

billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

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BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

Tom.Roland@billboard.com

CMA Awards Lean On Familiar Artists, Themes As Several All-Time Records Get Revised



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When the world is confused and unsettled, people tend to fall back on the old reliables: comfort food, familiar friends, predictable habits.

The 58th annual Country Music Association Awards had a ring of that familiarity, with well-established CMA favorites returning frequently to the stage to accept trophies. In one particular stretch, the evening took a decidedly old-school turn for 25 minutes, beginning when **Brooks & Dunn** reclaimed a surprise vocal duo of the year award they last won in 2006. A series of **George Strait** classics were subsequently reimagined by **Lainey Wilson**, **Jamey Johnson**, **Miranda Lambert** and **Parker McCollum**, capped by Strait — winner of the Willie Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award — singing “Honky Tonk Hall of Fame” with one of the song’s writers, **Chris Stapleton**, who was also the night’s biggest winner. **Ashley McBryde** finished the old-school run by honoring the late **Kris Kristofferson** with a spacious read of the ultralately “Help Me Make It Through the Night.”

In the ultimate show of familiarity, **Old Dominion** won vocal duo of the year a record-setting seventh straight time, besting a trio of acts that have won six times in succession: **Little Big Town**, **Rascal Flatts** and **The Statler Brothers**.

OD lead vocalist **Matthew Ramsey** alluded to the culture’s

uneasy vibe as four of the group’s five members collected their hardware: “If you are an artist of any type, or a creator or musician, this is when the world needs you the most: when it’s weird, like it is right now. So get out there and get together and create.”

Stapleton had the largest awards impact, claiming trophies in

three different categories, each of which is familiar with his name. He landed his eighth male vocalist trophy, extending his record in the field, achieved by stringing together his second run of four wins in succession. Additionally, “White Horse” trotted off with single and song honors, his third win in each category. Even “White Horse,” with its grinding guitars and in-your-face vocal, had its origins in a comfortable topic: It was inspired by a 2013 remake of an old-school western icon.

“[We thought] we would write a song for this movie that we’d heard about, and it was *The Lone Ranger*,” co-writer **Dan Wilson** (“Closing Time,” “Not Ready To Make Nice”) recalled

on the red carpet. “Chris immediately thought, ‘OK, well, it’s about a cowboy on a white horse.’ And then it all kind of fell together. And then the song kind of, I don’t know, went into a drawer or something like that for several years.”

Brooks & Dunn rode back into the winner’s circle for the first time in several years — 18, to be exact — snagging their 15th vocal duo award. They performed “Believe,” which brought



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them song and video of the year when they last gave a CMA acceptance speech, with **Jelly Roll** in what was arguably the most emotional moment of the night. The song's timeless message about faith and meaning connected squarely with the audience, as many of the artists in the crowd wiped away tears or raised their hands toward heaven, mirroring a line in the song.

The victory helped **Kix Brooks** and **Ronnie Dunn** maintain their all-time mark. With 19 total victories, the duo is tied with Stapleton for the most in CMA history, ahead of **Vince Gill** (18 wins), Strait (17 wins) and **Alan Jackson** (16 wins).

Lainey Wilson, who co-hosted the ABC telecast with returning MCs **Luke Bryan** and **Peyton Manning**, seems headed in that direction, racking up nine total trophies in a scant three years. She brought her own level of familiarity to the proceedings, logging her third consecutive female vocalist honor and her second straight video award, this one recognizing "Wildflowers and Wild Horses."

Cody Johnson — who sang a classic-sounding power ballad, "I'm Gonna Love You," with **Carrie Underwood** — nabbed his first album of the year win with *Leather*, a project bolstered by two traditional-sounding hits that were nominated for song of the year: "The Painter" and "Dirt Cheap."

"The Painter" skillfully employs a familiar, time-honored country approach, building an artful metaphor.

"It's three-and-a-half minutes long, it's got a long chorus, and I love that about Cody Johnson," said one of the song's co-writers, **Kat Higgins**, on the CMA red carpet. "He just wants to cut the songs he loves. He doesn't care about rules or how uptempo it is."

"Country songs are what I live for," Johnson said backstage. "Besides [my wife] **Brandi**, besides our two beautiful daughters, it's the only thing in life for me that's a constant. It's in my blood. It's in my DNA. I wake up with it every day in the forefront of my mind, trying to make country music that means something and to be a guy that comes along and says, 'I want to change country music for the better.' I want, 35 years from now, to be that guy that's sitting up onstage like George Strait, where they say, 'He did something.' That's it for me."

Megan Moroney won new artist, guitarist **Charlie Worsham** took musician of the year during a commercial break, and **Ella Langley** and **Riley Green** performed their quirky, almost-throwback quasi-recitation "You Look Like You Love Me" after it was named musical event of the year.

And in one final, likely unintended, note of familiarity, the entertainer of the year was a no-show. In the early years of awards programs, winners were absent in larger numbers than they are today, and **Morgan Wallen** was unavailable to claim the night's last trophy. Presenter **Jeff Bridges** mispronounced his last name, saying it in a way that brought to mind **Waylon Jennings**, who famously tried to be removed from the CMA slate during his outlaw-era heyday.

From the stage to the press room to the red carpet, those who appeared were often thoughtful about the familiar role that music — like many other talents — plays in bringing unsettled people together.

"Whether you drive a tractor or pour coffee, make people smile or laugh," Lainey Wilson said. "Whatever that is, I think you're supposed to share that gift." ●



Luke Bryan was featured in a Nov. 20 installment of Amazon's *Country Heat Weekly* podcast, hosted by Kelly Sutton (left) and Amber Anderson.



Billboard staff writer Jessica Nicholson received the Country Music Association's media achievement award from Thomas Rhett during awards show rehearsals on Nov. 19 at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena.



Megan Moroney was honored for two of the year's most-performed songs during the SESAC Nashville Music Awards on Nov. 17 at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

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CONGRATULATIONS MORGAN WALLEN

2024 CMA AWARDS
ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR



BIG LOUD

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

How Shaboozey Has Kept The Party Going On Country Airplay With ‘A Bar Song (Tipsy)’

Shaboozey’s “A Bar Song (Tipsy)” (American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Magnolia Music) rebounds 6-5 on *Billboard’s* Country Airplay chart (dated Nov. 30). In the Nov. 15-21 tracking week, the hit drew 22.9 million in audience, according to Luminate.

