

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS 61920

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Department of Theatre Arts
School of Fine Arts

217-581-3110

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.....

FEBRUARY 26, 1981

has been cast in the Eastern Illinois University Music-Theatre co-production of Gilbert & Sullivan's comic operetta, "The Pirates of Penzance." The delightful operetta opens Friday, March 6, at 8:00 p.m. in the Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Under the co-direction of Gerald and Barbara Sullivan, "The Pirates of Penzance" tells the tale of Frederic who as a little boy was supposed to be apprenticed to a pilot but instead was apprenticed by his hard-of-hearing nursemaid for training as a pirate. The frivolous story unfolds on the day when, turning 21, his apprenticeship is supposed to be finished -- until it is discovered that he was born on the 29th of February in a Leap Year and he still has a long time to go until he reaches his 21st birthday to mark his liberation.

"The Pirates of Penzance" is filled with captivating tunefulness, spontaneity, and wit. Musical favorites include "Poor Wandering One," "I Am The Very Model of a Modern Major-General," "With Cat-Like Tread, Upon Our Prey We Steal," (easily recognized as "Hail! Hail! The Gangs All Here") and many more.

Other performances at 8:00 p.m. are March 7, 13 and 14 and a 2:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday, March 15. Those attending the "Opening Night" performance are invited to attend a reception with the cast, crew and orchestra in the University Union Bookstore Lounge following the show.

Tickets are \$3.50 for adults, \$2.50 for youth and senior citizens and \$2.00 for EIU students. The ticket office will be open from 1-5p.m. daily, Monday through Friday for two weeks beginning March 2. Reservations and ticket information may be obtain by phoning (217) 581-3110. Group rates are available.

Gilbert and Sullivan operas are suitable for the entire family!

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J. Sain
Theatre Arts
Assistant to the Acting Chairman