

country roundup

MCA recording artist **Jerry Jordan** will highlight the Fourth Annual Gospel Radio Seminar, May 14-15 at the Airport Hilton, Nashville, Tennessee. The announcement was made by **Lou Hildreth**, owner of the Nashville Gospel Talent Agency. Jordan will entertain at the seminar banquet, May 15, and will perform his hit comedy routines, "A Phone Call From God" and "Don't Call Me, I'll Call You," both recorded on MCA Records.

Donna Fargo has been set to tape the Mac Davis Show and Hollywood Squares the first of this month.

Audie Ashworth, personal manager of **J.J. Cale**, Shelter recording artist, cabled from London that on the first stop of Cale's nineteen-day European tour (his first), three shows at Hammersmith Odeon were complete sellouts, and the Cale concert played to 10,500 fans.

Billy Wilhite Talent, Inc. has opened new offices in the Faron Young Executive Building, Suite 106, 1300 Division St., Nashville, Tennessee, 37203. Billy, formerly with A/Q talent and the **Hubert Long Talent Agency**, will now be heading his own agency.

Marty Robbins will be driving the official pace car at the Indianapolis 500 on May 30.

Jerry Naylor, who records on Motown's country label, was admitted to Encino, California Hospital on April 7, for gall bladder surgery. Naylor's hospitalization followed on the heels of his most successful European tour to date. The tour consisted of 41 days and took in five countries, including a one-nighter in Athens, Greece, where Naylor played before an SRO audience of Greek and Americans who had paid \$12 per ticket for the show. In England, Naylor played his first non-military clubs since leaving The Crickets. His engagement at the Chevalier's in Lincolnshire, a club which features noted pop acts, was so successful that he's been asked to return in November for a full week, a first for a country artist.

Mickey Gilley was the grand marshal for the historical celebration and parade on San Jacinto Day in his hometown of Pasadena, Texas, recently. Gilley is also popular on the nearby Houston radio stations, where his current Playboy release, "Don't The Girls All Get Prettier At Closing Time," was number one.

WCAW Clear Channel 680 Khz AM is now 50,000 watts and serving a large population in West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky with modern country programming.

Johnny Rodriguez will be the featured entertainer Monday, May 3, at the Texas State Bankers Convention in El Paso, Texas. The annual event brings banking officials from all over the Lone Star State for meetings and conferences which are capped by a night of musical entertainment. This will be Rodriguez's first appearance before the private group.

Joe Stephenson, a native of Spur, Texas has joined **Johnny Rodriguez's Music City Band** as fiddle player. He began playing fiddle at seven and became the Texas state fiddle champion at sixteen. He also plays guitar and mandolin.

Wally Cochran has just moved his offices, Wally Cochran Enterprises, into the Faron Young Executive Building in Nashville.

Johnny Tillotson has been busy during the first three months of 1976, raising money for cerebral palsy. The Columbia recording star hosted three telethons and raised a total of \$509,000. At each of the telethons in Oklahoma City, Cape Girardeau, Mo., and Fresno, California, the dollars raised were considerably more than in previous years.

Effective May 4, Capitol recording artist **Roy Drusky** has re-signed on a long term exclusive basis with the **Bill Godwin Agency** of Nashville after a brief 30-day absence from the agency. The Bill Godwin Agency is also the exclusive booking representative for the **Bill Anderson** show, the **Jean Shepard** show, the **Billy Walker** show, **Alice Ann**, **Glenn Barber**, **Tokyo Matsu**, **Lynda K. Lance** & the **Stann Gunn** show.

John Ritter, son of the late **Tex Ritter** and the young actor who portrays Reverend **Matthew Fordwicke** on CBS-TV's popular "The Waltons," headlined The Third Annual **Tex Ritter Roundup** and Reunion held Saturday, April 24, at the Holiday Inn Northwest in Carrollton, Texas, 14 miles northwest of Dallas. John Ritter, following in his father's professional footsteps as an actor, is quite active in stage, movies, and television. Among the films he has made are "Barefoot Executive," "Scandalous John," "The Other," and "The Stone Killer." Currently, he is filming a **Peter Bogdanovich** movie, "Nickelodeon," with **Burt Reynolds**, **Ryan O'Neal** and **Tatum O'Neal**. In addition to regular assignments on "The Waltons," Ritter's son has been seen recently on such television series as "Movin' On," "Petrocelli," "Barnaby Jones," "The Streets of San Francisco," "The Rookies," "Starsky and Hutch," "Doc," "Rhoda," "The Bob Newhart Show," "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," and the television specials of "Who's Happy Now?" and "The Night That Panicked America."

