

Sharon Barrow, who is the company's business manager, Weldon and Dowling founded the group. Dowling, "lit the spark to the whole thing," Barrow said.

Experimental plays come to Backstage

By SCOT K. MEYER

Battalion Staff

The man is sweating heavily. Heat will do that to you. He has just dragged his friend (passed out? tired? dead?) across the floor. It is hot in here; the lights are bright and shine down like a desert sun. The man seems to age several decades. He still looks young, but he has an air of advanced age, and he speaks in a high, cracked voice.

"By jingo, looky there. We're really in trouble, Mel. Them birds. See them birds, Mel? See what they're doing? I seen them things in Utah. Vultures. Condors or somethin'. Mean, nasty birds. They eat cows, Mel. I seen 'em eat a whole goddam cow like it weren't nothin'."

The man goes on talking, oblivious to the fact that his friend, who apparently wasn't unconscious, dead or sleeping after all, has gotten up and is leaving.

Finally he notices, stops talking and turns around.

"You can go ahead and keep talking," his friend says, "you're doing fine. But I've got to get going now ..."

It is quickly agreed that Tom Stimson can leave, because all he does for the rest of the play is get dragged around anyway. Besides, Stimson, a senior theater arts major at Texas A&M University, has another rehearsal to go to, with the Aggie Players.

Which puts an end to the rehearsal of the Sam Shepard play, "Cowboys #2." But there are still the other two plays, "Chicago" and "Rock Garden"; so the troupe rehearses some more.

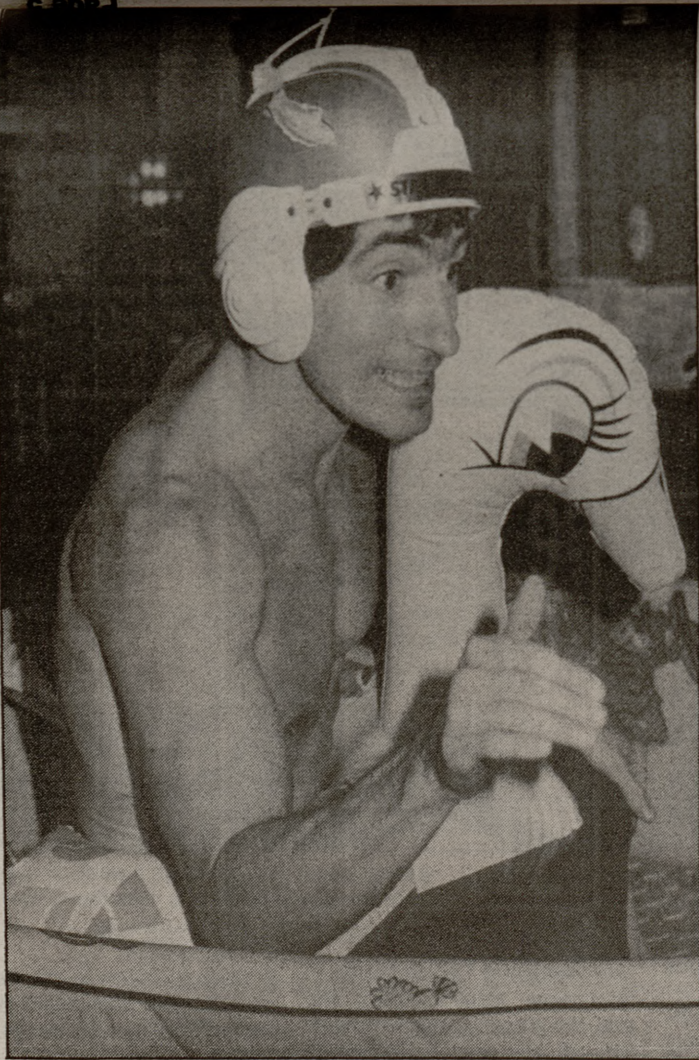
The troupe is known as the Texas Actor's Theater, and it will be performing the three short Shepard plays at Backstage this Friday and Saturday night.

William Weldon, the actor who kept his eyes peeled for buzzards in "Cowboys #2," describes himself as the "autistic director" of the company.

Weldon had started an acting company in Albuquerque, N.M., when he lived there.

"I like to act," Weldon said, "and I like to make the choices about which plays get done."

Weldon's wife is Ellen Dowling, who teaches in the Texas A&M English department. He said he "tagged along with her" when she moved here, and formed a company here to continue acting.

