

Close Up

February, 1987

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Judy Rodman performs at 1986 New Faces Show. This year's showcase, to be held February 21 during CRS: MIPS, will feature 10 of Country's rising stars.



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Photo by: Jon D'Amelio

His Country "T-ness" - T. Graham Brown - does some soul searching for the capacity crowd at the '86 CRS New Faces Show.

Grammy Award Nominees

The nominees for the 29th Annual Grammy Awards were announced January 8. John Schneider announced the Country nominees at Nashville's Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel. Nominations include: **Best Country Vocal Female:** "Cry" — Crystal Gayle; "Daddy's Hands" — Holly Dunn; "Love at the Five and Dime" — Kathy Mattea; "Today I Started Loving You Again" — Emmylou Harris; and "Whoever's In New England" — Reba McEntire; **Best Country Vocal Male:** "Ain't Misbehavin'" — Hank Williams, Jr.; "Diggin' Up Bones" — Randy Travis; "Guitar Town" — Steve Earle; "Guitars, Cadillacs, Etc." — Dwight Yoakam; and "Lost in the Fifties Tonight" — Ronnie Milsap; **Best Country Vocal Group:** "Born Yesterday" — The Everly Brothers; "Class of '55" —

Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, Roy Orbison and Johnny Cash; "Grandpa (Tell Me 'Bout the Good Old Days)" — The Judds; "She and I" — Alabama; and "She Used to Be Somebody's Baby" — The Gatlings;

Best Country Instrumental: "Meanings Of" — Mark O'Connor; "Raisin' the Dickens" — Ricky Skaggs; "Seven by Seven" — New Grass Revival; "Speechless"— Albert Lee; and "Under the Wire" — Jerry Douglas; **Best Country Song:** "Daddy's Hands"; "Grandpa (Tell Me 'Bout the Good Old Days)"; "Guitar Town"; "Guitars, Cadillacs"; and "Whoever's In New England". Winners will be announced February 24, 1987 on the nationally televised Grammy Awards show in Los Angeles.

Close-Up

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EMI America, Nashville artist Lisa Angelle with Capitol artist Joe Cocker during a recent label reception in Los Angeles.

Sweethearts of the Rodeo

In Country Music annals, 1986 will be recorded as the year when close to two dozen previously unheralded artists emerged to infuse fresh life and new sounds into the Country Music genre. From this class of freshman hopefuls, a compelling sister duo sporting a western punk appearance, a hybrid sound of California Country-rock and Memphis rockabilly, and the memorable moniker of Sweethearts of the Rodeo, solidified their position as “most likely to succeed” on the strength of one hit album.

Like many of their classmates, the Sweethearts’ debut Columbia lp is devoid of lush production, spotlighting instead the serene sibling harmonies, hard-strummed acoustic guitars and carefully-crafted Country lyrics. Almost unfailingly touted as the female Everly Brothers, sisters Janice Gill and Kristine Arnold have carved their own niche characterized by their distinct, individualistic styling and throbbing, high-energy live show which has successfully been transmitted onto their audio product.

While their look is California contemporary and their sound is new edge Country at its best, the sisters have been perfecting their craft for better than 20 years. Kristine and Janice Oliver began performing together in church when they were seven and nine years old. The response was so great that the Southern California siblings knew they had something, and began performing together regularly. They sang all through high school, and while influenced by a number of popular artists, they focused on music with a Country flavor.

“We listened to Hank Williams, Bob Wills, The Beatles, Linda Ronstadt, Tracy Nelson, Emmylou Harris and Crosby, Stills and Nash,” Janice explained. “Bob Dylan was a tremendous influence on us stylistically and in our phrasing.” She added that bluegrass was a very important influence on the twosome, especially on her own flat-picking style of guitar playing.

The name of the duo was lifted from an album of the late 60s titled SWEETHEART OF THE RODEO — a pioneer effort of Gram Parsons and The Byrds. Although still in high school, the teenagers chose this name to represent their musical sound. “Kristine and I have a certain sound, because we’re sisters,” Janice stressed, “and we’ve always had a certain style. You put that against a rocking Country sound with more of a rock edge, and you’re gonna come up with a combination that’s called the Sweethearts.” “We also have a little of that California twang in it,” Kristine added.

The Sweethearts built a steady following in the Los Angeles area by performing in any venue — shopping



malls, bluegrass festivals and pizza parlors. It was their steady pizza parlor gig which back-fired on them. “We played there for two years until we got fired because there were too many people coming in to see us and they couldn’t handle the crowd,” Janice laughed.

Janice met her husband, RCA recording artist Vince Gill, when she and Kristine were playing a club called Sweetwater in Redondo Beach. She was also responsible for introducing her sister to rock guitarist Leonard Arnold, whom Kristine later married. When Vince signed with RCA Records/Nashville in 1982, Janice moved south with her husband. “Kristine and I had decided to take some time off because things were not happening for Country artists in LA after the Urban Cowboy craze ended. That way Vince could be close to RCA and I could check things out for Sweethearts,” Janice explained. The atmosphere in Nashville seemed so receptive to the Sweethearts’ kind of music that she persuaded Kristine and Leonard to make the move.

Kristine added, “I moved to Nashville in January, 1985 and we went to work immediately. Bonnie

SWEETHEARTS
of the Rodeo

Janice Gill
and
Kristine Arnold


Garner (then of CBS Records) and Mary Martin told us about the Wrangler Country Showdown talent contest and urged us to enter." The singing sisters entered the local contest, and in November of that year were chosen as winners over 151,000 contestants.

A recording deal with Columbia Records followed and a chance to work with producers Steve Buckingham and former Emmylou Harris band member Hank DeVito. The result is the critically-acclaimed debut lp SWEETHEARTS OF THE RODEO, which yielded three hit singles, "Hey Doll Baby", "Since I Found You", and their current chart-climber "Midnight Girl/Sunset Town". Their sudden success also meant constant touring, opening across the country for the likes of Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings and George Jones.

While their success has brought tremendous perks, one disadvantage is that the sisters must balance an escalating career with their continuing roles as wives and mothers while spending a major portion of their time away from home. "It's very difficult," Janice maintains. "That's probably our one disappointment in all these good things is having to leave our little girls (Kristine's is three, Janice's is four) at home. Especially because our husbands are both in the business and also have to travel quite a bit." Because the sisters are very close, they have a support system between themselves to try and keep each other bouyed up.

They also share many common interests, such as designing and sewing their own clothes and song-writing. "I was fortunate to have two songs on our first album and I have written several songs for the next album," Janice pointed out. She and Kristine have co-written a song which they are also hoping will appear on the next album. "We've been sewing and designing our own clothes, too, almost as long as we've been singing," Janice said. "And we knit," they both declared. They use the down time on the road to co-write songs and knit. Janice is also very intrigued with the production side of the business, while Kristine's interests lie more in the performance side.

While they have conquered so many mountains together, their next major goal is converting their audience into Sweetheart fans. "So far we've been playing to Willie Nelson fans," Janice remarked. "We'd really like to step out on the stage and have all Sweethearts of the Rodeo fans someday soon."

Like other family acts, the bond is very close with Sweethearts. "That's why we're doing this today," Kristine mused. "Because we shared a dream of recording and performing. I wouldn't want to do it by myself, without Janice sharing it with me — the two of us together." 

— Judi Turner

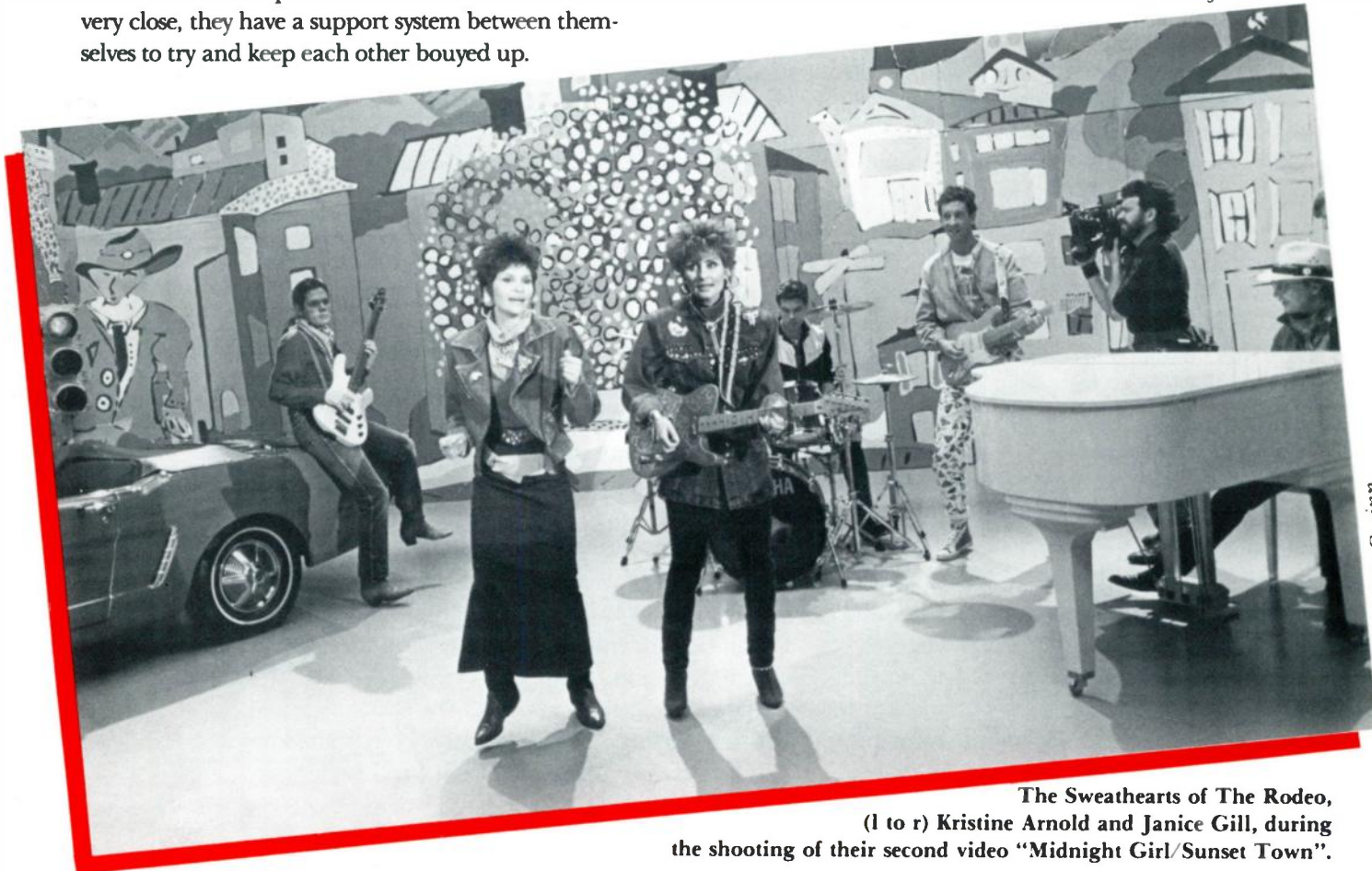


Photo by: Beth Gwinn

The Sweethearts of The Rodeo, (l to r) Kristine Arnold and Janice Gill, during the shooting of their second video "Midnight Girl/Sunset Town".

