

SEPTEMBER 1997

Close Up

SRO
'97

Steve Wariner

CMA Awards Nominees
SRO Nominees
Photographer Jim McGuire



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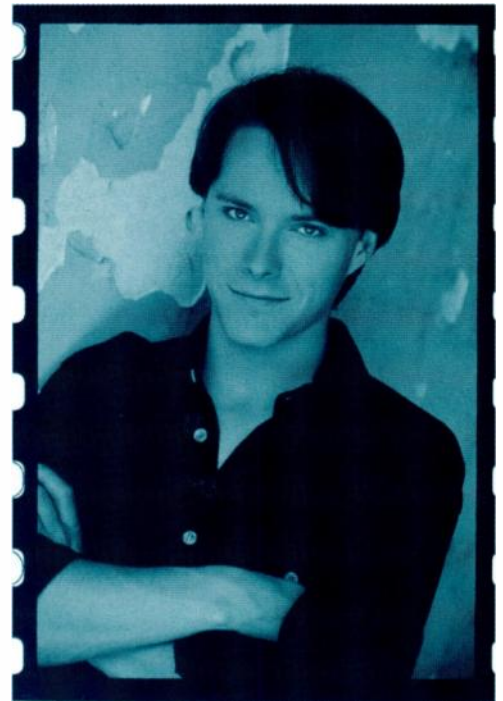
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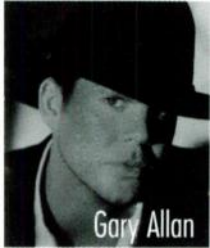
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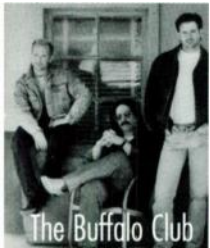
**MORE INTIMATE SHOWCASE
SETTING FOR SRO '97 ATTENDEES**



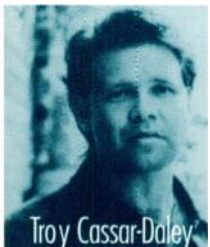
Gary Allan



Sherrié Austin



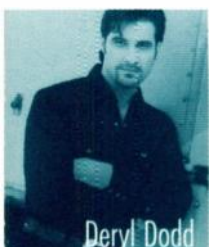
The Buffalo Club



Troy Cassar-Daley



Anita Cochran



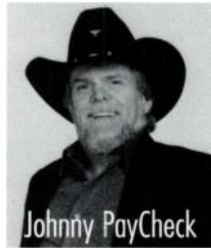
Deryl Dodd

Big changes are in store for this year's annual SRO '97 International Entertainment Expo, which will be held at the Nashville Convention Center September 29-October 1. Designed for professionals in the live entertainment and touring business, this year's event will offer attendees a more intimate setting in which to see the emerging talent available within the Country industry. Thirteen artists have been tapped to perform on the newly designed showcase stages at SRO, and a separate special showcase, Club Crossroads, has been added to feature five artists with a more edgy, non-traditional sound.

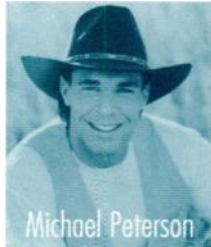
"We are very excited about this year's event," said CMA Executive Director Ed Benson. "The SRO Committee felt that it was important to provide a setting that offers attendees an experience similar to seeing a show in a club. In addition, fewer acts are showcasing so as not to overwhelm talent buyers. We feel like these adjustments will make for a more pleasant and productive experience for both artists and attendees."

The showcase stages have been modified to create a more intimate atmosphere for both the attendees and the artists performing. Bandit Lites worked closely with SRO Committee Chairman Barry Coburn and other committee members to develop ways of separating and isolating part of the stage to create the ambience of an upscale nightclub. "We wanted it to look less like a big arena and enable the artists to connect more with the audience, so we sat down and came up with some concepts to help the setting seem more intimate," explains Bandit Lites' Mike Strickland.

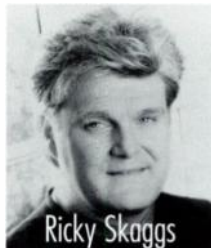
"We are considering closing off the doorways between the exhibit areas and the show-



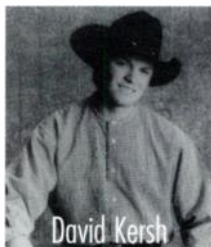
Johnny Paycheck



Michael Peterson



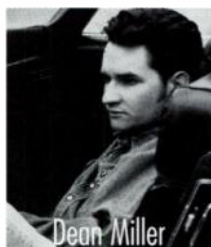
Ricky Skaggs



David Kersh



Mila Mason



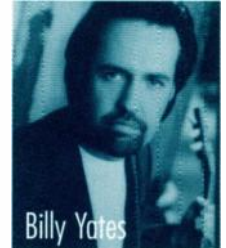
Dean Miller

case stages so that no traffic can filter through and cause interruptions, and we are using drapes, scenic elements, prop pieces, and special lighting to enhance the atmosphere as well. The effect should make the stage look really interesting and unique."

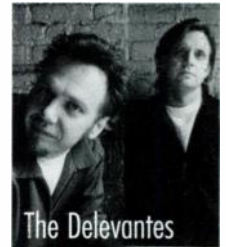
According to Strickland, there will be changes in the projection monitors as well. "We're taking a different approach to projection this year, removing the huge monitors on both sides and adding a smaller one, more like a big-screen TV in a bar. We've also removed the monitors from the exhibit hall, so that attendees have to enter the special segregated area to watch the show. And a special sky-camera will be mounted on the ceiling which will catch different angles of the stage from out in the audience as well. With all of these changes, this should be one of the most dynamic SRO events ever."

The lineup for the main stages includes Gary Allan, Sherrié Austin, Buffalo Club, Anita Cochran, Deryl Dodd, David Kersh, Mila Mason, Dean Miller, Johnny Paycheck, Michael Peterson, Ricky Skaggs, Billy Yates and Troy Cassar-Daley. The new Club Crossroads stages will feature The Delevantes, Robbie Fulks, Jack Ingram, The Thompson Brothers Band and Joy Lynn White. Past artists who have graced the SRO showcase stages include Garth Brooks, Vince Gill, Patty Loveless, Tim McGraw, George Strait and Trisha Yearwood.

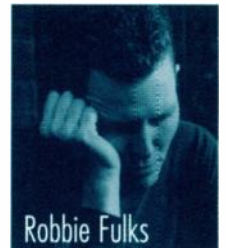
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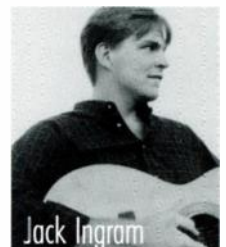
Billy Yates



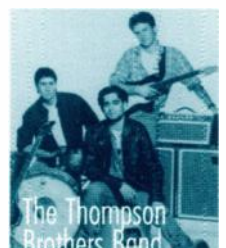
The Delevantes



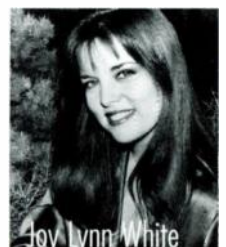
Robbie Fulks



Jack Ingram



The Thompson Brothers Band



Joy Lynn White

GEORGE STRAIT & DEANA CARTER TOP CMA AWARDS NOMINEES



George Strait and Deana Carter each earned five CMA Award nominations when Clint Black, Patty Loveless and Bryan White announced the final nominees for "The 31st Annual CMA Awards". The gala event will be telecast live on the CBS Television Network Wednesday, September 24 at 8 p.m. (EDT) from the Grand Ole Opry House.

"The annual announcement of the CMA Awards nominees is one of the most anticipated moments of the year for our industry," said Ed Benson, CMA executive director. "This year's nominees are a wonderfully diverse mix of the many different styles within today's Country Music."

When Black, Loveless and CMA's 1996 Horizon Award winner White announced the five finalists in each of the 12 categories, they found their names on the list as well. Loveless, the 1996 Female Vocalist winner, is once again nominated in that category. Black is nominated for Vocal Event of the Year for his duet with Martina McBride for "Still Holding On". For the second consecutive year, White is nominated for Male Vocalist of the Year.

