

Weekend Preview

Ho-Hum to play at 3rd Floor Cantina tonight

By Amy Protas
THE BATTALION

Ho-Hum is not exactly the kind of name one would expect to draw crowds. But that is exactly what the band from Little Rock, Ark., proudly calls itself. This "Ark-La-Tex" band is playing at 3rd Floor Cantina tonight.

Ho-Hum consists of bassist Rod Bryan, singer/guitar player Lenny Bryan, drummer Dave Hoffpauir and guitarist/harmonica player Kevin Kerby. Rod and Lenny are brothers.

Willie Bennett, 3rd Floor Cantina partner and general manager, said he likes the way the band fits into the Cantina's atmosphere.

"They're a rock band from Little Rock and they've got their own sound," Bennett said. "They're a different kind of rock band being from that area. They have a unique sound that's definitely different from other bands I've heard."

Bennett found out about Ho-Hum through Paul Lovett, agent of Austin-based band Little Sister. Ho-Hum played for the first time here last year.

"Since Little Sister does so well here, I had Ho-Hum send me a CD and biography sheet," Bennett said. "I brought them in as an opening band for Little Sister. I thought I'd try them out, and I liked them, so I'm bringing them back as a headliner."

Lovett said the band's sound is a combination of several musical styles.

"It's a mixture of really cool styles," Lovett said. "The Bryan brothers like a lot of the new alternative music — real guitar bands. Kevin loves country. Dave is a real roots person — blues and reggae."

The band members consider The Replacements, Uncle Tupelo and Bill Monroe as their influences. Lovett said the members are not unwilling to back to their musical roots.

"You've got four distinct types of music that define the Ho-Hum sound," Lovett said. "Definitely alternative band, but a lot of alternative bands afraid to go back to anything in the past. This is not, so they mix alternative and soul music."

The production of the band's first album, *Ho-Hum*, reflects the multiple influences on the band.

The album was recorded in Alabama and produced in London.

"We recorded our album at Fame studios in Muscle Shoals, Ala.," Lovett said. "That's the same studio where Wilson Pickett cut *Mustang Sally*. It was where Otis Redding and Aretha Franklin recorded."

The band has recently signed onto the Ume record label.

Bennett said the label has the potential to be huge, and the band is on the brink of making it.

"We try to get bands that have potential on the radio," Bennett said. "They aren't there yet, so we are able to afford them. We try to get bands that are on the cutting edge of being a regional band to being a household name."

Thursday

Arabian Nights is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java.

Bar Nuns, a rock band from Austin, is playing at The Tap.

Citizen Lane, a funky jazz band, is playing at the Brazos Brewing Company (see related story on pg. 3).

Dead Eye Dick, a rock band from New Orleans, is playing at the Dixie Theatre. **Rubber Bullet**, a rock band from Austin, is opening.

George Pobletts, a classic rock performer, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

MSC Film Society is showing *Five* and *Jacklight* as part of the Texas Film Festival.

Friday

Hush, an alternative pop band, is playing at Sweet

Eugene's House of Java.

The Killer Bees, a reggae band from Austin, is playing at the Dixie Theatre.

John Landis is speaking at 9:30 in Rudder Auditorium as part of the Texas Film Festival. *Pharaoh's Army* showing at 7 p.m.

The Logan Brothers, an acoustic duo, is playing at The Tap.

Saturday

The Maps, a rhythm and blues band, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java.

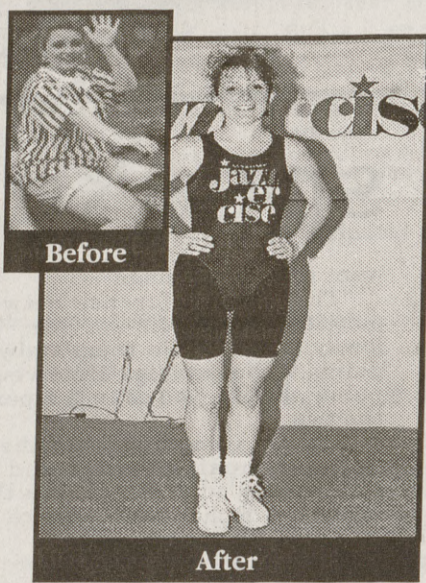
Miss Molly and the Whips, a blues rock band from Houston, is playing at the 3rd Floor Cantina.

Quickserv Johnny, a rock band from Austin, is playing at The Tap.

The Wicks, a rock band, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

Jazzercise Fitness Center

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After having my second son I could not lose the weight I had gained during pregnancy. No matter what I did, it seemed like I was never going to fit into my "pre-pregnancy" clothes. I tried exercising at home, but it is very hard to stay motivated when you are exercising by yourself. At my first visit to Jazzercise Cathy encouraged me to give it a chance, and not to be discouraged when I didn't see immediate results. Cathy also informed me that it would take about 6 to 8 weeks to see a significant difference. Well, I stuck to Jazzercise and have been going steadily about a year now. It seemed like the more I went the more I wanted to go. I have met lots of people, had a lot of fun and, hey, I lost 33 pounds! It was work to lose the weight, but it just seemed like "play" instead. Jazzercise offers different types of classes with such a variety of music, so you never get bored. I am so pleased with the results of Jazzercise. I have gone from a size 11 to a size 5! That's 4 1/2 inches off my thighs and 9 inches off my waist! Jazzercise has shown me that exercising doesn't have to be a chore. As long as I am able I will be Jazzercising! Cathy can sign me up for life!

