

Saturday, April 17, 1982 Austin American-Statesman 39

Meltdown 2 has plenty of talent

An outdoor concert near Lake Travis today, the official debut of Susie Nelson as Willie's singing daughter tonight, a major benefit concert for the Wild Basin Wilderness Sunday, and a visit by the (Nitty Gritty) Dirt Band Tuesday highlight local country music activities this week.

Meltdown 2 is scheduled from 9 a.m. until midnight outdoors at the High Noon Saloon (formerly Cat Mountain Inn) on RR 2222 near its junction with 620.

Cosmic Carl Steele will emcee an impressive program of entertainment, which includes Townes Van Zandt, Mickey White and the Hemmer Ridge Mountain Boys, Pat Mears, the Calvin Russell Band, the Gordie Headlee Band, David Rodriguez, the Seceders (Sweat and Slappy), George Underwood and the Blues Groove, Dinosaurs, Darden Smith and the Clear Creek Ramblers and the Win Brothers.

Lawn chairs are suggested. Food and beer are available, and if the weather is bad, the producers say "try us next Saturday."

The Susie Nelson Band at the Double Eagle tonight gives Austin fans a chance to hear Willie's daughter as a singer. This is an unusually fine band, and I'm sure you'll find Susie's vocals pleasing and surprisingly professional.

She currently is completing an album under a new contract with MCA Records.

In other action tonight, the fascinating Guanelia Pass group is at emmjo's, charming mod folk singer Lisa Gilkyson returns to Austin from New Mexico to entertain again at the Waterloo Ice House, David Ruthstrom performs at Snavely's, and the Dakota band is at the new Stewart Anderson's Cattle Co. restaurant and bar on North IH-35. Dakota also plays there Tuesday through Saturday.

Austin's Grammy and Oscar-award winner Christopher Cross headlines a major benefit for the Wild Basin Wilderness area from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Palmer Auditorium. Steve Fromholz will emcee and perform along with Bobby Bridger, Beto y los Fairlanes and members of Esther's Follies.

Admission is a \$10 tax-deductible membership in the non-profit Wild Basin Wilderness association, and those attending the benefit will receive a



Country music
Townsend Miller

Christopher Cross souvenir book of photos and songs and a year's subscription to the *Wild Basin News*.

Family memberships with three tickets are available at \$25. Patrons at \$100 each can enjoy a cocktail hour with Christopher after the show.

Call 476-4113 for information.

A Marcia Ball Special will be presented on host Larry Monroe's weekly "Texas Music" program on KUT-FM 90.7 Sunday from 9 to 11 p.m.

A decade ago the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, now simply the Dirt Band, pioneered a stimulating blend of traditional country and pop which had great universal appeal. The quality of the group's music and musicians enticed a lengthy roster of Nashville's most famous and popular old guard traditionalists to join the Dirt Band in 1975 in the production of a double album, "Will the Circle Be Unbroken?", which is a classic in country recording history.

The Dirt Band has endured almost intact through the years and Austin fans have the privilege of hearing them again Tuesday night at the Silver Dollar.

George Jones and Hank Thompson are featured on the "Austin City Limits" television series Thursday at 9 p.m. on KLRU.

Next Saturday, Michael Murphy returns to Austin at Liberty Lunch.

A week from Sunday, Porter Wagoner and the Wagonmasters headline a Ben Hur Shrine Temple benefit at Palmer Auditorium with shows at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets at \$10 are on sale at all Stop and Go stores.

A week from Sunday also is the date for the Annual Street Dance on Fourth Street between Colo-

rado and Lavaca to benefit the Kerrville Music Foundation and the Capitol City Playhouse.

Two important events loom ahead. The third annual KOKE "Country Showdown" competition for area country dance bands is scheduled Saturday May 1. Bands interested in competing can call KOKE at 454-2561 for information.

And the third Austin Record Convention for dealers and collectors is slated for Sunday, May 2, at Palmer Auditorium. For information or to reserve table space call Doug Hanners at 444-5035.

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