

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1990

\$2.50

COUNTRY MUSIC™



ALAN JACKSON
Pull-Out Poster

TRAVIS TRITT
Makes Good

TAMMY WYNETTE
Legend Offstage

EDDY ARNOLD
Answers 20 Questions

**RICKY VAN
SHELTON**
Convincing, Isn't He?

THE 1991 SIERRA FROM GMC TRUCK



HORSE



POWER

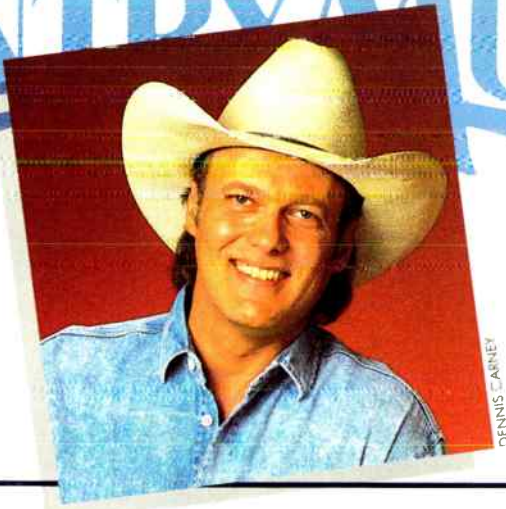
SIERRA ■ Standard 4.3L Vortec V6. ■ More horsepower than any other full-size pickup. ■ More two-side galvanized sheet metal than any Ford full-size pickup. ■ Shift-on-the-fly 4X4 Insta-Trac. ■ And rear-wheel anti-lock brake system. ■ For a catalog and name of your nearest GMC Truck dealer, call 1-800-TRY-GMC1. 1990 General Motors Corporation. All rights reserved.



It's not just a truck anymore. It's quality on the road.



COUNTRY MUSIC



2 Letters

Readers rise up in droves to support Alabama. They're happy as clams about Mary Chapin Carpenter and still talking about K. T. Oslin and New Kid Scott McQuaig. Record Reviews have them a little hot under the collar, especially those on Doug Stone, The McCarters and *Highwayman 2*.

17 People

Dolly takes on the Japanese, Waylon goes "Wrong" and The Kentucky Headhunters go Gold. Charlie Daniels visits the Wall, Ricky Skaggs says hi to The Sweethearts of the Rodeo and Hank Jr. hosts a sellout crowd. Plus a CMM Update on Jeannie C. Riley.

by Hazel Smith

28 20 Questions with Eddy Arnold

With health problems behind him, Eddy Arnold is feeling fit, looking for songs for a new album. Michael catches up with the superstar during this, his 50th year in show business.

by Michael Bane

30 Ricky Van Shelton: CMM presents An Evening with a Heartthrob

This evening finds Ricky Van Shelton attending to business—lots of it. There's a TV taping, new material to be rehearsed with the band and an interview that raises more questions than it answers and leaves Patrick scratching his head.

by Patrick Carr

36 Alan Jackson: Pull-Out Centerfold

Get the photos and the facts on this handsome, blond-haired, blue-eyed, up-and-coming country singer.

39 Introducing Travis Tritt

His song, "Country Club," put Travis Tritt in the Top Ten in a very short time. In fact, this singer from Georgia went into music full-time a mere six years ago.

by Patrick Carr

42 Tammy Wynette: Offstage With a Legend

Bob Millard waited a long time for this interview. When he got it, it was worth it—he found Tammy an honest lady, as down-to-earth as an old friend.

by Bob Millard

52 Record Reviews

This issue's assortment finds Waylon Jennings on a new label, Carlene Carter exploring her roots and Asleep at the Wheel back in force. Newcomers Kelly Willis and Lee Roy Parnell debut. Plus new albums by John Anderson, Lacy J. Dalton and Baillie & The Boys. Others, too.

68 Essential Collector

Rich Kienzle comes up with books on Milsap and Orbison, videos on Patsy Cline and The Dirt Band and albums featuring Robbins, Cash, Willis, Sovine and more.

by Rich Kienzle

70 Buried Treasures

Treasures include Conway Twitty's *Silver Anniversary* collection, the "official reissue" of the Million Dollar Quartet—Elvis, Jerry Lee, Johnny Cash and Carl Perkins, The Wilburns' *Retrospective* and more.

by Rich Kienzle

COVER PHOTO: DENNIS CARNEY

Copyright 1990 by Silver Eagle Publishers, Russell D. Barnard, President. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the publisher. Published bi-monthly by Silver Eagle Publishers, 342 Madison Avenue, Suite 2118, New York, New York 10173. Second Class postage paid at New York, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices. COUNTRY MUSIC (ISSN 0090-4007). Subscription price: one year \$13.98 (Additional postage: Canada: \$19.97. All other foreign: \$21.97 per year.) POSTMASTER: Send address changes to COUNTRY MUSIC, P.O. Box 2000, Marian, Ohio 43306.

Letters

Alabama, You're Tagged!

I just received the July/August issue of *Country Music Magazine* and read all of the article on the group, Alabama. I have to say that is the most interesting and true article anybody has ever written about them. I have been an Alabama fan ever since I saw them in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

My son, who is a disc jockey for a local radio station, used to work for WYAK in Myrtle Beach several years ago. Jeff Cook used to work there part-time, also. While I was visiting my son at Myrtle Beach, he got me to listen to one of their cassettes. It didn't take but one time listening to the cassette to get hooked. My license tag even has 1-ALABAMA on it. Boy, am I proud of that!

Mrs. Marie McCay
Hickory, North Carolina

Alabama Has a Message

I would like to thank you for the great feature on Alabama in the July/August issue! Have been and always will be a long-term, die-hard fan of theirs and can never get enough of them. They are true performers, giving their fans a show to remember for all time. Their new album, *Pass It On Down*, is their best yet!

Alabama has a message to "pass on down" to the public. It's a message that they practice, not just preach about. One only has to visit Ft. Payne to understand what Alabama is about. They are continually giving to the town, their fans and to many needy causes. The environmental issue is one of those causes.

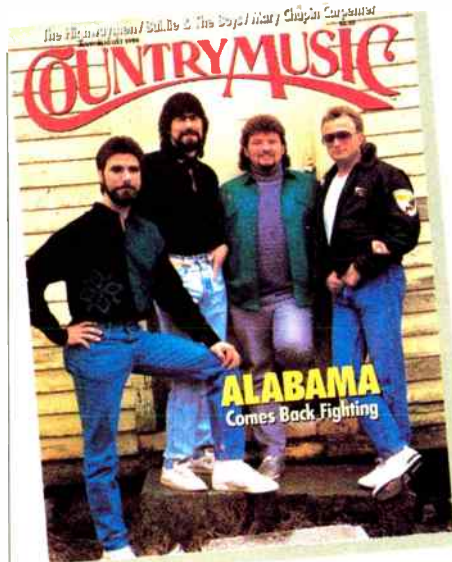
Country music can hold its head up high with pride to have Alabama representing what country pride is all about! Thank you, *Country Music Magazine*, for the enjoyable feature on my favorite artists! A special thank you to the families of the boys for sharing them with us!

Susy Vance
Delmont, Pennsylvania

Passing It Down...

Being a big Alabama fan, I want to thank you for the fantastic article on Alabama in your July/August issue, plus the great record review on *Pass It On Down*.

I am doing my part on "Passing It Down." Everytime I see an aluminum can, glass bottle or plastic container, I pick it up and think of Randy Owen and



Alabama. I hope a lot of people in the world help to "Pass It Down," too. After all, it is to our advantage.

Thank you, *Country Music Magazine*, for such a great article on Alabama and also for such a great magazine. I read it from cover to cover the day I get it.

Kathy Denny
Wood River, Illinois

Charitable Alabama

I was very happy to see my favorite entertainers of all time, Alabama, on the front cover of your July/August issue. I have been a long-time fan of this foursome and was very pleased with your article. If more people were like them, this world would be an even better place. They truly care about their families, fans and environment. I believe in their causes and admire them for all the charitable work they do. They represent what America is all about. Keep up the good work, Alabama, and thank you, *Country Music*, for a great magazine.

Ron Gibeau
Morrisonville, New York

Sick Over Alabama Feature

How dare you insult Alabama the way you did in your article "Alabama Comes Back Fighting" and in your record review on *Pass It On Down* in your July/August issue. The phrase "...and finally becoming the sort of first rate musicians many of us thought they were capable of being..." infuriates me.

Where have you been for the past ten

years, Mr. Allen? Alabama is the reason I started listening to country music and subscribing to your magazine. Saying their Artist of the Decade award was a "polite send off..." is like saying an actor's receiving the Academy award is passe. I am so angry with your articles, I have made myself sick.

I will not be renewing my subscription.
Kathy Frampton
Mantua, Ohio

Alabama—Anything But a Polite Send-off

In all the time I have subscribed to your magazine, this is the first time I have felt compelled to write a letter to this column. I cannot believe all the snide remarks, insults and innuendos that Bob Allen slipped into his article on Alabama in the July/August issue. Presenting this out-of-this-world, fantastic group with the Artist of the Decade award was anything but a polite send-off and nice way of saying, "You've had a great run, guys...see ya around." I'm sure Alabama took this honor as it was intended: "You're a great group, you've been a great group for a long time, now do it some more!!!!!" If Randy, Teddy, Jeff and Mark read that article, I hope they realize the criticism should be directed to the writer of the article, not to them.

Melanie Amodeo
Lubbock, Texas

Kris Kristofferson Fan Club

In your July/August issue, in the feature centerfold of The Highwaymen, on the Facts of Life page under Fan Clubs, you write: "Some of these boys have fan clubs, some don't. Waylon doesn't. Kristofferson, it's not clear. Cash..."

Kris has had an Official Fan Club since 1977, over 13 years. We have members in the U.S., Canada and over 11 foreign countries. We issue four 12-page newsletters each year containing news, reviews and photos of Kris and the members. We also issue a wallet I.D. card, certificate, 8x10, badge and t-shirts. Dues are \$10/single membership; \$15/family membership and \$15 U.S./overseas.

Ginny Greninger
President

Thanks for this important correction. We'll direct fans to you at 313 Lakeshore Drive, Marietta, GA 30067.—Ed.

THE STARS ARE OUT AT WAL-MART.



Travis Tritt
Country Club
Warner Brothers



Reba McEntire
Rumor Has It
MCA



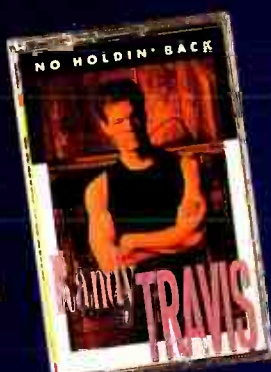
Garth Brooks
Capitol



Clint Black
Killin' Time
RCA



Alan Jackson
Here In The Real World
Arista



Randy Travis
No Holdin' Back
Warner Brothers



Patty Loveless
On Down The Line
MCA



Alabama
Pass It On Down
RCA



Shenandoah
Extra Mile
Columbia



Kentucky Headhunters
Pickin' on Nashville
Mercury



Lorrie Morgan
Leave The Light On
RCA



George Strait
Livin' It Up
MCA

28th

ANNIVERSARY

Take home the Stars of Country Music as Wal-Mart salutes the Country Music Awards. Wal-Mart Music and Videos has the hottest new releases from your favorite country stars on cassette and CD at great low prices everyday. Celebrate the Country Music Awards as we celebrate our 28th Anniversary. At Wal-Mart.

WAL-MART

ALWAYS THE LOW PRICE
ON THE BRANDS YOU TRUST.

Always



**Audio/Video, Car Stereo, Telephones
AT LOW DISCOUNT PRICES!**

You'll find the most helpful shopping information in the 116 page Crutchfield catalog.

FREE Stereo Catalog

Refer to the Crutchfield catalog before buying your next car stereo, home stereo, or video product:

- 116 pages of helpful articles, consumer tips, charts, and installation guides.
- Color photos, complete descriptions and technical specifications on hundreds of the finest brand name products.

You get more value shopping at Crutchfield:

- Toll-free product advice, ordering, and customer service.
- 24 hour shipping.
- Absolute satisfaction guaranteed.
- Full 30-day return privileges.
- Discount prices on Sony, Pioneer, JVC, Jensen, Proton, Advent, Clarion, Kenwood, AR, Infinity, Bose, and many more!

Call or send this coupon now for your FREE Catalog

800-336-5566

Be sure to mention *Country Music Magazine* when calling

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

CRUTCHFIELD

1 Crutchfield Park, Dept. CM-2, Charlottesville, VA 22906

Highwaymen—Old Pros

When I received my copy of the July/August issue of *Country Music Magazine* yesterday, I started at the front and read it all from cover to cover. When I got to the centerfold and saw The Highwaymen, I was so happy. They just don't receive enough recognition. Just because they are old pros doesn't mean that they aren't as good as ever.

I am strictly a "Waylon" fan. I recently attended a concert by him at Lowes Theatre in Branson, Missouri. I had a long time dream come true when I got to go backstage and meet him.

Lotus Roberts
Harrison, Arkansas



Lotus Roberts with Waylon Jennings backstage at Lowes in Branson.

Eye-catching K.T. Oslin

I really enjoyed your interview with K.T. Oslin in the May/June issue. I am not a regular reader of your magazine; however, as I was browsing in a local bookstore, the front cover depicting K.T. Oslin caught my eye.

I was surprised to learn that my favorite performer began her singing career after age 40. It was refreshing to see K.T. receive public attention in the industry. I feel K.T. is an excellent role model. I like the way she expresses herself so openly. She seems to be such a down-to-earth person. I would love to have the opportunity to sit and chat with her personally.

I have aspirations to become a professional photographer and to one day be privileged to create a portfolio or album cover for K.T. Oslin. Best wishes to K.T. for continued success!
Janica Jackson
San Antonio, Texas

Volume's Up for Clint Black

Clint Black has done so much for country music in such a short amount of time. Everytime I put in his *Killin' Time* tape or one of his songs comes on the radio, the volume goes up as loud as the speakers can handle it.

Due to the fact that Clint's a country music entertainer, there's no chance of meeting him on the street, which is a shame, because from what I've seen, his smile alone can melt the heart of any age.

Tina Johnson
Vallejo, California

COUNTRY MUSIC

Editor and Publisher
Russell D. Barnard

Vice President/Managing Editor
Rochelle Friedman

Editors-at-large
**Michael Bane, Patrick Carr
Bob Allen**

Art Director
Kathryn Gray

Associate Editor
Helen Barnard

Contributing Editors
**Peter Guralnick, Leonard Kamsler,
Rich Kienzle, Bob Millard,
Mary Ellen Moore,
John Morthland, Hazel Smith**

Associate Publisher/Advertising Director
Leonard Mendelson

Vice President/Creative Services
Anthony Bunting

Accounting Director
George Mankes

Marketing Development Director
Warren Beardow

Circulation Director
Wanda Augustyn

Merchandising Manager
Robin Tesei

Systems Development Director
Michael Clagett

Assistant to the Publisher
George Fletcher

Administrative Assistants
**Rebecca Graviano, Melissa Lee
Ellen Zucker**

Editorial, Executive and Advertising Offices

329 Riverside Avenue,
Westport, Connecticut 06880.
Telephone (203) 222-5800.

Advertising Offices

West Coast, Leonard Mendelson,
P.O. Box 5489,
Santa Monica, California 90405.
Telephone (213) 207-4948

Ohio/Michigan, Pete Kelly,
Peter Kelly Associates,
725 South Adams Road,
Birmingham, Michigan 48011.
Telephone (313) 642-1228.

New York,
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 2118,
New York, New York 10173.
Telephone (212) 503-0770.

Subscription Department
342 Madison Avenue, Suite 2118,
New York, New York, 10173.
Telephone (212) 503-0770.

One-year subscription, \$13.98. One year plus CMSA membership, \$16.

COUNTRY MUSIC MAGAZINE

assumes no responsibility for the safekeeping or return of unsolicited manuscripts, photographs, artwork or other material. All such submissions should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



The Hank Williams, Jr.



1990 Collection



Lone Wolf T-Shirt
Black
with multicolored print.
Sizes: S-M-L-XL-XXL.
#114 \$13.00



Lone Wolf Caps
Black
with multicolored embroidery.
#212 Black Corduroy \$9.00
#206 Black Poplin \$8.00



Lone Wolf Jacket
Black chinz jacket
with multicolored embroidery
on back. Hank eagle logo
on front left breast.
Sizes: S-M-L-XL-XXL.
#404 \$75.00



Hot To Trot Cap
Red poplin
with multicolored
embroidery.
#215 \$8.00



Lone Wolf Jersey
Black
with multicolored
neon print.
Sizes: S-M-L-XL-XXL.
#115 \$15.00



Giant Photo T-Shirt
A replica of one of Hank's 40th birthday
presents. He loved it and so will you!
White with multicolored print.
Oversized.
#103 \$20.00



Tear In My Beer Sweatshirt
Black
with multicolored print.
Sizes: S-M-L-XL-XXL.
#183 \$20.00

**FREE GIFT
AND
SOUVENIR
CATALOG
WITH EVERY
PURCHASE!**

MAIL TO: Hank Williams, Jr. Fan Club
P.O. Box 1350, Hwy 79 East
Paris, TN 38242

ITEM	HOW MANY	SIZE	PRICE EA.	TOTAL

SUB TOTAL

POSTAGE & HANDLING

TN RESIDENTS ADD 7 1/4% SALES TAX

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CM-Sp 90

PHONE ORDERS
1-800-FOR-HANK
1-800-BOCEPHUS (TN ONLY)
Ask about joining Hank's Fan Club!

POSTAGE & HANDLING RATES

SUB TOTAL OF ORDER	POSTAGE
Up to \$30.00.....	\$3.50
\$30.01 thru \$60.00.....	\$4.00
\$60.01 thru \$100.00.....	\$4.50
Over \$100.00.....	\$5.00
Alaska & Hawaii.....	\$6.00
Foreign (Including Canada).....	\$12.00
Airmail (Foreign).....	\$30.00



Merle Kilgore Executive Vice President
Jerry Richardson Fan Club Director

Thinking of a New Car or Truck?

Beautiful New & Pre-Owned Autos for Everyone
For As Low As \$200.00



380 SL

\$1,200



CHEVY BLAZER

\$750



GMC DUELLY

\$1,000



CUSTOM VAN

\$950

Buy and drive the very best 4 x 4's, Jeeps, GMC, Chevys, Fords, Plymouths, Datsuns and Toyotas. Own and enjoy Jaguars, Mercedes, Corvettes, Excaliburs, Cadillacs, Lincolns, even Rolls Royces.

To own an outrageous car or truck you don't have to lose money on auto depreciation and high cost of upkeep. In fact, you can own and enjoy nice cars, then resell them for large profits.

Buy these new and late model cars, trucks, vans, 4 wheel drives, boats, motor homes and airplanes direct from the U.S. Government. These items have been confiscated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and are sold for as low as \$200. This is a good money making opportunity available in all states.

Own the best. To purchase vehicles in your area, order your sales catalogs by filling in the coupon and return with your check or money order for \$10.00 (shipping and handling included) to:

GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT CORP.
P.O. Box 50289 • Pompano Beach, FL 33074-0289
(305) 563 9136 or 781-6589 • 1-800-448-5604

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$10.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Issues will be sent periodically. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Since 1957

© 1990

Talented Scott McQuaig

Thanks for the article, "New Kids on the Country Block," in your May/June issue, particularly the section on Scott McQuaig.

Scott is a very talented country singer, and his band, The Dreamers, is one of the finest groups around. Together, they make great, truly great, country music. Let us hear more about Scott and The Dreamers soon.

Earline Bloodworth
Jackson, Mississippi

Hope for Scott McQuaig

As I was reading the May/June issue of *Country Music*, I was very excited to come across your article, "New Kids on the Country Block." I was especially happy to see a singer mentioned who has gotten very little recognition, Scott McQuaig. Hopefully, after your great article, many others will be convinced to listen to the great sounds of this up-and-coming star. The break he needs may not be far off since Scott recently changed record labels. He is now with Capitol Records. I don't mean in any way to take away from any of the other entertainers mentioned in the article, but I do have a lot of hope for this one singer in particular.

Christine Woolery
Centralia, Missouri

Shane Barmby Takin' Off Slow

In your May/June issue, in the "New Kids on the Country Block" article on Shane Barmby, you said his album, *Let's Talk About Us*, has been slow to take off. It's slow in this area because it isn't being played on the radio for people to hear. If we would let local radio stations know what singles he has released, they would play them. His cassette has brought a lot of enjoyment and a refreshing sound to our home.

Mrs. William Coon
Mesick, Michigan

A Great Legend...Webb Pierce

I want to thank Rich Kienzle for featuring my all time favorite, Webb Pierce, in the July/August issue, in the Legends of Country Music section of the CMSA Newsletter. How about Carl Smith sometime soon? Like Webb, he has been shunned by the country music industry and radio as well, but not by me!

Ruth Roberson
Cumming, Georgia

A Big Thank You for Cowboy Copas Feature

I would like to thank Rich Kienzle for his great article on Lloyd (Cowboy) Copas in the March/April Newsletter. My father and Lloyd were brothers, and although Lloyd died when I was in my early 20's, I will always remember him as a great



Every Country Record by Phone or Mail

Discover the convenience of shopping from home for any CD, LP or Tape. Bose Express Music is the world's largest music catalog, with over 45,000 Country, Pop, Jazz, Rock & Classical titles. Now you can order any recording in print from a single reliable source.

Send \$6.00 (refundable on your first record order from the catalog) for one year of monthly updates, covering new releases and music specials, plus a FREE copy of our 200-page Annual Catalog with \$50 in merchandise credits. Absolutely no obligation and no unrequested shipments.

Special Country Music Offer

You can order any title reviewed or advertised in this issue of *Country Music* from Bose Express Music, for our usual subscriber low price of only \$13.99/CD or \$7.99 LP/CA, when you subscribe.

Subscription / Mail Order Form

Start the Updates & send Catalog (\$6.00/yr.)
 Send me the attached list of recordings (include artist, title, & format — CD/CA/LP) Please include payment + \$3.65 for Shipping & Handling per order
 Check or Credit Card Visa MC AMEX
_____ EXP _____
Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____

CALL OR MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO:

Bose Express Music, 50 W 17th St., NYC, NY 10011
☎ 1-800-233-6357 9/10

entertainer. My father has been gone since 1981, and there are only two sisters left in their family. So, we appreciate it when we see articles written about Lloyd because it helps us to keep his memory alive.

Kenneth Copas
Hillsboro, Ohio



More Copas family—Cowboy Copas's son, Randy, and his Revue: Frankie "A," Randy and Tony Mayo, standing, with Randy's wife, Dawn, seated. Fan Marty Johnson sent this photo.

That Fresh Cajun Air

I just finished reading the new July/August issue. I was very impressed. It was great.

"Twenty Questions with Jo-El Sonnier," by Michael Bane, was like a breath of fresh country air—Cajun air. Jo-El is an excellent musician and a very special person. If his music is a little different because of his Cajun background, all I can say is "Vive la difference." Hope to see and hear more Sonnier music in the coming year.

Barbara Herrera
Albuquerque, New Mexico

A Cajun Star

Thank you so very much for the "20 Questions With Jo-El Sonnier" in your July/August issue. I enjoy your magazine a lot, and every time it comes in I scan through it to find something on Jo-El. After I find what I want, then I read it from cover to cover; wouldn't want to miss a thing. We are all very proud of our Cajun "star" here in Rayne.

A correction on your article in the July/August People section. Jo-El is *not* from Bogalusa; his home is there, but he hails from Rayne, Louisiana. As a matter of fact, every time he is on TV, he mentions his hometown of Rayne.

Joyce Duplechain
Rayne, Louisiana

Bobby Rice's Manager Calls In

In response to Dot German's letter in the July/August issue, regarding "Whatever Happened to Bobby G. Rice?" Mr. Gene Kennedy, Bobby's manager, called in to our office at *Country Music Magazine*. He tells us Bobby has a brand new single out called "For Crying Out Loud." This single shipped on July 27th. The

compact disc of his new album was scheduled to arrive the middle of August with 10 brand new songs. Any fans requesting information can write to: Door Knob Records, 3950 North Mount Juliet Road, Mount Juliet, TN 37122.

Gene Kennedy
Manager for Bobby G. Rice

Response to The Collins Kids

Bill Cantrell of Houston, Texas, asked for information on Larry and Lorrie Collins of The Collins Kids in the Letters section of your July/August issue. For years they were featured on *Town Hall Party* with Joe and Rose Lee Maphis (Joe left us in 1987), every Saturday night, in Compton, California—one of the largest country shows and dances. The Collinses are not appearing today, but Larry is writing songs, living in one of the valleys out of Los Angeles and splitting his time between there and Nashville.

I have a question. Whatever happened to Ruth Charon and son "Tall" Paul Charon? They used to write for me in the 1960's.

Vic McDaniel
Anaheim, California

Where Are E.T.'s Children?

I am a new subscriber to *Country Music Magazine*. I really enjoy reading it from cover to cover. I would also like to add that I love all the stars and their music. But, I would like to know one thing. Whatever happened to the late, great, Ernest Tubb's children, and what are they doing now?

Dorothy Mathis
Catawba, North Carolina

Of E.T.'s eight children, one died in infancy. Eldest son Justin Tubb's active career in country music keeps him in the pages of this magazine. About the others, we'd love to know. They are Violet, Elaine, Erlene, Olene, Ernest Jr., Larry and Karen.—Ed.

Any News On Floyd Tillman?

I am a CMSA member and have been reading Rich Kienzle's article in the July/August issue and thought that perhaps he can tell me whatever happened to Floyd Tillman? Is he still living? If so, where?

I grew up right across the alley from him and use to play music with him when I was a very young girl of around 12 years of age. He wrote some very beautiful songs. I would also like to know if there is any way I can get a recording of Floyd's.

Lois Davis
Coalgate, Oklahoma

Floyd Tillman entered the Hall of Fame in 1984. CMM interviewed him that year outside of Austin. Try the Country Music Foundation for albums.—Ed.

Lowest Prices Ever On TrailHandler® LT & STR Radials

Call Sears Catalog
today and save
\$22-\$100
on a set
of 4*

35,000

Mile Tread
Wear-out Warranty
on TrailHandler® LT
and STR



*thru 12/31/90

Sears TrailHandler® LT Radial

The epitome of durability, the Sears TrailHandler® LT was designed with an all-season tread design for smooth, quiet highway driving — yet aggressive enough to carry a mud & snow rating.

Low as **\$49.99** ea. when you buy two or more.

Type	Size	Ply	Load	Catalog Number	Wt. Lbs.	Price Ea.	Two or More Price Ea. thru 12/31/90
Aramid-Belted	30X9.50R15	6	C	95 NN 64395	35	92.11	69.08
	31X10.50R15	6	C	95 NN 64396	41	99.88	74.88
Steel-Belted	LT195/75R14	6	C	95 NN 64381	24	69.99	49.99
	LT215/75R15	6	C	95 NN 64385	28	79.33	59.33
	LT235/75R15	6	C	95 NN 64387	31	86.27	64.70

Sears TrailHandler® STR Radial

The durable tire with a smooth ride for the passenger, the TrailHandler® STR is perfect for family vans, light trucks and sports vehicles.

Low as **\$53.45** ea. when you buy two or more.

Type	Size	Catalog Number	Wt. Lbs.	Price Ea.	Two or More Price Ea. thru 12/31/90
Steel-Belted	P195/75R14	95 NN 64181	20	58.99	53.45
	P205/75R15	95 NN 64184	23	63.99	58.40
	P215/75R15	95 NN 64185	25	67.99	62.36
	P225/75R15	95 NN 64186	27	69.99	64.34
	P235/75R15	95 NN 64187	29	74.99	69.29

See the back of this month's poster for a special deal on other TrailHandler® tires.

SEARS CATALOG ORDERLINE

24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

1-800-366-3000

SEARS

Your money's worth and a whole lot more.

© Sears, Roebuck and Co. 1990

WARNING

THIS PRODUCT
MAY CAUSE
MOUTH CANCER

My time. My Skoal.[®]

Anytime you've got Skoal Long Cut[®] is your time. Your time for tobacco you can enjoy without lighting up. Skoal Long Cut moist smokeless tobacco in Wintergreen, Mint, Straight and Classic.



Where's Rachel and Her Banjo?

As I am a fairly new subscriber to your magazine I must say I enjoy it very much. What I would like to know is what has become of Rachel who played the banjo on the Grand Ole Opry with Bashful Brother Oswald several years ago? I see him quite frequently with Roy Acuff, but haven't heard of Rachel for several years.

Bernice Church
Cabool, Missouri

Singer and banjoist Rachel Veach died in 1981. Along with Bashful Brother Oswald, she played in Roy Acuff's band, originally billed as Oswald's sister. -Ed.



Ed Bruce, *Maverick* star, rides again.

Correction on *Maverick*/Gosdin

I would like to correct a mistake in a letter from Tim Jovick in the Letters section in the July/August issue. He stated that Vern Gosdin appeared in *Maverick*—not so. The man who appeared as Tom Guthrie in the *Maverick* show and the man who wrote and sang the title song was Ed Bruce—not Vern Gosdin. I think both of these men are great, but let's give Ed the credit due him.

Cindy Fulton
Antioch, Tennessee

You are right. Apologies to Mr. Bruce, who did indeed co-star with James Garner in the Bret Maverick series. He also wrote and sang the theme song. Anyone catch the re-runs of the show on NBC this summer? -Ed.

Love for Alabama

I am writing to share some wonderful news about my daughter, Heather, who is mentally handicapped and loves country music, in particular, Alabama.

Last month, Heather had the opportunity to meet Alabama at their concert in Toledo, Ohio. This was made possible because of WTOD Radio Station and Alabama Promotions. I would like to thank them via your magazine and share the joy it gave Heather to meet them.

Heather had drawn Randy a picture. He was so nice to her. She gave him a kiss and then told him to give her one—which



Heather Ferrell and her little sister, April, with Randy Owen.

he did. She really enjoyed the concert too. She was on her feet clapping more than she sat down. I would really like to say that country music people are the greatest in the world. They may be famous, but they still have time for their fans.

Julie Ferrell
Rocky Ridge, Ohio

More Coverage for Charley Pride

In all the years I received *Country Music*, you have had a lot of stories and articles on many country stars. However, in all that time, you only had one article, a short one at that, on Charley Pride and never on the cover.

Is there some problem that Charley is never featured in *Country Music*? Other magazines have had cover stories and features on Charley several times, but never this magazine. Please try to have a feature on Charley.

Mary Ann Myers
Amsterdam, New York

Charley Pride has been featured five times in Country Music Magazine, beginning with a cover story in December 1972. Our most recent article ran in September/October 1985. -Ed.



CMM spotted Charley Pride greeting his fans at Fan Fair 1990.

Haggard—His Own Worst Enemy

Seldom do I ever verbalize a "Hooray!" while I read, but that is exactly what I did when I read Hazel Smith's comments about Merle Haggard in "For The Fans" in the People section in your July/August issue. Having followed Haggard since the late 1960's and having a Haggard

album and cassette collection that suggests adulation, my credentials as a fan are impressive. Indeed, nobody sings and writes or plays like the Mighty Hag!

Things began to change only 40 minutes into the first Haggard concert I had ever attended. His music, his band, his song selection—the best. But, it was all for naught; he frowned and virtually ignored 12,000 adoring fans. He managed to make a die-hard disciple like myself feel guilty and downright terrible about being in the same room with him. I felt intrusive and unwelcomed. What a tragedy! I cannot imagine how many fans he lost at that one concert. He is his own worst enemy.

Gary Lavergne
Cedar Park, Texas



T Graham Brown with Pat Kendrick the night of the "happening."

Tacos For T Graham Brown

I had the honor of being at T Graham Brown's first "happening" for his fan club members at Taco Bell in Nashville the week of Fan Fair. There was quite a turnout. You could never meet a nicer person than this man. He is from Georgia, which is my home state, and a true Southern gentleman is he. I would like to see more of this great entertainer in your magazine!

Pat Kendrick
Rossville, Georgia

Showers of Blessings

Four of Ricky Van Shelton's biggest fans went to see him at the South Carolina Peach Festival in Gaffney on July 13th, and, boy, did it rain for three hours. We hadn't had rain for three or four weeks until that night. Mary Chapin Carpenter opened the show for Ricky and was great. However, Ricky was better than ever. Meanwhile, we had waited in our cars awhile, we talked to other fans and waited in the rain until showtime. Ricky was so hot that night that my switch to my headlights burned out, and I drove home from Gaffney to Buffalo, South Carolina, on emergency blinkers. Boy, what a night to remember. I love your *Country Music Magazine*.

Joyce and Heather Plemons, Betty Kirby and Catheryn Smith
Buffalo, South Carolina

Proud of Tony Brown

I appreciate the profile on Tony Brown in the People section in the July/August issue. It was a pleasant surprise to discover that Mr. Brown is the creator of The Master Series. I am a big fan of this series and feel that it certainly should be considered "his proudest achievement." It is wonderful to be able to go into a record store and buy solo albums by some of the industry's best studio musicians. The Master Series name is always a guarantee that the music you hear will be outstanding.

Thank you, Tony Brown, for giving some great musicians a chance to share their talents, and thank you, Hazel Smith, for providing your readers with an interesting look at one of the music industry's biggest assets.

Michelle Aldredge
Snellville, Georgia

An Uplifting Evening with The Judds

As a new country music listener, I recently subscribed to your magazine and enjoy it thoroughly. After reading I letters to the editor from other readers, I feel compelled to share a personal story of mine with other readers of *Country Music Magazine*.

In April of 1989, I purchased tickets to my first country concert, The Judds at

Baltimore's Inner Harbor. I was anxiously awaiting the June concert date, but in mid-May the worst tragedy of my life occurred. I tragically lost my 13-year-old daughter. Needless to say, my world turned upside down. The last thing on my mind was to attend a Judds concert, but with encouragement from my best friend, I reluctantly went.

Well, I cannot express enough thanks to The Judds for an uplifting, encouraging and warm evening. I was in the eighth row when "Momma" Judd sits down on a stool and talks with the audience about a "healing" song she wrote for herself and anyone else who may ever have needed something to hold onto at a time of loss or tragedy. Then she and "Wy" broke into "River of Time." I felt as though it was just The Judds and myself in the whole world, and they were singing to me—they understood my feelings. I want to thank them so much.

I was so touched by the evening that The Judds now share a special part of not only my life, but my daughter's also, for her memorial plaque at the gravesite reads, "Sorrow Is Not Forever, Memory Is—OUR LOVE IS ALIVE."

Thank you again, Judds.
Cindy DeLost
Reisterstown, Maryland

Thank you for sharing this lovely story, and thank you, Judds.—Ed.