Of the 30 weeks that the track by the Virginian has charted on Country Airplay, 18 have been inside the top five, including seven weeks at the pinnacle beginning in early August. It ties **Post Malone’s** fellow 2024 crossover hit, “I Had Some Help” (featuring **Morgan Wallen**), for the sixth-longest stay in the top five since the chart launched in 1990. **Cole Swinell’s** “She Had Me at Heads Carolina” holds the record (24 weeks, 2022-23).

Hubbard Broadcasting Seattle operations manager and **KPNW** program director **Scott Mahalick** says that “A Bar Song (Tipsy)” has become entrenched at the format “because Shaboozey is so passionate about country music. At the end of the day, it’s an upbeat summer record that is fun and nonpolitical. The listeners have spoken — they love it.”



DANIEL PRAKOPCYK

CMA WINNERS AT RADIO Here’s a look at some of the night’s biggest honorees at the 58th annual Country Music Association Awards (held Nov. 20 in Nashville) and how their latest singles are faring on Country Airplay:

Morgan Wallen, entertainer of the year: “Lies Lies Lies,” which led the Nov. 23 list, ranks at No. 4 (24 million impressions, down 21%), followed by “Love Somebody” (No. 12; 16.2 million, up 23%).

Lainey Wilson, female vocalist of the year: “4x4xU” (No. 20; 10 million, up 7%).

Chris Stapleton, male vocalist, single and song of the year (the latter two for “White Horse”): “Think I’m in Love With You” (No. 21; 10 million, up 2%).

Cody Johnson, album of the year (*Leather*): “I’m Gonna Love You” (with **Carrie Underwood**) (No. 27; 6.4 million, up 15%).

Megan Moroney, new artist of the year: “Am I Okay?” (No. 31; 4.7 million, up 4%). ●

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
TEXAS Ten Point/Wheelhouse	Blake Shelton	+12.255
BEAUTIFUL AS YOU Fifty-One/Forty-Nine/Valory	Thomas Rhett	+6.049
LOVE SOMEBODY Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	+3.011
LIAR Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Republic/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+2.392
COWBOY SONGS RECORDS Nashville	George Birge	+2.251
HIGH ROAD YellaBush/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Koe Wetzel & Jessie Murph	+1.655
GONNA LOVE YOU Stoney Creek	Parmalee	+1.530
BOYS BACK HOME PIA/Curb/Columbia Nashville	Dylan Marlowe & Dylan Scott	+1.334
I NEVER LIE Leo33	Zach Top	+1.203
HOMETOWN HOME BMG/Galaxy Label Group	LOCASH	+1.066

MOST INCREASED PLAYS

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
TEXAS Ten Point/Wheelhouse	Blake Shelton	+2670
BEAUTIFUL AS YOU Fifty-One/Forty-Nine/Valory	Thomas Rhett	+1632
LOVE SOMEBODY Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	+827
LIAR Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Republic/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+796
COWBOY SONGS RECORDS Nashville	George Birge	+619
HIGH ROAD YellaBush/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Koe Wetzel & Jessie Murph	+492
HOLY SMOKES Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	+327
I NEVER LIE Leo33	Zach Top	+283
GONNA LOVE YOU Stoney Creek	Parmalee	+274
I'M GONNA LOVE YOU CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/Capitol Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson & Carrie Underwood	+274

RECURRENTS

THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	I HAD SOME HELP Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Post Malone Featuring Morgan Wallen	19.020
2	COWGIRLS Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen Featuring Ernest	14.637
3	CHEVROLET Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch Featuring Jelly Roll	14.326
4	AIN'T NO LOVE IN OKLAHOMA Universal Studios/Atlantic/Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	13.610
5	WORLD ON FIRE RCA Nashville	Nate Smith	11.019
6	WHERE IT ENDS Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	9.646
7	FAST CAR River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	9.526
8	SHE'S SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER (REIMAGINED) Patoka Sounds/Lyric Ridge	Drew Baldridge	9.427
9	OUTSKIRTS MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	8.529
10	AUSTIN VERSION III/Warner/WMN	Dasha	7.942

