French Music Star To Appear

Country and Western music in French is a multi-million dollar business in Canada's Quebec Province and Willie LaMothé heads the twenty or so top performers in all manner of ratings.

Millionaire, movie actor and television star with his weekly "Le Ranch a Willie" known throughout Europe and in Nashville, the man who has been called the "Canadian Johnny Cash" brings his profoundly North American music to his French-speaking cousins in Louisiana this month where he is a guest star at the "Tribute to Cajun Music" held April 15 in Lafayette under the auspices of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL).

Tour State

Prior to this event, Willie will tour the deep-south state, where French is still spoken or understood by a million people, to meet and chat with persons with family names he sees and hears daily in his home state of Quebec.

"Quebec and Louisiana enjoy deep bonds of history, culture and psychology," he said in an interview before leaving Montreal. Take music, for instance. A great segment of French music in Louisiana, rich and deeply North American, has evolved to a point where a great part of the Quebec French music also has arrived. "My own music, although original, resembles in many ways the French music being produced in Louisiana today."

Willie's Partners

Willie's partners in sound include an Acadian (Cajun) from New Brunswick by the name of Bobby Hachey who played the guitar at the age of six. A versatile performer, Bobby came to "Le Ranch a Willie" from the Cabaret Flame in Minneapolis and the Showboat in Las Vegas. He is also going to Louisiana with Willie.

The group is making the trip under the auspices of the Quebec Government.

They will appear: In Baton Rouge at the LSU Student Union Theatre, Sunday, April 6, at 8:00 p.m. In Thibodaux at the Civic Center, Tuesday, April 8, at 8:00 p.m. In Eunice, LSUE at the Acadian Assembly Center, Friday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m. In Lafayette at the Blackham Coliseum, CODOFIL's "Tribute to Cajun Music" at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to all the performances and there is no charge for admission.