

billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

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BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

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Brooks & Dunn, Milsap Lead Latest Wave In Long Line Of Duets Projects



When **Brooks & Dunn** met with their manager, Maverick Management partner **Clarence Spalding**, to discuss the April 5 rollout for their *Reboot* album at **Ronnie Dunn**'s barn, an unexpected visitor popped into the conference with news that provided a rare bit of promotional enhancement.

Country Music Association CEO Sarah Trahern surprised them with word that they would be part of the 2019 class of Country Music Hall of Fame inductees. The Hall press conference, as it turned out, would precede the *Reboot* release by 18 days, heightening the duo's profile in a key marketing period — not that they were thinking about the business ramifications for the album as Trahern revealed the honor.

"It was just a pregnant pause," remembers Dunn. His duo partner, **Kix Brooks**, "was more openly moved," he recalls, but for Dunn, "it was just like, 'Whoa, I need to take this home and think about it for a while.' He started mentioning all the people that are in. I don't see me on a plane with **Johnny Cash** and **Merle Haggard**."

Promotion for *Reboot* worked well—the project debuts at No. 1 on the Top Country Albums chart dated April 20 — bringing attention to an album that partnered Brooks & Dunn with the likes of **Luke Combs**, **Brothers Osborne** and **Jon Pardi**, younger artists who, perhaps, view the duo with the same reverence

Brooks & Dunn feel for Cash and Haggard.

Reboot is the highest-profile entry in a minor wave of country and country-connected duets albums. **Ronnie Milsap** assembled a guest list that includes **Luke Bryan**, **Montgomery Gentry** and the late **Leon Russell** for *The Duets*, a 13-song package that arrived Jan. 18. **Sheryl Crow** seeded a forthcoming collaborative album with such country artists as **Vince Gill**, **Kris Kristofferson** and the late **Johnny Cash**, in

addition to non-country acts **Brandi Carlile**, **Keith Richards** and **James Taylor**. And **Rodney Crowell** just announced *Texas* (Aug. 15), a portrait of the Lone Star State that features such guests as **Lee Ann Womack**, **Ringo Starr** and **Randy Rogers** on seven of its 11 tracks.



BROOKS & DUNN



MILSAP

BROOKS & DUNN: MILLER MOBLEY

RYAN HURD

TO A T |

50 STATIONS ADDED

TOP 20 CURRENT ON-DEMAND SONGS



3 CONSECUTIVE #1 SONGS AT

OVER 100 MILLION STREAMS TOTAL!

A TRUE ARTIST DEVELOPMENT STORY!



RCA RECORDS

“After we finished [*Reboot*], I read somewhere there was a Ronnie Milsap collaboration out, and I immediately called Clarence because I was under the impression this was a unique idea and concept right now at this time in the business,” says Dunn. “I thought, if anything, that’s where the project would have an edge.”

Both Brooks & Dunn and Milsap endeavored to cut their projects with the guest artists in the room. That’s part of the reason that Milsap needed a good two years to piece *The Duets* together.

“A lot of the trouble,” he says, “was trying to coordinate schedules with other artists.”

Pulling together their classic hits with a new set of creative eyes helped bring attention to the breadth of their careers. In Milsap’s case, that means a mix of Southern rock (**ZZ Top’s Billy Gibbons** joins him on “Southern Boys and Detroit Wheels”), traditional country (**George Strait** guests on “Houston Solution”) and nostalgic titles (**Little Big Town** assists on “Lost in the Fifties Tonight”). Milsap’s stylistic elasticity was, in fact, one of the reasons he signed in 1973 with RCA’s country division, led at the time by **Jerry Bradley**, who ironically joins Brooks & Dunn as a new Hall of Fame inductee.

“He signed me to RCA, and I couldn’t believe it when it happened,” notes Milsap. “He said, ‘That son of a bitch can sing country.’ He thought I was a rock ‘n’ roll singer, R&B singer, and I was.”

Reboot similarly demonstrates the wide-ranging impact of Brooks & Dunn. The album knits together **Midland’s** ultra-country vibe on “Boot Scootin’ Boogie,” **Kane Brown’s** gospel inflections on “Believe” and **Kacey Musgraves’** vocoder-tinged digitization of “Neon Moon.” **Thomas Rhett** introduced modern loops and finger snaps into “My Maria” in a way that still works. **Brett Young** makes a blue-eyed soul connection on “Ain’t Nothing ‘Bout You.”

Neither Brooks & Dunn nor Milsap used previous collaborative projects as a reference, though there have been plenty through the years. **Willie Nelson** has several, including 1985’s *Half Nelson*, a compilation of mostly previously released duets; three live *Willie Nelson & Friends* albums in the mid-2000s pulled from USA Network concert specials; and 2013’s *To All the Girls...*, featuring 18 pairings with females. **Ray Charles** banded a series of country acts together for his Nashville-built mid-’80s album *Friendship* and later won an album of the year Grammy for the collaborative *Genius Loves Company*. **Waylon Jennings, John Prine, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Elvis Presley** and **Tammy Wynette** had multiguest duet albums, too.

In more recent years, **Lionel Richie’s** *Tuskegee* reimagined his solo hits and **Commodores** songs with country partners, while **The Doobie Brothers** put a Nashville spin on their catalog with *Southbound*. **Reba McEntire’s** *Duets* matched her with country and pop artists on mostly new material.

There’s a big promotional value to such projects — it’s part of the reason that the Academy of Country Music Awards teamed **Jason Aldean** with **Florida Georgia Line**, **Ashley McBryde** with **Eric Church**, **Miranda Lambert** with Strait and actress **Chrissy Metz** with four country acts and a gospel choir on the April 7 CBS telecast.

Still, two artists don’t always mesh, particularly when it comes to finding the right key for a song. Dunn recalls working in vain with **Alison Krauss** on a version of “Seven Bridges Road” that **Don Henley** had tracked that was outside of Dunn’s range. He and Henley agreed that it better suited Gill in the long run.

“It’s good to be there when the tracks go down so you can figure that stuff out,” surmises Dunn, “not after the fact.”

The mystery that’s inherent in duets is part of the reason that artists, and fans, keep returning to collaborative albums. The ones that don’t work are often locked in vaults. The ones that do sometimes bring a new dimension to familiar music. **Dolly Parton** did that for Milsap’s *The Duets* by rewriting “Smoky Mountain Rain” to slip a jilted female perspective into the mix. (“She always refers to me as her blind date,” says Milsap with a laugh. “That’s my Dolly.”) **Cody Johnson’s** *Reboot* version of “Red Dirt Road” similarly turns Brooks & Dunn’s driving landmark into a reflective, acoustic blues/folk ballad.

The successes reinvigorate the artists’ feelings about songs they’ve played perhaps thousands of times. And the new versions invite listeners to look at artists and their body of work in a different way.

“That’s been one of my favorite things through this *Reboot* process is the fact that people are talking about this music and how it stood the test of time,” says Brooks. “Nobody’s talking about confetti and inflatables and balloons. We spent thousands of dollars making these big messes [in concert] every night, and nobody’s talking about it. They’re talking about the music.”



Luke Combs (left) took an ownership role as songwriter Jonathan Singleton (“A Guy Walks Into a Bar”) turned his 50 Egg Music into a publishing/artist development company. They are shown with 50 Egg president Tali Canterbury.



Garth Brooks chatted with guest host Jenna Bush Hager on April 8 for Verizon’s Build series of online interviews at the Build Studio in New York.



Aaron Watson (right) met up with KSCS/KPLX Dallas-Fort Worth PD Mac Daniels at the Westwood One Backstage radio remotes in Las Vegas.



Craig Campbell took part in a SESAC songwriters showcase at the Analog at the Hutton Hotel during Tin Pan South in Nashville. From left: Campbell and songwriters Josh Hoge (“Hangin’ On”), Cary Barlowe (“Raised on Country”) and Rob Hatch (“I Don’t Dance”).



71 FIRST WEEK STATIONS

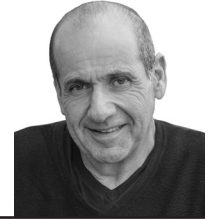


KAJA / KASE / KBEQ / KCCY / KCYE / KCOY / KEEY / KFRG / KHAY / KHGE / KJKE
 KJUG / KKBQ / KKIX / KKWF / KNCI / KNIX / KPLM / KRTY / KRYS / KSD / KSOP
 KSSN / KTEX / KTST / KTTS / KUBL / KUPL / KUZZ / KVOO / KWBL / KWEN / KWNR
 KXLY / KYGO / W1HC / WBWL / WCOL / WCTQ / WDSY / WDXB / WEBG / WFUS / WGTY
 WIVK / WJVC / WKLB / WKLI / WKMK / WKML / WKXC / WLHK / WMIL / WNOE / WOGK
 WPGB / WPOC / WPOR / WQIK / WQMX / WQYK / WSOC / WSSL / WTHT / WUSJ
 WUSY / WXCX / WXTU / WYCD / WYCT / WYNK / SIRIUSXM THE HIGHWAY



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

Brett Young's 'Here Tonight' Leads Country Airplay; Brooks & Dunn Reboot At No. 1 On Top Country Albums



Brett Young notches his fourth No. 1 on *Billboard's* Country Airplay chart as "Here Tonight" (Big Machine Label Group) rises from No. 2 to the top of the April 20-dated tally. It advances with a 2% gain to 37.1 million audience impressions in the week ending April 14, according to Nielsen Music.

The song is the lead single from Young's sophomore major-label album, *Ticket to L.A.*, which launched as his first No. 1 on Top Country Albums in December.

"Here" dethrones **Luke Combs'** "Beautiful Crazy" (River House/Columbia Nashville) after seven weeks atop Country Airplay (36.3 million, down 6%). The latter song remains tied for the second-longest rule in the chart's history, a week from matching the two longest-leading No. 1s, both with eight weeks in charge: **Alan Jackson** and **Jimmy Buffett's** "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere" (2003) and **Lonestar's** "Amazed" (1999).

Still, "Crazy" controls the multimetric Hot Country Songs chart for an eighth week, up 48% to 17,000 sold and 4% to 14.4 million U.S. streams in the week ending April 11 after Combs performed it on the 54th Academy of Country Music Awards on April 7.

'REBOOT' SCOOTS TO NO. 1 Brooks & Dunn soar in at No. 1 on Top Country Albums with *Reboot* (Arista Nashville/Sony Music Nashville), which bows with 31,000 equivalent album units earned (21,000 in traditional album sales) in the week ending April 11.

The all-star collaborative effort finds **Kix Brooks** and **Ronnie Dunn** covering their hits with the such artists as **Luke Combs**, **Kacey Musgraves** and **Thomas Rhett**. Eight of the set's 12 songs are updates of the tandem's 20 Hot Country Songs No. 1s, tallied between 1991 and 2005.

"Sometimes the stars just line up, and good things happen," says Dunn. "The success of this record is a tribute to the power of collaboration, which allowed this record to sing." Adds Brooks, "It is hard to believe after all these years that this music is at the top of *Billboard's* Top Country Albums chart. I love these songs, and we owe a big thanks to all the amazing artists who brought them to life again. I don't remember ever having more fun in the

studio. Everybody says that, but I really think the proof is in the grooves!"

Reboot is Brooks & Dunn's seventh Top Country Albums No. 1 and first since their 2009 best-of package *#1s ... and Then Some*. On the all-genre *Billboard 200*, the collection arrives at No. 8, marking the pair's 10th top 10 and breaking it out of a tie with **Rascal Flatts** for the most among country duos/groups in the chart's 63-year history.



REBA RETURNS Reba McEntire debuts at No. 4 on Top Country Albums with *Stronger Than the Truth* (Rockin R/Big Machine/BMLG), which opens with 21,000 equivalent album units (20,000 sold). The set launches as her 27th top 10, a sum that includes 13 No. 1s.

