

People COUNTRY SPECIAL

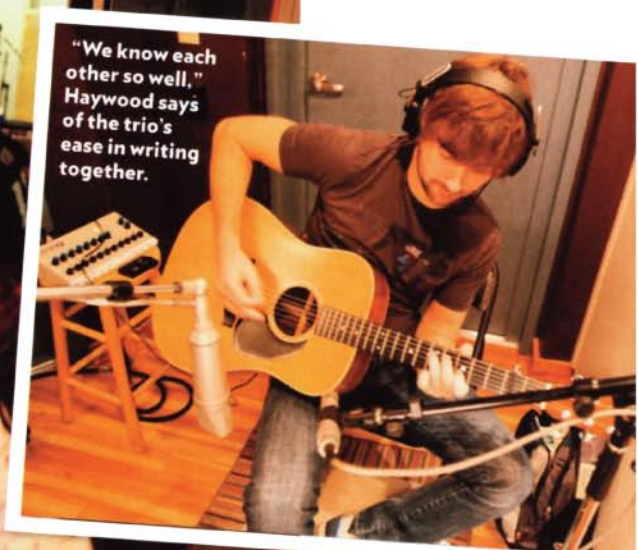
MARCH 2010

Behind the LYRICS



SONGS of the YEAR

Scott in the recording studio in October.



"We know each other so well," Haywood says of the trio's ease in writing together.

THE BREAKTHROUGH

Lady A's 'Need'

The trio finished the year on top with their hymn to heartbreak

THE SONG: Lady Antebellum's "Need You Now," written by Dave Haywood, Charles Kelley, Hillary Scott and Josh Kear. It's the title single from the band's new CD.

IT STARTED WITH THE MUSIC: "Charles just started to learn the guitar, and he used the two chords he knew—the C and E minor—and was like, 'I have this little verse melody!'" says Haywood.

HARVESTING HEARTBREAK: The lyrics had special meaning for Hillary, who had just gone through a breakup. "I was in a devastated place," says Scott. "It was Lifetime movie-esque. I was cheated on, lied to, made to feel stupid." But, she notes, unlike in the song, she said she wouldn't call—and she didn't.

LYRICAL LESSON: "My favorite line is 'I guess I'd rather hurt than feel nothing at all,'" says Kelley. "It's so true. We had that conversation with Hillary, and I told her, 'The fact that you loved so strong that it hurt means a lot.'"



"We've all been there," Kelley says of the song's angst.



RECORD BREAKER

"Need You Now" topped the country singles chart for five weeks in 2009.

NEAR MISS

"I Run to You" was named *Billboard's* top country single in '09, but "it was the dark horse," Scott says. "It was the last song we recorded on our album."

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: ADAM BOLTAN/ROCK THE BROT PRODUCTIONS; JEFF EDDY/WENN