

billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 | PAGE 1 OF 20

INSIDE

Blanco, Highwomen
Score Wins
>page 4

Conley, Americana
And Music Cycles
>page 10

Church, Aldean
Go To College
>page 11

Garth, Trisha Play
Musicians Hall Event
>page 11

Makin' Tracks:
Luke Combs'
Cathartic 'Leaving'
>page 15

Country Coda:
Don Williams'
First No. 1
>page 20

BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

Tom.Roland@billboard.com

Is The Party Over? Country Gets Serious With A New Wave Of Singles



The first time **Craig Morgan** sang "The Father, My Son and the Holy Ghost" was also supposed to be the last time.

The song details Morgan's difficult emotional journey following the death of son **Jerry Greer**, 19, in a 2016 drowning accident, and it left much of the Grand Ole Opry audience in tears in March 2019. Backstage, Morgan told **Ricky Skaggs** he doubted he was strong enough to perform it again.

Skaggs "put his hands on my shoulder with big tears in his eyes," recalls Morgan. "He said, 'You have to sing that song. The world needs to hear this kind of music.'"

Morgan relented. He sang it again at the Opry in July, started doing it in concerts and issued a recorded version in August. **Blake Shelton** aggressively championed the song on social media, spurring Morgan to sign with Broken Bow and release it to radio on Sept. 16.

"Not only does 'The Father, My Son and the Holy Ghost' put life in this insane world back in perspective," wrote Shelton, "it could also put country music back in its lane."

Indeed, after several years in which terrestrial country radio leaned hard on party sounds and themes, Morgan is one of several artists creating a wave of deep, meaningful material. During a 24-hour window on Aug. 26 and 27, three theme-heavy songs by A-list artists were released to radio through PlayMPE: **Eric Church's** "Monsters," which examines parenting

a child in a dangerous world; and two songs that face mortality, **Chris Young's** "Drowning" and **Luke Combs' "Even Though I'm Leaving."**

They're not the only examples. **Justin Moore** topped the Country Airplay chart on Sept. 7 with "The Ones That Didn't Make It Back Home," a song about soldiers who died in battle, accompanied by a video that incorporates first responders

and school shootings. **Riley Green's** new "I Wish Grandpas Never Died" laments the deaths of people and pets, as well as the decline of the family farm. **Tenille Townes' "Jersey on the Wall (I'm Just Asking)"** uses the accidental death of a high school athlete to raise unanswerable questions. And **Vince Gill's** new album, *Okie*, tackles racial and political division, teen pregnancy, religion and sexual abuse.

"In this stretch of life we're in, I don't see a lot of truth, I don't see a lot of honesty, I don't see that kind of thing from people that are supposed to be taking care of us," Gill told an industry crowd at a listening party in May. "So I'm just trying to be fairly honest and let the chips fall where they may."

Country has usually had a place — as **Brad Paisley** outlined in "This Is Country Music" — for difficult subjects such as death, faith and disease. Those darker songs have often challenged programmers, though the biggest ones — such as "Live Like You Were Dying," "He Stopped Loving Her Today"



YOUNG



MORGAN

YOUNG: JOHN SHEARER; MORGAN: CHRISTOPHER T. MARTIN

JIMMIE ALLEN MAKE ME WANT TO

Top 20 Bound!

**Top 5 RTM Research
Persons & Females 25-34**

STONEY CREEK

KING CALAMAYA

WORLD FOR TWO

46* CA

New At: Westwood One Mainstream
WCKN Charleston

or “Will the Circle Be Unbroken” — have become standards in the genre.

“Kenny Rogers told me a hit song makes your toe tap, your heart pound or your mind think,” says BMLG Records president/CEO **Jimmy Harnen**, who worked **The Band Perry**’s weighty “If I Die Young,” certified seven-times platinum by the RIAA. “It’s good when you feel your heart ache or you feel your heart pound. It’s what music does — it moves the society, and it’s one of the most powerful forces in the world when we get it right.”

The bro-country era, which leaned on party themes and programmed percussion, brought a downturn to serious songs. The genre welcomed a bevy of new, young listeners to the genre, and the industry’s decision-makers reacted by flooding the market with light, celebratory material. The new wave of meatier songs does not wipe out candy-coated material, but it brings necessary balance to the menu.

“I’m always looking for songs that strike an emotional chord, and for a long time it was tough to find them,” says **KUKN** Longview-Kelso, Wash., GM **John Paul**. “I’m not saying the [party] songs were bad, they were just plastic. They weren’t songs that had you go, ‘Whoa, that’s me’ or ‘I’ve been through that,’ or make you stop and stare at the radio. These [new] songs do that.”

This particular wave is likely a result of multiple influences. As the calendar moves into fall, labels traditionally issue more serious songs. The business also cycles through trends, and after leaning so heavily on surface-level songs, the pendulum is naturally drifting back toward deeper topics. Additionally, a difficult cultural climate — marked by gun violence, racial tension, childish rhetoric, climate change and the threat of a recession — has made many Americans uneasy. Much of the negativity is experienced in isolation on smartphones or in single-commuter auto trips. Music with deeper messages assures the individual that others share their frustration.

“Country has a slew of songs that will evoke an emotion,” says Valory president **George Briner**, who oversaw Moore’s chart run with “The Ones That Didn’t Make It Back Home.” “Very few other formats do that as often as country radio has the opportunity to do it.”

The more difficult topics can strengthen the bond between artist and fan, sometimes uncomfortably. **Lee Ann Womack** found with “I Hope You Dance” that people at meet-and-greets shared extraordinarily personal and painful information. Young is discovering the same thing with “Drowning.”

“People have come up and immediately started sharing their stories,” he says. “It’s something that honestly humbles you as an artist when you’ve got a song that people are having such a personal connection with.”

That connection is why Skaggs encouraged Morgan to keep singing “The Father, My Son and the Holy Ghost.” Regardless of the chart number that it eventually reaches, the song is already making a huge impact on the audience, which is a goal — maybe even a duty — for every artist of substance.

“If you’ve been blessed with a platform, you should use it to the betterment of the people of the world,” says Morgan. “Democrat, Republican, independent, straight, gay, black, white — it don’t matter. You should be trying to do what you can do for the betterment of the human race.”



Sheryl Crow welcomed Bonnie Raitt as a surprise guest on Sept. 10 during a Spotify-affiliated concert at the Americana Music Festival that was shot for a *CMT Crossroads* episode, “Sheryl Crow & Friends.” From left: Spotify Nashville head of artist and label marketing Brittany Schaffer, Crow, Raitt and Spotify Nashville manager of artist and label marketing Mary Catherine Kinney.



LoCash members Preston Brust (left) and Chris Lucas (right) visited backstage with Cox Media/Houston director of operations Johnny Chiang when the duo opened for Chris Young at the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion in The Woodlands, Texas, on Sept. 7.



Florida Georgia Line delivered an FGL Fest concert at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Sept. 7 and served as grand marshals the next day at the Big Machine 400 NASCAR race. From left: Big Machine Label Group president/CEO Scott Borchetta, FGL’s Tyler Hubbard and Brian Kelley, and Speedway president Doug Boles.

CROW, RAITT: JOHN SHEARER GETTY IMAGES; FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE: THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

ACCESS THE BEST IN MUSIC.

A DIGITAL VERSION OF EVERY ISSUE, FEATURING:

COVER STORIES · SPECIAL REPORTS · CHARTS · REVIEWS
INTERVIEWS · EVENT COVERAGE & MORE

AVAILABLE **FREE** TO CURRENT BILLBOARD SUBSCRIBERS

billboard.com/iPad



NOAH SCHNACKY

I'LL BE THE ONE

MOST ADDED!

36 FIRST WEEK STATIONS

KSKS
KNIX
KRTY
KUBL
KPLM
KUPL

KSOP
KWNR
KNUC
KHEY
KKBQ
KILT

KBEQ
KEEY
WQMX
WCOL
WSLC
MCCN

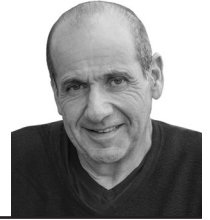
WMZQ
WKMK
KWBL
KCCY
WJVC
WPOR

WTHT
WXCX
WQYK
WKIS
WCTQ
WBUL

WCKN
WTQR
WGNE
WQIK
KXLY
KTST

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

Brown's 'The Git Up' Rules Hot Country Songs For A Milestone 10th Week; The Highwomen Take Over Top Country Albums



Blanco Brown's "The Git Up" (Trailer Trap Music/Broken Bow Music Group/BMG/Wheelhouse/Stoney Creek/Broken Bow) tops *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart (dated Sept. 21) for a 10th week, making him the first soloist to reign for double-digit weeks with a debut single since the survey started using multiple metrics in October 2012.

The track first led the July 13 list, aided early on by a viral dance challenge on TikTok and YouTube, with Brown having posted a tutorial in May.

"I grabbed spoons, tambourine, anything I could find that made a nice sound," he recently told *Billboard* of solely writing "Git." "When I got finished, it was so full of joy. I was doing the dance as I was writing it. I said, 'This is going to be a song that makes people dance and brings joy.'"

The 34-year-old Atlanta native previously produced songs for pop and hip-hop acts including **Chris Brown**, **Fergie** and **Pitbull**. Because Brown also produced "Git" himself, the single is the first Hot Country Songs No. 1 written, produced and performed by a single person since the chart adopted its streaming-, airplay- and sales-based methodology seven years ago.

"Git" raked in 19 million U.S. streams (down 7%) and 15,000 downloads sold (down 21%) in the week ending Sept. 12, according to Nielsen Music, and rules Country Streaming Songs and Country Digital Song Sales for a 12th week each. On Country Airplay, it increases by 12% to 1.9 million audience impressions in the week ending Sept. 15 and lifts 48-46.

Brown's smash is the first Hot Country Songs chart-topper to lead for at least 10 weeks since **Luke Combs'** "Beautiful Crazy" ruled for 11 frames beginning March 2. The last such leader before that, pop artist **Bebe Rexha** (in her country debut) and **Florida Georgia Line's** "Meant to Be," set the record for the most time dominating the tally, having begun its 50-week domination on Dec. 16, 2017.

Brown joins FGL as the only acts since October 2012 to top Hot Country Songs for at least 10 weeks with a career-opening hit: The pair's "Cruise" totaled 24 weeks at No. 1 beginning that December.

"Git" is the debut single from Brown's first full-length, *Honeysuckle & Lightning Bugs*, due Oct. 11.



BROWN

ALL FOUR ONE *The Highwomen* (Low Country Sound/Elektra/EMG), the eponymous debut set from the supergroup comprising **Brandi Carlile**, **Natalie Hemby**, **Maren Morris** and **Amanda Shires**, debuts at No. 1 on Top Country Albums with 34,000 equivalent album units earned (29,000 in album sales) in its first week. The **Dave Cobb**-produced set also starts atop *Billboard's* Americana/Folk Albums chart and at No. 10 on the all-genre *Billboard* 200.

The Highwomen's name is an homage to **The Highwaymen**, the '80s/'90s assemblage of icons **Johnny Cash**, **Waylon Jennings**, **Kris Kristofferson** and **Willie Nelson**.

The Highwomen is the first Top Country Albums No. 1 for an all-female group since **Pistol Annies'** *Interstate Gospel*, which entered atop the Nov. 17, 2018, chart. Pistol Annies (**Miranda Lambert**, **Ashley Monroe** and **Angaleena Presley**) also mark the last all-female group to pace the list with a debut LP until The Highwomen, as their *Hell on Heels* zoomed in at the peak of the list dated Sept. 10, 2011.

NEW TOP 10s **Dierks Bentley** notches his 24th Hot Country Songs top 10 as "Living" (Capitol Nashville) lifts 11-8. The track climbs 3-2 on Country Airplay, up

5% to 35.1 million in audience, and gets a 23% hike to 4.6 million U.S. streams. On Country Airplay, **Matt Stell's** debut single, "Prayed for You" (Wide Open/RECORDS/Good Company/Arista Nashville), hits the top 10 (11-9), gaining by 11% to 20.1 million in radio reach. ●

BROWN: THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

SUBSCRIBE TO

billboard
COUNTRY
UPDATE

The country music industry's must-have source for news, charts, analysis and features

- EXCLUSIVE CHARTS including Hot Country Songs, Country Airplay, Top Country Albums, Country Streaming Songs and more!
- Weekly content including Makin' Tracks, On The Charts, a roundup of executive moves and timely analysis of the latest country news and trends
- Expert insight and commentary by Tom Roland and Jim Asker

SIGN UP FOR FREE DELIVERY EVERY MONDAY
BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS



FROM THE RIAA GOLD® CERTIFIED ALBUM
CAN'T SAY I AIN'T COUNTRY
AVAILABLE NOW!



FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE
BLESSINGS



IMPACTING 9/23

[CLICK HERE FOR THE TOOLKIT](#)

2019 CMA NOMINEE FOR VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

THANK YOU TO ALL THE BELIEVERS! 