"Little" **Jimmy Dickens** has recently opened an office at #24 Music Square East in Nashville, Tenn. The office will house Little Gem Music, a production company which will perform independent recording and promotion services. Little Gem will be managed by **Wayne Hodge**, who is Dickens' personal manager.

Mercury Records has released a booklet titled "**Cledus Maggard's Dictionary of CB Radio Lingo**" which explains what he is talking about on such tunes as "Kentucky Moonrunner," "C.B. Rock" and "Jaw Jackin'." Maggard's "White Knight" album has been released hot on the heels of the success of his "White Knight" single, and contains his hot chart-climbing single "Kentucky Moonrunner."

Due to a very heavy itinerary, **Judy Lynn** has recently purchased a GMC diesel bus. The bus is equipped with all of the conveniences of home — except for a kitchen. Judy feels that she will get more rest and privacy in her own room on the bus than she has been getting traveling by air. The Judy Lynn Show will be on the road constantly from May 13 through September 6 when she will be traveling all over the United States — starting in Washington and working her way back to New Hampshire.

Steve Singleton has announced his resignation from Combine Music. Singleton was professional manager there and worked at Monument Records and **Jack Clement Recording Studio** before joining the publishing firm. Singleton will be announcing his plans in the near future. He may be contacted at (615) 327-3900.

Ben Peters recently played in the 4 day American Amateur Golf Classic in Pensacola, Florida, hometown of wife, Jackie.

Roy Clark, between his busy personal appearances and television dates, played the **George Lindsey** golf tourney April 24 and 25.

Barbara Fairchild heads for the country western festival in Gila Bend, Arizona after appearing with **Roy Clark** at the Frontier Hotel in Vegas.