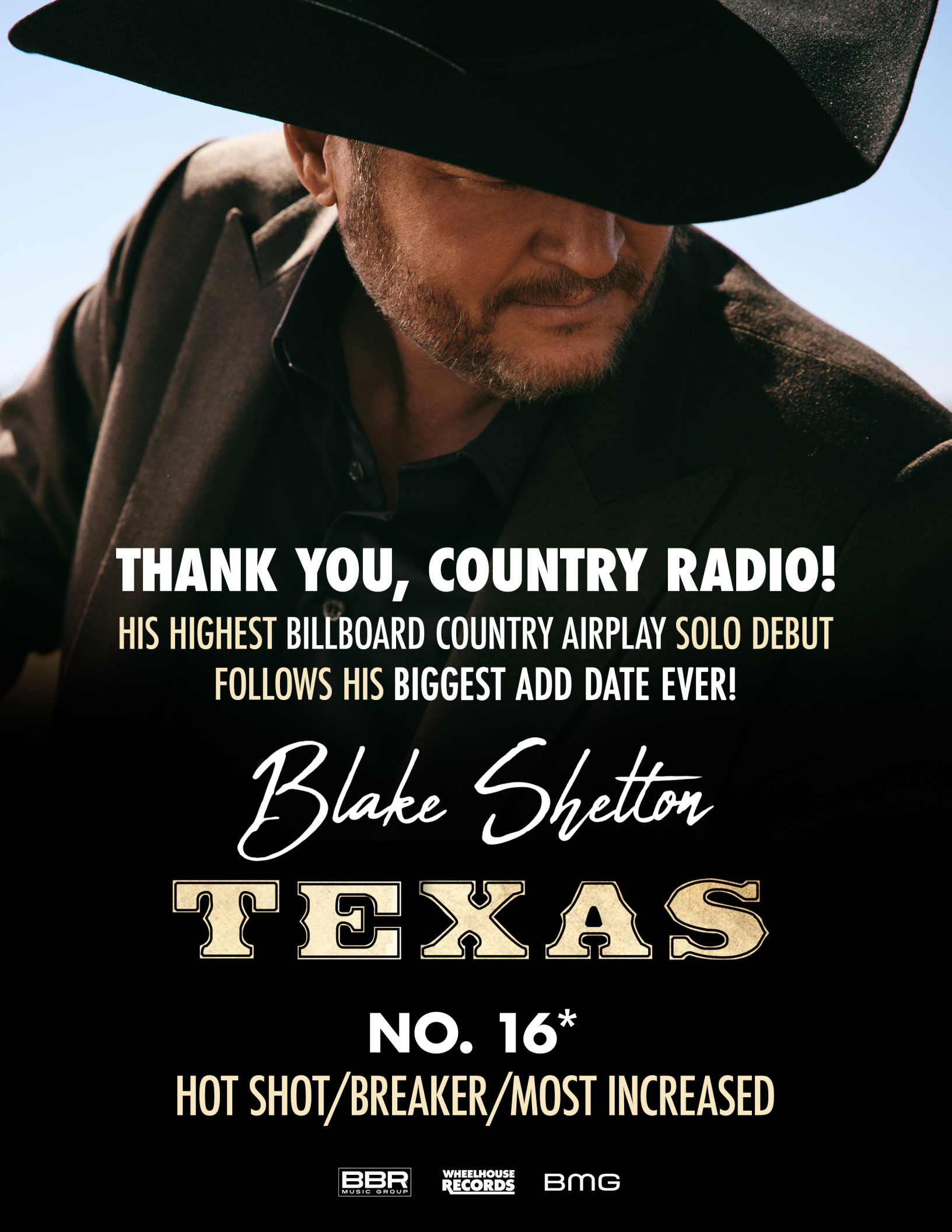


TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 21, 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	25	LOST IN THE COUNTRY (LuckySky Music)	Tori Martin	1662	134	11	11	13	HILL COUNTRY HOME (Independent)	Kyle Park	1130	6
2	3	20	ME TIME (Flying C)	Brooke Graham	1495	30	12	13	19	ROPE THE WIND (Rockin R)	Amanda Kate Ferris	1068	3
3	4	11	KEEPIN ME ALIVE (Independent)	Matt Daniel	1410	69	13	17	10	GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING (Independent)	Mike Ryan	1007	67
4	6	17	PAIN AND SORROW (Independent)	Matt Castillo	1343	34	14	16	13	ONE MORE FOR THE RIDE (Independent)	Ryder Grimes	1004	46
5	5	20	WHEELS (Independent)	Shane Smith & The Saints	1335	8	15	15	22	90SVILLE (Synapse)	Derryl Perry	994	13
6	9	20	TWO WAY DRIVE (River House)	Hudson Westbrook	1292	136	16	19	9	MORE AFRAID OF LIVING (Independent)	David Adam Byrnes	906	70
7	7	24	BEER'S BETTER ON A BOAT (Independent)	Clay Hollis & Jesse Raub, Jr.	1285	38	17	18	17	THIS COULD BE LOVE (Independent)	Kaitlyn Kohler feat. Jamie Richards	884	47
8	8	15	FRONT PORCH IN THE RAIN (Independent)	Hayden Haddock	1239	69	18	23	12	HER WAY AIN'T THE HIGHWAY (Independent)	Jake Bush	800	19
9	10	10	FRIDAY NIGHT (Independent)	Wade Bowen	1168	20	19	22	17	DON'T ASK ME TO DANCE (Independent)	Chuck Wimer	791	9
10	12	20	RIDE OR DIE (Independent)	James Robert Webb	1162	52	20	28	7	ARE YOU WITH ME (Independent)	Case Hardin	787	99

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



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billboardCountry 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	2	24	I AM NOT OKAY Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Republic/Stoney Creek	★★ No. 1 (3 Weeks) ★★ Jelly Roll	27.370	-1.736	6342	-471	4
2	10	28	BEAUTIFUL AS YOU Fifty-One/Forty-Nine/Valory	Thomas Rhett	25.882	+6.049	7526	1632	1
3	3	22	POUR ME A DRINK Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Post Malone Featuring Blake Shelton	25.658	-1.208	6293	-116	5
4	1	21	LIES LIES LIES Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	23.966	-6.295	6047	-1688	6
5	6	30	A BAR SONG (TIPSY) American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey	22.912	+0.035	5520	75	9
6	7	55	GONNA LOVE YOU Stoney Creek	Parmalee	22.434	+1.530	6356	274	3
7	9	38	COWBOY SONGS RECORDS Nashville	George Birge	22.132	+2.251	6362	619	2
8	4	29	MILES ON IT Joytime Collective/RCA Nashville	Marshmello & Kane Brown	21.634	-2.742	5273	-629	10
9	8	18	YOU LOOK LIKE YOU LOVE ME SAWGOD/Columbia/Nashville Harbor	Ella Langley Featuring Riley Green	20.599	+0.353	5926	199	7
10	11	19	HIGH ROAD YellaBush/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Koe Wetzel & Jessie Murph	20.285	+1.655	5787	492	8
11	12	46	BOYS BACK HOME PIA/Curb/Columbia Nashville	Dylan Marlowe & Dylan Scott	18.096	+1.334	4948	253	11
12	15	5	LOVE SOMEBODY Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	16.180	+3.011	4069	827	14
13	13	26	WIND UP MISSIN' YOU Back Blocks/EMI Nashville	Tucker Wetmore	15.866	+0.593	4531	200	12
14	14	42	BIGGER HOUSES Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	15.042	+0.252	4477	160	13
15	5	44	ONE BAD HABIT McGraw/Big Machine	Tim McGraw	13.755	-10.216	3728	-3460	16
16	NEW		TEXAS Ten Point/Wheelhouse	★★ Hot Shot Debut/Breaker/Most Increased Audience ★★ Blake Shelton	12.284	+12.255	2677	2670	22
17	16	38	MESSED UP AS ME Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	11.635	+0.376	3812	119	15
18	18	36	DAMN GOOD DAY TO LEAVE Nashville Harbor	Riley Green	11.491	+0.550	3578	241	17
19	19	18	GUY FOR THAT Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Post Malone Featuring Luke Combs	11.312	+1.017	2980	177	20
20	21	12	4X4XU Broken Bow	★★ Airpower ★★ Lainey Wilson	9.976	+0.629	3092	246	18
21	20	40	THINK I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU Sound/Mercury Nashville	Chris Stapleton	9.955	+0.223	3040	162	19
22	22	18	I AIN'T SAYIN' MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	9.287	+0.601	2965	259	21
23	24	32	FOREVER TO ME Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	7.626	-0.099	2179	-82	26
24	27	31	FRIENDS LIKE THAT Night Train/Broken Bow	John Morgan Featuring Jason Aldean	7.487	+0.579	2571	183	24
25	26	37	THIS TOWN'S BEEN TOO GOOD TO US Curb	Dylan Scott	7.438	+0.389	2371	123	25
26	25	45	BREAKIN' IN BOOTS RECORDS/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Matt Stell	7.251	-0.067	2578	-55	23
27	28	8	I'M GONNA LOVE YOU CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/Capitol Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson & Carrie Underwood	6.413	+0.826	2005	274	27
28	29	23	HOLY SMOKES Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	5.999	+0.842	2002	327	28
29	30	25	HOMETOWN HOME BMG/Galaxy Label Group	LOCASH	5.772	+1.066	1961	248	29
30	44	2	LIAR Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Republic/Stoney Creek	★★ Breaker ★★ Jelly Roll	4.706	+2.392	1394	796	37

