

Cowboys may run the field in Dallas, but not in College Station — until Saturday's concert at Kyle Field with Mark Chesnutt, Trace Adkins and David Lee Murphy

First-ever Kyle Field concert kicking it 'country style'

By RHONDA REINHART
Staff writer

This Saturday, Kyle Field trades in its cleats and football helmets for boots and cowboy hats. As part of the Mark Dennard / John David Crow Celebrity Golf Classic, country artists Mark Chesnutt, Trace Adkins and David Lee Murphy are scheduled to perform at the first concert ever to be held at Kyle Field. Event coordinator Mary Jo Prince, said the event organizers wanted to present entertainment for a variety of people.

"We wanted to select a lineup that would provide the broadest appeal to those in the Brazos Valley," she said.

And although all of the scheduled performers are from the country music world, their styles couldn't be more different.

While Chesnutt brings a traditional sound to the show, Prince and Adkins and Murphy have a different approach.

"Trace Adkins is the hottest thing since [the moon]," she said. "He's one of the hottest country stars around. And Murphy adds the party crowd atmosphere to the concert."

Listen to the Music

Chesnutt gained national recognition in 1990 with his debut album, *Too Cold At Home*. The title track shot to the top of the charts, and the hard-working Texas native kept the hits coming. Chesnutt's latest album, *Thank God For Believers*, has also made waves with its title cut. The album contains a wide variety of selections — from heartbreaking ballads to stomping dance tunes, and Chesnutt co-wrote all of the songs on the album.

He also can boast that he won the 1993 Horizon Award for country music.

Evident in all of Chesnutt's music is his admiration for traditional country. With influences like George Jones, Hank Williams and Waylon Jennings, this married father of two is keeping the old country spirit alive.

Adkins, winner of the 1997 Top New Male Vocalist Award from the Academy of Country Music, is in a roll.

His first album, *Dreamin' Out Loud*, went gold with help from hit songs like "There's A Girl In Texas," "Every Light In The House" and "(This Ain't) No Thinkin' Thing."

His current album, *Big Time*, has also hit radio and television airwaves with its first single, "Lonely Won't Leave Me Alone."

Originally from Sarepta, La., Adkins started his music career by singing in a gospel quartet in high school. He later went on to study petroleum technology at Louisiana Tech University. But it was his booming baritone voice that made him a nationally known recording artist.

Kicking off Saturday's concert is "Party Crowd" Murphy. His 1994 single, "Just Once," brought him national recognition, but it was his 1995 "Party Crowd" that hooked audiences on his rowdy musical style. His *Out With A Bang* album includes the popular party anthem as well as the feel-good hit "Dust On The Bottle." Murphy calls the album "Saturday-night-in-a-pickup-truck-with-the-windows-rolled-down-having-a-good-time-party music," and well, that pretty much sums it up.

His new album, *We Can't All Be Angels*, continues this ride through country rock. He has an infectious, high-energy style that is built on a strong songwriting foundation. If Kyle Field had a roof to raise, Murphy certainly could do it.

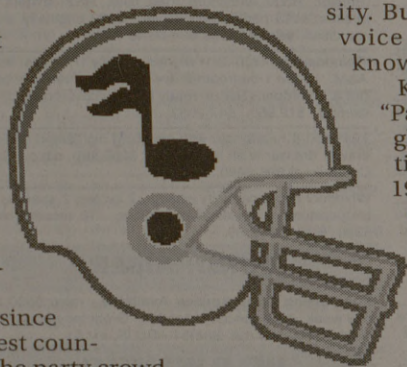
Make History and Make a Difference

All proceeds from Saturday's concert will benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Brazos Valley, the Harvey Little League Association and the Still Creek Boys and Girls Ranches.

Prince said the event organizers wanted to make the concert a family-oriented event.

