

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1994

CLOSE UP



1994
AWARDS

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cma

COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION



"I feel confident that I've had enough stuff happen in my life that I'm not gonna be in a plane crash or something."

John Berry
PAGE 29

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Reba McEntire delivers a stunning performance of "She Thinks His Name Was John".

1994 CMA AWARDS

M

CA singer/songwriter Vince Gill proved to be "the host with the most" at "The 28th Annual CMA Awards", racking up three more of the coveted trophies to break his own record as the all-time leading CMA Award winner. Gill took home his second consecutive Entertainer of the Year trophy, as well as his fourth Male Vocalist of the Year award in a row. He also shared Album of the Year honors for his contribution to *COMMON THREAD: THE SONGS OF THE EAGLES*.

The long-legged Oklahoman, now with 14 CMA Awards to his credit, glibly hosted the live telecast solo this year, causing Ed Morris to write in *BILLBOARD*, "With his quick wit and complete ease, he was the backbone and funny bone of the proceedings."

Pam Tillis, who last year shared Vocal Event honors with George Jones & Friends, collected her first solo CMA win with the Female Vocalist of the Year award. "This is literally a shock to me," the Arista singer/songwriter said when accepting the honor. "I love what I do, and I love to share it with the world."

Prior to winning her award, Tillis provided one of the highlights of the show with her performance of "Mi Vida Loca", adding some Spanish spice with a flamenco dancer and calling on Flaco Jimenez to complete



Mary Chapin Carpenter and Little Richard provide a fitting conclusion to "Shut Up And Kiss Me".

the "south of the border" sound with his concertina.

John Michael Montgomery won his first two CMA Awards with Single of the Year for "I Swear", as well as the coveted Horizon Award, presented to the performer

who has shown the most significant career development during the past year. When accepting the latter, he provided one of the telecast's most emotional moments. "I don't want to be selfish, but I lost a very important person in my life this year. It just happens to be my father, so this is for him."

Backstage at the press conference, Montgomery said, "I love that I won the award because it was definitely for him. But I do hate that he ain't here with me to hug and hold, 'cause we definitely were a very close family."

Emmylou Harris kicked off a tribute to Country Music Hall of Fame inductee Merle Haggard with "Mama's Hungry Eyes". An all-star Country jam featuring Vince Gill, Clint Black, Marty Stuart, Steve Wariner, Lee Roy Parnell and Diamond Rio performing "Workin' Man's Blues" preceded Haggard's acceptance of the honor.

The legendary singer/songwriter unrolled a long list of people to thank, saying, "I've had 30 days notice. I'm not used to getting notices for such things. I've had notices for evictions. I had a guy call me up one time and tell me on a Monday that he was going to whip me on Friday...I've got a lot of people to thank. I've had a lot of help."

He later told the press backstage, "I'm proud of what my music has become over

the last few years, and what people claim that it means to them, especially people that have special reasons for loving music, more than just listening to it."

A multitude of artists shared Album of the Year honors for COMMON THREAD: THE SONGS OF THE EAGLES. Executive



Tanya Tucker, in a new, temporary role as a reporter for "Entertainment Tonight", interviews Vince Gill following the CMA Awards.



George Strait lights up the CMA audience with an energetic performance of "Love Bug".

producer James Stroud and Clint Black, who earlier performed "Desperado" during the telecast, accepted the honor for John Anderson, Suzy Bogguss, Brooks & Dunn, Billy Dean, Diamond Rio, Alan Jackson, Little Texas, Lorrie Morgan, Travis Tritt, Tanya Tucker, and Trisha Yearwood.

"I'd like to thank James Stroud for giving me first pick of things to sing on the album," Black said. Backstage, he told the press, "To me, the Eagles are the American Beatles...These are songs that will teach you something."

Brooks & Dunn repeated their 1992 and 1993 wins by accepting their third Vocal Duo of the Year Award. "We want to be here for a long time," said Ronnie Dunn. "Great things are happening for us. This is not getting old."

Arista labelmates Diamond Rio also took home their third consecutive award for Vocal Group of the Year. Backstage, lead singer Marty Roe remarked, "Musically, we've been able to grow and take the mistakes we'd made and turn them into positives. That's what life's all about, and that's what our career's about."

Alan Jackson and Jim McBride took home Song of the Year honors for "Chattahoochee". "I didn't come to Nashville to be a songwriter," said Jackson. "People like Jim wrote with me in the early days when nobody else wanted to."

Martina McBride received her first CMA Award for Music Video of the Year for "Independence Day", directed by Robert Deaton and George J. Flanigen IV. She performed the chart-topping tune on the live broadcast. "This is too much excitement! I might just have this baby right here," said McBride, who was seven months pregnant at the time.



At the backstage press conference, Martina McBride admitted to being stunned at winning Music Video of the Year for "Independence Day".

Reba McEntire and Linda Davis captured the Vocal Event of the year Award for "Does He Love You". "This time last year, I had no record deal," Davis said. "I had no business being here. Thanks to Reba for inviting me to be a part of this song."

Mark O'Connor was named Musician of the Year for the fourth time in as many years. "I'm just trying to figure out how I can continue to deserve this. I promise the members of the CMA I'll start practicing more and try to be better and better."

"The 1994 CMA Awards", broadcast live on CBS Television, won the night in the ratings race for the network, its first Wednesday win since the Winter Olympics on March 2. Spurred by the special's strong showing, CBS also won the week for the first time in the new television season. The *Los Angeles Times* heralded, "Country Music Has A Champion Sound for CBS", and *New York Newsday* wrote, "CBS provided reams of data explaining the victory, but you, dear reader, need know only three letters: CMA."

-Photos by Alan Mayor, Kay Williams and John Montgomery.



Lead singer Marty Roe accepts Vocal Group of the Year honors on behalf of his Diamond Rio bandmates.



James Stroud and Clint Black beam when talking about their contributions to the Album of the Year, COMMON THREAD: THE SONGS OF THE EAGLES (ABOVE).

Pam Tillis beams as she displays her CMA Award for Female Vocalist of the Year during the backstage press conference (RIGHT).

Merle Haggard unrolls the list of folks he wants to thank following his induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame. First on the list: his plumber (FAR RIGHT).

Horizon Award nominee Lee Roy Parnell hit all the high points with "On The Road" (BELOW).



Ronnie Dunn and Kix Brooks brought some levity to the backstage press conference following their Vocal Duo of the Year win.

NEW CMA BOARD ELECTED

New directors and officers have been elected to serve on the 1994-95 board of the Country Music Association. Kitty Moon of Nashville's Scene Three has been named chairman of the board, and Tony Conway, president of Buddy Lee Attractions in Nashville, has been elected president.

Directors, who serve two-year terms, were elected at the organization's annual meeting, October 6, at the Opryland Hotel. Officers, who serve for one year, were elected by the directors at a meeting held Friday, October 7. CMA officers and directors serve gratis and pay their own expenses to attend meetings.

By category, new directors elected by the members include:

AT-LARGE: Rick Blackburn, Atlantic Records; Bruce Hinton, MCA Records, Nashville; E.W. Wendell, Gaylord Entertainment Co.
ADVERTISING AGENCY/PR: Evelyn Shriver, Evelyn Shriver Public Relations
ARTIST/MUSICIAN: Brent Rowan
COMPOSER: Harlan Howard
INTERNATIONAL: Dave Pennefather, MCA Records, Dublin, Ireland
MUSIC PUBLISHER: Jerry Bradley, Opryland Music Group
PERSONAL MANAGER: Larry Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald-Hartley Management
PUBLICATIONS: Lon Helton, RADIO & RECORDS
RADIO MANAGEMENT: Dan Halyburton, KPLX, Dallas
RADIO PROGRAMMING: Tim Murphy, KMPS, Seattle
RECORD COMPANY: Tim DuBois, Arista Records Nashville
RECORD/VIDEO MERCHANDISER: Terry Woodward, Waxworks, Owensboro, KY
TALENT AGENT: Rick Shipp, William Morris Agency
TALENT BUYER/PROMOTER: Joe Sullivan, The Sullivan Company, Branson, MO
TELEVISION/VIDEO: Kitty Moon, Scene Three, Inc.

OFFICERS:

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT: Dick Gary, The Gary Group, Los Angeles
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Collins, Collins Music, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Connie Bradley, ASCAP; Dick McCullough,

E.H. Brown Advertising, Chicago; David Conrad, Almo/Irving Music; Tim Wipperman, Warner/Chappell Music; Bob Moody, WPOC, Baltimore; Jimmy Gilmer, EMI Nashville Productions; Merle Kilgore, Hank Williams Jr. Enterprises; Jack McFadden, McFadden Artists Corp.; Lynn Shults, BILLBOARD; Barry Coburn, Ten Ten Management; Thom Schuyler, RCA Records; Steve Moore, Moore Entertainment; Hal Willis, CMT Country Music Television; Merlin Littlefield, ASCAP; Harold Shedd, Polydor Nashville; John Huie, Creative Artists Agency; Mary Chapin Carpenter; Stan Goman, Tower Records, West Sacramento, CA; Allen Butler, Sony Music Entertainment; Bruce Allen, Bruce Allen Talent, Vancouver, British Columbia

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS:

Kip Kronos, Columbia Records/U.K., London; Klaus Schmalenbach, BMG International, Munich, Germany

SECRETARY: Hal Durham, Grand Ole Opry

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Luke Lewis, Mercury Nashville
TREASURER: Wayne Halper, Liberty Records
ASSISTANT TREASURER: Jeff Walker, AristoMedia
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: James Stroud, Giant Records
ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Steve Hauser, Pace Concerts Southeast
HISTORIAN: Robert K. Oermann, RKO Media
ASSISTANT HISTORIAN: Bud Schaetzle, High Five Productions

Directors serving the second year of their terms:

AT-LARGE: Vincent Candilora, SESAC; Stan Moress, Moress, Nanas, Shea Entertainment; Roger Sovine, BMI
ADVERTISING AGENCY/PR: Janice Wendell, Ericson Marketing Communications
ARTIST/MUSICIAN: Clint Black



Kitty Moon and Tony Conway

COMPOSER: Richard Leigh, Lion-Hearted/EMI Music
INTERNATIONAL: Paul Fenn, Asgard Promotions Ltd., London
MUSIC PUBLISHER: Donna Hilley, Sony Tree
PERSONAL MANAGER: Don Light, Don Light Talent
PUBLICATIONS: Rich Krumme, COUNTRY AMERICA, Des Moines, IA
RADIO MANAGEMENT: Larry Daniels, KNIX, Phoenix
RADIO PROGRAMMING: Coyote Calhoun, WAMZ, Louisville, KY
RECORD COMPANY: Eddie Reeves, Warner Bros./Reprise Nashville
RECORD/VIDEO MERCHANDISER: Larry Hicks, The Handleman Co.
TALENT AGENT: Terry Cline, Artists Concepts
TALENT BUYER/PROMOTER: Bob Romeo, The Don Romeo Agency, Omaha, NE
TELEVISION/VIDEO: Paul Corbin, Gaylord Entertainment Co.

CMA LIFETIME BOARD MEMBERS:

J. William Denny, Nashville Gas Company; Ralph Peer II, Peermusic, San Francisco; Frances Preston, BMI, New York; and Joe Talbot, Talbot Music Publishing, Inc., Nashville. 

CMA AWARDS BOOST VISIBILITY, ALBUM SALES

It's amazing what 10 pounds can do for a Country Music artist's career - 10 pounds of crystal, that is.

As in previous years, this year's CMA winners report good things coming from their victories. Simply being nominated or performing on the CMA Awards can boost an artist's visibility as well as record sales.

Pam Tillis, 1994 Female Vocalist of the Year, says she was having a "routine year" until "The 28th Annual CMA Awards" on October 5. "When the award came down, the whole picture changed," Pam says. "It was like everything kicked into overdrive. Suddenly all your decisions seem more important, more serious...There's nothing like an award to get you out of a rut or over a plateau."

She says the honor helped her pull away from the pack of female artists. "People do pay attention to (awards). Some good opportunities have come as a result of this."

Pam's publicist, Ronna Rubin of Rubin Media, agrees. "Pam's been fortunate to have tremendous media support from the start. Since her CMA win, the few media sources that had been riding the fence have come to the party. Following up her CMA

"...JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY I SEE IN MY FAN CLUB LINE OR JUST IN GENERAL PEOPLE SAY, 'I SAW YOU ON THE CMA AWARDS SHOW.' IT'S LIKE EVERYBODY WATCHES THAT SHOW." - FAITH HILL

win with a number one record ("When You Walk In The Room") made for an unbeatable combination," Ronna points out. Since the CMA Awards, Tillis has appeared on television talk shows, including "Late Night With Conan O'Brien" and "Live With Regis and Kathie Lee".

Lisa Brokop, who recently debuted on Patriot Records, has reaped the rewards of being one of several young artists who introduced commercial breaks during the CMA Awards telecast.