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-bulleted) 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.

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CONGRATULATIONS

LAINNEY WILSON

CMA
FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR
(THIRD CONSECUTIVE WIN)

CMA
MUSIC VIDEO
OF THE YEAR
“WILDFLOWERS AND WILD HORSES”



BMG



PHOTO COURTESY OF DISNEY/BRIAN BOWEN SMITH

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	31	14	AM I OKAY? Megan Moroney/Columbia/Columbia Nashville	Megan Moroney	4.662	+0.161	1320	63	39
32	32	19	JUST TO SAY WE DID Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Kenny Chesney	4.547	+0.471	1654	78	32
33	34	34	LIFE WITH YOU Curb	Kelsey Hart	4.388	+0.421	1832	104	30
34	33	17	WHISKEY DRINK Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	4.158	+0.123	1574	70	34
35	35	37	WHATCHA SEE IS WHATCHA GET Nashville Harbor	Chris Janson	3.947	+0.042	1675	26	31
36	39	3	BACKSEAT DRIVER Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	3.729	+0.504	854	154	45
37	38	21	COMING HOME Three Up Three Down/Columbia Nashville	Old Dominion	3.486	+0.224	1324	145	38
38	37	29	WRANGLERS Vanner/Republic/Big Loud	Miranda Lambert	3.455	+0.009	1642	67	33
39	45	6	I NEVER LIE Leo33	Zach Top	3.372	+1.203	792	283	48
40	36	6	DARKEST HOUR (HELENE EDIT) BigEC/EMI Nashville	Eric Church	3.027	-0.514	1472	5	35
41	43	22	COWBOYS CRY TOO Black River	Kelsea Ballerini & Noah Kahan	2.956	+0.351	1460	134	36
42	40	34	SINGLE AGAIN The Core/Universal Music Canada/Mercury Nashville	Josh Ross	2.943	-0.095	1278	-80	40
43	41	24	FALL OF SUMMER Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	2.773	-0.027	1227	-23	41
44	42	17	TRUCK ON FIRE Big Machine	Carly Pearce	2.651	+0.029	1131	-56	42
45	46	9	HEAVENS TO BETSY Big Machine	Jackson Dean	2.129	+0.031	889	39	43
46	47	3	TOUGH PEOPLE Patoka Sounds/Lyric Ridge/Stoney Creek	Drew Baldridge	2.107	+0.036	865	19	44
47	52	11	PARK Hubbard House/EMI Nashville	Tyler Hubbard	1.851	+0.235	774	68	49
48	49	24	EVERYTHING I NEED 19/Wheelhouse	Chayce Beckham	1.824	-0.039	849	-8	46
49	48	11	FRIDAY NIGHT HEARTBREAKER Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	1.824	-0.093	771	24	50
50	50	14	COUNTRY HOUSE MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	1.682	-0.069	845	1	47
51	56	4	RELAPSE 717/Warner/WEA	Warren Zeiders	1.550	+0.095	576	11	55
52	53	12	BONES Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	1.538	-0.056	693	-15	51
53	55	8	TRUCK STILL WORKS Loaded Goat/EMI Nashville	Brad Paisley	1.399	-0.057	561	-31	57
54	54	15	OVER WHEN WE'RE SOBER Valory	Brantley Gilbert Featuring Ashley Cooke	1.397	-0.107	662	-11	52
55	57	17	DEVIL YOU KNOW Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Tyler Braden	1.393	-0.016	480	-18	60
56	59	22	THIS HEART Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville	Corey Kent	1.297	+0.002	608	-13	54
57	58	10	WHAT KINDA MAN MCA Nashville	Parker McCollum	1.271	-0.062	648	36	53
58	51	13	LOVE THE LEAVIN' Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Drew Parker	1.226	-0.462	500	-139	59
59	NEW		COUNTRY SONG CAME ON Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	1.181	+0.625	424	247	-
60	60	2	FIX WHAT YOU DIDN'T BREAK RCA Nashville	Nate Smith	1.105	+0.168	443	111	-



Cody Johnson and Ashley McBryde were among the attendees when Warner Music Nashville hosted a post-Country Music Association Awards party on Nov. 20. From left: WMN co-chair/co-president Gregg Nadel, Johnson, WMN co-chair/co-president Cris Lacy and McBryde.



Kip Moore and Gold and Gold Productions president Ron Sakamoto received international awards during a Nov. 20 Country Music Association international reception. From left: CMA CEO Sarah Trahern and senior manager of international relations and development Meredith Goucher, Sakamoto, Moore and CMA vp of international relations and development Milly Olykan.

WMN

ZACH WHITMORE

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MATERIALS DUE 11/27

CONTACTS

Northeast & Midwest | Joe Maimone | joe.maimone@billboard.com

Southeast | Lee Ann Photoglo | laphotoglo@gmail.com

West Coast | Cynthia Mellow | cmellow615@gmail.com

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

Latin | Marcia Olival | marciaolival29@gmail.com



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ERIKA GOLDING/GETTY IMAGES



Chase McGill (center) celebrated his BMI country songwriter of the year honor with Luke Combs and fellow songwriter Jessi Alexander on Nov. 19.

ABOUT 'LAST NIGHT'

Morgan Wallen's hit "Last Night" took country song of the year honors from two different performing rights organizations on successive nights as the country music industry celebrated a bevy of songwriters in the days leading up to the 58th annual Country Music Association Awards.

