

HART OF THE MATTER

Trying to come up with some globally overarching truth capturing the spirit of 2004 as a shadow for an equally grand, over-reaching prediction about 2005 is a burden and conceit not only reserved for writers. Be encouraged and beware of those whose place in the industry hangs on predicting beyond next month.

But let's not be jaded either. Indie retail, the oft-times hero and victim of our weekly news over the years, has found ways of adapting, thriving and circumventing its less artist-friendly foes. Indie retail has always been the place where artists develop, and indies have reasserted their hold on that unique talent in the last year. They're more relevant than they've ever been in recent memory.


Take for example their reaction to the big-box exclusive – a hot topic over the last few years that has seen its fair share of official proclamations, declarations (from coalitions and non-members alike) and offenders (from U2 to Good Charlotte). We at CMJ Retail have certainly published our own fair share of outcry and have gladly handed folks soapboxes to step upon and speak out. But indies have done more than just speak out. Their protest has become more organized, more sophisticated. Working directly with artist managers, artists and forward-thinking label sales staffs, they've cornered a different market—the special product.

Target can keep its bonus SpongeBob tracks and Good Charlotte pluses; for the boxes it's primarily a matter of peddling *more*. For indies it's about giving fans something new, something live, something rare. Look no further than Mars Volta and My Morning Jacket (and that's only a pair from the Ms). These *special* products are designed to serve a more artist-development and fan-friendly purpose than “more.” The spirit of the big-box exclusive isn't to develop an artist's career but to max it out.

The indies' attempt to regain some of the market ceded to loss-leader practices, and other merchant schemes is giving fans something discernibly better than “more” and is serving both the store and the artist by creating a new breed of fan—one who expects quality and is being given a unique place to find it.

Best Buy is currently in a buying freeze; rumor has it, they shot far lower than the growth percentage they promised and predicted. But talk to Rand Foster (Fingerprints, LINCX, CIMS): business is up. Talk to Karl Jr. (Looney Tunes, CIMS): “Looney Tunes is up almost 10 percent.” Talk to Eric Levin (Criminal Records, A.I.M.S.): “We were up a healthy percentage... a great beginning for our rockin' 15th year.” And these are just a few of many.

There's *plenty* of bad news for people who love bad news. Look forward to working with you all this year.




