

MSC Visual Arts celebrates winners of creative contest

By MARIUM MOHIUDDIN
Staff writer

Engineering is the common major associated with Texas A&M. Civil, chemical, industrial, electrical, and petroleum are among the few offered to students. However, among the future engineers are students who have ventured beyond the circuits and transistors to the world of creative expression.

Creative expression comes in all forms; for some, solving a math problem can be an artistic medium. Few though can brag artistic expression through oil paintings, sculpting and leather work.

Fewer still can brag having their work exhibited at Artfest '98, an annual juried exhibition of Texas A&M students' artwork sponsored by the MSC Visual Arts Committee.

Salman Khan, first place winner in mixed media and a junior electrical engineering major, said he never expected to win because he entered the competition by chance.

"I saw the flier in my statistics class and it said

it was the last day to enter the competition," Khan said. "I ran and got my pictures and took them to the MSC. I made it just in time."

"For the competition I was suppose to meet with the judges so I could interpret my work for them," he said. "But I did not want to tell someone what I was thinking, so I did not go. The next day I went to pick up my entries and the guy told me that all three of my pieces had won prizes. I did not expect it because the subject matter that I chose was very foreign."

Khan said he was very apprehensive about entering his work because his subject matter and the material he used are not common art forms.

"Most people do oil paintings of landscapes or portraits, but I like to use leather," he said. "The older the leather on the piece gets, the better it looks. It was just something different. I did not take any classes; I just decided to use it."

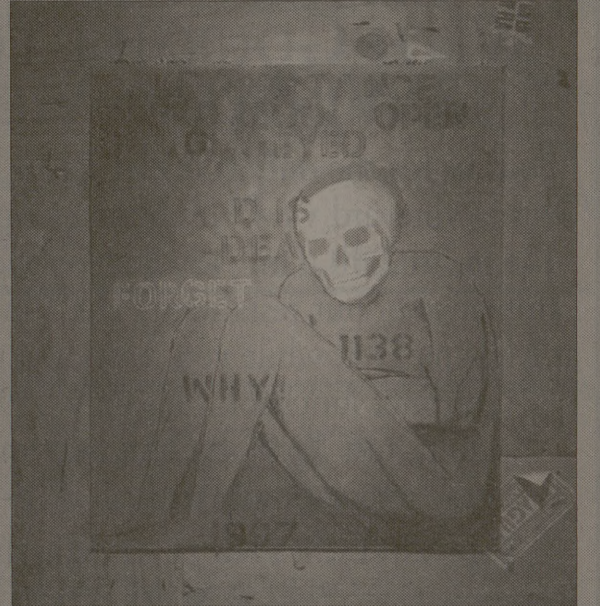
"I try to cover topics that are not seen very much here," Khan said. "I want to cover the other side of life. I do pieces about old men, a village or even a camel. It is like going into the suburban areas and trying to bring that out."

Khan said having his artwork is important to him because it allows him to release the stresses of electrical engineering.

"I love art, but it is strictly a hobby for me," he said. "Unfortunately people can not have a career solely on art. Art is in every person, you just have to recognize it."

Chris Chapman, best of show winner and a graduate student in visualization sciences, said he entered his computer animation project with his partner.

"It is a 45 second computer animation piece," he said. "Our piece is about a small creature who wants to steal gold from a sorcerer. We wanted to set a medieval and magical mood and we want-



Lanny Ledbetter won 1st place drawing with "untitled" (teen angst is a rock), made of graphite, charcoal and ash.

ed to create a complex creature."

Chapman said the computer has its own artistic style and more people are accepting it as an art form.

"If you look at every frame there is shading and lighting, which is the same as any art piece," he said. "No matter what you are using, it's a tool. There is no difference between paint and a computer."

Chapman said he was part of the Visual Arts Committee and feels that this competition is important for A&M.

PLEASE SEE ARTFEST ON PAGE 4.



Salman Khan won 1st place with his mixed media (leather) "untitled" entry.

YOU GIVE ME FEVER

The hot spring sun opens doors to B-CS recreation



APRIL TOWERY
Staff writer

Spring has sprung, so to speak, and although the weather has changed, the way of life has not. Students will head to Northgate this weekend or go to the movies, all the while complaining that there is nothing to do in this town.

Okay, so Bryan-College Station doesn't have an ice-skating rink. There is no 6th Street. But what does 6th Street have that is worth a weekend trek to Austin? Homeless people and mohawks. Interesting, yes, but College Station can offer the same caliber of entertainment.

In fact, there is very little one can do in Austin or Dallas that they cannot do right here in the Brazos Valley.

The opportunities for entertainment are endless. The problem is few people know they exist.

• Sports

B-CS offers roller skating, batting

cages, putt-putt golf and countless equestrian stables. Outdoor entertainment can be as simple as picking up a frisbee or a ball and glove and heading to one of the numerous local parks.

• Music

Dozens of local bands play on Northgate and in downtown Bryan each weekend. Students say there is no music scene here, which is really just not true anymore.

We've got rock, punk, blues, ska, country and cover bands right here in the area. Many of these musicians juggle school-work or a daytime job with their friends (if even that) showing up to see them play.

