

LET'S TALK

STAR NOTES

Kentucky senior loves country singer Vince Gill

By Taylor Michaels

Q: I am a 73-year-old lady. I love that Vince Gill. I would like to have a picture of him. His song "When I Call Your Name" is my favorite. My sister is crazy about him, too. We watch him on TV when we can. —*Jessie Thurman and Hazel Cox, Bardonia, Ky.*

A: Write Gill in care of MCA Records, 1514 South Street, Nashville, Tenn., 37212.

Q: I think James Spader is a very talented young actor and would like to write him if you have an address. —*Patsy Bonman, High Point, N.C.*

A: The actor, best known for the movie *sex, lies and videotape* and his role as a drug dealer in *Less Than Zero*, can be reached in care of U.M. 8899, Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90048.

Q: Bob Barker is one of our favorites! How long was he married and how long has he been a widower? Did they have any children? —*M. Banks, Red Wing, Minn.*

A: Barker's agent, Henri Bollinger, says the host of *The Price Is Right* was married about 35 years, and has been a widower for 10 years. The couple had no children. Barker fills his time away from the game show with karate, reading, traveling and studying the Civil War. He also makes time for the animal-rights movement, of which he is one of its most eloquent proponents. He claims he also excels at lying in the sun doing absolutely nothing. It's hard to believe he has time to do nothing!

Q: I would like to have Bob Hope's address to tell him my cousin, who used to be his M.C., died and let him know about the details. —*Blaine Dunblazier, Wadena, Minn.*

A: Write to Hope Enterprises, 3808 Riverside Drive, Suite 100, Burbank, Calif. 91505.

Q: On a recent episode of *Hill Country Nights* which Reba McEntire hosted, there was a clip of her singing. It appeared she was wearing some kind of hearing device in both ears. Does she have a hearing problem? —*Lisa Johnson, Zumbrota, Minn.*

A: As far as I know, the singer does not have a hearing problem. Many vocalists use a headset while performing on stage so that they can clearly hear the mix of their voice with the



Vince Gill

music of the rest of the band, which is difficult when standing between those concert-sized speakers.

Q: I am a big fan of Don Mattingly, the first baseman for the New York Yankees. I want some information on him. How old is he? When was he born? I would love to have his address. What are his favorite foods and television shows? What kind of car does he drive? Who does he think was the hardest team they played last year? —*Josh Brinkley, Nashville, Tenn.*

A: Mattingly was born in Evansville, Ind., on April 20, 1961. Mattingly, his wife, Kim, and his three children (Taylor Patrick, Preston Michael and Jordan William) have two homes, one in Evansville, Ind., and one in Tenafly, N.J. In high school, Mattingly was involved in baseball, basketball and football. In his spare time, Mattingly enjoys playing racquetball. In 1987, Mattingly and his wife opened a restaurant in Evansville called Mattingly's 23 (his number is 23). For each home run Mattingly makes, he donates \$1,000 to help underprivileged children in New York City get the medical care they need. I don't know what kind of car he drives or his favorite food or his favorite television show. You can ask him when you write to him in care of the New York Yankees, Yankee Stadium, Bronx, N.Y., 10451.

Send your questions about the world of entertainment to Let's Talk, Features Dept., P.O. Box 961009, Fort Worth, Texas, 76161-1009. Please do not send return envelopes; your questions will be answered within this column.

Tritt takes awards hype in stride

By Candy Clark

"Call someone who'll listen and might give a Here's a quarter, call someone who cares." So sings country crooner Travis Tritt. He and others like him — namely Garth Brooks and Clint Black — have made the world stand up and take notice of country music and in the process accumulated millions of new fans.

With Black and Lorrie Morgan, Tritt is co-host of *The 27th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards*, airing Wednesday, April 29, on NBC. While most performers would be at least a little bit nervous, Tritt isn't.

"I really enjoy working with Clint and Lorrie and they are a lot like me," he says. "They like to have fun and cut up and don't take it all too seriously. I think we've got a good chemistry between the three of us."

Amazing as it seems, Tritt really doesn't take all the hoopla seriously. He doesn't even know which four awards he has been nominated for.

"I can't keep up with all this stuff anymore," says Tritt. "They call me and give me everything in one lump sum. They told me I had some nominations for the Grammys, ACM awards, Music City News ... and it seems like there is an awards show on every other week."

Tritt appreciates being recognized for his work, though. "It's a dream come true," he says of his success in country music. "I look around and I pinch myself a lot."



Don't spoil nature ... leave only footprints.