

● Di Bart wins tight singles contest ● Blur album ousts Pink Floyd

CHART FOCUS

The most fevered battle for the number one single in the Nineties found no fewer than five records vying for the top spot, with the winner selling just 10% more copies than the record in fifth place. When the dust had settled, Prince had lost his crown, with Tony Di Bart taking over in pole position. It's interesting to note that of the five contenders for number one, four are enjoying their first hit and four are on labels which have never had a big hit before.

As Ireland counts the cost of staging the 39th Eurovision Song Contest, the UK entry sung by Frances Ruffelle climbs 10 places to number 25. In the competition, which was won by Ireland for the third year in a row (a unique achievement), Ruffelle's song, Lonely Symphony, was ranked 10th out of the 25 entries. In 37 previous attempts (the UK didn't compete in 1956 or 1958) the British entry has only twice finished lower, with the all-time nadir being reached in 1987, when Rikki's Only The Night was 13th. Though the UK remains Europe's main source of hit repertoire, it hasn't won the contest since 1981, when Bucks Fizz triumphed with Making Your Mind Up.

It's another big week for dance music, with 12 of the 23 singles chart newcomers graduating from the clubs, and it's a relief to note that some of the top dance acts are at last beginning to gain acceptance in the



After weeks of valuable publicity as the latest in a long line of songs used in TV campaigns for Levi 501 jeans, Scots band Stiltskin's Inside makes a convincing chart debut at number five this week. The record is likely to become the fourth number one from the series, but differs from the rest in that it is a brand new song, and not simply a revived oldie. It is an unprecedented vote of confidence from Levi's and its agency Bartle Bogle & Hegarty, who are spending £8m on the campaign. The band consists of vocalist Ray Wilson, drummer Ross McFarlane, bassist James Finnigan and guitarist Peter Lawlor, who also wrote Inside.

USA, among them Eternal, US3, Gabrielle, The Brand New Heavies, Juliet Roberts and M-

People, who make their US debut this week with Moving On Up. They help to take the UK share of the US Hot 100 to 11% this week - an improvement on recent times, but hardly comparable with the giddy success of the mid-Eighties when we once held upwards of 40% of the chart. Meanwhile, the US share of the UK singles chart slumps to 33% this week, its lowest level for over a year.

The rash of albums which re-entered the chart last week as a result of a Woolworths' promotion are faring even better, with several advancing to just outside the Top 10. Meanwhile, after four weeks at number one, Pink Floyd's The Division Bell finally steps aside, allowing Blur's Parklife to take over at the top.

The success of the single Girls And Boys and favourable reviews are obviously the spur for Blur, for whom Parklife is the first number one album. The 1991 collection Leisure peaked at number seven, while last year's Modern Life Is Rubbish reached only number 15.

Finally, while Stiltskin write another chapter in the Levi's success story (see caption, left), it's noticeable that more and more singles releases are tied to commercials.

There's a long way to go before we match Japan where 90% of all hits are TV themes, movie songs or adaptations of music from commercials, but the Stiltskin single is the seventh in recent weeks to be associated with a TV ad.

Alan Jones

SALES AWARDS

- **Platinum:** Erasure: Pop! - The First 20 Hits (x3); Various: Now! 27.
- **Gold:** Deacon Blue: Our Town - The Best Of; Various: Dance Zone - Level One; Various: 100% Reggae Vol 2.
- **Silver:** Prince: The Most Beautiful Girl In The World (single); Tony Di Bart: The Real Thing; Ice-T: Home Invasion; Various: Acoustic Moods; Blur: Parklife.

AIRPLAY ADDS

RADIO 1 FM: w/c 02.05.94: A List: Salt 'N' Peas - Shoo-B; B List: Pink Floyd - Take It Back; E.Y.C. - Number One; Arrested Development - Ease My Mind; Cracker - Low; N List: R. Kelly - Your Body's Callin'; Frank Black - Headache.
Capital FM: w/c 26.04.94: B List: Seal - Prayer For The Dying; C List: Big Mountain - Baby I Love Your Way; Crash Test Dummies - Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm; E.Y.C. - Number One; Red Hot Chili Peppers - Under The Bridge.
Virgin 1215: w/c 27.04.94: A List: Billy Joel - It's All About Soul; Pink Floyd - Take It Back; B List: Lena Fiegbe - Visions; Ramona 55 - More Than I Love You; Roachford - This Generation; Seal - Prayer For The Dying; C List: Chris De Burgh - Blonde Hair Blue Jeans; Marcella Detroit - Outta My Mind; Lemonheads - Big Gay Heart; Pulp - Lip Gloss; Mick Ronson & Joe Elliot - Don't Look Now.
The Box: w/c 21.04.94: 2 Live Crew - You Go Girl; Brothers In Rhythm featuring Charvoni - Forever And A Day; Clubhouse - Light My Fire; Crystal Waters - 100% Pure Love; Enigma - Eyes Of Truth; E.Y.C. - Number One; Jon Secada - If You Go; Judy Cheeks - Reach; Julie Fordham - Different Time; Keith Sweat - How Do You Like It; Lisa Lisa - When I Fell In Love; Meat Loaf - Objects In The Rear View Mirror...; Motiv8 - Rockin' For Myself; Paul Young - It Will Be You; R. Kelly - Your Body's Callin'; Red Hot Chili Peppers - Under The Bridge; Richard Marx - Silent Scream; Snoop Doggy Dogg - Doggy Dogg World; Tony Toni Tone - Leavin'...
MTV Europe: w/c 3.5.94: Sine Norderstam - Little Star; Crystal Waters - 100% Pure Love; Big Mountain - Baby I Love Your Way; Brand New Heavies - Dream On Dreamer; The Pretenders - I'll Stand By You.

