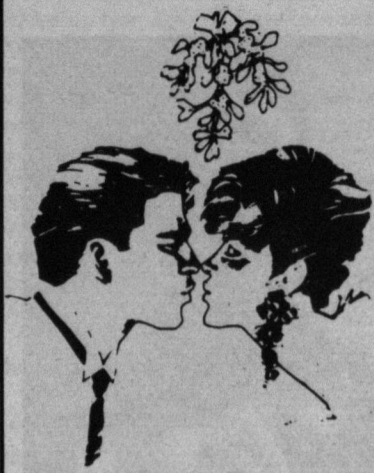


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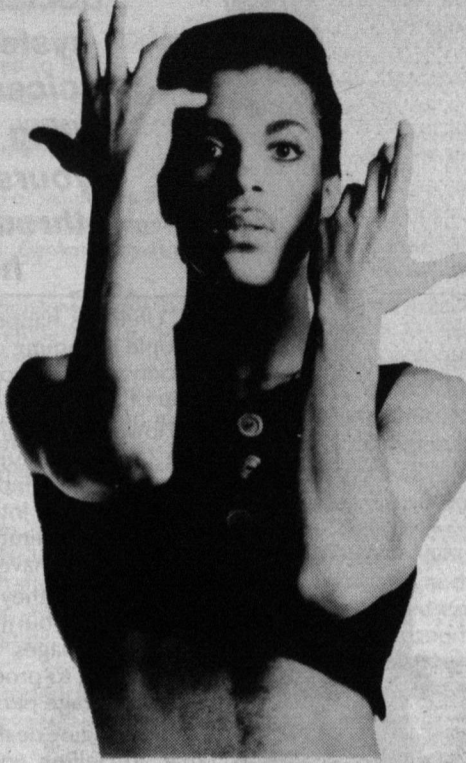
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sixty picks**

by Ian Istvanffy
Ian Istvanffy is station manager of FM88
CJSR.
My top ten albums of the eighties, in no



- particular order:
- 1. Prince — Sign O' the Times.**
Could have chosen *Dirty Mind* or 1999. The premier artist of the decade.
 - 2. Lyle Lovett — Lyle Lovett**
Best American songwriter since...
 - 3. Bruce Springsteen — Tunnel of Love**
Intimate, intense. Twelve songs about adult relationships.
 - 4. George Clinton — Some of My Best Jokes Are Friends**
Is he the ambassador of funk? Is 7-UP?
 - 5. Elvis Costello — Get happy**
Happy? Costello? It's a joke.
 - 6. The Clash — London Calling**
If you don't own this album, you probably don't like rock and roll.
 - 7. Waterboys — Fisherman's Blues**
Token "folk" album.
 - 8. Talking Heads — Remain in Light**
What does the future hold for David Byrne? He would be my choice for the host of a truly hip late night talk show.
 - 9. Public Enemy — It Takes A Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back**
Aggressive, disturbing, exhilarating. Sure wish they liked women more, though.
 - 10. Tracy Chapman — Tracy Chapman**
Stunning debut—even my mom digs it.

by Randal Smathers
I'll preface this by saying that my tastes in popular music are less alternative than most of the people writing one of these, but perhaps more catholic than most. This list is, therefore, an entirely subjective grouping of my favourites.

Honourable mention: James McMurtry — Too Long in the Wasteland

I can't pick an album for my top ten that's been around for a couple months, but I can't ignore this one either. It's survived the first twenty plays with continuing vigour, a good sign that it's on its way to being a classic.

10. Roxy Music — Avalon
I've little taste for Europop, but the best in any genre is usually worth listening to, and no one provides more seamless sounds than Roxy.

9. Dwight Yoakam — Buenos Noches From a Lonely Room

Yoakam is the best songwriter in a crowded field of new country stars (John Anderson, George Strait, Randy Travis). His third album is his most mature, and is therefore easily his best to date.

8. Joe Jackson — Night and Day
Jackson is one of two musicians—Elvis Costello being the other—to rise above the simple pop of the New Wave of the early Eighties. This album defined the contemporary "easy-listening" sound—with its heavy jazz influences—for pop stars like Sting to use later in the decade.

7. Shriekback — Oil and Gold
Intelligent, gloomy lyrics and a distinctive,

echoing, counterpoint sound are the highlights on this album. "Nemesis" is an amazing single, and the rest of the album holds up.

6. Talking Heads — Speaking in Tongues
The Heads have a unique instrument in David Byrne's voice. This is the album—of the decade, anyways—which most effectively showcases that instrument.

5. The Clash — London Calling
I know *Rolling Stone* picked it, but I'll include it here anyway. The best double album, ever (excluding greatest hits packages).

4. Ian Tyson — Cowboyography
Who'd a thunk a washed-up folkie could return as a unique Western voice. His singing has matured with his storytelling.

3. Guy Clark — Old Friends
Clark is perhaps the consummate country songwriter. If this album doesn't make you want to lean back, put your feet up on a front porch, and watch a sunset, you're too damn civilized for your own good.

2. Buddy Guy — Stone Crazy!
Guy is a legendary live guitarist, and this is one of those precious, few times when a studio album captures both live intensity and studio virtuosity. Hot, hot, Chicago guitar blues.

1. Bruce Springsteen — Nebraska
Rock's greatest singer/songwriter shows what he can do without the aid of rock's hottest bar band: great urban folk. When I wear out my first copy (soon), I'll buy another, and another, and another. This is as timeless as popular music can get.





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