Dating to McEntire's first week in the top 10 almost 33 years ago (April 19, 1986), when her debut leader, *Whoever's in New England*, rose 11-8, she boasts the most top 10s among women; **Dolly Parton** and **Trisha Yearwood** follow with 14 each in that span. Among all artists, McEntire trails **George Strait** (37) and matches **Alan Jackson** for the most top 10s in that stretch.

IN THE TOP 10 Thomas Rhett blasts back to the Hot Country Songs top 10 — and a new peak (13-4) — with "Look What God Gave Her" (Valory). After he performed the song on the April 7 Academy of Country Music Awards and was named male vocalist of the year for a second time, the song surges by 136% to 19,000 sold and 36% to 7.8 million U.S. streams as it bounds 5-2 on Country Digital Song Sales and 18-7 on Country Streaming Songs. The track also bullets at No. 14 on Country Airplay, up 3% to 17.9 million in radio reach.

Plus, **Old Dominion** adds its seventh Hot Country Songs top 10 as "Make It Sweet" (RCA Nashville) climbs 12-9. The song ascends 5-4 on Country Airplay (32.7 million, up 9%). ●

This column was written by Billboard senior director of charts Gary Trust.

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CONGRATULATIONS

KELSEA BALLERINI

ON BECOMING THE
NEWEST MEMBER
OF THE
GRAND OLE OPRY!



BLACK RIVER
ENTERTAINMENT

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS) | | PLAYS | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|--|------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|------|
| | | | | | THIS WEEK | +/- | THIS WEEK | +/- | RANK |
| 1 | 2 | 30 | HERETONIGHT BMLG | Brett Young | 37.138 | +0.763 | 7660 | 174 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 23 | BEAUTIFUL CRAZY River House/Columbia Nashville | Luke Combs | 36.331 | -2.269 | 7035 | -229 | 3 |
| 3 | 4 | 40 | THERE WAS THIS GIRL BMLG | Riley Green | 35.436 | +2.881 | 7801 | 680 | 1 |
| 4 | 5 | 27 | MAKE IT SWEET RCA Nashville | Old Dominion | 32.673 | +2.829 | 6887 | 552 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 35 | EYES ON YOU Dack Janiels/Broken Bow | Chase Rice | 30.730 | +3.109 | 6542 | 434 | 5 |
| 6 | 3 | 39 | ONE THAT GOT AWAY Atlantic/WEA | Michael Ray | 28.490 | -7.680 | 5691 | -2165 | 6 |
| 7 | 7 | 44 | LOVE AIN'T Valory | Eli Young Band | 24.949 | +1.880 | 5455 | 439 | 7 |
| 8 | 8 | 15 | GOOD AS YOU Zone 4/RCA Nashville | Kane Brown | 24.646 | +2.062 | 5149 | 355 | 10 |
| 9 | 9 | 38 | NIGHT SHIFT Capitol Nashville | Jon Pardi | 23.360 | +0.834 | 5167 | 68 | 9 |
| 10 | 10 | 25 | MISS ME MORE Black River | Kelsea Ballerini | 23.159 | +2.257 | 5234 | 500 | 8 |
| 11 | 13 | 33 | WHISKEY GLASSES Big Loud | Morgan Wallen | 19.998 | +2.329 | 4412 | 295 | 11 |
| 12 | 11 | 31 | LOVE WINS Capitol Nashville | Carrie Underwood | 18.081 | +0.160 | 4368 | -75 | 12 |
| 13 | 15 | 41 | LOVE SOMEONE Atlantic/WMN | Brett Eldredge | 17.915 | +0.908 | 3980 | 151 | 14 |
| 14 | 14 | 7 | LOOK WHAT GOD GAVE HER Valory | Thomas Rhett | 17.896 | +0.515 | 3973 | 78 | 15 |
| 15 | 12 | 36 | ON MY WAY TO YOU CoJo/WMN | Cody Johnson | 17.830 | +0.103 | 4030 | 82 | 13 |
| 16 | 16 | 32 | RUMOR Curb | Lee Brice | 15.409 | +0.882 | 3624 | 211 | 16 |
| 17 | 17 | 13 | GIRL Columbia Nashville | Maren Morris | 13.310 | +0.877 | 2997 | 20 | 18 |
| 18 | 18 | 9 | EVERY LITTLE HONKY TONK BAR MCA Nashville | George Strait | 12.464 | +0.080 | 3003 | 62 | 17 |
| 19 | 19 | 15 | SOME OF IT EMI Nashville | Eric Church | 11.019 | +0.289 | 2819 | 133 | 20 |
| 20 | 20 | 24 | TALK YOU OUT OF IT BMLG | Florida Georgia Line | 10.772 | +0.142 | 2872 | 21 | 19 |
| 21 | 25 | 3 | GOD'S COUNTRY Warner Bros./WMN | Blake Shelton | 10.275 | +3.501 | 2149 | 714 | 25 |
| 22 | 21 | 53 | CAUGHT UP IN THE COUNTRY Curb | Rodney Atkins Featuring The Fisk Jubilee Singers | 9.908 | -0.131 | 2802 | 42 | 21 |
| 23 | 22 | 14 | RAISED ON COUNTRY RCA Nashville | Chris Young | 8.945 | +0.777 | 2261 | 176 | 22 |
| 24 | 23 | 18 | WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN Valory | Brantley Gilbert + Lindsay Ell | 8.088 | +0.212 | 2183 | -29 | 24 |
| 25 | 27 | 9 | ALL TO MYSELF Warner Bros./WAR | Dan + Shay | 7.198 | +1.285 | 1656 | 195 | 27 |
| 26 | 24 | 26 | BUY MY OWN DRINKS Wheelhouse | Runaway June | 7.103 | +0.192 | 2228 | 16 | 23 |
| 27 | 28 | 9 | SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER Columbia Nashville | Tenille Townes | 6.541 | +0.710 | 1526 | 165 | 30 |
| 28 | 38 | 3 | KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville | Luke Bryan | 6.522 | +2.693 | 1312 | 549 | 34 |
| 29 | 29 | 7 | REARVIEW TOWN Macon/Broken Bow | Jason Aldean | 6.194 | +0.712 | 1577 | 235 | 29 |
| 30 | 30 | 23 | THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME Valory | Justin Moore | 5.371 | +0.518 | 1265 | 97 | 35 |

BILLBOARD COUNTRY AIRPLAY PANEL – 150 STATIONS

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------|---------------------|------|----------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Akron, OH | WQMX | Detroit | WDRO | Memphis | WGKX | Richmond, Va. | WKHK |
| Albany, N.Y. | WGNA | | WYCD | | WLFP | Riverside, Calif. | KFRG |
| Albuquerque, N.M. | KBOI | El Paso, Texas | KHEY | Miami | WKIS | Roanoke, Va. | WSLC |
| | KRST | Ft. Myers, Fla. | WCKT | Milwaukee, WI. | WKTI | Rochester, N.Y. | WBEE |
| Allentown, Pa. | WCST | | WWGR | | WMIL | Sacramento, Calif. | KBEB |
| Atlanta | WKHX | Ft. Wayne, Ind. | WQHK | Minneapolis | KEEY | | KNCJ |
| | WUBL | Fresno, Calif. | KSXS | | KMNB | | KNTY |
| Augusta, Ga. | WXXC | Gainesville, Fla. | WOGK | Mobile, Ala. | WKSI | St. Louis | KSD |
| Austin, Texas | KASE | Grand Rapids, Mich. | WBCT | Monterey/Ocean, N.J. | WKMG | | WIL |
| Bakersfield, Calif. | KUZZ | Greensboro, N.C. | WTQR | Monterey, Calif. | KTOM | Salt Lake City | KSOP |
| Baltimore | WPOC | Greenville, S.C. | WSSL | Nashville | WKDF | | KUBL |
| Baton Rouge, La. | WYNK | Harrisburg, Pa. | WRBT | | WSIX | San Antonio, Texas | KAJA |
| Birmingham, Ala. | WDXB | Hartford, Conn. | WWYZ | Nassau, N.Y. | WJVC | | KCCY |
| | WZZK | Houston | KILT | New Bern, N.C. | WRNS | San Diego | KSON |
| Boise, Idaho | KAWO | | KKBO | New Orleans | WNOR | San Jose, Calif. | KRTY |
| | KIZN | Huntsville, Ala. | WDRM | New York | WNWH | Sarasota, Fla. | WCOT |
| Boston | WBWL | Indianapolis | WFMS | Norfolk, Va. | WGH | Seattle | KKWF |
| | WKLB | | WLHK | Oklahoma City, Okla. | WUSH | | KMPS |
| Buffalo, N.Y. | WYRK | Jacksonville, Fla. | WGNE | | KJKE | Spokane, Wash. | KXLY |
| Charleston, S.C. | WEZL | | WQIR | Omaha, Neb. | KTST | Springfield, Mass. | WRNX |
| | WCKN | Johnson City, Tenn. | WXBO | Orlando, Fla. | KXKT | Stockton, Calif. | KATM |
| Charlotte, N.C. | WKKT | Kansas City | KBEB | Oxnard-Ventura, CA | WWKA | Syracuse, N.Y. | WBBS |
| | WSOC | | WDAF | Philadelphia | WFLA | Tampa, Fla. | WFTS |
| Chattanooga, Tenn. | WUSY | | KFKF | Phoenix | WXTU | | WOYK |
| Chicago | WEBG | Knoxville, Tenn. | WCYO | | KMLE | Tucson, Ariz. | KLIM |
| | WUSN | | WIVK | Pittsburgh | KNIX | Tulsa, Okla. | KTGX |
| Cincinnati | WUBE | Lafayette, La. | KMDL | | WDSY | | KVOO |
| Cleveland | WGAR | Lakeland, Fla. | WPCV | | WOGI | Visalia, Calif. | KWEN |
| Colorado Springs, Colo. | KATC | Las Vegas | KCYE | Portland, Maine | WPGB | Washington, D.C. | KJUG |
| | KCOY | Lexington, Ky. | KWNR | | WPR | West Palm Beach, Fla. | WMTD |
| Columbia, S.C. | WCOS | Little Rock, Ark. | WBUL | Portland, Ore. | WTHH | Wichita, Kan. | WIRK |
| Columbus, Ohio | WCOL | Los Angeles | KSSN | | KUPL | | KFDI |
| Corpus Christi, Texas | KRYS | Louisville, Ky. | KGGG | Providence, R.I. | KWJJ | Wilkes Barre, Pa. | KZSN |
| Dallas | KPLX | Madison, Wis. | WAMZ | Raleigh, NC | WCTK | Wilmington, Del. | WGGY |
| | KSCS | | WONU | Reno, Nevada | WQDR | York, Pa. | WXCX |
| Dayton, Ohio | WHKO | McAllen, Texas | WWQM | | | | WGTY |
| Denver | KYGO | | WMAD | | | | |
| Des Moines, Iowa | KHKI | | KTEX | | | | |