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ARTIST	AND YOU WILL KNOW US BY THE TRAIL OF DEAD <i>Worlds Apart</i> Interscope (Universal) Catalog No. 329000 Release Date: January 25	HIGH ON FIRE <i>Blessed Black Wings</i> Relapse (Rykro) Catalog No. 6620 Release Date: February 1	M83 <i>Before the Dawn Heals Us</i> Mute (Caroline) Catalog No. 9281 Release Date: January 25	AESOP ROCK <i>Fast Cars, Danger, Fire And Knives</i> Definitive Jux (Caroline) Catalog No. 106 Release Date: February 22
RETAIL	Indie programs: CIMS listening station, MMN's <i>HellCar</i> , ISIS light box, A.I.M.S. video program. "Karaoke parties" at M-Theory (San Diego) on January 14 and Rhino (Claremont, CA) on January 31. The band will karaoke their favorite hits and sign copies of <i>Worlds Apart</i> .	Shipping 20k, with limited value-add DVD featuring 25-minute live performance. Programs: Trans World, ISIS, A.I.M.S., LINCS, Musicland, Impact, Newbury, Record And Tape Traders and listening posts with key indies. Relapse is planning a value-added autographed poster at Criminal, which may expand to all A.I.M.S. stores.	Shipping 15k+. Chain programs: Tower, Virgin, Borders. Indie programs: Amoeba, Easy Street, Other, Atomic, Electric Fetus, Twist And Shout, Newbury Comics, Waterloo, Zia, Jackpot, M-Theory, Music Millennium. Online programs: amazon.com and insound.com.	Limited edition—only 25k. Aesop's cumulative scans for his last three releases is nearly 175k. Programs with A.I.M.S. (special DVD interview for kiosks—Aesop talks to store customers about the project), individual CIMS and MMN stores, Amoeba, Newbury and indies everywhere.
RADIO	College and specialty radio add date: January 25. The three-song <i>Worlds Apart</i> EP serviced in November. Last album, <i>Source Tags And Codes</i> spend five weeks atop the CMJ Radio 200, three weeks atop Core.	Add date TBD. Relapse will service Loud Rock radio with a full CD, a version with the first three songs edited to just under four minutes and will include a unreleased version of the Judas Priest classic "Rapid Fire."	Non-commercial radio add date is January 8. KEXP in Seattle is debuting two tracks a day between January 10 and January 14. Worked by Team Clermont and the Syndicate. CD singles and albums serviced to commercial alternative specialty shows. Focus track is "Don't Save Us From The Flames."	College radio add date is January 25. Promotion being handled by SPECTRE. Focus tracks for college and commercial specialty are "Fast Cars" and "Number Nine."
VIDEO	Video coming soon—song to be determined.	Video for "Devilution" will be serviced to MTV in early February.	Video production for "Don't Save Us From The Flames" is in progress. Serviced to all outlets in February.	Video has been shot for "Fast Cars" and will be serviced to all outlets. Support from MTV2 for Aesop has been tremendous. Streaming video avail now at definitive-jux.net/av/aesop_rock.
PRESS/TV	Features: <i>Flaunt, Magnet, Stuff, StereoType, Thrasher, Skyscraper, Amplifier, Rockpile, Chord. Reviews: Rolling Stone, Spin, Blender, Playboy, GQ, Elle, Men's Health, BlackBook, CMJ New Music Monthly, Details, Nylon, Wired, Tracks, Jane, Teen Vogue, Ellegirl.</i> Appearing on <i>Letterman</i> , January 19.	Reviews/previews: <i>Village Voice, LA Weekly, Creative Loafing, The Aquarian Weekly, Vice, Unrestrained!, Decibel, Alternative Press, Guitar World</i> and more. <i>Revolver</i> recently named High On Fire one of the "50 Heaviest Bands of All Time."	<i>Alternative Press, Billboard, BlackBook, BPM, CMJ, Elle, Filter, Flaunt, Grooves, Entertainment Weekly, Giant, Jane, Paste, Magnet, Remix, Resonance, Rockpile, Spin, Rolling Stone, Stuff, Tokion, Tracks, URB, Wired, XLR8R</i> and more.	Press support for Aesop throughout his career has been non-stop. Last outing won him covers from <i>URB</i> to <i>CMJ</i> and overwhelming support from <i>Spin, Interview, LA Weekly, Blender, XLR8R, Res, AP</i> and more. <i>URB</i> : "The envy of virtual MCs worldwide, Aesop has gone from being the object of chat-room gossip to being the hottest thing on wax since the 808."
TOUR	Early promotional shows in New York (1/21), Boston (1/23), Philadelphia (1/14) and San Francisco (1/29). Full tour in March. More info on trailofdead.com .	On tour through February with Planes Mistaken For Stars and Kylea. Hitting Hollywood, Houston, New Orleans, Atlanta, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, Denver and will end in San Francisco.	Confirmed dates in April: New York City, Philadelphia, Columbus, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, more.	Aesop will be doing dates in major markets. Nothing announced yet, but last year saw three straight months of sold-out dates. Mr. Lif will be supporting initial Aesop dates.
INTERNET	Official site is trailofdead.com . New <i>Worlds Apart</i> site coming on January 25. Exclusive tracks going to iTunes and real.com. E-card available: bandbuilder.com/trailofdead .	Banner ads to run on blabbermouth.net , blistering.com , bravewords.com ; knac.com , stonerock.com and other metal sites. You can always hear Relapse artists at the jam-packed relapse.com . For more free music and High On Fire info, go to www.highonfire.net .	Label site is mute.com , band site is iloveM83.com —information and audio available at both. Pre-orders and email blasts at insound.com and amazon.com .	Best site for all things Aesop is definitive-jux.net and triple5soul.com . Very cool remix contest at the DJX Pharmacy where fans get a chance to remix tracks—winner gets their mix on the Jux site, a signed copy of the <i>Fast Cars 12"</i> , a CD and limited edition T-shirt.
NOTES	Austin whirling dervish And You Will Know Us By The Trail Of Dead are following up their critically adored and audience-annihilating <i>Source Tags And Codes</i> (110,000 sold!). <i>Worlds Apart</i> mixes R.E.M. and Pogues-ish college rock into their relentless pummel. Limited edition posters, flats, album poster and in-store play copies available. Contact: dave.anderson@umusic.com	Oakland trio High On Fire mixes slow, lumbering riffage and cocaine-fueled speed. Frontman Matt Pike cut his teeth in seminal stoner-metal doomsters Sleep and newbie bassist Joe Preston originally buzzed lo-end for Seattle's Earth and spent some time in the Melvins. Crushing beyond crushing. For in-store play copies contact Pat Egan (pat@relapse.com) or Pip Soret (pip@relapse.com). Full-color posters available.	Electro-shoegazers M83 return with the follow-up to the surprise hit <i>Dead Cities, Red Seas And Lost Ghosts</i> —a lush, frigid hazyescape that spent three chilly weeks at the No. 3 position on the CMJ Radio 200. Posters and stickers are available for in-store display and giveaway, contact nicole@mute.com .	This limited edition package will include <i>The Living Human Curiosity</i> , a perfect-bound 88-page book of lyrics spanning his career along with new artwork and photos committing Aesop's unique grasp of metaphor to print for the first time! Samples from the book available on the Jux site soon. Visuals available for retailer sites as well. There are 12" x 12" full color double-sided flats with EP art on one side, book art on the other.

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February 2004

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Contact: Gerry at CMJ Retail (405.715.0600 x100 or ghart@cmj.com)

CROW'S NEST

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p. 815.725.9196
f. 815.725.8603
www.crownestmusic.com

CONTACT

Store Manager: Todd Hupe
e. todd@crownestmusic.com
p. 815.725.9196

The flock at Illinois retailer Crow's Nest has been forced to changed perches more than once since their last *CMJ* profile (Sept. 2002, issue 778), but the gang always manages to hover high above adversity. When the chain closed its two metro Chicago outlets (due to post-9/11 economics), they acquired Chi-town staple Rock Records (formerly Rolling Stone). With over 30 years experience, Crow's Nest has no problem doing whatever it takes to bounce back and stay back—including a price-matching program ("If they don't come in with that ad, they'll just go to Best Buy," says store manager Todd Hupe) and a trusty customer payback program that delivers gift cards to the nest's good eggs.

Q&A with Todd Hupe, store manager, Crow's Nest

What local press affects sales most?

For Crow's Nest we have the *Herald News* in Joliet, Illinois. For Rock we have the *Chicago Tribune* and *Sun-Times*. For both we have the *Illinois Entertainer* and *The Onion*, and our weekly email newsletter which now stands at around 1,000 subscribers.

What radio station affects sales most?

Chicago has many stations, but our key sales probably come from WXRT, WKSC, WGCI, WBBM, WNUA, WKQX and WTMX.

It's funny how many ways you can fold and staple a piece of card stock. I like to think it as origami gone mad.

Do you have in-stores?

