



Josh Turner The New Single "Another Try"

ON YOUR DESK NOW! + IMPACT DATE THIS MONDAY, 1/7



INSIDE

Like Letterman, Despite Writers Strike, We're Back To Work In 2008

Christmas Officially Over At WLTM/Atlanta, As 'Legends' Take Over

If I'm A Country Radio Listener In Phoenix, I'm Confused Today

O Holy Night Becomes Oh, Holy %#@! For Country Artist In Dallas

Keith And Nicole May Or May Not Be Kind Of Pregnant

Cook Rejoins McVay Media

Thirty-eight-year broadcasting veteran Charlie Cook, who recently stepped down as VP of country for Cumulus, will return to McVay Media as VP of country, effective today, Jan. 2. From 1984-1996, Cook worked with McVay in a similar role before joining Westwood One as VP of programming, then Cumulus. In a statement, McVay said Cook will consult terrestrial radio in addition to syndicated programs, artists and singers within the country arena, adding, "Charlie and I have talked almost every week since I first met him in 1977. Those 30 years of communication has been an education for both of us. I can't wait to get him involved in all of our platforms." Cook told **R&R** this morning that rejoining McVay was like going home. "It's nice to go back into a situation where the comfort level is just immediate. We finish each other's sentences when it comes to radio ... it's really a very nice relationship." Cook's experience in radio has encompassed virtually every aspect of the business: air personality, PD, OM and consultant. His programming stops have included Miami, Los Angeles and New York. During his 35 years in the country format, Cook has served on the board of directors for the Country Radio Broadcasters, which included a term as president; and currently sits on the Country Music Assn. and Academy of Country Music boards of directors.

New Year, Old Favorites For Atlanta

In what is now becoming an annual holiday tradition in Atlanta, Clear Channel pulled a format switch-a-roo on AC WLTM (96.7 Lite FM)/ Peachtree City, Ga., last week, this time flipping to "96.7 the Legend, Atlanta's new home for the Country Legends." For those of you keeping score at home, it's the second time the WLTM calls have made the

All polar bears are left-handed.

Real news needed!

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SHOOTER JENNINGS THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN JANUARY 4TH

Joe Nichols See his first performance of 2008 January 3RD on the Tonight Show With Jay Leno

IT Ain't No Crime

VINCE GILL

50TH ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARD NOMINEE



ALBUM OF THE YEAR

(General Field, Category 2)

These Days

BEST COUNTRY ALBUM

(Field 8, Category 42)

These Days

This 4-CD collection is the artistic summing up of one of the most creative figures in contemporary music. Vince wrote, co-wrote and co-produced the album's 43 songs demonstrating his mastery of musical styles from country and bluegrass to rock, pop, gospel and jazz.

More than 20 artists provided guest vocals, including Diana Krall, Bonnie Raitt, Sheryl Crow, Phil Everly, Rodney Crowell, Alison Krauss, Del McCoury, LeAnn Rimes, John Anderson, Trisha Yearwood and Patty Loveless.

These Days was certified platinum less than two months after its release.

Produced by: **Vince Gill, John Hobbs, Justin Niebank**

Special recognition to all the musicians and vocalists on *These Days*:

Al Anderson	Buddy Emmons	Del McCoury	Gene Miller	Jim Horn	Leslie Satcher	Pete Wasner	Tom Britt
Amy Grant	Calvin Nowell	Desmond Pringle	James Alan	John Hobbs	Liana Maness	Richard Bennett	Tom Bukovac
Andrea Zonn	Carl Gorodetsky	Diana Krall	Bartram	John Hughey	Mark Douthit	Robbie McCoury	Wes Hightower
Audrelle Brown	Chad Cromwell	Doug Moffet	Jason Carter	Jon Randall	Michael Bub	Ronnie McCoury	Will Owsley
Barry Green	Chaerea Denning	Drea Rheneé	Jeff Bailey	Julie Scalise	Michael Cleveland	Sonya Issacs	
Bekka Bramlett	Charlie Cushman	Eddie Bayers	Jeff White	Justin Niebank	Michael Omartian	Steuart Smith	
Benny Garcia	David Campbell	Eric Darken	Jenny Gill	Keisha Frierson	Michael Rhodes	Stuart Duncan	
Billy Joe Walker, Jr.	David Ridley	Frances Logan	Jerry Douglas	Kim Keyes	Mike Haynes	The Nashville	
Billy Thomas	Dawn Sears	Reynolds	Jim Hoke	Leah White	Paul Franklin	String Machine	

