

# Shakespeare joins 20th century technology

□ Texas A&M helps bring Shakespeare to CD-ROM.

By Lynn Cook  
THE BATTALION

The World Shakespeare Bibliography, housed at Texas A&M University, is making the transition from textbooks to hypertext in a joint venture between A&M, the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington D.C., and the Cambridge University Press.

The bibliography, which is compiled from more than 30,000 books and periodicals, 20,000 arti-

cles and 2,000 playbills and posters, has been housed at A&M since 1985. The first hypertext CD-ROM edition of the bibliography, containing all entries between 1990 and 1993, is scheduled for release later this year.

This edition will give the bibliography wider access and will condense its information.

Dr. James L. Harner, professor of English and editor of the World Shakespeare Bibliography, said the bibliography notes all important articles, books, book reviews, dissertations, reviews of films and theater productions and audio visual materials pertaining to Shakespeare.

In recent years, there have been close to 5,500 entries in each annual edition. More than 30 countries from North and South America, Europe and Asia donate materials in almost 80 different languages.

"It will include virtually every type of scholarly work written about Shakespeare as well as a considerable number of productions, films and musicals," Harner said. "It will allow scholars and students to locate studies and other materials on any topic associated with Shakespeare."

With this system, the computer screen will have the feel of a book, Harner said. Many schol-

ars are "book people" and are not comfortable using computers, he said. The appearance of the screen helps put the user at ease and bridges the distance between books and hypertext technology, he said.

"Literary scholars are browsers," he said. "They're book people. Electronic indexing isn't always the best way."

The Bibliography and its related materials are in the process of being moved to the second floor of Blocker. The new quarters will allow additional room to display posters and playbills of Shakespearean productions from around the world.

The CD-ROM edition will be available on computers in the new quarters or on the A&M Internet system. Through the Internet, students and faculty will be able to access the bibliography from their own personal computers, Harner said.

The text on disk will be fully searchable down to the word. Users will be able to pinpoint and link texts according to anything they chose to research, including theme, author or even a specific performer in Shakespearean roles, Harner said. Related entries will already be linked together but users will be able to form new links to speed

up their search.

"People will be able to gate almost instantaneously from one work to another," Harner said.

With each new edition of the bibliography, more and more past editions will be added. When complete, the World Shakespeare Bibliography CD-ROM will contain all bibliography entries 1900 to the present.

Harner said he hopes that in the future, copyright permission will be given to enable the bibliography to include picture copies of posters, film and theater production clips.

## Aggies help stray animals

□ Vet students gain experience spaying and neutering animals.

By Tracy Smith  
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M veterinary students are putting their education to good use through weekly trips to Austin to spay and neuter stray animals at the Austin Humane Society.

The program, started in 1971, was designed to benefit fourth-year students, as well as the community, by giving them hands-on experience spaying and neutering animals at the shelter. Since 1971, more than 23,000 animals have been spayed or neutered by these students.

Dr. John Shaddock, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, said the program is a "win-win" situation.

"The veterinary students get the opportunities to practice surgery in real world conditions and they have the satisfaction of knowing they are helping reduce the population of unwanted pets," Shaddock said.

The program, admired by humane societies across the country, branched out in June 1994 to help animals in the Brazos Valley as well as animals in

Austin, he said.

Kathy Bice, executive director of the Brazos Valley Animal Shelter, said A&M students spay and neuter cats and dogs from the shelter every Thursday. She said the program saves lives by giving the shelter flexibility to provide mobile adoptions.

"This is a worthwhile experience, both for the students as well as the community," Bice said.

Bice said hands-on experience for the veterinary students is vital.

"It would be terrible to graduate and have to enter the real world of veterinary medicine without the surgery experience," she said. "Students gain confidence through this program and are able to see the real rewards of a job well done."

Bice said that in Texas, where half-a-million animals are euthanized a year, this program saves lives two ways.

"First, the veterinary department doesn't have to buy animals to perform surgeries on, and second, more animals are adopted at the shelter as a result," she said.

Don Brittain, a fourth-year A&M veterinary student, said the trips to Austin and to the Brazos shelter have given her the confidence she feels is necessary for a successful veterinary career.

"Instead of performing three

or four surgeries a week we are now able to perform three and four a day because of the program," Brittain said. "Our administrators have gone to great lengths to provide us with an experience that is both practical and necessary for our future careers in veterinary medicine."

In a recent news release, Texas A&M veterinary officials estimated that if 1,000 dogs and cats had not been spayed, but produced a typical litter of six offspring each, the animals would have produced 1,290,323,500 descendants in the years since the spaying and neutering program started.

Dr. John August, head of Texas A&M's Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, said that while these numbers are purely theoretical and such a population surge could never happen, the number of animals that must be put to sleep is still disturbingly high for a society that values its companion animals.

In November, the Austin and Travis County Humane Society dedicated a new shelter that includes a surgery facility designed to make the spaying and neutering program as efficient as possible. Texas A&M veterinary surgery experts helped design many features of the five-operating-table suite.



Amy Browning/THE BATTALION

### Just follow the paper trail

Footprints lead to a vendor's table in the MSC, promising free gifts to passing students.

## Correction:

In a story on page one of the Jan. 17 issue of The Battalion, Shawn Williams was mis-identified. Williams is the president of the local chapter of the NAACP.

## POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department between January 3 and 13:

### Public Intoxication

1/13 - Beutel Health Center Mall - An intoxicated pedestrian was arrested and incarcerated in the Brazos County Jail.

1/13 - Parking Area 2 Center Mall - Citations were issued to two students observed urinating in public.

### Minor in Possession of Alcoholic Beverage

1/11 - McInnis Hall - Citation issued.

### Driving While Intoxicated

1/11 - Wellborn Road - An intoxicated motorist was arrested and incarcerated in the Brazos County Jail.

### Credit Card Abuse

1/05 - Supplemental Information - Cain Hall - The subject responsible for the unauthorized use of the victim's telephone credit card has been identi-

fied. If restitution is made, the victim does not wish to file criminal charges.

### Harassment

1/05 - Bryan/College Station - The victim was being harassed by a former boyfriend.

### Breach of Computer Security

1/06 - Supplemental Information - Sterling C. Evans Library - The victim received several unsolicited telephone calls and an unauthorized e-mail message from a former acquaintance. The acquaintance was previously told to cease all contact with the victim.

### Misdemeanor Theft

1/06 - Hensel Terrace Apartments - A black unknown brand bicycle was stolen.

### Burglary of Vehicle

1/07 - UV Row - The student discovered that his friend's vehicle had been burglarized and two boxes of unknown contents were stolen. The friend is out of town and scheduled to

return at the end of the month.

### Criminal Mischief

1/08 - Dormitory 7 - A third floor window on the north side and a window in the door on the east side of the building were damaged.

### Assault by Conduct/Disorderly Conduct by Language

1/08 - Memorial Student Center Post Office - When a student entered the MSC to check his mail, he did not remove his cap. Two individuals yelled racial and abusive comments at the victim and one of them grabbed his cap and removed it from his head. The victim was able to retrieve his cap. The two individuals were last seen leaving in a white Ford GT Mustang.

### Criminal Trespass

1/10 - Memorial Student Center - Steam Tunnel - Three students were arrested while attempting to exit the MSC steam tunnel and were issued Criminal Trespass Warnings and released.

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