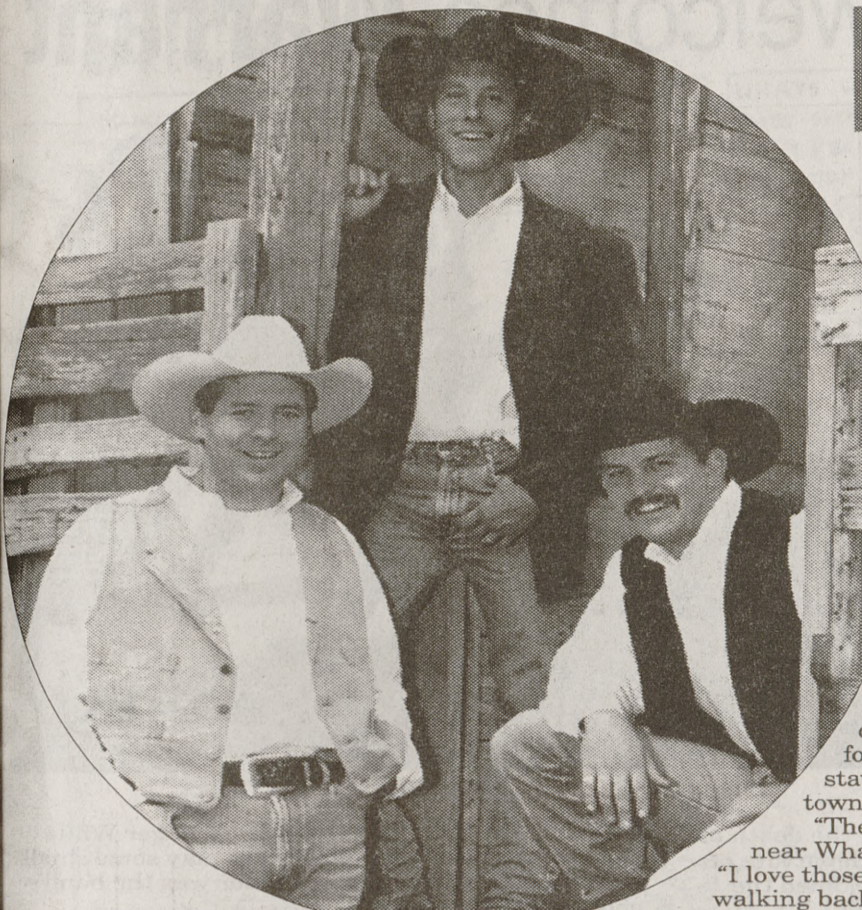


## Manders and Nuevo Tejas find inspiration in life's labors



Mark David Manders and the Nuevos Tejas Band

By Amber Clark  
THE BATTALION

He digs ditches by day and is a country singer by night. But Mark David Manders, who is performing tomorrow at 3rd Floor Cantina, says his heart is always in his music. Manders began writing songs when he was 15 and two years ago he made his first attempt at forming his own band. He met bass player Russ Sherefield and fiddle player David Bennett, and the Nuevo Tejas band was born. Manders and Nuevo Tejas have performed at small clubs around the state, Manders said, usually in towns few people have ever heard of. "There's a place called Egypt down near Wharton that's really cool," he said. "I love those clubs down there. It's like walking back into the 1800's, into some of those old, old dance halls." Manders and the band have never played in Bryan-College Station, although Manders said

the area is not new territory. As a student at Texas Tech University, Manders said he heard Aggies were weird, unpredictable people. "Everyone said, 'They're all strange down there,'" Manders said. "But when I went down, I went to the Chicken and had a blast. The people were really friendly and loved music." Manders and Nuevo Tejas have taken several other long roadtrips to small towns. The singer said he develops ideas from these experiences and likes to share the events with people through his music. The band is currently working on a festival called "Roadtrip from Hell Weekend" that will be held in Luckenbach in June. "Roadtrips are hell," Manders said. "We like to have a lot of fun when we play and that's what this is all about." Manders said the crowds always seem to enjoy the music, which he describes as "shock country." He said he tries to create songs that are truthful and meaningful, detailing every aspect of the band's lives. Manders sings about everything from getting a DWI to childhood memories of his father. Manders said the music reflects his feelings and that listeners can relate to the rough times in his life. "This is definitely not Top 40," he said. "I don't believe in rhyming 'moon' and 'June' and all that bubble-gum Nashville crap. This is about screwing up,

