

# billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

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BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

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## Brothers Osborne Relish Good Times... And Good Timing



2015 came to a pretty remarkable close for **Brothers Osborne**. Vocalist **T.J. Osborne** and guitarist **John Osborne** went into the holiday break with a top 10 single — “Stay a Little Longer,” which rises to No. 4 on the current Country Airplay chart — and the song brought them a Grammy nomination on Dec. 7 for best country duo/group performance.

Particularly remarkable for that nod from the Recording Academy is that the act hasn't even released its first full album: *Pawn Shop* won't arrive in the marketplace until Jan. 15.

The nomination “was the last thing in the world we expected, including the apocalypse,” notes John.

“One of our friends said, ‘Man, do you realize that every time for the rest of your life that you play a show, you will be introduced as a Grammy-nominated artist?’” adds T.J. “It really is a surreal thing.”

In part because it took so long to get there. And the payoff

didn't come quite the way they had expected it when they left Maryland for Nashville — separately. John arrived in Music City in 2000 on his own, spending four years at Belmont University and touring during the late 2000s as a member of **KingBilly**,

a Nashville buzz band that graduated several fierce musicians, including Warner Bros. artist **Charlie Worsham**. T.J. moved to Tennessee a couple years after his brother with an eye on becoming a solo singer/songwriter.

Once **KingBilly** fell apart, the brothers played a few gigs together, and the siblings unintentionally got linked in the eyes of a few followers.

“It wasn't really something that was a master plan,” notes John. “People were saying, ‘I like that you guys are a duo.’ And we weren't even trying to be a duo.”

But they clicked creatively in a way that mirrors **The Allman Brothers**, another act originally built around a lead singer with a



BROTHERS OSBORNE

SONYA JASINSKI

# billboard Country UPDATE

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lonesome drawl and a bro that plays a mean slide guitar. **The Osbornes** signed with Capitol Nashville before president/CEO **Mike Dungan** left the label for Universal Music Group (UMG) in 2012, rolling the dice that a rumored merger between the two companies would take place and that they would be reunited with Dungan and survive the cuts when the rosters were purged.

“We took a leap of faith,” says T.J. “We didn’t know what was going to happen or how it was going to play out, and honestly it all kind of came together really beautifully. I mean, the last thing you want to be is a band that the head of the label doesn’t really get.”

The Osbornes made it through the Capitol/UMG transition and got several attempts to find their place in the market. “Rum” surged to No. 27 on Country Airplay in 2014 and was accompanied by an EP that showed their abilities. But they really found their niche when they teamed with producer **Jay Joyce** (**Eric Church, Little Big Town**), who helped them find the grit under their sonic fingernails. They recut “Stay a Little Longer,” allowing John to stretch out with the kind of muscular guitar solo that has become a staple of their live shows.

The song’s top five status demonstrates that they have made a connection in the marketplace. *Pawn Shop*’s title cut, plus “Dirt Rich” and “It Ain’t My Fault,” underscore the grimy, working-class attitude that’s at work in that performance.

The new recordings “come from a place that’s a bit tougher and more masculine,” says John. “They defined the record very well and are a window into how Brothers Osborne is evolving as a band.”

It’s a fairly broad evolution. “Pawn Shop” has a dangerous, New Orleans voodoo vibe. “21 Summer” plays with a breezy, California-beachy nostalgia. “It Ain’t My Fault” has a syncopated breathing scheme that’s part **Van Halen**’s “You Really Got Me,” part **Zombies**’ “Time of the Season.” And “Loving You Back” takes a classic country turn with help from **Lee Ann Womack**, whose participation was its own kind of payoff.

“We grew up listening to country and playing country and revering country,” says T.J. “So we wanted to have a really country song.”

In a sly way, Womack represents the ideal the Osbornes have in mind for their own careers. “I Hope You Dance” spent five weeks at No. 1 the same year that John first moved to town. The Osbornes are a much different act than either brother set out to be — heck, their sound is significantly different from just two years ago. And they expect it to change again before they hit the studio for a sophomore album.

“Lee Ann in 2000 sounded different than Lee Ann in 1995,” says John. “She evolved a lot in those five years. And you fast-forward 15 years later, she put out an Americana record. So I think every artist is evolving and should be willing to evolve. I think if you love music and you have a pretty extensive background, you should just go with it and see where the river takes you.”

Wherever it goes, they can always whip out that “Grammy-nominated” sticker. It took a long time to earn it. But it’s a great aid in establishing a Brothers Osborne brand.



The Swon Brothers dropped by SiriusXM before Christmas as the duo geared up for its opening slot on Carrie Underwood’s 2016 tour. From left: Colton Swon, SiriusXM host Storme Warren, Zach Swon and SiriusXM producer Brittany Goudie.



Cassadee Pope delivered a concert at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum when the operation held a free day for the community on Dec. 13. From left: museum major gifts manager Ben Hall, Pope, Ford Motor Company community relations manager Jim Graham and museum vp development Lisa Purcell.



KP Entertainment owner Kerri Edwards was named manager of the year during the Country Music Association’s SRO Awards in December. From left: Rascal Flatts’ Jay DeMarcus, Edwards and Cole Swindell.

POPE: CK PHOTO; EDWARDS: DONN JONES

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# A Thousand Horses

NOW THAT THE "SMOKE" HAS CLEARED  
CHECK YOUR POTENTIAL SCORES ON  
"THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL"



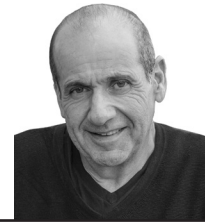
GOOD THINGS, SOMETIMES, TAKE TIME.





ON THE CHARTS JIM ASKER jim.asker@billboard.com

# He's The 'Man': Thomas Rhett Rules Multiple Charts



**Thomas Rhett** remains atop three of *Billboard's* main country songs charts (dated Jan. 16), as "Die a Happy Man" (Valory) leads Hot Country Songs (for an eighth week), Country Airplay (for a third) and Country Digital Songs (for a ninth).

On Hot Country Songs, "Man" marks the longest reign since **Little Big Town's** "Girl Crush" dominated for 13 weeks beginning May 9, 2015. On Country Airplay, the song holds at the pinnacle with a 17 percent gain to 48.9 million audience impressions, according to Nielsen Music. Previously, **Chris Young's** "I'm Comin' Over" (RCA Nashville) was the most recent single to lead Country Airplay for three weeks (beginning Nov. 28, 2015). "Man" is bouyed atop Country Digital Songs by a 57 percent burst to 98,000 downloads sold in the week ending Dec. 31, 2015.

The track, which Rhett co-wrote as a proclamation of love to his wife, **Lauren**, is the second single from his second full-length studio set, *Tangled Up* (Valory/Big Machine Label Group). First offering "Crash and Burn" topped Country Airplay (Sept. 26, 2015) and reached No. 2 on Hot Country Songs. The LP has spent its first 14 weeks in the Top Country Albums chart's top 10, rising 7-6 on the Jan. 16 list with 11,000 sold. It peaked at No. 2 (Nov. 7, 2015) and has sold 257,000 since its release. In those 14 frames, the album has neared the current sales of Rhett's first full-length, 2013's *It Goes Like This* (291,000), which also peaked at No. 2 in a 78-week run on Top Country Albums.

"As Thomas' star continues to rise, this single ["Die a Happy Man"] is already arguably his biggest and has become a career song," says Big Machine

Label Group president/CEO **Scott Borchetta**. "He'll likely never be able to play another show without performing the song."

Likewise, radio programmers have been steadfast in their support of Rhett. "He is one of those artists that appeals across the entire country music spectrum," says Cumulus Nashville **WSM-FM/WKDF PD Charlie Cook**. "What is so great about him is that he can come with a pop-influenced track like 'Crash and Burn' and follow it with a deeply moving love song like 'Die a Happy Man.' There's no fluff and nothing trite in his lyrics, just honest-to-goodness country music."

**Gator Harrison**, PD of iHeartMedia's **WUSY** Chattanooga, Tenn., concurs. "Die a Happy Man' is the song every guy wants to sing and every girl dreams of hearing. Rhett is real and relatable, making him extremely relevant. Country fans know he's not only singing the song, but he has lived it. This might be the next song of the year from the next superstar."

Rhett's ballad is also drawing fans beyond core country audiences. "Happy Man" is gaining an early foothold at adult top 40 radio (aided by promotion from Republic). **WBMX** Boston leads the format with more than 400 plays to date; the song was the station's seventh-most-played track in the week ending Jan. 3.

Meanwhile, on Country Streaming Songs, **Sam Hunt's** "Break Up in a Small Town" (MCA Nashville) rebounds 5-1 for its fourth week atop the list (3.6 million U.S. streams). **Chris Stapleton's** *Tennessee Whiskey* (Mercury) leads Top Country Albums for a seventh week (the last four consecutively) with 37,000 sold. It has shifted 685,000 to date. ●



RYAN SMITH

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# billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY  
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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
1	1	15	DIE A HAPPY MAN Valory	Thomas Rhett	48.931	+7.125	8143	1111	1
2	2	23	GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	45.104	+7.255	7811	1214	2
3	4	45	I LOVE THIS LIFE Reviver	LoCash	42.464	+7.218	7329	1304	3
4	3	40	STAY A LITTLE LONGER EMI Nashville	Brothers Osborne	41.728	+5.941	7031	1060	4
5	6	18	BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	36.606	+6.455	5942	1112	5
6	8	22	TOP OF THE WORLD McGraw/Big Machine	Tim McGraw	33.918	+4.015	5845	725	6
7	7	24	GONNA Warner Bros./WMN	Blake Shelton	33.574	+3.576	5744	590	7
8	9	10	HOME ALONE TONIGHT Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan Featuring Karen Fairchild	32.645	+4.374	5228	738	10
9	10	45	I GOT THE BOY Elektra Nashville/WAR	Jana Kramer	32.162	+4.563	5515	838	8
10	5	28	BURNING HOUSE Arista Nashville	Cam	30.989	+0.520	5373	29	9
11	11	26	BACKROAD SONG Wheelhouse	Granger Smith	28.825	+4.330	4866	772	11
12	12	27	DIBS Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	28.668	+4.814	4825	818	12
13	15	31	WE WENT Stoney Creek	Randy Houser	24.041	+4.228	4403	697	13
14	14	11	BREAK ON ME. Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	23.693	+3.879	3962	707	15
15	13	18	COUNTRY NATION Arista Nashville	Brad Paisley	23.577	+2.636	4105	528	14
16	16	17	BEAUTIFUL DRUG John Varvatos/Republic/BMLG/Southern Ground	Zac Brown Band	20.223	+2.562	3623	450	16
17	17	9	MR. MISUNDERSTOOD EMI Nashville	Eric Church	18.748	+2.873	3422	513	17
18	18	6	HEARTBEAT 19/Arista Nashville	Carrie Underwood	17.382	+3.253	2956	524	19
19	19	38	LITTLE BIT OF YOU Red Bow	Chase Bryant	16.680	+3.273	3330	616	18
20	21	9	CONFESSION Republic Nashville	Florida Georgia Line	16.326	+4.275	2764	588	21
21	20	16	I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT Big Machine	Rascal Flatts	15.934	+2.994	2905	442	20
22	22	9	NOBODY TO BLAME Mercury	Chris Stapleton	13.867	+2.198	2636	354	22
23	RE-ENTRY		(THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL Republic Nashville	A Thousand Horses	12.500	+2.086	2615	398	23
24	23	9	DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE Atlantic/WMN	Brett Eldredge	12.014	+2.067	2108	365	25
25	24	30	THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU Curb	Lee Brice	11.175	+1.861	2575	430	24
26	25	3	YOU SHOULD BE HERE Warner Bros./WMN	Cole Swindell	9.442	+1.707	1540	260	29
27	26	17	REAL MEN LOVE JESUS Atlantic/WEA	Michael Ray	9.320	+1.552	2104	385	26
28	27	7	SNAPBACK RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	7.848	+1.281	1260	197	32
29	28	14	MIND READER Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	7.547	+1.534	1481	151	30
30	30	18	STONE COLD SOBER Valory	Brantley Gilbert	6.901	+1.202	1678	268	27

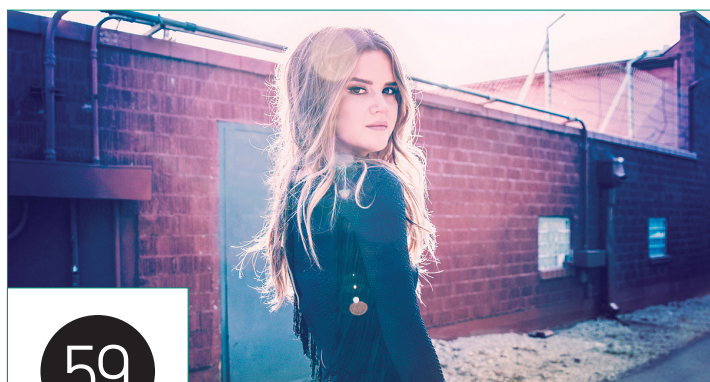
## BILLBOARD COUNTRY AIRPLAY PANEL – 150 STATIONS

