



27 FEBRUARY 1999

# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



## SINGLE FACTFILE

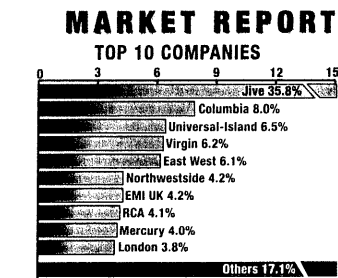
Jive comes of age this year, celebrating the 18th anniversary of a launch which saw it hit the ground running with a number four hit from Tight Fit with only its second release. This week is the most successful in its history. After 15 consecutive weeks in the Top 10, the Steps single has sold over 984,000 copies, and should have eased past the million mark by Wednesday. Meanwhile, the 464,000 sales achieved by Britney

Spears' single ...Baby One More Time make it the biggest-selling single of the year to date, ahead of Offspring's Pretty Fly (407,000) and Heartbeat/Tragedy (366,000 this year, 618,000 last year), and suggest that Jive will have to wait rather less than 18 years for its second million seller. The Britney and Steps singles also hold down the top two places in the indie chart, where 2Pac's Changes completes an all Jive top three.

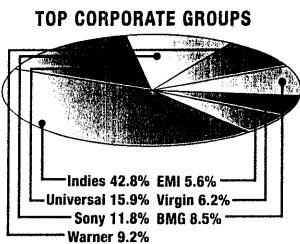
**B**ritney Spears makes UK chart history, after selling nearly 464,000 copies of her debut single ...Baby One More Time last week to debut at number one. That's the highest first week sale by any new artist, beating the introductory tally of nearly 420,000 set by Babylon Zoo's Spaceman just over three years ago. Outselling the number two record by a margin of five to one, and taking 26.6% of the market singlehandedly (Babylon Zoo sold less but took 28%).

...Baby One More Time achieved the fourth highest one week sale of ANY single, being beaten only by the opening numbers posted by Band Aid's Do They Know It's Christmas, Wham!'s Last Christmas and Elton John's Candle In The Wind 97/Something About The Way You Look Tonight.

Those singles were all sold at full price and had only one CD edition, while Britney's single has two CDs - one with a free poster



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



**SALES UPDATE**  
VERSUS LAST WEEK: **+25.0%**  
YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR: **-0.9%**

**PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART**  
UK: 50.7% US: 38.0% Other: 13.3%

- and sells for £1.99. It is very likely it would have topped the chart even at a £3.99 price point, however, and the buy one

get one free inducement to dealers to stock it - and which allows them to sell it at £1.99 - is far from unusual with developing new

acts, or even established ones in trouble. The new Whitney Houston single, for example, was pre-sold on a buy one, get TWO free offer for dealers.

...Baby One More Time was written by Swedish songwriter Max Martin - real name Martin Karl Sandberg - who also co-wrote the new N-Sync hit I Want You Back, which debuts this week at number five. Martin has a number of major British hits under his belt, including a brace of number twos - the Backstreet Boys' Quit Playing Games (With My Heart) from 1997 and Until The Time Is Through, a number two for Five last November.

A week after The Moffatts debuted with a song called Crazy, Lucid do likewise, making it the number one title choice of hitmakers. Others to have scored Top 75 successes with Crazy are Mud, the Manhattanans, Icehouse, the Boys, Patsy Cline, Julio Iglesias, Seal, Bob Geldof, Aerosmith, Eternal, Mark Morrison, Nut and Awesome.

