

Best Bets

Okay. You've made it through the first two weeks of school. Your homework problems are piling up, you're two lab reports behind, and you haven't given next week's quizzes a second thought.

Sounds like a perfect opportunity to catch the A&M nightlife and -- if you're 21 -- slurp some suds at the watering hole of your choice.

Several clubs offer music, drinks and dancing. If you want live entertainment, however, you have to do a little research. To lighten the burden on your overloaded Friday-afternoon brain, we've compiled a list of top picks in the twin cities.

Eastgate Live

Located on Texas Avenue across from the east entrance of Texas A&M. Under 21 admitted. Legal drinkers can purchase wine or beer or bring their own liquor -- Eastgate Live provides setups. Call 764-2095 for more information.

Friday - Danumon. Reggae. Cover \$4.25.

Saturday - About 9 Times. Rock. Cover \$3.25.

Thursday - Three local bands; further information not available at press time. Cover \$4.25.

Morgenstern's

This club, one of the newest in College Station, is about one-half mile north of campus on College Main. Only those 21 and over are admitted. Beer, wine and setups. For more information, call 846-1812.

Friday - Dr. Rockit. Rock/boogie. Cover \$5.

Saturday - Linda Lowe Band/ Side Effects. Folk rock. Cover \$4.

Thursday - K-Tels. Classic rock. Cover \$4.

Rumours

Dana Davis, a Houston singer/songwriter, performs at Rumours behind the MSC Post Office Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$2. (See story on p. 5)

Sunset Grill

Sunset Grill is between Charlie's Grocery and The Cow Hop at Northgate. Under 21 admitted. Serves beer, wine and setups for legal drinkers. Information on cover charges not available at press time. Call 846-9351.

Friday - Notropis. Jazz.

Saturday - Locomotives. Classic rock.

Sunday - Pat Foster. Rock guitarist.

Wednesday - Sneaky Pete. Classic rock.

Thursday - Axis (classic rock) and T.K.O.A. (rock).

If you're planning a road trip to Houston in the near future, the MSC Box Office has tickets to these upcoming concerts:

Moody Blues - Sept. 21, Southern Star Amphitheatre. Tickets \$17.25.

Van Halen - Sept. 29, The Summit. Tickets \$17.50.

Joan Rivers - Sept. 14th, Music Hall. Tickets \$18.50 and \$20.

Marcia Ball Band offers post-game rock 'n' roll

The name may not be familiar, but the voice is unforgettable. The sound may not be popular, but the music is pure excitement.

The Marcia Ball Band performs at The Chimes in Baton Rouge Sept. 13, offering a unique blend of rhythm and blues/rock 'n' roll to those culture-conscious Aggies seeking a change of pace after the A&M vs. LSU game. The show starts at 10 p.m.

It's not easy to describe Marcia Ball's music. Her albums are found in the "soul" section of most music stores, but that category more aptly describes what she puts into her music than what comes out of it.

What comes out of Ball's music is style and rhythm and an incredible amount of energy. This tall, lean, Texas-born but Louisiana-bred lady can set even the most lethargic toe tapping. Her upbeat style, down-home voice, and boogie-woogie piano finesse are a refreshing break from the often garbled monotony of today's pop musicians.

In a column entitled "Things I love about Marcia," Bob Claypool of the Houston Post calls Ball "one of the world's best R&B voices." Applauding her first album, "Soulful Dress," Claypool speaks fondly of her down-to-earth style.

"There are no gimmicks, no bizarre affectations, just the straight Marcia Ball stuff, which is classic R&B (from red-hot to smoky), dance music for any and all eras, driven by Marcia's own goosebump-inducing vocals and funky piano stylings," Claypool says.

On her most recent album, "Hot Tamale Ba-

by," Ball demonstrates her tremendous versatility, with songs ranging from her soulful "Love's Spell" to the jazzy "That's Enough of That Stuff," a rockin' tune that defines the word "rhythm" in "rhythm and blues."

Reviewing "Hot Tamale Baby," People magazine's Ralph Novak calls

to receive glowing praise from critics across the nation, Ball continues to haunt what she terms "the crawfish circuit," from San Antonio to Baton Rouge.

An article in the New York Daily News laments, "If the critics had their say, doors would open faster



Marcia Ball will be performing her unique blend of rhythm and blues and rock 'n' roll at The Chimes in Baton Rouge on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Ball "an aggressive and moving performer...who ought to be far more widely appreciated.

"Like most of the great blues singers, Ball has a throaty, penetrating voice and a style that manages to combine suggestions of romance, sorrow and defiance," he explains. "Why she is still primarily a regional performer in Louisiana and Texas is something of a mystery."

Although she continues

and wider.

The Chimes is located at 3357 Highland Road in Baton Rouge (about a 10 minute walk from the stadium). To get there, walk east across campus to Highland Road at the North Gate of Louisiana State University. Cover charge is \$4, and your ticket stub is good for a free drink—even if you're only 18.

by Karen Kroesche
Staff writer