

COUNTRY MUSIC

TOP 75 COUNTRY ALBUMS

APRIL 27, 1996

The square bullet indicates upward chart movement
(G) = Gold (RIAA) Certified (P) Platinum (RIAA) Certified

Last Week Total Weeks

1	THE WOMAN IN ME (Mercury 522886)	Shania Twain	1	57
2	FRESH HORSES (Capitol Nashville 32080)	Garth Brooks	2	19
3	THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION (Arista 18801)	Alan Jackson	3	23
4	REVELATIONS (Curb/MCA 11090)	Wynonna	4	9
5	THE HITS (Capitol Nashville 29689)(P5)	Garth Brooks	5	65
6	BETWEEN NOW & FOREVER (Asylum/VWEA 61880)	Bryan White	6	2
7	TENNESSEE MOON (Columbia 67382)	Neil Diamond	7	7
8	ALL I WANT (Curb 77800)	Tim McGraw	8	28
9	IT MATTERS TO ME (Warner Bros. 45872)	Faith Hill	9	28
10	TIME MARCHES ON (Atlantic 82866)	Tracy Lawrence	11	13
11	SOUVENIRS: GREATEST HITS (MCA 11394)	Vince Gill	10	18
12	HYPNOTIZE THE MOON (Giant 24640)	Clay Walker	12	23
13	LONESTAR (BNA 66642)	Lonestar	13	12
14	JOHN MICHAEL (Atlantic 82728)	John Michael Montgomery	14	51
15	MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS (MCA 11257)	The Mavericks	15	24
16	TERRI CLARK (Mercury Nashville 52699)(P)	Terri Clark	18	31
17	STARTING OVER (MCA 11264)	Reba McEntire	17	24
18	WHEN LOVE FINDS YOU (MCA 11047)(P)	Vince Gill	16	93
19	IV (Arista 18812)	Diamond Rio	19	6
20	I THINK ABOUT YOU (Epic 67033)	Collin Raye	20	28
21	GAMES REDNECKS PLAY (Warner Bros. 45856)	Jeff Foxworthy	21	35
22	GREATEST HITS-FROM THE BEGINNING (Warner Bros. 46001)	Travis Tritt	23	28
23	NOW THAT I'VE FOUND YOU - A COLLECTION (Rouner 0325)	Alison Krauss	22	58
24	NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON (Curb 77659)(P3)	Tim McGraw	26	104
25	OUT WITH A BANG (MCA 11044)	David Lee Murphy	24	31
26	BRYAN WHITE (Asylum 61642)	Bryan White	25	37
27	STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX (MCA 11263)	George Strait	27	28
28	STRONG ENOUGH (Arista 18792)	Blackhawk	29	27
29	THE TROUBLE WITH THE TRUTH (Epic 67269)	Patty Loveless	28	13
30	STAMPEDE (Capitol Nashville 34071)	Chris LeDoux	32	3
31	LOVE LESSONS (MCA 11242)	Tracy Byrd	30	36
32	WE ALL GET LUCKY SOMETIMES (Career 18790)	Lee Roy Parnell	34	28
33	TOOLBOX (RCA 66740)	Aaron Tippin	31	26
34	WILD ANGELS (RCA 66509)	Martina McBride	33	24
35	GREATEST HITS (BNA 66508)	Lorrie Morgan	35	38
36	NO ORDINARY MAN (MCA 10991)(G)	Tracy Byrd	36	94
37	GREATEST HITS III (RCA 07863)(G)	Alabama	38	75
38	PURE COUNTRY (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack) (MCA 10651)(P3)	George Strait	37	177
39	ALL OF THIS LOVE (ARISTA 18799)	Pam Tillis	40	19
40	LIFE'S SO FUNNY (Epic 67045)	Joe Diffie	41	16
41	LIFE IS GOOD (Capitol Nashville 32392)	Emilio	39	24
42	SOME THINGS ARE MEANT TO BE (Arista 18804)	Linda Davis	43	10
43	GREATEST HITS VOL II (MCA 11201)(P3)	Reba McEntire	45	127
44	DARYLE SINGLETARY (Giant 24606)	Daryle Singletary	44	26
45	GREATEST HITS (Warner Bros. 46017)	Little Texas	47	24
46	WHAT A CRYING SHAME (MCA 10961)(P)	The Mavericks	46	110
47	SMOKIN' ARMADILLOS (MCG/Curb 12119)	Smokin' Armadillos	42	3
48	JUNIOR HIGH (MCG Curb 77783)	Junior Brown	48	7
49	IN PICTURES (RCA)	Alabama	50	32
50	OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER (Columbia)	Wade Hayes	49	63
51	RICOCHET (Columbia 67223)	Ricochet	51	7
52	YOU MIGHT BE A REDNECK IF... (Warner Bros. 45314)(P)	Jeff Foxworthy	53	82
53	BLACKHAWK (Arista 18708)(P)	BlackHawk	52	108
54	A THOUSAND MEMORIES (Decca 11098)	Rhett Atkins	54	54
55	READ MY MIND (MCA 10994)(P2)	Reba McEntire	55	99
56	WAITIN' ON SUNDOWN (Arista 18765)(P)	Brooks & Dunn	56	77
57	SUPER HITS (Columbia 64184)	Willie Nelson	58	84
58	GONE (Reprise 46051)	Dwight Yoakam	57	21
59	SUPER HITS (Epic 64182)	Charlie Daniels	60	68
60	BRAND NEW MAN (Arista 18658)(P4)	Brooks & Dunn	61	237
61	KICKIN' IT UP (Atlantic 82559)(P3)	John Michael Montgomery	59	91
62	TAKE ME AS I AM (Warner Bros. 45389)	Faith Hill	62	113
63	NASCAR: HOTTER THAN ASPHALT (Columbia 67510)	Various Artists	63	7
64	YOU GOTTA LOVE THAT (Atlantic)	Neal McCoy	64	59
65	COME ON COME ON (Columbia 4881)(P3)	Mary Chapin Carpenter	65	187
66	HARD WORKIN' MAN (Arista 18716)	Brooks & Dunn	67	149
67	THE TRACTORS (Arista 18728)	The Tractors	69	84
68	YOU STILL GOT ME (Giant 24639)	Doug Supernaw	70	14
69	THIS THING CALL WANTIN' AND HAVIN' IT ALL (Curb 77785)	Sawyer Brown	RE-ENTRY	
70	THE HITS: CHAPTER 1 (Mercury 528536)	Sammy Kershaw	72	28
71	WINGS (Decca 11261)	Mark Chesnutt	71	24
72	WHEN FALLEN ANGELS FLY (Epic 64188)(G)	Patty Loveless	74	81
73	STANDING ON THE EDGE (Capitol Nashville 28495)(G)	John Berry	66	55
74	NOT FADE AWAY (REMEMBERING BUDDY HOLLY) (Decca 11260)	Various	68	13
75	LEAD ON (MCA 11092)(P)	George Strait	75	71

