

Reed Arena hosts country stars

BY MANISHA PAREKH
The Battalion

Tonight Reed Arena will become a haven for country music fans when Clay Walker, Kenny Chesney and Dixie Chicks stop in to perform. Walker is touring in support of his recent album, *Clay Walker Greatest Hits*. The album includes the songs "If I Could Make a Living," "Rumor Has It" and "Hypnotize The Moon." Walker, who is from Beaumont, released his first record on Giant Records in 1993. The first single from that album, "What's So Far Away," went directly to the top of the charts.

Five years later, Walker is bringing his own brand of "exciting and innovative" music to College Station. Chesney made his record label debut four years ago. His 1996 album, *Me and You*, has surpassed the half-million mark, an achievement in the music industry. Chesney's latest album, *I Will Stand*, is the result of months of hard work on selecting the songs and producing them. The Dixie Chicks is comprised of Natalie Maines and sisters



PHOTO COURTESY OF GIANT RECORDS.

Country music star **Clay Walker** will perform tonight in support of his latest album, *Clay Walker Greatest Hits*.

Martie Seidel and Emily Erwin. The band was started in 1989 by Seidel, Erwin and two others. Maines joined the band in 1995, and the trio was signed by Monument Records that same year.

The Dixie Chicks are best known for the songs "I Can Love You Better" and "There's Your Trouble."

The concert, presented by Primestar, will start at 7 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BNA RECORDS

Country music star **Kenny Chesney**, one of the featured guests at tonight's concert at Reed Arena, is promoting his latest release *I Will Stand*.



The **Dixie Chicks**, **Natalie Maines**, **Martie Seidel** and **Emily Erwin**, will open for Clay Walker. The Dallas trio are winners of the 1998 CMA Horizon and Vocal Group of the Year awards.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MONUMENT RECORDS

Czechs celebrate heritage this weekend

BY GRAY WHITTEN
The Battalion

In celebration of their long-standing presence in Texas, Czechoslovakian residents all over the state are observing Czech Heritage Week this week.

Meribeth Novak, the president of Club C, a Czech student organization on campus and a sophomore general studies major, said activities in the surrounding areas are widespread and varied.

"They had a Czech night in the Omni Southfork Hotel in Austin," she said, "and a man named Robert Schindler had a piano concert with Czech pianists."

Although no major activities have been planned for the

Bryan-College Station area, Novak said Czechs across the state were taking part in activities of many different types.

"The UT Czech club is having a party, and there are things going on at a museum in La Grange," she said.

"Later on, there will be a festival in Koppell, they'll be featuring Czechs."

Novak said the Czech population in Texas can be attributed to the emigration of their ancestors from Middle Eastern Europe during the 19th century.

Citizens from the regions of Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia and Slovakia made up the group from what was then known as the Austria-Hungarian Empire.

"There are a lot of Czech students who go to A&M," Novak said. "You can tell by looking at a lot of the last names around here, but some of them might not know much about their heritage."

There are several organizations working to benefit Czechs and their children, Novak said.

"Most of the Czech organizations offer youth programs, and they give out scholarships to high school and college students," she said.

As one of the Czech groups in the area, Club C is attempting to gain support and increase its membership this semester as Czechoslovakia celebrates its 80th birthday with Czech Heritage Week 1998.

WEEKEND PREVIEW

Thursday,
Oct. 29

Freudian Slip, a local improvisational comedy troupe, will perform at The Theatre at 9:30 p.m.

Last Free Exit, a local alternative band, will perform at Crooked Path Ale House at 10 p.m.

Eugene Eugene, a rock band, will perform at Fitzwilly's at 9:30 p.m.

Friday,
Oct. 30

Freudian Slip, a local improvisational comedy troupe, will perform at The Theatre at 9:30 p.m.

6 Mile Bridge, a Celtic band from Houston, will perform at Crooked Path Ale House at 10 p.m.

By Friday, a local alternative rock band, will perform at Coffee Station at 9 p.m.

Mother's Monkey, an alternative band from Austin, will perform at Sweet Eugene's House of Java at 9 p.m.

Pleasant Grove, 12th Egg Conspiracy and **Centro-Matic** will perform at Cow Hop at 9:30 p.m.

Saturday,
Oct. 31

Throwaway People, a local alternative band, will perform at Crooked Path Ale House at 10 p.m.

Superband Wasteband, a local rock band, will perform at Fitzwilly's at 9:30 p.m.

Jazz Three, a jazz band, will perform at Sweet Eugene's House of Java at 9 p.m.

Ruthie Foster, a blues/funk musician, will perform at Shadow Canyon at 9:30 p.m.

The Floor, a local rock band, will perform at Cow Hop at 9:30 p.m.

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