10/10/85

Record Review

On Monday Radio Victory celebrate their tenth birthday, and Chris Carnegy has promised me that he will play the tape-recording of the station's opening moments on his Breakfast Show, which should provide a nostalgic memory or two.

Midge Ure reached No. 1 last week with "If I Was" but by the time you read this Jennifer Rush will probably have taken over with "The Power Of Love". Midge has had two previous chart-toppers; in 1976 he made it with Slik on "Forever and Ever", and in 1984 he co-wrote and performed on Band-Aid's "Do They Know It's Christmas".

Despite having great success with Ultravox he never quite hit the jackpot with them. The nearest they got was No. 2 for four weeks with "Vienna", but that song outsold most of its rivals in the long run and it was the fifth best-selling single of 1981.

Tomorrow, the Thompson Twins are releasing "King For A Day" (taken from their L.P. produced by Nile Rodgers), and to promote it they will be appearing on "The Tube", which is back again on Channel 4.

Tracey Ackerman and Mirage have recorded a medley of Madonna's hits calling it "The Into The Groove Medley", which is quite well presented. Other new 45's include King's "The Taste Of Your Tears", Sade's "The Sweetest Taboo", Simple Minds' "Alive And Kicking", and Tina Turner's "One Of The Living" (from the latest "Mad Max" film).

Once again, the L.P. of the week is a collection of hits by a top artist. This time it is "The Who Collection" (on Impression), containing more than two hours of The Who's music, featuring 32 of their hit singles and best album tracks from 20 years in the business. All of them have been Digitally Remastered so they sound better than ever before.

The double-album begins with the songs running in chronological order, but for some reason they have missed out the 1969 "Tommy" numbers and put them on Side Four, which spoils the enjoyment a little, if you happen to remember the order in which they were originally released. The highlight of the set is their 1971 masterpiece "Won't Get Fooled Again", which they performed so magnificently on "Live Aid" day. All the other favourites are safely stamped on the record.

L.P. CHART

1. Hounds Of Love (Kate Bush).
2. Like A Virgin (Madonna)
3. Brothers In Arms (Dire Straits).
4. Now That's What I Call Music 5 (Various).
5. Misplaced Childhood (Marillion).
6. In Square Circle (Stevie Wonder).
7. Madonna.
8. The Kenny Rogers Story.
9. Here's To Future Days (Thompson Twins).
10. Vital Idol (Billy Idol).

'Summer Song' sounds

The Selsey Amateur Choral and Operatic Society are holding auditions tonight (Thursday) for their new spring musical "Summer Song".

Interested singers, especially tenors and young singers, should attend the Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Selsey, at 8 p.m. or contact secretary Wendy Fitzwilliam on Selsey 603617.

17/10/85

Record Review

Bob Woodhead

This week the radio programme "30 Years Of Rock" (Radio 1 Stereo, 2 p.m. Saturday) covers the most important year of the Eighties so far — 1981.

It was the year that saw the rise of futurist, electronic dance music, the disco-medley singles and the British-funk movement. On the news front it was the year of the Royal wedding and Botham's Ashes.

The major story in this week's pop news is that George Michael is releasing a love song (dedicated to actress Brooke Shields) at the end of November, entitled "I'm Your Man".

It is being hotly tipped to be the Christmas No. 1 that he so narrowly missed out on last year with "Last Christmas". As yet, it is not known whether the record will be issued under the name Wham or his own name.

There are some above average new 45's on sale this week. The best of them is the B.B.C. television theme to "Howards' Way", performed by Simon May, who was also responsible for "Eastenders."

The other new ones to look out for are Eighth Wonder's "Stay With Me" (as performed on "Wogan"), Sting's "Fortress Around Your Heart", Twiggy's "Feel Emotion", and Kate Bush's "Cloudbursting", taken from her chart-topping album.

Tomorrow, Level 42 from the Isle of Wight are releasing a new L.P. called "World Machine", which features nine tracks, including the current hit, "Something About You."

Over the years, the Bee Gees have written and produced some wonderful albums for artists like Barbra Streisand, Kenny Rogers, Dionne Warwick and Jimmy Ruffin, but in 1985 it is Diana Ross who has been lucky enough to employ their services.

Her new L.P. is called "Eaten Alive" (on Capitol) and it has already given her a 25th chart entry as a solo performer.

The two songs which stand out are "Chain Reaction", produced in a Motown style, and "Experience", a classy ballad which will surely become a Top Ten single unless Capitol are foolish enough not to release it!

Nowadays, the Gibb brothers seem to produce top quality music for other artists but can no longer find success for themselves, which is a great pity.