

campus

'Dream' gives Aggies night of fun and frolic

By RHONDA WATTERS
Battalion Staff
If Shakespeare could see the Aggie Theatre Arts' version of his comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," he would probably laugh louder than anyone else in the theatre — and in a crowd like the one that attended Thursday night, that would have to be pretty loud.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" succeeds where many humorous plays fail — it is really funny. And the comedy comes not only from Shakespeare's lines, which are funny enough in themselves, but from the clever and timely portrayal of the characters by a very energetic cast. Energetic is definitely the right word to describe the cast, because one of the most distinctive aspects of the play is the amount of physical action carried out by each character. People fall, punch, scream, howl, jump, run and roar. Very few things are

in the least bit mild. Another interesting aspect of the play is the way music is used to set the mood. The play is supposed to portray a dream, and a small orchestra consisting of a harpsichord, flute and clarinet

Review

helps to give the play a dream-like quality. The harpsichord is especially effective because of its unfamiliar sound and somewhat magical quality. As is a problem with Shakespearean plays, the language at the beginning of the play took some getting used to, partly because some players were talking so rapidly. But as the audience got used to the "thee's" and "thou's," and the actors and actresses slowed down their lines some, everyone seemed to be able to follow the story line and few people appeared lost, which

says a lot considering the play has four different plots.

One delightful character in the play is Puck, a magical sprite who goes around doing mischief for Oberon, King of the Fairies. Puck is played by Sybilla Erwin, and not only is she a very believable sprite, but her wild laugh is so infectious the audience can't resist laughing whenever she is on stage.

Though the entire play is funny, the highlight is a skit performed by a group of craftsmen and presented to the Duke of Athens. The skit portrays a man who commits suicide over his lost lover, and the characters range from a ferocious lion who can't scare anyone, to a wall that has a personality and its own lines.

All in all, the cast not only did an exceptionally good job at presenting a very funny play, but they added their own inspirations of humor to make it an evening of hilarity.

Former Ag displays art collections here

Three separate collections of outstanding American art, gathered over the last 20 years by Texas A&M University graduate and benefactor J. W. Runyon Jr., will be on exhibit through April at the University.

The first part of "Trilogy" features the work of eight artists from the turn of the century who become discontented over the conservative control of the National Academy of Design and made plans to exhibit their own paintings.

The collection is called "The Eight" and opened in the Sterling C. Evans Library Thursday. It runs through Dec. 9 to help celebrate the library dedication. Formal dedication ceremonies for the expanded and newly library are set for 10 a. m. Saturday. The exhibit includes the works of Robert Henri, John Sloan, William Glackens, Everett Shinn, George Luks, Arthur Davies, Ernest Lawson and Maurice Pendergast.

Docents will be available at the exhibit entrance on the first floor of the library Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 1:30 p. m., for guided tours through Dec. 9. Special group tours are also available by calling 845-1914.

The exhibit was first displayed at the MacBeth Gallery in New York in February 1908 and became the pace-setter in a radical new movement in American art which led to the formation of the Association of American Painters and Sculptors.

Other exhibits in the Runyon "Trilogy" collection include "Eight American Impressionists" which will be on display Jan. 15 through Feb. 10, and "Eight Western Americana Artists" which will be presented in the Evans Library in April.

Runyon, a 1935 Texas A&M graduate, is a Dallas engineer, building contractor and journalist who has established a faculty chair in the College of Engineering and two President's Endowed Scholarships.

THEATER ARTS SECTION
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Lab to visit rural high schools

TAMU to operate mobile foundry

A mobile foundry which can be trucked to rural schools to teach high school students to make metal castings is being assembled by a team of students and professors at Texas A&M University.

Dr. James L. Boone, an industrial education professor, said the trial project, funded by the Texas Education Agency, will provide a brief exposure to employment skills for youngsters, particularly in rural East Texas where there is a high concentration of foundries.

"It is an attempt to let the children see first-hand how things work," Boone said. "We will choose 15 schools districts and deliver the van lab to them for two weeks each. During that time students in industrial education classes will have an opportunity to pour four castings."

The Texas Chapter of the American Foundrymen's Association is also sponsoring the project. Many of its members have donated equipment, including the \$10,000 van which was given by Lufkin Industries. Trinity Valley Iron & Steel Co. has agreed to help move the lab from school to school.

Graduate students from several colleges at the University are involved in the project, including a student from the engineering design graphics department who is writing the curriculum and students who are making instructional films and slides. The education team will be setting up summer workshops for the school districts participating in the pilot program.

The Texas A&M team is establishing criteria for selecting the schools which will participate in the program. Boone said the main concern is having a place to install the tractor trailer, power and access to propane gas.

Boone said the van should be ready to test at a local school in the spring.

UT friend pays; Iranian now free

United Press International
AUSTIN — Seyed Miri was freed on bond Thursday thanks to an American friend.

Dick Gill, an engineering student with Miri at the University of Texas, posted \$5,000 bond for the Iranian student Wednesday in Bexar County.

Miri was arrested at his South Austin apartment Sunday and charged with violating his student visa restrictions by taking a \$3-an-hour job as a waiter.

His bond originally was set at \$40,000 because of threats Miri was accused of making against President Carter, Gill said.

"There's just not a possibility he said that," Gill said. "I've known Seyed now for almost four years. I know what his feelings about this country are. He doesn't belong to any political organizations. He doesn't go to any demonstrations. He goes to the library every night and studies."

Gill said his friend took a job at a restaurant last spring because his checks from Iran quit coming through the mail during the Iranian revolution.

"Seyed was not receiving his checks, and he had no way to pay his rent or buy food, so he took a part-time job. About a month ago he started getting the checks again, so he quit," Gill said.

A foreign student is not allowed to hold a job in the United States unless he gets permission from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and works for an employer who certifies he has been unable to find an American citizen to fill the job.

A hearing has been set for Wednesday on Miri's deportation.

Bawdy house shuts doors to Iranians

United Press International
RENO — Iranian students are no longer welcome at brothel owner Joe Conforte's Mustang Ranch.

Conforte put up a sign Wednesday excluding Iranian students because of the American hostage situation in Tehran.

Conforte says he is fed up with the hypocrisy of Iranian students who support the Ayatollah Khomeini yet patronize the brothel.

From now on, he says, any Iranian student who wants service at Mustang after the hostages are released will not only have to denounce Khomeini, but also the Iranian government's policy of shooting prostitutes.

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