

Give your Listeners Something BIG from Joe on January 23rd. "Size Matters" 

Kingsley Partners With Jones Media Group

Jones Media Group has partnered with KCCS Productions to distribute **Bob Kingsley's Country Top 40**, which debuted last weekend. Kingsley and his KCCS Productions will continue to produce and oversee affiliate relations for the show, while advertising sales will be handled by Jones MediaAmerica. Radio Express, whose owner **Tom Rounds** gave Kingsley his start in the countdown business, will distribute the programs internationally.

JMG will also distribute *Bob Kingsley With Today's Hit Makers*, a two-minute weekday spotlight on Country music's biggest stars. JMG's Country programming already includes *The Lia Show*, *Danny Wright All Night*, *GAC's Classic Country Weekend With Bill Cody* and four 24-hour country music formats.

Kingsley's 27-year run as host of ABC Radio Network's *American Country Countdown* ended when it was announced in November that Country artist Kix Brooks would assume hosting duties Jan. 21.

Near the end of his ACC run, Kingsley appeared in approximately 56 of the top 100 markets. His new show debuted in about 38 of the top 100 markets. According to Mediabase 24/7, among the stations that carried Kingsley's new show but not the guest-hosted ACC were WMZQ/Washington; KMPS/Seattle; KSON/San Diego; WMIL/Milwaukee; KWNR/Las Vegas; KASE/Austin;

Going For Adds

Now that Christmas has passed and all the holiday tunes are tucked away for another year, it's time to think of filling those empty slots on the clock with new music. Here are the songs going for adds over the next few weeks.

Just a reminder that the first R&R reporting day of the new year is next Monday, Jan. 9. Adds from Mediabase-monitored stations and reports from R&R Indicator stations will be taken beginning Thursday morning, Jan. 5, until Monday, Jan. 9, at 3pm ET. You'll get an **R&R Country Hotfax Update** on Tuesday morning, Jan. 10, with this music information.

Jan. 9

JOHN PIERCE I'd Still Have You (RCA)
KENNY CHESNEY Living In Fast Forward (BNA)
RASCAL FLATTS What Hurts The Most (Lyric Street)
RODNEY ATKINS If You're Going Through Hell ... (Curb)

Jan. 17

GARY ALLAN Life Ain't Always Beautiful (MCA)
KEITH ANDERSON Every Time I Hear Your Name (Arista)
NEAL McCOY Last Of A Dying Breed (903 Music)

Jan. 23

DIERKS BENTLEY Settle For A Slowdown (Capitol)
HAL KETCHUM Just This Side Of Heaven (Hal-Lelujah) (Curb/Asylum)
JOE NICHOLS Size Matters (Universal South)

Jan. 30

SHAWN KING Find Me (Lofton Creek)
TY ENGLAND Redneck Anthem (Triple T/Quarterback)

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"What Hurts The Most"

The new single from the most heard artist on country radio in 2005

Impacting Jan. 9!

WAMZ/Louisville; WESC/Greenville, SC; KUZZ/Bakersfield; and WKSJ/Mobile. Ten other ACC affiliates, including WQYK/Tampa, WUBE/Cincinnati, WQIK/Jacksonville and KSSN/Little Rock, carried both shows.

Kennedy Rises At CBS Radio/K.C.

KBEQ/Kansas City PD/morning personality **Mike Kennedy** has been promoted to Dir./Programming for CBS Radio/Kansas City's four-station cluster, which includes Country KFKF, CHR/Pop KMXV and AC KSRC. He retains his duties as KBEQ PD and will continue to co-host the morning show.

"I'm very excited about my new responsibilities," Kennedy tells **R&R**. "I'd like to help unify the cluster's stations as far as setting goals and accomplishments for the future. We had a good year at KBEQ, and I feel with this new promotion I've got plenty of reasons to celebrate."

Kennedy takes over the position that had been vacant since now-XM SVP/Programming **Jon Zellner** left the cluster in July 2004. Kennedy will report to CBS Radio/Kansas City GM Herndon Hartley.