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
1	1	25	KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville	★★ No. 1 (2 weeks) ★★ Luke Bryan	38.618	-1.231	7560	-507	1
2	3	29	LIVING Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	35.077	+1.626	7043	250	2
3	5	43	I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Big Loud	Chris Lane	31.900	+2.893	6410	546	3
4	2	45	THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME Valory	Justin Moore	30.616	-6.660	6247	-1365	4
5	4	19	BEER NEVER BROKE MY HEART River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	29.801	-2.079	5465	-629	7
6	6	21	SOUTHBOUND Capitol Nashville	Carrie Underwood	26.837	+1.272	5605	165	5
7	7	42	LOVE YOU TOO LATE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	24.549	+1.611	5413	321	8
8	8	48	BUY MY OWN DRINKS Wheelhouse	Runaway June	24.378	+2.025	5526	310	6
9	11	34	PRAYED FOR YOU Wide Open/RECORDS/Good Company/Arista Nashville	Matt Stell	24.053	+2.437	4959	419	10
10	9	29	GOOD VIBES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	23.656	+1.633	4902	314	11
11	10	40	WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN Valory	Brantley Gilbert + Lindsay Ell	23.092	+1.225	4981	185	9
12	13	41	EVERY LITTLE THING Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	20.675	+2.051	4248	280	12
13	12	18	WE WERE Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	19.997	+0.767	4148	22	13
14	14	10	TIP OF MY TONGUE Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Kenny Chesney	17.323	+0.304	3656	32	14
15	15	18	WHAT IF I NEVER GET OVER YOU BMLG	Lady Antebellum	15.318	+1.071	3486	186	15
16	16	11	REMEMBER YOU YOUNG Valory	Thomas Rhett	14.554	+1.017	3275	60	16
17	18	9	IT ALL COMES OUT IN THE WASH Vanner/RCA Nashville	Miranda Lambert	12.998	+0.234	3072	60	17
18	21	14	ONE MAN BAND RCA Nashville	★★ Airpower ★★ Old Dominion	11.313	+1.246	2733	340	20
19	19	13	DIVE BAR Pearl	Garth Brooks & Blake Shelton	11.073	-0.474	2793	-49	19
20	20	33	THOUGHT ABOUT YOU McGraw/Columbia Nashville	Tim McGraw	10.960	+0.173	2901	16	18
21	31	6	EVENTHOUGH I'M LEAVING River House/Columbia Nashville	★★ Breaker ★★ Luke Combs	10.304	+4.912	1889	868	25
22	23	16	HEARTACHE MEDICATION Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	8.263	+0.805	2148	125	22
23	24	25	RIDIN' ROADS Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	7.806	+0.614	2018	123	24
24	25	34	MAKE ME WANT TO Stoney Creek	Jimmie Allen	7.453	+0.489	2157	96	21
25	NEW		WE BACK Macon/Broken Bow	★★ Hot Shot Debut/Breaker/Most Increased Audience/Most Added ★★ Jason Aldean	7.048	+7.048	1177	1177	34
26	26	23	MR. LONELY Big Machine	Midland	7.001	+0.106	2144	38	23
27	29	12	MORE HEARTS THAN MINE Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Ingrid Andress	6.640	+0.968	1497	142	29
28	27	5	HELL RIGHT Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Featuring Trace Adkins	6.349	-0.220	1617	11	27
29	32	6	HOMESICK Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	5.493	+0.334	1057	27	36
30	30	29	SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW ZB Collective/BMG/Wheelhouse	Zac Brown Band	5.478	-0.052	1531	5	28

BILLBOARD COUNTRY AIRPLAY PANEL – 148 STATIONS

Akron, OH	WQMX	Des Moines, Iowa	KHKI	Madison, Wis.	WWQM	Reno, Nevada	KBUL
Albany, N.Y.	WGBA	Detroit	WDRO		WMAD	KOLC	
Albuquerque, N.M.	KBOI		WYCD	McAllen, Texas	KTEX	Richmond, Va.	WKHK
Allentown, Pa.	KRST	El Paso, Texas	KHEY	Memphis	WGKX	Riverside, Calif.	KFRG
Atlanta	WCTO	Ft. Myers, Fla.	WCKT		WLFP	Roanoke, Va.	WSLC
	WKHX		WWGR	Miami	WKIS	Rochester, N.Y.	WBEE
Augusta, Ga.	WUBL	Ft. Wayne, Ind.	WQHK	Milwaukee, WI.	WMIL	Sacramento, Calif.	KNCI
Austin, Texas	WXOX	Fresno, Calif.	KSKS				
Bakersfield, Calif.	KASE	Gainesville, Fla.	WOGK	Minneapolis	KEYE	St. Louis	KSD
Baltimore	KUZZ	Grand Rapids, Mich.	WBCT		KMNB		WIL
Baton Rouge, La.	WPOC	Greensboro, N.C.	WTQR	Mobile, Ala.	WKSJ	Salt Lake City	KSOP
Birmingham, Ala.	WYNK	Greenville, S.C.	WSSL	Monmouth/Ocean, N.J.	WKMK	San Antonio, Texas	KUBL
	WDXB	Harrisburg, Pa.	WRBT	Monterey, Calif.	KTOM		KAJA
	WZZK	Hartford, Conn.	WVYZ	Nashville	WKDF		KCYA
Boise, Idaho	KAWO	Houston	KUT		WSIX	San Diego	KSON
	KIZN		KKBO	Nassau, N.Y.	WRNS	San Jose, Calif.	KRTY
Boston	BWVL	Huntsville, Ala.	WDRM	New Bern, N.C.	WRNS	Sarasota, Fla.	WCTO
	WKLB	Indianapolis	WFMS	New Orleans	WNOE	Seattle	KKWF
Buffalo, N.Y.	WYRK		WLHK	New York	WNSH		KNUC
Charleston, S.C.	WEZL	Jacksonville, Fla.	WGNE	Norfolk, Va.	WGH	Spokane, Wash.	KXLY
	WCKN		WQIK		WUSH	Springfield, Mass.	WRNX
Charlotte, N.C.	WKKT	Johnson City, Tenn.	WXBO	Oklahoma City, Okla.	KJKE	Stockton, Calif.	KATM
	WSOC	Kansas City	KBE		KTSI	Syracuse, N.Y.	WBBS
Chattanooga, Tenn.	WUSY		WDFW	Omaha, Neb.	KXKT	Tampa, Fla.	WFUS
Chicago	WBEQ		KFKF	Orlando, Fla.	WWKA		WOYK
	WUSN	Knoxville, Tenn.	WVVK	Oxnard-Ventura, CA	KHAY	Tucson, Ariz.	KLIM
Cincinnati	WUBE			Philadelphia	WXTU	Tulsa, Okla.	KTGX
Cleveland	WGAR	Lafayette, La.	KMDL	Phoenix	KMLE		KVOO
Colorado Springs, Colo.	KATC	Lakeland, Fla.	WPCV	Pittsburgh	KNIX	Visalia, Calif.	KWEN
	KCOY	Lancaster, Pa.	WVOY		WDSY	Washington, D.C.	KJUG
Columbia, S.C.	WCOS	Las Vegas	KDYE		WOGI	West Palm Beach, Fla.	WMOJ
Columbus, Ohio	WCOL		KWNR		WPGB	Wichita, Kan.	WIRK
Corpus Christi, Texas	KRYS	Lexington, Ky.	WBUL	Portland, Maine	WPOR		KFDI
Dallas	KPLX	Little Rock, Ark.	KSSN		WTHT		KZSN
Dayton, Ohio	KSCS	Los Angeles	KKGO	Portland, Ore.	KUPL	Wilkes Barre, Pa.	WGGY
Denver, Colo.	WHKO	Louisville, Ky.	WAMZ	Providence, R.I.	KWJJ	Wilmington, Del.	WXCY
	KYGO		WQNU	Raleigh, NC	WCTK	York, Pa.	WGTY
	KWBL				WQDR		

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	34	15	EVERY GIRL IN THIS TOWN Gwendolyn/Pearl	Trish Yearwood	5.083	+0.095	1469	165	30
32	33	21	SLOW DANCE IN A PARKING LOT MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	5.051	-0.073	1658	38	26
33	35	30	TO AT RCA Nashville	Ryan Hurd	4.860	+0.234	1265	15	32
34	36	16	CATCH BMLG	Brett Young	4.689	+0.180	1022	10	39
35	37	6	I WISH GRANDPAS NEVER DIED BMLG	Riley Green	3.946	-0.188	1084	1	35
36	22	2	HOMECOMING QUEEN? Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	3.930	-5.616	913	-520	40
37	39	27	AFTER A FEW Mercury	Travis Denning	3.642	-0.001	1178	2	33
38	38	35	NOTHING TO DO TOWN Curb	Dylan Scott	3.467	-0.270	1400	-8	31
39	45	4	THE BONES Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	3.130	+0.850	616	100	46
40	40	17	FAMILY TREE Capitol Nashville	Caylee Hammack	2.999	-0.021	1039	31	38
41	43	15	HOMEMADE Big Loud	Jake Owen	2.864	+0.080	765	-32	42
42	41	22	ONE BIG COUNTRY SONG Wheelhouse	LOCASH	2.847	-0.112	834	-7	41
43	42	23	IN BETWEEN Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	2.737	-0.168	1049	-15	37
44	47	13	HER WORLD OR MINE Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Michael Ray	2.382	+0.651	729	59	43
45	44	9	WHAT COULD'VE BEEN Triple Tigers	Gone West	2.027	-0.387	675	-23	45
46	48	10	THE GIT UP TrailerTrapMusic/BBMG/BMG/Wheelhouse/Stoney Creek/Broken Bow	Blanco Brown	1.890	+0.207	544	-34	50
47	46	11	LONELY IF YOU ARE Dack Janiels/Broken Bow	Chase Rice	1.843	+0.107	577	-1	47
48	49	7	CHASIN' YOU Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	1.722	+0.118	481	42	51
49	54	7	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Mercury	Maddie & Tae	1.477	+0.609	452	34	52
50	52	22	WORLD FOR TWO 24 Entertainment/Stoney Creek	King Calaway	1.474	+0.141	729	28	44
51	51	21	SLOWER Curb	Filmore	1.404	-0.129	571	-14	48
52	50	6	DETAILS Mercury	Billy Currington	1.324	-0.228	396	-27	55
53	53	2	MONSTERS EMI Nashville	Eric Church	1.254	+0.258	449	129	53
54	55	3	I HOPE Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Gabby Barrett	0.987	+0.184	381	15	56
55	56	9	CHASIN' ME True To The Song/Mailboat/New Revolution	Caroline Jones	0.781	+0.025	549	43	49
56	59	3	NOTHIN' ON YOU CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	0.761	+0.040	291	16	-
57	57	3	DON'T LET HER Monument/Arista Nashville	Walker Hayes	0.739	-0.007	312	-4	-
58	NEW		THANK GOD FOR YOU Curb ★★ Debut ★★	Rodney Atkins	0.714	+0.105	424	15	54
59	60	2	NO STONE UNTURNED Stoney Creek	Randy Houser	0.670	-0.014	281	-12	-
60	NEW		SHE'S MINE MCA Nashville ★★ Debut ★★	Kip Moore	0.665	+0.002	329	6	58



58

RODNEY ATKINS
Thank God for You

Atkins' 21st Country Airplay entry arrives at No. 58 with 714,000 audience impressions during the tracking week.

GOING FOR ADDS

9/23

ASHLEY MCBRYDE
One Night Standards
Warner Music Nashville/WAR

BILLY RAY CYRUS & JOHNNY MCGUIRE
Chevs And Fords
Wheelhouse

CHRIS YOUNG
Drowning
RCA Nashville

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE
Blessings
BMLG

JOHN WAYNE SCHULZ
Hard To Keep A Good Man Down
Jerry Duncan

9/30

CJ SOLAR
Coming My Way
Sea Gayle

JUSTIN MOORE
Why We Drink
Valory

TENILLE TOWNES
Jersey On The Wall (I'm Just Asking)
Columbia Nashville

10/7

NED LEDOUX
Old Fashioned
Powder River/Thirty Tigers

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

MOST ADDED®

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS
WE BACK Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	78
EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	41
HOMECOMING QUEEN? Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	27
MONSTERS EMI Nashville	Eric Church	10
ONE MAN BAND RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	8
AFTER A FEW Mercury	Travis Denning	7
THE BONES Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	7
MORE HEARTS THAN MINE Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Ingrid Andress	5
HOMESICK Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	5
HELL RIGHT Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Feat. Trace Adkins	4

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
WE BACK Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+7,048
EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+4,912
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Big Loud	Chris Lane	+2,893
PRAYED FOR YOU Wide Open/RECORDS/Good Company/Arista Nashville	Matt Stell	+2,437
EVERY LITTLE THING Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	+2,051
BUY MY OWN DRINKS Wheelhouse	Runaway June	+2,025
GOOD VIBES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	+1,633
LIVING Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	+1,626
LOVE YOU TOO LATE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	+1,611
SOUTHBOUND Capitol Nashville	Carrie Underwood	+1,272

MOST INCREASED PLAYS

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
WE BACK Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+1177
EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+868
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Big Loud	Chris Lane	+546
PRAYED FOR YOU Wide Open/RECORDS/Good Company/Arista Nashville	Matt Stell	+419
ONE MAN BAND RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	+340
LOVE YOU TOO LATE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	+321
GOOD VIBES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	+314
BUY MY OWN DRINKS Wheelhouse	Runaway June	+310
EVERY LITTLE THING Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	+280
LIVING Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	+250

NEW AND ACTIVE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUDIENCE	TOTAL STATIONS	ADDS
I DO FOR YOU Riser House	Dillon Carmichael	0.621	29	1
ALL MY FAVORITE PEOPLE Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris Feat. Brothers Osborne	0.413	1	0
THE FATHER, MY SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST Triple Shoes	Craig Morgan	0.334	0	0
ONETHING RIGHT Joytime Collective/RCA Nashville/RCA	Marshmello & Kane Brown	0.273	3	0
ONE NIGHT STANDARDS Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Ashley McBryde	0.263	2	0
I'LL BE THE ONE Big Machine	Noah Schnacky	0.262	5	2

RECURRENTS

THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	WHISKEY GLASSES Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	24.819
2	ALL TO MYSELF Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	20.014
3	REARVIEW TOWN Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	19.171
4	GOD'S COUNTRY Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton	18.217
5	LOVE AIN'T Valory	Eli Young Band	15.651
6	EYES ON YOU Dack Janiels/Broken Bow	Chase Rice	15.587
7	RUMOR Curb	Lee Brice	15.457
8	BEAUTIFUL CRAZY River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	15.255
9	SOME OF IT EMI Nashville	Eric Church	14.302
10	GOOD AS YOU Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	13.305

