

# Motels captivate audience

by Daniel Puckett  
Battalion Staff  
What a performer. Martha Davis — lead singer of the Motels — took a few thousand people, numb from a mediocre opening act, and by the concert's end had them stampeding the stage. What a show. Hard-rocking songs — mainly from the band's first album —

Surf' provided a light-hearted moment near the end of the set, with Jourard, guitarist Guy Perry and keyboard player Scott Thurston running and clowning around the stage. The group proved versatile — Thurston, the newest Motel, doubled on guitar; Jourard also played keyboards; and Davis picked up a guitar from time to time. That flexibility, along with Perry's imaginative guitar work and the solid backing of Michael Goodroe's bass and Brian Gla-

sock's drums, gave the Motels a rich sound that varied from New Wave stark to wailing band lush. The show was loud — but the volume itself managed to overcome much of the acoustics problem in G. Rollie White Coliseum. And the Motels proved that their records may have mellowed but their live shows still crackle like a high-tension power line. At the beginning of "Take the L," the crowd stood

and didn't sit down again; when Davis appeared in the lower balcony seats in the first encore, she caused a sensation. By the time she got back to the stage, she had the fans rush the stage where a near-melee of kissing and pressing the flesh broke out. The two encores just left the audience wanting more. The Motels generated more excitement than the coliseum has seen in years; we owe their appearance to MSC Town Hall's sponsorship.



Martha Davis of the Motels

photo by Bob Sebree

## Review

set the mood for the first half of Friday night's performance. The music crashed and roared and the lyrics horrified as Davis — dressed in a multi-layered black outfit, Medusa hair and wicked makeup — assaulted the audience with stark visions of love and life gone bad. But then she sang her first ballad, "Total Control"; the tempo slowed and the emotion deepened. With a few gestures — a drop of a cigarette, a wave of the hand — Davis expressed more feeling in one song than most performers can in an entire show.

And when she dropped to her knees and held her microphone to the bell of Marty Jourard's saxophone, her enchanting mix of vulnerability and surrender captivated the crowd.

Cinema has rights to all other weekends, so films could not be brought to the University under these conditions.

Under the compromise, an ad hoc committee will determine which films deserve a weekend slot. These films would then be co-sponsored and profits and losses would be divided according to each group's budget dependence on film revenue.

In other business, the council will hear vice-president reports and speaker approvals. Proposed speakers include H.R. "Bum" Bright, chairman of the Texas A&M System Board of Regents, and science fiction author Vicki Ann Heydon.

From that point on, the intensity kept building. Performing like a cross between Shirley Temple and Jezebel, Davis drew her listeners into her world: a California planet where con men and the cocaine set make surviving lost romance a chancy proposition.

Whether her songs are autobiographical or not, Davis obviously sang them with some specific incident or person in mind — and she almost trembled with the memory.

But the Motels weren't all tears and thunder. "Tragic

# Council to discuss spring lecture series

Battalion Staff  
The MSC Council will hear a proposal for an endowed lecture series — possibly featuring former secretaries of state Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger — in its meeting tonight in 216T Memorial Student Center. The proposed lecture series, to be held April 5 to 7, is entitled "Perspectives on U.S. Foreign Policy." In addition to Haig and Kissinger, the lecture series committee also is trying to secure former secretaries of state Edmund Muskie and Cyrus Vance, but has not negotiated with any of the speakers yet. Ted Koppel, of NBC's Nightline, is being considered by the committee to moderate the discussion.

The council also will hear an entertainment program studies report and approve several speakers.

The entertainment program studies committee will present its report on programming problems for science fiction/fantasy films. The committee decided such films as "E.T." and "Poltergeist" deserved weekend times to generate more revenue and larger audiences.

In the past, Aggie Cinema and Cepheid Variable co-sponsored the films, or Cepheid Variable allowed Aggie Cinema to show the films. Cepheid Variable currently has one weekend a semester for programming. Aggie

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