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Aggie sees life in CW band as a high-paying business

By DAVID STEEL

Reporter

At 9:02 p.m. on a humid Saturday, an impatient redneck yells at the band to get started. Four drumstick clicks later the opening double lead of "Forget About Me" fills the smokey dance hall.

The restless roper is happy now and his eyes scan the stage, observing what, at first glance, appears to be a typical, uniform group of six

But as his eyes glance toward the right, a tall guitar-toting figure wearing shorts, high-tops and a London Fog overcoat catches his eye by dancing and hopping around in his

left stage cage.

This performer is Robert Lytton.
Lytton, a junior business analysis major, has been a semi-professional musician since his freshman year in college and has learned that the economics of playing music are sometimes more important than one's own artistic preferences.

'In order to play in a band, which takes a lot of time, and pay for your own education you sometimes have to compromise your musical tastes," Lytton says. "In my case, I play country music. C&W is definitely the highest-paying music scene around here and that speaks for itself."

Lytton is a guitarist for the Texas Unlimited Band, a three-year-old local group that plays rock and soul music but specializes in country. "TUB is merely a commercial or-

ganization," Lytton says. "It's a product, a business and I think everyone in the band looks at it like that. 'That attitude is most obviously

reflected in the music we play. I mean, we choose a song not because it is artistically significant but be-cause everybody will dance to it." Lytton, who began playing the guitar four years ago, is noted for his

sharp wit, mischievous grin and his musical talents.

He ventured into the local music scene while attending Bryan High School, where he and some friends formed a rock band, Warehouse.

"Warehouse was the first real band I played in," he says. "I remember we were so excited when we

got our first gig playing at S.F.A. (Bryan's junior high school)."

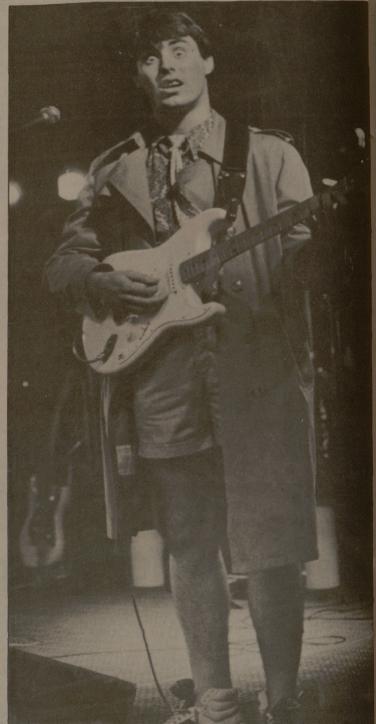
After high school graduation, Lytton says he formed a heavy metal band called Prizner.

"If we would make say \$200 we

"If we would make, say, \$200 we would consider it a very profitable night. Now with TUB we can clear

over \$1000 a night pretty regularly."
After playing with the Texas Unlimited Band for almost 19 months, he admits he gets a little bored at

times.
"Sure, it gets old playing the same



Robert Lytton

old tunes every weekend, but I try to

When asked if his antics on stage ever get him in trouble, he replied:

'Sure, there are a few country keep myself entertained by dressing wildly from time to time and acting wild regularly," Lytton says.

tins who get upset if you don't or act, like George Strait. But play what they want to hear to be a supple of the supple of play what they want to hear in keep paying to get in and what's important to me.'

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