BILLBOARD COUNTRY BOXSCORE

Gross Ticket Price(s)	Artist Venue/Date(s)	Attendance Capacity	Promoter(s)
\$4,465,304 \$499, \$50	GEORGE STRAIT T-Mobile Arena, Las Vegas/Aug. 23-24	34,562 34,838	MESSINA TOURING GROUP/AEG PRESENTS
\$1,070,720 \$150, \$89.75, \$69.75, \$34.75	CHRIS STAPLETON Darling's Waterfront Pavilion, Bangor, Maine/July 25	14,902 14,902	LIVE NATION
\$1,060,420 \$150, \$89.75, \$69.75, \$34.75	CHRIS STAPLETON CHI Health Center, Omaha, Neb./July 19	13,142 14,053	LIVE NATION
\$1,038,241 \$150, \$89.75, \$69.75, \$34.75	CHRIS STAPLETON KeyBank Pavilion, Burgettstown, Pa./Aug. 10	19,757 23,122	LIVE NATION
\$971,762 \$150, \$89.75, \$69.75, \$34.75	CHRIS STAPLETON PNC Bank Arts Centre, Holmdel, N.J./Aug. 9	17,013 17,013	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 SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

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	3	18	GOOD COUNTRY SONG (Independent) ★★1 Week at 1★★	Robert Ray	1890	141	11	12	18	YEAH BUDDY (Dubya)	Wynn Williams	1268	57
2	1	15	STILL (Independent)	Curtis Grimes	1873	69	12	13	12	THIS BAR NEEDS A TOWN (Independent)	Mark Powell	1260	60
3	2	18	LET'S MAKE A LOVE SONG (Almost Country)	Casey Donahew	1784	20	13	14	18	CINNAMON SHORE (Independent)	Mark McKinney	1169	55
4	4	17	SOME OL' BAR IN THE 90'S (Independent)	Jon Wolfe	1754	95	14	6	19	STAY (Independent)	William Clark Green	1159	-376
5	5	18	THE WINDING STAIR MOUNTAIN BLUES (Independent)	Turnpike Troubadours	1606	6	15	16	10	ROLLING STONE (Independent)	Whiskey Myers	1151	75
6	7	22	CLOSE ENOUGH TO WALK (Dean Dillon's Wildcatter)	Sundance Head	1554	33	16	17	16	BETWEEN THE STONES AND JONES (Independent)	Dustin Sonnier	1048	31
7	8	26	JUST FOR A MINUTE (Independent)	Frank Ray	1527	46	17	19	17	DEVIL YOU KNOW (Independent)	Drew Fish Band	1035	21
8	9	10	I'LL NEVER GET OVER YOU (Independent)	Randy Rogers Band	1520	71	18	20	16	LIFE OF MY LOVE (S.O.T.)	Jody Booth	1017	73
9	11	9	BETTER WITH BEER (Independent)	Kevin Fowler	1383	111	19	15	22	WHERE THERE'S A WILLIE (Independent)	Jack Ingram	1017	-60
10	10	15	HILL COUNTRY BOOGALOO (One Chord Song/Smith Music)	Stoney LaRue	1328	-32	20	21	6	FLATLAND HILLBILLIES (RC1)	Rodney Crowell (f/ Randy Rogers & Lee Ann Womack)	974	75

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, or contact Dave Smith at 817-283-7984. Copyright 2019, Texas Regional Radio Report

LUKE BRYAN

— *knockin' boots* —



THANK YOU COUNTRY RADIO
FOR TWO WEEKS AT #1

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



Rodney Crowell (right) posed on the red carpet with lifetime achievement award winner Elvis Costello and Amanda Shires prior to the 18th annual Americana Honors & Awards at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville on Sept. 11.

MUSIC'S CYCLES IN FOCUS

Friends and family said farewell to **Earl Thomas Conley** with a star-decked memorial concert on Sept. 10, barely an hour before the BMG Music Group said hello to a new building on Music Row.

Jason Aldean provided a physical through-line for both events — he turned in a stellar version of Conley's challenging midtempo "Nobody Falls Like a Fool" during the memorial at the Country Music Hall of Fame's CMA Theater. He was also on hand to assist in the champagne toast at the new BMG office constructed at 1 Music Circle South, a piece of turf that previously housed the Country Music Association.

The BMG facilities are fresh, with big, open spaces and impressive views of Music Row and its surrounding neighborhoods. The location features multiple conference rooms, an outdoor terrace and seven fourth-floor writing rooms — one can easily envision BMG Nashville executive vp **Kos Weaver** rushing writers up to the fifth floor to share a new song with BMG Nashville executive vp recorded music **Jon Loba**.

Coming in the aftermath of BMG's purchase of BBR Music Group, the building symbolizes a rebirth for the company in Music City, particularly as the label preps a new Aldean album, celebrates the first CMA nomination for **Lindsay Ell** and logs 10 chart-topping weeks for **Blanco Brown's** "The Git Up" on Hot Country Songs.

By contrast, while Conley's music is no longer on the tip of many country fans' tongues, performances by **Blake Shelton**, **Luke Bryan**, **John Anderson** and **Neal McCoy**, among others, shed new light on the depth of his catalog. Such songs as "Fire and Smoke," "What I'd Say" or "We Believe in Happy Endings" — many of them written by Conley himself — addressed the complications of adult relationships, filling them so skillfully with layers of meaning that the details are likely missed by most casual listeners.

As if the words aren't enough, Conley invariably picked songs with wide ranges and uncomfortable notes.

"These songs are hard," Shelton told an audience that included fellow performers **Randy Travis** and **Eddy Raven**. "But they're worth it to try."

Alongside the celebration of Conley's past and the rebirth of BMG, the Sept. 11 Americana Honors & Awards highlighted the maturation of a genre that's now roughly 20 years into its own life cycle, growing into a format full of meaning and long-term value. Artist of the year **Brandi Carlile** touchingly embraced her off-stage role as a mentor for the next generation in "The Mother," **Bonnie Raitt** and double-winner **John Prine** held hands as they concluded a powerful version of "Angel From Montgomery," and **Rhiannon Giddens** delivered the ominous, spiritual "Wayfaring Stranger" with a clear-voiced fragility.

The juxtaposition of those events provided a subtle reminder that every piece of the music business — the people, the companies and the music itself — experiences its own life cycle. The goal, as Conley's legacy reminds us, is to leave the world a better place than you found it.

RADIO & RECORDS

Sony Music Nashville promoted **Taylor Lindsey** to senior vp A&R from vp ... Hall Communications/Lakeland, Fla., operations manager **Mike James** announced he will retire Dec. 31, wrapping a 40-year run in radio. He

oversees a four-station cluster that includes country **WPCV**. Reach him through the end of the year [here](#) ... Townsquare/Portsmouth, N.H., added **Sammy Cruise** as operations manager for the three-station group, which includes country **WOKQ**. He was most recently **WIRK** West Palm Beach, Fla., assistant PD/music director ... Cumulus hired **John Toohy** as vp finance, InsideRadio.com reported. His previous position was with Charter Communications, serving as Spectrum Reach group vp media sales and finance ... **WXBQ** Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol added PD **Nikki Thomas**, according to InsideRadio.com. She was most recently **WIVK** Knoxville, Tenn., PD. Longtime **WXBQ** programmer **Bill Hagy** remains affiliated as a consultant ... Cox Media/San Antonio welcomed director of sales **Ken Newman**, Talkers.com reported. The station group includes country **KCYF**. The media vet was most recently CEO in a short stint at Florida-based Digital Marketing Agency ... **WWKA** Orlando, Fla., afternoon-drive talent **A.J. Maguire** stepped down from his position after seven years, according to Talkers.com. He expects to announce his next position in the near future.

'ROUND THE ROW

Three months after ending his tenure as ASCAP Nashville vp, **Michael Martin** joins newly formed Endurance Music Group as president. Private equity firm Raven Capital Management is backing the company, with Raven co-founder **Jeremy Tucker** in place as Endurance chairman. The initial Endurance staff includes senior vp **Mark Ahlberg**, who brings his company, Amplified Administration, into the Endurance family. Also aboard is Endurance senior creative director **Josh Saxe**, formerly Hill Nashville senior director of A&R. Staff writers include **Scotter Carusoe** ("Drunk Girl," "For the First Time"), **Clint Lagerberg** ("Blue Ain't Your Color," "Here Comes Goodbye") and singer-songwriters **Jake Rose** and **Ryan Plappert** ... RFD-TV named singer-songwriter **Rory Feek** ("Some Beach," "A Little More Country Than That") as chief creative officer with plans to adapt his blog, This Life I Live, as an on-screen series, launching in January 2020. He was formerly a member of **Joey+Rory** with his now-deceased wife, **Joey Martin Feek** ... **Jake Owen** inked a publishing agreement with Warner Chappell Nashville ... Twelve6 Entertainment and Downtown Music signed developing Monument artist **Alex Hall** to a joint publishing deal ... **LeAnn Rimes** joined the concert roster at Paradigm



Brandi Carlile (left) received the award for artist of the year from presenter Tanya Tucker during the 18th annual Americana Honors & Awards at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium on Sept. 11.



Marty Stuart (left) hugged Ricky Skaggs when he delivered an artist-in-residence performance at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville on Sept. 11.

... **Tim Rushlow** engaged Kinkead Entertainment as his booking agency ... Indie artist **Kaleb Lee** signed a booking deal with APA Nashville ... Global Eyes Entertainment and the Holland Group established a strategic partnership to manage new duo **Jericho Rose** ... The Academy of Country Music set April 5, 2020, for its 55th annual awards, to be broadcast on CBS from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas. The ACM is selling tickets to the honors and associated events, marketing the package as The Week Vegas Goes Country. Ancillary attractions include the two-day ACM Party for a Cause, an ACM Lifting Lives TopGolf Tee-Off and an ACM Beach Bash at Mandalay Bay. Acts engaged so far include **Darius Rucker**, **Rascal Flatts**, **Keith Urban** and **Lady Antebellum**. ●

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND

MUSIC NOTES

Give **Eric Church** props for speaking truth to powerful supporters. He served as guest picker on ESPN's *College GameDay* on Sept. 14 and disappointed the hometown fans at Iowa State in Ames when he picked arch-rival Iowa Hawkeyes for the win. The Hawks indeed beat the Cyclones, 18-17. Also involved in gridiron TV coverage was **Jason Aldean**, whose new single, "We Back," debuted as the CBS theme song for SEC games. The visitors came out on top in that one, too: The Alabama Crimson Tide rolled over the South Carolina Gamecocks, 47-23.



Luke Combs' second full album, *What You See Is What You Get*, will arrive Nov. 8 as the country business continues to bulk up on autumn releases. **Alisan Porter's** *Pink Cloud*, **Georgette Jones' Skin**, **Lainey Wilson's Redneck Hollywood** EP and **Emily Hackett's By the Moon** EP all hit the marketplace on Sept. 13. Rounder artist **Logan Ledger** serves up the **T Bone Burnett**-produced *I Don't Dream Anymore* on Oct. 4, **Blanco Brown** issues *Honeysuckle & Lightning Bugs* on Oct. 11, and **Cody Jinks** drops two albums back to back: *After the First* arrives Oct. 11, while *The Wanting* follows Oct. 18. Also of note: **Dionne Warwick & the Voices of Christmas** is due Oct. 18. It includes an appearance by **Eric Paslay** on "Frosty the Snowman" and a collaboration with **John Rich, The Oak Ridge Boys** and **Ricky Skaggs** on "Jingle Bells."

Woodstock and the moon landing weren't enough — country has found other ways to celebrate 50th anniversaries. **Rodney Crowell** teamed with **Joe Henry** during the Sept. 11 Americana Honors & Awards to cover the **Bob Dylan/Johnny Cash** duet "Girl From the North Country." **Ben Haggard & The Strangers** are playing the Muskogee Civic Center on Oct. 10, 50 years after Ben's father, **Merle Haggard**, recorded the *Okie From Muskogee* live album on that same stage. Additionally, **Buddy Jewell** plans a Facebook Live performance on Sept. 17 of "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down," 50 years after it first appeared on **The Band's** self-titled album.

Garth Brooks, Trisha Yearwood, Brooks & Dunn, Paul Simon, Vince Gill and **Zac Brown** are set as performers when the Musicians Hall of Fame inducts its new class of members on Oct. 22 at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center in Nashville. Country figures who will be enshrined include **Steve Wariner, Alabama**, producer **Owen Bradley** and engineer **Billy Sherrill**. ●

Top Headlines from billboard.com
Click on headlines below for more details

How Kanye, Taylor And The 2009 VMAs Changed Music And Culture Reporting

As Podcast Industry Grows, Licensing Music Can Get Complicated — And Pricey

Average Music Listening Time Is Down. How Much Does That Matter?

Publishing's Huge Valuations, Catalogs' 'Frothy' Market Dominate At Music Finance Forum

Lonely Road: Indie Promoters Fight To Survive Amid Rising Talent Costs, Heated Competition With Majors

ON THIS DATE IN COUNTRY MUSIC

Sept. 17

- 2018 – **Brantley Gilbert** records the basic tracks for "What Happens in a Small Town," a future collaboration with **Lindsay Ell**, at the Starstruck Recording Studio in Nashville.
- 2014 – **Jason Isbell** wins three trophies — artist of the year; album of the year, for *Southeastern*; and song of the year, for "Cover Me Up" — during the 13th annual Americana Honors & Awards at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium.



