

billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

Tom.Roland@billboard.com



'Plug And Pray': Nashville Musicians Hustle On A High Wire During CMA Fest

When tens of thousands of music fans visit Nashville June 6-9 for the Country Music Association's annual CMA Fest, most of those attendees will see an artist — or two, or 10 — for the first time.

Surprisingly, those same artists may be meeting one of the musicians playing with them for the first time, too.

For all the uncertainties that fans and industry executives encounter during the festival, the instrumentalists carting their amplifiers and guitars through the Downtown footprint represent a sub-economy full of stress as they live out their musical dreams. Many of them work for multiple artists, sometimes picking up eight to 10 shows with as many as six different acts over the run of the festival. And in some instances, particularly on the smaller daytime stages, a musician could be appearing behind an artist they've never rehearsed with or even met.

"It was almost like a rite of passage," says drummer **Kayleigh Moyer**, a Belmont University alumnus working this year with **RaeLynn**, **Reyna Roberts** and, quite likely, another artist or two who call at the last minute. "If you weren't playing three or more shows during CMA Fest week, as a music major or musician, like, what were you doing?"

Plenty of artists at CMA Fest — particularly those booked during the nightly concerts at Nissan Stadium — have their own bands on salary. But the daytime stages feature a fair number of

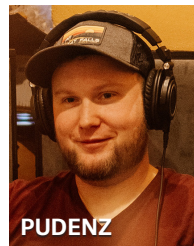
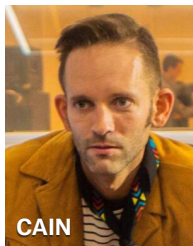
acts who haven't reached that financial level and need to hire a band for the festival, which represents a chance to showcase for some of the genre's most avid fans. Those artists are all drawing from the same local pool of players, and up-and-coming musicians have the potential to make extra cash.

"In a lot of other situations, these artists wouldn't be cool with people taking multiple gigs on the same day," says multi-instrumentalist **Kyle Pudenz**, who had **RaeLynn** and **Zandi Holup** on his calendar 10 days ahead of the festival, with space to take late requests. "But when it's CMA Fest, they know that the pay is not really livable unless you are playing several shows."

I've actually jokingly called CMA week 'Musicians' Black Friday' for the past several years because it's finally the week of the year where you overcome the January/February dry spell."

Artists famously play CMA Fest for free, introducing themselves to potential new fans, cementing their relationships with existing followers and generating revenue for the CMA Foundation, which donates proceeds to music education programs.

The musicians are compensated at a lower rate than usual, with the CMA paying \$170 per performance this year, based on an agreement with the Nashville chapter of the American Federation of Musicians, AFM Local 257. In 2023, the CMA paid \$120,800 to 617 musicians, according to AFM 257 president **Dave Pomeroy**, an average of \$195 per musician.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Nate Smith Rides 'Bullet' Train Into Top 10
>page 4

CMA Fest: The Latest Additions
>page 8

Country Coda: Back-To-Back Buck Owens
>page 11

MOYER: JONATHAN WARREN; PUDENZ: ANNELISE LOUGHEAD

AUTHORITATIVE INTELLIGENCE.
DELIVERED DIGITALLY.

billboard

DIGITAL NEWSLETTERS

CLICK HERE
FOR FREE
DELIVERY

That's not necessarily the only income source for the week. Some artists who pay their bands higher rates will compensate them beyond the CMA's \$170 base. And there are a ton of "non-CMA" shows, including label showcases and open bars on Lower Broadway.

"Every artist that I [play with], I have to fill out separate paperwork for each," says drummer **Andrew Edmonds**, playing this year with **Hannah Ellis, Madeline Merlo, Tenille Arts** and **Carter Faith**. "Some artists are really great, and they're like, 'We'll compensate you for full-show pay.' Or, you know, 'This acoustic thing pays this.' Each person is doing different payments for different things. I have no idea what I'm making."

They might get paid for rehearsal, too, though not every act has one, especially since technology has introduced new options. Most acts employ click tracks that keep the tempo steady in the musicians' in-ear monitors. Fill-ins can receive "charts" — sheet music that provides chord progressions and song structures — and board tapes from previous shows are now routinely available, providing an opportunity to rehearse at home with the artist's actual concert performances.

"That wasn't as common 10 years ago, to get those before gigs," Moyer says. No matter what level of preparation they have, musicians can still count on having an unpredictable experience. Thus, the festival has numerous nicknames: the "CMA hustle," according to Pudenz; a "throw-and-go," per Moyer; or a "plug-and-pray," as drummer **Sarah Tomek** puts it.

Tomek will back **Chris Housman** and **Jenny Teator** during official CMA shows and make non-CMA appearances at the weekly Whiskey Jam and in Lower Broadway events at Tequila Cowboy and Jason Aldean's Kitchen + Rooftop Bar.

Those CMA gigs are a tight-wire act. When one show ends, the next band has 15 minutes to set up on the same stage. That means plugging guitars into unfamiliar amps, praying the electronics all light up and setting in-ear monitor levels for each musician. Drummers have additional issues — most are in charge of a laptop with the click tracks and instrumental enhancements, and they have to play on a kit they've never used before, adjusting heights, angles and locations for cymbals, snares and toms.

"It probably takes you five minutes into the set to just settle down because you've made it, you've arrived, the sound check — everything's working, we hope — and then you can kind of calm down," Tomek says. "By the time you calm down, the set's almost over. And then you're on to the next one."

Getting to the next one isn't always easy. Most of the stages are within a block or two, but Nashville's Downtown is hilly, the crowds can be massive, and once the day begins, the event never stays on schedule. Musicians have been known to text while onstage behind one artist to let the next artist know they're running late.

"There's really nothing you can guarantee," says guitarist **Tyler Cain**, who works with pop artist **Gavin DeGraw**. In previous CMA Fests, he has played behind **Meghan Linsey** and **Billy Currington**, among others. "Not only are you hoping everything's on time and works out, but you also may be jumping into a situation where you didn't even have any rehearsal, or maybe you don't even know the artist. Like, when you're onstage for them, that's the first time you've met them."

The schedule tends to work itself out — "I've never missed a downbeat," Moyer says — and adapting to the surprises as they come does have long-term benefits.

"I think it makes you a better musician to put yourself in situations that you're maybe a little scared," Cain suggests. "Being able to deliver quickly, that's a good skill to develop as a musician."

The biggest skills revolve around overcoming weather. The heat index invariably tops 90 degrees during CMA Fest, and there's typically a rain shower or two.

"Music gear isn't actually designed to work at that temperature," Pudenz notes. "If your pedal board's sitting directly in the sun, you might suddenly find that none of your stuff works when you plug it in."

