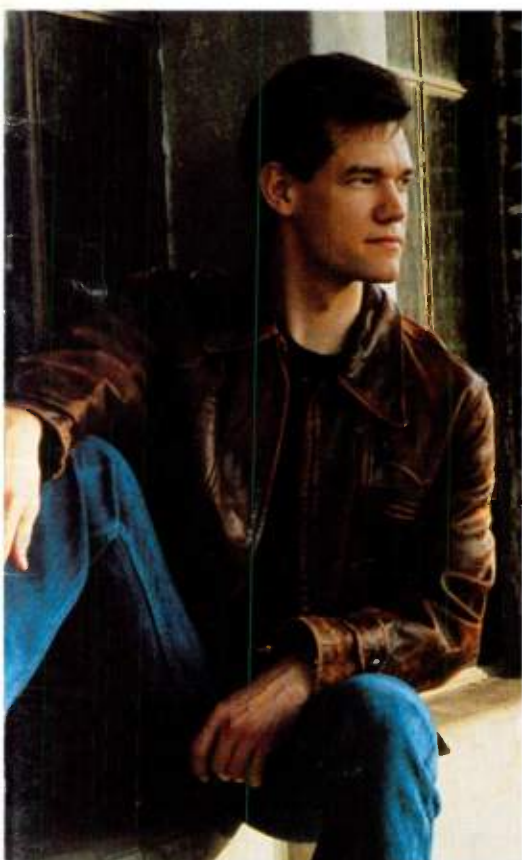


Close Up

MAGAZINE

February 1989



Country Stars Shine During Inauguration



Lee Greenwood and George Bush descend the steps of the vice presidential plane during campaign stops in October. Bush called Greenwood one of his "secret weapons" during his bid for the presidency.



hen George Bush took over the country's leadership, he requested some of Country Music's leading artists to be a part of the festivities.

President Bush boasts a longtime affection for Country Music. During the campaign, he told *USA Today*, "Go look at my radio station — 98.7 WMZQ-FM," Washington, DC's top Country station.

Several Country stars hit the campaign trail for him too — Lee Greenwood, Crystal Gayle, Loretta Lynn and others. Greenwood's signature song "God Bless The U.S.A." and Moe Bandy's "Americana" were used as campaign theme songs.

When Bush beat Democratic contender Mike Dukakis in November, he made sure some of his favorite Country stars would be included in the inauguration events.

Greenwood was so deluged with requests to perform, Bush personally organized Greenwood's itinerary for the three days of activities. On January 18, Greenwood sang "God Bless The U.S.A." at the opening ceremonies. That evening he performed with the 40-piece U.S. Army Band at the American Presidential Pageant hosted by Buddy Ebsen. The one-hour historical look at the presidency was a pictorial multi-media presentation at Constitution Hall. The pageant was staged twice the following day.

On January 20, Greenwood sang at an inauguration ball and shared emcee duties with other dignitaries.

(continued on page 4)

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COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Close Up

FEBRUARY 1989
Vol. XXIV No. 2

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CLOSE-UP MAGAZINE (ISSN 0896-372X) is the official monthly publication of the Country Music Association, Inc., 7 Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37203-4383. (615) 244-2840. Available to CMA members only. CLOSE-UP's subscription price of \$12.00 per year is included in membership dues. Second Class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to CMA CLOSE-UP, P.O. Box 22299, Nashville, TN 37202-2299.

CBS Buys Tree International

In 1956, Elvis Presley recorded "Heartbreak Hotel". It became Elvis' first number one record and helped lay the foundation for Tree International's vast music publishing empire.

Now, 34 years later, Tree, the last major Nashville music publishing company, has been sold to CBS Records for between \$45 and 50 million. An industry gala, with more than 800 guests, commemorated the sale on January 10 at the Opryland Hotel.

The purchase of Tree is CBS Records' first acquisition since becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of Sony Corp.

"It will provide us with a solid base upon which to build a significant music publishing entity," said Tommy Mottola, president of CBS Records Division.

Tree is expected to quadruple in size by buying more companies and hiring more songwriters.

The agreement includes keeping the Tree name, management and staff. With the sale, Buddy Killen, formerly Tree International's sole owner, will be president of Tree Publishing Co., Inc. and chairman of CBS Music Publishing's executive committee. Donna Hilley's title will change from executive vice president to chief operating officer and senior vice president. Operations will remain in the Tree headquarters on Music Row.

The Tree catalogs include Pamper Music which has works by Hank Cochran and Willie Nelson, Jat Music, the Buck Owens catalogs and those of Nat Stuckey, Jim Reeves and other Country stars.

"Crazy", "King Of The Road", "He Stopped Loving Her Today", "Green, Green Grass Of Home", "Mamas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys", "Could I Have This Dance" and "Middle Aged Crazy" are just a few of the 35,000 Tree songs.



Tree International and CBS Records hosted a reception January 10 to celebrate the sale of Tree. Taking a camera break during the festivities are (l to r) Roy Wunsch, senior vice president, CBS/Nashville; Walter Yetnikoff, president, CBS Records Inc.; Donna Hilley, chief operating officer, Tree International; Tommy Mottola, president, CBS Records Division; and Buddy Killen, president, Tree International.



Several Music Row executives attended an ASCAP luncheon January 10 in honor of CBS's purchase of Tree International. Flanking Walter Yetnikoff, chairman of CBS Records Inc., are (l to r) Janice Wendell, chairman of the board, Eric Ericson & Associates; Jo Walker-Meador, CMA executive director; Donna Hilley, chief operating officer and senior vice president, Tree International; and Connie Bradley, Southern regional director of ASCAP.

— Photo by: Alan Mayor

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Bandy performed at a party at DC's Air and Space Museum. The request to sing came months ago. After the November election, Bandy sent Bush a copy of his single "Many Mansions" about the homeless. Bush replied with a hand-written note praising Bandy's single and asking him to participate in the inauguration events.

On the January 19th CBS-TV special "Hail to the Chief", Randy Travis sang "Deeper Than The Holler". The two-hour show was broadcast live from the Washington Convention Center. More than 12,000 people attended the event, with thousands watching on tv.

Crystal Gayle, Loretta Lynn and their sister, Peggy Sue, also performed on the tv special. They sang a medley of Country classics including "Coal Miner's Daughter", "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue", "Stand By Your Man" and "Try A Little Kindness". Lynn and Gayle also shared hosting duties at one of the inaugural balls.

Besides performing on the CBS special, the Oak Ridge Boys attended several balls and the First Lady Salute at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts.

Steve Wariner and his band put on a show for the Texas State Society, the largest of the inaugural balls. More than 5,000 packed into the Washington Hilton for the event.

To spotlight Bush's love for Country Music, the United States Programming Network aired a special edition of "Solid Gold Country" on January 20. The show included music by artists Bush personally selected as among his all-time favorites.

In a note accompanying his selections, Bush wrote that he considers some artists friends as well as performers. In that category were Bandy, Greenwood, Gayle, Lynn, Travis and the Oaks. Also included were Jimmy Dean, The Gatlin Brothers, Mickey Gilley, Chet Atkins, Alabama, Glen Campbell, Johnny Cash, John Conlee, Charlie Daniels, Merle Haggard, Reba McEntire, Barbara Mandrell, Anne Murray, Juice Newton, Dolly Parton, Charley Pride, Eddie Rabbit, Kenny Rogers and the Statler Brothers.

"In the past, the president's interests have reflected trends," said Dan Bradley of Lee Greenwood's management staff. "We in the Country Music business feel that there's going to be an overall awareness and renewed interest in Country Music in general because of Bush's fondness of it. Cj

(continued from page 2)



Backstage at a recent Calgary show, Ricky Van Shelton accepts a gold record for his debut album *WILD EYED DREAM*, representing more than 50,000 units sold in Canada. Shelton (second from left) accepts congratulations from (l to r) Gary McLeish, CBS Western regional director, Rudi LeValley, marketing representative, and Michael Campbell, Shelton's road manager.

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Grand Ole Opry manager Jack Stapp, who was one of the founders of CMA, and WSM radio executive Lou Cowan, started Tree as a sideline venture in 1951. Less than 10 years later, the company had discovered the songwriting talents of Roger Miller, Harlan Howard and Dolly Parton. Then in 1963, Tree had its first million dollar year. Stapp moved to Tree fulltime in 1964 and promoted Buddy Killen to executive vice president.

Tree moved its offices around the Music Row area as it expanded. In 1975, Killen was named president. After Stapp's death in 1980, Killen became sole owner of Tree.

In 1988, Tree was named publishing company of the year for the 16th consecutive time by BILLBOARD magazine.

Killen said, "If I felt like Tree wasn't going to be treated properly, I wouldn't do this. If I didn't feel like it would be good for the community I wouldn't do it."

But some Music Row insiders saw the sale as an end of an era. In the last several years, leading independent music publishing companies in Nashville have been sold to companies based in New York, Los Angeles or foreign countries.

Country Music Foundation Executive Director Bill Ivey said the trend has been toward "colonial operations in every segment of the industry" and that the wholesale acquisition of Nashville properties is "almost a parallel to the leveraged takeovers that have been going on in the larger corporate world."

Several days after the Tree sale to CBS was announced, SBK Entertainment was sold to British conglomerate Thorn-EMI for \$337 million. The deal is the largest in music publishing company sale history.

The previous record for a music publishing transaction was \$100 million when Warner Bros. Music bought Chappell in 1987.

SBK's catalog includes the classics of Kris Kristofferson and Larry Gatlin and such songs as "You Decorated My Life", "American Made", "Burning Love" and "Dueling Banjos".

SBK, based in New York, owns more than 250,000 songs including movie hits from MGM/United Artist productions, the huge CBS Songs catalogs and Nashville's Combine Music catalog. **CJ**



Tree writer Jamie O'Hara shares the spotlight with ASCAP's Connie Bradley (second from left), Tree executives (l to r), Buddy Killen, Donna Hilley, and Bob Montgomery and ASCAP's Bob Doyle at the performing rights organization's 1987 banquet.

— Photo by: Don Putnam



Tree International's Buddy Killen poses with Dolly Parton after she signs to have Tree administer her Velvet Apple catalog.

— Photo by: Hope Powell



Tree founder Jack Stapp and Buddy Killen point to a globe signifying Tree's presence around the world.



Buddy Killen and Buck Owens shake on Tree's purchase of the Buck Owens catalog in 1984.

— Photo by: Chip Schofield



Tree executives Roger Sovine (left), Donna Hilley and Buddy Killen greet their writers at an annual Christmas awards brunch.

— Photo by: Don Putnam

Patty Loveless

Patty Loveless is like a lot of young women today — she's on her own. When things break, she's the one who has to fix them, when the bills get tight, she has to work harder to make ends meet. Life has always been this way for the Pikeville, Kentucky coal miner's daughter. You won't hear Loveless complain though; as a matter of fact, she considers herself lucky. After all, she's achieving monumental strides in her beloved life's work — Country Music.



Loveless recently ended a 21-day U.S.O. tour of Alaska, Japan and Korea's demilitarized zone. Her travels have perhaps made her even more appreciative of her own rural beginnings.

"While we were on the trip we basically ate on the military bases," explains Loveless. "They told us to. We couldn't eat the food on the streets and I could see why. The poverty is awful and people are scattered everywhere. A friend of mine went walking and said he kept looking at something hanging in the street and he thought it was an armadillo. We later learned it was a skinned dog," Loveless adds with a shudder.

"When you visit those different countries you certainly appreciate the States. There's nothing like the good ol' States and even though there are a lot of wonderful countries to visit, some of them are strange," she assures.

Would Loveless make the necessary sacrifices and do it all again? "You bet! I'm gonna tell a lot of my friends who are artists that if they ever have the opportunity, they should experience this. A lot of people have the attitude that it's peace time and there's no war going on, so why bother? To me that makes it even more important to go over there and entertain them,

because you never know what tomorrow will bring," she confides softly.

