

billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

AUGUST 31, 2020 | PAGE 1 OF 18

INSIDE

Combs, McGraw
Lead Charts
Page 4

Hall Of Fame's
Big Night
Page 10

Lambert Brings
'Bluebird'
To Bluebird
Page 11

Stapleton Album
Primed
Page 11

Makin' Tracks:
Dan + Shay's
Musical 'Bed'
Page 15

Country Coda:
Johnny Lee,
'Lookin' ' Up
Page 18

BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

Tom.Roland@billboard.com

The Radio Promotion Tour Gets A Serious Reexamination



"Video killed the radio star," **The Buggles** suggested at the dawn of the 1980s; now the COVID-19 bug might kill the radio promotion tour, which started that same decade.

When asked in the *Billboard Country Power Players* issue what changes from the pandemic era may become permanent, Starstruck CEO **Narvel Blackstock** predicted, "A lot of meetings will become Zoom meetings, and things like radio tours will probably never come back."

Blackstock's position is shared — in whole or in part — by many interested parties from numerous areas of the business, including labels, artists, managers and broadcasters. The tours, which send an artist to meet programmers and play in-person for them, are

estimated to cost from \$200,000 to \$1 million in travel and entertainment expenses.

But with artists staying home during the pandemic and many radio stations banning outside visitors to avoid health risks, country labels have begun using Zoom and other virtual options to introduce their new acts to programmers. Such artists as

Sony Music Nashville's **Robert Counts** and BBR Music Group's **Elvie Shane** have received an enthusiastic enough response in the new setting that Music Row is reexamining the value of the time and expense of traveling to individual stations.

"There will be cost savings because of this situation," says Warner Music Nashville senior vp radio and streaming **Kristen Williams**. "We've realized that we can do business smarter and faster, frankly. It takes a long time to go introduce

a new band or a new artist. It takes a good couple of months, at least, to go and meet people face-to-face or travel the country and do performances for fans, whereas you can hit the same amount of people in two weeks doing it virtually."

The radio tour is unique to coun-

try music. Labels routinely send artists at the start of their career to visit dozens of stations — often exceeding 100 — in an attempt to get early buy-in. Programmers have come to expect a personal relationship with the genre's artists since the process became informally codified in the late 1980s. When an artist and PD click, it can make a big difference in those moments



DEATON

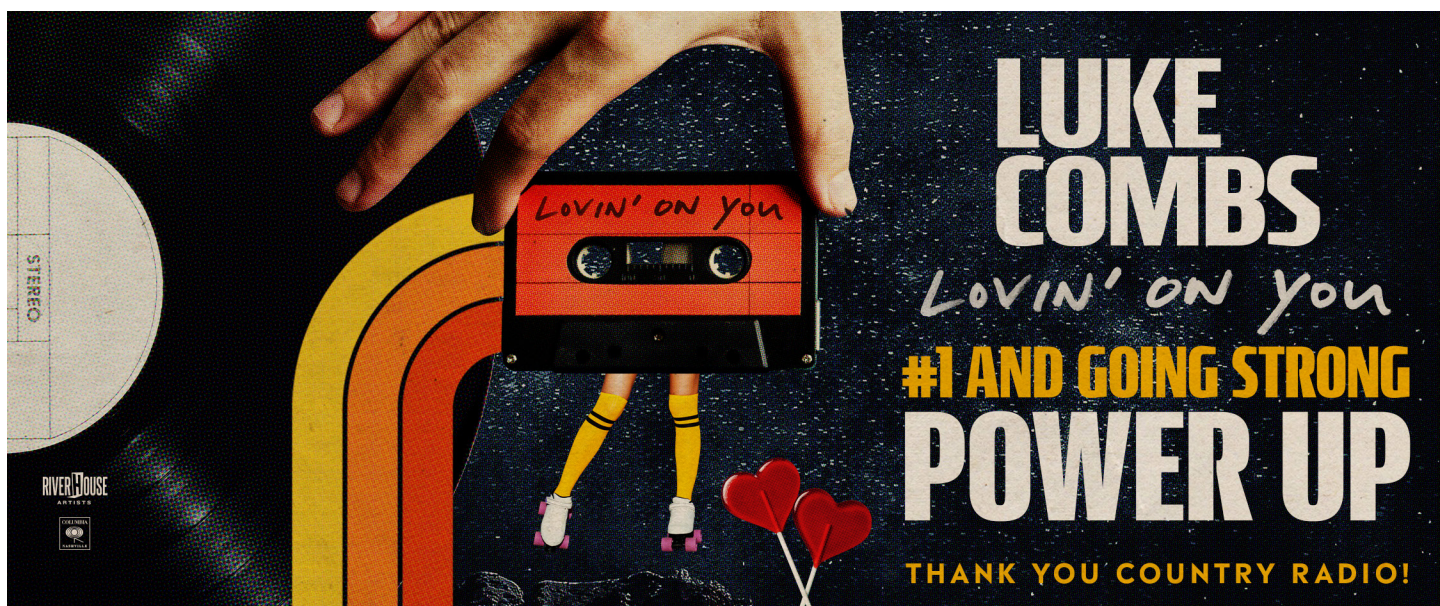


LYNCH



WILLIAMS

LYNCH: CONNOR DWYER



that a programmer has two records competing for the last slot on the playlist.

"Face-to-face, getting people to like you, it could be a great tie-breaker," notes Cox Media Group/Houston director of operations **Johnny Chiang**. "When **Taylor Swift** first came out — you know, the 17-year-old, big blond hair, first song's titled 'Tim McGraw'; great. But man, she charmed everyone. I mean, she's legendary."

The radio tour itself is legendary, too, though not always in the best way. Artists may visit multiple broadcasters in two or three cities on a single day and show up exhausted at a station, only to discover that many of the expected guests have schedule conflicts, the atmosphere is awkward or the executives text throughout the performance.

"Those radio tours are very expensive and, you know, contrary to popular belief, not everyone's paying attention," says **KRTY** San Jose GM **Nate Deaton**. "If I was a manager of an artist, I would look long and hard [at] paying that kind of money."

It's especially relevant to the artist and manager since labels consider the costs of the tour recoupable. Thus, the act quickly falls into a large financial hole.

At the same time, the process can pay long-term dividends. **Dustin Lynch** recalls that he was so financially strapped as a young artist that he routinely slept on friends' couches, so racking up debt with the label didn't necessarily make his wallet any leaner, and he picked up invaluable experiences along the way. He still communicates regularly with some of the programmers he met on that promotional tour, and the whirlwind of interstates and airports gave him a better sense of the marketplace he was attacking.

"That tour was probably the most stressful thing I've ever done in my life," he says. "But at the same time, because I grew up not really getting to travel [much], I hadn't seen any of the country. And so to pretty much visit every major city in the country in about six weeks was freaking crazy and awesome. And it gave me a perspective of exactly who I was writing for, you know, outside of a little bubble that I've grown up [in]."

The programmers see positives in giving early exposure to new talent, too. "I could go down the list of artists that the first time that I saw them live, I'll never forget it," says Deaton. "The first time I saw **Luke Combs** was at The EXIT/IN in Nashville, and it's like, 'Dude, this guy is a star.' Part of determining whether there's a star or something in there, you could only do onstage or in person."

Promotional tours are so baked in that not doing one can generate negatives. There are stories, perhaps apocryphal, of PDs who expressed interest in a single but were reticent to add it because they did not know the act. That, says Chiang, would be a dereliction of duty.

"If you're supporting a song just because you met the person, you like the person, that's backward," he notes. "Every country station out there should be playing **Chris Stapleton**, right? And talk about an introvert. It's highly unlikely that people are playing Chris Stapleton's song because 'Man, we had a great time drinking with the guy.'"

That said, the radio promotion tour is so much a part of the business that nearly every major PD or music director has a story or two — or 20 — about a unique experience with a country artist. The advent of virtual visits doesn't change the desire to create a relationship; it merely changes the setting.

"In Zoom, you're still having a conversation. You're still bonding; you're still creating inside jokes and moments to reference the next time you see that person," says **HARDY**. "So a lot of it is very, very similar. Hell, you can even get drunk with the person if you want."

Artists have additional programmers to bond with, though, in the digital realm, and that impacts the significance of radio. Broadcasting is still an important means of exposure, but customers who are willing to spend money on a subscription for digital music or satellite radio demonstrate a willingness to invest in music, making them primary customers for artists and labels. Listeners who only use free AM/FM signals are more likely to be passive, nonpaying customers.

It's one more reason why it makes sense for labels to rethink the radio tour. They will certainly still court broadcasters, but likely use hybrid forms of outreach, establishing relationships at times via digital platforms first and meeting in the same physical space at a later date.

"The initial introduction may happen virtually, and then we follow up with more in-person [events], whether that's a return to the market physically to do a show for listeners or whatever it is," says Fusion Management/Red Light manager **Daniel Miller**. "I don't think it's a replacement, but I think the sequence changes a little bit instead of flying around the country

to meet everybody."

The new reality has its challenges. Executives are already suffering from "Zoom fatigue," says Williams, and the success of the virtual model relies on a chain of technology noted for its bugs.

"We were launching **Ingrid Andress**' second single, and we had to go to her home personally and get her connected with much stronger Wi-Fi so that she would be able to actually get out and do these virtual performances," says Williams. "And rehearsal is key, because especially when you're trying to interact with multiple people on a call, they can be awkward. So I would recommend a lot of time figuring it out on the front end."

Thus, the coronavirus has country artists, labels and radio alike experimenting with video mediums as their relationships evolve.

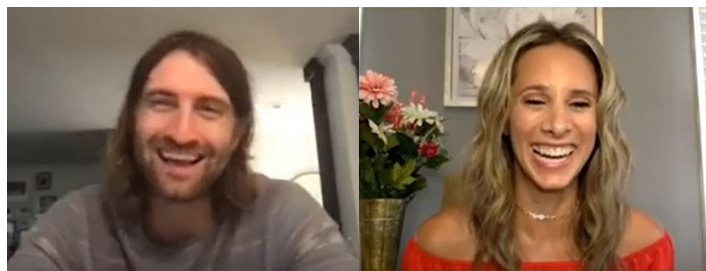
"Everyone has had to adapt to new ways of doing things," says Sony Music Nashville executive vp promotions and artist development **Steve Hodges**. "It's a new experience all around." ●



Kane Brown (center) joined Swae Lee (left) and Khalid in Sun Valley, Calif., to shoot the video for "Be Like That," from Brown's new EP, *Mixtape, Vol. 1*.



Jon Pardi addressed the online audience after a performance of "Night Shift" during the Aug. 22 edition of the *Grand Ole Opry*.



Ryan Hurd visited with *Us Weekly*'s Christina Garibaldi on Aug. 19 as he promoted his current single, "Every Other Memory."

LARRY FLEET

WHERE I FIND GOD

**IMPACTING
OCTOBER 5TH**

**#1 RESEARCH
WXBQ/JOHNSON CITY**

**"AWESOME SONG THAT CONNECTS
WITH LISTENERS ALMOST IMMEDIATELY."**

**- BILL HAGY,
WXBQ/JOHNSON CITY**

**"WE DID A NEW MUSIC FEATURES WEEK AND
OUR AUDIENCE SENT FIVE TIMES THE
NORMAL AMOUNT OF TEXTS AND ALMOST
ALL GAVE THIS SONG A TOP SCORE OF 5.
WE'VE FEATURED THE SONG EVER SINCE."**

**- BRENT MICHAELS,
KUZZ/BAKERSFIELD**

**"I'M NOT EXAGGERATING WHEN I SAY THIS
SONG IS A HIT...IT HAD 100 PERCENT
APPROVAL. NO NEGATIVES AT ALL. NOT ONE.
WE'VE BEEN PLAYING IT SINCE THAT DAY."**

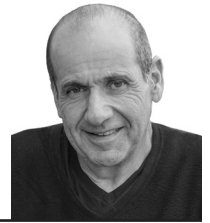
**- DEB TURPIN,
KSOP/SALT LAKE CITY**

BIG LOUD



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

Combs Feels The 'Lovin' With Career-Opening Country Airplay Record; McGraw Is 'Here' With 17th Top Country Albums No. 1



Luke Combs banks his ninth consecutive career-opening No. 1 single on *Billboard's* Country Airplay chart (dated Sept. 5) as "Lovin' On You" (River House/Columbia Nashville) rises 3-1.

The song increased by 13% to 31 million audience impressions in the week ending Aug. 30, according to Nielsen Music/MRC Data.

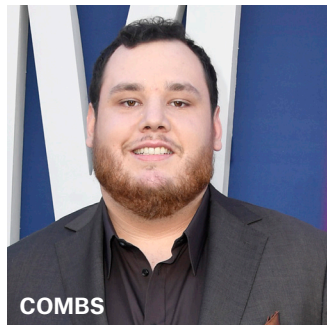
"Lovin'" is the fourth single from Combs' second full-length, *What You See Is What You Get*, which debuted at No. 1 on Top Country Albums and the all-genre *Billboard* 200 in November 2019 with 172,000 first-week equivalent album units. The set has logged 26 weeks in the penthouse of the former chart, where it holds at No. 3 (21,000 units, up 1%).

