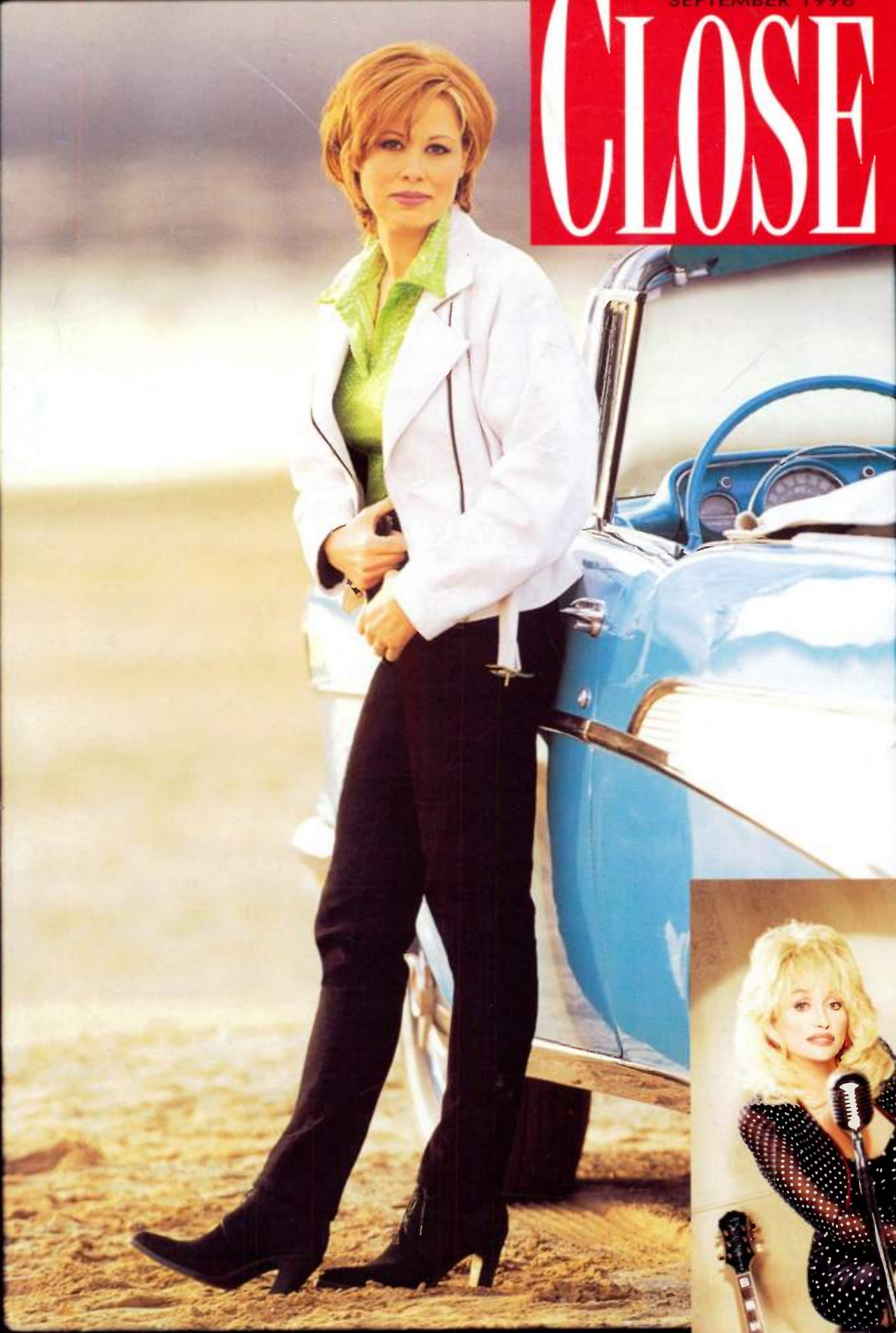


SEPTEMBER 1996

CLOSE UP



Inside:

Stephanie Bentley

Trey Bruce

CMA Awards Nominees



**"If you have confidence in yourself, you can conquer the world."
- Stephanie Bentley, page 13**



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SUZY BOGGUSS

Suzy Bogguss sits at the Loveless Motel eating homegrown tomatoes, a fried egg, ham and biscuits. The waitress has brought at least a dozen more biscuits than two people can possibly eat, so Suzy puts them in a doggie bag to take to the workmen at her house. "My tomatoes don't look like this," she says a little enviously.

They say the best way to grow crops is to let the ground lie fallow for a season. And while Suzy's been busy with other things - namely raising 16-month-old Ben with husband and musical collaborator Doug Crider - she's taken a respite from working. Her decision came at a time when getting off the musical treadmill can be dangerous for an artist.

"How could I not answer a part of me that was asking me to slow down and take a break? You can't be afraid to live your own life...It's hard to keep that in mind all the time. I've seen people get caught in feeling guilty when their band is not working and knowing the overhead is eating them up and things like this. For that very reason, I don't keep any overhead. I could not do what I do for any other reason than I love to do it."

Her decision to take a brief sabbatical came in part from necessity. She had just produced the SIMPATICO album with dear friend and musical mentor Chet Atkins. The logical decision would have been to go back into the studio for her solo effort. "I could feel also, if you want to be honest, that the label was getting ready to make another change."

Suzy's no stranger to change. In the 10 years she's been on Capitol Records, she's seen the label change management four times and the company name flip-flop three.

"There's a saying, something about when everything is going crazy around you, stand still. You have less likelihood of get-



"When everything is going crazy around you, stand still."

ting caught up in a whirlwind. That's the way I decided to do it...I didn't really expect it to take as long as it has to settle. I was ready to get back in the studio sooner. Then again, it was one of those things where I felt like, 'Okay, I can push on this, and it will be harder and not make it any better, or I can let it happen as it wants to happen and have a good time.' That's what

I did. I just relaxed and enjoyed the time with Ben, and I let things fall together so I could make a record with Scott (Hendricks, head of Capitol Nashville) and Trey (Bruce, songwriter and co-producer), GIVE ME SOME WHEELS is the result - full of energy as it courses its way through a musical landscape."

Suzy continues the car reference in "Feeling 'Bout You":

*You can see our dents
You can see our rust
They say we're wearing out
They say we ain't gonna make it
If they don't believe it
They can eat our dust*

One reviewer said she delivers each song so persuasively, "Heck, I'm so convinced, I'd almost buy a used car from this lady."

Suzy says that she's matured since those early days on Capitol.

"I've been through this business enough times that I've seen its fickle side, and I've seen things that in early stages would just tear me up. I couldn't sleep at night. I was so upset about things that I had been trying to push. My headstrong nature would have me just try to force something to happen that wasn't going to naturally happen. I've learned that you cannot force it. Find ways for yourself to take those little access roads around whatever problems you've got in front of you. For me, it's to be creative enough with ways that people are going to be interested in what you do."

She credits husband Doug with helping her learn to trust and let go.

"The bottom line is once you learn that and you start to feel like it's okay to let someone else do something, you can be a much happier person. You can actually have time to relax. Then your creativity

...continued from page 27

30th CMA Awards

VINCE GILL TOPS CMA AWARD NOMINEES

Vince Gill earned seven CMA Award nominations, including the coveted Entertainer of the Year honor, when Lorrie Morgan and Marty Stuart announced the final nominees for "The 30th Annual CMA Awards" on August 13. The gala event, set for live telecast on CBS at 8 p.m. (EDT), takes place on Wednesday, October 2 at the Grand Ole Opry House. The CMA superstar will also host the prestigious three-hour ceremony.

"Each year, the announcement of the CMA Awards nominees is one of the most anticipated moments for the entertainment industry," said Ed Benson, CMA executive director. "As the CMA Awards presentation celebrates its 30th anniversary, it is noteworthy that this year's list of nominees is an eclectic mix of the different styles found within today's Country Music."

Gill already holds numerous CMA Awards distinctions. He has won more CMA Awards than any other artist in history, winning the Male Vocalist of the Year honor for the past five years, also a record. The CMA superstar is nominated for Entertainer of the Year - an honor he has won twice - as well as Male Vocalist, Album for HIGH LONESOME SOUND, Single, Song and Music Video of the Year for "Go Rest High On That Mountain" and Vocal Event for his heart-stopping duet with Dolly Parton, "I Will Always Love You".

Multi-platinum superstars George Strait and Brooks & Dunn earned five nominations each.



Both vie for honors as Entertainer of the Year, which Strait has won twice before. Brooks & Dunn are looking for their first win in that category. The Arista duo is also nominated for Vocal Duo of the Year - which they have won for the past four years - Album of the Year for BORDERLINE and Single and Music Video of the Year for "My Maria".

In addition to his Entertainer of the Year nod, Strait is nominated for Male Vocalist of the Year, Album of the Year for BLUE CLEAR SKY and Single and Music Video of the Year for "Check Yes Or No". The song, written by Danny M. Wells and Dana Hunt Ogleby, is also nominated for Song of the Year.

Reigning Entertainer of the Year Alan Jackson contends for that honor once more. He is also nominated for Male Vocalist as well as Vocal Event and Music Video of the Year for his collaboration with Jeff Foxworthy, "Redneck Games".

Other artists receiving multiple nominations are Martina McBride and Shania Twain with three each and Foxworthy, Patty Loveless, LeAnn Rimes and Bryan White with two apiece.

Artists receiving nominations for the first time are Rimes - who at 13 becomes the youngest artist ever nominated - Junior Brown, Terri Clark, Wade Hayes and Bryan White. Vocal Duo nominees Baker & Myers receive their first nomination as artists, having received a Song of the Year nomination for "I Swear" in 1994. Winners of "The 30th Annual CMA Awards" will

be voted on by the 7,000 professional members of the Country Music Association in 38 countries worldwide. Ballots are tabulated by the international accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP.

The CMA Awards™ was the first music awards special to be carried on network television, consistently earning top ratings. Last year's telecast took CBS to first place in the nightly ratings race.

This year's broadcast will be produced by Walter C. Miller and directed by Paul Miller. Donald K. Epstein will write the script. A stereo-radio simulcast of the gala event will be satellite-delivered by MJJ Broadcasting. The program will be televised via tape around the world, including in the UK by BBC 2. For more information on the CMA Awards, Internet users can locate the CMA website using the address <http://www.countrymusic.org>.

