

Quintos

loved ones

tract at least 400 people on issues of community. Vasquez said CAMAC's theme is "Unidos Trabajamos." Making "today" or "United We Stand."

Martinez, vice-chair, said this theme is the various issues that unite faces.

Directions

act date for the Texas Students' Association convention appeared in Battalion. The American Muslim will be held Friday in 7 to 10 p.m.

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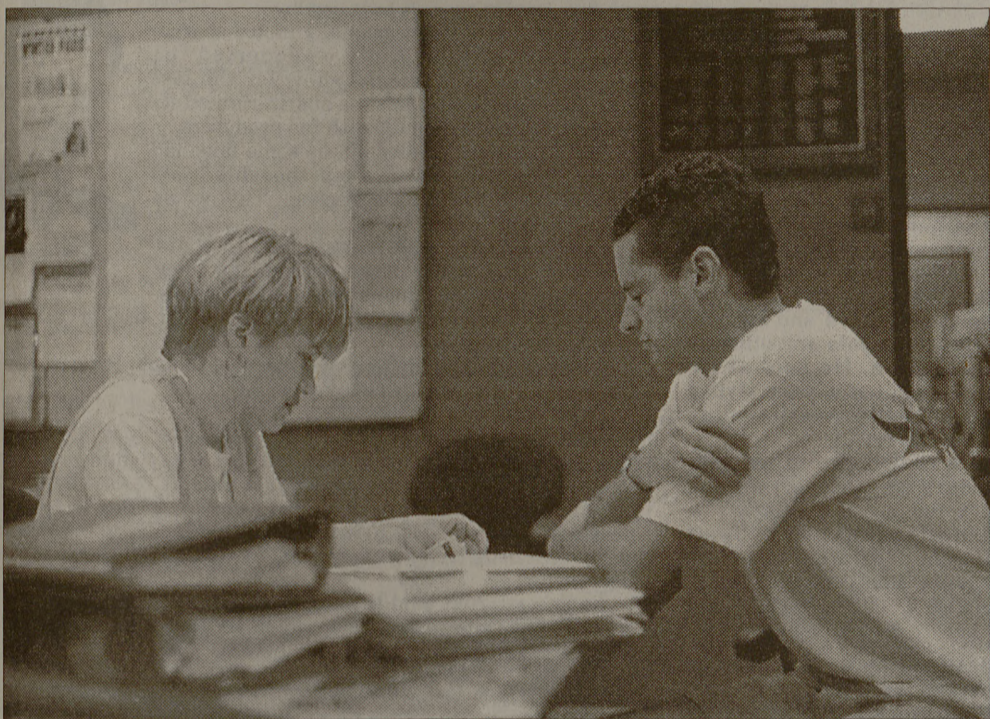
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Amy Browning / THE BATTALION

Courtney Rhoads and Bill Spalthoff examine information on job opportunities at the Career Center.

Career center helping seniors for real world

Haley Stavinoha
THE BATTALION

Seniors graduating in December are getting nervous, anxious and frustrated with the uncertainty of the "real world." Well, the place to go for help on campus is Texas A&M's Career and Placement Center.

Before the semester starts, the center is busy getting December graduates ready for the life after college.

Pat Alexander, associate director of career education, said students will find the career center to be beneficial and developmental.

"While it may be work, it might take off the stress of finding a job that would be there if you were doing it by yourself," Alexander said.

The center offers workshops on career exploration, resume preparation, interviewing skills, workplace realities and job search strategies.

To go through the placement office, there are several important steps to take. First, register by setting up a personal disc

resume. Then you will go through the process of on-campus interviews.

Mary Ferguson, an accounting major, graduated in August and found the placement center to be extremely worthwhile.

"I'm getting exposed to companies I did not know were looking to fill positions," Ferguson said.

Alexander said the center has a career resources library that offers information on careers and employment opportunities with over 2,000 company information files and employment trend materials.

Alexander said employers come to A&M to find a certain caliber of students.

Melanie Filar, a journalism major and December graduate, said she welcomed assistance from the center.

