

## NEW DITTY

Charlie Daniels pens a new song about the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo.

Country music artists write songs about what they love, and for legend Charlie Daniels, that includes the sport of rodeo.

Now in his sixth decade of producing music, Daniels has written a new song about the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, the cowboys and cowgirls who fight for gold buckles there, and the city of Las Vegas. The song, "It Don't Get No Better Than That," chronicles contestants' battles to qualify for the historic rodeo and their performances in Las Vegas under the bright lights.

The song debuted on iTunes on Oct. 12 and will be available to fans via a free download during this year's Wrangler NFR, Dec. 3–12, on NFR-SocialArena.com. Daniels will donate proceeds from the song to the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund, which helps ProRodeo contestants who are injured and unable to compete pay bills and cover living expenses.

The 79-year-old Daniels, who has performed at the Wrangler NFR dozens of times through the years, says his desire to write the song came from his respect for the cowboys and cowgirls who dedicate their lives to the sport.

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for me," says Daniels, a 2008 Grand Ole Opry inductee. "It don't get no better than that."

The song is rich with descriptions of the sights and sounds of rodeo and will give his fans a greater insight into the Wrangler NFR and its worldwide appeal. Dominated by strong guitar riffs, hard drumming, and Daniels' fluid rapid-fire delivery, the upbeat and up-tempo song is perhaps a bit more rock-n-roll than country and might remind fans of some *Monday Night Football* theme songs from the past.

Its lyrics include the lines, *"To be one of the cowboys headed to Nevada to try for the December Gold/Where the lights shine bright in the clear desert night and the people come to rock and roll/Where the best of the best are put to the test and the rest might as well stay home."*

The chorus continues, *"Got to make it out to Vegas to the NFR where eight seconds in the saddle can make you a star/Where the neon glitters and the party don't ever stop."*

It is fitting that Daniels, best known for his award-winning song, "The Devil Went Down

to Georgia," was the artist who produced the new song, especially considering his deep connection with the rodeo.

"Charlie is a Wrangler National Finals Rodeo icon," Las Vegas Events President Pat Christenson says. "We are proud and excited that he has penned and sung a song that tributes the experience of the Wrangler NFR and the road to get to Las Vegas."

It is a song for anyone who loves Daniels, rodeo, and the Western way of life, and it is sure to have a big presence. —Neal Reid