

Music best feature of Aggie's play

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Shaunna Green (April May) explains life and love to Tony Hall (Harry).

By GLENNA WHITLEY
 Battalion Staff

The music is the only redeeming factor in "Here Comes th' Rain", a play written by Beau Sharbrough, a philosophy student at Texas A&M, and performed by the Aggie Players.

Tony Hall sings the title song beautifully. His voice is powerful and he puts real feeling into the music. But his acting is stilted and he moves like a puppet on the stage. He's in appropriate company

A bright spot in the play, however, is a song and dance number called "If Only I'd Known You Then". Shaunna Green's voice, the funky beat of the music and the energetic but simple dancing are excellent.

This "original rock opera" is an incoherent, rambling philosophy on America, love and social responsibility...probably. It's hard to get the point of the play.

Movie Review

though. The rest of the cast's acting is also stilted and uninteresting. But most of this is Sharbrough's fault as the playwright.

However amateurish the play, though, Sharbrough's musical talent is exciting. But his attempt to write, direct, conduct the music, and single-handedly put the play together was ill-advised. "Here Comes the Rain" could have benefited from another's viewpoint and direction.

The plot revolves around Harry the Singer (played by Tony Hall), and April May, the Big City Dancer (played by Shaunna Green). He loves her but she can't take his over-powering love.

No strong personalities emerge from his dialogue and direction. The philosophical monologues, skits and conversations say little with many words. The human relationships are unconvincing and pretentious. There is no soul to this play.

Two of their friends are Al (played by Gary Wood), and A.J. (played by Karen Miller). They are "philosophical spies" in an underground group called Sunshine. It's a cute but ridiculous concept.

"Here Comes th' Rain" also suffers from bad choreography and over-crowding. The small stage in the Forum can't effectively handle 25 people dancing and prancing around. It's commendable to involve as many people as possible, but it hurts this production.

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Consolidated finishes project for gaining TEA accreditation

By MAUREEN BUCEK

A self-evaluation project has been completed by A&M Consolidated Independent School District, and a four-year improvement plan is being prepared for submission to the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

TEA said that all schools in the district must be accredited by 1978. After TEA directs schools to begin the accreditation process, starting and finishing dates for schools' work in the project is staggered over a four-year period with the deadline set for 1978.

Dr. H. R. Burnett, assistant superintendent of instruction, is the project director for A&M Consolidated ISD. In May 1975, the school received its notice from TEA and initiated a program. A consultant from TEA's accrediting department, Nancy Ruff, was assigned to oversee and aid the district in its work. The administration developed

basic philosophies and goals for the district which the board adopted in August 1975. This was the first step.

A steering committee was then set up to organize and coordinate the work throughout the district with separate steering committees created on each campus.

The campus steering committees organized various subcommittees to study all aspects of that campus: the different educational programs, facilities and personnel. They have submitted an evaluation of each.

Guidelines and forms were obtained from the National Study of School Evaluations which is based in Virginia. The final reports of these committees, completed in the fall of 1976, contained commendations for some current elements and recommendations for possible future improvements.

Copies of the self-evaluation reports are available in the principals'

offices at each school.

These are the only actions required by the TEA in the accrediting process, but A&M Consol took it one step further.

They invited a team of 30 educators from across the state which visited the campus on Nov. 31 and Dec. 1, 1976 and submitted their evaluation of the school district, again containing recommendations.

Both evaluations were given to TEA representative Ruff and to the school board.

On the basis of the evaluations, a five year improvement plan is being prepared which outlines the implementation of programs to meet the internal and external recommendations.

This plan will be submitted to the school board in April. When the board commits itself to the plan, a copy is sent to TEA followed by

yearly progress reports.

Many recommendations call for more staff, more materials and more equipment.

"There is a possibility, as we upgrade our programs, that it will be more costly," Burnett said.

"A lot of the cost has already been included in the last bond issue," he explained.

For instance, one of the recommendations calls for more space for the shop class. This cost was part of the overall cost of maintenance and expansion of facilities under the last bond issue.

It was also recommended that a display counter and cash register be provided for distributive education students. This is an example of the extra costs which would be incurred.

"We may not meet all the recommendations because it would be too costly," Burnett said.

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