That goes for the human body, too. Tomek says she has "seen stars" while overheating in the middle of a CMA Fest set, though that doesn't allow for any presentation shortcuts.

"You got to still look cool," she says. "It's not like you're going to be wearing khaki shorts out there. You're going to still be wearing your boots and your hat, and it's like 100 degrees. It's such an intense week for the cats down there."

Grueling as it is, the musicians appreciate CMA Fest. They came to Nashville to play, and succeeding at the festival builds confidence that they can probably play through anything.

"At the end of the day, the music is the most important thing," Edmonds says. "No matter what happens, you have to mentally block everything out and just be like, 'All right, we're doing this. This next 30 minutes, I'm here, and we're going to crush it.'" ●



Don McLean (left) and Brad Paisley were among the attendees during a May 23 White House state dinner for Kenya President William Ruto.



Miranda Lambert shared the stage with Wade Bowen May 24-26 at the Whitewater Amphitheater in New Braunfels, Texas.



Chris Stapleton (right) and Jack White were on hand as Fender held a grand-opening party for a new guitar showroom in East Nashville on May 21.



Corey Kent (center) met with WGNA Albany, N.Y., director of content Matty Jeff (right) and RCA director of Northeast regional promotion Dan Nelson when he opened for Parker McCollum on May 24 at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

TURNER ROSEN

billboard

2024

PRIDE ISSUE

On June 22nd, Billboard will publish its 6th annual Pride issue honoring culturally moving and influential people who have contributed to the community's history and its current landscape. Year-round Billboard celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community across our editorial channels, including Billboard Pride.

Building on this platform, Billboard will celebrate the entire month of June to celebrate love, acceptance, diversity and what it means to be queer in music. All month long, Billboard will be the go-to destination for music and entertainment Pride content. Leveraging our iconic voices within music and culture, Billboard will curate a mix of engaging video and social content featuring thought-provoking panels, heartfelt performances, and glam tutorials - all fostering a community of consumers and influencers in celebration of LGBTQIA+

CONTACTS

East Coast/Midwest: Joe Maimone | joe.maimone@billboard.com

Southeast: Lee Ann Photoglo | laphotoglo@gmail.com

Latin: Marcia Olival | marciaolival29@gmail.com

Touring & West Coast: Cynthia Mellow | cmellow615@gmail.com

International: Ryan O'Donnell | rodonnell@pmc.com

ISSUE DATE 6/22 | AD CLOSE 6/11 | MATERIALS DUE 6/13

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
LUMINATE

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

Smith's 'Bulletproof' Hits Country Airplay Top 10; Zimmerman's 'Where It Ends' Continues At No. 1

Nate Smith rolls up his third consecutive career-opening top 10 on *Billboard's* Country Airplay chart as "Bulletproof" (RCA Nashville) pushes 11-10 on the survey dated June 8. During the May 24-30 tracking week, the single increased by 7% to 18.6 million audience impressions, according to Luminate.

The co-write by **Ashley Gorley**, **Ben Johnson** and **Hunter Phelps** is the lead single from the 38-year-old Smith's seven-song set *Through the Smoke*, which opened at its No. 34 high on Top Country Albums in April.

Smith, from Paradise, Calif., crowned Country Airplay for 10 weeks starting in December with "World on Fire" — tying **Morgan Wallen's** "You Proof" in 2022 for the longest reign in the chart's history, which dates to 1990. His rookie entry, "Whiskey on You," led for two weeks in February 2023.

Smith won the best new male vocalist honor at the 59th Academy of Country Music Awards in Frisco, Texas, on May 16. He performed "Bulletproof" with **Avril Lavigne** at the festivities.



MATTHEW BERINATO

'ENDS' EXTENDS **Bailey Zimmerman** tops Country Airplay for a second week with "Where It Ends" (Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA), which gained by 1% to 33.6 million in reach.

The 24-year-old from Louisville, Ill., adds his second multiweek dominator among his four consecutive career-opening Country Airplay No. 1s, joining "Rock and a Hard Place," which led for six frames beginning in April 2023.

Zimmerman's debut hit, "Fall in Love," commanded Country Airplay for one week in December 2022, while his third No. 1, "Religiously," notched one week on top in September 2023.

Of the 12 songs that have hit No. 1 on Country Airplay in 2024, "Where It Ends" is just the second to rule for multiple weeks, joining **Sam Hunt's** three-week leader, "Outskirts," beginning in April. In contrast, 12 of the chart's 19 No. 1s in 2023 each led for more than one frame. ●

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
I HAD SOME HELP Mercury/Republic/Big Loud Post Malone Featuring Morgan Wallen		+4.468
COWGIRLS Mercury/Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen Featuring ERNEST		+3.525
HANG TIGHT HONEY Broken Bow	Lainey Wilson	+3.245
AIN'T NO LOVE IN OKLAHOMA Universal Studios/Atlantic/Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+2.260
A BAR SONG (TIPSY) American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey	+1.787
HALFWAY TO HELL Bailee & Buddy/Broken Bow/BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+1.776
YOUNG LOVE & SATURDAY NIGHTS RCA Nashville	Chris Young	+1.710
DIRT CHEAP CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	+1.655
WE RIDE Average Joes	Bryan Martin	+1.652
SHE'S SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER (REIMAGINED) Patoka Sounds/Lyric Ridge	Drew Baldridge	+1.237

MOST INCREASED PLAYS

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
I HAD SOME HELP Mercury/Republic/Big Loud Post Malone Featuring Morgan Wallen		+1243
HANG TIGHT HONEY Broken Bow	Lainey Wilson	+952
AIN'T NO LOVE IN OKLAHOMA Universal Studios/Atlantic/Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+819
COWGIRLS Mercury/Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen Featuring ERNEST		+776
WE RIDE Average Joes	Bryan Martin	+510
DIRT CHEAP CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	+483
A BAR SONG (TIPSY) American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey	+418
HALFWAY TO HELL Bailee & Buddy/Broken Bow/BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+363
BULLETPROOF RCA Nashville	Nate Smith	+357
CHEVROLET Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch Featuring Jelly Roll	+350

RECURRENTS

THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	WORLD ON FIRE RCA Nashville	Nate Smith	16.293
2	PRETTY LITTLE POISON 717/Warner/WEA	Warren Zeiders	15.425
3	FAST CAR River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	15.207
4	THINKIN' BOUT ME Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	13.831
5	LAST NIGHT Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	13.784
6	TRUCK BED Big Loud	HARDY	13.696
7	SAVE ME Bailee & Buddy/Broken Bow/BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll With Lainey Wilson	13.488
8	DANCIN' IN THE COUNTRY Hubbard House/EMI Nashville	Tyler Hubbard	8.796
9	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	8.165
10	ROCK AND A HARD PLACE Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	7.741



TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING MAY 30, 2024

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	14	THE RESCUE (Independent) ★★ 1 Week at 1 ★★	Bri Bagwell	1663	283	11	14	9	HURRY UP WHISKEY (Independent)	Ben McPeak	1073	158
2	3	23	HELLO TEXAS (Flying C)	Brooke Graham	1409	119	12	1	17	MILWAUKEE (Island/IDJMG)	Wyatt Flores	1043	-518
3	5	18	SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING (Independent)	James Robert Webb	1362	119	13	4	13	RUNNING OUT OF TIME (Almost Country) Casey Donahew ft. Pat Green, Randy Rogers & Wade Bowen		1041	-238
4	6	16	TE NECESITO (Independent)	Matt Castillo	1312	94	14	10	17	\$10 COWBOY (Son of Davy/Thirty Tigers)	Charley Crockett	1029	-57
5	9	9	RAININ ON ME (Independent)	Wade Bowen	1292	139	15	18	19	FIRE IN YOUR EYES (Independent)	Chuck Wimer	926	156
6	8	20	8 SECONDS AT A TIME (Independent)	Ryder Grimes	1205	26	16	15	12	HUNT YOU DOWN (Independent)	Kaitin Butts	901	3
7	12	11	DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS LIKE THAT (Flatland Cavalry/Interscope Records)	Flatland Cavalry	1143	80	17	16	11	UNDOMESTICATED ME (Independent)	Mark Powell	897	77
8	11	19	NEON (Independent)	Mikayla Lane	1124	48	18	17	15	THIS AIN'T MY FIRST RODEO (Independent)	Olivia Harms	861	69
9	7	20	ALL THE ANGELENOS (Boo Clap/Thirty Tigers)	Uncle Lucius	1107	-103	19	19	15	DAMN GOOD FRIENDS (Independent)	Keller Cox	779	39
10	13	18	BLUE SKY GOODBYE (Independent)	Drew Fish Band	1081	42	20	20	18	5 FT AND BULLETPROOF (Soundly Music)	Kyle Nix & The 38's	730	2

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 2024, Texas Regional Radio Report

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
LUMINATE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
1	1	35	WHERE IT ENDS Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	★★ No. 1 (2 Weeks) ★★ Bailey Zimmerman	33.619	+0.293	8673	80	1
2	2	20	HALFWAY TO HELL Bailee & Buddy/Broken Bow/BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	28.742	+1.775	7563	363	2
3	4	29	TAKE HER HOME Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Kenny Chesney	26.023	+0.619	7011	228	3
4	8	4	I HAD SOME HELP Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	★★ Most Increased Audience ★★ Post Malone Featuring Morgan Wallen	23.895	+4.468	6144	1243	4
5	5	45	OUTSKIRTS MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	23.340	-1.867	5626	-445	6
6	6	41	TUCSON TOO LATE MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	21.400	-2.523	5316	-794	9
7	7	24	YOUR PLACE Back Blocks/Big Loud	Ashley Cooke	21.357	+0.067	6083	86	5
8	3	38	BACK THEN RIGHT NOW Hubbard House/EMI Nashville	Tyler Hubbard	20.005	-5.890	5327	-1599	8
9	10	35	WE RIDE Average Joes	Bryan Martin	19.286	+1.652	5544	510	7
10	11	16	BULLETPROOF RCA Nashville	Nate Smith	18.617	+1.209	5085	357	11
11	14	8	COWGIRLS Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen Featuring ERNEST	18.384	+3.525	4526	776	14
12	9	27	LET YOUR BOYS BE COUNTRY Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	18.271	+0.599	5290	277	10
13	12	38	YOUNG LOVE & SATURDAY NIGHTS RCA Nashville	Chris Young	17.970	+1.710	4657	218	12
14	13	20	DIRT CHEAP CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	16.932	+1.655	4652	483	13
15	15	50	WE DON'T FIGHT ANYMORE Big Machine	Carly Pearce Featuring Chris Stapleton	13.771	+0.230	4334	76	15
16	16	53	LOVE YOU AGAIN Chase Matthew/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Chase Matthew	12.879	+0.802	3937	91	16
17	17	25	CHEVROLET Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch Featuring Jelly Roll	12.119	+1.215	3410	350	18
18	18	31	SHE'S SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER (REIMAGINED) Patoka Sounds/Lyric Ridge	Drew Baldridge	11.868	+1.237	3549	317	17
19	19	43	I'M NOT PRETTY Megan Moroney/Columbia/Columbia Nashville	Megan Moroney	11.024	+0.496	3373	60	19
20	22	3	AIN'T NO LOVE IN OKLAHOMA Universal Studios/Atlantic/Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	9.649	+2.260	2586	819	21
21	26	3	HANGTIGHT HONEY Broken Bow	Lainey Wilson	8.558	+3.245	2293	952	22
22	21	19	ONE BAD HABIT McGraw/Big Machine	Tim McGraw	8.316	+0.895	2728	97	20
23	23	29	THIS IS MY DIRT Valory	Justin Moore	6.741	+0.362	2267	165	23
24	31	5	A BAR SONG (TIPSY) American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey	6.326	+1.787	1776	418	29
25	27	8	LOVE YOU, MISS YOU, MEAN IT Row Crop/Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	5.955	+0.779	1819	226	28
26	25	41	DANCE WITH YOU Nashville Harbor	Brett Young	5.647	+0.303	2056	206	25
27	24	13	MESSED UP AS ME Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	5.612	+0.104	1911	19	26
28	28	30	GONNA LOVE YOU Stoney Creek	Parmalee	5.466	+0.380	1887	36	27
29	30	10	AUSTIN VERSION III/Warner	Dasha	4.989	+0.106	1515	49	32
30	29	30	RODEO MAN Pearl/Big Machine	Garth Brooks & Ronnie Dunn	4.873	-0.044	2088	26	24

COUNTRY AIRPLAY CHART LEGEND

RANKINGS

Country Airplay is ranked by total audience impressions for the week ending Sunday based on monitored airplay by Mediabase of 145 stations by Luminate. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Nielsen Audio-copyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2024, Nielsen Audio). The list of all Country Airplay chart reporters can be viewed in Luminate's online platform.

TIES

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

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%.

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-bullethead) audience decline, regardless of total chart weeks. Plus, songs that ascend to a peak between Nos. 1 and 5 will remain on the chart for one additional week even if dropping below No. 10.

HOT SHOT DEBUT

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

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.