Combs cowrote his latest hit with **Thomas Archer, Ray Fulcher** and **James McNair**. It follows the set's "Does to Me" (featuring **Eric Church**), which led Country Airplay for two weeks starting on the May 30-dated chart; "Even Though I'm Leaving" (five weeks, beginning in November 2019); and "Beer Never Broke My Heart" (two, August 2019).

"Lovin'" tops Country Airplay in its 12th week on the chart, completing the fastest trip to the top since **Sam Hunt's** "Body Like a Back Road" reached No. 1 in the same span in May 2017. Combs also wraps his quickest run up the chart, besting the 13-week ascent of "Beer Never Broke My Heart."

With nine properly promoted Country Airplay No. 1s in a row, Combs shares the longest active streak with **Thomas Rhett**, who scored his ninth consecutive leader in May with "Beer Can't Fix" (featuring **Jon Pardi**). Rhett has collected 15 total No. 1s.

On the Hot Country Songs chart, which blends airplay, streaming and sales data, "Lovin'" leaps 10-4. It drew 7 million U.S. streams (up 29%) and sold 3,000 downloads (up 1%) in the week ending Aug. 27. It climbs 25-12 on Country Streaming Songs and 16-15 on Country Digital Song Sales.



WORLD NEWS **Tim McGraw** notches his 17th No. 1 — and 16th No. 1 debut — on Top Country Albums with the arrival of *Here on Earth* (McGraw/Big Machine/Big Machine Label Group). The LP earned 24,000 equivalent album units, with 17,000 in album sales, in the week ending Aug. 27.

On the *Billboard* 200, the set — which was released Aug. 21 and produced by the artist and **Byron Gallimore** — starts at No. 14.

McGraw passes **Merle Haggard** to tie for the second-most No. 1s since Top Country Albums launched in 1964. **George Strait** leads with 27, ahead of **Garth Brooks, Kenny Chesney, McGraw** and **Willie Nelson** with 17 each.

Plus, as McGraw earns his first No. 1 of 2020 on the list, he has now posted

leaders on the chart in four consecutive decades. Starting with his first entry, *Not a Moment Too Soon*, which arrived at the apex in April 1994, he has reached the peak in the 1990s, 2000s, 2010s and 2020s. Two other artists have achieved the same feat: Strait and **Reba McEntire** each led Top Country Albums in the '80s, '90s, '00s and '10s.

McGraw last led Top Country Albums in December 2017 when *The Rest of Our Life*, with his wife, **Faith Hill**, opened at the pinnacle. *Damn Country Music*, his most recent solo album be-

fore *Here on Earth*, debuted at its No. 3 peak in November 2015.

The new set's lead single, "I Called Mama," lifts 12-11 on Country Airplay, up 2% to 18.7 million impressions. On Hot Country Songs, it jumps 19-13.

'GOT' GETS IN THE TOP 10 **Jason Aldean** scores his 32nd Country Airplay top 10 as "Got What I Got" (Macon/Broken Bow) rises 11-10 (21.4 million, up 12%).

Aldean, who first reached the region with "Hicktown" (No. 10, 2005), is among 12 artists with at least 32 such top 10s, dating to the chart's 1990 start. **George Strait** leads with 61. ●



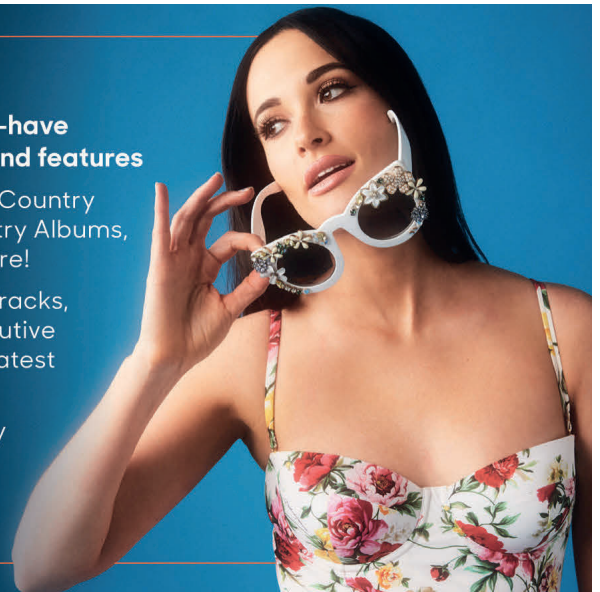
SUBSCRIBE TO

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



BEERS TO CATCH UP ON



LOCASH

THE FOLLOW-UP TO THEIR #1 SMASH, "ONE BIG COUNTRY SONG"

MOST ADDED

EARLY SUPPORTERS INCLUDE

MCCN/MUSIC CHOICE
WNSH/NEW YORK
WEBG/CHICAGO
WKLB/BOSTON
KMLE/PHOENIX
WQYK/TAMPA
WJVC/NASSAU-SUFFOLK
KSOP/SALT LAKE CITY

KBEQ/KANSAS CITY
KFKF/KANSAS CITY
KRTY/SAN JOSE
KJKE/OKLAHOMA CITY
WKMK/MONMOUTH
WXCX/WILMINGTON, DE
WOGK/OCALA

WWQM/MADISON
KXLY/SPOKANE
WPOR/PORTLAND, ME
WTHT/PORTLAND, ME
WXBQ/JOHNSON CITY
WQHK/FORT WAYNE
KPLM/PALM SPRINGS

THANK YOU COUNTRY RADIO!

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
1	3	12	LOVIN' ON YOU River House/Columbia Nashville	★★ No. 1 (1 week) ★★ Luke Combs	31.017	+3.487	6875	672	2
2	5	23	I LOVE MY COUNTRY BMLG	Florida Georgia Line	29.623	+3.872	7254	1158	1
3	6	19	COOL AGAIN RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	26.527	+1.709	5974	277	4
4	7	22	BE A LIGHT Valory Thomas Rhett Featuring Reba McEntire, Hillary Scott, Chris Tomlin & Keith Urban		26.424	+2.489	6505	538	3
5	2	56	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Mercury	Maddie & Tae	26.028	-3.008	5330	-859	7
6	4	23	ONE MARGARITA Row Crop/Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	25.133	-0.883	5424	-412	6
7	10	21	ONE OF THEM GIRLS Curb	Lee Brice	24.768	+3.977	5788	798	5
8	1	48	WHY WE DRINK Valory	Justin Moore	22.710	-9.361	5052	-2287	10
9	9	27	GOD WHISPERED YOUR NAME Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	21.758	+0.531	5308	168	8
10	11	21	GOT WHAT I GOT Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	21.378	+2.308	5066	413	9
11	12	17	I CALLED MAMA McGraw/Big Machine	Tim McGraw	18.704	+0.342	4509	273	11
12	13	41	SOME GIRLS Combustion/River House/Columbia Nashville	Jameson Rodgers	18.524	+2.083	4443	328	12
13	14	42	ONE NIGHT STANDARDS Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Ashley McBryde	17.452	+1.077	4287	185	13
14	15	38	EVERYWHERE BUT ON RECORDS/Arista Nashville	Matt Stell	15.074	+1.000	3879	188	14
15	16	6	HAPPY ANYWHERE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Featuring Gwen Stefani	15.011	+1.578	3522	357	17
16	18	61	LONELY IF YOU ARE Dack Janiels/Broken Bow	Chase Rice	14.497	+2.178	3616	231	15
17	17	30	ONE BEER Big Loud	HARDY Featuring Lauren Alaina & Devin Dawson	14.021	+1.432	3591	242	16
18	19	34	PRETTY HEART MCA Nashville	Parker McCollum	13.042	+1.323	3347	201	18
19	20	5	I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	10.096	+1.215	2579	375	25
20	23	24	AIN'T ALWAYS THE COWBOY Capitol Nashville	★★ Airpower ★★ Jon Pardi	9.661	+1.289	2825	338	19
21	25	14	MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	9.495	+1.369	2634	332	23
22	24	40	BIG, BIG PLANS Big Loud	Chris Lane	9.058	+0.711	2604	120	24
23	26	26	LOVE YOU LIKE I USED TO Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	9.017	+1.142	2638	229	22
24	21	51	SHE'S MINE MCA Nashville	Kip Moore	8.869	+0.075	2691	14	20
25	22	20	NO I IN BEER Arista Nashville	Brad Paisley	8.781	+0.145	2647	18	21
26	27	7	HAPPY DOES Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Kenny Chesney	8.612	+0.858	2176	174	27
27	NEW		STARTING OVER Mercury	★★ Hot Shot Debut/Breaker/Most Increased Audience/Most Added ★★ Chris Stapleton	8.042	+8.042	1485	1485	30
28	28	19	CHAMPAGNE NIGHT BMLG	Lady A	7.604	+0.596	2244	63	26
29	29	32	CHEATIN' SONGS Big Machine	Midland	6.334	+0.322	1896	-62	28
30	30	20	GOOD TIME RCA Nashville	Niko Moon	4.414	+0.282	1327	64	33

COUNTRY AIRPLAY CHART LEGEND

RANKINGS

Country Airplay is ranked by total audience impressions for the week ending Sunday based on monitored airplay of 148 stations by Nielsen Music. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Nielsen Audio-copyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2020, Nielsen Audio). The list of all Country Airplay chart reporters can be viewed on Nielsen Music's platforms.

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%.

TIES

On Country Airplay, if two songs are tied in total audience, the song with the larger increase in audience 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.

HOT SHOT DEBUT

Awarded to the highest-ranking new entry on Country Airplay.

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 Music) for stations that do not report adds.

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

Most Increased Audience on Country Airplay lists the songs with the greatest week-to-week increases in total audience.

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.

© 2020 Prometheus Global Media, LLC

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	32	10	STICK THAT IN YOUR COUNTRY SONG EMI Nashville	Eric Church	3.999	+0.174	1539	142	29
32	31	28	MOMMA'S HOUSE Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	3.934	+0.025	1438	32	32
33	35	4	BEERS AND SUNSHINE Capitol Nashville	Darius Rucker	3.802	+0.698	1127	250	37
34	34	11	HOW THEY REMEMBER YOU Big Machine	Rascal Flatts	3.798	+0.494	1310	86	34
35	33	44	GETTING GOOD 19/Mercury	Lauren Alaina	3.315	-0.083	1460	-4	31
36	36	29	SOMEBODY LIKE THAT 19th & Grand	Tenille Arts	3.281	+0.176	1293	36	35
37	38	13	HOLE IN THE BOTTLE Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	2.892	+0.269	1240	125	36
38	37	15	ALL NIGHT EMI Nashville	Brothers Osborne	2.848	-0.017	1054	81	39
39	39	20	GABRIELLE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Brett Eldredge	2.606	+0.296	981	78	41
40	41	13	ALMOST MAYBES MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	2.593	+0.348	986	97	40
41	40	19	NOBODY Curb	Dylan Scott	2.489	+0.243	1096	38	38
42	42	5	BETTY Republic/MCA Nashville	Taylor Swift	2.193	+0.036	688	40	47
43	44	18	LADY BMLG	Brett Young	2.135	+0.144	669	-3	50
44	43	15	JUST THE WAY Stoney Creek ★★ Breaker ★★	Parmalee x Blanco Brown	2.034	+0.025	834	46	42
45	47	12	THE GOOD ONES Warner Music Nashville/WAR ★★ Breaker ★★	Gabby Barrett	1.926	+0.074	788	81	43
46	48	11	HARD DAYS Valory	Brantley Gilbert	1.828	+0.061	680	4	48
47	49	22	TO HELL & BACK Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	1.721	-0.050	771	-48	44
48	46	9	WE WERE RICH Wheelhouse	Runaway June	1.675	-0.212	725	4	45
49	50	11	THE MAN WHO LOVES YOU THE MOST Home Grown/19th & Grand	Zac Brown Band	1.661	+0.151	674	33	49
50	52	9	SINGLE SATURDAY NIGHT Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	1.427	+0.160	434	15	53
51	51	15	MADE FOR YOU Big Loud	Jake Owen	1.411	+0.066	472	3	52
52	56	2	WHAT DO I KNOW Arista Nashville	Robert Counts	1.409	+0.769	351	155	55
53	58	2	7 SUMMERS Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	1.346	+0.740	337	197	56
54	53	18	THIS IS US RECORDS/Columbia/Stoney Creek ★★ Breaker ★★	Jimmie Allen & Noah Cyrus	1.244	+0.048	723	77	46
55	54	10	EVERY OTHER MEMORY RCA Nashville	Ryan Hurd	0.995	+0.016	304	33	57
56	59	6	WINE, BEER, WHISKEY Capitol Nashville	Little Big Town	0.837	+0.246	368	28	54
57	57	2	A SONG TO REMEMBER Low Country Sound/Elektra/WEA	A Thousand Horses	0.586	-0.027	202	8	-
58	RE-ENTRY		ALL OF THE BOYS True To The Song/Mailboat/New Revolution ★★ Breaker ★★	Caroline Jones	0.555	+0.034	555	117	51
59	NEW		NEVER HAVE I EVER BMLG	Danielle Bradbery	0.450	+0.051	241	1	60
60	RE-ENTRY		WHERE THAT BEER'S BEEN Mercury	Travis Denning	0.429	+0.006	262	-11	59



27

CHRIS STAPLETON
Starting Over

Released Aug. 27, the song arrives at No. 27 on Country Airplay with 8 million impressions through Aug. 30, helped by hourly plays on participating iHeartMedia stations. Stapleton scores his second-highest bow (after "Either Way"; No. 26, 2017) with his new single, the title track from his new LP that's due Nov. 13.