• Culture

Interesting art galleries and museums are few and far between, and B-CS is blessed to have several. Even driving down a Texas highway to look at the blue-bonnets can be a relaxing way to spend a weekend afternoon.

• Food

Sure, food is a necessity, but it can also be fun to become a connoisseur and try the different styles of food in B-CS. A va-

riety of ethnic foods as well as basic Texas cheeseburgers are available in the area. Try looking up restaurants in the yellow pages for a taste of something other than McDonald's.

• Using the Imagination

Some of the best times I've had in my 14 years in College Station have been creative and inexpensive endeavors with friends. It's always fun to go to a video store, sit on the floor and watch whatever movie is playing.

Grabbing a few friends and going to Research Park for a water balloon fight is also a pleasant experience. And whatever happened to just sitting at home and playing cards or a good old-fashioned board game?

I must admit I, too, have fallen victim to saying, "There's nothing to do in this town." But I recognize that it's just an excuse for laziness. There's plenty to do. The only requirement is that we take advantage of these activities.

April Towery is a junior journalism major.

Legendary singer, Tammy Wynette, passes away Monday at the age of 55

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A quarter-century after Tammy Wynette first told women to "Stand By Your Man," the song again caused controversy. And again she defended it. Fiercely.

In 1992, Hillary Rodham Clinton answered an interviewer's question about her husband's alleged infidelities by saying: "I'm not sitting here like some little woman standing by my man like Tammy Wynette."

A furious Wynette demanded an apology, saying Mrs. Clinton had offended "every true country music fan and every person who has 'made it on their own' with no one to take them to a White House."

Mrs. Clinton apologized. The episode was typical Wynette. The hairdresser turned country singer often took flak for millions of women who, unlike Mrs. Clinton, weren't at the vanguard of feminism.

Wynette spoke to and about lower- and middle-class women who struggled to live happily ever after in rural towns and suburbs, but found that real life didn't always work out like the fairy tales.

Through five marriages, numerous health problems, more than 30 million

records sold and worldwide fame, Wynette never lost touch with them.

Wynette, 55, died at her home Monday evening. The cause of death was believed to be a blood clot, spokeswoman Evelyn Shriver said. The funeral will be 4:30 p.m. Thursday at the Ryman Auditorium.

Born Virginia Wynette Pugh in Itawamba County, Miss., just over the line from Alabama, she picked cotton as a child and earned a living as a hairdresser before making it as a country singer.

"Her story is really the story of country music," said Kyle Young of the Country Music Foundation, the historical arm of the country music industry. "From humble beginnings as a hairdresser to superstardom. The strength of her music was she connected with a wide audience, because she really tapped into real situations in people's lives."

On Tuesday, the Clintons released a statement saying they were "deeply saddened" by Wynette's death.

"Tammy Wynette defined the Nashville Sound that helped to make American Country-Western music popular all over the world," they said.

"Her trademark style has filled our hearts, and made her a legend."

You are invited to

HOLY WEEK AT THE EPISCOPAL STUDENT CENTER

WEDNESDAY	April 8	6:15 PM Agape Meal followed by
		7:00 PM Tenebrae Service of Darkness
		AT CANTERBURY HOUSE
THURSDAY	April 9	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Liturgy
		AND Stripping of the Alter
		AT ST. THOMAS' CHURCH
FRIDAY	April 10	12:10 PM Stations of the Cross
		(begin in St. Thomas' Courtyard)
		1:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy
		AT ST. THOMAS' CHURCH
SATURDAY	April 11	8:00 PM The Great Vigil of Easter
		AT ST. THOMAS' CHAPEL

EPISCOPAL STUDENT CENTER
AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
902 George Bush Drive
College Station, Texas 77840
409-696-0774
canterbury@tamu.edu

Mathematics Contest Tonight!

Annual Freshmen and Sophomore Mathematics Contest

Wednesday, April 8, 1998
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Room 317 Milner Hall

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It is intended to award at least six prizes:

- \$150 for paper judged best overall
- \$125 for second place
- \$100 for third place
- \$80 for fourth place
- \$60 for fifth place
- \$50 for sixth place

Contest problems will cover topics through Math 152 (Engineering Calculus II) for Freshmen contestants, and through Math 308 (Differential Equations) for Sophomore contestants.

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Contact Doug Hensley, e-mail: doug.hensley@math.tamu.edu or check the Math Dept. Home Page: <http://www.math.tamu.edu>.

(For purposes of this contest, freshmen are first-year undergraduate students and sophomores are second-year undergraduate students.)

YOU'RE INVITED!

Texas Business Leaders and Nubian Awards
"Celebration of Achievement"
Wednesday, April 8, 1998 at 3 P.M.
MSC Stark Galleries

Join us to mingle with many dynamic student leaders at Texas A&M, meet a few Texas State Representatives, and network with several of the state's leading business owners and corporate executives. Also, support your fellow Aggie classmates for their leadership achievements for the 1997-1998 school year. So mark your calendar...

...TODAY!!!

For more information please call 845-1515.

Persons with disabilities please call 845-1515 to inform us of your special needs. We request three (3) working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our abilities.