We haven't had an in-store for a while, but we are capable and we do have a PA.

What's your fondest in-store memory?

Well, the biggest was Jimmy Eat World, but my favorite was when we had Jack Johnson in the afternoon and O.A.R. in the evening on the same day. I was doing the marketing and promotions for the company at that time, and it was quite a lot of logistical work to pull off two huge in-stores in the same day. But seeing over 1,000 happy fans made it worth it.

What are your most effective programs and promotions?

Listening stations throughout the store are very effective. We also sell off window space at Rock Records for 4'x7' banners.

What types of non-traditional promotions have worked best?

We do coupons in our email newsletter and trade coupons with a local pizza place.

What makes your displays different from other stores?

I have a degree in graphic design, so the window banners at Rock turn out pretty nice... in my opinion anyway. I also have good merchandisers at the store level that I taught the art of three-

dimensional displays. It's funny how many ways you can fold and staple a piece of card stock. I like to think of it as origami gone mad.

What's the most disappointing retail trend you've seen lately?

Predatory pricing by mass retailers. It's a shame that [big boxes] use that tactic to draw in customers. For them it's not their lifeblood.

How do you maintain your profit margin?

By carrying a great line of other items: T-shirts, accessories and so on that we can sell cheaply [to stave off] the Hot Topics of the world.

What record changed your life?

Early on, the Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's*. Later on, for personal reasons, Coldplay's *Parachutes*.

What's the best concert you've attended?

I'll go with Pink Floyd at Soldier Field in '94.

What would you be doing if you weren't selling records?

Obviously, I finally finished my degree so by some stretch if I wasn't doing what I do, I'd be doing some design work out there. In my wife's opinion, that's what I should be doing anyway, she's always smiling when she says it. So, I think I'm safe for the moment.

RETAIL RUNDOWN

MAJOR CHAIN	ONE STOP	LINCS	DMRC	IN-STORE PLAY
GREEN DAY	JOHN LEGEND	JOE ARTHUR (THIEVES)	JOHN LEGEND	ARCADE FIRE
JOHN LEGEND	JAY-Z AND LINKIN PARK	JOE ARTHUR (SHADOWS)	BLANCHE	AUTOLUX
GARDEN STATE SDTK	KILLERS	ARCADE FIRE	I CAN MAKE A MESS LIKE...	LIFE AQUATIC SDTK
U2	TAKING BACK SUNDAY	RILO KILEY (ADVENTUROUS)	INTERPOL	ELLIOTT SMITH
GWEN STEFANI	SUM 41	JOE ARTHUR (REDEMPTION)	BLOOD BROTHERS	ATMOSPHERE
PHANTOM... SDTK	BOWLING FOR SOUP	AUTOLUX	ARCADE FIRE	BRIGHT EYES
JAY-Z AND LINKIN PARK	LIL JON/EAST SIDE BOYZ	RADIOHEAD	LUDACRIS	HANDSOME BOY...
EMINEM	MARIO	LIFE AQUATIC SDTK	2PAC	NICK CAVE/BAD SEEDS
KILLERS	KELLY CLARKSON	INTERPOL	NIRVANA	JOHN LEGEND
2PAC	GREEN DAY	IRON AND WINE	KORN	TOM WAITS
KEANE	LUDACRIS	RILO KILEY (LIVE)	EMINEM	JOE ARTHUR
SNOOP DOGG	PHANTOM... SDTK	SHINS	ROLLING STONES	LOW
USHER	DESTINY'S CHILD	GARDEN STATE SDTK	SAINT ETIENNE	NEIL YOUNG
MAROON 5	SNOOP DOGG	TEGAN AND SARA	GWEN STEFANI	INTERPOL
LUDACRIS	EMINEM	BRIGHT EYES	U2	MADELEINE PEYROUX

