

Chart

n e w s

BY ALAN JONES

The one and only Chesney Hawkes comfortably retains leadership of the singles chart this week, though James' 'Sit Down' is gaining fast and may pose a serious threat next week. The championship will certainly be between these two: contrary to appearances, both Rod Stewart and Roxette are fading and the Pet Shop Boys' much-tipped amalgam of 'Where The Streets Have No Name' and 'Can't Take My Eyes Off You' is already slipping, having only equalled the number one peaks of the hit versions of the songs by U2 and the Boys Town Gang respectively.

Last week, I mentioned that Chesney Hawkes was in the second generation of his family to top the singles chart, repeating the success of his dad Chip Hawkes who was a member of The Tremeloes when they reached the peak with 'Silence Is Golden' in 1967. In fact, Chip and Chesney are only the second parent and child to reach number one. First were Robert Woodward and his mum Hilda, both members of Lieutenant Pigeon, who scored in 1972 with 'Mouldy Old Dough'.

Last week's top 10 was the first in over three years not to feature at least one American, the nearest to a Yank being the Bee Gees who live here, and Dina Carroll, the UK-born daughter of an Englishwoman and an American. This week, genuine card-carrying Americans return to the upper echelons in the

heavyweight form of Turbo B and his various female accomplices in Snap!

The last time the top 10 was bereft of an American presence was on March 12 1988, the chart for that date being: 1 'I Should Be So Lucky' — Kylie Minogue; 2 'Together Forever' — Rick Astley; 3 'Beat Dis' — Bomb The Bass; 4 'Joe Le Taxi' — Vanessa Paradis; 5 'Get Outta My Dreams, Get Into My Car' — Billy Ocean; 6 'Doctorin' The House' — Coldcut/Yazz and The Plastic Population; 7 'Gimme Hope Joanna' — Eddy Grant; 8 'Suedehead' — Morrissey; 9 'Crash' — The Primitives; 10 'That's The Way It Is' — Mel & Kim.

The highest new entry this week, ahead of a new compilation, is 'The Whole Of The Moon' by The Waterboys. The record was originally a number 26 hit in 1985.

The Simpsons are the second act to follow-up a number one hit in as many weeks. They make a good first showing too, with 'Deep, Deep Trouble' debuting at number 22. Less successful are Enigma, whose follow-up to 'Sadness', 'Mea Culpa', debuted at number 55 last week, and is already in decline, dipping to number 58.

Chart history is littered with the corpses of those who followed number one hits with records which fell short of the top 40, but it's unusual for an established act with an unbroken string of top 100 hits to strike out so spectacularly. That's

just what is happening to Rick Astley. With an enviable track record of eight top 10 hits from as many releases, including the recent 'Cry for Help', Rick is on the verge of a major miss with 'Move Right Out', which failed to impress last week when it debuted at number 58, and slides this week to number 64.

'Dead Embryonic Cells'? 'Desperate Cry'? 'Infected Voice'? All fairly typical titles for thrash metal songs, which is more than can be said of Sepultura, the latest speed merchants to chart, courtesy of their fourth album, 'Arise', which debuts at number 40 this week.

For Sepultura are neither dole queue delinquents from the North East or urban misfits from America. They are in fact from Belo Horizonte, the fourth largest city in Brazil. The present darlings of the metal mags, they make their material more accessible by singing in English, even though Portuguese is the native tongue of Brazilians.

"All right now, baby, it's a-all right now". The familiar and distinctively soulful vice of Paul Rodgers has been back in the charts recently with Free. But this week the

41-year-old Geordie returns to the chart as 50 per cent of the new act The Law, whose self-titled debut album enters the listings at number 51.

Rodgers, whose partner in The Law is former Faces/Who drummer Kenney (yes, it is spelt with an 'E') Jones, has now fronted four different acts with hit albums, a record probably without equal. As well as Free and The Law, he was vocalist with '70s hitmakers Bad Company and made a couple of successful albums in the mid-'80s with The Firm. No, that's not the act who had a number one hit with 'Star Trekkin', it's the identically-named outfit Rodgers formed with Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page.

Even if Dannii and Kylie Minogue have solo hits at the same time, they wouldn't be the first sisters to turn the trick, contrary to what I inferred last week. In 1986, Jamaican reggae singers Pam and Audrey Hall charted simultaneously with 'Dear Boopsie' and 'Smile' respectively, other sisters to have solo hits — none of them simultaneously — are Stella and Dolly Parton, Sharon Redd and Peenye Ford.

L a t e n e w s

Donnie court case

Donnie Wahlberg of New Kids On The Block has been freed on £30,000 bail after pleading not guilty in a Kentucky court to setting fire to a hotel carpet.

Donnie was arrested and charged with arson after the fire caused slight damage on the ninth floor of a hotel in Louisville where the band were staying. It's alleged he set fire to the carpet outside his hotel room after an argument with a girl and if he's found guilty he could face 20 years in the clink. A date for Donnie's trial will be set later.

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T W E L V E I N C H

TW LW

1	1	SITDOWN	James	Fontana
2	—	ANTHEMN	Joi	deConstruction
3	4	WHERE THE STREETS.../...SERIOUSLY?	Pet Shop Boys	Parlophone
4	2	HUMANNATURE	Gary Clail On — U Sound System	Perfecto
5	3	SNAP! MEGAMIX	Snap!	Arista
6	5	IT'S TOO LATE	Quartz introducing Dina Carroll	Mercury
7	9	HERE WE GO C & C	Music Factory/Freedom Williams	Columbia
8	11	WHERE LOVE LIVES (COME ON IN)	Alison Limerick	Arista
9	—	I'M ALRIGHT	Katherine E	Dead Dead Good
10	—	WICKEDEST SOUND	Rebel MC featuring Tenor Fly	Desire
11	—	THE WHOLE OF THE MOON	The Waterboys	Ensign
12	—	STRIKE IT UP	Black Box	deConstruction
13	—	RING MY BELL	Monie Love Vs Adeva	Cooltempo
14	19	THE ONE AND ONLY	Chesney Hawkes	Chrysalis
15	6	PLAYING WITH KNIVES	Bizarre Inc	Vinyl Solution
16	—	HYPERREAL	The Shamen	One Little Indian
17	16	WEARYOU LIKE HEAVEN	Definition Of Sound	Circa
18	7	YOU GOT THE LOVE	The Source feat Candi Staton	Truelove
19	12	CARAVAN	Inspirational Carpets	Cow/Mute
20	—	WIPE THE NEEDLE	Ragga Twins	Shut Up And Dance