Disc 1, 2, 3 - Recorded and Mixed by Justin Niebank • Assisted by: Drew Bollman
 Assistant Engineers: Drew Bollman, Greg Lawrence, David Robinson and Scott Kidd
 Production Manager: Traci Sterling Bishir • Mastered by Adam Ayan

Disc 4 - Recorded and Mixed by Neal Cappellino • Assisted by Scott Kidd, Greg Lawrence
 Production Manager: Traci Sterling Bishir • Mastered by Adam Ayan

MCA
NASHVILLE

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AC-to-country transition. In December 2006, the station's previous home at 94.9 flipped to country WUBL (the Bull); shortly after, WLTM relaunched on 96.7. The station went all-Christmas in November, then last week morphed into the Legend, which also makes it the market's fourth country station, joining CC sister the Bull and Citadel's country combo of WKHX & WYAY. The Legend is starting every music set with 10 in a row and immediately lived up to its namesake when we started streaming Monday (Dec. 31) at 967thelegend.com/pages/legendsplash_page.html ... the first song we heard was most definitely legend-like: "Honky Tonkin" by Hank Williams Sr.

Thunderstruck

That was our reaction at hearing this news. Imagine how Ray Randall felt when he was told late last week he'd be exiting Country Thunder Records as West Coast rep. Randall will reportedly be replaced by Steve Pleshe, former PD at Peak Broadcasting's KSKS (Kiss Country)/Fresno.

Surreal Life In Sun City

Imagine for just a moment you live in Phoenix, listen to country radio and left town for a holiday vacation on Dec. 18. You're back to the regular routine on Jan. 2 ... or are you? When you tune in Clear Channel's KNIX, you won't hear 10-year station vets Tim & Willy. Unable to reach a new agreement with the station, their last day was Dec. 20, and here's where it gets a little weird: Tune in to Bonneville's crosstown KTAR-FM this week and *ta-da!* That's where you'll find Tim & Willy, "filling in." Back at KNIX they'll be replaced by Ben Campbell, who used to do wakeups at CBS Radio's

crosstown KMLE (Camel Country 108) with Brian Egan as "Ben & Brian." The pair migrated to CC sister WMZQ/Washington in 2001, but last spring Campbell announced he was leaving D.C. and moving back to Phoenix.

Immediately after announcing Campbell as the station's new morning show host, KNIX PD Ray Massie said finding a co-host for Campbell was his "primary responsibility" — and apparently he wasn't joking. A mere eight days later, KNIX announced Matt McAllister will join Campbell early this month — most likely Monday, Jan. 7 — as co-host. McAllister will make the move to Phoenix from Rincon Broadcasting's KTYD/Santa Barbara, Calif., where he's hosted mornings for the past nine years. In a statement, Clear Channel/Phoenix market manager Joe Puglise said of McAllister, "The moment he hopped back on a plane after his interview we all looked at each other and said, 'That's the one.'" McAllister, obviously in a festive holiday mood, unholstered a timely analogy to express his excitement, comparing the legendary KNIX to a "great turkey," adding, "I see Ben [Campbell] and I functioning much like a good baste.... We're going to add some flavor and make a great-tasting bird even better."

Speaking of timing, the same day that KNIX announced Tim & Willy would be leaving, across the street Camel Country had some news of its own. Dave Pratt, who's been on the air in Phoenix for 25 years, the last four at KMLE, will be sticking around for at least through 2011, thanks to a shiny-new contract extension.

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He's Got It All!!!

Big Adds!

**KYGO, WSIX, KRTY, KASE, WIRK, KRST,
WKSJ, WKKT, KTOM, WRBT, KTEX**

"Happy Endings" Lee Brice

2008 is Lee's Year!

Camel PD Jay McCarthy said in a statement, "I'm happy to say he's going to be riding the KMLE for years to come."

Finally (we think), Tim & Willy's stint at Bonneville news/talker KTAR, while causing quite a stir in the market, is said to be temporary; program director Russ Hill confirmed that no long-term deal is in place. The team will be doing afternoon drive, filling in for regular host Mac Watson from Jan. 2-4.

Alphabet Soup At WXCX

Dave Hovel remains OM/PD at Delmarva's WXCX/Wilmington, Del., but wrote us over the holidays to say that Chris Duff is now MD, while Mike Joseph is APD.

