

Spice up your life: MSC Variety Show features something for everyone

STORY BY LEAH TEMPLETON

GRAPHIC BY QUATRO OAKLEY

This weekend College Station will be filled with parents who want to experience everything there is to see and do at Texas A&M. So it is up to students to show their parents a good time. Well, there are so many movies to see, restaurants to try and times to go to the grocery store to have mom and Dad stock up the pantry. An alternative to this usual routine is the MSC Variety Show performing tonight in Rudder Auditorium at 7:30 p.m., the MSC Variety Show is an entertaining way to show parents the creative talent this university has to offer.

The MSC Variety Show, which is presented in Town Hall, is traditionally performed on Parents' Weekend and is something for students and parents to enjoy.

This year the MSC Variety Show is a little different because it's a totally student-run program.

Dave Salmon, staff advisor with MSC Town Hall, said he is enthusiastic about this year's show.

"To me it's an exciting program," Salmon said. "This year is all student performers. We hired Freudian Slip to MC instead of hiring a professional comedian."

J. C. Odom, vice chair of Variety Show and senior psychology major, said all performers are students at A&M.

"There isn't any outside talent, everyone in the show goes to A&M."

Jennifer Schmidt, the outgoing chair for Town Hall and a senior political science and environmental science major, said it was

important to focus on students to run the show this year.

"We tried to get general members to be in control of the show," Schmidt said. "It's a great leadership opportunity."

Although this is Town Hall's first attempt at presenting Variety Show, they were up to the challenge.

"We put on Coffeehouse, and Variety Show is just a big Coffeehouse, so we jumped at the opportunity," Schmidt said.

Auditions were held before Spring Break and Schmidt said the response was better than expected.

"We had a great turnout for auditions. Forty acts auditioned and we selected 10, so we achieved a variety in the participants we picked."

Schmidt also said Town Hall is trying to be different and have more of an assortment in their acts than other talent shows.

"In the past some variety shows just have people get up there and sing, but we're going to have a diversity of acts."

The 10 performing groups include:

- Rumba which includes 15 members of the Dance Arts Society that will perform a combination jazz and tap number.

- John Luke Spitzer, a junior finance and management major and member of the Singing Cadets, will sing "Watch the Lamb."

- A Night of Swing With the Aggie Wranglers where the Aggie Wranglers will dance to swing music of the '20s, '30s and '40s that was written by Benny Goodman and others.

- Last Free Exit, who often play at Northgate, are a band whose music emphasizes not only composition but improvisation as well.

- Lori White will perform "Journey into Egypt" which she choreographed herself. This number brings together gymnastics and modern dance.

- Running With Scissors spotlights Britton Douglas who will juggle knives and perform a glow-in-the-dark show.

- Breathing Music focuses on Native American flute music.

- Chi-O Productions is a medley of dance routines performed by Chi Omega sorority.

- Bam I Am is a junior guitar soloist and singer.

- Unity is a singing group of five men who will perform a medley of songs.

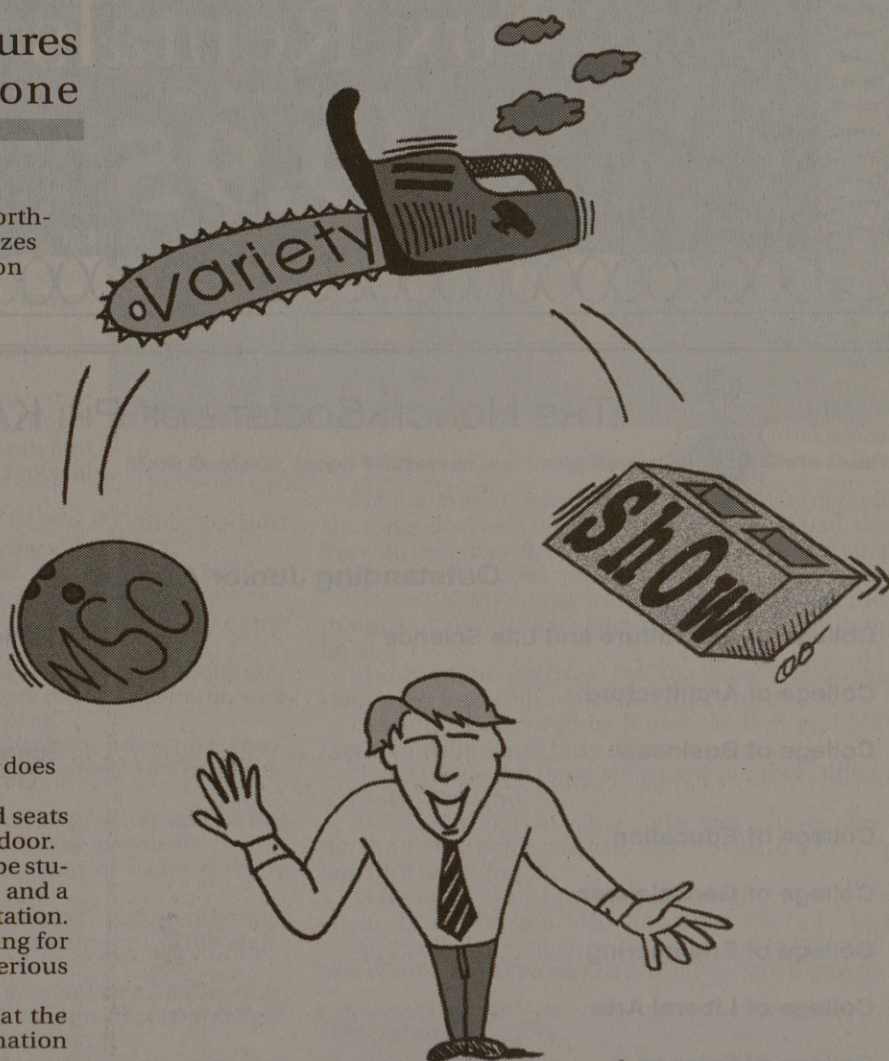
Schmidt said the Variety Show always does well and expects the show to sell out.

