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he's got to feel to believe

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LEARN THE DIXIE CHICKS' TRICKS

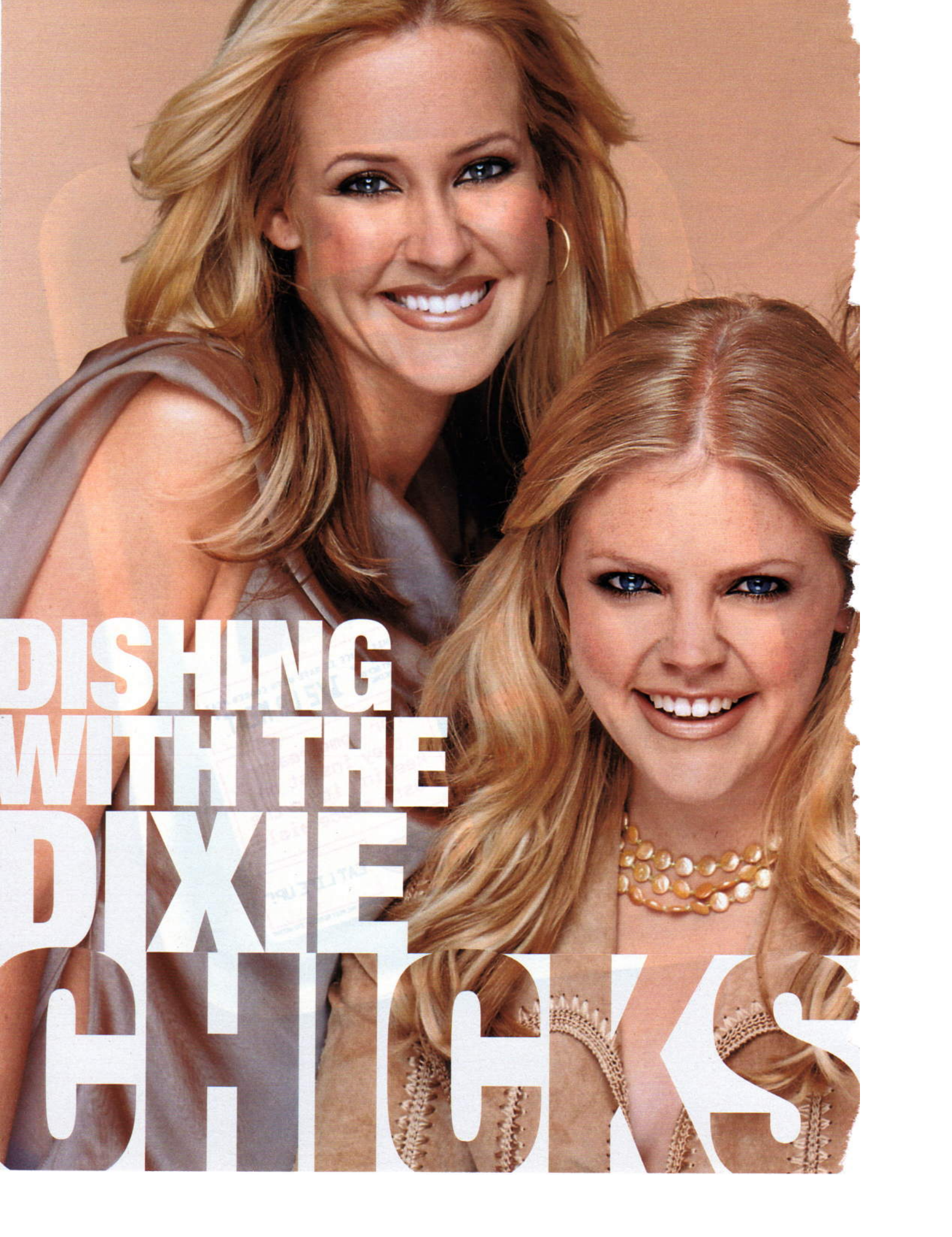
EXCLUSIVE!

You name it, America's top girl group has beaten it: weight gain, infertility, divorce. Here, their stay-positive rules for when life—and love—throw you for a loop

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**DISHING
WITH THE
DIXIE
CHICKS**



High up in a glamorous hotel in New York, the four-time Grammy-award-winning, multi-platinum-album-selling Dixie Chicks are getting their hair blow-dried, their nails painted, and their noses powdered for the taping of an upcoming television show about their lives. Slade, Natalie Maines's 20-month-old son with husband actor Adrian Pasdar (Pax-TV's *Mysterious Ways*), runs around the room, charming everyone in his path.

While waiting for their turns in front of the camera, Emily Robison, 30 and five months pregnant, her sister Martie Maguire, 32, and Natalie, 27, talk excitedly about being the subjects of a biography show so early in their lives. "We're so young," says Natalie. "There isn't really a story there. I wish there were; then we could write great songs!"

Surely she jests. Take the lives of these women and you have the makings of a great country song. Love, marriage, heartache, divorce, more marriage, more heartache, another divorce, trying to make a baby, making babies, and, finally, happy endings. All of this while building a successful music career.

Emily and Martie, who've played bluegrass practically since birth, formed the Dixie Chicks in 1989 with Robin Macy and Laura Lynch. When Macy and Lynch left the band, Emily and Martie's friend and mentor Lloyd Maines gave them a tape of his daughter, Natalie, singing. It was love at first listen. The Chicks clicked, and in 1995 they arrived. Their first two albums, *Wide Open Spaces* and *Fly*, each sold more than 20 million copies. *(continued)*

Face Forward The future's so bright, Martie (far left), Natalie (center), and Emily can't help but smile.

**3 women...5 marriages...2 babies...
and gazillions of records sold. The divas share their
incredible story—and the one thing that's kept
them sane and bonded on their wild ride to success.**
by **claire connors** photograph by **patrick demarchelier**

