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**SPIC MACAY brings Indian classical music to Texas A&M**

by **MARIUM MOHIUDDIN**  
*Staff writer*

When George Harrison met Ravi Shankar, an Indian musician, in the '60s and started to play the sitar, a stringed instrument similar to a guitar, it marked the birth of Indian classical music in American music culture. This birth was displayed by Shankar at Woodstock, and from then on, it has been a part of American society. From The Doors to the Beatles, the presence of Indian classical music has been felt. The influence of Indian classical music is seen in jazz where the share common elements. So much so, every year musicians and Indian classical musicians come together for a jazz festival in India. Going back to the fourth century, the first originated as devotional music. The Hindus felt in order to be one with divinity. Young were taught to play this music at the age of five because it was a Hindu tradition. Since then, classical music has evolved in its form — romantic, celebratory of life and devotional. Mysore Mohan, faculty advisor of the Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture amongst the Young (SPIC MACAY), a senior chemistry lecturer, has been many influences that have caused the music to go into different styles. There are two styles of music," he said. "The first is north Indian

which took on a more Persian aspect and is more secular. The north Indian music is also more romantic and popular. "The south Indian music is more devotional and praises God. It is used in ceremonies such as marriage. The south Indian music is more structured and the grammar is highly evolved."

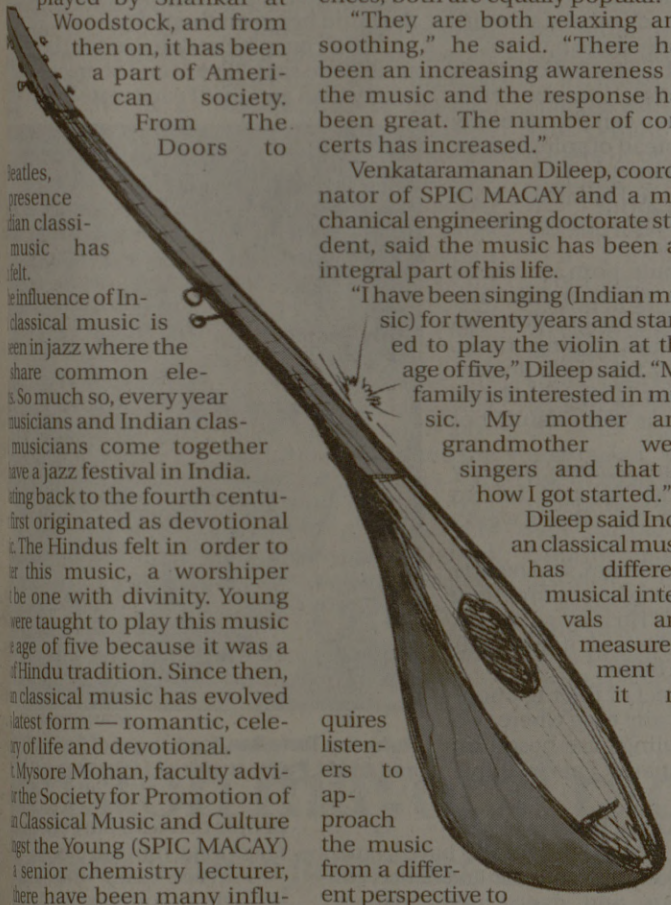
Mohan said despite these differences, both are equally popular. "They are both relaxing and soothing," he said. "There has been an increasing awareness of the music and the response has been great. The number of concerts has increased."

Venkataramanan Dileep, coordinator of SPIC MACAY and a mechanical engineering doctorate student, said the music has been an integral part of his life.

"I have been singing (Indian music) for twenty years and started to play the violin at the age of five," Dileep said. "My family is interested in music. My mother and grandmother were singers and that is how I got started."

Dileep said Indian classical music has different musical intervals and measurement so it requires listeners to approach the music from a different perspective to fully appreciate the quality.

PLEASE SEE **MACAY** ON PAGE 4.



**Boogie Nights brings a 'porn-ucopia' of great performances to the big screen**

**Movie Review**

*Boogie Nights*  
 Starring **Mark Wahlberg** and **Burt Reynolds**  
 Directed by **Paul Thomas Anderson**  
 Rated **R**  
 Playing at **Hollywood 16**  
 ★★★★★ (out of five)

"Blood, Sugar, Sex, Magik." Although this title belongs to one of the Red Hot Chili Peppers' albums, it also is quite a remarkable way to describe the power, energy and drive of *Boogie Nights*.

Fueled by life in the pornography industry at the turn of the decade, circa 1977 to 1983, *Boogie Nights* gives audiences lots of blood, more sex and a few dollar-bill lines of sugar-coated cocaine, and somehow, it all comes together to make cinema magic.

Mark Wahlberg, formerly known as Marky Mark, portrays Eddie Adams, a no-name high-school dropout who works at a nightclub to earn a living (although he still lives at home). Adams' family environment is nothing short of dysfunctional.