"It definitely raised her visibility," says Susan Collier, director of publicity for Patriot. "I got comments from every media person we talked to after the show. And it

also gave her the opportunity to meet all the other young artists. That week was like the highlight of our whole year."

The most concrete evidence of how the spot helped the artist may be the fact that her record sales have doubled since the CMA Awards, according to Bill Kennedy, Patriot's national director of sales.

Brokop isn't the only one to see sales skyrocket. "The thing I'm close to is how music sells at record stores, and absolutely the (CMA Awards) show has impact," says Geoff Mayfield, director of charts for BILLBOARD Magazine.

Album of the Year winner COMMON THREAD: THE SONGS OF THE EAGLES enjoyed an amazing 354 percent sales increase the week after the telecast. "That was the most conspicuous example because it was already on the Country chart, but on BILLBOARD'S Top 200, it had been gone for a while. It suddenly comes back in with these roaring numbers," Mayfield says. "That doesn't necessarily mean it's the one that sold the most afterwards, but from nowhere to somewhere - and not just somewhere but a huge hike in the Country chart and a respectable re-entry in the BILLBOARD Top 200 - that was pretty dramatic."

Third-time Vocal Duo of the Year Brooks & Dunn's Arista lp WAITIN' ON SUNDOWN won BILLBOARD'S Greatest Gainer spot when the duo's 14,000 unit gain on the BILLBOARD Top 200 the week after the telecast was the largest gain of any act in any genre. Dolly Parton had the largest percentage gain that week and won the Pacesetter nod for her Columbia lp HEARTSONGS. "So there were three stellar things that happened with Country Music on the BILLBOARD Top 200 the week after, all of them with statistical ammunition," Mayfield says.

Other examples include Vince Gill (host of the telecast and winner of Entertainer and Male Vocalist of the Year awards), who had a 28 percent increase in sales of his MCA lp WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU the second week after the show; Atlantic Records' John Michael Montgomery (winner of the

Horizon Award and Single of the Year), who had a 19 percent increase of KICKIN' IT UP that week, and Clint Black, who performed "Desperado" from the COMMON THREAD lp. His new RCA lp ONE EMOTION saw a 36 percent increase in sales.

"The thing that really seems to help with any awards show," Mayfield says, "is to appear on the show, particularly if you perform. It's a bigger deal to the consumer to see, 'Oh, that's who does that song,' and it kind of brings it to life for them."

"The CMAs set the table for career-high chart entries by the now hypenless Mary Chapin Carpenter, who grabs the top of the Country chart while entering the big chart at number 10," Mayfield points out. "With the build Carpenter has made from album to

**"WHEN THE AWARD CAME DOWN, THE WHOLE PICTURE CHANGED."
- PAM TILLIS**

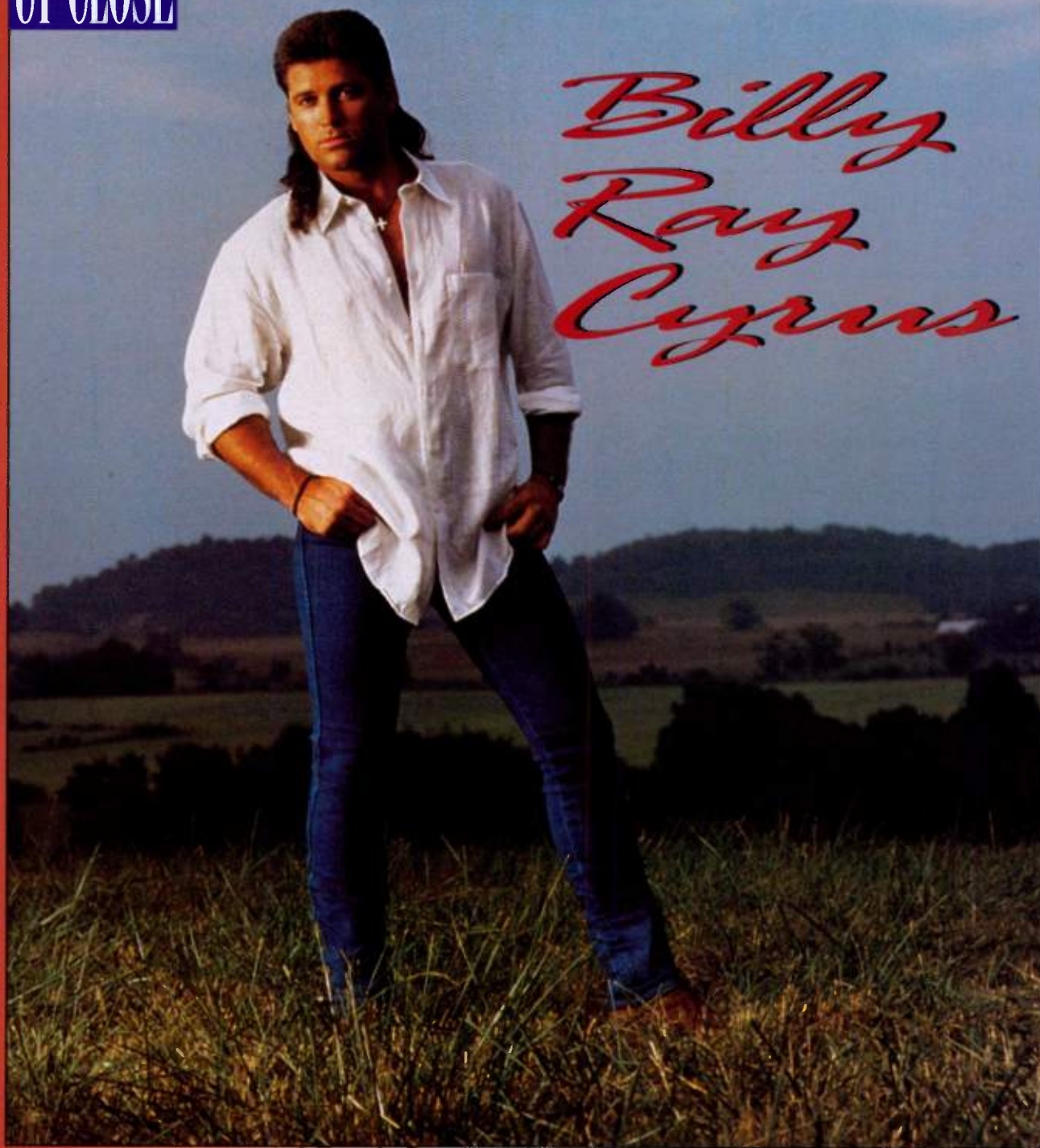
album, (her Columbia lp STONES IN THE ROAD) would have started big anyway, but the CMAs...certainly raised the stakes."

Another example is Faith Hill (a Horizon Award nominee who performed "Take Me As I Am" from her debut Warner Bros. lp) who had a 61.5 percent increase the second week out, Mayfield says.

"...Just about everybody I see in my fan club line or just in general people say, 'I saw you on the CMA Awards show,'" reports Hill. "It's like everybody watches that show. And I remember watching it as a child every time it would come on."

Viewers' opinions were polled in surveys done after the telecast by ASI Market Research. A national sample of men and women 12 to 65 years of age were recruited to watch the program in its entirety. The following day, viewers were interviewed by phone. According to the research summary, "The CMA Awards show is a selling tool for the music media; 70 percent agree (39 percent strongly) that they plan to buy CDs or cassette tapes of some songs or artists appearing on the program." **CU**

- SHANNON HEIM



Billy Ray Cyrus

Just one day before the release of Billy Ray Cyrus' third Mercury lp, *STORM IN THE HEARTLAND*, the multi-platinum superstar is seated comfortably in his manager's office, enjoying a slew of interviews to promote the album's release. In addition to his striking blue eyes and determined jaw, Billy Ray exudes an aura of absolute serenity. Indeed, it's a bit of an understatement to say that his life is going quite nicely.

"I'm very happy. I've been praying for strength and wisdom and peace. Right now, I feel like

that's what I have in my life. I've been praying for the vision to do the things in my life that I'm supposed to do and not do the things I'm not supposed to do...just finding happiness.

"The peace that I have now, that I finally have in life...I finally have a life I love. I love being with my wife and laughing and playing with the kids and watching them grow and learn new tricks. Just yesterday my little boy (Braison Chance) said, 'Dada.' The first words out of his mouth that make any sense at all. 'Dada, Dada.' I got off on that! My little boy is

only 7 months but he's been riding my horse with me. He sits there (in front of me) and Miley (his four-year-old daughter, Destiny Hope) sits on the back, and we ride around. That makes me very happy.

"I was teaching my son to build a fire the other day - he doesn't really hear what I'm saying - but I kept working on this fire, and the wind was blowing real hard, and the fire didn't want to start. I kept working harder and harder, and pretty soon what had started out as pleasure came out to be laborious, strenuous work of

building this fire. And I looked at my son, sweat beading down off my head, and I said, 'Son, remember this. The things in life that are the best are the things you have to work the hardest for.'

It's a lesson Billy Ray has learned firsthand. After struggling for years playing clubs, looking for that just-out-of-reach record deal, he became the proverbial "overnight sensation" with the release of his first single, "Achy Breaky Heart".

"I was so busy working, I didn't realize just exactly what we had done. I didn't realize the magnitude, because I was so busy trying to keep up with it. Now that I can look back on it, I'm really proud of what SOME GAVE ALL (his debut album) did around the world. Eighteen weeks in a row for a debut album at number one on BILLBOARD'S top 200 - that doesn't happen every day."

But success didn't come without some thorny moments. Many critics scorned SOME GAVE ALL, and at times it seemed that even the music industry considered him a flash-in-the-pan.

"It's actually been very complimentary that it would make anyone so mad that they would

"The things in life that are the best are the things you have to work the hardest for."

have to attack me. It's like we must have done something! I'm very proud of what this music has done. I understand why some people kind of got mad at me right off the bat. I would rather have that 18 weeks at number one and someone get mad at me than not have it and everybody love me.

"For 1992 and '93 and most of '94, I've spent trying so hard to keep up with that phenomenon of nine million records and the 'Achy Breaky' thing, touring the world and the whole deal, trying to keep up with that. I really missed the last three years of my life. People say, 'What was it like in France? What was the Eiffel Tower?' Well, I didn't get to see it. I've been just so busy trying to keep up with it.

"Now, I feel like with STORM IN THE HEARTLAND... This album is 14 songs of my life, 14 years of a lot of hard work, a lot of sweat, a lot of happiness, a lot of sadness. This is my whole life on this album. I feel like this is

the calm before the storm. And tomorrow (when the album is released), the storm hits - November 8th. But this time I'm ready to weather the storm. If the album goes gangbusters, then that's great. But if it goes guacamole, then that's great. Because I'm very

"I finally have a life I love."

proud of the album. The album is my life, it's my soul, it's a lot of hard work. Many, many years of determination are on that cd, and I'm very proud of the music that's on there. I don't feel like there are any holes on this album. Everything that exists in Billy Ray Cyrus is in this album, from the Pentecostal to bluegrass to straight-ahead Country to southern rock to Led Zeppelin. Everything that I am is in this album. Everything that Country radio would need and expect from Billy Ray Cyrus is in this album. Everything that my fans expect. I'm just happy for it to be out and be here and be a reality."

These days, Billy Ray has achieved the delicate balance between career and family. "It's in my heart, my mind and my soul that there has to be a balance between all things. For so long, it's been a complete out-of-balance, completely one thing of a career but no life. There's just no way a person can continue like that or you'll end up dead. So I just feel like finding a balance that makes the wheels spin smooth is the way to do it.

"My family was completely behind STORM IN THE HEARTLAND and loved the songs on it. My little girl was rooting for me every day that I'd go to the studio. I'd come home and play her a tape of something that she liked, which is every song on the album, I think. Every song she can sing part of. I wanted to do something that my family would be proud of, that my fans would be proud of, that I would be proud of. And through this hard work on this album, I feel like it's something we are proud of. Just maintaining that balance of my family, my

"I think that if I can keep doing this for the next 10 years, that would be great."

fans, the music, the career. I do have sense enough to know when I'm happy and when I'm not. I'm really happy with what's going on with my entire life right now, and I'm just going to maintain that."

Billy Ray also finds time to fit in numerous philanthropic acts into his hectic schedule. Last

Christmas, he took several underprivileged children shopping. He makes time to visit with handicapped or terminally-ill children at his shows whenever possible, and he'll be appearing on the Country Music CARES benefit concert on December 1 on behalf of AIDS awareness, just one of several charity events in which he participates.

"I think that that's part of the reason I'm here, to give back. I do feel that there's a responsibility there, and that I was chosen to be who I am and what I am. I pray everyday for the strength and the wisdom and the vision to do what I'm supposed to do. And I just try to do the things that my heart tells me that I should do."

In his rare "off time", Billy Ray turns into the complete family man, spending as much quality time as possible with his wife and children.

"I just try to do the things that my heart tells me that I should do."

