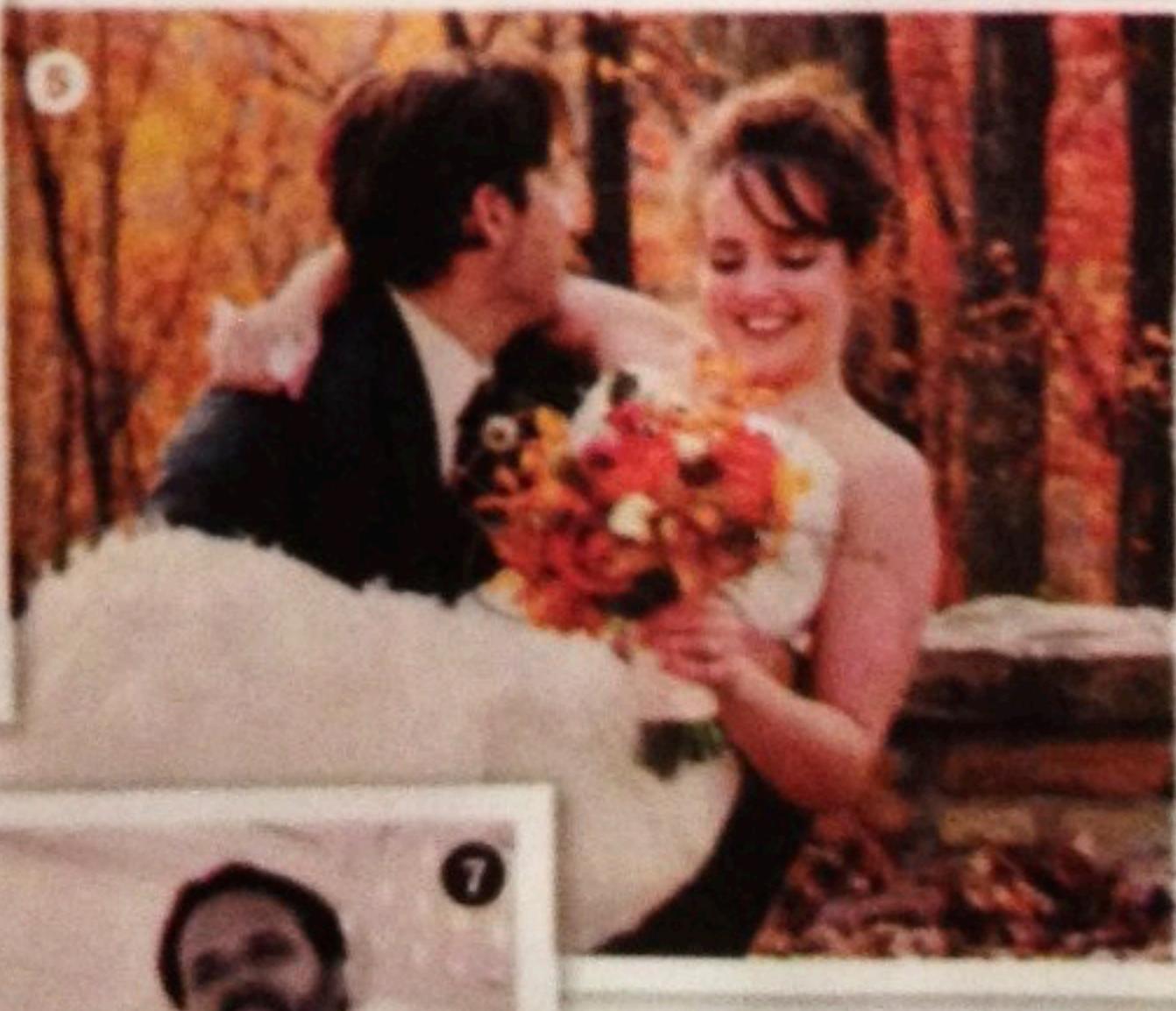
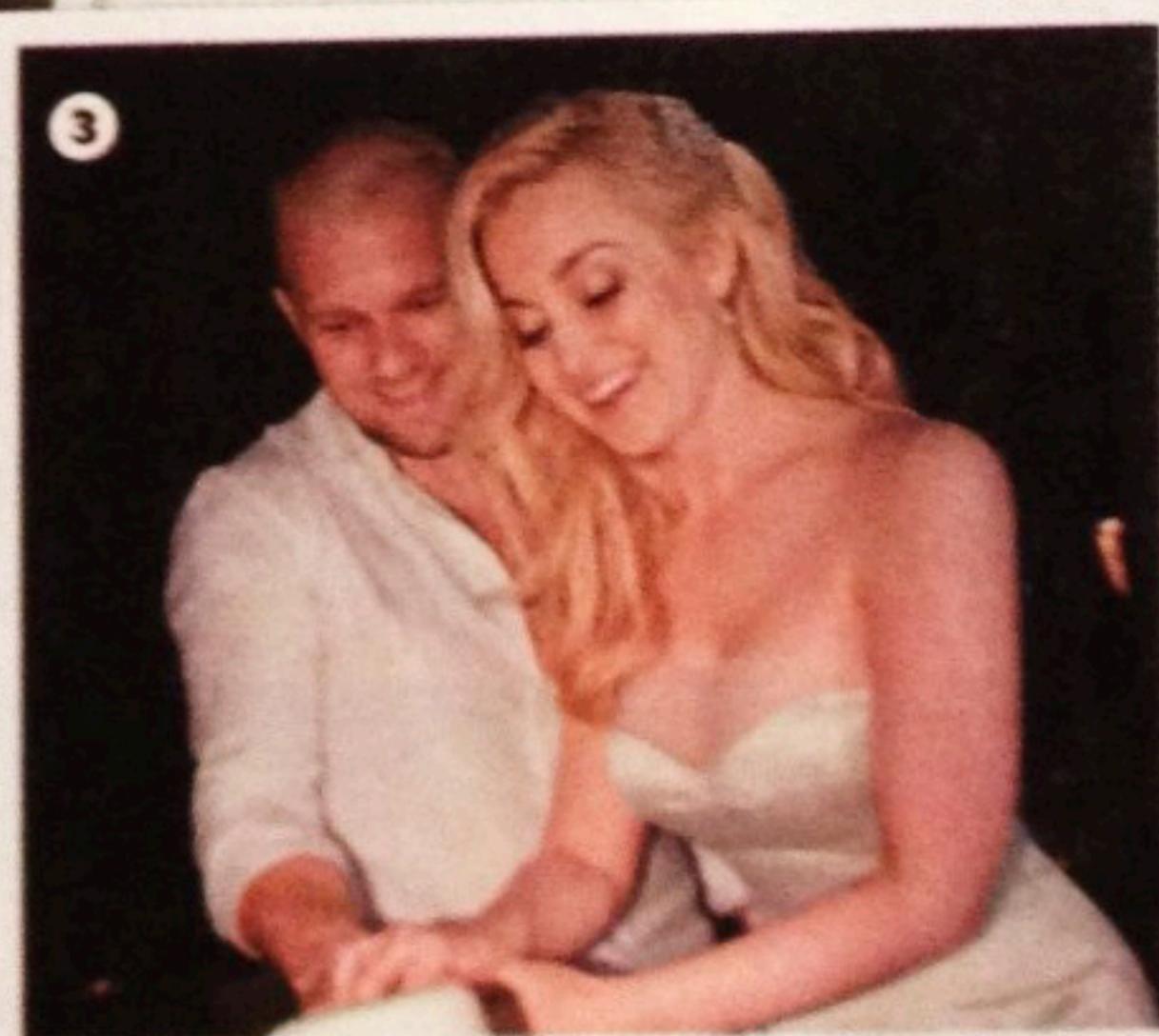