Albany, N.Y.	WGNA	Detroit	WYCD	Memphis	WGKX	Sacramento, Calif.	KBEB
Albuquerque, N.M.	KBOI	El Paso, Texas	KHEY	Miami	WKIS		KNCI
Allentown, Pa.	KRST	Ft. Myers, Fla.	WCKT	Milwaukee	WMIL	St. Louis	KNTY
Atlanta	WCTO	Ft. Wayne, Ind.	WWGR	Minneapolis	KEEY		KSD
Augusta, Ga.	WKHX	Fresno, Calif.	WQHK	Mobile, Ala.	KMNB	Salt Lake City	WIL
Austin, Texas	WUBL	Gainesville, Fla.	KSKS	Monmouth/Ocean, N.J.	WKSJ		KEGA
Bakersfield, Calif.	WKXC	Grand Rapids, Mich.	WOGK	Monterey, Calif.	WKMK		KSOP
Baltimore	KASE	Greensboro, N.C.	WBCT	Nashville	KTOM		KUBL
Baton Rouge, La.	KUZZ	Greenville, S.C.	WPAW	Nassau, N.Y.	WKDF	San Antonio, Texas	KAJA
Birmingham, Ala.	WPOC	Harrisburg, Pa.	WTOR	New Bern, N.C.	WSIX	San Diego	KCY
Boise, Idaho	WYNK	Hartford, Conn.	WESS	New Orleans	WSM-FM	San Jose, Calif.	KSON
Boston	WDXB	Houston	WSSL	Norfolk, Va.	WJVC		KRTY
Buffalo, N.Y.	WZZK	Huntsville, Ala.	WRBT	Oklahoma City, Okla.	WRNS		KJSO
Charleston, S.C.	KAWO	Indianapolis	WWTZ	Omaha, Neb.	WNOE	Shreveport, La.	KFGY
Charlotte, N.C.	KOFC	Jacksonville, Fla.	KILT	Orlando, Fla.	WNOR	Spokane, Wash.	KWTO
Chattanooga, Tenn.	WBWL	Johnson City, Tenn.	KKBO	Philadelphia	WNWH	Sarasota, Fla.	WCTO
Chicago	WKLB	Kansas City	WDRM	Phoenix	WWSH	Seattle	KKWF
Cincinnati	WYRK	Knoxville, Tenn.	WFMS	Pittsburgh	KJKE		KKMP
Cleveland	WCKN	Lafayette, La.	WLHK	Portland, Maine	KTST		KKKS
Colorado Springs, Colo.	WEZL	Lakeland, Fla.	WGNE	Portland, Ore.	KXKT	Springfield, Mass.	KXLY
Columbia, S.C.	WKKT	Las Vegas	WQIK	Providence, R.I.	WWKA	Springfield, Mo.	WRNX
Columbus, Ohio	WSOC	Lexington, Ky.	WXBO	Raleigh, N.C.	WXTU	Stockton, Calif.	KTTS
Corpus Christi, Texas	WJSY	Little Rock, Ark.	WDFW	Richmond, Va.	WMLB	Syracuse, N.Y.	KATM
Dallas	WBEG	Los Angeles	KFYF	Riverside, Calif.	KNIX	Tampa, Fla.	WBBS
Denver	WUSN	Louisville, Ky.	WCFY	Roanoke, Va.	WDSY	Tucson, Ariz.	WFUS
Des Moines, Iowa	WUBE	Madison, Wis.	WYCD	Rochester, N.Y.	WOGI	Tulsa, Okla.	WQYK
	WGAR	McAllen, Texas	KMDL		WPGP		KIIM
	KATC		WPCV		WPOR		KTGX
	WCOS		KQYE		WTHI		KVOO
	WCRS		KWNR		WTKR	Visalia, Calif.	KWEN
	KPLX		WBUL		WTVZ	Washington, D.C.	KJUG
	KSCS		KSSN		WVBT	West Palm Beach, Fla.	WMZO
	KWOF		WAMZ		WVBT	Wichita, Kan.	WIRK
	KYGO		WQNU		WVBT		KFDI
			WVQM		WVBT	Wilkes Barre, Pa.	WZLW
			KTEX		WVBT	Wilmington, Del.	WZLW
					WVBT	York, Pa.	WGTY

# billboard Country Airplay

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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	29	19	BETTER IN BOOTS Columbia Nashville	Tyler Farr	6.848	+1.116	1653	192	28
32	32	8	SHUT UP AND FISH Dot	Maddie & Tae	5.916	+1.266	1348	196	31
33	34	7	IT ALL STARTED WITH A BEER Warner Bros./WAR	Frankie Ballard	4.448	+0.809	1000	122	34
34	33	14	HEAD OVER BOOTS Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	4.191	+0.487	1230	111	33
35	35	20	HOLE IN A BOTTLE Mercury	Canaan Smith	4.003	+0.513	901	86	36
36	36	24	YUP Mercury	Easton Corbin	3.833	+0.534	903	36	35
37	37	11	RUNNING FOR YOU MCA Nashville	Kip Moore	3.759	+0.869	742	123	40
38	42	4	FIX Big Loud <b>★★ Breaker ★★</b>	Chris Lane	3.591	+1.185	782	194	38
39	39	13	I MET A GIRL Warner Bros./WMN	William Michael Morgan	3.568	+0.789	671	122	43
40	40	19	PAIN KILLER Capitol Nashville	Little Big Town	3.443	+0.895	853	162	37
41	38	9	YOU LOOK LIKE I NEED A DRINK Valory	Justin Moore	3.363	+0.512	779	111	39
42	43	9	CRAZY OVER ME Curb	Dylan Scott	2.642	+0.352	688	78	41
43	41	12	HIGH CLASS EMI Nashville	Eric Paslay	2.633	+0.167	685	59	42
44	44	10	POWER OF POSITIVE DRINKIN' Warner Bros./WAR	Chris Janson	2.536	+0.456	644	88	44
45	45	16	SOUTHERN BELLE 19/Interscope/Mercury	Scotty McCreery	2.522	+0.611	550	84	46
46	47	7	ARE YOU READY FOR THE COUNTRY? Bocephus/Big Machine	Hank Williams Jr. Feat. Eric Church	2.108	+0.522	445	102	50
47	46	4	LIVIN' THE DREAM Dot	Drake White	2.106	+0.500	423	97	53
48	48	8	BY THE WAY Stoney Creek	Lindsay Ell	1.700	+0.509	460	117	49
49	49	13	NEXT BOYFRIEND 19/Interscope/Mercury	Lauren Alaina	1.502	+0.285	435	57	51
50	53	12	FREAKS LIKE ME Red Bow	Joe Nichols	1.433	+0.428	574	131	45
51	54	8	WHEN I'M GONE Black River	Craig Morgan	1.340	+0.361	508	103	48
52	50	7	WHISKEY ON MY BREATH Hate And Purchase	Love And Theft	1.289	+0.121	365	36	55
53	52	4	THE DRIVER Capitol Nashville	Charles Kelley Feat. Dierks Bentley & Eric Paslay	1.217	+0.214	521	54	47
54	51	3	TONIGHT Warner Bros./WEA	Ryan Kinder	1.158	+0.100	376	52	54
55	55	18	I AM INVINCIBLE Republic Nashville	Cassadee Pope	1.155	+0.192	428	32	52
56	56	5	BEAUTIFUL STRANGER Show Dog Nashville	Toby Keith	1.053	+0.252	352	70	56
57	58	3	RAISED ON IT MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	0.801	+0.124	101	19	58
58	NEW		THINK OF YOU RCA Nashville <b>★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★</b>	Chris Young Feat. Cassadee Pope	0.709	+0.477	73	47	-
59	NEW		MY CHURCH Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	0.639	+0.351	77	60	60
60	59	3	TENNESSEE WHISKEY Mercury	Chris Stapleton	0.558	+0.036	64	10	-



59

MAREN MORRIS  
My Church

The 25-year-old launches her major-label debut onto Country Airplay at No. 59 (639,000 audience impressions, up 122 percent). Co-written by Morris, the ballad is an ode to the church of country music, where "Hank brings the sermon and Cash leads the choir ... Can I get an amen?"

## GOING FOR ADDS

- 1/11**  
**BRODY CASTER**  
Get Country  
SMG Nashville
- 1/18**  
**BRENDA BURCH**  
Sparks Will Fly  
SMG Nashville
- COLE SWINDELL**  
You Should Be Here  
Warner Bros./WMN
- TRACE ADKINS**  
Jesus And Jones  
Wheelhouse
- JENNIFER NETTLES**  
Unlove You  
Big Machine
- 1/25**  
**JORDAN RAGER**  
Feels Like One Of Them  
Broken Bow
- OLD DOMINION**  
SnapBack  
RCA Nashville



# billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY  
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MOST ADDED®		
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS
YOU SHOULD BE HERE Warner Bros./WMN	Cole Swindell	86
HEARTBEAT 19/Arista Nashville	Carrie Underwood	37
SNAPBACK RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	37
DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE Atlantic/WMN	Brett Eldredge	29
FIX Big Loud	Chris Lane	26
CONFESSION Republic Nashville	Florida Georgia Line	24
REAL MEN LOVE JESUS Atlantic/WEA	Michael Ray	22
STONE COLD SOBER Valory	Brantley Gilbert	15
MIND READER Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	11
BETTER IN BOOTS Columbia Nashville	Tyler Farr	10

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE		
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
CONNOR COOPER Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+7.255
I LOVE THIS LIFE Reviver	LoCash	+7.218
DIE A HAPPY MAN Valory	Thomas Rhett	+7.125
BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	+6.455
STAY A LITTLE LONGER EMI Nashville	Brothers Osborne	+5.941
DIBS Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	+4.814
I GOT THE BOY Elektra Nashville/WAR	Jana Kramer	+4.563
HOME ALONETONIGHT Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan Feat. Karen Fairchild	+4.374
BACKROAD SONG Wheelhouse	Granger Smith	+4.330
CONFESSION Republic Nashville	Florida Georgia Line	+4.275

MOST INCREASED PLAYS		
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
I LOVE THIS LIFE Reviver	LoCash	+1304
CONNOR COOPER Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+1214
BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	+1112
DIE A HAPPY MAN Valory	Thomas Rhett	+1111
STAY A LITTLE LONGER EMI Nashville	Brothers Osborne	+1060
I GOT THE BOY Elektra Nashville/WAR	Jana Kramer	+838
DIBS Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	+818
BACKROAD SONG Wheelhouse	Granger Smith	+772
HOME ALONETONIGHT Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan Feat. Karen Fairchild	+738
TOP OF THE WORLD McGraw/Big Machine	Tim McGraw	+725

NEW AND ACTIVE				
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUDIENCE	TOTAL STATIONS	ADDS
LOVIN' LATELY BSR/New Revolution	Big & Rich Feat. Tim McGraw	0.406	4	3
REMEMBERING Dot	Ashley Campbell	0.396	12	0
FRIEND ZONE Big Machine	Danielle Bradbery	0.349	1	0
TIME FOR THAT Blacktop/Thirty Tigers	Clint Black	0.349	2	0
AMNESIA Pretty Damn Tough	Josh Abbott Band	0.316	1	0
FAINT OF HEART Not Listed	Sister C	0.312	1	0

RECURRENTS			
THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	I'M COMIN' OVER RCA Nashville	Chris Young	31.034
2	NOTHIN' LIKE YOU Warner Bros./WAR	Dan + Shay	24.409
3	BREAK UP WITH HIM RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	22.545
4	SMOKE BREAK 19/Arista Nashville	Carrie Underwood	21.209
5	SAVE IT FOR A RAINY DAY Blue Chair/Columbia Nashville	Kenny Chesney	20.551
6	LOSE MY MIND Atlantic/WMN	Brett Eldredge	17.616
7	LET ME SEE YA GIRL Warner Bros./WMN	Cole Swindell	16.172
8	ANYTHING GOES Republic Nashville	Florida Georgia Line	13.923
9	ALREADY CALLIN' YOU MINE Stoney Creek	Parmalee	13.892
10	JOHN COUGAR, JOHN DEERE, JOHN 3:16 Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	13.848

BILLBOARD COUNTRY BOXSCORE			
Gross Ticket Price(s)	Artist Venue/Date(s)	Attendance Capacity	Promoter(s)
\$650,445 \$74.50, \$45	ZAC BROWN BAND Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Mich./Dec. 11	10,165 sellout	MADISON HOUSE PRESENTS
\$603,775 \$65.50, \$25.50	JASON ALDEAN Perfect Vodka Amph., West Palm Beach, Fla./Oct. 24	18,843 sellout	LIVE NATION
\$586,342 \$129, \$47	TOBY KEITH Alaska Airlines Center, Anchorage/Nov. 9-10	6,807 two sellouts	INVICTUS ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
\$563,657 \$87, \$47	ZAC BROWN BAND Amway Center, Orlando/Nov. 14	10,400 12,118	AEG LIVE
\$543,445 \$95, \$75	RASCAL FLATTS Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, Conn./Oct. 10	5,955 6,131	LIVE NATION

Reported worldwide boxscore figures for Country artists. Boxscore figures should be submitted to Bob Allen by phone (615-891-1976), fax (615-891-2054) or email (bob.allen@billboard.com).



## TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING JANUARY 3, 2016

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE (Label)	ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE (Label)	ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-
1	2	20	DON'T IT FEEL GOOD (Tone Tree Music) ★★ 1 week at 1 ★★	Jon Wolfe	1770	36	11	13	11	NEON BLUES (Thirty Tigers)	Randy Rogers Band	1197	128
2	3	12	WHISKEY & WHITLEY (Independent)	Josh Ward	1698	133	12	15	14	AMNESIA (PDT)	Josh Abbott Band	1174	122
3	4	19	IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE (Independent)	Roger Creager & Cody Johnson	1632	138	13	14	16	RINGLING ROAD (Independent)	William Clark Green	1089	24
4	5	21	BEER TIME (Independent)	Mario Flores	1508	34	14	17	7	LONESTAR PARADISE (RROC)	Matt Kimbrow	1086	96
5	11	16	NOTHING'S GOT NOTHIN' (Independent)	Cameron Nelson	1495	201	15	20	11	RODEO MAN (Independent)	Kylie Frey	1066	193
6	6	22	SHE IS (BE)	Zane Williams	1491	72	16	16	21	JUST A LITTLE WHILE (Independent)	The Damn Quails	999	-21
7	7	17	RED FIRE NIGHT (Residence)	Green River Ordinance	1483	91	17	19	12	REST OF FOREVER (Independent)	Jason Cassidy	987	86
8	9	22	TONIGHT WE RIDE (Smith)	Micky & The Motorcars	1436	113	18	23	8	TAKE MY HAND (Independent)	Jake Ward	917	105
9	1	26	MY BOOTS (Independent)	Bri Bagwell	1409	-336	19	24	9	COME ON (Independent)	Kyle Park	913	106
10	10	13	GETAWAY TRUCK (Independent)	Aaron Watson	1394	89	20	18	31	SHE MADE YOUR BED (Independent)	Breelan Angel	895	-39

Texas Regional Radio Report Top 100 is compiled from weekly online playlist reports from 86 radio stations located in Texas and surrounding states, including reports from specialty shows, internet and satellite radio outlets. Songs are ranked by total plays. For tracking, complete chart methodology and more information, visit [www.texasregionalradio.com](http://www.texasregionalradio.com), or contact Dave Smith at 817-283-7984. Copyright 2016, Texas Regional Radio Report

## NASHVILLE &amp; NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



Granger Smith played a WUBL Atlanta concert at Wild Bill's on Dec. 12. From left are iHeartMedia/Atlanta senior vp programming Brian Michel, WUBL music director Angie Ward, Smith, WUBL personality Kristen Gates and morning show producer Freckles, and Wheelhouse director of national promotion Jennifer Shaffer.

