



# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Frank Sinatra is denied a posthumous Top 40 hit with *They All Laughed*, as popularised in the Carlsberg lager ad, by less than 200 sales – the margin by which fellow old school crooner Englebert Humperdinck's *Quando Quando Quando* scrapes into anchor position. Recorded in 1979, when Sinatra was 63, for the following year's *Trilogy* album, *They All Laughed* sounds older because it was

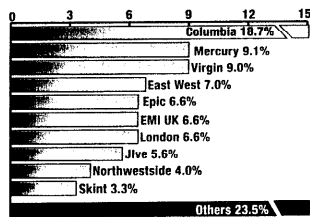
recorded in classic big band style. It increases Sinatra's span of hits to more than 44 years, pushing his friend Dean Martin into third place in the chart longevity stakes. The only artist with a longer span of hits than Sinatra is Bing Crosby, who appeared in the very first chart (14 November 1952) and last appeared with *White Christmas* just three weeks ago, a span of more than 46 years.

The *Offspring* have been around since 1984, but their highest charting single hitherto was 1997's *All I Want*, which peaked modestly at number 31. They beat that with some ease, debuting at number one with *Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)*, which sold more than 140,000 copies last week, to become Britain's eighth number one in as many weeks – a record.

The *Offspring* are a punk band, but *Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)* is a rap pastiche based around samples from Def Leppard's 1983 single *Rock Of Ages*. With *Terrorvision* debuting at number two with another novelty – *Tequila*, which sold 58,000 copies last week – the top two are by rock acts for the first time since August 1995, when the *Blur/Oasis* stand-off was won by *Blur's Country House*, with *Oasis' Roll With It* at two. By reaching number one in the UK, *Pretty Fly...* has matched its achievements in Australia, Sweden and Norway, though in the group's native US the record has climbed no higher

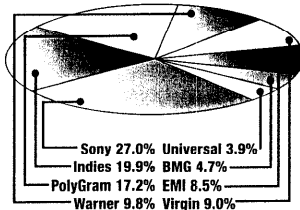
## MARKET REPORT

### TOP 10 COMPANIES



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 75; and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 75

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK:



YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR:



### PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART

UK: 56.0% US: 28.0% Other: 16.0%

than 53 in a three-month chart residency. It's five years since rapper Ice Cube released a single that reached the Top 40

but the LA bad boy is mentioned in two current top five hits, these being the aforementioned *Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)* –

which also namechecks *Vanilla Ice* – and *TQ's Westside*, which debuts at number four. For all its gentle melodic charms, *Westside* commemorates slain gangsta rappers and salutes "homies in incarceration" – jailbirds. In his more mellow moments, *TQ* reminisces about listening to *Ice T* and *Ice Cube*, however. Like the *Offspring* record, *Westside* is bigger here than in the US, where it peaked at number 12 on the *Hot 100*.

Veteran vocalists abound in the chart this week, with 52-year-old *Cher* and 56-year-old *Tony Christie* being trumped by 62-year-old *Englebert Humperdinck*, who ends a 25-year chart drought by debuting at 40 with *Quando Quando Quando*. A dance remake of the popular 1962 song, it is *Humperdinck's* first hit since *Love Is All* peaked at 44 in 1973.

Steps hold at three with *Heartbeat/Tragedy*, which has now spent 11 weeks in the Top 10, selling 810,000 copies. That makes their version of *Tragedy* the biggest-selling UK hit written by the *Bee Gees*, bar none.

## THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

1	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	STEPS	EBUL/JIVE
2	PRAYE YOU	FATBOY SLIM	SKINI
3	PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY)	OFFSPRING	COLUMBIA
4	A LITTLE BIT MORE	911	VIRGIN
5	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	BRYAN ADAMS FEAT. MEL C.	MERCURY/A&M
6	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	ANOTHER LEVEL/GHOSTFACE KILLAH	NORTHWESTSIDE
7	YOU SHOULD BE...	BLOCKSTER	SHOUND OF MINISTRY
8	CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (P.S. I LOVE YOU)	CHEF	COLUMBIA
9	GOODBYE	SPICE GIRLS	VIRGIN
10	MORE THAN THIS	EMMIE	MANIFESTO
11	BELIEVE	CHER	WEA
12	TEQUILA	TERRORVISION	TOTAL VEGAS
13	END OF THE LINE	HONEYZ	MERCURY
14	WESTSIDE	TQ	EPIC
15	CASSIUS 1999	CASSIUS	VIRGIN
16	GIMME SOME MORE	BUSTA RHYMES	ELEKTRA
17	RESCUE ME	ULTRA	EAST WEST
18	WALK LIKE A PANTHER	ALL SEEING I FEAT. TONY CHRISTIE	FFRR
19	BIG BIG WORLD	EMILIA	UNIVERSAL
20	BEAUTIFUL DAY	3 COLOURS RED	CREATION

