

State and Local

Burton 'disengages' for classroom

Commandant trades brass for books

By Craig Renfro
Staff Writer

When most people retire they look forward to rest, relaxation and doing things that were impossible because of work.

However, for Col. Donald Burton, retirement means enrolling in Texas A&M University to pursue his doctorate in industrial engineering.

Burton retired last week after serving four years as commandant of the A&M Corps of Cadets. He also served as professor of military science and headed up the Army ROTC program.

Dr. Malon Southerland, assistant vice president for student services, is serving as interim commandant.

Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services, said a new commandant could be chosen by the middle of October. Koldus said two people already have interviewed for the position, and two more interviews are scheduled before the end of the month.

Even though he has retired, Burton said he will maintain communications with the Corps.

"It's time to disengage myself from Corps relations, but we stay in touch," Burton said. "I've been in the army for over 30 years and it's time to retire."

Burton said he considered other job opportunities, but decided that furthering his education was the best of all possible alternatives.

"I've always had a longing to pursue education," Burton said. "I'm a firm believer that good things happen if you continue education all your life."

Burton graduated from A&M in 1956 with a bachelor's degree in zoology. He married Vivian Hope on July 5, 1956, and was commissioned into the Army the following day.

Within five years Burton achieved the rank of captain and was given command of an Ar-

mored Cavalry troop in Bamberg, Germany. He was offered a fellowship to return to A&M to continue his education, but decided military life was for him.

In 1962, Burton completed an advanced field artillery course at Fort Sill, Okla. Following completion of the course, Burton decided to enroll at the University of Arizona, where he earned his master's degree in mechanical engineering.

In 1967, Burton went to Vietnam for 13 months to serve as a field artillery group adviser.

Upon his return from Vietnam, Burton served in various military positions in the Pentagon.

In 1982, after 26 years of military service, Burton received a call from the ROTC region command general to come to Texas A&M to become commandant of the Corps.

"I was asked to visit the University and if things worked out, would I take the job," he said. "Of course I couldn't say no."

Burton said that during the course of his stay the Corps underwent several improvements.

"I don't want to take credit for any changes," Burton said. "They occur through the action of the cadets."

Burton said one of his first goals as commandant was to give control of the Corps' day-to-day operations back to the cadet officers.

"We wanted to restore the initiative and authority with the cadet officers," Burton said. "Garland Wilkinson (1986-87 Corps Commander) will be one of the best commanders in the history of A&M."

Another problem the Corps had to overcome was a persecution complex, he said. Burton said the Corps had become withdrawn, and felt that it had a worse image than actually existed.

"Over time they have done a



Col. Donald Burton

good job of getting rid of the Mickey Mouse stuff that was going on," he said. "The emphasis is now on individual and general development. Because of this a lot of good things have happened."

Unfortunately, Burton said, one student died before the Mickey Mouse stuff came to an end.

On Aug. 30, 1984, Bruce Goodrich died after being forced to participate in a 2:30 a.m. motivational exercise session.

"The Goodrich ordeal was very tragic," Burton said. "No one will be happy, but it was handled as best as it could be. Although it was a tragedy it had some positive outcomes."

As a result of the incident, Bur-

ton said the cadet officers pulled together and re-evaluated their priorities.

Burton said the Corps plays a very important role in the success of A&M.

Foremost, Burton said, is for the Corps to produce military officers. Burton said the armed forces consider it important to get officers from universities with a wide range of backgrounds and interests.

"People don't realize how important that is," Burton said. "A&M is the largest producer of officers in the nation besides West Point and Annapolis."

Burton also said the Corps has the responsibility of setting the tone of campus life and activities.

MSC to hold Open House for students

By Daniel A. La Bry
Reporter

Several thousand students are expected to "expose" themselves from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Memorial Student Center for one of the largest Open House events ever held at Texas A&M.

The 37th annual MSC Open House, sporting the theme "Expose Yourself," will be capped with a street dance. The dance will start about 8:15 p.m. in the Rudder Fountain area featuring a live band. The Executives, playing recent Top 40 songs.

Terry Marsaw, staff adviser to the MSC Open House Committee, said registration for Open House continues through the end of the week.

He said the continued registration will bring the total number of participants very close to 200 and that space may have to be denied to some participants that register late. Open

House usually averages about 160 participants, Marsaw said.

The wide variety of participants scheduled to have booths include MSC committees, service groups, academic departments, dance/music groups, international student clubs, and religious and recreation clubs.

Marsaw said he expects 6,000 to 7,000 students to attend the event.

At Open House, students can obtain literature from different organizations at the groups' informational booths. Several live entertainment acts also are scheduled to perform in the lounge area.

Open House Chairman Andy Dastur said, "The most important thing is for two sets of people to be happy—the clubs and organizations who promote their goals and the people attending to get involved in the University."

Lake Somerville target of cleanup campaign

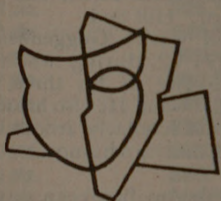
Lake Somerville will be the target of a cleanup campaign Saturday morning, with several organizations scheduled to participate.

In College Station, the Texas A&M Sailing Club and the University's Alpha Phi Omega fraternity have volunteered their support. According to the reservoir manager's office, about 300 people have already committed themselves to the morning project with more anticipated. Cities in the surrounding area to be represented at the

cleanup include Houston, Pasadena, Brenham, Bryan and College Station.

Persons interested in volunteering for the cleanup are asked to call Martin Gustafson, project manager, at (409) 596-1622.

Registration for volunteers will be at 8 a.m. at the Rocky Creek Park. Groups then will be led to designated cleanup areas. Free lunch and refreshments will be served along with live entertainment by the country music duo, Freddy Lake and Harmonica Kate.

