

**Subject:** Part Two of MTV: The First 10 Videos They Ever Aired!

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**Date:** 3/19/2020, 9:37 AM

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## Tunes Weekly - Part Two of MTV: The First 10 Videos They Ever Aired!



On Saturday, August 1, 1981, at 12:01 a.m. eastern time, MTV appeared on the air with the words:

*"Ladies and gentlemen, rock and roll."*

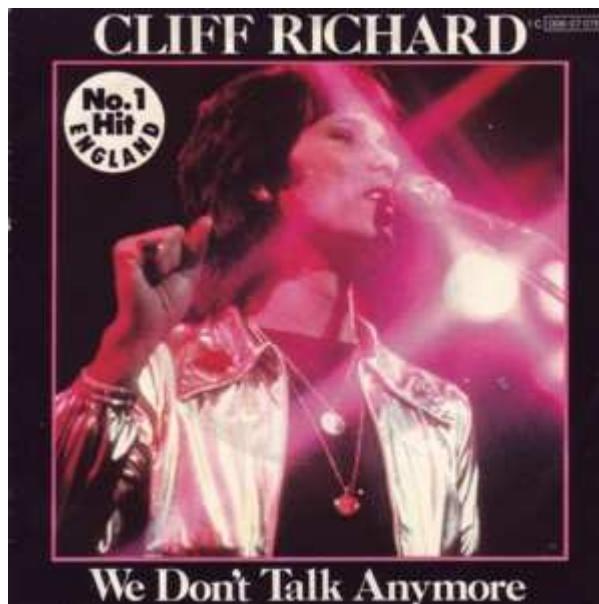
It was a life-changing event. Oh, I know the invention of the wheel and the discovery of fire were big too, but dammit, these were *24-hours-a-day music videos*.

Our favorite rock stars fluffed up their hair nice and big, started wearing makeup, and tried to learn how to dance. Suddenly, we began to care how Paul Simon looked.

We didn't care that the artists were lip-syncing. The artistic merits mattered not, just keep those videos coming like popcorn. A music video could create a star overnight. Without MTV, would we have ever heard of Duran Duran, Boy George, or A Flock of Seagulls?

MTV, after going through umpteen changes, is almost unrecognizable today. Music Television plays hardly any music videos at all anymore and they also aren't really into talking about "the good ole days" either. 39 years later, some people still get misty-eyed recalling that night of August 1, 1981 when The Buggles announced a new era with "Video Killed the Radio Star." What else did MTV play that night? How about we take a look back at the first 10 videos that MTV ever

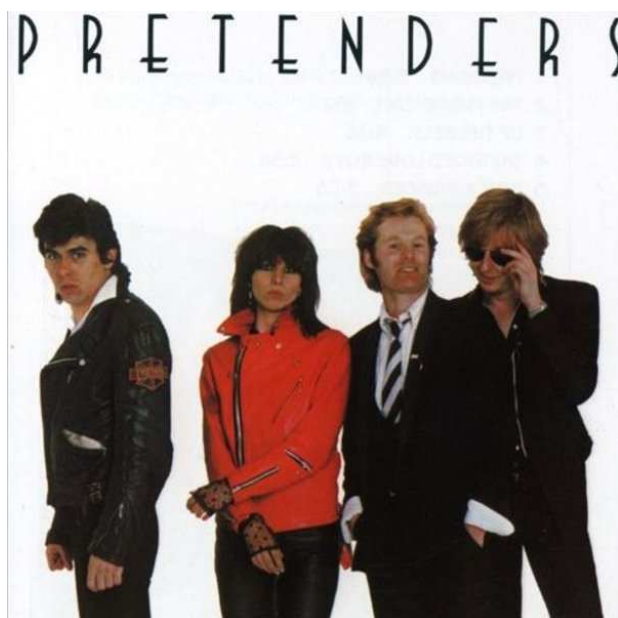
aired! Remember, we do this for you, so you don't have to. Here is part two.



**6. We Don't Talk Anymore- Cliff Richard (1979)**

I love Cliff Richard and this tune. This guy was like Elvis Presley in England. He was mostly only like Cliff Richard in the US. Only The Beatles and Elvis Presley sold more records in the U.K. A lifelong bachelor, he is 79 now, still playing, and complaining of ageism in the music industry.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8FCZ5x8Gpg>



## 7. **Brass in Pocket**- The Pretenders (1979)

Remember Chrissie Hynde as the waitress in the diner? THIS is why we loved MTV. Even as a waitress she still looked tough and a little pissed off. It was The Pretenders' first big record success. The 68-year-old Hynde released a new record, *Stockholm*, in 2014. The band has been through numerous personnel changes, but Chrissie Hynde remains a constant.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7Hy7uAb\\_eU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7Hy7uAb_eU)



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**8. Time Heals- Todd Rundgren (1981)**

A cool new-wave Todd tune with computer effects, "Time Heals" disappeared from MTV's rotation with amazing speed. That's a shame because Rundgren spent a pile of cash producing it. Oh well, Todd was ahead of his time, but he is still Todd; a quirky, restless genius living in Hawaii and playing with Ringo Starr & His All-Starr Band.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrGoDFP-LMg>

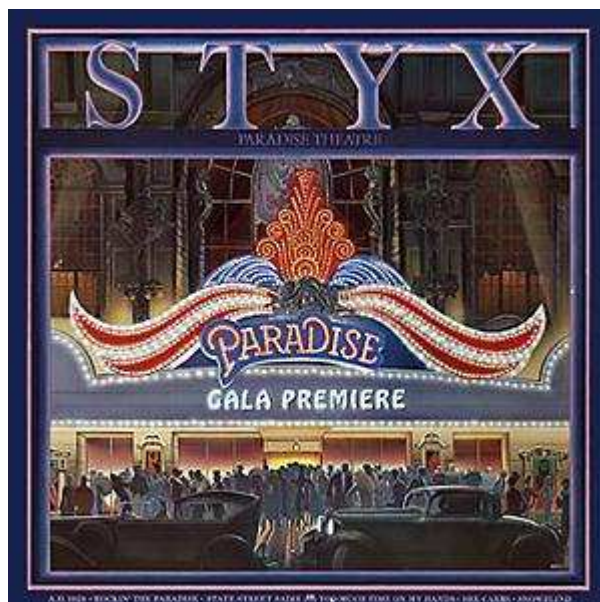


**9. Take It on the Run- REO Speedwagon (1981)**

This was a so-so power ballad with crunchy guitars and an earnest

Kevin Cronin vocal. It was technically the 9th video to air on MTV but something screwed up and it went to black in 12 seconds and didn't return. REO Speedwagon sells few records these days but is popular on the concert trail.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcKFtyy1FPM>



#### 10. **Rockin' the Paradise-** Styx (1981)

I don't want to rile up any Styx fans out there but I always broke into a rash at the sound of Dennis DeYoung's voice. Thirty-nine years later it just happened again. I really think musical theater was his calling. DeYoung split from the band and since 2010 has been touring as *Dennis DeYoung... And the Music of Styx*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OuREpab44Kk>



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D. Tillis writes "Tunes Weekly" exclusively for [www.tunescompany.com](http://www.tunescompany.com)

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