1986 An Exciting Year For Country Music

An almost unprecedented spirit of excitement prevailed throughout the industry in 1986, fueled in large part by the emergence of nearly two dozen new, young artists. The past year may well prove to be the most significant twelve months of this decade for Country Music.

The year was characterized by catchwords such as "The New Traditionalism" and "New Edge Music", both an attempt to capture the spirit which dominated every phase of the industry. Virtually every record label mounted campaigns built around their emerging artists with titles such as "Horizons '86", "Rising Star" and "The New Tradition". The new sound both boosted record sales and attracted a new buyer.

It was a year of building for the future — of infusing fresh, vibrant sounds into Country Music. Noted journalist Robert K. Oermann reported in a year-end review in *THE TENNESSEAN* that "23 acts previously unknown in the upper reaches of the popularity charts scored top-20 Country hits in 1986. That number is unprecedented in Country history, the next closest number being the dozen new hit-makers who appeared at the dawn of the decade." Little-known acts such as T. Graham Brown, Holly Dunn, Steve Earle, Lyle Lovett, Pake McEntire, The O'Kanes, Restless Heart, Judy Rodman, SKO, Southern Pacific, Sweethearts of the Rodeo and Dwight Yoakam made a significant impact on the industry.

Almost certainly, however, the success story of 1986 was newcomer Randy Travis, who epitomized the current mood of the industry. Only a year ago, the 27-year-old Travis was cooking catfish and hamburgers in a Nashville night-spot. Today he is being lauded as the heir apparent to the Country

Music throne. Among his more notable achievements of 1986 were four CMA nominations culminating in winning the Horizon Award, being named Most Promising New Male Artist by the Academy of Country Music, three number one singles from his debut chart-topping album and being selected the newest cast member of the Grand Ole Opry. His debut Warner Bros. lp *STORMS OF LIFE* attained gold status after only five months on the charts and is likely to garner sales of one million units shortly. It was critically acclaimed as one of the best albums of the year by virtually every reviewer.

While Randy stood at the forefront of the traditional, back-to-basics movement, a new breed of artists led by Steve Earle and Dwight Yoakam reached out to rock fans with their hard-edged music. They attracted vast numbers of young fans and legions of non-Country press along the way. *ROLLING STONE*, *SPIN*, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, *TIME*, *NEWSWEEK* and *THE LOS ANGELES TIMES* devoted pages to these Country rockers.

And acts who emerged since 1980 continued to make strong showings in 1986. The Judds,

Alabama, Reba McEntire, George Strait and Ricky Skaggs led the way for the new generation of entertainers through strong record sales, radio and video air play and concert attendance. Reba McEntire was named Female Vocalist of the Year by both CMA and ACM and captured CMA's coveted Entertainer of the Year commendation. George Strait was both organizations' Male Vocalist and Alabama was voted ACM's prestigious Entertainers of the Year for an unprecedented fifth time. Perennial favorites Hank Williams, Jr. and Ronnie Milsap continued strong showings with gold albums and numerous hit singles. Pop



Photo by: Jon D'Amelio

Country prodigy Marty Stuart rocks the house at 1986 CRS New Faces Show.

veterans Dan Seals, Billy Joe Royal, Lionel Richie, Michael Johnson, Nicolette Larson, Paul Davis and Anita Pointer grabbed headlines with successful Country releases.

According to year-end concert figures recently released by POLLSTAR and AMUSEMENT BUSINESS, Alabama, Kenny Rogers and Willie Nelson placed highly in the year-end concert income rankings. In POLLSTAR's list of the year's most successful tours, Alabama, who grossed \$16.6 million, is listed as having the fourth most successful concert tour of the year. Ranking in the first three positions are pop/rock superstars Z.Z Top (\$24.3 million), Van Halen (\$23.5 million) and Neil Diamond (\$17.3 million). Rogers was in fifth place on the chart. Nelson figured in at 22nd.

In the AMUSEMENT BUSINESS ranking, Alabama places third, with Rogers coming in at fifth.

The tone for the year was set early in February when the results of the national Harris Poll demonstrated that Country Music is clearly the most popular in the U.S. today. Fifty-nine percent said they liked Country Music, and 27 percent named it as their favorite. A nationwide market structure study commissioned by CMA in the spring re-affirmed Country Music's broad appeal. In fact, five of 10 consumers rated that they strongly liked Country Music, while acceptance of the music was not limited to specific demographic segments. It pointed out conclusively that there is great growth potential for Country Music.

Country radio remained stable with 2,275 full-time stations. The Country Radio Seminar and Music Industry Professional Seminar in March attracted a record 802 registrants. Contributing to the unqualified success of the three-day

seminar was a commitment to the recurring theme that Country Music is alive and well. That same theme dominated CMA's landmark series of regional marketing roundtables held throughout the summer and fall in various parts of the country.

Attendance at Country-related special events broke records on a consistent basis. More than 21,500 fans attended the International Country Music Fan Fair in Nashville in June. Alabama's June Jam and WWVA's Jamboree in the Hills drew unprecedented audiences. Attendance at both Opryland and the Country Music Hall of Fame was up by 10 percent. Dollywood, the brainchild of superstar Dolly Parton, opened its doors in May and drew more than one million visitors its first year.

Country Music's exposure on television was greatly heightened by specials by Dolly Parton, Alabama

Jennings, June Carter Cash, Jessi Colter, David Allan Coe and John Schneider starred in the television remake of the film classic "Stagecoach" which proved to be a ratings success. Cash and Kristofferson also starred in tv's "The Last Days of Frank and Jesse James".

The Nashville Network celebrated its third anniversary in March as one of Country Music's most phenomenal success stories. With more than 25 million viewers, TNN was the number one rated basic cable network in prime time in both April and July. Country Music is the only form of music with its own variety television channel.

Country Music gained greater acceptance worldwide in 1986. In March, the five major UK labels united in a major merchandising push, "Discover New Country". Co-



and Barbara Mandrell and the Mandrell Sisters. Gary Morris starred in ABC's primetime soap "The Colbys", while Tammy Wynette had a recurring role in CBS's afternoon soap "Capitol". Both Lane Brody and Tanya Tucker guest-starred on primetime series. Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Waylon

sponsored by CMA, the campaign proved an enormous success resulting in increased record sales and unprecedented media coverage. The campaign will be continued in 1987 with a major tour tie-in. Ricky Skaggs continued his global assault last year with a return to the United Kingdom and the release of his LIVE IN LONDON lp.

Down under, radio station 3UZ in Melbourne, became Australia's second full-time Country station. Ratings doubled since changing formats in December, 1985. New Zealand gained its first full-time Country station late in the year.

Perhaps the event with the most significant international import was Capitol/EMI America/Manhattan Records' international conclave held in Nashville in August. It was the first time an international meeting had been hosted by a label's Nashville operation. More than 100 delegates representing 35 countries attended. Said Nashville label president Jim Foglesong of the meeting's impact on Country Music: "Hopefully more product will be released around the world and some of the artists will get major pushes."

There has never been a more exciting time to be a part of Country Music. We are poised on the cutting edge of a dynamic future. The momentum begun in 1986 should continue to accelerate right through 1987. We are finding new ways of recording music and are open to new technologies and many different sounds in music. Yet our progress is underscored by a strong sense of preservation of the past. The new generation of artists,

while influenced by a number of music forms from Country to rock to jazz and soul, is deeply committed to preserving the roots of the music form.

Country's appeal and influence will continue to broaden. The diversity of styles and artists have proven that Country is in no manner an isolated, ethnic format, but mass appeal music. The future is indeed bright for Country Music.

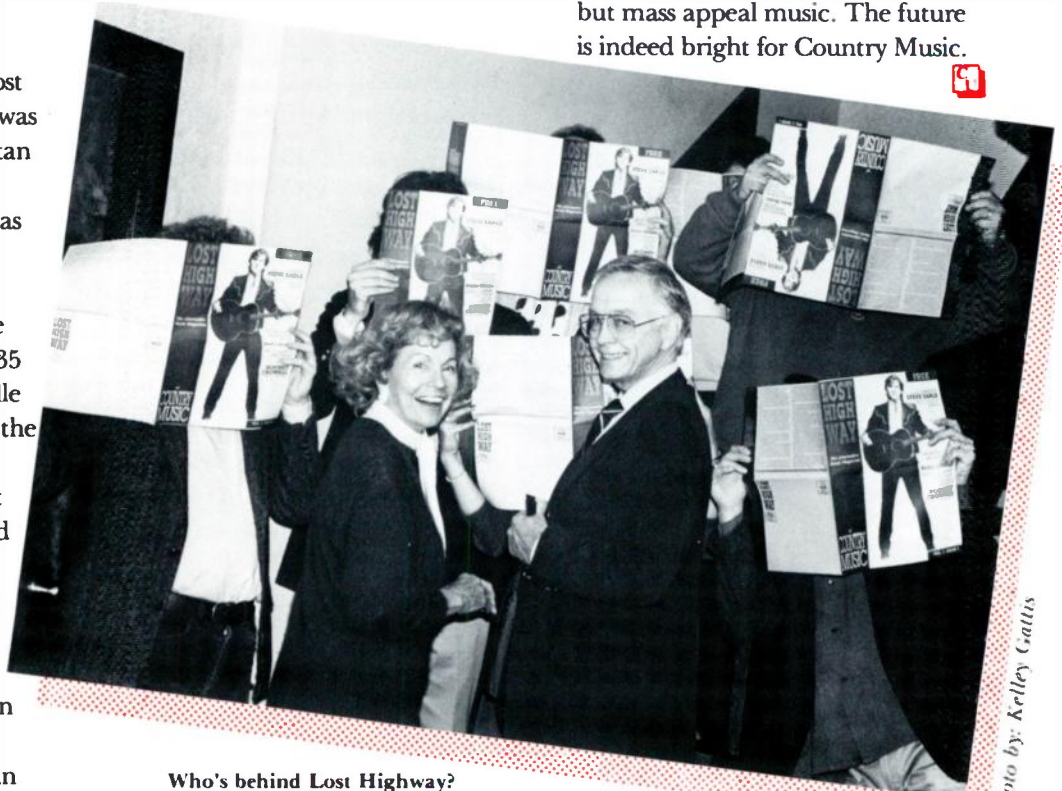


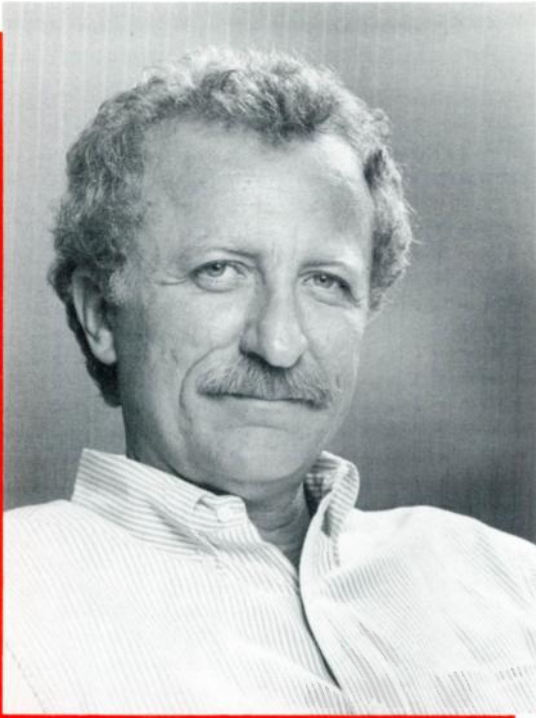
Photo by: Kelley Gattis

Who's behind Lost Highway?
CMA Executive Director Jo Walker-Meador and CMA Chairman Jim Foglesong search for the true identity of Lost Highway's Editorial Committee. Hiding behind the debut issue of CMA's landmark new publication are: Walter Campbell, Kyle Young, Judi Turner, Randy Goodman, Jeff Walker, Bill Brunt and Jane Cleveland.