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS) | | PLAYS | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|--|------------------------|--------|-----------|------|------|
| | | | | | THIS WEEK | +/- | THIS WEEK | +/- | RANK |
| 31 | 33 | 21 | CLOSER TO YOU Big Machine | Carly Pearce | 4.696 | +0.191 | 1743 | 205 | 26 |
| 32 | 31 | 39 | WHAT WHISKEY DOES Stoney Creek | Randy Houser Featuring Hillary Lindsey | 4.610 | -0.082 | 1653 | -70 | 28 |
| 33 | 32 | 20 | LOVE YOU TOO LATE Warner Bros./WMN | Cole Swindell | 4.484 | -0.152 | 1335 | 56 | 33 |
| 34 | 36 | 28 | BACK TO LIFE Big Machine | Rascal Flatts | 4.310 | +0.371 | 1507 | 69 | 31 |
| 35 | 34 | 10 | RAINBOW MCA Nashville | Kacey Musgraves | 4.119 | -0.252 | 1186 | -135 | 36 |
| 36 | 35 | 19 | EVERY LITTLE THING Triple Tigers | Russell Dickerson | 3.984 | -0.120 | 1385 | 95 | 32 |
| 37 | 39 | 26 | DAY DRUNK Warner Bros./WEA | Morgan Evans | 3.942 | +0.148 | 1156 | 19 | 37 |
| 38 | 37 | 21 | I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Big Loud | Chris Lane | 3.742 | -0.096 | 930 | 1 | 40 |
| 39 | 40 | 11 | THOUGHT ABOUT YOU McGraw/Columbia Nashville | Tim McGraw | 3.682 | +0.234 | 1087 | 69 | 38 |
| 40 | 41 | 24 | LADIES IN THE '90S 19/Mercury | Lauren Alaina | 2.960 | +0.093 | 976 | 26 | 39 |
| 41 | 43 | 22 | I DON'T REMEMBER ME (BEFORE YOU) EMI Nashville | Brothers Osborne | 2.648 | +0.224 | 838 | 28 | 42 |
| 42 | RE-ENTRY | | REDNECKER Tree Vibe/Big Loud | HARDY | 2.413 | +0.086 | 824 | 43 | 43 |
| 43 | 42 | 7 | LIVING Capitol Nashville | Dierks Bentley | 2.325 | -0.267 | 715 | 56 | 47 |
| 44 | 44 | 7 | GOOD VIBES Warner Bros./WAR | Chris Janson | 2.282 | +0.198 | 779 | 115 | 45 |
| 45 | 45 | 13 | NOTHING TO DO TOWN Curb | Dylan Scott | 2.215 | +0.147 | 915 | 21 | 41 |
| 46 | 46 | 12 | PRAYED FOR YOU Wide Open/RECORDS/Good Company | Matt Stell | 2.095 | +0.116 | 611 | 95 | 48 |
| 47 | 47 | 18 | GIRL GOIN' NOWHERE Atlantic/WAR | Ashley McBryde | 2.089 | +0.490 | 740 | 64 | 46 |
| 48 | 48 | 12 | MAKE ME WANT TO Stoney Creek | Jimmie Allen | 2.002 | +0.414 | 808 | 79 | 44 |
| 49 | 49 | 3 | MY MIRACLE Arista Nashville | Brad Paisley | 1.707 | +0.247 | 533 | 54 | 49 |
| 50 | 50 | 8 | TO AT RCA Nashville | Ryan Hurd | 1.505 | +0.109 | 377 | 33 | 56 |
| 51 | 52 | 3 | RIDIN' ROADS Broken Bow | Dustin Lynch | 1.396 | +0.189 | 424 | 59 | 54 |
| 52 | 56 | 5 | AFTER A FEW Mercury | Travis Denning | 1.118 | +0.190 | 485 | 33 | 51 |
| 53 | 51 | 4 | BETTER OFF GONE Big Yellow Dog | Logan Mize | 1.086 | -0.155 | 424 | -11 | 55 |
| 54 | 55 | 12 | ROCKIN' ALL NIGHT LONG Buena Vista/Capitol Nashville | Adam Hambrick | 1.078 | +0.125 | 503 | -33 | 50 |
| 55 | 57 | 2 | THE BULL MCA Nashville | Kip Moore | 1.037 | +0.117 | 315 | 41 | 58 |
| 56 | 54 | 7 | ALCOHOL YOU LATER Riser House/Columbia Nashville | Mitchell Tenpenny | 0.943 | -0.011 | 434 | 18 | 53 |
| 57 | NEW | | IN BETWEEN Triple Tigers | Scotty McCreery | 0.912 | +0.335 | 323 | 101 | 57 |
| 58 | NEW | | MR. LONELY Big Machine | Midland | 0.908 | +0.398 | 219 | 100 | - |
| 59 | 58 | 7 | SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW Southern Ground/Wheelhouse | Zac Brown Band | 0.906 | +0.054 | 444 | 32 | 52 |
| 60 | 59 | 4 | HOUSTON, WE GOT A PROBLEM River House/Columbia Nashville | Luke Combs | 0.796 | +0.033 | 78 | -1 | - |



58

MIDLAND
Mr. Lonely

Following **Midland's** first three Country Airplay entries — including the No. 3 hits "Drinkin' Problem" and "Burn Out" — the group's new single bows at No. 58 with 908,000 impressions.

GOING FOR ADDS

4/22
JORDAN DAVIS
Slow Dance In A Parking Lot
MCA Nashville

KOLT BARBER
Cowboy
Jerry Duncan

LANCO
Rival
Arista Nashville

LUCAS HOGE
That'll Be The Day
Forge

MARTY HEDDIN
A Little Less Lonely
Nightlife/Dreamlined

ROB MAYES
Closer
AWAL/AristoMedia

WILL CARTER
Good Bad Idea
Way Back

4/29
ADAM CRAIG
If You're Lucky
Stoney Creek

HIGH VALLEY
Single Man
Atlantic/WEA

SOUTHERN HALO
Sunshine
Southern Halo

5/6
CHANCE MCKINNEY
Backyard
Studio2Bee/Star Farm Nashville

TENILLE ARTS
Call You Names
Reviver

TUCKER BEATHARD
Better Than Me
Big Machine

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY
MONITORED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

| MOST ADDED® | | |
|---|---------------|------|
| TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | ADDS |
| KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville | Luke Bryan | 24 |
| GOD'S COUNTRY Warner Bros./WMN | Blake Shelton | 22 |
| ALL TO MYSELF Warner Bros./WAR | Dan + Shay | 12 |
| REARVIEW TOWN Macon/Broken Bow | Jason Aldean | 12 |
| GOOD VIBES Warner Bros./WAR | Chris Janson | 10 |
| RIDIN' ROADS Broken Bow | Dustin Lynch | 10 |
| CLOSER TO YOU Big Machine | Carly Pearce | 8 |
| MR. LONELY Big Machine | Midland | 8 |
| RAISED ON COUNTRY RCA Nashville | Chris Young | 7 |
| THOUGHT ABOUT YOU McGraw/Columbia Nashville | Tim McGraw | 7 |

| MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | GAIN (IN MILLIONS) |
| GOD'S COUNTRY Warner Bros./WMN | Blake Shelton | +3.501 |
| EYES ON YOU Dack Janiels/Broken Bow | Chase Rice | +3.109 |
| THERE WAS THIS GIRL BMLG | Riley Green | +2.881 |
| MAKE IT SWEET RCA Nashville | Old Dominion | +2.829 |
| KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville | Luke Bryan | +2.693 |
| WHISKEY GLASSES Big Loud | Morgan Wallen | +2.329 |
| MISS ME MORE Black River | Kelsea Ballerini | +2.257 |
| GOOD AS YOU Zone 4/RCA Nashville | Kane Brown | +2.062 |
| LOVE AIN'T Valory | Eli Young Band | +1.880 |
| ALL TO MYSELF Warner Bros./WAR | Dan + Shay | +1.285 |

| MOST INCREASED PLAYS | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------|
| TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | GAIN |
| GOD'S COUNTRY Warner Bros./WMN | Blake Shelton | +714 |
| THERE WAS THIS GIRL BMLG | Riley Green | +680 |
| MAKE IT SWEET RCA Nashville | Old Dominion | +552 |
| KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville | Luke Bryan | +549 |
| MISS ME MORE Black River | Kelsea Ballerini | +500 |
| LOVE AIN'T Valory | Eli Young Band | +439 |
| EYES ON YOU Dack Janiels/Broken Bow | Chase Rice | +434 |
| GOOD AS YOU Zone 4/RCA Nashville | Kane Brown | +355 |
| WHISKEY GLASSES Big Loud | Morgan Wallen | +295 |
| REARVIEW TOWN Macon/Broken Bow | Jason Aldean | +235 |

| NEW AND ACTIVE | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------|
| TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | TOTAL AUDIENCE | TOTAL STATIONS | ADDS |
| HEARTBREAK Atlantic/WMN | Hunter Hayes | 0.614 | 20 | 1 |
| DANCING AWAY WITH MY HEART Riser House | Dillon Carmichael | 0.514 | 28 | 0 |
| ONE BIG COUNTRY SONG Wheelhouse | LOCASH | 0.479 | 4 | 3 |
| KISS THAT GIRL GOODBYE BIG Label | Aaron Watson | 0.407 | 24 | 1 |
| SLOW DANCE IN A PARKING LOT MCA Nashville | Jordan Davis | 0.400 | 2 | 0 |
| ALL MY FAVORITE PEOPLE Columbia Nashville | Maren Morris Feat. Brothers Osborne | 0.281 | 1 | 0 |

| RECURRENTS | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|--------------------------|
| THIS WEEK | TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS) |
| 1 | THIS IS IT Triple Tigers | Scotty McCreery | 22.040 |
| 2 | BEST SHOT Stoney Creek | Jimmie Allen | 21.477 |
| 3 | GIRL LIKE YOU Macon/Broken Bow | Jason Aldean | 21.080 |
| 4 | SHE GOT THE BEST OF ME River House/Columbia Nashville | Luke Combs | 18.309 |
| 5 | GOOD GIRL Broken Bow | Dustin Lynch | 14.777 |
| 6 | SIXTEEN Valory | Thomas Rhett | 13.939 |
| 7 | SPEECHLESS Warner Bros./WAR | Dan + Shay | 13.811 |
| 8 | TAKE IT FROM ME MCA Nashville | Jordan Davis | 13.495 |
| 9 | TEQUILA Warner Bros./WAR | Dan + Shay | 13.361 |
| 10 | BLUETACOMA Triple Tigers | Russell Dickerson | 13.270 |

| BILLBOARD COUNTRY BOXSCORE | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Gross Ticket Price(s) | Artist Venue/Date(s) | Attendance Capacity | Promoter(s) |
| \$1,920,464 \$150, \$46.50 | KENNY CHESNEY Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids, Mich./April 6-7 | 22,539 22,539 | MESSINA TOURING GROUP/AEG PRESENTS |
| \$1,117,033 \$129, \$24 | KENNY CHESNEY KFC Yum! Center, Louisville, Ky./April 4 | 16,047 16,046 | MESSINA TOURING GROUP/AEG PRESENTS |
| \$657,702 \$99, \$39 | KENNY CHESNEY State Farm Center, Champaign, Ill./April 5 | 10,601 10,601 | MESSINA TOURING GROUP/AEG PRESENTS |
| \$340,232 \$74.42, \$43.21 | C2C COUNTRY TO COUNTRY Verti Music Hall, Berlin/March 2-3 | 3,318 6,513 | SEMMELE CONCERTS |
| \$158,833 \$51.71 | JOHN PRINE Palais Theatre, Melbourne, Australia/March 7 | 2,574 2,574 | FRONTIER TOURING |