## INDEPENDENT SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	NEW	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive 0522752 (P)
2	1	CHANGES	2 Pac	Jive 0522832 (P)
3	3	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	Steps	Jive 0519142 (P)
4	2	BE THERE	UNKLE feat. Ian Brown	Mo Wax MW 108CD1 (V)
5	NEW	BACK TOGETHER	Babybird	Echo ECSCX 73 (P)
6	NEW	SUNBURN	Michelle Collins	BBC Music WMSX 60082 (P)
7	NEW	WHAT IT'S LIKE	Everlast	Tommy Boy TB CD 7470 (P)
8	8	PRAISE YOU	Fatboy Slim	Skint SKINT 42CD (3MV/P)
9	4	NATIONAL EXPRESS	The Divine Comedy	Setanta SETCDB 069 (V)
10	NEW	BODY	Funky Green Dogs	Twisted UK TWCD 110041 (V)
11	6	TONITE	Supercar	Pepper 0530202 (P)
12	NEW	ACTION AND DRAMA	Bis	Wiiiija WIJ 95CDX (V)
13	10	GOOD LIFE (BUENA VIDA)	Inner City	Pias Recordings PIASX 002CD (V)
14	NEW	THE LIVING DREAM	Sundance	React CDREACTX 134 (V)
15	11	WHEN I GROW UP	Garbage	Mushroom MUSH 43CDX (3MV/P)
16	12	MADNESS THING	Leilani	ZTT ZTT 124CD1 (3MV/P)
17	5	I WANT YOUR LOVE	Roger Sanchez presents Twilight	Perpetual PERPCDS 001 (P)
18	NEW	IT'S A PARTY	Bounty Killer	Edel 0066135 BLA (P)
19	7	FREAK IT!	Studio 45	Azuli AZNYCDX 090 (V)
20	9	NO DOUBT	Imajin	Jive 0521772 (P)

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

1	BABY ONE MORE TIME	BRITNEY SPEARS	JIVE
2	PRETTY FLY (FOR A WHITE GUY)	OFFSPRING	COLUMBIA
3	HEARTBEAT/TRAGEDY	STEPS	EBUL/JIVE
4	MARIA	BLONDIE	RCA/BEYOND
5	YOU DON'T KNOW ME	ARMAND VAN HELDEN FEAT. DUANE HARDEN	FFRR
6	WHEN YOU'RE GONE	BRYAN ADAMS FEAT. MEL C.	MERCURY/A&M
7	PRAISE YOU	FATBOY SLIM	SKINT
8	FLY AWAY	LENNY KRAVITZ	VIRGIN
9	A LITTLE BIT MORE	911	VIRGIN
10	WESTSIDE	TQ	EPIC
11	TEQUILA	TERRORVISION	TOTAL VEGAS
12	I WANT YOU FOR MYSELF	ANOTHER LEVEL/GHOSTFACE KILLAH	NORTH-WESTSIDE
13	CHOCOLATE SALTY BALLS (P.S. I LOVE YOU)	CHEF	COLUMBIA
14	ENJOY YOURSELF	A+	UNIVERSAL
15	BOY YOU KNOCK ME OUT	TATYANA ALI FEAT. WILL SMITH	EPIC
16	CHANGES	2 PAC	JIVE
17	PROTECT YOUR MIND...	DJ SAKIN & FRIENDS	POSITIVA
18	YOU SHOULD BE...	BLOCKSTER	SOUND OF MINISTRY
19	ONE WEEK	BARENAKED LADIES	REPRISE
20	MORE THAN THIS	EMMIE	MANIFESTO

All charts © CIN

To hear the chart hot-off-the-press on Monday morning, call 0891 505290. Calls cost 50p/min



Underworld, 01 03 99.





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## CHART COMMENTARY

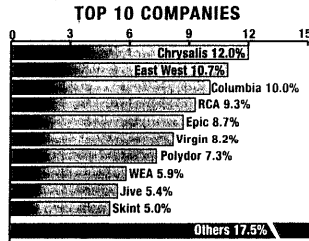
by ALAN JONES



Valentine's Day is now a more potent sales motivator than the Brits and school half term combined - that seems to be the conclusion to be drawn from the fact that while the market expanded by 23% a fortnight ago, it contracted by 13% last week. The Brits factor has stimulated major sales activity in recent years, with a 24% increase in the week of the awards last year proving fairly typical. It clearly didn't have the same effect this year, though many who won awards or performed were richly rewarded. Surprisingly, **Robbie Williams'** triple triumph and his humility had less effect on audiences than the single win (in the only category for which they qualify) of **The Corrs**, and their Talk On Corners album leapfrogs over Robbie's I've Been Expecting You to take up residency at number one for the fifth time.