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
LUMINATE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	36	3	BEAUTIFUL AS YOU Fifty-One/Forty-Nine/Valory	Thomas Rhett	4.500	+0.941	1399	279	33
32	32	17	BIGGER HOUSES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	4.290	-0.142	1696	-123	30
33	34	21	SOUNDS LIKE THE RADIO Leo33	Zach Top	4.280	+0.202	1655	91	31
34	35	10	TIE UP Home Grown/Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Zac Brown Band	4.056	+0.069	1071	67	38
35	40	4	MILES ON IT Joytime Collective/RCA Nashville	Marshmello & Kane Brown	3.873	+0.974	1255	280	36
36	38	13	COWBOY SONGS RECORDS Nashville	George Birge	3.809	+0.277	1329	45	35
37	37	14	AMERICAN GIRL Tom Petty Legacy/Capitol Nashville/Valory	Dierks Bentley	3.758	+0.206	1343	105	34
38	39	10	CALLED CRAZY Interscope/MCA Nashville	Kassi Ashton	3.065	+0.025	686	9	49
39	42	21	BOYS BACK HOME PIA/Curb/Columbia Nashville	Dylan Marlowe & Dylan Scott	2.856	+0.361	1065	91	40
40	41	11	DAMN GOOD DAY TO LEAVE Nashville Harbor	Riley Green	2.853	+0.216	995	120	41
41	43	31	FIND ANOTHER BAR Voyager/Red Street	Chris Lane	2.612	+0.187	1145	10	37
42	44	20	BREAKIN' IN BOOTS RECORDS/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Matt Stell	2.403	+0.137	1066	23	39
43	45	15	THINK I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU Sound/Mercury Nashville	Chris Stapleton	2.277	+0.097	811	44	45
44	46	12	THIS TOWN'S BEEN TOO GOOD TO US Curb	Dylan Scott	2.103	+0.059	880	52	44
45	47	12	WHATCHA SEE IS WHATCHA GET Nashville Harbor	Chris Janson	1.967	-0.015	922	23	43
46	48	7	FOREVER TO ME Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	1.952	+0.059	621	28	51
47	49	5	DRINKIN' BUDDIES Curb	Lee Brice, Nate Smith & Hailey Whitters	1.840	+0.091	556	19	54
48	51	4	WRANGLERS Vanner/Republic/Big Loud	Miranda Lambert	1.643	+0.088	737	119	48
49	50	17	I TRIED A RING ON Monument	Tigirlily Gold	1.632	+0.056	925	26	42
50	53	6	FRIENDS LIKE THAT Night Train/Broken Bow	John Morgan Featuring Jason Aldean	1.545	+0.073	659	36	50
51	54	9	LIFE WITH YOU Curb	Kelsey Hart	1.535	+0.123	793	0	46
52	52	27	LOVE YOU BACK Nashville Harbor	Lady A	1.446	-0.036	779	50	47
53	55	33	I'M IN LOVE Songs & Daughters/Pigasus/Big Loud	Hailey Whitters	1.373	+0.171	597	5	52
54	NEW		WIND UP MISSIN' YOU Back Blocks/EMI Nashville ★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★	Tucker Wetmore	0.953	+0.698	282	209	-
55	57	19	KING OF COUNTRY MUSIC Red Street	Ryan Larkins	0.907	+0.015	442	11	57
56	56	6	COUNTRY BACK Magnolia Music	Randy Houser	0.884	-0.053	561	39	53
57	58	9	SINGLE AGAIN The Core/Universal Music Canada/Mercury Nashville	Josh Ross	0.849	+0.091	486	19	55
58	60	2	THIS HEART Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville	Corey Kent	0.727	+0.011	448	23	56
59	NEW		ROULETTE ON THE HEART Valory	Conner Smith Featuring Hailey Whitters	0.626	+0.123	358	34	60
60	NEW		THE DEVIL I KNOW Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Ashley McBryde	0.593	+0.065	359	39	59

ALAN TAYLOR



Five of this year's seven SOURCE Nashville Hall of Fame inductees were recognized during a May 23 luncheon at the Country Music Association, three months before their Aug. 27 induction. From left: former Merle Kilgore Enterprises employee Sheree Spoltore, Jeannie Seely, former Entrepreneur Center office manager Marty Craighead, TSC Marketing owner Teena Camp and former Oak Ridge Boys marketing director Kathy Harris.



Brothers Osborne welcomed West Coast radio figures when the duo played the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in Portland, Ore., on May 21. From left: KUPL Portland assistant PD/music director Danny Dwyer, the duo's T.J. Osborne and John Osborne, and B-Dub Radio host Bryan "B-Dub" Washington.

NEW

BONUS DISTRIBUTION

11,000+ GRAMMY® Voters
will be mailed a copy of this
special issue

billboard

GRAMMY FIRST LOOK

On July 13, *Billboard* will publish a GRAMMY First Look special feature showcasing the artists, producers and other creative professionals whose music was released from September 16, 2023 – August 30, 2024 and look at the early contenders for the 67th GRAMMY Awards® in the categories of Record Of The Year, Song Of The Year, Album Of The Year and Best New Artist.

7/17/24: Online Entry Process (OEP) Opens
8/30/24: Online Entry Process (OEP) Closes

Take advantage of this early opportunity during this eligibility period to showcase accomplished work to the music industry as they prepare to cast their entries for Music's Biggest Night®.

ISSUE DATE 7/13 AD CLOSE 7/1 MATERIALS DUE 7/3

CONTACTS

Joe Maimone | joe.maimone@billboard.com Lee Ann Photoglo | laphotoglo@gmail.com

Cynthia Mellow | cmellow615@gmail.com Marcia Olival | marciaolival29@gmail.com

Ryan O'Donnell | rodonnell@pmc.com

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND tom.roland@billboard.com

HEATHER DURHAM

Kelsea Ballerini and Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee senior entertainment and donor relations liaison Rondal Richardson were honored as Musicians On Call raised more than \$380,000 during a May 22 Anthem of Healing 25th-anniversary celebration at Nashville's Marathon Music Works. From left: Charles Esten, Trisha Yearwood, Richardson, Ballerini and MOC president/CEO Pete Griffin.

LATE-BREAKING CMA FEST NEWS

With less than a week to go before the launch of the Country Music Association's annual CMA Fest June 6-9 in Downtown Nashville, the city is preparing for street closures and a flood of out-of-town visitors, and logging numerous late-breaking details.

Announcements in the past week have included participation from **Brantley Gilbert**, **Mickey Guyton**, **Mark Chesnutt** and others. Here's an overview of the most recent news:

- WME presents three nights of outdoor shows near Music Row with its *Losers Live* series. Gilbert, Chesnutt and **Randy Houser** headline during the event's June 3-5 span, with appearances by **Elvie Shane**, **Bryan Martin**, **Zach Top** and **Tigirlily Gold**.
- Four high school marching bands will appear during the festival, beginning with the Antioch High School ensemble on June 6 at the Music City Center.
- Big Machine Label Group takes over **Lainey Wilson's** newly opened Bell Bottoms Up — formerly the FGL House — for daytime pop-up shows June 6-8. Featured talent includes Gilbert, **Midland**, **Jackson Dean**, **Conner Smith** and **Brett Young**.
- Universal Music Group Nashville has more than 20 acts slated to play Sky-deck on Broadway June 6-9, including Guyton, **Tyler Hubbard**, **Travis Denning**, **Josh Turner** and **The War and Treaty**.
- Phoenix-based Musically Fed returns to coordinate the collection and repurposing of leftover food from backstage areas for local organizations.