"Last Night" claimed ASCAP's country song of the year on Nov. 18 for co-writers **JKash** and **Ashley Gorley**, who also walked off with his 11th victory as ASCAP country songwriter of the year. The next night, BMI hailed "Last Night" as its most performed country song, recognizing its other two writers, **John Byron** and **Charlie Handsome**.

The song defies country norms a bit. Where most singles have some level of dynamic contrast, "Last Night" remains almost entirely static from beginning to end, maintaining a relentlessly surly vibe as a looped chord progression undergirds a lyric about the uncertain aftermath of a domestic disagreement.

"There's something about that loop—it just really drew attention to his vocal, [which] is completely insane," Gorley said on the ASCAP red carpet. The production "was kind of the demo, and I think they might have played around a little bit and came back to just this sparseness. The demo is probably just three parts in the whole thing, no real drums. That one was very cool. I think we all are just looking for the next thing or something different to kind of shake it up."

Chris Stapleton claimed the ASCAP country music songwriter/artist of the year honor, while Sony Music Publishing took the ASCAP country publisher title.

Zach Bryan and **Chase McGill** ("Next Thing You Know," "Creek Will Rise") shared BMI's country songwriter of the year title, and Warner-Tamerlane was named its top country publisher.

Alabama lead vocalist **Randy Owen** was also named a BMI Icon, celebrated with performances of his material by **Riley Green**, **Luke Bryan** and **Blake Shelton**. Bryan delivered what appeared to be a surprise collaboration, jumping back onstage after a version of "Feels So Right" to swap lines with Shelton on a raucous swing through "Mountain Music."

The SESAC Nashville Music Awards kicked off the three-night sweep on Nov. 17. **Jaron Boyer** ("Mind on You," "Let Your Boys Be Country") collected songwriter of the year honors. **Warren Zeider**'s "Pretty Little Poison," co-written with **Jared Keim** and **Ryan Beaver**, nabbed song of the year. And Warner Chappell Music snagged country publisher of the year.

RADIO & RECORDS®

Taylor Lindsey was named the new Sony Music Nashville chairman/CEO, a role that will take effect in January 2025 following the retirement of outgoing **Randy Goodman**. Lindsey rises from head of A&R. Concurrently, **Ken Robold** becomes president/COO, after nine years as executive vp/COO ... Richmond, Va.-bred **Jack Wharff & The Tobacco Flatts** agreed to a recording deal with Big Machine. The first track in the partnership, "Picture Perfect," was released Nov. 22 ... Gravel Road signed **Willie Jones** to a recording deal ... **Big D** and **Bubba** will replace **Tracy Lawrence** as host of *Honky Tonkin' With Tracy Lawrence*, distributed by Compass Networks, in January. The duo, **Derek "Big D" Haskins** and **Sean "Bubba" Powell**, will continue hosting *The Big D and Bubba*

Show on weekday mornings... **Aaron "Goose" Seller** left his job as **WWWW** Detroit program director/morning host, *RadioInsight.com* reported, in a round of layoffs at Cumulus ... **WWQQ** Wilmington, N.C., morning personality **Eric Medler** was let go after 10 years on-air at the station, according to *RadioInsight.com* ... **Dan + Shay** and **Kelly Clarkson** are among the guests on the *iHeartRadio Holiday Special*, hosted by **Mario Lopez**, on Nov. 27 ... GrassRoots Promotion is accepting applications through Dec. 6 for the Steve Ferguson CRS Scholarship, providing a winning candidate with free attendance to the Country Radio Seminar Feb. 19-21 in Nashville. Go [here](#) to apply.

'ROUND THE ROW

Big Yellow Dog Music promoted **Nicole Rhodes** to senior director of sync from director ... Publishing veteran **Scott Sherrod** joined Anthem Entertainment as senior director of creative. He spent the last two years focused on consulting through his own firm, Circle 5 Music ... International Entertainment Buyers Association executive director **Pam Matthews** announced plans to retire during the first quarter of 2025 after more than a decade leading the organization. The IEBA executive committee is actively seeking a successor. Send inquiries [here](#) ... Songwriter **Matt Alderman** ("Nothing To Do Town," "Truth About You") signed a publishing deal with Anthem Entertainment ... The Country Music Association presented the CMA founding president's award to Walt Disney Television executive vp of unscripted and alternative entertainment **Rob Mills** during rehearsals for the CMA Awards on Nov. 19 ... **Trisha Yearwood** and **Amy Grant** will host *CMA Country Christmas* when it airs Dec. 3 on ABC, with **Cody Johnson**, **Brittney Spencer**, **Ashley McBryde** and **Jon Pardi** among the guests ... The Source Hall of Fame Awards, recognizing women in the Nashville music business, will be presented Aug. 26, 2025, at the Musicians Hall of Fame ... The Americana Honors and Awards will air on PBS' *Austin City Limits* beginning Nov. 24. The honors were presented in Nashville in September ... **Joe Nichols** has launched The Impossible Foundation with wife **Heather Nichols** and Montana-based entrepreneur **Andy Wirth**. The organization, named after Nichols' hit "The Impossible," is focused on reducing veteran suicides ... **Russell Dickerson** and Concord Music raised \$35,000 for ACM Lifting Lives and Cul2vate with the first Russellmania, a Nov. 8 competition that included axe-throwing, Jenga and air hockey, among other events ... Music industry veteran **Mike Martinovich**, 81, died Nov. 18 in Nashville. His 55-year career included 25 years in sales and marketing for CBS Records/Sony Music in multiple markets, as well as assisting in the careers of **Tammy Wynette**, **Mary Chapin Carpenter**, **Bruce Springsteen**, **James Taylor** and **Dolly Parton**, among others. He went on to co-found Mansfield-Martinovich Associates, working with Anderson Merchandisers and **Garth Brooks**, and to launch The Consortium, where he worked with **Jason Aldean**, **Marie Osmond** and **Mandy Barnett**. Visitation is 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m. on Nov. 22 at Nashville's Eastland Funeral Home. Services will be held at noon on Nov. 23 at Svetka Petka Serbian Orthodox Church. Contributions may be made in Martinovich's name to the church. 📍



ED RODE

"A Bar Song (Tipsy)" songwriters Mark "Tarboy" Williams and Sean Cook were among the honorees during the ASCAP Country Music Awards on Nov. 18 at Nashville's Twelve Thirty Club. From left: ASCAP CEO Elizabeth Matthews, Williams, Cook and ASCAP chairman of the board/president Paul Williams.

