

UT prof says rebels in U.S. date to 1740s

What did Jonathan Edwards, the Puritan minister of the 1700s, have in common with a hippie of the 1960s? Dr. Jonathan Moreno, professor of philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin, says both went "against the grain" of the fabric of accepted American culture.

Moreno presented a paper entitled "Against the Grain: Counter-Cultures in America" in Rudder Tower Thursday, sponsored by the Department of Philosophy at Texas A&M University.

About 20 people heard Moreno trace the history of counter-culture

movements in America from the early colonial settlers to today.

Moreno likened culture to "the fabric of a piece of wood" whose patterns and textures are formed of the characteristics of the experiences of a particular people in a particular environment. A culture can survive only if succeeding generations can "renew" these characteristic standards to fit the changes they experience, Moreno said.

In other words, American culture is the result of the unique experiences of a people in a new land. This culture exists today because of the

renewal of the American ideal of the frontier, in time, if not in space.

Within the fabric of culture, there are those who go against the grain; these are the counter-cultures, Moreno said.

"To be a counter-culture in America is, broadly speaking, to take exception to the standard notion of renewal (of the characteristics of culture)," Moreno said. "No history of culture is complete without a history of counter-cultures."

Moreno said that the accepted form of renewal has been a physical change, characterized by slogans like "Go west, young man" and adventures like the space program of the late 1960s. Often the counter-cultures' forms of renewal have been a temporal frontier, characterized by Edwards' religious experiences and the drug trips of the hippies, Moreno said.

"It is evident that no counter-culture has filled the vacuum left by the passage of the sixties," Moreno said.

Moreno concluded that American counter-culture movements were seeking some form of "community," with a moral climate that accounted for the well-being of everyone. This, Moreno said, has been partially realized in the civil rights and the feminist movements. Because of this, the counter-cultures in American culture may be "drawing to a close."



Petition lost, but attention gained

Jeff Bogert, a sophomore nuclear engineering major, explains to some cadets that his petition favors memorializing the grass around the Memorial Student Center — but objects to spending \$25,000 for a hedge to protect the grass. The petition called for a referendum to let the student body vote on whether hedges should be planted around the grass. The petition was turned in to Bobby Tucker, student body president, Friday afternoon. He said fewer than 1,500 students signed the petition — less than the 10 percent of the student body needed to call a referendum. So a student vote is not possible. He noted, however, that administrators are aware of the petition and the sentiment behind it. They will consider the matter further, he said.

Battalion photo by Lynn Blanco

A&M to aid firm in Saudi project

By BONNIE HELWIG
Battalion Reporter

Saudi Arabia hopes to develop an agricultural research and extension service system similar to the one in Texas, and Texas A&M University may help establish it.

Texas A&M and the 3/D International corporation have agreed to cooperate on international projects, says Dr. Terry Greathouse, associate vice president for agriculture and renewable resources and coordinator of the University's international affairs. "This concept of cooperation between a university and a company is very new. In fact this is the only joint effort of this kind I know of," Greathouse said.

The first proposed project is the one in Saudi Arabia. "They (the Saudi officials) want to build an extensive system where there is nothing now, so the project will include planning and building the facilities, providing housing, training the personnel and establishing research programs," he said.

"3D/I manages very large projects in the Middle East and we are quite visible there," said Stanley Smith, vice president of 3D/International.

"A proposed project such as this one would deal mainly with engineering and project management. We would pool our services with A&M for the best results," Smith said.

Greathouse said, "We can take advantage of 3D/I's experience from this standpoint and let them do the 'brick and mortar' work for us."

"We are interested in this from an academic standpoint," he said. "We provide the technical information for the project once it is established while 3D/I provides the framework for it."

Morris Bloodworth, head of the soil and crop sciences department, has already met with key Saudi officials, and Greathouse said the Texas A&M staff will be going to Saudi Arabia to evaluate the proposed project.

"We become involved in these activities for our own benefit as well as the country involved," Greathouse said.

"We participate in international projects that are compatible with our in-state research programs because we want to gain information that will apply to this area as well as to the other countries."

Smith said he hoped 3D/International and Texas A&M would be able to work on other projects, possibly in Texas A&M's other areas of study, such as engineering or medicine.

Texas A&M is presently participating in projects in Guatemala, Columbia and Uruguay in Central and South America, and Malawi and Tanzania in Africa.

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Blizzard of '79 celebrated in 72-ton snowsculpture

United Press International
SYCAMORE, Ill. — L.W. Bute says he found something constructive to do with 72 tons of snow — remnants of the Blizzard of '79.

Bute engineered "Mount Sycamore," a 20-foot-high snow sculpture which stands in silent commemoration of four local dignitaries and this year's record snows.

Bute and two fellow artists, Doug Aken and David Stott, challenged sub-zero temperatures last weekend to mold the structure from 30-inch snows which covered the city's courthouse lawn. Nature also helped create the sculpture — and probably will be the main cause of its destruction.

"I know it's not permanent," said Bute, a 33-year-old body and fender mechanic. "But with the cold weather, it's kind of hard to say how long it will last. That's all part of it — the fact that it's temporary."

The three men worked for 36 hours during a three-day period to mold the sculpture, which portrays Mayor Harold "Red" Johnson, former police chief Joseph Salemi, retired art teacher Cora Minor and Bute himself.

Johnson and Salemi were chosen as subjects because they are "community characters," Bute said. Miss Miner, 90, who still gives private art lessons, was Bute's "inspiration" and former art teacher. And the final character — Bute himself — was Bute's method of signing the piece.

The three artists first cleared the courthouse lawn of snow, then built a scaffold and covered it with a cement platform. They used a snowblower to fill the platform with snow.

Then the three began sculpting, using chisels, draw blades and spade-like shovels, working from clay models provided by Bute. Eye

glasses later were constructed of steel rods and added to Johnson's snow-shaped likeness.

Bute has made one snow sculpture a year for the town the last five years. This year, he said, the snows have made him particularly productive. In addition to the "Red" sculpture, he's created "Miss Mouse" — standing since New Year's because of freezing temperatures.

During the 23 years he's now molding characters from snow, he also sculpted W.C. Fields, Claus and the Statue of Liberty.

"For the Statue of Liberty we had to bring in some additional snow," Bute said of the structure, which commemorated the Bicentennial. "But this year we just used the snow that was there."

That finally amounted to 72 tons of snow figures.

"It's definitely the most interesting thing I've ever created," Bute said. "It just gives me a warm feeling inside, the way people get together and cooperated. If it were more wasn't the kind of a town, this never would have come off."

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