





Author explains evolution of A&M throughout histor Br

By Sharon Maberry Staff Writer

The Battalion

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Texas A&M College was just another place that educated farmers and mechancs until the Aggies' participation in World War I gained national attention. Deborah Lynn Balliew, author of "College Station, Texas, 1938-1988,"

spoke about the effects of the world wars on A&M Thursday as a part of College Station's 50th anniversary celebration. Balliew said A&M's enrollment in-creased from six in 1876 to between 800

and 900 at the start of World War I. In 1917, A&M was a military school that. focused on agriculture and engineering.

A&M's faculty anticipated the war and offered the college's facilities and equipment to the government before the United States entered the war, Balliew said. A&M was the first college in the nation to join the war effort.

In the next two years, A&M mobilized for war, and the academic emphasis decreased, she said.

An ROTC program professionalized the military training at the college and mandated freshman and sophomore participation, she said. Juniors and seniors continuing the program received small wages and officer status.

Other programs included the signal corps, which taught electrical engineers how to communicate during the war and an automechanics course, which trained students to operate and repair wartime vehicles, she said.

World War I caused a massive in-crease in enrollment, she said. By September 1918, 4,000 soldiers had been trained at A&M. In fact, they were forced to seek additional housing, as 80 tents were set up in front of the YMCA Building

A&M's participation in World War I brought it national fame as a military school and it became known as the "West Point of the Southwest," Balliew said. The New York Times said that more A&M graduates fought in the war than any other school in the nation

Upon the advent of World War II, A&M again offered its services to the government before the United States entered the war, Balliew said. Once again, academic studies gave way to intense military training, and students were able to earn degrees in a shorter time period.

During World War II, 50,000 military men came through A&M and were trained in engineering, science, war management and war operations she said

"In January 1943, almost every ablebodied man went to war and within 48 hours, 1,000 upperclassmen vacated the campus," Balliew said.

Graphic by Kelly Morgan

Friday, November 11, 1988

Men from A&M fought on every bat-tlefield, and 950 Aggies died, she said. A&M also participated in a war propa ganda program that focused on a Hollywood movie filmed on campus, she said The film, "We've Never Been Licked," stressed the spirit of Aggies and their

dedication to winning the war. World War II had a very different ef-fect on A&M than World War I because the military success of its students discouraged growth after the war, she said.

'The men came home with and feeling for the tradition of a lege and resisted change," she said practices of the early corps be alized, including yell practice at

"After the war, the campus wa ulated with veterens who weren ested in entering the corps as f

til the 1970s when College Sta creased with A&M, Balliews citizens then decided to diversi and not center so exclusively on

Both world wars brought e change to the little known college zos County and led to its resp admired reputation today.

Corps has service ght the ba chdown. The 28-yard for Veterans Day ťs cans had worn a military unifor

Day

the "War to end all wars.

To commemorate the sa

so many Americans.

1926 designated Nov. 11 as

as "the War to end all wa

might still be known as Am

But shortly after the holiday claimed in 1938, the United

Had World War I lived up to

By Scot Walker Staff Writer

An American soldier, buried in Ar-lington National Cemetery in 1921, "his name known but to God," serves as a symbol of reverence for its veterans. Today, President Reagan will place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to commemorate Veterans Day. Col. Donald "Buck" Henderson, deputy assistant commandant of the Corps of Cadets, said the Corps is scheduled to proceed with its traditional observance today with the laying of a wreath at the Westgate Memorial near Albritton

Tower. Cadet Col. Todd Reichert, commander of the Corps, said the Corps also is planning a short wreath-laying ceremony during its morning formation at the War Memorial on the Quadrangle plaza.

The specific time and day chosen for Veterans Day memorial activities - the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month - were chosen to commemorate the cessation of the hostilities of World War I and the signing of the Armistice by the Allies and Germany at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918.

Almost five million Americans took part in World War I, and 116,000 of them died. One out of every 22 Ameri-

lie White Co tral Reunior came involved in World Warll After the war, Rep. Edwin K. erence bas Kansas made a proposal to cha stice Day to Veterans Day, to ot in their n m not worri those who have served America ge, La. It ca According to "About Vetera ome sports ging their o fact sheet published by the (Texas) Gazette, two more ainers. But American war dead were brou ever been United States from overseas an olic bever ere actuall

in Arlington Cemetery beside rade from World War I on 1958. One of them had died in War II, the other in Korea.

