

Artists find liquid inspiration

Art from page 1

Behind the idea of a Chinese water torture device where small drops of water fall onto the victim's head in a slow, repetitive rate.

Hiriade explained he designed his art to imitate the torture technique.

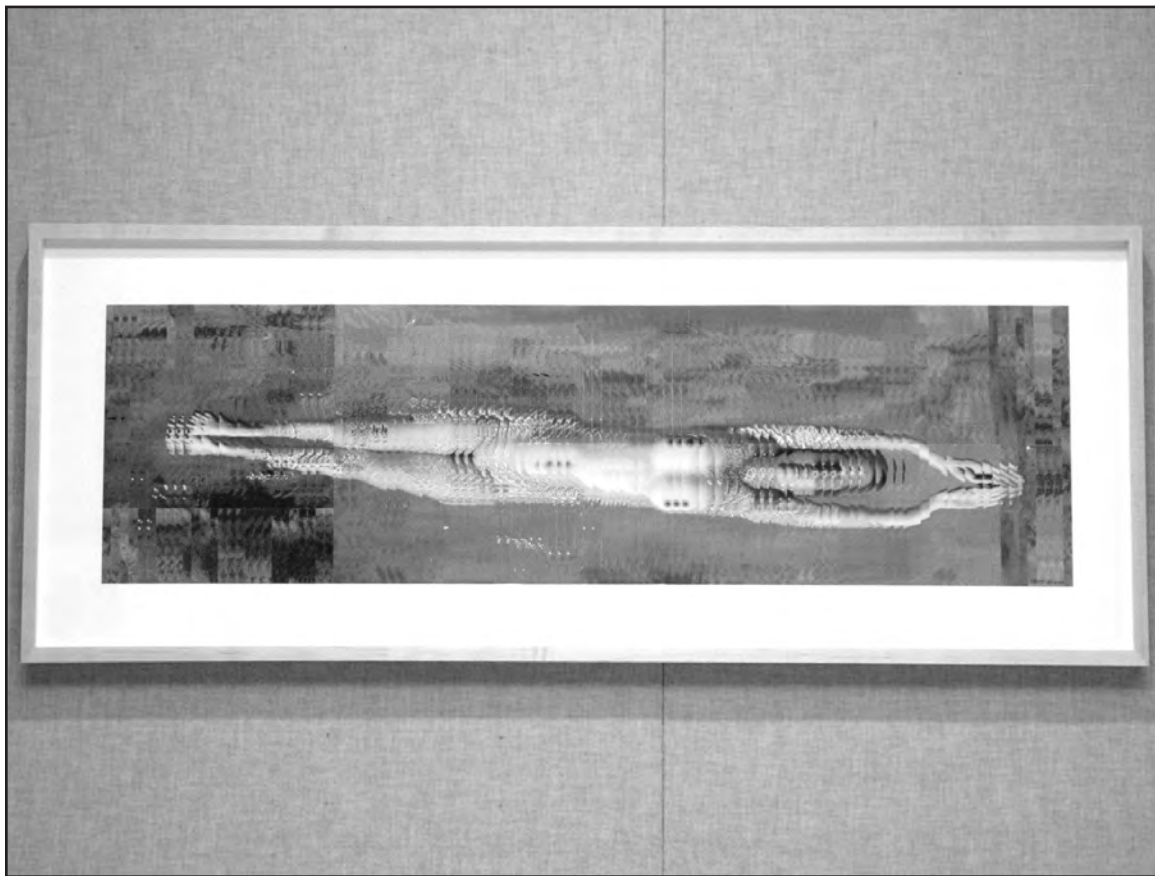
A stone head rests upon a metallic dais suspended within the middle of a metal frame. From above, water trickles through a cone-shaped tube and strikes the head like raindrops dripping off tree leaves.

"Essentially it (water) is only a small thing," he said. "But if it continues, it becomes annoying and painful."

