

Party arrests
4 robbers

Following the Green
had step show after-party
ay, four Dallas-area men
arrested for aggravated
y; police say they stole
\$1,115.

University Police Department
or Bob Wiatt said the four
ere taken into custody for
y and marijuana possess-
charges.

Documents said the four
approached two men in
ed parking lot and asked
f they had change for a
bill.

Men said they did not have
y, which prompted one of
ailants to point a handgun
and demand money.
said the two men gave
spects between \$899
,115.

said a tip led police to
amada Inn on Texas
e, where the two men
ed the four men who had
them.

College Station police arrested
en early Sunday morning
he after-party, sponsored
Kappa Alpha Psi fraterni-
v out of control making
bery one of several inci-
hat night.

gunshots were fired in
behind Reed Arena and
ncles were burglarized.
G. Rollie White Coliseum
tion, several fights broke
d there were reports of
d alcohol use, Wiatt said.

ather

Continued from page 1

andscape management
ed dry sand in high traffic
n campus Tuesday so stu-
faculty and staff would
n any ice that formed in
around campus.

booksman for the Texas
ment of Transportation
dents should be careful
aveling this week.
the roads around A&M
n, but the bridges and
ses have been sanded.

l. "Students should be
and take a little extra
iving home."
State Highways 6, 21
as well as Farm-to-
roads 60 and 1687
l closures due to icy con-
date Tuesday night.

high for Tuesday, 34
was the lowest this year
e Jan. 12 high of 39.
Herzog said.

University of Texas and
University canceled
Tuesday due to severe
conditions, according to
b sites.

rding to The Associated
leet fell in Austin late
and left 11,000 people
power because of wind.
The outages started at
n, and all service was
by midnight Monday.

is-Fort Worth
ional Airport had
us cancellations, with
an Airlines canceling
alf of their departures.
ight cancellations and
ere expected.

BATTALION

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AGGIELIFE

May the best band win

Six local bands compete for studio time, top award at Club Concept tonight

By Nishat Fatima
THE BATTALION

When talented musicians, a premier concert venue and the radio station 103.9 The X come together, they form the X Bands Showcase and Awards Show.

The show will be staged tonight at 8 p.m. in Club Concept. Six bands will compete for studio time and two opening slots for the nationally notorious MTV humor show "Jackass." The event also includes a CD release party for the local band TwoSpy. Other bands scheduled for the event are Oddstar Experiment, Skylar Blue, Letter, Space Camp Dan, Passerby and TwoSpy's co-headliner, Lesermor.

C.K. Chin, co-manager of Club Concept, said he wants to establish his club as a premier rock concert venue.

"We want to be the venue in College Station that great musicians from all over come to perform at," he said. "By hosting rock concerts, we want to get a good reputation so we can attract bigger bands to come and perform at the club."

Chin said several criteria will be used in judging the bands.

"The foremost aspect that we look for in these bands is their ability to draw a crowd," he said. "They also have to be good self promoters because an act needs to know how to sell itself to attract crowds. We are also judging on the basis of stage presence, vocal ability and crowd reaction."

Beau Bishop, bass player for Lesermor, said the band wanted to expand its College Station fan base, one of the reasons it chose to be part of the showcase.

"We love the crowds in College Station because they are always very welcoming and energetic," he said. "We also love to perform at Club Concept since we know some of the people who are involved with the club, and the atmosphere there is awesome."

Bishop said Lesermor is ultimately looking for ways to spread the word about its music.

"A lot of times local bands are in it simply for the fun of it or to have something to do on the weekends," he said. "In Lesermor we are very serious about our music because it is something that we all love to do. As a band, we all have set goals and aspirations and there are places that we want to be in a few years. We have a businesslike approach to our music. Being a part of the band showcase is a step closer to reaching our target."

Justin Hawkins, lead singer for alternative rock band Oddstar Experiment, said that although his band members are taking the competition seriously, they are in it for the fun.

"We try to move with our music," said Hawkins, a junior speech communications major. "It would be really awesome if we won, because we would be able to reach out to a lot more people that haven't heard of us before. In the end, we really just want to have fun and make sure that our audience has a great time at our live show. We don't approach our music like a job. We just want everybody to enjoy themselves."

Hawkins said Emo rock fans will have something to look forward to at the showcase.

"We like to use a variety of styles to make our music," he said. "One genre that is dominant in our music is Emo rock because our main influences are bands like Weezer, Jimmy Eat