"Just being outside riding my horse and my four-wheeler and driving around in my truck are the funnest things. That's peace of mind, if I've got my family and I'm out playing in the woods, that is great. We go out and hunt for coyotes. We don't kill them, but we like to watch them run. Miley can say coyote. She can't say a lot of things, but if she sees a red football jersey on tv, she says, 'Joe Montana.' She's a big Joe Montana fan. That's the guy she knows."

And when she sees her famous dad on tv? "'Daddy.' She knows me. No matter what, she knows who Daddy is. She went to a couple of shows with me. At the Elvis tribute, Miley sat on the stairs with me, and we stayed and signed autographs for the fans that were inside the building. Miley will reach out and get their pictures and hand it to me, and I'll sign it, then she'll hand it back. I think she understands that I go out and sing and jump around and do what I do."

Aside from being the best husband and father he can be, Billy Ray has longterm career plans. "I think that if I can keep doing this for the next 10 years, that would be great. For as long as I live, I'll always need to go out and play music somewhere. Hopefully we're building a good enough foundation. We've been playing a lot of fairs and festivals. Every place I go,

(Continued on page 31)

SRO AWARDS HIGHLIGHT RECORD SETTING SRO '94



Comedian Jeff Foxworthy has the SRO audience in stitches as host for the annual SRO Awards.

Entertainers Alan Jackson and John Michael Montgomery were two of the winners at the fifth annual SRO Awards, sponsored by CMA, honoring outstanding professional achievement in the Country Music touring industry.

Jeff Foxworthy hosted the awards ceremony, held Friday, October 7 at the Wildhorse Saloon in Nashville. The annual SRO Awards were part of SRO '94, CMA's yearly international entertainment expo. This year's record-setting event, held October 6-8 at the Nashville Convention Center, was enjoyed by over 800

registrants, sponsors, exhibitors and guests, who viewed talent showcases by 27 Country Music entertainers and explored the largest exhibit marketplace in the history of the event. The all-time high registration is more evidence of Country Music's continuing growth and popularity.

Foxworthy, the award-winning Warner Bros. comedian, opened the festivities with his world-famous "You might be a redneck if..." routine before presenting the SRO honors.

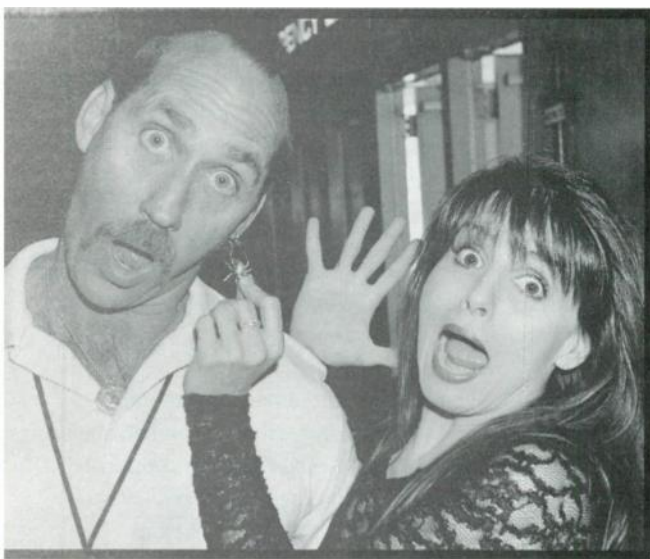
Manager Gary Overton, who accepted Jackson's SRO Award as Touring Artist of the Year, remarked, "I'm not Alan Jackson, but I can talk

just as long and slow." He even challenged Foxworthy to a "redneck" riddle. "I just can't resist," Overton jested. "What are the last two words a redneck says before he dies?" When Foxworthy was unable to respond, Overton answered, "Watch this."

Jerry Strobel, who accepted SRO Awards on behalf of the Grand Ole Opry House, named Concert Venue of the Year with a capacity of less than 6,000, and Fan Fair, honored as Festival/Special Event of the Year, quipped, "I feel like Vince Gill!", a reference to Gill's three CMA Awards just two nights earlier.

Helen Farmer, retiring CMA director of programs and special projects, was the surprise recipient of the Connie B. Gay Award, which is presented by CMA's board of directors to an individual who has been of outstanding service to the Country Music Association during the year.

Following the presentation of the SRO Awards, superstar Lorrie Morgan entertained the audience with a stunning and emotional performance that included several of her numerous hits, such as "Something In Red", "Watch Me" and "I Guess You Had To Be There."



Deborah Allen gets a frightening look at stagecrew chief Paul Pigg's earring following her SRO showcase.

Mercury Nashville duo Audrey and John Wiggins take a bow following their SRO performance.



Oak Ridge Boy Joe Bonsall (center) stopped by the William Morris Agency booth to chat with SRO registrants.



THE 1994 WINNERS OF THE SRO AWARDS ARE:

Artist Manager of the Year:

Narvel Blackstock, Starstruck Entertainment

Club of the Year:

Billy Bob's Texas, Ft. Worth, TX

Concert Venue of the Year with a

Capacity of Less than 6,000:

Grand Ole Opry House, Nashville

Concert Venue of the Year with a

Capacity of More than 6,000:

Starwood Amphitheatre, Nashville

Concert Promoter of the Year:

Steve Hauser, Pace Concerts

Southeast/Starwood Amphitheatre, Nashville

Festival/Special Event of the Year:

Fan Fair, Nashville

International Concert

Promoter of the Year:

Jim Aiken, Aiken Promotions, Belfast,

Northern Ireland; Marcel Bach, Werren &

Bach, Gstaad, Switzerland; Barrie Marshall,

Marshall Arts Ltd., London

New Touring Artist of the Year:

John Michael Montgomery

Publicist of the Year:

Evelyn Shriver,

Evelyn Shriver Public Relations

Radio Station of the Year -

Small Market:

WWYN, Jackson, TN

Radio Station of the Year - Medium

Market:

WSIX, Nashville

Radio Station of the Year -

Large Market:

KNIX, Phoenix, AZ

Record Label of the Year:

Arista Records/Nashville

Road Manager of the Year:

Terry Elam (Vince Gill)

Support Services Company of the Year:

Bandit Lites, Knoxville, TN

Talent Agency of the Year:

William Morris Agency

Talent Agent of the Year:

Rick Shipp, William Morris Agency

Talent Buyer/Producer of the Year:

George Moffett, Variety Attractions,

Zanesville, OH

Touring Artist of the Year:

Alan Jackson

Photos by Alan Mayor, John Lee Montgomery III and Kay Williams



New RCA artist Ty England (right) meets R&B legend Sam Moore in the SRO Marketplace.



SRO registrants Joan Saitel and Paul Lohr (second from right), both of Buddy Lee Attractions, kick up their heels with artists Daron Norwood (second from left) and Ray Benson of Asleep At The Wheel.



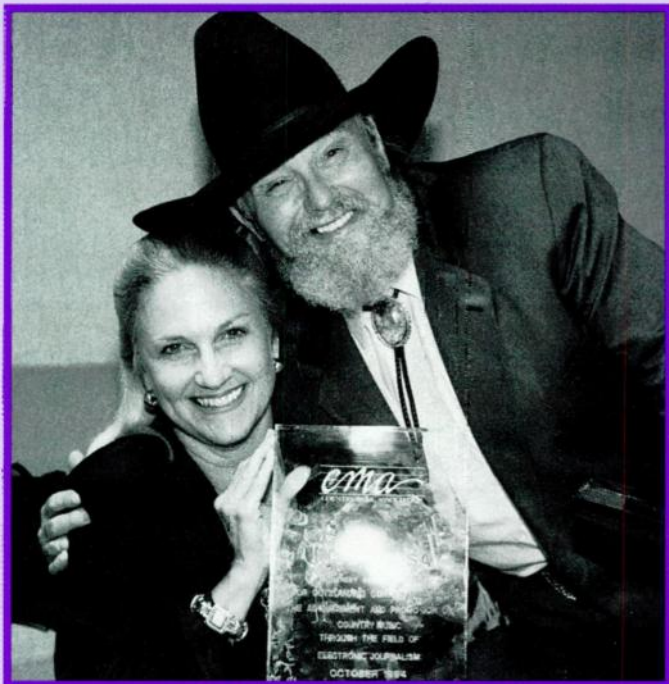
Polydor's Chely Wright talks with Warner Bros. artist Greg Holland in the SRO Marketplace.



George Ducas charms the SRO audience during his showcase.



KEY AWARDS PRESENTED AT ANNUAL CMA MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Voice of America's Judy Massa proudly displays the Media Achievement Award she received during a post-CMA Awards broadcast. Liberty artist Charlie Daniels, a longtime friend of Massa's, surprised her with the honor.



Bob Duchesne of WQCB in Bangor, Maine, accepts his award for Broadcast Personality of the Year - Small Market. Duchesne was nominated six consecutive years for the honor, finally taking it home in 1994.

Avril MacRory, head of music programmes-television for BBC Television in London, was honored with the Wesley Rose Foreign Media Achievement Award during CMA's annual membership meeting, held October 6 at the Opryland Hotel.

MacRory received the honor in recognition of her support of Country Music for many years. She has arranged several important U.K. television viewing opportunities of Country Music programming, including the broadcast of the CMA Awards. The Wesley Rose Foreign Media Achievement Award was established in 1990 to recognize outstanding achievements in the media which contribute

to the development of Country Music outside the United States.

Trisha Walker-Cunningham of TWI in Nashville was the inaugural recipient of the Jo Walker Meador Award, in acknowledgement of her many years of service to Country Music artists touring overseas. The Jo Walker Meador Award was initiated this year in honor of CMA's former long-time executive director and recognizes outstanding achievement by an individual or company in advocating and supporting Country Music's market development outside North America.

Other awards presented at the meeting included Single of the Year to first-time CMA Award winner Scott Hendricks, who produced John Michael Montgomery's



Avril MacRory receives her Wesley Rose Foreign Media Achievement Award from past winner Tony Byworth during CMA's annual membership caucus.



Producer Scott Hendricks (center) receives congratulations from CMA's outgoing president Dan Halyburton (left) and chairman Paul Corbin.



Jo Walker-Meador presents Trisha Walker Cunningham with the first Jo Walker-Meador Award.

- Photos by Kay Williams

milestone hit "I Swear". Producer James Stroud of Giant Records accepted Album of the Year for COMMON THREAD: THE SONGS OF THE EAGLES. Other producers who will receive the crystal trophy for their contributions to the project are Christy DiNapoli and Doug Grau, Keith Stegall, Suzy Bogguss, Tony Brown, Monty Powell, Garth Fundis, the late Lynn Peterzell and Billy Dean, Richard Landis, Jerry Crutchfield, Don Cook and Scott Hendricks.

Robert Deaton and George J. Flanigen IV also picked up their first CMA Award for directing the 1994 Music Video of the Year, "Independence Day", by Martina McBride.

CMA's Broadcast Award winners also received their awards during the meeting. Recipients of the Broadcast

Personality of the Year Award were: Laurie De Young, WPOC, Baltimore, MD (large market); David Hughes, WUSY, Chattanooga, TN (medium market) and Bob Duchesne, WQCB, Bangor, ME (small market). Representatives from Broadcast Station of the Year winners KNIX, Phoenix (large market); WSIX, Nashville (medium market) and WQCB, Bangor, ME (small market) were also on hand to pick up their awards.

In a separate ceremony following the CMA Awards telecast, Charlie Daniels surprised Voice of America's Judy Massa when he presented her with CMA's Media Achievement Award. In her weekly broadcasts, Massa brings Country Music to hundreds of millions of listeners worldwide.





TOM DOUGLAS



Like his hit song, "Little Rock", there seems to be a moral to the story of Tom Douglas.

"I came to Nashville in 1980 to be a songwriter and just to get in the music business. I certainly enjoyed it, but it was not happening," he says. "Then I moved to Dallas in '84. I got out of music. I said, 'That was a fun experience, but I need to grow up and get on with my life, never do that again.' That was really my feeling at the time - that was kind of my fling, and now I've got to get responsible. So I went to Texas and got in the real estate business."

"People asked me what I did before I moved (to Dallas), and I kind of mumbled something. It was a painful experience really, because I was not prepared. I was so unsuccessful and so unfocused. I came (to Nashville) with unrealistic expectations and saw enough of it to know that there was something there that I really loved. But I can't imagine anything more frustrating than to see something that you want to do and just clearly not have the talent to do it, or the experience, or the wisdom or whatever. That's kind of like a rat in a cage. You never get off that track. But I had to go

through that experience to get to where I am now, to where I could write songs again."

The music business may have been out of sight, but it wasn't out of his mind.

"I never did stop writing really. I mean I may not have finished songs, but I always continued to work on it mentally. I think at some point I said, 'Granted I'll never be a commercial songwriter, but I'm going to make a determination: I am a songwriter.' That was huge to me, that I could come to the point and say with or without the commercial success or the veri-

fication from the outside, I'm going to make the determination I'm a songwriter and these are the songs I do."