The final nominees for the 1996 CMA Awards are:

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

BROOKS & DUNN
GARTH BROOKS
VINCE GILL
✓ALAN JACKSON
GEORGE STRAIT

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

VINCE GILL
ALAN JACKSON
COLLIN RAYE
GEORGE STRAIT
BRYAN WHITE

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

FAITH HILL
PATTY LOVELESS
MARTINA MCBRIDE
PAM TILLIS
SHANIA TWAIN

HORIZON AWARD

TERRI CLARK
WADE HAYES
LEANN RIMES
SHANIA TWAIN
BRYAN WHITE

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

ALABAMA
BLACKHAWK
DIAMOND RIO
THE MAVERICKS
SAWYER BROWN

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

BAKER & MYERS
BELLAMY BROTHERS
BROOKS & DUNN
SWEETHEARTS OF THE RODEO
JOHN & AUDREY WIGGINS

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

BLUE CLEAR SKY, George Strait, MCA
Produced by Tony Brown and George Strait

BORDERLINE,
Brooks & Dunn,
Arista Nashville
Produced by Don Cook,
Kix Brooks and Ronnie
Dunn

HIGH LONESOME SOUND,
Vince Gill, MCA
Produced by Tony Brown

THE TROUBLE WITH
THE TRUTH,
Patty Loveless, Epic
Produced by
Emory Gordy, Jr.

WILD ANGELS, Martina
McBride, RCA
Produced by Martina
McBride, Paul Worley and Ed Seay



Lorrie Morgan and Marty Stuart reveal the nominees for the 30th annual CMA Awards.

MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

EDDIE BAYERS (Drums)
PAUL FRANKLIN (Steel Guitar)
BRENT MASON (Guitar)
MARK O'CONNOR (Fiddle)
MATT ROLLINGS (Keyboards)

SINGLE OF THE YEAR

"Blue"

LEANN RIMES, MCG/Curb

Produced by Wilbur C. Rimes

"Check Yes Or No"

George Strait, MCA

Produced by Tony Brown and George Strait

"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

Vince Gill, MCA

Produced by Tony Brown

"My Maria"

Brooks & Dunn, Arista Nashville

Produced by Don Cook, Kix Brooks and
Ronnie Dunn

"Time Marches On"

Tracy Lawrence, Atlantic

Produced by Don Cook

SONG OF THE YEAR

(Award to the Songwriter)

"Any Man of Mine"

Shania Twain /

R.J. Lange

Loon Echo Music / Zomba Enterprises

"Check Yes Or No"

Danny M. Wells / Dana Hunt Oglesby

John Juan Music / Victoria Kay Music

"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

Vince Gill

Benefit Music

"Keeper Of The Stars"

Dickey Lee / Karen Staley / Danny Mayo

Murrah Music Corp. / Songs of PolyGram

International / New Haven Music /

Sixteen Stars Music / Pal Time Music

"Time Marches On"

Bobby Braddock

Sony/ATV Tree

VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

Dolly Parton with special guest Vince Gill

"I Will Always Love You", Columbia/Blue Eye

George Jones and Tammy Wynette

"One", MCA

Jeff Foxworthy with special guest Alan Jackson

"Redneck Games", Warner Bros.

Marty Stuart and Travis Tritt

"Honky Tonkin's What I Do Best", MCA

Reba McEntire with special guests Trisha

Yearwood/Martina McBride, Linda Davis

"On My Own", MCA

MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR

"Check Yes Or No"

George Strait

Directed by John Lloyd Miller

"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

Vince Gill

Directed by John Lloyd Miller

"My Maria"

Brooks & Dunn

Directed by Michael Oblowitz

"My Wife Thinks You're Dead"

Junior Brown

Directed by Michael McNamara

"Redneck Games"

Jeff Foxworthy with Special Guest Alan Jackson

Directed by Coke Sams



Storme Warren of "TNN Country News" congratulates Wade Hayes on his Horizon Award nomination following the press conference announcing this year's CMA Awards nominees.

CMA WEEK ACTIVITIES

Mark your calendars for the following special events, which take place in conjunction with the CMA Awards:

Sunday, September 29

NSAI Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame

Induction, Loew's Vanderbilt Plaza

T.J. Martell Foundation Celebrity

Golf Tournament

Monday, September 30

ASCAP Country Awards, Opryland Hotel

T.J. Martell Foundation 5th Annual

Bowling Bash

Tuesday, October 1

BMI Country Awards, BMI

Wednesday, October 2

The 30th Annual CMA Awards,

Grand Ole Opry House

Thursday, October 3

CMA Annual Membership Meeting,

Nashville Convention Center

SRO '96, Nashville Convention Center

SESAC Country Awards

Friday, October 5

SRO '96, Nashville Convention Center

Saturday, October 6

SRO '96, Nashville Convention Center

30th CMA Awards



Marty Stuart has some fun with Lorrie Morgan as the two announce the nominees for the 30th Annual CMA Awards. - Photo by Kay Williams

CMA MEMBERSHIP MEETING SET

CMA's annual membership meeting, open to all members of the association, will be held on Thursday, October 3 at the Nashville Convention Center. The annual election for the Board of Directors begins at 10 a.m., with the membership meeting commencing at 11 a.m.

FINAL BALLOT DUE SEPTEMBER 25

Make sure your vote counts - return your final ballot for the CMA Awards by the September 25th deadline.

Winners will be announced during the live broadcast of "The 30th Annual CMA Awards" on Wednesday, October 2. The gala telecast will begin on CBS-TV at 8 p.m. EDT.

The entire balloting process is conducted and certified by the international accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Staff members of CMA do not vote for the awards, nor do they handle or tabulate any of the three ballots.

American Airlines is offering a special Meeting Saver Fare to CMA's activities taking place between September 26 - October 7, 1996. For details on discounts offered, phone American Airlines Meeting Services Desk at (800) 433-1790 or your travel agent. You must ask for STAR File # S0196EJ. International travelers, call your local American Airlines reservation office.

Dolly Parton



Dolly Parton is perhaps the most recognizable Country singer of the past 25 years. A mantle full of awards, number one records, tv appearances, feature films, even an Academy Award for the song "9 To 5", have brought her worldwide fame. But in late August, she's back in Music City preparing for the release of her latest album, TREASURES. Dolly's in town for three days of interviews, almost unheard for an artist of her stature. But she knows it's part of her job if the new lp is to succeed.

TREASURES is a change of pace for Dolly. Not only is she with a new label, Rising Tide, she's also taking a different musical approach, recording some of her favorite songs instead of originals.

"For years, I have wanted to do an album of songs I especially love. I thought this was a good time to do it, because I've tried doing a lot of my original things lately and haven't had a real success in Country Music. I'm not really taking a chance on the songs, because I know the songs are great."

She's recorded, among other tunes, "Satin Sheets", a hit for Jeanne Pruett in 1973. "We're good cooking buddies, so when her record

went number one, we cooked a big ole fat soulful meal with fried potatoes and turnip greens and everything. She doesn't know I've done this song yet, so I'm hoping that when she hears it, she'll cook me a big old meal."

Dolly's also tapped several guest artists to help with the project, including Alison Krauss, Raul Malo, John Sebastian, Matraca Berg and Ladysmith Black Mambazo. The latter is a decidedly different guest for a Country record, lending vocal support on "Peace Train", an international 1970's hit for Cat Stevens.

"I thought that the song itself and the message of it was like a universal message about people living together. I was watching one night and heard a Lifesaver commercial. I didn't know for sure who that was, and I thought, 'That's the group that I want. That's the black African sound that I'm looking for.' It happened to be Ladysmith Black Mambazo."

"A personal success is different than a professional success."

Getting what she wants might seem easy for Dolly, but she doesn't take her success for granted. "People think - even in my own family and my own circle of friends - that I can do anything and just because I do it, it's going to be a success. Well, that's not true. A personal success is different than a professional success. I'm in a position where I can do a lot of things that a lot of other people can't do when they are new, but that's not to say I get to do everything that I want to do. It's not to say that everything I do will pass. I don't try to exercise my power or my position by

allowing myself to do things that ain't worth a shit. I'm always trying to do quality stuff. You've got to work all the time, no matter how big a star you get to be. The only way you are going to stay there is to keep working at it.

"I still feel the same way I did when I first came to this town. My goals are the same. I want to be respected and thought of and be productive as a great songwriter. I want to be respected and appreciated as a great recording artist. I keep striving for that.

"I wake up every day with new dreams. It's not about money, because if I wanted to sit on my butt, I could retire. But I would be bored to death. I would die. I am so full of life, so full of energy, and I have a gift. I don't want to let God down anymore than I want to let myself down. He gave me the ability to do this, and I think it's my place to do it.

"I am full of passion, full of creativity, full of other things, if you know what I mean, but it's the combination of all those things that makes it fun and worthwhile. I would be doing it if I wasn't making a dime at it. I'd be singing in a nightclub or trying to get a gig. It's in my soul. I am a musician. I am a singer. I am a show person. I am a gypsy. I love to travel. I love the excitement. My true gifts, what brought me out of the Smoky Mountains, are my songs and my singing, and I will always do that."

With such a positive attitude, it's no wonder that Dolly can openly share her secret to happiness. "God. Spirituality. Loving yourself and having to find yourself through God. I truly believe that the kingdom of Heaven is at hand and is within, so I try to keep myself anchored in the spirit of love. I try to keep an understanding and a love for people, and a tolerance. If I can be happy, I can make other people around me happy. Of course I have my problems, but I deal with them in a very positive way. I hurt like everybody else. If I allow myself to wallow in it, in the sorrow of things...I do allow myself to suffer. Everybody needs to. If I didn't feel it, if I didn't allow myself to feel the hurt or the love or the excitement or all the feelings, I wouldn't be the songwriter that I am."

She also values her talent and her peace of mind. "I can go anywhere I want to with my talent, with what I feel and with what I know, my gut instincts and my common sense. I can make money, and I like money. I like what money can do. But it's not just about that. I like the work. I love making the money. But I don't go and waste stuff. I could buy whatever I wanted, probably, but I still look at the price. I have that old Lee Parton inside me. He was such a penny pincher.