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



TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 2019

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE (Label) | ARTIST | TW SPINS | SPINS +/- | THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE (Label) | ARTIST | TW SPINS | SPINS +/- |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 8 | CRAZY PEOPLE (Independent) ★1 Week at 1★ | Randy Rogers Band | 1922 | 87 | 11 | 12 | 13 | OTHER SIDE OF THE RADIO (Independent) | Mike Ryan | 1320 | 24 |
| 2 | 3 | 12 | CHEAT ON ME (Independent) | Bri Bagwell | 1830 | 22 | 12 | 4 | 23 | RUN AWAY WITH YOU (Independent) | Robert Ray | 1239 | -546 |
| 3 | 5 | 13 | HAD A THING (Independent) | Curtis Grimes | 1768 | 44 | 13 | 13 | 18 | AIN'T ENOUGH BEER (Independent) | Kylie Frey | 1212 | 18 |
| 4 | 1 | 18 | I'M YOUR ONLY FLAW (Independent) | Josh Abbott Band | 1728 | -153 | 14 | 14 | 29 | WHATEVER IT TAKES (King Hall Music) | Chad Cooke Band | 1204 | 25 |
| 5 | 7 | 17 | WALK AWAY (Independent) | Mark Powell | 1662 | -7 | 15 | 15 | 7 | FELL IN LOVE ON WHISKEY (Independent) | Wade Bowen | 1192 | 122 |
| 6 | 9 | 16 | TOP OF MY HEART (Cory Morrow Music) | Cory Morrow | 1614 | 87 | 16 | 17 | 9 | TOUCH THE WATER (Independent) | Jesse Raub Jr. | 1057 | 75 |
| 7 | 10 | 13 | COUNTRY SONG TO SING (Independent) | Kevin Fowler | 1600 | 86 | 17 | 18 | 15 | HARD HEADED HEART (Independent) | Clay Hollis | 1055 | 83 |
| 8 | 8 | 20 | NONE'YA (Independent) | Hayes Carll | 1520 | -93 | 18 | 20 | 10 | LIKE I LOVE YOU (Independent) | Sarah Hobbs | 997 | 75 |
| 9 | 6 | 12 | SOMEWHERE BETWEEN I LOVE YOU AND I'M LEAVIN' (Rounder Rec) | Cody Jinks | 1472 | -241 | 19 | 22 | 7 | PUT YOU DOWN TOMORROW (Independent) | Jake Ward | 964 | 68 |
| 10 | 11 | 15 | KISS THAT GIRL GOODBYE (Independent) | Aaron Watson | 1442 | 91 | 20 | 26 | 9 | IT WAS ONLY ME (Independent) | Casey Baker | 961 | 169 |

Texas Regional Radio Report Top 100 is compiled from weekly online playlist reports from 86 radio stations located in Texas and surrounding states, including reports from specialty shows, internet and satellite radio outlets. Songs are ranked by total plays. For tracking, complete chart methodology and more information, visit www.texasregionalradio.com, or contact Dave Smith at 817-283-7984. Copyright 2019, Texas Regional Radio Report

RILEY GREEN

#1 "THERE WAS THIS GIRL"
THANK YOU TO ALL THE BELIEVERS!



To all my friends at Country Radio:
Thank you for believing in me
and my music. I still can't believe
"There Was This Girl" is the
#1 song in the country this week!
Can't wait to thank you in person
on the road this summer.
See you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Riley Green', written in a cursive style.



CLICK HERE
FOR A
SPECIAL
MESSAGE
FROM RILEY

NEW SINGLE
"IN LOVE BY NOW"

IMPACTING 4/29

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



Genre-bending Big & Rich mistakenly became “gender-bending” Big & Rich when the duo was introduced as surprise national anthem singers as the Nashville Predators started their NHL playoff run against the Dallas Stars on April 10. From left: Big Kenny Alphin, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, John Rich and Nashville Mayor David Briley.

EARL THOMAS CONLEY REMEMBERED

Thirty years ago, months after **Earl Thomas Conley**’s recording of “What She Is (Is a Woman in Love)” had hit No. 1 on Hot Country Songs, Conley still had reservations about whether he’d nailed the track.

He had changed some of the vocal rhythm and inflections, and it had become popular enough that fans mimicked his exact nuances as they sang along with the final recording. And yet, Conley still felt he owed an apology to songwriter **Bob McDill** for messing up the phrasing.

“He took it to another level,” McDill reflected later. “No apologies were required.”

Conley died April 10 in Nashville, leaving behind a carefully crafted body of work that was vastly underappreciated. From 1981-1991, he was a veritable hit machine, lofting 26 singles into the top 10 with an impressive 18 reaching No. 1, and yet it’s likely that a majority of contemporary country fans were unfamiliar with his name — let alone his work — when the news of his passing rippled across the genre’s websites. Many of those stories focused on his chart precedent — *Don’t Make It Easy for Me* was the first country album to yield four No. 1 singles — or on “Holding Her and Loving You,” a love-triangle ballad penned by **Walt Aldridge** and **Tommy Brasfield** that earned song of the year from the Nashville Songwriters Association International in 1983.

But Conley was an accomplished writer in his own right, able to elevate the wordplay that was in vogue at the time for country and to mine the complexities in relationships with a canny subtlety. Particularly in his mid- and uptempo songs, he could lay out an emotional land mine with great care, as he did in “Your Love’s on the Line,” but envelop it in such a rewarding musical package that the listener could go years before bothering to unpack the lyrical specifics.

Working with producers **Nelson Larkin** and **Randy Scruggs**, Conley spun out a string of radio-ready gems featuring an identifiably soulful twang. The arrangements and emotions were easily digested by casual listeners but highly rewarding for fans who dove deeper, earning Conley a reputation for making “thinking-man’s country.”

His work intersected with numerous artistic careers — he penned hits for **Conway Twitty** and **Mel Street**; picked up duet hits with **Emmylou Harris**, **Gus Hardin**, **Anita Pointer** and **Keith Whitley**; and even employed a couple of **Elton John**’s musicians (**Dee Murray** and **Nigel Olsson**) as background vocalists on some mid-’80s recordings.

Conley’s work likewise intertwined so well with mainstream country in the 1980s that he placed at least one hit-bound title on the chart in every single year that started 198_. He was adventurous enough — regularly employing **Eagles**-tinged harmonies and embedding “Somewhere Between Right and Wrong” with a lyricon (essentially an electronic sax) — that he fit during the genre’s pop-flavored *Urban Cowboy* years. But Conley was also country-centric enough that he continued without a hitch even after the format flipped to New Traditionalism.

Conley was an important linchpin in those eras. The only apology required might be failing to fully recognize his contribution while he was here.

RADIO & RECORDS

Cory “Fitz” Fitzner takes over mornings at **KNUC** Seattle on April 22, returning to the daypart in the market two years after he ended a run at

crosstown **KKWF**. The move accompanies **Scott Mahalick**’s arrival as director of brand content. Mahalick was previously Alpha Media executive vp programming. Fitzner, who hosts three syndicated shows for Sun Broadcast Group, also signed with Creative Artists Agency, represented by **Michael Bryan** ... Cumulus/Youngstown, Ohio, welcomes **Charley Connolly** as operations manager for the cluster and PD for country **WQKX**, effective April 16. Connolly recently concluded a nine-year run as **WGAR** Cleveland PD ... Townsquare/Amarillo, Texas, hired **Carolyn Carver** as market president/ chief revenue officer for the five-station cluster, including country **KATP**. She arrives from iHeartMedia/Greensboro-Winston-Salem, N.C., where she was senior vp/sales for a station group that includes country **WTQR** ... **Peter W. Burton** was hired as Beasley/Las Vegas vp/market manager, leading a group that includes country **KCYE**. He was previously Converse Media/Huntington Beach, Calif., COO ... Cumulus/Memphis, Tenn., operations manager **Danni Bruns** re-signed with the cluster. Signals under her oversight include country **WGKX** ... **Tammy Ragusa** rejoined Premiere Networks’ Nashville office as country prep writer/producer after seven years away. Her last stop came as Rare Country senior correspondent/community manager ... **WLHK** Indianapolis parted ways with morning host **Dave O’Brien** after 14 years, *The Indianapolis Star* reported ... **Brooks Williams** signed on as **KVOO** Tulsa, Okla., midday host, according to InsideRadio.com. He arrives from **KTTN** Springfield, Mo., where he worked as assistant PD/music director/morning co-host ... **Lloyd Ford** launched April 15 as **WCYQ** Knoxville, Tenn., PD/afternoon host, InsideRadio.com reported. He moves to the market from Greenville, S.C., where he owned Rainmaker Pathway ... Alpha/Portland, Ore., promoted **Cressy Walton** to director of sales from general sales manager, according to Talkers.com. She replaces **Amy Leimbach**, who joined iHeartMedia/Phoenix as director of sales. Leimbach’s new responsibilities include country **KNIX** Phoenix.

‘ROUND THE ROW

Valence Media promoted **Deanna Brown** to *Billboard-Hollywood Reporter* Media Group president from managing director ... CDX Records and label services relaunched under the direction of CDX president **Joe Kelly** ... Law firm O’Neil Hagaman promoted attorney **Tiffany Wiggers** to manager ... Universal Music Publishing Group Nashville signed singer-songwriter **Catie Offerman** to a publishing deal ... SNG Music inked songwriter-producer **Lee Starr** to a writing contract ... Texas-bred country artist **Chris Colston** joined the roster at Big Blind Management, owned in part by **Randy Rogers** ... **Sammy Sadler** agreed to a management/booking contract with CN Productions ... Bluegrass band **Nefesh Mountain** added two new members: mandolinist **David Goldberg** and bass player **Max Johnson** ... Actor **Dennis Quaid** joined the media roster at Adkins Publicity, which will focus on his recording career ... Digital Data Exchange plans a May 24 seminar on expected developments in music metadata at Vanderbilt University in Nashville ... Society of Leadership in Development bested its previous fundraising record by generating \$58,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters during its Music Row Madness event. ●



Chris Janson (left) let Cumulus Country operations manager **Charlie Cook** take the mic during the Westwood One Backstage radio remotes prior to the Academy of Country Music Awards in Las Vegas.



Carly Pearce met with Spotify head of country shows and editorial **John Marks** in Nashville.

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND

MUSIC NOTES

DOD PHOTO BY U.S. ARMY SGT. JAMES K. MCCANN



MORGAN

Craig Morgan recently returned from his 11th USO tour, a seven-day trip that included shows in Germany, Qatar, Iraq and Italy. It marked the final senior military tour for vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. **Paul J. Selva**. Morgan will continue to celebrate the armed forces by appearing May 21 when the Grand Ole Opry has its annual Salute to the Troops, appearing alongside **Trace Adkins, Brantley Gilbert, Mark Wills, The Wild Feathers** and **Lee Greenwood**. They're not alone in recognizing America's soldiers —

Justin Moore will perform his current single, "The Ones That Didn't Make It Back Home," at the 15th annual National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C., on May 27.

The Country Music Association has enlisted two student groups from the Nashville School of the Arts to deliver the national anthem at separate stages on June 6, the opening day of CMA Music Festival in Nashville. BBR Music Group acts will handle the honors at Nissan Stadium on succeeding days: **Lindsay Ell**, on June 7; **Runaway June**, June 8; and **Jimmie Allen**, June 9. In adjacent festival news, **Chely Wright, Daughtry** and **Harper Grae** signed up for **Ty Herndon's** June 6 Concert for Love & Acceptance, held in conjunction with GLAAD at the Wildhorse Saloon. And the Grand Ole Opry has scheduled **Carrie Underwood, Chris Janson** and **Travis Tritt** to play June 4 in advance of CMA Fest.

Arkansas Gov. **Asa Hutchinson** signed a bill on April 11 that will earn **Johnny Cash** a place in the U.S. Capitol. A statue of the Man in Black is planned for the National Statuary Hall. His likeness will be entered along with Arkansas civil rights leader **Daisy Bates**.

Songwriter **Brett James** ("I Hold On," "Jesus, Take the Wheel") was once signed to Arista as an artist, but hasn't played a show with a full band in two decades. That will change when he plays Nashville's City Winery on May 2 in a benefit for MusiCares. The concert comes as he prepares to release a new album that he wrote and self-produced following his 50th birthday. ●

Top Headlines from billboard.com
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Deborah Dugan Selected To Succeed Neil Portnow As Recording Academy President/CEO: Sources

Amazon In Talks To Launch Ad-Supported Music Offering

What Makes A Great Podcast Studio? Here's A Hint: You Won't Be Able To Hear It

iHeartMedia's IPO Plans: Music Industry Skeptics, Optimists Weigh In

Why RECORDS CEO Barry Weiss Is Betting on Country — And Unproven Talent — In His Latest Act

ON THIS DATE IN COUNTRY MUSIC

April 16

- 1994 — **Toby Keith** breaks his right ankle during the last play of a University of Oklahoma alumni football game.
- 1969 — "Hello ... I'm **Johnny Cash**." Cash tapes the first of his ABC-TV weekly shows at the Ryman Auditorium, kicking off with "Folsom Prison Blues." The show, which features guests **Glen Campbell, Jeannie C. Riley** and **Joe Tex**, becomes the fifth episode aired.



