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Country Music: Humane Society benefit at Armadillo

By TOWNSEND MILLER
Special to the American-Statesman

The coming week on the live country music scene in Austin is a good one, with lots of variety. Friday night gets it off to a good start with Dennis McDaniel and the Balcones Backyard Bluegrass group heading up the increasingly-popular regular Friday night bluegrass session at the Split Rail this week. Master guitarist Roy Buchanan plus The Point, although they can hardly be called country, share a billing at Armadillo World Headquarters.

Friday and Saturday nights Townes Van Zandt will be rejoined by his delightful musical sidekicks from Houston, flat-pickin' guitarist Mickey White and bassist Rex Bell, who have a hilarious act of their own, for an intriguing reunion at Castle Creek. Austin's two fine new downtown clubs will showcase Poor Crow at the Boondocks and the Michael James Band at Dejah's, and Joe Valentine has promised Felix Girod at the Cricket Club that he can and will "kindly make it country."

Sunday night at 4 p.m. the Humane Society of Austin is holding a benefit at Armadillo. Animal lovers who have agreed to contribute their musical talents include Rick Stein and the Alley Cats, the Reynold Sisters and the New Oso Band, Rob Moserman's Silver City Saddle Tramps, T. Gosney Thornton, and Zero and the Blue Football. Proceeds will help the Society keep its splendid Animal Shelter operating. Sunday afternoon the Austin Friends of Traditional Music will hold its monthly pickin' and singin' meeting at 3 p.m. at the Split Rail, followed at night by the Silver City Saddle Tramps.

Tuesday through Saturday songwriter Guy Clark will be welcomed to Austin at Castle Creek in what should prove to be an exciting week.

Soap Creek Saloon features two superb groups on successive nights Wednesday and Thursday. Marcia Ball and the Misery Brothers followed by the Lost Highway Band, which I praised so highly for their fine musicianship and on-stage showmanship when they recently returned to Austin.

Looking ahead, Gene Watson will be at the Silver Dollar a week from Saturday, and the Charlie Pride Show, with Gary Stewart and Dave and Sugar, comes to Municipal Auditorium a week from Sunday.

amusements

Country Calendar

(Compiled from information furnished by musicians, club owners, and agents.)

Friday, Jan. 9 — Rusty Weir on KLBN "Austin City Limits" television series at 8 p.m. (repeated Monday 11 p.m.); Dennis McDaniel and Balcones Backyard Bluegrass at Split Rail; Country No Notes at El Paso Cattle Co.; Country Edition at Silver Dollar; Bob Wilson and Texas Swing Band at Broken Spoke; Country Springs at Skyline; Roy Buchanan plus The Point at Armadillo; Moods of Country Music at Deseo; Country Music Revue at Chapparal.

Friday and Saturday — Michael James Band at Dejah's; Poor Crow at Boondocks; Townes Van Zandt with Mickey White and Rex Bell at Castle Creek; Joe Valentine at the Cricket Club; Brad Bellew at Holiday on South; Dusk Sneed at Marshall Ford Inn; Joe Valentine at Cricket Club; Mary Ann and the Hayseeds at Starthom.

Saturday only — Texas Swingsters at El Paso Cattle Co.; Country Edition at Silver Dollar; Bob Wilson at Broken Spoke; Dusk Lynch at Sixth Creek; Bill Hendersen at Deseo; Country Revue at Armadillo; Brad George at Light Rail.

Sunday only — Austin Humane Society benefit with Rick Stein, Reynolds Sisters and the New Oso Band, Silver City Saddle Tramps, T. Gosney Thornton, and the Blue Football at Armadillo (4 p.m.); Austin Friends of Traditional Music monthly pickin' session (3 p.m.) at Silver City Saddle Tramps (3 p.m.) at Split Rail; Country Edition at El Paso Cattle Co.; Country Music Revue at Silver Dollar; Joseph Hulsey at Broken Spoke; Wizzard Brice at Deseo.

Monday through Saturday — Buddy Arnold at Saddle Club.

Monday only — Bill Neely, Larry Kirby

(See COUNTRY, Page 44)

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PG
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