



EMI Records releases *Live at the BBC* a two-disc set of radio concerts recorded by the Beatles in the early '60s. "Free as a Bird," an original unfinished track by the late John Lennon, is finished, mixed with the live voices of Paul, George, and Ringo, and included in the set.

Nominated for best female vocalist, country singer Mary Chapin Carpenter croons at the Country Music Awards ceremony, but loses to Pam Tillis. Carpenter's album *Stones in the Road* tops the country charts.



It's a year of hits for buzz band, Gin Blossoms. Their top-selling album *New Miserable Experience*, covers "Hey Jealousy," "Found Out About You," and "Until I Fall Away."

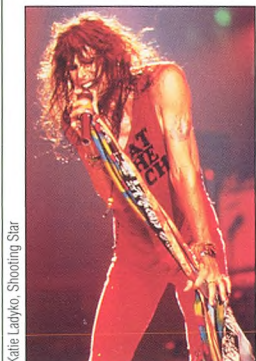


Ronnie Wright, LGI

Dismissed as kiddie artists, three 12-year-old rappers who go by the name of Immature, get a new sound. Album *Playtime Is Over* and hits "Never Lie" and "Constantly" pump them up to stardom.



Hailed as the crown prince of reggae, Buju Banton's album, *Voice of Jamaica*, pumps the party with "Walk Like a Champion" and "Man a Look Yuh."



Katie Ladyko, Shooting Star

Hit single "Cryin'" wins MTV's Video of the Year award for singer Steven Tyler and metal band Aerosmith, who ride a wave of success and release their new album *Big Ones*.

The rock-spectacle Rolling Stones tour, named after their album *Voodoo Lounge*, combines a light show, computer animation, video blowups, and gigantic inflatable props. Millions watch the Stones prance through their classic and current hits like "Love Is Strong." *Voodoo Lounge* becomes the highest grossing tour in history with \$115 million in ticket sales.



Scott Weiner, Retna

The Canadian band Cowboy Junkies, whose big hit this year is "Sweet James," sings of isolation and despair on their latest album *Pale Sun/Crescent Moon*.



Doniz Kalkavan, Retna

Powered to the top with their pure pop sound, Swedish quartet Ace of Base tops the charts with *The Sign*. Their sound is a contagious blend of reggae-splashed pop known as "China Reggae."

JMascis emerges as a prolific and versatile songwriter for the punk-rock band Dinosaur Jr. with "Outta Hand" and major hit "Feel the Pain," both on their latest album *Without a Sound*.



Larry Busacca, Retna



The Benedictine Monks of Santo Domingo de Silos release their CD, *Chant*. Heavy rotation on MTV turns the collection of ancient Gregorian chants into an unexpected best-seller.



Irish rock foursome, the Cranberries, tour the United States playing the sad, pretty melodies from their second hit album, *No Need to Argue*.



Rappers with a self-reliant attitude, Salt-N-Pepa keep their *Very Necessary* vibe going this year with hits "Shoop" and "Whatta Man" which wins them, along with En Vogue, an MTV Music Award.



Rapper Snoop Doggy Dogg's performance makes the movie soundtrack *Above the Rim* a best-seller. His video "It's a Doggy Dogg World," which reunites all the '70s black exploitation film stars, wins an MTV Music Award.

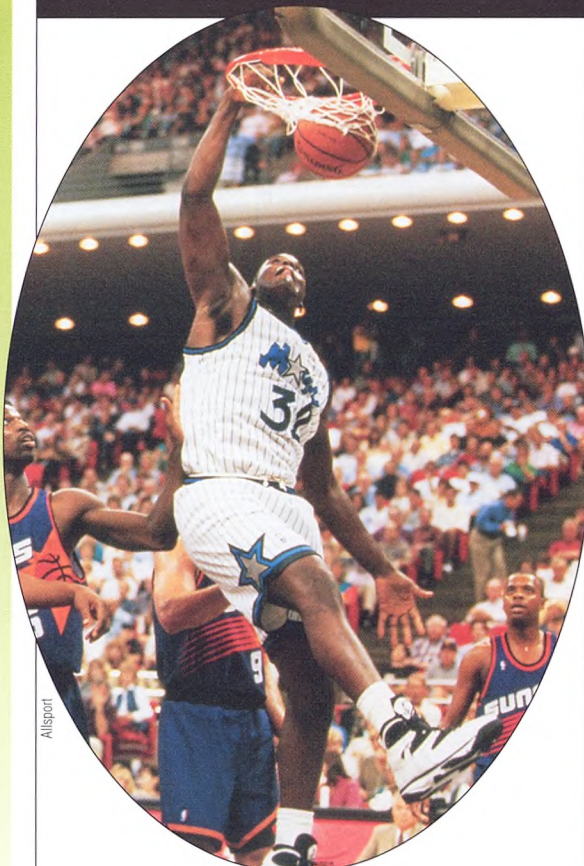
Ranked No. 1, the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers finish their unbeaten season by defeating the Miami Hurricanes to win the national title. Quarterback Tommie Frazier earns MVP honors by guiding the Huskers to two fourth-quarter touchdowns and a frenetic 24-17 victory.

She was a pro at 13, a millionaire at 14, and out of the game at 17. After getting booked on charges of marijuana possession, tennis star Jennifer Capriati enters a drug rehab program and makes a comeback in autumn where she plays well but loses her first-round match.

Former Wimbledon champ Andre Agassi wins the 1994 U.S. Open and beats champion Pete Sampras at the 1995 Australian Open. Called the most popular tennis player in the world, the tennis phenom has a new girlfriend, former model Brooke Shields.

The National Hockey League plays only 48 of the 82 games in the season this year due to a lockout. Following baseball's example, hockey owners put salary caps on their players, who strike but lose out to the owner's rule.

Track and field star Wilma Rudolph dies at the age of 54. The 20th of 22 children, she overcame polio, scarlet fever, and pneumonia to become a basketball star at 13, an Olympic bronze medalist at 16, and a winner of three gold medals in the 1960 Rome Olympics.



Allsport

Whenever the Magic, led by 7'1" 300-pound Shaquille O'Neal, score 110 points, the Orlando McDonald's restaurants redeem home game tickets for a free Big Mac. With the team selling out all 16,000 seats, the Golden Arches supply a massive Mac attack, consoling fans for the lack of a playoff victory.



Focus on Sports

Pitchman George Foreman, 45, wearing the same red trunks he sported when he fought Muhammad Ali 20 years earlier, wins the world's heavyweight boxing title from Michael Moorer with a 10th round knockout.

The high rate of early burnout in women's pro tennis from media pressure, trainers, and sponsors causes the parents of Venus Williams, 14, to delay her pro debut.



Allsport

Pete Sampras defeats Goran Ivanisevic in the men's singles final at Wimbledon in July 1994, for his second straight Wimbledon title. In January, pressure of defending the title causes him to break down in tears at the 1995 Australian Open.



Allsport

Having already announced her retirement from singles tennis, nine-time Wimbledon champion Martina Navratilova waves good-bye to an emotional crowd, after losing to Conchita Martinez in her last Wimbledon match.



Reuters/Bettmann

In July, Miguel Indurain of Spain makes a triumphant entry on the Champs Elysées in Paris to win the Tour de France for the fourth straight time. He wins the 3-week, 3,218 km contest easily, finishing five minutes, 39 seconds ahead of the field. Greg LeMond, the only American to win the Tour de France three times, retires from racing because of health problems.

SPORTS