries.

Europe

Continued from page 63

we not accept them as just another option for the customer?

"A good, positive place to start for next year might be to stop giving singles away to the digital TV channels, who end up playing them so much prior to release, it takes away the [desire] to buy them," McLaughlin says.

Another option, implemented by EMI in the U.K., was to introduce two-track CDs retailing at the relatively low price of £1.99 (\$3.52), but no other majors have yet followed suit.

FRENCH DISAPPOINTMENT

Elsewhere in Europe, the picture went from bad to worse.

After years of bucking the downward trend, Europe's second-largest market, France, succumbed to adverse market conditions. France posted losses in sales and units in each of the first three quarters.

Increasing broadband penetration and CD burning were cited for the sales decline, according to trade body SNEP.

The same could be said about Germany—once the world's third-largest

market—now down to fifth-largest and entering a fourth year of decline.

Germany is banking on new European legislation giving more options for rights owners to combat illegal file sharing. But industry executives agree that it is only through the development of legitimate services that illegal downloads will be curbed, and 2004 is expected to see a rise in the number of such offers to consumers.

The growth of the music DVD market was one bright spot in Europe, with projects by Led Zeppelin and Robbie Williams reaching shipment levels so far reserved for CDs.

CHARTS TELL STORY

Much of 2003 was spent waiting on structural changes at the global majors, with the pending Sony/BMG merger and the unsuccessful Warner Music/EMI proposal.

European independent labels organization Impala has taken a stance against the proposed Sony/BMG merger, arguing that the music market is already sufficiently consolidated.

Statistics compiled by *Billboard*, based on a full-year of European charts, show that Sony/BMG would have garnered a 31.3% share of the European albums charts and a 36.1% share of the singles charts.

That would have given the com-

(Continued on page 71)

2003 European Chart Share: Albums

Company	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
EMI	25.9	18.7	21.9	15.1	14.4
Universal	23.1	25.3	26.4	26.0	23.3
BMG	17.7	12.9	11.3	11.9	10.1
Warner	14.5	13.4	14.6	17.3	15.3
Sony	13.6	24.0	18.2	11.5	23.3
Others	5.2	5.7	7.6	18.2	13.6

Source: *Billboard Information Group*, compiled from the *European Top 100 Albums* chart, weeks 1-52.

2003 European Chart Share: Singles

Company	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Universal	36.2	30.9	31.7	22.4	19.5
BMG	18.3	13.9	9.9	13.5	17.6
Sony	17.8	25.8	22.0	16.1	16.6
EMI	12.1	11.3	19.0	12.5	13.5
Warner	9.9	8.9	9.4	10.1	7.7
Others	5.7	9.2	9.4	25.4	25.1

Source: *Billboard Information Group*, compiled from the *Eurochart Hot 100 Singles*, weeks 1-52.

Billboard EUROCHARTS

Eurocharts are compiled by *Billboard* from the national singles and album sales charts of 18 European countries.

12/17/03

SINGLES SALES

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS	INTERSCOPE
2	6	HEY OH TRAGEDIE	UP MUSIC
3	7	LOVE'S DIVINE SEAL	WEA
4	NEW	CHANGES KELLY & OZZY OSBOURNE	SANCTUARY
5	3	LEAVE RIGHT NOW WILL YOUNG	S
6	NEW	L'ORANGE ET WOT STAR ACADEMY 3	MERCURY
7	2	ME AGAINST THE MUSIC BRITNEY SPEARS FT. MADONNA	JIVE
8	10	FREE LIKE THE WIND ALEXANDER	HANSA
9	17	MANDY WESTLIFE	S
10	4	MON ETOILE LINKUP	ULM
11	9	WHITE FLAG DIDO	CHEEKY/ARISTA
12	14	LA BAMBA STAR ACADEMY 3	MERCURY
13	28	DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS? TV ALLSTARS	POLYDOR
14	22	BEHIND BLUE EYES LIMP BIZKIT	INTERSCOPE
15	5	MUSIC IS THE KEY SARAH CONNOR FT. NATURALLY 7	COLUMBIA
16	12	I'M YOUR MAN SHANE RICHIE	RCA
17	NEW	THE VOICE WITHIN CHRISTINA AGUILERA	RCA
18	11	WHERE IS THE LOVE? BLACK EYED PEAS FT. JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE	INTERSCOPE
19	NEW	MY IMMORTAL EVANESCENCE	WIND-UP/EPIC
20	19	BE FAITHFUL FRANK SINATRA	DEF JAM/MERCURY

ALBUM SALES

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	DIDO LIFE FOR RENT	CHEEKY/ARISTA
2	4	R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003	WARNER BRDS.
3	3	ROBBIE WILLIAMS LIVE AT KNEBWORTH	CAPITOL/CHRYSALIS
4	2	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS	WARNER BRDS.
5	6	ALICIA KEYS THE DIARY OF ALICIA KEYS	J
6	5	MICHAEL JACKSON NUMBER ONES	EPIC
7	14	BLACK EYED PEAS ELEPHUNK	INTERSCOPE
8	8	SEAL IV	WARNER BRDS.
9	7	WILL YOUNG FRIDAY'S CHILD	S
10	9	WESTLIFE TURNAROUND	S
11	10	PINK TRY THIS	ARISTA
12	21	GAROU REVIEWS	COLUMBIA
13	13	LINKIN PARK LIVE IN TEXAS	WARNER BRDS.
14	20	EVANESCENCE FALLEN	WIND-UP/EPIC
15	12	THE BEATLES LET IT BE... NAKED APPLE	
16	11	BRITNEY SPEARS IN THE ZONE	JIVE
17	48	HERBERT GROENEMEYER MENSCH LIEBE	CAPITOL
18	22	CELINE DION UNE FILLE ET 4 TYPES	COLUMBIA
19	65	TRAGEDIE UP MUSIC	
20	19	PRELUDERS GIRLS IN THE HOUSE	POLYDOR

RADIO AIRPLAY

Monitored Radio Airplay information from 17 European countries as monitored and tabulated by Music Control.

12/17/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	WHITE FLAG DIDO	ARISTA
2	2	WHERE IS THE LOVE? BLACK EYED PEAS	INTERSCOPE
3	3	SLOW KYLIE MINOGUE	PARLOPHONE
4	4	BABY BOY BEYONCE FT. SEAN PAUL	COLUMBIA
5	5	HOLE IN THE HEAD SUGABABES	ISLAND
6	6	SEXED UP ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSALIS
7	15	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS	INTERSCOPE
8	7	LOVE'S DIVINE SEAL	EAST WEST
9	10	IT'S MY LIFE NO DOUBT	MCA
10	9	TROUBLE PINK	RCA
11	14	HEY YA! OUTKAST	ARISTA
12	11	GOING UNDER EVANESCENCE	WIND-UP/EPIC
13	8	GUILTY BLUE INNOCENT/VIRGIN	
14	21	LIFE FOR RENT DIDO	BMG
15	13	IF YOU COME TO ME ATOMIC KITTEN	INNOCENT/VIRGIN
16	20	NOTHING FAILS MADONNA	WARNER BRDS.
17	16	MA RIVALE DISCHREU 2 ZOUK	WEA
18	12	NEVER LEAVE YOU LUMIDEE	BAD BOY/ISLAND
19	18	P.I.M.P. 50 CENT	INTERSCOPE
20	19	SOMEDAY NICKELBACK	ROADRUNNER

AUSTRIA

(AUSTRIAN IFPI/AUSTRIA TOP 40) 12/16/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	MAMA (ANA AHABAK) CHRISTINA	UNIVERSAL
2	9	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS	A&M
3	4	FREE LIKE THE WIND ALEXANDER	HANSA
4	3	POISON GROOVE COVERAGE	UNIVERSAL
5	2	SCHICK MIR NEN ENGEL OVERGROUND	CHEYENNE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	KIDDY CONTEST FINALISTEN KIDDY CONTEST VOL. 8	ARIOLA
2	4	CHRISTINA FRIER FALL	UNIVERSAL
3	2	BON JOVI THIS LEFT FEELS RIGHT: GREATEST HITS	ISLAND
4	3	ROBBIE WILLIAMS LIVE AT KNEBWORTH	CAPITOL
5	5	DIE SCHLUMPFE SCHLUMPHAUSEN SUCHT DEN SUPERSTAR	CAPITOL

DENMARK

(IFPI/NIELSEN MARKETING RESEARCH) 12/16/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	TAKING BACK MY HEART MARIA LUCIA	CAPITOL
2	2	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS	UNIVERSAL
3	3	MANDY WESTLIFE	RCA
4	6	THE MAGIC KEY ONE-T & COOL-T	POLYDOR
5	NEW	ROCK YOUR BODY CHRISTINA GROTH	WARNER BRDS.

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	KIM LARSEN & KJUKKEN 7-9-13	CAPITOL
2	2	GASOLIN THE BLACK BOX	SDNY
3	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS JUNIOR EUROVISION SONG CONTEST	CMC
4	4	SAFRI DUO 3.0	UNIVERSAL
5	7	R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003	WARNER BRDS.

IRELAND

(IRMA/CHART TRACK) 12/12/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	3	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS	A&M
2	1	MANDY WESTLIFE	S
3	5	LEAVE RIGHT NOW WILL YOUNG	S
4	2	JUMP GIRLS ALoud	POLYDOR
5	NEW	THE VOICE WITHIN CHRISTINA AGUILERA	RCA

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	3	MICHAEL JACKSON NUMBER ONES	EPIC
2	1	WESTLIFE TURNAROUND	S
3	2	R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003	WARNER BRDS.
4	4	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS	WEA
5	5	DIDO LIFE FOR RENT	CHEEKY/ARISTA

HUNGARY

(MAHASZ) 12/07/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	2	SZERESS MOST ZSENYI ADRIENNA	MAGNEOTON
2	3	SZEXTARGY TANKSAPDA	SONY
3	1	ME AGAINST THE MUSIC BRITNEY SPEARS FT. MADONNA	JIVE
4	7	LIKE GLUE SEAN PAUL	WARNER
5	5	RAINMAKER IRON MAIDEN	EMI

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	2	MC HAWER FT. TEKKNO KIMEGYEK A TEMETOBE	MAGNEOTON
2	1	MARIO SARGAROSZA	ROZSA RECORDS
3	4	CSERHATI ZSUZA BEST OF	BMG
4	3	MATYI ES AN HEGEDUS NECSI-NECSI	EMI
5	7	TNT EGYETLEN SZO	MAGNEOTON

BELGIUM/FLANDERS

(PROMUVI) 12/16/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	3	SHUT UP BLACK EYED PEAS	A&M
2	1	I'VE ONLY BEGUN TO FIGHT NATALIA	ARIOLA
3	2	YOU ARE THE REASON SARAH & KOEN WAUTERS	EMI
4	NEW	AFSCHEID NEMEN BESTAAT NIET MARCO BDRSATO	UNIVERSAL
5	4	TRAFFIC DJ Tiesto	BLACK HOLE RECORDS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	SPRING SPRING	STUDIO 100
2	2	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS GREATEST HITS	WARNER BRDS.
3	3	R.E.M. IN TIME 1988-2003	WARNER BRDS.
4	5	DIDO LIFE FOR RENT	BMG
5	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS EUROSONG FOR KIDS	EMI

PORTUGAL

(AFP) 12/16/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	27	REMIXED & REVISTED MADONNA	MAVERICK/WARNER BRDS.
2	NEW	LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ERA	MERCURY
3	3	KA-CHING SHANIA TWAIN	MERCURY
4	2	LOSE YOURSELF EMINEM	INTERSCOPE
5	4	J... SEI NAMORAR TRIBALISTAS	VIRGIN

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	1	RUI VELOSO O CONCERTO ACUSTICO	VIRGIN
2	2	ROBBIE WILLIAMS LIVE AT KNEBWORTH	CHRYSALIS
3	3	TRIBALISTAS TRIBALISTAS	VIRGIN
4	4	ENNIO MORRICONE & DULCE PONTES FOCUS	POLYDOR
5	5	LINKIN PARK LIVE IN TEXAS	WARNER BRDS.

FINLAND

(YLE) 12/14/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	NEW	BLACK NIGHT ERI ESITAJIA	POKO
2	2	EI KOSKAAN ENAA @JUNKMAIL	GOOD SON
3	1	OTA MUT RIPSIPIIRAKKA	MERCURY
4	3	READ MY SCARS DIABLO	GAGA GOODIES
5	16	TEURASTAJA TURMIEN KATILLOT	RANKA

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	8	PIKKU G. RAJAHYDYSVAARA	EVIDENCE
2	1	VESA-MATTI LOIRI YSTAVAN LAULUT	WEA
3	3	SMURFFIT TYKKIHITTI VOL. 11	EMI
4	4	GIMMEL KAKSI KERTAA ENEMMAN	RCA
5	2	LAULUYHTYE RAJATON JOULU	RCA

POLAND

(ZWI.ZEK PRODUCCENTOW AUDIO VIDEO) 12/08/03

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM
1	3	ANITA LIPNICKA & JOHN PORTER NIEPRZYWOITE PIOSENKI	POMATON
2	5	GAROU REVIEWS	COLUMBIA
3</			

Anxious Year For Canadian Music Business

BY LARRY LeBLANC

TORONTO—Jitters about the proposed Warner Music Group/EMI merger and the proposed co-venture between Sony Music and BMG overshadowed 2003 for most Canadian music professionals.

Anxieties about a deal between Warner and EMI eventually abated with the buyout of Warner by investors led by Canadian Edgar Bronfman. Details of how the Sony/



BRONFMAN: WARNER BUYOUT EASED ANXIETY

BMG tie-up will affect Canada's musical landscape have yet to emerge.

Away from the majors' overtures to each other, the top story to emerge from Canada also involved Time Warner. In July, Scarborough, Ontario-based Cinram International paid \$1.05 billion for the CD and DVD manufacturing and physical distribution businesses of Time Warner in North America and Europe.

Warner featured again in the year's highest-profile label-executive departure here. Twenty-one-year company veteran Garry Newman retired Dec. 31 as president/CEO of Warner Music Canada. Newman had headed the Canadian affiliate since 1998. He is succeeded by senior VP/managing director Steven Kane.

In early 2004, the other majors will likely decide if they will follow the lead set by Universal Music with its price-reduction program in 2003. Universal Music Canada announced Sept. 3 it was dropping its suggested list price to \$14.98 Canadian (\$11.43) on virtually all front-line CDs and eliminated cooperative advertising and discounts. Insiders agree that layoffs in

CANADA: THE TOP STORIES

- Cinram International purchases Time Warner's CD/DVD manufacturing and distribution businesses.
- Universal Music Canada cuts its suggested list prices.
- Canada's first download service, Puretracks, launches.
- Nearly 500,000 people attend Molson Canadian Rocks for Toronto, designed to boost tourism in the city following the SARS outbreak.
- Garry Newman retires as president/CEO of Warner Music Canada.

2003 IN REVIEW

Canada's music industry will increase in 2004 if worldwide business does not improve. The past year saw 14 employees depart EMI Music Canada as it consolidated its Capitol and Virgin operations; Universal let another 21 go in October. Meanwhile, Zomba Canada ceased

operations as a stand-alone company in April. The majority of its 11 staffers were integrated into BMG Canada; Zomba Canada president Laura Bartlett moved to Jive in New York as senior VP of international.

In contrast, January saw New York-based Artemis Records open its first office outside the U.S., in Toronto. And RED Distribution Canada, a cooperative effort between New York-based RED and its parent Sony Music, began shipping the same month. RED Distribution Canada operates from Sony's Toronto offices.

Fewer direct signings by major labels meant increased independent label activity in 2003. As a result, support programs from the Department of Canadian Heritage's Canada Music Fund were swamped. Recording programs from the Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent on Records (FACTOR) were especially affected. Insiders expect FACTOR funding for individual projects to be sliced in 2004.

After striking an online licensing agreement with the Canadian Music Reproduction Rights Agency, in September Toronto-based Puretracks

became the first legal download service to launch in Canada. Such U.S.-based digital-music services as Napster and MusicNet have signaled their intentions to open in Canada in 2004.

On the live front, Canada's highest-profile show took place July 30, when more than 480,000 people turned out for the Molson Canadian Rocks concert at Toronto's Downsview Parc. The event was headlined by the Rolling Stones, topping a bill that included AC/DC, Rush, Justin Timberlake and the Guess Who. The concert aimed to boost Toronto's tourism market, which had suffered in the wake of the SARS outbreak.

The Stones also featured in one of the year's more controversial retail moves. In October, Canadian merchants HMV, Pindoff Record Sales and Sunrise Records kicked off a North American retail backlash against the band in the wake of an exclusive deal with Best Buy for its "Four Flicks" DVD set.

The Canadian retailers pulled all Stones product from their stores and have threatened to take action in the event of similar deals in the future.

Asia

Continued from page 63

the File Rogue file-sharing program.

The RIAJ warned that CD rental (legal in Japan), the proliferation of stores selling used CDs and increased CD-R sales all threatened music sales.

In October, the Malaysian government decided to introduce a price-control system for locally made CDs and video CDs. The program, which will take effect in January 2004, is part of an effort to control the territory's serious piracy problem, despite the objections of the local record industry.

On the file-sharing front, South

Korean and Taiwanese prosecutors launched the first legal actions against individual file sharers in late November in an effort to clamp down on the explosion in such activity in those two very "wired" Asian territories.

Elsewhere on the legal front, Hong Kong's music industry was rocked by the arrest in July of 23 leading music-business executives.

Those arrested included the president of Universal Music's Hong Kong company; the owner of the Emperor Entertainment Group, the city's premier entertainment conglomerate; and three top producers from Hong Kong's largest TV station, Television Broadcasts. The cases are still pending.

On a more positive note, July saw Universal Music Southeast Asia sign an



HUI: INDUSTRY MUST BE PROACTIVE ONLINE

exclusive four-year sales and distribution deal with the region's most prominent independent record label, Taiwan-based Rock Records.

Meanwhile, the South Korean government announced in September that it would remove all remaining restrictions on Japanese pop music, movies and videogames. The ban was rooted in widespread anti-Japanese sentiment stemming from Japan's colonization of Korea from 1910 to 1945.

On the retail front, Virgin Megastores Japan became a wholly owned subsidiary of Japanese department store chain Marui in May. And longtime Tower Records Japan president/CEO Keith Cahoon left Tower in July to set up a publishing/promotion company. He was replaced by Tower Records Japan COO Akio Moriwaki.

Another key personnel move in the region saw Singapore-based MTV Networks Asia president Frank Brown pro-

moted to the new position of MTV Networks Asia Pacific president in February. He now oversees the operations of MTV Japan, MTV Australia and Nickelodeon Australia.

Looking ahead, Universal Music Southeast Asia president Harry Hui expects the industry to move "back to reality" in 2004, with more modest advances and contracts being offered to artists.

"I believe 2004 will be a key year for us to set up a new media infrastructure," Hui says.

He adds that the region's music industry has to take a proactive stance regarding online music distribution instead of concentrating on catching and penalizing providers and users of illegal file-sharing services.

Australia

Continued from page 63

\$260.4 million Australian (\$192.6 million). Music DVD sales rose to 1.5 million units, up from 673,000 in the same period of 2002.

In New Zealand, provisional estimates from the Recording Industry Assn. of New Zealand (RIANZ) suggest music DVD shipments rose 136% in value for 2003. An expected 9% decline in the value of traditional audio sales will more than cancel out that increase.

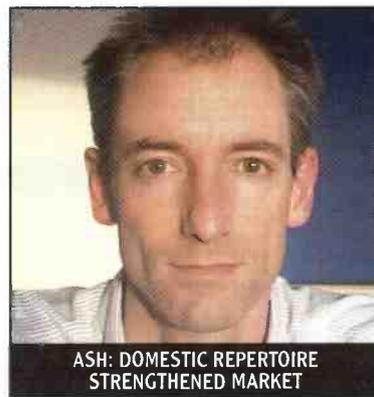
Domestic repertoire was "a significant factor in this market's relative strength to the rest of the world," Universal Music Australia managing direc-

tor George Ash says.

The most impressive sales performance of the year in Australia came from a local signing, Epic's teenage singer/songwriter Delta Goodrem. The label says her "Innocent Eyes" album had shipped 750,000 units domestically as of Dec. 1.

In New Zealand, singer/songwriter Bic Runga (Columbia) and classical singer Hayley Westenra (Decca) helped domestic repertoire slightly increase its market share above last year's 11% figure, the RIANZ estimates. Albums by both shipped close to 120,000 units, according to their labels.

Such performances resulted from "radio playing up to 20% of local material, a wave of nationalism and the growing quality of NZ records," Sony Music Entertainment NZ managing



ASH: DOMESTIC REPERTOIRE STRENGTHENED MARKET

director Michael Glading says.

The independent sector was buoyed as more indie acts migrated to mainstream radio. Larger Australian independents Festival Mushroom Records, Liberation Music and Shock Entertain-

ment all expanded, and more indie labels appeared.

Associations like Sydney-based Australian Independent Record Labels and Auckland-based Independent Music New Zealand (EMNZ) also boosted indie acts' profiles at home and abroad. Notably, EMNZ launched its own indie chart in March.

The New Zealand government funded various music initiatives, including a national presence at the South by Southwest Music Conference in Austin, Texas. Two government departments also assembled a task force of New Zealand industry executives to work on increasing music exports.

Australasian Performing Right Assn. (APRA) figures for the financial year ended Sept. 30 were encouraging. Rises in fees, increased revenue from venues

and cinemas plus royalties from ring tones saw gross collections grow 6% to \$106 million Australian (\$78.4 million). Net distributions to members increased by 7.5% to \$92 million Australian (\$68.8 million).

On the live front, the rising value of the Australian dollar led to more major names touring Down Under. But new noise restrictions meant the closure of a number of inner-city venues.

ARIA was rattled by a mid-year survey indicating that CD burning and file sharing were significantly more widespread than anticipated, especially among the under-25 set.

Piracy remains a problem, although the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry estimates it is below 10% in both markets, comparable to most European territories.

International Executives Look Back At 2003

LONDON—As 2003 drew to a close, *Billboard* polled top international music industry executives on their opinions about the year's events.

The responses we got were as interesting and diverse as the respondents themselves.

The questions posed were:

- 1) What were this year's highlights?
- 2) What were the year's low points?
- 3) What are your wishes for 2004?
- 4) What were your favorite musical moments?

PAUL-RENÉ ALBERTINI President/CEO, Warner Music International (London)

1) The launch of iTunes. The rapid decrease of large, illegal file sharing. WMG's market-share gains. The WMG acquisition.

- 2) No comment.
- 3) We'll see the physical market's decline bottoming. The decrease will begin to soften. And iTunes [will be] emulated to such a degree that all [Apple] competitors will launch legal services worldwide.

4) [East West U.K. managing director] Korda Marshall's signings. Also, Alejandro Sanz's and MC Solaar's new albums. The "46664" AIDS awareness campaign—music from the heart.

JAY BERMAN Chairman/CEO, International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (London)

1) Securing passage of an effective version of the [European Union's] Enforcement Directive. The creation of producers' collecting societies in the Ukraine and Russia.

2) The failure of the Russian Duma [parliament] to enact a modern copyright law and to meet its international treaty obligations.

3) To produce an agreement with the European collecting societies for online delivery of legitimate music services.

4) Concerts by Bruce Springsteen and the Stones.

EMMANUEL DE BURETEL President/CEO, EMI Recorded Music Continental Europe (London)

1) The launch of iTunes in the U.S. The explosion of the DVD market. Norah Jones. Robbie Williams. The European Copyright Directive.

2) The decline of CD sales. The massive lobbying of some [Internet service providers] and mobile companies, who still consider music to be free goods. The very short-term view of some record companies, who are selling their soul to TV companies in the "Popstars" fiasco.

3) Governments [acting] more responsibly toward the music industry. Extension of copyright. Reduced VAT. ISPs facing their responsibilities. Increasing growth of legitimate online music.

4) Pharrell Williams. Kelis. Joss Stone. Redrama. Mando Diao. Mariza. Tim Christensen. Alter Ego. Wir Sind Helden. M, Phoenix, and Diam's.

RICK DOBBIS President, Sony Music International (New York)

1) Evanescence. Bruce Springsteen's The Rising tour. My new beach house.

2) The war and terrorism.

3) Peace and hits for everyone.

4) Pascal Obispo, Delta Goodrem, Hope

of the States, OutKast and, as always, Nat "King" Cole.

MICHAEL GUDINSKI Chairman, Mushroom Group of Cos. (Melbourne)

1) Record companies turning to tie-ins with concert promoters and booking agents, acknowledging they have a valid and valuable role in breaking acts. Seeing major radio prepared to play and support new acts.

2) Comparing how well the New Zealand government supports its music sector with what the Australian government does. And record companies spent a fortune on manufactured pop bands who make singles that ultimately don't mean anything to anyone.

3) The Mushroom Group will make a lot of noise. We'll announce new music festivals, and with the touring scene calmed down, bring some big acts out.

4) The Jet album. The Darkness. Joss Stone.

TERRY McBRIDE CEO Nettwerk Music Group (Vancouver)

1) New Dido and Sarah McLachlan albums. The launch of iTunes. The erosion of radio tariffs.

2) Radio's reaction to the Dixie Chicks speaking their minds.

3) I hope radio starts playing more meaningful music;

what are we teaching our kids with all this tits, ass and aggression in music? I hope that CD prices come down, but publishers must switch their rates from a fixed penny rate to a percentage of PPD [published price to dealer].

4) Dido, "Life for Rent." Joss Stone, "Soul Sessions." Sarah McLachlan, "Afterglow." OutKast, "Speakerboxx/The Love Below."



MICHAEL McCARTY President EMI Music Publishing Canada (Toronto)

1) Introduction of iTunes. Steve Jobs changes the world—again!

2) Too many friends losing their jobs. Still not much sign that the industry is ready to fully embrace technological change.

3) That the artistic community will rise to the challenge of dealing with the new landscape. Musical hopes from our roster: Esthero, Skye Sweetnam and co-writer James Robertson, Len and a Canadian urban music breakthrough.

4) The White Stripes' "Seven Nation Army." Good Charlotte, "Girls Don't Like Boys." Broken Social Scene. The Darkness. Norah Jones. From our roster: Three Days Grace; Billy Talent; Alexisonfire; Bob Rock and Gavin Brown.

BRIAN McLAUGHLIN COO HMV Group Plc (London)

1) Announcement of our results in July in our first year as a plc. They were outstanding.

2) The appalling decline in the singles business. The failure of the record companies to admit that falling music sales are not just because of downloading.

3) That the record industry here in the U.K. continues to work together to help solve our problems. God forbid we should ever end up in the situation our Canadian and U.S. business found itself in with [the JumpStart initiative by] Universal. If that attitude were to be adopted here, we should all pack up and go home. And we must continue to try and find ways to increase sales of singles through the stores.

4) Van Morrison, "What's Wrong With This Picture?"

HELEN RYAN GM, MTV Australia (Sydney)

1) Going on the Australian pay-TV Foxtel platform in September; in October, our viewers were up 122% over the previous October. Our revenue was up 450% over last year.

2) That we weren't No. 1 in every region.

3) Going on the Australian pay-TV platform in March will bring us 300,000 more households. We've got some really good ideas for programs.

4) Basement Jaxx, Moby, Britney Spears, Delta Goodrem, Powderfinger, Something for Kate.

ANDY TAYLOR Executive chairman, Sanctuary Group (London)

1) Recognition that the Internet and telecoms



are a phenomenal opportunity for our artists and the business if they are properly worked.

2) The continued implication that demand for music is down. Demand for live music—and all that surrounds it—continues to be strong. CD sales to the music enthusiast, rather than the passive consumer, are stronger than ever.

3) An emphasis by all the players in the industry that we need to be working with career artists to create great product. We need to get all the legitimate new technology mechanisms offering all product. We need to put Internet piracy into perspective.

4) The phenomenal success of real live performing acts—established acts like Iron Maiden, Jane's Addiction, Fleetwood Mac, the Strokes—and new artists like the Darkness, the Libertines and Funeral for a Friend.