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TOP 50 COUNTRY ALBUMS

1	IT'S ALL IN THE MOVIES MERLE HAGGARD (Capitol ST 11483)	1	25	NARVEL THE MARVEL NARVEL FELTS (ABC/Dot DOSD 2033)	12
2	THE WHITE KNIGHT CLEUDUS MAGGARD & THE CITIZEN'S BAND (Mercury SRM 1-1072)	2	26	TWITTY CONWAY TWITTY (MCA 2176)	22
3	THE SOUND IN YOUR MIND WILLIE NELSON (Lone Star/Columbia KC 34092)	5	27	SONGS WE FELL IN LOVE TO CONNIE SMITH (Columbia X598)	28
4	SOMETIMES BILL ANDERSON & MARY LOU TURNER (MCA 2182)	4	28	LARRY GATLIN WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS (Monument KZ 34042)	31
5	COME ON OVER OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN (MCA 2186)	8	29	SILVER LININGS CHARLIE RICH (Epic KE 33545)	40
6	THE GREAT TOMPALL AND HIS OUTLAW BAND (MGM M3G-5014)	6	30	HAROLD, LEW, PHIL & DON STATLER BROTHERS (Mercury SRM1 1077)	41
7	THE OUTLAWS WAYLON JENNINGS/WILLIE NELSON/JESSI COLTER/TOMPALL GLASER (RCA APL 1-1321)	7	31	DON'T CALL ME — I'LL CALL YOU JERRY JORDAN (MCA 2174)	34
8	CHESTER AND LESTER CHET ATKINS & LES PAUL (RCA APL 1-1167)	10	32	WILLIE NELSON LIVE (RCA APL1 1487)	—
9	'TIL I CAN MAKE IT ON MY OWN TAMMY WYNETTE (Epic KE 34075)	15	33	200 YEARS OF COUNTRY MUSIC SONNY JAMES (Col. KC 34035)	21
10	WHEN THE TINGLE BECOMES A CHILL LORETTA LYNN (MCA 2179)	3	34	LOVIN' AND LEARNIN' TANYA TUCKER (MCA 2167)	16
11	HANK WILLIAMS, YOU WROTE MY LIFE MOE BANDY (Columbia KC 34091)	25	35	BLACK BEAR ROAD C.W. McCALL (MGM 5008)	23
12	LONGHAIRD REDNECK DAVID ALLAN COE (Col. KC 33916)	13	36	I'D JUST BE FOOL ENOUGH FARON YOUNG (Mercury SRM1 1075)	49
13	PEOPLE PUT TO MUSIC FREDDIE HART & THE HEARTBEATS (Capitol ST 11504)	18	37	SUNDAY MORNING WITH CHARLEY PRIDE (RCA APL1 1359)	—
14	MACKINTOSH & T.J. WAYLON JENNINGS (RCA APL 1-1520)	19	38	THE SWEETEST THING DOTTSY (RCA APL 1-1358)	24
15	GILLEY'S GREATEST HITS MICKEY GILLEY (Playboy PB 409)	20	39	ON THE MOVE DONNA FARGO (Warner Bros. BS 2926)	43
16	ELITE HOTEL EMMYLOU HARRIS (Reprise MS 2236)	9	40	BLOODLINE GLEN CAMPBELL (Capitol SW 11516)	45
17	EASY AS PIE BILLY "CRASH" CRADDOCK (ABC/Dot DOSD 2040)	14	41	FLOYD CRAMER COUNTRY (RCA APL 1-1541)	42
18	FASTER HORSES TOM T. HALL (Mercury SRM 1-1076)	29	42	HARMONY DON WILLIAMS (ABC/Dot DOSD 2049)	—
19	THE GREATEST HITS OF JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ (Mercury SRM 1-1078)	30	43	STRAWBERRY CAKE JOHNNY CASH (Columbia KC 34088)	44
20	ROCK 'N' COUNTRY FREDDY FENDER (ABC/Dot DOSD 2050)	11	44	INDEPENDENCE NAT STUCKEY (MCA 2184)	36
21	JESSI JESSI COLTER (Capitol ST 11477)	17	45	WILDERNESS C.W. McCALL (Polydor 0698)	—
22	THE SUN SESSIONS ELVIS PRESLEY (RCA APM1 1675)	27	46	TEXAS COUNTRY VARIOUS ARTISTS (UA LA 574 H2)	37
23	MOTELS AND MEMORIES T.G. SHEPPARD (Melodyland ME 6 40351)	32	47	FEARLESS HOYT AXTON (A&M SP 4571)	—
24	FOREVER LOVERS MAC DAVIS (Columbia PC 34105)	47	48	THE EARL SCRUGGS REVUE, VOL. II (Columbia PC 34090)	—
			49	THE SHEIK OF CHICAGO JOE STAMPLEY (Epic KE 34036)	35
			50	JASON'S FARM CAL SMITH (MCA 2172)	26

Country Singles — Active Extras

I Really Had A Ball Last Night

Carmol Taylor (Elektra)

I.O.U.

Jimmy Dean (Casino)

When Something Is Wrong With My Baby

Sonny James (Columbia)

Lovin' Somebody On A Rainy Night

LaCosta (Capitol)

Gone At Last

Johnny Paycheck (Epic)

I Think I Feel A Hitchhike Comin' On

Larry Jon Wilson (Monument)

God Loves Us

Sammi Jo & Friends (Polydor)

Heart Don't Fail Me Now

Randy Cornor (ABC/Dot)

This Man And Woman Thing

Johnny Russell (RCA)

Right Or Wrong

Ronnie Dove (Melodyland)

A Morning Made For Lovin'

Helen Cornelius (RCA)

High And Wild

Earl Conley (GRT)

A Butterfly For Buckey

Bobby Goldsboro (United Artists)

The Man From Bowling Green

Bob Luman (Epic)

Jasper

Jim Stafford (Polydor)

In The Middle Of The Night

Karen Wheeler (RCA)

Layin' In The Sunshine

Tony Douglas (Cochise)

Is Forever Longer Than Always

Porter Wagoner & Dolly Parton (RCA)

Break One Nine

Urel Albert (Column One)

Sugar Blue

Megan (Mercury)

Here Comes The Freedom Train

Merle Haggard (Capitol)

C.B. Widow

Linda Cassidy (Door Knob)

Indian Nation

Billy Thundercloud (Polydor)

You

Wil Sherman (Del-Mar)