Strait, who took home three CMA Awards in 1996, is nominated for

Clint Black, Patty Loveless and Bryan White reveal the nominees for the 31st Annual CMA Awards.

Entertainer of the Year, an award he won in 1989 and 1990. After winning the 1996 Male Vocalist of the Year for the first time in 10 years, the MCA superstar is once again nominated in this category. Strait has two nominations in the Single of the

Year category for "Carried Away" from BLUE CLEAR SKY and "One Night At A Time" from CARRYING YOUR LOVE WITH ME, which is nominated for Album of the Year. With the latest tally, the multi-platinum selling star has garnered 42 CMA Award nominations since being nominated in 1983 for the Horizon Award. He trails only Country Music legend Merle Haggard, who has 43 nominations under his belt.

Deana Carter, a first-time CMA Award nominee this year, joins Strait with five nominations. The singer/songwriter is nominated in the prestigious Female Vocalist of the Year category as well as for the Horizon Award. The platinum-selling artist also earned a nomination for Album of the Year with her debut Capitol Nashville release DID I SHAVE MY LEGS FOR THIS? Carter, who topped the charts for the first time with her first single "Strawberry Wine", is also a contender in the categories of Single of the Year and Music Video of the Year. "Strawberry Wine", written by Matraca Berg and Gary Harrison, is also nominated for Song of the Year.

Faith Hill, Alan Jackson, Tim McGraw, LeAnn Rimes and Pam Tillis each received three nominations. Jackson, a former CMA Award winner, is nominated for Entertainer of the Year for the sixth consecutive year. Jackson is also a Male Vocalist nominee for the seventh consecutive year. The Arista superstar is also included in the Album of the Year category for **EVERYTHING I LOVE**.

Former CMA Female Vocalist of the Year Pam Tillis is once again nominated for the honor. Tillis' latest single, "All The Good Ones Are Gone", earned nominations for Single of the Year and for Music Video of the Year. The song, written by Dean Dillon and Bob McDill, also is nominated for Song of the Year.

Curb recording artist LeAnn Rimes earned three nominations as well, including Female Vocalist of the Year, Album of the Year for **BLUE** and the Horizon Award. "Blue" nabbed a Song of the Year nomination for writer Bill Mack. Tim McGraw and Faith Hill each received three nominations for their hit single "It's Your Love". They are nominated for Single, Vocal Event and Music Video of the Year.

Numerous artists earned dual nominations, including first-time nominee Trace Adkins; the ever popular host of the 1997 CMA Awards Vince Gill; 1996 CMA Entertainer of the Year Brooks & Dunn; two-time former CMA Female Vocalist of the Year Kathy Mattea; and MCA superstar Trisha Yearwood.

Winners of the "The 31st 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. The 1996 CMA Awards telecast was the second-highest rated special out of 212 aired during the 1996-1997 television season, ranking only behind the Motion Picture Academy Awards.

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 MJI Broadcasting. The program will be televised via tape around the world, including 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>.



WSM
 personality
 Cathy
 Martindale
 warms up the
 crowd with
 some CMA
 Awards trivia.

THE FINAL NOMINEES FOR THE 1997 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

- Deana Carter
- Patty Loveless
- LeAnn Rimes
- Pam Tillis
- Trisha Yearwood

HORIZON AWARD

- Trace Adkins
- Deana Carter
- Terri Clark
- LeAnn Rimes
- Lee Ann Womack

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

- Alabama
- Diamond Rio
- The Mavericks
- Ricochet
- Sawyer Brown

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

- Bellamy Brothers
- Brooks & Dunn
- Raybon Brothers
- Thrasher Shiver
- John & Audrey Wiggins

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

BLUE

LeAnn Rimes, MCG/Curb
 Produced by Wilbur Rimes

CARRYING YOUR LOVE WITH ME

George Strait, MCA
 Produced by Tony Brown and George Strait

DID I SHAVE MY LEGS FOR THIS?

Deana Carter, Capitol Nashville
 Produced by Chris Farren, Jimmy Bowen and John Guss

EVERYBODY KNOWS

Trisha Yearwood, MCA
 Produced by Garth Fundis

EVERYTHING I LOVE

Alan Jackson, Arista
 Produced by Keith Stegall

MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

Eddie Bayers (Drums)
 Paul Franklin (Steel Guitar)
 Brent Mason (Guitar)
 Matt Rollings (Keyboards)
 Brent Rowan (Guitar)



Bryan White,
 Patty Loveless
 and
 Clint Black
 talk with the
 media
 about their
 nominations.

⋮



Patty Loveless
 signed
 autographs
 for the crowd
 that came out
 for the CMA
 Award
 nominees press
 conference at
 the Grand Ole
 Opry.

SINGLE OF THE YEAR

“All The Good Ones Are Gone”

Pam Tillis, Arista
 Produced by Billy Joe Walker, Jr.
 and Pam Tillis

“Carried Away”

George Strait, MCA
 Produced by Tony Brown and George Strait

“It’s Your Love”

Tim McGraw (with Faith Hill), Curb
 Produced by Byron Gallimore, James Stroud
 and Tim McGraw

“One Night At A Time”

George Strait, MCA
 Produced by Tony Brown and George Strait

“Strawberry Wine”

Deana Carter, Capitol Nashville
 Produced by Chris Farren

VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

The Charlie Daniels Band with special guests

John Berry & Hal Ketchum
 “Long Haired Country Boy”, Blue Hat
 Records

Clint Black and Martina McBride

“Still Holding On”, RCA

George Jones and Kathy Mattea

“You’ve Got A Friend In Me”, Disney

Lee Roy Parnell Featuring The Fairfield Four

“John The Revelator”, Peace In The Valley,
 Arista

Tim McGraw (with Faith Hill)

“It’s Your Love”, Curb Records

1997 CMA BROADCAST AWARDS WINNERS NAMED

SONG OF THE YEAR

(Award to the Songwriter)

"All The Good Ones Are Gone"

Dean Dillon / Bob McDill

Acuff Rose Music / PolyGram International /
Ranger Bob Music

"Blue"

Bill Mack / Ft. Knox Music / Trio Music

"Butterfly Kisses"

Bob Carlisle / Randy Thomas

Diadem Music / PolyGram International
Publishing

"Strawberry Wine"

Matraca Berg / Gary Harrison

Longitude Music / August Wind Music /
Great Broad Music / Georgian Hill

"Time Marches On"

Bobby Braddock

Sony Tree Publishing

MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR

"455 Rocket", Kathy Mattea

Directed by Steven Goldmann

"All The Good Ones Are Gone", Pam Tillis

Directed by Steven Goldmann

"Every Light In the House", Trace Adkins

Directed by Michael Merriman

"It's Your Love", Tim McGraw

(with Faith Hill)

Directed by Sherman Halsey

"Strawberry Wine", Deana Carter

Directed by Roger Pistole

The winners of the 1997 CMA Broadcast Awards were announced recently by the Country Music Association. This year's winners will be recognized during "The 31st Annual CMA Awards", broadcast live on the CBS Television Network on Wednesday, September 24 at 8 p.m. (EDT) from the Grand Ole Opry House.

"The judging process for the CMA Broadcast Awards makes them the most respected and coveted in the industry," said CMA Executive Director Ed Benson. "Radio is such an integral part of our industry, and we are proud to recognize the excellence these stations and personalities have exhibited."

FOLLOWING ARE THE WINNERS OF THE 1997 CMA BROADCAST AWARDS:

STATION OF THE YEAR

MAJOR MARKET:	WGAR	Cleveland, OH
LARGE MARKET:	WFMS	Indianapolis, IN
MEDIUM MARKET:	WUSY	Chattanooga, TN
SMALL MARKET:	WBBN	Laurel-Hattiesburg, MS

BROADCAST PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

MAJOR MARKET:	Murphy & Cash	WMZQ	Washington, DC
LARGE MARKET:	Paul Franklin & Aunt Eloise	WTQR	Winston-Salem, NC
MEDIUM MARKET:	Jeff Roper & Andi Weber	WCOS	Columbia, SC
SMALL MARKET:	Scott Wynn & Tom O'Brien	WPCV	Lakeland, FL

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.

The CMA Broadcast Awards differ from many other radio awards in that all submissions are judged by a panel of peer group experts. 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.