"Little Rock", the first and only song Tom has had recorded, turned out to be a number one hit for Epic's Collin Raye. Tom says he's not sure what set it apart from other songs he has written that have yet to be cut.

"We look at passages in our life, and if they're not what we think they should be, we call them mistakes. And really they're not."

"I sure liked it. I really love to sing it. Our church is a pretty contemporary worship...every time I'd write a new song, I'd play it there. And that was a pretty good barometer. People seemed to respond to it. I would send the song out occasionally to some people, but I had a lot of people that didn't like it."

Besides being a commercial success, the song became an inspiration to people battling alcoholism and its effects. The video, which shows the story of a recovering alcoholic, includes the toll-free number for Al-Anon and Al-A-Teens. Calls to the hotline doubled after the video began airing in April, Al-Anon officials told *USA TODAY*.

"That was really all, I think, Collin Raye's idea. His video treatment and interpretation, the tie-in with Al-Anon, that was all his

"I think at some point I said, 'Granted I'll never be a commercial songwriter, but I'm going to make a determination: I am a songwriter.'"

idea. I had no idea that was going to be the approach until I saw the video. But I was just delighted. To have it go to the point where it literally, potentially could have affected some people that positively is very gratifying.

"The song in one sense is about a recovering alcoholic. In another sense, the much larger picture to me, is starting over and drawing a line in the sand and not going back. I think that's much more relevant to me than the stopping drinking, which through the video, that's kind of gotten all the publicity.

"There seems to always be a moral to the story when I write a song, whether it be about starting over, racism or disappointments in life, unrequited love. Maybe it's a sense of frustration I see in our society, that there's not a real sense of concrete values in terms of right and wrong. There are no absolutes anymore. I think that's frustrating for me and frustrating for people, so I tend to want to put those absolutes in the writing.

"I've written songs about fatherless children. I just finished a song about a girl being kidnapped, but I didn't sit down and say, 'OK, topically, I think this week I'd like to tackle incest or whatever.' I don't think I could do that."

For Tom, the trials of being a songwriter have entailed more than just penning a hit. Growing up in a "very traditional" family in Atlanta, he had to overcome the guilt of pursuing what did not seem like the most worthy career ambition.

"I went to high school and college. I have a master's degree in business, and that was the route that I should have taken. This interest in music, this passion, was always a little unusual. There's

some guilt involved in that. My mother and father had sacrificed to put me through college, and here I am messing around in Nashville. It's hard to justify that...It's a process for parents to let their children go. We all learn through it.

"I became a Christian at 25, and that was significant. Almost at the same time, my father retired from U.S. Steel and went into a very severe depression that lasted a number of years. That was pretty traumatic. Even though I was old and grown, that was a kind of a real passage. I guess it's the first time anything ever happened that was beyond my immediate control. It really affected me.

"It was a terrible thing and painful for probably 15 years. He's recently just kind of emerged from that, and he's 83. It certainly forced me to come to grips with myself and God and all that. If you go through something like that, that is that painful, you have to deal with it somehow, and I was able to deal with it spiritually, strengthened through adversity.

"I think you have to have a certain amount of maturity, age and life experience and disappointments to write certain kinds of songs. I wasn't ready to do it (while living in Nashville). It just wasn't the right time. We look at passages in our life, and if they're not what we think they should be, we call them mistakes. And really they're not. It's just God's timing has got you so that you're not to achieve this perceived success that you want at this time during

"This interest in music, this passion, was always a little unusual."

your life. But all things kind of do work together. The people that I'm working with, from Paul Worley to the people at Tree (Publishing), are all people that I had known when I was up here before, so I'm able to utilize all those contacts and relationships but at the right time."

Happy with his life in Dallas, Tom says he has no plans of moving back to Music City. He spends about four days a month in Nashville working at his second job, one that he no longer needs to justify. He has earned the respect and approval of others, but more importantly to this introspective person, Tom is satisfied with himself.

"If you're always depending on somebody else's approval, you're always going to be disappointed. When I came to the grips that I am a songwriter, it didn't really have to get much better than that. Whatever else happened, it was just gravy." **CU**

— SHANNON HEIM

WRITER'S NIGHTS

CMA Awards aren't the only honors bestowed within the Country Music industry during "CMA Week". ASCAP, BMI and SESAC also celebrate the success of Country Music by recognizing songwriters and publishers during their annual festivities. CLOSE UP salutes this year's honorees!



Honoree Joe Diffie (left) and superstar George Strait were two of the celebrities who attended the 42nd Annual BMI Country Awards.



John Anderson (second from left) and Reba McEntire join ASCAP's John Briggs (left) and Shelby Kennedy (right) for the festivities at ASCAP's annual Country Awards.

Kitty Wells (second from left) and Bill Monroe (second from right) were the surprise recipients of silver trays commemorating their legendary contributions to the Country Music industry by BMI's Frances Preston and Roger Sovine.



"Blame It On Your Heart" was honored with the Robert J. Burton Award for Most Performed Song of the Year during the BMI festivities. Celebrating the honor are (l to r) Doug Howard, Songs of PolyGram; singer Patty Loveless; songwriter Kostas; Melanie Howard, Harlan Howard Songs; Sony Tree's Donna Hilley (front); BMI's Roger Sovine; songwriter Harlan Howard and BMI's Frances Preston.


**SESAC 1994 National
 Performance Activity Awards**

**Most Recorded
 Songwriter of the
 Year:**
 Susan Longacre

Publisher of the Year:
 W.B.M. Music Corp.

Writer of the Year:
 Karen Taylor-Good and
 Amanda Hunt-Taylor



Celebrating "Chattahoochee" as ASCAP's Song of the Year are (l to r) ASCAP's Merlin Littlefield and Daniel E. Gold, songwriter Jim McBride, Sony Cross Key's Donna Hilley and Richard Rowe, ASCAP's Connie Bradley, songwriter/artist Alan Jackson and Marty Gamblin of Seventh Son Music.



32nd ASCAP Country Music Awards

Songwriter of the Year:

Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson, Bob McDill, Kim Williams

Publisher of the Year:

Sony Cross Keys Publishing, EMI Music Publishing

Country Song of the Year:

"Chattahoochee" by Alan Jackson and Jim McBride

Most Performed Country Songs:

"Can't Break It To My Heart", Tracy Lawrence;
 "Chattahoochee", Alan Jackson;
 "I Love The Way You Love Me", John Michael Montgomery;
 "Nobody Wins", Radney Foster;
 "When She Cries", Restless Heart



Dianne Petty (second from left) congratulates SESAC winners (l to r) Susan Longacre, SESAC's Most Recorded Songwriter of the Year, as well as Karen Taylor-Good and Amanda Hunt-Taylor, both honored as Songwriter of the Year.



Connie Bradley (left) welcomes Alan Jackson, Brian Prout of Diamond Rio and Faith Hill to ASCAP's annual Country Music Awards.



42nd Annual BMI Country Awards

Robert J. Burton Award (Most Performed Country Song):

"Blame It On Your Heart", written by Harlan Howard and Kostas

Country Publisher of the Year:

Sony Tree

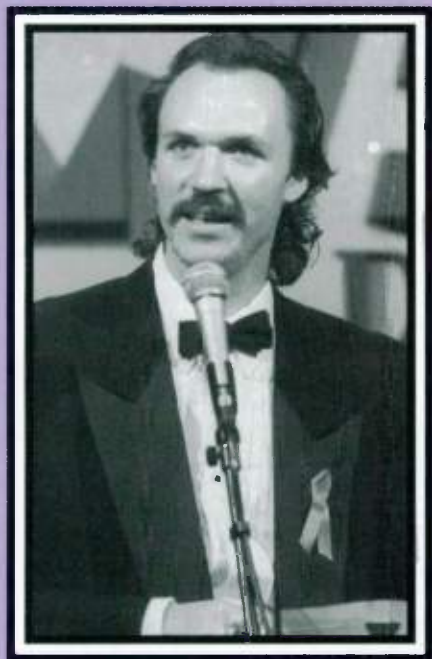
Country Songwriter of the Year:

Dennis Linde

- Photos by Richard Crichton, Beth Gwinn and Alan Mayor



Entertainer and Male Vocalist of the Year Vince Gill answers questions from the media at the backstage press conference.



Mark O'Connor humbly promised "to do better" when accepting his Musician of the Year Award.

Jim McBride (right) and Alan Jackson cowrote "Chattahoochee", the Song of the Year.



Chet Atkins and Suzy Bogguss present John Michael Montgomery with his Horizon Award.



Pam Tillis' Mexican-flavored "Mi Vida Loca" was one of the highlights of the CMA Awards telecast.





Patty Loveless gets up close and personal with the CMA audience while singing "I Think About Elvis".

- ◆ **ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR:** Vince Gill
- ◆ **ALBUM OF THE YEAR:** COMMON THREAD:
THE SONGS OF THE EAGLES
- ◆ **SONG OF THE YEAR:** "Chattahoochee"
- Alan Jackson and Jim McBride
- ◆ **SINGLE OF THE YEAR:** "I Swear"
- John Michael Montgomery
- ◆ **MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:** Vince Gill
- ◆ **FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:** Pam Tillis
- ◆ **VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR:** Diamond Rio
- ◆ **VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR:** Brooks & Dunn
- ◆ **VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR:** Reba McEntire with
Linda Davis - "Does He Love You"
- ◆ **MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR:** Mark O'Connor
- ◆ **MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR:** "Independence Day"
- Martina McBride, performer
- Robert Deaton and George J. Flanigen IV, directors
- ◆ **HORIZON AWARD:** John Michael Montgomery
- ◆ **COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME:** Merle Haggard



Emmylou Harris kicks off Merle Haggard's induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame with "Mama's Hungry Eyes"(ABOVE).

Randy Owen (left) urges Vince Gill to step up to the microphone and say a few words after presenting him with the Entertainer of the Year award (RIGHT).





Prairie Oyster's Russell DeCarle (left) and Faith Hill present Charlie Major with one of the four CCMA Awards he received during the live broadcast.

Charlie Major walked away with four Canadian Country Music Awards during the 13th annual presentation of the honors, held in Calgary, Alberta on September 19. The BMG singer/songwriter was honored with awards for Male Vocalist of the Year and Album of the Year for *THE OTHER SIDE* as well as Single of the Year and SOCAN Song of the Year for "I'm Gonna Drive You Out Of My Mind". He shared the latter award with cowriter Barry Brown.

Prairie Oyster garnered kudos for Vocal Group of the Year as well as being named Bud Country Fan's Choice Entertainer of the Year. The group's manager, Alan Kates, was honored as Manager of the

Year during a separate ceremony on September 18.

Patricia Conroy took home Female Vocalist of the Year honors, and Jim Witter won the award for Video of the Year for "Stolen Moments". Quartette, comprised of Colleen Peterson, Sylvia Tyson, Caitlin Hanford and Cindy Church won the award for Vocal Collaboration of the Year, and newcomer Susan Aglukark was honored with the Vista (Rising Star) Award. The Top Selling Album (Foreign or Domestic)



Jim Witter gets some help from his son while accepting Video of the Year honors for "Stolen Moments".

AN ADIAN COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION DISTRIBUTES HONORS



Patricia Conroy celebrates her victory as CCMA's Female Vocalist of the Year.

was IN PIECES by Garth Brooks. Dick Damron and Hank Smith were inducted into the CCMA's Hall of Honour.

The CCMA Awards show, hosted for the fourth consecutive year by Warner recording artist George Fox, was broadcast live in Canada on CTV as well as being telecast in October on TNN: The Nashville Network.



Prairie Oyster accepts the CCMA Award for Bud Country Fans' Choice Entertainer of the Year. The BMG band was also named Vocal Group/Duo of the Year.

AWARDS

Hugh Prestwood recently won an *Emmy Award* for *Outstanding Individual Achievement in Music and Lyrics* for his composition "The Song Remembers When", which was featured in the Disney Channel's special on MCA singer Trisha Yearwood. The tune was the only Country song in the category.



Producer/director Michael Dillon of Above & Beyond Pictures in Nashville also received an *Emmy Award* in the category *Best Children's Special* for "Kids Killing Kids/Kids Saving Kids".

MEDIA

CMT: Country Music Television has added three new features to its pro-

gramming lineup. "CMT Beat" - a 30-60 second fast-paced, off-beat news brief featuring updates on artists, album releases, tour dates and more - is scheduled to air periodically throughout each day. "Hot Shots" runs at the top of every hour and features a video from the "hot shot" category of the current CMT weekly playlist. "Rising Star" will spotlight a video by a new or developing artist at the half hour every hour.



Ray Stevens has begun production on a long-form, story-driven video movie album titled "Get Serious". Directed by Rod Thompson, the movie will feature Stevens in the guise of numerous comedic characters. Lorianne Crook, Charlie Chase, Jerry Clower, Williams & Ree and George Lindsey will also make cameo appearances. "Get Serious", scheduled for release next spring, will be marketed through direct response mail and phone order.