## SCRIBBLES AND HITS ON DISPLAY

The music that shapes culture is usually associated with an emotional vocal performance or a seemingly natural hook. But nearly every hit song begins its journey in a great deal of uncertainty as hand-written words on a legal pad or a hotel napkin — or, in recent years, as keyboard strokes and lots of “delete” entries on a computer screen.

The Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame has placed some of those original manuscripts on display in “The Evolution of a Great Song,” an exhibit that relies on the penmanship of such Hall of Fame members as **Bill Anderson**, **Dallas Frazier** and the late **Hank Williams**.

Opened during the holidays at the hall's gallery in the Music City Center, the collection showcases significant works in their raw, early stages, before an exceptional performance from a singer and a handful of musicians brought them to aural life.

“Lyrics that seem so perfect when we heard the finished product often took a long and winding journey to get there,” says Nashville Songwriters Foundation board chair **Pat Alger**.

The original manuscripts in the display include **Tom Douglas** and **Allen Shamblin**'s “The House That Built Me” (recorded by **Miranda Lambert**), **Hugh Prestwood**'s “The Song Remembers When” (**Trisha Yearwood**), **Bobby Braddock**'s “Time Marches On” (**Tracy Lawrence**) and **Richard Leigh** and **Laying Martine Jr.**'s “The Greatest Man I Never Knew” (**Reba McEntire**).

## MOVERS & SHAKERS

**J.R. Schumann** started Dec. 28 as SiriusXM senior director, country programming, operating from the satcaster's Nashville office. He was previously **KPLX/KSCS** Dallas-Fort Worth operations manager ... Cumulus made a number of changes in its executive ranks just before the holiday break. **Suzanne Grimes** joined as Westwood One president/Cumulus executive vp corporate marketing, arriving from Clear Channel Outdoor North America, where she was president/COO. Cumulus senior vp brand partnerships **Tommy Page** added Nash brand strategies to his duties, and senior vp, content and programming **Mike McVay** was given content oversight for all of Cumulus' platforms in the newly formed office of programming. Additionally, **Todd C. McCarty** was hired as Cumulus chief human resources officer, arriving from Las Vegas Sands, where he was senior vp, global human resources ... Cumulus/New York promoted **Mike Allan** to assistant PD for **WNSH**, where he'll work with PD **John Foxx**. Allan is also assistant PD for adult contemporary **WPLJ**, where he was previously music coordinator ... Townsquare recruited **Susan Kravitz** as senior vp, head of national digital sales. She had been Say Media head of global sales ... SummitMedia/Birmingham (Ala.) welcomed **John Walker** as market president, which includes oversight of country **WZZK**. He was most recently a Cumulus regional vp ... Beasley/Las Vegas promoted **John Candelaria** to operations manager for the cluster, including country **KCYE**. He has been PD for rhythmic oldies **KOAS** and adult contemporary **KVGS** since 2012 ... Alpha Media promoted **Valerie Sickles** to

corporate marketing manager from Alpha/Louisville (Ky.) director of urban promotions and community affairs ... **WDSY** Pittsburgh parted ways with morning host **Brian Montgomery** and producer **Katie Zak**, *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported ... **Matt Stone** joined Apex/Fort Walton Beach, Fla., as operations manager, according to RadioInfo.com. A former assistant PD at alternative **XETRA** San Diego, his new stations include country **WHWY** ... **Tricia Gallenbeck** joined the Reno Media Group as vp/GM, according to InsideRadio.com, arriving from Beasley/Fayetteville, N.C., where she spent five years as director of sales. Reno Media's eight stations include country outlets **KLOC** and **KSGG** ... Former **WSIX** Nashville personality **Robert “Hoss” Burns** died Dec. 16 at his home in Old Hickory, Tenn. As a songwriter, he had titles recorded by **Alan Jackson**, **Kenny Chesney** and **Dionne Warwick**. A celebration of life is anticipated ... **WGKX** Memphis talent **Mark Billingsley** died Dec. 22, *The Memphis Commercial Appeal* reported. A 20-year station veteran, he underwent brain surgery in November and never regained consciousness.

## 'ROUND THE ROW

**Dierks Bentley** manager **Mary Hilliard Harrington** joined Red Light Management in a senior position, months after selling her PR company, The Green-Room. Harrington, who also manages **Aubrie Sellers** and **Tucker Beathard**, brings with her day-to-day manager **Stephanie Johnson** and digital exec **Kevin Grace**. In addition, the team added day-to-day manager **Taylor Lee**, formerly a William Morris agent trainee, and **Heather Young**, a previously independent radio promoter ... Warner Music Nashville promoted **Chad Schultz** to vp, radio marketing and promotion from national director ... **Blain Rhodes** joined Universal Music Group Nashville as director of A&R after four years at Warner/Chappell, where he was manager of A&R. Reach him [here](#) ... UMG Nashville also promoted **Ashley Wilson** to coordinator, media marketing, months after joining the company full time. Reach her [here](#) ... Splash PR promoted **Miriam Friday** to senior publicist/office administrator. She has been a publicist with the company for two years. Reach her [here](#) ... **Shannon Turner** joined the International Bluegrass Music Association as director, communications and professional development. She was previously an independent media/promotion exec and freelance writer ... The Country Music Association is seeking a senior manager of market research and senior manager of strategic partnerships. Information can be found [here](#) and [here](#) ... Big Deal Music purchased Words & Music, a Nashville-based administrative firm whose clients include **Chris Janson**, **Tim McGraw** and **Billy Currington**. Words & Music president **Kim McCollum-Mele** remains with the company ... Singer/songwriter **Leigh Nash** signed a publishing deal with BMG Nashville ... **Exile** joined the roster at booking agency Buddy Lee Attractions ... Bluegrass group **Mountain Faith** signed a concert booking deal with the Agency for the Performing Arts in Nashville ... Bluegrass act **Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper** added multi-instrumentalist **Cody Looper** to the group, replacing **Gaven Largent**, who joins **Blue Highway** on *Dobro* ... Warner Music Nashville president/CEO **John Esposito** is the new Country Music Association board chairman, with Ryman Auditorium GM **Sally Williams** rising to president. Go [here](#) for the complete list of board members ... Morris Higham Management vp marketing **Basak Kizilisik** was named president of Society of Leaders in Development (SOLID). SESAC project manager **Eric Wright** was appointed SOLID vp ... **Kenny Rogers** and CMT president **Brian Philips** will be recognized during the eighth annual T.J. Martell Foundation Nashville Honors Gala on Feb. 29 at the Omni Nashville Hotel ... R&B singer **Natalie Cole** died Dec. 31. She was nominated for a Country Music Association Award in 1994, thanks to her participation in the album of the year finalist *Rhythm Country & Blues*, which featured her in a duet with **Reba McEntire** on “Since I Fell for You” ... Songwriter/producer **Luigi Creatore** died Dec. 13 in Boca Raton, Fla. A co-writer of **Elvis Presley**'s “Can't Help Falling in Love,” he partnered with **Hugo Peretti** to produce pop singles for **Sam Cooke** and **Little Peggy March**, and produced four country hits in the 1950s for **Jimmie Rodgers** ... Record producer **Thomas “Snuff” Garrett** died Dec. 16 at his home in Tucson, Ariz., *The New York Times* reported. In addition to a ream of pop hits, he produced country successes for **Tanya Tucker**, **Merle Haggard** and **Clint Eastwood**, **David Frizzell** and **Shelly West**, and **Ronnie Milsap**, among others ... Songwriter **Don Pfrimmer** died Dec. 7 of leukemia, according to CMT. His credits included **Diamond Rio**'s “Meet in the Middle,” **Lonestar**'s “My Front Porch Looking In” and **Lee Roy Parnell**'s “Love Without Mercy.”

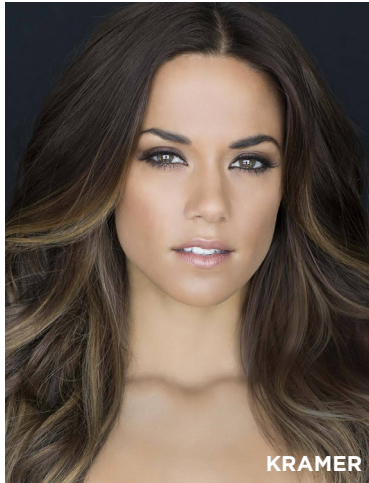


NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND

MUSIC NOTES

With the flip of a calendar, the 51st annual Academy of Country Music Awards is just three months away, and the ACM is already setting the stage for its return to Las Vegas after a 2015 detour to AT&T Stadium in Texas. The stages will be packed, too, for the ACM Party for a Cause, a three-day festival April 1-3 that features **Carrie Underwood**, **Dierks Bentley** and **Kenny Chesney** as headliners. Other acts in the mix include **Kelsea Ballerini**, **Kip Moore**, **Chris Young**, **Dustin Lynch** and **Kellie Pickler**. Bentley co-hosts the ACMs for the first time on April 3 with **Luke Bryan**.

**Jana Kramer**'s 2016 calendar launches with a special that airs Jan. 6 on AT&T's DirecTV and U-verse platforms. Shot on a rooftop above Lower Broadway in Nashville, the piece includes interview material plus performances of "Why Ya Wanna" and "I Got the Boy," which is currently positioned at No. 9 on Country Airplay.



KRAMER

**Waylon Jennings** maintained a distinct appearance during the key commercial years of a career that landed him in the Country Music Hall of Fame, and some of that uniqueness derived from his version of the western hat, a flat-topper with a pork pie feel that was featured on the cover of his multiplatinum *Greatest Hits* album. Jennings' estate, represented by licensing firm Midnight Rider, has partnered with Stetson to make a felt model of that hat — nicknamed "The Lash" — available for sale. The line goes to market on Feb. 1.

Record producer **Dave Cobb** (**Chris Stapleton**, *A Thousand Horses*) picked up four Grammy nominations in December, adding to the setup for his forthcoming compilation, *Southern Family*. Slated for a March 18 release through Elektra on Cobb's own Low Country Sound label, the project pulls together tracks from **Jason Isbell**, **Miranda Lambert**, **Anderson East**, **Brandy Clark**, **Jamey Johnson**, **Morgane Stapleton** and former **Civil Wars** member **John Paul White**, among others.

GOOD WORKS

Twenty-three years on, the Bluebird Cafe is connected to an *Original* idea that extends songwriters' commitment to Alive Hospice.

*Keeping It Original for Alive* is a 13-cut CD that offers the original demos to a number of hits, including **Lee Brice**'s "I Don't Dance," **Kenny Chesney**'s "Somewhere With You" and **Frankie Ballard**'s "Helluva Life." All the proceeds benefit Alive Hospice, which provides comfort to Middle Tennessee patients with terminal conditions.

Assembled by producer **Marshall Altman** (Ballard, **Eric Paslay**), the project includes contributions from artist/writers **John King**, **Chase Bryant** and **Old Dominion** members **Trevor Rosen** and **Brad Tursi**, alongside such full-time songwriters as **Dallas Davidson**, **Jessi Alexander** and **Rodney Clawson**.

*Keeping It Original for Alive* is available through [Alive Hospice](#) and will soon be on iTunes. It will also be for sale during the month of January at the Bluebird as the Nashville club presents its annual series of benefit shows for the cause.

TWEET OF THE WEEK

Can't help but wonder if there's a specific recent incident behind this seemingly random tweet from **Jake Owen** (@jakeowen):

"Hey girls.. Say no to extensions. Embrace your natural beauty. No dude wants to feel Legos in the back of your head. #justbeinghonest"

To follow BCU, go to [Twitter.com/bbcountryupdate](https://twitter.com/bbcountryupdate).

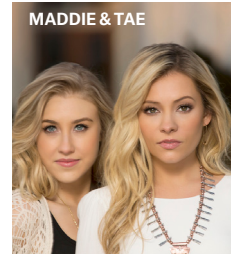
ON THIS DATE IN COUNTRY MUSIC

Jan. 4

- 1996 — **Shania Twain** is the leading country candidate at the Grammy Awards as she picks up four nominations for her album *The Woman in Me*. She competes with **Brandy**, **Hootie & The Blowfish**, **Alanis Morissette** and **Joan Osborne** for best new artist.

Jan. 5

- 2015 — Dot releases **Maddie & Tae**'s "Fly" to radio.



MADDIE & TAE

Jan. 6

- 2012 — **Jake Owen** has his wisdom teeth removed.

Jan. 7

- 2013 — **Zac Brown Band** sings the national anthem before college football's BCS Championship Game at Sun Life Stadium in Miami. The Alabama Crimson Tide dominates the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, 42-14.

Jan. 8

- 2014 — **Taylor Swift** wins favorite country artist during the 40th annual People's Choice Awards, telecast by CBS from the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. **Tim McGraw** is named favorite country music icon.
- 1983 — **Reba McEntire** achieves her first No. 1 single on the *Billboard* country chart with "Can't Even Get the Blues."

Jan. 9

- 2010 — **Brad Paisley**, **Miranda Lambert** and **Justin Moore** play the first concert at the Intrust Bank Arena in Wichita, Kan. When a venue employee suffers a heart attack, Paisley's father, **Doug**, performs CPR while waiting for paramedics.
- 1982 — A five-mile stretch of Gallatin Road in Hendersonville, Tenn., is renamed Johnny Cash Parkway on a Saturday with subzero temperatures.

Jan. 10

- 1991 — **Clint Black** joins the Grand Ole Opry during a taping for its 65th-anniversary special.
- 1956 — **Elvis Presley** records "Heartbreak Hotel" during his first Nashville session, held at the Methodist Television, Radio & Film Commission.

Source: [RolandNote.com](#), the Ultimate Country Music Database



After missing the BMI Country Music Awards in November, **Scotty McCreery** picked up a plaque recognizing "See You Tonight" among the performing rights agency's most-played country songs of the year in December. From left: BMI vp writer and publisher relations **Jody Williams**, **McCreery**, Universal Music Group Nashville vp A&R **Brian Wright** and BMI executive director of writer and publisher relations **Bradley Collins**.