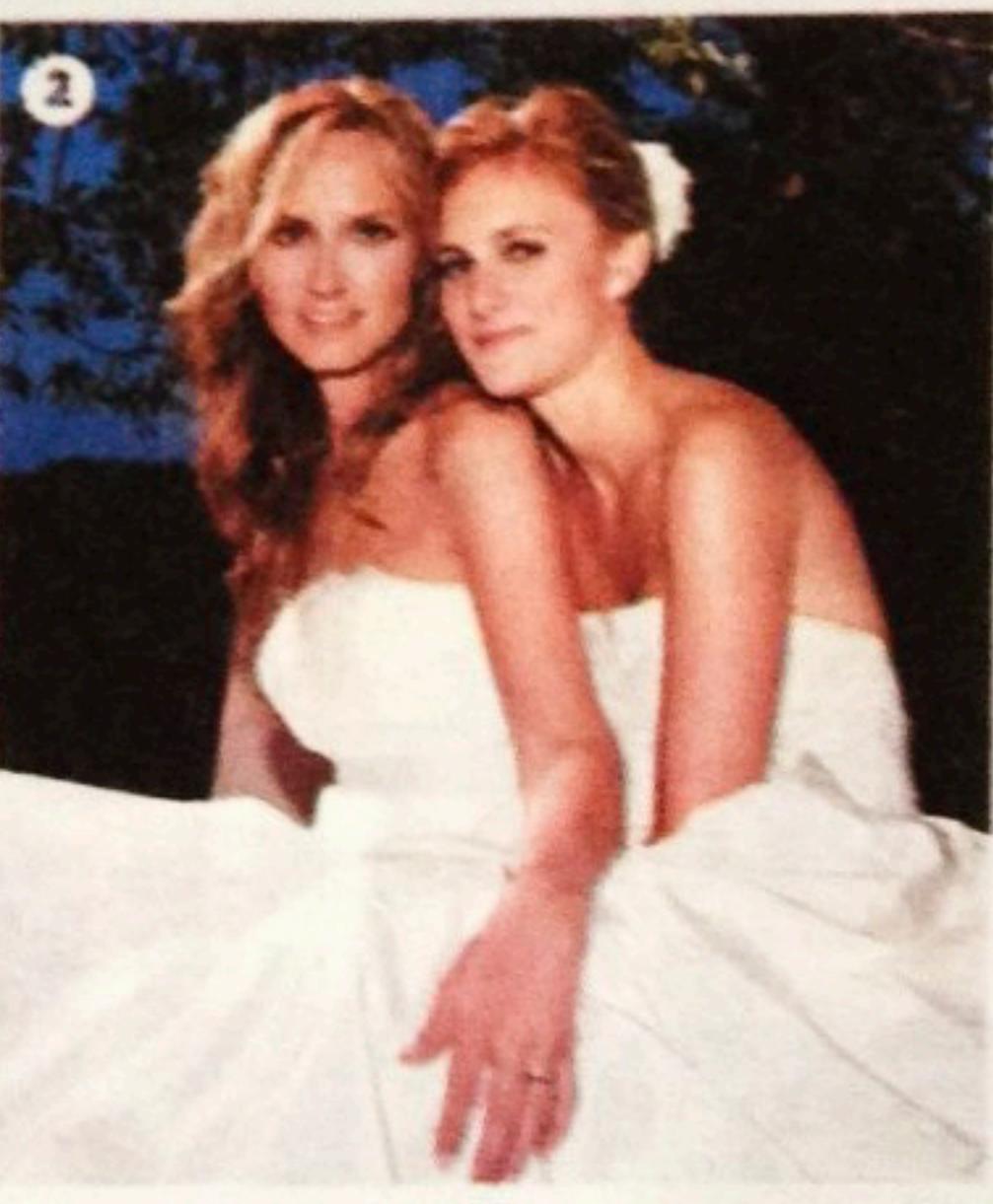