Jesse StoneKing devotes "private time" to *Country Music Magazine*.

Never Too Private for Country Music Magazine

Jon and Christy StoneKing of Cameron, West Virginia, may be devoted rock fans, but obviously their two-year-old son, Jesse (my grandson), has signs of becoming a country fan. He must take after his grandparents—devoted country music lovers! Note how Jesse picked a private place to scan your magazine. This picture was so cute I had it enlarged and sent it to his parents, my daughter and son-in-law, as a Christmas gift. It is on display in their bathroom, and they say it makes for great conversation. I'm hoping you will share this picture with your readers, proving that country is for all ages.

Talli Baker
Irrigon, Oregon

NO AGE LIMIT
MEN

NATIONAL HEALTH & FITNESS LOSE WEIGHT

As Much As You Want or Your Money Back
GUARANTEED 100% POSITIVE PROGRAM.

WOMEN
CHILDREN

- 100 % SAFE
- NO Drugs
- NO Pills
- NO Surgery
- NO Hypnosis
- NO Expansion Tablets
- NO Liquid or Powdered Diets
- NO Quick Weight Loss Scams
- NO Special Diet Foods
- Long Term Weight Loss
- Look Great All Year Round
- Increase Energy Level 100%
- Enjoy Healthy Foods from Your Supermarket
- Eat 3-5 Meals Daily
- Eat Home or Eat Out
- Europe Loves Our Program

By following our **easy** Health & Fitness program you can and will **lose un-wanted pounds**. National Health & Fitness will guide you through Low Impact Aerobic Exercises, Healthy Eating Habits and Meal Planning. This program is guaranteed to lower your blood pressure, cholesterol, sodium and body fat, and tone up your body. **Our system** is used internationally by nutritionists, doctors, dietitians, aerobic instructors, body builders, health clubs and TV/movie personalities.

Thousands of our healthy friends have seen results in two to five weeks. With a simple low impact exercise program — only thirty minutes a day, three days a week — **you can lose weight**. When following our health and fitness program you are entitled to a healthier lifestyle in years to come. You can change your body into a slender, more youthful shape with ease, admired by everyone. Most of our health and fitness friends have reported losing **10-15 lbs.** in the first two weeks. You'll feel great about yourself, your social life will improve dramatically as you enjoy the self-confidence of your slender, firm body.

We also have researched **hundreds** of low fat, low cholesterol, low sodium and high fiber recipes and desserts in many different cuisines for your enjoyment. Italian, French, German, Spanish, Oriental, Greek, Mexican, Hungarian, Thai, Continental, Jewish, Polish, Russian, Vegetarian and many more.

Start your way back to good health and a slender body by sending for your **complete health and fitness program** at a one time cost of **\$39.95** (outside U.S. add \$10.00). No C.O.D. Check or M.O. only. Florida Residents add 6% Sales Tax

Enclosed is my Check or Money Order for **\$39.95**
FL Residents add 6%

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

NATIONAL HEALTH & FITNESS, N.A. INC.
P.O. BOX 5520, POMPANO BEACH, FL 33074
(305) 568-0128

© 1990 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed



Personal Note:

Hi, my name is Dimitri. I'm the president of NHF Inc. We have packaged over 25 years of Health & Fitness knowledge just for you. All of us at National Health & Fitness feel that when you start your program all other diets will be obsolete. If you want to know more about our organization or the program, please don't hesitate to call us at 1-800-443-8442 between 9am-6pm M-F or at our branch office 7-10pm M-Th only. Looking forward to talking with you. We do care! For each order received NHF will make a donation to Substance Abuse and the Homeless Organizations.

Sincerely, Dimitri

By the way, if this program didn't work my picture wouldn't be in this ad.



Goosebumps over Doug Stone

While I heartily agree with the reviews of Alan Jackson's *Here in the Real World* and George Strait's *Living It Up*, in Record Reviews in the July/August issue, I have to wonder if John Morthland and I listened to the same album when I read his review of Doug Stone. "The guy doesn't sing with much emotion," huh! I wonder where the goosebumps came from! Considering that the same John Morthland in his review of *Strait Country* said of George Strait, "He is so diffident a singer that I have to wonder how long he'll last," I don't think Doug has much to worry about.

Elaine Stidham
Tecomseh, Oklahoma

You Must Be Tone Deaf!

This is a letter for Bob Allen from all of us fans out here who like some "drawl in our country," in response to his review of Travis Tritt in Record Reviews in the July/August issue.

Allen writes, "Mind you, Tritt's not the world's greatest singer." Well, Bob must be a "strictly traditional" country fan, or he's tone deaf! Travis can sing most of today's artists under the table. He's got life in his music. He can rip your heart out with a love song ("Drift Off to Dream"), make you stand up and cheer for the South ("Son of the New South") or

really rock with "Put Some Drive in Your Country."

We like traditional country just as much as the next person, but after awhile it gets a little stale. Travis Tritt is a breath of fresh air to country music.

Terry and Laurie Collins
Glide, Oregon

Great Taste for George Strait

In the November/December 1989 issue, I said that you should let Hazel Smith review George Strait's albums. Well, as I've read in my July/August 1990 issue, you didn't take my advice, but you did at least get someone with great taste, Bob Allen. I can see that Mr. Allen really knows how to appreciate that fantastic voice George has, along with some great music. I still believe that Hazel should be writing the reviews because, unlike Mr. Allen, she can add a bit about George's wonderfully handsome face, not to mention his very sexy backside. Thanks for the great review.

Denise Jackson
Ft. Smith, Arkansas

Reviewing Wild Rose

As a die-hard fan of Wild Rose, I traveled 875 miles to see their fabulous show. These five ladies sing and play solid, harmonious country music, and they're so heartwarming that they took the time to meet their fans and sign autographs.



Kathy Mac, bass, and Pam Gadd, lead singer of Wild Rose in concert.

However, my biggest thrill was meeting Pam Gadd, the group's lead singer. I hope Wild Rose will receive some recognition, so how about a feature on them?

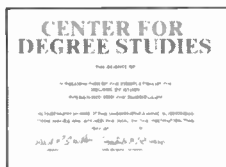
Evidently, John Morthland, who reviewed their album in the July/August issue, doesn't appreciate good country music that comes from the heart. Wild Rose, I'm with you all the way!

Tina Woodruff
Tampa, Florida

Error in Alabama Review?

To say the least, Bob Allen's article and his record review on supergroup Alabama in the July/August issue were superb! He did an excellent job in letting the true Alabama shine through. I hope *Pass It On Down* encourages everyone to recycle and wakes them up on what is

47 ways to help you qualify for the job you want



If you want more security, more day-to-day satisfaction and a better future, send for free facts and the color brochure of your choice. NO OBLIGATION. NO SALESMAN WILL CALL. MAIL COUPON TODAY!

The decision to invest your time, energy and money in preparing for a new career is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. It can offer you the chance to qualify for the job you want...more money, more prestige and a better life.

At ICS we've spent one hundred years training people for exciting, profitable careers. We have become a world leader in training for business, industry, science and technology, enrolling more than 10,000,000 since 1890. In addition, more than 2,000 American corporations have used our training for their own employees—including U.S. Steel, IBM, Avon, Ford and International Paper.

ICS International Correspondence Schools, Dept. M4S90
SINCE 1890 925 Oak Street, Scranton, PA 18515

Please send me free facts, color brochure and full information on how I can train at home for the career I have chosen. No obligation. CHECK ONE BOX ONLY.

<p>ASSOCIATE IN SPECIALIZED BUSINESS DEGREE PROGRAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Business Management <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting <input type="checkbox"/> Business Management with option in Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Business Management with option in Marketing <input type="checkbox"/> Applied Computer Science <p>ASSOCIATE IN SPECIALIZED TECHNOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Engineering Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Engineering Tech. <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Engineering Tech. <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Engineering Tech. <input type="checkbox"/> Electronics Technology 	<p>CAREER DIPLOMA PROGRAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Programming <input type="checkbox"/> Computer TV/VCR Repair <input type="checkbox"/> Programming/COBOL <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Computer Specialist <input type="checkbox"/> Computer-Assisted Bookkeeping <input type="checkbox"/> High School Bookkeeping <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> Medical/Dental Office Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Merchandising <input type="checkbox"/> Auto Mechanics <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/Restaurant Management 	<p>CAREER DIPLOMA PROGRAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Child Day Care <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> TV/VCR Repair <input type="checkbox"/> Surveying & Mapping <input type="checkbox"/> Catering/Gourmet Cooking <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness & Nutrition <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business Management <input type="checkbox"/> Drafting <input type="checkbox"/> Air Conditioning & Refrigeration <input type="checkbox"/> Microcomputer Repair <input type="checkbox"/> Electronics <input type="checkbox"/> Travel Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Police Sciences 	<p>Wildlife/Forestry Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel Mechanics <input type="checkbox"/> Electrician <input type="checkbox"/> Interior Decorating <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle Repair <input type="checkbox"/> Gun Repair <input type="checkbox"/> Photography <input type="checkbox"/> Dressmaking & Design <input type="checkbox"/> Journalism/Short Story Writing <input type="checkbox"/> Starting Your Own Business
--	--	--	---

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

© 1989 A Subsidiary of National Education Corporation

You Learn From Specialists

The ICS Education Service Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania, houses a staff of experienced educators, consultants, administrators and instructors who are specialists in home-study training. Easy-to-check tests are included throughout each course so you can see your own progress. And to ensure that you have a complete understanding of the material, ICS—like many colleges—uses "open-book" exams that let you refer to your texts and apply what you've learned...not just give memorized answers.

Self-Paced Individualized Instruction

Choose either a course leading to a Specialized Associate Degree or one leading to a Career Diploma. Train for an entry-level job or continue your studies and develop supervisory skills. You study at home in spare time...go as fast or slow as you want. You waste no time traveling to and from class. And ICS lessons are easy to understand because they're complete with drawings, diagrams and photographs. Tools, calculators, electronic instruments, drawing materials, books...whatever you need to complete your training is included with your program at no extra cost.

Get Your Degree Without Attending College

Now a Specialized Associate Degree in Business or Technology can be yours...and you never have to set foot on a college campus. You study the same subjects taught at major universities, yet never have to wait in lines or worry that a class is full. And if you have already completed some college classes, seminars, military or other training, we may be able to give you advanced standing.

Or...Earn a Career Diploma That Could Change Your Life.

Statistics show that specialized career training has helped thousands of men and women make more money, get better jobs, even start whole new careers. Compare your present salary with the money you could be making in any one of the careers listed on the coupon. And it's not the money alone that's important! Being around people you like, doing something you really enjoy, feeling successful in your career...all these can make a big difference in your future and in your entire outlook on life!

MAIL COUPON FOR FREE FACTS AND COLOR BROCHURE

GARTH BROOKS

It was a very gold year...



one year...one gold...one to go...

ON COMPACT DISC AND CASSETTE AT YOUR FAVORITE RECORD STORE.



© 1990 Capitol Nashville, a division of Capitol Records, Inc.

People

MOST PLAYED OF THE DECADE

Over dinner at Gotten's, young and eligible bachelor **Tony Gottlieb**, who manages **Dan Seals** and is partners with **Kyle Lehning**, producer of **Randy Travis**, **Seals**, **Baillie & The Boys** and others, shared this story with me. **Lon Helton** of *Radio & Records Magazine* told Tony that Dan Seals' "Bop" was the second-most-played single record in the 80's. He allowed that the number one most played record was "Forever and Ever, Amen" by Randy Travis. So here's my congratulations to Mr. Kyle Lehning, who chose to produce both tunes. Good ears there, Kyle.

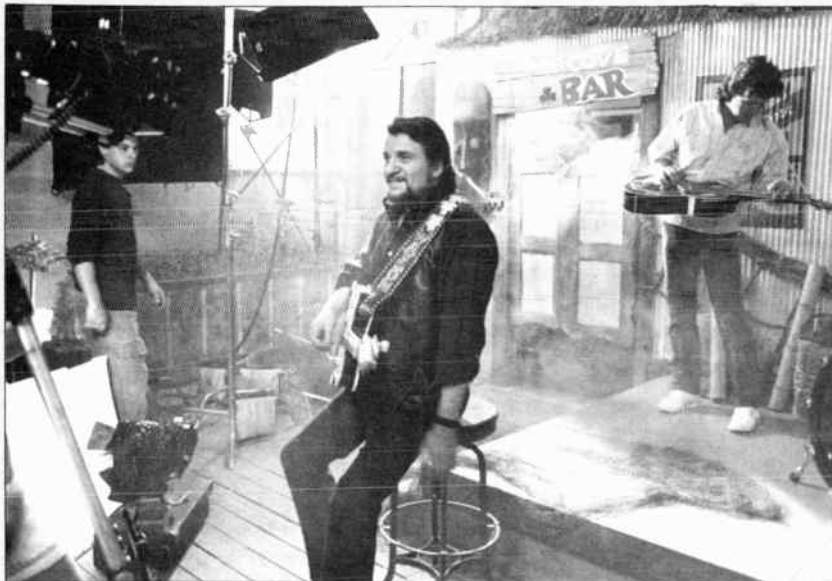
GOD IS STILL ON THE JOB PERFORMING MIRACLES

If you had any doubts lately about who is in charge, doubt no further. A miracle has occurred. **Patrick Carr**, one of a long line of writer-types-crazed-on-whatever-is-handy, with his long hair and hip attitude, you should see him now. Ho Ho Ho. Married and living in a house with a roof and curtains, miracle beyond miracles, Patrick has fathered a son. Congratulations to Patrick and his wife, **Christopher Wright**, whose photographs you have seen in these pages. I am so proud of you, Patrick, and for you. It is good to be reminded that God is still on the job.

MATTEA HOT IN THE BIG APPLE

According to The Academy of Country Music, **Kathy Mattea** is Female Vocalist of the Year, and her song, "Where've You Been," co-written by hubby **Jon Vezner** and **Don Henry**, is reigning Song of the Year. Mattea hopped up to the Big Apple, where she excelled on *The Today Show* and on the mighty WYNY country radio station. Princess Mattea also wowed 'em at The Bottom Line, from what I heard. I remember when Kathy used to sit in a big rocking chair in my office and grumble and complain because she didn't have enough work to make enough money to pay her bills. She now sits in a big rocking chair

WHERE WRONG IS RIGHT



Ole Waylon has a new record label, **Epic**, a new album, *The Eagle*, and a new single and video called "Wrong." Everything went right, though, when he filmed the video, which takes a humorous look at how situations that appear right can turn out "wrong."

and rocks while somebody counts her money and tells her just how wealthy she is. Show biz is wonderful. So is **Don Henry**, who co-wrote the song with **Vezenner** and hasn't gotten as much praise as he deserves. After all, Kathy can only be married to one of the writers.

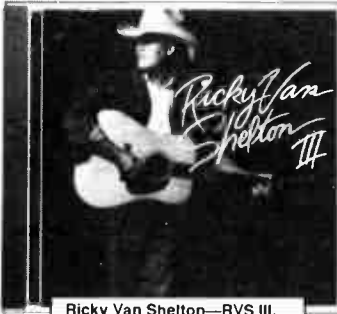
KENTUCKY HEADHUNTERS GOLD IN A HURRY

According to **Harold Shedd**, main man at Polygram, **The Kentucky Headhunters'** debut album, *Pickin' on Nashville*, struck Gold faster than any other first album in the history of the biz. So Polygram threw a party at Prime Cut Steak House (yummy) on historic 2nd Avenue in downtown Nashville. Before the event, **Sandy Neese**, publicist and girl about town, gave me a call allowing as how it would be extra nice, since **Bill Monroe** penned **The Headhunters'** first hit, "Walk Softly

on This Heart of Mine," if the bluegrass legend would make an appearance. Sandy was, of course, assuming that I had some kind of pull with Mr. Monroe. Well, it just so happens that once in a Blue Moon of Kentucky, I do. To make a long, tedious story short, as **The Headhunters** were departing their bus, they were greeted by **Monroe**, who had brought a couple more stars with him, including superstar **Ricky Skaggs** and the legendary bluegrass, **Ralph Stanley**. Talk about humble, those **Headhunters** just about come to their knees when they saw **Bill**, **Ricky** and **Ralph**. Fans, this is why I love country music and Music City. Just being a small part of a great day in the lives of some new and different stars on the country music scene does my heart good. Congratulations to the band as well as to **Shedd**, **Sandy** and **Mr. Paul Luck**s, who heads up the label over at Polygram. I'd take Gold any day of the week.

Reporter: Hazel Smith

Editor: Rochelle Friedman



Ricky Van Shelton—RVS III. I've Cried My Last Tear For You; Statue Of A Fool; plus more. (Columbia) 402-040

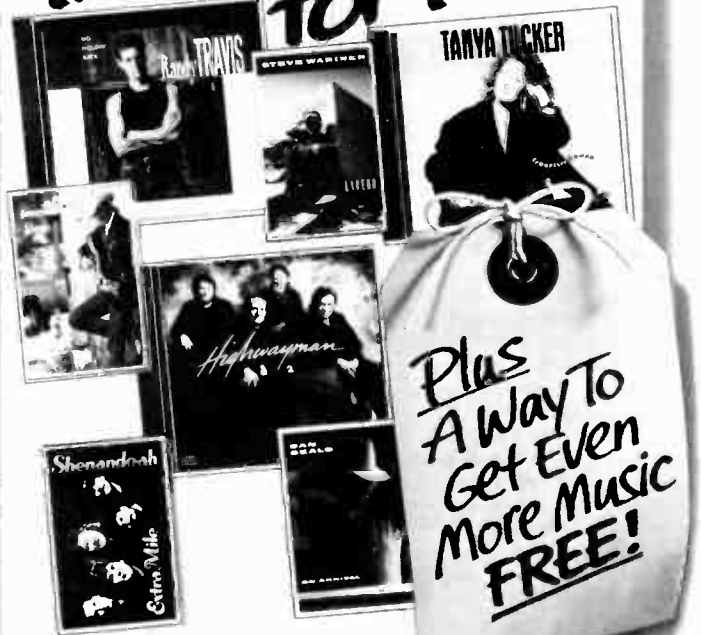


Reba McEntire—Live. Cathy's Clown; Little Girl; So, So, So Long; etc. (MCA) 400-739

THE INCREDIBLE "I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S STILL JUST A PENNY" SALE

WILD ROSE Breaking New Ground (CAPITOL) 409-136	RICKY VAN SHELTON LOVING PROOF (COLUMBIA) 372-979	WAYLON JENNINGS THE EAGLE (EPIC) 408-229
K.D. LANG SHADOWS AND THE OTHER BRACKLEY SESSIONS (SIRE) 370-288	BEST OF THE NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND Twenty Years Of Dirt (WARNER BROS.) 345-744	JIMMY BUFFETT'S GREATEST HITS (WEA) 339-911
LEE GREENWOOD This Is My Country (MCA) 369-553	WAYLON JENNINGS Willi The Wolf Survive (MCA) 343-236	JOHN ANDERSON GREATEST HITS (WARNER BROS.) 330-720
CONWAY TWITTY Still In Your Dreams (WEA) 367-615	THE BEST OF FRANK SINATRA ● (CAPITOL) 404-463	JUICE NEWTON GREATEST HITS (CAPITOL) 328-609
RODNEY CROWELL Diamonds And Dirt (COLUMBIA) 366-211	EDDIE RABBITT ● (WARNER BROS.) 336-750 Eddie Rabbitt #1's	MOTLEY CRUE DR. FEELGOOD (ATLANTA) 387-944
PATSY CLINE 12 Greatest Hits (WEA) 365-924	THE BEST OF TOMMY DORSE ● (MCA) 332-247 392-241	BILLY JOEL STORM FRONT (COLUMBIA) 387-902
THE BEST OF DAN SEALS (WEA) 364-042		JIMMY BUFFETT Off To See The Lizard (WEA) 387-340
GEORGE JONES SUPER HITS (SIRE) 362-699	Madonna—I'm Breathless. Vogue; He's A Man; more. (Sire/Warner Bros.) 407-213	TANYA TUCKER GREATEST HITS (CAPITOL) 386-250
DON MC LEAN Greatest Hits - Then & Now (WEA) 361-337	MILLI VANILLI Girl You Know It's True (WEA) 379-610	LARRY GATLIN PURE 'N SIMPLE (WEA) 385-641
STATLER BROS. ● (COLUMBIA) 360-669 The Big Hits	ANNE MURRAY Greatest Hits Vol. 2 (A&M) 385-385	THE B-52'S COSMIC THING (WEA) 383-877
RANDY TRAVIS Always & Forever (WARNER BROS.) 356-329	HOLLY DUNN Blue Rose Of Texas (WARNER BROS.) 384-222	FORESTER SISTERS GREATEST HITS (WARNER BROS.) 383-869
BEST OF LIBERACE (WEA) 1355-123 395-129	CROSBY, STILLS, NASH AND YOUNG DEJA VU (ATLANTIC) 404-202	THE KENDALLS 20 FAVORITES (WEA) 1383-794 393-793
JOHNNY CASH 1958-1986 (WEA) 1352-765 392-761	BO DIDDLEY Is A Gunslinger (COLUMBIA) 379-677	BELLAMY BROS. Greatest Hits III (WEA) 383-653
D. PARTON, E. HARRIS L. RONSTADT—TRIO (WARNER BROS.) 352-633	SUN STORY Various Artists (WEA) 1374-074 394-072	OAK RIDGE BOYS Greatest Hits 3 (MCA) 383-588
BELLAMY BROS. Greatest Hits, Vol. II (WEA) 349-738	LITTLE FEAT Feats Don't Fall Me Now (WARNER BROS.) 363-523	REBA MCENTIRE Sweet Sixteen (MCA) 383-562
EXILE GREATEST HITS (EPIC) 346-635	LYNYRD SKYNYRD BAND: Street Survivors (WEA) 363-499	MARY CHAPIN CARPENTER State Of The Heart (COLUMBIA) 383-505
	BEST OF THE DOORS (EPIC) 1357-616 397-612	EAGLES (EPIC) 1400-713 390-716
Garth Brooks. The Dance. Not Counting You; more. (Capitol) 381-608	CHUCK BERRY (SIRE) 1341-657 393-652	ROY ORBISON ALL-TIME HITS (COLUMBIA) 377-945
JERRY LEE LEWIS ● (MCA) 1374-181 MILESTONES 394-189	ELTON JOHN'S GREATEST HITS (MCA) 319-541	CARL PERKINS GREATEST HITS (MCA) 374-199
THE WHO Who's Better, Who's Best (MCA) 1376-657 396-655	LED ZEPPELIN Led Zepelin IV (ATLANTIC) 291-435	Very Best Of The Everly Brothers (WARNER BROS.) 372-912
THE DREGS Divided We Stand: The Best Of The Dregs (ARISTA) 386-979	ROLLING STONES (WEA) 1350-652 390-658	JONI MITCHELL Court and Spark (ATLANTA) 367-102
JOE COCKER Mad Dogs And Englishmen (WEA) 1389-783 399-782	DION & BELMONT'S THEIR BEST (COLUMBIA) 369-074	BUDDY HOLLY ● (MCA) 1348-110 398-115
THE BAND (WEA) 1388-181 398-180	BAD ENGLISH (EPIC) 383-463	CREDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL OF GREATEST HITS (COLUMBIA) 1308-049 398-040
MADONNA LIKE A PRAYER (WEA) 379-594		JAMES TAYLOR'S GREATEST HITS (WARNER BROS.) 291-302
GEORGE JONES ONE WOMAN MAN (EPIC) 379-412	WILSON PHILLIPS. Hold On; Release Me; Impulsive; etc. (SBK) 406-793	LINDA RONSTADT'S 286-740 GREATEST HITS (EPIC) 386-740
JOHN CONLEE Fellow Travelers (KATH VENTURE) 382-952	DIAN & BELMONT'S THEIR BEST (COLUMBIA) 369-074	SIMON & GARFUNKEL 219-477 GREATEST HITS (COLUMBIA) 386-740
WILLIE NELSON A Horse Called Music (COLUMBIA) 382-937	BOB DYLAN'S GREATEST HITS (COLUMBIA) 138-586	CHARLEY PRIDE MOODY WOMAN (WEA) 382-945
MERLE HAGGARD 5:01 BLUES (EPIC) 382-549	VERN GOSDIN ALONE (COLUMBIA) 382-564	RICKY SKAGGS Kentucky Thunder (EPIC) 382-531
GLORIA ESTEFAN CUTS BOTH WAYS (ARISTA) 382-341	RICKY SKAGGS Kentucky Thunder (EPIC) 382-531	ROXETTE LOOK SHARP! (WEA) 381-939
NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND ● (WEA) 1382-267 392-266	RICKY SKAGGS Kentucky Thunder (EPIC) 382-531	SUZY BOGGUSS Somewhere Between (CAPITOL) 381-525
TOM PETTY Full Moon Fever (COLUMBIA) 382-184	RICHARD MARX Repeat Offender (WEA) 380-915	DOLLY PARTON WHITE LIMOZEEN (COLUMBIA) 380-725
K.D. LANG AND THE RECLINES Absolute Torch & Twang (SIRE) 381-624	Lyle Lovett & His Large Band (COLUMBIA) 378-935	MICHAEL BOLTON SOUL PROVIDER (MCA) 383-083
NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK Step By Step (COLUMBIA) 405-415	MANTOVANI ORCH. A Night In Vienna (COLUMBIA) 378-737	DON HENLEY: End Of The Innocence (EPIC) 383-802
HANK WILLIAMS, JR. Greatest Hits III (WARNER BROS.) 378-182	SANTANA Spirits Dancing In The Flesh (COLUMBIA) 408-773	BILLY IDOL CHARMED LIFE (COLUMBIA) 386-789
GEORGE STRAIT & HIS ORCHESTRA Beyond The Blue Neon (MCA) 379-198	HANK WILLIAMS, JR. Greatest Hits III (WARNER BROS.) 378-182	ROY ORBISON MYSTERY GIRL (COLUMBIA) 377-101
BONNIE RAITT NICK OF TIME (CAPITOL) 381-087	ROY ORBISON MYSTERY GIRL (COLUMBIA) 377-101	ROSANNE CASH HITS 1979-1989 (COLUMBIA) 376-665
KENNY ROGERS Something Inside So Strong (WEA) 381-749	BONNIE RAITT NICK OF TIME (CAPITOL) 381-087	BILLY JOE ROYAL GREATEST HITS (COLUMBIA) 376-616
SAWYER BROWN The Boys Are Back (CAPITOL/CORNER) 385-419	KENNY ROGERS Something Inside So Strong (WEA) 381-749	SAWYER BROWN The Boys Are Back (CAPITOL/CORNER) 385-419

8 CDs or
12 Cassettes
for 1¢ see details.



Plus
A Way To
Get Even
More Music
FREE!

- Randy Travis—No Holdin' Back. (Warner Bros.) 389-767
- Steve Wariner—Laredo. (MCA) 406-363
- Tanya Tucker—Tennessee Woman. (Capitol) 406-421
- Alan Jackson—Here In The Real World. (Arista) 406-785
- Highwayman 2. (Columbia) 401-976
- Shenandoah—The Extra Mile. (Columbia) 406-298
- Dan Seals—On Arrival. (Capitol) 403-790

MICHAEL BOLTON SOUL PROVIDER (MCA) 383-083	DON HENLEY: End Of The Innocence (EPIC) 383-802	BILLY IDOL CHARMED LIFE (COLUMBIA) 386-789
ROY ORBISON MYSTERY GIRL (COLUMBIA) 377-101	ROSANNE CASH HITS 1979-1989 (COLUMBIA) 376-665	BILLY JOE ROYAL GREATEST HITS (COLUMBIA) 376-616
BONNIE RAITT NICK OF TIME (CAPITOL) 381-087	KENNY ROGERS Something Inside So Strong (WEA) 381-749	SAWYER BROWN The Boys Are Back (CAPITOL/CORNER) 385-419

*Selections with two numbers count as two selections—write each number in a separate box.

Selections marked with a * are not available on Cassette.
Selections marked with a ● are not available on CD.

© 1990 CBS Records Inc.



Allman Brothers Band—Seven Turns. Title cut plus *Coxi Clean Fun*; more. (Epic) 407-692



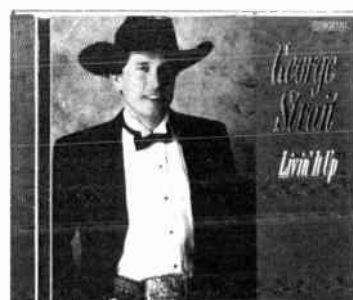
Travis Tritt—Country Club. *Help Me Hold On; I'm Gonna Be Somebody*; etc. (Warner Bros.) 405-068



Doug Stone. *I'd Be Better Off (In A Pine Box); My Hat's Off To Him*; etc. (Epic) 405-100



Patty Loveless—On Down The Line. Title cut plus *I've Got To Stop Loving You; The Night's Too Long*; more. (MCA) 406-306



George Strait—Livin' It Up. *Love Without End, Amen; Someone Had To Teach You, many more*. (MCA) 407-684

BELLYM BROS. REALITY CHECK 407-858 (MCA/CAP)	CONWAY TWITTY 406-314 Greatest Hits Vol. III	PAULA ABDUL 406-264 Shut Up And Dance (VIRGIN)	FORESTER SISTERS COME HOLD ME 406-066 (WARNER BROS)	HEART BRIGADE 405-555	RANDY TRAVIS 370-643 OLD 8 X 10 (REPRISE BROS)
BARRY MANLOW 1403-576 On Broadway (MCA) 393-579	ROBERT PLANT 405-019 MANIC NIRVANA (E.P. WARNER BROS)	SOUL II SOUL 406-702 Vol. II 1990-A New Decade (VIRGIN)	T. GRAHAM BROWN 406-439 Bumper To Bumper (CAPITOL)	CHICAGO* 401-166 Greatest Hits 82 - 89 (REPRISE)	THE O'KAYNES 402-057 IMAGINE THAT (COLUMBIA)
OAK RIDGE BOYS 404-434 American Dreams (MCA)	"PRETTY WOMAN" 405-407 Original Soundtrack (MCA)	BAD COMPANY 406-694 HOLY WATER (A&A)	LINDA RONSTADT 389-874 Cry Like A Rainstorm, Howl Like The Wind (ELECTRA)	ERIC CLAPTON 400-457 JOURNEYMAN (REPRISE)	BASIA: London 401-752 Warsaw New York (EPC)
CARLY SIMON 404-533 MY ROMANCE (ARISTA)	EXILE 404-897 STILL STANDING (ARISTA)	DON MC LEAN 401-224 For The Memories Volumes 1 & 2 (MCA)	BOB DYLAN 389-262 OH MERCY (COLUMBIA)	ROGER WHITTAKER 400-747 Best Loved Ballads (MCA)	BARBRA STREISAND 401-141 A Collection: Greatest Hits And More (COLUMBIA)

American Originals

MEL TILLIS 386-722 (COLUMBIA)	GEORGE MORGAN 386-714 (COLUMBIA)	NEIL YOUNG 388-132 FREEDOM (REPRISE)	AEROSMITH 388-009 PUMP (GEPF)
CLAUDE KING 386-706 (COLUMBIA)	JIMMY DEAN 384-412 (COLUMBIA)	ELTON JOHN 387-993 Sleeping With The Past (MCA)	MELISSA MANCHESTER 318-733 GREATEST HITS (ARISTA)
SONNY JAMES 384-420 (COLUMBIA)	MARTY ROBBINS 386-680 (COLUMBIA)	BARBRA STREISAND'S 321-380 Greatest Hits, Vol. II (COLUMBIA)	PATTY LOVELESS 374-629 Honky Tonk Angel (MCA)
LEFTY FRIZZELL 386-672 (COLUMBIA)	STONEWALL JACKSON 384-479 (COLUMBIA)	CHARLIE DANIELS BAND 321-067 A Decade Of Hits (EPC)	GEORGE STRAIT 361-006 GREATEST HITS VOL. II (MCA)
CHARLIE RICH 384-438 (COLUMBIA)	DAVID HOUSTON 384-461 (COLUMBIA)	KENNY ROGERS 313-700 GREATEST HITS (LIBERTY)	MEL MC DANIEL 373-852 Now You're Talkin' (CAPITOL)
RAY PRICE 384-453 (COLUMBIA)	JOHNNY HORTON 384-446 (COLUMBIA)	WILLIE NELSON 311-001 391-003 GREATEST HITS (COLUMBIA)	T.G. SHEPPARD 370-825 BIGGEST HITS (COLUMBIA)
SPREAD EAGLE 409-086 (CAPITOL)	JOE COCKER 408-799 LIVE! (CAPITOL)	JIM CROCE 246-868 Photographs & Memories (SAB)	JACK JONES 373-746 I AM A SINGER (MCA MUSIC GROUP)
STEVE VAI 408-104 Passion & Warfare (REPRISE)	BING CROSBY 407-437 GREATEST HITS (MCA)	LITTLE FEAT 406-058 Representing The Mambo (WARNER BROS)	THE BEST OF VERN GOSDIN 374-447 (WARNER BROS)
HOLLY DUNN 407-205 Heart Full Of Love (WARNER BROS)	PRETENDERS 407-221 PACKED! (SAB, WARNER BROS)	DAMN YANKEES 405-886 (WARNER BROS)	RODNEY CROWELL 389-247 Keys To The Highway (COLUMBIA)
DIO 407-114 Lock Up The Wolves (REPRISE)		CHARLIE DANIELS 400-523 BAND: SIMPLE MAN (EPC)	HANK WILLIAMS, JR. 403-840 LONE WOLF (COLUMBIA)



Lacy J. Dalton—Lacy J. *Black Coffee: That Road*; etc. (Capitol) 406-082

Christmas Favorites

AMY GRANT 334-615 A Christmas Album (REPRISE)	LARRY GATLIN & GATLIN BROS. BAND 319-137 A Gaitlin Family Christmas (COLUMBIA)
OAK RIDGE BOYS 356-659 Christmas Again (MCA)	BARBARA MANDRELL 336-180 Christmas At Our House (MCA)
TOM PAXTON 380-329 A Child's Christmas (MCA)	REBA McENTIRE 368-647 Merry Christmas To You (MCA)
ANNE MURRAY 380-667 CHRISTMAS (CAPITOL)	TENNESSEE ERNIE FORD: STAR CAROL (CAPITOL)
ROGER WHITTAKER 406-736 World's Most Beautiful Christmas Songs (CAPITOL)	RICKY VAN SHELTON 405-621 SINGS CHRISTMAS (COLUMBIA)
FORESTER SISTERS 405-662 A Christmas Card (WARNER BROS)	RANDY TRAVIS 405-654 An Old Time Christmas (WARNER BROS)

HERE'S HOW TO GET YOUR 8 CDs FOR 1...