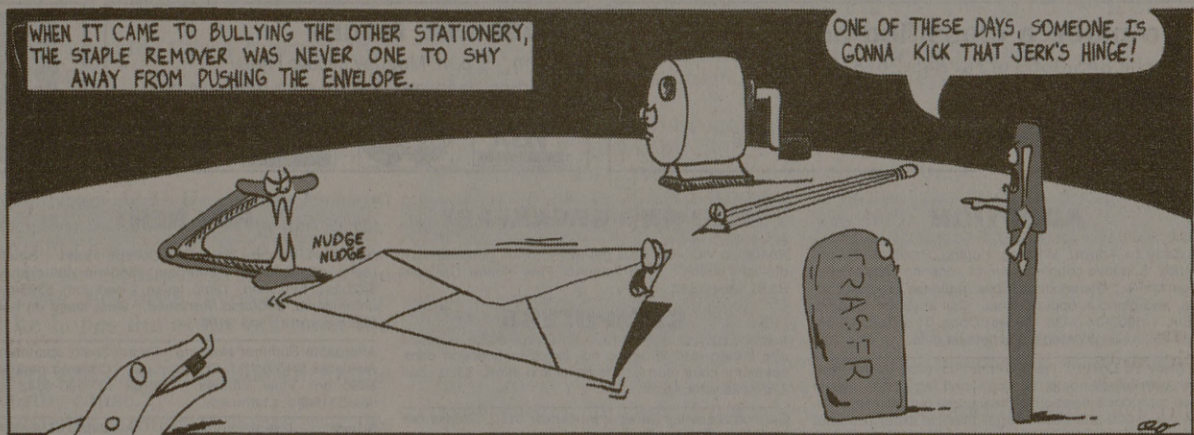
"It's a show kids of all ages can enjoy," she said. "The underlying theme of all this is to help others — especially the kids. That's what it's all about."

PLEASE SEE CHESNUTT ON PAGE 5.



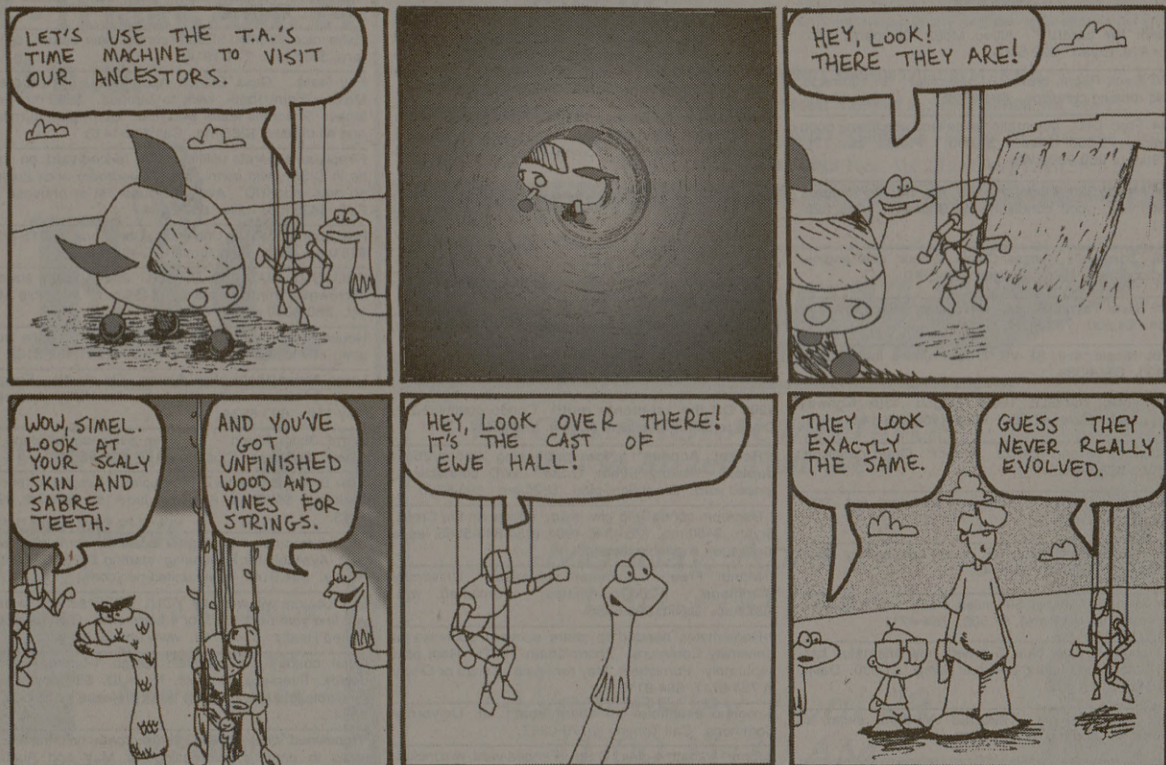
Sketch

By Quatro



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