CMJ RETAIL 100

PERIOD ENDING 1/11/2005
www.cmj.com

TW	LW	ARTIST + TITLE	LABEL
1	1	GREEN DAY American Idiot (48777) 🌟	Reprise
2	4	JOHN LEGEND Get Lifted (92776)	Columbia
3	3	EMINEM Encore (377172) 🌟	Shady-Interscope
4	13	GARDEN STATE Soundtrack (92843)	Epic
5	2	U2 How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb (361302) 🌟	Interscope
6	12	ARCADE FIRE Funeral (29555)	Merge
7	7	LUDACRIS The Red Light District (348302) 🌟	Def Jam
8	6	2PAC Loyal To The Game (386102)	Amaru-Interscope
9	5	JAY-Z AND LINKIN PARK Collision Course (48962)	Warner Bros.
10	10	KILLERS Hot Fuss (84571)	Island
11	9	GWEN STEFANI Love, Angel, Music, Baby (346902) 🌟	Interscope
12	8	SNOOP DOGG R&G (Rhythm And Gangsta): The Masterpiece (376302) 🌟	Geffen
13	11	LIL JON AND THE EAST SIDE BOYZ Crunk Juice (2690) 🌟	TVT
14	15	LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU Soundtrack (624942)	Hollywood
15	20	MODEST MOUSE Good News For People Who Love Bad News (87125)	Epic
16	14	RAY CHARLES Genius Loves Company (2248)	Concord
17	23	T.I. Urban Legend (83734) 🌟	Atlantic
18	17	ELLIOTT SMITH From A Basement On The Hill (86741)	Anti
19	—	ATMOSPHERE Headshots: Se7en (53)	Rhymesayers
20	16	USHER Confessions (52141)	Arista
21	18	DESTINY'S CHILD Destiny Fulfilled (92595)	Sony
22	31	KEANE Hopes And Fears (250702)	Interscope
23	25	MARIO Turning Point (61885)	J
24	43	SHINS Oh, Inverted World (550)	Sub Pop
25	19	NAS Street's Disciple (92065) 🌟	Columbia
26	21	ASHANTI Concrete Rose (340902) 🌟	Def Jam
27	24	MAROON 5 Songs About Jane (50001)	BMG-Octone
28	46	ALISON KRAUSS AND UNION STATION Lonely Runs Both Ways (610525) 🌟	Rounder
29	26	INTERPOL Antics (10616)	Matador
30	22	FRANZ FERDINAND Franz Ferdinand (27)	Domino
31	30	SCISSOR SISTERS Scissor Sisters (277202)	Universal
32	35	POSTAL SERVICE Give Up (595)	Sub Pop
33	33	DAMIEN RICE O (48507)	Vector
34	38	RAY LAMONTAGNE Trouble (63459) 🌟	RCA
35	29	KELLY CLARKSON Breakaway (64491)	RCA
36	32	CAM'RON Purple Haze (272802)	Roc-A-Fella-Def Jam
37	41	HANDSOME BOY MODELING SCHOOL White People (62941) 🌟	Atlantic-Elektra
38	39	CIARA Goodies (62819)	LaFace
39	28	MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge (48615) 🌟	Reprise
40	27	NEIL YOUNG Greatest Hits (48935)	Reprise
41	48	MADELEINE PEYROUX Careless Love (131922)	Rounder
42	—	OL' DIRTY BASTARD Osirus: The Official Mixtape (9016)	Sure Shot
43	44	MOS DEF The New Danger (355802)	Geffen
44	36	NELLY Suit (331601)	Universal
45	59	MANNIE FRESH The Mind Of Mannie Fresh (280802)	Motown
46	34	VELVET REVOLVER Contraband (59794)	RCA
47	42	RAY Soundtrack (76540)	Atlantic
48	40	KANYE WEST The College Dropout (203002)	Roc-A-Fella-Def Jam
49	37	KORN Greatest Hits Vol. 1 (93477) 🌟	Epic
50	67	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Original Soundtrack (93521)	Sony Classical

🌟 Logo represents priority titles throughout the Music Monitor Network.

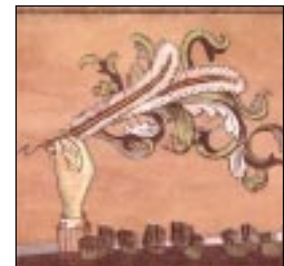
BREAKOUT 5 ALBUMS TO WATCH



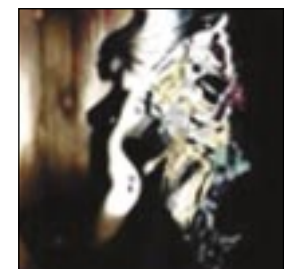
GREEN DAY
American Idiot
Reprise (48777)



JOHN LEGEND
Get Lifted
Columbia (92776)



ARCADE FIRE
Funeral
Merge (29555)



ATMOSPHERE
Headshots: Se7en
Rhymesayers (53)



OL' DIRTY BASTARD
Osirus: The Official Mixtape
Sure Shot (9016)

UNDER THE RADAR

This week in Under The Radar we want to draw special attention to those albums that are either making important moves on CMJ Retail charts or are just about to. We'll also throw in a few notes on what, why and how things are beginning to pop.

TOM WAITS

Real Gone

(Anti) Catalog No. 86678
Tormented rock icon Tom Waits had a stellar 2004 with the stripped-down-and-screechy *Real Gone* (debuting at No. 1*) in October, and it won't be gone soon. The scratch-scratch leaps from 63* to 56*. Rank jumps at Aron's (Los Angeles), House Of Guitars (Rochester, NY), Magnolia Thunderpussy (Columbus) and more. Top 10s: Criminal (Atlanta), Let It Be (Minneapolis), Record Emporium (Chicago), more. Top 30s: M-Theory (San Diego), ear X-tacy (Louisville), Easy Street (Seattle), more.
Current Top 100 Chart Position: 56*

DRESDEN DOLLS

Dresden Dolls

(Eight Foot) Catalog No. 82832
Boston Krautophile duo Dresden Dolls have performed an impressive retail blitzkrieg, jumping from No. 78* to 61*, no doubt a credit to their *Chicago*-via-Broadway take on songwriting. Rank jumps at M-Theory (San Diego), Bull Moose (Portland, ME), Zia (Tempe), Amoeba (Hollywood), Newbury (Brighton, MA) and Magnolia Thunderpussy (Columbus). Top 10s: Electric Fetus (Minneapolis), Kief's (Lawrence) and Down In The Valley (Golden Valley, MN). Top 30s: Lou's (Encinitas, CA), Schoolkids (Cary, NC), more.
Current Top 100 Chart Position: 61*

DONAVON FRANKENREITER/ JACK JOHNSON/G. LOVE

Some Live Songs

(Brushfire) Catalog No. 0001
Despite drops at Disc Exchange (Knoxville, TN), Record Exchange (Boise) and Newbury (Brighton, MA), this live collection from three leading frat-house heroes jumped from No. 79* to 68*. Rank jumps: CD Central (Lexington, KY) and Easy Street (Seattle). Top 10s: Lou's (Encinitas, CA), Mad Platter (Riverside, CA), Park Ave. (Winter Park, FL), more. Top 30s: Vintage Vinyl (St. Louis), Vinyl Fever (Tallahassee, FL), Record Exchange (Greensboro, NC), more.
Current Top 100 Chart Position: 68*