LYNN SENGUPTA

Sept. 18

- 2015 – Valory releases **Thomas Rhett's** "Die a Happy Man" to radio.
- 1994 – **Willie Nelson** presents Farm Aid VII at New Orleans' Superdome. The lineup includes **John Mellencamp, Neil Young, John Conlee, Billy Joe Shaver, Deana Carter, David Allan Coe, Kris Kristofferson, Julio Iglesias** and **The Neville Brothers**.

Sept. 19

- 2017 – **Johnny Wright's** "Hello Vietnam" plays during the **Ken Burns** documentary *The Vietnam War* as it covers the conflict's escalation in 1965. The PBS episode also features **Johnny Cash's** "Big River."

Sept. 20

- 2016 – The work he put in is realized: **Tim McGraw's** "Humble and Kind" earns a platinum single from the RIAA.
- 2009 – **Justin Moore** sings the national anthem at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wis., where the Cincinnati Bengals defeat the Packers, 31-24.

Sept. 21

- 2011 – **Carrie Underwood, Ashley Gorley** and **Chris DeStefano** write a future hit, "Good Girl," in Los Angeles.
- 2004 – Capitol releases **Keith Urban's** album *Be Here*.

Sept. 22

- 1999 – **Dolly Parton, Johnny Bond** and **Conway Twitty** are inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame during the 33rd Country Music Association Awards, held at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville.

Sept. 23

- 1989 – **Clint Black's Killin' Time** goes to No. 1 on *Billboard's* country albums chart, where it spends a total of 31 weeks through October 1990.

Source: *RolandNote.com, the Ultimate Country Music Database*



John Hiatt (center) received the Troubadour Award from BMI Nashville during a Sept. 9 dinner prior to the Americana Music Conference. He's flanked by BMI Nashville vp creative **Jody Williams** (left) and BMI president/CEO **Mike O'Neill**.

HIATT: ERIKA GOLDRING

billboard Hot Country Songs

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

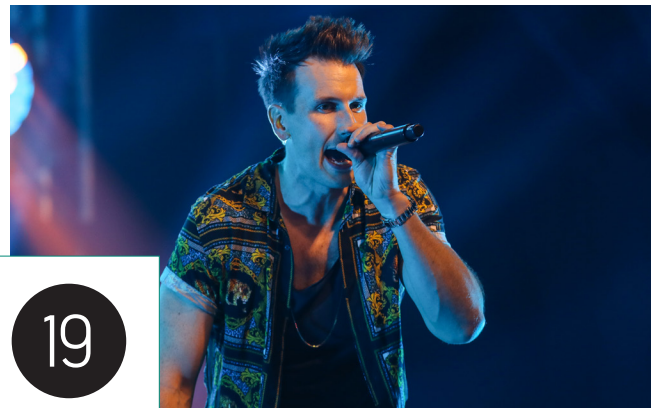
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE <small>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)</small>	Artist <small>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL</small>	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	15	THE GIT UP BLANCO BROWN (B.A.III) ★★ No. 1 (10 weeks) ★★	Blanco Brown TRAILERTRAPMUSIC/BBMG/BMG/WHEELHOUSE/STONEY CREEK/BROKEN BOW	46	1
2	2	3	24	KNOCKIN' BOOTS J.STEVENS,J.STEVENS (H.LINDSEY,G.SAMPSON,J.M.NITE)	Luke Bryan CAPITOL NASHVILLE	1	2
3	3	2	19	BEER NEVER BROKE MY HEART S.MOFFATT (L.COMBS,R.MONTANA,J.SINGLETON)	Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	5	2
4	5	5	48	WHISKEY GLASSES J.MOI (B.BURGESS,K.KADISH)	Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD	RC	1
5	9	11	49	I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU J.MOI (A.GORLEY,M.W.HARDY,H.PHELPS,J.RODGERS)	Chris Lane BIG LOUD	3	5
6	4	9	10	ONE THING RIGHT MARSHMELLO (MARSHMELLO,K.BROWN,J.FRASURE,M.MCGINN)	Marshmello & Kane Brown JOYTIME COLLECTIVE/RCA NASHVILLE	-	4
7	6	4	25	GOD'S COUNTRY S.HENDRICKS (M.W.HARDY,J.M.SCHMIDT,D.DAWSON)	Blake Shelton WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	RC	1
8	11	12	23	LIVING R.COPPERMAN,JON RANDALL (R.COPPERMAN,J.M.NITE,A.GORLEY,D.BENTLEY)	Dierks Bentley CAPITOL NASHVILLE	2	8
9	8	7	25	THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME J.S.STOVER,S.BORCHETTA (J.MOORE,P.DIGIOVANNI,C.MCGILL,J.S.STOVER)	Justin Moore VALORY	4	7
10	7	6	36	ALL TO MYSELF D.SMYERS,S.HENDRICKS (D.SMYERS,S.MOONEY,N.GALYON,J.REYNOLDS)	Dan + Shay WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	RC	3
11	12	13	35	PRAYED FOR YOU A.BOWERS,M.STELL (M.STELL,A.BOWERS,A.CRUZ)	Matt Stell WIDE OPEN/RECORDS/GOOD COMPANY/ARISTA NASHVILLE	9	11
12	13	14	18	SOUTHBOUND D.GARCIA,C.UNDERWOOD (C.UNDERWOOD,D.A.GARCIA,J.MILLER)	Carrie Underwood CAPITOL NASHVILLE	6	12
13	14	15	29	LOVE YOU TOO LATE M.R.CARTER (C.SWINDELL,M.R.CARTER,B.KINNEY)	Cole Swindell WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	7	13
14	15	17	24	ONE MAN BAND S.MCANALLY (M.RAMSEY,T.ROSEN,B.TURSI,J.OSBORNE)	Old Dominion RCA NASHVILLE	18	14
15	NEW	1	1	HOMECOMING QUEEN? J.ROBBINS (K.BALLERINI,J.ROBBINS,N.GALYON) ★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★	Kelsea Ballerini BLACK RIVER	36	15
16	17	20	20	GOOD VIBES Z.CROWELL,C.JANSON (C.JANSON,Z.CROWELL,A.GORLEY)	Chris Janson WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	10	16
17	19	18	30	BUY MY OWN DRINKS D.HUFF (H.MULHOLLAND,J.WAYNE,N.COOKE,H.LINDSEY,J.KEAR)	Runaway June WHEELHOUSE	8	17
18	16	16	10	TIP OF MY TONGUE R.COPPERMAN,K.CHESENEY (K.CHESENEY,R.COPPERMAN,E.C.SHEERAN)	Kenny Chesney BLUE CHAIR/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	14	14
19	22	23	25	EVERY LITTLE THING C.BROWN (R.DICKERSON,P.WELLING,C.BROWN)	Russell Dickerson TRIPLE TIGERS	12	19
20	28	42	14	EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING S.MOFFATT (L.COMBS,W.B.DURRETTE,R.FULCHER) ★★ Digital,Airplay and Streaming Gainer ★★	Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	21	12
21	18	21	39	WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN D.HUFF (B.GILBERT,R.AKINS,B.BERRYHILL,J.DUNNE)	Brantley Gilbert + Lindsay Ell VALORY	11	18
22	21	24	18	WE WERE D.HUFF,K.URBAN (E.CHURCH,J.HYDE,R.TYNDELL)	Keith Urban HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	13	18
23	20	22	28	THE BONES G.KURSTIN (M.MORRIS,J.ROBBINS,L.VELTZ)	Maren Morris COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	39	20
24	23	19	17	WHAT IF I NEVER GET OVER YOU D.HUFF (S.ELLIS,J.GREEN,R.J.HURD,L.VELTZ)	Lady Antebellum BMLG	15	14
25	25	27	9	REMEMBER YOU YOUNG D.HUFF,J.FRASURE,THOMAS RHETT (THOMAS RHETT,J.FRASURE,A.GORLEY)	Thomas Rhett VALORY	16	25



5

CHRIS LANE
I Don't Know About You

The track enters the Hot Country Songs top five (9-5), sparked by a 10% rise to 31.9 million in audience as it pushes 5-3 on Country Airplay. It also boasts 6.2 million U.S. streams.



19

RUSSELL DICKERSON
Every Little Thing

The single hits the Hot Country Songs top 20 (22-19), up 11% to 20.7 million in radio reach as it rises 13-12 on Country Airplay. It also gains by 9% to 2,000 sold.

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>	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK POSITION
26	31	35	4	HELL RIGHT <small>S.HENDRICKS (D.A.GARCIA,B.TYLER,M.W.HARDY)</small>	Blake Shelton Featuring Trace Adkins <small>WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN</small>	28	26
27	24	25	9	IT ALL COMES OUT IN THE WASH <small>J.JOYCE (M.LAMBERT,H.LINDSEY,L.MCKENNA,L.ROSE)</small>	Miranda Lambert <small>VANNER/RCA NASHVILLE</small>	17	24
28	26	26	4	HEARTLESS <small>DIPLO,KING HENRY,CHARLIE HANDSOME,J.MOI (T.W.PENTZ,H.A.ALLEN,M.WALLEN,E.K.SMITH,R.J.HURD,CHARLIE HANDSOME)</small>	Diplo Presents Thomas Wesley Featuring Morgan Wallen <small>MAD DECENT/COLUMBIA</small>	-	15
29	29	30	11	DIVE BAR <small>G.BROOKS (M.ROSSELL,B.KENNEDY,T.G.BROOKS)</small>	Garth Brooks & Blake Shelton <small>PEARL</small>	19	29
30	34	33	14	HEARTACHE MEDICATION <small>J.PARDI,B.BUTLER,R.GORE (J.PARDI,BARY DEAN,N.HEMBY)</small>	Jon Pardi <small>CAPITOL NASHVILLE</small>	22	30
31	33	32	27	RIDIN' ROADS <small>Z.CROWELL (D.LYNCH,A.GORLEY,Z.CROWELL)</small>	Dustin Lynch <small>BROKEN BOW</small>	23	26
32	39	45	25	HOMESICK <small>D.HUFF (K.BROWN,B.BERRYHILL,M.J.MCGINN,T.PHILLIPS)</small>	Kane Brown <small>ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE</small>	29	24
33	37	40	8	SLOW DANCE IN A PARKING LOT <small>P.DIGIOVANNI (J.DAVIS,L.L.FOWLER)</small>	Jordan Davis <small>MCA NASHVILLE</small>	32	33
34	42	41	10	MORE HEARTS THAN MINE <small>S.ELLIS,I.ANDRESS (I.ANDRESS,S.ELLIS,D.SOUTHERLAND)</small>	Ingrid Andress <small>ATLANTIC/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA</small>	27	34
35	38	43	15	MAKE ME WANT TO <small>A.BOWERS,E.TORRES (J.ALLEN,P.SIKES,J.DENMARK)</small>	Jimmie Allen <small>STONEY CREEK</small>	24	35
36	36	34	23	THOUGHT ABOUT YOU <small>B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (L.T.MILLER,B.WARREN,B.D.WARREN)</small>	Tim McGraw <small>MCGRAW/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE</small>	20	26
37	35	31	15	MR. LONELY <small>D.HUFF,S.MCANALLY,J.OSBORNE (J.CARSON,C.DUDDY,M.WYSTRACH,S.MCANALLY,J.OSBORNE)</small>	Midland <small>BIG MACHINE</small>	26	31
38	41	36	31	TO A T <small>D.HUFF,A.ESHUIS (R.J.HURD,N.SPICER,L.VELTZ)</small>	Ryan Hurd <small>RCA NASHVILLE</small>	33	35
39	44	44	6	I WISH GRANDPAS NEVER DIED <small>D.HUFF (R.GREEN,L.BONDS,B.GREEN)</small>	Riley Green <small>BMLG</small>	35	32
40	NEW		1	WE BACK <small>M.KNOX (B.D.WARREN,B.WARREN,T.HUBBARD,J.M.SCHMIDT)</small>	Jason Aldean <small>MACON/BROKEN BOW</small>	25	40
41	43	38	20	I HOPE <small>R.COPPERMAN (Z.KALE,J.M.NITE,G.BARRETT)</small>	Gabby Barrett <small>WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR</small>	54	31
42	40	39	16	SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW <small>ANDREW WATT (Z.A.BROWN,A.WOTMAN,N.MOON,B.SIMONETTI,S.MENDES)</small>	Zac Brown Band <small>ZB COLLECTIVE/BMG/WHEELHOUSE</small>	30	27
43	32	10	3	SOON YOU'LL GET BETTER <small>J.M.ANTONOFF,T.SWIFT (T.SWIFT,J.M.ANTONOFF)</small>	Taylor Swift Featuring Dixie Chicks <small>REPUBLIC</small>	-	10
44	45	47	11	CATCH <small>D.HUFF (B.YOUNG,R.COPPERMAN,A.GORLEY)</small>	Brett Young <small>BMLG</small>	34	43
45	46	46	4	CHASIN' YOU <small>J.MOI (J.MOORE,M.WALLEN,C.WISEMAN)</small>	Morgan Wallen <small>BIG LOUD</small>	48	45
46	47	48	10	LONELY IF YOU ARE <small>C.DESTEFANO,C.RICE (C.RICE,L.RIMES,H.PHELPS)</small>	Chase Rice <small>DACK JANIELS/BROKEN BOW</small>	47	43
47	48	-	2	FAMILY TREE <small>M.REAVES,C.HAMMACK (C.HAMMACK,T.VERGES,G.SAMPSON)</small>	Caylee Hammack <small>CAPITOL NASHVILLE</small>	40	47
48	50	50	10	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART <small>J.ROBBINS,D.WELLS (M.MARLOW,T.DYE,J.SINGLETON,D.RUTTAN)</small>	Maddie & Tae <small>MERCURY</small>	49	43
49	NEW		1	THE FATHER, MY SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST <small>NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)</small>	Craig Morgan <small>TRIPPLE SHOES</small>	-	49
50	NEW		1	REDESIGNING WOMEN <small>D.COBBS (N.HEMBY,R.CLAWSO)</small>	The Highwomen <small>LOW COUNTRY SOUND/ELEKTRA/EMG</small>	-	50

