

## Brandon Rhyder books acoustic gig in Winnsboro March 13

Written by BY TERRY MATHEWS, News-Telegram Arts Editor  
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Although raised in Carthage, country artist Brandon Rhyder has family ties to Northeast Texas through his wife, Kellie. Kellie's aunt and uncle live in Winnsboro.

Rhyder will be performing an acoustic set at Double C Steakhouse on Thursday, March 13.

The last time we caught up with him, Rhyder was in the middle of a long tour with his band behind the release of "Brandon Rhyder: that's just me."

"We haven't slowed down," he said during a recent telephone interview. "Some days I knew where I was at, some days I didn't."

"Leave," the third single from the record has just been released. It's charting well. A video for the tune will be released soon. The first single, "Haggard," did well as did "Pray the Night."

"There's not any figuring it out [what's going to be a hit]," Rhyder said. "This new single, it's not the 'country-est' of all the tunes. I've always said I write for what comes to me as inspiration. It's in the Top 20 in the first weeks that it's been out there."

While Rhyder loves rocking with his band, he also appreciates the freedom that an acoustic set offers.

"When you're playing with a band, you have a regimented set list," he explained. "You might have an extra song here or there that you can add or toss. When you're acoustic, that means the table is wide open."

Rhyder includes older songs that are currently on the full band set list or songs that are not crowd driven, like his ballads.

"Most of the time, my tour manager has to pull me off the stage," he said of his solo gigs. "I lose track of time."

Rhyder promises to include some Townes Van Zandt tunes in the Winnsboro set. That's reason enough to attend.

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Chris Bevill will open the show at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door for ages 21 and up. For under 21, tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Anyone 18 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Call Justin Cason at 903-342-3111 for more information. Double C is located at 206 Market St., Winnsboro.