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### A&M RECORDS STILL STANDS FOR ARTISTS AND MUSIC

#### STORIED RECORD LABEL HAS BIGGEST CHART WEEK IN NINETEEN YEARS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF PRESIDENT RON FAIR

**Santa Monica, CA, July 1, 2005-** For the first time in nearly twenty years, A&M Records accomplishes a double-double: two albums and two singles among Billboard's Top 10 sellers. On the album side, Grammy winners The Black Eyed Peas' massive *Monkey Business* moves up one notch to #4 while R&B newcomer Keyshia Cole's debut *The Way It Is* storms in at #6. The Black Eyed Peas global smash "Don't Phunk with My Heart" climbs to #3 on the Hot 100 singles chart and The Pussycat Dolls' infectious "Don't Cha" moves up to #7.

The last time A&M Records had a "double-double" was the week of May 31, 1986, when Janet Jackson's *Control* and the soundtrack to *Pretty in Pink* sat in the Top 10 album chart, accompanied by the singles "If You Leave" by Orchestral Maneuvers in the Dark and Janet Jackson's "What Have You Done For Me Lately?"

"A&M has a legacy of success that's based on artist development and dynamic music," stated Doug Morris, Chairman & CEO of Universal Music Group. "And we are thrilled that Ron is building upon this legacy and taking the company to even greater heights."

"Ron has carried through on the promise he has made for A&M. His passion and commitment to his work and his artists is more than I could ever have hoped for," praised Jimmy Iovine, Chairman of Interscope Geffen A&M Records.

"I'm particularly proud of the musical achievements of these diverse acts. Will.I.Am and The Black Eyed Peas have captured a worldwide audience, The Pussycat Dolls have zoomed onto the scene with their global smash, and Keyshia Cole is redefining R&B music in an era starving for musical righteousness and freshness. It's always about the artist, the music, the singer and the song and it always will be," said A&M President Ron Fair.

A&M Records looks forward to upcoming releases from Sheryl Crow (*Wildflower*), vocalist/guitarist Jonny Lang, British newcomer Vanessa Brown, rock/pop songstress Joanna Pacitti, R&B/hip hop quartet Metro City, Scotland's Driveblind, the unique Chris Glover, the follow up album by Butterfly Boucher and the sensational new gospel artist Spensha Baker. Will.I.Am's eponymous A&M-affiliated label will soon offer the solo debut from The Black Eyed Peas' Fergie and a new album from Grammy winner Macy Gray.

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standard for the industry."

### **About Universal Music Group**

Universal Music Group is the world's leading music company with wholly-owned record operations or licensees in 63 countries. Its businesses also include Universal Music Publishing Group, one of the industry's largest global music publishing operations.

Universal Music Group consists of record labels Decca Record Company, Deutsche Grammophon, Interscope Geffen A&M Records, Island Def Jam Music Group, Lost Highway Records, MCA Nashville, MCA Records, Mercury Records, Motown Records, Philips, Polydor, Universal Music Latino, Universal Records, and Verve Music Group as well as a multitude of record labels owned or distributed by its record company subsidiaries around the world. The Universal Music Group owns the most extensive catalog of music in the industry, which is marketed through two distinct divisions, Universal Music Enterprises (in the U.S.) and Strategic Marketing and Commercial Affairs (outside the U.S.). Universal Music Group also includes eLabs, a new media and technology division.

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