TOM YODA Chairman, Avex Group (Tokyo)

1) The 15th anniversary of Avex Group and the launch of the Avex-Classics label. Avex-produced animated TV series. "Cyborg 009" being aired on Cartoon Network internationally, and film production company Elephant

Picture being established. The Korean government lifting restrictions on Japanese language music. The increase in music DVD sales and the Japanese success of the CD-quality ring-tone mobile business.

2) The CD market is still in a difficult situation.

3) Reconstruction of Avex's strategy as a creative entertainment content conglomerate. And that slow CD sales bottom out.

4) I had more chances to listen to classical music this year. I enjoy listening to all kinds of music and try to go to as many live performances as time permits.

PATRICK ZELNIK President/CEO, Naïve (Paris)

1) Creation and development of legitimate and paid-for Web sites.

2) The industry shooting itself in the foot, saying CD was a dead format.

3) New business models to emerge. End of the concentration

process. Music taking over marketing—again.

4) Cat Power, Carla Bruni, Vivaldi [Naïve's world-first recording of the opera "La Verita In Cimento"].

Reporting by Emmanuel Legrand and Tom Ferguson in London, Christie Eliezer in Melbourne, Larry LeBlanc in Toronto and Steve McClure in Tokyo.

Top Dogs, Fallen 'Idols' In TV's 2003

The music-TV story of the year can be summed up in two words: "American Idol."

The Fox-TV show's second season, which began in January, had even higher ratings than the previous season. The second round of "American Idol" averaged 22 million viewers per episode, compared with the first season's 11 million viewers per episode, according to Nielsen Media Research.

By the time the second-season

finale of "American Idol" aired in May, winner **Ruben Studdard** and second-place finisher **Clay Aiken** had become stars. After losing to Studdard by less than 1% of the vote, Aiken went on to have a No. 1 album on The Billboard 200 (his debut, "Measure of a Man," on RCA Records) and the biggest-selling single of the year on The Billboard Hot 100 ("This Is the Night," also on RCA). He also achieved larger record sales than Studdard.

No other TV series this year affected the U.S. record business the way "American Idol" did, and the RCA Music Group (which released "American Idol" records and hit music from Aiken, Studdard and first-season winner **Kelly Clarkson**) reaped the sales benefits. The first albums from Clarkson ("Thankful" on RCA) and Studdard ("Soulful" on J Records) debuted at No. 1 on The Billboard 200.

Not all "American Idol" alumni

were successful on the charts this year. Two finalists from the show's first season—**Justin Guarini** and **Tamara Gray**—reportedly lost their record deals.

RCA Records released Guarini's self-titled album in June, but the album sold less than 140,000 units in the U.S., according to Nielsen Sound-Scan. This year, Gray's debut album was supposed to be

other TV talent contests, including USA Networks' "Nashville Star," CBS' revival of "Star Search," NBC's "Fame," VH1's "Born to Diva" and

Tuned In: The Tube

By Carla Hay
chay@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

Records (part of the RCA Music Group) but never made it to the street, and now it is unclear whether the album will ever be issued.

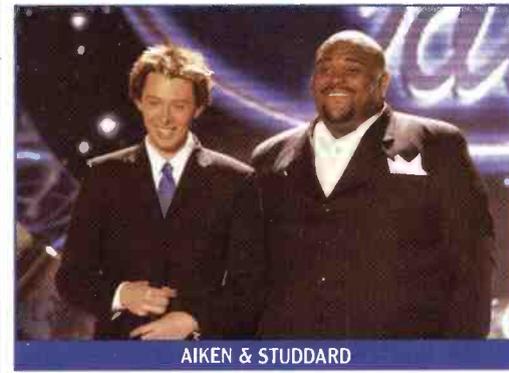
Both record labels and 19 Entertainment (the management company that represents Guarini and Gray) had no comment.

2003 also marked the premiere of

Showtime's "Interscope Presents the Next Episode."

None came close to the popularity of "American Idol," although "Nashville Star" did have a breakout success story with first-season winner **Buddy Jewell**. He won a record deal with Columbia Nashville and had a No. 1 self-titled debut on Billboard's Top Country Albums chart.

The second season of "Making the Band II" starred Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Bad Boy's Da Band, the group Combs assembled after the first season's talent contest. The group's debut album, "Too Hot for TV" on Bad Boy Entertainment, (Continued on page 71)



AIKEN & STUDDARD

Billboard VIDEO MONITOR

THE MOST-PLAYED CLIPS AS MONITORED BY NIELSEN BROADCAST DATA SYSTEMS For week ending DECEMBER 14, 2003

BET	CMT	MTV	VH1
1234 W. Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20018	330 Commerce Street, Nashville, TN 37201	1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036	1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036
1 G UNIT, STUNT 101 2 JAY-Z, CHANGE CLOTHES 3 ALICIA KEYS, YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME 4 AVANT, READ YOUR MIND 5 KELIS, MILKSHAKE 6 BOW WOW, MY BABY 7 BIG TYMERS, GANGSTA GIRL 8 R. KELLY, STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE 9 CHINGY, HOLIDAE IN 10 OUTKAST, HEY YA 11 MUSIQ, FOR THE NIGHT 12 LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ, GET LOW 13 WYCLEF JEAN, PARTY TO OAMASCUS 14 TUPAC, RUNNIN' 15 KANYE WEST, THROUGH THE WIRE 16 YOUNGBLOODZ, DAMN 17 MISSY ELLIOTT, PASS THAT OUTCH 18 NICK CANNON, GIGLO 19 TWISTA, SLOW JAMZ 20 OUTKAST, THE WAY YOU MOVE 21 WESTSIDE CONNECTION, GANGSTA NATION 22 CARL THOMAS, SHE IS 23 YING YANG TWINS, SALT SHAKER 24 MURPHY LEE, WAT DA HOOK GON BE 25 LOON, DOWN FOR ME 26 MARY J. BLIGE, NOT TODAY 27 JAGGED EDGE, WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN 28 LUDACRIS, STAND UP 29 NELLY, I Z U 30 JOE, MORE & MORE 31 B2K, BADABOOM 32 FLOETRY, WANNABE WHERE U R 33 SEAN PAUL, I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU 34 ASHANTI, RAIN ON ME 35 JIN, LEARN CHINESE 36 OBIE TRICE, THE SET UP 37 JA RULE, CLAP BACK 38 WARREN G, LET'S GO (THE MOVEMENT) 39 MEMPHIS BLEEK, ROUND HERE 40 P. DIDDY, LENNY KRAVITZ, SHOW ME YOUR SOUL	1 SARA EVANS, PERFECT 2 BROOKS & DUNN, YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HONKY TONK OUT OF THE GIRL 3 BRAD PAISLEY, LITTLE MOMENTS 4 SHANIA TWAIN, SHE'S NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE 5 MONTGOMERY GENTRY, HELL YEAH 6 CHRIS CAGLE, CHICKS DIG IT 7 KENNY CHESNEY, THERE GOES MY LIFE 8 REBA MCENTIRE, I'M GONNA TAKE THAT MOUNTAIN 9 TRACE ADKINS, HOT MAMA 10 ALAN JACKSON, REMEMBER WHEN 11 SHERYL CROW, THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST 12 MARTINA MCBRIDE, IN MY DAUGHTER'S EYES 13 TOBY KEITH, I LOVE THIS BAR 14 DIXIE CHICKS, SIN WAGON (TOP OF THE WORLD LIVE) 15 JAMES TAYLOR & ALISON KRAUSS, HOW'S THE WORLD TREATING YOU 16 ALISON KRAUSS & UNION STATION, EVERYTIME YOU SAY GOODBYE 17 MARTY STUART/MERLE HAGGARD, FARMER'S BLUES 18 GARY ALLAN, TOUGH LITTLE BOYS 19 JIMMY WAYNE, I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH 20 JOE NICHOLS, COOL TO BE A FOOL 21 CLINT BLACK, SPEND MY TIME 22 PATTY LOVELESS, ON YOUR WAY HOME 23 TERRI CLARK, I WANNA DO IT ALL 24 JOSH TURNER, LONG BLACK TRAIN 25 TIM MCGRAW, REAL GOOD MAN 26 BUDDY JEWELL, SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT 27 JUNE CARTER CASH, KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE 28 ROBIN ELLA & THE CC STRING BAND, MAN OVER 29 ALAN JACKSON & JIMMY BUFFET, IT'S THE OLD CLOCK SOMEWHERE 30 LONESTAR, WALKING IN MEMPHIS 31 DIERKS BENTLEY, MY LAST NAME 32 WYNNONNA, HEAVEN HELP ME 33 KEITH URBAN, WHO WOULDN'T WANNA BE ME 34 DIERKS BENTLEY, WHAT WAS I THINKIN' 35 PAT GREEN, WAVE ON WAVE 36 GEORGE STRAIT, SHE'LL LEAVE YOU WITH A SMILE 37 BRIAN MCCOMAS, YOU'RE IN MY HEAD 38 WILLIE NELSON/WORNAH, WURLITZER PRIZE (LIVE) 39 RODNEY CROWELL, EARTHBOUND 40 RASCAL FLATTS, I MELT	1 GOOD CHARLOTTE, HOLD ON 2 BLINK-182, FEELING THIS 3 G UNIT, STUNT 101 4 LINKIN PARK, NUMB 5 TUPAC, RUNNIN' 6 KELIS, MILKSHAKE 7 NO DOUBT, IT'S MY LIFE 8 SIMPLE PLAN, PERFECT 9 OUTKAST, THE WAY YOU MOVE 10 TRIUMPH THE INSULT COMIC DOG, I KEED 11 KID ROCK, FEEL LIKE MAKIN LOVE 12 PUDDLE OF MUDD, AWAY FROM ME 13 CHRISTINA AGUILERA, THE VOICE WITHIN 14 OUTKAST, HEY YA 15 DARKNESS, I BELIEVE IN A THING CALLED LOVE 16 JAY-Z, CHANGE CLOTHES 17 HOOBASTANK, OUT OF CONTROL 18 NICKELBACK, SOMEDAY 19 JAGGED EDGE, WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN 20 JET, ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL 21 ALICIA KEYS, YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME 22 MYA, FALLEN 23 CHINGY, HOLIDAE IN 24 JESSICA SIMPSON, WITH YOU 25 BABY BASH, SUGA SUGA 26 FEFÉ DOBSON, TAKE ME AWAY 27 NICK LACHEY, THIS IS SWEAR 28 MURPHY LEE, WAT DA HOOK GON BE 29 LUDACRIS, STAND UP 30 NICK CANNON, GIGLO 31 KELLY OSBORN & OZZY, CHANGES 32 KID ROCK, FEEL LIKE MAKIN LOVE 33 R. KELLY, STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE 34 BRITNEY SPEARS, ME AGAINST THE MUSIC 35 MISSY ELLIOTT, PASS THAT OUTCH 36 NELLY FURTADO, POWERLESS (SAY WHAT YOU WANT) 37 HILARY DUFF, SO YESTERDAY 38 KELLY CLARKSON, THE TROUBLE WITH LOVE IS 39 CLAY AIKEN, INVISIBLE 40 NELLY, I Z U 41 LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ, GET LOW	1 OUTKAST, HEY YA 2 TRAPT, HEADSTRONG 3 NO DOUBT, IT'S MY LIFE 4 3 DOORS DOWN, HERE WITHOUT YOU 5 EVANESCENCE, MY IMMORTAL 6 BEYONCÉ, BABY BOY 7 CLAY AIKEN, INVISIBLE 8 ALICIA KEYS, YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME 9 NELLY FURTADO, POWERLESS (SAY WHAT YOU WANT) 10 KID ROCK, FEEL LIKE MAKIN LOVE 11 JET, ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL 12 NICKELBACK, SOMEDAY 13 MATCHBOX TWENTY, BRIGHT LIGHTS 14 RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS, FORTUNE FADED 15 BRITNEY SPEARS, ME AGAINST THE MUSIC 16 OUTKAST, THE WAY YOU MOVE 17 CHRISTINA AGUILERA, THE VOICE WITHIN 18 DIDDY, WHITE FLAG 19 SHERYL CROW, THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST 20 SARAH McLACHLAN, FALLEN 21 JACK JOHNSON, TAYLOR 22 HOWIE DAY, PERFECT TIME OF DAY 23 SEAL, WAITING FOR YOU 24 JASON MRAZ, YOU AND I BOTH 25 COUNTING CROWS, SHE DON'T WANT NOBODY NEAR 26 LIZ PHAIR, WHY CAN'T I 27 KELLY CLARKSON, THE TROUBLE WITH LOVE IS 28 FUEL, FALLS ON ME 29 TRAIN, WHEN I LOOK TO THE SKY 30 TRIUMPH THE INSULT CO, I KEED 31 ENRIQUE IGLESIAS, ADICTEO/ADICTO 32 COLDPLAY, CLOCKS 33 EVANESCENCE, BRING ME TO LIFE 34 JASON MRAZ, THE REMEDY (I WON'T WORRY) 35 FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE, STACY'S MOM 36 MAROON 5, HAROER TO BREATHE 37 MATCHBOX TWENTY, UNWELL 38 BLACK EYED PEAS, WHERE IS THE LOVE 39 FATBOY SLIM, WEAPON OF CHOICE 40 NO DOUBT, UNDERNEATH IT ALL

NEW ONS	NEW ONS	NEW ONS	NEW ONS
CARL THOMAS, SHE IS B2K, BADABOOM FLOETRY, WANNABE WHERE U R (THIS ISZALUSONG) JIN, LEARN CHINESE WARREN G, LET'S GO (THE MOVEMENT) MEMPHIS BLEEK, ROUND HERE	TOBY KEITH, AMERICAN SOLDIER	NICKELBACK, SOMEDAY BABY BASH, SUGA SUGA	OUTKAST, THE WAY YOU MOVE
1 SWITCHFOOT, MEANT TO LIVE 2 SIMPLE PLAN, PERFECT 3 3 DOORS DOWN, HERE WITHOUT YOU 4 FUEL, FALLS ON ME 5 LINKIN PARK, FAINT 6 THREE DAYS GRACE, (I HATE) EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU 7 STAINED, SO FAR AWAY 8 STORY OF THE YEAR, UNTIL THE DAY I DIE 9 HOOBASTANK, OUT OF CONTROL 10 A PERFECT CIRCLE, WEAK AND POWERLESS 11 FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE, STACY'S MOM 12 KELIS, MILKSHAKE 13 OUTKAST, HEY YA 14 STROKES, 1251 15 BRAND NEW, SIC TRANSIT GLORIA... GLORY FADES 16 AUDIOSLAVE, SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE 17 THRICE, STARE AT THE SUN 18 CHELLE, SEND THE PAIN BELOW 19 JET, ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL 20 RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS, FORTUNE FADED 21 NO DOUBT, IT'S MY LIFE 22 EVANESCENCE, GOING UNDER 23 S.T.U.N., ANNIHILATION OF THE GENERATIONS 24 TRAPT, STILL FRAME 25 HEY MERCEDES, QUALITY REVENGE AT LAST 26 YEAR OF THE RABBIT, LAST DEFENSE 27 LIMBECK, JULIA 28 SIMPLE PLAN, ADDICTED 29 SMILE EMPTY SOUL, BOTTOM OF A BOTTLE 30 TRAPT, HEADSTRONG	1 BROOKS & DUNN, YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HONKY TONK OUT OF THE GIRL 2 SHANIA TWAIN, SHE'S NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE 3 KENNY CHESNEY, THERE GOES MY LIFE 4 CHRIS CAGLE, CHICKS DIG IT 5 MONTGOMERY GENTRY, HELL YEAH 6 TOBY KEITH, I LOVE THIS BAR 7 ALAN JACKSON, REMEMBER WHEN 8 KEITH URBAN, WHO WOULDN'T WANNA BE ME 9 REBA MCENTIRE, I'M GONNA TAKE THAT MOUNTAIN 10 DIERKS BENTLEY, MY LAST NAME 11 TRACE ADKINS, HOT MAMA 12 JOE NICHOLS, COOL TO BE A FOOL 13 BRAD PAISLEY, LITTLE MOMENTS 14 BRIAN MCCOMAS, YOU'RE IN MY HEAD 15 BUDDY JEWELL, SWEET SOUTHERN COMFORT 16 JOSH TURNER, LONG BLACK TRAIN 17 SARA EVANS, PERFECT 18 RUSHLOW, I CAN'T BE YOUR FRIEND 19 JIMMY WAYNE, I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH 20 JAMES TAYLOR & ALISON KRAUSS, HOW'S THE WORLD TREATING YOU 21 SCOTTY EMERICK, I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANYWHERE 22 PATTY LOVELESS, ON YOUR WAY HOME 23 KEVIN DENNEY, A YEAR AT A TIME 24 RHONDA VINCENT, IF HEARTACHES HAD WINGS 25 BLUE COUNTY, GOOD LITTLE GIRLS 26 PAT GREEN, WAVE ON WAVE 27 MARK WILLS, AND THE CROWD GOES WILD 28 WYNNONNA, HEAVEN HELP ME 29 CLINT BLACK, SPEND MY TIME 30 MARK WILLS, HE'S A COWBOY	1 BLINK-182, FEELING THIS 2 PUDDLE OF MUDD, AWAY FROM ME 3 JET, ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL 4 JAY-Z, CHANGE CLOTHES 5 KELIS, MILKSHAKE 6 KANYE WEST, THROUGH THE WIRE 7 TUPAC, RUNNIN' 8 LUDACRIS, STAND UP 9 OUTKAST, THE WAY YOU MOVE 10 NO DOUBT, IT'S MY LIFE 11 ALICIA KEYS, YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME 12 OUTKAST, HEY YA 13 IGGY POP, LITTLE KNOW IT ALL 14 DARKNESS, I BELIEVE IN A THING CALLED LOVE 15 LINKIN PARK, NUMB 16 ATMOSPHERE, TRYING TO FIND A BALANCE 17 STROKES, 1251 18 MISSY ELLIOTT, PASS THAT OUTCH 19 SHINS, SO SAYS I 20 G UNIT, STUNT 101 21 STORY OF THE YEAR, UNTIL THE DAY I DIE 22 POLYPHONIC SPREE, LIGHT & DAY 23 SWITCHFOOT, MEANT TO LIVE 24 MURPHY LEE, WAT DA HOOK GON BE 25 COLDPLAY, MOSES 26 HOOBASTANK, OUT OF CONTROL 27 DISTILLERS, ORAIN THE BLOOD 28 BRAND NEW, SIC TRANSIT GLORIA... GLORY FADES 29 THREE DAYS GRACE, (I HATE) EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU 30 TIMBALAND & MAGOO, INDIAN FLUTE	1 NELLY FURTADO, POWERLESS (SAY WHAT YOU WANT) 2 NO DOUBT, IT'S MY LIFE 3 LUDACRIS, STAND UP 4 OUTKAST, HEY YA 5 UNKIN PARK, NUMB 6 THREE DAYS GRACE, JUST LIKE YOU 7 BLACK EYED PEAS, SHUT UP 8 MISSY ELLIOTT, PASS THAT OUTCH 9 GOOD CHARLOTTE, HOLD ON 10 BLINK-182, FEELING THIS 11 IGGY POP, LITTLE KNOW IT ALL 12 BILLY TALENT, TRY HARDER 13 BRITNEY SPEARS, ME AGAINST THE MUSIC 14 EVANESCENCE, MY IMMORTAL 15 THE WHITE STRIPES, THE HARDEST BUTTIN TO BUTTIN 16 CHINGY, HOLIDAE IN 17 FEFÉ DOBSON, TAKE ME AWAY 18 DEFAULT, TAKING MY LIFE AWAY 19 JET, ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL 20 3 DOORS DOWN, HERE WITHOUT YOU 21 JAY-Z, CHANGE CLOTHES 22 STROKES, 1251 23 SWOLLEN MEMBERS, WATCH THIS 24 OUTKAST, THE WAY YOU MOVE 25 PILATE, INTO YOUR HIDEOUT 26 FRINGER ELEVEN, ONE THING 27 PINK, TROUBLE 28 KEUS, MILKSHAKE 29 SAM ROBERTS, HARD ROAD 30 OBIE TRICE, THE SET UP

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VJ TOP 20	LATIN
40 Hours Weekly	40 Hours Weekly
1 SEAN PAUL I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU 2 THE ISLEY BROS/JOHNSON BUSTED 3 ASHANTI RAIN ON ME - Remix 4 JAY Z CHANGE CLOTHES 5 G UNIT / 50 CENT STUNT 101 6 ALICIA KEYS YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME 7 LUDACRIS STAND UP 8 BEYONCÉ/JAY-Z CRAZY IN LOVE 9 JESSICA SIMPSON WITH YOU 10 MONICA KNOCK KNOCK 11 KEM LOVE CALLS 12 R. KELLY STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE 13 AKON BELLY DANCER 14 MARY J EVE NOT TODAY 15 JUVENILE IN MY LIFE 16 ELEPHANT MAN PON DE RIVER 17 CHRISTINA AGUILERA CAN'T HOLD US DOWN 18 TWISTA TATOO 19 YING YANG TWINS SALT SHAKER 20 MEMPHIS BLEEK/TRICK DADDY ROUND HERE	1 OBIE BERMUDEZ ANTES 2 LOS CHALCHALEROS DESPEDIADA 3 LEONARDO FAVIO FOTO DE CARNET 4 PLASTILINA MOSH PELIGROSO POP 5 TIGRES DEL NORTE REYNA DEL SUR 6 ALEXANDRE PIRES QUITEMOS LA ROPA 7 DIEGO TORRES QUE NO ME PIERDA 8 MANA PUERTO DE SAN BLAS 9 CRISTIAN VOLVER A AMAR 10 CHAYANNE AUN SIGLO SIN TI 11 DIEGO TORRES QUE NO ME PIERDA 12 FABULOSOS CADILLAC MATADOR 13 LOS VISCONTIS VENENO 14 KUMBIA KINGS & OZOMATLI MI GENTE 15 CHRISTIAN VOLVER A AMAR 16 SELENA AMOR PROHIBIDO 17 MONCHY & ALEXANDRA QUE LOCOS 18 LOS IRACUNDOS PUERTO MONT 19 BANDA BLANCA SOPA DE CARACOL 20 GABA'S LA CADERONA

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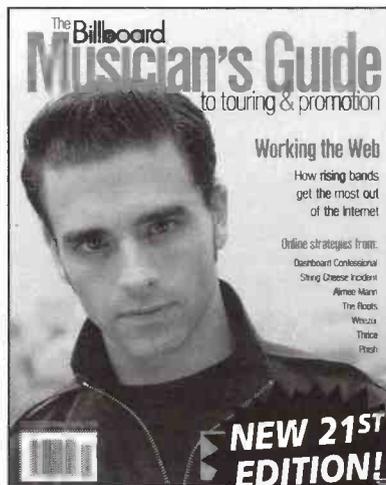
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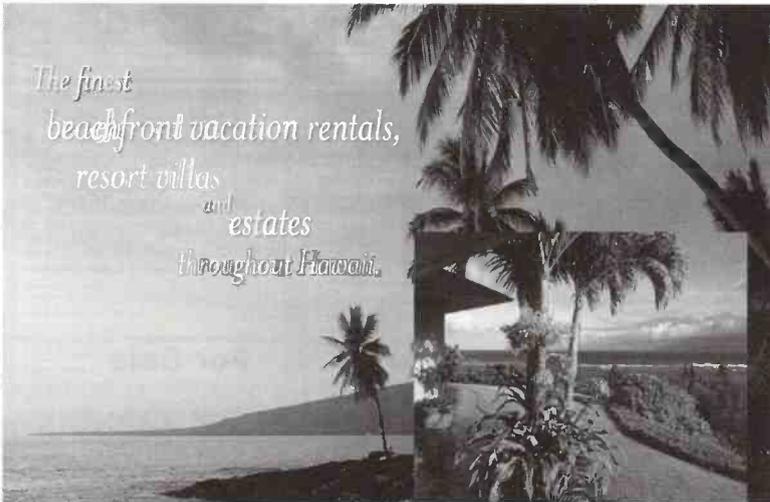


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Europe

Continued from page 65

bined group a lead in the albums share and second ranking in singles.

BMG finished the year on a roll, thanks to the massive success of Dido, whose "Life for Rent" album has topped the *Billboard* European Top 100 Albums chart since its Sept. 29 release.

The company's performance was boosted during the year by the album sales of Pink, Avril Lavigne, Christina Aguilera, Annie Lennox, Eros Ramazzotti and OutKast.

The recovery started by BMG in 2002 continued in 2003. Its album chart share grew by close to five percentage points to 17.7%, moving it from fifth to third position compared with a year ago; it also increased its single chart share to 18.3%.

The jewel in BMG's crown is its U.K. company, which ended the year dominating the singles and albums charts thanks to Will Young, Gareth Gates, Westlife and Dido. BMG also made the best of its \$3 billion acquisition of Zomba, scoring major success with Justin Timberlake and Britney Spears. At Sony, Beyoncé and Evanescence scored Pan-European successes, as did compilations from Bruce Springsteen and Michael Jackson. But few other projects made major chart impressions.

Sony's album chart share dropped more than 10 percentage points from 2002 to 13.6%; its ranking dropped from second to fifth.

In singles, Sony fell to 17.8%, losing eight percentage points, but only

dropped from second to third position.

Doubts that EMI might have a future as a stand-alone company could be lifted—from a European perspective at least—by this year's chart-share results.

In album share, the British company took the lead in Europe with a 25.9% share, seven points up from 2002 and relegating market leader Universal to second place.

EMI's success owed much to sales from such U.K. acts as Robbie Williams, whose album "Escapology" racked up European shipments exceeding 5 million units, according to the label.

Other EMI top sellers included Norah Jones, Coldplay, Radiohead, Blue and Atomic Kitten. Such Continental European acts as Lene Marlin (Norway), Tiziano Ferro (Italy), Helmut Lotti (Belgium), Herbert Groenemeyer (Germany), Renaud (France) and Roxette (Sweden) also contributed.

In singles chart share, EMI remained fourth, with a slightly improved share of 12.1%.

Universal, the undisputed charts leader for the past five years, surrendered its album-share place to EMI but increased its singles share to 36.2%. The top three singles of the year were all from Universal: Black Eyed Peas' "Where Is the Love?," Eminem's "Lose Yourself" and T.a.t.u.'s "All the Things She Said."

Warner Music improved its shares in singles and albums to, respectively, 9.9% and 14.5%. Warner's top-selling albums included those by Linkin Park, Madonna, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Sean Paul, R.E.M. and the Darkness.

Additional reporting by Tom Ferguson in London.

Tuned In

Continued from page 68

debuted at No. 2 on The Billboard 200 in October and has sold 469,000 copies in the U.S. to date.

ARTISTS IN SITCOM LAND: Hip-hop and pop stars doing sitcoms/comedy series was another big trend in the ongoing crossover between the music business and TV.

Eve (UPN's "Eve"), Lil' Romeo and Master P (Nickelodeon's "Romeo!") and Snoop Dogg (MTV's "Doggy Fizzle Televizzle") starred in their own comedy series in 2003. Stars who inked sitcom development deals in 2003 included Bow Wow and MC Hammer (with the WB), Hilary Duff (with CBS) and Jessica Simpson (with ABC); all the shows are expected to debut in 2004.

RATINGS HITS AND MISSES: Cher's Emmy Award-winning NBC special "Cher: The Farewell Tour" was the highest-rated network-TV concert special of 2003. According to Nielsen Media Research, the show's April 8 premiere drew 16.6 million U.S. viewers.

The WB weekly live music series

"Pepsi Smash" bombed. With a season average of only 1.7 million viewers per episode, "Pepsi Smash" was among the network's lowest-rated shows of the year.

"Newlyweds," the reality series starring pop star Simpson and husband Nick Lachey, was a hit for MTV and has been renewed for a second season. The couple had a ubiquitous media presence as a result of the show, but all the publicity apparently could not provide much of a boost for Simpson's and Lachey's latest albums, which languished on the charts.