All interested full-time Country on-air personalities and radio stations in the U.S. and Canada were eligible to enter. Entrants for the Broadcast Personality Awards are judged on an aircheck, ratings, community involvement and biographical information. Stations were judged on: airchecks, ratings history, community involvement and leadership.



Jim McGuire

Sitting back... relaxing... listening to music...traveling...wearing shorts and flip flops. It's the life of photographer extraordinaire Jim McGuire...who hates to have his picture taken?

"Personally I hate being photographed myself. I really do. The only thing I can say is just have fun with it. It's not a big deal. A lot of people make it a big deal. They're anxious about it because it's so important. It's just a picture, ya' know. You should just relax and let the photographer do his job and be yourself. That's what the photographer's trying to do anyway is to capture the real person. The more the subject is relaxed and not worrying about his hair or his tie the more he can have fun with it.

"It's a real hard thing for people who aren't used to being in front of the camera. They really truly hate this process. They dread it. It's like going to a doctor or a dentist I mean they will do anything to avoid it. When people come in with the idea, 'I'm here to take my picture let's do it.' They don't give you anything. Then it becomes a real challenge. A lot of these folks I've worked with for years, and we already have a relationship. People that I haven't done before sometime it's takes a while to get them to relax into it."

Sometimes it helps to capture people in their element. Everyone knows the Vince Gill album cover for HIGH LONESOME SOUND. If you don't recall the photo pull it out and look at it. Here's the story behind it.

"Well, it really came from Larry Fitzgerald. Vince really didn't want to do a photo session for that album. He wanted to have some kind of art work or type treatment. I ended up traveling with Vince up in Indiana. I remember it was real cold. One of the afternoons before the show we had the make up girl and the stylist so we all just rented a van and drove around. The shot that was on the cover actually was just from driving down some Indiana highway, and there was this farm on the side of the road. We stopped and tried to talk to the people but there was nobody home, so we just went out in the field and started shooting.

"I've done the same kind of thing with Hal Ketchum and a few other people. The advantage of it is it doesn't feel to them like it's a photo session. It's not like a big production where there's all the people standing around watching you. It's a lot of times more comfortable for the artist just to be

in their element. Just let the photographer go to them rather than trying to recreate something. It works pretty good."

Traveling around with artists and being able to capture them more naturally is one way to do it. But what about making the studio a comfortable and fun place to be photographed?

"One of the things that makes it fun and probably makes it easier for me is that I really love Country Music, and I grew up listening to it in the '50s. If somebody really understands the music and where it came from, it helps you relate to these artists. You have something in common that you can talk about. All these artists grew up listening to the same music that I grew up listening to. So you have something common to talk about. I play guitar a little bit and I just love the music. I'd say that's a big plus as far as trying to get into photographing musicians.

"One of the biggest things you can do is to have everything really organized, so there isn't a lot of down time where people are just sitting around waiting for things to happen. Everything is worked out so that we can go from one thing to the next."

Lynne Cook, Jim's assistant, and Bob Miller, the studio manager, along with D'Jango, the studio dog, add a lighthearted atmosphere as well.

Well she's a studio dog, which means she gets to meet a lot of people. She's real smart, and she's real good with people, and she's real athletic so she likes to play a lot. People have fun with her during photo sessions. She kinda breaks the ice. I take her everywhere I go. She's three and a half years old now and she's always been a studio dog. Actually I should do some kind of a book or something. Almost everybody that's come through here - ninety-eight percent of them are dog people or like dogs even if they don't have one. Inevitably during a photo session she'll go wandering there and get into the picture. We have pictures of her with everybody. That's pretty neat. D'Jango (pronounced Jango) - is a gypsy name. I named her after a very famous gypsy guitar player by the name of D'Jango Reinhart. And even though it's a guys name, I couldn't resist it."

- Jana Albritton

CMA AWARDS SET FOR WORLDWIDE SUCCESS

The 31st Annual CMA Awards" will have a higher profile than ever before in the UK, with major coverage on BBC television and radio, coverage in publications including MUSIC WEEK, MBI and RADIO TIMES and a retail campaign initiated by the CMA and by both retail and record labels.

BBC TV-2 will screen a 90-minute version of the CMA Awards in peak time on Sunday, September 28, just four days after the event takes place in Nashville. Adding a new spin, writer and comedian Rory McGrath will introduce the program and present segments tailored to the UK audience. McGrath is best known for his role in "They Think It's All Over".

"Country Music has reinvented itself and now has a huge following," said Trevor Dann, head of BBC Music Entertainment. "I'm delighted the BBC is bringing such comprehensive coverage to the UK."

A live broadcast of the CMA Awards will be featured during a special week of Country Music programming on BBC Radio-2.

For the first time, a CMA Awards Collection CD produced by The Hit Label, will be offered to readers of RADIO TIMES, the UK's largest TV/Radio and entertainment listings magazine with a circulation of 1.4 million. With the purchase of the promotional CD, readers will receive vouchers for use at retailers participating in a comprehensive retail and point of purchase campaign scheduled around the CMA Awards. The British Phonographic Industry (BPI) and retail association BARD are supporting the campaign, as are most major record labels. More than 1,000 retailers will participate, including Andys, HMV, Our Price, Sam Goodys, Tower, Virgin, WH Smith and many others.

Last year's CMA Awards international edit on BBC TV-2 won its highest ratings ever, with 2.5 million viewers.



Head of BBC Music Entertainment, Trevor Dann, writer/comedian Rory McGrath and CMA UK Director David Boner plan a new spin for "The 31st Annual CMA Awards" in the UK.

The CMA Awards will be distributed to numerous countries around the world. Already confirmed are:

- RTE - Ireland
- DRS - German-speaking Switzerland
- IBC - Thailand (1st time)
- Cario TV - Sri Lanka (1st time)
- KRO - The Netherlands (1st time)
- TV2 - Denmark
- SVT - Sweden
- ZDF - Germany, Switzerland, Austria (1st time)
- Country Pro - Poland (1st time)
- CMT - Canada (1st time)

CMA ANNOUNCES SRO AWARDS NOMINEES

The Country Music Association has announced the nominees for the Seventh Annual SRO Awards, which honor outstanding professional achievement in the Country Music touring industry. The SRO Awards will be presented Wednesday, October 1 as part of SRO '97, CMA's international entertainment expo, slated to take place September 29 - October 1 at the Nashville Convention Center.

"CMA's annual SRO Awards recognize the achievements of top touring performers, along with the many talented professionals whose roles play a significant part in promoting and sustaining the strength of the Country Music touring industry," said CMA Executive Director Ed Benson. "This year's list of SRO Award nominees boasts some of the finest professionals in our business."

The following is a list of nominees in each of the 14 categories along with a brief description of the award criteria:

NEW TOURING ARTIST OF THE YEAR:

Trace Adkins

Deana Carter

Wade Hayes

Ricochet

LeAnn Rimes

Kevin Sharp

(Award to that New Touring Artist who has had major career growth as a live performer and has creatively toured nationally and/or internationally to further expand the growth of Country Music.)
(Due to a tie in the nominating process, there are six nominees in this category.)

TOURING ARTIST OF THE YEAR:

Garth Brooks

Vince Gill

Alan Jackson

Tim McGraw

George Strait

(Award to that Touring Artist who has sold a significant number of hard tickets as a headliner, and who has exhibited outstanding performance in show presentation, reliability and professionalism.)

ROAD/TOUR MANAGER OF THE YEAR:

Terry Elam (Vince Gill)

Wes Emerson (Tracy Lawrence)

David Hill (Sawyer Brown)

John Nixon (Hank Williams, Jr.)

Tony Stephens (Alan Jackson)

Brinson Strickland (Bryan White)

(Award to that Road/Tour Manager who has contributed to his/her artist's career by being prepared, knowledgeable and flexible while exhibiting a cooperative spirit and displaying a positive attitude.)
(Due to a tie in the nominating process, there are six nominees in this category.)

SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY OF THE YEAR:

Concert Staging, Inc., (Nashville, TN)

Dallas Backup, (Dallas, TX)

M.D. Systems, (Nashville, TN)

The Mitchell Group, (Nashville, TN)

Showco, (Dallas, TX)

(Award to a company maintaining high professional standards, exhibiting creativity, diversity and innovative ideas and providing services at affordable rates.)