Toby Keith And Family Awarded \$2.8 Million

In a verdict that must have been bittersweet, a jury awarded Toby Keith, his mother and two siblings nearly \$3 million in damages from the 2001 collision that killed Keith's father, H.K. Covell. According to evidence presented at the trial, a charter bus owned by Elias Rodriguez and Pedro Rodriguez was "in urgent need" of brake repairs prior to the accident that claimed the life of Covell in March 2001. Initially, the family thought Covell suffered a medical condition that caused his truck to cross the center divider, striking the bus. It was later learned, however, that another vehicle bumped the Covell's truck, causing it to veer out of control. The family filed a wrongful death suit to clear Covell's name, according to Greg Dixon, who represented Keith's family.

A Not-So-Silent Night For Mr. Holy

You can file this one under the category of truly bizarre, as Dallas police last week were investigating whether two off-duty cops were involved in an assault against Steve Holy. According to the ac-

COUNTRY DATES

Jan. 12: Open casting for CMT's "Can You Duet?"; Wildhorse Saloon, Nashville.

Jan. 23-27: Country in the Rockies; Steamboat Springs, Colo.

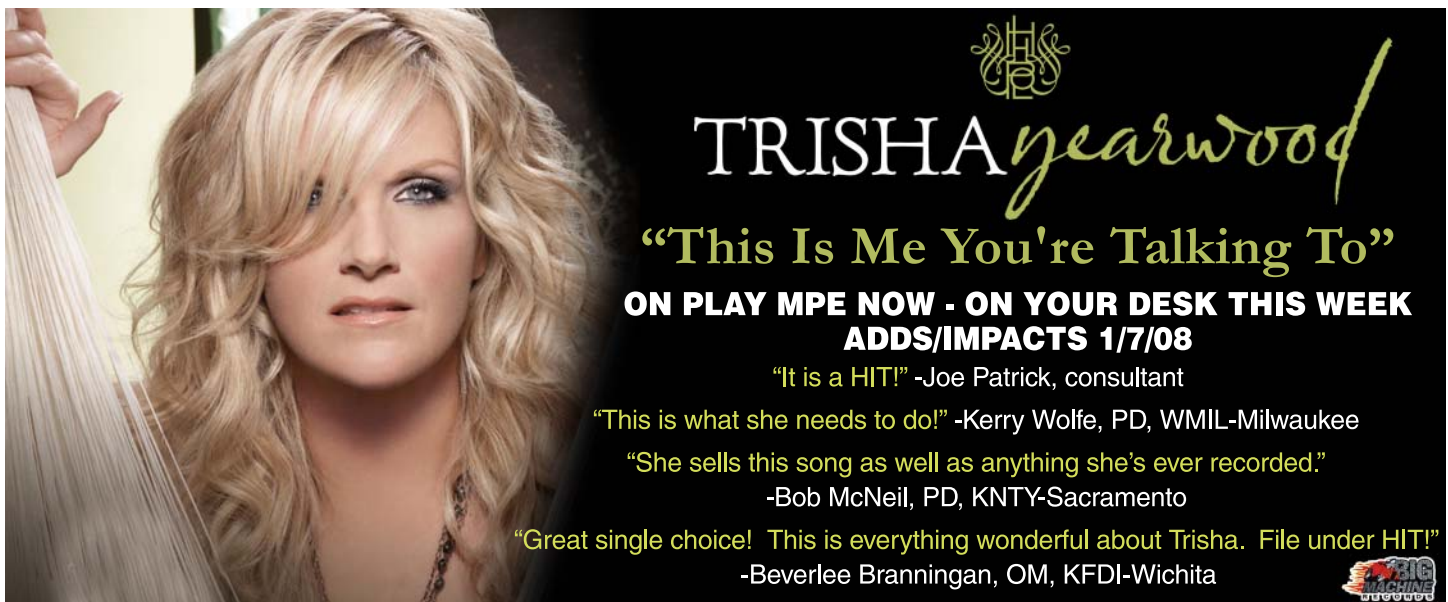
Feb. 10: 50th annual Grammy Awards; Staples Center, Los Angeles.

March 5-7: CRS-39; Nashville Convention Center.

