

A Tribe Called Quest "The Love Movement" **Jive Records** Grade: A-

In August, the Beastie Boys, A Tribe Called Quest and Money Mark each took their turn on stage in Kansas City, Mo., and showed me the best performance of my life.

But it turned out that the great show I saw would be the last of its kind.

At that concert, Tribe announced it was breaking up.

At first, it didn't make much sense. The hip-hop group that released two of the best rap records ever, 1991's "The Low End Theory" and 1993's "Midnight Marauders." should always continue making mostly chilled-out and lyrically

But the band's fourth record, 1996's "Beats, Rhymes and Life" fell short in comparison to the previous three albums. Also, the band has had some trouble with Jive Records over the years, and from the way the

label has poorly promoted the group, I can understand why Tribe wanted to call it quits while still doing well.

Enter Tribe's fifth album, the 15track "The Love Movement." The group, made up of Ali Shaheed Muhammad, Q-Tip and Phife Dawg, is back with a release that is more laid back than "Midnight Marauders" but eclipses everything attempted on "Beats, Rhymes and Life."

The album begins with Q-Tip busting a much more delicate yet similar rap to Phife's verse on "The Low End Theory"'s "Butter." The solid rhymes continue throughout and are highlighted by Phife's phrasing at the beginning of "Busta's Lament," making the listener itchy to repeatedly cue back.

The first single from the record is "Find A Way." While it's not the Tribe trademark in-your-face album theme song, such as "Bonita Applebum," "Scenario," "Award Tour" or "Ince Again," it has its high points. The sing-along chorus becomes very addictive, and the occasional pauses between rhymes work well.

"Like It Like That" and Common Ground (Get It Goin' On)" serve as the standard style for the relationship-oriented record strong tracks with extended choruses. Fans who enjoyed past Tribe pieces such as "8 Million Stories" will enjoy the relaxed, but hardly slow tempo featured throughout.

Supporting the band that helped launch his solo career, Busta Rhymes again appears on "Busta's

Lament" and the harder-edged "Steppin' It Up," one of the album's better songs. Other guests on the record include Redman, Noreaga and Mos Def.

New Releases

The funniest point here occurs on "Give Me," where Q-Tip mocks the music of Boyz 2 Men with a "Boyz 2 Men/ABC/BBD" line, which is a good way of Tribe showing who is the new champ of the love music industry.

Other quality songs include "Pad and Pen" and "Rock Rock Y'all." However, "Da Booty," which was performed at the Aug. 7 Kansas City show, seems too laid back for the song's own good, although the style used fits the overall concept of the album well.

Limited editions of "The Love Movement" contain six remix tracks, including an alternate version of "Scenario" and a Busta Rhymesless "Oh My God."

Is this as good an album as "Midnight Marauders" or "The Low End Theory"? No, but it's every bit as enjoyable as the band's debut, 1990's "People's Instinctive Travels and the Paths of Rhythm," and it marks a lovely ending to an amazing career.

Some conjecture remains about the future of this pioneering force in hip-hop. There are rumors of a follow-up tour and continued promotional appearances, but one thing seems certain: This is the last album from Tribe Called Quest.

As the members of Tribe go on their quests to explore different avenues, all I can say is thanks for

- Patrick Miner



Keith Sweat "Still in the Game" Elektra Recordings Grade: B+

In a time when rhythm and blues artists are a dime a dozen, Keith Sweat continues to crank out truly quality

Sweat, who recorded his first album in the late 1980s, has sold 15 million albums throughout his career. That number includes five straight number one R&B albums and 12 top 10 R&B singles on the Billboard charts.

With all that success behind him, Sweat put a new twist to his old flavor in his latest release, "Still in the

The 12-song album has a lot of the same sound that was heard on Sweat's 1996 self-titled release, which went quadruple platinum.

That same sound can also be heard on the double-platinum "LSG" album, in which Sweat teams with other R&B legends Johnny Gill and Gerald

But instead of changing his style, Sweat sticks with his recipe of success with "Still in the Game."

