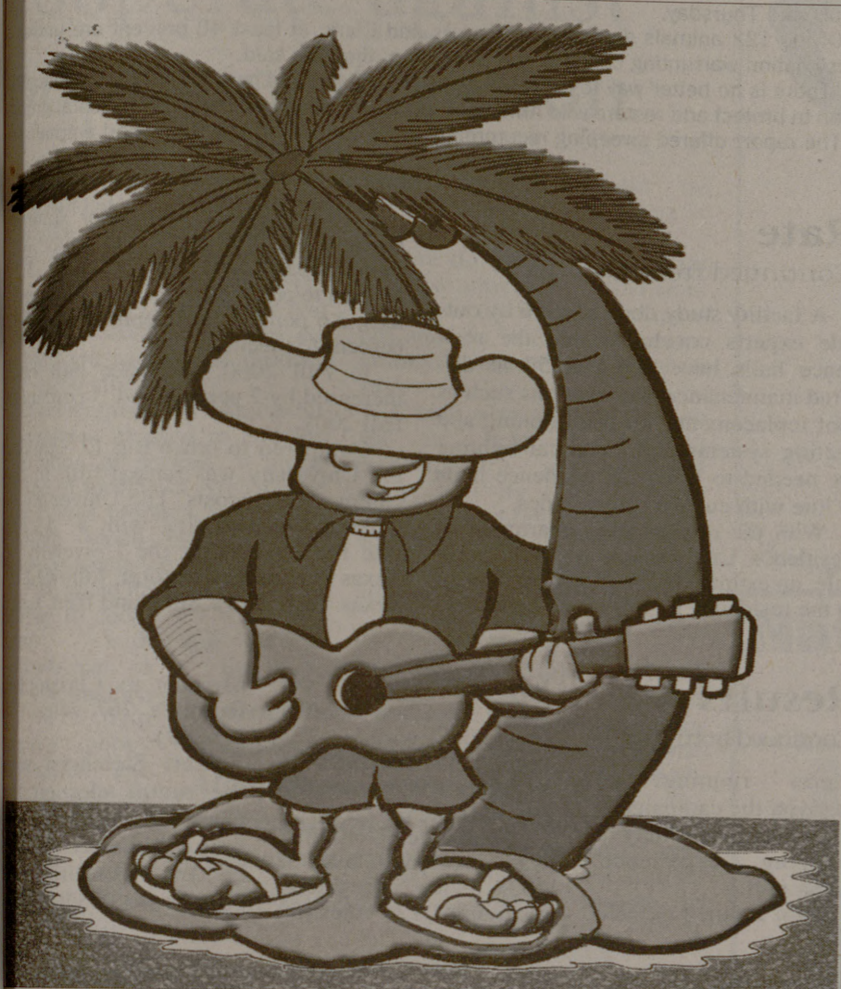


# Islands of adventure



ADRIAN CALCANEANO • THE BATTALION

By Thomas Phillips  
THE BATTALION

Bringing six musical acts to the stage for a day-long festival, Brothers Under Christ fraternity will hold its annual Island Party on campus Saturday. The free event begins at noon and will run until 11 p.m. on the O.R.

## BYX hosts annual Island Party at Simpson Drill Field on Saturday

Simpson Drill Field, a new location for the event usually held on the Polo Fields.

Featured musicians include Likeminds, Soul Dance Free, The Awakening Praise Band, Ross King, Ashaun Jones and Miranda Skaggs.

Music will be the primary entertainment of this year's festival, but organizers said music is not the main focus of Island Party.

"I think Island Party would be horribly ineffective if all it was was just a concert," said John Erwin, vice president of Brothers Under Christ and a junior sociology major. "We wouldn't get done what we feel like God wants us to do if we just sat back and listened to bands and listened to speakers all day long."

Erwin said the purpose of the event was "to give people an opportunity to meet with God, to come out and enjoy fellowship, as well as have a good time."

Other entertainment planned for the day include inflatable games, inexpensive food and lots of free time.

"There's a lot of time at Island Party where you don't have to listen to the music. You don't have to listen to the speaker," Erwin said. "There's time in between the band sets that you can spend talking to people, and we hope that people aren't so closed off just talking to their friends that they don't meet people."

Erwin said the festival is not limited to Christians and hopes people of all faiths will attend.