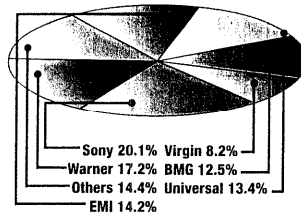
But it was a close call. Talk On Corners sold 42,041 copies last week, a mere 167 more than I've Been Expecting You. Both artists continue to have two albums in the

## MARKET REPORT



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

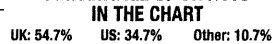


## SALES UPDATE



Top 10 - and in the second race the Corrs are the winners too, taking seventh place with Forgiven, Not Forgotten, which sold 605

## PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART



copies more than Robbie's Life Thru A Lens in eighth position. The Brits obviously triggered major

## ALBUM FACTFILE

Outselling Robbie Williams and the Corrs by a margin of nearly two to one in the early part of the week, **Blondie's** comeback album **No Exit** was on course for a sensational number one debut until their rivals' Brits triumphs blew them out of the way. Nevertheless, they nearly hung on - with a highly respectable sale of more than 39,000 for **No Exit** last week being less than 6% short of the number one. The last album

of new **Blondie** material to chart this high was **Autoamerican** in 1980.

Initial quantities of **No Exit** included a bonus CD with live versions of their hits **Call Me**, **Rapture**, **Dreaming** and **Heart Of Glass**, recorded last November. Meanwhile, the **Atomic/Atomix** compilation, which re-entered the chart last week at number 14 managed to make upwards progress, climbing to number 12.

improvements for the **Manic Street Preachers'** This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours (20.9), **Eurythmics'** Greatest Hits (64.11), **Abba's** Gold (44-13), **Whitney Houston's** My Love Is Your Love (58-37).

**Natalie Imbruglia's** Left Of The Middle (78-39), **Des'ree's** Supernatural (161-68) and **Belle & Sebastian's** The Boy With The Arab Strap (148-83). Several other nominees, performers and winners achieved more minor improvements. The only winner to suffer a decline is **Fatboy Slim**, whose You've Come A Long Way, Baby slides 2-5, with sales of 11% despite his win in the Best Dance Act category.

Despite Imbruglia's triumph in the Best International Female Soloist category, **Laury'n Hill** continues to prosper as her single **Ex-Factor** returns her to the spotlight. Her **Miseducation Of Laury'n Hill** album holds at number four but sold over 33,000 copies last week, the highest figure it has achieved since being released 21 weeks ago.

## COMPILATIONS

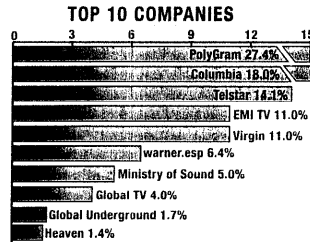
After a Valentine's Day fuelled boom, sales of compilations - particularly love albums - slumped last week. Overall, the sector was down 29%, with the biggest loser proving to be PolyGram TV's **Love Songs** which - having turned in an astonishing sale of 86,000 the previous week to top the chart - slumped 1-4 with sales of 21,000, a decline of 76% in the week. It allowed **Telstar's** **Euphoria** album to regain pole position, with a solid 29,000 sales taking its cumulative total to just short of 100,000 in four weeks.

**Euphoria** was nearly overtaken by **Kiss House Nation**, which strengthened through the week to debut at number two. The latest in the rapidly expanding range of Kiss-branded albums released by PolyGram TV, it includes a highly commercial selection of

tracks, among them **Armand Van Helden's** chart-topping **You Don't Know Me**, **Supercar's** **Tonite**, **Inner City's** **Good Life** and **If You Buy This Record by the Tamperer**.

**Jazz FM** is another radio station that is stepping up its activities in the compilation market, and its 15th release - **Turn On Tune In!** - in association with **Beechwood Music**, is its most successful yet. Subtitled "The Very Best Soul & Jazz From The Coolest TV Commercials", it is precisely that, including among its 32 tracks spread over two CDs such gems as **Mad About The Boy** (**Dinah Washington**), **I Just Want To Make Love To You** (**Etta James**), **Move On Up** (**Curtis Mayfield**) and **Let There Be Love** (**Nat King Cole**). **Jazz FM's** previous releases have accumulated sales of more than 80,000 copies in three years.