RADIO & RECORDS®

Big Loud promoted **Patch Culbertson** to executive vp/GM from senior vp/GM ... Commission Records founder **Anthony Martini** and Global Pictures Media co-CEO and co-founder **Richard Barner** established a new label/management firm, Gravel Road, in Nashville. Initial signees include **Compton Cowboys**, **Justbrandon** and producer **Scattered Brains** ... Universal Music Group announced the signing of newcomer **Tucker Wetmore** on May 31 in conjunction with Back Blocks Music, which originally released his music. His current single, "Wine Into Whiskey," had already been attributed to EMI Nashville/Back Blocks on Hot Country Songs, where it's ranked No. 20 on the chart dated June 1 ... ONErpm signed artist-writer **Ashley Ryan** to a recording deal and released her first single in the arrangement, "Them Cowboys," on May 31 ... **KKMJ-HD3** Austin flipped to a classic country/modern country mix from classic hip-hop/R&B on May 24 ... **WCCQ** Chicago hired assistant content director/music director **Drew Walker** as the station rebranded as Free Country 98.3 and added a second signal at 102.3. Walker ended a two-year on-air gig with crosstown **WUSN** Chicago in May. The syndicated **Bobby Bones Show** launched in morning drive on May 28 with national personality **Bryan "B-Dub" Washington** in the night slot. **Hannah Brummer** slid into middays as **Hannah B**, following a run in afternoon drive at crosstown adult contemporary **WSSR** ... Two sales executives were promoted at iHeartMedia/

Cleveland, RadioInsight.com reported: **Cindy Hunter** rose to senior vp of sales from general sales manager/director of agency partnerships, and **Lauren O'Brien** was upped to vp of digital from director. The eight-station cluster includes country **WGAR** ... **KTKO** Beeville, Texas, hired **Jim Nash** as operations director/morning host, according to RadioInsight.com. He previously worked on-air in mornings at **KRMX** Waco.

'ROUND THE ROW

Romeo Entertainment Group promoted staffers **Adriana "Dri" Valadez**, **Taylor Williamson** and **Carly Dibble** to talent buyer/event producer from event coordinator. The company also hired talent buyer/event producer **Scott Kernahan**, formerly an Encore Live senior talent buyer; and executive assistant **Biannon "Bree" Griffin**, who held a similar post at the Nashville Superspeedway. Additionally, Romeo brought on four new event coordinators: former 24-8 Management day-to-day manager **Chloe Dubrovay**, former Madison House booking agent assistant **Ali J. Stinehour** and Middle Tennessee State University graduates **Alexandra "Alex" Hargiss** and **Grayce Keefer** ... The Buchalter Law Firm added attorneys **Lauren Spahn**, **Jay Bowen**, **Lauren Kilgore**, **Rebekah Shulman**, **Jim Zumwalt**, **Jacob Clabo**, **Aaron Steinberg** and **John Baxter** to its Music Row office. All arrive from Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley and Norton ... Pierson Ferdinand welcomed **Denise Stevens** as partner/co-chair of its global media, entertainment and sports practice. Based in Nashville and New York, Stevens was previously a partner at Loeb & Loeb ... Sony Music Publishing Nashville signed **Old Crow Medicine Show** frontman **Ketch Secor** to an administration deal and inked a publishing contract with RECORDS Nashville recording artist **Alli Walker** ... Producer-songwriter-musician **David Kalmusky** signed with Jonas Group Publishing ... The St. Jude Country Cares Advisory Council established its current 32-member board with chair **Carletta Blake**, **WGAR** Cleveland; and co-chairs **Lauren Thomas**, Sony Music Nashville; and **Chris Schuler**, Universal Music Group Nashville ... KIT Plugins released a new plug-in that emulates the Blackbird Studio reverb chamber A ... The Inspirational Country Music Association's 29th annual ICM Awards hailed **Todd Tilghman** as entertainer of the year at the Grand Ole Opry House on May 29. **The Oak Ridge Boys' William Lee Golden** received a living legend award, and **Chris Golden** was named producer of the year ... The Mechanical Licensing Collective slated a webinar, "Exploring the Use of MLC's Data: A Showcase of Three Companies," focused on ClicknClear, Jaxsta and ONErpm, for June 5 at 5 p.m. CT. Register [here](#) ... The Country Music Hall of Fame has opened a photography exhibit through the end of 2024 featuring images from the 1994 **George Jones** album *The Bradley Barn Sessions*. Participants included **Keith Richards**, **Tammy Wynette** and **Dolly Parton** ... Nashville publishing executive **Pat Rolfe**, 77, died May 24 of cancer. She served in leadership positions at Hill & Range and Chappell Music on her way to becoming ASCAP Nashville vp of membership relations, signing **Dierks Bentley**, **Brad Paisley** and **Old Dominion's Trevor Rosen**, among others. Rolfe was also a co-founder of Source Nashville, an organization that recognizes women who contributed to the city's music business. ●



Carrie Underwood welcomed iHeartMedia executive vp of country programming and strategy Rod Phillips during her May 22 performance at the Resorts World Las Vegas. From left: Capitol Nashville vp of promotion Chris Schuler, Phillips, Underwood and Universal Music Group Nashville executive vp/COO Mike Harris.

billboard



JOURNEY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Since the group's formation in 1973, JOURNEY has earned 19 top 40 singles, 25 gold and platinum albums, and has sold over 100 million albums globally. Their "Greatest Hits" album is certified 15 times-platinum, making JOURNEY one of the few bands to ever have been diamond-certified, and their song "Don't Stop Believin'" has been streamed over one billion times alone.

JOURNEY was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame in 2017, and 2018's co-headlining tour with DEF LEPPARD was the band's most successful tour to date, landing them in the Top 10 year-end touring chart with more than 1 million tickets sold, and earning them the prestigious Billboard "Legends Of Live" touring award. JOURNEY has also received a star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame and were inducted into the Hollywood Bowl Hall Of Fame. Additionally, the band is the subject of the award-winning documentary "Don't Stop Believin': Everyman's Journey" about the band's resurgence upon adding Arnel Pineda as lead singer after JOURNEY Founder, Neal Schon discovered the Philippines native on YouTube.

Please join Billboard as we celebrate the 50 years of Journey's success as one of the most compelling acts in the history of American rock.