KEITH

April 17

- 2017 — Capitol releases **Jon Pardi's** "Heartache on the Dance Floor" to radio.

April 18

- 2010 — **Lady Antebellum** wins in three categories — top vocal group and single record and song of the year, for "Need You Now" — during the 45th Academy of Country Music Awards, held at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

April 19

- 2014 — **Dan + Shay's** first album, *Where It All Began*, debuts at the top of the *Billboard* Top Country Albums chart.
- 1979 — **Willie Nelson** records "Angel Flying Too Close to the Ground" at the Jack Clement Studios in Nashville.

April 20

- 2018 — EMI releases **Brothers Osborne's** album *Port Saint Joe*.

April 21

- 2016 — **Tim McGraw** takes part in the pre-game ceremony and **Lee Greenwood** sings "God Bless the U.S.A." during the second intermission as the Nashville Predators host an NHL playoff game at Bridgestone Arena. The Anaheim Ducks skate to a 4-1 victory.
- 1949 — **Roy Rogers** has his handprints embedded in concrete in front of Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood. His horse, **Trigger**, also has its hoofprints cast for posterity.

April 22

- 1999 — **Steve Wariner** performs "Holes in the Floor of Heaven" at Centennial Park in Nashville during a memorial that honors victims of the Columbine High School shooting in Littleton, Colo.
- 1989 — **Clint Black** makes his Grand Ole Opry debut.

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



Warner Music Nashville artist **Cale Dodds** (center) visited with Denver radio when he opened for **Chase Rice** at the Grizzly Rose. He's pictured with **KYGO** music director **Patrick Knight** (left) and **WMN** radio and streaming coordinator **Justin Newell**.

billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA
COMPILED BY
nIELSEN
MUSIC

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | TWO WEEKS AGO | WKS ON CHART | TITLE <small>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)</small> | Artist <small>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL</small> | COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK | PEAK POSITION |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---|---|----------------------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 49 | BEAUTIFUL CRAZY <small>S.MOFFATT (L.COMBS,W.B.DURRETTE,R.WILLIFORD)</small> | Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 65 | TEQUILA <small>D.SMYERS,S.HENDRICKS (D.SMYERS,J.REYNOLDS,N.GALYON)</small> | Dan + Shay WARNER BROS./WAR | RC | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 4 | 30 | HERE TONIGHT <small>D.HUFF (B.YOUNG,B.CAVER,J.EBACH,C.KELLEY)</small> | Brett Young BMLG | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | 13 | 12 | 7 | LOOK WHAT GOD GAVE HER <small>D.HUFF,J.BUNETTA,THOMAS RHETT (THOMAS RHETT,R.AKINS,J.BUNETTA,J.K.HINDLIN,A.MALIK,J.H.RYAN)</small> | Thomas Rhett VALORY | 14 | 4 |
| 5 | 5 | 46 | 3 | GOD'S COUNTRY <small>S.HENDRICKS (M.HARDY,J.M.SCHMIDT,D.DAWSON)</small> | Blake Shelton WARNER BROS./WMN | 21 | 5 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 34 | EYES ON YOU <small>C.DESTEFANO (C.RICE,C.DESTEFANO,A.GORLEY)</small> | Chase Rice DACK JANIELS/BROKEN BOW | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 9 | 7 | 25 | GOOD AS YOU <small>D.HUFF (K.BROWN,B.BERRYHILL,S.CARTER,T.PHILLIPS,W.WEATHERLY)</small> | Kane Brown ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE | 8 | 7 |
| 8 | 7 | 5 | 47 | SPEECHLESS <small>D.SMYERS,S.HENDRICKS (D.SMYERS,S.MOONEY,J.REYNOLDS,L.VELTZ)</small> | Dan + Shay WARNER BROS./WAR | RC | 1 |
| 9 | 12 | 14 | 27 | MAKE IT SWEET <small>S.MCANALLY (M.RAMSEY,T.ROSEN,W.SELLERS,G.SPRUNG,B.TURSI,S.MCANALLY)</small> | Old Dominion RCA NASHVILLE | 4 | 9 |
| 10 | 8 | 10 | 26 | WHISKEY GLASSES <small>J.MOI (B.BURGESS,K.KADISH)</small> | Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD | 11 | 8 |
| 11 | 11 | 8 | 24 | MISS ME MORE <small>F.G.WHITEHEAD,J.MASSEY (K.BALLERINI,D.H.HODGES,B.MCLAUGHLIN)</small> | Kelsea Ballerini BLACK RIVER | 10 | 8 |
| 12 | 14 | 13 | 33 | THERE WAS THIS GIRL <small>D.HUFF (R.GREEN,ERIK DYLAN)</small> | Riley Green BMLG | 3 | 11 |
| 13 | 17 | 17 | 31 | RUMOR <small>L.BRICE,J.STONE,K.JACOBS,D.FRIZSELL (L.BRICE,K.JACOBS,A.GORLEY)</small> | Lee Brice CURB | 16 | 13 |
| 14 | 16 | 16 | 34 | NIGHT SHIFT <small>B.BUTLER,J.PARDI (T.BROWN,P.LARUE,B.MONTANA)</small> | Jon Pardi CAPITOL NASHVILLE | 9 | 14 |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 13 | GIRL <small>G.KURSTIN,M.MORRIS (M.MORRIS,S.AARONS,G.KURSTIN)</small> | Maren Morris COLUMBIA NASHVILLE | 17 | 9 |
| 16 | 18 | 18 | 31 | TALK YOU OUT OF IT <small>J.MOI (M.HARDY,H.PHELPS,J.ROGERS,A.VANDERHEYM)</small> | Florida Georgia Line BMLG | 20 | 13 |
| 17 | 20 | 21 | 29 | LOVE AIN'T <small>D.HUFF (R.COPPERMAN,A.GORLEY,S.MCANALLY)</small> | Eli Young Band VALORY | 7 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 19 | 35 | ON MY WAY TO YOU <small>T.W.WILLMON (BRETT JAMES,T.LANE)</small> | Cody Johnson COJO/WMN | 15 | 16 |
| 19 | 21 | 20 | 32 | LOVE WINS <small>D.GARCIA,C.UNDERWOOD (C.UNDERWOOD,D.A.GARCIA,BRETT JAMES)</small> | Carrie Underwood CAPITOL NASHVILLE | 12 | 14 |
| 20 | 25 | - | 2 | KNOCKIN' BOOTS <small>J.STEVENS,J.STEVENS (H.LINDSEY,G.SAMPSON,J.M.NITE)</small> | Luke Bryan CAPITOL NASHVILLE | 28 | 20 |
| 21 | 23 | 23 | 24 | LOVE SOMEONE <small>R.COPPERMAN,B.ELDRIDGE (B.ELDRIDGE,R.COPPERMAN,H.MORGAN)</small> | Brett Eldredge ATLANTIC/WMN | 13 | 21 |
| 22 | 24 | 22 | 38 | CAUGHT UP IN THE COUNTRY <small>R.ATKINS,T.HEWITT,B.BOLLINGER (C.HARRINGTON,J.M.SCHMIDT,M.WALKER)</small> | Rodney Atkins Featuring The Fisk Jubilee Singers CURB | 22 | 22 |
| 23 | 22 | 25 | 9 | EVERY LITTLE HONKY TONK BAR <small>C.AINLAY,G.STRAIT (G.STRAIT,B.STRAIT,D.DILLON)</small> | George Strait MCA NASHVILLE | 18 | 22 |
| 24 | 26 | 28 | 14 | ALL TO MYSELF <small>D.SMYERS,S.HENDRICKS (D.SMYERS,S.MOONEY,N.GALYON,J.REYNOLDS)</small> | Dan + Shay WARNER BROS./WAR | 25 | 24 |
| 25 | 28 | 29 | 11 | SOME OF IT <small>J.JOYCE (E.CHURCH,J.HYDE,C.DANIELS,B.PINSON)</small> | Eric Church EMI NASHVILLE | 19 | 25 |



29

LITTLE BIG TOWN
The Daughters

After the band debuted its new track at the 54th ACM Awards on April 7 and released its official video on April 11, it enters Hot Country Songs at No. 29, sparked by its No. 4 start on Country Digital Song Sales (14,000).



38

KEITH URBAN
Burden

Crowned entertainer of the year for the first time at the ACM Awards on April 7, **Urban** debuts at No. 38 on Hot Country Songs with the ballad (new at No. 9 on Country Digital Song Sales; 10,000 sold), which is a cover of **Foy Vance's** 2016 song.

billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA COMPILED BY
nielsen MUSIC