© CIN

THE LIST	Title Artist	Label	THE LIST	Title Artist	Label
1	NEW PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY) The Offspring	Columbia	21	MY FAVOURITE GAME The Cardigans	Stockholm
2	NEW TEQUILA Terrorvision	Total Vegas	22	MIAMI Will Smith	Columbia
3	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY Steps	Ebul/Jive	23	I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE ME Boyz2me	Polydor
4	WESTSIDE TQ	Epic	24	BIG BIG WORLD Emilia	Universal
5	NEW GIMME SOME MORE Busta Rhymes	Elektra	25	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU Stardust	Virgin
6	A LITTLE BIT MORE 911	Virgin	26	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING Aerosmith	Columbia
7	WHEN YOU'RE GONE Bryan Adams feat. Mel C.	A&M	27	THANK U Alanis Morissette	Maverick
8	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF Another Level	Northwestside	28	DUMB The Beautiful South	Go! Discs
9	PRAYE YOU Fatboy Slim	Skint	29	YOU DON'T KNOW ME Armand Van Helden	Go! Discs
10	NEW TO EARTH WITH LOVE Gay Dad	London	30	CASSIUS 99 Cassius 99	Virgin
11	END OF THE LINE Honeyz	Mercury	31	PERFECT 10 The Beautiful South	Go! Discs
12	MORE THAN THIS Emme	Manifesto	32	NEW MARIA Blaudius	Beyond
13	BELIEVE Cher	WEA	33	WALK LIKE A PANTHER All Seeing I	Hfr
14	NO REGRETS/ANTMUSIC Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	34	THE POWER OF GOOD-BYE/LIT LIT LE STAR Madonna	Maverick
15	YOU SHOULD BE... Blockstar	Sound Of Ministry	35	BEAUTIFUL DAY 3 Colours Red	Creation
16	SO YOUNG The Corrs	Atlantic	36	NEW THREE DRIVES Greece 2000	Honj Cheous
17	SWEETEST THING U2	Island	37	POSTCARD FROM HEAVEN Lighthouse Family	Wild Card
18	GOODBYE Spice Girls	Virgin	38	MILLENNIUM Robbie Williams	Chrysalis
19	BAD GIRLS/ LIKE Juliet Roberts	Debraux	39	CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (P.S. I LOVE YOU) Cher	Columbia
20	OUTSIDE George Michael	Epic	40	1999 Prince	Warner Bros

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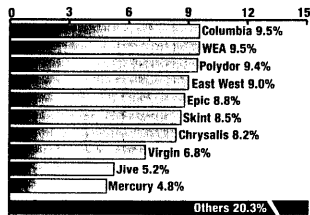


After capturing pole position last week, **Fatboy Slim's** album *You've Come A Long Way, Baby* beds in at the top, leading the number two, **Robbie Williams' I've Been Expecting You** by a large margin. *You've Come A Long Way, Baby* increased its sales by 11% last week, reaching a new high of more than 41,600, and taking its overall sales in the past 14 weeks beyond the 360,000 mark. Its success is refreshing for dealers too – they can offer the album at a significantly lower price than most recent hits, as its dealer price (£8.10 for the CD) is more than a pound lower than all its main rivals.

With a dearth of new albums in evidence thus far in 1999, the most impressive chart moves are reserved for albums which have been around for a while. Three 1998 releases which reach their highest positions to date are **The Offspring's Americana** (see panel for details), **Another Level's** self-titled debut and **The Cardigans' Gran Turismo**.

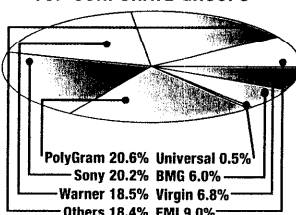
## MARKET REPORT

### TOP 10 COMPANIES



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales, and corporate group shares by % of total sales, of the Top 75 artist albums

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK: **+2.8%**

YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: **+10.7%**

### PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART

UK: 56.0% US: 37.3% Other: 6.7%

The number two success of *I Want You For Myself* brings to four the number of hits taken from *Another Level's* album, and has

had a galvanising effect on it. The album, which previously peaked at number 22, climbed 34-18 last week and moves up

**ALBUM FACTFILE**  
this week – worked wonders for the album, which bottomed-out at 123 and has since moved 122-121-85-51-22-13, its latest position surpassing the peak of both *Ixnay...*, and their debut album *chort success*, 1994's *Smash*, which reached number 21. In America, where *Smash* and *Ixnay...* each sold more than 5m copies, *Americana* has sold nearly 2m units in just nine weeks, and peaked at number two a fortnight ago.

again this week, reaching number 14 on its 11th chart appearance. Meanwhile, airplay given to *The Cardigans' upcoming single Erase/Rewind* and the continuing popularity of *My Favourite Game* have given the Swedish act's *Gran Turismo* a timely lift. It moves 43-24 this week, beating the number 27 peak it reached on its debut 14 weeks ago. The *Another Level* album has sold more than 160,000 copies to date, while *Gran Turismo* is nearing the 70,000 mark.

The **Corrs** continue to have two albums in the Top 10 but *Talk On Corners* reasserts its authority over the older *Forgiven, Not Forgotten* by sprinting 6-3 as its rival holds at number eight. *Forgiven, Not Forgotten* has its biggest sales week to date, however, selling nearly 15,000 copies last week, helped by heavy discounting – it costs as little as £7 in some chains. *Forgiven, Not Forgotten* will top the 300,000 sales mark in the week, placing it more than 1.5m behind *Talk On Corners*.