GOING FOR ADDS

9/7

CODY JOHNSON
Dear Rodeo
CoJo/WMN

THE DESERT CITY RAMBLERS
Comin Home
Not Listed

TOM SEXTON
Population 2
Lots To Do

9/14

CHRIS JANSON
Waitin' On 5
Warner Music Nashville/WAR

GARY ALLAN
Waste Of A Whiskey Drink
Not Listed

ROBERT RAY
Think About You
BIG R.I.G. Country

9/21

HIGH VALLEY
Grew Up On That
Warner Music Nashville/WEA



JANSON

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY

MOST ADDED®

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS
STARTING OVER Mercury Nashville	Chris Stapleton	81
BEERS AND SUNSHINE Capitol Nashville	Darius Rucker	25
ALL OF THE BOYS True To The Song/Mailboat/New Revolution	Caroline Jones	17
THIS IS US RECORDS/Columbia/Stoney Creek	Jimmie Allen & Noah Cyrus	14
THE GOOD ONES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Gabby Barrett	14
WHAT DO I KNOW Arista Nashville	Robert Counts	12
HOLE IN THE BOTTLE Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	10
7 SUMMERS Big Loud/Republic	Morgan Wallen	9
MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	7
BETTY Republic/MCA Nashville	Taylor Swift	7

NEW AND ACTIVE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUDIENCE	TOTAL STATIONS	ADDS
BROKEN UP Columbia Nashville	Mitchell Tenpenny	0.372	18	0
MAN ENOUGH NOW RECORDS/Good Company	Chris Bandi	0.367	26	0
WHERE I FIND GOD Big Loud	Larry Fleet	0.327	3	0
SOMETHING YOU AIN'T EVER HAD Show Dog Nashville	Waterloo Revival	0.297	22	0
SOUNDTRACK TO A SMALL TOWN SUNDOWN Night Train/Broken Bow	Tyler Farr	0.297	20	5
NEVER BE SORRY RCA Nashville	Old Dominion	0.290	7	4

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
STARTING OVER Mercury	Chris Stapleton	+8.042
ONE OF THEM GIRLS Curb	Lee Brice	+3.977
I LOVE MY COUNTRY BMLG	Florida Georgia Line	+3.872
LOVIN' ON YOU River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+3.487
BE A LIGHT Valory Thomas Rhett Featuring Reba McEntire, Hillary Scott, Chris Tomlin & Keith Urban		+2.490
GOT WHAT I GOT Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+2.308
LONELY IF YOU ARE Dack Janiels/Broken Bow	Chase Rice	+2.178
SOME GIRLS Combustion/River House/Columbia Nashville	Jameson Rodgers	+2.083
COOL AGAIN RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	+1.709
HAPPY ANYWHERE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Featuring Gwen Stefani	+1.578

RECURRENTS

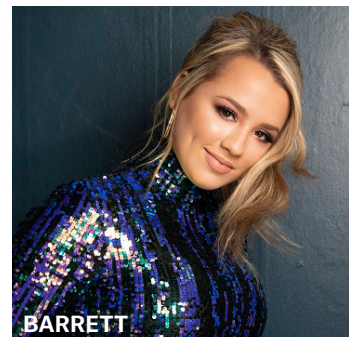
THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	DONE Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	21.250
2	CHASIN' YOU Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	19.976
3	NOBODY BUT YOU Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Duet With Gwen Stefani	18.212
4	HARD TO FORGET MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	18.145
5	I HOPE Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Gabby Barrett	15.679
6	BLUEBIRD Vanner/RCA Nashville	Miranda Lambert	12.964
7	DOES TO ME River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs Featuring Eric Church	11.897
8	THE BONES Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	11.584
9	AFTER A FEW Mercury	Travis Denning	11.022
10	BEER CAN'T FIX Capitol Nashville/Valory	Thomas Rhett Featuring Jon Pardi	10.300

MOST INCREASED PLAYS

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
STARTING OVER Mercury	Chris Stapleton	+1485
I LOVE MY COUNTRY BMLG	Florida Georgia Line	+1158
ONE OF THEM GIRLS Curb	Lee Brice	+798
LOVIN' ON YOU River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+672
BE A LIGHT Valory Thomas Rhett Featuring Reba McEntire, Hillary Scott, Chris Tomlin & Keith Urban		+538
GOT WHAT I GOT Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+413
I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	+375
HAPPY ANYWHERE Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton Featuring Gwen Stefani	+357
AIN'T ALWAYS THE COWBOY Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	+338
MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	+332



ALDEAN



BARRETT

ALDEAN: JOSEPH LANES; BARRETT: ROBBY KLEIN



TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING AUGUST 30, 2020

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE (Label)	ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE (Label)	ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-
1	2	16	LITTLE BIT (Independent) ★★ 1 Week at 1 ★★	Curtis Grimes	2056	113	11	12	12	I'D LOOK GOOD ON YOU (Independent)	Jesse Raub Jr.	1222	84
2	3	21	EVERYDAYERS (Independent)	James Lann	1912	95	12	5	16	AIN'T A TRAIN (Independent)	Cody Jinks	1174	-496
3	4	21	LET ME HOLD YOU TONIGHT (Little Red Truck)	Deryl Dodd	1732	44	13	16	13	PROJECT (Independent)	Mark Powell	1168	123
4	6	13	GHOST TOWN (Independent)	Mike Ryan	1676	108	14	15	8	HEY COWGIRL (Independent)	Randall King	1165	116
5	7	15	POOR (Independent)	William Clark Green	1595	46	15	13	25	JUST FOR THE RECORD (Independent)	Cody Hibbard	1114	-17
6	8	10	MEET IN THE MIDDLE (One Chord Song)	Stoney LaRue & Tanya Tucker	1570	163	16	14	26	COUNTRY'S COMING BACK (Independent)	Josh Grider	1063	-53
7	9	10	WHISPER MY NAME (Independent)	Aaron Watson	1551	179	17	17	18	COUNTRY TO THE BONE (Independent)	Darrin Morris Band	1023	12
8	10	19	LIKE A COWBOY (Independent)	Parker McCollum	1431	167	18	24	11	LONESOME, ON'RY AND MEAN (S.O.T.)	Jody Booth and Tracy Byrd	953	115
9	11	24	NOT GIVE A DAMN (Independent)	Sundance Head	1251	27	19	21	20	DAMN YOU WHISKEY (Independent)	Scotty Alexander	937	23
10	1	24	FEELS LIKE COUNTRY MUSIC (Independent)	Jon Wolfe	1235	-763	20	20	19	THE LUCKIER YOU GET (New West)	American Aquarium	933	6

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 972-252-8777. Copyright 2020, Texas Regional Radio Report

PROMOTION

SPECIAL ISSUE
ON SALE
SEP 19

2020

billboard GRAMMY® CONTENDERS ISSUE

Billboard will publish its annual GRAMMY® Contenders special issue, showcasing the music and artists that made an impact during the eligibility period for the 63rd GRAMMY Awards®.

This special issue will highlight the artists, producers and other creative professionals whose work is in contention this year, including for Record Of The Year, Album Of The Year, Song Of The Year, and Best New Artist.

Take this opportunity to remind the industry of the accomplished work that was released between September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020, as the members of the Recording Academy® prepare to cast their ballots for Music's Biggest Night®.

ON SALE 9/19
ISSUE CLOSE 9/9
MATERIALS DUE 9/10



BONUS DISTRIBUTION:

Voting Members of the Recording Academy



CONTACT:

Joe Maimone | 201.301.5933 | joe.maimone@mrcentertainment.com

Lee Ann Photoglo | 615.376.7931 | laphotoglo@gmail.com

Marcia Olival | 786.586.4901 | marciaolival29@gmail.com

Debra Fink | 213.448.5157 | debra.fink@mrcentertainment.com

***Special rates available for independent artists and companies.**



RECORDING ACADEMY®
**GRAMMY
AWARDS**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



Danielle Bradbery sang her current single, "Never Have I Ever," backed by guitarist Just Eason during an Aug. 20 appearance on *Billboard's Live At-Home* series on Facebook.

COUNTRY HALL OF FAME'S BIG NIGHT

The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum has a major fundraiser on the horizon, and it comes with strings attached.

For over five months, some of country music's most inviting heirlooms have gone purposely unseen by the world at large as the Hall of Fame has kept its doors in Nashville closed under coronavirus-related isolation rules. The facility will reopen on Sept. 10, and it will also celebrate some of its most treasured memorabilia in an all-star fundraiser on Oct. 28.

Big Night (at the Museum) will pair a host of artists with instruments from the museum's collection. Acts including **Kane Brown**, **Tim McGraw**, **Ricky Skaggs**, **Ashley McBryde** and **Miranda Lambert** will perform accompanied with a historical piece. Instruments in the Hall's possession include **Maybelle Carter's** guitar, **Earl Scruggs' banjo**, **Charlie Daniels' fiddle**, **Bill Monroe's** mandolin and one of **Glen Campbell's** guitars.

The performances will be visually captured in advance, with such artists as **Reba McEntire**, **Emmylou Harris**, **Keb' Mo'** and **Carlene Carter** being shown at various locations in the Hall of Fame. The performances will be pieced together for the benefit, which will be viewable on the museum's YouTube channel.

Hall of Fame member-elect **Marty Stuart** will host Big Night, with audio supervision by producer **Dave Cobb** (**Chris Stapleton**, **The Highwomen**). Additional artists will be named in the future.

RADIO & RECORDS®

Average Joes signed **Jeremy McComb** to a recording deal. His first single under the agreement, "Cotton's Getting High," will be released Sept. 25 ... **The Georgia Thunderbolts**, a five-piece band out of Rome, Ga., joined the roster at Mascot Records. **Richard Young** of **The Kentucky HeadHunters** manages the act, with United Talent Agency handling concert booking ... Americana artist **Danny Burns** signed a recording contract with Bonfire Music Group ... Mandolinist **Luke McKnight** agreed to a two-album deal with bluegrass label Turnberry. A grandson of **Jesse McReynolds**, McKnight is a former member of **Jim & Jesse** and **The Virginia Boys** ... Beasley promoted **Tee Gentry** to regional operations manager of its properties in Augusta, Ga., and Fayetteville, N.C. Gentry was formerly operations manager for the Augusta market. Among the 13 stations in his territory are two country outlets: **WKXC** Augusta and **WKML** Fayetteville ... Townsquare named **Martin Stabbert** senior vp/head of engineering after his working in an interim capacity since March. He arrived at Townsquare after serving as Cumulus vp engineering ... **KUZZ** Bakersfield, Calif., will debut a new morning show on Sept. 8, InsideRadio.com reported. Co-host **Cliff Dumas** joins after participating in the Talent Farm's syndicated *Cliff & Sharon Show*. Co-host **Tanya Brakebill** shifts into the role from her current midday shift ... **KGWY** Gillette, Wyo., promoted morning personality **Kyle Murphy** to PD, according to InsideRadio.com ... **Rascal Flatts** will perform from the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville on Sept. 2 in the *iHeartRadio Labor Day Concert*, hosted by **Amy Brown**. The show will stream live online and air at 8 p.m. local time on iHeart mainstream country stations.

'ROUND THE ROW

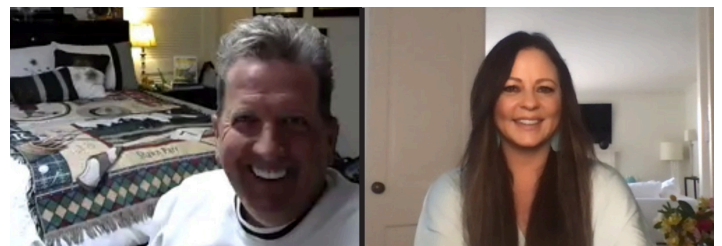
SoundExchange appointed **Esther-Mireya Tejada** its chief marketing and communications officer. She had served as Entercom senior vp/head of corporate communications ... **Exile** signed with **Ontourage Management** for career representation and with **Kinthead Entertainment** for concert booking ... The Artist Management Group added **Liv Charette** to its roster ... **Anthem Entertainment** extended its co-publishing deal with songwriter **Brian White** ("Billy's Got His Beer Goggles On," "Rough & Ready") ... **Sony/ATV Nashville** signed songwriter-producer-keyboardist **Bernie Herms** (**Brad Paisley**, **Hillary Scott**) to a publishing contract ... **Operation Song**, a nonprofit that empowers military veterans through songwriting, added three new members to its board: **Storme Warren**, SiriusXM; contemporary Christian singer-songwriter **Cindy Morgan**; and **Heather McBee**, Nashville Entrepreneur Center ... The late **Charlie Daniels'** business, CDB Music, will transition to **Charlie Daniels Brand, Inc.**, on Sept. 1, focused on branding, licensing and legacy endeavors. **Charlie Daniels Jr.** is president ... The Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame has postponed its 50th anniversary induction ceremony until 2021 ... The Nashville Songwriters Association International's 21st annual Song Contest will launch Sept. 1-Nov. 3. The grand prize includes \$5,000 and a mentoring session with **Tenille Townes** and songwriters **Ross Golan** ("Compass"), **Joe London** ("Die a Happy Man") and **Brett James** ("Drinking Alone"). Go [here](#) for details ... The Recording Academy's Grammy Museum Grant Program is accepting submissions through Nov. 1 for funding in music-related archiving, preservation or scientific research. Go [here](#) for info ... Bassist-artist manager **Larry McFaden** has died, according to **Lee Greenwood**. McFaden was a member of **Mel Tillis'** road band, **The Statesiders**, for over a dozen years and was Greenwood's first manager after discovering him at an MGM Grand piano bar in Reno, Nev. ●



Pam Tillis performed "Shake the Sugar Tree" during an Aug. 22 appearance on the *Grand Ole Opry*.