The days spent in faraway places were not easy or profitable for Loveless or her cohort Randy Travis. The artists were compensated \$100 each day, which was just to keep them going from one place to another. Basically, there was no pay. And, as Loveless points out, it wasn't a glamorous jaunt. "It was hard work, but I'd do another one. To go over there and put smiles on those boys' faces meant a lot. They really miss home and they don't ever get to see their families. I really have to look up to them for what they're doing."

Loveless' travels have taken her from her Kentucky roots and her Nashville home. And, she's charted some important personal journeys as well. "I learned so much in that first year here working on my first album, PATTY LOVELESS. I look back now and think, 'Gosh, how dumb!' But you know, in the beginning every other artist has felt that way too. It's a learning process and everybody goes through it. I learn more each day and someday I expect to be very intelligent."

Loveless' second album, IF MY HEART HAD WINDOWS, was loudly applauded by *USA Today* writer David Zimmerman. "Her debut indicates Loveless is the raw female Country talent who could match the rough-edged sounds of Dwight Yoakam or Steve Earle," he wrote in a January 1988 review. Zimmerman wasn't the first or the only music critic who gladly jumped aboard the Patty Loveless bandwagon.

Nashville *Tennessean* writer Robert K. Oermann wrote of Loveless' top 40 single "After All", from her first album PATTY LOVELESS: "At the risk of repeating myself, may I remind you—all you're listening to a major leaguer here? Patty has not been getting the airplay glory she deserves. This girl is a world-class wailer who's Country with a capital 'C'. Open up your ears and your hearts. This is yet another solid, honest, heartfelt, bell-like Loveless sonic gem."

Loveless' lack of airplay soon took a turn for the better. In 1988 her straight-from-the-soul Country sound warranted three top 10 singles, an induction into the Grand Ole Opry, and a CMA Horizon Award nomination, among others. Some impressive accomplishments for a 30-year-old.

Despite some mishaps that occurred on her 31st birthday last month, namely a leaking water bed and a smashed guitar which was acci-

ALBUMS:
 PATTY LOVELESS — two top 40 singles
 "Lonely Days And Lonely Nights"
 "After All"
 IF MY HEART HAD WINDOWS —
 two top 10 singles
 "If My Heart Had Windows"
 "A Little Bit In Love"
 HONKY TONK ANGEL — one top five single
 thus far
 "Blue Side Of Town"

FAVORITE COUNTRY ARTISTS:
 The Judds (she loves Wynonna's voice), Merle Haggard, George Jones, Loretta Lynn (a distant cousin) and Reba McEntire

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT:
 A contract with Justin Boots as its ladies boot endorser, joining the likes of Victoria Principal, Linda Grey and Priscilla Presley.

dently run over by a friend in his truck, Loveless maintains guarded optimism for 1989. MCA recently released her second single, "Don't Toss Us Away", from her HONKY TONK ANGEL album and a video as well.

"I'm pretty happy with where I am," Loveless notes. "It's hard for me to set goals for myself, so I just take one day at a time. With each album I feel a little more in control. It'll be interesting to see what the year brings. Even when artists get to the point of selling gold or platinum, they still have to worry about that next album."

Loveless has another plan for her future — more songwriting. "I did more writing when I was younger. I was really trying to appeal to artists back then and get some attention. Lately, I've been so busy that every time I turn around I have something else to do. I don't have the opportunity to sit down and write the way I want without a schedule. Writing has to be impulsive for me. As for now, song ideas run through my head every day and I write them down. I'll

know when it's time to get back to it and I want it to come slowly."

Loveless, like most of us, has a few regrets in her life. Her biggest is the fact that she didn't attend college. She uses her own frustrations with that decision to try and help other young musical hopefuls avoid making the same mistake.

"I was doing a show with The Statler Brothers at a rodeo," explains Loveless. "My business manager brought this little 14-year-old girl up to me — she'd sang 'If My Heart Had Windows' at a talent contest. They said she was a real good singer, but I didn't get to hear.

"Anyway, she was so excited, and you know, I looked at her and remembered exactly how I felt at her age. I gave her some advice, though. I told her to never forget her education because it's something I wish I'd never given up. I told her to go to college because if she didn't, she would miss out. Her mother was standing beside her all that time and when the girl turned away she whispered, 'Thank you!' I said, 'But I mean that! I'd pass that on to anybody!'" Cu

— Suzanne Gibson

I WRITE THE SONGS



John Scott Sherrill

Ask John Scott Sherrill about hard times and he'll tell you about ice cream — chocolate ripple fudge to be exact.

Almost 15 years ago, Sherrill was writing songs no one was buying. He was trying to make ends meet as a shade tree carpenter, "The kind of guy who was called in to fix the floor rotting under the commode. Horrible jobs that no one wanted."

Then in July 1975, he went to a temporary employment agency. It was hard-to-breathe hot in Nashville but the lady at the temp agency asked, "Have you ever worked in the cold?"

"I'm from New Hampshire and I need a job. I'm ready for whatever you've got."

He *thought* he was.

Sherrill showed up at the Sealtest Ice Cream factory in downtown Nashville carrying long johns, gloves and a sweater.

"The guys pointed me to a locker with a coat in it. But they didn't tell me about the special thermal suit that goes on underneath the coat and the thermal boots or gloves. So all I had on was a coat and cowboy boots.

"The guy in charge handed me one of those big cardboard buckets and an iron bar. He said, 'We have some water spilled in aisle number C-3 that's turned to ice, and I want you to chop it up and put it in that bucket and when you fill the bucket half full, well, you can come on out.'

"So, I went in the door to this place," Sherrill remembers, "and noticed the thermometer was at 60 below. Sixty below zero! This place hadn't been thawed out since it was built in 1930 because they didn't want to lose the ice cream. Ice had built up everywhere. And they had little tunnels of ice that people had chopped out. The way to get around was to ride on the conveyor belts with the ice cream.

"Before I even found aisle C-3 I was about frozen to death. Later, I got upgraded from the ice chipping detail to the ice cream detail. That's a whole bunch of guys in thermal suits. A driver will pull up and holler out the back of his truck, 'Fifteen cases of chocolate ripple fudge!'

"Then we'd rocket through these dark places trying to find the fudge and throw it onto the truck. Do you ever wonder why your ice cream in the supermarket is all banged up?"

Blame a gallon or two on a freezing, struggling songwriter.

Three years later, Sherrill had one of the best moments of his life.

"I was driving a very sad looking green Dodge pickup truck. It was the only vehicle in Nashville that leaked oil out the headlight. It looked like it was crying big oil tears.

"I had been away at the time — up in Kentucky — and had no idea what was going on in Nashville. When I drove up, all the guys were out in the Combine parking lot and somebody said, 'You won't believe what happened man! You got three songs on Johnny Lee's album.'"

Sherrill was born in Manhattan. His parents are John and Elizabeth Sherrill, best-selling authors of *Hiding Place*, *The Cross and the Switchblade* and numerous GUIDEPOSTS magazine articles.

When his parents traveled on writing assignments, they took the kids with them. Sherrill has traveled the United States. He lived in Uganda before it won its independence from Britain and picked up Spanish in Bolivia.

He knew geography like most boys know football running routes.

How did a kid born in Manhattan and raised all over the world decide to write Country songs? He wanted to be a cowboy after watching "Hop Along Cassidy". Hop Along inspired Sherrill to write "The Cowboy Song" when he was 14.

"No one's ever heard that song, at least not in Tennessee as far as I know." Sherrill plans to keep it that way.

He sits in a canary-yellow converted house just off Music Row — home for the Nashville Songwriters Association International and Little Big Town Music.

The prolific publishing company is accessible by a back stairway just off the rear screened door. The room Sherrill writes in is furnished with a desk, an uncomfortable chair and a dim lamp. A small round window with a square wooden-framed glass cover looks down on the street from two stories up. Sherrill says that little window is the room's best attribute.

The cramped office is one of his favorite places to write. He says it's sometimes hard coming up with ideas but he gets his inspiration mainly from women and nature.

"Real personal songs such as, 'Some Fools Never Learn' came straight out of life — my life — and I just wrote them down. Lines like 'All my friends say I should leave you alone but you've got a heart like a stone and a wandering eye.'

"Don Devaney sparked, 'Cry, Cry, Cry'. He had the idea for the first line of the first verse.

It's just a little creek now
But when the rain comes down
It's gonna be a raging river.'

"We sat there all day long trying to find a nice melody to go with it. Don said, 'Uh, till the day I do I'm gonna cry' and I said, 'Cry' and he said, 'Cry', and all of the sudden we had three crys and that was it."

What's the best line in a song he's written?

He thinks about it for a full minute.

"Probably a line from Dan Seals' 'Five Generations Of Rock County Wilsons'. It's about a little piece of

farmland that's been in the family for years.

I stood on the hill overlooking Red River
Where my momma and her
momma lay.

I listened to the growling of the big diesel cats
As they tore up the woods where I played.'

"In a way it's one of those self-fulfilling prophecies. I wrote it back while I was in college. And when I went home last month to New York, the bulldozer had come behind my parents house and ripped up the woods."

Over the past two years, Sherrill has been writing a Country album with Dennis Robbins and Bob DiPiero. The trio and Reno Kling on bass and Martin Parker on drums make up The Wolves in Cheap Clothing.

"The band, in some form, has been together for 10 years. We all really know one another so that energy, warmth and family feeling goes into these songs.

"Without being aware of it, the songs have all taken on a story about this guy who we call the rebel for lack of a better term and the experiences he goes through."

Sherrill tries to write every day even though he's recording and producing The Wolves' album, which will be out in March or April on Warner Bros. Records.

Songs Written Or Co-Written By John Scott Sherrill

"Cry, Cry, Cry"
Highway 101

"Wild And Blue"
John Anderson

"That Rock Won't Roll"
Restless Heart

"Some Fools Never Learn"
Steve Wariner

"(Do You Love Me) Just Say Yes"
Highway 101

"Somebody Like You"
Johnny Lee

"Still In The Spirit"
Dion

"For now the writing isn't suffering, but it's certainly not racing along."

If Sherrill hasn't written for more than two weeks, he considers that a dry spell.

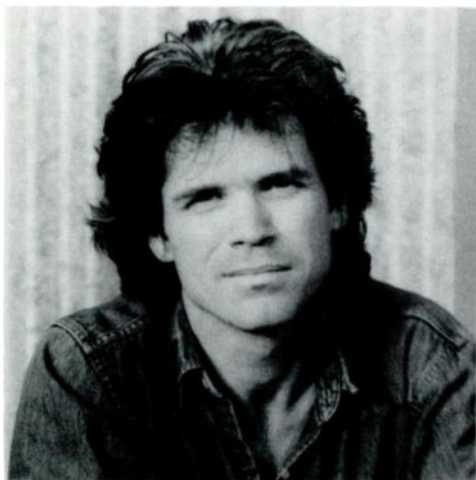
"The well will go dry if you pump it too hard. Sometimes you just have to stop and let it fill up."

Like a plant depends on water, Sherrill relies on his own trials and triumphs for writing ideas. He digs deep into his memories to create hit songs. So far, the well hasn't gone dry.



— Teresa George

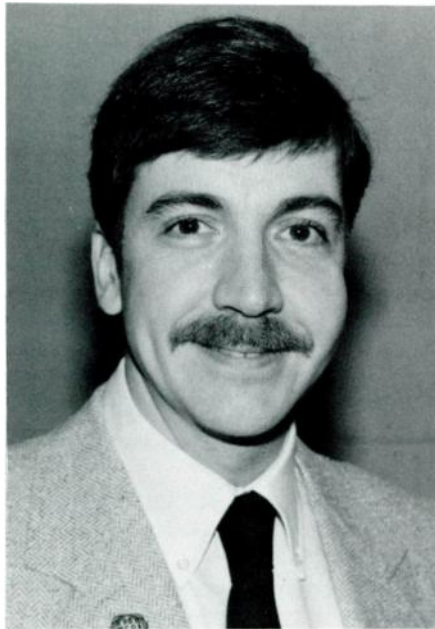
Back-To-Back Breakers



J. C. Crowley

- ★ Handsome J. C. Crowley is getting some well-deserved attention these days. The songwriter/guitarist's Josh Leo/Larry Lee produced album, *BENEATH THE TEXAS MOON*, reaks of individuality.
- ★ This rugged third-generation Texan was brought up on the shores of Galveston Bay. He worked on boats, rode the range — yes, rode the range — and appropriately enough, made music.
- ★ Crowley was the first "new" artist to break in the top 30 on the charts in quite some time and it's no wonder according to RCA Records executives. Crowley combined his own unique sound with the likes of vocal supporters Rosanne Cash and Vince Gill on "Beyond The Great Divide", J. D. Souther and Timothy B. Schmit on "Right As Rain" and Bonnie Raitt and Russell Smith on "Livin' For The Fire".
- ★ A former member of the group Player, Crowley penned a number one pop hit a few years ago titled "Baby Come Back".