- Just mail the coupon with check or money order for \$1.86 (that's 1¢ for your 8 CDs, plus \$1.85 to cover shipping and handling).
- You agree to buy just six more selections in the next three years, at regular Club prices (currently \$12.98 to \$15.98, plus shipping and handling)—and you may cancel membership at any time after doing so.
- Free Music Magazine sent every four weeks (up to 13 times a year), describing the Regular Selection for your listening interest, plus hundreds of alternates. And Special Selection mailings up to six times a year (total of up to 19 buying opportunities).
- Buy only what you want! If you want the Regular or Special Selection, do nothing—it will be sent automatically. If you'd prefer an alternate selection, or none at all, just mail the response card always provided by the date specified.
- You always have 10 days to decide; if not, you may return the Selection at our expense.
- Half-Price Bonus Plan. If you continue your membership after fulfilling your obligation, you'll be eligible for our money-saving bonus plan. It lets you buy one CD at half-price for each CD you buy at regular Club price.
- 10-Day Risk-Free Trial. We'll send details of the Club's operation with your introductory package. If not satisfied, return everything within 10 days for a full refund and no further obligation.
- Extra Bonus Offer: you may take one additional CD right now at the super-low price of only \$6.95—and you are then entitled to take an extra CD as a

bonus FREE! And you'll receive your discounted CD and your bonus CD with your 8 introductory selections—a total of 10 CDs in all!

HERE'S HOW TO GET 12 CASSETTES FOR 1...

- Just write in the numbers of the 12 cassettes you want and mail the coupon, together with check or money order for \$1.86 (that's 1¢ for your 12 cassettes, plus \$1.85 to cover shipping and handling).
- You agree to buy just eight more selections in the next three years, at regular Club prices (currently \$7.98 to \$10.98, plus shipping and handling)—and you may cancel membership at any time after doing so.
- Buy one—get one free Bonus Plan. If you continue membership after fulfilling your obligation, you'll be eligible for our generous bonus plan. It lets you get one cassette free for every one you buy at regular Club price (shipping and handling will be added). Otherwise, the Club operates in the same manner as described at left.
- 2 More Cassettes FREE. Choose your first selection now for only \$3.98 (that's up to 60% off regular Club prices)—and your membership obligation is immediately reduced; you then need buy only 7 more (instead of 8) in three years! AND this discount purchase also entitles you to 2 extra cassettes FREE. By taking advantage of this special offer, you can actually get 15 cassettes for less than the price of one!

Columbia House, 1400 N. Fruitridge PO. Box 1130, Terre Haute, Indiana 47811-1130

I PREFER CDS—enroll me in the Club under the terms outlined. I am enclosing check or money order for \$186 (that's 1¢ for my first 12 selections, plus \$1.85 shipping and handling). I agree to buy 6 CDs, at regular Club prices, in the next three years—and may cancel membership anytime after doing so

Send me these 8 CDs for 1¢

Extra Bonus Offer. Also send me one more CD now, for which I've enclosed an additional \$6.95 ... and I'm entitled to this extra CD FREE!

I PREFER CASSETTES—so enroll me in the Club under the terms outlined in this advertisement. I am enclosing check or money order for \$186 (that's 1¢ for my first 12 selections, plus \$1.85 shipping and handling). I agree to buy 8 selections, at regular Club prices, in the next 3 years—and may cancel membership anytime after doing so

Also send my first selection for up to a 60% discount, for which I am also enclosing additional payment of \$3.98. I then need buy only 7 more (instead of 8), at regular Club prices in the next three years

This discount purchase entitles me to these 2 cassettes FREE.

My main musical interest is (check one):
(But I may always choose from any category)

Country Soft Rock Modern Rock Light Sounds
Hank Williams, Jr., Michael Bolton, Sinead O'Connor, Barry Manilow, Ricky Van Shelton, Fleetwood Mac, Depeche Mode, Carly Simon

Hard Rock Black Music Easy Listening
Robert Plant, Luther Vandross, Ray Conniff, Aerosmith, Bell Biv DeVoe, Johnny Mathis

Heavy Metal Jazz Classical

Mr. Mrs. Miss First Name Initial Last Name

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Do you have a telephone? (01) Yes No 404/F90

Do you have a credit card? (03) Yes No

Do you have a VCR? (04) Yes No

Note: We reserve the right to reject any application or cancel any membership. These offers not available in APO, FPO, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico. Write for details of alternative offer. Canadian residents serviced from Toronto. Applicable sales tax added to all orders.

WMT/8F WMV/RN WMW/WS WMX/EM

COLUMBIA HOUSE: 1400 North Fruitridge Avenue Terre Haute, Indiana 47811

People

PICK UP A HITCHHIKER

The good folks at CBS have some wonderful music out on their *Hitchhiker Exemplar*, a compilation of artists like **Mary Chapin Carpenter**, **Rosanne Cash**, **Rodney Crowell**, **James McMurtry** and **The Indigo Girls** all on one record. The sampling of what's to come on their label has received rave reviews. Cash has new music as does her hubby Crowell. Both artists are on separate tours in Europe but will perform for three shows together. Don't you know it will be second honeymoon time in Ireland after all the singing and applauding.

ALAN JACKSON WRESTLING

An over-amorous fan in Kentucky tackled **Alan Jackson** and tried to wrestle him to the ground while the Arista artist was signing autographs. A mini-riot broke out and had to be broken up by local police. I'll have you to know, it was not me. I have not been to Kentucky. By the way, Alan is hotter'n a firecracker lit on both ends. His album, *Here in the Real World*, is nearing the Gold mark. It should. It's great.

RCA's MOVING PARTY

The irrepressible **Joe Galante** and his team of first string players honored those of us in the media with a party in their new building at One Music Circle North. Joe's able compadre on staff, **Brenna Davenport-Leigh**, was in charge, and the event came off as smooth as a baby's skin. First off, the building is as gorgeous as you'd expect Galante to have it. The well-lighted offices must be a pleasure for the employees. Secondly, the headers-up from Germany and New York came down to look around and meet the stars who are probably paying their salaries. And some of them did show up—folks like **Clint Black**, who rode up in the elevator with me, kissed me and, like a good Texan, called me ma'am. The newly signed **Oak Ridge Boys**, who shined like new money, were accompanied by their very thin, attractive wives, who all wore the highest spiked heels you can buy. **Paul Overstreet** and his very pregnant wife, **Julie**, who was one week away from birthing their fourth child, were there. The child, a girl named **Harmony**, was delivered on time. Their older son is **Nash** for Nashville. Their second child is a girl named **Summer**, and **Chord**, a boy, is

A SURPRISED OAK



Duane Allen thought he was going to appear on TNN's *Crook & Chase* show alone. But to his surprise his fellow Oaks showed up for a salute to his 25th year as a member of the group. The entire show was devoted to Duane, with family and friends and office staff on hand to congratulate him.

their third child. Now there's little **Harmony** to even out the number of two each in four years. Besides making babies, Paul also writes songs and sings on the side. As you readers know, I've known Paul forever. But, back to the wonderful party. I talked with **Diane Petty** of SESAC, Nashville's Mayor **Bill**

Boner, Detective **Mark Garafola**, that handsome RCA VP **Randy Goodman**, the svelte **Erin Morris**, also with RCA, the one and only **Mr. Joe Talbort** and CMA's **Joe Walker-Meador**. I spied **Foster & Lloyd** in the crowd, new artist **Matraca Berg** and BMI's headman, **Roger Sovine**, wearing a tuxedo on his way to the Gospel Music Awards. Really it was a tuxedo kind of party, but don't expect any less from Mr. Galante. He is a first class guy who goes first class. Besides, he and I like each other a bunch.

VH-1 COUNTRY PREMIERES



Randy Travis and **Mary Chapin Carpenter** each host a segment of *This Is VH-1 Country*, VH-1's weekly country music series created for people who "didn't think they liked country music." Other hosts for upcoming episodes include **Carlene Carter**, **Dwight Yoakam** and **Emmylou Harris**.

I WAS PLOWING

"I'm not feeling good a-tall," **Bill Monroe** said to me. "What's the matter now?" I asked. "I got too hot planting my garden," he replied. Now, friends, we are talking about a man who is 77 years old, who invented his own music and does not have to sing, much less work. This piece of Kentucky clay was out on his Goodlettsville, Tennessee, rocky farm plowing behind a team of mules, driving a tractor and planting a garden because he likes to work. The legendary Monroe is presently recording a gospel album, with plans to record an instrumental album followed by another with "good bluegrass songs." I can think of a whole bunch of stars that I'd like to see plowing behind a mule, can't you?



This year, spend a few warm moments with those you care about by sending Leanin' Tree fine art Christmas cards. These 5" x 7" cards feature paintings by our country's finest artists, printed on richly textured paper with carefully chosen greetings. Some greetings are abbreviated in this ad. Have your name imprinted inside your cards or your return address on your envelopes for just \$6.50 per service. You can choose cards of all one design or mix and assort them. And you have your choice of Christmas red, snowy white or icy blue envelopes!

Featuring cards by

LEANIN' TREE

60¢ each

Christmas Cards of America's Western Heritage

For keeping in touch with family and friends!



2610 "We hope your camp is safe and warm, secure away from snow and storm, and that good things will come your way to warm your heart this Christmas Day!" —artist Kirk Randle



2346 "GREETINGS . . . from our outfit to yours" "May there come to you at this holiday time an abundance of the precious things of life: Health, Happiness, and Enduring Friendships" —artist Ron Crooks



2355 "For everything there is an appointed season, and a time for everything under heaven—A time for sharing . . . caring . . . loving . . . remembering." Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 "Wishing you the many blessings of a Joyous Christmas Season" —artist Azalea Ann Wright



1602 CHRISTMAS WISHES COME TRUE "Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year" —artist Hildred Goodwine



2646 "In every home, in every heart, the lights of friendship glow and once again it's time to greet the friends it's nice to know." "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" —artist Richard Barth



3426 "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31 "May the blessings of Christmas be with you today and always" —artist Ted Blaylock



2643 "In every home, in every heart, the lights of friendship glow and once again it's time to greet the friends it's nice to know." "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" —artist Ted Blaylock



3316 "Two things upon this changing earth can neither change nor end: The splendor of Christ's humble birth, the love of friend for friend." (with Luke 2:7 inside) "May the love and splendor of Christmas be with you throughout the coming year" —artist Ted Blaylock



2363 THREE KINGS "May the meaning of the Season be deeper, its friendships stronger and its hopes brighter as Christmas comes to you this year" —artist Chris Cummings



1481 "In every home, in every heart the lights of friendship glow..." "And once again it's time to greet the friends it's nice to know Merry Christmas!" —artist Clayton Nicles



1304 LEGENDARY IRISH GREETING "May the trail rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back... and until we meet again... may God hold you in the hollow of His hand." "Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year" —artist Gordon Snidow



2480 "Lord, give us eyes that look for Your everlasting light, and grant us hearts that are willing to give as well as to receive Your love. May your Christmas be filled with His Love." —artist Ted Blaylock



2590 "Christmas a-comin'. Purr near broke, but while we're a-puttin' the beans to soak, we send this card instead of a letter and hope you're doin' as good—or better!" "Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year" —artist C R Cheek



2253 "For everything there is an appointed season, and a time for everything under heaven—a time for sharing, a time for caring; a time for loving, and a time for remembering." Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 "Wishing you the many blessings of a Joyous Christmas Season" —artist J.W. Claffin



1994 "To those we love and see each day and other loved ones far away, to all good friends whose friendship means so much, and those with whom we're somehow out of touch..." "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the two of us!" —artist Ron Stewart



A7214 "For all the world, one prayer That all men live as brothers and Peace reign everywhere Wishing you all the Peace and Love of the Holiday Season" —artist Robert Redbird



2502 "'Tis the Season to be jolly!" "Hope your Holidays are filled with good cheer that carries on throughout the New Year!" —artist Hildred Goodwine



2337 "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given;... and His name shall be called Wonderful, ... The Prince of Peace. ... and of peace there shall be no end." Isaiah 9:6-7 "Wishing you all the peace and love of this Holy Season" —artist Jim Fetheroll



2392 "To those we love and see each day and other loved ones far away, to all good friends whose friendship means so much and those with whom we're somehow out of touch. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" —artist Lee K Parkinson



2672 "When the tips of the pines touch the twinkling stars on the cold, crisp nights of December, may your blessings be more than you've ever hoped for, and your Christmas a warmth to remember." "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" —artist Ted Blaylock



5131 "May Christmas bring Friends to your Fireside, Peace to your Pathway, And Good Health throughout the New Year" —artist Keith Fay



3252 "Never a Christmas morning, never an old year ends, but someone thinks of someone, old days, old times, old friends." "Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year" —artist George Wise



2655 BORN TO RUN FREE "Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and Happiness throughout the New Year" —artist Muriel Delaplante



2534 "The very finest Christmas gifts are not found below the tree...love and peace...good will..." "May God's peace touch your heart... and warm your Christmas celebration!" —artist Robert Wagoner



2507 "May the Great Spirit bless you, your lodge, and those you love with peace and lasting happiness. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" —artist Ted Blaylock



2683 "When the tips of the pines touch the heavenly skies... may your blessings be more than you've ever hoped for, and your Christmas a warmth to remember." "May the blessings of Christmas be with you today and always." —artist Lee K. Parkinson



2661 "We packed up and moved." "Our address may be a new one, but our wish is a tried 'n' true one... Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" —artist Ted Blaylock



2681 "Britches patched. Vittles skeerce. Wolf at the door a-growlin' fierce. Ol' cow gone dry. Both horses lame, but Merry Christmas just the same!" —artist Ted Blaylock



2629 "Faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13 "May you have the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the Gladness of Christmas which is Hope, the Heart of Christmas which is Love" —artist Ron Stewart



3453 "May the warmth and love of the Christmas Season be with you through the Coming Year" —artist Ted Blaylock



2688 "The very finest Christmas gifts are not found below the tree..." (12-line poem inside) "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" —artist Frank M. Hamilton



2678 "May the warm winds of heaven blow softly... may the Great Spirit bless all..." Indian Blessing "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" —artist Robert Wagoner



3449 "TAKE TIME TO SEE" (24-line poem inside) "May Peace be your Gift at Christmas and your Treasure through all the Year" —artist Bernard P. Thomas



Send \$1.00 for our full-color catalog, featuring Christmas Cards, mugs, prints and more! You'll also receive a sample card with envelope and a coupon worth \$2.00 off your next order.

Just fill in "Ship to:" section and enclose \$1.00.

Your Satisfaction Guaranteed 100% or Your Money Back—No Questions, No Hassles!

LEANIN' TREE distinctive cards by mail for over 40 years... now from Trumble Greetings

- Card price 60¢ each Minimum order 20 cards (see below for price calculations) 20-\$12.00 25-\$15.00 50-\$30.00 75-\$45.00 100-\$60.00 125-\$75.00
- Choose one envelope color: Red White Blue (If no choice, white will be sent.)
- Imprinting (optional): Name imprinted in cards, add \$6.50; Address imprinted on envelopes, add \$6.50.

Name(s) to be imprinted in Christmas cards _____

Address imprint (Rt., St., Box No.) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ship to: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check enclosed payable to Trumble Greetings Inc. No C.O.D.'s. Charge my order to:

VISA MasterCard American Express

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____ Month / Year _____

Mix and Assort: Order all one card number or mix and assort numbers in any combination you choose to total 20 cards or more.

Indicate qty. to right of card number(s)			
1304	2392	2646	3316
1481	2480	2655	3426
1602	2502	2661	3449
1994	2507	2672	3453
2253	2534	2678	5131
2337	2590	2681	A7214
2346	2610	2683	
2355	2629	2688	
2363	2643	3252	

Quantity of cards		
Cost of cards	60¢ ea.	\$
Name printed in cards	\$6.50	\$
Address printed on envelopes	\$6.50	\$
Calif. res. add 6% use tax.		\$
Colo. res. add 3% sales tax.		\$
Shipping and handling		\$ 3.60
Total	\$	

Call Toll Free 1-800-525-0656 In Colorado, 1-303-530-7768 **OR** Send order to Trumble Greetings Inc. P.O. Box 9800-R-SK61 • Boulder, CO 80301

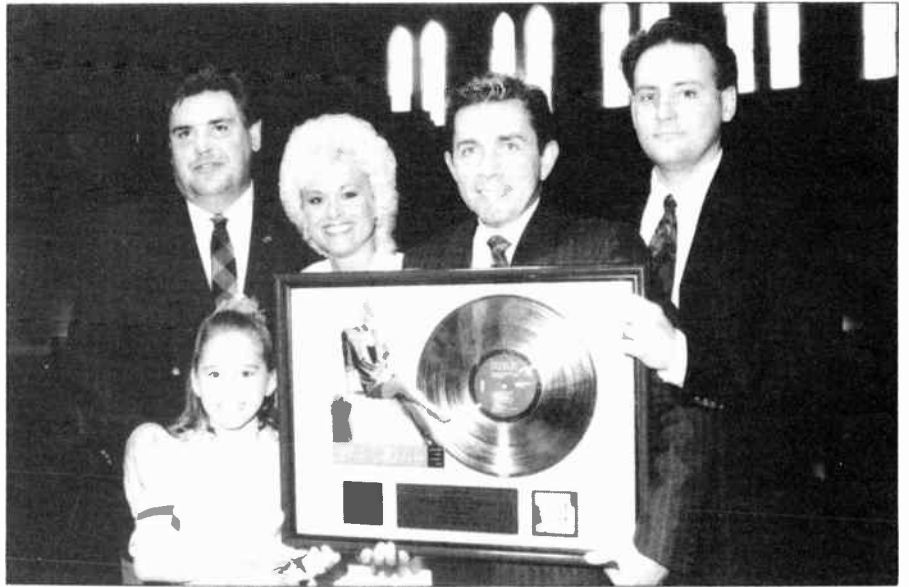
People

WAYLON'S 900 NUMBER GETS THE SCOOP

Well, now I can talk to **Waylon Jennings** anytime I want to. Yes, my favorite cowboy has got himself a 900 number for calling. You can get info, concert dates and family updates and even talk to the lovely **Jessi Colter**, who just as soon answers to Mrs. Jennings, thank you. And the money you spend (something like \$2.00 per minute), all goes to charity. I am so impressed with this, and I know you are, too. So let's call 1-900-246-8700 for the Waylon scoop.

LORRIE'S GOLD

It doesn't seem that long ago that I was backstage at the Opry and spied **Barry Beckett**, the great keyboardist/producer, formerly from Muscle Shoals. Nosy as I am, I found out from Barry that he was watching **Lorrie Morgan**. All I said was, "Lorrie's got a good set of pipes on her. Great range. Produce her like **Patsy**, and you got a hit act." Barry said, "You mean, like a Patsy of the late 80's?" I nodded my head. The rest is history. Lorrie Morgan's RCA album, *Leave the Light On*, has been certified Gold. A year ago there wasn't much gold, silver or cash in Lorrie's house. All she had were some sweet memories of her late husband, **Keith Whitley**, a



At the reception at the Ryman, Lorrie is surrounded by her daughter, **Morgan Whitley**, and **Jack Weston**, **Joe Galante** and **Randy Goodman** of RCA Records.

floundering career and her two children, **Morgan** and **Jesse Keith**. Twelve short months later, Lorrie is happening. She's working a lot, she's appeared on *The Tonight Show*, her career is on the upswing and her album has sold over 500,000 copies. Praise be!

Where do you have a party for the late Opry star **George Morgan's** daughter and the late **Keith Whitley's** wife? On

stage at the Ryman Auditorium, that's where. And we did. On purpose, Opry manager **Hal Durham** asked that the air conditioning be cut off so we partyers could see how hot it used to be backstage for the stars. But the heat didn't hamper the do. Along with Durham and Opry publicist **Jerry Strobel**, Opry stars **Vic Willis**, **Jeannie Seely** and **Teddy Wilburn** turned out, as did RCA's handsome headman, Mr. **Joe Galante**, who hosted the event with his capable staff. Folks like that good looking **Randy Goodman**, **Brenna Davenport-Leigh**—who did an excellent job with the party, **Jack Weston** and **Erin Morris** were also along. I hope everybody got the same rush I did walking on that stage. So many memories flashed by as I stood and stared. The late **Stringbean**, the late **Tex Ritter**, the late **Stoney Cooper**, the late **Del Wood** and the late **Ernest Tubb**: I'd stood in the wings and watched all of these stars perform. With a lump in my throat as big as an egg, I sidled over and asked for a Perrier, hugged that darling **Randy Goodman** and wished I were plenty years younger—knowing full well if I were, he could not outrun my anatomy. And the program started. Lorrie introduced her mama, **Anna Trainor**. Just so you know Lorrie is in good hands, her three sisters and one brother were also in attendance. You can't beat family togetherness. We sure got it in country music. Congratulations, Lorrie. It's good you got something to smile about this year. And thanks, **Barry Beckett**, for the music.

SKAGGS AND THE SWEETHEARTS



Ricky Skaggs got together with **The Sweethearts of the Rodeo** to play a club date in New York recently. In the dressing room at the Ritz, the labelmates posed for the press and talked about their upcoming show.

CALL 1-800-992-4487

To RECEIVE YOUR ORDER WITHIN 7 DAYS

WHAT!!! \$2.98!!

LOWEST PRICES - BEST SERVICE

Catalog Music Company
Nashville, Tennessee

CASSETTES ONLY FROM \$2.98 SALE ENDS NOV. 15

 GEORGE JONES 16 GREATEST HITS 3021-GUSTO \$2.98	 ROXCAR WILLIE BOXCAR BLUES 1401 MAD \$6.98	 JACK GREENE GREATEST HITS 0096-GUSTO \$2.98	 PATSY CLINE FADED LOVE 20468-MCA \$3.98	 ERNEST TUBBS HISTORIC ED. VOL 1 20505-MCA \$5.98	 BILL MONROE AT HIS BEST 409-HT \$4.98
 THE BEST OF HANK THOMPSON 0060-GUSTO \$3.98	 KITTY WELLS JESUS IS COMING SOON 20599-MCA \$5.98	 BOB WILLIS 21 GOLDEN HITS 411-IIT \$6.98	 EDDY ARNOLD "PLOUGHBOY" EDDY'S SONGS 798-RCA \$5.98	 ERNEST TUBBS & RED FOLEY TOGETHER 20514-MCA \$5.98	 16 GREATEST TRUCK DRIVIN' HITS 3024-GUSTO \$2.98
 LOUVIN BROTHERS' GREATEST HITS 57222-CAP \$5.98	 JOHNNY CASH COUNTRY GOLD 6246-GUSTO \$3.98	 GEORGE JONES & MELBA MONTGOMERY PARTY PICKIN' 1034-GUSTO \$3.98	 GEORGE MORGAN MISTY BLUE 21-GUSTO \$2.98	 STANLEY BROTHERS 20 GREAT SONGS 5026-GUSTO \$4.98	 MERLE HAGGARD SING ME BACK HOME 4028-CAP \$5.98
 COWBOY COPAS ALABAM' 736-STARDAY \$3.98	 WONDERFUL WILBURN BROTHERS 746-KING \$8.98	 HANK SNOW THE SINGING RANGER 514-CAK \$5.98	 TEX RITTER GOD BLESS AMERICA 5722-CAP \$6.98	 MOON MULLICAN I'LL SAIL MY SHIP ALONE 2080-GUSTO \$3.98	 MEL STREET 20 GREAT HITS 7824-DLX \$6.98
 T. TEXAS TYLER REMEMBER ME 2105-KING \$3.98	 BEST OF SHEB WOOLEY BEN COLDER 7827-DLX \$6.98	 WEBB PIERCE THE ONE & ONLY 648-KING \$8.98	 BILL ANDERSON GREATEST HITS 13-MCA \$5.98	 DONNA FARGO HAPPIEST GIRL IN U.S.A. 20250-MCA \$5.98	 JIMMIE SKINNER 22 GREAT HITS 7814-DLX \$6.98
 SONNY JAMES GREATEST HITS 9386-CAP \$6.98	 STANLEY BROTHERS OLD COUNTRY CHURCH 0084-GUSTO \$4.98	 RED SOVINE CRYIN' IN THE CHAPEL 413-HT \$5.98	 RED FOLEY BLUES IN MY HEART 20266-MCA \$5.98	 RED SOVINE SING3 HANK WILLIAMS 7798-DLX \$5.98	 FARON YOUNG GREATEST HITS 9406-CAP \$5.98
 MARTY ROBBINS ISLE OF GOLDEN DREAMS 18880-COL \$5.98	 JEANNE PRUITT SATIN SHEETS 20179-MCA \$5.98	 BOXCAR WILLIE HOW GREAT THOU ART 1408-MAU \$6.98	 CHUCK WAGON GANG HISTORIC EDITION 40152-COL \$7.98	 LULU BELLE & SCOTTY SWEETHEARTS STILL 260-HT \$4.98	 FLATT & SCRUGGS 20 GREATEST HITS 7787-DLX \$6.98
 ERNEST TUBBS SLIPPIN' AROUND 20281-MCA \$5.98	 PORTER WAGONER HEART SONGS 419-HT \$6.98	 MARTHA CARSON GREATEST GOSPEL HITS 231-HT \$6.98	 MAC WISEMAN 20 GREATEST HITS 7790-DLX \$5.98		
 HANK WILLIAMS, SR. 40 GREATEST HITS 2 CASSETTES! \$12.98	 THE BEST OF ROY ACUFF 9371-CAP \$5.98	 LORETTA LYNN GREATEST HITS 935-MCA \$5.98			

VISA/MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

CATALOG MUSIC CO
1719 West End Ave. Suite 119
P.O. BOX 23041, NASHVILLE, TN 37202

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Qty	Title	Artist	Selection #	Price

Check or Money Order _____
 VISA MasterCard Exp. Date _____
 TN Residents only 7.34% Tax
 SHIPPING 2.00
 TOTAL ENCLOSED
 (Foreign Orders add \$5 shipping)

CALL 1-800-992-4487 For A FREE CATALOG OR TO ORDER

People

AS USUAL, PEOPLE MAGAZINE IS BEHIND ME

Can you believe it, *People Magazine* just woke up and named my **George Strait** as one of the 50 Beautiful People in this year's poll. Friends, how long have we known this fact? They are so far behind it ain't even funny. By the way, I personally thought it was extremely nice of George to wear his Entertainer of the Year belt buckle in the photo they used in *People*. The boy does like that title. To set the record straight...it was not me that gave \$6,500 for a Resistol hat worn by Strait at an auction fund-raiser. George gave me a hat to set on my bed post like the good Lord meant it to be. So there. George's new music on MCA is titled *Livin' It Up*. He really wanted to call it *Livin' It Up at Hazel's House*. MCA shortened the title. I just know that's what happened.

GARTH, NOW THAT'S A DIFFERENT NAME

Capitol Records' **Garth Brooks** has a name you don't hear everyday, and that's good, for the fans will remember Garth. They will remember his music, too. Garth was in the Big Apple for *The Night of 100 Stars*, an NBC/TV Special. He's busied himself playing fairs, TVing and being nominated for various awards. Most of all, he's been singing his buns off—plus remembers my name every time he sees me. This very bright young man, as talented as he is, is also smart and always kisses me hello when we meet. So there.

DOLLYWOOD GOES TO JAPAN



Miss Dolly is in negotiations with a Japanese company for the development of a Dollywood Theme Park in Japan. The concept calls for Dollywood to be one of seven major theme parks connected by common transportation. When completed, the theme parks and recreational facilities will constitute one of the largest vacation destinations in the world.

HANK AIN'T SECOND TO NOBODY

Hank Williams Jr. has nobody to pull rank on 'cause he outdid everybody at the mighty Starwood Amphitheater right here in the City of Music. He became the first country artist in the five-year history of the theater to sell out in advance of his concert—three

whole days before, as a matter of fact. I was one of the fortunate people at that show. We were 18,000 strong, and Hank knew he'd done it his way. The good folks at Polygram got me a front-center seat since **The Kentucky Headhunters**, one of their acts, were opening the show. I appreciate that, **Sandy Neese**, just a whole lot. The crowd loved **The Headhunters** and **Sawyer Brown**, who were also on the bill. The beer-drinking, snuff-toting, shirtless wonders among us were clearly fans of Hank Jr. Over half of us who were wearing shirts bore the name of **Bocephus** in some form of fashion. Yep, Hank broke the attendance record at Starwood while good guy manager, **Merle Kilgore**, stood in the wings in his gold silk suit and smiled like a manager whose act had come home and brought the fans with him.

THE BOWEN NEW YEAR

Only **Jimmy Bowen** would throw a New Year's party following his mid-year arrival at a company. And throw a party he did at the back door of Capitol Records at 1111 16th Avenue. I can still taste the sliced, rare roast beef, the excellent tarts and the other goodies for the asking. Virtually everybody showed up. Lots of people from other labels. I



Hank and The Kentucky Headhunters celebrate their sellout performances.

had to laugh and tell my longtime friend. "Bowen, all these folks from other record labels showed up just in case you happen to head up their respective label next." Me and Bowen thought that was hilarious. So did his assistant, James Stroud, with whom I shared the story. Also I spoke with Grand Ole Opry star Ray Pillow, who is Bowen's A&R man. Stars were a-plenty. I got kissed by Garth Brooks, Danny Seals and his handsome manager, Tony Gottlieb, and Eddy Raven. That was the second time around from old Garth recently. I spied Crystal Gayle and all her hair, her old producer who is also her current producer, Allen Reynolds, Suzy Bogguss and newcomers Wayland Patton and Pirates of the Mississippi. Every publisher in town showed up with a smile on his or her face and a tape in his or her hand for the man of the hour, Mr. Bowen. I just took my beautiful self and hung out with the best of the best as usual.



Charlie Daniels was one American proud to get a chip of the Berlin Wall.

WEST GERMANY SCREAMS FOR MORE CHARLIE

The great Charlie Daniels performed 11 dates in West Germany recently as part of a two-week tour that included Army and Air Force bases. The band had sell-out performances in Mainz, Grafenwohr, Stuttgart, Bamberg, Giessen, Hanau, Zweibrücken and Hahn. Parts of these concerts and other moments on the tour will be included in his video/documentary, *Home, Folks & Highways*. All I can say is those folks in Germany have real good taste in music. I hope they enjoy Charlie's album, *Simple Man*, as much as I do.

CMM UPDATE: Jeannie C. Riley

Twenty-two years after her version of Tom T. Hall's "Harper Valley P.T.A." topped both the country and pop charts, Jeannie C. Riley is back in her Brentwood, Tennessee, home after a stint on the road. "We've been gone nearly a month in the West to North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Colorado," she says. "We just got back from Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan—big country music territory."

Today Jeannie's tours mix work and recreation. One big reason is Jeannie's two-and-a-half-year-old grandson, Jeremy. "He comes out on stage at random times, picks up his full-sized guitar, crawls up on a chair and plays his rhythm," she laughs. "My husband Mickey drives the bus. He wants Jeremy to see things. I'm gettin' to be a kid again on the road. We've had a good time visiting zoos and amusement parks as we stop along the way. With Jeremy along I'm assured of gettin' to do these things."

Jeannie's touring group is a family affair. Jeannie and Mickey's daughter—and Jeremy's mom—Kim Riley Coyle is Jeannie's backup singer and opening act. Kim's husband, John, handles sound, and Jeannie considers her band, The PTA, family as well. The PTA was so-named, she says, "for obvious reasons and because I think they're a 'pretty tough association.'" Alumni of her band include studio harmonica player Terry McMillan and keyboardist Jay Spell.

Though Jeannie hasn't done any major-label recording in a long time, she recently cut a tape that she and longtime associate, songwriter Margaret Lewis, would like to market. On the tape is "a song called 'Catch a Still Morning' and one as fitting for today as 'Harper Valley' was in 1968. It's called 'Why Don't Anybody Stay Home No More?'—written by Margaret. Something could happen with it if somebody could hear it," Jeannie says. "I think it's the best singin' I've ever done."

The changes in Nashville over the past two decades amaze Jeannie.



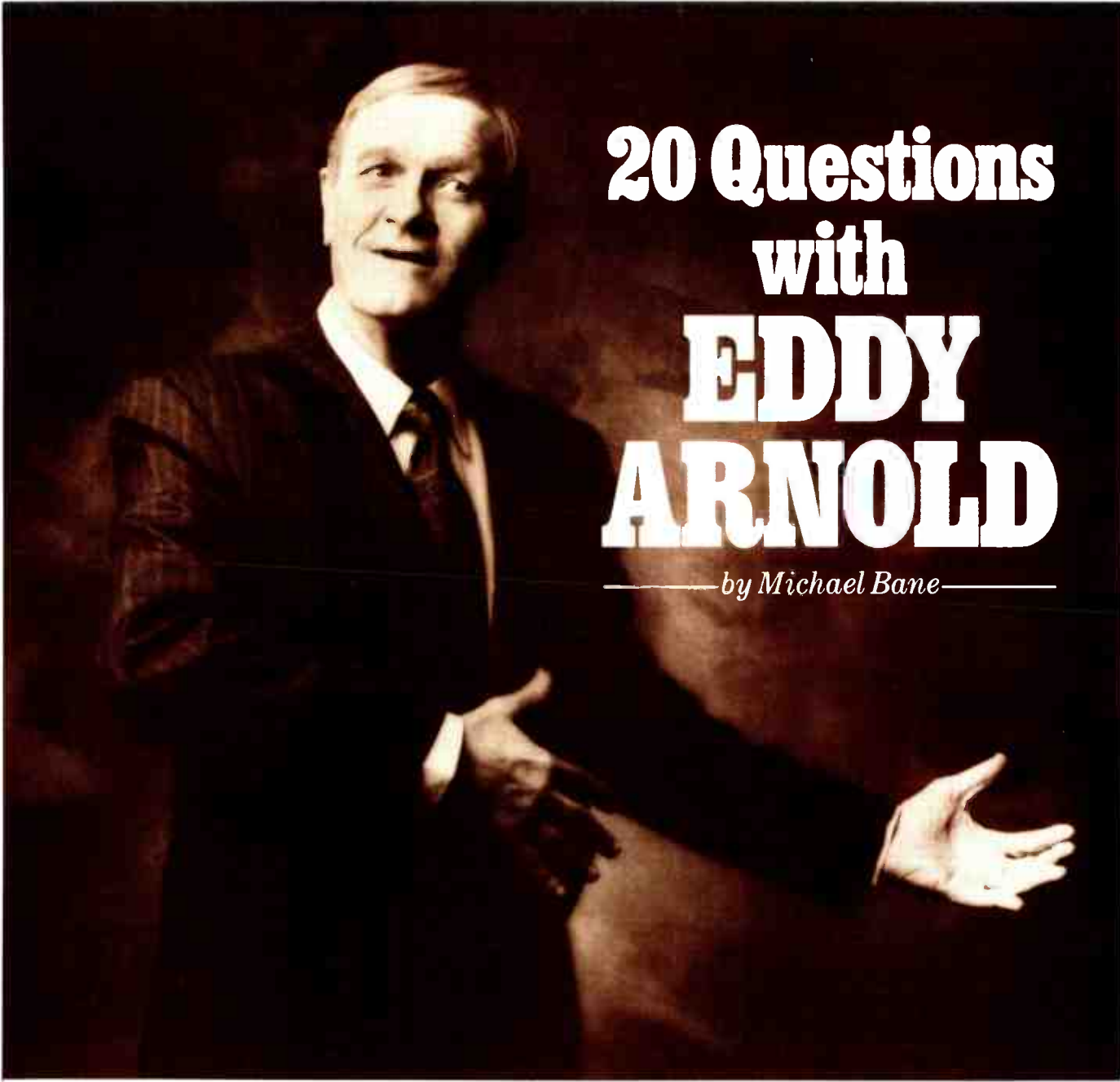
"The business has changed so much. It's not the personal business it used to be. You can't get past a secretary even when they know who you are. I'm blessed I got a break in the industry back when it seemed more possible to get in," she says. "These days you have to be so aggressive. The talent's so great and competition so stiff. If I was gettin' started now, knowin' what I know, I'd probably go back to Texas and sell Mary Kay Cosmetics or something. I'm blessed I had my name built with a hit so big that people still remember the name."