"I'd rather go to K-Mart than to Gucci."

"I wake up every day with new dreams."

"Freedom has been my greatest asset."

"I was trying on a whole bunch of things yesterday, and I thought, 'This is kind of cute. How much is it?' And if I thought it was ridiculous, I would say, 'The hell with that!' It's gonna have to be really worth it to me, to be something I really want. I've always said I'd rather have a whole lot of cheap things than one or two pieces. I'd rather go to K-Mart than to Gucci. I'm a redneck, white trash person, and I will always be that, no matter how much money I've got. It could cost a fortune or it could cost a dollar - I'll still look cheap in it.

"I look the way I look because that's the way I think I look the best for who I am. I'm quality on the inside, so I don't have to have quality on the outside if I don't wear it well. I have a certain look that I like, and it's kind of like a hooker. I've always looked like that, and I've always enjoyed it.

"You've got to believe in yourself. It's got to be what you want, not what somebody wants you to have and wants for you. You've got to have the talent to back that up. You've got to have a lot of backbone and a lot of guts and the willingness to work. That is what a lot of people don't realize. So many of my family are twice as talented as I am, but they are not willing to work. They may have twice the talent, but I am willing to work twice as hard. I don't have a lazy bone in my body.

"Freedom has been my greatest asset, I think, because I don't have children. My husband, he's a loner. He don't want to be around nobody. He don't want to be around me all the time, and I don't really want to be around him, so this has worked out great. I've got the freedom to be where I need to be. You do have to believe in yourself, and it has to be what you want. Then you will sacrifice whatever you have to for it."

Ever the pro, Dolly wants to make sure she's covered all her bases. When asked if there's anything else she wants to talk about, she's quick to put in a pitch for Dollywood, her famed theme park in the Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. "Can you do this for me? Dollywood is very important to me. This year for the Harvest Celebration, we are adding the Southern Gospel Jubilee. We are having all these fantastic people - J.D. Sumner & The Stamps, Gold City, the Speer Family...it's all gospel groups coming from everywhere, October 4th through November 3rd. If you could work that in somewhere, they would be proud of me!"

Consider it done, Dolly.

- Janet E. Williams



NOMINEES ANNOUNCED FOR ANNUAL SRO AWARDS

Nominees for the 1996 SRO Awards, recognizing outstanding professional achievement within the Country Music touring industry, have been announced by CMA. Winners will be announced Friday, October 4 during a special SRO Awards presentation featuring performances by comedian Bill Engvall, John Berry and BR5-49. The annual awards ceremony is part of SRO '96, CMA's international entertainment expo, which takes place October 3-5 at the Nashville Convention Center.

SRO nominees were selected in the following 14 categories by CMA individual members in the Talent Buyer/Promoter, Artist/Musician, Talent Agent, Personal Manager categories as well as support services individuals in the Affiliated category, who will also receive the final ballot. The eligibility period for the 1996 SRO Awards is July 1, 1995 to June 30, 1996. Ballots are tabulated by the international accounting firm Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Additional awards, honoring the International Talent Buyer of the Year, the International Touring Artist of the Year, are selected by CMA's international committee. SRO Awards for Record Company of the Year and Radio Station of the Year will be chosen by the SRO Committee from submissions in those fields.



Terri Clark



Wade Hayes



Bryan White



LeAnn Rimes



Ricochet

THE NOMINEES FOR THE 1996 SRO AWARDS ARE:

NEW TOURING ARTIST OF THE YEAR

(A new artist is defined as one who has attained national recognition for the first time within the eligibility period.)

TERRI CLARK
WADE HAYES
RICOCHET
LEANN RIMES
BRYAN WHITE

TOURING ARTIST OF THE YEAR

BROOKS & DUNN
GARTH BROOKS
ALAN JACKSON
TIM MCGRAW
GEORGE STRAIT

ROAD/TOUR MANAGER OF THE YEAR

SCOTT EDWARDS (Brooks & Dunn)
WES EMERSON (Tracy Lawrence)
DAVID HILL (Sawyer Brown)
JIM MAYO (John Michael Montgomery)
TONY STEPHENS (Alan Jackson)

SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY OF THE YEAR

(Includes audio/visual, lighting, security, sound equipment leasing, transportation, catering, and staging.)

BANDIT LITES - Knoxville, TN
CONCERT STAGING, INC. - Hendersonville, TN
MD SYSTEMS - Nashville, TN
SHOWCO - Dallas, TX
SOUND CHECK - Grandview, MO

FESTIVAL, FAIR OR SPECIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

(Due to a tie, there are six nominees in this category.)

FARM AID - Louisville, KY
GREELEY STAMPEDE - Greeley, CO
JAMBOREE IN THE HILLS - Wheeling, WV
JUNE JAM - Fort Payne, AL
MINNESOTA STATE FAIR - Minneapolis, MN
YORK FAIR - York, PA

CLUB OF THE YEAR

(Includes any club which presents live country music on a weekly basis throughout the year with a capacity of less than 3000.)

GRIZZLY ROSE - Denver, CO
NASHVILLE PALACE - Nashville, TN
TOOLIES COUNTRY - Phoenix, AZ
WESTERN CONNECTION - San Dimas, CA
WILDHORSE SALOON - Nashville, TN

CONCERT VENUE OF THE YEAR WITH A CAPACITY OF 6000 OR LESS.

(Includes any park, fair, amphitheater, theater, arena, coliseum, auditorium and any club with a capacity of more than 3000.)

BILLY BOB'S - Ft. Worth, TX
FOX THEATRE - Atlanta, GA
FABULOUS FOX THEATRE - St. Louis, MO
GRAND OLE OPRY HOUSE - Nashville, TN
TENNESSEE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER - Nashville, TN

CONCERT VENUE OF THE YEAR WITH CAPACITY OF MORE THAN 6000

(Includes any park, fair, amphitheater, theater, arena, coliseum or auditorium.)

DELTA CENTER - Salt Lake City, UT

RED ROCKS AMPHITHEATER - Denver, CO

ROSE GARDEN - Portland, OR

COCA-COLA STARPLEX AMPHITHEATER - Dallas, TX

PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS - Auburn Hills, MI

TALENT AGENCY OF THE YEAR

APA, Inc. - Nashville, TN

The Bobby Roberts Co., Nashville, TN

Buddy Lee Attractions - Nashville, TN

Creative Artists Agency - Nashville, TN

Monterey Artists - Nashville, TN

TALENT AGENT OF THE YEAR

BOBBY CUDD - Monterey Artists

ROD ESSIG - Creative Artists Agency

JOHN HUIE - Creative Artists Agency

GREG OSWALD - William Morris Agency

JAMES YELICH - Creative Artists Agency

TALENT BUYER/PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

GIL CUNNINGHAM - Don Romeo Agency

BEN FARRELI - Varnell Enterprises

GARY OSIER - Gary Osier Presents

BOB ROMEO - Don Romeo Agency

DON ROMEO - Don Romeo Agency

CONCERT PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

BEN FARRELL - Varnell Enterprises

KEITH FOWLER - Fowler Productions

LARRY FRANK - Frank Productions

PHIL LASHINSKY - Show Productions, Inc.

RANDY SHELTON - Stardate Concerts

ARTIST MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Due to a tie, there are six nominees in this category.

JOHN DORRIS - Hallmark Direction Company

MARC HURT - Breakfast Table Management

T.K. KIMBRELL - TKO Management

CHIP PEAY - Chip Peay Management

MIKE ROBERTSON - Mike Robertson Management

BOB TITLEY & CLARENCE SPALDING - Titley/Spalding & Associates

PUBLICIST OF THE YEAR

ALISON AUERBACH - Alison Auerbach Public Relations

JENNIFER BOHLER - Starstruck Entertainment

SANDY FRIEDMAN - Rogers & Cowan

RONNA RUBIN - Rubin Media

NANCY RUSSELL - FORCE, Inc.

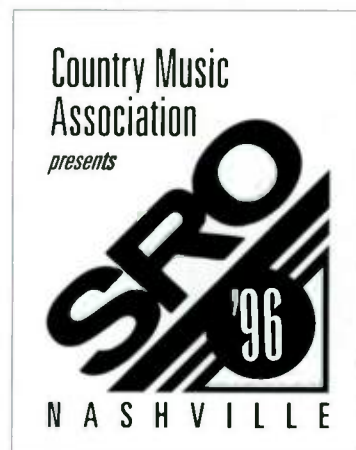
For registration
information, contact CMA's

Special Projects

department at

(615) 244-2840 or fax

(615) 726-0314.





Six years ago, Stephanie Bentley set off for Music City, U.S.A. to make her dreams come true. Those dreams are now in HOPECHEST, her debut album on Epic Nashville.

Stephanie's voice on the demo for "Shake The Sugar Tree" brought her to the attention of one of her current producers, Paul Worley. Worley invited Stephanie to sing background when the song was recorded by Pam Tillis.

"The main thing that I've learned is that you can do anything you want to if you put your mind to it," Stephanie says. "You just believe, and don't take no for an answer. I am living proof. Who would have thought a little south Georgia girl would make her first album like I've done? It still amazes me."

Stephanie's hopes were dashed a couple of times along the way to releasing her first lp. She came to Nashville with younger sister Camille in search of a deal as a duo - The Bentleys. With the help of friend and producer Doug Johnson (now Senior Vice President, Epic Records), they made a demo tape but failed to land an offer with any record label.

"Basically Doug said you need to move to Nashville. Camille's heart was still in Atlanta, so I left her behind and came to Nashville. I knew two people in this town. I have always welcomed change. To me, that was just another big step along the way to get to where I needed to be. I remember the first day, I was in the grocery store, and this lady struck up a conversation with me. I was like, yea, this is more like the little south Georgia town where I'm from. I felt like it was a really warm place immediately. Plus, everybody that I met was in music, either singing or being a songwriter. I found it to be a very creative atmosphere, so I loved it.

"I used the tape that I recorded with Doug Johnson, to pass around to get demo work. Usually one job lead to another. I guess when I felt like I was finally accepted in the community and found my niche, I was singing as many demos as I wanted. I was staying pretty busy with that and writing and was getting to know all the people."

