

CMT Sponsors McGraw/Hill Tour

By Wendy Newcomer

COUNTRY MUSIC TELEVISION IS TEAMING UP with two of today's biggest stars—**Tim McGraw** and **Faith Hill**. The video network announced it will sponsor the 1996 Spontaneous Combustion Tour for a 100-city run, marking the largest, most-sustained sponsorship to date for CMT.

"CMT is proud to be a part of this exciting tour starring two of CMT's biggest video artists and recent CMT Showcase Artist honorees," said **Paul Hastaba**, vp/gm, CMT. "The Spontaneous Combustion Tour is definitely going to leave a fun, hip impression on 100 cities in America." Hastaba added that the tour was part of the mission of CMT to bring a more contemporary image to country music and to capture the "disgruntled VH-1 audience."

Before each show, CMT will throw a pre-performance party for concert goers. The party will include games, prize giveaways, and live audience and backstage celebrity interviews, which will be broadcast on huge screens (along with CMT videos). Before the concert dates, a CMT party host and video crew will arrive in each city to give away tickets and record fan interviews to be shown on-screen at the pre-concert party.

CMT viewers in select tour markets will be able to enter a sweepstakes, with prizes including tickets and tour jackets autographed by McGraw. All entries in each local sweepstakes will be eligible to win a grand prize trip to Nashville for a Tim McGraw concert.

Phillips, Sebastian Headline Tin Pan South

A "PAPA" AND A "LOVIN' SPOONFUL" ARE SET to headline **Tin Pan South '96**, hosted by the **Nashville Songwriters Assn. International** (NSAI) and held April 16-20. Each year, Tin Pan South unites established songwriters and songwriter/artists from across the country for a week-long musical event.

The festival culminates with the **Legendary Songwriters Acoustic Concert** at the Ryman Auditorium. This year's legends are **John Phillips** (The Mamas and The Papas) and **John Sebastian** (The Lovin' Spoonful). Other guests for the evening include **Roger Cook** ("I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing"), **Janis Ian** ("Jesse"), **Randy Goodrum** ("Bluer Than Blue"), **John D. Loudermilk** ("Indian Reservation"), **Michael Masser** ("Saving All My Love For You") and **Allen Toussaint** ("Southern Nights").

Tin Pan South kicks off Tuesday, April 16 at Nashville's **Ace Of Clubs** with the Tin Pan Jam. Performers will include the **Randy Bachman Band**, formerly of Bachman-Turner Overdrive, **Gary Nicholson** and **The Change**, **Webb Wilder** and **Delbert McClinton**.

Wednesday, April 17 will bring artists such as **Alan and Marilyn Bergman**, **Angela Kaset**, **Michael McDonald**, **Jimmy Webb**, **Felix Cavaliere** and others together for Piano Night at the Ace of Clubs. **Green's Grocery** will host **Robert Earl Keen** and **Guy Clark**, as well as **Townes Van Zandt**.

ACM Announces Final Noms

THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC ANNOUNCED its list of final honorees for the 31st annual "Hat Awards." Winners will be announced during the live presentation hosted by **Faith Hill** and **Brooks & Dunn** on NBC Television Wednesday, April 24. Nominees in the following 11 major categories are:

Entertainer of the Year—Garth Brooks, Brooks & Dunn, Alan Jackson, Tim McGraw and Reba McEntire; **Top Male Vocalist**—John Berry, Vince Gill, Alan Jackson, Tim McGraw and George Strait; **Top Female Vocalist**—Faith Hill, Patty Loveless, Reba McEntire, Pam Tillis and Shania Twain; **Top Vocal Group**—Alabama, BlackHawk, Diamond Rio, The Mavericks and Sawyer Brown; **Top Vocal Duet**—Baker & Myers, Brooks & Dunn, George Jones & Tammy Wynette, Shelby Lynne & Faith Hill, and Dolly Parton & Vince Gill.

Top New Male Vocalist—Wade Hayes, David Lee Murphy and Bryan White; **Top New Female Vocalist**—Terri Clark, Alison Krauss and Shania Twain; **Top New Vocal Group or Duet**—4 Runner, Lonestar and Perfect Stranger; **Single Record of the Year (presented to artist(s), producer(s) and record label)**—"Any Man Of Mine," "Check Yes Or No," "I Like It, I Love It," "It Matters To Me," and "You're Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone;" **Song of the Year (presented to artist(s), composer(s) and publisher(s)**—"I Like It, I Love It," "The Keeper Of The Stars," "Standing On The Edge Of Goodbye," "You Don't Even Know Who I Am," and "You're Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone;" and **Album of the Year**—*All I Want* (Tim McGraw), *Lead On* (George Strait), *Waitin' On Sundown* (Brooks & Dunn), *When Fallen Angels Fly* (Patty Loveless), and *The Woman In Me* (Shania Twain).

In Other News...



Capitol artists offered a hand at the grand opening of the Blockbuster Concept Music Store in Nashville. Trace Adkins, Lisa Brokop, Billy Dean, George Ducas and Emilio left their handprints and signatures in cement to decorate the new store's walls. Pictured (l-r): Emilio; Jerry Comstock, president, Blockbuster Music; Scott Hendricks, president and CEO, Capitol Nashville; Ducas; Brokop; Walt Wilson, exec. vp/gm, Capitol Nashville; Dean; and Jerry Geddis, president, Blockbuster Entertainment.

LAST WEEK'S LEAD STORY incorrectly attributed a quote to the late **Minnie Pearl's** husband, **Henry Cannon**. The statement was actually made by Pearl. *Cash Box* regrets the error.

WARNER BROS.' ADMINISTRATION DEPT. announced the promotion of two employees: **Cindy Finch**, formerly director of administration, has been promoted to vp of administration. She will be responsible for human resources, finances, accounts payable and building mgt. **Leigh Bradford**, formerly an administrative assistant, was promoted to administration mgr. Bradford will serve as the company's AF of M and AFTRA contract administrator and is responsible for payroll and accounts payable, among other duties.

THE ACM FINAL NOMS FOR Radio Station are: KZLA, Glendale, CA; WQYK, Tampa, FL; and WSIX, Nashville, TN. **Disc Jockey:** Gerry House, WSIX, Nashville, TN; Carl P. Mayfield, WSIX, Nashville, TN; and Tom Rivers, WQYK, Tampa, FL. **Night Club:** Billy Bob's, Fort Worth, TX; Crazy Horse Steak House & Saloon, Santa Ana, CA; and Grizzly Rose, Denver, CO. **Talent Buyer/Promoter:** Larry Frank, Frank Productions, Madison, WI; George Moffett, Variety Attractions, Zanesville, OH; and Bob Romeo, Don Romeo Agency, Omaha, NE.

MARTY HAGGARD SIGNED WITH Buddy Lee Attractions for exclusive worldwide representation. Haggard, an Avex/Critique recording artist, is currently touring throughout the U.S. and Canada.

HUNTSMAN ENTERTAINMENT, INC. WILL PRODUCE a multi-station remote broadcast April 22-24 from Universal City, Hollywood, CA, the site of the annual **Academy of Country Music Awards** show. **Universal Studios Hollywood** will offer special fly-away trip promotions to participating remote broadcast stations. In addition, a package of daily short form feeds will be made available to stations unable to be a part of the on-site broadcast. Interested stations should contact **Tom Samoray** at (615) 255-1100.