MORGAN WALLEN // ROD WAVE // TAYLOR SWIFT

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The Year
In Music

WHAT WE LEARNED
FROM THE ARTISTS WHO
DEFINED 2023

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THE NO. 1s ISSUE

YEAR IN
MUSIC

ISSUE DATE 12/14 | **AD CLOSE** 12/3

MATERIALS DUE 12/5

CONTACT

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

Billboard's Year in Music: The No. 1s will wrap up 2024 with an extraordinary editorial package. Included will be year-end charts, interviews and analysis on the year's top artists, songs, albums and labels as well as the year's top producers, songwriters and publishers.

The year-end Billboard Boxscore charts will shine a light on the most successful tours and the top venues and promoters.

This highly anticipated issue serves as a compilation of must-have information. It is referenced year-round by everyone in the music business and touring industry as their de facto resource for *Billboard's* historical data and information.

Advertise in this signature collector's edition and position your company, artist or breakthrough achievement in front of the power players in the industry. This issue provides the ideal showcase to run a brand or congratulatory message to acknowledge success over the past year.

billboard Country Airplay Index

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

4X4XU Sony Countryside, BMI/Story Farmer, BMI/Reservoir 416, BMI/Songs Of One Riot Music, BMI/ONE TOOTH PRODUCTIONS, BMI/Super LCS Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (L.Wilson, J.Decious, A.Raitiere) **20**

A

AM I OKAY? Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Georgiamo Music, SESAC/Concord Global Music, GMR/Songs Of CN, GMR/Crawford Mercer Music, SESAC/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI (M.Moroney, L.Laird, J.J.Dillon) **31**

B

BACKSEAT DRIVER Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Songs Of Black River Music, ASCAP/Me Gusta Music, BMI/Songs Of Combustion Five, BMI/Seeker From The Speaker Music, BMI/On Cor Music, BMI (J.Davis, J.Walker) **36**

A BAR SONG (TIPSY) Kreshendo, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/S2 Songs LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Essancy Music Publishing, ASCAP/Range Media Partners LLC, ASCAP/EMI April Music, Inc., ASCAP/Hood Hop Music, ASCAP/Tarpo Music Publishing, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Le Seek Cest Chic, ASCAP (C.O.Chibueze, S.C.Cook, N.Sastry, J.Jones, J.A.Kent, M.A.Williams) **5**

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/Alien Cargo Plane Music, ASCAP/Top Notch High Quality Music, ASCAP/13117 Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/Maverick King Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tunes, ASCAP/Sldron Publishing LLC, BMI/The Place To Be Is LMC Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (Thomas Rhett, J.C.Bunetta, J.E.Coleman, J.K.Hindlin, A.Izquierdo, Z.Kelsey, J.H.Ryan) **2**

BIGGER HOUSES Beats And Banjos, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Concord Sounds, ASCAP/First Cut Is The Deepest Inc, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Speakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/SugarPlum Songs, ASCAP/Tacklebox Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI (A.Albert, D.Smyers, J.T.Minton, J.Reynolds) **14**

BONES Concord Copyrights, BMI/Big Hits N Gravy, BMI/Concord Tunes, SESAC/Card Tables Music, SESAC/Hang Your Hat Hits, SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/HOM Team Harmonies, BMI/Tunes Of TrailerParker, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Family Farm Songs, BMI (R.Dickerson, C.LaCorte, P.Welling, C.McGill) **52**

BOYS BACK HOME Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of PIA Entertainment, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Songs From The Rose Hotel, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Situation Songs, SESAC/Real Bad Songs, SESAC (D.Marlowe, S.Ennis, J.A.Fox) **11**

BREAKIN' IN BOOTS Endurance Alpha, ASCAP/124 Records, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/BRRCOFFEE, BMI/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Situation Songs, SESAC/Lil Sebastian Music, BMI/Young Guns Publishing, LLC, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Real Bad Songs, SESAC (M.Stell, N.Cyphert, J.A.Fox, B.M.Stennis) **26**

C

COMING HOME WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Bird And Bean Music, ASCAP/Twelve6 Dogwood, ASCAP/Trevor's Advocate Publishing, ASCAP/Tiny Handstand, ASCAP/Sharkules Music, ASCAP/MeGusta Music, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Turs And Chorus, ASCAP/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Art of CTM Music Outlander LP, GMR/Smackworld Music, GMR (M.Ramsey, T.Rosen, W.Sellers, G.Sprung, B.T.Justi, S.McAnally) **37**



WILSON

HUNTER BERRY

COUNTRY HOUSE Twelve6 Red Oak Songs, BMI/Still Between The Pines, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/EMI Blackwood Music Inc., BMI/Katie In The Sky With Diamonds, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Songs For Indy And Owl, ASCAP/Works Of CMT Outlander, GMR (M.Lotten, R.Copperman, J.Soborne, S.L.Hunt) **50**

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COWBOYS CRY TOO Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Feel Your Way Through Publishing, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Vandeezy Songs, SESAC/Songs Of Rhythm House Black, SESAC/Sony Allegro, ASCAP/Secret Meadow Songs, ASCAP (K.Ballerini, A.Vanderheyem, N.Kahan) **41**

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D

DAMN GOOD DAY TO LEAVE Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Back 40 Publishing International, BMI/Duckman Publishing, BMI/Flatland 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.Walsh) **18**

DARKEST HOUR (HELENE EDIT) Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Longer And Louder Music, BMI (E.Church) **40**

DEVIL YOU KNOW ZDyer Publishing, BMI/Silly Sweater Publishing, ASCAP/Group Projects Writers, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/WritersontheCornPublishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Turntable Music Pub, ASCAP/HALLPASS, ASCAP (G.Barham, Z.Dyer, J.Hall, S.Martinez) **55**

E

EVERYTHING I NEED Songs By 19 Publishing, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Brumby Cooper Otis Music, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Rudy Rocks The USA, BMI (C.Beckham, J.Pierce, L.Rimes) **48**