AIRCHECK



Steve Walker — WCOS



WCOS Columbia, South Carolina morning man Steve Walker as a child didn't dream of being a disc jockey. And, unlike many others in the trade, he didn't have a lot of backing when he delved into the field. As a high school senior, Walker still wasn't sure what he wanted to do with his life, but he knew he didn't want to continue making shoes at a local shoe factory and he didn't want to meet the wishes of his high school sweetheart and get married. So, to save himself from degradation, Walker decided on the next best thing — college.

"I took this business management test — an aptitude test — because business management seemed like the thing to do," Walker explained. But after receiving the results of the test he was encouraged to select another curriculum, which turned out to be broadcast journalism. Upon completing a two-year course, a confident Walker walked into his first interview, read a few lines and immediately heard, "You really should find something else to do for a living. You are awful."

Determined, Walker didn't let those few little words discourage him. And today, he's ranked as the number one air personality in Columbia, a 10-station market, and holds the number five position in the *R&R Ratings Report* top 25 list of of drivetime dominators.

Walker describes his job at WCOS, the number two positioned Country radio station in the nation, as relatable. "It's more or less family radio because I know what my target audience is — 25 to 54 — since I am 38 and my 6-year-old listens to me," Walker said. While he is joined by two news people and a meteorologist on his morning gig, Walker is the only "personality" during the 5:30 - 10:00 a.m. show. After four years on the a.m. drive, he says he doesn't find it difficult being the sole originator of humor in the mornings. "The people out there are living life just the same as I am. We all do the same thing . . . we all put our pants on one leg at a time. It's finding the humor in it or finding the interesting things and just being able to relate."

Referring to 'COS as a contemporary Country station that plays everything from Randy Travis to Lionel Richie to Dobie Gray, Walker says the station is moving with the industry and getting back to a back-to-back Country jukebox situation where it plays 10 to 13 songs in a row.

Alongside the music in the mornings, though, is an occasional infiltration of comedy characters who do phone bits. "One," says Walker, "is R. Ed Neck, who is played by a sergeant at Ft. Jackson." Recalling that morning's giveaway of a trip to the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, which, of course, included a tour of Graceland, Walker said that R. Ed Neck called in and did a great Elvis impersonation.

Another character, Willie The Wine-O, was a great success, commented Walker, "until it was brought to management's attention that we were promoting drunkenness.

"Of course, we weren't. But, in the Bible Belt you don't argue. You just say, 'Uh huh! Thank you' and take it off the air."

Unlike a lot of morning drives where you're "Wakin' Up With . . ." or listening to "The _____ Show", Walker's early morning gig doesn't have a name. "Everything is aimed at Arbitron," he explains, adding that when there is a spot produced about his show to accompany the news or something, an announcer will simply say, "When you're listening to Steve Walker, you're listening to early mornings on the Great 98 FM, WCOS."

Since Arbitron ratings are broken down into certain segments of the day, the phrase early morning acts as a subtle hint to people who are filling out Arbitron diaries. Remarks Walker, "They'll know where to write it and how to write it properly."

Walker doesn't consider his job at WCOS a five-day-a-week gig. In fact, the veteran personality takes to the airwaves on Saturdays, bringing in a 30 share. "I consider it a protective procedure," says Walker, admitting that he has a difficult time getting back into work after being off a couple of days. "Besides that, I think it is the responsibility of the on-air staff, each and every one, to carry the load."

A native of Pennsylvania, Walker began his broadcasting career January 21, 1972 at WBPZ in Lockhaven, Pennsylvania, moving later to WILQ in Williamsport. From there, he went to WIGL in Orangeburg, South Carolina, where he stayed only seven weeks. "I didn't see eye-to-eye with management, so I got fired," Walker confided.

Intent on not letting the situation get the best of him, Walker, knowing that only seven weeks had lapsed, called

(continued on page 19)



Wolfman Jack recently visited Dolly Parton during a recording session (being produced by Ricky Skaggs) to present her with the one thing she didn't have — an autographed photo of himself.



Kathy Mattea may have her singing down pat, but it took TNNR's Wolfman Jack to perfect her howling abilities. — Photo by: Jim Hagans

TNNR

The wolf is at the door these days at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville. That's not really as big a problem as it may seem — they just invite him in. After all, he does work there.

He is Wolfman Jack, a host for The Nashville Network's latest endeavor, a new satellite delivered radio program service called TNNR, which went on the air officially in December. The outfit is located at the theme park's ever expanding and luxurious hotel and is equipped with the latest sound technology. It even has windows so hotel guests can watch the Wolfman in action.

Wolfman Jack is one of the many popular hosts for the various TNNR programs. Lorianne Crook, Charlie Chase, Shelley Mangrum, Bill Anderson, Walt Adams and Janet Tyson are just a few of the TNNR regulars who feature a prestigious lineup of guests.

TNNR broadcasts live in stereo from Nashville studios 24-hours a day, seven days a week and features live interviews, record countdowns, commentaries, concerts, record reviews, entertainment news, features and recorded music.

Nancy Neil, TNN's public relations manager best describes the growing

company's progress. "It's kinda like we've got a three-legged stool. At TNN everything's cookin' just right. Now, with TNNR we're gonna have another leg for our stool. Then, next year we've got this other leg we'll probably announce to make the stool really stand."

Despite Wolfman's longtime association with rock music and the eight-year "Midnight Special" television program, the legendary figure maintains it's "American" music he's into — past, present and future — not one particular category or genre. "Rock 'n' roll is doing a lot of stuff with heavy synthesizers and all these different electronic machines. They're creating these different sounds and to me it's lost its soul. Sure some of the rhythms are nice, but it feels like a robot. You get into good Country Music and that's real. The instruments are real, real people are singing, sweating, moaning and the soul's coming out."

Some people may be tempted to swoon at the idea of the howling, gravel-voiced Wolfman stepping over the Country line. But, Wolfman is prepared and he has his own philosophy about his career moves. "I know it's been a culture shock for folks to hear me doing Country. A lot of people don't realize that in order for me to be around as long as I have, I've had to be into all kinds of music.

Nothing ever stays on top all the time — not any form of music. I feel like I've always been smart enough to go where things are gonna be happening. I feel like Country is gonna get even bigger, especially in the 90s."

So, what's Wolfman's show gonna be like? It's a late night, three-hour radio show that runs Monday through Friday and it's called "The Wolfman Jack Show". "I laugh and talk and try to get people loose," growls Wolfman. "I get weird people calling and I don't mind, that's what I want. We have fun with the audience and play great music."

"TNNR runs through a satellite," explains Wolfman. "It goes up 26,000 miles and comes back down to the radio station. We have breaks where we run our own spots — that's what pays for the program. Then it comes down to the local option time and we give them a three-minute space. I pick up with a record and the station comes back into the program again."

Adds Neil, "Wolfman can be in a little local radio station down in Louisiana and the listener feels like he's at their station. The audience never hears the words TNNR."

Wolfman Jack perceives today's music differently from most. As a matter of fact, he was looking to do an original format combining all types of "good" music when TNNR made this offer. "I would like to see a new format



Grammy award winning Bill Johnson celebrates with CBS recording artist Rosanne Cash. Johnson designed Cash's KING'S RECORD SHOP album cover.

Bill Johnson

It was March 2, 1988. A brisk wind caught beneath overcoats and hats of New Yorkers making their way through the crowded streets during afternoon rush hour. Cab drivers honked, traffic lights changed and the smell of smog and fresh pretzels mingled in the thick city air.

Bill Johnson, garbed in his rented tux and shiny shoes, walked hurriedly to his destination, Radio City Music Hall at 50th and 6th. No, he wasn't going to see the Rockettes or hear a concert, he was going to win a Grammy.

It all started on an overcast Sunday afternoon. Senior art director for CBS Records in Nashville, Bill Johnson, joined Country Music femme fatale Rosanne Cash and cohorts for a trip to Franklin, Tennessee to photograph a mock facade for King's Record Shop actually located in Louisville, Kentucky. All they needed was a similar doorway for Rosanne to stand in and the rest of the setting could be skillfully stripped and matched to perfect authenticity. The crew paced up and down the empty streets measuring, designing, thinking and creating under the expertise of Johnson.

It worked, ideas clicked and soon the package possessed a warmth and mystery which earned the once small-town South Dakotan a seat at the Grammys.

"I was sitting there and Rosanne was in front of me and Rodney [Crowell] was next to her and then Steve Earle. First, they called out Female Vocalist and I thought Rosanne would win. She didn't. That was sorta my first realization. I mean, I didn't think I'd win or lose, although I kinda didn't think I'd win. Then, Asleep At The Wheel won and I was thrilled. Suddenly, they said, 'Bill Johnson', and I looked next to me at Mary Ann Daniel [coordinator of creative services for CBS Records Nashville] and said, 'What did she say?' I knew as soon as I asked that she actually said my name. I remember thinking, 'Oh, my God, I've gotta get up right now!'

"It happened so fast!" In a whirlwind of excitement and nervousness on that evening last March, Johnson realized after returning to his seat that he forgot to thank King's Record Shop owner Gene King. "I thanked Rosanne and I mentioned the CBS staff because they really helped put things together. Then I thanked my wife of 26 years, but I forgot to thank Gene. I should have made a list of people to thank, but I didn't. I was really scared and I know I sounded like it."

Moments after winning his inestimable award, an exuberant Johnson made his way to a pay phone to call his wife, Diane. "Then she called South Dakota and let my dad and sister know. People started calling me and sending telegrams. My hometown paper ran a story on me. You know, the local-guy-makes-good kinda story," Johnson recalls with a smile.

The journey toward this monumental moment of success was a rocky one. Johnson, an art buff as a kid, graduated high school in Yankton, South Dakota. Soon the 18-year-old moved to Omaha, Nebraska and began studying in a basement art school. "I got a job out there working for a designer and I did Serta Mattress advertisements," reminisces Johnson.

Gradually, the youngster's talent prevailed as did his perseverance. "I worked my way into a corporation and I got the art director's job at age 23. I was so young and it was a fluke that I got the position. I wasn't really ready for that job but I got myself up for it. I stayed there for 10 years and did a lot of learning." By this time Johnson was in his 30s and he began to think about where his life was going and decided he didn't like what he saw. He quit his steady and secure job for a sunny beach in San Francisco and a blank canvas.

San Francisco proved to be a salad-days location. Johnson and his wife painted there for a couple of years until they ran out of money.

"I thought I would make it selling paintings but I couldn't paint that fast," he explains. "I got an agent and she liked my work. It so happened at that time Francis Ford Coppola

had just done 'The Godfather' and he wound up with some extra money so he bought CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO magazine. I was eventually hired there."

Soon Johnson was led into the world of music. He spent a few years working for ROLLING STONE in San Francisco and, when the magazine grew, Johnson ended up in New York City. In February of 1979, Johnson landed a job at CBS Records and this month he celebrates his 10-year anniversary with the company.

Having worked his way up the ladder at CBS, the artist now finds himself as busy and excited about his career as ever. He's designed album covers for the likes of Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, George Jones, Merle Haggard, Tammy Wynette, and of course, Rosanne Cash. Johnson's office walls are papered with his talent and his desk, chairs and sofas are cluttered with pictures and concepts for future products.