Photo by: Alan Mayor

Uh...Steve. I'm Mike, not Wayne. The January issue of CLOSE UP incorrectly identified the panelists in this picture. Seated (l to r) at CMA's November Roundtable are Steve Earle; Bruce Hinton of MCA Records/Nashville; Jim Powers of the Handleman Company/Troy, Michigan; Mike Chapman of WUBE Radio/Cincinnati; and songwriter Lisa Silver.

Bob McDill

The following interview appeared in the DECEMBER 1986 issue of MUSIC CITY TRAX FAX. It is reprinted with permission. For more information contact Quinton Q. Qualls, Jr., c/o Denny Music Group, 39 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 256-3558.

Songwriters all over the world have been inspired by the works of a soft-spoken, articulate man named Bob McDill. One can hardly pick up a Country album recorded in the last 10 years and not find a song credited to McDill. From "I Believe In You" to "Good Ole Boys Like Me", from "Baby's Got Her Blue Jeans On", to "Rake And Ramblin' Man", McDill's work has given new life to an old art form and made Country Music stray for the better from some of its more conventional parameters.

TF: Well, Bob, for all those folks who write songs and want to be like

Bob McDill . . . how did Bob McDill become Bob McDill?

BM: I've said this a number of times, but it's like the old country preacher who says he tried to be a lawyer and he tried to be a carpenter and he tried to be a veterinarian. He just had to give up and become a preacher because God wanted him to . . . Being a songwriter you have to give up and say "I'm not happy being anything else, so I'm gonna have to do it."

TF: You're in an inner circle, if you will, of writers who have accomplished something, whose names are synonymous with success . . . What did it take to get into that circle? Fate? Luck? Any combination of those?

BM: I don't think it was luck or fate. I think it's hard work, perseverance, putting the hours in, that's a big part of it. The other part of it is listening to yourself and having the stupidity or courage to write something that's not the same old run-of-the-mill schlock, to enjoy writing something that's a little different, a little left field and then be lucky enough to have some of those things hit.

TF: Your song structures are very often unconventional, left field. Do you think that new writers can get away with that? Can they risk that?

BM: If it feels good do it, that's the rule. You start off with a little germ or fragment of melody and/or lyric and whatever it takes to enhance that piece, uh, as we say, "to not mess it up" that determines the structure, not some preconceived notion that you've got. The idea determines what the form is gonna be.

TF: So you're going by your own instincts?

BM: Yeah.

TF: How about your work

habits? You're known as one of the writers who comes in, sits down, writes every day . . . At least, that's the legend, as if it was going to the store and stocking the shelves for eight hours.

BM: Oh, that's not so unusual. So does Charlie Black and Rory Bourke, and Dickey Lee and Tommy Rocco and Wayland Holyfield . . .

TF: Is that something that a novice writer should do?

BM: Yeah, they ought to, if they intend to make a living at it.

TF: You really see it like a job.

BM: Well, it's not like making a living . . .

TF: I only ask that because there's a romance involved with being a writer and people get distracted by that, "oh, we're creative people and we just sit around and think up stuff." What you're talking about would no doubt be disappointing to some who have that notion.

BM: If you want to be a professional songwriter, that's what the term means, you've got to work at it every day just like anything else. There are those who sit around waiting for inspiration and drink beer all day, but their careers are very spotty. It's just that simple. I read an interview with John Updike recently, and he's, what 67 now, and he said the hardest thing was walking upstairs after breakfast every morning to his study to work, but he makes himself do it, after 30 years.

TF: Let's talk about the business itself. Novice writers hear us talk about "music business", but still get distracted by the glamour of it all. What about the business? How much politicking is involved in being a professional songwriter?

BM: I think that's what publishers are for. I don't think

writers should even worry about the politics of the business any further than getting a deal with a good publisher. Then your political problems are over. Your only problems then are making sure the song pluggers in that company give you a fair shake and like your songs as much as the guy down the hall. But for a novice writer to come to town and think that he's gonna impress Kyle Lehning with one of his songs is absolute fantasy. He needs to be trying to get a gig at Welk or Tree or Combine, which usually takes several years truthfully, and most people who come here never get on with a publisher.

TF: What I'm hearing you say is that without a major association....

BM: Very hard. Not impossible, but very hard.

TF: How much support does a publisher owe a writer?

BM: Well, he better do what they expect him to do if the guy has a track record

TF: But for a new writer

BM: A new writer's not gonna get the attention that a veteran writer will get because his songs probably aren't as good, he's still gonna be learning what makes songs commercial, but as soon as the songs are good, I'll guarantee you at that level who you are makes no difference at all, it comes down to who has the song.

TF: How easy is it for Bob McDill to get songs cut because he's Bob McDill?

BM: Really hard, just as hard as it ever was. The only difference now is that I get listened to easier, but that doesn't get 'em cut and there are songs I've written that the pluggers around here don't play anybody 'cause they don't think they're hits, and they don't want to waste their time. I have to keep my mouth shut and then a couple of weeks later I realize that I was too

close to it, and they were right, the songs are flat.

TF: Every writer gets blocked. How do you deal with that?

BM: I usually get these long term things, it's not just a day long, but that's not a real block. I get these things that go on for months. Not that I can't write, but everything seems contrived. One of the secrets to any block is to write yourself out of it and one of the best ways to do that is to line up a bunch of co-writers and hack out a bunch of songs. Takes the pressure off.

TF: It's a business we take seriously, but we shouldn't take it too seriously. Is that what you're talking about?

BM: It has to feel good. You have to enjoy it and if you're not, it won't be there on the tape.

TF: Do you ever tailor write?

BM: Not too much. There are some who are good at that, but it just stops me up.

TF: Don Williams is obviously a fan of your writing, and I wondered if after your initial success with him you didn't start writing with him in mind on later songs.

BM: Everything I ever wrote for him, he didn't like. He said it was too bland. Then I pitched him something like "Do I Look Like A Daddy To You", which he retitled "Rake and Ramblin' Man", and he cut it.

TF: The first time I heard that song I said, "that's perfect" and when I checked to see who wrote it the credit read "Bob McDill" and I thought to myself, "boy, Bob McDill must have Don Williams' number".

BM: Well, you and he both knew more about what he needed than I did.

TF: During the time you were having great success in Country

Music, you weren't listening to Country Music. Is that true?

BM: Not when I started. Neither was Don, or Allen Reynolds, or . . . none of us did, we all came out of a folk background, not a Country background and all those early records were Nashville folk music.

TF: What about the fact that the "new" thing in Country Music is the "old" Country Music, Randy Travis, Dwight Yoakam, et al?

BM: I don't like that movement at all. I think they're spinning their wheels. Whatever that genre is I don't think it's the town's savior. Everybody is trying to save the town and save the music even though the only category that outsells or outplays Country Music is top 40 rock. So thousands of brilliant people have moved here because this is one of the last places on earth where music that is palatable to the adult ear is being created and there's this fear that if we don't expand the market they're all going to go back home. But I don't think the answer is taking old Hank Williams' songs and dressing some guy up in fashionable clothing and trying to woo the 12 - 16 middle class white girl. I have a 12 - 16 middle class white girl and she's not the least bit interested in that kind of thing.

TF: That's not the future of

BM: I'll tell you what Country kids listen to . . . Alabama. They found all these kids who were circling the Dairy Queens all over the world and nobody was making records for them . . . Hank Jr. . . . Good old boys in four wheel drives know he's talking to them. I don't know. I think some people are trying to create acts and it's really just wishful thinking. I also think they're looking in the wrong place. There's an audience of 25 - 35 year

(continued on page 12)

JAY KINDER



It kind of blew my mind to know that enough people in the business like me enough to vote for me," exclaimed KJNE, Waco, Texas, air personality Bill Kinder, of his nomination for a 1986 CMA Broadcast Personality of the Year Award.

"I really didn't take the nomination seriously until the very end, and after my name kept popping up on the nominations list, I started getting my hopes up," he said, asserting that the three air personalities who topped out in the final battle were all super guys.

Regardless of whether he has an award to show it, Kinder is considered something of a super guy himself. Due to his programming expertise, he has helped his station capture the number one position in the market; the station signed on

the air in March of 1984, taking on as its major competition Country outlet KNFO. "When we came in, two weeks prior to a rating period, we showed up with a 2.3 in the books," commented Kinder, pointing out that KNOF had a 17.1 and was the number one station overall in Waco. "The following spring, we were number one in the market with a 17.6, and this past spring we

remained in that position with a 17.2," Kinder explained.

While his given name is Bill Kinder, he is known to his listeners as the "Jay" on KJNE's morning program "The Jane and Jay Show". Referring to his on-air personality, Kinder says that he's not much different on the air than he is off. "Jane (recent Baylor University graduate Robin Clark) and I have a ball doing what we do, and that is transmitted to our audience," said Kinder, adding that KJNE is an entertainment-only station. "We do no news, no sports — we're dj's and records 24 hours a day!"

It must be a tough job working for a station in the number three Country ranked market in the nation. Tough? Frightening may be a more fitting description! At least for Kinder, who says he's gone to great lengths to capture his


audiences: this past summer Kinder wrestled an 8-foot grizzly bear in a local mall, while partner Jane was on the sidelines presenting a live broadcast. And one day, he broadcast from a cross country motorcycle race while actually riding a motorcycle in the race.

"I was in radio when Shirley (Kinder's wife of seven years, who he more commonly refers to as his 'radio widow') and I were dating," Kinder relayed, "so she knew what she was getting into, or better yet, what she wasn't getting into."

The father of 2-year-old "T.W." Troy William, Kinder jokingly said he entered the radio business in high school because he found out that he could get out of school a half day by working at a radio station.

While Kinder has worked the Country format "95 percent" of his career, he began at KYXS AM/FM, a rock 'n roll station in his hometown of Mineral Wells, Texas. "At the time that was the thing to do, especially since that was the only job open in the market at the time."

Upon entering radio, Kinder decided he liked the medium and would make a career of it by attending Texas Christian University. After studying radio broadcasting, he returned to KYXS, which had changed to a Country format, as program director. He remained at KYXS until he joined KJNE in 1983.

Kinder is just as enthusiastic about radio today as when he began his career. While his station's quick rise in the ratings war portrays Kinder's excellent ability as a leader, it is his overall sense of enthusiasm that makes him a favorite among his peers. 

— Kelley Gattis

Station WDAF

It seems Royals baseball isn't the only love in Kansas City, Missouri. At least according to PD Don Crawley of the city's number one radio station, WDAF, who claims Country Music is positioned high on the city's list of favorites.

"Kansas City is a hard-core baseball town. Everybody, even those who don't like the sport, keep track of the world champion Royals," said Crawley. "And I think that probably is the reason we were down in the spring Arbitron ratings . . . a majority of our audience was listening to the games on KMBC during the ratings period."

While WDAF took a step backwards during last spring's Arbitron sweep, the station regained its composure in the summer books, going from an 8.5 to a 10.3. According to Crawley, WDAF has had two down books in the last seven years, with both of those coming in the spring — the peak baseball season.

A 5,000-watt AM Country outlet, WDAF — "61 Country" — has been Country formatted full-time for 10 years. But, in Crawley's opinion, it wouldn't be unreasonable to say the station has been Country for 65 years. That is, if you look back at all the barn dance shows and Country specials the station aired back in the early days.

The leader in the adults 25 - 54 race this past summer, 61 Country also placed number one adults 18+, 35 - 64, and tied for first 25 - 49. Explaining that WDAF shares listeners with virtually every station in the market, Crawley described the station's average listener as "someone who, at the very least, has a tolerance for Country Music, and probably likes it a lot."

"We have people who are classical music fans who turn on our station," concluded Crawley.

Maybe it's WDAF's on-air philosophy that makes it a favorite in Kansas City. When queried about the type of Country Music — traditional, contemporary, Country rock, etc. — that the station plays, Crawley asserted that the station doesn't place a definition on the music, but rather plays what works best for it. "We play songs our listeners want to hear.

"Our playlist varies from week to week. If there's a lot of good product, it tends to get a little bit long, if there isn't, the playlist is short," commented Crawley.


While it is important to meet the wants of your audience, Crawley regards awareness — "getting your name out in front of the public" — as one of the most important tasks of a radio station. "Of course, we promote our station the usual ways, through TV and billboards, but we also do an awful lot of personal appearances," Crawley said.

"We present virtually all the Country concerts that come to town. And, we even do some things that aren't Country . . . like the time we worked with Mitch Miller and the Kansas City Philharmonic."

Using the motto, "be prepared", WDAF's air personalities spend two to three hours per day scripting each of their programs. "It takes a pretty special jock to work here. If all you have is a great voice and the ability to read liner cards, then you can't add that extra dimension that establishes a rapport with the listeners and makes this a very special radio station," stated Crawley, explaining that WDAF's listeners, like everyone else, have an insatiable thirst for news, gossip and other tidbits of information about Country Music performers and their music. "In fact, Crawley said one of the station's most popular contests is Country Trivia.

Relaying that "the song is everything in Country Music," Crawley said that WDAF's air personalities always identify songs. "We even talk about the songwriters, the album and the musicians playing on the cuts."

Whether on the air or out among their public, it is apparent that WDAF's staff regards their job only with the highest of standards.

"WDAF is a very, very unusual radio station and probably couldn't be duplicated," Crawley said confidently. "In all, we're just striving to be a reflection of Kansas City!" 

— Kelley Gattis



WCAO, Baltimore, Maryland raised more than \$400,000 in a 12 hour radio-thon and concert featuring Lee Greenwood to benefit The Children's Cancer Foundation, Inc. Pictured during the benefit (l to r) are Greenwood and WCAO Program Director Johnny Dark.

Back-To-Back Breakers

Holly Dunn

- ★ A minister's daughter, Dunn is not only considered an invigorating Country singer, but a prolific tunesmith; she's co-written tunes recorded by Louise Mandrell ("I'm Not Through Loving You Yet"), Terri Gibbs ("An Old Friend") and the Whites ("Daddy's Hands").
- ★ Dunn holds a degree in advertising/public relations from Abilene Christian College. While at the university, she performed frequently on campus to rave reviews and recalls, "One of the songs I sang at my first show was 'Please, Mister,

Please'. I went out to the parking lot the next morning and there was my '64 Riviera — totally wrapped in toilet paper, with 'Hooray Olivia Newton-Dunn' written on every window in shoe polish."

- ★ One of the first things Dunn received after being named a 1987 Grammy finalist was a cake baked out of ginger bread graham cracker flour and shaped like an E. The cake, appropriately dubbed a "Graham - E", was given to her by brother, Chris (Waters) Dunn and his wife, Vonda.



Sawyer Brown popped in to surprise Exile during a K-102 sponsored concert in Minneapolis. Pictured backstage after the show are Dave Malmberg, program director of K-102 (far right) with members of Exile and Sawyer Brown hamming it up for the camera.

Bob McDill

(continued from page 9)

olds out there that can't find anything to listen to. Nobody's tapped that yet.

TF: A new writer gets 10 minutes with you. He wants to know how to be successful. What do you tell him?

BM: Plan to spend about five years here, like going to school. Get

some mindless job you can whistle through all day and doesn't tax your mind and has no chance for promotion or career. And come home every night and write . . . till ten o'clock. Then go to writer's nights and meet everybody and listen and play your songs.

TF: I think you just cleared up for me, the mystery of why service in the fast food places in Nashville

is so lousy.

BM: I'm just like the old story they tell in California: The man says "I'm an actor" and the other man says "Really? What restaurant?"

TF: That's why it takes 10 minutes to get a whopper at the drive thru window. That guy's back there changing lyrics isn't he?

BM: (Laughs) Probably is.



BEHIND THE LENS

Tammy Wynette has released an hour-long concert on tape. The tape, which includes such hits as "Another Chance" and "My Man" sells for \$29.95.

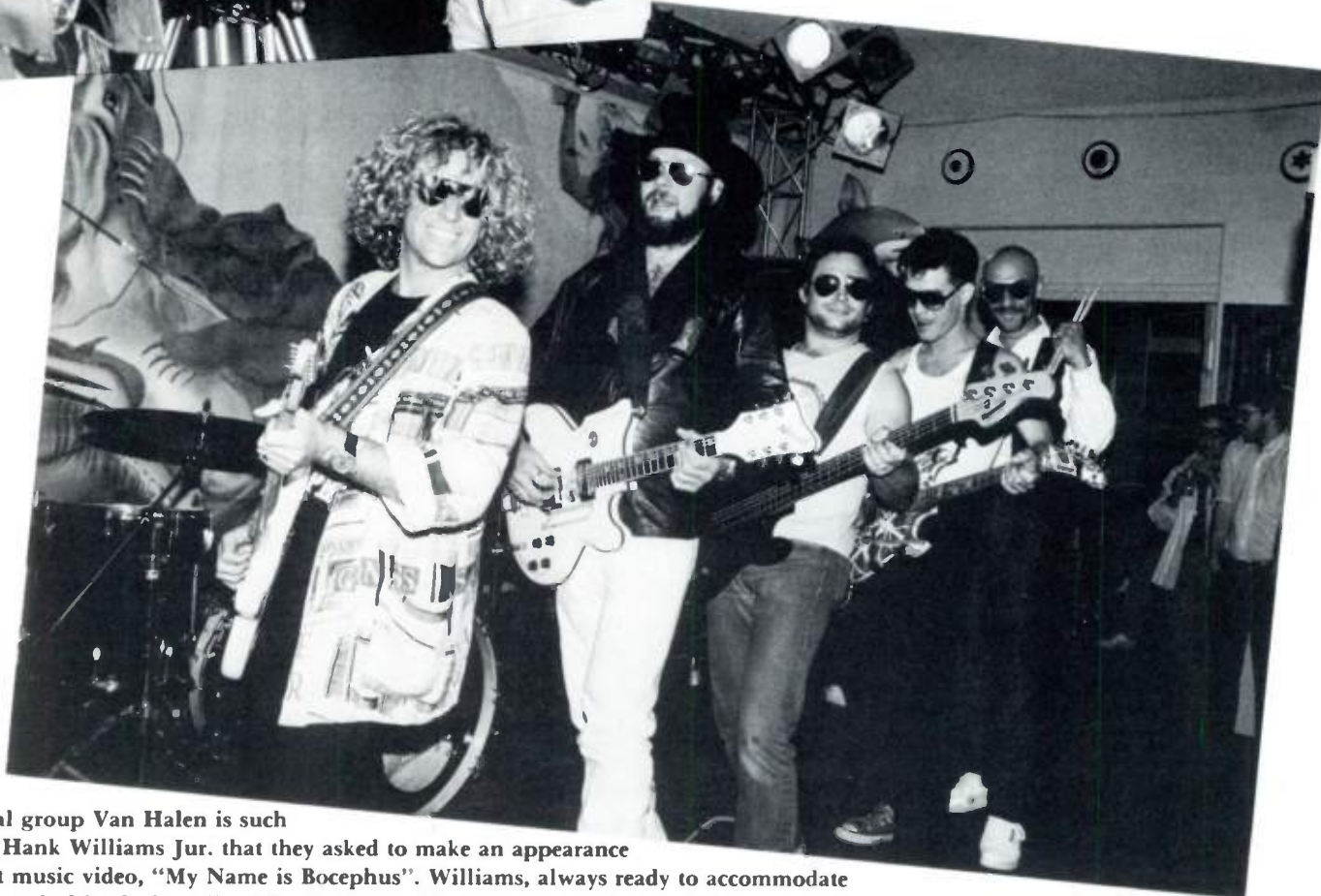
Dwight Yoakam's "Honky Tonk Man" recently claimed the gold award as Country and Western Music Video of the Year by the International Film and Television Festival of New York. The award went to director Sherman Halsey. Halsey is president of Century City Artists Management and Yoakam's manager.

After the filming of his most recent video, "My Name Is Bocephus", Hank Williams, Jr. decided he'd show his fellow video stars a token of his appreciation. Williams sent personal copies of the clip enclosed in hand-made oak casings with attached brass plaques. Receiving these mementos were rock stars Van Halen (Eddie Van Halen, Sammy Hagar, Alex Van Halen and Michael Anthony), actor Dan Haggerty and comedians Gallagher and Bob "Bobcat" Goldthwait. The video was filmed in Van Nuys, CA.

Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris have been working on a video for their "To Know Him Is To Love Him" single, included on their forthcoming TRIO album. George Lucas is directing the video.



During the making of his first video "Countrified" John Anderson is sidelined by (l to r) producer Melissa Reghanti, director of photography Stephen Bower and director Martin Kahan. The video, scripted by Anderson and Kahan, was shot on location in Anderson's hometown of Smithville, Tennessee and in New York City.



Heavy metal group Van Halen is such big fans of Hank Williams Jr. that they asked to make an appearance in his latest music video, "My Name is Bocephus". Williams, always ready to accommodate any of his rowdy friends, happily obliged. Also making appearances in the video are comedians Gallagher and Bob "Bobcat" Goldthwait, actor Dan Haggerty and "Mike Hammer" star Lee Benton. Doing the "Bocephus" during the video shoot are (l to r) Sammy Hagar, Williams, Mark Anthony, Eddie and Alex Van Halen.

