

# AGGIE life

TUESDAY  
July 23, 1996

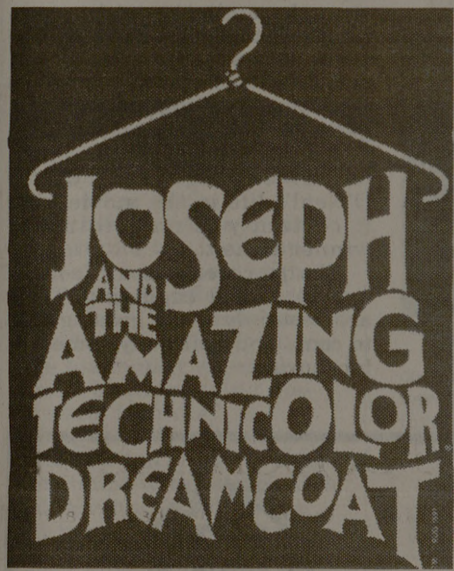
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## "Dream" chance for local children's choirs

The Brazos Valley Troupe and Shiloh Baptist Church Youth Choir were chosen to perform in the OPAS fall production of Joseph

By April Towery  
THE BATTALION

**J**oseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is coming to Rudder Auditorium on Sept. 24-26 this fall through the MSC Opera and the Performing Arts Society.



Joseph is written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and is based on the Bible story told in Genesis chapter 31 of Joseph and his coat of many colors.

Karen Oster, the director of the Dreamcoat Choir Challenge, has been working with Joseph producers since February. Part of Joseph's trademark is the use of local children's choirs wherever it performs.

Oster said working with the children adds to the production.

"Having the kids in the show has nothing to do with money," Oster said. "It's got to do with community effort."

The musical's producers created the Dreamcoat Choir Challenge to find a children's chorus to perform in the show in each individual town.

There are five possible choirs, and two were chosen to participate in the musical, involving about 40 children between the ages of 10 and 14.

The Dreamcoat chorus, which was announced yesterday, includes the Brazos Valley Troupe, under the direction of M.A. Sterling, and Shiloh Baptist Church Area Youth Choir, directed by Yvonne Hall. Both will be participating in 18 of the 22 total songs.

Oster said choosing two of the five possible choruses was a difficult decision to make.

"These kids here were all great," she said. "So it was disappointing because three good choirs weren't chosen."

Joshua Childers, a sixth grader at Brazos Christian School, said he cannot wait until the performance. Childers will be singing with the Brazos Valley Troupe in the Dreamcoat Choir.

"I played Noah in our school musical, but this will be my first big one," Childers said. "We only rehearsed for three days, so it's really exciting that

our choir was selected."

Childers said the two choirs will begin rehearsing together early next week.

"We'll start doing lots of things together just to get to know each other," Childers said. "We have to become one choir instead of two."

The production is a part of a Broadway national tour. The Dreamcoat chorus will practice together for the remainder of the summer and the beginning of the fall. The overall director of the Dreamcoat chorus will return to College Station about a week before the performance to practice with the children.

Sarah Nash, OPAS program coordinator, said she cannot wait to see Joseph.

"I have not personally seen Joseph but am really looking forward to it," Nash said. "The narrator tells the story of Joseph during the days of Pharaoh to the children, so the kids are onstage for almost the entire production."

A&M students involved with OPAS have put time and effort into the production of Joseph as well.

Nash said several of the Aggies involved were helpful the day of the choir tryouts.

"They greeted the choirs and acted as hosts," Nash said. "They saw them through the warmup period, seated them and hosted them for lunch, which really made them feel at home."

One of the stars of Joseph is well-known soap opera star, Brian Lane Green. Nash said Green's performance should add to the musical as a whole.

"Some people have gotten really excited about a soap opera star being a part of the production," Nash said. "It's really going to be a wonderful performance, very upbeat and exciting."

Sheri Scoggins, director of children's programming and a junior history major,



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Members of the Shiloh Baptist Church Choir and the Brazos Valley Troupe will perform in the fall production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

said having children in the production makes it special.

"The auditions were great," Scoggins said. "It seemed like all the kids had a really good time."

"We want all the kids to know that even if their choir wasn't selected, they are all a part of the performance. Those that weren't selected can come to the musical, and we plan to take them backstage to meet the cast afterward."

Scoggins said the director of the Dreamcoat chorus not only auditioned the singing ability of the children, but it

taught them some choreography as well.

"It's a very lively musical, very upbeat," Scoggins said. "We hope to get the kids dancing and really having fun with it."

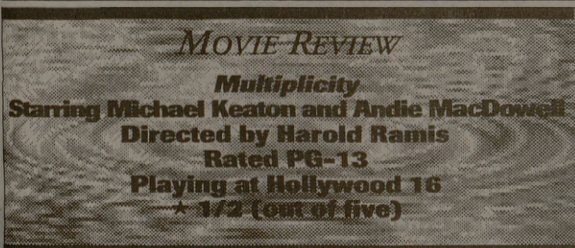
Oster said that Joseph is all about the importance of children in the musical.

