



SONDRA N. ROBBINS/The Battalion

Lead vocalist Blade Mann is one of the newest members of the local rock'n'soul band Rock-A-Fellas.

Rock 'n' Soul

Local music act develops following

By Yvonne Salce

In this intimate club, with its dim lights and tropical sounds, people sip on flavorful daiquiris

Music Review

garnished with colorful little umbrella's and plastic sea horse's. The Equinox, with all its sounds and tastes of the Caribbean, is a club that pulsates when Bob Marley or the Killer Bees whale off the sounds of reggae.

But on Friday night, the daiquiri-factory took on a different persona. Tunes from Eddie Rabbit, the Rolling Stones, Jimmy Buffet and George Strait filled the air

and reactions to the Rock-A-Fellas, a group with a love for rock and soul, varied as much as the selection of songs.

Early in the evening, the four-man band, based out of Bryan-College Station, already had a couple of strikes against them. That annoying, screeching feedback, often heard during warm-ups, didn't go over to well with the regulars. And at times the music may have been a little too loud for the small club, where everyone is accustomed to sitting back, soaking up frozen drinks and playing pool.

But as the evening wore on, the music picked up and so did the crowd. Sing-along-songs like the Righteous Brothers' "You Lost That Lovin' Feeling" and Tommy James' "Mony Mony" managed to shake up heads.

The band's energy, especially lead singer Blade Mann's, eventually rubbed off and almost everyone couldn't help but join in to songs like "Twist and Shout" and "Woolly Bully." Mann, the only band member born outside of Bryan (he was born in New York), kept the band's entourage of followers on the edge to their seats. It didn't take this local group, formed last August, long to develop a faithful following. The band's unpatterned moves from rock to country to easy listening didn't seem to bother them.

Chemistry between the members was a never a question throughout the evening. Formerly known as the Blue Gravel Rock Band from 1968, the three original members Donnie Angonia (key

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Cellist Varga, pianist Rose complete Texas Music Festival series

By Margaret Coltman

The Texas Music Festival concluded Monday night with memorable performances by cellist Laszlo Varga, members of the University of Houston School of Music faculty, and A&M music coordinator and pianist Werner Rose.

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The musicians lived up to their reputations in Anton Kraft's (1749-1820) "Sonata for Two Celli, Op. 2, II", Brahms' (1833-1897) "Sonata for G Major for Violin and Piano, Op. 78," and Antonin Dvorak's (1841-1904) "Quintet in A Major for Piano and Strings, Op. 81."

Kraft was both a composer and cellist, and his exploitation of the cello is clearly evident in the Sonata. It is a light-hearted piece, characterized by virtuosic passages in the often hazardous upper regions of the fingerboard.

The influence of Haydn was obvious, which is hardly surprising considering that the two worked for Prince Esterházy, and Haydn composed many pieces for Kraft, the court cellist. Kraft sacrificed music for the vogue vir-

tuosity of the time, and the music was so busy it was almost overwhelming.

Varga and David Tomatz presented a sprightly performance of the Sonata. Sometimes the bowing and fingering were not in sync with each other, and balance between the two cellists was not the best - Tomatz could have offered more support.

Phrase endings were not always together, but the spirit of the piece was too joyful to let these problems affect the piece, and overall the duo presented a most enjoyable performance.

Varga was joined by Ruth Tomfohrde for the Brahms. Originally for violin and piano, the Sonata was transcribed (and transposed) by Varga. It is a standard transcription, and the Sonata is fast becoming part of every cellist's repertoire.

The Sonata is indescribably beautiful, with a soaring opening melody that returns in different forms throughout the piece. Varga and Tomfohrde's performance was very moving.

Tomfohrde could have played out a little more in the opening, but Varga projected well. His accompanying pizzicato were distressingly

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'Terminator 2' 'Judgment Day' for new Schwarzenegger action flick