Odom added that there are still good seats available and tickets will be sold at the door.

Judges for the MSC Variety Show will be student leaders, a Town Hall staff member and a community member of Bryan-College Station.

Odom said that the acts are competing for cash prizes, which makes for some serious competition.

Tickets for the Variety Show are \$8 at the MSC Box Office, and for more information please call 845-1234.



AGGIELIFE BRIEFS

from staff reports

Tracy Lawrence to perform in Brenham

Country music artist Tracy Lawrence will be in concert April 18 in Brenham at Silver Wings. Tickets will cost \$22 and \$15.

Lawrence has sold over five million albums, launched 15 No. 1 singles and won multiple national awards including 1993 Academy of Country Music's Top New Male Vocalist, all in a period of less than five years.

In addition to being an accomplished singer, Lawrence has branched into producing, songwriting and song publishing.

Lawrence is touring in support of his sixth album, *The Coast is Clear*. The album was released March 18, 1997 as a follow-up to 1996's platinum-selling *Time Marches On*.

The Coast is Clear showcases Lawrence's love for country traditionalists George Strait and Merle Haggard, as well as Southern-rock greats Lynryd Skynyrd and ZZ Top.

"I really wanted to put more variety on this album," Lawrence said. The result is Lawrence's most meticulously-crafted album to date.

Lecture explores the mystery and beauty of rocks

South African archaeologist David Lewis-Williams, one of the world's foremost experts in rock art, will give a lecture entitled "Archaeology of the Mind: Patterns in South African and Texas Rock Art" April 17 in room 601 Rudder Tower.

Lewis-Williams will discuss the South African imagery found in the 4,000 year-old rock art found in the lower Pecos River region of Texas, due to recent breakthroughs from Texas A&M's Carolyn Boyd.

The lecture is being sponsored by Texas A&M's College of Liberal Arts and the Anthropology Society.

Singing Cadets hold Parents' Weekend concert

Each year Texas A&M University's Singing Cadets put on a concert in conjunction with Parents' Weekend. This year's show will be held April 18 at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

The concert will feature a selection of Broadway tunes, spiritual music and memorable tunes from the '30s, '40s, '50s and '60s.

Tickets, priced at \$10, are available at the Memorial Student Center Box Office in the lobby of Rudder Tower. Call the box office at (409) 845-1234 or 1-888-890-5667 for more information.

Largest music sale in nation arrives in Austin

The Austin Record Convention will be held April 18 and 19 in Palmer Municipal Auditorium from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

Over 300 dealers from the USA and Europe will be selling over one million compact discs, vinyl LPs, 45s and 78s. The dealers will also be selling a wide variety of posters, T-shirts and music memorabilia.

Admission is \$3. For more information call (512) 288-7288.

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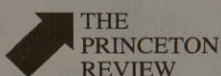
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COME JOIN THE FUN APRIL 20-25

APRIL 25 IS SENIOR BANQUET AT MESSINA HOF AND RING DANCE 9 PM - 1 AM IN RUDDER COMPLEX

GET YOUR PARKING PASS AND TICKETS AT THE MSC BOX OFFICE

RING DANCE INDIVIDUALS ARE \$35, COUPLES ARE \$60

SENIOR BANQUET TICKETS ARE \$25 A PERSON T-SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$10

<http://wwwmsc.tamu.edu/MSClass98/default.html>

Off Campus Aggies 8th Annual Parent's Weekend Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 18, 1998 8:00 a.m.

\$80 per team

Registration begins at 7 a.m.

Sponsored by the following:

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Any questions call (409) 845-0688

Have you ever wanted to know what the Silver Spurs of Aggieworld are all about?

If so, attend our informational meeting.

Monday, April 20 MSC Rm 026 8:30 p.m.

Tryouts: Sunday, April 26 GRW 255 at 7:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, leave a message for Amy at 776-4036.