

Eric Church Leads ACM Award Noms With Seven

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — They don't call him Chief for nothing: Eric Church is the top nominee at this year's Academy of Country Music Awards.

The rising country music star has seven nominations for the April 7 awards show in Las Vegas. Hunter Hayes is next with six, followed by Taylor Swift and Miranda Lambert at five apiece.

Swift and Lambert are up for the academy's top honor — entertainer of the year — with Lambert's husband, Blake Shelton, Jason Aldean and Luke Bryan. Swift is going for her third straight win in that category.

Shelton and Bryan will co-host the broadcast, to air live on CBS from the MGM Grand.

Along with naming nominees in a series of videos online Wednesday morning, the academy also awarded trophies in the three new artist categories. Jana Kramer is the new female vocalist of the year, Brantley Gilbert is the new male vocalist winner and Florida Georgia Line took new vocal duo or group, as voted by fans. Those three acts will now compete for new artist of the year.

Fans will continue to have a say in that category and entertainer of the year. Fans can vote in those categories beginning March 25 at <http://VoteACM.com>.

Hayes began an incredible run on the awards show circuit with a nomination for best new artist at the ACMs last year. He didn't win, but has since been on a streak. He won the Country Music Association's best new artist in November, was tied with Swift as the top-nominated country artist at Sunday's Grammy Awards, where he performed, and now takes center stage in Las Vegas.

"It's amazing. That puts it in perspective," a groggy Hayes said a few minutes after his manager woke him up with the news. "I'm kind of feeling like I'm part of the family now, especially now, with this. That's such an honor, such a huge compliment. This is serious. This is for real. This says that my music's been accepted by this community and it's unbelievable — and that's one of the best feelings in the world."

Church's "Chief" is up for album of the year along with Swift's "Red," Bryan's "tailgates & tanlines," Carrie Underwood's "Blown Away" and Little Big Town's "Tornado." Jay Joyce scored a rare double in the category: He produced the Church and Little Big Town albums and will take home a trophy if either wins. He's also up for producer of the year.

"Chief," released in 2011, slipped through a loophole and into the category for the second straight year. Academy rules allow an album to be nominated outside its usual qualification period if it did the bulk of its sales during the next opening. The album reached platinum last year and currently sits at more than 1.3 million copies sold.

That album's inclusion may have cost Zac Brown Band's "Uncaged" a nomination just three days after the band took home the Grammy for best country album. Another potential nominee left off the list was Brad Paisley, who had been nominated every year since 1999.

Church is also up for male vocalist of the year with 2012 winner Shelton, Bryan, Aldean and Toby Keith. Lambert will be going for her fourth straight female vocalist of the year award with Swift, Underwood, Martina McBride and Kacey Musgraves, a newcomer who earned four nominations.

Others with four nominations include Bryan and Little Big Town. That quartet is up for vocal group of the year with Lady Antebellum, which has won the award three straight times, Zac Brown Band, Eli Young Band and The Band Perry.

FRIDAY PRIMETIME/LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 22, 2013. Table with columns for time slots (3:00-1:30) and stations (PBS, KUSD, etc.).

Nicks, Fogerty, More Perform With Grohl In NYC

BY MESFIN FEKADU AP Music Writer

NEW YORK — Dave Grohl and the Foo Fighters played house band for Stevie Nicks, John Fogerty, Rick Springfield and others at a sold-out concert.

Grohl held an all-star, three-hour-plus show with those rock icons, who performed at the Sound City Studios in Van Nuys, Calif., in the late 1960s through the early '90s, and are the subjects of Grohl's just-released directorial debut, the documentary "Sound City."

Grohl kicked things off with Alain Johannes, yelling after the first song: "It's going to be a long (expletive) night. You

know that, right?" It was, and the crowd at the Hammerstein Ballroom roared as Lee Ving of Fear, Rick Nielsen of Cheap Trick, Brad Wilk of Rage Against the Machine and others took the stage.

Grohl played the guitar during most sets, sang background — sometimes lead — and also worked as drummer.

When Nicks, the last of the special guests (or "Sound City Players") hit the stage, she emerged in all black and in glasses. Her raspy vocals were matched by Grohl on "Stop Draggin' My Heart Around." He stared at her while she sang; she put her hands in the air.

Each act performed for nearly 25 min-

utes, and clips of the "Sound City" film played in between their sets. The film explores the then-rusty Sound City Studios where classic albums by Guns 'n Roses, Fleetwood Mac, Tom Petty, Neil Young, Van Halen, Nirvana, REO Speedwagon and others were created.

Wednesday night's performers are part of the line-up for the film's soundtrack, "Sound City: Real to Reel," due out March 12.

"The thing Dave has put together — I've never seen anything like it," Chris Goss yelled when performing with Wilk.

An excited and shirtless Foo Fighters drummer Taylor Hawkins played frontman with Nielsen and Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic.

"I get to sing Cheap Trick songs with Rich Nielsen. What is going on with my life? I can't believe this," the petite rocker said happily as he jumped around on-stage.

Springfield performed his classic "Jessie's Girl," and Fogerty's voice sounded clear when he sang six songs, earning loud cheers throughout his set.

But Nicks slowed down the rowdy and rock-filled night with "Landslide." As she finished the song — and paused — a fan yelled out the last word of the groove to laughs from the crowd.

"Thank you," she said. "You saved me."

Yeun

From Page 7B

years ago about everything," Yeun said. "They have helped me tremendously, I came out of college with no debt. Everything they made, they just poured into my education. The least I could do was ask their permission."

Chicago turned out to be an important launching pad, with Yeun finding success at legendary improv comedy hot spot Second City. In October 2009, he moved to Los Angeles to try to

make it as an actor.

Five months later, he landed the role of Glenn, a sweet-natured former pizza delivery driver who is faced with difficult choices and strained loyalties in an unforfeiting world — and that's before he falls in love with a resourceful Southern belle.

An actor with an improv comedy background might not have been an obvious choice for the role, but "Walking Dead" executive producer Robert Kirkman, who created the popular comic book on which the show is based, said the lightness of Yeun's spirit does inform the character of the show.

"His character is essential in

keeping (the series) from being the unrelenting depressing thing that it definitely has the potential to be," he said. "Anything upbeat or uplifting usually comes from that character. I also think that Glenn's relationship with Maggie is one of the clearest senses of hope that you get from the story."

Glenn's romance with Maggie has made him a heartthrob among a certain set — at Comic-Con International in San Diego in July last year, more than one middle-school-age girl nervously

professed her affection for Yeun during the panel devoted to the series.

"It's flattering and it's cool," Yeun said. "It's also cool to represent that as an Asian male too. I embrace that."

Although the series shoots just outside of Atlanta, Yeun considers Los Angeles his adopted home, and when he's not working, he still does improv, writes and spends time with Agnes, his goldendoodle.

Yeun's continuing to make his peace with fame — being recog-

nized by fans makes him somewhat uncomfortable — but he's optimistic that "The Walking Dead" will serve as a stepping stone.

"I'm very lucky to be on the show," Yeun said. "We have a chance and an opportunity — especially with the numbers we've been drawing lately — to leave a lasting impression on the permanent zeitgeist of the world. Years from now they'll be like, did you watch that show? If you can be a lasting part of that legacy, that's awesome."

Prom PJ Party! One Day Only! Doors Open Early 8AM!! All Remaining 2012 Prom 50% OFF All In Stock New 2013 Prom 20% OFF. Beautiful Baby Contest 2013. We will be featuring our annual "Beautiful Baby Contest" in print and online on Wednesday, February 27, 2013.