Ratings for the 2003 MTV Video Music Awards declined 10% in total viewers from the previous year. The show will likely be best-remembered for the kisses exchanged by Madonna, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera—a publicity stunt that was covered in the media for weeks afterward.

OTHER 2003 HIGHLIGHTS: PBS revived live-music series "SoundStage" . . . MuchMusic USA reinvented itself as Fuse . . . Disney Channel had hit TV soundtracks for its shows "Kim Possible" and "The Cheetah Girls" . . . Showtime re-entered the business of live concert specials by airing a show by Jay-Z.

Digital Audio Workstations Continue To Proliferate

Though 2003 will be remembered as another challenging year for many commercial recording facilities and audio professionals, the year also offered many promising developments for both creators and consumers of music.

The digital audio workstation (DAW), ever improving in terms of speed, quality and convenience, continues to proliferate, finding a home in both commercial and private, often home-based, studios.

Meanwhile, analog-tape-based recording, a decades-long standard, suffered another blow when EMTEC Multimedia went out of business (*Billboard*, Studio Monitor, July 12). Quantegy is now the sole manufacturer of multitrack analog tape.

The transition from analog recording to DAW-based production was unmistakable when, in 2002, New York facility Unique Recording Studios removed a custom Neve 8068 console from its Studio D in favor of a Pro Tools HD3 system with Digidesign/Focusrite Control 24 user interface.

Now offering five Pro Tools HD systems, Unique is moving further into the DAW realm with its URS

(Unique Recording Software) plug-ins, currently consisting of the A and N Series Classic Console Equalizers, digital emulation of API's 550B and Neve's 1084 EQs, respectively. URS will be featured at Digidesign's exhibit at the NAMM Convention in Anaheim, Calif. next month.

"It's a Pro Tools world," Unique co-owner **Bobby Nathan** says. "We do miss the Neve [8068], but we make about the same income with the Pro Tools that we did with the Neve. And the younger kids, what do they know from a real Neve?"

At the 115th Audio Engineering Society Convention, held in October in New York, the DAW's ubiquity became even more apparent.

Console manufacturer Solid State Logic, renowned for its G, J and K Series analog consoles, unveiled the

XLogic product line of rackmounted outboard signal processing units, developed from the company's XL 9000 K Series console.

Sony, which markets its Oxford

says. "Clients are still going to use rooms like ours for tracking and mixing." But the DAW, he acknowledges, "has had an effect on our lower-end rooms, the overdub and edit suites."

Studio Monitor

By Christopher Walsh
cwalsh@billboard.com



2003 IN REVIEW

plug-ins for high-end Pro Tools TDM systems, debuted Oxford software for the lower-end Pro Tools LE products such as Mbox and 002. Each announcement was a clear acknowledgement by the respective manufacturer that DAW production, occurring in and out of studio environments, is here to stay.

Digidesign also introduced the HD Accel PCI card at the 115th AES Convention, allowing for increased DSP power of HD process cards. And in yet another development certain to further the computer's dominance in audio recording, Apple Computer introduced the G5 in 2003, one result being another leap forward in DAW processing power.

The dramatic increase in power, flexibility and audio resolution offered by the DAW has significantly affected commercial studios, until recently the sole domain of truly professional-quality recording tools. The falling cost of DAW products, from personal computer to interface units and software, has made high-quality recording available to virtually anyone, including, unfortunately, the untrained and untalented.

Commercial studios also offer proper acoustic spaces, highly trained technical staff and luxurious amenities, features uncommon in a typical home studio. But with the music industry marking a third consecutive year of declining unit sales, budgets are not what they used to be. Many studio managers describe a day-to-day existence, where month-long bookings were once the norm.

Like the record labels they serve, studios have not been exempt from downsizing measures. "For the most part, a lot of our cost-cutting changes were extremely helpful," says **Andrew Kautz** of Emerald Sound Studios, a multi-room facility in Nashville. "Our overall revenues are going to be right in line with where I had expected.

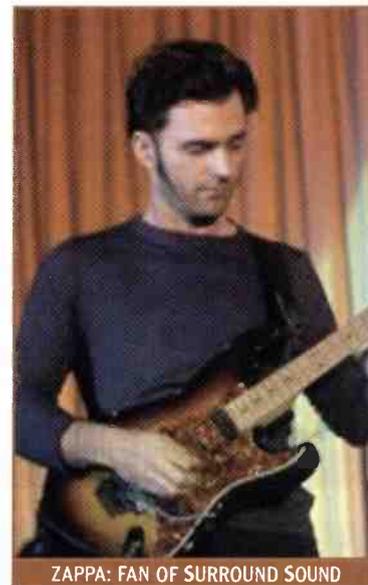
"There's still going to be a need for commercial studios," Kautz

MULTICHANNEL MULTIPLIES: It has been a slow process, but multichannel audio gained far greater exposure in the music industry in 2003. This year saw several high-profile events and releases, offering the possibility that surround sound can reinvigorate the audio production industry.

For the first time, the Grammy Awards were broadcast in 5.1-channel sound, thanks to a team of professionals including members of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences' Producers & Engineers Wing, New York-based remote recording company Effanel Music, Dolby Laboratories and the CBS TV network (*Billboard*, Studio Monitor, March 8).

Though a limited number of viewers received the 5.1-channel broadcast, that number will only grow as consumers adopt multichannel-capable home theater products, a phenomenon encouraged by the runaway success of DVD-Video.

This year, the DVD-Audio, DVD-Video and Super Audio CD (SACD) formats saw many high-profile releases, offering high-resolution, multichannel audio and vastly



ZAPPA: FAN OF SURROUND SOUND

enhancing the listening experience.

The Beach Boys' "Pet Sounds" (DVD-A), **Led Zeppelin's** "DVD" (DVD-Video), **Pink Floyd's** "The Dark Side of the Moon" and several **Bob Dylan** albums (SACD) are among the 2003 multichannel releases that have captivated these artists' fans. As labels continue to reissue catalog recordings on these formats, expect to hear many more classic albums as you have never heard them before.

At the recently held Surround 2003 Conference in Los Angeles, the late **Frank Zappa** was awarded the Surround Pioneer Award, while Led Zeppelin was named Surround Artist of the Year. Zappa's "Halloween," documenting live New York performances from 1978, was released this year on DVD-A by DTS Entertainment; his "Baby Snakes" film was released Dec. 9 on DVD-V.

"Now we can go into a whole new area of surround," says **Dweezil Zappa**, who accepted the award on his father's behalf, referring to upgrades made at the elder Zappa's private studio. "We're looking forward to a lot more new releases. Whatever we can start to present in surround, we will."

Home theaters featuring 5.1 speaker arrays are adding to consumers' enjoyment of music and video. Another development adding to the surround-sound listening experience is the 2004 Acura TL Series, including, as a standard feature, a DVD-A/surround system designed by engineer/producer **Elliot Scheiner** with Panasonic Automotive Systems.

With the abundance of surround-sound hardware and software introduced in 2003, it would appear that multichannel audio can provide plenty of new session activity to audio professionals. Emerging, legitimate digital distribution may also stem the tide of piracy and illegal file-sharing that has beset the music industry. The future is bright.

DECEMBER 27 2003 Billboard PRODUCTION CREDITS

BILLBOARD'S NO. 1 SINGLES (DECEMBER 20, 2003)			
CATEGORY	HOT 100	R&B	COUNTRY
TITLE Artist/ Producer (Label)	HEY YA! OutKast/ Andre 3000 (Arista)	YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME Alicia Keys/ A. Keys, K. West (J/RMG)	THERE GOES MY LIFE Kenny Chesney/ B. Cannon, K. Chesney (BNA)
RECORDING STUDIO(S) (Location) Engineer(s)	STANKONIA (Atlanta, GA) TREE SOUND (Norcross, GA) LARRABEE NORTH (Universal City, CA) LARRABEE EAST (West Hollywood, CA) John Frye, Robert Hannon, Pete Novak	QUAD RECORDING (New York) Tony Black	THE TRACKING ROOM @ EMERALD (Nashville, TN) Billy Sherrill
CONSOLE(S)/ DAW(S)	SSL 4000 G, SSL 4064 G+, SSL 9000 J, Neve 8078	SSL 9000 J	SSL 9000 J
MULTITRACK RECORDER(S)/PLAYBACK MEDIA	Pro Tools, Pro Tools HD	Pro Tools	Sony 3348
RECORDING MEDIA	Pro Tools, Pro Tools HD, Glyph EZQuest	Pro Tools	Quantegy 467
MIX DOWN STUDIO(S) (Location) Engineer(s)	HIT FACTORY (New York) LARRABEE WEST (West Hollywood, CA) Neal Pogue, Kevin "KD" Davis	LARRABEE NORTH (Universal City, CA) Manny Marroquin	LOUD (Nashville, TN) Kevin Beamish
CONSOLE(S)/DAW(S)	SSL 9000 K, SSL E/G	SSL 9000 J	Sony Oxford OXF-R3
MIXDOWN RECORDER(S)/MEDIA	Ampex ATR 102, Pro Tools	Pro Tools	Pro Tools
MIX DOWN MEDIA	Quantegy 499, Pro Tools Mix Plus, BASF GP9	Pro Tools	Pro Tools
MASTERING (Location) Engineer	BERNIE GRUNDMAN (Los Angeles) Brian Gardner	HIT FACTORY (New York) Herb Powers, Jr.	MASTERMIX (Nashville, TN) Hank Williams
CD/CASSETTE MANUFACTURER	BMG	BMG	BMG

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THE TOP STORIES

- The Librarian of Congress announces the first 50 recordings for the National Recording Registry.
- The 45th Grammy Awards are broadcast in surround sound.
- Solid State Logic introduces the C200 and C100 digital consoles and the XLogic line of signal processors.
- AMS Neve introduces the first Direct Stream Digital console for Super Audio CD production.
- Longtime Hit Factory owner Ed Germano dies at 61.
- Industry veteran Paul Gallo is named managing director of the Society of Professional Audio Recording Services.
- EMTEC Multimedia goes out of business.
- The 2004 Acura TL Series sedan debuts as the first automobile to include a DVD-Audio player/surround-sound speaker array as a standard feature.
- Former CEO John Lancken acquires the intellectual property of manufacturer Fairlight.



Charts

SALES / AIRPLAY / TRENDS / ANALYSIS



J's One-Two Year-End Punch

An "American Idol" gets his moment in the sun, while the young J Records label owns the top two slots on The Billboard 200 for the second time in 2003. Kind of an exciting way to close out the year, eh?

There was a moment when it appeared that "Idol" winner **Ruben Studdard's** "Soulful" would arrive the same day as the debut album by runner-up **Clay Aiken**. Had that been the case, the affable Studdard would have again played second fiddle to the man he edged out at the close of the show's second season.

Singles by both finalists came to market June 3, and even though the opener of 286,000 copies by Studdard's "Flying Without Wings" had been the biggest we have seen in five years, we had to settle for No. 2, behind 393,000 units for Aiken's "This Is the Night."

Instead, each of these friendly rivals has a chance to take a bow. Aiken's "Measure of a Man" scored a 613,000-unit opener to lead the big chart in October, the second-largest Nielsen SoundScan week earned by an artist's first album. Now, Studdard crowns The Billboard 200 with a respectable 416,500 copies, a bigger sum than his first-day numbers had suggested.

Over the Counter

By Geoff Mayfield
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With last week's champ, **Alicia Keys**, locking up the No. 2 spot with a still-handsome 342,500 (down about 45% from her opener), this is the second time in seven months that J Records monopolizes the first two rungs. It also did so in the July 5 issue, when **Luther Vandross'** "Dance With My Father" made way for a No. 1 bow by **Monica's** "After the Storm."

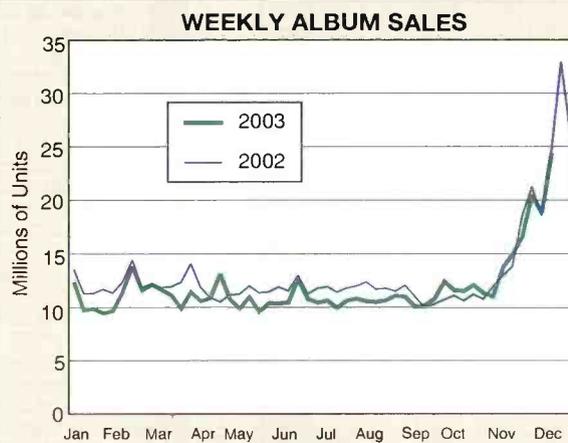
THE COMEBACK: "So, if we lose by less, we win?" That was the exasperated question a senior label sales executive posed when we had breakfast in July. At that point, album sales were lagging 8.2% behind those to date in 2002. Considering that last year ended at a 10.7% deficit behind those of 2001, my answer was, "Well, yeah."

By September, the gap behind 2002 had widened to 8.5%, but out of nowhere, a light almost unexpectedly pierced the gloom. When **John Mayer** bowed with 328,000 copies, it was the first time in more than two years that album sales were bigger than those of the same week from the prior year without the artificial halo caused by a holiday shift. Then, it was two weeks in a row, then three, until we hit a roll when album sales had exceeded those of the comparative 2002 frames for 11 out of 13 weeks.

The current issue's charts reflect a 0.5% downturn from the same 2002 week. And even if it is unlikely that album sales will catch up to 2002's (Continued on page 76)

Market Watch

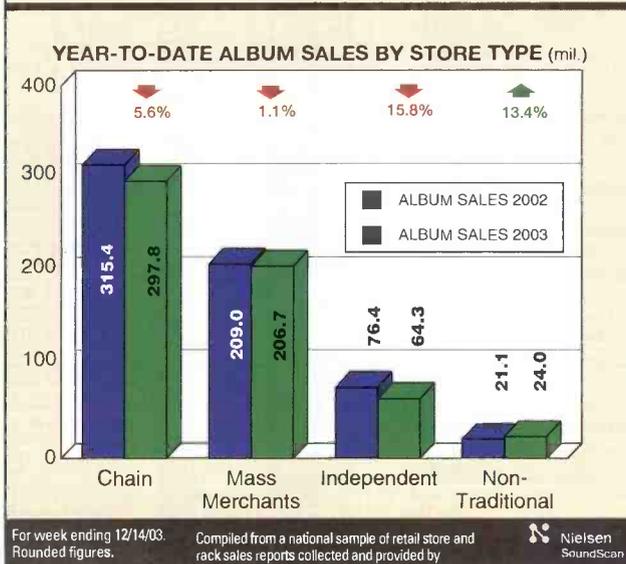
A Weekly National Music Sales Report



ALBUM SALES			
This Week	24,444,000	This Week 2002	24,570,000
Last Week	18,848,000	Change	↔ 0.5%
Change	↔ 29.7%		
SINGLES SALES*			
This Week	210,000	This Week 2002	205,000
Last Week	177,000	Change	↔ 2.4%
Change	↔ 18.6%		



YEAR-TO-DATE OVERALL UNIT SALES			
	2002	2003	
Total	633,646,000	603,956,000	(↔ 4.7%)
Albums	621,987,000	592,846,000	(↔ 4.7%)
Singles	11,659,000	11,110,000	(↔ 4.7%)
YEAR-TO-DATE SALES BY ALBUM FORMAT			
	2002	2003	
CD	592,109,000	574,219,000	(↔ 3.0%)
Cassette	28,329,000	16,907,000	(↔ 40.3%)
Other	1,549,000	1,720,000	(↔ 11.0%)



Madonna's Dance Moves

Madonna makes news on two dance charts this issue. A single featuring remixes of "Nothing Fails/Nobody Knows Me" (Maverick/Warner Bros.) debuts at No. 1 on Hot Dance Singles Sales, while her collaboration with **Britney Spears**, "Me Against the Music" (Jive), shoots 13-2. It's the first time in more than six years that one artist holds the top two spots on this chart.

Puff Daddy was the last artist to dominate Dance Singles Sales in this manner. The week of Aug. 2, 1997, he held the top three positions. "I'll Be Missing You" debuted at No. 1, "Mo Money Mo Problems" by the **Notorious B.I.G. Featuring Puff Daddy & Mase** was a new entry at No. 2 and "Someone" by **SWV Featuring Puff Daddy** rocketed 53-3.

Before Puff Daddy, **Mariah Carey** was No. 1 and No. 2 the week of Dec. 2, 1995, with "One Sweet Day" and "Fantasy," respectively.

On Hot Dance Club Play, "Me Against the Music" moves 2-1, "Nobody Knows Me" falls 4-10 and "Nothing Fails" climbs 30-20. That makes Madonna the only artist in the past 20 years to have three top 20 hits on this chart at the same time.

Chart Beat

By Fred Bronson
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STAR TRACKS: For the first time in eight years, Arista owns the top three titles on The Billboard Hot 100. **OutKast** remains No. 1 and No. 2 with "Hey Ya!" and "The Way You Move," respectively, while **Kelis'** "MilKshake" (Star Trak/Arista) moves up a notch to No. 3.

The last time Arista laid claim to the top three was in 1995. The week of July 8, **TLC's** "Waterfalls" jumped 7-1, **Monica's** "Don't Take It Personal" held at No. 2 and the **Notorious B.I.G.'s** "One More Chance" stood pat at No. 3. Those three titles remained in the top three for five consecutive weeks.

IDOLIZED: Cast aside any thought that the power of Fox-TV's "American Idol" is waning. Seven months after he was named the winner of the series' second season, **Ruben Studdard** debuts at No. 1 on The Billboard 200 with "Soulful" (J). Known affectionately as "the velvet teddy bear," the Birmingham, Ala.-born singer is the third "Idol" contestant to debut at No. 1 this year, following **Kelly Clarkson** and **Clay Aiken**.

MINDING SINGLES: My top 10 albums of 2003 can be found at billboard.com, along with the choices of other staffers. But being a single guy, I also like to compile my top 10 singles of the year (commercial release no longer required). Here are my favorites:

1. "8th Wonder," **Kimberley Locke** (Curb).
2. "Let Your Spirit Fly," **Jan Johansen & Pernilla Walgren** (M&L, Sweden).
3. "Not a Sinner, Nor a Saint," **Alcazar** (M&L, Sweden).
4. "Crazy in Love," **Jill Johnson** (M&L, Sweden).
5. "This One's for the Girls," **Martina McBride** (RCA).
6. "Where Is the Love?" **Black Eyed Peas** (A&M).
7. "Everyway That I Can," **Sertab** (Sony Music, Turkey).
8. "Invisible," **Clay Aiken** (RCA).
9. "Genom Eld och Vatten," **Sarek** (Startklart, Sweden).
10. "Dime," **Beth** (Vale Music, Spain).

Billboard THE BILLBOARD 200

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION
NUMBER 1/HOT SHOT DEBUT 1 Week At Number 1													
1	NEW	1	1	RUBEN STUDDARD J 54639*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Soulful	1	50	42	42	10	KENNY CHESNEY ● BNA 51808/RLG (18.98 CD)	All I Want For Christmas Is A Real Good Tan	42
2	1	—	2	ALICIA KEYS J 55712*/RMG (15.98/18.98)	The Diary Of Alicia Keys	1	51	50	44	4	LINKIN PARK WARNER BROS. 48563 (21.98 CD/DVD)	Live In Texas	23
3	4	5	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ COLUMBIA/UNIVERSAL/EMI/ZOMBA 90753/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Now 14	3	52	41	28	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● RCA 55424/RMG (18.98 CD)	American Idol: The Great Holiday Classics	28
4	2	6	6	TOBY KEITH ▲ ² DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 450435/INTERSCOPE (12.98/18.98)	Shock'n Y'all	1	53	55	75	11	BETTE MIDLER ● COLUMBIA 90350/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Bette Midler Sings The Rosemary Clooney Songbook	14
5	3	7	5	JOSH GROBAN 143/REPRISE 48450/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Closer	3	54	37	50	21	MICHAEL MCDONALD ● MOTOWN 000651/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Motown	28
6	5	10	12	OUTKAST ▲ ⁶ ARISTA 50133* (22.98 CD)	Speakerboxx/The Love Below	1	55	52	48	14	JOHN MAYER ▲ AWARE/COLUMBIA 86185/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Heavier Things	1
GREATEST GAINER													
7	13	19	8	ROD STEWART ▲ J 55710*/RMG (15.98/18.98)	As Time Goes By ... The Great American Songbook Vol. II	2	56	68	72	54	SIMPLE PLAN ▲ LAVA 83534/AG (17.98/12.98) [M]	No Pads, No Helmets...Just Balls	36
8	6	4	16	HILARY DUFF ▲ ² BUENA VISTA 861006/HOLLYWOOD (18.98 CD)	Metamorphosis	1	57	66	70	68	COLDPLAY ▲ ³ CAPITOL 40504* (12.98/18.98)	A Rush Of Blood To The Head	5
9	9	15	6	SHERYL CROW ▲ A&M 001521/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Sheryl Crow	4	58	64	47	11	STING ● A&M 001141/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Sacred Love	3
10	7	3	4	BRITNEY SPEARS ▲ ² JIVE 53748/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	In The Zone	1	59	26	13	3	MISSY ELLIOTT ▲ THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA 62905*/EEG (12.98/18.98)	This Is Not A Test!	13
11	11	14	9	CLAY AIKEN ▲ ² RCA 54638/RMG (18.98 CD)	Measure Of A Man	1	60	61	57	11	MARTINA MCBRIDE ● RCA (NASHVILLE) 54207/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Martina	7
12	8	2	3	NO DOUBT INTERSCOPE 001495 (12.98 CD)	The Singles 1992-2003	2	61	47	—	23	MICHAEL BUBLE 143/REPRISE 48376/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD) [M]	Michael Buble	47
13	NEW	1	1	MUSIQ DEF SOUL 001616*/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	soulstar	13	62	36	20	3	PUDDLE OF MUDD GEPHEN 001080/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Life On Display	20
14	15	18	6	SARAH MCLACHLAN ▲ ARISTA 50150 (12.98/18.98)	Afterglow	2	63	67	69	63	GOOD CHARLOTTE ▲ ² DAYLIGHT/EPIC 86486/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Young And The Hopeless	7
15	18	25	18	ALAN JACKSON ▲ ARISTA NASHVILLE 53097/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Greatest Hits Volume II And Some Other Stuff	1	64	39	53	5	SOUNDTRACK J 56760/RMG (18.98 CD)	Love Actually	39
16	NEW	1	1	WESTSIDE CONNECTION HDD-BANGIN' 24030*/CAPITOL (7.98/18.98)	Terrorist Threats	16	65	46	45	4	LEANN RIMES CURB 78629 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	24
17	12	23	7	HARRY CONNICK, JR. ● COLUMBIA 90550/SONY MUSIC (18.98 CD)	Harry For The Holidays	12	66	59	56	34	SOUNDTRACK ▲ WALT DISNEY 860080 (18.98 CD)	The Lizzie McGuire Movie	6
18	NEW	1	1	AVANT MAGIC JOHNSON/GEPHEN 001567*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Private Room	18	67	48	32	3	COUNTING CROWS GEPHEN 001676/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Films About Ghosts: The Best Of...	32
19	19	11	4	BLINK-182 GEPHEN 001334/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Blink-182	3	68	72	79	56	MATCHBOX TWENTY ▲ ² MELISMAT/LANTIC 83612/AG (12.98/18.98)	More Than You Think You Are	6
20	16	17	4	THE BEATLES ▲ APPLE 95713/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	Let It Be... Naked	5	69	51	29	4	MICHAEL JACKSON ● MJJ/EPIC 88998/SONY MUSIC (12.98/18.98)	Number Ones	13
21	NEW	1	1	BIG TYMERS CASH MONEY/UNIVERSAL 000915*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Big Money Heavyweight	21	70	65	68	10	ELVIS PRESLEY ▲ BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING/RCA 55895*/RMG (19.98 CD)	Elvis: 2nd To None	3
22	17	22	8	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ ² EMI/UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/ZOMBA 83098/CAPITOL (18.98 CD)	Now That's What I Call Christmas! 2: The Signature Collection	17	71	77	74	59	CHRISTINA AGUILERA ▲ ³ RCA 68037*/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Stripped	2
23	10	1	5	JAY-Z ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM 001528*/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	The Black Album	1	72	78	65	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS PROVIDENT/WORD-CURB/EMI CHRISTIAN 90652/SPARROW (21.98 CD)	WOW Hits 2004	51
24	14	8	5	G-UNIT ▲ ² G-UNIT/SHADY 001593*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Beg For Mercy	2	73	58	76	5	BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ▲ LEGACY/COLUMBIA 90773/SONY MUSIC (25.98 EQ CD)	The Essential Bruce Springsteen	14
25	29	39	41	EVANESCENCE ▲ ³ WIND-UP 13063 (18.98 CD)	Fallen	3	74	85	80	3	SOUNDTRACK REPRISE/WMG SOUNDTRACKS 48521/WARNER BROS. (19.98 CD)	The Lord Of The Rings: The Return Of The King	74
26	23	30	11	DIDO ▲ ARISTA 50137 (18.98 CD)	Life For Rent	4	75	75	81	9	BARBRA STREISAND ● COLUMBIA 89018/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	The Movie Album	5
27	NEW	1	1	KELIS STAR TRAK 52132*/ARISTA (12.98/18.98)	Tasty	27	76	80	78	59	RASCAL FLATTS ▲ LYRIC STREET 165031/HOLLYWOOD (12.98/18.98)	Melt	5
28	28	35	12	NICKELBACK ▲ ROADRUNNER 618400/DJMG (18.98 CD)	The Long Road	6	77	81	77	6	COLDPLAY ● CAPITOL 99014 (24.98 DVD/CD)	Coldplay Live 2003	13
29	20	16	5	SOUNDTRACK ▲ AMARU 001533*/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Tupac: Resurrection	2	78	73	67	45	50 CENT ▲ ⁶ SHADY/AFTERMATH 493544*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Get Rich Or Die Tryin'	1
30	NEW	1	1	THE OFFSPRING COLUMBIA 890267/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Splinter	30	79	70	60	12	LIMP BIZKIT ● FLIP 001235*/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Results May Vary	3
31	27	34	25	BEYONCE ▲ ² COLUMBIA 86386*/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Dangerously In Love	1	80	83	89	86	KENNY CHESNEY ▲ ³ BNA 67038/RLG (12.98/18.98)	No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems	1
32	35	43	38	LINKIN PARK ▲ ³ WARNER BROS. 48186* (19.98 CD)	Meteora	1	81	31	—	2	TRACE ADKINS CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 40517 (12.98/18.98)	Comin' On Strong	31
33	30	33	57	3 DOORS DOWN ▲ ² REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL 064396/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Away From The Sun	8	82	57	55	12	R. KELLY ▲ JIVE 55077/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	The R. In R&B Collection: Volume One	4
34	25	26	22	CHINGY ▲ DISTURBING THA PEACE 82976*/CAPITOL (11.98/18.98)	Jackpot	2	83	NEW	1	1	NICK CANNON NICK/JIVE 48500/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Nick Cannon	83
35	24	21	10	LUDACRIS ▲ DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH 000930*/DJMG (8.98/12.98)	Chicken*N*Beer	1	84	79	64	59	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ ▲ BME 2370*/TVT (13.98/17.98)	Kings Of Crunk	14
36	32	41	8	EAGLES WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING 73971 (25.98 CD)	The Very Best Of	3	85	69	62	4	REBA MCENTIRE MCA NASHVILLE 000451/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Room To Breathe	25
37	43	59	18	SOUNDTRACK ● WALT DISNEY 860126 (6.98 CD)	The Cheetah Girls (EP)	37	86	63	38	3	NELLY FURTADO DREAMWORKS 001007/INTERSCOPE (18.98 CD)	Folklore	38
38	33	24	5	KID ROCK ▲ TOP DOG/ATLANTIC 83685*/AG (18.98 CD)	Kid Rock	8	87	84	66	12	DAVE MATTHEWS ▲ RCA 55167/RMG (18.98 CD)	Some Devil	2
39	21	12	3	NELLY ▲ FD REEL/UNIVERSAL 001665*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Da Derry Versions - The Reinvention	12	88	90	83	47	TRAPT ▲ WARNER BROS. 48296 (18.98 CD) [M]	Trapt	42
40	38	36	4	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS WARNER BROS. 48545 (18.98 CD)	Greatest Hits	21	89	NEW	1	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS DEF JAM 001614/DJMG (12.98 CD)	The Source Presents Hip Hop Hits Vol. 7	89
41	40	46	94	NORAH JONES ▲ ⁸ BLUE NOTE 32088* (17.98 CD) [M]	Come Away With Me	1	90	96	99	17	JESSICA SIMPSON ● COLUMBIA 86560/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	In This Skin	10
42	22	9	4	KORN ▲ IMMORTAL/EPIC 90335*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Take A Look In The Mirror	9	91	54	31	3	ENRIQUE IGLESIAS INTERSCOPE 001711 (12.98 CD)	Seven	31
43	49	52	56	SHANIA TWAIN ◆ ¹⁰ MERCURY 170314/UMGN (12.98 CD)	Up!	1	92	88	88	35	KELLY CLARKSON ▲ ² RCA 68159/RMG (18.98 CD)	Thankful	1
44	34	27	4	DIXIE CHICKS ▲ MONUMENT/COLUMBIA 90794/SONY MUSIC (19.98 EQ CD)	Top Of The World Tour Live	27	93	56	—	2	MICHAEL BUBLE 143/REPRISE 48599/WARNER BROS. (8.98 CD)	Let It Snow! (EP)	56
45	NEW	1	1	HOOBASTANK ISLAND 0014887/DJMG (12.98 CD)	The Reason	45	94	107	104	25	MICHELLE BRANCH ▲ MAVERICK 48426/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Hotel Paper	2
46	60	71	60	ROD STEWART ▲ ² J 20039/RMG (12.98/18.98)	It Had To Be You ... The Great American Songbook	4	95	62	37	3	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ BME 2378*/TVT (11.98 CD/DVD)	Part II	37
47	44	51	73	TOBY KEITH ▲ ³ DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 450254/INTERSCOPE (11.98/18.98)	Unleashed	1	96	91	95	18	KIDZ BOP KIDS ● RAZOR & TIE 89074 (11.98/18.98)	Kidz Bop 4	14
48	45	40	5	PINK ▲ ARISTA 52139 (18.98 CD)	Try This	9	97	94	82	17	BOW WOW ● COLUMBIA 87103/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/18.98)	Bow Wow: Unleashed	3
49	53	73	4	WHITNEY HOUSTON ARISTA 50996 (18.98 CD)	One Wish: The Holiday Album	49	98	87	90	90	MERCYME ▲ INO 86133/CURB (16.98 CD) [M]	Almost There	37
							99	103	85	4	CYNDI LAUPER DAYLIGHT/EPIC 90760/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	At Last	38
							100	93	86	5	3 DOORS DOWN REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL 001603/UMRG (9.98 CD)	Another 700 Miles (EP)	21