Johnson's ideas are sometimes carried around in his head for months before he's actually able to use them. "You've always got something to do and you never stop thinking about it. Driving around in my car every day I spot different locations all around town. I'm always looking at pictures, editing and designing album covers. Doing it every day just keeps me tuned in."

It's Country Music that really gets Johnson's creativity going though. "If somebody lays the music on me, I put it on right away and start thinking about it and that clicks me on. I'll start looking at dates, sniffing around and making calls. I ask myself about scheduling photo sessions, the kind of clothing, and the attitude," describes Johnson.

Johnson now has the new challenge of designing compact discs and cassette tape containers. "It's different and it has a unique set of proportions. At the moment I'm excited about this aspect although I haven't really figured it out yet."

Does Johnson have a favorite design thus far? "No!" he's quick to reply. "It's hard for me to have a favorite one, maybe that's what I'm striving for — the best one." Cu

— Suzanne Gibson



Congratulations are in order once again for CBS' Bill Johnson. The graphic artist has been nominated for Grammy number two for The O'Kanes album cover TIREDF OF THE RUNNIN'. The award winners will be announced on CBS-TV February 22nd.

Side Bar



Grammy award winning **Rod Chancey** will produce the 16th Avenue/Capitol Records group **Canyon's** latest album project expected to be released early this year. Chancey is currently working with **T. Graham Brown** and **Sawyer Brown** as well.



According to a recent article by music writer **Thomas Goldsmith**, Nashville musicians don't read music from several formally written sheets of music. The pickers rely on a short-hand system developed in the 1950s by **Jordanaires** member **Neal Matthews, Jr.** known as *The Nashville Numbering System*. Each note in the scale is given a number the same way do-re-mi gives each note a sound and each number represents a chord that the musician should play for one measure. To learn more you may receive a copy of Matthews' book by sending \$7.99 plus \$1.50 postage and handling to The Nashville Number System, P.O. Box 290342, Nashville, TN 37229-0342.

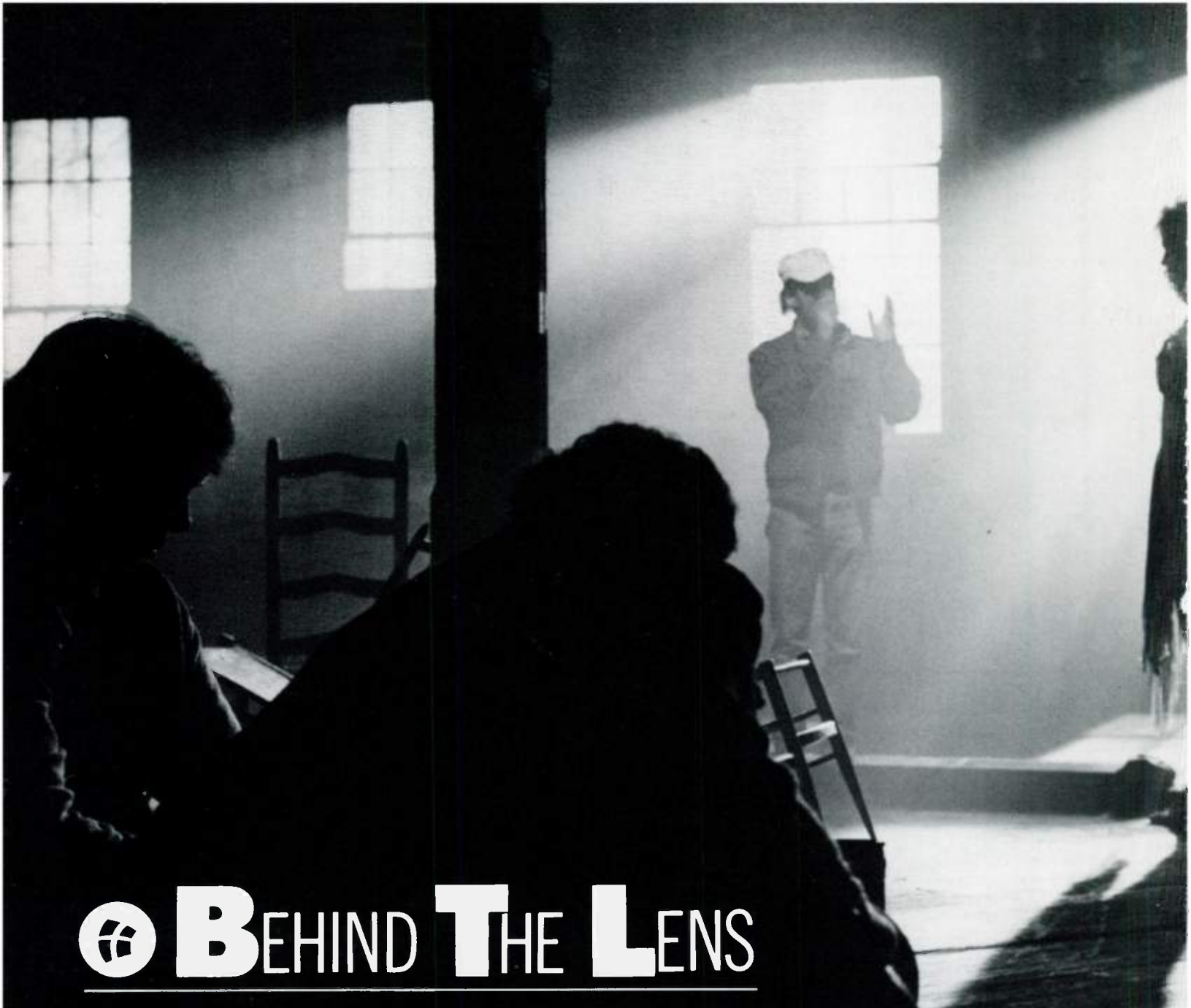


Hilltop Recording Studios recently completed a few new lp's. One was **Heartland's** debut self-titled lp with **John Nicholson** engineering and **Birk Johnson** producing. The first single from that album is "Makin' Love To Dixie". **The Masters, Josh Graves, Kenny Bake, Jesse McReynolds** and **Eddie Adcock**, recently completed their bluegrass album for **CMH Records** and the **Chuckwagon Gang** finished a gospel project.



Nightingale Studio has had some important Country Music figures in and out its doors lately. **Randy Travis** came in a few weeks ago to start laying tracks for his next album. No release date or title has been given as of yet. Engineer **Chuck Ainlay** and his assistant **Gary Paczosa** along with **Steve Tveit** have been working on **MCA's Masters Series** project with **Telluride**. Included in the efforts are **Mark O'Connor, Jerry Douglas, Sam Bush, Edgar Meyer, and Bela Fleck**.





BEHIND THE LENS



▲ Scene Three director John Lloyd Miller (left) frames up the next shot with cameraman Larry Boothby and assistant cameraman Robin Foster (foreground) during the filming of the new music video for T. Graham Brown's "Come As You Were" single on Capitol Records. In the spotlight are Brown's wife, Sheila, who plays the love interest in the video, and T. Graham with the sax. Makeup artist Jan Reams does Sheila's hair for the scene which was shot at the Acme Table and Chair Marathon Motor Co. in Nashville.

◀ CBS/Epic recording artist Tammy Wynette shot her latest video "Next To You" at her home in Nashville. The single is the first release from her NEXT TO YOU album set for a late February release. Photo by: Alan Mayor



▲ During the making of his video, "I'm No Stranger To The Rain", Keith Whitley discusses scenes with director Stephen Buck of ACME Video Production. The clip was shot at Nashville's Douglas Corner Cafe, with Joanne Gardner as producer.

— Photo by: Don Putnam



▲ Marty Raybon has trouble getting to the church on time in Shenandoah's latest video, "Church on the Cumberland Road". The single is their third release off their upcoming lp ROAD NOT TAKEN. The clip was produced by Scene Three.

Dan Seals' latest video, "Rage On", was filmed around Nashville by Nina Dluhy of Vivid Productions. Neil Abramson directed the clip with Lyn Healy and Cynthia Biedermann serving as executive producers.

The Wagoneers shot "Help Me Get Over You" on Guadalupe Street in Austin, TX. Studio Productions of Nashville was in charge of the video. Carlyne Majer served as producer with Jim May directing. The single, released in December, is off The Wagoneers' latest A&M Records lp STOUT AND HIGH.

Patty Loveless' new video was released in January. "Don't Toss Us Away" from her HONKY TONK ANGEL album was recorded in Clarksville, TN. Joan French and Mary Matthews of Studio Productions produced the clip. Jim May directed.

Ross Lewis, an artist with Wolf Dog International, finished his debut video in January. "Love In Motion", from his self-titled lp, was produced by Scene Three Productions. Larry Boothby directed the clip using several special effects.

RockAmerica, a New York-based video pool service, recently added an hour-long Country compilation to its monthly reels. The decision to add Country clips came because of the growing number of quality videos being produced as well as an increase in requests from clubs, according to RockAmerica President Ed Steinberg. He said early response to the new reel has been favorable. The reel will be serviced to night clubs that use clips between band sets, video bars and clubs that have a Country night.

"Come As You Were" is Capitol Records artist T. Graham Brown's latest clip. Marc W. Ball with Scene Three Productions produced the clip with John Lloyd Miller directing.

Anoka Records artist, Darrell Holt, recalls the advice his mother gave him as he sings to a group of children in his clip "Only The Strong Survive". Ed Commons of House of Commons directed the clip shot in Florida.

Music Industry Professional Seminar (MIPS) Schedule & Panelists Thursday, March 2, 1989 Opryland Hotel

9:30 - 11:00 a.m. —

The Source: Applying The Creative Process

Ronnie Milsap — artist
Kathy Mattea — artist
Michael Johnson — artist
Dave Loggins — singer/songwriter
Mike Reid — singer/songwriter
Don Schlitz — songwriter
Wendy Waldman — songwriter
Tony Brown — executive vice president &
head of A&R/MCA-Nashville
Paul Worley — producer & creative services director/
Tree International
Bob Montgomery — vice president of A&R/CBS
Records-Nashville
Martha Sharp — executive vice president of
A&R/Warner Bros.-Nashville

Moderated by Thom Schuyler

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. —

The Demo: A Hit Is Born

Eddie Bayers — drummer
Steve Gibson — guitarist
Brent Rowan — guitarist
Jack Williams — bassist
Mitch Humphries — keyboards
Farrell Morris — percussionist
Mike Reid — songwriter
Dave Loggins — singer/songwriter
Kathy Mattea — artist

Moderated by Jerry Crutchfield & Harold Shedd

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. —

The Musicians Only: We Know Our Parts

Eddie Bayers
Steve Gibson
Brent Rowan
Jack Williams
Mitch Humphries
Farrell Morris
Dave Loggins
Kathy Mattea

Moderated by Jerry Crutchfield & Harold Shedd

MIPS Creates Nashville Sound

This year when hundreds of radio broadcasters flock to the CMA-sponsored Music Industry Professional Seminar (MIPS), they'll be taken on a daylong journey through the recording process from the moment an idea sparks a song to actually hearing it demoed by some of Nashville's top-notch musicians.

MIPS is part of the 20th annual Country Radio Seminar (CRS) March 1 - 4 put on by the Country Radio Broadcasters at the Opryland Hotel. The three MIPS sessions will be March 2.

Also, for the first time, a one-day registration will be offered for CRS/MIPS activities on March 2. The one-day registration includes all sessions, lunch, admission to exhibit hall and a ticket to the Super Faces Show.

In the first MIPS session, "The Source: Applying the Creative Process", artists like Ronnie Milsap, Kathy Mattea, Michael Johnson and Dave Loggins along with songwriters, producers and record executives will explain how they create today's records and where the industry is headed.

During "The Musicians Only: We Know Our Parts", Nashville's unsung heroes reveal what it takes to become a first-string player. Randy Travis, Kenny Rogers, Dolly Parton, Michael Martin Murphey, Juice Newton and Ricky Skaggs are a few of the stars who depend on the creativity and talent of the musicians speaking on this panel.

