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Audience takes a magical trip

Mangione drifts to Dreamland

By RANDY CLEMENTS
Battalion Staff
About 2000 people took a magic journey Sunday night with Chuck Mangione as their tour guide.

Mangione and his quartet, playing to a near capacity audience at Rudder Auditorium, leisurely traveled from "Hill Where The Lord Lives," through the "Land of Make Believe," while on the way to the Lake Placid and the 1980 Winter Olympics and "Give It All You've Got."

of Chris Vadala far surpassed the playing of Mangione and the rest of the tour guides. However, the music succeeded in conjuring vivid imagery for many on the tour.

The images awakened by the musicians were most vivid in Mangione's second song of the evening, "Land of Make Believe." The combination of the bass guitar, played by Grant Geissman, and Mangione and his flugelhorn rocked the audience into the rhythm of the dream. The day-dream effect lightened

Review

to a carefree tone as the rest of the musicians joined in. The Spanish-style guitar took the audience to a small fishing village with warm, tropical breezes, while the hustle of the city was brought to life as Mangione and the others joined back in.

To introduce the next song, Mangione said the titles of the songs he writes are sometimes

more difficult than composing the music.

"When I work on a particular piece of music, I may stick with it for 24 hours straight in the living room (trying to name a song)," he said.

Mangione said: "My daughter Nancy asked me if she could go outside to play," while he was trying to come up with a title for "Chase The Clouds Away."

"Since it looked like Hurricane Ethel outside, I told her no," Mangione said. "She said 'Daddy, chase the clouds away,'"

This song, as most of the songs played, didn't incite the audience to 'get into' the music. The concert was primarily something to go back and enjoy with a minimum amount of excitement—until the encore.

"Main Squeeze" was fast-paced and had the audience on its feet clapping to the beat.

Mangione was more into the song than any other in the concert. It was a pleasant trip to get "Main Squeeze," but it was the way.

SAT 'scores' for first time since 1968

Scholastic Aptitude Test scores, on the downsling for nearly two decades, may be heading for an upturn.

Results released by the College Entrance Examination Board reveal that for the first time since 1968 SAT scores failed to decline.

1980-81 high school seniors taking the test, which scores on a scale of 200 to 800 points, averaged 466 in mathematics and 424 in verbal skills—the same total as last year.

With the exception of 1968, when results remained the same, SAT scores had been slipping

steadily since 1963.

"It's a little early to say whether this indicates a general upward trend (in student skills)," Sheryl Belli, the Board's associate director for public affairs, said. "But, we're optimistic because we've seen a lot of other score gains in state and local testing."

Belli attributes the improvement in part to concentrated efforts among secondary schools to

improve their educational programs. "We hear all the time about efforts around the country to improve school standards, about establishing basic competency levels."

The prolonged slide in SAT scores has long mystified education experts. In 1975, a national advisory panel speculated the decline was triggered by the increasing number of college applicants

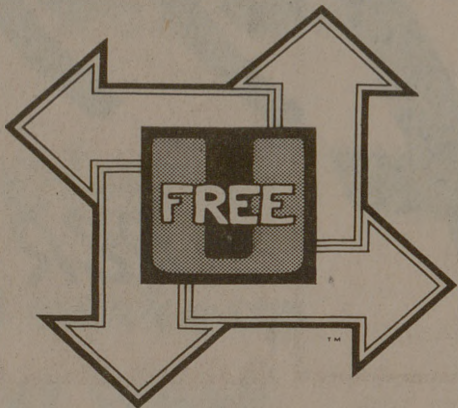
from deprived economic backgrounds, plus a general slipping of high school academic standards.

Yet a much sharper drop in SAT scores from 1975 to 1980, despite an increasingly improving secondary curriculum, left experts at a loss for explanation.

"We really don't understand it," Belli said. "We're just thankful if the worst is really over."

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Texas dump sites listed among worst in nation

United Press International
The head of a citizens' environmental group says the federal government would probably never scrape together sufficient funds to clean up four toxic dumping sites identified in Texas as among the nation's worst.

The Environmental Protection Agency Friday identified four Texas sites as among the 144 most noxious chemical dumps in the United States.

Cited were Motco in La Marque; French Limited and Sikes Disposal Pits, both in Crosby; and Biocology Systems Inc., in Grand Prairie.

The dumps were to be cleaned up with the help of the industry and a federal "Superfund" created last year.

"There's no miracle to saying Superfund money is going to be used to clean up a site," said Ann Alexander, president of the Toxic Substances Task Force of Galveston, Beaumont and Houston. "Nothing's going to get cleaned up unless there's enough money, and I don't think there is."

Alexander said officials already had spent \$750,000 at one of the areas, the French Limited Disposal Site, and only managed to contain the toxic substances. "The

clean-up has not even started," he said.

She said in order to consider the site cleaned up, all contaminants and contaminated material must be collected and chemically reclaimed, destroyed or disposed of in injection wells.

"Millions and millions of dollars don't mean a thing when you start talking about picking up earth and moving it to a disposal site in another state," she said.

Motco, also known as T.C. Wye, is about 3 miles north of Galveston. Originally permitted as a disposal site by Texas Water Quality Board in 1964, it was closed in 1968 under a city ordinance prohibiting open dumping within city limits.

The dump was sold to Motco Corp. of Minneapolis, who planned to recycle styrene tars, recover metals and reclaim land, a venture that proved unsuccessful. Motco went bankrupt in 1975, before the state could force it to remove or neutralize liquid wastes in the pits.

EPA tests have found several toxic chemicals including benzene (associated with leukemia), chloroform (liver damage and heart failure), cyclohexane (skin disease) and phenol (cancer; liver and kid-

ney damage) at the site.

Sikes, a 20-acre site located about 20 miles east of Houston, Crosby, consists of four abandoned sand pits. EPA water samples found heavy metals, benzene, arsenic and other toxic substances.

At French Limited, located a mile from Sikes, containment work has been done by Kutz environmental services. Kutz President C.M. Wright is building a dike around the pits, putting contaminated material it took ten months and \$750,000.

The containment work stops in July when funds ran out. Wright said it would take weeks and \$150,000 to complete the containment work.



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