# State & Local The Battalion

1 27, 1991 Wednesday, March 27, 1991

# **Guitarist defeats disability**

Musician shares talent in concert

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By Liz Tisch The Battalion

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guitar at age 16, performed before Pope John Paul II when he was 25 and is the subject of a soon-to-be-released television movie at age 29. His musical talent is not the only reason why his fans love him. Melendez has a special

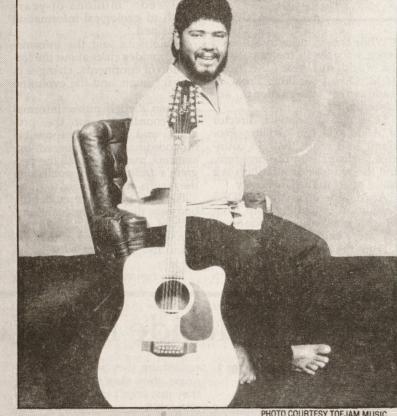
ony Melendez taught

himself to play the

Born without arms, Melendez has mastered guitar playing with his feet. "I saw a friend of mine tuning his guitar, so I went home to tune my father's guitar," Melendez said. "I was just messing around and it (playing with his feet) worked, and I've kept at it ever since.'

Now, through the efforts of one Texas A&M student, students are invited to see Iony perform free of charge at 8p.m. Thursday in Rudder heater. Dennis Macha, a junior sychology major, arranged for Melendez to play at A&M because of the lasting effect

Melendez had on him. "Because I was a friend to his wife, I was invited to their wedding," Macha said. "Ever since I met him there, I



**Tony Meiendez**, a guitarist who has performed around the world, will give a free concert at 8 p.m. Thursday in Rudder Theater. Melendez, born without arms, taught himself to play the guitar with his feet at age 16.

dreamed of having him perform at A&M. He is so motivational and inspiring." Macha asked for support from the St. Mary's Catholic Church Student Association to bring Melendez to College Station.

"This concert is a gift to the University from St. Mary's Church," Macha said. The upcoming concert at A&M will be just one of the several hundred Melendez has performed throughout the



The movie is scheduled to be aired this year. Melendez was born in Nicaragua without arms after his mother took the

throughout his musical career.

#### prescription drug thalidomide to relieve morning sickness. To receive proper medical care, the Melendez family moved to California. He was fitted for artificial arms in the United States. He now refuses

"I used them up until junior high, but my feet still did everything better, quicker and neater," he said. "I would tend to throw everything down on the floor to write, to turn pages, to play with toys."

to wear them.

Tony said growing up without arms was hard but he learned to live with it.

"People will always stare, but after a while you either learn to live with it or just hate everyone for doing it," he said. "I've learned to live with

Melendez said he proved his acceptance of his handicap by releasing three albums and beginning work on future ones

Although he said he feels content with the way he was born, he wishes he could do other things that require arms. "With arms, I could hold my

wife or put my arm on somebody's shoulder if they needed it," he said.

Melendez said he did not mind being refered to as handicapped or disabled.

"I know those are just labels like being called white, brown, or green," he said. "But I prefer most of all to be called human, just like everybody else.

### **Tonight: "Culture Shock!"**

Bonne Bejarano-Sandars of Multicultural services will discuss issues involving minority scholarships, minority recruitment and retension, and other multicultural issues from

7-8:15 p.m.

Room 410 Rudder Tower

## Snack bars, delis tax almost all items

#### **By Timm Doolen** The Battalion

Confusion over what items can be taxed in Texas A&M's food service facilities has been cleared up by University admin-istrators and the state comptroller's office.

Items not normally taxed in grocery stores or convenience stores are taxed if sold in a snack bar, deli or restaurant.

The Battalion has received several calls and questions about a "rest food services' policy for taxing them. items like fruit and vegetables.

Pat Oberton, a spokeswoman for Comptroller John Sharp's office, said snack bars, which are considered "restaurants," tax almost all food items.

She said generally speaking, if the eating place has tables and chairs for people to sit down or provides utensils for customers, it is considered a restaurant.

Lloyd Smith, director of food services, said an apple sold in a snack bar would be taxed, whereas an apple sold in a gro- looked into its taxing policy.

cery store probably would not be taxed.