JOSEPH LLANES

JOHN RUSSELL

# billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA  
COMPILED BY  
**nialsen**  
MUSIC

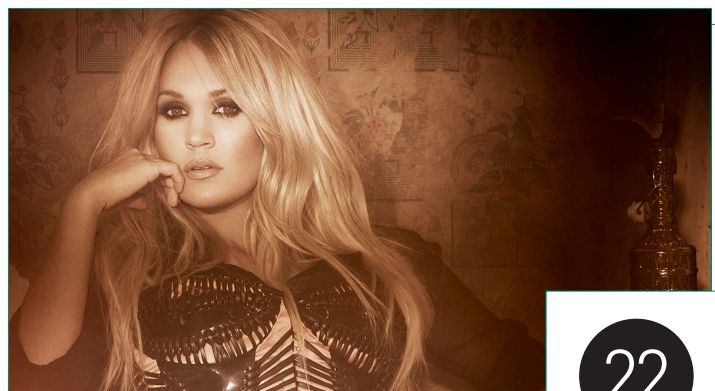
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL	CERTIFIED	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	15	<b>DIE A HAPPY MAN</b> D.HUFF,J.FRASURE (THOMAS RHETT,S.DOUGLAS,JOE LONDON) <b>★★ No. 1 (8 weeks)/Airplay Gainer ★★</b>	<b>Thomas Rhett</b> VALORY	●	1
2	2	3	38	<b>BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN</b> Z.CROWELL,S.MCANALLY (S.HUNT,Z.CROWELL,S.MCANALLY)	<b>Sam Hunt</b> MCA NASHVILLE	●	2
3	3	2	30	<b>BURNING HOUSE</b> J.BHASKER,T.JOHNSON (C.OCHS,T.S.JOHNSON,J.BHASKER)	<b>Cam</b> ARISTA NASHVILLE	■	2
4	4	7	11	<b>HOME ALONE TONIGHT</b> J.STEVENS,J.STEVENS (J.STEVENS,C.TAYLOR,J.DREYER,T.CECIL)	<b>Luke Bryan Featuring Karen Fairchild</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE		4
5	5	6	34	<b>I'M COMIN' OVER</b> C.CROWDER,C.YOUNG (C.YOUNG,C.CROWDER,J.HOGE)	<b>Chris Young</b> RCA NASHVILLE	●	2
6	7	9	23	<b>GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE</b> M.KNOX (B.BEAVERS,BRETT JAMES)	<b>Jason Aldean</b> BROKEN BOW		6
7	6	5	39	<b>STAY A LITTLE LONGER</b> J.JOYCE (J. OSBORNE,T.J. OSBORNE,S.MCANALLY)	<b>Brothers Osborne</b> EMI NASHVILLE	●	5
8	8	11	46	<b>I GOT THE BOY</b> S.HENDRICKS (T.NICHOLS,C.HARRINGTON,J.L.SPEARS)	<b>Jana Kramer</b> ELEKTRA NASHVILLE/WAR	●	8
9	9	12	33	<b>I LOVE THIS LIFE</b> L.RIMES,P.BRUST,C.LUCAS (D.MYRICK,C.JANSON,C.LUCAS,P.BRUST)	<b>LoCash</b> REVIVER		9
10	13	15	24	<b>STRIP IT DOWN</b> J.STEVENS,J.STEVENS (L.BRYAN,J.M.NITE,R.COPPERMAN)	<b>Luke Bryan</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE		1
11	11	8	23	<b>GONNA</b> S.HENDRICKS (L.LAIRD,C.WISEMAN)	<b>Blake Shelton</b> WARNER BROS./WMN		4
12	16	14	21	<b>DIBS</b> F.G.WHITEHEAD,J.MASSEY (K.BALLERINI,J.KERR,R.GRIFFIN,J.DUKE) <b>★★ Streaming Gainer ★★</b>	<b>Kelsea Ballerini</b> BLACK RIVER		12
13	15	17	16	<b>BEAUTIFUL DRUG</b> Z.BROWN (Z.BROWN,N.MOON)	<b>Zac Brown Band</b> JOHN VARVATOS/REPUBLIC/BMLG/SOUTHERN GROUND		13
14	14	16	15	<b>BACKROAD SONG</b> F.ROGERS,G.SMITH (G.SMITH,F.ROGERS)	<b>Granger Smith</b> WHEELHOUSE		14
15	12	13	22	<b>TOP OF THE WORLD</b> B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (J.ROBBINS,J.M.NITE,J.OSBORNE)	<b>Tim McGraw</b> MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE		11
16	21	18	20	<b>SMOKE BREAK</b> J.JOYCE (C.UNDERWOOD,C. DESTEFANO,H.LINDSEY)	<b>Carrie Underwood</b> 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE		4
17	17	22	9	<b>MR. MISUNDERSTOOD</b> J.JOYCE (E.CHURCH,C.BEATHARD)	<b>Eric Church</b> EMI NASHVILLE		17
18	18	20	10	<b>BREAK ON ME.</b> N.CHAPMAN,K.URBAN (J.M.NITE,R.COPPERMAN)	<b>Keith Urban</b> HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE		18
19	10	10	3	<b>YOU SHOULD BE HERE</b> M.CARTER (C.SWINDELL,A.GORLEY)	<b>Cole Swindell</b> WARNER BROS./WMN		10
20	19	21	31	<b>WE WENT</b> D.GEORGE (J.WILSON,M.ROGERS,J.KING)	<b>Randy Houser</b> STONEY CREEK		19
21	22	26	9	<b>CONFESSION</b> J.MOI (R.CLAWSON,R.COPPERMAN,M.JENKINS)	<b>Florida Georgia Line</b> REPUBLIC NASHVILLE		21
22	23	27	10	<b>HEARTBEAT</b> Z.CROWELL (C.UNDERWOOD,Z.CROWELL,A.GORLEY)	<b>Carrie Underwood</b> 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE		22
23	20	23	10	<b>TENNESSEE WHISKEY</b> D.COBBS,C.STAPLETON (D.DILLON,LINDA HARGROVE)	<b>Chris Stapleton</b> MERCURY		1
24	24	25	9	<b>NOBODY TO BLAME</b> D.COBBS,C.STAPLETON (C.STAPLETON,B.BALES,R.BOWMAN)	<b>Chris Stapleton</b> MERCURY		24
25	25	24	18	<b>COUNTRY NATION</b> L.WOOTEN,B.PAISLEY (B.PAISLEY,C.DUBOIS,K.LOVELACE)	<b>Brad Paisley</b> ARISTA NASHVILLE		23



21

**FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE**  
Confession

The fifth single from *Anything Goes* rises 22-21 on Hot Country Songs, sparked by a 62 percent jump in digital sales to 19,000. On Country Airplay, the track cracks the top 20 (21-20), up by 35 percent to 16.3 million in audience.



22

**CARRIE UNDERWOOD**  
Heartbeat

**Underwood**, who rocked Times Square with a performance (including this track) on *Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve* on ABC, steps 23-22 on Hot Country Songs with "Heartbeat." Leading up to the appearance, the song gained by 72 percent to 16,000 sold in the week ending Dec. 31, 2015.



# billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA COMPILED BY  
**nielsen MUSIC**

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE <small>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)</small>	Artist <small>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL</small>	CERTIFIED	PEAK POSITION
26	27	29	15	I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT <small>J.DEMARCUS,RASCAL FLATTS (M.TRAINOR,J.FRASURE,S.MOONEY)</small>	Rascal Flatts BIG MACHINE		26
27	26	28	27	THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU <small>J.STONE,L.BRICE (L.BRICE,R.AKINS,A.GORLEY)</small>	Lee Brice CURB		25
28	28	32	7	DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE <small>R.COPPERMAN,B.ELDREDGE (B.ELDREDGE,R.COPPERMAN)</small>	Brett Eldredge ATLANTIC/WMN		28
29	29	31	19	LITTLE BIT OF YOU <small>D.GEORGE,C.BRYANT (C.BRYANT,D.GEORGE,A.GORLEY)</small>	Chase Bryant RED BOW		29
30	30	33	19	(THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL <small>D.COBB (M.HOBBY,C.CROWDER,N.MASON,C.DODDS)</small>	A Thousand Horses REPUBLIC NASHVILLE		30
31	32	35	7	STONE COLD SOBER <small>D.HUFF (B.GILBERT,BRETT JAMES,D.LAYUS)</small>	Brantley Gilbert VALORY		31
32	31	37	7	SNAPBACK <small>S.MCANALLY (M.RAMSEY,T.ROSEN,B.TURSI)</small>	Old Dominion RCA NASHVILLE		31
33	33	38	7	BETTER IN BOOTS <small>J.KING,J.CATINO (J.WILSON,D.PITTINGER,N.COOKE)</small>	Tyler Farr COLUMBIA NASHVILLE		33
34	43	-	10	USED TO LOVE YOU SOBER <small>M.MCVANEY (K.BROWN,M.MCVANEY,J.HOGE)</small>	Kane Brown ZONE 4		15
35	35	42	12	HEAD OVER BOOTS <small>B.BUTLER,J.PARDI (J.PARDI,L.LAIRD)</small>	Jon Pardi CAPITOL NASHVILLE		35
36	37	36	4	SHUT UP AND FISH <small>D.HUFF (M.MARLOW,T.DYE,P.SALLIS,A.SCHERZ)</small>	Maddie & Tae DOT		36
37	36	39	10	REAL MEN LOVE JESUS <small>S.HENDRICKS (B.WARREN,B.WARREN,L.MILLER,A.SANDERS)</small>	Michael Ray ATLANTIC/WEA		36
38	38	45	8	MIND READER <small>M.J.CONES (R.AKINS,B.HAYSLIP)</small>	Dustin Lynch BROKEN BOW		38
39	34	43	15	NIGHT'S ON FIRE <small>C.AINLAY,F.LIDDELL,G.WORF (J.SINGLETON,D.RUTTAN)</small>	David Nail MCA NASHVILLE		34
40	40	46	9	TRAVELLER <small>D.COBB,C.STAPLETON (C.STAPLETON)</small>	Chris Stapleton MERCURY		17
41	41	47	9	CRAZY OVER ME <small>M.ALDERMAN,J.E.NORMAN (D.SCOTT,M.ALDERMAN)</small>	Dylan Scott CURB		36
42	44	-	2	FIX <small>J.MOI (S.BUXTON,J.FRASURE,A.STOKLASA)</small>	Chris Lane BIG LOUD	★★ Digital Gainer ★★	42
43	45	49	14	COLD BEER CONVERSATION <small>C.AINLAY,G.STRAIT (A.ANDERSON,B.HAYSLIP,J.YEARY)</small>	George Strait MCA NASHVILLE		36
44	42	48	3	IT ALL STARTED WITH A BEER <small>M.ALTMAN (J.JOHNSTON,N.MASON,J.S.STOVER)</small>	Frankie Ballard WARNER BROS./WAR		42
45	46	50	10	YUP <small>C.CHAMBERLAIN (S.MINOR,P.O'DONNELL,W.KIRBY)</small>	Easton Corbin MERCURY		45
46	48	-	3	YOU LOOK LIKE I NEED A DRINK <small>J.S.STOVER,J.RAYMOND,S.BORCHETTA (R.CLAWSON,M.DRAGSTREM,N.HEMBY)</small>	Justin Moore VALORY		34
47	49	-	2	I MET A GIRL <small>J.RITCHEY,S.HENDRICKS (T.ROSEN,S.HUNT,S.MCANALLY)</small>	William Michael Morgan WARNER BROS./WMN		47
48	47	-	2	HOLE IN A BOTTLE <small>B.BEAVERS,J.ROBBINS (C.SMITH,B.BEAVERS,D.COUCH)</small>	Canaan Smith MERCURY		47
49	NEW	-	1	PAIN KILLER <small>J.JOYCE (K.FAIRCHILD,J.WESTBROOK,B.DALY,H.LINDSEY)</small>	Little Big Town CAPITOL NASHVILLE	★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★	49
50	50	-	3	NEXT BOYFRIEND <small>BUSBEE (L.LALAINA,E.WEISBAND,M.MCVANEY)</small>	Lauren Alaina 19/INTERSCOPE/MERCURY		39

The week's most popular country songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen Music, sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music and streaming activity data from online music sources tracked by Nielsen Music. Descending titles below No. 25 are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks.

## COUNTRY MARKET WATCH

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

### YEAR-TO-DATE

Year-Over-Year Album Sales	
'14	33.3 million
'15	29.4 million
DIGITAL TRACKS SALES	
'14	132.5 million
'15	111.3 million

Weekly Unit Sales			
	ALBUMS	DIGITAL ALBUMS*	DIGITAL TRACKS
This Week	573,000	238,000	3,050,000
Last Week	1,325,000	185,000	1,676,000
Change	-56.8%	28.6%	82.0%
This Week Last Year	1,353,000	270,000	3,638,000
Change	-57.6%	-11.9%	-16.2%

Overall Unit Sales			
	2014	2016	CHANGE
Albums	33,258,000	29,356,000	-11.7%
Digital Tracks	132,507,000	111,287,000	-16.0%
Sales by Album Format			
	2014	2016	CHANGE
Physical	23,148,000	19,323,000	9.0%
Digital	10,110,000	10,032,000	-0.8%

For week ending December 31, 2015. Figures are rounded. Compiled from a national sample of retail store and rack sales reports collected and provided by Nielsen Music.



\*Digital album sales are also counted within album sales.

For inquiries about any Nielsen Music data, please contact Josh Bennett at 615-807-1338 or [josh.bennett@nielsen.com](mailto:josh.bennett@nielsen.com)

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA COMPILED BY



# billboard TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	Title	CERT.	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	35	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY 019405*/UMGN	Traveller	●	1
2	9	23	56	CARRIE UNDERWOOD 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE 500876/SMN	Greatest Hits: Decade #1	●	1
3	3	4	21	LUKE BRYAN CAPITOL NASHVILLE 022813/UMGN	Kill The Lights		1
4	4	5	62	SAM HUNT MCA NASHVILLE 021502/UMGN	Montevallo	●	1
5	2	3	10	CARRIE UNDERWOOD 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE 510539*/SMN	Storyteller	●	1
6	7	8	14	THOMAS RHETT VALORY RT0200A/BMLG	Tangled Up		2
7	6	7	9	ERIC CHURCH EMI NASHVILLE 024200*/UMGN	Mr. Misunderstood		2
8	11	12	7	CHRIS YOUNG RCA NASHVILLE 506963/SMN	I'm Comin' Over		1
9	8	2	3	CAM RCA/ARISTA NASHVILLE 507049/SMN	Untamed		2
10	5	6	10	BLAKE SHELTON WARNER BROS. 551788/WMN	Reloaded: 20 #1 Hits		2
11	18	22	9	CHRIS JANSON WARNER BROS. 552159/WMN	Buy Me A Boat		4
12	17	16	36	ZAC BROWN BAND JOHN VARVATOS/SOUTHERN GROUND/BMLG 022962/REPUBLIC	JEKYLL + HYDE	●	1
13	12	15	63	LITTLE BIG TOWN CAPITOL NASHVILLE 021360*/UMGN	Pain Killer		3
14	23	24	8	OLD DOMINION RCA NASHVILLE 513496/SMN	Meat And Candy		5
15	22	20	64	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE REPUBLIC NASHVILLE/BMLG	Anything Goes	●	1
16	15	11	14	DON HENLEY PAST MASTERS HOLDINGS 023512*/CAPITOL	Cass County		1
17	20	18	8	KENNY ROGERS WARNER BROS. 550651/WMN	Once Again It's Christmas		17
18	19	19	65	JASON ALDEAN BROKEN BOW 7105/BBMG	Old Boots, New Dirt	■	1
19	14	14	8	TIM MCGRAW MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE TM0300A/BMLG	Damn Country Music		3
20	10	13	14	GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 022818 WMEX/UMGN	Cold Beer Conversation		1
21	24	28	85	BRANTLEY GILBERT VALORY B60200A/BMLG	Just As I Am	●	1
22	25	32	33	KELSEA BALLERINI BLACK RIVER 2015	The First Time		4
23	30	29	16	BRETT ELDRIDGE ATLANTIC 549782/WMN	Illinois		1
24	28	30	18	MADDIE & TAE DOT/REPUBLIC 023172/BMLG	Start Here		2
25	37	43	28	KACEY MUSGRAVES MERCURY 022816*/UMGN	Pageant Material		1

The week's most popular country albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen Music. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. Charts update weekly on Thursdays at [www.Billboard.Biz/charts](http://www.Billboard.Biz/charts). Copyright 2016, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.



