

WEEKEND PREVIEW

THURSDAY, OCT. 3

Peeping Tom, a rock cover band, is playing at The Tap.

Metropolis, a rock cover band from Abilene, is playing at the Chelsea Street Pub & Grill.

The Fireants, a classic rock and rhythm & blues band from Brenham, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

Sneaky Pete, a sing-along and novelty tunes artist, is playing at the Cow Hop.

Marcus Roberts, a jazz pianist, in his nationwide tour, "Portraits in Blue," is performing in Rudder Auditorium at 8 p.m.

MSC Film Society is showing *I Shot Andy Warhol* in the Rudder Theatre Complex at 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT. 4

Freudian Slip, A&M's improv troupe, is performing at the Dixie Theatre.

Crystal Sea, a jazz band, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java.

Metropolis, a rock cover band from Abilene, is playing at the Chelsea Street Pub & Grill.

The Don Overby Band, a classic rock act, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

MSC Film Society is showing *Eraser* in the Rudder Theatre Complex at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 5

Big Otis, a motown soul artist, is playing at 3rd Floor Cantina.

Freudian Slip, A&M's improv troupe, is performing at the Dixie Theatre.

Mike Cancellare, an acoustic act, is playing at Sweet Eugene's House of Java.

Metropolis, a rock cover band from Abilene, is playing at the Chelsea Street Pub & Grill.

The Logan Brothers, a cover band, is playing at The Tap.

Throw Away People, a rock band, is playing at the Brazos Brewing Company.

The Voodudes, a rock band, is playing at Fitzwilly's.

MSC Film Society is showing *Eraser* in the Rudder Theatre Complex at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Another Cinderella

The Anna Meagan illustrator steps into a personal fairytale by fulfilling her dreams as an artist.

BY APRIL TOWERY
 THE BATTALION

Tammie Bissett always knew her heart belonged in Aggieland. Bissett has been a professional artist for 15 years, and for the past two-and-a-half years, she has been creating Aggie artwork for Texas A&M.

"My parents saw a talent — that I had the ability to draw," Bissett said. "I started taking lessons when I was eight. My dad is Class of '71 and was here at A&M. It's neat that it all started here. Now I feel like I'm reliving my parents' life."

Bissett's studio, Bissett Designs, is in the upstairs area of her home, which is also her husband's study area. The Bissett home is adorned with paintings that share one underlying theme — Texas A&M.

"I don't make prints of everything I do, but I take photos for my portfolio," Bissett said. "Because the studio is in my home, people come in and see the ones that are most important to me on my walls."

Bissett was commissioned by the A&M College of Veterinary Medicine to paint a poster of the Southwest Conference mascots.

She also drew the Rockwell-esque "Anticipation," a painting of a cadet in front of a full-length mirror that appeared in the December issue of *The Texas Aggie* magazine, and "Saturday Night Aggies," an illustration presented to A&M Head Football Coach R.C. Slocum last Saturday after the Colorado game.

"My dad is Class of '71 ... It's neat that it all started here. Now I feel like I'm reliving my parent's life."

Tammie Bissett
 Owner of Bissett Designs

and former A&M football standouts Bucky Richardson, Ray Childress and Rodney Thomas talking to Bissett's three children, Whitney, 9, Ryan, 7, and Landon, 6.

"I'd never done a painting with my children in it," Bissett said. "I wanted to do something with the Athletic Department with past, present and future represented."

Aside from commissioned artwork, Bissett makes Christmas ornaments for the Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center and creates western art.

The artist recently took on a new project when she illustrated the Aggie Cinderella book, *Anna Meagan*, by Cindy Boettcher.

She said she plans to work with Boettcher on her second book *Whoop, Whoop*.

Bissett said illustrating the children's book was something she had dreamed of long before Boettcher called her.

"I'd always thought about doing a book because my husband is a wonderful writer, and I had talked to him about putting together a children's book," she said.

She said finding inspiration to paint is not a problem once she gets "on a roll."

"It usually takes anywhere from a week to two weeks to finish a piece," she said.

