

# ● MSC TOWN HALL ●

## Austin band shocks crowd with twang



Photo by Sondra N. Robbins

David Garza and Chris Searles ham it up for the crowd.

**By JOHN RIGHTER**  
Texas A&M got its first and final taste of Twang Twang Shock-A-Boom Saturday night at Rudder Theatre. The Austin trio, benefactors of a year-long musical love affair, announced its breakup in the Onward section of Thursday's Austin American-Statesman.

While not discussing in-length the terms or reasons of the band's dissolution, all three members confirmed the breakup Saturday, effective next Saturday following their final performance at Austin's Liberty Lunch.

The bandmembers were uncertain of their future plans, though it appears guitarist and vocalist David Garza will pursue a solo career.

The group experienced a smaller setback on its trip to Rice University Friday night. Car problems, including a blown-out tire and a defective radiator, prevented Twang Twang from performing in the MSC Flag Room Saturday afternoon, as planned, and delayed its interview with KANM.

As for Saturday night's MSC Town Hall performance, Twang Twang Shock-A-Boom proved its mettle as entertainers, providing a fun, up-tempo show. A Twang Twang show is geared toward fans more interested in having a good time than being musically wowed.

Garza, stand-up bassist Jeff Haley and percussionist Chris Searles are

competent musicians, with Searles impressive as the group's "jack-of-all trades" on percussion. But, as Garza mentioned before the show, "if the people want to dance then we'll play dance music, if they want to sit down then we'll play real music."

Attendees in search of craftsmanship would have fared better with Preston Reed. Twang Twang's performance wasn't bad, the group, especially Garza, are very natural in front of an audience and really try to involve its fans with the event (even inviting several people to play with them on stage). The fan involvement creates a commune-type atmosphere similar to Coffeehouse.

Unfortunately, the show was just too silly and rudimentary for me. It may be a reflection of my sense of humor, but "Fishsticks" isn't cute or funny, and "Don't Get AIDS," while delivered with great intentions, is belittling in its simplicity.

A better indicator of the reception is that most of the crowd joined in the frenzy upfront, while others departed very early in the show.

Not that it matters anymore, but Twang Twang was good at creating a friendly, crowd-involved atmosphere geared toward a younger audience (and heck, the guys are only 19 and 20). I have a feeling, though, that Garza has decided to graduate from the Twang Twang-scene and move forward with his departure.

## Coffeehouse stirs up local talent

**By JOHN MABRY**  
Black clouds in your coffee (thank you, Carly Simon) best describes the somber mood that dominated the majority of performances at MSC Town Hall's Coffeehouse Friday night.

The evening began with a brief performance by Dream Horse, a female duo consisting of guitarist/vocalists Christy Claxton, a graduate student in English, and junior chemistry major Stacy Lieder. In the tradition of contemporary female folk bands, such as Indigo Girls, Dream Horse's original material mixes haunting heartache, "Don't Say You Love Me," with social/political commentary, "Primitive Dreams."

In the safest performance of the night, Dream Horse epitomized true "Coffeehouse" style -- acoustic guitars overlaid with meaningful and catchy lyrics with a conscience, "Hey little girl, why do you not have shoes to wear? Where do you sleep to get out of the cold night air?"

However predictable their material may be, the girls do sing with an intensity and honesty that's undeniable. Both are talented vocalists, Lieder being the more outstanding member, Claxton playing the supporting role.

Their performance ended on an anti-climatic note, as the band failed to get the audience to join them in the chorus of "Primitive Dreams," their final number.

The next performer was sophomore English major David Lawrence, who read poetry that his friend had written before he committed suicide. The poems, many of which obviously anticipated death, "At My Funeral," received a prompt written rebuttal from an audience member stressing the seriousness of suicide.

The evening took a refreshing turn with a delightful musical performance by local resident Rong Fan. Tan was one of the top pipa (a four-stringed Chinese lute) players in China, and it shows. Tan's two traditional pieces, "The Yis

Dancing" and "Liu-Yang River," displayed her truly great musical skill and precision.

Tan was one of the few performers at Coffeehouse who took great pride in her craft and concern for her audience, and these were graciously returned with the biggest applause of the evening.

This lack of concern was evident in the next performer, theater arts major Sean Dunham, who performed a heartfelt monologue he had written. Dunham was obviously unprepared, and relied more on ad-libbing than he should have.

Dunham's performance was followed by the guitar songs of Austin resident John Reysa, Class of '87. Reysa's passively pessimistic songs were vaguely reminiscent of music Woody Allen would have written had he been a folk singer.

Take, for instance, his introduction of "License Plate Faith." "A friend is like a convertible without a roll bar -- they're really fun to be with, but they can kill you if you crash." Reysa's witty, ironic lyrics were supported by a great comic delivery that kept the laughs coming throughout his routine.

