

Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' opening in Tower tonight

The Century Singers of Texas A&M University, together with the Bryan-College Station Chamber Orchestra, will perform Felix Mendelssohn's oratorio "Elijah" today and Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

The oratorio was one of Mendelssohn's last major works. It is based on the Old Testament story of

the prophet Elijah who brings down a drought on the wicked idol-worshipping nation of Israel. Elijah destroys the prophets of the god Baal and almost brings the Israelites back to God when he is persecuted by the pagan queen Jezebel. At last, Elijah is victorious and is carried away to heaven in a flaming chariot. The Century Singers are under

the direction of Margaret McArthur. Dr. Charles Johnson of the Chamber Orchestra will conduct both the choir and orchestra in the performances.

Tickets for "Elijah" are \$1 for students and \$1.50 for non-students. "Elijah" is a presentation of the Memorial Student Center Arts Committee.

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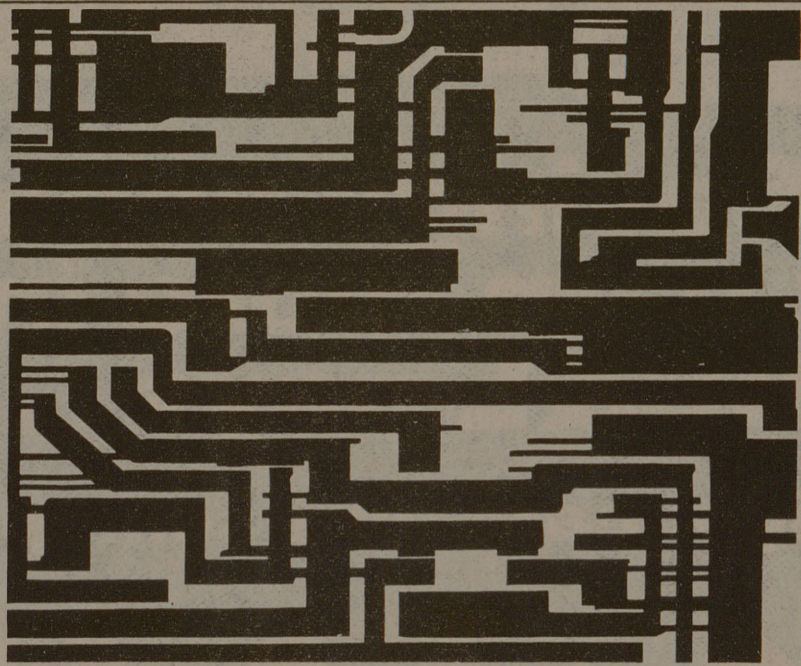


Hanging around A&M

Why does sophomore marketing major Sheree Starry hang signs around campus? Because it's part of her duties as a member of Lambda Sigma, a national honor society for sophomores. The society has performed the

service for recognized campus organizations for more than two years. Groups bring flyers to the Lambda Sigma box in 216 M for weekly distribution in various campus buildings.

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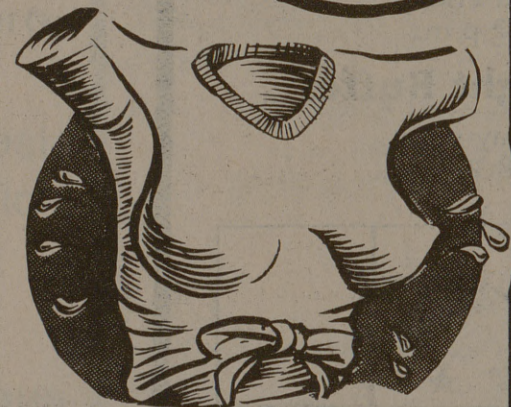


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Plasticizers polluting Eastern water and air

Certain chemicals used by the plastics industry to make its products flexible have been identified as widespread marine environmental contaminants by Texas A&M University researchers.

Their study found phthalate ester (PAE) plasticizers in water, air and sediment samples from the Gulf of Mexico, in Gulf fisheries, and in air and water samples in the North Atlantic off the densely populated Eastern Seaboard.

The team was headed by Dr. C.S. Giam, Texas A&M professor of chemistry and oceanography.

Giam says PAEs are apparently as widespread as DDT and that the predominant group of plasticizers — DEHP — occurred in higher concentrations than DDT in certain samples.

Although use of the latter class of chemicals has been curtailed due to environmental objections, relatively little is known about the dangers of PAEs to the marine ecosystem, said Giam. Since their use continues, so must their influx into marine environments, he added.

Industry sources report that there are possible substitutes for the plasticizers, but the replacements are generally more expensive to make.

Giam and his team urge a study of the PAEs' impact on the sea since the chemicals' relative toxicity has not been well documented. Such a study could answer whether DEHP plasticizers disrupt reproduction and therefore damage the marine food chain.

Unlike DDT, the PAEs are chlorinated hydrocarbons of a type thought most harmful to the environment. Their abundance, however, does not necessarily indicate their presence, the researchers suggest.

It is apparent that significant amounts of the chemicals are being dumped into the sea, said Giam. He said major PAEs into the sea have not been determined, although the sphere is considered a major way to open oceans.

Giam and colleagues at A&M are looking in biological samples for the effects of these chemicals on marine organisms.

Conducting the study with are H.S. Chan, G.S. Neff and Atlas.

Town Hall Is Looking For You . . .

"THE GOOD AG"

In connection with the Crystal Gayle concert, Town Hall will be staging several incidents on the interior campus this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, February 22-24 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Anything from heartfelt "Howdy" to a helping hand could win you and your date reserved seat tickets to the concert which will be performed Friday, March 3 at the Rollie White Coliseum at 7:30 p.m.

To win:

1. Student must be currently enrolled at Texas A&M University.
2. The participant in the situation will determine which student comes to aid first. None of the participants will be Town Hall members.
3. Town Hall reserves the right to determine the number of staged incidents and the number of tickets given away per day.
4. No student can win more than one set of tickets during the three-day contest.
5. Town Hall members and families are ineligible to win.
6. Town Hall reserves the right to end the contest at any time.

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