

Crook & Chase, Emery celebrate Nashville news

BY BEVERLY KEEL • APRIL 10, 2008

Ralph Emery joined **Lorianne Crook** and **Charlie Chase** on the set of their RFD-TV show on Wednesday to celebrate the news that Comcast now offers the cable network to Middle Tennessee subscribers.

After the taping of *Crook and Chase* featuring guests **Phil Vassar**, **James Otto** and **Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers**, the broadcasters strolled over to a nearby reception celebrating Nashville-based RFD-TV's relationship with Comcast. **Ray Stevens**, **Kitty Moon** and *American Profile's* **Sam Payne** and **David Mudd** were among those in attendance.

You can now view RFD-TV on Comcast Digital Preferred's channel 136. "Initially I had a large number of requests for RFD-TV, probably as many as any channel in the five years I've been here," Comcast's **John Gauder** said.

Ralph, who personally campaigned to get Comcast to carry RFD-TV here, said, "You don't know" how special this day was for him. "I've looked forward to this day for almost a year," said Ralph, who started his show there last spring. "We had discussed trying to break through with Comcast for many months and finally it happened."

Charlie compares RFD-TV's excitement and growth momentum to that of The Nashville Network, "To see it again is very refreshing and exciting," Charlie said.

Lorianne said, "There are so many things to celebrate— seeing old friends like the Gatlin Brothers, meeting new stars and getting to present their music, like James Otto and Phil Vassar, and knowing that RFD is growing the way it is... There's a lot to celebrate."

Lorianne compared resuming the *Crook and Chase* TV show with Charlie to riding a bicycle: "Oh yeah, I know how to do this."

White talks with Rolling Stone(s)

Nashville rocker **Jack White** is sandwiched between **Mick Jagger** and **Keith Richards** on the April 17 cover of *Rolling Stone* — and I don't recall ever seeing him look happier.

Jack, 32, who appears in the Martin Scorsese-directed **Rolling Stones** documentary *Shine A Light* (now playing on the IMAX screen at Opry Mills), is interviewed with Keith, 64, by the magazine's **David Fricke**.

Jack didn't see the Stones live until the **White Stripes** opened for them in 2002, but he and Keith quickly bonded.

What did Jack learn from the Stones? "How good they are," he told David. "You could see the comfort level between them, in Keith's guitar playing and **Ron's (Wood)** slide playing. It's impressive, man, when that confidence is exuded."

Black laughs way to next round

Clint Black, who premiered his talents as a stand-up comic, made it to the next round of CBS' *Secret Talents of the Stars* on Tuesday. He wrote and performed a two-minute comedy routine.

"I'm used to performing in front of an audience, but as I have said before, it's a whole different thing once the guitar is removed from the mix," Black said in a release. "Now I've got to get busy coming up with some new material. I don't know how these professional comedians do it!" His next round airs live on April 22.

Morsels

- The Style Network's **Donnie Brown**, who designed the wedding of **LeAnn Rimes** and **Dean Sheremet**, will attend next week's Nashville Film Festival.

- *Nashville Star* judge **Anastasia Brown** will hold a workshop and sign copies of her new book, *Make Me a Star*, on Tuesday from 5–8 p.m. at Building 8 in The Factory in Franklin.

- Opry star **George Hamilton IV** headlines the annual "Viva Las Vegas" Rockabilly Festival in Las Vegas this weekend. He was inducted into the Rockabilly Hall Of Fame in 2006 and began his music career touring with fellow Rockabillies **Buddy Holly**, **Gene Vincent** and **Eddie Cochran**.

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