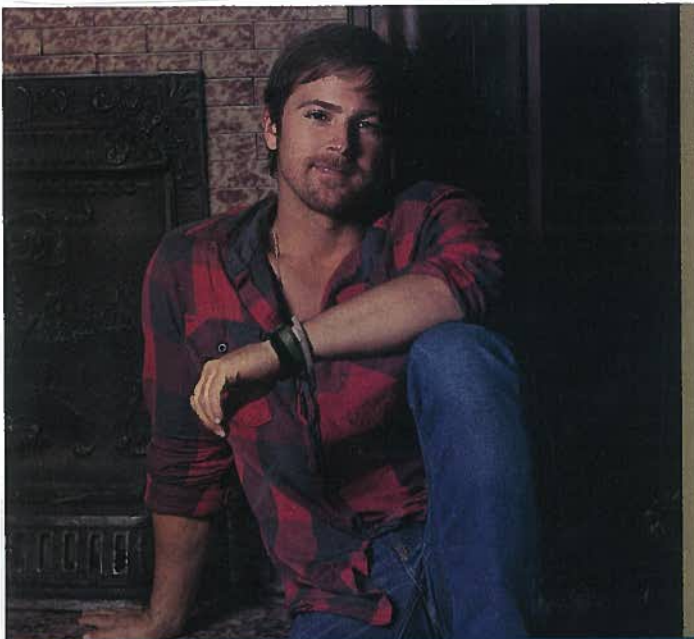


CMA Close Up

APRIL | MAY 2012



KIP MOORE

Growing up in Tifton, Ga., not far from the Florida state line, Kip Moore developed an awareness of how art and music could stir deep emotions from listening to his mother play organ at church every Sunday and from seeing her paintings take shape at home during the week.

His father, a professional golfer, inspired Moore to pursue sports, and he eventually earned a golf scholarship to Valdosta State University. He definitely inherited his dad's love for Jackson Browne, Willie Nelson, Bob Seger, Tom Petty and Bruce Springsteen, all of whom combined poetic lyricism with a gritty performance aesthetic. His restlessness pulled him to Hawaii after high school, but music lured him to Nashville in 2004, where he spent two years learning from songwriter rounds before working up the courage to join in.

All the pieces come together on *Up All Night*, his debut for MCA Nashville. Producer Brett James kept the focus on the artist's rugged edge throughout these 11 tracks, all co-written by Moore. The greasy slide guitar, the crescendo and release with each verse and chorus, and especially the imagination displayed in building a sly romantic lyric from just the image of a vehicle in a farmer's field turns the single "Somethin' Bout a Truck" into a mini-epic with an irresistible beat. Dan Couch co-wrote this one, but that soulful timbre in his voice and his perceptiveness as an observer of life's adventures will be recognized as pure Moore for some time to come.

MUSICAL HERO "Bruce Springsteen." FAVORITE FOOD ON THE ROAD "Pork rinds." SONG YOU'D LOVE TO COVER "Shelter from the Storm," by Bob Dylan." SONG YOU WISH YOU'D WRITTEN "Sunday Morning Coming Down," by Kris Kristofferson." WHAT YOU'D DO IF NOT AN ARTIST "Own a surf shop." FIRST GIG AND HOW IT WENT "Mellow Mushroom. Too drunk to remember." SOMETHING WE'D NEVER GUESS ABOUT YOU "I have the biggest sweet tooth on Earth."

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