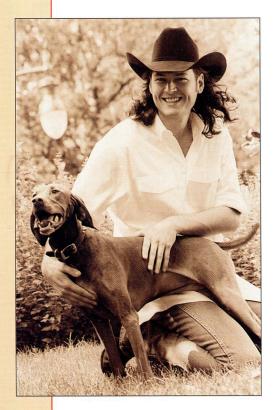
## Blake Shelton



e've got two dogs, Austin and Red. Sound familiar? I was driving my tractor one day and Kaynette was following me in the Gator. The dogs came out of nowhere and jumped right in front of my tractor. They were maybe four or five weeks old at the time. It was a steamy-hot June and the puppies were extremely dehydrated, wormy, and starving to death. We were leaving town that day, going back on the road, so we had to take them with us. They needed to be nursed back to health, so we made many a trip to the vet.



"In return, they have shown us so much loyalty. We're gone so much, but they don't forget. The minute they see our truck, they go crazy. It's amazing how they just know we are their parents. When we are home, we love to squirrel hunt together and they ride on all the farm equipment with me. They are one of the reasons I look forward to coming home.

"It's this simple: Don't get a pet if you don't want one. We feel that our dogs were a gift from a higher power. They were put in our lives for a reason. We took care of their problems, nursed them to good health, and now we have loving, loyal companions. We're the lucky ones!"

