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Gretchen Wilson stooped to pander on *All Jacked Up*, last year's follow-up to 2003's terrific, out-of-the-blue redneck success story, *Here for the Party*.

But if the Pocahontas, Ill., native was a little too willing to turn her hard-drinking, take-no-guff persona into a caricature, that doesn't mean that her country-rock and hard-core honky-tonk songs aren't born of true working-class grit.

Plus, though she's not blessed with the most powerful pipes by country standards, she knows how to put a song across with conviction, as her wrenching version of "Sunday Morning Coming Down" on the new Kris Kristofferson tribute, *Pilgrim*, makes plain.