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS. AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	PEAK POSITION
101	97	134	7	JIM BRICKMAN RHINDHAM HILL 52896/AAL (18.98 CD)	Peace	87	151	102	116	4	CHICAGO RHINO 73892 (18.98 CD)	Christmas: What's It Gonna Be, Santa?	102
102	104	96	56	AUDIOSLAVE ▲ ² INTERSCOPE/EPIC 88686*/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Audioslave	7	152	148	146	48	SOUNDTRACK ▲ ² EPIC 87018/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	Chicago	2
103	76	58	9	JAGGED EDGE ● COLUMBIA 87017/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	Hard	3	153	165	160	21	BRAD PAISLEY ● ARISTA NASHVILLE 50605/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Mud On The Tires	8
104	86	54	6	P.O.D. ● ATLANTIC 83676*/AG (11.98 CD)	Payable On Death	9	154	123	98	7	THE STROKES ● RCA 55497*/RMG (18.98 CD)	Room On Fire	4
105	82	63	4	DAVE MATTHEWS BAND BAMA RAGS/RCA 57501/RMG (18.98 CD)	The Central Park Concert	14	155	146	125	43	R. KELLY ▲ ² JIVE 41812/ZOMBA (18.98 CD)	Chocolate Factory	1
106	99	92	25	BLACK EYED PEAS ● A&M 000699/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Elephunk	26	156	138	156	8	BARENAKED LADIES REPRISE 48299/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Everything To Everyone	10
107	92	103	48	JOHNNY CASH ▲ AMERICAN 063339*/LOST HIGHWAY (12.98 CD)	American IV: The Man Comes Around	22	157	154	145	25	FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE S-CURVE 90875 (18.98 CD) [M]	Welcome Interstate Managers	115
108	101	107	56	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE ▲ ³ JIVE 41822*/ZOMBA (12.98/18.98)	Justified	2	158	143	141	62	KEITH URBAN ▲ CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 32936 (10.98/18.98)	Golden Road	11
109	100	87	7	R.E.M. WARNER BROS. 48381 (18.98 CD)	In Time 1988-2003: The Best Of R.E.M.	8	159	157	143	31	MAROONS ● OCTONE/J 50001/RMG (11.98 CD) [M]	Songs About Jane	47
110	106	117	2	BROOKS & DUNN ● ARISTA NASHVILLE 67070/RLG (12.98/18.98)	Red Dirt Road	4	160	170	165	18	DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL ● VAGRANT 0385 (18.98 CD)	A Mark, A Mission, A Brand, A Scar	2
111	NEW	1	1	FEFE DOBSON ISLAND 001244/IDJMG (12.98 CD) [M]	Fefe Dobson	111	161	NEW	1	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS TVT 2500 (17.98 CD)	Crunk And Disorderly	161
112	NEW	1	1	IRISH TENORS RAZOR & TIE 82897 (10.98/17.98)	We Three Kings	112	162	144	—	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS SMCMG 18950/TIME LIFE (18.98 CD)	Treasury Of Christmas: Evergreen	144
113	109	91	24	ASHANTI ▲ MURDER INC./DEF JAM 000143*/IDJMG (8.98/12.98)	Chapter II	1	163	164	154	11	GARY ALLAN MCA NASHVILLE 030111/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	See If I Care	17
114	NEW	1	1	SOUNDTRACK RCA 55525/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP (18.98 CD)	Dirty Dancing: Ultimate Dirty Dancing	114	164	172	162	30	CHRIS CAGLE ● CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 40516 (11.98/18.98)	Chris Cagle	15
115	105	171	3	SOUNDTRACK ELEKTRA 62925/EEG (18.98 CD)	Honey	105	165	132	132	12	OBIE TRICE ● SHADY 001105*/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	Cheers	5
116	114	123	14	SEAL ● WARNER BROS. 47947 (18.98 CD)	Seal IV	3	166	133	—	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS BMG SPECIAL PRODUCTS 18927/TIME LIFE (18.98 CD)	Classic Country: Christmas	133
117	89	101	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING/WARNER MUSIC GROUP 55777/RMG (18.98 CD)	Totally Hits 2003	13	167	160	183	4	ASHANTI THE INC./DEF JAM 001612*/IDJMG (12.98 CD)	Ashanti's Christmas	160
118	113	128	55	TIM MCGRAW ▲ ² CURB 78746 (12.98/18.98)	Tim McGraw And The Dancehall Doctors	2	168	130	113	4	TORI AMOS ATLANTIC 83958/AG (19.98 CD)	Tales Of A Librarian: A Tori Amos Collection	40
119	108	106	38	STACIE ORRICO ● FOREFRONT 32589/VIRGIN (12.98/18.98) [M]	Stacie Orrico	59	169	194	—	7	FRANK SINATRA, DEAN MARTIN & SAMMY DAVIS JR REPRISE 73922/WARNER BROS. (25.98 CD/DVD)	Live And Swingin': The Ultimate Rat Pack Collection	38
120	95	102	6	BOB SEGER CAPITOL 52772 (17.98 CD)	Greatest Hits 2	23	170	177	177	8	VAN MORRISON BLUE NOTE 90167 (18.98 CD)	What's Wrong With This Picture?	32
121	111	84	27	LUTHER VANDROSS ▲ J 51885/RMG (12.98/18.98)	Dance With My Father	1	171	NEW	1	1	RYAN ADAMS LOST HIGHWAY 001549 (7.98 CD)	Love Is Hell Pt. 2 (EP)	171
122	112	157	9	JOSH TURNER MCA NASHVILLE 000974/UMGN (4.98/9.98) [M]	Long Black Train	112	172	151	137	13	A PERFECT CIRCLE ● VIRGIN 80918* (18.98 CD)	Thirteenth Step	2
123	129	152	20	SOUNDTRACK ● HOLLYWOOD 152404 (18.98 CD)	Freaky Friday	19	173	163	167	9	JONNY LANG A&M 001145/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	Long Time Coming	17
124	128	111	6	BON JOVI ISLAND 001540/IDJMG (8.98/12.98)	This Left Feels Right	14	174	176	175	39	JASON MRAZ ● ELEKTRA 62829/EEG (12.98 CD) [M]	Waiting For My Rocket To Come	55
125	119	119	37	THE WHITE STRIPES ▲ THIRD MAN 27148*/V2 (18.98 CD)	Elephant	6	175	159	—	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS LOST HIGHWAY 001038/UMGN (18.98 CD)	A Very Special Acoustic Christmas	159
126	117	124	30	STAINED ▲ FLIP/ELEKTRA 62882/EEG (18.98 CD)	14 Shades Of Grey	1	176	139	166	4	SOUNDTRACK WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING 74546 (25.98 CD)	Concert For George	97
127	136	138	30	SWITCHFOOT ● COLUMBIA 71083/RED INK (9.98 CD)	The Beautiful Letdown	85	177	RE-ENTRY	1	1	ALISON KRAUSS + UNION STATION ▲ ROUNDER 610515 (19.98 CD)	Live	36
128	71	49	4	112 BAD BOY/DEF SOUL 000927*/UMRG (8.98/12.98)	Hot & Wet	22	178	174	185	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS WALT DISNEY 860088 (12.98 CD)	Radio Disney Jams Vol. 6	105
129	122	135	12	BABY BASH UNIVERSAL 001258*/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Tha Smokin' Nephew	48	179	169	170	22	PAT GREEN REPUBLIC 000562/UNIVERSAL SOUTH (8.98/12.98)	Wave On Wave	10
130	135	172	9	SIMON & GARFUNKEL LEGACY/COLUMBIA 90716/SONY MUSIC (25.98 CD)	The Essential Simon & Garfunkel	27	180	155	151	12	ROB ZOMBIE GEFFEN 001041/UME (12.98 CD/DVD)	Past, Present & Future	11
131	121	133	26	LONESTAR ● BNA 67076/RLG (12.98/18.98)	From There To Here: Greatest Hits	7	181	137	100	1	DMX ▲ RUFF RYDERS/DEF JAM 063369*/IDJMG (8.98/12.98)	Grand Champ	1
132	152	158	10	JET ELEKTRA 62892/EEG (12.98 CD)	Get Born	79	182	153	130	5	STONE TEMPLE PILOTS ATLANTIC 83586/AG (18.98 CD)	Thank You	26
133	127	121	37	CHER ▲ Geffen/MCA/WARNER BROS. 73852/WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING (18.98 CD)	The Very Best Of Cher	4	183	183	—	8	MICHAEL W. SMITH REUNION 10080 (18.98 CD)	The Second Decade: 1993-2003	38
134	110	97	4	AL GREEN BLUE NOTE 93556* (18.98 CD)	I Can't Stop	53	184	RE-ENTRY	25	25	JAMES TAYLOR WARNER BROS. 73837/WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING (18.98 CD)	The Best Of James Taylor	11
135	134	144	80	AVRIL LAVIGNE ▲ ⁶ ARISTA 14740 (17.98 CD)	Let Go	2	185	RE-ENTRY	30	30	THIRD DAY ● ESSENTIAL 10706 (18.98 CD)	Offerings II: All I Have To Give	18
136	131	139	58	MONTGOMERY GENTRY ● COLUMBIA (NASHVILLE) 866520/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/17.98)	My Town	26	186	190	—	7	TOM JONES DECCA/UTV 001421/UME (12.98 CD)	Reloaded: Greatest Hits	127
137	RE-ENTRY	2	2	NEIL DIAMOND COLUMBIA 90540/SONY MUSIC (56.98 EQ CD)	Stages: Performances 1970-2002	137	187	181	195	24	GEORGE STRAIT ● MCA NASHVILLE 000114/UMGN (8.98/12.98)	Honkytonkville	5
138	126	131	21	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ UNIVERSAL/EMI/ZOMBA/SONY MUSIC 000556/UME (18.98 CD)	Now 13	2	188	186	168	5	JARS OF CLAY ESSENTIAL 10709 (18.98 CD)	Who We Are Instead	103
139	118	108	8	SOUNDTRACK WALT DISNEY 860127 (18.98 CD)	Disney Presents: Brother Bear	52	189	RE-ENTRY	43	43	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ EMI SPECIAL MARKETS 63201/TIME LIFE (19.98 CD)	Worship Together: I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever	39
140	124	110	57	SEAN PAUL ▲ ² VP/ATLANTIC 83620*/AG (12.98/18.98)	Dutty Rock	9	190	200	—	2	THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA REAL WORLD 90600/NARADA (17.98 CD)	Go Tell It On The Mountain	190
141	178	164	22	SOUNDTRACK ▲ BAD BOY 000716*/UMRG (18.98/12.98)	Bad Boys II	1	191	197	—	45	THE ROLLING STONES ▲ ⁴ ABKCO 13378/VIRGIN (28.98 CD)	Forty Licks	2
142	115	112	13	YING YANG TWINS COLLIPARK 2480*/TVT (17.98 CD)	Me & My Brother	11	193	167	182	17	ANTHONY HAMILTON SD SO DEF 52107/ARISTA (12.98 CD)	Comin' From Where I'm From	33
143	116	155	5	RANDY TRAVIS WORD-CJRB 86273/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	Worship & Faith	90	194	140	93	7	DIERKS BENTLEY CAPITOL (NASHVILLE) 39814 (12.98/18.98)	Dierks Bentley	26
144	145	173	59	ELVIS PRESLEY ▲ ³ RCA 68079*/RMG (12.98/19.98)	Elv1s: 30 #1 Hits	1	195	184	180	12	GERALD LEVERT ELEKTRA 62903/EEG (11.98/18.98)	Stroke Of Genius	6
145	98	61	6	JA RULE MURDER INC./DEF JAM 001577*/IDJMG (8.98/12.98)	Blood In My Eye	6	196	161	149	8	VARIOUS ARTISTS WARNER BROS. (NASHVILLE)/BMG/CURB/SONY MUSIC 73955/WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING (18.98 CD)	Totally Country Vol. 3	37
146	142	142	10	THREE DAYS GRACE JIVE 53479/ZOMBA (12.98 CD) [M]	Three Days Grace	118	197	162	200	3	MANDY MOORE EPIC 90127/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	Coverage	14
147	150	153	27	THE BEACH BOYS ● CAPITOL 82710 (18.98 CD)	The Very Best Of The Beach Boys: Sounds Of Summer	16	198	74	—	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS MUSIC OF LIGHT 2219/MADACY (18.98 CD)	Thomas Kinkade-St. Nicholas Circle: Treasury Of Christmas	162
148	120	109	5	PEARL JAM EPIC 85738/SONY MUSIC (19.98 EQ CD)	Lost Dogs	15	199	191	189	82	ELEPHANT MAN VP/ATLANTIC 83681*/AG (14.98 CD)	Good 2 Go	74
149	125	118	12	MURPHY LEE ● FD REEL/UNIVERSAL 001132/UMRG (12.98 CD)	Da Skool Boy Presents Murphy's Law	8	200	175	—	2	EMINEM ▲ ⁸ WEB/AFTERMATH 493290*/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	The Eminem Show	1
150	156	127	28	TRAIN ● COLUMBIA 86593/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	My Private Nation	6	200	175	—	2	ELVIS PRESLEY RCA 52393/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP (25.98 CD)	Elvis: Christmas Peace	175

● Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerical following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Oro). △ Certification of 200,000 units (Platino). ▲ Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). * Asterisk indicates LP is available. Most tape prices, and CD prices for BMG and WEA labels, are suggested lists. Tape prices marked EQ, and all other CD prices, are equivalent prices, which are projected from wholesale prices. Greatest Gainer shows chart's largest unit increase. Pacesetter indicates biggest percentage growth. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sales data and internet sales reports compiled by



THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	BILLBOARD 200 RANK
1	2	3	ROD STEWART ▲	J 55710/RMG	NUMBER 1 As Time Goes By ... The Great American Songbook Vol. II	7
2	1	4	THE BEATLES ▲	APPLE 95713/CAPITOL	Let It Be... Naked	20
3	4	6	SARAH McLACHLAN ▲	ARISTA 50150	Afterglow	14
4	3	6	JOSH GROBAN	143/REPRISE 48450/WARNER BROS.	Closer	5
5	5	6	SHERYL CROW ▲	A&M 001521/INTERSCOPE	The Very Best Of Sheryl Crow	9
6	NEW		SOUNDTRACK	REPRISE/WMG SOUNDTRACKS 48521/WARNER BROS.	The Lord Of The Rings: The Return Of The King	74
7	9	6	HARRY CONNICK, JR. ●	COLUMBIA 90850/SONY MUSIC	Harry For The Holidays	17
8	NEW		RUBEN STUDDARD	J 54639*/RMG	Soulful	1
9	6	2	ALICIA KEYS	J 55712*/RMG	The Diary Of Alicia Keys	2
10	10	9	MICHAEL BUBLE	143/REPRISE 48376/WARNER BROS. [M]	Michael Buble	61
11	8	11	BETTE MIDLER ●	COLUMBIA 90850/SONY MUSIC	Bette Midler Sings The Rosemary Clooney Songbook	53
12	7	3	NO DOUBT	INTERSCOPE 001495	The Singles 1992-2003	12
13	13	12	OUTKAST ▲	ARISTA 50133*	Speakerboxxx/The Love Below	6
14	15	11	DIDO ▲	ARISTA 50137	Life For Rent	26
15	12	9	CLAY AIKEN ▲	RCA 54638/RMG	Measure Of A Man	11
16	14	6	HILARY DUFF ▲	BUENA VISTA 861006/HOLLYWOOD	Metamorphosis	8
17	NEW		MICHAEL BUBLE	143/REPRISE 48599/WARNER BROS.	Let It Snow! (EP)	93
18	19	7	NORAH JONES ▲	BLUE NOTE 32088* [M]	Come Away With Me	41
19	17	29	ROD STEWART ▲	J 20039/RMG	It Had To Be You ... The Great American Songbook	46
20	16	5	TOBY KEITH ▲	DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 450435/INTERSCOPE	Shook'n Y'all	4
21	18	3	SOUNDTRACK	J 56780/RMG	Love Actually	64
22	NEW		BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ▲	LEGACY/COLUMBIA 90773/SONY MUSIC	The Essential Bruce Springsteen	73
23	25		STING ●	A&M 001141/INTERSCOPE	Sacred Love	58
24	NEW		VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲	COLUMBIA/UNIVERSAL/EMI/ZO M&A 90753/SONY MUSIC	Now 14	3
25	NEW		FRANK SINATRA, DEAN MARTIN & SAMMY DAVIS JR	CAPITOL 42210	Christmas With The Rat Pack	-

Top Internet Album Sales reflects physical albums ordered through Internet merchants, based on data collected by Nielsen SoundScan. Unlike most Billboard album charts, catalog titles are included on the Internet and Soundtrack charts. ● Albums with the greatest sales gain this week. ● Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). ▲ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numeral following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: ○ Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Oro). △ Certification of 200,000 units (Platino). △* Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). *Asterisk indicates vinyl available. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sales data compiled by



THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	TITLE	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL
1	1	5	TUPAC: RESURRECTION	AMARA 001533*/INTERSCOPE
2	3	5	THE CHEETAH GIRLS (EP) ●	WALT DISNEY 860126
3	2	5	LOVE ACTUALLY	J 56780/RMG
4	4	34	THE LIZZIE MCGUIRE MOVIE ▲	WALT DISNEY 860080
5	5	3	THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING	REPRISE/WMG SOUNDTRACKS 48521/WARNER BROS.
6			DIRTY DANCING: ULTIMATE DIRTY DANCING	RCA 55525/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP
7	6	3	HONEY	ELEKTRA 62925/EEG
8	8		FREAKY FRIDAY ●	HOLLYWOOD 167404
9	7	3	DISNEY PRESENTS: BROTHER BEAR	WALT DISNEY 860127
10	11	1	BAD BOYS II ▲	BAD BOY 000716*/UMRG
11	10	48	CHICAGO ▲ ²	EPIC 87018/SONY MUSIC
12	9	3	CONCERT FOR GEORGE	WARNER STRATEGIC MARKETING 74546
13	12	20	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL	WALT DISNEY 860089
14	NEW		LOVE DON'T COST A THING	HOLLYWOOD 162386
15	13	76	LIZZIE MCGUIRE ▲	BUENA VISTA 860791/WALT DISNEY
16	21	4	ELF	NEW LINE 39028
17	14	30	HOLES	WALT DISNEY 860092
18	16	131	O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU? ▲ ²	LOST HIGHWAY/MERCURY 170069/DJMG
19	15	24	A WALK TO REMEMBER ●	EPIC 86311/SONY MUSIC
20	17	21	DISNEY'S KIM POSSIBLE	WALT DISNEY 860097
21	NEW		BLUE COLLAR COMEDY TOUR: THE MOVIE	WARNER BROS. (NASHVILLE) 48424/WRN
22	19	125	SHREK ▲ ²	DREAMWORKS 450305/INTERSCOPE
23	18	3	THICKER THAN WATER	BRUSHFIRE/UNIVERSAL 001674/UMRG
24	20	29	2 FAST 2 FURIOUS ●	DISTURBING THA PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH 000426*/IDJMG
25	23	11	SCHOOL OF ROCK	ATLANTIC 83694/AG

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Over The Counter

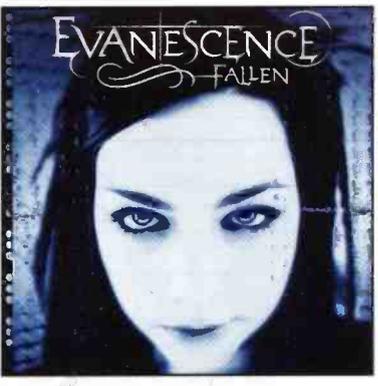
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sales recover the 29.1 million units that make up the divide between where we are now and where we were one year ago, a 4.7% drop feels a lot better than the lags of 8% to 9% that we saw through the first eight months of 2003, right? There actually could be a win or two before it's all over. It is an 8.6% slide in catalog sales that weighs down the year-to-date numbers. After 50 weeks, current album sales are only 2.4% behind this point last year. That's a gap of about 10 million copies. With the industry's recent momentum, and an extra gift-shopping day in the final week—with

Christmas moving from Wednesday in 2002 to Thursday—there is reason to expect that particular shortfall can be significantly winnowed, if not eliminated. Even if the industry does not catch up to last year's current album sales, we can still find hope at the bottom of The Billboard 200. Take the year in total, and the average sale for the No. 200 title on the big chart stands at 5,982.5, down from last year's average of 6,195. However, in the second half of both years, the bottom of the chart has been heavier in '03 than it was last year, by the score of 6,993 to 6,168. Focus on the averages since week 37, when Mayer's album started this late-innings rally, and the case is even more convincing. From that point through week 50, the No. 200 album has averaged 7,573, compared with 6,709 during the same weeks of last year. It would be premature to say the record business has already

reached turnaround mode. But, considering that the year-to-date gaps actually got wider during the fourth quarters of 2001 and 2002, the recent momentum gives the distinct impression that the foundation for a comeback has been built. So, even if losing by less falls shy of a victory, such a shift can certainly lead to one. CURTAIN CALL: The real sport after any music awards show is not as much who won on the telecast but who won at the cash register. Some pundits minimize Billboard Music Awards-generated spikes, because those rallies arrive in a week when album sales are already accelerating. But, at the risk of waving our own flag, if we compare those gains to the overall industry index, the Fox special proves to be a potent catalyst. In all, 15 albums by acts that appeared on the awards show see increases, and eight of those titles

have gains that are larger than the 29.7% rise that album sales manage over the prior week. All but one of those 15 had shown declines during the previous chart week.



Winner/performer Evanescence is the leader of the Billboard Music Awards pack, sparking a 54.4% gain to jump 29-25. Shania Twain (49-44), Sting (64-58), Trapt (90-88) and Audioslave (104-102) each have gains exceeding 40%.

Three other participants—Beyoncé (No. 31), Black Eyed Peas (No. 106) and R. Kelly (No. 155) have gains of more than 30%—while an act below the chart, Foo Fighters, realizes a 63% gain. FORWARD MARCH: So fast was 2003, that this holiday season feels as if it arrived on the now-abandoned Concorde Jet. In a year when Billboard greeted new management, the charts department launched a new list (Hot Digital Tracks) and two new e-newsletters bowed, HitPredictor and Chart Alert, the former with Promosquad. Those steps remind me of wise words from an old boss, that if a company does not move forward, it falls behind. These innovations would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the entire chart team. I thank them, and West Coast manager Keith Caulfield in particular, for the extra miles.