New Air Staff Howls For The Wolf/Seattle

Entercom launched KKWF (The Wolf)/Seattle with 10,000 songs in a row on Nov. 30, 2005 and extended its uninterrupted musical interlude with another 5,000 songs on Dec. 22. Yesterday at 5am, after 15,728 tunes commercial-free, The Wolf emerged from the den with new morning personality **Fitz** — Corey Fitzner — and his partner **Tony Russell**.

Fitz, newly arrived from overnights at KPLX (The Wolf)/Dallas, had been on the air at a couple of Big D CHR/Pop stations, including KHKZ. Twenty-year Seattle radio vet **Mary White**, who spent 1998-2003 as part of the Ichabod Caine morning show at Country rival KMPS/Seattle, is The Wolf's new morning show producer.

Rounding out the rest of the airstaff for PD **Scott**

Mahalick are KCCY/Colorado Springs, CO MD/afternoon driver **Valerie Hart**, as MD/middays; Clear Channel/Ann Arbor, MI Dir./Ops and WWWW PD **Rob Walker**, as Asst. PD/afternoon driver; KUPL/Portland, OR night talent **Wing Nut**, who will handle evenings; and Entercom/Seattle part-timer **Will Dixon**, who will do overnights.

Big Machine Gears Up New Promo Team

Big Machine President **Scott Borchetta** will soon field a separate promotion team for his label, which had been sharing a promo staff with Toby Keith's Show Dog Nashville. The labels have shared promotion and marketing expertise and expenses since their Sept. 1, 2005 launch. According to Borchetta, the two imprints will continue to share marketing. Both labels will continue with Universal distribution.

Borchetta told **R&R**, "Looking at the 2006 release plans for each label, it became clear to Toby and me that to give all the great artists each of us has signed the attention they deserved, we would need two complete promotion departments."

Show Dog Nashville promotion is led by VP **Denise Roberts**, with Southeast regional **Tony Morreale**, Northeast rep **Suzanne Durham**, West Coast rep **Lisa Owen** and Southwest regional **Greg Sax**, all of whom will continue with Show Dog.

Current Show Dog National Promotion/New Media head **John Zarling** and Show Dog regional **Mandy McCormack** will join Borchetta's new team. All changes will be effective March 31.

Carter Rises To Max Media/Norfolk-Virginia Beach, VA GM

Vonneva Carter has been named GM for the five-station Max Media/Norfolk-Virginia Beach, VA

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"Hells Bells this is a SMASH!"

JD Cannon, WFMS

**RODNEY
ATKINS**

"If You're Goin' Through Hell"

(Before the Devil Even Knows)

The debut single from his new album!

"The first time I heard this it blew me away!"

Kerry Wolfe, WMIL

"Four seconds in and my foot starts to tap... 20 seconds in and I'm hooked... See for yourself!"

Crash Poteet, KTYS

"It's a hit and we are adding it on Monday. We went through Hell with this decision."

Nate Deaton, KRTY

CURB
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Going for Adds January 9th.

cluster: Country WGH-FM, AC WCXL, AC WVBW, Gospel WXEZ and Rock WXMM. In the newly created position, Carter reports directly to Max Media President Eric Mastel.

Carter has been working in the market since 1998. She joined Max Media as Dir./Sales in 2005. Her radio resume includes a stint as Dir./Sales for Entercom's Norfolk-Virginia Beach, VA cluster.

CC Flips WMAD To Country

WMAD/Madison switched from Alternative to "96-3 Star Country" at midnight, Dec. 22, 2005, playing 10,000 songs in a row. It's programmed by **Jon Reilly**, who is also the PD at Clear Channel CHR/Pop clustermate WZEE (Z104). WMAD's new positioner is "The biggest hits, the biggest stars." It will retain the WMAD calls.

Reilly told **R&R**, "With the research and other things we've seen, we felt there needed to be two Country stations in Madison. Plus, our signal is more regional than the other Country station's, so people will be able to hear us in areas they can't hear them."