His mother rules the household, and his father cowers behind her every word.

Burt Reynolds, who plays Jack Horner, is a highly-respected director in the adult-film entertainment industry.

One night, Horner enters the nightclub where Adams works, and he is instantly taken aback by Adams' good looks and his "talent" (that being his 13-inch long penis).

The two have a few meetings about Adams joining the adult-film industry, and before Horner could yell "action," Adams becomes the newest star of Horner Films, acquiring the screen name Dirk Diggler.

Diggler is heralded for his "talent" and for the fact that his work is not simply pornography, but almost an art form.

With the premise of the film out of the way, *Boogie Nights* begins to take on an eclectic view of life during the time of disco, hardcore drug use and all-night parties.

Although this is only his fourth attempt at the big screen, Wahlberg delivers a powerful performance of a young boy (17 at the time of his recruitment into adult films) coming to terms with having to grow up fast in a man-eating profession.

The innocence of his character at the beginning of the film sheds light on how complex characters are to be portrayed.

As his character changes and becomes a different, more hardened persona, Wahlberg seems to embody Eddie Adams.

On the other hand, Reynolds' character provides Diggler with a loving father figure; he represents someone Diggler can go to in times of hardship.

As of late, Reynolds has had a career upswing. His role in *Boogie Nights* only should add to his superstar status.

In a supporting role, but a noteworthy one, Julianne Moore portrays Amber Waves. She is one of the female stars of Horner Films and the love interest of Jack Horner.

Waves takes on the role of surrogate mother for Diggler, but in a different sense.

The two form a relationship of on screen sex and an outside-of-

work friendship. This is the recovery ground for Waves since she lost her child in a divorce settlement. Diggler becomes her adopted son.

Wahlberg, Reynolds and Moore come together to form a stellar cast with outstanding performances.

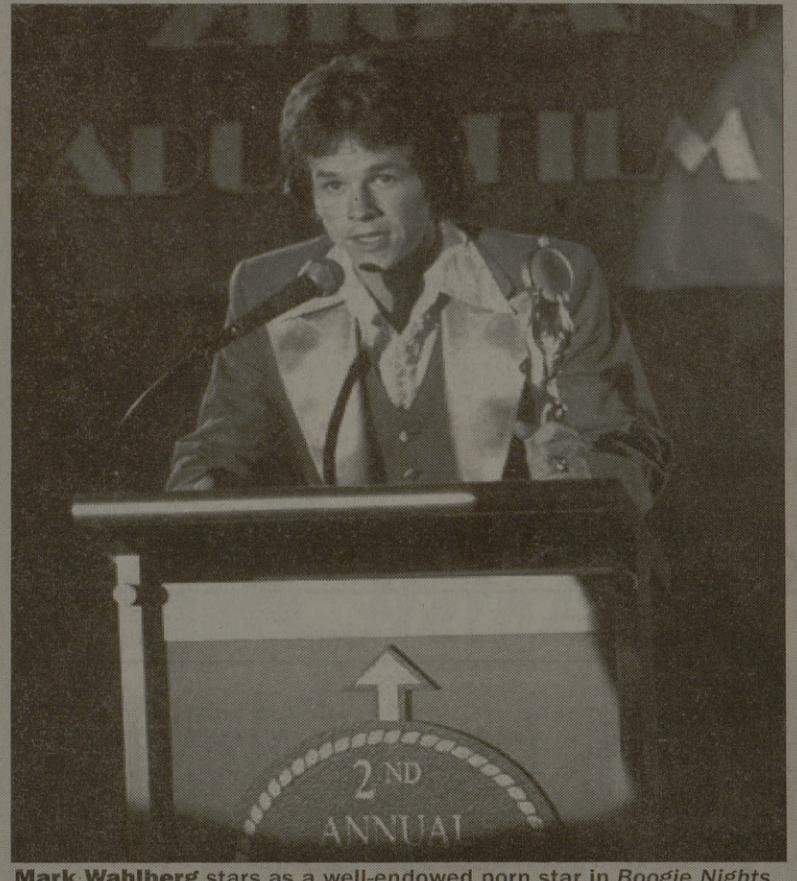
Reminiscent of *Casino*, *Boogie Nights* fills the screen with '70s bell bottoms and '80s music variety.

The film is definitely a hit in the realm of flashback cinematography. Audience members are taken back 20 years to a time of sobering

life experiences. Then again, every scene in *Boogie Nights* is an eye-opener; it is composed of real-life situations in an industry most people do not know exists.

In the end, the film conveys emotion through its dynamic performances, in-depth storylines and an ending (where characters end up in life) that should satisfy all those who choose to dance to the fast and tantalizing beat of *Boogie Nights*.

— By James Francis



Mark Wahlberg stars as a well-endowed porn star in *Boogie Nights*.

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