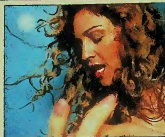


CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Looking to register consecutive number ones for the first time in 11 years, Madonna was never really in the chase with the title track from her album *Ray Of Light* lagging behind All Saints' *Under The Bridge/Lady Marmalade* from day one. In the end, *Ray Of Light* sold 76,000 copies in debuting at number two, some 31,000 fewer than the All Saints single, which had the advantage of being issued in

SINGLE FACTFILE

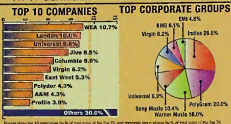
two CD versions, both widely available at £1.99, while the only CD of *Ray Of Light* was priced at a minimum of £2.99. Though it didn't equal the chart-topping Frozen, *Ray Of Light's* success gives Maddy her first consecutive top two hits since 1990. *Ray Of Light* is her 45th hit in all, and the 41st to reach the Top 10. *Ray Of Light* started life as *Sarahphn*, under which title it was recorded by obscure Sixties group Bodace.

I took nine weeks for Never Ever to become All Saints' first number one. This week, after 24 weeks on the listings, it finally dips out of the chart. As it does, their new single, pairing remakes of the Red Hot Chili Peppers' *Under The Bridge* and LaBelle's *Lady Marmalade*, debuts in pole position after selling 107,000 copies last week. Although that is more than Never Ever managed to sell when it was number one, it is nevertheless very unlikely to match the enormous popularity of its illustrious predecessor, which has thus far sold 1,250,000 copies.

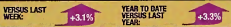
While both All Saints and Madonna — who debuts at number two with *Ray Of Light* — consolidated their "midweek" chart positions, Garbage and Massive Attack, who were ranked third and fourth in the first sales update of the week, both dropped away with the first singles from their long-awaited new albums. Even as late as Thursday, it looked like there could be four

MARKET REPORT

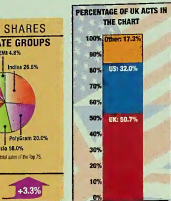
AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES



SALES UPDATE



new entries to the top five — a feat completed on only three occasions: once in 1996 and twice last year. By week's end,



however, Garbage's *Push It* was ranked ninth, and Massive Attack's *Teardrop* was 10th. One of the records to steal a march on

them was Tex Mex group the Mavericks' debut hit *Dance The Night Away*, which suffered a slight decline in sales but still managed to improve by one place on the number nine debut of a week ago. The group completed a 14 night sell-out tour of the UK last week, and also made an appearance on the new-look *Top Of The Pops*, both factors in the success of the single and its parent album *Trampoline*, which bounces 13-11.

With All Saints' *Never Ever* losing its grip on the Top 75, as mentioned above, the chart's new longest-running hit, with 22 weeks on the listings, The record, which has sold 1,060,000 copies to date, dips 46-52. Meanwhile, a single which was released eight weeks ago finally enters the Top 75 this week. The record in question is *Iman!*'s *Where Are You*, which will carry British Eurovision hopes in Birmingham next week. Debuting at 60, it has already sold more than 11,000 copies.

THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

1 MY HEART WILL GO ON	CELINE DION	EPIC
2 IT'S LIKE THAT	RUN-DM.C. VS JARVIS NEVINS	SMILE COMMUNICATIONS
3 DOCTOR JONES	AWAQA	UNIVERSAL
4 NEVER EVER	ALL SAINTS	LONDON
5 BRIMFUL OF ASHA	WILMA	COLUMBIA
6 TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	SAVAGE GARDEN	MAVERICK
7 FROZEN	MADONNA	CHRYSALIS
8 ANGELS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	VIRGIN
9 TOGETHER AGAIN	JANET JACKSON	WILD CARD
10 HIGH	LIQUID TENSION	WILD CARD
11 YOU MAKE ME WANNA...	USHER	LARAGE
12 HOW DO I LIVE	LEANN RIME	CURBYTHE HIT LABEL
13 STOP	SPICE GIRLS	VIRGIN
14 GETTIN' JIGGY WIT IT	WILL SMITH	COLUMBIA
15 PERFECT DAY	VARIOUS ARTISTS	CHRYSALIS
16 LA PRIMAVERA	SASHI	MULTIPLY
17 BAMBOOGE	BAMBOO	VE RECORDINGS
18 TURN IT UP/TIME IT UP	BUSTA RHYMES	ELEKTRA
19 ALL AROUND THE WORLD	OKSJO	CREATION
20 RENEGADE MASTER 98	WILDCHILD	HI-LIFE

Rank	Title/Artist	Label	Rank	Title/Artist	Label
1	17 UNDER THE BRIDGE/AY LA MARMALADE	EMI	21	18 ALL MY LIFE	K-G-J
2	18 RAY OF LIGHT	EMI	22	19 TURN IT UP/TIME IT UP	Bass
3	4 FEEL IT (Empire Of The Sun)	Virgin	23	20 FROZEN	Madonna
4	1 ALL THAT NEED	Procter	24	11 ANGELS	Robbie Williams
5	2 IT'S LIKE THAT	SMILE COMMUNICATIONS	25	16 LA PRIMAVERA	SASHI
6	7 TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	Savage Garden	26	26 STOP	Spice Girls
7	6 LAST THING ON MY MIND	Dagga	27	24 A ROSE IS STILL A ROSE	Ariana Franklin
8	9 DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY	Maverick	28	34 HIGH	Liquid Tension
9	10 PUSH IT	Mercury	29	37 SAY YOU LOVE ME	Simply Red
10	10 TEARDROP	Virgin	30	31 ANGEL	Stevie Nicks
11	11 KISS THE RAIN	Blue Star	31	30 NO WAY	Seal
12	12 HERE'S WHERE THE STORY ENDS	VC Recordings	32	36 BITTER SWEET SYMPHONY	Seena
13	3 SOUND OF DRUMS	Virgin	33	14 NOT IF YOU WERE THE LAST JUNGLE	Loth & Loth
14	14 LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU	Robbie Williams	34	25 SOUNDS OF WICKEDNESS	Curve
15	15 HOW DO I LIVE	Livin' on a Prayer	35	33 TURN	Asia
16	12 FOUND A GUN	Virgin	36	27 BRIMFUL OF ASHA	Caroline Aherne
17	10 ROAD RAGE	Universal	37	40 TURN BACK TIME	Asia
18	18 ALL MY LIFE	K-G-J	38	38 THE IMPRESSION THAT I GET	Mya
19	16 MY HEART WILL GO ON	Celine Dion	39	36 SAY YOU DO	U2
20	20 ...E... The Beatles	Superior Quality	40	79 BIG MISTAKE	Russell Hoban

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