"We provide things that anybody can come out and enjoy, whatever their belief," Erwin said. "Last year we played up bringing in kids and families from inner-city Bryan, and I know they all had a wonderful time. Hopefully you're going to see the love of Christ, and hopefully you won't see a bunch of Christians saying, 'Get out of here if you don't believe what we believe.'"

Funding for Island Party comes from several sources including private donations, fundraisers and T-shirts sales. These help to offset the cost of

renting equipment and paying entertainers.

"We want to give a chance for anybody that wants to come out," Erwin said. "If somebody's pondering going or not, if it costs \$5, they're probably going to say no. If it's free, hopefully they'll come out and see what we're all about. At least give us a chance."

Laci Waller, a junior agricultural development major, attended last year's Island Party with her friends and said the comfortable weather and relaxed atmosphere added to her enjoyment.

"We took a blanket and chairs and sat; it was a really pretty day," Waller said. "We listened to the music and speakers, talked to people and met new people. It was just a good chance for everybody to get together."

Trey Arbuckle, assistant to Erwin and a junior philosophy major, said that even though the event is organized by a Christian group, the force of Island Party reaches beyond religion.

"It's a chance to hopefully see something larger than yourself, and even if you don't believe what we believe, then [you] will eventually see why we believe what we believe," Arbuckle said. "We want everybody to come out and see that."

Singer/songwriter Miranda Skaggs will open the musical performances with her "acoustic folk alternative" stylings.

"I've gone to [Island Party] in the past and it's just a good time to get together and hang out and just listen to some music," Skaggs said. "This is what I want to do eventually, and it's just good to get in front of people and sing."

Skaggs has only five years of experience playing the guitar, but she is not limited by any musical disabilities when it comes to performing.

"The main reason why I do it is because I found hope in Jesus Christ, and even though I'm not putting that so up front in my music — some of the songs you don't even hear anything about being a Christian — I think people find that connection, even though it's not so apparent."

Skaggs takes the stage at 12:45 p.m. with other acts and speakers following.

"I think Island Party would be horribly ineffective if all it was was just a concert."

—John Erwin  
vice president of BYX

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

#### Gumbel leaves CBS' "The Early Show"

NEW YORK (AP) — Bryant Gumbel said Thursday he was quitting as host of CBS' morning news program, "The Early Show," and will be leaving CBS. The longtime host of NBC's "Today" show was moved back to morning television in November 1999, and CBS spent \$30 million to build a new street-level studio in Manhattan to launch "The Early Show."



GUMBEL

"After more than 17 years of hosting a morning news program, I feel it's time for me to move on and do something else with my life," Gumbel said in a statement Thursday.

His contract with CBS expires in May. The network did not immediately know when he would exit "The Early Show."

The show never climbed from third place in the competitive morning news race against first-place "Today" and ABC's "Good Morning America." Yet after many years of floundering, "The Early Show" has become profitable for CBS and will continue after Gumbel's departure.

"Simply put, Bryant has put us on the map in the morning," CBS News President Andrew Heyward said. "His professionalism, his extraordinary versatility and his enormous skills as a live interviewer have been invaluable to the development of 'The Early Show.'"

CBS signed Gumbel to a five-year, \$5 million annual contract in 1997 — a relative bargain in inflationary times in the TV business. Gumbel's former partner, "Today's" Katie Couric, makes three times as much.

Gumbel was host of a newsmagazine, "Public Eye," that was canceled for poor ratings before he started again with "The Early Show."

The 53-year-old recently went through a messy divorce and is engaged to marry Hilary Quinlan, a former research analyst at Goldman Sachs.

"As I prepare to begin a new chapter in my personal life, it makes sense to me to turn the page on my professional life as well," he said.

Gumbel, who is also host of "Real Sports" on HBO, didn't detail his other plans.

#### Hurley gives birth to baby boy

LONDON (AP) — Elizabeth Hurley gave birth to a baby boy on Thursday, following a high-profile pregnancy in which her ex-boyfriend questioned whether he was the child's father.



HURLEY

"Elizabeth Hurley is delighted to announce the birth of her son, Damian Charles," a spokeswoman for the model-actress said in a statement.

"Both mother and baby are happy and healthy."

