

THIS WEEK'S CHARTS

ANALYSED BY ALAN JONES

There can be other way of starting the column this week than by saluting the latest achievement of **U2**, whose 'Rattle And Hum' debuts at number one on the album chart. So impressive were its sales last week number one hardly seems sufficient reward — it should be at least number 0. The fact is, that between Monday and Saturday, 'Rattle And Hum' sold 320,000, achieving the second highest weekly sale of any album in the history of the British record industry. The album that even U2 couldn't beat? Inevitably, **Michael Jackson's** 'Bad', which sold 350,000 copies within a week when it came out 13 months ago. 'Bad', of course, is a single album, 'Rattle And Hum' is a double except on compact disc, and easily beats the old sales record for a two-pack, ousting **Frankie Goes To Hollywood's** 'Welcome To The Pleasuredome', which notched sales of a quarter of a million in its first seven days in November 1984.

'Rattle And Hum' is U2's fourth number one album, following 'War' (1983), 'The Unforgettable Fire' (1985) and 'The Joshua Tree' (1987). The group thus equals the Eighties record number ones held jointly by **Abba**, **Genesis** and the **Police**.

Album sales increased by 21 per cent last week over the previous week, to reach their highest level of the year, but not all the increase was attributable to U2, with new releases by the **Pet Shop Boys** ('Introspective'), the **Pasadenas** ('To Whom It May Concern') and **Bananarama** ('Greatest Hits') debuting at number two, number three and number four respectively. Never before have all of the top four albums been new entries. The effect of this mass influx on other albums was devastating. **Jean Michel Jarre**, for example, saw sales of his 'Revolutions' album touch 40,000 a week, but it dropped from number two to number three, and **Chris De Burgh's** 'Lewie' dipped to number six, only a week after debuting at number one.

But even more dramatic was the effect of the release of U2's album had on their

former number one single 'Desire', which, notwithstanding the fact it has a non-album B-side in 'Hallelujah, Here She Comes', made a massive dive, plummeting from number two to number 17, establishing an all-time record for the steepest decline ever by a number two single. The previous record holder was **Jane Birkin** and **Serge Gainsbourg's** 'Je T'Aime ... Moi Non Plus'. Released on the Fontana label in 1960, it climbed to number two before being dramatically deleted after a storm of protest about Ms Birkin's heavy breathing. It instantly tumbled 14 places to number 16, its scarcity being offset by the rush release of an identical recording of the song leased to the opportunistic independent label Major Minor, whose decision to put monetary considerations over moral ones was swiftly rewarded, as the record debuted at number three, and moved to number one a week later.

★ **d.mob** and **Enya** make their singles chart-topping aspirations known this week, surging from number 20 to number three, and from number 29 to number five respectively, but **Whitney** holds firm at the top with 'One Moment In Time'.

She's joined in the top 10 by another off the Arista Records Olympic Games album which takes its title from her hit, as the **Christians'** update of 'Harvest For The World' surges from number 21 to number nine, simultaneously beating their own "personal best" set earlier this year when 'Ideal World' reached number 14, and also the number 10 peak scaled by the **Isley Brothers'** original recording of 'Harvest' in 1976. You might think the top 10 success of Whitney and the Christians would signal a dramatic transformation in the fortunes of the 'One Moment In Time' album, since neither track is yet available on any other LP and you'd be right; 'One Moment In Time' makes a 73 place move this week — DOWN to number 185!!

★ **Mike Stock**, **Matt Aitken** and **Pete Waterman** establish yet another new



● U2 congratulate themselves and show off their jewellery

chart record this week with seven of their compositions listed simultaneously in the top 75 as hits for different acts and — naturally, this too is a first — all but one of them is in the top 30. For those who've been away from the planet and don't recognise the records SAW are responsible for, here's the checklist: 'Je Ne Sais Pas Pourquoi' by **Kylie Minogue** (new at number 11), 'Nothing Can Divide Us' by **Jason Donovan** (number 12), 'I Don't Believe In Miracles' by **Sinitta** (number 22), 'Love, Truth & Honesty' by **Bananarama** (number 23), 'All Of Me' by **Sabrina** (number 25), 'Turn It Into Love' by **Hazell Dean** (number 27) and 'The Harder I Try' by **Brother Beyond** (number 53).

