



**12 Best seller**  
New releases led by The Smiths

**14**  **Taste of Spain**  
Mercury & Caballe go for singles gold

**20 What a Treat**  
Finitribe in at four in indie album chart

 **Over the Moon**  
Acen keep the dancefloor buzzin'

# music week

# datafile

The Information Source for the Music Industry

15 AUGUST 1992

## CHART FOCUS

**D**espite the underwhelming reception which greeted Heaven Sent, the recent INXS single which peaked at number 31, the Aussie group's new album *Welcome To Wherever You Are* debuts at number one, and comes only nine months after their filler *Live Baby Live* album — which featured just one new track — peaked at number eight.

The record that came closest to upsetting INXS's widely anticipated soar to the summit was Genesis' *We Can't Dance*. This million-selling monster debuted at number one last November, and sprints to number two this week from number eight in the wake of Genesis' successful Knebworth concert. While the cry that new talent is the lifeblood of the industry is regularly heard, it's worth noting that INXS's debut album was released a dozen years ago, while Genesis waxed their first long player in 1969.

The good health or



otherwise of the singles chart can be judged by the *Wedding Present's* monthly offerings. Since they all sell out their limited editions of 10,000 instantly, the lower they chart, the more healthy sales would appear to be. Their August single *Boing* debuts at number 19. As recently as May, they peaked at number 10 with *Come Play With Me*, so things seem to be looking up — and this impression is confirmed by the fact that even though last week was one of those rare occasions on which *Top Of The Pops* was off air, singles sales actually

increased by 6% over the previous week.

Retaining its leadership of this chart, *Snap's Rhythm Is A Dancer* thus avoids the ignominy of becoming the first number one to surrender its title after seven days since U2's *The Fly* was swatted out of contention by *Vic Reeves' Dizzy* last November. The last year in which at least one single didn't get dislodged after a solitary week at number one was 1971.

Among the week's newcomers, *Take That* debut strongly at number 16 with *I Found Heaven*, and seem set for their second straight Top 10 hit, following their successful update of *It Only Takes A Minute*.

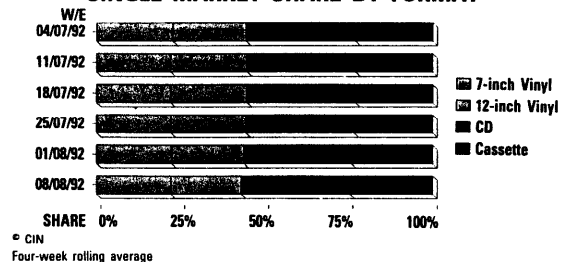
Their success proves that teen idols can still command a place in the chart, though precious few are in evidence at present. But some of the credit for their success must go to wily older foxes *Ian Levine* and *Billy Griffin*, who together wrote and produced the hit. **Alan Jones**

## UPDATE

### SALES

Index of unit sales. 100=weekly average in 1991	Last week	This week	% diff	This week last year % diff
Albums	78	78	n/c	-4
Singles	94	99	+ 6	-3
Music Video	53	58	+11	-9

### SINGLE MARKET SHARE BY FORMAT



## ROOKIES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 THE COMMITMENTS (OST) The Commitments (MCA) | 6 AS UGLY AS THEY WANNA BE Ugly Kid Joe (Mercury) |
| 2 UP Right Said Fred (Tug)                    | 7 LITTLE EARTHQUAKES Tori Amos (East West)        |
| 3 CURTIS STIGERS Curtis Stigers (Arista)      | 8 TOTALLY KROSSED OUT Kris Kross (Columbia)       |
| 4 DIVA Annie Lennox (RCA)                     | 9 MICHAEL BALL Michael Ball (Polydor)             |
| 5 FULL ON... MASK HYSTERIA Altern 8 (Network) | 9 SEAL Seal (ZTT)                                 |

Best selling debut albums by previously uncharted acts. Sales period: 5 July to 1 August, 1992. Compiled by ERA from Gallup data.

## CHART NEWCOMERS

**07 LUTHER VANDROSS & JANET JACKSON WITH SPECIAL GUESTS BBD AND RALPH TRESVANT: *The Best Things In Life Are Free* (A&M).** This melodic first single from the *Mo' Money* soundtrack recently spent four weeks at number two in *RM's* Club Chart, and is an instant winner at retail for superstar aggregation. It brings Vandross his highest chart position ever, and Jackson her biggest hit since 1987's *Let's Wait Awhile*.



Rubber Ring and *Some Girls Are Bigger Than Others*. A second Smiths single (*How Soon Is Now?*) is tentatively planned, as is *Best... II*, provisionally due in the autumn. It's highly likely that this will be followed by the reinstatement of the entire Smiths catalogue in due course.

**10 THE SMITHS: *This Charming Man* (WEA).** Reprise of *The Smiths'* first hit (number 25, 1983) is the first fruit of Warner Music's purchase of their catalogue, which has been unavailable for well over a year since the demise of *Rough Trade*. Next week sees the release of *Best... I*, a 14-track compilation of representative tracks from the group's career, including rarely-heard nuggets like

**UNDERCOVER: *Baker Street* (PWL International).** Until recently he sold artificial knees, hips and implants, but now Londoner John Matthews

finds fame as the man who dared to turn Gerry Rafferty's late-Seventies pop classic into a dance disc. As the chart becomes ever more susceptible to cover versions, Undercover's upcoming album, now being prepared, also promises updates of Luther Vandross' *Never Too Much* and Booker Newberry III's *Love Town*.

**24 PAUL WELLER: *Uh Huh, Oh Yeh* (Go! Discs).** Best in some time from Weller, newly pacted to Go! Discs, after a release as the Paul Weller Movement on his own Freedom High label last year. *Uh Huh, Oh Yeh*, taken from the album *Paul Weller*, due to be released on September 1, samples the Supremes' *Reflections* and is clearly influenced by Hendrix and *The Who*. His album, though comprising original songs, also draws on Sixties influences including *Traffic* and *Sly & The Family Stone*.

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# music week

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