

SLD TAMU

THE BATTALION AGGIELIFE

Aggieland Adjustments

Texas A&M students who hail from northeastern states find unfamiliar but likeable culture and climate in College Station

By MICHAEL SCHAUB
THE BATTALION

stereotypes you hear about people in the North are true," she said.

"I tried to escape this; this is following me," Gorman said. "But it gave me an opportunity to wear my huge collection of wool sweaters."

Gorman said people are more standoffish in the Northeast.

Ice storms notwithstanding, many Northeastern transplants said they intend to stay below the Mason-Dixon Line.

"People in the South are really more laid back," Gorman said. "In the Northeast, if you go somewhere, you must run there."

"I'm probably going to stay in Texas," Eschmann said. "I always thought I wanted to go North, but I didn't like living in the snow."

If the Southern demeanor is not cold, the weather definitely was last week — and Texans' reactions to it confused many Northeasterners.

Pearson also said she intends to stay near Texas, but Saint-Jacques said he might go to medical school in Boston.

Stephanie Eschmann, a sophomore bioengineering major from Bedford, Mass., said she was used to driving in the ice and snow.

The Southern culture took some getting used to for Gorman, who was an undergraduate student at Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

"I couldn't figure out why they didn't put salt or dirt down on the roads," she said.

"In the Northeast, you don't even make eye contact," Gorman said. "Here there are people saying 'howdy' to you."

The weather in Texas was colder than in Massachusetts during this winter break, adding to the confusion, some Northeastern students said.

The idea that all Texans talk with a thick accent still persists somewhat in the Northeast, Gorman said.

"I really wanted a white Christmas," Eschmann said, "but it was colder down here."

"I thought everyone would sound like Matthew McConaughey," she said.

Gorman said news of the winter storm that assaulted Texas surprised her.

"I was actually surprised by the diversity of the students. I knew logically not everyone was going to be like Clint Eastwood in the spaghetti westerns."

"In Boston, it was like 50 degrees," Gorman said. "I was watching the Weather Channel — you know, for yaks — and I heard about this winter storm down here."

After a semester in College Station, Gorman said the novelty of the Lone Star State has not worn off.

The unexpected two-day break from school last week surprised Eschmann, who said she was accustomed to going to school in the snow.

"It's still sort of interesting, seeing people running around, singing in cadence," she said. "You don't get that much in Boston."

"We couldn't cancel school every single day," Eschmann said.

Gorman said she thinks the harsh weather is following her.

Consider this: a strange land where a cold, white substance called snow coats the ground during winter. A land where leaves change color and fall to the ground every autumn. A land whose inhabitants eat chowder and use the word "wicked" as an adverb.

This strange planet is called "New England." And its natives are among the student population at Texas A&M.

If the concept of New England is hard to grasp for native Texans, imagine how Northeastern students must feel in the Land of a Thousand Howdys.

Becky Pearson, a freshman general studies major who lived in Bedford, Mass., and Washington, D.C. before coming to A&M, said Texas is "a whole other world."

"The people are way nicer down here, and drivers are, too," Pearson said.

The Northeastern attitude is different than that of the Southerners, freshman biology major Justin Saint-Jacques, who did a "tour of duty" in Erie, Pa. and Gaithersburg, Md., said.

"The people in the Northeast are different," Saint-Jacques said. "There's a tendency to be more curt, more rushed than people in the South."

Boston native Erin Gorman, a geophysics graduate student, said the popular Southern perception of the Northeast is not far off target.

"I would have to say all the



AGGIELAND
JOE AGGIE



The Northeast
AGGIE, TOO

Ebony, ivory and comedy

Pianist-comedian Steve Green uses insults to get results

By BRANDON TRUITT
THE BATTALION

Steve Green takes pride in the fact that he can walk out the front door of a club after his show his over.

In his twelve years of piano comedy, only once has he had to sneak out the back door of a club and into the alley to hide from an angry mob. A drunken out-of-state rugby team was waiting for him outside the club, cracking their knuckles and preparing for a scuffle.