Ten of Country's up-and-coming stars will be featured on the annual New Faces Show, to be held Saturday evening, February 21, 1987, during the Country Radio Seminar. Performing before the capacity music industry audience will be Adam Baker, Avista Records; Larry Boone, Mercury Records; Holly Dunn, MTM Records; Lyle Lovett, MCA Records; Girls Next Door, MTM Records; A.J. Masters, Bermuda Dunes Records; Sweethearts of the Rodeo, CBS Records; Keith Whitley, RCA Records; Tom Wopat, EMI Records; and Dwight Yoakam, Warner Bros. Records.

The schedule and organizing chairmen confirmed for the Music Industry Professional Seminar held in conjunction with the Seminar are:

MIPS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Feb. 19
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**THE COUNTRY MUSIC AUDIENCE.
NEW PERSPECTIVES**

Bruce Miller of Chicago's Market Data Corporation highlights the key findings of the CMA- commissioned, in depth national study on consumer attitudes about Country Music. The unique market structure analysis reveals specific opportunities for broadening the reach of Country Music and how to apply them to your part of the business in your market.

Thursday, Feb. 19
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

RADIO AND RETAIL — THE PROFITABLE SYNERGY

A two-hour workshop on how successful radio stations and record merchandisers work together for mutual benefit. Radio can put more buyers in the record outlet — the record sellers can turn more listeners on to the station.

Find out exactly how to put together the station, record company, merchandiser, artist, and manager to create unique events which will enhance the station's identity and make your market more profitable. Lon Helton of RADIO AND RECORDS magazine is moderator. Panelists will be Reba McEntire and Dwight Yoakam; managers Bill Carter/Nashville and Sherman Halsey, Century City Artists/Los Angeles; retailers Barrie Bergman, Record Bar/Durham, North Carolina and Vern Beneke, Camelot Music/Nashville; rack merchandiser Jim Sinclair, Lieberman Enterprises/Dallas; Bobby Kraig, KPLX/Dallas-Fort Worth; Bob Green, WYAY/Atlanta; Neal Spielberg, Warner Bros. Records/Nashville; and Mary Ann McCready, CBS Records/Nashville.

The complete CRS/MIPS schedule is as follows:

Thursday, Feb. 19

11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Registration opens
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. THE COUNTRY MUSIC AUDIENCE. NEW PERSPECTIVES (MIPS)
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. RADIO AND RETAIL — THE PROFITABLE SYNERGY (MIPS)
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Artist-Radio Taping Session
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Newcomers Welcome Session
7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Artist-Attendee Welcome Reception



Friday, Feb. 20

7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast
8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Welcoming Remarks
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Keynote Address — Barbara Mandrell
9:00 a.m. - 12 noon Concurrent sessions
9:00 a.m. - 12 noon HOW TO AVOID "BOXED-IN" THINKING IN BUSINESS AND MARKET PLANNING
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. RADIO AND RECORDS . . . "AND IN THIS CORNER"
10:30 a.m. - 12 noon RESEARCH: AVOIDING PARALYSIS BY ANALYSIS
12 noon - 12:30 p.m. Luncheon presentation
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Concurrent sessions

- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. SELF HELP — HOW TO IMPROVE YOURSELF SO THAT YOU'RE BETTER QUALIFIED TO
PROGRESS TO MANAGEMENT
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. WINNERS
- 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. PROGRAMMING: EVALUATING YOUR RADIO STATION AIR PRODUCT FROM THE GROUND UP
- Saturday, Feb. 21**
- 7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Various announcements
- 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Keynote Speaker — TBA
- 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon Concurrent sessions
- 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon PROGRAMMING: HOW TO GET THERE FROM HERE — MAPPING THE FUTURE OF COUNTRY
RADIO
- 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. SALES-RATINGS . . . LIVING WITH AND WITHOUT THEM
- 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon PROMOTIONS THAT PAY OFF
- 12 noon - 12:30 p.m. Luncheon presentation
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Concurrent sessions
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOPS
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (SPOUSES PANEL) HOW TO BE A BROADCASTER'S BRIDE/GROOM
- 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. REEL UN-FORTUNATE (OR) WHAT DO THESE SPOTS (TV) IN FRONT OF MY EYES REALLY
MEAN?
- 4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closing Address
- 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Cocktail Party
- 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Banquet/New Faces Show



Surrounded by mounds of letters received during the Ronnie Milsap "Video-view" contest on The Nashville Network are (l to r) RCA Division V.P. and General Manager Joe Galante, Milsap and Shelley Mangrum of TNN. Sponsored by RCA Records and Dodge Trucks, the promotion pulled more than 190,000 entries, the largest audience generated by any previous TNN promotion.

On The Move

Sandra Kennedy has been promoted to director of research for ABC Radio Network.

Jeffrey Rowe has been appointed vice president of VH-1/Video Hits One. Roger Rose becomes the newest VJ for the 24-hour video music network.

Joe Smith is now vice chairman and chief executive of Capitol Industries-EMI, Inc. The newly appointed president of the company is David Berman.

GPI Publications has appointed Chris Albano as director of the company's Editorial Services Division.

Jack Tarver has joined Don Light Talent in a liaison position.

Cliff Audretch has been appointed professional manager of Screen Gems/Colgems-EMI Music.

Timothy Weeks has joined Network Ink, Inc. as executive assistant to the president.

Karen Oertley has been named director of marketing for AMUSEMENT BUSINESS, while Beth Jenkins assumes the newly created position of national sales manager. Lesley Shaver has been tapped for the newly created position of directories editorial director for AMUSEMENT BUSINESS, with Rusty Terry being promoted to directories editorial production manager.

W.K. McNeil, president of the Jimmie Rodgers Memorial Association, is the new editor of the JIMMIE RODGERS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER.

Stephen Fehder has joined KNIX, Phoenix, AZ, as a senior account executive. Kurt Viken and Art Morales have been named account executives at the station.

Frank J. Hackinson, president of Columbia Pictures Publications, has been promoted to chairman and chief executive officer.

Seth R. Davis has been tapped as general manager of the Nashville-based Country Music video channel, Country Music Television.

Lou Meux has been named marketing director of WSOC AM/FM in Charlotte, NC.

Jody Williams has been appointed associate director of performing rights for Broadcast Music Inc. in Nashville.

New Companies

"Doc" Dantes, former manager of A&R and publishing for Little Richie Johnson Music, has opened Pro-Demo Studios in Holstein, NE. The company's address is P.O. Box 17, Holstein, NE 68950; (402) 756-5541.

Peter J. Crosa has formed Fan Club Management & Merchandising, P.O. Box 49653, Atlanta, GA 30359. The company's telephone number is (404) 476-0933.

Signings

K.T. Oslin to RCA Records and producer Harold Shedd . . . Rosemary Sharp and Billy Parker to Canyon Creek Records . . . David Frizzell to Compleat Records . . . Barbara Fairchild to Key Talent, Inc. . . . Barbara Mandrell to EMI America Records . . . Riders In The Sky to MCA/DOT Records . . . Big Al Downing to Tessier-Marsh Talent, Inc. . . . Liz Boardo to Master Records, RWL Consultants and producer Don Goodman . . . T.L. Lee to Compleat Records . . . Nanci Griffith and Orleans to Entertainment Artists, Inc. . . . Jim Hawley to the Blade Agency . . . Marty Stuart to Don Light Talent . . . Preston Sullivan to Song Source, Inc. . . . Carl Perkins to Monterey Artists, Inc.

Newsline

The Coca Cola Company has issued a special Carl Perkins commemorative bottle to honor the guitarist, with proceeds from the sale of the bottle going to the Carl Perkins Child Abuse Center in Jackson, TN. Individual bottles are selling for \$10; autographed bottles are \$15 each.

Screen Gems/Colgems-EMI Music, Inc. has entered into a long-term joint venture publishing agreement with The Writers Group in Nashville. The joint venture between the two companies affects writers Thom Schuyler, Fred Knobloch and Al Gore. Under the new agreement, Schuyler's songs will be published by Screen Gems-EMI/Writers Group Music/Bethlehem Music (BMI); Knobloch's songs will be published by Colgems-EMI/A Little More Music (ASCAP); and Gore's material will be published by Screen Gems-EMI/Writer's Group Music (BMI).

Kathy Mattea has been given a customized Chevy Blazer by a West Virginia dealership. She received the Blazer in appreciation for her work promoting West Virginia.

Runner, a five-member band from Rocky Mount, NC, was selected as the winner of the 1986 True Value Country Show-down after a final six band competition aired live on TNN's "Nashville Now" in December. The group will receive \$50,000 from True Value Hardware Stores, the sponsor of the competition, and a recording contract with CBS Records/Nashville.

Lee Greenwood was recently honored by the National League of Families for POWs/MIAs in Southeast Asia for his efforts to increase public awareness of American GIs still unaccounted for by Hanoi. The Washington, D.C.-based organization

RIAA CERTIFICATIONS

Country Gold and Platinum

RIAA Certified Gold

THE TROUBLEMAKER . . . Willie Nelson . . .
Columbia

MONTANA CAFE . . . Hank Williams, Jr. . . .
Warner Bros.

RIAA Certified Multi-Platinum

WILLIE NELSON'S GREATEST HITS (AND
SOME THAT WILL BE) . . . Willie Nelson . . .
Columbia

presented Greenwood with the first edition of the league's newest poster spotlighting National POW/MIA Day in America.

The **National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences** will hold its 1988 Grammy Awards spectacular in New York. The 30th Anniversary presentation will be held at Radio City Music Hall in February, 1988, and will be televised live as a three-hour primetime special on the CBS Television Network.

The **Nitty Gritty Dirt Band** has signed a promotional agreement with **Bib Products, USA**, one of the world's largest manufacturers and distributors of audio and video care products. The Dirt Band embarked on Bib's campaign January 1 and will appear for the next several months promoting Bib's broad line of products designed to safely remove dirt and grit from audio and video equipment.

The **Radio Advertising Bureau** has called the first meeting ever of local (city and metro) broadcasting associations which will take place the day before the 1987 Managing Sales Conference begins (February 6) in Atlanta. The goal of the meeting is to seek ways RAB can help coordinate and support local efforts to bring new advertisers into radio. For more information call RAB at (212) 254-4800.

Randy Travis became the 62nd member of the Grand Ole Opry December 20, 1986. Travis becomes the youngest male member of the cast.

Rosanne Cash was the headline performer at the **Dreamship '86** benefit concert for mentally retarded citizens in Middle Tennessee held December 1st at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Coordinated by **Lorna Greenwood** and **Kathy Shepard** of the group, **Mon Reve**, the benefit netted \$3,000. Other performers included **Lorrie Morgan**, **Holly Dunn**, former Lynyrd Skynyrd drummer **Artimus Pyle**, the **Impressions**, songwriter **Larry Henley** and **Mon Reve**.

Merle Haggard has been added to the endorser list of **Shure Brothers Inc.**, Evanston, IL. Haggard is currently using the Shure SM87 microphone for vocals, and his band's instruments are miked by a wide variety of Shure products.