CONTACTS

East Coast/Midwest: Joe Maimone | joe.maimone@billboard.com

Southeast: Lee Ann Photoglo | laphotoglo@gmail.com

Latin: Marcia Olival | marciaolival29@gmail.com

Touring & West Coast: Cynthia Mellow | cmellow615@gmail.com

International: Ryan O'Donnell | rodonnell@pmc.com

ISSUE DATE 7/13 | AD CLOSE 7/2 | MATERIALS DUE 7/3

billboard Country Airplay Index

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

A

AIN'T NO LOVE IN OKLAHOMA Songs Of Universal, Inc./BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/W.C. Music Corp./ASCAP/Where I Started Music Publishing, ASCAP/Hits Of 50 Egg Music, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Pictures Music, ASCAP (L.Combs, J.L.Alexander, J.D.Singleton) **20**

AMERICAN GIRL Armo Music Corp., ASCAP/Tarka Music, ASCAP (T.E.Petty) **37**

AUSTIN ROSCAMP PUBLISHING, ASCAP/Travis Heidelberg Music, BMI/Dash, BMI/Adam Wender Publishing Designee, GEMA (A.D.Novotny, K.L.Heidelberg, A.Wender, C.R.Arisorgler) **29**

B

BACK THEN RIGHT NOW T Tree Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pie Of Dimes Music, BMI/Works By Range Music Partners, BMI/Warberger Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Spirit In Nashville, Spirit Vault Tunes, ASCAP/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Concord Tunes, ASCAP (R.R.Hubbard, J.Dillon, G.Warburton, D.A.Garcia) **8**

A BAR SONG (TIPSY) Kreshendo, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/S2 Songs LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc./BMI/Essency Music Publishing, ASCAP/Range Media Partners LLC, ASCAP/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Hood Hop Music, ASCAP/Intro Music Publishing, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (C.O.Chiveze, S.C.Cook, N.Sastry, J.Jones, J.A.Kent, M.A.Williams) **24**

BEAUTIFUL AS YOU Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Be A Light Publishing, BMI/Music Of Big Family, BMI/Dragon Bunny Music, BMI/Don Wyan Music, BMI/Allen Cargo Plane Music, ASCAP/Top Notch High Quality Music, ASCAP/31st Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Maverick King Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tunes, ASCAP/Sidron Publishing LLC, BMI/The Place To Be Is LMC Publishing, BMI (Thomas Plett, J.C.Gunetta, J.E.Coleman, J.K.Hindlin, A.Izquierdo, Z.Kelsey, J.H.Ryan) **31**

BIGGER HOUSES Beats And Banjos, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Concord Sounds, ASCAP/First Cut In The Deep End, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Spakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Sugar Plum Songs, ASCAP/Tacklebox Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Turtle Garden Publishing, BMI (A.Albert, D.Smyers, J.T.Minton, J.Reynolds) **32**

BOYS BACK HOME Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of PIA Entertainment, BMI/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Songs From The Rose Hotel, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., ASCAP/Situation Songs, SESAC (D.Marlowe, S.Emis, J.A.Fox) **39**

BREAKIN' IN BOOTS Endurance Alpha, ASCAP/124 Records, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/BBKCO/Hill, BMI/W.C. Music Corp., SESAC/Situation Songs, SESAC/Dead Aim Music, BMI/LL Sebastian Music, BMI/Young Guns Publishing, LLC, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (M.Stell, N.Cypher, J.A.Fox, B.Stennis) **42**

BULLETPROOF Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Caleb's Ologee Fund, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Ben There Wrote That Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Top Knotz Hits, BMI/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Nonlyrical Music, ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (A.G.Gorley, B.Johnson, H.Phelps) **10**

C

CALLED CRAZY Wolf Shirt Publishing, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/Tweeb Sequoia, SESAC/W.C. Music Corp., SESAC/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/WeisOwl, ASCAP (K.Astron, J.Kem, E.L.Weisband) **38**

CHEVROLET Songs Of Universal, Inc./BMI/Family Farm Songs, BMI/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Where I Started Music Publishing, ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/Nonlyrical Music, ASCAP/Armo Music Corp., ASCAP (C.McGill, J.L.Alexander, H.Phelps, M.Williams) **17**

COUNTRY BACK Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/I'm Your Huckleberry Music, BMI/Sony Accept, ASCAP/Nepasongs, ASCAP (R.Houser, M.Rogers) **56**

COWBOY SONGS Wide Open, ASCAP/Endurance Alpha, ASCAP/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Songs Of Smack, BMI/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Clm Songs, SESAC/Boom Town Songs, SESAC/More MacIntellectual Property, SESAC (G.Birge, M.Yyer, M.McGinn, L.Guzman) **36**

COWGIRLS Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Michael Scott Paper Company Publishing Company, ASCAP/James Maddocks Publishing Designee, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc./BMI/Erm Dog Music, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI (R.H.Black, A.G.Gorley, J.Maddocks, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome) **11**

D

DAMN GOOD DAY TO LEAVE Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Back 40 Publishing, International, BMI/Duckman Publishing, BMI/Hatland Boy Music, BMI/Hits Of 50 Egg Music, ASCAP/Wildhawk Publishing, BMI/Spirit Nashville Two Crescendo, ASCAP/Spirit Vault, Songs, ASCAP/Prestige Countrywide, ASCAP (R.Green, Erik Dylan, J.D.Singleton, N.Wash) **40**

DANCE WITH YOU Super Big Music, ASCAP/Galville Publishing, ASCAP/Here Comes The Boom Music, BMI/First Cut In The Deep End, BMI/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP/Arms, ASCAP/Case Magic, ASCAP/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI (B.Young, J.T.Minton, J.Robbins) **26**

THE DEVIL I KNOW Canned Biscuit Songs, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Harpeth Valley, BMI/Anthem Music Publishing II, ASCAP/Junes From The Red White And Blue Song, ASCAP/Sea Gayle Ale House Music, BMI/Bobby Pinson Publishing Designee, BMI (A.McBratney, J.S.Stover, B.Pinson) **60**

DIRT CHEAP Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Write Or Die Music, BMI/Write The Lightning Publishing, BMI (J.Philips) **14**

DRINKIN' BUDDIES Concord Tunes, SESAC/Magnolia Dawn Music, SESAC/Sony Countryside, BMI/Anthem Honor Publishing, BMI/Revival House, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Monsters Rate Puppies Publishing, ASCAP (J.T.Wilson, Z.Kale, C.Destefano) **47**

F

FIND ANOTHER BAR Big Big Plans Publishing, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Red Bandana Publishing, BMI/M2 Music, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Phat Raccoon, SESAC/Universal Tunes, SESAC (C.Lane, J.Thompson, J.A.Ebach) **41**

FOREVER TO ME Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Golden Rainey Music, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Hold On Can I Get A Number, BMI/Lono And Curly Entertainment, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (C.Swindell, G.James, R.H.Black) **46**