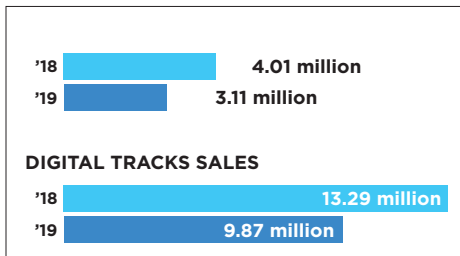
| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | TWO WEEKS AGO | WKS ON CHART | TITLE <small>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)</small> | Artist <small>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL</small> | COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK | PEAK POSITION |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|--|--|----------------------|---------------|
| 26 | 27 | 24 | 9 | RAINBOW I.FITCHUK,D.TASHIAN,K.MUSGRAVES (N.HEMBY,S.MCANALLY,K.MUSGRAVES) | Kacey Musgraves MCA NASHVILLE | 35 | 17 |
| 27 | 30 | 27 | 6 | THE BONES G.KURSTIN (M.MORRIS,J.ROBBINS,L.VELTZ) | Maren Morris COLUMBIA NASHVILLE | - | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 26 | 27 | I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU J.MOI (A.GORLEY,M.HARDY,H.PHELPS,J.RODGERS) | Chris Lane BIG LOUD | 38 | 26 |
| 29 | NEW | | 1 | THE DAUGHTERS LITTLE BIG TOWN (K.FAIRCHILD,S.MCCONNELL,A.RAY) ★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★ | Little Big Town CAPITOL NASHVILLE | - | 29 |
| 30 | NEW | | 1 | NEON MOON NOT LISTED (R.DUNN) | Brooks & Dunn With Kacey Musgraves ARISTA NASHVILLE | - | 30 |
| 31 | 31 | 30 | 10 | RAISED ON COUNTRY C.CROWDER,C.YOUNG (C.YOUNG,C.R.BARLOWE,C.CROWDER) | Chris Young RCA NASHVILLE | 23 | 30 |
| 32 | 32 | 31 | 14 | REARVIEW TOWN M.KNOX (N.THRASHER,B.PINSON,K.LOVELACE) | Jason Aldean MACON/BROKEN BOW | 29 | 24 |
| 33 | RE-ENTRY | | 3 | BRAND NEW MAN D.HUFF (K.BROOKS,D.COOK,R.DUNN) | Brooks & Dunn With Luke Combs ARISTA NASHVILLE | RC | 30 |
| 34 | 34 | 33 | 6 | SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER J.JOYCE (T.TOWNES,L.LAIRD,BARY DEAN) | Tenille Townes COLUMBIA NASHVILLE | 27 | 33 |
| 35 | 33 | 32 | 17 | WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN D.HUFF (B.GILBERT,R.AKINS,B.BERRYHILL,J.DUNNE) | Brantley Gilbert + Lindsay Ell VALORY | 24 | 31 |
| 36 | 35 | 39 | 9 | NOTHING TO DO TOWN M.ALDERMAN,C.GIBBS,J.E.NORMAN (D.SCOTT,M.ALDERMAN,C.TAYLOR) | Dylan Scott CURB | 45 | 35 |
| 37 | 37 | 34 | 7 | LOVE YOU TOO LATE M.R.CARTER (C.SWINDELL,MICHAEL RAY,B.KINNEY) | Cole Swindell WARNER BROS./WMN | 33 | 34 |
| 38 | NEW | | 1 | BURDEN D.COBBI,K.URBAN (F.VANCE) | Keith Urban CAPITOL NASHVILLE | - | 38 |
| 39 | 38 | 38 | 12 | CLOSER TO YOU BUSBEE (H.LINDSEY,G.SAMPSON,T.VERGES) | Carly Pearce BIG MACHINE | 31 | 38 |
| 40 | RE-ENTRY | | 3 | KEEPING SCORE D.SMYERS,S.HENDRICKS (D.SMYERS,J.REYNOLDS,L.VELTZ) | Dan + Shay Featuring Kelly Clarkson WARNER BROS./WAR | - | 32 |
| 41 | 42 | 35 | 8 | REDNECKER J.MOI,D.COHEN (A.ALBERT,M.HARDY,J.M.SCHMIDT) | HARDY TREE VIBEZ/BIG LOUD | 42 | 35 |
| 42 | 40 | 36 | 8 | BUY MY OWN DRINKS D.HUFF (H.MULHOLLAND,J.WAYNE,N.COOKE,H.LINDSEY,J.KEAR) | Runaway June WHEELHOUSE | 26 | 36 |
| 43 | 41 | 41 | 9 | TO A T D.HUFF,A.ESHUIS (R.J.HURD,N.SPICER,L.VELTZ) | Ryan Hurd RCA NASHVILLE | 50 | 41 |
| 44 | 47 | - | 3 | THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME J.S.STOVER,S.BORCHETTA (J.MOORE,P.DIGIOVANNI,C.MCGILL,J.S.STOVER) | Justin Moore VALORY | 30 | 44 |
| 45 | 46 | 50 | 3 | EVERY LITTLE THING C.BROWN (R.DICKERSON,P.WELLING,C.BROWN) | Russell Dickerson TRIPLE TIGERS | 36 | 45 |
| 46 | NEW | | 1 | COVER ME UP NOT LISTED (M.J.ISBELL) | Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD | - | 46 |
| 47 | 48 | 44 | 14 | BACK TO LIFE J.DEE,G.LEVOX,J.D.ROONEY (C.R.BARLOWE,N.MOON,S.MOONEY,F.WILHELM) | Rascal Flatts BIG MACHINE | 34 | 31 |
| 48 | 43 | 42 | 5 | RIDIN' ROADS Z.CROWELL (D.LYNCH,A.GORLEY,Z.CROWELL) | Dustin Lynch BROKEN BOW | - | 26 |
| 49 | 44 | 40 | 12 | FEELS LIKE A PARTY C.CROWDER,T.HUBBARD (P.BRUST,C.LUCAS,T.HUBBARD,C.CROWDER) | LOCASH WHEELHOUSE | RC | 40 |
| 50 | 45 | 37 | 5 | I HOPE R.COPPERMAN (Z.KALE,J.M.NITE,G.BARRETT) | Gabby Barrett GABBY BARRETT/RED LIGHT MANAGEMENT NASHVILLE | - | 37 |

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

COUNTRY MARKET WATCH

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

YEAR-TO-DATE



| | ALBUMS | DIGITAL ALBUMS* | DIGITAL TRACKS |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| This Week | 302,000 | 109,000 | 866,000 |
| Last Week | 268,000 | 79,000 | 698,000 |
| Change | 12.7% | 38.0% | 24.1% |
| This Week Last Year | 314,000 | 93,000 | 981,000 |
| Change | -3.8% | 17.2% | -11.7% |

| | 2018 | 2019 | CHANGE |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------|
| Albums | 4,014,000 | 3,109,000 | -22.5% |
| Digital Tracks | 13,287,000 | 9,874,000 | -25.7% |
| Sales by Album Format | | | |
| | 2018 | 2019 | CHANGE |
| Physical | 2,861,000 | 2,134,000 | -25.4% |
| Digital | 1,154,000 | 974,000 | -15.6% |

For week ending April 11, 2019. Figures are rounded. Compiled from a national sample of retail store and rack sales reports collected and provided by Nielsen Music.



*Digital album sales are also counted within album sales.

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

billboard TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

SALES, DATA
COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | 2 WEEKS AGO | WEEKS ON CHART | ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL | TITLE | GERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------------|--|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | NEW | 1 | 1 | BROOKS & DUNN ARISTA NASHVILLE 590311/SMN | REBOOT | | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | 97 | LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN | THIS ONE'S FOR YOU | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | — | 2 | GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 029300*/UMGN (002930001) | HONKY TONK TIME MACHINE | | 1 |
| 4 | NEW | 1 | 1 | REBA MCENTIRE ROCKIN' R/BIG MACHINE R0600A/BMLG | STRONGER THAN THE TRUTH | | 4 |
| 5 | 3 | 3 | 42 | DAN + SHAY WARNER BROS. 570796/WMN | DAN + SHAY | ● | 1 |
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 5 | MAREN MORRIS COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 590186*/SMN | GIRL | | 1 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 206 | CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY 019405*/UMGN | TRAVELLER | 3 | 1 |
| 8 | 6 | 5 | 49 | KACEY MUSGRAVES MCA NASHVILLE 027921*/UMGN | GOLDEN HOUR | | 1 |
| 9 | 7 | 6 | 8 | FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE BMLG FGL040* | CAN'T SAY I AIN'T COUNTRY | | 1 |
| 10 | 9 | 9 | 22 | KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE/SMN | EXPERIMENT | | 1 |
| 11 | 17 | 16 | 113 | BRETT YOUNG BMLG BY0100A* | BRETT YOUNG | ■ | 2 |
| 12 | 10 | 8 | 123 | KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE 530947*/SMN | KANE BROWN | ■ | 1 |
| 13 | 11 | 7 | 52 | JASON ALDEAN MACON/BROKEN BOW/BMG 538375642*/BBMG (538375730) | REARVIEW TOWN | ● | 1 |
| 14 | 12 | 11 | 171 | GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 000459/UMGN (25.98) | 50 NUMBER ONES | 7 | 1 |
| 15 | 13 | 13 | 45 | MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD DIGITAL EX | IF I KNOW ME | | 11 |
| 16 | 15 | 12 | 83 | THOMAS RHETT VALORY TR0300A/BMLG | LIFE CHANGES | ■ | 1 |
| 17 | 16 | 14 | 147 | JON PARDI CAPITOL NASHVILLE 024744*/UMGN | CALIFORNIA SUNRISE | ■ | 1 |
| 18 | 18 | 15 | 194 | ZAC BROWN BAND ROAR/SOUTHERN GROUND/ATLANTIC 546369/AG | GREATEST HITS SO FAR... | | 3 |
| 19 | 20 | 10 | 30 | CARRIE UNDERWOOD CAPITOL NASHVILLE 028557*/UMGN | CRY PRETTY | ● | 1 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 18 | BRETT YOUNG BMLG BMBY200A* | TICKET TO L.A. | | 1 |
| 21 | 19 | 17 | 181 | BLAKE SHELTON WARNER BROS. 351788/WMN | RELOADED: 20 #1 HITS | | 2 |
| 22 | 23 | 20 | 71 | CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY 027408*/UMGN | FROM A ROOM: VOLUME 2 | ● | 1 |
| 23 | 29 | 26 | 217 | SAM HUNT MCA NASHVILLE 021502/UMGN | MONTEVALLO | 3 | 1 |
| 24 | 36 | 35 | 127 | BROOKS & DUNN ARISTA NASHVILLE 18852/LEGACY (18.98/12.98) | THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION | 4 | 2 |
| 25 | 22 | 19 | 63 | KELSEA BALLERINI BLACK RIVER 2017 | UNAPOLOGETICALLY | | 3 |

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

billboard COUNTRY STREAMING SONGS

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE ARTIST | GERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|-------|-----------|
| 1 | 1 | 49 | BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKE COMBS | | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 72 | MEANT TO BE BEBE REXHA & FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE | | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 105 | TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON | | 1 |
| 4 | 4 | 59 | TEQUILA DAN + SHAY | | 1 |
| 5 | 5 | 75 | HEAVEN KANE BROWN | | 1 |
| 6 | 6 | 38 | SPEECHLESS DAN + SHAY | | 1 |
| 7 | 18 | 6 | LOOK WHAT GOD GAVE HER THOMAS RHETT | | 1 |
| 8 | 8 | 35 | SHE GOT THE BEST OF ME LUKE COMBS | | 1 |
| 9 | 10 | 8 | WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN | | 1 |
| 10 | 7 | 6 | GIRL MAREN MORRIS | | 1 |
| 11 | 11 | 9 | HERE TONIGHT BRETT YOUNG | | 1 |
| 12 | 15 | 6 | EYES ON YOU CHASE RICE | | 1 |
| 13 | 14 | 8 | RUMOR LEE BRICE | | 1 |
| 14 | 12 | 63 | YOU MAKE IT EASY JASON ALDEAN | | 1 |
| 15 | 9 | 9 | TALK YOU OUT OF IT FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE | | 1 |
| 16 | 21 | 8 | GOOD AS YOU KANE BROWN | | 1 |
| 17 | 13 | 128 | IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW BRETT YOUNG | | 1 |
| 18 | 17 | 5 | MISS ME MORE KELSEA BALLERINI | | 1 |
| 19 | 19 | 129 | HURRICANE LUKE COMBS | | 1 |
| 20 | 16 | 8 | TAKE IT FROM ME JORDAN DAVIS | | 1 |
| 21 | NEW | | GOD'S COUNTRY BLAKE SHELTON | | 1 |
| 22 | 23 | 113 | BODY LIKE A BACK ROAD SAM HUNT | | 1 |
| 23 | 20 | 7 | MILLIONAIRE CHRIS STAPLETON | | 1 |
| 24 | 22 | 100 | WHAT IFS KANE BROWN FEAT. LAUREN ALAINA | | 1 |
| 25 | NEW | | NIGHT SHIFT JON PARDI | | 1 |

