



# X Factor band face the axe

## UNION J TO LOSE RECORD DEAL AS BEC SIGNS AGAIN

**X FACTOR** boyband **Union J** are set to be axed by their record label after disappointing album sales.

The group will be dropped by Sony Music after second record *You Got It All* peaked at No.28.

But it is not all bad news for former X Factor contestants as I can also

reveal 2010 runner-up **Rebecca Ferguson** is about to sign another two-album deal with RCA.

My Union J source told me the decision to axe the band has been made but the official line from Sony is they are still signed.

I'm told: "The lads have been told there are no

future plans for any more releases and are obviously gutted.

"They have a core, dedicated fan base and sold lots of merchandise but the problem was lack of album sales.

"Everyone on the label is sad to see them go because they are great guys but at the end of the day it is a business."

UJ – made up of **Josh Cuthbert**, **JJ Hamlet**, **Jaymi Hensley** and **George Shelley** – had four top 10 singles since finishing fourth in 2012. They released their first album

under RCA and their second under Epic – both Sony labels – so let's hope another label within the group picks them up for third time lucky.

Looking on the bright side super-talented Rebecca releases brilliant third album *Lady Sings The Blues* tomorrow. It is a reworking of the **Billie Holiday** classic.

Label bosses are so confident of her star quality, they want her to put pen to paper before seeing how it does.

Rebecca told me: "I am just signing another two-album deal with RCA.

"I loved recording this *Billie Holiday* album but I will write the



next one myself.

“It will be influenced a little bit by this album but will also sound more like my first album.”

As a massive fan of Rebecca’s, that’s music to my ears!