Exile signed a new contract with **Ontourage Management**. From left: Exile members **Steve Goetzman**, **Sonny LeMaire** and **J.P. Pennington**; **Ontourage** founder-owner **Tony Conway**; and Exile members **Marlon Hargis** and **Les Taylor**.



Sara Evans had a Zoom-enabled conversation for the syndicated show **Shawn Parr's Across the Country** in advance of her **Howard Books** memoir, *Born to Fly*, due Sept. 8.

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND

MUSIC NOTES

After months of pandemic-induced waiting, the 55th Academy of Country Music Awards will air Sept. 16 with a different look than any other time in its history, given that the event will take place in Nashville for the first time. The CBS show will be held (with some pretaping) in three different venues, and the use of the Bluebird Café, in particular, will see producers developing more intimate performances than are possible in a cavernous arena. **Tim McGraw** is set to sing "I Called Mama" in that venue, **Luke Combs** will do "Better Together," **Jimmie Allen** will offer "Make Me Want To," and **Miranda Lambert** will capture the club's songwriter vibe by playing the aptly titled "Bluebird" with co-writers **Natalie Hemby** and **Luke Dick**. **Keith Urban** will host.



CONNOR DWYER

News of a new **Chris Stapleton** album perked up plenty of ears in the country community. His project *Starting Over* is due Nov. 13. Other newly announced releases and dates include **Riley Green**'s EP *If It Wasn't for Trucks*, Sept. 11; songwriter **Luke Laird**'s *Music Row*, Sept. 18; **Texas Hill**'s self-titled EP, Sept. 25; **Granger Smith**'s *Country Things, Vol. 1*, Sept. 25; and **Bobby Bare**'s eight-disc box set *Bobby Bare Sings Shel Silverstein Plus*, Oct. 2.

Carrie Underwood is in a seasonal mood, with music prepared for both the kickoff of the football season and the year-ending holiday season. Her newest version of "Waiting All Day for Sunday Night," the theme to NBC's *Sunday Night Football*, will debut Sept. 13 when the Dallas Cowboys visit the Chicago Bears. Meanwhile, her forthcoming Christmas album — *My Gift*, due Sept. 25 — features guest appearances by her son, **Isaiah Fisher**, and **John Legend**. Among the traditional carols in the package are "O Holy Night," "Silent Night" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

Brad Paisley has been known to write songs and record at late hours. Now he's entertaining on TV in one of his key creative windows with a guest host role on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* He will handle the position on Sept. 9 on the ABC talk show. ●

Top Headlines from billboard.com

Click on headlines below for more details

Country Pileup: CMA Nods Will Be Announced Just 15 Days Before The Rival ACM Awards Are Presented

U.S. Music Venues Will Light Up Red On Sept. 1 To Demand Passage Of The Restart Act

With 100 Million U.S. Subscribers, Streaming Services Declare: 'We Are Fully Part Of This Industry'

Radio's Crushing Quarter Is About To Trickle Down To Publishers And Songwriters

Morgan Wallen's '7 Summers' Debut Is A Sign Not Just Of His Own Stardom, But Of Country's Streaming Rise

ON THIS DATE IN COUNTRY MUSIC

Sept. 1

- 2015 — **Jon Pardi** begins two days of recording at Nashville's Blackbird Studio for the album *California Sunrise*, cutting 12 songs, including "Dirt on My Boots" and "Heartache on the Dance Floor."
- 2005 — **Toby Keith** founds his own label, Show Dog Nashville, partnering with record executive **Scott Borchetta**, who simultaneously launches Big Machine.



Sept. 2

- 2010 — **Brooks & Dunn** play the final concert of the Last Rodeo farewell tour at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena with proceeds earmarked for the Country Music Hall of Fame. **Reba McEntire** guests on "Cowgirls Don't Cry."
- 1995 — **Johnny Cash** sings "Folsom Prison Blues" and "Ring of Fire" for 57,000 people during a concert at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium celebrating the opening of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The show also features such acts as **Bruce Springsteen**, **Little Richard**, **Melissa Etheridge** and Cash's former Sun labelmate **Jerry Lee Lewis**.

Sept. 3

- 2019 — Atlantic releases **Ashley McBryde**'s "One Night Standards" to radio.

Sept. 4

- 2017 — **Miranda Lambert** collects five nominations to top the list as the finalists are announced for the 51st annual CMA Awards. **Little Big Town** and **Keith Urban** tie for second with four nominations apiece.
- 2008 — **Trace Adkins** performs the national anthem at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn., where **John McCain** accepts the presidential nomination during the Republican National Convention.

Sept. 5

- 2009 — **Jason Aldean**'s "Big Green Tractor" starts a four-week run at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot Country Songs chart.

Sept. 6

- 2012 — **Vince Gill** receives a star at 6901 Hollywood Blvd. on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Sept. 7

- 1990 — Epic releases **Joe Diffie**'s debut album, *A Thousand Winding Roads*.
- 1980 — **Hank Williams Jr.** performs at the tiny Lone Star Cafe in New York's Greenwich Village. Unhappy about the cramped experience, he writes a song that slays Manhattan, "Dixie on My Mind."

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



BMI recognized Dolly Parton with seven Million-Air Awards for songs that received 1 million broadcast performances. The titles included "I Will Always Love You," which reached the 10 million mark.

JB ROWLAND

billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY &
STREAMING DATA
COMPILED BY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK POSITION
1	2	1	70	I HOPE R. COPPERMAN, Z. KALE (Z. KALE, J. M. NITE, G. BARRETT) ★★ No. 1 (6 weeks) ★★	Gabby Barrett WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	RC	1
2	3	3	58	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART J. M. ROBBINS, D. WELLS (M. MARLOW, T. DYE, J. SINGLETON, D. RUTTAN)	Maddie & Tae MERCURY	5	2
3	4	4	78	THE BONES G. KURSTIN (M. MORRIS, J. M. ROBBINS, L. J. VELTZ)	Maren Morris COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	RC	1
4	10	12	16	LOVIN' ON YOU S. MOFFATT (L. COMBS, T. ARCHER, R. M. L. FULCHER, J. MCNAIR) ★★ Streaming Gainer ★★	Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	1	4
5	7	8	29	GOT WHAT I GOT M. KNOX (M. TYLER, A. PALMER, T. ARCHER)	Jason Aldean MACON/BROKEN BOW	10	5
6	5	2	24	ONE MARGARITA J. STEVENS, J. STEVENS (M. R. CARTER, M. DRAGSTREM, J. THOMPSON)	Luke Bryan ROW CROP/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	6	2
7	1	—	2	7 SUMMERS J. MOI (M. WALLEN, S. MCANALLY, J. OSBORNE)	Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD	53	1
8	6	6	19	COOL AGAIN D. HUFF, L. RIMES (K. BROWN, J. HODGES, M. MCGINN, L. RIMES)	Kane Brown RCA NASHVILLE	3	6
9	11	11	23	I LOVE MY COUNTRY C. CROWDER, T. HUBBARD, B. KELLEY (K. BROWN, C. CROWDER, R. C. MCGILL, E. K. SMITH, CHARLIE HANDSOME, W. WEATHERLY)	Florida Georgia Line BMLG	2	8
10	9	13	20	ONE OF THEM GIRLS B. GLOVER, K. JACOBS, L. BRICE (A. GORLEY, B. JOHNSON, D. DAVIDSON, L. BRICE) ★★ Airplay Gainer ★★	Lee Brice CURB	7	9
11	12	15	22	BE A LIGHT D. HUFF (THOMAS RHETT, M. DRAGSTREM, J. MILLER, J. THOMPSON) Thomas Rhett Featuring Reba McEntire, Hillary Scott, Chris Tomlin & Keith Urban	VALORY	4	11
12	15	14	5	I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED D. SMYERS (D. SMYERS, S. MOONEY, S. M. DOUGLAS, J. G. EVIGAN)	Dan + Shay WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	19	9
13	19	22	17	I CALLED MAMA T. MCGRAW, B. GALLIMORE (M. GREEN, L. MILLER, J. YEARY) ★★ Digital Gainer ★★	Tim McGraw MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE	11	13
14	13	17	19	MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN J. MOI (M. W. HARDY, E. K. SMITH, CHARLIE HANDSOME, M. WALLEN)	Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD	21	12
15	16	16	26	GOD WHISPERED YOUR NAME K. URBAN, D. MCCARROLL (C. AUGUST, M. CARTER, SHY CARTER, J. T. SLATER)	Keith Urban HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	9	13
16	17	20	35	ONE BEER J. MOI, D. WELLS (M. W. HARDY, H. LINDSEY, J. MITCHELL) HARDY Featuring Lauren Alaina & Devin Dawson	BIG LOUD	17	16
17	18	19	17	PRETTY HEART JON RANDALL (P. MCCOLLUM, R. MONTANA)	Parker McCollum MCA NASHVILLE	18	17
18	21	21	5	HAPPY ANYWHERE S. HENDRICKS (R. COPPERMAN, J. OSBORNE, M. JENKINS)	Blake Shelton Featuring Gwen Stefani WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	15	10
19	22	23	23	SOME GIRLS C. FARREN, M. J. CONES (M. W. HARDY, J. MITCHELL, C. J. SOLAR)	Jameson Rodgers COMBUSTION/RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	12	19
20	20	18	35	ONE NIGHT STANDARDS J. JOYCE (A. MCBRYDE, S. MCANALLY, N. HAYFORD)	Ashley McBryde ATLANTIC/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	13	18
21	23	24	37	LONELY IF YOU ARE C. DESTEFANO, C. RICE (C. RICE, L. RIMES, H. PHELPS)	Chase Rice DACK JANIELS/BROKEN BOW	16	21
22	26	26	18	AIN'T ALWAYS THE COWBOY B. BUTLER, R. GORE, J. PARDI (B. KINNEY, J. THOMPSON)	Jon Pardi CAPITOL NASHVILLE	20	22
23	25	28	22	EVERYWHERE BUT ON A. BOWERS, M. STELL (M. STELL, P. SIKES, L. MILLER)	Matt Stell RECORDS/ARISTA NASHVILLE	14	23
24	27	29	23	LOVE YOU LIKE I USED TO D. HUFF, C. BROWN, R. DICKERSON (R. DICKERSON, C. BROWN, P. WELLING)	Russell Dickerson TRIPLE TIGERS	23	24
25	28	—	26	BIG, BIG PLANS J. MOI (J. DURRETT, C. LANE, E. K. SMITH)	Chris Lane BIG LOUD	22	25

COUNTRY SONGWRITERS™

1	#1 9 WKS	JOSH THOMPSON
2		HARDY
3		JON NITE
TIE	4	GABBY BARRETT
TIE	4	ZACH KALE
6		JOSH OSBORNE
7		THOMAS ARCHER
8		SHANE MCANALLY
9		MORGAN WALLEN
10		MATT DRAGSTREM



HUFF

COUNTRY PRODUCERS™

1	#1 17 WKS	JOEY MOI
2		DANN HUFF
3		ROSS COPPERMAN
4		GREG KURSTIN
5		SCOTT MOFFATT
6		JAY JOYCE
7		MICHAEL KNOX
8		ZACH KALE
9		DEREK WELLS
10		DAN SMYERS

The weekly Country Songwriters and Country Producers charts are based on total points accrued by a songwriter and producer, respectively, for each attributed song that appears on the Hot Country Songs chart. As with Billboard's yearly recaps, multiple writers or producers split points for each song equally (and the dividing of points will lead to occasional ties on rankings).

billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY &
STREAMING DATA
COMPILED BY

