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flash

Folk and blues artist Tracy Chapman returns to the scene in 1996 with the single "Give Me One Reason." Chapman receives five Grammy nominations in January 1997.

The artist formerly known as Prince releases *Emancipation*, a three-hour, three-CD album, in honor of his release from his Warner Bros. recording contract.

Guitarist Slash of Guns N' Roses forms his own band. His new group, *Slash's Blues Ball*, is a six-man blues band grounded in the blues-based hard rock of the 1970s.

Rocker Sheryl Crow joins the ranks of musicians who have had their albums banned from Wal-Mart. The retail giant objects to a lyric alleging that kids kill each other with guns they obtained from the store.



The Beatles' *Anthology 3*, the third and final album from the reunited remaining members of the band, is released in November. Following the example of their two previous anthologies, *Anthology 3* sells in record numbers.

Gary Malerba, LGI



Kiss bass guitarist Gene Simmons strikes a familiar pose as the band kicks off a reunion tour with a June 28 concert in Detroit. The tour marks the first time the original members of the band perform together since 1979.



Tim Mosenthal, LGI

Canadian pop artist Celine Dion tops the charts in 1996 with the album *Falling Into You*, which sells more than 16 million copies worldwide.



Kipa, LGI

British pop superstars Liam (left) and Noel Gallagher cancel the remainder of a U.S. concert tour in September amid rumors that their band, Oasis, is breaking up. Denying the reports, the brothers announce they will release a new album in the summer of 1997.

Alternative-rock band Nirvana releases a new album, *From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah*, in October. The album contains 17 live tracks recorded between 1989 and the 1994 suicide of singer Kurt Cobain (right).



Jane Huntington, LGI

Bush, a British rock group with an American "grunge" sound, tours the U.S. to promote their album *Sixteen Stone*. They release another chart-topping album, *Razorblade Suitcase*, in the winter.



Steve Jennings, LGI



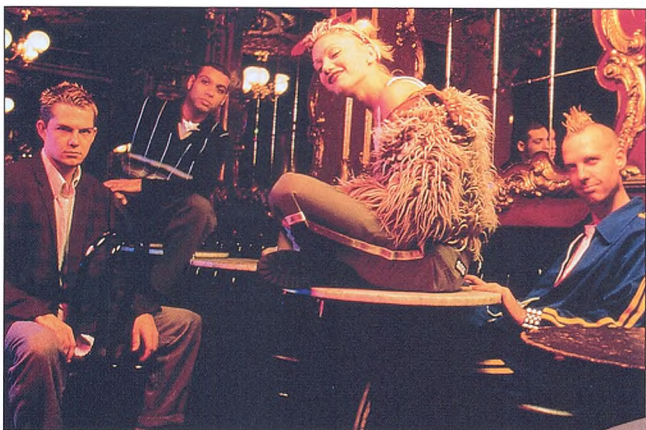
Steve Jennings, LGI

Heavy metal band Metallica is the headlining act for the summer concert Lollapalooza, traditionally an alternative-rock show. Metallica remains high-profile, winning an MTV award for the year's Best Hard Rock Video in September.



Reuters/Archive Photos

After 10 years of separation, members of the band Van Halen are reunited with their former lead singer, David Lee Roth (right), at the MTV Video Music Awards in September. Roth later claims he thought he was rejoining the band, who chose a different lead singer.



Steve Jennings, LGI



No Doubt, fronted by lead singer Gwen Stefani, releases *Tragic Kingdom*, which includes such chart-toppers as "Just a Girl," "Spiderwebs," and "Don't Speak."



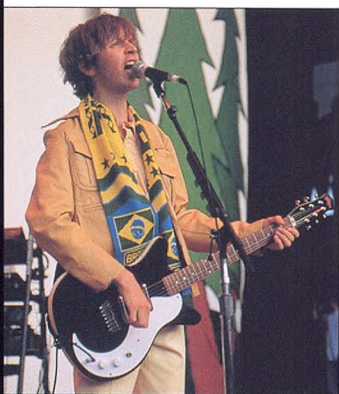
Counting Crows' second album, *Recovering the Satellites*, is released in October. The long awaited follow-up to 1993's *August and Everything After* debuts at number one on the charts.



Adele Starr, LGI



George Strait is honored by the Country Music Association in October with three major awards—Single of the Year for "Check Yes or No," Album of the Year for *Clear Blue Sky*, and Male Vocalist of the Year.



Tim Mosenfelter, LGI



The hit single "Where It's At" kicks off the new Beck album *Delayer*, which is released to popular and critical acclaim. *Spin* magazine awards Beck Artist of the Year.



Mike Hashimoto/NGI from LGI



Lisa Leone, LGI



Toni Braxton's second album, *Secrets*, is released in summer 1996. Braxton wins R&B Single of the Year for "Let It Flow" at the *Billboard* Music Awards in the fall.



Readers/Archive Photos

Alanis Morissette's *Jagged Little Pill* reigns the charts, becoming the all-time top-selling album by a female artist. Morissette also dominates the 1996 Grammys by winning four awards, including Best Album.



Death Row Records co-founder Dr. Dre, often dubbed the "godfather of 'gangsta' rap," begins distancing himself from hard-core rap. "Been There, Done That," his break-away anthem, premieres on MTV in September.



R.E.M.'s 12th album, *New Adventures in Hi-Fi*, the group's first recording since 1994's *Monster*, is released by Warner Bros. in September.



The Wallflowers, with Jakob Dylan, son of legendary folk artist Bob Dylan, release *Bringing Down the Horse*, which features hit singles "One Headlight" and "6th Avenue Heartache."



James L. Lance, LGI



Fourteen-year-old singing sensation LeAnn Rimes is nominated for the Country Music Association's Horizon Award after the breakthrough success of her single "Blue." The popular new star is often compared to country music legend Patsy Cline.



The music world is stunned in September by the death of rapper Tupac Shakur, killed in a drive-by shooting in Las Vegas. Speculations as to the killer's motive abound, but the year ends with no answers and no arrests.



AP / Wide World



Beck, LGI

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