Hurley, 36, has said the boy's father was her former boyfriend, American film producer Stephen Bing. In December, Bing sued the British tabloid The Mirror, alleging he faced death threats when the paper urged readers to call him after he said he was unsure whether he'd impregnated Hurley.

For several years she was the international face of Estee Lauder cosmetics.

#### Allen to appear at Cannes Film Festival

PARIS (AP) — Woody Allen, famous for avoiding awards shows and festivals, will appear at the Cannes Film Festival this year to present his new comedy about a has-been movie director.



ALLEN

"Hollywood Ending" opens the French Riviera film festival on May 15, organizers said in a statement Thursday. Allen, Tea Leoni, Tiffani Thiessen and George Hamilton star in the tale about a director who gets a chance to make his first movie in years, then goes blind. The film is not competing for prizes.

About half dozen of Allen's films have played in Cannes over the years, including "Manhattan," "The Purple Rose of Cairo" and "Hannah and Her Sisters." But the New York-based writer-director has never made an appearance.

Last month, Allen made a rare appearance at the Academy Awards to urge Hollywood to make movies in post-Sept. 11 New York.

The 55th Cannes Film Festival runs through May 26. Director David Lynch is the head of the jury.

## Worship Directory

<p><b>Assembly of God</b></p> <p><b>Bethel Temple Assembly of God</b> 2608 Villa Maria, Bryan 776-4835 Sunday Worship 10:15, 6:00 pm Sunday School 9:00 www.startel.net/bethel</p>	<p><b>Episcopal</b></p> <p><b>St. Thomas Episcopal</b> 906 George Bush Dr. • College Station, TX 696-1726 Services - 8:00 (Rite I), 9:00 (Family Service-Rite II) and 11:15 a.m. (Rite II-for late sleeping Aged) 7:30 p.m. Evensong Next door to Canterbury House, the Episcopal Student Center</p>
<p><b>Baptist</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church</b> College &amp; Career Class You are invited to a Bible study especially for students. Sunday mornings at 9:45 1228 W. Villa Maria 779-2297 For more information contact Marcus Brewer: 731-1890 m-brewer@tamuc.edu http://www.fellowshipfbw.org</p>	<p><b>Non-Denominational</b></p> <p><b>COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> Sundays 10:00am @ Oakwood Intermediate School (behind C.S. Conference Cntr) Small groups meet weekly 260-1163 WWW.COMCHURCH.COM</p>
<p><b>Catholic</b></p> <p><b>St. Mary's Catholic Center</b> 603 Church Avenue in Northgate (979)846-5717 www.aggiecatholic.org Pastoral Team Rev. Michael J. Sis, Pastor Rev. Keith Koehl, Associate Pastor Campus Ministers - Deacon Bill Scott, Deacon David Reed, Martha Tonn, Maureen Murray, Dawn Rouen Daily Masses Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m. in the Church Tues. &amp; Thurs.: 12:05 noon in the All Faiths' Chapel Sat.: 2:00 p.m. (Korean) Weekend Masses Sat.: 5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 p.m. (Spanish) Sun.: 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. Confessions Wed. 8:30-9:30 p.m., Sat. 4:00-5:15 p.m. or by appointment.</p>	<p><b>Pentecostal</b></p> <p><b>Cornerstone Church</b> • Mid Week Small Group Meetings • Sunday Service at 3:00pm on George Bush, just across from campus at the College Station Conference Center. 485-8744</p>
<p><b>Church of Christ</b></p> <p><b>A&amp;M Church of Christ</b> 1901 Harvey Mitchell Pkwy. (979)693-0400 Sunday Assemblies: 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., Sunday Night: 6 p.m. College Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Mid-Week "Oasis" 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Presbyterian</b></p> <p><b>Covenant Presbyterian Church</b> 220 Rock Prairie Road • (979) 694-7700 G. Thomas Huser - Minister Sunday Service: 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Aggie Classes: 9:45 Prayer &amp; Praise on Tuesdays: 7:00 p.m. fax: (979) 696-4334 www.covenantpresbyterian.org</p>
<p><b>United Methodist</b></p> <p><b>A&amp;M United Methodist</b> 417 University Dr. (on Northgate) • 846-8731 Church at 8:30, 9:45, 10:50 College Sunday School 9:30 &amp; 10:45 Sr. Pastor Dr. Jerry Neff am-umc.org</p>	

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