DJ Seeks Dixie Chicks Show Replacements

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Filed at 2:49 p.m. ET

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) -- Talk radio host Mike Gallagher is proposing an alternative concert to a May 1 show by the Dixie Chicks, under fire for lead singer Natalie Maines' criticism of President Bush.

There's just one small problem: Gallagher doesn't have an act, though he said he's talking with some well-known country acts.

``I think people are so upset about the Dixie Chicks that if I have to get a banjo and stand up there on stage and sing 'On Top of Old Smokey' people will stand up and cheer,'' he said. ``They don't care.''

Gallagher, whose program is syndicated nationwide, said he'll donate all proceeds from the concert to military families from South Carolina. And anyone with a ticket to the Dixie Chicks' gig gets in for free.

``Obviously, this is designed to send a message that it's not OK to run down our president during this time of war,'' he said. ``They insulted their core audience. Country music fans are red-blooded, patriotic Americans who support our military and support our commander in chief.''

Maines upset many of the trio's fans when she told a London audience: ``Just so you know, we're ashamed the president of the United States is from Texas.''

She apologized a few days later.