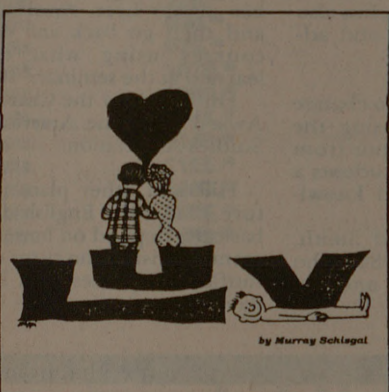


The Aggie Players

Department of Speech Communication & Theatre Arts
Texas A&M University

SAVE 20 - 40%

In A Theatre Season You'll Love!



Luv is Murray Schisgal's ludicrously absurd lampoon of love, loneliness, lost identity, marriage, housekeeping, wife-swapping, existentialism, psychology, success, the sexual revolution, *avant garde* theatre and just about anything else you can imagine. This deliciously funny comedy about "love"—its rites and wrongs, its uses, misuses, and abuses ran for 902 laugh-packed Broadway performances.

The critics called **Luv**:
"A comic treasure!"
"An evening of continuous laughter!"
"The funniest play in several seasons!"
September 19, 20, 25, 26, & 27, 1986



Forum is a farcical romp through the street of Ancient Rome. Based on the comic masterpieces of Plautus, this highly acclaimed musical with delightfully clever music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim (*Gypsy*, *West Side Story*, etc.) and a wildly zany book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart (*M.A.S.H.*, *Tootsie*, etc.) was the winner of the Tony Award, New York Circle Critics Award and the London Drama Critics Award for the BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR!

The critics called **Forum**:
"The Keystone Cops in Roman togas!"
"A wonderfully, wild, wacky musical!"
"A good clean dirty show!"
November 12, 13, 14 & 15, 1986



One of the greatest of all Greek Tragedies this modern, stirring poetic adaptation Euripides' play by Robinson Jeffers is shocking play of fire and fury; revenge a remorse; magic and murder. **Medea**, chilling tale of a woman obsessed with vengeance, provides an evening of sustain suspense and horror coupled with dignity and eloquence.

The critics called **Medea**:
"Magnificent!"
"One of the world's greatest plays!"
"A torrent of passion and terror!"
February 18, 19, 20, & 21, 1987



Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the Drama Critics' Circle Award as the best play of the season, **Picnic** is William Inge's picture of small-town-America. It is the story of four lonely women who restlessly roam their sultry, sunbaked backyard awaiting an emotional storm to exalt them, fulfill them and possibly-kill them. Their dreams come true when a muscular, passionate young driver arrives and life's most primal drives motivate them all.

The critics called **Picnic**:
"A play of passion, delight and despair!"
"A vast and resounding success!"
"A play that will long haunt the heart!"
April 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 & 25, 1987



Back by Popular Demand
5 actors from
THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
and
THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN
as a part of the Alliance for Creative Theatre Education and Research (ACTER)
performing
a full length play by Shakespeare, March 4 & 7, 1987
an evening with a contemporary playwright, March 5, 1987
2 one-man shows, March 3 & 6, 1987
(The one-man shows and the evening with the contemporary playwright are not part of the season ticket.
The Critics called the ACTER troupe:
"Brilliant and powerful!"
"Eloquent, coherent and thoroughly entertaining!"
"Fascinating, exceptionally talented performers!"

Buy A Season Subscription

SEASON SUBSCRIBERS -
SAVE OVER 20% and take advantage of these benefits

Guaranteed Savings — At regular prices these 5 shows would cost over \$30 (\$22 for students). As a Season Subscriber you pay only \$24 (\$17.50 for students) — A SAVINGS OF OVER 20%

Priority Seating — You first choice of reserved seats. Just call the Rudder Box Office at least one week in advance and reserve your seats.

Newsletter — You will receive advance notice of upcoming productions as well as announcements concerning other theatre events.

Choice of Plays In addition to using season subscriptions anyway you wish—for one or two shows or for all the Aggie Player productions—you will get a ticket for the ACTER production of a full-length Shakespeare Play.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN SAVE OVER 40%

If you'd like to support theatre at A&M in a very special way, receive all the benefits of season subscribers and receive a **discount of over 40% on season tickets**, become an Aggie Players Contributor. The **Aggie Players Contributors** are individuals, foundations and businesses whose interest in the theatre extends beyond attending productions. Because they believe that a dynamic, well funded theatre is an integral part of liberal education and a key factor in the community's quality of life, they make financial and/or "in kind" contributions to the Aggie Players. (Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law and all contributors are listed as such in our production programs.)

Special Contributor's Bonus — As a contributor you are invited to a reception with the cast and crew following the opening night performance of each play.

Extra Special Contributor's Bonus — As a contributor you are invited to a private reception for the 5 Royal Shakespeare Company/National Theatre of Great Britain actors hosted by President & Mrs. Vandiver.

Subscription prices for all five plays are: \$17.50 for students and contributors, and \$24.00 for the general public. To subscribe and/or contribute, please fill out the form below and mail to: Aggie Players, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843-4234.

Name _____
Address _____ Day Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Type of Subscription/Contribution

<input type="checkbox"/> General Public	@ \$24.00 @ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> TAMU Student (ID# _____)	@ \$17.50 @ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$ 40 Contribution & 2 Season Subscriptions	@ \$17.50 @ \$ 75. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$ 65 Contribution & 2 Season Subscriptions	@ \$17.50 @ \$100. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$215 Contributions & 2 Season Subscriptions	@ \$17.50 @ \$200. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$430 Contribution & 4 Season Subscriptions	@ \$17.50 @ \$500. _____
TOTAL _____	

Check Enclosed — Payable to "The Aggie Players"
Season tickets are also available at the Rudder Box Office.