Mansfield/Martinovich Associates in Nashville has entered into an agreement with China USA Entertainment Corp., the firm which has the exclusive right to program music from the United States on China National Radio. Mansfield/Martinovich will serve as China USA's Nashville focal point in a multitude of music-related endeavors.

NEW COMPANIES

Lyn Richmond and Maureen Miller have opened Music City Casting Company, a full-service casting firm located in Nashville. The company will coordinate casting for music and industrial videos, motion pictures, commercials and television productions. Music City Casting Company is located at 1719 West End Avenue, Suite 306W, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 320-9594; fax (615) 320-9596.



Bryan White (right), with a little help from co-producer Billy Joe Walker Jr., debuts some tunes from his first Asylum Records lp during an acoustic set held in Asylum's courtyard.



Liberty artist Ricky Lynn Gregg is a study in concentration as he takes his cue from Peeas Films director Michael Merriman on the set of his new video, "After The Fire Is Gone".

- Photo by Beth Gwinn

NEWSLINE

For the third consecutive year, **Lorrie Morgan** performed at a concert to benefit Nashville's **Father Ryan High School**. Monies raised at the November 6 show, held at the Grand Ole Opry House, are earmarked for the **Father Ryan Student Assistance Program**, which helps fund tuition for students.

Brady Seals announced his resignation from **Little Texas** in early October. The keyboardist/vocalist, who cowrote many of the group's hits, will pursue other projects. A replacement is expected to be announced soon.

◆◆◆
Tracy Lawrence recently became the seventh recipient of a permanent star on the "Boot Walk" at **Country Star Hollywood**. Other star recipients include **Marty Stuart**, **Trisha Yearwood**, **Reba McEntire**, **Vince Gill**, **Wynonna** and **Crook & Chase**.

◆◆◆
Larry Gatlin and **Rudy Gatlin** were the first entertainers to travel to Haiti and perform for American troops on behalf of the **USO**. During their October 23-25 visit, sponsored by **AT&T**, they performed two concerts, signed autographs and visited with troops.

◆◆◆
 The **Nashville Entertainment Association** is considering acts for "Extravaganza '95", a series of live showcases spotlighting developing musical acts in all genres of popular music. The February 1-4 event will feature 20 unsigned acts. NEA encourages applications from acts within a 400 mile radius of Nashville. Applications must include a promotional packet consisting of a bio or fact sheet, photo and demo tape with three songs as well as a listing of their fall 1994 performance schedule. Deadline for submitting materials is **December 1**. For more information, contact **NEA** at P.O. Box 121948, Nashville, TN 37212-1948; (615) 327-4308.



BNA Entertainment's Jesse Hunter strikes a pose while filming his latest music video, "Long Legged Hannah (From Butte, Montana)". Director Steven Goldmann shot the clip on location in Ridgetop, Tennessee for High Five Productions.

◆◆◆
Nashville-based booking agency **Buddy Lee Attractions**, has opened a new contemporary Christian department. Headed by **Brian Jones**, the department has signed **MidSouth** as its first client.

◆◆◆
TW Productions in Key West, FL has expanded its services with a new division called **CD Services**, offering CD one-up type duplication on Marantz CDR 610's. For more information, contact **TW Productions** at (800) 443-ON-CD.

◆◆◆
Custom boot maker **Bo Riddle** has moved his Nashville office. The new address is 2520 Nolensville Road, Nashville, TN 37211; (615) 661-8863; fax (615) 661-9346.

◆◆◆
Mercer & Associates Public Relations has moved to 7704 Willow Winds Ct., Suite 102, Dallas, TX 75230. The new phone number is (214) 368-5699; fax (214) 368-5199.

ON THE MOVE

Bill Ivey, executive director of the **Country Music Foundation**, has been named to **President Bill Clinton's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities**, a group charged with advancing public understanding of the arts and the humanities and establishing new partnerships between the private sector and federal agencies to address critical issues in cultural life. Ivey is among 32 private citizens, including **Quincy Jones**, **Rita Moreno** and **Isaac Stern**, named to the committee.

◆◆◆
Joe Galante, president of **RCA Records Label** has announced the senior management structure of the newly-created **RCA Records Nashville Labels Group**, which will handle both **RCA** and **BNA** labels. **Thom Schuyler** is promoted to senior vice president, A&R, RLG. **Randy Goodman** has been promoted to general manager/senior

vice president, RLG. **David Gales** has been named vice president, operations, RLG. **Ron Howie** has been named vice president, sales, RLG. **Mary Hamilton** is promoted to senior director, creative services, RLG. **Glenda Break** is now director, production/scheduling, RLG. **Dale Turner** will head **BNA** in the new position of vice president, **BNA Records Label**. **Ken Van Durand** is now vice president, promotion, **BNA Records Label**. **Tommy Daniel** segues to the top spot at **RCA Records** as vice president, **RCA Records Label**. **Mike Wilson** becomes vice president, promotion, **RCA Records Label**.

◆◆◆
Tom Sgro has returned to **BNA Entertainment** as director of national promotion. He initially joined the label in 1991 and most recently worked in independent radio promotion.

◆◆◆
Tabitha Eads is the new executive director of **Leadership Music**. She was formerly vice president of creative at



John Anderson (right) and director Jim Shea discuss a shot while filming Anderson's latest BNA video, "Country 'Til I Die". Robin Beresford produced the clip, shot on location at Nashville's Belmont Mansion, for Planet Pictures.

Great Cumberland Music Group following a stint with RCA Records. Retiring executive director Dale Franklin will serve as a consultant to Leadership Music.



Michael Houbrick has been named vice president of creative development for Krage & Co.. He will be responsible for the identification, development and implementation of new products, services and related industries for the Los Angeles-based management firm.



Jules Wortman has been named director of publicity for MCA Records/Nashville. Her extensive public relations/publicity background includes stints at Atlantic Records, Sony Music and Network Ink.



David Preston has joined the staff of BMI's Nashville office as associate director, writer/publisher relations. He will assist songwriters and publishers in the administration of their musical works and sign new affiliates to the performing rights organization. He was previously national sales manager at Premier Marketing Group.



Erin Morris has joined her husband and partner Jim Della Croce as co-owner of The Press Office, a Nashville-based public relations firm. She was formerly with RCA Records, where she worked with artists including

Alabama, Clint Black, K.T. Oslin, The Judds, Aaron Tippin, Martina McBride and numerous others.



Barrie Hollins has been named manager of primetime programming at TNN: The Nashville Network. She will be responsible for the development and implementation of all primetime series on the network. Hollins was formerly coordinating producer/publicist for RedDog Productions.



Jackie Straka has been appointed associate director, marketing services for Sony Music Nashville. She will be responsible for the coordination of special packaging as well as the advertising and point-of-sale elements and budgets for all artist packages.



Lisa Puzo and Jennifer Lyons are the newest additions to the Asylum Records promotion team. Puzo, named West Coast regional promotion manager, was formerly with KZLA in Los Angeles. Lyons, Midwest regional promotion manager, was previously music director/promotions and marketing specialists at WOKO in Vermont. She will be based in Chicago.



Paul Jankowski has joined the Gibson Guitar team in Nashville as director of entertainment relations. He was formerly regional promotion manager for MCA Records' pop division as well as

serving as events chairman for the T.J. Martell Foundation.



Jack Tumpson has been named director of marketing at the Coca-Cola STARLAKE Amphitheatre in Burgettstown, PA. He previously ran his own concert promotion firm, Next Big Thing Productions.



Jeane Burgess has joined the staff of Ron Huntsman Entertainment Marketing as account manager. She will be responsible for the sales of all of the company's Country radio properties and will also assist in the development of new projects and promotions. Burgess was most recently advertising manager for CLARITY, a Christian women's magazine.



Lisa L. Rollins has joined the staff of Mercer & Associates, a Dallas-based entertainment public relations firm. Rollins will oversee the tour press of Liberty artists Ricky Lynn Gregg and Asleep At The Wheel, in addition to other projects.



Jason Morris has been named director of creative services for Gary Morris Music, where he will screen songs and songwriters for the company and pitch songs to performers and record producers. He was formerly with Cimarron Music.

◆◆◆
 Tom Mathis has been named vice president of artist development for **Unique Image Management Company**. The Memphis-based record production company is an affiliate of **The Eddie Bond Organization**.

◆◆◆
 Larry Leggett has joined **WFMS/WGRL** in Indianapolis as Public Affairs Director. He was previously with **WTLC** in Indianapolis. **Kathy Lund** signs on the administrative assistant for the stations' promotion department. She was formerly with Indiana Methodist Hospital Marketing Office. At **WGRL**, **Winnie Wilson** has been promoted to morning show producer. She was formerly traffic director. **Mark Menser** joins the sales team at the station. He brings 11 years of sales experience, most recently with **WKHY-FM** in Lafayette, IN.

SIGNINGS

Pirates of the Mississippi to Giant Records...**Pebe Sebert** to EMI Music Publishing...**Noah Gordon** to Entertainment Artists...**David Spear** to SESAC...**Mel Tillis Jr.** to Terry Rose Music...**Mel Beshar** to Talbot Music Group...**Craig Harris** to BEKOOL Music Group...**Mindy McCready** to Quantum Management...**Sharon Lee Beavers** to Comstock Records...**Texas The Band** to Liz Gregory Talent...**Vern Jackson** to Homeland Records.

VIDEO NEWS

Patty Loveless took a break from her hectic touring scheduled to shoot her latest music video, "Here I Am". **Jim Shea** directed the Epic clip for **Planet Pictures**. **Robin Beresford** produced.

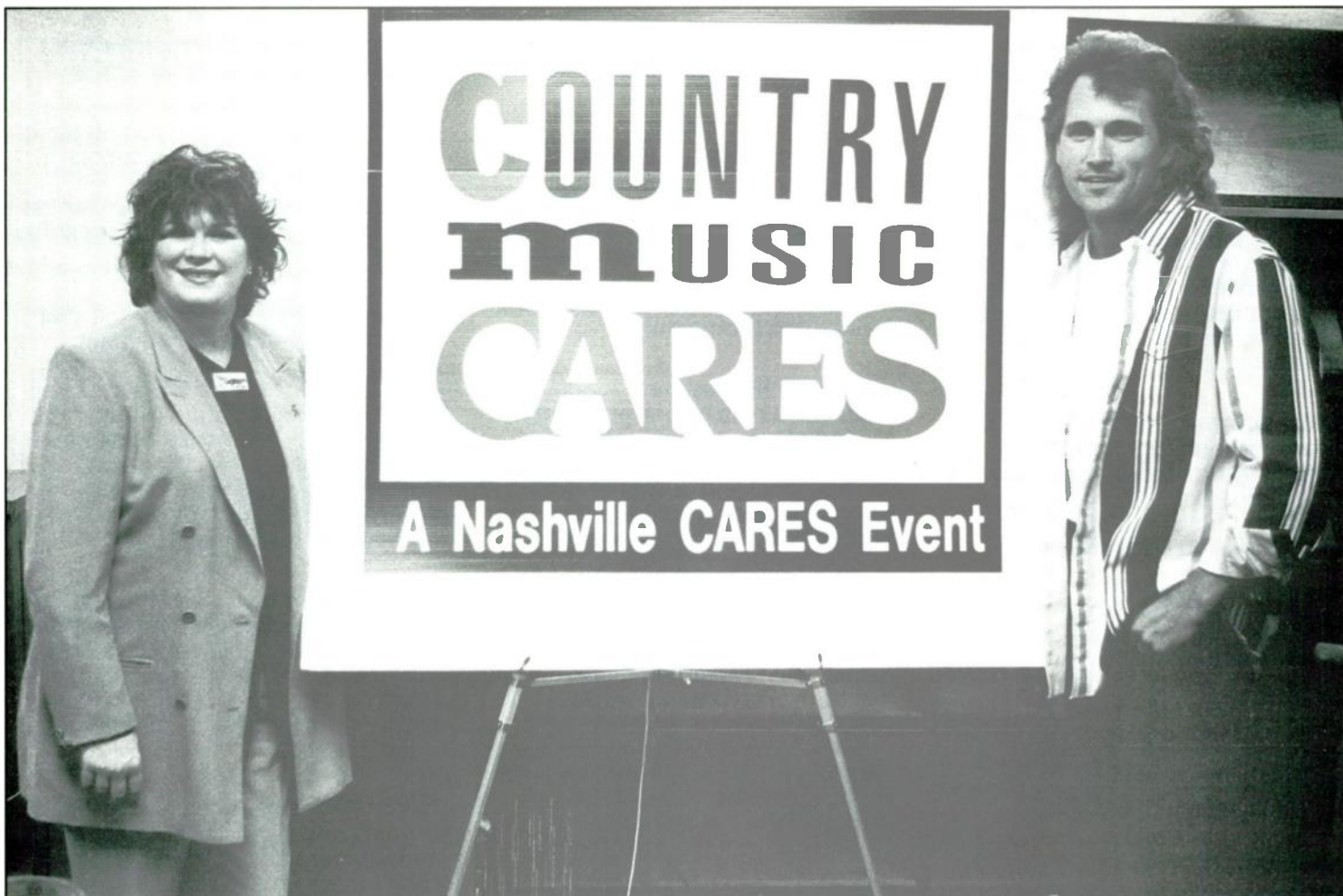
◆◆◆
Hank Williams, Jr.'s new Curb video, "I Ain't Going Peacefully", features a brief

appearance by **Alan Jackson**. **Martin Kahan** of Think Pictures directed the clip, and **Venetia Mayhew** served as producer.