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK POSITION
26	30	30	24	SHE'S MINE K. MOORE (K. MOORE, D. COUCH, S. STEPANOFF)	Kip Moore MCA NASHVILLE	24	26
27	32	33	20	CHAMPAGNE NIGHT S. MCANALLY, A. DEROBERTS (D. HAYWOOD, C. KELLEY, H. SCOTT, P. CONROY, E. R. DEAN, A. DEROBERTS, T. A. GEMZA, S. MCANALLY, M. R. MERLO, R. B. TEDDER, D. THOMSON)	Lady A BMLG	28	27
28	36	31	13	GOOD TIME N. MOON, J. MURTY (N. MOON, J. MINTON, A. MOON, J. MURTY, M. TRUSSELL)	Niko Moon RCA NASHVILLE	30	28
29	31	32	16	NO I IN BEER L. WOOTEN, D. HUFF (B. PAISLEY, K. LOVELACE)	Brad Paisley ARISTA NASHVILLE	25	29
30	34	35	15	ALMOST MAYBES P. DIGIOVANNI (J. DAVIS, J. FRASURE, H. LINDSEY)	Jordan Davis MCA NASHVILLE	40	30
31	37	46	10	STICK THAT IN YOUR COUNTRY SONG J. JOYCE (D. NAISH, JEFFREY STEELE)	Eric Church EMI NASHVILLE	31	23
32	33	36	10	THE GOOD ONES R. COPPERMAN, Z. KALE (G. BARRETT, E. LANDIS, J. MCCORMICK, Z. KALE)	Gabby Barrett WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	45	32
33	29	27	5	BETTY A. DESSNER, J. M. ANTONOFF, T. SWIFT (T. SWIFT, W. BOWERY)	Taylor Swift REPUBLIC/MCA NASHVILLE	42	6
34	40	39	11	HOLE IN THE BOTTLE J. FRASURE, K. BALLERINI (K. BALLERINI, S. JONES, H. LINDSEY, J. FRASURE, A. GORLEY)	Kelsea Ballerini BLACK RIVER	37	33
35	39	41	6	HAPPY DOES B. CANNON, K. CHESNEY (B. CLAWSON, J. PAULIN, B. BERRYHILL, G. JAMES)	Kenny Chesney BLUE CHAIR/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	26	35
36	38	37	4	WINE, BEER, WHISKEY LITTLE BIG TOWN (T. BROWN, K. FAIRCHILD, S. MCCONNELL, K. SCHLAPMAN, P. SWEET, J. WESTBROOK)	Little Big Town CAPITOL NASHVILLE	56	36
37	44	48	4	WHO YOU ARE TO ME C. TOMLIN, C. CROWDER, T. HUBBARD, B. KELLEY (C. TOMLIN, C. KELLEY, D. HAYWOOD, H. SCOTT)	Chris Tomlin Featuring Lady A SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	-	37
38	45	25	3	BEERS AND SUNSHINE R. COPPERMAN (D. RUCKER, R. COPPERMAN, J. T. HARDING, J. OSBORNE)	Darius Rucker CAPITOL NASHVILLE	33	25
39	43	44	28	JUST THE WAY D. FANNING (M. THOMAS, K. BARD, N. W. SIPE)	Parmalee x Blanco Brown STONE CREEK	44	31
40	41	42	17	LADY D. HUFF (B. YOUNG, R. COPPERMAN, J. M. NITE)	Brett Young BMLG	43	22
41	47	-	12	CHEATIN' SONGS D. HUFF, S. MCANALLY, J. OSBORNE (J. CARSON, C. DUDDY, M. WYSTRACH, S. MCANALLY, J. OSBORNE)	Midland BIG MACHINE	29	41
42	48	49	7	WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER G. BROOKS (S. DAVIS)	Garth Brooks PEARL	-	42
43	49	43	13	TO HELL & BACK BUSBEE, M. MORRIS (M. MORRIS, J. J. DILLON, L. J. VELTZ)	Maren Morris COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	47	43
44	RE-ENTRY		14	MOMMA'S HOUSE Z. CROWELL (D. SCHNEIDER, M. LOTTEN, R. CLAWSON, J. T. WILSON)	Dustin Lynch BROKEN BOW	32	44
45	42	45	5	TALKIN' TENNESSEE J. MOI (J. HYDE, M. WALLEN, C. WISEMAN)	Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD	-	42
46	RE-ENTRY		6	SINGLE SATURDAY NIGHT M. R. CARTER (A. GORLEY, M. W. HARDY, M. HOLMAN)	Cole Swindell WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	50	42
47			14	SIX FEET APART C. MATTHEWS, L. COMBS (L. COMBS, B. COBB, R. SNYDER)	Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	RC	10
48	RE-ENTRY		2	ALL NIGHT J. JOYCE (J. OSBORNE, T. J. OSBORNE, A. DEROBERTS)	Brothers Osborne EMI NASHVILLE	38	48
49	24	-	2	WORSHIP YOU D. HUFF (K. BROWN, A. IZQUIERDO, M. MCGINN, CHARLIE HANDSOME)	Kane Brown RCA NASHVILLE	-	24
50	NEW		1	STARTING OVER D. COBB, C. STAPLETON (C. STAPLETON, M. HENDERSON)	Chris Stapleton MERCURY	27	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		2019	2020	CHANGE	
This Week	1,220,000	1,338,569,000	123,807,000	Album Consumption	35,662,000	40,170,000	12.6%	'19 35.66 million
Last Week	1,262,000	1,382,823,000	125,693,000	Album Sales	6,512,000	5,646,000	-13.3%	'20 40.17 million
Change	-3.3%	-3.2%	-1.5%	Audio On-Demand	35,570,271,000	43,321,375,000	21.8%	TOTAL ON-DEMAND STREAMS
This Week Last Year	1,065,000	1,081,688,000	275,109,000	Video On-Demand	9,128,425,000	4,669,761,000	-48.8%	'19 44.69 billion
Change	14.6%	23.7%	-55.0%					'20 47.99 billion

All data measures U.S. activity as of the week ending August 27, 2020. 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/MRC Data has reprocessed year-to-date figures to account for a change in methodology, resulting in a restatement in streaming data from a provider, which has resulted in a shift in some previously reported data, most notably for video streams.

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
MRC nielsen

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	NEW	1		TIM MCGRAW MCGRAW/BIG MACHINE TM0400A*/BMLG	HERE ON EARTH		1
2	1	2	117	MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD 783*	IF I KNOW ME	●	1
3	3	3	42	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 595687*/SMN	WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET		1
4	5	4	169	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN	THIS ONE'S FOR YOU	3	1
5	2	—	2	KANE BROWN RCA NASHVILLE DIGITAL EX/SMN	MIXTAPE, VOL. 1 (EP)		2
6	4	1	3	LUKE BRYAN ROW CROP/CAPITOL NASHVILLE 031777/UMGN	BORN HERE LIVE HERE DIE HERE		1
7	7	6	278	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
8	6	7	10	GABBY BARRETT WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 629930/WMN	GOLDMINE		4
9	8	5	21	SAM HUNT MCA NASHVILLE 031776*/UMGN	SOUTHSIDE		1
10	10	11	264	ZAC BROWN BAND ROAR/SOUTHERN GROUND/ATLANTIC 546369/AG	GREATEST HITS SO FAR...		3
11	9	9	77	MAREN MORRIS COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 590186*/SMN	GIRL	●	1
12	11	12	13	DIPLO PRESENTS THOMAS WESLEY MAD DECENT DIGITAL EX/COLUMBIA	CHAPTER I: SNAKE OIL		6
13	12	10	37	BLAKE SHELTON WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 607343/WMN	FULLY LOADED: GOD'S COUNTRY	●	1
14	NEW	1		JOSH TURNER MCA NASHVILLE 032337/UMGN	COUNTRY STATE OF MIND		14
15	13	13	40	JASON ALDEAN MACON/BROKEN BOW/BMG 32944*/BBMG		9	1
16	18	18	19	MADDIE & TAE MERCURY 031826*/UMGN	THE WAY IT FEELS		7
17	17	14	59	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	PURGATORY		12
18	14	15	114	DAN + SHAY WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 570796/WMN	DAN + SHAY	■	1
19	15	17	195	KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE 530947*/SMN	KANE BROWN	2	1
20	21	21	225	TIM MCGRAW CURB 79205 (13.98)	NUMBER ONE HITS	■	6
21	19	19	76	ELVIS PRESLEY RCA/SONY STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP 89040*/LEGACY (25.98)	THE ESSENTIAL ELVIS PRESLEY	■	12
22	16	8	6	THE CHICKS COLUMBIA 974115*	GASLIGHTER		1
23	20	16	94	KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE/SMN	EXPERIMENT	■	1
24	22	22	226	GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 000459/UMGN (25.98)	50 NUMBER ONES	7	1
25	26	24	247	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 2020, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

billboard

AMERICANA/ FOLK ALBUMS

SALES DATA
COMPILED BY
MRC nielsen

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	NEW	1		BRIGHT EYES DEAD OCEANS 210*	DOWN IN THE WEEDS, WHERE THE WORLD ONCE WAS		1
2	1	1	224	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
3	3	3	76	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	PURGATORY		3
4	2	2	6	THE CHICKS COLUMBIA 974115*	GASLIGHTER		1
5	5	4	270	HOZIER RUBYYWORKS 309996*/COLUMBIA	HOZIER	2	1
6	NEW	1		THE MAVERICKS MONO MUNDO 007*/THIRTY TIGERS	EN ESPANOL		6
7	6	5	126	KACEY MUSGRAVES MCA NASHVILLE 027921*/UMGN	GOLDEN HOUR	●	1
8	NEW	1		OLD 97'S ATO 0528*	TWELFTH		8
9	7	8	187	SIMON & GARFUNKEL COLUMBIA 31350/LEGACY	SIMON AND GARFUNKEL'S GREATEST HITS		3
10	9	10	229	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 2020, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

billboard

COUNTRY STREAMING SONGS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST
1	1	2	7 SUMMERS MORGAN WALLEN
2	2	44	I HOPE GABBY BARRETT
3	3	12	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART MADDIE & TAE
4	4	34	CHASIN' YOU MORGAN WALLEN
5	5	54	HEARTLESS DIPLO PRESENTS THOMAS WESLEY FEAT. MORGAN WALLEN
6	7	177	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON
7	8	80	WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN
8	12	13	GOT WHAT I GOT JASON ALDEAN
9	10	60	THE BONES MAREN MORRIS
10	9	16	MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN MORGAN WALLEN
11	11	4	COOL AGAIN KANE BROWN
12	25	5	LOVIN' ON YOU LUKE COMBS
13	6	15	ONE MARGARITA LUKE BRYAN
14	14	121	BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKE COMBS
15	18	4	I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED DAN + SHAY
16	16	11	ONE OF THEM GIRLS LEE BRICE
17	19	11	I LOVE MY COUNTRY FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE
18	17	53	ONE MAN BAND OLD DOMINION
19	13	17	BLUEBIRD MIRANDA LAMBERT
20	15	21	HARD TO FORGET SAM HUNT
21	20	2	BE A LIGHT THOMAS RHETT F/R. MCENTIRE, H. SCOTT, C. TOMLIN & K. URBAN
22	23	3	PRETTY HEART PARKER MCCOLLUM
23	21	144	MEANT TO BE BEBE REXHA & FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE
24	22	12	ONE BEER HARDY FEAT. LAUREN ALAINA & DEVIN DAWSON
25	NEW		I CALLED MAMA TIM MCGRAW

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 2020, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

billboard

COUNTRY DIGITAL SONG SALES

STREAMING & SALES
DATA COMPILED BY
MRC nielsen

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST
1	3	52	I HOPE GABBY BARRETT
2	5	18	GOT WHAT I GOT JASON ALDEAN
3	7	17	ONE OF THEM GIRLS LEE BRICE
4	1	2	7 SUMMERS MORGAN WALLEN
5	4	21	ONE MARGARITA LUKE BRYAN
6	NEW		NEW NORMAL COOPER ALAN
7	8	5	HAPPY ANYWHERE BLAKE SHELTON FEAT. GWEN STEFANI
8	9	8	WINE, BEER, WHISKEY LITTLE BIG TOWN
9	6	10	MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN MORGAN WALLEN
10	10	12	DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART MADDIE & TAE
11	RE-ENTRY		THANK YOU LORD CHRIS TOMLIN FEAT. THOMAS RHETT & FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE
12	14	4	I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED DAN + SHAY
13	NEW		I KINDA DON'T ALEXANDRA KAY
14	NEW		GETTING OVER HIM LAUREN ALAINA FEAT. JON PARDI
15	16	7	LOVIN' ON YOU LUKE COMBS
16	NEW		SKELETONS BROTHERS OSBORNE
17	18	22	BE A LIGHT THOMAS RHETT F/R. MCENTIRE, H. SCOTT, C. TOMLIN & K. URBAN
18	21	236	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON
19	19	14	WHY WE DRINK JUSTIN MOORE
20	13	30	CHASIN' YOU MORGAN WALLEN
21	RE-ENTRY		ONE BEER HARDY FEAT. LAUREN ALAINA & DEVIN DAWSON
22	11	3	BEERS AND SUNSHINE DARIUS RUCKER
23	15	24	BLUEBIRD MIRANDA LAMBERT
24	20	25	HARD TO FORGET SAM HUNT
25	24	37	NOBODY BUT YOU BLAKE SHELTON DUET WITH GWEN STEFANI

billboard

BLUEGRASS ALBUMS

SALES DATA
COMPILED BY
MRC nielsen

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	2	2	48	BILLY STRINGS ROUNDER 610063*/CONCORD	HOME		1
2	NEW	1		LORRAINE JORDAN & CAROLINA ROAD PINECASTLE 1242	BILL MONROE'S OL' MANDOLIN		2
3	1	1	10	YO-YO MA/STUART DUNCAN/EDGAR MEYER/CHRIS THILE SOUND POSTINGS/SONY CLASSICAL 973855*/SONY MASTERWORKS	NOT OUR FIRST GOAT RODEO		1
4	4	4	46	THE DEAD SOUTH SIX SHOOTER 129*	SUGAR & JOY		1
5	7	9	19	THE WHITE BUFFALO SNAKEFARM 862780*	ON THE WIDOW'S WALK		1
6	5	3	8	GARY BREWER & THE KENTUCKY RAMBLERS STRETCH GRASS 4050	40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION		1
7	8	6	13	CHOSEN ROAD SONG GARDEN 1255	APPALACHIAN WORSHIP: DELUXE EDITION		5
8	6	7	29	THE STEELDRIVERS ROUNDER 610080*/CONCORD	BAD FOR YOU		1
9	11	11	46	OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 98*/OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW	LIVE AT THE RYMAN		1
10	13	14	11	THE PETERSENS THE PETERSENS 5203	HOMESICK FOR A COUNTRY		10

Bluegrass Albums ranks the most popular bluegrass albums of the week, as compiled by Nielsen Music, based on album sales. Copyright 2020, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen Music, Inc. All rights reserved.