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

billboard COUNTRY DIGITAL SONG SALES

STREAMING & SALES
DATA COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE ARTIST | GERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|-------|-----------|
| 1 | 1 | 2 | GOD'S COUNTRY BLAKE SHELTON | | 1 |
| 2 | 5 | 6 | LOOK WHAT GOD GAVE HER THOMAS RHETT | | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 49 | BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKE COMBS | | 1 |
| 4 | NEW | | THE DAUGHTERS LITTLE BIG TOWN | | 1 |
| 5 | 9 | 12 | GOOD AS YOU KANE BROWN | | 1 |
| 6 | 18 | 64 | TEQUILA DAN + SHAY | | 1 |
| 7 | RE-ENTRY | | MERCY BRETT YOUNG | | 1 |
| 8 | NEW | | NEON MOON BROOKS & DUNN WITH KACEY MUSGRAVES | | 1 |
| 9 | NEW | | BURDEN KEITH URBAN | | 1 |
| 10 | 2 | 2 | KNOCKIN' BOOTS LUKE BRYAN | | 1 |
| 11 | 6 | 20 | WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN | | 1 |
| 12 | 24 | 17 | MAKE IT SWEET OLD DOMINION | | 1 |
| 13 | 14 | 42 | SPEECHLESS DAN + SHAY | | 1 |
| 14 | RE-ENTRY | | KEEPING SCORE DAN + SHAY FEAT. KELLY CLARKSON | | 1 |
| 15 | 10 | 23 | MISS ME MORE KELSEA BALLERINI | | 1 |
| 16 | 13 | 9 | RAINBOW KACEY MUSGRAVES | | 1 |
| 17 | 8 | 33 | DOWN TO THE HONKYTONK JAKE OWEN | | 1 |
| 18 | RE-ENTRY | | GOD AND COUNTRY MUSIC GEORGE STRAIT | | 1 |
| 19 | 12 | 17 | RUMOR LEE BRICE | | 1 |
| 20 | 17 | 170 | TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON | | 1 |
| 21 | NEW | | SOUTHBOUND CARRIE UNDERWOOD | | 1 |
| 22 | 15 | 12 | GIRL MAREN MORRIS | | 1 |
| 23 | NEW | | A SIMPLE SONG CHRIS STAPLETON | | 1 |
| 24 | 16 | 8 | EYES ON YOU CHASE RICE | | 1 |
| 25 | NEW | | GIRL GOIN' NOWHERE ASHLEY MCBRYDE | | 1 |

billboard AMERICANA/
FOLK ALBUMS

SALES DATA
COMPILED BY
nielsen
MUSIC

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | 2 WEEKS AGO | WEEKS ON CHART | ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL | TITLE | GERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 152 | CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN | TRAVELLER | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 3 | 54 | KACEY MUSGRAVES MCA NASHVILLE 027921*/UMGN | GOLDEN HOUR | | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 1 | 6 | HOZIER RUBYWORKS 591795*/COLUMBIA | WASTELAND, BABY! | | 1 |
| 4 | 7 | 7 | 71 | CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 027408*/UMGN | FROM A ROOM: VOLUME 2 | ● | 1 |
| 5 | 6 | 5 | 198 | HOZIER RUBYWORKS 309996*/COLUMBIA | HOZIER | 2 | 1 |
| 6 | 9 | 9 | 101 | CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 026379*/UMGN | FROM A ROOM: VOLUME 1 | ■ | 1 |
| 7 | 8 | 8 | 115 | SIMON & GARFUNKEL COLUMBIA 31350/LEGACY | SIMON AND GARFUNKEL'S GREATEST HITS | | 3 |
| 8 | 10 | 11 | 157 | THE LUMINEERS DUALTONE 1738* | CLEOPATRA | ■ | 1 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 21 | MUMFORD & SONS GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD 0240*/GLASSNOTE | DELTA | | 1 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 109 | JACK JOHNSON JACK JOHNSON/BRUSHFIRE/REPUBLIC (13.98) | IN BETWEEN DREAMS | 2 | 8 |

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



21

CARRIE UNDERWOOD
Southbound

The track from her latest album, *Cry Pretty*, debuts at No. 21 on Country Digital Song Sales with 5,000 sold (up from a nominal amount) after she performed it at the ACM Awards on April 7.

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

Scotty McCreery Paints From A Full Palette With 'In Between'

When **Scotty McCreery** went out for a recent dinner with his wife, **Gabi**, the restaurant owner, who counts himself a fan, decided to play McCreery's first album, *Clear As Day*, in tribute to the singer.

It was a sentimental move, but it was also jarring for McCreery, who found himself reliving a portion of his life when he hadn't yet figured out his identity.

"It wasn't tough to listen to," he says, "but holy cow, it's a lot different now."

McCreery, of course, came to prominence in 2011 as a green 17-year-old *American Idol* contestant with a preternaturally deep voice and an affinity for low-pitched country songs. Eight years later, he now sees the halfway point from then to now — the in-between spot in his national journey — as a key moment in which he began edging his way from a raw, unvarnished talent to a polished, convincing storyteller.

"I don't know if it was forced twang or if I had just a lot of twang in my voice," he says. "I feel like now, I'm just singing. I don't know if I felt like I had to be country when I was 17, but I feel like now I'm just kind of being me."

In 2015, a 21-year-old McCreery documented his life in a personal way. Just weeks after his grandfather died, he paid tribute by writing "Five More Minutes" at the Pool House, a studio owned by producer **Frank Rogers (Brad Paisley, Darius Rucker)**. One week later, he came back to Rogers' place for a songwriting session with **Jessi Alexander** ("I Drive Your Truck," "Turnin' Me On") and **Jonathan Singleton** ("Yours If You Want It," "Why Don't We Just Dance"), and they spent a substantial amount of time talking about his then-current lifestyle as a college student who shared a house with a few other 20-somethings but would jet away periodically for a concert or to walk an awards-show carpet.

"Scotty was at a big transitional period in his life," recalls Rogers. "People were looking at him one way, and in his head he was heading another way, but he was kind of in between a lot of things. It just kind of came from natural conversation."

That "in between" phrase had a ring to it, and they eyed it as the title they were working toward. The opening images — "A little bit ballcap/Little bit of pearl-snap button-down shirt" — showed the competing pieces of his personality: casual and dressed-up, but an understated, regular guy either way. All four writers began playing with the contrasts in their own personalities, then found a way to make their stories fit McCreery.

"I love writing 'who I am'-type songs," says Alexander. "It's hard to do without the artist in the room. You don't know exactly their story. So I remember looking to Scotty like, 'Is that OK? Can we say that? You OK with that? Is that real? Is that true for you?' Every line in that song went through that filter."

The second couplet, which balances "big-city concrete" and "small-town dirt," rang true for McCreery, who grew up on the outskirts of Raleigh, N.C. It also made sense as an image for a big chunk of the country audience, which has transformed from mostly rural listeners to a population centered in the suburbs: in between the city and the country.

Still, they needed a reason for McCreery to bullet-point the opposites in his personality. That came in the pre-chorus, as they established a conversation with a woman who is trying to determine whether he might be willing to turn his "me" viewpoint into a "we" perspective. The pre-chorus thus unintentionally mimics the song's "In Between" title while providing its subtle glue.

"That is a very important line of the song, and it's in between the verse and the chorus," says McCreery. "That's actually pretty cool."

It was McCreery who provided the setup line near the end of the chorus — "I ain't all holy water/And I ain't all Jim Beam" — that keyed his own personal story into country's long-established dichotomy: Saturday-night sinner and Sunday-morning saint. It put a bow on all those contradictions.

"It makes him more complex in some ways because a guy that is just either/or, you're only dealing with a couple of colors in the palette," surmises Alexander. "If you're in between, you can take a little red, a little blue, a little green, a little pink, a little purple. It's just everything. I think it makes you more interesting."

They recorded a guitar/vocal demo, and Rogers packaged it with four or five other songs, including "Five More Minutes," for a demo session. As "In Between" took shape, he carved out a light start with at least one guitar or other stringed instrument plucking at each eighth note to create separation from "Five More Minutes."

"'In Between' and 'Five More Minutes' were Scotty's favorite songs, and going in, you could really tell he wanted those to be singles," says Rogers. "I wanted to make sure that if they were back-to-back singles that 'In Between' had a little more movement to it."

They recorded the master at The Castle, a studio in suburban Franklin, Tenn., that was founded in part by gangster **Al Capone** during the Depression and operated for a time as an underground casino. The musicians seemed to share McCreery's feelings about "In Between," too.

"Some songs just mean a little more than others, and this was one that folks around the room were kind of looking around and they were smiling at each other while they were playing it," recalls McCreery. "Once we came back and listened to it, it was just fist bumps and that kind of thing going around the room."

It was definitely bumpy for McCreery when he recorded his final vocal. It was one of the first songs where he started exploring his upper register and saving the lower notes to maximize their impact. The syllables fall in a way that requires him to use some power in the most vulnerable range of his voice.

"The 'I'm in between' — that long 'eeeeen' note — it's just a different note to sing," he says. "It's very brassy, an in-the-front-of-your-face kind of thing, which isn't how I normally sing."

McCreery was still signed to Mercury Nashville at the time, but the label's reaction varied from the musicians' response — and from McCreery's. The company selected "Southern Belle" over "Five More Minutes" and "In Between" as a single, and when it stopped at No. 45 on Country Airplay, he parted ways with the label. Eventually, he was able to purchase some of his unreleased masters, and he independently dropped "Five More Minutes" in tandem with Triple 8 Management. Triple Tigers picked him up as its second artist and pushed that song (and follow-up "This Is It," which he penned for his engagement) to No. 1.

Triple Tigers released "In Between" to country radio via PlayMPE on March 18. It topped the New and Active list, dated April 13 and debuts on the Country Airplay chart dated April 20 at No. 57. McCreery obviously hopes it might become a third straight No. 1.

"I've always believed in it from the minute we wrote it," he says. "It's a song I feel like tells folks who I am, and I feel like a lot of folks will listen to this song and think, 'Man, that kind of sounds like me.' You never know what's going to catch on or not. That's TBD, but I just believe in it. I'm excited that it's getting its chance." ●



billboard Country Indicator

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | PLAYS | | AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS) |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|--|-----------|------|------------------------|
| | | | | | THIS WEEK | +/- | THIS WEEK |
| 1 | 1 | 29 | HERE TONIGHT BMLG | Brett Young | 5310 | +70 | 8.289 |
| 2 | 4 | 26 | MAKE IT SWEET RCA Nashville | Old Dominion | 4742 | +187 | 7.073 |
| 3 | 5 | 26 | EYES ON YOU Dack Janiels/Broken Bow | Chase Rice | 4482 | +195 | 6.372 |
| 4 | 3 | 36 | THERE WAS THIS GIRL BMLG | Riley Green | 4461 | -248 | 7.385 |
| 5 | 6 | 37 | NIGHT SHIFT Capitol Nashville | Jon Pardi | 4386 | +147 | 6.433 |
| 6 | 7 | 14 | GOOD AS YOU Zone 4/RCA Nashville | Kane Brown | 4361 | +290 | 6.574 |
| 7 | 11 | 36 | LOVE AIN'T Valory | Eli Young Band | 4117 | +335 | 6.231 |
| 8 | 10 | 26 | MISS ME MORE Black River | Kelsea Ballerini | 4078 | +184 | 5.815 |
| 9 | 9 | 33 | ON MY WAY TO YOU CoJo/WMN | Cody Johnson | 4047 | +59 | 5.986 |
| 10 | 8 | 20 | BEAUTIFUL CRAZY River House/Columbia Nashville | Luke Combs | 3856 | -190 | 6.462 |
| 11 | 12 | 31 | LOVE WINS Capitol Nashville | Carrie Underwood | 3426 | -66 | 4.901 |
| 12 | 13 | 31 | WHISKEY GLASSES Big Loud | Morgan Wallen | 3382 | +291 | 5.008 |
| 13 | 14 | 7 | LOOK WHAT GOD GAVE HER Valory | Thomas Rhett | 3156 | +97 | 4.683 |
| 14 | 15 | 38 | LOVE SOMEONE Atlantic/WMN | Brett Eldredge | 3155 | +174 | 4.580 |
| 15 | 16 | 9 | EVERY LITTLE HONKY TONK BAR MCA Nashville | George Strait | 2893 | +54 | 3.930 |
| 16 | 18 | 20 | RUMOR Curb | Lee Brice | 2776 | +225 | 4.027 |
| 17 | 17 | 24 | TALK YOU OUT OF IT BMLG | Florida Georgia Line | 2612 | +58 | 3.295 |
| 18 | 19 | 13 | GIRL Columbia Nashville | Maren Morris | 2471 | +164 | 3.360 |
| 19 | 20 | 14 | SOME OF IT EMI Nashville | Eric Church | 2428 | +204 | 3.225 |
| 20 | 26 | 3 | GOD'S COUNTRY Warner Bros./WMN | Blake Shelton | 2093 | +561 | 3.000 |
| 21 | 21 | 50 | CAUGHT UP IN THE COUNTRY Curb | Rodney Atkins Feat. The Fisk Jubilee Singer▲ | 2086 | +40 | 3.000 |
| 22 | 22 | 15 | WHAT HAPPENS IN A SMALL TOWN Valory | Brantley Gilbert & Lindsay Ell | 1840 | +18 | 2.446 |
| 23 | 23 | 12 | RAISED ON COUNTRY RCA Nashville | Chris Young | 1814 | +145 | 2.436 |
| 24 | 24 | 8 | REARVIEW TOWN Macon/Broken Bow | Jason Aldean | 1772 | +167 | 2.382 |
| 25 | 25 | 20 | BUY MY OWN DRINKS Wheelhouse | Runaway June | 1622 | +81 | 2.174 |
| 26 | 35 | 3 | KNOCKIN' BOOTS Capitol Nashville | Luke Bryan | 1419 | +520 | 2.055 |
| 27 | 30 | 8 | ALL TO MYSELF Warner Bros./WAR | Dan + Shay | 1274 | +202 | 1.697 |
| 28 | 28 | 9 | RAINBOW MCA Nashville | Kacey Musgraves | 1230 | +1 | 1.357 |
| 29 | 29 | 37 | WHAT WHISKEY DOES Stoney Creek | Randy Houser Feat. Hillary Lindsey | 1082 | -21 | 1.353 |
| 30 | 31 | 7 | LIVING Capitol Nashville | Dierks Bentley | 1080 | +33 | 1.508 |