NEKO CASE

The Tigers Have Spoken

(Anti) Catalog No. 86740
The Velvet Retail Underground And Neko saw an impressive No. 14* debut in November (the customers have spoken, apparently), and her latest continues to jump, moving from No. 80* to 71*. Rank jumps at Jackpot (Portland, OR), Electric Fetus (Minneapolis), Criminal (Atlanta), Stinkweeds (Tempe), Waterloo (Austin, TX), Amoeba (Berkeley), more. Top 10s: Easy Street (Seattle), Kief's (Lawrence), Record Time (Ferndale, MI), more.
Current Top 100 Chart Position: 71*

CMJ RETAIL 100

PERIOD ENDING 1/11/2005
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TW	LW	ARTIST + TITLE	LABEL
51	76	FANTASIA Free Yourself (64235)	J
52	94	SHINS Chutes Too Narrow (625)	Sub Pop
53	54	SNOW PATROL Final Straw (227102)	Interscope
54	55	BRIAN WILSON Smile (79846)	Nonesuch
55	51	GUNS N' ROSES Greatest Hits (171402)	Geffen
56	63	TOM WAITS Real Gone (86678)	Anti
57	45	PEARL JAM Rearviewmirror (Greatest Hits 1991-2003) (93535)	Epic-Sony
58	74	BREAKING BENJAMIN We Are Not Alone (162460)	Hollywood
59	65	BLACK EYED PEAS Elephunk (000699)	A&M
60	60	SHANIA TWAIN Greatest Hits (307202)	Mercury Nashville
61	78	DRESDEN DOLLS Dresden Dolls (82832)	Eight Foot
62	47	NIRVANA With The Lights Out (372700)	Geffen
63	61	MUSE Absolution (668587)	Warner Bros.
64	68	JOHN MAYER Heavier Things (86185)	Aware-Columbia
65	49	PINK MARTINI Hang On Little Tomato (2)	Heinz
66	75	JAY-Z The Black Album (152801)	Roc-A-Fella-Def Jam
67	50	A PERFECT CIRCLE eMOTiVe (66687)	Virgin
68	79	DONAVON FRANKENREITER/JACK JOHNSON/G. LOVE Some Live Songs (0001)	Brushfire
69	56	XZIBIT Weapons Of Mass Destruction (692558)	Columbia
70	64	JA RULE R.U.L.E (295502)	Def Jam
71	80	NEKO CASE The Tigers Have Spoken (86740)	Anti
72	62	PAPA ROACH Getting Away With Murder (304212)	Geffen
73	52	JIMMY EAT WORLD Futures (003358)	Interscope
74	58	THE USED In Love And Death (48789)	Reprise
75	R	RILO KILEY More Adventurous (48876)	Brute/Beaute-Warner Bros.
76	92	PINBACK Summer In Abaddon (20937)	Touch And Go
77	70	CROSSFADE Crossfade (87148)	Columbia
78	82	JET Get Born (62892)	Elektra
79	87	IRON AND WINE Our Endless Numbered Days (70630)	Sub Pop
80	91	BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY Greatest Hits (25423)	Ruthless
81	84	PAVEMENT Crooked Rain, Crooked Rain (10610)	Matador
82	97	CITIZEN COPE The Clarence Greenwood Recordings (52114)	Arista
83	81	LE TIGRE This Island (338502)	Strummer-Universal
84	R	NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS Abattoir Blues/The Lyre Of Orpheus (86729)	Anti
85	86	TRICK DADDY Thug Matrimony: Married To The Streets (83677)	Atlantic
86	72	LOS LONELY BOYS Los Lonely Boys (80305)	Or
87	69	THIS IS AMERICANA Various Artists (1)	Americana Music Association
88	R	SOCIAL DISTORTION Sex, Love And Rock 'N' Roll (43547)	Time Bomb
89	77	SEAL Best: 1991-2004 (48943)	Warner Bros.
90	95	MARILYN MANSON Lest We Forget: The Best Of Marilyn Manson (347802)	Interscope
91	73	AVRIL LAVIGNE Under My Skin (59774)	Arista
92	98	QUEEN LATIFAH The Dana Owens Album (003435)	Interscope
93	96	GAVIN DEGRAW Chariot Stripped (63461)	J
94	R	WILCO A Ghost Is Born (79809)	Nonesuch
95	R	U2 The Joshua Tree (842298)	Island
96	R	ANTHONY HAMILTON Comin' From Where I'm From (52107)	Arista
97	R	TEGAN AND SARA So Jealous (89403)	Vapor
98	R	CREED Greatest Hits (13103)	Wind-Up
99	R	FUTUREHEADS The Futureheads (48908)	StarTime International-Sire
100	66	SIMPLE PLAN Still Not Getting Any (93407)	Lava