FRIENDS LIKE THAT Triple Play Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs For Maroo, ASCAP/Sea Gayle Pub House Publishing, ASCAP/Writers Of The Corn, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/WritersOnTheCORN Publishing, BMI (J.Morgan, B.Anderson, W.L.Bunoy, L.Vaughan) **50**

G

GWONNA LOVE YOU Sony Countryside, BMI/Songs By Slip Joint, BMI/Reservoir 416, BMI/33 Creative, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/Camp James Music, BMI/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Major Bob Productions, BMI (M.Thomas, D.Fanning, A.Dean, A.Sheridan) **28**

H

HALFWAY TO HELL Bailee's Ballads, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Influence, BMI/Songs For The Munch Music, BMI/Songs Of Madfun, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Jenkntown, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pie Of Dimes Music, BMI (D.B.DeFord, J.Frasure, M.Jenkins, J.Dillon) **2**

HANG TIGHT HONEY Louisiana Lady, ASCAP/Sony Accent, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Luckaway Music, BMI/Daddy's Home Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Harpeth Valley, BMI/Endurance Alpha, ASCAP/Sounds Of Soperman Music Publishing, ASCAP (L.Wilson, D.Williams, J.Nix, P.Sikes) **21**

I

I HAD SOME HELP Posty Publishing, GMR/Universal Music Works, GMR/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Bo Wallace Publishing, BMI/Bell Jar Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Erm Dog Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, BMI/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP (A.R.Poole, B.Bell, Charlie Handsome, E.K.Smith, J.J.Hoskins, C.P.Walters, A.G.Gorley) **4**

I'M IN LOVE MR. Canoe Music, BMI/Better Boat Music, BMI/James Edward Allen, BMI Publishing Designee, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Influence, BMI/Low Called Winner, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Songs With Words, That Rhythmic With Truck, BMI (C.Bedell, N.Galyon, L.T.Miller) **33**

I'M NOT PRETTY Georgiamo Music, SESAC/Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Major Bob Music, Inc., ASCAP/Tack Mack Tunes, BMI/Spakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Redneck Resume Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (M.Moroney, B.Williams, M.E.Carpenter, M.Carpenter) **19**

I TRIED A RING ON Songs Of Smack, BMI/Lily (K.S. Publishing, BMI/Sleighbells Ring Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Smackworks Music, SESAC/Follow Me Where I Go, SESAC/Smack Blue, LLC, SESAC/Kobalt Group Publishing, SESAC/King Pen Songs, SESAC/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC (K.Slaubaugh, K.J.Slaubaugh, P.Goood, J.Jenkins) **49**

K

KING OF COUNTRY MUSIC William Hill Publishing, ASCAP/Curb Songs, ASCAP/Town Of Iwang, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/NashBlonde Music, BMI/Ryan Larkins Songs, BMI (L.Larkins, W.Davall, J.R.McCoy) **55**

L

LET YOUR BOYS BE COUNTRY Peertunes, Ltd., SESAC/Marlowe Sinclair Songs, SESAC/Hipgnosis Tunes, SESAC/Songs Of Portiered Music, SESAC/Allison Veltz Sensations, SESAC/Peermusic III, Ltd., BMI/Sounds Electric Music, BMI (J.Boyer, A.Veltz-Cruz, M.Wishire) **12**

LIFE WITH YOU Mike Curb Music, BMI/Hits From The Hart, BMI/Curb Songs, ASCAP/Indeciso Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/Smack Songs LLC, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/CM Outlander Music Publishing, ASCAP/Concord Boulevard, ASCAP (R.Hart, K.Schlenger, S.Stepakoff) **51**

LOVE YOU AGAIN Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/TDP Publishing, BMI/Tape Room Tunes, SESAC/Track & Feels Publishing Designee, SESAC/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/The Big One, BMI (C.Brown, Chase Matthew, P.Philips) **16**

LOVE YOU BACK Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Young Man Publishing, BMI/Rudy Rocks, The USA, BMI/WeisOwl, ASCAP/Sony Tunes, ASCAP (J.McNair, L.Rimes, E.L.Weisband) **52**

LOVE YOU, MISS YOU, MEAN IT Little Brocchius Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Songs By Slip, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Turtle Garden Publishing, BMI/Southern Boy Songs, Worldwide, BMI/Jacob Rice Publishing, BMI (R.Akins, B.Hayslip, J.T.Minton, J.Rice) **25**

M

MESSED UP AS ME Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pie Of Dimes Music, BMI/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Tempo Investments, GMR/Smackstreet Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Spakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Quivira Road Songs, BMI/Twelve Red Oak Songs, BMI/Still Between The Pines, BMI (J.J.Dillon, S.McAnally, R.Clawson, M.Lotten) **27**

MILES ON IT Marshmellow Music, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Family Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Torrey Songs, BMI/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Artist Publishing Group West, ASCAP/Trkit Breaker LLC, ASCAP/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Lamcastle Music Publishing, BMI/Jumba Music, BMI/Kobalt Music Publishing, PRS/Songs Of Spirit UK Ltd, PRS/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI (Marsimelo, K.Groyn, J.Torrey, R.McDonough, C.McDonough, Castle, N.J.Gale, E.Enksen) **35**

O

ONE BAD HABIT Smacksters Music, ASCAP/Holy Ship Music, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Ice House Tunes, ASCAP/CM Outlander Music Publishing, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Bellamarina, ASCAP (M.Beeson, A.Eshuis, T.Lane) **22**

OUTSKIRTS Universal Music Works, GMR/Pearl Hunt Music, GMR/Sony Accent, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP/Low Records & Tapes, ASCAP/Twelve Red Doowood, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Round Hill Songs III, ASCAP/Foxwood Entertainment Group Music Division, ASCAP/Big Blue Nation Music, ASCAP (S.L.Hunt, J.S Osborne, J.Flowers, Z.Crowell) **5**

R

RODEO MAN LWR, LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Pambilly Music, BMI (R.Dunn, P.O'Donnell) **30**

ROULETTE ON THE HEART Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Home Team Harmonies, BMI/Songs Of Miller Crow, BMI/South Lick Creek Songs, BMI/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Where I Started Music Publishing, ASCAP/Mark Trussell Music, ASCAP/Big Loud Mountain Tunes, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Family Farm Songs, BMI (C.Smith, J.L.Alexander, C.McGill, M.Trussell) **39**

S

SHE'S SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER (REIMAGINED) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Beattville Music, BMI/Hipgnosis Beats, BMI/Smells Of Rich Mahogany, BMI (D.Baldridge, J.Jeary, C.Jaymes) **18**

