

R-E-S-P-E-C-T-ed McEntire opens tour tonight in G. Rollie

By Keith Spera

REVIEWER

One of the biggest stars in the music industry has chosen College Station to be the starting place for her latest concert tour.

Reba McEntire, who has been the Country Music Association's Female Vocalist of the Year for a record-breaking four consecutive years, performs tonight at 8 in G. Rollie White Coliseum. She is bringing along what just might be the next big thing in country music — Ricky Van Shelton — to open the show.

How big a deal is this concert? It's national news. The nationally-televised show *Entertainment Tonight* has filmed some of Reba's rehearsals this week, and is scheduled to air a segment about her tonight. The show also is supposed to mention College Station as the starting point of the tour, Jenny Boler, McEntire's publicist, says.

Both McEntire and Shelton have left their mark on the music industry. McEntire has had five albums go gold in the last three years, including her latest release, *Reba*. Shelton has released two albums, both of which have gone gold.

Both artists' latest albums are listed in the *Billboard* Country Top 10, and both have singles in the Top 20.

McEntire has received the Top Female Vocalist of the Year Award (1985-1988) and the Video of the Year Award in 1987 from the Academy of Country Music.

Music City News has chosen her Female Artist of the Year for three years. The Country Music Association named her the 1986 Entertainer of the Year, as well as Female Vocalist of the Year.

TNN Viewer's Choice Awards dubbed her 1988's Favorite Female Vocalist. She received a Grammy in 1987 for Best Country Vocal Performance. She was listed in a 1988 Gallup Poll Youth Survey as one of the Top 10 Female Vocalists.

Not a bad track record for someone who at one point was a quarterhorse barrel-racer on the rodeo circuit. McEntire was raised on an Oklahoma ranch and apparently developed the riding skills of her father and grandfather.

Her involvement with the rodeo world proved to be a the start of her professional singing career, for she received her first big show biz break at a rodeo. A Nashville songwriter heard her sing the national anthem at the 1975 National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City, and she was on her way.

A year later, she was signed to Polygram Records, and released her self-titled debut album in 1978. In 1984, she teamed up with MCA's Jimmy Bowen, and her climb to the top took off. Now, her fame has reached the point that she sold out her debut performance at New York's Carnegie Hall and was invited to do a TV special with Bob Hope.

Steve Tunnell of KORA-FM, the local country and western station that is promoting the show with A&M's MSC Town Hall, says that "When you talk about superstars, there's only three or four. There's Randy Travis, the Judds, George Strait, and Reba."

And what about Ricky Van Shelton? "Ricky is on his way to superstar status," Tunnell said. "Both of these artists are extremely popular at KORA from a request standpoint."

Tunnell ain't just whistlin' Dixie when he's talking about local popularity. More than 3,000 tickets to the



Reba McEntire Photo courtesy of MCA Records

concert were sold less than two hours after they went on sale. About 200 tickets are left.

Laura Croteau, Town Hall's faculty adviser, said, "I think the double bill (of Shelton and McEntire) is the reason we're at the sell-out point. I think that if Reba had come by herself, the show would not have sold as well. It's a good package."

Shelton will perform songs from his long (and growing) list of hits. Probable choices include his first number one hit, "Crime of Passion," from the *Wild-Eyed Dream* album, and his current charting single,

"From a Jack to a King," from *Loving Proof*.

McEntire's repertoire is even longer, with a string of hits from the 15 albums she has released. Almost certain to be included are "Sunday Kind of Love," "New Fool at an Old Game," and her sassy version of "Respect," both from *Reba*.

She has been known to perform in concert songs she hasn't recorded, including Elton John's "Candle in the Wind," which she has performed in the past as a tribute to Patsy Cline.

Tickets are still on sale at Rudder Box Office for \$15.50.

