

Aggies go for Johnson's show

By PATTI SHOQUIST
Battalion Reporter

Those who stayed home to do homework Tuesday night missed out on an evening that would have taken some of the pressure off any student's mind.

Michael Johnson, composer of the hit song "Bluer than Blue," performed before a receptive half-filled house in Rudder Auditorium.

Returning to Texas A&M for the third time, the opening act Meisburg and Walters could have carried the show by themselves. They received enthusiastic crowd response throughout their performance.

They broke the ice on their first song when Steve Walters broke his guitar string. However, they tried to show as much professionalism as they could by making it look like part of the act.

The multi-talented musicians played several instruments including the banjo, guitar, piano and clarinet. They refreshed the crowd with such hits as "Danny's Song," in which the audience sang with them, and got the crowd stomping and clapping to "Rocky Top."

The duo had a chance to play a few philosophical tunes of their own including, "Life is Never Knowing," "Fire," and "Everybody Needs a

Time to Sing." They came back on stage following a standing ovation to sing "Wooden Ships."

After more than an hour of the warm-up performance, Johnson came on stage with a few surprises. The audience found that he is a comedian as well as a talented artist.

He greeted the audience by saying, "My, isn't it lovely that we're having weather," he greeted the audience, then said he wanted to start off with a song that he "learned off one of his albums."

The crowd howled to most of his songs, which were satires on politics, country music, love and sex. He sang songs such as "Let's Drop the Big One Now," "I'll Find a Garbage Can and Throw Myself Away," and "The Wonderful World of Sex."

In contrast to his comedy and satire, Johnson played mellow and classical music as well. For his encore he played a basanova, and then he borrowed Gordon Lightfoot's song, "Wherefore and Why."

The audience did not seem to mind sacrificing a night of studying for the three-hour Town Hall special attraction. In fact, one student screamed to Johnson from the audience, "You can sing to us all night if you'd like."

\$20.8 billion in state budget

House wants to keep lid on tight

United Press International
AUSTIN — House members are ready to begin consideration of a proposed \$20.8 billion state budget for the next two years, and Speaker Bill Clayton predicted legislators will do all they can to prevent any drastic increases in the spending bill during the debate.

"The general mood appears to me to be to hold the line pretty close. I don't really foresee a lot of amendments being attached to the bill," Clayton said.

The proposal is \$269 million less than the appropriation bill drafted by the Legislative Budget Board, but still is larger than Gov. Bill Clements desires.

One area of the bill Clements opposes is a provision giving school teachers a 5.1 percent annual pay increase in addition to so-called step increases based on experience and education. The governor wants the step increases abolished, and the overall teacher pay increased 5.1 percent a year — the same as other state employees.

Clayton said that is not likely to happen, however.

"There may be an amendment offered to do that, but if it is I would think there would be 100 votes against it," the speaker said.

Debate on past appropriation bills has lasted as long as two weeks, but Clayton said the House may be able to pass this session's budget bill by the end of this week.

In legislative action Tuesday, the Senate tentatively approved 24-7 a bill by Rep.

Carl Parker, D-Port Arthur, allowing retail stores to add extra fees on charge purchases for insurance coverage.

Parker said the bill will allow Montgomery Ward and other retailers to offer special combination insurance coverages currently prohibited by the state insurance board.

"This bill's only purpose is to add to the cost of purchasing at Montgomery Ward and other stores that choose to use it," argued Sen. Lloyd Doggett, D-Austin. "This bill's only purpose is to fuel the flames of inflation."

Doggett threatened at one point to read a Montgomery Ward catalog to stall action on the bill, but said he had agreed not to filibuster against it in exchange for Parker's help last week in opposing a bill revising the state's Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

"This is insurance not to benefit the customer but to benefit the seller and the customer just gets charged for it," Doggett said.

"It's not voluntary. If you want that stereo or television you're not going to be able to get it unless you buy that insurance."

Sen. Bill Patman, D-Ganado, joined Doggett in speaking against the bill.

"This is a special interest bill that you're carrying for Montgomery Ward," Patman said. "It's not for your people back home."

He contended the bill will add \$6 a year to the cost of a \$100 credit purchase at Montgomery Ward.

Aggie Moms' club to hold annual meetings, boutique

The Federation of Texas A&M University's Mothers' Clubs will hold its annual spring meetings Friday and Saturday in the Memorial Student Center at Texas A&M University.

University President Jarvis Miller and Texas Commissioner of Agriculture Reagan Brown are scheduled to speak to the organization during activities planned in conjunction with the University's Parents' Day Weekend.

Activities for Aggie moms will begin at 11 a.m. Friday, when the Mothers' clubs in Texas and three in Louisiana a chance to display and sell their groups' handmade crafts, pictures and other items. Many of the items will be maroon and white and one of a kind.

The federation's executive board will meet Friday afternoon, under the leadership of the president, Mrs. Eleanor Walters of Austin. Federation officers will host an open house at 7:30 p.m. This activity gives Aggie moms not familiar with the federation and its activities a chance to learn more about it before the Saturday meeting.

At 8:30 a.m. Saturday, the federation will host a coffee for Aggie moms and guests and the boutique again will be open. At 9:30, the federation's annual spring meeting will begin. It will include special music by the Singing Cadets, in addition to a greeting from Miller and remarks by Brown.

Officers for the 1979-80 club year will be elected and installed at the meeting. The installing officer will be Rear Admiral Kenneth G. Haynes of the Texas Maritime Academy in Galveston.

A banquet with entertainment by the Revaliers will follow.

Education specialist calls mainstreaming cruel to handicapped

Mainstreaming handicapped students into conventional classrooms can be as cruel as giving them no special help at all, an expert on special education said Tuesday at Texas A&M University.

Dr. Marc E. Hull told the statewide workshop on the vocational special needs of the handicapped that he considered mainstreaming "an absolute criminal act in some cases."

"If we're going to make mainstreaming less than what it should be, we had just better forget it," the assistant director of special education in Vermont told 250 educators at the session.

"I have seen mothers so brainwashed about the great benefits of social integration that would allow their child to be pulled out of a great special program," Hull said. "In the name of mainstreaming, these parents take their children out of a comprehensive program that has vocational education, functional math and reading, and put them into a school with no special programs and 300 nonhandicapped students. That's criminal."

Hull pointed out, however, that he was in favor of mainstreaming as long as it is treated on a one-to-one case, and not just the lumping together of people in the name of social integration.

"You have to take mainstreaming one case at a time," he said. "You have to take the opportunity to look

at every child and have everyone who is going to be a part of his mainstreaming program work together for his benefit.

"If you just throw people into a program, you lose the balance special education has spent years putting together for the handicapped," Hull continued. "When mainstreaming is like that, I say forget it."

Hull said he was in favor of installing monitoring systems into all handicapped programs to keep the balance between special education and the handicapped working properly.

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