DECEMBER 27 2003
TOP HOLIDAY ALBUMS™
 Billboard®

THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan		
ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WEEKS ON CHART	WEEKS AT NO. 1	WEEKS AT NO. 1	WEEKS AT NO. 1
1	1	HARRY CONNICK, JR. COLUMBIA 90550/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ CD)	1	1	5	5 Weeks At Number 1
2	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ ² <i>Now That's What I Call Christmas! 2: The Signature Collection</i> EMI/UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC/ZOMBA 83098/CAPTOL (11.98 CD)	2	2	0	
3	7	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA ▲ <i>Christmas Eve And Other Stories</i> LAVA 92736/AG (11.98/17.98)	3	3	0	
4	6	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER ▲ ² <i>Christmas Extraordinaire</i> AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE 1225 (11.98 CD)	4	4	0	
5	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS ▲ ⁵ <i>Now That's What I Call Christmas!</i> EMI/ZOMBA/SONY MUSIC/UNIVERSAL 565620/UMRG (11.98 CD)	5	5	0	
6	8	WHITNEY HOUSTON <i>One Wish: The Holiday Album</i> ARISTA 50996 (18.98 CD)	6	6	0	
7	5	KENNY CHESNEY ● <i>All I Want For Christmas Is A Real Good Tan</i> BNA 51808/RLG (18.98 CD)	7	7	0	
8	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● <i>American Idol: The Great Holiday Classics</i> RCA 55424/RMG (18.98 CD)	8	8	0	
9	10	ALAN JACKSON ● <i>Let It Be Christmas</i> ARISTA NASHVILLE 67062/RLG (11.98/18.98)	9	9	0	
10	17	TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA ● <i>The Christmas Attic</i> LAVA 83145/AG (11.98/17.98)	10	10	0	
11	20	THE BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA <i>Boogie Woogie Christmas</i> SURFDG 44017/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	11	11	0	
12	12	HILARY DUFF ● <i>Santa Claus Lane</i> BUENA VISTA 860129/WALT DISNEY (12.98 CD)	12	12	0	
13	18	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>The Time-Life Treasury Of Christmas: Holiday Memories</i> TIME LIFE 18857 (18.98 CD)	13	13	0	
14	11	KIDZ BOP KIDS <i>Kidz Bop Christmas</i> RAZOR & TIE 89506 (7.98/11.98)	14	14	0	
15	9	MICHAEL BUBLE <i>Let It Snow! (EP)</i> 143/REPRISE 48599/WARNER BROS. (8.98 CD)	15	15	0	
16	21	JIM BRICKMAN <i>Peace</i> WINDHAM HILL 52896/AAL (18.98 CD)	16	16	0	
17	22	KENNY G ● <i>Wishes</i> ARISTA 14753 (12.98/18.98)	17	17	0	
18	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS ● <i>WOW Christmas</i> WORD-CURB/EMI CMG/PROVIDENT 88078/WARNER BROS. (21.98 CD)	18	18	0	
19	15	CELINE DION ▲ ⁴ <i>These Are Special Times</i> 550 MUSIC/EPIC 69523/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/LP/98)	19	19	0	
20	14	BING CROSBY <i>White Christmas</i> MCA SPECIAL PRODUCTS 731143/UME (2.98/5.98)	20	20	0	
21	24	VINCE GUARALDI ▲ <i>A Charlie Brown Christmas</i> FANTASY 8431 (10.98/15.98)	21	21	0	
22	—	IRISH TENORS <i>We Three Kings</i> RAZOR & TIE 82897 (10.98/17.98)	22	22	0	
23	16	HARRY CONNICK, JR. ▲ ² <i>When My Heart Finds Christmas</i> COLUMBIA 57550/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/LP/98)	23	23	0	
24	19	ELVIS PRESLEY ▲ <i>It's Christmas Time</i> RCA SPECIAL PRODUCTS 44931 (6.98 CD)	24	24	0	
25	23	CHICAGO <i>Christmas: What's It Gonna Be, Santa?</i> RHINO 73892 (18.98 CD)	25	25	0	
26	30	FRANK SINATRA, DEAN MARTIN & SAMMY DAVIS JR. <i>Christmas With The Rat Pack</i> CAPITOL 42210 (12.98/17.98)	26	26	0	
27	25	BURL IVES <i>Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer</i> MCA SPECIAL PRODUCTS 322177/UME (5.98 CD)	27	27	0	
28	26	MARIAH CAREY ▲ ⁵ <i>Merry Christmas</i> COLUMBIA 64222/SONY MUSIC (11.98 EQ/LP/98)	28	28	0	
29	39	BARRY MANILOW ● <i>A Christmas Gift Of Love</i> CONCORD/COLUMBIA 86976/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	29	29	0	
30	27	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>The Time-Life Treasury Of Christmas</i> TIME LIFE 18860 (19.98 CD)	30	30	0	
31	33	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Treasury Of Christmas: Evergreen</i> SMCMG 18950/TIME LIFE (18.98 CD)	31	31	0	
32	28	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Classic Country: Christmas</i> BMG SPECIAL PRODUCTS 18927/TIME LIFE (18.98 CD)	32	32	0	
33	35	ASHANTI <i>Ashanti's Christmas</i> THE INC./DEF JAM 001612/DJMG (12.98 CD)	33	33	0	
34	29	ELVIS PRESLEY <i>White Christmas</i> RCA 67959/RMG (11.98/17.98)	34	34	0	
35	34	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>A Very Special Acoustic Christmas</i> LOST HIGHWAY 001038/UMGN (18.98 CD)	35	35	0	
36	32	MARTINA MCBRIDE ▲ <i>White Christmas</i> RCA (NASHVILLE) 67654/RLG (10.98/16.98)	36	36	0	
37	42	LUTHER VANDROSS ▲ <i>This Is Christmas</i> LV/EPIC 57795*/SONY MUSIC (5.98 EQ/9.98)	37	37	0	
38	41	NAT KING COLE ● <i>The Christmas Song</i> CAPITOL 21251 (10.98/17.98)	38	38	0	
39	37	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER ▲ ⁵ <i>A Fresh Aire Christmas</i> AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE 1984 (15.98 CD)	39	39	0	
40	43	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER ▲ ⁵ <i>Christmas</i> AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE 1984 (15.98 CD)	40	40	0	
41	—	THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA <i>Go Tell It On The Mountain</i> REAL WORLD 90800/NARADA (17.98 CD)	41	41	0	
42	—	ANNE MURRAY <i>What A Wonderful Christmas</i> STRAIGHTWAY 2036 (19.98 CD)	42	42	0	
43	36	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Thomas Kinkade-St. Nicholas Circle: Treasury Of Christmas</i> MUSIC OF LIGHT 2219/MAOACY (18.98 CD)	43	43	0	
44	40	ELVIS PRESLEY <i>Elvis: Christmas Peace</i> RCA 52393/BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP (25.98 CD)	44	44	0	
45	—	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Heavenly Christmas</i> RHINO 73958 (18.98 CD)	45	45	0	
46	44	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER ▲ ⁴ <i>Christmas In The Aire</i> AMERICAN GRAMAPHONE 1995 (15.98 CD)	46	46	0	
47	45	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>i Worship Christmas: A Total Worship Experience</i> INTEGRITY/EPIC 90365/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD/DVD)	47	47	0	
48	50	CARRERAS-DOMINGO-PAVAROTTI (MERCURIO) ● <i>The Three Tenors Christmas</i> SONY CLASSICAL 89131/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/LP/98)	48	48	0	
49	47	NAT KING COLE ● <i>Christmas Favorites</i> EMI-CAPITOL SPECIAL MARKETS 57729 (2.98/5.98)	49	49	0	
50	48	CHARLOTTE CHURCH ▲ <i>Dream A Dream</i> SONY CLASSICAL 89483/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ/18.98)	50	50	0	

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TOP HEATSEEKERS®
 Billboard®

THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan		
ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WEEKS ON CHART	WEEKS AT NO. 1	WEEKS AT NO. 1	WEEKS AT NO. 1
1	NEW	FEFE DOBSON ISLAND 001244/UMG (12.98 CD)	1	1	1	1 Week At Number 1
2	1	JOSH TURNER <i>Long Black Train</i> MCA NASHVILLE 00974/UMGN (4.98/9.98)	2	2	2	
3	2	THREE DAYS GRACE <i>Three Days Grace</i> JIVE 53479/ZOMBA (12.98 CD)	3	3	3	
4	3	FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE <i>Welcome Interstate Managers</i> S-CURVE 90875 (18.98 CD)	4	4	4	
5	5	JOSS STONE <i>The Soul Sessions (EP)</i> S-CURVE 42234 (9.98 CD)	5	5	5	
6	4	CASTING CROWNS <i> Casting Crowns</i> BEACH STREET 10733/REUNION (18.98 CD)	6	6	6	
7	8	ZOEGIRL <i>Different Kind Of Free</i> SPARROW 80666 (18.98 CD)	7	7	7	
8	7	THE DARKNESS <i>Permission To Land</i> ATLANTIC 50617/AG (12.98 CD)	8	8	8	
9	NEW	KEALI' REICHEL <i>Ke'alaokamaile</i> PUNAHOLE 11229 (16.98 CD)	9	9	9	
10	9	STORY OF THE YEAR <i>Page Avenue</i> MAVERICK 48433/WARNER BROS. (12.98 CD)	10	10	10	
11	17	LILLIX <i>Falling Uphill</i> MAVERICK 48923/WARNER BROS. (12.98 CD)	11	11	11	
12	11	DAVE KOZ <i>Saxophonic</i> CAPITOL 34226 (18.98 CD)	12	12	12	
13	NEW	BOB & TOM <i>Camel Toe</i> FRIGGEMALL 5071 (27.98 CD)	13	13	13	
14	13	JUANES ● <i>Un Dia Normal</i> SURCO 01732/UNIVERSAL LATINO (16.98 CD)	14	14	14	
15	6	BOB GUINEY <i>3 Sides</i> WIND-UP 13090 (18.98 CD)	15	15	15	
16	14	DAMIEN RICE ● <i>Stay</i> DRM/VECTOR 48507/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	16	16	16	
17	18	JEREMY CAMP <i>Stay</i> BEC 40456 (16.98 CD)	17	17	17	
18	12	VICENTE Y ALEJANDRO FERNANDEZ <i>En Vivo: Juntos Por Ultima Vez</i> SONY DISCOS 91088 (17.98 EQ CD)	18	18	18	
19	16	SHERRIE AUSTIN <i>Streets Of Heaven</i> BROKEN BOW 75872 (18.98 CD)	19	19	19	
20	25	JOSH KELLEY <i>For The Ride Home</i> HOLLYWOOD 162377 (12.98 CD)	20	20	20	
21	22	THE WIGGLES <i>Yummy Yummy</i> KOCH 8626 (11.98 CD)	21	21	21	
22	10	DWELE <i>Subject</i> IRISH 90919* (9.98 CD)	22	22	22	
23	29	TAKING BACK SUNDAY <i>Tell All Your Friends</i> VICTORY 176 (12.98 CD)	23	23	23	
24	28	BERNIE WILLIAMS <i>The Journey Within</i> GRP 000725/VG (12.98 CD)	24	24	24	
25	26	CHRIS BOTTI <i>A Thousand Kisses Deep</i> COLUMBIA 90535/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	25	25	25	
26	21	SIN BANDERA <i>De Viaje</i> SONY DISCOS 70633 (18.98 EQ CD)	26	26	26	
27	27	KIDS PICKS SINGERS <i>Kids Picks-Hit Mix</i> STRAIGHTWAY 91729 (16.98 CD)	27	27	27	
28	NEW	GARGOLAS <i>The Return</i> SELLOS ASOCIADOS 550604/V1 (14.98 CD)	28	28	28	
29	36	THE POSTAL SERVICE <i>Give Up</i> SUB POP 595 (14.98 CD)	29	29	29	
30	33	JOSHUA BELL <i>Romance Of The Violin</i> SONY CLASSICAL 87894/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	30	30	30	
31	24	GAVIN DEGRAW <i>Chariot</i> J 20558/RMG (11.98 CD)	31	31	31	
32	30	LOS LONELY BOYS <i>Los Lonely Boys</i> DR 80305 (13.98 CD)	32	32	32	
33	47	ANDRE RIEU <i>Live In Dublin</i> DENON 17293 (17.98 CD)	33	33	33	
34	39	DARLENE ZSCHECH <i>Kiss Of Heaven</i> EXTRAVAGANT WORSHIP/INO 90668/SONY MUSIC (12.98 EQ CD)	34	34	34	
35	32	SKILLET <i>Collide</i> ARDENT 7252 (18.98 CD)	35	35	35	
36	23	EDNITA NAZARIO <i>Por Ti</i> SONY DISCOS 70616 (15.98 EQ CD)	36	36	36	
37	NEW	RUSHLOW <i>Right Now</i> LYRIC STREET 165098/HOLLYWOOD (18.98 CD)	37	37	37	
38	NEW	RON WHITE <i>Drunk In Public</i> PARALLELHIP-D 001582/UME (12.98 CD)	38	38	38	
39	19	THE STARTING LINE <i>The Make Yourself At Home (EP)</i> DRIVE-THRU/GEFFEN 001596/INTERSCOPE (6.98 CD)	39	39	39	
40	40	THE STARTING LINE <i>Say It Like You Mean It</i> DRIVE-THRU 060063/MCA (12.98 CD)	40	40	40	
41	46	VICKIE WINANS <i>Bringing It All Together</i> VERITY 43214/ZOMBA (11.98/18.98)	41	41	41	
42	41	MARK SCHULTZ <i>Stories & Songs</i> WORD-CURB 86270/WARNER BROS. (18.98 CD)	42	42	42	
43	44	STEVE TYRELL <i>This Guy's In Love</i> COLUMBIA 89238/SONY MUSIC (18.98 EQ CD)	43	43	43	
44	31	PEPE ALQUIAR <i>Con Orgullo Por Herencia</i> UNIVISION 310167/UG (9.98/13.98)	44	44	44	
45	38	BIG DADDY WEAVE <i>Fields Of Grace</i> FRIVENT 30040 (18.98 CD)	45	45	45	
46	50	HIM <i>Razorblade Romance</i> JIMMY FRANKS/UNIVERSAL 001429/UMRG (12.98 CD)	46	46	46	
47	15	MANNY MANUEL <i>Serenata</i> UNIVERSAL LATINO 001626 (13.98 CD)	47	47	47	
48	NEW	SOLOMON BURKE <i>Don't Give Up On Me</i> FAT POSSUM/ANTI- 80358/EPITAPH (17.98 CD)	48	48	48	
49	37	THE EARLY NOVEMBER <i>The Room's Too Cold</i> DRIVE-THRU/GEFFEN 001480/INTERSCOPE (12.98 CD)	49	49	49	
50	42	BILLY CURRINGTON <i>Billy Currington</i> MERCURY 000164/UMGN (4.98/9.98)	50	50	50	

DECEMBER 27 2003
TOP INDEPENDENT ALBUMS™
 Billboard®

THIS WEEK		LAST WEEK		Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan		
ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	WEEKS ON CHART	WEEKS AT NO. 1	WEEKS AT NO. 1	WEEKS AT NO. 1
1	2	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ ▲ <i>Kings Of Crunk</i> BME 2370*/TVT (13.98/17.98)	2	2	2	27 Weeks At Number 1
2	1	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ <i>Part II</i> BME 2378*/TVT (11.98 CD/DVD)	1	1	1	
3	3	YING YANG TWINS <i>Me & My Brother</i> COLLIPARK 2480*/TVT (17.98 CD)	3	3	3	
4	5	DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL ● <i>A Mark, A Mission, A Brand, A Scar</i> VAGRANT 0365 (18.98 CD)	4	4	4	
5	NEW	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Crunk And Disorderly</i> TVT 2500 (17.98 CD)	5	5	5	
6	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Thomas Kinkade-St. Nicholas Circle: Treasury Of Christmas</i> MUSIC OF LIGHT 2219/MAOACY (18.98 CD)	6	6	6	
7	10	WARREN ZEVON <i>The Wind</i> ARTEMIS 51156 (18.98 CD)	7	7	7	
8	7	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Just Because I'm A Woman: Songs Of Dolly Parton</i> SUGAR HILL 3980 (17.98 CD)	8	8	8	
9	8	MICHAEL BOLTON <i>Vintage</i> PMG 73973 (18.98 CD)	9	9	9	
10	17	SOUNDTRACK <i>Elf</i> NEW LINE 39028 (16.98 CD)	10	10	10	
11	6	DEFAULT <i>Elocation</i> TVT 6000 (15.98 CD)	11	11	11	
12	NEW	KEALI' REICHEL <i>Ke'alaokamaile</i> PUNAHOLE 11229 (16.98 CD) [H]	12	12	12	
13	11	2PAC <i>Nu-Mixx Klazzics</i> DEATH ROW 9530*/KOCH (18.98 CD)	13	13	13	
14	NEW	BOB & TOM <i>Camel Toe</i> FRIGGEMALL 5071 (27.98 CD) [H]	14	14	14	
15	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Strawberry Shortcake: Berry Merry Christmas (EP)</i> KOCH 9502 (6.98 CD)	15	15	15	
16	15	101 STRINGS ORCHESTRA <i>Thomas Kinkade-silent Night: The Best Of Christmas</i> MUSIC OF LIGHT 4425/MADACY (17.98 CD)	16	16	16	
17	19	SEVENDUST <i>Seasons</i> TVT 5993 (17.98 CD)	17			

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP JAZZ ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
					7 Weeks At Number 1
1	1	7	HARRY CONNICK, JR.	PHILIPS 001275/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Harry For The Holidays
2	2	63	DIANA KRALL	VERVE 065109/VG	Live In Paris
3	3	7	STEVE TYRELL	COLUMBIA 89238/SONY MUSIC [M]	This Guy's In Love
4	5	5	LOUIS ARMSTRONG & FRIENDS	20th Century Masters: The Best Of...The Christmas Collection	
5	4	40	PETER CINCOTTI	CONCORD 2159 [M]	Peter Cincotti
6	7	12	ELVIS COSTELLO	DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON 000996/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	North
7	8	38	TONY BENNETT & K.D. LANG	RPM/COLUMBIA 86734/SONY MUSIC	A Wonderful World
8	6	10	CASSANDRA WILSON	BLUE NOTE 81869 [M]	Glamoured
9	11	17	VINCE GUARALDI	BLUEBIRD 53909/AAL	The Charlie Brown Suite & Other Favorites
10	9	22	HARRY CONNICK, JR.	MARSALIS 613304/ROUNDHR	Other Hours: Connick On Piano 1
11	10	17	STEVE TYRELL	COLUMBIA 86638/SONY MUSIC [M]	This Time Of The Year
12	12	28	DAVID SANBORN	VERVE 065578/VG	timeagain
13	13	16	AARON NEVILLE	VERVE 065633/VG	Nature Boy: The Standards Album
14	14	29	PAT METHENY	WARNER BROS. 48473	One Quiet Night
15	22	12	LOU RAWLS	SAVOY JAZZ 17284	Rawls Sings Sinatra
16	15	12	THE MANHATTAN TRANSFER	TELARC 83586	Couldn't Be Hotter
17	17	33	VARIOUS ARTISTS	PLAYBOY JAZZ 7507/CONCORD	Jazz After Dark
18	16	17	DIANNE REEVES	BLUE NOTE 80252	A Little Moonlight
19	20	12	STACEY KENT	CANDID 79797	The Boy Next Door
20	19	32	BOZ SCAGGS	GRAY CAT 4000/MAILBOAT	But Beautiful: Standards Volume 1
21	18	13	PONCHO SANCHEZ	CONCORD PICANTE 1031/CONCORD	Out Of Sight
22	21	30	REGINA CARTER	VERVE 065554/VG [M]	Paganini: After A Dream
23	RE-ENTRY		VARIOUS ARTISTS		The Most Relaxing Jazz Music In The Universe
24	23	10	GLENN MILLER	VICTOR 84014/AAL	Platinum Glenn Miller
25	NEW		JANE MONHEIT	N-CODED 4249/WARLOCK	Live At The Rainbow Room

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP CONTEMPORARY JAZZ™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
					94 Weeks At Number 1
1	1	94	NORAH JONES	BLUE NOTE 32088 [M]	Come Away With Me
2	3	10	DAVE KOZ	CAPITOL 34226 [M]	Saxophonic
3	4	12	KENNY G	BMG HERITAGE 58997/ARISTA	Ultimate Kenny G
4	2	9	WILL DOWNING	GRP 000529/VG	Emotions
5	6	22	BERNIE WILLIAMS	GRP 000725/VG [M]	The Journey Within
6	5	11	CHRIS BOTTI	COLUMBIA 90535/SONY MUSIC [M]	A Thousand Kisses Deep
7	7	10	NAJEE	N-CODED 4248/WARLOCK	Embrace
8	10	16	PRAFUL	N-CODED 4244/RENDEZVOUS	One Day Deep
9	8	7	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WNUA 9553	WNUA -- Smooth Jazz Sampler 16
10	9	16	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VERVE 000998/VG	Verve/Remixed2
11	11	42	MINDI ABAIR	GRP 065229/VG	It Just Happens That Way
12	13	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS	KKSF 995	KKSF 103.7 FM Sampler For AIDS Relief, Vol. 14
13	16	9	DAVID BENOIT	GRP 000597/VG	Right Here, Right Now
14	12	9	MARC ANTOINE	RENDEZVOUS 5101	Mediterraneo
15	15	24	BRIAN CULBERTSON	WARNER BROS. 48300 [M]	Come On Up
16	19	58	KENNY G	ARISTA 14738	Paradise
17	RE-ENTRY		VARIOUS ARTISTS	WJZZ 106.1: Smooth Jazz Sampler, Vol. 10 - Tenth Anniversary	
18	24	14	BELA FLECK & THE FLECKTONES	COLUMBIA 86353/SONY MUSIC [M]	Little Worlds
19	14	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS	GRP 000115/VG	A Twist Of Motown
20	18	16	RICK BRAUN	WARNER BROS. 48280	Esperanto
21	21	23	GEORGE BENSON	WARNER BROS. 78284/RHND	The Greatest Hits Of All
22	20	19	THE JAZZMASTERS	TRIPPIN' N' RHYTHM/HARDCASTLE 90513/V2	The Jazzmasters 4
23	22	9	CHRIS BOTTI	COLUMBIA 86864/SONY MUSIC	December
24	25	9	KEIKO MATSUI	NARADA 93666	White Owl
25	23	31	LIZZ WRIGHT	VERVE 589933/VG [M]	Salt

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP CLASSICAL ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
					7 Weeks At Number 1
1	1	7	ANDREA BOCELLI	PHILIPS 001275/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Sacred Arias: Special Edition
2	2	8	SOUNDTRACK	DECCA 001574/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Master And Commander
3	3	7	JOSHUA BELL	SONY CLASSICAL 87894/SONY MUSIC [M]	Romance Of The Violin
4	5	10	ANDRE RIEU	DENON 17293 [M]	Live In Dublin
5	4	58	ANDREA BOCELLI	PHILIPS 470400/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Sentimento
6	7	13	RENEE FLEMING	DECCA 001024/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	By Request
7	9	6	ANONYMOUS 4	HARMONIA MUNDI 907325	Wolcum Yule
8	6	22	LANG LANG	DECCA 000686/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Tchaikovsky/Mendelssohn: Piano Concertos
9	10	11	CECILIA BARTOLI	DECCA 001097/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	The Salieri Album
10	8	12	ANNA NETREBKO	DECCA 000990/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Opera Arias
11	11	14	HILARY HAHN	DECCA 000986/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Bach: Violin Concertos
12	12	50	JANUSZ OLEJNICZAK WITH THE WARSAW PHILHARMONIC NATIONAL ORCHESTRA OF POLAND (STRUGALA)	The Pianist (Soundtrack)	
13	13	74	CARRERAS-DOMINGO-PAVAROTTI	DECCA 466939/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	The Best Of The 3 Tenors
14	14	4	CHANTICLEER	WARNER CLASSICS 60290/AG	Evening Prayer
15	15	10	VLADIMIR HOROWITZ	SONY CLASSICAL 93023/SONY MUSIC	Live & Unedited: Historic 1965 Return Concert

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP CLASSICAL CROSSOVER™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
					5 Weeks At Number 1
1	1	6	JOSH GROBAN	143/REPRISE 48450/WARNER BROS.	Closer
2	2	7	IRISH TENORS	RAZOR & TIE 82897	We Three Kings
3	3	28	SARAH BRIGHTMAN	NEMO STUDIO 37180/ANGEL	Harem
4	4	20	YO-YO MA	SONY CLASSICAL 89935/SONY MUSIC	Obrigado Brazil
5	5	54	JOSH GROBAN	143/REPRISE 48413/WARNER BROS.	Josh Groban In Concert
6	6	12	LUCIANO PAVAROTTI	DECCA 001096/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Ti Adoro
7	7	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DECCA 001310/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	The Incredible Christmas Album
8	8	58	CHARLOTTE CHURCH	COLUMBIA 86890/SONY MUSIC	Prelude: The Best Of Charlotte Church
9	10	2	THE CAMBRIDGE SINGERS	COLLEGIUM 512	The Cambridge Singers Christmas Album
10	9	9	RUSSELL WATSON	DECCA 001178/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Reprise
11	11	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DECCA 000901/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Pure Classics
12	12	19	BOND	MBO/DECCA 001117/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP	Bond: Remixed
13	13	18	ANDRE RIEU	SAVOY 17152/DENON	Dreaming
14	14	61	BOND	MBO/DECCA 470500/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP [M]	Shine
15	15	2	SOUNDTRACK	NONESUCH 79837/AG	Angels In America

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP NEW AGE ALBUMS™

Sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	IMPRINT & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title
					6 Weeks At Number 1
1	1	12	JIM BRICKMAN	WINDHAM HILL 52896/AAL	Peace
2	2	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WINDHAM HILL 53914/AAL	Windham Hill Christmas II
3	4	47	YANNI	WINDHAM HILL 18106/BMG HERITAGE	Ultimate Yanni
4	3	30	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER/C.W. MCCALL	AMERICAN GRAMMOPHONE 1776	American Spirit
5	6	44	YANNI	VIRGIN 81516	Ethnicity
6	5	5	MEDIAEVAL BABES	NETTWERK 30392	Mistletoe And Wine: A Seasonal Collection
7	7	13	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WINDHAM HILL 54344/AAL	Prayer: A Windham Hill Collection
8	10	46	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER	AMERICAN GRAMMOPHONE 214	Romantic Melodies
9	8	49	JIM BRICKMAN	WINDHAM HILL/VICTOR 11647/AAL	Love Songs & Lullabies
10	11	2	SYMPHONIC STRINGS OF LOS ANGELES	BIG EYE 4301	Christmas Tribute To Mannheim Steamroller
11	13	2	SYMPHONIC STRINGS OF LOS ANGELES	BIG EYE 4302	Holiday Tribute To Mannheim Steamroller
12	12	25	DELERIUM	NETTWERK 30306 [M]	Chimera
13	14	10	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WINDHAM HILL 53017/AAL	State Of Grace II: Turning To Peace
14			GEORGE WINSTON	WINDHAM HILL/VICTOR 11649/AAL	Night Divides The Day: The Music Of The Doors
15	9	1	MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER	AMERICAN GRAMMOPHONE 1031	Halloween

Sales data for Classical, New Age, and Kid Audio charts compiled by Nielsen SoundScan

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP CLASSICAL BUDGET

1	CHRISTMAS WITH PAVAROTTI	LUCIANO PAVAROTTI
2	NUTCRACKER HIGHLIGHTS	PETER WOHLERT/BERLIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
3	CHRISTMAS FAVORITES	BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA (FREDLER)
4	HANDEL: THE MESSIAH	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
5	THE MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL MUSIC	VARIOUS ARTISTS
6	VIENNA WALTZES	VARIOUS ARTISTS
7	HANDEL'S MESSIAH	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
8	CLASSICS FOR RELAXATION	VARIOUS ARTISTS
9	TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS	AMORARTIS CHAMBER CHOR
10	25 PIANO FAVORITES	VARIOUS ARTISTS
11	RELAXING CLASSICS	VARIOUS ARTISTS
12	25 GOLDEN CLASSICS	VARIOUS ARTISTS
13	25 CLASSICAL FAVORITES	VARIOUS ARTISTS
14	BEETHOVEN: 50 CLASSICAL HIGHLIGHTS	VARIOUS ARTISTS
15	CLASSICS FOR THE MOVIES	VARIOUS ARTISTS

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP CLASSICAL MIDLINE

1	PACHELBEL'S GREATEST HITS: THE ULTIMATE CANON	VARIOUS ARTISTS
2	THE MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE WORLD...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS
3	CHRISTMAS ADAGIOS	BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA (FREDLER)
4	A TENOR'S CHRISTMAS	CARRERAS-DOMINGO-PAVAROTTI
5	CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL	BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA (FREDLER)
6	DISNEY'S BABY BEETHOVEN	VARIOUS ARTISTS
7	THE MOST RELAXING PIANO ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS
8	MORE OF MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL MUSIC IN UNIVERSE	VARIOUS ARTISTS
9	THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS	LEONARD BERNSTEIN
10	SIMPLY CHRISTMAS	VARIOUS ARTISTS
11	TCHAIKOVSKY: NUTCRACKER/BEAUTY	ANTAL DORATI
12	ULTIMATE CLASSICAL CHRISTMAS	VARIOUS ARTISTS
13	MANY MOODS OF CHRISTMAS	THE ROBERT SHAW CHORALE
14	HYMNS TRIUMPHANT: VOLS. 1 & 2	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
15	NO. 1 CHRISTMAS ALBUM	DECCA/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS GROUP

Classical Midline compact discs have a wholesale cost between 8.98 and 12.98. CDs with wholesale price lower than 8.98 appear on Classical Budget.