NEXT WEEK'S HITS

Singles: Mary J. Blige: My Love (MCA); Michael Bolton: Lean On Me (Columbia); Credit 1 The Nation: Sowing The Seeds Of Hatred (One Little Indian); Marcella Detroit & Elton John: Ain't Nothing Like The Real Thing (London); Doobie Brothers: Listen To The Music (WEA); E.Y.C.: Number One (MCA); East 17: Around The World (London); Enigma: Eyes Of Truth (Virgin); Gloworm: Carry Me Home (Go! Beat); Denise Johnson: Rays Of The Rising Sun (East West); R.Kelly: Your Body's Callin' (Jive); Lemonheads: Big Gay Heart (Atlantic/East West); Lovellie Julie EP (China); Wendy Moten: So Close To Love (EMI); Joe Roberts: Back In My Life (frr); Kenny Thomas: Destiny (Coatempo).
Albums: Crash Test Dummies: God Shuffled His Feet (RCA); The Fall: Middle Class Revolt (Permanent); Mick Ronson: From Heaven To Hell (Epic); Dusty Springfield: Going Back - The Very Best Of... (Philips/Phonogram).
Predictions compiled by Eric. Last week's score: 13 out of 17.

SALES UPDATES

SINGLES

+2%
versus last week

+4.8%
Year to date versus last year

ALBUMS

+3%
versus last week

+3.8%
Year to date versus last year

MUSIC VIDEO

+29%
versus last week

+2%
Year to date versus last year

NEWCOMERS

17 JUDY CHEEKS (pictured): Reach (Positiva) US 2nd hit. Producers: Brothers In Rhythm. Publishers: Rondor/Bok. Writers: Ossoff/Dyke. First/last hit: So In Love (The Real Deal) (27, 1993). Notes: A Florida native with Cherokee ancestry, Cheeks is currently working with producer Nigel Lewis on her debut album. The former Seventies Salsoul recording artist is the daughter of gospel singer Reverend Julius Cheeks, who was influential in the early careers of James Brown and Otis Redding. Album: summer 1994.

18 MOTIV8: Rockin' For Myself (Nuff Respect/WEA) UK 2nd hit. Producer: Steve Rodway. Publisher: Warner. Writers: Rodway/Gray/Persona/Bortolotti/Leoni. First/last hit: Rockin' For Myself (67, 1993). Line-up: Angie Brown (v), Rhonda Marshen (v), Steve Rodway (k). Notes: Session singer Angie Brown guests, although Rhonda Marshen who recorded previously with FKW will front the band on PA dates. Originally a minor hit last year, the song was recently a top three RM Club Chart hit. Album: none planned.

19 T-EMPO: Saturday Night, Sunday Morning (frr/OOV) UK debut. Producers: Tim Lennox/Adam Clough/S Brad. Publisher: c/c. Writers: Heims/



Botler. Line-up: Lorreta Johnson (v), Tim Lennox (k), Adam Clough (k). Notes: A New York disco anthem originally recorded by Thelma Houston for Motown in 1979 has been revived by DJ Tim Lennox. The song was picked up by London's head of A&R Pete Tong from Manchester's Out On Vinyl label after being an Essential Tune on his One FM show. Album: none planned.

24 SONIC YOUTH: Bull In The Heather (Geffen) US 4th hit. Producers: Butch Vig/Sonic Youth. Publisher: Zomba. Writer: Sonic Youth. First hit:

100% (28, 1992). Biggest/last hit: Sugar Kane (26, 1993). Line-up: Thurston Moore (g/v), Lee Ranaldo (g), Kim Gordon (b/v), Steve Shelley (d). Notes: Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon, who co-directed the video, is soon to become a mother, hence no tour is planned although individual members are performing at two concerts presented by the London Musicians' Collective. Album: Experimental Jet Set, Trash And No Star. (May 9).

26 WRECKX-N-EFFECT: Wreckx Shop (MCA) US 3rd hit. Producers: Teddy Riley/Tyrone Fyfe/Aquil Davidson. Publishers: Zomba/EMI/Tadej/c/c. Writers: Davidson/Riley/Fyfe/Riley/Smith. First hit: Juicy (29, 1990). Biggest/last hit: Rump Shaker (24, 1993). Line-up: Markell Riley (v), Aquil Davidson (v). Notes: The single, featuring Apache Indian toasting, was produced by Teddy Riley. Album: Hard Or Smooth (out now).

34 KILLING JOKE: Millennium (Butterfly/Big Life) UK 12th hit. Producer: Youth. Publisher: EG. Writers: Coleman/Walker/Glover/Hunter. First hit: Follow The Leader (55, 1981). Biggest hit: Love And Blood (16, 1985). Last hit: Sanity (70, 1986). Line-up: Jaz Coleman (v), Youth (b), Geordie (g). Notes: The original line-up formed in 1979 but disbanded in the mid-Eighties and are now back together. Album: Pandemonium (July).