Sometimes going through the bad stuff makes you stronger.

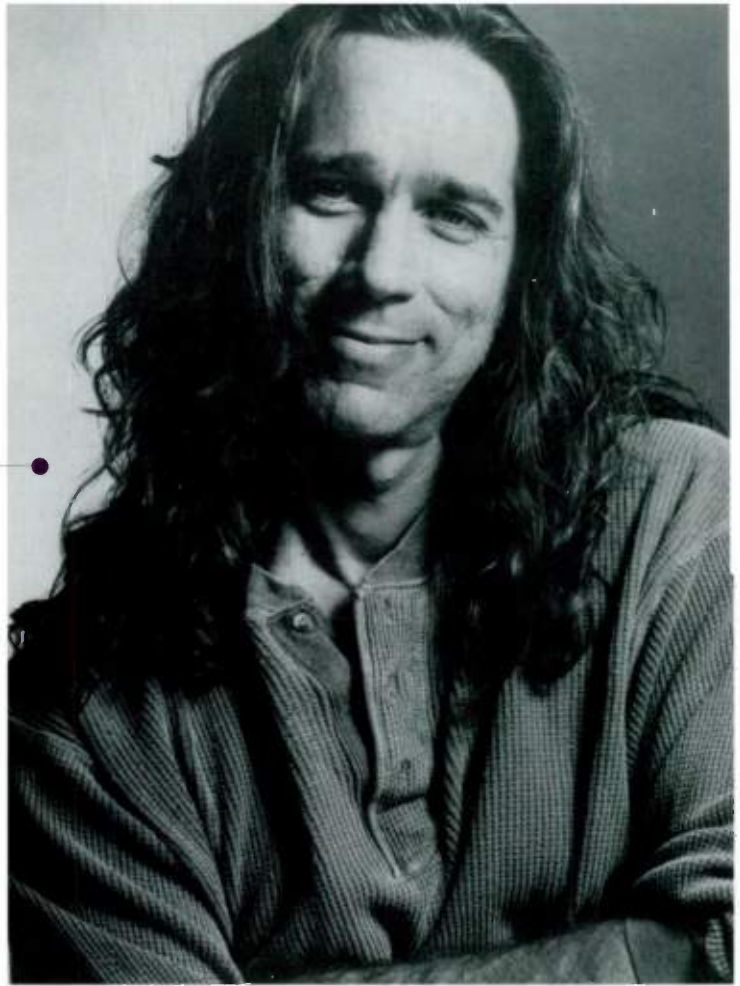
"One of the first demos that I sang was for Todd Wilkes. He was an early believer who said, 'Girl, you just need to be on the radio.' He was a songplugger for BMG at the time and had this incredible ear for music. He is one of my producers today, because we have just worked together for so long. I remember one of the first songs he brought me - it's on my album today - "Half the Moon". We went into the studio with a guitar and a mandolin, put down a track, and I sang it. I thought this guy knows what he is talking about, even though he had never done any production at all. I think we both knew we had something magic, something happening there. So we worked together for quite a while - still are working together - but he actually got me my first deal with Jimmy Bowen at Liberty (now Capitol).

"It was another growing experience. We were going in the studio but we weren't getting the magic that had gotten me there. It was devastating nine months later when I lost the deal, but at the same time I kind of went back to the drawing board. I went back to the studio and found some good songs. Actually, the songs that we cut at that time are on my album today, because when I finally found my home on Epic Records, Paul Worley liked the stuff that Todd and I were doing in the studio so much that he didn't want to re-cut them. Five songs on my album are my demos.

"Sometimes no matter how much money you spend, you just can't recapture that magic, you know. I'm just gonna hang in there until we get a number one."

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Trey Bruce



Growing up in Memphis, Tennessee, songwriter Trey Bruce played in R&B bands and wrote his share of what he calls “dance music”. As the son of Country singer/songwriter Ed Bruce, Trey had often traveled to Nashville to visit his father. But it wasn’t until 1989 that Trey made his official move to Music City to try his hand at Country Music. His first success came with the top 15 Shelby Lynne single “Things Are Tough All Over”. Since then his songs have been recorded by Lee Roy Parnell, Trisha Yearwood, Randy Travis and Steve Wariner among others. More recently, Trey penned the Faith Hill hit, “Someone Else’s Dream”, with cowriter Craig Wiseman.

Now signed to Big Tractor Music, owned by Capitol Nashville president Scott Hendricks, Trey says he was floored when Hendricks offered him a job.

“Scott called and said, ‘Do you want to write for me?’ I said, ‘You don’t even have a company.’ So he said, ‘I’ll start one.’ In just a matter of days, I went over to work for him. There were no offices, no pads, no pencils. I mean it was nothing. We just blew it out of pocket for about five months until we came up with some kind of interest.”

Trey says the job agrees with him, although he never imagined he could stay so busy.

“I’ve gotten so scheduled in my life, and it never was like that growing up. And I was thinking a couple of years ago, all I had was a briefcase full of papers and pencils. I can’t imagine having to go back to just the briefcase. I don’t know what I’d do with all this junk.

Everybody has an agenda for what they want in a song.

“I’m starting to slow down. I panicked for the first year with what looked like some sort of progress. It’s happening right now, but in two years I’m going to need some cuts too. I feel like I have to write them today. I spent a year-and-a-half trying to get a cut, so I panicked and wrote all the time. I’m just trying to book my writing appointments in the week that I’m at and see if that works. I’ve only been doing it three weeks now because looking at nine weeks of appointments just got so impossible. I couldn’t say no, and I couldn’t not call so many people who I wanted to work with. You just start snowballing. And the next thing you know, you start demos. Then it moves to record projects. It gets impossible. You couldn’t imagine you could be this busy writing songs.”

In addition to his songwriting, Trey’s also taken on the role of producer. He co-produced Suzy Bogguss’ latest lp, GIVE ME SOME WHEELS.

"I was lucky for Suzy to be my first record to produce. She wanted to change her music along with the way her life has changed. In three years, she's become a mom and lots of other things. She's been with her record label for 10 years making records the same way, and she just wanted to change. Her recipe seemed to be what I'm kind of doing right now, so we hooked up."

Even with his new projects, Trey tries to keep a balanced songwriting schedule.

"Production work has screwed my schedule up a little bit. Until that point, I came in everyday whether I had a cowriter or not and picked the guitar up. Sometimes in the morning when things are still kind of quiet, you can play a B chord, and it sounds completely different than it did the day before. If there's a light up in there, you go get it. If not, you back off. It's a mystery."

Sometimes Trey's inspiration for songs comes at unlikely times and places.

"Most of the inspiration I get is in the car. My real moments come from out of nowhere in the car. I wrote 'Whisper My Name' (a hit for Randy Travis) in the car one day. When I got home, I got a guitar and made sure I knew where I was going. When I got to the end of the first verse, it rhymed. Everything rhymed with 'A.' I think I had it on demo before I realized that was the only rhyme in the song. If someone said write a song that rhymes with the same vowels, I probably couldn't do it. But it just came to me. A lot of times driving between Nashville and Memphis, I can write a song. I just get a good feeling and start writing. You figure out what's going on in your life, what's going on in your best friends' life, stuff like that.

"The thing I hate about interviews is the how-to thing. If I had a clue for how to write a song, I'd be doing it somewhere right now, but I don't. I'm learning form and stuff like that. I'm just as blown away as the next person by the gifts that some people have. Everybody's gift is a little different. Some have God's gift for a certain kind of melody. Some have God's gift for a certain kind of poetry."

Everybody's
gift is a
little
different.

actually had 105. Now you have to think about all of those things you write. Every once in a while, I have to give myself a check. I will just write the very best song I can write. When I'm done, I'm done. I try not to think about the trends. The bigger our format gets, the more trends we have."

With the growth in the Country format, Trey is also concerned that the life of a song is not as long.

"I don't know if you can get standards like you used to. I'm not sure

they're not being written. There are probably artists out there singing songs that are standard quality songs, but it's hard to focus anymore because there are so many labels and so many artists. I think some of those big time songs are slipping through the cracks, and we won't know them in 20 years."

What sets a song apart for him and how is his writing influenced by it?

"Great, timeless songs always rise to the top. Songs like Collin Raye's 'Little Rock' and 'Walkaway Joe' sung by Trisha Yearwood are good examples. There's always a time and a place for a 'Be-bop-a-do; she's my baby' kind of thing. That's one of those songs that makes you want to jump up and jerk your shirt off of your head and dance around on it. I don't write a lot of those. I'm not even good at them. I try, and usually when I try and I can't do something like that. I get frustrated. That's when I go back and say, 'OK, this is what I do.' There's nothing wrong with trying to stretch it, but you can only stretch it so many ways." **CU**

-Mandy Wilson

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1996 BROADCAST AWARDS NOMINEES

CMA congratulates the nominees for the 1996 Station of the Year and Broadcast Personality of the Year awards. "These awards recognize the station and the broadcast personality who exemplify the quality of today's Country radio format," said Ed Benson, CMA executive director. "CMA is pleased to acknowledge their contributions to making Country Music the most listened to music in America."



The four categories are established by market size based on Arbitron rankings, with Major Market including stations with an Arbitron ranking of 1 to 25, Large Market stations with rankings of 26 to 50, Medium Market with rankings of 51 to 100, and Small Market including all other markets. Arbitron rankings are determined by the population of a radio station's hometown.



All interested full-time Country on-air personalities and radio stations in the U.S. and Canada were eligible to enter themselves. The entries are judged by a panel of broadcast professionals. Entrants for the Broadcast Personality Award are judged on an aircheck, ratings, community involvement and biographical information. Station finalists were judged on the following criteria: airchecks, ratings history, community involvement and leadership. Finalists are selected during the first round of judging. Winners are determined by the aggregate score of the first round of judging and the second round, which is done by a different panel of judges. Scoring by the judges is tabulated by the international accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP.