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A&M custodian attacked by hostile plant

COLLEGE STATION (CP) — A large plant recently inherited by the Cartographic Service Unit (Cartographics™) at Texas A&M has allegedly attacked a custodian, Linda Richardson, who was cleaning the unit office.

"I was just dustmopping the floor when I backed up into the corner where the plant is," said Richardson, who is assigned the seventh floor office in the Eller Oceanography and Meteorology Building as part of her regular duties. "I think the mop handle hit the planter and it didn't like it. It was like it set it off. It was real mad—it grabbed at me and was hissing like a cat!"

Richardson fought off the plant by beating at it with her mop.

According to Cartographics manager, W. Chris Smith, the plant which is named Charlie, was recently inherited from former professor Kenneth White who left the Geography Department to take a position in Australia. Dr. White was unable to take the plant with him because it would be too big, and Australian customs agents would have put it under quarantine for at least six months.

"The head of customs is a highly superstitious aboriginal," says White. "We showed him a photo of the plant and he liked to have freaked out. It was pretty obvious they would've made it very hard for us to bring him into the country."

The plant is around twenty years old,

and has around twelve separate tendrils of vine, many of which are in excess of twenty-four feet in length. Before leaving, Dr. White thought that the Cartographics studio would make an ideal home for the plant, since it has long banks of windows providing that northern lighting which is considered ideal by artists. Cartographics, which provides mapmaking and illustration skills to the entire A&M community, was started up by Dr. White fifteen years ago.

Charlie subsists on a diet of around a gallon of Myrkle Groe™ per week, supplemented by the occasional pellet of African Violet food — no meat.

"The plant is a *Pathos* ivy—it's not a carnivorous plant at all," said Smith. "We have no plans to remove Charlie at this time."

Charlie came to Cartographics in January of this year, and had to be carried down from an upstairs office by ten Geography Department personnel through the building stairway. Complaints almost immediately arose regarding the leafy entity.

"I was working up here late one night," said Jeff Thiel, assistant cartographer, "and I heard a noise from the corner [where the plant is located]. Next thing I knew, a framed picture was knocked onto the floor! I try to stay away from that thing. Chris may not have any problem with it, but he feeds the thing."

Lorine Johnson, crew leader of custodial crew area E, says that she doesn't like to send Linda into the room where

she was attacked.

"I don't care what they say — that 'Charlie' thing is dangerous! It makes that room seem like a black hole. We've lost a number of cleaning supplies that were left next to the plant, and I'm afraid we'll lose Linda next!"

"I don't care what they say — that 'Charlie' thing is dangerous!"

—Lorine Johnson
Custodial Crew Leader

Persistent rumors abound that the plant devoured a Cartographics client who was seen entering the office when no one else was in. The unidentified individual was not seen leaving the office afterwards.

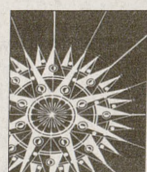
The University Police state emphatically that there has been no missing person report filed on campus, and Smith insists that Cartographics has not had any clients disappear. However, the police were seen interviewing Smith, and left carrying a plastic bag with a leaf sample in it, apparently for lab analysis.

When contacted about the custodian attack incident, the University Safety and Health Office and OSHA would issue no comment at this time.

"Oh, please!" said Smith. "This is all just a case of superstition and hysteria blown out of proportion. Charlie is completely harmless. If anyone has any concerns, they may obtain the MSDS [material safety data sheet] on the plant from me or our building proctor. I really wish certain people would do that instead of running screaming to the media every time the stupid plant drops a leaf."



Linda Richardson during the attack by Charlie



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FRED THORNBERRY ON NEGATIVE CAMPAIGNING: "I have avoided negative campaigning except as a method to get real issues before the people. All factual information has been taken from newspaper articles about the candidates and voting records of those politicians currently in other elected offices."

The Republican primary this March 12th features an interesting cast of candidates. We urge you to check out each candidate for yourself and see if they don't match up with what we have learned in this campaign.

We see two career politicians who can't wait to move to a bigger political trough in Washington. Brady voted against the Right-to-Carry handgun legislation signed into law by Governor Bush. He later described himself as a "poster boy for gun control" in the Houston Chronicle, and now he has done a complete turn-around, saying he is for repeal of the assault rifle ban. The other was labeled by Texas Monthly as "antique furniture" in a story that rated our State senators, because he has been in office for 23 years and is ineffective.

Another candidate is running on one issue against the United Nations; a female mayor from Sealy makes sense, but newspapers state that she lacks the financial and political resources to win; and yet another candidate is a hospital owner who has been quoted by news reporters as an individual who has a lot more money than ideas to throw at his campaign.

The truth is that there is one true Republican in the race who stands out as the candidate who is equipped to carry on in the common-sense conservative tradition set by departing Congressman Jack Fields. That person is FRED THORNBERRY.

Here are some facts about Fred Thornberry

- Fred Thornberry is a native Texan and a professor at Texas A&M who has worked throughout the 8th District in every town, city and school for over 25 years.
- Fred Thornberry views the 8th Congressional District job as an opportunity for public service, not an opportunity for himself or for special interest backers.
- Fred Thornberry will be accessible to all constituents in the 8th District, not just in his hometown. And he is able to relate to people from all walks of life, whether it be a poor, struggling farmer or an executive in the boardroom.
- Fred Thornberry's beliefs and philosophy are ours. He advocates:
 1. less taxes;
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