working hard, and life." Manders said the band prefers playing small venues where the crowd can feel and hear the music. He said the best way to judge a crowd is to play a slow song, and if he can hear a pin drop, he said he knows the audience is really paying attention to the music. The band plays professionally, Manders said, but insist on having fun while on stage. They frequently present surprise players, such as the undisclosed guest that will appear tomorrow night. Manders said he likes audience participation and he often invites people from the crowd up on the stage. In one of their songs, titled "I'm So Happy," Manders simply says whatever is on his mind, then encourages audience members to come up and say anything they wish to say. "I'll introduce a song and in the middle of it I might say something like 'David is a descendant of the Ockpick tribe,' and then explain it to the crowd," he said. "It's more fun and the crowd likes that stuff." Manders said the band doesn't want to become too popular. He said they enjoy the family atmosphere and the close ties they've created during the past years. Although the band has struggled to make a name for itself, Manders said he wouldn't change anything. "I wouldn't have it any other way," he said. "This is probably the best time of my life."

## OPAS offers students rare chance to see historic symphony

By Keryl Cryer  
THE BATTALION

Rapsodie espagnole and La mer may sound straight out of foreign language courses, but these two phrases will sound completely different as they are spoken by the instruments of a world renowned symphony this weekend. The MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society will present the BBC Philharmonic in Rudder Auditorium Saturday at 8 p.m. The Philharmonic is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year and will feature the world famous conductor/composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies. Andi Stevenson, chair for OPAS, said the reputation of both the orchestra and its guest conductor will have broad appeal. "The BBC has a wonderful international reputation," Stevenson said. "And Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, who will be conducting his pieces, also has

an outstanding reputation, so we knew that they would play extremely well in the Bryan-College Station area." The symphony, which is based in Manchester, England, was founded in 1934 as the BBC Northern Orchestra and was renamed the BBC Philharmonic in 1982. Anand Ramaswamy, director of student development for OPAS, said the philharmonic has also won many awards for its ability to provide a wide array of music, including Saturday's classical pieces by Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel. "It's been known for its upbeat exploration of 20th century British music and for using a different outlook in the way that they present their music," he said. One way in which it will provide such an outlook is by allowing Sir Peter Maxwell Davies to conduct two of his more than 200 published works: "Trumpet Concerto" and "St. Thomas

Wake: Foxtrot for Orchestra." Davies, who studied music in Manchester, Rome and Princeton, has enhanced his international reputation by conducting the Royal Philharmonic and holding the title of Composer Laureate with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Like this season's previous nine performances, Ramaswamy thinks the presentation of the Philharmonic will provide a unique educational and artistic opportunity for students and the community alike. "I personally feel like orchestra is one art form that in some ways is the least understood and the least known about," he said. "I think that a lot of people have the mindset that 'Oh, it's boring. There's nothing to see and you just sit there listening,'" he said. "But the impact of having a live symphonic production is something that I think people should really take the opportunity to try out."



Yan Pascal Tortelier and Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Conductors

# WEEKEND PREVIEW

### Friday

#### Live Music

- Blue pepper**, a blues band out of Austin, will be performing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java.
- Cheyenne** will be playing at the Texas Hall of Fame.
- Deep Blue Something**, an alternative rock band from Dallas, will be playing at 3rd Floor Cantina. **Black Pearl**, an Austin rock band, will be the opening act.
- Peeping Tom**, a local cover band with a few original songs, will be playing at The Tap.
- A rave**, a techno-dance party with DJ's playing constant music will be hosted by Stafford Opera House.
- Soma, Mudshow**, and **The Blue Valentines**, three local rock bands will be playing at Northgate Cafe.