Reilly will be assembling a complete airstaff. Send your materials to him at jonreilly@clearchannel.com or Clear Channel/Madison, 2651 South Fish Hatchery Rd., Madison, WI 53711. The website is www.963starcountry.com

WWQQ has been the market's dominant Country outlet; it placed second in the summer 2005 Arbitron with an 8.1 (12+), behind only WZEE's 9.1.

\$10.6 Million Perfume Award Reduced

The \$10.6 million award for former WYCD/Detroit air talent **Erin Weber** was reduced to \$814,000 by a federal judge late last month. Weber sued Infinity for discrimination when she was fired after claiming to be disabled by an allergic reaction to another station

This Week In R&R

The Country column features a Q&A with **Kix Brooks**, whose introduction as the new host of *American Country Countdown* is imminent. Brooks discusses the process that led him to the gig, his plans for the show and its effect on his day gig as half of the eminently successful duo Brooks & Dunn.

The Nashville column looks at phase two of the rebranding effort at cable network Great American Country. After a year spent reworking programming and graphic elements, executives are launching a consumer-level marketing campaign for which radio will be a key vehicle. A "New Artist Fact File" with the dry-witted **Jamey Johnson** is also included.

employee's perfume. A jury deliberated eight days before returning a verdict in Weber's favor in May.

In The News....

KOIL/Omaha has dropped Classic Country for Radio Disney ... Active Rocker KDAM (104.7 The Dam)/Fargo, ND is expected to flip for Country next week.

Former WSTR/Atlanta morning producer **Kristen Gates** is the new producer of WKHX/Atlanta's *Craig Cornett in the Morning*. Gates previously was on the air at WBTS/Atlanta and WTSH/Rome, GA ... With the departure of WWWW/Ann Arbor, MI PD Rob Walker to KKWF (The Wolf)/Seattle, Asst. PD **Brian "Bubba" Cowan** has been named interim PD.

C05/Nashville Texas/Midwest promoter **Darlene Dixon** has moved to 2301 Sparrow Drive, Manchaca, TX 78652. Her new office number is 512-291-0009, and her cell and e-mail remain unchanged: 214-906-8514 and darlene@co5music.com.

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Happy New Year! Here's to an **EPIC** 2006!

Gretchen Wilson
"I Don't Feel Like
Loving You Today"

BB: 23* +399 spins

**Call Out is
Kicking In!**

Miranda
Lambert
"kerosene"

BB: 18* +402 spins

**Over 41,000 CD's
sold last week!**



SUSAN HAYNES
"Drinkin' in my
Sunday Dress"

BB: Debut 55* +82 spins

**Already in for Monday:
KZLA & KUSS**

KIZN/Boise, ID held its ninth annual Keep Kids Warm auction and raised close to \$42,000 to help cover heating and utility bills for local families who may need financial assistance over the winter.

Music News

Van Zant, who were previously announced as performers at the CRS New Faces Show & Dinner, have elected not to participate; they have been replaced by **Hot Apple Pie**. **Miranda Lambert** and Van Zant will perform during the Sony-sponsored lunch on CRS Thursday.

The Feb. 19 stop of the **Gretchen Wilson** and **Big & Rich** American Revolution tour at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium will be a benefit for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum's "All for the Hall" campaign.

Reba McEntire's #1's collection has been certified platinum by the RIAA.

Industry News

CMT enjoyed its third consecutive record-setting year, boasting that 2005 was the network's "most-watched year" ever. The fourth quarter closed as CMT's 15th consecutive growth period, ending a year that had the lowest median viewer age to date. The first quarter of 2005 was the network's highest-rated, most-watched quarter ever in the 18-49 demo, the total households number is approaching 79 million, and CMT.com saw a 66% usage growth.

Martha Moore and so much Moore media are now located at 1819 Tula Pace Road, Pleasant View, TN 37146. Phone is 615-746-3994.

Street Talk

Look for a big announcement from **Tim McGraw** in the next few weeks. His camp won't comment

officially, but plans likely include a first-quarter hits package with new material on Curb and a tour. Look for McGraw to also make an entrepreneurial bow, forming a label for outside projects including, perhaps, the soundtrack to a movie. McGraw stars in the late summer 2006 Fox feature *My Friend Flicka*.