Jeannie still talks with pride about the "Harper Valley" session itself. She hadn't wanted to do the session and credits the snarl in her voice to anger. She's also quick to credit others who helped create the single, not only producer Shelby Singleton but also guitarist Jerry Kennedy, who played the stinging dobro on the date. She recalls standing "with goosebumps" as she heard the first playback.

"When I was growin' up in Anson, Texas, I didn't know if I'd ever get out of the state," she reflects. "I think about the opportunities country music has given me, my child and my child's child, and I can't complain. It's been good."

"I still would like to have another go-round on record, though."

—RICH KIENZLE



20 Questions with EDDY ARNOLD

—by Michael Bane—

He sits in his cluttered offices in fashionable Brentwood, slightly more than a stone's throw from the heart of Nashville's Music Row. As he has for decades, Eddy Arnold is listening to tapes. "Listen to this one," he says. "Isn't this guy great?" The pained sounds of a songwriter's demo tape fills the offices, and Eddy Arnold sings along, his honey-smooth voice taking the edges off the songwriter's words. After a 50-year career that has spanned much of the history of contemporary country music, Eddy Arnold is

once again in the harness or, at least, almost. Major heart surgery has slowed the Tennessee Plowboy down long enough to answer 20 questions with a new appreciation of life.

1

It's been just over three months since your surgery. How do you feel?

I'm doing very well. I'm being a very good patient. I didn't have a heart attack, I just went for a physical, and they worked up to it and found 60 to 70 percent block-

age in the main artery. So I'm taking the whole summer off to get well.

2

Is it hard for you to think of spending the summer not on the road, not working?

Actually, I'm enjoying the break. I was working on a new album before I got detoured in the hospital. And I had some engagements booked that I had to cancel. Now I'm enjoying the warm weather, and I'm just beginning to be able to go boating again.

3

Is there anything musically that you've never done that you'd like to do?

I really can't think of anything. I've done about everything. Well, I would like to have another hit. Maybe I'll have a hit on the new album. But even if I don't, I can't cry. I've had lots of hits.

4

You certainly have. You helped shape the country music industry.

I guess I've had a little

effect. I hope so. A good many people have been instrumental and effective in this business. Of course, it's different now.

5

How's that?

From a merchandising standpoint, I liked the old way of having wholesale distributors. Record shops were mu and pa shops, and now they don't operate that way.

6

Do you think that makes it harder for a new person to come into music now, what with the absence of small shops?

Yes, it does. There seems to always be a stumbling block.

When I started, there were not many record companies. So it was hard for a person to get on a record label because there were not that many companies—so that was the stumbling block then.

7

What does it take for a new person to break into the music business?

You've gotta have an unusual talent. It takes a really strong, powerful talent to get in the business, and after you get there, it's harder to stay than it was to get there.

8

Do you think so?

Absolutely. Because every five to seven years, tastes change, you know, so you have a whole new set of aspiring artists.

9

Do you ever find yourself watching for the next trend to come around?

Oh, sure...it's kinda like women's hats. They'll always come back in style. It's just love songs all over again. A different twist on how to say "I love you."

10

When you listen to tapes—and you're obviously listening to a lot judging from the



Eddy Arnold in the late 1950's.

number of tapes here—what are you listening for?

Well, I just want to hear a song that moves me, a pretty song. Songs that say something in a simple way. There's a writer from California that sent me a song when I was in the hospital. One of the things about this operation is that you come out very weak. You come out in a very emotional state. When I heard this song, I just had big tears. Of course, I'm a sentimentalist to begin with.

11

Do you plan to be recording soon?

Yes, I'll be recording in two to four weeks. I'm trying to get my throat strong. I'm trying to sing a little every day now, and I want to start singing more and more each day. I don't want to lose this, you know. After I'd been home three or four weeks, I began to sing a little song, and I can tell it's coming back now.

12

What do you do to build your voice back up?

What I do is just start running the scale. I'll go up to middle C and then come back down, then up again. You've gotta have a strong throat, just like a baseball pitcher's got to have a strong arm.

13

Let's talk about your early days as the Tennessee Plow-boy. How did you get started?

I'll never forget, I was living out in the country, on a cotton farm down in Jackson. I remember a man came by selling subscriptions to the *Jackson Sun*. I was out there plucking on a guitar. So I did him a little song. I knew the radio station was owned by the newspaper, so I told him I wanted to get an audition. And I did.

14

And you're still going strong. You've got some good songs here, some good material?

Yeah, I sit here and listen, and sometimes I take them home at night, or sometimes I get in the car and come back over here and listen.

15

Is there anybody on the radio right now that you're listening to that you like a lot?

Well, I like Don Williams, Anne Murray, and The Gatlins have got quite a sound. There are several that I like. I like to hear George Strait. He's got that Texas beat, and he always sings a

song that fits it. He does a good job of picking his song.

16

Do you think it's important for a singer to stay within their particular groove? You know, a lot of singers want to branch out.

I think it's a mistake to do that. It depends on how well they can break out. It depends on how well they can sing. But when you go breaking out into another style, you've got to be able to carry that style. Some of them can, and some have to stay in their groove.

17

How would you describe your own groove?

I used to describe it as sort of modern country, but it seems like it isn't so modern anymore.

18

I think that catches up with all of us.

Now I hear a lot of records, and several of them sound like they were mixed by the same person. It's because they're all made for radio. They're mixing so they can get a bright sound on the vocal on the car radio. One of these days, they're going to have to go back and make records for the public.

19

Besides listening to tapes, how are you spending your time?

I read a lot, walk a lot. That's about my routine. I'm walking two miles a day.

20

It's good that they caught your condition before an attack.

Oh, yeah. I was a candidate for it—that person who has a massive heart attack, and you say, "My gosh, he looked like the picture of health." I didn't know I had the trouble that I had because I never had any pain. Thank goodness they found it and had it fixed. ■



RICKY VAN SHELTON

COUNTRYMUSIC
presents...

An Evening With A Heartthrob

This evening at a Nashville rehearsal hall we have a pretty standard situation, a whole bunch of show business workers waiting for the talent.

Tonight's mix is typical. In the hall itself the six musicians who comprise the talent's band are rehearsing, working out arrangements their employer can fine-tune later. A sound man and a light man attend their efforts. In a smaller room, isolated from the noise of the band, the two men of an *Entertainment Tonight* video unit are setting up their equipment to tape an interview. Chatting familiarly with these gentlemen are another three professionals, these ones publicists; one an employee of CBS Records, the talent's label, and two from an independent agency working for the talent directly. Chatting familiarly with *them* are another three: the talent's booking agent, the talent's manager and the talent's manager's assistant. Counting myself and three guys who work the hall, that's a team of twenty.

The tone of the occasion is, again, pretty standard, or at least it is among the media and management people around *ET*'s video cam. These are well-traveled, plugged-in individuals, and their conversation moves to the laconic script of show business worldwide: who's hot, who's not, where you should eat this month, whatever happened to so-and-so, why what-sisname isn't making it, what X or Y did to A or B. The ambiance here is in fact so devoid of local flavor—there's no hint of the West in the clothing, not even an echo of the South in the speech—that we could easily be backstage anywhere, and the talent we're attending could easily be anyone: this year's comic, next year's cover girl, whoever.

It just happens that it's a Nashville hat act, Ricky Van Shelton.

Waiting, the *ET* interviewer is complaining about a press conference he'd attended on The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's album, *Will the Circle Be Unbroken? Volume II*—Why, he's asking, were the big, young stars hidden among all those Opry acts? Without all those geezers and also-rans, the videotape could have been dynamite!—but we don't get to discuss the questions raised by that point, or even go puke in a corner, because the talent arrives, and from here on out we don't have to worry about anything but the hottest of the hot. Ricky Van Shelton is after all not just any old Nashville hat act, but *the* Nashville hat act. He has edged ahead of the veteran George Strait on the Teenage Scream Meter, and whippersnapper Clint Black has yet to close the Thrown Panty Gap (Dwight Yoakam is not a Nashville act).

Ricky's looking good, as hat acts must. The hat itself is expensive, light beige in hue, and big, very big. The jacket, black leather with all sorts of frills and baubles and gee-gaws, is spectacular. The boots are of course fashioned from some costly species of reptile, and the jeans are of course buttock-clinging tight. The only jarring note in the costume is a long-sleeved sweatshirt. There's nothing wrong with the shirt itself; it's just that it isn't the tight white undershirt which launched Ricky's career, or a garment similarly revealing of his manly musculature.

One of the publicists remarks on that. It's the first time she's seen her client so comfortably shirted, she tells him. He confesses that yes, he wears sweatshirts sometimes, especially around the house in winter. This is bad news for the panty throwers, and for everyone else into

whose brain CBS Records has forever etched the sultry image of Ricky on his couch in

BY PATRICK CARR

that undershirt, but perhaps the disillusionment can be borne.

Ricky visits the bathroom quickly, then hunkers with the *ET* crew for a good twenty minutes (a very satisfactory tape this time, the interviewer declares), and then he gets down to the serious business of rehearsal. He has to prepare the material on his third album, *RVS III*, for performance on the road and integrate two new musicians, a fiddle player and a keyboard man, into his show.

For the next four hours that's exactly what he does, moving from song to song with hardly a pause and very little talk,

"I'm going to do my own album, and if CBS likes it, fine. If CBS doesn't like it, that's fine, too. I'll just take it home."



all business. The *ET* crew busies itself filming, but, for the most part, except for the occasional brief conversation or trip to the bathroom or soft drink machine, media and management simply watch and listen from the back of the hall. There's plenty of time for observation, then; this is a good opportunity for a long, cool look at the talent's act.

First there's what he sings. This will be no news to true Ricky Van Shelton aficionados, but I am struck by the number of used songs in his repertoire. The succession of numbers tonight—numbers like "Pretty Woman," "Cryin' Time," "Life's Little Ups and Downs," "Thanks a Lot," "You Win Again," "Great Balls of Fire" and a dozen or so others taken from the Greatest Hits collections of other singers—add up to a sort of exceptionally well-put-together late-night-TV Oldie Goldie package: *Good Ole Juke Box Favorites*, '55 to "Yesterday" perhaps (yes, he's got the world's favorite Paul McCartney slow song in there, too.) To call this repertoire conservative or even safe as houses in the crowd-pleasing department is to

understate the matter somewhat. To call it cynical might, however, be going too far, though not necessarily.

Next in the analysis of Ricky's act is how he sings what he's chosen to sing—the top-of-the-line songs from contemporary Nashville songwriters' catalogues, his own tunes, the used hits already familiar to us and the newer old songs being tried out tonight.

The word here, folks, is pure, unadulterated, wall-to-wall value. Again, no surprise for the converted, but this up-close private show certainly impresses *me* with the vocal power, range, skill and confidence of Mr. Shel-

mance one of the publicists, an urbane young man not given to unwarranted excesses of enthusiasm, turns to me and, perhaps or perhaps not unconsciously, supplies the perfect quote on this particular talent: "Convincing, isn't he?"

"C onvincing" is an apt term for Ricky Van Shelton. He did after all convince CBS Records to give him a shot at the majors even though he was long past the age range in vogue at the time, and then he just went on convincing people. Most significantly, during a period when some truly gifted "new talent" of the male persuasion was emerging in Nashville, he convinced his record company to put their major push behind him rather than someone else.

Obviously the push succeeded. Sales went through the roof, the awards rained down, and Ricky ended up as top dog among the A.R. (After Randy) crowd. That's where we find him today: in the top hat act spot and riding highest among the contenders in the dust of Swoon King Randy. Like Randy, Ricky is very popular along Music Row for attracting the best kind of new customers, very large numbers of young women, while also retaining the business of older fans.

It's worth mentioning that Ricky's success confirms Nashville's trend away from character-intense male stars like Willie and Waylon and Cash and Haggard and towards conventionally good-looking guys with great voices, songwriting-level creativity being an irrelevant or even an undesirable option. It may in fact be coming to pass that men wanting to become big country singers are finding themselves subject to the terms under which, traditionally, only women have had to operate: If you're not going to look right on a pinup poster, don't even try.

I really wonder if this is true, so about halfway through my talk with Ricky, I ask him how important he thinks his looks have been to his stardom.

"Well, lookin' good sure don't hurt none, you know" is what he says in reply. Then he adds, "You gotta look good. You know, dress nice, all that." Then he falls silent, grins around the table and gives me a next-question-please stare.

Our interview, it must be said, is not going as well as I'd like. We're in a large Nashville bar/restaurant at almost midnight on a Friday, so the ambient noise level is about the same as in your average jet engine, and then too we're squeezed into a booth full of Ricky's publicists and managers who can hear every question asked. So the circumstances alone are enough to obliterate whatever intimacy might otherwise be

ton. Ricky, yes, I dare say it, is almost Elvislike in the pipes; so much more of a pure singer than most men in the country field, where a convincing vocal character often means more than vocal quality in the technical sense, that I'm close to being awed. I mean, the man actually turns in a "Pretty Woman" almost as hair-raising as the late great Big O's original. And that's really something, because if I had a dollar for every famous singer I've heard display his limitations with that song, let alone the few thousand bar bands we've all heard flatten it dead, I'd be almost as rich as Ricky's jacket dealer. So, yessir, the boy sings *righteous*.

Finally, no performance review of this particular talent would be complete without mention of his "stage presence."

It's simple. Even in rehearsal, where he's not actually trying to get anyone excited, he has the unmistakable aura of, as The King would have put it, "a hunk-a, hunk-a burnin' love." *Teenage Southern Sex God* is stamped all over him like lipstick on an 8x10.

Halfway through Ricky's perfor-

TNN
City News
Country Awards



The 1990 TNN/MCN Male Vocalist and Entertainer of the Year.

goosing the interview.

"Uh, Ricky, how old are you?"

Silence. An unfriendly kind of stare.

"Officially, that is?"

A quite lengthy pause, then, "Officially?"

"Yup, officially. How old?"

Another, lengthier pause.

"Thirty-eight."

Well, fancy that, I thought, he looks a lot younger than even that "official" age in his pictures, doesn't he? And doesn't this evidence of tricky lens work and Ricky's evasiveness support my theory about the Young Hunk imperative in up-to-the-moment country music?

But enough. Our interview was getting harder, not easier. If I really wanted to do this kind of thing for a living, I figured, I'd go on over to the White House and ask them about C.I.A. cocaine imports. Then at least the questions would be worth evading.

When this sort of thing happens, your best bet is to find something the star actually wants to talk about. In Ricky's case, as I know from previously published stories, that means two things: old cars and beefalo.

First the beefalo, which as you might imagine are a crossbreed of cattle and buffalo. The deal here, says Ricky, who keeps beefalo out on his new 150-acre farm on the Cumberland River, is that the critters are high in protein and taste and low in fat and cholesterol; they're no more trouble than regular cattle; and they're "the wave of the future. They'll be a good business to be in." He's going to get some more of them, he says. He likes having cattle

possible.

All the same, those factors don't really account for the tooth-pulling nature of our dialogue. I don't know what that's about. Maybe I've been asking the wrong questions.

For instance, my first question, a friendly one about the history of some of old songs Ricky was rehearsing for his show, drew an almost total blank. I figured that since he'd chosen to sing those songs, he might have strong feelings or interesting stories about them, but he said he didn't know who wrote any of the five I asked about, though he did remember that "Rockabilly Rebel" came from a tape by Orion, the Elvis impersonator, which he bought at a truck stop somewhere. He also said that "Pretty Woman" happens to be easy for him to sing, and he volunteered that "Fox on the Run" is difficult. When I asked him if most of the songs he's now recording were part of his club act before he made the big time, he said, quote, "Yes."

Okay. Back to "Pretty Woman." Would he release that track as a single, despite its very strong identification with Roy Orbison?

"In a heartbeat," he said.

"So are you going to do that?"

"I don't know."

"Why not?"

There was a long pause here while he stared at me appraisingly and then conceded. "Other people ain't so sure."

"What other people?"

Another long moment of silence, another private-joke kind of grin around the table. "Oh, you know-people."

Silence from me.

"What radio wants, radio gits."

"You want to say any more about that?"

"No."

So I shifted gears, tried the subject

of road life. "Since you hit the big time, Ricky, you must have been spending most of your life away from home. How do you like it? Are you one of those guys who loves the road?"

"Sometimes I like it. Sometimes I don't."

"Ah...."

"Sometimes it's easy, sometimes it's boring."

"What are the good bits?"

"Eight o'clock in the evening, when I go onstage."

"And the bad bits?"

Silence.

"The bad bits are everything else?"

A nod in the affirmative.

"Like, what's really bad?"

A shrug.

This was not fun. It was time to try

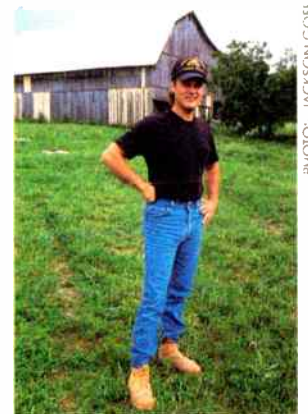


PHOTO: JACKSON GOLF

Ricky and Bettye at their farm. They met in church when Bettye was in her teens. Years later, when they were married, she helped him get his start in Nashville.

about the place. He doesn't like horses, though. "They stink," he says.

All that information cost only four or five questions, and for another three we learn that while Ricky's looking forward to actually living on the farm, he isn't doing that yet because the house isn't ready (he doesn't know why, he says). Another two questions reveal that although he thought he'd be able to fish in the Cumberland when he bought the property, it's too deep and fast-flowing, and yes, that disappoints him.

On to old cars, and a relative torrent of fact. As we speak, Ricky has "a '52 Ford convertible; a '63 Ford T-Bird hardtop; a '66 Chevrolet Impala con-

"It ain't easy to act like a fool and, you know, let yourself go in front of people."



vertible; a '65 Mustang convertible; a '42 Pontiac; a '53 Studebaker; three '58 Edsels; a '66 Chevelle Super Sport and a '67 Chevelle Super Sport; and a '54 Metropolitan, a '47 Dodge and a '55 Buick." He's restoring some of them (he tells me which ones) and using the others, "just fifty-dollar cars," for parts. Actually, he's not restoring them; he's having someone restore them for him.

It's real easy to get old cars in your blood, he says. "Once you buy one, it gets easier and easier to buy more." He's got plenty of room for them because his new property used to be a pig farm, so it has barns four hundred feet long, with ten-foot-wide stalls just perfect for the job. "I'm gonna make some money with those cars," he says.

Now we're really rolling, so we should use the momentum on more challenging subjects.

I begin with his wife, Bettye, whom he credits with sticking by him and working through many long years of struggle as a club singer. Also, it was she who made the connection he needed in Nashville by giving his demo tape to

a co-worker, the wife of influential journalist Jerry Thompson. I've heard that Bettye is going to college these days, so I ask Ricky what she's studying.

He laughs. "How to stay home and not work," he says. He laughs again and turns to his manager and says, "She's gettin' A's on that, right?"

Really, I ask, what is she studying?

"I don't know," he says, "I don't know what she wants to be when she grows up," and laughs again towards his manager.

I can't interpret this, so whatever. Another subject. How about his big brother Ronnie back home in Grit, Virginia, who offered to let the 14-year-old

out there, and so many kids ain't never heard them. And the people who were listening to those songs on the radio in the 50's and 60's, them people are still alive and working, you know—you see 'em every day—and they never get to hear their favorite songs no more. That's two good reasons, right there. And I like those songs; that's a third reason."

And how about Ricky's own songs? I've heard that he doesn't get to record them as often as he'd like, so I ask him about that.

"Well, I work very closely with my producer, Steve Buckingham, and Steve doesn't particularly like my songs. That's all right. I'm going to do my own album, and if CBS likes it, fine. If CBS doesn't like it, that's fine too. I'll just take it home."

He's also planning two other album projects, he says: a gospel album intended as a tribute to his parents, who always wanted him to go into religious rather than secular music (he learned his singing in church), and an album of 1930's and 1940's songs. The latter project, Buckingham's idea, was suggested by the commercial success of "that Bing Crosby Christmas stuff I did last year."

These horizon-expanding steps, however, are unlikely to be supplemented by any move into the wide world of movies and TV, not, at least, into the acting side of those industries. Ricky admits that "After doing video, I don't know about that kind of work. It's aggravating, and it's boring. And I don't know if I *could* do it. It ain't easy to act like a fool and, you know, let yourself go in front of people."

He pauses. "How's your food?" he asks, and, told it's pretty good, he goes on to heartily recommend the fudge brownies. That leads into a long bit between him and his manager about cheesecake—how everywhere you go on the road, the dessert is always damn cheesecake—and in turn leads to an exchange of amusing little mutual memories among the members of Ricky's party. The interview seems to be over now.

We leave the place about 1 A.M. and say our goodbyes outside the door. I go one way, Ricky and his group another. After a few paces I glance back and see the restaurant's hostess, an attractive, fashionably big-haired young thing of 21 or so, has come out into the chilly night air and is watching Ricky's retreating rump with the rapture of the truly converted.

He turns a corner out of sight, and she whirls back into the restaurant. Through the swinging door I can hear her squeal: "He's so cute! Ooooh, he's so cute!!!" ■

Ricky drive his car in exchange for services as a singer in his band and thus got the boy involved in country music even though the kid didn't think country was cool at all; is Ronnie still in music?

More grins. "Ronnie never *was* in music."

"Oh."

"No. Never."

"So what was he in?"

"He was in money and fast cars."

"But does he still play?"

"He still knows those same five songs.

Ronnie can't carry a tune in a bucket."

"Ah...."

"Ronnie's one of those all-American peculiar people."

"Okay. What does Ronnie do for a living?"

"He's an electrician"—a pause here, a great big grin—"and a damn good one!" This is pretty funny, I guess, because both he and his manager are laughing out loud.

All right, press on. All those old songs: Why does Ricky choose to sing them rather than new material?

"Well, there's so many great old songs



ALAN JACKSON

COUNTRY MUSIC MAGAZINE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1990

Hit The Road With America's Top Performers.

Now there's an all-terrain light truck tire that's designed for punishment. A belted radial that provides excellent impact resistance. A tire so tough, so rugged, it can withstand the worst off-road punishment you can dish out. With a computer-designed tread that's as quiet as anything on the road.

Meet the TrailHandler® AT. Available only at Sears.

SAVE \$22

On a set of 4 TrailHandler® AT Radials when you order from Sears Catalog by October 4, 1990.

TrailHandler® AT

Size	Ply rtg.	Load Range	Catalog Number	Wt. lbs.	Price each	2 or more ea. thru 10/4/90
Steel-belted with raised white outline letters on one side, raised black letters on the other						
LT195/75R14	6	C	95 NN 65802	24	\$ 74.75	\$ 69.25
LT215/75R15	6	C	95 NN 65812	30	80.74	75.24
LT235/75R15	6	C	95 NN 65801	33	86.86	81.36
Aramid-belted with raised white outline letters on one side, raised black letters on the other						
30X9.50R15	6	C	95 NN 65885	35	\$ 87.88	\$ 82.38
31X10.50R15	6	C	95 NN 65863	41	97.86	92.36
32X11.50R15	6	C	95 NN 65854	47	106.78	101.28
33X12.50R15	6	C	95 NN 65804	49	118.88	113.38
Steel-belted blackwall						
LT235/85R16	10	E	95 NN 65789	49	\$112.72	\$107.22
8.75R16.5	8	D	95 NN 65763	44	111.74	106.24
9.50R16.5	8	D	95 NN 65764	49	119.98	114.48

JUST DIAL THE SEARS CATALOG ORDERLINESM 1-800-366-3000.

Order from the charts below and get special prices from as low as \$69.25 each on two or more TrailHandler® ATs!

See page 7 for incredible deals on other TrailHandler® tires.

"As usual, the best performers turn out to be the strong, silent type. That's the Sears TrailHandler® - strong enough to take the punishment, quiet enough to let you hear the music. I'll always depend on TrailHandler® to put my show on the road."

- Alan Jackson



SEARS

Your money's worth and a whole lot more.

©Sears, Roebuck and Co. 1990

PULL-OUT CENTERFOLD OF THE MONTH

ALAN JACKSON

Facts of Life

Personal Data

Birthdate: October 17, 1958
Birthplace: Newnan, Georgia
Family: Wife, Denise; daughter, Mattie Denise; father, Eugene; mother, Ruth; sisters, Diane, Cathy, Carol, Connie.
Instrument: Guitar
Hobbies: Cars, boats, bass fishing

Vital Statistics

Height: 6'4"
Weight: 180 lbs.
Color eyes: Blue
Color hair: Blonde

Early Days

First job: Worked in a shoe store
First car: 1955 Thunderbird
First performance: Fourth grade, lip-synched to "Lil' Red Riding Hood."

Recording Career

Record label: Arista Records, One Music Circle North, Nashville, Tennessee 37203.

Albums	Release Date
<i>Here in the Real World</i>	1990
Upcoming album in production; most songs written by Alan.	

Singles
 "Blue Blooded Woman"
 "Here in the Real World" - went to Number One
 "Wanted"

Videos
 "Blue Blooded Woman"
 "Here in the Real World"
 "Wanted"



Nashville Network or at Fan Fair, you know who the real fans are, the ones who listen to country radio. They're just good people who love music, and I hope what I'm trying to do is what they want."

On Family

"I have good parents. My father might be the only truly good man I've ever known. He's as honest as they come. If I turn out half as good, I'll be happy."

Big Break

Introduction to Glen Campbell Music through his wife, Denise, a flight attendant who met Glen on a plane and asked, "Excuse me, my husband's about to move to Nashville to be a singer and a songwriter. What does he need to do?" Glen gave her a card with the name and address of his office in Nashville. The introduction yielded Alan a publishing contract.

On Songwriting

"The writing has probably helped my career more than anything. I've been holding on to all my songs, and that's kind of taking a chance. I know. If you've got a song that somebody wants to record, and you want to wait and hope you can do it yourself - well, that's a hard decision to make. But when I came here, I wanted to carry on the tradition of real country music. And I'd like to stay that way."

On Fans

"It isn't easy to keep your feet on the ground up here. You get separated from working people, from real life. Now you go sit out in the audiences at The

Fan Club

Membership in the Alan Jackson Fan Club includes official membership card, fan club button, four quarterly newsletters, tour schedules, biography and an 8x10 autographed color photograph.

How to Join

To join the Alan Jackson Fan Club and get all the items listed above for \$10, send check or money order made out to Country Music Reader Service to: Country Music Magazine, Reader Service Dept. 91090, 329 Riverside Avenue, Westport, Connecticut 06880. Add \$1.95 postage and handling.



Introducing
**TRAVIS
TRITT**

*Here's a look at a bright new star, recently featured in *New Kids on the Country Block*, as he comes off his successful first album and looks to his future in country music.*

by Patrick Carr

At the time of our encounter Travis Tritt is very definitely on the fast track. The video ratings say it, the industry buzz says it, even the record sales say it: This boy's going to be Big. The tone of our encounter is appropriate, therefore. We're taking a late breakfast in the snooty New York City hotel where Travis is staying—our view is the internationally moneyed traffic of Central Park South, our company a viciously fawning, genuinely French *maitre d'* in an excellent toupee—and although this is young Travis's very first morning in Manhattan after his very first night on the big town (with Tanya Tucker, no less), he's handling himself flawlessly. He's very polite and very cool, seemingly not at all overanxious or overimpressed. Right up front he's demonstrating the combination of diplomacy and letheadedness essential in a serious country contender today.

That supplies the answer to something I've been wondering about recently. It

TAMMY WYNETTE



by Bob Millard

The bus with the name *Tammy 1* painted discreetly on the door rumbled on the dirty concrete landing outside the shabby back doors of Billy Bob's in Ft. Worth, Texas. The odors of diesel exhaust, cattle pens, stale beer and cigarette smoke lingered in the air. It felt somehow like the ends of the earth. There is no glamour at back doors, even the back door of the "world's largest honky tonk."

It's funny what a person will abide for a long-held affection. I'd been pressing for nearly a year for this interview with Tammy Wynette. After driving over to Ft. Worth that night, I'd been hustled backstage by Tammy's road manager to sit amongst a frenetic gaggle of young talent contest entrants. One cute young blond in a short, pleated shirt kept spraying it with Static Guard and testing its whirl by shaking her backside in her guitarist's face. "What's it doin' now? Is it okay? Is it good now?" she demanded in her thick Cajun patois like a young lover anxious to please. I sipped bitter coffee that smelled vaguely like kerosene and waited. I waited patiently for more than two hours because ever since I heard Tammy Wynette sing "Stand by Your Man" in the soundtrack of the film, *Five Easy Pieces*, I have been in love with this woman's music. She and Buck Owens turned me on to country, and she's still one of the greatest singers of all time in my book.

Between the time I'd first asked her publicist for this interview and now, Tammy had gone through several dramatic changes. She and her husband/manager, George Richey, had been in and out of Chapter 11 bankruptcy in connection with a Florida savings and loan scandal, and Tammy's last single daughter, Tamala Georgette, fathered by George Jones, got married. Also, Tammy's album, *Next to You*, more like her 1960's salad days sound than anything she'd done in years, had been unable to generate any chart hits.

"How much time you think this will take?" Richey asked, squinting dubiously as he finally met me at the wide back doors.

"You got about 10 minutes," he told me. "Tammy still has to get dressed for the show."

It's times like this that you find out just how badly you want something—and I wanted to meet Tammy Wynette. Smiling, I climbed the steps into the bus

Offstage With a Legend

Bob Millard got to visit with Tammy Wynette recently and found the superstar as open and honest as an old friend. A brand-new album and a music video are a big part of her world these days.



ready to meet the picture I had carried in my mind since last seeing her in concert three years earlier when she wore a sparkling, gold-sequined, floor-length, black evening dress, with her short, tipped, blond hair framing that wide, warm smile and those deep, liquid eyes. This time I met the off-stage Tammy Wynette; warm, honest-to-a-fault, unabashed and decidedly unglamorous.

Tammy met me graciously with all her confident, girlish vulnerability, dressed casually in a plain, sky-blue bathrobe over her homely nightgown, without any make-up, for which she apologized, saying, "I just didn't want to get all dressed up an hour and a half before I go on."

Pressed for time, she fell to telling about her recent tour in England, where she has been popular since about the time The Beatles broke up.

"It's always a young audience mixed with my fans of 20 years, because I've been working there for 20 years," she explained. "I have it built up where I have a lot of fans that come and see me regardless. If I never had a hit record, they would always be there to see me.

But then there's a new audience that's coming to see me that I'm really proud of, that's just—*discovering* I guess is the best word—maybe through their parents, or through what little country radio they get. They don't put things in categories. You'll be walking down the street, and you might hear The Beatles, then Tammy, then Elton John or The Rolling Stones, then Tammy. So a lot of people don't know that I'm country."

Which is probably good, since "country" culture has a peculiar, market-limiting connotation there; sort of a cross between traditional string band music and a Halloween costume party with hardcore adherents dressed in flamboyant dude ranch versions of Dale Evans and Yosemite Sam.

Ten minutes came and went with Richey, not three feet away on the cramped bus couch, glowering quietly. Tammy had more on her mind, and he was not going to interrupt her. As emotionally trying as the legal wrangles and bankruptcy had been recently, she had a lot to get off her chest.

How did you get through that period of being accused in a bank collapse and of having your life savings threatened

like that? I asked.

"Well, it puts a burden on you—boy, it puts a burden on you," she said. "But not so much on me as on Richey, because he handles the business end of it and I don't. I just know what I see. I read the headlines and it hurts.

"It especially hurt the first two or three months when we couldn't say anything. We couldn't say, 'Yes, but we did this because of so-and-so. We weren't guilty of this,'" she explained, referring to the voluntary asset-protecting bankruptcy she and Richey had undergone. "We had to do this to keep from losing everything that we worked all of our life for, because that's what was happening to savings and loans. After we got to the point to where we could talk about it, it was easier. But the fans were absolutely so incredible, so wonderful. I had a lady write me and tell me, 'I'll sell my house and send you the money if it'll help.'"

She chuckles in appreciation.

"I think what they didn't realize was that I wasn't bankrupt in the sense that—I was not broke. I had not lost what I had worked all those years for. We did what we did to keep from losing what we had because of fraudulent banking, and, you know, it's just one of those things. It's awfully hard for me."

The whole year was clouded by the temporary bankruptcy and various legal hassles surrounding it. One of the bright spots during that time, though, was the marriage of Tamala Georgette Jones. Tammy planned most of the wedding from the road, staying in constant touch by telephone with ministers, caterers, florists and such in her small Alabama home town where the ceremony was scheduled. On her daughter's wedding day, she arrived on her bus, having driven all night from a concert hundreds of miles away.

"It was not easy, and I almost panicked the night before because I had to work in Florida and drive in from Florida knowing that when I get there my daughter is getting married in about four hours," she recalled. At the time, she had worried, "Am I gonna pull it all together, because it has to be her most special day."

"Well, all day it rained and stormed," Tammy continued. "It was the most horrendous day that it could have been; buckets and buckets of rain. But Georgette wouldn't let anything dampen her spirits or dampen her day. We went ahead and had a wonderful wedding."

Though Tammy's mother still has a home in that small town, 2,000-people strong now as it was the day Tammy left it to head for Nashville in the mid-1960's, Tammy prefers to have her mom with her these days.