The following stations are finalists for the 1996 Station of the Year Award:

s m a l l m a r k e t



KEAN
Abilene, TX



KEKB
Grand Junction, CO



WLWI
Montgomery, AL



WQCB
Bangor, ME



WTCR
Huntington, WV

m e d i u m m a r k e t



KKCS
Colorado Springs, CO



KSSN
Little Rock, AR



WSSL
Greenville, SC



WUSY
Chattanooga, TN



WZZK
Birmingham, AL

l a r g e m a r k e t



WFMS
Indianapolis, IN



WSIX
Nashville, TN



WSOC
Charlotte, NC



WTQR
Winston-Salem, NC



WWKA
Orlando, FL

m a j o r m a r k e t



AKILT
Houston, TX



KKQB
Houston, TX



KMLE
Phoenix, AZ



KMPS
Seattle, WA



WUBE
Cincinnati, OH

s m a l l m a r k e t :



AJ McCloud
WQXK
Youngstown, OH



Charlie James & Co.
WKXC
Augusta, GA



Gary Lee Love
KYKR
Beaumont, TX



Dana Carole &
Mike Lawrence
KGEE
Odessa, TX



Terry Bell
KKAJ
Ardmore, OK

m e d i u m m a r k e t :



Barry "the bear" Smith
WCKT
Ft. Myers, FL



Bill "Dexter" Poindexter
WUSY
Chattanooga, TN



Bob Cole &
Sammy Allred
KVET
Austin, TX

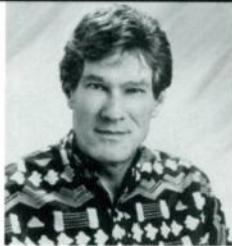


Bob Robbins
KSSN
Little Rock, AR



Jim Diamond &
Kim Gold
KDRK
Spokane, WA

l a r g e m a r k e t :



CC McCartney
WSIX
Nashville, TN



Dixie Lee/Skip Mahaffey
WCOL
Columbus, OH



Paul Franklin
WTQR
Winston-Salem, NC



Tony Stevens &
Dina Michaels
KFKF
Kansas City, MO



TJ McEntire
KBEQ
Kansas City, MO

m a j o r m a r k e t :



Mac Hudson &
Irv Harrigan
KILT
Houston, TX



Jim Fox & Bubba Bo
WUBE
Cincinnati, OH



Jim Mantel/Erin Weber
WGAR
Cleveland, OH



Moby in the Morning
WKHX
Atlanta, GA



Tom Rivers
WQYK
Tampa, FL

CMA Awards To Be Broadcast Overseas

Country fans around the world will have the opportunity to see "The 30th Annual CMA Awards". In the U.K., the special will be broadcast on BBC 2 Television the weekend following the domestic airdate (October 2). For the first time, BBC Radio will do a simulcast of the this year's telecast. Last year "The CMA Awards" also were telecast in a timeslot within a few days of the U.S. airing, creating a media buzz that resulted in the highest U.K. ratings ever - more than 1.5 million viewers.

"The 30th Annual CMA Awards" will also be seen in Ireland, Switzerland, Germany and Austria. Screen Ventures has again been contracted to sell an edited version of the program throughout the world. For more information, contact David Chambers in the U.K. at 171-580-7448 or by fax at 171-631-1265. Other territories are expected to be finalized later.

INTERNATIONALUPDATE

★ The prestigious Gstaad Festival in Switzerland is set for September 20-21 with performances by Mary Chapin Carpenter, Lyle Lovett, David Ball and Perfect Stranger. This is the eighth year of the event, organized by Marcel Bach and Trisha Walker International.

★ The Canadian Country Music Association is gearing up for its annual CCMA week, slated for September 6-9 in Calgary, Alberta. Seminar and panel highlights will feature a discussion with Tom Long of Balmur Entertainment on the publisher/songwriter mix and how the Canadian and Nashville scenes compare. Also, music executives, including Mark Edwards of ABC's "Country Coast To Coast", Blair Garner from "After Midnight

Entertainment" and Jim Murphy of Jones Satellite Network, will talk about the future of secondary market radio. In addition, AristoMedia President Jeff Walker, CMA's Rick Murray and Warner/Reprise Nashville's Bob Saporti will join Canadian Country Music peers in a panel discussion on the importance of marketing the music. CCMA week concludes with the presentation of the Canadian Country Music Awards. Shania Twain is one of the performers, while Garth Brooks will present the Fans' Choice Entertainer of the Year Award via satellite. The awards special will air September 9 on CTV Television Network. It will also be telecast in the U.S. on Saturday, September 14 by TNN: The Nashville Network.

Stephanie Bentley

Stephanie found her first chart success with "Heart Half Empty", a duet with labelmate Ty Herndon. Her other singles have been "Once I Was The Light Of Your Life" and "Who's That Girl", a song she cowrote.

"The basic message I wanted to get across with that is that whether in a relationship or any hurdle that we try to overcome in life, sometimes going through the bad stuff makes you stronger, makes you a better person. It's all how you look at it. In a lot of the songs I write, there are ideas about reality, so they're not always the most positive and cheery. But I think usually there is always a ray of hope, because I am pretty much an optimist."

Stephanie attributes her ever-positive attitude to her family.

"The one thing my parents gave me - and the best thing that any parent can give a child - is belief in themselves. If you have confidence in yourself, you can conquer the world. I am forever indebted to my parents for giving me that. Well, sometimes I thought it was a curse because that little voice inside me wouldn't shut up saying- 'You

can do it, Stephanie. You can do it.' And I'd think, yeah, but I don't feel like doing it today."

Her family is still an important part of her life. Her sister has taken to the road with her, singing harmony.

"The most important thing to me is to just be happy and enjoy what I am doing. I can worry about being the top selling platinum artist - and of course I have goals for myself and I would love to do that - but the most important thing is that I am doing exactly what I want to be doing and that I am happy doing it. And I am. I can get up every day and say I love my job and am very lucky to be fulfilling my dream." **CU**

- Shannon Heim

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AWARDS

The Country Gentlemen and Peter V. Kuykendall will be inducted into The International Bluegrass Music Association during the Bluegrass Music Awards Show held in Owensboro, KY on September 26. The Country Gentlemen began their career as a fill-in band in 1957. The most recognized members are Charlie Waller, John Duffey, Eddie Adcock and Tom Gray, who played with the group from 1960-64. Kuykendall has been the publisher and editor of BLUEGRASS UNLIMITED magazine for 30 years.



Leroy Van Dyke was inducted into the Auctioneer Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the annual convention of the National Auctioneers Association on July 19 in San Diego, CA. Van Dyke joins 88 individuals who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame since its inception in 1961. Van Dyke's cousin, Ray Sims, a 1990 inductee, presented him with the honor.



Joe Carr and Alan Munde earned the second annual *Belmont University Mike Curb Music Business Program Book Award* for the best book in Country Music. "Prairie Nights to Neon Lights", published by Texas Tech University Press, recounts the vital contributions made by West Texas musicians to the music of America and the world. The \$1,000 award recognizes excellence in Country Music literature. Daniel Cooper received *Honorable Mention* for "Lefty Frizzell: The Honky-Tonk Life of Country Music's Greatest Singer". Archie Green, author of "Only a Miner: Studies in Recorded Coal Mining Songs", received the *Lifetime Achievement Award* for his contributions to Country Music



Jim Lauderdale (left) is joined by Emmylou Harris during a recent showcase announcing his addition to the RCA roster. - Photo by Kay Williams

literature and scholarship during the past 25 years.

MEDIA

TEEN COUNTRY magazine will hit the streets on October 1, just in time to celebrate Country Music Month. 16 Magazine Associate Editor Jackie Jarosz takes on the position of editor for the new publication. The magazine will be targeted to fans of Country Music's hot, new and young performers. TEEN COUNTRY can be contacted at 233 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003; (212) 979-4932; fax (212) 979-7342.

NEW COMPANIES

Debbie McClure, formerly with The Songwriters Guild of America, recently opened Competitive Edge Public Relations. The company's clients include recording artist J.T. Blanton and the Spirit of Sharing extravaganza. The company is located at 9 Music Square South, #240, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 885-0218; fax (615) 871-9004.



Starstruck Studios has opened two new recording studios at the

company's newly built office complex on Nashville's Music Row. The Gallery and The Pond comprise a total of 5,000 square feet of recording space and offer a comprehensive range of new audio technology. The studios were designed by acoustical/architectural design firm Harris Grant Associates. For more information, call Starstruck at (615) 742-8835; fax (615) 256-7686.



David J. Moser, entertainment attorney, has opened a private practice and will be representing Buddy Killen Music Group and other music industry clients. The office is located at 9 Music Square South, #332, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 269-7000.

NEWSLINE

The Wildhorse Saloon will host the 1996 Tennessee State Final of the True Value/Jimmy Dean Country Showdown on September 5. The Country Showdown will advance six regional winners who will vie for the \$50,000 grand prize and a recording contract. The televised national final will take place at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida on November 7.





Steve Wariner congratulates Bill Anderson on his 35th anniversary with the Grand Ole Opry during a recent telecast of TNN's "Opry Backstage".

The Country Radio Broadcasters have released its agenda for "The 28th annual Country Radio Seminar" set for March 5-8, 1997. The Thursday and Friday evening showcases presented by the seminar have been removed from the program to allow record companies to showcase or present artists. The Super Faces event will return in '97, with the Wednesday evening festivities to kick off with a dinner function and a performance from one of Country Music's "Super Faces". For more information, call **Aristo Media** at (615) 269-7071.



Beach List Services is now managing **The Crook and Chase Country Music Fans** file, which consists of audience participants, writers of fan mail, members of their International Viewers Club and mail order buyers of Crook and Chase merchandise. The office is located at 4302 Harding Place, Nashville, TN 37205; (615) 665-9003; fax (615) 665-4442.

ON THE MOVE

Carson Chamberlain has been named senior director of A&R for **Mercury Nashville**. Chamberlain, who joined the label in 1994,

co-produces **Harley Allen**, **Mark Wills** and **Keith Stegall**. **Kevin Lane** has been promoted to media relations director for the company. Lane, previously manager of media relations, will continue his work on national media exposure for **Shania Twain**, **Kim Richey** and **Wills**.



Mike Kraski has been promoted to the newly created position of senior vice president, sales & marketing for **Sony Music Nashville**. Kraski, previously vice president/sales, will oversee the sales, marketing and media operations for both **Columbia** and **Epic Records** and their associated labels.