Drennan said the artists worked with more than 250 Wichita Falls Independent School District students and teachers. Together, they designed and developed site-specific installations for the exhibit and promoted dialogue on cross-cultural issues.

The students were given wooden boats to create a work of art that encompassed their cultures, beliefs and backgrounds, he said.

Two hundred and fifty heritage boats are on display in the mu-



'Venus II' by Liz Yarosz Ash hangs in the Wichita Falls Museum of Art.

seum. The boats reveal painted images of diverse backgrounds from as far away as the deserts of the Middle East to the tranquil tropics of the Caribbean.

Drennan said the artists picked their favorite student boat art and put them in a glass case in the center of the room.

"The best thing to do is to

spend some time with the art," Drennan said.

The exhibit will run until Dec. 2. Admission is free.

HERSHEL SELF | THE WICHITAN

Theatre stages costume sale

TIFFANY MERCER
STAFF REPORTER

With just two weeks left until Halloween, procrastinators are frantically looking for their perfect costume.

The good news is there is an easy and cheap solution.

The theatre department is having a costume sale Oct. 28 from 9 a.m. until noon on the Mainstage in the Fain Fine Arts Building.

The department is selling off costume stock and items that were purchased for shows but will not be used or again, or that can easily be replaced at a minimal cost. Buyers will also have the opportunity to purchase items that were constructed for productions and shows.

Professor and costume designer Elizabeth Lewandowski said items

for sale are also appropriate for every day clothing, as well as costumes. Items include dresses, suits, shirts, shoes, hats and purses.

"We hold this sale to thin our stock – get rid of things that are cluttering up our limited storage," Lewandowski said.

Profits from the sale go back into the costume studio for purchase of shelving, storage bins and other needed items.

The department has held the sale three previous times. Lewandowski said each time they successfully thinned their storage and made money to help keep the costume studio running. The last sale's earnings reached \$1,800.

Items left over from the sale are donated to the honorary theatre fraternity, Alpha Psi Omega, for their annual garage sale.

Stature

rate," Rogers said.

As the scope of MSU changes, its reputation will only strengthen, he pointed out. The opening of the Dillard College of Business is only the beginning of the renovation.

In the spring, the Jim McCoy School of Mechanical Engineering will be taking up residence in the Fowler building. The Bolin Science Hall will be revamped. The interior of D. L. Ligon Coliseum will undergo repairs and remodeling. Future plans are in the works for the Fain Fine Arts building, including a

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concert hall and new band hall.

Rogers said helping prepare students for life after graduation is the university's strongest suit.

"The best and most ethical way to do this is to start with our freshmen and sophomore pass rates, as well as the university's graduation rate," he said. "In implementing higher academic standards for incoming freshmen we ensure that they will be able to meet the demands of this university, keeping them here and ultimately graduating them."

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their possessions.

The gate to enter the property is three miles south of the home. A back road leads to the house.

According to the Texas Ghost Hunters Web site, the property has been bought by a man who has built a home over the old stone house.

Although this may be true, the Web site says the actual Witch's Gate is a small cave that is haunted somewhere in the area.

With such ghost stories lurking throughout the area, one must wonder whether these tales have any truth to them.

Though there may be skeptics and believers alike, no one can truly explain the reasoning for these paranormal happenings.

So while you are tucked into your bed at night and all is calm, remember, somewhere in your town there may be a decrepit building with a dark figure lurking in its shadows.

Maybe next time you will be the lucky one to experience a ghoulish haunting.

Crime continued from page 1

ment and reports made to the police department are two different matters. If a student who is of age has alcohol on campus, it is not necessarily a violation of the law. It is, however, a violation of housing regulations, and this is where MSU's housing department steps in.

Housing Director Danny Reddick said that campuses across the state of Texas have seen a rise in drug and alcohol violations over the past two or three years.

"If you compare us to other schools in Texas, we are on the low end of the number of violations," Reddick stated.

And there could be an explanation to MSU's rise in numbers.

"Pierce hall was closed for the 2004-2005 school year," Raegan Foster, Assistant Director of Housing, stated.