March 14: Rumble on the Row: Gator Michaels vs. Jimmy Rector in a benefit for the Charley Foundation; the Factory, Franklin, Tenn.

count Holy gave police, the evening started innocently enough when he and a friend went to a bar near his home, where they met three off-duty police officers, one of whom Holy already knew. After the bar closed, the party continued at Holy's house for a game of foosball. The officer Holy had met before left, while two others remained. One of them began challenging Holy, claiming he was not actually Steve Holy the country singer, in spite of Holy showing them a picture of himself on an album. Still not satisfied, one of the officers fetched a gun from his car and before long, Holy found himself face down on the kitchen floor with a gun to his neck. Convincing them to let him get his ID, Holy told his wife to call 911, while his friend escaped. The two officers left before police arrived, but not before threatening him with retaliation if he mentioned the incident. According to police spokesman Lt. Vernon Hale, "There have been no charges or arrests at this time. Detectives will continue to investigate the incident and take appropriate action."

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TRISHA yearwood

"This Is Me You're Talking To"

ON PLAY MPE NOW - ON YOUR DESK THIS WEEK
ADDS/IMPACTS 1/7/08

"It is a HIT!" -Joe Patrick, consultant

"This is what she needs to do!" -Kerry Wolfe, PD, WMIL-Milwaukee

"She sells this song as well as anything she's ever recorded."
-Bob McNeil, PD, KNTY-Sacramento

"Great single choice! This is everything wonderful about Trisha. File under HIT!"
-Beverlee Branningan, OM, KFDI-Wichita

BIG MACHINE

Radio Stations Behaving Nicely

Congratulations to Citadel's KIZN/Boise, which raised \$48,518 during its "Keep Kids Warm" drive Dec. 17-21. According to KIZN PD Rich Summers, "Kissin' 92 auctioned off autographed items from country stars and NASCAR drivers, plus several items donated by Kissin' 92 listeners." The station is continuing a contest through Jan. 11 where the school raising the most money wins a concert featuring Lyric Street artist Bucky Covington. All money raised is divided equally between three local social service agencies and is used to pay heating and utility bills of families that may need some assistance through the Idaho winter.

Condolences ...

R&R sends its deepest regrets to family and friends of Sharla McCoy, whose mother, Mary Dunkle, passed away Dec. 30 at the age of 63 after being hospitalized with a heart condition. The family is planning funeral services for later this week.

R&R is also sad to report the passing of radio veteran J.D. Barber, a.k.a. Ed Tisdale, who passed away Dec. 28 after suffering a heart attack. Barber started his radio career on-air at WISM/Madison in 1969. He would later also do mornings at country Q106 in Madison. Although he went into semi-retirement several years ago, Barber continued to pull a Saturday-morning airshift on country WJVL/Janesville, Wis., where he wrote and produced the syndicated feature "A Day in the Country."

— R.J. Curtis/Country Editor 323-954-3444
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BILLBOARD BOXSCORE

ARTIST VENUE/CITY/DATES	ATTENDANCE	GROSS
Keith Urban, Gary Allan John Labatt Centre, London, Ontario, Dec. 15-16	14,770	\$1,091,964
B. Paisley, R. Atkins, T. Swift Rockford MetroCentre, Rockford, Ill., Nov. 16	7,129	\$313,676
B. Paisley, R. Atkins, T. Swift Rupp Arena, Lexington, Ky., Nov. 29	8,035	\$311,177
B. Paisley, R. Atkins, T. Swift Roanoke Civic Center, Roanoke, Va., Nov. 8	6,963	\$266,849
Keith Urban, Gary Allan Assembly Hall, Champaign, Ill., Nov. 15	4,910	\$257,142

Billboard Boxscore tracks recent country concert grosses and attendance figures. Copyright 2008, Nielsen Business Media. More concert grosses available at www.billboard.biz.

SHOWPREP 101

Jan. 2: National Run It Up the Flag Pole and See If Anybody Salutes It Day.

Jan. 3, 1992: Bernard Moeller of Pennsylvania got his 14,000th tattoo.

Jan. 4, 1976: By attaching electrodes to a glass bowl, Ontario neurologist Dr. Adrian Upton discovered that wave activity created by vibrating lime Jell-O is identical to that of the human brain.

Quotable: "A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other."
— author unknown



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WYPSI
The most talked-about new music in '08...