## COMPILATIONS

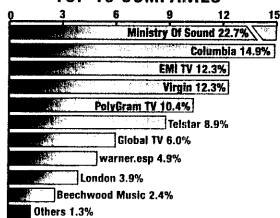
After just one week atop the compilation chart, **The Best Club Anthems 99...Ever!** is dethroned by **Clubber's Guide To...Ninety-Nine**, which debuts in pole position after selling more than 26,000 copies last week. It's the first Ministry Of Sound label release to top the compilation chart outside of its all-conquering *The Annual* series, and includes 37 dancefloor favourites. But while most compilation chart sales champs comprise proven hits, *Clubber's Guide To...Ninety-Nine* depends primarily on records which didn't set the chart on fire – *Sense Of Danger* by Presence featuring Shara Nelson and CZR feat. Daryl Pandey's *Bad Enough* being prime examples; future hits like *Can't Get Enough* by Soul Searcher and *Freak It!* by Studio 54; fairly obscure (to the masses) new promos like

9PM Till I Come by ATB and Gordon Matthewman's *Itza Trumpet Thing*; and just the odd crossover hit – Blockster's *You Should Be...* and Arrola's *Dreaming* being the biggest and most obvious. It's a tribute to the Ministry of Sound brand that they can sell more copies of this than others can of hit-packed compilations.

With Valentine's Day still more than three weeks away, the first of an avalanche of albums aimed at romantics has entered the chart. Debuting this week at number 19, the new Telstar compilation **The Greatest Love** has a head start over the opposition, and is heavily fancied to be one of the two top albums themed around the day, the other being PolyGram TV's *Love Songs*, which doesn't hit the shops yet for another week.

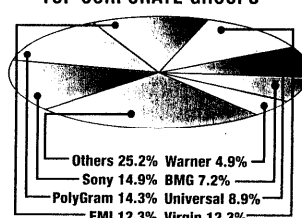
## MARKET REPORT

### TOP 10 COMPANIES



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 20; and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 20.

### TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



### SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK: **+4.6%**

YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: **-21.8%**

### COMPILATIONS' SHARE OF TOTAL SALES

Artist albums: 75.3%  
Compilations: 24.7%

## THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 ALBUMS

1 YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	FATBOY SLIM	SKINT
2 I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSLIS
3 LADIES & GENTLEMEN - THE REST OF	GEORGE MICHAEL	EPIC
4 TALK ON CORNERS	CORRS	ATLANTIC
5 STEP ONE	STEPS	EBUL/JIVE
6 WHERE WE BELONG	BOYZONE	POLYDOR
7 RAY OF LIGHT	MADONNA	MAVERICK
8 THE BEST OF 1980-1990	U2	ISLAND
9 FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN	CORRS	ATLANTIC
10 THE BEST OF	M PEOPLE	M PEOPLE
11 LIFE THRU A LENS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSLIS
12 BIG WILLIE STYLE	WILL SMITH	COLUMBIA
13 ONE NIGHT ONLY	BEE GEES	POLYDOR
14 THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS	MANIC STREET PREACHERS	EPIC
15 SAVAGE GARDEN	SAVAGE GARDEN	COLUMBIA
16 NO.1'S	MARIAH CAREY	COLUMBIA
17 QUENCH	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH	GO! DISCS/MERCURY
18 B*WITCHED	B*WITCHED	GLOW WORM/EPIC
19 BELIEVE	CHER	WEA
20 SUPPOSED FORMER INFATUATION JUNKIE	ALANIS MORISSETTE	MAVERICK

## THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

1 NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 41	VARIOUS ARTISTS	EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
2 HITS 99	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV
3 THE BEST CLUB ANTHEMS 99...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
4 CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
5 CLUBBER'S GUIDE TO... NINETY NINE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
6 THE ANNUAL IV - JUDGE JULES & BOY GEORGE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MINISTRY OF SOUND
7 THE BOX R&B HITS ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TELSTAR TV
8 STREET VIBES 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV
9 MUSIC OF THE NIGHT	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
10 THE VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VIRGIN/EMI
11 WOMAN	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY TV/POLYGRAM TV
12 MASSIVE DANCE:99	VARIOUS ARTISTS	WARNER/POLY/GLOBAL
13 THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III	VARIOUS ARTISTS	COLUMBIA
14 ESSENTIAL SELECTION '98 - TONG/OAKENFOLD	VARIOUS ARTISTS	FFRR
15 HEARTBEAT - THE 60'S GOLD COLLECTION	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RCA/GLOBAL TV
16 THE GREATEST HITS OF 1998	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TELSTAR TV
17 ESSENTIAL SELECTION '98 - TONG/OAKENFOLD	VARIOUS ARTISTS	FFRR
18 KISS ANTHEMS 98	VARIOUS ARTISTS	POLYGRAM TV
19 THE ALL TIME GREATEST MOVIE SONGS	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SONY TV/POLYGRAM TV
20 FUNKY DIVAS 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	GLOBAL TELEVISION

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