### Other Events

- Freudian Slip**, an improv comedy show, will be held in Rudder Forum. Doors will open at 8:30.
- MSC Cepheid Variable** will be hosting **AggieCon XXVI**, a science-fiction convention, starting at 4 p.m. at the MSC.
- Rocky Horror Picture Show** will be shown at the Grove at midnight.
- Star Trek: Generations** will be shown by the MSC Film Society at 9:30.

### Saturday

- Live Music**
- Last Call**, a local rock band, will be playing at Northgate Cafe.
- Mark David Manders**, a country singer, will be playing at

the 3rd Floor Cantina. See related story.

- Mother's Monkey**, a local alternative band, will be playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java.
- Ray Price** will be playing at the Texas Hall of Fame.
- Sincola**, an alternative band, will be playing at Stafford Opera House to promote their new album.
- Other Events**
- Rocky Horror Picture Show** will be shown at the Grove at midnight.
- Star Trek: Generations** will be shown by MSC Film Society at 7:00 and 9:30.

### Sunday

- Warrant** will be at 3rd Floor Cantina. See related story, page 4.

**Cepheid Variable** Presents:

## THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

a different set of jaws.

FRIDAY MARCH 24  
SATURDAY MARCH 25

# MIDNIGHT

At the Grove  
Admission \$3.00  
Fun Packs \$2.50

Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our ability.

March 30, 1995 8:00 p.m. Rudder Auditorium

MSC OPERA & PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY presents THE NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL ON TOUR

ADMIT ONE RUDDER AUDITORIUM March 30, 1995

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of their namesake, the Newport Jazz Festival All Stars are touring America, featuring such artists as Jon Faddis and Red Holloway. From swing to bebop, YOU will see why The Newport Jazz Festival® On Tour is more than just a concert -- it's an event!

Your Season **OPAS22**

Tickets are on sale at the MSC Box Office - TAMU, or charge by phone at 845-1234

Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our ability.

Join us for a special Buffet at 5:30 p.m. - Call 775-7776 for reservations. Also, be sure to attend the Patricia S. Peters Lagniappe Lecture at 7 p.m. in Room #212 of the MSC - Lecture admission is free.

## BUSINESS IS BACK!

### Italy Spring Semester 1996

Students will select a minimum of 12 hours:

<b>ECON 489:</b> BUAD 489	Economics of the Eur. Comm. Prof. Pier Luigi Sacco
<b>LBAR 332:</b> MGMT 489	Culture of Mgmt. in the Eur. Comm. Prof. Pier Luigi Sacco
<b>ARTS 350:</b>	Arts and Civilization* Prof. Paolo Barucchi
<b>ANTH 201:</b>	Introduction to Anthropology Dr. Sylvia Grider
<b>ANTH 205:</b>	Peoples and Cultures of the World Dr. Sylvia Grider
<b>PSYC 405:</b>	Psychology of Religion Dr. David Rosen
<b>PSYC 306:</b>	Abnormal Psychology Dr. David Rosen
*Mandatory for all students	
Study Abroad Programs 161 Bizzell Hall West 845-0544	

**ITALY**

Interested?

Attend any one of these informational meetings in 251 Bizzell Hall West:

Mon., Mar. 27	2 - 2:45
Mon., Mar. 27	3 - 3:45
Mon., Mar. 27	4 - 4:45
Wed., Mar. 29	2 - 2:45
Wed., Mar. 29	3 - 3:45
Wed., Mar. 29	4 - 4:45
Mon., Apr. 3	2 - 2:45
Mon., Apr. 3	3 - 3:45
Mon., Apr. 3	4 - 4:45
Wed., Apr. 5	2 - 2:45
Wed., Apr. 5	3 - 3:45
Wed., Apr. 5	4 - 4:45