

No longer Lonely

Los Lonely Boys to perform at the 2004 Northgate Music Festival

By Daniel Chapman
THE BATTALION

Los Lonely Boys, the band whose members proudly wear their Texas roots on their sleeves and have a sound to make the state proud, is carrying on the rich tradition of great Texas music.

Composed of a trio of brothers, the band has grown up together musically and now is taking the Texas music world by storm. Garza brothers Henry (guitar/singer), Jojo (bass/vocals) and Ringo (drummer/vocals) have proven themselves as powerful and talented musicians.

Los Lonely Boys' explosive popularity has come as a shock to many; these three brothers have seemingly come out of nowhere to become almost a household name in Texas, and their popularity is quickly spreading to the United States and the world.

Having played for millions of people via television airwaves and huge festivals, such as the Austin City Limits Festival, it may become routine to perform for a crowd, but College Station is an exception. Noting the thriving collegiate community and love for Texas music, Los Lonely Boys said it is thrilled to be coming.

"We've looked forward to performing in College Station ever since we've known that Texas A&M University is there and that it is a vibrant college town," Ringo said. "It's going to be a great time."

The group's self-titled disc recently broke into the Billboard 200 Albums Chart, going to spot No. 185, in large part due to an appearance on late-night slot on Jay Leno. With this mainstream exposure, Los Lonely Boys has enjoyed higher levels of popularity and exposure.

"(Performing on) Jay Leno was like a crazy dream," Henry said. "He even took the time to call our father and talk to him. It was awesome. We're still waiting for that time to look back and reflect and say, 'Wow, we were on Jay Leno.'"

After playing such high-profile venues and meeting important people, many artists may find playing for a smaller music festival and knowing that the crowd will be smaller than the millions who have witnessed them around the world a little deflating.

This may be true for some bands, but Jojo



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOS LONELY BOYS

Los Lonely Boys are one of the headliners for the Northgate Music Festival. The trio of brothers has been featured in "Rolling Stone" and has performed on the "Tonight Show" with Jay Leno.

said living their dream and performing their music is what they love to do.

"We are absolutely excited," Jojo said. "Since we are in our early twenties ourselves, we have everything in common with the college crowds, and we're looking forward to blowing the roof off the house. You will not want to miss this because you will catch one of the best shows that you will ever see."

Recently, the phrase "Texas Music" has been

used by many rock and country musicians to classify the genre of music of they play. Because of the incredible quality and talent that comes out of Texas, many artists want to jump on the bandwagon and classify themselves as Texas rock bands, even though many are not based out of Texas.

Hailing from the fair West Texas town of San Angelo and fusing artists that they have grown up with, Ringo said Los Lonely Boys might be

the most "Texan Band" out there.

"We take all of the influences that we grew with and heard our father playing, like Willie Nelson, Santana, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Ray Valens and ZZ Top and roll them up into our own musical burrito and serve it to the world," Ringo said.

Henry said while the sound of the Los Lonely Boys was heavily influenced by a variety of artists from Chuck Berry to Willie Nelson, being it in the family is what these guys do best. "Our biggest influence was our dad," Henry said. "We were trying to be like our dad in the way that we played because our dad played with so much emotion and so much intensity."

GIGS

who:
Los Lonely Boys

where:
The Northgate Music Festival at Shadow Canyon

how much:
\$5 event pass, \$15 day pass or \$20 all-event pass

doors open:
Thursday night at 8 pm.

look forward to introducing to our special brand of Texas rock 'n' roll." Willie Nelson has been quite various times such as in a recent interview with Rolling Stone, saying that Los Lonely Boys is his favorite up-and-coming band.

Straight-ahead rock mixed with a dose of Texas flare allow the

band members to spice up what they've heard and create something fresh, creative and exciting. Aggies can catch Los Lonely Boys when the band performs at the Northgate Music Festival Thursday night at Shadow Canyon. The trio will hit the stage at midnight.

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