"Any help I can get is better than none," she said.

Alexander said the career center is accessible, so students should take advantage of it.

Alexander advises that students register three semesters before their graduation date and said someone is always at the center to help with any concerns or questions.

"While it may be work, it might take off the stress of finding a job that would be there if you were doing it by yourself."

— Pat Alexander

associate director of career education

Mosquitoes making nasty mark on College Station

Margaret Claughton
THE BATTALION

College Station is under siege by the terror of bloodsuckers.

Actually, they're millions of little terrorists — mosquitoes.

Bob Hole, supervisor of the city forestry department, said the number of mosquitoes has increased sharply since the recent heavy rains in the area.

"Even in this shop where the mosquito sprayer lives, we have mosquitoes," he said.

According to Gerald Guillory, irrigation specialist for the forestry department, the city has received a number of calls from citizens complaining about the recent outbreak of mosquitoes.

"We're getting reports from all over the city," he said.

Hole said the bugs probably laid eggs prior to the rainfall and were just waiting for the moisture before they could hatch.

Dr. Jim Olson, a Texas A&M professor and medical entomologist, said the breed of mosquitoes attacking College Station is known as a flood water mosquito.

Olsen said this species lays eggs in depressions such as footprints or

knots in trees and wait for severe rainfall.

Once the water arrives, the eggs hatch in 20 minutes. After five to six days the larvae mature and emerge to feed.

"That's when you get a whole waft of them all at once," he said.

Olsen said there are 1,000 times more mosquitoes now than prior to the flood.

He said the bugs are at their worst right after sunset until about 11 p.m.

"I suggest you get the latest addition of TV Guide, shut yourself up in the house and don't go outside during those hours," Olsen said.

But College Station is much better off than other areas of Texas. Olsen said in places around Houston, Port Arthur and Beaumont, people are forced to wear bandannas over their faces because of mosquitoes flying in their mouths and noses.

College Station city workers are working to keep the local mosquito population under control.

Guillory said when residents call the city will send someone out to spray in that area.

Hole said it usually takes just one call for the city to respond.

Queensrÿche takes slow journey to 'Promised Land'

By Katherine Arnold
THE BATTALION

Queensrÿche
"Promised Land"
EMI Records
★★★ 1/2 (out of five)

Queensrÿche's latest, "Promised Land," should come with a warning label: if easily depressed do not buy this album.

The band uses "Promised Land" to tackle emotional and social problems. Unfortunately, the deep lyrics often ruin great music.

Queensrÿche's hit it big with their album, "Operation: Mindcrime." And the band's last album, "Empire," went triple platinum.

Queensrÿche has had success with album's focusing on a single concept. "Promised Land" is no exception.

Songwriter Chris DeGarmo said in a press release that the album was a release for him.

"All of us are from what you'd call dysfunctional families," he said. "And that stuff, a lot of it's painful. It stirs up the emotions. But it's so enticing to try and tap as an artist."

"Promised Land" starts off with a mind-tripping instrumental, leading into the album's punchy second track. "I am I" is a good head-banger, but is the only one on the album.

The rest of the songs are much slower, dragging the album down with them.