4

**LUKE BRYAN**  
Featuring **KAREN FAIRCHILD**  
Home Alone Tonight

With a 59 percent surge to 40,000 sold, the revenge sex anthem lifts 5-4 on Country Digital Songs. It also bumps 9-8 on Country Airplay (32.6 million audience, up 15 percent).

JIM WRIGHT

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA COMPILED BY



# billboard COUNTRY DIGITAL SONGS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST (IMPRINT/LABEL)	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST (IMPRINT/LABEL)
1	1	15	DIE A HAPPY MAN THOMAS RHETT (Valory/BMLG)	26	27	8	HEARTBEAT CARRIE UNDERWOOD (19/Arista Nashville/SMN)
2	2	50	BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN SAM HUNT (MCA Nashville/UMGN)	27	30	10	BACKROAD SONG GRANGER SMITH (Vheelhouse/BBMG)
3	3	28	BURNING HOUSE CAM (Arista Nashville/SMN)	28	21	10	BREAK ON ME. KEITH URBAN (Hit Red/Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
4	5	9	HOME ALONE TONIGHT LUKE BRYAN FEAT. KAREN FAIRCHILD (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)	29	46	186	CHICKEN FRIED ZAC BROWN BAND (Home Grown/Bigger Picture/Atlantic/AG)
5	8	40	HOUSE PARTY SAM HUNT (MCA Nashville/UMGN)	30	28	19	GONNA BLAKE SHELTON (Warner Bros./WMN)
6	7	34	I'M COMIN' OVER CHRIS YOUNG (RCA Nashville/SMN)	31	RE-ENTRY		USED TO LOVE YOU SOBER KANE BROWN (Zone 4)
7	10	24	STRIP IT DOWN LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)	32	38	24	NOTHIN' LIKE YOU DAN + SHAY (Warner Bros./WMN)
8	4	3	YOU SHOULD BE HERE COLE SWINDELL (Warner Bros./WMN)	33	43	29	JOHN COUGAR, JOHN DEERE, JOHN 3:16 KEITH URBAN (Hit Red/Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
9	6	10	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON (Mercury/UMGN)	34	37	23	WE WENT RANDY HOUSER (Stoney Creek/BBMG)
10	32	33	KICK THE DUST UP LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)	35	RE-ENTRY		BOYS' ROUND HERE BLAKE SHELTON FEAT. PISTOL ANNIES & FRIENDS (Warner Bros./WMN)
11	11	46	I GOT THE BOY JANA KRAMER (Elektra Nashville/WMN)	36	33	4	DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE BRETT ELDRIDGE (Atlantic/WMN)
12	19	18	GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE JASON ALDEAN (Broken Bow/BBMG)	37	40	7	ALREADY CALLIN' YOU MINE PARMALEE (Stoney Creek/BBMG)
13	23	39	CRASH AND BURN THOMAS RHETT (Valory/BMLG)	38	36	16	THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU LEE BRICE (Curb)
14	25	37	BUY ME A BOAT CHRIS JANSON (Warner Bros./WMN)	39	50	30	LOSE MY MIND BRETT ELDRIDGE (Atlantic/WMN)
15	16	34	BREAK UP WITH HIM OLD DOMINION (RCA Nashville/SMN)	40	RE-ENTRY		PLAY IT AGAIN LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
16	12	11	BEAUTIFUL DRUG ZAC BROWN BAND (John Varvatos/Southern Ground/BMLG/Republic)	41	39	4	I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT RASCAL FLATTS (Big Machine/BMLG)
17	29	62	TAKE YOUR TIME SAM HUNT (MCA Nashville/UMGN)	42	RE-ENTRY		ANYTHING GOES FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE (Republic Nashville/BMLG)
18	18	19	I LOVE THIS LIFE LOCASH (Reviver)	43	45	46	LIKE A WRECKING BALL ERIC CHURCH (EMI Nashville/UMGN)
19	13	9	MR. MISUNDERSTOOD ERIC CHURCH (EMI Nashville/UMGN)	44	RE-ENTRY		HOMEGROWN ZAC BROWN BAND (John Varvatos/Southern Ground/BMLG/Republic)
20	17	9	CONFESSION FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE (Republic Nashville/BMLG)	45	RE-ENTRY		FISHIN' IN THE DARK NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND (Warner Bros./Rhino)
21	26	54	GIRL CRUSH LITTLE BIG TOWN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)	46	RE-ENTRY		COUNTRY GIRL (SHAKE IT FOR ME) LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
22	31	19	SMOKE BREAK CARRIE UNDERWOOD (19/Arista Nashville/SMN)	47	RE-ENTRY		CRUISE FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE (Republic Nashville/BMLG)
23	15	29	STAY A LITTLE LONGER BROTHERS OSBORNE (EMI Nashville/UMGN)	48	RE-ENTRY		THAT'S MY KIND OF NIGHT LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
24	34	23	DIBS KELSEA BALLERINI (Black River)	49	RE-ENTRY		THE HOUSE THAT BUILT ME MIRANDA LAMBERT (Columbia Nashville/SMN)
25	14	7	NOBODY TO BLAME CHRIS STAPLETON (Mercury/UMGN)	50	RE-ENTRY		ONE HELL OF AN AMEN BRANTLEY GILBERT (Valory/BMLG)

Top-selling paid download country songs compiled from sales reports collected and provided by Nielsen Music. Charts update weekly on Thursdays at [www.Billboard.Biz/charts](http://www.Billboard.Biz/charts). Copyright 2016, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

STREAMING DATA COMPILED BY



# billboard COUNTRY STREAMING SONGS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST
1	5	22	BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN SAM HUNT	11	14	9	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON
2	6	14	DIE A HAPPY MAN THOMAS RHETT	12	4	10	A HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS BURL IVES
3	1	16	ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE BRENDA LEE	13	15	34	CRASH AND BURN THOMAS RHETT
4	8	21	BURNING HOUSE CAM	14	18	45	GIRL CRUSH LITTLE BIG TOWN
5	9	53	TAKE YOUR TIME SAM HUNT	15	16	4	HOME ALONE TONIGHT LUKE BRYAN FEAT. KAREN FAIRCHILD
6	3	12	JINGLE BELL ROCK BOBBY HELMS	16	17	20	BREAK UP WITH HIM OLD DOMINION
7	11	32	HOUSE PARTY SAM HUNT	17	21	15	I GOT THE BOY JANA KRAMER
8	2	16	RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER GENE AUTRY	18	7	5	HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS (RIGHT DOWN SANTA CLAUS LANE) ELVIS PRESLEY
9	12	21	STRIP IT DOWN LUKE BRYAN	19	22	142	CRUISE FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE
10	13	29	I'M COMIN' OVER CHRIS YOUNG	20	20	93	PLAY IT AGAIN LUKE BRYAN

Country Streaming Songs -The week's top Country streamed radio songs, on-demand songs and videos on leading online music services. Charts update weekly on Thursdays at [www.Billboard.Biz/charts](http://www.Billboard.Biz/charts). Copyright 2016, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.



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# Old Dominion Tips Its Cap To Slang With New Single 'Snapback'

When RCA shipped the latest **Old Dominion** single to programmers on Nov. 23, 2015, the Play MPE email did not contain a photo of the band. Instead, the group's logo was slapped on the rear of a baseball cap along with the word "Snapback."

It was a shrewd move, because for those not in the know, the image explained the title, which refers to an adjustable ball cap. It's a slang usage of "snapback" that can't be found in *Merriam-Webster* or on *Dictionary.com*, though it's represented at *UrbanDictionary.com*.

Snapback is "a relatively new name for it," says Old Dominion lead singer **Matthew Ramsey**. "The first time I heard it, I didn't know what it was. I forget how I found out, but then as soon as I [heard it], I started seeing 'snapback' on stickers on the bills of hats."

"It's usually the hats that have a flat bill," adds guitarist **Brad Tursi**. "They don't bend them. It's just kind of a certain style."

It's likely that plenty of listeners won't have a clue about the meaning. But neither did producer **Shane McAnally** (**Sam Hunt**, **Kacey Musgraves**) when he first heard "Snapback," and it didn't seem to matter.

"I worried, honestly, about people not knowing it," admits McAnally. "But I've seen the early reaction, and I realized that this song is so melodically strong that they might not even need words."

"Snapback" was always about the groove anyway. Tursi had fired up his laptop in the back of Old Dominion's bus somewhere on the road in early 2015, and it triggered a songwriting session in some now-forgotten parking lot.

"I had a drum beat going and that keyboard sound, and the rest of the guys — Matt and [guitarist] **Trevor [Rosen]** — started coming back and were just kind of like, 'Oh, that sounds cool. What is that?' Matt had the title 'Snapback,' and then we just kind of worked it from there."

The sound provided a starting place for the words. One of the writers voiced a thought about changing the beat — "Strictly out of curiosity, what would happen if..." — and Ramsey immediately blurted out the first line and opening melody for the song: "Strictly out of curiosity/What would happen if you got with me?"

"Snapback" evolved from there in linear fashion, with each line following the next as they worked their way to the chorus. The piece was essentially an optimistic come-on to a middle-class girl, expressed in short, quick bursts. The phrasing stayed the same as they reached the chorus while the core of the melody stepped up in pitch. The first three lines in that refrain employed some rather common language, but they managed to make the words sound fresh: "Those stars need to be wished on/Your skin needs to be kissed on/My eyes, baby, they're fixed on you/In your snapback."

"You get a couple good [lines], but then the challenge is to make the third one rhyme and be as cool as the other two," says drummer **Whitt Sellers**.

After six chorus lines, the writers injected yet another thought, a quasi-anthem "whoa-oh-oh-oh" that provided yet another catchy melodic signature.

"Any song that we ever write, even if it's a ballad, we're constantly looking for the hook," notes Rosen. "But you try not to stop at one. You try to have

hook after hook at every turn of the song."

Tursi finished up the track on his own, adding a synthesized bass part. Once that demo was complete, they took it to Sellers and bassist **Geoff Sprung** and started working it up for **Kenny Chesney's** Big Revival Tour, where Old Dominion was opening a number of stadium dates. They used pieces of the demo in the live presentation — particularly the central keyboard part, which gave it a stadium-sized sound — and "Snapback" took yet another detour in that setting, as Tursi started vamping a guitar section after the last chorus.

"It just felt so good, we wanted to keep it going," says Ramsey.

The band had released a five-cut EP through **Thirty Tigers** in October 2014, then signed with RCA in early 2015. As "Break Up With Him" climbed toward its Nov. 14 peak at No. 1 on *Country Airplay*, the band used four of the songs from the EP to seed a full album. But with tour dates stacked up, it had just

two days to record the remaining seven songs for the album, *Meat and Candy*, at Nashville's House of Blues Studio.

McAnally played **Taylor Swift's** "Style" as a template for "Snapback," suggesting the band shoot for the "pulsy '80s thing" that her song captures. Getting the initial performance wasn't difficult, though the original keyboard part suddenly felt out of place. A good deal of post-production time was spent trying to work with — then replace — that component.

"It's interesting that they built so much of the song around that sound, and it brought people's attention to it," says McAnally, "But ultimately, it didn't end up in the recorded version."

The recorded voices for the "whoa-oh-oh-oh" hook came directly from

the road. Since they were short on time for the tracking sessions, Old Dominion cut a lot of the album's background vocals in remote locations on the road, then emailed them to engineer **Ryan Gore**. They did the "whoa-oh" section in a hotel room, though no one's sure exactly where.

"I remember just waiting for the hotel people to come knocking on the door and tell us to shut up," says Rosen.

"Which they did," adds Ramsey.

Tursi also played the guitar coda that they had worked up in concert, building up the song to its inevitable climax.

"It's another hook," notes Ramsey. "You go the whole song with this hook, and this hook, and this hook, and then you're on the back 30 seconds of the song, and you get a new one."

"Snapback" was different in tone from "Break Up With Him," which is part of the reason it became a follow-up single. The band thought it would bridge some of the music from *Meat and Candy* that might be a bigger leap for listeners as the group attempts to establish a wide range of sounds. It shipped with a Jan. 11 add date, though programmers didn't wait. It debuted on *Country Airplay* the same week it shipped, and it's currently at No. 28 in its seventh charting week. As a result, listeners are likely discovering exactly what a snapback is.

"We're educators," says Rosen with a laugh.

Not that the words are that important. "Snapback" really is all about the groove.

"I can never get it out of my head," says McAnally. "I have to check myself when I go into writing appointments right now that I'm not lifting the melody off of 'Snapback.' It's such an earworm." ●



THE STARK REPORT PHYLLIS STARK [phyllis.stark@billboard.com](mailto:phyllis.stark@billboard.com)



# News Program *The Pickup* Gains Traction On Country Radio Sites

As radio stations continually work to beef up their digital content offerings, new products are emerging to help fill that need. Among the more interesting is the twice-monthly syndicated video segment *The Pickup*, the brainchild of veteran Nashville publicist/entrepreneur **Kirt Webster**, created as a project for his audio and video production studio The Hot Seat.