"My mother is with me tonight," she reveals. "She travels quite a bit with me

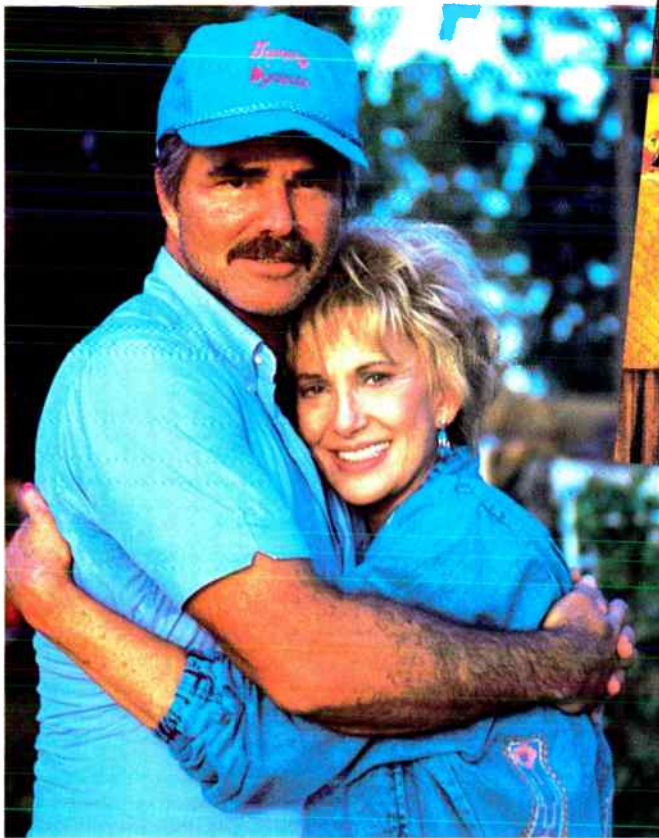


CHUCK PULIN/STAR FILE

Tammy's always played the best venues—top, at the Bottom Line in New York this spring, with band members Rick Murrell and Charlie Carter, and bottom, at the Grand Ole Opry in 1974 with then-husband, George Jones. Besides beautiful music and lots of headlines, Tammy and George produced daughter, Tamala Georgette.



JOHN LEE/THE IMAGE BANK



Tammy and old flame, Burt Reynolds, together again at Burt and wife Loni's Florida ranch to shoot Tammy's new video. Above, Tammy and country music grace the pages of *Vogue Magazine*.

because I lost my dad soon to be two years ago."

In a way, Tammy's mother's presence replaces that of Tammy's daughters. It has been a few years since any of them have toured with her as backup singers. In fact, there are now several grandchildren in Tammy's life. This confirms the passage of time for this country music legend in innumerable private ways, just as her problems connecting with young country record buyers of the 90's point up that phenomenon in a business sense. It's not that Tammy has lost one scintilla of the emotional power in her voice. Her pipes are as strong as ever. But she is at a loss to grasp why her last album had such trouble connecting with a new country audience, an audience born since her first hits rode the country airwaves and delivered her to stardom. She isn't looking for a scapegoat, yet she tries to make sense of the difficulties of being a legend while not wishing to become a museum piece. She wants hit records and anguishes over her last failure, but could she or should she ever "change with the times"?

That album, *Next to You*, was produced by Norro Wilson, who is now comfortably middle-aged but was always "the kid" in the powerful Music Row axis of producer Billy Sherrill and song publisher Al Gallico, a combination that put together all of Tammy's best-loved hits. Before Norro stepped in, she had moderate success with the more contemporary sounds gotten by pro-

ducer Steve Buckingham, though she was not personally pleased with the direction he was taking her.

In the dimly lit bus, clutching the top of her bathrobe, Tammy tapped a long stream of pleasant memories and talked about her early recording career.

She began with the 60's and 70's when she was in the studio with Billy Sherrill. "It was always his way, and maybe I got used to that," she recalled. "I like direction. I like corrective criticism. He wouldn't say I'd hit a wrong note, he would say, 'Uh, Tammy, take that one more time. We had a problem here in the control room.' So he had a way of making me feel very confident and very good in the studio. I never saw that side," she mused, returning to the idea of Sherrill dominating, "except on 'Stand by Your Man'—which I hated."

Hated one of her biggest hits?

"Well, I loved the lyrics, but it was a total departure from what I had done melody-wise," she explained. "I had done 'I Don't Want to Play House,' 'D-I-V-O-R-C-E' and the little kids things. I begged and pleaded not to put it out. Maybe even then I didn't know what was commercial, but thank the Lord, Billy did put it out."

Still a moving performer, Tammy is in her second year with the GMC Truck tour, along with 80's generation stars like Randy Travis, The Judds and K.T. Oslin.

"I was worried when we started that tour," she said. "I told Richey, I said, 'I

feel like the grandma of this tour. K.T. is so hip, Randy is so wonderful, and here I am with songs 20 years old.'

"But if Mick Jagger and them can do it, why not? I'm not ready to quit. There is an audience out there for me, and I know it. It's just a matter of getting radio to let the people hear it. Radio wants to play all the new artists, and maybe they should. When I came to town, I took somebody's place, and there will always be somebody to take my place. There'll be somebody to take Reba's place; to take Kathy Mattea's place. That's just the way it works. But, hey, they still stick me in there someplace. I want to be in there.

"I like to feel that I can communicate with the people. That's the key to success, other than the hit song."

Is there something about being a grandparent, even if you are a sexy one on stage, that keeps women from enjoying continued recording success like some long-lived male stars of her generation (Conway Twitty, for example)? Maybe she just needs one more great song. Dig out your old Tammy Wynette records, and you'll find her name and Richey's on a number of her great songs. Tammy still writes but nowhere near as much as she used to. She has mixed feelings about the fact that she and Richey don't write hits for her now.

"I know," she said, nodding toward her husband, who by this time was twitching in his seat and beginning to fidget with his watch. "His name's on so many of them. And I'll mention it, I'll say, 'Richey, let's write something!' But we don't do it. We find ourselves out here, and it's hard in a motel room to sit yourself down—but it's not impossible. I guess you could strike it off to not being hungry. I *know* that I've carved my niche. I *know* that—and I'm not boasting when I say that—I can work for many years on what I have.

"Maybe I'm too comfortable. I don't mean to be, and I don't want to be. If I



Tammy with Tom Petty, Randy Travis, Ricky Van Shelton and Jeff Lynne after her show at The Roxy in L.A. and with Clint Black at this year's ACM Awards.

get too comfortable, I won't try hard enough for another hit record. I guess I'd like to make this year as great as 1968. So, I have some work to do."

A few months later we talk again. Tammy has been busy working toward her stated goal of making 1990 as good a year as 1968, the year "Stand by Your Man" took her star to the pinnacle of fame. She has come up with a new album, *Heart Over Mind*, her 52nd for Epic Records, produced by Bob Montgomery, and she got old flame Burt Reynolds to direct her newest music video, "Let's Call It a Day (Today)." She was also prominently featured as one of the few "real" country personalities in an otherwise condescendingly hip punk-fashion spread called "Country Goes to Town" in *Vogue Magazine's* July issue.

When I call Tammy at 10:30 A.M., as pre-arranged, in her hotel room in Branson, Missouri, where she has been performing for a week at The Roy Clark Celebrity Theatre, I am not surprised that she is still asleep or that she insists on taking the call anyway. She is barely out of bed, going on auto-pilot or whatever unknown survival instinct she has that has sustained her through an eventful and occasionally dangerous life. Tammy is a pro. Hoarse and still clearing the cobwebs out of her brain, she kicks into first gear, lavishing praise on everyone she has worked with this year. Asleep or awake, this is a crucial survival instinct.

"Oh, I'm so excited," she says, clearing her throat and starting right in on *Heart Over Mind*. "I think—song for song—that it's probably the best album I have ever had. I just love it, and I thoroughly loved working with Bob."

On the subject of Reynolds, who has not previously been compelled to do music videos for anyone, she laughs and says tongue-in-cheek: "Oh, it was awful. It was so terrible. I was so hot down

there, and it was just pitiful having to be around that man all day. No," she says, no longer kidding, "we had a wonderful time, and we plan on doing more things together. It was a hectic day, but it was exciting...it all really was shot on Burt's ranch in Florida."

About her *Vogue* spread, which was featured in the July issue: "They were the nicest people. I couldn't have asked for a nicer photographer or hairdresser. The people that came in my home and did the work, they were absolutely incredible. Richey cooked biscuits and gravy for them, and I think that was what won their hearts. They got a good Southern breakfast."

After giving that update, which takes less than three minutes, Tammy becomes genuinely alert, and we chat about her life. Tammy Wynette is disarmingly open about most things. As her publicist warns, "She will steal your heart and make you cry." Her mother, 68-year-old Mrs. Mildred Lee of Red Bay, Alabama, had been traveling with Tammy and husband George Richey when we last talked. I ask, off-handedly, how Mrs. Lee is doing.

"She got very, very sick and I didn't know what in the world was wrong with her," Tammy explains seriously. "She went home to Alabama, and my cousin called and said that she had had to put her in the hospital. I told her I had rather send an ambulance after her because I had some specialists I wanted to see her."

"Thank God I did. It's a nice little town to live in, you know, my home town, but they have a very small hospital, and they don't have the equipment that mother needed. I brought her to Nashville, and Dr. Frist did open heart surgery." Frist is one of Nashville's top heart specialists. "She had five bypasses," Tammy continues. "She went into congestive heart failure, and of course she was a horrible diabetic, so she had a rough time. But we've had her

home for eight days, and she's doing wonderful."

And then, without missing a beat, she turns cheerful again and bursts out with, "Hey, guess who's right across the street from me here?"

How can you not love a woman this nonchalant and irrepressible? Feeling like the straight man for a knock-knock joke, I reply, "Who's there?"

"Jones!" Tammy says, and laughs gleefully. "I'm working at Roy Clark Celebrity Theatre, and he's at Lowe's. I'm going over tonight to say hi."

I hadn't known they were still especially friendly. After all those years when Jones humiliated and misused Tammy, through vicious cycles of drinking, abuse, instability and occasional abandonment, Tammy talks about his proximity like a woman suddenly transposed to her teens by the visit of a good friend from high school. She laughs.

"Oh, yeah," she says, as though nothing had ever happened. "We just don't get a chance to run into each other very much. But Georgette, every time she comes to my house in Nashville, she always goes to her daddy's house, so she reports back to both of us what the other one's doing. So tonight, I'll finish here—it's my last night—so I'll hop on the bus and run across to say hi and bye."

It is, she explains, the inevitable bond between divorced parents of an adult child. The custody struggles and psychological warfare over affections are now muted by time. She is circumspect when asked whether Jones, who has now reportedly been sober and drug free for several years, is not more dependable than he was when they were together, the troubled king and queen of country music ruling over a madhouse castle, a huge white mansion that tourist buses still drive by.

"I'm not around him much," she says cautiously, "but I do believe he's settled down some from what he used to be. That would be good." But there is no discounting the evident delight she takes in the possibility of seeing Georgette's father for a moment backstage.

"When you have a child, there's a bond there that for some reason it's just different than if you were married to someone and don't have a child by them," she explains. "It doesn't mean that you love them more; you don't. But there's a bond that you never get away from. You always think, 'Gosh I ought to call him about this,' or 'Should I tell him this happened or that happened.' It's something we share. Georgette will soon be 20, and she's in her third year of nursing school. We're both very proud of her, so there was something very good that came out of that marriage."

Leave it to Tammy Wynette to find the silver lining. ■

YOU CAN MAKE UP TO

\$9,800 in 24 Hours!

Dear Friend,

I made \$9,800 in 24 hours. You may do better!

My name is John Wright. Not too long ago I was flat broke. I was \$31,000 in debt. The bank repossessed my car because I couldn't keep up with the payments. And one day the landlord gave me an eviction notice because I hadn't paid the rent for three months. So we had to move out. My family and I stayed at my cousin's place for the rest of that month before I could manage to get another apartment. That was very embarrassing.

Things have changed now. I own four homes in Southern California. The one I'm living in now in Beverly Hills is worth more than one million dollars. I own several cars, among them a brand new Mercedes and a brand new Cadillac. Right now, I have a million dollar line of credit with the banks and have certificates of deposit at \$100,000 each in my bank in Beverly Hills.

Best of all, I have time to have fun. To be me. To do what I want. I work about 4 hours a day, the rest of the day, I do things that please me. Some days I go swimming and sailing — shopping. Other days, I play racquetball or tennis. Sometimes, frankly, I just lie out under the sun with a good book. I love to take long vacations. I just got back from a two week vacation from — Maui, Hawaii.

I'm not really trying to impress you with my wealth. All I'm trying to do here is to prove to you that if it wasn't because of that money secret I was lucky enough to find that day, I still would have been poor or may be even bankrupt. It was only through this amazing money secret that I could pull myself out of debt and become wealthy. Who knows what would have happened to my family and me.

Knowing about this secret changed my life completely. It brought me wealth, happiness, and most important of all — peace of mind. This secret will change your life, too! It will give you everything you need and will solve all your money problems. Of course you don't have to take my word for it. You can try it for yourself. To see that you try this secret, I'm willing to give you \$20.00 in cash. (I'm giving my address at the bottom of this page.) I figure, if I spend \$20.00, I get your attention. And you will prove it to yourself this amazing money secret will work for you, too!

Why, you may ask, am I willing to share this secret with you? To make money? Hardly. First, I already have all the money and possessions I'll ever need. Second, my secret does not involve any sort of competition whatsoever. Third, nothing is more satisfying to me than sharing my secret only with those who realize a golden opportunity and get on it quickly.

This secret is incredibly simple. Anyone can use it. You can get started with practically no money at all and the risk is almost zero. You don't need special training or even a high school education. It doesn't matter how young or old you are and it will work for you at home or even while you are on vacation.

Let me tell you more about this fascinating money making secret:

With this secret the money can roll in fast. In some cases you may be able to cash in literally overnight. If you can follow simple instructions you can get started in a single afternoon and it is possible to have spendable money in your hands the very next morning. In fact, this just might be the fastest *legal* way to make money that has ever been invented!

This is a very safe way to get extra cash. It is practically risk free. It is not a dangerous gamble. Everything you do has already been tested and you can get started for less money than most people spend for a night on the town.

One of the nicest things about this whole idea is that you can do it at home in your spare time. You don't need equipment or an office. It doesn't matter where you live either. You can use this secret to make money if you live in a big city or on a farm or anywhere in between. A husband and wife team from New York used my secret, worked at home in their spare time, and made \$45,000 in one year.

This secret is simple. It would be hard to make a mistake if you tried. You don't need a college degree or even a high school education. All you need is a little common sense and the ability to follow simple, easy, step-by-step instructions. I personally know a man from New England who used this secret and made \$2 million in just 3 years.

You can use this secret to make money no matter how old or how young you may be. There is no physical labor involved and everything is so easy it can be done

Here's what newspapers and magazines are saying about this incredible secret:

The Washington Times:

The Royal Road to Riches is paved with golden tips.

National Examiner:

John Wright has an excellent guide for achieving wealth in your spare time.

Income Opportunities:

The Royal Road to Riches is an invaluable guide for finding success in your own back yard.

News Tribune:

Wright's material is a MUST for anyone who contemplates making it as an independent entrepreneur.

Success!

John Wright believes in success, pure and simple.

Money Making Opportunities:

John Wright has a rare gift for helping people with no experience make lots of money. He's made many people wealthy.

California Political Week:

... The politics of high finance made easy.

The Tolucan:

You'll love... *The Royal Road to Riches*. It's filled with valuable information... only wish I'd known about it years ago!

Hollywood Citizen News:

He does more than give general ideas. He gives people a detailed A to Z plan to make big money.

The Desert Sun:

Wright's *Royal Road to Riches* lives up to its title in offering an uncomplicated path to financial success.

whether you're a teenager or 90 years old. I know one woman who is over 65 and is making all the money she needs with this secret.

When you use this secret to make money you never have to try to convince anybody of anything. This has nothing to do with door-to-door selling, telephone solicitation, real estate or anything else that involves personal contact.

Everything about this idea is perfectly legal and honest. You will be proud of what you are doing and you will be providing a very valuable service.

It will only take you two hours to learn how to use this secret. After that everything is almost automatic. After you get started you can probably do everything that is necessary in three hours per week.

PROOF

I know you are skeptical. That simply shows your good business sense. Well, here is proof from people who have put this amazing secret into use and have gotten all the money they ever desired. Their initials have been used in order to protect their privacy, but I have full information and the actual proof of their success in my files.

'More Money Than I Ever Dreamed'

"All I can say — your plan is great! In just 8 weeks, I took in over \$100,000. More money than I ever dreamed of making. At this rate, I honestly believe, I can make over a million dollars per year." A. F., Providence, R.I.

'\$9,800 In 24 Hours!'

"I didn't believe it when you said the secret could produce money the next morning. Boy, was I wrong, and you were right! I purchased your *Royal Road to Riches*. On the basis of your advice, \$9,800 poured in, in less than 24 hours! John, your secret is incredible!" J. K., Laguna Hills, CA

'Made \$15,000 In 2 Months At 22'

"I was able to earn over \$15,000 with your plan — in just the past two months. As a 22 year old girl, I never thought that I'd ever be able to make as much money, as fast as I've been able to do. I really do wish to thank you, with all of my heart." Ms. E. L., Los Angeles, CA

'Made \$126,000 In 3 Months'

"For years, I passed up all the plans that promised to make me rich. Probably I am lucky I did — but I am even more lucky that I took the time to send for your

material. It changed my whole life. Thanks to you, I made \$126,000 in 3 months."

S. W., Plainfield, IN

'Made \$203,000 In 8 Months'

"I never believed those success stories... never believed I would be one of them... using your techniques, in just 8 months, I made over \$203,000... made over \$20,000 more in the last 22 days! Not just well prepared, but simple, easy, fast... John, thank you for your *Royal Road to Riches!*" C. M., Los Angeles, CA

'\$500,000 In Six Months'

"I'm amazed at my success! By using your secret I made \$500,000 in six months. That's more than twenty times what I've made in any single year before! I've never made so much money in such short time with minimum effort. My whole life I was waiting for this amazing miracle! Thank you, John Wright."

R. S., Mclean, VA

As you can tell by now I have come across something pretty good. I believe I have discovered the sweetest little money-making secret you could ever imagine. Remember — I guarantee it.

Most of the time, it takes big money to make money. This is an exception. With this secret you can start in your spare time with almost nothing. But of course, you don't have to start small or stay small. You can go as fast and as far as you wish. The size of your profits is totally up to you. I can't guarantee how much you will make with this secret but I can tell you this — so far this amazing money producing secret makes the profits from most other ideas look like peanuts!

Now at last, I've completely explained this remarkable secret in a special money making plan. I call it "The Royal Road to Riches". Some call it a miracle. You'll probably call it "The Secret of Riches". You will learn everything you need to know step-by-step. So you too can put this amazing money making secret to work for you and make all the money you need.

To prove this secret will solve all your money problems, don't send me any money, *instead postdate* your check for a month and a half from today. I guarantee not to deposit it for 45 days. I won't cash your check for 45 days before I know for sure that you are completely satisfied with my material.

\$20.00 FREE!

There is no way you can lose. You either solve all your money problems with this secret (in just 30 days) or you get your money back *plus \$20.00 in cash FREE!*

Do you realize what this means? You can put my simple secret into use. Be able to solve all your money problems. And if for any reason whatsoever you are not 100% satisfied after using the secret for 30 days, you may return my material. And then I will not only return your original **UNCASHED CHECK**, but I will also send you an *extra \$20.00 cashiers check* just for giving the secret an honest try according to the simple instructions.

I GUARANTEE IT! With my unconditional guarantee, there is absolutely NO RISK ON YOUR PART.

To order, simply write your name and address on a piece of paper. Enclose your postdated check or money order for \$12.95 and send it to:

JOHN WRIGHT
Dept. 162
3340 Ocean Park Blvd.
Suite 3065
Santa Monica, CA 90405

But the supply of my material is limited. So send in your order now while the supply lasts.

If you wish to charge it to your Visa or MasterCard — be sure to include your account number and expiration date. That's all there is to it. I'll send you my material right away by return mail, along with our unconditional guarantee.

SWORN STATEMENT:

"As Mr. John Wright's accountant, I certify that his assets exceed one million dollars."

Mark Davis

© 1990 JOHN WRIGHT

Nashville Warehouse
presents their

CLOSEOUT RECORD SALE

Buy 3 and Pick Another 1 FREE!
Records/8 TK/Cassette

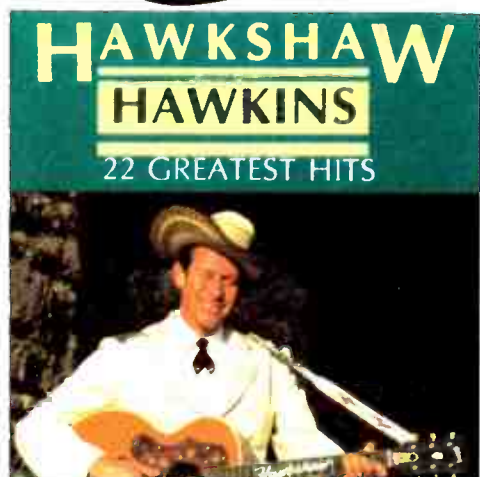
ONLY
\$9.97 Each



RED SOVINE
Teddy Bear • Daddy's Girl • Lay Down Salks • Truck Drivin' Son of a Gun • Colorado Kool Aid • Goldsup Go • Ole Rivers • The Days of Me and You • Little Rosa • I Didn't Jump the Fence • I'll Come Back • Little Joe • I Know You're Married (But Love you still) • Fast Goodbye • Phantom 309 • Roses for Mama • 18 Wheels a Humming Home Sweet Home • Anything Leaving town Today • Daddy • Woman Behind the Man Behind the Wheel LP No. LP178TK No. T17 Cass No. CASS17



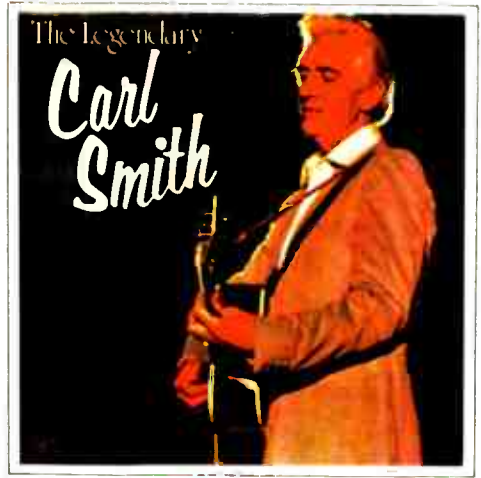
MARTY ROBBINS
El Paso • El Paso City • The Hanging Tree • Red River Valley • Streets of Laredo • Sun Angelo • All Around Cowboy • Lumbering Lumberjacks • The Fastest Gun Around • Meet Me Tonight in Laredo • Mr. Shorty • The City Hanging Me Tonight • Good Water • Strawberry Roan • Ballad of the Alamo • Big Iron • Running Gun • Five Brothers • The Cowboy in the Continental Suit • Old Red LP No. LP234TK No. T23 Cassette No. CASS23



HAWKSHAW HAWKINS
Sunny Side of the Mountain • I'm Slowly Dying of a Broken Heart • I Suppose • Barbara Allen • Rattlesnakin' Daddy • I Washed a Nickel • I Love You a Thousand Ways • Pan America • Be My Life's Companion • Lonesome 7-203 • Silver Letter • Dog House Boogie • Little White Washed Chimney • I'm Waiting Just for You • Show Poke • Love Died Tonight • After All We've Meant to Each Other • A Heartache to Recall • Loaded With Love • If I Ever Get Rich Mom. Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS21



COWBOY COPAS
Filipino Baby • Louisiana • Goodbye Kisses • From the Manger to the Cross • Satisfied Mind • Copas' Wildflower • There'll Come a Time • Sunny Tennessee • Waltzing With Sin • I Dreamed of a Hillbilly Heaven • He Stands Real Tall • Signed, Sealed and Delivered • Beyond the Sunset • Breeze (Blow My Baby Back to Me) • Tragic Romance • Tennessee Waltz • 'Tis So Sweet to Be Remembered • Wings of a Dove • Cowboy's Deck of Cards • Flat Top Guitar • Alabama • 3 MORE! Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS22



CARL SMITH
Let Old Mother Nature Have Her Way • Mr. Moon • Just Want Tell I Got You Alone • Back Up Buddy • Deep Water • Hey Joe • Are You Leasing Me • If Feartraps Were Bonnes • It's a Lovely Lovely World • You Are the One • Don't Just Stand There • Satisfac'on Guaranteed • Kisses Don't Lie • Our Homeymoon • Trade-mark • Let's Live a Little • Take My Ring Off Your Finger • I Overlooked an Ordeal • Car, Boy, Car • This Ordeal Means Goodbye LP No. LP268TK No. T26 Cassette No. CASS26



JOHNNY HORTON
North to Alaska • Battle of New Orleans • When it's Springtime in Alaska (It's 40 Below) • Johnny Rebs • I'm Coming Home • Honky Tonk Man • Sink the Bismark • All for the Love of a Girl • The Hanky You Stole • Comanche • Jim Bridger • I'm a One Woman Man • Sleepy-eyed John • They'll Never Take Her Love from Me • Old Shiloh • All Grown Up • Sal's Got a Sugar Lip • Whispering Pines • Johnny Freedom (Freedom Land) • I'm Ready If You're Willing LP No. LP278TK No. T27 Cassette No. CASS27



ROY ACUFF
Great Speckled Bird • Tell Mother I'll Be There • Wait for the Light to Shine • Wreck on the Highway • I Saw the Light • The Precious Jewel • The Great Shining Light • If I Could Hear My Mother Pray Again • The Great Judgement Morning • Great Speckled Bird (No. 2) • Wabash Cannon Ball • Lonesome • Old River Blues • Be Honest with Me • Fireball Mail • Tennessee Waltz • Muleskinner Blues (Blue saddle no. 8) • Low and Lonely • Pines and Needles • Freight Train Blue • MORE! LP No. LP288TK No. T28 Cassette No. CASS28



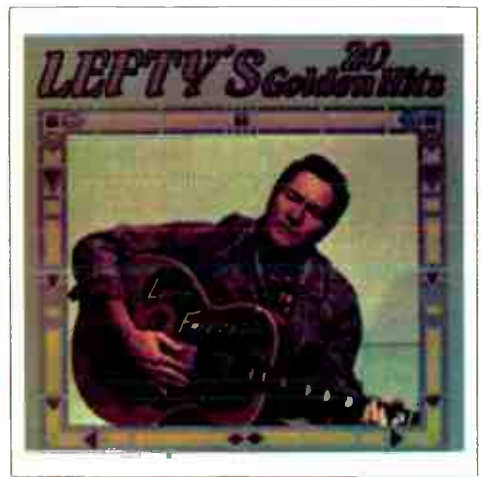
GEORGE JONES

Walk Thru This World With Me • A Good Year For The Roses • The Race Is On • Take Me • Things Have Gone To Pieces • Developing My Pictures • Tender Years • From Here To The Door • You Gotta Be My Baby • Run Boy • White Lightning • I'm Ragged But I'm Right • If My Heart Had Windows • Why Baby Why • They'll Never Take Her Love From Me • Go Away With Me • Blue Side Of Lonesome • I'll Follow You Up To Our Cloud • 2 MORE! Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS34



STONEWALL JACKSON

Waterloo • Life To Go • Read Between The Lines • A Wound Time Can Erase • I Washed My Hands In The Muddy Water • Why I'm Walkin' • I Can't Get Enough Of You • My Hero And The Plastic Radio • Things To Think About • Love Gets All Over Me • Of Blue • Lovin' The Fool Out Of Me • Shake 'Em Up, Roll 'Em • Herman Schwartz • Should I Go Home • Keep Off The Grass • Don't Be Late • Clean Your Own Tables • B.J. The D.J. • and MORE! Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS33



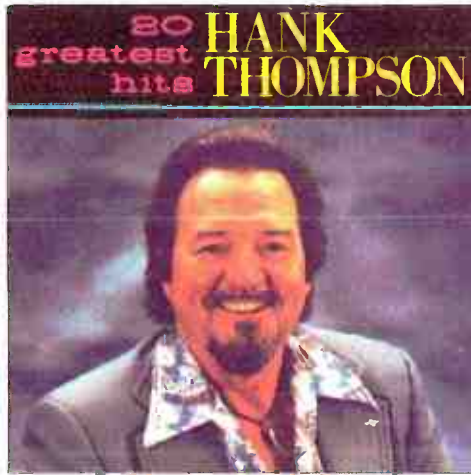
LEFTY FRIZZELL

If You've Got The Money, I've Got The Time • I Love You A Thousand Ways • Look What Thoughts Will Do • I Want To Be with You Always • Always Late With Your Kisses • Moon and Dad's Waltz • Travelin' Blues • Give Me More, More, More of Your Kisses • Don't Stay Away • Forever • Release Me • Cigarettes and Coffer Blues • The Long Black Veil • Saginaw, Michigan • She's Gone, Gone, Gone • Watermelon Time in Georgia • The Waltz of the Angels • and MORE! LP No. LP19/BTK No. T19/Cass. No. CASS19



MAC WISEMAN

Jimmy Brown • The Prisoner Song • Barbara Allen • Bringing Mary Home • Poison Love • Going Like Wildfire • Don't Make Me Go To Bed And I'll Be Good • 'Tis Sweet To Be Remembered • I Still Write Your Name In The Sand • Wash Cannonball • I Wonder How The Old Folks Are At Home • Love Letters In The Sand • I Saw Your Face In The Moon • The Waltz You Saved For Me • She's Got Leaving On Her Mind • Rocky Top • My Baby's Gone • I Heard My Mother Call My Name In Prayer • Where Is My Boy Tonight • 5 MORE! Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS32



HANK THOMPSON

Squaws Along the Yukon • Rub-A-Dub-Dub • Blackboard of My Heart • The New Green Light • The Older the Violin the Sweeter the Music • A Six Pack to Go • Who Left the Door to Heaven Open • On Tap, in the Canyon in the Bottle • Tears Are Only Rain • I've Come Awhil Close • Anybody's Girl • Wild Side of Life • Humpty Dumpty Heart • Wake Up, Inna • Oklahoma Hills • Smokey the Bar • Honky Tonk Girl • Yesterday's Girl • We've Come Too Far • Cab Driver • Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS21



GENE WATSON

Love in the Afternoon • Farewell Party • Pick the Wildwood Flower • One-Sided Conversation • Should I Come Home (Or should I go crazy) • I Don't Need a Thing at All • The Old Man and His Horn • Where Love Begins • Cowboys Don't Get Lucky All the Time • Paper Rustle • No One Will Ever Know • Bedroom Ballad • Rasin' Came in Texas • Nothing Sure Looked Good on You • You Could Know as Much About a Stranger • Bad Water • and MORE! LP No. LP25/BTK No. T25/Cassette No. CASS25



FARON YOUNG

Hello Walls • Going Steady • I Can't Help It • There Goes My Everything • Tomorrow Never Comes • When Two Worlds Collide • The Minute You're Gone • High Noon • Are You Sincere • I'll Trade My Tomorrows • Alone With You • Walk Tall • A Moment Isn't Very Long • Satisfied Mind • Almost Persuaded • The Race Is On • I Let It Slip Away • Memphis • I Could Never Be Ashamed of You • Welcome to My World • Cassette Tape Only. No. CASS29

To: *Nashville Warehouse*
 P.O. Box 1226
 Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990

Name	Artist Name	Item No.
Address		
City		
State		
Zip		

Records/8 TK/Cass. Only \$9.97 Ea.
 Add \$1.95 post. & hand. for first selection; 50¢ each additional choice.
 IMPORTANT NOTICE: This coupon is to be used only when ordering from this offer DO NOT combine offers, this delays handling

Please Allow 4 To 8 Weeks For Delivery.
 I've ordered 4 selections for the price of 3. Enclosed find \$29.91 plus \$3.45 post. & hand.
 Offer expires 12/31/90! 91090-1



More Of The Best Merle Haggard

Eighteen great hits by the legend himself. Including: *Sing A Sad Song/Branded Man/Someday We'll Look Back/Mama Tried/Silver Wings/White Line Fever/It's Not Love (But It's Not Bad)/My Own Kind Of Hat/Red Bandana/Rainbow Stew/It's All In The Movies/Ramblin' Fever*. **6 MORE!**

TO: Nashville Warehouse, P.O. Box 1226,
Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990

Send me the Merle Haggard album as checked:

— Cassette - No. R4-70917 - \$9.98

— CD - No. R2-70917 - \$14.98

(ADD \$1.99 POST. & HAND. PER ORDER)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Offer Expires 12/31/90.

91090-4

Allow 6-10 weeks for delivery.



BUCK OWENS

LIVE AT CARNEGIE HALL

Country Music Readers made it the number one selling album of the year. Here is your last chance to order yours. Featuring: *Act Naturally/Together Again/Love's Gonna Live Here/The Streets Of Laredo/I've Got A Tiger By The Tail/In The Palm Of Your Hand/Cryin' Time*, and a lot more!

Mail To: Nashville Warehouse, P.O. Box 1226,
Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990

Send me the Buck Owens album as checked:

— LP—Only \$9.98 plus \$1.95 post. & hand.

— Cassette—Only \$9.98 plus \$1.95 post. & hand.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Offer expires 12/31/90!

91090-5



Sweethearts Always Lulu Belle and Scotty

Special TWO cassette
tape collection...26
legendary hits...LESS
THAN 39¢ a song!!!

Homecoming Time In Happy Valley/Sunday School/Remember Me/Does The Spearmint Lose Its Flavor/When My Blue Moon Turns To Gold/Sweet Lips (Battle Of King Mountain)/The Empty Christmas Stocking/I'm In The Dog House Now/Have I Told You Lately That I Love You/Mountain Dew/Each Time You Leave/What You Don't Know, Won't Hurt You/Brown Mountain Light/Shortnin' Bread/I Told Them All About You/I'll Be All Smiles Tonight/Sweet Evalena/Between You And Me/Try To Live Some While You're Here/Molly Darling/The First Whippoorwill Call/Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain/Sunset Years Of Life/Bonnie Blue Eyes/Rocking Alone In An Old Rocking Chair/When I Yoo Hoo In The Valley

MAIL TO: Nashville Warehouse

P.O. Box 1226

Hendersonville, TN 37077

YES! Send me the *Lulu Belle & Scotty* two tape, 26 song collection for only \$9.98 plus \$1.95 postage & handling. (Item No. HT260/HT269)

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

91090-3

Offer expires 12/31/90!