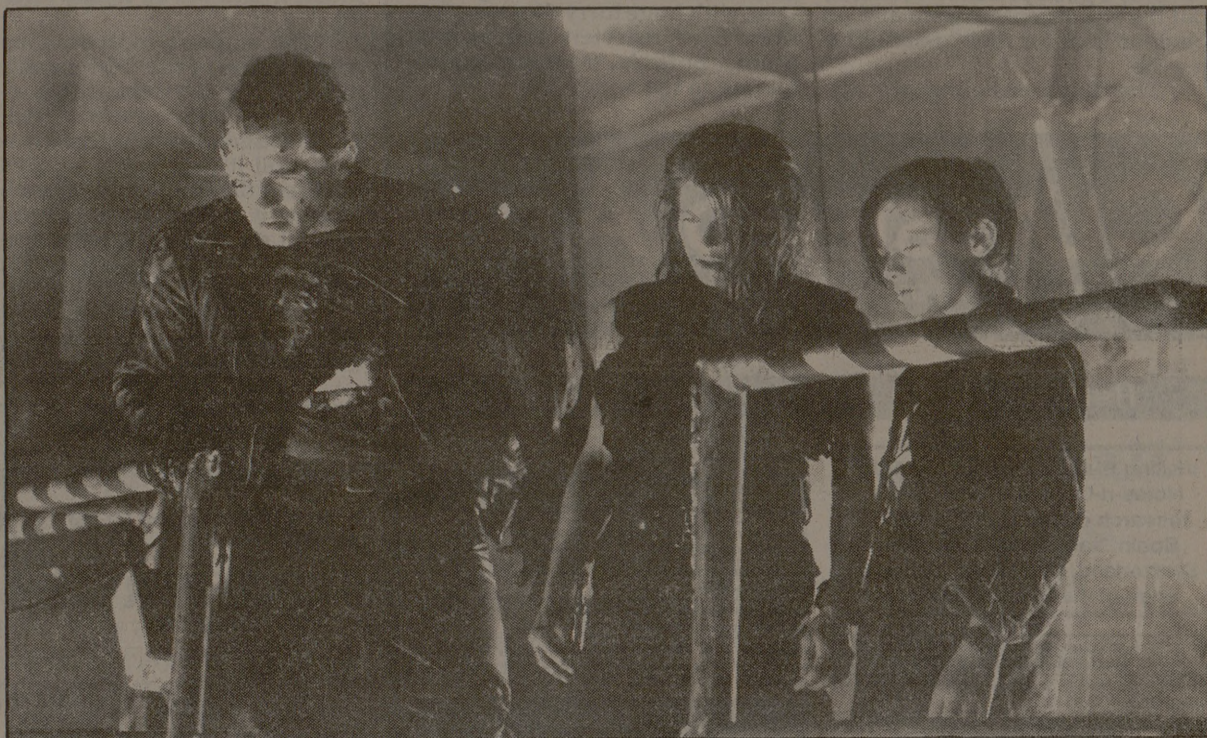
By Julia E.S. Spencer

"Terminator 2: Judgement Day" is a truly astounding movie, sent to us from the future, and programmed to entertain twice as much as the first one, which it does. Something of an anomaly in an arena full of dumb-dumb action

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pictures, this film has wit and intelligence to spare, and even a healthy social conscience. Despite its extremely high-tech nature, it actually makes a good case against sophisticated artificial intelligence technology, and presents some chilling, or rather, vaporizing pictures of the effects of nuclear weapons proliferation. Although Arnold Schwarzenegger is back as another T-800 series Terminator, like he promised, a pumped-up Linda Hamilton is also back, and equally impressive, as Sarah Connor, super-tough mother of future hero John Connor (newcomer Edward Furlong).

"T2" also accounts for its enormous budget by putting it up there on the screen for all to see. Not only are there the requisite stunts, vehicle crashes, explosions and general mayhem, but also the most incredibly mind-boggling special effects you have ever seen. A chameleon-like machine made of liquid metal, capable of assuming any form and of transforming its ap-



Battalion File Photo

The Terminator (Arnold Schwarzenegger), Sarah Connor (Linda Hamilton), and her son John (Edward Furlong), join forces to fight a deadly new Terminator sent from the future, in "Terminator 2: Judgement Day."

pendages into lethal spikes, becomes utterly believable in this movie, making Edward Scissorhands look like kid stuff. Somehow, all this effort seems justified, due to an ingenious script (written by William Wisher and director James Cameron) full of twists and turns and clever dia-

logue, relentlessly paced direction, and some fine acting from all involved.

Set 10 years after the first "Terminator" movie, we now find Sarah in a state mental hospital, committed because she has been blowing up computer factories and doing a different kind of California

dreamin'. She has seen the future, and knows the exact date of the nuclear holocaust which will kill 3 billion people, started by a HAL-like defense computer with a mind of its own. She has a Cassandra complex; although she's right, no

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JOCK ITCH AND RINGWORM STUDY

Individuals 12 years of age and older with "jock itch" or "ringworm" are being recruited for a research study of an antifungal medication. \$125.00 will be paid to volunteers who complete this study.

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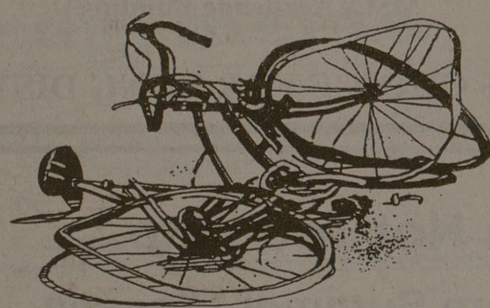
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