BILLBOARD COUNTRY INDICATOR PANEL — 109 STATIONS

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

billboard Country Indicator

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE Imprint/Label | Artist | PLAYS | | AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS) |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|-------------------|-----------|------|------------------------|
| | | | | | THIS WEEK | +/- | THIS WEEK |
| 31 | 32 | 14 | KISS THAT GIRL GOODBYE Big Label | Aaron Watson | 1053 | +30 | 1.364 |
| 32 | 33 | 19 | CLOSER TO YOU Big Machine | Carly Pearce | 1032 | +80 | 1.118 |
| 33 | 34 | 10 | THOUGHT ABOUT YOU McGraw/Columbia Nashville | Tim McGraw | 906 | -26 | 1.194 |
| 34 | 36 | 23 | LADIES IN THE '90S 19/Mercury | Lauren Alaina | 820 | +29 | 0.850 |
| 35 | 39 | 24 | I DON'T REMEMBER ME (BEFORE YOU) EMI Nashville | Brothers Osborne | 774 | +56 | 0.850 |
| 36 | 38 | 14 | LOVE YOU TOO LATE Warner Bros./WMN | Cole Swindell | 764 | +43 | 0.837 |
| 37 | 40 | 12 | EVERY LITTLE THING Triple Tigers | Russell Dickerson | 715 | +46 | 0.899 |
| 38 | 37 | 29 | BACK TO LIFE Big Machine | Rascal Flatts | 711 | -64 | 0.642 |
| 39 | 43 | 5 | GOOD VIBES Warner Bros./WAR | Chris Janson | 576 | +73 | 0.678 |
| 40 | 41 | 29 | THE IN BETWEEN Captain & Bear | Cash Campbell | 562 | +26 | 0.620 |
| 41 | 42 | 15 | A LITTLE ON THE REDNECK SIDE Dream Walkin' | Smith & Wesley | 512 | +3 | 0.603 |
| 42 | 52 | 5 | SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER Columbia Nashville | Tenille Townes | 510 | +134 | 0.776 |
| 43 | 44 | 6 | REDNECKER Tree VibeZ/Big Loud | Hardy | 480 | -2 | 0.547 |
| 44 | 48 | 18 | THE ONES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK HOME Valory | Justin Moore | 454 | +46 | 0.636 |
| 45 | 46 | 6 | IF I WAS A COWBOY Rebel Engine | Stephanie Quayle | 427 | +18 | 0.573 |
| 46 | 47 | 8 | SOMEWHERE BETWEEN I LOVE YOU AND I'M LEAVIN' Rounder/Concord | Cody Jinks | 423 | +14 | 0.460 |
| 47 | 49 | 19 | ROCKIN' ALL NIGHT LONG Buena Vista/Capitol Nashville | Adam Hambrick | 414 | +15 | 0.384 |
| 48 | 51 | 11 | GIRL GOIN' NOWHERE Atlantic/WAR | Ashley McBryde | 411 | +33 | 0.420 |
| 49 | 45 | 9 | NOTHING TO DO TOWN Curb | Dylan Scott | 391 | -23 | 0.473 |
| 50 | 50 | 8 | AFTER A FEW Mercury | Travis Denning | 388 | +5 | 0.477 |
| 51 | 53 | 13 | I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU Big Loud | Chris Lane | 358 | +78 | 0.337 |
| 52 | NEW | | MR. LONELY Big Machine | Midland | 288 | +93 | 0.354 |
| 53 | 54 | 5 | DAY DRUNK Warner Bros./WEA | Morgan Evans | 276 | -3 | 0.252 |
| 54 | 59 | 2 | RIDIN' ROADS Broken Bow | Dustin Lynch | 273 | +39 | 0.315 |
| 55 | 55 | 8 | GET AWAY High4Records/Curve Music/Grassroots | Ryan Sims | 272 | -4 | 0.277 |
| 56 | 57 | 5 | LOVE TO TRY THEM ON Amerimonte | Shane Owens | 270 | +16 | 0.370 |
| 57 | 56 | 4 | THE BULL MCA Nashville | Kip Moore | 262 | -1 | 0.309 |
| 58 | 58 | 5 | SOMEONE I USED TO KNOW ZB Collective/BMG/Wheelhouse | Zac Brown Band | 236 | -7 | 0.202 |
| 59 | 60 | 2 | BULLETPROOF Free Flow/Nine North/Grassroots/Grapevine | Dave McElroy | 229 | +21 | 0.241 |
| 60 | RE-ENTRY | | MAKE ME WANT TO Stoney Creek | Jimmie Allen | 217 | +18 | 0.251 |

CHARTS LEGEND

RANKINGS

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

BULLETS

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

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

TIES

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

RECURRENTS

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

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

HOT SHOT DEBUT

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

MOST ADDED

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

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE/PLAYS

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

AIRPOWER

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

BREAKER

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

CODD A

REWINDING
THE
COUNTRY
CHARTS

50 Years Ago Glen Campbell's Route To No. 1 Went Through 'Galveston'

In 1969, the classic began a three-week Hot Country Song rule

On April 19, 1969, **Glen Campbell's** "Galveston" jumped 7-1 on *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart for its first of three weeks in the top spot. It followed his first two leaders, "I Wanna Live" and "Wichita Lineman," in less than a year's span.

Penned by **Jimmy Webb**, "Galveston" became one of Campbell's signature hits. It also reached No. 4 on the all-

genre *Billboard* Hot 100 and was released as the lead single from his same-named LP, which led *Top Country Albums* for 11 weeks.

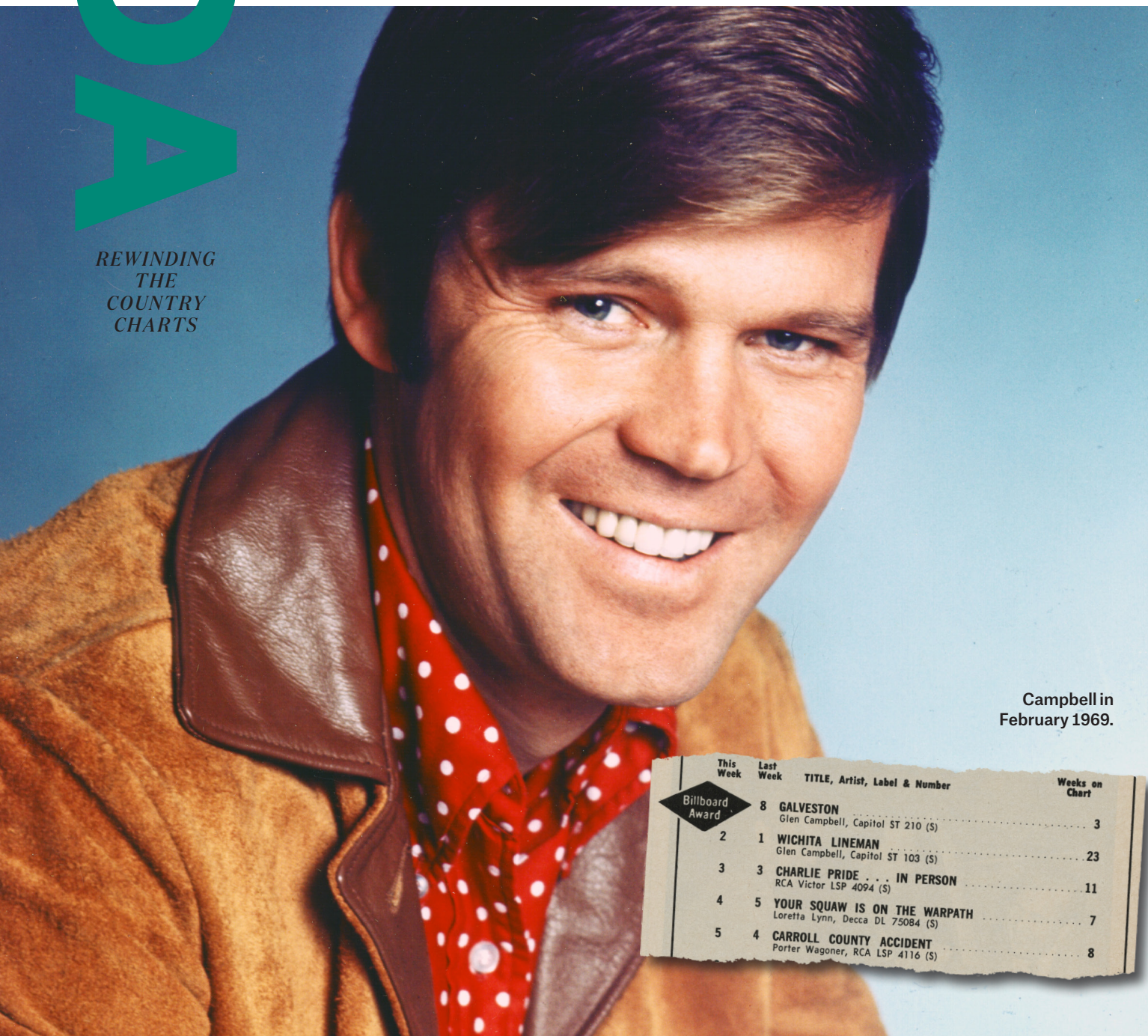
After first appearing on *Hot Country Songs* in 1966, Campbell notched five No. 1s among 26 top 10s. He made his most recent visit in 2014 with the No. 21-peaking "I'm Not Gonna Miss You," a chronicle of his battle with Alzheimer's

disease after he was diagnosed in 2011.

During his career, the Delight, Ark., native earned a reputation as a proficient guitarist, as well as a TV host and actor: He won a Golden Globe for his supporting actor role in the 1969 film *True Grit*.

Campbell was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2005. He died on Aug. 8, 2017, at age 81.

—JIM ASKER



Campbell in February 1969.

| Billboard Award | This Week | Last Week | TITLE, Artist, Label & Number | Weeks on Chart |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---|----------------|
| 8 | | | GALVESTON Glen Campbell, Capitol ST 210 (S) | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | | WICHITA LINEMAN Glen Campbell, Capitol ST 103 (S) | 23 |
| 3 | 3 | | CHARLIE PRIDE . . . IN PERSON RCA Victor LSP 4094 (S) | 11 |
| 4 | 5 | | YOUR SQUAW IS ON THE WARPATH Loretta Lynn, Decca DL 75084 (S) | 7 |
| 5 | 4 | | CARROLL COUNTY ACCIDENT Porter Wagoner, RCA LSP 4116 (S) | 8 |