

MSC clubs provide fun, fantasy

Semester shows feature A&M directors

by Maureen Carmody
Battalion Staff

The Theater Arts program at Texas A&M will be providing more entertainment and learning opportunities for students this year than in the past.

It will be bringing four plays to campus this semester and will also sponsor 12 one-act plays, which will be directed by students.

Five student plays a year is usually the amount produced.

Richard Soddors, a theater arts professor and director for one of the plays, said the increase in activities is to give students all the experience they can in working in the theater.

The first play of the semester will be *Blood Wedding*, written by Federico Garcia Lorca and directed by Robert Wenck, a theater arts professor.

Blood Wedding is a modern tragedy which tells the story of a mother that loses all of her men in a feud with another family. She is left all alone after her last son is killed during a fight over his new bride.

The play will run Feb. 9 through the 12 at 7 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Tickets are on sale now at the MSC Box Office.

The second play will be *Buried Child*, written by Sam Shephard and directed by Mary Ann Mitchell, a theater arts professor.

Buried Child, winner of the

1979 Pulitzer Prize, is a drama which eventually reveals the secret a farm family has harbored for years. This play is not recommended for children.

Auditions for *Buried Child* will be Wednesday, Jan. 19 and Thursday, Jan. 20 in Rudder Forum beginning at 7 p.m.

Both meetings must be attended. Scripts are available in the theater arts office in the A&A building. The play will run from Feb. 24 through the 26 and March 3 through the 5 in Rudder Forum.

The third play will be *Transit*. This will be the first staging of an original musical by Sue Dauphin, Houston theater critic, and Penelope Kosztołnyik from Bryan. It will be directed by Richard Soddors.

Transit is a musical comedy set on board a merchant tanker, the S.S. Shuttlecock. The first mate's wife disguises herself as the captain in order to save his job. Showings will be at 7 p.m. in Rudder Theater on April 13 through the 16.

The final show will be *The Contrast*, written by Royall Tyler and directed by Jill Moore, a student of theater arts.

Moore is participating in the University Undergraduate Fellows program. This will be the first time the theater arts section will be involved in the Fellows program. Soddors said the program can be used by theater arts students with a high scholastic

average as a type of thesis.

The Contrast is a comedy satire on British manners. It will be shown at 7 p.m., April 26 through the 29 in Rudder Forum.

In addition to these plays, there will be 12 one-act plays at mid-semester which will be directed by students in the directing class, Soddors said. The plays will be chosen by the students.

For more information about auditions call theater arts at 845-2621.

Ticket for all shows can be picked up at the Texas A&M student center box office. The tickets are \$3.50 per person, \$2.50 for students. The one-acts student directed plays are free. Times and dates will be announced later in the semester.

Town Hall looks for spring shows

by Kelley Smith
Battalion Staff

Town Hall has scheduled fewer programs for this semester than last fall, but is still working on getting other programs and hopes to add up to three more concerts to its schedule to the three that are already planned.

"There are typically more (Town Hall) programs in the fall than in spring," said Suzanne Becker, advisor for Town Hall.

Town Hall currently has scheduled the Harlem Globetrotters on Feb. 1, Evita on Feb. 14, 15, 16, and Larry Gatlin on March 3.

Spring programs are difficult to plan because other activities are already scheduled on most of the weekends. When a dance or choir concert

is already planned, Town Hall does not like to program against them, Becker said. This causes a problem because the artists prefer to perform on the weekends.

Several programs made available to Town Hall have been turned down because there is another school activity or program already scheduled for the dates that the artists were available.

Town Hall also tries to stay away from weeknight scheduling because this type of programming often interferes with students' test schedules.

There may be some Thursday night concerts, however, because up until April there are only four weekend nights that do not have other events already scheduled, Becker said.

Movies brings A&M action, adventures

by Patrice Koranek

Battalion Staff

If you and your buddies want to see a good movie but are out of money there is a solution to the problem.

The MSC Aggie Cinema has scheduled a wide variety of movies at a price suited to most pocketbooks. For only \$1.50 you can see most of the movies on the cinema schedule including recent hits like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Firefox*, *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas* and *Bladerunner*.

