

Gingbreadmen to play at post-election party *New club provides variety of live acts*

By JULIE POLSTON

Feature Writer of THE BATTALION

Stafford Opera House will hold a post-election party Wednesday evening with three different bands playing everything from eternity rock to funk and soul.

Promotions manager T.C. Nguyen said he came up with the idea for the election party a few months ago after talking about politics with a friend.

Nguyen said the cover charge will vary according to who wins the presidential election.

"Cover is free if Clinton wins, \$3 if President Bush wins and \$1.85 if Perot wins," he said.

Nguyen said he came up with the price for Perot when he was in the grocery store and saw a package of pig ears for \$1.85 per pound.

The show will begin at about 9:30 p.m. The main attraction will be the Gingbreadmen, a seven-member band formed in San Antonio in June 1990.

Most of the band members were friends at William Howard Taft High School, and played in the marching and jazz bands as well as talent shows and garage bands.



The Gingbreadmen will play tonight at a post-election party at Stafford Opera House.

"The Gingbreadmen were here in October and they packed the house," Nguyen said. "We even had to turn people away."

The band's music has been described as a combination of funk, jazz and soul - with jazz being a major influence on each of the members.

"Our interest in funk music came about through our love of jazz, as well as horn bands like Chicago," said singer/guitarist Henry

(Jazz Baby H) Gutierrez. "That's what we listen to all the time - jazz, soul and a lot of funk. It's definitely one of the most demanding styles of music, too. It asks a lot of you, but it's also very easy if you have the soul, if you have the spirit."

The band tries to send a positive message to its audience with song like "Peace, Love & Sunshine" and "Under Sunshine."

"A lot of my lyrics are basically about freeing yourself," Gutierrez said. "One doesn't always have to sit and complain. Get up and make a difference before you don't have the chance to."

The band has performed at clubs in Austin such as the Cannibal Club and the Black Cat and at Fitzgerald's in Houston.

In addition, the Gingbreadmen were invited to play at the South By Southwest Music Festival in Austin, which is an honor sought after by area bands because it often provides an opportunity to get signed by record label scouts.

"We want to all become great musicians one day," said bass player John (Johnny Boy) Vogelsang. "We just want to be different, become better musicians and have a lot of fun."

By MARSHALL LOVE

Feature Writer of THE BATTALION

A little excitement may be added to the local music scene with the opening of a new live music club in downtown Bryan.

The 3rd Floor Cantina, located at 201 26th Street, opened Saturday, Oct. 31.

The club is on the third floor of an old three-story brick building Phillip Palomares and his brothers Jesse and Oscar bought in 1990. They have been renovating it for over a year.

"We're going to have all different types of music here: reggae, blues, rock and roll, Hispanic, and even ballroom music," Phillip said.

Michael E. Johnson, formerly of the Killer Bees, and Joe "King" Carrasco will bring their "King Bee" tour to the 3rd Floor on Nov. 5, performing a mix of Tex-Mex music and reggae.

Phillip said he and his brothers had been looking for a building in the area because of downtown Bryan's market potential.

"People had been coming back to the downtown area, bringing it back to life, but when we purchased the building we had no idea what to do with it," he said.

The club's one large open area can hold a crowd of 350. Carved columns, painted turquoise and pink, reach from the old wooden floors up to the turning fans that swing from the high ceilings.

"This used to be a speakeasy in the late 40s, early 50s, and an old lady named Margie Parker ran the place," Jesse said. "The building had personality before we started working here."

The Cantina's manager, Willie Bennett, has been booking live music for 19 years and has worked with acts such as Bo Diddley and George Strait.

"I'm the one that showed the building to Jesse," Bennett said. "He's an old friend of mine. He told me that he wanted to have a music club and get me to run it, and here we go."

"We're after a Sixth Street type atmosphere here, where people can drive to downtown Bryan without a particular destination in mind, where they know there will be a variety of entertainment."

Bennett said he believes that other downtown businesses should join together in the goal of revitalizing the area.

"I think the Stafford (Opera House) sees us as competition, but I think we can only help each other," he said. "The more clubs the better. People will drive downtown and then decide where to go. A lot of clubs means a lot of people."

The music at the 3rd Floor will be kept fresh to attract a variety of people, Bennett said.

"If a band plays here, you won't see them again for at least four to six weeks," he said. "We're not going to bore our audiences by bringing in the same group over and over."

Jr. Medlow, Doyle Branham and Miss Molly and the Whips are scheduled to appear in November.

Bennett said he wants an audience mix as varied as the bands that will appear.

"We're hoping to get a mix of people that can get along," he said. "We're not after just locals or students; we want all walks of life at the 3rd Floor."

AC/DC back with live album

By MACK HARRISON

Reporter for THE BATTALION

AC/DC
"AC/DC LIVE"
ATCO Records

They're back. AC/DC, that perennial three-chord rock band, has released its first live album in 14 years.

Now, be forewarned: This release isn't for everyone. If you don't like driving rhythms with screaming power chords and inane lyrics, you probably won't like this album. But then again, if you don't like this type of music, you probably don't like AC/DC.

But if head-banging hard rock is your cup of tea, Angus, Malcom, Brian, Cliff and Chris deliver enough for even the die-hard fan.

You've probably already heard the live version of "Highway to Hell" on your favorite album rock station.

Well, that's just a taste of what's on this release. Whether you're a hard core AC/DC fanatic who owns every album, or if you just crank up the radio whenever you hear one of their songs, "AC/DC Live" covers just about the entire history of the band.

The recording comes in two forms: a special collectors edition double CD or cassette set that includes a poster pullout, and a single edition.

In the single edition, the band showcases its greatest hits, songs such as "Heatseeker," "Who Made Who" and "Moneytalks" cranked up a shade faster and a notch louder.

The album also features "Hell's Bells," as well as earlier material such as "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap," "Shoot to Thrill," "Whole

Lotta Rosie" and "TNT."

Of course, the recording includes those spring break classics, "Back in Black" and "You Shook Me All Night Long." And for the finale, the album climaxes with a seven-minute version of "For Those About to Rock (We Salute You)."

In fact, the single edition would probably be the better buy, except for the fact that it doesn't include "Jailbreak" or "Let There Be Rock." Unless you recognize those song titles, you can get away with purchasing the single CD or cassette.

The true AC/DC fan, however, will settle for nothing less than the special double collectors edition.

In a single or double dose, "AC/DC Live" gives fans what they want: No power ballads, no techno-tricks - just good, hard ROCK.

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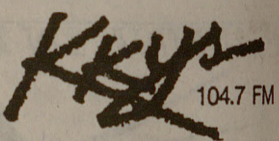
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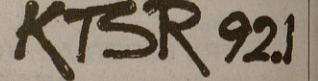
Weekly top 5



1. "End of the Road"—Boyz II Men
2. "Barbie"—Meryn Cadell
3. "I'd Die Without You"—P.M. Dawn
4. "Little Miss Can't Be Wrong"—Spin Doctors
5. "Sesame's Tree"—Smart E's



1. "No One Else on Earth"—Wynonna Judd
2. "Watch Me"—Lorrie Morgan
3. "Shake The Sugar Tree"—Pam Tillis
4. "Bubba Shot The Jukebox"—Mark Chestnutt
5. "Burn One Down For Me"—Clint Black



1. "Hey Hey What Can I Do"—Led Zeppelin
2. "Highway to Hell"—AC/DC
3. "Sent By Angels"—Arcangels
4. "Hair of the Dog"—Nazareth
5. "The Pusher"—Steppenwolf