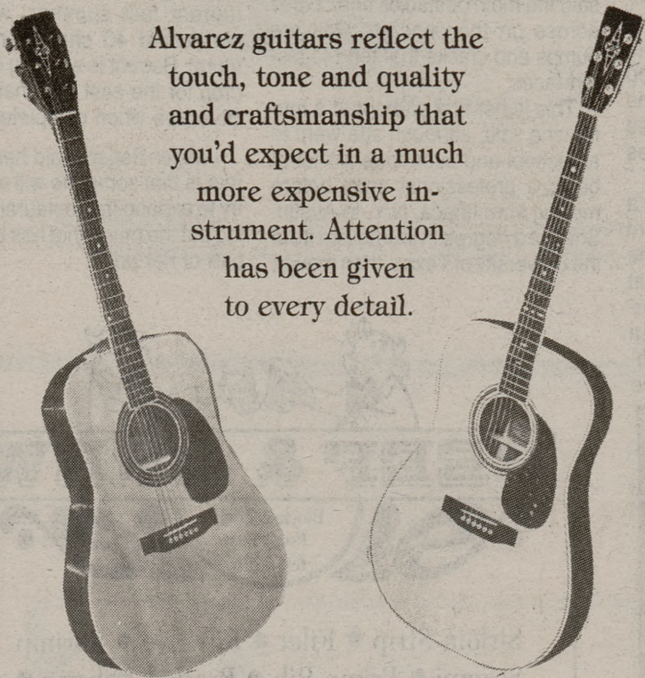


William Weldon in the play "Chicago," by Sam Shepard. The action of the play takes place in a bath tub. Right: Sharon Barrow directs.



ALVAREZ

Alvarez guitars reflect the touch, tone and quality and craftsmanship that you'd expect in a much more expensive instrument. Attention has been given to every detail.



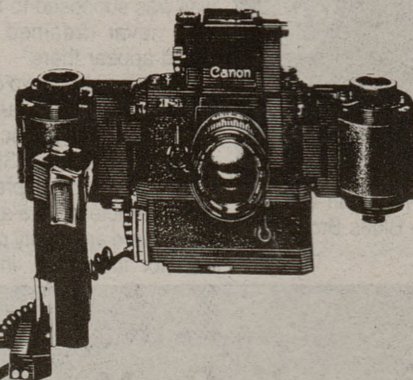
Some models specially priced.
Quality the Pros Use,
Priced Low Enough
for the Beginner.
Layaway
Visa and Mastercharge

We rent pianos.

Keyboard
CENTER
MANOR EAST MALL
713/779-7080 BRYAN, TX 77801

Layaway, Visa and Mastercharge on ALVAREZ, YAIRI, YAMAHA and others.

OPEN TILL 6



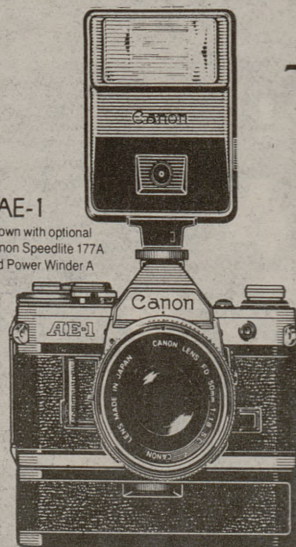
"Your Friend In The Photo Business"

Canon

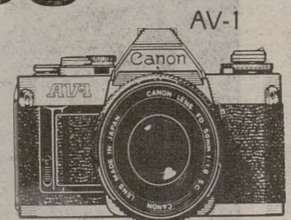
The Possibilities
are Endless.

Canon
FD
Lenses

AE-1
Shown with optional
Canon Speedlite 177A
and Power Winder A



AE-1 with
Canon
Motor Drive
MA



Complete Repair
Service

401 UNIVERSITY DR.

CALL **846-5418**

CERTIFIED PHOTOGRAPHIC COUNSELOR

NORTHGATE



Full Line of
Darkroom
Supplies

COLLEGE STATION

EV
6:30 HE
AN
OF
Ge
loc
ha
of
the
7:00 8
wo
me
Ob
7:30 9
BL
Ro
anc
net
HB
PR
SH
ma
thru
saf
mo
10:00 HB
GC
cor
poi
out
Co

AF
3:00 13
Jar
ph
mc
upl
to
bla
co:
4:30 HE
Sh
En
be
co
a
en
de
mi
EV
8:00 2
Va
da.
pol
Ge
chil
ist,