Katherine E. Woods has been appointed to vice president, legal and business affairs for **RCA Label Group RLG/Nashville**. Woods previously practiced entertainment law. **Tom Banks** joins the label as administrator, finance. Banks was a Kentucky Revenue Cabinet auditor. The RCA Label Group has also reorganized some of its departments: **Dale Turner** to vice president, promotion, RLG; **Tommy Daniel** to vice president, strategic marketing, RLG. **Greg McCarn** and **Debbie Schwartz** will move into the RLG

promotion department. **Britta Davis** will assist Turner in promotions, and **Pam Peters** will work with Daniel in strategic marketing.



Anne Weaver has been named vice president of promotion at **Imprint Records**. Weaver previously had her own independent company in which she dealt with A&M Records, Arista, Columbia and Warner Bros. Weaver served two years as vice president of promotion for **Mercury/Nashville** and was previously with **Arista Nashville**.



Scott St. John has joined **Career Records** as manager, regional promotion in Dallas. St. John most recently was West Coast regional promotion director at **Patriot Records**.



Rundi Ream has been named Southeast regional director of the **Songwriters Guild of America**. She will be working from the organization's Nashville office. Ream, most recently with **Rick Alter Management**, worked closely with some of Nashville's most notable songwriters and music publishers while a publicist with **Margaret Ann Warner Public Relations**.



Dianna Maher has been promoted to senior vice president of A&R, as well as director of creative services at **Magnatone Records**. Maher was previously vice president of artist development for the label.



Rob Dalton has been appointed vice president, national Country promotion & artist development for **Epic Records Nashville**. Dalton, formerly senior director, national Country promotion & artist development, will be responsible for the coordination and development of the label's national promotion activities.



Joel Hoffner has been appointed vice president of sales and marketing for **Rising Tide/Nashville**. Hoffner, formerly vice president, sales for Uni Distribution, will be responsible for all sales and marketing activities for the label and its affiliated labels.

◆ ◆ ◆

Asylum Records has expanded its staff with promotions and additions. **Kristi Brake**, formerly promotion coordinator, has been promoted to creative services manager. **Nancy Tunick**, previously regional promotion manager, South at Step One Records, signs on as field promotion manager. **Julie Johnson** has been promoted from promotion intern to promotion coordinator. **Valerie Main**, formerly receptionist, has been promoted to A&R administrator. **David Baird**, who started as the publicity intern, has joined the staff as publicity coordinator. **Marla Burns**, previously creative coordinator for EMI Music Publishing, has been added as assistant to co-president Kyle Lehning. **Michael Hagewood**, formerly promotions coordinator at Chart Attack, joins the staff as receptionist/creative services assistant. **Shanna Strassberg** works part-time as receptionist.

◆ ◆ ◆

Chris DeCarlo had been added as regional manager of promotion and marketing, Northeast for **A&M Records**. DeCarlo has had 18 year radio experience and most recently was music director for WDSY.

◆ ◆ ◆

Dwight Haldeman has been appointed president of **B.L.T. Management Inc.** Haldeman, former associate manager at the Ken Stilts Co., will help with the management of **T. Graham Brown**, **The Bum Steers** and NASCAR driver **Sterling Marlin**.

◆ ◆ ◆

Stephanie Cox has been named vice president, creative services for **MCA Music Publishing, Nashville**. Cox, formerly senior

director, A&R for Capitol Records, will be responsible for the acquisition of writers and artists for the publishing company as well as working the MCA Music catalog. **Wally Wilson** has been promoted to senior director, **MCA Music Productions, Nashville**. Wilson, recently producer for **Lonestar** and **Regina Regina**, will head the newly formed MCA Music Production Company and be responsible for the signing and development of writer/artists.

◆ ◆ ◆

Todd Mason has been appointed to the position of president of **Professional Video Services**. Mason previously was senior vice president of strategic planning and chief financial officer of Henniger Media Services. In the new position, Mason will be responsible for growing the news gathering and production company and serve on the executive committee of **Speer Communications, Ltd.**

◆ ◆ ◆

Meg Hogan has joined **Group W Network Services** as marketing specialist. Hogan, formerly affiliate representative for the company, will be responsible for coordinating advertising, sales and marketing programs.

◆ ◆ ◆

Randy Hart, currently senior director, creative for **BMG Music Publishing**, has been named vice president, Country Music for the company. **Elwyn Raymer**, currently general manager, has been promoted to vice president, Gospel Music. **Chris Ogelsby** has been promoted to senior director, creative, Country Music for the publishing company.

◆ ◆ ◆

Jessie Schmidt has been promoted to senior publicist at **Starstruck Publicity**, and **Lorie Hollabaugh** has joined the staff as publicist. Schmidt has been with the company for over four years, while Hollabaugh previously was a staff writer for **COUNTRY WEEKLY** maga-

zine. She formerly was a member of CMA's public relations department.

◆ ◆ ◆

Jack Miller has joined **U.S. Optical Disc, Inc.** as the regional manager for CD-Audio replication. Miller was previously employed by **DisplayArts** as a representative to the music industry.

◆ ◆ ◆

Magic Christian is the new morning show host on the **Jones Satellite Network's U.S. Country** format. Christian has over 30 years of broadcasting experience and has worked in several top 20 markets for top-rated Country, Top 40, Oldies and Talk stations.

◆ ◆ ◆

Claudia Castle has signed with **Notorious Pictures** to direct upcoming films and videos. Castle has directed and produced over 60 music videos in various countries and has won numerous awards for her videography.

◆ ◆ ◆

Stephanie Maynard has joined **Corlew-O'Grady Management, Inc.** as co-manager of Epic recording artist **Stephanie Bentley**. Maynard formerly was vice president of **The Bobby Roberts Company**.

◆ ◆ ◆

Dorian C. Doyon has become the vice president/director of **Parker Entertainment**, a sub-division of **Parker Gaming**. Doyon, previously vice president of **Entertainment for Gamblers Supply Management Company**, will be responsible for contract negotiation and approval for talent at casinos, fairs, festivals and special events.

◆ ◆ ◆

Tyler Bacon has been named director of artist development for **Pioneer Music Group**. Bacon, most recently vice president of **R.E.X. Music**, will oversee marketing and promotion for the company.

◆ ◆ ◆

Teresa Overton, a recent graduate of Belmont University, has joined **Hayes St. Music** as copyright administrator/office manager.

SIGNINGS

MUSIC PUBLISHING: Shooter Jennings to BMI...Tony Colton to Rick Hall Music...Marla Cannon to Major Bob Music...Devon O'Day to ASCAP...Michael Horton to Castle Street Music...Bill LaBounty to BMG Music Publishing...Robert Jason to Murrah Music Corporation...

RECORDING: River Road Band to Capitol Nashville...John Jennings to Vanguard Records...Bekka Bramlett and Billy Burnette to Almo Sounds...Skip Ewing to Word Nashville...

MANAGEMENT: The Wilkinsons to Mascioli Entertainment...Robin & Lucinda Williams And Their Fine Group to Music Tree Artist Management...

BOOKING: Gary Chapman to William Morris Agency...Gayle Strickland to Tessier-Marsh Talent Inc.

VIDEO

Vince Gill and video director **Jim Shea** collaborate on Gill's latest **MCA** video, "Worlds Apart", to produce a moving statement about divisive forces in our every day lives. Using black and white photography of poverty, gang violence, racism and crime's effect on families, Gill's voice guides the viewer through diversity to an uplifting montage of a community rebuilding a church destroyed by arson. **Robin Beresford** produced the clip for **Planet Inc.**

The **Cox Family's** haunting rendition of their **Asylum** release, "Runaway", was put to film by **John Lloyd Miller**. Miller intercut the Cox Family's studio performance with footage of two lonely teens shot on the Jersey Shore's deserted **Asbury Park**. **Selby Miller** produced for **The A.V. Squad**. **Gary Allan** cleans up his act in his debut video, "Her Man". **Gerry**

Wenner put **Allan** to work vacuuming, washing dishes and cleaning the out-of-control mess that his home and life are in. **Robin Beresford** produced the **Decca** clip for **Planet, Inc.**

Jeff Carson celebrates love and commitment with help from his wife **Kim** in his latest video, "That Last Mile". **Greg Crutcher** directed the **MCG/Curb** clip.

Marty Stuart and video director **John Lloyd Miller** joined forces for Stuart's latest **MCA** video, "Thanks To You". Miller captures the energy of the live experience with Stuart and his band **The Rock'N Roll Cowboys**. Guest appearances are made by Stuart's mother, **Hilda**; clothing designer **Manuel** and his daughter **Jesse**; and **Robert** of Robert's Western Wear. **Selby Miller** produced for **The A.V. Squad**.

Brady Seals plays a forlorn character in the video for his debut **Warner Bros.** single, "Another You, Another Me". Director **Gerry Wenner** shot the action at Nashville's **Riverwood Mansion**. **Mark Kalbfeld** produced the clip for **Planet, Inc.**

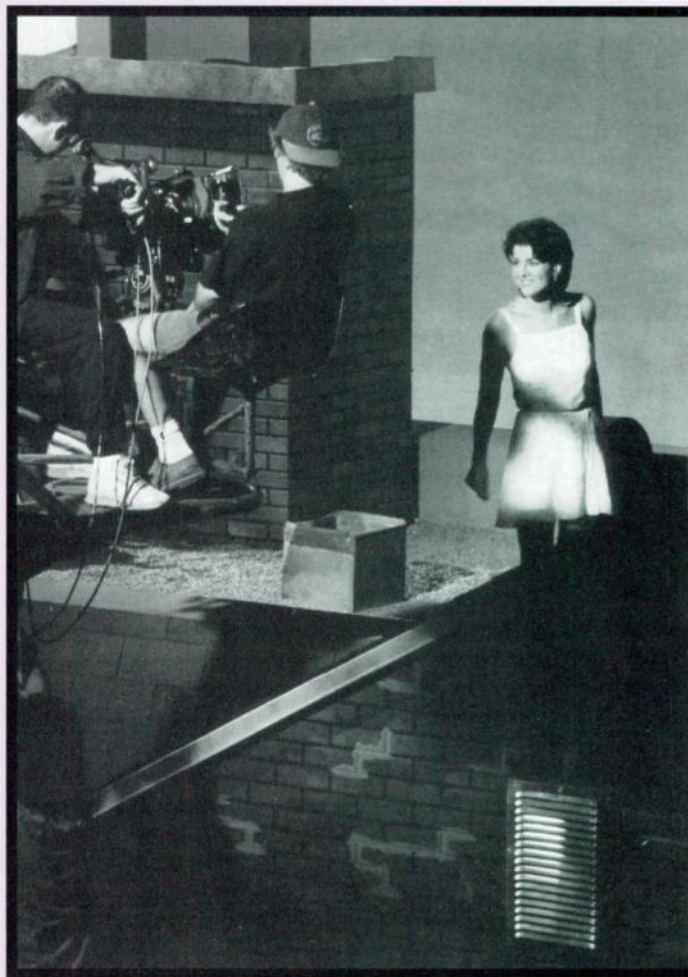
The members of **Ricochet** reveal their individual personalities in the group's latest video, "Love Is Stronger Than Pride". **Marc Ball** utilizes a powerful evening performance intercut with a family picnic to capture "real" relationships and emotions. **Anne Grace** produced the **Columbia Records** clip.