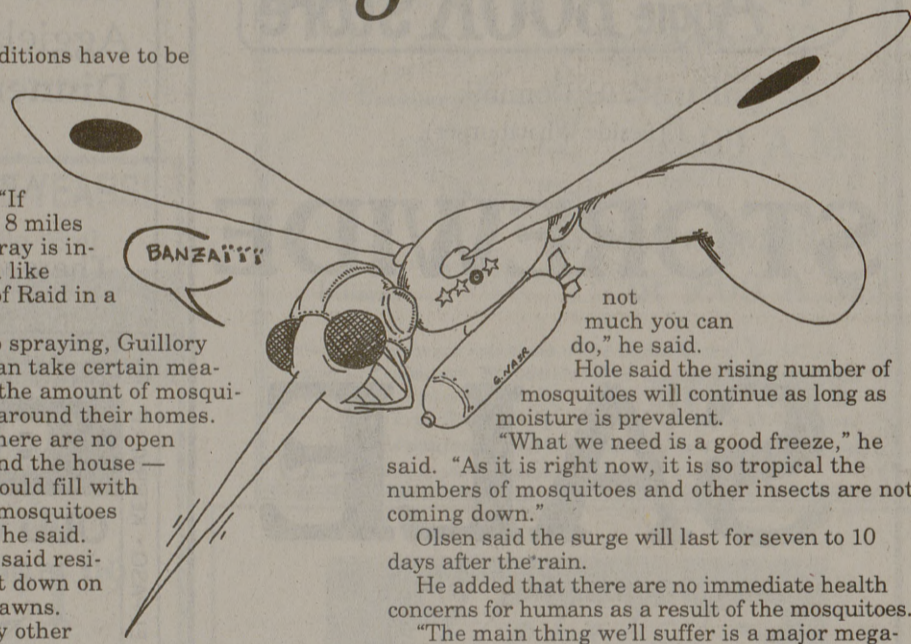
The album takes a deep look at one's inner self with songs like "I am I," "Damaged," "One More Time," and "Someone Else."

Reflective words work well in some songs, but Queensrÿche may have tried a bit too hard at it.

"Damaged" might be the first rock song in history to include the word "psychoanalyze."



Queensrÿche returns with "Promised Land."



not much you can do," he said.

Hole said the rising number of mosquitoes will continue as long as moisture is prevalent.

"What we need is a good freeze," he said. "As it is right now, it is so tropical the numbers of mosquitoes and other insects are not coming down."

Olsen said the surge will last for seven to 10 days after the rain.

He added that there are no immediate health concerns for humans as a result of the mosquitoes.

"The main thing we'll suffer is a major mega-annoyance," he said. "But it's just temporary."

Digable Planets fall prey to sophomore slump on 'Comb'

By Rob Clark
THE BATTALION

Digable Planets
"Blowout Comb"
Pendulum Recordings
★★ 1/2 (out of five)

Digable Planets is back, and they're still "Cool like Dat."

The irresistible single "The Rebirth of Slick (Cool Like Dat)," put the Planets on the map, and their signature jazz samples signaled the rebirth of jazz into popular black music along with fellow rappers A Tribe Called Quest, Guru of Gangstarr and US3.

DP's 1992 debut album "Reachin' . . . A Refutation of Time and Space," went gold and

"The Rebirth of Slick" earned the group a Grammy award. And this success means all eyes are on the Planets' latest effort, "Blowout Comb."

But Butterfly, Ladybug and Doodlebug (yes, those are their rap names) fall prey to the sophomore slump on the new album.

The jazz is still there. And the beats are once again of the highest, coolest and funkier quality.

In fact, "Jettin," "Dog It" and "Black Ego" are so funky, it's almost impossible to keep your head from bobbing. So funky you'll have an ugly look on your face.

But the group tries to escape the flowery peace of "Reachin'"

and replace it with a sort of urban militancy.

No, they haven't gone gangsta, but the change is an extreme one.

But the album does have its strong points. Doodlebug represents black pride and independence on "Dial 7" with the lyrics "Be that true black man that I am / I stand in the oppression with my sisters and my brothers / No slippin', no half-steppin'."

And Ladybug brings her classy style to "Graffiti," with a boast of her own — "I got the concrete under my feet . . . I got the ease-back style / Watch out world."

But there is nothing on "Blowout Comb" that is half as catchy as on "Reachin'." Of

course, it's hard to beat "Reachin's" creative gems like "Where I'm From," "Time and Space" and "Nickel Bags," but not one new cut can compare.

The production on the album is impeccable, and every song has the coolest of vibes.

And even at their worst, the rappers in Digable Planets are better than most rap stars. Anything new from such a team is welcome, but that same magic just isn't there.

While Digable Planets is still one of the most creative rap groups around and their mark on music is unmistakable, "Blowout Comb" just doesn't live up to expectations.



Ladybug, Butterfly and Doodlebug of Digable Planets.