A nightmarish performance by junior English major Jeff Newberry changed the evening's mood from polite to insane. Newberry, who referred to himself as "poet/philosopher/bad-ass," began with a strangely vague love song solo, to which he did a bump-and-grind routine with the mike stand. After the laughs wore off, Newberry delivered a brief but extremely funny and acute attack on female corps and sorority members.

It's apparent that Newberry's alternative viewpoint hit home with the Coffeehouse audience, but he could have been much more entertaining had he added more polish and coherence to his performance.

The most honest performer of the night was economics graduate student Asif Siddiqui, who performed a series of both original and cover



Photo by Huy Nguyen

songs on acoustic guitar. Siddiqui's "Hippie Johnny," a song about the advantages of staying off drugs, exemplified his observant writing style and sensitivity to issues facing college students. Because of this, Siddiqui was able to overcome his weak singing voice and out-of-tune guitar, and received an encore request from the audience, for which he sang Patti Smith's "Gloria."

The song, which began with the lyrics "Jesus may have died for your sins, but he didn't die for mine," was answered by an impromptu religious piano solo by sophomore civil engineering major Cory Pierce.

The uplifting song was a particularly appropriate epilogue to this Coffeehouse that, no matter how entertaining, might have left one with a not-so-positive outlook on the world.

**ADULT DRIVING LESSONS**

**PICK-UP SERVICE**

**COLLEGE STATION DRIVING SCHOOL**  
693-0086

**U.B. Ski**  
**BRECKENRIDGE**  
plus  
**Vail**

\$229 plus \$29 tax until Oct. 19  
1-800-232-2428

**NIGHT-TIME HEARTBURN STUDY**  
Do you experience night-time heartburn? VIP Research is seeking individuals for a short-term research study of a currently available medication. A \$100 incentive will be paid to those who enroll and complete this study.

CALL  
VOLUNTEERS IN PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH®  
776-3603

## MSC COLLEGE BOWL

**TEAM REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 27th**

- \* Join MSC College Bowl and play in our fall team trivia tournament. Games test knowledge of everything from science to music.
- \* Form your own team (4 people + alternate) or sign up as an individual. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per team.
- \* Register with Gelinda in MSC 216T, or at...
- \* Mandatory captains' meeting to be held Thurs. Sept. 27 at 7pm in 407 Rudder.
- \* Call 845-1515 for more information.

## Contact Lenses

Only Quality Name Brands  
(Bausch & Lomb, Ciba, Barnes-Hinds-Hydrocurve)

**\$138.00 TOTAL COST + FREE SPARE**  
INCLUDES STD. DAILY WEAR, SOFT LENSES, EXAM AND FREE CARE KIT.

**\$138.00 TOTAL COST**  
INCLUDES 1 PR. STD. EXT. WEAR, OR STD. TINTED SOFT LENSES, EXAM AND FREE CARE KIT.

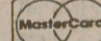
Extended to August 31, 1990  
Sale ends July 27, 1990

Call 696-3754  
For Appointment

CHARLES C. SCHROEPPPEL, O.D., P.C.  
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY

707 South Texas Ave., Suite 101D  
College Station, Texas 77840

1 block South of Texas & University Dr. Intersection  
College Station, Texas 77840



## Channel 15 broadcasts Civil War

A&M students need to set VCRs for series

**By LISA ANN ROBERTSON**  
If Texas A&M students had no assignments to read and no tests to study for and no papers to write, then maybe they would watch The Civil War, the 11-hour documentary airing all week on KAMU.

As it is, most will not watch it, and most will miss a dynamic series about a time that author Shelby Foote says shaped the very character of what Americans.

The documentary is full of fascinating tidbits about the people and events surrounding the war that set Americans against each other.

For example, the general defending Fort Sumter had taught the general firing at the fort everything he knew at West Point before the war started. And that Florida was the second state to secede from the Union following South Carolina's lead.

The series is a compilation of still photographs taken during the war and of images of lithographs and period paintings as well as the extraordinary voices of actors such as Jason Robards, Julie Harris, Kurt Vonnegut and Morgan Freeman.

The actors read the diary entries of people instrumental in the war and of those who faced the war on the battleground. The series' serenity is a tribute to producer Ken Burns' ceaseless demand for historical authenticity.

Burns and a staff of researchers gathered more than 16,000 photographs for the documentary and used more than 3,000 in the series.