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

Dan + Shay's 'I Should Probably Go To Bed' Goes Out On A Creative Limb

When **Dan + Shay** peeked out from a lengthy period of coronavirus-induced self-isolation, the duo turned plenty of heads.

"I Should Probably Go To Bed," a song they completed after a tour postponement provided weeks of downtime, defies the norms of their core genre. It uses an unusual-for-country chord to bend the melody just before the chorus, it stacks at least 20 — maybe more than 30 — tracks of voices to create a **Queen**-like harmonic structure, it closes with the bridge instead of a third chorus, and it waits over two minutes before it finally introduces a full band, including bass and drums, for a mere 26 seconds.

"We've obviously never written a song like that, and I've never really heard a song like that, especially in country music," says lead singer **Shay Mooney**. "We definitely took a lot of liberties."

The song pushes boundaries in part because Warner Chappell Music dropped some corporate borders. Beginning in summer 2019, the publishing company made an effort to increase collaborations between writers in Nashville and Los Angeles. When Dan + Shay headed to California for the Grammy Awards in January, two publishing executives — Los Angeles-based vp A&R **Katy Wolaver** and Warner Chappell Nashville vp A&R **B.J. Hill** — conspired to fill a four-hour hole in the duo's schedule with a last-minute cowrite three days before the ceremony. The booking was on-again, off-again as Dan + Shay wobbled about adding an extra appointment in a city with notorious traffic issues, and two of the four pop writers that Warner had targeted were unavailable. The cowriting location became a decisive factor.

"We were on the hunt for a studio that was very close to the Four Seasons, something that [they] could get to within five minutes," notes Wolaver. "That was a huge feat in itself."

She cajoled a booking for a small overdub room less than 4 miles away at the historic Westlake Studios (**Michael Jackson**, **Justin Timberlake**) and got two of the writers — **Sean Douglas** ("Die a Happy Man," "Sorry Not Sorry") and **Jason Evigan** ("Girls Like You," "Talk Dirty") — to head over even before Dan + Shay had signed off.

"I just drove thinking it was a 50/50 chance that anyone was going to be there," recalls Douglas. "And then, you know, five minutes away, they were confirmed."

After some introductory conversation, they started working on an uptempo song, though **Dan Smyers** decided it was a dead end.

"What I love about Dan is that he'll pull the plug right when he doesn't think [it works] — he's like, 'This isn't it, let's stop,'" notes Evigan. "We started a second idea, and we were kind of going around for a while. I remember looking at Dan's face. I knew it was coming. He was like, 'It's not a hit. It's not a hit.'"

With no more than 45 minutes left, Smyers brought out a title he had spoken numerous times in his own life, "I Should Probably Go to Bed."

"I got on the piano and played this progression," says Douglas. "He sang the opening line, and then we all just wrote it together. It was awesome. We just knocked it out in, honestly, the last 35 minutes."

The song was a little faster than the final version and built over a percussive track, but it was incomplete, with just two verses and a chorus. Dan + Shay went back to Grammy duties, and Evigan stayed in touch about "I Should

Just Go to Bed" and one other title, but he suspected it had hit the proverbial dead end, too.

"I didn't think it was going to have a chance because I wasn't getting the excitement from Dan like I was getting from the other song," says Evigan. "I [thought] maybe one day we could pitch it to someone else because I definitely knew the song was good."



Over the coming weeks, as Dan + Shay rehearsed for a tour and played the first two dates prior to the COVID-19 shutdown, Smyers saw it as a potential song for them to perform in an acoustic section on a satellite stage shaped like the plus sign from the duo's name. Bandmembers seemed to respond as they toyed with it, but they could never figure out how to finish it.

Weeks after entering self-isolation, Dan + Shay felt safe to reconnect with social distancing at Smyers' home studio. Working on yet another song, they drifted back to "I Should Probably Go to Bed." Mooney riffed what became the bridge melody, and they finished writing it in about 15 minutes.

Smyers went to work for weeks producing the end version, playing all the instruments one at a time and creating the Queen-style vocal stack with multiple parts from both members of the duo, plus Smyers' wife, **Abby Smyers**, and a tinge of vocoder.

"You can't really hear it," concedes Smyers. "But it gives it that sort of Queen 'Bohemian Rhapsody' or 'Fat Bottom Girls' sort of thing. I love the vocoder. I try not to overuse it, but it's a classic trick, especially when you blend it with tons of live voices. I think that's the magic to it."

The arrangement was originally more standard — the full band arrived at the start of the second verse — but Smyers whittled away at it.

"It just, from there, didn't leave the song anywhere to go," he explains.

Smyers changed the scene at the start of that bridge, employing pizzicato strings inspired by **The Beatles**' "Eleanor Rigby," and stacked the harmonies atop a repetitive "all up in my head" lyric to create a sense of inner frenzy in the song's protagonist before the full band finally converges at 2:05.

"That was a brave, bold move, and I really think it's what makes the song have its own identity," says Evigan.

Neither Warner Chappell nor Warner Music Nashville knew "I Should Probably Go to Bed" was brewing until Smyers completed the production.

"They were keeping it really close," says Wolaver. "I know that they felt like it was really special and did not want it to get out."

The label originally had another song in mind as a single, but "I Should Probably Go to Bed" changed the internal conversation, and it was officially released on July 28. By its second chart week, the song had jumped into the top 10 on Hot Country Songs, and it charted on multiple non-country lists as well.

Both Smyers and Mooney believe the track would not have been completed in this form if the pandemic had not pulled them off the road and given them unexpected free time to create without deadlines. And the response has buoyed their tendency to take creative chances with country.

"If this were the last song we would ever make — it's clearly not — I would be OK going out on this because I feel like this is just our most impressive piece of work to date," says Smyers. "It showcases Shay's voice. It showcases my production. 'Tequila,' up to this point, was the thing that I would hang my hat on — like, that was my masterpiece in my head. I feel like this is that as well." ●

billboard Country Airplay Index

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

7 SUMMERS Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Bo Wallace Publishing, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Tempo Investments, GMR/Smackstreet Music, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP (M.Wallen, S.McAnally, J.Osborne) **53**

A

AIN'T ALWAYS THE COWBOY Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Whiskey Tub Music, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Two Laine Collections, BMI (B.Kinney, J.Thompson) **20**

ALL NIGHT All The Kings Pens, ASCAP/Trammy McCauley, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/songstein Publishing, ASCAP/Songs In The Key Of Claire, ASCAP/Patriot Games Publishing, ASCAP/DTM Ave, ASCAP (J. Osborne, T.J. Osborne, A.DeRoberts) **38**

ALL OF THE BOYS Bare Feet Publishing LLC, BMI/Day For The Dead Publishing, SESAC (C.D.Jones, Z.Brown) **58**

ALMOST MAYBES Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Jordan Davis Music, ASCAP/Anthem Entertainment, ASCAP/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Telemity Rhythm House Music, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/BIRB Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP (J.Davis, J.Frasure, H.Lindsey) **40**

B

BE A LIGHT EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Cricket On The Line, BMI/Matt Drag Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/Jack 10 Publishing, BMI/Songs Of The Cori, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Two Laine Collections, BMI (Thomas Rhett, M.Dragstream, J.Miller, J.Thompson) **4**

BEERS AND SUNSHINE Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/GrowingMusic Publishing, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Iris In The Sky With Diamonds, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Detroit Records And Tapes, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP (D.Rucker, R.Copperman, J.T.Harding, J.Osborne) **33**

BETTY TASRM Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/William Bowery Music Publishing, BMI (T.Swift, W.Bowery) **42**

BIG, BIG PLANS Magic Mustang Music, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Songs Of Universal, BMI/Tre Vibe Music, LLC, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI (J.Durrett, C.Lane, E.K.Smith) **22**

C

CHAMPAGNE NIGHT WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Haywooda Cut That Song, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/RADIOBULLETS Publishing, BMI/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/EKI Publishing, SESAC/Silhouette Music Publishing, SOCAN/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Dan Dean Music Publishing, BMI/Songs In The Key Of Claire, ASCAP/Patriot Games Publishing, ASCAP/Downtown DJL Songs, ASCAP/G25 Publishing, SESAC/Eligible Music Doa Songland Television Publishing, SESAC/BMG Cicada, SESAC/Tempo Investments, GMR/Smackwood Music, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/MerloJams Publishing, ASCAP/Deluge Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Write Me A Song Publishing, GMR/Downtown Global Two, GMR (D.Haywood, C.Kelley, H.Scott, P.Conroy, E.RDean, A.DeRoberts, T.A.Gemza, S.McAnally, M.R.Merlo, R.B.Jedder, D.Thomson) **28**

CHEATIN' SONGS WC Music Corp., ASCAP/TiPtop Music, ASCAP/Tropical Cowboy Publishing, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Kitt Cass Publishing Corporation, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Hits, GMR/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Tempo Investments, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR (J. Carson, C.Duddy, M.Wystrach, S.McAnally, J.Osborne) **29**

COOL AGAIN Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Songs For Owen Music, SESAC/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing, SESAC/McGinnIntellectual Property, SESAC/True Blue Works, SESAC/RP Music, SESAC/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Koala 1 Tunes, BMI (K.Brown, J.Hodges, M.McGinn, L.Rimes) **3**

D

DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Super Big Music, ASCAP/Seven Red Brds Publishing, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Jehovah Nissi Music, BMI/Jett Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/Doc And Maggie Music, SOCAN/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (M.Marlow, T.Dye, J.Singleton, D.Ruttan) **5**

E

EVERY OTHER MEMORY Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/hurdjanz, BMI/Red Like The Sunset Music, ASCAP/Anthem Entertainment, ASCAP/Spicer And Everything Nicer, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/No Bridge Publishing, ASCAP (R.J.Hurd, N.Spicer, C.Taylor) **55**

EVERYWHERE BUT ON Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Pedal Down Music, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Presley Jake Music, SESAC (M.Stell, P.Sikes, L.Miller) **14**

G

GABRIELLE One O'Clock Road, Inc., BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Bearkiller Music, BMI/Concord Publishing, BMI/International Dog Music, BMI/Royal Peach Publishing, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI (B.Eldredge, I.Fitchuk, D.Tashan) **39**

GETTING GOOD Weistrie Publishing, ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (E.Weisband) **35**

GOD WHISPERED YOUR NAME BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Gold Leaf Pages, ASCAP/Mican Carter Publishing Designee, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/You Want How Much Of What Publishing, BMI/Worldwide EMG Music B, BMI/Bro 2 Bro Publishing, BMI/Sony/ATV, Inc. Publishing, BMI (C.August, M.Carter, Shy Carter, J.Slater) **9**

THE GOOD ONES GBF Music Global, BMI/Sony/ATV, Inc. Publishing, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/BMG Blue, BMI/Fox Landis Lyrics, BMI/Songs Of Jim McCormick, BMI/Sony/ATV Country, BMI/Revinyl Music, BMI (G.Barrett, E.Landis, J.McCormick, Z.Kale) **45**

GOOD TIME W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Niko Moon Publishing, ASCAP/Here Comes The Boom Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Anna Moon Publishing, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Joshua Murty Publishing, ASCAP/Mark Russell Music, ASCAP/Future Heartbeat Publishing, ASCAP (N.Moon, J.Minton, A.Moon, J.Murty, M.Trussell) **30**

GOT WHAT I GOT Peertunes, Ltd., SESAC/MINOZE, SESAC/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Alexander Palmer Songs, BMI/MV2 Music, BMI/Hits Like Hurricane, BMI (M.Jyler, A.Palmer, T.Archer) **10**

H

HAPPY ANYWHERE EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Endurance Romeo Charlie, BMI/Highly Combustible Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/One77 Songs, ASCAP/Combustion Five, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP/Big Blue Nation Music, ASCAP (R.Copperman, J.Osborne, M.Jenkins) **15**

HAPPY DOES Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Murphy The Wolf Music, BMI/Five Miles West Songs, BMI/Mandy's Favorite Songs, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Consortium Publishing, BMI/Dont Be A Gypsy, BMI/Hold On Can I Get A Number 1 Music, BMI (B. Clawson, J.Paulin, B.Berryhill, G.James) **26**

HARD DAYS Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Indiana Angel Music, BMI/Dont Be A Gypsy, BMI/Spirit Of Nashville One, BMI (G.Gilbert, J.Bell, B.Berryhill, J.Brunswick, L.Wall) **46**

HOLE IN THE BOTTLE Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Vistaville Music, ASCAP/Steph Jones Who Music, ASCAP/Big Deal Hits, ASCAP/410 Music, ASCAP/Telemity Rhythm House Music, BMI/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP (K.Ballerini, S.Jones, H.Lindsey, J.Frasure, A.Gorley) **57**

HOW THEY REMEMBER YOU Son Of Ron Songs, ASCAP/Downtown DJL Songs, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Built On Rock Music, ASCAP (M.Beeson, J.Osborne, A.Shamblin) **34**