MILESTONES

It was a year when stars celebrated gala weddings, announced marriage plans and welcomed new additions to their families. On a different note, it was also a time when we lost some of country music's true trailblazers and legendary artists. Here's a look back at the year's most memorable milestones.

WEDDINGS



1 Shania Twain and Frédéric Thiébaud

Shania kicked off the New Year when she married Swiss business executive Frédéric, Jan. 1 in Puerto Rico. Shania was accompanied to the altar by her son, Eja.

2 Chely Wright and Lauren Blitzer

Chely wed gay-rights activist Lauren on Aug. 20 in Connecticut.

3 Kellie Pickler and Kyle Jacobs

Kellie also celebrated the New Year with her marriage to Kyle, a Nashville songwriter, Jan. 1, on a private island in the Caribbean.

4 Jennifer Nettles and Justin Miller

Sugarland lead vocalist Jennifer surprised many of her fans and followers when she married Justin, an entrepreneur and former model, Nov. 26 in East Tennessee. Jennifer and Justin took their vows in a small, quiet ceremony attended by family and friends, including Jennifer's Sugarland duo partner, Kristian Bush.

5 Jessica Andrews and Marcel Chagnon

Jessica and longtime boyfriend Marcel, one of Nashville's top songwriters, married Nov. 11 in Nashville.

6 Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert

The most anticipated and highly publicized country nuptials of the year took place May 14 at a ranch outside San Antonio, Texas. Blake and Miranda reveled on their wedding day along with fellow stars Reba McEntire, Dierks Bentley and others.

7 Randy Houser and Jessa Lee Yantz

Randy and singer Jessa tied the knot Sept. 2 in the Dominican Republic.

8 Sunny Sweeney and Jeff Helmer

Sunny, best known for her recent hit "From a Table Away," married Jeff Nov. 11 in Las Vegas.