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12/ 14 - Golden Globe Noms for Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, Elvis Presley; Gretchen Wilson Not Worried About 2006

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"WALK THE LINE," DOLLY PARTON, ELVIS PRESLEY: GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. (AP) _ Next month's Golden Globe nominations will have a heap o' music attached. Among the nominees in various categories are the Johnny Cash biopic "Walk the Line" and stars Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon, who play Cash and his wife June Carter Cash. Dolly Parton called it "a great honor to be nominated for a Golden Globe Award," for her song "Travelin' Thru" from the film "Transamerica." She calls the film "wonderful and touching." The CBS mini-series "Elvis" also picked up multiple nods. The Golden Globe Awards will be handed out on January 16th in Beverly Hills.

GRETCHEN WILSON: NOT WORRYING ABOUT 2006 BEING A LETDOWN AFTER 2005

LOS ANGELES (AP) _ Gretchen Wilson is having a heckuva year, but she doesn't have to worry about 2006 being a letdown. Most recently, she's won the CMA Female Vocalist trophy, and seen her sophomore album beat her debut CD on the charts. In 2004, "Here For The Party" debuted on Billboards Country Albums Chart at number-one and the Top 200 Chart at number-two. Her "All Jacked Up" debuted at the top on both charts. And on January 18th, she'll kick off her first headline tour in Dallas. She's excited, but not nervous. Wilson says she's "just going to have a lot of fun, and keep doing" what she's doing.

MARTINA McBRIDE, CARRIE UNDERWOOD, LeANN RIMES: NEITHER SNOW NOR COLD...

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) _ Habitat for Humanity is a-half million richer today, because of Martina McBride, LeAnn Rimes and Carrie Underwood. The three performed at Chrysler Financial's Country Cares holiday concert in suburban Detroit and raised \$500,000 for Habitat for Humanity. Money raised by last week's concert will fund homes for evacuees from the Gulf Coast communities damaged by recent hurricanes, including people who have settled in Southeast Michigan.

MIRANDA LAMBERT: GOLDEN 'KEROSENE'

NASHVILLE (AP) _ Miranda Lambert's Christmas is early, thanks to a-half million fans. Her debut album "Kerosene" has been certified gold. She says she was so busy touring and working on her new album that she hadn't been "keeping up with the numbers," so the announcement was a surprise.

KUZZ: BAKERSFIELD COUNTRY STATION OFFERS REWARD FOR INFORMATION ON DISC JOCKEY'S DEATH

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP) _ A radio station in Bakersfield, California, is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the killer of one of its DJ's. KUZZ music director and DJ Karen Garcia was found strangled in her apartment on November 7th. The Kern County Coroner's office has ruled the death a homicide and Bakersfield police are still investigating the case. The reward is being offered through the Kern County Secret Witness program. Anonymous tips are accepted at (661) 322-4040, where callers are assigned a code name and number to claim rewards.

MONTGOMERY GENTRY: HELPING THE SEARCH FOR COUNTRY MUSIC TALENT

NASHVILLE (AP) _ Long before "Nashville Star" or "American Idol" even existed, "The Country Showdown" was finding America's talent. Now celebrating its 24th year, the Colgate Country Showdown's 2006 Competition will feature five women, star Montgomery Gentry and be hosted by Kassie DePaiva. The finals in the competition will be televised from Nashville with five finalists competing for \$100,000. The 24th Annual Colgate Country Showdown will be held on Thursday, January 26th at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium. The National Finals will air nationwide in March and April over

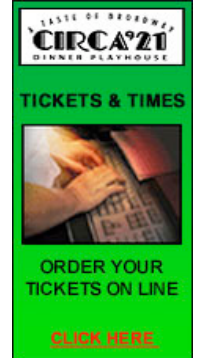
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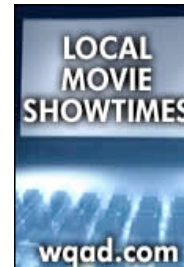
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RHETT AKINS: RESPONSE TO HIS NEW SINGLE

NASHVILLE (AP) _ Rhett Akins new single has people talking. It's titled "Kiss My Country Ass," and it's stirring up all types of feelings. Akins says he's offended by one reviewer's comment that the single should go over extremely well at the next Klan rally. Akins has a set up a Web site to take listeners' comments, and says he's received hundreds of responses in support of the new single. Akins says he wrote the single to be a fun, lighthearted song for everyone who wants to forget stress and really let loose.

DON HENLEY: SECURITY IS AN EIGHT-FOOT-FENCE

DALLAS (AP) _ It's going to be harder to get in to see Don Henley. The Dallas Board of Adjustment on Monday unanimously gave him permission to fortify his front gate and raise the fence surrounding his home to eight feet. He told the board "There's an ugly underside to my business _ stalkers, mentally unstable people." He says he's had a problem with it in Dallas. That eight-foot-high fence is a compromise. He already has a seven-foot-high exemption to neighborhood's normal limit of four feet, and he'd asked to go to nine feet tall. But his neighbors say nine feet would set a dangerous precedent for the community.

RASCAL FLATTS, CARRIE UNDERWOOD: 'CHRISTMAS IN WASHINGTON'

UNDATED (AP) _ Rascal Flatts, Carrie Underwood and CeCe Winans appear on the Dr. Phil-hosted "Christmas in Washington special" on TNT tonight.

by Natalie Windsor

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