F

FALL OF SUMMER Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Dagum Music, BMI/Songs Of Spirit One Nashville, BMI/Tunes Of Fluid II, BMI/Heavy Lefty Music, BMI/Spirit Two Music Crescendo, ASCAP/Fluid Tunes, ASCAP/Spirit Vault Songs, ASCAP/Songs Of Spirit II Nashville, ASCAP/FluidTunes II, ASCAP/Burley Bishop Music, ASCAP/Beats By Baby Brent, ASCAP (S.C.McCreery, M.Criswell, F.Rogers, D.George, B.Anderson) **43**

FIX WHAT YOU DIDN'T BREAK Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Coerent Music, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Rudy Rocks The USA, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/TDP Publishing, BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI (N.Smith, A.G.Gorley, T.Phillips, L.Rimes) **60**

FOREVER TO ME Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Colden Rainey Music, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Hold On Can I Get A Number 1 Music, BMI/Long And Curly Entertainment, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (C.Swindell, G.James, R.H.Black) **23**

FRIDAY NIGHT HEARTBREAKER Concord Copyrights, BMI/Jomil 10 Music, BMI/Cascade Road Songs, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Tompkins Family Vacation, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/Finally Got Some Publishing, BMI/The Buffalo Catalogue, BMI (J.Miller, C.Tompkins, J.J.Dillon, D.Ross, R.J.Hurd) **49**

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G

GONNA 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) **6**

GUY FOR THAT Posty Publishing, GMR/Universal Music Works, GMR/Bell Ear Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Young Man Publishing, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI (A.R.Pest, L.B.Bell, Charlie Handsome, L.Combs, J.McNair, E.K.Smith, J.J.Hoskins) **19**

H

HEAVENS TO BETSY Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Well That Was Awkward Music, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Tuckaway Music, BMI/Daddy's Home Music, BMI/Songs Of Harpeth Valley, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (J.Dean, B.Davis, D.Williams) **45**

HIGH ROAD Yellabush Music, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Kenny + Betty Tunes, LLC, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Gabe Simon Pub Designee, ASCAP/Escondido House Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Jessie Murph Publishing Designee, BMI/Millicent Hill Music, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Josh Serrato Publishing Designee, ASCAP (R.Wetzel, A.R.Allen, G.Simon, C.Karpanen, J.Murph, L.J.Veltz, J.Serrato) **10**



McCREERY

JEFF RAY

HOLY SMOKES Bailey Zimmerman Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/I Fart Creations, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/This Is Chromatic Music, BMI/MT ROOM, SEASAC/Melodies Of CTM Outlander, SESAC/Dead Aim Music, BMI/Lil Sebastian Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (A.R.Shawn, B.Zimmerman, B.M.Stennis, L.Hungate, M.Tyler) **28**

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I

I AIN'T SAYIN' Concord Copyrights, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/Trash Man Songs, SOCAN/Highway 76 Songs, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Jett Wilde Songs, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Bid Dill Songs LLC, SOCAN (T.P.Wood, S.Moakler, M.L.Holman, E.Reid) **22**

I AM NOT OKAY Bailee's Ballads, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/TDP Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/Track & Feels Publishing Designee, SESAC/Tape Room Tunes, SESAC/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC (J.B.DeFord, T.Phillips, A.G.Gorley, C.Brown) **1**

I'M GONNA LOVE YOU Meaux Mercy, BMI/Moody Producer Music, BMI/Capitol CMG Paragon, BMI/Concord Road, BMI/Stars And Stripes And Maple Leaf Music, BMI/Crack The Glass Songs, BMI/I'm About To Go RED On Ya Music, BMI/Anthem Music Publishing I, BMI (C.Stevens, K.Archer, T.Denning) **27**

I NEVER LIE Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Zach Top Music, BMI/Too Broke To Quit Music, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Music And Magazines Publishing, BMI (Z.Top, C.Chamberlain, T.Nichols) **39**

J

JUST TO SAY WE DID Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Basura Music, BMI/Old Desperados, LLC, ASCAP/N2D Publishing Company, Inc., ASCAP/Carol Vincent And Associates, LLC, ASCAP/Songsofjb, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Super Big Music, ASCAP/M Drag Songs, ASCAP (K.Chesney, D.L.Murphy, Brett James, M.Dragstem) **32**

L

LIAR Bailee's Ballads, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Tape Room Hits, BMI/Ben There Wrote That Publishing, BMI/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/TDP Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI (J.B.DeFord, B.J.Johnson, A.G.Gorley, T.Phillips) **30**

LIES LIES LIES Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/Jomil 10 Music, BMI/Finally Got Some Publishing, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Cascade Road Songs, ASCAP/Tompkins Family Vacation, ASCAP (J.J.Dillon, J.Miller, D.Ross, C.Tompkins) **4**

LIFE WITH YOU Mike Curb Music, BMI/Hits From The Hart, BMI/Curb Songs, ASCAP/Indeciso Publishing, LLC, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP/CTM Outlander Music Publishing, ASCAP/Concord Boulevard, ASCAP (K.Hart, K.Schlienger, S.Stepakoff) **33**

LOVE SOMEBODY Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Honey Hole Publishing, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/John Byron Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/13117 Music, ASCAP/Elof Loelv Publishing Designee, ASCAP/LMC Is The Place For Me Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Stellar Sun Songs, ASCAP/Famous Virgins, Inc., SOCAN/Regicide Entertainment, SOCAN (M.C.Wallen, J.Byron, A.G.Gorley, J.K.Hindlin, E.Loelv, Charlie Handsome, N.J.Gale, M.Sorbara, S.C.Frank, S.F.R.Mastroianni, Y.Guzman) **12**

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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 1/18 | AD CLOSE 1/6 | MATERIALS DUE 1/8

billboard Country Airplay Index

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



PARKER

LOVE THE LEAVIN' Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Relative Red Music, BMI/Cowboy Cuts Music, BMI/Rudy Rocks The USA, BMI/Sony Accent, ASCAP/Nepasongs, ASCAP (D.Parker, M.J.Rogers, L.Rimes) **58**

M

MESSED UP AS ME Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Tempo Investments, GMR/Smackstack Music, GMR/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Speakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Quivira Road Songs, BMI/Twelve6 Red Oak Songs, BMI/Still Between The Pines, BMI (J.J.Dillon, S.McAnally, R.Clawson, M.Lotten) **17**