"It was our most important wish that we allow the evidence of the past to tell its own story, whether through a photograph or an excerpt

# FALL 90 WORKSHOPS

<p><b>DANCE</b></p> <p><b>Adv. C&amp;W Dance:</b> \$20/student Wed. Oct 3-Oct 31 7:30-8:45pm</p> <p><b>Ballroom Dancing:</b> \$18/student Tues. Sept 25-Oct 23 7:15-8:30pm</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL INTEREST</b></p> <p><b>Star Gazing:</b> \$30/student T/Th. Sept 25-Oct 18 6:30-9pm</p> <p><b>Potpouri:</b> \$12/student Tues. Nov 6 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Wine Appreciation:</b> \$25/student Wed. Sept 26-Oct 17 7-8:30pm</p> <p><b>Creative Writing:</b> \$28/student Tues. Oct 2-Nov 6 6:30-9pm</p> <p><b>Matting &amp; Framing:</b> \$25/student Wed. Oct 10, 17, 24 6-8pm</p> <p><b>Juggling:</b> \$14/student Wed. Oct 3, 10, 17 6-8:30pm</p> <p><b>Plan Your Wedding:</b> \$22/student Mon. Sept 24-Oct 15 6-8pm</p> <p><b>Wedding Cakes:</b> \$10/student Wed. Sept 26 7-9pm</p> <p><b>Flower Arranging:</b> \$18/student Tues. Oct 2, 9, 16 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Electronics:</b> \$26/student Thurs. Sept 27-Oct 25 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Auto Mechanics:</b> \$18/student Thurs. Oct 4, 11, 18, 25 7-9pm</p> <p><b>Bike Maintenance:</b> \$20/student Tues. Oct 23, 30 Nov 6, 13 7-9pm</p> <p><b>Guitar:</b> \$28/student M/W. Oct 1-Oct 24 7:30-9pm</p> <p><b>Intermediate Guitar:</b> \$28/student Thurs. Sept 20-Nov 8 8:30-10pm</p>	<p><b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b></p> <p><b>Beg. Photography:</b> \$28/student Tues. Oct 23-Nov 13 6-9pm</p> <p><b>B&amp;W Darkroom:</b> \$25/student Wed. Sept 26-Oct 10 6-9pm Tues. Oct 16, 23, 30 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Visual Photography:</b> \$18/student Thurs. Sept 20-Oct 11 7-9pm</p> <p><b>Video Camera &amp; VCR:</b> \$18/student Thurs. Oct 11-Nov 1 7-9pm</p> <p><b>Studio Portraiture:</b> \$22/student T/Th. Oct 2, 4, 9, 11 6-9pm</p>	<p><b>COMPUTERS</b></p> <p><b>Intro to Macintosh:</b> \$15/student T/Th. Oct 2 &amp; 4 8-9:30pm</p> <p><b>Pagemaker 3.0/Mac:</b> \$40/student M/W. Oct 22-Nov 19 5:30-7pm</p> <p><b>Microsoft Word/Mac:</b> \$20/student T/Th. Sept 25-Oct 4 6-7:30pm</p> <p><b>Intro to DOS/IBM PC:</b> \$15/student M/W. Oct 8 &amp; 10 8-9:30pm</p> <p><b>WordPerfect 5.1:</b> \$40/student T/Th. Oct 9-Nov 1 7:30-9pm</p> <p><b>Lotus 1-2-3:</b> \$40/student M/W. Oct 22-Nov 7 6-8pm</p>	<p><b>BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>Accounting:</b> \$25/student Mon. Sept 24-Oct 15 6-8:30pm</p> <p><b>Business Etiquette:</b> \$15/student Tues. Sept 25-Oct 16 7-9pm</p> <p><b>Basics of Investing:</b> \$16/student Tues. Oct 2-Oct 30 7:30-9pm</p> <p><b>Interviewing:</b> \$12/student T/Th. Oct 23-Nov 1 6:30-8pm</p> <p><b>Resume Writing:</b> \$8/student M/W. Nov 5 &amp; 7 6:30-8:30pm</p>	<p><b>ARTS &amp; CRAFTS</b></p> <p><b>Calligraphy II:</b> \$22/student Thurs. Sept 27-Nov 1 6-7:30pm</p> <p><b>Cross Stitch:</b> \$12/student Wed. Oct 3, 10, 17, 24 6-7:30pm</p> <p><b>Cornhusk Dolls:</b> \$10/student Tues. Oct 23 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Drawing:</b> \$18/student Mon. Sept 24-Oct 29 6-8:30pm</p> <p><b>Etched Glass:</b> \$12/student Tues. Oct 16 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Pottery:</b> \$28/student Wed. Oct 3-Nov 7 7:30-9:30pm Thurs. Sept 20-Oct 25 7:30-9:30pm</p> <p><b>Stained Glass:</b> \$28/student Wed. Sept 26-Oct 24 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Leaded Glass:</b> \$28/student Tues. Oct 16-Nov 13 6-9pm</p> <p><b>Decoy Carving:</b> \$32/student Tues. Oct 16-Nov 13 6:30-9:30pm</p>
--	---	---	---	--	--

**MSC University PLUS**

NONSTUDENT Workshop Fees are an additional \$4 per class.

**REGISTRATION IS NOW IN PROGRESS**

**MSC University PLUS Craft Center - MSC Basement 845-1631**