GARY CHAPMAN, HOST



MINDY McCREADY,
PERFORMER

FESTIVAL, FAIR OR SPECIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR:

- Country Fest '97, (Dallas, TX)
- Country Thunder USA, (Queen Creek, AZ)
- Greeley Independence Stampede, (Greeley, CO)
- June Jam, (Fort Payne, AL)
- WE Fest, (Detroit Lakes, MN)

(Award to fair, festival or special event utilizing Country artists as a major element of the event and presenting Country Music in a positive manner while attracting a large and diverse audience, and having displayed professional organization, management and production.)

CLUB OF THE YEAR:

- Caffe Milano, (Nashville, TN)
- Cowboys of Atlanta, (Kennesaw, GA)
- Crazy Horse Steakhouse Saloon, (Santa Ana, CA)
- Grizzly Rose, (Denver, CO)

Toolie's, (Phoenix, AZ)
(Award to a club which has provided an environment conducive to great performance through good acoustics, professional management, patron accommodations, backstage comfort and hospitality.)

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

- Anderson Music Hall, (Hiawassee, GA)
- Billy Bob's, (Fort Worth, TX)
- Fox Theatre, (Atlanta, GA)
- Fox Theatre, (Detroit, MI)
- Fox Theatre, (St. Louis, MO)

Kellogg Arena, (Battle Creek, MI)
(Award to the venue which has provided an environment conducive to great performance through good acoustics, professional management, patron accommodations and backstage comfort and hospitality.) (Due to a tie in the nominating process, there are six nominees in this category.)

CONCERT VENUE OF THE YEAR WITH A CAPACITY OF MORE THAN 6000:

- Delta Center Arena, (Salt Lake City, UT)
- Greek Theatre, (Los Angeles, CA)
- Nashville Arena, (Nashville, TN)
- Pine Knob Amphitheater, (Clarkston, MI)

Starwood Amphitheater, (Antioch, TN)
(Award to the Venue which has provided an environment conducive to great performance through good acoustics, professional management, patron accommodations and backstage comfort and hospitality.)

TALENT AGENCY OF THE YEAR:

- Agency For The Performing Arts, (Nashville, TN)
- Bobby Roberts Company, (Nashville, TN)
- Buddy Lee Attractions, (Nashville, TN)
- Monterey Artists, (Nashville, TN)

William Morris Agency, (Nashville, TN)
(Award to the Talent Agency exhibiting professionalism in negotiations, career development and exclusive client representation.)

TALENT AGENT OF THE YEAR:

- Rod Essig, Creative Artists Agency
- Keith Miller, William Morris Agency
- Paul Moore, William Morris Agency
- Mark Roeder, William Morris Agency
- Rick Shipp, William Morris Agency

(Award to a Talent Agent who has demonstrated creativity in packaging dates, displayed professionalism in negotiations and has contributed meaningfully to the career developments of his/her clients.)

TALENT BUYER/PRODUCER OF THE YEAR:

Gil Cunningham, Don Romeo Agency

Jimmy Jay, Jayson Promotions

George Moffett, Variety Attractions

Gary Osier, Gary Osier Presents

Bob Romeo, Don Romeo Agency

(Award to the Talent Buyer/Producer who has demonstrated extensive effort in innovative artist packaging, produced new and creative promotions through various media and has influenced new artist development.)

CONCERT PROMOTER OF THE YEAR (LON VARNELL AWARD):

Larry Frank, Frank Productions

Richard Mischell, Mischell Productions

Steve Moore, Moore Entertainment

Randy Shelton, Stardate Concerts

Glenn Smith, Glenn Smith Presents

(Award to the Concert Promoter who has staged and presented major Country Artists in concert in a manner that has had significant impact on the growth of the industry.)

ARTIST MANAGER OF THE YEAR:

Larry Fitzgerald, The Fitzgerald Hartley Company

T.K. Kimbrell, TKO Management

Chip Peay, Chip Peay Entertainment

Mike Robertson, Mike Robertson Management

Erv Woolsey, The Erv Woolsey Company

(Award to the Artist Manager who has been instrumental in unprecedented career development of his/her artists(s), displaying professionalism in negotiations and held in high esteem within the industry)

PUBLICIST OF THE YEAR:

Sharon Allen, The Brokaw Company

Alison Auerbach, Alison Auerbach Public Relations

Kim Fowler, Network Ink

Sandy Friedman, Rogers & Cowan

Cathy Gurley, Gurley & Company

Ronna Rubin, Rubin Media

Nancy Russell, Force, Inc.

Evelyn Shriver, Evelyn Shriver Public Relations

(Award to the Publicist who has contributed to the careers of the artists he/she represents by securing extensive national and regional media coverage related to tour press, having a sound reputation within media circles and displaying an enthusiastic and cooperative attitude. The publicist may be independent or employed by a record company or public relations firm.) (Due to a tie in the nominating process, there are eight nominees in this category.)

The eligibility period for the 1997 SRO Awards is July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997. In keeping with the rules of election, last year's winners were ineligible for nomination for the 1997 SRO Awards.



BRYAN WHITE,
PERFORMER



awards

The Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) named Vince Gill as Songwriter/Artist of the Year, Mark D. Sanders as Songwriter of the Year and "Strawberry Wine" written by Matraca Berg and Gary Harrison as Song of the Year at the 30th Annual NSAI Songwriter Achievement Awards Show, held July 23 at the Ryman Auditorium.

Brooks & Dunn, Earl Scruggs and Randy Scruggs were inducted into the Starwalk, a National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, Inc. (NARAS) exhibit at Opryland USA.

Tom Long, vice president of Balmur Entertainment's publishing division and Steven Weaver, Nashville entertainment attorney, were presented with the Georgia Music Association's "Cotton Carrier Award of Excellence" for their contribution to the association as cofounders of the Atlanta Songwriters Association.

Stonewall Jackson has been awarded the Ernest Tubb Memorial Award recognizing his contributions in upholding the traditions in the fields of Country Music, motion pictures and television.

Paul Brandt, Terri Clark and Shania Twain are among the top nominees for the Canadian Country Music Association Awards. Brandt is nominated for Single of the Year, Male Vocalist of the Year and the Fan's Choice Award. He also was nominated twice for Song of the Year and Video of the Year. Clark is nominated for Fan's Choice, Single and Album of the Year and Female Vocalist. Twain earned nominations for Top Selling Album, Female Vocalist and Fan's Choice. Award winners will be announced on, September 8.

Top nominees for the International Bluegrass Music Association Awards Show (IBMA) include Blue Highway, Alison Krauss & Union Station, The Lonesome River Band, The Del McCoury Band, The Nashville Bluegrass Band and Illrd Tyme Out. The awards show is scheduled for October 16.



Backstage at the T.J. Martell Foundation Celebrity Luncheon & Fashion Show are (l to r) Paul Brandt, Skip Ewing, Louise Mandrell, Bryan White and gospel recording artist Carman.



new companies

Mike Hyland has formed Cabana Management to represent singer-songwriters Ryan Robertson and Jason Petty. The company is located at 437 Second Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37201; (615) 244-7224; fax (615) 254-1120.

Epic recording artist Joe Diffie has formed Third Rock Entertainment, since his departure from Image Management. Mark LeMaster, Rusty Koelle and Georgia Mabry are the contacts. The company is located at 50 Music Square West, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 320-1219; fax (615) 320-0558.

SW Networks established a bureau and studios in Nashville. The company, under the direction of Jennifer Gerlock and Beth Torroll, is equipped to handle satellite interviews, remote broadcasts and live performances. It is located at 1108 B 17th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212; (615) 340-0077; fax (615) 340-0970.

Cindy Kosydor Whitley has established Kosydor-Whitley Communications. The consulting practice provides diverse marketing communications services including

strategic planning, brokering partnerships between corporate sponsors and entertainment properties and executing media and public relations campaigns. The company is located at 44 Music Square East, Suite 306, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 662-7769; fax (615) 662-5035; CKWhitley@aol.com.

Lynn Herron Merchandising, Inc. (LHM) has moved their printing facilities, art department and merchandising services to Music Row. They currently work with David Kersh, Big House, Marty Stuart, Lee Roy Parnell among others. The company is located at 62 Music Square West, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 322-9500; fax (615) 322-9656.

First Union National Bank's branch office at 1711 Broadway is being redesigned and renovated to house the bank's recently announced Entertainment/Music Division Office headed by Joe Moscheo. The company's Entertainment/Music Division Office can be reached at (615) 251-9270; fax (615) 251-9233.