★ **Debbie Gibson's** latest single, 'Staying Together', drifts from its debut position of 53 to 57 this week indicating that it is

unlikely to match the success of her previous singles — 'Only In My Dreams' which reached number seven, 'Foolish Beat' (number nine), 'Shake Your Love' (number 11) or even 'Out Of The Blue' (number 19). All five singles are taken from New Yorker Debbie's debut album 'Out Of The Blue' and, even more impressively, all were written by Debbie herself. At 18, she's the youngest artist ever to write so many hits off one album.

The success of her singles has helped Debbie's album to sell over 150,000 copies, but it has done so in a very slow manner, never rising above number 10 on the chart.

Talented Debs has written hundreds more songs, and is a pretty safe bet to add to her hit count in years to come. She'll have to be exceptional to beat **Bush's** tally of 16 self-penned hits, though, as her current record for a female soloist.

● TWELVE INCH

TW LW

1	2	WE CALL IT ACIEED D. Mob (featuring Gary Haisman)	London
2	4	WEERULE Wee Papa Girl Rappers	Jive
3	6	A LITTLE RESPECT Erasure	Mute
4	9	ONE MOMENT IN TIME Whitney Houston	Arista
5	3	BIG FUN Inner-City featuring Kevin Saunderson	10 Records
6	—	ORINOCO FLOW Enya	WEA
7	8	BURN IT UP Beatmasters with PP Arnold	Rhythm King
8	5	TEARDROPS Womack & Womack	Fourth & Broadway
9	11	DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY Bobby McFerrin	Manhattan
10	17	GIRL YOU KNOW IT'S TRUE Milli Vanilli	Cooltempo
11	20	NEVER TRUST A STRANGER Kim Wilde	MCA
12	—	I'LL HOUSE YOU Jungle Brothers	Gee St
13	—	CAN YOU PARTY Royal House	Champion
14	14	SHE WANTS TO DANCE WITH ME Rick Astley	RCA
15	—	JE NE SAIS PAS POURQUOI Kylie Minogue	PWL
16	19	HARVEST FOR THE WORLD Christians	Island
17	1	DESIRE U2	Island
18	7	RIDING ON A TRAIN the Pasadenas	CBS
19	—	THE PARTY Kraze	MCA
20	12	FAKE '88 Alexander O'Neal	Tabu

Compiled by Gallup

● COMPACT DISC

TW LW

1	—	RATTLE AND HUM U2	Island
2	—	INTROSPECTIVE Pet Shop Boys	Parlophone
3	1	REVOLUTIONS Jean Michel Jarre	Polydor
4	—	TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN the Pasadenas	CBS
5	—	THE GREATEST HIS COLLECTION Bananarama	London
6	2	FLYING COLOURS Chris De Burgh	A&M
7	3	STARING AT THE SUN Level 42	Polydor
8	4	ONES ON 1 Various Artists	BBC
9	9	TRACY CHAPMAN Tracy Chapman	Elektra
10	—	BARCELONA Freddie Mercury & Montserrat Caballe	Polydor
11	8	MOONLIGHTING Various Artists	WEA
12	6	CONSCIENCE Womack & Womack	Fourth & Broadway
13	—	IMAGINE — MUSIC FROM THE MOTION PICTURE John Lennon/the Beatles	Parlophone
14	5	NEW JERSEY Ben Jovi	Vertigo
15	11	AND THE BEAT GOES ON ... 34 DANCE HITS OF THE '70's Various	Telstar
16	35	WATERMARK Enya	WEA
17	13	BUSTER Original Soundtrack	Virgin
18	10	HOT CITY NIGHTS Various Artists	ProTv
19	7	POP ART Transvision Vamp	MCA
20	12	ANCIENT HEART Tanita Tikaram	WEA