

## Students find friends, support in 12th Man

By KRISTI LORSON

At least 86 Texas A&M students plan to get wild this weekend in New Orleans. Those 86 are members of the Student Chapter of the 12th Man Foundation.

To support the football team when they play LSU in Baton Rouge, two bus loads of students, including all five yell leaders, are headed to Fritzel's Bar on Bourbon Street for midnight yell practice.

If they survive Bourbon Street, the student have plans for a morning trip to a plush Ramada Inn near the Baton Rouge stadium and an evening of (hopefully) beating the hell outta LSU, organizer Steve McBride said.

"I think scoring on LSU is better than scoring on t.u.," McBride said. "We're going to party that night until everyone falls asleep."

Road trips to away games are only one of the activities of the 12th Man's student chapter. A membership fee of \$12 lets the foundation provide opportunities to meet influential people from A&M, enjoy a fajita party with the 12th Man kickoff team and tour the football stadium press box.

Beginning with the "Fish Fiesta Party" in G. Rollie White, events this fall have already been successful, Chapter President John Lauletta said. The Aggie Band, mens' basketball coach Kermit Davis, womens' basketball coach Lynn Hickey and Student Service Vice President Dr. John Koldus entertained an enthusiastic crowd of over 2,500 freshmen.

The foundation also provides student support to non-profit sports like softball and volleyball, Lauletta said.

With a membership of over 600 students, the foundation keeps score for the womens' tennis team, forms the hurdle crew during track meets, times swim meets and helps out at womens' basketball games.

Leanne Parma, the director of the 12th Man swimming program said they have made a big difference in helping meets run smoothly.



"They used to have to pull people out of the crowd to time meets, which was really embarrassing to the swim program," she said. "Now we have fun being down by the water and getting splashed in the face."

Students also get a chance to meet athletes by participating in the program, Parma said.

"These athletes spend so much time training and the rest of the time studying," she said. "This is a great way to meet them and show them our appreciation."

Assistant swim team coach Jay Holmes said the student 12th Man program has helped both the coaching staff and the athletes.

"The posters they hang around the pool let the swimmers know the 12th Man Foundation is there and they're supporting us," he said. "It also takes a lot of pressure off me to know everything's taken care of."

Kevin Shireman, who started working with the tennis team last year through the student chapter, is now the manager of the team.

"I enjoy being out there just to watch the tennis," he said. "If you score the game as a 12th Man volunteer, you get the best seat in the house."

Besides the best seat in the house as a student, head football coach R.C. Slocum said that by joining the foundation as a student, you can begin to build up seniority in the alumni chapter.

"Seventy-five percent of our living graduates graduated in the last 20 years," he said. "By joining the 12th Man Foundation as a student, and

becoming a member of the alumni chapter upon graduation, a person can get in line right now for high-demand ticket priorities down the road."

Helen Pugh, the wife of the late national championship quarterback, Marion Pugh, said if everyone would join as soon as they can, they could enjoy the benefits faster.

"We were members when it was still called The Aggie Club, and now I have first row, second section tickets," she said.

The student chapter has also entered a nationwide NCAA publicity contest this fall in which thousands of members formed the letters "NCAA" and "A&M" on Kyle Field. Photos of the event are being compared to other school's efforts to determine the \$3000 award winner.

Another special event sponsored by the foundation is the pre-game "chalk talk" which alternates from Duncan Dining Hall to Sbis Dining Hall every Wednesday before a game at noon.

For 30 minutes, Slocum discusses his game strategy for past and present football games, introduces a varsity player from the team and answers questions for the audience. The only cost is your lunch.

If meeting and working with the big names on campus (like Halbouty or Reed) is your goal, ask about the 12th Man Pipeline at the 12th Man Foundation office or call director Melody Morris at 846-8193. They can tell you more about being a member of one of the largest and most spirited clubs on campus.



Photos Courtesy of Student Chapter of the 12th Man Foundation

(Top) Members of the Student Chapter of the 12th Man Foundation spell out the letters "NCAA" and "A&M." The event is part of an NCAA publicity campaign. The school with the most

spirit will receive \$3,000. (Above) The 12th Man welcomes freshman at the Fish Fiesta Party. The foundation wants all students to feel at home in Aggieland.



## 'Listen without prejudice' to new release

By RUDY CORDOVA JR.

If you didn't like *Faith*, you are almost sure to enjoy *Listen Without Prejudice, Vol. 1*.

That may be hard to believe, but give George Michael a chance. His new album spins away from the old days of raw-singin' and butt-shakin'. It is a new decade, a new style and a new George Michael. So, *Listen Without Prejudice*.

For the most part, Michael has thrown away his synthesizer on this album. He mixes rhythm and blues, rock 'n' roll, jazz and pop with simple melodies. The soft strings of the piano and guitar accentuate this style along with his crisp, clear voice. With this album, I suspect Michael is trying to make himself a legendary pop star, not just "...every little hungry schoolgirl's pride and joy."

*Listen* is Michael's second solo release. His first solo album, the

Grammy award-winning *Faith*, was released in 1987 and sold 15 million copies, making it one of the top-selling albums of the decade. In 1985, Michael had his first number-one single with "Careless Whisper" while he was with Wham!. He and Andrew Ridgeley left Wham! to pursue their own careers.

In just a few short weeks, the first release from *Listen* is number 21 in *Billboard* Magazine's Hot 100. "Praying for Time" is a song about hopelessness. The song says that it's too late for us to hope that things, meaning hunger, homelessness and hatred, will get better.

"And it's hard to love, there's so much to hate. Hanging on to hope. When there is no hope to speak of. Our only solution is to pray for time."

The rest of the album brings out some interesting points in Michael's life and career.