The Week In Review

Here are some of the major stories that have appeared in the **R&R Country Daily** since Dec. 20, 2005. Subscribe to **RRC** by visiting our website, www.radioandrecords.com, and clicking "About Us" and "How to Subscribe."

Dec. 20: Sony/ATV Music Publishing Nashville promoted **Troy Tomlinson** to President/CEO, replacing the retiring **Donna Hilley**, who had been with the company 31 years. Previously VP/Creative, Tomlinson will report to Sony/ATV Music Publishing Chairman/CEO **David Hockman**.

Country artists **Shannon Brown** and **Jace Everett** were selected for AOL Music's Breakers program, which showcases six developing recording artists. Previous selections include **Sugarland**, John Legend and Fall Out Boy.

Dec. 21: Clear Channel/Sarasota Dir./Sales **Buddy Lee** rises to VP/Market Manager for the six-station cluster, which includes market-leading Country WCTQ. He replaces **Sherri Carlson**, who was recently promoted to CC/Ft. Myers VP/Market Manager.

The RIAA issues gold certification for **Gary Allan's** *Tough All Over*.

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Columbia Records & Country Radio 2006:

**Here comes our greatest
year-together-ever!**

Starring:

Montgomery Gentry Van Zant
Brice Long Trent Willmon Ashley Monroe
and the long-awaited return of **Dixie Chicks**

Make room on your playlist now!



RANDOM FAX®

Wednesday, 1/4

BIRTHDAYS: Patty Loveless, Deana Carter, Kathy Forester

On TV: ESPN: **Big & Rich**, *National Champion Tailgate Party*; GAC: **Various Artists**, *The Opry, Eight Decades of Great Country "Backstage."*

Thursday, 1/5

BIRTHDAYS: Mark Nesler, Dave Dame, the late Sam Phillips, Shane Jemelka

On TV: GAC: **Various Artists**, *The Opry, Eight Decades of Great Country "Great Moments."*

Friday, 1/6

BIRTHDAYS: Earl Scruggs, Jett Williams, Tim Wall

On TV: GAC: **Various Artists**, *The Opry, Eight Decades of Great Country "Inductions."*

Saturday, 1/7

On TV: CMT: **Carrie Underwood**, *In the Moment*; GAC: **Steve Wariner** (host), **Garth Brooks**, **Travis Tritt**, *Grand Ole Opry Live! Encore.*

Sunday, 1/8

BIRTHDAYS: the late Luther Perkins, the late Elvis Presley, Monty Gregg, Chris Huff, Jack Purcell, Bob Reeves, Joyce Thompson

Monday, 1/9

BIRTHDAYS: Crystal Gayle, Cathy Gurley, Pam Marcy, Zack Owen, Lynn West

Dates & Deadlines

Jan. 10: *People's Choice Awards*, Los Angeles. Details at www.pcvote.com.

Jan. 11: Deadline for CRB Radio Humanitarian Award. Details at www.crb.org.

Jan. 13-14: Nextel Sound And Speed. Details at www.soundandspeed2006.com.

Feb. 8: 48th Annual Grammy Awards, Los Angeles. Details at www.grammy.com.

Feb. 14: Country Radio & DJ Hall of Fame Dinner, Nashville. Details at www.crb.org.

Feb. 15-17: CRS-37, Nashville Convention Center. Details at www.crb.org.

March 28-April 1: 14th Annual Tin Pan South Songwriters Festival, Nashville. Details at www.tinpansouth.com.

May 23: 41st Annual ACM Awards, MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas. Details at www.acmcountry.com.

June 6-12: CMA Music Festival, Nashville. Details at www.cmafest.com

VIDEO ADDS

CMT

JACK INGRAM Wherever You Are

JOSH TURNER Your Man

SHERYL CROW I Don't Know Why

GREAT AMERICAN COUNTRY

No Adds

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ARISTA · BNA · RCA

wish you a

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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