Launched in January 2015, the show is now carried on the sites of about 70 stations around the country, according to host/writer/producer **Adam Wurtzel**, as well as on the U.K. satellite provider SKY Television. In December, *Pickup* producers closed a deal with Midwest Communications to have the program added to the sites of 16 of the company's contemporary and classic country stations. It is also on the digital menu for some of Cumulus' NASH Icon-branded stations, as well as many other independent affiliates like **WLXO** (Hank 96.1) Lexington, Ky. And a newly inked deal with digital broadcasting TV's Heartland Network will see the show added to its weekly *Country Fix* programming.

Like the client base at Webster's Nashville-based PR firm Webster & Associates, the show mostly focuses on classic country artists, but also covers the events and activities surrounding some of the country's hottest current stars as well. Wurtzel estimates the content mix is 70 percent veteran acts — defined as artists ranging from **Dolly Parton** to **Lonestar** — and 30 percent contemporary stars like **Joe Nichols** and **Dierks Bentley**, who were both interviewed in recent episodes. (Watch the latest episode [here](#).)

Wurtzel and his video crew tape interviews and footage at industry events all over Nashville, then he distills them into approximately five-minute news segments that post on the first and 15th of each month. While he notes that with his TV news background “five minutes originally sounded like an eternity to me,” Wurtzel now says, “We have accomplished the goal of keeping it fresh, where every minute there's something different.”

The former host of Game Show Network's *GSN Live* and backstage correspondent for CBS' *The Early Show*, Wurtzel moved from New York to Nashville in 2012 and most recently worked on-air at NBC affiliate **WSMV-TV**, in addition to appearing regularly on the syndicated *Better Show*. But he made the move to Nashville specifically to focus his attention on country music, and says *The Pickup* is “exactly what I needed, and exactly why I moved to Nashville, and I hope it keeps getting bigger. We're literally adding more new stations every week.

“I love it, and I know this will end up profiting big because people are already catching on,” he adds. “Stations are really liking it.”

In announcing the deal last fall, Midwest vp programming **Jeff McCarthy** called it “excellent content for our websites delivering up-close and personal access to the country stars we know and love,” while the company's corporate brand strategist **Tom Baldrice** said it was “a terrific show and a perfect fit for our stations.”

Wurtzel says the process is streamlined for the stations, so that once the show is added to their sites, “the stations don't have to do anything. Once that embed code is on their website, every first and 15 of the month it will get replaced with the new episode.”

The show is free for stations to put on their sites, with the only caveats being that it's featured on the home page and that air personalities are encouraged to talk about it. Webster has sold sponsorship of the show to the annual Country Music Cruise from StarVista LIVE, a Time-Life brand, so segments will feature promos until the cruise sells out, according to Wurtzel.

Wurtzel's goals for 2016 include expanding the show's scope to cover “every red carpet” in Nashville's country music industry, plus even more events and interviews to make *The Pickup*'s presence “even bigger.” Not surprisingly, he's quite bullish on the program's future. “I believe in it,” he says. “It's really catching on.”



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# billboard Country Indicator

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	PLAYS		AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK
1	1	15	DIE A HAPPY MAN Valory	Thomas Rhett	4539	+294	5.819
2	3	41	STAY A LITTLE LONGER EMI Nashville	Brothers Osborne	4281	+286	5.315
3	4	22	GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	4035	+82	5.102
4	7	42	I LOVETHIS LIFE Reviver	LoCash	3984	+561	5.206
5	2	22	TOP OF THE WORLD McGraw/Big Machine	Tim McGraw	3969	-79	4.797
6	8	25	DIBS Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	3412	+288	3.649
7	9	16	BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	3404	+485	3.886
8	5	27	BURNING HOUSE Arista Nashville	Cam	3392	-483	4.295
9	12	8	HOME ALONETONIGHT Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan Feat. Karen Fairchild	3220	+490	3.826
10	10	43	I GOT THE BOY Elektra Nashville/WAR	Jana Kramer	3211	+388	3.970
11	11	18	COUNTRY NATION Arista Nashville	Brad Paisley	2924	+168	3.423
12	13	32	WE WENT Stoney Creek	Randy Houser	2836	+198	3.354
13	15	11	BREAK ON ME Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	2833	+285	3.011
14	14	13	BACKROAD SONG Wheelhouse	Granger Smith	2821	+265	3.385
15	18	8	MR. MISUNDERSTOOD EMI Nashville	Eric Church	2456	+408	3.166
16	16	16	BEAUTIFUL DRUG Varvatos/Southern Ground/BMLG/Republic	Zac Brown Band	2405	+267	2.999
17	17	28	(THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL Republic Nashville	A Thousand Horses	2162	+60	2.331
18	20	6	HEARTBEAT 19/Arista Nashville	Carrie Underwood	2135	+531	2.439
19	19	9	NOBODY TO BLAME Mercury	Chris Stapleton	1880	+272	2.019
20	22	8	CONFESSION Republic Nashville	Florida Georgia Line	1831	+295	2.138
21	21	16	I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT Big Machine	Rascal Flatts	1818	+279	2.191
22	23	33	THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU Curb	Lee Brice	1591	+185	1.734
23	24	15	REAL MEN LOVE JESUS Atlantic/WEA	Michael Ray	1519	+286	1.735
24	26	9	DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE Atlantic/WMN	Brett Eldredge	1304	+284	1.469
25	25	17	STONE COLD SOBER Valory	Brantley Gilbert	1174	+120	1.326
26	28	9	SHUT UP AND FISH Dot	Maddie & Tae	1104	+179	1.131
27	27	16	HEAD OVER BOOTS Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	1088	+76	0.811
28	30	19	BETTER IN BOOTS Columbia Nashville	Tyler Farr	1048	+170	0.878
29	29	23	YUP Mercury	Easton Corbin	945	+22	0.643
30	31	19	PAIN KILLER Capitol	Little Big Town	906	+84	0.509

## BILLBOARD COUNTRY INDICATOR PANEL — 106 STATIONS

Abilene, Texas	KEAN	Fayetteville, N.C.	WKML	Lebanon, N.H.	WXXX	Santa Barbara, Calif.	KRAZ
Alexandria, La.	KRRV	Flagstaff, Ariz.	KAFF	Lincoln, Neb.	KFGE	Santa Maria, Calif.	KSNJ
Amarillo, Texas	KGNC	Flint, Mich.	WFBE	Longview, Texas	KYKX	Sheboygan, Wis.	WBFM
Asheville, N.C.	WKSF	Florence, Ala.	WXFL	Lubbock, Texas	KLLL	Savannah, Ga.	WJCL
Atlantic City, N.J.	WPUR	Florence, S.C.	WEGX	Lufkin, Texas	KYKS		WUBB
Beaumont, Texas	KYKR	Ft. Collins, Colo.	KUAD	Mason City, Iowa	KIAI	Shreveport, La.	KXKS
Beckley, W. Va.	WJLS	Ft. Smith, Ark.	KTCS	Medford, Ore.	KRWQ	Sioux City, Iowa	KSUX
Biloxi, Miss.	WZKX	Frederick, Md.	WFRE	Meridian, Miss.	WOKK	South Bend, Ind.	WBVT
Bloomington, Ill.	WIBL	Fredericksburg, Va.	WFLS	Montgomery, Ala.	WLWI	Springfield, Ill.	WFMB
Bluefield, W. Va.	WHKX	Green Bay, Wis.	WNCY	Morgantown, W. Va.	WKKW	Springfield, Mo.	KTTS
Burlington, Vt.	WOKO	Hagerstown, Md.	WAYZ	Muskegon, Mich.	WMUS	Terre Haute, Ind.	WTHI
Cape Girardeau, Mo.	KEZS	Hot Springs, Ark.	KQUS	New London, Conn.	WCTY	Topeka, Kan.	WIBW
Charleston, W. Va.	WKWS	Huntington, Ky.	WDGG	Odessa, Texas	KHKX	Traverse City, Mich.	WTCM
	WQBE	Huntington, W. Va.	WTCR	Palm Springs, Calif.	KPLM	Tupelo, Miss.	WWZD
College Station, Texas	KAGG	Idaho Falls, Idaho	KTHK	Pensacola, Fla.	WXBM	Utica, N.Y.	WFRG
Columbia, Mo.	KCLR	Jackson, Miss.	WMSI	Peoria, Ill.	WXCL	Victor Valley, CA.	KATJ
Columbus, Ga.	WKCN		WUSJ	Poughkeepsie, N.Y.	WRWD	Waco, Texas	WACO
	WSTH	Janesville, Wis.	WJVL	Rapid City, S.D.	KOUT	Wausau, Wis.	WDEZ
Cookeville, Tenn.	WGSO	Jonesboro, Ark.	KDXY	Rockford, Ill.	WXXQ	Wheeling, W. Va.	WOVK
Dothan, Ala.	WTVY	Joplin, Mo.	KIXQ	Rocky Mount, N.C.	WDWG	Williamsport, Pa.	WILQ
Duluth, Minn.	KKCB	Kalamazoo, Mich.	WNWN	Saginaw, Mich.	WCEN	Youngstown, Ohio	WOXK
Eau Claire, Wis.	WAXX	Kalispell, Mont.	KDBR	St. Cloud, Minn.	KZPK		WWGY
Elizabeth City, N.C.	WRSF	Kingmah, Ariz.	KFLG	Salina, Kan.	KYEZ	Westwood One	HOT COUNTRY
Erie, Pa.	WTWF	Lafayette, Ind.	WKOA	Salisbury, Md.	WKTT	Music Choice	MAINSTREAM COUNTRY
Eugene, Ore.	KKNU	Laredo, Texas	KRRG	San Angelo, Texas	KGKL	Sirius XM	TODAY'S COUNTRY
Evansville, Ind.	WKDQ	Lansing, Mich.	WITL	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	KKJG		THE HIGHWAY
Fargo, N.D.	KBVB	Laurel, Miss.	WBBN				

# billboard Country Indicator

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	PLAYS		AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK
31	32	13	MIND READER Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	885	+188	0.980
32	39	4	SNAPBACK RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	740	+303	0.906
33	34	7	IT ALL STARTED WITH A BEER Warner Bros./WAR	Frankie Ballard	738	+173	0.700
34	NEW		YOU SHOULD BE HERE Warner Bros./WMN <b>★★ Hot SHot Debut/Most Increased Plays/Most Added ★★</b>	Cole Swindell	695	+562	0.868
35	35	14	GETAWAY TRUCK BIG Label/Thirty Tigers	Aaron Watson	609	+56	0.264
36	37	19	HOLE IN A BOTTLE Mercury Nashville	Canaan Smith	582	+78	0.363
37	36	12	HIGH CLASS EMI Nashville	Eric Paslay	544	+16	0.293
38	42	9	YOU LOOK LIKE I NEED A DRINK Valory	Justin Moore	519	+105	0.495
39	40	11	RUNNING FOR YOU MCA Nashville	Kip Moore	471	+50	0.307
40	38	12	THE DRIVER Capitol Nashville	Charles Kelley Feat. Dierks Bentley & Eric Paslay	459	0	0.215
41	41	10	BEAUTIFUL STRANGER Show Dog Nashville	Toby Keith	431	+12	0.326
42	43	17	SOUTHERN BELLE 19/Interscope/Mercury	Scotty McCreery	408	-1	0.151
43	44	12	WHEN I'M GONE Black River	Craig Morgan	358	+16	0.149
44	46	11	POWER OF POSITIVE DRINKIN' Warner Bros./WAR	Chris Janson	317	+35	0.260
45	47	12	FREAKS LIKE ME Red Bow	Joe Nichols	311	+47	0.257
46	45	15	I AM INVINCIBLE Republic Nashville	Cassadee Pope	309	-9	0.199
47	52	9	I MET A GIRL Warner Bros./WMN	William Michael Morgan	281	+80	0.179
48	53	4	FIX Big Loud	Chris Lane	273	+75	0.265
49	48	5	CRAZY OVER ME Curb	Dylan Scott	257	+7	0.210
50	49	10	NEXT BOYFRIEND 19/Interscope/Mercury	Lauren Alaina	228	+1	0.082
51	50	11	BURN A LITTLE COLDER SSM	Kayla Adams	220	+3	0.078
52	57	3	ARE YOU READY FOR THE COUNTRY Big Machine/Nash Icon	Hank Williams Jr. Feat. Eric Church	203	+39	0.160
53	54	4	SHE LOVES TO RIDE Homegrown Band	Homegrown Band	194	+10	0.061
54	59	2	LIVIN' THE DREAM Dot	Drake White	192	+55	0.215
55	56	3	LOVE & ROCK N' ROLL Creation Lab	Mitchell Tenpenny	178	+7	0.024
56	NEW		I DON'T LOVE YOU Rustic	Rachael Turner	159	+35	0.016
57	58	3	AIN'T IT GOOD Plateau	Sam Austin	155	+3	0.040
58	60	2	WHISKEY ON MY BREATH Thirty Tigers	Love And Theft	133	-1	0.052
59	51	6	NOTHIN' I DON'T LOVE Windridge	Levi Riggs	126	-81	0.031
60	NEW		THE POWER OF A WOMAN Turn 3	Chelsea Bain	104	0	0.010

## CHARTS LEGEND

### RANKINGS

Country Airplay is ranked by total audience impressions for the week ending Sunday based on monitored airplay of 150 stations by Nielsen BDS. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Arbitron Inc. copyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2016, Arbitron Inc.) Country Indicator is tabulated using reported playlists and Nielsen BDS-monitored airplay at 106 stations, ranked by total plays.

### BULLETS

● Awarded on Country Airplay to titles gaining audience or remaining flat from the previous week. A song will also receive a bullet if its percentage loss in audience does not exceed the percentage of monitored

station downtime for the format. Titles that decline in audience but increase in detections will also receive a bullet if the total audience erosion for the week does not exceed 3%. Bullets are awarded on Country Indicator to titles gaining plays or remaining flat from the previous week.

### TIES

On Country Airplay, if two songs are tied in total audience, the song with the larger increase in audience is placed first. On Country Indicator, if two songs are tied in total plays, the song with the larger increase in plays is placed first.

### RECURRENTS

On Country Airplay, descending titles below No. 10 in either audience or detections are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks, provided that they are not still

gaining enough audience points to bullet or if they rank below No. 10 and post a third consecutive week of (non-bulleted) audience decline, regardless of total chart weeks. On Country Indicator, descending, non-bulleted titles below No. 10 are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks or if they post a third consecutive week of decline in plays after 10 weeks.

### HOT SHOT DEBUT

Awarded to the highest-ranking new entry on Country Airplay and Country Indicator, respectively.