In addition to showing recent box office hits, Aggie Cinema will also show classics such as *Gone With the Wind*, *The Sound of Music*, *Doctor Zhivago*, *Citizen Kane*, *The King and I* and *Bambi*.

But maybe you don't want to see good movies. In that case "bad movies" are offered too.

On May 6, Aggie Cinema will sponsor Piranhacon, a series of the worst films ever made. According to the cinema schedule, "total lack of taste" was a basic requirement in selecting the films for Piranhacon. The film winners for Piranhacon this year include *She Gods of Shark Reef*, *Muscle Beach Party* and *Girls in Chains*.

Films of the science fiction genre will be shown by Cepheid Variable, the science fiction and fantasy committee of the MSC, when they present Aggiecon, a convention of sci-fi enthusiasts, Mar. 24 through 27.

Aggiecon is the largest convention of its kind in the Southwest and Cepheid Variable will

present several speakers and films on science fiction and fantasy during the four-day event.

OPAS spring show brings brass quintet

by Tracey Taylor

Battalion Staff

The MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society will begin this semester's concert series with brass with a concert by a five-piece group on Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

The Canadian Brass, labeled the "Marx Brothers of Brass" by the New York Times, is an internationally renowned quintet which is best known for combining comedy with their stage performance of traditional music. The group takes this approach because they say it's their responsibility to bring the audience to the music rather than the music to the audience.

But, the group's talent extends beyond comedy. Their musical repertoire ranges from

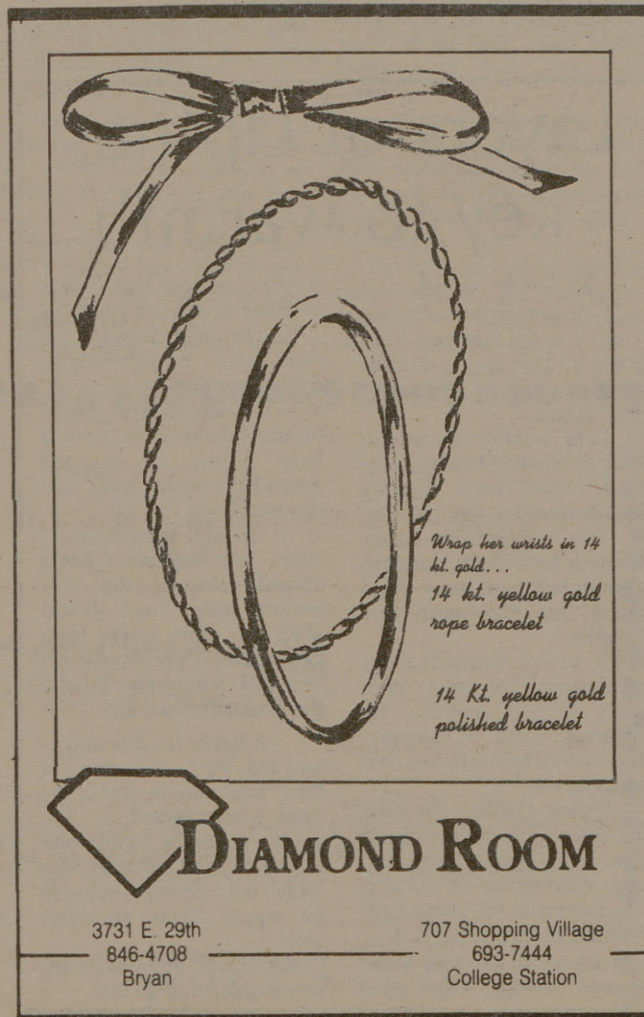
classical works of Bach, Handel, Purcell, Vivaldi, and Debussy to ragtime works by Jelly Roll Morton and Scott Joplin to Fats Waller hits.

The Canadian Brass is Frederic Mills and Ronald Romm, on trumpet, Graeme Page on French horn, Eugene Watts on trombone, and Charles Daellenbach on tuba.

Other OPAS events scheduled for this semester are:

- The Broadway show "Evita" on Feb. 14
- Eugene Fodor on Feb. 18
- Pianist Murray Perahia on March 7
- The Pittsburgh Symphony, Michael Tilson Thomas conducting on April 13.

For more information or for tickets for all OPAS events contact the Rudder Auditorium Box Office at 845-1234.



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