MILES ON IT Marshmello 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/Cirkut Breaker Ventures, ASCAP/Iamcastle Music Publishing, BMI/Chumba Music, BMI/Kobalt Music Servies Ltd., PRS/Songs Of Spirit UK Ltd, PRS/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI (Marshmello, K.Brown, J.Torrey, R.McDonough, C.McDonough, Castle, N.J.Gale, T.Eriksen) **8**

O

ONE BAD HABIT Smacksters Music, ASCAP/Holy Ship Music, ASCAP/Smackville Music, ASCAP/Ice House Tunes, ASCAP/CTM Outlander Music Publishing, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Bellamarta, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (M.Beeson, A.Eshuis, T.Lane) **15**

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P

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R

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T

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THIS HEART Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Madfun Music, BMI/Oconee River Bank Music, BMI/Bollingersey Shore, SESAC/T Vill Music, BMI/Speakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Goat Island Bay Music, BMI/Peertunes, Ltd., SESAC/Tytanium Music, SESAC/Melodies Of CTM Outlander, SESAC (T.Archer, W.B.Bollinger, J.A.Hackworth, M.Tyler) **56**

THIS TOWN'S BEEN TOO GOOD TO US

Curb Songs, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/John Byron Music, BMI/Ken Rainey Music, BMI/TDP Publishing, BMI (D.Scott, A.G.Gorley, Charlie Handsome, J.Byron, T.Phillips) **25**

TOUGH PEOPLE Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/940 Songs, BMI/Round Hill Lyrics, BMI/Bumpin Does Music, BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI (D. Baldridge, J.Walker, A.Sanders, L.Combs) **46**

TRUCK ON FIRE BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Redfeather Publishing, ASCAP/For The Kids Gold, ASCAP/Universal Tunes, SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/RADIOBULLETPublishing, BMI (C.Pearce, J.A.Ebach, C.Kelley) **44**



GREEN AND LANGLEY

TRUCK STILL WORKS Sea Gayle Distillery Music, ASCAP/Papaw's Whiskey Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Taperoom Music, ASCAP/Series 1, ASCAP/Hunter Phelps Pub Designee, ASCAP/Wild Willy Music, ASCAP/Music Of The Corn, ASCAP/Quivira Road Songs, BMI/Speakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Water Woods Music, ASCAP (B. Paisley, H.Phelps, W.L.Bundy, R.Clawson, C.DuBois) **53**

W

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 Vibe, BMI (C.Janson, B.Hubbard, T.R.Hubbard, J.Ingram, RaelLynn) **35**

WHAT KINDA MAN Parkermac Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Abundantiam Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Harpeth Valley, BMI/WRUCKENROLLMUSIC, BMI/Music Of CTM Outlander Music LP, BMI (P.McCollum, J.N.Spillman, N.Hemby) **57**

WHISKEY DRINK BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Makena Cove Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Double Down Music, BMI/Triple Play Music, BMI/High Noon Yellow Stars Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Irishsonmusic, BMI (K.M.Allison, J.Edwards, T.Kennedy, J.Morgan) **34**

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 Fences, BMI/Concord Tunes, SESAC/Card Tables Music, SESAC (T.Archer, T.P.Wetmore, C.LaCorte) **13**

WRANGLERS WC Music Corp., ASCAP/AMAE, ASCAP/Ryan Keith Carpenter Publishing Designee, ASCAP (A.M.Butts, E.McKeever, R.K.Carpenter) **38**

Y

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU LOVE ME Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/ONE TOOTH PRODUCTIONS, BMI/Riley Green Publishing Designee, BMI (E.Langley, A.Raitiere, R.Green) **9**

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30
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AGO

30 Years Ago Clay Walker Was ‘Living’ Large

In 1994, the singer-songwriter banked his fourth of six Hot Country Songs leaders

On Nov. 26, 1994, **Clay Walker’s** “If I Could Make a Living” hit No. 1 on *Billboard’s* Hot Country Songs chart. It marked his fourth of six career leaders logged in 1993-97.

Alan Jackson, Roger Murrah and **Keith Stegall** wrote the uptempo love song, which **James Stroud** produced. It was released as the lead single from Walker’s same-named second LP, which

became his second of nine top 10s on Top Country Albums.

Walker was born in Beaumont, Texas, and received his first guitar at age 9. He was a touring musician by 19 and signed, at 23, to Giant Records in November 1992. He then tallied 17 Hot Country Songs top 10s through 2010.

Walker was diagnosed with relapsing-

remitting multiple sclerosis when he was 26. The avid golfer, now 55, hosts the Clay Walker Charity Golf Classic each year, with all proceeds donated to fighting MS. The next tournament will be held in June 2025 in Pebble Beach, Calif. However, he remains active as a touring artist: Walker will make his next stop on Nov. 29 in Norman, Okla.

—JIM ASKER

Billboard® HOT COUNTRY									
FOR WEEK ENDING NOV. 26, 1994									
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	LABEL & NUMBER/DISTRIBUTING LABEL	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK
1	3	5	10	IF I COULD MAKE A LIVING	J. STROUD (K. STEGALL, R. MURRAH, A. JACKSON)	♦ ♦ ♦ NO. 1 ♦ ♦ ♦ 1 week at No. 1	♦ CLAY WALKER (C) (V) GIANT 18068	39	45
2	1	3	12	SHUT UP AND KISS ME	J. JENNINGS (M. C. CARPENTER, (V) C. CARPENTER)	♦ MARY CHAPIN CARPENTER (C) (V) COLUMBIA 77396	♦ MARY CHAPIN CARPENTER (C) (V) COLUMBIA 77396	40	47
3	2	4	12	I SEE IT NOW	J. STROUD (P. NELSON, L. BOONE, W. LEE)	♦ TRACY LAWRENCE (C) (V) ATLANTIC 87199	♦ TRACY LAWRENCE (C) (V) ATLANTIC 87199	41	31
4	7	11	8	THE BIG ONE	T. BROWN, G. STRAIT (G. HOUSE, D. O'DAY)	GEORGE STRAIT (C) (V) MCA 54198	GEORGE STRAIT (C) (V) MCA 54198	42	55
5	8	12	10	IF YOU'VE GOT LOVE	S. HENDRICKS (S. DEKIN, M. D. HENDERSON)	JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY (C) (V) ATLANTIC 87198	JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY (C) (V) ATLANTIC 87198	43	46

REWINDING
THE
COUNTRY
CHARTS

Walker on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* in 1994.