

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.

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



Mike Hashimoto/NGI from LGI

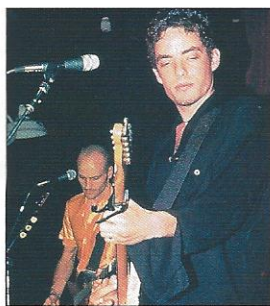


Tim Mosenfelder, LGI



Reuters/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.

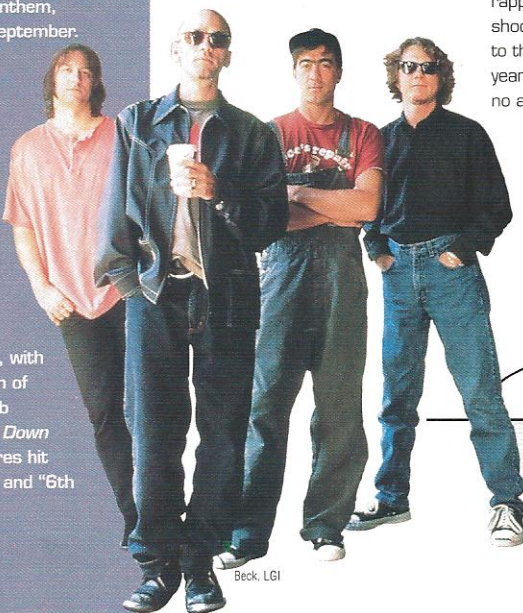


James L. Lance, LGI

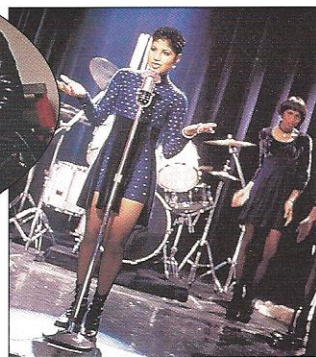
Death Row Records co-founder Dr. Dre, often dubbed the "godfather of 'gangsta' rap," begins distancing himself from hard-core rap. "Been There, Done That," his break-away anthem, premieres on MTV in September.

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."

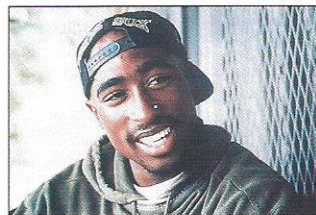


Beck, LGI



Lisa L. Lemme, 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.



AP/Wide World

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.

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