SINGLE AGAIN W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Situation Songs, SESAC/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Allen Hill Songs, GMR/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/The Core Publishing, LLC, BMI/Sony Ross Publishing Designee, BMI (J.Ross, J.A.Fox, B.Rempel) **57**

SOUNDS LIKE THE RADIO Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Zach Top Music, BMI/Too Broke To Quit Music, BMI/Little Acree Music, BMI/50 Egg Music, BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (Z.Top, G.Chamberlain, W.McCubbin) **33**

T

TAKE HER HOME Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Relative Music Group, BMI/Rednecker Music, BMI/Biggie Bendable Music, BMI/Nonlyrical Music, ASCAP/Who Wants To Buy My Publishing, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Relative Red Music, BMI (H.Phelps, M.W.Hardy, Z.Aobend) **3**

THINK I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU I Wrote These Songs, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP (C.Stapleton) **43**

THIS HEART Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Madfun Music, BMI/Oconee River Bank Music, BMI/Bollingersey Shore, SESAC/7 Vill Music, BMI/Spakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Goat Island Bay Music, BMI/Peertunes, Ltd., SESAC/Livian Music, SESAC/Melodies Of CM Outlander, SESAC (T.Archer, W.B.Bollinger, J.A.Hackworth, M.Yyer) **58**

THIS IS MY DIRT Double Barrel Ace Music, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Paulwood Music, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Anthem Songs Of Countrywood, ASCAP (J.Moore, P.D.Giovanini, R.Montana, J.S.Stover) **23**

THIS TOWN'S BEEN TOO GOOD TO US Curb Songs, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poopy's Picks, ASCAP/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI (D.Scott, A.G.Gorley, Charlie Handsome, J.Byron, T.Philips) **44**

TIE UP Blunts And Bonfires Music, SESAC/C.Weimerhoush Publishing, Inc., SESAC/Dav For The Dead Publishing, SESAC/Beach Music Publishing, SESAC/Chorus 2 Music, SESAC/Curb Congregation Songs, SESAC/Prestige Countrywide, ASCAP/Spirit Music Group, ASCAP/Shanties Of 50 Egg Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, SESAC/Stark Machehe Music, Inc., SESAC (B.Simonetti, C.Gelbuda, J.D.Singleton, J.Hoge, Z.Brown) **34**

TUCSON TOO LATE Anthem Music Publishing II, ASCAP/Jordan Davis Music, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Bent Prop Publishing, ASCAP/Smackworks Music, SESAC/Follow Me Where I Go, SESAC/Kobalt Group Publishing, SESAC/Songs Of Madfun, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/Jenkntown, ASCAP (J.Davis, J.Davis, J.Jenkins, M.Jenkins) **6**

W

WE DON'T FIGHT ANYMORE BMG Gold songs, ASCAP/For The Kids Gold, ASCAP/Smackwood Music, SESAC/Kobalt Group Publishing, SESAC/Smack Songs LLC, GMR/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/King Pen Songs, SESAC/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Tempo Investments, GMR (C.Pearce, P.Goood, S.McAnally) **15**

WE RIDE Average ZIS Music Publishing, BMI/Vernon Diangelo Brown Jr. Publishing Designee, BMI (B.Martin, V.D.Brown Jr.) **9**

WHATCHA SEE IS WHATCHA GET Anthem Red Vinyl Music, BMI/Buckkilla Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Hubcap Music, BMI/T Tree Music, BMI/Ingram House Music, BMI/Queens Write Hits, BMI/Songs Of Hit Vibez Music, BMI (C.Janson, B.Hubbard, T.R.Hubbard, J.Ingram, Raelynn) **45**

WHERE IT ENDS Bailey Zimmerman Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Gold Room Special Music, BMI/Hipgnosis Beats, BMI/Holy Hell Music, BMI/London Electric Music, BMI/London Margate Songs, BMI (B.Zimmerman, G.Averill, J.Spargur) **1**

WIND UP MISSIN' YOU Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Back Block Music, BMI/Combustion Music, BMI/Hang Your Hat Hits, SESAC/Beats Building Feinjes, BMI/Concord Tunes, SESAC/Rad Tables Music, SESAC (T.Archer, T.P.Wetmore, C.LaCorte) **54**

WRANGLERS W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/AMAEB, ASCAP/Ryan Keith Carpenter Publishing Designee, ASCAP (A.M.Butts, E.McKeever, R.K.Carpenter) **48**

Y

YOUNG LOVE & SATURDAY NIGHTS W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP/EMI Music Publishing Ltd., PRS/Sony Music Publishing UK Ltd, PRS/BMG Rights Management UK Ltd., PRS/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Teletyri Rhythmic House Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Michael Scott Paper Company Publishing Company, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/MVZ Music, BMI/Red Bandana Publishing, BMI/Jones Music America, ASCAP/Songs Of Roc Nation Music, BMI (David Bowie, J.Frasure, A.G.Gorley, J.Thompson) **13**

YOUR PLACE Twelve Two Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/First Cut In The Deep End, BMI/Spakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Big Loud Mountain Tunes, ASCAP/W.C. Music Corp., ASCAP (C.Cooke, J.T.Minton, M.Trussell) **7**

C
O
O

60 Years Ago Buck Owens Was No. 1 'Again'

In 1964, the legend became the first artist to link consecutive Hot Country Songs leaders

On *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart dated June 6, 1964, **Buck Owens'** "Together Again" jumped to No. 1. The song replaced his own "My Heart Skips a Beat," making him the first artist to lead the list consecutively. As the latter track dipped to No. 2, Owens also became the first act to occupy the top two spots simultaneously since Hot Country Songs became the

genre's all-encompassing singles survey in October 1958.

Owens solely wrote "Together Again," which was released as the B-side to "My Heart Skips a Beat." With the former, he banked his fourth of 21 Hot Country Songs No. 1s.

Born Aug. 12, 1929, in Sherman, Texas, Owens — along with his famed backing

band, **the Buckaroos** — was one of the architects of the Bakersfield sound, which inspired such artists as **Marty Stuart** and **Dwight Yoakam**. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1996. On March 24, 2006, Owens performed for the last time at his own club, the Crystal Palace. He died the next day at his Bakersfield, Calif., home at age 76. —JIM ASKER

D
A

Owens on the set of *The Jimmy Dean Show* in November 1964.

REWINDING
THE
COUNTRY
CHARTS

This Week	Last Week	TITLE, Artist, Label & No.	Weeks on Chart
1	4	TOGETHER AGAIN Buck Owens, Capitol 5136	10
2	1	MY HEART SKIPS A BEAT Buck Owens, Capitol 5136	11
3	8	WINE, WOMAN AND SONG Loretta Lynn, Decca 31608	6
4	2	BURNING MEMORIES Ray Price, Columbia 42971	13
5	3	UNDERSTAND YOUR MAN Johnny Cash, Columbia 42964	16
6	9	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	13