Former vice president of Kragen & Co., Michael Houbrick, has formed Mr. Brick & Co. to represent actors, comedians and musical acts. The company is located at 7200 N. Franklin Avenue, #218, Hollywood, CA 90046; (213) 850-3210.

CMT: Country Music Television and the retailers of the Nashville's Music Valley awarded a trip to experience the top 12 things to do in Nashville to the grand prize winner of the CMT Top-12 Sweepstakes, Brinna Allen of Ft. Collins, CO. Highlights of her experience included being a special guest of Paul Brandt during his recording session, selecting custom-made boots with the help of Bo Riddle and receiving a guitar lesson from Anita Cochran.

Thirty-six new members have been named to participate in the ninth class of Leadership Music. The eight-month program is designed for established leaders in the entertainment industry to create an in-depth discussion, facilitate communication and further the connection of industry leaders. The following were chosen by the selection committee members from approximately 200 applicants: Grant Alden, Marilyn Authur, Brown Bannister, Ken Bidy, June Brody, Alison Brown, Margaret Callihan, Kurt Denny, Martin Fischer, Fletcher Foster, Marty Gamblin, Teresa Hairston, Randy Hart, Chris Horsnell, Greg Hanese, Alan Kates, Gordon Kennedy, Mike Kraski, Amy Kurland, John Lomax III, Roland Lundy, Robert McCoy, Michael Moore, Tim Murphy, Rick Murray, Robert Ellis Orrall, Jonah Rabinowitz, Matt Rollings, Nancy Russell, Trey Turner, William Velez, Chris Waters, Dave Weigand, Lari White, Chad Williams and James Yelich.

Otari Corporation of America, a leading manufacturer of recording consoles and digital recorders is opening a full-time, factory-direct office in Nashville. The new office includes a demo studio and will offer training sessions. Otari purchased William 'Bill'



Deana Carter had fun with some summer campers at the June Kids On Stage Summer Academy held at Hillsboro High School in Nashville.

Ray's dealership, retaining the name, at 209 10th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 255-6080; fax (615) 255-9070.

"Music City USA" showed the world that it's name is well-deserved by breaking the Guinness World Records for a guitar marathon. Epiphone Guitar Co., organized 1,555 guitarists in River Front Park in Nashville to play "Twist & Shout" in unison for 75 consecutive minutes.

The Sixth Annual Diamond Rio Celebrity Golf Classic is scheduled for Thursday, September 25 at the Hermitage Golf Course in Nashville. Funds raised by the event will benefit the American Lung Association's asthmatic programs for children.

Loretta Lynn and NASCAR legend Bill Elliot have been named Grand Marshals for the Mark Collie Celebrity Race for Diabetes Cure. The event, featuring more than 60 Country Music and racing celebrities, is set for October 8 at the Nashville Speedway U.S.A.



on the
move

Carson Schreiber has joined the new Nashville-based Lyric Street Records as senior vice president of promotion and product development. He was previously vice president of Curb/Universal Records based in Los Angeles.

Kim Sexton has been promoted to manager of GAVIN Promotion at MCA Records Nashville. She was previously promotion assistant.

Dale Dodson has been promoted to director of creative services at Sony/ATV/Tree in Nashville. Dodson who was formerly manager of creative services for the company will continue to create new copyrights for Tree as a staff writer.

Pamela L. Lewis, president-CEO of PLA Media, has announced the reorganization and expansion of her Nashville and Los Angeles offices. In the Nashville office, Lewis is joined by Gary Griggs, who acts as the company's vice president. Also in the Music Row offices are Twana Burns as account manager, Scott Porter as media/marketing coordinator and Leah Bartley as media/marketing coordinator. The West Coast office is operated under the supervision of senior publicist Gloria Boyce.

Judy Parks joins Copperfield Music group as executive assistant to president/CEO Ken Bidy. She will be handling all corporate services including accounting, office management and assisting in all facets of the music publishing company.



After performing at an industry showcase Matraca Berg, center, visits backstage at the San Diego Zoo with (l to r) Joel Hoffner, Tim Murphy (Rising Tide); Mike Crowley (artist manager) and Steva Barnes and Mike Upton (KSON radio).

Trisha McClanahan has been promoted to senior director of concert promotions at Starstruck Entertainment. McClanahan oversees all of the advertising for Reba McEntire's tours, as well as the 1997 Reba Brooks & Dunn tour.



signings

MUSIC PUBLISHING: The Lynns to Sony/AVT Tree...Sharon Vaughn to MCA Publishing Nashville...Dean Dillon to Opryland Music Group...Jeff Prince to On The Mantel Music...A.L. Doodle Owens to Magnatone Publishing...**DISTRIBUTION:** Bellamy Brothers to Intersound Inc.



International Update

- Slim Dusty, Australia's legendary Country Music star, visited Nashville recently to celebrate 50 years as a performer. During a visit to CMA headquarters, CMA Executive Director Ed Benson presented Dusty with a certificate congratulating him on his phenomenal accomplishments.
- Also during his Nashville trip, Dusty was joined onstage at the Grand Ole Opry by Capitol Nashville band The Ranch, founded by fellow Australian Keith Urban. It was the first Opry performance for the artists.
- Dusty has recorded 92 albums for EMI Music Australia, selling more than 5 million records. The first Australian to achieve gold record certification, he has received more gold and platinum certified record awards than any other Australian artist.



CMA Executive Director Ed Benson presents Australian Country Music legend Slim Dusty with a certificate celebrating 50 years as a performer. Dusty is accompanied by his wife.

September

12-13 Country Night Gstaad / Gstaad, Switzerland / Contact Trisha Walker-Cunningham at (615) 269-0858

October

19 Ninth Annual Country Gold Festival / Aspects / Kumamoto, Japan / Contact Judy Seale at Refugee Management / (615) 256-6615; fax (615) 256-6717

Country Music Hall of Fame

PART 1 OF A 2 PART SERIES



LITTLE MISS DYNAMITE: A MUSICAL GIANT...

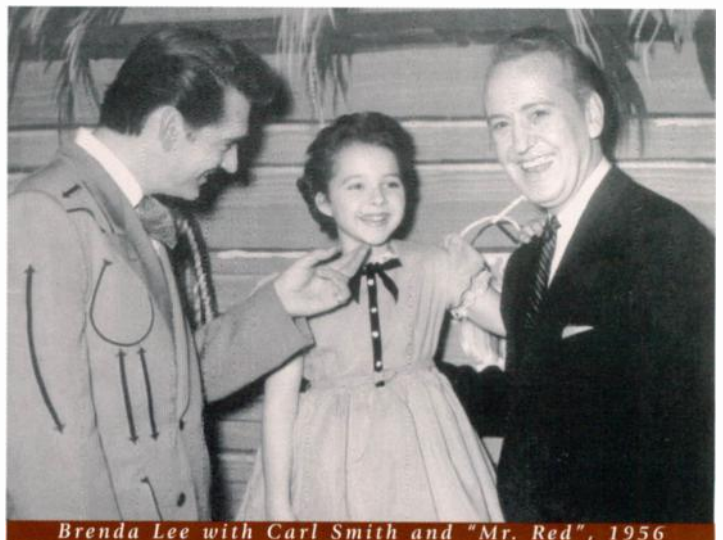
by Owen Bradley

Probably more than any other singer, Brenda Lee focused the international spotlight on Nashville and helped broaden its appeal as a recording center. While doing so, she sold millions of albums and entertained millions of people. It was Brenda Lee who, in today's jargon, pushed the envelope and went into uncharted waters for a Nashville act. She's not only recorded in English but also in French, German, Italian and Japanese. She was a star in Europe and South America before she had a hit record in the U.S.A. After her recording success, Japan adopted her as one of its own - all of this while she was a teenager. Having said that, her accomplishments as an entertainer, so skillfully orchestrated by her brilliant manager, Dub Allbritten, pale in comparison to her success as a human being.

