



## NEWS BRIEFS

# B-CS tunes in to rock festival

After year of planning, Northgate merchants kick off 3-day music festival with show at Shadow Canyon tonight featuring Ruthie Foster, David Garza

By Robert Smith  
City Editor

South by Southwest it isn't. But this weekend's first ever North by Northgate Music Festival could provide a hot in the arm for live music in Bryan-College Station.

The festival will bring the largest number of music acts B-CS has seen in one weekend, with more than 70 bands scheduled to play at seven venues.

NXNG has been in the works since last year, when Texas A&M student Nathan McFall approached the Northgate Merchant's Association with his idea for a weekend of live music.

"The idea came to me when I was at South by Southwest last year," said McFall, senior environmental science major.

"I was watching all these bands play and I thought, 'We can do this in College Station.'"

McFall submitted a proposal to the Northgate merchants last September, and after adding more details, he was given the green light to begin planning.

"When it first started out it was going to be two days and about 20 bands," he said. "It turned out to be much bigger than I ever expected."

The festival became more than an idea when the Northgate merchants brought in Willie Bennett to recruit talent.

Bennett has been instrumental in bringing

live music to B-CS during the past several years, including major names such as Bo Diddley, Robert Earl Keen and the Nixons.



booked for about a month now, and we've been working on the equipment everyone needs and the sound."

Some of the bands, such as Breedlove and Haywood, will be familiar to local music fans, but several music acts will be making their first appearance in B-CS.

"Some of the bands I didn't know about at first," Bennett said.

"Huffamoose was a pleasant surprise because I didn't know they were going to be in the area."

"Also American Horse, which has three of the guys from Jackpierce, was a pleasant surprise."

Bennett plans to make NXNG an annual event but said he may change one thing about next year's planning.

"I might swing adding one person to my staff," he said. "I've had to do it all by myself. Whenever you're talking about 72 bands, it's going to be hectic."

NXNG will kick off tonight with a free show at Shadow Canyon.

Austin's David Garza will take the stage at 7 and local favorites Haywood will go on at 9.

All-access wristbands are available for Friday and Saturday night's shows at Marooned Records, Crooked Path Ale House, Fitzwilly's and Copacetic Cafe. Wristbands are \$20 and tickets for each night are \$13.

A complete schedule of shows is available at the North by Northgate Web site at <http://www.nxng.com>.

## Festival parking raises concerns

The North by Northgate Music Festival on Mar. 27 and 28 may bring parking problems if it brings as many people to the Northgate area as expected.

Don Anz, owner of Crooked Path Ale House and Cafe Eccell, said those attending the concert should use the parking lots in Northgate.

The mud lot at Church Avenue and Nagle Street will be open for \$2.50 per car. The 120-space parking lot behind Fitzwilly's and the Dixie Chicken will be open.

People who attend the North by Northgate event can use the Northgate parking garage located on University Drive. The cost to park in the garage is seventy-five cents per hour, with a maximum of six dollars per day.

Anz said he expects North by Northgate, the first-ever collaboration by businesses in College Station, to bring about 2,500 attendees on both Friday and Saturday nights. He said the addition of a Northgate parking garage could benefit the city and the students.

"If we had a parking garage, we could bring in more businesses and students would have more space to park," Anz said.

Nathan McFall, the North by Northgate program coordinator, said people can purchase tickets before the event to avoid lines on the night of the performances.

"There are a limited number of tickets available," McFall said.

## Regents discuss tuition increase

The Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System will meet Thursday, March 26, and Friday, March 27, in College Station in Room 292 of the MSC.

The board's Committee on Finance will meet at 9 a.m., and the full board is scheduled to convene at 9:30 a.m. with remarks from the chairman and chancellor.

Following the remarks will be a public hearing regarding proposed increases in board-authorized tuition at Texas A&M International University, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, West Texas A&M University and Baylor College of Dentistry.

## Symposium takes look at research

Issues involved in developing student-based research programs will be the focus of a symposium today at the College Station Conference Center sponsored by the Texas A&M chapter of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society.

The daylong public symposium will open at 10 a.m. Marye Ann Fox, vice president for research at the University of Texas, will speak on "Research IS Education" following the annual Sigma Xi induction and awards banquet. Fox's speech at 7:30 p.m. in 110-111 Koldus Building is open to the public at no charge.

## Group to explore Carter Creek area

Several local groups, including two campus organizations, will unite Saturday to lead an exploration of the threatened Carter Creek natural area, with a focus on both science and fun.

The Brazos Greenways Council, Rio Brazos Audubon, Society of Conservation Biology and American Fisheries Society will join the Sierra Club in the Bio-Blitz, a combination of nature walks and biological inventory of the Carter Creek area at the Brazos Valley Museum's nature trail.

Open to anyone, the event begins with a 7:30 a.m. birding walk and concludes with a 9 p.m. stargazing session at the Brazos Center.

## Club hosts annual pancake feed

The Kiwanis Club of College Station will present their 46th annual pancake day Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Brazos Center on Briarcrest Drive.

Proceeds from the event will be used to support the club's community and youth service activities such as Reading is Fundamental, Brazos Rehabilitation Center, Still Creek Ranch and Children's Miracle Network.

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online  
<http://battalion.tamu.edu>  
Hook up with state and national news through The Wire, AP's 24-hour online news service.

## Head over wheels



MIKE FUENTES/THE BATTALION

t. Bert V. Kretschmar, crime prevention specialist for the University Police Department, engraves a student's bike for identification. The engraving service is offered to help recover lost or stolen bikes.

## Older applicants flood NASA

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — NASA's decision to send a 77-year-old John Glenn back into orbit has reignited the space race, this time the contenders are seniors.

Some of the nation's hardier, old souls have offered to replace Penn aboard shuttle Discovery this as the aging population's envoy space.

At the very least, they'd like to fly in his high-flying footsteps.

"This John Glenn thing has brought just a slew of requests say-

ing, 'How come you picked him? Why not me? I run triathlons. Or I do this. Or I do that,'" said David Leestma, director of flight crew operations at Johnson Space Center.

Why not me, demanded an 81-year-old triathlete.

Or me, asked a 77-year-old retired military pilot.

Why not, indeed?

The answer, NASA says, is simple. There's only one John Glenn, a Mercury astronaut and former Marine with virtually his entire medical history on file, and he's in top shape.

# Leadership body formed

By Suzanne Riggs  
Staff Writer

The MSC Council has created a committee that will form programs focusing on the positive impacts of leadership.

The Leadership Programming Committee (LPC) will be responsible for conducting current programs such as the Aggie Women's Leadership Forum and Leadership in Action and for creating new programs like the Leadership Symposium.

Laura Baggett, MSC vice president of Leadership Development (LD) and a sophomore electrical engineering major, said the Council created the committee on March 2 because the MSC Leadership Development Programs area did not have a committee designed to aid and assist the programs.

"We felt that these programs could be a lot better if they had more people, time and money and other resources dedicated to them," Baggett said.

She said the Council believed the best way to do this was to create a committee within the LD area that was specifically designed to guide these programs.

"Having the leadership programs focused in a specific area will allow them to operate in a more structured and organized manner," she said.

The Aggie Women's Leadership Forum is a luncheon that takes place during the fall and spring semester featuring a keynote speaker. The forum is expected to be

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come an all-day program under the direction of the new committee.

Leadership in Action is a series of casual lunches in which small groups of students can talk with community leaders about the application of leadership in the workplace.

Included in the plan for program expansion is the addition of the Leadership Symposium. The

conference, which will target students, faculty and staff from universities throughout the Southwest Region, will be held Oct. 16-18.

Manda Hays, director of the Leadership Symposium and a graduate student in leadership studies, said conferences similar to this have been successful in other regions but they have not been established in this region.

"We are really excited about this conference and hope to invite big names that will make people want to come," Hays said.

Will Hurd, who will take over as MSC president in April and a junior computer science and international studies major, said he is enthusiastic that the program is just starting to form during his term.

"Leadership is a good topic and is something that college students are interested in," he said. "The formation of the committee shows that the MSC is trying to meet the demands of the campus."

Those interested in becoming involved with LPC may attend its first meeting Friday at 2 p.m. in 216-L MSC.

Applications for general committee membership will be available in April.

# Student slashes teachers

PRINCETON, Texas (AP) — A 15-year-old boy described as a loner went berserk at Princeton High School, slashing himself and three teachers before he was finally subdued Wednesday.

The boy and the three wounded teachers were treated at Columbia Medical Center in nearby McKinney and released Wednesday afternoon.

The Princeton High freshman, whose name was being withheld by police because of his age, was confined to the Collin County Juvenile Detention in McKinney on aggravated assault charges, Police Chief Mike Hughes said.

The rampage left a trail of blood through a school corridor that school officials quickly cleaned up, said school Superintendent Frank Garner.

"It was nasty, really nasty," he said. Garner said teachers saw the

boy cutting himself on the arms and forehead in front of the school about 8 a.m.

The boy went to a side door and down a corridor, slashing wildly with a single-edge razor blade at anyone in his path as screaming students and teachers ducked into classrooms, Garner said.

Math teacher Belinda Selfridge was slashed in the left cheek, home economics teacher Melody Witt was wounded behind the left shoulder, and assistant football coach Coy Stewart was badly slashed across the abdomen, Garner said.

"These were not people he had anything against at all," he said.

Finally, after advancing about 100 bloody feet, the boy was tackled from behind by two teachers near the gymnasium and held him until police arrived.

"He was just on the ground

yelling, 'I want to die, I want to die,'" said student Manuel Velasquez, 17.

Although classes proceeded as scheduled, few students remained in school by the end of the day as anxious parents called for their children, Garner said.

Velasquez, a junior, said the boy was a freshman who was a loner. "He didn't let people get too close to him."

Classmates and neighbors say the boy habitually dressed in black with safety pins stuck in the flesh of his arms.

This was the boy's first year in the Princeton school system and its 500-student high school, Garner said.

The boy lives alone with his father in a white mobile home with blue trim in a small rural subdivision about three miles south of Princeton.