MUSIC MONITOR NETWORK

COMPILED FROM THE COLLECTIVE
PIECE COUNTS OF ALL MUSIC MONITOR
NETWORK STORES
PERIOD ENDING 1/11/2005
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4	4	LUDACRIS The Red Light District (348302) Def Jam	
5	5	LIL JON AND THE EAST SIDE BOYZ Crunk Juice (2690) TVT	
6	6	SNOOP DOGG R&G (Rhythm And Gangsta): The Masterpiece (376302) Geffen	
7	10	JOHN LEGEND Get Lifted (92776) Columbia	
8	7	JAY-Z AND LINKIN PARK Collision Course (48962) Warner Bros.	
9	9	T.I. Urban Legend (83734) Atlantic	
10	11	KILLERS Hot Fuss (84571) Island	
11	8	GWEN STEFANI Love, Angel, Music, Baby (346902) Interscope	
12	12	DESTINY'S CHILD Destiny Fulfilled (92595) Sony	
13	16	USHER Confessions (52141) Arista	
14	14	U2 How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb (361302) Interscope	
15	23	GARDEN STATE Soundtrack (92843) Epic	
16	17	MARIO Turning Point (61885) J	
17	15	ASHANTI Concrete Rose (340902) Def Jam	
18	13	MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge (48615) Reprise	
19	18	CIARA Goodies (62819) LaFace	
20	27	MODEST MOUSE Good News For People Who Love Bad News (87125) Epic	
21	22	MANNIE FRESH The Mind Of Mannie Fresh (280802) Motown	
22	31	CAM'RON Purple Haze (272802) Roc-A-Fella-Def Jam	
23	19	KORN Greatest Hits Vol. 1 (93477) Epic	
24	24	BREAKING BENJAMIN We Are Not Alone (162460) Hollywood	
25	—	ATMOSPHERE Headshots: Se7en (53) Rhymesayers	
26	20	NELLY Suit (331601) Universal	
27	21	NAS Street's Disciple (92065) Columbia	
28	26	XZIBIT Weapons Of Mass Destruction (692558) Columbia	
29	28	MAROON 5 Songs About Jane (50001) BMG-Octone	
30	34	KELLY CLARKSON Breakaway (64491) RCA	
31	25	A PERFECT CIRCLE eMOTIVe (66687) Virgin	
32	29	VELVET REVOLVER Contraband (59794) RCA	
33	38	FANTASIA Free Yourself (64235) J	
34	36	BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY Greatest Hits (25423) Ruthless	
35	37	CROSSFADE Crossfade (87148) Columbia	
36	40	TRICK DADDY Thug Matrimony: Married To The Streets (83677) Atlantic	
37	—	OL' DIRTY BASTARD Osirus (9016) Sure Shot	
38	55	RAY LAMONTAGNE Trouble (63459) RCA	
39	32	PAPA ROACH Getting Away With Murder (304212) Geffen	
40	30	THE USED In Love And Death (48789) Reprise	
41	99	SHINS Oh, Inverted World (550) Sub Pop	
42	59	BREAKING BENJAMIN So Cold (162496) Hollywood	
43	33	JA RULE R.U.L.E (295502) Def Jam	
44	44	MAC DRE The Game Is Thick - Part 2 (3018) Sumo	
45	48	RAY CHARLES Genius Loves Company (2248) Concord	
46	77	JET Get Born (62892) Elektra	
47	60	KEAK DA SNEAK Town Business (70238) Next Level	
48	79	ANTHONY HAMILTON Comin' From Where I'm From (52107) Arista	
49	35	CHINGY Powerballin' (97686) Capitol-EMI	
50	70	AKON Trouble (86002) Universal	

A.I.M.S.

COMPILED FROM THE COLLECTIVE
PIECE COUNTS OF ALL ALLIANCE OF
INDEPENDENT MEDIA STORES MEMBERS
PERIOD ENDING 1/11/2005
www.cmj.com

TW	LW	ARTIST + TITLE	LABEL
1	1	ARCADE FIRE Funeral (29555) Merge	
2	2	ELLIOTT SMITH From A Basement On The Hill (86741) Anti	
3	4	LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU Soundtrack (624942) Hollywood	
4	5	HANDSOME BOY MODELING SCHOOL White People (62941) Atlantic-Elektra	
5	8	GARDEN STATE Soundtrack (92843) Epic	
6	3	NEKO CASE The Tigers Have Spoken (86740) Anti	
7	16	PINBACK Summer In Abaddon (20937) Touch And Go	
8	40	JOHN LEGEND Get Lifted (92776) Columbia	
9	15	TOM WAITS Real Gone (86678) Anti	
10	20	MODEST MOUSE Good News For People Who Love Bad News (87125) Epic	
11	19	CHIN UP CHIN UP We Should Have Never Lived Like We...(22) Flameshovel	
12	32	INTERPOL Antics (10616) Matador	
13	37	PAVEMENT Crooked Rain, Crooked Rain (10610) Matador	
14	17	PJ HARVEY B-Sides (353802) Island	
15	24	NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS Abattoir Blues/The Lyre Of Orpheus (86729) Anti	
16	42	FUTUREHEADS The Futureheads (48908) StarTime International-Sire	
17	23	GREEN DAY American Idiot (48777) Reprise	
18	22	SHINS Oh, Inverted World (550) Sub Pop	
19	30	SHINS Chutes Too Narrow (625) Sub Pop	
20	83	JOANNA NEWSOM The Milk-Eyed Mender (263) Drag City	
21	9	STYROFOAM Nothing's Lost (49) Morr Music	
22	13	LE TIGRE This Island (338502) Strummer-Universal	
23	11	POSTAL SERVICE Give Up (595) Sub Pop	
24	25	CITIZEN COPE The Clarence Greenwood Recordings (52114) Arista	
25	7	U2 How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb (361302) Interscope	
26	52	BRIAN WILSON Smile (79846) Nonesuch	
27	31	DEATH FROM ABOVE 1979 You're A Woman, I'm A Machine (93405) Vice	
28	57	RILO KILEY Live At Fingerprints [EP] (109234) Brute/Beaute-Warner Bros.	
29	63	JESSE SYKES AND THE SWEET HEREAFTER Oh, My Girl (31036) Barsuk	
30	—	TRACKER Blankets: Recordings For The Illustrated Novel (19) Film Guerrero	
31	12	RAY LAMONTAGNE Trouble (63459) RCA	
32	36	IRON AND WINE Our Endless Numbered Days (70630) Sub Pop	
33	10	LUNA Rendezvous (69) Jetset	
34	—	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Original Soundtrack (93521) Sony Classical	
35	R	MOS DEF The New Danger (355802) Geffen	
36	21	MF DOOM MM..Food (51) Rhymesayers	
37	61	MATADOR AT FIFTEEN Various Artists (10623) Matador	
38	43	KILLERS Hot Fuss (84571) Island	
39	35	T.I. Urban Legend (83734) Atlantic	
40	R	MASTODON Leviathan (6622) Relapse	
41	58	GWEN STEFANI Love, Angel, Music, Baby (346902) Interscope	
42	49	RILO KILEY More Adventurous (48876) Brute/Beaute-Warner Bros.	
43	R	TV ON THE RADIO Desperate Youth, Blood Thirsty Babes (20954) Touch And Go	
44	—	BOB DYLAN Times They Are A-Changin' (8905) Columbia	
45	—	AQUEDUCT Pistols At Dawn [EP] (40) Barsuk	
46	—	SIMON AND GARFUNKEL Bookends (9529) Legacy	
47	18	2PAC Loyal To The Game (386102) Amaru-Interscope	
48	28	NIRVANA With The Lights Out (372700) Geffen	
49	27	BLACK KEYS Rubber Factory (80379) Fat Possum	
50	R	FIERY FURNACES Blueberry Boat (83239) Rough Trade	