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** TOP KID AUDIO

1	THE CHEETAH GIRLS	THE CHEETAH GIRLS (EP)
2	HILARY DUFF	SANTA CLAUS LANE
3	KIDZ BOP KIDS	KIDZ BOP CHRISTMAS
4	KIDZ BOP KIDS	KIDZ BOP 4
5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RADIO DISNEY JAMS VOL. 1
6	LIZZIE MCGUIRE	DISNEY'S KARAOKE SERIES: LIZZIE MCGUIRE
7	KIDZ BOP KIDS	KIDZ BOP 3
8	LIZZIE MCGUIRE	DISNEY'S KARAOKE SERIES: LIZZIE MCGUIRE
9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	CHILDREN SING FOR CHILDREN: 25 CHRISTMAS SONGS
10	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DISNEY PIXAR: FINDING NEMO: OCEAN FAVORITES
11	KIM POSSIBLE	DISNEY'S KIM POSSIBLE
12	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONGS 4 WORSHIP KIDS: CHRISTMAS
13	KIDZ BOP KIDS	KIDZ BOP
14	KIDZ BOP KIDS	KIDZ BOP 2
15	STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE	STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE BERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS (EP)
16	THE CHIPMUNKS	MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE CHIPMUNKS
17	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RADIO DISNEY JAMS VOL. 5
18	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DISNEY'S CHRISTMAS COLLECTION
19	READ-ALONG	DISNEY'S BROTHER BEAR
20	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DISNEYMANIA: SUPERSTAR ARTISTS SING DISNEY
21	READ-ALONG	FINDING NEMO
22	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MICKEY CHRISTMAS: VOL. 2
23	THE WIGGLES	YUMMY YUMMY
24	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DISNEY'S GREATEST VOL. 1
25	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DISNEY'S KARAOKE SERIES: THE LION KING

Children's recordings: original motion picture soundtracks excluded

Albums with the greatest sales gains this week. Recording Industry Assn. Of America (RIAA) certification for net shipment of 500,000 album units (Gold). RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units (Platinum). RIAA certification for net shipment of 10 million units (Diamond). Numerals following Platinum or Diamond symbol indicates album's multi-platinum level. For boxed sets, and double albums with a running time of 100 minutes or more, the RIAA multiplies shipments by the number of discs and/or tapes. RIAA Latin awards: Certification for net shipment of 100,000 units (Oro). Certification of 200,000 units (Platino). Certification of 400,000 units (Multi-Platino). *Asterisk indicates LP is available. Heatseeker Impact shows albums removed from Heatseekers this week. [M] indicates past or present Heatseeker title. ©2003, VNU Business Media, Inc., and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

50 Cent, 'Idol' Singles Rule Year-End Tallies

On its way to becoming the No. 1 song of 2003 on The Billboard Hot 100 and Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks, **50 Cent's** "In Da Club" set new audience marks on each chart. "Club" posted 170.2 million overall listener impressions in the March 29 issue after reaching a high of 88.6 million impressions at R&B radio three weeks earlier.

Thanks to the "American Idol" phenomenon, singles sales have declined by only 4.7% year to date. Not great numbers, but a hefty improvement from the 61.5% drop of 2001 to 2002. Only three singles sold more than 30,000 units in one week, and they were all releases from the popular series' second season.

"God Bless the U.S.A." by 10 "Idol" finalists opened with 101,000 units in May. Then in the June 28 issue, **Clay Aiken's** "This Is the Night/Bridge Over Troubled Water" and **Ruben Studdard's** "Flying Without Wings/Superstar" opened at No. 1 and No. 2 on the Hot 100 Singles Sales chart, scanning 393,000 and 286,000 units, respectively, which were numbers that had not been seen in years. The three releases have accounted for almost

20% of all singles sold this year.

Aiken's sales volume easily vaulted "Night" to the top of the Hot 100, making it the only song of the year's dozen Hot 100 No. 1s from an artist outside of the R&B/hip-hop genre.

In the July 19 issue, Nielsen SoundScan's tracking of paid digital downloads brought Hot Digital Tracks to *Billboard*. In six months, 16 million tracks have been downloaded from various data providers. Meanwhile,

record in pole position, **Erykah Badu's** "Love of My Life (An Ode to Hip Hop)", and ends the same way with **Alicia Keys' "You Don't Know My Name."** In between, **Monica, Aaliyah, R. Kelly, Pharrell** and **Beyoncé** (twice) topped the charts, with **Jay-Z** and **Sean Paul** adding a hip-hop element to three of those No. 1s.

BOYS TOWN: On Hot Country Singles & Tracks, male-led tracks continued to dominate in 2003. This year saw the format's women lose much of the ground they successfully gained during the 1990s.

Martina McBride was the last solo female to hit No. 1 in March 2002.

The format's more conservative tone since Sept. 11, 2001, accounts for much of the male activity, including seven weeks at No. 1 for **Darryl Worley's** pro-war "Have You Forgotten?" The hard right turn the format took also saw the **Dixie Chicks** unceremoniously bounced off country's airwaves after lead singer **Natalie Maines** publicly criticized President **George W. Bush**. "Travelin' Soldier" topped the chart the same week Maines' comments claimed headlines and dropped so precipitously that it fell to No. 3, then off the chart entirely.

Duets were the ticket to success on the chart this year for veteran **Willie Nelson** and fringe country personalities **Kid Rock, Sheryl Crow** and **Jimmy Buffett**. Buffett's pairing with **Alan Jackson**, "It's Five O'Clock

retail singles sales for the entire year to date equal only 11 million. **OutKast's "Hey Ya!"** posted the highest one-week numbers on the chart with 13,500 paid downloads earlier this month.

R&B ROLLS: On the R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart, hip-hop took a step back: Eight of the 13 No. 1 songs were R&B titles, compared with three out of 10 in 2002.

This year began with an R&B

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2003 IN REVIEW

DECEMBER 27 2003		MAINSTREAM TOP 40™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	Hey Ya!	OUTKAST (ARISTA) NUMBER 1 3 Wks At No. 1
2	2	Here Without You	3 DOORS DOWN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)
3	3	Suga Suga	BABY BASH FEAT. FRANKIE J. (UNIVERSAL/UMRG)
4	8	Someday	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/IDJMG)
5	7	Perfect	SIMPLE PLAN (LAVA) ☆
6	6	It's My Life	NO DOUBT (INTERSCOPE)
7	4	Baby Boy	BEYONCÉ FEAT. SEAN PAUL (COLUMBIA)
8	9	Headstrong	TRAPT (WARNER BROS.) ☆
9	5	(There's Gotta Be) More To Life	STACIE ORRICO (FOREFRONT/VIRGIN) ☆
10	12	Stand Up	LUDACRIS FEAT. SHAWNNA (DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG)
11	21	The Way You Move	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (ARISTA) ☆
12	13	The Voice Within	CHRISTINA AGUILERA (RCA/RMG) ☆
13	10	Why Can't I	LIZ PHAIR (CAPITOL) ☆
14	14	Invisible	CLAY AIKEN (RCA/RMG) ☆
15	24	Milkshake	KELIS (STAR TRAK/ARISTA) ☆
16	16	Holiday In	CHINGY (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)
17	11	Why Don't You & I	SANTANA FEAT. ALEX BAND OR CHAD KROEGER (ARISTA)
18	15	Get Low	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (BME/TVT)
19	18	Breathe	MICHELLE BRANCH (MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.) ☆
20	23	So Far Away	STAINO (FLIP/ELEKTRA/EEG)

DECEMBER 27 2003		RHYTHMIC TOP 40™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	2	Milkshake	KELIS (STAR TRAK/ARISTA) NUMBER 1 1 Wk At No. 1
2	1	Hey Ya!	OUTKAST (ARISTA)
3	3	Stand Up	LUDACRIS FEAT. SHAWNNA (DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG)
4	5	The Way You Move	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (ARISTA)
5	4	Holiday In	CHINGY (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL) ☆
6	11	Walked Outta Heaven	JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA)
7	6	Get Low	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (BME/TVT)
8	7	Damn!	YOUNGBLOODZ FEAT. LIL JON (SO SO DEF/ARISTA)
9	9	Suga Suga	BABY BASH FEAT. FRANKIE J. (UNIVERSAL/UMRG)
10	8	Wat Da Hook Gon Be	MURPHY LEE FEAT. JERMAINE DUPRI (FO' REEL/UMRG)
11	12	Runnin' (Dying To Live)	TUPAC FEAT. THE NOTORIOUS B.I.B. (AMARIL/INTERSCOPE)
12	10	Stunt 101	G-UNIT (G-UNIT/SHADY/INTERSCOPE)
13	15	Gigolo	NICK CANNON FEAT. R. KELLY (NICK/JIVE)
14	13	Change Clothes	JAY-Z (RCA/A&E/DEF JAM/IDJMG)
15	16	GANGSTA NATION	WESTSIDE CONNECTION (HOO-BANGIN'/CAPITOL)
16	14	Baby Boy	BEYONCÉ FEAT. SEAN PAUL (COLUMBIA) ☆
17	20	Salt Shaker	YING YANG TWINS (COLLIPARK/TVT)
18	27	Slow Jamz	TWISTA FEAT. KANYE WEST & JAMIE FOXX (ATLANTIC)
19	18	Fallen	MYA (A&M/INTERSCOPE) ☆
20	19	Right Thurr	CHINGY (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)

DECEMBER 27 2003		ADULT TOP 40™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	Here Without You	3 DOORS DOWN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG) NUMBER 1 3 Wks At No. 1
2	2	Bright Lights	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC) ☆
3	3	Why Don't You & I	SANTANA FEAT. ALEX BAND OR CHAD KROEGER (ARISTA)
4	4	White Flag	DIDD (ARISTA)
5	5	The First Cut Is The Deepest	SHERYL CROW (A&M/INTERSCOPE) ☆
6	6	Fallen	SARAH MCLACHLAN (ARISTA) ☆
7	7	It's My Life	NO DOUBT (INTERSCOPE) ☆
8	8	Someday	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/IDJMG) ☆
9	9	Another Postcard (Chimps)	BARENKED LADIES (REPRISE)
10	12	When I Look To The Sky	TRAIN (COLUMBIA) ☆
11	10	Unwell	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC) ☆
12	11	Calling All Angels	TRAIN (COLUMBIA)
13	14	Gigolo	LIVE (RADIOACTIVE/GEFFEN) ☆
14	15	Breathe	MICHELLE BRANCH (MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.) ☆
15	13	Bigger Than My Body	JOHN MAYER (AWARE/COLUMBIA)
16	20	100 Years	FIVE FOR FIGHTING (AWARE/COLUMBIA)
17	17	So Far Away	STAINO (FLIP/ELEKTRA/EEG) ☆
18	19	You And I Both	JASON MRAZ (ELEKTRA/EEG) ☆
19	16	Powerless (Say What You Want)	NELLY FURTADO (DREAMWORKS)
20	18	Waiting For You	SEAL (WARNER BROS.) ☆

DECEMBER 27 2003		ADULT CONTEMPORARY™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	Unwell	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC) NUMBER 1 2 Wks At No. 1
2	9	Sending You A Little Christmas	JIM BRICKMAN WITH KRISTY STARLING (WINDHAM HILL/A&I)
3	2	Calling All Angels	TRAIN (COLUMBIA)
4	4	Drift Away	UNCLE KRACKER FEAT. DOBIE GRAY (LAVA)
5	3	Forever And For Always	SHANIA TWAIN (MERCURY/IDJMG)
6	7	White Flag	DIDD (ARISTA) ☆
7	8	Big Yellow Taxi	COUNTING CROWS FEAT. VANESSA CARLTON (GEFFEN/INTERSCOPE)
8	5	Sunrise	SIMPLY RED (SIMPLY RED/COM/RED INK)
9	10	The First Cut Is The Deepest	SHERYL CROW (A&M/INTERSCOPE) ☆
10	11	Look Through My Eyes	PHIL COLLINS (WALT DISNEY/HOLLYWOOD)
11	12	Invisible	CLAY AIKEN (RCA/RMG) ☆
12	14	You Raise Me Up	JOSH GROBAN (143/REPRISE)
13	16	The First Noel	CLAY AIKEN (RCA/RMG)
14	17	Fallen	SARAH MCLACHLAN (ARISTA) ☆
15	23	White Christmas	BETTE MIDLER (COLUMBIA)
16	6	The Christmas Song	MICHAEL BUBLE (143/REPRISE)
17	18	O Holy Night	LEANN RIMES (CUB)
18	19	My Grown Up Christmas List	KELLY CLARKSON (RCA/RMG)
19	22	Silver Bells	CLAY AIKEN & KIMBERLEY LOCKE (RCA/RMG)
20	21	The Voice Within	CHRISTINA AGUILERA (RCA/RMG) ☆

DECEMBER 27 2003		MODERN ROCK™	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	Numb	LINKIN PARK (WARNER BROS.) NUMBER 1 6 Wks At No. 1
2	2	(I Hate) Everything About You	THREE DAYS GRACE (JIVE) ☆
3	4	Hit That	THE OFFSPRING (COLUMBIA) ☆
4	3	Feeling This	BLINK-182 (GEFFEN)
5	5	Are You Gonna Be My Girl	JET (ELEKTRA/EEG)
6	7	Meant To Live	SWITCHFOOT (RED INK/COLUMBIA)
7	6	Away From Me	PUDDE OF MUDD (FLAWLESS/GEFFEN)
8	8	Fortune Faded	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS (WARNER BROS.)
9	11	Out Of Control	HOOBASTANK (ISLAND/IDJMG)
10	10	Still Frame	TRAPT (WARNER BROS.) ☆
11	12	I Am The Highway	AUDIOSLAVE (INTERSCOPE/EPIC) ☆
12	9	So Far Away	STAINO (FLIP/ELEKTRA/EEG)
13	16	Closure	CHEVELLE (EPIC) ☆
14	15	Faint	LINKIN PARK (WARNER BROS.) ☆
15	13	Right Now	KORN (IMMORTAL/EPIC)
16	19	Hey Ya!	OUTKAST (ARISTA)
17	21	How About You	STAINO (FLIP/ELEKTRA/EEG)
18	14	Weak And Powerless	A PERFECT CIRCLE (VIRGIN) ☆
19	24	Figured You Out	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/IDJMG) ☆
20	18	Will You	P.O.D. (ATLANTIC) ☆

Compiled from a national sample of data supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. 119 mainstream top 40, 57 rhythmic top 40, 88 adult top 40, 90 adult contemporary and 88 modern rock are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by number of detections. Songs with an increase in detections over the previous week are bulleted regardless of chart movement. A song which has been on the chart for more than 20 weeks will generally not receive a bullet, even if it registers an increase in detections. Songs below the top 15 on Adult Top 40 and Adult Contemporary are removed from the chart after 26 weeks. All five radio charts run at deeper lengths in Airplay Monitor, Billboard Information Network, and billboard.com. ☆ indicates title earned HitPredictor status in research data provided by Promosquad. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

800,000 SPINS

Iris/ **Goo Goo Dolls** /REPRISE

600,000 SPINS

Name/ **Goo Goo Dolls** /REPRISE

500,000 SPINS

When I'm Gone/ **3 Doors Down** /REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL
Real World/ **Matchbox Twenty** /LAVA
Complicated/ **Avril Lavigne** /ARISTA

300,000 SPINS

Your Body Is A Wonderland/ **John Mayer** /AWARE/COLUMBIA
Work It/ **Missy Elliot** /ELEKTRA
It's Your Love/ **Tim McGraw w/ Faith Hill** /CURB
Machinehead/ **Bush** /TRAUMA
I Can Love You Like That/ **John Michael Montgomery** /ATLANTIC
God Must Have Spent A Little More Time On You/ N' **Sync** /RCA

200,000 SPINS

Baby Boy/ **Beyonce** /COLUMBIA
Get Low/ **Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz** /TVT
Why Don't You & I/ **Santana Feat. Alex Band or Chad Kroeger** /ARISTA
Big Yellow Taxi/ **Counting Crows** /GEFFEN
Rock Wit You/ **Ashanti** /MURDER INC./DEF JAM/IDJMG
Miss Independent/ **Kelly Clarkson** /RCA
Youth Of The Nation/ **P.O.D.** /ATLANTIC
Sometimes/ **Britney Spears** /JIVE

100,000 SPINS

Suga Suga/ **Baby Bash** /UNIVERSAL
Damn/ **Youngbloodz** /SO SO DEF/ARISTA
Stand Up/ **Ludacris** /DEF JAM SOUTH/IDJMG
Why Can't I/ **Liz Phair** /CAPITOL
Who Wouldn't Wanna Be Me/ **Keith Urban** /CAPITOL
Holidae In/ **Chingy Feat. Ludacris & Snoop Dogg** /DTP/CAPITOL
Show Me How To Live/ **Audioslave** /EPIC
Help Pour Out The Rain (Lacey's Song)/ **Buddy Jewel** /COLUMBIA
Like Glue/ **Sean Paul** /VP/ATLANTIC
Big Poppa/ **Notorious B.I.G.** /BAD BOY
Molly/ **Sponge** /BEYOND

50,000 SPINS

Hey Ya/ **OutKast** /ARISTA
The Way You Move/ **OutKast** /ARISTA
Walked Outta Heaven/ **Jagged Edge** /SONY URBAN MUSIC/COLUMBIA
Still Frame/ **Trapt** /WARNER BROS.
Chicks Dig It/ **Chris Cagle** /CAPITOL
(I Hate) Everything About You/ **3 Days Grace** /JIVE
Cowboys Like Us/ **George Strait** /MCA
Falls On Me/ **Fuel** /EPIC
Wat Da Hook Gon Be/ **Murphy Lee Feat. Jermaine Dupri** /UNIVERSAL
Hell Yeah/ **Montgomery Gentry** /COLUMBIA
Deliverance/ **Bubba Sparxxx** /INTERSCOPE
What The World Needs/ **Wynonna** /CURB/ASYLUM
A Dios Le Pido/ **Juanes** /UNIVERSAL
I Can't Be Your Friend/ **Rushlow** /LYRIC STREET
Fly From The Inside/ **Shinedown** /ATLANTIC
Breakout/ **Foo Fighters** /RCA

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SONG NAME	LABEL NAME	ARTIST	This Week	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	Wks On Chart
ROCK						
PICTURE (FEAT. SHERYL CROW)	ATLANTIC	KID ROCK	1	1	1	19
COWBOY	ATLANTIC	KID ROCK	2	2	2	165
HOW YOU REMIND ME	ROADRUNNER	NICKELBACK	3	3	4	54
JANE SAYS (LIVE)	WARNER BROS	JANE'S ADDICTION	4	4	3	11
HOTEL CALIFORNIA (LIVE)	GEFFEN RECORDS	EAGLES	5	5	5	70
SWEET HOME ALABAMA	MCA	LYNYRD SKYNYRD	6	6	7	50
YOU SHOOK ME ALL NIGHT LONG	ATCO	AC/DC	7	7	6	81
POUR SOME SUGAR ON ME	MERCURY	DEF LEPPARD	8	8	8	5
HEADSTRONG	WARNER BROS	TRAPT	9	NEW	NEW	1
WHEN I'M GONE	UNIVERSAL	3 DOORS DOWN	10	NEW	NEW	1

SONG NAME	LABEL NAME	ARTIST	This Week	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	Wks On Chart
POP						
GET THE PARTY STARTED	ARISTA	PINK	1	1	1	49
LANDSLIDE (REPRISE)		FLEETWOOD MAC	2	2	2	157
BELIEVE	WARNER BROS	CHER	3	4	4	217
DANCING QUEEN	POLYDOR	ABBA	4	5	6	211
DON'T SPEAK	TRAUMA	NO DOUBT	5	6	5	137
HELLA GOOD	INTERSCOPE	NO DOUBT	6	9	9	22
TINY DANCER	POLYDOR	ELTON JOHN	7	8	8	5
JUST LIKE A PILL	ARISTA	PINK	8	7	7	19
MUSIC MAVERICK		MADONNA	9	3	3	108
JUST A GIRL	TRAUMA	NO DOUBT	10			2

SONG NAME	LABEL NAME	ARTIST	This Week	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	Wks On Chart
R&B/RAP						
LET'S GET IT ON	MOTOWN	MARVIN GAYE	1	1	1	241
IT WASN'T ME (FEAT. RICARDO DUCENT)	MCA	SHAGGY	2	2	2	79
THE DOCK OF THE BAY	ATLANTIC	OTIS REDDING	3	4	4	152
SUPERMAN (FEAT. DINA RAE)	AFTERMATH RECORDS	EMINEM	4	3	3	12
NO WOMAN NO CRY	ISLAND	BOB MARLEY	5	6	5	12
WHAT'S GOING ON	MOTOWN	MARVIN GAYE	6	7	7	229
ANGEL (FEAT. RAYVON)	MCA	SHAGGY	7	5	6	61
BECAUSE I GOT HIGH	UNIVERSAL RECORDS	AFROMAN	8	10	10	14
LOSE YOURSELF	INTERSCOPE	EMINEM	9	8	8	10
CLEANIN OUT MY CLOSET	AFTERMATH RECORDS	EMINEM	10	9	9	17

SONG NAME	LABEL NAME	ARTIST	This Week	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	Wks On Chart
COUNTRY						
I LOVE THIS BAR	DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE	TOBY KEITH	1	1	1	2
BEER FOR MY HORSES	DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE	TOBY KEITH	2	2	4	5
IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE	ARISTA NASHVILLE	ALAN JACKSON	3	8	8	3
MARGARITAVILLE	MCA	JIMMY BUFFETT	4	3	3	58
RING OF FIRE	MERCURY	JOHNNY CASH	5	4	1	11
FRIENDS IN LOW PLACES	CAPITOL NASHVILLE	GARTH BROOKS	6	6	6	64
COPPERHEAD ROAD	MCA	STEVE EARLE	7	7	7	241
FOLSOM PRISON BLUES	SUN ENTERTAINMENT	JOHNNY CASH	8	8	2	3
DEVIL WENT DOWN TO GEORGIA	BLUE HAT	CHARLIE DANIELS BAND	9	9	10	5
WHO'S YOUR DADDY	DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE	TOBY KEITH	10	NEW	NEW	1

SONG NAME	LABEL NAME	ARTIST	This Week	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	Wks On Chart
LATIN						
CORAZON ESPINADO (FEAT. MANA)	ARISTA	SANTANA	1	1	1	134
BAILAMOS	INTERSCOPE	ENRIQUE IGLESIAS	2	2	2	195
MARIPOSA TRACIONERA	WARNER MEXICO	MANA	3	3	3	8
DON'T SAY GOODBYE	UNIVERSAL RECORDS	PAULINA RUBIO	4	4	5	11
CLAVADO EN UN BAR	WARNER MUSIC LATINA INC.	MANA	5	6	8	135
LA BAMBOLA	WARNER BROS	LOS LOBOS	6	5	4	213
COMO LA FLOR	EMI LATIN	SELENA	7	8	7	153
BIDI BIDI BOM BOM	EMI LATIN	SELENA	8	7	6	181
AUNQUE ME DUELA EL ALMA	SONY DISCOS	VICENTE FERNANDEZ	9	9		2
A DIOS LE PIDO	UNIVERSAL RECORDS	JUANES	10			2

SONG NAME	LABEL NAME	ARTIST	This Week	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	Wks On Chart
INDIE						
FOLSOM PRISON BLUES	SUN ENTERTAINMENT	JOHNNY CASH	1	1	1	147
THE DEVIL WENT DOWN TO GEORGIA	BLUE HAT	CHARLIE DANIELS BAND	2	2	2	64
BAD MOON RISING	FANTASY INC.	CCR	3	3	3	85
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE RAIN?	FANTASY INC.	CCR	4	4	4	90
DOWN ON THE CORNER	FANTASY INC.	CCR	5	5	5	92
BORN ON THE BAYOU	FANTASY INC.	CCR	6	6	7	87
OH, PRETTY WOMAN	ORBISON RECORDS	ROY ORBISON	7	7	6	11
WHEN YOU SAY NOTHING AT ALL	ROUNDER RECORDS	ALISON KRAUSS	8	12	12	39
FORTUNATE SON	FANTASY INC.	CCR	9	10	8	98
THE MIDNIGHT SPECIAL	FANTASY INC.	CCR	10	11	9	89

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DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** **HOT 100 AIRPLAY**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	1	11	Hey Ya!	OUTKAST (ARISTA)	26	30	8	Numb	LINKIN PARK (WARNER BROS.)
2	2	13	The Way You Move	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (ARISTA)	27	28	15	White Flag	DIDD (ARISTA)
3	4	10	Milkshake	KELIS (STAR TRAK/ARISTA)	28	31	8	There Goes My Life	KELIS (STAR TRAK/ARISTA)
4	3	16	Stand Up	LUDACRIS (DISTURBING THE PEACE/DEF JAM SOUTH/UMG)	29	25	22	So Far Away	STAIN'D (FLIP/ELEKTRA/EEG)
5	7	7	You Don't Know My Name	ALICIA KEYS (J/RMG)	30	37	10	The First Cut Is The Deepest	SHERYL CROW (A&M/INTERSCOPE)
6	6	15	Walked Outta Heaven	JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA)	31	39	4	Gigolo	NICK CANNON FEAT. R. KELLY (NICK/JIVE)
7	5	18	Here Without You	3 DOORS DOWN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	32	27	14	Bright Lights	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC)
8	9	18	Suga Suga	BABY BASH FEAT. FRANKIE J. (UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	33	43	3	Salt Shaker	YING YANG TWINS (COLL/PARK/TVT)
9	8	15	Holiday In	CHINGY (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)	34	35	14	Why Can't I	LIZ PHAIR (CAPITOL)
10	10	19	Step In The Name Of Love	R. KELLY (JIVE)	35	29	30	Right Thurr	CHINGY (DISTURBING THE PEACE/CAPITOL)
11	11	20	Damn!	YOUNGBLOODZ FEAT. LIL JON (ISO SD DEF/ARISTA)	36	51	3	Through The Wire	KANYE WEST (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/DJMG)
12	13	7	Change Clothes	JAY-Z (ROC-A-FELLA/DEF JAM/DJMG)	37	32	17	I Love This Bar	TOBY KEITH (DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE)
13	12	20	Baby Boy	BEYONCE FEAT. SEAN PAUL (COLUMBIA)	38	40	8	You Can't Take The Honky Tonk Out Of The Girl	BROOKS & DUNN (ARISTA NASHVILLE)
14	16	9	It's My Life	NO DOUBT (INTERSCOPE)	39	47	3	Remember When	ARLAN JACKSON (ARISTA NASHVILLE)
15	14	30	Get Low	LIL JON & THE EAST SIDE BOYZ (BME/TVT)	40	42	5	The Voice Within	CHRISTINA AGUILERA (RCA/RMG)
16	19	19	Someday	NICKELBACK (ROADRUNNER/DJMG)	41	34	19	Harder To Breathe	MAROONS (DCTONE/J/RMG)
17	24	4	Slow Jamz	TWISTA (ATLANTIC)	42	33	27	Shake Ya Tailfeather	NELLY, P. DIDDY & MURPHY LEE (BAD BOY/UMRG)
18	20	13	Read Your Mind	AVANT (MAGIC JOHNSON/GEFFEN)	43	38	11	Cowboys Like Us	GEORGE STRAIT (MCA NASHVILLE)
19	17	11	Runnin' (Dying To Live)	TUPAC FEAT. THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G. (JAMARU/INTERSCOPE)	44	46	6	Invisible	CLAY AIKEN (RCA/RMG)
20	22	6	Me, Myself And I	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA)	45	36	12	(There's Gotta Be) More To Life	STACIE ORRICO (FOREFRONT/VIRGIN)
21	15	8	Stunt 101	G-UNIT (G-UNIT/SHADY/INTERSCOPE)	46	49	3	Not Today	MARY J. BLIGE FEAT. EVE (GEFFEN/INTERSCOPE)
22	21	23	Why Don't You & I	SANTANA (ARISTA)	47	45	41	Unwell	MATCHBOX TWENTY (ATLANTIC)
23	18	12	Wat Da Hook Gon Be	MURPHY LEE (FO REEL/UNIVERSAL/UMRG)	48	53	6	More & More	JOE JIVE
24	23	36	Headstrong	TRAPT (WARNER BROS.)	49	41	18	Rain On Me	ASHANTI (MURDER INC./DEF JAM/DJMG)
25	26	9	Perfect	SIMPLE PLAN (LAVA)	50	44	8	Breathe	MICHELLE BRANCH (MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.)
51	54	5	Fortenight	MUSIQ (DEF SOUL/DJMG)	51	54	5	Fortenight	MUSIQ (DEF SOUL/DJMG)
52	63	3	Gangsta Nation	WESTSIDE CONNECTION (HOO-BANGIN'/CAPITOL)	52	63	3	Gangsta Nation	WESTSIDE CONNECTION (HOO-BANGIN'/CAPITOL)
53	52	10	Fallen	SARAH MCCLACHLAN (ARISTA)	53	52	10	Fallen	SARAH MCCLACHLAN (ARISTA)
54	56	4	My Baby	BOW WOW FEAT. JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA)	54	56	4	My Baby	BOW WOW FEAT. JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA)
55	58	5	(I Hate) Everything About You	THREE DAYS GRACE (JIVE)	55	58	5	(I Hate) Everything About You	THREE DAYS GRACE (JIVE)
56	50	9	Chicks Dig It	CHRIS KYLE (CAPITOL) (NASHVILLE)	56	50	9	Chicks Dig It	CHRIS KYLE (CAPITOL) (NASHVILLE)
57	65	5	Honesty (Write Me A List)	RODNEY ATKINS (CURB)	57	65	5	Honesty (Write Me A List)	RODNEY ATKINS (CURB)
58	68	3	I Wanna Do It All	TERRI CLARK (MERCURY)	58	68	3	I Wanna Do It All	TERRI CLARK (MERCURY)
59	71	3	Watch The Wind Blow By	TIM MCGRAW (CURB)	59	71	3	Watch The Wind Blow By	TIM MCGRAW (CURB)
60	67	4	She's Not Just A Pretty Face	SHANIA TWAIN (MERCURY)	60	67	4	She's Not Just A Pretty Face	SHANIA TWAIN (MERCURY)
61	60	5	Fallen	MAYA (A&M/INTERSCOPE)	61	60	5	Fallen	MAYA (A&M/INTERSCOPE)
62	70	17	Clubbin'	MARQUEE HOUSTON (TU.G./ELEKTRA/EEG)	62	70	17	Clubbin'	MARQUEE HOUSTON (TU.G./ELEKTRA/EEG)
63	48	9	Hell Yeah	MONTEGOMERY GENTRY (COLUMBIA NASHVILLE)	63	48	9	Hell Yeah	MONTEGOMERY GENTRY (COLUMBIA NASHVILLE)
64	66	5	Drinkin' Bone	TRACY BYRD (RCA NASHVILLE)	64	66	5	Drinkin' Bone	TRACY BYRD (RCA NASHVILLE)
65	64	20	Who Wouldn't Wanna Be Me	KEITH URBAN (CAPITOL NASHVILLE)	65	64	20	Who Wouldn't Wanna Be Me	KEITH URBAN (CAPITOL NASHVILLE)
66	—	1	American Soldier	TOBY KEITH (DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE)	66	—	1	American Soldier	TOBY KEITH (DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE)
67	—	1	With You	JESSICA SIMPSON (COLUMBIA)	67	—	1	With You	JESSICA SIMPSON (COLUMBIA)
68	61	11	Pass That Dutch	MISSY ELLIOTT (THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA/EEG)	68	61	11	Pass That Dutch	MISSY ELLIOTT (THE GOLD MIND/ELEKTRA/EEG)
69	75	2	Little Moments	BRAID PAISLEY (ARISTA NASHVILLE)	69	75	2	Little Moments	BRAID PAISLEY (ARISTA NASHVILLE)
70	59	8	Walking In Memphis	LONESTAR (BNA)	70	59	8	Walking In Memphis	LONESTAR (BNA)
71	—	1	Hotel	CASSIDY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)	71	—	1	Hotel	CASSIDY FEAT. R. KELLY (FULL SURFACE/J/RMG)
72	72	6	Away From Me	MIDDLE OF THE ROAD (LAWLESS/GEFFEN)	72	72	6	Away From Me	MIDDLE OF THE ROAD (LAWLESS/GEFFEN)
73	62	18	Wave On Wave	PAT GREEN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL SOUTH)	73	62	18	Wave On Wave	PAT GREEN (REPUBLIC/UNIVERSAL SOUTH)
74	74	2	Hit That	THE OFFSPRING (COLUMBIA)	74	74	2	Hit That	THE OFFSPRING (COLUMBIA)
75	73	2	Are You Gonna Be My Girl	JET (ELEKTRA/EEG)	75	73	2	Are You Gonna Be My Girl	JET (ELEKTRA/EEG)