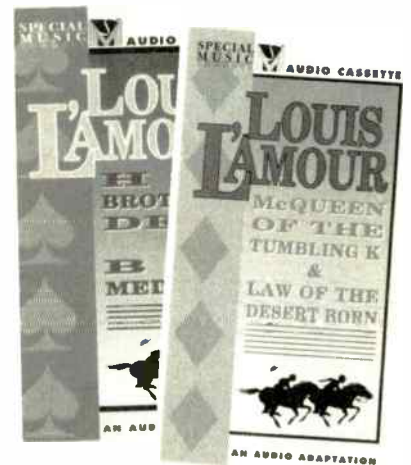
NEW LOUIS L'AMOUR

WORLD'S BEST-SELLING WESTERN ADVENTURE WRITER

NOW ON TAPE

He has been called the master of old west adventure. His books have been read and enjoyed by millions the world over. Now, for the first time ever, you can enjoy all the pulsating excitement of Louis L'Amour's best loved adventure books on cassette tape to listen to over and over again. There has never been anything like them.

• 45-60 Mins. Each • 6 To
Choose From • LOWEST
Price Anywhere • Buy Two
And SAVE EVEN MORE



TO: Nashville Warehouse

P.O. Box 5090

Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

Send me the following tapes at \$6.95 ea. (Any 2 For Only \$12.90 - \$2.00 Off) plus \$2.45 p/h:

— (XC-4211) *Riding For The Brand*

— (XC-4212) *McQueen Of The Tumbling/Law Of The Desert Born*

— (XC-4213) *Black Rock Coffin Makers*

— (XC-4214) *Trail To Pie Town/Mistakes Can Kill You*

— (XC-4215) *Four Card Draw*

— (XC-4221) *His Brother's Debt/Big Medicine*

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Offer expires 12/31/90

9100-2

Get Started **ON** GUITAR



Imagine a private lesson with Chet Atkins...and what it would be worth



You get a one-hour video, a 112 page book plus an audio cassette of the songs, all in a handsome binder.



- Split-screen closeups show you exactly how it's done.
- On-screen chord symbols let you play along as you watch.
- An on-screen clock helps you find your place.

TO: Nashville Warehouse 91090-9
P.O. Box 5090
Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
 YES, send me the Chet Atkins Video Course for \$69.95 plus \$3.00 postage and handling. (B2G)
Charge my: Visa MasterCard
Card No. _____
Expir. Date _____
Signature _____

Offer expires 12/31/90!

COLLECTABLE



HANK WILLIAMS

A few years back, Polygram Records released what is widely considered the very best Hank Williams album set of all time... "every Hank song that mattered" is how this magazine described it. Here's your chance to get a copy if you haven't already. You'll get 40 great hits in all, including: Lovesick Blues/My Bucket's Got A Hole In It/I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry/I Just Don't Like This Kind Of Living/I Can't Help It (If I'm Still In Love With You)/Hey, Good Lookin'/Crazy/(I Heard That) Lonesome Whistle/Baby, We're Really In Love/Ramblin' Man/Honky Tonk Blues/I'm Sorry For You My Friend/Half As Much/Jambalaya/Settin' The Woods On Fire/You Win Again/I'll Never Get Out Of This World Alive/Window Shopping, plus 22 MORE!

RATED * * * *

MAIL TO:
Nashville Warehouse
P.O. Box 1226
Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990

YES! Send me Hank Williams 40 Greatest Hits as checked below with a full money-back guarantee if I'm not delighted.
.... 2 LPs \$12.98 plus \$1.95 P/H
.... 2 Cassette Tapes \$12.98 plus \$1.95 P/H
.... 2 CDs \$14.98 plus \$1.95 P/H

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Allow 4 To 8 Weeks For Delivery.
Offer expires 12/31/90! 91090-8



Country Music Diamond Chip Watch

The gold plated case contrasts dramatically with its black pebble-grain leather strap. The sophisticated black dial with a single diamond chip and gold color hour, minute and sweep second hand sets a handsome tone for its quartz analog movement. The gold color Country Music message makes this new precision timekeeper a must for every fan.

TO: Nashville Warehouse, P.O. Box 1226,
Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990

YES! Send me the brand new Country Music Diamond Chip Watch for just \$19.95 plus \$2.45 postage and handling per order. (Item No. G4L)

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Offer expires 12/31/90! 91090-7

ERNEST TUBB

LIVE 1965



NEVER BEFORE RELEASED 14 Classic Country Songs

Walking the Floor Over YOU/I Love You Because/Slipping Around/Blue Eyed Elaine/You Don't Have to Be a Baby to Cry/Drivin' Nails in My Coffin/Pass the Booze/I'll Take a Back Seat for You/Thanks a Lot/Try Me One More Time/Do What You Do Well, and 3 MORE!

Records or cassettes \$8.98, CDs \$14.98, add \$1.95 post. & hand. Order by item number- LP No. LP30/Cass. No. CASS30/Compact No. CD30. Send your check or m.o.

to: Nashville Warehouse, P.O. Box 1226,
Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990 91090-10

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Record Reviews

Carlene Carter

I Fell in Love

Warner/Reprise 9 26139-2

Since the beginning of her somewhat erratic recording career (a half dozen or so albums in the past 12 years), Carlene Carter has always been a renegade. More often than not, she has distanced herself, both artistically and geographically, from both Nashville's mainstream and her own musical background. For quite a while, she lived in London, where she was married to rocker Nick Lowe and was herself a minor fixture on the British rock scene.

But Carter's musical pedigree—like her talent—is undeniable. As the daughter of June Carter Cash and the granddaughter of Mother Maybelle Carter, she's a direct third-generation descendent of the legendary Carter Family. After a long absence, she recently toured and recorded with the present Carter Family. Carlene Carter is also the daughter of rockabilly legend Carl Smith, and, of course, the stepdaughter of Johnny Cash.

I Fell in Love, Carter's fine new album (and her first in seven years), is a self-conscious yet wonderfully inspired revisit with her musical heritage. The new album rings with sultry, frisky, neo-rockabilly energy. Carlene's free-spirited vocals are punctuated time and again with playful scat-singing, yelps, yodels and squeals. The album's also rich in rootsy authenticity and filled with a heartfelt, affectionate regard for tradition.

Much like her stepsister, Rosanne Cash, this former rock 'n' roller has chosen—



wisely, it turns out—to go outside Nashville once again for inspiration and guidance. On *I Fell in Love*, she is backed by a core of West Coast musicians with impeccable credentials, many of whom float freely between Music Row sessions and the Southern California rock scene: James Burton, Albert Lee, Levon Helm, Nicolette Larson, David Lindley and Keith Knudson.

Production of *I Fell in Love* was handled by Howie Epstein, a longtime member of rock star Tom Petty's band, The Heartbreakers. Benmont Tench, another veteran Heartbreaker, who has been an instrumental presence on Rosanne Cash's more recent albums, is also featured on *I Fell in Love*, on keyboards, and as Carter's co-writer on one cut. So it's no surprise that the music on this album has a glorious sense of excitement and adventure about it. And though it features state-of-the-art production and a

revved-up and sassy Southern California-flavored *esprit de corps*, it is also delightfully and believably down-home.

"You Are the One," for instance, is a great old rockabilly ballad, a Leon Payne original that was a Number One hit for Carter's father the week she was born. She smoothly (and convincingly) retools the song for the 90's.

"My Dixie Darlin'," an old A.P. Carter original from the original Carter Family's repertoire, reaches even further back. Carlene Carter, framed by James Burton on flattop guitar and dobro, and Howie Epstein on banjo, revives the song with near-perfect inflection and conviction. "Me and The Wildwood Rose" is Carter's own moving, autobiographical salute to the musical Carter clan and to her sister and musical confederate, Rosie Carter.

Carter has long been a superb tunesmith, having had songs recorded by every-

one from Emmylou Harris and Tracy Nelson to The Doobie Brothers and The Go-Go's. She wrote or co-wrote nine of the selections herein. And there are, indeed, some fine ones.

"Goodnight Dallas" is the sort of rowdy, Texas-style, shoot-out-the-lights, rattle-the-rafters neo-honkytonk-rocker so often associated with Joe Ely. "Easy From Now On," co-written by Carter and Susanna Clark, appeared originally on Emmylou Harris's album, *Quarter Moon in a Ten Cent Town*. Harris's version of the song was a more or less gentle, ephemeral lament; Carter draws out the song's inventive lyrics and bitter sentiments, turning it into a bold affirmation of independence. "Guardian Angel," perhaps the most moving and powerfully sung cut on here, is a deeply felt declaration of rediscovered faith, optimism and renewed possibilities.

All in all, *I Fell in Love* makes you wonder how—even given her own best efforts—Carlene Carter has managed to remain an obscure cult figure for so long. Her new album leaves you with the feeling that, at long last, she may be ready for the mainstream. And—even more crucial—the mainstream may finally be ready for her.

—BOB ALLEN

Waylon Jennings

The Eagle

Epic ET 46104

Following his heart attacks and bypass surgery, Waylon Jennings might have emerged cowed, reforming himself to the point of unctious sanctimony. He could

Latest albums from Carlene Carter, Waylon Jennings, Asleep at the Wheel, Foster & Lloyd, Lacy J. Dalton, Baillie and The Boys, Lee Roy Parnell, The Bellamy Brothers, Shenandoah, John Anderson and Kelly Willis.

have immersed himself in self-conscious reassessment—he is, after all, at work on an extensive autobiography for home video—but musically, he hasn't. As evidenced by this new album, Waylon seems more focused and able to paint a broader thematic portrait of himself than he has in many years.

Interestingly, "The Eagle" delivers only hits or misses; no middle ground exists. We are lucky that in this case, there are seven hits and only three flops. First, the glory.

In the rollicking barrelhouse rocker, "Working Cheap," Waylon plows familiar ground, successfully reworking the musical essence of "Only Daddy That'll Walk the Line." "What Bothers Me Most" is a straight-forward, look-you-in-the-eye heart-breaker. "Wrong" features a wonderful, word-twisting use of that declarative expression, explaining how things aren't always what they seem to be. "Where Corn Don't Grow" is a fine piece about a father and son and growing up with a philosophical turn.

The winners continue with "Reno and Me," a road song, sort of Waylon's answer to Willie's "Me and Paul." Full of great images and relaxed rhyme schemes, this has to be one of the best-crafted songs to come out this year. In "Too Close to Call," Waylon's life seems to pass before his eyes, and while he's not sure how the man upstairs will tote it up, he stands tall. Finally, "Old Church Hymns and Nursery Rhymes" is a somewhat wordy but pretty contemporary folkie number that gives Waylon a chance to be deep and sensitive.

On the downhill side, the title song is hands down the worst tune in this collection.

It's boastful, the back-porch bravado of an overweight graybeard with a belly full of 90 proof courage. "My feathers are ruffled and I'm ready for a fight..." Ready for a nap is more like it. "Her Man" is that same wearied outlaw with a hangover, making self-satisfied assertions about going straight when the passage of time has made doing anything else impossible. Boring. "Waking Up With You" is just a hillbilly Hallmark card, right down to the rhyming couplet form.

On the balance scales, though, seven-to-three is one of Waylon's best efforts in some time. —BOB MILLARD

Asleep at the Wheel
Keepin' Me Up Nights
Arista AL-8550

With no apologies to anyone, I say that something is wrong when Asleep at the Wheel isn't bigger than it is on country radio. The overly-cautious fidgets who program country radio flood it with "safely familiar" stuff like old Eagles, Credence

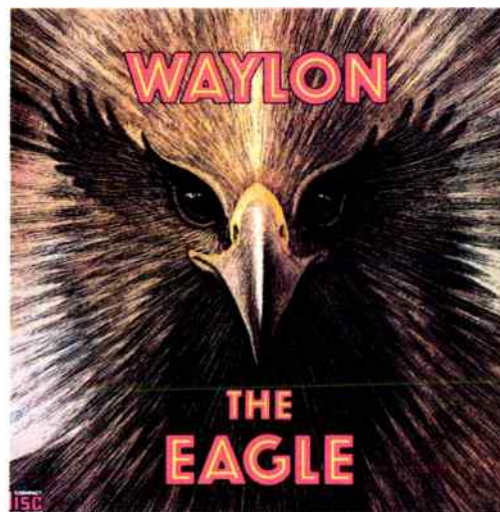
Clearwater and every George Strait single ever released till they've nearly choked the flow of new and divergent sounds down to a trickle. Asleep at the Wheel, which has won two of its three nominated Grammy Awards in the past two years, makes records that come as close to 100 percent pure perfect as does Ivory soap. *Keepin' Me Up Nights* is Exhibit A in that case.

Oh, well, if country radio is mainly a ballad format, Asleep at the Wheel is made for dance halls where the natives are fluent in the two-step, Cotton-eyed Joe and a variety of boot heel-scuffing shuffles. This album draws on influences that range from Louis Jordan, Bob Wills, Ray Charles and Commander Cody to earlier Asleep at the Wheel and other classic dance ensembles with jazz. Western, rock and boogie woogie roots. Wheel's leader/lead singer Ray Benson writes a few, including the good advice in "Dance With Who Brung You." Spry and uptempo, it says as much about Benson's 20-year dedication to the many aspects of

Western swing as it does to filial monogamy.

The band reaches back to the classic "Beat Me Daddy (Eight to the Bar)" and gets a contribution from another of the band's founders, former-Wheeler Larry Preston, in "That's the Way Love Is." Preston certainly understands the essence of this band and this eclectic dance repertoire as well as anyone, but what's interesting is the number of other notable Music Row songsmiths who have also brought their talent to Western dance styles. Harlan Howard contributes "You Don't Have to Go to Memphis," while Fred Knoblock, formerly of SKO/SKB, chimes in with "Gone But Not Forgotten." Restless Heart's mentor and songwriting regular (now Arista Records' chief), Tim DuBois, also pitches in with Benson on one called "Quittin' Time." It's a good 'un, and I don't say that only because DuBois just bought my house in Nashville after my recent move to Dallas.

The key to this record's success is something Benson has repeatedly said, even



Record Reviews

when he was between labels and hustling hard for a commercial connection: "Do what you do well." What Asleep at the Wheel does well is arrange and improvise great boot-scootin', Western-style dance music. This record is so nearly perfect because it comes from a band that knows what it wants to do, has done it for 20 years and makes no moves toward matinee idolism. Working in a musical style that often seems diluted half to death with clones and oldies, Asleep at the Wheel just keeps on turning out honest, finely-crafted dance music.

—BOB MILLARD

Foster & Lloyd Version of the Truth RCA 2113-2-R

I've made no secret of my enthusiasm for Radney Foster and Bill Lloyd's combination of rockabilly, Bakersfield Sound and 1960's folk-rock. Their first two albums reflected a wit and strong sense of themselves that was beguiling without being too far out of the mainstream. Their quirky humor gave them a style that no one could imitate. All in all, not a bad combination.

So as a Foster and Lloyd fan, writing this one ain't gonna be any fun, for the boys

have gotten themselves into one big rut. These two gifted artists have created an album that sounds like one song repeated over and over. The band gets a great groove, as on their past two albums, but it's so samey you get weary of it in short order.

Except for "All Said and Done," which Radney and Bill wrote with Vince Gill, the lyrics are just as samey: one-dimensional exercises like "I'm shakin' my head...I'm movin' it back and forth...side to side/Indicatin' 'no way...too late'...we tried once before/So whatcha doin' comin' back for more." The rest don't get much better, and the "humor" in titles like "I Wishdaida Run Into You" (the actual spelling) get tiring real quick.

I'm all for humor, yet the lack of variety coupled with the unending stream of "hey baby, how ya doin' sorry we split but I'm over it now" numbers makes the entire set sadly tedious and affected. To make matters worse, the strongest track on the album is an instrumental. Available on the compact disc version only, "Whoa" kicks like a mule, in part because it has no excess baggage: no inane lyrics and no desperate attempts at wit that never get off the ground. This all-star jam, with Felix Cavaliere, organist for the 60's rock band, Rascals, guitar-

ists Duane Eddy and Albert Lee, Poco's steel player, Rusty Young, and former Bruce Springsteen bassist, Garry Tallent, is the only saving grace here.

So in the end, where does this leave us? Is it fair to characterize Foster and Lloyd simply as one-hitters who ran out of gas? They need to use the great beginning they had a couple of years ago to build on and mature. The more they rehash, the sillier they get, the less credible they seem. The opening line of "It's Over" says it all: "Long walk... short pier." You two can do better—*much* better—than this.

—RICH KIENZLE

Lacy J. Dalton Lacy J Capitol C4-93912

Setting aside the fact that her powerful singing style is perhaps a bit too gutsy, bluesy, and fluttery for general consumption by the Wonder Bread-eating country radio audience, it's still a big question mark why Lacy J. Dalton has never quite managed to emerge as the superstar people once thought she was destined to become.

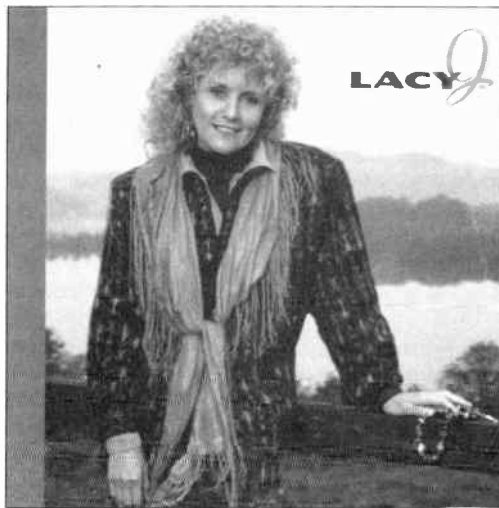
When they first signed her in the early 1980's, CBS

Records spent mucho bucks promoting Dalton as sort of a latterday, countrified Janis Joplin. They even pulled off the publicity coup of landing her on the cover of *Time Magazine* even before she'd had a hit record. Unfortunately, all the high-priced hype and promotion never translated into significant record sales. And the eight or nine albums that she recorded with star-maker Billy Sherrill (of George Jones and Tammy Wynette fame) never made more than a ripple in the charts.

Lacy J, Dalton's newest album, is her first since her 1987 album, *Survivor*, and only her second since 1985, when she left CBS. Though it's not great by a long shot, *Lacy J* is good enough to leave listeners wondering—again—why this now middle-aged veteran spent the last half of the 80's virtually label-less and is still in the trenches scrapping to get her career together.

On *Lacy J* (co-produced by the one and only Jimmy Bowen, along with James Stroud and Dalton herself), Dalton has relied heavily on the songwriting team of Even Stevens and Hillary Kanter. Working with them, she co-wrote two songs—"Shaky Ground," a duet with Glen Campbell, another misplaced veteran—and the graphic "Turn to a Little Third-Rate Romance." No fewer than seven of these ten songs are from Stevens and Kanter.

Several of these compositions soar far above the ordinary and inspire Dalton to some fine vocal performances. She shines on "Black Coffee," a stunning classic in the making: a grim, grainy, light-and-shadow portrait of everyday despair in the face of a disintegrating relationship. "That Road" is another stand-out: a free-wheeling celebration of personal freedom and the open road written in the tradition of "Me 'n' Bobby McGee." It showcases Dalton's world-weary, tough but tender, ragged and ram-



HOMEOWNERS!

Rid your property of Unsightly Brush Piles!

...with the amazing TROY-BILT TOMAHAWK® Chipper/Shredder!

NOW!
Low Priced
3 HP Junior Model
Available!

- **2 great machines in one:** completely separate shredding and chipping action for superior performance!
- **It's a powerful chipper...** handles big branches up to 3" in diameter with ease!
- **It's an efficient shredder...** turns almost any organic matter into perfect mulch and compost almost immediately!
- **Revolutionary New Compact Design...** 7 ways better than bulky "old-style" chipper/shredders!
- **Beautify your property...** get rid of ugly brush...use the resulting wood chip mulch around trees and borders to give your home a "professionally landscaped" look!
- **Make mountains of FREE mulch and compost...** Have your most productive garden ever...without having to buy expensive store bought mulch and fertilizer!
- **Save time and work...** shredded mulch means less weeding and watering!
- **Shred all those fall leaves...** into fine textured mulch or compost material instantly!
- **Professional quality...Industrial strength construction...** designed, sized, and priced for the homeowner!
- **3 Model Sizes...** for small suburban lots to big country properties!
- **At Home 30 Day TRIAL OFFER!**
- **SPECIAL SAVINGS and FREE BONUS OFFER now in effect!**

Turn a brush pile like this...



INTO FREE MULCH
in less than one hour!



Why put up with unsightly brush piles any longer?

Turn all your organic throw-aways into useful wood chip mulch and compost material...have the kind of place you've always dreamed of...with the quick and efficient TOMAHAWK® Chipper/Shredder!

For FREE Information Call 1-800-441-2727 Dept. 2229 Anytime, or MAIL THIS COUPON OR CARD TODAY!



TROY-BILT Mfg. Co., Dept. A2229
102nd St. & 9th Ave., Troy, N.Y. 12180

YES I want to know more about the amazing Super TOMAHAWK Chipper/Shredder including your low priced 3HP Model for smaller property sizes! Please send me full details of prices, all model sizes, and SPECIAL SAVINGS OFFER right away! 3 13

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Also Available in Canada

Record Reviews

bling singing style at its enticing best.

Throughout the album, the tracks are highlighted by exemplary electric and acoustic guitar work courtesy of Reggie Young, Billy Joe Walker Jr., Brent Rowan (who has long been an essential part of The Judds' studio sound) and others.

Unfortunately, not all of the songs linger as long in memory as "Black Coffee." A few of the more run-of-the-mill country ballads fail to give Dalton ample room to strut her vocal chops, which draw as heavily from rock 'n' roll and blues influences as from country. Still, *Lacy J* manages to be the sort of solid and satisfying—if less than spectacular—effort that Dalton needs to put her back on the road towards the status and recognition that she's so long and truly deserved.

—BOB ALLEN

Baillie and The Boys *The Lights of Home* RCA/BMG 2114-4-RDJ

Baillie and The Boys, a vocal trio recently trimmed down to a duo, has been through more than its share of career crises, shuffles and transitions in the past several years. At this point, given the way that the group emerges on its noteworthy new album, *The Lights of Home*, it might be better named "Baillie and Bonagura," or better yet, "Baillie and The Boy."

Lead singer Kathie Baillie and her husband, guitarist-harmony singer-songwriter, Michael Bonagura, now comprise, for all practical purposes, Baillie and The Boys. Founding member Alan LeBeouf departed the group last year and was replaced in a somewhat limited capacity by Lance Hoppen, a former singer with the pop group, Orleans. Hoppen's only "official" credit on the new album is as a background vocalist,

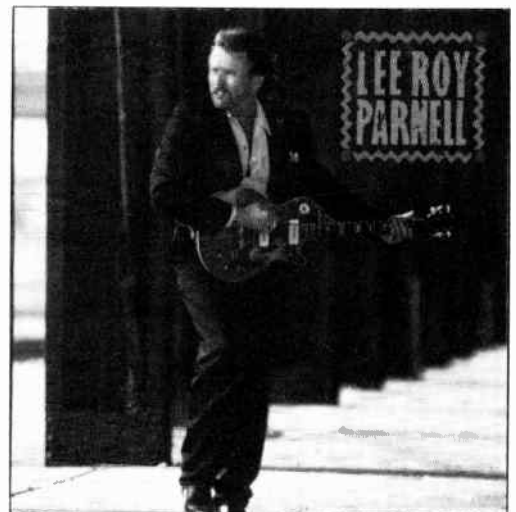


lumped in with all the other session players.

The Lights of Home sounds more like a solo outing for Kathie Baillie than did either of the group's first two albums. She handles all the lead vocals, while her husband's presence is subtly felt on the harmonies and occasional guitar solos and on the four strong original tunes he's contributed.

Whoever made the decision to go in this direction, it was a wise one. Baillie is by nature a folksy, low-key, yet commanding vocalist, capable of giving even an old rock 'n' roll chestnut like Bill Trader's "Fool Such As I" a soft, coffee-house-by-candlelight feeling. She has ample talent and versatility, not to mention enough strong material to help her shoulder the weight of the spotlight. Her grounding in 60's and 70's folk-pop music is being put to good use.

The new album opens with "Can't Stand to Be Unhappy," a punchy but melancholy lament full of romantic discontent, written by Hugh Prestwood. Also appearing on side one is the wonderful title song, written by veteran Rory Michael Bourke. Powerful and folkie, this ballad gets one's attention. It's emotional and melodic, the kind of a song that could make a big difference in a singer's career.



Bonagura's four originals (three co-written with the prolific Nashville writer, Pat Bunch) anchor the album in the real feelings and details of Baillie's and Bonagura's lives. "Treat Me Like a Stranger," "So Strong" and "I'd Love To" all deal, at least to some extent, with the rewards, travails and challenges of the couple's lives and their long-term relationship. So does Baillie's one outstanding original, "I Love Our Love."

This introspective touch was sorely missing from the group's two previous albums. Its presence gives *The Lights of Home* a delightful new dimension, mature and musically centered, and moves this talented husband and wife team's blossoming career another solid step forward.

—BOB ALLEN

Lee Roy Parnell *Lee Roy Parnell* Arista ARCD 8625

Here's more supporting evidence that Arista Records' country division is getting off to a smoking start: the hottest rhythm-and-blues/rockabilly/country singer I've heard since Delbert McClinton 14 years ago is Lee Roy Parnell. The 33-year-old Parnell, a Texan like Delbert, has a typically

eclectic Texas background. His mother was a Sam Cooke fan; Bob Wills was a family friend, and Lee Roy himself spent a dozen years as a road musician and songwriter.

Producer Barry Beckett has surrounded Parnell with a hot and nasty little band and turned out ten numbers (seven of them written or co-written by Parnell himself) that, taken together, soar from beginning to end. The pitfalls that sometimes dog such artists, shallow bar band songs, studied remakes of oldies and phony machismo, are refreshingly absent. Everything here's real and then some, and by and large the songs stand on their own.

Beginning with the roaring "Oughta Be a Law," written by Parnell and Nicholson and Dan Penn, Parnell and company set a churning, swampy tone that dominates the entire record. "Fifty-Fifty Love," written by Parnell and Nicholson, and "You're Taking Too Long," penned by Parnell, Nicholson and Rory Bourke, both bring life to the classic Fort Worth blues shuffle, with Parnell's slashing slide guitar standing out on the latter track.

The muted, aching tone of "Where Is My Baby Tonight," written by Graham Lyle and Troy Seals, works well, though Parnell's voice was buried in the mix (on this



**MARTY ROBBINS
Super Legend-120 mins.**

This memorable video features 18 performances: *El Paso/White Sport Coat/Devil Woman/Ribbon Of Darkness/Singing The Blues/I Couldn't Keep From Cryin'/Don't Worry 'Bout Me/This Time You Gave Me A Mountain*, and many more, including Marty's Grammy winning song, *My Woman, My Woman, My Wife*. It also includes rare appearances from early television shows and the big screen, as well as exciting clips from his racing career. You'll also hear fitting remembrances from fellow stars like Roy Acuff, Faron Young and Barbara Mandrell.

**MARTY ROBBINS
A Man And His Music-55 mins.**

This additional Marty Robbins video was recorded live at the Opry in 1980. "Funnin' around" was what he called it. And that's precisely what this video is all about. It includes his version of Elvis' *That's All Right (Mama)*, plus these other great selections: *Ribbon Of Darkness/A White Sport Coat/Devil Woman/Big Iron/My Woman, My Woman, My Wife/Among My Souvenirs/Don't Worry/El Paso*.

**GEORGE STRAIT LIVE!
The Dallas Reunion Arena-52 mins.**

Now, this platinum-selling country superstar is captured for the first time on video cassette. Backed by his famed *Ace In The Hole* Band, he whips up the audience performing all of his greatest hits, including: *The Fireman/The Cowboy Rides Away/Amarillo By Morning/All My Ex's Live In Texas/Any Old Time/Hot Burning Flames/Dance Time In Texas/A Six Pack To Go/Marina Del Rey/You Look So Good In Love* • AND MORE!

**MUSIC CITY U.S.A.
A Star Studded Nashville Visit-81 mins.**

Take a nostalgic tour of Music City U.S.A. with T. Tommy Cutrer, as he leads you through some of country music's most famous attractions. Of course, you'll meet some of your favorite stars: Loretta Lynn, Charlie Louvin, Jean Shepard, Webb Pierce, Dave Dudley and more. And hear some of your favorite hits: *Wine Women & Song/Second Fiddle/Orange Blossom Special/Six Days On The Road/Memory Number One* • 5 MORE!

**COUNTRY MUSIC ON BROADWAY
Filmed 1964, New York City, 96 mins.**

Here is the first full length country music movie ever filmed. See the legendary Hank Williams in his only filmed appearance, uncut and crystal clear. Enjoy 30 full musical numbers by Hank and other great headliners like George Jones, Hank Snow, Porter Wagoner, Wilma Lee and Stony Cooper. Here's just a sample: *Hank Sr.-Hey Good Looking/George Jones-White Lightning/She Thinks I Still Care/Hank Snow-Moving On/Now And Then There's A Fool Such As I/Porter Wagoner-Satisfied Mind/One Way Ticket To The Blues* • PLUS MORE!

**ROY ORBISON LIVE IN TEXAS
A Special Tribute You Will Treasure**

His words and music touched the hearts of millions. The timeless quality of his recordings resulted in over 50 million sales in four different decades. Now you can relive, forever, all the magic that was and will always remain Roy Orbison, with this fabulous video of Roy live onstage in Texas. It's 45 minutes of great hits like: *Only The Lonely/In Dreams/Oh, Pretty Woman/Running Scared/Mean Woman Blues/Candy Man/Crying/It's Over*.

**KEITH WHITLEY
I Wonder Do You Think Of Me**

On May 9, 1989, near the completion of the *I Wonder Do You Think Of Me* album, Keith Whitley passed away. One of his last conversations was of how much this record meant to him. He lives on in our hearts with this wonderful tribute featuring: *Don't Close Your Eyes/ I'm No Stranger To The Rain/Ain't Nothin' Homecoming/Hard Livin'/When You Say Nothing At All*...plus a tribute by Country Music Television's Stan Hitchcock. 30 mins.

**THE JUDDS
Across The Heartland-50 mins.**

Here is a story of special camaraderie and extraordinary love between two friends who just happen to be mother and daughter. For the first time on video, the Judds reveal themselves and their music in an exciting collection of stage, TV and radio appearances. Included are all these great songs: *Have Mercy/Dreamchaser/I Know Where I'm Going/Girl's Night Out/Why Not Me/A Mother's Smile/Grandpa/Old Pictures* • PLUS 4 MORE!

**TAMMY WYNETTE IN CONCERT
Live From The Capitol Music Hall**

It's the first lady of country music coming to you live on stage in this brilliant performance as she sings her heart out and shows off her astonishing talent to a grateful Wheeling, West Virginia audience. In a show that's chock-full of country music classics, Tammy sings her greatest songs, including: *My Man/Turn Around/You Light Up My Life/Makin' Lovell Don't Wanta Play House/Til I Can Make It On My Own/Amazing Grace/D-I-V-O-R-C-E/Will The Circle Be Unbroken *Plus, Tammy's all time greatest hit: Sund By Your Man*. It's 60 unforgettable mins.

**LORETTA LYNN
In Concert-61 mins.**

Here is the "Coal Miner's Daughter" in living color onstage at Harrah's in Reno. It's a one of a kind performance featuring: *You're Lookin' At Country/Take Me Home, Country Roads/Out Of My Head And Back In Bed/Pregnant Again/One's On The Way/I Saw The Light/Wine Women & Song/Foggy Mountain Breakdown/Don't Come Home A Drinkin'/They Don't Make 'Em Like My Daddy/Coal Miner's Daughter* • 10 MORE!

**MERLE HAGGARD
The Best Of Merle Haggard-60 Mins.**

"I have selected some of my favorite songs for this video...and I hope they will be your favorites too!" - Merle Haggard. You be the judge: *My Favorite Memory/Stay Here And Drink/Mama's Hungry Eyes/Today I Started Loving You Again/Old Man From The Mountains/Kern River/If I Could Only Fly/When Times Were Good/Honky-Tonk Night Time Man/Ida Red/Big City/Okie From Muskogee/Footlights* • 6 MORE!

**MERLE HAGGARD
Poet Of The Common Man-45 mins.**

Due to the overwhelming popularity of Merle's *Best Of* tape, we have made this addition to our video showcase. Vignettes of Merle reciting his own poetry, short stories and memories only enhance his live performance of hits like: *Kern River/A Place To Full Apart/Today I Started Loving You Again/Rumbin' Fever/Workin' Man Blues/The Moment I Lost You/Silver Wings/My Favorite Memory/Footlights* • PLUS 3 MORE!

FREE GEORGE STRAIT RECORD OFFER:

Here's a great special for George Strait fans. When you order George's Dallas Reunion Arena video we will automatically send you his 1989 No. 1 album *Beyond The Blue Neon*...FREE! You'll love the video and you'll love listening to these fabulous LP hits: *Beyond The Blue Neon/Hollywood Squares/Overnight Success/Ace In The Hole/Baby's Gotten Good At Goodbye/What's Going On In Your World?/Angel, Angelina/Too Much Of Too Little/Oh Me, Oh My Sweet Baby* • AND MORE!

TO: Nashville Warehouse
P.O. Box 5090
Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

Name
Street
City
State
Zip
Check/m.o. enclosed for: _____
Charge: Visa MasterCard
Card No.:
Expiration Date: _____
Signature: _____

- Marty Robbins - Super Legend (G2A) \$39.95
- Marty Robbins - Man & His Music (G1G) \$39.95
- George Strait (G2G) & FREE LP (R2B) \$29.95
- Music City USA (G8G) \$59.95
- On Broadway (G8F) \$59.95
- Roy Orbison (G1A) \$19.95
- Keith Whitley (G1C) \$19.95
- The Judds (G6A) \$39.95
- Tammy Wynette (G1F) \$29.95
- Loretta Lynn (G6D) \$39.95
- Best Of Merle (G3F) \$19.95
- Merle - Poet Of (G5B) \$19.95

Offer expires 12/31/90! 91090-6 Add \$2.50 Postage & Handling!



Con Gen Gar intc aga Wes mat Uly

int the otl
Tr de
I to of ing Fu Ta ev on la ar Se ar

Elvis

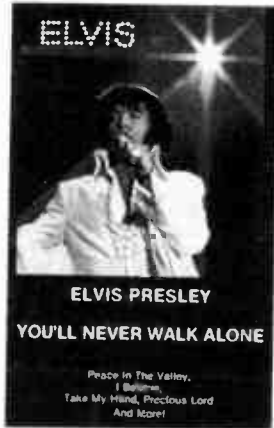
HERITAGE CATALOG

SPECIAL FREE BONUS OFFER!
Order Any 2 Items Below And We Will
Also Send You This Year's 1990 Elvis
Presley Photo Calendar...**FREE!**



Deluxe 3-Album Set 50 YEARS/50 HITS

There has never been a more complete set than this 50th anniversary collection featuring: Heartbreak Hotel/I Want You, I Need You, I Love You/Viva Las Vegas/Puppet On A String/Wonder Of You/Devil In Disguise/Kissin' Cousins/All Shook Up/One Broken Heart For Sale/Good Luck Charm/Love Me Tender/If I Can Dream/Don't Cry Daddy, and a lot more! Pick LP or cassette.