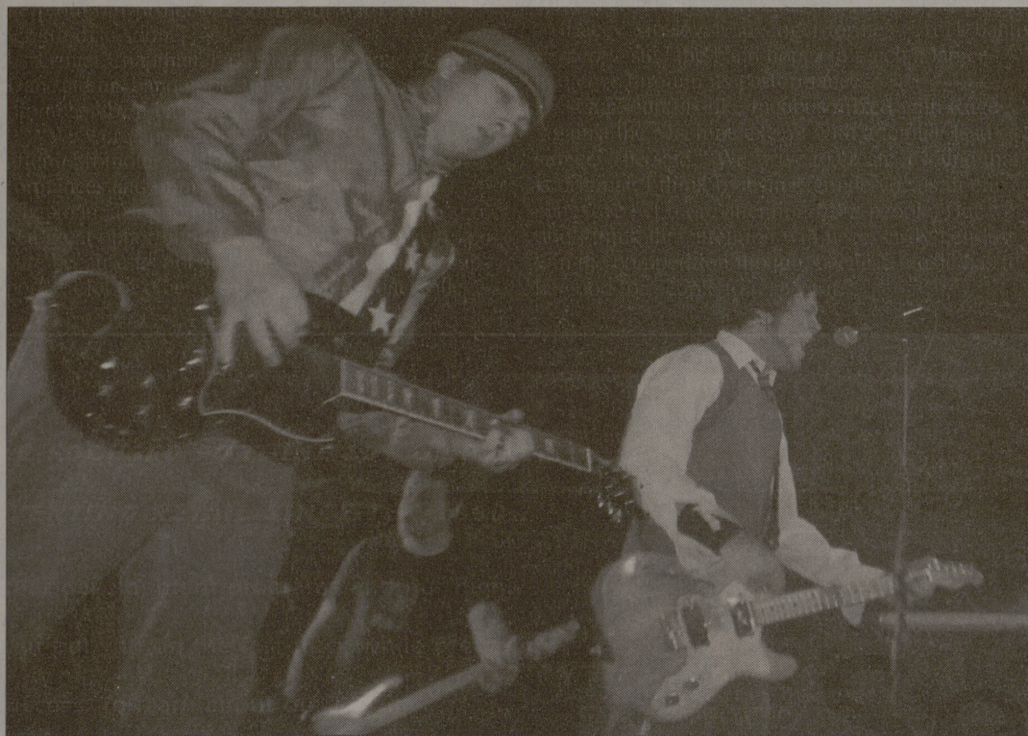


PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT

Lesermor (above) will perform tonight at Club Concept. Tickets can be purchased for \$10 at the door.

World, Finch and Julianna Theory. We like to mix it up with Indie and alternative rock. We hope that our formula strikes a chord with the audience and judges."

Eitel Goldberg, drummer for Letter and a junior biology major, said preparation for the competition has included a grueling schedule for the past month.

"Just within the past few weeks, we have done many live shows and have been trying to get the word out about our band," he said. "We traveled to Austin for a show at The Vibe on 6th street, we did several shows in the Engine Room in Houston and we have been having a lot of rigorous band practice for the show. The X showcase will be our first live show in College Station, and we are very excited about it."

Goldberg said the band decided to take the opportunity of being in the showcase after hearing about it from a friend.

"Right when we heard about the bands showcase and the prizes that it had to offer, we thought it would be a great opportunity to get our band some exposure," he said. "We have a unique sound that is crazy and funky, but heavy at the same time. It's a lot like the styles of 311, Tool, Incubus and Deftones all fused together and its sounds very different. We really hope to win, especially since the studio time will really help out our project to come out with a full-length disc soon."

Daniel Chapman, bass player for Space Camp Dan said his band appreciated the event because it promotes local bands.

"We were approached to be in the showcase after a promoter for the club saw one of our performances and immediately said 'yes,'" said Chapman, a sophomore business major. "The show is a great opportunity for bands like us to get exposure because its not an expensive show and it supports a lot of other great local bands that College

Station has to offer. We really want to spread rock music around College Station and be a part of anything that promotes indie bands."

Chapman said Space Camp Dan adds old school rock to its all Aggie rock sound for a raw appeal, but they is still evolving.

"We are mainly an upbeat rock band with all of our members having diverse musical influences," he said. "We like to use a lot of retro styles that reflect our common love of older bands like Jeff Buckley, Bob Marley, Beastie Boys and Red Hot Chili Peppers and new bands like Taking Back Sunday and MXPX. For some of our members even their onstage behavior reflects their musical influences, which adds a really great element for our lives shows."

Kody Kuehn, a senior psychology major and member of alternative trio Skylar Blue, said his band is mainly in it for the exposure.

"Since College Station is so saturated with traditional country and folk bands, its really hard for rock bands to break through," he said. "Events like this help bands get their names out there."

Kuehn said Skylar Blue, formerly known as Liquid Youth, will add a spiritual touch to the showcase.

"Through our music, we try to emphasize aspects of life that we think are important and constant such as family, friends and faith," Kuehn said.

Lacey Mosley, lead singer for heavy rock band Passerby, said the band hopes to reach a larger audience through its performance.

"Our sound is like Incubus mixed with Rage Against the Machine except with a female lead singer," she said. "We strive to create a sound that is original. I think by using female vocals in our songs we get more attention from people. But we don't think that attention will necessarily help us win the competition though, because music has to be good for people to respect it."

TwoSpy opens concert and releases new CD

By Nishat Fatima
THE BATTALION

While some Aggies spend quiet evenings indoors, Eric Loftis, Russell Wedlich, Ryan McLawhon and Trent Foley don't have a lot of quiet time. Collectively, they form the indie-rock band TwoSpy. With musical equipment piled ceiling high, studio gear sprawled across their living room, and guitars and amps finely tuned, they invite friends over to watch them practice. McLawhon, a senior speech communications major and lead vocalist, said his love for listening to music evolved into a love of creating it.

"In high school, I listened to bands such as the Dave Matthews Band and Vertical Horizon," he said. "As it turned out, the music we make now sounds nothing like those bands. I thought they were amazing musicians and they inspired me to create music of my own. I started to play with Trent (Foley) who had played guitar for several years, and basically that's where the band got started."

In a rather unconventional change of hobbies, Wedlich, a senior electrical engineering major and bass player for the band, said playing music was a daring addition to his list of favorite pastimes, which included math and science.

"Most of my life I fit the stereotypical description of a nerd," he said. "Although I liked music, for a long time I just automatically thought I wouldn't be good at it. Once I started to play I realized that it was just another language that I understood. I took the chance and it proved to be a good idea because now I love being in the band."

See TwoSpy on page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT

TwoSpy will open for the X Bands Showcase and launch its new CD tonight at 8 p.m. at Club Concept.

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