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

WEEKLY UNIT COUNT				YEAR-TO-DATE			YEAR-OVER-YEAR		
	ALBUM CONSUMPTION	AUDIO ON-DEMAND	VIDEO ON-DEMAND	2018	2019	CHANGE			
This Week	1,026,000	1,011,838,000	265,176,000	Album Consumption	34,673,000	36,652,000	5.7%	ALBUM CONSUMPTION	
Last Week	1,021,000	1,031,146,000	260,714,000	Album Sales	9,796,000	6,910,000	-29.5%	'18	36.67 million
Change	0.5%	-1.9%	1.7%	Audio On-Demand	28,855,668,000	36,303,968,000	25.8%	'19	36.65 million
This Week Last Year	904,000	815,612,000	200,087,000	Video On-Demand	7,375,712,000	9,506,289,000	28.9%	TOTAL ON-DEMAND STREAMS	
Change	13.5%	24.1%	32.5%					'18	36.23 billion
								'19	48.81 billion

All data measures U.S. activity as of the week ending September 12, 2019. All units counts are rounded to the nearest thousand. Album consumption units — also known as albums plus TEA plus SEA — consists of album sales; track-equivalent album (TEA) sales whereby 10 tracks equal one consumption unit; and stream equivalent albums (SEA) whereby 1,250 paid and/or 3,750 ad-supported audio on-demand streams (OAD) equal one consumption unit.

nielsen MUSIC

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

billboard TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

SALES, DATA
COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	NEW	1	1	THE HIGHWOMEN LOW COUNTRY SOUND/ELEKTRA 86174/EMG	THE HIGHWOMEN		1
2	1	2	119	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN	THIS ONE'S FOR YOU	2	1
3	3	3	64	DAN + SHAY WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 570796/WMN	DAN + SHAY	●	1
4	NEW	1	1	HOME FREE HOME FREE 1008* (1009)	DIVE BAR SAINTS		4
5	4	4	67	MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD DIGITAL EX	IF I KNOW ME		3
6	7	6	14	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 595688 EX/SMN	THE PREQUEL (EP)		1
7	6	5	228	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
8	8	7	74	JASON ALDEAN MACON/BROKEN BOW/BMG 538375642*/BBMG (538375730)	REARVIEW TOWN	●	1
9	2	—	2	SHERYL CROW VALORY SHC100A*/BMLG	THREADS		2
10	9	11	44	KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE/SMN	EXPERIMENT		1
11	10	10	15	THOMAS RHETT VALORY TR0400A*/BMLG	CENTER POINT ROAD		1
12	12	12	27	MAREN MORRIS COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 590186*/SMN	GIRL		1
13	13	15	145	KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE 530947*/SMN	KANE BROWN	■	1
14	11	13	216	ZAC BROWN BAND ROAR/SOUTHERN GROUND/ATLANTIC 546369/AG	GREATEST HITS SO FAR...		3
15	20	18	52	CARRIE UNDERWOOD CAPITOL NASHVILLE 028557*/UMGN	CRY PRETTY	●	1
16	14	14	30	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE BMLG FGL0400*	CAN'T SAY I AIN'T COUNTRY		1
17	18	16	71	KACEY MUSGRAVES MCA NASHVILLE 027921*/UMGN	GOLDEN HOUR	●	1
18	16	17	169	JON PARDI CAPITOL NASHVILLE 024744*/UMGN	CALIFORNIA SUNRISE	■	1
19	19	19	105	THOMAS RHETT VALORY TR0300A*/BMLG	LIFE CHANGES	■	1
20	21	23	188	TIM MCGRAW CURB 79205 (13.98)	NUMBER ONE HITS	■	6
21	22	21	203	BLAKE SHELTON WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 551788/WMN	RELOADED: 20 #1 HITS		2
22	23	22	193	GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 000459/UMGN (25.98)	50 NUMBER ONES	7	1
23	24	24	135	BRETT YOUNG BMLG BY0100A*	BRETT YOUNG	■	2
24	15	1	3	MIDLAND BIG MACHINE ML0200A*/BMLG	LET IT ROLL		1
25	25	20	197	TAYLOR SWIFT BIG MACHINE 310400A*/BMLG (18.98)	RED	7	1

Top Country Albums ranks the most popular country albums of the week, as compiled by Nielsen Music, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional album sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2019, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

billboard AMERICANA/
FOLK ALBUMS

SALES DATA
COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	NEW	1	1	THE HIGHWOMEN LOW COUNTRY SOUND/ELEKTRA 86174/EMG	THE HIGHWOMEN		1
2	3	1	174	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
3	1	—	2	SHERYL CROW VALORY SHC100A*/BMLG	THREADS		1
4	4	4	76	KACEY MUSGRAVES MCA NASHVILLE 027921*/UMGN	GOLDEN HOUR	●	1
5	2	11	5	BON IVER JAG JAGUWAR 350* (350)	I, I		1
6	5	5	137	SIMON & GARFUNKEL COLUMBIA 31350/LEGACY	SIMON AND GARFUNKEL'S GREATEST HITS		3
7	6	7	220	HOZIER RUBYWORKS 309996*/COLUMBIA	HOZIER	2	1
8	11	12	136	JOHN MAYER AWARE/COLUMBIA 27976*/LEGACY (18.98)	CONTINUUM	4	6
9	14	14	104	JAMES TAYLOR WARNER BROS. 78094/RHINO (11.98)	GREATEST HITS		8
10	10	8	179	THE LUMINEERS DUALTONE 1738*	CLEOPATRA	■	1

Americana/Folk Albums ranks the most popular Americana/folk albums of the week, as compiled by Nielsen Music, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional album sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2019, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

billboard COUNTRY
STREAMING SONGS


THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	14	THE GIT UP BLANCO BROWN		1
2	2	10	ONE THING RIGHT MARSHMELLO & KANE BROWN		1
3	5	16	KNOCKIN' BOOTS LUKE BRYAN		1
4	3	18	BEER NEVER BROKE MY HEART LUKE COMBS		1
5	6	60	SPEECHLESS DAN + SHAY		1
6	8	30	WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN		1
7	9	71	BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKE COMBS		1
8	4	23	GOD'S COUNTRY BLAKE SHELTON		1
9	7	127	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON		1
10	10	94	MEANT TO BE BEBE REXHA & FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE		1
11	11	19	ALL TO MYSELF DAN + SHAY		1
12	19	85	YOU MAKE IT EASY JASON ALDEAN		1
13	12	30	RUMOR LEE BRICE		1
14	13	97	HEAVEN KANE BROWN		1
15	20	3	ONE MAN BAND OLD DOMINION		1
16	18	7	I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU CHRIS LANE		1
17	17	4	HEARTLESS DIPLO PRESENTS THOMAS WESLEY FEATURING MORGAN WALLEN		1
18	14	10	REARVIEW TOWN JASON ALDEAN		1
19	16	81	TEQUILA DAN + SHAY		1
20	NEW		HOMECOMING QUEEN? KELSEA BALLERINI		1
21	21	11	THE BONES MAREN MORRIS		1
22	22	57	SHE GOT THE BEST OF ME LUKE COMBS		1
23	24	30	GOOD AS YOU KANE BROWN		1
24	RE-ENTRY		EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING LUKE COMBS		1
25	23	150	HURRICANE LUKE COMBS		1

The week's top-streamed and top-selling paid download country songs, respectively, from sales reports collected and provided by Nielsen Music. Charts update weekly on Tuesdays at www.Billboard.Biz/charts. Copyright 2019, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

billboard COUNTRY
DIGITAL SONG SALES

STREAMING & SALES
DATA COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	15	THE GIT UP BLANCO BROWN		1
2	NEW		HOMECOMING QUEEN? KELSEA BALLERINI		1
3	2	10	ONE THING RIGHT MARSHMELLO & KANE BROWN		1
4	NEW		THE FATHER, MY SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST CRAIG MORGAN		1
5	6	24	KNOCKIN' BOOTS LUKE BRYAN		1
6	9	9	EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING LUKE COMBS		1
7	3	19	BEER NEVER BROKE MY HEART LUKE COMBS		1
8	4	24	GOD'S COUNTRY BLAKE SHELTON		1
9	7	13	ONE MAN BAND OLD DOMINION		1
10	5	5	PRAYED FOR YOU MATT STELL		1
11	13	4	HELL RIGHT BLAKE SHELTON FEATURING TRACE ADKINS		1
12	NEW		WE BACK JASON ALDEAN		1
13	10	11	I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU CHRIS LANE		1
14	8	64	SPEECHLESS DAN + SHAY		1
15	16	6	I WISH GRANDPAS NEVER DIED RILEY GREEN		1
16	12	39	RUMOR LEE BRICE		1
17	15	9	TIP OF MY TONGUE KENNY CHESNEY		1
18	NEW		PRETTY BITCHIN' MIRANDA LAMBERT		1
19	14	191	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON		1
20	11	42	WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN		1
21	RE-ENTRY		WHERE WERE YOU (WHEN THE WORLD STOPPED TURNING) ALAN JACKSON		1
22	20	4	THE BONES MAREN MORRIS		1
23	NEW		FIRE'UP BRANTLEY GILBERT		1
24	24	11	WHAT IF I NEVER GET OVER YOU LADY ANTEBELLUM		1
25	18	8	LIVING DIERKS BENTLEY		1



2

KELSEA BALLERINI
homecoming queen?

The ballad arrives at No. 2 on Country Digital Song Sales with 14,000 downloads sold in its first full week. **Ballerini** banks her highest start and eighth top 10. On Hot Country Songs, it enters at No. 15, also a career-best bow.

JASON KEMPIN/GETTY IMAGES

MAKIN' TRACKS TOM ROLAND tom.roland@billboard.com

Luke Combs Gets A Rite Of Passage Right With 'Even Though I'm Leaving'

It's an odd reality that when people hear **Luke Combs'** "Even Though I'm Leaving," many will be in tears, and yet some of them will want to hear it again.

The three-verse plot is a classic sort of country story song, representing the arc of a father-son relationship from the boy's childhood to the dad's passing, with the son at his father's side as the old man takes his final breaths. It captures both the sad facts of mortality and the quiet joy of knowing that your mentor was someone who deserves both your love and respect.

"It's almost like a cathartic kind of thing," says Combs of the emotions the song triggers. "It can have a weirdly positive result."

In that way, "Even Though I'm Leaving" fits from the outset alongside some of country's most touching father-son soliloquies, including **Conway Twitty's** "That's My Job," **George Strait's** "Love Without End, Amen," **Paul Overstreet's** "Seein' My Father in Me" and **Zac Brown Band's** "My Old Man." It captures the cloud of love, grief, separation and influence that continues to bond a man to his departed dad, which is remarkable since none of the song's three writers have yet experienced that sad rite of passage.

"We were all getting choked up, and it was weird because all of our fathers are still alive and we hardly knew each other," says **Wyatt Durette** ("Highway 20 Ride," "Chicken Fried"). "But that's one of the magical things about songwriting. If you're with the right people and you trust each other, crazy, magic things can happen."

Combs and Durette met up on Feb. 25, 2016, with singer-songwriter **Ray Fulcher** ("When It Rains It Pours") at a writers' room attached to the studio at **Zac Brown's** Southern Ground. Durette was the established pro that day — neither Combs nor Fulcher had a recording deal or a publishing contract at the time — and Durette's desire to write about his son set the tone for the session.

Spurred by a conversation with a friend who had buried a parent, Durette started talking about the hard truths of one generation leaving the next behind. When Combs located a title he already had logged in his phone ("Even Though I'm Leaving"), the song began to take shape. They started at the top with the phrase "Daddy, I'm afraid," setting up a verse about a little boy who's convinced monsters will emerge from the shadows after his father shuts out the lights. They matched it to a restrained melody and a chord progression that was intentionally unremarkable, keeping the focus on the words and leaving room for the chorus to grow.

"I wanted it to kind of have that contrast a bit where it was softer and more lyric-driven in the verses," explains Combs. "Then the chorus could still be this big singalong thing, but having it in that kind of upper register and giving it a little bit of the raspiness that people have become accustomed to with my stuff."

Dad holds the boy's hand at the end of that first verse and reassures him in the chorus when he's left alone: "Just 'cause I'm leaving it don't mean that/I won't be right by your side."

That sets up the final verse, the surreal moments when Dad transitions to the other side. "Daddy, I'm afraid," the now-grown son says to his aging father. Again, Dad offers his hand and some words of comfort: "Just 'cause I'm leaving it don't mean that/I won't be right by your side."

The middle verse proved to be the trickiest part. They needed another major point of separation and eventually decided on a son preparing to head into the service. It twists a bit as he does his best to act adult — "Daddy, I'm afraid" becomes "Dad, we'll be late." And the father is now just as fearful as the boy,

realizing there's no guarantee he'll see his son alive again. Instead of holding his boy's hand, Dad hugs his neck, and "Even though I'm leavin'" becomes "Even though you're leavin'."

The changes are so natural they're not likely to be noticed until listeners try to learn the words verbatim.

"Whether it was by fate or luck or whatever, that second chorus worked to where you could say all the same things, and you would just invert it a little bit," says Fulcher.

Still, that second verse was stressful because it required sensitivity. Just as none of the writers had ever lost their dad, none of them had ever joined the military either. They certainly did not want to disrespect that career.

