

'Taming of the Shrew' delights audience

by Colette Hutchings
Battalion Staff

That arrogant, evil-tempered woman was tamed Thursday night and the audience of about 600 in Rudder Auditorium laughed while it happened.

The arrogant woman, of course, is Kate, the shrew, in Shakespeare's comedy, "The Taming of The Shrew," performed by The National Shakespeare Company and sponsored by the MSC Arts Committee.

While the cast lived on the stage with colorful costumes, slapstick humor and the clever dialogue of Shakespeare's text, the audience giggled, guffawed

and generally enjoyed the evening.

The basic storyline revolves around the competition for the hand of the fair maiden, Bianca,

Review

who is pursued by three suitors — Hortensio, a musician; Grumio, a wealthy old man; and Lucentio, the son of a wealthy old gentleman of Pisa.

The second storyline, one which is perhaps just as major as the main story line, is the duel of wits between Kate and Pet-

ruchio, the brave man who is determined to make a docile lover and loyal wife out of her — not to mention getting a hefty share of her dowry.

Baptista, the father of the two women, tells Bianca's suitors that before she can be considered marriage material, her elder sister, Kate, must be hitched. Then the suitors plan ways to marry off the shrew.

When Petruchio, a gentleman who aims "to wive and thrive as best I may," arrives, their prayers are answered.

Petruchio gives Kate a taste of her own medicine — he starves, beats and berates his spouse into submission — all in fun, of course.

At one point, he asked the audience: "He that knows a better way how to tame a shrew, let him now speak." The audience was silent.

When the words and actions of the main characters weren't humorous, the slapstick comedy of three of the servants in the play — Grumio, Biondello and Curtis — sparked laughter. Their slapstick antics only could be compared to the Three Stooges.

The audience's reaction to this play shows why "The Taming of the Shrew" always will remain one of Shakespeare's beloved comedies.



photo by Diana Sals

Kate, played by Deborah Schoenberg, prepares to strike back at Petruchio, played by Jerry Peters, during Thursday night's performance of "The Taming of the Shrew"

by the National Shakespeare Company in Rudder Auditorium.

Texaco relieved of charges

United Press International
PORT ARTHUR — The Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union has withdrawn federal unfair labor practices charges against Texaco Inc. in what union spokesmen said was an effort to move contract talks forward.

A spokesman for OCAW Local 4-23 said the charges, filed with the National Labor Relations Board in Houston Jan. 28, were withdrawn Wednesday. The union charged Texaco was not bargaining in good faith.

Competition could serve up 90 cents/gallon gas in Houston

United Press International
HOUSTON — The executive director of a Houston service station association predicts local

self-serve gasoline prices as low as 90 cents a gallon within two months if current brutal competition continues.

Glenn Nilsson, executive director of the Lone Star Service Station Association, said prices for regular, unleaded and unleaded premium gasoline are falling quickly.

Nilsson is almost alone in his prediction of prices that low, although several analysts have predicted continuing price declines because of falling demand and the worldwide oil glut.

Regular gasoline prices at selected stations in Houston, traditionally one of the nation's lowest-priced gasoline markets, are approaching the \$1-a-gallon level.

A new independent station in southwest Houston was selling self-serve regular at \$1.029 Wednesday. Nilsson said the prevailing price for self-serve regular Wednesday was \$1.059 or \$1.069.

"It's the price competition, plain, simple and brutal," said Jack Blum, general counsel for the Independent Gasoline Marketers Council.

"In today's market, consumers have so little brand loyalty they'll drive out of a station for a 2-cent differential."

Nilsson said prices will continue to fall the rest of the year, hedging his prediction against the persistent possibility of a flare-up in the Middle East.

He said Houston gasoline prices have fallen an average 3.6 cents per gallon in the last four weeks.

Self-serve unleaded regular typically sells for 4 to 5 cents more per gallon than self-serve regular. Unleaded premium sells for 10 to 12 cents more per gallon. Dealers add to all prices for full service.

One analyst who disputes Nilsson's prediction is John Lichtblau, executive director of the Petroleum Industry Search Foundation, who says prices rising again later this year at a pace trailing the expected inflation rate.

"Dealers are in a state of confusion," Lichtblau said. Nilsson said: "They're being hit from lower margins. At one time were 17.7 cents a gallon under price controls. Today, many stations are almost right at what it's worth."

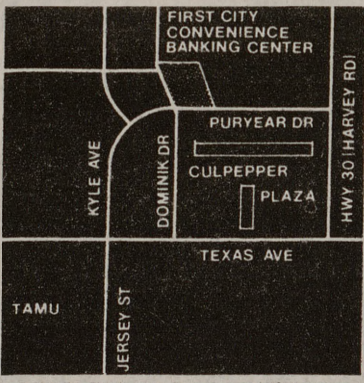
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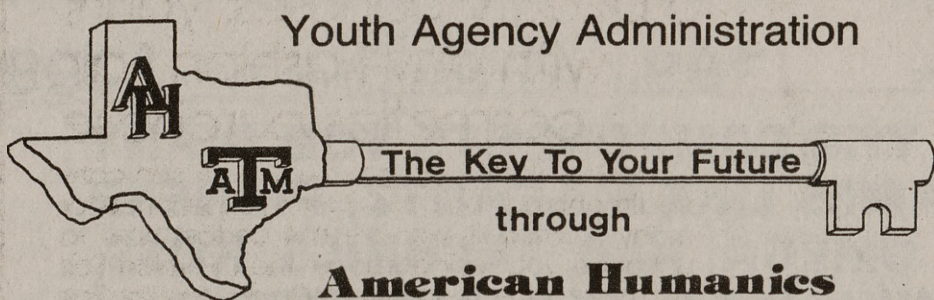
has 6 month and 3 month Internship Positions available in their Ag. Chemical & Animal Health Divisions starting in June. These involve excellent training and work experience plus car, expenses and good salary.

INFORMATION SESSION Mon., Feb. 22 Kleberg #115 with Mr. George Kitchee, Personnel Representative

If interested and can't attend, contact:

Mr. Hank Mills, Soil & Crop Science
Dr. Howard Hesby, Animal Science Dept.

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