**IMPACTING:
1-14-08**

THESE MAJORS HAVE ALREADY DISCOVERED THEIR MUSIC:

WKHX ATLANTA	WXTU PHILLY	KUZZ BAKERSFIELD	KBEQ KANSAS CITY
KKBQ HOUSTON	KMLE PHOENIX	KFRG SAN BERNARDINO	KRST ALBUQUERQUE
KATM MODESTO	KUBL SALT LAKE CITY	KCCY COLORADO SPRINGS	KDRK SPOKANE
KIXZ SPOKANE	WUSY CHATTANOOGA	WBCT GRAND RAPIDS	WMIL MILWAUKEE
KILT HOUSTON	KSOP SALT LAKE CITY	WBEE ROCHESTER	KYGO DENVER
	WKLB BOSTON	WIL ST. LOUIS	WWYZ HARTFORD
	KMPS SEATTLE	WYCD DETROIT	WGTY YORK

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ON THE CHARTS

New Year's Housekeeping

As a reminder, the first reporting date of 2008 is Monday, Jan. 7. All monitored stations that report adds will need to have those reports in by 2 p.m. CT. As always, the same deadline applies for all non-monitored R&R Indicator stations reporting adds and spins.

Also, our fourth quarter 2007 Current Music Usage Analysis is now complete. We expect to announce the resulting changes to both country panels on or before Friday, Jan. 18. Of course, that means our first quarter 2008 research has begun, and questions or concerns regarding this (or any other chart policy) should be directed to me at the e-mail address or phone number below. Happy new year to all!

— Wade Jessen/Director of Charts & Operations, Nashville
615-321-4291 Email: wjessen@radioandrecords.com

MUSICNOTES

Not that it's any of our business in the first place, but according to the U.K.'s *Daily Mail*, Nicole Kidman is reported to be pregnant. Not so, says the *Melbourne Herald Sun*, which quoted Kidman's publicist denying the story. If **Keith Urban** and Nicole ever do have a baby, it will be their first; Kidman and former husband Tom Cruise adopted two children during their marriage from 1990-2001.

BNA artist **Pat Green** is said to be recuperating from an emergency appendectomy early last week. Green was admitted to a Dallas-area hospital on Dec. 26, 2007, and released a day later. According to Green's publicist, Heather Bohn, "He's now with family and resting, so he's doing really well." Green was forced to cancel a New Year's Eve show in Waco, Texas.

If your favorite **Rascal Flatts** song happens to be "Take Me There," well ... now you can. That song and other Flatts hits are now available as ringtones and ringback tones. Tell Flatts fans to text the word "RASCAL" to 55655. Then they can download one of their favorite Rascal Flatts songs right onto their mobile phone.

"Celebrity Apprentice" ... seems like an oxymoron, doesn't it? Good thing it's all for charity, because even though Donald Trump is rich and powerful, do you think he'd actually have the cajones to tell the 6' 12"-tall **Trace Adkins**, "You're fired!"? Adkins and 13 other celebrities will go head to head Thursday night (Jan. 3) on NBC, trying to raise over \$1 million for various charities.

VIDEO ADDS

CMT

LADY ANTEBELLUM Love Don't Live Here

CMT PURE COUNTRY

LADY ANTEBELLUM Love Don't Live Here

STEVE EARLE City Of Immigrants

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AMERICA'S BACK TO WORK.
2:40 OF TEMPO TO KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR.

GARTH BROOKS & HUEY LEWIS
WORKIN' FOR A LIVIN'

EARLY BELIEVERS:
WYCD, KKGO, KMDL, WGNA, WYRK, KWLI, WOGI, KHKI, KJJY, WKDF, KBEQ, KCCY, KFKF, KFRG, KIXZ, KKWF, KSON, KSSN, KXKT, KZSN, WBCT, WBEE, WCTQ, WGGY, WGTY, WIL, WKHX, WKKT, WKLB, WTQR, WUBE, WWQM, WXTU, WOKQ, WOKO, WXYC, WRNS, WFBE, WITL, WKCQ, WUSJ, KIIM, WAXX, WNWN, KIAI, KOUT, WRSF, KGKL, KJLO, KPLM, KRRV, KSNI, KXDD, KYKR, WBFM, WCTY, WDEZ, WFRG, WMUS, WQRB, WTCM, KEGA, WTNR, KCTR, KEGA, KKJG, KEAN, KFTX, WBWN, WFYR, WKDQ, KRRV, WEGX, KUAD, XM HIGHWAY 16 XM NASHVILLE! JONES CD COUNTRY, ABC TODAY'S COUNTRY, ABC REAL COUNTRY, DIAL GLOBAL MAINSTREAM COUNTRY, DIAL GLOBAL HOT COUNTRY, BOB MOODY/REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT GROUP, KEITH HILL CONSULTING

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