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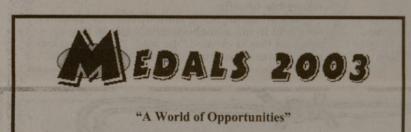
The Special Education/Reading Interface Study Office in the Department of Educational Psychology is looking for six to eight graduate students with experience working/volunteering in Texas schools to collect data in schools throughout Texas.

The Special Education/Reading Interface Study is a federally-funded project that is studying elementary schools that appear to successfully teach struggling readers, including special ed students, to read. We have selected a number of schools around the State for the study and must travel to those schools to interview the principal and three teachers and review special education and cumulative folders of selected students. No classroom visits are included.

After receiving training, data collectors travel in teams of two to the schools. Pay is \$11.25 per hour (\$90 per day) per person plus travel expenses. No benefits except meeting some great educators, seeing some of the great State of Texas, and helping to improve reading instruction for Texas children.

Qualifications-Data collectors must: have experience working/ volunteering in Texas schools; have good interpersonal skills; have good word processing skills; be "detail" persons, be able to follow through on tasks; be able to carry a laptop computer; be able to conduct scripted interviews in a professional manner; be able occasionally to travel 2 or 3 days in the middle of the week by car and plane; dress professionally. Experience as a special ed or reading teacher or as a diagnostician is a plus.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Kevin O'Neill in the Department of Educational Psychology. Telephone: (979) 458-0498. E-mail: spedread@coe.tamu.edu



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Approximately 200 Texas A&M students are selected to serve as mentors and as a resource for high school students transitioning to college during the two day MEDALS Conference.

Want To Make An Impact?

#### Wednesday, November 13, 2002

# The bard is back

### Aggie Players brings "A Midsummer Night's Dream" to the stage

By Michael Whitlow THE BATTALION

William Shakespeare may have written "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the 16th century, but Dr. Robert Schultz thinks it's the type of play that modern students can relate to.

"We're dealing with archetypes everyone's familiar with," said Schultz, director of the Aggie Players' production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and a professor of performance studies. "Everyone understands young lovers and well-meaning but misguided parents. Everyone falls in love."

One of Shakespeare's most popular plays, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is the first Shakespearean play to be performed by the student troupe in several years.

Keeping with the idea of archetypes and popular themes, Schultz said he and the designers worked to create a production that would be timeless in its appeal.

"We're representing Athens and the 'green world' as more of a state of mind," Schultz said. "We want to give the impression that this could happen anywhere, anytime. Not too long ago, maybe tomorrow."

The characters' costumes and overall appearance were designed primarily by Susan Kelly, a professor of performance studies. Kelly spent the summer designing professionally for the Houston Shakespeare Festival.

Kelly noted four separate groups in the play: the nobility, the commoners, the lovers and the fairies. In designing the look of the lovers, Kelly said she relied on a historical basis.

"We didn't want to limit it by setting it in a particular time," Kelly said. "The nature of the show demands a romantic look, so we drew primarily from the 16th century, which is called the 'Romantic Period.' But anytime we got too slavish to the period we'd pull back." For the fairies, Schultz and Kelly said they wanted a natural look, part human and part organic, with no clear line where one would end and the other begin.

"We drew inspiration from Arthur Rackham, an early 20 century illustrator of fairy tales, and Brian Froud," Kelly so "Due to limitations of the stage, we couldn't really do win nudity, so we relied on body suits painted or patterned so skin of the fairies might look like a spotted bug or leaves forest floor. We're hiding as much human skin as we can creating our own."

Schultz said the actors have been hard at work on the p since the second week of school when auditions were held

"We've been rehearsing for five weeks now and we've set got three weeks to go," Schultz said. "Normally we only relafor five weeks for a performance, but Shakespeare's a little tougher. The language is difficult to deal with, but it's excitu Susan Hernandez, a sophomore chemistry major who pla-Helena, agreed the extra time was necessary.

"The first two weeks were spent working to understand the and what the words mean to us as actors," Hernandez said the this is a timeless piece with universal themes. It's enjoyable at intellectual, and I think people will be surprised at how each the play is understood."

Scott Caldwell, a senior English major who plays Lysand said students will enjoy the performance.

"Next to 'Comedy of Errors' this is Shakespeare's funity play," Caldwell said. "It's also an ensemble piece, so it's not driven by a particular character. There's not a miscast rolein whole thing."

The play opens in the Rudder Forum Nov. 13, and will nm through Nov. 16, as well as Nov. 19 through Nov. 24 at 8 pm will also be 2 p.m. matinee performances on Nov. 23 and Nov.



Puck, played by Brian Bibeau, looks on to the Fairy Queen, played by Christi Wilson, and Nick Bottom, played by Levi Game during a dress rehearsal of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream Tuesday night at Rudder Forum. The play opens National States St

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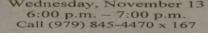
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