

An interview with Carrasco

# Musician's life 'hectic'

by J. Cary Stegall  
Battalion Staff

**Editor's note:** Joe King Carrasco was interviewed Saturday before his Bryan-College Station appearance.

**Joe:** So what do you wanna know — my whole life?

**At Ease:** Yeah, basically. Do you wash your own clothes?

**Joe:** I wash my clothes every night when I get back from the gig. I wash them in the sinks of most of the hotels we stay in. Do you believe that? I hang them up and by the next morning — when we leave — they're usually dry. On the road you learn how to sew all your clothes and rips and stuff. It's pretty interesting.

**At Ease:** Is there going to be an extensive tour to promote your recent release *Party Weekend*?

**Joe:** You mean like a long tour? We really don't go out on tour for more than three weeks at a time. It's ridiculous, you know. The last three years I've been touring really heavily. One time we stayed on the road for over six months. That makes you a wreck, right? So to keep things fun you go out for a three week stretch and come back and relax. That way you keep things fresh. Bands that stay out on the road too long, it shows. They get real

lackluster or just go through the motions. To me when it gets like that, it's a job. I approach this as something I have a lot of fun doing.

**At Ease:** The new bassist, Bruce Moody, has there been any trouble getting him into the style?

**Joe:** No, none at all. Our music's not real complicated, more of a feel. For me the best artist is the simplest. That's what we're trying to do, simplify things down.

**At Ease:** Which artists do you listen to?

**Joe:** A lot of Mexican music and chicano music. I try to listen to everything, you know. I mean, I don't listen to the real commercial radio stations. I like listening to a lot of eclectic music. Gosh, there are certain bands I like. I've always liked the English Beat. We toured with them, we toured with the Go-Gos. I like them, they're fun. I like everybody, I mean anybody that's made it. You gotta give them credit, it's tough.

**At Ease:** Texas is your domain. Do you ever get to places where people don't know who you are?

**Joe:** Basically, I think everyone knows who we are because of MTV. Most of those people know who we are; if they don't, well that's their problem. They'll find out — real fast.

**At Ease:** Is there a video ready for "Party Weekend?"

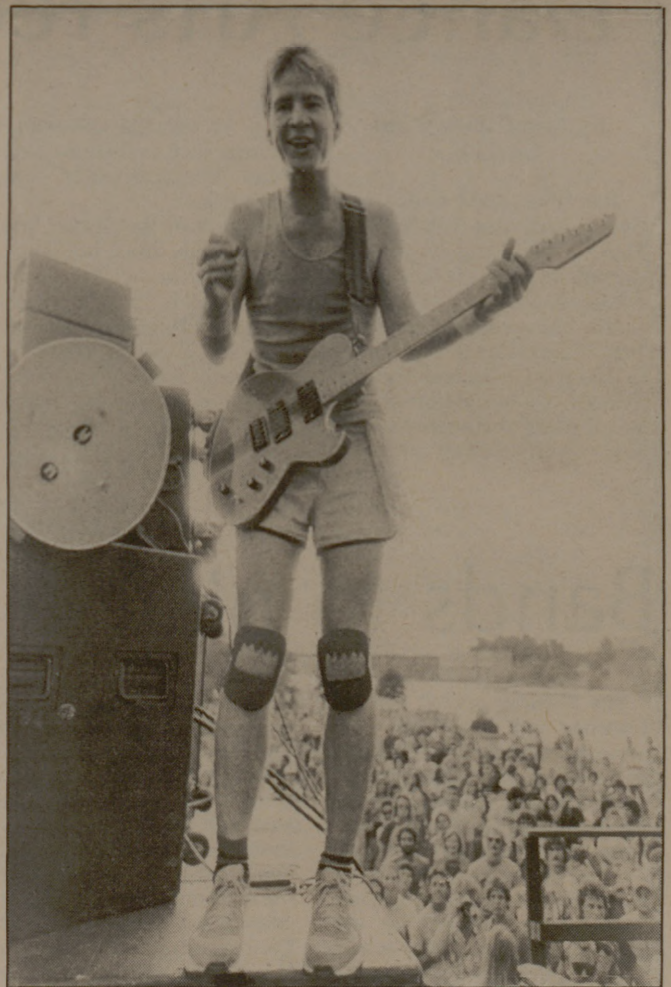
**Joe:** Yeah, it'll probably come on next week. MTV has saved us, because most radio stations weren't playing us. And that's great, because MTV is like playing a concert, but reaching a lot of people. You know — how would people here have ever heard of Madness if it wasn't for MTV?

**At Ease:** What do you want to be doing in 10 or 15 years? I mean, you can't bounce forever.

**Joe:** I'd like to simplify what I'm doing and just try to write good songs. Oh, and lay in hammocks in Mexico and have a good time. I at least hope I never have a 9 to 5 someday. You can't take any of this too serious, cause I think music is meant to be enjoyed.

**At Ease:** Are you going to come back to College Station?

**Joe:** I want to come back here and play. I think this is a cool place. This is my ideal kind of a gig, this barn and all this. When I was a kid I thought, man, I'd just like to get a warehouse, a barn outside of town, put a stage up there, get a PA, and just get people to come. I don't particularly like playing bars that much. Bars to me are real confining, where a hall like this to me is really cool. I hope they do it again.



# The 'new and improved' Mrs. America

by Dayna Boren  
Battalion Reporter

Glamorous, intelligent, sophisticated, confident and poised. Not too many women can be described with all of these qualities, but one woman comes close. Her name is Rhonda McGeeney and she is currently the reigning Mrs. America.

That's right...Mrs. America. If the contest doesn't sound familiar it's because McGeeney

is only the sixth woman to bear this title. There was a Mrs. America pageant the 1950's but the similarities between the pageant then and now stop there. The pageant winner of the fifties was chosen for her capabilities as a cook, diaper-changer, housekeeper, and ironer — archaic by today's standards. The current pageant, which was restarted six years ago, bases the criterium for a Mrs. America on qualities of the contemporary woman.

"This is based upon today's woman...I'm the queen of the microwave oven," confessed McGeeney, "and diapers...let's just say that if I had any children of diaper-changing age, my husband would have to change just as many as I would."

The native Houstonian said she was reluctant to enter the pageant at first, having never participated in any kind of contest before, but after talking to a friend who had been elected Mrs. Texas, McGeeney thought "if she can do it, I can, too."

For winning the title, McGeeney received a car, a mink coat, a washer and dryer, a refrigerator, an unlimited expense account for traveling...and a lot of headaches, which she said she got over the year.

McGeeney was in College Sta-

tion Wednesday to host the grand opening of the Manor House Inn. Events like this are typical of the activities that require Mrs. America's attendance.

In addition to performing so-

cial activities, McGeeney also serves as the Honorary Chairperson for the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Campaign for the Texas Alcohol Commission.

Her appearance in College Station will mark the last activity

that McGeeney will perform as Mrs. America. The new Mrs. America will be crowned in Las Vegas this weekend and another woman will get the opportunity to be in the public eye for a year.



Mrs. America  
Rhonda McGeeney

## SPRINGJAM '83

The Musician's Club presents

The Annual Multi-Band Dance/Concert — Only \$1

Featuring The

Best of Bryan/College Station

ROCK & ROLL...

INCLUDING:

FUSION STICKY FINGERS KEYSTONE  
and more

Saturday, April 23,  
4 to 10 p.m.

At The Grove

Get Tickets at Gate or at MSC 11-2 T-Fri.

COME AS YOU ARE,  
DANCE AS YOU LIKE...