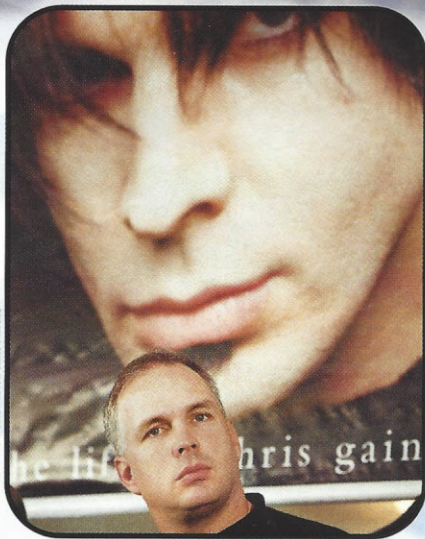
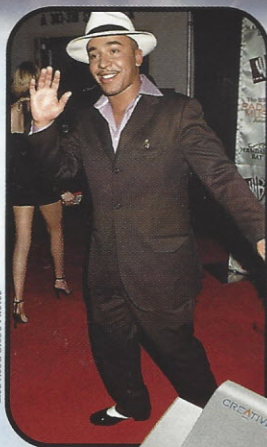


AP/Wide World Photos/Chris Pizzello



In a strange twist, Garth Brooks releases the album *The Life of Chris Gaines* in which he pretends to be a fictional rock star. Gaines will be the main character in a movie called *The Lamb*, currently in development.

Lisa Rose/Claire Photos



Lou Bega's rhythmic "Mambo No. 5" hits the Top 40 in August after selling 2 million copies overseas and topping the chart in 15 countries.



"NetAid," a concert dedicated to relieve hunger and poverty, airs live in October on MTV, VH1, the BBC, as well as radio stations in 120 nations, making it the widest-heard musical performance in history.



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MP3, technology that compresses sound into a very small file, becomes a popular alternative to the CD. MP3 files are downloaded from the Internet onto computers or portable player units, making it possible to take a personal music selection anywhere.



Shania Twain becomes the first woman since 1986 to win the Country Music Association's Entertainer of the Year Award at the 33rd annual awards show.

AP/Wide World Photos

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VH1's "Concert of the Century" spotlights the importance of music education in schools. The all-star show includes Lenny Kravitz, Sheryl Crow, Eric Clapton and B.B. King, as well as high-profile actors.

## Flash

After a successful New Year's Eve reunion performance, the Judds begin their first tour in almost 10 years in February 2000. Since they disbanded in 1991, Naomi has recovered from Hepatitis C.

Best New Artist Grammy nominee Christina Aguilera gives an exciting performance during the Super Bowl XXXIV halftime show.



AP/Wide World Photos

Ricky Martin takes the music industry by storm after his show-stopping performance at the 1999 Grammy Awards show. Martin's first chart-topping single, "Livin' la Vida Loca," helps him win the *Billboard* Music Award for Male Artist of the Year.



Fiona Apple releases her long-awaited second album to rave reviews in November and begins a tour in February 2000. The album features a 90-word title, which is commonly shortened to *When the Pawn*.

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