Brenda Lee exemplifies what we all should be: warm, loving and secure in her own being. Always family oriented (I can't recall a single recording session where a member of her family wasn't present) Brenda has always had her priorities in order. That was from day one when this little girl from Georgia, discovered by Red Foley and Paul Cohen, came into the studio. At that time, her mama Grace was the focus of her attention. Grace was never the dreaded stage door mother; she contributed greatly, when after the rest of us were satisfied she'd say "Brenda can do that better," and she was correct more often than not. It wasn't long before Brenda's husband, Ronnie, then their children, Julie and Jolie, who in Brenda's eyes are her greatest accomplishments, occupied her time when she wasn't at the microphone.



Brenda's first professional appearance, 1953



Brenda Lee with Carl Smith and "Mr. Red", 1956

Brenda Lee richly deserves this honor for her accomplishments in helping make Nashville known as Music City U.S.A. Her influence among another singers is legendary. She serves the music community whenever asked. She's always had the word "Little" used in describing her, as in "Little Miss Dynamite" or "Little Miss Brenda Lee," but in truth there has never been anything "Little" about her. She's always been a "Giant."

I am happy and proud that Brenda is joining the other ladies in my recording family (Kitty Wells, Patsy Cline and Loretta Lynn) in the Country Music Hall of Fame. It is the ultimate honor in Country Music. She, like the others, has always been in my personal Hall of Fame. I thank all of them for letting me be a part of their lives.

- Owen Bradley



Brenda Lee with Owen Bradley



Brenda Lee with Minnie, 1956



Brenda Lee with Elvis, 1957



CINDY WALKER - "YOU DON'T KNOW ME"

by Harlan Howard

Cindy Walker . . . my friend. I haven't seen her in years, but I think of her often. I call her up on occasions to hear her sweet voice and hear how she's faring. We both know we're getting long in the tooth, but we love to talk about music and life.

Cindy Walker . . . my mentor. When juvenile writers are in my office and the topic turns to the old days, Cindy's name will inevitably come up. I'll sometimes call her and let the juveniles talk with her. I'm proud to share my mentor with them.

Cindy Walker . . . my hero. When I was a youngster working a factory job in Detroit, I heard Bob Wills singing "Bubbles In My Beer." I was hooked on Cindy Walker tunes. I've

been a fan ever since. Thank you for the impact you've had on my career. I love you.



Bob Nolan, Cindy Walker, Max Terhune, Bill Boyd

A star surely fell on a tiny town in Texas many years ago. Perhaps no one noticed, but it continues to burn brightly today.

Cindy grew up in a happy home thanks to Aubrey and Oree Walker. By the age of 7, she was singing and dancing in local productions and was encouraged to write poetry by her elder family members. Her first commercial success was garnered when Paul Whiteman performed "Casa de Manana" which Cindy had written for the Texas Centennial Celebration. Cindy's star was flickering.

Loaded with songs in her heart, Cindy and her parents headed west for Los Angeles in the early '40s. Bright lights and tall buildings encouraged Cindy that she was headed in the right direction. After spotting Crosby Enterprises, she pleaded with her father to stop. She boldly walked in and by the time she left, had an appointment to meet Bing to play him "Lone Star Trail." Within 24 hours of arriving in L.A., Bing had agreed to record Cindy's tune. Cindy's star was twinkling.

Throughout the '40s, Cindy continued to write and get records by major recording artists - both country and pop. Her career was on fire. Bob Wills recorded "Dusty Skies." He then asked Cindy to write the songs for his Columbia western-themed musicals. She wrote 39 songs in eight weeks for eight musicals. Some of the other artists to record her tunes during this period were Gene Autry, Johnny Bond, George Morgan, Sammy Kaye, and even Cindy herself. Cindy's star was rising.

The '50s and '60s proved to be a period of transition for Cindy. She and her mother relocated from Hollywood back to Texas. Cindy decided to give up her recording career and focus on songwriting. It is interesting to note that Cindy's approach to songwriting is similar to that of a carpenter's trade. She builds a song. She begins with a title



Cindy and Redd Harper



Frances presents Cindy with songwriter Hall of Fame award



Cindy Duets with her mother.

and constructs the lyric and melody to fit a particular artist. She insists that her songs are never inspired but are tailor-made to perfectly fit the artist, all the while keeping the strengths, weaknesses and personality of the artist in mind.

To stay current with the changing times, Cindy's subject matter shifted from western theme songs to the universal language of love. With pen in hand and her mother by her side, Cindy hit her stride and was very prolific. She churned out standards such as, "I Don't Care" by Webb Pierce; "Thank You For Calling" by Billy Walker; "This Is It" and "Distant Drums" by Jim Reeves; "You Don't Know Me" by Eddie Arnold and covered by Ray Charles; and "Dream Baby (How Long Must I Dream)" by Roy Orbison. This is just a drop in the bucket that has overflowed for years. Cindy's star was blazing brightly.

Cindy was dubbed long ago the "Queen of Country Writers". She remains royalty today. My gifted yet humble friend's career has spanned seven decades. She has secured more than 540 records and was the first female elected to the CMA board. She's a pioneer who has blazed the trail for all of us who have followed. Tonight, Cindy's star shines brightly for all the world to see.

-Harlan Howard

garth takes manhattan



By Ed Benson
CMA Executive Director

It was another remarkable first for Country Music - Garth In The Park.

Let there be no doubt, New York City is the center of the universe for the world of media, finance, and corporate America's major advertising and marketing initiatives. A city of more taste and decision makers than any other on the planet. It is the most challenging place to get attention or to make an impression. One has to understand this about New York in order to fully appreciate the magnitude of Garth In The Park.

For four or five days, Garth commanded the attention of the Big Apple. He was on every television news and talk show, in every newspaper, posters, billboards and much more. Amid all this exposure and all the attention, Garth proved to be the wonderful ambassador and powerful advocate for Country Music he has always been.

I was fortunate to be in New York to observe first-hand, and we should all be proud of what Garth was able to do. We will all benefit from the impact this huge event had in such an important place.

I was there for the press conference when Mayor Guiliani officially welcomed Garth. I've been to many press conferences, but none like this. There were 50 photographers, 30 television crews, and a host of journalists from around the world. I was proud to be part of our business as Garth repeatedly stood up for Country Music when questioned about the real nature of his music.

During the week, we met with several of CMA's ad agency contacts and could clearly tell how favorably the event was influencing their opinion of the state of Country Music.

And I was there to experience the BIG event itself. Estimates of attendance ranged up to a million. Parks officials declared it the biggest in Central Park's illustrious history of free musical events. The live telecast was also HBO's most viewed program this year.

Thank you, Garth, for representing CMA so well. I would also like to recognize Garth's manager Bob Doyle and his associates along with all the HBO people for their hard work and the fabulous job they did putting it all together. And a special thanks for allowing CMA to host some important advertisers and corporate marketers as VIP's for the show.

Now who says Country Music doesn't work in New York City?

MORE INTIMATE SHOWCASE SETTING FOR SRO '97 ATTENDEES



continued from page 3

Atlantic/Nashville recording artist Mila Mason is particularly excited about participating in this year's SRO event. "SRO - Standing Room Only - that's exactly how all of us Country singers like for it to be at our shows," Mason said. "I'm thrilled to be a part of this event, and I hope all the talent buyers and promoters have a great time while they're here. Performing with my band, be it big or small fairs, real nice arenas or rowdy bars, is my very favorite part of the music business. Give someone else those wordy contracts and all those hard decisions I'm supposed to make, and show me the stage!"

This year's event will also feature plenty of informative conferences and panels with many of the industry's leading professionals. For the first time, a special educational segment on the key aspects of road and tour management will be offered called "Managing The Tour: Creating a Standard for Doing Business on the Road." Tim McCormick, road manager for Travis Tritt, and Scott Edwards, road manager for Brooks & Dunn, will participate on this special panel, along with several others.

During the planned international conference, experts will give updates on emerging international markets including Australia, Brazil, Germany and Asia-Pacific. The International Conference will also include a panel devoted to "Building An International Development Strategy," featuring agents and managers with experience in the international arena.

Now in its 19th year, SRO provides a proactive learning environment for ensuring the continued growth of the Country Music touring industry. The event has become a "can't miss" booking for top decision-makers involved in every aspect of the Country Music industry. "Conferences are only as good as the people on the panels and information they dispense to those who register to see them," says Bruce Allen of Vancouver-based Bruce Allen Talent. "SRO this year has all the earmarks of being outstanding.

