Gwen's New Gig

She speaks! **Stefani** sounds off on playing musical chairs

"I've been making a lot of my clothes for the show!" says the L.A.M.B. designer.

B-a-n-a-n-a-s! *The Voice*'s **Gwen Stefani** was cooing over newborn son Apollo, now 7 months, in her Beverly Hills home when the phone rang. "The call came in: 'Christina's pregnant. Do you want to do the show?'" the No Doubt frontwoman, 45, recalls. But Stefani, also mom of Kingston, 8, and Zuma, 6, with husband **Gavin Rossdale**, 48, had doubts about replacing coach **Christina Aguilera**, 33, on NBC's hit vocal competition (Mondays and Tuesdays, 8 P.M.). "I didn't know what to expect," admits the Fullerton, California, native. "I had a freak-out." She spells it out for *Us*.

Q: Why *did* you decide to sign on?
My 18-year-old niece was like, "You've gotta do it." I said, "OK, if you build me a zip line from my house to the lot, because it's literally right there, I could totally do it."

Q: How's working with your fellow newbie, **Pharrell Williams**?
Pharrell is basically like if Oprah and Yoda had a son. It's unbelievable. He makes everyone cry — even me!

Q: Your husband is Team Gwen's adviser. Were you excited to join forces?
I was nervous. We got into a fight the night before. I was like, "I don't know about this . . ." But he's so talented.

Q: How would you have fared on the show as a new artist?
I couldn't have dealt with the pressure at 17. I can't even say **Stephen Colbert**'s name right on the Emmys!

Stefani (with, from left, Williams, Adam Levine and Blake Shelton) says she "watched every single episode."

THIS SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: MATT SAYLES/INVISION/AP PHOTO; TRAE PATTON/NBC; SHUTTERSTOCK; KATIE YU/ABC; N/C (4); CHELSEA LAUREN/WIREIMAGE; PAULA A. HEBERT/PRESS LINE PHOTOGRAPHERS; GOSSIP-PHOTOS.COM; GEORGE PIMENTEL/WIREIMAGE; JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES FOR SELF MAGAZINE; FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES