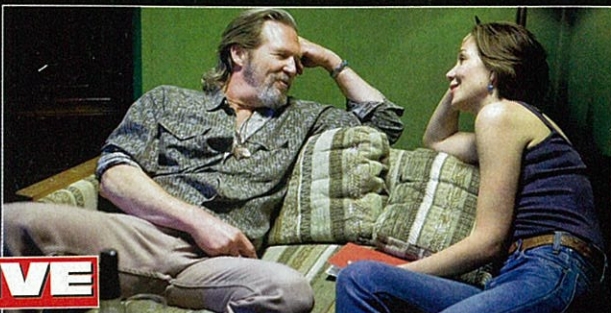


TAKE ME HOME, COUNTRY ROGUE: Jeff and Colin Farrell hit it off while filming *Crazy Heart* (which also stars Maggie Gyllenhaal, below) and can't wait to visit him in Ireland



EXCLUSIVE

COLIN WAS A GREAT GUY, WE DEVELOPED A SWEET HARMONY

them find their own way. But now their in their mid-20s and they are saying 'I wonder what I should do...' And I'm like 'well, you could always act, it's in your blood'."

Maggie Gyllenhaal stars as the journalist who falls for Bridge's character in the hit flick, and Colin Farrell stars as his young protege who is taking over the country and western music scene.

Although they only filmed together for a week, Bridges grew very fond of our hometown star.

"I worked with Colin for four or five days, but we hit it off, right off the bat," he says.

"We approached the work in a similar way, and got along great.

"It was a joy working with him. I've admired him since the first time I saw him in *Tigerland*, and I've been keeping up with his career.

"I also loved *In Bruges*. Jeez, that was a great movie."

Known to be a handy party guest if a karaoke kicks off, Colin

belts out a few great country numbers in the flick.

"Well, y'know, singing together is a great way to strike up a relationship with your fellow actors. When you harmonise, that all falls into place really well.

"I'd love to visit him in Ireland, I've never been before, so it would be fun to do."

With an extensive filmography that includes *The Last Picture Show*, *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, and *The Big Lebowski*, Bridges is

revered among Hollywood.

Stepping out of the lift after our interview, I overhear Scottish actor Ewan McGregor talking to Bridge's assistant.

"Is Jeff here? What's his schedule like? Can I go up and say hi," pleads Ewan, eager as a starstruck teenager.

So it's not the just the ladies who want a piece of the legend that is Jeff Bridges.

Crazy Heart is out in cinemas now. ●