## MARKET REPORT

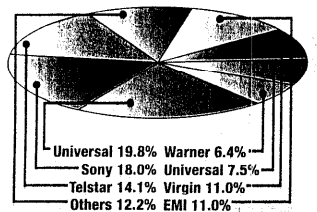


Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 20, and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 20



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## TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



## INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim	Skint BRASSIC 11CD (3MV/P)
2	3	STEP ONE	Steps	Jive 0519112 (P)
3	NEW	EXTENDED PLAY EP	Propellerheads	Wall Of Sound WALLCD045 (V)
4	6	GREATEST HITS	2Pac	Jive 0522662 (P)
5	4	VERSION 2.0	Garbage	Mushroom MUSH 29CD (3MV/P)
6	5	FIN DE SIECLE	The Divine Comedy	Setanta SETCDL 057 (V)
7	2	REVOLT	3 Colours Red	Creation CRECD 227X (3MV/V)
8	7	THE COMPLETE	The Stone Roses	Silverstone ORECD 535 (P)
9	10	WORD GETS AROUND	Stereophonics	V2 VVR 1000438 (3MV/P)
10	9	BIG CALM	Morcheeba	Indochina ZEN 017CDX (P)
11	8	DESERTER'S SONGS	Mercury Rev	V2 VVR 1003792 (3MV/P)
12	RE	THE BOY WITH THE ARAB STRAP	Belle & Sebastian	Jeepest JPRCD 003 (3MV/P)
13	12	PSYENCE FICTION	UNKLE	Mo Wax MW 085CDS (V)
14	NEW	ANIMA ANIMUS	The Creatures	Sioux SIOUX 4CD (3MV/P)
15	11	GARBAGE	Garbage	Mushroom D 31450 (3MV/P)
16	13	MELTING POT	The Charlatans	Beggars Banquet BB0CD 198 (V)
17	15	SCREAMADELICA	Primal Scream	Creation CRECD 076 (3MV/V)
18	14	THE MASTERPLAN	Oasis	Creation CRECD 241 (3MV/V)
19	18	POST/TELEGRAM	Bjork	One Little Indian TLP 51CD (P)
20	17	WHO CAN YOU TRUST?	Morcheeba	Indochina ZEN 009CD (P)

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

TW	1W	Artist	Label
1	1	LOVE SONGS	VARIOUS ARTISTS WARNER ESP/POLY TV
2	2	THE BEST CLUB ANTHEMS 99...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS VIRGIN/EMI
3	3	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 41	VARIOUS ARTISTS EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM
4	4	CLUBBER'S GUIDE TO... NINETY NINE	VARIOUS ARTISTS MINISTRY OF SOUND
5	5	EUPHORIA	VARIOUS ARTISTS TELSTAR TV
6	6	HITS 99	VARIOUS ARTISTS WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV
7	7	KISS SMOOTH GROOVES 99	VARIOUS ARTISTS POLYGRAM TV
8	8	CHEF AID - THE SOUTH PARK ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS COLUMBIA
9	9	THE VERY BEST OF THE LOVE ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS VIRGIN/EMI
10	10	THE BEST SIXTIES LOVE ALBUM...EVER!	VARIOUS ARTISTS VIRGIN/EMI
11	11	THE ANNUAL IV - JUDGE JULES & BOY GEORGE	VARIOUS ARTISTS MINISTRY OF SOUND
12	12	THE BOX R&B HITS ALBUM	VARIOUS ARTISTS TELSTAR TV
13	13	THE ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE SONGS - III	VARIOUS ARTISTS COLUMBIA
14	14	THE 1999 BRIT AWARDS	VARIOUS ARTISTS COLUMBIA
15	15	STREET VIBES 2	VARIOUS ARTISTS WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV
16	16	MUSIC OF THE NIGHT	VARIOUS ARTISTS POLYGRAM TV
17	17	WOMAN	VARIOUS ARTISTS SONY TV/POLYGRAM TV
18	18	THE GREATEST ROCK 'N' ROLL LOVE SONGS	VARIOUS ARTISTS GLOBAL TELEVISION
19	19	KISS HOUSE NATION	VARIOUS ARTISTS POLYGRAM TV
20	20	MASSIVE DANCE 99	VARIOUS ARTISTS WARNER/POLY/GLOBAL

© CIN Last week's position refers to the last published Year So Far compilations chart