◆◆◆
Ricky Lynn Gregg filmed his latest Liberty video, "After The Fire Is Gone" at DR&A Studio in Nashville. Director **Michael Merriman** captured the action. **Bryan Bateman** produced the clip for Pecos Films.

◆◆◆
Chely Wright journeyed to Houston to shoot her second Polydor video, "Till I Was Loved By You". **Bill Young** produced and directed the clip for **Bill Young Productions**.

◆◆◆
Daredevil Billy Dean tackled his own stunts while filming his latest Liberty video, "Men'll Be Boys". Dean fell off buildings, dove through glass windows, jumped dirt bikes, rode atop a van in a high speed chase and managed a 40-foot free fall during the action. The clip was shot at the famous Disney Ranch in Newhall, CA.



K.T. Oslin and Diamond Rio's Marty Roe announce the details for the second annual Country Music CARES Concert, set for December 1 at the Grand Ole Opry House. Oslin will host the benefit, featuring 19 top Country entertainers including David Ball, Diamond Rio, Tracy Lawrence, Kathy Mattea, The Mavericks and The Tractors. Money raised at the event benefits Nashville CARES, Tennessee's largest community-based AIDS service organization.



Scott Siman (right), senior vice president of Sony Music Nashville, presents Joe Diffie with a plaque commemorating the gold certification of Diffie's latest Epic lp, *THIRD ROCK FROM THE SUN*.

- Photo by John Lee Montgomery III

◆◆◆
 Ken Mellons ventured to the reportedly-haunted Riverwood Mansion in Nashville to shoot his latest Epic video, "I Can Bring Her Back". Jeffrey Phillips directed the moody clip. Clarke Gullivan produced for Studio Productions.

◆◆◆
 Paulette Carlson got decked out as a youthful Mrs. Claus and found five "elves" to join her in a spirited line dance - the Santa Slide - while filming

her latest music video, "Mrs. Santa Claus". Brent Carpenter directed the Majestic Records clip, produced by Mitch Cohen.

◆◆◆
 Larry Stewart called on Vince Gill to lend support for his new Columbia video, "Losing Your Love", which Gill wrote. Chris Rogers directed the action at a historic home in Nashville. Jamie Amos produced for Pecos Films.

◆◆◆
CORRECTION: In the October issue of *CLOSE UP*, based on information provided by Mercury Nashville, it was reported that Planet Pictures was the video production team behind John & Audrey Wiggins' "Has Anybody Seen Amy". In fact, director Martin Kahan and his company Think Pictures oversaw the production of that music video.

CU

CMA MEMBERS APPROVE CHANGE IN BY-LAWS

The members of CMA recently approved a minor change in the organization's bylaws, specifically with regard to the categories of CMLA membership.

The former Broadcast Personality category is now recognized as Radio Programming. Individuals eligible for membership in that category include program directors, music directors and other program-related radio professionals along with air personalities.

The former Radio category is now recognized as Radio Management, which includes general managers, sales managers, sales managers, business managers and other non-programming personnel.

NASHVILLE

SONG-

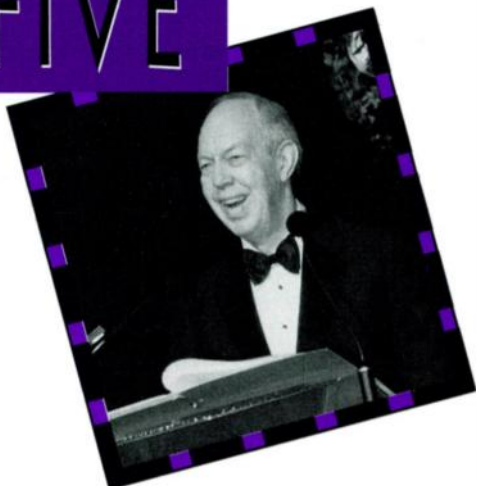
WRITERS

HALL OF

FAME

INDUCTS

FIVE



Joe Talbot is honored with NSAI's Maggie Cavendar Award of Service. "God made life a gamble," he quipped, "and we're still in the game."



Original Crickets (l to r) Joe B. Mauldin, Sonny Curtis and J.I. Alison pay homage to Buddy Holly.

Buddy Holly, Richard Leigh, Bobby Russell and Jerry Foster & Bill Rice were inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame during the 25th Annual Songwriters Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. The event was hosted by the Nashville Songwriters Foundation in conjunction with the Nashville Songwriters Association International.

In addition to the Hall of Fame induction, honors were presented to other luminaries in the music industry. NSAI President Richard Leigh presented the President's Choice Award to Terry Choate, chairman of the NSF and an integral part in establishing the Songwriters Hall of Fame. The Maggie Cavender Award of Service was presented to Joe Talbot in recognition of his lifelong contributions to the Country Music industry.



"This is one of the few times in my life I knew what I was gonna say...I'm stunned," admitted Richard Leigh upon his induction into the Nashville Songwriter's Hall of Fame. He added, "The privilege of writing songs was a dream of mine when I was a boy."



Crystal Gayle performs "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue" in honor of songwriter Richard Leigh.

John Berry says that in some ways he's an emotional wreck from the ups and downs he's had this year. On the day he talked to *CLOSE UP*, Liberty Records was having a gold party for John's self-titled debut album, and he was going back into the studio to finish vocals on his second cd. Earlier this year, he experienced the birth of his second child and within days had to undergo emergency brain surgery.

ROLLING WITH THE FLOW

John says he's changed because of the experience and possibly because some of the pressure on his brain is gone as well.

(Before the surgery) I knew exactly what I was going to do, and nobody was going to stand in my way. Now, I'm an emotional wreck. I can't watch "Little House On The Prairie". There are certain things I have to be real careful of. That's one of the reasons I'm so scared about tonight. Just the emotional aspect of it. Any kind of things that are emotional now just get exaggerated to some degree.

LET'S DO LUNCH

He's better now, but at first he'd ask someone to go to lunch when he had eaten an hour earlier.

I wouldn't remember anything. If I had gotten up in the morning, by lunchtime I couldn't remember getting up. It was so frustrating.

I remembered long-term things. I just couldn't remember having called my manager. I called the office 20 times a day, driving them crazy! They finally figured out what was going on.

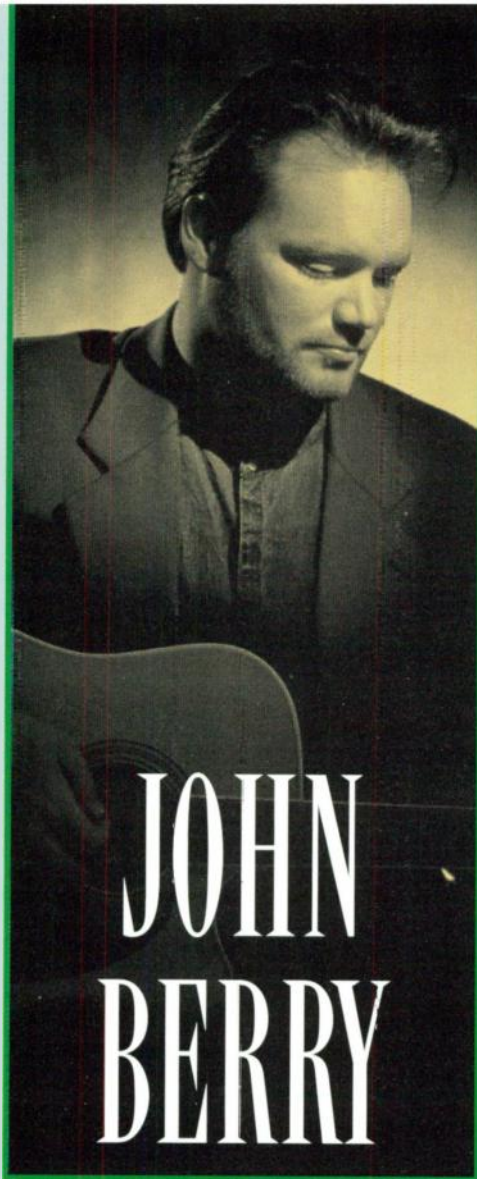
TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROAD

The hard-fought road to success means he's home less.

I'm one of the lucky ones. My wife sings in my band so Robin and my kids travel with me. But I miss home. I flew up here yesterday. My Dad...and I drove to the airport together in his car and I said, "Well Dad," - we live up on a hill with about a 600-foot driveway - "I'll be down there in a minute. Go on down to the road." He went on down, and I just took my time and I walked down the driveway to soak it in. I take a bottle of water with me on the road because our water's well water. I take a little piece of home with me. I get me a little glass of it everyday. It's like fine wine.

His wife and kids have become "road warriors" traveling on the bus with the band.

It's not difficult for us, 'cause we've always done



it. Kids travel very well. Less whining from my kids than from my band. Sorry, guys.

Taylor Marie's got her bunk and all her toys, and she just thinks it's the coolest. She thinks everybody does that. Shawn Thomas has spent more time on a bus than in his home.

"Kids travel very well. Less whining from my kids than from my band. Sorry, guys."

My family's always been real important... Family can be good. Family can be hard sometimes...But as far as my immediate family working with me and being on the road with them, I just wouldn't do it any other way. It's worth it to me. My accountants have a cow because it is expensive, but we have changed our per diem so they can't complain. I've got too many people taking per diem that shouldn't be on the road. We've gotten now where we get one hotel room for our family on the road. Robin and I will stay on the bus, and we just use the room for

showers. The babies and Grandma stay in the room. So everything we can do, any ways we can cut costs, we do to make it work financially.

It's a full-time deal. I was at WSIX today and they asked me the most significant long-term thing that has happened in my life this year, and it has to be (the birth of) Shawn Thomas because number one songs will come and go, gold records will hang on the wall, you recover from surgery and go on with your life, but your children, you'll watch them grow and live forever until you're gone. So that's the long-term.

ON THE EDGE

In the short-term, he's pleased with the new album, *STANDING ON THE EDGE*. He co-wrote the title track, "Standing On The Edge Of Goodbye" with Stewart Harris. He also recently completed one cut - "Long And Winding Road" - for a Beatles tribute album.

"I was telling somebody the other day that if I was really successful and they did a story on my life, they could close the story with that song. I feel confident that I've had enough stuff happen in my life that I'm not like gonna be in a plane crash or something. They won't have to do a John Berry tribute next year. But I always thought that would be a great movie song for somebody's life story - to get to sing that song. The production of it came out so cool.

John has had his biggest hits on romantic songs - "Your Love Amazes Me", "You And Only You", "Kiss Me In The Car", so how does he keep the romance going with so many demands on his time?

Well, we don't. She's really mad about it. She's like "John, you better get some of that romance in you. It's not just your songs." So, we do have to do things to find time. We got to movies a lot...I got a little motorcycle at home. That's our thing, get on the motorcycle and go to town and see a movie. That's a lot of fun. We really enjoy getting to do that.

We used to horseback ride a lot. We haven't gotten to do that in a long time. Haven't been home enough to really do that. We will in December when we get some time to go out riding. It doesn't take a lot of time, just some time.

John Berry may be a self-proclaimed "emotional wreck", but his priorities are his family - whatever time he has.

CU

- Teresa George

CMA ANNOUNCES STAFF PROMOTIONS AND ADDITIONS

CMA has restructured its Public Relations Department, promoted within the Administrative Services Department and hired a new receptionist.

Gina Smith has been promoted from Public Relations Assistant to Public Relations/Media Representative. Smith handles credentialing of domestic print and radio journalists and logistics for special events. She joined CMA in 1992 as Public Relations Support Assistant.

Shannon Heim has been named Public

Relations/Media Representative. Heim works with television crews and international media representatives on special events and interview requests. She also writes CMA press releases and articles for CMA's CLOSE UP magazine. Heim replaces Mandy Wilson, formerly media relations coordinator, who has joined the staff of Group W Satellite Communications as a publicist for CMT: Country Music Television.

Chandler Douglass has been hired as

receptionist. Douglass replaces Jennifer Gordon, who has relocated to Louisville, KY.

Rainey Sims has been promoted to Senior Administrative Services Assistant. Sims, formerly Administrative Services Assistant, started at CMA in 1993.