- Lorie Hollabaugh

1997 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 attached order form and return it by August 15, 1997 to: CMA Awards Merchandise, One Music Circle South, Nashville, TN 37203. Merchandise will be shipped in early September. If you have any questions, please call CMA Marketing at (615) 244-2840.



HENLEY SHIRT

These long sleeved CMA Awards Henley shirts are 100% heavyweight cotton available in white or navy with the CMA Awards logo embroidered on the front.



JACKET

The CMA Awards jacket is made from water resistant Traslan nylon with an inner body mesh lining. Available in black, the CMA Awards logo and viewer information are embroidered on the chest.



RUGBY SHIRT

These long sleeved, 100% heavyweight cotton Rugby shirts are forest green with a khaki collar. The CMA Awards logo is embroidered on the left chest.



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.



GOLF SHIRT

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



SWEATSHIRT

These heavyweight 90/10 cotton poly sweatshirts are available in ash and display the CMA Awards logo embroidered on the left chest.



BASEBALL CAP

The CMA Awards baseball cap is available in solid black, natural with a stone-washed gray bill, or khaki with a green bill. The soft, six-panel unconstructed cap features an adjustable strap. The CMA Awards logo is embroidered on the front above the bill, with viewer information located on the back.

CO-BRANDING OPTION:

Your station's call letters can be added to the CMA Awards merchandise (embroidered apparel only) for \$.75 per item plus a \$100 set-up charge. Station logos can be included for an additional cost. For more information on this option, call CMA Marketing at (615) 244-2840.

1997 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: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____
 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	Medium	\$7.00	
		Large	\$7.00	
		X-Large	\$7.00	
		XX-Large	\$8.00	
	Baseball Cap - Black		\$7.50	
	Baseball Cap - Khaki/Green		\$7.50	
	Baseball Cap - Natural/Gray		\$7.50	
	SweatShirt/Ash	Medium	\$18.00	
		Large	\$18.00	
		X-Large	\$18.00	
		XX-Large	\$21.00	
	Henley Shirt/White	Medium	\$16.00	
		Large	\$16.00	
		X-Large	\$16.00	
		XX-Large	\$18.00	
	Henley Shirt/Navy	Medium	\$16.00	
		Large	\$16.00	
		X-Large	\$16.00	
		XX-Large	\$18.00	
	Golf Shirt - White	Medium	\$16.00	
		Large	\$16.00	
		X-Large	\$16.00	
		XX-Large	\$18.00	
	Rugby/Forest Green	Medium	\$28.00	
		Large	\$28.00	
		X-Large	\$28.00	
		XX-Large	\$30.00	
	Jacket/Black	Medium	\$37.50	
		Large	\$37.50	
		X-Large	\$37.50	
		XX-Large	\$40.00	

Domestic U.S. Shipping Charges: For orders of: Add:
 \$5.00 - \$50.00 \$6.50
 \$50.01 - \$100.00 \$9.50
 \$100.01 and over \$18.00

ORDER DEADLINE
IS October 1, 1997

SUB TOTAL	
SHIPPING & HANDLING	
TOTAL	

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, Country Music Association, One Music Circle South, Nashville, TN 37203; or, (2) Complete the credit card information and fax your order to Country Music Association at (615) 248-1007.

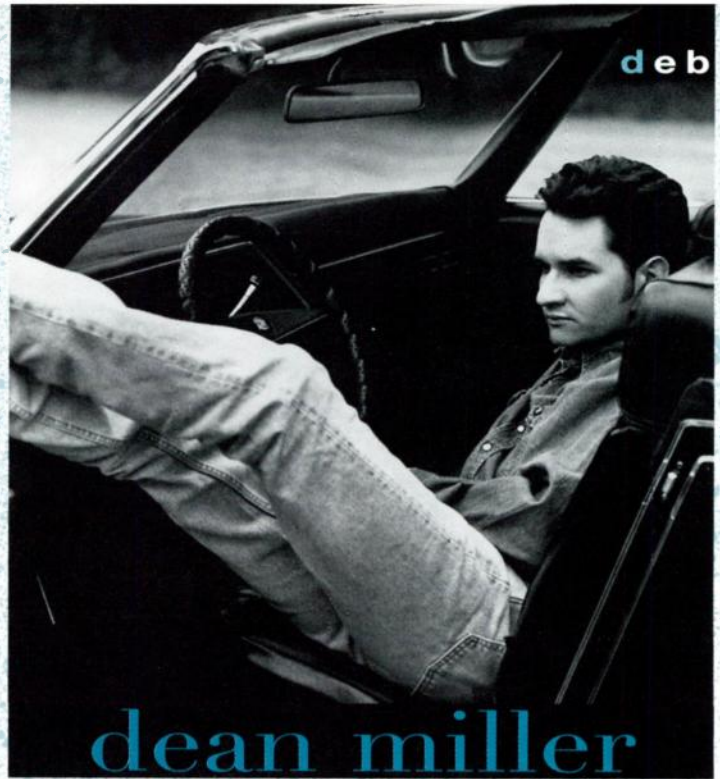
SHIPPING: Please add the shipping and handling charges from the chart on the order form. All shipments will be sent UPS or U.S. mail. **For orders outside the continental U.S., please call CMA Marketing at (615) 244-2840.**



Record Label: **RCA Records**
Album: **THREE CHORDS AND THE TRUTH**
Single: **"True Lies"**

Born in Booneville, Missouri, Sara Evans and her brothers became famous locally by performing in churches, retirement homes, PTA meetings and bluegrass festivals. Evans was barely four years old when music became an important and permanent part of her life. It began when her mother, Pat, started older brothers Jay and Matt on music lessons. "Mother knew then I could sing," Evans recalls. "I think to get me in the act, my mother made me sing with my brothers supposedly so they could practice their chords." Before long, she was taking mandolin lessons, and the Evans family had an act. "I would sing anywhere, anytime I could. I was always a ham."

In the summer of 1991, Evans decided to give Nashville a try. She waitressed at various restaurants and began to write songs on the side. After meeting musician Craig Schelske - now her husband - she moved to Oregon, joined his band and became a regional favorite, opening for artists like Willie Nelson, Tim McGraw and Clay Walker.



Record Label: **Capitol Nashville**
Management: **Frank Callari**
Booking agent: **Creative Artists Agency**

A serious songwriter with an innate flair for entertainment, Dean Miller originally avoided pursuing a career in music. He wrote songs and performed at clubs, but he shied away from declaring music as his life's work. As the son of the late Roger Miller, Dean grew up with an appreciation for a well-crafted Country song and knew the work involved in putting one together. He wanted to stretch the boundaries of Country Music, but not break them.

After perfecting his songwriting and performing skills, Miller decided to move to Nashville. Rather than use his father's influence to make things easier, Miller decided to work at it just like any other struggling songwriter. Miller went through the usual rounds of club dates and showcases, and finding record and songwriting deals. The publishing deal came first, but eventually his spirited songs and energetic performances caught the eye of Capitol Nashville.

"Country is not music. It is not the way you dress. It is not the way you act. It is a culture-something you are or you aren't," says Miller. "I'm Country. That's my heritage. That's who I am." And that is what translates into his music.

Steve Wariner is celebrating a major milestone this year - the 20th Anniversary of being on a record label. In those two decades, Steve's extraordinary talent as a singer, songwriter and guitarist have helped him garner 27 top 10 singles, 12 of them number-one hits, a gold album (*I AM READY*, 1992), a Grammy (for "Restless," a 1991 collaboration with Ricky Skaggs, Mark O'Connor and Vince Gill as the *The New Nashville Cats*), a 1991 CMA Award for Vocal Event of the Year for "Restless" and eight BMI song-writing awards.

He recently returned from a tour in Poland and France where he saw a lot of growth and hunger for Country Music.

"Every time I go to Europe or anywhere international, it feels like Country Music keeps gaining ground and getting bigger and more popular. I'm always getting people coming up talking about it more and more. So I really do feel the growth every time I go back. I had never been to Poland before, and I actually taught a guitar clinic there, too, which was fun. I had about 20 or so students at this school. I walked into a room and there were about 20 Polish guitar players with all of their guitars and they were just looking at me. They didn't speak English! I had to have an interpreter. The interviews and everything were that way. It was really tough. Those guys were so into it, and they can't get their hands on new music. That's the sad thing. Every one of them was giving me their address, saying 'Send me music! Send me music!'"

