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WEEK Week ending 31/18/81 . IT'S MY PARTY, Dave Stewart/Barbara Gaskin, Stiff/Broken HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Altered Images, Epic S.
O SUPERMAN, Laurie Anderson, Warner Bros. ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS, Jam, Polydor BIRDIE SONG, Tweets, PRT EVERY LITTLE THING SHE DOES, Police, A&M THUNDER IN THE MOUNTAINS, Toyah, Safari GOOD YEAR FOR THE ROSES, Eivis Costello, F Beat LABELLED WITH LOVE, Squeeze, A&M IT'S RAINING, Shekin' Stevens, Epic (4) OPEN YOUR HEART, Human Leegue, Virgin LET'S HANG ON, Barry Manilow, Arista HOLD ME, B A Robertson/Maggie Bell, Swansong WHEN SHE WAS MY GIRL, Four Tops, Casablance UNDER YOUR THUMB, Godley & Creme; Polydor WALKIN' IN THE SUNSHINE, Bad Manners, Magnet JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH, Depecte Mode, Mute. ന TONIGHT I'M YOURS, Rod Stewart, Riva SHUT UP, Madness, Stiff HANDS UP (GIVE ME YOUR HEART), Ottawan, Carerre B JOAN OF ARC, Orchestral Manoeuvres in The Dark; Dindled WHEN YOU WERE SWEET SIXTEEN, Fureys, Ritz PRINCE CHARMING, Adem & The Ants, CBS (8) QUIET LIFE, Japan, Hansa/Ariola (7) ENDLESS LOVE, Diana Ross/Lionel Ritchie, Motourn INVISIBLE SUN, Police, A&M & MAD EYED SCREAMER, Creatures, Polydor TAINTED LOVE, Soft Cell, Bizzare PHYSICAL, Olivis Newton John, EMI PRETEND, Airin Standard, Stiff DEAD CITIES, Exploited, Secret SOUVENIR, Orchestral Manoeuwes in The Dark; Dindles BEGIN THE BEGUINE (VOLVER A EMPEZA), Julio Ingles RUSH LIVE (TOM SAWYER), Rush, Ext. LOCK UP YOUR DAUGHTERS, Siede, RCA NIGHTMARE, Gillen, Virgin TWILIGHT, Electric Light Orchestra, Jet LOVE ME TONIGHT, Trever Walters, Magn AND THEN SHE KISSED ME, Gary Gilter, Bell FAYOURITE SHIRTS, Haircut One Hundred, Arista ORIGINAL BIRD DANCE, Electronics, Polydor FLAME TREES OF THIKA, Video Symphonics, EMI (7) YOU GOT THE FLOOR, Arthur Adams, RCA CHARLOTTE SOMETIMES, The Cure, Fiction STARTURN ON 45 (PINTS), Starturn, V Tone PLATINUM POP, This Year's Blonde, Creole HOOKED ON CAN CAN, Royal Philhermonic Orchestra, RCA **(Z)** YOU'LL NEVER KNOW, HI Gloss, Epic HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS, Bob Seger & The Silver Bu MYSTERY GIRL, Dukes, WEA SLOW HAND, Pointer Sisters, Planet (11) MEYER MY LOVE, Sugar Minett, RCA KEEP IT DARK, Genesia, Charlema IN & OUT OF LOVE, Imagination, R&B JUKE BOX HERO, Foreigner, Atlantic LOVE HAS COME AROUND/LOVING YOU, Donald Byrd, Elektra DO YOU KNOW, Secret Affair, I Spy PASSIONATE FRIEND, Teardrop Explo SO THIS IS ROMANCE, Linx, Chryselis IT'S ONLY LOVE, Gary US Bonds, EMI-America GLORIA, UZ, Islan ARTHUR'S THEME (BEST THAT YOU CAN DO), Christopher Cross, I CAN'T TURN AWAY, Savenneh, R&B NEVER AGAIN, Discharge, Clay IF YOU WANT MY LOVIN', Evelyn King, RCA, JUST ANOTHER BROKEN HEART, Shee ne Easton, EMI LOVE ACTION (I BELIEVE IN LOVE), Human League, Virgin HAND HELD IN BLACK & WHITE, Dollar, WEA SECRET COMBINATION, Randy Crawford, Warner Bros PRECESSION/EVERYTHING'S GONE GREEN, New Order, Factory YES TONIGHT JOSEPHINE, Jois, EMI TEARS ARE NOT ENOUGH, ABC, Neutron PRINCESS OF THE NIGHT, Saxon, Carerre STEPPING OUT, Kool and the Gang, Delite DON'T DO THAT, Young & Moody Band, Bronze



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A COUPLE of interesting queries to kick off with this week. The first is from Chris Miller of Poole who wants to know when Billboard first published a chart. The answer to this rather simple question is more complex than you might think. Billiboard was established in 1894, and started listing 'Sheet Music Best Sellers' in the early 1900s. By the late twenties the magazine was also carrying a 'list of songs with most radio plugs' which was quickly followed by 'records most popular on music machines (jukeboxes)', but the first record sales chart did not appear until 20th July 1940. It was initially based on reports of the week's 10 best -selling singles from each of about 40 shops throughout the USA. The first, historic chart which emerged from the collation of these reports was 1 l'll Never Smile Again - Tommy Dorsey. 2 The Breeze And 1 - Jimmy Dorsey. 3 Imagination - Glenn Miller. 4
Playmates - Kay Kyser. 5 Fools Rush In - Glenn Miller. 5 Where Was !? - Charile Barnet. 7 Pennsylvania 6-5000 - Glenn Miller. 8 Imagination - Tommy Dorsey. 9 Sierra Sue - Bing Crosby. 10 Make Believe Island - Mitchell Ayres.

Syd Robinson from Skelmersdale also a query regarding the American singles chart; specifically he wants Chartfile to list the singles which have debuted at No. 1 in Billboard. Technically, Tommy Dorsey's "I'll Never Smile Again', mentioned above, made its debut at No 1 since it topped the first ever singles chart but apart from that no record has ever managed to reach No-1 on its first week in the chart and only two, Sheb Wooley's 'Purple People Eater' (1958) and the Bestles' 'Can't Buy Me Love' (1964) have done so in their second week on the chart. Since Billboard extended its chart to 100 in 1955 the following records rank as the highest newcomers to the chart; No.6 'Let It Be'- Bestles (1964) have done so in their second week on the chart. Since Billboard extended its chart to 100 in 1955 the following records rank as the highest newcomers to the chart; No.6