

weekend — preview

This weekend, many musicians will be taking a break from their usual entertainment schedules to celebrate the holiday. Music fans are encouraged to check with local venues to check the latest update of weekend performances. The scheduled shows are as follows:

Thursday Big Pauly's

The Jeff Spahr Band will be entertaining at Northgate's Pizzeria at 9:30 p.m. There is no cover charge.

Fitzwilly's

The Fullhouse Blues Band will be performing on the outdoor stage at 9:30 p.m. Cover charge will be announced at the door.

Friday 3rd Floor Cantina

Seth James, formerly known as Seth Walker, will perform with local favorite 6-Bridges. Join your peers at 10 p.m. for a post-game celebration at the Cantina. The show promises to be "Texas blues at its finest." Cover is \$5.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Rowling calls on British government to improve plight of the poor

LONDON (AP) — "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling is calling on the British government to improve the plight of more than one million single-parent families living in poverty.

The best-selling author told a conference in London on Monday it was scandal so many single parents and their children lived in poverty.

"Lone parents and their children are the poorest groups in our society. We are a wealthy nation, yet we have one of the worst records of child poverty in the industrialized world. It is a scandal," Rowling told the National Council for One Parent Families conference.

Rowling's books follow the exploits of a young English boy who discovers he has inherited magical powers from his parents, a witch and wizard killed by a powerful enemy. He's invited to become a student at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

The film version of her first book, which opened across Britain and the United States on Friday, smashed box office records on its debut weekend.

Rowling, herself a single mother, has spoken in the past of the difficulties of caring for her daughter, before literary fame and fortune brought her immense wealth.

Earlier this month, at her request, a charity screening of the film "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" raised about \$56,400 for one-parent families.

Shallow Hal's Jack Black identifies with film

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jack Black is just as insecure about his looks as Gwyneth Paltrow's character in their film, "Shallow Hal," now in theaters.

Paltrow — in elaborate latex makeup and body suit that added nearly 200 pounds to her frame — plays a self-conscious woman in the Farrelly brothers' new movie. Black plays a man who's hypnotized and sees Paltrow's character as thin and beautiful.

Just how insecure is Black? When he watches himself in the movie, this is what he sees: "Mostly my big fat head. And beady eyes. And, uh, misshapen torso. And, uh, clown feet."

However, the 32-year-old actor, who first gained attention as a know-it-all record store clerk in last year's "High Fidelity," joked with reporters recently that he did such a good job, he carries the film "all the way to the bank."

Over the River and into Kyle Field

For Aggies, football games make Thanksgiving a non-traditional affair

By HEATHER CAMPBELL
THE BATTALION

For the thousands of Aggies who headed home for the holidays, Thanksgiving will include much more than a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. With the University of Texas football game scheduled during the holiday break, Thanksgiving will be a non-traditional affair for many students.

Joe Terrell, a senior marketing major, invited a guest to join his family dinner in Dallas.

"A Greek International student is traveling home with me to see an American Thanksgiving," Terrell said. "He is very interested to learn our traditions and the differences between cultures."

For many this year, Thanksgiving traditions will also include the Aggie football traditions. Texas A&M vs. UT will cause fans to alter original plans, but the tradition of devouring the Thanksgiving meal will not be ignored.

During this time of year, many count their blessings and reflect over the past year.

"The one day set aside to express gratitude is not out of the ordinary for me because I am thankful everyday," Terrell said.

Jamie Dowler, a senior mechanical engineering major, said she has plenty to be thankful for this year. She said she is thankful for her supportive parents and memories at Texas A&M.

"I am thankful for everything the Lord has blessed me with this

year," Dowler said. "He recently blessed me with the hours and grades to receive my Aggie ring, as well as the finances to buy it. This has been a great senior year, full of

"At the conclusion of the Bonfire tragedy, I drove out of College Station ... It was that Thanksgiving that I have never been more thankful for my family and the decision that I made to attend this university."

— Jamie Dowler
senior mechanical engineering major

ply being in one place at one time as the occasion rarely happens.

"It's hard to get everyone together, so when we have all ten family members around the table it's amazing because we typically don't eat together," Terrell said.

For Rodney Hutto, a freshman construction science major, every Thanksgiving is special because of the family surrounding her.

"Family is very important to me and so each holiday is memorable," Hutto said. "This time of year makes me think of how blessed I am to have a loving family to spend time with. There are a lot of people who are less fortunate, like the people in other countries who we are sending the basic necessities to and they are so grateful for food to eat. I think we too often take the little blessings for granted."

Dowler said her most memorable Thanksgiving was in 1999.

"At the conclusion of the Bonfire tragedy, I drove out of College Station, passing the Bonfire fields and the logs that were stacked there," she said. "It is an image that will remain in my mind forever. It was that Thanksgiving that I have never been more thankful for my family and the decision that I made to attend this university. As I stood with over 80,000 Aggie family members, I felt a camaraderie of a family who was thankful for the spirit, integrity, loyalty and respect that can only be found at Texas A&M."

memories I will be proud to leave Aggieland with."

The fourth Thursday of every month is the day when families and loved ones gather to feast on the traditional turkey and pumpkin pie. Dowler said she is traveling to both sides of her parents families on the same day.

"We travel to Jacksonville for lunch and then Paris for dinner, which accounts for a lot of driving," Dowler said. "But you can never pass up an opportunity to spend time with family."

Terrell, one of eight children, said their family tradition is sim-



DIANA SUAREZ AND CHAD MALLAM • THE BATTALION

Aggieland Depot

Diploma Framing - Aggie Cross Stitch
Aggie Items

Diploma Framing

Same Day-Graduation
Pre-order Now!

1621 Texas Ave. S., College Station
Culpepper Plaza
www.aggieland-depot.com
695-1422

Shadow Canyon

- Dance Music
- Karaoke Wednesdays
- Sunday & Monday Night Football on a Big 12 1/2 ft. Screen
- With Drink Specials

Happy Hour
8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Every Night

All Night Long on
Thursdays!

217 University Dr.
979-846-4440

Call for Updates on Live Music!

The Guitar Store

- Over 100 Guitars in stock
- New Guitars from \$99.99
- Used Amps, Guitars, & Bass's
- Buy, Sell, Trade, & Consignment's

Located on University behind the Golden Coral
260-7262