The third session, "The Demo: A Hit Is Born", takes a different approach to show-and-tell. Using a makeshift studio, Dave Loggins will present the musicians from the second panel with his new song which they've never heard. Then Loggins and the musicians will demo it with the help of moderators Harold Shedd, creative vice president and chief executive officer of PolyGram Records, and Jerry Crutchfield, who produces Tom Wopat and Tanya Tucker.

Thom Schuyler, head of the MIPS committee and a member of the group SKB, said, "We wanted to try something that had never been done before at previous MIPS sessions. I believe this is going to be one of the most successful MIPS yet."

The Country Radio Broadcasters are projecting similar success for their portion of the four-day event. Last year CRS/MIPS attracted about 800 music and promotion directors, disc jockeys, syndicators and suppliers.

One of the most popular events at CRS is the Artist-Radio Taping Sessions on opening day. Radio programmers can conduct mini-interviews and tape IDs for their radio stations. However, they must use their own portable recording equipment.

"Several logistical changes have been made which will help to eliminate long lines while making the most efficient use of broadcasters' time," said taping sessions coordinator Jeff Walker.

Some of the CRS seminars include "Radio Doctors — Are Consultants Good For Your Radio Station", "Hot Personalities: Why Can't I Find Them and Why Don't They Know I'm Here", "Research: Has the Pendulum Swung Too Far", "Marketing Radio: Developing and Selling Your 'Stationality'", "The Impact Of Leadership Making a Difference" and "Personalities: Kickin' #1's And Takin' Names".

Buck Owens, who's seen his own career recently skyrocket again, will speak his mind about the radio industry. As owner of KUZZ in Bakersfield, California and KNIX in Phoenix, Arizona, Owens sees the business as an artist and broadcast executive.

Randy Owen of Alabama was a new face at the 1980's CRS. Now nine years and 30 million records later, Owen will share what he's learned.

The Judds headline the Super Faces Show this year. At the 20th annual banquet and New Faces Show, broadcasters will see the new Country talent on the horizon.

Artists scheduled to perform are: Baillie & The Boys — RCA; Burch Sisters — Mercury/PolyGram; Jeff Chance — Curb; Desert Rose Band — MCA/Curb; Skip Ewing — MCA; Donna Meade — Mercury/PolyGram; Paul Overstreet - MTM; Shenandoah — Columbia; The Shooters — Epic; and David Slater — Capitol.

Two luncheon shows are also planned. ASCAP will host one luncheon featuring the new group Canyon and singer Linda Davis. Eddie Rabbitt is the special guest for BMI's lunch the following day.

The second annual Radio Promotions Awards for small, medium and large markets will also be presented during the four-day event.

In addition to performances, receptions and panels, participants can browse at dozens of booths located in the exhibit hall. CMA will be offering information on the CMA Broadcast Awards, an album service available to radio stations, a new Arbitron study detailing a profile of the Country listener, a promotions handbook and a sales video that stations can use to attract advertisers. One-day registration forms have been mailed to all CMA members living in Tennessee and surrounding states. The fee is \$80 if paid by company check, \$50 if by personal check.

The cost of CRS/MIPS is \$309 through February 24. February 25 and after, the fee is \$369.

For more information, contact the Country Radio Broadcasters Inc., 50 Music Square West, Suite 604, Nashville, TN 37203 or call (615) 327-4488.

Fan Fair Registration

The 1989 International Country Music Fan Fair will be June 5 - 11 at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds in Nashville, TN. For the \$65 registration fee, those attending will get:

- ◆ Over 30 hours of stage shows
- ◆ Bluegrass concert
- ◆ Grand Masters Fiddling Championship
- ◆ Two lunches
- ◆ Picture taking and autograph sessions
- ◆ Admission to Opryland U.S.A.
- ◆ Admission to Country Music Hall of Fame
- ◆ Admission to the Ryman Auditorium, former home of the Grand Ole Opry

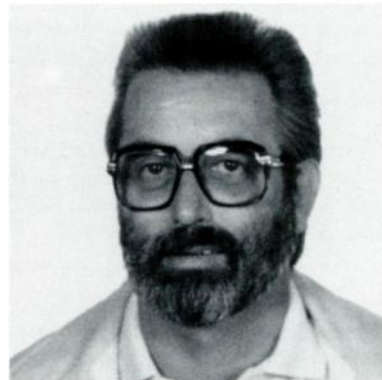
For more information write: Fan Fair, 2804 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214; or call (615) 889-7503 for details.

NEWSBREAKERS

In futurist **George A. Burns'** predictions for 1989, he says the record industry will experience a dramatic increase in the sale of Country Music and jazz. He also believes radio will make significant advances in selling itself to ad agencies and advertisers by projecting psychographic images and lifestyles. Burns believes these projections could save some stations on the brink of financial disaster.

Women discovered or invented: solar heating, nuclear fission, pink champagne, drip coffee, radioactivity, the bra, pulsars, the Barbie doll and the ice cream cone, according to *The Shockley Report*.

AMUSEMENT BUSINESS magazine released its "Top 25 Country Music Boxscores", a year-end report for 1988. **Kenny Rogers** topped the list for the second year in a row with \$511,223 garnered from five shows. Other billings included in the top 10 are: **Randy Travis/The Judds; Kenny Rogers/Exile; Kenny Rogers/The Forester Sisters; Hank Williams, Jr./The Bama Band/Restless Heart; Randy Travis/The Judds/Tammy Wynette; George Strait/Kathy Mattea/Highway 101; Randy Travis/George Fox.**



CMA recognizes the person who has significantly recruited new members. This issue, CMA highlights Jimmy Jay of Jayson Promotions in Hendersonville, Tennessee for his efforts. Others who recruited members in January include Tom Rashford, Floyd Haynes, Marilyn Craig, Scott Miller, Eve Vaupel, Roger Sovine, Garneta Johnston, Victoria Shaw, Jim Sinclair, Bill Walker, Ottar Johansen, Tony Byworth, Sandra Kennedy, Tim Wilson, Elwyn Raymer, Steve Marmaduke, Dave Barton and Blake Cumbers.



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. It is featured on BBC Radio and in numerous consumer publications in the U.K. and Europe. The charts are compiled by Gallup, the organization which also compiles the British pop charts. Released every two weeks on Monday, the chart ranks the top 20 Country releases in combined sales of lps, cassettes and compact discs. The charts are compiled using Gallup's computer-based panel of 500 record outlets.



INTERNATIONAL

A six-part series on Country Music is being prepared for British audiences by **Artifax Limited** in London, with completion of the programs set for October. The series will focus on women in Country Music, God and Country, duets, honky tonks, Bulgarian music and south of the border. Most of the footage will be shot in the U.S. but the south of the border show will be filmed on location in Mexico and Nicaragua.

Labatt Breweries of Canada recently reached a three-year agreement as a corporate sponsor of the **Canadian Country Music Association**. Last year, Labatt also sponsored the CCMA, helping fund three major events — Country Music Week '88, the Canadian Country Music Awards and the Bud Country Talent Search.

A new Country series began airing on the BBC in December. "From Old Time to New Country" traces the development of Country Music over the past 70 years. The 11-week series features bluegrass, the wild west, western swing and a look at the first Country record ever recorded.

Radio Orion, South Africa's FM station and **The O.K.**, the largest retail music outlet, will sponsor the annual **Keep It Country Festival** at the **Rand Show** on April 1. **L. J. Entertainment** is coordinating the concert.

For the first time, a Country album has sold 25,000 units in Switzerland and reached gold status. **A TIME FOR FEELINGS** by Swiss Country stars **John Brack** and **Jeff Turner** was recorded at **Scruggs Sound Studio** in Nashville, TN. The album, which turned gold in only seven weeks, was supported by television appearances and 15 sold-out concerts.

The **Nashville Entertainment Association** and **American Airlines** took some members of the Nashville music community to Cannes, France for **MIDEM '89**, the world's largest international music market. The purpose of the trip was to promote Nashville as a leading center of American music.

THIS WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	January 21, 1989
1	2	COPPERHEAD ROAD Steve Earl — MCA
2	1	FROM THE HEART Daniel O'Donnell — TelStar
3	3	ONE FAIR SUMMER EVENING Nanci Griffith — MCA
4	6	OLD 8 X 10 Randy Travis — WEA
5	7	SWEET DREAMS Patsy Cline — MCA
6	9	LONE STAR STATE OF MIND . Nanci Griffith — MCA
7	4	DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
8	11	LITTLE LOVE AFFAIRS Nanci Griffith — MCA
9	16	STORMS OF LIFE Randy Travis — WEA
10	5	I NEED YOU Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
11	15	SHADOWLAND k. d. lang — WEA
12	14	BUENOS NOCHES FROM A . . . Dwight Yoakam — WEA
13	13	TWO SIDES OF DANIEL O'DONNELL Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
14	12	ALWAYS & FOREVER Randy Travis — WEA
15	8	WATER FROM THE WELLS OF HOME Johnny Cash — PolyGram
16	19	EXIT O Steve Earle — MCA
17	RE-ENTRY	ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL Asleep At The Wheel — CBS
18	17	WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD Willie Nelson — CBS
19	RE-ENTRY	ANGEL WITH A LARIAT k. d. lang — WEA
20	RE-ENTRY	PONTIAC Lyle Lovett — MCA

Country Music Association © 1989

WILQ about returning to the station. "In the meantime, the Arbitrons had come in for the year I had been there, and I had a 45 share in a nine-station market. I said, 'Hey, I can go back there and get a raise.' That didn't work out. They decided they'd take me back, put me on afternoon drive and give me \$15 a week less than I was making when I went to work there."

Unwilling to settle for less, Walker found out WCOS was looking for a morning person so he called them up. Three days later he landed the job.

While his presence has surely helped WCOS gain a top 10 position in the overall U.S. radio rankings war, Walker looks at his highly-rated morning shift nonchalantly. "At this station, everything evolves around WCOS," remarks Walker, adding that the station's mascot, an opossum by the name of Opie, is more important than the air personalities.

"I just happen to be the friendly person you wake up with in the mornings," Walker ends. **Cu**

— Kelley Gattis

that includes a heavy Country sound, along with all the great rhythm and blues and rock 'n' roll," confides Wolfman. "I want to put all of that together as a combination. If you pull the best out of all those musical forms you've got a hell of a format there. The real format that's shining now and is the most interesting though is Country."

There are serious drawbacks to Wolfman's idea, namely the skepticism of higher-ups. "I've been trying to get this latest format idea going for quite a while. Some like the idea, but they're afraid the audience isn't ready for it, especially the older people," Wolfman explains.

"The young people are ready for it. They listen to all kinds of music. They dance around the dial and get into Country, rock and R&B. The old people are still culture prejudiced. In my opinion, their feelings have very little to do with the music. Even old people dig blues and all that stuff. It's the black/white thing they haven't gotten over yet. My goal in life before I die is to see that happen. I just wanna see the music get together."

TNNR's Wolfman has another theory behind Country Music's ongoing resurgence — the oldies. "Their cutting the oldies Country style," explains Wolfman in his notoriously husky voice. "That's really helping draw those people from the oldies crowd into Country Music. Like Eddie Rabbitt doing 'The Wanderer' and The Foresters doing 'Sincerely' — these are great songs! The more the Country artists do this the bigger it'll get."

TNNR is Wolfman's avenue to promote and enjoy a music form he truly loves. Country Music is also a music form that's quickly realizing what a valuable ally it has in Wolfman.

"The Mel Tillises, Johnny Cashes and Dolly Partons are happy the Wolfman has arrived. They know in their hearts that it's time now. They've suffered through the past of having number one Country records and yet not being able to fill auditoriums. That's why I want to see more of the public come into Country. The big artists . . . I don't have to say nothing to them. They know why I'm at TNNR. Johnny Cash is thrilled, he hugged and kissed me and Hank Jr. sent me flowers!" **Cu**

— Suzanne Gibson

Grammy Nominees Announced

The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) will present its annual Grammy Awards telecast February 22 at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. The gala will be broadcast live from 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. ET on CBS.