He said milk, for instance, which normally is not taxed, is taxed in the snack bars on campus because it is considered a

single serving, as in a restaurant. Oberton said any food kept hot to serve is taxed, as well as individual-size portions of food that are ready to eat, when sold in a "restaurant."

However, when individualsize items, such as bags of potato chips or fruit juice, are sold in a convenience store, as opposed to a "restaurant," there is no tax on

Student Body President Ty Clevenger said that in Fall 1989, Student Government looked into food services for charging taxes on Aggie Bucks.

He said food services was charging an initial tax on Aggie Bucks and was also taxing prod-ucts bought with Aggie Bucks.

He said as soon as the situation was discovered, food services moved quickly to correct the problem.

Clevenger said since then, Student Government has not

## **UPD** emphasizes tips to prevent date rape

Texas A&M's Crime Preven- know, is still rape, and it is a tion Unit of the University Police crime. Nothing you do, say or Department offers information about date rape awareness.

It's hard to think of someone wise. familiar - a date, a steady boyself-protective instincts.

wear gives anyone the right to assault you, sexually or other-

Men and women are both refriend or a casual acquaintance sponsible for preventing sexual - as a rapist. Familiarity makes assault. Poor communication, you less inclined to trust your mixed signals or body language that contradicts the spoken word Being forced into having sex, are often key factors in date even if it's by someone you rape.

### **ULCERATIVE COLITIS**

Do you have physician diagnosed ulcerative colitis? VIP Research is seeking individuals for a one month research study. A \$400.00 incentive will be paid to those who enroll and complete this study.

CALL **VOLUNTEERS IN PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH, INC.** 776-1417

## MATHEMATICS CONTEST

Annual FRESHMAN and SOPHOMORE Mathematics Contest

Thurs., April 4

7:30-9:30 p.m. Freshman Contest - Rm. 216 Milner Sophomore Contest - Rm. 304 Milner

1st place-\$100 2nd place-\$60 3rd place-\$40

Prerequisite for Freshman contest is knowledge of calculus through Math 151 or equivalent, for the sophomore contest knowledge of calculus through Math 251 or equivalent.

> TIGER LI (409)764-0466

"Everyone knows the importance of getting good value, but not everyone knows the importance of comparing the - - Chinese Proverb difference to get good value."

#### COROLLARY:

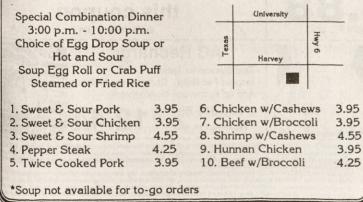
When in doubt about which Chinese restaurant in B/CS is the best taste the difference. Those who taste the difference will surely get good value.

### FOLLOW THE ANCIENT WISDOM, TASTE THE DIFFERENCE AT IMPERIAL

Where quality authentic chinese food is served at affordable prices.

In addition to lunches on weekdays, the well liked IMPERIAL Buffet is now available in the evening from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for \$5.55 per person.

#### TRY IMPERIAL, YOU WILL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!



Dinner for two from Oxford Street Restaurant and Pub, Confucius Chinese Restaurant, Taco Cabana, and The Grapevine will be raffled off after the discussion.

Call the RHA Office at 845-0689 for more details Cultural Shock will return on April 10th

### **GRADUATE STUDENTS IN** MEDICAL SCIENCES

The Texas A&M University College of Medicine offers the Ph.D. degree in Medical Sciences. Areas of specialization include: Anatomy and Neurobiology; Cardiovascular Sciences and Vascular Cell Biology; Pharmacology and Toxicology; Microbiology and Immunology; and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Students may also interact with faculty of our research institutes: Microcirculation Research Institute, Institute of Ocular Pharmacology, Institute of Molecular Pathogenesis and Therapeutics, Center for Health Systems and Technology, and Center for the Study of Cell Surfaces. Faculty research programs are wellfunded and the college offers above average stipends (\$10,000-15,000).

> Contact: Dr John Quarles Director of Graduate Studies College of Medicine Texas A&M University College Station, TX 77843-1114 Telephone (409)845-0370

Texas A&M University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.



We invite you to join 80 Senior Former Students as they return to campus this summer for a week of classes and campus life

## STUDENT HOST

### **Applications For AGGIEHOSTEL '91**

are now available in the FIELD OFFICE of the Association of Former Students **DEADLINE MARCH 29** 

AggieHostel

JUNE 16 - 22, 1991