"We got hung up a bit on 'How do we make this still have like a powerful thing, but not be too cheesy or corny?'" recalls Combs. "We were like, 'Man, how do we say this and say it right without necessarily having experienced that ourselves?' We wanted it to feel genuine."

They knew they had succeeded at the end of the day. They recorded a simple guitar/vocal tape, and even after they had labored for hours on a project about experiences they had never had, "Even Though I'm Leaving" made them all emotional.

"That was the only time in my whole writing career where there was definitely some misty eyes in the room," remembers Fulcher.

"Right at the end of the work tape," adds Durette, "Luke finishes singing, and then like two seconds after it, you hear him go, 'Man, that's hard to get through.'"

Combs was well down the road on what would become his debut album, *This One's for You*, so he held back "Even Though I'm Leaving" for nearly two years before he recorded it in January 2018. Producer **Scott Moffatt** assembled a fairly spare studio band, picking the pace up just a hair from the demo's speed and overdubbing an angelic mandolin later that aids the song's fragility and provides some movement at the same time. Razor-like guitar effects built tension underneath, and Moffatt added all the backing vocals on his own.

Combs tagged the final phrase one last time at the end of the last chorus, emphasizing the father's final words: "I ain't goin' nowhere." It was a nuance he had added to the song after a handful of public and private performances.

"It just kind of felt like it buttoned it up a little bit," he says.

Combs, Fulcher and Durette waited more than three-and-a-half years after the date of creation to finally see "Even Though I'm Leaving" become a single. It debuted at No. 12 on the Hot Country Songs chart dated June 22 after River House/Columbia Nashville issued his EP *The Prequel*. The label officially sent the song to terrestrial radio on Aug. 26 via PlayMPE, though it already had earned a fair amount of exposure; it jumps to No. 21 on Country Airplay in its sixth charted week.

"I'm really excited for the world to hear it," says Fulcher. "The reason I got into songwriting was to write songs like this that are going to affect people, that are going to stir up memories in a good way and are going to bring some healing."

Thus, it's a good sign that the near-tears the writers experienced when they wrote "Even Though I'm Leaving" are being reproduced among listeners as they connect with a song that continues the evolution of Combs' creative persona.

"The mandolin to me was a huge win from a production standpoint," he says. "It's kind of unlike anything that we've put out so far and definitely unlike anything we've released to radio. I just hope that it hits people the right way." ●



billboard Country Indicator

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	PLAYS		AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK
1	2	29	LIVING Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	5378	+221	8.234
2	3	21	SOUTHBOUND Capitol Nashville	Carrie Underwood	4876	+95	7.297
3	6	35	I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Big Loud	Chris Lane	4666	+551	7.316
4	5	42	BUY MY OWN DRINKS Wheelhouse	Runaway June	4415	+60	6.730
5	1	25	KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	4391	-840	7.313
6	7	36	LOVE YOU TOO LATE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	4245	+282	6.336
7	9	27	GOOD VIBES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	3909	+343	6.046
8	4	40	THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME Valory	Justin Moore	3844	-751	6.790
9	8	18	WE WERE Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	3770	+33	5.552
10	10	37	WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN Valory	Brantley Gilbert & Lindsay Ell	3419	+89	5.037
11	13	22	PRAYED FOR YOU RECORDS/Arista Nashville	Matt Stell	3376	+375	5.122
12	11	18	WHAT IF I NEVER GET OVER YOU BMLG	Lady Antebellum	3363	+228	4.847
13	12	10	TIP OF MY TONGUE Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Kenny Chesney	3179	+74	4.664
14	14	34	EVERY LITTLE THING Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	3038	+285	4.598
15	15	10	REMEMBER YOU YOUNG Valory	Thomas Rhett	2933	+191	4.317
16	16	9	IT ALL COMES OUT IN THE WASH Vanner/RCA Nashville	Miranda Lambert	2753	+129	4.003
17	17	13	DIVE BAR Pearl	Garth Brooks Feat. Blake Shelton	2493	+32	3.467
18	20	14	ONE MAN BAND RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	2175	+254	2.950
19	19	5	HELL RIGHT Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Feat. Trace Adkins	2045	+120	3.092
20	18	23	MR. LONELY Big Machine	Midland	2030	+46	2.620
21	22	16	HEARTACHE MEDICATION Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	1932	+156	2.388
22	25	3	EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	1813	+681	2.473
23	23	20	SLOW DANCE IN A PARKING LOT MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	1448	+115	1.677
24	27	5	I WISH GRANDPAS NEVER DIED BMLG	Riley Green	1222	+179	1.753
25	24	24	MAKE ME WANT TO Stoney Creek	Jimmie Allen	1222	+80	1.543
26	26	15	EVERY GIRL IN THIS TOWN Gwendolyn/Pearl	Trisha Yearwood	1173	+63	1.558
27	28	7	HOMESICK Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	1136	+89	1.501
28	29	15	CATCH BMLG	Brett Young	1076	+34	1.101
29	31	24	RIDIN' ROADS Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	1070	+157	1.398
30	30	30	AFTER A FEW Mercury	Travis Denning	1003	+49	1.032

BILLBOARD COUNTRY INDICATOR PANEL — 109 STATIONS

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

billboard Country Indicator

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	PLAYS		AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK
31	32	27	SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW ZB Collective/BMG/Wheelhouse	Zac Brown Band	948	+68	1.495
32	35	17	FAMILY TREE Capitol Nashville	Caylee Hammack	760	+72	0.841
33	48	2	HOMECOMING QUEEN? Black River ★★ Most Added ★★	Kelsea Ballerini	748	+405	0.986
34	33	15	HOMEMADE Big Loud	Jake Owen	736	-28	0.840
35	34	8	NOTHIN' ON YOU CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	732	+26	0.962
36	37	4	MORE HEARTS THAN MINE Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Ingrid Andress	666	+166	0.907
37	36	14	LET'S MAKE A LOVE SONG Almost Country	Casey Donahew	629	+29	0.729
38	45	2	MONSTERS EMI Nashville	Eric Church	590	+176	0.791
39	NEW		WE BACK Macon/Broken Bow ★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★	Jason Aldean	549	+477	0.751
40	38	12	SUNSHINE Southern Halo	Southern Halo	487	+10	0.608
41	40	11	IN AMERICA Dylan Jakobsen/IAE	Dylan Jakobsen	472	+17	0.570
42	39	13	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Mercury Nashville	Maddie & Tae	472	+4	0.556
43	41	6	DETAILS Mercury	Billy Currington	463	+14	0.600
44	44	19	IN BETWEEN Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	452	+35	0.486
45	43	7	CHASIN' YOU Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	428	+8	0.510
46	42	15	THAT'S COUNTRY BRO Show Dog Nashville	Toby Keith	416	-6	0.517
47	47	6	MADE IN AMERICA Lawrence	Tracy Lawrence	371	+18	0.431
48	54	3	THE BONES Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	369	+92	0.426
49	46	15	GOOD LORD Black River	Abby Anderson	367	+6	0.429
50	50	8	TO BE WITH YOU Dream Walkin'	Smith & Wesley	336	+17	0.389
51	53	2	ONE BIG COUNTRY SONG Wheelhouse	LOCASH	308	+17	0.214
52	51	9	TO AT RCA Nashville	Ryan Hurd	293	-23	0.208
53	56	4	COUNTRY ROAD DDS Entertainment	Tony Jackson	281	+21	0.349
54	58	2	APRIL MAY Bison Creek	James Robert Webb	278	+28	0.319
55	57	4	A LITTLE LESS LONELY Dreamlined/Nightlife	Marty Heddin	272	+15	0.386
56	NEW		ANOTHER LOVE SONG Magnolia	James Dupre	257	+55	0.346
57	59	7	BACKYARD Studio2Bee/Star Farm Nashville	Chance McKinney	253	+17	0.291
58	NEW		HER WORLD OR MINE Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Michael Ray	249	+17	0.230
59	60	3	SMOKY MOUNTAIN RAIN G-Force/Riser House	Ronnie Milsap Feat. Dolly Parton	242	+1	0.304
60	NEW		BACK AGAIN Mac Powell/Thirty Tigers	Mac Powell & The Family Reunion	241	+31	0.287

CHARTS LEGEND

RANKINGS

Country Airplay is ranked by total audience impressions for the week ending Sunday based on monitored airplay of 149 stations by Nielsen BDS. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Arbitron Inc. copyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2019, Arbitron Inc.) Country Indicator is tabulated using reported playlists and Nielsen BDS-monitored airplay at 109 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

AFTER A FEW I'm About To Go RED On Ya Music, BMI/Travis Jennings Music, BMI/ole, BMI/Crack The Glass Songs, BMI/Stars And Stripes And Maple Leaf Music, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI/Sound Wagon Songs, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Music Of The Corn, ASCAP (T.Denning, K.Archer, J.Weaver) **37**

B

BEER NEVER BROKE MY HEART Big Machine Music, ASCAP/50 Egg Music, BMI/Straight Dimes Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sullivan S Guns Music, BMI/Super Big Music, ASCAP/Jett Music, ASCAP (L.Combs, R.Montana, J.Singleton) **5**

THE BONES International Dog Music, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI/Jammy Robbins Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs Jimmy Robbins, ASCAP/Extraordinary Allen Publishing, ASCAP/Oh Denise Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI (M.Morris, J.Robbins, L.Velitz) **39**

BUY MY OWN DRINKS BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/BMG Silver Songs, SESAC/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Rezonate Music, ASCAP/BBB Music, ASCAP/Champagne Whiskey Publishing, ASCAP/Downtown DJ's Songs, ASCAP/Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/Music Of Platinum Pen, SESAC/Wild Wild West Songs, SESAC/Thunder Cookie, SESAC/Magic Mustang Music, Inc., BMI/Songwriters of Platinum Pen Publishing, BMI/Hannah Muliholland Music, BMI (H.Muliholland, J.Wayne, N.Cooke, H.Lindsey, J.Kear) **8**

C

CATCH Super Big Music, ASCAP/Caliville Publishing, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Plain Jane Songs, BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (B.Young, R.Copperman, A.Gorley) **34**

CHASIN' ME True To The Song, BMI (C.D.Jones) **55**

CHASIN' YOU BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Team Destiny, ASCAP/JMZ Music, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud, BMI/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/Red Toe Rocker, ASCAP (J.Moore, M.Wallen, C.Wiseman) **48**

D

DETAILS WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Future Heartbeat Publishing, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/A Boy Named Ford, BMI/Slo Circus Music, ASCAP/Roc Nation Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Rhythm House Red, ASCAP (M.Trussell, N.Galyon, S.L.Olsen) **52**

DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Super Big Music, ASCAP/Seven Red Birds Publishing, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Jehovah Nissi, BMI/Jett Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/Doc And Maggie Music, SOCAN (M.Marlow, T.Dye, J.Singleton, D.Ruttan) **49**

DIVE BAR Rezemblance Music, BMI/Songs Of Reebits, BMI/Roy Rivers Publishing, BMI/Cowboy Hat Trick, ASCAP/Major Bob Music, Inc., ASCAP/No Fences Music, ASCAP (M.Rossell, B.Kennedy, T.G.Brooks) **19**

DON'T LET HER Spark In Your Pocket, BMI/Songs Of Smack, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/DJCM Ave, ASCAP/Songs In The Key Of Claire, ASCAP/Patriot Games Publishing, ASCAP/Smack Hits, GMR/Kobalt Music Group Ltd., GMR (W.Hayes, A.DeKoberts, S.McAnally) **37**

E

EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING Big Music Machine, BMI/50 Egg Music, BMI/Straight Dimes Publishing, BMI/Big Machine Music, ASCAP/Island South, SESAC/Rosset Music, SESAC/Larkin Hill Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/We're For RHA Music, BMI (L.Combs, W.B.Durrette, R.Fulcher) **21**

EVERY GIRL IN THIS TOWN Goes Something Like This Music, BMI/Songs Of The Corn, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Make It Better Music, BMI (C.Smith, Erik Dylan, C.Harrington) **31**

EVERY LITTLE THING BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/Kaley's Dream, BMI/So Essential, Tunes, SESAC/Not Just Another Song Publishing, SESAC/HillBilly Science And Research Publishing, SESAC/TrailerLife Music, SESAC (R.Dickerson, P.Welling, C.Brown) **12**

F

FAMILY TREE Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Sounds Like Chet Publishing, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Low Z Music, BMI/1217 Songs, ASCAP/Still Working For The Woman, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (C.Hammack, T.Verges, G.Sampson) **40**

G

THE GIT UP Blanco Theory, SESAC (B.A.III) **46**

GOOD VIBES ole Red Vinyl Music, BMI/Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/Miller Crow Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP (C.Janson, Z.Crowell, A.Gorley) **10**

H

HEARTACHE MEDICATION Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Cowboy And Gals Publishing, BMI/Happy Song Factory, BMI/Pulse Nation, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI/Songs Of MVZ, BMI (J.Fardi, Bary Dean, N.Hemby) **22**

HELL RIGHT Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/TheKidz Music, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sonofgroceries Music, BMI/Extremely Combustible Music, BMI/Music Of One7, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Relative Music Group, BMI (D.A.Garcia, B.Tyler, M.W.Hardy) **28**

HER WORLD OR MINE Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/I'm About To Go RED On Ya Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/Music Of Big Deal, BMI/Stalefish Music, BMI (J.Paulin, T.Denning, B.Beavers) **44**

HOMECOMING QUEEN? Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/RMB, ASCAP/Muse Magic, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/A Boy Named Ford, BMI (K.Ballerni, J.Robbins, N.Galyon) **36**

HOMEMADE BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Songs Of Big Deal, ASCAP/Go For The Goldsmith, ASCAP/Mullins It Over Music, BMI/Tree Vibe Music, LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Works Of RHA Music, BMI/Oak Tree Swing Publishing, BMI/New Writers Of Sea Gayle Music, BMI/Not A Truck guy Music, BMI (G.Goldsmith, J.Mullins, D.Parker, B.Pinson) **41**