K. T. Oslin and Dwight Yoakam announced the Country Grammy nominees in Nashville January 12. Nominated are: *Best Country Vocal Performance, Female*: "Back In Baby's Arms" — Emmylou Harris; "Hold Me" — K. T. Oslin; "I'm Down To My Last Cigarette" — k. d. lang; REBA — Reba McEntire; "Strong Enough To Bend" — Tanya Tucker; *Best Country Vocal Performance, Male*: "Addicted" — Dan Seals; BUENOS NOCHES FROM A LONELY ROOM — Dwight Yoakam; DIAMONDS & DIRT — Rodney Crowell; OLD 8 X 10 — Randy Travis; PONTIAC — Lyle Lovett; *Best Country Performance By A Duo Or Group With Vocal*: BIG DREAMS IN A SMALL TOWN — Restless Heart; "Give A Little Love" — The Judds; "Gonna Take A Lot Of River" — The Oak Ridge Boys; HIGHWAY 101² — Highway 101; SINCERELY — The Forester Sisters; *Best Country Vocal Collaboration*: "Crying" — Roy Orbison and k. d. lang; "Honky Tonk Angels' Medley" — k. d. lang, Brenda Lee, Loretta Lynn and Kitty Wells; "It's Such A Small World" — Rodney Crowell and Rosanne Cash; "Streets Of Bakersfield" — Dwight Yoakam and Buck Owens; "We Believe In Happy Endings" — Earl Thomas Conley and Emmylou Harris; *Best Country Instrumental Performance*: "Busy Signal" — Leo Kottke; "Country Idyll" — Mason Williams and Mennheim Steamroller; "The Great Train Song Medley" — Carlton Moody and The Moody Brothers; "Still Fiddlin' Around" — Johnny Gimble; "Sugarfoot Rag" — Asleep At The Wheel; *Best Country Song (songwriter's category)*: "Chiseled In Stone" — Vern Gosdin and Max D. Barnes; "Hold Me" — K. T. Oslin; "I Couldn't Leave You If I Tried" — Rodney Crowell; "She's No Lady" — Lyle Lovett; "Streets Of Bakersfield" — Homer Joy; *Best Album Package Field*: Bill Johnson, art director for The O'Kanes' TIREDF OF THE RUNNIN'.



Buck Owens paid a surprise visit to Highway 101 during a recent engagement at Toolies Country. Gathered (l to r) are Highway 101 members Curtis Stone, Jack Daniels, Cactus Moser, Paulette Carlson, Toolies Country owner Bill Bachand and Owens. — Photo by: Chris Braden

Television's Role In Country Music

Since the early 1920s, when Country Music recording and broadcasting began, Country performers have been quick to exploit mass media in search of public acceptance and financial gain. Sound recordings, radio, movies, and television have combined to build artists' careers and make fortunes for many entertainers and many of the entrepreneurs who have promoted them. Throughout 1988 and into 1989, CLOSE UP is featuring excerpts from the study, "Country Music Television Programming, 1948 - 1987: A Preliminary Survey", commissioned by The Nashville Network and Group W Satellite Communications. The study surveys relationships between television and Country Music during the period 1948 - 1987. Although the sources examined for this project are by no means exhaustive, they reveal much about programming trends, artists' and executives' use of media, the development of the Country Music industry, the role of Country Music in advertising, and, to a lesser extent, the Country Music audience. The following is the tenth installment of the study.

PROGRAMMING TRENDS OF THE 1980s

As the 1980s began, Country Music was more popular than ever before. Just over the horizon was the John Travolta movie "Urban Cowboy" and a resulting craze for everything western, which temporarily swept Country Music to new heights. About this time, CMA polled tv stations across the nation and distributed a report about Country telecasting in September 1980. Of 135 stations that responded to CMA's questionnaire, 71.9 percent carried some local Country programming (meaning either syndicated shows or locally produced programs). Far and away the most popular Country show was "Hee Haw", followed by "That Nashville Music", "Pop! Goes the Country", and "Nashville on the Road". On the local level, anyway, Country tv programming began the new decade on sound footing.

Nationally, a great many trends of the 1970s persisted into the 1980s. Specials, whether to mark occasions, to salute artists, or simply to showcase hits, continued in abundance, both on commercial networks and, increasingly, in syndication. Annual awards shows drew large audiences and attracted much excitement — the Grammy Awards in February, the Academy of Country Music Awards in the spring, and the CMA Awards in October. MUSIC CITY NEWS, a Multimedia publication, began syndicating two annual awards shows, the MUSIC CITY NEWS Songwriter Awards and the older MUSIC CITY NEWS Awards. The latter aired from the Grand Ole Opry House on the Monday night of Fan Fair week.

NBC brought out two variety series to cash in on Country Music's renewed surging popularity. "Barbara Mandrell & The Mandrell Sisters" premiered November 18, 1980, showcasing the effervescent and talented star, then one of the biggest on the Country scene. Featured guests were gener-

ally Country performers of high rank, such as Dolly Parton, Marty Robbins, Kenny Rogers, and Charley Pride. Its two-season run ended in June 1982, not because ratings had dropped but because Mandrell was suffering from exhaustion. Another series, "Nashville Palace", ran from October 1981 to August 1982. Produced by the "Hee Haw" team, "Nashville Palace" starred Slim Pickens and Lynn Hancock. Comedy skits and dance production numbers framed the main attraction — music — performed by guest hosts such as Roy Clark, Roy Rogers, Hank Williams, Jr., Mickey Gilley, and Tom T. Hall.

Decline of Syndicated Series

Syndicated Country Music tv series declined as the 1980s progressed. "Hee Haw", in syndication since 1971, remained Country Music's most popular show, but it was the exception. "The Porter Wagoner Show" ended after 20 seasons in 1980, about the same time "That Nashville Music" did. For years these had been cornerstones of the syndication scene. "Nashville on the Road" went out of production in 1983, as did "Backstage at the Grand Ole Opry". "Pop! Goes the Country" was discontinued a year earlier. One factor in the steady disappearance of these shows was the acquisition of Show Biz, Inc., syndication giant of the 1970s, by Multimedia, Inc., which paid some \$4.4 million in April 1981, for Show Biz's show library. Multimedia has since emphasized syndicated specials and has largely phased out the series concept. "Music City USA", a half-hour program spotlighting new albums and videos, was in production from 1983 to 1986, but at this writing it is only available in the form of reruns as "The Best of Music City USA."

Multimedia's new thrust was not the only reason Show Biz's syndicated series left the airwaves. Competition from Nashville entrepreneur Jim Owens was also partly responsible. At this writing, Owens' two series — "This Week in

1948 - 1987

Country Music", a weekly show that premiered in September 1983, and the nightly "Crook and Chase" program — are both doing very well. Both programs star Lorianne Crook and Charlie Chase as co-hosts of half-hour wrap-ups of news, gossip tidbits, and other vignettes from the Country Music industry. Both shows are essentially Country versions of "Entertainment Tonight". Specials produced by Owens or by Viacom, a broadcasting conglomerate, also gave the Show Biz/Multimedia series some tough competition. Taken on balance, however, the principal reason for the relative decline in the syndicated series genre had been the emergence of Country programming on cable television.

Country Music on Cable

Atlanta mogul Ted Turner was among the first to sense the increasing importance of cable tv in American broadcasting. He was also among the first to envision the place Country Music might play in cable programming. With a base of some 17 million homes wired into his sports-and-movies superstation, WTBS, Turner launched "Nashville Alive" on September 12, 1981. With Ralph Emery as regular co-host, this hour-long Sunday-night program, broadcast live from Opryland Hotel's Stage Door Lounge, represented the first attempt at a "Tonight Show" centered on Country Music. Four or five artists appeared on each show, sang their latest hits, then moved over to chat with Emery. Basically, the program provided a live, nightclub setting for what Emery had done for years on radio and on "Pop! Goes the Country". A year after its inception, "Nashville Alive" was reaching some 22 million homes, and no doubt the series could have lasted much longer but for Emery's decision to go with the newly formed The Nashville Network and host "Nashville Now", a nightly 90-minute program along the same lines. With the debut of TNN, Turner decided to replace "Nashville Alive" with a music video show, "America's Music Tracks", hosted by Chuck Woolery.

TNN made its debut March 7, 1983, with a five-hour gala hosted by Emery. Using satellite technology, the show linked a variety of big name stars performing live at locations around the nation. With samples and discussions of the regular programs in TNN's 18-hour daily schedule, the launch show reached 21 million viewers in 7 million homes, an all-time high for the premier of any cable network. The audience for TNN, Country Music's first all-time channel, has soared. By the end of 1988 the total number of TNN cable television households has increased to 43 million, making it one of the fastest growing cable networks.

One reason for TNN's obvious popularity with viewers is its great variety. Ralph Emery's "Nashville Now" brings live music and conversation with entertainment's brightest stars into millions of living rooms each weeknight. The new game show "Top Card", hosted by Jim Caldwell and Blake Pickett, challenges the entertainment knowledge of viewers as contestants vie for big prizes. "New Country" showcases artists performing cuts from new albums at Nashville's Cannery nightclub. "American Magazine", TNN's daily magazine series, offers the latest tips about home, fashion, and health. Each Saturday night, viewers enjoy a live half-hour of the world-famous "Grand Ole Opry". Western movie buffs tune in Gene Autry's "Melody Ranch Theater" and Roy Rogers' "Happy Trails Theater". For the chefs, there is Florence Henderson's "Country Kitchen" and Sylvia's "Holiday Gourmet". Viewers enjoy traveling with co-hosts Chris and Linda Lewis as they visit America's best vacation spots on "Side By Side". For industry news and feature stories, TNN carries "Crook and Chase", and "This Week in Country Music" co-hosted by Lorianne Crook and Charlie Chase. Shotgun Red's "CountryClips" and Shelley Mangrum's "VideoCountry" meets the burgeoning demand for Country videos.

For sports enthusiasts, TNN offers "Sports Sunday", a lineup including "American Sports Cavalcade", "Celebrity Outdoors", "The BassMasters", "Inside Winston Cup Racing", and "Hidden Heroes", to name a few.

Turn the dial on most cable systems and you can also find Country Music Television, which specializes in Country videos. Actually, Country Music Television premiered before The Nashville Network did, but with far less fanfare. Originally owned by Telstar Corporation of Beverly Hills, California, Country Music Television is now owned by James William Guercio of Caribou Ranch in Colorado. Country Music Television features interviews with celebrities on "Heart To Heart", live concerts and other special events along with news and informational segments. Approximately 250 clips air each week, most of them furnished by record labels. Country Music Television reaches about 8.5 million cable homes, and another 3.5 million satellite dish owners.

MTV Networks, which also owns Music Television, Nickelodeon, and Nick at Nite, began programming Country Music videos on its adult video channel, VH-1/Video Hits One, when it launched operations in January 1985. Not exclusively Country by any means, VH-1 nevertheless featured celebrity vjs from the Country Music world during Country Music Month (October) in 1986. Reba McEntire, Gary Morris, and Ricky Skaggs did the honors for one week each that month.

NEWSLINE

Trisha Walker was honored at a Nashville reception and given an honorary citizenship to the State of Tennessee by **Governor Ned McWherter** January 5. That day was also proclaimed Trisha Walker Day in Nashville by Mayor Bill Boner. Walker has been responsible for helping establish the European careers of hundreds of American Country Music stars. She currently represents more than 30 European festivals and is international director for the **Jim Halsey Co. Inc.**

Red Man Golden Blend Chewing Tobacco, a brand of the Pinkerton Tobacco Co., announced plans at a mid-December press conference to sponsor a series of Country concerts this spring. **The Red Man Golden Blend Concert Series** will include at least 25 acts with 10 already scheduled for April and May. The concerts will feature emerging Country performers receiving widespread national radio airplay. Concerts will include at least three acts per show with no concert ticket more than \$10. A series of in-store and radio promotions in each market touting \$5 off coupons will enable concert goers to purchase tickets for as low as \$5 per show. Pinkerton Tobacco Co. has pledged in excess of \$1 million in talent costs, production and promotion expenses. **Steven Greil** of **GrielWorks** and **Mitchell Stewart** of the **Stewart Agency** have formed a joint venture to produce and promote the tour. The artist lineup will be announced at a reception during the **Country Radio Seminar** March 1-4 in Nashville.