Elliot Goldman, president and chief executive officer of **RCA/Ariola**, was presented with the 1986 Humanitarian Award from the **AMC Cancer Research Center** at an elegant candlelight ball held at New York's Park Avenue Armory on December 13. Goldman received the award for his ever-present dedi-

cation to enhance AMC's efforts in the battle to control cancer.

The **International Tape/Disc Association's (ITA)** 17th Annual Seminar will be held March 11 - 14 at the Hyatt Regency on Hilton Head, Hilton Head, SC. Using as its theme, "Technology and Marketing: Partnership for the 80s", the conference will feature as keynote speaker **Jack K. Sauter**, who is about to retire as group vice president of **RCA Corp**. Registrations for the seminar are available to executives of ITA member companies at \$750 and to non-member companies at \$900 per person. Further information is available by contacting **Charles Van Horn**, ITA executive director, 10 Columbus Circle, Suite 2270, New York, NY 10019 (212-956-7110; telex:421508); or ITA's European office, c/o Bellevue Studio A/S, Dorteavej 71, DK-2400, Copenhagen NV, Denmark, attention of **Arnold Norregaard**, European vice president (01-19-20-20; telex: 222226).

Keeling & Company, the two-year-old independent catalog and administration firm that handles the publishing companies of such artists/writers as **Joe Sun**, **Phil Madeira** and **Harold Bradley** to name a few, has a new mailing address and phone number: P.O. Box 120717, Nashville, TN 37212; (615) 385-0839.

Carolyn Parks Promotion Co., **Jack Pride Promotions**, and **Tari Laes Co.**, have moved their offices to 1231 17th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212. Jack Pride's phone number remains the same at (615) 320-0878. Carolyn Park's new number is (615) 329-4239, and Tari Laes' new number is (615) 327-7949.

Garth Shaw's Singing Roadie Music, a publishing company, has moved to the West Coast. The new address is 342 Ogle Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627. The new telephone number is (714) 548-1908.

The **Grapevine Agency**, formerly **Sparkle Plenty Music**, has relocated to 1023 S. Main Street, Suite 203, Grapevine, TX 76051. The company's telephone number is (817) 488-4885.



The Maypop Music Group held an open house in October at the publishing company's new offices, located at 702 18th Avenue South/Nashville. Gathered at the opening are (l to r) **Kevin Lamb**, vice president/Maypop Music Group; **Jo Walker-Meador**, executive director/CMA; **Randy Owen**, Alabama; **Joe Talbot/Peer-Talbot Music Group**; **Connie Bradley**, southern director/ASCAP; **Chuck Neese**, professional manager/Maypop Music Group; and **Maggie Cavendar**, executive director/NSAI.

Leroy Van Dyke, Kitty Wells, Johnny Wright, Hank Thompson, Little Jimmy Dickens, Ferlin Husky and Wilf Carter (Montana Slim) recently completed a tour of the north-west United States and Canada. The seven celebrated musicians, who represent a total of 340 cumulative years of talent, played before SRO crowds in Edmonton, Regina, Calgary, Winnipeg, Seattle and Spokane.

Media

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), in conjunction with Media/Professional Insurance, Kansas City, MO, has produced a 60-minute video tape which examines libel and the invasion of privacy. The Gannett Center for Media Studies reports that libel claim costs have skyrocketed from 300 to 400 percent since 1980 and that the cost of defense accounts for 80 percent of the total amount of libel lawsuit. "Staying Out of the Libel Stew" combines actual on-air footage that led to libel suits with observations and comments from a panel of experts. Price of the libel video is \$89.50 (NAB members and universities), \$139.50 (nonmembers). Phone 1-800-368-5644 (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST) for charge orders.

According to Group W. Satellite Communications' analysis of A.C. Nielsen Household Tracking and NSI demographic diary data for the third quarter of 1986 (July - September), more women viewers watch **The Nashville Network** during prime time (Monday - Sunday, 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.) than any other single advertiser-supported network. The A.C. Nielsen Household Tracking data provides audience figures for CBN, CNN, ESPN, Lifetime, TNN, MTV, and USA. TNN, which was available in the third quarter 1986 to 26.9 million U.S. cable households was viewed by 317,000 women 18+ during the average primetime minute, beating out its nearest competitor CNN (viewed by 280,000 women 18+) which was available significantly in more homes (34.9 million). Lifetime, which was available in 26.1 million homes, delivers 156,000 women 18+ in the average primetime minute.

MJI Broadcasting has been officially sanctioned by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) as the producer and syndicator of the 29th annual Grammy Awards radio specials. The series will consist of five, two-hour shows in five different formats to air the weekend prior to the awards, scheduled for February 24. Top contenders in the Country genre will be featured in one of the two-hour shows, which are available on a market exclusive basis: one station per format in each market.

Dolly Parton was named to Ms. magazine's list of Women of the Year, which appeared in the January issue. Parton was awarded the title "for creating popular songs about real women, for turning feminine style into humor and power, and for bringing jobs and understanding to the mountain people of Tennessee (with her theme park Dollywood)."

The 1987 edition of *Cavalcade of Acts and Attractions*, a complete booking sourcebook for talent and entertainment in the mass entertainment industry, has just been published by AMUSEMENT BUSINESS. This annual directory features over 5,500 listings of all types of acts and shows performing in the U.S., Canada and many foreign countries. Copies of the 1987 *Cavalcade of Acts and Attractions* are available for \$40. Orders must be prepaid and sent to: AMUSEMENT BUSINESS, Single Copy Dept., Box 24970, Nashville, TN 37202; or call (615) 748-8120.

The Jim Owens Companies have added a satellite downlink which will allow correspondents for "Crook & Chase" and "This Week In Country Music" to conduct live interviews from wherever entertainment news is breaking.

Gary Morris: A Portrait, a 60-minute special starring one of Country Music's brightest stars, is scheduled to be telecast on **The Nashville Network** in April. The show, taped before a live audience of cable operators attending the 1986 Western Cable Show in December, will feature Morris performing such hits as "Headed for a Heartache", "Second Hand Heart" and "Wind Beneath My Wings", plus several selections from his PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER lp. The performance segment of the show will be blended with Morris commenting about himself and his multi-faceted career.

The Conway Twitty Story, an authorized biography written by Wilbur Cross and Michael Kosser, has been published by Dolphin Books. The 216-page biography includes a 16-page insert with photographs, many never before published. *The Conway Twitty Story*, which sells for \$14.95, is available in local bookstores throughout the U.S.

Tanya Tucker made a guest appearance on the December 27th episode of the new CBS television show *Downtown*, which airs Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. Tucker played the part of a rock singer who was romantically involved with the show's star, Michael Nouri.

WOWQ, DuBois, PA, has added a new show — *Q-102 Talks Country* — to its program lineup. The half-hour talk show, hosted by the 50,000 watt station's music director, Gary Stormer, features a different Country artist each week. Guests on the show have included Keith Whitley, The Kendalls, Razy Bailey, Judy Rodman, Orleans, and many others.

The American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress has published the *American Folk Music and Folklore Recordings 1985: A Selected List*. This illustrated, annotated booklet lists 30 outstanding records and tapes of traditional music and folklore which were released in 1985. To obtain copies please write: Selected List, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

WCAO, Baltimore, MD, recently held a 12-hour Radiothon and concert featuring Lee Greenwood to benefit The Children's Cancer Foundation. More than \$400,000 was raised during the benefit.

A revised edition of *Sing Your Heart Out, Country Boy*, a collection of 343 classic Country lyrics and their stories, has been published by the Country Music Foundation Press. Researched and collected by Dorothy Horstman, the book features anecdotes from the songwriters, or their family or friends, revealing how each song came to be written. Originally published in hardcover by E.P. Dutton in 1975 and paperback by Pocket Books in 1976, the book has been out of print for more than five years. The new 456-page edition includes more than 30 additional songs and a completely revised discography that lists available recordings of the songs in the book. To order, send \$24.95 to Country Music Foundation, Department M, 4 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203. When ordering, enclose \$2 postage and handling and specified title.

New York based ProMedia is offering on a market exclusive basis, *Country Close Up*, a weekly music and interview show. Hosted by RADIO & RECORDS Country editor Lon Helton, the show features candid conversations with the stars, news about the world of Country Music and recent Country hits. Each month T.G. Sheppard hosts *Special Editions* of the show. *Country Close Up* is available for barter. For more information call

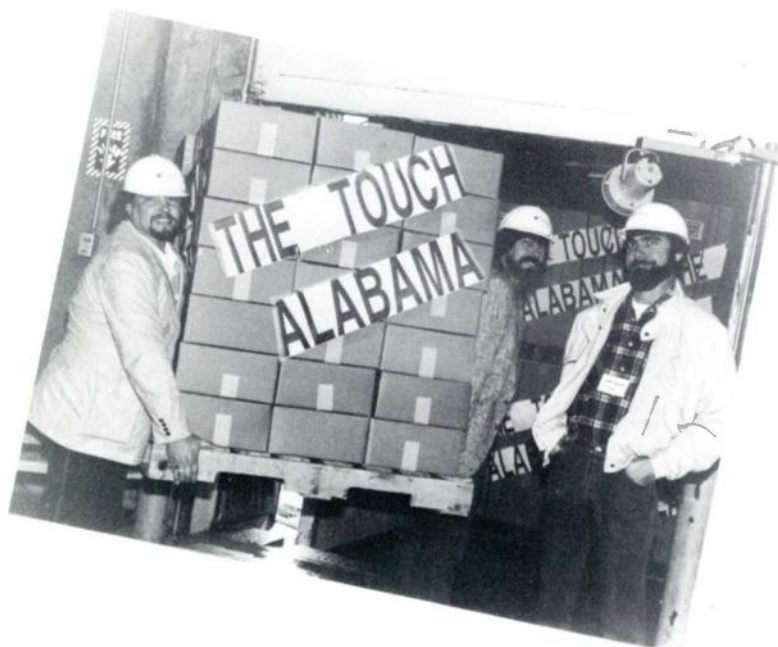
ProMedia at 1-800-782-0700 (in New York call (212) 585-9400).

Nicholas Verbitsky, president, United Stations Radio Networks in New York, has been named chairman of the National Association of Broadcasters' Radio '87 Steering Committee. Radio '87 is scheduled for September 9 - 12 in Anaheim, CA.

John Hartford, best known for penning Glen Campbell's hit tune, "Gentle On My Mind", has written a book, *Steamboat In A*

Cornfield, for Crown Publishers. Selected as one of the best children's books to be published in 1986 by PARENT'S MAGAZINE, the book tells the tale of the palace steamer Virginia's trip up the flooded Ohio River to Willow Grove, WV, where it ran aground. For more information about the book, contact Crown Publishers, Inc., 225 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10003.

Songwriter Dennis Scott's "Always A Friend" was featured on the February 3rd episode of ABC-TV's "Who's The Boss". Ray Charles sang the cut.



Alabama was recently on hand at LaserVideo's newest compact disc plant in Huntsville, Alabama, to load the plant's first CD shipment onto trucks - the first shipment being THE TOUCH, the group's new release. Shown (l to r) are Jeff Cook, Randy Owen and Teddy Gentry.

