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Aggielife

Friday • November!

History added to The Crucib

By Amy Uptmor THE BATTALION

cast of 21 A&M students is bringing life to Arthur Miller's masterpiece, The Crucible, this month in Rudder Forum. The cast has been practicing for three hours a night, six days a week since it was chosen in August. All the lighting, sets and costumes were designed and constructed by A&M students.

Although the play is put on by the theater arts program, the cast is composed of students of all majors.

Chris Blake, who plays one of the principle roles, Reverend Parris, is a senior management major.

cided to try out for the play, and he said he has been pleased with it. "It's been a fantastic experience," he said.

'There's so much talent involved in this play. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I've been overwhelmed by the experience.

Emily Kryzak, a junior speech communications major who plays Susanna Walcott, said The Crucible is also her first play, although she previously designed costumes and has been interested in theater for a

"It was just something to do, but I've met so many great people," she said. "I've been interested in drama since elementary and junior high. I doubt that I'll do it for a career, but I've

Although Blake's only previous theatrical experience is an acting class he took, he de-The Crucible opened last wee

will run for the next two weekends. Alex Walters, a junior theater

journalism major, said the audie been excellent so far. 'It's been surprisingly good," he

don't expect that, especially in the had close to 150 people show up on night, and it got better from there." Walters said the play is funded

ticket sales and the College of Libe The play is directed by Dr. Os an associate professor in the the

program. Giner said he chose The Crucible

of his interest in the Salem trials. "I've always been interested in the trials, so as a result, I've been inte

the play," he said. Giner also said many of the stu has worked with in the theater

were ready for a play like *The Cruci*"I've been working with some of t dents for a while now on production Fallout Theater, and I thought the

Walters said working with Gi been an amazing experience. "He's the best director I've eve

ready for something a little bigger,

for in my life," he said. "He'll pu out of an actor that you never k there in ways you never expected." Kryzak agreed that working with has been a great experience.

"He's wonderful," she said. "His are so different. This is a unique production of The Orbecause four of the 1692 transcripts

witch trials have been inserted betwee acts of Miller's original play. Giner said he plans to turn the scripts into their own theatrical;

tion. But for now, he said they works with The Crucible. "They fit in very easily," he said play captures the spirit of the tim

with the transcripts, you realize th little has changed between the two. I an authenticity to the piece. Kryzak said the transcript adds

ment of education to the play. "It adds a historical flair to it," she

"It's interesting. It brings a whole history to the play."

Fletcher brings spontaneity to College Station

By Libe Goad THE BATTALION

At Capt. Jean Luc Picard's command, Cmdr. William Riker and Lt. Cmdr. Data pick up their instruments and jam. The usually conservative crew of the Starship Enterprise look out of character as they let loose on stage.

Rachel Schafer, a junior marketing major, performs in The Crucible.

As a good Trekkie would know, no Star Trek: The Next Generation episode features the captain and chums touring in a band. Instead, the Denton-based band Fletcher honors a favorite pastime.

"We are all Star Trek fans," drummer and vocalist Bill Shupp said.

The alternative/pop band with a Star Trek fetish will beam into Sweet Eugene's House of Java tonight.

The band, often compared to Toad the Wet Sprocket, Paul Simon and The Who, is determined to avoid playing music that will gain them only temporary popularity.

"To avoid the stupid — that's what Fletcher is all about," Shupp said.

Shupp, guitarist and vocalist Art Hays and bassist Jeff Hodges work to create music that won't insult people's intellect

Shane Elkins, THE BATTALION

"The whole focus is on the lyrics," he said. There's not a lot of frills and crap involved. Fletcher has quickly gained recognition

playing in clubs in and around Denton, where the band members attended the University of

"The whole focus is on the lyrics. There's not a lot of frills and crap involved."

Bill Shupp drummer and vocalist of Fletcher

Band members take the music seriously. From a long background of classical and jazz education, the band works to mix its technical knowledge with an emotional art form

Once the band gets on stage, though, the seriousness fades and the lighter, Star Trek side of Fletcher appears through their joking and musical improvisation.

"It depends on what Art wants," Shupp

said. "Usually, we make up songs about ple at the shows."

Hays and Shupp met through the On Clock Jazz band, a renowned UNT pro that allows students to study jazz in a tr ing band that records albums. Hays Shupp play in the band, and Fletche born soon after. The first bassist left the band, and H

filled the position last spring. The new! er released a self-titled debut albumin Shupp said the band plans to have ond album completed by next spring.

In the meantime, Fletcher is quick ing popularity, touring outside of Tex receiving air play on several radio stati "When you start out, you have to

open-mike nights with poor music Shupp said. "Now, we're playing in clubs on the weekends."

Outside of band life, Shupp sa band avoids working day jobs. So hungry stomachs from rumbling and Hays play with various jazz ba

teach music lessons.
"Some months," Shupp said, close to going to McDonald's and fill an application.

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The views in this program are not necessarily those of the MSC Political Forum.