In "Freedom 90," for example, he explains his reasoning for this album. He talks about having his freedom from the people who have obviously controlled his career, whether it be record producers or managers. It's time for him to make his own decisions. He's definitely made some bold choices. I just hope he sticks with them.

A song that probably hits home for some people is "Mother's Pride." This is about a mother who loses her son to war after having lost her husband. It's a wonderful song styled with intensity. George Michael's voice is strong and clear, which helps to bring out his point about war: "And all the husbands, all the sons, all the lovers gone. They make no difference. No difference in the end."

Influences from the '60s and '70s are prevalent in "Listen." Michael

puts these influences to work with his inspiring lyrics. He has much to say about the world we live in and much to say about the world he lives in.

The last three songs on the album are about someone in his life. "Waiting," the final song, he says, "Well there's one year of my life in these songs. And some of them are about you...Don't people change here I am. Is it too late to try again? Here I am."

George Michael is definitely here in 1990. I suspect he'll be here for a long while. The follow-up, *Volunteers Two*, is scheduled for release next June. It is supposed to contain more dance-oriented tunes.

But for now, I'll settle for his new style. Just listen to this album and you'll see what I'm talking about. And don't forget to "Listen Without Prejudice."

## Shelter gains power from Krishna discipline

By JOHN RIGHTER

Nothing in music makes me happier than the evolution of a great hardcore band into an even better "alternative" band.

Ian MacKaye with Fugazi, 7Seconds, Hüsker Dü, Sonic Youth, Henry Rollins, Meat Puppets, the Replacements and countless others have successfully disproved the notion that hardcore groups play hardcore out of necessity. Joe Strummer and John Lydon had a lot more to do with the expansion of hardcore than William James and John Dewey ever did, and thus teen-age angst and uncertainty were transcribed into three-chord blurs and vociferous spits.

... And a few even growled. Which brings me to the latest crossover, Ray Cappo and his new band, Shelter. Cappo (a.k.a. Ray of Today) is the former throat of New York's Youth of Today, one of the plethora of straight-edge hardcore bands that surfaced in the Big Apple in the mid-'80s.

With the dismantling of Youth of Today two years ago, Cappo pursued the religion and discipline of

Krishna, while other Today members formed the up-and-coming band, Judge. Influenced by writer and philosopher Satyaraj Das, Cappo has focused Shelter on the Krishna doctrine, powering his discipline via tape loops, varied, heavy rhythms and his much improved vocals.

Shelter's first release, *Perfection of Desire*, is one of the more interesting albums I've come across. Cappo fuses the spirituality of his Krishna discipline with the intensity of his hardcore Today roots. *Perfection* is much too varied to be remotely considered a hardcore album (sorry purists), but it does retain Cappo's aggressiveness and conviction (as well as an occasional growl).

*Perfection* contains a two-page pullout that describes Cappo's indoctrination into Krishna and provides a philosophical map to the album. Cappo precedes each song with a question answered by Das. The question/answer sets the theme for the following song, and from there the album builds, developing into a philosophical tale of spiritual

comfort and equality, the happiness quest for materialism and the perfection of desire.

An example precedes the song "Shelter."

"So everyone takes shelter in something?" Cappo asks.

"But only a fool takes shelter in something material," Das explains. "Matter is like sand running through your fingers. It soon disappears. It's destined for destruction."

Das' response is the theme of "Shelter," part Cappo prayer for shelter from the pain and materialism (cause of his pain) and part Krishna chant.

Following the discussion for "Society Based on Bodies," Cappo sings, "Sexual liberation that is chaining us down. Giving us the freedom to spend our life chasing it around. And the movies and the magazines tell us we're out of place if we don't have the fashion and the cash and a pretty face."

"In my society...based on bodies, judging bodies, killing bodies, chasing bodies, does anybody care?" Cappo and Das also provide a ru-

dimentary background of Krishna. I wish I was more educated with the Krishna religion to analyze their precepts, but the minor insight does help nurture *Perfection's* tone and direction.

As I mentioned before, *Perfection of Desire* is an unique album, constructed as a philosophy to music. Cappo is not the first (or last) of the straight edgers to pursue the Krishna discipline, as its indoctrination has developed into a fad within the straight-edge circle.

Musically, *Perfection* is a triumph for Cappo. The album's diversity within direction, Cappo's greatly improved vocal range and the intelligent use of samples and loops embellish *Perfection's* purpose and originality.

Cappo has also successfully separated himself from Youth Of Today, as well as added fuel to the post-hardcore fire. The hardcore spin-offs have evolved into today's most daring and original groups, while maintaining the conviction and honesty of their roots.

My heart pounds with pride.



## Central Park hosts folk fest

The 8th Annual Brazos Folk Fest returns to College Station Friday for a three-day stay.

The festival will be held at College Station's Central Park at 1000 Krenek Tap Road between Texas Ave. and Highway 6 E. Bypass.

Sponsored by the City of College Station Parks and Recreation Department, activities range from continuous live entertainment and horseback riding to a petting zoo and children's games. There will also be concession stands selling tacos, bratwurst, barbecue, soft drinks, beer and wine coolers.

Sheila Walker, programs supervisor, said the festival idea comes from the original Bohemian Festival started eight years ago.

"It's just a quality-of-life-type thing, to show off the parks and the area," she said.

Festival goers can dance under the big tent throughout the weekend to live music by the Hall of Fame Gang, Los Momentos, the Brotherhood and Alpenfest.

Festival hours are:  
● 8 p.m. to midnight Friday,  
● 1 p.m. to midnight Saturday and  
● 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Daily admission is \$2 per person and \$5 per family.

"The family price covers immediate family only - mom, dad and the kids," Walker said.

Money from the festival is deposited into College Station's general city fund, she said.

For more information call 764-3486.