Town Hall Welcomes Novus/RCA Recording Artist

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Tuesday, February 14
ST. VALENTINE'S DAY
8:00 p.m.
Rudder Theatre
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1500 Harvey Road 693-7796	315 College Ave 693-7796
HER ALIBI (PG) 7:05 9:25	Harry Crumb (PG-13) 7:25 9:25
NAKED GUN (PG-13) 7:20 9:30	Fly II (R) 7:00 9:10
WORKING GIRL (R) 7:00 9:20	Tap (PG-13) 7:15 9:20

SCHULMAN THEATRES

2.50 ADMISSION
1. Any Show Before 6 PM
2. Tuesday - All Seats
3. Mon.-Wed. - Local Students With Current ID's
4. Thur.-KORA "Over 30 night"

SCHULMAN 6
2002 E. 29th 775-2463

TEQUILA SUNRISE PG 2:10 7:30 4:30 9:50	MANOR EAST 3 8:23-8:30
BIG PG-13 2:15 7:15 4:30 9:45	DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDREL PG-13 2:15 7:15 4:40 9:50
A FISH CALLED WANDA R 2:20 7:10 4:30 9:45	SCROOGED R 2:15 7:30 4:30 9:45
TWINS PG 2:05 7:20 4:30 9:45	

*DENOTES DOLBY STEREO
PLAZA 3
226 Southwest Pkwy. 693-2457

TRAINMAN R 2:00 7:30 4:30 9:35	MISSISSIPPI BURNING R 2:00 7:30 4:30 9:45
BEACHES PG-13 2:15 7:10 4:40 9:40	ACCIDENTAL TOURIST PG 2:10 7:15 4:40 9:50
THREE FUGITIVES PG 2:10 7:20 4:30 9:45	ANGELIC DECEIT R 2:15 7:20 4:40 9:45

Watching TV gave youths plan for thefts

HOUSTON (AP) — Six high school boys facing charges in two armed robberies of a Houston savings and loans say they got the idea for the holdups from watching television, investigators said.

In both incidents the youths went into the thrift wearing ski masks and carrying several weapons, including a .22-caliber semi-automatic rifle, robbery division Sgt. Ron Alsbrooks said.

The teens, all students at Aldine High School, were taken into custody over the weekend and Monday in connection with two robberies Jan. 20 and Feb. 2 at Farm and Home Savings in North Houston.

The young bandits, Alsbrooks said, "turned the place upside down."

Expert: Japanese consumption, imports up

By Sherri Roberts

STAFF WRITER

Geographically Japan is an island nation. However, it is an island in more ways than one. From an economic standpoint, Japan has followed few of the trends adopted by many industrialized nations, said Edward Lincoln, research associate in the foreign policy studies program at the Brookings Institution.

In a speech sponsored by the MSC Student Conference on National Affairs Thursday Lincoln said Japan, unlike a majority of industrialized nations, has engaged in the same level of intra-industry trading for the last 25 years.

With the exception of Japan and Australia, most countries with similar levels of economic development have increased their trade with each other, he said.

As a result of Japan's large export-to-import ratio, it had an account surplus in 1987 of \$87 billion, the largest in the world, Lincoln

said. Though economically it is diverging from the United States, Japan is slowly responding to pressure from other countries to save less and consume more, he said.

The recent increase in the value of the Japanese yen partly is responsible for macroeconomic changes within the country, Lincoln said. While the dollar has depreciated 150 percent since 1985, the yen appreciated 100 percent, from 260 to 130 yen per dollar in 1989.

Through moral persuasion, the Japanese government is attempting to stimulate consumption levels in the country, Lincoln said. He recalled seeing government-sponsored billboards at airports with the message, "Join hands with the world and import."

In addition, Japanese companies have increased their levels of investment abroad, he said. Because of the risk involved, Japanese companies have been slow to invest resources overseas, he said.

However, the two countries are

engaging in more joint-ownership ventures, he said. One example is an auto company jointly owned by General Motors and Toyota in California. Joint ownership has allowed Toyota to break into the American industry cautiously, he said.

An additional factor accounting for the increases of Japanese consumption levels is the fact that more Japanese are traveling abroad, Lincoln said. Prompted by the increased value of the yen, about seven million of the country's 30 million people traveled abroad in 1988, he said.

This increased level of travel represents a loosening of the rigid work standards ingrained within the country's culture.

This rigid work ethic is largely a result of attitudes held by Japanese over the age of 50, who grew up in the country as it was economically developing, he said. They saw hard work as a means to a better life, he said.

To them, leisure time is wasted time, he said.

BULL DURHAM

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7:30 pm & 9:45 pm

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Midnight

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