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### Art forms from ballet to belly

## Dance team entertains here

By PAT DAVIDSON  
Battalion Reporter

The only woman ever to have escaped from a straitjacket while hanging by her feet from a burning rope at the top of the New Orleans Superdome performed at Texas A&M University Wednesday as part of a unique dance team.

Lea Geeslin, who is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for that feat, joined Terrence Karn in performing a variety of dance forms including Middle Eastern, contem-

porary, ballet, jazz, and belly dance forms here Wednesday night.

Their show also included mime, magic, the rhythm of hand drums, and the music of their accompanist, Hal Tyson, on the piano.

The program was sponsored by the Memorial Student Center Arts Committee. They also gave three presentations to theater arts classes.

Among the highlights of their performance Wednesday night was a Russian dance and hand drum playing by Karn. Geeslin did a number of belly dances including one with a snake and another with swords. The show also featured a Texas A&M student, Omer Tuncata, playing the wooden spoons.

"This audience was sober and still responded," Lea said after the performance. "This is the first time we ever played for an audience that wasn't drunk. And they watched. They really came to see this."

She said people usually come because it is a part of a university program, or just to see the belly dancing.

During the day, Lea and Terrence led a stage movement class in theater arts. Students participated in all types of stage movements, dance, and warm-up exercises, Karn said.

Karn presented a lecture and demonstration of hand percussion instruments and drums from all over

the world to two music appreciation classes. He played instruments from India, Egypt, Morocco, and Balkan countries. He gave musical examples of how rhythms and drum playing are similar throughout the world. For instance, Indian and South African rhythms have a similar time structure, he said.

Instruments were distributed among class members and several got a chance to play Middle Eastern drums, Karn said.

Part of the demonstration was devoted to the classical drums of India, the Tabla. "These are the type that one must learn to sing the notes before they can play them," Karn said. He performed on the Tabla drums in Wednesday evening's show.

Greeslin, who grew up in Huntsville and received her B.A. in dance from Sam Houston State University, has studied dance since she was 3. Although she says she is devoted to dance in its purest forms, she said she has discovered many ways to live up a performance. These include mime, magic, and comedy.

"Art better be entertaining, or you better get out of the business," Geeslin said. "An artist shouldn't be characterized as starving."

She said she sees dance as a way to make people have a good time.

"We like to make people laugh," she said.



Omer Tuncata, left, a member of the audience, plays the wooden spoons accompanied by Terrence Karn, a member of a dance and entertainment team Lea and Terrence. The performance took place in the MSC Ballroom Wednesday night.

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693-1987 MARY PIAZZA, DIRECTOR

## New engineering degree OK'd

By HARVEY LAAS  
Battalion Reporter

A new degree program for a bachelor of science in mining engineering was approved by the Texas A&M University Academic Council Tuesday.

Students will be admitted into this program in the fall semester 1979.

The council also voted to remove the requirement which states doctoral students must be admitted to candidacy seven months prior to graduation.

A change in the method of selecting the chairman of the Library Council was approved by the council. Instead of being appointed by the president of the University, the chairman will be selected by the Nominating Committee subject to approval by the Academic Council.

The University changed its foreign student admission policy to allow some graduate students to take the

Graduate Record Examination after they have entered Texas A&M. Only students from countries with which the University has a contract will be affected. Under these contracts, Texas A&M agrees to allow a specific number of students to enroll.

The council approved new courses in agricultural economics, dairy science, food science and technology, geology, mining engineering, physical education, urban and regional planning and five courses in the medical curriculum.

One course will be withdrawn

from agronomy, engineering, horticulture, industrial engineering, meteorology, urban and regional planning and five courses in landscape architecture.

In addition, the council changes in required courses in education, agricultural economics, science and technology and science.

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