### MOST ADDED

The total number of new adds officially reported to Billboard by each reporting station, or by an automatic-add threshold (seven plays for the first time in a chart tracking week, according to Nielsen BDS) for stations that do not report adds.

### MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE/PLAYS

Most Increased Audience on Country Airplay and Most Increased Plays on Country Indicator list the songs with the greatest week-to-week increases in total audience or plays, respectively.

### AIRPOWER

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles ranking inside top 20 in plays and audience rankings for the first time, with increases in both plays and audience.

### BREAKER

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles achieving airplay (at least one detection) at 60% of reporting stations for the first time.



# billboard Country Airplay Index

**TITLE** Publishing-Licensing Org.  
(Songwriter) **Chart Position**

## A

**ARE YOU READY FOR THE COUNTRY?**  
Silver Fiddle Music, ASCAP (N.Young) **46**

## B

**BACKROAD SONG** Climbing Windmills, BMI/  
House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP (G.Smith, R.Rogers) **11**

**BEAUTIFUL DRUG** Day For The Dead Publishing,  
SESAC/Southern Group, SESAC/Reach Music Tunes, SESAC  
(Z.Brown, N.Moon) **16**

**BEAUTIFUL STRANGER** Tokeco Tunes, BMI/  
Bobby's Lyrics, Land And Livestock, BMI/Do Write Music,  
LLC, BMI (T.Keith, B.Pinson) **56**

**BETTER IN BOOTS** Legends Of Magic Mustang  
Music, SESAC/W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/This Is Magic  
Mustang Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Music  
Of Platinum Pen, SESAC/Hatchoo Music, SESAC/Thunder  
Cookie, SESAC (J.Wilson, D.Pittenger, N.Cooke) **31**

**BREAK ON ME** EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Jon  
Mark Nite Music, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/  
Songs By Red Room, BMI (J.M.Nite, R.Copperman) **14**

**BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN** Universal  
Music Corporation, ASCAP/Three Mules Music, ASCAP/  
External Combustion Music, ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy  
My Publishing, ASCAP/Songs Of Southside Independent  
Music Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/Smack Ink, ASCAP/Sam  
Hunt Publishing, ASCAP/I Love Pizza Music, ASCAP (S.Hunt,  
Z.Crowell, S.McAnally) **5**

**BURNING HOUSE** Marvelous Oaks Records,  
ASCAP/One Year Yesterday Publishing, BMI/Way Above  
Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs LLC, BMI (C.Cocho, T.S.Johnson,  
J.Basker) **10**

**BY THE WAY** Magic Mustang Music Inc., BMI/Warner-  
Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Lindsay Ell Music, BMI/  
Country Paper, BMI/Creative Nation Music, BMI/Songs Of  
Universal, Inc., BMI (L.Ell, B.D.George, L.Laird) **48**

## C

**CONFESSION** Big Red Toe, BMI/Farm Town Songs,  
BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Songs By Red Room,  
BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My  
Publishing, ASCAP/External Combustion Music, ASCAP (R.  
Clawson, R.Copperman, M.Jenkins) **20**

**COUNTRY NATION** House Of Sea Gayle Music,  
ASCAP/Making The Turn Music, ASCAP (P.Paisley, C.DuBois,  
K.Loveless) **15**

**CRAZY OVER ME** Curb Songs, ASCAP/Curb  
Congregation Songs, SESAC (D.Scott, M.Alderman) **42**

## D

**DIBS** Songs Of Black River, ASCAP/KNB Music, ASCAP/  
DHM Administration, ASCAP/Nyssa Music, ASCAP/Jason  
Duke Music, ASCAP (K.Ballerini, J.Kerr, R.Griffin, J.Duke) **12**

**DIE A HAPPY MAN** EMI Blackwood Music  
Inc., BMI/Cricket On The Line, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane  
Publishing Corp., BMI/Eastman Pond Publishing, BMI/  
Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Nice Life, BMI/Frederic And Reid  
Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs, BMI (Thomas Rhett,  
S.Douglas, Joe London) **1**

**THE DRIVER** WB Music Corp., ASCAP/30A Getaway  
Songs, ASCAP/Spirit Catalog Holdings, S.a.r.l./Five Stone  
Publishing, ASCAP/Spirit Two Nashville Music, Inc., ASCAP/  
Year Of The Dog Music, ASCAP/Words & Music (C.Kelley,  
E.Paslay, A.Stoklasa) **53**

**DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE** Sony/ATV  
Countryside, BMI/Paris Not France Music, BMI/EMI  
Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Ross Copperman Songs, BMI (B.  
Eldredge, R.Copperman) **24**

## F

**FIX** Round Hill Works, BMI/Big Loud Proud Crowd, BMI/  
Bux Tone Music, BMI/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Telemity  
Productions, BMI/Year Of The Dog Music, ASCAP (S.Buxton,  
J.Frasure, A.Stoklasa) **38**

**FREAKS LIKE ME** New House Of Sea Gayle Music,  
ASCAP/Vestal Boy Music, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing,  
BMI/Dixey Bar Music, BMI/Big Machine Music, BMI (L.  
Hutton, M.Criswell, J.Thompson) **50**

## G

**GONNA** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Creative Nation  
Music, BMI/Twainin And Slangin Songs, BMI/Big Loud  
Shirt Industries, ASCAP (L.Laird, C.Wiseman) **7**

**GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE** BMG  
Platinum Songs, BMI/Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Stalefish  
Music, BMI/BMG Chrysalis Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp.,  
ASCAP/Songs Of Brett, ASCAP/External Combustion Music,  
ASCAP (B.Beavers, Brett James) **2**

## H

**HEAD OVER BOOTS** Golden Vault Music, BMI/  
The Song Factory, LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/  
Creative Nation Music, BMI (J.Paradi, L.Laird) **34**

**HEARTBEAT** Carrie-Okie Music, BMI/External  
Combustion Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Southside  
Independent Music Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/Who Wants  
To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/  
Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/Sadie's Favorite Songs,  
ASCAP (C.Underwood, Z.Crowell, A.Gorley) **18**

**HIGH CLASS** WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Five Foot  
Sixteen Publishing, ASCAP/Songs From The Rose Hotel,  
ASCAP/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Telemity Productions,  
BMI (E.Paslay, C.Crowder, J.Frasure) **43**

**HOLE IN A BOTTLE** BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/  
Skinny Fat Nashville Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs,  
BMI/Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Stalefish Music, BMI/Songs  
From The Couch, BMI (C.Smith, B.Beavers, D.Couch) **35**

**HOME ALONE TONIGHT** Sony/ATV Tree  
Publishing, BMI/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Red  
Vinyl Music, Inc., BMI/Sixteen Stars Music, BMI/HoriPro  
Entertainment Group, Inc., BMI (J.Stevens, C.Taylor, J.Dreyer,  
T.Cecil) **8**

## I

**I AM INVINCIBLE** Brett Boyett Music, BMI/  
Harmony - HLO Music, BMI/Nashby Music, BMI/EMI  
Blackwood Music Inc., BMI (B.Boyett, N.Overstreet) **55**

**I GOT THE BOY** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing  
Corp., BMI/Nichols Boys Music, BMI/Made For This Music,  
BMI/All For This Music, BMI/Sweet Jamie Music, Inc., BMI (T.  
Nichols, C.Harrington, J.L.Spears) **9**

**I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT** Year Of The  
Dog Music, ASCAP/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Warner-  
Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Shay Mooney Music,  
ASCAP/MTrain Music, ASCAP (M.Trainor, J.Frasure, S.Mooney) **21**

**I LOVE THIS LIFE** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/  
Red Vinyl Music, Inc., BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI (D.Myrick,  
C.Janson, C.Lucas, P.Brust) **3**

**I MET A GIRL** ReHits Music, Inc., ASCAP/Smacktown  
Music, ASCAP/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Three  
Mules Music, ASCAP/Smack Ink, ASCAP (T.Rosen, S.Hunt,  
S.McAnally) **39**

**IT ALL STARTED WITH A BEER** Sony/  
ATV Harmony, ASCAP/Texa Rae Music, ASCAP/Nettwerk  
One Music, BMI/B Music, BMI/Nevada House Music, BMI/  
Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Real Big Red Tunes, ASCAP (J.  
Johnston, N.Mason, J.S.Stover) **33**

## L

**LITTLE BIT OF YOU** Orbison Music, LLC, BMI/BMG  
Platinum Songs, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Funky Friar  
Music, ASCAP/Sadie's Favorite Songs, ASCAP/Combustion  
Engine Music, ASCAP (C.Bryant, D.George, A.Gorley) **19**

**LIVIN' THE DREAM** Not Listed (Not Listed) **47**

## M

**MIND READER** EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/  
Rhetto Music, BMI/Brooks County Boy Music, BMI/WB  
Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP (R.  
Akins, B.Hayslip) **29**

**MR. MISUNDERSTOOD** Sony/ATV Tree  
Publishing, BMI/Longer And Louder Music, BMI/Sony/ATV  
Acuff Rose Music, BMI/Six Ring Circus Songs, BMI (E.Church,  
C.Beathard) **17**

**MY CHURCH** International Dog Music, BMI/BMG  
Platinum Songs, BMI/Hello I Love You Music, BMI (busbee,  
M.Morris) **59**

## N

**NEXT BOYFRIEND** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing  
Corp., BMI/Lylas Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/  
Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/A Frank Entertainment,  
ASCAP/Song House Publishing, ASCAP/Kobalt Music  
Publishing America, Inc., ASCAP (L.Alna, E.Weisband,  
M.McVane) **49**

**NOBODY TO BLAME** WB Music Corp., ASCAP/  
House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP/Quackhead Music,  
BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI (C.Stapleton, B.Bales,  
R.Bowman) **22**

## P

**PAIN KILLER** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.,  
BMI/Little Big Town, BMI/Southside Independent Music  
Publishing, LLC, BMI/Internal Combustion Music, BMI/  
Kickin' Grids Music, BMI/HillarodyRathbone Music, ASCAP/  
BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Self Made Entertainment, BMI (K.  
Fairchild, J.Westbrook, B.Daly, H.Lindsey) **40**

**POWER OF POSITIVE DRINKIN'** Red Vinyl  
Music, Inc., BMI/Buckkilla Music, BMI/House Of Sea Gayle  
Music, ASCAP/Green Vinyl Music, ASCAP (C.Janson, Mark  
Irwin, C.DuBois) **44**

## R

**RAISED ON IT** Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/  
Three Mules Music, ASCAP/External Combustion Music,  
ASCAP/Songs Of Southside Independent Music Publishing,  
LLC, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/JFO Music, BMI/  
Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (S.Hunt, Z.Crowell,  
J.Flowers) **57**

**REAL MEN LOVE JESUS** EMI Blackwood Music  
Inc., BMI/Sagequinnjude Music, BMI/Famlove Songs, BMI  
(B.Warren, B.Warren, L.Miller, A.Sanders) **27**

**RUNNING FOR YOU** Music Of Stage Three, BMI/  
Songs Of Corman, BMI/Roll Through Music, BMI/BMG  
Platinum Songs, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Songs  
From The Engine Room, BMI/Southside Independent  
Music Publishing, LLC, BMI/Internal Combustion Music,  
BMI/Kickin' Grids Music, BMI (K.Moore, T.Verges, B.Daly) **37**

## S

**SHUT UP AND FISH** Super Big Music, ASCAP/  
Big Machine Music, BMI/Song Alert Publishing, SESAC/  
Tunes Of R And T Direct, SESAC (M.Marlow, T.Dye, P.Sallis,  
A.Scherz) **32**

**SNAPBACK** Carrot Seed Songs, ASCAP/Kobalt Music  
Publishing America, Inc., ASCAP/ReHits Music, Inc., ASCAP/  
Smackville Music, ASCAP/Unfair Entertainment, ASCAP/  
Songs Of Big Deal, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/  
Wooden Ships, ASCAP (M.Ramsey, T.Rosen, B.Tursi) **28**

**SOUTHERN BELLE** BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/  
Gravity Gone Songs, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing  
Corp., BMI/Little Beluga Music, BMI (J.Saenz, S.McConnell) **45**

**STAY A LITTLE LONGER** WB Music Corp.,  
ASCAP/All The Kings Pens, ASCAP/Universal Music  
Corporation, ASCAP/Smack Ink, ASCAP (J. Osborne, T.J.  
Osborne, S.McAnally) **4**

**STONE COLD SOBER** Warner-Tamerlane  
Publishing Corp., BMI/Indiana Angel Music, BMI/External  
Combustion Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Brett, ASCAP/Atlas  
Music Publishing, ASCAP/Yawyer Three Music, ASCAP (B.  
Gilbert, Brett James, D.Layus) **30**

## T

**TENNESSEE WHISKEY** Universal-Songs Of  
PolyGram International, BMI/EMI Algee, BMI (D.Dillon, Linda  
Hargrove) **60**

**THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU** Mike Curb  
Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Brooks County  
Boy Music, BMI/External Combustion Music, ASCAP/  
Out Of The Taperoom Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Southside  
Independent Music Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/WB Music  
Corp., ASCAP (L.Brice, R.Akins, A.Gorley) **25**

**THINK OF YOU** EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/  
Goodbye Pants Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing  
Corp., BMI/Songs From The Rose Hotel, ASCAP/WB Music  
Corp., ASCAP/EMI Foray Music, SESAC/Write 2 Be Free  
Music, SESAC (C.Young, C.Crowder, J.Hoge) **58**

**(THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL** Warner-  
Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Carolina June Publishing,  
BMI/greatshakin Music, BMI/Universal Music Corporation,  
ASCAP/Crowder Taylor Publishing, ASCAP/Nettwerk One  
Music, BMI/Revelry Music, BMI/Nevada House Music, BMI/  
Nettwerk One Music Limited Canada, SOCAN/Cale Dodds  
Publishing, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (M.Hobby,  
C.Crowder, N.Mason, C.Dodds) **23**

**TONIGHT** W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Crimson Garden  
Music, SESAC/Melodies Of Bigger Picture, SESAC/Curb  
Congregation Songs, SESAC (R.Kinder, L.Sheets) **54**

**TOP OF THE WORLD** Extraordinary Alien  
Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/  
EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Jon Mark Nite Music, ASCAP/  
Songs Of Black River, ASCAP/One Little Indian Creek Music,  
ASCAP (J.Robbins, J.M.Nite, J.Osborne) **6**

## W

**WE WENT** Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/  
W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Ole Canalo Publishing, ASCAP/  
Ole Ole, ASCAP/Songs Of Razor And Tie Music, ASCAP/  
Songs Of Black River, ASCAP (J.Wilson, M.Rogers, J.King) **13**