Album Reviews By Wendy Newcomer



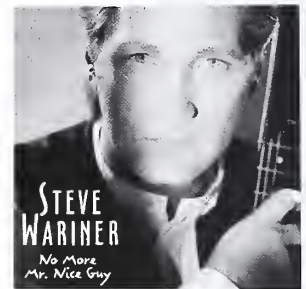
■ SHENANDOAH: *Now And Then* (Capitol Nashville 7243-8-35352-2-4)

Following the current trend of greatest hits packages, Shenandoah has released a "best of" collection that also includes five new songs. Fueled by its first release, "All Over But The Shoutin'," *Now And Then* is a retrospective of one of the most enduring bands—enduring career ups and downs, legal battles and bankruptcy to finally come out

on top of the charts. Trained ears will notice that the band's greatest hits (among them, "Sunday In The South," "Church On Cumberland Road," "Mama Knows" and "I Got You") are actually re-recorded versions that retain the charm of the originals. As for the new cuts, songs such as "Lonely Too Long" and "Deeper Than That" prove that "Now" or "Then," Marty Raybon and the boys have that undefinable but undeniable magic.

■ STEVE WARINER: *No More Mr. Nice Guy* (Arista 07822-18814-2)

No More Mr. Nice Guy begins with a duet from the two nicest guys in country music—Wariner and Vince Gill. In fact, the album's title is a half-serious attempt to break that admirable-but-stagnating "nice guy" tag that has followed Steve Wariner throughout his tenure in the business. *No More...* accomplishes this not by having Wariner hurl auditory insults at his audience a la Howard Stern, but by showcasing his dangerously diverse talents on the guitar. Wariner, with the help of fellow guitarists whom he admires, covers all bases (and musical genres) on this mostly instrumental album. Special guests including Chet Atkins ("Big Hero, Little Hero"), Larry Carlton & Randy Goodrum ("The Theme"), Leo Kottke ("Don't Call Me Ray"), and Lee Roy Parnell & Richie Sambora ("Guitar Talk") make this project a thoroughly satisfying experience.



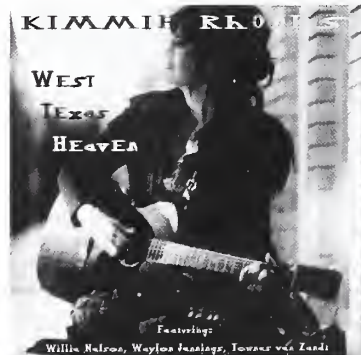
■ TOBY KEITH: *Blue Moon* (A&M 314-531-192-2AD)

Of all the current artists who add the label of "songwriter" to their resumes, Toby Keith is among the very few who can, time after time, hit the mark with self-penned songs. "Does That Blue Moon Ever Shine On You" is the first single and a prime example of Keith's songwriting prowess. Other cuts on *Blue Moon* that embody Keith's gift and show radio promise include the remorseful "She's Perfect," the romantic "Me Too," and the macho-but-humorous "Hello." Keith's relaxed, heard-but-not-seen personae doesn't scream "look at me"—but the music undoubtedly makes his presence known.

PICK OF THE WEEK

■ KIMMIE RHODES: *West Texas Heaven* (Justice Records 2201-2)

The debut album from singer/songwriter Kimmie Rhodes is so entrancing that it's easy to forget you're listening to a CD instead of a private concert. The intimacy of Rhodes' music is woven throughout *West Texas Heaven* in songs like "Hard Promises To Keep" (covered by Trisha Yearwood on her third album) and "Be Mine." Rhodes also knows how to add a little acoustic rock



and blues when needed ("Git You A Job," "Home John"). Although she's considered a new artist, Rhodes already has a fan club that includes Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Joe Ely and Townes Van Zandt (all appear on the album). While her voice is probably not booming (or formulaic) enough for mainstream country to immediately catch on, the angelic quality of its sound is certainly "enough" for lovers of moving, spellbinding country music.