Reddick agreed that having less students in housing could explain the lower numbers of violations for the previous year.

"We went from 760 students to 1,100 students [in student housing] since the 2004-2005 school year," Reddick said.

Reddick also explained that alcohol and drug violations are mainly reported to the housing department in two ways, either by resident advisors or complaint calls.

When the housing department is called, the manner in which the incident is handled depends on the severity of the situation.

"We like to handle as much as we can internally. We don't want students to have a record, especially if it is a first offense," Reddick said.

The MSU police station is called to intervene in cases such as large parties or when intoxicated students try to leave campus by vehicle.

"It is more a safety issue than it is us trying to get them in trouble," Foster said.

MSU Police Chief Michael Hagy agreed with Reddick and Foster about the involvement of the police.

"If housing can handle it, we don't get involved," Hagy said.

Chief Hagy says that the 2005 Crime Report bodes well for the campus.

"The crime report numbers indicate that students at MSU are very safe," Hagy stated.

The 2005 Clery Crime Report is available to the public via internet at www.police.mwsu.edu. Copies of the report are also available at the MSU police station.

Haunts

they have peered into the dusty windows to see figures lurking in the shadows.

This seems to always be the setting of many ghost stories. A creepy, abandoned building that everyone is scared of. It could be anywhere.

Every town has its ghost stories.

Wichita Falls is no exception.

Spooky tales surface every Halloween. And like ghosts, they never die.

One scary place is the North Texas State Hospital.

Located at 6515 Lake Rd., it is rumored to house a few ghostly tales.

According to some of these stories, lights in the administration building go on and off. There have also been reports of moans and wails coming from the third floor along with rattling chains and opening and closing doors. Employees, it has been told, see vague shapes at the ends of the hallway at dinner-time.

One ghostly figure has also been seen in the Tolstoy building, which

is on the grounds, by a hospital employee.

Jory Newsom, MSU early education major and State Hospital employee, said one woman reported seeing the figure of a black man wearing khaki, roaming the halls one night.

"She swore up and down that she saw the man," Newsom said with wide eyes.

Another vision involves a nurse who wears a white dress with an old nurse's cap in the "M" Building. Sightings of such a woman made the rounds among hospital employees, Newsom said.

"A nurse died in that building, but I'm not sure what happened," she said.

It is rumored that this mysterious nurse roams the halls, checking on patients.

It's been said that security guards, who come to the building sometimes, feel a hand on their shoulder, but when they turned to look, no one is there.

The building Newsom works in is

next door to this building. She said people have mentioned that they can hear noises there; however, she has never experienced this herself.

Newsom said the building was once used for forensics.

The building is now used only for storage and is inhabited by mostly owls.

In some ancient folklore, owls have been connected to witchcraft.

Is there a connection between the bird visitors and the unexplained paranormal activity in the hospital?

The answer is left to individual interpretation.

Another well-known haunt in the Falls is the old White Sanitarium at the corner of California and Olen Roads.

The Spanish-style, two-level building is rumored to be inhabited by some ghostly spirits.

The building, built in 1926 under the direction of Frank S. White, was not occupied very long due to flood damage in 1939.

Some say they can hear voices and screaming coming from the

building. Others have mentioned feeling cold drafts and the sensation of being watched.

Although the building was a site for many curious haunt seekers for quite some time, Gilbert Rios bought the building in 2002, with plans to remodel the place.

One haunted place that has also been a very popular place for curious teenagers to visit is Witch's Gate, which is said to be visible off Highway 287 between Wichita Falls and Henrietta.

The stone shell of the home with no roof is the only evidence left after the house burned down years ago.

Robbers looking for some valuable possessions burglarized the home in 1975 when it was occupied by two brothers. One brother was killed, while the other survived.

Some say you can hear whispers and footsteps on the premises, and the basement is extremely clean although no one has lived there. It is thought to be the spirit of the deceased brother keeping an eye on

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