NEVER WALK ALONE

Here is one of the bestselling cassette tapes of all time. It features: Who Am I?/You'll Never Walk Alone/Let Us Pray/There'll Be Peace In The Valley/We Call On Him/I Believe/It Is No Secret/Sing You Children/Take My Hand, Precious Lord. Special low price.

1991 CALENDAR & ENGAGEMENT BOOK

Choose the always popular 12" x 24" Wall Calendar or the 52-week 7" x 9" Calendar Engagement Book that's brand new this year. Both feature fantastic photos of "The King." Supplies are limited so order yours now!

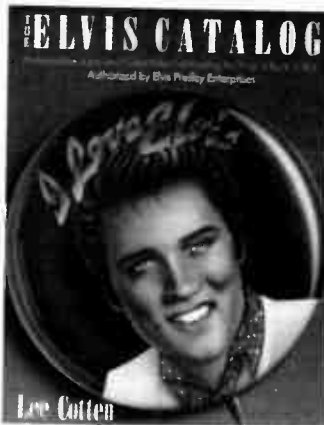


ELVIS PRESLEY CAP

Wear the Elvis name proudly with this handsome fully vented cap. One size fits all. Only 60 left, so it's first come first serve.

THE ELVIS CATALOG

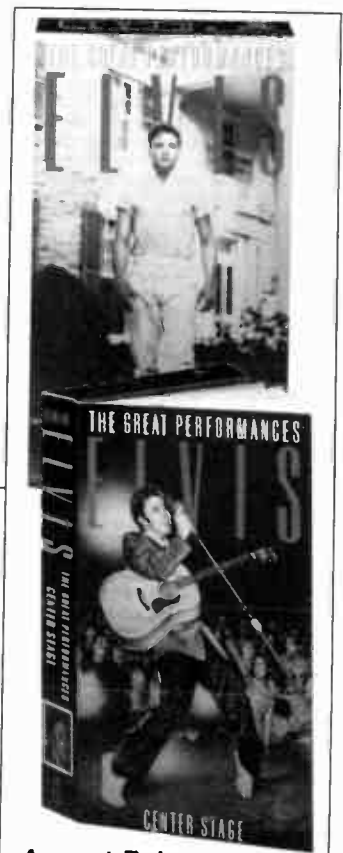
Elvis Presley still lives, not only through the inimitable sound of his music, but in the hundreds of items bearing his image. *The Elvis Catalog* explores the extraordinary wonder that was Elvis. This book is a complete guide for the avid collector, and for millions of fans. It's a striking portrait of the man behind the legend. It is the most unique book of its kind. For Elvis fans, it is an absolute must!



Pre-Publication Sale Early September Release...

THE BOY WHO WOULD BE KING

This is the controversial new book that all the talk is about. Authored by Elvis' second cousin Earl Greenwood, who calls himself Elvis' closest confidant, it has already received full coverage in Penthouse Magazine. It's due in bookstores in late September. But if you reserve your copy now you can SAVE 10%! Get yours and judge it for yourself. Hardcover.



August Release- Two Brand New Videos ELVIS: THE GREAT PERFORMANCES

Here are the two brand new videos that everyone has been waiting for. Included is a newly discovered first-ever recording - My Happiness ... the first Hollywood screen test ... controversial live performances. Written and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Andrew Solt there is even an 8-page limited edition collector's booklet included. There are 27 hits in all. Choose either Volume One (Center Stage) or Volume Two (The Man And The Music), or order both. The special low price makes them a welcome addition to every video library.

TO: Nashville Warehouse
P.O. Box 5090
Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

Name.....
Address.....
City.....
State.....Zip.....
Credit Card Orders
(Over \$20 Only):
..... Visa Master Card
Card No
Expir. Date

Signature

Allow 4-8 Weeks For Delivery!
Offer expires 12/31/90!

91090-11

Send me these great Elvis items:

- 50 Years/50 Hits
- LP (R1A) - \$19.98
- Cassette (C2A) - \$19.98
- You'll Never Walk Alone
- Cassette (CAK2472) - \$4.98
- '91 Calendar (G5E) - \$9.95
- Date Book (G5A) - \$12.95
- Cap (G1W) - \$7.95
- Elvis Catalog (B2B) - \$17.95
- The Boy Who Would Be King
- (B2A) - \$17.95 (\$2.00 OFF)
- Vol. 1 Center Stage Video
- (G5F) - \$19.98
- Vol. 2 Man & His Music Video
- (G5H) - \$19.98
- **FREE BONUS:** I've Ordered
- 2 Or More Items. Send My
- FREE 1990 Calendar (G4O).**

Record Reviews

track, not the rest). "Crocodile Tears," a collaboration between Parnell and ex-Asleep at the Wheel member, Leroy Preston, is just about what the title indicates, while Dave Durocher and Jeannie Smith's "Family Tree" takes a hard-rocking and unapologetic ride through the world of crime.

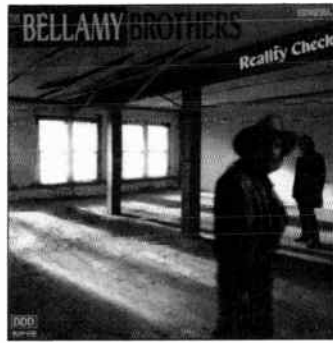
"Let's Pretend," written by Parnell and Cris Moore, and "Down Deep" pay homage to the time-honored Louisiana/Texas swamp ballad traditions of Tommy McClain and Dale and Grace. Parnell and Moore also wrote "Mexican Money," the album's weakest song. Hot arrangement aside, this chronicle of a love affair between an American worker and a Mexican woman is simply too predictable to mean much. Better is the closing rockabilly tune, "Red Hot," not, thank God, the overdone Billy Lee Riley tune from Sun Records but a Parnell-Moore collaboration that burns rubber from note one. Catch Parnell's slide guitar duel with saxophonist Joe McGlohon's sax.

How will Parnell fare amid New Traditionalism and this new crew of singer-songwriters writing bad 70's style pop in Nashville and calling it country? I'm not sure. All I do know is that his debut, like Alan Jackson's, packs more punch than anything I've heard for awhile. I can think of a few artists off their game in the past couple of years who ought to get themselves signed to Arista. It couldn't hurt—and it just might help.

—RICH KIENZLE

The Bellamy Brothers *Reality Check* MCA 42340

The Bellamys offer something unusual (for them) here. This is a record without the sort of grubby-fingered, backhanded compliment-as-insult to women represented by songs like "If I Said You



Had a Beautiful Body Would You Hold It Against Me," "Do You Love as Good as You Look" or "I'd Lie to You For Your Love." In fact, this seems one of the more sensitive outings made by this duo. Still, it's a mixed bag.

"Makin' Promises" serves up a sweet tribute to monogamy on the platter of a retread melody and groove ("Get Into Reggae Cowboy" comes to mind). This song is one of five on the ten-tune collection co-written with Superstar Nashville clefter, Don Schlitz. None are up to Schlitz's even second-best work, but his influence seems to have been enough to put David Bellamy on a more introspective track.

"I Could Be Persuaded," another Schlitz-aided composition, is a mongrel decked out in Everly Brothers harmonies whose most memorable elements seem like melody lines lifted from "Listen to the Rhythm of the Falling Rain" and guitar/sax licks adapted from The Rolling Stones' "I'm Just Waiting for a Friend."

David expresses some fairly reasonable environmental and social concerns with "What's This World Coming To." I've always admired the social commentary side of his repertoire. Tunes like "What's This World," "Redneck Girl" and "Baby Boom" show he can be a keen observer of things most country songwriters rarely put down on paper. Or maybe he and Howard are just the only ones who will record that sort of left-field



gem.

The title cut is just clever, trendy word play; not bad, just not particularly good. "Forever Ain't Long Enough" is such an artless spud love song that I like to imagine that David sent it out on Music Row without his name on it. There's not another name artist alive who would have committed this drivel to wax. On the other hand, "Have a Little Compassion" is a genuinely decent song with a genuinely sensitive (there's that word again) theme.

Even by Bellamy Brothers standards, this album is journeyman work.

—BOB MILLARD

Shenandoah *Extra Mile* CBS CT 45490

The phenomenal, out-of-the-blue success of Alabama in the early 1980's spawned the formation of dozens of Southern, all-guy bands with catchy geographic place names, all eager to hop aboard the bandwagon. Atlanta, Mason-Dixon and Shiloh were just three examples. Before this insidious trend finally cooled, there were so many bands and the situation had reached such comic proportions that you probably could have invented a board game out of it.

Shenandoah is one of the very few of these generic Southern place-name bands to survive into the 90's. In point of fact, they've done much more than survive. The

five members have struggled out from beneath the not wholly deserved public perception of them as Alabama clones and forged a clear-cut and impressive commercial identity of their own. With three consecutive Number One singles—"Church on Cumberland Road," "Sunday in the South" and "Two Dozen Roses," all from their 1989 album, *The Road not Taken*, they've become a force to be reckoned with on the record charts.

Extra Mile, Shenandoah's latest album, confirms the band's musical skills and rock-solid commercial instincts. It's true, the band's style tends to be cautious and formulaic. These good ol' boys, none of whom actually hail from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, seldom startle the listener. Their saving grace is that they deliver Southern homilies and clichés about the wholesomeness of small-town life down in Dixie with what sounds like utter conviction. Songs like "Daddy's Little Man" and "Puttin' New Roots Down" lay it on thick as dollops of molasses dripping off a plate of fried hominy grits.

Beneath the well-packaged Southern romanticism (and sentimentality) and beyond the well-aimed pitches for the musical mainstream lie significant talent and style, particularly in the person of lead singer Marty Raybon. This man, whose singing sounds at times like Randy Owen's, can breathe pain, pathos and conviction into heart-twisting ballads like "Ghost in This House" and "When You Were Mine."

None of the songs on *Extra Mile* were written by the bandmembers, but they are well-chosen. Co-producers Rick Hall and Robert Byrne co-wrote two of them. Among the more noteworthy titles are "She's a Natural" by rising star Lionel Cartwright, and "I Got You" by Teddy Gentry and Greg Fowler of the Alabama organization.

I'd be hard-pressed at this

Record Reviews

point to say that Shenandoah is breaking new musical ground or setting the world on fire with originality. But they turn up moments of freshness and vitality plowing in the furrows where others (Alabama not the least among them) have gone before.

—BOB ALLEN

John Anderson *Too Tough to Tame* Capitol 4 93915

A decade ago John Anderson was one of the first artists to legitimately be referred to as a New Traditionalist. He had a streak of hits from 1980-83 that included "I'm Just an Old Chunk of Coal," "Wild and Blue" and "Swingin'." In the context of the Urban Cowboy pop/schlock sound then in vogue, his records stood out like granite boulders of integrity.

Different as his sound seemed during that period, Anderson's hits gradually petered out, and, irony of ironies, when the approach he pioneered finally *did* catch on, through Randy, Dwight and Ricky Van Shelton, Anderson didn't share the glory—with the exception of one Top Ten hit in 1986. He left Warner Brothers for MCA, where he underwent an identity crisis of sorts. The focus of his original music was watered down and wasted, thanks to some incredibly weak material.

To some extent, his association with Capitol solves some of those problems, but not all. The material here is wildly uneven: at times witty and brilliant, at other times cut and dried. At his best, Anderson sings like it was the last song he'd ever record; at his worst he sounds preoccupied.

"Too Tough to Tame," which Anderson wrote with Max D. Barnes, and "The Tears That I Cry," an Ander-



son-Paul Kennerley effort, are both too predictable and facile to work. On the other hand, Troy Seals' and Eddie Setser's "Guitars That Won't Stay in Tune" is a comical look at life on the road that has the ring of truth.

"Tryin' to Make a Livin' On the Road," which Anderson tackles with all stops out, deals with the time-honored trucker themes in an entertaining if not terribly original manner. Co-written by Anderson and longtime writing partner Lionel Delmore, it was probably destined to be one of the stronger numbers here since both men know how to write for Anderson. Alas, it's followed by "Maybe Go Down," one of Paul Overstreet's flattest ballads ever.

"Who's Lovin' My Baby" glistens with echoes of 1950's Lefty Frizzell, its loping beat perfect for one whose voice still carries the Frizzell influence, though John's vocal range is somewhat lower these days. The powerful love ballad, "When the Darkness Falls," another Anderson-Kennerley collaboration, and the clever "She Worships the Quicksand That I Walk On," an unconventional love song, are both among the best moments here.

Another Anderson-Delmore tune, the witty "Bamboo Annie," a World War II love story set in the South Pacific, differs so much from the rest of the material on the album that I keep coming back to it. Given the impression it makes, it's hard to believe that the mediocre

love song, "There Was a Time When I Was Alone," is a product of the same pair of writers. Anderson's delivery could have made a difference on this one, but it's so flat that the song never leaves square one.

I still don't get it. Some of these performances will stand with his best. A few, like "Quicksand," could restore him to his rightful place at the upper end of the charts. And overall, the project is somewhat of an improvement over past MCA albums. Yet the unevenness here disturbs me. How can such gems be surrounded by so much dull filler? Why is Anderson's direction so inconsistent? He still deserves far better.

—RICH KIENZLE



Kelly Willis *Well Travelled Love* MCAD-6390

This skinny little Austin, Texas, girl packs a wallop. She belts out this ten-song debut like a cross between Dwight Yoakam and a Crystal Gayle who cares more about the spirit of the song than perfecting her own diction. Kelly emerges from the same developmental stable as The Wagoners, but she has an advantage in having her record label's top producer, Tony Brown, to work with. Willis manages to do what The Wagoners (who are the better live act) have yet to do—capture on record all the vitality of Austin's young country scene.

The tunes are drawn from powerhouse, off-center country writers like Paul Kennerley, Steve Earle and Richard Dobson, The Wagoners' Monte Warden and John Hiatt, with a rich dose of Texas roadhouse country from Kelly's drummer, Mas Palermo. As a cleffer, Palermo is a real find, too. It's Texas roadhouse country with a vengeance, a mixed bag of influences—mostly 1950's and 60's sounds—from Buddy Holly to early Waylon, swizzled around by Doug Sahm and Lonnie Mack and flavored with just a taste of early Beatles and late Ernest Tubb instrumental flourishes. Texans have a whole lot broader definition of "country" than most big-city country radio stations will allow. If you can drink and dance to it, Texans don't draw lines between what's country, rock, rhythm or blues. If Willis has any marks against her here, it's being wholeheartedly Texan in that manner.

Willis presents—in her unaffected, flat-out vocal style—a set of songs that hit the spot. For the most part, they put love and hurt right on the line in plain, unvarnished lines like "Now I got a hole in my heart/I seem to be missing a part..." or the challenge of "Full tank of gas babe and nothin' but time/Easy path laid out by the highway lines/Four lanes to chose from and every one of them fast."

There's a bit of the campy cowpunk scamp here, an unself-conscious hipness that seems to say, "Here I am world, comin' at you 90 miles an hour and both eyes open." She's a gusto singer, projecting a raw, unblushing, true energy that invites comparison to early Loretta Lynn—not stylistically, but in spirit. I'd be lying if I said there weren't any rough edges on this record; even more so if I didn't say that's what makes it so exhilarating.

—BOB MILLARD

COUNTRY MUSIC CLASSIFIED

ADDRESSES

CELEBRITIES ADDRESSES: 7,000 addresses, \$20. ACS, 1770 North Highland Avenue, #434, Dept. CM, Hollywood, CA 90028.

AUTOMOTIVE

AUTOMOBILE LITERATURE WANTED - 1900-1975. I buy automobile sales brochures, manuals, etc. Walter Miller, 6710 Brooklawn, Syracuse, NY 13211. (315) 432-8282.

BEAUTY/FASHION

FREE LINGERIE CATALOG FILLED WITH SEXY lingerie, elegant hosiery, fabulous oils and exotic lotions. Exclusive 50% discount on first order. Secret Passions, P.O. Box 8870, Dept. YCM2, Chapel Hill, NC 27515.

FAMOUS BEAUTY FACIAL - Magically erases from lines, re-awakens and preserves facial area and neck indefinitely. This treatment is given every day in NY salons for \$25. You can make this same formula for just pennies a treatment. Send \$3.00 for complete directions to: Wazoos, 705 Nottinghill Lane, Mercerville, NJ 08619.

FEEL SEXIER WHATEVER your size. Two lingerie catalogues, sizes S, M, L, or 1X-3X. Send \$3.00 (money credited on first order). Specify catalogue desired. Orders shipped free. Hamilton House, 440 Nichols Drive, CM1, Suwanee, GA 30174.

BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS

SINGLES: MEET SINGLE PEOPLE throughout rural America. Confidential. Reputable. Free details. Country Connections, P.O. Box 406, Superior, NE 68978.

FOREIGN NATURALIST VIDEOS/MAGAZINES, \$2.00. SASE. Natplus-CM, Box 9296, Newark, DE 19714-9296.

SONGWRITER'S RHYMING DICTIONARY. Easy to use rhyming words. \$6.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling to: E.T. Mead, 213 North Main, Goodlettsville, TN 37072.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

HOMEMAILERS WANTED for our community mail programs. Enjoy multiple incomes! Community Services, B8-CM, Springfield, NJ 07081-0008. Enclose envelope.

PICKUP TRUCK OWNERS! Learn how you can make \$200 daily! Guaranteed! Free details. Write: Lakewood, 279 South Beverly Drive, #879M, Beverly Hills, CA 90025.

\$1,000'S WEEKLY possible processing mail! Start immediately. Free supplies/postage. No experience/obligation. Rush stamped envelope. RSB, Box 2659-CM, Danbury, CT 06813.

MAKE HOLIDAY DECORATIONS AT HOME. We pay you for them! \$450 weekly possible. Year-round opportunity. No experience. Rush SASE to: Holiday, Box 883786-X, San Francisco, CA 94188.

BECOME A REAL ESTATE APPRAISER. Home study. Earn professional certification. Free literature. (800) 223-4542, Dept. RK621.

MAILORDER OPPORTUNITY: Start profitable home business without experience or capital. Write for free book, plus details. No obligation. Mail Order Associates, Dept. 665, Montvale, NJ 07645.

HOME ASSEMBLY WORK AVAILABLE! Guaranteed easy money. Free details! Homework-CM, Box 520, Danville, NH 03819.

INVENTIONS, IDEAS, NEW PRODUCTS! Presentation to industry. National exposition. 1-(800) 288-IDEA.

READ BOOKS FOR PAY! Call: 1-(900) 847-7878 (99¢/minute) or write: PASE-RK7, 161 Lincolnway, North Aurora, IL 60542.

ENTREPRENEURS. SELF-MOTIVATED, leadership abilities. Unlimited earnings. MLM opportunity. Health and fitness products. (215) 371-6413, 24 hours.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

INVENTORS: Call TLCI for free information: 1-(800) 468-7200, 24 hours/day. USA/Canada.

WE SELL AIR, WATER, AND MONEY. Become involved in your environment. Quadruple your income in 90 days. Call Mr. McLeroy: (512) 668-4955.

BUY IT WHOLESALE

MILITARY SURPLUS! Flags, camouflage clothing, patches, insignias, bags, packs, gear, accessories. Catalog \$2.00. Crazy Johns Surplus, 2011-CM Nooseneck Hill Road, Coventry, RI 02816.

COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

TV GUIDES 1950-1990. CATALOGUE, \$2.00. Movie and TV stars magazines, photos, paperbacks, Playboys, Charlie's Angels, etc. Catalogue, \$2.50. Howard Rogofsky, Box 107-CM, Glen Oaks, NY 11004.

D-L MUSIC HAS RADIO shows and promotional records that feature country artists and their music. Send \$1.00 with a list of your favorite artists and receive our latest catalog! D-L Music, 2527 West Kennewick Avenue, #196, Kennewick, WA 99336.

MOVIE - TELEVISION COLLECTIBLES. Free information. House of Stars, Madison, NC 27025. (919) 427-5850.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ALASKA EMPLOYMENT - fisheries. \$5,000+/month! Over 8,000 openings. Free transportation! Room & board. No experience necessary. Male or female. Send \$6.95 to: M&L Research, Box 84008-TT, Seattle, WA 98124. Satisfaction guaranteed.

CARETAKING, ENVIRONMENTAL POSITIONS and situations. Information exchange. "The Caretaker Gazette", Box 342C, Carpentersville, IL 60110. Send \$1.00, self-addressed stamped envelope for sample.

FAN CLUBS

RONNIE MCDOWELL FAN CLUB. Bi-monthly newsletter, discography, itinerary, membership card, photo. Up-to-date information. \$12 annual dues. Send to: P.O. Box 186, Russellville, AL 35653.

"PAPER DOLLY"



Subscribe to the only quarterly newspaper all about Dolly Parton. Get the latest photos, stories, and information in each twenty page issue. We're starting our 2nd year and you can join the fun! Send \$20 for a one-year (4 issues) subscription to:

"Paper Dolly"
P.O. Box 2112
Simi Valley, CA 93062

DO IT YOURSELF

ARROWHEAD MAKING INFORMATION, \$1.00. VHS videos, \$29.95, S/H \$3.50. Commons, Box 5012-CM, Central Point, OR 97502.

SATELLITE TV

Save 30%-60%

1-800-334-6455 US
1-218-736-5231 MN & Int.

SKYVISION INC.®
2042 College Way
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

INSTALL OR UPDATE YOURSELF!

FREE CATALOG
Call: Write: Now!

WINEMAKERS - BEERMAKERS. Free illustrated catalog. Fast service. Large selection. Kraus, Box 7850-MC, Independence, MO 64053.

EDUCATION/INSTRUCTION

PIANO TUNING. Learn with home study course. Free brochure. American Piano Tuning School, 17050 Teifer Drive, Morgan Hill, CA 95037.

FIDDLE INSTRUCTION TAPE by top Nashville professional. 48 tunes, fast and slow. 103-page book included. \$15 ppd. Ridgerunner, Dept. CM-15, Box 122115, Ft. Worth, TX 76121.

EXCITING RESULTS! Play guitar by ear leads - rhythms no experience necessary. Free information. Kenetic, 72-201 Regent Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2C 2Z9.

We can free the writer in you

America's finest at-home writing course. Professional guidance, includes IBM-compatible computer.

MAIL COUPON FOR YOUR FREE CATALOG

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NI School of Writing 3193-070
4401 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008

LEARN BOOKKEEPING/ACCOUNTING. Home study. Free literature. (800) 223-4542, Dept. AK621.

ADULT CHRISTIANS - Earn degree/home. Christian Bible College, Station Square, Suite 227, Rocky Mount, NC 27804. Catalog \$1.00. (919) 442-1211 (accredited).

BECOME A PARALEGAL. Work with attorneys. Lawyer instructed home study. Free catalogue. (800) 223-4542, Dept. LK621.

ENTERTAINERS

NEW TALENT - Nashville producer seeking talented singers to promote. (615) 824-3375.

FINANCIAL/LOANS

QUICK LOANS, FINANCIAL HELP! Easy qualifying. Refused elsewhere? Call: (404) 593-0244. Capital, 2458C Wesley Chapel, #120-CM, Decatur, GA 30035.

BORROW \$100 - \$100,000 FAST! Confidential. Glendale, Box 260279, Plano, TX 75026. 1-(800) 955-0081.

DEBTS PILING UP? We'll help! Bad credit is no problem. Applications accepted \$500 - \$50,000. Licensed/bonded. Not a loan company. UAC, Dept. CM, P.O. Box 26295, Birmingham, AL 35226. Or, call: (205) 822-8284.

LOANS! LOW PAYMENTS. (516) 349-1649. Example: \$2,500 personal, approximately \$75/month. Visa/MasterCard. Box 42CM, Bethpage, NY 11714-0042.

BECOME DEBT FREE! Our brochure gives details. Send \$3.00. Reba Investments, P.O. Box 263, Catawba, SC 29704-0263.

BORROW \$100 - \$100,000. CONSOLIDATE DEBTS. Application rushed! FCA, 4135 Lavista, #610115CM, Tucker, GA 30084-5326. (404) 297-7934.

BORROW \$100 - \$100,000. Quickly, on signature/secured immediately. Apply now! (404) 879-5514.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

COUNTRY MUSIC CLASSIFIED

FINANCIAL/LOANS

FREE MONEY FROM government grants. Never repay. Free details. Rush addressed, stamped long envelope. Wise, 4200 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 356-106E, Washington, DC 20016.

CASH FREE of all interest. \$300,000,000. Giveaways. Grants. Never repay. Rush 25¢ stamp. Jakla, Box 3066-CMFO, Seminole, FL 34642.

FISHING/HUNTING

"FISHERY/ENTHUSIAST" Newsletter. Send \$1.00, self-addressed stamped envelope for sample. Box 217C, Fox River Grove, IL 60021.

MISCELLANEOUS

SINGLES - MEET BY phone/mail. Send SASE. P.O. Box 814, St. Bethlehem, TN 37155. (615) 553-0637.

SINGLES. MEET OTHERS. Write: Club, Box 11434-CM, Fort Worth, TX 76110.

MEET USA SINGLES by direct phone/mail. Club MLF, Box 2152-CM, Loves Park, IL 61130.

HALL OF FAME. Should your mother be there? Information: RRA, 7351 Castleberry, Webster, FL 33597.

JAPANESE WOMEN SEEK FRIENDSHIP. Other beautiful and cultured Asians too! Pacific Century Correspondence, 110 Pacific, #208-JT, San Francisco, CA 94111. (816) 942-1668.

MEET WOMEN WORLDWIDE. Free 32-page catalog. Cherry Blossoms, 190CB Rainbow Ridge, Kapaa, HI 96755. (808) 961-2114.

JAPANESE, ASIAN, EUROPEAN friendship! Inter-Pacific, Box 304-M, Birmingham, MI 48012.

PENFRIENDS - ENGLAND - USA. Make lasting friendships. Send age, interests. Free reply. Harmony, Box 82295CM, Phoenix, AZ 85071.

MAIL ORDER - PIPE AND CHEWING TOBACCOS, roll your own cigarette tobacco and accessories. Free catalog. Write: Rivermont Tobacco, P.O. Box 2707, Owensboro, KY 42302-2707 or call toll free 1-(800) 451-6489.

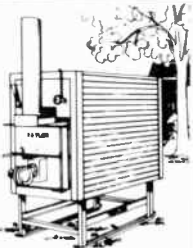
CHRISTIAN SINGLES introductions. Free brochure, samples. Box 9020-CW, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

HOME FURNISHINGS

WATERSTOVES

The safest, most efficient wood heat system on the market, the TAYLOR waterstove sits outside and heats your home and 100% of household hot water.

- UL listed
- Thermostatic control
- 12 to 24 hour burn time



TAYLOR MANUFACTURING, INC.
PO Box 518, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
Call 1-800-545-2293 for more details.

MONEYMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

WANT REAL SUCCESS? Amazing discovery will bring \$400 a day to your mailbox. No catalog selling, MLM products to stock or sell. Complete moneymaking system free. SASE. K&W Publications, 6370 York Road, Suite 295-C, Parma Heights, OH 44130.

\$1,000'S WEEKLY possible processing mail! Start immediately. Free supplies/postage. No experience/obligation. Rush stamped envelope. RSB, Box 2659-CMM, Danbury, CT 06813.

MONEYMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

TEMPORARY TATTOOS. Make big money. Free information. Don Ling's Removable Tattoos, Box 309C, Butterfield, MN 56120.

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED! TOP PAY! These words can mean fraud. Profitable homework is possible but don't get taken. Free report. Send long SASE to: Consumer Network, Dept. 3, Box 8135, St. Paul, MN 55108.

SPARE TIME CASH - WEEKLY BASIS. Learn insiders' proven methods. Rush SASE to: Foodmaster Publications, 100 Cindy Court, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

MAKE MONEY WATCHING TV. Fill out survey forms and receive up to \$100 for each form! Send \$1.00 for application. McLaurin, Box 276228, San Antonio, TX 78227-6228.

MERCHANDISE

◆ T-SHIRTS FROM EVERYWHERE ◆

- ◆ Brand new, American Made T-Shirts printed for resorts, events, promotions, products & advertisers from all over
 - ◆ the U.S. Assorted colors in grab bag assortments. SPECIFY SIZE: S M L.
 - ◆ SIZE XL add 40¢ per T-Shirt. U.S. Funds - Send Ck, MO or MC/Visa # to:
- 5 T-SHIRTS \$11⁹⁰ plus \$2.50 Postage
- 10 T-SHIRTS \$23³⁰ plus \$3.85 Postage

SPORTSWEAR CLEARINGHOUSE
Box 317746 - 0K5 Cincinnati, OH 45231

EASY, INEXPENSIVE VIDEO TAPE REWINDER! It works like a toaster! Simply pop in your VHS tape and 0 minutes later the tape pops out completely rewound. Save the motors and heads of your VCR and camcorder. Order now and save 20%. Send \$19.99 plus \$4 shipping to: Media Development Corporation, 329 Riverside Avenue, Suite 1, Westport, CT 06880.

MUSIC/INSTRUMENTS

GUITARS, BANJOS, MANDOLINS: Buy/sell, new/used. Martin, Gibson, SantaCruz, Dobro, Ovation, Lowden, Stelling, Deering, D'Angelico, D'Aquisto, more. Free catalog. Mandolin Brothers, 629 Forest-CM, Staten Island, NY 10310. (718) 981-3226.

BLUES HARP - Harmonica book and tape. Country, rock, theory, practice tracks. \$16.50 postpaid. Spud Productions, Box 172, Fredonia, WI 53021.

PLAY GOSPEL SONGS BY EAR! 10 lessons \$6.95. Guaranteed! Davidsons, 6727CM Metcalf, Shawnee Mission, KS 66204.

TOUR MARTIN GUITAR CO. and visit our two stores: "1833 Shop" (Martin memorabilia and guitar accessories) and "Woodworker's Dream" (exotic/domestic hardwoods plus guitar kits and parts). Please specify which catalog and send \$2.00 each to: Martin Guitars, Box 329, Nazareth, PA 18064.

MUSICAL WOODEN SPOONS. Unique one-piece design carved from solid cherry. Great sound - easy to play. \$16.95 postpaid. Catpaws, RD 1, Box 225-D, Millmont, PA 17845.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

MEET CHRISTIAN SINGLES. 18-80. Free information. U.S. Christian Singles, Box 715-FJ, Wayzata, MN 55391.

ACCEPTING POEMS, FALL EDITION "Moments of Memory". SASE. 906 East Main, Mesa, AZ 85203.

CABLE TV CONVERTERS BARGAIN headquarters! Jerrold, Zenith, Oak, Tocom, Scientific Atlanta. Visa, M/C, Amex, COD. Order yours today! 1-(800) 542-5671.

YOUR MESSAGE OR PICTURE ON 2-1/4" round button, \$2.50 postpaid. Charmant, 6150 NW Michigan Road, Indianapolis, IN 46208.

NICE SINGLES WITH CHRISTIAN values wish to meet others. Free magazine. Send age, interests. Singles, P.O. Box 310-CM, Allardt, TN 38504.

WIN CONSISTENTLY. We publish the nation's best books on bingo, horses, poker, blackjack and more! Free catalog. Robert Ricks, P.O. Box 6404, Fort Worth, TX 76115.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

RENEW YOUR LOVE! Confidential, discreet letters written for you. Information, send \$1.00 to: MILPAS, Dept. C-90-1, 15 Butler Road, P.O. Box 5815, Fredericksburg, VA 22403-0815.

FREE GIFT WITH PURCHASE of natal horoscope, 25-30 pages. Send \$10, birthday, time, place to: Free Gift, CompuScopes, Dept. US, Box 21569, Carson City, NV 89721.

POSTERS/PHOTOS

CELEBRITY PHOTOS. SEND SASE - name favorites. Photo World 1, P.O. Box 31836, Houston, TX 77231.

CELEBRITY PHOTOS! Sample. \$2.00/SASE: Box G, McKenna, WA 98558.

PHOTOS OF YOUR FAVORITE CELEBRITY. Top quality 8 x 10's of your favorite stars - film, TV, rock & country western. Send \$2.00 for current list. Little Ricky Hollywood Productions, P.O. Box 2898, Culver City, CA 90230.

RECORDING

PREMIER STAR '90'S RECORDS will produce your next recording session - with promotion. Call: (615) 360-6091. Box 101303, Nashville, TN 37210-1303.

RECIPES

COOKING WITH YOUR FAVORITE country music stars! It's actually two books in one. You get great recipes from the kitchens of all the country headliners, plus life stories on everyone. Brought to you by the Country Music Foundation, there's lots of great photos too! Send \$14.95 plus \$3.00 p/h to: Country Cookin', P.O. Box 1226, Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990

RECORDS/TAPES/CD'S

"DEAR JESUS HELP THE HOMELESS" b/w "I'm Delighted". Beulah's Records. \$2.00. "Poems by Beulah", \$8.00. Route 1, Crossville, IL 62827. Book and record.

FINDERS OF LOST records albums! If we don't have it, we can get it! Send requests, plus 4 25¢ stamps for catalog. UK-USA Records, Box 6164, San Rafael, CA 94903.

YESTERYEAR'S RADIO, stage personalities. Country, bluegrass, gospel, hillbilly, western. 75¢ stamp for list. Frontier Records, Box 157-YC, Jenks, OK 74037.

ORIGINAL COUNTRY WESTERN ALBUMS for sale in our latest catalog. 15th year offering recordings by your favorite country artists. Send \$1.00 to: G&C Records, Dept. C, 4692 Vernon Drive, Mableton, GA 30059.

EARLY COUNTRY RECORD SALES. Send wants. Ralph Sim, 64 Riverview, Clifton Park, NY 12065.

COUNTRY MUSIC - We have the largest selection of country music videos, 45's, albums, cassettes, CD's, sheet music and original western gifts. For catalog and mailer, send \$2.00, refundable to: Butler Distributing Company, P.O. Box 22-CMM, Kenilworth, NJ 07033.

TOP COUNTRY CD'S, CASSETTES, LP'S - Additional catalog includes hundreds of hard to find LP's, cassettes, 45's country labels. Send \$2.00. Curtis Wood Dist., 4416 Eatons Creek, Nashville, TN 37218.

TWENTY FREE RECORDS, cassettes, compact discs with membership. All country artists. Free details. Blue Ridge, Route 6, Box 833D, Bassett, VA 24055.

BROTHER OSWALD'S 3 DOBRO ALBUMS, \$22.50 (\$7.95 each). Catalog, 25¢. Country Heritage, R1, Madill, OK 73446.