A law passed in 1973 provided interment of an unknown America lost his life in Southeast Asia dur Vietnam era. For several years, ifying remains were found, so was placed in the Memorial Room at Arlington. On Memori 1984, the Unknown Servicema that conflict was finally placed " ored glory" alongside his country

nd I survive ins probabl Aggies that done it all o exas A&M orbacks, an ation. Luck fines of the ng to be abo guise of imp 000 (in the g ctually, I h s. They give

"Pirates of Penzance" offers plenty of laughs for patrons

By Chuck Lovejoy Staff Writer

the Aggie Players' season-opening pro-duction of Gilbert & Sullivan's operetta mance. "The Pirates of Penzance. Other notable performances are given

The role of Mabel is played by Debo-rah Lard, a part-time student. Lard's vocal range is stunning. From her very first Laughs are assured for those who see entrance in the musical, she captivates





and sophomores and being younger men (who had not fou was when the first civilian bo evolving. Considerable growth did not

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CKENYAGGIE WAR HYMN **TAPS** AGGIE BLOOD DRIVE MS **CYFIGHTIN TEXAS AGGIE BAND VOUACK SHACK VFARMERS FIGHT** SINGING CADETS YOUAD Y KYLE F EPHANT THE (%) BLOOD CENTER AT WA

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The musical, a lighthearted satire of by David Roberto, perhaps the best actor Victorian morality and melodrama, has in the lot, as the Pirate King, and Susan its first performance tonight at 8:00 p.m. Satterwhite as the pirate nursemaid Ruth. in Rudder Theater.

phan Frederic, an apprentice to a bumbling band of pirates. By a twist of fate, Frederic meets Mable, daughter of the booming noise made by the actors as imperious General Stanley, and they fall immediately in love, despite the objections and actions of General Stanley and the local police force. In the meantime, hampered as a whole because it is funny. the pirates set their eyes on the rest of The humor is derived from spoken lines Gen. Stanley's daughters and pursue and gestures and movements. them heavily.

major, is enjoyable as Frederic. Longwell's clear, resonant voice carries well throughout the hall.

Steve McCauley steals the show as the The comedy tells the story of the or- nervous General Stanley.

Attractive costumes and a picturesque

Despite this problem, the show is not

Performance dates for musical, to Kris Longwell, a senior Theater Arts night's show included, are Nov. 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19. Tickets are available at the Rudder Box Office at prices of \$5 for student and \$7.50 for the general public



Photo by Phelan M. Eber Susan Satterwhite sings to pirate

"Mystery of Edwin Drood" proves terrific combination

By Shane Hall Staff Writer

"The Mystery of Edwin Drood" is a magnificent production combining comedy, drama and music in a most interesting fashion. MSC-OPAS presented the Award-winning musical, which played C.M. Yates was impressive as Royale player Clive Paget, who plays John Jas-Thursday night in Rudder Auditorium.

Holmes' "musical with dramatic interludes" is actually a play within a play in which the stage is transformed into the who played the Ceylon-born Helena the Music Hall Royale of Victorian-age England. The cast assumes the roles of the Royale's players, who in turn are debuting a presentation of the play based on Charles Dickens' unfinished mystery novel.

the the play's characters makes for the show's most fascinating element, and something of a challenge: being convinc- play's final outcome. ing as both an English thespian and his or

ing colors. At one moment they are on dramatic "The Name of Love," the stage hamming it up like Vaudevil- Mystery of Edwin Drood" is a splendid lians and then instantly slipping into their night for all.

characters, all drawn from the Dickens novel

The performances here were commendable, from the leading characters to the minor parts. With his maniacal expressions and villanous appearance, C.M. Yates was impressive as Royale per, the uncle of young Edwin Drood. Also worthy of mention are Michelle Landless with radiance and Karlah Hamilton who, through the Royale's Angela Prysock, shines as the Princess Puffer, a bawdy opium den owner.

Adding to the delightful nature of this The cast's portrayal of actors playing show was the coaxing of the audience to participate as well, hissing the villainous John Jasper and of course, voting on the

Add to this the spectacular singing and her respective character. The cast of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" accomplished this task with fly-



Photo by Mike C. Mul

C.M. Yates and Marie-Laurence Danvers

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