Western swing kings, Asleep At The Wheel, celebrate signing with CBS Records. Shown (l to r) are Joe Casey, vice president, National Promotion, CBS/Nashville; Roy Wunsch, vice president, Marketing, CBS/Nashville; (front) Larry Hamby, vice president A & R, CBS/Nashville; Rick Blackburn, sr. vice president & general manager, CBS/Nashville and Ray Benson of Asleep At The Wheel.



I N T E R N A T I O N A L

Plans for World Expo 88, to be held April 30 to October 30, 1988 in Brisbane, Australia, are well underway. At press time, 20 nations had committed to participate in the international fest. Carrying a theme of "Leisure in the Age of Technology", World Expo 88 officials are expecting nearly 10 million people to attend the celebration. For further information contact: The Communications Division, World Expo 88, 234 Grey Street, P.O. Box 1988, South Bank, South Brisbane, Queensland 4101, Australia. Telephone: 07-840-1988; telex: AA 141988.

A record \$7.5 million was raised in BBC TV and Radio's "Children In Need Appeal". Boxcar Willie and Johnny Russell joined host Wally Whyton on his Radio 2 Programme "Country Club" for the first two hours of the special. They both manned telephones and took pledges. Promos by Kris Kristofferson, Marie Osmond, The Judds and Mel Tillis were also aired during the benefit.

Bill McLoughlin has opened Ireland's first full-time Country Music club, Wild Bill's Nashville Bar. The club is located in the Phoenix Park Leisure Complex in Dublin.

The 1987 Silk Cut Festival has been announced for April 18 - 20. Some of Country Music's brightest stars will headline the festival at London's Wembley Arena. Following is a lineup for each day: Saturday, April 18 — Boxcar Willie, Tanya Tucker, Riders In The Sky, Patty Loveless, John Schneider, Moe Bandy, Rex Allen, Jr. and Tokyo Matsui; Sunday, April 19 — Jerry Lee Lewis, Bobby Bare, Johnny Russell, Connie Smith, Little Jimmy Dickens, Leon Everette, Wanda Jackson and Tommy Collins; and Monday, April 20 — Emmylou Harris & The Hot Band, Bellamy Brothers, David Allan Coe, George Hamilton IV, Forester Sisters, O.B. McClinton, New Grass Revival and Peter Rowan with Jerry Douglas & Mark O'Connor. Master of Ceremonies for the

three-day festival will be George Hamilton IV. For more information contact Karen Sanders at Mervyn Conn Promotions Limited, M.C. House, 14 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED; telephone 01-930-7502-9.

Ricky Skaggs has been tapped by BBC Radio 2 in Britain to host a second series of radio documentaries investigating the roots of American Country Music from 1920 to 1965. Titled "Hit It Boys", the same title as last summer's five-part Radio 2 series, the '87 version will be networked by the BBC throughout the U.K. and heard also in France and northern Europe. Nick Barraclough, producer of Radio 2 for the BBC, was in Nashville in mid-December to tape Skaggs and guest commentaries from performers and industry VIPs for programs six through 10. The entire "Hit It Boys" series of 10 hour-long episodes will air this summer in the midst of a major promotion campaign to be launched by Radio 2.

The talent lineup for the 1987 All British Country Music Festival, scheduled over the August Bank Holiday — August 28 through 30, 1987 — has been announced. Appearing at the festival will be: Poacher, Stu Stevens, The Down County Boys, Charlie Landsborough, Hickory Lake, Red Moon Joe,

Scenes from Loretta Lynn's recent three-week USO tour.




Photos by: Don Putnam



Frank Jennings and Syndicate, Phil Wallace and Empty Pockets, Tony Best, Kelvin Henderson's Country Band, Yvonne and Norman Champion, Billy Finnegan and Stagecoach featuring Jim Finnegan, Key West, Raymond Froggatt and the Raymond Froggatt Band. Ticket information for the weekend festival can be obtained from: Pavilion Box Office, Worthing Pier. The telephone number is 0903-202221.

The Academy of Country Music Entertainment has changed its name to the Canadian Country Music Association. The organization remains at the same address: P.O. Box 574, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 4A2.

Max Achatz, formerly with Radio Neue Welle Bayern in Munich, West Germany, has joined Radio Gong in Nurnberg, West Germany. In his new position, Achatz is hosting two weekly Country Music shows: "Die Radio Gone Country Ecke" features news from the Country scene and new Country Music; and "Country Jukebox" features all kinds of Country Music, with an emphasis on new Country songs and tomorrow's Country stars. Achatz is currently seeking promotional copies for his weekly shows. All promotional material should be sent to Achatz, c/o Country Jukebox, Maronstrasse 2, 8000 Munich 70, Germany.

Prestige Entertainment Agencies Ltd. have relocated from Victoria, B.C. to Vancouver, B.C. The company's new address and telephone number is: 177 West 7th Avenue, Fourth Floor, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V4Y 1K5; (604) 876-5535. 

U.K. Country Album Chart

CMA's United Kingdom Country Album Chart appears bi-weekly in MUSIC WEEK, the U.K.'s major trade magazine. The charts are compiled by Gallup, the organization which also compiles the British pop charts. Released every two weeks on Thursday, the chart ranks the top 20 Country releases in combined sales of lp's, cassettes and compact discs. The charts are compiled using Gallup's computer-based panel of 250 record outlets combined with 30 Country Music specialist shops, who complete diaries.

TWO WEEKS AGO	THIS WEEK	
		<i>JANUARY 17, 1987</i>
3	1	GUITARS, CADILLACS, ETC., ETC. Dwight Yoakam — <i>Reprise</i>
2	2	SWEET DREAMS Patsy Cline — <i>MCA</i>
1	3	NEW MOVES Don Williams — <i>Capitol</i>
4	4	A CRYSTAL CHRISTMAS Crystal Gayle — <i>Warner Bros.</i>
7	5	THE HEART OF THE MATTER Kenny Rogers — <i>RCA</i>
5	6	STRAIGHT TO THE HEART Crystal Gayle — <i>Warner Bros.</i>
16	7	THE LAST TRAIN TO HEAVEN Boxcar Willie — <i>Spartan</i>
10	8	STORMS OF LIFE Randy Travis — <i>Warner Bros.</i>
6	9	EYES THAT SEE IN THE DARK Kenny Rogers — <i>RCA</i>
11	10	GUITAR TOWN Steve Earle — <i>MCA</i>
15	11	BOXCAR WILLIE Boxcar Willie — <i>MCA</i>
NEW ENTRY	12	BLUE SKIES Willie Nelson — <i>CBS</i>
NEW ENTRY	13	RAINBOW Johnny Cash — <i>CBS</i>
8	14	WINE COLORED ROSES George Jones — <i>Epic</i>
9	15	LOVE'S GONNA GET YA! Ricky Skaggs — <i>Epic</i>
NEW ENTRY	16	REAL LOVE Dolly Parton — <i>RCA</i>
NEW ENTRY	17	LIVE IN LONDON Ricky Skaggs — <i>Epic</i>
19	18	RHYTHM AND ROMANCE Rosanne Cash — <i>CBS</i>
NEW ENTRY	19	THE PROMISELAND Willie Nelson — <i>CBS</i>
14	20	AMBER WAVES OF GRAIN Merle Haggard — <i>Epic</i>

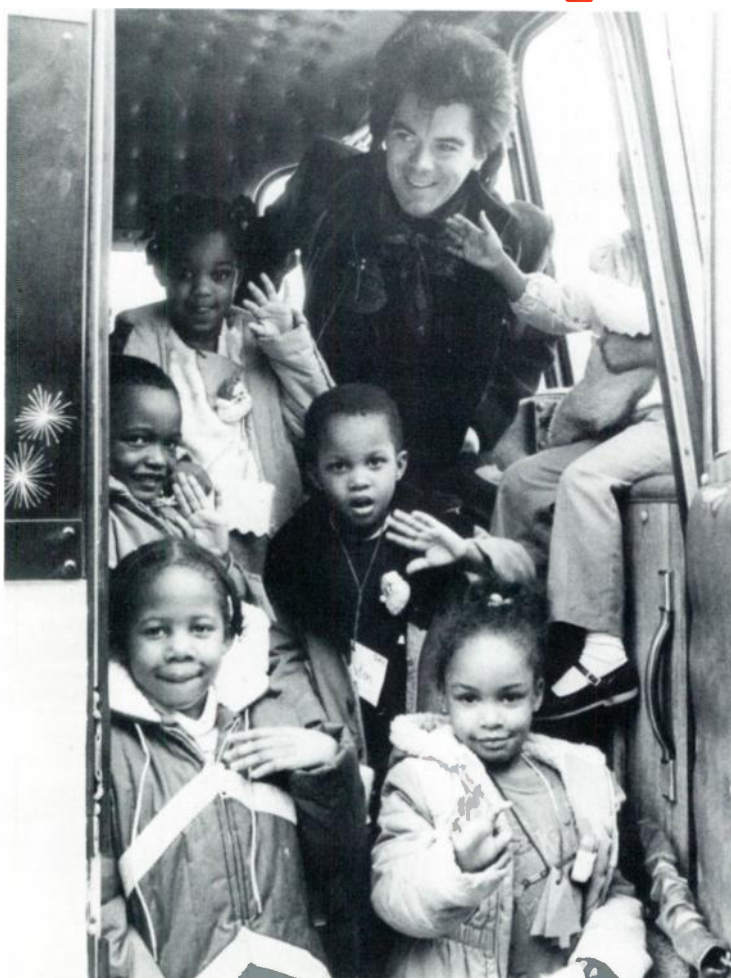


Photo by: Libby Leverett Crew

Marty Stuart treated over 40 four and five year olds from the South Street Community Center in Nashville to a special Christmas outing. Stuart, along with T. Graham Brown, escorted the kids to a movie, arranged for a surprise visit from Santa, then took them all out to lunch.