Bill Monroe, the "Father of Bluegrass" music and an Opry star for over 50 years, will be named 1989 Honorary Member of **The Sonneck Society** during the group's annual meeting and banquet April 8 in Nashville. The Sonneck Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the encouragement and study of all aspects of American music. It was named in honor of Oscar Sonneck, the first chief of the Library of Congress' music division.

The Bellamy Brothers Arabia Cup Derby was held January 15 at Tampa Bay Downs in Tampa Bay, FL and included a \$15,000 purse. **Howard** and **David Bellamy** raise horses on their ranch just outside of Tampa.

Billy Bob's Texas in Fort Worth recently reopened under new operations by **Link Management**. The world's largest honky tonk, with 100,000 square feet, closed in January 1988 and reopened late last year. The club will have a grand reopening in March. **World Class Productions** is handling the club's talent acquisitions and production support.



Charlie Daniels and Liz Stackiewicz, coordinator of fundraising for Wheels Across America, share laughs after recording PSA's at Daniels' Nashville ranch.

— Photo by: Beth Gwinn

Charlie Daniels is helping to promote the Miami Project's **Wheels Across America Tour**. Daniels recorded radio public service announcements and will donate 2,000 commemorative t-shirts and proceeds from one of his future concerts. The Miami Project is committed to finding a cure for paralysis under the aegis of the University of Miami Medical School and Jackson Memorial Hospital. **Wheels Across America** will feature nationally ranked wheelchair athlete **Bill Duff**. He will "push" 5,000 miles across the U.S., ending his trek this July. For more information about **Wheels Across America** call (305) 375-0250.

Tammy Wynette hosted the **Alabama Music Hall of Fame Induction Banquet and Awards Show** January 26 in Birmingham. **The Goldens** and their father **William Lee Golden**, formerly of the **Oak Ridge Boys** were among the performers at the event. The group **Alabama** was the honorary chairmen.

Country/gospel artist **Terri Gibbs** donated her Fender Rhodes electric piano to the **Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum** recently.

Aristo Video Promotion, a division of Aristo Music Associates, Inc., has expanded the company's promotion, distribution and tracking service to include gospel and contemporary Christian videos in addition to pop and Country.

The spring lineup has been announced for **Jamboree U.S.A.** in Wheeling, WV. **Bill Anderson**, **Kathy Mattea**, **Mel Tillis**, **The Forester Sisters**, **Waylon Jennings**, **Ray Stevens**, **Charley Pride**, **Tammy Wynette** and **Vern Gosdin** are just some of the stars performing from March to early June. More information can be obtained by calling (304) 233-5511.

The Judds and **Leggs Products Inc.** recently announced a year-long contract for a series of 10 concerts. This is the first time **Leggs** has sponsored a concert tour. **Leggs** and **Pro Tours Inc.** will develop specialized promotions using the mass media, product give-aways and concert venue signs.

Minnie Pearl, who celebrates 49 years as a Grand Ole Opry member in 1989, will move her museum from Nashville's Music Row area to Opryland U.S.A. theme park this spring. It will be in the same building that houses the Roy Acuff Musical Collection and Museum.

Kalamusic International, a music syndicator and broadcasting consultant based in Kalamazoo, MI, has installed toll-free telephone lines to its regional offices. The number for the Nashville office is 1-800-284-8570.

George Bush recently sent **Moe Bandy** a congratulatory note along with a set of six autographed golf balls embossed with the official vice presidential seal. Bandy hosted the **Third Annual Moe Bandy Pro Celebrity Golf Classic in San Antonio** and **made a hole-in-one with a 150-yard drive.**



Woody Paul, with the help of fellow saddle pals (l to r) Ranger Doug and Too Slim, shows off a few of his famous rope tricks for PEOPLE magazine photographer Slick Lawson at a recent Riders In The Sky photo shoot at Nashville's Owen Bradley Park. Watch for Riders' upcoming PEOPLE feature!

SIGNINGS

Larry Boone to Top Billing International . . . Wolfman Jack to Joe Sullivan . . . Craig Dillingham and John Wesley Ryles to Bull's Creek Music Group . . . WEZR and WSTL to Kalamusic's Kala Klassic Gold . . . Canyon to Chardon . . . Stewart Harris to CBS Music Publishing . . . Jim Weatherly to Milene Music . . . Lisa T. Sterling to H. Ken Biddy and Associates . . . Anthony Armstrong Jones to Morene Townley . . . Shenandoah and Billy Joe Royal to Buddy Lee Attractions . . . Michelle Lynn to Master Records . . . Maripat Davis to Triangle Talent, Inc. . . . Cheryl K. Warner to Playback Records . . . Tom T. Hall to World Class Talent . . . The Kruger Organization to Salzberg Communications.

MEDIA

The Nashville Network will introduce a new game show series in April hosted by former "Tic Tac Dough" host **Jim Caldwell**. Titled "**Top Card**", the series began production in January at TNN's facilities at **Opryland U.S.A.** **Allen Reid** and **Mady Land** are producing the show with **C. Paul Corbin**, director of TNN programming, as executive director. The show will be in production March 28 - 30 and again April 3 - 6 and 10 - 13. Anyone interested in being a contestant should contact Reid/Land Productions at (615) 885-1545.

Country singer **Sylvia** will host the Valentine's Day edition of TNN's "**Holiday Gourmet**" with celebrity cook **Mickey Gilley**. The show will air February 4 and 6.

The **Judds** gave CBS viewers a behind-the-scenes look at their life on the road during a January 16 special "**Across the Heartland**". Award-winning producer **Anthony Eaton** and director **Bud Schaeztle** followed Naomi and Wynonna during five weeks of their 1988 Greatest Hits Tour. The Judds' first television program included Naomi's youngest daughter, **Ashley**.

Patty Loveless and **Randy Travis** entertained U.S. soldiers recently in Alaska, Japan and Korea. Their trip was taped for "**USO Celebrity Tour: Patty Loveless and Randy Travis**". It will air in early February on TNN.

Lorianne Crook and **Charlie Chase** took their show, "**Crook and Chase**", to Houston for the **National Association of Television Program Executives (NATPE)** convention January 24 - 26. This was the first time in NATPE's 26-year history that a program was broadcast live from the convention floor.

A 60-minute special, "**Gene Autry: An American Legend**" will air February 22 on TNN. The show chronicles Autry's career as a radio and recording celebrity, motion picture and tv star and then as creator of a communications empire. The show also includes clips of **John Wayne** and **President Ronald Reagan**.



ASCAP presented RCA recording group **Restless Heart** with a commemorative plaque for their ASCAP 1988 Country Song of the Year, "I'll Still Be Loving You". At the same time Restless Heart presented ASCAP with a gold album signifying 500,000 sales of the lp **WHEELS**. Pictured (l to r) are Restless Heart's **Paul Gregg** and **Dave Innis**; ASCAP's **Shelby Kennedy**; Restless Heart's **Greg Jennings**; ASCAP's **Connie Bradley**; Restless Heart's **John Dittrich**; producers **Scott Hendricks** and **Tim DuBois**; and Restless Heart's **Larry Stewart**.

AWARDS

Booking agency veteran **Billy Deaton** was recently honored by the **Nashville Association of Talent Directors** as Agent of the Year. Deaton has influenced the careers of artists such as Faron Young, Charley Pride and Merle Haggard.

The **Fourth Annual Alabama Governor's Conference on Volunteerism** recently recognized funnyman **George "Goober" Lindsey's** ongoing efforts to aid the state's **Special Olympics**. Lindsey has raised \$1.5 million through the **George Lindsey Celebrity Golf Tournament**. The 16-year event was played for the last time in 1988.

The **Amusement and Music Operators Association** voted **K. T. Oslin** as 1988's Female Rising Star. The award reflects Oslin's growing following among jukebox programmers. AMOA members purchase 28 million singles per year.

Country artist **Marie Osmond** is the recipient of the **1988 Roy Acuff Community Service Award**. The honor is voted on by the **Country Music Foundation's** board of trustees and its purpose is to recognize outstanding service to mankind by Country artists. Most of Osmond's work benefits the **Children's Miracle Network Telethon**, which has raised over \$170 million for U.S. hospitals.

Robert Deaton and George Flanigen of Deaton Flanigen Productions, Inc. were recently honored in the **1988 New York International Film and Television Awards** held at New York's Sheraton Hotel. The Deaton Flanigen company was named as a finalist in the advertising category for the **Best Humorous Campaign** from nearly 4,000 entries.

WWVA radio news director **Jim Wallace** of Wheeling, WV received an award from the **National Association of Realtors (NAR)** for his recent report on the state's taxing problem.

Charlotte, NC newsman **C. Douglas Mayes** was inducted into the **North Carolina Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame** in November. Mayes anchored the **WBTV** evening news for more than 22 years.

Johnny Cash was the recipient of the **National Rehabilitation Hospital's Victory Award** December 12, 1988. The award honors those who have overcome adversity in their lives, such as physical handicaps or substance addiction. It was presented at a ceremony at the **Kennedy Center** in Washington, DC.

Willie Nelson was named the winner of the **American Music Awards Award of Merit** in a ceremony held January 30th. The honor is presented to those who have made "outstanding contributions over a long period of time to the musical entertainment of the American public". The gala was televised on ABC.



Larry Stewart (left) of Restless Heart and Bill Bates (center) of the Dallas Cowboys play a few links with Larry Johnson of Converse. Restless Heart has entered into a sponsorship agreement with Converse and will play a sports expo show for Converse in Atlanta on February 9.



To celebrate the sure-shot success of their single "Long Shot", RCA's Baillie & The Boys met with the writers Don Schlitz and Gary Scruggs. The single is the first release from Baillie & The Boys second lp, TURN THE TIDE. From (l to r) are Alan LeBoeuf, Michael Bonagura and Kathie Baillie of Baillie & The Boys; Scruggs and Schlitz.

NEW COMPANIES

A new West Coast headquarters for **The Famous Music Publishing Companies** opened in December at Central Park, 3500 West Olive, 10th Floor, Burbank, CA 91505. The telephone number is (818) 566-7000.

Raymond Lee recently opened a new office for his self-titled management company at 915 West Main Street, Hendersonville, TN 37075. He may be reached at (615) 822-1783.



ON THE MOVE

Ginni McClure recently joined the **Gary/Gurley Public Relations** firm as national media director. McClure was most recently an account executive with **Dale Olson and Associates** in Los Angeles on entertainment and film publicity campaigns. McClure will be based in the Nashville office.

Larry E. Verbit of **Westwood One Companies** has been promoted to senior counsel. Prior to joining the company, Verbit worked in sales and contract administration for **Paramount Pictures**.

The **Jim Owens Company** has added **Diane Crabtree** as staff producer. Crabtree will serve as one of four line producers for **"Crook and Chase"**, **"This Week In Country Music"**, **"Celebrities Offstage"**, **"TNN's Viewers' Choice Awards"**, and **"CMA Preview"**. Crabtree was formerly with **WSMV**, NBC's Nashville, TN television affiliate.

Following the formation of **Universal Records** in early December and **Jimmy Bowen's** decision to leave **MCA Records/Nashville** to lead the new label, changes have occurred at MCA. Former executive vice president and general manager **Bruce Hinton** has been upped to MCA president, and **Tony Brown** will serve as executive vice president of MCA and head of A&R.

Jason Hutchenson, **Tom T. Hall's** bass player since 1985, has been chosen as Hall's tour manager.

Veteran booking agent **Mike Marshall** recently joined the sales staff at **Top Billing International**.

RCA Records promoted three executives in December. **Mike Sirils** is now the director of national Country promotion, **Ted Wagner** is manager of national Country promotion and **Phran Schwartz** is director of product development.