Arista's Michelle Wright strikes a pose while filming her latest video, "Nobody's Girl". **Steven Goldmann** directed the clip on location in **Montreal**.

David Kersh shot his debut **Curb** video, "Goodnight Sweetheart" at Nashville's **Stevens Aviation**. **Chris Rogers** directed the clip for **Pecos Films**.

Great Plains' latest video, "Healing Hands", features a band performance intercut with a series of touching moments. Director **Charley Randazzo** depicts an elderly woman reading to a toddler, a couple dancing and a young woman reacting to a great letter to help tell the song's story. **Mark Kalbfeld** produced for **Planet, Inc.**

Travis Tritt is transformed into an 80-year-old man in his latest **Warner Bros.** video, "More Than You'll Ever Know". **John Lloyd Miller** directed the video, and **Selby Miller** produced for the **A.V. Squad**.



COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME TO SEE 10 INDUCTEES OVER NEXT THREE YEARS; PATSY MONTANA, BUCK OWENS AND RAY PRICE NAMED AS 1996 INDUCTEES

CMA announced recently that it will induct 10 new members into the Country Music Hall of Fame over the next three years. Beginning this year through 1998, one new member will be inducted in each of three categories: Open; Career Achieved National Prominence During the 1950s; and Career Achieved National Prominence Prior to 1950. In addition, a non-performer will be inducted in 1998. This year, Patsy Montana, Buck Owens and Ray Price will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. CLOSE UP will present features on them in the October issue.

When Willie Nelson accepted his Hall of Fame plaque during the 1993 CMA Awards, he expressed a sentiment felt by many in the music industry.

"There's some guys out there we gotta go back and pick up, and next year I think we oughtta dump about five or 10 folks in this Hall of Fame and catch up, 'cause we're getting behind!" Nelson quipped.

"Certainly there are many deserving individuals who have made significant contributions to this industry," explained Ed Benson, CMA executive director. "There was a strong feeling by the board about the need to add to the Hall of Fame. The issue was how to assure that additional inductions would cover some of the pioneers who might be passed over. Everyone was very satisfied by the decision to designate special categories focusing on the '50s and prior to the '50s."

Founded by CMA in 1961, the Country Music Hall of Fame is the ultimate recognition of noteworthy individuals for their outstanding contributions to Country Music. Previously, CMA has honored a candidate in the Open Category every year as well as a non-performer every third year. Inductees are chosen by a panel of approximately 350 electors, each having 10 years of experience in Country Music.

CMA LAUNCHES SITE ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

CMA launched the trade association's official website at 12:01 a.m., Tuesday, August 13. Internet users can locate the site using the address: <http://www.countrymusic.org>.

The CMA site features detailed data on the annual CMA Awards as well as general information about the organization and more.

"CMA was organized to advance awareness about Country Music among the general public," said Ed Benson, CMA executive director. "By launching our website, we can provide more information about America's most listened-to musical format to fans and consumers around the world. Approximately 80 million people worldwide use the Internet on a regular basis. That number is expected to reach more than 300 million by the year 2000. We hope to help expose Country Music to as many Internet users as possible."

CMA's site was developed by Walcoff & Associates, Inc., a multi-million dollar communications firm headquartered in Fairfax, Virginia. Walcoff's Web Team specializes in helping the Country Music community reach a global market through the Internet.

WYNONNA AND JOHN UNGER DISSOLVE MANAGEMENT TIES; DUCAS AND BARRY COBURN ALSO PART

MCA superstar Wynonna has announced that she and manager John Unger have dissolved their management relationship. "I will miss John," says Wynonna of the amicable parting. "He has been both a strong career advocate and a caring friend throughout almost three years of personal and professional challenges for me. I'm grateful for the friendship that will endure."

Wynonna's management will continue to be handled by her staff at Wynonna, Inc. Larry Strickland, who currently manages Naomi Judd, Michael English and Jonathan Pierce, will serve as interim manager.

Unger, who formerly practiced business and entertainment law in Nashville, can be reached at (615) 259-4991.

Capitol artist George Ducas, who awaits the January release of his second lp, has left Ten Ten Management. Ducas' parting with Barry Coburn, who also manages Suzy Bogguss and BR5-49, was a mutual decision. There was no announcement regarding new management for Ducas.

T H A N K S !

CMA THANKS THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
FOR RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS:

*Charlene Bordonaro, Vera Cavet-Vanderpool, George Collier, Dick Gary,
Amy Schragg, Kris Sultemeir, Jeff Walker and Kimball Win.*

1996 CMA AWARDS

PROMOTIONAL MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

The Country Music Association has developed a line of CMA Awards merchandise to help you promote the CMA Awards! To order your merchandise, just fill out the order form on the reverse side and return it by September 30, 1996 to: CMA Awards Merchandise, One Music Circle South, #CU, Nashville, TN 37203. If you have any questions, please call CMA Marketing at (615) 244-2840.



Wednesday, October 2, 1996



FRUIT OF THE LOOM T-SHIRT

This white 100% cotton T-shirt will proudly display the four-color CMA Awards logo and viewer information silk-screened over the left pocket.



BASEBALL CAP

Available in denim blue, solid black or khaki with a navy bill. The soft six-panel unconstructed caps feature an adjustable strap. The CMA Awards logo is embroidered on the front above the bill, with viewer information located on the back.



DENIM SHIRT

The long-sleeved button-down denim shirt is available in blue or khaki with a traditional collar. The CMA Awards logo is embroidered on the front. The blue denim shirt is also available with a banded collar.



GOLF SHIRT

The 100% cotton pique short-sleeved golf shirt is white with the CMA Awards logo and viewer information embroidered on the front.



BASEBALL JERSEY

The short-sleeved baseball jersey is 100% heavyweight cotton, available in either ash or natural with the CMA Awards logo embroidered on the front.



DENIM JACKET

This button-down medium-weight jacket with front pockets features the CMA Awards logo and viewer information embroidered on the front.

PAYMENT TERMS:

All merchandise must be prepaid. You may either: (1) Mail your order with a check payable to the Country Music Association to: CMA Awards Merchandise, One Music Circle South, Nashville, TN 37203; or, (2) Complete the credit card information and fax your order to CMA at (615) 248-1007.

SHIPPING:

Please add the shipping and handling charges from the chart on the order form. All shipments will be sent UPS or U.S. mail. For orders outside the continental U.S., please call CMA Marketing at (615) 244-2840.

1996 CMA AWARDS

PROMOTIONAL MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Return order form with check or money order (U.S. funds only) to: CMA Awards Merchandise, One Music Circle South, Nashville, TN 37203. Make checks payable to: Country Music Association.

Name: _____
 Company/Station: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Credit Card Orders Only - May be faxed to: (615) 248-1007
 Card Type: American Express Master Card Visa
 Card#: _____ Exp. Date: _____
 Signature: _____
(required for charge)

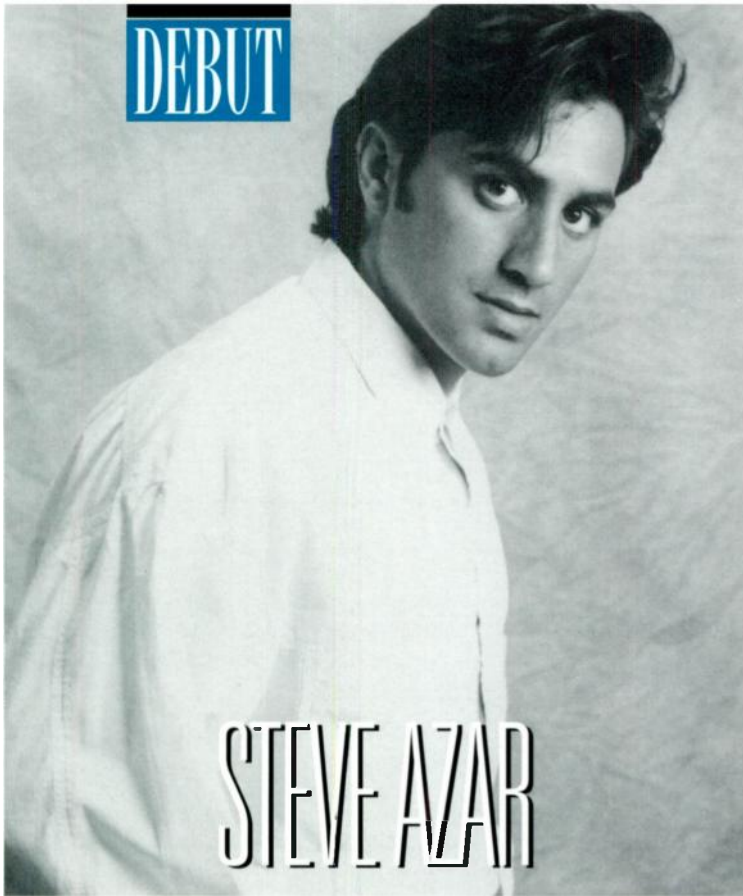
QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
	Fruit of the Loom White T-shirt	Small	\$5.50	
		Medium	\$5.50	
		Large	\$5.50	
		X-Large	\$5.50	
		XX-Large	\$6.50	
	Baseball Cap - Denim Blue		\$6.50	
	Baseball Cap - Black		\$6.50	
	Baseball Cap - Khaki/Navy		\$6.50	
	Denim Shirt - Blue	Medium	\$21.50	
		Large	\$21.50	
		X-Large	\$21.50	
		XX-Large	\$24.00	
	Denim Shirt - Khaki	Medium	\$21.50	
		Large	\$21.50	
		X-Large	\$21.50	
		XX-Large	\$24.00	
	Golf Shirt - White	Medium	\$15.00	
		Large	\$15.00	
		X-Large	\$15.00	
		XX-Large	\$17.00	
	Baseball Jersey - Ash	Medium	\$13.25	
		Large	\$13.25	
		X-Large	\$13.25	
		XX-Large	\$14.00	
	Baseball Jersey - Natural	Medium	\$13.25	
		Large	\$13.25	
		X-Large	\$13.25	
		XX-Large	\$14.00	
	Denim Jacket- Black	Medium	\$37.50	
		Large	\$37.50	
		X-Large	\$37.50	
		XX-Large	\$38.50	
	Denim Jacket- Blue	Medium	\$37.50	
		Large	\$37.50	
		X-Large	\$37.50	
		XX-Large	\$38.50	