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CMJ New Music Report (ISSN 0890 0795) is published weekly, except for one week in January, by The CMJ Network, Inc. with offices at 151 W. 25th St., 12th Fl.; New York, NY 10001.

Subscription rates are \$345.00 for 48 issues; \$575.00 for 96 issues. Sorry, no refunds. Subscription offices: 151 W. 25th St., 12th Fl.; New York, NY 10001. Tel 917.606.1908. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices.

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NEWS TO US

ISSUE 896 About This Issue:

We usually reserve this space for a more wise-crackin' *News To Us*, but wanted to let you know about what's happening in this special issue, as well as future issues. As you can tell by our cover, we're highlighting the most-played/most-sold albums of 2004. In addition, we've included seven pages of argument-inducing lists! Thanks to those who sent in a Top 10. We enjoyed ripping on your lists!

While we look back at 2004, it's also important (if not more so) to look ahead to 2005. With artists like Arcade Fire (our "told ya so" band of the year), Modest Mouse (in forest below), Shins and Death Cab all breaking through in 2004, we're hella pumped that better music is elbowing its way into the mainstream. (If *Bright Eyes* isn't on the cover of our 2005 wrap-up, we'll eat an entire magazine... free CD included). There are a few artists we didn't mention in this first quarter bonanza, but don't worry. Look for features on other Q1 upstarts like Sage Francis, Brazilian Girls, Buck 65, Dalek, Grand National, High On Fire, Mando Diao, Robbers On High Street, Crooked Fingers and more in the next issue of *CMJ New Music Monthly*.



CMJ In 2005: In response to your requests, we're committing significant resources in 2005 towards www.cmj.com to ensure that you get better information faster—when, where and how you want it.

In February we expect to go live with the first set of improvements to our online home, featuring new searches and report-generating capability that will provide our readers with up-to-the-minute information during each weekly reporting period.

That will set the stage for a spring roll-out of the initial phases of my.cmj.com, a daily, state-of-the-art, customizable, real-time online suite of products that will ultimately revolutionize the way the emerging artist world will discover, dissect, debate, promote and market the world's best new music—all the while enabling you to digitally audition the music you're reading about on demand.

As we gear up to "Go Daily"—don't fret, reports and charts will stay weekly—we will continue to publish *CMJ New Music Report Alert* weekly in a pdf format online at www.cmj.com. However, effective with this issue, only bi-weekly, even-numbered issues of the magazine will be distributed in

print. And once my.cmj.com is in full gear, we'll begin to phase in a whole new look and approach to *CMJ New Music Report* to truly maximize our coverage of the most important new artists, trends, industry professionals and organizations in the context of a print medium.

Combine all of this with the 25th anniversary CMJ Music Marathon in New York City this fall and our first-ever collaboration with the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame And Museum for the CMJ/Rock Hall Music Fest in Cleveland June 8-11 and... whew!... 2005 is shaping up to be an incredibly exciting year.

Thanks for your input and support to date. We encourage all of you to communicate your thoughts, ideas, concerns and suggestions regarding our new and improved functionality and content, as well as everything else going on in your world and ours.

Rolodex Update: After three and a half years, the CMJ Network's Chief Operating Officer, Jay B. Ziskrout, has exited his position in order to focus on the development of his consulting firm, Sonic Vista, Inc. In this new position, Ziskrout will be consulting with CMJ on several projects and initiatives, including my.cmj.com. Sonic Vista is dedicated to providing consulting and management services in entertainment, marketing, media, recreation and technology. The company's initial clients also include BG Communications and Rock River/Websound. Contact Ziskrout at: jziskrout@sonicvista.com or log on to www.sonicvista.com.



Is this the M.I.A. Ted Leo was singing about? Not sure, but we're singing her praises as one to watch in 2005.