Fortunately, the manager saved Green by showing him the hidden back exit. Green escaped, and stealthily avoided the only altercation the performer has ever faced. Not bad for a guy who sings

"Let's Get Drunk and Screw" and the highly-requested "Gang Bang Song" night after night to other men's dates.

His "unbruised" track record is proof that Green has mastered the art of insult.

Maybe art is not the correct word for what Green does. His show is not culturally stimulating, it is not a work of musical beauty and words like "posh" or "classy" could never be used to describe the experience.

"It's like I'm waging war on the audience," Green said. "Some guys have a little class, but I do not."

There will be no wine and cheese tasting, no evening gowns or tuxedos, no couples waltzing the evening away in romantic ecstasy when Green performs tonight at

J.D. Well's. Tonight there will be beer, blue jeans, and entertainment in its purest and most brutal form: laughter — side-splitting laughter.

Green indicated that his show will be a little dirty, a little lewd, and it might make a few folks blush, but that is his style of comedy. The show consists of songs as tame as "The Hokey Pokey" to a version of "Happy Birthday" that might take time out to insult the size of the birthday boy's genitalia.

Green, who works largely on tips, admits to pushing the envelope of what is disgusting or perverted.

"For \$10 I can make you laugh, for \$20 I can make you blush, and for \$40 I can make you cry," he said.

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movie review

Cop flick Metro offers no surprises

Metro
Starring Eddie Murphy
Directed by Thomas Carter
Rated R
Playing at Post Oak Mall
★★ (out of five)

By MICHAEL SCHAUB
THE BATTALION

Eddie Murphy just does not have to live up to expectations anymore. His last two movies were *Vampire in Brooklyn* and *The Nutty Professor*, for crying out loud.

So it is all the more strange that

his latest movie should be shallow, formulaic and disappointing.

In *Metro*, Murphy plays Scott Roper, a San Francisco police hostage negotiator. Like many movie cops, Roper is beset by a host of personal and occupational problems.

His ex-girlfriend Ronnie Tate, (Carmen Ejogo), has left him because of his gambling compulsion. He is being forced to train a new partner, Kevin McCall (the usually talented Michael Rapaport). And his best friend on the force is murdered by a psychotic jewelry-theft suspect named Korda (Michael Wincott).

The plot thickens, as much as it possibly can, when the same bad guy is forced to hold jewelry-store

customers hostage after a botched robbery. Roper is called in to negotiate, but Korda will have none of it, and the first of a series of pursuit scenes ensues.

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Eddie Murphy and Michael Rapaport star as cops in *Metro*.

2ND ANNUAL
HISPANIC OPEN HOUSE
"Mi Casa Es Su Casa."
"My House Is Your House."

Hispanic Presidents' Council
Presents:
Hispanic Open House
Tuesday, January 21, 1997
7:00 • MSC 292B

Presented by Hispanic President's Council:

- Ballet Folklorico Celestial (BFC)
- Committee for the Awareness of Mexican American Culture (CAMAC)
- Hispanic Business Student Association (HBSA)
- Hispanic Graduate Student Association (HGSA)
- Hispanic Journalists Association (HJA)
- Kappa Delta Chi Sorority
- Mexican American Engineers and Scientists (MAES)
- National Hispanic Scholarship Fund (NHSF)
- Omega Delta Phi Fraternity
- Puerto Rican Student Association (PRSA)
- Rio Grande Valley Hometown Club (RGVHC)
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)

HOWDY DANCE

WHEN: TONIGHT!!!!
TIME: 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
WHERE: Shadow Canyon (Northgate)
COST: \$2 per person
WHY: To Welcome Everyone Back and Say "Howdy" to All New Aggies

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Rescheduled from January 13, 1997

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Night
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8:30 PM
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These committees will be represented:

- Literary Arts
- Variety Show
- SCONA
- OPAS NOVA
- LT Jordan
- Wiley ERLS
- Film Society
- BAC
- Cepheid Variable
- MBA/Law
- Political Forum
- Hospitality
- Great Issues
- Visual Arts
- CAMAC
- Town Hall
- SLT
- FLC
- CLD
- ALOT
- Abbott



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