"The show is a great opportunity for the kids — working as an ensemble, taking direction and performing publicly," Oster said. "All of these things are important to life in general."

"Plus, people come to see the kids, because the show is really all about the children."

## No matter how many Keatons, Multiplicity falls short on laughs

By James Francis  
THE BATTALION



The idea that two is better than one is presented in the film *Multiplicity*. But in this case, none is best. Michael Keaton, Michael Keaton, Michael Keaton and Michael Keaton portray Doug Kinney and his three clones in a flat slapstick-driven movie by director Harold Ramis.

Doug is a foreman who is trying to balance his job with married life and time alone. By a contrived stroke of luck, Doug runs into a geneticist while working on a medical facility.

The doctor sees Doug's stress and offers him a favor he simply can't refuse — to clone himself in order to ease the frustrations of his life.

Reluctantly, Doug agrees to the procedure, and soon there are two Doug Kinneys.

Doug's wife, Laura (Andie MacDowell), begins to notice subtle differences in his behavior, but is happy because her husband now seems to have time for his children and job.

Amidst all the clones, drawn-out dialogue and exhausted attempts at physical humor, *Multiplicity* is too much, too many.

Keaton, whose better film credits include *Batman* and *Clean and Sober*, has a knack for the various facial expressions and voice tones required for

his clones, but the script just did not provide enough depth to his character.

In his performance as Three, the audience wonders whether he is portraying a sensitive side of the original Doug or a homosexual side with blatant stereotyping, such as his great cooking and cleaning skills.

The role of Doug Kinney is not a pleasant one for any actor.

MacDowell, whose acting is usually up to par in films such as *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *sex, lies and videotape*, is dreadful as the overstressed wife who wants a career and a home life as well.

Her worldwide acclaim as an actress in her earlier films, is lost in the constant whining of a character that is supposed to be a strong woman of the '90s.

Maybe cloning her character would have made for a better movie.

The Director of Ramis, known for hits such as *Stripes* and *Ghostbusters*, loses his touch on *Multiplicity*.

Lackluster cinematography in the film does not blend well with the special cloning effects and prop problems in *Multiplicity*.

In the beginning of the movie, the Kinney household is cluttered with dishes and junk, and the walls resemble a demolition derby.

All of these elements contribute to distracting backgrounds, drawing the audience's attention away from the onscreen acting.

What it all boils down to is that *Multiplicity* does not have the goods needed to deliver a summer smash to movie viewers.

The premise of a husband cloning himself in order to make his and his wife's life more enjoyable is good at heart, but good at heart does not mean a good movie.

### AGGIE RING ORDERS

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS  
CLAYTON W. WILLIAMS, JR. ALUMNI CENTER  
DEADLINE: June 30, 1996

**Undergraduate Student Requirements:**

- You must be a degree seeking student and have a total of 95 credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System. (A passed course, which is repeated and passed, cannot count as additional credit hours.)
- 30 credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University, providing that prior to January 1, 1994, you were registered at Texas A&M University and successfully completed a fall/spring semester or summer term (I and II or 10 weeks) as a full-time student in good standing (as defined in the University catalog).
- 60 credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University if your first semester at Texas A&M University was January 1994 or thereafter, or if you do not qualify under the successful semester requirement. Should your degree be conferred with less than 60 resident credits, this requirement will be waived after your degree is posted on the Student Information Management System.
- You must have a 2.0 cumulative GPR at Texas A&M University.
- You must be in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

**Graduate Student Requirements**

If you are a August 1996 degree candidate and you do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree, you may place an order after you meet the following requirements:

- Your degree is conferred and posted on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System; and
- You are in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

If you have completed all of your degree requirements and can obtain a "Letter of Completion" from the Office of Graduate Studies, the original letter of completion, with the seal, may be presented to the Ring Office in lieu of your degree being posted.

**Procedure To Order A Ring:**

- If you meet all of the above requirements, you must visit the Ring Office no later than Tuesday, July 30, 1996, to complete the application for eligibility verification.
- If your application is approved and you wish to receive your ring on October 3, 1996, you must return and pay in full by cash, check, money order, or your personal Visa or Mastercard (with your name imprinted) no later than August 2, 1996.

Men's 10K - \$309.00	14K - \$422.00
Women's 10K - \$174.00	14K - \$201.00

Add \$8.00 for Class of '95 or before.  
The ring delivery date is October 3, 1996.

## JUNIOR FULBRIGHT

The Junior Fulbright provides graduating seniors and graduate students of U.S. citizenship the opportunity to develop a proposal for a specific research project to be undertaken in the country of their choice during the 1997-1998 academic year. Each applicant may apply once during the current year of competition.

**Informational Meeting**  
TUESDAY JULY 23 at 1 pm  
WEDNESDAY JULY 24 at 3 pm  
FRIDAY JULY 26 at 2 pm  
All Meetings Held in Bizzell Hall West room 358

FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS, INFORMATIONAL MEETING TIMES, OR GENERAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

**STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM OFFICE**  
161 BIZZELL HALL WEST  
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