FEBRUARY

(*denotes birthdays)

- 1 *Don Everly; Brownie, Kentucky
*Ray Sawyer; Chickasaw, Alabama
*Catherine Gregory; Chicago, Illinois
Scotty Wiseman dies of a heart attack, 1981
First insurance policy covering the driver of an automobile is issued, 1898
- 2 *Lester McFarland; Gray, Kentucky
*Howard Bellamy; Darby, Florida
National League is formed with eight baseball teams, 1876
U.S. purchases Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California from Mexico for \$15 million, 1848
- 3 *Norman Rockwell
Buddy Holly dies in a plane crash, 1959
Apollo 14 orbits the moon, 1971
- 4 *Charles Lindberg
Billy Walker employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1960
"The Yellow Rose", Lane Brody's first number one hit, enters the Country Music charts, 1984
George Washington elected as first U.S. President, 1789
- 5 *Claude King; Shreveport, Louisiana
*Mervyn Conn
*Henry Aaron
*Red Buttons (Aaron Chwatt)
*Roger Staubach
- 6 *President Ronald Reagan
Ronnie Milsap employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1976
Conway Twitty and Loretta Lynn make their debut as a duo with "After The Fire Is Gone", 1971
- 7 *Wilma Lee Cooper; Valley Head, West Virginia
*Donna Stoneman; Washington, D.C.
*Charles Dickens
*Buster Crabb
First ballet group formed in the U.S. makes debut performance, 1827
- 8 *Harold "Pappy" Daily; Yoakam, Texas
*Merle Watson; Deep Gap, North Carolina
John Conlee employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1981
The Boy Scouts of America is incor-

porated in the District of Columbia, 1910

- 9 *Ernest Tubb; Crisp, Texas
*Joe Ely; Amarillo, Texas
*Roger Mudd
Bill Hailey dies, 1981
The U.S. Weather Bureau is established, 1870
- 10 *Jimmy Durante
Charlie Louvin employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1955
Eddie Rabbitt tops the Country charts with "Every Which Way But Loose", 1979
"Uncle Art" Satherley dies, 1986
- 11 *Wesley Rose; Chicago, Illinois
*Burt Reynolds
*Thomas Edison
Roger Miller's GOLDEN HITS awarded Gold certification, 1966
- 12 Lincoln's birthday
*Moe Bandy; Meridian, Mississippi
*Stephen H. Sholes; Washington, D.C.
*Charles Darwin
- 13 *Tennessee Ernie Ford; Bristol, Tennessee
*Boudleaux Bryant; Shellman, Georgia
*Jim McReynolds; Coeburn, Virginia
*Kim Novack
ASCAP organized in New York, 1914
- 14 VALENTINE'S DAY
*Razzy Bailey; Lafayette, Alabama
*Joseph Walt; Quantico, Virginia
*Jack Benny
"Kaw Liga" enters the Country Music charts, 1953
- 15 *Hank Locklin; McLellan, Florida
*Susan B. Anthony
"Oh Lonesome Me"/"I Can't Stop Lovin' You", Don Gibson's double-sided hit, enters the Country Music charts, 1958
Canada unfurls its new red and white national Maple Leaf flag, 1965
- 16 *Jimmy Wakely; rural Arkansas
*Jo Walker-Meador; Orlinda, Tennessee
*Jimmy Walker; Ralls, Texas
Don Williams' "Love Me Over Again" hits number one on the Country charts, 1980
- 17 *Johnny Bush; Houston, Texas

- *Buck Trent; Spartanburg, South Carolina
Uncle Jimmy Thompson dies, 1931
"The Tennessee Waltz" declared Tennessee's state song, 1965
Johnny Cash earns his first number one Country hit with "Ballad of a Teenage Queen", 1958

- 18 *Frank "Pee Wee" King; Milwaukee, Wisconsin



- *Juice Newton; Virginia Beach, Virginia
Hattie Louise "Tootsie" Bess dies, 1978
Emmylou Harris' BLUE KENTUCKY GIRL awarded Gold LP, 1981
- 19 *Lee Marvin
Roy Acuff's first Opry appearance, 1938
Elvis Presley's last Country hit tops the charts, 1977
Phonograph patented, 1878
- 20 *Buffy Sainte-Marie
- 21 Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings' "Good Hearted Woman" tops Country charts. Their album WANTED: THE OUTLAWS eventually became Country Music's first platinum album
- 22 *Spade "Donnell" Cooley; Grand, Oklahoma
*Del Wood (Adelaide Hazelwood); Nashville, Tennessee
*George Washington
B.J. Thomas' "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song" enters the Country charts, 1975
- 23 *Rusty Young; Long Beach, California
Porter Wagoner employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1957

Gary Morris' "Baby Bye Bye" hits top spot on BILLBOARD chart, 1985

Dolly Parton's "Here You Come Again" awarded Grammy, 1978

24 B.J. Thomas' "Hooked On A Feeling" awarded Gold single, 1969

Loretta Lynn's "First City" enters Country charts, 1968

25 *Ralph Stanley; Stratton, Virginia
*Faron Young; Shreveport, Louisiana

THE BEST OF THE STATLER BROTHERS RIDE AGAIN, VOLUME 2 awarded Gold album, 1981

26 *Johnny Cash; Kingland, Arkansas



27 *Charles "Chuck" Glaser; Spaulding, Nebraska
*Elizabeth Taylor
*Joan Bennett

28 *Jim Denny; Buffalo Valley, Tennessee

*Joe South; Atlanta, Georgia
Alabama's "The Closer You Get" awarded Grammy, 1984

MARCH

1 *"Cliffie Stone" (Clifford Gilpin Snyder); Burbank, California

*Jim Ed Brown; Sparkman, Arkansas

Johnny Cash and June Carter married in Franklin, Kentucky, 1968

Barbara Mandrell signs her first recording contract, 1969

2 *Arthel "Doc" Watson; Deep Gap, North Carolina

*Larry Stewart (Restless Heart); Paducah, Kentucky

Jim and Jesse McReynold employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1964

The Whites employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1984

3 Buffalo Springfield, early Country-rock band, formed on Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, 1966
Exile's first Country number one "Woke Up In Love" tops the charts, 1984

4 ASH WEDNESDAY

*Bette Davis

"Coal Miner's Daughter", the film version of Loretta Lynn's autobiography, premieres in Nashville, 1980

James "Sleepy" McDaniel dies, 1963

5 *Tommy Cash; Dyess, Arkansas
Patsy Cline, Hawkshaw Hawkins

and Cowboy Copas killed in plane crash, 1963

John Belushi dies, 1982

6 *Bob Wills "The King of Western Swing"; Limestone County, East Texas

*Doug Dillard; Salem, Missouri

*Jerry Naylor; Erath County, Texas

Willie Nelson's "You Were Always On My Mind" enters the charts, 1982

7 *Townes Van Zandt; Fort Worth, Texas

Ernie Ashworth employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1964

Gid Tanner and Riley Puckett make first string band recording for Columbia, 1924

Jack Anglin of the Johnny and Jack duo killed in car accident, 1963

Premiere of The Nashville Network, 1983

8 *Lew DeWitt; Roanoke County, Virginia

*Randy Meisner; Scotts Bluff, Nebraska

*Jimmy Stoneman; Washington, D.C.

*Johnny Dollar

Willie Nelson's "My Heros Have Always Been Cowboys" hits number one on Country charts, 1980

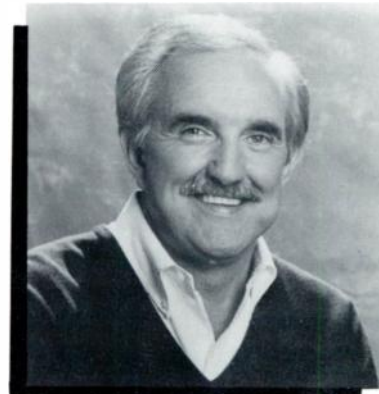
9 *Mickey Gilley; Ferriday, Louisiana

*Jimmie Fadden(NGDB); Long Beach, California

Grand Ole Opry moves from Ryman Auditorium, downtown Nashville, to Opryland park, 1974

10 *Kenneth C. "Jethro" Burns; Knoxville, Tennessee

*Ralph Emery; McEwen, Tennessee



*Johnnie Allan; Rayne, Louisiana
Patsy Cline's funeral attended by an estimated 25,000 people, 1963

11 *W. Lee "Pappy" O'Daniel; Malta, Ohio

Crystal Gayle first appears on Country charts, 1982

Merle Haggard & the Strangers' THE FIGHTIN' SIDE OF ME awarded Gold album, 1971

12 Joe Stampley's "The Sheik of Chicago" enters charts in 1976, the year he had eight Country hits

13 *Liz Anderson (Elizabeth Jane Haaby); Roseau, Minnesota

*Jan Howard; West Plains, Missouri

George Jones and Tammy Wynette divorced, 1975

14 *Zella Lehr; Burbank, California
Marty Robbins' "I'll Go On Alone" debuts on charts, 1953

15 *Carl Smith; Maynardsville, Tennessee

*Ry Cooder; Los Angeles, California

[Factfile is compiled from *The Illustrated Country Almanac* by Richard Wootton (Dial Press), *The Illustrated History of Country Music* by the editors of COUNTRY MUSIC magazine (Doubleday/Dolphin Books), *The People's Almanac #2* by David Wallechinsky and Irving Wallace (The Kingsport Press), *The Encyclopedia of Folk Country and Western Music* by Irwin Stambler and Grelun Landon (St. Martin's Press), *Another Beautiful Day* by Rod McKuen (Harper & Row), INSIDE COUNTRY by Catherine Hahn and Rudy Uribe, and the Country Music Foundation's OFFICIAL 1987 COUNTRY MUSIC CALENDAR, as well as from original research.]

DATEBOOK

February

- 10-13 7th Annual PERFORMANCE Summit Conference / Fairmont / New Orleans / Call (817) 338-9444 for details
- 13-17 29th Annual NARM Convention / Fountainbleau / Miami, FL
- 13-18 National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) Convention / Opryland Hotel / Nashville, TN
- 19-21 CRS/MIPS / Opryland Hotel / Nashville, TN
- 20-21 GAVIN Seminar for Media Professionals / The Westin St. Francis / San Francisco, CA / Call (415) 392-7750 for details
- 24 29th Annual Grammy Awards / Shrine Auditorium / Los Angeles, CA

March

- 6-8 9th Annual NSAI Symposium / Vanderbilt Plaza / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 321-5004 for details
- 8 20th Annual NSAI Songwriter Achievement Awards / Vanderbilt Plaza / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 321-5004 for details

- 11-14 International Tape / Disc Association's (ITA) 17th Annual Seminar / Hyatt Regency / Hilton Head, SC / Call (212) 956-7110 for details; in Europe call 01-19-20-20
- 28-31 NAB Convention / Dallas, TX / Call (202) 429-5300 for details

April

- 5-9 Gospel Music Association "GMA '87" / Nashville, TN
- 6 Academy of Country Music Awards / Knott's Berry Farm / Los Angeles, CA
- 9 Gospel Music Association Dove Awards / Nashville, TN
- 18 International Festival of Country Music / Goteborg, Sweden, and Rotterdam, Holland
- 18-20 Silk Cut 1987 / London, England
- 22 International Festival of Country Music / France
- 24 International Festival of Country Music / Stavanger, Norway
- 25 International Festival of Country Music / Frankfurt, Germany
- 26 International Festival of Country Music / Zurich, Switzerland

May

- 29- Nashville Summer Lights Festival /
- June 1 Legislative Plaza, downtown / Nashville, TN

June

- 8-14 Fan Fair / Tennessee State Fairgrounds / Nashville, TN
- 12 20th Annual IFCO Dinner & Show / Tennessee State Fairgrounds / Nashville, TN
- 14 "Sunday Morning Country" / 10 a.m. - 12 noon / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 30- Wyoming Country Music Festival &
- July 5 Trade Convention / Downtown Motor Hotel / Casper, WY / Call (307) 836-2015 for details

August

- 28-30 1987 All British Country Music Festival / Worthing Pavilion / Worthing / Call 0903-202221 for details



"What? You want me to actually wear this in public?" queries producer Tommy West, after being presented with a sweatshirt emblazoned with the name of The Girls Next Door's latest single. On a recent visit to the MTM Music Group offices, the funny foursome cornered West and singer/songwriter Beth Nielsen Chapman, who wrote the tune, for the unexpected presentation. Shown (l to r) are Cindy Nixon, West, Diane Williams, Tammy Stephens, Chapman and Doris King.


Close Up
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