"Sometimes it's just magic, then I work nonstop around the clock. I like my paintings to have feeling and tell a story. I've accomplished what I want to do if I can make someone smile."

Bissett takes her artwork seriously. She researches and sets up photo shoots before she begins a painting.

"It's one thing to be able to draw, and another to use your imagination to create," Bissett said. "It takes time."

She also said she wants to help others develop their artistic skills.

"A gracious person is not afraid or insecure to discuss their talent and



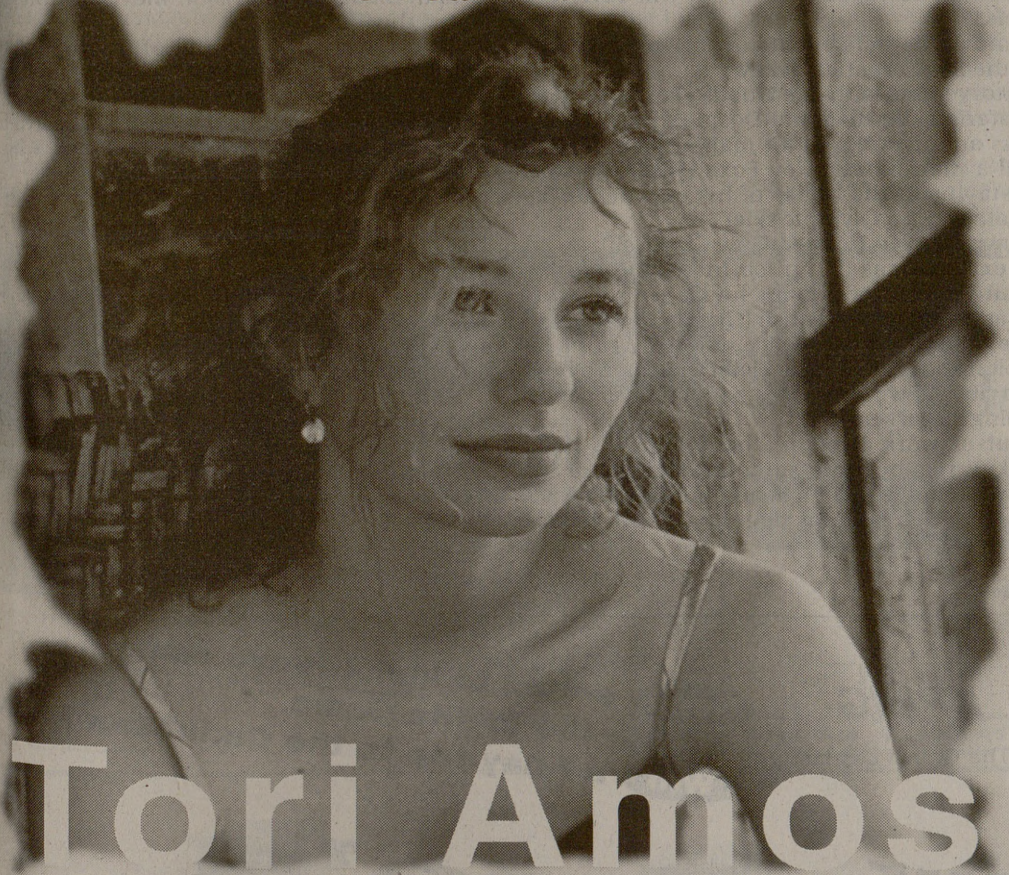
Tim Moog, THE BATTALION
 Tammie Bissett sits next to her piece, "Saturday Night Aggies."

help others," she said. "A gracious businessman can give advice to an entrepreneur in the same way a gracious artist can help out those who are interested in art. I've had watercolor artists older than me ask if I can teach them my watercolor technique. I've never taken a watercolor class in my life. If I did, I'd probably mess up my talent."

Bissett said she wants the public to know the extent of her gratitude.

"There's not a better university to do artwork for," she said. "A lot of Aggies have bought my work, and I appreciate them for their support and encouragement."

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