Bill Catino was appointed director of promotion for the newly established **Universal Records** label based out of Nashville.

Country 101 WPCM in Burlington, NC has recently added **Jim Howie** as music director replacing **Tim Roberts**.

Pat Surnegie of **MCA Records** was recently upped to director of promotion for the Northeast and will be based in Cleveland.



Barbara Mandrell gets a hug from Ralph Emery when she appeared on TNN's "Nashville Now" recently.



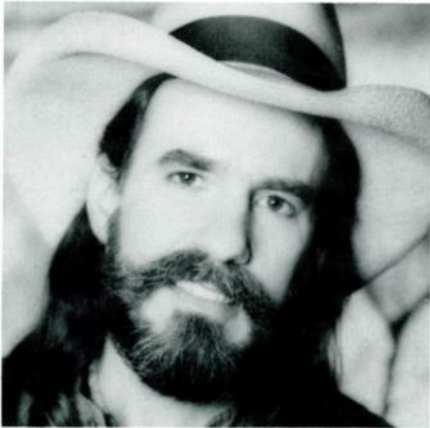
Earl Thomas Conley recently visited the Maypop Music Group offices to celebrate the success of his latest single "What I'd Say", co-written by Robert Byrne and Maypop's Will Robinson. Pictured (l to r) are Byrne, Conley and Robinson.

FEBRUARY

(* denotes birthdays)

- 1 ***Don Everly**; Brownie, Kentucky
 ***Ray Sawyer**; Chickasaw, Alabama
 ***Catherine Gregory**; Chicago, Illinois
 Scotty Wiseman dies of a heart attack, 1981

- 2 **GROUND HOG DAY**
 ***Lester McFarland**; Gray, Kentucky



***Howard Bellamy**; Darby, Florida

- 3 ***Norman Rockwell**
 Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and The Big Bopper die in a plane crash, 1959

Lynn Anderson's "Rose Garden" awarded gold record, 1971

- 4 ***Charles Lindberg**
 Billy Walker employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1960

Billy "Crash" Craddock has a top five hit with "I Cheated On A Good Woman's Love", 1978

George Washington elected as first U.S. President, 1789

Patricia Hearst is kidnapped by Symbionese Liberation Army members, 1974

- 5 ***Claude King**; Shreveport, Louisiana
 ***Mervyn Conn**

George Jones and Tammy Wynette have a number one hit with "Near You", 1977

Dan Seals' WONT BE BLUE ANYMORE awarded gold album, 1987

- 6 ***Dan Seals**; Iraan, Texas
 *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
 Queen Elizabeth II is ascended to the throne upon her father's death, 1952

- 7 ***Wilma Lee Cooper**; Valley Head, West Virginia
 ***Donna Stoneman**; Washington, DC

***Charles Dickens**
 ***Buster Crabb**
 John Conlee employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1981

- 8 ***Harold "Pappy" Daily**; Yoakam, Texas

***Merle Watson**; Deep Gap, North Carolina

- 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

Randy Travis' STORMS OF LIFE awarded platinum album, 1987

A fire at the Las Vegas Hilton kills eight people. Mac Davis and his bandmembers, playing at the hotel, barely escape injury, 1981

Uncle Art Satherley dies, 1986

- 11 ***Wesley Rose**; Chicago, Illinois

***Burt Reynolds**

***Thomas Edison**

Roger Miller's GOLDEN HITS awarded gold album, 1966

- 12 **LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY**

***Moe Bandy**; Meridian, Mississippi

***Stephen H. Sholes**; Washington, DC

***Charles Darwin**

- 13 ***Tennessee Ernie Ford**; Bristol, Tennessee

***Boudleaux Bryant**; Shellman, Georgia

***Jim McReynolds**; Coeburn, Virginia

***Kim Novak**

ASCAP organized in New York; 1914

- 14 **VALENTINE'S DAY**

***Razzy Bailey**; Lafayette, Alabama

***Joseph Walt** (co-founder of the New Zealand Country Music Association); Quantico, Virginia

***Jack Benny**

- 15 ***Hank Locklin**; McLellan, Florida

***Susan B. Anthony**

***Jane Seymour**

"Oh Lonesome Me"/"I Can't Stop Lovin' You", Don Gibson's double-sided hit, enters the Country Music charts, 1958

Jessie Colter tops the charts with "I'm Not Lisa", 1975

- 16 ***Jimmy Wakely**; rural Arkansas

***Jo Walker-Meador**; Orlinda, Tennessee

***Jimmy Walker**; Ralls, Texas

***Ronnie Milsap**; Robbinsville, North Carolina

Don Williams' "Love Me Over Again" is number one on the Country charts, 1980

- 17 ***Johnny Bush**; Houston, Texas

***Buck Trent**; Spartanburg, South Carolina

***Billy Byrd**; Nashville, Tennessee
 Bill and Charlie Monroe's first recording session, 1936

Johnny Cash earns first number one Country hit with "Ballad Of A Teenage Queen", 1958

"The Tennessee Waltz" declared Tennessee's state song, 1965

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

***Juice Newton**; Virginia Beach, Virginia

Emmylou Harris' BLUE KENTUCKY GIRL awarded gold lp, 1981

Hattie Louise "Tootsie" Bess dies, 1978

- 19 ***Lee Marvin**

Roy Acuff's first Opry appearance, 1938

Phonograph patented by Thomas Edison, 1878

Willie Nelson's film, "Red Headed Stranger", premieres in Austin, 1987

- 20 ***Linda Lou Shriver**; Buffalo, New York

***Buffy Sainte-Marie**

***George Washington** (observed)

Dolly Parton and Porter Wagoner perform together for the first time since their 1974 breakup, 1988

Buck Owen's "I've Got A Tiger By The Tail" reaches number one on the Country charts, 1965

- 21 Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings' "Good Hearted Woman" tops Country charts. WANTED — THE OUTLAWS eventually becomes Country Music's first platinum album, 1976

Jimmie Rodgers records "Any Old Time" and "Desert Blues" at Victor Studios, New York, 1929

Hank Williams' "Kaw Liga" enters the Country charts, 1953

- 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" wins Grammy, 1978
- 24 ***Doug LaValley**; Parkersburg, West Virginia
 Loretta Lynn's "First City" enters Country charts, 1968
- 25 ***Ralph Stanley**; Stratton, Virginia
 ***Faron Young**; Shreveport, Louisiana
 George Jones receives a Grammy Award, 1981
 THE BEST OF THE STATLER BROTHERS RIDES AGAIN, VOLUME 2 awarded gold album, 1981



- 26 ***Johnny Cash**; Kingland, Arkansas
 ***Fiddlin' Sid Harkreader**; Gladeville, Tennessee
 The Louvin Brothers first appear on the Grand Ole Opry, 1955
- 27 ***Charles "Chuck" Glaser**; Spaulding, Nebraska
 *Elizabeth Taylor
 *Joan Bennett
- 28 ***Jim Denny**; Buffalo Valley, Tennessee
 ***Joe South**; Atlanta, Georgia
 ***Audrey Williams**; Bank, Alabama
 Alabama's "The Closer You Get" awarded Grammy, 1984

MARCH

- 1 ***"Cliffie Stone"** (Clifford Gilpin Snyder); Burbank, California
 ***Jim Ed Brown**; Sparkman, Arkansas



***Janice Gill** (Sweethearts of the Rodeo); Torrance, California
 Johnny Cash and June Carter marry in Franklin, Kentucky, 1968
 Uncle Dave Macon's last appearance on Grand Ole Opry, 1952
 Barbara Mandrell signs her first recording contract, 1969

- 2 ***Arthel "Doc" Watson**; Deep Gap, North Carolina
 ***Larry Stewart** (Restless Heart); Paducah, Kentucky
 David Houston wins a Grammy for "Almost Persuaded" and Jeannie Seely for "Don't Touch Me", 1967
 Jim and Jesse McReynold employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1964
 The Whites employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1984
 Peace in Vietnam, 1973
- 3 ***Bob Dipeiro**; Youngstown, Ohio
 ***Betty Jack Davis** (Davis Sisters); Corbin, Kentucky
 Waylon Jennings' WHAT GOES AROUND certified gold, 1980
- 4 "Coal Miner's Daughter", the film version of Loretta Lynn's autobiography, premiers in Nashville, 1980
 James "Sleepy" McDaniel dies, 1963
- 5 ***Tommy Cash**; Dyess, Arkansas
 Patsy Cline, Hawkshaw Hawkins and Cowboy Copas die in a plane crash, 1963
- 6 ***Bob Wills**; Limestone County, Texas
 ***Jerry Naylor**; Erath County, Texas
 THE BEST OF BUCK OWENS awarded gold record, 1968

- 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 Johnny and Jack killed in auto accident en route to Patsy Cline's memorial service, 1963
- 8 ***Lew DeWitt**; Roanoke County, Virginia
 ***Jimmy Stoneman**; Washington, DC
 ***Johnny Dollar**; Kilgore, Texas
 Willie Nelson's "My Heroes 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
 Patsy Cline's funeral attended by approximately 25,000 people, 1963
- 11 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; that year he had eight Country hits.
 Charley Pride's "She's Just An Ole Love Turned Memory" tops Country charts, 1977

[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 Marie Cracknell and Linda Cauthen, and the Country Music Foundation's OFFICIAL 1989 COUNTRY MUSIC CALENDAR, as well as from original research.]

FEBRUARY

- 1-2 CMA Board Meeting / San Diego, CA
- 2-5 Radio Advertising Bureau Managing Sales Conference / Dallas, TX
- 3-5 Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America 15th Anniversary Bluegrass Music Awards / Sheraton Music City / Nashville, TN / Call (816) 665-7172 for details
- 22 31st Annual Grammy Awards / Shrine Auditorium / Los Angeles, CA / Call (615) 255-8777 for details

MARCH

- 1-4 CRS/MIPS / Opryland Hotel / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 329-4487 for details
- 3-7 National Association of Record Merchandisers (NARM) Convention / New Orleans Marriott / Call (609) 596-2221 for details
- 16-19 South By Southwest Music and Media Conference (SXSW) '89 /

- Marriott at the Capitol / Austin, TX / Call (512) 477-7979 for details
- 17-19 Calico Hullabaloo 1989 / Calico Ghost Town / Barstow, CA / Call (619) 254-2122 for details
- 20-22 International Events Group "Sponsorship Next: Strategies for the Nineties" / Chicago Hilton / Chicago, IL / Call (312) 944-1727 for details
- 25-27 International Festival of Country Music / Wembley, England
- 30 B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League Americanism Award Dinner / Hyatt Regency Hotel / Nashville, TN

APRIL

- 1 Radio Orion / The O.K. "Keep It Country" Concert / Johannesburg, South Africa
- 10 Academy of Country Music Awards / Walt Disney Studios / Burbank, CA
- 25 1989 TNN Viewers' Choice Awards / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 30- May 4 Fourth International Music & Media Conference (IMMC) / Amsterdam, Holland

MAY

- 3-4 CMA Board Meeting / Amsterdam Hilton / Amsterdam, Holland
- 27-29 Lincolnshire International Country Music Jamboree / Grantham, England

JUNE

- 5 "MUSIC CITY NEWS Country Awards" / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 5-11 18th International Country Music Fan Fair / Tennessee State Fairgrounds / Nashville, TN

SEPTEMBER

- 19-22 International Bluegrass Music Association Trade Show and Fan Fest / Owensboro, KY / Call (919) 542-3997 for details

OCTOBER

- 9 CMA Awards Show / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 10 CMA Board of Directors Meeting
CMA Annual Membership Meeting

CBS/Columbia's Rodney Crowell celebrates his third consecutive number one "She's Crazy For Leaving" with (l to r) Roy Wunsch, senior vice president, CBS/Nashville; Tommy Motiola, president, CBS Records Division; Crowell; and Walter Yemkoff, president, CBS Records Inc.

— Photo by: Beth Guinn



CMA
COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Close Up

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