

campus & city

Ballet's show enthralls crowd

by NANCY ANDERSEN
Battalion Staff
A fairy tale came to life on the Auditorium stage Tuesday night. Giselle, performed by the Houston Ballet, charmed a well-dressed, near-capacity crowd. The performance, sponsored by USC Opera and Performing Arts Society, was a romantic tale of the classic boy-meets-girl variety. In the first act, Giselle, a Bavarian peasant girl, meets Loys, a villager, and the two fall in love after a flirtatious hide-and-seek dance. What Giselle doesn't know is that Loys is really Count Albrecht, a titled noble — and an engaged man. Even though she doesn't know his true identity, Giselle's mother dis-

approves of the match, preferring Hilarion, a local forester. In the face of Giselle's rejection, Hilarion investigates Loys, discovers the truth and reveals it to Giselle. In her grief, she runs the count's sword through herself. The second act curtain came up on a green-tinged, fog-shrouded forest filled with the ghosts of young girls, the Wilis. These girls, jilted by their

would strike a pose and hold it, seemingly forever. The audience stopped the show with applause nearly every time she danced. Another crowd pleaser was William Pizzuto, dancing the part of Count Albrecht. Originally cast in a minor role, Pizzuto was filling in for injured Kenneth McCrombie. His haughty air did justice to his role and his high leaps were exciting. Another standout was Deidre Groghan, who performed two roles. Her finest performance was as Myrtha, the regal and beautiful queen of the Wilis. As a village girl, Groghan was also very good. As a first-time ballet goer, I was enthralled by the performance. The seemingly effortless grace which masked all the sheer physical strength involved was amazing. Also, ballet is more than just dance. The dancers never speak, but their motions and facial expressions are so expressive that it's as if they did. Another language was the music played by the Houston Ballet Orchestra, which set the mood, ranging from carefree happiness to mourning.

Nuclear trash may not cause safety threat

Nuclear waste storage problems are solvable, and this may provide the United States with a short term energy source not dependent on foreign oil and gas, a specialist visiting Texas A&M University said. Nuclear energy can thus meet energy needs until other sources are developed, said Dr. John O. Blomeke, specialist in radioactive wastes management. "There are tangible problems in handling and disposal of radioactive wastes and with proliferation of radioactive materials, but they can be attacked, re-

solved and storage can be done safely," he insists. Blomeke charged that the problems are mostly political in nature, and can be solved politically. He said that continued reliance on other energy sources will soon leave the United States in short supply. Blomeke, in charge of waste management at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, is at Texas A&M for a week of lectures, seminars and conferences in the nuclear engineering department.

IRS teaches taxes to local teenagers

By DEBBIE NELSON
Battalion Staff
Area high school students are learning how big of a bite Uncle Sam takes out of their paycheck before most of them have paychecks to be bitten. In 24,000 high schools nationwide, students are learning how to fill out tax forms through "Understanding Taxes," an Internal Revenue Service-sponsored course, Charles G. Bailey, Austin IRS public affairs officer said Tuesday. This year, five million students are being taught basic tax information through the course, the oldest educational program the IRS has. Federally funded, the tax course supplies teaching materials and films to schools. The material is incorporated as part of existing courses, Bailey said. Bryan High School has used the IRS material for over eight years, in bookkeeping, business careers, and distributive education courses, Assistant Principal Mary Thornton. Fifteen percent of Bryan High's 1,965 students are currently enrolled in one of these electives. A&M Consolidated High School teaches tax information as part of its consumer math class, Assistant Principal Sandra Parker. Also in effect for eight years, enrollment in this course runs from 80-90 students a year — 7.8 percent of Consolidated's 1,082 students. The tax section of these courses teaches basic information on preparing a 1040 form, such as when to itemize deductions, how to list dividend and interest payments, and how to compare the advantages of filing single or joint tax forms, Bailey said. Students get practical experience in filling out tax forms and learn briefly how the tax system works. Although every prospective taxpayer probably needs this information, there is no required tax course. High school students, Bailey said, get a basic knowledge of other subjects, but most of them graduate without knowing how to file an income tax return. Increased use of the IRS course may change that.

Review

fiances, have the power to make men dance to their death. Led by Myrtha, their queen, the Wilis initiate Giselle. When the count comes to lay flowers on Giselle's grave, Myrtha commands him to dance. When he tires Giselle tries to help him, but to no avail. Nearly exhausted and about to die, the count is saved by the rising sun, which overpowers the Wilis. Suzanne Longley, dancing the title role, floated across the stage. She



The band gets its news from the Batt.

Similar beef grades vary in tenderness

Before that big cut of steak landed in a plastic tray at the market, it was probably evaluated and graded at a packing plant by USDA meat graders as either U.S. Prime, Choice or Good. But Texas A&M University meat scientists indicate there is almost as much variation within grades of meat, as between grades. "On occasion, you will find a steak from a lower grade that is as tender as a steak from a higher grade," said Dr. Thayne Dutton, a Texas A&M muscle biologist. He and other researchers at A&M believe the tenderness factor may result more from the time between when the animal is slaughtered and when it is eaten than marbling in the meat and the maturity of the animal from which it came. Marbling and maturity of the animal are the two most important factors considered in grading. As a result of varying chemical reactions from animal to animal, carcasses age at different rates, thus explaining why there is variability in tenderness within one grade. Methods have been developed to reduce these variations in tenderness. The Texas A&M Science Department has developed a technique whereby jolts of electricity speed chemical breakdown of the muscle and increase the tenderness of the meat by 15 to 20 percent.



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