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# Eighth Wonder has its rich success

One of the brighter aspects of this year's music scene has been the richly-deserved success achieved by the quartet Eighth Wonder led by Patsy Kensit.

They have been making good records for three years now including a contribution to the movie "Absolute Beginners" in 1986, but it was not until the Pet Shop Boys wrote and produced "I'm Not Scared" that success finally came earlier this year. That super track and the equally strong follow-up "Cross My Heart" are included on the band's new album entitled "Fearless".

"Fearless" has ten jaunty little dance tracks most of which you cannot help singing along to and liking. Apart from the aforementioned hits the highlights include "My Baby's Heartbeat" which is repetitive but very infectious, and "Baby Baby" with its catchy refrain and expert production by Pete Hammond who is an associate of the Stock-Aitken-Waterman organization and also produced "Cross My Heart". However, the best number is the closing song on side two, namely "The Dress" which is different to the other tracks but is notable for its wonderful melody.

Another new name in this year's charts has been Glen Goldsmith from Slough, but his debut album "What You See Is What You Get" is disappointing. It has been produced and mainly composed by the Jolley-Harris-Jolley team. I get the impression that Glen is trying to fit into the Phil Fearson mould of music, and his vocal style and dance rhythms come close but the melodies are just not there. The sole exception is the title-track which should have achieved much higher chart status than the placing it found in the 30 to 40 section of the listings. It has all the ingredients of a good song and is sung with a great deal of soul.

Rod Temperton from Grimsby, who played a major role in writing and producing records by Heatwave and composed tracks on Michael Jackson's

"Off The Wall" and "Thriller" albums, has been working with Siedah Garrett. Ms. Garrett leapt to fame last year when she sang the duet "I Just Can't Stop Loving You" with Michael Jackson and took it to No. 1.

Her solo album "Kiss Of Life" has been produced by Temperton with Dick Rudolph, but it is not up to his previous high standards, although the songs he wrote are at least stronger than the other contributions. The last two songs on the L.P., the tuneful, danceable "Baby's Got It Bad" and the soulful ballad "Nobody Does Me" were the only numbers that stood out from a rather repetitive dance formula on the rest of the tracks.

Tracy Chapman and Kylie Minogue have created pop history this summer by becoming the first female artists to top the L.P. chart with their first releases. Kylie is also the youngest girl to reach No. 1 with her terrific album.

There are some excellent new 45s being released this month from artists like the Pet Shop Boys and Rick Astley, taken from the new LPs scheduled for October release. It is also a pleasure to see Womack and Womack's dancefloor classic "Teardrops" doing so well in the Top Ten.

1. Kylie (Kylie Minogue).
2. The First Of A Million Kisses (Fairground Attraction).
3. Tracy Chapman.
4. Hot City Nights (Various).
5. Rap Trax (Various).
6. BAD (Michael Jackson).
7. Now 12 (Various).
8. Best of The Eagles.
9. Greatest Ever Rock 'n' Roll Mix (Various).
10. So Good (Mica Paris).

**Bob Woodhead**

**Eighth Wonder and Patsy Kensit - making good records.**