Domestic U.S. Shipping Charges: For orders of: Add:
 \$5.00 - \$50.00 \$5.00
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 \$100.01 and over \$15.00

**ORDER DEADLINE
IS SEPT. 30, 1996**

SUB TOTAL	
SHIPPING & HANDLING	
TOTAL	

DEBUT



STEVE AZAR

RECORD LABEL: River North Nashville
DEBUT ALBUM: HEARTBREAK TOWN
SINGLES: "Someday", "I Never Stopped Lovin' You"
MANAGEMENT: Burt Stein/Joe Azar, Gold Mountain Entertainment
INFLUENCES: Hank Williams, Conway Twitty, John Denver, Bruce Springsteen, Willie Nelson, Neil Diamond, John Mellencamp

When Mississippi native Steve Azar remembers his childhood ambitions, he recalls wanting to be a little bit of everything. "A great musician. A great athlete. A great songwriter." As he matured, he consigned his athletic dreams to the recreation category and concentrated on making music his profession. "There's never been a thought of anything else. This has been my dream as far back as I can remember. I just can't even imagine that there could be anything else."

Since his first public performance - singing "Back Home Again" and "Annie's Song" in a fifth-grade talent show, Steve has developed his own singing style that encompasses the diversity of his musical influences.

And although he's gratified by the release of his debut album and the ensuing singles, Steve cites a non-musical moment as his career highlight. "Co-hosting ESPN's 'Inside The PGA Tour' with my golfing buddy Jim Gallagher. They told me I was the first Country artist to do the show."

flows a lot better because you have time to think instead of your mind just being constantly cluttered with stuff...He is so good at seeing when I'm just frayed...making me list the things that I have to do. I have one of those eternal lists that just goes on and on and on, and I actually believe that I'm going to get to the bottom of it.

CUTV
BOGGUSS
SUZI

...continued from page 3

"Every day I get up and make a list of about 150 things that I think I'm going to get done in the next four hours. Then I'm disappointed. He's really good at helping me be realistic about what I can accomplish in a day and taking the time to actually give myself a pat on the back. 'Well, look at what I did do' instead of dwelling on the ones that are not crossed out - that's been incredibly valuable to me."

What valuable lessons would she want to pass on to son Ben?

"How to love and how to work. A work ethic is very important to me. I think he's going to learn how to love naturally, because both sides of our families are really good people. He's going to learn how to love, because we love him so much. I want him to learn how much self-worth there is in doing a good job with something. How amazingly strong you can become by having to do something to earn something. I grew up in a family where all of us kids came out of a small town and a very, very small house. My poor sister...she was 16, and I was 7 sleeping in the same room with her. Can you imagine being a teenager with a 7-year-old snot-nose in there? ...It's not like we were rolling in the dough. My folks taught us how to get what we needed and wanted. That was to work hard, and I want him to learn how to do that. It's not going to be the same for him because it won't be easy for me to say, 'You can't have that because we don't have the money for you to have this.' It's going to be harder for me to explain to him, 'You can't have this because you haven't earned it.' I've got to find a way to make that mean something to him."

She says the time off with Ben indirectly influenced the album.

"Something that came out of me and came out of the whole project that sort of caught me off guard was that there is this energy that I have felt from this period off and being renewed by watching this offspring of mine remind me of some of the best things of my life. Some of the innocence, some of the newness, which is what I was trying to capture in the record. I still love music. Kathy Mattea said to me the other day - and she would hate me for saying this out loud - 'No matter what radio does, no matter what happens to the record, no matter what, you can still sing.' That's something to remember. That is the truth." **CU**

-Teresa George

**AMERICA'S
SOLD
ON COUNTRY.**

1996

CMA/Simmons

**COUNTRY
LISTENER
ANALYSIS**

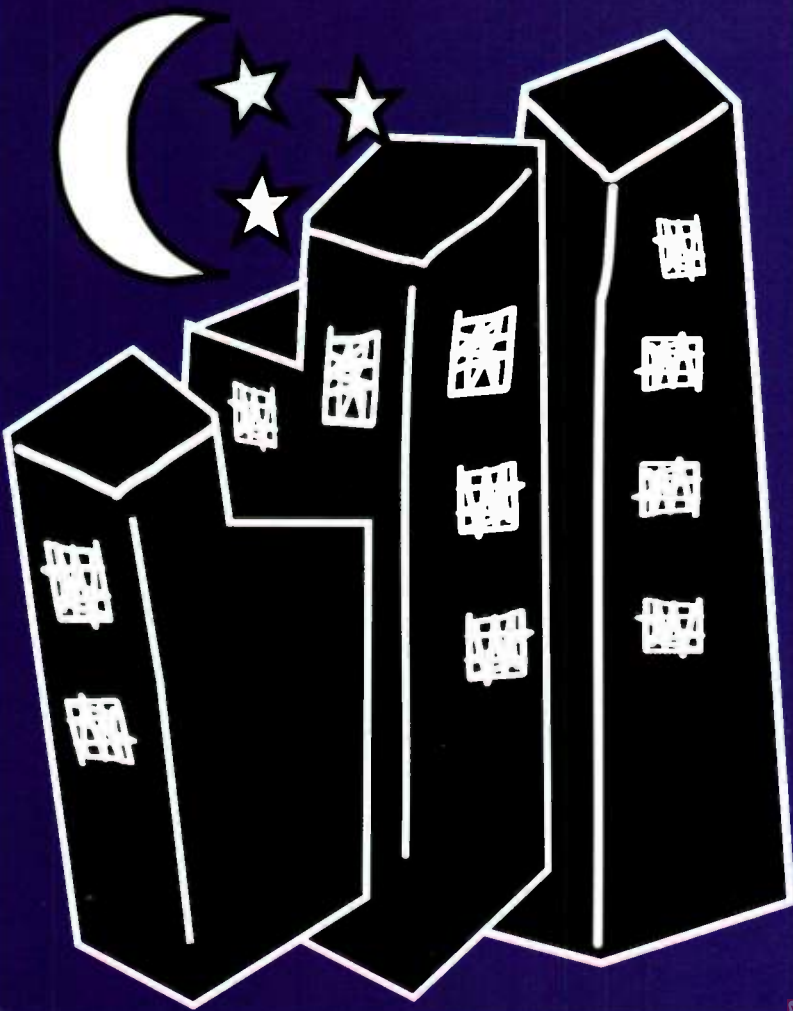


**MEMBER BENEFIT:
NEW MARKETING
LEAVE-BEHIND**

CMA's Marketing Department has completed a new Leave-Behind, highlighting key demographics of the Country radio listener.

All CMA organizational members received a pack of 25 new Leave-Behinds. Individual members may request a copy by contacting CMA's Marketing Department at (615) 244-2840.

Following is a sample of some of the information found in the new CMA Leave-Behind.



Share the excitement of Country Music's most gala event with the official program book of the



Almost 200 pages filled with photos, bios, trivia and more

Orders must be postmarked by September 30, 1996. Program book orders will be fulfilled following the October 2 broadcast on CBS Television.

(Please Print)

Name _____ CMA member # (required) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ A check or money order for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Yes! Please send me ___ copies of the
1996 CMA Awards program book as follows:

- Member price \$14.95 each _____
 - Tennessee residents tax, add \$1.23 per book _____
 - Domestic shipping/handling.....\$4.00 _____
 - Canadian shipping/handling.....\$6.00 _____
 - International airmail.....\$12.50 _____
 - International surface.....\$5.00 _____
- (Allow 2-3 additional weeks for delivery)

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(see left)

TOTAL \$ _____

U.S. currency only

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Signature _____
(required)

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Nashville TN 37203

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PO BOX 189
DUMFRIES VA 22026-0189



DATEBOOK

*denotes international telephone number with country code in parentheses

SEPTEMBER

- 9** Canadian Country Music Awards / Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- 20-21** Country Night: Gstaad 1996 / Gstaad, Switzerland
- 27-29** Bluegrass Fan Fest / Owensboro, KY / International Bluegrass Music Association / (502) 684-9025



- 29** Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame / Loew's Vanderbilt Plaza / Nashville
- 30** ASCAP Country Awards / Opryland Hotel / Nashville

OCTOBER

- 1** BMI Country Awards / Nashville
- 2** 30th Annual CMA Awards / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville
- 3-5** SRO / Nashville Convention Center / Nashville
- 3** CMA Annual Membership Meeting / Nashville Convention Center / Nashville
- 3** SESAC Country Awards / Nashville
- 20** 8th Annual Country Gold Festival / Aspecta / Kumamoto, Japan / Contact Judy Seale, Refugee International at (615) 256-6615

NOVEMBER

- 13-14** CMA Board of Directors Meeting / Brown Hotel / Louisville, KY

CMA Executive Director Ed Benson (left) and River North Nashville artist Steve Azar share a laugh after Azar recently stopped by CMA to play a few songs for the staff.