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Hastings Presents Americana Star Steve Bedunah This Saturday

(Date)Hastings in Sweetwater lands Top Forty Americana star Steve Bedunah for a free concert on Friday, May 18th at 5 P.M.

The Hastings concert will include songs from Bedunah's music CDs *Hand Me Down Land* and the recently released *Plug It in and Play*. The *Plug It in and Play* CD moved quickly to the Top Forty Americana Chart. Bedunah's work has also made inroads into the Country Progressive and Roots genre. The *Roots Music Report* gave Bedunah's first CD a five star rating.

Bedunah has garnered national praise from Robert Oermann, considered Nashville's most respected country music critic. Oermann gave Bedunah's first two music CDs a thumbs up and he is a man that is hard to please. Commenting on "The Johnstons" from *Hand Me Down Land* Oermann concludes in *Music Row Magazine*: "The first thing that catches your ear is the band laying down a twangin', thumping Cash-like groove. The second thing you notice is that you're in the presence of a major songwriter. This darkly dramatic word portrait will haunt you."

Bedunah's song "Plug It in and Play" from the album of the same name received further national attention making the *USA Today Playlist*. His songs have been called "musical literature" by John Shelton Ivany in *Top 21*, a great tribute to Bedunah's song writing talent.

If you like straight country musical fare, Steve's music has plenty of that as well as blues and blue grass and the already noted Americana and country progressive sound. He can move from a foot stomping rhythm to a poetic lament all in the same song and it all makes sense.

Although his music has been compared to the likes of Johnny Cash, James McMurtry, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Guy Clarke, Tom Russell, Townes Van Zandt, Kris Kristofferson, he is a distinct talent, a master of the lyric.

Many of Bedunah's songs are well crafted vignettes of country characters who celebrate life sometimes against overwhelming odds. They are fiery individuals who have country values and a tough determination to triumph no matter what the circumstances. Despite some of the songs dark trappings, Bedunah's use of metaphoric language and high energy rhythms lift the listener to a celebratory mood.

Bedunah hailing from Wichita Falls has been touring the music scene in Texas and other western states.

So come on down to Hastings Friday evening starting a 5 P.M. You don't want to miss this one. If you love country music in all its varieties, you will love Steve Bedunah. You can hear and meet a rising star.

The *Hand Me Down Land* and *Plug It in and Play* CDs will be on sale at Hastings. Steve will be available for autographs or talk shop with any future twangers.

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