I

I CALLED MAMA All Night Linda Music, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/BMG Silver Songs, SESAC/Still Working For All, Inc., SESAC/Sonic Style Music, SESAC/BMG Cicada, SESAC/Cedar Church Music, BMI (M.Green, L.Miller, J.Yeary) **11**

I LOVE MY COUNTRY Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Big Tre Nelly, BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Big Tre Vibe Music, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Big Crowd Publishing, ASCAP/Georgia Song Vibe, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Mandy's Favorite Songs, BMI/Track House Worldwide Entertainment, BMI (K.Brown, C.Crowder, R.McGill, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome, W.Weatherly) **2**

I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED Beats And Banjos, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Shay Mooney Music, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Eastman Pond Publishing, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Bad Robot Music, BMI (D.Smyers, S.Mooney, S.M.Douglas, J.G.Evigan) **19**

J

JUST THE WAY Sony/ATV Country, BMI/JM Thomas Music, BMI/Sony/ATV, Inc. Tunes LLC, ASCAP/Kevin Bard Music, ASCAP/Margetts Road Music, ASCAP/Nolan W. Sipe Music, ASCAP (M.Thomas, K.Bard, N.W.Sipe) **44**

L

LADY Super Big Music, ASCAP/Calville Publishing, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Iris In The Sky With Diamonds, BMI/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP (B.Young, R.Copperman, J.M.Nite) **43**

LOVELY IF YOU ARE Sony/ATV Country, BMI/Dack Janels Publishing, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Koala 1 Tunes, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (C.Rice, L.Rimes, H.Phelps) **16**

LOVE YOU LIKE I USED TO BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Kaley's Dream, BMI/Blue Corolla Oklahoma, SESAC/Feel Your Creative Pulse Music, SESAC/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Home Team Music, BMI/Tunes Of TrailerParker, BMI (R. Dickerson, C.Brown, P.Welling) **23**

LOVIN' ON YOU Big Music Machine, BMI/50 Egg Music, BMI/Straight Dimes Publishing, BMI/MV2 Music, BMI/Larkin Hill Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony/ATV Country, BMI/Stay Creative Music, BMI/Works Of RHA, BMI (L.Combs, T.Archer, R.M.L.Fulcher, J.McNair) **1**

M

MADE FOR YOU Plaid Flag Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/Dixie Stars Music, ASCAP/Son Of A Carl Music, ASCAP/HorPro Entertainment Group, Inc., ASCAP (B.Davis, J.Hyde, N.A.Medley) **51**

THE MAN WHO LOVES YOU THE MOST Weimerhous Music, SESAC/Day For The Dead Publishing, SESAC/Reach Music, BMI/Simonetti Music Publishing, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/Someone To Be Proud Of Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (Z.Brown, B.Simonetti, A.James) **49**

MOMMA'S HOUSE Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Two Black Dogs, ASCAP/Ole Music Of Parallel, BMI/Lucky Me Publishing, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Ford Drive A Chevy, BMI/Shirt At Work, BMI/Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/BMG Cicada, SESAC (D.Schneider, M.Lotten, R.Clawson, J.T.Wilson) **32**

MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Sony/ATV Country, BMI (M.W.Hardy, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome, M.Wallen) **21**

N

NEVER HAVE I EVER Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/One Voice Global Publishing, BMI/Canal Music Publishing BV, BMI/A's Weddings Music, BMI/Songs Of Parallel, BMI/Lucky Me Publishing, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Never Veltz So Good Publishing, BMI (D. Bradbery, D.H.Hodges, L.J.Veltz) **59**

NOBODY Curb Congregation Songs, SESAC/Good Vibes, Good Times Music, SESAC/Curb Songs, ASCAP/Songs Of Riser House, BMI (D.Scott, M.Alderman, D.Wilson) **41**

O

NO I IN BEER New House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Own My Own Music Publishing, ASCAP (D.Paisley, K.Loveale) **25**

P

ONE OF THEM GIRLS Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Big Blue Nation Music, ASCAP/Natalia's Music Money, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Love Cannons Publishing, SESAC/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC (A.Gorley, B.Johnson, D.Davidson, L.Brice) **7**

P

PRETTY HEART Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Parkmac Publishing, BMI/Sullivan S Guns Music, BMI (P.McCollum, R.Montana) **18**

S

SHE'S MINE Music Of Stage Three, BMI/Songs Of Cornman, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Songs From The Couch, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (K.Moore, D.Couch, S.Stepakoff) **24**

SINGLE SATURDAY NIGHT Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Art In The Fodder Music, BMI/Hark Molman Songs, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Ju Jettsu Music, BMI (A.Gorley, M.W.Hardy, M.Homan) **50**

SOMEbody LIKE THAT Oven Music Inc., BMI/Zigzag Z Music, SESAC/Tunes Of Big Deal Music, SESAC/Songs Of Porterfield Music, SESAC (T.Ants, A.Kline, A.M.Cruz) **36**

SOME GIRLS Harding Road Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Watsky Music, LLC, BMI/New Writers Of Sea Gayle Music, BMI/West Pass Music, BMI/New House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP (M.W.Hardy, J.Mitchell, C.J.Solar) **12**

A SONG TO REMEMBER WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Big Loud Shirt Industries, ASCAP/Moody Producer Music, BMI/Meaux Mercy, BMI (M.Hobby, B.D.Warren, B.Warren, C.Stevens) **57**

STARTING OVER I Wrote These Songs, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Straight Six Music, BMI/Wixen Music Publishing, BMI (C.Stapleton, M.Henderson) **27**

STICK THAT IN YOUR COUNTRY SONG Hillbilly Science And Research Publishing, BMI/Do Write Music, LLC/Jeffrey Steele Music, BMI (D.Nash, Jeffrey Steele) **31**

T

THIS IS US KMR II GT Publishing Limited, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Round Hill Works, BMI/Georgia Song Vibe, ASCAP/We-Volve Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Sony/ATV Songs LLC, BMI/Sparky Phone Music, BMI/Medina Sound, BMI/DJ Music LLC, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Pile Of Schmidt Songs, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, ASCAP (N. Currey, T.Hubbard, J.M.Schmidt, L.Juber, D.Emile Jr) **54**

TO HELL & BACK International Dog Music, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI/Jay Gatsby Music, BMI/Revelry Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Oh Denise Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI (M.Morris, J.J.Dillon, L.Veltz) **47**

W

WE WERE RICH EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Endurance Romeo Charlie, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Combustion Engine Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI (R. Copperman, A.Gorley, N.Galyon) **48**

WHAT DO I KNOW Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Dos Hobos Music, ASCAP/Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/New Writers Of Sea Gayle Music, BMI/West Pass Music, BMI (R.Counts, M.W.Hardy, J.Mitchell) **52**

WHERE THAT BEER'S BEEN I'm About To go RED On Ya Music, BMI/Travis Denning Music, BMI/Ole BMI/Ritten By Rhettro, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Hot Mess Music International, BMI/Goes Something Like This Music, BMI/Anthem Music Publishing II, ASCAP/Real Big Red Tunes, ASCAP/Anthem Entertainment, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI (T. Denning, R.Akins, C.Stevens, J.S.Stover) **60**

WHY WE DRINK Big Music Machine, BMI/Double Barrel Ace Music, BMI/Seyen Ring Circus Songs, BMI/Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Old Desperados, LLC, BMI/NZ Publishing Company, Inc., ASCAP/Carol Vincent And Associates, LLC, ASCAP/Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Real Big Red Tunes, ASCAP (J.Moore, C.Beathard, D.L.Murphy, J.S.Stover) **8**

WINE, BEER, WHISKEY Razor And Tie Music Publishing, BMI/Toter The Musical, BMI/Warner-Tamela Publishing Corp., BMI/Silent Desert Music, BMI/Self Made Entertainment, BMI (T.Brown, K.Fairchild, S.McConnell, K.Schapman, P.Sweet, J.Westbrook) **56**

billboard Hot Country Songs Index

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

7 SUMMERS Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Bo Wallace Publishing, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Tempo Investments, GMR/Smackstreet Music, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP (M.Wallen, S.McAnally, J.Osborne) **7**

A

AIN'T ALWAYS THE COWBOY Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Whiskey Tub Music, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Two Laine Collections, BMI (B.Kinney, J.Thompson) **22**

ALL NIGHT All The Kings Pens, ASCAP/Trampy McCauley, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Songstein Publishing, ASCAP/Songs In The Key Of Claire, ASCAP/Patriot Games Publishing, ASCAP/DTM Ave, ASCAP (J.Osborne, T.J. Osborne, A.DeRoberts) **48**

ALMOST MAYBES Ole Red Cape Songs, ASCAP/Jordan Davis Music, ASCAP/Anthem Entertainment, ASCAP/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Telemity Rhythm House Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/BIRB Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP (J.Davis, J.Frasure, H.Lindsey) **30**

B

BE A LIGHT EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Cricket On The Line, BMI/Matt Drag Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/Jack 10 Publishing, BMI/Songs Of The Corn, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Two Laine Collections, BMI (Thomas Rhett, M.Dragstrem, J.Miller, J.Thompson) **11**

BEERS AND SUNSHINE Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/GrowingMusic Publishing, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Iris In The Sky With Diamonds, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Detroit Records And Tapes, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP (D.Rucker, R.Copperman, J.T.Harding, J.Osborne) **38**

BETTY TASRM Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/William Bowery Music Publishing, BMI (T.Swift, W.Bowery) **33**

BIG, BIG PLANS Magic Mustang Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Tree Vibe Music, LLC, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI (J.Durrett, C.Lane, E.K.Smith) **25**

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/Heroes And Halos Music, BMI (M.Morris, J.M.Robbins, L.J.Veltz) **3**

C

CHAMPAGNE NIGHT WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Haywoodja Cut That Song, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/RADIOBULLETPublishing, BMI/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/EKT Publishing, SESAC/Silaight Music Publishing, SOCAN/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Dat Damn Dean Music, BMI/Songs In The Key Of Claire, ASCAP/Patriot Games Publishing, ASCAP/Downtown DJL Songs, ASCAP/G23 Publishing, SESAC/Eligible Music dba Songland Television Publishing, SESAC/BMG Cicada, SESAC/Tempo Investments, GMR/Smackwood Music, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/MerloJamsPublishing, ASCAP/Deluge Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Write Me A Song Publishing, GMR/Downtown Global Two, GMR (D.Haywood, C.Kelley, H.Scott, P.Conroy, E.R.Dean, A.DeRoberts, T.A.Gemza, S.McAnally, M.R.Merlo, R.B.Tedder, D.Thomson) **27**

CHEATIN' SONGS WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Tiptop Music, ASCAP/Tropical Cowboy Publishing, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Kitt Cass Publishing Corporation, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Smack Hits, GMR/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Tempo Investments, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR (J.Carson, C.Duddy, M.Wystrach, S.McAnally, J.Osborne) **41**

COOL AGAIN Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Songs For Owen Music, SESAC/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/McGinnIntellectual Property, SESAC/True Blue Works, SESAC/RP Music, SESAC/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Koala T Tunes, BMI (K.Brown, J.Hodges, M.McGinn, L.Rimes) **8**

D

DIE FROM A BROKEN HEART Super Big Music, ASCAP/Seven Red Bids Publishing, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Jehovah Nissi Music, BMI/Jett Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Thankful For This Music, ASCAP/Doc And Maggie Music, SOCAN/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (M.Marlow, T.Dye, J.Singleton, D.Ruttan) **2**

E

EVERYWHERE BUT ON Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Pedal Down Music, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Presley Jake Music, SESAC (M.Stell, S.Sikes, L.Miller) **23**

G

GOD WHISPERED YOUR NAME BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Gold Leaf Pages, ASCAP/Micah Carter Publishing Designee, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/You Want How Much Of What Publishing, BMI/Worldwide EMG Music B, BMI/Bro 2 Bro Publishing, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI (C.August, M.Carter, Shy Carter, J.T.Slater) **15**

THE GOOD ONES GBF Music Global, BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/BMG Blue, BMI/Fox Landis Lyrics, BMI/Songs Of Jim McCormick, BMI/Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Revinyll House, BMI (G.Barrett, E.Landis, J.McCormick, Z.Kale) **32**

GOOD TIME W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Niko Moon Publishing, SESAC/Here Comes The Boom Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Anna Moon Publishing, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Joshua Murty Publishing, ASCAP/Mark Trussell Music, ASCAP/Future Heartbeat Publishing, ASCAP (N.Moon, J.Minton, A.Moon, J.Murty, M.Trussell) **28**

GOT WHAT I GOT Peertunes, Ltd., SESAC/MTNoize, SESAC/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Alexander Palmer Songs, BMI/MV2 Music, BMI/Hits Like Hurricane, BMI (M.Tyler, A.Palmer, T.Archer) **5**

H

HAPPY ANYWHERE EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Endurance Romeo Charlie, BMI/Highly Combustible Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/One77 Songs, ASCAP/Combustion Five, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP/Big Blue Nation Music, ASCAP (R.Copperman, J.Osborne, N.Jenkins) **18**

HAPPY DOES Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Murphy The Wolf Music, BMI/Five Miles West Songs, BMI/Mandy's Favorite Songs, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Songsfortatum Publishing, BMI/Don't Be A Gypsy, BMI/Hold On Can I Get A Number 1 Music, BMI (B.Clawson, J.Paulin, B.Berryhill, G.James) **35**

