

Oasis back on top as sales settle

SALES

Singles are down 25% and albums are off 44% as sales return to normal levels this week. The party is certainly over for **Robson & Jerome**, whose self-titled debut album finally surrenders its position at the top of the chart after a seven-week residency. The last album to have a longer unbroken run at the top was Eurythmics' Greatest Hits in 1991, and no other debut album has ever spent its first seven weeks at the summit.

The album which replaces Robson & Jerome at number one is (What's The Story) Morning Glory? by **Oasis**. Never out of the top three after debuting at number one some 14 weeks ago, and spurred on by the renewed success of Wonderwall - up another notch to number five this week - Morning Glory is only a week away from its two millionth sale. In a fortnight, it will overtake Kylie Minogue's Kylie as the best-selling indie album of all time.

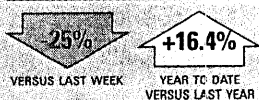
The **Lightning Seeds** have yet to have a Top 10 single, but the four hits they've plucked from Jollification have all done well and helped build the album into a major success. While the group's previous albums Clouduckooland and Sense each spent a single week in the chart, peaking at number 50 and 53 respectively, Jollification has gone from strength to strength. This week, it reaches a new peak, number 12, while its sales now top 430,000 copies.

In the singles chart, **Michael Jackson** is number one for the sixth week with Earth Song, which still has a 4:3 sales advantage over **Boyzone's** Father And Son, while **Baby D** are the week's highest debutants, crashing in at number three with So Pure. Among the other newcomers to the chart, the best achievement is that of **TLC**, whose Creep 96 enters at number six, a year after the original mix of the song peaked at number 22. All the indications are that 1996 will see as many respectable hits from recent years being expensively overhauled to make them meet record company expectations. But it doesn't always work - **Judy Cheeks'** original recording of Reach got to number 17 in 1994, while the newly commissioned mixes debut at number 22 this week, and are thus unlikely to match the original.

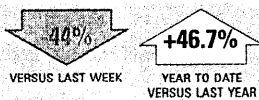
Madonna's Oh Father, which debuted last week at number 16, crashes to number 21. In America, when it was originally released in 1989 it peaked at number 20, bringing to a close a run of 17 consecutive Top 10 singles. In Britain, it is now the lowest peaking single of her 39-hit career.

Alan Jones

SINGLES UPDATE



ALBUMS UPDATE



SALES AWARDS

- **Platinum:** Michael Jackson: Earth Song (single); Oasis: Wonderwall (single); Jimmy Nail: Big River; Bjork: Post.
- **Gold:** Bjork: It's Oh So Quiet (single); Goldie: Timeless.
- **Silver:** Pulp: Disco 2000 (single); Garbage: Garbage; Saint Etienne: Too Young To Die - The Singles; Adiemus: Songs Of Sanctuary.

PLAYLIST ADDS

Radio 1 FM: w/c 01.01.96: B List: Babylon Zoo - Spaceman; Bobby Brown - Every Little Step; East 17 - Do U Still; Lisa Moorish - Mr. Friday Night. C List: Bitty McLean - Natural History; Brandy - Sitting Up In My Room; Lighthouse Family - Lifted; Marion - Time; Northern Uproar - From A Window; Saw Doctors - World Of Good; Upside Down - Chance Your Mind.
Capital FM: w/c 05.01.96: A List: Simply Red - So Beautiful; Simply Red - So Many People. B List: Toni Amos - Caught A Lite Sneeze; Brandy - Sitting Up In My Room; Janet Jackson - Twenty Foreplay. C List: Bjork - It's Oh So Quiet; Coolio - Too Hot; East 17 - Do U Still; Goldbug - Whole Lotta Love; Louise - In Walked Love; MNB - Pathway To The Moon; Shaggy - Why You Treat Me So Bad.
Virgin 1215: w/c 05.01.96: C List: Bjork - It's Oh So Quiet; Nick Heyward - Rollerblade; Joan Osborne - One Of Us.
MTV Europe: w/c 09.01.96: George Michael - Like Jesus To A Child; Simply Red - Remembering The First Time; Queen - A Winter's Tale; Coolio - Too Hot; Cie Fantischen Vier - Popular; Mike Flowers Pops - Wonderwall; Pato Banto with Sting - Spirits In The Material World; Meat Loaf - Not A Dry Eye In The House; Backstreet Boys - I'll Never Break Your Heart.

THIS WEEK'S HITS

Singles

- NUMBER ONE: **Earth Song** Michael Jackson - Epic
- HIGHEST NEW ENTRY: **So Pure** Baby D - Systematic
- HIGHEST CLIMBER: **Eyes Of Blue** Paul Carrack - IRS
- NUMBER ONE R&B SINGLE: **Creep 96** TLC - LaFace
- NUMBER ONE DANCE SINGLE: **Hide-A-Way** Nu Soul - ffr

Albums

- NUMBER ONE: **(What's The Story) Morning Glory** Oasis - Creation
- HIGHEST NEW ENTRY: **Wild One - The Very Best Of** Thin Lizzy - Vertigo
- HIGHEST CLIMBER: **Music From Riverdance** Bill Whelan - Celtic Heartbeat
- NUMBER ONE COMPILATION: **Hits 96** - Global TV/Warner TV

Airplay

- NUMBER ONE SINGLE: **Earth Song** Michael Jackson - Epic
- BIGGEST GROWER/MOST ADDED: **Oh Father** Madonna - Maverick
- BIGGEST INCREASE IN AUDIENCE: **Got Myself Together** Bucketheads - Positiva

Alan Jones

THE OFFICIAL CHARTS MONITOR

8 out of 10 retailers want to see more advertisements in Music Week
You wouldn't want to disappoint them, would you?

81% of music retailers surveyed in Music Week's reader profile survey (September 1995) would like to see more advertisements in Music Week giving details of new product launches and promotional campaigns.

When it comes to making stock buying decisions, retailers find Music Week more influential than consumer music press or other trade press.

In fact 92% of retailers who buy product have purchased a product or service after seeing it or reading about it in Music Week

(Source: Music Week Reader Profile Survey 1995, results independently analysed by NOP Media)

So make a retailer happy today. Call the Ad Team now on 0171 620 3636

music week

For everyone in the business of music