**WHEN I'M GONE** Wordspring Music, LLC, SESAC/  
Word Music, LLC, ASCAP/Son Of Austin Songs, ASCAP (J.  
Ebach, S.D.Jones) **51**

**WHISKEY ON MY BREATH** Rockapop Music,  
ASCAP/Hate And Purchase Music, LLC, ASCAP/Sony/ATV  
Tree Publishing, BMI/Charcharose Music, BMI/Wide Open  
Music, BMI/Big Mosquito Music, BMI/Boothel Music, BMI/  
Combustion Music, BMI/Music That Is Russelled, BMI/  
Brown Hand Publishing, BMI (S.B.Liles, A.Craig, M.McGuinn,  
T.Tomlinson, R.Dickerson, T.Reeve) **52**

## Y

**YOU LOOK LIKE I NEED A DRINK** Round  
Hill Works, BMI/Farm Town Songs, BMI/Big Loud Proud  
Crowd, BMI/Round Hill Songs, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud  
Songs, ASCAP/HappyGoWrucke, BMI/Creative Pulse Music,  
BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI (R.Clawson, M.Dragstrem,  
N.Hemby) **41**

**YOU SHOULD BE HERE** Sony/ATV Tree  
Publishing, BMI/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/Sadie's  
Favorite Songs, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (C.Swindell,  
A.Gorley) **26**

**YUP** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Code Six Charles  
Music, BMI/Sixteen Stars Music, BMI/Rooster Pecked  
Music, BMI/HoriPro Entertainment Group, Inc., BMI/Round  
Hill Works, BMI/Kirbstone Music, BMI (S.Minor, P.O'Donnell,  
W.Kirby) **36**

# billboard Hot Country Songs Index

**TITLE** Publishing-Licensing Org.  
(Songwriter) **Chart Position**

## B

**BACKROAD SONG** Climbing Windmills, BMI/House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP (G.Smith, F.Rogers) **14**

**BEAUTIFUL DRUG** Day For The Dead Publishing, SESAC/Southern Ground, SESAC/Reach Music Tunes, SESAC (Z.Brown, N.Moon) **13**

**BETTER IN BOOTS** Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/This Is Magic Mustang Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Music Of Platinum Pen, SESAC/Hatchoo Music, SESAC/Thunder Cookie, SESAC (J. Wilson, D.Pittenger, N.Cooke) **33**

**BREAK ON ME.** EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Jon Mark Nite Music, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Songs By Red Room, BMI (J.M.Nite, R.Copperman) **18**

**BREAK UP IN A SMALL TOWN** Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Three Mules Music, ASCAP/External Combustion Music, ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/Songs Of Southside Independent Music Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/Smack Ink, ASCAP/Sam Hunt Publishing, ASCAP/I Love Pizza Music, ASCAP (S.Hunt, Z.Crowell, S.McAnally) **2**

**BURNING HOUSE** Marvelous Oaks Records, ASCAP/One Year Yesterday Publishing, BMI/Way Above Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs LLC, BMI (C. Ochs, T.S.Johnson, J.Bhasker) **3**

## C

**COLD BEER CONVERSATION** International Dog Music, BMI/Bucked Up Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Great Day At This Music, BMI/Beattville Music, BMI (A.Anderson, B.Hayslip, J.Yeary) **43**

**CONFESSION** Big Red Toe, BMI/Farm Town Songs, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Songs By Red Room, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/External Combustion Music, ASCAP (R.Clawson, R.Copperman, M.Jenkins) **21**

**COUNTRY NATION** House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP/Making The Turn Music, ASCAP (B. Paisley, C.DuBois, K.Lovelace) **25**

**CRAZY OVER ME** Curb Songs, ASCAP/Curb Congregation Songs, SESAC (D.Scott, M.Alderman) **41**

## D

**DIBS** Songs Of Black River, ASCAP/KNB Music, ASCAP/DHM Administration, ASCAP/Nyssa Music, ASCAP/Jason Duke Music, ASCAP (K.Ballerini, J.Kerr, R.Griffin, J.Duke) **12**

**DIE A HAPPY MAN** EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Cricket On The Line, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Eastman Pond Publishing, BMI/Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Nice Life, BMI/Frederic And Reid Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs, BMI (Thomas Rhett, S.Douglas, Joe London) **1**

**DRUNK ON YOUR LOVE** Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Paris Not France Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Ross Copperman Songs, BMI (B.Eldredge, R.Copperman) **28**

## F

**FIX** Round Hill Works, BMI/Big Loud Proud Crowd, BMI/Bux Tone Music, BMI/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Telemetry Productions, BMI/Year Of The Dog Music, ASCAP (S.Buxton, J.Frasure, A.Stoklasa) **42**

## G

**GONNA** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Creative Nation Music, BMI/Twangin And Slangin Songs, BMI/Big Loud Shirt Industries, ASCAP (L.Laird, C.Wiseman) **11**

**GONNA KNOW WE WERE HERE** BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Stalefish Music, BMI/BMG Chrysalis Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Songs Of Brett, ASCAP/External Combustion Music, ASCAP (B.Beavers, Brett James) **6**

## H

**HEAD OVER BOOTS** Golden Vault Music, BMI/The Song Factory, LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Creative Nation Music, BMI (J. Pardi, L.Laird) **35**

**HEARTBEAT** Carrie-Okie Music, BMI/External Combustion Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Southside Independent Music Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/Sadie's Favorite Songs, ASCAP (C.Underwood, Z.Crowell, A.Gorley) **22**

**HOLE IN A BOTTLE** BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Skinny Fat Nashville Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Stalefish Music, BMI/Songs From The Couch, BMI (C.Smith, B.Beavers, D.Couch) **48**

**HOME ALONE TONIGHT** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Red Vinyl Music, Inc., BMI/Sixteen Stars Music, BMI/HoriPro Entertainment Group, Inc., BMI (J.Stevens, C.Taylor, J.Dreyer, T.Cecil) **4**

## I

**I GOT THE BOY** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Nichols Boys Music, BMI/Made For This Music, BMI/All For This Music, BMI/Sweet Jamie Music, Inc., BMI (T.Nichols, C.Harrington, J.L.Spears) **8**

**I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT** Year Of The Dog Music, ASCAP/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Shay Mooney Music, ASCAP/MTrain Music, ASCAP (M.Trainor, J.Frasure, S.Mooney) **26**

**I LOVE THIS LIFE** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Red Vinyl Music, Inc., BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI (D.Myrick, C.Janson, C.Lucas, P.Brust) **9**

**I'M COMIN' OVER** EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Goodbye Pants Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Songs From The Rose Hotel, ASCAP/EMI Foray Music, SESAC/Write 2 Be Free Music, SESAC (C.Young, C.Crowder, J.Hoge) **5**

**I MET A GIRL** ReHits Music, Inc., ASCAP/Smacktown Music, ASCAP/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Three Mules Music, ASCAP/Smack Ink, ASCAP (T.Rosen, S.Hunt, S.McAnally) **47**

**IT ALL STARTED WITH A BEER** Sony/ATV Harmony, ASCAP/Texa Rae Music, ASCAP/Nettwerk One Music, BMI/B Music, BMI/Nevada House Music, BMI/Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Real Big Red Tunes, ASCAP (J.Johnston, N.Mason, J.S.Stover) **44**

## L

**LITTLE BIT OF YOU** Orbison Music, LLC, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Funky Friar Music, ASCAP/Sadie's Favorite Songs, ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP (C.Bryant, D.George, A.Gorley) **29**

## M

**MIND READER** EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Rhettro Music, BMI/Brooks County Boy Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP (R.Akins, B.Hayslip) **38**

**MR. MISUNDERSTOOD** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Longer And Louder Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music, BMI/Six Ring Circus Songs, BMI (E.Church, C.Beathard) **17**

## N

**NEXT BOYFRIEND** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Lylas Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/A Frank Entertainment, ASCAP/Song House Publishing, ASCAP/Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., ASCAP (L.Alaina, E.Weisband, M.McVaney) **50**

**NIGHT'S ON FIRE** Super Big Music, ASCAP/Jett Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Doc And Maggie Music, SOCAN/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP (J.Singleton, D.Ruttan) **39**

**NOBODY TO BLAME** WB Music Corp., ASCAP/House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP/Quackhead Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI (C.Stapleton, B.Bales, R.Rowman) **24**

## P

**PAIN KILLER** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Little Big Town, BMI/Southside Independent Music Publishing, LLC, BMI/Internal Combustion Music, BMI/Kickin' Grids Music, BMI/HillaroddyRathbone Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Self Made Entertainment, BMI (K.Fairchild, J.Westbrook, B.Daly, H.Lindsey) **49**

## R

**REAL MEN LOVE JESUS** EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Sagequinnjude Music, BMI/Famlove Songs, BMI (B.Warren, B.Warren, L.Miller, A.Sanders) **37**

## S

**SHUT UP AND FISH** Super Big Music, ASCAP/Big Machine Music, BMI/Song Alert Publishing, SESAC/Tunes of R And T Direct, SESAC (M.Marlow, T.Dye, P.Sallis, A.Scherz) **36**

**SMOKE BREAK** Carrie-Okie Music, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/HillaroddyRathbone Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP (C.Underwood, C.DeStefano, H.Lindsey) **16**

**SNAPBACK** Carrot Seed Songs, ASCAP/Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., ASCAP/ReHits Music, Inc., ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Unfair Entertainment, ASCAP/Songs Of Big Deal, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Wooden Ships, ASCAP (M.Ramsey, T.Rosen, B.Tursi) **32**

**STAY A LITTLE LONGER** WB Music Corp., ASCAP/All The Kings Pens, ASCAP/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Smack Ink, ASCAP (J. Osborne, T.J. Osborne, S.McAnally) **7**

**STONE COLD SOBER** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Indiana Angel Music, BMI/External Combustion Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Brett, ASCAP/Atlas Music Publishing, ASCAP/Yawyer Three Music, ASCAP (B.Gilbert, Brett James, D.Layus) **31**

**STRIP IT DOWN** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Peanut Mill Songs, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Jon Mark Nite Music, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Songs By Red Room, BMI (L.Bryan, J.M.Nite, R.Copperman) **10**

## T

**TENNESSEE WHISKEY** Universal-Songs Of PolyGram International, BMI/EMI Algee, BMI (D. Dillon, Linda Hargrove) **23**

**THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU**

Mike Curb Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Brooks County Boy Music, BMI/External Combustion Music, ASCAP/Out Of The Taperoom Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Southside Independent Music Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (L.Brice, R.Akins, A.Gorley) **27**

**(THIS AIN'T NO) DRUNK DIAL**

Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Carolina June Publishing, BMI/Greatshakin Music, BMI/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/Crowder Taylor Publishing, ASCAP/Nettwerk One Music, BMI/Revelry Music, BMI/Nevada House Music, BMI/Nettwerk One Music Limited Canada, SOCAN/Cale Dodds Publishing, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (M.Hobby, C.Crowder, N.Mason, C.Dodds) **30**

**TOP OF THE WORLD** Extraordinary Alien Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corporation, ASCAP/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Jon Mark Nite Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Black River, ASCAP/One Little Indian Creek Music, ASCAP (J.Robbins, J.M.Nite, J.Osborne) **15**

**TRAVELLER** WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Ken Tucky Music, ASCAP (C.Stapleton) **40**

## U

**USED TO LOVE YOU SOBER** Kane Brown Music, BMI/EMI Foray Music, SESAC/Write 2 Be Free Music, SESAC/A Frank Entertainment, ASCAP/Song House Publishing, ASCAP/Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., ASCAP (K.Brown, M.McVaney, J.Hoge) **34**

## W

**WE WENT** Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Ole Canalc Publishing, ASCAP/Ole Ole, ASCAP/Songs Of Razor And Tie Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Black River, ASCAP (J.Wilson, M.Rogers, J.King) **20**

## Y

**YOU LOOK LIKE I NEED A DRINK** Round Hill Works, BMI/Farm Town Songs, BMI/Big Loud Proud Crowd, BMI/Round Hill Songs, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/HappyGoWrucke, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI (R.Clawson, M.Dragstrem, N.Hemby) **46**

**YOU SHOULD BE HERE** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/Sadie's Favorite Songs, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (C.Swindell, A.Gorley) **19**

**YUP** Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Code Six Charles Music, BMI/Sixteen Stars Music, BMI/Rooster Pecked Music, BMI/HoriPro Entertainment Group, Inc., BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI/Kirbtone Music, BMI (S.Minor, P.O'Donnell, W.Kirby) **45**



C  
O

# 38 Years Ago Johnny Paycheck Got The 'Job' Done

His iconic ode to quitting with  
flair was boss of the charts

On Jan. 7, 1978, 39-year-old **Donald Eugene Lytle**, better known as **Johnny Paycheck**, cashed in on his one and only Hot Country Songs No. 1, "Take This Job and Shove It." Penned by Paycheck's outlaw buddy **David Allan Coe**, the blue-collar working anthem led for two weeks.

The song also inspired a movie of the same name in 1981, starring **Robert Hays**, **Barbara Hershey** and **Art Carney**, with Paycheck and Coe in bit roles. The same year, Paycheck appeared as himself on CBS' *The Dukes of Hazzard*.

A multi-instrumentalist, Paycheck got his start in the 1960s as a bassist in **George Jones'** band. He notched 11 Hot Country Songs top 10s (1966-79) and became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1997.

Plagued by drug and alcohol problems, Paycheck shot a man in 1985 after an argument in a bar. Although he claimed self-defense, he spent 22 months in prison. (He was eventually pardoned.) After a long illness, Paycheck died, at 64, in 2003. His Nashville burial plot was donated by Jones. —JIM ASKER

D  
A

REWINDING  
THE  
COUNTRY  
CHARTS

★	4	9	<b>TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVE IT</b> —Johnny Paycheck (D. Coe), Epic 8-50469 (Warner-Tamerlane, BMI)
★	7	7	<b>WHAT A DIFFERENCE YOU MADE IN MY LIFE</b> —Ronnie Milsap (A. Jordan), RC 11146 (Chess, ASCAP)
★	6	7	<b>MY WAY</b> —Elvis Presley (Anka, Revaux, Francois), RCA 11165 (Spanka, BMI)
4	5	10	<b>COME A LITTLE BIT CLOSER</b> —Johnny Duncan (with Janie Fricke) (Boyce, Hart, Farrell), Columbia 310634 (Morris, BMI)
5	1	12	<b>HERE YOU COME AGAIN</b> —Dolly Parton (B. Mann, C. Weil), RCA 11123 (Screen Gems-EMI/Summerhill Songs, BMI)

Paycheck performed onstage in New York in June 1978.