Records with the greatest impressions increase. © 2003, VNU Business Media, Inc. and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved. Compiled from a national sample of data supplied by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems. 935 stations in Top 40, Pop, R&B Hip-Hop, Country, Latin, Rock and other popular formats are electronically monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Songs ranked by gross impressions, computed by cross-referencing exact times of airplay with Arbitron listener data. This data is used to compile the Hot 100.

DECEMBER 27 2003 **Billboard** **HOT 100 SINGLES SALES**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/PROMOTION LABEL)
1	—	1	Nothing Fails	MADONNA (MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.)	26	23	17	Girlfriend	B2K (TU.G./EPIC)
2	3	7	Me, Myself And I	BEYONCE (COLUMBIA)	27	25	25	Clocks	COLDPLAY (CAPITOL)
3	6	9	F**k It (I Don't Want You Back)	EAMON (JIVE)	28	21	14	Rubberneckin'	ELVIS PRESLEY (BMG STRATEGIC MARKETING/RCA/RMG)
4	—	2	Me Against The Music	BRITNEY SPEARS FEAT. MADONNA (JIVE)	29	26	21	Did My Time	KORN (IMMORTAL/EPIC)
5	1	12	I Can Only Imagine	MERCYME (INO/CORB)	30	34	18	One Step Closer	AMERICAN JUNIORS (JIVE)
6	2	2	Turn Me On	NORAH JONES (BLUE NOTE/EMC)	31	—	1	Up Against All Odds	TARRALYN RAMSEY (CASABLANCA/UMRG)
7	7	14	The Way You Move/Hey Ya!	OUTKAST FEAT. SLEEPY BROWN (ARISTA)	32	30	3	Breathe	MICHELLE BRANCH (MAVERICK/WARNER BROS.)
8	10	28	This Is The Night/Bridge Over Troubled Water	CLAY AIKEN (RCA/RMG)	33	46	23	The Anthem/Lifestyles Of The Rich And Famous	GOOD CHARLOTTE (DAYLIGHT/EPIC)
9	9	17	Walked Outta Heaven	JAGGED EDGE (COLUMBIA)	34	29	23	I Drove All Night	CELINE DION (EPIC)
10	8	5	Redneck 12 Days Of Christmas/Here's Your Sign Christmas	JEFF FOXWORTH/BILL ENGLISH (WARNER BROS. NASHVILLE/WRN)	35	31	8	I Can't Take You Anywhere	SCOTTY McCRECKIN WITH TOBY KEITH (DREAMWORKS NASHVILLE)
11	4	4	One More Chance	MICHAEL JACKSON (EPIC)	36	33	50	Gots To Be	B2K (TU.G./EPIC)
12	5	11	Read Your Mind	AVANT (MAGIC JOHNSON/GEFFEN)	37	37	5	Change Clothes</	



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THANKS TO ALL OF OUR FRIENDS WHO HELPED MAKE 2003 SUCH A GREAT YEAR.
THERE ARE ALMOST TOO MANY TO LIST HERE...BUT WE DID IT ANYWAY!

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Jon Zellner	Omark Holmes	Justin Fontaine	Bob Walker	Chuck Bliziotis	Jim Hampton	John Stanson
Brent Ackerman	Peter Leake	Kathy Donovan	Darla Thomas	Dale Connors	Wes McCain	John Reynolds
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Tommy BoDean	Steve Davis	Mary Kim	Becky Rogers	Joe Riccitelli	Adam Granite	Barry Weiss
Billy Zero	Todd Glassman	Mike Preston	Jon Reed	John Killeullen	Erik Olesen	Bill Scull
Chris Edge	Vicki Leben	Nancy Wagner	Barry McKay	John Vail	Jill Erickson	Hugh Anderson
Bob Lawrence	Michael Bryan	Phil Quartararo	Derek Madden	Jordan Rosenblatt	Silvio Pietrolunigo	Jim Burruss
Al Parinello	Fernando Ventura	Richard Palmese	Alisa Hashimoto	Kim Stephens	Steve Rivers	Johnna Johnson
Jerry Noble	Brian Ford	Robert Dimney	Alex Coronfly	Lisa Velasquez	Nathan Allen	Margo Silvoian
Juli Knapp	Eric Chaney	Steve Bartels	Brenda Romano	Mark Di Dia	Todd Martin	Patrick McGowan
Charlie Foster	Joel Grey	Tom Biery	Cheryl Broz	Sky Daniels	Rob Weaver	Polly Anthony
Bruce Clark	Steve Young	Tom Carraba	Craig Kallman	Sky Spooner	Jodi Vale	Sean Ross
Lance Ballance	Mike Wagner	Paul Boris	Geoffrey Dewilde	Steve Greenberg	Jeff Sottolano	Tommy Mottola
Hodji	Tony Tesiu	Alexa	Jason Flom	Sylvia Rhone	John Shomby	Will Botwin
Buzz Brindle	Eric Samuels	Libby Carstensen	Joel Denrer	Steve Greenberg	Tin Moore	Tommy Frank
Brad Waldo	Jon Quest	Greg Williams	John Scher	Tim Moore	Tom Mitchell	Ken Zipeto
Jonathan Tullios	David Oregon	Rick Vaughn	John Scher	Tom Moore	Huw Drury	Stu Smith
Sunny Wylde	Mike Oaks	Matt Shannon	Ken Schlager	Tom Mitchell	Grover Collins	Nikki Nite
Randy Sherwyn	Debbie Mazella	Jeff Roteman	Leon Rose	Huw Drury	Robin Cole	Danny Meyers
Jeff McHugh	Jason Knight	Chaz McGuire	Paul Burgess	Arthur Spivak	Eric Borgos	Jeff McCartney
Diana Laird	Erik Johnson	John Flint	Sheila Volpe	Clive Davis	Felicia Swerling	Scott Matthews
Jon Holiday	Jeannine Jersey	Fisher	Stuart Sobol	Eric Borgos	Jim Backus	Robyn Lane
Dean Dezius	Jason Goodman	Dianne Warren	Paul Cannell	Felicia Swerling	Gerry Cagle	Jay Beau Jones
Tony Coles	Johnny Duratt	Greg Johnson	Jeff Ball	Jim Backus	Dan Hunt	Ronni Hunter
Andrea Ganis	Troy Dayton	Jeff Bardin	Kevin Akitake	Gerry Cagle	Sam Hill	Tom Gjerdrum
Becca Gilbert	Andy Shane	John Boulous	Mark Adams	Jonathon Jacobs	Michael Dean	Charese Fruge
	Anthony Colombo	Mark Tindle	Drew Kelly	Lorin Palagi	Dan Hunt	Vic Duran
	Bill Hearn	Mark Tindle	John Shields	Mark Gorlick	Sam Hill	Don Crabtree
		Phil Costello	Mark Shands	Mark Ramsey	Michael Dean	Art Phillips
		Rob Sisco	Brian Rickman	Patty Morris	Alex Vitoulis	Barry Bishin
		Steve Barnett	Mark Remedi	Shanna Fischer	Bridget Morrison	Carla Virola
			John Peuke	Shanna Fischer	Chuck Oliner	Dave Sholin
				Stu Bergen	Cliff Burnstein	Ken Levy
				Bill Clary	Geoff Mayfield	Mike Easterlin
				Paul Cannon	JB Brenner	Pete Weinstock
				Ron Blighton	Jenny Ginsburg	Richard Sanders
				Rick Alexander	John Doelp	Monica Topping
				Jennifer Goldberg		Tracy Johnson
						Ben Lazar
						Michael Casson
						T.K. O'Grady

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Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems

The most popular singles and tracks, according to radio audience impressions measured by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems, sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan, and playlists from select non-monitored radio stations.

Nielsen SoundScan

Table with columns: THIS WEEK, LAST WEEK, 2 WKS. AGO, WEEKS ON, TITLE, PRODUCER (SONGWRITER), IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL, Artist, Album Title, PEAK POSITION. Includes tracks like 'HEY YA!', 'THE WAY YOU MOVE', 'MILKSHAKE', 'STAND UP', 'YOU DON'T KNOW MY NAME', 'WALKED OUTTA HEAVEN', 'HERE WITHOUT YOU', 'SUGA SUGA', 'HOLIDAE IN', 'CHANGE CLOTHES', 'STEP IN THE NAME OF LOVE', 'BABY BOY', 'DAMN!', 'IT'S MY LIFE', 'GET LOW', 'SOMEDAY', 'ME, MYSELF AND I', 'SLOW JAMZ', 'READ YOUR MIND', 'RUNNIN (DYING TO LIVE)', 'STUNT 101', 'WHY DON'T YOU & I', 'WAT DA HOOK GON BE', 'PERFECT', 'HEADSTRONG', 'WHITE FLAG', 'NUMB', 'SO FAR AWAY', 'THERE GOES MY LIFE', 'THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST', 'BRIGHT LIGHTS', 'WHY CAN'T I', 'GIGOLO', 'SALT SHAKER', 'RIGHT THURR', 'THE VOICE WITHIN', 'HARDER TO BREATHE', '(THERE'S GOTTA BE) MORE TO LIFE', 'THROUGH THE WIRE', 'SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER', 'I LOVE THIS BAR', 'YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HONKY TONK OUT OF THE GIRL', 'INVISIBLE', 'REMEMBER WHEN', 'BREATHE', 'COWBOYS LIKE US', 'NOT TODAY', 'UNWELL', 'MORE & MORE', 'RAIN ON ME'.

Table with columns: THIS WEEK, LAST WEEK, 2 WKS. AGO, WEEKS ON, TITLE, PRODUCER (SONGWRITER), IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL, Artist, Album Title, PEAK POSITION. Includes tracks like 'FALLEN', 'GANGSTA NATION', 'FORTHENIGHT', 'MY BABY', '(I HATE) EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU', 'CHICKS DIG IT', 'F**K IT (I DON'T WANT YOU BACK)', 'HONESTY (WRITE ME A LIST)', 'I WANNA DO IT ALL', 'WATCH THE WIND BLOW BY', 'SHE'S NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE', 'CLUBBIN', 'HELL YEAH', 'WITH YOU', 'DRINKIN' BONE', 'WHO WOULDN'T WANNA BE ME', 'PASS THAT DUTCH', 'AMERICAN SOLDIER', 'STACY'S MOM', 'HOTEL', 'LITTLE MOMENTS', 'ARE YOU GONNA BE MY GIRL', 'HIT THAT', 'WALKING IN MEMPHIS', 'AWAY FROM ME', 'WAVE ON WAVE', 'I MELT', 'BADABOOM', 'STILL FRAME', 'ME AGAINST THE MUSIC', 'POP THAT BOOTY', 'LOVE YOU MORE', 'KNOCK KNOCK', 'HEAVEN', 'ANOTHER POSTCARD (CHIMPS)', 'TOUGH LITTLE BOYS', 'SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE', 'WEAK AND POWERLESS', 'BIGGER THAN MY BODY', 'LONG BLACK TRAIN', 'YOU', 'CLAP BACK', 'SHAKE THAT MONKEY', 'ALONE', 'NEVA EVA', 'GANGSTA GIRL', 'I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANYWHERE', 'SO YESTERDAY', 'ONE MORE CHANCE'.

● Songs with the greatest airplay and/or sales gains recorded this week. Greatest Gainer/Sales and Greatest Gainer/Airplay are awarded, respectively, for the largest sales and airplay increases on the chart. ◆ Videoclip availability. ◆ Indicates retail single available and is removed upon Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) certification. ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 500,000 units or 25,000 units for DVD single (Gold). ◆ RIAA certification for net shipment of 1 million units or 50,000 units for DVD single (Platinum), with additional million indicated by a number following the symbol. ◆ Retail Launch: Indicates first full week that retail release contributes to song's point total. Airplay only songs are not eligible for the Hot 100 until they reach the top 75 of the Hot 100 Airplay chart. Songs are removed from the Hot 100 and Hot 100 Airplay charts simultaneously if they have been on the Hot 100 for more than 20 weeks and rank below 50. ◆ CD Single available. ◆ DVD Single available. ◆ CD Maxi-Single available. ◆ Cassette Single available. ◆ Vinyl Maxi-Single available. ◆ Vinyl Single available. ◆ Cassette Maxi-Single available. Catalog number is for (M) ◆ (S) ◆ (C) ◆ (T) ◆ (V) ◆ (D) ◆ (E) ◆ (R) ◆ (P) ◆ (G) ◆ (L) ◆ (I) ◆ (N) ◆ (S) ◆ (A) ◆ (M) ◆ (P) ◆ (L) ◆ (U) ◆ (M) ◆ (B) ◆ (C) ◆ (D) ◆ (E) ◆ (F) ◆ (G) ◆ (H) ◆ (I) ◆ (J) ◆ (K) ◆ (L) ◆ (M) ◆ (N) ◆ (O) ◆ (P) ◆ (Q) ◆ (R) ◆ (S) ◆ (T) ◆ (U) ◆ (V) ◆ (W) ◆ (X) ◆ (Y) ◆ (Z) ◆ (AA) ◆ (AB) ◆ (AC) ◆ (AD) ◆ (AE) ◆ (AF) ◆ (AG) ◆ (AH) ◆ (AI) ◆ (AJ) ◆ (AK) ◆ (AL) ◆ (AM) ◆ (AN) ◆ (AO) ◆ (AP) ◆ (AQ) ◆ (AR) ◆ (AS) ◆ (AT) ◆ (AU) ◆ (AV) ◆ (AW) ◆ (AX) ◆ (AY) ◆ (AZ) ◆ (BA) ◆ (BB) ◆ (BC) ◆ (BD) ◆ (BE) ◆ (BF) ◆ (BG) ◆ (BH) ◆ (BI) ◆ (BJ) ◆ (BK) ◆ (BL) ◆ (BM) ◆ (BN) ◆ (BO) ◆ (BP) ◆ (BQ) ◆ (BR) ◆ (BS) ◆ (BT) ◆ (BU) ◆ (BV) ◆ (BW) ◆ (BX) ◆ (BY) ◆ (BZ) ◆ (CA) ◆ (CB) ◆ (CC) ◆ (CD) ◆ (CE) ◆ (CF) ◆ (CG) ◆ (CH) ◆ (CI) ◆ (CJ) ◆ (CK) ◆ (CL) ◆ (CM) ◆ (CN) ◆ (CO) ◆ (CP) ◆ (CQ) ◆ (CR) ◆ (CS) ◆ (CT) ◆ (CU) ◆ (CV) ◆ (CW) ◆ (CX) ◆ (CY) ◆ (CZ) ◆ (DA) ◆ (DB) ◆ (DC) ◆ (DD) ◆ (DE) ◆ (DF) ◆ (DG) ◆ (DH) ◆ (DI) ◆ (DJ) ◆ (DK) ◆ (DL) ◆ (DM) ◆ (DN) ◆ (DO) ◆ (DP) ◆ (DQ) ◆ (DR) ◆ (DS) ◆ (DT) ◆ (DU) ◆ (DV) ◆ (DW) ◆ 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Beverage Brands

Continued from page 5

downloads through alliances with digital music services.

"You're going to see lots of free music given out via third-party companies," buymusic.com founder Scott Blum says. "It's not going to be Apple and iTunes driving the business. It's going to be companies like Pepsi and other third parties that are promoting digital music on bottle caps and on labels."

MARKETING POSSIBILITIES

Indeed, Apple Computer has inked a deal with Pepsi to give away 100 million iTunes downloads in a promotion that kicks off in February 2004 with a Super Bowl ad.

And Miller Brewing will give away thousands of Napster-branded digital music players and downloads next summer as part of a new marketing alliance between the beer maker and Napster parent Roxio.

Other beverage suppliers, MP3 player manufacturers, airlines and credit card companies are also looking to get in on the act. Even fast food giant McDonald's confirms it has discussed marketing possibilities with a number of online music distributors.

The promotions come at a time when brand marketers, particularly beverage companies, are looking to establish broad connections between music and their products—a strategy well-served by digital music giveaways.

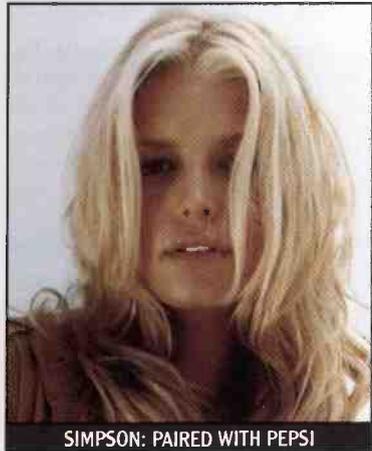
Music giveaways are understood to foster customer loyalty. What's more, they provide consumers with powerful incentives to use the related products, executives say.

The trend has major implications for the nascent digital music business.

Campaigns from Pepsi, Miller and others can educate consumers about online music in a way that is outside the scope of most digital music companies, Apple aside.

Quite simply, brand marketers have much bigger coffers to devote to marketing and promotion than upstart Web firms.

"We're going to drive a lot of trial of the iTunes experience," says Katie Lacey, VP of colas and media at Pepsi-Cola North America. "I think that will be a revolutionary promotion and a



SIMPSON: PAIRED WITH PEPSI

revolutionary opportunity."

Through its own marketing initiatives, Apple has helped drive sales of more than 25 million downloads since April. However, Pepsi is giving away four times as many tracks. And it's plugging iTunes on 300 million bottles.

Apple CEO Steve Jobs is on record as saying that the promotion "will go down in history as igniting the legal download market."

Some brand marketers are even going to give selling downloads a shot. In fact, Pepsi rival Coca-Cola has unveiled plans to launch a download store in Britain (*Billboard*, Dec. 13). Mycokemusic.com will go live in January 2004, offering 250,000 new and recent hits from 8,500 acts, according to the company. Specific licensing deals

have not been announced. Tracks will also sell for 99 pence (\$1.71) each.

The site is expected to have a broad promotional component as well. To support the launch, Coca-Cola is planning a yearlong promotional campaign that will include free, exclusive tracks.

In the U.S., Coke also sponsors a promotional music site called coke-music.com, which focuses on highlighting new music. No music is sold through the destination.

Sean Ryan, VP of music services at Real Networks, acknowledges that brand marketers are looking at all sorts of models for hitching their wagons to digital music. He says some companies are considering sponsorship relationships with music programming along the lines of the soap sponsorships that drove early daytime TV programming.

What all of this means for the value of the digital music market—and whether the campaigns will inspire greater numbers of consumers to start paying for music online—remains to be seen.

"People are used to getting music for free," Blum acknowledges.

He and other digital-music executives suspect that such promotions will serve as an important bridge between free peer-to-peer services like Kazaa and the commercial digital music market.

Label executives say they are not concerned with brand marketers giving away digital music, as in the Pepsi/iTunes promotion, because such giveaways are limited to single downloads.

What's more, record executives point out that download giveaways generate revenue for the labels and artists because the marketers have to buy the music before they can give it away.

In the Pepsi/iTunes deal, Pepsi reportedly will pay Apple for each of the songs downloaded during the promotion.

EMOTIONAL TIES

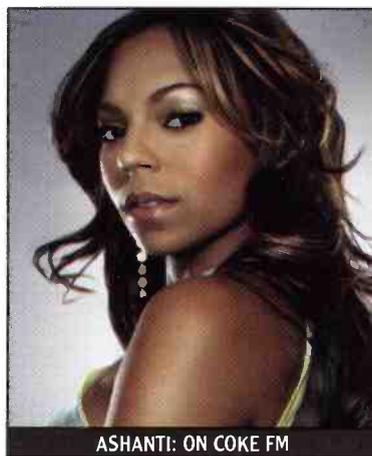
Digital download giveaways are just the latest wrinkle in a deepening relationship between the brand marketing

community and the music industry.

Youth-oriented lifestyle brands like to piggyback on the strong emotional ties that young consumers have with their favorite songs and artists.

Beverage companies—such as soda companies and beer makers—have been particularly keen on using music to boost consumer affinity with their brands and are forming more formal relationships with music companies to ensure they have access to relevant music.

"A lot of companies are seeing that



ASHANTI: ON COKE FM

there's value in music. Music drives product," says Charlie Walk, executive VP of promotion at Columbia Records Group. "And it's great for us, because we're utilizing their dollars and their media campaigns to help drive artists."

During the past year, Pepsi has worked closely with Sony Music Entertainment on marketing initiatives. Coca-Cola has a similar relationship with Universal Music Group, particularly with Interscope.

"The current business environment lends itself to partnering," says Geoff Cottrill, group director of music for Coca-Cola North America.

The increasing synergies come at a time when record companies—facing slumping sales—are looking to promotional platforms beyond radio and

music video networks to plug their acts. Tying in with a brand marketer can be a great opportunity to push music through nontraditional marketing channels, record executives acknowledge.

"There's a ton of opportunity, and we're trying to push the envelope," Pepsi's Lacey says.

ACCOUNTING FOR TASTE

The difference between current music-marketing initiatives and campaigns of old is the way marketers approach the industry.

More often than not, the focus is now on music as a whole rather than on a particular artist. That's because consumers listen to many artists within multiple genres, marketers say.

"Music taste today is like a fingerprint. Everyone's taste is different, and youth pride themselves on having personal music taste. So for us to focus on one artist or one type of music, [we] would be missing the bigger picture—that people love music in general," Cottrill says.

The result can be programs like Coke FM, a summer radio advertising campaign in which Coke introduced snippets of new music within its ads. Acts plugged through Coke FM included Mya, Ashanti, 112, Rooney, Cold, Jurassic 5, Jonell, Depswa, Steve Azar and Marcel.

Pepsi is pursuing a similar initiative with Sony on a radio campaign called Pepsi First Taste. That effort—which is teasing new music from Beyoncé, Gloria Estefan, Mandy Moore, Ginuwine, Jagged Edge, Jessica Simpson, Bow Wow and Fuel, among others—began in May and is about to end.

Anheuser-Busch also promoted such acts as the Donnas and Disturbed in radio advertising for Budweiser during the summer.

"It's not necessarily about the soda," Columbia's Walk says. "It's the soda associating themselves with new music first."

Holiday Sales

Continued from page 5

Dec. 6-7 and Dec. 13-14 blanketed much of the Eastern Seaboard north of Virginia, but at press time, merchants still had two big weeks to get sales back on track, says one executive with a large chain, who declined to reveal numbers.

In Amarillo, Texas, Hastings Entertainment VP of purchasing Steve Hicks says the 142-store chain is slightly ahead of last year but not where he wants it to be.

"It's a little bit disappointing, but we still have a long way to go" before Christmas, he notes.

In Massachusetts, Newbury Comics CEO Mike Dreese says the snowstorms knocked sales down by 30% or 40% on some days at the 24-unit, Brighton-based chain. "But overall we are maintaining our margins, so profits are OK," he says.

This far into the holiday selling season, the chain is down about 7%-8% in sales, he adds.

The decline is higher than the nearly 1% drop in sales that Nielsen SoundScan shows for the first three weeks of the holiday selling season compared with the same time last year.

From the period beginning Nov. 24—which includes Thanksgiving—through Dec. 14, sales are down 0.9%, with this year's album sales totaling 63.8 million copies vs. last year's 64.4 million copies, according to Nielsen SoundScan figures.

"It feels slow, but the numbers say otherwise," says Eric Levin, of Criminal Records in Atlanta.

From Dec. 1-17, his store is up 7% over last year, and "the normal hurricane hasn't hit yet."

Levin says it should not be a shock that the independent stores' holiday selling season is a little slow on the front end.

He notes that such stores cannot compete with the sale pricing that big-box retailers employ during the Thanksgiving weekend to lure people into stores.

But as it gets later in the season and

the big boxes run out of product or the customers start digging for obscure titles, "they [will] come our way," he says.

Similarly, Larry Silver, executive VP of the eight-unit Record Theatre in Buffalo, N.Y., says the company is about "flat on a comp-store basis," with last year.

"It's difficult being an industry fighting the Best Buys and Circuit Citys who are giving away stuff at \$9.99. But we will do more business as the big boxes sell out," he says.

Nabil Ayers of the three-unit, Seattle-based Sonic Boom says the holiday selling season just started for his stores the weekend of Dec. 13-14. Ayers adds that "[Dec. 15] was the best Monday we ever had."

