

# Opening act for Due West is a star in his own right

Love has never looked so bright, tragedy so bitter-sweet, as through the eyes of award-winning singer/songwriter Andy Hackbarth, who is opening for Due West when they come to the Bear Lake County Fair on Aug. 10.

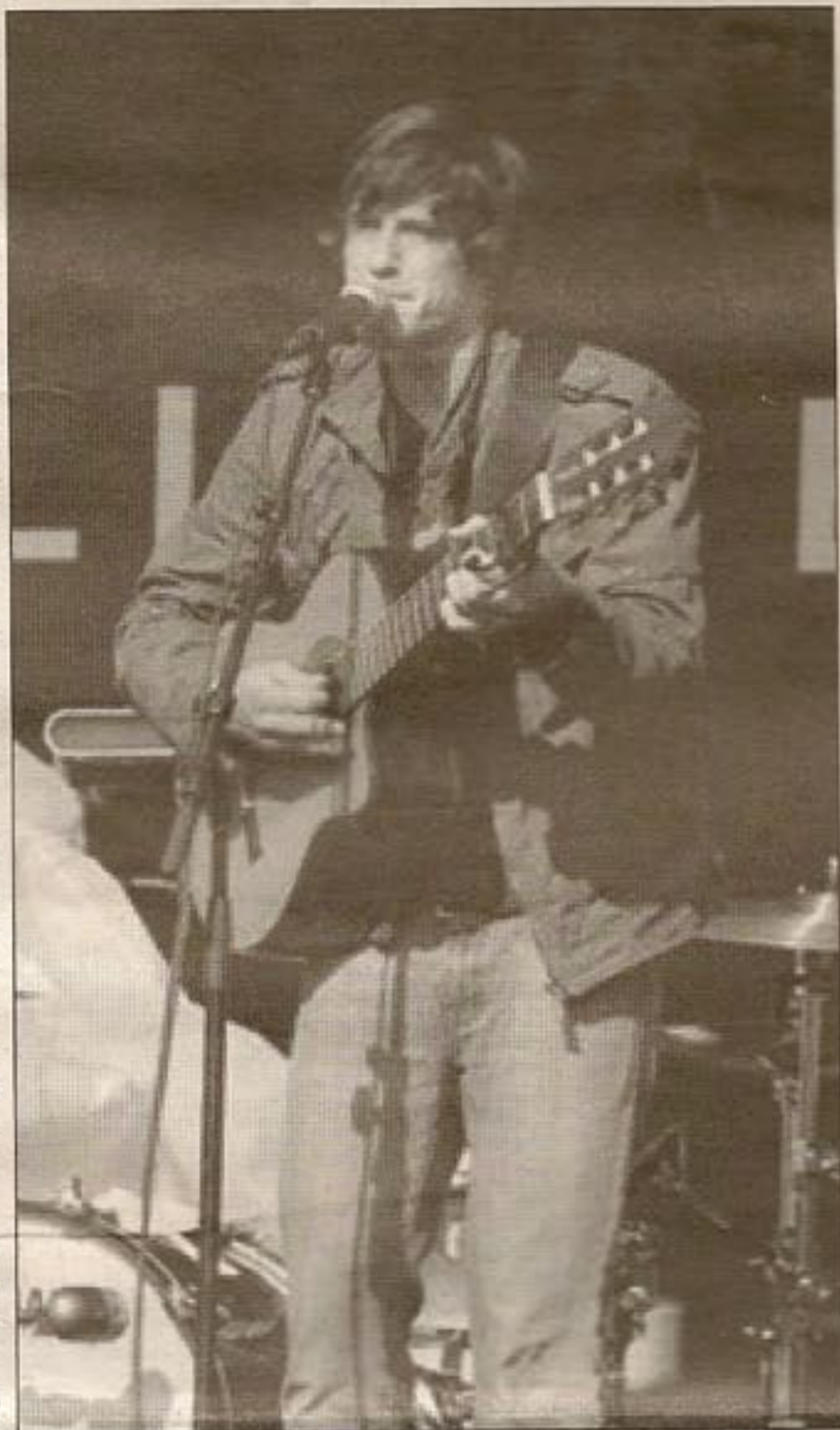
A classical guitar prodigy, Hackbarth was raised on the idea that music can paint colors more vividly than any paintbrush. He does just that, weaving flamenco and classical guitar technique into an arsenal of upbeat, radio-friendly pop/folk songs that are 100 percent, unmistakably Andy Hackbarth.

In 2006, Hackbarth left his parent's llama ranch and the Colorado mountains behind for the bright (neon) lights of Music City, USA--not to become a country singer, but to raise his craft as a songwriter and performer to a new level.

"You don't realize how much you have to learn until you move to Nashville," he said. "Truly great songs are so rare. It's the best feeling in the world to know that you've written a song in which every word counts; one that forces everyone who hears it to stop, really listen, and look at the world in a completely different way."

Although Hackbarth has released two full-length albums independently, his much-anticipated new release, "The Last Love Song," (released April 22, 2010), was the first to premier with national implications. The first single, by the same name, was released to radio in mid-March 2010, and he is now on a full summer tour.

Hackbarth emerged as one of the brightest young stars on the touring circuit in 2009, playing over 150 shows from, quite literally, coast to coast. It included stops such as the legendary Bitter End in New York, the historic Fox Theater in Colorado, the Hotel Café in California, as well as Venice Beach and Nokia Plaza as part of the Los Angeles Triathlon.



ANDY HACKBARTH will open for Due West at the Bear Lake County Fairgrounds on Aug. 10.

Hackbarth has opened for Jimmy Wayne, Lonestar, Katie Armiger, Buddy Jewell, Due West, Blue County, and many others. He was named to the "Top 10 New Artists" list by Soundsugar, and is the winner of several major competitions, including that of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA). Hackbarth was also recently selected as a finalist and honorable mention awardee in the International Songwriting Competition (from a pool of over 15,000 applicants).

Hackbarth's song, "We Ain't Done Yet," was featured by major league baseball during the World Series and aired on over 40 major radio stations. He is also the co-founder of the Nashville-based non-profit, Songs for the Cure.