HOMESICK Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Don't Be A Gypsy, BMI/Smackworks Music, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/Smack Blue, LLC, SESAC/TDP Publishing, BMI (K.Brown, B.Berryhill, M.J.McGinn, T.Phillips) **29**

I

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/Relative Music Group, BMI/One77 Songs, ASCAP/Highly Combustible Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (A.Gorley, M.W.Hardy, H.Phelps, J.Rodgers) **3**

I HOPE Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Revinyl House, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP/Gabby Barrett Publishing Designee, BMI (Z.Kale, J.M.Nite, G.Barrett) **54**

IN BETWEEN Dagum Music, BMI/Austintatious, Tunes, BMI/Spirit (catalogue Holdings, S.A.R.L./Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP/Party Of Five Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Super Big Music, ASCAP/Jett Music, ASCAP (S.McCreery, F.Rogers, J.L.Alexander, J.Singleton) **45**

IT ALL COMES OUT IN THE WASH Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Pink Dog Publishing, BMI/BBB Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Maps And Records Music, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI/Songs Of Crazy Girl Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (M.Lambert, H.Lindsey, L.Mckenna, L.Rose) **17**

I WISH GRANDPAS NEVER DIED Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Riley Green Publishing Designee, BMI (R.Green, L.Bonds, G.Green) **35**

K

KNOCKIN' BOOTS BBB Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Still Working For The Woman, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP (H.Lindsey, G.Sampson, J.M.Nite) **1**

L

LIVING EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Plain Jane Songs, BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Blue Tunes, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (R.Copperman, J.M.Nite, A.Gorley, D.Bentley) **2**

LOVELY IF YOU ARE Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Dark Janiels Publishing, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Koala T Tunes, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (C.Rice, L.Rimes, H.Phelps) **47**

LOVE YOU TOO LATE Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Colden Rainey Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/243 Music, ASCAP/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Whiskey Tub Music, BMI (C.Swindell, M.R.Carter, B.Kinney) **7**

M

MAKE ME WANT TO Red Lining Music, SESAC/Sony/ATV Lakeview, SESAC/Amplified Hour Songs, SESAC/Pedal Down Music, ASCAP/Sounds Of Soperman Music Publishing, ASCAP/Curb Songs, ASCAP/Dreamark Publishing, ASCAP (J.Allen, P.Sikes, J.Denmark) **24**

MONSTERS Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Longer And Louder Music, BMI/Mammaw's Fried Okra Music, BMI/Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (E.Church, J.Hyde) **53**

MORE HEARTS THAN MINE Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Straight From The Art Music, BMI/Songs For A Stone Heat, BMI/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Happy Rock Publishing, ASCAP (L.Andress, S.Ellis, D.Southernland) **27**

MR. LONELY WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Tip Top Music, ASCAP/Tropical Cowboy Publishing, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Kitt Cass Publishing Corporation, BMI/Smack Hits, GMR/Smack Songs LLC, GMR/Kobalt Music Group Ltd., GMR/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (J.Garson, C.Duddy, M.Wystrach, S.McAnally, J.Osborne) **26**

N

NO STONE UNTURNED EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Little Britches Music, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Natalia's Music Money, BMI (R.Houser, D.Davidson) **59**

NOTHING TO DO TOWN Curb Songs, ASCAP/Curb Congregation Songs, SESAC/Music Good Vibes Publishing, BMI/Good Times Music, SESAC/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/No Bridge Publishing, ASCAP (D.Scott, M.Alderman, C.Taylor) **38**

NOTHIN' ON YOU Gray Dog Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Whiskey Holler Music, ASCAP (B.Baber, T.W.Wilmon) **56**

O

ONE BIG COUNTRY SONG Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Telemetry Rhythm House Music, BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (J.Frasure, A.Gorley, M.W.Hardy) **42**

ONE MAN BAND WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Rezsongs, ASCAP/ReeHits World, ASCAP/Smacktown Music, ASCAP/Smack Blue, LLC, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Unfair Entertainment, ASCAP/Megusta Music, ASCAP/We're Really Doin' It Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP (M.Ramsey, T.Rosen, B.Tursi, J.Osborne) **18**

THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME Big Music Machine, BMI/Double Barrel Ace Music, BMI/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Paulynwood Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Plum Nelly, BMI/Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Real Big Red Tunes, ASCAP (J.Moore, P.D.Giovanni, C.McGill, J.S.Stover) **4**

P

PRAYED FOR YOU Pedal Down Music, ASCAP/Big Spaces Music, BMI/Tunes Of Big Deal Music, SESAC/Songs Of Portertied Music, SESAC/Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP (M.Stell, A.Bowers, A.Cruz) **9**

R

REMEMBER YOU YOUNG EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Cricket On The Line, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Telemetry Rhythm House Music, BMI/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP (Thomas Rhet, J.Frasure, A.Gorley) **16**

RIDIN' ROADS Magic Mustang Music Inc., BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/Miller Crow Music, ASCAP/Kyler's Kinda Night, ASCAP (D.Lynch, A.Gorley, Z.Crowell) **23**

S

SHE'S MINE Music Of Stage Three, BMI/Songs Of Corman, BMI/BMG Platinum songs, BMI/Songs From The Couch, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (K.Moore, D.Couch, S.Stepakoff) **60**

SLOW DANCE IN A PARKING LOT Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Jordan Davis Music, ASCAP/Amitylase Songs 'N' Such, ASCAP/Matching Cowlicks Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (J.Davis, L.L.Fowler) **32**

SLOWER Cry Angel Songs, BMI/Anything But Typical Music, BMI/Memory Days, SESAC/Son Of Austin Songs, ASCAP/Curb Wordspring Music, SESAC/Word Music, LLC, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC (T.Filmore, S.D.Jones, J.Edach) **51**

SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW Weimerhound Music, BMI/Day For The Dead Publishing, SESAC/Reach Music Tunes, SESAC/Andrew Watt Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Siva Moon Publishing, SESAC/W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Simonetti Music Publishing, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Mendes Music, BMI (Z.A.Brown, A.Woman, N.Moon, B.Simonetti, S.Hennessy) **30**

SOUTHBOUND Carrie-Okie Music, BMI/Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing, ASCAP/D Soul Music, ASCAP/Capitol CMG Genesis, ASCAP/Jack To Publishing, BMI/Songs Of The Corn, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (C.Underwood, D.A.Garcia, J.Miller) **6**

T

THANK GOD FOR YOU Mighty Jon 007 Music, BMI/Spark Lark Music, BMI/Rare Spark Media Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Ole Songs Of Parallel, ASCAP/Year Of The Dog Music, ASCAP/Downtown DJ's Songs, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI (B.Chaffin, J.McElroy, L.Mize, R.Montana) **58**

THOUGHT ABOUT YOU Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/The Country And Western Music, BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI/Big Loud Proud Crowd, BMI/Big Loud Brad Music, BMI/Big Loud Brett Songs, BMI (T.Miller, B.Warren, B.D.Warren) **20**

TIP OF MY TONGUE Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music, BMI/Basurare Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs LLC, BMI/Sony/ATV Music Publishing UK Ltd, PRS/Ed Sheeran Limited, PRS (K.Chesney, R.Copperman, E.C.Sheeran) **14**

TO A T Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Lake Allegan Pub Club, ASCAP/Red Like The Sunset Music, ASCAP/Spicer And Everything Nicer, ASCAP/Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Never Veltz So Good Publishing, BMI (R.J.Hurd, N.Spicer, L.Velitz) **33**

W

WE BACK Songs Of TriScore, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Loyal Feather Music, BMI/Chiffrobee Songs, BMI/Free Dive Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI/Hubb Publishing, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Georgia Song VibeZ, ASCAP/We-Volve Music, ASCAP (B.D.Warren, B.Warren, T.Hubbard, J.M.Schmitt) **25**

WE WERE Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Longer And Louder Music, BMI/Mammaw's Fried Okra Music, BMI/Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Harolds Purple Heart Music, BMI (E.Church, J.Hyde, R.Tyndell) **13**

WHAT COULD'VE BEEN Maliburrito Music, BMI/Elehal Music, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/MRMD Music, BMI/Songs From Outer Space Music, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Carver Music, ASCAP (C.Cailat, J.K.Young, J.Reeves, D.J.Reeves) **45**

WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Indiana Angel Music, BMI/Ritten by Rhettro, BMI/Don't Be A Gypsy, BMI/Revery Music, BMI/Badlandsrmtg, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (B.Gilbert, R.Akins, B.Berryhill, J.Dunne) **11**

WHAT IF I NEVER GET OVER YOU Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Happy Rock Publishing, ASCAP/Dalmatian Music, PRS/Universal-Polygram Int'l. Tunes, Inc., SESAC/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/hurdantz, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Never Veltz So Good Publishing, BMI (S.Ellis, J.Green, R.J.Hurd, L.Velitz) **15**

WORLD FOR TWO EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Plain Jane Songs, BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/Anderson Fork In The Road Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Lets Get Brunch Publishing, BMI/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI (R.Copperman, J.Osborne, J.Abraham) **50**

billboard Hot Country Songs Index

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

A

ALL TO MYSELF Beats And Banjos, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Shay Mooney Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/A Girl Named Charlie, BMI/Buckeye26, ASCAP/Ireynmusic, ASCAP (D.Smyers, S.Mooney, N.Galyon, J.Reynolds) **10**

B

BEER NEVER BROKE MY HEART Big Machine Music, ASCAP/50 Egg Music, BMI/Straight Dimes Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sullivan S Guns Music, BMI/Super Big Music, ASCAP/Jett Music, ASCAP (L.Combs, R.Montana, J.Singleton) **3**

THE BONES International Dog Music, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI/Jammy Robbins Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs Jimmy Robbins, ASCAP/Extraordinary Alien Publishing, ASCAP/Oh Denise Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI (M.Morris, J.Robbins, L.Veltz) **23**

BUY MY OWN DRINKS BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/BMG Silver Songs, SESAC/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Rezonate Music, ASCAP/BIRB Music, ASCAP/Champagne Whiskey Publishing, ASCAP/Downtown DJ Songs, ASCAP/Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/Music Of Platinum Pen, SESAC/Wild Wild West Songs, SESAC/Thunder Cookie, SESAC/Magic Mustang Music Inc., BMI/Songwriters of Platinum Pen Publishing, BMI/Hannah Mulholland Music, BMI (H.Mulholland, J.Wayne, N.Cooke, H.Lindsey, J.Kear) **17**

C

CATCH Super Big Music, ASCAP/Caliville Publishing, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Plain Jane Songs, BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (B.Young, R.Copperman, A.Gorley) **44**

CHASIN' YOU BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Team Destiny, ASCAP/JMZL Music, ASCAP/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/Red Toe Rocker, ASCAP (J.Moore, M.Wallen, C.Wiseman) **45**

D

DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Super Big Music, ASCAP/Seven Red Brides Publishing, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Jehovah Nissi, BMI/Jett Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/Doc And Maggie Music, SOCAN (M.Marlow, T.Dye, J.Singleton, D.Ruttan) **48**

DIVE BAR Rezemblance Music, BMI/Songs Of Reehits, BMI/Roy Rivers Publishing, BMI/Cowboy Hat Trick, ASCAP/Major Bob Music, Inc., ASCAP/No Fences Music, ASCAP (M.Rossell, B.Kennedy, T.G.Brooks) **29**

E

EVEN THOUGH I'M LEAVING Big Music Machine, BMI/50 Egg Music, BMI/Straight Dimes Publishing, BMI/Big Machine Music, ASCAP/Island South, SESAC/Rosest Music, SESAC/Larkin Hill Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Works For RHA Music, BMI (L.Combs, W.B.Durrette, R.Fulcher) **20**

EVERY LITTLE THING BMG Platinum Songs, BMI/Kailey's Dream, BMI/So Essential Tunes, SESAC/Not Just Another Song Publishing, SESAC/Hillbilly Science And Research Publishing, SESAC/Trailerilly Music, SESAC (R.Dickerson, P.Welling, C.Brown) **19**

F

FAMILY TREE Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Sounds Like Chet Publishing, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Low Z Music, BMI/1217 Songs, ASCAP/Still Working For The Woman, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (C.Hammack, T.Verges, G.Sampson) **47**

THE FATHER, MY SON, AND THE HOLY GHOST Not Listed (Not Listed) **49**

G

THE GIT UP Blanco Theory, SESAC (B.A.II) **1**

GOD'S COUNTRY Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Georgia Song VibeZ, ASCAP/We-Volve Music, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Neon Cross Music, BMI (M.W.Hardy, J.M.Schmidt, D.Dawson) **7**

GOOD VIBES Ole Red Vinyl Music, BMI/Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/Miller Crow Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP (C.Janson, Z.Crowell, A.Gorley) **16**

H

HEARTACHE MEDICATION Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Cowboy And Gas Publishing, BMI/Happy Song Factory, BMI/Pulse Nation, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI/Songs Of MVZ, BMI (J.Pardi, Bary Dean, N.Hemby) **30**

HEARTLESS I Like Turtles Music, ASCAP/KMR Music Royalties II SCSp, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Duke City Music, SESAC/KMR Music Royalties II SCSp., SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Tree VibeZ Music, LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI (T.Wentz, H.A.Allen, M.Wallen, E.K.Smith, R.J.Hurd, Charlie Handsome) **28**

HELL RIGHT Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/4TheKidz Music, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sonofgroceries Music, BMI/Extremely Combustible Music, BMI/Music Of One77, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Relative Music Group, BMI (D.A.Garcia, B.Tyler, M.W.Hardy) **26**

HOMECOMING QUEEN? Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/JRM3, ASCAP/Muse Magic, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/A Boy Named Ford, BMI (K.Ballerini, J.Robbins, N.Galyon) **15**

HOMESICK Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Don't Be A Gypsy, BMI/Smackworks Music, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/Smack Blue, LLC, SESAC/TDP Publishing, BMI (K.Brown, B.Berryhill, M.J.McGinn, T.Phillips) **32**

I

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/Relative Music Group, BMI/One77 Songs, ASCAP/Highly Combustible Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (A.Gorley, M.W.Hardy, H.Phelps, J.Rodgers) **5**

I HOPE Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Revinyl House, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP/Gabby Barrett Publishing Designee, BMI (Z.Kale, J.M.Nite, G.Barrett) **41**

IT ALL COMES OUT IN THE WASH Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Pink Dog Publishing, BMI/BIRB Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Maps And Records Music, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI/Songs Of Crazy Girl Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (M.Lambert, H.Lindsey, L.McKenna, L.Rose) **27**

I WISH GRANDPAS NEVER DIED Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Riley Green Publishing Designee, BMI (R.Green, L.Bonds, B.Green) **39**

K

KNOCKIN' BOOTS BIRB Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Still Working For The Woman, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP (H.Lindsey, G.Sampson, J.M.Nite) **2**

L

LIVING EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Plain Jane Songs, BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/DudeTunes, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (R.Copperman, J.M.Nite, A.Gorley, D.Bentley) **8**

LOVELY IF YOU ARE Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Dack Janiels Publishing, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Koala T Tunes, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (C.Rice, L.Rimes, H.Phelps) **46**

LOVE YOU TOO LATE Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Colden Rainey Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/243 Music, ASCAP/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Whiskey Tub Music, BMI (C.Swindell, M.R.Carter, B.Kinney) **13**

M

MAKE ME WANT TO Red Lining Music, SESAC/Sony/ATV Lakeview, SESAC/Amplified Hour Songs, SESAC/Pedal Down Music, ASCAP/Sounds Of Soperman Music Publishing, ASCAP/curb Songs, ASCAP/Dreamark Publishing, ASCAP (J.Allen, S.Pikes, J.Denmark) **35**

MORE HEARTS THAN MINE Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Straight From The Art Music, BMI/Songs For A Stone Heat, BMI/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Happy Rock Publishing, ASCAP (I.Andress, S.Ellis, D.Southerland) **34**

MR. LONELY WB Music Corp., ASCAP/TipTop Music, ASCAP/Tropical Cowboy Publishing, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Kitt Cass Publishing Corporation, BMI/Smack Hits, GMR/Smack Songs LLC, GMR/Kobalt Music Group Ltd., GMR/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (J.Carson, C.Duddy, M.Wystrach, S.McAnally, J.Osborne) **37**

O

ONE MAN BAND WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Rezsongs, ASCAP/Reehits World, ASCAP/Smacktown Music, ASCAP/Smack Blue, LLC, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Unfair Entertainment, ASCAP/Megusta Music, ASCAP/We're Really Doin' It Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP (M.Ramsey, T.Rosen, B.Tursi, J.Osborne) **14**

THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME Big Music Machine, BMI/Double Barrel Ace Music, BMI/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Paulylou Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Plum Nelly, BMI/Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Real Big Red Tunes, ASCAP (J.Moore, P.D.Giovanni, C.McGill, J.S.Stover) **9**

ONE THING RIGHT Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Marshmellow Music, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs For Owen Music, SESAC/Universal Tunes, SESAC/Smackworks Music, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC (Marshmello, K.Brown, J.Frasure, M.McGinn) **6**

P

PRAYED FOR YOU Pedal Down Music, ASCAP/Big Spaces Music, BMI/Tunes Of Big Deal Music, SESAC/Songs Of Porterfield Music, SESAC/Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP (M.Stell, A.Bowers, A.Cruz) **11**

R

REDESIGNING WOMEN Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Wrucke For You Publishing, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Ford Drives A Chevy, BMI/Shirt At Work, BMI (N.Hemby, R.Clawson) **50**

REMEMBER YOU YOUNG EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Crickett On The Line, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Telemity Rhythm House Music, BMI/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP (Thomas Rhett, J.Frasure, A.Gorley) **25**

RIDIN' ROADS Magic Mustang Music Inc., BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/Spirit Two Nashville, ASCAP/Miller Crow Music, ASCAP/Kyler's Kinda Night, ASCAP (D.Lynch, A.Gorley, Z.Crowell) **31**

S

SLOW DANCE IN A PARKING LOT Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Jordan Davis Music, ASCAP/Amylase Songs *N.Such, ASCAP/Matching Cowlicks Music, ASCAP/WB Music Corp., ASCAP (J.Davis, L.L.Fowler) **33**

SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW Weimerhound Music, BMI/Day For The Dead Publishing, SESAC/Reach Music Tunes, SESAC/Andrew Watt Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Siva Moon Publishing, SESAC/W.B.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Simonetti Music Publishing, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Mendes Music, BMI (Z.A.Brown, A.Wotman, N.Moon, B.Simonetti, S.Mendes) **42**

SOON YOU'LL GET BETTER Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Taylor Swift Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs LLC, BMI/Ducky Donath Music, BMI (T.Swift, J.M.Antonoff) **43**

SOUTHBOUND Carrie-Okie Music, BMI/Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing, ASCAP/D Soul Music, ASCAP/capitol CMG Genesis, ASCAP/Jack 10 Publishing, BMI/Songs Of The Corn, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (C.Underwood, D.A.Garcia, J.Miller) **12**

T

THOUGHT ABOUT YOU Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/The Country And Western Music, BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI/Big Loud Proud Crowd, BMI/Big Loud Brad Music, BMI/Big Loud Brett Songs, BMI (L.T.Miller, B.Warren, B.D.Warren) **36**

TIP OF MY TONGUE Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music, BMI/Basura Music, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Rezoland Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Songs LLC, BMI/Sony/ATV Music Publishing UK Ltd, PRS/Ed Sheeran Limited, PRS (K.Chesney, R.Copperman, E.C.Sheeran) **18**

TO A T Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Lake Allegan Pub Club, ASCAP/Red Like The Sunset Music, ASCAP/Spicer And Everything Nicer, ASCAP/Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Never Veltz So Good Publishing, BMI (R.J.Hurd, N.Spicer, L.Veltz) **38**

W

WE BACK Songs Of TriScore, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Loyal Feather Music, BMI/Chifforobe Songs, BMI/Free Dive Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI/T Hubb Publishing, BMI/WB Music Corp., ASCAP/Georgia Song VibeZ, ASCAP/We-Volve Music, ASCAP (B.D.Warren, B.Warren, T.Hubbard, J.M.Schmidt) **40**

WE WERE Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Longer And Louder Music, BMI/Mammaw's Fried Okra Music, BMI/Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Harolds Purple Heart Music, BMI (E.Church, J.Hyde, R.Tyndal) **22**

WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Indiana Angel Music, BMI/Ritten by Rhettro, BMI/Don't Be A Gypsy, BMI/Revelry Music, BMI/Badlandsmgmt, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (B.Gilbert, R.Akins, B.Berryhill, J.Dunne) **21**

WHAT IF I NEVER GET OVER YOU Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Happy Rock Publishing, ASCAP/Dalmation Music, PRS/Universal-PolyGram Int. Tunes, Inc., SESAC/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/hurd-jamz, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Never Veltz So Good Publishing, BMI (S.Ellis, J.Green, R.J.Hurd, L.Veltz) **24**

WHISKEY GLASSES Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Mr. Buck Lucky, BMI/Bump Into Genius Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Allegro, ASCAP/Over-Thought Under-Appreciated Songs, ASCAP/Rezen Music, ASCAP/Moving Targets In The Dark, ASCAP (B.Burgess, K.Kadish) **4**

COUNTRY

REWINDING
THE
COUNTRY
CHARTS

45 Years Ago Don Williams Hit No. 1 For The First Time

In 1974, "I Wouldn't Want to Live If You Didn't Love Me" became Williams' first of 17 Hot Country Songs leaders

On Sept. 21, 1974, **Don Williams'** "I Wouldn't Want to Live If You Didn't Love Me" rose 2-1 on *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart, marking the legend's first leader on the list.

Penned by **Al Turney**, "Wouldn't" brought Williams to the pinnacle in his seventh chart appearance. Long considered a staple at country radio, Williams collected 56 Hot Country Songs appearances between 1972 and 1992, including 17 No. 1s and 45 top 10s.

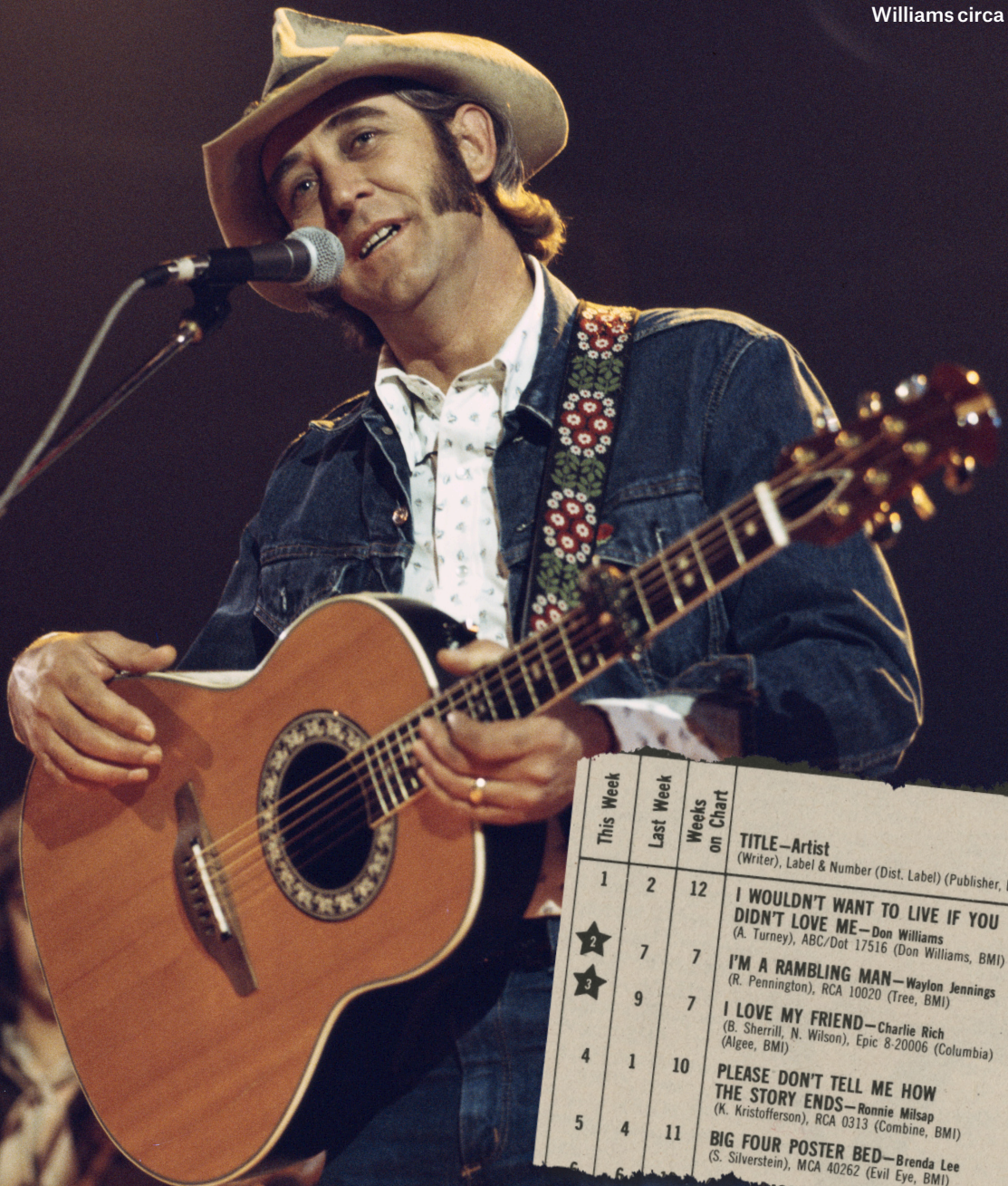
With his broad, 6-foot-plus frame and smooth baritone voice, Williams earned the nickname

"the Gentle Giant." Inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2010, he died after a short illness on Sept. 8, 2017, at age 78. Just hours after his death, during a concert stop in Athens, Ohio, **Brothers Osborne** paid tribute with a cover of Williams' 1979 No. 1 hit "Tulsa Time."

On Oct. 31, the Nashville Symphony will present "Don Williams: Music & Memories of the Gentle Giant" at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, kicking off a three-night showcase of Williams' music curated by **Keith Urban**.

—JIM ASKER

Williams circa 1975.



This Week	Last Week	Weeks on Chart	TITLE—Artist <small>(Writer, Label & Number (Dist. Label) (Publisher, Licensee))</small>
1	2	12	I WOULDN'T WANT TO LIVE IF YOU DIDN'T LOVE ME —Don Williams <small>(A. Turney), ABC/Dot 17516 (Don Williams, BMI)</small>
★2	7	7	I'M A RAMBLING MAN —Waylon Jennings <small>(R. Pennington), RCA 10020 (Tree, BMI)</small>
★3	9	7	I LOVE MY FRIEND —Charlie Rich <small>(B. Sherrill, N. Wilson), Epic 8-20006 (Columbia) (Algee, BMI)</small>
4	1	10	PLEASE DON'T TELL ME HOW THE STORY ENDS —Ronnie Milsap <small>(K. Kristofferson), RCA 0313 (Combine, BMI)</small>
5	4	11	BIG FOUR POSTER BED —Brenda Lee <small>(S. Silverstein), MCA 40262 (Evil Eye, BMI)</small>

DAVID REDFERN/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES