



When the stress is on, how do students find relief?

Guilty Pleasures

By NATALIE COBB
Staff Writer

The spring semester is long gone and summer school is here. Now it is time to prepare for summer jobs, summer classes and perhaps some summer fun.

Most students find adjusting to summer school a lot easier after they have had three weeks to rest their brains and recharge their bodies.

So how do students choose to spend their time during their three week break? Some party, some work, some go home for a visit, but one thing students at A&M do is find a way to kick back and relax after a stressful week of finals.

Brent Busenlehner, a senior agricultural engineering major, found it easy to enjoy himself during the semester break.

"I just kicked back with my friends and went to parties," Busenlehner said.

Parties and concerts are the most popular gathering places for students after finals and they officially kick off the three week break. Several organizations sponsor concerts and events to bring people together when the semester is complete.

These parties serve as meeting places to say goodbye to friends going home for the summer and to celebrate the end of finals.

The three weeks of freedom between finals and summer school may allow students to venture home for a while, go on vacation or simply relax.

Home is often the most relaxing place to revive after a week of tests. Mom's home-cooked meals are enough to bring many students home for a visit, and the opportunity to be in a quiet and non-stressful environment is a great way to get ready to return to school or work.

Some students choose to go on vacation or take a road trip during their stay at home. Groups of students can be found flocking to the beaches or driving around Texas using up their three weeks of free time.

Some students, however, are not able to go home or take a vacation during the break.

Sean Koehler, a junior construction science major worked during the break.

"A lot of people don't have time to enjoy being through with finals since they have to start working full time to earn some extra money between the time finals are over and summer school begins," Koehler said. "It doesn't really seem like a break at all except that I don't have to go to class."

Allison Hepp, a massage therapist at the Galleria Day Spa in Bryan, said many students treat themselves to facials and massages to relieve stress.

"We get a lot of student business at graduation and during spring break, as well facials right before finals," Hepp said. "The stress involved in college can make you break out."

For many students the three weeks between finals and summer school provide a perfect opportunity to earn some extra cash. This time

is often the only time students can work a full-time job without the added stress of classes.

Yet for another group of students, going home is not possible and work has not officially begun. For them, class is not over yet.

The studying doesn't end for those taking the GMAT, GRE or MCAT in June. Test preparation centers in Bryan and College Station are filled with students who are studying in order to prepare for an upcoming exam.

Preparation for these tests can often be more stressful than the week of finals. Many Aggies can be found working problems and studying hard to get into the graduate school of their choice.

Whatever way they choose, Aggies are resourceful are finding ways to spend their time between finals and summer replenishing their strength and recovering from a long spring semester.

Whether they work, play or continue to study, students are glad that finals are over and one more semester are behind them.

Garbage In / Garbage Out

Art rock and techno together again

Music Reviews by Travis Irby

ersion 2.0

garbage

The group comprised of industry veterans is back with the follow-up their hit debut *Garbage*. The sophomore effort brings back more of ck/ techno hybrid the group helped bring into the mainstream a couple of years ago. Lead singer Shirley Manson and co. are still entertaining, but the novelty isn't there. Solid tracks, catchy lyrics and Manson's xy wail make the album more than worthwhile for fans of the style.

ezzanine

massive Attack

Pupils of Portishead and trainees of Tricky can rejoice. The band that any say inspired the trip-hop movement is back with their first album a while. Britain's Massive Attack supplies acolytes of electronica the pnotic form of techno called trip-hop. Tracks like "Angel" and "Dis-lved Girl" give listeners dark, brooding beats they can tap their feet to, hile taking some Prozac.

om Safari

An extremely strange, but enjoyable album. The French band Air, ows France is good for something besides surrendering. Air's eclectic of lounge music, electronica, jazz and funk make for a surprisingly enable album. The songs from the cool and bizarre "Sexy Boy" to the oughful ballads "You Make it Easy." It is not dance music, but more e make-out music for those who like dance music.

Decks and Drums and Rock and Roll
Propellorheads

Electronic outfits can be as faceless as guy after a trip to the guillotine. The best way for an upcoming act to get recognition is to come up with a style unlike any other or ape other styles with abandon. Propellorheads is one of the latter, with some exceptions. The band makes creative use of samples to create an interesting, if not memorable album. The album has great flashes like "History Repeating" and "Bang On." There is also an interesting take on the old James Bond theme "Her Majesty's Secret Service." The rest of the album is groovable, not great.

Godzilla Soundtrack

Various Artists

One would be hard pressed to find most of these songs in the movie, but then that would make it too easy to market. The album doesn't even contain the classic, ominous Akira Ifukube Godzilla theme. Most of the album is filled with forgettable B-side material from popular recording artists. The Wallflowers contribute a boring cover of David Bowie's "We Can Be Heroes," showing that maybe lead singer Jakob Dylan didn't get his dad's talent genes. Puff Daddy continues with his rapping karaoke style as he gets jiggy over Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir." Rage Against The Machine and Jamiroquai have two of the better tracks on what is essentially a marketing ploy disguised as a soundtrack.



Butch Vig, Duke Erikson, Shirley Manson and Steve Marker of the rock group Garbage.

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