

## News and Contests

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#### JACE EVERETT

[sonynashville.com/JaceEverett/flashsite.html](http://sonynashville.com/JaceEverett/flashsite.html) Even though Epic newcomer Jace Everett has toured Europe extensively in his career, he never had a week like last week with the Country Music Association's "New From Nashville" initiative that took him to Dublin, Glasgow, London with Dierks Bentley. Early mornings and late nights were filled with flights, taxis, radio, television and print interviews, and after two to four hours of sleep he got up and did it all again the next day. Highlights - in addition to performing for appreciative audiences in all three cities - included an appearance on Ireland's prestigious "Early Morning AM" show, several BBC radio and television interviews and a rave review in *The Herald* of his acoustic performance at The Tron Theatre in Glasgow.

Jace is back in the states now and ready to take on the U.S. media to promote his debut self-titled album that hits stores March 7.

#### SUSAN HAYNES:

[www.sonynashville.com/SusanHaynes](http://www.sonynashville.com/SusanHaynes)



On Saturday (1/21) night, Epic recording artist Susan Haynes made a marathon dash between two high profile events. At 7:00 pm, she sang the National Anthem to usher in the Nashville Predators game against the Columbus Blue Jackets. Just prior to the game, the Preds staff played Susan's "Drinkin' In My Sunday Dress" video for the crowd and had her autograph a guitar which they gave away to one lucky fan in attendance. Immediately following the anthem, Susan rushed across the street to the historic Ryman Auditorium to prepare for her performance on the televised portion of the Grand Ole Opry at 7:40 pm. Friend and musical mentor Vince Gill introduced Susan to the crowd as one of his favorite new artists saying she reminded him of Emmylou Harris. He went on to play guitar for Susan on her single and her poignant ballad, "Not That Bad." GAC's "Opry Live" host Nan Kelley grabbed a few words with Susan as she came off stage and the show played a clip of her Predators anthem.

"Drinkin' In My Sunday Dress" is steadily climbing the radio charts and is the number two requested record last week with Jones CD Country (national on 200+ stations).

Watch the fun video by tuning in to GAC or logging on to CMT.com. Susan will release her debut album, *Crooked Little Heart*, in stores on May 2, but fans can buy the album online - anywhere digital music is sold - on February 14.



#### MIRANDA LAMBERT:

[www.mirandalambertmusic.com](http://www.mirandalambertmusic.com)

Miranda Lambert may only be 22 years old, but she's proving to be a seasoned entertainer on the George Strait tour. Early concert reviews are raving about her stage presence, pacing, songs and talent. The *Daily Iowan* reported: "While Strait captivated the crowd for a majority of the show one of the highlights of the evening was the loud, high energy and amazing performance by newcomer Miranda Lambert...She sings, she writes and she is undoubtedly the most high-energy performer I've ever seen." Fargo's *In Forum* warned, "Keep your eyes on this one - she's a real winner," and the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* reported, "The blonde beauty captivated the crowd."

#### MONTGOMERY GENTRY:

[www.montgomerygentryweb.com](http://www.montgomerygentryweb.com)

**24th Annual Televised Colgate Country Showdown National Final Starring Montgomery Gentry &**

**Hosted by Kassie DePaiva****TV Special to be Produced at The Ryman Where Five Finalists Compete for \$100,000**

Nashville, TN - Country music duo Montgomery Gentry will star in America's Largest Talent Search, hosted by Kassie DePaiva of ABC's One Life To Live. The 24th annual Colgate Country Showdown National Final will be produced from the Ryman Auditorium on January 26, 2005 and will air nationwide in March and April over syndicated television with a second airing to follow on Great American Country. The National Final will also be seen internationally on government access channels in more than 175 countries. The one-hour show will feature five regional winners, each competing for the Grand Prize of \$100,000 and the title of Best New Act in Country Music.

**TRENT WILLMON:**

[www.trentwillmon.com](http://www.trentwillmon.com)

Columbia recording artist Trent Willmon is known as a man of many talents - singing, songwriting, cooking, team roping, welding and the list goes on and on. This combination of muscle and heart appeals to the ladies and Trent will be featured as one of Texas' sexiest singles in the February issue of the new Brilliant Magazine ([www.brilliantmagazine.com](http://www.brilliantmagazine.com)). The magazine geared toward "Texas stylemakers and society players" asked Trent about his first pop culture crush (Daisy Duke), his nickname (Crikey, T-Dub), his turn-ons (a great sense of humor) and his super-hero power of choice (leaping over tall buildings - to avoid traffic), among other questions. The aversion to traffic is probably due to Trent's busy radio tour. Last week found him in Phoenix, Los Angeles, Bakersfield, Riverside and San Diego visiting radio stations and talking about his hot new single, "On Again Tonight." He'll be visiting stations in the Southeast this week. February 18 marks his first official show of the year. He'll be performing material from his sophomore album for fans at Greensboro, North Carolina's Arizona Pete's Saloon.

**GRETCHEN WILSON:**

[www.gretchenwilson.com](http://www.gretchenwilson.com)

The Redneck Woman's first headline tour - The Redneck Revolution Tour with Van Zant and Blaine Larsen - kicked off in a big way at the Nokia Theatre in Dallas last week. Fans were treated to cuts from Gretchen Wilson's two Epic albums *Here For The Party* and *All Jacked Up*, and she included an acoustic gospel segment and Billie Holiday's jazz standard "Good Morning Heartache" with her band huddled around one microphone. She also threw in songs by Heart and Led Zeppelin just to show she can rock with the best of them.

The Dallas Morning News' Mario Tarradell summed up Van Zant's performance with two words: "They rocked!" He added, "Johnny and Donnie Van Zant could coast, especially after influential careers in Southern rock's Lynyrd Skynyrd and 38 Special, respectively. Yet they were tight, energetic and passionate."

The guys will be in Nashville this week to tape GAC TV's "Music Mix" and "GAC Nights."

**ARTIST BIRTHDAYS:**

November 10 – Miranda Lambert

November 18 – Jessi Alexander

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