The Atlanta native again got some of R&B and rap music's biggest stars

to appear on this album. Rap pioneers Too Short and Erick Sermon appear on "Love Jones," and Jermaine Dupri brings the rap into

The first single, "Come and Get with Me" features Snoop Dogg - the newest No Limit Records soldier shows his melodic side singing with

On the self-titled release, Sweat brought Athena Cage into the spotlight on "Nobody." The appearance of Ol Skool on "Show U What Love Is" will probably do the same for his career.

Most of the songs on the album are a combination of a dance track mixed with the feel of a slow jam.

Unlike the self-titled release, there is no real slow song on "Still in the Game." There also is not anything that you will hear in your local dance club.

But that is the beauty of the Keith Sweat sound. This album does not smack you across the face with obnoxious dance cuts, but it also doesn't have any lover's laments, either.

A lot of the songs could very well be used as bedroom banter. No man or woman with a healthy libido should be without this latest album.

Sweat's sultry voice fits the style very well. If the sound of his voice on this album doesn't move you, you should check to see if you still have a

- Jay Saunders

Dropped Notes

Music video station to stop for local fans

50-foot trailer full of free stuff and televisions that show nothing but music videos.

And when the Country Music Television truck crew makes a pit stop in Lincoln tomorrow, Wrangler-clad CMT fans will be in country heaven.

Ann Shrewsbury, Lincoln CableVision affairs administrator, said this was the first time CMT has ever stopped in Lincoln.

KFGE-FM (98.1) "Froggy 98" will broadcast live from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m on the site.

Shrewsbury said country fans CableVision at (402) 421-0378.

It doesn't get much better than a will get the chance to find out more about CMT programming, win free prizes and see the 53-foot fifth wheel, which gets a lot of on-air promotion on the channel.

> "Fans can see up close and personal what CMT is all about," she said. "The channel is really popular in Lincoln, and this is the chance to find out more."

> The CMT truck crew will appear tomorrow at the CableVision building, 5400 S. 16th St., from 4 p.m. to 7

For more information, call

Reeves attends fund-raiser for spinal research

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) Christopher Reeve told a 6-year-old girl paralyzed in an amusement park accident that thanks to advances in spinal cord research she might walk again someday.

Reeve, who was paralyzed in a 1995 equestrian accident, on Saturday attended a fund-raiser for Emily's Walk for Spinal Research, a foundation Emily Hunt's parents founded in her name.

Reeve told the girl and audience members that research involving rats offers hope that spinal cord injuries can be mended.

The only barrier to human testing is money, Reeve said.

"I just want you to know that what we're talking about now is simply the financing of the procedure," he said. "It's going to happen."

A&E Briefs

Chesney sued for \$50,000 by former supporters

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) Back where he comes from, two former supporters of singer Kenny Chesney are suing him for half a million dollars.

John Staley and Bob Thomas say that in 1992 Chesney signed a contract assigning 20 percent of his income to their firm, Paradise Management. They say Chesney breached his contract.

Despite the lawsuit seeking \$500,000, the opposing parties are negotiating a possible settlement, according to Bridget Bailey, a spokeswoman for Staley and Thomas. Chesney representatives didn't return phone calls over the weekend.

Chesney, named top new male

vocalist this year by the Academy of Country Music, grew up in Luttrell, about 20 miles from Knoxville. Chesney's tunes include "Back Where I Come From," "When I Close My Eyes" and "She's Got it All." Top sumo wrestler holds and I

Tokyo wedding ceremony

TOKYO (AP) - Six months after their official marriage, Japan's top foreign-born sumo wrestler Akebono and wife Christina Reiko Kalina held a gala, 1,300-guest wedding ceremo-

The ceremony for the 6-foot-8, 516-pound sumo wrestler from Hawaii, formerly known as Chad Rowan, was nationally televised in Japan. U.S. Ambassador to Japan. Thomas Foley attended and a telegram from President Bill Clinton

Akebono and Kalina officially married in April in Tokyo and had a baby daughter in May.

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