Nancy Broadway, who has worked as a temporary assistant in the Membership Department, joins the staff as Administrative Services Assistant. **CU**



ALBUMS

SEPTEMBER 1994

GOLD:

BLACKHAWK

Blackhawk...Arista

THE WAY THAT I AM

Martina McBride...RCA

WAR PAINT

Lorrie Morgan...BNA

RICKY VAN SHELTON SINGS CHRISTMAS

Ricky Van Shelton...Columbia

SWEETHEART'S DANCE

Pam Tillis...Arista

THE VERY BEST OF CONWAY TWITTY

Conway Twitty...MCA

MULTI-PLATINUM:

KILLIN' TIME

Clint Black...3M...RCA

NO FENCES

Garth Brooks...11M...Liberty

A LOT ABOUT LIVIN' (AND A LITTLE 'BOUT LOVE)

Alan Jackson...4M...Arista

NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON

Tim McGraw...3M...Curb

JANUARY-AUGUST 1994

GOLD SINGLE:

"Indian Outlaw"

Tim McGraw...Curb

"Don't Take The Girl"

Tim McGraw...Curb

"I Swear"

John Michael Montgomery...Atlantic

GOLD:

CHEAP SEATS

Alabama...RCA

GREATEST HITS

John Anderson...Warner Bros.

SOLID GROUND

John Anderson...BNA

THINKIN' PROBLEM

David Ball...Warner Bros.

NO TIME TO KILL

Clint Black...RCA

STATE OF THE HEART

Mary Chapin Carpenter...Columbia

NOTORIOUS

Confederate Railroad...Atlantic

YOUNG MAN

Billy Dean...Liberty

CLOSE TO THE EDGE

Diamond Rio...Arista

WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU

Vince Gill...MCA

TAKE ME AS I AM

Faith Hill...Warner Bros.

HONKY TONK CHRISTMAS

Alan Jackson...Arista

WHO I AM

Alan Jackson...Arista

FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Little Texas...Warner Bros.

TIME PASSES BY

Kathy Mattea...Mercury

WHAT A CRYIN' SHAME

The Mavericks...MCA

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT

Neal McCoy...Atlantic

NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON

Tim McGraw...Curb

READ MY MIND

Reba McEntire...MCA

BEST OF REBA McENTIRE

Reba McEntire...Mercury

KICKIN' IT UP

John Michael Montgomery...Atlantic

HONKY TONK ANGELS

Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette & Loretta

Lynn...Columbia

EXTREMES

Collin Raye...Epic

BIG IRON HORSES

Restless Heart...RCA

A BRIDGE I DIDN'T BURN

Ricky Van Shelton...Columbia

DON'T OVERLOOK SALVATION

Ricky Van Shelton...Columbia

THE EXTRA MILE

Shenandoah...Columbia

PARTNERS IN RHYME

Statler Brothers...Mercury

HOLY BIBLE-OLD TESTAMENT

Statler Brothers...Mercury

MORE LOVE

Doug Stone...Epic

RED & RIO GRANDE

Doug Supernaw...BNA

THIS IS ME

Randy Travis...Warner Bros.

TEN FEET TALL AND BULLETPROOF

Travis Tritt...Warner Bros.

SOON

Tanya Tucker...Liberty

LOVE ME LIKE YOU USED TO

Tanya Tucker...Liberty

RHYTHM, COUNTRY & BLUES

Various Artists...MCA

8 SECONDS

Various Artists...MCA

MAVERICK SOUNDTRACK

Various...Atlantic

PLATINUM:

NO TIME TO KILL

Clint Black...RCA

WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU

Vince Gill...MCA

WHO I AM

Alan Jackson...Arista

SUPER HITS

George Jones...Epic

DON'T GO NEAR THE WATER

Sammy Kershaw...Mercury

BIG TIME

Little Texas...Warner Bros.

NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON

Tim McGraw...Curb

READ MY MIND

Reba McEntire...MCA

KICKIN' IT UP

John Michael Montgomery...Atlantic

CLAY WALKER

Clay Walker...Giant

24 GREATEST HITS

Hank Williams...Polydor

HILLBILLY DELUXE

Dwight Yoakam...Reprise

RHYTHM, COUNTRY & BLUES

Various Artists...MCA

MULTI-PLATINUM:

IN PIECES

Garth Brooks...4M...Liberty

COME ON, COME ON

Mary Chapin Carpenter...2M...Columbia

I STILL BELIEVE IN YOU

Vince Gill...3M...MCA

NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON

Tim McGraw...2M...Curb

HERE IN THE REAL WORLD

Alan Jackson...2M...Arista

GREATEST HITS

Reba McEntire...2M...MCA

KICKIN' IT UP

John Michael Montgomery...2M...Atlantic

BEST OF THE STATLER BROTHERS

Statler Brothers...3M...Mercury

PURE COUNTRY

George Strait...3M...MCA

GREATEST HITS VOLUME II

George Strait...2M...MCA

THIS TIME

Dwight Yoakam...2M...Reprise

COMMON THREAD: SONGS OF THE EAGLES...Various...3M...Giant

VIDEO

GOLD: (50,000 units)

"The Video Collection"

Billy Ray Cyrus...PolyGram Music Video

"Indian Outlaw"

Tim McGraw...Curb

"Livin', Lovin' And Rockin' That Jukebox"

Alan Jackson...Arista Records

"Naomi & Wynonna - The Farewell Tour"

The Judds...MPI Home Video

"Kickin' It Up"

John Michael Montgomery

...A*Vision Entertainment/Atlantic

PLATINUM (100,000 units):

"The Real Patsy Cline"

Patsy Cline...Cabin Fever Entertainment

"The Video Collection"

Billy Ray Cyrus...PolyGram Music Video

"Livin', Lovin' And Rockin' That Jukebox"

Alan Jackson...Arista Records

MULTI-PLATINUM:

"Billy Ray Cyrus"

Billy Ray Cyrus...PolyGram Music Video

(400,000)

IN MEMORIAM JOHN "THE KATMAN" KATZBECK

John "The Katman" Katzbeck, noted Chicago radio personality, died from a brain aneurysm on October 24. He was 29.

Katzbeck, along with morning co-host J.D. Spangler, was a nominee for CMA's 1994 Large Market Broadcast Personality of the Year Award. He had just celebrated his fifth anniversary as morning co-host at WUSN-FM and was known for his lively commentary and vignettes titled "The Wiz on Show Biz" and "Goofy, But True News".

"Katman was the show's wild card," producer Mike Kayler told the *Chicago Tribune*. "His off-air and on-air personalities were identical. He was always laughing, and it wasn't just a bit on the radio for him. His pieces for the show were so consistently good that we had a hard time choosing which ones to do on the air for a retrospective program."

A native of the Chicago area, Katzbeck attended Western Illinois University and Columbia College. Before joining WUSN, he worked at a variety of radio stations, including rock, New Age and top 40.

"I wasn't raised on Country Music," he said in a 1992 interview. "Growing up, I mainly listened to jazz and rock, but I really like Country Music. A lot of our listeners are like that...They're just regular people from Chicago who like Country Music like I do."

Katzbeck is survived by his wife, Leslie; a son, Maxwell; his parents, Frank and Jean; a brother; and two sisters.

Membership Recruiters

Membership is CMA's most valuable resource. Thanks to the following members who have recruited new members in the past few months: LaTricia Allen, Jay Barron, Rick Blackburn, Vincent Candifora, Christy DiNapoli, Debbie Doebler, Marty Gamblin, Steve Hauser, Shaun Holly, Phillip Lyon, Eddie Reeves, Wilson Rogers, Robert Schneider, Tina Smith, Roger Sovine and Cliff Williamson.

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- Include in items 10 and 11, in cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, the names of the person or persons for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing organization. In item 11, if none, check box. Use same sheet if more issues are required.
- Be sure to furnish all information called for in item 15, regarding circulation. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f. If the publication had second-class authorization as a general or regular publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation must be published. It must be printed in any issue in October or the first period after that October, if the publication is not published during October.
- In item 16, include issue of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be printed.
- Item 17 must be signed.

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PS Form 3526, October 1994 (Revised)

Billy Ray Cyrus (continued from page 9)

every place I play, whether it's a theater or an arena, I go and do the very best. I give every single thing I've got every single show. And I'm hoping that that foundation will be the one I have 10 years from now, and these places we go to...hopefully they'll still let the ole 'Achy Breaky' man come and sing a few songs. I'll need to do that till the day I die."

- Janet E. Williams

CMA MEMBER BLOWS WHISTLE ON FAKE CASSETTES

CMA member Mel Shaw, president of MWC America in Nashville, blew the whistle on tape counterfeiters at the Tennessee State Fair in September. Shaw discovered the tapes while visiting the fair and, working with business associates at Toronto-based Canadian Recording Industry Association in Toronto, notified the Recording Industry Association of America in Washington, D.C. of the suspected illegal activity. A representative from RIAA's anti-piracy unit visited the fair site, resulting in the arrest of the individual selling the counterfeit tapes. Over 1700 cassettes were seized. On behalf of all CMA members, CLOSE UP thanks Mel for taking action!

If you suspect a wholesaler, retailer or distributor of selling counterfeit tapes, notify the Anti-Piracy Unit of the Recording Industry Association of America to (202) 775-0101; fax (202) 775-7253.

FAITH HILL

Look out, Julia Child! Faith Hill is cooking.

With a gold debut album, three hit singles and concerts with Reba McEntire, Alan Jackson and Brooks & Dunn, 27-year-old Faith is one of the hottest new Country artists around. On stage or at home in her kitchen, she is always a perfectionist and a dreamer.

"I love to cook. I'm not the greatest, but when I get into the kitchen I pretend that I cook as good as Julia Child. It's like when a little kid gets up to bat, they probably think of Babe Ruth or something - 'I'm going to hit this just like Babe Ruth did.' I think, 'I'm going to cook this lasagna just like Julia Child.'"

Faith won't be trading in her microphone for a chef's hat anytime soon, but she would like to be cooking for a family.

"I want to have kids really bad," she says. "It would be unfair to ask myself to choose which I would rather have, a career or a family. I have always wanted a family. I have always wanted a career. So I will make it work. It obviously would be tougher than some situations, but I'm just going to make it work.

"I want as much of a normal family life for my children as I had growing up. It's not going to be the same, because I'm not in the same town and my lifestyle's just different than my mom's and dad's was when we were growing up. But I want them to know their cousins. I want them to know their aunts and uncles. I want them to go to school. I want them to be normal - as normal as they can be. I want to teach them the simple things of life although they are going to be living, probably, not as simple as I did.

"I worry about being able to give my children what my mom and dad gave to us, because we were lower middle class, poor. It didn't seem that way to me, because I thought we had as much as everybody else. But the things that they gave us, the three of us, being able to appreciate what you

"The people who did not know my music... hopefully, they'll like it after they leave."

have and know that there is always somebody out there that is less fortunate, and you should appreciate what you have...have a forgiving heart and not be judgmental. I think those little things are so simple, but they're kind of hard to teach."

Faith still goes home to tiny Star, Mississippi, to see her family and friends, who inevitably relay stories of the little girl who dreamt of being a Country Music star.

"I have parents come up to me all the time and say, 'Yeah, I remember when we were driving you kids to Pizza Hut or Dairy Queen or something, and we were all talking about what everybody wanted to do when they grew up. You always said, 'I'm going to Nashville to be a Country Music singer.'"

On Saturdays, she treated neighbors to a living-room concert, chock full of The King's greatest hits.

"We'd put on their ELVIS: LIVE IN HAWAII album. I'd have a glass of water and reach down and put it on my face like I was sweating, and I had this scarf around my neck. I mean I was crazy like that," she remembers with a laugh.

Faith now performs her own songs - with some real sweat - in front of thousands of fans.

"A lot has changed this year with me, personally and professionally, but I guess the greatest change has been my performance, my ability to deal with an audience and my ability to feel more comfortable on stage...The cool thing about working on the road is I've been learning so fast.

"...you should appreciate what you have..."

"My coaching has been listening to my show every night and just going out and watching other people's show. When we did fairs and festivals, when I'm opening, I'll go out and see the headliners' shows just to see how they adapt to a crowd that's maybe crazy or a crowd that's quiet...I prefer them going crazy.

"I tell you what's really hard, and this is what I've had to overcome the most, is looking out in the audience when you're performing and you go out there with a lot of confidence - I feel good in what I'm wearing, I've had a really good day, and I know it's going to be a great show. Then you look out there in the audience, and there's somebody just sitting there with not even any expression on their face. They're not smiling. They're not laughing. They're just sitting there.

"What's going through my head is, 'They want me to get off the stage. They're ready for Alan or whatever.' But I've changed my attitude around. Instead of looking at them and thinking negative thoughts, I think, 'Before I get off this stage, you will smile.' And if they don't, that's their problem.

"The people who did not know my music, hopefully they'll like it after they leave. But the thing that I would want somebody to say after they left my show, I would want them to know that I really had a great time. They may not know my music, and they may not like it. But they will leave there knowing that I love what I do for a living. And I don't know what more I can do there."