Steve used his guitar and producing talents on his most current Arista Records release, *NO MORE MR. NICE GUY*. The instrumental album features Wariner playing guitar with a variety of friends, including Bon Jovi's Richie Sambora, Leo Kottke, Chet Atkins, Lee Roy Parnell, Vince Gill and several others. He was involved in every aspect of this critically acclaimed album which *USA TODAY* says is "as full-bodied and touching as his singing hits."

"I have co-produced a lot of my records. A lot of the number ones I co-produced, and I have been lucky enough to work with Tony Brown, Scott Hendricks, Jimmy Bowen and Tim DuBois. I would not trade anything for



STEVE WARINER

that experience - getting to produce or just *be* produced by those people. But this was the first project where it was just totally, from start to finish, my concept. I was just thrilled that Arista and Tim [DuBois] would let me get away with doing it, because it was pretty self-indulgent. I always wanted to do an album like that and bring on people like I did. It was so much fun.

"EVERY TIME I GO TO EUROPE OR ANYWHERE INTERNATIONAL, IT FEELS LIKE COUNTRY MUSIC KEEPS GAINING GROUND AND GETTING BIGGER AND MORE POPULAR."

As one of Music Row's most consistent hitmakers, Steve is well respected and admired by such fellow artists as the 1996 CMA Horizon Award winner Bryan White and Warner Bros. newcomer Anita Cochran. He stays involved in many other artists' projects aside from his own, most recently a duet with Anita Cochran called "What If I Said" on her debut album *BACK TO YOU*. He has the title

track on Clint Black's new album *NOTHIN' BUT THE TAILLIGHTS*, a cut on Bryan White's new album called "One Small Miracle" and a cut on Garth Brooks' forthcoming album *SEVENS* titled "Longneck Bottle".

"This year has been my writing year. I have really spent a lot of time writing. I've always had my own publishing company since my first records years ago, but a lot of times it's been on the backburner. I've primarily written for myself. Not until the last couple of years have I started pitching songs to other artists. I am really thrilled with the reception I've had with a lot of my songs. I've been writing with some great co-writers like Bill Anderson, Gordon Kennedy, Mac MacAnally and Victoria Shaw. I am leaving some out, but I've written with a lot of cool writers. It's like going to school writing with so many different people. I love co-writing better than anything because you get to learn a little bit of a different angle on it from every writer.

"Bill Anderson, I like to talk about writing with him, because he's such a legend. He's been a big inspiration, writing-wise. It's a lesson every time I write with him. I just produced an album on him that is on Warner Bros. It's all new Bill Anderson songs showcasing his writing. It's in the can waiting to be released at Warner Bros. I hope the production is good, but the writing is tremendous."

"THIS YEAR HAS BEEN MY WRITING YEAR."

With this album, Steve was able to give people a look into another side of his creative talents. Few people know that Steve is also an accomplished and talented painter. While promoting his NO MORE MR. NICE GUY album, Arista Records had plans to exhibit his paintings in local galleries, coffehouses and venues in which he performed.

"I was overwhelmed by the painting stuff. A few years ago, we had a song out called "The River And The Sea" and Maude Gilman, in the Arista art department, said to me 'We have this idea, you do a painting, and we'll do a lithograph of it and send it out to radio in conjunction with the record.' That's how it really got started. The response was just great. We did another lithograph that we made available through our fan club and the response was incredible. I'm still amazed that people would want something I did."

One of the biggest highlights of his career came in May when he was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry.

"I had wanted to be a member of the Grand Ole Opry for a long time. I was so proud that they asked me this last year. But I learned a long time ago that things don't always happen the way you plan it. If you don't give up on the dream then it still can happen, maybe just on a different time table. That is one of the things I remember asking Chet years ago when I was working for him. He said, 'Hey, the main thing you need to remember' - and I pass this on a lot too - 'is you can have anything you want, if you are willing to work hard enough for it and don't give up, ever.' That night was really overwhelming. I really don't know what I said. The main thing I wanted to get across was that I would always carry on the torch and represent the Grand Ole Opry and Country Music in the right way, because I am really proud to be a part of it. I really respect the heritage of the Grand Ole Opry, the roots and the heritage of where all this came from - Country Music. I don't take that lightly. I think that's what I was trying to get across!", he says with a laugh. I can sit here and say it now. But up there you walk off and go 'What did I say!'"

"I HAD WANTED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE GRAND OLE OPRY FOR A LONG TIME."

Above all Steve tries to save time for his wife, Caryn, and sons Ryan and Ross.

"I just don't have time to do everything. I want to try everything! I'm afraid I'm gonna miss something. The hardest part is being a Dad on top of that. I'm shifting gears all the time. It's always something."

- Dixie Weathersby

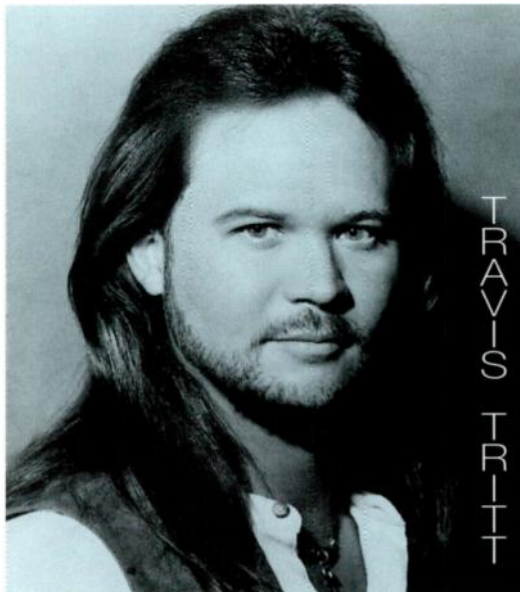
NAMES IN THE NEWS

NEWS MAKERS:

Mindy McCready and Dean Cain of "Superman" on ABC's Lois & Clark were together at the TV writers' gathering in Pasadena, California. It was confirmed by RCA that they are dating and have been for a couple of months.

President Clinton and First Lady Hillary, as well as the Vice President Al Gore and his wife Tipper, recently attended Kim Richey's show at the Birchmere in Alexandria, Virginia. Admitting that she was rather intimidated, Kim says they were all very charming and the President was very handsome.

At a recent Fruit of the Loom Country Comfort Tour stop in Portland, Maine, Travis Tritt entertained former President George Bush and wife Barbara at the home of Fruit of the Loom CEO Bill Farley. George and Barbara Bush were also among the guests who attended the concert featuring Travis Tritt, Hank Williams Jr., Charlie Daniels and Jo Dee Messina.



TRAVIS TRITT

Deana Carter made an appearance in the comic strip Nancy recently where her face showed up on Nancy's t-shirt.

GOOD WORKS:

The Buffalo Club was recently in Florida coincidentally around the one-year anniversary of the death of teen-age model Krissy Taylor. They had learned from a magazine article that she was a Country Music fan and that her sister, model Niki Taylor, and mom said it would be nice if someone wrote a Country song for her. Buffalo Club lead singer Ton Hemby rewrote the group's "Wish For You" in her honor and performed it on a West Palm Beach radio station while the Taylor family listened.

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Separations/Film: COMMERCIAL ENGRAVING
Printing: HARRIS PRESS

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CLOSE UP MAGAZINE (ISSN 0896-372X) IS THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION, INC., ONE MUSIC CIRCLE SOUTH, NASHVILLE, TN 37203-4312, (615) 244-2840. AVAILABLE TO CMA MEMBERS ONLY. CLOSE UP'S SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF \$18 PER YEAR IS INCLUDED IN MEMBERSHIP DUES. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO CMA CLOSE UP, ONE MUSIC CIRCLE SOUTH, NASHVILLE, TN 37203.



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cma events

September

- 21** Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame / Nashville
- 22** ASCAP Country Awards / Opryland Hotel / Nashville
- 23** BMI Country Awards / Nashville
- 24** 31st Annual CMA Awards / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville
- 25** Election of Directors Meeting / BellSouth Building / Nashville
- SESAC Country Awards / Nashville
- 29-October 1** SRO / CMA's International Entertainment Expo / Nashville Convention Center / Nashville

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www.countrymusic.org.



CMA Executive Director Ed Benson (left) and Decca Records artist Lee Ann Womack recently stopped by CMA to play a few songs for the staff.