NICK CHINA IN "Ms. Hooker Is Running Free". Eleven songs in all, including lyric booklet. \$10. Send check or m.o. to: Aleza Records, P.O. Box 225, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

SAVE 25% ON ALL YOUR RECORD, TAPE, and stereo equipment needs! One time low membership fee. Top 25 and oldtime albums. Name brand equipment. Save hundreds with your very first order! Always a money-back guarantee. For details write: The Stereo Buying Coop, 578 Post Rd. E., Suite 670, Westport, CT 06880.

COUNTRY MUSIC CLASSIFIED

RECORDS/TAPES/CD'S

NEW "COUNTRY MUSIC REVIEW". Hard-to-find reviews of some truly classic country albums. Hundreds of cassette and CD tapes to order from. Always big savings! CMSA Members get a special 10% discount. Send \$1.00 for a full year subscription. Country Review, P.O. Box 1226, Hendersonville, TN 37077-9990.

REAL ESTATE

CALIFORNIA ACREAGE. Lots \$50 down, \$50 monthly. Recreational homesites. Owner. 4602 Ethel, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

OZARK MOUNTAIN COUNTRY HOMESITES. 3 - 10 acre parcels of back country seclusion. 20 minutes from Branson. Environmental protection. Nothing down, 9% interest. Free catalog. Woods & Waters, Box 1-CM, Willow Springs, MO 65793. (417) 469-3187.

SONGWRITERS

SONGWRITERS! LYRICS NEEDED for recordings! Royalties possible. NWC Studio, Box 171101, Nashville, TN 37217.

AWARD WINNING SONGWRITER - Recording artist credited with 8 billboard and cashbox chart records, plus TV album "Behind A Song". Will provide (live) professional demo services to amateurs and professional songwriters. Co writing offered on accepted material. Send best song lyrics to: Ramsey Kearney, 602 Inverness Avenue, Nashville, TN 37204. (615) 297-8029.

POETRY PUBLISHED. Send stamped envelope for guidelines. Quill Books, Box 728CM, Minot, ND 58702.

FREE SONGWRITING SUCCESS BOOK! Complete professional songwriting help! 50/50 co-writing accepted material. Top Records, Box 23505-K, Nashville, TN 37202.

POEMS, SONGS WANTED. \$15,000 - recording contract possible! Free appraisal. Majestic Records, Box 4256, Linden, TX 75563.

SONGWRITERS/POETS. PROTECT YOURSELF! US copyrights obtained. For information, send 25¢ or stamp to: Vanderzap Enterprises, 305 Madison Avenue, Suite 1166, New York, NY 10165.

PROTECT YOUR MUSIC! Complete copyright guide and all required forms. Only \$5.00! Evergreen, P.O. Box 13741, Lexington, KY 40583.

SONGWRITERS CUSTOM SONG DEMOS - By professionals. Save \$15. Free information. 3-song sample cassette, \$1.00. Write: Hollywood Records, 603 First Street, #138-CM, Oceanside, CA 92054. (619) 757-7446.

A COMPLETE QUALITY demo of your song only \$40. Write for the rest of the story to: Heartake Songs, P.O. Box 621, Madison, TN 37116.

URGENT! SONGS! Poems needed. TV, radio. Royalties. Hollywood Artists, 6000 Sunset 207P, Hollywood, CA 90028.

GET YOUR SONGS HEARD by Nashville stars, record producers and music publishers. 20-year pro shows how. Inside tips, contacts, other must-know information. 200+ names and addresses \$14.95. Satisfaction guaranteed. Capital K Enterprises, P.O. Box 41233, Nashville, TN 37204.

LYRICS, POEMS FOR MUSICAL setting and recording. \$1,000 for best poem. Satisfaction guaranteed. Talent (CM), P.O. Box 31, Quincy, MA 02169.

VIDEOS

SATURDAY MATINEE SERIALS/WESTERNS on VHS! Send SASE for list. The Serial Fanatic, P.O. Box 173-CM, Boyertown, PA 19512.

CLIFFHANGER SERIALS - ACTION PACKED westerns. Gigantic selection. Free illustrated catalog. HCS, Box 376R, Jamison, PA 18929.

CLASSIC MOVIES on video. Catalog \$2.00 refundable. Primetime, 656 North Rangeline, Carmel, IN 46032. (317) 575-0302.

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Country Music classifieds target your best market. Every issue is read by more than 2 million country music fans who are proven buyers of records, tapes, videos, memorabilia and all kinds of products and services that make up the traditional country living lifestyle.

Don't miss this new, low-cost advertising opportunity. Send in your ad order for the November/December issue today. This issue goes on sale early November and closes Thursday, September 20th.

The advertising rates are: classified word ads - \$4.25 per word for one issue. For three prepaid issues, the rate is \$3.95 per word, per issue, minimum ad 10 words. Classified display - \$325 per column inch for one issue. For three prepaid issues, the rate is \$295 per column inch, per issue, minimum ad one column inch. All classified advertising must be prepaid with order. For classified word ads, use the handy order form below. For display advertising, just send your camera ready artwork.

ORDER FORM

Please insert my ad _____ times, beginning with the November/December issue. Place my ad under the heading _____.

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ to cover payment for my advertising schedule.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Area code and telephone number _____

Signature _____

COPY FOR CLASSIFIED AD (Please type or print your copy.)

COUNTRY MUSIC

Classified Department

P.O. Box 570, Clearwater, FL 34617-0570

National 1-800-762-3555 • Florida 813-449-1775

Country Music is represented by Russell E. Palmer, Inc. for classified advertising

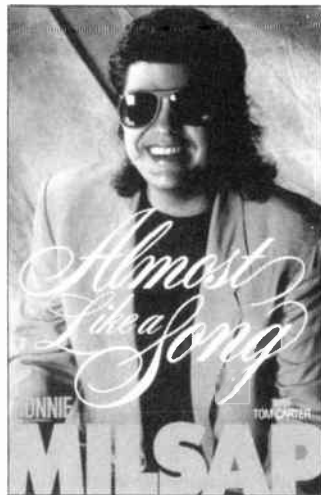
Essential Collector / *Books, Videos and Cassettes*

▪ Books ▪

Ronnie Milsap: Ronnie's autobiography, *Almost Like a Song*, will shock those unfamiliar with his life. Growing up in North Carolina's Smoky Mountains, he was raised by his grandparents after his mother, shamed by his blindness, abandoned him. The transition from peaceful mountain life to North Carolina's Governor Morehead School for the Blind at age six was tough. Though many teachers helped him immensely, back then the school tolerated brutality straight out of the film *Cool Hand Luke*. A "housemother" beat Ronnie and other younger students, and years later another sadistic "teacher" struck Ronnie across the face so hard that he lost the one eye that still had slight vision. His offense: protesting that teacher's assault on another student.

That Ronnie tells these tales without rancor (neither of these neanderthals were fired) makes reading them all the more unsettling. And this tone continues throughout the book. After college, he spurned the State of North Carolina's suggestion that he attend law school and became a rhythm and blues musician. That meant more struggles for him and his wife, Joyce, and their family. His first hits were pop records, and he became a local favorite in Memphis, with a regular club gig and Elvis as a fan.

Moving to Nashville didn't end his troubles: IRS problems and hassles with an ex-manager were but a few of the things that dogged him. He persevered and found the fame and wealth he'd only dreamed about; yet he remains nostalgic for his simpler past. And despite his strength and courage, his sensitivity shows through as he describes a review published 14 years ago in this



magazine that apparently still upsets him. That sensitivity, however, makes this a compelling book, on a par with Bill Anderson's autobiography, *Whisperin' Bill*, reviewed in this column in the May/June issue.

Roy Orbison: It came as no surprise that someone would undertake a biography of Roy Orbison after his sudden death in 1988. Definitive bios of such legends don't usually appear until some years after their deaths, however. Books appearing too soon are automatically suspect. Ellis Amburn's *Dark Star* is the best Orbison biography currently available. Nevertheless, it was clearly written in haste, that haste presumably giving rise to the weaknesses that undermine much of the book's credibility.

Amburn's at his best chronicling Roy's early days in Wink, Texas. And he deserves credit for pointing out the important role of Joe Melson, Roy's collaborator and background singer on his early Monument hits. Unfortunately, as the book goes on through Orbison's early rockabilly career and his eventual stardom in the early 1960's, the era of "Only the Lonely," things unravel.

Try as he might to sound like an "expert," Amburn's knowledge of pop and country

music is minimal. He makes factual error upon factual error and comes to numerous incorrect conclusions. Some of his allegations about Orbison's indiscretions don't seem substantiated enough. Worse yet, the book doesn't even read well. Amburn repeats himself in places (sometimes on the same page). Did an editor ever touch this material? All in all, Orbison fans might enjoy this book, but I suspect the final word on Roy will come later.

▪ Videos ▪

Greenwich, Connecticut's Cabin Fever Entertainment has three new videos out. Though I didn't like the lengthy commercials for their other videos at the beginnings of the tapes, the actual content of each is excellent.

Patsy Cline: *The Real Patsy Cline*, a 48-minute, better-than-average video documentary that has appeared on TNN, explores Patsy's life and career. In doing so, it follows similar productions on other artists. Comments from people who knew her well, rare photographs, snippets of her hit recordings, clips of TV appearances and

other memorabilia are mixed in. Interview subjects include her closest friend, Dottie West, Patsy's husband Charlie Dick, son Randy and daughter Julie. Veterans of WINC Radio in her hometown of Winchester, Virginia, give valuable insight into her early days.

Singers Billy Walker, Mel Tillis and Loretta Lynn, all of whom knew her well, add their own remembrances. Songwriter extraordinaire Harlan Howard recalls writing "I Fall to Pieces" and showing off a bracelet she gave him in appreciation. Her producer, Owen Bradley, discusses her talents in the studio. I am at a loss to explain the presence of Sylvia or Carl Perkins, neither of whom add much background.

Patsy's rough edges aren't glossed over. Her foul temper and raunchy sense of humor are dealt with honestly. The only low point is a tacky recreation of her fatal plane crash at the beginning and end of the tape. Color photos of a bandaged Patsy in a hospital bed following her near-fatal car crash, complete with an interview with the attending physician, are pointless. Other such stories, how she lipsynched for several days during a Vegas engagement due to laryngitis, are much more entertaining. In sum, my complaints are minor: the video's highly worthwhile.

Will the Circle Be Unbroken: *The Making of Will the Circle Be Unbroken, Volume 2* is just what you'd expect: a documentary of the recording session. Among the added features on the tape are interviews with producer Randy Scruggs, members of The Dirt Band and guest artists, including Bruce Hornsby, Emmylou Harris, Chet Atkins and former Byrds Roger McGuinn and Chris Hillman of the Desert Rose Band. Their explanations of their feelings about the music and what they were



trying to do with each number add greatly to the entire production, an extension of the first *Will the Circle Be Unbroken* LP recorded in 1971.

A few of the best moments are unexpected. As John Hiatt and Rosanne Cash prepare to record "One Step Over the Line," they use throat spray, which winds up resulting in some humor between everyone in the studio. For those fans who've not actually seen how a recording is made, this one was cut live with everyone playing at once, rare in this age of overdubbing. Speaking as one who didn't care much for the record, I find this tape entertaining.

Willie Nelson: *Some Enchanted Evening with Willie Nelson*, a salute to Willie broadcast over TNN about a year ago, is now available on video. This black-tie tribute, a celebration of Willie's classic *Stardust* album, resulted in some interesting moments, as industry big-wigs praise Willie. For his part, he mixes pop music standards, "Old Buttermilk Sky," "Spanish Eyes" and "Twilight Time" among them, with other songs he made standards such as "Old Friends" (with old friend Roger Miller), "Pancho and Lefty" and "City of New Orleans."

• Classic Cassettes •

With the LP all but dead, many vinyl releases live on in cassette form. This includes a fair amount of reissues, some of them offering such generous numbers of selections (16-20) as to be considered true bargains.

Johnny Cash: Over thirty years later, the power of Johnny Cash's original Sun recordings remains undiminished. *20 Golden Hits* (SUC-5000) has the absolutely essential Sun Recordings from the mid-to-late 1950's. Among them are "Cry! Cry! Cry!," "Folsom Prison Blues," "I Still Miss Someone," "Ballad of a Teenage Queen," "Luther's Boogie" and 15 more.

Roy Acuff: Like Cash, the music that defined Acuff, still

the King of Country Music, was made long ago, in Acuff's case over 50 years ago. *The King of Country Music* (BT 16596) has all the essentials, 20 tracks, among them such Acuff standards as "Great Speckled Bird," "Wreck on the Highway," "Wabash Cannonball," "I Saw the Light," "Precious Jewel," "Freight Train Blues," "Fireball Mail" and "Pins and Needles" from the 30's and 40's. To realize he still sings some of them on the Opry at age 87, understandably the worse for wear, is one thing. To hear the emotion and power in his voice half a century ago is quite another.

Marty Robbins: What can you say about this material—20 of Marty's greatest Western ballads for Columbia Records all in one package. *#1 Cowboy* (PT 15594) brings



it all together: "El Paso," its sequel, "El Paso City," "The Hanging Tree," "San Angelo," "Cowboy in the Continental Suit," "They're Hanging Me Tonight," "Five Brothers." Stunning performances of old cowboy standards like "Tumbling Tumbleweeds," "Streets of Laredo" and "Strawberry Roan" fit perfectly with Marty's originals, which sound traditional despite

being written from the 1950's through the 1970's.

Red Sovine: In 1949 Red Sovine replaced Hank Williams (who'd moved to the Opry) as "The Old Syrup Sopper" over KWKH in Shreveport, Louisiana, home of the *Louisiana Hayride*. So *Red Sovine Sings Luke the Drifter* (DLX-7798) makes perfect sense. Luke, Hank's recitation-minded alter ego, paved the way for Red's hit recitations like "Giddyup Go," "Phantom 309" and "Teddy Bear." Here, Red tackles "Too Many Parties, Too Many Pals," "Beyond the Sunset," "The Funeral" and nine of Luke's best tearjerkers.

Road Music: And if you want to hear Red's "Teddy Bear" and "Giddyup Go" and 18 other trucker classics, *Road Music* (DLX-7800) has some of the best: Dave Dudley's classic "Six Days on the Road," and Del Reeves' "Lookin' at the World Through a Windshield" and "Girl on the Billboard." Others come from Starday Records, which recorded some of the best trucker music of all time in the 60's. The Willis Brothers' "Give Me Forty Acres" and Lonnie Irving's maudlin 1960 hit, "Pinball Machine," are but a few. Trucker anthems by bluegrassers Moore and Napier ("Truck Driver's Queen") and Jimmy Martin ("Truck Drivin' Man") round things out.

Dolly Parton: Until someone wises up and does a definitive collection of Dolly's early RCA hits that brought her singing and songwriting gifts to everyone's attention, *Jolene* (5980-4-R) will remain

among the few such treasures still available. This is actually a cut-down, eight-song version of her 1974 RCA album of the same name, including the title cut and another big hit, "I Will Always Love You."



Lefty Frizzell: May as well be honest about this one: *Lefty's 20 Golden Hits* (PT 15595) is an accurate enough title, but the versions of "If You've Got the Money," "Mom and Dad's Waltz," "Always Late" and "I Love You a Thousand Ways" aren't the originals from the early 50's but slicker 1958 re-recordings done for his *Greatest Hits* LP. Others, including "How Long Will It Take," "Give Me More, More, More (of Your Kisses)" and "Don't Stay Away" are all the raw originals. If you like Lefty, but the originals are too raw for you, the remakes may be a bit more to your liking. Still others, among them "Travelin' Blues" and "Blue Yodel #4" (from his Jimmie Rodgers tribute LP) as well as "Saginaw, Michigan" and "Watermelon Time in Georgia," are also originals.

Bob Wills: In 1964 Bob Wills recorded for Dewey Groom's Dallas-based Longhorn Records. *21 Golden Hits* (HT-411) brings together 21 of the 23 numbers he recorded for Longhorn. This includes the Longhorn singles like "All Night Long," "Faded Love" (with Joe Andrews on vocal) and the bluesy "Wills Junction," as well as the entire *Bob Wills Keepsake Album*. The tracks on that 1964 LP, recorded without The Texas Playboys, explored Bob's roots as a Texas fiddler. Wills performs, comments on each number and jokes with his three backup musicians.

—RICH KIENZLE

How to Get These Collectibles

Available at prices shown: Milsap, *Almost Like a Song* (B5D) \$19.95/Amburn, *Dark Star* (B6A) \$18.95/*The Real Patsy Cline* (G5C) \$24.95/*The Making of Will the Circle Be Unbroken, Volume 2* (G5D) \$19.95/*Some Enchanted Evening with Willie Nelson* (G5G) \$19.95/Johnny Cash, *20 Golden Hits* (SUC-5000) \$6.98/Roy Acuff, *The King of Country Music* (BT 16596) \$6.98/Marty Robbins, *#1 Cowboy* (PT 15594) \$9.98/Red Sovine, *Red Sovine Sings Luke the Drifter* (DLX-7798) \$9.98/Various artists, *Road Music* (DLX-7800) \$9.98/Dolly Parton, *Jolene* (5980-4-R) \$6.98/Lefty Frizzell, *Lefty's 20 Golden Hits* (PT 15595) \$9.98/Bob Wills, *21 Golden Hits* (HT-411) \$6.98. To order, send check or money order to Nashville Warehouse, P.O. Box 5000, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779. Add \$2.50 postage and handling for first item ordered, \$1.00 each additional. Albums available in cassette only.

Buried Treasures /

Reissues,
Rarities and the
Hard-to-Find

Conway Twitty: As the Number Five all-time record seller in country music, Conway rates at least a boxed set of greatest hits; instead, MCA has managed to cram much of the best onto one 25-track CD: *Silver Anniversary Collection* (MCA MCAD-8035). It's an unusual collection in that it includes not only Conway's hits on MCA but also some from Warners and Elektra (Conway seems to own his later recordings outright). The first 14 are Decca/MCA selections, beginning with his first country hit, "Guess My Eyes Were Bigger Than My Heart" from 1966, and including "The Image of Me" and other Twitty favorites like "Hello Darlin'," "You've Never Been This Far Before," "Linda on My Mind" and "Lost Her Love" on Our Last Date."

The later 1970's saw the pop content of Conway's songs increase, in numbers like "Tight Fittin' Jeans," "Slow Hand" and "The Rose," all originally released on Elektra, as well as "Don't Call Him a Cowboy" and "Desperado Love" from Warner Brothers, circa 1985-86. The set ends with his return to MCA and "Goodbye Time," "That's My Job" and "She's Got a Single Thing in Mind." Though my personal favorites are the early ones, there's no doubt this is the definitive single-disc collection, ranging from Conway's country music beginnings practically to the present.

Million Dollar Quartet: The Million Dollar Quartet session that took place in December 1956, featuring Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Johnny Cash jamming at the Sun Recording studios in Memphis, has been bootlegged for years overseas. Now RCA has finally released an "official" version, *The Million Dollar Quartet* (RCA 2023). This



material's been written about so much that I hesitate to rehash what's been said, except to note that it provides a worthy insight into the musical roots of all four performers.

In Sun's loose, informal atmosphere, Presley, Lewis, Perkins and Cash (Cash was present part of the time, though he is inaudible on the tapes) moved through gospel ("Just a Little Talk With Jesus" and "Lonesome Valley") and rock hits of the day (Chuck Berry's "Brown-Eyed Handsome Man" and "Don't Be Cruel") as well as country (Wynn Stewart's "Keeper of the Key"), pop standards ("That's My Desire"), bluegrass ("Little Cabin Home on the Hill") and rhythm-and-blues ("Out of Sight, Out of Mind"). What mystifies me is why such an important recording has been billed by RCA as an Elvis album. There may be good reason, but it seems foolish given the stature of Cash, Jerry Lee and Perkins.

The Wilburn Brothers: In 1971, a Kentucky brother and sister named Patty and Roger Ramey were trying to break into the music business. That summer they met The Wilburn Brothers, Doyle and Teddy, at a show in Louisville. Impressed with Patty's version of "Muleskinner Blues," The Wilburns hired her. She became their protege (a position previously occupied by Loretta Lynn) and toured with them during

her summer vacations from high school.

After Doyle Wilburn died in 1982, The Wilburns seemed all but forgotten. Not so. Thanks to Patty Loveless, who records for MCA, The Wilburns' old label, a dozen of Teddy's and Doyle's best are now available for the first time in years. Titled *Retrospective* (MCA 25990), this package runs through The Wilburns' big hits, songs like "Roll Muddy River," "Somebody's Back in Town" and "Arkansas," as well as "It's Another World" and "Not That I Care," the same number Ricky Van Shelton recorded on his album, *RVS III*. Notes are adequate if not loaded with detail, with an introduction by Patty herself. (By the way, Roger's still around, too; he's Patty's manager.)

Hi-Tone Poppa: Another portion of the Wilburn heritage shows up in this new anthology. Webb Pierce, covered in last month's CMSA Legends of Country Music, developed some formidable business skills during the late 40's managing the menswear department at the Sears Roebuck store in Shreveport, Louisiana, before going into music fulltime. In 1951 he and *Louisiana Hayride* straw boss, Horace Logan, founded the Pacesetter Record and Transcription Company, which licensed its recordings to Philadelphia-based Gotham Records. *Hi-Tone Poppa*, a

Pacesetter anthology legally leased by the British Krazy Kat label (KK 830), gives an invaluable glimpse into the early days of several *Hayride* artists who went on to greater things.

For starters, we have two local artists, Tex Grimsley, who co-wrote "Walking the Dog" (later a major hit for Webb) and guitarist-bandleader Tillman Franks, later Johnny Horton's and (still) David Houston's manager. The truly significant tracks are four raw, gut-wrenching honky tonkers by a then-obscure Faron Young. Heavily influenced by Hank Williams, Faron turns in searing performances on "You're Just Imagination" and the sarcastic "I Heard the Juke Box Playing." Among the four early Claude King sides are the self-explanatory "51 Beers" and "Beer and Pinballs." Two solo tracks by Teddy Wilburn, particularly "Court of Justice," backed by other members of The Wilburn Family (the original act before Teddy and Doyle went on their own), give an insight into The Wilburns' early career before they were widely known.

Flatt and Scruggs: Several years ago, Rebel Records reissued 15 1955-57 Flatt and Scruggs Columbia sides as *Blue Ridge Cabin Home*. That album, recently reissued by Rebel in both CD and LP (County CCS 102), is still well worth having. It includes Flatt and Scruggs masterpieces such as the title number along with Josh Graves's dobro tour-de-force "Shuckin' the Corn," Earl's "Randy Lynn Rag," "Don't Let Your Deal Go Down," "Six White Horses," "A Hundred Years From Now," "I'll Take the Blame" and nine more.

These songs were recorded when Lester and Earl were just on the verge of reaching a wider audience, though at

the time they were still playing to their original fans. With Graves, fiddler Paul Warren and mandolinist Curly Sechler in the band, the duo were in many ways at their musical peak. *The Beverly Hillbillies* TV show that made them famous was still a few years away, and the days when Earl's preference for folk-rock songs would split the band were over a decade down the road. All original packaging remains, including Doug Green's fine liner notes.

Merle Travis: This month Merle Travis is the subject of the CMSA Newsletter's Legends of Country Music. Travis fans have had cause for celebration ever since Longhorn began reissuing some of his classic Capitol LP's. However, those who wanted his original 1940's hits came up empty-handed since Capitol's sole Travis Greatest Hits album was out of print. Rhino's new offering, *The Best of Merle Travis* (R 70993), brings together nearly all of his original hits and some other numbers long associated with him.

Since I worked on this one, I'll simply state for the record what's on it. Both sides of his first hit single dating from 1946, "Cincinnati Lou" and "No Vacancy," are here, as are 1947 favorites like "Divorce Me C.O.D.," "So Round, So Firm, So Fully Packed" and his vocal version of "Steel Guitar Rag." The original 1946 version of "Sixteen Tons" and two other acoustic songs from the famous *Folk Songs of the Hills* album are also here. Later numbers include "Re-Enlistment Blues," which Merle sang in the 1953 film, *From Here to Eternity*, along with two numbers available only on the CD version: "Kin-folks in Carolina" and "Trouble, Trouble," a bluesy performance featuring Merle and a vocal/instrumental group called The Whippoorwills.

Longhorn has just released the all-instrumental *The Merle Travis Guitar* (HAT 3132), a reproduction of a 1956 Capitol LP collection of unaccompanied electric guitar

instrumentals. These tracks, most of them recorded for Capitol transcriptions (recordings sold specifically to radio stations for airplay) in the late 40's, show the variety and versatility of the Western Kentucky guitar picking style he popularized. This mix of material truly runs the gamut. Old Kentucky fingerpicking tunes like "Walkin' the Strings" and "Saturday Night Shuffle" (many of these songs had more than one name) appear alongside "On a Bicycle Built for Two," "The Sheik of Araby," "Goodbye My Blue Bell" (which goes back to Civil War days) and other ancient pop favorites. Hearing "Trav" playing his wonderfully complex picking style unaccompanied is a fulfilling experience for any guitar fan.

Merle Haggard: Longhorn's also just reissued Merle Haggard's first Capitol album, *Strangers* (HAT 3133). The title song, "Strangers," originally released in 1965, his first Top Ten hit (but not his first showing on the charts), followed up the Liz Anderson-penned hit of the same name. This is Vintage Bakersfield, back when Hag was first attracting attention. "Strangers," of course, is the showcase, yet the album includes his two earlier hits from the Tally label: his 1963 recording of "Sing a Sad Song," the Wynn Stewart composition that Stewart gave to Hag (full details are

in Merle's autobiography), as well as 1964's "Sam Hill," a Tommy Collins number.

In retrospect, this album reveals plenty about what Merle would become. There's a tribute to two of his musical idols in Ernest Tubb's "Walkin' the Floor Over You" and the old Eddy Arnold hit, "I'd Trade All My Tomorrows," along with five Haggard originals, some written with the likes of Red Simpson or Merle's longtime producer, Fuzzy Owen. None of these became Hag masterpieces, but they reveal the talent that would soon bear fruit in "Mama Tried" and "The Fugitive."

Johnny Bond: The late Johnny Bond may have written the cowboy standard, "Cimarron," but aside from his work with Gene Autry and his appearances on such West Coast TV shows as *Town Hall Party* in the 50's, he was mainly known for his novelty songs like "Hot Rod Lincoln" and "Ten Little Bottles." *That Wild, Wicked But Wonderful West* (SLP 147) was a return to his cowboy roots. Released in 1961, it was Bond's first recording for Starday.

Backed by, among others, Sons of the Pioneers charter member Karl Farr on guitar, Bond mixed longtime Western favorites like "Carry Me Back to the Lone Prairie" and "Empty Saddles" with modern cowboy favorites like "Dusty Skies" and "High Noon." He also added his own

material, originals like "At Dawn I Die" and "The Pass." Though the accompaniment sounds a bit weird—Paul Sells playing organ—it's surprisingly effective. Starday added one track to round the album out, "Belle Starr," performed by The Glaser Brothers, without mentioning who was singing.

Tennessee Ernie Ford: Tennessee Ernie Ford celebrates his 40th anniversary in show business this year, yet the only Ford packages in print in the U.S. up until now have been hymns. This again is one of my projects, so I'll give only a straight description. *Sixteen Tons of Boogie: The Best of Tennessee Ernie Ford* (R 70975) covers his earliest days, from 1949 to 1955. These were the days when he was having his first hits with Capitol Records, up to the time "Sixteen Tons" gave him the massive crossover success that had been experienced by few artists at the time.

His first hit, a 1949 version of Jimmy Work's "Tennessee Border," is available on the CD only—not the cassette. The hot hillbilly boogie tunes that became his specialty from 1949 through 1952, including "Smokey Mountain Boogie," "The Shot Gun Boogie" and "Blackberry Boogie," all come from this period. Some of his more conventional country hits of that era round out the collection, among them "Mule Train," "Mister and Mississippi" and, of course, "Sixteen Tons." His 1950 crossover hit duet with Kay Starr, "I'll Never Be Free," is here too, along with "I'm Hog Tied Over You," a duet with singer Ella Mae Morse. Nearly all the tracks feature the astonishing guitar and steel guitar ensemble work of Jimmy Bryant and Speedy West, and most of the bass work comes from Cliffie Stone, father of Highway 101's Curtis. There is one production error: the recording session information wasn't correctly keyed to the songs, which Rhino will correct in the next printing.

—RICH KIENZLE

How to Get These Treasures

Available in formats shown at prices shown: Conway Twitty, *Silver Anniversary Collection* (MCAD 8035) CD \$21.98/Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, *The Million Dollar Quartet* (RCA 2023) CD \$21.98, LP and cassette \$12.98/The Wilburn Brothers, *Retrospective* (MCA 25990) CD \$14.98, cassette \$6.98/Various artists, *Hi-Tone Poppa* (KK 830) LP \$14.98/Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs, *Blue Ridge Cabin Home* (County CCS 102) CD \$15.98, LP \$8.98/Merle Travis, *The Best of Merle Travis* CD (R2 70993) \$14.98, cassette (R4 70993) \$9.98/Travis, *The Merle Travis Guitar* (HAT 3132) LP and cassette \$11.98/Merle Haggard, *Strangers* (HAT 3133) LP and cassette \$11.98/Johnny Bond *That Wild, Wicked But Wonderful West* (SLP 147) CD \$7.98, LP and cassette \$6.98/Tennessee Ernie Ford, *Sixteen Tons of Boogie: The Best of Tennessee Ernie Ford* CD (R2 70975) \$14.98, cassette (R4 70975) \$9.98.

Send check or money order payable to *Country Music Magazine* to Dept. 91090, 329 Riverside Ave., Westport, CT 06880. Add \$1.95 postage and handling for first item ordered, \$.95 each additional. CMSA members, see CMSA Members Only page for discounts.

TOP 25

Singles

1. Garth Brooks *The Dance*
2. Exile *Nobody's Talking*
3. Randy Travis *He Walked on Water*
4. Dan Seals *Good Times*
5. Patty Loveless *On Down the Line*
6. Paul Overstreet *Richest Man on Earth*
7. George Strait *Love Without End, Amen*
8. Marty Stuart *Hillbilly Rock*
9. Lorrie Morgan *He Talks to Me*
10. Vince Gill *When I Call Your Name*
11. Highway 101 *This Side of Goodbye*
12. Shenandoah *Next to You, Next to Me*
13. Travis Tritt *I'm Gonna be Somebody*
14. Hank Williams Jr. *Good Friends, Good Whiskey, Good Lovin'*
15. Waylon Jennings *Wrong*
16. Kentucky
Headhunters *Oh Lonesome Me*
17. Clint Black *Nothing's News*
18. Alan Jackson *Wanted*
19. Reba McEntire *Walk On*
20. T Graham Brown *If You Could Only See Me Now*
21. Billy Joe Royal *Searchin' for Some Kind of Clue*
22. Tanya Tucker with
T Graham Brown *Don't Go Out*
23. Restless Heart *Dancy's Dream*
24. Alabama *Pass It On Down*
25. Ricky Van Shelton *I Meant Every Word that He Said*



A 25% Discount For CMSA Members Only

Here it is, folks! Your quick and easy order form for your choice of the Top 25 albums currently on the country music charts. Everyone may order, but members of *Country Music Magazine's* own Country Music Society of America get 25% off list price.

Albums listed on this page are available in CD or cassette. Sorry, no LPs, singles or 8-track tape available. To order, fill out coupon on this page and include your check or money order. Allow six to eight weeks for delivery. To join the CMSA and save 25% on every CD or cassette you buy, add \$12 to cover membership dues and use member's prices. Dues entitle you to an additional year of *Country Music Magazine*, the *Newsletter* with every issue, membership card, discount coupons and more.

Albums

1. George Strait *Livin' It Up*
2. Clint Black *Killin' Time*
3. Alabama *Pass It On Down*
4. Garth Brooks *Garth Brooks*
5. Kentucky
Headhunters *Pickin' on Nashville*
6. Travis Tritt *Country Club*
7. Randy Travis *No Holdin' Back*
8. Alan Jackson *Here in the Real World*
9. Ricky Van Shelton *RVS III*
10. Lorrie Morgan *Leave the Light On*
11. Hank Williams Jr. *Lone Wolf*
12. Restless Heart *Fast Movin' Train*
13. Kathy Mattea *Willow in the Wind*
14. Patty Loveless *On Down the Line*
15. Shenandoah *Extra Mile*
16. Doug Stone *Doug Stone*
17. Vince Gill *When I Call Your Name*
18. Charlie Daniels Band.. *Simple Man*
19. Willie, Woylon,
Johnny & Kris *Highwayman 2*
20. Randy Travis *Always and Forever*
21. Paul Overstreet *Sowin' Love*
22. Tanyo Tucker *Tennessee Woman*
23. Waylon Jennings *The Eagle*
24. k.d. lang *Absolute Torch and Twang*
25. Lionel Cartwright *I Watched it All on the Radio*

Make check payable to *Country Music*. Mail to: Top 25, Suite 2118, 342 Madison Ave., New York, New York 10173.

Check one: Cassette \$9.98, CMSA Members \$7.49
 CD \$16.98, CMSA Members \$12.74

Add \$1.95 postage & handling for one album, \$.95 for each additional. Circle numbers you want from Top 25 list above.

1	6	11	16	21	Total Amount	\$ _____
2	7	12	17	22	Postage & handling	\$ _____
3	8	13	18	23	Total enclosed	\$ _____
4	9	14	19	24		
5	10	15	20	25		

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

CMSA Membership # _____

I want to join the CMSA and get Member's Price. I'm adding \$12 for membership which includes an extra year's subscription to *Country Music Magazine*.

91090

CAMEL



CAMEL
LIGHTS



LOW TAR
CAMEL TASTE

*Smooth
Character*

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking Causes Lung Cancer, Heart Disease, Emphysema, And May Complicate Pregnancy.

10 mg. "tar", 0.6 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.

TOYOTA TRUCKS

*“There’s no better way
to put it all behind you.”*

In addition to an impressive standard payload of 1640 lbs.,* Toyota’s 1990 pickup has a formidable standard towing capacity of 3500 lbs.** Yet with the available 3.0-liter V6 engine in front of you, you’ll hardly notice the load behind. For those who need to haul even more, consider Toyota’s One Ton. It has a standard payload of 2655 lbs. and a towing capacity of 5000 lbs.** So when it comes to work, Toyota’s pickups are all business. And when it comes to play, don’t look back—choose a Toyota.

“Toyota, I love what you do for me.”



*Excluding occupants, equipment and cargo. **With manual transmission, not to exceed GCWR of 6500 lbs. (8600 lbs.—One Ton). Requires additional 3500-lb. (800-lb.) weight-carrying frame-mounted Class II (Class III) tow hitch.
CALL 1-800-GO-TOYOTA for more information and the location of your nearest dealer. Get More From Life...Buckle Up!

© 1989 Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.