In Minneapolis, Chris Wester, managing director and head buyer at the four-unit Down in the Valley, says the chain's business is down slightly, probably about three percentage points.

The weather hasn't been in the chain's favor, he explains. "When the weather is brutal, people go to the malls instead of to [free-standing] stores like us," he says. "Last year, the weather held up for us until the 19th, but we got hammered last week [Dec. 7-13]."

Even so, he says he is not too worried, because customers tend to do their shopping right before Christmas. He expects this weekend, Dec. 20-21, to be big.

Carl Singmaster, president of the five-unit Manifest Discs & Tapes in Columbia, S.C., says same-store sales at his outlets are up by strong single digits over last year.

In particular, he says CDs are up about 10% and DVDs are up about 50%. "Traffic is light, but the people coming into the store are buying with intent," he says.

With the exception of the opening weekend, pricing has been pretty rational, merchants say. Dreese and Singmaster add that Universal Music & Video Distribution's JumpStart program is helping pricing.

Dreese says that when he prices UMVD titles at \$9.99, "it is not as punishing to us as last year."

And Singmaster says that JumpStart is helping the UMVD titles that are out for 14 weeks or so. Even though they are no longer on sale, they can still be bought at low prices.

Merchants say catalog album sales, DVDs, Christmas albums, boxed sets

and trend merchandise are performing strongly this year.

Indeed, the Johnny Cash "Unearthed" boxed set is scarce in stores, as is the Michael Bubl  Christmas album. Also doing well are Christmas albums from the Moody Blues and the Blind Boys of Alabama.

Hicks says that "anything DVD" is selling great for Hastings, while Westin reports that body jewelry is doing well for Down in the Valley.

He says he found a company that produces a line of jewelry that is packaged with one main piece, along with interchangeable accessories. "That angle has exploded for us," he says.

Dreese says Newbury Comics' No. 1-selling trend-merchandise piece right now is a hat that says "Jesus Is My Homeboy."

"We have probably 50 items that are Jesus-related, and it is our No. 1 accelerated brand. It goes to show that God looks kindly on all progressive retailers."

Dreese also says his newly launched Web site, which focuses on trend merchandise, is doing better than expected. In fact, it already logged a day in which it surpassed the sales of one of Newbury's stores.

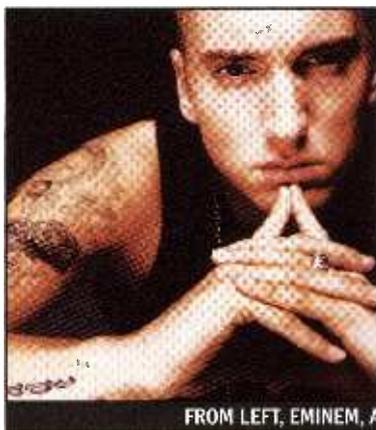
Grammy Noms

Continued from page 9

vigne and written by the singer and production trio the Matrix. Both songs reached the top five on the Hot 100.

Classic soul got a nod with Luther Vandross' sentimental "Dance With My Father," which he wrote with Richard Marx. The song reached No. 38 on the Hot 100 and No. 28 on Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks. It is the title track from Vandross' current album, which debuted on The Billboard 200 at No. 1 and has been certified platinum.

And coming from left field is "Keep Me in Your Heart" from Warren Zevon, which the late rocker wrote with Jorge Calderon. The track received virtually no airplay before its bid. Zevon, who has never won a



FROM LEFT, EMINEM, AGUILERA AND VANDROSS: TUNES ARE NOMINATED FOR SONG OF THE YEAR

Grammy Award, released his final album, "The Wind," this summer; he died Sept. 7. The set debuted at No. 22, a career high.

HANDICAPPING CONTENDERS

Industry observers are leaning toward OutKast and Luther Vandross as this year's likely winners.

For song of the year, "I've got to go with Luther," says Jeremy Rice, PD of top 40 WBLI Long Island, N.Y. He says

that the track "speaks from the heart. It's a wonderful song and will get sentimental picks."

Top 40 WNOU Indianapolis PD Chris Edge says that Vandross being nominated without much airplay bodes well for him. "That song had a buzz, but I never heard it on radio," he says. "That's impressive when a song can reach people through word-of-mouth."

Sean Ross, VP of music and pro-

gramming for Edison Media Research, says, "From a song standpoint, [Aguilera's] 'Beautiful' is the most mainstream, but also a genuinely good piece of craftsmanship. And [writer] Linda Perry has good rock credentials."

Like Ross, consultant Guy Zapoleon, founder of Zapoleon Media Strategies, has a soft spot for "Beautiful," because "it is probably one of the songs that will last." But he sees Vandross pulling

ahead. "People's hearts go out to what Luther's gone through."

As for record of the year, Rice narrows the field down to OutKast and Coldplay and tags the former as the winner. OutKast is "absolutely hot right now," Rice says.

Ross sees the four hip-hop records splitting the hip-hop vote, preventing consensus for just one song and thereby giving Coldplay the largest number of votes.

But, he continues, the critical acclaim pushes Eminem and OutKast to the front of the pack with Coldplay. From there, Ross says, "OutKast is the most topical, and as people vote, the year-end lists will come in and the OutKast record will be up there."

Edge also backs OutKast. He calls "Hey Ya!" "a phenomenal song, well-sculpted, perfect."

But Beyoncé has her contingent as well. "Beyoncé is lightning hot, and she's probably the hottest artist of the moment right now," Zapoleon says. He counters OutKast supporters by saying that the duo may be perceived by voters as too new on the scene.

Jerry Kamilar, Trans World Entertainment divisional merchandise manager for music, also is optimistic about Beyoncé's chances.

Rock In Rio

Continued from page 10

attended by an average of 1 million people per event.

The reduced scale reflects Portugal's population and dimensions, which are far smaller than Brazil's.

Still, Rock in Rio Lisbon is expected to be a pivotal event for Portugal in 2004, in much the same way it was for Brazil.

Conversations are under way to secure international sponsorships. Major local sponsorships have been signed with leading bank Banco

Comercial Portugues, cell-phone company Vodafone, Sagres Beer—Portugal's best-selling brand—and Sumo juice.

The local component is integral to Rock in Rio's success. Medina has formed a local company, called Better World, that will work with his own event promotion company—Dream Factory—to construct a 200,000-square-meter "City of Rock" that will house the festival. A City of Rock was also built to accommodate Rock in Rio in 1985 and 2001.

"I truly think the impact of Rock in Rio will be even bigger in Portugal than in Brazil," Medina says. "We've established very strong al-

liances with the major companies and media companies in Portugal."

These include the country's biggest radio network, Radio Renascenca, and the leading Internet provider, Sapo.

But unlike other festivals, which are promoted a few months in advance merely to sell tickets, Rock in Rio is promoted for an entire year and billed as an "experience."

"We provide them with a concrete idea to market for the entire year," Medina says. "Other festivals have good bands and an audience. We have an audience of 500,000 people, which is an astounding number."

"And Rock in Rio is about diversity and about a social project," Med-

ina says. "The communication campaign is important. It's full of vitality. It allows [marketers] to truly mobilize society."

In 2001, for example, Rock in Rio was used to launch AOL Brazil.

While this edition does not boast such a high-profile alliance, its international ramifications are far broader than previous Rock in Rio events.

"It's not a question of one point, but a lot of good points," says Medina, whose ambition for 2007 is to have simultaneous music playing 24 hours a day on three continents.

"Rock for us is not just a kind of music. It's a flag. It's an integrated movement."

IFPI

Continued from page 9

2004" outside the U.S.

No specific details or timetable was disclosed about the IFPI's legal-action plan in 2004.

An IFPI spokesman tells *Billboard* that "the message is that it is illegal to download unauthorized files outside the U.S. just as it is in the U.S. and that the industry is prepared to enforce its rights."

The IFPI's stance on the digital

music sector coincides with a separate publication, which indicates Europeans are now consuming more music online through the P2P Kazaa network than those users in the U.S.

ILLEGAL P2P USE DROPS

According to a new report from *Billboard* sister company Nielsen/NetRatings, one in 12 European Web surfers used the Kazaa Web site in October. During that period, 9.35 million Europeans used the Kazaa application or visited its Web site from home, representing some 9.6% of the European home audience. This is compared with 8.24 million at-home users in the U.S.,

or 6.5% of the U.S. home audience.

In the six months from March, Kazaa usage is shown to have nearly halved from a peak of 16 million monthly users in that month.

Nielsen/NetRatings European market analyst Tom Ewing explains that the drop in hits coincides with the U.S. record industry starting legal action against individual file sharers and with the launch of legal music download services.

"It's very likely that some of Kazaa's lost users switched over to legal download sites, and some might be using smaller services like Kazaa Lite or be trading files privately among

circles of friends," Ewing comments.

He adds that with the current growth in broadband penetration throughout Europe, it is now not totally inconceivable to surmise that the volume of file sharing in Europe will soon exceed that of the U.S.

"The key to the success of file sharing in Europe is broadband access," Ewing says. "As larger markets like the U.K. and Germany catch up, it could be that file sharing becomes an even larger phenomenon in Europe."

The IFPI declined comment on Nielsen/NetRatings' figures, simply acknowledging that "file sharing is a growing concern in Europe."

FIMI Awards

Continued from page 12

Minds, whose frontman Jim Kerr has a home in the Sicilian resort of Taormina, came to collect a special prize from sponsor Cornetto Free Music, while East West rock act Muse provided a live set.

Most of the international winners sent video messages, as did BMG

artist Eros Ramazzotti, who was on tour in Germany.

Italian rock legend Vasco Rossi was a no-show, apparently having missed his plane, while tenor Luciano Pavarotti interrupted his honeymoon to collect a special FIMI Award as "an ambassador for Italian music."

The awards were voted on by a 400-strong academy of journalists, producers, retailers and consumers. The dominance of BMG Ricordi artists in the Italian section and EMI

in international was notable.

Ramazzotti took best male artist and best album (for "9"). Pop act Le Vibrazioni received awards for best group and best new act, Giorgia for best single (for "Gocce di Memoria") and Elio e Le Storie Tese for best video (for "Shpalman").

Universal's Carmen Consoli was voted best female artist, EMI's Rossi best tour and Virgin's Planet Funk best dance act. The international prizes went to EMI acts Robbie Williams (best

male act), Coldplay (best group) and Brazilian ensemble Tribalistas (best new act). BMG's Dido was voted best female act.

The show's TV ratings were—like the event itself—considered acceptable under the circumstances.

The program, which aired from 9 p.m. to beyond midnight, reached an average 8.56% share of the audience, an improvement on the 7.85% for RAI 2's broadcast of the awards' third edition last year.

Stewart

Continued from page 12

Once in Nashville, Stewart had modest success as a songwriter after future RCA Nashville chief Jerry Bradley signed the artist to Bradley's Forest Hills publishing company.

Stewart first recorded for the Cory imprint in 1964 and also recorded briefly during the '60s for Kapp. He signed with Decca in 1971 but was dropped after one single.

Disillusioned by his lack of success, Stewart returned to Florida and immersed himself in the music of Southern rockers including the Allman Brothers and resumed playing clubs. Before leaving Nashville, he recorded demos of Motown material that ended up in the hands of Mercury A&R executive Roy Dea. Two years later, Dea moved to RCA and encouraged Bradley to sign Stewart in 1973.

While RCA promoted Stewart's singles, he toured with labelmates Nat Stuckey and Charley Pride. His first single, "Drinkin' Thing," failed to chart. It took his cover of Dickie Betts' "Ramblin' Man" to give Stewart his first chart entry in 1973. Encouraged by the response, RCA rereleased "Drinkin' Thing" in early 1974, and it peaked at No. 10.

Subsequent hits include "Out of Hand" and the No. 1 title "She's Actin' Single (I'm Drinkin' Doubles)" in 1975. Stewart placed 30 singles on the *Billboard* country charts, including a pair of duets with Dean Dillon. He recorded for the Red Ash and HighTone labels after his departure from RCA in 1983. His last chart entry was "Rainin', Rainin'" in 1989.

Stewart is survived by one daughter.

Soul Acts

Continued from page 9

special commitment from labels, including early tour support and intensive press campaigns.

"We try to come up with new ways to market," Warner Bros. executive Damu Mtume says. "That's the tough part. You need radio, but these kinds of artists survive off live performances and strong records."

Rather than banking on airplay to break them, these new soul artists and their labels are creating their own success stories to take to radio. And they say they are committing between a year and 18 months to write those stories.

Among the marketing weapons being used are more live performances with sponsor tie-ins, aggressive press campaigns, more creative electronic press kits and alternative routes of exposure like NPR and a new BET program, "Grown Folks Music."

MARKETING MUSCLE NEEDED

One case in point is So So Def/Arista's Hamilton. From the start, Arista approached his debut album, "Coming From Where I'm From," as one that required a strong marketing effort.

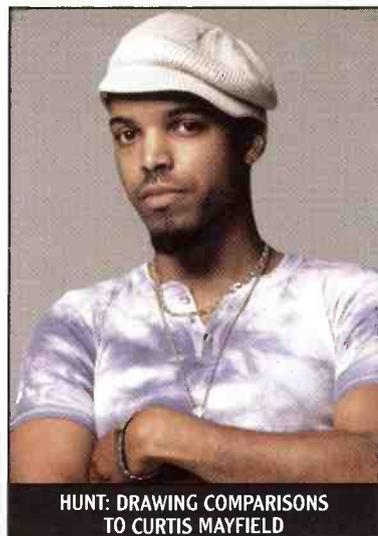
"From day one we knew this would be a work project," says Phillana Williams, Arista Records VP of urban marketing. "We didn't pour a lot of money into radio. Instead it went into [prerelease] consumer marketing campaigns, promotional samplers and special industry showcases in L.A., New York and Chicago. We've been keeping him on the road, tying in with one-off sponsors like Remy and Martell."

Another road warrior is Hollywood's Richardson, who has been averaging two to three shows per week since opening for rapper Nelly on a tour that began July 8. In fact, Richardson and Hamilton are expected to team for a concert tour early next year.

"Performing is a key component," says Eric Ferris, VP of marketing at Hollywood. "Opening for Nelly was a different billing for Calvin, but it

worked, because there were a lot of females in the audience who connected with him. Any time you have great music, you owe it to the artist and fans to get it to them however you can."

Though radio was a consideration in mapping the Richardson campaign, Ferris says the label entered the project with a realistic view about airplay potential. Starting in April, Hollywood targeted key markets in the Southeast while simultaneously mounting a lifestyle campaign, putting information in such local gathering places as beauty parlors and barbershops.



HUNT: DRAWING COMPARISONS TO CURTIS MAYFIELD

Richardson has since done interviews with NPR and CNN. He is a featured artist for December in Movie Tunes' new videoclip program, which is shown in cinemas prior to the main attraction.

"We knew we had a ceiling with radio on the first single, 'Keep on Pushin'," Ferris says. "But we felt it was a strong initial statement of his sound, which was more important to us to secure him in audiences' minds."

"We've never had 1,000 spins but more like 250-350 spins a week. And that's been helpful. Radio has always been tough and will continue to be tough. But if you connect with consumers, radio will support it."

The slow build is paying off. After 12 weeks, Hamilton's Sept. 23 debut, "Comin' From Where I'm From," is No. 26 on the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart with sales at 254,000,

according to Nielsen SoundScan.

With his title track in the top 20 on Airplay Monitor's Adult R&B chart, the label is now focusing on the crossover to mainstream R&B with a new single after the first of the year. To add icing on the cake, Hamilton received three Grammy Award nominations, including best contemporary R&B album.

Richardson's latest album, "2:35 PM," bowed Sept. 9. It is No. 42 on the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart this issue, with sales of 144,000. The single, "Keep on Pushin'," is No. 31 on Airplay Monitor's Adult R&B chart.

During the past couple of years, urban AC—which typically targets the 25-54 demo—has become the "new underground" in terms of breaking artists like Richardson and Hamilton.

"Radio will eventually find out that hip-hop heads don't always want to listen to hip-hop and vice versa," says Steve Crumbley, PD of urban AC WDLT Mobile, Ala. He says WDLT and sister hip-hop station WBLX share 60% of their audience.

Crumbley contends that breaking new acts is an age-old problem in the format. For every En Vogue broken by black radio there is an Erykah Badu, the neo-soul pioneer who took a while to catch hold. "We can't hear every record and can't afford to," Crumbley says. "We're expected to win."

His station is playing Richardson and Hamilton and has just added "Seconds to Pleasure," the single by Capitol newcomer Van Hunt. But Crumbley passed on Donnie, another soulful artist, who has moved to Motown following a successful stint on indie label Giant Step.

"For me, Donnie didn't stand out from anything else," Crumbley says. "But I tell labels I'm not perfect and to go build some legs. It kind of concerns me that radio might be taking itself out of the loop in terms of breaking acts. But people today don't wait for radio. You build a picture so the station will have to pay attention."

Maurice Bernstein, president/CEO of Giant Step, agrees that urban AC is the only radio avenue to break soul acts at the moment.

"But that playlist is small," he says. "I don't think people don't want this

music; they aren't being given the option to hear it. If radio or MTV isn't embracing it, where else do you go? Why isn't urban radio promoting positive role models? Those are the questions that need to be asked.

"It's about perseverance and keeping the faith," Bernstein adds. "In the old days, groups like Earth, Wind & Fire didn't make it on their first albums, and these artists are being given the opportunity to go a second round, which is very important."

For example, Motown has committed to a second album for Donnie, and



HAMILTON: EARNED THREE GRAMMY AWARD NOMINATIONS

Hollywood signed Richardson after he made a debut album for Universal.

One of the artists Bernstein thinks can help break through the radio barrier is Capitol's Hunt, who has drawn comparisons to Curtis Mayfield.

Hunt's debut album is not due until February 2004. But Capitol already has started working urban AC and triple-A radio, and the artist is on the road doing showcases. In early January, he will embark on a 40-city tour, staying three to four days in various markets to make the rounds.

Also waiting in the wings is Virgin's Ricky Fanté, a throwback to Otis Redding. Though his debut record—with liner notes by Isaac Hayes—is due in 2004's second quarter, the label has already begun rolling out the marketing wagons. It is negotiating a tour with Borders Books & Music and an AOL performance and will be servicing triple-A, hot AC and NPR along with

urban AC. Fanté also will get some TV exposure, portraying Wilson Pickett on NBC's "American Dreams."

Another artist coming in 2004 is Warner Bros.' Leela James, who combines certain qualities of Tina Turner, Millie Jackson and James Brown. The label begins ramping up for James' debut in January with live performances and press interviews.

GROWING UP

Acknowledging that "more mature" adults still like music, BET introduced "Grown Folks Music" Oct. 7. The weekly, 30-minute nighttime program showcases videos featuring Donnie, Hamilton and Richardson, among other artists.

"It's no secret that the video medium is targeted to a younger audience—people who have time to sit and watch—vs. older folks with career-type jobs," says Stephen Hill, BET senior VP of music programming. "It's very tough for R&B to get acknowledgment in this hip-hop world."

From the artist's perspective, Richardson says the process "is as hard as I thought it would be. But I'm happy to be where I am. I'd like it to be better, but I know there's a lot more work to do. With so many hip-hop artists out there, there aren't enough of us [soul artists]. We need more of us to keep it going."

Of his pact with Capitol, Hunt says, "Our whole thing is to take our time. If we work this 18 months, we can pull it off."

"I don't know if I have the most radio-friendly album," Hunt says. "But I do know I have good songs. And I can play in a bathroom or on a flatbed truck. With today's modern music, brilliant marketing has proved you can sell anything. So you should be able to sell good music."

FOR THE RECORD

The article "Top Winners: Here's Where They Are Now" (*Billboard*, Dec. 13) should have stated that Jonathan Knight, formerly of New Kids on the Block, is a real-estate consultant. His brother and former bandmate, Jordan, is not in the real-estate industry.

The article "Foes Trade Barbs Over Future of P2P" (*Billboard*, Dec. 20) should have identified the former CEO of Grokster and the current CEO of Optisoft SL as Wayne Rosso.

The IEG/Billboard Tour Sponsorship Roundup published in the Dec. 6 issue should have listed Xbox as the sponsor of the Korn/Limp Bizkit Back 2 Basics tour.

Exports

Continued from page 9

Managers Forum, the Assn. of German Music Producers, music fairs Womex and Popkomm, the Assn. of Classical Independents Germany and the German Music Council.

EYING FOREIGN MARKETS

The aim of the office is "to extol the virtues of the German music

sector and to open up foreign markets," says Gerd Gebhardt, chairman of the labels bodies BPW and IFPI Germany.

Gebhardt says GermanSounds will support "creative talents," including copyright owners, artists and producers.

Dr. Heinz Stroh, managing director of the German Music Publishers' Assn., says GermanSounds will provide market information and foster contacts with potential business partners.

Federal government funding will

support 50% of the export office's budget, which *Billboard* has learned is around 500,000 euros (\$616,400) for the first two years.

The rest of the funding will come from the industry members of GermanSounds, with additional contributions from collecting societies GEMA and GVL.

Steffen Kampeter is chairman of the music industry dialogue forum of the conservative German political party CDU. Kampeter has been a major political proponent of creating a music export office.

Kampeter cautions that despite the assistance GermanSounds will provide to local acts, it can do little to deal with copyright and tax issues, which remain problems for German labels and artists looking to successfully export their music.

He says GermanSounds will also be used as a tool to help break international acts locally.

"Foreign artists are also to be supported in Germany," Kampeter says. "This will not only encourage musical diversity but also widen GermanSounds' revenue base."

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'It's A Bit Soon To Tell, But The Industry In General Is Feeling Good'

BY MELINDA NEWMAN

SAN FRANCISCO—The sun never sets on Sir Richard Branson's empire of more than 200 companies.

Worth an estimated \$6 billion, Branson's Virgin Group includes planes, trains, automobiles, bridal wear, soft drinks and cosmetics. Still, there's a soft spot in Branson's heart for his first love, music.

British-born Branson started Virgin in 1970 as a mail-order record business in London and opened his first store in 1971. That retail operation has grown into 134 Virgin Megastores worldwide.

In 1973, Branson launched his label, Virgin Records, with a little project called "Tubular Bells" by Michael Oldfield; the album went on to sell more than 13 million copies worldwide. Other artists on the label included the Sex Pistols, Steve Winwood and Paula Abdul.

Needing money to fuel Virgin Atlantic Airways, Branson sold Virgin Records to Thorn-EMI for \$957 million in 1992. Regretting that move, he got back into the label business in 1996 with V2 Records. The label is home to the White Stripes (in North America), as well as Moby, Stereophonics, Grandaddy and the Crystal Method.

"Richard Branson is the most unique man I have ever met in the record business, or probably in any business," says Warner/Reprise vice-chairman Jeff Ayeroff, who, along with Branson, Jordan Harris, Simon Draper and Ken Berry, started Virgin Music America in the mid-'80s. "He's probably most unique in that for an Englishman, he embodies what you might call the stereotypical American entrepreneurial [spirit] without losing his Englishness. He never settles for the mundane. He always searches for the provocative."

Branson was in San Francisco Dec. 3 for the "rebirth" of the Virgin Megastore on Market Street here. In typically flamboyant Branson fashion, he appeared in a red choir robe as he preached to the Virgin faithful gathered in the store for the occasion. The San Francisco location has increased its technology features, including allowing customers to download free tracks and carry handheld devices that permit them to sample any music in the store (*Billboard*, Dec. 20). These changes are expected to roll out into other Virgin Megastores starting next year.

Q: How does the retail group fit into your overall holdings, monetarily and strategically?

A: As far as brand recognition is concerned, I think Virgin Retail must be up in the top two or three most-recognized Virgin brands in the world, so it's very important to us in that respect. Profit-wise, it's not a great contributor, which is one of the reasons we want to try to make sure it becomes a good contributor by reinventing it and trying to make sure that it can become a good profitable aspect of our business as well.

Q: What about your record label, V2?

A: V2 is becoming a really well-respected independent record company. It's profitable now—very marginally—and I think it's got a great future. We're pleased with the way it's going.

Q: You made a play for Robbie Williams, who ultimately resigned with EMI. Do you want to sign other superstars to V2?

A: If the right superstar came along, yes. We actually bid perhaps a little bit more than EMI did for Robbie Williams. But because of the back catalog, we failed on that one.

Q: Have you thought about buying EMI?

A: I rang the head of EMI [Eric Nicoli] and did say to him, "Look, if you buy Warner Bros., we would like to buy Virgin back off you." And the next day he rang me back and said, "Sorry, it doesn't look like we're going to get Warner Bros." So I think if that had happened, it might have helped them get through their competition issues, and that's something I would have quite liked to have had happen. But we have no plans at present to buy EMI.



The Last Word



A Q&A With Richard Branson

Richard Branson: Selected Career Highlights

- 1970: Begins mail-order record company
- 1971: The first Virgin store opens
- 1973: Debuts record label, Virgin Records
- 1992: Sells Virgin Records to Thorn-EMI for \$957 million
- 1996: Launches V2 Records
- 1999: Starts Virgin Mobile
- 2003: Bows Virgin Pulse line of consumer electronics

Q: You just announced that Virgin Entertainment Group would spend more than \$100 million to purchase radio licenses in Australia. Why?

A: There are two or three licenses up for grabs in Australia: Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane. And Virgin as a brand in Australia is really strong. We have the mobile phone company and the airline and the credit card and so on. We just made quite a lot of money from floating Virgin Blue—our airline down there—and we thought we'd reinvest the money into Australia into radio stations. We still have to get the licenses yet.

Q: Any thought of trying to buy radio stations in the U.S.?

A: At some stage, yes, I suspect so. Radio stations are in the top three things for brand extension in America. Credit cards and banking [also] are two industries we think need a bit of shaking up in the States.

Q: Do you feel labels support retailers enough?

A: No. I think they seem to keep retail just below its life support system, which is not very healthy, which is why so many are going bankrupt.

Q: Your chain balked when Universal Music Group lowered its prices, because you felt too much of the cost was being passed on to retailers and that you were losing your co-op dollars. You're now buying your UMG product from a one-stop. What's your thinking on Universal's move now?

A: The danger is if [the labels] carry on doing moves like that and we find that some of these other products are doing well, we may end up just thinking, "Well, forget music in our stores." It's not what we want to do. Ultimately, if the industry doesn't work closely with music retailers, that's what's going to happen.

Q: Recently, record sales have topped those for the same period last year. Do you think we may have turned the corner?

A: There were three pretty bleak years, and we've had three good months, and hopefully there's going to be seven good years. I think it's a bit too soon to tell, but the industry in general is feeling good. Our mobile phones are flying off the shelves, our planes are full, our music shops are busy, so life is positive again. But we'll see.

Q: In October, you launched a consumer electronics line called Virgin Pulse. Why did you get into that market?

A: The head of Target rang me up one day and said, "Look, we're really pleased with the way Virgin Mobile has gone, and we'd love a range of electronic products from you." So we put a team of people into designing a range, gave it to Target and Virgin Megastores exclusively for a while and put our toe in the water to see if it would work. It's going well, and so we're now developing another range for next year. I think if it works in a major way in Target and Megastores then at the end of next year, we'll start rolling it out to Best Buy and everybody else and globally. Also, we're selling MP3 players—if you can't beat them, join them! (*laughs*)

Q: Are you looking to do more partnerships like that?

A: Yes. Virgin Mobile would not have been the massive success it's been in the States if we hadn't had tremendous relationships with Target and Best Buy and the Megastores. Retail is still everything, there's no point in launching a new product unless you can actually get it to the consumers.

Q: The only thing you seem to be missing in Virgin Megastores are musical instruments.

A: At our Oxford Street store [in London], we just added a whole floor of musical instruments as an experiment, and I think it's going very well. It's something that needs space. I think we'll see how the Oxford Street Megastore goes and see how all these ideas here go, and we'll put our heads together.

Q: Your autobiography, "Losing My Virginity," just got optioned to be made into a movie. Who do you want to play you?

A: Oh my God, I don't think they've found an actor good-looking enough yet! (*laughs*)

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