Her confidence was put to the test when she performed as a Horizon Award nominee on the "The 28th Annual CMA Awards".

"I just kept praying, 'OK, get a grip. It's just another concert. Just treat it as another show, night after night you do them. So I kept telling myself that, and I was just shaking. Then right before I went on, I said, 'Oh, no. I don't have my red ribbon on.' John Michael (Montgomery) says, 'Well, here. Take mine.' So we're back there trying to get his ribbon off his jacket and



get it on my jacket, and then I go out there and I was saying this little prayer to myself, 'OK, Lord, it's just another concert. It's no big deal.' So I was OK when I first started. And then I was walking out, and I see Naomi Judd. She was looking at me. Reba's there just smiling at me. I see all of my peers. And then I look over and see Julia Roberts. Forget about the confidence," Faith laughs. "It just kind of went out the window."

Improving her stage presence has changed Faith's attitude about her second album, scheduled to be released early next year

"I'm not the greatest, but when I get into the kitchen I pretend that I cook as good as Julia Child."

"There are several things I'm really excited about," she says. "I think it's going to be the same direction, my style, but just hopefully you'll be able to hear a maturity, vocally and how I interpret a song. I've done more singing this year than I've ever done in my life, so I've learned a lot."

"I really love ballads, so I choose them quicker than anything. Up tempo songs are just hard to find. I'm just really wanting something that's going to be fun to do live because the first album, I wasn't really thinking about that. I was thinking about radio - and not even radio hits - but just 'people are going to be hearing this across the radio' as opposed to now when I hear a song I'll go, 'OK, I can do that during that song.' I just think about stage more. It's a luxury that I didn't have before."

"The cool thing about working on the road is I've been learning so fast."

"I would like to do something a little country. A little bit more traditional. You just gotta find that right one."

"There's a lot of competition out there and a lot of things happening. I am working harder now than I have ever worked. Someone asked me the other day if I feel like I can take a break now and rest a little bit since I've had a really great year. I said, 'Hell, no!'"

CU

- Shannon Heim

DECEMBER

- 1**
- Alan Jackson's A LOT ABOUT LIVIN' AND A LITTLE 'BOUT LOVE certifies triple platinum, and "Chattahoochee" earns a gold single, 1993
 - Little Texas earns a gold lp with BIG TIME, 1993
 - George Strait racks up another platinum lp with EASY COME, EASY GO, 1993

- 2**
- Brooks & Dunn's BRAND NEW MAN earns a multi-platinum lp with sales of 2 million, 1992
 - Dolly Parton and Porter Wagoner debut together on Country charts with "The Last Thing On My Mind", 1967



- 3**
- ***PAUL GREGG** (*Restless Heart*); Altus, Oklahoma
 - Merle Haggard adds two more platinum lps, OKIE FROM MUSKOGEE and THE BEST OF THE BEST OF MERLE HAGGARD, to his list of best-sellers, 1991
 - 20 YEARS OF DIRT: BEST OF NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND goes gold, 1993

- 4**
- ***BRIAN PROUT** (*Diamond Rio*); Troy, New York
 - Connie B. Gay dies, 1989
 - FOR MY BROKEN HEART by Reba McEntire certifies platinum, 1991



- 6**
- ***HELEN CORNELIUS**; Hannibal, Missouri
 - Lorrie Morgan's SOMETHING IN RED and Dolly Parton's WHITE

- 7**
- LIMOZEEN certify gold, 1991
 - George Strait scores another number one record with "The Chill Of An Early Fall", 1991

- ***GARY MORRIS**; Ft. Worth, Texas
- ***BOB OSBORNE** (*Osborne Brothers*); Hyden, Kentucky

- SEMINOLE WIND by John Anderson certifies platinum, 1992
- Lorrie Morgan's WATCH ME earns a platinum lp, 1993

- 8**
- ***MARTY RAYBON** (*Shenandoah*); Sanford, Florida
 - ***FLOYD TILLMAN**; Ryan, Oklahoma
 - Marty Robbins dies from a heart attack, 1982

- 9**
- ***BILLY EDD WHEELER**; Whitesville, West Virginia
 - Reba McEntire's GREATEST HITS lp certified gold, 1987
 - CAN'T RUN FROM YOURSELF by Tanya Tucker earns a platinum lp, 1992



- 10**
- ***JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ**; Sabinal, Texas
 - The WSM Barn Dance is recognized for the first time as the Grand Ole Opry by George D. Hay, 1927
 - The first appearance on the Country charts by Tammy Wynette, who debuts with "Apartment Number 9", 1966



- 11**
- ***BRENDA LEE**; Lithonia, Georgia
 - Clint Black tops the charts with "Burn One Down", 1992

- 12**
- ***JOHN ANDERSON**; Apopka, Florida

- 13**
- ***RANDY OWEN** (*Alabama*); Ft. Payne, Alabama
 - Jimmy Dean's album BIG BAD JOHN is the first Country record certified gold, 1961
 - Brooks & Dunn hit number one with "My Next Broken Heart", 1991

- 14**
- ***CHARLIE RICH**; Colt, Arkansas
 - Toby Keith earns a gold album with his self-named debut lp, 1993

- 15**
- ***A.P. CARTER**; Maces Springs, Virginia
 - ***ROSE MADDOX**; Boaz, Alabama
 - GREATEST HITS VOLUME II by Reba McEntire certifies double platinum, 1993

- 16**
- Willie Nelson's lp THE TROUBLE MAKER certifies gold, 1986
 - Don Williams debuts on Country charts with "The Shelter Of Your Eyes", 1972

- 17**
- Doug Supernaw earns a number one with "I Don't Call Him Daddy", 1993
 - Doug Stone, Aaron Tippin, Tanya Tucker and Clay Walker earn gold lps with FROM THE HEART, CALL OF THE WILD, GREATEST HITS 1990-1992 and CLAY WALKER, respectively, 1993

- 18**
- Sammi Smith's "Help Me Make It Through The Night" debuts on Country charts, 1970
 - George Jones' STILL THE SAME OLE ME lp certifies gold, 1990
 - Alan Jackson hits number one with "She's Got The Rhythm I've Got The Blues", 1992



- 19**
- ***DOUG PHELPS** (*Brother Phelps*); Paragould, Arkansas
 - ***BILL CARLISLE**; Wakefield, Kentucky
 - ***"LITTLE" JIMMY DICKENS**; Bolt, West Virginia
 - ***JANIE FRICKE**; South Whitney, Indiana

- 20**
- "The Devil Went Down to Georgia" by the Charlie Daniels Band earns a platinum single, 1989

- Johnny Horton strikes gold with "The Battle Of New Orleans", 1966
- Tanya Tucker's WHAT DO I DO WITH ME earns a gold album, 1991

21

- ***LEE ROY PARNELL**; Steventville, Texas
- ***FREDDIE HART**; Lochapoka, Alabama

22

- ***RED STEAGALL**; Gainesville, Texas
- ***HAWKSHAW HAWKINS**; Huntington, West Virginia
- Merle Haggard begins a four-week stay at the top of the Country charts with "If We Make It Through December", 1973

23

- Hank Snow debuts on the American Country charts with "Marriage Vows", 1949
- "The Gambler" by Kenny Rogers tops the charts, 1978

24

- CHRISTMAS EVE

25

- CHRISTMAS DAY
- ***STEVE WARINER**; Noblesville, Indiana
- ***BARBARA MANDRELL**; Houston, Texas
- ***JIMMY BUFFET**; Mobile, Alabama

26

- ***BOB CARPENTER** (*Nitty Gritty Dirt Band*); Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- ***RONNIE PROPHET**; Calumet, Quebec, Canada
- Roy Acuff is the first Country performer lauded at the Kennedy Center Honors in Washington, D.C., 1991

27

- Merle Haggard makes first Country chart appearance with "Sing Me A Sad Song", 1963

28

- ***MARTY ROE** (*Diamond Rio*); Lebanon, Ohio
- ***MIKE MCGUIRE** (*Shenandoah*); Haleyville, Alabama
- Glen Campbell debuts on Country charts with "Kentucky Means Paradise", 1962
- Joe Diffie's HONKY TONK ATTITUDE earns a gold lp, 1993

29

- ***ROSE LEE MAPHIS**; Baltimore, Maryland
- ***ED BRUCE**; Keiser, Arkansas
- Trisha Yearwood goes gold with THE SONG REMEMBERS WHEN, 1993

30

- ***SUZIE BOGGUSS**; Aledo, Illinois
- ***SKEETER DAVIS** (*Mary Frances Penick*); Dry Ridge, Kentucky
- Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys make first guest appearance on the Grand

Ole Opry, 1944

31

- ***REX ALLEN**; Phoenix, Arizona

JANUARY

1

- NEW YEAR'S DAY**
- Hank Williams Sr. dies, 1953

2

- ***ROGER MILLER**; Fort Worth, Texas
- Alabama's first number one, "My Home's In Alabama", enters the charts, 1980
- Tex Ritter dies, 1974

3

- ***LEON McAULIFFE**; Houston, Texas
- Ricky Skaggs' HIGHWAYS AND HEARTACHES lp certifies platinum, 1992

4

- ***PATTY LOVELESS**; Pikeville, Kentucky
- George Jones and Dolly Parton join the Grand Ole Opry, 1969
- Dwight Yoakam's lp, BUENAS NOCHES FROM A LONELY ROOM, certifies gold, 1989

5

- George Burns hits the Country charts with "I Wish I Was Eighteen Again", 1980

6

- ***EARL SCRUGGS**; Cleveland County, North Carolina
- Alabama's THE TOUCH lp certifies gold and platinum, 1987
- Dwight Yoakam's IF THERE WAS A WAY earns a platinum album, 1993

7

- ***JACK GREENE**; Maryville, Tennessee
- WVVA Jamboree inaugurated, 1933
- Hank Snow first appears on the Grand Ole Opry, 1950
- Reba McEntire earns a platinum lp for SWEET SIXTEEN, 1993

8

- POCKET FULL OF GOLD by Vince Gill and BY THE TIME I GET TO PHOENIX by Glen Campbell certify platinum, 1992
- Garth Brooks goes number one with "Somewhere Other Than The Night", 1993
- Restless Heart tops the Adult Contemporary charts with "When She Cries", 1993

9

- ***CRYSTAL GAYLE**; Paintsville, Kentucky
- ***JACK McFADDEN**; St. Louis, Missouri
- Exile has the number one song on the charts with "I Can't Get Close Enough", 1988
- Willie Nelson's STARDUST certifies multi-platinum, 1990

10

- Tracy Lawrences scores his first number one record with his debut release, "Sticks And Stones", 1992

11

- ***GOLDIE HILL**; Karnes County, Texas
- Kenny Rogers' HEART OF THE MATTER album certifies gold, 1986

12

- ***RICKY VAN SHELTON**; Grit, Virginia
- ***TEX RITTER**; Nederland, Texas
- ***WILLIAM LEE GOLDEN**; Brewton, Alabama
- ***RAY PRICE**; Perryville, Texas
- Marty Stuart earns his first gold album with THIS ONE'S GONNA HURT YOU, 1993

13

- George Strait adds another platinum lp to his collection with DOES FORT WORTH EVER CROSS YOUR MIND, 1992

14

- ***BILLY JO SPEARS**; Beaumont, Texas
- ***BILLY WALKER**; Ralls, Texas
- Lorrie Morgan's WATCH ME goes gold, 1993

15

- The term "hillbilly" is used for the first time to describe Country Music, 1925
- THE JUDDS GREATEST HITS certifies multi-platinum with sales of two million, 1992

[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 Encyclopedia of Folk, Country and Western Music* by Irwin Stambler and Grelun Landon (St. Martin's Press), and the Country Music Foundation's OFFICIAL 1994 COUNTRY MUSIC CALENDAR, as well as from original research.]

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DATEBOOK

DECEMBER

- 1** 2nd Annual Country Music CARES Benefit Concert / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville
- 7** BILLBOARD Music Awards / Universal Amphitheatre / Los Angeles

JANUARY

- 11-12** CMA Board of Directors Meeting / Arizona Biltmore / Phoenix, AZ
- 30** American Music Awards / Shrine Auditorium / Los Angeles

FEBRUARY

- 10** Country & Western Festival / Schutzenhaus, Albisguetti / Zurich, March 26 Switzerland / Contact Albi Matter at (41) 1-461-0066; fax (41) 1-462-7030
- 22-25** 37th Annual NARM Convention / San Diego Marriott & Convention Center

MARCH

- 1** Grammy Awards / Los Angeles
- 1-4** 26th Annual Country Radio Seminar / Country Radio Broadcasters / (615) 327-4488

APRIL

- 5-7** CMA Board of Directors Meeting / Shelbourne Hotel / Dublin, Ireland



Lisa Dent (right), air personality for KYCW in Seattle, gets a laugh from (l to r) Faith Hill, Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn during a special "Live From Nashville!" broadcast, sponsored by Ron Huntsman Entertainment Marketing.