HOLE IN THE BOTTLE Sony/ATV Accent, ASCAP/Vistaville Music, ASCAP/Steph Jones Who Music, ASCAP/Big Deal Hits, ASCAP/410 Music, ASCAP/Telemetry Rhythm House Music, BMI/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP (K.Ballerini, S.Jones, H.Lindsey, J.Frasure, A.Gorley) **34**

I

I CALLED MAMA All Night Linda Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI/BMG Silver Songs, SESAC/Still Working For All Inc, SESAC/Sonic Style Music, SESAC/BMG Cicada, SESAC/Cedar Church Music, BMI (M.Green, L.Miller, J.Yearry) **13**

I HOPE Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/GBF Music Global, BMI/Revinyll House, BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP/Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, BMI (Z.Kale, J.M.Nite, G.Barrett) **1**

I LOVE MY COUNTRY Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/Plum Nelly, BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Big Tree Vibe Music, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Big Crowd Publishing, ASCAP/Georgia Song Vibe Music, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Mandy's Favorite Songs, BMI/Track House Worldwide Entertainment, BMI (K.Brown, C.Crowder, R.C.McGill, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome, W.Weatherly) **9**

I SHOULD PROBABLY GO TO BED Beats And Banjos, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Shay Mooney Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Eastman Pond Publishing, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Bad Robot Music, BMI (D.Smyers, S.Mooney, S.M.Douglas, J.G.Evigan) **12**

J

JUST THE WAY Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/JM Thomas Music, BMI/Sony/ATV Tunes LLC, ASCAP/Kevin Bard Music, ASCAP/Margetts Road Music, ASCAP/Nolan W. Sipe Music, ASCAP (M.Thomas, K.Bard, N.W.Sipe) **39**

L

LADY Super Big Music, ASCAP/Caliville Publishing, ASCAP/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Iris In The Sky With Diamonds, BMI/Nite Writer Music, ASCAP (B.Young, R.Copperman, J.M.Nite) **40**

LOVELY IF YOU ARE Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Dack Janiels Publishing, BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Koala T Tunes, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (C.Rice, L.Rimes, H.Phelps) **21**

LOVE YOU LIKE I USED TO BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Kailey's Dream, BMI/Blue Corolla Oklahoma, SESAC/Feel Your Creative Pulse Music, SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Home Team Music, BMI/Tunes Of TrailerParker, BMI (R.Dickerson, C.Brown, P.Welling) **24**

LOVIN' ON YOU Big Music Machine, BMI/50 Egg Music, BMI/Straight Dimes Publishing, BMI/MV2 Music, BMI/Larkin Hill Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI/Stay Creative Music, BMI/Works Of RHA, BMI (L.Combs, T.Archer, R.M.L.Fulcher, J.McNair) **4**

M

MOMMA'S HOUSE Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Two Black Dogs, ASCAP/Ole Music Of Parallel, BMI/Lucky Mic Publishing, BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Ford Drives A Chevy, BMI/Shirt At Work, BMI/Legends Of Magic Mustang Music, SESAC/BMG Cicada, SESAC (D.Schneider, M.Lotten, R.Clawson, J.T.Wilson) **44**

MORE THAN MY HOMETOWN Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Em Dog Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Sony/ATV Countryside, BMI (M.W.Hardy, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome, M.Wallen) **14**

N

NO I IN BEER New House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Own My Own Music Publishing, ASCAP (B.Paisley, K.Lovelace) **29**

O

ONE BEER Relative Music Group, BMI/BIRB Music, ASCAP/New Writers Of Sea Gayle Music, BMI/West Pass Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP (M.W.Hardy, H.Lindsey, J.Mitchell) **16**

ONE MARGARITA Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/243 Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Matt Drag Music, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/Round Hill Compositions, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Two Laine Collections, BMI (M.R.Carter, M.Dragstrem, J.Thompson) **6**

ONE NIGHT STANDARDS Canned Biscuit Songs, BMI/Smack Hits, GMR/Tempo Investments, GMR/Kobalt Music Group Ltd., GMR/I Love RHA, SESAC/Smackworks Music, SESAC/Smack Blue, LLC, SESAC/Smackstreet Music, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Songs Of Harpeth Valley, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (A.McBryde, S.McAnally, N.Hayford) **20**

P

PRETTY HEART Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Parkernac Publishing, BMI/Sullivan S Guns Music, BMI (P.McCollum, R.Montana) **17**

S

SHE'S MINE Music Of Stage Three, BMI/Songs Of Corman, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Songs From The Couch, BMI/Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (K.Moore, D.Couch, S.Stepakoff) **26**

SINGLE SATURDAY NIGHT Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Caleb's College Fund, ASCAP/Relative Music Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Art In The Fodder Music, BMI/Hark Molman Songs, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Ju Jettsu Music, BMI (A.Gorley, M.W.Hardy, M.Holman) **46**

SIX FEET APART Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Tiltawhir Music, BMI/Teetuf Criley's Tunes, BMI/Carnival Music Publishing, BMI/Works Of 50 Egg Music, BMI/Catch Your Dream Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/(SKMP), BMI (L.Combs, B.Cobb, R.Snyder) **47**

SOME GIRLS Harding Road Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Watsky Music, LLC, BMI/New Writers Of Sea Gayle Music, BMI/West Pass Music, BMI/New House Of Sea Gayle Music, ASCAP (M.W.Hardy, J.Mitchell, C.J. Solar) **19**

STARTING OVER I Wrote These Songs, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Straight Six Music, BMI/Wixen Music Publishing, BMI (C.Stapleton, M.Henderson) **50**

STICK THAT IN YOUR COUNTRY SONG Hillbilly Science And Research Publishing, BMI/Do Write Music, LLC/Jeffrey Steele Music, BMI (D.Naish, Jeffrey Steele) **31**

T

TALKIN' TENNESSEE Mammaw's Fried Okra Music, BMI/Little Louder Songs, BMI/Big Loud Mountain, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Round Hill Songs BLS JV, ASCAP/Big Loud Proud Songs, ASCAP/Red Toe Rocker, ASCAP (J.Hyde, M.Wallen, C.Wiseman) **45**

TO HELL & BACK International Dog Music, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI/Jay Gatsby Music, BMI/Revelry Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Oh Denise Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI (M.Morris, J.J.Dillon, L.J.Veltz) **43**

W

WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER Recluse Music, BMI/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI (S.Davis) **42**

WHO YOU ARE TO ME Capitol CMG Paragon, BMI/S.D.G. Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/RADIOBULLETPublishing, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Haywoodja Cut That Song, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/EKT Publishing, SESAC (C.Tomlin, C.Kelley, D.Haywood, H.Scott) **37**

WINE, BEER, WHISKEY Razor And Tie Music Publishing, BMI/Tofer The Musical, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Silent Desert Music, BMI/Self Made Entertainment, BMI (T.Brown, K.Fairchild, S.McConnell, K.Schapman, P.Sweet, J.Westbrook) **36**

WORSHIP YOU Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kane Brown Music, BMI/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/AIX Publishing, ASCAP/Kobalt Group Music Publishing, SESAC/McGinnIntellectual Property, SESAC/True Blue Works, SESAC/Krispy Pork Gang, BMI (K.Brown, A.Izquierdo, M.McGinn, Charlie Handsome) **49**

C
O
D
EREWINDING
THE
COUNTRY
CHARTS

40 Years Ago Johnny Lee Was 'Lookin' At His First No. 1

In 1980, his *Urban Cowboy* hit became a crossover smash

On Sept. 6, 1980, **Johnny Lee's** "Lookin' for Love" started a three-week reign atop *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart.

Penned by **Wanda Mallette**, **Bob Morrison** and **Patti Ryan**, the song was released from the soundtrack to the country music-themed hit film *Urban Cowboy*, starring **John Travolta**. The track also climbed to No. 5 on the all-genre *Billboard* Hot 100.

Born in Texas City, Texas, Lee worked with country star **Mickey Gilley** before venturing out as a solo act. Gilley, who had a small part in *Urban Cowboy* as himself, also

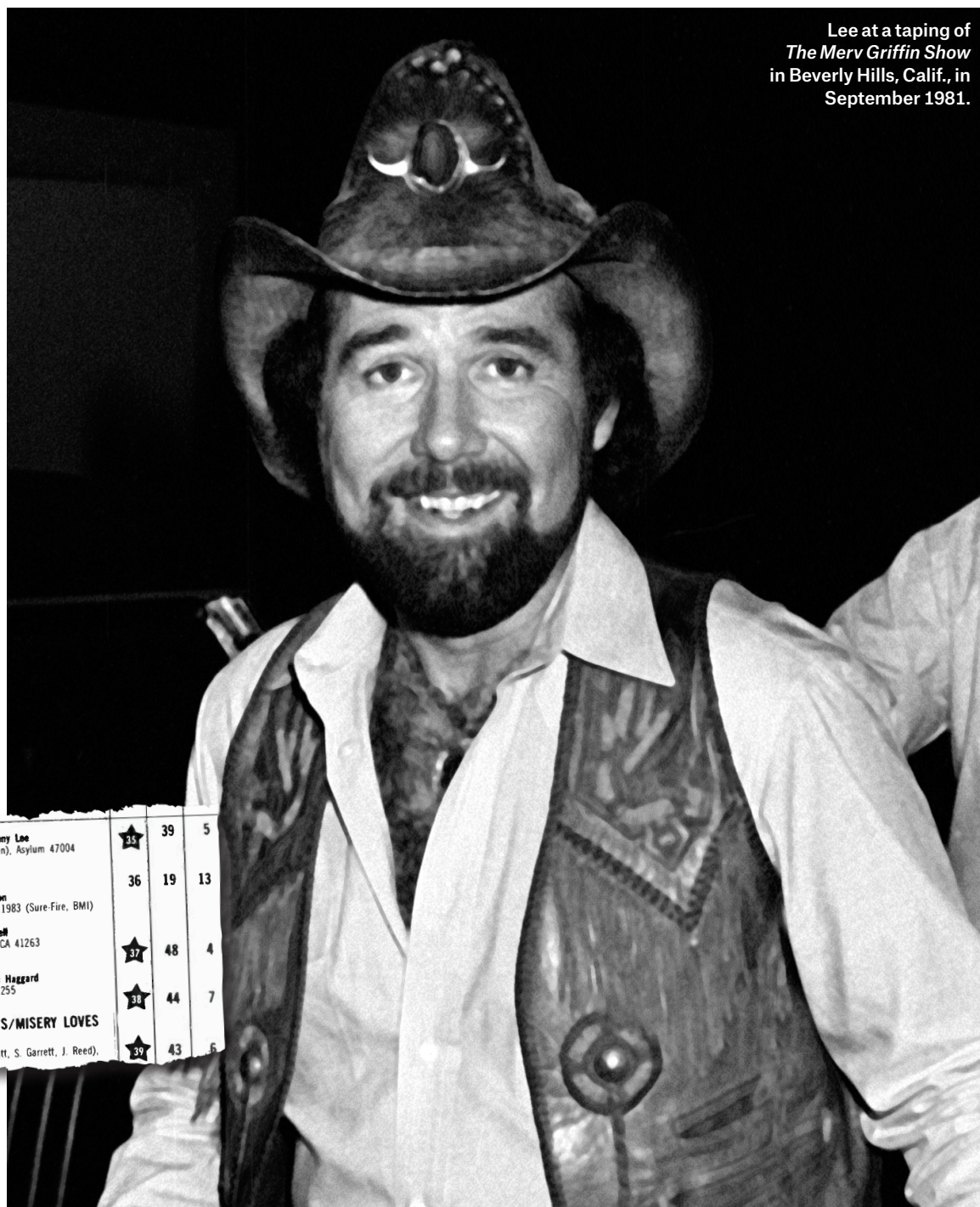
scored a Hot Country Songs No. 1 from the soundtrack with a cover of **Ben E. King's** "Stand by Me."

"Lookin'" became Lee's first of five No. 1s and 12 top 10s on the chart. Previously, he had reached a No. 15 best with 1977's "Country Party," which incorporated new lyrics into **Rick Nelson** and **The Stone Canyon Band's** "Garden Party," a No. 6 Hot 100 hit in 1972.

Now 74, Lee still performs despite battling Parkinson's disease. In August 2019, he underwent two separate brain surgeries to help his mobility.

—JIM ASKER

Lee at a taping of
The Merv Griffin Show
in Beverly Hills, Calif., in
September 1981.



★	2	8	LOOKIN' FOR LOVE—Johnny Lee (W. Mallett, P. Ryan, B. Morrison), Asylum 47004 (Southern Nights, ASCAP)	★	39	5
★	6	12	MAKING PLANS— Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton (J. Russell, B. Morrison), RCA 11983 (Sure-Fire, BMI)	★	36	19
3	4	12	CRACKERS—Barbara Mandrell (K. Fleming, D. W. Morgan), MCA 41263 (Pi-Gen, BMI)	★	37	48
★	8	10	MISERY AND GIN—Merle Haggard (J. Durrill, S. Garrett), MCA 41255 (Peso, Bronco, BMI)	★	38	44
5	1	12	COWBOYS AND CLOWNS/MISERY LOVES COMPANY—Ronnie Milsap (S. Dorff, G. Harju, L. Herbstritt, S. Garrett, J. Reed), RCA 1296 (BGM)	★	39	43