Thursday, February 3, 1994

THE BATTALION

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ebrations for the Full Moon Festival, the second most important holiday in the lunar calendar. Celebration for the Chinese

New Year in February takes up most of the club's time during December and January.

Traditionally, the new year is celebrated the weekend before and after Spring Festival, and the club spends almost two months planning and rehearsing for the program.

for the program. At the end of February, the club focuses on The International Student's Association's Mini-Olympics.

Last year, The China Club finished in the top five for the first time, Fang said. The goal for this year is to finish in the top three.

Also in February, the club takes part in International Week. They have a booth for the cultural display in the MSC and the international buffet, and will participate in the talent and fashion shows.

Last year, the China Club received a plaque from ISA commending them for their involvement throughout the year, not only on campus, but also abroad.

The club donates money all year long to the less fortunate in China, Fang said. He said they try to help out and remember the people they left behind. "Chinese students here enjoy

"Chinese students here enjoy a good education, but in China it is still a little bit backwards," Fang said. "Some children can't afford elementary school. We try to donate small amounts of money to support those families. We need to help out our home country."

Over the holidays, Fang returned to his hometown for the first time in five years. In the two weeks he was there, he noticed living conditions had improved.

"In the coastal area where I'm than s from," Fang said, "the economy is booming. People are dressed better and they are eating better states."

Montgomery

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In his own way, he makes running into an old flame seem almost sinful when retelling the reunion to a current companion.

"She Don't Need a Band to Dance" seems to be an updated version of "Nickels and Dimes and Love" from "Life's A Dance." Instead of scrimping to buy a cola, now a new set of drapes is out of the question.

Maybe next album a new car will be the dream. Probably the best song on the album is (surprise) a ballad, "Rope the Moon." Despite his hard times,

Acid

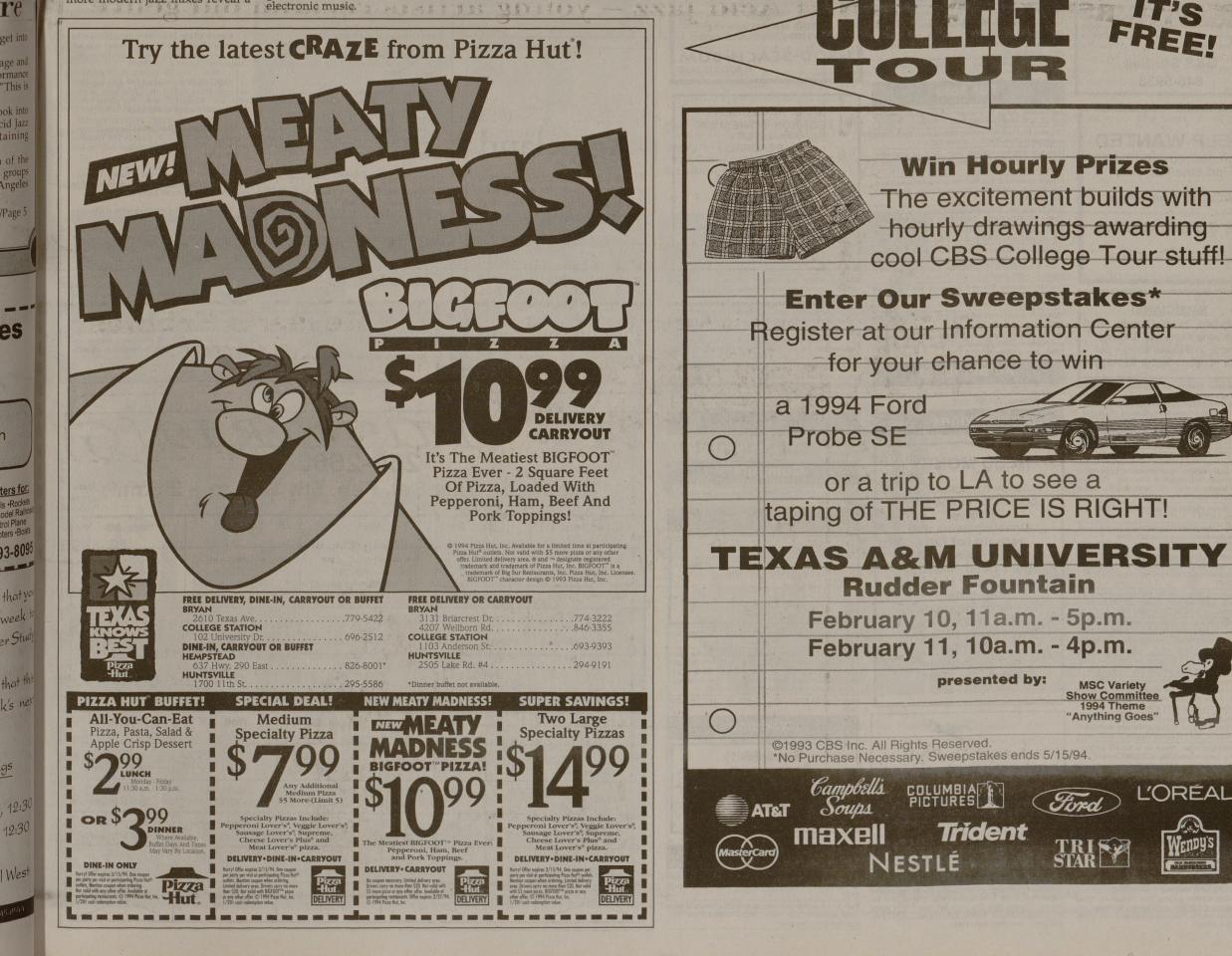
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"The Test" begins with a 52second cut that clearly shows that acid jazz is built on a traditional foundation. The mild tune by T.C., "Joe," brings to mind the beatnik poetry that was once read in coffeehouses around the world.

The album, however, quickly takes an upbeat turn and the more modern jazz mixes reveal a complex musical structure with many influences. The following 10 songs are bass-driven with a strong reliance on horns and drums for a quality traditional jazz sound.

But what separates this style of music from just any old jazz is the integral use of electronic components such as keyboards, mixers and drum machines. Modest and purposeful use of this equipment allows the music to escape the old jazz label and appeal to a new generation that is accustomed to electronic music. The strong standouts on the album, however, are the songs that really show their street roots through the rap-style lyrics.

The Brooklyn Funk Essentials and T.C. exemplify this lyrical poetry; but the one cut that deserves special mention is by Sound Assembly. Their song "Live from New York" does not rely heavily on anything other than a simple beat, but the lyrics really give the listener insight into what acid jazz is all about – life on the streets.





Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALIO

Members of the China club practice an interpretive dance they will be performing at Saturday's New Year's show.

than some Chinese students here. Mostly, they are interested in what's happening in the

Montgomery's current love sees through that and views him as almost Superman.

Probably not the most politically correct song, but nevertheless a very entertaining one.

To show the rest of the country world he can rock with the best (attention Garth), Montgomery jams on "Friday at Five." A definite foot-stomper that would make the Kentucky Headhunters jealous, Montgomery signals he can cover all the aspects necessary to be successful in today's new Nashville.

Along with fellow artists Tracy Byrd and Clay Walker, this Kentucky native has quietly settled into the next stratosphere beneath Garth Brooks and George Strait. He is a very entertaining artist who has not caught the public's full attention — yet.