Q1 PRIMER: PG. 4

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CMJ TOP 200 ADDS

COMPILED FROM NEW ALBUMS
BEING SPUN BY STATIONS.
PERIOD ENDING 1/24/2005
www.cmj.com

POS.	TOTAL ADDS	ARTIST + TITLE	LABEL
1	141	KINGS OF LEON Aha Shake Heartbreak	RCA-BMG
2	126	FIERY FURNACES EP	Rough Trade
3	112	LOW The Great Destroyer	Sub Pop
4	81	BLACK MARIA Lead Us To Reason	Victory
5	65	STREET DOGS Back To The World	Side One Dummy
6	62	MAGNAPOP Mouthfeel	Daemon
7	52	DOWNTOWN SINGAPORE Understanding A Guarantee	DCide
8	50	DIE MONITR BATSS Girls Of War	Troubleman Unlimited
9	39	TIM BOOTH Bone	Koch
10	34	PARKER AND LILY The Low Lows	Warm
11	33	ANUBIAN LIGHTS Phantascopes	Rhythm Bank
12	29	BELLRAYS The Red, White And Black	Alternative Tentacles
13	29	STS9 Artifact	1320
14	27	SHIVAREE Who's Got Trouble?	Zoë
15	24	CALL FLORENCE POW The Strange Situation	Rynoblast
16	20	EARLY DAY MINERS All Harm Ends Here	Secretly Canadian
17	20	WONDERFUL SMITH Hello, It's Wonderful	Fundamental
18	19	BRICE Cabin Capers*	Self-released
19	16	DOWNTOWN Downtown	Coup De Grace
20	15	FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS Soundtrack	Hip-O



KINGS OF LEON



FIERY FURNACES



LUNA



NEKO CASE

CORE RADIO

BASED ON CMJ'S MOST INFLUENTIAL STATIONS
PERIOD ENDING 1/24/2005
VIEW AIRPLAY REPORTS IN THEIR ENTIRETY AT
www.cmj.com/nmr/airplay

TW	LW	2W	PK	WK	ARTIST + TITLE	LABEL
1	1	5	1	7	LUNA Rendezvous	Jetset
2	4	3	2	7	NEKO CASE The Tigers Have Spoken	Anti
3	2	1	1	7	FUTUREHEADS The Futureheads	StarTime International-Sire
4	3	2	2	8	TED LEO AND THE PHARMACISTS Shake The Sheets	Lookout!
5	5	6	4	9	NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS Abattoir Blues/The Lyre...	Anti
6	16	22	6	3	BRIGHT EYES Ten Song Sampler	Saddle Creek
7	9	14	7	4	HANDSOME BOY MODELING SCHOOL White People	Atlantic-Elektra
8	6	4	1	10	ELLIOTT SMITH From A Basement On The Hill	Anti
9	20	12	9	4	DFA COMPILATION #2 Various Artists	DFA
10	8	10	1	12	TOM WAITS Real Gone	Anti
11	7	7	7	5	MATES OF STATE All Day [EP]	Polyvinyl
12	13	17	12	4	MF DOOM MM..Food	Rhymesayers
13	10	16	10	4	U2 How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb	Interscope
14	—	—	14	1	TUSSLE Kling Klang	Troubleman Unlimited
15	—	—	15	1	SOFT PINK TRUTH Do You Want New Wave...	Tigerbeat6
16	R	29	16	3	MY ROBOT FRIEND Hot Action!	Proptronix
17	30	47	17	4	RUFUS WAINWRIGHT Want Two	Interscope
18	21	28	4	14	ARCADE FIRE Funeral	Merge
19	37	—	19	2	DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS Please Describe Yourself	V2
20	R	31	20	2	STYROFOAM Nothing's Lost	Morr Music
21	17	9	9	6	HIDDEN CAMERAS Mississauga Goddam	Rough Trade
22	14	41	14	3	ALISON KRAUSS AND UNION STATION Lonely Runs...	Rounder
23	15	18	1	13	INTERPOL Antics	Matador
24	18	33	18	9	JIMMY EAT WORLD Futures	Interscope
25	19	8	8	6	DEATH FROM ABOVE 1979 You're A Woman, I'm A Machine	Vice
26	12	38	12	5	DONNAS Gold Medal	Atlantic
27	39	36	27	4	ULRICH SCHNAUSS A Strangely Isolated Place	Domino
28	50	—	28	2	BLANKET MUSIC Cultural Norms	Hush
29	46	—	29	2	SIGUR ROS Von	One Little Indian
30	43	—	30	2	GUITAR WOLF Rock N Roll Etiquette	Narnack
31	67	—	31	4	MASSIVE ATTACK Danny The Dog	Virgin
32	68	30	30	6	SLEEPYTIME GORILLA MUSEUM Of Natural History	Mimicry
33	35	—	33	2	CANTINERO Championship Boxing	Artemis
34	—	—	34	1	SHIVAREE Who's Got Trouble?	Zoë
35	34	32	28	6	LEONARD COHEN Dear Heather	Columbia
36	41	69	36	3	DOLOREAN Violence In The Snowy Fields	Yep Roc
37	59	—	37	2	TRAVIS Singles	Sony
38	61	21	10	11	VHS OR BETA Night On Fire	Astralwerks
39	42	68	39	3	MAROONS Ambush	Quannum
40	25	—	8	11	WILLIAM SHATNER Has Been	Shout! Factory
41	58	26	19	10	CAKE Pressure Chief	Columbia
42	63	59	42	3	CHICKS ON SPEED 99 Cents	Chicks On Speed
43	24	13	13	10	ZUTONS Who Killed... The Zutons	Sony
44	38	20	20	6	JELLO BIAFRA AND... Never Breathe...	Alternative Tentacles
45	—	—	45	1	SON, AMBULANCE Key	Saddle Creek
46	69	—	46	2	BRIAN JONESTOWN MASSACRE Tepid Peppermint...	Tee Pee
47	45	65	37	7	LES GEORGES LENINGRAD Sur Les Traces De Black Eskimo	Alien8
48	—	—	48	1	ANI DIFRANCO Knuckle Down	Righteous Babe
49	40	37	22	10	LATE, GREAT DANIEL JOHNSTON... Various Artists	Gammon
50	53	73	50	3	HENCHMEN Form Follows Function	Times Beach